

Peacemaker

Vol. 37 No. 48

Dyess Air Force Base, Texas

Dec. 6, 2002

7th Bomb Wing Sortie Goals

As of: Dec. 10

Monthly Goal	Flown to Date	Current Status
74	28	-3
43	20	-3
64	27	+2

FY-03 Flying Hour Curve: -30.7

Source: 7th Operations Group

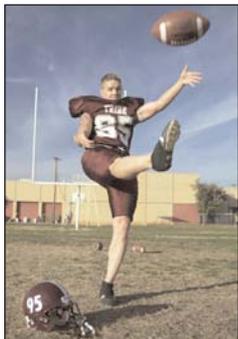
What's Inside



2003 pay chart
See Page 3



Peering within
See Pages 18-19



Airman gets his kicks
See Page 24

317th Airlift Group Sortie Goals

As of: Dec. 2

Departure Reliability Goal	Current Departure Reliability
78%	87.5%

Source: 317th Airlift Group

Chief earns Bronze Star

By 2nd Lt. Benjamin Gamble
Dyess Public Affairs

Chief Master Sgt. Dwayne Hopkins, 317th Airlift Group superintendent, was awarded the Bronze Star in a ceremony Nov 30.

"It is a great honor to receive the Bronze Star," Hopkins said. "I just moved from the 40th Airlift



Hopkins

Squadron as maintenance superintendent of 14 C-130 aircraft about a month ago, and I am extremely honored to say I was part of that outstanding fighting team."

Hopkins distinguished himself through meritorious service as the 40th AS maintenance superintendent while the squadron was deployed supporting Operation Enduring Freedom from Nov. 28, 2001, to March 15 2001, said Lt. Col. Terry Johnson, 40th AS commander.

Working consecutive 18-hour days, Hopkins led a 150-man team maintaining 10 C-130H aircraft supporting a flying schedule three times the regular peacetime tempo. His efforts achieved phenomenal results despite the constant threat of terrorist attack, unusual combat repairs, and marginal supply lines, Johnson said.

Hopkins orchestrated 3,000 maintenance actions producing 2,900 sorties and 7,000 flying hours, resulting in the



Airman 1st Class Matthew Rosine

Perfect pine

Staff Sgt. Todd Grundy, 7th Services Squadron shift leader, makes a final adjustment on the snowflake star atop the Christmas tree in the Longhorn Dining Facility. The \$1,100 tree was donated to Dyess by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lee Hughes, of Abilene.

movement of over 8,700 tons of cargo and 11,000 combat troops in just 110 days to forces engaged in combat in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

"Chief Hopkins went well beyond expectations, displaying tremendous courage and dedication," Johnson said. "On one occasion, he volunteered to fly as a crew chief into combat due to critical manning shortages. He served as a spotter and advised the crew of potential surface-to-air missile launches. When his C-130 was diverted to a landing zone to transport 30 Taliban prisoners, the aircraft commander tasked Chief Hopkins to provide in-flight security for the flight deck. His selfless

act, despite never being trained as a combat flight crewmember, resulted in the successful transport of prisoners to interrogation sites and valuable feedback to Central Command for future prisoner movements."

"I will tell you that all the accomplishments in the Bronze Star citation are not mine alone," Hopkins said. "We worked as a well-trained team."

"I give all the credit to my deployed maintenance team. To be honest I am extremely proud to serve our great country in any way possible. This was very small price to pay for our American freedom."

Dyess Air Force Base ...

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



President signs defense authorization bill

by Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON -- President Bush signed the fiscal 2003 National Defense Authorization Act into law Monday at the Pentagon.

The NDAA authorizes the Department of Defense to spend \$375 billion to continue the transformation of the military to face future challenges and to fight the global war on terrorism. More than one-fourth of that amount, \$94 billion, will go to support personnel programs and quality-of-life initiatives.

"It sets priorities for our Defense Department in a critical, critical period for our country," Bush said.

According to the president, the NDAA rewards the service and sacrifice of the nation's military members and their families with higher pay, improved facilities and better housing.

It also ensures servicemembers have the best equipment and the most advanced weapons, supports operations and maintenance, and continues investments in missile defense and new technologies to give America's military every advantage on the battlefields of the future.

"America's military is strong, and that's the way it should be," Bush said. "Our nation and world are safer that way. Now and in the future, we will maintain a military that is second to none."

As part of this year's overall defense budget, the Air Force was authorized \$28.3 billion for the procurement of aircraft, missiles and ammunition; \$33.7 billion in operation and maintenance funds for the active-duty force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard; \$389 million for environmental restoration; \$1.3 billion in military construction; and \$684 million in family housing construction.

The highlights of the bill include:

- Fully funding an across-the-board 4.1 percent military pay raise with targeted increases of up to 6.5 percent for mid-grade and senior noncommissioned officers.
- Reducing out-of-pocket housing expenses from the current 11.3 percent to 7.5 percent in fiscal 2003, eventually eliminating the out-of-pocket costs by fiscal 2005.

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COMMISSIONED OFFICERS WITH OVER 1 YEARS ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE AS AN ENLISTED MEMBER OR WARRANT OFFICER

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E 6	1710.00	1812.00	1900.00	1975.00	2050.00	2125.00	2200.00	2275.00	2350.00	2425.00	2500.00	2575.00	2650.00	2725.00	2800.00	2875.00
E 5	1628.40	1703.70	1817.40	1903.00	1997.00	2101.00	2200.00	2290.00	2380.00	2470.00	2560.00	2650.00	2740.00	2830.00	2920.00	3010.00
E 4	1510.00	1570.00	1630.00	1690.00	1750.00	1810.00	1870.00	1930.00	1990.00	2050.00	2110.00	2170.00	2230.00	2290.00	2350.00	2410.00
E 3	1350.00	1442.00	1520.00	1590.00	1660.00	1730.00	1800.00	1870.00	1940.00	2010.00	2080.00	2150.00	2220.00	2290.00	2360.00	2430.00
E 2	1200.00	1260.00	1310.00	1360.00	1410.00	1460.00	1510.00	1560.00	1610.00	1660.00	1710.00	1760.00	1810.00	1860.00	1910.00	1960.00
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E 0-6 months of service	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00

- Expanding TRICARE Prime Remote benefits to family members who remain at a remote location when they cannot accompany the military member on a new assignment or duty. It also extended these benefits to family members of remotely located air reserve component members when they are ordered to active duty for more than 30 days.
- Extending several special pays and bonuses through December 2003, including enlistment and reenlistment bonuses. It also permits the service secretaries to award an incentive pay of up to \$1,500 per month to military members serving in assignments involving difficult working conditions or undesirable overseas locations.
- Doubling the regular basic allowance for subsistence for single enlisted airmen stationed in remote locations without adequate availability of meals from a government messing facility.
- Creating a new payment for all military retirees who were wounded in combat and received the Purple Heart, and those who were severely disabled in combat-related incidents. Monthly payments would range from \$103 to \$2,100 each

- month, depending on the level of disability, and would represent a partial to full offset of the reduction in retired pay required by the current law on concurrent receipt.
- Continuing the existing DOD payment of a special stipend for severely disabled military retirees with a disability rating of 60 percent or higher.
- Allowing service secretaries to grant a one-time leave of absence of up to 14 days to servicemembers with qualifying emergencies to prevent them from entering into unearned or excessive leave status.
- Reducing the minimum years of service required by reservists before they are eligible to qualify for retirement pay from eight years to six years.
- Extending the number of years members of the selected reserve may use Montgomery GI Bill benefits from 10 to 14 years.
- Authorizing commissary privileges to National Guardsmen who are participating in federally declared national emergencies.
- Providing \$4.6 billion for procurement of 23 F/A-22 Raptor production aircraft and continued Raptor development.
- Increasing the service's un-

- manned aerial fleet with the procurement of three Global Hawk and 29 Predator unmanned aerial vehicles.
 - Providing \$3.7 billion for the purchase of 12 C-17 Globemaster IIIs and to support a multiyear procurement of additional C-17s.
 - Funding the procurement of one E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System aircraft, one EC-130J and 35 T-6A Texan II Joint Primary Aircraft Training System aircraft.
 - Authorizing a Korean Defense Service Medal to be issued to military members who served in the theater since July 28, 1954.
- "The men and women of our military bring credit to our flag and security to our country," Bush said. "On behalf of the American people, I thank you for all you've done (and) for all you will do in the cause of freedom and the cause of peace."
- The annual defense budget comprises two parts -- the appropriations bill, which the president signed on Oct. 23, and the authorization bill. The appropriations bill allocates funds to operate the Defense Department. The authorization bill permits DOD to spend the allocated funds.

Air Force ROTC

Program offers many opportunities

**By Senior Airman
Zachary Wilson**
Dyess Public Affairs

As many active-duty enlisted members know, there are three main ways for an airman to swap those stripes for a set of "butterbars." There is the Air Force Academy, Officer Training School and the ROTC program.

ROTC allows college students to go to school and achieve the goals needed to earn an Air Force commission, said Maj. Darcy Maloney, assistant professor of Aerospace Studies at Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas.

ROTC students who attend Abilene colleges go through the ASU ROTC program because there are no ROTC detachments at any of the local universities.

"Students go to ASU for ROTC through a cross-town school agreement," Maloney said.

The 268-acre school is located in Tom Green County, only 15 minutes outside of Goodfellow Air Force Base. It has been recognized as having one of the best ROTC programs in the country, Maloney said.

"There are many misconceptions surrounding commissioning opportunities," Maloney said. "There are a number of questions that I get asked often. These include members who have been turned down for OTS. Just because a person has been turned down for that program does not mean they can't attend ROTC. OTS has a program designed to support a finite number of people. ROTC expands and contracts as the needs arise."

For military members who leave active-duty, they

still will receive pay while enrolled in the ROTC program.

"(ROTC members) will receive \$350 per month during their junior year and \$400 per month for their senior year," Maloney said. "If a member paid into the GI Bill, they could get as much as \$900 per month depending on the type they receive. Prior enlisted are entitled to six months of unemployment after active duty."

There are several other ways to receive financial help through base offices.

"The financial aid office can help you apply for a Pell Grant, which is based on financial need and offers up to \$4,000 a year," Maloney said. "Additionally, ASU offers two major scholarships: the Carr ROTC scholarship, which pays anywhere from \$250-\$750 per semester, and the Carr Academic scholarship, given by the university, not by the ROTC detachment. It pays \$1,500-\$3,000 per semester. On top of all that, if a member is commissioned and does not turn 31 before the end of the year they are commissioned, they will receive tuition reimbursement for up to \$1,500 per semester and a book allowance."

For military members who still have some years left in their enlistment, there is still a way for them to participate in ROTC.

"You can do the Early Release program which releases you from your enlistment in order to enroll in ROTC," Maloney said. "All of the enlisted to officer programs allow you to put your enlisted commitment on hold as long as you complete the requirements for commissioning. If, for any rea-

son, you do not complete the program, you will return to your enlisted rank."

For enlisted members coming up on the end of their enlistments, the easiest thing to do is not reenlist and enter ROTC as a civilian, Maloney said.

For more information call (915) 942-2036 or DSN 477-4434 or visit the ASU ROTC web page at www.angelo.edu/dept/aerospace_rotc/ or call the Dyess Education Office at 6-2265.

To fax transcripts, send them to Major Maloney at (915) 942-2143.

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Owners are responsible for pets in base housing

By Senior Airman
Zachary Wilson
Dyess Public Affairs

Among the many benefits of living in base housing is the privilege of keeping a dog or other pets. However, for those who decide to take advantage of this privilege, there is great responsibility for pet owners to make sure their animal is kept in a way that it is not only safe for the animal but also for everyone who lives in base housing.

"The best way to prevent any kind of animal, incidents is to make sure all pets, when kept outside, are chained, fenced, penned or on a leash, and under constant and direct observation," said Tech. Sgt. David Pizzuto, 7th Security Forces Squadron NCO-in-charge of police services. "When not under direct owner observation, pets are to be confined within the fenced portions of back yards."

Attention has been brought to pet responsibility as an incident happened in base housing recently.

"An investigation revealed that a military dependant was riding her bicycle in front of her house and was bitten on the ankle by a stray dog," Pizzuto said.

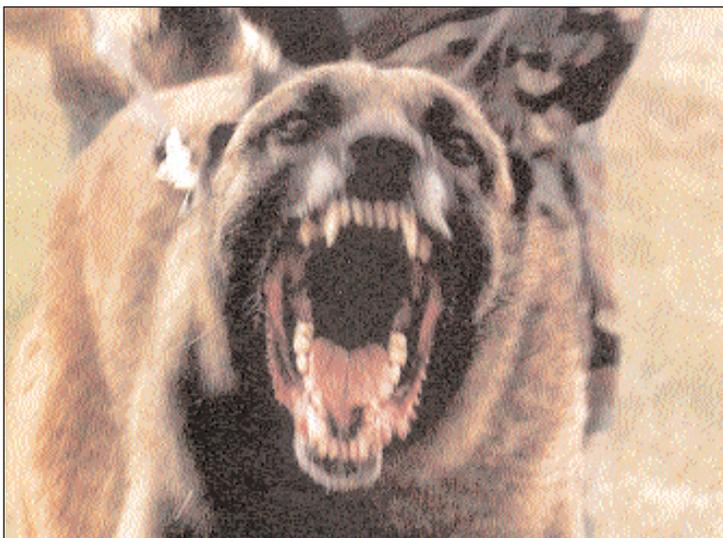
"The 7th SFS was unable to locate the dog."

"If bitten by an animal, it is the responsibility of the victim to report the bite to the 7th Medical Group. The victim will take necessary action to ensure confinement and examination of the animal," Pizzuto said. "This includes filing complaints with the 7th SFS and Abilene Animal Control Shelter along with notifying the pet owner if possible."

If the owner of a pet that has bitten someone has been identified, they are required to follow all of the instructions of veterinary services concerning examination and rabies quarantine.

"7th SFS may impound any animal upon the request of the veterinary services office in cases where the owner has not complied with procedures outlined in base policy," Pizzuto said. "7th SFS will report all bite or scratching incidents to the pet owner's commander or first sergeant."

Allowing an animal to run loose will result in loss of pet privileges, said Karen Largent, 7th Civil Engineer Squadron housing flight manager. Stray pets should be reported to the 7th SFS control center at 6-2131.



Air Force photo

Animal owners are responsible for the behavior of their pets in base housing. To report an animal incident, call 6-2131.

Local Advertisement

TEAM DYESS Warrior of the Week

**Airman 1st Class
Joshua Caron**

Unit: 317th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Job description: Crew chief

Time in the Air Force: One year and nine months

Time at Dyess: One year

Family: Single

Hometown: Puyallup, Wash.

Job impact on the mission: I inspect, service and maintain the C-130 to ensure it provides intra-theater airlift support for a wide range of missions.

Career goals: I hope to make the rank of senior airman below the zone, complete my bachelor's degree, attend officer training school and make the rank of colonel.

Best Air Force memory: I recently returned from TDY to the desert in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. It was an experience I will never forget. I also have fond memories of my first trip to Pope Air Force Base, N.C.

Editor's note: Squadron commanders, first sergeants or supervisors nominate people in their unit to be the Dyess Warrior of the Week. For more information, call the Peacemaker staff at 6-4266.



Airman Shawn Baldauf

TEAM DYESS 317th AMXS profile

Leaders:

Commander:
Maj. Jack Cooley

First Sergeant:
Master Sgt. Timothy Menzel

Personnel:

- Officers: 12
- Enlisted: 470



Mission statement:

Provides 29 mission-ready C-130 aircraft and more than 480 trained maintainers to support joint operational plans tasking and deployed worldwide conventional and contingency theatre operations. Performs complete organizational-level maintenance of aircraft, and launch and recovery activities. Enables the rapid delivery of versatile and responsive aerospace power anytime, anywhere, at a moments notice, accomplishing the Global Reach mission. We make the mission happen -- "From the Ground Up."

Future goals:

- Produce quality aircraft that exceed all mission requirements
- Raise the bar a notch by making long-term process changes which produce improved indicators
- Develop our future aerospace leaders, capable of carrying on our proud tradition

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This week in AIR FORCE HISTORY

Dec. 6 -- \$50 million Air Force funds are diverted to build U.S.-Alaska radar defenses in 1949.

Dec. 7 -- The Japanese attack Pearl Harbor in 1941 as 7th Bombardment Wing B-17s are arriving at the Hawaiian Islands. The United States declares war the next day.

Dec. 8 -- A B-36 completed a 9,400-mile non-stop flight without refueling in 1948.

Dec. 9 -- In 1941, B-17s bomb shipping near the Philippines in the first American bombing mission of the war.

Dec. 10 -- Col. J.P. Stapp experienced the highest sustained G-force ever endured by man, more than 35 Gs, in 1954.

Dec. 11 -- Germany and Italy declare war on the United States in 1941.

Dec. 12 -- An amphibian airplane record of 1,033.2 miles set in 1935.

Local Advertisement

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110 Dyess airmen earn stripes

By Master Sgt. Bill Lincicome
Dyess Public Affairs

December sees 110 Dyess airmen and NCOs adding a stripe to their sleeves, according to a list released by the 7th Mission Support Squadron's Military Personnel Flight this week.

December's Dyess promotees are:

To master sergeant

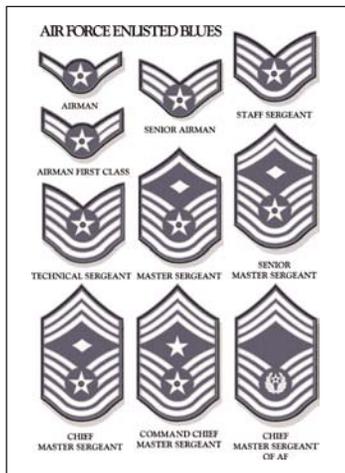
- Mark Admire**, 7th Operations Support Squadron
- Adam DeLeon**, 7th Civil Engineer Squadron
- Jeffrey Dent**, 7th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
- Paul Freed**, 317th AMXS
- Shaun Hyde**, 7th CES
- Ronald Lancaster**, 7th Logistics Readiness Squadron
- Michael Tienvieri**, 7th Medical Operations Squadron
- Randel West**, 7th LRS

To technical sergeant

- Robert Bermudez**, 9th Bomb Squadron
- Terry Bierma**, 317th Maintenance Squadron
- Antonio Canales**, 11th Air Support Operations Squadron
- Bobby Coffman**, 39th Airlift Squadron
- David Creekmore**, 317th MXS
- Edward Hagemann**, 317th AMXS
- Branden Hun**, 7th Equipment Maintenance Squadron
- Timothy Hunt**, Detachment 20
- Michelle Kehoe**, 7th LRS
- Theresa Lawrence**, 13th BS
- Earl Martin**, 7th Medical Support Squadron
- David Shipley**, 7th MSQ
- Richard Wilkinson**, Det. 1, U.S. Air Force Weapons School

To staff sergeant

- Denise Bennett**, 436th Training Squadron
- Debora DeAraujo**, 7th LRS
- Michael Douglas**, 7th LRS
- Richard Huffstatler Jr.**, 7th CES
- Kenneth Kimble III**, 7th Security Forces Squadron
- Joel Manning**, 7th AMXS
- Scott Mayberry**, 9th BS
- Damon McCarty**, 317th MXS
- Christopher Mea**, 7th SFS
- Michael Morin Jr.**, 7th AMXS



- Amie Stallcup**, 7th SFS
- Bernadette Tauvela**, 7th LRS
- Eduardo Vela**, 7th AMXS
- Jeff Wann**, 39th AS
- Charles Wheeler**, 7th AMXS

To senior airman

- Eric Alvarado**, 7th LRS
- Marisol Beaty**, 9th ASOS
- Michael Boulding**, 7th CES
- George Brill III**, 317th AMXS
- Kelly Dearment**, 7th AMXS
- Chanrick Ellerbe**, 7th AMXS
- Michael Farmer**, 7th AMXS
- Jay Fowler**, 7th LRS
- Peter Gantert**, 317th AMXS
- Iesha Govan**, 7th LRS
- Jeffrey Havens**, 3rd ASOS
- Darrick Hayes**, 7th CES
- Carroll Haynes Jr.**, 39th AS

- Ernesto Hernandez**, 7th SFS
- John Henderson Jr.**, 7th AMXS
- Allen Jamison II**, 7th CES
- Joy Jennings**, 7th CES
- Timothy Kelly**, 7th SFS
- Stephanie Kobs**, 317th MXS

- James Leisher**, 7th AMXS
- Michael Linthicum**, 7th Component Maintenance Squadron

- Brittany Marion**, Det. 4, 29th Training Squadron
- Michael Masterjohn**, 7th AMXS
- Lindsey Maurice**, 7th Bomb Wing
- Tanya Mitchell**, 7th LRS
- Tiffany Mitchell**, 7th OSS
- Chase Molloy**, 317th AMXS
- Miranda Molloy**, 7th MDSS

- Autumn Moran**, 7th MSQ
- Rekesha Myree**, 7th OSS
- Ryan Northrup**, 7th CMS
- Donald Parker III**, 7th AMXS

- Brian Poynor**, 317th AMXS
- Felix Reyes**, 7th LRS
- Kylee Reynolds**, 3rd Weather Squadron

- Jacob Roberts**, 317th MXS
- John Robinson**, 7th AMXS
- Tiffany Rurup**, 7th CES
- Jacob Smith**, 7th SFS
- Mark Sotelo**, 7th CMS
- John Spence**, 317th MXS
- James Stenbridge**, 7th LRS

- David Talany**, 7th SFS
- Scott Tamayo**, 7th Contracting Squadron
- Shawn Tucker**, 317th AMXS
- Roderick Tumblin**, 7th Munitions Squadron
- Bob Tull**, 7th CES
- Nidra Wayne**, 7th LRS
- Jeremy Whitted**, 7th LRS
- Zachary Wyatt II**, 40th AS

To airman first class

- Walter Bridges**, 7th CMS
- Tia Cox**, 7th Comptroller Squadron
- Dominic Gomez**, 7th AMXS
- Christopher Grima**, 7th CMS
- Amanda Grivetti**, 7th Operations Group
- Dustin Hanson**, 40th AS
- April Holmes**, 7th Services Squadron
- Andrew Lovato Jr.**, 7th AMXS
- Robert Morris**, 7th Communications Squadron
- Matthew Murray**, 317th AMXS
- Richard Pierce**, 317th MXS
- Ronda Shelton**, 7th SVS
- Kevin Stahl**, 7th CES
- William Sumner**, 7th SFS
- Matthew Trevino**, 7th CES
- Billie Trimmer**, 7th AMXS

To airman

- Alan Bishop**, 7th CES
- Tabitha Frankfother**, 7th LRS
- Cevin Medley**, 7th CMS
- Christopher Ramirez**, 7th CMS
- Johnny Rodriquez**, 7th SVS
- Jose Castillo-Torres**, 39th AS
- Karla Weems**, 7th OSS
- Adam Westerlund**, 7th SVS

Local Advertisement

Peacemaker readership survey now available online at Dyess

By Senior Airman
Lindsey Maurice
Dyess Public Affairs



The Dyess *Peacemaker* staff wants to know what the readers want to see in the base paper. So to ensure their needs are met, people can now fill out the *Peacemaker* readership survey online.

"We don't know what the readers want unless they tell us," said 2nd Lt. Benjamin Gamble, 7th Bomb Wing public affairs internal information chief. "The new online survey gives us a quick and easy way to find out what readers like about the *Peacemaker* and what areas we need to improve on or change."

The survey consists of about 34 multiple-choice questions about the *Peacemaker*, focusing on the

quality of the news coverage, its graphic appeal and accuracy.

"The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete," said Senior Airman Zachary Wilson, *Peacemaker* editor. "It's really not a lot of time if you consider that your input could lead to a base paper that better suits your needs."

Wilson said the staff can access the results at all times, so the sooner people take the survey, the sooner they can review the comments and implement any necessary changes.

"We're hoping to get as much participation as possible for the survey -- this way we have a clear understand-

ing of what Dyess readers want," Gamble said. "Since our circulation reaches about 15,000 readers, we are hoping at least 3,000 people will take the survey."

People can access the survey on the public affairs home page on the Dyess public Web site, or they can go straight to http://www.afnews.af.mil/internal/survey/survey_login.asp. A link on the intranet page should appear in the next few weeks.

For more information, call Wilson at 6-4266.

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Military pet owners can avoid U.K. pet quarantine

By Capt. Erin Bradley

3rd Air Force Public Affairs

Properly documented cats and dogs coming from the United States and Canada will no longer have to go through the six-month quarantine period when entering the United Kingdom beginning Wednesday.

In order for pets to qualify, owners must begin preparing for the move at least six months out so the animals will meet all the criteria in time to travel.

The Pet Travel Scheme -- called PETS for short -- is the system that allows pets from certain countries to enter the United Kingdom without quarantine as long as they meet specific criteria. It also means people in the U.K. can, after having taken their pets to these countries, bring them back without the need for quarantine.

It is against the law in Great Britain to possess some types of dogs, and meeting the requirements of PETS will not change that. The system only applies to cats and dogs, including guide dogs and hearing dogs; is limited to pets coming into the U.K. from certain countries and territories; and only operates on specific sea, air and rail routes to England. U.S. Air Force rotator aircraft, such as the "Patriot Express," are not currently approved for bringing pets to the U.K. The list of approved routes and transport companies is in the process of being updated to include those for the U.S. and Canada. People who are due to move to the United Kingdom in the meantime should contact DEFRA directly for more information at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/quarantine/index.htm>.

To bring a cat or dog into the UK under the Pet Travel



Scheme from one of the qualifying countries, you must carry out the following procedures in the order shown. Pet owners should make sure that they have read and understood all of the information available before bringing pets to the U.K.

A pet cat or dog will have to meet certain conditions to be able to enter the U.K. without quarantine. It will have to be:

- Identified with a microchip.
- Vaccinated against rabies (but not before it is 3 months old).
- Successfully blood tested at a laboratory recognized by DEFRA.
- Issued with an official PETS certificate.
- Treated against ticks and a tapeworm and be issued with an official certificate of treatment.

Pets can be fitted with a microchip in any country. The rabies vaccination (including boosters), blood sampling, issuing the PETS certificate, the tick and tapeworm treatment, and issuing the official certificate of treatment must all be carried out in the British Isles, the Republic of Ireland or a qualifying country.

Pets may not enter the U.K. under PETS until six months have passed from the date that the veterinarian took the blood sample that led to a successful test result.

See *U.K.* on Page 12

Local Advertisement

U.K.

Continued from Page 11

If the vet signs the PETS certificate after that six-month period has passed, the pet may enter the U.K. immediately. Only certain routes and transport companies can be used to bring cats and dogs into the U.K.

Owners of pets entering the U.K. from outside the European community are required to complete customs formalities. An agent, travel company or airline should be able to do this for you, and you will probably be charged. Alternatively, you might be able to make your own arrangements. This would involve contacting the customs authorities at your arrival point in the U.K. to obtain details of the necessary procedures and the appropriate customs form. You are advised to discuss these charges with your

agent before you travel as they might be included as part of a package.

You can get more information about PETS by contacting DEFRA:

Pet Registration Checklist

- Two copies (for each pet) of a DD Form 2343 with the service-member's or responsible civilian employee's personal and pet information filled out, and your installation, unit and DEROS annotated in the organization block. If you live off-base include your off base address in the Laboratory Procedures section. A DD Form 2343 can be downloaded at <http://web1.whs.mil/forms/DD2343.PDF>.

- Copy of orders assigning the individual to the U.K.
- Photocopy of your ID card.
- A copy of the animal's vaccination and medical records.
- One copy of the DD Form 2343 will be stamped and mailed back as proof of regis-

tration. Incomplete packets will not be registered and will be mailed back.

The registration packet can be mailed to:

NEVD Veterinary Clinic
Unit 5095 Box 280
APO AE 09461-5280



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CALENDAR



Today, Dec. 6, 2002

40th Airlift Squadron change of command ceremony, 9 a.m. at The Heritage Club. For more info, call Capt. Daniel Barrows at 6-3342.

Saturday, Dec. 7, 2002

Thunder Alley from 8 p.m. to midnight at Dyess Lanes. For more info, call 6-4166.

Sunday, Dec. 8, 2002

Family day bowling at Dyess Lanes. For more info, call 6-4166.

Monday, Dec. 9, 2002

Football Frenzy, 7 p.m. at The Hangar Center. For more info, call 6-2405.

Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2002

Dyess Toastmasters meeting, 11:45 a.m. at The Hangar Center. For more info, call 6-1046.

Dyess Family Teen and Talent Contest, 7 p.m. at The Heritage Club. For more info, call Willie Cooper at 6-4305.

Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2002

Military retiree luncheon from noon to 1 p.m. at The Heritage Club. For more info, call 6-4980.

Airman Leadership School graduation, 6 p.m. at The Heritage Club. For more info, call 6-3455.

Thursday, Dec. 12, 2002

Holiday cookie drop for dorm residents from 6-9 a.m. at The Heritage Club. For more info, call Master Sgt. Ricky Butler at 6-3139.

Base blood drive from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at The Hangar Center. For more info, call 6-7248.

Singles night at the movies. The bus departs from The Hangar Center at 6 p.m. for the Mall of Abilene. For more info, call 6-4305.

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40th AS COC

Lt. Col. David Chandler will assume command of the 40th Airlift Squadron from Lt. Col. Terry Johnson during a change of command ceremony at 9:30 a.m. today at The Heritage Club.

For more information, call Capt. Daniel Barrows at 6-3342.

7th CPTS closed

The 7th Comptroller Squadron offices will be closed from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. today due to a squadron function.

Thrift shop

The Dyess Thrift Shop will be open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

The last business day before Christmas will be Dec. 19. The Thrift Shop will reopen for regular business hours Jan. 7.

For more information, call 6-8203.

Cookie drive

The Dyess first sergeants and Dyess spouses' clubs are holding a cookie drive from 6-9 a.m. Thursday and Dec. 13 at a drive-thru drop-off at The Heritage Club.

The cookies will go to help the morale of airmen who live in the dorms this holiday season.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Ricky Butler at 6-3139.

Blood drive

The next quarterly base blood drive is 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday and Dec. 13 at The Hangar Center.

For more information, call 6-7248.

Farewell party

Dyess will bid farewell to Mrs. Jackie and Brig. Gen. Wendell Griffin Jan. 3 at The Heritage Club.

The general will be leaving to become the U.S. Southern Command director of strategy, policy and plans in Miami.

To RSVP, call your group executive officer.

For more information, call 2nd Lt. Benjamin Gamble at 6-3480.

Leaves pickup

This is the last week base housing residents can bag their leaves in

biodegradable bags for curbside pickup. The pickup days are today, Tuesday and Dec. 13. After Dec. 13, leaves can be dropped off at the recycle center by the Tye Gate.

Residents are also asked to keep leaves separated from other trash on curbs for easy identification.

Gift certfichecks

The Dyess Commissary has gift certificates available for sale.

The certfichecks gift certificates are good at any commissary location worldwide.

For more information about the certfichecks, call 6-2434.

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Palace Chase

Palace Chase briefings are held at 1 p.m. Wednesdays in Bldg. 417, Room 304. No appointments are required.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Scott Davis at 6-2957

Air Force Reserve

Air Force Reserve separation briefings are at 4 p.m. Wednesdays in Bldg 417, Room 304. To make an appointment, send an e-mail to Master Sgt. Scott Davis at Scott.Davis@Dyess.af.mil or call 6-2957.

Palace Envoy

The Air Force is searching for master and senior master sergeant volunteers to join the military liason team in Macedonia and Maldova. Interested people need to apply by Dec. 30.

The MLT program is a high priority, high visibility effort of national importance.

Tour lengths are 179 days and host nation language skills are desirable but not mandatory.

For more information, call the Military Processing Flight at 6-3003.

Local Advertisement

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COMMUNITY



Postal test preparation

The family support center is hosting a U.S. postal service test preparation class from 2-4:30 p.m. Monday in the main auditorium of the 436th Training Squadron.

The class will cover test taking techniques, exam procedures and preparation techniques.

To reserve a seat, call 6-5999.

Talent contest

The Dyess Family Teen and Talent Contest is at 7 p.m. Tuesday at The Heritage Club.

Military members and dependents can participate in the event.

There are 11 categories for contestants: parent and child team; husband and wife team; children ages 3-5; children ages 6-8; preteen solo ages 9-12; preteen group ages 9-12; teen solo ages 13-15; teen group ages 13-15; teen solo ages 16-18; teen group ages 16-18; and family with a minimum of three members.

Rehearsal is at 6 p.m. Monday at The Heritage Club.

For more information, call 6-4305.

Car buying class

The family support center is hosting a car buying strategies class from 2-4 p.m. Thursday at the 436th Training Squadron.

To reserve a seat or for more information, call 6-5999.

Singles movie night

The community center is hosting a free movie and transportation to the Mall of Abilene Thursday.

The bus will depart The Hangar Center at 6 p.m.

Tickets and space are limited.

To make a reservation, call 6-4305.

'Operation Job Search'

The family support center is holding an "Operation Job Search" class from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Dec. 17.

The class will cover how to write a resume and cover letter, apply for a job and interview, analyze labor market information, review

job offers and salaries, and obtain Veterans Administration benefits.

To register or for more information, call 6-5999.

Celebration Park

The community center is hosting a trip to Celebration Park's seasonal light show Dec. 18.

The bus will depart The Hangar Center at 6 p.m.

Transportation is free. There is a fee to enter the park.

For more information, call 6-4305.

Airmen's Attic

The Airmen's Attic is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dec. 21.

For more information, call 6-5999.

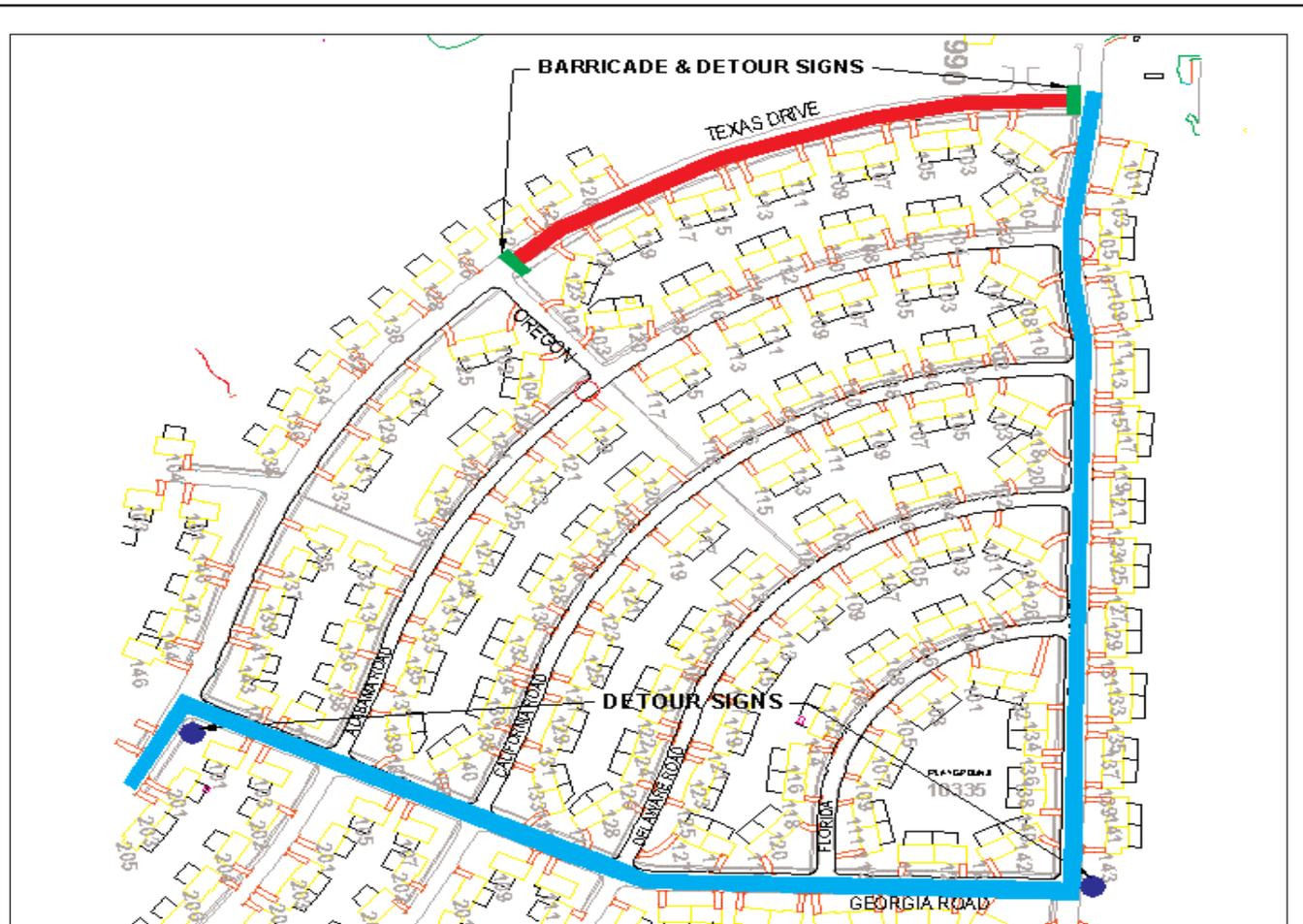
Tiny tots reading hour

Children ages 1-5 are invited to the tiny tots reading hour from 10-11 a.m. Tuesdays at the base library

For more information, call 6-2618.

Road closure

A town hall meeting is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at The Heritage Club to address any concerns about the upcoming construction of Texas Drive. Starting Jan. 3, Texas Drive, from Oregon Road to Louisiana Road, will be closed to all traffic until March 27. For more information, call the housing office at 6-2150.



CHAPEL



Chapel schedule

Catholic: Reconciliation starts at 4:15 p.m. Saturday.

Mass starts at 5 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. Sunday. Daily Mass is at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday through Friday.

Protestant: Shared faith worship begins at 11 a.m. Sunday. Gospel service starts at 1 p.m. Sunday.

Contemporary worship begins at 6 p.m. Sunday.

A nursery and children's church are available at all services.

Other religions: The chapel has information on other religious services in the Abilene area.

For more information, call 6-4224.

Christmas caroling

People can join the base chapel as they go Christmas caroling through

base housing from 7-9 p.m. Dec. 20. Transportation, soup, hot cocoa and cookies will be provided.

For more information, call Deanna Borges at 6-4224.

OFF BASE



Six Flags tickets

The information, ticket and travel office has tickets to Six Flags "holiday in the park."

The cost is \$15. "Holiday in the park" lasts until Jan. 5.

For more information, call 6-5207.

Skiing trip

Outdoor recreation is hosting a ski trip to Ruidosa, N.M., Jan. 31-Feb. 2.

The weekend package includes transportation, lodging and lift fees. The cost starts at \$240.

For more information, call 6-2402.



Airman 1st Class Ariel Aponte inspects a C-130 brake housing for stress cracks. The 7th Equipment Maintenance Squadron's non-destructive inspection flight uses dyes and high-intensity fluorescent lights to find cracks, pits, and imperfections to ensure parts for aircraft are free of defects.



Staff Sgt. Peggy Williams performs a bond testing inspection on a B-1 composite repair strap. Bond testing is an ultrasonic inspection that uses vibrations can detect internal defects, disbands and discontinuities on most materials.

NDI spells *safety*

Story and photos by
Airman 1st Class Matthew Rosine
Dyess Public Affairs

Superman has X-ray vision, and so do 13 people at Dyess.

But their "X-ray vision" ability is not because they come from some distant alien planet. They are able to "see" things invisible to the naked eye because they are members of the Dyess Nondestructive Inspection Flight.

Nondestructive inspection is the inspection of a structure or component in any manner so it will not impair its future usefulness. Inspections can be used to detect flaws, measure geometric characteristics, determine material composition or to characterize physical, electrical or thermal properties.

"We do inspections of materials to determine their integrity," said Master Sgt. Leslie Deatherage, chief of NDI. "We



Airman 1st Class Nadine Muro conducts an electromagnetic eddy current inspection. Eddy current inspections scan conductive materials for surface and sub-surface defects.

use methods that don't harm the materials we inspect. So, if they are safe, they can be a usable future resource."

The NDI lab uses five methods of inspection: liquid penetrants, magnetic particle, electromagnetic, ultrasonic and penetrating radiation.

Liquid penetrant inspections use oils with fluorescent dyes to detect cracks, pits and imperfections in the surface of nonporous materials such as steel and aluminum.

The magnetic particle method uses an electrical current to create a magnetic field inside the part. This magnetic field creates north and south magnetic poles around a defective area in the tested material. NDI technicians then apply magnetic particles to the part to find these discontinuities.

The electromagnetic eddy current testing detects flaws in parts that are conductors of electricity. When an electromagnetic eddy current encounters a flaw such as a crack, the surrounding electrical currents become distorted which NDI labs can detect.

During ultrasonic inspections, NDI technicians use a piezoelectric transducer to convert electrical signals to ultrasonic vibrations. These vibrations can detect internal defects, disbands and discontinuities on most materials.

Penetrating radiation inspections use electromagnetic radiation to examine the internal aspects of an object. Radiographic inspections are the least common inspection used by NDI.

According to NDI officials, the main purpose of these five inspections is preventative maintenance.

"The goal for us is to detect defects in materials before it is a problem," Deatherage said. "In this way, we can



Chris Chadwick inspects an X-ray of a B-1's horizontal stabilizer. Penetrative radiation is one of five methods the Dyess Non-destructive Inspection Flight uses to inspect parts and equipment. Radiographic inspections are the method least used by NDI labs.

prevent materials from failing to protect Air Force resources."

NDI inspections can also save the Air Force millions of dollars in lost resources, as well as thousands of man-hours. For example, if an inspection of a B-1's horizontal stabilizer was needed, it would take a crew of more than a dozen maintainers over 200 hours of work just to be able to look at the stabilizer in order to inspect it. An NDI crew can complete the entire inspection in just over 70 hours. Due to their vigilant professionalism, the Dyess NDI flight has been recognized for the past two years as the best NDI flight in the Air Force.

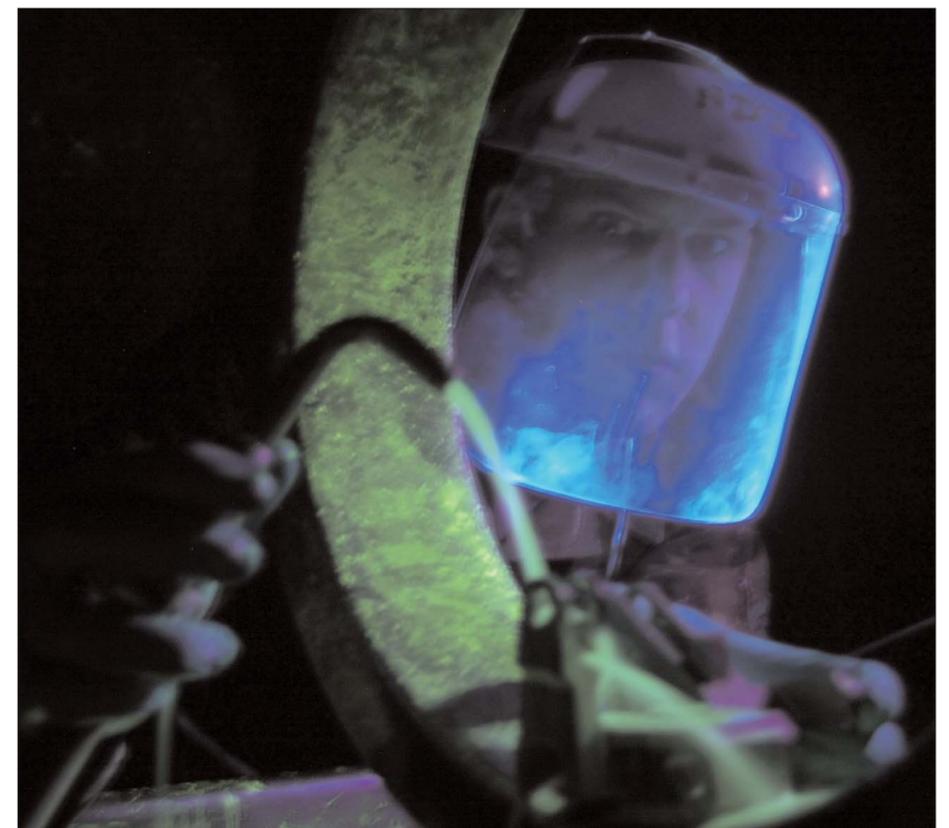
Aside from its primary mission of preventative maintenance on Dyess airframes, the men and women of the Dyess NDI lab also work with the base vehicle maintenance section, aerospace ground equipment flight, the 7th Munitions Squadron, and they even inspect and certify all of Dyess' aircraft welders. The NDI flight also works with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations when their type of expertise as needed. During a recent fuel spill incident, NDI assisted the OSI in determining the cause of the spill.

Despite performing a wide range of missions, the Dyess NDI lab takes each job seriously no matter how big or small the task.

"Every part of our job is important," Deatherage said. "Even something that may seem minor, like the inspection of a crane hook, is very important. If that hook is not inspected properly, it could possibly fail while lifting an aircraft



Above: Master Sgt. Leslie Deatherage aligns the X-ray tubehead to perform a weld certification test. Along with its regular mission, the Dyess NDI lab certifies all aircraft welders on base. Below: Airman Matthew Hedstrom performs a magnetic particle inspection of a B-1 up-lock support bracket. The inspection creates a magnetic field around discontinuities within a part and then washes the part with magnetic particles. These particles stick to the magnetized imperfection inside the tested part showing NDI personnel where problems exist.



Scores and more

Editor's note -- All scores, standings and schedules are courtesy of the sports and fitness center and Dyess Lanes.

Basketball**Varsity**

Men's Nov. 23-24 results
Fort Sill, Okla. 82, Dyess 81
Dyess 83, Fort Sill 81

Dyess Varsity 2002-2003 schedule

Dec. 14-15 -- vs. Lackland AFB, Texas

Jan. 11-12 -- vs. Tinker AFB, Okla.

Jan. 25-26 -- at Lackland AFB

Feb. 8-9 -- at Fort Sill

Feb. 15-16 -- vs. Altus AFB, Okla.

March 1-2 -- vs. Sheppard AFB, Texas

March 8-9 -- at Sheppard AFB

March 15-16 -- Southwest Military Basketball Championships at Kirtland AFB, N.M.

Bowling**Dyess Bantams**

(As of Nov. 2)	Won	Lost
Golden Eagles	21	3
Burning Gundum	20	8
The Griffens	14	14
Blue Dragons	11	17

Dyess Juniors/Majors

(As of Nov. 16)	Won	Lost
Strikers	21	15
Liar Liar POF	19	17
Pin Heads	17	19
Dancing Flamings	15	21

Nov. 9 high scores

High scratch game -- Ryan Starks, 170

High handicap game -- Katie Bartley, 236

High scratch series -- Garrett Hutchinson, 480

High handicap series -- Matthew Scruggs, 677

Dyess Preps

(As of Nov. 16)	Won	Lost
Girls Rock!!	22	14
Team No. 2	21	15
Dumb Luck	17	19
Three Musketeers	16	20
Queen Bowlers	16	20
Team No. 5	16	20

Nov. 16 high scores

High scratch game -- Christopher Cabrera, 145

High handicap game -- Tyler Gillespie, 192

High scratch series -- Jared Holderead, 374

High handicap series -- Sarah Lombardo, 469

American League

(As of Monday)	Won	Lost
7th MOS	72	24
7th EMS	68	28
7th SVS #2	62	32
9th BS	48	48
7th CMS	46	50
7th MXS/9th BS	46	50
7th MXS/13th AMF	44	52
7th LRS #1	42	54
7th MSQ	40	56

436th TS	38	58
7th LRS #2	36	60
7th MDG	34	62
7th CPTS	32	64
7th SFS	32	64

Monday's high scores

High scratch game -- Mark Kuhar, 258; Kathy DiCicco, 182.

High handicap game -- Matt Morris, 279; Pam Aulerich, 256.

High scratch series -- James Templeton, 665; Doy Brown, 463.

High handicap series -- Don Cobb, 793; Cristal Arnold, 672.

Season high scores

High scratch game -- Curtis Hayes, 268; Tom Murphy, 267; Curt Lopez, 256; Cristal Arnold, 204; Kathy DiCicco, 197; Hector Villareal, 180.

High handicap game -- Chris Garcia, 322; Barry Brown, 307; Roger Burner, 307; Doy Brown, 282; Jennifer Dawson, 268; Lindsey Maurice, 260.

High scratch series -- Robert Dickmeyer, 691; James Templeton, 665; Mark Kuhar, 653; Sarah Webb-Frost, 576; Melissa Perez, 547; Sandy Colley, 494.

High handicap series -- Don Cobb, 832; Blake Keating, 818; Nathan McLead-Hug, 808; Michelle Huff, 743; Christa Rosine, 722; Brandy Haefner, 720.

National League

(As of Nov. 13)	Won	Lost
7th CES	54	26
7th Ammo	52	28
28th AMF	51	29
Services Command	50	22
13th AMF	47	33
7th MSS	46	34
Team 5	43	37
7th SVS	42	38
7th CMS	42	38
317th AMXS	37	43
9th AMF	36	44
7th LRS #3	34	46
7th EMS	30	42
Giga Gutters	28	52
7th SFS	12	44

Nov. 13 high scores

High scratch game -- Fred Strojny, 253; Julie Martin, 189

High handicap game -- Fred Strojny, 318; Julie Martin, 301

High scratch series -- Terry Kraly, 589; Annette Roberts, 517

High handicap series -- Julie Martin 763; Jim Haller, 760

Dyess OSC League

(As of Nov. 20)	Won	Lost
Crazy 8's	32.5	15.5
Herk Hotties	31	17
Herky Girls	29	19
OddBalls	26	22
Lane Dames	25.5	22.5
Gutter Wynches	25.5	22.5
Kiss My Average	25	23
Bowlin' Mamas	23	25

Intramural football season ends

Regular season ended early due to weather, playoffs begin Monday

By Master Sgt. Bill Lincicome
Dyess Public Affairs

Frequent rainouts brought an early end to the intramural flag football season, but the postseason will still start on time, 7th Services Squadron officials said this week.

The regular season was scheduled to wrap up after today's games, but ended Wednesday instead. Staff Sgt. David Paquin, 7th SVS intramural director, said a combination of numerous rain delays, the impending holiday and intramural basketball seasons prompted the decision for the change. "There will not be enough time to make up all the rainouts from the past two months and still complete the season before the Christmas holiday (and) ensure intramural basketball can start on Jan. 6," he said.

Due to the shortened season, Paquin said the normal postseason format will also change. Instead of eight teams -- the top four squads in the National and American Leagues -- qualifying for the playoffs, all 16 intramural teams will take the field when the



Staff Sgt. Adam R. Wooten

7th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron's Brandon Bentley, right, gets away from 7th Logistics Readiness Squadron defenders during an intramural flag football game Oct. 21. The rest of the regular season was canceled Wednesday, and the playoffs will begin Monday.

postseason starts Monday.

Paquin said the double-elimination tournament should last approximately two weeks, wrapping up with the base championship match which is scheduled for Dec. 19.

Coaches who didn't receive a playoff bracket during Thursday's coaches meeting should call Paquin at 6-4306 as soon as possible.

Wishful Thinking	21.5	26.5
Gutter Girls	21.5	26.5
Clueless	15	33
Split Happens	12.5	31.5

Nov. 20 high scores

High scratch game -- Kathy DiCicco 181, Terry Johnston 181, Cristie Arnold 180

High handicap game -- Amber Green 258, Angela Sheldon 240, Brandy Lewis 231.

High scratch series -- Kathy DiCicco 523, Valerie Robinson 500, Cristie Arnold 483.

High handicap series -- Angela Sheldon 671, Kathy DiCicco 661, Amber Green 661.

Friday Night Mixed Doubles

(As of Nov. 15)	Won	Lost
Misfits	58	22
1/4 Bowlers	50	22
Are You Kidding?	49	31
We Don't Care	44	36
HMO	42	38
HNSB's	38	34
Team No. 2	37	43
Team No. 3	36	44
Lucky Dawgs	35	45
Mixed Nuts	34	46
Odd Couples	25	55
Mojo	24	56

Local Advertisement

Flag football

Intramural standings

National League		Games behind	
(As of Nov. 19)	Won	Lost	
317th AMXS	6	1	--
7th CES	4	2	1 1/2
Bone Ops	4	2	1 1/2
7th MUNS	3	4	3
7th CMS	2	3	3
28th BS	2	3	3
7th EMS	2	5	4
7th CONS	2	5	4

Nov. 14 results

7th CONS 14, 28th BS 7
 Bone Ops 19, 7th EMS 18 (overtime)
 317th AMXS 12, 7th MUNS 7
 7th CES 29, 7th CMS 20

Nov. 19 results

Bone Ops 12, 28th BS 0
 7th MUNS 28, 7th CMS 13
 7th CONS 2, 7th EMS 0 (forfeit)
 7th CES 33, 317th AMXS 19

Nov. 21 results

28th BS 2, 7th CONS 0 (forfeit)
 317th AMXS 14, 7th MUNS 6
 7th EMS 7, Bone Ops 6 (overtime)

American League

(As of Wednesday)	Won	Lost	Games behind
7th SFS	5	0	--
7th LRS	4	1	1
Fire Dept.	4	1	1
7th AMXS #1	3	1	1 1/2
7th OSS	2	4	3 1/2
7th CS	1	3	3 1/2
7th AMXS #2	0	4	4 1/2
40th AS	2	5	5

Nov. 13 results

7th OSS 31, 40th AS 6
 7th LRS 14, 7th OSS 6
 7th SFS 2, 7th CS 0 (forfeit)
 Fire Dept. 19, 7th AMXS #2 0

Nov. 18 results

7th LRS 13, Fire Dept. 7
 7th AMXS #1 27, 7th OSS 26
 7th AMXS #1 24, 7th AMXS #2 0
 7th SFS 20, 40th AS 8

SportShorts

Basketball

Dyess intramural basketball letters of intent are due to the fitness center by 4:30 p.m. Wednesday.

The season begins Jan. 6. People interested in playing should call their unit sports representative.

Golf scramble

The Mesquite Grove Golf Course is hosting a holiday golf scramble Dec. 14.

The cost is \$15 and includes lunch, cart fees

and green fees.

For more information, call 6-2402.

Squadron golf day

The Mesquite Grove Golf Course is offering a special rate to squadrons who host a squadron play day during the week.

The cost is \$10 for air-men and \$12 for NCOs and officers. The cost covers green fees, club rental and cart fees.

For more information, call 6-4384.

Local Advertisement

Local Advertisement

Local Advertisement

Aiming High:

Dyess airman pursues NFL punting dream

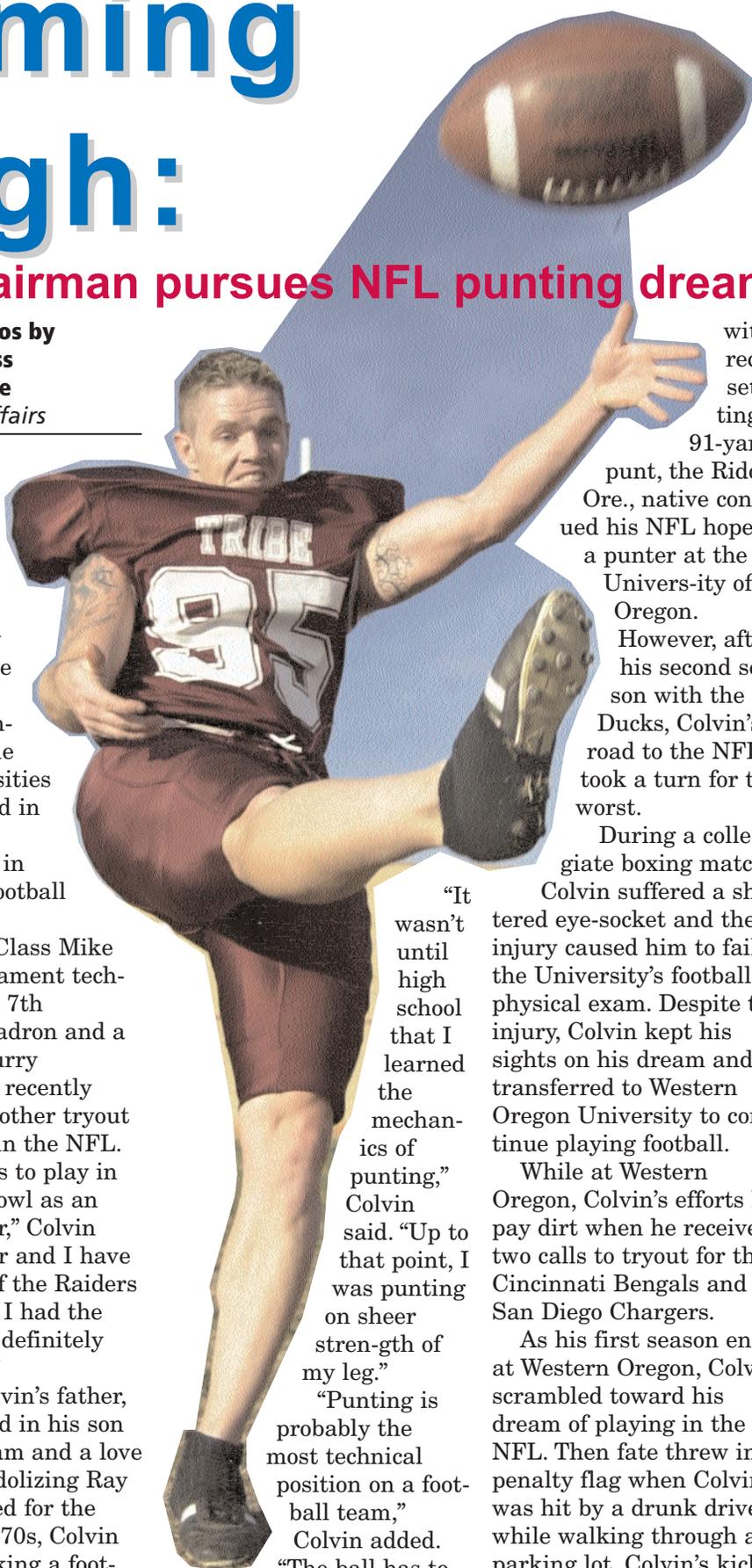
Story and photos by
Airman 1st Class
Matthew Rosine
Dyess Public Affairs

For many people today, the pursuit of their dreams often falls by the wayside when adversity strikes. But, one Dyess munitions professional, has overcome multiple adversities on the long road in pursuit of his dreams to play in the National Football League.

Airman 1st Class Mike Colvin, an armament technician with the 7th Munitions Squadron and a junior at McMurry University, has recently received yet another tryout to be a punter in the NFL.

"My dream is to play in the NFL Pro Bowl as an Oakland Raider," Colvin said. "My father and I have been big fans of the Raiders for years. So, if I had the choice, I would definitely punt for them."

As a boy, Colvin's father, George, instilled in his son a desire to dream and a love for the game. Idolizing Ray Guy, who punted for the Raiders in the '70s, Colvin started out kicking a football over the power lines in his backyard. Continuing his kicking ways, he played football through high school where he met the first "green light" in his road to the NFL -- his high school football coach, Aaron Brown.



with a record setting 91-yard punt, the Riddle, Ore., native continued his NFL hopes as a punter at the University of Oregon. However, after his second season with the Ducks, Colvin's road to the NFL took a turn for the worst.

During a collegiate boxing match, Colvin suffered a shattered eye-socket and the injury caused him to fail the University's football physical exam. Despite the injury, Colvin kept his sights on his dream and transferred to Western Oregon University to continue playing football.

While at Western Oregon, Colvin's efforts hit pay dirt when he received two calls to tryout for the Cincinnati Bengals and the San Diego Chargers.

As his first season ended at Western Oregon, Colvin scrambled toward his dream of playing in the NFL. Then fate threw in a penalty flag when Colvin was hit by a drunk driver while walking through a parking lot. Colvin's kicking leg suffered severe muscle damage to his hamstring, as well as muscle tearing and nerve damage.

Despite suffering "career ending" injuries, the 23-year-old punter did not give up. Colvin decided to take at least a year off to recu-

"It wasn't until high school that I learned the mechanics of punting," Colvin said. "Up to that point, I was punting on sheer strength of my leg."

"Punting is probably the most technical position on a football team," Colvin added. "The ball has to come off your foot in a spiral and most people don't understand how difficult that can be -- they just don't understand the physics involved in a good punt."

After mastering his punting skills in high school

perate and then, with some hard work and a little faith, he hoped to return as good as new.

It was during Colvin's recuperation time when the road to his professional punting dream took another twist. During a trip to the state fair, Colvin met an Air Force recruiter. The light-hearted conversation eventually turned to serious thought about serving his country. Tossing aside his crutches, Colvin crossed into "The Blue" in September 2000.

"I had always had an interest in joining the military," Colvin said. "My family has always had a strong sense of patriotism. It sounded like the best thing for me and my family supported my decision, so I joined."

"It was a win-win situation, and I made the right choice," Colvin added. "I get the best of three worlds. Not only do I get a chance to serve my country, I can continue my education and I can still play football."

After serving initially at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, the 6-foot 4-inch, 230-pound punter was reassigned to Dyess, where he began training again to reach his NFL dreams.

Colvin had begun his own rigorous two-hour training regimen when he had a chance meeting with the previous McMurry University punter. Colvin

began training the Indians' punter when he met Jeff Schaum, McMurry University defensive coordinator.

"I saw this kid out there kicking one day, and I thought, this kid has a 'thunder foot,'" Schaum said. "As a coach, when you see that kind of phenomenal talent, you just have to ask them if they can play ball for you, even if you think the answer is no."

After speaking with the coach, Colvin realized he was still eligible to play college football, so he joined the Indians.

"I hadn't expected to play college ball for McMurry," Colvin said. "I was just training on my own and giving some pointers to the old punter before he transferred. But after talking with the coaches, I was ready to play."

Once again donning his football uniform, the Dyess Munitions' airman quickly made his mark as a punting pro for McMurry. Despite missing four season games to continue his Air Force commitment, the McMurry Junior has booted as many as 12 punts in a single game, matched an American Southwest Conference long-punt record of 68 yards, averages over 40 yards per punt and has only had two of his 49 regular season punts touchback into the end zone.

See *Punter*, Page 26



Airman 1st Class Mike Colvin, 7th Munitions Squadron, prepares to "suit out" before a practice. Colvin, who plays college football for the McMurry Indians, has already earned three NFL tryouts.

The BIG Screen



The Dyess theater is located next to the main exchange. Patrons must have a valid identification card. Guests are welcome. Unless otherwise noted, all movies begin at 7 p.m. Adult admission is \$1.75, children 6 - 12 years old is \$1.25, and children under 6 are admitted free.

Today

Brown Sugar -- *Taye Diggs, Sanaa Lathan* -- Dre and Sidney attribute their friendship to a single childhood moment. Now about 15 years later, hip hop isn't the only thing that keeps them coming back to memories of how they met.

Rated PG-13 (*sexual content and language*)

Saturday

Red Dragon -- *Anthony Hopkins, Edward Norton* -- Former FBI agent Graham is recruited by the agency to help track down a killer who has slaughtered entire families. To do this, he has to work with the imprisoned Lecter. Meanwhile, the killer develops an odd relationship with a blind co-worker which may help control his violence.

Rated R (*violence, grisly images, language, nudity and sexual content*)

Social hour

Social hour is from 4:30-6:30 p.m. today at The Heritage Club and The Enlisted Lounge.

For more information, call 6-2405.

Greenware sale

The Crafter's Haven Skills Development Center is having a holiday greenware sale Monday to Dec. 13. Customers receive a 10 percent discount.

For more information, call 6-4175.

Club dining

The Heritage Club features a different lunch special Mondays through Fridays during December.

Lunchtime dining is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Mondays -- Mexican buffet

Tuesdays -- Fried chicken buffet

Wednesdays -- Pasta buffet

Thursdays -- Asian buffet

Fridays -- Land and Sea buffet

For more information, call 6-2405.

Football frenzy

Football Frenzy is 7 p.m. Mondays at The Hangar Center.

For more information, call 6-2405.

Bingo mania

Bingo mania is 7 p.m. Tuesdays at The Hangar Center. Card sales begin at 6:30 p.m.

Participants must be at least 18 years old.

For more information, call 6-2405.

Karaoke

There is karaoke from 6-9 p.m. Fridays at The Hangar Center.

For more information, call 6-4305.

Bowling special

Children celebrating their birthday at Dyess Lanes receive free shoe rental, one free game and a meal for \$3.50.

For more information, call 6-4166.

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Punter

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Colvin also sprints a 4.5 second 40-yard run and fills in as a "head hunter" on the kickoff team.

Because of Colvin's outstanding play this season, the armament technician has received regional fame as the ASC special teams player of the week. Colvin received the ASC Helmet award for outstanding play and was recently selected for the second team all-conference.

Colvin has not only maintained his two previous NFL tryouts with the

Bengals and the Chargers this summer, he has also earned another NFL tryout with the Houston Texans in April and has heard talk of a possible tryout with the San Francisco 49ers.

"This guy is awesome," said Airman 1st Class Lacy McNeil, an armament co-worker. "He is a good role model for anyone whether he is on- or off-duty. He works hard, and does a good job. He knows how to work well in a team and always performs under pressure."

Despite the more recent fame and acclaim, Colvin takes everything one step at a time and tries to make the best out of

twists and turns along life's path.

"I have had some ups and downs in my life," Colvin said. "But I have been blessed, and I really believe that everything happens for a reason.

"My father just recently passed away, and while I will miss him terribly, I realized how much he has given me and supported my dreams," Colvin added.

"That has strengthened my resolve. I have wanted this dream to come true for a long time, but now it is not just for myself -- I hope to make a better life for my son and to make sure he knows that his own dreams can come true."

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