

FOX III

944th Fighter Wing, Luke Air Force Base, Ariz.

AIR FORCE RESERVE

May 2008

Preparing for takeoff...



**RESERVE PILOTS SUPPORT
GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR**



The contributions of America's Airmen

By Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne and Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. T. Michael Moseley

Recently, the Secretary of Defense delivered an address at Maxwell AFB to the students of our Air War College and Air Command and Staff College. Initial press coverage of his remarks misrepresented the tone and content of his address. Whereas some press reports characterized Secretary Gates as making a singular critique about one Service's commitment to the Global War on Terror, his remarks were instead focused on the need for innovative thinking from all the Services.

As Secretary Gates himself explained: "I think if you read the text of the speech, you'll see that it's not a dig at the Air Force at all. In fact, a significant part of the speech was full of praise at what the Air Force had done in the Middle East and Iraq and Afghanistan and the whole theater." Secretary Gates challenged his entire Department and the leaders of every Service "to think out of the box" in continuous pursuit of better ways to deliver what is needed for the joint force in harm's way. The Air Force is well suited for that innovative pursuit. Every Airman should take Secretary Gates' comments to heart and strive to find more and better ways for the Air Force to contribute to the War on Terror.

It is important for all Airmen to know Secretary Gates applauded Airmen for their significant contributions to the Long War, just as he has praised America's Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines. It is also important for Airmen to know Air Force contributions are making a difference, and that Airmen continue to do everything possible to support the Secretary of Defense's priorities. He has asked all Services to accelerate trans-



Illustration by Staff Sgt. Corey Parrish

formational initiatives like those in the Quadrennial Defense Review, and the Air Force is doing just that.

In short, Airmen are "all in" to fight today's war on global terrorism. From strategy to tactics, the Air Force has leaned far forward to deliver instruments of national power in a rapidly changing world. Every able-bodied Airman--Regular, Guard, and Reserve--is fully deployable. Indeed, Airmen have filled over 524,000 deployments since the war began. Today, 24,000 Airmen are delivering a full spectrum of air, space, and cyber power to the Joint Force Commanders conducting operations in USCENTCOM, every hour of every day.

Air Force engagement in CENTCOM's AOR is only the tip of the iceberg. About 200,000-plus Airmen are in direct support of Combatant Com-

manders around the clock and around the globe to provide all with critical air, space, and cyber capabilities. Airmen are in the most dangerous places on the planet tonight to protect America. Airmen have been vital to the success of the Joint team in this critical Global War on Terror, while at the same time providing the global strength and deterrence that keep our enemies at bay and our friends assured.

The Air Force was born of an innovative spirit and a willingness to question the status quo. Airmen are applying that spirit daily to address America's challenges. In sum, our Air Force is 'in the fight' to win, and is deterring any aggressor from doing us harm while we succeed in the Global War on Terror.

We are proud of the hard work that you ... America's Airmen ... undertake every day.

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DEADLINES: Noon Saturdays of the UTA

Submission guidelines

Stories should be in Microsoft Word format and should be no longer than 600 words. Photographs should be at least 5x7 in size and 300 dpi. Submit stories via e-mail to 944fw.pa@luke.af.mil

Subscription requests

E-mail all mailing requests or address changes to 944fw.pa@luke.af.mil

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ON THE COVER: Maj. Dag Grantham, 301st Fighter Squadron pilot, inspects munitions during a pre-flight check April 9 at Balad Air Base, Iraq. Major Grantham, along with three other 301st FS pilots, are deployed to Balad flying combat missions. They are scheduled to return in early May. To see more, visit Page 6. Photo by Senior Airman Julianne Showalter

NEWS BRIEFS

NEW AFRC COMMANDER

Maj. Gen. Charles E. Stenner Jr. has been nominated for appointment to the rank of lieutenant general with assignment as chief of Air Force Reserve, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Pentagon, and commander of Air Force Reserve Command, Robins Air Force Base, Ga. The general will replace Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, who will retire in June.

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

Officials with the Air Force Integrated Delivery System and Community Action Information Board are sponsoring the 2008 Community Assessment Survey. This survey is a critical tool for senior leaders in determining the strengths and needs of Air Force communities and informing community action planning. The survey is for active-duty Air Force members, reservists, and spouses of active-duty members. The survey is voluntary and anonymous and will be conducted from April 28 through June 30. The survey will be sent via the work email addresses of selectees.

OPS SEC WARNING

There have been some recent cases in which Americans have been requested to fill out very detailed information when checking into hotels in the Middle East. Do not provide your Common Access Card (CAC) for photocopying. Be suspicious if the hotel is asking for more information than the country's customs and immigration offices normally require. Don't make yourself a target.

944 FW BLOOD DRIVE

The next 944th Fighter Wing blood drive is June 8 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the United Blood Services bus parked behind building 988. All donors during June drives will be entered to win a new 2008 Saturn vehicle of their choice. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call Tech. Sgt. Susan Stout at (623) 856-3490. For eligibility questions, call (800) 288-2199, ext. 5497.

YOU CAN QUIT

Military officials are boosting their efforts to campaign against the use of tobacco. The DOD has developed a site, youcanquit2.org, to provide methods and strategies to quit.

SOUNDBITES



Illustration by Master Sgt. Cody Vance

Top 10 deployment preparation steps

By Dr. (Maj.) Paul Rousseau

944th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

As more and more 944th Fighter Wing members prepare for deployment, I offer the following steps to keep in mind so your time away will be hopefully a little more stress free.

1. Financial

Will your income increase or decrease? If it will decrease, be careful. Plan ahead. Possibly reduce, eliminate, or restructure debt. Use caution in large purchases and build up a little reserve money for the transition.

2. Occupational

Typically, employer involvement or "buy in" and keeping them informed will really help. Discuss with your employer how work will get done in your absence and what will happen when you return.

3. Marital/Romantic

Talk to your partner. Discuss changes, fears, and other issues involved with the deployment. Discuss what is expected of one another regarding communication, finances, friendships, etc.

4. Legal

Get your Will updated. Use extra caution with a Power of Attorney -- it can be dangerous to leave your financial affairs to an irresponsible person.

5. Parenting

Talk to your kids. Use maps and pic-

tures to inform them of where you will be. Discuss communication tools to use in your absence. Encourage them to initiate contact with you. Get their friends involved if possible.

6. Physical

Exercise helps reduce depression, anxiety, and improve sleep. These benefits help with stress of the transition as well as the stress of the mission.

7. Material

Get your stuff ready: uniforms, medications, paperwork, organizational tools, and comfort items.

8. Resources

Make a list of resources for loved ones you leave behind -- a "go-to" list for needs such as medical help, chaplains, supervisors, post office, auto repair, etc. -- can help alleviate stress for both you and your family.

9. Social

Talk to friends and family at work, church, school, etc. It helps them prepare and they typically will encourage and support you.

10. Knowledge

Learn about the location you are going and what your job will be. Talk to folks who have been there, look up the area on the Internet, check out some books, and look for videos about the area, etc.

AF family helps Purple Heart recipient, wife

By Tech. Sgt. Mike Hammond
Air Education and Training
Command Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Matthew Slaydon lay motionless on a dusty road in Iraq, his body riddled with shrapnel after an improvised explosive device exploded about 2 feet from his face. His left arm hung by a couple of tendons and his face was unrecognizable. His friends worked frantically to save him from an early grave.

Sergeant Slaydon, an explosive ordnance disposal technician from the 56th Civil Engineer Squadron, was critically injured Oct. 24, 2007, while serving to protect convoy routes in Iraq. The explosion left him completely blind. His left eye was gone. Doctors amputated his left arm above the elbow. He also suffered a collapsed lung and numerous facial fractures and lacerations in the attack.

A terrorist's bomb may have blown Sergeant Slaydon's body apart that day, but since then, a lot of people have helped him keep his life together.

Sergeant Slaydon was a member of the 944th Fighter Wing's explosive ordnance disposal flight but after returning from a deployment, decided to go back to active duty.

An agonizing trip

Days after the attack, Sergeant Slaydon's wife of more than eight years, Annette, made the difficult flight to meet her badly injured and unconscious husband at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

"It was an agonizing trip," Mrs. Slaydon said. "I had hardly eaten or slept in the three days since I heard of his injuries."

A family liaison officer from Sergeant Slaydon's EOD shop at Luke AFB, Staff Sgt. Ryan Winger, accompanied her on the flight to see her husband for the first time.

"It was very rough emotionally. There was no way I could've handled all the details without Sergeant Winger's help," she said.

When she finally arrived and saw her husband for the first time since he left for the fateful deployment, she couldn't believe her eyes.

"I just kept looking at him and looking at him ... his whole face and head was so swollen ... and really, the only thing I could recognize was the top of his head," she said.

A little help from their friends

Sergeant Slaydon was not regularly conscious for the first three weeks after the attack. He would have no memory of the days ahead, but Annette soon discovered she was far from alone.

A combination of people and resources has been at her service since the moment she found out her husband was wounded. A team of Air Force members, along with financial support from the Air Force Aid Society, has "made it possible for me to spend most of my time with my husband, instead of dealing with bills and other distractions," Mrs. Slaydon said.

In the early hours of Oct. 31, 2007, the Slaydons arrived in San Antonio, where Sergeant Slaydon would continue treatment and begin rehabilitation at Brooke Army Medical Center.

Easing the burden

As the couple faced severe hardships, many more people reached out to them.

For instance, Army policy



Photo illustration by Senior Master Sgt. Eddie Dominguez
Staff Sgt. Matthew Slaydon prior to the attack which robbed him of his sight and one arm -- plus a multitude of facial lacerations and a collapsed lung. Sergeant Slaydon was on a six-month deployment as an explosive ordnance disposal technician when on Oct. 24, 2007, an IED detonated 2 feet from his face.

would be to permanently move an injured soldier to San Antonio during treatment. This would have been a hardship for the Slaydons, if not for the help of Senior Master Sgt. Debra Westmoreland, a member of the AETC command action group. Sergeant Westmoreland met the Slaydons while getting background information for a Purple Heart presentation ceremony. She helped ensure they could keep Luke as their home station. Since then, she's helped them with

numerous other issues and treated them like family, according to Mrs. Slaydon.

The sacrifice required of families such as the Slaydons goes well beyond the physical injuries and emotional difficulties. There is a heavy financial toll as well.

"Back home in Arizona, I'm a paralegal and I bring in a good paycheck," Mrs. Slaydon said. "But being here with my husband, I'm not collecting that check anymore. We also own a house there, so there are mortgage



Tech. Sgt. Matthew Hannen

Annette Slaydon adjusts her husband's uniform prior to renewing their marriage vows April 12 at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. Staff Sgt. Matthew Slaydon was critically wounded by a terrorist bomb in Iraq in October 2007 -- losing his sight, one arm, and suffering multiple facial lacerations and fractures. In addition to Mrs. Slaydon's support to her husband, the Air Force has helped the couple in many ways since Sergeant Slaydon was wounded.

payments to think about.”

That's where the Air Force Aid Society lightened the load.

Steve Mayfield, at the Randolph AFB Airman and Family Readiness Flight, arranged for the AFAS to fund the Slaydons' house payments for a couple of months. Air Force Aid also took care of some unexpected expenses that came up, like termite treatment on the home.

“It was hard to ask for help,” Mrs. Slaydon said. “We're very self-sufficient and good with our money. It can be hard to get over your pride to ‘stoop’ and ask for financial assistance, but Mr. Mayfield explained the aid was a benefit my husband earned through his service -- even before he was wounded. That made me feel better about it.”

Meanwhile, back at Luke, Sergeant Slaydon's co-workers, along with the base and local communities, pitched in as well. They quickly raised more than \$3,000 to help the family, according to Capt. Matthew Hileman, 56th Civil Engineer Squadron EOD Flight commander.

“The support from my home unit at Luke has really allowed me to focus on healing,” Sergeant Slaydon said. “They've come out to visit me, they've been taking care of my house along with friends and neighbors, not to mention helping Annette in the early days after I was injured.”

Finally, at a national level, John Beckett, of the Air Force Survivor Assistance Program, has worked closely with the Slaydons to get them through current issues and help them look toward the future.

The road ahead

Sergeant Slaydon's recovery is still a work in progress. He's learning to cope in total darkness. He has been fitted with a prosthetic for his left arm and is trying to get used to that.

Despite a schedule full of medical and therapy appointments, community reintegration events, and public speaking engagements, he was able to clear some time on his calendar for the one

he loves. He and Annette renewed their marriage vows April 11. That was important to them, because in a future full of uncertainties, they could only be sure of their love for each other.

“A big challenge for me in the near future will be transitioning from active duty to medically retired,” Sergeant Slaydon said. “Not so much the paperwork, but just being ready to leave active duty. I loved being in Iraq on patrols, manning a gun, defeating the enemy's most dangerous weapons. So it'll be a different life ahead.”

Sergeant Slaydon said he's looking to go back to school to obtain a doctorate in clinical psychology. He wants to work for the Veteran's Administration in the field of post-traumatic stress disorder so he can help other people just like his Air Force family helped him.

“The bottom line for me is -- yeah, I could sit around on the couch and collect a check for the rest of my life, but to hell with that,” he said. “I want to do something and still make a difference.”

Deployed Airmen serve on Reserve's 60th anniversary

**By Staff Sgt. Shawn J. Jones
U.S. Air Forces Central Public Affairs**

More than 1,400 Air Force reservists celebrated their command's 60th anniversary April 14 while fighting the war on terrorism throughout U.S. Central Command's 27-nation area of responsibility throughout Iraq, Afghanistan and the Horn of Africa.

"The real success story is you cannot tell the reservist from the active-duty member at first glance, you have to ask them where they are from, then they will tell you they are reservists," said Col. Bill Forshey, the senior air Reserve component adviser for U.S. Air Forces Central.

"They do not want to be treated differently but their difference brings a lot of other skills to the fight," Colonel Forshey said.

The regular Air Force separated from

the Army in September 1947, and the Air Force Reserve was formally established seven months later. Originally, the Air Force Reserve was established for stand-by replacements for active-duty Airmen during wartime mobilization.

Over the course of the past 60 years, the Air Force Reserve has become more integrated with the regular Air Force at home and while deployed. Since Desert Storm, the Air Force Reserve has provided near-seamless integration of Airmen into Air Force operations.

"The Air Force Reserve provides an indispensable contribution to airpower," said Lt. Gen. Gary L. North, the U.S. Air Forces Central commander. "They are professional warfighters who roll up their sleeves and fight side-by-side with our active-duty Airmen."

The use of reservists as forward-de-

ployed warfighters is not just a temporary reaction to the war on terrorism.

"To meet future requirements, we will continue to build and sustain this viable force of an operationally-engaged Reserve -- a force in use every day," said Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, the Air Force Reserve Command commander.

Though reservists' role in the fight has changed over the past 60 years, General Bradley said Reserve Airmen still adhere to their founding principles.

"Today, responding to a variety of threats to our national security and fighting a war on terrorism, we serve with the same courage, commitment and confidence that defined us in our first years," he said. "Now celebrating our 60th anniversary, we are more than ever essential to the Air Force's ability to fly, fight and win."



**Lt. Col. Robert McCutchen, 301st FS
Balad Air Base, Iraq**



**Lt. Col. Mike Torrealday, 301st FS
Balad Air Base, Iraq**



**Maj. Dag Grantham, 301st FS
Balad Air Base, Iraq**



**Lt. Col. Scott Crogg, 944th OG
Balad Air Base, Iraq**



**Lt. Col. Cookie Avvampato, 944th ASTS
Ali Al Salem, Kuwait**



**Master Sgt. Jerry Cates, 944th LRS
Fort Monroe, Va.**



Airman 1st Class CJ Hatch

Participants in the Muscle Mix class at the health and wellness center use stretch bands to strengthen their arms. The fitness center and HAWC have a variety of programs to help with an exercise program.

Get fit: Make exercise habit forming

Exercising regularly can be a difficult habit to maintain, despite all the facts on its merits. Physical activity has been shown to be the single most important factor in successful weight maintenance, and without it, weight loss progress may be slow. Passing the annual Air Force fitness test also requires regular aerobic exercise.

Exercise also helps decrease stress levels and reduces the risk of many health problems such as high blood pressure and high cholesterol. So, why is making exercise a priority so difficult? One of the most commonly cited reasons for lack of physical activity is finding the time due to a busy lifestyle.

Among adults in the United States in 2006, 40 percent were found to be inactive. But surely the military does a better job of keeping fit. It may come as a surprise to learn the rate of inactivity in the military mirrors that of civilians.

There are many strategies to incorporate exercise into the day and make an exercise program stick.

Tips for forming an exercise habit:

- ◆ Find a workout partner, someone at a similar fitness level who shares or has similar goals.

- ◆ Write down a fitness goal and keep it where it will be seen frequently such

as in a day planner, on the computer or desk top.

- ◆ Bribes -- Set a goal for a set amount of time, for example a month. Establish a reward once that goal is reached. If trying to lose weight, the reward should probably not be food related, but otherwise only budget and imagination are the limits.

- ◆ Focus on the benefits of exercise -- how it energizes the body.

- ◆ Avoid becoming discouraged if weight loss or other hoped-for benefits are slow in coming. Stay focused on the long term and remember the reward system in the short term.

- ◆ If it's difficult to make exercise fit into the day, block it out on the calendar, and avoid interferences.

- ◆ Start slowly to avoid injury. An injury will slow progress.

- ◆ Get a doctor's approval before starting an exercise program.

Once exercise is a habit, it's hard to break.

For more information on starting and maintaining an exercise program, call the fitness center personal trainers at (623) 856-6241 to get more information on starting and maintaining an exercise program.

(Courtesy of AF Medical Service.)

SPORTS SHORTS

INTRAMURAL GOLF

Intramural golf begins June 12 and will be played at the Falcon Dunes Golf Course. The tournament begins Aug. 21 and players must compete in one match during the season to play in the tournament. Players must submit a letter of intent by May 5. For more information, call Kevin Bruaw or Trever Tucker at (623) 856-6241.

VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for the 944th Fighter Wing volleyball team. The season begins June 23 and interested participants should contact Kris Vetter by May 30 at (623) 856-5379.

AFA GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Air Force Association Frank Luke Chapter 151 golf tournament is May 9 at the Falcon Dunes Golf Course with a 7:30 a.m. shotgun start. Registration begins at 6:30 a.m. and there is a \$10,000 cash prize for a hole-in-one at a designated par-3 hole. Funds raised benefit scholarships and other Luke programs. The cost is \$40 per active-duty player, \$55 for all others and includes cart, range balls, greens fees and lunch. For more information, call Capt. Rex Weber at (623) 856-4016.

WATER AEROBICS

Water aerobics classes are 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Litchfield Park Pool. The cost is \$2 per class. For more information, call (623) 856-9334 or visit building 247.

YOUTH TRIATHLON TRAINING

Ongoing triathlon training for youth, ages 6 to 18 years old, meets at 4:40 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Litchfield Park Pool. Swimming, biking and running are emphasized and participants must be able to swim 25 meters. The cost is \$25 per month for eight classes or \$3.50 per class. To register, call (623) 856-9334.

SQUADRON WACKY OLYMPICS

All squadrons are invited to participate in Squadron Wacky Olympics May 16 at the Silver Wings Pool and Community Center. Races start at 3 p.m. and events include boat float, bed race, and tricycle race. For more information or to register, call (623) 856-7152.

AWARD WINNERS

The following are an Air Force Reserve Command award winners

Logistics Readiness Squadron of the Year, Non-Flying Unit: 944th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Air Reserve Component Materiel Management Senior NCO of the Year: Senior Master Sgt. Steven Mick, 944th LRS

Air Reserve Component Traffic Management Senior NCO of the Year: Master Sgt. Jerry Cates, 944th LRS

Air Reserve Component Traffic Management NCO of the Year: Tech. Sgt. Michele Weaver, 944th LRS

Air Reserve Component Vehicle Operations Airman of the Year: Senior Airman Christopher White, 944th LRS

The following are 1st quarter award winners:

Senior NCO: Senior Master Sgt. Jan Dourlein, 944th CES

NCO: Tech. Sgt. Terence Sapp, 944th CES

Airman: Senior Airman Zachary Astrup, 944th SFS

Teen summit offers opportunities

By Master Sgt. Chance C. Babin

Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. -- The first-ever Air Force Reserve/Air National Guard Teen Leadership Summit will take place July 14-18 at the Wahsega 4-H Center in Dahlonga, Ga.

The purpose of the summit is to educate teens on programs and assistance available to them. It will also tell them how they can get involved as a community spokesperson for Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard youth, and will give them a chance to identify any needs not currently being addressed.

In addition, the teens will participate in a variety of adventures, such as a rope course, white water rafting and orienteering.

The camp is limited to 100 teens, ages 14-18. All camp and transportation costs, including roundtrip air fare to Atlanta and bus transportation to and from the camp site, will be covered.

An online application site is open until May 16 at the following address: http://georgia4h.org/public/apps/public_campreg.

"Acceptance to the teen summit is not first-come, first-served," said Stacey Young, chief of family member programs at Air Force Reserve Command headquarters, Robins AFB. "The 100 participants will be chosen based on their response to the short essay question on the online application and their references."

Summit organizers are looking for equal representation from Air National

Guard and Air Force Reserve families. The goal of the summit is to choose teen boys and girls from a wide geographic area.

Instructions for registering are as follows:

- ◆ At the Web site, click on "create user name" on the left side of the page. The next page asks for an e-mail address, which will serve as a user name when logging into the system.

- ◆ After creating an account, log on to the system.

- ◆ Click on "AFR/ANG Teen Summit."

- ◆ On the left side of the page, under "Records," click "Insert" to bring up the registration page.

- ◆ Under "Member," type "Youth."

- ◆ In the box labeled "Essay and References," answer the following question in 200 words or less:

"Why should you be chosen as a participant of the youth summit, and what do you hope to take back to your community about families of the Air Force Reserve and Guard?"

- Also provide two references with title, e-mail address and phone number.

Families entering more than one teen do not need to create a second username and password. They can simply "insert" another record.

More information is available by calling Ms. Young at 478.327.0971 or DSN 497-0971, or Brandi Mullins at 478.327.2090 or DSN 497-2090. Their e-mail addresses are stacey.young@afrc.af.mil and brandi.mullins@afrc.af.mil. (Air Force Reserve Command News Service)

UPCOMING UTAs

May 3-4 June 7-8 / July 12-13

Aug. 9-10 / Sept. 13-14 / Oct. 4-5

944th Fighter Wing

Air Force Reserve
14708 W. Super Sabre St.
Luke AFB, AZ 85309-1722

SATURDAY, MAY 3

TIME	EVENT	POC	LOCATION
6:30 to 7 a.m.	Sign-in	Unit orderly room	Unit
7:30 a.m.	Flying Physicals (Long & Short)	Master Sgt. Portillo-Leanos, ext. 7617	Hospital Gold Clinic
8 a.m.	Long Physicals (Non-Aviator)	Master Sgt. Portillo-Leanos, ext. 7617	Hospital Gold Clinic
8 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Newcomer's briefing	Senior Master Sgt. Lane, ext. 5360	Building 999A/MPF Annex
8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.	CBRNE Training (40 personnel)	Master Sgt. Tehan, ext. 3081	Hangar 1022
8 a.m. to Noon	Immunizations	Master Sgt. Portillo-Leanos, ext. 7617	Hospital Gold Clinic
9 to 10 a.m.	Short physicals/follow-up exams	Master Sgt. Portillo-Leanos, ext. 7617	Hospital Gold Clinic
9 to 11 a.m.	Pass & ID open for business (Geneva cards, RABs)	Master Sgt. Hightower, ext. 5335	South Gate Visitor Center
10 to 11 a.m.	Profiles/Fitness assessments	Master Sgt. Portillo-Leanos, ext. 7617	Hospital Gold Clinic
11 a.m. to Noon	Farewell Luncheon - Chief Humbles (SFS)	Master Sgt. Simmons, ext. 7462	Falcon Dunes
Noon to 12:30 p.m.	Retirement - Senior Master Sgt. Mauerhan (SFS)	Master Sgt. Simmons, ext. 7462	Falcon Dunes
Noon to 3 p.m.	CBRNE Training (20 personnel)	Master Sgt. Tehan, ext. 3081	Hangar 1022
1 p.m.	AEF Reporting Tool Updates Due	Capt. Wieser, ext. 8057	Unit
1 p.m.	SORTS Reports due to CP	Lt. Col. Wilkey, ext. 7497	Building 988
1 p.m.	PME/CDC Testing	Master Sgt. Nichols, ext. 5318	Building 988, room 204
1 p.m.	UDM Meeting	Master Sgt. Lindsay, ext. 8057	Building 993, LRS conf. room
3 p.m.	10 AF Bound PEP packages due to MPF	Tech. Sgt. Harvey, ext. 5318	Building 988, MPF
4 p.m.	Sign out	Unit orderly room	Unit
4 to 5 p.m.	Fitness Training	Capt. Swan, ext. 5355	Base track
6 to 9 p.m.	Retirement Dinner - Col. Sounhein (MSG)	Tech. Sgt. Buchanan, ext. 5358	Sun City Grand

SUNDAY, MAY 4

TIME	EVENT	POC	LOCATION
6:30 to 7 a.m.	Sign-in	Unit orderly room	Unit
7:15 to 9:30 a.m.	Physical Fitness testing	Capt. Swan, ext. 8056	TBD
8 to 11 a.m.	Urinalysis	Tech. Sgt. Gonzales, ext. 7617	Building 610
8 to 11 a.m.	CBRNE Training, Part 2 (20 personnel)	Master Sgt. Tehan, ext. 3081	Hangar 1022
9 a.m.	PME/CDC Testing	Master Sgt. Nichols, ext. 5318	Building 988, room 204
10 a.m. to Noon	SABC Training	Maj. Aiello, ext. 7613	Building 993, bay
11 a.m.	Retirement - Col. Sounhein (MSG)	Lt. Col. Boutet, ext. 5305	301 FS auditorium
Noon to 12:30 p.m.	Retirement - Master Sgt. Higginbotham (CES)	Master Sgt. Dalton, ext. 6778	CE Compound (TBD)
12:30 to 1 p.m.	Retirement - Tech. Sgt. Storey (CES)	Master Sgt. Dalton, ext. 6778	CE Compound (TBD)
1 p.m.	PME/CDC Testing	Master Sgt. Nichols, ext. 5318	Building 988, room 204
1 p.m.	3AO Training	Master Sgt. Engler, ext. 2984	Building 978, training room
1 to 1:30 p.m.	Readiness Council Semi-Annual Meeting	Master Sgt. Tehan, ext. 3081	Building 988, FW conf. room
1:30 to 2 p.m.	IDS Meeting	Senior Master Sgt. Lillemon, ext. 7613	Building 988, FW conf. room
2 p.m.	SORTS/ART Meeting	Lt. Col. Wilkey, ext. 7497	Building 988, FW conf. room
2 p.m.	3SO/PERSCO Training	Senior Master Sgt. Lane, ext. 5360	Building 988, wing training
2:15 p.m.	3AO Training	Master Sgt. Engler, ext. 2984	Building 978, training room
4 p.m.	Sign out	Unit orderly room	Unit

* Schedule as of May 1, 2008

CCAF

The Community College of the Air Force, the largest community college in the world and the only one in the Department of Defense, was activated in 1972 to gain academic recognition for technical training conducted by Air Force schools. The college offers 66 degrees in five areas: aircraft and missile maintenance, electronics and telecommunications, allied health, logistics and resources, and public and support services. For more information, visit the CCAF link under the Virtual Education Center on the Air Force Portal.

By-Pass Testing

By-Pass, usually referred to as CLEP testing, affords students the opportunity to obtain transferable college credits without attending a class. By obtaining credits this way, students save time and money. Many by-pass tests are worth more credits than the actual

in-residence class; allowing the student to satisfy elective requirements.

Both CLEP and DANTES have study guides available to help students prepare for the exams. All exams are multiple choice. Some may include an essay or short speech. Sample questions and suggested reading lists for each exam are available on the Air Force Portal.

To download study material from the Portal:

CLEP: Log on to the Portal and go to Featured Links. Click on Air Force Virtual Education Center, and then, Testing Study Guides.

DANTES: Log on to the Portal and go to Featured Links. Click on Examination Programs and then Fact

Sheets and Study Materials. You must then select DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSSTs).

GI Bill for Selected Reserves

There are no changes to the MGIB-SR program at this time to allow members to use the MGIB-SR benefit when they leave the selected reserve. According to HQ AFRC/A1TS, the legal counsel for both Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense are working the issue at this time. For more information on education benefits, call (623) 856-5356.

Who to call?

The 944th Fighter Wing Education and Training Office is located in Building 988, room 204 and can be reached at (623) 856-5318.



The 944th Logistics Readiness Squadron takes on the 944th Aeromedical Staging Squadron for the first place and the coveted Combat Dining In Commander's Trophy (a gold combat boot proudly displayed at the LRS.)



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Jeff Fine

Chief Master Sgt. Pablo Valverde, 944th Fighter Wing command chief, unleashes a water balloon on an unsuspecting Airman at the Combat Dining In.

944th Fighter Wing's

COMBAT DINING IN



Senior Master Sgt. Steven Brook, 944th Logistics Readiness Squadron, fires at an opponent.



Master Sgt. Tim Jasper and Senior Master Sgt. Cheryl Wente, 944th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, discuss tactics for taking out the 944th Logistics Readiness Squadron for defeating them at tug-of-war.