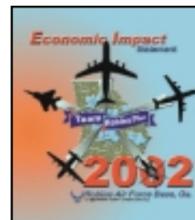




# ROBINS RevUp



Robins annual Economic Impact Statement inside.

Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

Vol. 47 No. 14

Friday, April 12, 2002

## Bush defends budget request, warns both sides in Middle East

By Jim Garamone  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — President Bush Monday defended his fiscal 2003 defense budget request and re-emphasized America's fight against terrorism for the long haul during a stop in Knoxville, Tenn.

Following a tour of a Citizens Police Academy, Bush also spoke shortly about U.S. expectations in the Middle East. He said he told Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon that the United States expects Israel to withdraw from Palestinian territory without delay. He also said that Arab nations and leaders must condemn terrorism and terrorist activity.

"There is a mutual responsibility to achieve peace and it's going to require leadership on both sides, and the United States is firmly committed to achieving peace and ... I am firmly committed to what I expect from both parties," Bush said. "I repeat: I meant what I said about withdrawal without delay, and I mean what I say when I call upon the Arab world to strongly condemn and act against terrorist activities.

In a later speech, Bush said he came to the Volunteer State to tout volunteerism. He spoke about the

*"I've asked for the largest increase in defense spending in 20 years not only because it will fulfill our commitment to support our troops, but because it recognizes that this country is in our war for the long pull — that we're interested in defending freedom no matter what the cost!"*

President George W. Bush

all-volunteer military and the superb job service members are doing against terrorists and then spoke about the various Citizen Corps opportunities.

Bush said the fiscal 2003 budget request reflects the nature of the

conflict the United States is in. "I've asked for the largest increase in defense spending in 20 years not only because it will fulfill our commitment to support our troops, but because it recognizes that this country is in our war for the long pull — that we're interested in defending freedom no matter what the cost!" he said.

The United States, he said, would commit the resources needed to defend freedom worldwide. "I'm proud of the United States of America. I'm proud of our people. I'm proud of our resolve. I'm proud

of the unity. I'm proud of the patience of the American people," he said.

"The American people know what I know: that we have been called into action, that history has given us a chance to lead, that ... we now understand that history's call is to lead our vast coalition against terrorists," he continued.

Bush said critics have said the defense budget request is too large. "Listen, the price of freedom is high. I understand that. But it's not too high as far as I'm concerned," he said. "This nation can show the world what we stand for, and we can show future generations what we're made out of."



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Maria Mansfield, 6, enjoys some of the healthy snacks that were available for children at the children's health fair held on April 5. See more photos from the fair on page A-4.

## Air Force releases many from Stop-Loss

By Master Sgt. Dorothy Goepel  
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Air Force officials announced Tuesday the release of several Air Force Specialty Codes from Stop-Loss, a Defense Department program designed to retain members of the armed forces beyond established dates of separation or retirement.

The announcement comes as a result of an Air Force 60-day review and applies across the board to the active duty, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard forces, according to Lt. Col. Jan Middleton, chief of promotion, evaluation and separation policy at the Pentagon.

"Our exit plan calls for a gradual drawdown from Stop-Loss, which means we want to continue to release AFSCs with each review as long as we are able to maintain sufficient forces to meet mission requirements," she said.

The officer career fields released from stop-loss restrictions, effective May 1, are: 32E, 33S, 35P, 42F, 42G, 42N, 42P, 42S, 42T, 43P, 43Y, 44B, 44F, 44G, 44J, 44K, 44N, 44P, 44R, 44S, 44T, 44U, 45E, 45G, 45N, 45U, 47E, 47G, 47H, 47K, 47P, 47S, 51J, 61S, 62E, 63A and 64P.

The enlisted career fields released from stop-loss restrictions, effective May 1, are: 1T0X0, 2A1X0, 2A390, 2S0X2, 3C1X1, 3C1X2, 3E1X1, 3E3X1, 3E6X1, 3S1X0, 3S1X1, 3S2X0, 3S2X1, 3V000, 3V090, 3V0X1, 3V0X2, 3V0X3, 4A0X0, 4A0X1, 4B0XX, 4C0X0, 4C0X1, 4D0X0, 4D0X1, 4M0X0, 4M0X1, 4N1X1, 4P0X0, 4P0X1, 4R0X1, 4T0X0, 4T0X1, 4T0X2, 4T0X3, 4U0X0, 4U0X1, 4V0X0, 4V0X1, 4Y0X0, 4Y0X1, 4Y0X2, 5J0X0, 5J0X1, 6C0X0, 6C0X1, 8A100, 8C000, 8E000,



8G000, 8J000, 8P000, 8P100, 8R000, 8T000, 9A200, 9A300, 9C000 and 9G000.

During each cyclical review, Middleton explained, officials at the major commands, at the Air Staff and Secretariat, and at the Air Force Personnel Center review all AFSCs for possible release.

"We review current manning and authorizations, the number of people deployed for operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, the number of Air Reserve Center personnel mobilized, and overall health of the career fields," Middleton said. "We will conduct subsequent reviews every 60 days to allow individuals some stability and allow our requirements to solidify."

Members who are deployed in support of operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, or related operations, and Reserve and Guard components who are voluntarily or involuntarily on active duty in support of these operations or related operations, will not be released until they return from deployment or are demobilized, officials said.

Officials emphasized that Stop-Loss is devised to meet all operational requirements in addition to Operation Noble Eagle and Operation Enduring Freedom. For instance, they point out, the Armed Forces will continue to conduct operations in Southwest Asia.

## Credit card misuse not problem at Robins AFB

By Lanorris Askew  
lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil

Though recent media reports have shown that the use and abuse of government credit cards is on the rise, the Comptroller Directorate at Robins Air Force Base says, rest assured, there is not a problem here.

Bill Savage from FM, said there is not a problem with delin-

quencies at Robins because the credit card program is focused on and worked at all levels of management.

"Our credit card program is managed from the base commander all the way down to the folks on the shop floors," he said. "Another reason the program works so well is that those who

See FEW ... Page A-3

## Civilian applicants must now self-nominate

Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Civilians interested in applying for specific job positions must now self-nominate under the Air Force's Career Program system.

The Career Program office, which will begin using the Defense Civilian Personnel Data System on April 15, provides a centralized merit promotion system to fill midlevel and senior management positions throughout the Air Force.

Career Program registration is no

longer required to apply and compete for these positions, said personnel officials at the Air Force Personnel Center here. Permanent Air Force employees do not need to submit a resume with their self-nomination unless one is requested in the job announcement. Applicants not currently associated with the Air Force are required to submit a resume for employment consideration.

Vacancies will be announced through the Civilian Announcement Notification System beginning April 19.

People interested in a job must then self-nominate via the AFPC's employment home page or call toll free 800-997-2378 or 210-527-2378 within the San Antonio area.

Self-nomination for open jobs also includes people stationed at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio; Tinker AFB, Okla.; and Robins AFB, Ga., who were not included in the Feb. 15 start of Defense Civilian Personnel Data System.

Article courtesy of AFPC News Service.

## Tax center gears up for deadline

Tax Center Hours of Operation

Friday — Sign ups will begin at noon and run until 3 p.m. or until the maximum number is reached  
Monday — Sign ups and tax preparations will begin at 10 a.m.  
For more information, call 926-2635.

## AFAF drive ends today

The Air Force Assistance Fund comes to a close today. The base's goal for this year is \$71,319. Robins has raised \$72,408.45.

The campaign is an Air Force-wide annual event to raise money for four charities. These charities benefit active duty, Guard, Reserve and retired Air Force people, and their families.

See page A-2 for a listing of the statistics for this year's drive.

# Lightning warning system protects patrons

By Chris Zdrakas  
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The 78th Air Base Wing Services Division has invested in a state-of-the-art lightning detection and warning system to alert golfers, swimmers and patrons playing on baseball fields of impending lightning.

Services Division Chief Jerry Cardinal said the \$25,000 investment is "another pro-active initiative undertaken by the best services division in the Air Force to keep people safe and healthy." The division is the winner of the best-in-the-Air Force Curtis LeMay Award.

"The credit for getting this project funded belongs to former 78th Air Base Wing Commander Jay Seward," Cardinal said.

"He worked extremely hard to ensure that this potentially life saving system would become a reality at Robins Air Force Base."

The lighting warning system's alert is a tone that can be heard on the golf course, ball fields, pools and the fitness center. Its pitch differs from the base warning system, and its intensity is geared toward the immediate coverage areas — 700 to 800 yards away from the horns, Cardinal said. It has two distinct sounds. A steady tone indicates the presence of lightning within five miles; a wavering tone is the all clear. The sys-

tem's six horn clusters — three on the golf course and three at the pools — are activated by a sensor at the golf course's maintenance facility.

Posters at Pine Oaks and placards on the golf carts inform golfers of what they should do in the event the alarm sounds. Before the base pools open for the season, lifeguards will be briefed on system and follow-up procedures.

The detection system is part of the U.S. National Lightning Detection Network, owned and operated by the company from which Robins purchased its system.

The nationwide system monitors real-time lightning activity across the continental United States. Weather forecasters at the National Weather Service, NASA, Federal

## Lightning facts

■ Lightning kills nearly 100 people in the United States each year and injures hundreds more

■ Lightning strikes create temperatures that can reach between 15,000 and 60,000 degrees Fahrenheit

■ Lightning strikes can travel up to 10 miles before striking the ground

■ A typical flash carries a current of 12 million volts and 242,000 amperes — equivalent to 2.9 billion kilowatts of power — six times the entire electric generating capacity of the United States

■ Most lightning injury and damage are the result of a lightning strike occurring several hundred feet from the affected person or object

■ Lightning caused 51 fatalities in 2000, up from 46 the previous year. The number is slightly below the 10-year average of 55. For the third year, Florida recorded the most lightning fatalities with eight. Texas had five fatalities, and Georgia and Kentucky, four each. The most dangerous places to be during a lightning strike were in the open (23 deaths), under a tree (nine), golfing (four) and boating (three).

Aviation Administration, other government agencies, power companies and private companies rely on real-time lightning maps and individual lightning stroke characteristics from the NLDN to monitor thunderstorm development, strength and paths. The information the system provides gives them the ability to more accurately forecast severe weather and issue warnings.

Having the warning system for the golf course is a real advantage to golfers, the numbers show. A 2000 study by the Lightning Protection Institute concluded that the frequency of light-

ning deaths and injuries among golfers ranks only second to fishing as a leisure time activity during which lightning deaths occur.

## 2002 AIR FORCE ASSISTANCE FUND CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION STATS

Unit	Percentage of goal met as of Wednesday at 3:30 p.m.
78 ABW/CCEA	197%
78 MDG	154%
78 SPTG	130%
78 OSS	29%
78 LG	139%
78/778 CEG	85%
OSI	27%
ALC/CCEA/CCD	153%
ALC/FM	180%
ALC/LN	104%
ALC/IG	300%
ALC/LR	166%
ALC/LH	333%
ALC/LI	8%
ALC/LK	390%
ALC/LB	200%
ALC/LG	273%
ALC/QL	273%
ALC/PK	99%
ALC/TI	232%
ALC/PA	455%
ALC/LJ	250%
ALC/LU	166%
ALC/XP	231%
ALC/LA	184%
ALC/RE	1,235%
ALC/SE	718%
ALC/LE	107%
ALC/JA	92%
ALC/BC	200%
ALC/LY	159%
ALC/LIP	23%
ALC/LF	175%
ALC/EM	307%
HQ AFRC	203%
93 ACW	94%
5 CCG	65%
653 CLSS	76%
19 ARG	69%
367 RG	111%
339 FTS	4%
Bake Sale	\$292
ROBINS AFB	102%

\* Units not listed have turned in 0 percent of goal as of 3:30 p.m. Wednesday

## ROBINS BRIEFS

### Road closure announced

Due to civil engineering construction requirements, Richard Ray Boulevard, from Bldg. 360 to Beal Drive, will be closed from April 11 until July 31. Traffic signs will be placed to direct and detour traffic. These dates are tentative and may change due to the nature of the work, weather and underground utilities. For more information regarding this closure, contact the project manager, Master Sgt. Walter P. Carter, at 926-5820, ext. 277.

### Office closed this afternoon

The legal office will close today at 1 p.m. for an official function.

### Officers switch assignments

Brig. Gen. William M. Rajczak, mobilization assistant to the Air Force Reserve Command, director of plans and programs at Robins Air Force Base, will become deputy to the chief, Air Force Reserve, Headquarters U.S. Air Force at the Pentagon.

Brig. Gen. Robert E. Duignan, currently deputy to the chief, Air Force Reserve, Headquarters U.S. Air Force at the Pentagon will become director of plans at Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command at Robins.

## Education office accepting degree program applications

### 78th Mission Support Squadron

Civilian employees wishing to complete their college education might want to find out about a program that could help them reach their academic goals. The 78th Mission Support Squadron education office is currently accepting nominations for the local competitive Long-Term, Full-Term, of LTFT, Degree Program.

Nominations will be accepted through June 14. This program is limited to Air Force Materiel Command civilians assigned to Warner Robins Air Logistics Center.

Individuals selected for the program will be released from duty to attend classes full-time for up to 12 consecutive months beginning fall semester, or August, of this year, according to education office officials. The degree sought must be applicable to the individual's career field. The program will fund costs of tuition, books and lab fees for accredited courses leading to a master's degree or completion of the final year of undergraduate requirements.

The funding will not be provided for doctorate, second master, second undergraduate or associate degrees, officials said.

### Eligibility requirements

● Nominee must be able to complete their program of study within 12 months after the first day of the first enrollment period.

● Nominee must be accepted in degree program (preferably enrolled and completed several courses) and be classified as a full-time student by the accredited college/university being attended.

● Nominee must possess five consecutive years or

more of federal civilian service (excluding military service) to be considered eligible for this program.

● Nominee cannot have attended another long-term, full-time training opportunity within the past three years.

● Nomination instructions can be obtained from your directorate training monitor and can also be found on the 78th Mission Support Squadron's Web Page at <https://wwwmil.robins.af.mil/mss/>.

# O'Hara wins AFMC award

By Lanorris Askew  
lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil

In recognition of his distinguished service as a civilian personnel officer for the 78th Air Base Wing's 78th Support Group, Michael O'Hara, civilian personnel director, received the Air Force Materiel Command Outstanding Civilian Personnel Officer of the Year award for the period of Oct. 1, 2000, to Sept. 30.



O'Hara

According to his nominators O'Hara's leadership, initiative and relentless drive have vastly improved the service and contributions of civilian personnel.

Some of O'Hara's accomplishments include expanding the co-op program for aircraft workers with technical schools, establishing a high school co-op program for aircraft production jobs and establishing a local grievance mediation process with union man-

agement mediators. He also re-established the Civilian Employment and Cost Management Committee after years of nonexistence resulting in full execution of the civilian pay budget for the first time in years.

O'Hara said the announcement came last week that he had won the award. He said he attributes his winning the award to survival and his major focus on inclusion.

"I have been engaged in the personnel business for nearly 30 years," he said. "I have learned that a diversity in the work force equals strength. Unless we act in accordance to this, I can't get the most out of my work force."

This is the third time O'Hara has won this prestigious award.

The first time was while he was at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., as Air Force Logistics Command personnel director. The second time was at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, as personnel officer.

"I enjoy the mission here at Robins and I love to see the output."

O'Hara will now compete at the Air Force level.



Courtesy photo

The mobile communications system or quick reaction package was a direct response to the crash in March 2001 of a military aircraft in Undadilla.

## Comm squad has the RITE STUFF

By Chris Zdrakas  
chris.zdrakas@robins.af.mil

A 78th Communication Squadron team that employed innovation in developing a mobile communications capability that provides prompt, securable contingency communications support to on-scene commanders won the 78th Air Base Wing's "RITE STUFF" Award for the second quarter of this fiscal year.

RITE STUFF, which stands for Recognizing Innovation through Excellence, Supporting those Units Flying and Fighting, rewards innovative efforts that lead to productivity.

The Air Base Wing's corporate board, comprising the wing's military and civilian leaders, selects the quarterly winner based on briefings the candidate organizations present. Senior Airman John Langberg presented the Communication Squadron's briefing.

The mobile communications system or quick reaction package was a direct response to the crash in March 2001 of a military aircraft in Undadilla. The crash killed 21 people, and teams from Robins Air Force Base implemented the search and recovery effort. The crash brought to light a communications gap — communications capability was insufficient to support per-

sonnel in the field.

Robins' area of responsibility for contingencies is a 250-mile radius around the base. Before the acquisition of what is known to the squadron as its quick reaction package, it was unlikely the base could cover even a 50-mile radius. Unsecured cellular phones were used most often to communicate during the massive recovery effort.

The innovative part of the squadron's fix was the way it went about acquiring the mobile package. It acquired the QRP from the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office at no cost and modified it using on-hand equipment. Its approximate value is about \$750,000.

The QRP can be operational within a half hour of its arrival on scene, and it has proven effective during local exercises. It is equipped with on-board radio, phone and computer equipment providing securable voice and data communications. It also can be tied in to on-scene communications resources, including a giant voice system.

Langberg told the wing leadership that the vision for future upgrades includes commercial weather and news feeds and mobile computer networking using satellite communications equipment, which would enable the rapid flow of secure messaging and unclassified e-mail.

## Few make major use of accounts

Continued from A-1

use the cards are responsible with their travel dollars."

Savage said, though a report listing figures through the month of February showed the Department of Defense at a 7.33 percent delinquency rate and the Air Force as a whole at a 4.24 percent rate, Air Force Materiel Command came in at a low 3.22 percent and Robins an even lower 2.45 percent.

"Any time you are dealing with credit cards or money there is going to be some type of problem; but there are no horror stories at Robins," said Savage.

At present there are approximately 9,500 military and civilian credit card accounts with Bank of America at Robins. Of those 9,500 only an average of 2,000 are used each month and total approximately \$1.5 million per month. Reports from FM show that 11 accounts were sent to the Bank of America collection agency in the last five months of fiscal year 2001 (May- September) and only two in the first five months of fiscal year 2002 (October-February). Officials say these low numbers may be attributed to a system of card representatives out in all of the product directorates who do a great job of reviewing reports, managing the program, and keeping the supervisors and management up to speed.

"The program for us works," said Savage. "It is a reflection of the caliber of the work force that employees at all levels take their fiscal responsibilities seriously."

Savage remembers the old

days, before the card system, as time and manpower consuming.

"This card system has saved us a lot of manpower," he said. "In the past people would come in to our office and get an advance every time they went on a tour of duty or TDY. Averaging between 2,800 and 3,500 travel vouchers each month, we don't have the manpower to do that anymore since the cutbacks of both military and civilian personnel in the 90s."

In addition to saving manpower, the card system also saves the traveler from having to carry large amounts of cash with them when they travel. "Our thinking is that it's a lot better to have the card and be able to charge your TDY expenses, because people are less likely to abuse the card than cash," said Savage.

The abuse of funds and making travel less complicated has long been a concern.

"You may be given \$1,000

for a TDY, and that money may be gone before the TDY is over. Or you may have a change of plans, such as a follow-on," said Savage. "If you have the card there, then you are ready to go. The card prevents you from having to try to get an advance in a remote location."

Jerry Smith, FM director, said the cardholder is ultimately responsible for the account balance and, because funds are reimbursed to the traveler, the government does not directly pay off the card. Other government officials said that the Bank of America Electronic Account Government Ledger system, or EAGLS, is used to monitor account balances and provide a line-by-line record of all purchases.

"We are managing fine here, everybody is in the know from the top to the bottom. The Air Force does a good job with it and we see no reason to turn around and go back to the old system of advances," said Savage.

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Ga. Theaters

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Armed Forces

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# Health fair addresses children's health



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp  
 A children's health fair was held at Smith Community Center on April 5. Robins children gained information on fitness, nutrition, drug abuse and crime prevention. Clockwise from top: Chelsea Oller, 9, finds that jumping rope is both fun and good exercise. Nancy Clam, 78th Dental Squadron, gives tips on good oral hygiene. Macy Wiggins, 10, enjoys a plate of healthy snacks with Daren the D.A.R.E. Lion. Sharon Lowe, Robins Family Advocacy, puts an anti-child abuse pin on Tre'Vaun Ceacal, 6.



# C-141 era ends at McChord

By Master Sgt. Bud McKay  
Air Force Reserve Command  
News Service

McCHORD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. — For five decades, 446th Airlift Wing C-141 aircrew members logged more than 160 million miles in the air — enough to circle the globe more than 20,000 times.

The C-141 odometer stopped turning for the Air Force Reserve Command unit Tuesday when McChord's last Starlifter mission was flown to the Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Center at Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz. — better known as the Bone Yard.

"It's obviously a mission I'll have mixed emotions about," said Col. Tom Gisler, 446th AW commander, prior to the flight. "It's like saying goodbye to an old friend, a friend I won't get to see again. I've flown it for three decades myself. It's been a home away from home at times."

Since 1966, the C-141 Starlifter has been

McChord's bread and butter. From Antarctica to Zaire, McChord aircrews have carried troops, supplies, vehicles, weapons, refugees, prisoners, patients, humanitarian cargo and food. You name it, and the C-141 has hauled it.

The renowned Starlifter, once the mainstay of military airlift, has seen duty in operational areas from Vietnam to Operation Enduring Freedom.

"Since it was built in the 1960s, the C-141 has been in every major contingency we've had since coming into being," Gisler said, a C-141 pilot with more than 4,000 flying hours. "When the Vietnam POWs were repatriated from North Vietnam in 1974, it was our C-141s that flew them out. What was the cargo plane of choice for (Operations) Desert Shield and Desert Storm? The C-141. It was the same for Kosovo, Grenada. Just choose a contingency since the '60s, and the cargo plane of choice was the C-141."

**See PILOT ... Page A-6**

## Maintainers keep surveillance airborne

By Senior Airman Matt Donegan  
Air Force Print News

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM — Senior Airman Nathan Ennis knows his system — the E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System, that is.

He knows this aircraft inside and out. For instance, he can tell you with little effort that most of the "hogs" he works on were built in 1967 and each have more than 60,000 flying hours, equivalent to about seven years in the air.

He can also tell you that no two Joint STARS are the same since many of them were previously owned by almost a dozen different airlines before entering the Air Force inventory. Ennis knows the changes that were made in each, from moving the navigators' workstation out of the cockpit to switching out the hatches. Interestingly, one of the planes was once an Afghan airliner and has made a glorious return over Afghanistan in the war on terrorism.

Ennis is one of 10 crew chiefs deployed to Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, with the 93rd Aircraft Generation Squadron from Robins Air Force Base, supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

Before the Air Force got its hands on E-8s, the aircraft were just regular Boeing 707s. Nearly 40 years and countless modifications later, the passenger jets have been transformed into one of the military's top means of keep-

ing an eye on the enemy.

Each Joint STARS aircraft is equipped with a vast array of radars, antennas, computers, communications equipment and all the other bells and whistles of a good surveillance plane.

The system provides ground radar to coalition air forces and supports troops on the ground, said 1st Lt. James Pritchett, officer in charge of aircraft maintenance. It also allows "higher ups" to see an accurate picture of what is going on. "It's real-time battle management," he said.

The role of Joint STARS members has expanded since operations began here last fall.

"We've fallen into a whole different realm," said Senior Master Sgt. Samuel Hook, a maintenance superintendent who has been with the 93rd AGS since it started six years ago. "We're calling for close air support, keeping an eye on the special forces' backs...Every time we go into theater, we're always finding out something new JSTARS can do. We never sit back and say we can't go any further. We're always asking what we can do better or different."

The Joint STARS team has even reversed roles at times, from identifying targets for destruction to saving lives, Hook said. On a recent mission, an E-8C's sensitive communications equipment picked up transmissions from coalition fighter aircraft preparing to fire in the area of friendly forces. Joint STARS



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Danielle Upton Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Walker, from the 12th Expeditionary Air Control Squadron at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, connects a fuel line to an E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System aircraft.

troops sprang to action and radioed for the pilots to disengage, thereby thwarting a potential friendly fire incident.

From Operation Desert Storm to Operation Allied Force, every time the aircraft have been involved in a conflict, they have come through earning praise, said Hook. Operation Enduring Freedom is no exception.

*Donegan is with 366th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs.*

# Air Force ends Bootstrap, starts new program

By Master Sgt. Rick Burnham  
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — In its heyday, the Air Force Bootstrap Program served thousands of bluesuiters, providing an effective means to reach professional and academic goals. But those days — and the program — have come to an end.

“Our educational opportunities have greatly expanded over the past 10 years,” said Marylee Baker, assistant chief of the voluntary education branch within the deputy chief of staff for personnel’s office. “While we had a need in 1960 for Bootstrap, more opportunities exist today to expedite degree completion.”

Recent developments have resulted in a closer look at Bootstrap, along with Title 10 — Educational Leave of Absence, which provides public law for such programs. That assessment, Baker said, is the driving force behind the retirement of Bootstrap.

The proliferation of upper-level undergraduate courses on Air Force bases and the advent of distance learning programs have caused the number of airmen participating in Bootstrap to dwindle in the past year.

That, together with a recent assessment by Air Force legal officials concerning the conformity of the program with public law, required service officials to rework the Bootstrap program. Baker said that, although the program has served the force very well over the years, its time has come to an end.

## Strange law

“The law governing ELA is very obscure — only a few people even knew it existed,” she said. “Air Force legal officials reviewed it, and found there was a conflict between Bootstrap and public law.

“The new Air Force ELA program mirrors the old Bootstrap program as much as the law will allow,” she said. “There are adjustments to active-duty service commitment, pay and entitlements guidelines.”

Specifically, changes involve the active-duty service commitment incurred by a participant in the program, as well as the entitlements received while enrolled.

“Under current Bootstrap guidelines, participants must agree to extend their enlistments to three times the length of the temporary duty assignment, and may serve the extension concurrently with an existing commitment,” Baker said. “Under ELA, the member must serve two extra months for each month of the leave of absence, and the new commitment is in addition to any other period of obligated service.”

Also, public law requires termination of basic allowance for housing and basic allowance for subsistence entitlements to those using ELA.

“Unlike Bootstrap, ELA limits members to only basic pay,” Baker said.

To make the program as equitable as possible for all service members, students approved for ELA living in base housing must pay rent equal to their BAH, and those living in base dormitories will pay a prorated rent. Implementation of this policy began April 3.

## Some grandfathered in

People already in or approved for the Bootstrap program are “grandfathered in,” and will be allowed to continue under the old Bootstrap guidelines until their programs have been completed, she said.

Despite the termination of Bootstrap, the Air Force’s educational opportunities remain very attractive, Baker said.

The Air Force’s senior enlisted member agreed.

“The numerous education opportunities available to Air Force members highlight our continued focus on self-development,” Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Jim Finch said. “However, we must ensure our educational programs and policies comply with existing U.S. laws.”

“We will be able to serve the Air Force very well through the expanded programs we have,” Baker said. “Our members receive 75 percent tuition assistance. The Top-Up Program, a joint venture between Veterans Affairs and the services, increases that to 100 percent for those eligible for the Montgomery GI Bill.

“We have greatly expanded distance education opportunities, commissioning programs and Community College of the Air Force programs, to just name a few,” she said. “We feel the opportunities for our people to get off-duty education are some of the best you will find anywhere in the world.”

# Pilot recalls first days of C-141

Continued from A-5

Howard Hanson was one of the first air reserve technician pilots at McChord. While he was flying C-119s out of Portland, Ore., he heard that an associate wing was planned for Air Force reservists at McChord to help fly C-141s. He liked the idea of the associate program and moved his family to Lacey to join the Air Force Reserve at McChord in 1968 as a captain.

“I was attached to the active-duty 4th (Airlift) Squadron back then because we didn’t have a squadron up there yet,” said Hanson during a telephone interview from his Yakima, Wash., home.

Hanson logged about 1,000 hours in the C-141 while he was at McChord from 1968 to 1971.

“I was quite impressed with the 141 back then,” said the 77-year-old Hanson. “But you have to remember it was almost brand new. It was a very nice airplane.”

Four years after Hanson left McChord’s C-141 program, Chief



U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Bud McKay  
Master Sgts. Gary Davis, right, and Rudy Diaz, middle, both from the 446th Aircraft Generation Squadron, McChord Air Force Base, Wash., troubleshoot a fuel leak with an aircraft maintainer at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska.

Master Sgt. Jerry Roper-Witt joined the 446th AW. Roper-Witt, now the chief flight engineer for the 313th Airlift Squadron, strapped into the seats of a C-141A for the first time in 1975.

“It was quite a plane back then and it still is,” Roper-Witt said. “The plane could fly forever. Sure, it has its bugs and

quirks, but it amazes me that its 1960s technology still keeps this plane a viable resource for the Air Force.”

Roper-Witt along with 13 other unit reservists flew the 446th AW’s last C-141 mission overseas. The aircraft left McChord March 11 for a round trip to the Middle East with stops at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; Kadena Air Base, Japan; Singapore; and other locations.

For the better part of four years, Roper-Witt has helped find Air Force Reserve Command jobs for 180 flight engineers since the C-17 doesn’t have that specialty. He needed to come up with 181 jobs.

C-141 navigators are also losing their jobs since the new C-17 has the latest state-of-the-art, automated navigational systems. Before the C-17s arrived, there were close to a dozen navigators assigned to the three flying squadrons in the wing. As the last C-141 prepares to head to the bone yard, there are eight left.

*McKay is with the 446th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office.*

## All Robins helps to keep flag flying

I'm sure any one of you can describe scenes of incomprehensible courage that in some way revolves around our flag. In the book, "The Life of Clara Barton," the seamstress of our nation's banner describes a scene from the Civil War battle at Fredericksburg where a young soldier was in front of his regiment carrying the flag over the bodies of his fallen comrades. As his arduous march progressed, he was wounded in both arms and could no longer support the staff. Bearing the flag between his legs his voice "rang clear above the shouts of the charging ranks, and the hissing of the shot" saying "Don't let it fall boys, don't let it fall!"

Skip ahead to a clear cold night in January 2002 ... a flight of two F-15Es — Tiger 01 and 02 — from the 366th Fighter Wing at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, taxi out of their parking spot many thousands of miles from their home ramp. On the nose of the lead jet is a painting of an Operation Enduring Freedom soldier taking a flag from a New York City firefighter. The inscription on the dark gray eagle says "I'll take it from here."

*... for many critical nights over Afghanistan, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center "did not let the flag fall."*

**Col. Charles R. Davis**  
Director, F-15 System Program Office



I thought the Robins community might be interested to hear of the specific support the product directorates, wings, and other personnel around the base provided for this representative mission and others. To do that, I'll describe a generic Strike Eagle mission over Afghanistan. I wish to thank the 391st Fighter Squadron at Mountain Home for the mission details — crews from that unit spent many long nights over Afghanistan. As the mission progresses, I highlight how organizations around Robins supported the effort. While every organization did not support every mission, they were an integral part of the effort many times during Enduring Freedom. The inscription on the jet was real. The mission I describe

below will also highlight just a few real ways Robins helped "carry the flag."

Two months before deploying for its Enduring Freedom mission, Tiger 02's F-15E had received a complete depot overhaul courtesy of the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center's F-15 Aircraft Production Division. The same jet also just received a rebuilt radar antenna from the center's Avionics Directorate. In a storage tent near the aircraft parking area was a kit containing many spare F-15 parts supplied by the F-15 System Program Office. As Tiger 01/02 left the parking area, they passed an entry control point manned by deployed security forces personnel — on any given night that sentry could have been a member of our 78th Security

Forces Squadron. On this night each of the jets carried nine GBU-12 laser guided bombs, two AIM120 AMRAAM missiles, and two AIM-9M missiles. These missiles are supported by the WR-ALC Space and Special Missiles Systems Directorate. The F-15 community is very proud of the fact that a single Eagle carried more weapons than a four-ship of Navy F-14s or F-18s or a two-ship flight of USAF F-16s.

After takeoff, it took Tiger flight more than three hours to reach Afghanistan. Just before they were handed off to an Airborne Warning and Control E-3A the flight completed their first airborne refueling (possibly supported by the 19th Air Refueling Group). This would be the first of 10 airborne refuelings the F-15s would complete on this mission lasting more than 10 hours.

After Tiger 01/02 left the tanker, AWACS passed the coordinates of enemy troop movements they had just received from an E-8A JSTARS (from the 93rd Air Control Wing).

Using their LANTIRN targeting systems (supported by WR-ALC Precision Attack Program Office), Tiger flight located and

"neutralized" a column of enemy vehicles. After completing this attack the F-15s were "handed-off" to a special operations soldier on the ground. For the next 45 minutes, this soldier worked with Tiger flight to provide close air-support to a line of U.S. troops engaged with enemy soldiers. This soldier used a small Global Position Satellite receiver (supported by the WR-ALC Joint Service System Management Office) and laser target designator to guide the F-15s to the specific targets he needed destroyed.

Before this night was over, Tiger flight would also use the F-15's targeting systems to guide weapons dropped from a flight of F-16s, which were having trouble locating a target. The Eagles would also use their LANTIRN and ground-mapping radar to locate a target and pass the coordinates back to an inbound flight of B-1 bombers. Finally, it was one last trip to the tanker before the three and one-half-hour drive home.

The mission I just described is but one of many similar missions the 391st Fighter Squadron at Mountain Home AFB flew over Afghanistan. I wish to thank Lt. Col. A.J. Britschgi

for providing me with the details of one of his many high over that country. As you can see, many key organizations across Robins support the F-15 every time it flies an Enduring Freedom mission. Realize too, I have committed the classic error every time you try to thank a group of people — many organizations were not mentioned here.

The weapons the F-15 carried were no doubt delivered by air lifters supported by WR-ALC C-5 System Program Office, C-17 System Management Directorate and C-130 System Program Office. Critical targeting data came from U-2s outfitted by WR-ALC U-2 Management Directorate.

The 5th Combat Communications Group provided vital communication links. I know there are others.

The message here is that for many critical nights over Afghanistan, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center "did not let the flag fall." Here in the F-15 Program Office we have a motto, "in a way, we fly with the Eagle on every flight" — until now I don't think many of you knew that you or your family members were on those flights as well.

### Commanders' Action Line



**Col. Bonnie Cirrincione**  
Commander  
87th Air Base Wing

*Action Line is an open door program for Robins Air Force Base personnel to ask questions, make suggestions or give kudos to make Robins a better place to work and live. Please remember that 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.*

*To contact the Action Line, call 926-2886 day or night, or for quickest response e-mail to one of the following addresses: If sending from a military e-mail system select, Robins Commanders Action Line from the Global Address List. If sending from a commercial e-mail account (AOL, AT+T, CompuServe, Earthlink, etc.), use action.line@robins.af.mil. Readers can also access Action Line by visiting the Robins AFB homepage on the World Wide Web at <https://wwwmil.robins.af.mil/action-line.htm>.*

*Please include your name and a way of reaching you so we can provide a direct response. Action Line items of general interest to the Robins community will be printed in the Rev-Up. Anonymous Action Lines will not be processed.*

**Maj. Gen. Donald Wetekam**  
Commander  
Warner Robins  
Air Logistics Center



### Request professional registration

**Q:** I strongly submit that there be a point at which engineering and architectural positions must require professional registration before being considered for promotion into higher positions. We have established the target grade as GS-12 for newly hired engineers and architects, so this is almost automatic. Beyond that, it is appropriate to require additional professional recognition before granting the right to advance. Within the engineering community this is official registration with a state board (of any state.) This requires demonstration of sufficient experience and passing the minimum score on an objective test of the mathematical principles in the fields of the person's proclaimed areas of training. If a person who claims to be an engineer or architect cannot pass such a test, then their status as a qualified professional is questionable.

We require lawyers to pass the bar exam, teachers to pass the Praxis, doctors to pass their board exams and accountants to pass formal tests before becoming CPAs. It is ludicrous for engineers, the second largest professional group behind teachers, to advance without similar formal testing and recognition. Would any of us trust a doctor who could not pass his or her boards? Would we trust a teacher with our children if he or she cannot pass the Praxis? Would we take our legal problems to a lawyer who cannot

demonstrate to his peers that he has sufficient knowledge of the law? Then why do we let engineers advance within the system without formal recognition of competence within their profession?

Further, within a number of states, including Georgia, military members are given five extra points on their scores, so it is even more reasonable for military engineers to seek registration.

I thus submit that policy be established to require formal recognition by engineers through state registration in any state before being considered for any position of GS/GM-13 or higher. The U.S. Air Force deserves demonstration of higher-level competence in our engineers and architects in higher-level positions. I believe the USAF recently decided to pay for the first set of tests and reimburse them for the registration each year. To go the next step and require this proven competence is reasonable and in the best interests of the Air Force.

**A: Maj. Gen. Wetekam responds:** The Office of Personnel Management Qualification Standards handles qualification requirements for filling civilian positions in the federal service. Employees meeting the requirements of the standard are qualified for the position. The civilian personnel office is responsible for applying the appropriate standards in personnel actions. Selective factors are developed, when needed, to supplement the OPM qualification standards.

Currently, professional registration may be used as an appropriate selective factor for appointment to certain, typically high-level, engineering positions. However, the key consideration is that professional registration must be essential for acceptable performance of the position, and duties or responsibilities must support the requirement. It would not be appropriate to require that candidates be registered for all GS-13 and above positions or for the sole purpose of improving the "image" of engineers or other professionals in the federal service.

If you have any additional questions regarding qualifications, you may contact Cindy Dossett at 926-3805, ext. 144.

### AFRC limits access

**Q:** I went to Bldg. 210 to use the snack bar. I had proper identification but was turned away because I didn't have a United States Air Force Reserve sticker on my card and wasn't visiting anyone. Why wasn't my ID enough? If the AFRC leadership is isn't going to allow base personnel to use their snack bar, I think we should consider ticketing the cars of Bldg. 210 personnel who have started parking in other parking lots. Please respond with an official answer on whether I can ever use that snack bar again.

**A: Maj. Gen. Wetekam responds:** Since the 9-11 incident, Air Force Reserve Command Headquarters Bldg. 210 has manned its single entry control point from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. As

an additional safety and security measure the AFRC Headquarters instituted a new badging system for its employees. The system consists of the military or civilian ID card enclosed in a plastic holder with an AFRC miniature logo affixed to the holder. The holder is to be worn on the person, usually around the neck, whenever they are in the building. This method is used to identify AFRC personnel and to identify those who should not have access to the building. The entry controllers are required to check for the badge and the sticker prior to granting an individual access to the building. Personal recognition can also be used.

Individuals requesting access to the building who are not wearing the badge, will have to sign in and will be issued a visitor badge, which is to be worn at all times when inside the building. They will also inform the entry controller of the person or directorate they are visiting. The controller will issue a visitor badge and contact the location and request an escort for the visitor.

In this case you were not visiting a directorate or person so the entry controllers could not call an escort for the individual.

Since this incident, the following procedures have been implemented. Any individual requesting access to the building to use the snack area will be granted access provided they carry a valid military or civilian ID card. They will be requested to sign in and will be issued a visitor badge. They will be asked to sign out when leaving the building.



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## C-141 supervisor saving the planet one animal at a time

By Lanorris Askew  
lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil

Neither rain nor sleet nor dark of night will keep her from her appointed rounds. No, she's not a postal worker she is Bonnie Maiden, a C-141 System Program Office supervisor. She is also a wildlife rehabilitator.

Maiden, who has been an employee of Robins Air Force Base for the past 30 years, has dedicated her spare time to making treks out in all types of weather when an animal is in need.

In 1995, shortly after her husband passed away, she decided to take up the cause of rescuing and rehabilitating injured and orphaned animals in the wild.

"I do wildlife rehabilitation as a hobby and because I care about animals," she said. "In my younger days I was known as 'Elly Mae.'

Maiden said she spent much of the first few years working with the local animal shelters helping with cats and dogs. She said she never seemed to get anywhere because there were always the same number of puppies and kittens coming in.

"I felt that I would be more productive with the wildlife," she said.

Becoming a rehabilitator involves being licensed by the state and or federal government, and Maiden has both licenses.

She said the state permit allows her to aid native Georgia wildlife. The federal permit allows her to aid migratory birds and raptors.

"I've always been an animal lover; and, if I can save just one, that's one more back in the wild that may have died without my help," she said.

Maiden said she takes in about 150 different varieties of animals a year.

These range from deer to baby alligators. She said getting attached to the animals is a big "no no" and, though she loves animals, she has to make sure to remember that what she is doing is business.

"It's my job to provide them with what they need," she said. "The less human contact they engage in the easier it is for them to return to the wild."

Maiden said she is in this for the long haul and, after retirement from Robins, she plans to get an education permit that will allow her to take her animals into schools to teach children about them.

Maiden has a veterinarian that works with her full-time taking care of her injured animals.

All rehabilitators are volunteers and receive no subsidizing from the government.

"It's my hobby and it's good for the public and, at the same time, is very rewarding," she said.



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp  
Bonnie Maiden, a C-141 Directorate supervisor, checks the wing of a red-tail hawk that had recently suffered an injury. The bird now has healed and will move on to a wildlife preserve. At right, Maiden displays this sign in front of her home so people in the area know where to bring injured animals.



## Awareness keeps alcohol from being a problem

By Staff Sgt. Mark Tack

April is Alcohol Awareness Month and so the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program would like to provide some basic information on alcoholism and alcohol abuse.

Summer is coming rapidly, and with it so are outdoor sports, barbecues and lazy days along the water. Or maybe not.

Summer for the military usually means outdoor exercises, permanent change of station moves and hectic days preparing for inspections. Since the events of Sept. 11, all have been required to take on extra duties. It may be the military member working harder and longer, the spouse shouldering more of the burdens in the family or the children who miss mom and dad.

With all this stress, when a break appears many may be eager to make the most of it. Sometimes that includes drinking. While drinking is not on its own problematic, overuse to combat life stress may be.

### How often is alcohol a problem?

Nearly 14 million Americans abuse alcohol or are alcoholics. Recent statistics indicate that about 53 percent of men and women in the United States report one or more of their close relatives have a drinking problem. When it comes to expense, the dollars associated with alcohol abuse cost the United States about \$100 billion annually.

### What are alcoholism and alcohol abuse?

Alcoholism's main characteristics are intense cravings,

See KNOW ... Page B-5

## Children are our future

### 10th annual 'Take Our Daughters to Work Day' set for April 25

By Geoff Janes  
geoff.janes@robins.af.mil

Sharry Lombardo's daughter Mikella Procopio doesn't have to wonder what her mother does at the C-141 System Program Office – she has seen it firsthand.

During Mikella's younger years, her mother brought her to work four times as part of the annual "Take Our Daughters to Work Day" event.

And although Procopio, now 17, won't be accompanying her mother this year, Lombardo said she would encourage everyone to bring their daughters with them for the upcoming event April 25.

The program is designed as a public education program supported by the Ms. Foundation for Women and is designed to enhance self-esteem in young girls and expose them to positive role models, according to Barbara Williams, an employee-relations specialist here.

Command Chief Master Sgt. Kathy Mast said she

supports the program, and would like to see participation.

"I truly hope that all Robins employees – military and civilian – take advantage of the 'Take Our Daughters to Work Day' if their work centers can support it," she said. "I think this is an awesome opportunity for the daughters to see what their parents do on Robins Air Force Base.

"Our children are our future and they sometimes don't realize the opportunities that are out there for them," she added. "Spending the day in the work centers will expose them to jobs they've never thought about or maybe even believed they were capable of doing."

And according to Lombardo, it offers that and more. "It's important as children approach the pre-teen and teen-age years that they continue to have a close relationship with their parents," she said. "And what better way to maintain that relationship than to bring them to work?"

Lombardo said the event might serve an even more important function by allaying some of the lingering fears surrounding terrorist attacks on the country.

"It's important to have that relationship – especially after Sept. 11," she said. "(Mikella) is comfortable with where I work. With the insight she has from coming to work with me she doesn't have to worry about me going to work."

See SOME ... Page B-5



## Air Force brings music to Georgia

### The United States Air Force Band

The United States Air Force Concert Band and Singing Sergeants are on tour this spring.

The Concert Band and Singing Sergeants are two of eight performing ensembles that form The United States Air Force Band from Bolling Air Force Base in Washington, D.C. This performing unit, comprised of 90 world-class musicians, travels across the nation performing concert tours twice yearly. Georgia residents as well as people in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida will be treated to a free concert featuring classical and contemporary music, as well as stirring patriotic favorites.



Courtesy photo

The U.S. Air Force Concert Band is on tour this month. There will be four stops in Georgia, including Macon.

as well as stirring patriotic favorites.

#### April 23

7 p.m., Hodgson Hall, University of Georgia, 250 River Road, Athens. For free tickets, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: USAF Band Concert Tickets, c/o The University of Georgia School of Music, 250 River Road, Athens, Ga., 30602

#### April 24

7 p.m., Rome Forum Civic Center, 2 Government Plaza, Rome. For free tickets, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: USAF Band Concert Tickets, c/o Rome News-Tribune, P.O. Box 1633, Rome, Ga., 30162

#### April 25

7 p.m., Porter Auditorium, 4760 Forsyth Road, Macon. For free tickets, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: USAF Band Concert Tickets, c/o Air Force Association, 114 Wingate Circle, Warner Robins, Ga., 31088. Tickets are also available at on Robins Air Force Base at Information, Tickets and Travel in Smith Community Center.

#### April 26

8 p.m., Albany High School Auditorium, 801 Residence Ave., Albany. For free tickets, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: USAF Band Concert Tickets, c/o Mike Keeley, 2200 Dawson Road, Albany, Ga., 31707-3210

These free performances are ticketed events. However, all unclaimed seats will be released fifteen minutes before the performance. Non-ticket holders are therefore encouraged to attend.

## TV SCHEDULE

These shows will air on Cox Cable channel 15.



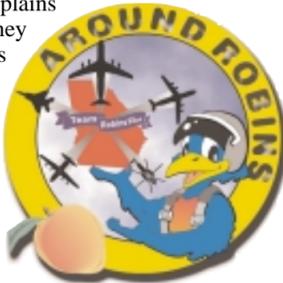
### Friday

**Robins Report:** 8 p.m. - News from around base.

**Around Robins:** 8:30 p.m. -

On this week's Around Robins see how competitors sized up at a Sumo Wrestling Championship hosted by the base chapel. There will also be interviews with Diane Thielman, family services manager, who discusses the loan closet and the volunteer resource program, and with commissary manager Larry Danforth, who explains how customers can save money shopping on base. On Wellness Discovery, Lt. Col. (Dr.) Laura Torres-Reyes discusses base smoking cessation classes at the Health and Wellness Center.

**Inside Robins:** 9 p.m. - This week's Inside Robins features Opportunity Showcase with Col. Ed Mims.



### Sunday

12:30 p.m. - **Robins Report**  
1 p.m. - **Around Robins**  
1:30 p.m. - **Inside Robins**

### Monday

Noon - **Robins Report**  
12:30 p.m. - **Around Robins**  
1 p.m. - **Inside Robins**

**Submit planner information, honor rolls, features and bulletin board items to Rebecca Yull, Rev-Up associate editor, Bldg. 215, Room 106. Also fax submissions at 926-9597 or e-mail to rebecca.yull@robins.af.mil.**

## SERVICES ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Customer comments

The services division would like to remind its valued customers that their comments and suggestions are very important. Customers are encouraged to fill out comment cards located in each services facility and to leave comments and suggestions online at [www.robins.af.mil/services](http://www.robins.af.mil/services). Every 10th customer to submit a comment online will receive a free Robby the Robin stuffed toy. Monthly drawings for \$10 in division dollars to use at any services facility will be conducted from the comment cards received. Some exclusions apply.

### Administrative Professionals Day

In honor of Administrative Professionals Day, on April 24, many services facilities will offer specials in appreciation of these hardworking individuals. Information, Tickets and Travel will offer balloons, cups and other gift items.

The base restaurant will offer a special buffet menu for only \$6.95 per person. Seating reservations up to 35 people will be available in the private dining room, and the first 50 customers to make reservations at 926-6972 will receive a complimentary carnation for their administrative professional.

The enlisted club will take \$1 off any administrative professional's meal when accompanied by a supervisor.

Administrative professionals and their supervisors are invited to have lunch in the Georgia Room with lunch specials for \$6.25. Reservations should be made at 926-2670 by April 23.

### Aero Club 926-4867

Private pilot ground school will begin on April 26. Classes will meet Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 5:30 p.m. Cost of school is \$220 and cost of materials is \$158. Active duty military are refunded 75 percent of the school cost at completion.

### Enlisted Club 926-4515

A Preferred Plus! membership dinner is slated for Wednesday, 6-8 p.m. This meal



is complimentary for members and costs \$5 for guests and \$10 for nonmembers.

A Latin Night with music and a \$100 prize piñata is slated for 9:30 p.m. on April 20.

The club will show World Wrestling Federation Backlash on April 21 at 8 p.m. This event is complimentary for members and costs \$5 for guests.

### Officers' Club 926-2670

Mongolian barbecue will be served 6-9 p.m. Tuesday. Cost is \$9.95 for adults and \$4.95 for children.

### Information, Tickets and Travel 926-2945

Discounted tickets are available for Six Flags, Wild Adventures, the Macon Braves and the Macon Knights.

ITT will host a yard sale 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. Tables cost \$7 and may be set up at 7 a.m.

### Child Development Center 926-5805

April is Month of the Robins Child. Purchase a commemorative T-shirt at the child development center. Cost for shirts is \$6 for children and \$7 for adult sizes small through XXL.

April's luncheon for your interest will be held Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. at the child development center east. Maj. Vivian Dennis of the base medical center will discuss Advance Access, a new appointment

system at the pediatrics center, as well as the CDC's new sunscreen policy.

### Outdoor Recreation 926-4001

Hog hunting season on base will last through May 15. A \$10 base permit and base orientation is required. Call outdoor recreation for more information.

A canoe and kayak daytrip on the Ocmulgee River is slated for April 20. Cost of \$25 per person includes transportation, equipment, guide and instruction. Call outdoor recreation to register.

A fly-fishing trip to Calloway Gardens is slated for April 27. Cost of \$265 per person includes equipment and tackle, instruction, guide, lunch and transportation. Register at outdoor recreation by Wednesday.

### Skills Development Center 926-5282

The skills development center is temporarily located in Bldg. 983, 790 10th Street. All services are still available and orders are still being taken for engraving, framing, awards and screen-printing. The center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Expressions gift shop is continuing its inventory reduction sale. Purchase discounted arts and crafts supplies, including acrylic paints at below-cost closeout prices. Call 926-0304 for details.

### Civilian Recreation 922-4415

Play bingo for a chance to win a seven-day Caribbean cruise for two on the 14th annual Bingo World Championship Cruise Nov. 2-9. Three jackpots worth thousands of dollars are available every Sunday, Wednesday and Friday at the base restaurant, Bldg. 166. Games start at 7 p.m. and doors open at 5 p.m.

## FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

**Robins Air Force Base Family Support Center-sponsored classes, workshops, and seminars are open to all Team Robins Plus personnel and their eligible family members. Absences from duty sections to attend FSC offerings are the responsibility of the employee to coordinate with his/her supervisor. Because room assignments are subject to change, specific room numbers will be confirmed at the time of registration.**

**The FSC is located on Ninth Street in Bldg. 794, across the street just before the Robins Enlisted Club. Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. For additional information, or to make a reservation, please call 926-1256.**

### TAP workshop

The next three-day Department of Labor-sponsored Transition Assistance Program workshop is Monday through Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day, Smith Community Center ballroom. Personnel leaving the military within the next six months need to sign up as soon as possible. Spouses are encouraged to attend.

Reservations are taken on first-come, first-serve basis within the appropriate separation or retirement dates. To make a reservation for this workshop, call 926-1256.

### Resume, research, writing

A workshop on resume research and writing will be conducted on April 19, 9 a.m. to noon, Bldg. 905, Room 138.

### Bundles for babies

The Air Force Aid Society will conduct a Bundles For Babies class on April 24, 10 a.m. to noon, Bldg. 700, Room 180. Class is specifically designed to assist new parents.

This program consists of an educational session by the Family Advocacy nurse, who covers topics such as baby's brain development and how to stimulate that growth; Personal Financial Program Manager on financial matters concerning a newborn as well as an overall briefing on all the program opportunities the Air Force Aid Society offers. At the end of the session, a bundle is presented, compliments of the Air Force Aid Society.

This program is open to all active duty Air Force members and their spouses, who are expecting a child, regardless of rank or number of children in the family.

To register, call the center at 926-1256.

### Interviewing 101

The Transition Assistance Program is offering a class on interviewing basics and preparation on April 25, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Bldg. 905, Room 127.

Topics include general information on the interview process and its role in the job search; types of interviews, the purpose of each and what to expect from them; preparation for the interview, including dress; and much more.

To register, call the center at 926-1256.

### Financial workshop

The Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Middle Georgia, a non-profit organization funded by the United Way, will conduct a free money and credit management workshop on April 26, 1-4 p.m., Bldg. 905, Room 127.

A comprehensive workbook is provided to all attendees. Information on credit management, debt reduction and consumer rights will be presented.

Assistance will be provided in the development of budgets and savings plans so that financial goals may be realized. This workshop is open to all Team Robins Plus members. Call 926-1256 for a reservation.

### Job fair

The Georgia Department of Labor, and the center's Employment Resource Program and Transition Assistance

## Frequently asked questions

**What emergency assistance does the Red Cross provide?**

The Red Cross provides assistance, counseling and referral, and a communication system between active duty members and their family members in distress. Emergency assistance is provided on an individual basis. The Red Cross may be contacted 24 hours a day at 926-5493 on Robins Air Force Base, or 923-6332 for the Middle Georgia Chapter in Warner Robins. For more information, go to <http://www.robins.af.mil/fsc/Family%20Activities/guide.htm#American%20Red%20Cross:%20926-5493>.



Program are sponsoring a job fair on May 3, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., American Legion Post, 172 Watson Blvd.

This job fair is open to veterans, the Warner Robins community, and all Team Robins Plus members and their eligible family members seeking employment. Everyone attending the job fair is encouraged to bring copies of their resume. Dress for success.

### Nominate for volunteer excellence award

The volunteer excellence award is for federal civilians, family members, and military and federal retirees who perform outstanding volunteer community service of a sustained, direct, and consequential nature.

The volunteer service must be significant in character, produce tangible results and reflect favorably on the United States Air Force. To be awarded a VEA, eligible persons must be nominated by their supervisor or by the voluntary agency for which they donated their service, in the form of a memorandum.

Nominations will be one page, front only. Direct, fact-filled, results-oriented nominations are preferred.

The nomination should emphasize the benefits realized by the volunteer service and include qualifying factors that are out of the ordinary. The period of consideration for nomination is the year this year. Nomination packages will include on a separate page, name, office symbol, and phone number of individual writing the package.

All Nominations must be submitted by April 20 to: Volunteer Resource Manager, 78MSS/DPF, ATTN: Diane Thielemann.

Questions may be directed to Thielemann at 926-1256.

NOTE: "Active duty military members are not eligible to be nominated for this award; the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal is governed by AFI 36-2803, Chapter 6, Table 6.1. OPR for the MOVSM is 78 MSS/DPM."

### Golf tournament

The center boosters are sponsoring an airman's relief golf tournament on May 3, 1 p.m., Pine Oaks Golf Course. The tournament is a best ball handicap format.

The cost is \$35 for Pine Oaks members and \$40 for non-members. Prices include two mulligans and one red bomber for men or four mulligans for lady golfers. The tournament is being held to raise money for the Airman's Relief Fund. For additional information, contact the center at 926-1256.

### New location

The loan closet, Airmen's Attic, Relocation Assistance Program and Volunteer Resource Program have moved to Bldg. 945, at the corner of Macon and 10th streets.

## Clinic teaches Robins youth secrets of golf



U.S. Air Force photo by Lareine Danforth  
Chris An, 11, said the class helped him with his stroke.



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Children participating in the Pine Oaks Golf Course Jr. Golf Academy practice their swing at the driving range. John Anderson, Robins Air Force Base resident golf pro, taught the three-day clinic. The academy was originally scheduled for two days, but with approximately 50 children participating, the organizers decided to run it for three days.

## INTRAMURAL GAMES

### Intramural games this week

Date	Time	Home	Visitor
April 16	6 p.m.	78 CS	J-STARS
April 16	7 p.m.	19 ARG	78 SFS
April 16	8 p.m.	5 CCG	116 MXS
April 16	9 p.m.	653 CLSS	93 MXS
April 18	6 p.m.	93 ACW	19 ARG

### Over 30 Basketball make-up games this week

Date	Time	Home	Visitor
April 15	6 p.m.	19 ARG	78 CS
	7 p.m.	78 MDG	78 MSS
	8 p.m.	78 LG	78 CEG
April 17	6 p.m.	78 CS	HQ AFRC
	7 pm.	RNCOA	78 LG

### Intramural league standings

As of April 8	Team	Wins	Loss	Tie	PCT	GB	Gave up	Points
	5 CCG	10	1	0	.909	—	386	463
	78 CEG	11	4	0	.733	1	582	677
	78 MSS	8	3	0	.727	2	391	478
	OUTLAWS	9	5	0	.643	2.5	599	709
	J-STARS	9	5	0	.643	2.5	554	662
	653 CLSS	8	5	0	.615	3	611	673
	78 SFS	9	6	0	.600	3	611	673
	WR-ALC	7	7	0	.500	4.5	645	636
	93 ACW	5	7	0	.417	5.5	483	489
	93 MXS	3	9	0	.250	7.5	533	378
	116 MXS	3	11	0	.214	8.5	663	451
	19 ARG	2	10	0	.167	8.5	595	477
	78 CS	0	11	0	.000	10	579	482

### Over 30 league standings

As of April 8	Team	Wins	Loss	Tie	PCT	GB	Gave up	Points
	RNCOA	10	3	0	.769	—	504	643
	78 MSS	9	3	0	.750	0.5	615	802
	5th MOBB	9	3	0	.750	0.5	467	538
	78 CEG	7	3	0	.700	1.5	503	568
	653 CLSS	8	5	0	.615	2	529	575
	HQ AFRC	8	6	0	.571	2.5	625	610
	78 SFS	5	7	0	.417	4.5	434	443
	78 OSS	3	5	0	.375	4.5	285	172
	78 LG	4	9	0	.308	6	763	670
	19 ARG	3	8	0	.273	6	522	406
	78 MDG	2	9	0	.182	7	499	407
	78 CS	2	9	0	.182	7	505	417

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Archery club to hold tournament

Robins Air Force Base Straight Arrow Archery Club will host a 3D archery tournament at 10 a.m. Saturday. There will be a shotgun start at the club, which is located out by the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office. There will be 20 targets set at unknown distances. Trophies will be awarded for first, second and third place. Entry fee will be \$10.

For more information about the club and upcoming shoots, contact one of the club officers: president, Gary Nitz at 929-0930; vice-president, Karl Bodien at 971-4476; secretary/treasurer, Kevin Inskeep at 328-7714; or range officer, Brian Durrance at 328-7435.

### NCMA to host golf tourney

The National Contract Management Association is hosting a golf tournament on April 26 at Waterford Golf Course. The tournament will be an "A, B, C, D" scramble format with a lunch served at noon and a shotgun start at 1 p.m. The cost is \$35 per person; which includes greens fee, cart, range balls and lunch. Refreshment carts will also be provided. There will be prizes for the first-, second- and third-place teams and also for the longest drive and closest to the pin. For more information, contact Michelle Idone at 926-2231.

### Fitness Center

926-2128

A 5(K)ard draw is slated for April 19 at 11:30 a.m. Participants will pick up playing cards at five different stations along the 5K course. The individual with the best hand wins. T-shirts will be available for \$5. Free refreshments will be provided by the Warner Robins Atlanta Bread Company. No federal endorsement of sponsors intended.

Letters of intent for men's and women's intramural softball are ready for pick up at the fitness center. Deadline to enter a game is Thursday.

### Pine Oaks Golf Course

926-4103

A family fun night is slated for 5 p.m. on April 27. Cost of \$30 per couple includes nine holes of golf, golf cart, dinner

and prizes. Cost of \$5 per child 6 to 12 includes supervised golf activities and dinner.

Tuesdays, 5-7 p.m., are game improvement nights with unlimited range ball and instruction for \$5.

The golf course now has a meeting room available for special functions, small conferences and other group gatherings. The room can accommodate about 24 people and can be reserved by any person with a base ID.

### Robins Lanes

926-2112

In honor of Earth Day the bowling center asks customers to bring a potted chrysanthemum and bowl two games free on April 21. The flowers will be planted in front of the center for everyone to enjoy.

**Submit sports information to 1st Lt. Bryan Reed in the WR-ALC Public Affairs office, Bldg. 215, Room 106. Submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. Monday for consideration for Friday's paper. Submit stories and stats in person, by fax at 926-9597 or by e-mail at bryan.reed@robins.af.mil.**

# Gesture of love leaves 13-year-old lightheaded

By Master Sgt. Dee Ann Poole  
Air Force Print News

WHITEMAN AIR FORCE BASE, Mo. — Stephanie Zuvich is feeling somewhat lightheaded these days.

The 13-year-old had 21 inches of her hair cut off recently as a gesture of love for children who suffer from long-term medical hair loss.

About three years ago, Stephanie was watching a talk show about Locks of Love.

"It grabbed at my heart, and that's when I knew I had to donate my hair," she said.

Locks of Love is a nonprofit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children across the United States who suffer from long-term medical hair loss. Most of the children helped by Locks of Love have lost their hair because of alopecia areata, a medical condition that has no known cause or cure.

Stephanie's hair will go into a wig for one of the children. The minimum length of hair that can be donated is 10 inches because most of the children who need hair are girls and most of them want long hair, according to the Locks of Love Web site.

The teen-ager now considers her hair short — it is just three inches below the

nape of her neck. Before her ponytail was cut, she had more than two feet of hair.

"I'm very lightheaded," she said, laughing.

Even at birth, Stephanie had a full head of hair, said her father, Master Sgt. Nick Zuvich.

All that hair was challenging at times. At 5 feet 2 inches, Stephanie sat on it when she sat down. She would shower early in the evening so her hair would be dry at bedtime. During cheerleading season, she was not allowed to have her hair on the back of her neck, so her mom cut about seven inches off.

"It was still a chore to get it up high," Zuvich said. "We ended up making a big knot to keep it up."

The 7 inches Stephanie's mother cut off was the first major haircut for the teen-ager. Most other haircuts consisted of only an inch or two, about the same amount hers grew each month.

The day Stephanie had 21 inches cut off at the base beauty shop, the room was filled with emotion.

Stephanie was all smiles because of her decision. Gail Losier, the beauty shop manager, and Debbie, Stephanie's mother, were holding back tears, but for different reasons.

"It's great to see kids contribute," said Losier, trying to control the tears welling up in her eyes.

Debbie was concerned about how fast her daughter is growing up.

"This is the first time she's getting her hair styled, other than French braids," Debbie said, not taking her eyes off Stephanie. "But it's her hair. This is what she wanted to do. Man, she's growing up."

Nonetheless, the Zuviches are proud of their daughter.

"She always wants to do good things. She's always wanted to donate her hair, it was just a matter of when," Debbie said.

The new haircut provides its own set of challenges. Curling irons and the blow dryer have come out of the closet and now clutter the bathroom countertop. Where Stephanie only occasionally used the curling iron on her bangs, she now tries new styles.

"It's fun trying new things. It's funny, too. The first time I used the curling iron, I curled my hair the wrong way," she said, laughing.

But Stephanie has decided not to get too content with her new hairstyle.

"I'm going to let it grow so I can do it again," she said.

"I think it's nice she did it and I'm surprised she wants to do it again. (But) it will grow back. That's a nice thing," her father said.

Poole is with the 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs. Article courtesy of Air Combat Command News Service.



U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Dee Ann Poole

Stephanie Zuvich, 13, shows off the 21 inches of hair she had cut off for a donation to Locks of Love, a nonprofit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children who suffer from long-term medical hair loss.

## NCO ACADEMY GRADUATES

The top award winners at the Robins Noncommissioned Officer Academy graduation ceremony were as follows:

### John L. Levitow Honor Graduate

Tech. Sgt. Sue E. Wilburn, Charleston Air Force Base, S.C.

### Other Distinguished Graduates

Tech. Sgt. James E. Herkel, Moody AFB

Tech. Sgt. Bernard L. Crosby, 93rd Air Control Wing, Robins AFB

Tech. Sgt. Vickie L. Horan, Moody AFB

Tech. Sgt. Nick S. Luce, Las Vegas, Nev.

Tech. Sgt. William M. Kaufmann, Selfridge Air Guard Base, Mich.

### Commandant's Award

Tech. Sgt. James E Herkel, Moody AFB

### Academic Achievement Award

Staff Sgt. Jamie A. Jett, 2nd Special Operations Force, Robins AFB

The following people recently graduated the Robins Noncommissioned Officer Academy. All are technical sergeants unless otherwise noted.

### Robins Air Force Base

Staff Sgt. Kameron Baskerville, 19th Aircraft Generation Squadron

Kevin W. Bowen, 78th Communications Squadron

Stephen C. Chaudoin, 12th Airborne Command Control Squadron

Louella A. Cheney, 78th Medical Support Squadron

James A. Coppedge, 51st Combat Communications Squadron

Timothy Craig, 78th Security Forces Squadron

Federico Delagarza, 653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron

Eric R. Hubbard, 19th Air Generation Squadron

Michael J. Jacobs, 653rd

Combat Logistics Support Squadron

Chad M. Kreisler, 653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron

William R. Mason III, 16th Airborne Command Control Squadron

Edward D. McGraw, 951st Reserve Support Squadron

William G. Moore, 78th Logistics Group

Robert R. Raymond, 78th Security Forces Squadron

Darryl Rios-Maldonado, 653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron

Dennis B. Robbins, 53rd Combat Communications Squadron

Steven M. Sellers, 653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron

Joseph M. Shone, 93rd Aircraft Generation Squadron

Ralph D. Stooksbury, 336th U.S. Air Force Recruiting Squadron

John P. Werkheiser, 53rd Combat Communications Squadron

### Moody AFB

Shawn E. Bittner

Darren W. Elbert

Edward S. James

Jody L. Laffon

Derek J. Privette

Edwin P. Rains Jr.

Bruce D. Rammel

Shannon D. Shockley

Kendrick Shropshire

Tyson A. Smith

### Dobbins AFB

Sandra W. Bowens

### Fort Benning Army Installation

Eric M. Hein

### Charleston AFB, S.C.

Sharon E. Bulman

Rebecca A. Crossman

Michael A. Deehr

Cynthia M. Holt

George W. Lytle

Nathan A. McCoy

Joseph C. Monter

Gary D. Robinson

Jack A. Taylor

Gyorgy Vasvaritoke

Sue E. Wilburn

Michael W. Wilson

Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio  
Sidney A. Deem

### Andrews AFB, Md.

Samantha L. Duell

Caesar C. Lopez

Christopher Mariano

Clifton F. Seigworth

Mark R. Timmons

Andrew M. Toth

### Minot AFB, N.D.

William L. Holsclaw

### Beale AFB, Calif.

Stuart R. Nichols

### Laughlin AFB, Texas

Ruben Sanchez Jr.

### Denver, Colo.

Lisa J. B. Sarmiento

### McGuire AFB, N.J.

Steven J. Sukup

### Pentagon Administration, Va.

Kirk N. Sulier

### Asheville WAE, N.C.

Scott L. Wilkins

# MOVIE SCHEDULE

## All shows start at 7:30 p.m.

### Today – Crossroads (PG-13)

Starring Britney Spears, Anson Mount.

Lucy, Kit and Mimi, after eight years apart, rediscover their friendship on a cross-country trip.

With barely a plan, practically no money but plenty of dreams, the girls catch a lift with Mimi's handsome, mysterious friend Ben in his '73 Buick convertible. Along the way they not only gather experiences that will change their lives forever, but they also discover how important it is to hold on to their

heart's desires. (sexual content and brief teen drinking)

### Saturday — Return to Neverland (G)

Starring Cory Burton, Jeff Bennett.

World War II is raging and has come to the very heart of London. Wendy tries to comfort her young ones with stories of her experiences in Never Land. However, Captain Hook kidnaps Wendy's daughter and whisks her off to Never Land. Hook plans to use Jane as bait to capture Peter Pan.

# Knowing the signs can help

Continued from B-1

are alcoholics. Recent statistics indicate that about 53 percent of men and women in the United States report one or more of their close relatives have a drinking problem. The cost of alcohol abuse in America is high. Criminal acts, insurance premiums and treatment adds up to a cost of about \$100 billion annually.

### What are alcoholism and alcohol abuse?

Alcoholism's main characteristics are intense cravings, feelings of loss of control, withdrawal symptoms when alcohol is not in the system for extended periods of time (hours/days) and tolerance — a need for more and more alcohol to feel "buzzed" or "drunk." Alcohol abuse is manifested by recurrent behavioral problems that are directly related to drinking. These problems could include recurrent driving while intoxicated charges or other legal problems, poor job performance or problems in relationships.

### How can you tell if someone you know may have a drinking problem?

Ask four easy questions:

- Have you ever felt you should **Cut** down on your drinking?
- Have people **Annoyed** you by commenting or criticizing your drinking?
- Have you ever felt **Guilty** about your drinking (or things you did while drinking)?
- Have you ever had a drink first thing in the morning to steady your nerves or get rid of a hangover (also known as an **Eye** opener)?
- These four questions form a simple but effective survey known as the CAGE. If someone answers yes to more than one of these questions, it's possible his or her drinking is problem-

atic, and they would probably benefit from an evaluation by a professional. Even if the answers are no to all four questions, people who think drinking is causing legal, job-related, financial or relationship problems should seek help.

### Won't getting help mean I'll lose my job?

Despite the perception that seeking help means destroying careers, the vast majority of individuals who come for help find they actually save their careers, and sometimes, their lives. Individuals on the Personnel Reliability Program are invariably returned to their duties and find they perform more effectively.

### How do I get help?

Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism are treatable diseases and if identified and treated early, there's an excellent chance to make life-enhancing improvements or even to save a life. The ADAPT program boasts a wide spectrum of treatments to all active-duty personnel and will provide initial evaluations and treatment recommendations to all TRICARE-eligible dependents as well as civilians authorized to receive care on base. Additional resources and information can be obtained by contacting:

- Your primary care manager
- A spiritual counselor — priest, minister, rabbis
- Alcoholics Anonymous and related groups such as Al-Anon and Alateen
- National Institute of Drug Abuse Hotline 800-662-HELP
- Robins Health and Wellness Center, 327-8480
- Life Skills Support Center ADAPT Program at 327-8398.

*The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Web site [www.niaaa.nih.gov](http://www.niaaa.nih.gov), provided the statistical data for this article.*

# Some restrictions apply

Continued from B-1

"Now that she's older, sometimes she just drops by to see me," she added. "By coming to work with me, she knows how the security checks and everything else on base works."

People who are interested in participating are encouraged to do so, but safety is a priority.

"The safety office recommends that teen-agers and children be restricted from the industrial and production areas," Maj. Steve Shelly, chief of Warner Robins Air Logistics Center Flight Safety, said. "We are also suggesting that areas where hazardous materials are routinely used are avoided as well. That's due to the increased mishap potential within those areas."

Shelly said that although those are the safety office's recommendations, supervisors have the final approval for designation of prohibited areas. Williams agreed and said that although this is an approved event for the base, it is up to employees to obtain approval from their immediate supervisors if they plan to participate.

Christine Parker, Robins Family Support Center director, said there would be a similar event for parents who want to bring their sons to work in May, and said the events will tie in nicely with the Air Force's stance on the family.

"These events help to build community," she said. "That's the Air Force's goal for families — to build community. By showing our children where we work, they are able to get a sense of our roles in the community. That can lead to role modeling and mentorship."

Mast agreed.

"Most of the children, sons and daughters, who I've talked to who participated in events like this at other bases said they learned to appreciate what their parents do," she said. "And they also said they never realized how much responsibility their parents had until they spent a day in the work centers."

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*"Our children are our future and they sometimes don't realize the opportunities that are out there for them. Spending the day in the work centers will expose them to jobs they've never thought about, or maybe even believed, they were capable of doing."*

Command Chief Master Sgt. Kathy Mast  
Warner Robins Air Logistics Center

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# ROBINS CLUBS

**Aerospace Toastmasters Club** - meets the second and fourth Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Support Equipment and Vehicle Management Directorate conference room 1, Bay D15, Room 1-E. To develop or polish your speaking and leadership skills call Keith Dierking at 926-0420 or Brenda Smith at 926-6884, ext. 724.

**Company Grade Officers Association** - meets the third Wednesday of each month at 4 p.m. at the Georgia Room in the officer's club.

**Federal Managers Association** - meets periodically. A variety of speakers provide information to ensure excellence in the federal workplace. For information, call Jan McDaniel, ext.926-2564.

**Major General Joseph A. McNeil Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen Inc.** — meets the third Wednesday of each month, at 11:30 a.m. at a location designated by the executive board. For more information, contact Toledo J. Bradford, public relations officer, at 926-7851, ext. 114 or e-mail to Toledo.Bradford@robins.af.mil. Interested individuals may also contact German T. Acree, president, at work at 926-6881 or at home at 953-6261.

**National Contract Management Association** - meets once a month in the officers' club. For information, call Misty Holtz at 926-7121, or Maj. David Hincks at 926-3666.

**Officers' Christian Fellowship** — meets each Monday at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Jeff or Nancy Smith at 953-7834 or Chris or Deb Holinger at 218-4598.

**Officers' Spouses Club** — If you are new to Robins Air Force Base and your spouse is eligible for officers' club membership, the Officers' Spouses Club would like to extend a warm southern welcome to you. Please call Beth Arch

at 218-7797 to receive your welcome packet.

**Procurement Toastmasters Club** - meets the first and third Thursday of each month at noon in the Contracting Directorate's conference room, north end of Bldg. 300. For information, call Marian Hartley, 926-0886; or Bob Valdez, 926-9332.

**Ravens Toastmasters Club** - meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. in the

Special Operations Forces Management Directorate's conference room No. 1, Bldg. 300, East Wing, door 6A. For information, call Eddie Sanford, 926-9867.

**Reserve Officer's Association** - meets the second Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at the officers club. For information, call Lt. Col. Barry Taylor, 327-1191.

**Robins Top 3 Association** - meets the third Thursday of each month at

3 p.m. in the enlisted club. For information, call Senior Master Sgt. Kerry Goolsby, 468-9946, or Master Sgt. John Hudson, Ext. 926-4330.

**Robins' Voices International Training in Communication Club** — meets the first Thursday of each month at 11:45 a.m. in the special functions room of the base restaurant. For information, call Evelyn Fountain, 926-7429.

**The Retired Enlisted**

**Association Warner Robins Eagle Chapter 94** — meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at Warner Robins American Legion Post 172 on Watson Boulevard. For more information, call Dan Toma at 757-2525 or Jack Tooley at 929-6801.

*Editor's Note: Information provided by club members. If your club or group's information changes, notify the Rev-Up staff so that the club listings may be updated.*

# Essay contest highlights spouses' appreciation reception



By Chris Zdrakas  
chris.Zdrakas@robins.af.mil

Writing a one-page essay, "Why My Spouse Is So Terrific," could earn winners special prize packages in a contest that focuses on the observances of the 2002 Year of the Family and May's Military Spouse Appreciation Month.

The Robins Air Force Base Family Support Center is sponsoring the contest for the second year and has expanded the month's "military" designation to include all Department of Defense military and civilian employees and its contractors on base.

Everyone entering the contest and their spouses may go to a reception on May 23 at 4 p.m. at the Robins Officers' Club. First, second and third place will receive prize packages that will include a variety of entertainment opportunities spouses can enjoy together.

Krystal Shiver, family support's family and work life consultant, is assembling the

prize packages, which she said will be "exciting and well worth the effort put into writing the essay." In addition, everyone entering the contest will receive a certificate of appreciation.

## The contest rules

- Prepare a cover page listing the person being nominated and their address; and the nominator's name, rank, title and unit or organization and duty phone.

- Type the name of the spouse on the cover page only; do not use the spouse's name in the essay. This is done so judges won't be influenced by names.

- Limit the essay to one typewritten page.

- Stress the contributions spouses made during the last 12 months that have enhanced the nominator's career and mission readiness.

Deadline for entries is on April 30. They may be dropped off at the family support center, Bldg. 794, or e-mailed to [krystal.shiver@robins.af.mil](mailto:krystal.shiver@robins.af.mil). Anyone with questions may call Shiver at the center at 926-1256.

## HONOR ROLLS

**The Space and Special Systems Management Directorate announces its Patriot of the Quarter winners for the first quarter.**

**William Downs** won in category V, Patriot Trainer. During this period, Downs distinguished himself and the Space and Special Systems Management Directorate by acting as contracting officer and trainer for three trainees, while also training experienced buy-

ers in the implementation of new computer systems. While conducting training, Downs also maintained his own workload and helped support the war fighter by expeditiously awarding surge requirements in 24-hour turn around time as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.



Downs

## ROBINS BULLETIN BOARD

### CGOA holding membership drive

The Robins Air Force Base Company Grade Officers Association membership drive is coming to a close. The purpose of the drive has been to provide incentives for current members to invite fellow CGOs to join CGOA. Joining CGOA will enable CGOs to meet and network with other CGOs from around base. The association places primary focus on professional development and community service. Meetings are held every third Wednesday of the month at the Wellston.

The last day of the drive is Wednesday at 4:15 p.m. in the Robins Officers' Club atrium.

For more information, contact 2nd Lt. Jana Zwilling at [jana.zwilling@robins.af.mil](mailto:jana.zwilling@robins.af.mil).

### Tuskegee Airmen group to meet

Major General Joseph A. McNeil Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen Inc. will meet Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. at the base restaurant in the private dining room. Guests may attend.

For more information, contact Toledo J. Bradford, public relations officer, at 926-7851, ext. 114 or e-mail to [toledo.bradford@robins.af.mil](mailto:toledo.bradford@robins.af.mil). Interested individuals may also contact German T. Acree, president, at work at 926-6881 or at home at 953-6261.

### OSC putting on elegant bingo

The Robins Officers' Spouses Club is having its annual Elegant Bingo on Thursday, at 10 a.m. at the Robins Officers' Club. To make reservations, call: A-M, Brenda Wilson at 929-4181; N-Z, Cathy Taylor at 922-8486; permanent, Elizabeth Davison at 971-1670 or by e-mail: [abbysmummy@att.net](mailto:abbysmummy@att.net).

### DRMO to host diversity event

Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office, Warner Robins, is holding a multicultural diversity program at 11 a.m. on April 26 at the Robins Air Force Base Enlisted Club. Tickets are \$15. The program will include a dramatization of African American history by Sharon Willis, Spanish song and dance by Diana Lea and Asian/Pacific American history by Lucille Grube. The musical entertainment will be headlined by Natasha T. Cobbs.

Points of contacts are Katie Largent or

Larry LaFavor at 926-5162/0584, e-mail [klargent@warnernt-ex.drms.dla.mil](mailto:klargent@warnernt-ex.drms.dla.mil) or [llafavor@warnernt-ex.drms.dla.mil](mailto:llafavor@warnernt-ex.drms.dla.mil).

### FMA offers scholarships

The Federal Managers' Association, Chapter 121, at Robins Air Force Base, is offering three \$500 cash scholarships to outstanding graduating seniors. One of the scholarships will be awarded to an FMA member's child while the remaining two scholarships are for competition at-large in Middle Georgia. Selection criteria is based on academics, leadership, extracurricular activities, career and academic goals, and financial need.

For an application, contact local high school counselors or phone Donna Long at 926-3483 or 987-1960. Deadline for applications is May 2. Selectees will be honored at the FMA annual awards luncheon in July.

### United Way conducts survey

United Way of Central Georgia is conducting a survey through May to find out what people think is most important in community life. It is an Internet-based survey available at [www.unitedwaycg.com](http://www.unitedwaycg.com). On the Web site, click on "Click here to complete the Needs Assessment Survey," to access the survey. United Way of Central Georgia is a Combined Federal Campaign affiliate.

### CGOA to hold picnic

All company grade officers at Robins Air Force Base are invited to the Company Grade Officers' Association picnic at 1 p.m. on May 4 at Friendship Pavilion. Direct questions to the CGOA social director, Rob Kurtz, at 926-7697, ext. 183.

### Labels can help education

Eating soup through April 24 can be a benefit to Robins Elementary School. The Campbell's Soup "Labels for Education" program can help the school get classroom computers, software, books and other educational tools.

Eat soup and other participating Campbell products, save the labels and donate them to Robins Elementary and other local schools, day cares or churches participating in the program. Look for signs in the commissary for further information on how to donate labels. No federal endorsement of sponsors intended.

## LEAVE/TRANSFER

**The following people have been approved as participants in the leave transfer program.**

- **Kevin Phillips**, Technology and Industrial Support Directorate. Point of contact is Al Thomas, 926-4002.

- **Betty J. Beal**, Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command. Point of contact is Paula McGuoirk, 327-1778.

*Employee-relations specialists at 926-5307 or 926-5802 have information and instructions concerning requests to receive or donate annual leave. To have an approved leave recipient printed in the Rev-Up, directorates should send information to Rebecca Yull via fax at 926-9597, or e-mail at [rebecca.yull@robins.af.mil](mailto:rebecca.yull@robins.af.mil). Submissions run for two weeks.*

## It's all about teamwork

### Maintainers and operators say individuals make working relationship a success

By 1st Lt. Tisha Wright  
tisha.wright@robins.af.mil

The word around the 19th Air Refueling Group is that maintainers and operators of the unit's KC-135 Stratotankers have an incredibly good relationship — some say it's uncommonly good.

"I was amazed at how good the relationship between maintainers and operators was when I came here," said Capt. Rick Kallstrom, maintenance supervisor for the 19th Aircraft Generation Squadron. "Here we have a lot of mutual respect between operators and maintainers and it starts at the top."

Kallstrom is referring to the group's leadership who have a long Air Force history and wide range of experience. Col. Bob Dulong, commander of the 19th AGS has more than 33 years in service and was also part of the enlisted corps before being commissioned. Lt. Col. David Sprague, commander of the 99th Air Refueling Squadron, was also enlisted as a boom operator before his commission. "Col. Barbara Faulkenberry has done a wonderful job getting involved with maintenance and seeing what we do," said Kallstrom about the group's commander. "She has an appreciation for what it takes to get our job done."

#### Why can't we all just get along?

The difficulty for many maintainers and operators is their competing interests, according to Kallstrom.

"Operators want to fly," said Kallstrom, "but when you fly consistently you build up delayed discrepancies. We need the aircraft on the ground to fix them."

Delayed discrepancies are discrepancies on the aircraft that do not affect the jet's flying performance.

"The reason there can be tension between maintainers and operators is that what is convenient for the aircrew isn't always good for maintainers and vice versa," said Capt. Eric Pierce, instructor pilot for the 99th ARS.

"An example is a broken autopilot," he said. "We can help them out by flying a jet with a broken autopilot, but it is a lot more work for us."

#### Two-way street

The relationship between maintainers and operators works both ways, according to Kallstrom.

When the ARS asks us to do something,



U.S. Air Force photos by 1st Lt. Tisha Wright

Clockwise from above, Tech. Sgt. Ken VanHorn prepares the aircraft for engine inspections. Senior Airman Rocky Casto performs an inspection on the aircraft. Maintainers of the 19th Aircraft Generation Squadron discuss upcoming maintenance to be performed on the aircraft.

they take into consideration what it means to the maintainer on the flight line," he said. "We also have an appreciation for what operators need. We know they don't ask for help unless they truly need it."

Kallstrom and his maintainers said it's the little things that make a big difference in the relationship.

"Sometimes when we are short manned, the 99th ARS will send a crew to taxi an aircraft back to the parking area, instead of leaving us to tow it," said Kallstrom. "It's things like that, I haven't see in my past experience, that make the difference."

"Another example is the operators included a flying crew chief (assigned to the 19th AGS) in their annual awards package," he said. "They are looking out for us."

Staff Sgt. Aaron Cooper, a craftsman on the aircraft's electro-environmental systems for the 19th AGS, sites other examples of camaraderie between the two units.

"During Rodeo (a military sponsored competition for flying units) the aircrew sees what we do to the jets and they appreciate us," said Cooper. "At the 2000 competition the aircrew brought us pizzas and sodas because we were working really hard on the jets."

"Professionalism has to be there," he said. "But the operators look out for us."

"When we go TDY (on temporary duty assignment)," said Capt David Wieland, copilot for the 99th ARS, "the maintainers sometimes work long hours on the jet after we land. We check into billeting for them and bring them their key, so that they don't have to."

"We also make sure they have the same



accommodations as we do," said Pierce. "We want to make sure they get the proper crew rest."

#### Some things never change

The positive relationship between maintainers and operators in the 19th ARG is equally as strong in their forward operating location for Operation Enduring Freedom, according to Cooper.

"The aircrews work hand-in-hand with us in the FOL," he said, "and we are operating with limited resources."

Tech. Sgt. Ken VanHorn, lead aerospace propulsion technician for the 19th AGS, agrees with Cooper.

"I've noticed at the FOL our aircrews seemed to be willing to get out and help the maintenance crew," said VanHorn. "They respect our role and job."

"When I was deployed I saw two aircrew members get out of their aircraft and help the crew chief launch an aircraft," he said. "They came out there on their own. No one had to ask them for help."

"Maintainers in the FOL help us out a lot," said Airmen 1st Class Drake Dayton, boom operator for the 99th ARS. "One guy drove me to two jets to help me look for something I had left on a flight. He didn't have to do that."

"We recognize the amount of work maintainers do," said Wieland. "When I was deployed we needed a particular aircraft to do a special operations mission. The maintainers



put in long hours fixing the communications equipment so we could complete the mission."

#### What it takes

"Level to level, down through the chain of command, maintainers and operators work well together," said Pierce. "It takes everyone to foster this relationship."

Teamwork and communication between maintainers and operators is crucial to the 19th ARG's success, according to Kallstrom.

"Everyone realizes how important the missions are and we are willing to do what it takes to get the job done," he said.



U.S. Air Force photo by 1st Lt. Tisha Wright

General Williams encourages Black Knights to keep up great work. Maj. Gen. Nick Williams, 21st Air Force commander from McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., shares a pancake breakfast with the 19th Air Refueling Group on April 5. The general spent two days at Robins meeting with members of the 19th ARG. Seated with the general are Staff Sgt. Jeff Gombos, left, and Master Sgt. Ben Howard.

## Children's creations reflect parents' inspiration

By 1st Lt. Tisha Wright  
tisha.wright@robins.af.mil

Creatively inclined children of members of the 19th Air Refueling Group, who have found inspiration in their parents, are receiving accolades for their work.

Cameron McMillin, son of Maj. Grant McMillin who is the chief evaluator navigator for the 19th ARG here, wrote a poem titled, "Shine the Light," that was named the national merit winner by the International Society of

Poets. The society also published the poem in a book called "Love and Luminaries."

Charles Morman, son of Senior Master Sgt. Jim Morman who is the chief boom operator for the 99th Air Refueling Squadron here, created a clay model of the attack on the World Trade Centers that was selected for display at Spelman College in Atlanta.

While Cameron is 18 and Charlie only 13, both were inspired by their parents' service in the Air Force.

See CHILDREN'S ... Page 2

## Chief Foley leaves message of integrity, optimism behind

By 1st Lt. Tisha Wright  
tisha.wright@robins.af.mil

The Black Knight's senior enlisted adviser is slated to retire on April 22 after 30 years of Air Force service.

"When you get to this point you do a lot of reminiscing about yourself and the Air Force," said Chief Master Sgt. Chuck Foley. "It's hard to believe that 30 years have gone by already. It's been a great career and I wouldn't do anything different."

The chief was the shift manager at Friendly's Ice Cream in West Haven, Conn., before he enlisted in the Air Force.

"I never expected to become a chief master sergeant in my wildest imagination," he said. "I did my job, did what the Air Force asked me to do and I had great supervisors that looked out for me."

The chief sends a strong message about the value of integrity for anyone interested in a long Air Force career.

"Integrity is the most important trait an individual can have," he said. "Your word is your bond. People



Chief Master Sgt. Chuck Foley

have to be able to believe in what you are saying."

One of Foley's most important roles as senior enlisted adviser is communication with the enlisted force and the group leadership.

"It's important that people trust me," he said. "There is no room for anything but the straight story and there is no need to put my integrity in doubt."

Foley says that it's not always easy to be the senior enlisted adviser.

"I try to set the right example which is not always an easy thing to do," he said. "Being 'perfect' takes a lot of

work. We're human, not perfect, but that's what the position brings."

Sometimes you succeed better than others times but you keep at it, he said.

Optimism is also an important part of success, according to Foley.

"I always try to be optimistic," he said. "Family separation is tough, but the homecomings are always great to look forward to."

If you make the best of your situation there is a lot less stress in your life, he said.

According to Foley, the Air Force has given him more than he can return.

"I got to see the world and gain some culture in the process," he said. "Now, I have a better appreciation of what it means to be an American and how good we have it. I don't know if a lot of people really appreciate that."

"The Air Force is a great institution," said Foley. "They have helped me raise my kids and my grandchildren because two of my sons are in the Air Force."

Foley said he'll miss the Air Force and Black Knights

See FOLEY ... Page 2

## Martins: Team effort impressive in spite of deployment conditions

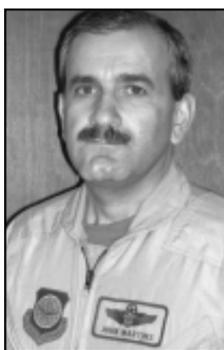
By Lt. Col. John Martins  
Commander  
19th Operations Support Squadron

I recently returned to Robins Air Force Base after a two-month tour deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. As the Deputy Commander of the 384th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron, a combined unit with assets from Robins and McConnell AFB, I feel very fortunate to have been given the opportunity to participate in our nation's critical war on terrorism.

The level of teamwork that I witnessed day in and day out impressed me immensely. From the aircrews to the maintainers to the various support specialists, the commonality of pride and dedication to the mission cannot be overemphasized.

Boasting a very proud record of achievement, this unit has been in action since the first airstrikes on Afghanistan back in October, providing responsive air refueling to thirsty receivers. During my tenure, our KC-135s refueled more than 300 fighters, bombers, airlifters and other specialized aircraft, safely delivering nearly 12 million pounds of fuel. In flying more than 1,300 hours, our highly skilled crews never once failed to support a receiver. Each mid-air rendezvous was successfully completed despite many challenges with hazardous weather and the threat of enemy ground fire.

Being a former fighter weapons officer, I know firsthand the impact that tankers have on strike operations. Not a single airplane out there in the target area can perform its mission without airborne gas. That's why the



Martins

KC-135 is such a critical asset. We provide the war fighters with the ability to multiply the available forces through flexible responsiveness and the ability to stay in the fight longer. There's no doubt that we positively affected the range and reach of the entire campaign. During Operation Anaconda alone, our tankers were actively engaged in and around the target areas in Afghanistan, off-loading approximately three million pounds of fuel to more than 100 strike and support aircraft.

The desert environment in Southwest Asia is no picnic. It's hot during the day and can be very cold at night. It's always blowing sand and dust, which makes it very challenging when you're trying to run an aggressive flying schedule. Yet despite the austere living conditions, I am pleased to say that the morale of our men and women was exemplary. They understood the importance of the mission and always maintained their focus. I believe we've got a first-class team at our deployed location and I felt very honored to be part of that team.

This war on terrorism presents many complicated challenges for our personnel in uniform but make no mistake, we will win. Finally, I want to thank the many people back home who expressed their support for our deployed men and women. We are fortunate indeed that the Warner Robins community is so devoted to its military citizens. Believe me, it makes a very positive impact on the mission.

## Foley: It's our job to keep country free

Continued from Page 1

camaraderie the most when he retires.

"The Black Knights have such a can-do attitude," he said, "It's eye-watering to see them accomplish what they do with limited resources."

The Black Knights have a reputation of doing what needs to be done regardless of what is going on at the time, he said.

"I don't think we take the time to think about the impact we make," said Foley. "What we do is inspiring. It's our job to keep our country free and citizens safe — freedom is that important."

Foley said the awards and recognition the Black Knights have received speak highly of

their strength and character.

Foley believes family support helps foster this strength.

"I am blessed to have incredible support from my family," he said. "My wife is unbelievable. She's helped me more than I deserve and my sons made moving easy."

The Air Force family has also played an important role in Foley's life, he said.

"I've been in the Air Force family since day one and it is hard for me to think about being away from that," he said.

Foley has one last message for his fellow Black Knights before he retires.

"I wish everyone continued success, best of luck and godspeed," he said. "And I ask them to keep my grandchildren safe."

## BLACK KNIGHTS BRIEFS

### Black Knights capture AFA awards

The Carl Vinson Memorial Chapter Air Force Association Award for airlifter of the year in the aviator category was awarded to Maj. Robert "Mike" Koehler, the 99th Air Refueling Squadron director of operations, for his professionalism and courage in leading the 19th Air Refueling Group special operations program.

Senior Master Sgt. James Morman, chief boom operator for the 99th ARS, was also awarded airlifter of the year by the Carl Vinson Memorial Chapter Air Force Association in the airlifter category for his leadership in the cargo loading effort for current contingency operations. He also served as the first sergeant to the Operation Enduring Freedom deployed location earning accolades from the deployed location commander.

"People in the 19th Air Refueling Group did very well this year in the awards competition," said Art Bosshart, president of the Carl Vinson Memorial Chapter Air Force Association. "Our annual award winners will go on to compete at the state chapter level."

Senior Airmen Bruce Klima, a boom operator for the 99th ARS, was awarded the Sherrill Stafford Memorial Scholarship of \$1,000 toward pursuing a bachelor's of science. The scholarship is for the enlisted rank of technical sergeant and below.

Maj. Brian McLaughlin, chief of the special operations division here, was awarded Chapter Member of the Year when he was vice president of the David J. Price Air Force Association Chapter in California. He was also awarded the California Exceptional Service Award, AFA National Medal of Merit and the AFA National Exceptional Service Award.

The Carl Vinson Memorial Chapter of the Air Force Association comprises much of Middle Georgia and includes approximately 1,800 members.

### Warrior Banquet slated for May 3

The Black Knights' warrior banquet will be held on May 3 at 6 p.m. in aircraft hanger 2067. Prices for the banquet are \$6 for technical sergeants and below and \$8 for master sergeants and above. The uniform for the banquet will be battle dress uniform. Spouses and guests in

attendance are also invited to wear BDUs.

Banquet activities will include sumo wrestling between 19th Air Refueling Group squadron commanders. Designated drivers will be available. Tickets are available through the designated squadron ticket sales representatives. For more information, contact Capt. Eugene Croft, at 327-3077.

### Kudos for NORAD's 20,000 mishap-free homeland defense sorties

U.S., Candian and NATO air forces have successfully completed 20,000 mishap free sorties for Operation Noble Eagle, earning the praise of Maj. Gen. Larry K. Arnold, Continental United States NORAD region commander.

"I am fully aware that safe ground and flight operations under varied conditions while enduring long hours doesn't just happen," he said. "It represents dedication and professionalism from each and every one of you. I am proud of you and all Americans and Air Force leadership share that pride."

The 19th Air Refueling Group has flown 334 of those 20,000 mishap-free sorties, making this achievement possible. As well as 232 sorties in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

"From the maintenance team to air battle managers, and from control teams to aircrews, you have not allowed the repetitive nature of our tasking to foster a complacent attitude," said Arnold. "I am confident that you will remain focused as our tasking undergoes modification while the importance of mission continues."

### Life support wins best small team in AMC

The 99th Air Refueling Squadron aircrew life support shop won most outstanding small team in Air Mobility Command for 2001.

Tech. Sgt. Michael Zimmerman, assistant non-commissioned officer in charge of aircrew life support said, "It took a lot of hard work and dedication from everyone. We received the award because we worked hard and performed as a team. I am very proud of this shop and proud to be a part of a winning team."

Aircrew life support has 11 members who manage and are responsible for all aircrew survival equipment as well as passenger emergency equipment.

## Children's work dedicated to fathers

Continued from Page 1

Cameron's poem was originally recognized through a poetry contest at the University of Nebraska where he is a student. He dedicated the poem to his father and the members of the 19th ARG in an introduction to the poem.

"As I wrote," Cameron said, "I could only think of the people that are out there protecting our ideas and beliefs. They will never know our names and we will know only some of theirs. I know one name. He is my father. I wrote this poem to let him know that I understand now."

McMillin said he was most touched by the idea that his son now understood why he chose a career in the military.

"This is house number fourteen for me and my family and school number nine for Cameron. For many years I spent more than 200 days per year away from home," he said. "It was hard on Cameron."

After the attacks of Sept. 11, Cameron had a different perspective on his father's career.

"Now, he said, "he understands why I have made the decisions I have made."

McMillin was deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom when his son wrote the poem.

"We didn't know about it (the poem) until Cameron was recognized," said Gina McMillin, Cameron's mother.

"His dad was deployed at the time so I framed it and sent it to him."

According to Gina, when he received the framed poem in the deployed location he was very emotional.

"I dedicate this to the heroes of Sept. 11, and the fathers, mothers, sons and daughters fighting for us," said Cameron about his poem. "To the 19th ARG and Maj. Mac (a nickname for his father) — I love you dad."

Charlie also dedicated his artwork to his father.

"I dedicated it to my dad because I thought it would be nice to give it to him," said the eighth grader. "He told me to commemorate something important in my life."

"I never realized how these attacks affected my son and how much he was in tune with



Courtesy photo

Young artist, Charles Morman, recreates the tragedy of Sept. 11 in his clay sculpture which has been displayed at Spelman College.

what was going on concerning the attacks," said Morman. "I am immensely proud of what he did. I can't look at it without tearing up."

"My sculpture was to help people never forget what happened on Sept. 11," said Charlie. "I made it to commemorate what happened and how many people were lost. The flag represents freedom."

*"I could only think of the people that are out there protecting our ideas and beliefs. They will never know our names and we will know only some of theirs. I know one name. He is my father."*

Like Cameron, Charlie's father was also deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, when he created his model.

"When you have parents that are active duty, you are conscious of world events," said Master Sgt. Connie Morman, Charlie's step-mother and also a member of the Air Force. "The incident was brought close to home since

Cameron McMillin Charlie's dad was Son of Maj. Grant McMillin deployed because of 9-11."

"His piece made me

more aware of how much the attack affected him and

touched him," she continued.

Morman's work was originally made for a project in his art class and was submitted by his art teacher to compete for the opportunity to be displayed at the college.

"It makes me proud that he has a sense of respect for the country, what the flag represents and the people serving for our freedom," said Morman.

The college selected artwork from each school district in Georgia. Charlie's sculpture is also available to view on the school's virtual museum Web page at [www.pavm.spelman.edu/gallery/yag/young\\_artists.html](http://www.pavm.spelman.edu/gallery/yag/young_artists.html).

"I want to say thanks to my dad and my step-mom for helping me put thought into my project," said Charlie.