

Base Briefs

SPACE & MISSILE TIMES HOME DELIVERY

The *Space & Missile Times* should arrive at every on-base residence by 6 p.m. each Friday. Anyone not receiving home delivery should call the Lompoc Record circulation department at 736-2313 to report the discrepancy.

ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

The 2002 Annual Awards Banquet begins at 6 p.m. Feb. 21 in the Pacific Coast Club. Contact unit First Sergeants to purchase tickets. Tickets cost \$21 or \$19 for PCC members. The guest speaker for the event is Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray.

ANNUAL AWARDS WEEK EVENTS

A Team V spirit rally is set for 3 p.m. Tuesday at the football field. The 2002 annual awards nominees tour Vandenberg at 8 a.m. Wednesday. Local unit recognition day is Thursday. Call Master Sgt. Kevin Williams at 605-4012 or Master Sgt. Dave Erb at 606-5981.

AWARDS BANQUET PIANIST NEEDED

The 30th Space Wing annual awards committee is looking for an accomplished pianist to play during the annual awards banquet Feb. 21. Call Senior Master Sgt. Paul McGinnis at 606-6571 for an audition.

VANDBERG CHIEF'S GROUP

The Vandenberg Chief's Group is looking for all local retired chief master sergeants to become members. Meetings are at 7 a.m. the first Tuesday of each month at Breaker's Dining Facility. For more information, call Chief Master Sgts. John Gunther, 605-0750, or Phillip Cope, 606-9567.

SECURITY FORCES BLOOD DRIVE

The 30th Security Forces Squadron sponsors a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 4 at the Services Center.

LUSD CLOSURE

All Lompoc Unified School District schools and offices are closed today in observance of Lincoln's Birthday and again Monday in observance of Presidents' Day. With the exception of Adult Education, all LUSD schools are closed Tuesday for a district-wide Staff Development Day.

GUARDIAN CHALLENGE KICK-OFF RALLY

All Team Vandenberg is invited to the Guardian Challenge kick-off rally at 3:30 p.m. March 7 at the Pacific Coast Club. Call Master Sgt. Rudy Gutierrez at 605-0549.

BULK TRASH PICKUP

Bulk trash items that don't fit into black refuse

See BRIEFS Page A4

Taurus Lite launch success

Test vehicle gathers necessary data for Missile Defense Agency's Ground-Based Midcourse Defense program

By 2ND LT. KELLY GABEL
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

Team Vandenberg successfully launched a Taurus Lite vehicle booster test Feb. 6 at 1 p.m. in support of the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense program.

The booster, a Taurus/Pegasus/Minotaur derivative with no payload, was launched from atop a concrete pad rather than a silo.

The Ground-Based Midcourse Defense program, formerly the National Missile Defense Program, is managed by the Missile Defense Agency, Washington, D.C. This is the first Vandenberg launch for the agency this year.

Detachment 9, Space and Missile Center was the launch agency with Capt. Carrie Brackett acting as the test program manager for this launch.

Col. Wayne E. Louis, 30th Space Wing vice commander, was spacelift commander for final "go, no-go" launch decision.

Taurus Lite team members include the Missile Defense Agency's Ground-Based Interceptor office, Detachment 9, Space & Missile Center, Orbital Sciences, Boeing, Northrop Grumman and the 30th Space Wing.

Right: A Taurus Lite rocket blasts from a concrete pad on South Vandenberg Feb. 6. The Taurus booster has no payload, but provides data about the prototype's flight characteristics, design, instrumentation, and propulsion systems.



PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. BRUCE DZITKO

DoD activates commercial airlift reserves

By GERRY GILMORE
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Department of Defense officials have enlisted commercial airlines to transport troops and equipment as part of the buildup for possible war with Iraq.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld ordered the activation of Stage 1 of the Civil Reserve Air Fleet. The CRAF, created in 1952, boosts U.S. military airlift capability with civilian planes, if needed.

Under Stage 1, 22 U.S. airline companies will make 47 of their passenger airliners and 31 cargo planes available for military use, according to U.S. Transportation Command officials. Currently, only the 47 passenger aircraft are being activated. The cargo planes could be drafted into service quickly if needed.

The Civil Reserve Air Fleet program has three stages. Stage I is the lowest activation level. Stage II was activated for the first time during Operation Desert Shield in 1990. Stage III, for full-scale mobilizations, has never been activated; it calls for the use of up to 400 civilian aircraft.

The Air Mobility Command awards peacetime contracts to commercial air carriers that participate in the CRAF program.

Beach access minimized in plover recovery plan

By MAJ. STACEE BAKO
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

The seven-month nesting season of the Western Snowy Plover starts March 1 and continues until Sept. 30.

Base officials, in cooperation with the local community, are attempting to meet all requirements to ensure compliance with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service supported and California Coastal Commission approved recovery plan and still allow public access to Vandenberg AFB beaches by March 1.

The 2003 recovery efforts are built on previous plans with a few enhancements:

The violation quota at Surf Beach has been increased to 50 (up from 40 in 2002); shelters will be added near beach entrances for enforcement personnel; and a remote surveillance system will be installed for closed beach hours.

At stake is balancing plover recovery with the rights of the public to access the beach.

Both are priorities for the wing, said Col. Robert M. Worley II, 30th Space Wing commander.

"We've worked hard to balance plover recovery with the rights of the public to access the beach. Both are high priorities for the wing," Worley said. "We are proud of our success last year where the plover population increased significantly and we kept the beach open through the end of the nesting season. I think this year's plan enhancements will lead to even greater success for the plover," Worley said.

"We fully understand that Surf Beach access is a public right and we are doing what we can to ensure people and plovers can exist together."

By prioritizing \$200,000 for patrols, shelters and fencing, money that would otherwise go to base quality of life functions, Worley has put a lot of resources toward ensuring continued public access to

the beach, but it takes the effort of everyone involved in the process.

"The success with this program comes from building on what works. Each year we learn a few new things and apply it," said Nancy Francine, base wildlife biologist. "We've found the direction we're taking now to be successful, allowing access for the public without harming the bird. This management method has proven successful and we will continue to improve on it."

Major changes to the community's enforcement program occurred in 2002 when more beach patrols were hired and civil service ticket writers were brought on board.

The new personnel, in addition to \$10,000 in chain link fencing, a major push in the public and media outreach programs and a continuation of the Lompoc Decent Program resulted in the best year yet for the plover,

See PLOVERS Page A4



PHOTO COURTESY OF 30TH CES ENVIRONMENTAL FLIGHT
Baby plovers are tiny and well-camouflaged in the sand dunes of Vandenberg's beaches.

Dental clinic educates local children

By AIRMAN 1ST CLASS BRYAN FRANKS
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

The dentist's office is a place most adults don't like to visit, even when their teeth are hurting. Children can also be scared, usually because their parents felt the same way.

The drilling and the scratching noises the dentist's instruments make can be a little unnerving, but National Children's Dental Health Month is not a pain at all.

The 30th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron here is taking an active role in this nationwide program to educate children on the need for good dental habits.

"Our role in the program is based solely on patient education for the children and their parents," said Dr. (Capt.) Matthew Heimbach, officer in charge of preventive dentistry here. "We will be visiting numerous schools and reaching between 1,000 and 1,500 children this year." Vandenberg has been involved in the National Children's Dental Health Month for more than eight years.

The theme for this year's educational program is "Don't Let Your Smile Become Extinct," featuring Dudley the Dinosaur and friends. The objective of this program is to reach as many children as possible about dental health.

Base dental technicians visit Crestview, Los Padres and DeColores elementary schools, the Vandenberg Youth Center and the



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ED BRALY

Senior Airman Susan Buonocore, 30th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron, teaches Danny Ulich, fourth grade, the proper technique for brushing his teeth.

Child Development Center, said Staff Sgt. Claudia Driver, a periodontal therapist here.

Presenting the program in schools provides eye contact, Heimbach said. He added the method makes children more active in maintaining their own dental health. The program gives general dental health education and new product information so that military and civilian communities can improve their dental care.

"The kids respond better to our interactive videos and demonstrations as opposed to yearly reminders to brush and floss at a check-up," Heimbach said.

"The children are in a more relaxed and comfortable

environment, allowing an excellent opportunity to learn."

"The education that we provide to the children will hopefully impact and highly motivate them to care for themselves," Driver said. By teaching the techniques and benefits of good oral hygiene, dental experts hope children will adapt a pattern of brushing and flossing that will eventually become a habit.

The program here is only a small part of a nationwide event taking place this month, but it plays a large role in the lives of the children participating. According to the Academy of General Dentistry, good dental hygiene can make teeth last a lifetime.



PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN STEPHEN SCHESTER

The last Titan II heads out to Space Launch Complex 4-west on South Vandenberg Monday.

2nd SLS stacks final Titan II for launch

By 2ND LT. JENNIFER WHITAKER
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

History was in the making Monday as the last Titan II booster headed out to Space Launch Complex 4-west.

This is the third time the rocket has headed out to the pad for stacking, and the launch team is hopeful that this will be its last.

"The next time G-9 leaves this pad, it will be riding a column of fire," said Lt. Col. David Thompson, 2nd Space Launch Squadron G-9 launch director.

The Titan II booster carries a Defense Meteorological

Satellite Program satellite into polar orbit 458 nautical miles above the earth.

All military services will use the satellite to monitor and predict regional and global weather patterns in support of military operations, said 2nd Lt. DeShawn Fogle, 2nd SLS.

The 30th Space Wing, 2nd SLS, Lockheed Martin, and Detachment 9, Space and Missile Systems Center head up the G-9 mission. The launch team is proud to be part of this historic event.

See TITAN Page A4

In this issue of the



Also view The Space & Missile Times at www.vandenberg.af.mil and click the Space & Missile Times button.



Team V sends messages of love and recalls favorite Valentine's Day memories. See Page A3.



Destinations Central Coast makes a new friend at the Build-a-Bear workshop in Thousand Oaks. See Page B1.

Weekend forecast
Partly cloudy Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Low/High
42/68

For a full Vandenberg weather report, visit www.vandenberg.af.mil/30sw/organizations/30og/weather/weather

Commander gives his interpretation of "Hooah"

By Lt. Col. Jeffrey Follansbee

30th Range Squadron commander
It is difficult to say what is impossible for us. The dream of yesterday is the hope of today and the reality of tomorrow," said Robert H. Goddard, American rocket scientist.

Dr. Goddard's quote, and the spirit of HOOAH outlined below, is dedicated to the courageous astronauts of the Space Shuttle Columbia who gave their lives so that "the hope of today" will truly become "the reality of tomorrow." To the Columbia Seven — the world is in your debt, we pray you are at home, at peace.

What is all this HOOAH going around? As the 30th Space Wing and Team Vandenberg muster at various forums and events, you can count on the assembled masses to issue several rounds of HOOAH whenever we wish to proudly show support and pride on any given topic.

HOOAH is a rally cry, and it typifies the pride and passion that the U.S. military, the U.S. Air Force, the 30th Space Wing and Team Vandenberg apply in service to our country and our missions. However, ever since I first encountered the term HOOAH while serving a joint tour in Germany, I have been searching for an origin or specific meaning.

In the joint arena the term was strictly U.S. Army and was used in every imaginable context to convey virtually every

conceivable emotion, affirmation, or acknowledgement. The origin even remains a mystery among Army personnel, however, my favorite folklore on the creation and spirit of HOOAH goes like this:

An Army platoon leader was faced with taking a heavily fortified hill. He needed a courageous and cunning volunteer. He spotted a strapping private first class and asked his name. The PFC sounded-off with a peculiar accent.

"I'm-ah, PFC Jones-ah" he exclaimed. The platoon leader immediately ordered PFC Jones to "take that hill" to which PFC Jones replied "HOO-AH?"

Well, that is not the spirit of HOOAH I encountered when arriving at Vandenberg AFB this past July. Although, I must admit, I was initially a bit confused when I encountered a predominantly U.S. Army term at an Air Force Base.

However, the gusto with which the 30th Space Wing and Team Vandenberg belted out its HOOAHs eliminated all confusion and led me to conclude that the meaning of HOOAH, at least at Vandenberg AFB, is

embodied by the following acronym, an acronym of superior leadership, commitment, and performance.

H - Heart. Heart that drips red, white, and blue, pulsates with pride, and is fueled by a passion for service and excellence. It is our heart and our passion for our nation and what we do that makes us the best at what we do. Lead with your heart, mold the hearts of those around you, and deliver excellence with pride and passion.

O - Out front. Leadership, energy, initiative, drive. Embracing the mission, pointing the way, sprinting to get there, bringing your unit with you. Team. Attacking the issues before they become crises, grasping opportunity to advance the mission, mission execution, mission success.

O - Outstanding. A level of performance, beyond excellent in inspector general terms. While outstanding performance is affirmed during a single event such as an operational readiness inspection, it is the result of sustained exceptional

performance. In order to achieve outstanding performance it must be defined. Once defined, obstacles must be cleared and people enabled...and recognized along the path to peak performance.

A - Attitude. Attitude is everything! Winning starts with attitude. Success is an attitude. Attitude is contagious so be sure to get one, make sure it's a good one, and create an attitude disease.

H - High Speed. Like the rockets and missiles that scream off Vandenberg's launch complexes and through the Western Range and the F-22 jets that fly daily on our flight test range, we must posture our organizations and missions for supersonic flight. Maximum efficiency in minimum time — our highly skilled people, the Air Force's finest, cleared hot to do what they do best.

So, lead from the heart, get out-front and make every day outstanding by developing a contagious attitude in your high-speed maximum-performance unit!

While this acronym certainly won't solve the mystery to the origin or definitive meaning of HOOAH, I hope it brings a particular vision to your mind, and to your work center so as to continue to foster the pride, commitment, and a spirit of HOOAH at the 30th Space Wing and throughout Team Vandenberg!



Commander's
Action Line

Call 606-7850
or
E-mail your message to
actionline@
vandenberg.af.mil



Col. Robert M. Worley II
Commander

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 action line is a great way to communicate, don't forget to use your chain of command, first sergeants, base services officials and other base professionals first.

Thank you 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.

The 30th Space Wing

Mission:

To provide combat capabilities through launch, range and expeditionary operations.

Vision:

America's finest professionals building the best spaceport and test range in the world.

Be Aware! Anti-Terrorism Force Protection is an Individual Responsibility!

Force Protection Tip: Report suspicious people, vehicles or packages to the 30th Security Forces Squadron Law Enforcement desk at 606-3911.

**SPACE & MISSILE
TIMES**

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For information about the Space & Missile Times, call the staff at (805) 606-2040.

Airman re-enlists on oil rig

By 2ND LT. DESHAWN FOGLE
2nd Space Launch Squadron
■ When airmen decide to reenlist, they're making a choice to reaffirm their commitment to the United States Air Force, as well as to the United States of America.

Not only is renewing their commitment a major step, but so is choosing the location to take that step.

Re-enlistment locations vary with the individual's imagination. Team Vandenberg members have re-enlisted high above the street on a telephone pole and overlooking a local flower field where the flowers were grown to represent a design of the American Flag.

The only requirements are the oath, an officer to administer it and the presence of the American Flag.

On Dec. 6, a member of the 2nd Space Launch Squadron took advantage of the opportunity to renew his oath in a most unlikely place.

Master Sgt. Ben Rosen, 2nd SLS Support Flight superintendent, renewed his oath onboard Platform Irene, an offshore oil rig operated by Nuevo Energy off Vandenberg's southern coast.

Capt. Deborah Newman, 2nd SLS chief of Booster



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Master Sgt. Ben Rosen, 2nd Space Launch Squadron, receives his oath from Capt. Deborah Newman, 2nd SLS, onboard Platform Irene Dec. 6.

and Facility Engineering, administered the oath. "It was the first ever re-enlistment on Platform Irene," Newman said. "That made it a very neat experience for members of the 2nd as well as employees of Nuevo. I have a lot of respect for Ben and I was proud for the opportunity to re-enlist him."

"The trip to Platform Irene was both rewarding and an honor," Rosen said.

"It was great seeing what goes on just a few miles off of our coastline. I thank everyone at a Nuevo Energy who provided the tour and I was glad to finally see what the space launch complexes look like from that angle."

Rosen said the tour, arranged by his unit, was very informative.

"We left with a greater knowledge of the inner workings of an oil platform," he said.

"It was a once in a lifetime opportunity and I would like to extend my thanks to Captain Newman and to everyone there, especially the Nuevo Platform crew."



Staff Sgt. Erin Panas
30th Security Forces Squadron

PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ED BRALY

Team Vandenberg Warrior

Duty: Security Forces Phase-1 instructor
Hometown: Jackson, Michigan
Time at Vandenberg: one year, nine months
Time in service: four years, two months
Hobbies: playing soccer, volunteering with the Big Brothers, Big Sisters program
Education goals: to earn a Community College of the Air Force degree in criminal justice
Why she likes her job: "I like the challenges and rewards of educating new Security Forces personnel."

ALCON: Alpha

A general threat of possible alcohol abuse or DUI activity exists.

Days since last DUI: 5
DUI totals for the Year: 3
Saves by AADD this year: 21

| | | | |
|---------------|---|------------|---|
| 30th OG | 0 | 14th AF | 0 |
| 30th MXG | 1 | 381st TRG | 0 |
| 30th MSG | 1 | 576th FLTS | 0 |
| 30th MDG | 0 | Det. 9 | 1 |
| 30th SW Staff | 0 | Others | 0 |

DON'T DRINK & DRIVE!

If you're drinking alcohol, you need a ride home. For a free, no-questions-asked ride home, call Airmen Against Drunk Driving at 698-8823 or 698-8822

Crime Beat...

COMPILED BY MASTER SGT. WESLEY ASLESON
30th Security Forces Squadron
Assault – Feb. 7

A military member reported another military member was causing a disturbance at the Peacekeeper Dormitory. Upon arrival, investigation revealed a disorderly and intoxicated military subject pushed a military member. The member was apprehended for disorderly conduct and assault. He was transported to the security forces control center for processing and released to a unit representative.

911 hang-up – Feb. 8

The Fire Department dispatcher reported receiving a 911 call with the caller immediately hanging up. Patrolmen responded to the Scout Dormitory where the call originated. Investigation revealed a military member made the call during an argument with a visiting

military member. The visitor was escorted to his temporary living quarters.

Drunk driving and underage drinking – Feb. 9

A patrolman stopped a military member for speeding and erratic driving on Highway 1. The driver exhibited signs of drunk driving. Patrolmen also discovered a military passenger under the age of 21 in the vehicle was intoxicated. The driver was apprehended for drunk driving and the passenger for Failure to Obey a Regulation. Both members were transported to the security forces control center for processing. Both were released to their squadron section commander.

Assault – Feb. 9

A club employee reported a fight outside of the Pacific Coast Club. Patrolmen responded to investigate. Investigation revealed a military member struck another military member and departed the facility. The military suspect was located

and apprehended for assault. She was transported to the security forces control center for processing and released to her unit First Sergeant. An incident report was accomplished.

Shoplifting – Feb. 9

BX Security reported detaining the daughter of a military member for shoplifting. Patrolmen responded to investigate. Investigation revealed the daughter was suspected of stealing lip-gloss. The daughter was released to her parents. An incident report was accomplished.

DID YOU KNOW? In accordance with the 30th Space Wing Installation Traffic Code, all personnel who ride bicycles or use roller blades on Vandenberg AFB must wear an approved American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or Snell Memorial Foundation bicycle helmet. Safety equipment for bicyclists is highly recommended.

TITAN:

From Page A1

"Very few are fortunate enough to be involved in history-making events and I feel proud to be representing the Air Force in this endeavor," said 2nd Lt. Sarah Cutliff, 2nd SLS booster operations controller.

Problems with the rocket occurred in January 2001 when, 19 seconds before liftoff, problems with the booster and payload caused the launch crew to scrub, Fogle said.

He said the Titan II sat on the

pad for more than a year before it was taken down and another mission was launched.

"The G-9 de-stack was a historical event in itself in that it was the first time in the 13 years of the program that a fully fueled Titan II was de-fueled and de-erected," Fogle said.

Seven days after the G-14 mission launched in June 2002, G-9 was back on the pad at SLC 4-west preparing for an October launch attempt. Just two months later, a problem with the satellite caused a launch scrub and second de-

erection, Fogle said.

"The day has come again," Fogle said. "G-9 will be making another appearance at Slick 4, and the 2nd SLS team is determined to make this its final appearance."

G-9 mission planner, 2nd Lt. Jeremy Owens, said he feels a great deal of pride in being entrusted with Titan II's final mission. "G-9's flight into history will be one for the books, I'm sure of that," he said.

"An extraordinary era in space launch is coming to a close," said Tech. Sgt. Charles Spice, 2nd SLS satellite operations controller.

PLOVERS:

From Page A1

doubling their population here to 201.

The Lompoc Docent Program educates beach goers on the plover and the importance of adhering to beach rules.

The 2002 hatch rate for all Vandenberg beaches was 47 percent, for Surf Beach only it was 48 percent. While rates are lower than in 2001, it has still been "a decent year," according to Francine.

The number of fledglings produced is the key to how successful the recovery program is going, Francine said. And with the rates still improving, the base is doing better than what the recovery plan requires. Without efforts in previous years, the highest hatch rate was 41 percent with the lowest at nine percent.

Francine also commended the military population for adhering to the beach rules. "There were zero violations at Wall Beach last year," said Francine. "The military has really taken compliance to heart and are setting a good example."

BRIEFS:

From Page A1

cans should be broken down to their lowest form. Scheduled pick-ups are the second and fourth Monday of each month or Tuesday if the second or fourth Monday is a federal holiday. Housing residents should place trash items at the curb before 7 a.m. on pick-up days. Residents who are moving out can take bulk trash to the landfill with a copy of their orders. For more information, consult the housing brochure or call Service Contracts at 606-2330.

COMMISSARY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The Commissary maintains normal store hours for President's Day.

Beach Awareness

- Nesting season is March 1- Sept. 30
- Restrictions: no beach fires, pets, horses, kite flying, feeding of wildlife; or off-road vehicles.
- Access is limited to one-half mile at Surf Beach, one-quarter mile at Wall Beach and one-half mile at Minuteman Beach. Beaches are open Friday – Monday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Ocean Beach is closed completely.
- Violations allowed:
 - Surf Beach: 50
 - Wall Beach: 10
 - Minuteman Beach: 5

Following El Niño storms in 1998, the plover population at Vandenberg risked near extinction. Initially the decision was made to close 11 miles of Vandenberg beaches to access for the entire nesting season, but over the past few years, actions taken to preserve the plover's nesting areas have increased their numbers and led to the re-opening of parts of the beaches.

The base requested and was granted permission to open certain areas of the

beaches to the base populace and to the public.

In 2000, base officials negotiated with USFWS and opened one-half mile of Surf Beach to the public -- provided signs were posted and base security forces increased patrols. As a result the plover population increased from 78 to 105. In 2001, efforts included hiring five civil service beach patrol officers and putting in snow fencing to mark off closed areas. Again, the plover population rose to 122.

The base is still awaiting the USFWS Biological Opinion and plan approval prior to opening the beaches after the start of the nesting period, Francine said.

MEDICAL TRAINING DAY CLOSURE

The 30th Medical Group closes for training the fourth Thursday of each month beginning Feb. 27. For emergencies – a threat to life, limb or eyesight – patients should call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room. For urgent care only, call (800) 252-3299 or 606-2273. For more information, call 1st Lt. William Menza at 606-1407.

ELECTRONIC WASTE DISPOSAL

Military housing residents should bring electronic waste such as computers and televisions to the collection accumulation point, building 6830, for recycling. Office hours are Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 606-8438.

JUDGE ADVOCATE LAW SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Officers with between two and 10 years of active-duty service may apply for the Funded Legal Education Program and the Excess Leave Program. Both programs require attendance at an American Bar Association accredited law school. Upon graduation and admission to practice law before any state's highest court or federal court, candidates are eligible for designation as judge advocates. Applicants must complete all application forms, apply to an ABA accredited law school, receive their Law School Admissions Test results, and complete a Staff Judge Advocate interview by March 1. Call Maj. Lynnette Pratzner at DSN 224-5941. Information is available online at www.jagusaf.hq.af.mil.

PATRIOT VOICES AUDITIONS

Vandenberg's vocal ensemble, Patriot Voices, needs military members of all ranks to audition for this all-volunteer organization. Patriot Voices performs at various functions on base and in the local community. For more information, call Capt. Zack Guza at 606-4725 or Staff Sgt. Tim VanProoyen at 606-8483.

Belly Flop!



PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN STEVE SCHESTER

534th Training Squadron player Patrick Slaughter (No. 44) tries to knock the puck in on his stomach through 30th Logistics Readiness Squadron goalie Peter Long. Meanwhile, Russ Deatherage (No. 16) and Gary Laub (No. 6) try to keep the puck from going in. The 534th TRS beat the 30th LRS 8 to 6 to take the first Vandenberg Roller Hockey Intramural Championship. The 534th TRS finished the season undefeated.

Missed!



PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN STEVE SCHESTER

534th Training Squadron goalie Brett Fincher and his team mate (No. 69) Rob Feist watch the puck go by after a shot from 30th Logistics Readiness Squadron team members (No. 11) Andrew Reeves and (No. 14) Chris Anderson.

Want to see more sports in your Space & Missile Times?

Tell us what your team's up to!

Send stories and photos to SMT@vandenberg.af.mil

Around the Air Force

Pentagon monitors deployment health care

By ARMY SGT. 1ST CLASS DOUG SAMPLE
American Forces Press Service

Defense Department officials have changed the way they will track and assess the health care given military people before, during and after deployments, a senior Pentagon health official said Feb. 11. DoD's new strategy emphasizes health care surveillance of deployed people, said Dr. Michael Kilpatrick, deputy director of the Deployment Health Support Directorate here.

Officials, he said, want no repeat of 1991 Gulf War health care problems, referring to widespread instances reported of deployed people returning home with incomplete and poorly maintained medical records and improperly monitored illnesses.

Kilpatrick said DoD officials are

concerned with taking care of the health of military people and their families. "To do that optimally, we need to provide preventive care," he said. "And if a servicemember becomes ill or is injured, we need to provide treatment for (him or her)."

After a deployment, he added, people need to know that DoD will provide them with care for any medical problem they may develop.

This strategy is designed to help the department track servicemembers' diseases and injuries and to provide them comprehensive follow-up treatment for deployment-related health conditions, he said.

Kilpatrick directs the DoD effort to protect the health of deployed servicemembers.

He said there was no unique screening being done before deployment during the Gulf War. "If you were on active duty, you were generally assumed to be deployable," he said.

Now, he said, Defense Department officials plan to see that force health is closely monitored through a series of medical assessments before and after deployment and that health concerns are documented and closely monitored.

Kilpatrick said the pre- and post-deployment health assessment is a short series of questions that look to see if troops are physically and psychologically prepared to deploy. The forms can be found on DoD's deployment Web site at www.deploymentlink.osd.mil.

The assessment is "an opportunity for them to bring up any medical conditions that occurred to them in the last several months or in the period since their last physical examination. It's a quick check to make sure they are ready to go," he said.

The health assessments are done on paper and checked by a physician "to see if there are any changes in servicemembers' health or condition that may require attention before or after they deploy," Kilpatrick said. Later, the forms are sent to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., where they are scanned and retained for analysis.

Transition help vital, chief tells Congress

By STAFF SGT. A.J. BOSKER
Air Force Print News

For airmen who plan to hang up their uniforms and say goodbye to the military, whether after four years or a career, the future can be filled with uncertainty.

A changing economy coupled with a competitive job market makes the idea of finding a good job a bit scary, Chief Master Sgt. Elizabeth Schouten recently told members of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

"In the Air Force, we often put the needs of our country first, and it's truly difficult to shift gears and concentrate on ourselves, especially after serving many years in uniform," said Schouten, who is the deputy director of operations for the U.S. Air Force Band at Bolling AFB, D.C.

It was her first time providing congressional testimony, and Schouten said she was honored to represent the men and women in uniform and grateful for the opportunity to be an advocate for the Transition Assistance Program

— a program to help people transition from the military lifestyle to a civilian one.

Schouten enrolled in TAP after hearing her colleagues rave about the program, she said. And most of them encouraged her to attend TAP two years before her retirement.

"I understand why," she said. "TAP gave me not only great information but also helped me develop a plan of action complete with tools and personalized, follow-up assistance every step of the way."

TAP is not just for retiring airmen, she told committee members in her written testimony. The program is designed to give everyone leaving the military the same opportunity to explore career options.

"Although I've spent most of my life on a stage, the idea of marketing myself terrified me," Schouten said. "I have no trouble selling the merits of others, but when it came time to do it for myself, I cringed. TAP provided me with innovative suggestions and tangible ways to overcome this fear of the unknown."

One full day was dedicated to developing resumes, cover letters and interviewing techniques to help TAP attendees civilianize military terms and adapt a new way of thinking, she said. It also addressed negotiating for salaries and benefits packages.

"Very few military members have ever had to interview for a job," she said. "This information was invaluable."

Veterans Affairs representatives met with TAP participants to discuss their education and health benefits.

GPS jamming no 'silver bullet' for possible adversaries

By MASTER SGT. SCOTT ELLIOTT
Air Force Print News

Iraq and other potential adversaries may have the ability to jam global positioning system signals, but Air Force war planners are not too worried about the effect of jamming on precision munitions.

In fact, it is a challenge they have been anticipating for a long time, and they are confident in their ability to overcome it.

"From the day we built GPS, we've been working on ways to overcome jamming," said Lt. Col. John Carter, chief of space requirements at the Pentagon. "We're very confident we can do that."

GPS is a constellation of satellites that emit electronic signals while orbiting the Earth. A GPS receiver gathers the signals from multiple satellites overhead, then triangulates those signals to calculate its precise location. Those receivers can be hand-held or mounted in ships, aircraft, vehicles and guided munitions.

The United States routinely installs GPS guidance packages in standard 500- 1,000- and 2,000-pound bombs to create the Joint Direct Attack Munitions. The JDAM typically strikes within 13 meters of its target. According to reports, Iraq has acquired several Russian-made transmitters capable of jamming the GPS signal.

In general terms, someone could "jam" a radio signal by using a more powerful signal on the same frequency.

 **America's Air Force -- No one comes close!**

SPACE & MISSILE

FEATURES

Destinations Central Coast @ Build-A-Bear Workshop

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

The trip I took with my daughter, Kaitlin, falls a little bit outside the spectrum of a Central Coast Destination but it was so worthwhile I just had to share it nonetheless.

For Christmas, my daughter's cousins, Elizabeth and Caroline, gave her a \$25 gift card for the Build-A-Bear Workshop. I was a bit intrigued, as I'd never heard of such a thing.

There was a Web site listed on the card so I went online to check it out at www.buildabear.com.

Build-A-Bear Workshops are stores where children pick the parts and build their own unique teddy bears. Once the child selects the type of bear they want, they help a bear builder associate stuff their new furry friend adding a heart, a wish and a whole lot of love.

As it turns out, the nearest store to the Central Coast is about two hours south of here at The Oaks mall in Thousand Oaks. Only five minutes east of the 101 Freeway, it's easy to find.

I was planning to have Kaitlin simply go online to pick her bear and have it delivered to our house but this seemed like the perfect opportunity to reward some great behavior.

Kaitlin's really been working hard in school to not talk too much and to stay focused on her work. After two attempts, she made it though a week without pulling any cards, her school's system of discipline. With that goal reached, we were ready to jump in the car Saturday for a girls-only road trip!

We took off early for a relaxing, traffic-free drive. We talked. We sang '80s love songs at the top of our lungs and we stopped for lunch at McDonald's in Carpinteria. By the time we arrived at The Oaks, we were definitely ready to do some shopping.

Kaitlin's 6-year-old eyes widened and she gasped in delight as she soaked in the giant teddy bear out front and rows upon rows of bear clothes inside the Build-A-Bear Workshop.

"Will my wish really come true?" she asked as we walked in.



Kaitlin Bonilla, 6, dresses her new bear friend, Sara, in front of the Build-A-Bear Workshop in Thousand Oaks.

"Of course," I replied with all my mommy authority.

At first she just wanted to see what was there. We looked at all the different bears available. Actually, it's more than just bears. They have koalas, cats, dogs, and turtles to choose from as well as many others. They fill bins along one wall and range in price from \$10 to \$25.

Next we perused the clothes. Everything imaginable was available, including accessories. There were rows of delicates from undies to satin jammies. There were business and play clothes as well as costumes and dress-up clothes. Bears can be surgeons and firefighters or fairy princesses and bumble bees.

I explained to Kaitie that she could spend \$25 and helped her add up the selections she made.

Like most girls, Kaitie has excellent

taste and immediately fell in love with the \$22 centennial bear. She quickly changed her mind when she realized she couldn't afford to dress him.

She decided on the \$10 Lil' Cub in butterscotch color. That left her with \$15 to spend on clothes ranging from a \$3.50 sun visor to \$15 formalwear sets. Kaitie chose the 5-piece deluxe bride set. She's eagerly anticipating an upcoming stint as a flower girl this summer.

With that done, we headed for the stuffing center. Lindsay, a bear builder associate, asked Kaitlin to step on a pedal to start up the stuffing machine. She filled the bear almost to the top but left room for a special addition from Kaitlin—a cloth heart that would hold her wish.

"Now kiss it on both sides," Lindsay

said, "and make a wish!"

Kaitie did and then she put the heart inside her bear. Lindsay stitched up the bear and gave Kaitie a big hug.

Then we headed to the check out counter. Megan rang up the sale and took Kaitie's gift card. Mom supplied the sales tax. Then Megan took Kaitlin over to a computer and showed her how to make a birth certificate for her new friend.

Kaitlin is the proud new mommy of Sara Bonilla, stuffed Jan. 18, 2003. Weighing in at 7 ounces, Sara is 14 inches tall. She also came with a lovely cardboard house to carry her in.

With our purchases made and our bear dressed, we headed off to check out the rest of the mall.

Several hours later, we headed for home tired and happy. Kaitie slept the

whole way back, Sara snuggled tightly in her arms.

Nancy Sias, the Vandenberg Family Advocacy nurse, is always telling parents who have more than one child, that they need to spend individual time with each child.

The Build-A-Bear Workshop was the perfect opportunity for that. I wouldn't want to go to a workshop with more than one child at a time simply because of the decisions they have to make and the possibility for a crowded store. The situation definitely calls for some one-on-one attention.

Slightly outside the Central Coast, the Build-A-Bear Workshop is definitely worth the trip. The drive offers time to connect with your loved ones and the workshop is more than just buying a toy, it's building something special together.



PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. REBECCA BONILLA

After stuffing a bear for Kaitlin, associate bear builder Lindsay instructs Kaitlin to kiss the bear's heart and make a wish before she sews it up inside.

Community Calendar

14 FRI **Scholarships for Military Children**—Applications for \$1,500 scholarships are due at the Commissary by Feb. 21. The Defense Commissary Agency awards at least one scholarship per Commissary location to qualified applicants. Scholarships are available for unmarried children of active duty, Reserve, Guard, and retired military members. Applications are available at the Commissary or online at www.commissaries.com.

Henry H. Arnold education grant—Applications are available at the Family Support Center for

nts to applicants. or submission. Call 605-

for Kids
his camp—9 n. Saturdays March 15 at ancock nta Maria nis courts. ages seven ter now. Fee (805) 922-209.

captioning
llan Hancock

College is seeking volunteers who are competent typists, have a command of the English language and are good spellers. The Learning Assistance Program project is to help caption a library of nearly 3,000 films. Call Brian Dill at 922-6966 ext. 3788 or email bdill@hancock.cc.ca.us.

American Military University—offers free undergraduate tuition to spouses of active duty members who attend the college as undergraduate students through the Spouse Schoolmates Scholarship program. Call (703) 330-5398.

Airmen's Attic—needs donations of items necessary to set up a household. The program is open to military personnel, E-5 and below, with an Air Force Form 552 from their first sergeant. Call 606-5484.

Host families needed
The Cultural Homestay Institute is looking for families to sponsor junior high and high school age Japanese students March 26 through April 3. Call Diana Gellentien at 735-

9168 or 735-2771, Ext. 238, by Feb. 21 to sponsor a student.

Dads to new dads program—this mentorship program offers support to new dads. Call Nancy Sias at 606-5338.

Moms to new moms program—this mentorship program offers support to new moms. Call Nancy Sias at 606-5338.

Free car seats—available for single-income families E-4 and below. Call 606-5338.

Harbor and boat cruises—at Adventure Marina in Morro Bay. Call (805) 772-9463.

Twilight beach horseback rides—at Pacific Dunes Ranch in Oceano. Beginners are welcome. Call (805) 489-8100.

Babysitter training
8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at the Family Support Center. Call the Lompoc American Red Cross at 736-5110 to sign up.

Office closure—The Family Support Center is closed for staff training every Monday from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Personnel requiring emergency Air Force Aid will be assisted. Call

606-0801
Relaxation Room—8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday - Friday at the Health and Wellness Center. Call 606-2221.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)—7 to 8 p.m. Mondays at the Health and Wellness Center. Call the HAWC at 606-2221.

Financial Basics—11 a.m. to noon Tuesday at the Family Support Center. Call 606-4491

Stress and self management class—2 to 4 p.m. Tuesdays at the Health and Wellness Center. Call 606-9958.

Joint Retiree Activities Center—Open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday - Friday in building 10346 in the Base Exchange shopping center. Call 606-5474.

Thrift Shop hours—9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursdays.

Single Parents' Support Group—11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday at the Services Center. Call 606-9958.

Pre-separation Briefing—8 a.m. Tuesdays in the Family Support Center. The

briefing is required 90 days prior to leaving the service. Call 606-0801.

3-day Transition Assistance Program seminar—8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday - Thursday at the Family Support Center. Recommended for people separating or retiring within one year. Call 606-0801 to sign up.

Manage your move—8:45 to 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Family Support Center. Plan to attend 90-120 days prior to departure. Call 606-0801

Depression management group—10:30 a.m. to noon Thursdays at the Life Skills Support Center, with new groups beginning every 6-8 weeks. The group is open to active duty members and their dependents and is appropriate for adults or mature adolescents experiencing depression. Call Capt. Arlin Hatch or the LSSC staff at 606-8217.

CAL-VET home loan class—1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Feb. 21 at the Family Support Center. Learn the application procedures and

understand the basic CAL-VET home loan service. Call 606-0801.

Allan Hancock College photo exhibit—7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday in the Art Gallery, building L, at the AHC Santa Maria campus.

17 MON

18 TUE

19 WED

20 THU

MAR 5 WED

11 TUE

Chapel Services & Events

For other denomination worship services and events, call the chapel at 606-5773.

This free coffee house is Monday - Saturday for Volunteers and cookies ed. Call 606-5773.

Women of the Chapel - the second Wednesday in the Chapel 1 Annex. Call

ible study groups - 7 and Thursdays in the on building. Call 734-

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

Sunday
8:30 a.m. Praise and Worship, Chapel 2
10 a.m. Catholic Mass, Chapel 1
11:30 a.m. Traditional Protestant, Chapel 1
11:30 a.m. Gospel, Chapel 2

Monday - Friday
11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass, Chapel 2

Saturday
5 p.m. Catholic Mass, Chapel 2

♦ **Praise Kids** - 5:30 p.m. Sundays in the religious education building for children 4 years - 5th grade. Call 734-0514.

♦ **CCD classes are underway** - Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m. in the religious education building. Call 606-2505 or 734-3070.

♦ **Protestant adult and youth Bible study** - 7 p.m. Tuesdays in the Chapel 1 Annex. Call 605 7564

At the Movies

Today Catch Me If You Can

A gifted forger (Leonardo DiCaprio) attempts to stay one step ahead of the lawman (Tom Hanks) determined to bring him to justice in this comedy-drama based on a true story. Rated PG-13

Saturday Antwone Fisher

A sailor with an explosive attitude, Fisher (Derek Luke) is ordered to see a

naval psychiatrist (Denzel Washington) about his temper. His first step into the doctor's office leads him on a journey home. Rated PG-13

Sunday, 3 p.m. Pinocchio

A classic tale brought back to life in full length film. Rated G

All movies begin at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. A minimum of 15 people must be present for movies to run.