



Twistin' the night away

See Page 1B

WORD

ON THE STREET

How did the march on Washington, D.C., impact your life?

Col. William Saunders, Center IG



My idea was always to grow up and be someone who could make a difference in this country. The march inspired me to do the right thing and growing up to be a leader and make a difference.

Edward Aspera Jr., Audiovisual specialist

I was 7 years old when MLK gave his speech at the Lincoln Memorial. All I can remember was seeing the event on a black and white TV. But even to this day the words he spoke 40 years ago seem like yesterday. His voice contained the power of experience; he made me believe that all of God's children "could be free at last."



Aspera

Linda Hurt, manpower analyst



I thank God for allowing Dr. King to make such a tremendous contribution to the advancement not only to minorities, but to all people. That event brought about a historical change that has positively affected many generations.

Chief Master Sgt. Kathy Mast, Center command chief

Over the years I've learned a lot about Martin Luther King. I believe he started an awareness in America – that despite our many differences, we all were created equally and deserve to be treated the same. As I look back on my life I think his message had a significant impact on how I live my life. My children were raised believing in his message, and I have supervised and led my troops by the message – treat everyone the way you want to be treated.



Mast

Robins Open House and Air Show countdown: **9 days**

INTEGRITY FIRST, SERVICE BEFORE SELF, EXCELLENCE IN ALL WE DO

ROBINS
RevUp



Have a safe and happy Labor Day weekend!

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Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

You can't do jack without your CAC

Common Access Card registration continues as deadline approaches

By Lanorris Askew
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According to Master Sgt. David Lee, if you play your hand right and beat the rush for common access card registration, he and his personnel won't have to worry about a full house as the deadline approaches for the new card's implementation.

Lee, noncommissioned officer in charge of Customer Service, said Oct. 1 is the Department of Defense

launch date for use of the new cards as entry points onto computer networks and secure E mail across DoD. That means all eligible Air Force active-duty, Guardsmen, reservists, civilians and some contractors at Robins must have their cards in hand.

"The majority of people are keeping their appointments made through their unit points of contact for registration," said Lee. "The appointments are working

What to know

If you have forgotten you PIN, you must report to the MPF to have it reset. For more information call the MPF at 327-7361. For more information on CAC visit <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/smartcard>

well, and by the end of September, we expect to meet the goal of helping everyone."

Lee said to help expedite matters they have set up evening appointments for those doing shift work and who may not be able to come in during regular office hours.

Although those appointments haven't been used in the way they hoped, Lee said the goal is to accommodate everyone.

"We want to show Robins that the customer service

Please see **CAC, 3A**



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp
Frank Trzaski Sr., management program analyst, accesses his computer using his CAC.

Governor visits Robins



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp

Above, Lt. Col. Kevin 'Iceman' Coleman, 339th Flight Test Squadron, talks with Gov. Sonny Perdue as he sits in an F-15 cockpit Monday. Coleman took the governor on a 40-minute ride across Georgia. Below left, Tech. Sgt. Charles Jones and Tech. Sgt. David Blakely, both of the 339th Flight Test Squadron, help the governor suit up. Below right, Perdue gives a thumbs up as the F-15 taxis out for flight. The governor visited Robins to learn more about the base's mission, equipment and aircraft as well as to show support for the men and women in uniform at Robins.



Family trio to thrill crowd at Open House and Air Show

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

Like father, like son may be a tired old cliché, but when it comes to Richard (Dick) McSpadden and his two sons, it rings true.

The retired Wells-Fargo employee, whose love of flight helped inspire his sons into careers in aviation, said they all love soaring into the wild blue yonder and plan to meet at Robins Sept. 6 and 7 for the 2003 Open House and Air Show.

While Lt. Col. Richard McSpadden Jr., Thunderbird commander, thrills the crowd from above, his father and brother Cliff plan to wow them below with two historic aircraft exhibits.

According to Dick McSpadden, he and his son will display two aircraft both boasting historic pasts.

The first aircraft is a C-45, which has been in his possession for five years. The old Air Force aircraft, last used for VIP transport in Washington State, bears the same paint scheme as when it was in service.

The second aircraft is a commercial model of the Navion L-17. These aircraft were used in the Korean conflict by the Army and Air Force as utility aircraft transporting mail, wounded and supplies.

"The L-17 was used by Gen. Douglas McArthur as his personal short hop transporter," said McSpadden.

He has owned the L-17 for 22 years and the Thunderbirds commander still flies it when he goes home.

Air shows are a favorite pastime of McSpadden who this year alone has exhibited at the Dayton Air Fair, Tyndall and Eglin Air Force Bases, Fla. and Moody Air Force Base, Ga.

Please see **FAMILY, 3A**

Base is first to install beta test site for fuel cell

By Holly J. Logan
holly.logan@robins.af.mil

A new fuel cell is giving Robins a sneak-peek at the Defense Department's proposed plan for using an alternative fuel source - hydrogen.

The unit, manufactured by Plug Power Inc. in Albany, N.Y., and installed and maintained by Atlanta-based Logan Energies Inc., came to

Robins in April. Robins is the first site to be installed at a U.S. Air Force base, and the fifth site installed in the Defense Department.

Robins and Shaw Air Force Base, S.C., are the first Air Force bases included among the 30 military installations selected world-wide as test sites for the \$80,000 electrochemical

Please see **FUEL, 3A**



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Carl Perazzola, Advanced Alternative Power Technology Transition section chief, shows off the new fuel cell at Robins. The cell generates electricity by combining hydrogen and oxygen, producing water as its by-product.

Robins 3-day forecast
Courtesy of 78th OSS/OSW

Friday
Partly cloudy with chance of p.m. t-storms



92/71

Saturday
Partly cloudy with chance of p.m. t-storms



92/71

Sunday
Partly cloudy with chance of p.m. t-storms



92/71

What's inside

Two earn awards for outstanding service **5A**
Leaders approve reorganization of acquisition programs **9A**
Robins in line for new store **3B**
Bronze star honors **8B**

CAC

Continued from 1A

office can provide more than just 9 to 5 customer service," he said.

Lee urges everyone who hasn't received their cards to come in for appointments and not wait until the last minute which causes increased wait times and congestion.

"Right now our wait is sometimes more than an hour due to us having to replace lost cards and cards that have been confiscated by the gate guards as well as issuing new cards to dependents and retirees," he said. "If you wait until the end of September to come in, your wait could jump to more than two hours."

To ensure that isn't the case, Lee suggests two things.

"If you have an appointment, keep it," he said. "If you are unsure whether or not you have an appointment, contact your unit or the customer service office."

Since many people received their cards earlier in the year, Lee said it is understandable if the pin number has been forgotten. If you forget your PIN, go to the Military Personnel Flight, in Building 905 where you will be given the opportunity to prove you are the owner of the CAC by matching your fingerprint against the fingerprint that was stored on DEERS when you were issued the card. If your fingerprint matches successfully, you can select a new PIN. If you have lost your CAC, you must report to your commander or

What to know

The Common Access Card will be the standard ID card for active duty members of the Uniformed Services, Selected Reserve, DoD civilian employees, and eligible contractor personnel. The CAC will also be the principal card used to enable physical access to buildings and controlled spaces and for logical access to the Department's computer networks and systems.

first line supervisor for a Lost ID Card letter prior to coming to the MPF.

"It's important for people to know they will be setting a six to eight digit PIN," said Lee. "This will speed the process and help them come up with a PIN that is more secure."

"It's logical that you might not remember the pin and by security standards you're not supposed to write it down," he said. "Once you get to one of the customer service computers the reset is only a three-minute process."

Although customer service is in charge of issuing the cards, any computer problems should be addressed to the local network administrator said Lee.

"We were very lucky to have had the Mobile Registration Unit here to take care of a lot of the initial registration," he said. "A lot of bases didn't have the unit to help out."



courtesy photo

From left to right, Cliff, Lt. Col. Richard and Dick McSpadden stand in front of a C-45G, which will be displayed at the Robins Open House and Air Show Sept. 6 and 7.

FAMILY

Continued from 1A

Though he didn't learn to fly until he turned 40 years old, McSpadden's love of aviation began many years before.

He thinks it was born in Truman, Ark. when he was only two years old.

"My father paid a barnstormer (a pilot who flew open cockpit biplanes for profit) \$2 to take me and my mother for a ride in his plane," he said. "I don't know if you can remember anything that happens when you are two years old, but that was my first experience with flight."

That experience stuck with him throughout his childhood growing up as what he terms an Air Force brat.

"My father was an Air Force man, and we lived about 100 yards from the runway for a while at Maxwell Air Force Base,"

he said. "I spent many hours watching the P-51s and other aircraft take off and land."

The love for planes may have been hereditary as his son Richard relates the story of the day that he fell in love with aviation as a 7-year-old sitting on his fathers' shoulders at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., watching the Thunderbirds for the first time.

McSpadden's other son also caught the fever, and now works as a Captain on the Canadair Regional Jet for Delta Airlines and will pilot the C-45 next month.

Loving to fly and watching his sons share that love, the Father's day before his 40th birthday, his family gathered the money to pay an instructor for enough lessons to allow McSpadden to fly solo and make his dreams a reality.

"A lot of times when you do something that you have dreamed about for a long time it doesn't live up to

your expectations," he said. "This was not the case with me. Flying was everything I thought it would be, it was wonderful and exciting and from that day I was hooked."

McSpadden set a goal for him to be able to fly his family to Florida for Thanksgiving that very year.

"It took some doing, but I achieved my goal," he said.

Not too many years later he became owner of his first plane, a Cessna 152.

"I never thought I would own my own plane," he said. "I often sit and think about how fortunate I am to have learned to fly."

Though his daughters Donna and Debie, like his wife Ann, love to fly, they have never taken to the pilot's seat, but there are enough pilots in the family.

In his spare, McSpadden said he serves as a member of the Experimental Aircraft Association and sits on the board of directors of the American Navion Society.

FUEL

Continued from 1A

device that generates electricity by combining hydrogen and oxygen - producing water as its by-product.

Carl Perazzola, Advanced Alternative Power Technology Transition section chief, said turning to alternative fuel sources is a way the U.S. can preserve its fossil fuel resources.

"Between 60 and 80 percent of our bases have natural compressed gas flowing through the base for heating and cooling loads," he said. "So, we began looking at it as an alternative fuel source. In about eight or nine years, cars should be able to run on fuel cells."

With its strong working relationship with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Perazzola said Robins was an obvious choice for test site location.

Reaching temperatures up to 700 degrees Fahrenheit, the fuel cell captures that heat to produce hot water for Robins' firefighters' showering, laundering and cooking needs, and scrubs out sulfur to purify the hydrogen for fuel usage.

Since President George Bush's State of the Union Address in January, which highlighted his \$1.3 billion request to Congress for fuel cell funding, fuel cells have gained more national prominence, and are seen as a way to reduce DoD's fuel bill and help bases comply with the Clean Air Act of 1970.

The Advanced Alternative Power Technology Transition



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

The fuel cell generates electricity by combining hydrogen and oxygen - producing water as its by-product. The unit, manufactured by Plug Power Inc. in Albany, N.Y., and installed and maintained by Atlanta-based Logan Energies Inc., came to Robins in April.

Office is partnering with the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center Construction Engineering Research Laboratory, the funding source, to make Robins part of testing the alternative fuel technology.

According to Perazzola, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will retrieve the fuel cell in 12 to 18 months, with the manufacturer expecting to produce a commercial model by then.

"The commercial unit is being designed for individual residential usage, so that as we get closer to the nation turning toward a hydrogen-based economy, people will no longer be paying a power bill," he said.

Col. David Nakayama, Support Equipment and Vehicle Management Directorate director, said if the system proves to be reliable, it may become more than an alternative fuel source - it may become the fuel source norm.

"The United States imports over half of the

petroleum that we use," he said. "There are significant social, political and military implications with that because 64 percent of the world's oil comes from the Middle East. The cost of foreign oil dependence is no longer an economic environmental issue. There are serious strategic concerns."

Nakayama said replacing fossil fuel sources with alternative solutions is not something that can be dealt with tomorrow - it must be faced today.

"We're very fortunate to have the first fuel cell beta test site at Robins," he said. "Fuel is one of the most difficult things to move in any conflict, in any campaign. If we can solve that, we've not only solved a great deal by reducing the logistical footprint of our deployed troops, but we've changed how we defend American interests around the world."

To see this story in streaming video, go to <http://www.robins.af.mil/pa/stream/index.htm>

What to know

The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the U.S. Air Force's first fuel cell test site took place at Robins' Fire Station 1, Building 377, Aug. 18. The fuel cell is an electrochemical mechanism that produces electricity by combining hydrogen and oxygen, with clean water as its by-product. The fuel cell was installed in April.

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Submit honor roll information to Angela Trunzo in the WR-ALC Public Affairs office, Bldg. 215, Room 111, by e-mail at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil or by fax at 926-9597.

Submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. Monday for consideration for Friday's paper. For more information, call 926-2137.



Air Force Parent Pin Program
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Making hard work look easy

Willis, Batchelder earn top honors for providing outstanding service

By Holly J. Logan
holly.logan@robins.af.mil

For most, fun and work don't go together - but for Robert Willis and Sharon Batchelder the two go hand-in-hand.

Willis, aquatics director for Robins' Outdoor Recreation, recently earned the 2003 John Harden Award from the National Recreation and Parks Association. Batchelder, recreation aide at the Spalding Nature Center, earned the 2003 Front Line Award from the Armed Forces Recreation Society.

The two competed against other nominees from the five military service branches worldwide. Awards will be presented at the NRPA conference in Saint Louis, Mo., Oct. 22.

When she's not playing hostess to Robins' many FamCamp guests, Batchelder, originally from Tampa, Fla., is feeding and caring for more than 30 animals that call the nature center home.

"I think one of the best parts of the job is seeing how amazed people are when they see what all we have out here," she said. "I'm not a person who can sit behind a desk eight hours a day. I like the fact this job lets me get out there and be around the people."

From managing Outdoor Recreation's equipment rental program to maintaining the base's horse stables, 32-year-old Willis said his job is ever-changing - not only day-to-day, but some days, even minute-to-minute.

"There's never a dull



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp

Above, Robert Willis, aquatics director for Robins' Outdoor Recreation, takes a break from his busy schedule. He recently earned the 2003 John Harden Award from the National Recreation and Parks Association. Right, Sharon Batchelder, recreation aide at the Spalding Nature Center, poses with a kitten. She earned the 2003 Front Line Award from the Armed Forces Recreation Society.



moment around here," the Macon, Ga., native said. "When I'm not making sure the pools are ready for events and training classes, I'm taking care of a number of other things going on around here. There's always something going on."

Capt. Tim Sites, deputy director of the services division at Robins, said with all of their hard work, the two award recipients' accomplishments come as no surprise.

"We are extremely proud of these two individuals," he said. "They're both dedicated

to providing outstanding customer service and finding solutions to meet the needs of a diverse customer base. They're both very deserving of these prestigious awards."

Willis, who manages the largest number of pools in Air Force Materiel Command and oversees a staff of 30 temporary and three full-time lifeguards, and Batchelder, who has served as FamCamp hostess since 2000 and works as assistant to the nature center's activity director, were rated on attitude, commitment, initiative, knowledge,

teamwork and communication - skills their supervisors say make them one of their organization's greatest assets.

Sharon Wilhelm, recreational assistant for Robins' Outdoor Recreation, described Batchelder as the "ultimate employee."

"She always gives over 110 percent to get people whatever they need," she said. "Even when she's not feeling well, she's always here. When she's here, I know the job will be well taken care of."

Derek Glisson, Outdoor

Recreation director, described Willis as a true professional.

"Our participation in aquatics has nearly doubled since Robert became full-time," he said. "He stays abreast of current information related to the field, and is an excellent teacher and role model for his staff."

While the service workers were obvious winners to their supervisors, news of the honors took the winners by surprise.

"I never expected it," said 54-year-old Batchelder. "I just come out and do the job

I love doing."

Willis, a former marine combat instructor trainer of water survival for four years, said he was very excited by news of his recent honor.

"I received the letter from the National Parks and Services Association, but I didn't know what it was until I took a second look at it later," he said. "I had to run it by my flight chief before I believed what it was. I'm honored to receive the award, but to tell the truth, coming to work, and enjoying what I do, is enough for me."

What to know

Robert Willis, aquatics director for Robins' Outdoor Recreation, also manages Outdoor Recreation's equipment rental program and maintains the base's horse stables. Sharon Batchelder, recreation aide at the Spalding Nature Center, cares for more than 30 animals that call the nature center home.

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Robins 2003 Open House and Air Show Sept. 6 and 7

A look at some of this year's performers

Lima Lima Flight Team

The Lima Lima Flight Team - the only civilian, six-aircraft demonstration team - will perform for this year's air show.

The T-34s of the flight team proved a powerful demonstration that stresses precision flying.

The show includes several formation configurations, from the six ship wedge and double arrowhead, to the basic finger four and diamond formations. The team has developed a series of formation aerobatics maneuvers which demonstrate the full range of the T-34 performance envelope.

The team started out as a flying club, called The Mentor Flyers, Inc. The club was organized as a non-profit corporation in 1975. It was chartered as a 15-member flying club, based at Naper Aero Club field, outside of Naperville, Ill.

Naper Aero is a residential airpark, with over 100 homes connected to runways via taxiways behind the homes.

The flagship T-34 of the fleet is an early A model (serial number G-17, N34B). It was veteran of U.S. Air Force and Civil Air Patrol use before being acquired by the Mentor Flyers. When the Mentor Flyers decided to buy a different T-34, N34B was sold to club members Ted Adams and Gene Martin. They soon decided that going from 15 partners to two partners was only a step along the way to individual ownership, and they bought another CAP veteran T-34.

Since formation flying is a uniquely military activity, the Lima Lima Mentors are painted in original Navy training colors. The only exception to this is the black tail band, which has become the Lima Lima trademark.

The "Lima Lima" name was derived from the FAA designator for Naper Aero Club field, which is LL-10, hence the LL on the tails of the aircraft.



A description of the Thunderbirds' show

Watch as the Thunderbirds display the power, pride, and precision of the United States Air Force. The maintenance crews have prepared the jets, and the pilots taxi the six F-16Cs into position at the end of the runway.

The Commander/Leader, Lt. Col. Richard McSpadden, makes the call "Thunderbirds let's run 'em up," and their takeoff roll begins. The four-ship formation, powered by more than 100,000 pounds of thrust from four Pratt & Whitney engines, thunders down the runway. As the planes lift-off and begin their climb, the Slot pilot, Maj. Matt Beckley, quickly edges his aircraft from the right wing tightly into position to form the signature Thunderbird Diamond.

Following the Diamond, the Lead Solo, Maj. Todd Canterbury, clears the runway and snaps an immediate 360-degree aileron roll. Finally, the Opposing Solo, Capt. Chris Stricklin, powers his aircraft nearly straight up; reversing direction, he flies back past the crowd all within the length of the runway in a maneuver called the Split-S.

While the Solos perform their takeoff maneuvers, the four Diamond jets reposition behind the crowd for their opening maneuver. With the smoke on, the Diamond flies overhead in the Diamond Cloverloop.

From the left, Thunderbirds 1, 2, 3 and 4 are in trail formation with each wingman flying directly behind the aircraft in front of him. As they enter the turn, each pilot will transition back to the Diamond in the Trail-to-Diamond Bottom-Up Pass.

Next, Thunderbird 5 maneuvers in front of the crowd flying upside down in a High-Speed Inverted Pass. Here comes Thunderbird 6 also inverted. Watch as Capt. Stricklin rolls 360 degrees right at show center with the Inverted-to-Inverted Pass.

From behind the crowd, the Diamond approaches show center for the Diamond Pass-in-Review - picture perfect formation flying!

Following this, Maj. Canterbury shows off the Thunderbird motif painted on the underside of the F-16, in the challenging Knife-Edge Pass.

Capt. Stricklin uses precise control inputs to perform the Slow Roll.

The Diamond now passes overhead in the graceful Diamond Roll.

Thunderbird 5 approaches the crowd

line in a precision 8-Point Roll.

Next, Thunderbird 6 will conduct four Maximum Performance Aileron Rolls. Check your watch as Capt. Stricklin rolls four times in just six seconds.

Now it's time for the Arrowhead formation, with Left Wing, Maj. Mark Smith, and Right Wing, Capt. Chris Callaghan, dropping back to fly off of Maj. Beckley, in the Arrowhead Loop.

The two Solos team up for the Calypso Pass. Watch for the mirror image as Thunderbird 5 rolls on his back to fly inverted above Thunderbird 6.

At show center, all four Diamond pilots perform simultaneous aileron rolls. By the time the Diamond clears the area, the Solos fly over the crowd with smoke on to perform the breathtaking Crossover Break.

In trail formation and pulling up into the vertical, Thunderbirds 1, 2, 3 and 4 smoothly transition back into the Diamond.

Look to your left and to your right. The Solos cross exactly at show center while performing crisp 4-Point Rolls.

Once again in trail formation, the Diamond pilots move back into the Diamond Formation while rolling 360 degrees.

Screaming overhead at .98 MACH, Thunderbird 6 buzzes the crowd disrupting the tranquility of the moment. The Thunderbird Sneak Pass is a classic example of tactical surprise. Using speed and agility in maneuvers like this allows U.S. Air Force pilots to reach their target undetected, hit it hard, and return to fight another day.

Thunderbird 5, with gear and flaps extended, slows his aircraft to minimum airspeed. The Wing Walk displays the excellent slow speed maneuverability of the F-16.

The Diamond approaches show center with gear and flaps down. From above, Thunderbird 6 is in hot pursuit, closing in on the Diamond at more than 500 miles per hour. Capt. Stricklin overtakes the formation right in front of the crowd.

Capt. Stricklin joins the Diamond to create the Thunderbird Five-Card formation. As they pull into a loop, notice Maj. Beckley in the middle of the formation. This is precision flying at its finest; there's no room for error here in the center of the Five-Card.

Demonstrating the F-16's power, Maj. Canterbury climbs almost three miles

straight up while performing aileron rolls and using only 60 percent of his engine thrust to do it.

The Thunderbirds approach show center in the line abreast formation keeping their eyes trained on the aircraft beside them. They pass the crowd and pull up into the vertical to execute the Line Break Loop. As Thunderbird 6 pulls away into his own loop, the remaining pilots will form the Diamond, and then meet Capt. Stricklin at show center in a Head-on-Pass.

In air combat, if you can't turn tight, you can't fight. The F-16 can do both. Maj. Canterbury performs a full afterburner, high performance turn directly in front of the crowd.

It's now the Diamond's turn to pull some high "Gs" in the Diamond 360. While flying this maneuver, the pilots will experience more than four times the force of gravity on their bodies.

As the Diamond completes the Diamond 360, the Solos join the Diamond to form the famous Thunderbird Six-Ship Delta Formation.

As Lt. Col. McSpadden rolls 360 degrees, watch as all five wingmen maintain their precise formation positions.

Lt. Col. McSpadden repositions the Delta directly in front of the crowd, and they pull up to the vertical for the Delta Loop.

Perhaps no single maneuver is more closely identified with the Thunderbirds than the High Bomb Burst. After the Diamond pilots break formation, the Lead Solo penetrates the column of smoke, performing vertical rolls to the top of the maneuver.

Each wingman then reverses direction in a high-speed dive and races to the spot where the Bomb Burst began. With closure rates approaching 1,200 miles per hour, the challenge now is for each Thunderbird to reach that point at exactly the same time.

The Solo pilots are teamed up for the Reflection Pitch. Watch for the mirror image as Thunderbird 5 rolls on his back to fly inverted underneath Thunderbird 6.

As the jets land, so ends another demonstration. The maintenance crews recover the jets, "load teams" repack equipment on the support aircraft, and the team says their final good-byes and the Thunderbirds prepare to fly into another town.

Red Eagle Air Show Team

The Red Eagle Air Show Team will take to the skies, here, Sept 6-7. Dan McClung, team leader, and Buck Roetman of the team will perform Magic in the Air - a singular blend of low-level precision aerobatics including flat spins, inside and outside loops, multiple snap rolls, tail slides, torque rolls and man original maneuvers.

This season the team will introduce a dual formation act guaranteed to excite air show viewers.

McClung performs in the Talon Eagle, a one-of-a-kind super high performance bi-plane. It's a highly modified red, white and black biplane capable of an astounding, eye-popping performance.



Schedule of events*

10 a.m.
USAFA Wings of Blue Parachute Team
10:30 a.m.
Various civilian acts
11 a.m.
P-51/Zero Dogfight
11:15 a.m.
Dan McClung
11:30 a.m.
Lima Lima T-34 6-Ship
11:50 a.m.
F-117 Fly-by
noon
KC-135R demo
12:15 p.m.
Rescue demo
12:35 p.m.
E-8 demo
12:50 p.m.
PT-17
1 p.m.
Thunderbird engine run
1:30 p.m.
421 quartermaster jump (Saturday only)
2 p.m.
Wright flyer
2:10 p.m.
Air Force Reserve Above & Beyond Aerobatic Show
2:25 p.m.
WR-ALC fly-by
2:40 p.m.
F-104 Starfighter
3 p.m.
F-15 demo (East Coast Demonstration Team)
3:25 p.m.
USAFA Wings of Blue
4 p.m.
Thunderbirds prep, ground and show
* subject to change

Sam Lyons art exhibit opens at museum Sept. 4

By **Tonya McClure**
Museum of Aviation marketing director

The Museum of Aviation will open "Timeless Flight," an art exhibit by world-renowned aviation artist Sam Lyons, Sept. 4 during a short ceremony in the Art Gallery.

The exhibit, featuring aviation art, will be on display until Nov. 3.

As a fledgling artist, Sam

Lyons began his career experimenting with various painting techniques and media.

He searched for a unique style he could call his own and eventually found his mode of artistic expression. The result became immensely popular.

The popularity of his work is attributed to its extremely realistic look. Lyons' paintings are so realistic that they are often mistaken for photographs.

The pieces of art appearing in "Timeless Flight" show airplanes both in the heat of battle and in the cool of the day.

Paintings like "Prelude to Victory," "Desert Stallion" and "Final Flight" emphasize an airplane's importance in times of war.

Paintings like "Autumn Classic," "Making Waves" and "Back Country" emphasize an airplane's nostalgic quality.

Lyons' show will feature 40 masterpieces depicting all aspects of aviation.

The exhibit will be opened following a short ceremony beginning at 5 p.m. in the Art Gallery, third floor of the Eagle Building.

Special guests will include Maj. Gen. Donald Wetekam, Center commander, retired Brig. Gen. Robert L. Scott Jr., and other distinguished guests.



"Vintage Dreams" is an example of one of Sam Lyons' paintings that will be on display at the Museum of Aviation's art gallery Sept. 4 through Nov. 3.

Transformation tough, important, progressing

By Army Sgt. 1st Class
Doug Sample

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) – Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said bringing change to a department as large as the Pentagon will be tough, but change is important so that the military is not “stuck back in the 20th century.



Rumsfeld

“We’ve worked hard at it; we’ve got a lot of wonderful people working on it,” Rumsfeld said. “It’s a difficult thing to do with a great big institution like this. (But if the transformation initiatives under way are) as successful as the department believes they will be, I think there will be some success.”

Rumsfeld emphasized that transformation efforts within the Pentagon would not be easy.

“Change is hard for people,” he said.

However, he said that Pentagon leaders understand the importance in organizing, training and equipping the military for the 21st century.

Lessons from operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, as well as the global war on terrorism, illustrate the importance for changes in the military, he said.

“It’s not good enough to be capable of fighting big armies and big navies and big air forces on a slow, ponderous basis,” Rumsfeld said. “We have to be able to move quickly and have to be agile and have to have a smaller footprint. And we have to be able to deal with the so-called asymmetrical threats, the kind of threats that we’re facing with terrorists and terrorist networks. So I think the people in this department understand it, and that they’re making good

progress on it.”

Rumsfeld said that Pentagon officials do not believe that Iran currently possesses nuclear weapons, but there are strong indications that North Korea may have up to three.

“We know (Iran has) the ability to deliver ballistic missiles, and conceivably if they had a nuclear weapon, could deliver it. But at the moment no one that I know of in our intelligence community or elsewhere assesses that they currently have (nuclear weapons),” he said. “It has been assessed that they’re engaged in a process where they may wish to acquire or develop or produce nuclear weapons. But at the moment it’s my best information that they don’t have them.”

However, Rumsfeld said North Korea is a different situation.

U.S. intelligence has assessed that North Korea, “very likely has one or two or three weapons,” and that the country has programs to develop and the materials to produce nuclear weapons, he said.

“They’ve announced that they have (nuclear weapons). That is to say they’ve informed people,” he said. “... Because it’s a closed society, it’s not possible to have really good visibility into what they’re doing precisely. ... If they’re saying what they’re saying, one has to assume they have some reason for saying it: Either that it’s true or that they want others to believe it’s true.”

Rumsfeld expressed his concern about the likelihood of North Korea, which has sold ballistic-missile technologies in the past, selling nuclear weapons to other countries.

“If they’re publicly saying they would be happy to proliferate those technologies, and if we know they proliferated ballistic-missile technologies, then reasonable people have to assume that that’s at least a strong possibility,” Rumsfeld said.

“It’s not good enough to be capable of fighting big armies and big navies and big air forces on a slow, ponderous basis. We have to be able to move quickly and have to be agile and have to have a smaller footprint.”

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld

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information to Angela Trunzo

in the WR-ALC Public Affairs office, Bldg. 215, Room 111,

by e-mail at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil or by fax at 926-9597.

Submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. Monday for consideration for Friday’s paper.

For more information, call 926-2137.

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Improving, transforming infrastructure

By Donald R. Michels

WR-ALC Special Ops Forces System Program Office Director

Is it possible to transform a "paper-and-electron pushing" organization that doesn't personally manufacture or repair anything itself into a "Lean, Mean, Fighting Machine?"



Michels

You bet it is!

The Special Operations Forces/Combat Search and Rescue System Program Office has embraced Lean methodology as part of its daily operations.

Lean is especially effective in streamlining the processes that provide improved combat capabilities to our war fighters and ensuring their sustainment. With limited manpower, and long-term resource constraints, we must find ways to improve our processes and effectively use our resources to maximize support to our war fighter customers across the complete spectrum of weapon system life

cycle support.

In order to do so, and take on future workloads, the SOF/CSAR SPO is Leaning and improving its processes by continuous process improvement. That allows us to realize optimized customer support at significant cost savings.

In pursuit of improvements, the SPO organized its infrastructure into several parts. The first is the management steering group, comprised of integrated product team leads, functional support office leads, and several first line supervisors. The MSG is tasked with establishing policy, setting priorities, approving process improvements and providing leadership and direction.

The second component is the system process improvement network/CPI Lean core team, charged with managing the process improvement program and facilitating improvement initiatives.

The third component is the Process Action Team, comprised of the experts and owners of the various processes. They are tasked to reengineer existing processes, and document their efforts in the form of detailed guides describing the improved process from start to fin-

ish. We have created 27 of those guides to date. The PATs also train the workforce on these new procedures.

And finally, the fourth component is the Lean event teams. These teams conduct the Lean rapid improvement events, designed to analyze process value streams, and identify and eliminate redundant, or no value added steps, that waste valuable resources and time.

The overall efforts by the SOF/CSAR SPO teams have significantly reduced cycle time required for acquisition and delivery of supplies and services, development costs, life cycle support costs, and optimized the acquisition and sustainment of highly reliable, state-of-the-art systems geared to meet the SOF/CSAR war fighter's needs, as well as ensuring legacy systems remain reliable and supportable for as long as needed.

During a Value Stream Mapping session, SPO senior leaders mapped major processes, selected the key processes that have the greatest value to our customers, and developed an action plan to implement Lean in the Directorate.

The Action Plan identified three

Rapid Improvement Events that would help improve support to our major customers and stakeholders. To streamline these processes, LU personnel teamed with our customers and stakeholders to review and establish a standard work that eliminated duplicate or no value-added tasks, and reduced flow time.

For example, the RIE on Budgetary Cost Information allowed our customer to work with us to develop a more streamlined efficient process and determine levels of importance for formal weapon system modification requests submitted in response to maintenance or operational problems experienced by field units.

Traditionally, upon receipt such requests, SPO teams spent a considerable number of man-hours and expense in developing a full-blown BCI, which included very detailed cost and schedule information.

As a result of the Lean event, our customers now submit such requests to their major command headquarters, where they are prioritized by level of importance, and then transmitted to the SOF/CSAR SPO.

Today, the majority of these

requests only require a rough order of magnitude cost estimate.

Implementing the Lean process has decreased the average number of flow days by 87 and increased the average number of on-time responses by more than 300 percent.

In a nutshell, you have a faster, better, and cheaper process that is much more responsive to actual customer requirements.

In conclusion, the SOF/CSAR SPO is aggressively pursuing continuous process improvement through Lean and other innovative methods to optimize our support to our vital Special Operations and Combat Search and Rescue customers across the complete spectrum of weapon system life cycle support.

LU is also utilizing Lean tenets to establish process improvement objectives and priorities, improve current processes; and provide direction via detailed process guides to promote standard, yet effective, processes.

Lean and continuous process improvement are alive and working extremely well in the SOF/CSAR System Program Office.

Daughter's accident teaches many lessons

By Master Sgt. Kenneth Williams

388th Operations Group

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah — I had an emergency that took me away from my job for a few hours last week. It started with a 5 p.m. phone call from my wife, Janet, saying our daughter, Kelsey, had been hit by a drunk driver.

I was terrified! I got in my truck, and my first instinct was to go as fast as I could -- I didn't care who or what was in the way. I had to get there now!

As I got to the South Gate I realized emergency personnel were either at the scene or on the way and I would only compound the problem by getting in a wreck, so I took a deep breath and slowed down.

When I arrived at the scene, they had already drug the mangled green blob that used to be a '96 Subaru Legacy out of rush hour traffic. I could tell

from 100 feet away that she had been hit broadside. The right front quarter panel was gone, the front right tire was under the passenger seat and the car looked like a boomerang.

My heart was in my throat as I parked my truck and ran toward my wife's Blazer, parked nearby. When Janet held her hands out toward me and said, "she's fine, she's fine," I've never felt more relieved in my life. Looking at the Subaru, and the condition it was in, I couldn't believe Kelsey didn't get hurt.

Kelsey was filling out her statement in the front seat of Janet's car. I reached in to hug her and her words to me were, "you're not mad are you?" In the past five minutes, I went from terrified, to anxious, to relieved, to guilty! All I wanted to do was hold her -- I was so relieved she was OK.

But the emotions didn't stop

there! I learned that the other driver had fled the scene, but her car was so damaged, she didn't get far. Fortunately a witness, who was on the phone with 911, followed her to a nearby gas station and saw the driver empty her car of several beer cans.

I was enraged -- this woman could have cost me my daughter. I wanted her to pay! I intended to go to that driver and get in her face and let her know how she almost cost my daughter her life -- but heavy traffic and common sense slowed me down.

I remembered from my experience as a first sergeant that emotions can only complicate problems. The experts need to do their job and they can't get it done when someone interferes. I stood in the distance and watched the cops administer field sobriety tests and a breathalyzer.

The inevitable happened,

and I could hear the words from 20-feet away: "Turn around and place your hands behind your back. You're under arrest for DUI."

I thought I'd be happy to hear that, but really, I wasn't. I started to think about the driver and her family.

What if she has kids? Will this cause a divorce? Will she lose her job? How long will she be in jail?

After getting information from the deputy and thanking him for a job well done, I went back to Janet and Kelsey. I gave them lots of hugs and kisses, then watched them drive away.

When I returned to work, I wanted to tell this story, because in only an hour I learned some important things about myself, and reaffirmed things in my own mind that I already knew:

■ No matter how fast you may think you need to get

somewhere, you need to think "safety." Slow down, take a deep breath and go with the flow of traffic. Trying to get somewhere one minute earlier isn't worth risking your life, or the lives of others.

■ If your child looks at you through tears and asks if you're mad because an inanimate object was damaged, ask yourself why that happened. Are you not letting your feelings be known? Are your priorities out-of-whack? I plan to fix that!

■ Seat belts save lives! Kelsey was hit at more than 50 mph. Her airbags didn't deploy, the car was spun 360 degrees and demolished, but there wasn't a scratch on her! You never know when it'll happen to you. Buckle-up -- it may be the smartest thing you'll ever do.

■ Let the experts do their jobs. They are trained professionals, and if they need your

help, they'll ask for it. You may end up cuffed yourself if you get too pushy or too emotional. I've seen it happen.

■ Drunk drivers can be anywhere at any time. Who would have thought it would be at 5 p.m. on a Thursday? Kelsey was only going to gas up her car, no more than eight miles from home. They're out there, be cautious.

■ Drinking and driving can cost you dearly, we all know that. But what is the cost to others on the road? We were blessed -- it could have been much worse, it could have cost us everything. What of the driver? When she sobers up, how will she feel? She has tough times ahead of her. There at the scene, I was angry at her; now I pity her. A foolish mistake that was so preventable will haunt her for many years to come.

Take care of yourselves, your families and each other.

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



Commanders' Action Line

Col. Tom Smoot, Jr.
Commander,
78th Air Base Wing

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



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, Bellsouth etc.), use action.line@robins.af.mil.

Readers can also access Action Line by visiting the Robins Air Force Base homepage. 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.

| | |
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Can bank account data be masked on e-mail travel vouchers?

My concern is that the new travel voucher settlement system seems to be faulty in that each e-mail settlement voucher contains the employee's full bank account number in clear text and is clearly labeled as such. I called the Travel Pay section concerning a previous voucher and was told that they did not have the ability to mask my bank account number. Is it possible to start masking at least a portion of the individual's bank account number from all electronically transmitted travel vouchers?

Gen. Wetekam replies: Thanks for your call. I certainly appreciate your valid concern regarding your account number being enumerated on your e-mail travel voucher summary. E-mail capability of the vouchers was part of a new system conversion, which was implemented April 1. The current program allows for the social security number to be masked while showing the complete account number. The routing number along with the name of the banking institution is omitted. The account number issue has been recognized and is currently being addressed by the Air Force. A program is in development, which will eliminate visibility of the account number but, unfortunately, has not been completed. While we do not have a firm implementation date, I'm pleased to report that this project

has a very high priority. Safeguarding privacy information is not taken lightly within the travel arena. Controls have been instituted to safeguard the personal information of the Robins workforce. Vouchers are not e-mailed unless the receiver's identity can be positively verified based on the information provided on the travel voucher. Those that cannot be e-mailed are mailed directly to the member's travel monitor for distribution in accordance with the guidelines of the Privacy Act of 1974. To date, there have been no reported instances of fraud due to the exposure of the account number. To ensure that no fraudulent activity occurs, this issue will continue to be closely monitored. I hope this information helps to alleviate your privacy concern and, again, thanks for the call.



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Air Force leaders approve reorganization of acquisition programs

WASHINGTON - Air Force officials announced a major reorganization of the acquisition management structure Aug. 20.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper and Air Force Secretary Dr. James G. Roche approved reorganization of the service's aircraft, weapons, and command, control and combat support acquisitions programs. The change streamlines decision-making, improves speed and credibility and increases accountability.

The policy clarifies responsibilities of program executive offices and product center commanders, according to a memorandum from the leaders. It removes organizational conflicts and builds off Air Force Materiel Command's evolving acquisition-enterprise concept.

As part of the reorganization, service officials will:

- Dual-role the Air Force's three product center commanders as program executive officers. Commanders will be responsible for executing programs.

- Gather all but two Air Force aircraft programs under a single executive office. The Joint Strike Fighter will keep its separate office; a new one will be created for the F/A-22 Raptor.

- Bring all non-space Air Force acquisition programs under the new office structure and eliminate the designated acquisition commander position at the product and logistics centers.

- Assign a general officer or civilian member of the Senior Executive Service to be the deputy for acquisition execution for each of the three PEOs who also will be serving as product center commanders. A separate general officer or SES deputy for support will manage the day-to-day operations of the product center.

- Maintain a small support staff in Washington, D.C., to help coordinate among Air Force headquarters, the Defense Department and Congress.

The commander of the Aeronautical Systems Center at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, will be the executive officer for aircraft. The commander of the Electronic Systems Center at Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass., will be

the executive officer for command, control and combat support. The commander of the Air Armament Center at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., will be the executive officer for weapons.

Dr. Marvin Sambur, assistant secretary of the Air Force for acquisition, remains the service acquisition executive for all non-space programs. Product executive officers continue to report to him.

In their role as center commanders, the three product

center commanders will continue to report to the commander of AFMC. Under Secretary of the Air Force Peter B. Teets is responsible for the acquisition of space programs.

"Our acquisition system, fueled by our great acquisition professionals, (has) produced the best weapons systems in the world," Sambur said. "But, the processes we use to acquire these systems can and must be improved to reduce cycle times and to increase the credibility of our cost, schedule

and performance promises.

"I'm convinced this new alignment will help us get to where we need to go."

Gen. Lester Lyles, who turned over command of AFMC to Gen Gregory Martin Aug. 23, was also confident in the change.

"This new structure will allow us to deliver capabilities more quickly and to look across our acquisition enterprise to ensure we're making the best use of our resources," he said.

In the new structure, ALC commanders won't be designated acquisition commanders. They will, however, remain highly engaged in the acquisition process because of the important maintenance and supply planning for support of new systems, according to officials.

The centers will still be key players in sustainment planning as new systems are developed and acquired.

They will retain their traditional roles in the sustainment,

maintenance overhaul and repair of fielded weapons systems and manage the purchasing and supply chain. The new structure is slated to be in place in about two months.

An implementation plan is being developed and will identify the size of the Washington support staff, any required transfer of people to the product centers and other logistical and organizational issues.

— *Air Force Print News*

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Benefits and entitlements only a click away

■ BEST Web site gives civil service employees full access to benefits and entitlements

By **Holly J. Logan**
holly.logan@robins.af.mil

From banking to paying bills, people are going on-line to manage their personal business - and now they're managing their work benefits and entitlements the same way.

Continuing a trend toward on-line self-service, Air Force federal employees used the Web about 260,000 times last year to manage their career benefits.

Debbie Bailey, Human Resources Assistant for Robins' Civilian Personnel Office, said the site offers employees an alternative to using the Benefits and Entitlements Service Team (BEST) phone system.

"It's more convenient," she said. "With this option, unnecessary paperwork is prevented, and provides an opportunity for federal employees to become more involved in their career benefits planning."

The BEST Web site is accessible by using an eight to 10 character personal identification number created by the employee - and may be accessed from virtually any computer location.

This PIN is not synonymous with the employee's TSP phone system PIN.

Those who aren't computer-savvy may still use the BEST telephone system by dialing 1-800-997-2378.

Dianne Carroll, Human Resources Assistant with Robins Civilian Personnel Office, said while the site is user-friendly, she still prefers the old fashioned way of doing business.

"The Web site is great, but I prefer talking to someone on the phone," she said. "If you have trouble with the site for whatever reason, it's good to know you can always call the BEST phone system and get the help you need."

"When BEST went live in 1996, it provided services to 3,500 federal employees at nine bases," said Janet Thomas, Human Resources Specialist at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. "Today, we provide full servicing to more than 78,000 federal employees and limited servicing to more than 57,000 employees from the time they come to work for the Air Force until they leave."

Robins is serviced on a limited basis by the Air Force Personnel Center.

Limited service bases, retain the Official Personnel Files for their employees. In addition, retirement coun-

What to know

The Air Force Personnel Center Web site offers full 24-hour access to federal employees' benefits and entitlements and provides enrollment and advisory services to employees in the areas of Federal Employees Health Benefits, Federal Employees Group Life Insurance and Thrift Savings Plan. To access the AFPC Benefits and Entitlements Web site, go to <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/best/menu.htm>. For more information, contact Debbie Bailey at 926-5307.

selling and processing, and death in service survivor assistance benefits are still provided by the Robins CPF.

BEST provides benefits and entitlements services and enrollment and advisory services to Robins employees in the areas of Federal Employees Health Benefits, Federal Employees Group Life Insurance, and Thrift Savings Plan.

BEST Web site

BEST home page provides Web pages specifically related to new, retired, transferred, retiring, separating employees, employees entering "leave without pay" status and employees entering military active duty status. The "What's New" link offers legislative updates and program changes.

Got news?

E-mail the Rev Up at Robins.Revup@robins.af.mil

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Absentee ballots let Californians vote for governor

By **Maj. Mike Pierson**
michael.pierson@robins.af.mil

California residents have only a few more weeks to request, receive, fill out and mail their absentee ballots for the state's Oct. 7 Special Election.

Absentee ballots must be received by county election officials no later than 8 p.m. Pacific Time Oct. 7 to be counted, according to the California Secretary of State's elections Web site Aug. 20.

There will be 135 candidates on the ballot in a special election deciding who - if anyone - will replace California Gov. Gray Davis.

The ballot will also include two statewide propositions. Proposition 53 is a proposed constitutional amendment sponsored by the Legislature that would

What to know

The deadline to mail an absentee ballot for the California Oct. 7 Special Election is Sept. 22. For voting purposes, your 'legal voting residence' can be the state or territory where you last resided prior to entering military service or the state or territory that you have since claimed as your legal residence. To claim a new legal residence you must have simultaneous physical presence and the intent to return to that location as your primary residence.

require a portion of the state's budget be set aside for infrastructure spending. Proposition 54 is a measure to ban government agencies from collecting racial data.

Military members and others covered by the Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act may request an absentee ballot by filling out a "Federal Post Card Registration and Absentee Ballot Request," and mailing it to their appropriate county election official no later than Sept. 22, according to a news release from the Federal Voting Assistance program Aug. 21.

California also accepts ballot request forms by fax, but voters must then mail in their request soon afterwards.

This form is available online - along with information on the federal voting

assistance program - from the program's Web site www.fvap.gov.

Other California residents may request an absentee ballot through election official in the county where they have established permanent residence.

A listing of these officials, the certified candidates running for governor, and other information on voting absentee in California can be found at www.sss.ca.gov.

The federal Voting Information Center also offers information on absentee voting at DSN 425-1343 or 1-800-438-VOTE.

News from around the Air Force

Scrub-a-dub-dub



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jennifer C. Wallis

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM – Senior Airman Lewis Ensor rinses a C-130 Hercules with fresh water at a forward-deployed location Aug. 15. Fresh water rinses off the effects of flying over salt water, preventing aircraft corrosion. Ensor is assigned to the 321st Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Warner Robins Air Logistics Center and Ogden Air Logistics Center, Utah, are the worldwide depots for all C-130s in the Air Force inventory. The centers perform program depot maintenance on the entire Hercules fleet. The fleet includes more than 700 aircraft used by seven major commands at 60 bases, as well as more than 600 aircraft for 23 foreign countries.

Air Force reaches recruiting goal

By Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – The Air Force reached its enlistment-contract goal Aug. 22 with the signing of its 37,000th enlistment contract.

More than 32,000 people entered basic military training since Sept. 30. The Air Force now has enough contracts to meet its goal for the fiscal year and has for the past four years, according to officials.

“I salute our recruiters who are working hard to recruit the country’s best and brightest,” said Brig. Gen. Edward A. Rice Jr., Air Force Recruiting Service commander. “We are committed to recruiting a diverse, high-quality volun-

teer force that is representative of the country it serves.”

The Air Force is not only doing well enlisting airmen, the service is also doing well commissioning officers into critical career fields, according to officials.

“The Air Force is having a banner year recruiting engineers, scientists and weather officers,” said Col. Gary Kirk, recruiting service’s operations division chief. “The last year that compares with this year’s success was 1991, and we are already postured for another strong year next year.”

Although the Air Force is having a great recruiting year, it is still hiring, Kirk said. It needs hundreds of doctors, nurses,

pharmacists and aircraft mechanics, as well as people qualified for special operations, such as pararescue and combat control.

According to Kirk, the Air Force also maintained its standard of 99 percent of recruits being high school graduates.

Enlisted airmen earn 12 to 72 accredited hours through their Air Force training, putting them on track to earn an associates degree in one of more than 60 fields of study from the Community College of the Air Force.

“It’s no wonder that ... one of the top reasons people join the Air Force is for the opportunity to further their education,” Rice said.

Some civilians get opportunity for TSP catch-up contributions

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER - Eligible Air Force-served civilian employees and military members age 50 or older can begin enrolling for Thrift Savings Plan “catch up” contribution Monday.

The maximum amount that can be contributed through the end of December is \$2,000. The contribution amount increases to \$3,000 in 2004; \$4,000 in 2005; and \$5,000 in 2006, officials said.

“This is a great opportunity for those folks who enrolled in TSP later than their peers to invest more dollars toward their retirement,” said Janet Thomas, human resources specialist.

Catch-up contributions will be made through payroll deductions, and can be in any amount the person chooses as long as it doesn’t exceed their net pay or the annual catch-up contribution limit each year.

Criteria for eligibility is:

- Age 50 or older in the year the election is submitted.

- In a pay status and receiving a paycheck.

- Be making regular TSP contributions at either the maximum TSP percentage allowed by the member’s retirement plan or an

amount resulting in reaching the Internal Revenue Service annual elective deferral limit by the end of the year.

- Not in the six month, non-contribution period following a financial hardship in-service withdrawal.

Contributions are not tied to TSP open season, and employees may start, change, stop or restart catch-up contributions at any time, officials said.

Civilians will make their enrollment elections through the Benefits and Entitlement Service Team automated phone system at 1-800-997-2378.

Additional enrollment information is available on the BEST home page at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/best/menu.htm and by phone.

Enrollment information for uniformed members is available on the TSP Web site at www.tsp.gov or by calling the Air Force Contact Center at 1-866-229-7074.

To enroll uniformed members will go to the TSP Web site, click on forms and publications under uniformed services, print out the TSP-U-1-C catch-up contribution form, fill it out and turn it in to their local finance service office.

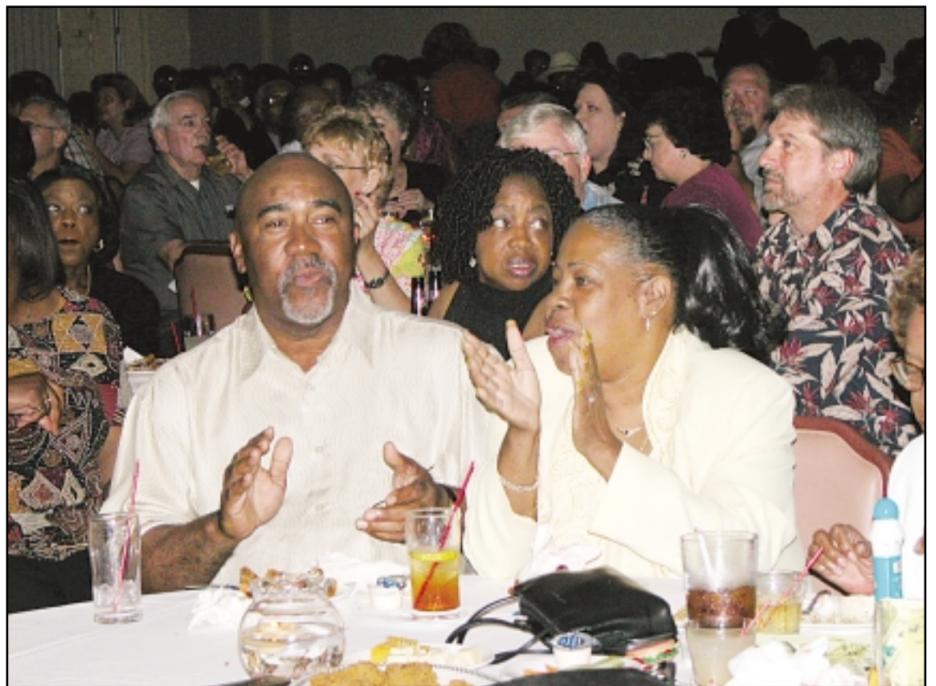
“This is a great opportunity for those folks who enrolled in TSP later than their peers to invest more dollars toward their retirement.”

Janet Thomas,
human resources specialist

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Twistin', the night away



Main photo: Joe Turner, of "The Original Drifters," invites audience members to join him in the 'twist.'

Above: The audience claps along to a song. About 300 people attended the event at the Enlisted Club Aug. 23.

Far left: Lee Logan encourages the audience to have some fun. Left: Joe Turner, Lee Logan and Barnal Martin perform for the audience.

Upcoming event:
The Oscar De La Hoya vs. 'Sugar' Shane Mosley II fight will be shown Sept. 13 at 9 p.m. Cost is \$5 for members, \$10 for nonmembers.

ROBINS CLUBS

Robins Top 3 Association

Robins Top 3 Association meets the third Thursday of each month at 3 p.m. in the Enlisted Club. For information call Master Sgt. Joyce Jones at 926-4997 or Master Sgt. Andrea Johnson at 327-7356.

Procurement Toastmasters Club

Procurement Toastmasters Club meets the first and third Thursday of each month at noon in the Contracting Directorate's conference room, north end of Building 300. For information on the organization, call James Gordon at 926-0061 or Lily Fickler at 926-2825.

Ravens Toastmasters Club

Ravens Toastmasters Club meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. in the Special Operations Forces Management Directorate's conference room No. 1, Building 300, East Wing, door E-4. For information, call Eddie Sanford, 926-1185.

Calling all Robins clubs. The Rev Up needs your input. To have your club or group's information included here, submit it to Angela Trunzo by e-mail at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil or by fax at 926-9597.

STREAMING VIDEO



FULL STREAM AHEAD*

To view streaming video, go to
<http://www.robins.af.mil/pa/stream/index.htm>

- AFA sponsors Transformation Symposium at Museum of Aviation
- Robins tests revolutionary fuel cell that generates electrical energy
- Two members of 116th Air Control Wing awarded bronze star

*Videos are best viewed with the latest version of Windows Media Player (version 9).

ROBINS REPORT

News from around base — Watson and Cox Channel 15

Friday — 8 p.m.

Sunday — 1:30 p.m.

Monday — Noon

CHAPEL SERVICES

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

Catholic CCD classes for ages 4 through adult meet every Sunday from 11 a.m. until noon — from September through May — at Robins Elementary School.

Protestant General Services take place every Sunday at 11 a.m. This service includes some traditional and contemporary worship styles in music and in format.

Protestant Inspirational Services take place every Sunday at 8 a.m.

Protestant Contemporary Services take place 11 a.m. each Sunday at the Base Theater. This service is very informal, with a praise team assisting in singing and includes both traditional and contemporary styles of music and worship.

Protestant religious education classes for people of all ages meet every Sunday — from September through May — from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Bldg. 905.

Jewish service time is each Friday at 6:15 p.m. at the synagogue in Macon.

Islamic Friday Prayer (Jumuah) is each Friday at 1:30 p.m. in the chapel annex Rooms 1 and 2.

The chapel helps with any spiritual needs that arise. For further information, call the chapel at 926-2821.

MOVIE SCHEDULE

Friday

7:30 p.m. — Bad Boys II —

Martin Lawrence and Will Smith

Miami police detectives Marcus Burnett and Mike Lowrey are back, this time investigating the booming ecstasy business in south Florida. Their drug busts lead to an evil kingpin who has started a violent turf war throughout Miami. To further complicate matters, Mike begins to fall for Syd, the half sister of Marcus. It's a relationship that threatens Mike and Marcus' friendship and put Syd's life in danger.

Rated R (strong violence and action, pervasive language, sexuality and drug content) 150 minutes



Saturday

7:30 p.m. — Pokemon — Animated

In a mysterious city of water called Alto Mare. Ash and Pikachu meet two new Pokemons Latias and Latios who protect a treasure called the Droplet of the Heart, which is the target of a pair of thieves, Zanna and Rion. Latias and Latios possess strong psychic abilities and the power to disguise themselves as humans! Rated G 71 minutes

July Yards of the month



U.S. Air Force photo

Left, Col. Henry Brinkman, Individual Mobilization Augmentee to the 78th Air Base Wing commander, left, presents the Yard of the Month award for July to Staff Sgt. and Mrs. Ronald C. Ray who live on Lanier Dr. Other Yard of the Month winners for July include: Capt. and Mrs. Daniel Shrase, Lakeside Dr.; Major and Mrs. Jeffery Holifield, Dogwood; Staff Sgt. and Mrs. Glenn Kanak, Airmens Dr.; and Senior Master Sgt. and Mrs. Craig Henry, 5th St. Terrace. The Yard of the Month award, presented from June to September, encourages military housing residents to help beautify Robins. The housing areas are divided into four sections, with five awards given monthly - three to non-commissioned officers and two to officers.

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

Family Support Center sponsored classes, workshops, and seminars are open to all Team Robins personnel and their eligible family members. The FSC is located on Ninth Street in Building 794. For additional information, or to make a reservation, call 926-1256.

Training Day

The FSC is undergoing a transformation process to better serve customers. In order to become proficient, the FSC will be closed for routine business every Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. In case of emergencies, there will be someone at the front desk in Building 794, or at 926-1256 to take your information and pass it to the appropriate FSC staff member. If you have concerns or questions, call FSC Director Christine Parker at 926-1256.

Base tour

The FSC is sponsoring a Base Tour for all Team Robins members and their eligible family members, Wednesday, 1 to 3 p.m. Those interested should meet at the Enlisted Club. The tour is designed to help the newcomers become acclimated with the base.

Federal resume writing class

The next Transition Assistance Program will be a Federal Resume Writing class Sept. 4., 1:30 to 4 p.m., Building 905, Room 139. The class is aimed at helping military personnel prepare a better document to meet the specific and unique requirements when applying for federal employment.

Advanced registration is required.

Heart link

A Heart Link seminar will be Sept. 5, 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Base Chapel annex. Heart Link is designed for people who have been Air Force spouses for five years or less. Experience a full day of fun and activities while learning how the Air Force works and your role in fulfilling the Air Force mission.

Sponsorship training

The Center's Relocation Assistance Program will offer training for both beginner and experienced sponsors Sept. 9, 9 to 10:30 a.m., Building 945, FSC Annex. The training provides information on what types of information to send to the PCSing member and where to obtain it; different ways to communicate with the inbound member; and sponsors are given vital information regarding his/her responsibilities to the newly assigned member and their family, if applicable.

Smooth move

The next Smooth Move workshop is Sept. 10, 8:30 to noon, in Building 905, Room 240. This program is designed for Air Force members on the move. It is three and ½ hours of information on how to get from here to there with the least amount of hassle, frustration, and stress. Representatives from Military Personnel Flight, Transportation Management Office, Accounting and Finance, the Housing Office, Legal Office, TRICARE, Family Advocacy, and Air Force Aid Society will be on hand to provide pertinent moving information and answer questions.

Salary negotiation class

A salary negotiation class will be Sept. 11, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Building 905, Room 123. The average person looking for employment presumes salary offers are predetermined and not negotiable. Because they may be uncomfortable talking about money, or unsure when or how to do so, the first salary offered is usually accepted. One concept discussed will be how and why inaccurately reflecting your qualifications and value to the employer affects salary offers. This session is designed to assist you in an overview of how to determine your worth and know if the salary is negotiable, including how to and when not to factor in benefits packages. Strategies and tips are provided to assist in overcoming your discomfort and empower applicants in gaining a better salary.

TAP workshop

The next three-day Department of Labor sponsored Transition Assistance Program Workshop is Sept. 15 through 17, 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. If you register for a session and find you can not attend, contact the FSC to cancel your reservation — there is a waiting list.

Community tour

The FSC is sponsoring a Community Tour for all Team Robins members and their eligible family members, Sept. 17, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Meet at the FSC. The tour includes a "windshield" of Macon's downtown and residential historic district with commentary on the history of Macon and its people, past and present.

Federal job class

Federal employment uses a different hiring system than the civilian sector. The "How to Apply for a Federal Job" class helps to increase hiring possibility by educating personnel about the variety of federal jobs, the qualifications and the classification process, and the steps involved in applying for these jobs. The next federal jobs class is, Sept. 17, 9 to 11 a.m., in Building. 905.

Resume construction workshop

The Transition Assistance program is offering a workshop on Resume Construction, Sept. 19, 9 a.m. to noon, Building 905, room 137. To attend this workshop participants must have attended the resume research and writing class. A hands-on approach is used for those who are struggling with the mechanics or having difficulty getting started. Participants bring prior job information to draw from, as they are walked through the steps; the objective is to have a draft completed by workshop's end.

SERVICES BRIEFS

Prism VI Survey

Robins personnel may receive a survey through the mail. If you are mailed this survey, complete it and mail it back promptly. Data from these surveys are used to improve Services facilities and programs for Air Force families and DoD civilians. If you have questions, call Linda Hinkle, marketing director, at 926-6662

Civilian Recreation

922-4415

■ A Lunch & Learn session will be Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. with Mary Gatti from the Alzheimer's Association. She will discuss "The Faces of Alzheimer's." The Lunch & Learn series is cosponsored by Civilian Recreation and Health and Wellness Center. Registration is required by only those wanting to dine and may be made by calling Lynne Brackett at 922-

4415 by Tuesday. Cost is \$5 per person with lunch or \$1 without lunch.

■ Register by Sept. 10 for singles and doubles fall tennis leagues to begin Sept. 15. The leagues are open to anyone 16 years and older in the Robins community to include active duty, retired, reserve military, DoD civilians, contractors and immediate family members. Cost is \$10 per person. For more information, call Lynne Brackett at 922-4415.

Information, Tickets and Travel 926-2945

The monthly yard sale to be held at the Smith Community Center, Building 767, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 6 has changed to Sept. 13 due to the air show. Cost of tables is \$7 each and should be paid for by the Saturday prior to the event. Tables can be set up beginning at 7 a.m. To make reservations, visit the ITT office, Building 767.

Outdoor Recreation

926-4001

Enjoy a gambling getaway in Biloxi, Miss., with Outdoor Adventure Nov. 9 through 12. The cost of the trip includes double occupancy with two free breakfasts and one dinner for \$175. Transportation departs Nov. 9 at 9 a.m. and returns Nov. 12 at 6 p.m. A \$50 non-refundable deposit is required. Register by Oct. 10. For more information, call 926-6527.

Smith Community Center 926-2105

A beginners Quilting 101 class will be held starting Wednesday for six weeks in the community center ballroom. Cost of the class is \$55 and will be held on Wednesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. and Thursdays from 1 to 3 p.m. Pre-pay is required before class begins. Students are required to bring quilting supplies. For more information, call 926-2105.

Robins in line for new store

By Holly J. Logan
holly.logan@robins.af.mil

Robins' new commissary will create a more customer-friendly environment for its military patrons, said Teena Standard.

The Jenkins Group, an architectural design firm out of Itasca, Ill., is expected to have the new store's design completed by year's end. Construction is scheduled to begin in late 2006, and the store is slated to open by winter 2007.

Standard, store director at Robins' Commissary, said although the existing facility's overall square footage is larger, the new store, measuring 67,000 square feet, will offer a larger sales area to meet shopper's needs.

"Every year the Defense

Commissary Agency in Fort Lee, Va., which oversees commissaries throughout the Department of Defense, reviews the function capabilities of each store," she said. "Due to the building's age and overall condition, Robins became a prime candidate for new construction."

The new store's sales area will receive a significant increase, aisles will be 8 feet wide, and there will be ground-level entry to the store for easier access. In addition to the store's usual stocked items, it will include more express lane access, a deli and bakery, and adequate parking for shoppers.

The Commissary, built in 1973, currently spans 70,500 square feet, which includes a 28,000-square-foot sales area for customer traffic flow and a 39,000-square-foot warehouse area.

Construction and other related up-keep costs of the new store will be funded by the 5 percent surcharge customers pay with each purchase made at the Commissary, said Standard.

According to Larry Allen, mechanical engineer with the 778th Civil Engineering Squadron's Design Division, the store's design will allow for a 25 percent future expansion to the facility and parking.

Allen said as new construction draws closer, the base soccer field will relocate near Robins Elementary School and other physical changes will occur.

The Commissary is open to all



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Teena Standard, store director, stands in front of Robins' Commissary. The store is scheduled to be replaced in late 2006.

"Due to the building's age and overall condition, Robins became a prime candidate for new construction."

Teena Standard, store director

What to know

Robins' Commissary is tentatively scheduled to open winter 2007.

It's currently located in Building 660, across from the new Base Exchange.

The store's new location will be directly in front of the existing store, and will provide direct access to the new BX.

For more information, contact Teena Standard, store director, at 926-2125, or visit www.commissaries.com.

active duty, retiree, Reservists and Guard members and their families.

While service members have a variety of grocery store choices, Standard said she hopes the new commissary will be the customers' number one choice for grocery shopping.

"We're a full-service commissary, here to meet all of our customers' grocery needs," she said. "We put our surcharge dollars to work to make it the best facility possible. The new store will help us to do this on a wider scale."

By the numbers

Current commissary

70,500
Square feet

6
-foot, 8-inch aisles

28,000
Square-foot sales area

New commissary

67,000
Square feet

8
-foot aisles

39,000
Square-foot sales area

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ROBINS BULLETIN BOARD

78th ABW Enlisted Promotion ceremony

The 78th Air Base Wing Enlisted Promotion ceremony is today at 3:30 p.m. at the Museum of Aviation Vistascope Theater. Col. Marvin T. Smoot Jr., 78th Air Base Wing commander, will host the ceremony. Those being recognized will be notified by their respective first sergeants. Commanders, supervisors, family members and friends are encouraged to attend. Show your unit's pride and spirit; come and join us in congratulating our new promotees. For more information, contact Senior Master Sgt. Editha S. Garcia or Senior Airman Jessica R. Jackson at 926-0792.

OSC bowling league

The Officers' Spouses Club fall bowling league will start Tuesday. To join the OSC bowling league as a regular or a substitute member, contact Mary Ann Cotton at 975-0764. The league bowls Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. at Robins Lanes. More information will be available at the OSC Activities Coffee today at the Officers' Club.

Legal Assistance office closing

The Legal Assistance office will be closed Friday in recognition of Family Day. If you have any questions or need further assistance, call Lori Fox at 926-3961 ext. 109.

MPF closing

The Military Personnel Flight will be closed Friday in observance of AFMC Family Day. The MPF will resume normal business hours Tuesday at 7:30 a.m.

Picture dedication

The Muslim base community will dedicate a picture of the Kabah in the Masjid Al Haram in Mecca to the

base chapel Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. in the foyer of the chapel. The picture will be dedicated in recognition of the base's Islamic community and the chapel's multi-faith support

American Red Cross Blood Drive

The second annual American Red Cross Blood Drive, hosted by Warner Robins Memorial Post 6605 and Auxiliary of the VFW, will be Tuesday from 2 to 7 p.m. at the Post Home, 1011 Corder Rd., in the ballroom (bingo room). Appointments are not necessary but are encouraged. Members of the Middle Georgia Stallions will be available for autographs, and, while supplies last, Sept. 11 Memorial Buddy Poppies will be given out. For more information, call Gary L. Hudgens at 923-8723.

Mouthguard clinic

A mouthguard clinic, hosted by the Dental Squadron, will be Wednesday from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Dental Clinic. Custom-fit mouthguards have proven to be instrumental in the prevention of mouth related injuries. An impression will be taken of the upper teeth, and you will be given an appointment to come and pick up the mouthguard. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Jay Snell at 327-8054.

Air Show weekend child care

Child care will be available for those detailed to work the Air Show and Open House weekend. Cost is \$3 per hour, per child with a \$6 non-refundable deposit. Reservations should be made by Tuesday by contacting the Family Child Care Coordinator at 926-6741.

CLEP testing changes

The CLEP, or College-

Level Examination Program, general English composition with essay will be withdrawn early in October. This will be the last opportunity to take this test. Since this test requires special ordering, at least four weeks prior to administration of the exam; any military personnel needing to take this CLEP test must contact the appointment personnel in the Base Education Office, by Sept. 4. Also, several CLEP general and subject tests will not be available after Nov. 24, therefore, plan now for completion of the following exams: CLEP generals: Natural science, College mathematics, English composition; CLEP subjects: Principles of accounting, College level Spanish language, History of U.S. I, and History of U.S. II. For more information, stop by the Education and Training Office, Building 905, Room 113, or call Cathy Touey at 327-7322

Science Under the Stars Lock-In at museum

The Museum of Aviation will hold its first Science Under the Stars Lock-In Sept. 5. Open to students in grades sixth through eighth, participants will experience hands-on science activities, rocket building, time in the portable planetarium and, weather permitting, outside viewing of the constellations. At 9 a.m. Saturday, the participants will launch their rockets. Afterwards, there will be shuttle service over to the Open House and Air Show. Class size is limited, and participants will be registered on a first-come, first-serve basis when a completed pre-registration form and a \$40 fee are received. Registration forms and acceptance letters will be sent to the applicants of the academy. The lock-in starts at 6 p.m. For questions or registration forms, contact

Martha Lockhart, Starbase Robins, Museum of Aviation, at 926-1769.

Thunderbirds' practice

The USAF Thunderbirds will be practicing Sept. 5 from 4 to 5 p.m. Traffic will not be allowed to enter or exit on Beale Road. All traffic will be directed to the west side of the runway (Gate 1 and Green Street). Beale Road will also be closed for certain periods Sept. 6 and 7 during their Air Show performance. If you have any questions, contact Master Sgt. Edward L. Glover or 1st Lt. Keith Quick at 926-6410.

Toyland grand opening

The Toyland grand opening will be Sept. 6. There will be an appearance by Sponge Bob Square Pants from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will also be a moonwalk, face painting and giveaways.

Operation Save-A-Child program

The 11th annual Operation Save-A-Child program will be Sept. 9 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Robins Elementary School. The program, sponsored by the 78th Medical Group, 78th Security Forces Squadron, and the Robins School System, offers a "one-stop" shopping concept for the following services: hearing, vision, dental, blood pressure, height and weight, and scoliosis screenings, immunizations, photo ID and fingerprinting for ID cards. McGruff, the crime prevention dog, and Alex the Alligator, the 78th Dental Squadron mascot, will be on hand to greet children. For more information, call Capt. Justine Tompkins at 327-8080 or Diane Betz at 327-8053.

Espectaculo Hispano!

Espectaculo Hispano!, a

picnic under the stars, sponsored by the Hispanic Heritage Committee, will be Sept. 13 beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Museum of Aviation amphitheater. Non-perishable food will be collected to benefit Meals on Wheels and Macon Rescue Mission.

Hispanic Heritage Month Observations luncheon

The Hispanic Heritage Month Observations luncheon will be Sept. 16 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Enlisted Club. Retired Lt. Gen. Leo Marquez will be the keynote speaker. For more information, call Joshua Peacock at 926-5485.

Officers' Hail and Farewell

A standup Officers' Hail and Farewell, conducted by Maj. Gen. Donald J. Wetekam, Center commander, will be Sept. 19 at 4 p.m. in the Officers' Club ballroom. Spouses are invited to attend the event and fellowship. For more information, contact Capt. Bernabe F. Whitfield, WR-ALC/MA, at 926-3703, or by e-mail at Bernabe.Whitfield@robins.af.mil.

FMA golf tournament

The Federal Managers' Association will host its' annual golf tournament at Waterford Golf Club Oct. 3 at 1 pm. Cost of participation is \$40 per player and includes green and cart fees, lunch and prizes. The tournament is open to both DoD and non-DoD persons. The format is a four-person scramble. Proceeds from the event will be used to fund college scholarships for high school graduates in the surrounding community. All WR-ALC employees are encouraged to participate and invite other members of the community to join in the fun. Entry dead-

line is Sept. 29. To sign up or for more information, contact Tena Dominy at 926-0793.

Girl Scouts leaders needed

Girl Scouts of Robins is in need of leaders and co-leaders. The troops meet on base. All interested persons should contact Alyson Dreer at 329-8099.

Recruiting airborne communications and electronics specialists

If you are currently a 1A3X1 and are looking for a career change, the 89th Airlift Wing at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., needs people to support crisis, contingency and continuity of government communications. This selectively manned unit supports DV airlift for the United States' senior executives with a fleet of 22 specially configured aircraft. For more information, contact Chief Master Sgt. Ed Moren at 89OG.OGK@andrews.af.mil or at DSN 858-4673.

Olmsted Scholar Program

The Olmsted Scholar Program provides an opportunity for a combination of at least five USAF Academy, OTS, or ROTC graduates to study a foreign language at a university abroad. If you are a junior line officer interested, contact the Military Personnel Flight customer service at 327-7362. AFPC deadline is Oct. 15.

Used car lot's new location

The used car lot has moved to the parking lot adjacent to Building 641 on Oak Street. Cost is \$10 for 15 days or \$20 per month. A valid ID and proof of vehicle ownership is required. Call 926-4001 for more information.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Bowling Center 926-2112

Fall leagues are forming now and play will begin in September. Registration will be held during normal operating hours until each league is filled.

Civilian Recreation 922-4415

Earn up to three free T-shirts with the walking program now underway through Civilian Recreation. Participants may call, write or e-mail Civilian Recreation for maps detailing different routes around their work area. Categories include "Walking to Macon" (20 miles), "Walking to Atlanta" (100 miles) and "Walking Across Georgia" (250 miles). Each time participants walk they need to record their mileage on a tracking sheet and the sheets must be turned in and certified by Civilian Recreation.

Golf Course 926-4103

Dogfight Thursdays are \$3 per person plus normal fees. For more information, call the Pine Oaks Pro Shop at 926-4103 or 923-7334.

Hockey

All youth age groups are needed for open in-line hockey Saturdays from 9 to 11 a.m., and youth ice hockey players are needed to form teams for the winter ice hockey league. For more information, contact Chief Frey at 926-3788 or Master Sgt. Bolish at 926-2221.

ITT 926-2945

NASCAR tickets are on sale at ITT for the Aaron's 312 Busch Race Oct. 25 and the Georgia 500 Winston Cup Race Oct. 26 at the Atlanta Motor Speedway. Cost for both races is \$45 per person.

Racquetball tournament

There will be a Commando Racquetball tournament, with double elimination Sept. 13 and 14 at Hurlburt Field in Florida. There's a \$10 entry fee. Sign up by Sept. 10. For more information, call DSN 579-6884.

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Aquanauts rise to the top at swimming nationals

Submitted

The Aquanauts sent swimmers to the United States Masters Swimming Nationals, the highest level of competition for masters swimming, for the first time Aug. 14 through 17.

The meet, held at Rutgers University in New Jersey, featured 130 teams.

Anna DeLozier, WR-ALC/PKOE, swam personal best times in every race. She placed second in the 800-meter freestyle, 400-meter IM, 200-meter IM, 200-meter backstroke, 100-meter backstroke, and third in the 50-meter backstroke.

She also set new Georgia State records in the 800 freestyle, 400 IM, 200 IM, and 200, 100 and 50 backstroke. DeLozier also set three new Dixie Zone records: 800-meter free, 400-meter IM, and 200-meter IM.

The Dixie Zone includes Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.

Tracy Burkholder, 116th OSS, placed 4th in the 50-meter breaststroke, 6th in the 50-meter freestyle, 8th in the 100 breaststroke, and 12th in the 100 freestyle.

For more information, contact James Parker at 929-8044.

Athlete gains more than fitness

By Maj. Matthew Mangan
355th Maintenance Operations Squadron

DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. –

Almost one year ago, I stumbled across the finish line of Ironman Korea, a 140-mile-long triathlon.

Crossing that threshold was the high-water mark of a great personal journey. While traveling to that point, I was fortunate to learn a few simple and universal lessons.

The first, hardest and most important lesson is we must maintain balance in our lives. Life has built-in warning signs when we are getting out of balance. When we ignore these signs, life has a way of correcting the out-of-balance situation whether we want it to or not.

In our work areas and home lives, if we concentrate too much on one area to the detriment of others, or attempt to carry alone a load we should share, life will provide us warning signs. Arguments with our loved ones, changes in personality, constant fatigue, forgetfulness and clumsiness should be rec-

ognized as warning signs to be heeded before we hurt those close to us, our co-workers or ourselves.

Often, we are blind to our own warning signs and need to rely on those around us to point them out. We must all be on alert to the symptoms of being out of balance and take care of one another.

Lesson two is we are all capable of so much more than we believe. The way to reach seemingly impossible goals is simply one step at a time.

Five years ago, I was 40 pounds overweight and closer to a heart attack than the finish line of any race. I vowed to start taking steps to reverse my sorry state and started with the modest goal of riding my bike home from work one day. Accomplishing that first goal set up the accomplishment of incrementally greater goals – riding once a week, riding every day, starting to run and soon, looping the flight line.

Each goal was built on the foundations of those previous goals and each was just slightly more ambitious than the last. Over the course of

four years, I went from an "average Joe" who got winded on the way to the fridge to an "average Joe" who was able to move continuously for 13-plus hours.

Anybody can do it with a little persistence and constant incremental progress. Set goals and enjoy each small accomplishment just as much as the big final goals.

Which brings up my final lesson – living life is its own reward.

Enjoying each day and the challenges met and overcome is what it's all about. Every day we see and accomplish hundreds of fantastic things. Take a second to enjoy these jewels, and then turn that energy toward your next goal or challenge.

– *Courtesy of Air Combat Command News Service*

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Do you sit next to a sports fanatic? Let us know - they could be featured in the paper. Call the Rev-Up staff at 926-2137 or e-mail us at robins.revup@robins.af.mil.

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Bronze star honors



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp

Above, Col. Tom Lynn, 116th Air Control Wing commander, pins the bronze star on Col. Thomas R. Moore as Maj. Mark A. Weber, who was also awarded the medal, stands by at Coats Hall Aug. 19. Moore, commander, 416th Air Expeditionary Group, 455th Air Expeditionary Wing, and Weber, commander, 416th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron, 416th Air Expeditionary Group, distinguished themselves in the support of Operation Enduring Freedom at StrongholdFreedom, Uzbekistan. Right, the bronze star represents participation in campaigns or operations, multiple qualifications, or an additional award to any of the various ribbons on which it is authorized.



 To see this story in streaming video, go to <http://www.robins.af.mil/pa/stream/index.htm>

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