

Atlantic Crossroads

Vol. 12, No. 8 • March 2, 2007 | Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal | Lajes In the Fight!



Retired Lt. Col. Herbert Carter, one of the Tuskegee Airmen, speaks during the 2007 African-American Heritage Banquet Saturday in the Top of the Rock Club. (Photo by Guido Melo)

Tuskegee Airman visits Lajes Field

By Staff Sgt. Marcus McDonald
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

A member of the 99th Pursuit Squadron – the famous “Red Tails” made up of a group of black pilots known as the Tuskegee Airmen – visited Lajes last week.

Retired Lt. Col. Herbert Carter served as the guest speaker for the 2007 African-American Heritage Banquet Saturday in the Top of the Rock Club.

“Until the 99th Pursuit Squadron was activated (in 1942), there had not been an African American in the Army Air Corps,” Colonel Carter said during an interview at AFN Lajes. “When it was announced that they were going to activate a black pursuit squadron, to us it was an opportunity.

“Our focus was to make sure we demonstrated that we could do what [people] said we couldn’t do more than concentrating on integrated operations at that moment,” he said. “It was that attitude and patience that really gave us the strength and the focus to perform as we did that resulted later – in 1948 – when President Truman signed an executive order outlawing segregation in the military.”

The colonel said a successful life must involve continual learning.

“Education is a life-long proposition,” he said.

“You can get left behind if you don’t stay up to speed.

“If you expect to be successful in this military life or in the civilian world, you have got to keep yourself up to speed with the technological advancements in the area of expertise,” the colonel explained. “The key is to learn new ways of doing things better.”

Colonel Carter said today’s Airmen are the future.

“We look at our accomplishments with pride and hand it to you and to others of your generation,” he said. “You are our scientists, our doctors, our educators. You are everything that America will be in the 21st century. We are counting on you.”

The colonel said he was glad to meet Lajes Airmen.

“It’s a pleasure to come to Lajes and get to meet our future Air Force,” he said. “I sleep well at night because I know we’re in good hands.”

Master Sgt. Richard Barnett, publicist for Lajes’ African-American Heritage Committee, said it was pleasure to meet and listen to the Tuskegee Airman.

“Colonel Carter taught us that persistence is the key to achieving anything in life,” Sergeant Barnett said. “His message was inspiring and uplifting to everyone who attended this year’s banquet.”

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Lajes Is In The Fight!

ORI Countdown

17

Tip of the Week

□ Know your plans and how and when to implement them.

Courtesy of
65th ABW Inspections

Operations Security

“Even minutiae should have a place in our collection for things of a seemingly trifling nature, when enjoined with others of a more serious cast, may lead to valuable conclusion.”

— President George Washington

OPSEC: Important then, important now

Lajes In The Fight

(January 2007)

Space-required passengers handled
980
Space-available passengers handled
801
Cargo tons handled
130
Mail tons handled
23
Originating shipments, pieces handled
110, 146
Terminating shipments, pieces handled
192, 2,235
Aircraft handled
170



PERSPECTIVE

Team Lajes trains to fight, fights to win

By Tech. Sgt. Brian Cain

65th Air Base Wing Plans and Programs

"Not another exercise. What a waste of my time."

Those were the words I heard while standing in line at the commissary waiting to pay for my groceries before last week's Operational Readiness Exercise.

Besides preparing our wing for Lajes' first Operation Readiness Inspection, one only needs to take a look at our basic doctrine and the beliefs we maintain based on our combat, contingency and exercise experience to understand why we need to exercise.

Three key points that tie directly into why we exercise are: to provide training scenarios in operational environments we might expect to see downrange, to validate the education and training we've already had and to enhance our expeditionary expertise.

Training like we fight

The first thing we need to do is ensure a "train like we fight" mentality and recreate the realism we might expect on the battlefield.

After leadership has decided on the training objectives, the wing inspections office, exercise evaluation team members, and participants from all of the groups, go into action.

Together, they plan and coordinate with multiple agencies to create the bangs, booms, enemies, equipment and system faults and victims for us to practice our operations, command and control, force protection and self-aid and buddy care and to hone our skills.

Each individual needs to fully participate with a great sense of urgency to get the full training value out of each scenario.

Evaluating our training

Besides providing realistic training opportunities, exercises also serve as the primary means to evaluate the effectiveness of our training.

"Each individual needs to fully participate with a great sense of urgency to get the full training value out of each scenario."

Sergeant Cain

Evaluations are carried out by a highly proficient cadre of commander-appointed evaluators.

They observe the ability of Airmen to respond to attack warnings, treat casualties, or prepare jets for combat sorties.

Everyone is not at the same level of proficiency.

Exercise evaluations provide leadership with a snapshot of their unit readiness, annotating where training meets or is above standards and where more attention and resources need to be focused.

Building expeditionary expertise

The last point is that exercises provide Airmen the expertise needed to deploy downrange and support sustained operations in sometimes hostile environments.

Most of our daily jobs entail specialty tasks or ancillary training.

We rarely get to practice doing those jobs in a dynamic environment under stress; exercises provide that opportunity.

Everything we do should be geared toward the spirit of our Air Force mission statement to — "deliver sovereign options for the defense of the United States of America and its global interests, fly and fight in Air, Space and Cyberspace."

If you happen to overhear someone say that exercising is a waste of time, remind them why we need to train like we fight, evaluate that training and build expeditionary expertise.

Lajes is in the Fight. We're in the Fight to win — decisively.

**535-4240
actionline@lajes.af.mil**

The Commander's Line is your direct link to me for suggestions, kudos and as a way to work problems or issues within the 65th Air Base Wing for which you can't find another solution. Your chain of command should always be your first option for praise or problems — but when that's not the answer, call or e-mail the Commander's Line at 535-4240 or actionline@lajes.af.mil.



Col. Robert Winston
Commander, 65th Air Base Wing

Who to call for assistance

A&FRC	535-4138
Chapel	535-4211
Command Post	535-4200
Commissary	535-6174
Dining Facility	535-2256
Emergency services	911
	295-57-1911 (if off base)
Fitness Center	535-5151
Flight View BX	535-5236
Housing Maintenance ..	535-6251
LE desk	535-3222
Legal office	535-3546
Military Pay	535-5158
Oceanfront BX	535-3444
Post Office	535-3625
Shoppette	535-3280
Veterinary Clinic	535-3134
Youth Center	535-3273

Editor's note: If calling from off base or from a commercial line, use the prefix 295-57-XXXX.

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Crossroads

The 65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs staff prepares all editorial content in the Crossroads. The 65th ABW Public Affairs Office (Unit 7710, APO AE 09720), is located in Bldg. T-100, Room 240.

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Crossroads Editorial Staff

- Col. Robert Winston** Commander, 65th Air Base Wing
- Capt. Shilo Weir** Chief, Public Affairs
- Tech Sgt. Christin Michaud** NCOIC, Public Affairs
- Staff Sgt. Marcus McDonald** Editor, Crossroads
- Eduardo Lima** Advisor, Community Relations



Lajes Idol V

Tina Jack, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron, sings her version of "I Have Nothing if I Don't Have You" to a crowd of about 350 people in the Lajes Idol V/USAFE Idol III competition Feb. 23 in the Top of the Rock Club. Senior Airman Karen Adado, 65th Air Base Wing Command Post, took first place in the competition and will represent Lajes at the U.S. Air Forces in Europe competition April 14. Staff Sgt. Angelique Vazquez, 65th Comptroller Squadron, came in second place. Staff Sgt. Lynetta Jackson, 65th Communications Squadron, came in third place. Other participants included Chris Erwin, Senior Airman Portia Les'Pere, 65th Medical Operations Squadron, and Capt. Jamie Barnes, 65th CS. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Timothy Sanford)

Tickets available for USAFE Annual Awards Banquet

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (USAFENS) – Tickets for the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Annual Awards Banquet are available for purchase.

The USAFE Annual Awards Banquet will be 6:30 p.m. on April 6 at the Ramstein Air Base Officers' Club. Ticket prices for the mixed grill (chicken and beef) are \$27 for club members and \$29 for nonmembers; for the grilled salmon are \$24 for club members and \$26 for nonmembers; and for the vegetarian lasagna the prices are \$23 for club members and \$25 for nonmembers.

The guest speaker will be retired Gen. John P. Jumper, former Air Force Chief of

Info

For more details
□ Contact your first sergeant

Staff from 2001 to 2005, and former USAFE commander from 1997 to 2000. His tour as chief of staff spanned operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

General Jumper is a command pilot with more than 5,000 flying hours, including 1,400 combat hours.

The theme for this year's banquet is the 60th anniversary for the Air Force, and the 65th anniversary for USAFE dating back to its official historical beginnings as Eighth Air

Force at Savannah, Ga., on Jan. 19, 1942.

The USAFE Annual Awards Banquet honors the command's outstanding Airmen and civilians competing in the categories of Airman, NCO, Senior NCO, Company Grade Officer, First Sergeant, and Civilian – Categories I and II. USAFE leaders will announce the winners from each category during the event.

The deadline for ticket purchase is March 21 and can be purchased from wing command chief master sergeants or organization first sergeants.

Both civilians and military members of all ranks are welcome to attend.

Questions and Answers Session

□ **Editor's note:** During the Annual Awards Banquet, Brig. Gen. Michael Snodgrass, U.S. Air Forces in Europe's director of plans, programs and requirements, was asked questions about the Montgomery GI Bill and ancillary training being tied to the AEF Cycle. The answer to the first is addressed here. Look in next week's Crossroads for the answer to the question on ancillary training.

Question: Evidently when the new GI bill came out, it was not well publicized and many people did not get a chance to sign up. Is it possible or in the plan to allow active duty to buy back into the GI bill?

Answer: All eligible officers and Airmen entering extended active duty for the first time on or after July 1, 1985, were automatically

enrolled in the Montgomery GI Bill. The MGIB is administered by the Department of Veteran's Affairs and is imbedded in the law. There is no reversal of a disenrollment stated in the law. However, there were two exceptions. Because there may have been some confusion on the initial counseling, there was an open window (Dec. 1, 1988 through June 30, 1989) where eligible individuals already on active duty could elect to enroll (reversing their decision to dis-enroll). Since that time, the counseling members receive upon entry into the Air Force has been standardized and blanket reversals are no longer approved. If an individual can prove they were miscounselled, they can work through their Education Services Officer to see a reversal on their previous dis-enrollment decision, which can be very difficult to prove. For more information, call the Lajes Education Center in Bldg. T-146 or call 535-3355.



65th MDG to transition to 'group without squadrons'

By Col. Denise Lew
65th Medical Group commander

2007 marks an important year for the 65th Medical Group as it joins 33 other small Air Force clinics throughout the world and prepares to deactivate its squadrons.

As part of the Air Force Medical Service Flight Plan Guidance first released in 2006, Medical Groups with less than 270 personnel assigned will transition to "Groups without Squadrons."

Instead, the 65th MDG will have three clinical/operational divisions: the Medical Operations Division, the Aerospace Operations Division, and the Dental Operations Division.

Additionally, the MDG will have its support staff reporting directly to the MDG administrator. The administrator (SGA), chief medical officer (SGH), and the chief nurse executive (SGN) will all operate as group staff working directly for the group commander.

Three other senior executive roles will be dual-hatted: the chief of aerospace medicine will be dual-hatted as the Aerospace Operations Division chief, the Chief Dental Corps officer will be dual-hatted as the Dental Operations Division chief, and the Senior Biomedical Sciences Corps officer will be dual-hatted by one of the BSC officers either in the Med Ops or the Aerospace Ops Division.

G-series orders will be held by the Group commander and by one other officer designed under the SGA to handle primarily enlisted personnel actions. For those who were in the Air Force prior to 1994, you might remember this is how the medical groups were structured in the "old days" when they were not aligned in the traditional Air Force Wing-Group-Squadron-Flight-Element organizational structure.

None of these organizational changes will impact any manning or services provided

locally by the clinic.

The Air Force Medical Service has three primary objectives with this change: one is to ensure we have a clearer "flight path" or career progression for our medical service personnel to help develop them as leaders in a more consistent manner.

Another objective is to "flatten" the medical group structure, taking out unnecessary levels of management ... sort of an "AFSO21ing" of the unit structure.

Finally, this helps to ensure rising leaders have sufficient leadership opportunities throughout their careers to gain experience needed for future roles as senior leaders in the AFMS. For example, under our past structure, the AFMS often ran into a situation of not having sufficient experienced leaders eligible for flag rank.

Currently, the AFMS has on active duty a total of 17 "stars"; by either Congressional mandate or Air Force policy, one two-star billet is required for a Nurse Corps officer, and one flag rank billet is required each for a Dental Corps officer, a Medical Service Corps officer, and a BSC officer. The remaining three-star, two two-star, and five one-star billets may be of any corps in the AFMS, but are primarily filled by Medical Corps (doctors).

Currently, the AFMS has an additional medical corps flag officer (two-star) on active duty serving in a joint billet.

By planning out how many MTF commander billets are filled by each corps and incorporating these positions into a career flight path, the AFMS is able to ensure sufficient, qualified candidates are ready to ascend to these flag positions as they become available. By the same token, at the squadron or group level, wing commanders and MAJCOMs can ensure that medical service officers are better equipped and trained with the right skills and

experience before becoming candidates for group command and other positions beyond that level.

Before becoming a candidate for command positions, individuals will have the opportunity to develop their leadership skills and knowledge as branch chiefs, element chiefs, flight chiefs, division chiefs, and leaders within their respective corps before rising to the responsibility of squadron and group command.

Our enlisted force is transitioning in the same manner as the commissioned officer force. One of the more recent initiatives is to assign a Chief Master Sergeant, or 9G, to every medical group in the AFMS. This helps in the proper mentoring and career development of our enlisted staff, from the youngest Airman to our senior NCOs. It is the 9G's responsibility to oversee training programs, performance reports, recognition programs, career progression, and leadership development among our aspiring non-commissioned officers.

"The vision/drive [is] to bring basic supervisor responsibility in OJT training to the forefront of all that we do," said Chief Master Sgt. Joseph Potts, USAFE medical superintendent. "This needs to be stressed at all levels [and] to ensure visibility at multiple levels."

"Group superintendents are using tools like "My Enlisted Professional Development (MyEDP) to ensure the enlisted career path is clearly defined," added Chief Master Sgt. Simeon Williams, 65th MDG superintendent.

Impact at Lajes

So, how do these changes actually impact us locally at Lajes?

To our customers, nothing will appear different from the beneficiary's perspective.

But, from the perspective of our wing counterparts, individuals "across the table"

may have different job titles. We will be deactivating the Medical Operations Squadron and the Medical Support Squadron.

Col. Amir Edward will be taking over for me this summer as the Medical Group commander. Lt. Col. Susan McNitt will remain in place, dual-hatted as the MDG deputy commander and SGN.

Lt. Col. Philip Rutledge will be replaced by Lt. Col. Gretchen Dietrich as the new SGA, and she will head up all administrative support functions to include medical logistics, facility management, medical readiness, information systems, resource management/business operations, TRICARE and patient administration, and CSS/human resources.

Pharmacy, laboratory and radiology will transfer from the support side and fall under the Medical Operations Division, along with family practice, OB/gyn, physical therapy, and life skills. This division will be headed up by a BSC officer from one of the branches under the division, i.e., the pharmacy, laboratory, physical therapy, clinical social work, or clinical psychology officer. Dental will be its own division.

The Aerospace Medicine Division will include flight medicine, bioenvironmental engineering, public health, optometry and the Health and Wellness Center.

At Wing Staff meetings, one will likely see the same equivalent counterparts, with maybe one or two different titles: the MDG commander or deputy, the SGA, and the group superintendent.

While it may take some time to become accustomed to a few new titles and roles, the bottom line is your 65th MDG combat medics will continue to provide our customers the highest quality primary and preventive care, ensure access to world-class specialty care whenever it's needed, and above all, keep our military members ready for the fight.



COMMUNITY

OSI detachment focuses on criminal allegations

By Capt. Shilo Weir
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

The Air Force Office of Special Investigations provides professional investigative service to commanders throughout the Air Force.

OSI identifies, investigates and neutralizes criminal, terrorist and force protection threats to Air Force and Department of Defense personnel and resources stationed around the world.

Although OSI agents world-wide focus their efforts on a variety of mission goals, operations here at Lajes are a little different.

“Our mission here is dedicated to the investigation of major criminal allegations affecting U.S. Air Force personnel, resources and interests,” said Tracy Jones, OSI Det. 516 special agent in charge. “Our responsibility is to process any resultant crime scenes and process matters released to our jurisdiction, usually by Security Forces personnel.”

The vast majority of OSI’s investigative activities pertain to uncovering the facts surrounding felony crimes. These can include robbery, assault, major burglaries, drug use and trafficking, sexual assault, arson, compromise of Air Force test materials, fraud, murder and other criminal activities.



In a recent example, the investigative skills of OSI here at Lajes Field were an integral part of convicting an Airman of wrongful distribution of marijuana in the hashish form and making a false official statement.

“At Lajes Field, we serve the Air Force and the greater community by gathering and analyzing criminal evidence and coordinating our investigations with command authorities,” said Agent Jones. “We are here to protect Team Lajes, both personnel and infrastructure, and ensure good order and discipline.”

The community, both on and off base, benefits when the hard work of OSI agents not only stops violations but also acts to deter crime.



Tracy Jones, OSI Det. 516 special agent in charge, fingerprints a “suspect” Wednesday. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Marcus McDonald)

Airman’s Manual Fitness Challenge

In preparation for Lajes Field’s first Operational Readiness Inspection, the *Crossroads* is having an Airman’s Manual Fitness Challenge.

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Lajes Is In The Fight!

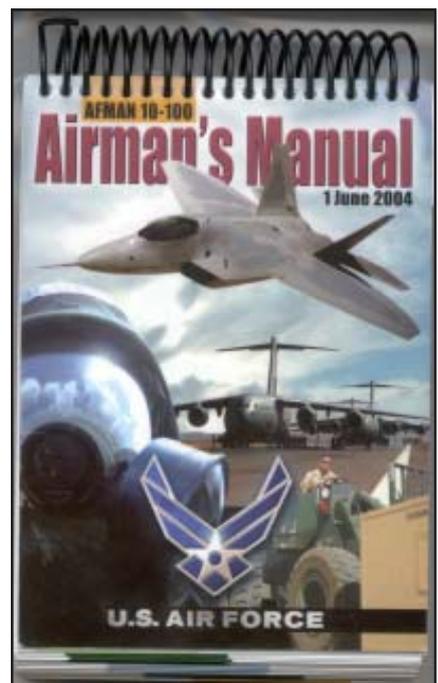
To participate, answer the questions below using your *Airman’s Manual* and submit to news@lajes.af.mil.

The first five e-mail submissions with the correct answers will win a book of coupons courtesy of the Army and Air Force Exchange Service.

The answers to this week’s questions will be in next week’s issue.

Show what you know!

1. What items should be worn in MOPP 2?
2. After inspecting your M8 chemical agent detection paper, what five things would trigger you to discard the paper without using it?
3. What are the five steps in treating a chemical burn?





COMMUNITY



Hours of operation



☐ **Ocean Front BX:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Wednesday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday; and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday

☐ **Flight View BX:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Wednesday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday

☐ **Shoppette:** 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. weekdays; 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday; noon to 8 p.m. Sunday

☐ **Military Clothing Sales Store:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday

☐ **Car Care Center:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday

☐ **Reel Time Theater:** Showings on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday

☐ **Beauty Shop:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday

☐ **Barber Shop:** 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through

Friday; 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday

☐ **New Car Sales:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Wednesday; noon to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday

☐ **AAFES Administration:** 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays

☐ **Ilha Rent-a-Car:** 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday

☐ **Vescovi Coffee Shop:** 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday

☐ **Burger King:** 7 a.m. to

9 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday

Holiday hours: *The Ocean View BX, Flight View BX and Burger King are closed on Portuguese holidays. The shoppette opens from noon to 8 p.m., and the military clothing sales store opens from noon to 6 p.m. All facilities are open normal hours on U.S. holidays.*



At the movies



Today

7 p.m. – Happily N’ever After starring Sigourney Weaver and Sarah Michelle Gellar. Once upon a time in Fairy Tale Land, the age-old balance between good and evil has been thrown out of whack. In a world of happy endings gone wrong, the race for control of the kingdom is on, with the fate of the venerable storyline ‘Happily N’Ever After’ hanging in the balance. *Rated PG for mild action and rude humor (87 minutes).*

10 p.m. – Alpha Dog starring Justin Timberlake and Bruce Willis. Johnny is a Los Angeles drug dealer. He comes from a good

family, owns his home, several cars and enjoys partying with his friends. Johnny is 19. When his friend Jake welches on a debt, Johnny and his boys kidnap Jake’s 15-year-old brother Butch and hold him as a marker. Even though Butch has numerous chances to escape, he doesn’t. He’s enjoying partying with them, losing his virginity and having a good time – until something goes horribly wrong. *Rated R for pervasive drug use, language, strong violence, sexuality and nudity (118 minutes).*

Saturday

7 p.m. – Happily N’ever After
10 p.m. – Primeval starring

Dominic Purcell and Orlando Jones. In one of the most remote places on earth, a bloodthirsty Crocodile has claimed over 300 victims. An American news crew is determined to capture this terrifying murderer alive. *Rated R for strong graphic violence, brutality, terror and language (94 minutes).*

Sunday

2 p.m. – Happily N’ever After
7 p.m. – Primeval

Thursday

7 p.m. – Primeval

☐ **Editor’s note:** Call 535-3302 for updated information.

Jenny, the military spouse

When Spouses Play Go-Fish

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PLANNER

Submission deadline is Thursday one week prior to publication. E-mail announcements in normal text with event, location, date, time, point of contact's full name and phone number/e-mail address to news@lajes.af.mil.

In the Community

Art show, play: Opening ceremony for an artwork exposition featuring the work of painters throughout Praia is set for 8:30 p.m. Saturday at the Praia Theater. The artwork will remain on display throughout March during the theater's normal hours, which are 8 to 11 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 to 5 p.m. and 8 to 11 p.m. Sundays. Also, a play featuring a group from mainland Portugal will take place in the auditorium at 9:30 p.m. Saturday. Admission is free. Call Manny Martins at 535-6763 for more details.

Around Lajes

Wing Recognition Ceremony: The monthly Wing Recognition Ceremony is 4 p.m. today in the Top of the Rock Club. BDUs will be the uniform of the day.

Teen dance: 9 p.m. to midnight today at Lajes Youth Center. Event is free for members; cost is \$8 for non-members. Call Diana Sousa at 535-1197 for more details.

AFE performance: The Lamont Adams Group performs at 10 p.m. tonight in the TORC Enlisted Lounge.

Air Force Assistance Fund Campaign: The 2007 AFAF Campaign kicks off Monday. Call Capt. Brenda Bryant at 535-5077 for more details or see your unit AFAF representative for more details.

Road detour: A section of the southbound road in front of the base theater will be closed for repair Monday through March 9. Drivers are asked to use caution.

Murder Mystery Dinner: Tickets are on sale for the Enlisted Spouses Club's Annual Murder Mystery Dinner set for March 3 in the Top of the Rock Club ballroom. The social kicks off at 6 p.m., followed by the mystery dinner at 7 p.m. Call Rochelle Weaver at 295-549-720 for more details.

Pet adoption: The Atlantic Kennel hosts a pet adoption 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 10 at the kennel. Dogs and cats from the Angra Animal Shelter will be available. In addition, the kennel

will be accepting food donations during the event. The vet clinic will offer 50 percent off vaccines for all animals who are adopted at this event. Call Ronalle Moses at 535-3855 for more details.

Sign language course: EDIS is teaching a repeat performance of October's Sign 'n Dine class for parents interested in teaching their infant/toddler sign language. The next course will be from noon to 1 p.m. March 12-15 in room 102 of the Education Building (T-146). Sign up for the class by March 6. Call Elizabeth Scheperle at 535-3194 for more details.

USAFE Regional Youth and Teen Talent Show: Sign ups are underway for this talent show set for April 14. Registration deadline is March 26. A workshop takes place from 1 to 3 p.m. April 10, 11 and 12 from in the Community Activity Center ballroom. Participants must be 6-18 years old. Call Glenda Cornillie at 535-3272 for more details.

Spiritual Fitness

Stations of the Cross followed by a meager meal, 6 p.m. each Friday in March; **can food drive at Mass,** 10:30 a.m. Sunday; **Mothers Study based on Pope John Paul II's Familia Concortio,** 11 a.m. March 9.

All events take place at the chapel unless listed otherwise. Call 535-4211 for details.

Education

OU summer courses, scholarships: Registration for summer courses is underway with the University of Oklahoma. Today is deadline to apply for OU scholarships. Call Kate Etheredge at 535-3171 for more details.

OU course: Registration is open for "Planning Issues in Organizations," a three-hour on-site elective for the University of Oklahoma's Master of Human Relations degree program. The course dates are April 10-15. March 12 is the last day to add/drop this course. More information is available at <http://goou.ou.edu/scholarships/>. Call Kate Etheredge at 535-3171 for more details.

OU Lunch and Learn: Dr.

George Miller will present "The Effects of Alcohol Abuse on Job and Family" at a Lunch and Learn from noon to 1 p.m.. Thursday in the auditorium of T-146. Call Kate Etheredge at 535-3171 or e-mail aplajes@ou.edu for more details.

ERAU Term IV classes: Embry Riddle Aeronautical University Term IV classes begin at the end of March. Classes include *MGMT 420: Management of Production and Operations*. *SFTY 409: Commercial Aviation Safety*, will also be offered in Term IV. Call Shannah McQuary at 535-3375 for more details.

UMUC Term 4 Registration: The University of Maryland University College - Europe holds open registration for Term 4 beginning March 12. In addition, Learn and Learn textbook rebate offer is extended to students in Term 3. E-mail aloper@ed.umuc.edu for more details.

University of Phoenix: The university offers the MBA and several Master of Arts in Education programs to the Lajes Community. Classes are only six weeks long and you can earn your degree in less than 24 months. There is no thesis or entrance exams required. Call Etleva Davis at 535-1970 or e-mail etleva.davis@phoenix.edu.

CTC courses: Central Texas College offers the following vocational-technical courses for Term IV: *CDEC 1356: Emergent Literacy for Early Childhood* (March 26 to May 18), *CJSA 1342: Criminal Investigation* (March 28 to April 14); and

CJSA 1322: Introduction to Criminal Justice (April 15-30). Term IV registration is March 16. Call Anneke Cerri at 535-6722 or e-mail lajes@europe.ctcd.edu.

Lajes Facilities

Finance customer service hours: The 65th Comptroller Squadron Finance Customer Support window will be limited to emergency customer service only from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. today, March 9 and March 14.

New pick-up window hours: The Lajes Post Office's pick-up window is now open from noon to 4 p.m. Sundays. Also, parcels can now be picked up until 6 p.m. Mondays and Fridays. Call Staff Sgt. Charles Klode at 535-1203 for more details.

Miscellaneous

Optometrist off island: The 65th Medical Group optometrist will be off island until mid-March. During duty hours, for eye injuries that can not wait, patients can call the central appointment line at 535-3261, option 1 to be seen by their primary care manager. After duty hours, patients can call 911 or the on-call physician at cell: 91-936-5999. For wellness appointments after mid-March, patients can call the appointment line at 535-3261, option 1. Call Tech. Sgt. Byrd at 535-3261, option 1, 4, for more details.

Classified Ads

E-mail classified ads to news@lajes.af.mil by 5 p.m. the Thursday prior to the week you need it published. Notify the Crossroads editor when items have been sold.

Items for sale: Microwave, \$15. Tall office shelf, \$20. Computer desk, \$40. Side table w/ drawer, \$5. E-mail Ruby at ruby.ferren@lajes.af.mil or after 5 p.m., call 295-549-759.

For rent: New 2-bedroom apartment. Has small garden. Equipped with intruder alarm. Located five minutes from base at Rua da Saude, 51F, Praia da Vitoria. Contact Claudia at 91-224-7834 or 295-513-714.

For sale: AFN decoder. Asking only \$100. Call 295-516-376 or 535-3339 if interested.

For sale: Xbox 360 with box, 2 wireless controllers, 2 headsets with microphone, and 2 games (Final Fantasy XI and Project Gotham Racing 3). Used twice. Asking \$400. Contact Joe or Deb at 295-549-705.

House for rent: Three-bedroom house on the main road going to Biscoitos (10 minutes from base by car), in a nice and calm neighborhood. House has two double bedrooms, one children's bedroom, two living rooms, a kitchen, a storage room and a big garden. Furnished. Cable and TV line available. E-mail q_uaresma@hotmail.com or call 918768415 for more details, house visit or photos. Price negotiable.

Wanted: Donations of household items (i.e. kitchenware, towels, bedding, etc.) for a missionary and his wife moving to the island to serve the American and Portuguese communities. If you have questions or an item to donate, call Elizabeth at 295-57-9092, 96-312-2492 or e-mail ers_slp@yahoo.com.



Lajes girls wrap up season with trip to finals

By Staff Sgt.
Marcus McDonald
65th Air Base Wing
Public Affairs

Lajes' varsity girls basketball team made it all the way to the final game of the 2007 Department of Defense Dependent Schools-Europe High School Girls Basketball Division IV Championship Feb. 23 in Mannheim, Germany.

Brussels capitalized on the Lady Falcons' foul trouble to garner the 30-24 victory and title.

"Since Brussels didn't have a strong shooting team, they fed the ball to the inside a lot," said Deanne Wagner, Lajes varsity girls coach. "We shut them down in the paint for awhile, but then they did their four-corner passing game to pull us back out. With four of our starters in foul trouble, we could not play 'our' game during the last quarter."

Amy Wagner led the Lady Falcons with 11 points. Larissa Palmer added 5.

Alexa McMonagle was named the Most Valuable Player for Division IV and Amy Wagner also was named to the All Tournament Team, which consisted of the top eight players in the tournament.

For the boy's team, Terrance Williams was named to the All Tournament Team.

For the cheerleaders, Amanda Babbs and Leslie Gann were named to the All-Tournament Team.

Coach Wagner said the tournament help put "Lajes on the map."

"This was the best that the Lajes girls have ever done in the European tournament," she said. "We're very proud of them."

"The three teams that traveled to Germany represented Lajes in a very positive way with their abilities and their sportsmanship," Coach Wagner continued. "Thank you to the base for supporting us throughout our season."

Lajes 33, Menwith Hill 32

In the semi finals Feb. 22, the girls edged Menwith Hill 33-32

to advance to the championship game against Brussels.

"We picked up the tempo and scored 13 points in the fourth quarter," Coach Wagner said. "We shut them down to only four points in the fourth."

Alexa McMonagle scored 15 points. Amy Wagner had 12 points and Mercedes Prand added 6 points. McMonagle and Wagner led the team in rebounds.

"Alexa was struggling with her shot during the first half of the game, but she scored 11 of the 13 in the fourth quarter. She hit a three-point shot with five seconds to go in the game to give us the win."

Lajes 46, Alconbury 22

The Lajes girls used a tough defensive attack to pound Alconbury 46-22 in pool play action Feb. 22.

"There were a lot of steals in this game," Coach Wagner said. "Our three-four trap press caused many turnovers, which we turned in to fast breaks. By the end of the first quarter, we were able to take a 20-4 lead."

Alexa McMonagle scored 23 points. Amy Wagner and Leslie Beatrice each added 8.

"Larissa Palmer used good ball handling skills to control the tempo of the game," the coach said. Alexa hit three out of six 3-point shots. Also, six out of seven players of our players scored in this game."

Brussels 36, Lajes 29

In pool play action Feb. 21, the Lajes girls fell to Brussels 36-29.

"Our shots just weren't hitting this game," Coach Wagner said. "We also got into foul trouble early on in the game and couldn't play as aggressively as we wanted to."

Alexa McMonagle led the team with 19 points, 5 rebounds and 7 blocked shots. Amy Wagner led the team in rebounding.

Lajes 27, Incirlik 22

Working as a cohesive unit helped the Lajes girls drive past



Amy Wagner makes a shot during the Lajes High School Girls Basketball Team's last game of the regular season Feb. 17 in the Lajes American High School Gym. Lajes defeated Boa Viagem 30-22 before going on to compete in the European tournament. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Marcus McDonald)

Incirlik 27-22 in their first game of the tournament.

"We had a fantastic third quarter drive, scoring 18 points," Coach Wagner said. "Our three-four press caused many turnovers for Incirlik. Everyone was looking for the shot instead of passing it off."

"They played like a team," the coach explained. "They were relaxed and excited to be playing in Germany."

Alexa McMonagle led the team with 16 points, 11 rebounds and 11 blocked shots. Amy Wagner added 9. Wagner and Mercedes Prand also showed off strong rebounding skills.

Lajes 30, Boa Viagem 22

In their last game of the regular season, the girls defeated Angra's Boa Viagem 30-22 Feb. 17 in the American High School Gym.

"We had a tough defense in this game, which gave the ladies confidence as they headed to Germany to play in the European tournament," Coach Wagner said.

Amy Wagner led the team with 14 points and was second on the team in rebounding. Mercedes Prand added 8 and led the team with rebounds. Alexa McMonagle had several rebounds and blocked shots.

The Lady Falcon wrapped up the regular season at 5-2.