



GULF DEFENDER



Vol. 65, No. 48

Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. *Training Expeditionary Airpower Experts*

Dec. 15, 2006

In Brief

Tyndall lease signing

Those who have not signed their housing lease yet may do so today 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Education Center, Bldg. 1230.

Residents need to bring a copy of the servicemember's most recent Leave and Earning Statement. For more information, contact the GMH Community Management Office at 286-1700.

Blood Drive

There will be a blood drive Wednesday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Community Activities Center. For more information, contact your unit representative or Leslie Richardson at 283-3634.

No Gulf Defender

There will be no *Gulf Defender* Dec. 29. and Jan. 5 due to the holiday season.

Cell phone use

The 325th Security Forces Squadron would like to remind Tyndall drivers that cell phones may not be used while driving on base without a hands-free device.

Inside

From the scope to the microphone ... **PAGE 4**

Medical Group receives top honors ... **PAGES 10-11**

The Avengers save the holidays for troops ... **PAGE 17**



Steve Wallace

Test flight

Toby Crabtree and his father, Staff Sgt. Brian Crabtree, 325th Maintenance Squadron, is shown the cockpit of an F-15 Eagle by Capt. Chris Ridlon, 95th Fighter Squadron instructor pilot, (left) during Toby's Pilot for a Day visit to the 95th FS. See the full story about the 5-year-old's special day on page 14.

Tyndall NCOA renamed after first CMSAF

CHRISY CUTTITA
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Tyndall's NCO Academy was renamed Wednesday to honor the first Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force.

The Paul W. Airey NCO Academy dedication ceremony will be remembered as the second greatest thing to happen in the retired chief's professional life, said Chief Airey, only because becoming Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force will always be first, he said.

"I am proud and a little in awe," said Chief Airey. "I will never let you down and I'm going to do my best to live up to this."

For years the academy hoped they could rename their institution after the chief who has been involved with professional development at Tyndall

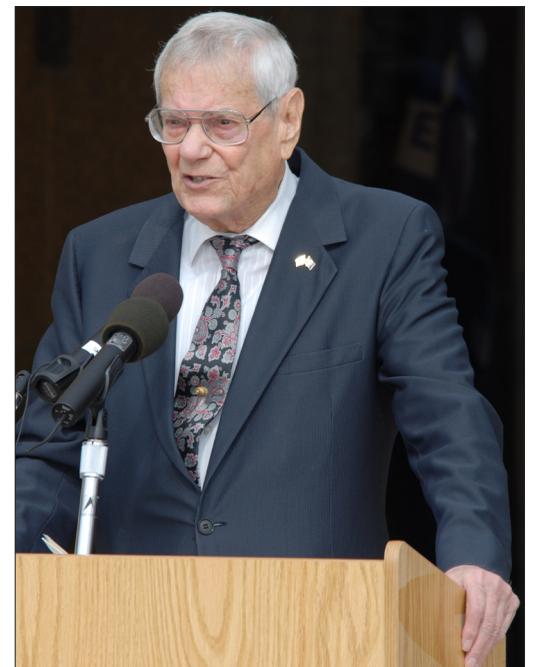
since he retired here in 1970.

"Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Airey is a great hero, a trailblazer for the enlisted corps and a great, humble man," said Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Schwenk, NCOA commandant, to a crowd of active and retired military, families, local community leaders and Wednesday's graduating NCOA class.

The presiding officer for the dedication was Col. Albert John Bowley, Jr., commander of the College for Enlisted Professional Military Education, Maxwell AFB, Gunter Annex, Ala.

"We celebrate a life well-lived," said Colonel Bowley. "We honor an Air Force hero, aerial gunner, former prisoner of war (in WWII), Korean War veteran and Legion of Merit recipient."

• SEE AIREY PAGE 7



Lisa Norman

Chief Airey speaks during the dedication of the NCO Academy.



Lisa Norman

Words of wisdom

Retired Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray spoke with Tyndall Airmen Tuesday about a variety of current issues including leadership priorities, force shaping, the impact of one's voice and his appreciation of all Airmen and their contributions to the Air Force.

Identify this ...



Can you identify this object? If so, send an e-mail to editor@tyndall.af.mil with "Identify this" in the subject line.

Three correct entries will be chosen at random and drawn from a hat to determine the final winner. The prize can be claimed at the Public Affairs office. Roger Lachance, 325th Maintenance Group, correctly guessed the Dec. 8 "Identify This" as a maintenance stand platform. Congratulations Mr. Lachance, come claim your prize!

ON THE STREET

What is your family's holiday tradition?



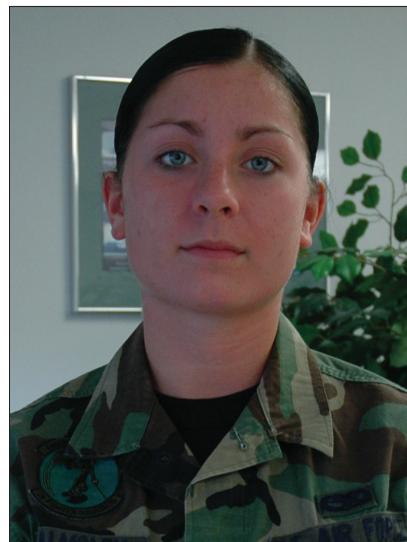
"We have our family over for a big dinner and then relax and talk."

2ND LT. BRENDEN MCLEAN
28th Test Squadron



"We cut down a tree together, bake cookies, visit the grandparents and go skiing."

JEAN BELL
Retired military



"Christmas morning my family unwraps presents and at night we eat a big dinner. The next day we visit grandma in Rhode Island."

AIRMAN CHANDRA WALMSLEY
2nd Aircraft Maintenance Unit



"We like to get a different singing stuffed toy every year and sing along with it."

MASTER SGT. DOUGLAS PETTIFORD
325th Air Control Squadron

Gulf Defender Editorial Staff

Brig. Gen. Tod Wolters.....325th FW commander
Maj. Susan A. Romano.....chief, 325th FW public affairs
Chrissy Cuttita.....chief, internal information
Staff Sgt. Stacey Haga.....editor
Airman Glenn Moore.....staff writer

The Gulf Defender is published by the Panama City News Herald, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the Gulf Defender are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense or Department of the Air Force. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the DOD, the Department of the Air Force or the Panama City News Herald 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 non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 325th Fighter Wing public affairs office. Photographs are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise noted. The deadline for article submissions to the Gulf Defender is 4 p.m. Friday, prior to the week of publication unless otherwise noted. Articles must be typed and double-spaced, preferably on a 3.5-inch disc. Stories should be submitted directly to the public affairs office, Building 662, Room 129 or mailed to: 325 FW/PAI, 445 Suwannee Ave., Tyndall AFB, FL, 32403-5425 or e-mailed to editor@tyndall.af.mil. Public affairs staff members edit all material for accuracy, brevity, clarity, conformity to regulations and journalistic style. The delivery of the Gulf Defender to Tyndall base housing sections is provided by the Panama City News Herald. For more information, or to advertise in the newspaper, call (850) 747-5000.

Making the holiday season spirit last longer

CHAPLAIN (COL.) RICHARD JOHNSON
U.S. Joint Forces Command

NORFOLK, Va. (AFP)—Except for the feeding frenzy that can occur when last minute shoppers compete for the last half-dozen “Bouncing Tiggers” known to exist in the Western world, the holiday period is generally a time of widespread friendliness, hope, and cheer.

There is a pervasive attitude of peace, love and joy that fills the hearts of most people. Have you ever noticed that people are more friendly, cooperative and helpful during the holidays?

Typically, however, this helpful and loving attitude seems to quickly disappear right after the holidays. Why does the spirit of the holidays seem to disappear when the last of the holiday cookies are gone? Is there a secret ingredient in the festive foods that makes us love, accept and cooperate with our fellow human beings?

The secret ingredient is in us.

The real answer lies in the fact that the holidays are also a time for remembering the deepest truths of humankind. All of the major religions of the world celebrate the holidays and the New Year as a time of reflection and rededication. The holidays are a time for remembering and rejoicing because of the many blessings that we all have received from God. They are also a time for reaffirming the common bonds and struggles of humankind. The holidays bring us closer to God, and therefore closer to each other.

Dinners served at the homeless shelters, gifts given to the needy and to orphans, letters written to lonely military members, visits made to nursing homes and past hurts that are forgiven and forgotten are hallmarks of the holiday season because they are reminders that we all share the same needs, hopes, desires, and dreams. We all live under the same sun, breathe the same air and drink the same water. Everyone desires love, companionship, acceptance and recognition. There is an undeniable bond that links us all.

Let the core values of the holiday linger in your lives.

People frequently ask why the holiday spirit can't continue throughout the entire year. The truth is it could! If the special feelings of the holiday season are to continue past the time when the holiday decorations have come down, then we must continually and repeatedly remind ourselves of the common ties and desires that we share. We must continually draw closer to our God -- which will draw us closer to all humankind.

This holiday season, when we worship at our respective houses of worship, remember that the “core values” of the holiday season ... those that we so deeply enjoy at this time of year, such as the “golden rule,” the desire for true peace, and the love of fellow human beings ... are not simply meant to be practiced only during the holidays! Live the spirit! Let the light of the holidays shine on in your lives! May God richly bless you and yours during this holiday season.

Festival of lights begins today at sundown

MAJ. SUSAN A. ROMANO
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Hanukkah, the Jewish festival of lights, is an eight-day festival that occurs on the twenty-fifth day of the Jewish month of Kislev and begins today at sundown.

Its history can be traced more than two thousand years ago, commemorating the Maccabees victory over the Syrians. The victory itself was considered a miracle, and Jewish legend explains that once the Temple Mount in Jerusalem had been reclaimed, it had to be rededicated, but there was only one jar of sacramental oil – enough for just one day. Miraculously, the oil burned

for eight days, thus the eight days of Hanukkah.

Hanukkah, which means rededication, is a time for Jewish families to focus attention on matters affecting Jewish education of children. Its religious significance is far less than other Jewish holidays such as Passover, Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashanah, but the religious observance of Hanukkah comes at the lighting of the candles on the menorah. A menorah is a candelabrum that holds nine candles – one for each night plus a shammas. The shammas, which translates into servant, is used to light the other eight candles and is usually higher

than the others in the menorah.

Once the shammas is lit, a prayer is recited as the first candle is lit. Each night another candle is lit until all eight candles are burning on the eighth night of Hanukkah.

Hanukkah is probably one of the best-known Jewish holidays, not because of any great religious significance, but because of its proximity to Christmas and its tradition of exchanging gifts. It is also a time for preparing delicious foods such as potato latkes (pancakes) and sufganiot (jelly donuts).

Another tradition is playing with a dreidel. A dreidel is a square top with four Hebrew letters on them. Children play with matchsticks,

candy, pennies, or gelt (chocolate coins). Each letter signifies an action the players must take. The Hebrew letters--Nun, Gimmel, Heh and Shin – have their roots in the Hebrew phrase, “Nes gadol haya sham,” which means a great miracle happened there. Some believe it stands for the Yiddish words, nit (nothing), gantz (all), halb (half) and shtell (put), which are actually the rules of the game. If a player spins Nun, nothing happens. If a player spins Gimmel, the spinner takes all. If Heh is spun, the player takes half. And if Shin appears, all the players must ante up.

Happy Hanukkah, enjoy the latkes, and here's to winning a lot of gelt!

Action Line

Call 283-2255



BRIG. GEN. TOD WOLTERS
325th Fighter Wing commander

The Action Line is your direct line to me. It is one way to make Tyndall a better place to work and live.

The goal is to provide you with an accurate, timely response. You must leave your name, phone number or address to receive a response.

Questions or comments of general interest will be published in this forum. This avenue should only be used after coordinating problems or concerns with supervisors, commanders, first sergeants or facility managers.

If you're not satisfied with the response or you are unable to resolve the

problem, call me at 283-2255.

For fraud, waste and abuse calls, you should talk to the 325th Fighter Wing Inspector General's Office, 283-4646.

Calls concerning energy abuse should be referred to the energy hot line, 283-3995.

Below are more phone numbers to help you resolve any issues with a base agency.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Commissary | 283-4825 |
| Pass and Registration | 283-4191 |
| Medical and Dental | 283-7515 |
| MEO | 283-2739 |

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| MPF and I.D. | 283-2276 |
| SFS Desk Sgt. | 283-2254 |
| Services | 283-2501 |
| Legal | 283-4681 |
| Housing | 283-2036 |
| CDC | 283-4747 |
| Wing Safety | 283-4231 |
| ADC | 283-2911 |
| Finance | 283-4117 |
| Civil Engineer | 283-4949 |
| Civilian Personnel | 283-3203 |
| Base Information | 283-1113 |

Thank you for helping me improve Tyndall, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Airman trades scope for microphone

STAFF SGT. STACEY HAGA
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The saying goes, “third time’s a charm,” but not in Senior Airman Wallis Payano’s case.

The second time she auditioned for Tops in Blue proved life-changing for the 81st Range Control Squadron interface control technician.

“I didn’t make it last time, so I didn’t feel I would make it this time,” said Airman Payano.

However, those feeling were put aside during a recent commander’s call in her

squadron when her commander gave her the news she had been selected as a Tops in Blue vocalist.

“I cried when I saw a certificate with ‘Tops in Blue’ on it in my commander’s hand,” said Airman Payano. “My squadron is so supportive and proud of me.”

“She is an easy person to get excited for,” said Lt. Col. Barbara Omstead, 81st RCS commander. “I hear her singing in the hall all the time. We are most proud of her. I think Tops in Blue will open her eyes to the rest of the

Air Force and build her confidence in herself and others.”

“I love singing. I got into it when I joined junior high choir,” said Airman Payano.

She sings a variety of music such as gospel and rhythm and blues, but her favorite is Spanish.

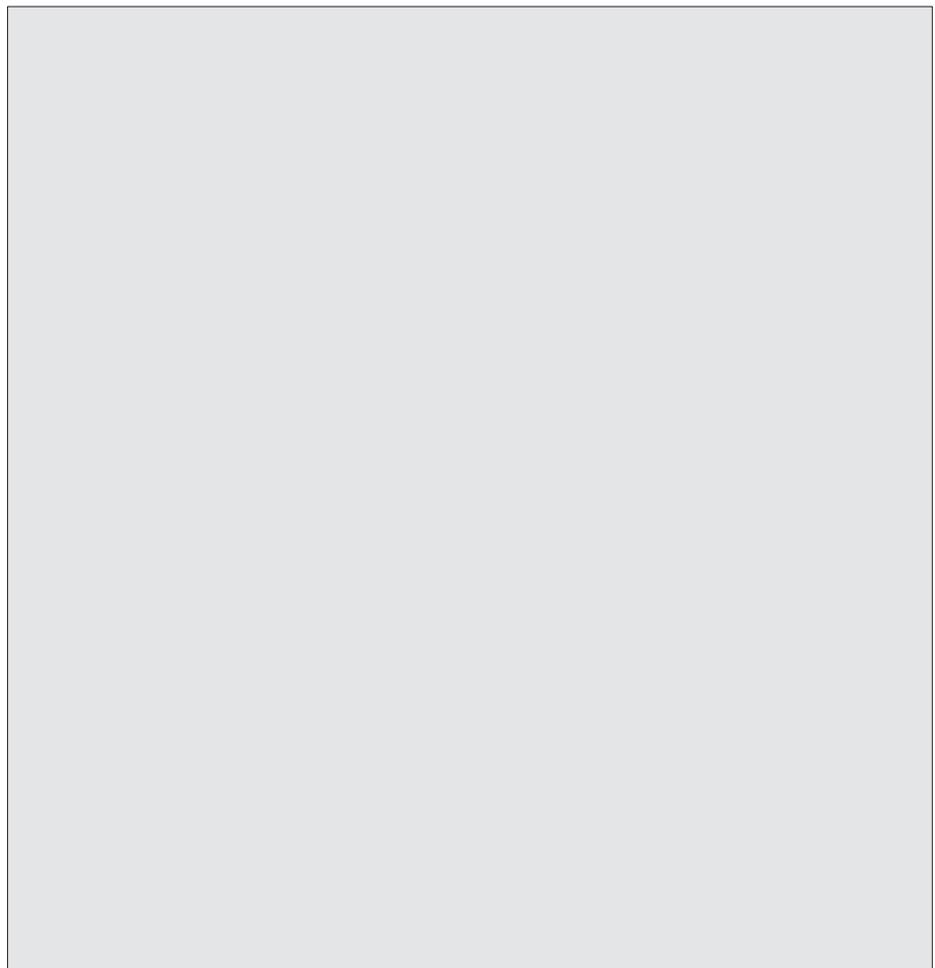
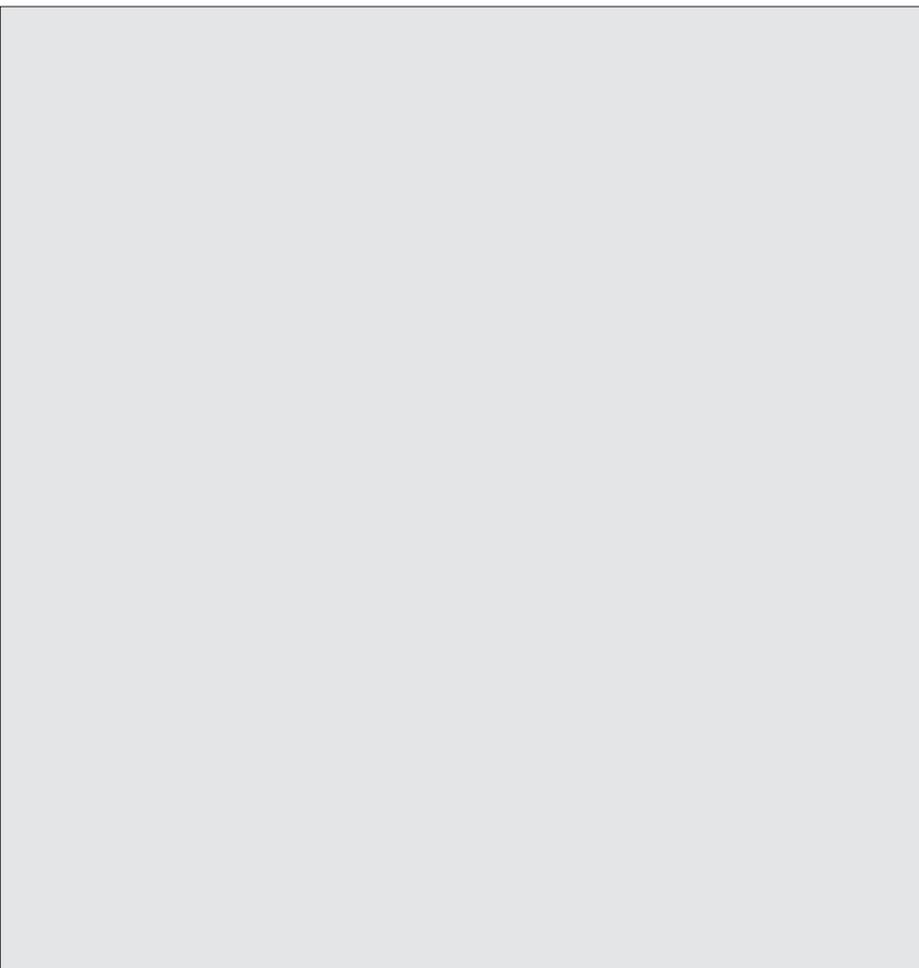
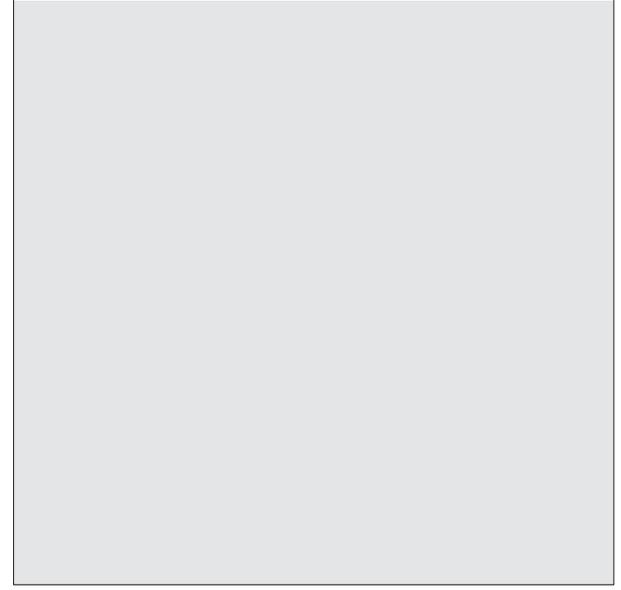
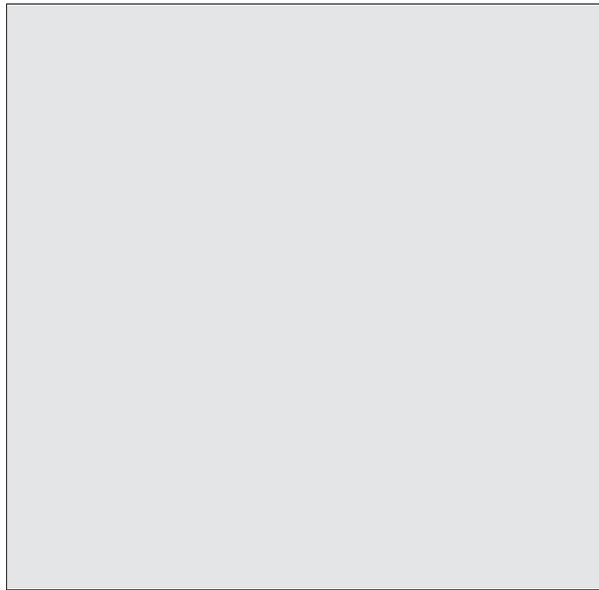
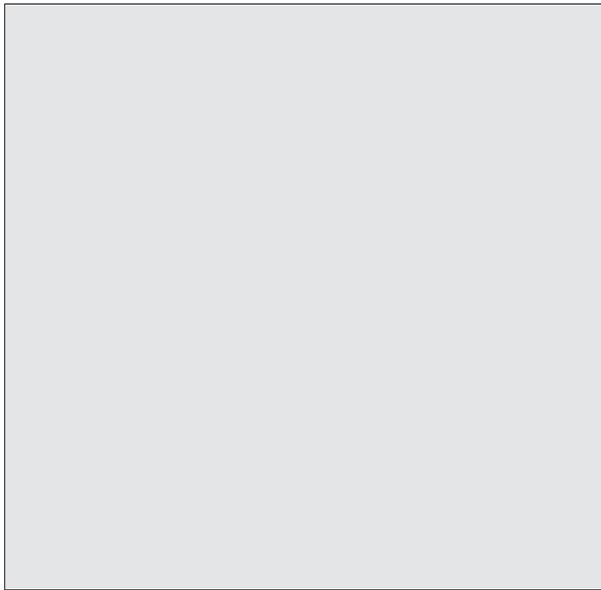
“It’s in my blood,” said Airman Payano, whose parents are from the Dominican Republic. “I grew up with it.”

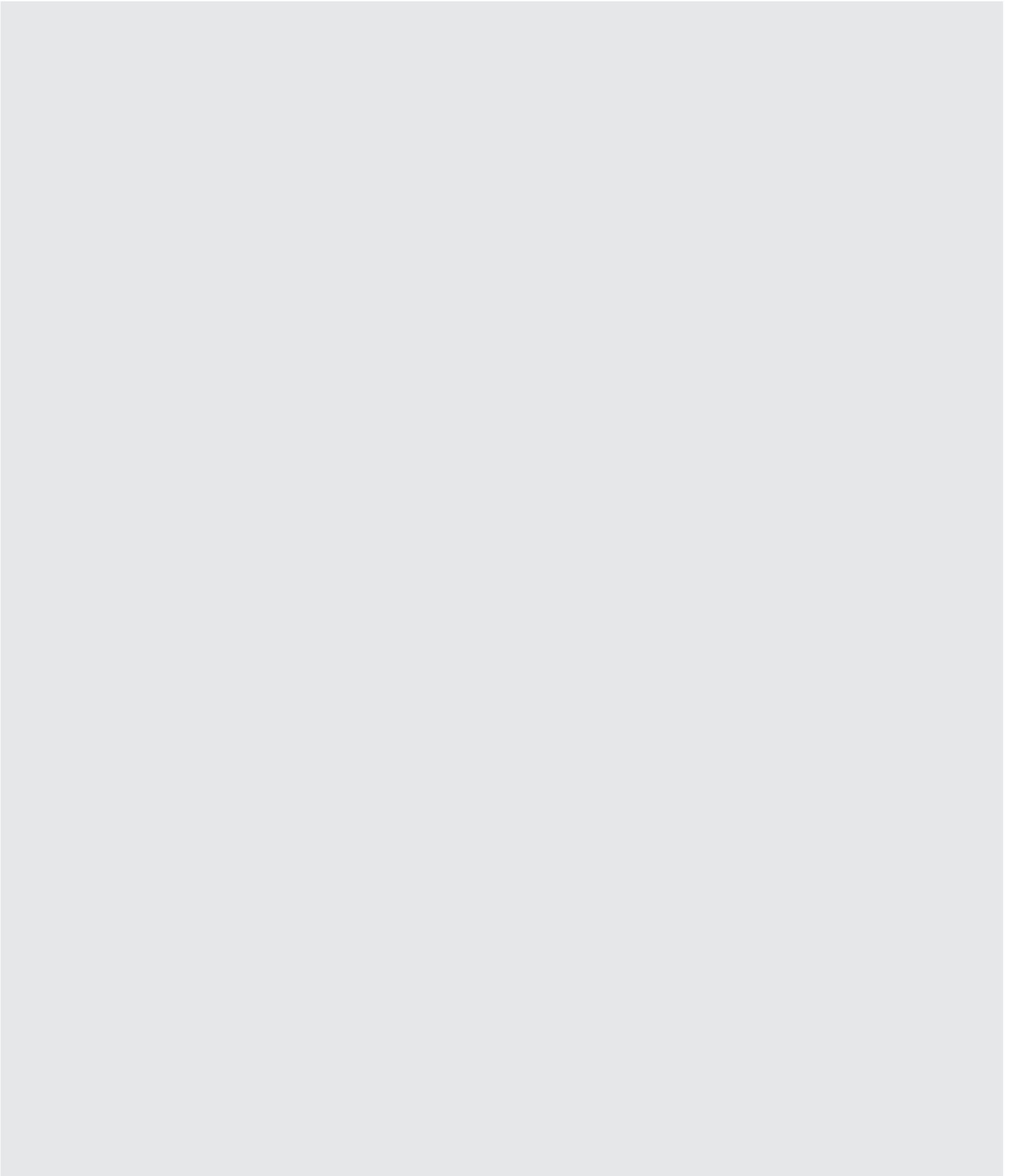


Staff Sgt. Stacey Haga

Airman Payano checks her schedule before beginning link training.

• SEE SINGER PAGE 18





Checkertail Salute

Senior Airman Branden Belush



Airman Glenn Moore

Airman Belsuh receives the Checkertail Salute Warrior of the Week award from Brig. Gen. Tod Wolters, 325th Fighter Wing commander.

Airman Belush, 325th Fighter Wing, received the award for processing 2,482 pay transactions with 99.9 percent document accuracy totaling \$468,175. As a PT leader, he took charge of the commander's Physical Training program.

Duty title: Quality examinations
Hometown: Elizabethtown, Ky.
Time on station: Two years, nine months
Time in service: Three years, two months
Hobbies: Sports, video games and volunteering
Goals: Getting my bachelor's degree in computer science
Favorite thing about Tyndall AFB: The beach, people and co-workers
Favorite movie: "Anchorman" and "Wedding Crashers"
Favorite book: "Angels and Demons" by Dan Brown
Proudest moment in the military: Receiving an F-15 incentive flight.

The Checkertail Salute is a 325th Fighter Wing commander program designed to recognize Tyndall's Warrior of the Week. Supervisors can nominate individuals via their squadron and group commanders. Award recipients receive a certificate, letter from the commander and a one-day pass.

• FROM AIREY PAGE 1

Chief Airey is someone we all know and admire.”

The ceremony left students feeling honored and privileged to be part of the historic event.

“NCO Academy Class of 07-1, count ourselves lucky to be at the right place at the right time,” said Tech. Sgt. Durene Colton, class leader. “Changing the name as the academy enters its 50th year of education, and doing it all on the first Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force’s birthday, is unreal.”

Chief Airey also wanted to leave

the class with a quote he created for the new Air Force memorial in Washington.

“When I think of the enlisted force, I think of dedication, determination, loyalty and valor,” said the retired chief.

The tradition of excellence continues because of the chief and other military leaders.

“How you live your life inspires your country,” Colonel Bowley said to Chief Airey during the colonel’s ceremonial speech. “We educate to inspire and develop the enlisted core.

We’ve nailed our vision and mission



Lisa Norman

Chief Schwenk congratulates Chief Airey (center) after the dedication plaque was unveiled, while Col. Bowley looks on.



Preventing FOD

Staff Sgt. Kyle Meicher and Airman 1st Class Clinton Gibson, 43rd Aircraft Maintenance Unit crew chiefs remove a panel from an F-15 Eagle's engine bay in order to perform maintenance on the jet. In Oct., Sergeant Meicher was Golden Bolt Award winner and Airman Gibson was the Foreign Object Damage Preventer of the Month.

Training Spotlight



How has the First Term Airmen Center helped you adjust to your first base?

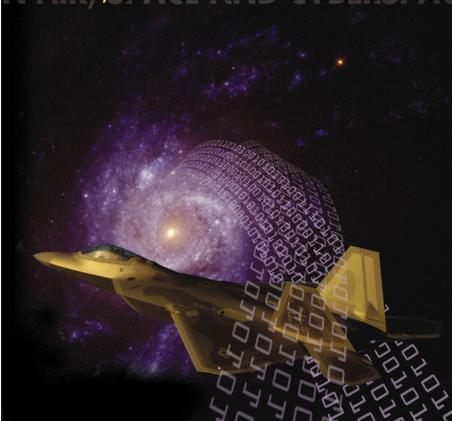
"It gives me a lot of useful information like how the base is organized and where places are located. Also, I understand more about the Air Force."

AIRMAN BRIAN PLOOF
FTAC student

Get your Community College of the Air Force information at afvec.langley.af.mil.



THE MISSION OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE IS TO DELIVER SOVEREIGN OPTIONS FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ITS GLOBAL INTERESTS — TO FLY AND FIGHT IN AIR, SPACE AND CYBERSPACE



1st FS, 1st AMU wraps up history of training Eagle pilots to fly

STAFF SGT. STACEY HAGA
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Training an F-15 Eagle pilot is not a small feat.

It takes many people, many hours, many resources and a lot of coordination.

The 1st Fighter Squadron and 1st Aircraft Maintenance Unit have been dedicated to the mission of training F-15 pilots, and have done so very successfully.

The 1st FS was reactivated here as a training squadron in 1984 after 25 years of inactivation. The 1st FS, then called the 1st Tactical Fighter Training Squadron, was reactivated Jan. 1, 1984 as part of the 325th Tactical Training Wing. The squadron's mission then was to train world-class Eagle pilots and prepare them for operational duty world-wide, which is the mission they continue to accomplish today. In 1991, the operations and maintenance functions of the 1st TFTS joined to form a combined squadron and was renamed the 1st Fighter Squadron.

Today, the squadron and unit were inactivated again to meet the needs of the ever evolving Air Force, and they do so leaving behind a legacy of safe and effective training for Air Force Eagle pilots.

"As of 'end-of-flying' Dec. 6, we have safely flown 109,077 sorties and 143,741 hours," said Capt. Robert Anson, 1st Aircraft Maintenance Unit officer in charge.

During those hours, the 1st FS trained approximately 670 pilots.

"To get there, the 1st AMU provided safe and reliable aircraft to meet the flying training mission," said Chief Master Sgt. Jody Reed, 1st AMU NCO in charge.

"The maintainers of the 1st AMU remained focused on the training mission," said Lt. Col. Malcolm Kemeny, 1st FS operations officer. "They surpassed every goal during my tenure as operations officer. We would not have enjoyed the success we had without their dedicated support."



1st Lt. Gary Wallace, the last student pilot to fly in the 1st FS, prepares for taxi to the runway.

Steve Wallace



Steve Wallace

Senior Airman Jay Ruark and Senior Airman Nathan Patrick, 1st AMU crew chiefs, prepare an F-15 for the last 1st FS training mission.

Successful training is not accomplished solely by the Airmen turning wrenches, nor is it accomplished only by those flying the jets. It comes from a good working relationship between the two elements, said Lt. Col. George Menker, 1st FS commander.

"The working relationship between the fighter squadron and AMU is exceptional," said Captain Anson. "Which leads to balancing operational needs with aircraft maintenance requirements."

"The greatest asset of the 1st FS is its people," said Colonel Kemeny. "I have never seen such an exuberant 'can do' attitude."

The hard work and commitment invested in the mission by Airmen in the 1st FS and 1st AMU are proven by the number of pilots trained. It's also made apparent by the numerous decorations, awards and plaques that cover the walls of both units.

The 1st FS received several honors, such as earning the Air Force Maintenance Effectiveness Award for 1998, Nineteenth Air Force Top Operations Squadron of the Year for 1998 and 325th Fighter Wing Fighter Squadron of the Year for 1995, 1997 and 1998. Other notable accomplishments include receiving the U. S. Air Force Air Flight Safety of the Year award for 2002, as well as recognition for best intelligence mission report.

The 1st AMU has received the 325th Fighter Wing AMU of the Year award for 2003 and 2004, and has won numerous Turkey Shoot competitions over the years. They even continued their success into their final days by winning AMU of the Quarter for the third time this year.

More important than awards and accolades, and above any individual member, the collective team of Airmen assigned to the 1st FS and 1st AMU will together create the legacy of the Fightin' Furies.

Group personnel take home numerous AETC medical service awards, hope for Air Force honors



Chrissy Cuttita

Capt. Sandra Bruno, medical director pediatrics checks Matthew Chapman's, 6-year-old patient, heartbeat during a routine check up.



Chrissy Cuttita

Capt. Karen Kramer, public health officer in charge discusses the plan to implement 2005 food code changes with Staff Sgt. Gregory Douyon, public health technician.



Courtesy photo

Staff Sgt. Tawnie Miller (left), bio-metrics program manager, assists a co-worker while TDY to Germany.

AIRMAN GLENN MOORE 325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 2006 Air Education and Training Command Air Force medical service annual awards have been announced and the medical clinic members here made a strong showing.

They won ten awards this year at the AETC level and are now competing at the Air Force level.

"It really spotlights the team and the work they have done," said Col. George Nicolas, 325th Medical Group commander. "I'm very proud of the work everyone has put in. The awards recognize everyone, including a lot of the people 'down in the trenches.'"

AETC has more medical facilities than any other command. This makes the competition much tougher and the process for the clinic here selecting who should be submitted for awards harder.

"When we look for a person to submit for an award, we look for someone who is well rounded," said Colonel Nicolas. "We need people who can do all things really well, rather than excelling in one area."

Winning the awards has also caused other clinics to ask how our clinic here did so well.

"We have already had other clinics call to see how we won all our awards," said Colonel Nicolas. "It goes to show how well everyone works together to achieve this goal."

Some would think the mixed environment of military and civilian could be difficult at times,

but not for the clinic here.

"We actually have more civilians than military working in the clinic right now," said Colonel Nicolas. "This team is a really nice blend of civilian and military. Everyone gets along and works together extremely well."

The hard work paid off in the end for the medical clinic as they have received recognition for their dedication to excellence.

The awards won by the medical clinic are as follows:

- Clinical Excellence Award**
Company Grade – Capt. Sandra Bruno
- Nursing Service**
Brig. Gen. Sarah Wells Outstanding NCO
Master Sgt. Lorilee Draper
- Bio-environmental Engineering**
Field Grade Engineer – Maj. Kevin Boerma
- Physician Assistant**
David Gwinn Field Grade – Maj. Tim Howerton
- Public Health**
Officer – Capt. Karen Kramer
- Resource Management**
Airman – Staff Sgt. Tawnie Miller
- Surgeon General's Medical Information Services**
Airman – Senior Airman Aquilino Alveo-Forbes
- Civilian – Mandy Walz**
Team – 325th Medical Group
- Medical Service Individual Mobilization**
Augmentee Award – Maj. Kelly Gervera



Chrissy Cuttita

Senior Airman Aquilino Alveo-Forbes, information systems technician, prepares to troubleshoot a computer.



Chrissy Cuttita

Master Sgt. Lorilee Draper, family practice clinic NCO in charge, inventories an emergency ready bag on an ambulance.



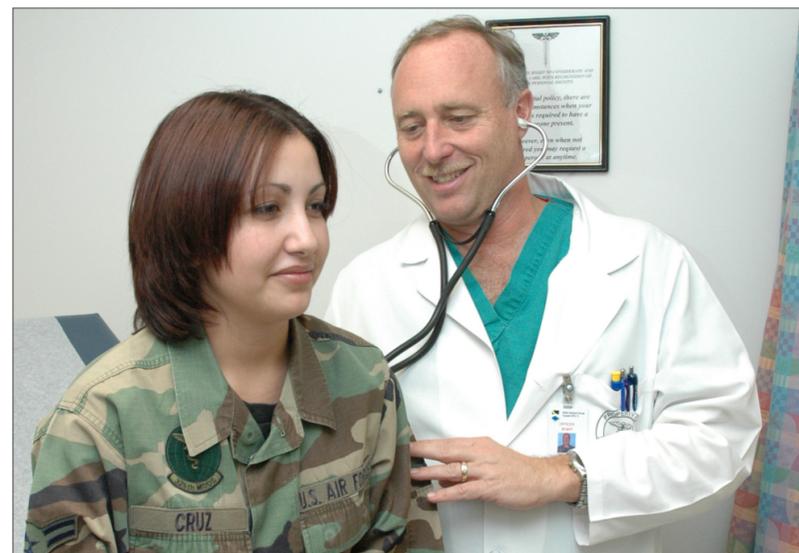
Chrissy Cuttita

Maj. Kelly Gervera, individual mobilization augmentee, teaches Capt. Dori Richard how to use a blood glucose monitor.



Airman Glenn Moore

Mandy Walz, computer assistant reviews 325th Medical Support Squadron training records.



Airman Glenn Moore

Maj. Tim Howerton, family practice flight commander, listens to Airman 1st Class Nicole Cruz's upper respiratory area.



Airman Glenn Moore

Maj. Kevin Boerma, bio-environmental engineering flight commander, tests Hapsight, a device used to detect chemical agents in the air.

Briefs

ERAU registration

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Spring 2007 Term begins Jan. 8.

Registration will be held today and Jan. 3 – 5 in the Education Center, Room 48. Applications are available online under Web registration/forms. For more information, call 283-4332.

GCCC holiday schedule

The Gulf Coast Community College Tyndall Center will be closed 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. today. The GCCC Tyndall Center office hours will be 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. today - Dec. 23. GCCC will be closed Dec. 25 through Jan. 1.

All tuitions assistance forms should be turned in by 4 p.m. Dec. 23. Fees are due Jan. 2. For more information, call 283-4332.

Troy University

Registration for Troy University Term 3 runs through Dec. 29. Classes start Jan. 2 and end March 11. Students may register with an advisor at any Troy University location or online by accessing Trojan WebExpress at www.troy.edu.

Education Grant Program

The Air Force Aid Society's General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program provides \$2,000 grants for undergraduate studies.

The deadline for 2007-2008 academic year submissions is March 9.

Use of funds is limited to tuition, books, fees, or other curriculum-required materials.

To apply, visit the Airmen and Family Readiness flight in Bldg. 745 or go to www.afas.org. For more information, contact the flight at 283-4204.

ANG part-time vacancies

The Air National Guard units in Montgomery, Ala., have part-time vacancies. Contact Master Sgt. Vonsetta Love at (334) 394-7190 or (800) 368-4481 or e-mail her at vonsetta.love@almon.t.af.mil. For more information, visit www.goang.com.

The 106th Maintenance Group, Westhampton Beach, N.Y., has several full-time and part-time openings.



Chrissy Cuttita

Cookies to the rescue

Geraldine Traver, front, Sonya Mason and other spouses prepare cookie packages for Airmen Monday. Cookie donations were collected from the entire Tyndall community so approximately 500 cookie trays could be delivered to single Airmen.

If interested, contact Col. Robert Landsiedel at (631) 723-7497.

Thrift Shop needs new manager

The Thrift Shop is now taking applications for the manager position. For more information, stop by or call the Thrift Shop at 286-5888. Applications will be accepted through today.

Thrift Shop

The Thrift Shop is open Wednesday-Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Winter clothing will be accepted for consignment through March 1. The store will be closed Wednesday – Dec. 29 for the holidays. For more information, call 286-5888 during business hours.

Tax statements

Servicemembers, military retirees and annuitants, and federal civilian employees paid by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service can expect to receive their 2006 tax statements on the following dates:

Retiree Annual Statement: Available on myPay Dec. 9, mailed via U.S. Postal Service Dec. 16-31;

Retiree 1099R: Available on myPay Dec. 15, mailed Dec. 16-31;

Annuitant Account Statement: Available on myPay Dec. 18, mailed Dec. 19-31;

Annuitant 1099R: Available on myPay Dec. 18, mailed Dec. 19-31;

VSI/SSB W-2: Not available on myPay, mailed Jan. 4-5;

Active Duty Air Force, Army, Navy W-2: Available on myPay Jan. 22, mailed Jan. 23-29;

Reserve Air Force, Army, Navy W-2: Available on myPay Jan. 2, mailed Jan. 5-8;

Marine Corps active and reserve W-2: Available on myPay Jan. 5, mailed Jan. 9-10;

Civilian employee W-2: Available on myPay Jan. 9, mailed Jan. 11-18;

Savings Deposit Program 1099INT: Available on myPay Jan. 19, mailed Jan. 19-20; and

Vendor Pay 1099: Not available on myPay, mailed Jan. 27-31.

**Catholic services**

Daily Mass, 11:30 a.m.
Monday-Friday,
Chapel Two
Reconciliation, 11 a.m. Fridays
or by appointment
Chapel 2
Sunday Mass, 9:30 a.m.,
Chapel Two
Religious Education, 11 a.m.,
Bldg. 1476

Protestant services

Traditional worship service,
9:30 a.m., Chapel One
Contemporary worship service,
11 a.m., Chapel Two
Wednesday Fellowship,
5 p.m., Chapel Two

(For more information on other services in the local area, call the Chaplain's office at 283-2925.)



Chrissy Cuttita

Like father, like son

Brian Hite gets ready to knock down some pins at Raptor Lanes while his father Gary Hite waits for his turn. Mr. Hite shot his third perfect game during Friday night mixed doubles Dec. 8. On Saturday morning, during Junior/Senior youth league, his son, Brian Hite, shot his first perfect game. Both perfect games were a first for the Panama City bowling association.

Intramural Sports Standings

Bowling

| Team | W | L | Team | W | L |
|-----------------------------|----|----|-------------------|----|------|
| SVS | 94 | 42 | ACS 1 | 68 | 68 |
| MOS | 92 | 44 | AMXS 2 | 68 | 68 |
| MSS | 90 | 46 | AMMO | 66 | 70 |
| Test | 84 | 52 | 83rd FWS 2 | 66 | 70 |
| RED HORSE | 82 | 54 | AMXS 1 | 66 | 70 |
| AFNORTH 1 | 82 | 54 | ACS 2 | 62 | 74 |
| AFCESA 1 | 79 | 57 | AMXS 4 | 60 | 76 |
| SFS | 78 | 58 | Phase 1 | 58 | 78 |
| 43rd AMU | 76 | 60 | MDG | 54 | 82 |
| DS2 | 74 | 62 | CONS | 54 | 82 |
| CES | 74 | 62 | ISRD | 52 | 84 |
| CS 1 | 74 | 62 | CS 2 | 52 | 84 |
| AFCESA 2 | 74 | 62 | 372nd TRS | 50 | 86 |
| 83rd FWS 1 | 71 | 65 | Phase 2 | 46 | 90 |
| AFNORTH 3 | 70 | 66 | Bye | 16 | 112 |
| Team High Game Scratch | | | AMXS 1 | | 959 |
| Team High Series Scratch | | | AFCESA 1 | | 2803 |
| Team High Game Handicap | | | AFNORTH 3 | | 1109 |
| Team High Series Handicap | | | AFNORTH 1 | | 3251 |
| High Male Game Scratch | | | Jason Smith | | 257 |
| High Male Series Scratch | | | E.T. Parker | | 702 |
| High Male Game Handicap | | | Kirby Pyka | | 257 |
| High Male Series Handicap | | | Justin Williams | | 738 |
| High Female Game Scratch | | | Michelle Clements | | 196 |
| High Female Series Scratch | | | Rachel Petri-Rose | | 578 |
| High Female Game Handicap | | | Angie Woods | | 237 |
| High Female Series Handicap | | | Aurora Webster | | 705 |

Pig Prog Scorebox

| | | | |
|-----------|-----|----------|-----|
| 1st FS | 125 | NCOA | 113 |
| CONS | 124 | ACS | 110 |
| Pig Prog | 119 | CES | 110 |
| MXS | 119 | 28th TES | 100 |
| 372nd TRS | 119 | CS | 102 |
| CPTS | 118 | SVS | 101 |
| OSS | 116 | SFS | 93 |
| | | MDOS | 86 |



OSS takes a lickin', keeps on tickin'

PIGSKIN PROGNOSTICATOR

From the land of mediocrity

'Amazing' is about the only word I can think of after last weekend. Four records were broken last week and two more players inched closer to records.

One prominent rushing record was broken by San Diego running back Ladainian Tomlinson. Tomlinson now has the most touchdowns in season with 29. He already broke the record for most touchdowns in a six-game span earlier this season, became the first Charger with eight 100-yard rushing games in a row and it doesn't look like he will stop there.

Tomlinson is one touchdown away from tying the record for most rushing touchdowns in one season and two points away from tying Green Bay multi-positioned Paul Hornburg's record of 176 total points in a season.

Not a bad year and I'm sure

Atlanta is kicking themselves for deciding to trade draft picks with San Diego. Atlanta ended up taking quarterback Michael Vick with the first overall pick and San Diego picked Tomlinson third overall. Vick isn't bad, but he isn't vying for the title of the greatest quarterback ever, and Tomlinson definitely has to be mentioned in the discussion of all-time great running backs.

Another record was broken by Carolina quarterback Chris Weinke. Weinke threw for 423 yards – on 64 attempts might I add – breaking the team record of passing yards in a game. I'm still not sure if I'm more stunned by the amount of yards Weinke threw for or the fact Carolina actually let the former Heisman trophy winner throw the ball one time, let alone 64 times.

A team who isn't setting any records this year, at least any you want to be known for, is OSS. I

was wondering how it felt being out of the Super Prog contention because I've never really had that feeling.

"The only Super Prog that matters is the NCAA Super Prog in which my beloved Buckeyes will be victorious!" said OSS picker Mark Rivers.

Well, that's good he's rooting for amateurs and not professionals; he'll fit right in. Since he is just an amateur, I asked him if he would still participate in the Pig Prog next year after I've beat him so badly this year.

"But of course. It's just like being a first sergeant," said Rivers. "Where else can you take a beating everyday and still love coming to work?"

Well, I'm glad he can cope with being behind me in the standings so well. I just hope the rest of you can do the same!

Now let's get out there and watch some football!

Pig Prog 325th CS picks for NFL Week 14:

- San Francisco at Seattle
- Dallas at Atlanta
- Cleveland at Baltimore
- Detroit at Green Bay
- Houston at New England
- Jacksonville at Tennessee
- Miami at Buffalo
- N.Y. Jets at Minnesota
- Pittsburgh at Carolina
- Tampa Bay at Chicago
- Washington at New Orleans
- Denver at Arizona
- Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants
- St. Louis at Oakland
- Kansas City at San Diego
- Cincinnati at Indianapolis

95th FS helps boy on road to recovery

AIRMAN GLENN MOORE
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Visiting the 95th Fighter Squadron on Dec. 7 helped Toby Crabtree, 5, Pilot for a Day, cope with his illness.

This was the 95th FS's fourth time inducting a child as their special guest in their Pilot for a Day program. Before he stepped into the simulator, he had the opportunity to meet the commander, participate in a step brief with pilots and tested for uniform and mask fittings.

Toby has viral hepatitis. Doctors aren't sure what caused his condition. He has undergone two liver biopsies and he may need to have another. Also, his doctor's put him on steroids six months ago to reduce inflammation of his liver.

Toby still is taking the steroids, but possibly could stop taking them in about four weeks. After his last biopsy,



Steve Wallace

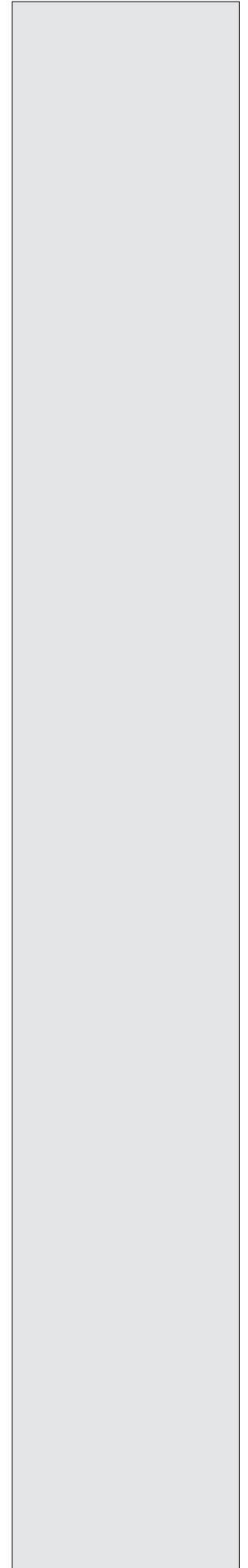
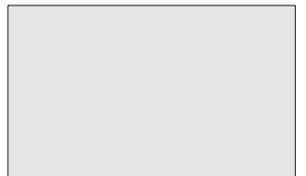
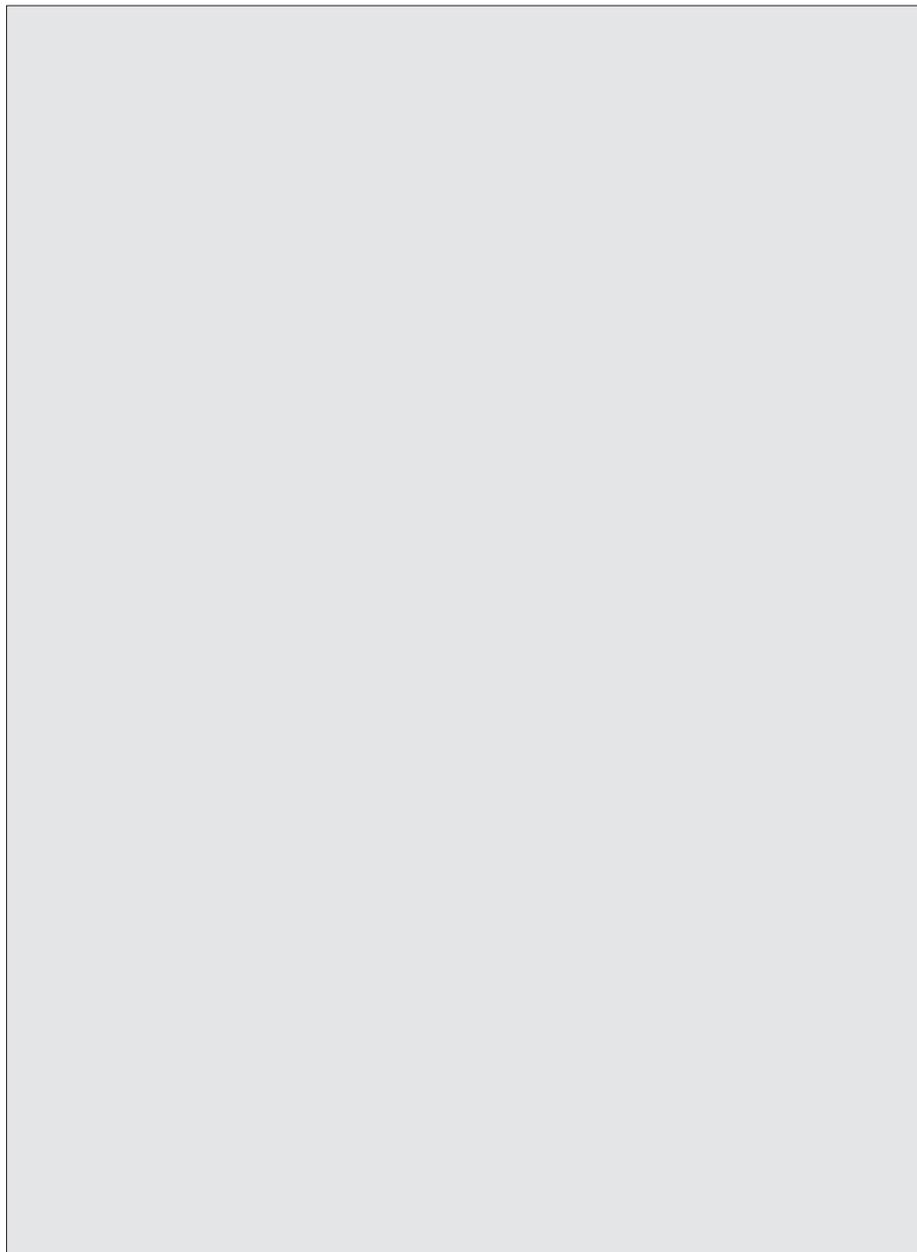
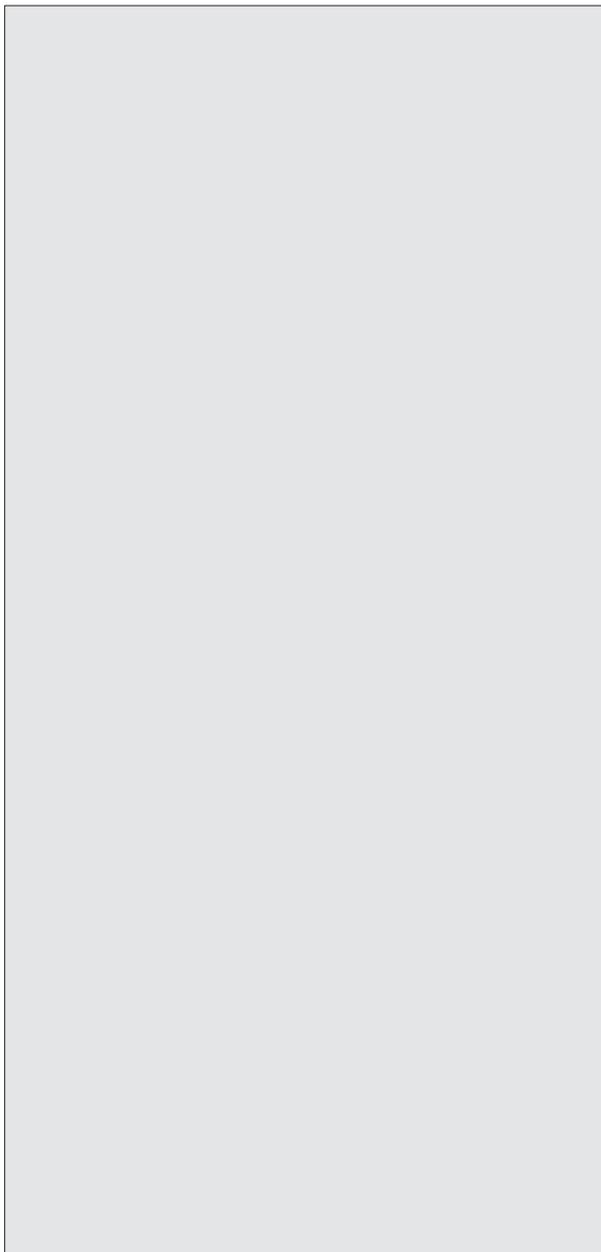
Toby Crabtree tries on a pair of flight gloves while visiting life support.

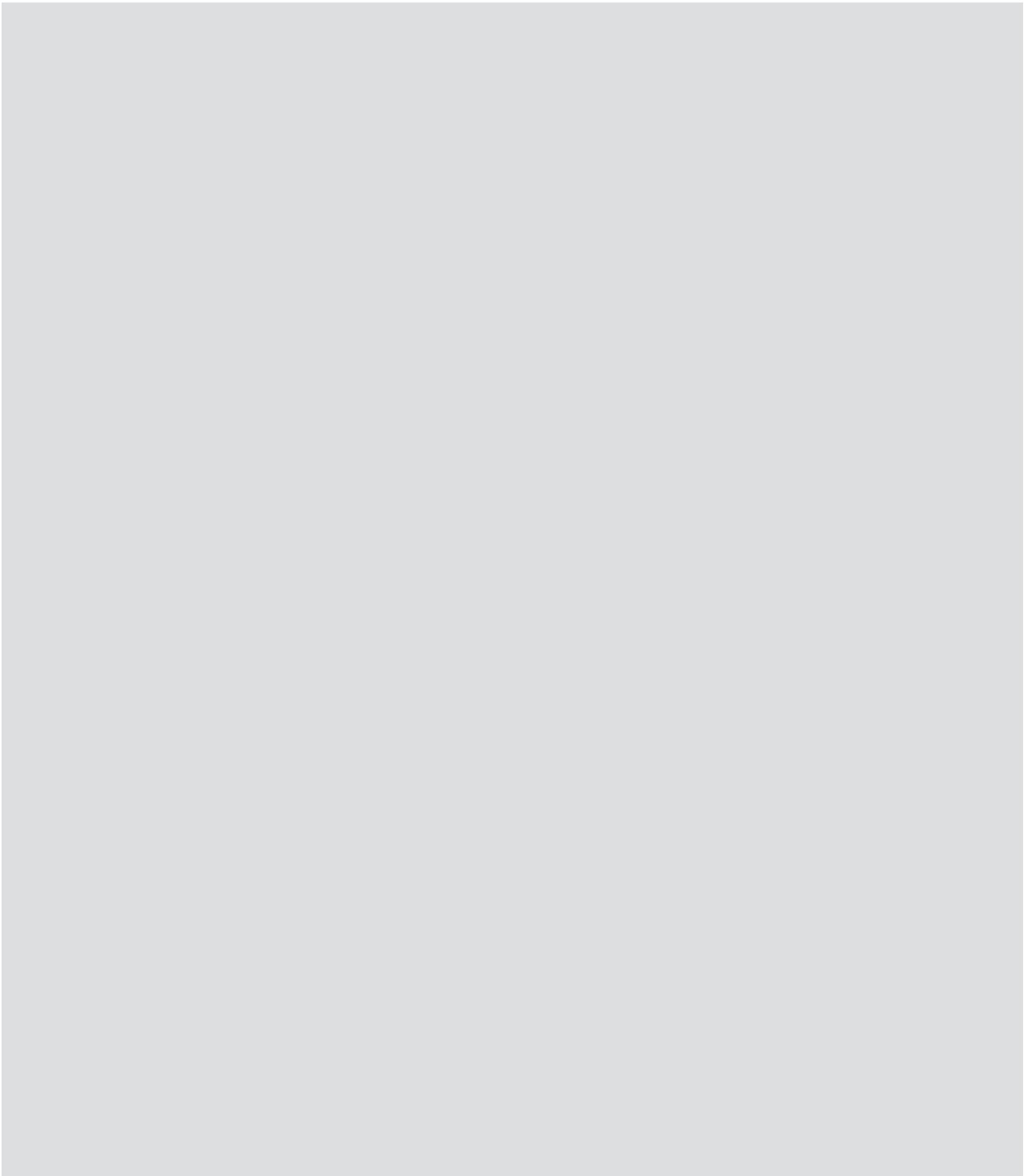
doctors said everything is almost back to normal.

"When he found out he would be going (to the 95th FS) it gave him something

to look forward to and kept him really excited," said Staff Sgt. Brian Crabtree,

• SEE PILOT PAGE 18





Funshine NEWS

www.325thservices.com ★ Look for the Funshine Review inserted into the Gulf Defender the first of every month. ★

Ready for a Challenge?

Shed those holiday Pounds for a chance to win cash and prizes...

BATTLE OF THE BULGE

WHERE LOSERS WIN BIG!

January 8 - March 23, 2007

Sign up at the Fitness Center
283-2631

YP Youth Programs

Air Force Youth Programs World Wide Bowling

Bowl with Air Force Youth around the world!

Ages 5-8
Ages 9-11
Ages 12-14
Ages 15-18

W4B world wide bowling

fitfactor

For more information contact Youth Programs at www.afyouthprograms.com

USAF SERVICES

Super Bowl XLII Party

JUMBO SCREEN

AT THE SPORTS PAGE PIZZA PUB

February 4, 2007 2 P.M.

Fantastic Prizes each HALF

Specials

1 Large 1 topping pizza and pitcher of beverage \$10.50
Appetizers will be HALF OFF during half time, including: Cheese Sticks, Bread Sticks, Wings, Nachos and more!

Coca-Cola \$1

Members First 283-3222

AIR FORCE SERVICES CLUBS

TYNDALL SERVICES



Attention Team Tyndall: Place a free classified ad in the Gulf Defender

Military classified ads are placed in the Gulf Defender on a space available basis. Ads must be for a one-time sale of personal goods and should include a complete description, 30 words or less, of item being sold. Forms must be turned in by 2 p.m. Thursday for publication in the following Friday's Gulf Defender. Completed forms can be dropped off or mailed to the 325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office at 445 Suwannee Rd. Ste. 129, Tyndall AFB, FL 32403, or faxed to 283-3225. Ads can also be sent in by e-mail to checkertailmarket@tyndall.af.mil.

Rank/Name _____

Unit/Office Symbol _____

Duty Phone _____

Home Phone _____

Item description (One ad per form)
(30 words or less)

We value your opinion!

Take a couple of minutes to give us your thoughts on how we can make the Gulf Defender better:

Did the front page grab your attention? Yes No

Do you feel there is a good mix of local, command and Air Force-level news? Yes No

Do the photos encourage you to read accompanied articles? Yes No

Is the Gulf Defender easy to read and follow? Yes No

What did you find most interesting in this week's paper? _____

If you could change one thing in the paper, what would it be? _____

Comments: _____

Superheroes and AAFES join forces for fourth military-only marvel comic

DALLAS – Just in time for the holiday season, Marvel Comics’ “The New Avengers” and the Army & Air Force Exchange Service have teamed up once again to bring troops stationed around the world another free, military-exclusive comic book.

Scheduled to arrive in continental U.S. exchanges Wednesday and overseas, including the 53 BX/PX facilities throughout Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom, shortly thereafter, “The New Avengers; Letters Home” is the fourth installment of the military-only comic book series.

“Due to their limited availability, collectors have historically shown great interest in these special AAFES/Marvel Comics editions,” said Col. Max Baker, AAFES chief of staff. “If the past is any

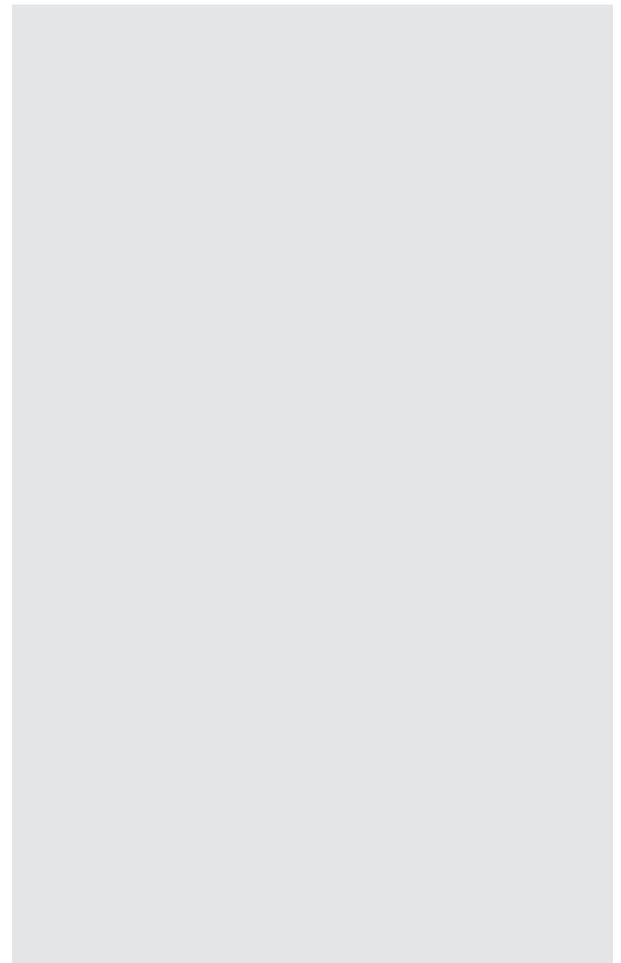
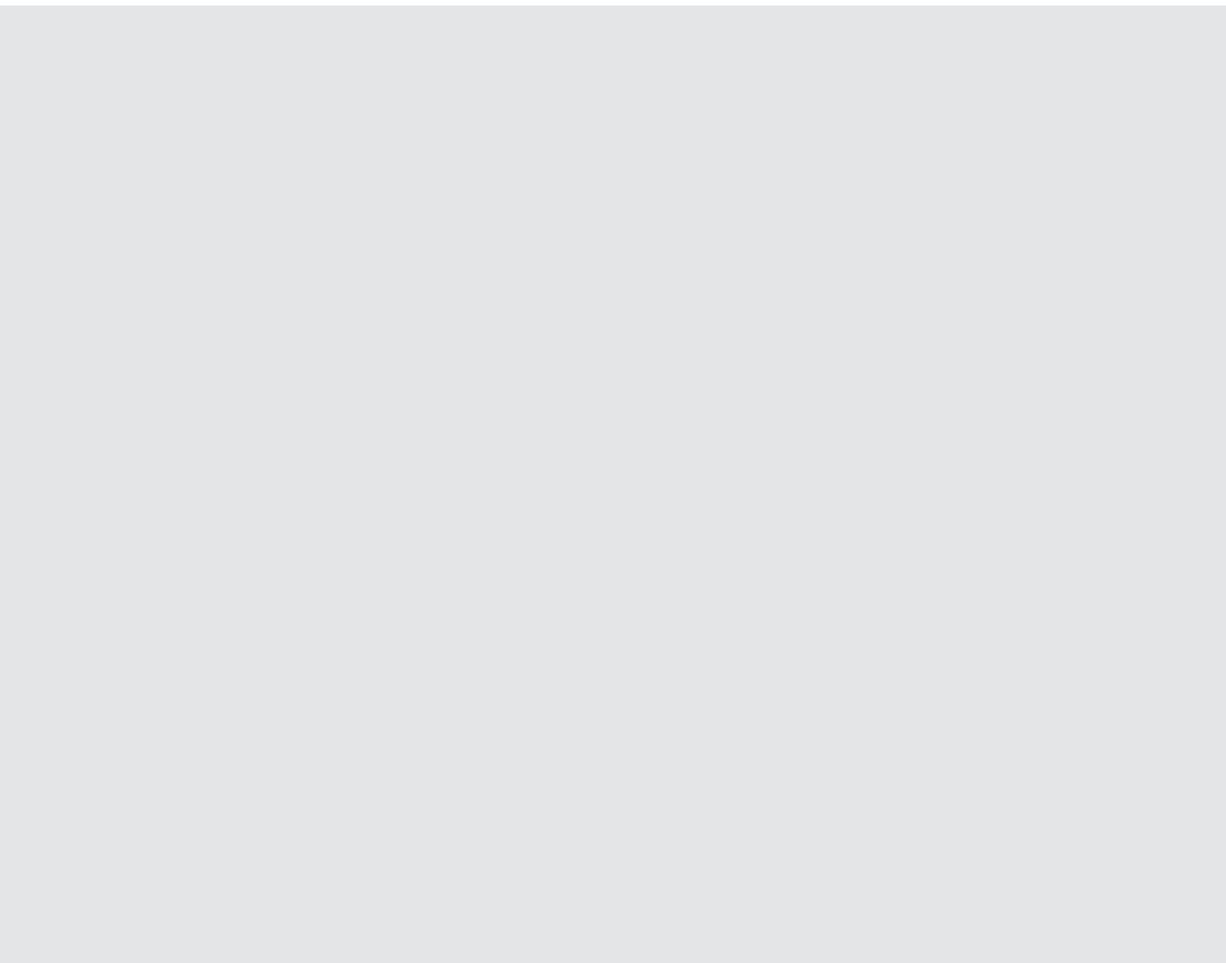
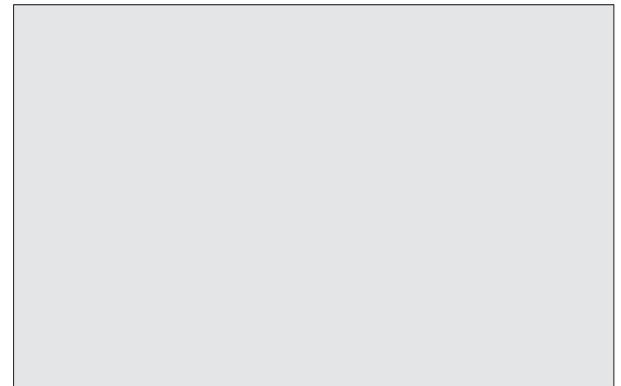
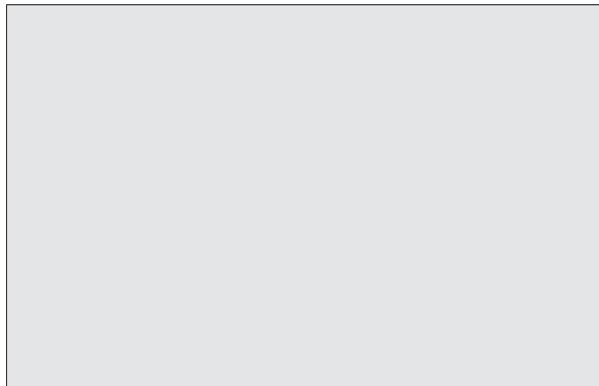
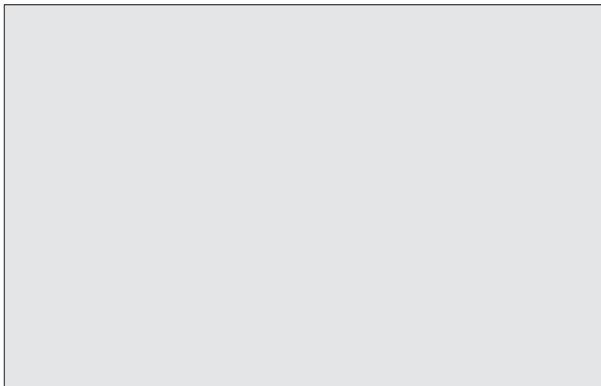
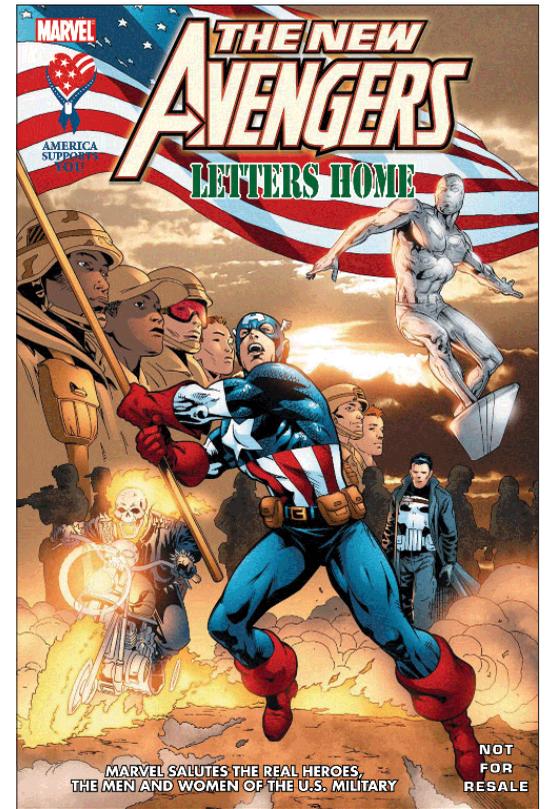
indicator, ‘The New Avenger; Letters Home’ issue should go quickly.”

Available exclusively at AAFES, the newest issue once again features Marvel’s superhero Captain America, who, because his regular supporting cast is away for the holidays, is joined by Silver Surfer, Ghost Rider and special guest The Punisher.

When Hydra takes over a military communications satellite, the superheroes spring into action to ensure troops email messages to loved ones make their way home.

Because of the highly collectible nature and the anticipated demand for the 36-page comic, AAFES officials advise that “The New Avengers; Letters Home” is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

(Courtesy of AAFES News Service.)



• **FROM SINGER PAGE 4**

On Jan. 15, Airman Payano will start her year tour with Tops in Blue, often working 16-18 hour days assembling and breaking down the stage, practicing and performing. She understands the hard work that lies ahead, but looks forward to the chance to do what she enjoys.

"I love it and I am willing to give it my all," she said.

She hopes her leadership skills, spirit and humor will be an asset to the group during the tour.

"She is a pure and real person," said Colonel Omstead of Airman Payano. "She has tremendous energy, beautiful voice and moral values. She displays amazing faith in other Airmen, God and the Air Force."

Airman Payano counts it a blessing and privilege to share her love of music with others.

"It's wonderful to entertain others and be a reminder to others of why we serve," she said. "I plan to do the best I can in Tops in Blue. I want to touch people when they are away from home. They need that."

Airman Payano also wants to use this opportunity to mentor and teach others about music.

"Music is a great outlet and a great way to find one's self and connect with others," she said.

(Editor's Note: Tops in Blue is an all-active duty Air Force special unit made up of talented amateur performers selected for their entertainment abilities to tour the world and perform for the public and Airmen.)

• **FROM PILOT PAGE 14**

Toby's father. "The experience was really good for him to. He loved it; the pilots treated him like 'one of the guys.'"

"The 95th FS did great and made everyone feel welcome," said Tiffanie Crabtree, Toby's mother. "No one felt out of place and even though Toby isn't big on attention, he really enjoyed it and it gave him more confidence."

Even though the squadron has a very busy training schedule, the commander views this program as a great way to give back to the community and share their mission.

"There are many who are not as fortunate and through what ever means we can provide, comfort or a fun experience, we can give back," said Colonel Routt. "Through this program, I hope to paint a good picture of the 95th FS, the 325th Fighter Wing and the Air Force. We can

tell the Air Force story to the community."

When we asked his mother what part of the day he enjoyed the most, she was quick and confident in her response.

"Toby enjoyed two videos that Capt. Chris Ridlon, 95th FS instructor pilot, played. One had the song "Where Eagles Fly" and there were eagles throughout the video," said Ms. Crabtree. "Toby really loves eagles so Captain Ridlon made a copy of the DVD so he could take it home."

"Two other things Toby really liked was the flight suit and the coin the commander gave him," said Ms. Crabtree. "He carries it everywhere with him and coin checks everybody now."

As the 95th FS successfully completed its fourth Pilot for a Day, they can be sure that it has made a difference in another child's life.

The Gulf Defender is published for people like Senior Airman Donald Ellis, 325th Maintenance Squadron munition crew member.



