



## Base Briefs

### E-4s CAN MOVE

A new Air Force policy offers senior airmen with three years time in service the opportunity to move off base. Those senior airmen who decide to remain in unaccompanied housing may do so. Call 606-2590 or 606-3933 for more information.

### TAX CHANGE

Under the Servicemember's Civil Relief Act, California is prohibited from including military income in computing state taxes on a non-resident servicemember's total income. This policy is retroactive beginning with the 1999 tax year. Airman can call 606-3650 to see if they can amend earlier returns to take advantage of the tax savings.

### NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

The 30th Security Forces Squadron's crime prevention office is organizing Vandenberg's first neighborhood watch. They are currently looking for base housing residents who would like to pioneer the organization as part of the planning committee for their block. Call Senior Airman Harris Johnson at 605-2585.

### DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

A memorial service for victims of the Holocaust will be held at 11 a.m. April 20 at Chapel 1. Jewish food and music will be provided. Call 606-0370 for more information.

### OFF LIMITS

The 30th Security Forces Squadron Combat Arms firing range is off limits April 26 through May 7 for Guardian Challenge. Everyone requiring entry to the range complex must call the combat arms section at 605-5025.

### SPECIAL DUTY

Applications are being accepted for the NCO in charge position at Vandenberg's First Term Airmen Center. Qualified Airmen should apply by April 21. Call 606-9815 or 606-5957 for more information.

### TAX DEADLINE

Tax season ends April 15. The base tax office is still accepting appointments. For tax assistance, call a unit tax advisor or 606-3650.

### GATE PROCEDURES

There are new base entry procedures including 100 percent identification and verification of all drivers and pedestrians entering the base and daily random vehicle searches above and beyond base entry check points. The new procedures improve Air Force security.

See BRIEFS Page A2

## Strategic plan helps wing use resources

By SENIOR AIRMAN BRIAN HILL  
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

The wing's mission, vision and values are laid out in a new strategic plan, which aims to help leadership target goals for the wing. The current plan focuses on a tactical outline developed for the next 500 days.

The plan, produced by a strategic planning board of 14 members, involves metrics created to keep leadership on the path to successful achievement of established goals.

The plan is scheduled for review in August to assess its overall effectiveness.

"The strategic plan is a living document," said Rene Ruecker, 30th Space Wing Plans and Programs office compiler of the document. "The concept of the process is to keep strategic planning as a tool which each wing commander tailors to emphasize the current efforts being undertaken during his/her command, while keeping the long range vision as the wing continually aspires."

Col. Frank Gallegos, 30th Space Wing commander, hand-picked the team to accomplish the strategic plan to best use the limited resources available in the wing.

"Our top priority goals are outlined to balance the sometimes-confusing necessities of mission and Airmen, and to focus our resources for success," he said.

Adjustments will be made as needed to keep resources focused on meaningful goals. Col. Gallegos will provide feedback on the accomplishments of the wing in progressing toward (its) long term goals.

"The 500-day plan, born from our strategic plan, provides us with specific milestones against which we gauge our progress," Col. Gallegos added.

According to Ms. Ruecker, the

strategic planning board developed the vision statement, modified the mission statement, and adopted the Air Force core values as the foundation of the 30th Space Wing long-range plan. The acronym HAWKS was developed to define the overarching principles the wing is working under.

Goals were developed by the board leadership to steer and direct the wing in the desired direction for future mission accomplishment, development of human potential, effective use of resources, enhancing the reputation of the 30th Space Wing and maintaining

personal, organizational and corporate standards of excellence, Ms. Ruecker added.

"The group commanders and senior staff defined and developed metrics, which would enable individuals and organizations to move toward these stated goals," Ms. Ruecker said.

"The measurement and reporting of the metrics will define the potential and the achievement of the wing, as we strive to accomplish the goals laid out within the plan," she said.

To get a copy of the plan contact the plans and programs office at 606-7968.

## 30th SW completes inspection



Airman 1st Class Dereck Turner, 30th Civil Engineer Squadron, takes a reading on a generator while deployed at North Star Sunday.

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

The Air Force Space Command Inspector General team wraps up their two-week 30th Space Wing readiness and compliance inspection with an outbrief at 9 a.m. today in the base theater.

Team V Hawk's soared in the face of adversity during exercise terrorist and insurgent attacks and suspicious package incidents.

The inspectors have praised Airmen for their professionalism and quick response to exercise scenarios.

Over the weekend, Vandenberg Airmen deployed to North Star to show off their warfighting skills. The Hawks established an air base under austere conditions and endured air and ground attack scenarios. Wrapping up the weekend, the North Star team redeployed to Vandenberg Sunday evening.

This week the inspectors completed their compliance inspections validated and wrote final evaluation reports.

"Our team of professionals has put in long hours and I'm proud of the job they've done," said Col. Frank Gallegos, 30th Space Wing commander. "It's all in the hands of the IG team now."

A live broadcast of the out-brief will run on the commander's access channel due to limited seating at the base theater.

## Team V gears up for voting season

By 1ST LT. MICHELLE MAYO  
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

The one choice people make this year will affect the nation for the next four years and have repercussions well into the future.

That choice is: who to vote for in the elections of 2004.

The elections coming up in 2004 are for the offices of the president and vice president. Additionally, 34 senators, 435 representatives and 13 state governors will be elected.

"Democracy and the freedom to choose our leaders is one of the most fundamental rights of Americans," said Maj. Mark Edens, Installation Voting Assistance officer.

"It's one of the freedoms that we wear this uniform to defend, but democracy only works when the people make their voices heard," Major Edens added.

Nearly 76 percent of Air Force people voted during the 2000 election year.

"That's a good number, but we

can make it better," Major Edens said. "If nothing else, we can make it 100 percent for the 30th Space Wing."

Team Vandenberg members can pick up a federal postcard absentee form from Maj. Edens or their unit voting assistance counselor or go online to [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov) to get an online version. The staff judge advocate's office has provided the following guidelines on how service members can get involved in the election process.

The following guidelines are outlined in Department of Defense Directive 1344.10, which covers Political Activities by Members of the Armed Forces on Active Duty:

- May register, vote, and express his or her personal opinion on political candidates and issues, but not as a representative of the Armed Forces.

- May promote and encourage other military members to exercise their voting franchise, if such promotion does not constitute an attempt to influence or interfere

with the outcome of an election.

- May join a political club and attend its meetings when not in uniform.

- May serve as an election official if such service is not as a representative of a partisan political party, does not interfere with military duties, is performed while not in uniform, and with prior approval of the Secretary concerned.

- May write a letter to the editor of a newspaper expressing the member's personal views on public issues or political candidates, if such action isn't part of an organized letter-writing campaign or concerted solicitation of votes for or against a political party or partisan cause or candidate.

- May not participate in partisan political management or campaigns, or make public speeches in the course thereof.

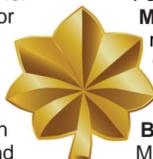
- May not solicit or receive a campaign contribution from

See VOTE Page A2

## Four captains, five 1st lieutenants make grade

■ Congratulations to the following Team V members on their selection for promotion to major and captain:

**Major**  
Jeffrey Greenwood, 392nd Training Squadron  
Glenn Harris, 2nd



Range Operations Squadron  
**Darrel Johnson**, 14th Air Force

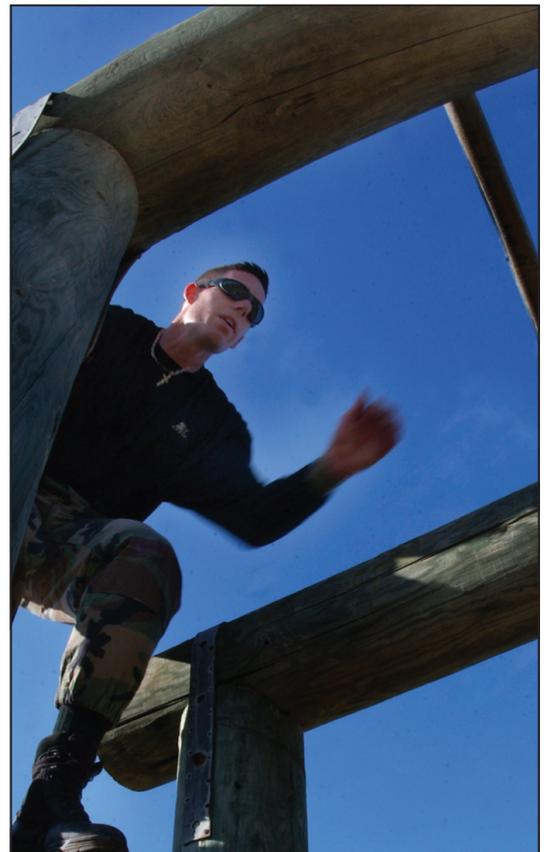
**Matthew Morand**, Detachment 1, 22nd Space Operations Squadron  
**Captain**  
Brenda Dehn, 30th Medical Operations



Squadron  
**Sarah Mandes**, 30th Civil Engineer Squadron  
**Brian O'Connell**, 392nd Training Squadron

**Mark Slik**, 533rd Training Squadron  
**Michael Timbang**, 576th Flight Test Squadron

## Ready to rumble



Airmen from the 30th Security Forces Squadron prepare for the obstacle course competition during Guardian Challenge 2004.

See GC READY Page A6

In this issue of the



Also view  
The Space & Missile Times at [www.vandenberg.af.mil](http://www.vandenberg.af.mil) and click the Space & Missile Times button.



Team V Airmen swing for first place in the intramural golf playoff game Tuesday. See Page A7.



Destinations Central Coast rides The Strand in Los Angeles. See Page B1.

Weekend forecast  
Morning and evening low clouds Saturday and Sunday.



For a full Vandenberg weather report, visit [www.vandenberg.af.mil/30sw/organizations/30og/weather/weather\\_index.html](http://www.vandenberg.af.mil/30sw/organizations/30og/weather/weather_index.html)

# Officials discuss new civilian system

By JIM GARAMONE  
American Forces Press Service

■ A letter signed by Defense Department leaders asks DOD civilian employees to be patient as teams work to make the new National Security Personnel System a reality.

The April 1 letter, signed by David S.C. Chu, undersecretary for personnel and readiness, and Navy Secretary Gordon England, stresses that DOD sees the new personnel system as a combined effort.

The system, passed as part of the fiscal 2004 National Defense Authorization Act, allows DOD officials to transform the civilian personnel system to make it more agile and responsive.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said the new system would make it easier for the department to make new hires and keep highly skilled employees. It also would allow DOD to move workers to shortage specialties as national security concerns change, he said.

In the letter, Mr. Chu and Secretary England state, "We are determined to take the time necessary to do the job right."

Taking time will allow the department to consult with employees, managers and unions, a DOD spokeswoman said. The letter encourages people interested in the system to present their thoughts, ideas, views and concerns.

Department officials are also working

with other government agencies as they develop the new system. They are consulting with people at the Office of Personnel Management, the Office of Management and Budget and the Government Accounting Office as the new system takes shape. They are also taking lessons from the Department of Homeland Security, which built its own personnel system after it was formed last year.

Five teams within DOD are looking at process, personnel, programs, requirements and communications, officials said. A sixth team will draw recommendations from these five together in one package. That proposal is scheduled to be presented to Secretary Rumsfeld and other senior leaders in April.

Once approved, senior leaders will work with Congress on implementing the system.

Mr. Chu and Secretary England said that the system still is being formed, and few details about how the system would work are available because there is no system yet. Concepts and proposals will change over time and department leaders will do their best to keep employees informed, they said.

Information will be available on the DOD and Defend America Web sites, the Pentagon Channel and local commanders' television programs. The new system also has its own Web site.

## BRIEFS:

From Page A1

### MAMMOGRAPHY SERVICES

Due to the loss of the base's mammography technician, the 30th Medical Group will refer all mammography services to the civilian community. Active-duty Airmen will require a referral from their primary care manager prior to seeing the doctor. All others may be eligible to self-refer to a network facility. For more information, call (800) 242-6788 or visit the Tricare Web site at [www.tricare.osd.mil](http://www.tricare.osd.mil).

### NO POST OFFICE

Due to loss of contract, there will no longer be a post office at Vandenberg. Team V members can still receive and send letters, but all packages must be mailed at an off-base post office.

### ZERO TOLERANCE

The 30th Space Wing has zero tolerance for sexual assault and sexual harassment. In an effort to increase awareness of the issue, the wing has activated a Sexual

Assault Prevention Task Force led by the 30th SW Vice Commander. Several initiatives in the future will help Team V members recognize and prevent sexual assault.

### ALCOHOL MISUSE

There have been 12 alcohol related incidents at Vandenberg in 2004, including six DUIs. Vandenberg has an active Airmen Against Drunk Driving program, which has had 87 saves this year. Call AADD at 606-2233 for a free 'no questions asked' ride home.

### RECREATIONAL VEHICLE

Recreational vehicles may be parked in base housing areas for no more than 72 hours for loading, unloading or cleaning. Recreational vehicles are defined as boats, campers, cargo trucks, motor homes and pick-up campers. Call 606-3795 for more information.

### 321ST REUNION

A reunion is scheduled from August 13-15 at Grand Forks AFB, N.D. for all former members of the 321st wing or group. For more information, visit the Web site at

[www.gfservices.com/321/](http://www.gfservices.com/321/). Anyone who was assigned to the wing or associated units is invited to attend.

### TRICARE COUNSELING

Counselors are available at Vandenberg for Tricare members who need debt counseling due to non-payment of medical or dental services. The counselors work to troubleshoot all Tricare and military health care system issues and concerns. To speak with counselors, call Bonnie Robles at 606-7483 or Judith Monroe at 606-6785.

### YARD SALES

Lawn, carport and garage sales are permitted twice a year and just prior to leaving the home. Sales must be limited to daylight hours only and no more than three consecutive days. Signs must be removed at the end of each day of the sale. Signs cannot be posted on telephone, power or street light poles, street signs, trees or mailboxes. Unsold items must not be left outside the home once the sale is over.

## VOTE:

From Page A1

another member of the Armed Forces or from a civilian officer or employee of the United States for promoting a political objective or cause.

- ♦ May not speak before a partisan political gathering of any kind for promoting a partisan political party or candidate.

- ♦ May not use contemptuous words against officeholders described in 10 USC 888.

- ♦ May not perform clerical or other duties for a partisan political committee during a campaign or on an election day.

- ♦ May not solicit or otherwise engage in fundraising activities in Federal offices or facilities, including military reservations, for a partisan political cause or candidate.

- ♦ May not sell tickets for, or otherwise actively promote, political dinners and

similar fundraising events.

- ♦ May not allow or cause to be published partisan political articles signed or written by the member that solicit votes for or against a partisan political party or candidate.

- ♦ May not serve in any official capacity or sponsor a partisan political club.

- ♦ May not participate in any media or group discussions as a partisan advocate.

- ♦ May not conduct a political opinion survey.

- ♦ May not march or ride in a partisan political parade.

- ♦ May not display a large political sign, banner, or poster on a private vehicle (bumper stickers are allowed).

- ♦ May not participate in any partisan effort to provide voters with transportation to the polls.

- ♦ May not attend partisan political events as an official representative of the Armed Forces or while in uniform.

## CLIP AND SAVE!

### DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE

Call Airmen Against Drunk Driving



For a free and confidential ride home, call Airmen Against Drunk Driving at 606-AADD or 605-AADD (2233).

## ALCON: Normal

A general condition reflecting responsible alcohol use

AADD saves: **87** DUI totals for the year: **7**

Days since last DUI: **6**

30th OG	0	30th SW	1	614th SOPG	0
30th MSG	2	14th AF	0	381st TRG	2
30th MDG	1	30th LCG	0	576th FLTS	1



**Col. Frank Gallegos**  
30th Space Wing commander  
**Maj. Stacey N. Bako**  
Chief, Public Affairs  
**Airman 1st Class Bryan Franks**  
Editor

**1st Lt. Michelle Mayo**  
Staff Sgt. Rebecca Danét  
Senior Airman Brian Hill  
Airman 1st Class Juanika Glover  
Tech. Sgt. Mark McKinney  
Staff Writers  
Airman 1st Class Bernice Suarez  
Photographer

*The Space & Missile Times is published by Lompoc Record Publications, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 30th Space Wing.*

*This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.*

*Contents of the Space & Missile Times are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.*

*The appearance of advertising in the publica-*

*tion, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or Lompoc Record Publications, of the products or services advertised.*

*Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.*

*Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Vandenberg AFB Public Affairs*

*Office. All photos, unless otherwise indicated, are Air Force photos.*

*The Public Affairs Office reserves the right to edit all submissions for style and space. Deadline for publication is 4:30 p.m. every Wednesday, nine days prior to publication.*

*Send submissions to: 30SW/PA, 747 Nebraska Ave., Room A-105, VAFB, CA 93437; via fax at DSN 276-8303 or commercial (805) 606-8303; or by e-mail to [Space&MissileTimes@vandenberg.af.mil](mailto:Space&MissileTimes@vandenberg.af.mil)*

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

# COMMANDER ON CONSOLE

## 30th SW Airmen...Blue to the core

By COL. FRANK GALLEGOS  
30th Space Wing commander

**H**AWKS ... You did it!! You completed three grueling and demanding inspections and at 9 a.m. today the HQ AFSPC Inspector General announces our grades for the Compliance Inspection, Expeditionary Readiness Inspection and the Operational Readiness Inspection.

No matter what the outcome, I am very proud of every Airman in this wing. You truly unleashed your human talent and you are all "outstanding" in my book! The positive attitude, the hustle, the amazing teamwork and camaraderie were a joy to watch!

We learned some great lessons about our capabilities and tested the limits of human endurance during many long shifts.

Be sure to pat your folks on the back for continuing to THINK BLUE and demonstrating to

this team that no matter what the situation we were prepared to respond and we never gave up!

We've had quite the ride over the last six months ramping up for the IG inspection, hosting the team of more than 100 people and then getting back to operations normal, but you did it! And by successfully completing this inspection, you've proven that every Airman here represents the heart of combat capability to this nation. You should be proud.

Now we're about to embark on the next phase of a busy year as Guardian Challenge is just around the corner. Be sure to get out and support the 30th Space Wing team.

Thank you all for doing such an outstanding job. I am convinced we are a first-class organization. I am equally convinced we have the finest Airmen in the United States Air Force. See you at the outbrief! Go HAWKS!

### 30th Space Wing vectors

Unleash human talent

Airmen

Wing mission

Knowledge to command the future

Safety

## Honor guard: rewarded with pride

By STAFF SGT. JAMES FRANCIERE  
533rd Training Squadron

**C**onsider the following picture: Three men in full service dress walk up to Mrs. Audrey McAleer, mother of six. She looks them in the eyes and then, looking down, she sees the paper one man is holding and immediately knows what it is. Her son was killed in action.

Her 22-year-old son, Warrant Officer James McAleer III, a pilot for the 92nd Assault Helicopter Squadron, was shot down in Vietnam. A single military escort is sent along with a flag-covered casket to his home of residence. In a matter of days, the escort trains the local American Legion on 21-gun salute, pall bearing and flag folding to give Warrant Officer McAleer III an honorable and dignified burial. As the escort stood and saluted the flag at the head of the casket, the tears welled in Mrs. McAleer's eyes. When he knelt to hand the folded flag to her on behalf of the nation her son fought and died for, she couldn't help but hug the stranger that represented her departed child.

Not all of our veterans flew helicopters in Vietnam or stormed the beaches at Normandy. Some did, and in some way they all once made a difference in the same way you do now.

While Vandenberg's ceremonial guardsmen have always prided themselves through honoring

the courageous men and women who have served before us and passed away, they have recently wavered dangerously close to not fulfilling this congressionally-mandated duty. In 2003, a team of roughly 51 volunteers was filling details for the Central Coast – about 25 members less than needed.

The presence of the Vandenberg honor guard in the local community is important. Try proudly hoisting the American flag from the Pismo Beach pier while thousands of spectators on the beach sing the National Anthem with their hands over their hearts – staring up at the flag you're holding. Better yet, try to verbalize to a watery-eyed retiree, while handing him a delicately folded flag, the thanks of a nation for committing himself to his duties for the last 20 or more years of his life.

While all the details performed hold intrinsic value, the most rewarding is the with-honors funeral detail, honoring those who have served and passed away before us with a dignified burial. The men and women who have sacrificed their time to attend the practice and participate in ceremonies receive their gratitude when they hand the folded American flag to the next of kin at a funeral. When Vandenberg's honor guard tells that son, daughter or widow how grateful the country is for their loved one's service, all the thanks they need are in that next of kin's tears.

## Sometimes saying no is best

Lt. COL. JOHN COULAHAN  
30th Comptroller Squadron commander

**W**hen spending public funds – doing the right thing may mean saying no. As a parent – the most important thing I do some days is say the word no. As an Airman and financial manager, the same is also true.

Like you, I belong to a "Yes, Ma'am, get it done, can do" culture enabled largely by how much we spend on our most important priorities. In this article, the message is this – always know the commander's priorities and align the resources accordingly, but never let them break the law.

The law is the Anti-Deficiency Act and it applies to commanders and supervisors along the chain of command entrusted with public funds. Under ADA rules, purpose, time, and amount are the three key control points inherent in the law. These boundaries guide what we buy (purpose Congress intended), when we buy it (time or fiscal year) and how much we can spend (amount appropriated).

Commanders and supervisors must be held accountable to these standards because it is the public's trust and our reputation at stake when they are violated. At Vandenberg, we have solid financial controls to prevent failures. Time and amount violations are caught through a number of checks and balances within our automated procurement systems. However, when it comes to what we buy –

the control is with you.

If a purchase seems strange, challenge it – say no, then engage your resource advisor, comptroller, contracting officer or staff judge advocate for advice. We've probably heard it before. Whether it's a request for a skydiving dog or a bagpiper, we'll help you navigate through the rules to avoid breaking the law. Commanders and supervisors who violate the ADA may be suspended without pay, removed from their office, fined not more than \$5,000, imprisoned for not more than two years or all of the above.

The next time you wonder whether you should question a purchase – think about these consequences and you'll know what to do.

As a parent, sometimes I have to say no because it is the right thing to do and because I care. As an Airman and financial manager, the same is also true.

Although our network of automated financial controls are strong, they are not foolproof. Our controls can neither think nor differentiate between right and wrong. More importantly, given the choice between automated financial controls or people – I'll choose the human element every time. Why? Because it's people like you who know the commander's priorities, who align the resources accordingly, who protect him from breaking the law and who make Vandenberg the best place to work and live in the Air Force.

### Commander's Action Line

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



Col. Frank Gallegos  
commander

**B**y performing Vandenberg's mission safely and effectively, Team V provides proof of its 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 excellent 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.

## HAWKS' Point of View

"What is your family tradition for Easter?"



"We color eggs and have an Easter egg hunt." – Master Sgt. Todd Lefebvre, Vandenberg Family Support Center



"We go to sunrise service for Easter Sunday." – Flo Gordon, 30th Space Wing Chapel



"I'm spending Easter with my sons because last year I was on stand to deploy." – Tech. Sgt. Yvonne Prince, 30th Space Wing Legal Office



"We have baked ham and deviled eggs after Easter service." – Sue Voshell, Vandenberg Family Support Center



"Me and my wife go to church and then go to lunch." – 2nd Lt. Erich Fiser, 392nd Training Squadron



Team Vandenberg Warrior  
Theodore Oster  
392nd Training Squadron

PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS BERNICE SUAREZ

Hometown: Sioux Falls, S.D.  
Time in service: 8 years  
Time on station: 2 years

**Role in mission:** My role as training manager in many ways could be compared to that of a school principle – the right course, for the right student, at the right time.

**How do you contribute to the wing mission?** I am responsible for ensuring that our customer, Air Force Space Command, receives the highest quality Space and Missile officer that the schoolhouse is capable of producing.

**What do you like best about the Air Force?** I like the people.

**If you could change one thing about the Air Force what would it be?** I would want Air Force Airmen to receive a paycheck commensurate to the duty they fulfill.

**How do you fulfill the Air Force core values?** I try to give the Air Force eight hours of hard work each day.

**What's the most exciting experience you've had so far in the Air Force?** I took part in the in-flight refueling of a B-1 Bomber from a KC-135.

**How would you improve life at Vandenberg?** I would expand upon the small number of eateries on the base. Most bases have some local service oriented establishments outside the main gate. Here at Vandenberg that is not the case.

**Who is your role model and why?** My Dad. He always seemed to find a balance between family and work. He is a man of his word, takes pride in his work and his work ethic.

**Who is your favorite leader in history and why?** Abraham Lincoln, I believe he saw the good in mankind.

**Favorite movie:** White Christmas

**Hobbies:** Scuba diving, surfing, rock climbing and woodworking



Team Vandenberg Warrior  
Staff Sgt. Laundra Evans  
392nd Training Squadron

COURTESY PHOTO

Hometown: Fort Wayne, Ind.  
Time in service: 5 years  
Time on station: 1 year  
Role in mission: NCO in charge of the commander's support staff

**How do you contribute to the wing mission?** I support the elite warfighters training the space and missile warriors of the future.

**What do you like best about the Air Force?** I like 100 percent tuition assistance

**How do you fulfill the Air Force core values?** I lead by example by practicing myself the core values.

**What's the most exciting experience you've had so far in the Air Force?** I made staff sergeant the first time.

**How would you improve life at Vandenberg?** I'd put a wall up to block all the wind we seem to get.

**Hobbies:** Spending time with family.



## Destinations Central Coast

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](mailto:space&missiletimes@vandenberg.af.mil)

# Crimebeat...

COMPILED BY MASTER SGT. WESLEY ASLESON  
30th Security Forces Squadron

## April 1

### Check your six! – 7:13 a.m.

A soldier reported a vehicle accident at Timber Lane and Highway 1 with his government vehicle. Investigation revealed an Airman was stopped for a red light and rear-ended by the soldier's vehicle. Both vehicles sustained minor damage to the bumpers and there were no injuries.

### Oh Deer! – 7 p.m.

A soldier reported striking a deer on Coast Road with a government vehicle damaging the rear bumper. With the exception of the deer, there were no injuries.

### April fool! - 9:30 p.m.

The Timber Lane gate sentry reported a suspicious vehicle went through his gate without stopping, completed a u-turn and departed. Patrolmen stopped the non-base affiliated vehicle on Highway 1 adjacent to Firefighter Road and suspected him of driving under the influence. He failed a field sobriety test and was released to the California Highway Patrol. The story doesn't end there; a subsequent search of his vehicle uncovered ten individual baggies of "mushrooms," a controlled substance, so his arrest also included possession of drugs with the intent to distribute.



## April 2

### Check your six, part two! – 11:54 a.m.

The Lompoc gate sentry reported a major vehicle accident at the intersection of Santa Lucia Canyon and Pine Canyon roads. Investigation revealed while yielding to oncoming traffic, a civilian's vehicle was rear-ended by another civilian's vehicle. The hit driver complained of neck injury and she was transported to the Lompoc Hospital Emergency Room. One vehicle sustained radiator damage and the other, bumper damage.

### Check your six, part three! – 12:30 p.m.

An Airman reported a minor accident involving a government vehicle adjacent to Space Launch Complex-4. Investigation revealed a civilian operator misjudged while backing and ended up in a ditch damaging the rear bumper.

## April 3

### See you at the ALCON sign! – 2:14 a.m.

The main gate sentry suspected an Airman of driving under the influence. Patrolmen responded and apprehended the Airman after he failed a field sobriety test and his breath content registered .08. He was released to his first sergeant.

### Something's amiss? – 5 a.m.

The main gate sentry received a report of a vehicle accident off the

roadway near Santa Lucia Canyon Road. Patrolmen failed to find any signs of an accident and returned after sunrise. At 7:15 a.m., a patrolman discovered a Land Rover resting nose first against a tree after plowing through a cattle gate adjacent to Highway 1 and Santa Lucia Canyon Road. The driver could not be located and several minutes later the California Highway Patrol reported the non-base affiliated driver was in Lompoc with his brother-in-law. Apparently the driver was not injured and the brother-in-law reported the accident to the Lompoc Police Department.

### Off base arrest – 5:18 a.m.

The San Luis Obispo Police Department reported an Airman was arrested for assault in downtown San Luis Obispo. His first sergeant was briefed.

### Domestic – 2:06 p.m.

An Airman reported a domestic disturbance at her home on Meadowbrook. Investigation revealed she and her husband, also an Airman, began throwing clothes at one another during a verbal argument. A first sergeant responded to assume control.

### Suspicious odor – 10:12 p.m.

A services employee reported a suspicious odor within the Pacific Coast Club. Investigation revealed while tending bar he smelled what he believed to be marijuana. Patrolmen conducted a check of the facility failing to uncover the odor or its source.

## April 4

### Check your six, part four! – 9:25 p.m.

The main gate sentry reported a vehicle driven by an Airman's daughter struck a government vehicle at the gate. Investigation revealed the daughter rear-ended the vehicle while he was stopped for an ID check. No injuries were reported.

## April 5

### Child's play – 12:27 p.m.

An Airman reported a child climbing through the window of a home on Catalpa Street. Patrolmen responded and investigation revealed an Airman's son was retrieving an Airman's daughters' shoes to throw over the fence from a vacant home. The respective sponsors were briefed.

### Private property theft – 1 p.m.

A contractor reported a pallet of masonry blocks stolen during March from outside building 11165. The property value was \$271.

### What signs? What birds? – 2:20 p.m.

A Vandenberg fish and game patrolman reported a non-base affiliated civilian running through a restricted snowy plover nesting area on Surf Beach. He was cited for trespassing and released.

## Feelin' hot! hot! hot!



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS BRYAN FRANKS

Vandenberg firefighters practice extinguishing an aircraft fire during an exercise March 25. More than 25 firefighters and eight fire trucks participated in the event to satisfy mission requirements and gear up for the readiness and compliance inspection.

## Legal office announces Articles 15 for March

COMPILED BY CAPT. ZACHARY WARE

30th Space Wing Judge Advocate's office

■ Eight Vandenberg Airmen received punishment in March, under Article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Their crimes and punishments are as follows:

A technical sergeant from the 30th Medical Group violated Article 111 of the UCMJ for driving under the influence of alcohol. The technical sergeant received a suspended reduction in rank to staff sergeant, a forfeiture of \$2,366 pay and 45 days extra duty.

An airman first class from the 30th Security Forces Squadron violated Article 134 of the UCMJ for the negligent discharge of a firearm and obstruction of justice. The airman first class received a reduction in rank to airman, 45 days restriction to base, and 45 days extra duty.

An airman from the 30th SFS violated

Article 134 of the UCMJ for obstruction of justice. The airman received a suspended reduction in rank to airman basic, a suspended forfeiture of \$596 pay, 45 days restriction to Vandenberg and 45 days extra duty.

A senior airman from the 30th Space Wing violated Article 111 of the UCMJ for driving under the influence of alcohol. The senior airman received a reduction in rank to airman first class, forfeiture of \$1,000 pay and 60 days restriction to Vandenberg.

An airman from the 532nd Training Squadron violated Articles 92 and 134 of the UCMJ for failure to obey a lawful order, underage drinking and wrongful dissemination of obscene photographs, via the Internet, to a minor under the age of 16. The airman received a reduction in rank to airman basic, a forfeiture of \$596 pay for two months, 10 days restriction to

Vandenberg and 10 days extra duty.

An airman first class from the 532nd TRS violated Article 92 of the UCMJ for underage drinking. The airman first class received a reduction in rank to airman, a forfeiture of \$400 pay and 10 days restriction to Vandenberg.

An airman from the 532nd TRS violated Article 92 of the UCMJ for underage drinking. The airman received a reduction in rank to airman basic, a forfeiture of \$600 pay, 10 days restriction to Vandenberg and a reprimand.

An airman first class from the 576th Flight Test Squadron violated Articles 128 and 134 of the UCMJ for assault and battery, and drunk and disorderly. The airman first class received a reduction in rank to airman, a suspended forfeiture of \$250 pay for two months and 21 days extra duty.

## This week in history....

COMPILED BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JUANIKA GLOVER  
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

## April 4

**1944** – The 20th Air Force is activated.

**1949** – The United States and 11 other nations establish the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, a mutual defense pact aimed at containing possible Soviet aggression against Western Europe. NATO stood as the main U.S.-led military alliance against the Soviet Union throughout the duration of the Cold War.

**1968** – Just after 6 p.m. April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King Jr. is fatally shot while standing on the balcony outside his second-story room at the Motel Lorraine in Memphis, Tenn. The civil rights leader was in Memphis to

support a sanitation workers' strike and was on his way to dinner when a bullet struck him. King was pronounced dead after his arrival at a Memphis hospital. He was 39 years old.

## April 6

**1917** – Two days after the U.S. Senate voted 82 to 6 to declare war against Germany, the U.S. House of Representatives endorses the declaration by a vote of 373 to 50, and America formally enters World War I.

**1924** – Air Service officers begin the first round-the-world air tour.

## April 7

**1945** – The first fighter escorted B-29 mission is made against Japan.

## April 8

**1943** – P-47s are flown for the first time in combat over Western Europe.

## April 9

**1959** – NASA introduces America's first astronauts: Scott Carpenter, L. Gordon Cooper Jr., John Glenn Jr., Virgil "Gus" Grissom, Walter Schirra Jr., Alan Shepard Jr., and Donald Slayton.

The seven men, all military test pilots, were selected from 32 candidates to take part in Project Mercury, America's first manned space program. NASA planned to begin manned orbital flights in 1961.

## April 10

**1945** – German jets shoot down 10 American bombers near Berlin.

# Around the Air Force

## Cold War space approach to change

By RUDI WILLIAMS  
*American Forces Press Service*

Transformation across the armed forces is happening much faster than expected when the concept was announced two years ago, the Defense Department's director of force transformation told the Senate subcommittee on strategic forces.

"It's happening due in large part to the information and power derived from our vital space capabilities," said retired Navy Vice Adm. Arthur K. Cebrowski in prepared testimony.

Changes must be made in the United States' Cold War space approach, he said, adding that in today's rapidly changing, dynamic world, the nation must continue to lead in all space operations to assure national security and freedom of action.

Space capabilities are a prominent feature of the global advantage the nation enjoys, but space technology's context is changing, making possible more space-business models and expanded-business bases, Admiral Cebrowski said. He suggested using a new and complementary-business model called "Operationally Responsive Space" to help ensure space superiority well into the future, with space being more responsive to joint-military forces.

At the program's core, he said, is defining a joint-military function and focusing on providing joint-military capabilities for operational- and tactical-level commanders.

The progress of space transformation, which is rooted in the Cold War, is phenomenal, he said. The national security space program was viewed as a source of national power with a clear connection between space and the nation's strategic-deterrent forces.

## 'The Simpsons' deploy to Southwest Asia

By AIRMAN 1ST CLASS J.G. BUZANOWSKI  
*Combined Air Operations Center Public Affairs*

At first glance, these two Airmen share only a name: Simpson. One is a senior officer, the other is junior enlisted; one is a reservist, the other active duty; one works in an office, the other on a flightline.

But a closer look reveals Col. Bill Simpson and Airman 1st Class Doug Simpson share more than a moniker — they are father and son. They are also fighting the war on terrorism from the same forward-deployed location here.

"It's so great to have him here," said Colonel Simpson, the air reserve component liaison and a 34-year Air Force veteran. "I've been dragging him to air bases since he could walk. And now he's working on the same planes I used to work with."

Airman Simpson, a C-130 Hercules crew chief deployed from Pope Air Force Base, N.C., joined the Army initially. It was not until 18 months ago that he started following in his father's footsteps as an Airman.

"I used to be a combat engineer in the Army Reserve and was with them for four years," Airman Simpson said. "My unit didn't deploy in that entire time though, and I knew I wanted to. So I came to the Air Force, and here I am."

Colonel Simpson, who is deployed from Tinker AFB, Okla., did more than help his

son transition to life as an Airman. In fact, he even swore in his son.

"That was easily one of the proudest moments of my life," Colonel Simpson said. "I was enlisted for 12 years, so I'm real proud that my son is a crew chief for one of my favorite planes. He used to build models of them when he was growing up and now he launches them for real."

## Airmen save life using defibrillator

By 2ND LT. JENNIFER TAYLOR  
*552nd Air Control Wing Public Affairs*

Four Airmen saved an Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center employee's life after he recently suffered a heart attack at the Tinker Air Force Base Annex gym.

Mario Martinez, a quality-assurance specialist at the center, went into cardiac arrest while playing racquetball with Tech. Sgt. Douglas Keller, a radar instructor with the 373rd Training Squadron.

Tech. Sgt. Allan George, a radar master with the 373rd Training Squadron, was watching from outside the racquetball court.

Senior Master Sgt. Dana Williamson, 552nd Operations Group superintendent, was walking by the court when he saw Mr. Martinez on the ground.

"I walked in the court and asked if I could help," Sergeant Williamson said. "I took a look at him, felt for a pulse, and he did not have one. I listened for his respiration, and he was not breathing either."

Sergeants Keller and George gave Mr. Martinez breaths while Sergeant Williamson began chest compressions.

Tech. Sgt. Marvin Lewis, a fitness and outdoor recreational instructor with the 72nd Services Division, was working at the front desk when he was told someone had a heart attack and to call 911.

After seeing that CPR was being administered, he grabbed an automated external defibrillator.

A defibrillator delivers electricity to a person's heart who is suffering from cardiac arrest, said Mashell Sourjohn, a health initiatives specialist with the American Heart Association.

"The electric shock delivered by an AED can stop the abnormal heart rhythm, allowing the heart to resume its normal beat and again circulate blood," Ms. Sourjohn said.

Sergeant Lewis had been trained to use the defibrillator just days before the incident.

"I remember during the course thinking to myself, 'I'll never need to use this thing,'" Sergeant Lewis said. "That was the best 30 minutes of training I've ever received from the military."

## F/A-22 important to all Airmen

By MASTER SGT. MARK HAVILAND  
*Air Combat Command Public Affairs*

To Air Force people who do not fly or maintain aircraft, the oft-repeated characteristics of the F/A-22 Raptor, "stealth, supercruise, agility, integrated avionics, and supportability" probably mean about as much as "independent front suspension" and "aluminum alloy heads" mean to someone who is not really into cars.

Not much.

"So what," they might argue, "I'm just

a (fill in duty title of choice). The F/A-22 isn't going to affect me or how I do my job."

But they would be wrong — dead wrong — and what the "meanest, baddest bird on the planet," as it is described, contributes to America's warfighters, can be summed up in one word.

Survivability. It is a commodity other "legacy" fighters — the F-15 Eagle and F-16 Fighting Falcon — will be less likely to provide in future conflict, according to senior leaders.

"I get a lot of comments on the F/A-22," said Gen. John P. Jumper, Air Force chief of staff. "Mostly they say, 'You know general, you guys are so good. The Iraqi air force threw its arms up and quit the first day of the war. They didn't even fly a single sortie. You had four guided surface-to-air missiles fired during the entire war so you've got what you need. What's the problem?'"

In response to that kind of questioning, General Jumper often refers to two axioms: first, that you should not fight the last war; and that people who do not remember history are doomed to repeat it.

## Troop rotation to Iraq continues

By JIM GARAMON  
*American Forces Press Service*

The largest rotation of U.S. forces since World War II continues in Iraq, Defense Department officials said March 31.

In all, more than 250,000 U.S. servicemembers are affected.

Planning for the rotation began months ago. New units worked with units already in Iraq to learn their mission and plan the movement. In December, the units began flowing into the region and began the relief-in-place process.

Officials said they expect the rotation to continue through May, when 110,000 U.S. servicemembers will be in place. They will replace the 130,000 Americans who have been serving in the region. When the rotation is complete, about 80,000 Soldiers, 25,000 Marines and 5,000 Airmen and Sailors will be in Iraq.

To date, about 95 percent of the servicemembers deploying to Iraq have arrived in the region. More than 90 percent of the cargo has arrived, and more than 60 percent of the people returning home have done so.

While the number of American forces is dropping, Iraqi troops will more than make up the cut, officials said. A new Iraqi army brigade should be operational by the time the coalition returns sovereignty to an Iraqi government June 30. In addition, units of the Iraqi civil defense corps will work with the units. More than 210,000 Iraqis are involved in security work in the country, officials said.

## Charity ball benefits Airmen in big way

By CAPT. ELIZABETH ORTIZ  
*11th Wing Public Affairs*

The Air Force Aid Society was the benefactor as Airmen of all ranks and top Air Force civilian leaders came out in full force at the first Air Force charity ball April 3 at the officers club at Bolling Air Force Base, D.C.

The event raised more than \$270,000 for the AFAS from individual and corporate contributions, said Gen.

## Secure zone



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. AARON ALLMON II

**BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq — An HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter from the 64th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron comes to pickup pararescuemen here March 30.**

John P. Jumper, Air Force chief of staff. This surpassed the goal of \$200,000.

"This is a great night for Air Force aid, a way for the Air Force family to help other members of the Air Force family," said Ellen Jumper, honorary chairperson for the ball and General Jumper's wife. "We're so pleased with all the support."

Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche; F. Whitten Peters, former SECAF; former Secretary of Defense William Cohen; Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Richard Myers; and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray were among the 700 guests.

The AFAS comes to the rescue to meet special family problems or needs the government cannot fund, such as airline tickets during emergencies or car repairs.

"We do this for our great Airmen serving around the world, and we do plan to make this an annual event," General Jumper said. "There's never been a time of greater need in our Air Force than we have right now."

"None of this would've been possible without the vision and efforts of the Jumpers," said retired Lt. Gen. Mike McGinty, Air Force Aid Society chief executive officer. "This will enable us [AFAS] to help troops and their families around the world wherever, whenever and however they need it."

## Airman receives 48 months confinement

By 2ND LT. KRISTEN DUNCAN  
*Air Armament Center Public Affairs*

A 33rd Maintenance Squadron Airman at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., pleaded guilty and was convicted recently of illegal drug use and distribution involving Ecstasy, cocaine and marijuana.

Airman Basic Brian M. Baird also pleaded guilty to four additional charges:

disobeying his commander's orders, using Ecstasy and marijuana after his initial charge, dereliction of duty and obstructing justice.

Officials said Airman Baird was derelict based on his failure to obtain emergency care for Cheryl Skinnider, a civilian, after her self-imposed drug overdose, and he obstructed justice by impeding the investigation in the case of U.S. v. Cheryl Skinnider.

Presiding military judge, Lt. Col. Daryl Trawick, sentenced Airman Baird to 48 months confinement. Airman Baird faced a maximum punishment of 74 years, six months confinement. He entered into a pretrial agreement to plead guilty to all charges, waived his right to an Article 32 pretrial hearing regarding the additional charges, and waived his right to trial by jury.

His pretrial agreement capped his confinement time to 48 months.

It was the court's sentence that Airman Baird be dishonorably discharged, but his pretrial agreement lessened the sentence to a bad conduct discharge. The court adjudged a total forfeiture of all pay and allowances.

Airman Baird confessed to purchasing about 150 Ecstasy pills while here and distributing 28 of those. He said he used cocaine on multiple occasions at parties in the nearby Fort Walton Beach area.

Airman Baird admitted to first trying marijuana while under the influence of alcohol. He was said to have distributed about 25 bags of marijuana to Airmen in his squadron.

The Airman was the fifth member of the squadron to be court-martialed for drug-related charges in recent months.

Find complete versions of these stories and more at the Air Force Link Web site: [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil).

## 30th Security Forces Squadron Crime Prevention Day

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 17 at the base exchange

- Operation Safe Kids Identification (child fingerprinting)
- Vandenberg Neighborhood Watch recruitment
- Property identification engraving
- Project Child Safe, FREE cable-style gunlocks for base handgun owners
- Appearance by "McGRUFF" crime prevention mascot
- Crime prevention handouts and brochures



They're already warriors. They're already fit to fight. Now all the Guardian Challenge 2004 security forces team has to do is show the competition that...

# Vandenberg is team to beat

By AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JUANIKA GLOVER  
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

Editor's note: This article is the second in a series of four articles that will highlight each of this year's Guardian Challenge teams.

During Guardian Challenge 2004 the warriors of the 30th Security Forces Squadron will set out to prove the Schriever trophy has made Vandenberg its home for one reason – it belongs in the hands of the best of the best.

The six members of the security forces team comprise youthful energy, past competitive experience, wisdom, strength, and varied talent that when combined, form a single unit of battle-ready Airmen. In only 24 days, these Airmen will get the opportunity to prove just how ready they really are.

As the competition nears, the security forces team sharpens its skills with dedication to the cause – making sure the trophy remains at home where it belongs.

The youngest member of the team, Airman 1st Class Matthew Runkles, 30th SFS entry controller, has been preparing himself for Guardian Challenge for more than five weeks.

"I'm anxious and ready to prove myself," Airman Runkles said. "I chose to be on this team because of the opportunity for a challenge it presents. It also gives me the chance to get more experience in weapon's tactics."

Some of the challenges the team will face include weapons firing, obstacle course and tactics.

The weapons firing will involve the M-16 and M-9 automatic guns and the M-203 grenade launcher. Although the Airmen will fire the weapons individually, they will do the obstacle course as a team and their ability to work together will be a big factor their success, Airman Runkles said.

As for tactics, Airman Runkles said they weren't exactly sure what each scenario consisted of, only that it would involve shooting while running, ducking and rolling, pop-up targets and taking control of a building or hill that has been captured by enemy forces.

"I know I'm the youngest and newest to the Air Force, but with the help of the guys on the team who bring their past experience and maturity, I'll have all the support I need," Airman Runkles said.

"This is my first GC and it's going to be pretty exciting," he said. "It's going to push me physically and mentally and I'm



PHOTOS BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS BERNICE SUAREZ

Staff Sgt. Javier Mendez and Senior Airman Rick Matthais, 30th Security Forces Squadron, test their balance and speed at the base obstacle course in preparation for Guardian Challenge 2004.



Vandenberg's Security Forces Team will go second in the obstacle course competition.

definitely looking forward to the challenge!"

After winning best in weapons in GC 2002, Airman Runkles said the team has a reputation to uphold.

2nd Lt. Michael Small, 30th SFS flight commander, is also making sure that reputation remains in tact. As a team member and trainer, Lieutenant Small brings his 10 years of Air Force experiences to the plate.

Out of the 14 people who tried out for the team Lieutenant Small and five others were chosen because they each have a strength that will help lead the team to

victory, he said.

"I concentrate on the physical fitness portion of the training," the lieutenant said. "We're doing a generic training and are working our way up to the harder things so that there will be no injuries before the competition."

"This is my first Guardian Challenge," he said. "I was going to be on last year's team but of course that was scrapped, so I'm definitely looking forward to the competition this year."

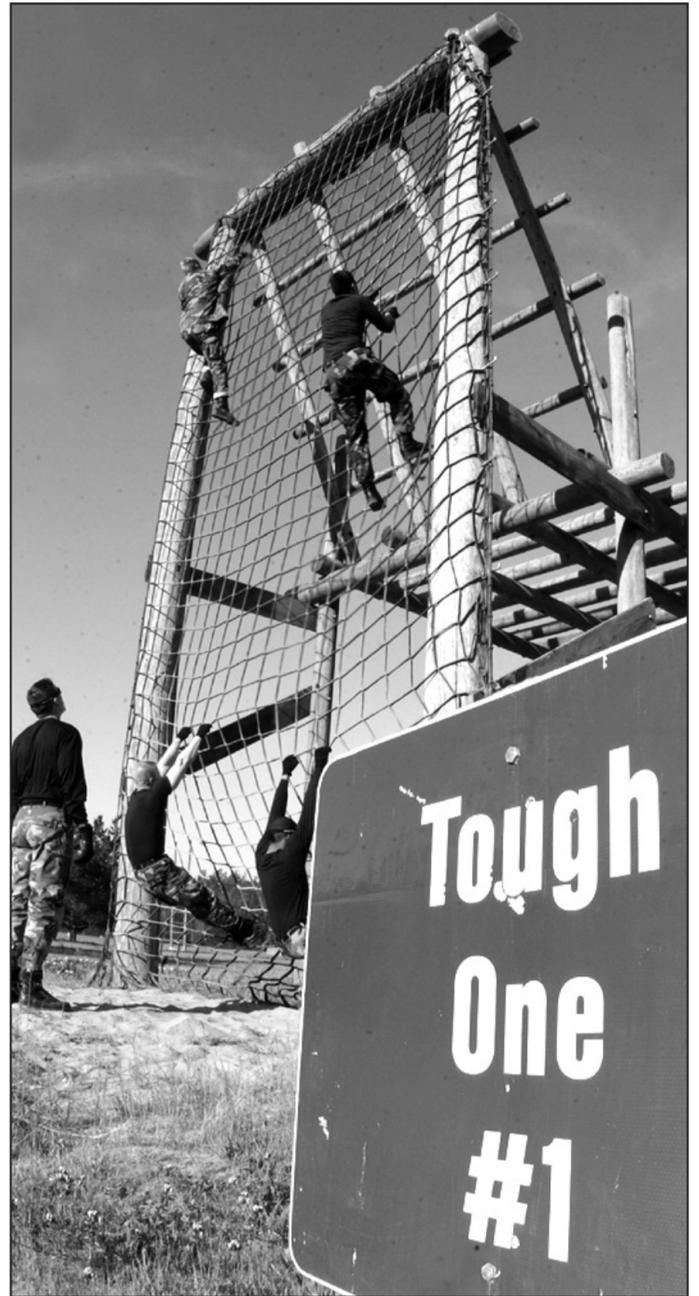
With a tone similar to that of a proud father's, Lieutenant Small spoke of his approval of his team members with pride.

He said they all make a great team and even the Airmen who weren't chosen did their best at the tryouts.

"We've definitely got a good mix of guys with different talents and each person brings something special to the team that makes us strong together," Lieutenant Small said. "If we do our best and only come in second or third place, a lot of people might think it's a bad thing, but it's all about the effort we put into it. I'll just be happy knowing we went out there and gave it everything we've got."

Lieutenant Small said the only pressure he's feeling right now is that the competition is on their home court and no one wants to loose on their own turf.

"Of course getting first place would be nice," Lieutenant Small added. "But as long as we work together and do our best, that's all that matters."



The security forces team will be timed while going through the obstacle course together. Teamwork will be essential in order for them to come out on top in this competition.

Fore!



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS BERNICE SUAREZ

Tech. Sgt. Greg Cleere, 533rd Training Squadron, tees off during the intramural golf playoff match between 14th Air Force and 533rd TRS Tuesday at Marshallia Ranch. The 14th Air Force defeated the 533rd TRS in a two-game match. The two teams play Tuesday for the championship.



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS BRYAN FRANKS

30th Security Forces Squadron's Jason Brown charges through for the lay up against 30th Space Wing's Brian Riffey. The Cops defeated the Space Wing 66-42.

## Cops run over SW

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

**M**y oh my, how the mighty have fallen. The once invincible 30th Space Wing basketball team No. 1 suffered its worst loss this year in a 66-42 routing by the 30th Security Forces Squadron team No. 1.

For the Cops it was a victory that left them as the only undefeated team in the playoffs.

This was the second time this year that the Cops sent the Space Wing packing, making the Cops the clear favorite for the championship game today.

"It's real exciting to beat this team," said 30th SFS player/coach Steven Gonzalez. "Our team really stepped up the defense in this game."

Solid defense wasn't the only thing that helped solidify their win Wednesday night.

In the first half of the ball game Darren Savella, one of the Space Wing's lead scorers and ball handlers rolled his ankle knocking him out for the game and the rest of the playoffs.

"It was a huge blow to our team," said Space Wing coach, William Carson. "We already were struggling against the Cops and that only made it worse."

At the beginning of the second half the Cops had a comfortable 25 point lead and they never let up.

The Cops clearly set the tempo of the game. They controlled the board and limited Space Wing shooting opportunities.

Brandon Wengert, high

scorer for the Space Wing with 14 points, was very disappointed about the loss.

"It was a hard loss. We played good but the Cops played better," Wengert said.

"It really upset our rhythm with the loss of Savella. He's our main ball handler and our passing game was off because of that."

The Space Wing still has a chance for redemption as they move into the losers bracket.

"We'll be back," said Audric Bills, Space Wing player.

The Cops now await the winner from Thursday's games, but aren't worried a bit. The team they play Cops will have to beat them twice.

"There is no team that will beat us in this tournament," Gonzalez said.

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

# Destinations

# CENTRAL COAST

SPACE & MISSILE TIMES

April 9, 2004

## Experience true California beach life on The Strand

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN BRIAN HILL  
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

It's a decompressing feeling to return to the quiet serenity of Vandenberg after a weekend ensconced in the crowded, congested beach communities of Los Angeles. They're fun and exhausting at the same time, and definitely something to experience while stationed in California.

The destination this week is L.A.'s South Bay – a group of beach communities spanning from Palos Verdes north to Manhattan Beach – slightly southwest of downtown L.A. One 21-mile sidewalk, called The Strand, connects all the beaches and continues on up to Venice Beach and Santa Monica just west of Hollywood. The plan was to go for a weekend and experience the "laid-back atmosphere" of the South Bay lifestyle while bicycling from Hermosa Beach up to Venice.

The Friday night drive down on Highway 101 is fairly quick until passing Malibu and joining L.A.'s 15-million drivers in the world's consistently worst traffic jam. Early risers should try to leave about 6 a.m. Saturday morning to avoid this, but I am no early riser. My friend Michael lives in Redondo Beach, and he has a spare bedroom for me without hotel rates. Our planned ride was about 20 miles roundtrip, so we wanted to start as early as possible.

The weather was beautiful as we stepped outside late Saturday morning and began our ride down to the beach. The Strand is large enough and long enough to accommodate thousands of bicyclists, rollerbladers, dog-walkers, joggers and baby strollers while still



Michael Casados and Drew Schindeldecker take a break at Manhattan Beach.

allowing plenty of room for people watchers along the beach side and pub crawlers along the, well, pub side. There are plenty of places to stop along the way for refreshments – South Bay residents enjoy surfing and beach volleyball, and partying.

When the weather is especially nice, The Strand can seem pretty chaotic. Tourists intertwine with locals to crowd the area, but the crowds are the best reason to

go. It's a relaxed and friendly atmosphere

and there's never a dull moment. Multiply the chaos by about a thousand on a holiday weekend such as St. Patrick's Day weekend when I was there.

Party people aside, the bike ride is really nice. North of Manhattan Beach, the crowds clear out and all is quiet for about five miles until reaching Marina Del Rey. There are some excellent seafood restaurants in this area (there's good seafood all over the South Bay, but that's just where we happened to stop). The food was so good in fact, that we decided it was getting late and turned around, never reaching Venice Beach.

If you go, I recommend getting a light for your bicycle. The path gets dark after sunset. Also, bring an extra layer of clothes. Just like Vandenberg, it may be shorts/t-shirt weather during the day and pants/jacket weather after dark. If you don't own a bicycle but want to ride, no problem. There are places all over Hermosa where you can rent. Also,

military members can drive to L.A. AFB in El Segundo and rent from outdoor recreation. That's what we did – I paid \$5 for Saturday and Sunday. Call DSN 833-2081 to check prices and availability.



Casados heads to Marina Del Ray.

### How to get there...

To get down to The Strand and begin your journey, take the 101 south to L.A. and then continue south on the 405 – called the San Diego Freeway. We drove about five miles south of the L.A. airport, exiting at Redondo Beach Blvd. Make a right and go about a mile up Redondo until you reach the intersection with Hawthorne (you'll see the South Bay Galleria mall on the left). Keep going straight through the intersection and you'll end up on Artesia Blvd. This road takes you about five miles straight down to the beach. Enjoy the chaos!

## Community Calendar

**9 FRI** Lunch with the Easter Bunny – 10 to 11 a.m. today at the base exchange food court. Children's combo meals are \$2.

**Lompoc Civic Theater** – Presents "The Town Meeting" a theater production where the audience gets to participate. The event is scheduled for 7 p.m. tonight and April 30. Call 734-2281 for more information or to make reservations.

**Bundles for Babies** – 2 to 4 p.m. today at the family support center. Call 606-0039 or go to [www.PHP-IDS.com](http://www.PHP-IDS.com) to register.

**Baby Meet** – needs a new volunteer coordinator. Baby Meet offers discussion and socialization for expectant parents and those with babies newborn through two years old. Call 606-0039 for more information.

**Playtime for Tots** – needs a

new volunteer coordinator. The playgroup is for children ages two through five. Call 606-0039 for more information.

**9 FRI** **Volunteers needed** – 7:45 to 11:40 a.m. April 29 for Career Day at Fesler Junior High School in Santa Maria. Call 606-3595 to volunteer.

**Vandenberg Neighborhood Watch** – The 30th Security Forces Squadron Crime Prevention office is organizing neighborhood watches. Residents who would like to pioneer the organization on their block should call 605-0792.

**Library volunteer tutors** – the Lompoc Public Library Adult Reading Program seeks volunteers to work with English-speaking adults who want to improve their basic reading and writing skills. Call (805) 735-7323, ext. 16 for more information or to register.

**9 FRI** **Volunteers needed** – Lompoc's Community Kitchen needs volunteers to cook and serve dinner to about 100 community members in need. Dinners are served at 5 p.m. Fridays. Cooking starts at 3 p.m. Call Toni Adams at 736-5455 to sign up.

**Low walk-up fares** – American Airlines expanded its military fares through the fall. The fares include no advance-purchase requirements and no change fees. Call (800) 433-7300.

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

**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.

**Volunteers Needed** – The family services loan closet and

the airman's attic programs need volunteers between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Mondays and Fridays. Volunteers can work full, half or one-hour days. Call family services at 606-5484 or 606-4225 for more information.

**12 MON** **Computer resource room** – 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday in the family support center for customers needing to access the Internet for job searches, relocation assistance, or to stay in touch with family separated because of military service.

**Stress/Self Management** – 2 to 4 p.m. Monday at the Health and Wellness Center. Call 606-0039 or go to [www.PHP-IDS.com](http://www.PHP-IDS.com) to register.

**Office Closure** – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Mondays the family support center is closed for training. Call 606-0039 for emergencies.

**Relaxation room** – 8:30 a.m. to

3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Vandenberg HAWC. Call 606-2221 for an appointment.

**13 TUE** **Deployed Spouses Support Group** – 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday in the HAWC's family services area. Call 606-0039 or go to [www.PHP-IDS.com](http://www.PHP-IDS.com) to register.

**Disabled American Veterans** – Mobile service operations are held at 9 a.m. Tuesdays in the Veterans Memorial Bldg at 108 East Locus Street in Lompoc. Call Dan Contreras at (310) 477-2539 for more information.

**Youth sign language classes** – 3 to 3:50 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the education center room E-4. The class is for children in third through fifth grades. Call 734-0452 for more information.

**Santa Maria 4-Wheelers club** – meets at 7:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of the month at Round Table Pizza. Call (805) 928-7532.

**14 WED** **Santa Maria Camera Club** – meets at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of the month at the Arbor View Retirement Center. Call (805) 934-9709.

**Partners Assisting in Reading** – 2:55 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays in the Crestview Elementary School Library. For more information, call 734-1651.

**20 TUE** **Crystal and Basket Bingo** – 6:30 p.m. April 20 at the Pacific Coast Club. Call 734-2554 or 734-0956 for more information or for reservations.

**23 FRI** **S.A.T. information** – Active-duty military members are eligible to take one free Scholastic Aptitude Test per lifetime.

The next scheduled test date is April 23.

To find out information on later dates, call the base education office at 606-5904.

## Movie Corner

### BASE THEATER

**EUROTRIP R**  
7 P.M. TONIGHT,  
**CONFESSIONS OF A TEENAGE DRAMA QUEEN R**  
7 P.M. SATURDAY  
CLOSED EASTER SUNDAY

**Hi-Way Drive-in**  
Santa Maria Ph. 937-3515

**HELLBOY PG-13**  
**WALKING TALL PG-13** DAILY 8:15 p.m.

Call Edwards Santa Maria 10 for movie listings at (800) 326-3264

### Movies Lompoc

**HELLBOY PG-13**  
DAILY 2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30 SAT-SUN 11:30  
**PRINCE AND ME PG**  
DAILY 2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30 SAT-SUN 11:30  
**WALKING TALL PG-13**  
DAILY 2:15-4:45-7:15-9:30 SAT-SUN 11:45  
**THE GIRL NEXT DOOR R**  
DAILY 4:30-7:00-9:30 SAT-SUN 11:30-2:00

### Movies Gemini

**THE WHOLE TEN YARDS PG-13**  
DAILY 4:30-7:00-9:15 SAT-SUN 11:30-2:00  
**HOME ON THE RANGE PG**  
DAILY 4:00-7:00-9:15 SAT-SUN 11:30-2:00

### Parks Plaza Buellton

**THE GIRL NEXT DOOR R**  
DAILY 2:00-4:30-7:00 FRI 9:30 SAT-SUN 11:30-9:30  
**THE WHOLE TEN YARDS PG-13**  
DAILY 2:00-4:30-7:00 FRI 9:30 SAT-SUN 11:30-9:30  
**THE ALAMO PG-13**  
DAILY 3:45-6:45 FRI 9:30 SAT-SUN 12:45-9:30  
**WALKING TALL PG-13**  
DAILY 2:15-4:45-7:15 FRI 9:30 SAT-SUN 11:45-9:30  
**JERSEY GIRL PG-13**  
DAILY 2:00-4:30-7:00 FRI 9:30 SAT-SUN 11:30-9:30

General Admission \$7.50; kids and seniors \$5; All shows before 5:30 p.m. \$5. Movies and times subject to change.

## Chapel Services & Events

Call 606-5773 for other denomination worship services and events.

**Good Friday: Protestant** - 6 p.m. tonight at Chapel 2.  
**Catholic** - 7 p.m. tonight at Chapel 1.

**Easter Service: Protestant** - sunrise service at 6:30 a.m. at the Chapel 1 patio, praise and worship at 8:30 a.m. at Chapel 2, traditional service at 11:30 a.m. at Chapel 1, gospel service at 11:30 a.m. at Chapel 2. **Catholic** - 10 a.m. at Chapel 1.

### WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 a.m. Praise and Worship, Chapel 2 10 a.m. Catholic Mass, Chapel 1 11:30 a.m. Traditional Protestant, Chapel 1	<b>Monday - Friday</b> 11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass, Chapel 2 <b>Saturday</b> 5 p.m. Catholic Mass, Chapel 2
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

# 30th Services News

## SERVICES CENTER

**NOW ON SALE!**  
at the Services Center  
**Six Flags Marineworld**  
tickets

and  
**Carnival Wrist Band**  
certificates

for **Lompoc's 18th Annual**  
**Spring Arts Festival**

April 23, 24, 25

Ask us about the new

**'UNIVERSAL**  
**FRONT-OF-THE-LINE PASS'**

\$65 per person all ages  
expiration date, June 11.

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

## SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

**ATTENTION: CRAFTERS!**  
Reserve your spaces now  
for the

*Spring Arts Festival*

**May 15 • 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
grassy area adjacent to  
Surf Lanes bowling center.

**ALL CRAFTERS WELCOME!**

**\$25 one space**  
**\$35 two spaces**

Sign up at the Skills Development  
Center, 606-6438.

## YOUTH CENTER

**Experience**  
the  
**ADVENTURE**



attend the **Teens 4-H**  
**Adventure Camp**

HQ USAF will be funding the Youth  
Programs to send two lucky teens, ages  
14-to-18 to the 4-H Adventure Camp.  
The camp is located at the University of  
Arkansas Cooperative Extension 4-H  
Center in Little Rock, Kansas. Camp  
dates are June 27 to July 2, 2004. The  
selected teens are required to be part of  
base Training Responsible Adolescents  
in Leadership (T.R.A.I.L.) program when  
offered. For more information on how to  
nominate your teen, please contact  
Kristi at the Youth Center, 606-2152,  
before April 13.



No Federal Endorsement Intended.

## LIBRARY

### DIAL-A-STORY

To hear this week's story, "The Proud Rooster"  
call the Dial-A-Story at 606-4300. Stories are  
available 24/7.

**Thursday** - Preschool Storytime,  
10 a.m. at the base library.

Did you know we have a paperback book  
exchange? One for adults and one for kids.

For more information regarding our programs,  
please call 606-6414.

## YOUTH CENTER



# Annual EASTER EGG HUNT

for ages 2 to 10  
at the Youth Center

**April 10**

**Hunt will begin at**  
**9 a.m. sharp!**

Bring your own basket  
and your camera to get a  
picture with the Easter Bunny!  
Don't be late!!!



**PRETEEN**  
**DANCE**  
Youth Center Gym  
April 16  
8 to 6 p.m.  
\$1 each

Call the Youth Center for more information at 606-2152.

## Annual SALUTE TO YOUTH

April 17 • 1 to 3 p.m. Admission is FREE

Thanks to our sponsors... Rent-A-Center • Armed Forces Bank No Federal Endorsement Intended.

Vandenberg Community Programs  
offered for our youth

Performances include:

- SP dog demonstration
- Gymnastics
- Dance Academy
- Vandenberg Flyers (Cheer tumbling)

### New Pacific Coast Club Dues Policy for E-1 through E-4

All new E-1 through E-4 members just \$3 per month! All current dues for E-1 through E-4 have also  
been reduced from \$5 to \$3 per month. You will still receive \$10 in coupons  
every month... it's like we are paying you to be a member!

AB - SrA graduating from technical training will pay "zero" dues for their first year membership.

## 30TH SERVICES SQUADRON

It's here!



An on-line  
customer  
feedback  
system.

Improving  
customer  
service to  
Team  
Vandenberg.

### Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) System

#### What is ICE?

A DoD web-based customer feedback system addressing  
concerns in Installation Service such as: Administration,  
Communications, Dining, Education, Facility Management,  
Family, Health, Housing, Operational Support, Recreation,  
Safety & Security, Shopping, and Travel & Transportation.

#### Purpose:

To improve internal customer service - an opportunity for you  
to voice "what you like" or "what you dislike and how you want  
it changed". ICE will provide fresh and fast information flow  
between installation management and customers.

**Web Address:** <http://ice.disa.mil/> Click on "Vandenberg",  
select a category from the list, and click on the info column to  
see service provider information such as hours of operation,  
phone numbers, and upcoming events. Click on the service  
provider or fill out a comment card and with a click of the mouse,  
you can send it immediately to the manager of the service.  
ICE is the difference between the speed of paper and the  
speed of electrons!

**Benefits:** Improves the speed, quality and quantity of feedback  
from customers to service providers. Automates paper  
comment card system. Improves communications between  
management and customers.

## PACIFIC COAST CLUB

# Easter Sunday

## B·R·U·N·C·H

Join us  
**SUNDAY**

Seating  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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

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

Children 4-12, eat for 75¢ per year  
under 4 years eat for free

Reservations required: 734-4375



#### Featuring...

Champagne  
Assorted Juices, Fresh Fruit Display  
Variety Gourmet Salads

#### BREAKFAST BUFFET LINE

Build-your-own Omelet Station  
French Toast  
Waffles w/ Whipped Cream  
Scrambled Eggs  
Breakfast Meats, Bacon & Sausage  
Breakfast Potatoes  
Biscuits & Gravy

#### BREAKFAST BREAD

Assorted Coffee Cakes - Danish Pastry  
Muffins - Croissants - Bagels,  
Assorted Turnovers  
Cream Cheese - Jelly

#### BRUNCH ITEMS

Grilled Chicken Breast  
Roasted Red Potatoes  
Green Beans/Baby Carrot Garnish  
Saffron Rice

#### CARVING STATION

Ham, Steamship Round  
Dinner Rolls & Butter

#### COLD SEAFOOD DISPLAY

Poached Shrimp, Whole Salmon  
Lox w/Capers & Onions

#### DESSERT TABLE

Strawberries, w/Powdered Sugar  
Whipped Cream, Assorted Cookies  
Assorted Cakes, Pies & Petite Desserts  
Chocolate Mousse

## PACIFIC COAST CLUB



### CRUD CRAZINESS IS BACK!

TOURNAMENTS WILL BE STARTING  
THIS MONTH AT THE PCC

Sign ups ongoing for 3 man teams.  
Also needed are volunteers to be referees.

For more information, contact:

Lt. Christina Frank, 2 SLS at 606-1258  
or Lt. Dwayne Florence, 2 SLS at 605-1909.

Sponsored by the CGOC.

For official rules and updates see Services website at [www.30svs.com](http://www.30svs.com)