

ROBINS REV-UP

July 31, 2009 Vol. 54 No.30

Infrared camera saves base money, time

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW
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The camera that Wayne Merritt holds in his hands looks about like any standard home-video camera, but the price tag for it is about that of a new BMW.

And it has more than paid for itself, Mr. Merritt said.

The camera, which costs about \$55,000, shoots infrared images and is used to identify a variety of problems that can head off serious maintenance issues. It most recently prevented a sizable section of Robins from being shut down for about a day.

The camera is a part of the 78th Civil Engineer Squadron's pre-



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

A thermocam, like the one demonstrated by Wayne Merritt of the 78th Civil Engineer Squadron, helped discover faulty switches in an electrical substation. Undiscovered, the switches would have failed, resulting in down time for a large portion of the base.

dictive maintenance program that seeks to identify potential failures before they occur.

Mr. Merritt, a predictive maintenance technician, demonstrated how

he used the camera to find faulty switches in the Ninth Street electrical substation. The infrared camera clearly showed the two switches overheating, which indicated

a failure was imminent.

The only way they could have found the problem otherwise would have been to shut down the substation and manually inspect it. The camera allowed for the problem to be identified and repaired without any disruption.

They made the repair on a weekend, and because they knew it was coming, they were able to reroute the power through other substations so that no one lost power during the repair.

Had the switches failed, it would have caused shutdown of a significant portion of the south end of the base, including the 78th Air

► see CAMERA, 2A

Suicide prevention awareness still top priority for base leadership

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW
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Sometimes a misconception can be a good thing.

That's the way Maj. Colin Burchfield, director of psychological health at Robins, feels about the perception that suicides are more common during the holiday season. While a seasonal affective disorder, also known as the holiday blues, can occur in the northern regions, there is no evidence to support that suicides are more common in the winter months, he said.

But Major Burchfield doesn't particularly mind if people want to believe that.

"There has never been a higher suicide risk during the holidays, but saying that there is gets people to do exactly what we are trying to do in the You Matter

campaign, which is reach out to people who may be at risk," the major said.

The You Matter campaign was developed after eight suicides were recorded among Team Robins members in 2008. That's four times the national average. All except one of those were civilians.



Seven months into this year, there

is reason to think the campaign is working. The base has had only one suicide this year, which would put it on pace to be at or below the national average. Also, Major Burchfield said, across Air Force Materiel Command, the suicide rate is continuing the trend in the wrong direction, so Robins is doing well to see a reduction.

While Major Burchfield is encouraged that the campaign appears to be having an impact,

► see YOU MATTER, 2A

ASCENDING SUMMITS



Col. Stan Vanderwerf, 542nd Combat Sustainment Group commander, has more than two decades of mountain climbing experience. He conquered this mountain, Capitol Peak in Colorado, in 18 hours. He started at 3 a.m. and hiked 17 miles roundtrip, finishing at 9 p.m.

Commander to tackle 'serious mountain'

BY KENDAHL JOHNSON
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One group commander at Robins will be ascending new heights in a few days, weathering the elements and pushing his body to its limits so he can look out over the vast landscapes and know that he accomplished something truly remarkable.

Beginning Saturday, Col. Stan Vanderwerf will be taking time off from his day job as the 542nd Combat Sustainment Group commander to tackle Washington's Mount Ranier, one of this country's most prominent mountains – and one of the most difficult to climb – outside of Alaska.

"Mount Ranier is a serious mountain," said Colonel Vanderwerf, who manages the electronic warfare product support group. "And it's a very popular place for moving up to the next level."

► see CLIMBING, 3A



Courtesy photos

Colonel Vanderwerf has been in situations that, without experience and advanced climbing skills, would be considered "very dangerous."



U.S. Air Force file photo by SUE SAPP

Participants of a previous safety ride will be back on the streets again Thursday. Motorcyclists are asked to join in the "See Me, Save Me" campaign's third safety ride, aimed at raising vehicle operators' awareness of motorcycles on the road.

Motorcyclists revving up for third 'See Me, Save Me' ride

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW
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The third "See Me, Save Me" motorcycle safety ride set for Thursday will carry its message to a wider audience.

In the previous two rides, one held last fall and another held this spring, the riders basically stayed in Warner Robins. This time, however, they are making a trek to Perry, Fort Valley and Byron before returning to Robins.

The reason for expanding the ride is simple, said Donn Johnson, senior motorcycle safety instructor at Robins.

"The ride is for the community, and Perry, Fort Valley and Byron are part of this communi-

ty," he said. "We are expanding 'See Me, Save Me' to those who may not have knowledge of it in the past."

The purpose of the ride is to show motorists how many people are riding motorcycles. The hope is that by making people aware of the prevalence of motorcycles, motorists will be more likely to check twice when scanning to make lane changes or other maneuvers in traffic.

Mr. Johnson said the concern is that when motorists are looking only for large vehicles, they might miss smaller vehicles such as motorcycles because they didn't look carefully enough.

► see SAVE ME, 5A

THINK SAFETY



Days without a DUI: 56
Last DUI: 112th ACCS
— courtesy 78th Security Forces

To request a ride, call
222-0013, 335-5218,
335-5238 or 335-5236.



TWO-MINUTEREV

Recycling trailers have been relocated

The recycle trailers formerly found in the parking lot near the Base Theater have been relocated. The new home for the trailers is in the parking lot behind the Base Exchange (Bldg. 986).

According to Paul Kelley, 78th Civil Engineer Squadron director, the primary purpose for the move was to better accommodate those living in family housing.

Trailers are provided for those wanting to recycle newspaper, mixed paper, white paper, aluminum cans and plastic.

Road closure at Gate 5

The outbound lanes of Martin Luther King Boulevard will be closed at Gate 5 from Monday through Aug. 16. The gate will allow engineers to make road improvements, which will also improve the overall security of the base.

INSIGHT



Ensuring visibility

Canopy shop ensures F-15 pilots fly with unimpeded vision, 1B

SECURITY



Force protection

Gate guards let the good guys in, keep the bad guys out, 2A

CULTURE



A dash of humor

Military spouse draws from own experiences for comic strip, 3B

YOU MATTER

Continued from 1A

he is not ready to declare victory.

That's because starting in August of last year, the base had one suicide every month through the rest of the year. In other words, five of the eight suicides in 2008 happened from August to December.

Major Burchfield said it would only be speculation to say why it happened that way. However, the most common factor discovered in the suicides was relationship issues at home. The message there, he said, is that if people are having poor relationships at home, it's even more important to have positive relationships at work.

"When you are working and are away from home as

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

- ▶ Employee Assistance Program800-222-0364
- ▶ Airmen and Family Readiness Center926-1256
- ▶ Health and Wellness Center327-8480
- ▶ Chaplain.....926-2821
- ▶ Sexual Assault Response Coordinator327-7272
- ▶ Military Family Life Consultant230-2987
- ▶ Mental Health Clinic.....327-8398

many hours as we are here, relationships at work are of primary importance," he said. "The people who see those people on an every-day basis, who know what they look like on a good day and know what they look like on a bad day, it's important to be a friend on the good days and then reach out on the bad days."

For those who may not be sure what to say to people having problems, Major Burchfield has a simple suggestion. All they have to

do is go find one of the hundreds of You Matter flyers posted around base, including in every restroom stall, and direct the person to one of the many helping agencies listed on the flyer.

Or, he added, if they really want to be a good friend, they can walk the person over to the Mental Health Clinic.

"There are wonderful and various resources that are available on this base that can help people get through," he said.

CAMERA

Continued from 1A

most of the flightline to be shut down and the employees sent home for the day.

The camera can be used to identify an array of problems, including those with electrical motors and other equipment. They also used it to identify the exact location of a leak in a boiler tube at the steam plant. Had it not been for the camera, "trial and error" cuts would have been made in the steel shell until the leak was located.

Using the camera is not as simple as looking at the image and seeing the bright red spots, Mr. Merritt said. Computer software analyzes the image and gives a temperature reading on each pixel to help identify problems that would not necessarily be seen by just looking at the picture.

The infrared camera is just one part of the 78th CES predictive maintenance program.

They also use an ultrasound detector that can pick up high-frequency noises that can't be heard by the human ear. The noises are often an indicator of mechanical problems.

Another method is vibration analysis, which makes early detection of mechanical problems by measuring the vibration of equipment.

Also, a motor performance analyzer is used to perform 13 tests that determine the health of electric motors. They used the device to detect an internal wiring fault in a rebuilt 125 horsepower motor being held in storage. Because of the detection, they were able to have the motor repaired under warranty.

"If we are going to stay ahead of the game, we've got to use every tool we've got," Mr. Kelley said.

Guarding gates a 'huge responsibility'

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW

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One group of people at Robins makes daily contact with everyone who works here. They are the men and women who guard the entry points to the base.

Checking one identification card after another might seem to some like a tedious job, but not to the guards. They understand the gravity of their assignment.

"Just hands-on touching that ID card and confirming that the person who is attempting to gain access is supposed to be here is a huge responsibility because we are responsible for making sure nothing goes 'boom' on Robins Air Force Base. Those guys are the first line of defense," said Master Sgt. Samel Brown, the NCO in charge of security forces operations.

Monday through Friday, the gates are guarded by 31 Department of Defense civilians, 17 Air Reserve Command volunteers, and varying numbers of 78th Security Forces Squadron personnel who rotate patrol duty. On the weekends, the gate duty falls solely to Security Forces.

The civilian personnel have the same authority as Security Forces, said Senior Master Sgt. Keith Davis, the operations superintendent. They can deny access, search vehicles and detain people, if necessary.

He said all gate guards do a good job of getting thousands of cars into the base every day while making sure all are supposed to be here.

"The job we do every day is no small feat," Sergeant Davis said. "It takes alertness 100 percent of the time.



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Officers Sanders Harris and Pete Metros, DOD gate guards, check IDs at the Russell Gate. Officer Harris is wearing the new uniform similar to the dark blue uniforms worn by city police officers.

You can't let your guard down at all. That's usually when something happens."

The guards regularly contend with various problems, including people trying to get on base without proper ID. Often, it's people who just want to look at the planes and don't know they aren't allowed on base.

One of the most common problems, however, is people who have forgotten their common access card. They don't always understand why guards won't take their word that they have base access.

"Even though we see you every day, we don't know the status of those folks," said Sanders Harris, supervisor of security guards. "The card could have been confiscated."

For the absent-minded who are prone to leaving their cards in their computer, you don't have to bug co-workers to bring you the card, Sergeant Davis said. All you have to do is go to the Visitor's Center, present your ID, and they can confirm your status and give

you a temporary pass to get on base.

Some security changes are in the works, starting with new uniforms for the DOD guards. They are getting blue uniforms that are similar to uniforms traditionally worn by city police officers.

It's a small first step in what will eventually be a major shift for the Air Force in base security. On Oct. 1, the civilian security force will change its name from Department of Defense Police to Department of the Air Force Security Guards/Police.

Although initially the only changes will be the name and uniforms, the major change expected is that the civilian guards will eventually take over patrol of bases. Right now they only work the gates.

That will free up Security Forces for deployment duties, said Mr. Harris. Exactly when that change might happen has not been determined, but Mr. Harris said the civilian guards are looking forward to it.

CLIMBING

Continued from 1A

With more than two decades of mountain climbing experience, the colonel said he is eager to take his pastime to the next level. His six-day trip to Mount Rainier will include two days of intense professional training, followed by four 12- to 14-hour days of climbing.

“This trip will be both a training event as well as an exciting mountain climbing experience,” the colonel said. “I’ve achieved a certain level of skills in my mountain climbing and now I want to go into expedition climbing, which is longer periods of time. There are some skills I need to learn and those skills require some professional training.”

The commander became interested in mountain climbing while stationed in Europe in 1988. He met a civilian worker who had climbed the Matterhorn, a 14,692-foot mountain that lies on the border between Switzerland and Italy. Armed with little more than basic skills, he tackled the mountain.

“In all fairness, I was probably in over my head, but I hired a guide and he took me up and down nice and safe,” he said.

That experience was the start of what became a serious hobby, intensified by a permanent change of station to Colorado, home of 58 “fourteeners,” or mountains reaching 14,000 feet.

He started slowly, conquering about a dozen fourteens in the few years he was stationed there before being assigned elsewhere.



Courtesy photo

Colonel Vanderwerf, seen in inset at the top of this peak in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of southern Colorado, said temperatures in winter climbs can reach 15 degrees below zero and 30 to 40 below zero with windchill. Only experienced climbers should attempt technical snow climbing, he said.

In 2006, he was once again assigned to a base in Colorado. Knowing he’d only be there for a short duration, he took advantage of his time there and climbed 45 mountains in a span of just 18 months, putting him in an exclusive club of climbers who have climbed all 58 fourteens in Colorado. He credits endurance as one of his greatest strengths in achieving this accomplishment.

“I have a lot of endurance,” Colonel Vanderwerf said. “I am pretty good at setting a pace and going at that pace for a long time, six hours or more.”

The colonel also credits conditioning and said climbers, especially beginners, need to be in excellent physical condition.

“It’s aerobic conditioning more than anything else,” he said. “When you get to a mountain in the

range of 13,000 and 14,000 feet, you only have about 60 percent of the atmosphere you have at sea level and then you are working hard to climb the mountain, while carrying a 20 to 60 pound pack. You really have to be in excellent physical condition.”

He said recreational mountain climbing is a great pastime that can be fairly inexpensive – a few hundred dollars for a good pair of hiking boots, a nice day pack and some basic safety gear – and it’s very rewarding, for a number of reasons.

“You can see the results of your labor quickly. You know when you’ve achieved your goal – you’re at the top of the mountain,” he said. “And of course, the mountains are beautiful. The view is fantastic and the scenery is amazing.”

The colonel added that

mountain climbing doesn’t have to be intense or serious to be rewarding. A very simple hike on a well known trail can be just as satisfying as a long climb on a serious mountain. Even his 13-year-old son, Erik, and 9-year-old daughter, Carolyn, have hiked a fourteener.

Although Colonel Vanderwerf may preach mountain climbing as a fun and satisfying hobby to anyone who will listen, he recognizes people can find happiness in any hobby.

“The most important thing is not necessarily which hobby you have, but that you have a hobby,” he said. “Find something that keeps your interest, that you can really get involved in. Get involved in the technology of it, in the pure enjoyment of it. Do something with friends or family that’s fun, then cling on to it.”

Federal Manager of the Year



Courtesy photo

Rita Davey is recognized by Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander, for winning the Chapter 121 Federal Manager of the Year award. Ms. Davey is the 778th Communication Squadron’s plans and resources operations officer. Her leadership and performance directly contributed to the best execution of information technology dollars across the Center. She established processes to ensure alignment of all IT capital investments to the Center’s business needs. As a result, IT spending decreased 40 percent from fiscal 2005 to fiscal 2008.

www.robins.af.mil



The Robins public Web site has a new look. To learn more about what the change offers, visit the site today.

Building better partnerships



U.S. Air Force photo by **CLAUDE LAZZARA**

Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander, was one of many participants in a partnership council, which convened at Robins. The partnership council is designed to create strategic plans to build better partnerships between Air Force Materiel Command and AFGE Council 214.

► IN BRIEF

NEW LEADER

The 78th Dental Squadron recently welcomed a new commander.

Col. Chris Lauritzen took the helm of the squadron at a change of command ceremony July 22, replacing former commander Col. Ricky Cook.

Colonel Lauritzen was the clinical flight commander in the 78th DS before assuming com-



Col. Chris Lauritzen
78th DS commander

mand of the squadron.

GI BILL BRIEFINGS

The Military Education and Training office will conduct briefings on the 9/11 GI Bill on Aug. 6, 13, 20 and 27 from 10 to 11 a.m. in the Heritage Club ballroom next to the Pizza Depot.

For more information, call 327-7304.

DEERS UPGRADE

The Customer Service Element of the 78th Military Personnel Section in Bldg. 767 is scheduled for upgrade to the DEERS/RAPID system Aug. 18-21. During this

time, the office will be operating at minimal capacity.

For more information, call 222-6862.

PROMOTION CEREMONY

Col. Carl Buhler, 78th Air Base Wing commander, will host the monthly wing promotion ceremony today at 3:30 pm. at the Base Theater. Those being recognized will be notified by their respective first sergeants.

Commanders, supervisors, family members, and friends are encouraged to attend and join in congratulating the new promotees.

AFSO21 initiatives help master tool crib reach VPP

BY **LISA MATHEWS**
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When David Turner first went to work as the tool control manager and section chief in the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center's master tool crib, he quickly noticed a big difference from his former workplace in the 402nd Commodities Maintenance Group.

"In commodities, we had already started implementing the principles of 6S," he said. Such was not the case in the tool crib.

By implementing Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century lean initiatives – such as 6S – Mr. Turner has seen a transformation, both physically and culturally, within the tool crib.

The change has been a positive one, both for the morale of the tool crib workers and also for their customers. Their efforts also led

to the tool crib earning gold status in the Voluntary Protection Program.

Mr. Turner said that a 6S event helped organize the tool crib so items could be found faster. But, he said, workers waited to see that leadership intended to be involved in the transformation. Once this occurred, the shop pulled together to standardize and sustain their transformation.

Workers in the area began to believe their suggestions would be taken seriously and, after witnessing leadership support the changes, the workforce banded together to improve their work area.

AFSO21 events led to such improvements as reducing the time it takes to issue a new mechanic a complete tool box. It was not uncommon to have new mechanics waiting eight months for a tool box. Because of changes made to the processes and proce-



U.S. Air Force photo by **SUE SAPP**

Improvements initiated by David Turner, tool control manager for the master tool crib helped improve morale for both tool crib workers and customers. Changes also led to the tool crib earning gold status in the Voluntary Protection Program.

dures the shop can now produce new boxes in 30 days. Replacement of damaged tools used to take approximately 10 days and that is down to a three-day turnaround time, Mr. Turner explained.

When the Center announced the VPP initiative, Mr. Turner said this meshed perfectly with the AFSO21 initiatives the tool crib had already been implementing.

The area has posters

throughout the shop with VPP information to assist workers. The shop also tracks which VPP safety training courses they have taken.

Burdette Widener, an item manager in the tool crib, remembers the days when the area was congested and "unorganized."

"It's much nicer now," she said, noting that it is much easier to locate items and get their customers what they need in a timely manner.

The tool crib has also implemented a clean-up time each Friday. The workers, including supervisors, spend about 45 minutes each Friday for a thorough cleaning of their work space including mopping the floors.

Mr. Turner said people who have not visited the tool crib in a few years are often shocked by the changes they see in the area.

"The implementation of 6S and VPP it has made the work area a cleaner, safer and more enjoyable place to work," said Mike Weber, first-line supervisor in the area. "We have sort of become a model area for others to look at."

"It was challenging in the beginning to get everyone involved but after everyone realized VPP was here to stay, and that their input was actually going to matter, everyone jumped on board. Our journey in VPP has not stopped; we continue to sustain and look for ways to improve," Mr. Spiers said.

The master tool crib provides total tool support to the entire 402nd Maintenance Wing. They provide tools for 19 satellite cribs throughout the wing. The master tool crib, while located in Bldg. 125, is part of the 402nd Maintenance Support Squadron.

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

SAVE ME

Continued from 1A

And the message goes beyond just motorcycles, he said.

“This is not just an opportunity to highlight motorcycles; but to change (drivers) search patterns to look at all different types, including bicycles and pedestrians,” he said.

The day will also include information on motorcycles being handed out to those coming in the gates from 6 a.m. to 7:15 a.m. At 9 a.m. motorcyclists participating in the ride are asked to meet at Robins Motorcycle Training Range at Pave Paws, located at the end of March Banks Drive. At 9:15 a.m. there will be a safety brief-

ing and at 9:30 a.m. the ride will begin. Approximately 300 motorcyclists are expected to attend.

After making a trek through the base, the riders go off base under police escort. They will go through Warner Robins, Perry, Fort Valley, Byron and Warner Robins again before ending the ride at the Museum of Aviation, where lunch will be served.

Mr. Johnson said the ride will continue to be each spring and fall. He believes it is making a difference in getting the message out.

“When I talk to different people, they say seeing all of those bikes makes them realize how many folks are out there on bikes,” he said. “That’s why it’s important to have as many people as we can on the ride.”

Chaplain candidate interns tour Robins, learn of missions

Robins was the first stop on a 35-day tour of five Air Force bases for nearly 30 chaplain candidates and four chaplain assistants.

The tour, part of the Air Force Chaplain Candidate Internship Program, gives the candidates the opportunity to see and experience firsthand Air Force missions and the ministries that tend to the spiritual needs of Airmen.

During this orientation program, the interns take part in a variety of activities to better understand the Air Force way of life. These activities include site mission tours, corporate worship, group fitness training, and team building.

People enter the chaplaincy for a variety reasons, and the program is designed to help them find focus.

“I felt it was my purpose and that it’s what God wanted me to do,” said Chaplain (Maj.) Pierre Allegre. “I am very patriotic, and I respect military people a lot. When I realized the Air Force Reserve chaplain program was available, I immediately got involved.”

The chaplains and chap-

lain candidates toured several areas on Robins, including the F-15 wing shop.

The group then visited the 339th Flight Test Squadron, where they were greeted by Robert Harris, deputy flight chief, who told them about the flight controls in the cockpit.

After viewing the F-15 static display, the chaplain candidates next saw a military working dogs demonstration, followed by a tour of an E-8C static display. They boarded the plane and saw the different jobs the Airmen perform on the airborne command and control aircraft.

Chaplain candidates have many questions they want answered before they become Air Force chaplains, and the program is helping them find those answers.

The program organizers are investing their time in hopes the candidates gain a better understanding of the different aspects of ministry in the Air Force and as a result will be better prepared to minister to the men and women of the Air Force. — *Submitted by the AFRC Public Affairs Office*

BE KIND TO THE EARTH. RECYCLE THIS PAPER.

Commentary

"No man is entitled to the blessings of freedom unless he be vigilant in its preservation."

— General Douglas MacArthur

Commander's Action Line

The Action Line is an open-door program for Team Robins personnel to give kudos, ask questions or suggest ways to make Robins a better place to work and live.

The most efficient and effective way to resolve a problem or complaint is to directly contact the organization responsible. This gives the organization a chance to help you, as well as a chance to improve their processes.

Please include your name and a way of reaching you so we can provide a direct response.

Anonymous action lines will not be processed. Discourteous or disrespectful submissions will not be processed. Action Line items of general interest to the Robins community will be printed in the Robins Rev-Up.

For more information on the Action Line, visit <https://wwwmil.robins.af.mil/actionline.htm>.

To contact the Action Line, call 926-2886 or for the quickest response, e-mail action.line@robins.af.mil.

▶ Security Forces	327-3445
▶ FSS (Services)	926-5491
▶ Equal Opportunity	926-2131
▶ Employee Relations	926-5802
▶ Military Pay	926-4022
▶ IDEA	926-2536
▶ Civil engineering	926-5657
▶ Public Affairs	926-2137
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▶ Fraud, Waste, Abuse	926-2393
▶ Housing Office	926-3776
▶ Chaplain	926-2821

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SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Stories and briefs must be submitted as a Word document. They may not exceed two pages, double spaced. They must be typed using the Times New Roman font, 12-point type, with 1-inch margins. All submissions will be edited to conform to Associated Press style. Submission does not guarantee publication.

Submissions must be received by 4 p.m. the Monday prior to the requested Friday publication. They should be e-mailed to 78ABW.PARevUp@robins.af.mil. Submissions should be of broad interest to the base populace. If there are further questions, call Kendahl Johnson at (478) 222-0804.

DELIVERY

The Robins Rev-Up is published 50 times a year on Fridays, except when a holiday occurs during the middle or latter part of the week and the first and last Fridays of the year. To report delivery issues, call Kendahl Johnson at (478) 222-0804.

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IN MY OWN WORDS...



Anthony Berry
402nd Maintenance Wing

Today's thoughts are from Anthony Berry, a sheet metal mechanic in the 402nd MXW. He took time to talk about the issue

the big picture

I would describe the big picture as doing the best job you can do out here on base and wanting to further my career with continuing education.

It also meant that you have to think about your other wingmen and your family. The wingman concept works well in my area. VPP-wise, we have both silver

and bronze sites. Everyone gets along and looks out for one another.

Watching the news, you think about other families. You are working on airplanes that help bring them home safe.

I think a lot of senior employees may not be as apt to adjust to change. I don't think they see the big

picture as much as younger employees. They know their job a lot better than younger employees, but it's just that the younger employees are more apt to change when a new way of doing things is brought in.

The big picture, no matter where you work on base, is to get the planes out.

This is a regular feature in which Team Robins members are asked to give their thoughts on targeted areas of improvement. Those areas are trust, successful communications, grievances, recognition, teamwork, success, integrity, fairness, the big picture, diversity or other subject of interest. If you would like to participate, call Wayne Crenshaw at 222-0807 or e-mail him at wayne.crenshaw.ctr@robins.af.mil.

DUI: Fast track to losing stripes

April 17 started off just like every Friday. Wake up, get ready for the night shift and get through the work day to start my weekend. What I didn't see coming was the decision I would make at the end of my night, a decision that would ultimately put my career at risk. I made a choice that would affect many more people than just myself. My name was Airman 1st Class Adam Osgood, and I decided to drink and drive.

I finished the night shift and decided to hang out with some friends after work. It was about 3 a.m. when I reached the dorms and was ready to "throw back a couple" and relax. I had a wingman and good intentions to drink responsibly. I also had a plan to sleep at the dorms and drive home after waking up. That's it! That's all there was to my plan.

It's very clear by my current situation that I didn't think this one through. What's the point of having a plan if you can easily infer from it when not thinking clearly. That's exactly what I did.

On the morning of April 18, I received a DUI for driving drunk.

When I finished filling out my statement after being arrested, I was released to my first sergeant and flight chief. The look on their faces made my stomach knot; it wasn't a look of just anger, mostly disappointment. The feeling of guilt didn't end there. They told me I would have to go home to change into my uniform because the entire squadron was being called in for recent alcohol incidents. I was the reason, and it wasn't long after that briefing that everyone at work knew it. I am now known at work as a "drunk driver." It's a title I am not proud to carry.

Two months passed and I had still not heard anything about my punishment. It felt like two years to me, waiting and not knowing if I would still have a future in the Air Force. I felt like everything was at a stand-still, and I could not think straight. The stress and anxiety were weigh-

ing me down and taking their toll at both work and home. Everything I worked for since enlisting in the Air Force could all be for nothing due to a single night of bad choices, choices I made and will have to live with for the rest of my life.

I was called into my squadron commander's office June 25; let's just say nervous isn't even close to how I felt. I was allowed to give a statement before he made his decision on what to do with me. I had thought about how I would plead with him, but when the time came I had no words, just a dry mouth, shaky knees and a crackling voice. I knew there was no excuse for what I did and words wouldn't make an exception.

My future was in his hands, and he had every right to end it. A few hours later the decision came down: loss of a stripe, suspension of a second stripe for six months, additional duty and an Article 15.

I can't drive for at least a year. I have to constantly ask for rides

from friends or co-workers, or take the bus. While not being able to drive is a hassle, that is the least of my worries. Now I have to work twice as hard to regain the trust of my peers, supervisors and family; make a new budget with my E-2 income; and learn how to recover from an Article 15 — all of this because I decided to drink and drive. I could have avoided all of this if I listened to what was drilled into my head since I arrived in Germany, "Don't drink and drive."

The message is loud and clear now.

I hope my story does not fall lightly to you as the reader, and you take a moment to think about my experience. If you drink, make wise choices, think them through before acting on them, and honestly ask yourself if your "plan" is actually a real plan.

—This commentary was written by Airman Adam Osgood, 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Spangdahlem, Air Base Germany.



What summertime treat do you most enjoy?



Airman 1st Class Rontoya Albert
78th FSS

"I love orange and lime sherbet. It's a nice, cool, tasty treat and it melts in your mouth."



Kenyoha Scott
DOD Gate Guard

"Ice cream, strawberry ice cream."



Senior Airman Shimika Burgess
78th FSS

"I like Italian Ice, the lemonade and grape mixed flavor. It's really good."



Senior Airman Daniel McClendon
78th ABW

"A big cup of chocolate ice cream with gummy bears on top."



Staff Sgt. Roy Nunn, Oregon Air National Guard, polishes the inside of an F-15 canopy. Sergeant Nunn is here as part of a training program. Aircraft maintainers from around the world visit the shop for an 80-hour course to get certification in canopy polishing.

Ensuring Visibility



U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

Staff Sgt. Nicholas Hicks, Oregon Air National Guard, has been training in the canopy shop here for the last two weeks.



Above, Chris Jones, a mechanic in the 561st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, reconditions a wind screen for an F-15 in the canopy shop.

Below, mechanic Kevin Barnes examines a canopy waiting to be refurbished.



Shop ensures F-15 pilots can fly with unobstructed vision

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW
wayne.crenshaw.ctr@robins.af.mil

Perhaps no other unit at Robins has a more appropriate motto than the F-15 Canopy Shop's: "Our Mission is Clear."

There are actually two canopy shops on base. The first disassembles the canopies and deals with any issues other than transparency of the acrylic canopy itself.

The other is the 561st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron's transparency shop, the one that has the "clear" mission. Its sole responsibility is to polish the canopies and ensure that there are no blemishes that could impact the pilot's view.

When the shop restores a canopy, it saves the Air Force about \$350,000 from buying a new one. About 10 percent of the time, the canopies have flaws serious enough that condemnation is necessary.

It's a painstaking job that requires keen eyesight, attention to detail, and upper body strength. The shop's seven employees spend most of their day guiding an orbital sander.

It's a job they take very seriously. "I think our motto says it all," said Mike Daley, a mechanic in the shop. "Our mission is to repair transparencies and that's what we do, and we are good at it."

Every F-15 that comes in for programmed depot maintenance has its canopy removed and taken to the shop for a transparency refurbish. The first step is to wash the canopy thoroughly and then give it a close inspection. Every scratch, mark and warp is examined and a determination is made as to whether the canopy can be restored.

"Any little speck or scratch is a distraction to the pilot so we have to remove all of that damage," he said.

A grid of metal wire on the wall is

used to pinpoint distortions in the view. The workers can look through the canopy toward the grid and easily spot the distortion because the wires in the grid will appear warped.

They do not necessarily have to eliminate all distortions, just those in the critical viewing area. That is primarily just to the pilot's left, where he has to look through the glass to line up the hose for mid-air refueling.

It takes about two weeks of sanding to restore a canopy, and about three weeks total to complete the shop's work on each canopy.

They also restore the wind screen, which is the thicker, front part of the pilot's viewing area. The wind screen is where the pilot would see the heads up display, and it is also built to withstand bird strikes.

The shop also serves as a one-of-a-kind technical school. Aircraft maintainers from around the world visit the shop for an 80-hour course to get certification in canopy polishing.

The shop recently had two students in from the Oregon Air National Guard. One of those was Staff Sgt. Nicholas Hicks, who said his unit does canopy polishing periodically in between PDM cycles. The last person in their shop to be certified at Robins got the training 12 years ago, so they thought it would be a good idea to get some new people trained.

"It's definitely a hard work out," he said when taking a break from polishing a canopy. "When you are done though, it's just like looking through a brand new pair of safety glasses. It's amazing."

Ricky Baker, the flight chief over the shop, said the group displays good teamwork and dedication.

"All of them love doing what they do," he said. "They really feel like they are making a difference."

78th FSS BRIEFS

WEDNESDAY

Every Wednesday is "Wacky Wednesday" with horse races and hard luck games. Both events will begin at 7:15 p.m. Joint Forces Bingo is located in the east wing of the Robins Enlisted Club. The hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday with games starting at 7:15 p.m. Games begin at 2:45 p.m. on Sundays. Enjoy bar bingo five nights a week at 6 p.m. Anyone with an active duty, reserve, guard, retired, DOD or family member identification card is eligible to play. The entry fee is free to all Robins' club members, bona fide guests and active duty or retired widow club members and \$5 for eligible non-club members. For more information call the enlisted club at 926-4515 or 926-1303.

UPCOMING

The entire Robins community is invited! A First Friday "Ships Ahoy Mate" will be held in conjunction with the Build-A-Boat contest in the Heritage Club ballroom and pool from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Aug. 7. Call the community center to enter the Build a Boat Contest. Teams need to sign up for build-a-boat by Monday, Aug. 3. Contestants may build their boats from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. with a boat race at 7 p.m. There will be a pirates, parrots or favorite nautical character costume contest at 6 p.m., dig for treasures (club members only) at 6:30 p.m. and the best seaworthy award will be at 7:30 p.m. Free swimming held after the boat race. Feature entertainment will be Big Mike and the Booty Pappas. Sea rations will be served from 5 to 6 p.m. Cost is free for members and \$3 for non-members and guests. Join the club during the event to waive the fee. For more information call Horizons at 926-2670.

The Japanese art of floral arrangement, Ikebana is coming to the Arts & Crafts Center. Classes will be held on Saturdays Aug. 8, 15 and 29 from 10 a.m. to noon. This is a three-week course

for \$67.50. For more information call the Arts & Crafts Center at 926-5282.

The women's locker room in the main Fitness Center, Bldg. 826 will undergo a complete renovation Aug. 10 through Nov. 13, 2009. Female patrons may use the Chiefs locker room, located in the Health and Wellness Center, Bldg. 827 during the renovation. Renovations will include 12 by 12 inch floor and wall tiles, replace toilet and shower stalls, counter tops, 18 by 18 inch lockers (large enough to hang a uniform or suit). For more information, please call the fitness center at 926-2128.

An Aviation Art Exhibit and Aero Club Open House will be held Aug. 15 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. featuring the works of Jim Balletto and others at the aero club hanger, Bldg. 186 off Perimeter Rd. Free grillin's will be available for the first 100 guests. Aviation artwork will also be on display at the Arts & Crafts Center the week prior and after the open house. For more details call the Arts & Crafts Center at 926-5282.

Robins Tennis Recreational Coach's Workshop will be held at the youth center and tennis court Aug. 22 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This class is for high school/college students, volunteer coaches and parents and is a requirement to be a volunteer coach in the new United States Tennis Association (USTA) league. Cost is \$10 per person. Please call Ron Hayes at 926-2110 / 327-6836 or email to ronald.hayes@robins.af.mil.

ONGOING

Stalls for horses are available at the riding stables. The stables, near Luna Lake, offer a lighted riding ring, hot & cold wash rack, horse trails, stalls and pasture. Cost includes a monthly \$15 family membership fee & monthly stable fee of \$97. All base ID cardholders – active duty, reserve, ANG, retired military, DOD civilians are

Pizza, anyone?



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Pizza Depot worker Nelia Lewis (center) help Micah Posey and Andrew Sykes from Child Development Center East prepare a pizza. The 3- and 4-year-old preschoolers, who have been having lessons on restaurants, created pizzas.

eligible. For more information, please call the riding stables at 447-6905 or 926-4001.

Join outdoor recreation on a tree climbing rendezvous to Panola State Park on Aug. 22. Meet at outdoor recreation at 9 a.m. with a departure of 9:30 a.m. and return at 7 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person and deadline to sign up is Aug. 3. A minimum of 6 people are required for outdoor recreation to host the trip. For more information, call 926-4001.

Outdoor Recreation is offering the following trips:

►Join outdoor recreation on a tree climbing rendezvous to Panola State Park on Aug. 22. Meet at outdoor recreation at 9 a.m. with a departure of 9:30 a.m. and return at 7 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person and deadline to sign up is Aug. 3. A minimum of six people is required for outdoor recreation to host the trip.

►Go on a Wild Adventure at

Lookout Mountain, Ga. Aug. 29 – 31 with outdoor adventure. Meet at outdoor recreation at 9 a.m. with a departure of 9:30 a.m. on Aug. 29 and return at 5 p.m. Aug. 31. Cost is \$288 per person (10 years and older). Deadline to register is Aug. 6. A minimum of 10 people are required to host the trip.

►A kayaking trip is planned with outdoor recreation on the Flint River Sept. 26. Cost is \$40 per person and deadline to register is Sept. 7.

►Learn history with outdoor recreation on a visit to the Drummer Boy Civil War Museum in Andersonville, Ga. Oct. 3. Cost is \$20 per person and deadline to sign up is Sept. 18. For more information call outdoor recreation at 926-4001.

The Council of College and Military Educators is offering scholarships to United States service members and their spouses who are working towards the

completion of higher education degrees. For more information visit <http://www.ccmeonline.org/nashville10.aspx?session=scholarships>. Application deadline for both scholarships is Sept. 1. For more information call the Education and Training Office at 327-7330.

Attention active duty members and DOD civilians. Did you know that your child or children can attend the school age program at the Youth Center?

Do you also know that would include transportation to and from the following schools for children ages five – 12 years old attending the school age program only: Linwood Elementary, Lake Joy Primary, Lake Joy Elementary, Hilltop Elementary and Bonaire Elementary. Registration will be held now until filled from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information and registration call Tommy Henson at 926-1795 or 926-2110.

RIDDLE ME THIS: Brain teasers and logic puzzles

QUESTIONS:

Q1: There are three switches downstairs. Each corresponds to one of the three light bulbs in the attic. You can turn the switches on and off and leave them in any position.

How would you identify which switch corresponds to which light bulb, if you are only allowed one trip upstairs?

Q2: A Petri dish hosts a healthy colony of bacteria. Once a minute every bacterium divides into two. The colony was founded by a single cell at noon. At exactly 12:43 (43 minutes later) the Petri dish was half full. At what time will the dish be full?

Q3: Imagine there are three coins on the table: a valuable gold coin, and two pennies. If you make a truthful statement, you will get one coin. If you make a false statement, you will get nothing. What sentence can guarantee you getting the gold coin?

Q4: A ladder hangs over the side of a ship anchored in a port. The bottom rung touches the water. The distance between rungs is 20 centimeters and the length of the ladder is 180 centimeters. The tide is rising at the rate of 15 centimeters each hour. When will the water reach the seventh rung from the top?

Q5: Two girls were born to the same mother, on the same day, at the same time, in the same month and year and yet they're not twins. How can this be?

SOLUTIONS:

A5: The two babies are two of a set of triplets.

A4: If the tide is raising water, then it is raising the ship on water, too. So water will reach still the first rung.

A3: "You will give me neither penny." If it is true, then I have to get the gold coin. If it is a lie, then the negation must be true, so "you give me either penny", which would break the given conditions that you get no coin when lying. So the first sentence must be true.

A2: The dish was half full at 12:43, so the next minute -- 12:44 -- there will be twice as many and the dish will be full.

A1: Flip the first switch and keep it on switched on for a few minutes. Switch it off, switch another one on, walk into the room with bulbs and touch them. The hot one belongs to the first switch.

Source: www.brainden.com

DONATE YOUR LEAVE

Employee-relations specialists at 926-5307 or 926-5802 have information and instructions concerning requests to receive or donate annual leave.

Jason Carver and **Andrew Godbee**, 581st SMXS, have been approved to received leave donations. POC is Chandra Emanuel, 926-1285.

To have an approved leave recipient printed in the Robins Rev-Up, send information to Lanorris Askew at: lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil.

78th FSS DIRECTORY

- Services 926-5491
- Community Center 926-2105
- Outdoor Rec 926-4001
- Arts & Crafts 926-5282
- Horizons 926-2670
- Heritage Club 926-7625
- Library 327-8761
- HAWC 327-8480
- Fitness Center 926-2128
- Fitness Center Annex 926-2128
- Youth Center 926-2110
- ITT 926-2945
- Bowling Center 926-2112
- Pine Oaks G.C. 926-4103
- Pizza Depot 926-0188

Additional information on Services events and activities can be found in **The Edge** and at www.robinservices.com

CHAPEL SERVICES

Catholic

Catholic masses are at the chapel each Saturday at 5:30 p.m., Sunday at 9:30 a.m., on Holy Days of Obligation at noon and 5 p.m. vigil the day before, and Monday through Friday at noon. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is Saturday from 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Islamic

Islamic Friday Prayer (Jumua) is Fridays at 2 p.m. in the chapel annex rooms 1 and 2.

Jewish

Jewish service is Fridays at 6:15 p.m. at the Macon synagogue.

Orthodox Christian

St. Innocent Orthodox Church service is at the chapel on the second Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m.

Protestant

The traditional service meets Sunday in the Chapel at 11 a.m. Contemporary service meets at 6 p.m. in the Chapel sanctuary. The gospel service meets at 8 a.m. at the Chapel. Religious education meets in Bldg. 905 at 9:30 a.m.

NOW PLAYING



**JULY 31
7:30 P.M.
THE TPROPOSAL
RATED PG-13**

When high-powered book editor Margaret faces deportation to her native Canada, the quick-thinking exec declares that she's actually engaged to her unsuspecting put-upon assistant Andrew, who she's tormented for years. He agrees to participate in the charade, but with a few conditions of his own.



**AUGUST 1
3 P.M.
MY SISTER'S
KEEPER
RATED PG-13**

Sara and Brian Fitzgerald's life with their young son and their 2-year-old daughter, Kate, is forever altered when they learn that Kate has leukemia. The parents' only hope is to conceive another child, specifically intended to save Kate's life. For some, such genetic engineering raise both moral and ethical questions.



**AUGUST 1
7:30 P.M.
THE TPROPOSAL
RATED PG-13**

When high-powered book editor Margaret faces deportation to her native Canada, the quick-thinking exec declares that she's actually engaged to her unsuspecting put-upon assistant Andrew, who she's tormented for years. He agrees to participate in the charade, but with a few conditions of his own.

Tickets: \$4 adult; \$2 children (11 years old and younger. For more information, call the base theater at 926-2919

Military spouse draws from experience for comic strip

BY SUE SAPP

sue.sapp.ctr@robins.af.mil

Being raised in a military family and married to an Air Force major has given Julie Negrón lots of experiences to draw from.

The military spouse created and produces "Jenny," a comic strip about life as a military spouse. The strip shows the challenges and joys of being an Air Force wife.

Mrs. Negrón is married to Maj. Angel Negrón, a pilot with the 330th Combat Training Squadron. She was already writing a spouse humor column and drawing editorial cartoons when she came up with the idea for the strip while the family was stationed at Kadena Air Base, Japan.

"When your husband is deployed, even if you have kids, there's nobody at home to have an intelligent conversation with so you try to throw yourself into your most creative outlet," she said.

The strip runs in Stars & Stripes and about 60 other military publications. It has even shown up in the television program "Army Wives," stuck on a refrigerator and in the show's mock base newspaper.

"They didn't call me and I don't get paid for it because it's just a prop, but I was excited about it," she said.

Military wives from all branches seem to respond



U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

Julie Negrón, creator and producer of the comic strip "Jenny," is interviewed for the program "Recon" by representatives from the Pentagon Channel. Her comic strip is printed in Stars & Stripes and about 60 other military publications.

and identify with her character Jenny, as evidenced in the large number of letters and emails she receives.

"It's a different kind of life. I've never lived anywhere for more than four years so I know what they're going through," she said.

Major Negrón thinks his wife's creative outlet is great.

"It allows us to express our lives in a humorous way and about 90 percent of what is in the strip has happened to us," he said.

Representatives from the

Pentagon Channel recently visited Mrs. Negrón at Robins to tape a segment for the program "Recon."

Jim Schaefer, special programs producer, said they were looking at current cartoons generated from within the military and will contrast them to older ones from around the World War II era.

"We want to show how things are similar and how things have changed and sometimes how they are



Comic strip creator Julie Negrón with "Jenny."

poking fun at the military," he said.

The show will air Sept. 7 on the Pentagon Channel.

AF marathon fees to increase Aug. 2

The registration price for the Air Force marathon, half-marathon and 5K races will increase Aug. 2.

Through Aug. 1, registration for the full marathon, which includes wheeled and visually impaired divisions, costs \$75, the half-marathon is \$60, the 10K is \$35 per person and the 5K (also including a wheeled division) price is \$20.

On Aug. 2, the half and full races will increase in price by \$10. The 5K will increase by \$5 and the 10K will remain the same.

"With many of the big races like New York, Marine Corps and Chicago closed out this year, we are getting more folks interested in running our race. We feel we offer similar amenities and put on a great race while keeping costs low for the runner," said Molly Loudon, the marathon director. "We are honored they are choosing to come to our race. We are an easy destination to get to, local costs like hotels and parking are minimal, and race registration is, in most cases, lower."

According to Mrs. Loudon, the different races offer opportunity for everyone.

"Our new redesigned half-marathon course provides a more scenic and



flatter course than previous years. It is a great event for those who enjoy some distance but don't have time to train for the rigors of a full marathon. The 5 and 10k are great distances for family & friends to do together whether walking or running," said Mrs. Loudon.

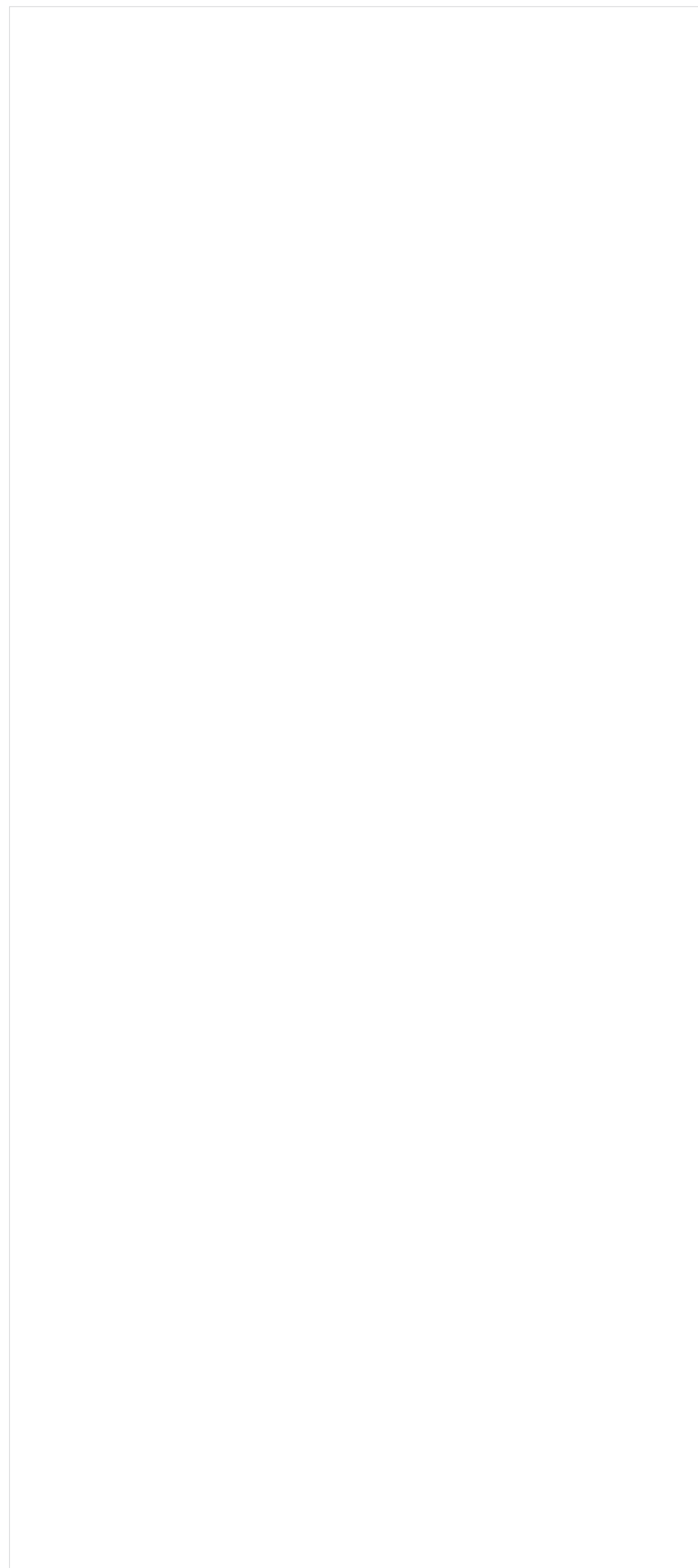
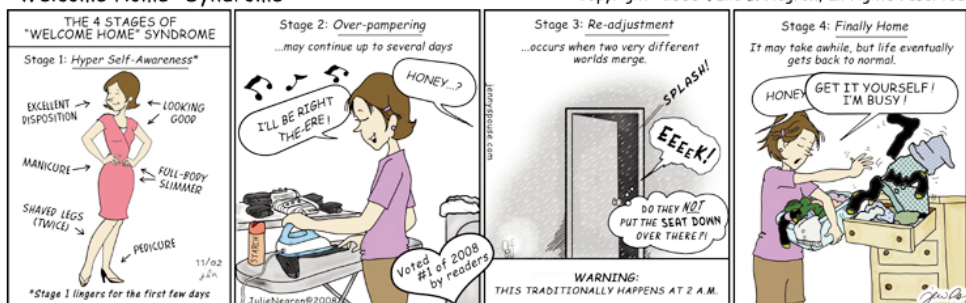
The 5K event will be held Sept. 18 on the grounds of neighboring Wright State University, with whom the marathon office began a partnership in 2007 to accommodate more short-distance runners, and have a less-congested finish-line area for the longer distance runners.

This year's exposition will feature a presentation by Dave McGillivray, the Boston Marathon race director. There will also be more than 60 vendors featuring running apparel and health products. For more information, log onto www.usafmarathon.com.

— Courtesy Air Force News

"Welcome Home" Syndrome

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AF picked to finish 4th in Mountain West

In a poll of media members, the Air Force Academy football team was picked to finish in its conference right where it did last season — in fourth place.

The Falcons were 8-5 overall last year and 5-3 in the Mountain West Conference last year and finished in fourth place behind Utah, TCU and BYU.

Media members polled don't expect the top three to change this year, but they do expect a new conference champion. TCU was predicted to capture the MWC football for the 2009 season.

The Horned Frogs finished second in the MWC in 2008, compiling a 7-1 mark against league opponents en route to an 11-2 overall record and a seventh-place ranking in final polls.

TCU returns four starters from a defensive unit that led the nation in rushing defense while ranking second in scoring defense in 2008. Seven starters return on offense for TCU. The Frogs garnered 15 first-place votes and 207 points.

BYU was chosen second with 190 points and six first-

place votes. The Cougars posted a third-place finish (6-2) in conference play in 2008 and ended the season with a 10-3 mark overall. BYU returns four starters from an offensive unit that ranked among the top 20 nationally in scoring, pass and total offense last season. Eight starters also return on defense for the Cougars.

Defending MWC champion Utah was picked third with 179 points and three first-place votes after posting the nation's only undefeated record (13-0) last season en route to capturing its fourth MWC title (8-0). The Utes enter the 2009 campaign with the nation's longest active overall win streak at 14 games. Utah returns four starters on offense and eight on defense.

Air Force was chosen fourth with 130 points, followed by UNLV (5th - 108 points), Colorado State (6th - 107 points), New Mexico (7th - 60 points), San Diego State (8th - 53 points) and Wyoming (9th - 46 points). — *Courtesy Air Force Academy sports information*



U.S. Air Force file photo

Andre Morris, from Newnan, Ga., will anchor the linebacking corps and hopes to record numerous sacks, like the one he recorded here last season against Wyoming.

Left, right, left, right...



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Members of the 78th Air Base Wing participate in a wing run during Sports Day.

INTRAMURAL SOFTBALL

Final regular season standings

TEAM	W	L	TOURNAMENT SCORES:
402 EMXG	15	0	July 22
116 ACW	14	1	78 MDG def 78 SFS, 29- 20
581 SMXS	13	2	5 CCG #1 def 78 CEG/CEF, 19- 12
78 CEG/CEX	13	2	HQ AFRC def 78 CS, 19- 6
5 CCG #1	12	3	116 MXS def 542 CSW, 15-11
402 CMXG	11	4	July 23
116 MXS	9	6	402 EMXG def 78 MDG, 18-14
78 SFS	9	6	5 CCG #1 def 78 CEG/CEX, 30- 9
HQ AFRC	9	6	HQ AFRC def 581 SMXS, 19-14
542 CSW	8	7	116 ACW def 542 CSW, 19-8
78 MDG	8	7	July 27
78 CEG/CEF	7	8	78 MDG def 78 CS, 16-5
78 CS	7	8	116 MXS def 78 CEG/CEX, 14-9
542 CBSG	6	9	78 SFS def 581 SMXS, 19-18
402 MXW	6	9	78 CEG/CEF def 542 CSW, 15-0
138 MIC	5	10	July 28
638 GP	5	10	402 EMXG def 5 CCG #1, 15-6
330 CPTS	4	11	116 ACW def HQ AFRC, 13-12
78 FSS	4	11	78 MDG def 116 MXS, 20-15
5 CCG #2	3	12	78 SFS def 78 CEG/CEF, 7-5

► IN BRIEF

Intramural bowling

The Fitness Center is now accepting letters of intent for bowling for the 2009 season that will begin Sept. 10.

The deadline for entry is Aug. 19. Compliance with the entry deadline will be strictly enforced. A letter of intent should be faxed to 926-1767 or e-mailed to *Kenneth.porter@Robins.af.mil*.

This is a major team sport and units will receive points towards winning the Installation Commander's Trophy for entering. Additional points are earned based on level of finish in the competition.

A mandatory coaches clinic will be Aug. 25 at 1 p.m. in Bldg. 827.

Grilling safety

Every year dozens of people are injured and hundreds of fires are reported related to grilling accidents.

The leading cause of injuries and fire from gas grilling is leaking fuel lines. Improperly connected, cracked or broken hoses and misaligned venturi tubes can release unlit propane that quickly builds up and can cause an explosion.

Frequently check gas lines for leaks by brushing soapy water over the hoses and connectors. Leaks will show as bubbles. If you find a leak, replace that part before you grill.

Should you experience an out-of-control gas grill fire, quickly identify the source. If the fire is in the grill itself, then carefully turn off the control knobs and let the fire die down. If the fire is under the grill and you can get to the fuel tank, turn off the tank. This should kill the fire almost immediately. If it does not, or if you cannot get to the tank valve, evacuate the area and call the fire department.

Charcoal grills have their own hazards. Burning charcoal produces large amounts of carbon monoxide. There were over 20 deaths in the United States last year alone from carbon monoxide poisoning associated with charcoal grilling.

Never use any open flame device in a closed area such as a garage. The leading cause of injury related to the use of lighter fluids is attempting to relight charcoal. Pouring lighter fluid onto hot coals causes the fluid to quickly vaporize. These vapors become extremely flammable. Never

101

CRITICAL DAYS OF SUMMER

add lighter fluid to smoldering coals.

The rules of safe grilling are:

- Location is everything. Grills need to be kept well away from anything flammable or combustible.

- Be prepared to fight a fire. Having close access to a fire extinguisher is essential. Read the extinguisher directions and ensure you know how it works. Once you have a problem it is too late to read the instructions.

- When lighting a gas grill use the 10-to-5 rule. If the grill does not start within 10 seconds, turn off the gas, leave the lid open and give it five minutes before you try again.

- Make sure that the fire is out when you are done. With a gas grill, turn off both the control valves and the tank valve. Let the grill cool completely before covering. On a charcoal grill, replace the lid and close all vents.

- When grilling, ensure food safety. Meat should reach a healthy internal temperature to be thoroughly cooked. Poultry should reach 180 degrees, burgers and pork 160 degrees and steaks 145 degrees for medium rare cuts, 160 degrees for medium cuts. Use a meat thermometer to check for doneness.

— *Submitted by the 78th ABW Safety Office*