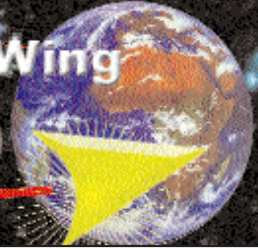


MISSILEER



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First military EELV

Saturday's Delta IV launch carries the first military payload into space aboard an Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle. The rocket is boosting the 6,200 pound Defense Satellite Communications System satellite into orbit providing war fighters with secure communications. The Delta IV, pictured here making its maiden flight in November 2002, launches from Space Launch Complex 37 on Cape Canaveral AFS. The launch window begins at 6:44 p.m. *(Photo courtesy of The Boeing Company)*

45th Operations Group change of command today

By 1st Lt. Eric Badger
45TH SW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Col. Cameron Bowser relinquishes command of the 45th Operations Group to Col. Gregory Billman during a change of command ceremony at the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station lighthouse today at 10 a.m.

Immediately after the ceremony, Col. Bowser becomes the 45th Space Wing's vice commander.

Col. Bowser will be the 45th SW vice commander until he departs the Space Coast for Washington D.C., April 28. He'll serve at the Pentagon in the Directorate of Operational Capability Requirements' as the Task Force Champion for SPACE C4ISR.

The challenges of his new jobs are tasks Col. Bowser accepts with great anticipation.

"No matter what, I give my all to do the best I can in the job I have," he said. "Never in my wildest dreams could I have imagined the opportunities the Air Force has given me. I've been truly blessed to be surrounded by such talent and professionalism throughout my career."

According to Col. Bowser, the men and women of the 45th SW truly embody the spirit of "Outstanding is just the START."

"The outstanding rating on the 2002 Operational Readiness Inspection is a clear indicator that there are no boundaries to the levels of success that this wing can achieve," he said. "The group's level of dedication here is second to none."

Col. Bowser gives credit for his success and future achievements to his faith in God and his family.

"I couldn't have made it this far without God and the support of my

See Ops Group Page 3

Outstanding is just the START!



By Brig. Gen. Greg Pavlovich
45TH SW COMMANDER

Greetings friends! I'm fired up for tomorrow night's Delta IV launch with a Defense Satellite Communications System satellite on board. I know the Delta IV team is putting on the finishing touches and we are ready to go. I'd like to welcome Gen. Lance W. Lord, Air Force Space Command commander, Lt. Gen. Brian Arnold, AF Space and Missile Systems Center commander and Brig. Gen. Thomas Taverney, Mobilization Augmentee to Gen. Lord who are here for the launch. Good luck to the entire team, our warfighters truly appreciate the effort.

The 920th Rescue Group began deploying people again this week. We now have more than 400 Space Coast people deployed overseas. They deployed without a hiccup and all were trained and equipped to the fullest extent possible. That didn't happen by accident; it took hard work performed by everyone involved. I wish I had a crystal ball and could tell you exactly what the future holds. And while I worry for our deployed warriors, I do sleep easier at night knowing that the people at the tip of the spear have great support back home behind them 100 percent. Whatever our leadership asks for next, just give it your all and I know we'll make our country proud.

Speaking of leadership, I was lucky enough to reward a wing star performer under the Stripes for Exceptional Performers program, commonly known as the STEP program. We were able to keep it a secret until Friday at the NCO promotion ceremony when we surprised then Tech. Sgt. Lou Moyer, from the 3rd Space Launch Squadron, with master sergeant stripes.

And when I say exceptional performer, I mean exceptional performer. Lou earned a "Professional Performer" award and his section won a "Professional Team" award from the Inspector General team during last October's Operational Readiness Inspection. He was the wing's 2001 Lt. Gen. Leo Marquez winner as the top maintainer in the wing. Incredibly, he was the first maintainer to achieve dual qualification on both satellite and Titan upper stage procedures.

In his off duty time, he procured and then maintained 20 computers donated for student use at a local elementary school and spent more than 280 hours creating a lab network allowing classroom use of the Internet. A clear-cut stellar performer across the board.

Lou, and to your wife Emily and children Maurice and Crystal, thanks for your continued OUT-

STANDING work for this wing and our nation. And just as important, welcome to the prestigious enlisted top three where I'll know you'll be a treasured member. With this extra rank comes additional responsibility in your job as a maintainer, but also as a leader for our enlisted force. I couldn't think of a person better prepared to meet these challenges especially during this dynamic time in our nation's history.

More awards keep coming our way. The 45th Range Squadron was just informed by headquarters it would be the Space Command nominee for the Air Force Association's David C. Schilling Aerospace Award.

This award recognizes the Air Force unit with the most outstanding contribution to national defense in the field of manned space flight in space. The 45th Range Squadron certainly made tremendous contributions to the secure launch of five space shuttle missions.

One of the main tasks they masterminded was deconflicting temporary flight restrictions, an air control squadron military radar unit, fighter aircraft combat patrols and a sea security surveillance zone with actual shuttle launches. This was no easy task considering central Florida is one of the most heavily flown areas in the country for general aviation aircraft.

My congratulations to Lt. Col. Cindy Grey and the entire range squadron team and I have no doubt you'll soon be bringing home the Air Force level hardware.

Congratulations as well are extended to Capt. Troy Wincapaw of the 45th Operations Support Squadron, who was selected for Air Mobility Command's Phoenix Hawk program. He'll be reassigned for two years to Scott AFB, Ill.; where he'll spend one year in the Tanker Airlift Control Center and the second year in a headquarters staff directorate.

This is a unique opportunity to take on a challenging program and obtain a broader perspective of the air mobility mission. It is AMC's benchmark leadership development program that dovetails with the Air Force's effort to develop air and space leaders. Participation by only our sharpest young officers ensures its success.

Congratulations to Troy and there are other

opportunities for our hard charging young officers coming down the pike.

There is a very important fund raising campaign taking place right now and I'm hoping everyone here will participate. The annual Air Force Assistance Fund campaign runs through Mar. 28 and this year's theme is "Commitment to Caring." The AFAF raises money that is used throughout the year to directly benefit Air Force members through such programs as Air Force Aide. Under this program, airmen in hardship situations can apply and receive emergency loans to get them through rough times.

Our goal is 100 percent contact of everyone so they are given an opportunity to contribute. A secondary goal is to raise \$37,000 from the Space Coast community in order to help our people adequately throughout the year. The wing point of contact for the campaign is Maj. Chris Leavey at 494-2653. He or his team of group and squadron contacts can get you all the information for this worthwhile cause. I know our community is a kind and generous one and I know you'll open your hearts for our people in need again.

The other day I asked the wing safety office to conduct a random seatbelt check at Patrick and Cape Canaveral AFS. And despite our publicity efforts in the past, nine people were caught coming through the gates without seatbelts. That is just an incredibly high number after all the effort spent to get out the word, but none were DoD military or civilian employees.

As promised, each person was issued letters restricting them from driving on our installations for at least 30 days, most even longer. I guess some people just have to learn the hard way, but I'm not compromising this safety issue even if we have 100 people walking from the gate to their offices every day. It is a very simple thing to do and besides, buckling up is the Florida law!

There is another wing safety day scheduled for next Friday. Use caution at the gates. You'll see commanders, first sgts., chiefs, military, civilians, contractors and supervisors out there. Yes, we have done very well in the fact we haven't had a person seriously hurt or killed through an accident. But if we let our guard down one minute, that is where tragedy lurks. I appreciate everyone's work in this area.

On a lighter note, have a great weekend everyone, but be safe and secure. If we take care of each other, we'll all come back next week ready to go. Spring break is approaching quickly so we need to get in the mindset of watching out for our kids as well. Have fun and God bless!



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Maintain workplace professionalism

By Gen. Lance Lord
AFSPC COMMANDER

Recent events have again highlighted the importance of stressing professionalism in the workplace. While the command's position of zero tolerance on harassment and discrimination is clear, it is up to us as leaders to continually re-emphasize that message to our people. We often define "zero tolerance" too narrowly. Zero tolerance goes beyond the actions of the perpetrator to include those that knowingly allow such activities to occur ... or that know about such activities and say nothing.

Creating a healthy work environment is everyone's responsibility. Let's make sure this is a priority.

I've said many times before that one of the most important duties of a leader is to create an environment that allows people to excel. A healthy work environment is essential to our mission success. We are all Air Force professionals, and professionals treat each other with respect.



Gen. Lance W. Lord

We must all work together to create a climate of trust and mutual respect so that together we can achieve maximum results. Please make sure this message is disseminated throughout your organization.

Ops Group continued from page 1



Col. Bowser

wife and kids," he said. "I am a firm believer that God puts you where you need to be. Being selected to be the 45th SW vice commander is both an honor and a humbling experience."

Col. Billman, as the 45th Operations Group commander, will oversee the military space launch operations and support to commercial, NASA, and ballistic missile launches from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station and Kennedy Space Center.

He is a 1983 graduate of Arizona State University and entered the Air Force through the Reserve Officer Training Program.

Before arriving to the Space Coast, Col. Billman served as a Joint Staff operations officer, J-3, Deputy Director for

Information Operations, Pentagon, Washington D.C., from June 2000 to February 2003.

In previous assignments, he has been a space and missile operator, space squadron commander, fighter navigator/weapon systems officer and fighter weapons and tactics instructor.

Col. Billman is also a master space operator, basic missileer, and a senior navigator with over 3,700 hours of flying time, including 40 combat hours. His decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal and the Air Medal.



Col. Billman

Lent promotes spiritual fitness

By Maj. Thomas Unrath
45TH SW CHAPEL

We've been through a difficult time since Sept. 11, 2001. We have had our routines upended; have had a lot of our wing deployed and we're looking at the possibility of deploying more.

Therefore, preparedness, or readiness, is very important to us; in the Air Force, it is a must. The consequences of being unprepared can be catastrophic. Part of being prepared involves fitness.

In our quest to be physically and mentally fit we sometimes overlook the concept of "spiritual fitness." Complete fitness, wholeness or wellness is a package deal that must include spiritual fitness.

We will soon begin a season that each year for the last 1900 years has had the goal to improve spiritual fitness. The name of this 40-day period is Lent.

Lent began on Wednesday, also known as Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday is 40 days before Easter (actually 46 days on the calendar; but Sundays, which always celebrate Jesus' resurrection, aren't counted). Since the date of Easter changes each year, so does the date of Ash Wednesday. The 40 days of Lent focus our attention on God's love for us, and more specifically, as a season of repentance, on our need for God's forgiving love.

Historically, Lent has been a time of preparation and instruction leading to baptism. In the early church, baptisms were only held once a year—on Easter. The Catholic Church still follows this tradition of preparation during Lent and baptizing on Easter when welcoming adults into the faith community. However in modern times, when many communities celebrate baptisms year around, Lent serves as a reminder of what God has done for us and as a preparation of all the faithful for the highlight of the church year — the celebration of Easter.

To help our community improve our spiritual fitness, the chapel family is offering several opportunities for us to prepare.

Protestants have weekly services on Wednesdays from March 12 to April 9. Those interested can meet in the South Patrick Chapel at 5:30 p.m. for a soup and bread supper and devotions. The devotions will center on the theme "Silent Witnesses." Each week will focus on one of the prominent objects of Christ's crucifixion, such as the crown of thorns, the spear and the nails.

Catholics have weekday Mass daily at 11:30 a.m. in the Seaside Chapel during the whole season of Lent and will also have a Meager Meal and Lenten Devotions, Tuesdays from March 11 to April 15 at the South Patrick Chapel.

Other ways to improve your spiritual fitness include regular worship attendance, group and personal Bible study, personal and family devotions and, of course, frequent prayer.

Watch for future announcements of Holy Week and Easter services beginning with Palm Sunday, April 13.

Space operator STEP'ed to master

By Staff Sgt. Joel Langton
45TH SW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A 45th Space Wing space maintainer was launched into the heavens Friday afternoon, when he was told he was receiving a Stripe for Exceptional Performers.

"I couldn't believe it," said former Tech. Sgt. Herman "Lou" Moyer, 3rd Space Launch Squadron. "I was so excited I was shaking."

Master Sgt. Moyer had been asked by Senior Master Sgt. Leo Cappelli, 3rd Space Launch Squadron superintendent to read the NCO creed at the NCO promotion ceremony at the NCO Club.

"They asked me to come in off leave and read the creed, and if Sgt. Cappelli asks you to do something, you're happy to do it," Master Sgt. Moyer said.

It was a nice break for Master Sgt. Moyer, since he'd been intensively studying for his master sergeant promotion test scheduled for Monday.

"I'd been getting up at 6 a.m. and studying all day," Master Sgt. Moyer said. He'd taken 30 days of leave to ensure he was ready.

He wasn't sure if his time was being used wisely, when the general and command chief were arguing about what to do with the extra stripe that turned up during the ceremony.

The stripes were all passed out during the ceremony, but at the end, there was one set of



New Master Sgt. Herman "Lou" Moyer gets his stripes tagged onto him by Brig. Gen. Greg Pavlovich, 45th Space Wing commander and Chief Master Sgt. Tony Manson, 45th Space Wing command chief. (Photo by Jim Laviska)

master sergeant stripes left over.

Perplexed, Brig. Gen. Greg Pavlovich, 45th Space Wing commander, looked at Chief Master Sgt. Tony Manson, 45th Space Wing command chief, and asked if someone had been left out.

"I like the ceremonies to be synchronized and I need to find a master sergeant to promote," Gen. Pavlovich said. "We haven't promoted one today."

Then, he started reading off traits he was looking for. He said he was looking for the first guy who was trained on upper and lower stage rockets at the Cape.

"Then he read about building a computer lab at a local elementary school and I knew it was me," Master Sgt. Moyer said.

"I was scared to stand up if I was wrong, but that really sounded like me," Master Sgt. Moyer said. "So I stood up and said, 'Hey sir, that's me.'"

The general advised him, "to get on up there then!"

Master Sgt. Moyer was totally duped by everyone to get him and his wife there. His commander had contacted her and had her at the ceremony as well.

"When I got up there, I saw my wife coming up, and that's when reality sunk in."

Reality is that his supervisors see him as one of the hardest working members of the wing.

He snagged a top performer award during the recent Operational Readiness Inspection. He's the first maintainer to achieve dual qualification on satellite and Titan upper stage procedures.

Wing officials said it was a tough call. "The competition was very keen and it was one of the toughest calls I've had to make as a command chief," said Chief Master Sgt. Manson. "The thing that set him apart was the sustained exceptional performance."

Wing safety event March 14

By Bill James

45TH SPACE WING SAFETY OFFICE

Twenty-five DUI citations.
Five hundred traffic citations.
Numerous fender benders.

OK, do I have your attention? These are just some of the many statistics the 45th Space Wing Safety Office tracked for calendar year 2002. They are alarming statistics when thinking of the impact each incident has on Air Force personnel. From Security Forces responders to medical technicians reporting to the scene, every accident costs money, costs valuable time, but most importantly, can cost lives.

Of those 500 traffic citations issued, speeding has been the number one culprit. Of the 25 DUI citations, one of the significant findings is the number of DUI offenders who have tried to enter South Patrick's main gate. Twenty-five DUI citations have been distributed at this location and 22 were local civilians who came down South Patrick Drive and failed to exit onto the entrance ramp to Pineda Causeway.

What does this mean? Patrick and Cape personnel – men, women and children – have a high exposure to drunk drivers on this road and serious caution is a necessity.

The 45th Space Wing is conducting a wing-wide Safety Day March 14, but the event is not typical of previous campaigns that consisted of commander's calls, keynote speakers or reading technical manuals.

This year's theme is, "Safety is not Luck." Safety is an inherent responsibility of each individual to make the right choice. The day will kick off early at 6:45 a.m. and continue throughout the day with senior

leadership greeting personnel as they enter the gates of Patrick, Cape Canaveral and Base Housing and presenting them with static decals with reminders of proper driving habits. Drivers will be encouraged to place the decal on their windshield, representing their commitment to remain focused on executing and improving safe driving habits.

Displaying the decal will reap benefits — not just from a safety perspective. The 45th Services Squadron and AAFES are the sponsor of this incentive program to encourage drivers to display the decal in an area on the windshield that will not inhibit vision. The decal is merely a visual cue to have as a reminder to drive safely.

This event will run for a month and each week. Wing Safety will conduct random surveys at Patrick and the Cape gates and parking lots. Winners will be presented gift certificates.

The day will focus on increasing each driver's awareness of poor driving habits to reduce the risks of serious injury and/or fatality. Advocating the 45th Space Wing Performance Plan will be the primary instrument for implementing this essential and critical event. The wing has synchronized each required action to ensure the plan is tenaciously executed.

Visual informational signs will be displayed in critical areas throughout the installation where most violations have occurred. The goal is to provide everyone with constant reminders to think about how they drive and to make a conscience effort to improve upon their driving habits.

For more information on Safety Day, call the Wing Safety Office at 494-2202.

Military Retiree Day set

By Capt. Susan A. Romano

45TH SPACE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The nation's largest Military Retiree Day, an event dedicated to providing exhaustive information to retirees of every military branch, is set for March 29 in Hangar 750.

The event will begin at 9 a.m. and will continue until 1 p.m., and no advanced reservations are required for those interested in attending.

Approximately 40 tables will be set up in the hangar, providing information on such subjects as finance, legal assistance, health and medical issues, social security,

veterans benefits, and more.

The Military Personnel Flight will be open for updating ID cards and DEERS information.

U.S. Coast Guard Capt. Bud Schneeweis, retired, will speak on current retiree benefits and rights affected by recent legislative initiatives.

The event brings more than 5,000 people from an area that services up to 48,000 regional retirees and their family members from the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard.

For more information, call the Retiree Activities Office at 494-5463.

Children learn fine art of tooth care

By Eileen Clemmons, RDH
45TH AEROMEDICAL-DENTAL SQUADRON

National Children's Dental Health Month is a program dedicated to promoting healthy smiles in children. The American Dental Association has sponsored this program every February since 1981. This year's theme was, "Don't Let Your Smile Become Extinct."

The Patrick Dental Clinic once again participated in this program by visiting the CDC, Youth Center and local schools in the community. Staff Sgt. Deanna Blake, NCOIC of Preventive Dentistry committed many hours to teaching children the positive effects of a beautiful smile. About 500 children learned from dental personnel to learn that good dental care can last a lifetime.

According to a 1997 study, almost 4.2 million children in the United States were unable to obtain dental care, 90 percent of the children in Head Start programs had untreated dental disease. Neglecting baby teeth may result in the loss of a healthy smile. Preserving baby teeth allows for the natural eruption and alignment of the permanent teeth.

Parents can help instill good dental habits by reducing sugar intake by limiting fruit juices. Fruit juice is not a substitute for natural fruit and it has fewer nutrients. Water and carbohydrates are the main ingredients that make up fruit juice.

The carbohydrates (sugars) combined with bacterial plaque in patients mouths produce the acids that destroy tooth structure. It takes 30 minutes for saliva to neutralize the acid, so sipping juice throughout the day can result in



Staff Sgt. Greg Hernandez, a dental technician at the dental clinic, and a puppet, show Kimmie Lee and Kaitlyn Hicks how to take care of their teeth. (Photo by Jim Laviska)

destructive tooth decay. Water is a better alternative to juice.

Remember how beautiful your child's teeth are as they first erupt. Be a good mentor and help your child's development. Make brushing part of their daily routine. Active duty members have the opportunity to sign up for the Tricare Dental Program to offset the cost of dependent dental care. A significant portion, 60 percent of

the monthly premiums are paid by the government.

For those who haven't taken advantage of this benefit, take that first step to ensure a child's bright smile is around for years to come. Registration starts by calling United Concordia at 1-800-866-8499 or online conus@ucci.com. For more informatino, call the Patrick Dental clinic at 494-6366.



Freedom fighter

Tech. Sgt. Mitch and his wife Beth talk to news media representatives while their young son, Mitchell, waves the U.S. flag. Tech. Sgt. Mitch, a pararescue specialist, was among approximately 20 members of the 920th Rescue Group deployed to Southwest Asia from Patrick AFB Feb. 27. More than 350 members of the 920th RQG have been mobilized in support of the war on terror and to participate in Operation Southern Watch. *(Photo by Jim Laviska)*

“Pitching” in to get the whole job done

By 2nd Lt. Elizabeth Kreft
45TH SW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

(Editor's note: Last name withheld by member's choice)

Next time you see some local firefighters, ask how many tents they have pitched lately. Or, ask how many mail trucks they have emptied of late or how many runways they have helped erect. More than likely, you'll get a few strange looks. The fact is, these aren't things firefighters typically do.

They are, however, part of the life of a deployed Air Force firefighter. When Staff Sgt. Brad and the rest of the 321st Air Expeditionary Wing firefighters are asked to aid with the various tasks that affect the whole base - they always meet the challenge.

“We help out with all sorts of projects - building tents, unloading stock for dining, unloading mail trucks - anything that needs to get done, said Staff Sgt. Brad. “The thought of working 24 hours on, 24 hours off and still taking the time to help with these tedious tasks might scare away some, but Staff Sgt. Brad insists, “It's just the right thing to do.”

Recently, the deployed firefighters took part in a large effort to move the temporary aircraft surface that is essential to the base's mission. “The matting project was a base-wide effort and the fire department was asked to participate

(since we have plenty of strong backs to get it done) and of course we said ‘No problem!’

“Each piece of matting is two inches thick, two feet wide, and six feet long. It is made of steel - each piece weighs 140 pounds and each is placed down one at a time, interlocking together,” said Staff Sgt. Brad. Approximately 70 airmen worked for two days straight getting this project done. Then, it was back to their regular jobs.

“Our crew provides fire protection for the base. We stage joint exercises, train with live fire pits,” he said. “There is respect from all ends. The locals are happy with us and, we get the job done on base.”

With all of this activity on a day-to-day basis, one has to wonder where these deployed members find the time to develop or nurture themselves. “We find the time to do some school work. Right now I'm studying history and nat-



Staff Sgt. Brad

ural science,” he said.

When asked about how his family life has changed since being deployed, Staff Sgt. Brad was very positive. “My family was prepared. Of course, it is hard to be away from them, but e-mail helps so much,” he said.

Staff Sgt. Brad was assigned to Korea in 1995 to 96. He says the change in communication capabilities is significant. “It makes things much better when I can be in touch with my wife and daughter nearly every day.

“It's tough at times to watch (the news), but I'm glad to be here and I am supporting the country and the President without any reservations,” Staff Sgt. Brad said.

So, in between fighting fires, running joint exercises, pitching tents, unloading mail and food supplies, building runways, taking classes, writing to the family, sleeping and eating, is there still time to watch the news and keep up with current events?

“Yeah, it's busy,” said Staff Sgt. Brad, who wouldn't have it any other way. “That's the thing about being here. It's one team, one fight,” he said. “All of these extra duties are on a volunteer basis, and there is always something going on, but anyone that needs help always gets it.”

“We all need the love and support from home, but I love my job, so things are ok. I have to admit, I can't wait to get home, see my wife and daughter, and go fishing.”

BULLETINS

Anger management class

Family Advocacy Program presents “Anger Management: Controlling the Behavior That No One Likes.” Different sessions will be held every Wednesday this month 9:30 - 11 a.m. in bldg. 1370 Family Advocacy Classroom, (directly behind the 45th Medical Group Clinic). For information and registration (limited to 12), call Family Advocacy at 494-8171.

Legal office restrictions

Due to current mission requirements and deployments manning constraints, effective March 24, the Legal Office will temporarily restrict non-deployment legal assistance to active duty members and their family members. If you would normally be eligible to receive legal assistance and have an emergency situation, you may contact the Legal Office at 494-7357, to request special consideration.

Boating safety

Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 46 is offering a one-day boating safety program from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., March 15 at Lee Wenner Park in Cocoa. The cost is \$35 per person and includes materials and lunch. It covers state and federal boating regulations, Navigation Aids and much

more. The course is National Association of Safe Boating Law Administration approved. Call 453-7409 or email ghill5@cfl.rr.com for more information.

Classes offered

The Family Support Center is offering the following classes: Personal Financial Management Program for first term airmen, Tuesday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Employment Orientation, Tuesday 9:30 a.m. - noon; Sponsorship Training, Bldg. 537, room 118, Wednesday 9 - 11 a.m.; Federal Applications, Wednesday 9:30 - 11 a.m.; Children of Divorce, Wednesday 1 - 4 p.m.; Marketing Yourself, Wednesday 9 a.m. - noon; Pre-separation Briefing, Thursday 9:30 - 11:30 p.m.; Dress to Impress Fashion Show, Friday 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Call 494-5675 to reserve your seat.

Interviewees needed

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations will conduct an accreditation survey of the 45th Medical Group March 17, to evaluate the organization's compliance with nationally established Joint Commission standards. Anyone believing they have pertinent and valid information about

quality of care issues and the safety of the environment in which care is provided may request a public information interview with the Joint Commission's field representative at the time of the survey. Requests for a public information interview must be made in writing to the Joint Commission no later than five working days before the survey begins and must indicate the nature of the information to be provided at the interview. Such requests should be addressed to: Office of Quality Monitoring, Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, One Renaissance Boulevard, Oakbrook Terrace, Ill. 60181. The interviewee will be notified of the date, time and place of meeting.

Waste recycling

There will be household hazardous waste and electronic collection event March 29 at Lowes Home Improvement, 2150 Minton Road and April 5 at Lowes Home Improvement, 3790 S. Fiske Blvd., 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. From motor oil to old computer monitors, bring them out to be properly disposed for free. Call 635-7954 or visit www.brevardcounty.us/swr for more information.



Food for the soul

The 45th Space Wing honored African-American History Month with the Heritage Luncheon Feb. 28 at the Officers' Club. The luncheon showcased traditional African-American soul food. The menu included barbecue chicken, black-eyed peas, collard greens, corn bread and peach cobbler. The closing hymn, "Lift Every Voice and Sing," was rendered by Lt. Col. Andre Lovett, 45th Operations Group deputy commander. The keynote speaker for the event was Ms. Alberta Wilson, left, Central Brevard NAACP Branch President and 22-year veteran of The Boeing Company. (Photo by 1st Lt. Eric Badger)

Guardian Challenge 2003 team preps for victory

By Maj. Jeffery Ramsey
45TH OPERATIONS SUPPORT SQUADRON

The 45th Space Wing Guardian Challenge Team is gearing up for the Air Force Space Command annual competition at Vandenberg AFB, Calif., in May. The team's goal is to win the coveted Schriever Trophy signifying the highest competency in spacelift abilities.

Intensive training began this week for the eight elite operations and maintenance team members selected in December. For the next 60 days, the team will encounter training scenarios that are far more challenging than actual events team members encounter during their usual jobs.

The entire team is empowered by the tenets of START, which are incorporated within the Guardian Challenge program. The training program will meld this group of individuals into three cohesive and synchronized championship teams.

Senior Master Sgt. Leo Cappelli leads training for those competing on the Maintenance Team, which includes electrical, mechanical and facilities career fields. This team ensures that booster electrical and mechanical preparation is complete prior to launch and that launch and support facilities are maintained to the highest Air Force standard.

1st Lt. Matt Thomas leads the training effort for the Operations

Team competitors and has created 15 different training scenarios that simulate possible events that might arise during real launches. Team members ensure safe launch count-down processing, controlling eastern range assets and finally operating destruct systems if necessary to save lives. Training scenarios might include mock situations such as bomb threats or instrumentation malfunctions during a launch.

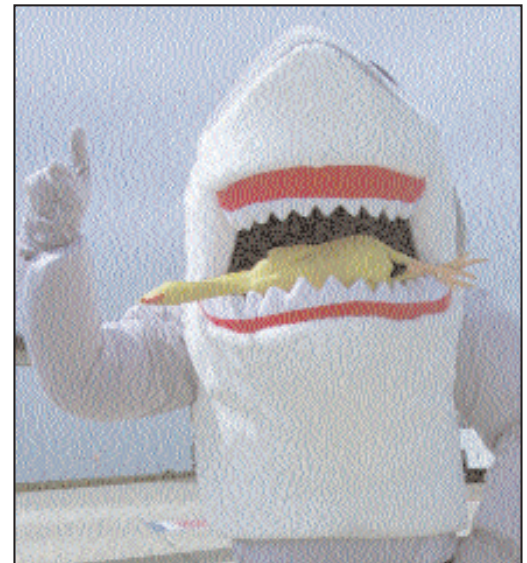
Team members must be prepared for anything and respond quickly and precisely. The Guardian Challenge competition evaluators will deduct points for errors made during simulations.

The Security Forces Team, which will select five Guardian Challenge team members next month, will undergo intense training for events that include firing range, obstacle course and tactical scenario. The team is getting training direction from 2nd Lt. Brian Copper. A huge hurdle for the team is having the challenge of members spread out around the globe.

Guardian Challenge is an important forum that allows diverse wings within Air Force Space Command to challenge each other to higher levels of excellence and to share and disseminate best practices information among the wings. By honing skills in these competitions, the teams produce a more effective launch team and can bring back mentoring

knowledge to enhance future mission success. Especially with the focus on America's war on terrorism, tensions abroad the war fighters are exceedingly reliant on the 45th SW to put assets into space. The satellites placed in space are essential for winning the war, and the entire 45th SW is synchronized to that mission.

"While the implications of the Guardian Challenge competition are serious, we think it can also be fun," said Lt. Col. Austin Jameson, Guardian Challenge project officer. "Since the team represents the entire wing and the team depends on inspiration and encouragement from the entire community, we are inviting the entire wing to an exciting kick-off party. Mark cal-



Snark, the 45th Space Wing mascot, holds the infamous rubber chicken, a mockery of the 30th Space Wing's mascot, Hawk, between his teeth at the 2002 Guardian Challenge event at Vandenberg AFB, Calif. Like the rest of the 45th SW team, Snark is training for another outstanding GC performance. (Air Force courtesy photo)

endars for a celebration at the Officers' Club immediately following the mandatory officer/enlisted call March 21. Look for future news featuring Guardian Challenge team members.

AFTAC dominates 2002 Communications and Information awards

By Tech. Sgt. Bill Lindner
AFTAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Logistics and Systems Directorate (LS) of the Air Force Technical Applications Center dominated the 2002 Air Intelligence Agency Communications and Information awards for administratively supported units, winning nine out of 11 individual awards and the Gen. Edwin C. Rawlings Award for top C&I Plans and Architecture team.

In looking for a way to evaluate AFTAC's performance, Lt. Col. Anthony C. Pradia, Communications and Information Support

Division Chief for LS, quoted University of Louisville basketball coach Rick Pitino, who once said, "Luck is when preparation meets opportunity."

"We have outstanding people. They were prepared and seized the opportunity," said Lt. Col. Pradia. "It was a consistently superior performance by well-resourced troops."

A strong commitment to customer service was the basis for AFTAC's results.

This customer focus was echoed by Capt. Marc Moreland, chief of System Operations for LS, the C&I award winner for outstand-

ing company grade officer.

"We are constantly trying to figure out how to make our systems faster and more secure," said Capt. Moreland.

Another reason for AFTAC's success was a drastic change in the way new information technology system needs are determined. "Three years ago, each directorate came up with its own system requirements," said Lt. Col. Pradia. "Now, because we've provided them with superior support, they let us determine their IT requirements. It was a complete culture shift in the way we process require-

ments."

This change enabled LS to standardize IT systems throughout AFTAC, which improved customer service even more. "We used a deliberate strategy to consolidate, or lock down, our resources," he said. "This eliminated confusion, waste and duplication."

"In the past, network administrators in each directorate worked on their own IT systems," said Capt. Moreland. "When they made adjustments and changes to their systems, it was difficult for us to figure out what had been changed. Now we have each port identified,

which helps us to troubleshoot. We know which computer is connected to which port, and this enables us to identify problems faster than before and provide better customer service."

Along with consolidation, LS took steps during the past year to improve the performance of IT systems in AFTAC. "We installed new switches and links between each network port which increased the connection speed for our customers," said Capt. Moreland. "The speed increase is like comparing an old Ford Escort to a Jaguar."



Wednesday big day on links, hard courts

By Staff Sgt. Joel Langton
45TH SW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Lunch hour was busy Wednesday. There was a number one seed at stake on the basketball courts and a berth in the intramural golf championship being decided at the same time.

The 45th Medical Group beat the Navy's Operational Test Support Unit #2 8.5-4.5 for the right to play the 45th Contracting Squadron in a best two-out-of-three intramural golf championship.

In Over-30 basketball, 45th Services and 45th Mission Support's combined team downed Air Force Technical Application Center's five to go into next week's double-elimination playoff as top seed.

The 45th SVS/MSS and AFTAC will both get byes while 45th Security Forces Squadron, 45th Civil Engineer Squadron, 920th Rescue Group and 45th Medical Group round out the field.

It's a seven-team field in regular intramural basketball action, where 45th Medical Group took the regular season title.

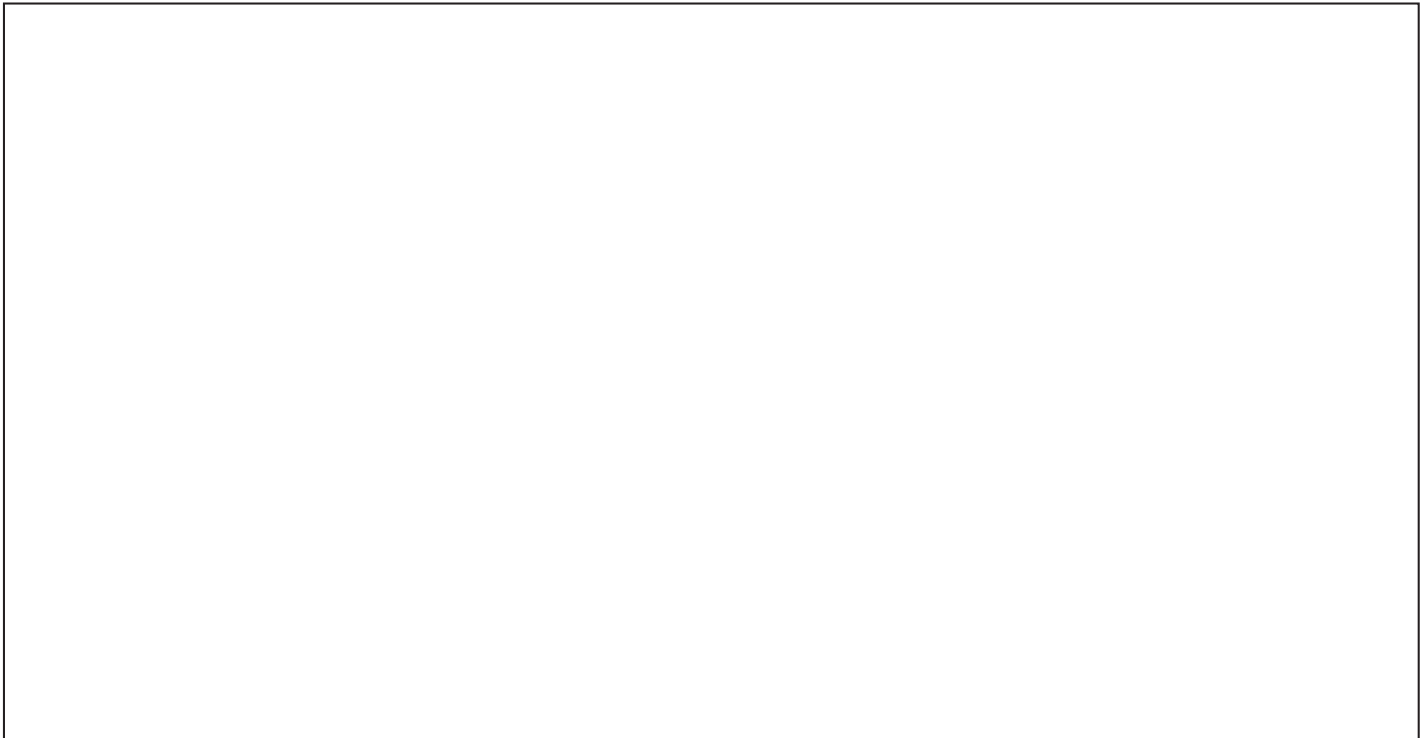
The rest of the playoff field battling for a spot in Friday's championship are 45th CES, 45th Weather Squadron, 45th SFS, Navy, 45th Range Squadron and Defense Finance and Accounting Service.



Navy's Operational Test and Support Unit's Dan Caron takes some practice putts on the putting green before Wednesday's match. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Joel Langton)



The 45th Services and Mission Support Squadron's Dallas McCarter tries to smack the ball out of AFTAC's Gary Pollard's hand during Wednesday's game. (Photo by Jim Laviska)



PADI SCUBA classes

A comprehensive year-round Professional Association of Diving Instructor Scuba Program begins March 17 at Outdoor Recreation. Students can complete their PADI certification in time to participate in ODR's April 18 through 21 dive trip to Key West. Various classes will be held throughout the year that will allow customers to complete certification in open water through dive master. Several specialty classes - rescue dive, night diver, search and recovery, underwater hunter, cavern diver, and wreck diver will be offered during the year.

Outdoor Recreation will offer two PADI open water certification classes beginning in March. Class fees are \$235, which includes 28 hours of instruction, two spring dives, two open-water dives, pool time and the deluxe PADI student kit. In addition, students get free SCUBA rentals during the class, which includes their buoyancy control device, regulator, weight belt/weights, tanks, wet suit, and free air fills for the duration of the class. Special considerations will be made for active duty personnel, due to real world contingencies. Register at Outdoor Recreation or call 494-2042 for details. Class size is limited, so sign up today.

Library close for inventory

The Patrick Base Library will be closed for inventory March 11 through 13 to conduct inventory. The Library apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause patrons. Call the library at 494-6881 for more information.

Services accepts bids for trailers

Outdoor Recreation has four 13-ft Patriot standard Casita trailers up for sealed bids. All bids start at \$1,200. These are "as is" sales. No express or implied warranties are made regarding vehicles conditions. All vehicles for bid can be seen at Patrick AFB, Outdoor Recreation, Bldg. 345, located at the west end of Atlas Ave. For specific directions or escorts, please contact Mr. Ron Charbonneau at 494-7204.

All bids are to be mailed to 45 SVS/SVFL, Attn: VCO; Bldg 425, Room 2-690; 1225 Jupiter Street; Patrick AFB, Fla. 32925. {Air Force Regulation dictates only bids received

through regular mail will be considered.) Include your name, complete address and phone number on all bids. Closing date is March 24.

The 45th Services Squadron reserves the right to non-award when bids are complete. Payments may be made with money order, credit card or cash. Personal check cannot be accepted.

Come and get it!

A base-wide Chili Cook-off and Yard Sale takes place from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. March 22 at Outdoor Recreation. Cooks compete as judges sample and determine the best chili recipe. Gather team members or go it alone and enter the Chili Cook-off.

The first 15 teams to register will compete for a trophy and prizes in several categories. The yard sale is a great opportunity to sell used items. Tables are available for \$3 each.

Enjoy free boat rides and food and drinks will be for sale. Register by March 14 to enter your recipe. Free samples of chili will be available after the judging.

Call Terry at 494-9692 for more information.

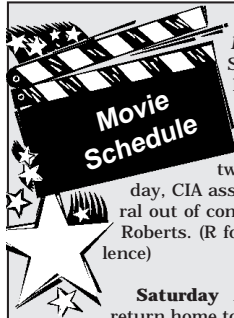
Club host St. Patrick's Day events

A St. Patrick's Day celebration is from 6 to 10 p.m. March 13 at the Officers' Club. This year's entertainment is direct from Ireland and Scotland. Red Hurley referred to as the "Singer's Singer;" Paddy Noonan, an accomplished accordionist and Eddie Devine, Scotland's favorite witty comedian. Showtime is 7:30 p.m.

An all-you-care-to-eat dinner buffet featuring piping hot steamship corned beef and cabbage with a variety of side dishes is from 5:30 to 7:15 p.m. Cost for this evening is \$17.95 per person (gratuity not included).

Show your Air Force club card for your \$2 "Members First" discount. Call 494-4011 Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for reservations or information.

Last day for cancellations is March 11. There will be assigned seating for this event.



Friday *Confessions of a Dangerous Mind* Chuck Barris, Gong Show host and creator of the Newlywed Game and The Dating Game was recruited by the CIA and trained to become a covert operative. As he basks in the glamour of two worlds, television producer by day, CIA assassin by night, his life begins to spiral out of control. Stars Sam Rockwell and Julia Roberts. (R for language, sexual content and violence)

Saturday *Darkness Falls* Kyle Walsh must return home to confront his troubled past and save his childhood sweetheart Caitlin and her younger brother Michael from an unrelenting evil that has plagued the town of Darkness Falls for over one hundred and fifty years. Stars Chaney Kley, Emma Caulfield. (PG-13 for terror and horror images and brief language)

Sunday *NARCA* A narcotics cop, who happens to be a recovering drug addict, is assigned to help uncover the truth behind the murder of a young officer. He teams up with the dead officer's partner and the cover-up they unravel could destroy them both. Stars Jason Patric and Ray Liotta. (R for strong brutal violence, drug content and pervasive language)

Thursday *Darkness Falls* See Saturday's synopsis

All show times are 7:30 unless otherwise indicated. Admission is \$2.50 for adults age 12 and older and \$1.50 for children 11 and younger.

Action Line: 494-6550

The Action Line is your direct link to me and provides a valuable source of information on ways we can work together to make Patrick Air Force Base and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station better places to work and live.

The best way to get something fixed is to identify the problem to supervisors and first sergeants. If you can't get your problem resolved through the agencies, contact the Action Line: e-mail, action@patrick.af.mil or click global at Action Line - Patrick AFB; recorded message, 494-6550; mail, 45SW/PA 1201 Edward H. White II St, Ste C-130, Patrick AFB FL 32925-3237; fax, 494-7302. Address all correspondence "Attn: Action Line."

When directing an issue to the Action Line, callers must indicate to whom they've previously addressed the issue.



Brig. Gen. Greg Pavlovich
45th SW
commander

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| 45th Mission Support Group Col. Steve Werner 494-6607 | Commissary officer Donald Pruitt 494-4060 AAFEES | Financial Services 1st Lt. Raymond Kipp Bradley 494-7171 |
| 45th Civil Engineer Squadron Lt. Col. Chris Hazen 494-4041 | Mike Lovejoy 494-6455 | 45th Medical Group Col. Charles Mackett III 494-8100 |
| Base Housing Caroline Jamba 494-2593 | Civilian Personnel Robert Daniel 494-5238 | Ground Safety Paul Compton 494-2202 |
| 45th Services Squadron Lt. Col. John Sproul 494-8081 | Military Equal Opportunity Capt. Marlon Johnson 494-6334 | Inspector General Lt. Col. Ralph Gracia 494-2287 |
| Military Personnel Maj. Dianne Dziabo 494-2035 | 45th Security Forces Squadron Lt. Col. David Woods 494-6202 | |

Catholic

Daily Mass 11:30 a.m. in the Seaside Chapel.

Saturday: 4 p.m. confession. 5 p.m. Mass in the South Patrick Chapel.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Mass in the South Patrick Chapel. 11:30 a.m. Mass in the Seaside Chapel

Lent

Mass 9:30 a.m. today, April 4

Meager Meal and Lenten Devotions

Tuesdays -5:30 p.m. Tuesday, 18 and 25, April 1, 8, 15 at the South Patrick Chapel.

Protestant

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. traditional worship in the Seaside Chapel. 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School in Seaside Chapel. Grades K-12 at South Patrick Chapel. 11 a.m. Inspirational Service in the South Patrick Chapel.

Riverside Dining Facility Menu

Saturday brunch - Cajun meat loaf, #crispy baked chicken, rib eye steak

Saturday supper - #Fish amandine, pork chops with mushroom gravy, stir-fry chicken with broccoli

Sunday brunch - Chicken parmesan, sauerbraten, tuna and noodles

Sunday supper - Fried shrimp, #ginger barbecue chicken, #spinach lasagna

Monday lunch - #Baked chicken, simmered knockwurst, Swiss steak with tomato sauce

Monday dinner - Roast turkey, baked ham, fish and fries

Tuesday lunch - Grilled Salisbury steak, onion lemon-baked fish, yakisoba

Tuesday dinner - Barbecue beef cubes,



Wednesday: 5:30 p.m. fellowship dinner in the South Patrick Chapel

Wednesday: 5:30 p.m. fellowship dinner in the South Patrick Chapel.

For more information, call the Chapel at 494-4073.

#paprika beef, pork chop suey

Wednesday lunch - Sukiyaki, teriyaki chicken, beef stir-fry, sweet and sour pork

Wednesday dinner - Country style steak, fried chicken, #pita pizzas

Thursday lunch - Liver with onions, orange-spiced pork chops, tempura-fried fish

Thursday dinner - Pepper steak, #Mr. Z's finger lickin' chicken, ginger pot roast

March 14 lunch - Beef and corn pie, pea and pepper rice, #seafood Newburg, veal paprika steak

March 14 dinner - Yankee pot roast, #simmered corn beef, pineapple chicken

Menus are subject to change. For more information, please call dial-a-menu 494-2845. Item with an "#" are healthy choice.

