

BASE BRIEFS OFFICIALS OPEN BEACHES

Fridays through Mondays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., people can visit limited areas of Surf, Wall and Minuteman beaches. The open-area boundaries are clearly marked and base officials will issue citations to people who enter closed areas. To date there have been two violations. Both violations were at Surf Beach. For more information regarding beach access or status, call the Beach Hotline at 606-6804.

ILLEGAL PARKING RAISES HAZARDS

Increased security levels and the parking restrictions associated with them have led people to begin parking on grassy areas surrounding their facilities. This prevents ground maintenance contractors from mowing the area. Additionally, as fire season approaches, this practice drastically increases the potential for vehicle catalytic converters to spark a blaze. For more information, call 606-2330.

MED GROUP NEEDS INSURANCE INFO

Throughout the month of April, 30th Medical Group patients should plan to arrive at least 25 minutes before their scheduled appointments. Clinic workers will collect third-party insurance information from patients who carry additional health insurance. Those who don't have additional insurance coverage must fill out the required forms too. For more information, call Capt. Vernon Swinton at 606-9076.

WING NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

The 30th Space Wing needs 20 more volunteers to march in the Salute to the U.S. Air Force Armed Forces Day Parade in Torrance, Calif., May 18. For information or to volunteer, call Public Affairs at 606-3595.

GC STAFF NEEDS DV ESCORTS

The Guardian Programs Office needs officers, second lieutenant through major, to serve as escorts for distinguished visitors from May 4 to 10. Volunteers must display strong military bearing and communication skills. All escorts must attend a meeting at the Vandenberg Center Thursday at 8 a.m.. This meeting is for administrative purposes and is mandatory for all escorts. To volunteer, call 1st Lt. Erick Fonseca or 2nd Lt. Joe Mannino at 606-2959 or 606-6035.

RANGE COMPLEX OFF LIMITS

The 30th Security Forces Squadron Combat Arms Range Complex, located off of San Antonio Road West, is off limits to all unauthorized people. Danger signs are posted around the hazardous area of the range complex. For entry, call 605-5025.

WAPS SCORES AVAILABLE ON-LINE

Enlisted members now have the ability to view their

See BRIEFS Page 4

Delta awaits green light for launch

Aqua satellite, booster ready but electrical test could delay launch

By STAFF SGT. REBECCA BONILLA
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

Team Vandenberg is scheduled to launch NASA's Aqua Earth Observing Satellite into polar orbit aboard a Boeing Delta II rocket in May.

The launch has experienced some delays caused by questions concerning the spacecraft's batteries and difficulty mating the payload to the spacecraft.

Issues arising this week may cause the launch date to change by a day or two.

In mid-March, questions arose as to whether or not the batteries on the spacecraft would hold a charge and last as long as they needed to.

"We did an extensive test that was evaluated by battery engineers to be sure they were holding the proper charge," said George Diller, Kennedy Space Center Public Affairs.

Testing on the batteries was complete last month and the batteries were pronounced healthy March 31.

Another issue arose when technicians experienced difficulty with the payload attach fitting, Diller said. The attach fitting is mated to the spacecraft and is then used to attach the spacecraft to the rocket.

That issue was resolved April 15 when the fitting was declared fit for duty.

With those issues settled, the launch was set for May 2. However, Monday a test between Aqua and the Delta II was not completed to the satisfaction of technicians. The test, designed to check out an electrical interface between the launch vehicle and spacecraft, was re-accomplished Thursday.

Pending the results of that test, launch officials will determine when Team V can proceed with a new launch date.

Aqua is a 6,248-pound satellite designed to gather information about the Earth's water cycle.

Information gathered will help world scientists determine if the cycle of Earth's water is being affected by climate change. Once in place, the Aqua mission is set to last six years.



Technicians prepare to raise the Delta II upper stage at Space Launch Complex 2 into position March 1.

New era begins for Space Command

CAPT. ADRIANE CRAIG

Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

■ PETERSON AFB, Colo. - For the first time in a decade, Air Force Space Command has its own commander.

Gen. Lance Lord took the reins of AFSPC from Gen. Ed Eberhart here today in a ceremony presided over by Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. John Jumper.

Secretary of the Air Force James Roche and Peter Teets, undersecretary of the Air Force, also attended.

It was almost unprecedented having the SECAF, CSAF and USECAF together at one event. All acknowledged they wanted to be on hand for the important and historic event.

"A separate four-star commander for AFSPC is a testament to the necessity and importance of our responsibility to carry out the recommendations of the Space Commission and assume our role as the executive agent for space," said Jumper.

"We take this special step today not for the sake of reorganizing, but simply because it is the smart thing to do for national security," said Teets.

Last year, the Space Commission recommended the duties of the AFSPC commander be separated from those of the Commander in Chief of North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Space Command.

Roche acknowledged that the change creates a strong lineup for space advocacy.

"The team of Secretary Teets, General Eberhart and General Lord will champion the realm of space for America," he promised. "Look for great things."

Eberhart will remain at Peterson as commander in chief of NORAD and USSPACE.

During the ceremony, Eberhart was recognized with the Distinguished Service Medal. He saluted the men and women of AFSPC for their selfless dedication in providing support 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

"There is not a soldier, sailor, airman, Marine or coast guardsman who goes into harm's way that doesn't benefit from what you do everyday. You make their operations more efficient, more effective and more lethal," said Eberhart, saluting the troops in forma



Gen. Lance Lord

See LORD Page 4

Gold Medal winners: Team Vandenberg hosts more than 200 Special Olympic athletes Saturday

By STAFF SGT. ANDREW LEONHARD
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

Team Vandenberg hosted the 2002 Special Olympics Harry Wood Area Games Saturday at the base athletic field.

More than 200 athletes and their families arrived at 8 a.m. from Santa Maria, Lompoc, Santa Barbara and other Central Coast communities to compete in the all-day event.

The games featured children from 8-years old to a 84-year-old adult with developmental disabilities.

Special Olympics is an international organization dedicated to empowering individuals with mental disabilities to become physically fit through sports training and competition.

This was the 14th time Vandenberg has opened its gates to hold the games.

"It's a great way to give back to our community and support this wonderful cause and these special athletes," said Capt. Trevor Flint, Special Olympics volunteer coordinator. "That intense desire to serve is so strong in those of us assigned to, and affiliated with, the military that it's just another way to get out and make a difference in our community and world."

Flint said, the base is in a unique position to provide all the logistical and personnel support for an event of this magnitude in a snice, tidy package.

"The amazing dedication and support from the base in numbers, quality of volunteers and in logistical support is great," said Brenda



Competitors of the 50-meter dash race to the finish line during the 2002 Special Olympics Saturday at the base athletic field.

Daniel, Santa Maria Recreation and Parks Dept. "The caliber of volunteers and their level of dedication are above and beyond what we find at other similar events."

Daniel said Vandenberg is why this event is so successful, year in and year out. "The Vandenberg volunteers are simply incredible and it's a pleasure working with all of them and knowing that every year, the Harry Wood Area Games will be a huge success," she said.

One first-time volunteer said she had a wonderful day. "I was touched by an angel by the name of Brian," said Louise Henle, Special Olympic escort volunteer. Henle escorted Brian Hallin, 54, from Lompoc.

"I really feel that the name Special Olympics fits this event. The

athletes are truly special, and I will never forget them or this day," Henle said.

Capt. John Wigglesworth, another first-time volunteer, said the Special Olympics gave him a chance to make a difference.

"The reward of being an escort is beyond what words can explain. The joy is on the faces of the athletes when they finished an event, received a medal or were just made to feel important," Wigglesworth said.

It took more than 520 Team Vandenberg volunteers to help put on the games.

According to Capt. Todd Moore, Special Olympics support and logistics coordinator. Some of their jobs were not easy, but

See SPECIAL Page 12

Base announces first quarter award winners

Team Vandenberg announced the 2002 first quarter award winners Thursday during the quarterly awards luncheon at the Pacific Coast Club.

More than 400 nominees, co-workers, supervisors and community leaders attended the luncheon honoring the hard work and dedication of Team Vandenberg's elite.

Nonappropriated Funds Civilians
Category 1- Brian Owen Fitness Center
Cat. 2- Michael Peterson Marketing
Cat. 3- Patricia McCullar Human Resources
Airman of the Quarter
Associate Unit- Airman 1st Class Yasmin Alvarez-Sanchez 392nd Training Squadron
30th SW- Senior Airman Virginia Prince 30th Range Squadron
Team Vandenberg- Prince 30th RANS
NCO of the Quarter
Associate Unit- Staff Sgt. Kevin Battles 595th Test and Evaluation Group

30th Space Wing- Tech. Sgt. Charles Spice 30th Operations Group
Team Vandenberg- Battles 595th TG
Senior NCO of the Quarter
Associate Unit- Master Sgt. Jeffrey Hall 576th Flight Test Squadron
Associate Unit Separate Operating Location- Master Sgt. Dinah Leonard 14th Air Force
30th SW- Master Sgt. Robert Webber 30th Civil Engineering Squadron
Team Vandenberg- Officer of the Quarter
Company Grade- Webber 30th CES
Associate Unit- Capt. Brian Henson Detachment 9, Test and Evaluation
30th SW- Capt. Michael Wascher 30th Medical Group
Team Vandenberg- Wascher 30th MDG
Team Vandenberg- Civilians of the Quarter
Category 1- Susan Haurly 14th AF
Cat. 2- Arsenia Flores 30th MDG
Volunteers of the Quarter
Active duty/DOD- Tech. Sgt. Charles Spice 2nd Space Launch Squadron
Military Family Member Volunteer- Evelyn Banks 30th Space Wing
Honor Guard
Rookie Airman- 1st Class Kevin Franklin 30th CES
Airman- Airman 1st Class Nimfa Mananggit 30th Transportation Squadron
NCO- Staff Sgt. Marvin Banks Jr. 30th OG

Volunteers honored for efforts

By STAFF SGT. ANDREW LEONHARD
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

Team V recognized nearly 1,000 members at the Volunteer Recognition Ceremony in the Pacific Coast Club Tuesday.

More than 150 attendees honored the dedication and community service of the 987 volunteers who gave up personal time during 2001 to help others.

During the event, three individual Volunteer Excellence Award winners were recognized: Lisa Salm, 2nd Space Launch Squadron, Tammie Byrd, 533rd Training Squadron and Patricia Gehres, Retiree Activities Center.

According to Teresa Orozco, Family Support Center, the Air Force established a Volunteer Ex-

cellence Award program to recognize military and federal retirees, current federal civilians and family members who perform outstanding community service of a sustained, direct and consequential nature.

During the ceremony Junior Girl Scout Jessica Little was awarded the first Girl Scout Bronze Award.

This is a new Girl Scout award eligible to junior girl scouts recognized for dedicated community service above and beyond, said Orozco.

"Little volunteered over 100 hours at the Lompoc animal shelter, far exceeding the requirement of 15 community service hours," said Orozco.

VOLUNTEER FACT:
987 Team V people volunteered 56,375 hours during 2001.



Vandenberg's 76th Helicopter Flight preps to "hover" above the competition at GC. See Page 3.



Team V hosts the 2002 Special Olympics Harry Wood Area Games. See Page 12.

Commander's Action Line

Mission success is our top priority, and the talented men and women of Team Vandenberg get it done with excellence.

Key to the effectiveness of any great team is good communication.

The 30th Space Wing Commander's Action Line is your direct communication link to me.

It provides an avenue for you to voice your concerns, share constructive ideas, or give your Vandenberg teammates a pat on the back. I appreciate your input, and I am personally involved in every response.

While the Commander's Action Line is a great way to communicate, don't forget there are many other avenues to get answers to your questions including your chain of command, first sergeants, base services officials and other base



**Col. Robert M. Worley II
Commander,
30th Space Wing**

professionals.

Thanks for helping to make Vandenberg such a great place to work and live.

When calling the action line, please leave your name and phone number in case more information is needed.

Phone 606-7850 or e-mail your message to actionline@vandenberg.af.mil

April ends, child abuse continues

Med Group encourages people to remain aware of issue throughout year

By **CAPT. JOËL BARCLAY**
30th Medical Operations Squadron

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Various events throughout the month have highlighted the issue. However, as April comes to a close, the topic should still remain in the forefront of people's minds.

Child abuse is a sensitive topic that is difficult for many individuals to discuss. It is vital, however, to get past this sensitivity and openly discuss this serious problem.

Increased community awareness is the single most important tool we have in combating child abuse. The more we educate ourselves, the better equipped we will be to protect our children.

There are four categories of child maltreatment — physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual

abuse and neglect. More than three million children suffer from one or more of these forms of maltreatment each year. Approximately six children per minute are abused or neglected in the United States, according to the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse. Of those children, eighty-five percent of victims know their abuser.

Physical abuse is defined as purposeful physical violence against a child by slapping, hitting, punching, kicking, shaking, burning and using objects to inflict punishment, or any other means that causes minor or major injury to the victim. An injury does not have to be visible for physical maltreatment to be present. Even though spanking is not considered abusive, a parent may spank their child while angry and not be aware of the force they are using.

This can cause unintentional but serious injury. If you leave a mark, it is considered abuse.

Emotional abuse can be just as devastating to a child as physical abuse. Though it leaves no visible scars, emotional abuse can deeply injure a child's self esteem. Emotional abuse usually involves a pattern of active, intentional berating, disparaging or other abusive behavior toward the child. This may include verbal assaults, belittling, threatening, blaming and humiliating. Children who witness parental abuse are also experiencing emotional abuse.

Sexual abuse of children can be physical or non-physical, and includes indecent exposure, peeping, fondling or intercourse. Child sexual abuse can occur with boys or girls of any age.

Neglect is willfully failing to provide for a child's emotional,

physical or nutritional needs, or failing to provide supervision.

"It is important that abuse and neglect be reported in order to ensure the child receives treatment to mediate the long term effects," said Julie Ramsey, family advocacy treatment manager. "It's also important that children understand that they never deserve to be abused. They do not cause the offender's behavior and they have worth as individuals."

Federal employees are required to report known or suspected child abuse. Base members that know or believe a child is being abused should call the 30th Medical Group's Family Advocacy Program at 606-5338. For unattended children or abuse in progress, call 30th Security Forces at 606-3911. After duty hours, members can call Command Post at 606-9961 and ask for the on-call mental health provider.

Action line 606-7850

EMERGENCY.....	911
Command Post	606-9961
Poison Control.....	800-876-4766
Clinic Appointments.....	606-2273
Information.....	411
After-hours Urgent Care.....	888-252-3299
TRICARE Services.....	800-242-6788
Health Care Information Line.....	800-611-2883
Pharmacy Assistance	606-7440
Pharmacy Refill (recording)	605-0200
Law Enforcement.....	606-3911
Housing Maintenance.....	734-5586
Child Development Center.....	606-1555
Youth Center	606-2152

SPACE & MISSILE TIMES CORRECTION

The *Space & Missile Times* incorrectly reported in a photo outline last week that Capt. Eric Ecker, 76th Helicopter Flight, was part of the recovery efforts in Sequoia National Park. The *SM&T* staff apologizes for any inconvenience.

By **LT. COL. PAUL WUEBOLD**
30th Support Group

The school year is just about over and summer vacation fun is just around the corner. The fun could be put on hold for students if safety is not considered.

According to school officials, there is a problem with some of the students taking the bus from Vandenberg not following the school bus safety rules. Not adhering to school bus policy could seriously injure or kill someone.

"We need parents to help in getting a handle on this problem," said Col. Robert M. Worley II, 30th Space Wing commander. "I would hate to see school bus service jeopardized."

Annually, there are approximately 475 serious school bus-

related injuries nationwide.

Additionally, there is an average of 11 students killed inside school buses.

These statistics are staggering when we consider how routine school bus transportation is and how much safer school buses are these days.

The vast majority of these injuries and deaths are caused by students who don't follow established rules. Lompoc Unified School District rules and regulations are similar in every way to other school districts across the country.

Rider rules include:

- ♦ Passengers must not leave their seat while the bus is in motion
- ♦ Unnecessary noise or commotion is not permitted on the bus
- ♦ There must be no tampering with bus or equipment
- ♦ All passengers must sit facing

the front of the bus

- ♦ Passengers are not to use vulgar or profane language
- ♦ Passengers are not to leave debris of any kind on the bus
- ♦ Passengers are not to shoot or throw anything while on the bus
- ♦ Passengers are not to put either head or arms out of the windows
- ♦ Passengers are not to smoke or light matches
- ♦ Passengers may not cross the street or highway to the rear of the bus
- ♦ Eating or drinking is not permitted on the bus

The driver is the first line of authority in enforcing these rules and continued disorderly conduct or persistent refusal to submit to the authority of the driver may cause the student to be denied transportation privileges.

There are video cameras on

today's buses that capture inappropriate behavior on film. The film is used to support the disciplinary actions of the driver or the school district. Parents are often amazed and embarrassed at the behavior of their child and other students when the video is shown. It is the desire of the school district and base officials that students and driver are offered and given a safe environment in which to be taken to school and work.

The goal every year is to be incident-free regarding bus transportation. This is almost always the case if the rules are followed.

Parental involvement is the first line of defense in ensuring this environment is achieved. Parents should remind students that bus transportation is a privilege and a convenience — not an obligation of the district.



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Helicopter team perfects flying precision during practice

Vandenberg pilots ready to smoke northern-tier competition from Minot, Malmstrom, F.E. Warren

By MASTER SGT. LLOYD CONLEY
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

The 76th Helicopter Flight team will soon take to the skies in an effort to snare its prey during Guardian Challenge 2002.

The Hawks began sharpening their claws last week for the 35th annual space and missile competition being held here next month to see who's the best of the best in Air Force Space Command.

"The training we're doing for GC 2002 is something we do every day," said 1st Lt. James Blanchard, 76th HF pilot for this year's team.

The 76th HF's role in GC 2002 involves, land navigation, a hover competition and aircraft reconfiguration, said Capt. Eric Ecker, 76th HF competition copilot.

"The land navigation contest is the bulk of competition points," said Capt. Matt Horin, 2001 GC competitor and this year's trainer. "So it's really



AIRMAN 1ST CLASS CANDICE ANGLIN

The Guardian Challenge 2002 team from the 76th Helicopter Flight practices for the hover competition portion of this year's quest to be named Air Force Space Command's best.

important we do well in that event."

Horin said the land navigation

portion is pretty broad. It might require the crew to fly tactical, which is flying a few hundred feet

off the ground using evasive maneuvers. They may also have to fly at night using night-vision-

goggles to designated locations on a map.

Ecker added that the hover competition is pretty intense and teamwork is absolutely necessary to navigate and complete the course successfully. It requires the crew to precisely maneuver a five-gallon bucket of water attached to the bottom of the helicopter through a corridor lined with barrels on either side. The bucket has to remain full and within the corridor.

The flight engineer, Staff Sgt. Marion Kuhn, concentrates on giving specific maneuvering instructions while the pilot flies the aircraft, Ecker said. The task couldn't be accomplished without strong teamwork.

Blanchard added that the skills used in the hover course are essential in rescue and recovery operations similar to the operation the 76th HF and Vandenberg fire protection flight emergency medical technicians participated in earlier this month in Sequoia National Park.

The other part of the competi-

tion requires the crew to change the configuration of their aircraft for a particular mission. Ecker explained that how they configure it depends upon the nature of the mission. He said it may be configured with a hoist for a rescue mission or with litters for a medical evacuation. Other configurations might be for range security in preparation for a launch or for fire support to combat brush fires.

Blanchard said that although the contest calls upon them to exercise skills they use day in and day out, Guardian Challenge training and competition helps to forge the team.

They work together to hone their skills as a team and synchronize their timing and coordination - a combination needed to equal last year's excellent performance.

The other 76th HF team member is crew chief Matt Presnell. The 76th HF team project officer is Capt. Deuce Mullen.

They'll be competing against helicopter teams from Minot AFB, N.D., Malmstrom AFB, Mont., and F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo.

Girl Scouts send love overseas

By 2nd LT. KELLY MASTERS
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

Two local Girl Scout troops put their heads together to find a way to send some goodness to Team Vandenberg members currently deployed overseas.

Vandenberg Space and Sea Junior Troop 748 and Brownie Troop 503 came up with the idea to send Girl Scout cookies. Fueled by a generous spirit, a plan was quickly developed and put into action.

Inspired by the efforts of the Boy Scouts who worked diligently to gather items to include in care packages that the Global Hearts Group sent out last November, the girls got to work said Jennifer Moore, mother and troop leader.

While they were selling cookies in front of the commissary, BX and shoppette, the girls asked members of Team V to buy an extra box of cookies, which would be sent to our deployed people.

They were able to collect 168 boxes of Girl Scout cookies at \$3 a box, said Moore.

The girls had their choice of working to collect cookie dona-



AIRMAN 1ST CLASS CANDICE ANGLIN

Brownies, Ashley Moore, Macy Palmer, and Brianna Goodman, helped collect more than 160 boxes of Girl Scout Cookies to send to deployed members of Team V.

tions for organizations that included homeless shelters and veteran groups but chose to collect for deployed people instead, said Moore. "This is their way of letting (the troops) know that we're thinking of them."

The girls agree. "We thought it would be good to send the cookies to troops - we knew that they would like them," said 10-year-old Brianna Goodman.

"Yeah, everybody likes cookies, especially the chocolate-

covered ones," said 10-year-old Ashley Moore.

The Girl Scouts hope that next year the number of Vandenberg's deployed troops is so low they will once again be able to focus on raising donations for other worthy causes.

However, the girls are prepared to return if needed.

"It was a lot of hard work," said 10-year-old Macy Palmer, "But we'll keep coming back for as long as their gone - we won't forget them."

Team Vandenberg Spotlight



AIRMAN 1ST CLASS CANDICE ANGLIN

Name: Staff Sgt. Jesus Ivan Garcia Ruiz
Assignment: Assistant NCO in-charge of materiel control section, 532nd Training Squadron
Hometown: Los Angeles, Calif.
Time on Vandenberg: 14 months
Time in service: 5 years
Why he loves his job: "As a support person, I am able to work with a squadron full of professionals outside my career field."

Supervisor's comments: "Staff Sgt. Garcia Ruiz has only been on the job for 10 months, but he has shown full potential for being a great leader," said Staff Sgt. Sheila White, NCO in-charge of the materiel control section. "His professionalism and dedication to his job and mission have not gone unnoticed. His commitment to excellence in every work opportunity is a model example for his peers."

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LORD: General looks to shape the future of space power

from Page 1
tion representing 14th Air Force, 20th AF, the Space and Missile Systems Center, Space Warfare Center and Headquarters AFSPC.

Lord, called "a warrior and a scholar with a diamond-sharp mind and a compassionate heart" by Roche, echoed these sentiments and outlined his vision for the command.

"We are at a critically important time in the already distinguished history of the Air Force Space Command," said Lord. The importance

and necessity of space power has been clearly articulated, and it's up to us to shape the future," said Lord.

"We will work hard as a major command to organize, train and equip our forces and fully 'flex our MAJCOM muscles' as a command that is skilled in air power, has expertise in space power, is a model of acquisition, and a leader in the integration of warfighting capabilities to achieve combined effects."

Lord is the first career space officer to head the command. A former vice commander and direc-

tor of plans for AFSPC, much of his career has been spent in the missile field.

His first duty assignment was as a Minuteman II combat crewmember with the 321st Strategic Missile Wing, Grand Forks AFB, N.D. His first command was for the 10th Strategic Missile Squadron at Malmstrom AFB, Mont.

"Putting the reins of AFSPC in the hands of a career space officer is a capstone step as we focus on national security space," said Teets.

BRIEFS: Range complex off limits, WAPS available on-line

from Page 1
Weighted Airman Promotion System scores online. The latest update of the virtual military personnel flight allows members to access their score information about 10 days after the release of results. New vMPF users will need to establish an account before using the service. The process only takes a few minutes. People can access the vMPF through the Air Force Personnel Center web site at

www.afpc.randolph.af.mil.

SATURDAY CLINIC HOURS CHANGE

The 30th Medical Group changed the hours of operation for the Saturday Clinic. Family Practice is open from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and the pharmacy is open from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Be advised that the appointments are for acute and routine needs only. Customers may schedule appointments by calling

606-CARE.

FREE CAR SEAT INSPECTION MAY 3

The Family Advocacy office conducts a free child car seat inspection May 3 from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Chapel One parking lot. The inspection is to help educate parents on proper installation of child passenger safety seats. For more information, call Valerie Andersen at 606-5338.

Team Vandenberg Civilian Spotlight



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1st CLASS CANDICE ANGLIN

Name: Sharon Hedman

Assignment: 2nd Space Launch Squadron

Hometown: Lompoc, Calif.

Time on Vandenberg: 13 years

Why she loves her job: "I have been working for the 2nd SLS for two and half years and every minute has been exciting. I love my job – going out to the sites and just seeing what goes on out there. Working with contractors, finance, logistics programs make this job a non-stop exciting place to be."

Supervisor's comments: "Sharon Hedman is a financial wizard," said Lt. Col. Clint Crosier, 2nd Space Launch Squadron commander. "She successfully executes a \$14 million budget that maintains 86 launch facilities, three space launch complexes and the wing's entire Atlas and Titan launch programs. I don't know how she does it, but every time we need money to keep a launch on track or fix a critical piece of equipment she always finds a way to make it happen. Last year, she put together an emergency-funding package for the Titan launch program that vaulted all the way to the No. 1 priority at Space Command. She brought home an extra \$2.5 million, which was a whopping 40 percent increase to our annual budget. No question about it...Sharon is the fuel that keeps our rockets flying high."

Vendor Day



PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN EDWARD BRALY

Frank Keeney, of TransStellar Inc., shows Mike Outmesguine some of his company's secure wireless networking equipment at Vendor Day 2002 April 18 at the Pacific Coast Club. More than 60 local small businesses featured displays and literature highlighting their respective companies.



AF leaders brief Congress about mobility plan

BY TECH. SGT. TIM DOUGHERTY

Air Force Print News

■ Air Force and congressional leaders met April 15 to discuss a long-range plan allowing the Air Force to meet America's military airlift requirements over the next decade and a half.

The plan includes modernizing or retiring some C-5 Galaxy and C-130 Hercules aircraft, and also includes buying more C-17 Globemaster IIIs to replace many of the retired transports.

"It's a win-win situation for the active-duty, Reserve forces, Guard and the nation," said Col. Brad

Baker, special assistant to the director of programs. "The Air Force is becoming more efficient and better able to support America's military airlift requirements by procuring new equipment such as the C-17 and C-130J while modernizing and standardizing the best of our older C-5 and C-130 fleets."

The plan, called the Mobility Roadmap, calls for a minimum fleet of 180 C-17s, and at least 150 new C-130Js. In addition, more than 280 older C-130s will be modernized, as will the best 112 C-5s.

AAFES gets new weapon in fight against shoplifting

■ WASHINGTON, D.C. — The

Army and Air Force Exchange Service can start demanding more compensation from those caught shoplifting thanks to a program written into the fiscal 2002 defense budget.

Military exchanges spend millions of dollars each year to foil shoplifters, including measures to deter and detect thefts.

The new program holds sponsors responsible for their family members' actions. Parents of minors caught shoplifting will be liable for the costs, AAFES officials explained. The administrative charge is separate, and does not dismiss shoplifters from criminal prosecution or military disciplinary action. (Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Editor's Note: For these news stories and more, check out the website www.af.mil.

**DON'T DRINK
AND DRIVE**
call
**Airmen Against
Drunk Driving
at 698-8822 or
698-8823.**

Whitewater rafting guides complete training on Kern

Outdoor Recreation ready to treat base customers to whitewater thrills

By CAPT. TOM KNOWLES
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

The mission is to guide four passengers down raging whitewater rapids with names like Satan's Slot, Dead Man's Curve and Bombs Away.

Most people contemplating such a feat would likely be stricken with fear and seriously reconsider. However, one adventurous group of 11 daringly tackled the rapids last week during Vandenberg's 2002 whitewater rafting guide school.

The school, held April 14 through 19, provided prospective Vandenberg rafting guides with the basic training needed to guide whitewater-rafting trips throughout the spring and summer.

"The 30th Services Squadron Outdoor Recreation trips offer a unique opportunity for Vandenberg members to experience the thrill of rafting the whitewater rapids of the Kern River," said Mike Michaud, Outdoor Recreation.

Instructor Jeff Martineau, 576th Flight Test Squadron, trained four new guides and saw six returning guides from previous seasons for refresher training.

Before students headed to the river to brave its rapids, they participated in extensive classroom training, which introduced them to a variety of fundamentals needed to become a guide.

"Students begin their training a lot earlier in the season by passing a physical fitness test which qualifies them to start training," said Martineau.

"Classes are then conducted in a variety of subjects including first aid, CPR, guiding fundamentals, emergencies and



CONTRIBUTED BY CAPT. TOM KNOWLES

Vandenberg whitewater rafters brave the rapids on a previous base rafting trip. To sign up for base rafting trips or for more information, call Outdoor Recreation at 606-5908.

rescues, and trip preparation."

Once the guides complete this phase of training, they head to the river and apply what they've learned.

For the past two years, the setting has been the upper Kern River, east of Bakersfield.

The 21-mile stretch of river has four

whitewater sections that vary in difficulty and provide an excellent training environment. Base-sponsored rafting trips also go to the upper and lower Kern River.

Students begin guide training as passengers and after demonstrating proficiency, move on to their "final

exams" — guiding the raft and its passengers single-handedly.

"We start them off with the smaller rapids, which provides an opportunity to test and polish the skills they've learned in a relatively low threat environment," said Martineau.

After gaining proficiency with the

smaller rapids, the students were introduced to the larger and more technical whitewater.

"It was awesome," said Tom Mayhall, 30th Communications Squadron meteorological navigation systems.

Mayhall, in his first year as a guide, described the experience as challenging but fun.

"At first it was difficult, because I wasn't familiar with the guiding techniques. But after you get the swing of things, it's really pretty easy. Overall, it was a great experience which I'd encourage others to try."

Now in its fifth year of operation, the rafting program has continued to grow and build upon its previous successes.

"We started the program by attending a commercial guide school in Northern California to gain our initial skills," said Michaud. "From that point, we incorporated lessons learned into our own training program, which is currently used to train our guides."

The old program pales in comparison to the new, improved program, which has grown to include the formal training program and more difficult whitewater trips.

"In the beginning, trips had included running smaller class two and three rapids located on the lower Kern River," said Michaud. "Since then we've expanded the number of sections we raft to both the upper and lower Kern, feature catered lunches and offer larger, more exciting whitewater rides varying from class two to four-plus." Rapids are classified from class 1, being the easiest, to class 5, the most difficult.

With their training completed, these adventurous guides are ready for the next rafting season to begin. For information or to sign up for trips, call Outdoor Recreation at 606-5908.

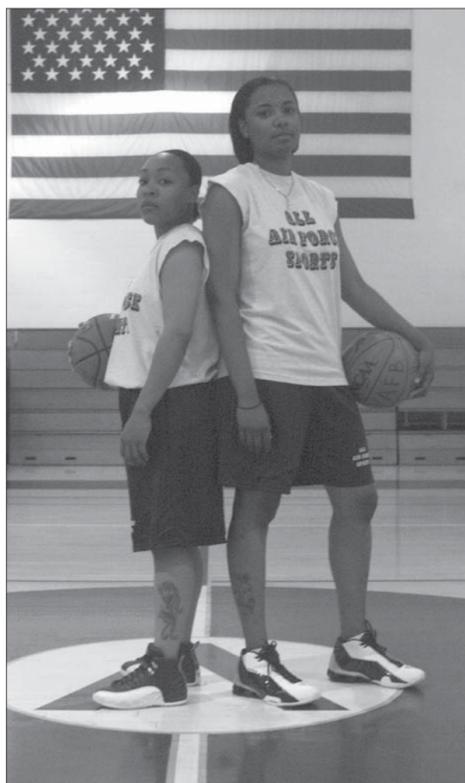


PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1st CLASS MICHELLE MIRANDA

Airmen set to slam dunk Air Force basketball trials

By STAFF SGT. ANDREW LEONHARD

30th Space Wing Public Affairs

Two Team Vandenberg airmen prepare to show off their skills this week in the 2002 All Air Force Women's Basketball Trial at Kirtland AFB, New Mexico.

Pasha McMurray and Latisha Eddins will match their basketball skills against more than 25 other hopefuls to make the 2002 Air Force Women's Basketball team.

The two 30th Security Forces Squadron troops will train and compete for three weeks in their attempt to make the elite team.

The trials are not new to McMurray or Eddins as they both attended the trials last year.

Last year was a bit disappointing for McMurray as the 5-foot-1 guard left camp early after suffering an injury. McMurray serves Team Vandenberg as an installation entry controller.

The injury hasn't softened McMurray's competitive spirit. "My goal is to lead the team to victory," she said. According to McMurray, last year the Army team stole the championship. "Not this year," she said.

Eddins keeps the records straight in the 30th SFS Reports and Analysis Section. At 5-foot-11, the power forward, did make the team last year. She said she did learn a lot from last year's trials.

"I learned more than basketball. I learned about life and how to reach my goals in adverse situations," Eddins said. "I also made life long friends."

Each of the airmen named Sheryl Swoopes, from the Women National Basketball Association Houston Comets as a player they look up to because of her determination and drive to excel.

Both women hope to use their own skill, determination and style to make the Air Force Women's team and lead it to an Armed Forces Championship this year.

Yankees beat Giants 16-3 in youth baseball season opener

By MASTER SGT. MARK LONG

30th Mission Support Squadron

In the season opener for Vandenberg's Major League Youth Baseball season, the Yankees chalked up a 16-3 win against the Giants here Saturday.

The Giants stared down the barrel of Yankees pitching ace Wesley Halton. They took the lefty for a ride as the Giants jumped out to an early 3-1 lead.

The Yankees battled back in the bottom of the second with a nine-run rally. Capitalizing on Giant errors, the Yanks

stretched out with a comfortable 10-3 lead.

Undeterred, the Giants fired back late in the game. Giavon Byrd stood at the plate with bases loaded and belted the ball. The Yankee's Mark Long II made an all-star play at second base, while Phillip Wuebold reeled in the ball at home plate stopping the Giants cold.

Long led the Yankees batting stats with two hits in two at-bats, three runners batted in and three runs. The Gilmore brothers, Ben and John, teamed up for three hits. Halton held the Giants to three hits.

Want to see more sports in your

SPACE & MISSILE TIMES

Tell us what your team's up to!

Submit stories and ideas to:

space&missiletimes@vandenberg.af.mil



S^{30th} Services

NEWS



ALL PART OF MISSION
FITNESS MONTH
STARTING IN May!

May 17

OPENING CEREMONIES START AT 8AM

FITNESS DAY May 17

Sponsored in part by



Events List:

- Tug-o-War • Horseshoes • Bench Press • Sit-ups
Home Run Derby • Softball Throw • Football Throw
Wheelbarrow Race • 3-Legged Race • Sack Race
Push-ups • 100-Meter Dash • Dizzy Bat
Hula Hoop • Egg Toss • and More...

No Federal Endorsement of Sponsors Intended.

DISNEYLAND® RESORT Accommodations Offer Extended Until June 13, 2002

U.S. active military personnel are eligible for special military rates at the Hotels of the Disneyland® Resort in California. The starting rates per night are Sunday - Thursday at Disney's Paradise PierSM Hotel for \$79, Disneyland® Hotel for \$99 and Disney's Grand Californian Hotel® for \$149. Friday and Saturday rates per night start at Disney's Paradise PierSM Hotel for \$99, Disneyland® Hotel for \$119 and Disney's Grand Californian Hotel® for \$179. Rates do not include the resort fee or applicable taxes and are valid through June 13. The number of rooms available at these rates is limited. For more information or to make reservations, military personnel may call (714) 956-MICKEY and reference the Military promotion rate plan MLT. Subject to availability, not valid with other offers or discounts, and advanced reservations required.

POOL

NOTICE:
The Swimming Pool will be closed for repairs from Monday to May 3.

GOLF

Callaway Golf
will have demos available at the Marshallia Ranch course Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Coming soon... Spalding Demo Day, May 4!



Be A Family Child Care Provider!

Have a profitable career caring for children in your home!
A profession where one person makes a difference!

What Is Family Child Care?

Family Child Care is the regular care of a child or children in the home of another family.

Why Be A Family Child Provider?

A good way to provide playmates and companionship for your own children
A way to add to the family's income without having to work outside of the home
You may be caring for the child of a neighbor or friend because you enjoy children and having them in your home.

How Do You Become A Provider?

1. Complete an application
2. Complete Family Care Orientation training
3. Complete training in CPR and First Aid
4. Obtain a valid Food Handler's Certificate and Health Certificate
5. Have high school diploma or GED
6. Have approved home inspections/background screening
7. Be responsible for on-going monthly training

How Does The Family Care Child Office Help?

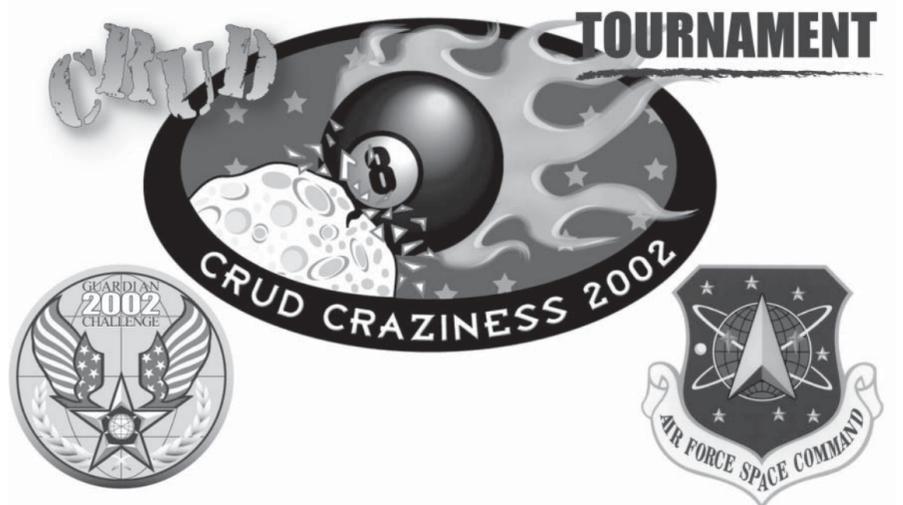
- Sponsors classes and workshops in child development
- Provides a lending library for resources, such as child size furniture and other age appropriate toys
- Provides a referral list for child care will be a listening ear and support

For more information on becoming a licensed FCC provider, contact FCC Coordinator Gwendolyn Jones at 606-4639 or 606-3255.

YOUTH SPORTS

YOUTH INLINE HOCKEY LEAGUE!

Are you interested in joining a Youth In-line Hockey League? Youth Sports is looking for kids ages 7 through 16 to join a league on the new roller hockey rink. If this is something you would like to sign up for, call the Youth Center at 606-2152.



Pacific Coast Club

“CRUD Craziness...Catch It.” Come on out, support and compete against our Guardian Challenge CRUD teams as they practice for the AFSPC championship tournament sponsored by Headquarters Air Force Space Command at Vandenberg AFB, May 6. We've got great beverages and Foggio's specials too, so come have some FUN!
Questions? Contact the CRUD POC, Lt. Col Sharp, at 606-9882.

BOWLING

SATURDAY - Adult-Junior MOONLIGHT NO-TAP DOUBLES TOURNAMENT with divisions. Check in 5:30 p.m. and bowl at 6 p.m. Cost is \$10 per doubles entry.

BREAKFAST - is served at the Bowling Center Monday through Friday from 6:30 to 10 a.m.

OUTDOOR RECREATION

MAY 4 - Horseback Trail Ride at the Circle Bar-B-Ranch 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$40 per person. Ages: 7 years and up.

For more information, call Outdoor Rec at 606-5908.