

Base Briefs

CHANGE OF COMMAND

Col. Edward Bolton Jr. relinquishes command of the 30th Operations Group to Col. Stephen Tanous at 2 p.m. July 8 in the 76th Helicopter Flight hangar, building 1735. Call Capt. Luis Ares at 605-4567 or Capt. Tim Millett at 605-4200 for more information.

CHANGE OF COMMAND

Lt. Col. Elizabeth Borelli relinquishes command of the 30th Weather Squadron to Lt. Col. Chan Keith at 10 a.m. Monday at the weather squadron, building 21150.

CHANGE OF COMMAND

Lt. Col. Clinton Crosier relinquishes command of the 2nd Space Launch Squadron to Lt. Col. David Thompson at 10 a.m. Tuesday in building 8401. Call Bobbie Moore to make reservations at 606-9725.

CHANGE OF COMMAND

Maj. Constance Meskill relinquishes command of the 14th Information Warfare Flight to Maj. Justin Langlois at 10 a.m. Wednesday in the Pacific Coast Club's warrior room. To make reservations, call 605-5344 by Tuesday.

CHANGE OF COMMAND

Maj. William Thomas relinquishes command of the 76th Helicopter Flight to Maj. Gregory Urso at 11 a.m. Wednesday in the 76th Helicopter Flight hangar, building 1735.

RETIREMENT

Master Sgt. Richard Smitley retires at 1 p.m. Wednesday in Chapel 1. A luncheon precedes the ceremony at 11 a.m. Call Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Curry at 606-8296 to make reservations by Monday.

VEHICLE CHANGES

All base personnel must notify pass and registration of any changes in their vehicle's registered owner, state license plate number, color or owner's organizational assignment. Decals must be removed when a windshield is replaced, the vehicle is sold or transferred or when directed by security forces. Failure to do so could result in deregistration of vehicles or denial of additional vehicle registration for 30 days.

PARENT PINS

The Air Force recognizes parents of America's airmen by sending a personalized letter and an Air Force Parent Pin to two parents or guardians. Register online at www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com.

DRY CLEANERS

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service here implemented a new contract for dry cleaning service on base. The new contractor is open for business in building 13700 across from the 30th Security Forces Squadron. The new

See BRIEFS Page A4



PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN JONATHAN POMEROY

Orbital Sciences Corporation employees prepare the OrbView-3 satellite for launch into a near-polar orbit. A Pegasus rocket carries the satellite into orbit and is launched from an L-1011 airplane.

Team V launches Pegasus

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

Orbimage's OrbView-3 satellite was successfully launched toward a near-polar orbit onboard an Orbital Sciences Corp. Pegasus rocket launched from the underbelly of an L-1011 aircraft at 11:53 a.m. Thursday.

The plane took off from Vandenberg's flightline and released its cargo near Monterey, Calif., approximately 200 miles north of here.

"The OrbView-3 satellite is

among the world's first commercial satellites to provide high-resolution imagery from space," said Chuck Smith, integration and test manager for OrbView-3.

OrbView-3 produces one-meter resolution panchromatic and four-meter resolution multi-spectral imagery, Smith said.

One-meter imagery enables it to create highly precise digital maps showing houses, aircraft and even cars.

Four-meter multi-spectral imagery provides color and infrared information for studying

the impacts of pollution on human surroundings as well as on wildlife habitats and bodies of water. It also monitors environmental changes such as the deforestation of rain forests and the cleanup of environmental hazards, Smith said.

The satellite's imaging instrument provides both types of imagery with eight-kilometer width coverage.

It revisits each location on Earth in less than three days and has the ability to turn from side-to-side up to 45 degrees, Smith said. OrbView-3 imagery is downlinked in real-

time to ground stations located around the world or stored onboard the satellite and downlinked to Orbimage's master U.S. ground stations.

The OrbView-3 provides imagery useful for a variety of applications such as telecommunications, utilities, oil, gas, mapping, surveying, agriculture, forestry, and national security. OrbView-3's stereo imaging capability will provide 3-D terrain images.

See ORBIT Page A4

Soldiers deploy through Vandenberg

By AIRMAN JUANIKA GLOVER
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

Several Team Vandenberg units pulled together June 14 and 15 to help 3,300 Army National Guard soldiers deploy to Camp Roberts for an operational exercise. Thursday, the soldiers were back at Vandenberg to redeploy to their home units.

The 30th Operations Support Squadron, 30th Space Wing, 30th Logistics Readiness Squadron and the 30th Security Forces Squadron all pitched in for the Army National Guard's Sierra Raven exercise. Twelve commercial airplanes flew into Vandenberg's airfield carrying the soldiers.

Sierra Raven gave soldiers from the 81st Separate Armor Brigade a chance to exercise deployment and planning skills that are not usually used on short distance deployments, and practice skills on terrain on which they do not have significant experience, said Army Lt. Col. Theresa Wetzel, transportation chief.

"Vandenberg is our aerial port of disembarkation for deployment and aerial port of embarkation for re-deployment," Wetzel said. "Soldiers deploying through Vandenberg only (spent) a few hours on post at either end, similar to the time they would spend during a deployment outside the United States.

"Practicing these skills will greatly enhance



PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN JONATHAN POMEROY

Commercial airplanes deliver more than 3,000 Army National Guardsmen to Vandenberg's flightline June 14 enroute to Camp Roberts, Calif.

our success at the National Training Center, (Ft. Irwin, Calif.) where we only get to train once every eight years," she said.

Since very few planes fly into Vandenberg's flightline, this project took careful planning beginning in August 2002. Tech Sgt. Darryl Revier, 30th OSS deputy chief of airfield

management, was the first person Wetzel contacted regarding Sierra Raven.

He said in October 2002 Wetzel and her staff came here to visit the airfield, and determine the feasibility of Team V hosting the arrival of the

See DEPLOY Page A4

Command designates family down days

■ PETERSON AFB, Colo. — Gen. Lance Lord, commander of Air Force Space Command, has designated July 3, Aug. 29, Nov. 28, and Dec. 26, 2003, as well as Jan. 2, 2004 as family days for members of the command.

A family day means that, if possible, AFSPC people will not have to go to work on those days. All the family days are in conjunction with federal holidays. AFSPC officials said commanders should ensure people on duty on a family day get the time off at a later date.

"Air Force Space Command

people work hard all year long," Lord said. "The time we give them to spend with their families is acknowledging the loyalty and diligence they exercise every day at work."

Guidelines of the military leave program should be followed in matters concerning passes and chargeable leave. For civilian employees, commanders can encourage liberal leave, use of previously earned compensatory time, or use already-approved time-off. (Courtesy of AFSPC Public Affairs)

Air Force ends Stop-Loss

By MASTER SGT. EDDIE RILEY
Air Force Print News

■ WASHINGTON — The last of the airmen whose retirement or separation was delayed by Stop-Loss for Operation Iraqi Freedom were released and will be eligible to leave the service July 31.

Air Force officials authorized Stop-Loss for 43 officer and 56 enlisted specialties in early March to meet national security objectives, specifically the war in Iraq.

More than half of the specialties — 31 officer and 20 enlisted — were released from the program May 14.

Michael Dominguez, assistant secretary of the Air Force for manpower and reserve affairs, said the program's success, meaning victory in the war, led directly to its conclusion.

"Because we were able to retain these Air Force members and their expertise to contribute to the major combat phase of the war, we were able to complete that part of the mission as planned and may now allow these American heroes to move on with their lives," he said.

The Stop-Loss release applies to all active-duty, Reserve and Air National Guard people in all enlisted grades and officers in the grade of colonel and below; however, deployed airmen must remain in place for the duration of their deployment, he added.

Military personnel flight officials will contact people who had a previously approved/suspended retirement or separation to review their options. Released airmen will be allowed up to five months transition time.

In this issue of the



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



George Thorogood and the Destroyers salute Vandenberg's airmen with a free concert. See Page A4.



Destinations Central Coast takes a look at the sky in Santa Margarita for a star-studded star party. See Page B1.

E-6, E-7 advance 125 strong

COMPILED BY TIMES STAFF

30th Space Wing Public Affairs
■ Congratulations to the following Team V members who were selected for promotion to technical and master sergeant in June!

- Technical Sergeant**
Thomas Arns, 533rd Training Squadron
Marvin Banks Jr., 30th Range Squadron
Jeffrey Barry, 30th Civil Engineer Squadron
Bill Barry, 30th Security Forces Squadron
Phillip Barton, 533rd TRS
Kevin Battles, 595th Space Group
Shawn Bauer, 14th Air Force
Brian Bell, 576th Flight Test Squadron
David Bohlander, 2nd Space Launch Squadron
Rebecca Bonilla, 30th Space Wing
Todnee Boyd, 614th Space Operations Squadron
Jason Bradley, 533rd TRS
Christopher Bradley, 30th CES
Carolyn Brown, 30th Logistics Readiness Squadron
Erin Brown, 576th FLTS
Gary Burdett, 30th Space Communications Squadron
Ernest Castillo, 30th CES
Adam Chandler, 532nd Training Squadron
Corine Collie, 30th Comptroller Squadron
Coy Crowe, 614th SOPS
Eugene Doctor, 30th SW
Paul Dryja, 381st Training Support Squadron
Joseph Edmundson, 595th SG
Joell Encalada, 30th LRS
Gary Freeman, 30th Mission Support Group
Mark Garcia, 532nd TRS
Jose Gomez, 614th Space Intelligence Squadron
John Green, 576th FLTS
Ronald Hael, 30th CES
Robert Harlow, 532nd TRS
Aaron Harrison, 30th MSG
Donald Henley, 576th FLTS
Cliff Huddleston, 381st TRSS
Rolan Jones, 534th Training Squadron
David Kelley Jr., Detachment 1, 345th Training Squadron
Jayme Lima, 30th CES
Clayton Long, 30th RANS
Thomas Mattern, Det. 1, 345th TRS
Aaron Mayer, 595th SG
Edward McFillin, 595th SG
Richard Miller, 30th LRS
Herbert Mosier, 30th RANS
Syravun Neal, 30th Medical Operations Squadron
Michael Oates, 614th Operations Support Flight
Guyland Patton, 532nd TRS
Jeffrey Pitman, 534th TRS
Jason Porter, 2nd SLS
Ronald Regelman, 576th FLTS
Flor Richards, 30th MDOS
Fernando Richards, 30th MDOS
Kevin Richardson, 30th SFS
Brian Riffey, 30th LRS
Richard Rio, 30th CES

See PROMO Page A4

Weekend forecast
Sunny Friday and Saturday.
Morning low clouds Sunday

Low/High
49/79

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

Military spouses make the difference

By COLONEL STEVE ARRINGTON

99th Air Base Wing inspector general

Over the years, I've talked a lot about military spouses ... how special they are and the price they pay for freedom too.

The funny thing about it is, most military spouses don't consider themselves different from other spouses. They do what they have to, bound together not by blood, but with a shared spirit whose origin is in the very essence of what love truly is.

Is there truly a difference? I think there is. Decide for yourself.

Other spouses get married and look forward to building equity in a home and putting down family roots. Military spouses get married and know they'll live in base housing or rent, and their roots must be short so they can be transplanted frequently.

Other spouses decorate a home with flair and personality to last a lifetime. Military spouses decorate homes with flair tempered knowing that no two base houses have the same size

windows or same size rooms. Curtains have to be flexible and multiple sets are a plus. Furniture must fit like puzzle pieces.

Other spouses have living rooms that are immaculate and seldom used. Military spouses have immaculate living room/dining room combos. The coffee table got a scratch or two moving from Germany, but it still looks pretty good.

Other spouses say good-bye to their spouse for a business trip and know they won't see them for a week. They're lonely, but they can survive. Military spouses say good-bye to their deploying spouse and know they won't see them for months, or for a remote, even a year. They're lonely, but they will survive.

When a washer hose blows off, other spouses call Maytag and then write a check for getting the hose reconnected. Military spouses will cut the water off and fix it themselves.

Other spouses get used to saying, "hello," to friends they see all the time. Military spouses get

used to saying, "good-bye," to friends made at every base.

Other spouses worry about whether their child will be class president next year. Military spouses worry about whether their child will be accepted in yet another new school next year and whether that school will be the worst in the city ... again.

Other spouses can count on their spouse's participation in special events ... birthdays, anniversaries, concerts, football games, graduation, and even the birth of a child. Military spouses count on each other: duty comes first and it can be no other way.

Other spouses put up yellow ribbons when the troops are imperiled across the globe and take them down when the troops come home. Military spouses wear yellow ribbons around their hearts and they never go away.

Other spouses worry about being late for mom's Thanksgiving dinner. Military spouses worry about getting back from Japan in time for dad's funeral.

And other spouses are

touched by the television program showing an elderly lady putting a card down in front of a long, black wall with names on it. The card reads simply, "Happy Birthday, Sweetheart. You would have been sixty today." A military spouse is the lady with the card. And the wall is the Vietnam Memorial.

I would never say military spouses are better or worse than other spouses. But I will say there is a difference. And I will say that our country asks more of military spouses than of other spouses.

And I will say, without hesitation, that military spouses pay just as high a price for freedom as do their active duty husbands and wives.

Perhaps the price they pay is even higher. Dying in service to our country isn't near as hard as loving someone who has died in service to our country, and having to live without them. Military spouses deserve America's gratitude for all they freely give. And if you know one, let them know how much you appreciate their sacrifices.

Commander's
Action Line

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

By performing Vandenberg's mission safely and effectively, Team V provides proof of their commitment to do the right thing.

Two-way communication is paramount to continued mission success. The 30th Space Wing Commander's Action Line is your direct link to me.

Through the action line, you can congratulate your teammates on a job well done, affect change and express productive points of view.

I want your input, and I am personally involved in every response.

The action line is always available and it's an excel-



Col. Frank Gallegos
commander

lent tool, but remember to use your chain of command. Talk to your supervisors, first sergeants, services officials and other base professionals and give them a chance to solve your problem first.

Working together, we will enrich the 30th SW mission performance and the quality of life of our airmen.

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

VFD takes the "uh-oh" out of the 4th of July "oooh"s and "aaah"s

By TIM JOHNSTON

Vandenberg fire inspector

Each year people are warned about the hazards of using illegal fireworks, but each year there are just as many incidents.

Vandenberg, like other cities in our community, does not allow the use of fireworks at any time. Fire season is here and with Independence Day approaching, there's an even greater chance of catastrophic wildland fires due to the illegal use of fireworks.

With so much control on fireworks, how do they turn into problems?

The biggest culprit is that many children obtain fireworks without their

parents' knowledge. Then they use them unsupervised and can cause a disaster before they know what's happened.

It's important that parents educate their children on the dangers of fireworks.

They also need to emphasize the pain they can cause to themselves, their parents and the community if they use fireworks unsafely and without proper supervision.

So who really gets hurt and when?

Most fireworks injuries involve small children. These are usually burns to the hands and eyes causing vision impairment and disfiguring scars. Sparklers are the biggest danger to children.

The temperature at the end of a sparkler reaches 1,800 degrees Fahrenheit and can

easily cause a burn.

But even worse, people can die from fireworks and the fires they cause. In 1997, 26 people were killed this way. That's a large improvement compared to 1902, when fireworks were legal in most states. In that year, fireworks related fires killed more than 200 people.

The Vandenberg Fire Department recommends people consult their local newspaper or activity calendar and attend one of several approved fireworks displays around the county.

The installation commander has banned the use of all fireworks on Vandenberg AFB, however, some types can be used within the city limits of Santa Maria. If you

decide to use legal fire works there, the Vandenberg Fire Department recommends the following safety tips:

- ◆ Always read the directions – follow the printed instructions carefully and use common sense.

- ◆ Have an adult present – proper supervision can prevent dangerous mishandling.

- ◆ Use fireworks outdoors only – light them away from buildings and vehicles in an area clear of dry grass and other flammable materials.

- ◆ Light only one at a time – move away quickly once the fuse is lit.

- ◆ Keep a safe distance – be sure others are out of range before lighting fireworks.

- ◆ Never point – or throw fireworks at another person.

- ◆ Never alter – or take fireworks apart.
- ◆ Have water handy – keep a hose and a bucket of water nearby for emergencies and for dousing misfired and spent fireworks.

- ◆ Never attempt to relight – or fix malfunctioning fireworks.

Parents must understand that they are liable for any damage or injuries caused by their children using fireworks.

The Vandenberg Fire Department hopes everyone has a safe 4th of July. Should you need any assistance on issues concerning fireworks, call the department at 606-4680 or 606-5380.

SPACE & MISSILE
TIMES

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

30th begins switch to launch group

By 2nd Lt. Jennifer Whitaker
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

■ In preparation for things to come, the 30th Maintenance Group got a new commander June 1.

The change placed the 30th Space Communications Squadron and the 30th Range Management Squadron under the command of Col. Edward Bolton, 30th Operations Group commander.

The re-organization was driven by necessity and "just made sense," said Lt. Col. Richard Lamb, 30th OG deputy commander. The 30th MXG commander retired, leaving a vacancy. The new launch wing structure, expected later this year, will permanently fill that vacancy.

In the meantime, rather than fill the position for a short time, the 30th Space Wing commander put Bolton in a dual-hat role as commander of the 30th OG and the 30th MXG.

"The re-organization will help us serve our customer base better," Lamb said. "The blend of operators teamed with communicators and contract managers under one boss gives us one commander, one mission, one focus, for operating and sustaining the Western range."

Lamb said the June 1 re-organization is a natural step in the progression toward a launch wing structure. The launch wing structure, still awaiting final approval, will place all aspects of launch operations under a single

launch group and all range operations under the operations group.

"This is the right thing to do for the Air Force and the 30th Space Wing," said Col. Frank Gallegos, 30th SW commander. "It is certainly a huge undertaking, but we'll do it right and will follow a coordinated and well-developed implementation plan."

Lamb said the launch group would be responsible for launch generation and execution, while the operations group would continue to maintain the Western Range.

According to the 30th Range Squadron mission statement, the duty of the range is to provide worldwide customers with tailored range operations, operations support management, and scheduling services. They do this through optics, tracking, telemetry, command and control systems, and various subsystems.

"Just as GPS satellites allow precision targeting for air and surface forces, the range instrumentation allows confidence of precision positioning in orbit," Lamb said.

He said the move to a launch wing structure would allow both launch and range teams to accomplish the mission efficiently as cohesive teams.

"As the Air Force's launch business continues to evolve, I think the launch wing construct sets us up for success in the future," Lamb said.



PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN JONATHAN POMEROY

Bad to the Bone

George Thorogood and the Destroyers perform at the parade grounds here during a free "Salute to Airmen" concert June 19th. Cold Shot, a band made up of local military members, opened for the headliner. Thorogood performed to a military crowd of nearly 2,000. The legendary rock 'n' roller performed the "Salute to Airmen" concert to show his support for Vandenberg members.



California AFA awards brightest members

Compiled by Times Staff
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

■ The California Air Force Association has announced its top annual awards, to be presented at the 2003 convention, which will be held through Sunday at March AFRB, Calif. Team Vandenberg and the local community were selected to receive 14 of the organization's awards.

According to its charter, the AFA is an independent nonprofit organization, devoted to supporting the Air Force, its people and missions around the world.

Members of the active-duty, Reserve and Air National Guard forces, as well as association volunteers, will be honored at the convention. In addition, Vandenberg's Robert H. Goddard Chapter of the association was selected as Chapter of the Year.

Anyone interested in more info regarding convention events should call Col. Nancy Driscoll, 4th Air Force, March AFRB, at DSN: 447-7156 or (909) 655-7156.

Events include the awards banquet, golf, March Field Air Museum tours, business meetings and more.

Team Vandenberg awards include the following:

US Air Force Person of the Year – Chief Master Sgt. Norman Marous, Camp Roberts, Calif.

Chapter of the Year – **Robert H. Goddard Chapter**, Vandenberg AFB
Senior NCO of the Year – **Senior Master Sgt. Robert Poluffe**, Detachment 9, Space and Missile Systems Center
Presidents Award – **retired Lt. Col. Denny Laws**

Sustained Superior Service Award – **retired Master Sgt. Dayna Castro**, 30th Space Wing Guardian Programs office

Sustained Outstanding Performance Award – **retired Maj. John Ransome**
Exceptional Service Award – **Staff Sgt. Chuck Spice**, 2nd Space Launch Squadron

Exceptional Service Award – **Dian Smith**

Exceptional Service Award – **Alison Vinson**

Meritorious Service Award – **Capt. Charity Hartley**, 576th Flight Test Squadron

Meritorious Service Award – **Kristi Stavoil**

Meritorious Service Award – **Paulette Taylor**, 381st Training Group

Distuished Achievement – **Community Partner Development – Goddard Chapter**

Chapter Past President – **retired Lt. Col. Denny Laws**

Hometown: Fresno, Calif.
Time in service: 2 years
Time on station: less than 1 year
Role in mission: sensor command and control operator

How do you contribute to the wing mission? As a member of 614th, I'm the direct execute authority for the 14th Air Force commander. My primary duty involves managing space assets to maximize worldwide detection of hostile attacks against North America.

What do you like best about the Air Force? The opportunities it gives me to expand my knowledge of life and the world around me.

If you could change one thing about the Air Force what would it be? I'd like to strengthen the interaction between supervisors and their troops with hopes of gaining a better understanding of leadership.

How do you fulfill the Air Force core values? I never lose sight of my personal goals, which are intertwined with the Air Force core values.

What's the most exciting experience you've had so far in the Air Force? I loved living in Colorado.

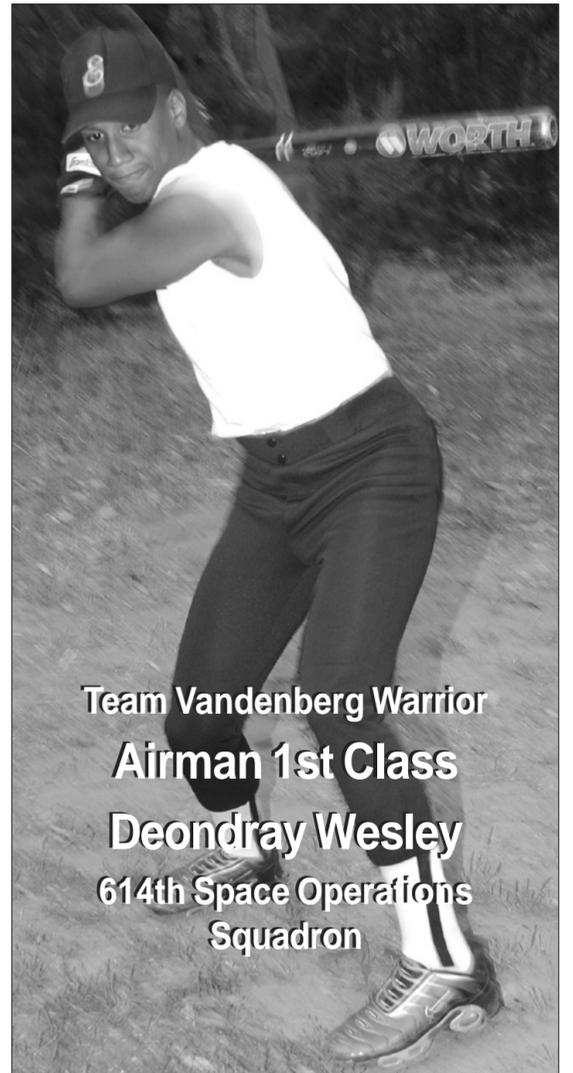
How would you improve life at Vandenberg? I'd increase the number of outdoor gatherings with a different event taking place every week.

Who is your role model and why? Michael Black. He's a businessman and pastor who gives back to the community in more ways than one. He never turns his back on anyone in need, no matter how many or bad the mistake.

Who is your favorite leader in history and why? Moses. He was one of the first people in history to step out of the shadow of society and bring freedom to an imprisoned people ruled by a cruel man.

Favorite movie or book: "Malcolm X"

Hobbies: sports, reading, watching movies, sightseeing, and computers.



Team Vandenberg Warrior
Airman 1st Class
Deondray Wesley
614th Space Operations Squadron

PHOTO BY 30TH SPACE COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON

ALCON: Normal

A general condition reflecting responsible alcohol use.

Days since last DUI: **6**
DUI totals for the year: **11**
AADD saves this year: **144**

30th OG	0	14th AF	0
30th MXG	1	381st TRG	2
30th MSG	4	595th SG	1
30th MDG	0	Det. 9	1
30th SW Staff	0	Others	2

DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE
Call Airmen Against Drunk Driving
at 606 or 605-2233.

Crimebeat ...

Compiled by Master Sgt. Wesley Asleson
30th Security Forces Squadron

June 19
Jailed military member – 5 a.m.

A check with local jails revealed a military member assigned to Camp San Luis Obispo was arrested for driving under the influence. The member's unit was notified.

Domestic assault – 6:30 p.m.

A military member's wife reported to the Vandenberg Security Forces Control Center that she was poked and slapped by her spouse at their quarters on. The member was

apprehended for assault and communicating a threat. He was released to a unit representative.

June 20
Police assistance – 8:48 a.m.

A military member's wife requested assistance in removing her sister from their quarters. Investigation revealed that after a disagreement, the sister wanted assistance in departing with her belongings.

Distraught husband – 4:53 p.m.

A Lompoc Police Department officer reported receiving a phone call from the distraught husband of a military member. Patrolmen con-

tacted the husband who appeared depressed. The member's first sergeant responded and assumed control.

June 21
Drunken driving – 12:06 a.m.

The main gate sentry requested assistance with a military member possibly driving under the influence. The member was apprehended after failing a field sobriety test. He was released to a unit representative.

Welfare check – 3:59 a.m.

The billeting reception clerk reported a military member was concerned for a military occupant in another room. Patrolmen discovered the room's fire alarm was sounding and water was constantly running.

After the occupant failed to answer the door, patrolmen entered through an open window and found a military member unconscious in the shower. Emergency medical technicians responded and attributed his condition to intoxication.

Missing property – 9:21 a.m.

A military member's wife reported property missing from her quarters. She said her sister may have removed it the day prior. Due to an ongoing dispute, the wife requested assistance in contacting her sister. The sister was believed to be staying with a military member. The member's first sergeant responded to assist patrolmen and the property was recovered from the sister.

June 22
Assault – 4:27 a.m.

A patrolman reported a fight in Bomarc Dormitory. Investigation revealed a military member grabbed a military member's wife by the arm while attempting to retrieve his keys from her.

The member was apprehended for assault. He was later released to his first sergeant.

Wanted person – 7:42 p.m.

A patrolman conducting a traffic stop on Highway 1 and Timber Lane, requested a driver check on a non-base affiliated civilian. The check revealed a \$3,000 warrant on the man for assault with a deadly weapon. A sheriff's unit took him into custody.

Commissary closes doors on mini-com July 31

Compiled by Times Staff
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

■ The Vandenberg Mini-com closes its doors for good July 31 but patrons won't be left hungry when the commissary changes to a seven-day-a-week operation.

Efficient use of the staff will allow management to open the main store Mondays and keep it open an extra hour every other day once the mini-com closes, said Robert Varella, Defense Commissary Agency zone manager.

"The additional full service shopping day at the main commissary will make it easier for our customers to plan their weekly shopping trips around their busy schedules," said Randy Epps, Vandenberg store director. "And the extra evening hours will give the Vandenberg community access to full-service shopping in all departments for an additional hour each day."

The change represents an added 15.5 hours of full-service shopping each week. Epps said that more access to the full-

service commissary is a positive trade off for shoppers.

In the area now holding the mini-com, Epps said he plans to bring in a line of bulk-packaged products offering additional savings for patrons.

"Everyone on the commissary staff is looking forward to this change," Epps said. "We're always searching for ways to enhance customer service, and we're excited that our seven-day-a-week extended hours is just around the corner."

Mission: keeping airmen's smiles bright, cavity free

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

When some people go to the dentist's office, they have reservations about what's going to happen once they get into the examination room.

In the waiting room, they're fine. There are magazines to read and television to watch.

They'll do anything to keep their eyes off the patients leaving the office.

Then it's their turn to go in to see the dentist.

Walking into an examination room can be like walking onto the set of an "X-Files" show. The lone chair, the bright lights and the 80 different instruments can

make a person believe the whole scene was designed just to cause torture inside their mouth.

Then the dentist comes in, takes a look inside the mouth and says, "No cavities this time."

Those are five small words everyone would love to hear from their dentist, but many Americans hear just the opposite. So what's the secret to success?

How can people prevent cavities?

It starts with regular visits to the dentist, proper brushing and flossing, and eating foods that promote healthy teeth according to the 30th Aeromedical Dental Squadron here.

People should generally visit their dentist at least once a year for a check up and cleaning, said

Staff Sgt. Melissa Anderson, 30th ADOS. Those who have braces and other orthodontic appliances in their mouths may need to see the dentist more frequently, she said. That's because the appliances can prevent all areas from being properly cleaned with a brush or floss.

But going to the dentist alone will not stop cavities from forming. Cavity prevention starts with proper brushing and flossing.

When brushing their teeth, people should use a soft toothbrush in circular motion for at least two minutes and twice a day, Anderson said.

"Some people just scrub the teeth once and are done in 30 seconds, and all they

accomplished was getting the mint flavor in their mouth," said Dr. (Capt.) Matt Heimbach, 30th ADOS. People should floss between each tooth by moving the floss along both sides of the tooth, he said.

Those who find flossing difficult can try using pre-made flossing tools.

Mouthwashes and toothpaste selection can sometimes be complicated with all the choices on the market today. The most important thing to look for in toothpaste and mouthwash is fluoride, Anderson said. Both should contain the cavity-fighting chemical.

So the dentist visit is done and the teeth are brushed and flossed. Now it's time to eat some

double fudge, cookie dough, rocky road ice cream with light whipped cream and a cherry on top, right? Wrong.

Why not? Because there's nothing that cavity causing bacteria love more than sugar, Heimbach said. Bacteria consume the sugar and secrete acid into the mouth. That acid slowly deteriorates the enamel on the teeth and allows bacteria to invade them. Of course it's not just ice cream that causes this acidic environment. Any amount of sugar will do the trick, he said.

"One piece of candy is enough to raise the Ph level in the mouth for twenty minutes," Heimbach said. "People should stay away from large amounts of sugar or rinse out their mouths

with water or mouth wash once they've eaten foods with sugar. People can eat foods with roughage like broccoli and celery that can actually help clean your teeth."

"Also chewing sugar-free bubble gum instead of gum containing sugar will decrease the incidence of cavities," Heimbach said.

"Some sugar-free gums contain a chemical called xylitol that can actually fight cavity-causing bacteria and promote a healthy mouth."

Following these guidelines will not keep people out of the dentist's chair completely. But they lower the possibility of the dentist giving them the dreaded, "you've got cavities," verdict.

PROMO:

From Page A1

Timothy Rowe, 576th FLTS
Baltazar Ruiz, 30th SFS
Jeannette Sandoval, 532nd TRS
Eliseo Santos Jr., 2nd SLS
Robert Sauerbrey, 381st TRSS
Shawn Shehane, 614th SIS
Tina Spears, 614th SOPS
John Staunton, 2nd SLS
Wayland Strickland, 576th FLTS
Shannon Stromberg, 614th SOPS
Faith Stroud, 392nd Training Squadron
William Thompson, 614th SOPS
Thomas Turkington, 533rd TRS
Jason Vanderworth, 534th TRS
John Weiseman, 30th SCS
Tobie Wethington, 30th MDSS
Sheila White, 532nd TRS
Karon Williams, 30th CES
Christine Williams, 30th SCS

Master Sergeant

Miguel Agramonte, 533rd TRS
Gavin Allred, 30th SCS
Scott Astrosky, 30th MSG
Jonathan Barrott, 614th SOPS
Brian Baumann, 595th SG
Robert Bekowitz, 533rd TRS
Scottie Benson, 2nd SLS
Keith Blades, 30th RANS
Peter Blanchette, 30th LRS
Stephen Carmean, 532nd TRS
Frank Chavez, 614th SOPS
John Cousins, 30th MDSS
Benjamin Curry Jr., 576th FLTS
John Descamps, Detachment 9, Space & Missile Systems Center
Daniel Galvin, 30th SCS

K.C. Givens, 2nd SLS
Brian Gmys, 614th SIS
Richard Grover, Det. 9, SMC
Kevin Gunnip, 614th SOPS
Andre Gustave, 30th Aeromedical Dental Squadron
Michel Hardy, Det. 9, SMC
James Hazelip Jr., 30th CES
Johnny Hillary, 30th CES
Thomas Hollier, Det. 1, 345th TRS
Roland Jennings II, 30th SCS
Malcolm Jones, 30th SFS
Kenneth Kephart, 595th SG
Kenneth Legnard, 30th CES
Scott Love, 576th FLTS
Brian Mikalowsky, 30th SFS
Douglas Miles, 14th Information Warfare Flight
Michael Moorman, 576th FLTS
Robert Myers, 532nd TRS
Michael Nardone, 614th SOPS
Robert Olivero, 30th Operations Support Squadron
Gregory Pocaigue, 30th LRS
James Powell III, Det. 1, 345th TRS
Derek Rabey, 30th SFS
Daniel Ricker, 30th OSS
Sammy Robledo, 30th SFS
Eric Sabadin, 30th RANS
Troy Saunders, Det. 1, 345th TRS
Stanley Schiffelbein, 614th SOPS
Bradley Squires, 2nd SLS
Gary Stanford, Det. 1, 345th TRS
Anthony Thomas, 534th TRS
Michael Tingley, 576th FLTS
Alfonso Vega, Det. 1, 345th TRS
Michael Waller, 30th ADOS
Glenn Watkins, Det. 1, 345th TRS
Deanna Wilson, 30th CES
Patrick Yomes, 534th TRS

ORBIT:

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Orbital Sciences launches the Pegasus rocket from an L-1011 aircraft rather than a traditional launch pad to give the rocket flexibility, said Eric Dembrook, Orbital's site manager here. The Pegasus has the ability to launch from anywhere that has a runway, he said.

The L-1011 takes the craft to 39,000 feet and travels at mach 0.8. There the rocket is dropped from the plane horizontally and allowed to freefall for five seconds. Then the primary engine takes over and accelerates the Pegasus from mach 0.8 to

more than mach 8 in only 77 seconds.

The Pegasus is cheaper than conventional launch vehicles because the first stage booster, the L-1011, is reused for each launch.

"The Pegasus launch vehicle is the most inexpensive U.S. space launcher today," Dembrook said. Orbital Sciences Corporation now assembles all of the Pegasus vehicles at Vandenberg and then ships them to their launch destinations. In fact, all but six of the Pegasus vehicles have been constructed here.

Orbital has completed 34 successful launches from this platform and they're backed logged with orders, Dembrook said.



Team Vandenberg Warrior
Eugene Dewegeli
30th Operations Support Squadron

PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN JONATHAN POMEROY

Hometown: El Monte, Calif.

Time in service: 14 years

Time on station: 11 years

Role in mission: machinist at Vandenberg's Training Device Design and Engineering Center

How do you contribute to the wing mission? I build training devices for the 381st Training Group, and other equipment as needed to support base missions.

What do you like best about the Air Force? I like the people. Air Force people are good people, dedicated, community minded and they support each other.

What's the most exciting

experience you've had so far in the Air Force? Helping the base to recover after the El Niño storms.

How would you improve life at Vandenberg? I'd have less fog and more sunshine.

Who is your role model and why? My oldest brother, Ron, works hard and never gives up.

Favorite leader in history and why: Jesus. He has changed the world.

Favorite movie or book:

"Sleepless in Seattle"

Hobbies: music, cycling, walks on the beach, computers, and time with friends.

DEPLOY:

From Page A1

huge Guard contingent. From there, Revier directed them to the 30th Logistics Readiness Squadron's base support planning section to ensure the exercise was properly planned throughout the base.

"We take care of everything that a visiting unit needs," said 1st Lt. Joseph Kleinfeldt, 30th LRS officer in charge of logistics plans. "It's not very often that Vandenberg has 3,300 Army troops passing through, so we wanted to make sure everything ran smoothly."

"Scheduling was the most important thing," said Capt. Michael Horowitz, 30th Operations Support Squadron Airfield Operations commander. "We had to make this happen with two major construction projects on the airfield."

The last 3,000 feet of the runway is

closed now due to placement of the overrun.

"South Alpha Taxiway was also closed due to installation of emergency access roads, meaning aircraft would have to back taxi on the runway to get into takeoff position," Horowitz said. "This meant the tower had their hands full mixing in arriving aircraft with departing aircraft."

In addition to supporting the soldiers passing through, base support planners made provisions for about 30 members of the Army's signal corps who stayed on base to test some topographic scatter equipment, Kleinfeldt said.

The signal corps is the equivalent of an Air Force communications squadron so they were testing equipment used to communicate between here and Camp Roberts, he added.

"This joint operation was a model of how America's fighting forces work

together," said Lt. Col. Lee-Volker Cox, 30th OSS commander. "It took a lot of planning and hard work by both Team V and the Army before the first plane landed and soldiers set foot on the airfield."

"Sierra Raven was the Washington Army National Guard's first rapid deployment exercise in years and our part went off flawlessly," Cox said.

"Watching the 747's land and Army troops come off the plane hit home and showed the importance of joint operations and the Air Force's ability to work with the Army before operations begin, he said.

"Sierra Raven gave both Team V and the Army National Guard the opportunity to train like we fight," Cox said. "The entire operation went off like a well-oiled machine, it was obvious the planning started last August. Count this as a total force success for Vandenberg and the Army."

BRIEFS:

From Page A1

telephone number is 734-3039.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Vandenberg's vocal ensemble, Patriot Voices, needs volunteers to sing the national anthem at various local functions and events. Practices are Mondays at 4:45 p.m. in the Chapel 1 sanctuary. Call Capt. Zach Guza at 606-4725 for more information.

VEHICLE LICENSE FEE

Military personnel whose state of legal residence is not California can take advantage of a program that exempts them from the state's vehicle license fee. Applicants must fill out a revised statement of facts, which requests the military member's branch of service, duty station, unit, commanding officer's phone number and state of legal residence. The revised form can be downloaded from the Department of Motor Vehicles' Web site at www.dmv.ca.gov/forms/reg/reg256.htm. Call the DMV at (800) 777-0133 for more information.

AIR FORCE RESERVE

Military members can continue their careers in the Air Force Reserve. For more information, call Master Sgt. Brenda Kartheiser at 606-2704.

PHARMACY PHONES

The 30th Medical Group has new phone numbers for pharmacy refills. Patients may call 605-0200 or toll free at (877) 826-3979.

SPACE & MISSILE TIMES

WANTS YOU!

Have you visited a Central Coast destination lately? Share it with the rest of Team V! Send in a 400 - 600 word rough draft about your adventure! Send submissions to: space&missiletimes@vandenberg.af.mil



Coalition forces launch operation in Afghanistan

By JIM GARAMONE
American Forces Press Service

■ **WASHINGTON** – Coalition and Afghan militia forces launched Operation Unified Resolve with a series of movements throughout the eastern province of Nangarhar, June 18, Combined Joint Task Force 180 officials said today.

The operation is concentrated around Jalalabad with about 500 American service members, mostly from the 82nd Airborne Division, participating.

The troopers, part of Task Force Devil, are working with two companies of local Afghan militia to kill or capture or deny sanctuary to anti-coalition forces.

Jalalabad is a strategic city located on the main route between the Afghan capital Kabul and the Pakistani city of Peshawar. The area was a stronghold of the Taliban, and al Qaeda maintained a large presence in the area.

On June 21, elements of the force launched an air assault to position forces along the Afghan-Pakistani border. Those troops blocked crossing points along the border while other forces conducted operations further west. The operation will continue “until the coalition meets all operational objectives,” said CJTF 180 spokesman Army Sgt. Maj. Harrison Sarles.

Sarles said Operation Unified Resolve was planned and executed in cooperation with the Afghan national government and provincial officials.

Anti-coalition forces have launched uncoordinated attacks against coalition forces in the area. These mostly consist of rocket attacks, booby traps and planting mines. CJTF 180 officials attribute much of the unrest to a group headed by Gulbaddin Hekmatyar.

Hekmatyar leads the Hizb-i-Islami Afghanistan, a fundamentalist faction of the mujahideen. In the early 1990s, Hekmatyar served as prime minister of Afghanistan. He was the man most responsible for the fighting that left Kabul in ruins. News reports said that Hekmatyar has formed an anti-coalition alliance with Taliban leader Muhammad Omar and the remnants of the al Qaeda group in the country.

In addition to combat operations, coalition forces continue to provide humanitarian aid to the people of the region. U.S. and coalition civil affairs teams are traveling with the combat forces to assess the needs of the local populations.

Provincial reconstruction teams are also working to rebuild the nation. Three so far are in Gardez, Bamiyan and Kunduz. The British will sponsor a team that should be up and in July, officials said. Plans are to establish four more teams. Each team has between 50 and 60 service members assigned. The teams assess area needs for wells, schools, roads, irrigation systems and medical clinics.

Teleradiology makes job easier, faster

By KAREN FLEMING-MICHAEL
Special to American Forces Press Service

■ **WASHINGTON** – Through teleradiology, today’s military radiologists – just like their civilian counterparts – routinely evaluate medical images sent from around the globe.

First used by the Army in early 1991 during the Persian Gulf War, teleradiology subsequently deployed to Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, Kosovo, Hungary, U.S. Navy ships, and, most recently, to Afghanistan and Kuwait.

Radiology is the science of X-rays and other types of radiant energy used in medicine for X-raying bones, organs and for diagnosing and treating disease.

“The technology today is so advanced that a clinic sending exams electronically thousands of miles away provides the same image quality as the images coming from their own in-house radiology department,” said Tom Lewis, who addresses teleradiology issues for the Air Force Medical Logistics Office.

In March 2002, for example, images for a soldier in Bosnia diagnosed with a brain tumor were reviewed first by neurosurgeons at Landstuhl Region Medical Center in Germany. Later that day neurosurgeons at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington saw the same images and consulted with Landstuhl medical officials on the best methods to treat the patient, who was medically evacuated to Walter Reed.

In large part, the exodus of uniformed

radiologists from the military has fueled the need for military teleradiology systems.

In fact, between 2002 and 2005 “the Army is projected to lose 33 (of its 113 radiologists), with no guarantee of replacements in sight,” said Bob De Treville, the program manager for Army teleradiology initiatives at Fort Detrick, Md.

“Radiologists are in high demand everywhere,” said Chris Riha, a clinical engineering consultant for the Army’s teleradiology program at Detrick. “Their counterparts in civilian sectors are among the highest income group of practicing physicians.”

For example, recent postings on Radiology Jobs Online feature positions that offer radiologists \$200,000 to \$400,000 as annual base pay.

To retain radiologists, the Air Force, Army and Navy are focusing on making radiologists’ jobs and lives easier – and teleradiology is playing a big part.

Radiologists, noted De Treville, work “incredible” schedules and are often on call because “someone’s got to read the images, and quickly.”

Teleradiology allows radiologists to be virtually anywhere reading images – whether the images come from a nearby base or across the ocean from a tent via secure, high-speed connections.

The Army, Air Force and Navy all have teleradiology experts who work at Fort Detrick. Although the services may use different equipment, all conform to the same industry standard.

“The ... interaction with my counterparts in the other services continues to prove invaluable,” said Dima Smirnov, an engineer with the Navy Medical Logistics Command at Detrick. Smirnov works on the image archiving and communications aspects of teleradiology.

“Being located close to each other here at Fort Detrick gives us the opportunity to coordinate our efforts in digital radiology,” Smirnov continued, noting this also allows “better ability to field systems that are more compatible between services than otherwise would have been possible.”

Using teleradiology, the Air Force now “can send (radiological) exams to any number of Army or Navy military treatment facilities for assistance, if necessary,” Lewis pointed out.

Army-Navy teams slug it out at the White House

By SGT 1ST CLASS DOUG SAMPLE
American Forces Press Service

■ **WASHINGTON** – Most teams have to win a world championship before visiting the White House to meet with the president. That was not the case today.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. CHERIE THURLBY

Med-evac U.S. Air Force aero-medical evacuation technicians carry Army Private First Class Jeffrey Wolf, 3rd Infantry Division, from the Medical Airlift Staging Facility at Baghdad International Airport, to a Missouri Air Guard C-130 Hercules. The MASF is responsible for getting the sick and wounded out of the combat environment and to a hospital where they can receive more extensive care.

The Fort Belvoir Little League Braves and the Naval Base Little League Yankees were the invited guests of President and Mrs. Bush for the opening game of the 2003 White House Tee-Ball season.

The Army team was visiting from the Virginia post located in metropolitan Washington. The Navy players traveled from the sprawling naval complex in Norfolk, Va., about three hours southeast of Washington.

The White House event was dedicated in honor of the men and women in uniform, the president said in opening remarks. Each player wore a patch from a different military unit on his or her uniform.

ESPN sports announcer Kenny Mayne, called the game, held on the White House South Lawn.

Before the start, the president led the players in an oath in which they pledged “to play fair, strive to win and always do their best.” He then yelled, “Play ball,” and the game began.

On a perfect weather day for baseball, a perfect game was played: Every player got a hit, and every player scored in the one-inning game.

Special hit of the day came from 6-year-old T.J. Flood of the Fort Belvoir Braves, who sported the White House Communications Agency patch on his uniform.

He got the crowd cheering when he belted the ball deep to center field. It was the longest hit of the game, and before the

throw could catch him, he’d made it to home plate.

“I always hit hard in the game,” T.J. said in a post-game interview.

Cal Ripken Jr., honorary commissioner of White House Tee-Ball and former Baltimore Orioles player, was on hand for the event, as well as two Hall of Fame players, Brooks Robinson and Billy Williams.

Ripken said that one thing about being a big league player is that “you have influence with kids.” He said that he’s “always enjoyed passing on the fun of baseball ... I’m tickled to death to be here.”

Also on hand was Darrell Green, chairman of the President’s Council on Service and Civic Participation and former Washington Redskins standout. Green joined the president in recognizing youngsters Tanisha Faulkner and Mileika Miki of the Fort Meade, Md., 4-H Club for their volunteerism.

The two were credited with making more than 300 yellow ribbons to show support for members of the Armed Forces and participating in Operation Chocolate Chip Cookies, an effort to support local military police and fire department personnel in their community.

The president launched the White House Tee-Ball initiative to promote interest in baseball and to foster a spirit of teamwork and service to America’s youth. This is the third season for the initiative. Three games were held during last year’s season.

Around the Air Force

Tech, master promotion rates down

■ **RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** – Air Force officials have selected 4,832 of 18,903 eligible technical sergeants for promotion to master sergeant, a 25.56 percent selection rate, and 7,116 of 32,501 eligible staff sergeants for promotion to technical sergeant, a 21.89 percent selection rate.

A higher retention rate – opening fewer vacancies for each rank – was one reason promotion rates are lower than last year, Air Force Personnel Center officials here said.

The final tally will increase as tests are received and scored for deployed airmen, said officials. They have 30 to 60 days after they return to test.

“People who have been deployed will be allowed to test when they return, and we’ll automatically consider them for promotion. We do this on a monthly basis until everyone is considered,” said Chief Master Sgt. Mark Billingsley, enlisted promotions branch chief here. The master sergeant selection rate dropped 7.67 percent from last year, while this year’s technical sergeant rate fell 11.62 percent from last year.

“Overall, we are seeing tech and master sergeant promotion rates drop down to about where we suggested as we reach the goal of increasing the ‘top five’ enlisted grades from 48 to 56 percent (of the enlisted force),” Billingsley said.

“It’s important to keep this in perspective – these are the fifth-highest rates of the last 20 years.

That’s pretty remarkable and should encourage people that the next stripe is still well within reach.” Air Force officials will release both promotion lists the first duty hour of June 26 (June 27 for those units across the international date line).

The complete list of selectees will be posted to AFPC’s Web

page www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/eprom/, by 6 p.m. CDT June 27. People who tested can expect their score notices in early July, allowing them to see just how their promotion fitness examination and specialty knowledge test scores rank against others within their Air Force specialty code.

Each person can also get an electronic copy of his or her score notice, available June 27, by logging into the virtual military personnel flight <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>.

The average master sergeant selectee score for the 03E7 master sergeant test cycle was 340.99 points, based on the following:

- 134.26 Enlisted Performance Reports
- 75.06 Promotion Fitness Exam
- 66.05 Specialty Knowledge
- 27.21 Time in Grade
- 35.94 Time in Service
- 11.88 Decorations

The average master sergeant selectee has 3.45 years time in grade and 17.06 years in service. Those selected will be promoted to master sergeant from August to July 2004.

The average selectee score for the 03E6 technical sergeant test cycle was 321.01 points, based on the following:

- 132.73 Enlisted Performance Reports
- 71.83 Promotion Fitness Exam
- 55.89 Specialty Knowledge
- 35.13 Time in Grade
- 26.70 Time in Service
- 6.13 Decorations

The average technical sergeant selectee has 4.80 years time in grade and 12.22 years in service. Those selected will be promoted to technical sergeant from August to July 2004. (Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

AF tries reducing deployment discrepancies

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

■ **WASHINGTON** – Today’s Air Force is expeditionary, and all airmen should be prepared to

deploy to support military operations worldwide, according to Maj. Gen. Timothy Peppe, special assistant to the chief of staff for air and space expeditionary forces.

The majority of airmen arriving in an area of responsibility are ready to accomplish their mission, however, nearly 10 percent report for duty with some deviations to the required deployment items.

Not all of them are mission-critical, but not having the current training, immunizations or proper uniforms places an unnecessary burden on commanders, he said.

“We have tremendous airmen and superb leadership,” he said. “I know we can do this better.” Taking responsibility is the key to showing up fully prepared to do the job, Peppe said.

“Commanders are responsible for how their people depart the home station for a temporary duty assignment no matter where it is in the world,” he said.

“It’s up to them to make sure that their people are up to speed and the (AOR-specific checklists) are followed.

Peppe has made sure the Air Force is doing the best job it can in informing people about deployment requirements.

“We’ve had problems in the past because all of our checklists weren’t the same,” he said. “You could look in three different Air Force instructions and find slightly different checklists.”

Because of this, the Air Force vice chief of staff streamlined the checklist and broke down the items into two categories – mission-critical and non-mission-critical, Peppe said.

“We didn’t arbitrarily decide what was MC and non-MC,” he explained. “The users, Air Force component commands, decided what an individual has to have to be functional when they show up in a given AOR. These inputs were then coordinated through the major commands before being categorized into a checklist.”

The vice chief of staff’s message, sent to the local

personnel readiness units, also lists common discrepancies and serves as the interim deployment guidance until the instructions can be revised.

The Web site is restricted for dot-mil users only.

The first airmen to fall under this new guidance will be those deploying with the Blue AEF.

“Hopefully this new guidance will help both deploying airmen and the gaining commanders and eliminate the number of the discrepancies,” Peppe said.

Space is the ‘ultimate high ground’

By MASTER SGT. SCOTT ELLIOTT
Air Force Print News

■ **WASHINGTON** – Integration of hardware, software and can-do spirit has allowed America to move into an era of space-enabled warfare, a senior Air Force space official said.

And given the significant advantages space gives those who use it, that is a very good thing, according to Brig. Gen. Robert Kehler, Air Force director of national security space at the Pentagon.

“There’s no doubt about it, space is the ultimate high ground,” he said. “Space allows us to see, to hear and to act.”

Kehler’s comments came on the heels of Operation Iraqi Freedom. According to Air Force officials, 70 percent of the bombs dropped on Iraq were precision-guided munitions.

Another success story the general attributed to timely use of space assets was the B-1 Lancer strike against an Iraqi leadership location April 7.

“The evidence of success, of integrating space with mainstream operations is everywhere,” Kehler said. “You don’t have to look very far to find them.”

The success story made most painfully obvious to Iraqi adversaries, he said, was the coalition’s ability to compress what is known as the “kill chain” – the six-stage process of engaging a target: find, fix, track, target, engage and assess.

“Integrating space capabilities together across the military and intelligence communities ... is clearly transformational,” he said.

“The time from when someone says they’ve found a target, communicates it with a shooter, and the shooter puts a bomb on the

Impact point



PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. CARLA KIPPES

BAGHDAD, Iraq -- Bottom right, a member of the Combined Weapons Effectiveness Assessment Team assesses the impact point of a precision-guided 5,000-pound bomb through the dome of one of Saddam Hussein’s key regime buildings here. The impact point is one of up to 500 the team will assess in coming weeks.

target has been compressed.”

While many of the military’s current space-based successes have roots that reach back to Operation Desert Storm, the general said integrating space with terrestrial assets was a key theme of the recent congressionally mandated Space Commission. Kehler said the Space

Commission’s Jan. 11, 2001, report made several recommendations geared toward streamlining command and control of America’s national security space mission. As a result, the undersecretary of the Air Force gained both responsibility for the Air Force space mission and

leadership over the National Reconnaissance Office, and Air Force Space Command was restructured with a four-star general in command.

“Precision strike is the sum of knowledge and accuracy,” Kehler said. “I would never suggest that space does all of these things alone ... space enhances other things, and vice versa.

“What we have here is, with space included, the sum is greater than the individual parts,” Kehler said. “We’re trying to make sure we are bringing the best of every system (together) to create the effects our commanders need,” he said.



Attention all tennis players!
 Do you enjoy playing tennis but can't find a partner? Senior Airman Brian Hill is compiling a pool of interested players. All skill levels are encouraged to participate. Call 606-2076 or e-mail brian.hill@vandenberg.af.mil to sign up.



Patriot Voices
 Vandenberg's all-volunteer vocal ensemble, Patriot Voices, needs officer and enlisted airmen to fill the ranks. Formal training is not required. Call Capt. Zach Guza at 606-4725 or attend a practice at 4:45 p.m. Mondays in the Chapel 1 sanctuary.



We just gotta sing!



**Heard a rumor?
Get the facts!**
 During crises or emergencies, call the Vandenberg rumor control line at 606-1857.



Duty, Honor, Commitment
 Call 606-3654 to join the Vandenberg Honor Guard or stop by a practice any Tuesday from 7 to 9 a.m. in building 7420 on 10th Street.

Vehicle operator on track for excellence

LRS airman sets pace for stardom on All-Air Force Track Team

By Tech. Sgt. Mark McKinney
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

Excelling at any endeavor is noteworthy. Doing it while maintaining an active-duty military career has even greater significance.

Airman 1st Class Robert Carpenter, 30th Logistics Readiness Squadron, is doing just that, excelling in track and field as a member of the All-Air Force team, while maintaining his Air Force Career as a vehicle operator here.

"Sports have always been a big part of my life and who I am," Carpenter said. "When I was younger, football was my main thing, but once I began cross country and competing in track, I realized that I could do real well with this."

The modest airman is doing a little better than "real well." Carpenter competes for the All-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

No. 13, Robert Carpenter, is an airman first class assigned to the 30th Logistics Readiness Squadron here. Carpenter recently returned from Uxbridge, England, where he competed as a member of the All-Air Force Track Team June 11.

Air Force team as a 400-meter specialist while also performing for the 100-meter and 400-meter relay teams.

With a best time in the low 48-second range, his future at the highest levels of Air Force track and field appears bright. Not too bad for someone who only started in track on a spur-of-the-moment whim.

"I played varsity football in

the ninth grade and felt like I might have a future in that sport," the airman said. "After dealing with a coach who didn't seem to have my best interest in mind, I wasn't sure I wanted to keep dealing with him. When track season rolled around, a couple of my buddies were going out for the team and although I hadn't competed in track before, I decided to give it a shot. Just like

everyone else, I decided that sprinting was the event for me and that's what I went out to do."

At his home in Attleboro, Mass., Carpenter quickly made a name for himself and found his niche running. His sophomore year in high school, Carpenter decided to give cross country a try as a way of getting an early jump on conditioning for his

The support I've been receiving ... has been awesome. ... and that let's me know that they really are interested."

ROBERT CARPENTER
ALL-AIR FORCE TRACK TEAM

second year of track. It turned out to be more than just preparation for track. The blossoming trackster finished ranked No. 1 in conference and No. 10 in state.

"My junior and senior years were exciting for me," Carpenter said.

"In my junior year I earned a national ranking of 11th in the decathlon and followed that my senior year with a national ranking in the top 10 in the 600-meter run. When I joined the Air Force, the continuation of my track career remained a goal for me," he said.

Although excited about simply having made the team, Carpenter has much more he wants to accomplish.

"My best event throughout school was the high jump and I want to get back to doing that along with my running events," the young airman said. "I was a 6-foot-10-inch jumper while in high school and I think I can get that and even higher with training. It's kind of tough to train right now, because when the team isn't assembled and training together, we have to do much of it on our own."

Long-time coach Buck Crosby and Allan Hancock College have aided in this small shortcoming.

"I've been competing for Hancock for the last year and that's helped with my training a great deal," Carpenter said.

"Coach Crosby has a background with some of the best sprinters to have ever run and his knowledge is incredible. I've gotten a lot out of the deal and I think the experience will continue to pay off for me.

"The support I've been receiving not only from Hancock, but also from my squadron and squadron leadership has been awesome," he said. "Whenever I return from trips, the first thing everyone wants to know is how did I do and that let's me know that they really are interested."

Carpenter is maintaining a dual career that goes hand-in-hand and the big winner appears to be the United States Air Force.

SPACE & MISSILE

FEATURES

Destinations Central Coast @ a Star Party

By ARMY LT. COL. MAX CORNEAU
614th Space Operations Squadron

Wanted: Exciting, inexpensive, safe, time traveling machine that accommodates any size family. Must cost less than \$500 and cannot require any special training.

It may sound absurd, but the answer is amateur astronomy, which is on fire in America and throughout the world as a great hobby for the whole family.

Astronomy is no longer the exclusive domain of scientists and cosmologists. Thanks to improved manufacturing, digital technology, robotics, and some gadgetry, just about anyone can now blaze through starry tranquility deep into the heavens.

According to a May 12, 2003 Time Magazine article, "Amateur astronomy isn't just for science fairs. Americans' backyards are turning into high-tech observatories."

My own journey started in earnest Christmas Day 2002 when my wife decided I might enjoy a book on astronomy. She had found something with *Backyard Astronomer* in the title, decided I was a backyard astronomer and snatched it.

Nine days later I bought my first serious telescope for about \$900. You don't have to spend that much on a telescope. Good scopes that can take you millions of light years in the past are available for less than \$500.

The best way to get started in amateur astronomy is to attend a star party. Star parties are free, open to the general public, and are the heart and soul of just about every astronomy club.

You can bring the whole family



Glenn Elliott (left), explains the operation of his 10-inch Meade LX200 GPS go-to scope at a star party May 31 in Santa Margarita, Calif. PHOTO BY WALT REIL

to a star party. Typical star parties include a lot of people and telescopes, no alcohol or smoking, dark skies, whirring telescope motors, and lots of "oohs" and "ahhhs" from old pros and new guests alike.

Recently, I set up my scope at a star party in nearby Santa Margarita sponsored by the Central Coast Astronomical Society. There were more than 50 attendees at this star party and 14 telescopes ranging from a 20" monster Dobsonian to my little 5" Maksutov-Cassegrain robot.

CCAS members range from a professor who helped invent the first robotic telescope, to me, the knuckle-dragging Army guy who

can barely spell G-P-S.

Gaze into lots of scopes at a star party and ask the club members how to get started in the hobby. You may find yourself deeply satisfied by our home solar system, or made anxious by the hundreds of planet-killing comets roaming about.

Perhaps like me, you'll lose yourself in deep thought over thousands of globular star clusters. These giant star fields are galactic orphans who never met up with a black hole to form a galaxy. Finally, there are countless nebulae, the gaseous clouds that are galactic incubators, stuffed with imploding gases and particulate.

Here on Vandenberg, I have

hopped from galaxy to galaxy, across many nebulae, and through hundreds of open and globular clusters of stars. Stargazing is as much the stuff of imagination and wonder as it is the science of today.

Let your children loose with a sketchpad some night and see what they draw while looking heavenward. Try to comprehend what lies beyond our universe. I have my own theory about that... another time perhaps.

By now, you may feel that astronomy is for you. It can definitely become a deeply meaningful hobby that's fun for the whole family and good for the soul. If so, check out the next



(Left) Aurora Lipper checks out the view through a 20-inch StarSplitter Dobsonian. (Below) Tom Frey uses his finder scope to locate Jupiter and positions his scope for viewing during a weekend star party. PHOTO BY WALT REIL



Santa Margarita star party June 28. See the CCAS Web site, www.ccastronomy.org, for more information. On base, the Vandenberg

Astronomical Society meets the second Friday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Endeavor Center. Call Dan Demack at (805) 878-8798 for more information.

Community Calendar

27
FRI

Golf tournament – 12:30 p.m. today at Marshallia Ranch Golf Course. Call 605-6345. The 576th Flight Test Squadron holds the event with hole-in-one prizes for all par-three holes.

CAL-VET home loan class – 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. today at the Vandenberg Family Support Center. Learn basics and application procedures for this home loan process.

Community Assessment – Military members and spouses receiving the Community Assessment Survey by mail or e-mail, are encouraged to fill it out and submit it. Call 606-0039 to request the Web site and access code.

Family readiness reunion briefing – for servicemembers and their families who have questions or concerns about planning the homecoming, reuniting and relationship building. Call 606-1607 for an appointment.

27
FRI

Lompoc Valley Flower Festival – through Sunday at Ryon Park in Lompoc. Rides, food booths and entertainment are

27
FRI

available. **Allan Hancock College registration** – now underway for the fall session. Schedules are online at www.hancockcollege.edu. Fall mail-in registration continues through July 22. Call 605-5915.

CLEP tests – College-Level Examination Program pre-tests are now available online. Go to www.petersons.com/airforce/testprep.html then register using the activation code FL5518.

Educational scholarships – available from the Vandenberg Top-3. All enlisted members, regardless of rank, are eligible for one of three \$200 scholarships. They'll be awarded at the August general membership meeting. Call Senior Master Sgt. Paul McGinnis at 606-6571 or 606-3459 for more information and details.

27
FRI

The Vandenberg 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

27
FRI

their first sergeant. Call 606-5484.

G.I. Java seeks musicians – G.I. Java is looking for local musicians to play at the coffeehouse during business hours. Solo performers and bands are welcome. Call Chaplain (1st Lt.) Mike Martin at 606-5778 for an audition.

Gift of Groceries program – The Defense Commissary Agency offers a gift certificate program that allows anyone to purchase commissary gift certificates. They can be donated to military families through charitable organizations or given directly to military friends and family to use at local commissaries. Gift certificates are available online at www.commissaries.com.

Marriage enrichment counseling – offered on a one-on-one basis for married and unmarried couples. Call 606-9958.

27
FRI

Dads-to-New Dads and Moms-to-New Moms programs – These mentorship programs offer support to new moms and dads. Call Nancy Sias at 606-5338.

28
SAT

Alzheimer Memory Walk – 8 a.m. Saturday at Waller Park. Call (805) 714-4789.

Lompoc Valley Flower Festival Parade – 10 a.m. Saturday at North H Street and Ocean Avenue in Lompoc.

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

30
MON

Operation Kid's Christmas fundraiser – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday in the Vandenberg Base Exchange parking lot. Chicken or tri-tip, beans, salad and bread are sold for \$6 per plate.

Newcomer orientation – 8:30 a.m. to 11:45 p.m. Monday at the Pacific Coast Club the event is both military members and their spouses stationed at Vandenberg.

30
MON

Art Show – 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 5 to 8 p.m. Mondays – Thursdays through July 31 at the Allan Hancock College art gallery in the Santa Maria campus Learning Resources Center. Call (805) 922-6966, ext. 3550.

Office closure – The family support center is closed for staff training

30
MON

Mondays from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Those requiring emergency Air Force Aid will be assisted. Call 606-0801.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) – 7 to 8 p.m. Mondays at the Vandenberg Health and Wellness Center.

Relaxation room – 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday – Friday at the health and wellness center. Call 606-2221 for an appointment.

JUNE
1
TUE

Sponsorship training – 3 to 4 p.m. Tuesday at the family support center. Learn responsibilities, relocation resources, and tips to assist newcomers.

Joint retiree activities center – Open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday - Friday in building 10346 in the Vandenberg Base Exchange shopping center. Call 606-5474 for more information.

2
WED

Big Brothers, Big Sisters volunteer orientation – 3 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday at the family support center. Call 735-4376, ext. 26.

Summer reading program – 3 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays through July 23 at the Lompoc Public Library. Call 736-3477, ext. 12.

3
THU

Risk Reduction classes – 2 to 4 p.m. Thursdays at the health and wellness center. Call 606-2221 to sign up.

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

11
FRI

Kids on the Move workshop – 3 to 4:15 p.m. July 11 at the family support center, for children ages 6 to 11 just arriving or departing Vandenberg. Call 606-0801.

18
FRI

Airmen appreciation free barbecue – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 18 at Cocheo Park for E-5 and below. Food, beverages, musical entertainment and activities for children are provided. Call Jack Hokanson at 606-5814.

31
THU

Heart Link – 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 31 at the family support center. Reservations are required by July 25. Call 606-0801.

Chapel Services & Events

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

- ♦ **G.I. Java** – opens 5 to 9 p.m. daily for dorm and billeting residents to enjoy free lattes, frappuccinos, sodas, chips and fellowship.
- ♦ **Daily prayers** – 7:15 to 7:25 a.m. in Chapel 1. All of Vandenberg is invited to pray for the nation, troops and families.
- ♦ **Family Bible Study** – 7 p.m. Tuesdays in the Chapel 1 Annex.
- ♦ **Catholic Summer Fellowship** – noon Wednesdays at Cocheo Park weather permitting.

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

Sunday
10 a.m. Catholic Mass, Chapel 1
11:30 a.m. Protestant Combined Worship Service Chapel 1
Monday - Friday
11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass, Chapel 2
Saturday
5 p.m. Catholic Mass, Chapel 2

- ♦ **Men's Bible Study** – 6 a.m. Wednesdays at Breakers.
- ♦ **Gospel musicians rehearsal** – 7 p.m. Wednesdays at Chapel 2.
- ♦ **Singles' Group** – 6:30 p.m. 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at G.I. Java.
- ♦ **Protestant Combined Worship Service** – Normal protestant service will resume July 6.
- ♦ **Picnic, ice cream social** – 2 p.m. July 6 on the patio behind the Chapel 1 annex.

Did you know?

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, all-terrain vehicle drivers have increased by 36 percent, from 12 million to 16.3 million. The number of ATVs increased by 40 percent, from 4 million to 5.6 million. ATV injuries have doubled in the last five years and deaths continue to climb. Emergency room visits increased by 104 percent from 54,000 to 111,700.

Groups with greater risk of injury are as follows: drivers under 16 years, drivers with less than one year of experience and recreational drivers.

Vandenberg offers ATV safety courses for recreational and work-related users. Those who use ATVs for their official duties can call Staff Sgt. Jacob Menelo at 605-1375 or Doug Lemp at 606-6804 to schedule training. Recreational ATV drivers can call (800) 887-2887 to schedule local training with Menelo through the ATV Safety Institute.