

## Base Briefs

### BEACH HOTLINE PROVIDES UPDATES

Surf Beach violation total continues to stand at 16 while minuteman carries one. The maximum limit at Surf Beach is 25 violations. The maximum at Minuteman is five. When the limit is reached, the respective beach will close until Sept. 30, the end of the Western Snowy Plover nesting season. The open-area boundaries are clearly marked and base officials will issue citations to people who enter closed areas. Normal beach hours for Wall, Minuteman and Surf beaches are Friday through Monday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information regarding beach access or status, call the Beach Hotline at 606-6804.

### CLOSURE ALTERS BASE ACCESS

El Rancho Road is closed until June 24 for drainage and road repair. During the closure, Titan Gate is open for access to North Vandenberg.

### COMM CLOSED FOR PICNIC, CEREMONY

Visual Information Customer Service (Photography and Graphics, Bldg. 12000, 2nd Floor) is closed all day June 14 for their annual picnic. Customer service is closed from 9:30 a.m. to noon June 18 for 30th CS change of command. For more information, call 606-5801.

### TRANS PROVIDES RIDES TO EVENT

The 30th Transportation Squadron will provide bus shuttle service to the Lompoc Flag Day ceremony today. Buses will pick up passengers at the Sesto Auditorium Parking lot and at the Parade Grounds at 10 a.m. and will return around 1 p.m.. The ceremony is from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and will feature the Vandenberg Honor Guard, Maj. Gen. Michael Hamel, 14th Air Force commander, Col. Robert M. Worley II, 30th Space Wing commander and 30th SW Command Chief Master Sgt. Michael Morey.

### COMMANDER TO CONDUCT POPS

Col. Robert M. Worley II, 30th Space Wing commander will be the guest conductor for the Lompoc Pops Orchestra concert, celebrating country and folk music of America, June 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the Trinity Church of the Nazarene, 500 East North Avenue. Master Sgt. Quinn Johnson will sing the National Anthem. Call Diane Siminski at (805) 236-9365 for ticket information.

### GROUP ASSISTS FAMILY MEMBERS

Spouse's of deployed, remote-tour and extended-duty members are invited to join other spouses at Cocheo Park from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday for a picnic. Food will be provided as well as the chance to learn about programs available on base. The event is sponsored by the 30th

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## Officials announce promotion release dates

■ **RANDOLPH AFB, Texas** — Air Force officials plan to release the list of newly promoted technical and master sergeants June 27 (June 28 for those units across the international date line).

The list of new staff sergeant promotions is set for release Aug. 14.

Lists of those selected for promotion will be available on the Air Force Personnel Center's home page by 4:30 p.m. CDT June 28 and Aug. 15, respectively.

To allow as many deployed airmen as possible to be considered in the regular promotion cycles, the announcements were delayed from the originally scheduled dates, said Air Force officials.

The delays, however, will have no effect on the promotion effective dates: Aug. 1 for technical and master sergeants and Sept. 1 for staff sergeants.

Delays resulted from the Air Force allowing extra time for deployed and returning airmen to test, said Air Force officials.

"We want to make sure we consider as many people as we possibly can so when we run the selection list it will closely mirror what it would look like if 100 percent of the eligibles had tested in the normal timeframe," said Senior Master Sgt. Nathalie Swisher, chief of the enlisted promotion management section at AFPC here.

"This ensures the Weighted Airman Promotion System continues to be fair and equitable for all (non-commissioned officers) competing for promotion," Swisher said.

AFPC will release the major promotion list June 20.

## NOAA-M ready for June 24 launch

BY STAFF SGT. REBECCA BONILLA

30th Space Wing Public Affairs

■ As Team Vandenberg and Lockheed Martin countdown toward the next Titan II launch, scientists have been busy readying a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration satellite for its June 24 flight.

Sometime during a 10-minute launch window that opens at 11:22 a.m., the rocket will carry the satellite, dubbed NOAA-M, into polar orbit.

This is the last scheduled launch of a NOAA satellite on board a Titan II booster.

Its instruments will observe the Earth and provide global data for users whose requirements include short-, medium-, and long-range weather forecasts. Paired with another polar orbiting satellite, NOAA-M will monitor the entire Earth, providing data on temperature, humidity, ozone and clouds.

In preparation for the launch, NASA's spacecraft processing team prepared the satellite in a clean room, here with sterile conditions rivaling those of a hospital operating room.

"We want to make sure we do not introduce contaminants that may lock up the optics," said Rafael Gomez, Lockheed Martin Astronautics deputy program manager.

In what could be a scene from a science fiction movie, the team wears head-to-toe snow-white "bunny" suits over their clothing.

They must avoid a myriad of items that

See NOAA Page 4

**NASA engineers and technicians complete the final preparation stages of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration satellite processing in a clean room. The NOAA-M launch is scheduled for June 24 on board a Titan II booster. This will be the last launch of a NOAA satellite on a Titan II booster.**

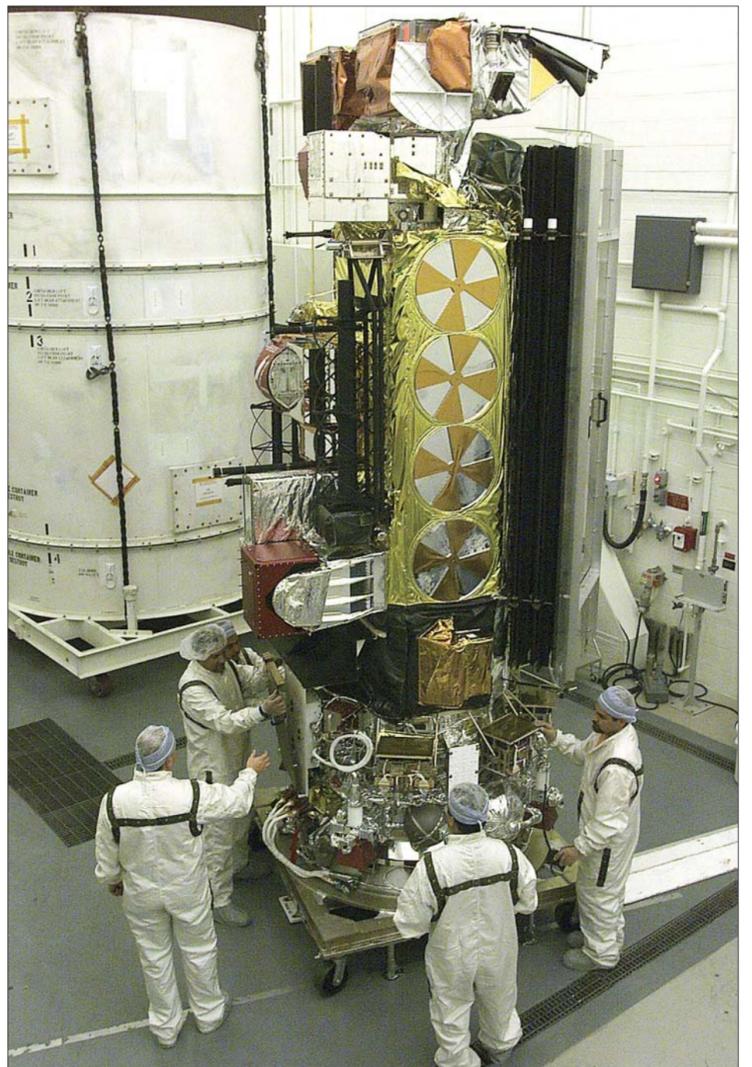


PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS CANDICE ANGLIN



PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN APRIL MUNIZ

Members of the 30th Security Forces Squadron carry the Special Olympics Flame of Hope through the base Tuesday as part of the California Law Enforcement Torch Run.

## Cops carry 'Hope' on six-mile run

BY MASTER SGT. TY FOSTER

30th Space Wing Public Affairs

■ More than 20 of Team Vandenberg's security forces professionals joined their civilian counterparts Tuesday for the Southern California Law Enforcement Torch Run.

California Highway Patrol officers handed the torch to base cops at the Missile V. They carried the torch six miles through the base, out the Lompoc Gate and down Santa Lucia Canyon Road where they handed it off to Department of Justice corrections officers at the Lompoc Prison.

The torch arrives in Long Beach today for the 2002 Special Olympics Summer games opening ceremonies at California State University.

This year's Torch Run involved more than 3,500 officers from local, county, state, federal and military agencies. They carried the torch more than 1,500 miles through 200 communities in California.

Now in its 21st year, the run was the brainchild of Chief Richard LaMunyon of the Wichita, Kan., Police Department, according to the official Law Enforcement Torch Run

Website. There were only eight officers in the first run and no money was raised.

Today, there are more than 100 separate runs in more than 30 countries. About 70,000 law enforcement personnel raise more than \$18 million in what has become the largest grassroots fundraising event for Special Olympics, according to the Website.

According to Staff Sgt. Derek Greene, 30th Security Forces Squadron assistant NCO in charge of training and base Torch Run coordinator, this is the sixth year 30th SFS cops have supported the event.

"Vandenberg assisted in raising just over \$4,000 by working events such as the Red Lobster 'Cops & Lobsters' charity drive and by selling Special Olympics Torch Run hats and T-shirts," Greene said.

All funds raised by law enforcement members go directly toward Special Olympics program support and development, expenses for athlete participation in local, regional, state and international competitions as well as training workshops and conferences.

## Three 2nd SLS maintainers named best in command

*Squadron makes history sweeping AFSPC awards*

BY CAPT. DAN WETMORE

2nd Space Launch Squadron

■ The 2nd Space Launch Squadron recently added to its growing list of achievements when it ran away with Air Force Space Command's 2001 Spacelift Maintainer of the Year competition.

Tech. Sgt. Kevin Schnicker, Master Sgt. Dave Erb and Capt. Carlos Dalmau, defied all odds and swept their counterparts at Patrick AFB.

This award is given each year to the NCO, senior NCO, and company grade officer who displays the most outstanding accomplishments in the areas of primary duty, leadership, community service, and self-improvement.

"What a tremendous accomplishment for these three individuals and the 2nd SLS maintenance team," said Col. Robert M. Worley II, 30th Space Wing commander.

"First they took the best spacelift maintenance title at Guardian Challenge for the second year in a row, and now they make a clean sweep of the AFSPC annual Spacelift Maintenance Awards," he said. "Who can argue with the fact that we have the finest spacelift maintenance team in the world right here at Vandenberg?"

This was the first time ever that a single squadron swept all three annual AFSPC maintenance categories.

"It's like having a maintenance all-star team right here in one squadron," said Lt. Col. Clint Crosier, 2nd SLS commander.

"That's just amazing," Crosier said. "Working closely with each as I do, I'm not sure there is any challenge these three can't overcome or any goal they can't accomplish when they take it on."

Schnicker, a spacecraft maintenance controller, who was chosen as AFSPC's NCO Spacelift Maintainer of the Year, synchronized all mission power needs for three launch pads as the squadron facility power lead. He oversaw 15 satellite procedures for a Titan IV launch, upheld the ops tempo by expediting repair of a burned-out power line during the pre-launch system verification, and authored the first-ever comprehensive Atlas Satellite Controller training program. He accomplished all this during the highest ops tempo in squadron history.

Erb, the Support Flight Superintendent, garnered honors as the AFSPC Senior NCO Spacelift Maintainer of the Year. As se-

ond in command of one of the most diverse maintenance flights in AFSPC, Erb managed more than 200 projects and 20 facility modifications worth more than \$6 million during 2001. Working in the most environmentally stringent county in the country, he ensured 100 percent compliance while managing the environmental programs for 86 facilities.

Dalmau, the Generation Flight commander and winner of the AFSPC Spacelift Maintenance Officer of the Year, spent 2001 leading the largest flight in the 30th Operations Group.

The captain was directly responsible for the on-pad maintenance and generation of three separate rockets, including the Department of Defense's number one spacelift priority launch of a National Reconnaissance Office satellite only three weeks after the Sept. 11 tragedy.

As the 2nd SLS embarks on an unprecedented schedule to launch four missions in the next seven months, including the historic last missions of both the Atlas and Titan II programs, this team of award winners will put their expertise to work.

**"Who can argue with the fact that we have the finest spacelift maintenance team in the world ... ?"**

Col. Robert M. Worley II  
30th Space Wing, commander

### AWARD RECOGNITION FEATURE ARTICLE

The Space & Missile Times will recognize all unit and individual Air Force-level awards that Team Vandenberg has received for 2001.

The deadline for submitting award information for this feature is June 28. Publication is

slated for July 12. Late submissions will run on a space available basis.

For information, call 606-2040 or e-mail award information to space&missiletimes@vandenberg.af.mil.

In this issue of the



Also view The Space & Missile Times at [http://www.vandenberg.af.mil/30sw/news/space\\_times/index.html](http://www.vandenberg.af.mil/30sw/news/space_times/index.html)



Suicide is the second leading cause of death in the Air Force. You are the difference. See Page 3.



Team V's youth enjoy day of fun. Softball and baseball seasons ended Saturday. Page 5.

Weekend forecast  
Low clouds in the morning and evening with clear afternoon skies.



Low/High  
43/71  
For a full VAFB weather report visit [www.vandenberg.af.mil/30sw/organizations/30og/weather/weather\\_index.html](http://www.vandenberg.af.mil/30sw/organizations/30og/weather/weather_index.html)



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS CANDACE ANGLIN

When people trespass into closed areas, violations are incurred by the base. When Surf Beach violations exceed 25, Surf closes until Sept. 30, the end of plover nesting season.

# Violations: Dangerous sign of the times?

BY TECH. SGT. CHRIS GILDERSON  
30<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron

Signs. They tell us where to go, where not to go, how to get there and how much it costs.

Why is it, then, that some people ignore these time-, money- and sometimes life-saving tools?

It's no different at Vandenberg.

Our beaches, for example, are dangerously close to being closed for the summer.

Why? People are disobeying the warning signs, barriers, and fences surrounding the open beach areas.

During the Western Snowy Plover nesting season, from March 1 to Sept. 30, beach access is limited to protect the threatened species' critical habitat.

In order to allow access, base officials agreed to post signs, hire security patrols and erect fencing to clearly delineate the open area boundaries.

Some people are ignoring the clearly marked signs and boundaries causing the violation count to rise.

Per agreement with the U. S.

Fish and Wildlife Service, each of the base's three beaches has a threshold limit. If the limit is reached, the beach is closed.

So far there have been 16 violations in the closed areas of Surf Beach. The threshold is 25. Minuteman has one violation and a limit of five.

At the current violation rate, Surf will close before the Fourth of July weekend.

Signs at the beaches aren't the only ones being bypassed.

Some people don't obey street signs and barriers.

Have you ever seen someone drive around orange cones to get into a closed parking lot; drive around barriers to go down a closed street; or lift their mountain bike over a fence to ride the trails on the other side?

Like any other, those signs and barriers are there for a reason.

It might be to prevent injury due to hazardous conditions.

They could be in place to maintain national security.

Or, in the case of Lompoc Casmalia Road and the base beaches, they could be there to protect threatened or endangered species.

Investigations show most

violators hike, bike or ride their horses right past the signs and barriers as if they don't apply to their particular situation.

Signs and barriers apply to all of us – whether walking, riding or driving.

Anyone who disregards the limitations or guidance or a posted sign could receive citations, fines, jail sentences or loss of base privileges for their violation.

Like many lapses of judgment, these violations carry penalties that can hit a person where it hurts – their wallet.

Entering an area closed for the protection of endangered species could result in fines up to \$5,000.

If your unlawful entry results in the death, injury, or harassment of that species, the fines and up to a year in prison.

So do everyone a favor – if you see a sign, take the time to read and heed it.

If you see someone turning a blind eye to a posted sign – help us out – get them headed in the right direction.

Your actions could keep the beaches open for the remainder of the season, save a life or keep your money in your pocket.

# Commander's Action Line



Col. Robert M. Worley II  
Commander,  
30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing

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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 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.

Call or e-mail: **606-7850** E-mail your message to [actionline@vandenberg.af.mil](mailto:actionline@vandenberg.af.mil)

# Crash lands senior NCO in hospital

Proper seatbelt use proves critical to minimizing injuries

BY MASTER SGT. JEFF BOHN  
90<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Public Affairs

The first thing I remember about Mother's Day 2002 was the warning, "don't stare at the light."

Then, I saw the advisory sticker on the inside of a computerized axial tomography machine – also known as a CT Scan machine. The sticker confused me, because I had no idea why I was reading it, where I was or how I got there.

The pieces came together shortly thereafter as I talked to passing nurses, attendants and police officers in the hospital's emergency room. Suffering from a concussion, I tried to make sense of all that was going on around me, and, after asking repeated questions, I started to retain some sense of the situation. I was a victim of a multi-vehicle car accident.

According to the pieces of the puzzle revealed by witnesses of the accident, sometime around noon I was driving to a hardware store and passed through an intersection. They said the light was green for me, but another

vehicle apparently didn't see it that way.

Estimated at 35 to 40 mph, the small sedan struck my sport utility vehicle broadside at the driver's door. The forceful broadside collision slid my vehicle five to 10 feet down the road and tore my right front tire off of the rim.

I didn't remember any of the accident or the events that happened that morning.

A woman in the emergency room asked my name, and then said she was sorry. I didn't understand why then, but later I realized it was she and her husband who "T-boned" me with their automobile.

More than four hours later, I left with my supervisor to start a 12-hour observation to make sure I didn't stop breathing due to my concussion.

First, we went to get the keys to my house, which were still in my wrecked vehicle. When we got to the wrecking yard, I saw torn metal. Plastic littered the driver's side and the interior of the cab. The remains of a cheeseburger were pasted on the seats. I didn't remember a

moment of it.

The only physical reminder I have is a sore neck and head, but no cuts, visible bruises or broken bones were apparent. I thank my vehicle manufacturer for doing their part in creating a structurally sound vehicle that protected my driver's side paneling from crumpling on top of me.

Without restraint I would most surely have been thrown against the passenger side door and window. Had it not been for the shoulder restraint, the thump on the head from whip-lashing the driver window glass would've been great enough to shatter through the window, doing who-knows-what to my head, neck and shoulder.

The airbags touted as being a lifesaver for adult drivers didn't deploy because it was a side impact.

For 16 years I was a firefighter who had pulled many people out of crashed cars in horrific damage.

I never thought it would happen to me, but it did, and I'm alive to tell my story. Seatbelts save many more lives than they hurt. I'm certainly thankful I wore mine.



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30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Commander

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Questions regarding the paper can be directed to the Space & Missile Times staff at (805) 606-2040.



**Heard a rumor?  
Get the facts!**

During crises or emergencies, call the Vandenberg rumor control line at 606-1857.

**DON'T DRINK & DRIVE**

Call

**Airmen Against Drunk Driving  
at 698-8822 or 698-8823  
FOR A FREE RIDE HOME!**



**DON'T DRINK & DRIVE**

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at 698-8822 or 698-8823  
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# SUICIDE: Captain shares losses, prevention measures

By MASTER SGT. TY FOSTER  
30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Public Affairs

Suicide is the second leading cause of death among active-duty Air Force members, surpassed only by unintentional injury.

Last year, three Air Force Space Command active-duty members committed suicide and 11 others attempted to kill themselves.

Awareness is the key to prevention.

"The more people know about risk factors and what to do or say to someone who is going through a difficult period helps to significantly reduce the threat of someone making an impulsive decision to end their life," said Capt. Chad Johnson, 30<sup>th</sup> Medical Group Suicide Prevention Officer.

The captain speaks from personal experience. "Suicide has hit home for me on more than one occasion," he said. "I have lost a close friend, a co-worker and associates."

From their perception, he said, all of them felt their problems had become overwhelming and unmanageable.

"They could not see the proverbial 'light at the end of the tunnel,'" he said.

Unfortunately, people don't alter how they approach suicidal actions until it affects someone in their social circle, he said.

How can someone tell when a person is in significant distress? "The best indicator is that they no longer seem like

**NEED-TO-KNOW PHONE NUMBERS**

- There are several sources of assistance available here:
- ♦ Integrated Delivery System: 606-0039
- ♦ Life Skills Support Center: 606-8217
- ♦ Chaplains: 606-5773
- ♦ Family Advocacy: 606-5338
- ♦ Family Support Center: 606-0039

themselves," Johnson said. "Normally people are able to deal with situations that arise with a minimal amount of noticeable stress."

One of his friends was overwhelmed by her crisis.

"When she began having trouble, it seemed to me like the problems she was facing were manageable and that anyone would be able to work through them and move on," he said. By the time he'd learned that she didn't have the skills to cope with her stressors, it was too late.

"She began to drink heavily, isolate herself and she seemed to lose interest in things that I knew were important to her," the suicide prevention officer said.

Alcohol abuse is a high risk factor alerting a potential vulnerability to suicide. Other high risk factors are: substance abuse, financial and legal problems, few social ties or loneliness, prolonged unmanageable stress, and feelings of

depression or worthlessness. Never assume a person can handle everything on their own, Johnson said, suicidal people are completely overwhelmed by their current crisis.

The most commonly associated factor with suicide in the Air Force is problems in intimate relationships, including marital and dating relationships.

Another misconception about suicide is that those who talk about suicide will not do it.

A key signal of distress is obsessing or talking about death, dying, and violence as well as purchasing firearms or other weapons.

"In the vast majority of cases, the person has sent out signs about possible suicide. A plan to end one's own life is an extremely ambivalent process," said Maj. Stephen Tueller, Life Skills Support Center flight commander. "The most dangerous time comes when the person actually makes the decision to carry out the plan."

By then, loose ends are sewn up, possessions are given away, and suicide notes written.

"The goal is to train people to recognize the warning signs and inquire," Tueller said.

Other significant signs someone may need assistance include withdrawing from friends and family or suddenly making amends with others, sudden changes in behavior or losing interest in work or usual activities.

What can we do to help? "A common misconception about suicide is that talking



PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN APRIL MUNIZ

**Alcohol and substance abuse are indicators that someone is at high risk for committing suicide. Every 18 minutes a person commits suicide. It is the second leading cause of death in the Air Force. A common misconception is that talking with someone about suicide will give them the idea to harm themselves. Much to the contrary, early intervention helps people realize their situation is temporary while death is not.**

about it with someone will give them the idea to harm themselves," Tueller said.

Others base their lack of action on the belief that if someone has decided to harm him or herself there is nothing they can do to change their mind. Both of these are myths and create barriers to suicide prevention.

"Talking with someone directly about suicide is among one of the most helpful things you can do," Johnson said.

Most people contemplating

suicide are seeking an end to the emotional pain they are experiencing, not an end to life, he said.

"Talking with them may open doors to assistance to help them through their distress," Tueller said.

The key to the prevention of suicide is early intervention.

"Seeking personal assistance and encouraging others to do the same when having difficulty coping helps prevent more serious problems from developing," he said. "The Air Force fosters self-help behavior and in

cases where members have sought help on their own, the overwhelming majority – 93 percent – never have their careers impacted."

If serious warning signs are present, including threats of suicide with a plan, do not leave the person alone, call 9-1-1 or seek emergency services immediately, he said.

Suicide prevention lies with everyone within the Air Force community.

"Reaching out to one another builds strong communities and families and ultimately saves lives," Johnson said.

## Firefighter organizes tournament, raises \$15,000 for burn survivors

By STAFF SGT. REBECCA BONILLA  
30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Public Affairs

■ A Vandenberg firefighter led the charge to raise \$15,000 to support an organization dedicated to assisting burn victims.

Spearheading a golf tournament to benefit the non-profit Firefighters Quest for Burn Survivors, Greg Leptich surpassed all expectations.

The Avila Beach event drew participants from throughout Southern California and earned \$20,000.

When the Vandenberg Fire Department began contributing to the organization, the average annual donation was between \$250 and \$500.

In 2000, Leptich took charge. He organized a golf tournament in Avila Beach to raise funds for Quest. That year, the tournament raised \$7,000. Now, in what started out as a purely local event, players travel hundreds of miles for the annual fundraiser.

Ever the planner, Leptich sets aside money from the tournament each year so the success of next year's event is in the bank.

This year he set aside \$5,000.

"Leptich is truly an unsung hero working countless hours behind the scenes to put this event together," said Base Fire Chief Mark Farias. "His dedication truly makes him an ambassador to the community and a credit to the Air Force."

Managed entirely by volunteers, Quest is a non-profit organization that raises money through various fundraisers throughout the year.

Vandenberg's check was presented in conjunction with the organization's largest fundraiser, the Quest Rally. The rally is a week-long event where the volunteer staff travels in a caravan with their lights blazing and sirens wailing. They visit fire, medical and law enforcement agencies throughout California.

At each stop along the way, the staff collects contributions for burn survivors.

For the past three years, the Vandenberg Fire Department has far surpassed the more than 60 other participating organizations in donations.

## Team Vandenberg Spotlight

**Name:** Staff Sgt. Christopher McCabe  
**Assignment:** 532<sup>nd</sup> Training Squadron Electromechanical Technician Instructor  
**Hometown:** Chester, N.Y.  
**Time on VAFB:** 6 months  
**Time in service:** 6.5 years  
**Supervisor's Comments:** "Chris is an inspiration to our section," said Master Sgt. Richard Hazen, 532<sup>nd</sup> TRS, NCO in charge EMT Training. "He brings a fresh insight to field activities and how we can implement recent changes into the course area. He is a highly motivated and gifted instructor and we welcome him into our cadre."

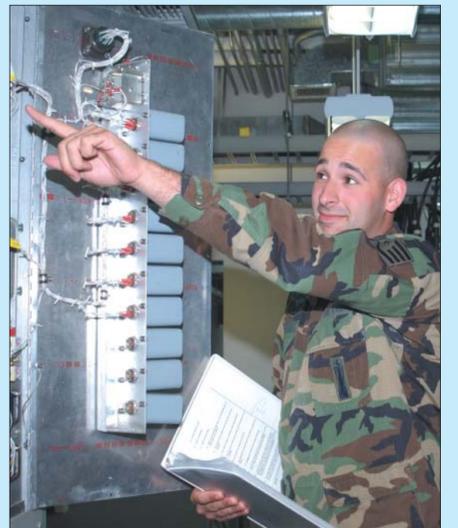


PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN APRIL MUNIZ

## Campers learn about fire dangers

By MASTER SGT. LLOYD CONLEY  
30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Public Affairs

More than 30 Vandenberg youth learned what it takes to be a firefighter Saturday and Sunday.

Members of the Vandenberg fire protection flight held a mini fire camp for children ages 6 to 12 at the main fire station here.

"The fire camp is for fun and education," said Senior Airman John Cook, 30<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron fire protection flight.

The firefighter's obstacle course was a favorite among the children, said Tech. Sgt. Phil Nixon, 30<sup>th</sup> CES fire prevention chief.

On the obstacle course, they donned a fireman's jacket and helmet then doused a "fire" with a well-aimed high-pressure water hose. Brightly colored traffic cones simulated the fire for the junior firefighters.

To extinguish the fire, the children had to knock down the cones.

The task was easier said than done, but Jason Vasquez, 6, and Andrew Coutee, 7, were up to the challenge.

Working together, the two of them made short work of the "blaze."

"It was a lot of fun," Vasquez



PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN APRIL MUNIZ

(Left to right) Base firefighter Airman Casey Schumacher, Raquel, Jasmine and Selina Mann and base firefighter Charles Rosales man the fire hose to put out a "fire."

said. His partner agreed.

Next, the dynamic duo practiced putting together fire hose couplings as quickly as possible.

Afterward, they used a dummy to practice carrying an injured or incapacitated person.

Fire campers also learned how to get out of a smoke-filled house safely.

The Smoke Trailer looks like a house, complete with a kitchen, stairs and den. When the smoke drifted into the trailer, Cook told the children to drop to the floor

and crawl out to safety.

The pint-sized firefighters toured a fire station and learned what equipment is carried on a fire truck.

Nixon said the whole idea of the camp was to make the children more aware of the fire department and to give them an insight into the training and skills necessary to be a firefighter.

As the smoke cleared from Fire Camp, the participants received a graduation certificate, a Vandenberg Fire Department T-shirt, some toys, a ruler and barbecue lunch hot off the grill.

## Team turns dust into dollars

By 2<sup>nd</sup> LT. KELLY GABEL  
30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Public Affairs

It's lurking in a dark closet, crammed into a box or some forgotten corner of the garage. Nobody uses it or wears it. It's only gathering dust – it's worthless, right? Not so fast.

The old saying, "One man's trash is another man's treasure" is truer than one might think for one of Vandenberg's most dedicated groups of workers and volunteers.

The base thrift shop is Team V's largest fundraiser, said Diane Gilmore, thrift shop bookkeeper.

The thrift shop makes 100-percent profit on all donated items and 25-percent profit on all consignment merchandise sold, said Tammie Byrd, office manager.

In a shop where an infant's outfit will set a shopper back a whopping \$1, a 25-percent take may not seem like very much, but it adds up.

Most people might be surprised to learn the thrift shop earns an impressive \$100,000 annually, said Diane Gilmore, thrift shop bookkeeper.

"Even our customers don't realize how much we're able to give back to the community," said Jan Wager, thrift shop chairperson.

It's a win-win situation for everyone.

■ The base thrift shop is open from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Tuesday.

"Our base population can either sell or donate items they no longer need or want," said Byrd. "Either way, the thrift shop makes money to help key organizations that primarily benefit that same population."

This year, contributions from thrift shop donations have benefited various organizations to the tune of \$25,000, said Gilmore.

Organizations and projects that have received a cut of this year's donated money include: Crestview Elementary School, the First Sergeant's Group, G.I. Java, the base girl scout troop, the Airman's Attic, Cabrillo High School, the Lompoc Pops and the Summer Reading Program at the base library, Wager said. "We pick organizations that have direct impact on the quality of life here at Vandenberg."

The application request for worthy causes is very easy and direct, said Wager. Requests for donations come in all the time.

When a representative calls and requests financial assistance, an advisory board meets to vote on the request, said Byrd. The

process normally takes less than 30 days.

This is, in fact, an efficient, well-oiled organization. The shop and the people responsible for it are, in a word, thrifty.

Their all-volunteer force keeps costs to a bare minimum.

Enlisting volunteers is simple. "We beg," the trio said in unison.

Volunteers usually step up by word of mouth. Even active-duty personnel can lend their time and energy to the thrift shop.

"It's easy to come here during a lunch hour and do some heavy lifting for us – and we would love that kind of support," Wager said.

"Everything we do is definitely a team effort, we all pull together to make good things happen for our military community," she said. "We absolutely could not run this shop without our volunteers and our retirees."

According to Wager, some of the volunteers have been there for 30 years, creating the backbone and continuity of the thrift shop. Because of the volunteers, the shop was able to open one day a week during the summer last year.

The amount of money the thrift shop was able to donate this year increased by \$9,000 due to revenues generated.

When it comes to the thrift shop, it's simple – give a little, get a lot.

**The 30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Vision Statement:**  
*America's finest professionals building the best spaceport and test range in the world.*

**Are You:** Graduating a course? Getting promoted? Receiving an award or decoration? Assuming command? Part of an award-winning team? **Tell Us!**

Your Unit Public Affairs Representative can help you fill out a Hometown News Release form. This form is sent to Air Force News where an article is written and sent to the newspapers in and near your hometown. It's a great way to let the folks back home learn of your success! Call Public Affairs at 606-3595 for more information.

**30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Mission Statement:**  
*To defend the United States through launch, range and expeditionary operations.*



## Go USA!



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. WILLIAM GREER

**Lara Woods, daughter of Tech. Sgt. Douglas Woods from the 494<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, RAF Lakenheath, waves a flag in anticipation of her father's return from Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, June 9. Woods returned home from an Air Expeditionary Force 2 deployment after supporting Operation Northern Watch.**

## Researchers study crew rest

BY STAFF SGT. JASON SMITH  
437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Public Affairs

■ **CHARLESTON AFB, S.C.** — Crews here are undergoing research in hopes of finding the perfect sleep schedule for future missions.

Researchers from the U.S. Air Force Lab at Brooks AFB, Texas, and the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center at Kirtland AFB, N.M., are conducting the sleep research during real-world missions flown by the 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadrons.

Dr. Bill Storm, senior research scientist from the Air Force Lab, said Air Force sleep research isn't

new. He's looking at a software program called the Fatigue Avoidance Scheduling Tool or FAST.

"FAST allows us to take the work schedule of a security forces member or pilot and compare it to their sleep schedule," said Storm. "We can look at a particular mission and say, 'Here's what time the drop is. If you take a nap at this particular time in the mission, you'll be at your maximum performance capability for the drop.'

A person needs seven and a half to eight and a half hours of sleep every night, according to Storm. He said a lot of people get by on six hours regularly, and because of the lack of sleep, they are not performing at their maximum level. (Courtesy of Air Mobility Command News Service)

## Civilian receives \$10K for idea

BY AIRMAN 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS LINDSEY MAURICE  
7<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing Public Affairs

■ **DYESSAFB, Texas** — A civilian here was awarded \$10,000 recently for his money-saving submission to the Air Force's Innovative Development through Employment Awareness Program.

Clarence Watson, a 317<sup>th</sup> Airlift Group engineering and technical services equipment specialist, came up with the idea to replace the JB-80 jet calibration tester currently used on the C-130 Hercules with the H394 TempCal Tester. The H394, at an average cost of a little more than \$10,000 each, can perform all necessary requirements, whereas the JB-80, at a cost of more than \$40,000 each, provides more capability than the Air Force can use on C-130 aircraft.

If the Air Force implements this change throughout its C-130 fleet, it will save more than \$1,172,000 within the first year.

"When I first submitted the idea, I never realized just how much money it would save the Air Force," Watson said. "I was just thinking about Dyess."

Ideas that can save resources, increase efficiency, improve processes, products or equipment, and are in the interest of national defense, are exactly what the IDEA program is looking for, said Master Sgt. Michael Pershing, Dyess IDEA coordinator.

In fiscal 2001, there were 51 ideas approved here with a tangible savings of \$943,746, Pershing said. Submitters were paid \$98,117. (Courtesy of Air Mobility Command News Service)

## Aviano wife is top Air Force spouse

■ **RAMSTEINAB, Germany** — An officer's wife from Aviano Air Base, Italy, was recently selected as the 2001 Joan Orr Air Force Spouse of the Year.

Charlotte Engeman, who is married to Lt. Col. Mark Engeman, from the 555<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, received the award for her community service. She spent numerous hours advising the Aviano community on exercise and diet programs. Additionally, Engeman developed and chaired focus groups directed at better understanding the actions and attitudes associated with

## NOAA: EELV set to reduce launch costs by 25 percent

From Page 1

many people take for granted. Banned items such as makeup, hair spray, perfume, suede, leather and vinyl could carry contaminants that might damage the 4,920-pound satellite.

Emotions vary as Team Vandenberg counts down to the last of the Titan family of boosters.

"This launch comes with mixed emotions," said Evan McCollum of LMA. "We're seeing the end of one era but the beginning of another with Atlas V," he said.

Atlas V is an evolved expendable launch vehicle, which is expected to reduce the cost of launching by

at least 25 percent over current systems. The Atlas V system also improves space launch operability and standardization.

The Titan II started off as an intercontinental ballistic missile built by Lockheed Martin. It was also flown in the 1960s with NASA's Gemini manned space program. In 1982, the Air Force began deactivating the Titan II ICBM system.

By 1988, NASA was using Titan II as a space launch vehicle. Since then, it has carried NOAA weather satellites and the Air Force's Defense Meteorological Satellite Program satellites into orbit with a mission success rate of 100 percent.

## BRIEFS: Lompoc chamber needs volunteers

From Page 1

Services Squadron, Base Chapel, and Family Support Center. For information, call Tech. Sgt. Todd LeFebvre at 606-1607.

### SUPPORT GROUP NEEDS NEW DORM MANAGER

The 30<sup>th</sup> Support Group needs a staff sergeant to serve as dorm manager. This is a two-year controlled special duty. Applicants must provide a letter of recommendation signed by their commander and copies of their last three performance reports. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Brian Joseph at 606-2990.

### TOPS IN BLUE NEEDS MUSICIANS, DRIVERS FOR COMPLETE TEAM

The Air Force Tops in Blue needs a bass guitar player, bus driver and truck driver. Participants must be on active duty. For more information, call the Services Center at 605-8974.

### AIRMEN AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING GIVES SAFE, CONFIDENTIAL RIDES

The Airmen Against Drunk Driving program is up and running. The next meeting is at 3 p.m. June 26 in the Services Center. The program is open to all Department of Defense

people. Rides are confidential. For a ride Thursday through Sunday, call 698-8822 or 698-8823. This is an opportunity to save lives. For more information or to volunteer, call Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Paige Ramos at 606-6070 or Tech. Sgt. Thomas Merrett at 606-9876.

### LOMPOC CHAMBER NEEDS FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS

The Lompoc Valley Chamber of Commerce needs volunteers for the annual "Brushes and Blues" event Aug. 10 at La Purisima Mission. They need assistance with logistics planning, vehicle control and crowd assistance. To volunteer, call Public Affairs at 606-3595 or the chamber at 735-4567.

### BASE HOLDS ENLISTED ASSIGNMENT BRIEFING

An enlisted assignment briefing is scheduled June 25, 26 and 27 beginning at 2 p.m. daily in Minuteman Theater. Chief Master Sgt. Keith Lorando, Air Force Space Command chief of Enlisted Assignments and Readiness and Staff Sgt. Jodi Glassic, AFSPC assignments NCO, will talk about assignment issues affecting active-duty members. All base personnel may attend this briefing. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Thomas Merrett at 606-9876.

drinking and driving for people younger than 26 years old.

Engeman will be presented the award by the Air Force Association in Washington later this year. (Courtesy of U.S. Air Forces in Europe News Service)

## Major shines at world competition

BY MASTER SGT. JOHN TOMASSI  
U.S. European Command PA

■ **STUTTGART, Germany** — An Air Force major assigned to the U.S. European Command here, lifted her way to become the sixth strongest woman in the world in her weight class recently.

Maj. Antoinette Kemper, a public affairs officer, lifted more than 860 combined pounds in the 2002 Women's World Powerlifting Championships at Riesa, Germany.

"I was really nervous about the competition going into it," said Kemper. "I didn't feel ready; however, on competition day, it all clicked. I lifted for myself knowing this could be my first and last worlds. Also, I kept thinking how sweet it would be to be able to tell my friends, family and colleagues how well it went. I didn't want any regrets. I had so much support from my husband and division-mates, I felt it was time to pay that back."

In powerlifting competition, athletes are categorized by sex, age and body weight. Each competitor is allowed three attempts at three different types of lifts, or disciplines. The best lift in each discipline is added to their total. The lifter with the highest total is the winner. The three disciplines are squat, bench press and deadlift.

At 5 feet 1 inch and 122 pounds, Kemper hoisted almost seven times her own weight to out lift competitors from Australia, Czech Republic, New Zealand and Hungary. (Courtesy of U.S. Air Forces in Europe News Service)

Editor's Note: For the full story and more, visit [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil).



William Valentine, 5, of the Yankees, is ready to show everyone his trophy. More than 350 Team Vandenberg boys and girls participated in baseball, softball and T-ball during the season.



Lindsie Holloway, 11, of the Red Wings, pitches for the girls during a softball versus baseball showdown. More than 300 people attended the closing ceremonies of the youth ball seasons.

## Ball seasons finish with 'grand' slam

STORY AND PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. ANDREW LEONHARD  
30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Public Affairs

■ The Vandenberg youth softball and baseball seasons ended Saturday with championship games, a barbeque and closing ceremonies.

The baseball leagues finished with the league championship games with the Mariners winning the minor league division and the A's capping the season off winning the major league title.

Following the championship games, more than 300 people, families and players, enjoyed food and games. Closing ceremonies followed at 3:30 p.m.

The softball season concluded June 6 when the Storm defeated the Scrappers to capture the division one crown and Thunder triumphed over the Red Wings to win division two.



Zach Westfall takes a plunge in the dunk tank. Coaches took the "wet" seat as players and family members took their shot at the tank.

## Final season standings

### Softball

Division one	Division two
1. Storm	1. Thunder
2. Scrappers	2. Red Wings
3. Rock Hounds	3. Sand Gnats
4. Rattlers	

### Baseball

Minor League	Minor League
1. Mariners	1. A's
2. Marlins	2. Yankees
3. A's	3. Giants
4. Diamond Backs	4. Mariners
5. Yankees	
6. Cubs	

# Base commander strides to combat half-marathon

BY ALAN HUNT

Lompoc Record Sports Editor

Once the sun is over the eastern horizon, Rob Worley is well into his work day.

On average, it is a day that includes a lot of meetings, a lot of people, not a lot of quiet.

Rob, also known at Vandenberg as Col. Robert M. Worley II, 30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing commander, likes his job.

But he likes the quiet before the sun comes up, too.

Rising between 4 and 4:30 a.m., Worley uses an early hour to jog several times a week. Starting from his home, he'll go five or six miles at an eight- to nine-minute-per-mile pace.

"But recently I've cranked it up a little," he said Tuesday.

That's because Worley joins approximately 200 others in the 26<sup>th</sup> annual Valley of the Flowers Half-Marathon Saturday.

A couple months ago he saw the brochure for the 13.1-miler. He's since been adding to his early-morning sessions.

It would be possible for the 46-year-old Worley, obviously fit as he carries 172 pounds on his



PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN APRIL MUNIZ  
Col. Robert M. Worley II, 30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing commander, finishes his early morning run in preparation for the 26<sup>th</sup> annual Valley of the Flowers Half-marathon.

6-foot frame, to go into the run without adding to his weekly regimen.

"But it's not safe, not smart and I don't want to bear the pain (of doing the 13.1 miles without preparing)," he said.

"Maybe running isn't the

most fun exercise," he said. "But it's where I get the most bang for the buck. It's the easiest and best way to stay in shape aerobically. I'll just do sit-ups and push-ups and run."

And there is the quiet.

"I like the morning," Worley said. "I like getting out there. When I'm running I do a lot of my thinking, and praying."

"Sometimes I'm just praying to get through the run," he added with a chuckle.

Saturday's half-marathon is the longest "formalized" run he's been in, said Worley, who began jogging in the late '70s at the Air Force Academy.

"Years ago, I did the George Washington Monument 15K in Washington D.C., but I've only done a few of these types of things."

"But the half-marathon is a challenge for me," he added.

Noting that the 26<sup>th</sup> annual Valley of the Flowers half is also the first to be run on Vandenberg, Worley called it a good example of the cooperation between Lompoc and Vandenberg.

"It's a neat opportunity. I'm looking forward to it," he said.

## Valley of the Flowers half-marathon is Saturday

■ The 26<sup>th</sup> annual Lompoc Valley of the Flowers Half-Marathon is set for Saturday at 9 a.m. on North Base. Packet pick-up and race-day registration starts at 7:30 a.m. The cost to enter is \$40.

Civilians: should show up early and bring photo identification.

To get to the course, head out off Highway 1 on San Antonio Road West. Take a right on Lompoc-Casmalia Road. Enter the course area at Titan Gate.

Friends and family of participants or interested onlookers who are planning to attend the half-marathon need to be cleared through base security.

Anyone interested in helping with race-day logistics can call Wayne Davis at 736-1739.

In Lompoc people can pick-up a registration packet at: Walnut Pier Health Club, the Lompoc Record, Pacific Health and Fitness, Classic Installation and Lompoc Valley Chamber of Commerce.



Visit the *Space & Missile Times* on-line at:  
<http://www.vandenberg.af.mil/space&missiletimes/index.htm>



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# Transforming the Air Force

BY JAMES ROCHE  
Secretary of the Air Force

As America continues to prosecute its first war of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, it is useful to recall that the Air Force was born in wartime and bred for joint operations. Today, along with the other services, it is engaged in a determined effort to adapt to a new era. The current campaign against global terrorism is providing critical lessons about the application of airpower and spacepower. It is important to get those lessons right, be agile, and build on the strengths of the past without being tied to past glories.

Every day the Air Force continues to fly, launch, orbit, track, communicate, secure, refuel, transport, and support national interests around and above the globe. And while it is busy meeting the current needs of unified commands, it is applying new operational concepts and information technologies to maintain dominance in air and space. From precise, long-range strikes and humanitarian missions in Afghanistan, to persistent surveillance over Iraq and the Balkans, to contributing to homeland security, the service is working to identify the demands that will transform future roles, missions, and strategic priorities.

Although the service is committed to a transformational path, challenges remain. Considering the number of aircraft and airmen devoted to homeland security, along with the forces deployed to Southwest Asia in support of Enduring Freedom, the Air Force is supporting the equivalent of operations in two simultaneous major theaters of war. At the same time, maintenance of aging systems and quality of life and work initiatives for personnel compete with modernization requirements. Their cost is compounded by unprecedented requirements for air and space forces at a time when legacy systems are nearing the end of their life cycles. Still, the future demands that the service meet the President's mandate to renew and rebuild warfighting concepts, organizational constructs, and force structure.

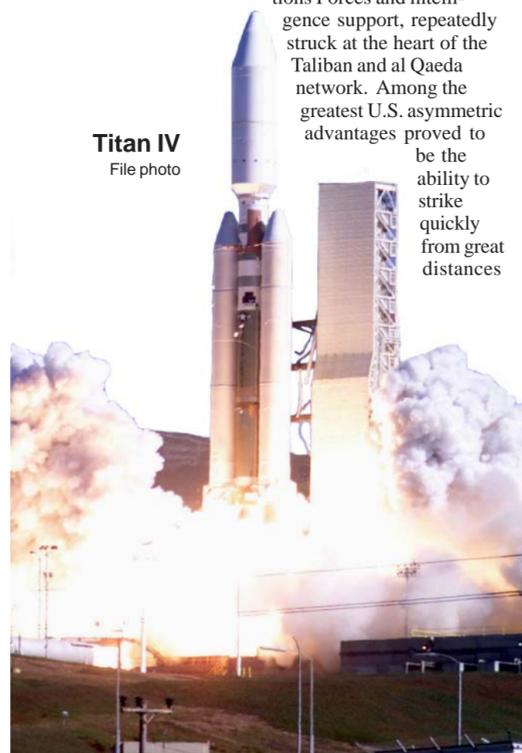
## Enduring Freedom

The Air Force has always evolved along with a changing environment and advancing technology. American forces with Afghan and coalition partners have recently routed a well-dug-in enemy on one of the world's least accessible battlefields. Enduring Freedom combined the best forces, regardless of service, in previously untried ways. Navy and Air Force pilots, with Army and Air Force Special Operations Forces personnel, invented new tactics that improved munitions accuracy and increased the flow of targeting data to strike aircraft. They demonstrated how U.S. forces are working more closely together than ever before, from refueling, to combat search and rescue, to joint targeting.

Enduring Freedom is only the most recent example of Air Force commitment to joint operations. The key to that contribution was the continuous integration of air and space capabilities enhanced by rapid advances in information technology. Whether dropping ratios to starving civilians or precision-guided bombs on Taliban tunnels, the service worked with land and naval forces to achieve planned effects. As Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld declared, "It's a cooperative effort."

Beyond current operational demands, the Air Force is accelerating its commitment to expanding global reconnaissance and strike capabilities. Thus it is placing special emphasis on providing intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) to joint operations. Additionally, it is pursuing the horizontal integration of manned, unmanned, and space platforms to reduce time in the find, fix, track, target, engage, and assess decision cycle.

During Enduring Freedom, a variety of strike platforms aided by air and space reconnaissance assets, in concert with Special Operations Forces and intelligence support, repeatedly struck at the heart of the Taliban and al Qaeda network. Among the greatest U.S. asymmetric advantages proved to be the ability to strike quickly from great distances



Titan IV  
File photo

with precision weapons, rapidly stand up a global air bridge, and persistently reconnoiter emerging targets.

While just a decade ago only 3.5 percent of the bombs dropped during Desert Storm were precision-guided, that figure is 60 percent for the Afghan air campaign. This increase in lethality and efficiency is the cumulative result of many initiatives that have also advanced joint interoperability. Comparatively few Navy and Air Force strike aircraft could employ precision munitions ten years ago; now nearly all can. During Desert Storm, the daily schedule of bombing strikes — the air tasking order — had to be physically flown out to aircraft carriers. Today the order can be sent anywhere in the world, including naval ships, in a matter of minutes via satellite — accompanied with additional gigabytes of precision targeting imagery. Advanced laser targeting pods on F-16s and F-18s are enabling pilots to automatically strike any target located by ground forces or other airborne assets such as the Predator unmanned aerial vehicle.

One of the most important and challenging transformational efforts is the horizontal integration of command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance assets. This synthesis includes the conversion of raw information from different platforms into targeting data for operators and information for commanders. For example, various platforms in Afghanistan, such as the Global Hawk and Predator UAVs, RC-135 and U-2 reconnaissance aircraft, E-8Cs, Navy E-2s and P-3s, and space assets, were linked to resolve ambiguities over target location and identification. This permitted long-range strike platforms to receive updated data en route to the target area. The array of weapons available to the force has also been expanded. Joint direct attack munitions are so-called dumb bombs retrofitted with an electronic brain and fins for steering and are guided by signals from global positioning system satellites. These have enabled large-scale precision bombing. Available in limited numbers just two years ago for Kosovo, to date they have constituted three quarters of the precision munitions dropped in Afghanistan. Unlike World War II tactics, with hundreds of bombers dropping thousands of bombs on a single strategic target, JDAMs allow the Air Force to use a single aircraft with only a few munitions to strike several targets with devastating results. And unlike air operations over Kosovo, friendly forces on the ground in Afghanistan have enabled us to employ these weapons to best effect by identifying targets and directing precision attacks.

more targets.

## A Bigger Tool Box

The Air Force also has a comprehensive plan to modernize current aircraft, which includes replacing legacy F-15s, F-16s, and A-10s with F-22s and joint strike fighters. C-17 procurement is bringing revolutionary strategic airlift capabilities to warfighters and the Air Force is pursuing a two-phased modernization approach for the C-5. Furthermore, the fleet of an essential component of future operational concepts will be air and space superiority 707 tankers and C4ISR platforms must be replaced with a new class of aircraft to meet future commitments. Additionally, the Air Force is examining the potential of transforming single mission platforms into multimission assets. For example, the plan to replace the aging 707-based fleet includes the innovative idea of placing passive sensors or data links on future smart tankers.

The security environment will continue to evolve and will be influenced by asymmetrical threats from both state and nonstate actors. However, basing a strategy on threats alone would cause planners to miss the mark in posturing for tomorrow.

Air Force planners are focusing on coupling accelerated technological advancements with new conceptions of the future battlespace. The goal is to look past uncertain, dynamic needs. Threat-based strategies were suitable for the bipolar Cold War era but no longer offer the best framework for understanding the world. Instead, the Air Force must develop a capabilities-based force, identifying and refining future global reconnaissance and strike requirements even while continuing to evaluate how to best deal with immediate needs. Through this process, the service will define the terms on which future battles will be fought and then organize, train, and equip forces accordingly — retaining strategic flexibility and averting strategic surprise.

By reorganizing as an expeditionary air and space force and through operational concepts like the Global Strike Task Force, the Air Force has used current systems to provide new capabilities for CINCs. The Global Strike Task Force, for example, leverages technology to create asymmetrical advantages on the macro level — providing a force that can ensure access for U.S. forces to remote theaters. As



F-22 Raptor  
File photo

future operational concepts are identified and developed, the Air Force will move ever closer to maximizing its fundamental competencies — global reconnaissance and strike.

An essential component of future operational concepts will be air and space superiority, exploiting such capabilities as those provided by the F-22, an air-dominance fighter with substantial air-to-ground strike capabilities. Its stealth and supercruise will allow airmen to penetrate enemy battlespace regardless of attempts to deny access, enabling follow-on joint forces to operate with relative freedom. These leap-ahead capabilities will allow F-22s to defeat the most sophisticated surface-to-air missile systems under development.

It will be able to loiter over the battlefield, responding quickly to mobile targets; and it will be better able to work with ground forces. The fighter also expands our overall precision strike capability by further enhancing legacy stealth systems, B-2s and F-117s, enabling them to conduct daylight strikes for the first time.

Just as precision munitions provide the joint warfighter a significant increase in lethality over Afghanistan, the small diameter bomb under development will add new flexibility. This 250-pound weapon is projected to have a standoff of 60 to 70 miles when employed at high altitude. This stand-off will dramatically increase aircraft survivability. Envisioned for use on both manned and unmanned systems, it will also provide joint warfighters a low-yield, precise weapon, thus lowering collateral damage. Perhaps its greatest benefit is that more of them can be carried on a given sortie, enabling fewer aircraft to hit

more targets.

The Air Force is embracing efficiency and innovation across the full spectrum of operations. In particular, it is determined to adapt acquisition policies and processes to ensure innovation and competitiveness. The service has begun a concerted effort to provide incentives for defense contractors, large and small, to become more efficient and innovative. Savings achieved through excellence can be reinvested in warfighting capabilities.

The most critical long-term challenge for the Armed Forces remains retaining skilled people. The Air Force is known for attracting and keeping the best individuals, both civilian and military, and caring for them and their families. A high-technology Air Force cannot operate without such people. For example, as it pioneers the increased integration of UAVs into operations, it must re-examine its force structure and ensure proper organization to not only effectively employ UAVs, but also provide career-rewarding experiences to those supporting such operations.

The events of the last few months have placed great demands on the total force — active, Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard, and civilian. The new homeland security mission and the requirements of fighting a new kind of war require prudent measures to preserve combat capability. They call for highly trained, educated, and motivated personnel.

Together with the other services, the Air Force is steadfast in developing a seamless military in which resources, effort, and strategic planning coalesce into truly unified capabilities.

While the Air Force will continue to exploit air and space to national advantage, new demands will alter how its people accomplish these missions. The service faces the dual challenges of engaging in war while fundamentally reshaping its warfighting capabilities. Yet this is not an insurmountable task. Protecting the United States from further attack while taking the fight to the enemy necessitates resolve and patience. Transforming the military requires creativity, ingenuity, and vision. America's airmen are equipped for both challenges.

They remain guided by the words of one of their founders over half a century ago, General Henry "Hap" Arnold: "It's got to be done and done quickly, so let's get it done."

aspect of military operations.

Modernization of the missile warning system is underway with the space based infrared radar system comprising two programs referred to as SBIRS-high and SBIRS-low. The first constellation, responsible for alerting officials of missile launches around the world, will consist of payloads in geosynchronous and highly elliptical orbits. The second, a constellation of near-Earth satellites, will track missiles in mid-course following booster separation. Both programs will share a common ground-based control and exploitation network. The first increment for SBIRS-high, the consolidation of existing defense support program sites into a single new state-of-the-art mission control station, has already occurred. The systems design review for the SBIRS-low component has also been completed. Although there are development issues that still require attention, this system remains essential to the defense of the Nation.

Preparation for the first launch of the new expendable launch vehicle in 2002 is on track. It will ensure reliable and cost-effective access to space well into the new century. It is anticipated that the vehicle will save up to 50 percent over legacy launch systems.

There is also progress in the space control area with the multi-year space surveillance network recapitalization effort. In another space control-related action, the Air Force has begun integrating potential enemy space capabilities into wargaming exercises, ensuring preparedness to react to attacks on space-related infrastructure.

In addition to developing the national security space plan, the Air Force is also leading the effort to conduct the first national security space program assessment, which will compare the plan to the current program objective memorandum and identify space-related recapitalization challenges over the five-year defense program for both the DoD and the intelligence community.

The Air Force and National Reconnaissance Office, working together, have identified numerous best practices associated with the integration of space acquisition and operations processes. These procedures will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of space-related activities and facilitate the further integration of classified and unclassified space systems.

## Sound Fundamentals

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# Community Calendar

**EVENTS**

**14 FRI** The 30<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron holds the **Excellence in Competition** rifle match today and the pistol match Saturday. There are only 100 competitors in each category. Competitors must be familiar with the weapons and their operation prior to the match. For more information, call Master Sgt. Tom Calhoun at 605-5007; Staff Sgt. Erik Skrudland at 605-5005 or Staff Sgt. Steven Barbour at 605-5009.

**Deer season** hunting tags are now on sale at the base exchange. The tags to be used on Vandenberg are the Zone A, buck only, and G-11, no antlers. People with questions should call base exchange customer service at 734-5521, or the Fish and Wildlife office at 606-6804.

**19 WED** The **Breakers Dining Facility** sponsors a free movie night for patrons every Wednesday at 5 p.m. This week's movie is the "The Mummy," and the June 26 movie is "The Avengers."

**20 THU** **Military retirees and spouses** meet the third Thursday of each month at 1p.m. in the Retiree Activities Center, Bldg. 10364 near the base exchange. Retirees gather to hear guest speakers, socialize, and enjoy refreshments. The quarterly potluck luncheon is Thursday at noon. The guest speaker is from the Shepard Eye Center. For more information about activities call 606-5474

**27 THU** The **Women's, Infants and Children's** office visits the Family Support



**Sluggger**

David Fraats, 11, tests his strength on the tower bell during the Youth Center's softball, baseball and t-ball closing ceremonies barbecue bash Saturday.

PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ANDREW LEONHARD

Center every fourth Thursday of the month. WIC is a nutrition education program that provides supplemental food to promote good health for pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children up to age five. For more information regarding appointments or enrollment requirements, call the Lompoc WIC office at 737-6470 or Teresa Orozco at 606-4636.

The commissary staff holds a **single airmen's night** June 27 from 7 to 9 p.m. The event includes a live performance by entertainer Tony Johnson, refreshments and games like the dating game. Disc jockey from radio station Wild 106 will broadcast live.

**CLASSES**

**14 FRI** Members who will soon deploy for 30 days or more, including formal training and other mission-related separations, can call Tech. Sgt. Todd LeFebvre at 606-1607 for a **pre-deployment briefing**.

The briefing covers issues like personal and family readiness with a focus on planning to ease the stress of separation by addressing financial, legal and family matters. Members can balance quality of life and mission readiness needs more adeptly when they and their families are prepared.

A **bundles for babies** seminar is scheduled for today from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Family Support Center. This is an informational workshop for expectant parents to learn more about parenting skills and meet other expectant parents. Participants can receive information on lifestyle changes, infant CPR, financing, the Nursing Moms Program, the Give-Parents-a-Break Program, and more. Classes are open to all Air Force ranks and are not limited to a first pregnancy. Call Lyn Smith at 605-8551 for registration and information.

**18 TUE** A **pre-separation briefing** is from 8 to 9 a.m. Tuesday at the Family Support Center, except the TAP seminar week. The briefing is required at least 90 days before members separate or retire. The counseling session covers service members' benefits. Spouses are welcome and encouraged to attend. For more information, call Sunny Park at 605-0134.

A **career status bonus workshop** begins Tuesday at 11 a.m. in the family support center. Participants can bring a lunch and learn about available bonus and retirement options. Call Jimmy Camacho at 606-4491 for registration or information.

**Risk Reduction Classes** are held at the medical group Tuesdays from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and Thursdays from 3 to 4:30 p.m. The classes address health risk factors like high blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes and excess weight.

Topics include a risk reduction overview, cholesterol-diet connection, diabetic meal planning, hypertension and diet, weight loss, and stress, related to risk. Call the Health and Wellness Center at 606-2221 for more information and to sign up.

**19 WED** The **sensible weight program** is held Wednesdays and Thurs-

days. The class is geared toward people interested in optimizing their fitness levels and maintaining a healthy weight. Call the HAWC 606-2221 for more information and to sign up.

**20 THU** A **smart car-buying workshop** begins at 11 a.m. Thursday in the Family Support Center. People can learn about what's in store for them when they decide to buy a car. Topics discussed include interest rates, monthly payments, car insurance, how a car fits into a budget, and key factors in purchasing a vehicle. Contact Jimmy Camacho at 606-4491 for registration and information.

The Family Support Center offers a **Veterans Administration Home Loan** class Thursday at 1:30 p.m. People can learn the application procedures and basic Veterans Administration Home Loan Guaranty application process and the basic California Veterans Home Loan Program. Make reservations early by calling Sunny Park at 605-0134.

**25 TUE** A **sponsorship training** class begins June 25 at 3 p.m. in the Family Support Center. Participants can learn sponsorship responsibilities, relocation resources, and tips to assist Vandenberg's new arrivals. Call relocation assistance at 606-0801 to register.

**26 WED** The next **tobacco cessation class** begins June 25 and runs to July 30 on Tuesdays from noon to 1:30 p.m. Call the HAWC at 606-2221 to sign up.

An **interviewing and dress for success** class begins at 9 a.m. June 26 in the Family Support Center. The class offers interviewing behavior tips and career dressing for men and women. Call Roy Caldwell at 606-0039 for registration.

**MEETINGS**

**16 SUN** The Protestant parish holds a **chapel community night** at 5:30 p.m. every Sunday. Classes, for all age groups, begin at 6 p.m. The current adult class is "The Song of Solomon" video series by Tommy Nelson.

The **Believers In God** Protestant Chapel Youth Group meets from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Sundays in the Religious Education classrooms. Call 606-5773 for information.

**18 TUE** The **Single Parents Support Group** meets the second Tuesday of each month at 11 a.m. in the Pacific Coast Club. For more information, call Linda Bastine at 606-9958.

**20 THU** The **Vandenberg Top Three Association** meets at noon Thursday. All master sergeant selects through chief master sergeants who are permanently assigned here may attend.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Cary Rosson at 606-6232.

**At The Movies**

All movies start at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

**Today Deuces Wild** Starring Steven Dorff and Brad Renfro.

Two brothers, Leon and Bobby are members of the street gang in Brooklyn known as "The Deuces." Their brother was killed by a drug overdose a few years earlier and the gang is determined to keep drugs off their block. Another, more vicious gang, known as the "Vipers" is a possible threat to Leon and Bobby's efforts. The Deuces are determined to do whatever is necessary to keep drugs off their block even if that means dying. Rated R for strong violence, language, some drug content and brief sexuality.

**Saturday Sorority Boys**

Starring Barry Watson and Michael Rosenbaum.

After three rowdy guys get booted from their frat house, they dress up as women and pledge the "ugly girl" sorority, where they figure they'll blend right in. In their new environment, the men relinquish their frat mentality and realize how hurtful they have been to women over the years. When their less-than-stunning female forms earn them an invite to a "dog catcher" party at their old frat, they decide to brave the harassment so they can grab the rest of their belongings from the house and make a clean break. Rated R for crude sexual content, nudity, strong language and some drug use.

**Sunday Life or Something Like it**

Starring Angelina Jolie and Christian Kane.

Lanie Kerrigan, a feature reporter at a Seattle TV station, thinks she has it all. Her perfect world starts unraveling after a homeless street seer tells Lanie that she leads a meaningless existence and will die the following week. When the savant's other predictions come true, Lanie begins to re-examine her life and priorities - which include rekindling a relationship with a cameraman. Rated PG-13 for sexual content, brief violence and language.

# 30th Services News

## YOUTH CENTER

### Music LESSONS

Offered by  
**Coelho Academy of Music**

Guitar, keyboard, drum, flute and vocal lessons are available (individual or group). You may call or come in to the Youth Center now to sign up now for the first eight-week session or meet the Coelho Academy reps at the Youth Center at 5 p.m. Wednesday, and at 2 p.m. Saturday. Call the Youth Center at 606-2152 for more

### Sign up now for the MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATER!

Coming to the Youth Center June 24 through 29!  
**June 24:** Open auditions for all students, K-12.  
Cast members selected.

**June 25-28:** Daily rehearsal sessions.  
**June 29:** Final performance

Call Kim or Wendy at 606-2152  
for more information.

## LIBRARY

### READING IS OUT OF THIS WORLD!

ATWIND EVENT!

June 21 to Aug. 3

Summer Reading Program for Ages 3 to 13.  
Packets can be picked up from  
June 21 to July 20.

Call 606-6414 for more information.

#### Reader Categories

Just Starting, ages 3 to 5 years; Beginner Readers, ages 6 to 7 years; Intermediate readers, ages 8 to 10 years; and Advanced readers, ages 11 to 13 years.

EVERYONE who signs up can get a certificate and prizes.  
(Those who are leaving base before Aug. 3, let the library know so you can get your prizes.)

## OUTDOOR REC

**WHITE WATER RAFTING TRIPS JUNE 22 OR 23**  
One-day trips cost \$55 per person.

**DAY AT THE BEACH IN SANTA BARBARA**  
Depart base at 9:30 a.m. Saturday. Return at 5:30 p.m.  
Cost is \$5 per person.

#### BIKE TRIP TO SAN DIEGO-

Trip Dates are June 20, 21, 22 and 23  
and Sept. 19, 20, 21 and 22  
Cost is \$275 per person (includes motels).  
**ATWIND event!**

For more information on the activities listed above, call  
Curtis Dunster at 606-5908.

## FITNESS CENTER

**ALL-NIGHT SOFTBALL  
TOURNAMENT - ATWIND event!**  
Today at 6 p.m., Fitness Center

#### VANDENBERG ROCK CLIMBING CLUB-

The club has planned a trip to Bishop Peak and Owens River Gorge climbing areas over the July 4 weekend for rock climbing, bouldering, camping and fishing. Call Maj. Michael Phan at 605-6230 or Rod Paronto at 606-3833 for more information.

#### WOMEN'S VARSITY VOLLEYBALL-

Tryouts are June 23 at the Fitness Center from 2 to 4 p.m. Call coach Tracey Griffin at 734-1140 for more information.

## ROD & GUN

**NSSA & CSSA REGISTERED SKEET SHOOT  
ATWIND Event!**  
Begins at 8 a.m. Saturday and Sunday.

## GOLF

**SATURDAY-**  
Shotgun start tournament begins at 8 a.m.  
Open play starts 1 p.m.

**SUNDAY -**  
Marshallia Ranch Scramble begins at 7:30 a.m.  
Regular tee times start at 1 p.m.

## BOWLING

#### FATHER'S DAY SPECIAL-

Bring dad to the Bowling Center Saturday and he can bowl free! Others bowl for \$1.75 per game. Children must accompany dad for him to bowl free.

*Team Vandenberg: It's time to play...*



**YOU  
COULD  
WIN...  
A BRAND NEW  
FORD Escape,  
Focus or Ranger,  
a NEW  
Computer,  
Ca\$h,  
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## ATWIND

### This Week's Places to Play!

Today through Thursday

#### FRIDAY -

Fitness Center - All day  
Golf Course - All day  
Library - All day  
Rod & Gun - All day  
Outdoor Rec - Camping Package Rental  
Lunch & Learn - Word Tables, Bldg 9360, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Pacific Coast Club - Social Hour (members), 5 p.m.  
Fitness Center - Softball All-Nighter, 6 p.m.

#### SATURDAY -

Bowling Center - Youth Bowl  
Golf Course - Youth Golf  
Skills Auto Hobby - All day  
Touch a Truck - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Swimming Pool - Family Fun Night, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

#### SUNDAY -

Rod & Gun - Registered Skeet Shoot, 8 a.m.  
Pacific Coast Club - Father's Day Brunch, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Foggio's - Family Dining

#### MONDAY -

Pacific Coast Club - Newcomers Spouse Orientation, 8 a.m.  
Pacific Coast Club - Lunch, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Breakers - Lunch, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Lunch & Learn - Windows Tips, Bldg 9360, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

#### TUESDAY -

Bowling Center - Eat all day  
Family Support Center - Pre-separation Briefing, 8 to 9 a.m.  
Family Support Center - Redux, CSB Workshop, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY -

Equipment Checkout - Rental Day  
Vet Clinic - All day  
Family Support Center - Manage Your Move, 9 to 11:30 a.m.  
Golf Course - Lunch, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Swimming Pool - Water Aerobics, 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.  
Lunch & Learn - Object Linking, Bldg 9360, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

#### THURSDAY -

Outdoor Rec - San Diego Bike Trip  
Bowling Center - Bowl all day  
Skills Arts & Crafts - All day  
Library - Story Time, 10 a.m.  
Family Support Center - Car Buying Workshop, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
Family Support Center - VA Home Loan Class, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.  
Services Center - Indoor Cycling, 4 to 4:45 p.m.

Go to [30svs.com](http://30svs.com) for more ways to play!

## TOUCH A TRUCK

Lots to see, lots to touch!

### SATURDAY

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
at the Parade Grounds

### FREE

to everyone!

Call the Services Center for more information, 606-7976.



**ATWIND EVENT!**

## Pacific Coast Club FATHER'S DAY

### BRUNCH Sunday

Seating from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

**\$20<sup>95</sup>**

**\$17<sup>95</sup>**

Members

Children ages 4 to 12, cost 75 cents per year of age.  
Children younger than 4 years old are free!

Reservations please,  
734-4375

Happy Father's Day!

**ATWIND EVENT!**