MISSILEER

Vol. 51 No. 21 | Patrick Air Force Base/Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla. | May 29, 2009

Golf Course goes public

3

The first of many

9

Let's see... over, around, under...

11

Senatorial Shake

U.S. Senator Bill Nelson is greeted by Lt. Col John Wagner, deputy commander, 45th Launch Group, at the Range Communications Building as the Senator and others receive a "State of the Range" briefing at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station Wednesday afternoon. Also with Mr. Nelson, a former NASA astronaut, are (left to right) Lt. Gen. Larry James, commander, 14th Air Force, Brig. Gen. Edward L. Bolton, Jr., commander, 45th Space Wing, Col. Stephen Butler (rendering salute), vice commander, 45th SW and Col. Scott Henderson, commander, 45th Launch Group.

Col. Ross assumes 45th Ops Group command

New 45th Operations Group Commander Col. James Ross proudly accepts the group guidon from 45th Space Wing Commander Brig. Gen. Edward L. Bolton Jr. as 45th OG Superintendent Frank Evans looks on during the change of command ceremony held May 21 in the Base Theater. Most recently stationed at the Pentagon, Colonel Ross is returning to the 45th Space Wing, having previously been commander of Detachment 1 of the 45th Mission Support Group and the 5th Space Launch Squadron at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station.

Photo by John Donnell

Air Force Space Command: delivering space and missile capabilities to America and its warfighting commands

Practice leads to readiness

By Brig. Gen. Edward L. Bolton Jr.
45th SW commander

From the top

First off, let me just say "kudos" to all of you who supported the launch of an unarmed Trident II D5 missile from a British Royal Navy submarine Sunday on the Eastern Range.

Also, thank you to each and every one of you out there as we had zero reported injuries during last week's holiday weekend. That is exactly how I wanted to start off the 101 Critical Days of Summer and that is exactly how I want it to come to an end – with everyone safe and making smart decisions.

Also, I want to congratulate all of you for your hard work during this week's extensive readiness exercise. Our IG team worked hard to test our abilities to respond to and overcome a vast array of situations, ranging from hostage situations and base attacks to major accidents and anti-terrorism operations.

It is great that we have such a hard-working, talented, and energetic group of people here who are so focused on protecting the personnel and the assets of Patrick Air Force Base and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. Job well done.

Being prepared brings peace of mind to all of us. It brings a certain kind of quiet confidence, a "we can do it" mindset that is not only almost impossible to defeat, but also is vital for any military to win the fight and to persevere under such demanding circumstances.

We, as a family, need to feed off that air of confidence, while at the same time being ever vigilant in our preparations for the unknown. Remember, the day that we stop training and brainstorming for what may happen tomorrow, our enemies gain a possible edge – an opportunity if you will; one that they are more than willing to exploit.

As Gen. George Washington said, "To be prepared for war is one of the most effective means of preserving peace." The same holds true today as it did centuries ago. For if we relax our efforts and we relax our guard, then surely someone will take advantage. We must never let that happen.

Our checklists are vital to our operations and to our security. Equally vital is our ingenuity and our ability to go beyond the standard when faced with opposition. That is what these exercises are all about – our ability to act under pressure.

By no means are these types of exercises a thing of the past. Take pride in your actions and learn from your mistakes – they should be the only things going away.

Thanks again for all you do.

Seeing happiness in the windshield

By Col. James Ross
45th Operations Group commander

Commander's Corner

In this first article since taking command of the 45th Operations Group, I need to say how happy my wife Antoinette and I are to rejoin the Shark family. We want to thank everyone at Patrick Air Force Base and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station for the very warm welcome back home. As I said at the change of command: happiness is the Pentagon in your rear view mirror, but true happiness is the Florida Space Coast in your windshield!

Leadership for me is really about service. It requires the leader to put other things and people before him/herself. Leadership is about service to the mission. It is also about service to higher authorities. And it is certainly about service to the people being led. For me, a good leader is humble, honest, and cares more about the mission and his/her people than his or her reputation. We are fortunate to have outstanding leaders in the 45th Space Wing, from our wing leadership, to the group and squadron leadership, right down to the workcenter supervisors. While everyone has their own way to approach leadership, I encourage you to include service in your leadership style.

Our mission at the 45th Space Wing is envied by most in Air Force Space Command, the Air Force writ large, and the Joint community. Launching military payloads that provide space capabilities to our forces in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other places around the globe is a dream job. The fact that we also have the honor to support NASA's manned spaceflight mission and our commercial launch partners makes being here even more special. I encourage everyone to think every day about how privileged we are to be a part of the technical magic of space lift. What was considered science fiction in the early 20th century we make a reality now.

As we come back from Memorial Day weekend honoring those who gave their lives for our freedom, we need to keep in mind why we chose to serve in the military or government. Everyone has their own reasons. Some joined to travel. Some joined for a hope at financial security. Some joined to serve their country. My hope is that no matter what your reasons for joining the team were, you keep in mind that your actions, no matter how far removed from the fighting they may be, affect our brothers and sisters in arms around the world. Take pride in what you do and remember Service before Self!

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45th Space Wing Commander

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Manatee Cove Golf Course opens to public

By Jody Clor
Manatee Cove Golf Course general manager

Beginning Monday, the Manatee Cove Golf Course will be open for the public to enjoy.

Golfers can download a base access application and fax or e-mail it to the golf course. Information about the process can be located by visiting www.GoPatrickFL.com and follow the link to the golf course tab button.

Four years ago, the old clubhouse was replaced with a new 12,000 square foot facility. The catering department is capable of hosting tournaments, private parties, even weddings. The golf shop features all the latest club technology including a fitting center as well as a wide assortment of clothing, shoes and name brand sundry items. The restaurant is open daily from 6:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. for breakfast and 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. for lunch. In addition the lounge is open from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. daily and offers food and adult beverages until closing. The course also offers both group and private lessons by two PGA professionals.

The course was originally designed in the 1950s by world-renowned golf course architect, Robert Trent Jones Sr. Several years ago, Tom Fazio performed reconstruction surgery on three holes to accommodate new base housing. In all, the course covers some 220 acres of land, lakes and river frontage.

Two years ago, the greens were reconstructed using a new breed of seashore grass, called Paspallum. This variety was found to withstand drought and salty conditions much better than the 419 Bermuda grass previously used on the greens.

And when you visit us this summer, maybe you will be lucky enough to see the beautiful manatees swimming in the Cove bordering the first tee box.

For more information, call 494-GOLF. Fairways and greens!

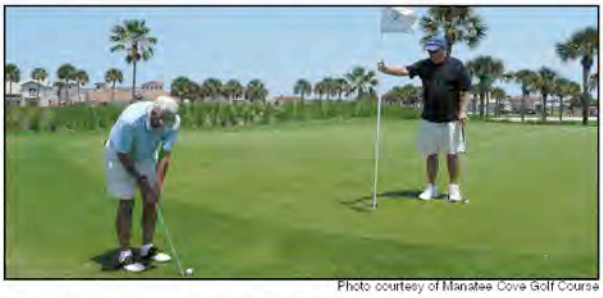

Photo courtesy of Manatee Cove Golf Course

Tom Fenstermacher putts out as Norm Yearsley tends the flag on the 13th hole during the Greenskeepers Revenge Tournament held at Manatee Cove Golf Course on Memorial Day. Their team, including Larry Devine and Mike Connors, shot a net 55 to capture first place out of 20 teams.

Photo courtesy of Maj. Jay Block

One summer night...

John Travolta (center) poses for a picture with Ascension Island Air Field Commander Maj. Jay Block (right) and Island Administrator Ross Denny during the actor's brief visit to Ascension. Mr. Travolta landed on the island to refuel his plane following a vacation in Africa and was given a tour of the base and the rest of the island. "He thanked us for our service, asked a lot of questions about our mission and the island," said Major Block of Mr. Travolta. "He was a really engaging and very friendly person."

MILESTONES

For Outstanding Customer Service, Professionalism & Impeccable Military Appearance, Tech. Sgt. Brett Robinson of the 45th Comptroller Squadron was given the Diamond Sharp award by his First Sergeant.

The 45th Operations Support Squadron recently won the following Air Force Space Command awards for the year 2008:

Airfield Complex of the Year
Airfield Management SNCO of the Year
Senior Master Sgt. Nicholas LeMay
Air Traffic Controller of the Year – Civilian
Djonne Stevens

The following AFTAC members have been selected for promotion to the rank of Master Sergeant:

Tech. Sgt. Robert Christman
Tech. Sgt. Troy Daigle
Tech. Sgt. Pablo Diazguerrero
Tech. Sgt. Arvil Easter
Tech. Sgt. Donald Farrier
Tech. Sgt. Tod Fortin
Tech. Sgt. Keith Hodge
Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Hosterman
Tech. Sgt. Sean Mathis
Tech. Sgt. Troy Porter
Tech. Sgt. Roy Sallions
Tech. Sgt. April Shake
Tech. Sgt. Shawn Smallwood
Tech. Sgt. Robert Thur
Tech. Sgt. Sean Westley
Tech. Sgt. Jeannette Wheeler
Tech. Sgt. John Williams

Proposed Post-9/11 GI Bill transferability rules explained

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – With Department of Veterans Affairs representatives ready to begin accepting sign-ups for the Post-9/11 GI Bill May 1, Defense Department officials are working to get word out on the proposed policy regarding the bill's transferability provisions to help servicemembers decide if the new benefit is right for them.

Bob Clark, the Pentagon's assistant director for accessions policy, called the Post-9/11 GI Bill that takes effect Aug. 1 an important new benefit. In addition to providing broader educational benefits, it includes a provision that enables enrollees to transfer their benefits to immediate family members.

This long-sought-after provision is expected to be a boom for the military, Mr. Clark said, attracting and retaining the skilled force it needs.

"The Post-9/11 GI Bill is going to be an extremely good benefit to attract bright, young Americans to serve in the military," he said.

"The transferability is going to be a tool that will allow us to retain members who have earned that great benefit and share it with their family members and continue to serve," Mr. Clark said. "This gives them the opportunity to share those benefits that they have earned with those they love."

The rules for Post-9/11 GI Bill transferability are in the final stages, and Mr. Clark said Defense Department officials expect few changes, if any.

In a nutshell, any enlisted or commissioned member of the armed forces serving on active duty or in the Selected Reserve on or after Aug. 1 will be eligible to transfer his or her benefits as long as he or she qualifies for the Post-9/11 GI Bill in the first place and meets specific service requirements, Mr. Clark explained.

> *"The Post-9/11 GI Bill is going to be an extremely good benefit to attract bright, young Americans to serve in the military."*
>
> **Bob Clark**
> PENTAGON ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR ACCESSIONS POLICY

He emphasized that, by law, anyone who has retired or separated from the service before that date, even if it's July 31, won't be entitled to transfer his or her benefits. Also excluded will be members of the Individual Ready Reserve and Fleet Reserve.

Most servicemembers who have at least six years of military service as of Aug. 1 and agree to serve an additional four years qualify, he said. But Defense Department officials have proposed measures to cover several categories of servicemembers whose circumstances don't fit neatly into this formula.

Another Pentagon proposal would cover servicemembers who will reach the 20-year service mark, making them retirement-eligible, between Aug. 1, 2009, and Aug. 1, 2013.

Mr. Clark explained the breakdown, which basically enables those affected to transfer benefits as long as they complete 20 years of service:

- Those eligible for retirement on Aug. 1, 2009, would be eligible to transfer their benefits with no additional service requirement.
- Those with an approved retirement date after Aug. 1, 2009, and before July 1, 2010, would qualify with no additional service.
- Those eligible for retirement after Aug. 1, 2009, but before Aug. 1, 2010, would qualify with one additional year of service after approval to transfer their Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits.
- Those eligible for retirement between Aug. 1, 2010, and July 31, 2011, would qualify with two additional years of service after approval to transfer.
- Those eligible to retire between Aug. 1, 2011, and July 31, 2012, would qualify with three additional years of service after approval to transfer.

The servicemember's 36 months of benefits, the equivalent of four nine-month academic years, could be transferred to a spouse, one or more children or any combination, Mr. Clark said. The family member must be enrolled in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System to receive the benefits.

Servicemembers also have the option to use some benefits themselves and transfer what they haven't used to one or more family members.

Even after transferring the benefits, they remain the "property" of the servicemember who earned them, who can revoke them or redesignate who receives them at any time.

More details about the Post-9/11 GI Bill are posted on the Defense Department and Department of Veterans Affairs Web sites, and the Pentagon's proposed transferability policy is on the Defense Department site.

Space Command official tweets on GPS

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. (AFNS) An Air Force Space Command official hosted a tweet forum on the Global Positioning System from 2 to 3 p.m., May 20.

Col. Dave Buckman, AFSPC command lead for position, navigation and timing, responded to fellow tweeter's questions on GPS and clarified some points that came out of the recent Government Accountability Office's report on potential challenges the GPS system faces in the future.

The session was the first time AFSPC officials have used their Twitter page, www.twitter.com/AFSpace, for a scheduled two-way forum. The site launched in April.

Below is the transcript:

1. Get the facts on GPS! Join us at 2 p.m. MST and hear from our expert! AFSpace hosts Colonel Buckman to answer your questions for all things GPS!

2. #AFGPS AFSpace is live with our GPS experts. Anyone want to kick off the questions?

3. JustinHerman@AFSpace #AFGPS: Is there any actual probability of the GPS systems going down in 2010, or is it just worst case scenario – like my commute?

4. @JustinHerman: No, the GPS will not go down. GAO points out, there is potential risk associated with a degradation in GPS performance.

5. OKCMark @AFSpace: Is it true that you just launched a satellite that doesn't work right?

6. @OKCMark: SVN-49 launched in March is still in payload c/o. Received unusual payload performance data. T-shooting & making good progress.

7. JustinHerman @AFSpace #AFGPS: If I may follow, what kind of upgrades at what $$ will be needed in order to maintain performance of the GPS system?

8. @JustinHerman: We're committed to the modernization of GPS. We already have two satellite programs underway to update our fleet. Agree w/ GAO there's a potential risk, but GPS isn't falling out of the sky – we have plans to mitigate risk and prevent a gap in coverage.

9. TedDriver @AFSpace #AFGPS: What's the likelihood of user's noticing a difference in GPS accuracy? - which has been excellent so far...

10. @TedDriver: Very unlikely. We're launching satellites (next in Aug); have proven procedures to optimize constellation to mitigate impacts.

11. flukemol @AFSpace: If a major solar flare happens, do you guys have a back up plan or backup GPS system ready?

12. @flukemol: Since we fly in MEO, aren't as affected by solar as sats in GEO; been thru several solar maxs in past with stellar performance.

13. TedDriver @AFSpace: Good to hear! Thanks for answering my questions. #AFGPS

14. Espen @AFSpace: Will the GAO report result in an acceleration of the acquisition and fielding of GPS Equipment?

15. @Espen: Uncertain, but we are always looking for opportunities to accelerate the modernization of GPS & deliver capabilities to users sooner.

16. JustinHerman @AFSpace #AFGPS: So basically, while there is a risk of reduced performance in the GPS fleet, we've pretty much got it covered?

17. @JustinHerman: You have it exactly right!

18. SRStran @AFSpace: Glad you're on top of it!

19. @SRStran: Thanks, we take great pride in providing GPS performance that exceeds our requirements!

20. SRStran @AFSpace: You're welcome. Like to think that the newly updated roads will be on my newly purchased GPS.

21. zoephoto @AFSpace: Glad to hear the GPS satellite issue is under control, you should make an announcement so the media stop scaring people! :)

22. @fenrisfox: We have 30+ satellites on orbit now. We'll launch another in Aug 09, and again early 10. Going below 24 won't happen

23. LINDAinNC RT @AFSpace: Agree w/ GAO thr's a potential risk, but GPS isn't falling out of the sky – we have plans 2 mitigate risk & prevent a gap...

24. We are taking the last round of GPS questions for the next five minutes....

25. @lukeshepherd: We have the largest GPS constellation in history and active plans to mitigate any potential gap in coverage.

26. @zoephoto: You are exactly right, the issue is under control . We are working hard to get out the word.

27. @usmcpablo: The issue is not whether GPS will stop working. There's only a small risk we will not continue to exceed our performance standard

28. @weisen: We definitely need to keep this in perspective . Since 1995, GPS has never failed to exceed performance standards.

29. Thanks everyone...AFSpace is signing off the GPS discussion...for now.

MOVIES

FRIDAY – *Hannah Montana: The Movie* (Miley Cyrus, Billy Ray Cyrus) Miley Stewart struggles to juggle school, friends and her secret pop-star persona. When Hannah Montana's soaring popularity threatens to take over her life – she just might let it. So her father takes the teen home to Crowley Corners Tennessee for a dose of reality, kicking off an adventure filled with the kind of fun, laughter and romance even Hannah Montana couldn't imagine. Rated G – 98min

SATURDAY – *The Hangover*, Free Studio Appreciation screening, at 6 p.m. Doors open at 4 p.m. Tickets are available at all AAFES facilities. Seating is limited and available on a first come, first serve basis.

Adults 12 & older – $4, children 6-11 – $2, children 5 & under are free. Doors open at 7 p.m. Shows begin at 7:30 p.m.

Air Force women take silver in basketball championship

U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 1st Class John Collins

The Air Force women celebrate their victory after beating the Army 78-59 during the fourth day of games for the Armed Forces Basketball Championship. The team ended up taking the silver medal after being edged by the Navy team. The tournament ran from May 12 to 17 at the Naval Support Activity Mid-South in Millington, Tenn. The team practiced at the Patrick Fitness Center in preparation for the tournament.

Upcoming Golf championship and specials

Summer Passes

Would you like to play a lot of golf for just a little bit of money? For $106 you can purchase a summer pass that allows you to play unlimited rounds of golf from Memorial Day thru Labor Day, a rate of $1 per day Cost includes unlimited greens fees. Participants must pay for a cart, but are allowed to walk, and this special is valid after 9:30 a.m. daily. The special is not valid for league or tournament players.

McGladrey Team Championship

Here is your chance to play with a PGA Professional golfer in a first-class tournament. The Manatee Cove Golf Course will hold the 2009 McGladrey Team Championship Local Qualifier June 13, with an 8 a.m. shotgun start. Participants form three-person teams (one best ball net per hole). Out of 14 teams, the top two winning teams will be paired with a PGA Professional golfer and advance as four-person teams to play in the McGladrey Section Championship at Timacuan Golf Club in Lake Mary July 10. Winning teams from the section championship will advance to the McGladrey Team Championship National Finals, held Oct. 26-28, in Pinehurst, N.C. Participants in the local qualifier will receive 75 percent of their course handicap and each player's net best ball must be used on a minimum of three holes. Entry fee is $77 for Annual Pass players, $80 for Annual Fee players, and $90 for all others. Cost includes golf, cart, tee gift, and $55 to the McGladrey Tournament Office – winning team entry will be paid to the next level (a $100 per player value). Sign up in the pro shop (must sign up as a three-person team). Registration deadline is 1 p.m. June 11.

Special Guest Pricing

Special guest rate of $30 for cart and green fee. Valid any time or day. Offer expires Aug. 31.

Refer a Friend and earn rewards

Refer a new annual pass holder and receive one of the following: Pro Shop Merchandise Gift Certificate, eight golf cart rentals for 18 holes, or a range card with 32 buckets of balls. All three choices have a $96 value. This promotion is valid for referring a new Annual Pass holder. Refer an Annual fee card holder and receive half the incentive value of the pass referral. Offer expires Aug. 31.

Summer Foursome Package

Foursome special valid anytime after 11 a.m. Just $100 including cart, green fee, range balls and lunch (before 3 p.m. choice of club sandwich or Cheeseburger Combo, after 3 p.m. choice of any pre made sandwich or salad). Offer expires Aug. 31.

Rediscover Golf Special

Starting Monday, pay just $45 and get unlimited greens fees for one calendar month. After that, if you decide to join for an entire year, the golf course will knock the $45 off your annual golf pass and start your new subscription the day you join. This promotion is valid for new or returning golfers who were not a prior discount cardholder (annual pass/fee/punch card) within the past 12 months. Offer expires Aug. 31.

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

Jerry Dreis
45th Range Management Squadron

Reason for nomination

"Mr. Dreis has and continues to provide exceptional Quality Assurance insight for the Air Force team on the GPS-IIF program. His positive 'can-do' attitude, dedication and understanding of the GPS-IIF program are some of the great attributes he brings to the team. His willingness to accept new challenges is noteworthy."

Richard Dry, 45th RMS

How long have you been at this duty station?

Eight years

What is your hometown?

Rockledge, Fla.

What's your favorite motto or words you live/work by?

Results are the sum of input, attitude and effort.

What inspired you to go beyond the call of duty?

"I don't feel that I have gone beyond the call any more than the many others I work with."

Why do you serve?

"To support the deployed warfighters."

Ever wonder how uniform materials are chosen?

By Brad Jessmer
Air Force Uniform Office Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFNS) – Air Force Uniform Office officials have a responsibility to provide Airmen with functional and effective military uniforms, but in doing so are asked the same question over and over: "Why can't you just purchase clothing from a brand company and put the Air Force symbol on it?"

The answer to this question may be summed up in two words: Berry Amendment.

According to the Berry Amendment, USC, Title 10, Section 2533a, Department of Defense officials are required to give preference in procurement to domestically produced and manufactured products, most notably food, clothing, fabrics and specialty metals. Congress originally passed domestic source restrictions, as part of the 1941 Fifth Supplemental DOD Appropriations Act, to protect the domestic industrial base in the time of war.

What this means is a company that makes its product entirely in the U.S. will be given preference over a company that has any aspect of its production from a foreign source.

> *"All of the uniform items – service dress, PT, utility, flight suits – must be manufactured in the U.S."*
>
> **Maj. Michael Perry**
> AIR FORCE CLOTHING PROGRAM MANAGER

There have been many comments coming from the field asking why AFUO officials don't contract with a major clothing producer, such as Nike or Under Armor for physical fitness uniforms, to provide uniform items upon which the Air Force logo could be placed.

"All of the uniform items – service dress, PT, utility, flight suits – must be manufactured in the U.S.," said Maj. Michael Perry, Air Force clothing program manager. "The (Berry) amendment holds us to this in order to preserve not only American business, but national security."

On the eve of World War II, the Berry Amendment was established to ensure the American military was furnished with uniforms and was fed with food solely produced in the U.S. The amendment was to override exceptions that were added to the Buy American Act of 1933, or BAA, for Department of Defense purchases.

The BAA requires that "substantially all" of the costs of foreign components not exceed 50 percent of the cost of all components. Thus, an item can be of 51 percent domestic content and still be in compliance with the BAA. The Berry Amendment, which governs DOD procurement only, requires that items be 100 percent domestic in origin.

According to the Congressional Research Service, or CRS, report for Congress on the Berry Amendment requiring defense procurement to come from domestic sources, "Economic, social and political factors come into play when examining the purpose and intent of the Berry Amendment. If the U.S. becomes dependent on purchasing equipment and supplies from foreign sources, what prevents an adversary from cutting off U.S. access to such items or refusing to build militarily critical items in times of crisis or conflict?"

A survey taken by Bureau of Industry and Security statisticians on the dependencies of U.S. textile companies on foreign sources found that 27 percent reported they were not dependent upon any foreign sources for manufacturing inputs. That is, 27 percent of these companies believe that adequate supplies of these goods and services exist in the United States, although they purchased them cheaper offshore.

The remaining 73 percent of reporting U.S. textile companies indicated that they were dependent upon foreign sources for at least one good or service, with the top two foreign sources being Germany and China. Almost half of these firms acknowledged that domestic firms produce the goods and services currently obtained from foreign sources, but that the foreign source was relied upon because it was cheaper.

"We've received suggestions from Airmen Air Force-wide to use major brand name companies to produce uniforms for us, but it's not that simple," explained Yvonne Wilson, AFUO senior clothing designer. "Every aspect of a garment made by a manufacturer needs to be produced in the U.S., or we can't use them by law."

For any questions regarding Air Force uniforms, send your correspondence to 648AESS.clothing@wpafb.af.mil.

A comes after D: the Atlas V arrives

By Mark Cleary
45th SW History Office

History Highlights

For centuries lots of folks — and not just salesmen — have equated the dawning of a new age with impressive new hardware. The age of steam had its paddle wheelers and locomotives. The automobile and airplane were hallmarks of the age of internal combustion. Skyscrapers and dreadnoughts became symbols of the age of relatively cheap, mass-produced steel. The newest generation of space launch vehicles weren't quite as impressive as all that, but they clearly divided the old era of space boosters from a new age of evolved expendable launch vehicles at Cape Canaveral. The Atlas V is a case in point.

The first Atlas V arrived at Cape Canaveral during the first week in June 2001. For nearly three years Lockheed Martin and its subcontractors had been working hard to overhaul Complex 41 in preparation for the Atlas V program. The new booster was expected to rival the corporation's own mighty Titan IV in size and power, though the latter continued to fly missions from Complex 40 until the end of April 2005. Boeing's new Delta IV and Lockheed Martin's new Atlas V were destined to become the next generation of heavy lift space launch vehicles in what became known as the United Launch Alliance (ULA) joint venture.

Lockheed Martin's strategy was to simplify the launch vehicle's design and streamline processing operations on Complex 41 to cut a launch vehicle's "time on the pad" from weeks or months to just a matter of days. It was a tall order, and Lockheed Martin needed a "pathfinder" to prove the vehicle's components could be processed efficiently and reliably before the first Atlas V flew. Consequently the first Atlas V became a pathfinder as well as a launch vehicle.

The first Atlas V booster and its upper stage were tested in the Atlas V Spaceflight Operations Center (ASOC) for several weeks before they were moved to the Vehicle Integration Facility (VIF) in October 2001. Engineers stacked the Atlas V on the VIF's new Mobile Launch Platform, and they added a payload simulator to the vehicle in early November 2001. Following additional tests at the VIF, workers destacked the Atlas V and returned it to the ASOC for a "horizontal checkout" and installation of avionics equipment. All that work was accomplished before the end of the year.

As preparations for the first Atlas V mission got underway in 2002, the successful flight of the first Atlas IIIB/Centaur in late February was encouraging. It featured the debut of the stretched Centaur on which the Atlas V's upper stage was based. The first Atlas V rolled out to Complex 41 as an operational vehicle March 7, 2002. There was also a wet dress rehearsal in mid-March, but the launch was delayed until late August 2002. In the meantime, the vehicle was removed from the launching pad to await a viable launch date. Ultimately the Hot Bird 6 payload was mated to the vehicle August 9, and the Atlas V was rolled back out to the pad just one day before the launch. The Atlas V lifted off Complex 41 Aug. 21, 2002 on what Lockheed Martin officials termed a "flawless flight."

The first Atlas V lifts off Aug. 21, 2002.

Events Calendar

Sunday 24	Monday 25	Tuesday 26	Wednesday 27	Thursday 28	Friday 29	Saturday 30
					Airman Leadership School Class 09-06 starts 3-Tank Advanced Open Water & Nitrox dive Outdoor Recreation Rock 'it Glow Bowl 7-10 p.m. Rocket Lanes	Saturday Bowling special 1-7 p.m. Rocket Lanes
31 Sunday Brunch 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. The Tides	**June 1** Story Time 10 a.m. Base Library	**2** 95 Cent special 11 a.m. – closing Rocket Lanes Families in the KNOW 6:30-7:30 p.m. Airman & Family Readiness Center	**3** Project Teen Employment 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. A&FRC Bingo 6:15 p.m. The Tides	**4** Unit Spouse Training 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Smooth Move 9-11 a.m. A&FRC Welding class 6-8 p.m. Auto Hobby Shop Summer Reading Program 6 p.m. Base Library	**5** Wing Sports Day Olympiad 6:30 a.m. WarFit Field Texas Hold 'em 5-10 p.m. The Tides	**6** Scrapbook Workshop 10 a.m. – noon Arts & Crafts Sailing class 2-3:30 p.m. Outdoor Recreation
7 Sunday Brunch 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. The Tides	**8** Pre-Separation 9-10:30 a.m. Fundamentals of Resumes 1-3 p.m. A&FRC Story Time 10 a.m. Base Library	**9** 1st Term Airman Financial Management 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Three-day Transition Assistance Program class begins 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. A&FRC 95 Cent special 11 a.m. – closing Rocket Lanes	**10** Bingo 6:15 p.m. The Tides	**11** Summer Reading Program 6 p.m. Base Library	**12** Applying for Air Force Jobs 9-11 a.m. A&FRC Kids' Night Out 6-11 p.m. Youth Center	**13** **STS-127 Launch** **7:12 a.m.** **Kennedy Space Center** Sailboat Races & Pancake Breakfast 9 a.m. Marina Bowling special 1-7 p.m. Rocket Lanes
14 Sunday Brunch 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. The Tides	**15** Story Time 10 a.m. Base Library Open Water Scuba Class starts Outdoor Recreation	**16** Newcomers Orientation 7:30 a.m. – noon A&FRC 95 cent special 11 a.m. – closing Rocket Lanes Pajama Club Story Time 6:15 p.m. Base Library	**17** Heart Link 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Job Search 9:30-11:30 a.m. Spouse Orientation 1-3 p.m. A&FRC Bingo 6:15 p.m. The Tides	**18** Sponsorship Training 9-11 a.m. A&FRC Summer Reading Program 6 p.m. Library	**19** 45SW Training Day Junior Enlisted Appreciation Picnic 12-4:30 p.m. Family Pool Texas Hold 'em 5-10 p.m. The Tides Karaoke Contest 6:30 p.m. Marina	**20** Deployed Family Splash Day 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Preparing Cars for Summer class 10 a.m. – noon Auto Hobby Shop Father & Child 3-6-9 Tournament 4 p.m. Rocket Lanes

To publish events of base-wide interest in future issues, e-mail missileer@patrick.af.mil

Photo by Airman 1st Class David Dobrydney

Tying up a loose end

Staff Sgt. Brandon Hollman (left) ties up to the dock as Staff Sgt. Peter Calvo observes during the Inland Boat Operator's Course at the Marina May 6. Provided by the Department of Homeland Security, the course covered navigation, chart reading, navigation aid identification, nautical terms, knot tying, docking, and "rules of the road." Fifteen Security Forces Airmen participated in the five-day course, taken as a prerequisite to an antiterrorism boating course where the Airmen will learn how to effectively enforce the base's security zones on the Banana River. "This training will provide us with the proper tools to ensure that the base remains secure," said Senior Airman Jered Dauterman, "this will just be another post for us."

More in common than meets the eye

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) John Baker
45th SW Chaplain

Most but not all Christians know that Christianity is born out of Judaism. Jesus was the Son of God and a Jew. Christianity is therefore tied to Judaism and the two religions celebrate many of the same feasts or holidays yet with different meaning. Paul said in Colossians 2:16-17 "Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ." And though as Christians we may not commemorate these holidays in the traditional biblical sense, as we discover the significance of each, we will certainly gain a greater knowledge of God's Word, an improved understanding of the Bible, and a deeper relationship with the Lord. Let us then look at Pentecost or Shavuot.

Pentecost or Shavuot has many names in the Bible (the Feast of Weeks, the Feast of Harvest, and the Latter Firstfruits). Celebrated on the fiftieth day after Passover, Shavuot is traditionally a joyous time of giving thanks and presenting offerings for the new grain of the summer wheat harvest in Israel. The name "Feast of Weeks" was given because God commanded the Jews in Leviticus 23:15-16, to count seven full weeks (or 49 days) beginning on the second day of Passover, and then present offerings of new grain to the Lord as a lasting ordinance.

Shavuot was originally a festival for expressing thankfulness to the Lord for the blessing of the harvest. Pentecost is celebrated on the fiftieth day after Passover, or the sixth day of the Hebrew month of Sivan (May or June). And because it occurred at the conclusion of the Passover, it acquired the name "Latter Firstfruits." The celebration is also tied to the giving of the Ten Commandments and thus bears the name Matin Torah or "giving of the Law." Jews believe that it was exactly at this time that God gave the Torah to the people through Moses on Mount Sinai.

Pentecost for the Church begins in Acts 1, just before the resurrected Jesus is taken up into heaven, he tells the disciples about the Father's promised gift of the Holy Spirit, which will soon be given to them in the form of a powerful baptism. He tells them to wait in Jerusalem until they receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, which will empower them to go out into the world and be his witnesses.

A few days later, on Pentecost, the disciples are all together when the sound of a might wind comes down from heaven, with tongues of fire resting on them. The Bible says, "All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them." The crowds observed this, and heard them speaking in different languages. They were amazed and thought the disciples were drunk on wine. Then Peter got up and preached the Good News of the Kingdom and 3000 people accepted the message of Christ! That very day they were baptized and added to the family of God.

The Book of Acts continues to record the miraculous outpouring of the Holy Spirit that began on Pentecost.

Christianity and Judaism are tied together at Pentecost/Shavuot. The Jew celebrates Moses assent to Mount Sinai, the Word of God was given to the Israelites at Shavuot. When the Jews accepted the Torah, they became servants of God. Similarly, after Jesus went up to heaven, the Holy Spirit was given at Pentecost. When the disciples received the gift, they became witnesses for Christ. Jews celebrated a joyous harvest on Shavuot, and the church celebrated a harvest of newborn souls on Pentecost.

NAF Sale

The 45th Force Support Squadron will hold a NAF Sale today from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Bldg 1391 (next to the golf course). The sale is open to all active duty military, retired military, and DoD and NAF civilian employees. Attendees must have a valid military ID or CAC card for entry. Active duty military (and spouses of deployed/TDY military members with a copy of their spouse's orders) may enter between 8 and 9 a.m. All other authorized personnel may enter after 9 a.m. This is a cash only sale. No checks or credit cards will be accepted. All sales are final. For more information, call Tony Boob at 494-2042, or Ron Charbonneau at 494-7204.

P.E.P Night

Women Reaching Women of Brevard County will hold a Praise, Encouragment and Prayer (P.E.P.) night Monday starting at 6:30 p.m. at 8850 Grissom Parkway in Titusville. All are welcome, reservations are not necessary. However, you must sign up if you would like to receive a personal word of encouragement. For more information call 321-383-2633.

2009 Wing Sports Day Olympiad

Don't miss the 2009 Wing Sports Day Olympiad on Friday, starting at 6:30 a.m. This event, sponsored by USAA and Hilton Melbourne Beach Oceanfront Hotel, is modeled after modern day Olympics, and will bring together 45th Space Wing units and mission partners for a day of friendly sports competition. The day starts out with an opening ceremony at the WarFit Field, followed by 12 competitive sporting events, and culminates with an awards ceremony and Wing-wide picnic. The event is open to all military personnel, and APF and NAF civilians assigned to Patrick AFB and CCAFS. For more information, guidelines, and to sign up, call Leiane Roche at 494-3186. (No federal endorsement of sponsors intended.)

College enrollment assistance

Brevard Community College will salute military service men and service women and their families and assist them with college enrollment on Tuesday, June 16, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the BCC Melbourne Campus, 3865 N. Wickham Road. A free six credit tuition scholarship drawing will be held. Participants will learn about the following services:

- G. I. Bill, V.A. Benefit, financial aid, and admissions information
- Unofficial transcript evaluation on-site
- In-state tuition granted to all Brevard County assigned active-duty military service men and service women and their families
- Online/Distance education options
- Exclusive fall term jump start registration options

For more information call Danielle Masucci, Melbourne campus recruitment specialist, at 321-433-7758.

Junior Enlisted Appreciation Picnic

Attention junior enlisted personnel! Don't miss the Junior Enlisted Appreciation Picnic June 19, from noon to 4:30 p.m. at the family pool, located south of The Tides Collocated Club. This free adult event is sponsored by the Patrick AFB Top 3 and Team Patrick, and is sponsored by D.R. Horton – America's Builder, Hilton Melbourne Beach Oceanfront Hotel, and VFW National Headquarters. It is open to all active duty junior enlisted personnel from any branch of military service assigned to Patrick AFB or CCAFS. There will be food, music, and fun games with prizes! For more information, call at 321-853-8234. (No federal endorsement of sponsors intended.)

Scholarship Extension

The Space Coast Top-3 Enlisted Scholarship is open to enlisted personnel, E-1 through E-5, assigned to Patrick AFB and Cape Canaveral AFS who are in pursuing continued education. Application must be typed and submitted to Master Sgt. Richard Allen, richard.allen@patrcik.af.mil by close of business June 30. The Scholarship Committee will rate each submission based on content, sentence structure and impact. One winner of $300.00 scholarship will be announced at the August Top-3 meeting. Application must be signed by supervisor and First Sergeant in space provided.

Camp Xtreme

Youth Programs' Camp Xtreme is a weekly camp for youth ages 12-15 or entering grades 7-10. It gives youth the opportunity to plan their own activities – guided by Youth Programs' experienced staff. Youth will swim, paddle kayaks, bowl, do community service work, learn computer skills, etc. Participants can sign up for one or all 10 weeks of the camp. For more information, call Darleena Jones at 494-4748.

Space Available Lodging Opportunities

Lodging has some special leisure rates available for stays up to seven days for DoD travelers July 1-4. If you call 14 days in advance, the cost for Visiting Officer Quarters (two-room suites) is only $39 per room. A single private room with a private bath is only $34 per room. For more information and to make reservations, call 494-5428/5429.

Take a Kid Fishing Program

Outdoor Recreation is looking for active duty military and DoD civilian volunteers who would like to take children of deployed members fishing. If you are interested, call 494-9691.

Welding Class

The Auto Hobby Shop will hold a welding class on Thursday from 6-8 p.m. This 6-week class is for beginners. Cost is $45 and covers instruction and supplies. For more information, call 494-2537.

Auto Hobby Shop Birthday Special

If your birthday is in June, you can receive half-off on stall fees (regularly $3 per half hour), to include flat and lift, every Thursday in June, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Bowling Center Specials

The Rocket Lanes Bowling Center will feature the following specials in June:

- Father & Child 3-6-9 Bowling Tournament – June 20, you automatically get a strike in the third, sixth and ninth frame, and you can sign up to try and win Dad a DVD player
- Father's Day Special – June 21, you pay regular price and Dad bowls for free, plus a chance to win a DVD player and a round of golf
- Tuesday Special – all games are 95 cents from 11 a.m. to closing
- Red Pin Special – every Wednesday from 5 p.m. to closing, get a strike when the red pin is in the number one position and that game is free
- Super Saturday Special – bowl for $1 per game every Saturday, from 1 to 7 p.m. (except during the Saturday afternoon Rock'it Bowl program on June 6 & 20, from 2 to 4 p.m.)
- Friday Night Rock'it Glow Bowl – every Friday, from 7 p.m. to closing, you can bowl for $2.85 per game, or rent a lane for $25 per hour (with shoes) for up to six people (excludes other promotions and discounts)
- Unlimited Bowling Coupon Special – all DoD ID cardholders that bowl in June can register to win a special coupon for unlimited bowling during Saturday's Rocket Glow Bowl program
- Pro Shop Special – get 10 percent off balls & bags (excludes other promotions), and if you purchase a ball from the pro shop, you receive a coupon for six free games (ball must be purchased and drilled on the premises).

For more information, call 494-2958.