



In Brief

TRICARE

A TRICARE benefit briefing is scheduled Tuesday at 9 a.m. in the Airey NCO Academy auditorium here.

Health care information will be provided for all categories of TRICARE beneficiaries.

For additional information, call the 325th MDG TRICARE Operations office at 283-7157.

Registration

The Gulf Coast Community College registration for the fall term is ongoing at the Tyndall Education Center. Classes start Aug. 20.

Book buyback is Tuesday and Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the main campus bookstore.

For more information, call 283-4332.

Basketball

Tryouts for the 2007-2008 Tyndall Tigers Men's Varsity Basketball team are scheduled for Aug. 27 at 6 p.m. in the fitness center.

For more information, contact the fitness center at 283-2631.

Air Force Ball

The Air Force Ball is scheduled for Sept. 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the Officers' Club.

More information will be provided as the date approaches.

Luke F-16s play 'red air' against raptors

CHRISSE CUTTITA
325TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Once again, six F-16 Fighting Falcons and approximately 77 Airmen deployed here July 22 from Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., for two weeks to play "red air" against the F-22 Raptor.

The deployment was all in the name of training and seeing the Air Force's most modern aircraft show off its stuff.

"Luke F-16s are here to provide dissimilar air combat training for the 43rd Fighter Squadron F-22s," said Maj. Lance Pilch, 43rd FS deputy of operations. "They fly during F-22 student syllabus missions and specific scenarios. This increases the proficiency of the F-22 students and instructor pilots, and provides valuable cross-talk to share F-22 and F-16 lessons learned and integrates (them) fully."

Pilots from the 62nd FS, Luke AFB, replicated the latest advanced "red air" threats.

"We are dedicated to do the best we can to try and challenge them (43rd FS) given the constraints we have," said Capt. Bryan Dalton, 62nd FS assistant chief of scheduling.

Back home in Arizona, Luke pilots keep busy getting F-16 basic course students through the "pipeline," so the Falcon pilots are familiar with Air Force



Staff Sgt. Vesta Anderson

Maintainers get ready to launch F-16s participating in the F-22 training syllabus at Tyndall.



Staff Sgt. Vesta Anderson

Staff Sgt. Steven Colwell, 43rd Aircraft Maintenance Unit crew chief, prepares to launch an F-22 Raptor during a training exercise against F-16s deployed from Luke AFB, Ariz.

pilot training.

"We enjoy bringing Luke squadrons to Tyndall to fly with us, because other field training units understand what syllabus training is all about," said Major Pilch. "They work with us to give the students exactly what they need to become air dominance experts."

Also working with Luke pilots are their maintainers who arrived to Tyndall for the experience of deployment, and performing their mission on a runway far from home. They packed up their equipment, loaded a KC-10 Extender and headed to Tyndall where they set up shop in a building recently dedicated to visiting squadrons.

"The most qualified and the unit's best came here," said Lt. Dustin Dedmore, 62nd Aircraft Maintenance Unit assistant officer in charge, who said it took three months to research and choose Airmen for the

deployment.

The 62nd AMU had to be flexible and follow a schedule of two launches per day, each having four aircraft.

It's not the first time the 43rd FS has put another unit's name tags on their life-support lockers, and it won't be the last.

"Many other F-16 squadrons have trained with the 43rd FS from bases all across the country," said Major Pilch. "We have had F-16, F-15 Eagle, F-15E Strike Eagle, F-117A Nighthawk, and other units train with the F-22. The 62nd FS is a group of outstanding fighter pilots," said Major Pilch.

Captain Dalton said that interaction with Raptor pilots, who are former F-15 Eagle or F-16 drivers, during debriefs helped them learn the capabilities of the F-22, and fulfilling their curiosity of what flying a Raptor is like.



Staff Sgt. Samantha Whitfield

Newest members to Tyndall

Airman 1st Classes: Jonah Akaka, Henry Becker, Jason Bova, Steven Cleckner, Steven Cypher, David Dargel, Gary Eaton, J'ilil Jenkins, Kyle Margeson, Christopher Martinez, Justin Miller, Eric Paul, Stephen Powell, David Urich, Juan Vasquez-Perez, Russell Wilcox, Leah Zettler and Airman: Chadwick Gaffney, Travis Lowell and Ariel Nieves graduated from the First Term Airmen Center Friday.



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.

Staff Sgt. Dominique Williams, 2nd Fighter Squadron, correctly guessed the July 23 "Identify This" as a black X-box 360 controller. Congratulations Sergeant Williams.



Airman 1st Class Anthony J. Hyatt

'The Temptations'

A performer sings a song by "The Temptations" during Tops in Blues 2007 at the Marina Civic Center July 28. Col. John Bird, 325th Fighter Wing vice commander, was the host speaker.