

## Base Briefs

### GC PATCH COMPETITION DEADLINE TODAY

The Guardian Challenge 2002 patch design competition submission deadline is today. Entries should be color artwork and can be e-mailed or forwarded to Capt. Mike Hillman, 30 OSS/OSOT. Final design is chosen by wing leadership. When creating design artists should keep in mind that the final patch will be only 3.5 to 4 inches in diameter so some detail may be lost. For more information, call Capt. Mike Hillman at 606-6368.

### WING HOLDS HOLIDAY PARTY DEC. 15

The 30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing holiday party is Dec. 15 in the Pacific Coast Club. Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. with dinner to follow. Cost ranges from \$8 to \$20. Call Capt. Stacy Exum at 606-3604 or Capt. Patricia Teran-Dick at 606-5602 for the name of the squadron points of contacts.

### HOLIDAY COOKIES NEEDED DEC. 14

The Vandenberg Spouses' Club and the base first sergeants need cookie donations. The goal is to deliver a dozen homemade cookies to each dorm resident for the December holidays. Bakers can drop off homemade cookies at the Pacific Coast Club Dec. 14 from 6 to 9 a.m. The cookies will be packaged and distributed to each dorm resident. 800 dozen cookies are needed.

### MILITARY LIAISON TEAMS NEED VOLUNTEERS

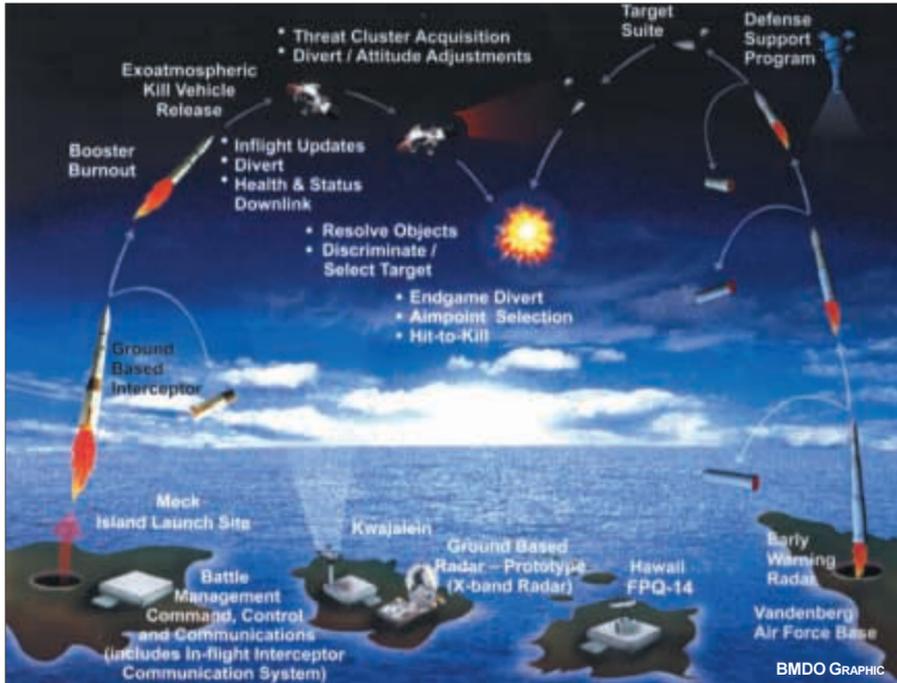
United States Air Forces in Europe is looking for senior NCO volunteers for Military Liaison Teams. Team members are from all branches of the armed services and MTL provides an excellent opportunity for joint exposure and career broadening. Host-country language skills are desirable but not mandatory. Host countries include: Albania, Georgia, Macedonia and Moldova. Those interested should call 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Amy Garrett at 606-3259 for more information.

### BASE ENTRY DECALS EXPIRE SOON

The 30<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron pass and registration office reminds base drivers to ensure vehicle registrations are updated. The "01" Air Force Form 2219 expires Dec. 31. Everyone assigned to Vandenberg is required to register privately-owned vehicles. For more information, call pass and registration at 606-1853.

### BREAKERS CONTINUES DINNER NIGHT

The 30<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron staff offers a weekly dinner Thursday at the Breakers dining facility from 6 to 7 p.m. The dinner is open to all family members of personnel deployed in support of an overseas operation. To participate, family members must bring a copy of their spouse's orders to the services squadron front office in Bldg. 11013 across from Bldg. 11777. For more information, call 606-5031.



# Success!

Team Vandenberg launches target, BMDO missile defense test scores second hit of year

By Staff Sgt. Andrew Leonhard, 30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Public Affairs

In conjunction with the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization, Team Vandenberg launched an unarmed Minuteman II intercontinental ballistic missile from north base Monday to test the Ground-based Midcourse Defense Segment.

Delayed by a weekend of bad weather, the modified ICBM successfully launched at 7 p.m.

About 20 minutes after the target missile streaked skyward from California's Central Coast, a Payload Launch Vehicle missile carrying a prototype exoatmospheric kill vehicle interceptor launched

from the Ronald Reagan Missile Test Facility, located in the Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands, about 4,800 miles west of Vandenberg.

Less than 10 minutes later, the kill vehicle intercepted Vandenberg's target at an altitude of approximately 140 miles above the central Pacific Ocean.

The Ground-based Midcourse Defense Program is managed by BMDO's Joint Program Office in Washington, D.C.

This marks the second intercept launch for the GMD program this year. The last launch and intercept took place July 14.

## Phase 7 project nears completion

By Staff Sgt. Andrew Leonhard, 30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Public Affairs

Family members around the west part of housing have seen and heard the demolition and construction crews working since July on the next phase of homes being built at Vandenberg.

According to Kenneth Griswold, 30<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron base architect, new residents could be moving in around March, depending on the winter weather.

The new homes under the

Phase Seven replacement effort, are designated for senior NCOs, said Al Ball, 30<sup>th</sup> CES housing office flight chief.

The 83 homes range from 1,350 to 1,450 square feet except for one designated for the 30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing command chief at 1,611 square feet, added Ball.

More than 100 construction workers are working on the eight-month project, said Mark Cook, superintendent for this phase.

"The project is about 70 percent complete," said Cook. "If the

weather will cooperate with us we should be done as scheduled."

Phase Seven will bring the total to 752 new units. But much more work is still on the horizon.

"We have approximately 800 military family housing units remaining to meet our current housing need and are not expecting another military construction project until fiscal year 2006," Griswold said. He also said that there are four phases of construction to com-

See HOUSE Page 4



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS JESSICA RAMOS

Staff Sgt. Maritza Fernandez, 30<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron, greets Linda Medina, 6, of Santa Ynez, during Operation Kids' Christmas. Nearly two hundred children attended the event at the Saturday.

## OKC 2001

181 Central Coast children receive 1,400 gifts from base

By 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Michelle Mayo, 30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Public Affairs

Norma Castro braced herself against the wind and cold in Santa Maria. Waiting for her daughter, she was warmed by the thought that this year her children would have a present-filled Christmas – thanks to Vandenberg's Operation Kids' Christmas.

When the 30<sup>th</sup> Transportation Squadron bus pulled up, her daughter Leticia, 8, stepped off carrying a new sweatshirt, stuffed animal and a big plastic bag filled with seven brightly-wrapped Christmas presents. Her smiling face said it all.

"I'm happy my daughter was able to go, because we weren't really going to have anything for

Christmas," said Castro.

Those presents, her mother said, would make up the bulk of the Christmas gifts in their family this year.

"We don't have a lot of money," explained the mother of six, her children ranging from 4 to 18 years old.

Leticia's presents would be shared among the youngest children, Castro said, thankful for her daughter's participation in the program.

In all, OKC provided 1,400 presents – seven for each of the 181 children in attendance.

The Christmas bounty included soccer balls, stuffed bears, artist kits for the girls and

See OKC Page 10

## Earth observers go for launch



PHOTO BY TECHNICAL SGT. SCOTT WAGERS

Team Vandenberg and NASA will launch a Boeing Delta II rocket carrying the Jason 1 and TIMED satellites into orbit between 6:58 to 7:18 a.m. this morning. Jason 1 is a joint U.S. and French oceanography mission which will monitor world ocean circulation, study interactions of the oceans and atmosphere, improve climate predictions and observe events like El Nino. The TIMED mission will study the influences of the sun and humans in the mesosphere and lower thermosphere/ionosphere. This is the second Delta launch this year. The first one, Oct. 18, carried the Quickbird satellite aloft.

## 30 Team Vandenberg lieutenants make captain

This year's OIC Captain Central Selection Board for line, judge advocate general, chaplain and biomedical science corps selected 3,192 first lieutenants for promotion.

Team Vandenberg had 30 selected for promotion to captain. The following were selected:

Jeremiah Baunach  
30<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron  
Vernon Bevan  
532<sup>nd</sup> Training Squadron  
James Blanchard  
76<sup>th</sup> Helicopter Flight  
Bradley Brewington  
534<sup>th</sup> TRS  
Brian Egbert  
Detachment 9  
Lawrence Graham  
76<sup>th</sup> HF  
Zachary Guza  
76<sup>th</sup> HF  
Jefferey Hunter  
576<sup>th</sup> Flight Test Squadron  
Arden Ikehara  
30<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron

Sherman Johns  
534<sup>th</sup> TRS  
Jared Jurgensmeier  
2<sup>nd</sup> Space Launch Squadron  
Brian Kozola  
Det. 9  
Kevin Lestage  
2<sup>nd</sup> SLS  
Eric Lingle  
534<sup>th</sup> TRS  
Scott Lisko  
30<sup>th</sup> Weather Squadron  
Perry Meissel  
Det. 9  
Anthony Morris  
30<sup>th</sup> Range Squadron  
Deborah Newman  
2<sup>nd</sup> SLS

Shawn Orban  
Det. 9  
Matthew Ostrander  
30<sup>th</sup> Operations Support Squadron  
Eric Page  
30<sup>th</sup> OSS  
Rodolfo Rodriguez  
30<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron  
Louis Ruschetta  
Det. 9  
Mara Schmitt  
30<sup>th</sup> Contracting Squadron  
Brian Simons  
392<sup>nd</sup> TRS  
Richard Sjorgren  
2<sup>nd</sup> SLS  
Jennifer Soles  
30<sup>th</sup> Transportation Squadron  
Kevin Staples  
30<sup>th</sup> Medical Group  
Eric Staub  
2<sup>nd</sup> SLS  
Patrick Williams  
614<sup>th</sup> Space Operations Squadron

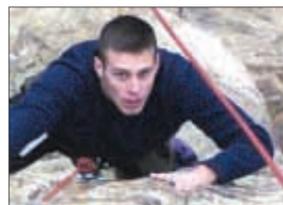
## This Issue of the



Also view The Space & Missile Times at [http://www.vandenberg.af.mil/30sw/news/space\\_times/index.html](http://www.vandenberg.af.mil/30sw/news/space_times/index.html)



With flu season here, 30<sup>th</sup> Medical Group immunization technicians are busy sticking Team V. See Page 3.



Rock climbers ascend to new heights. Weekly outings leave members looking up for the next challenge. See Page 4.

Weekend forecast:  
Sunny today and Saturday  
Chance of rain Sunday  
Low/High  
**41/68**  
For a full VAFB weather report visit [www.vandenberg.af.mil/30sw/organizations/30og/weather/weather/index.html](http://www.vandenberg.af.mil/30sw/organizations/30og/weather/weather/index.html)

# CAP celebrates 60 years

BY CAPT. MICHAEL BODTKE  
Civil Air Patrol Squadron 101

Saturday marked Civil Air Patrol's 60<sup>th</sup> year of humanitarian service. Continuing its long tradition of homeland defense, CAP volunteers have jumped into action following the terrorist attacks in September.

Vandenberg's CAP Squadron 101, led by CAP Major Eric Davis, remains active in cadet programs, with more than 20 cadets meeting weekly to learn about leadership, aviation, space, and search and rescue. Cadets participate in structured leadership programs at both the state and national level, earning consideration for service academy placements and advancement within the military.

For more than half a century, the official Air Force Auxiliary has carried out non-combat missions on behalf of the U.S. Air Force.

The Civil Air Patrol was officially established as a volunteer civilian defense organization on Dec. 1, 1941, just six days before Pearl Harbor. During World War II, CAP became famous for coastal patrol where civilian volunteers used their aircraft to spot enemy submarines along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts.

CAP volunteer pilots flew

more than 24 million miles over the Atlantic and Gulf in single-engine aircraft to help win the battle against German U-boats preying on coastal shipping early in the war.

Armed with bombs and depth charges, the CAP Coastal Patrol found 173 German subs, attacked 57, hit 10 and sank two. After the war, a German commander confirmed during a speech he gave to the Rehoboth Beach Coastal Patrol that U-boat operations were withdrawn from our coasts "because of those damned little red and yellow airplanes."

In the days following the World Trade Center attack, CAP wings across the nation flew into action. The New York wing provided the first direct overhead aerial shots of the disaster site. CAP answered the call for transporting blood and blood products, monitoring airports, transporting government officials, manning state emergency operations centers and providing aerial reconnaissance.

Even though CAP missions have been modified by the needs of a more complex society today, the spirit of those early aviators is still evident in the enthusiasm displayed by the 60,000 volunteer members in service to their communities.

Civil Air Patrol is an organiza-

tion where "Imagination Takes Flight" through volunteers' desire to teach, learn and serve. CAP's Cadet Programs provide a structured forum for young people, ages 12 to 20, to develop physical fitness, leadership skills, and moral and ethical values. CAP's Aerospace Education mission brings educators together to inspire students to pursue aerospace studies.

Through CAP's Emergency Services missions, trained volunteers performed more than 85 percent of inland search and rescue missions tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center in the continental United States.

While Vandenberg's location has made the squadron the state's leading space unit, flying is also an important part of the program, allowing cadets to fly in light aircraft as well as gliders.

The squadron's senior program is active as well, providing emergency services to local agencies, to include search and rescue support, emergency communications and disaster relief. CAP Squadron 101 holds an open house at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Vandenberg Center. Squadron members will present an overview of the senior and cadet programs as well as display search and rescue gear associated with CAP missions.



Col. Robert M. Worley II  
Commander,  
30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing

## Commander's Action line

Mission success is our top priority, and the talented men and women of Team Vandenberg get it done with excellence. Key to the effectiveness of any great team is good communication. The 30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Commander's Action Line is your direct communication link to me. It provides an avenue for you to voice your concerns, share constructive ideas, or give your Vandenberg teammates a pat on the back. I appreciate your input, and I am personally involved in every response.

While the Commander's Action Line is a great way to communicate, don't forget there are many other avenues to get answers to your questions including your chain of command, first sergeants, base services officials, and many other base professionals.

Thanks for helping to make Vandenberg such a great place to work and live. When calling the action line, please leave your name and phone number.

Call or e-mail at 606-7850 or [actionline@vandenberg.af.mil](mailto:actionline@vandenberg.af.mil)

EMERGENCY.....	911
Information.....	411
Poison control.....	800-876-4766
Clinic appointments.....	606-2273
After-hours urgent care.....	888-252-3299
TRICARE services.....	800-242-6788
Health Care Information Line.....	800-611-2883
Law enforcement.....	606-3911
Housing maintenance.....	734-5586
Child Development Center.....	606-1555
MPF customer service.....	606-7756
Visitor control center.....	606-7662
Chaplain (after hours).....	606-9961
Red Cross (duty hours).....	606-1855
Red Cross (after hours).....	800-660-4272



**Editorial Staff**

**Col. Robert M. Worley II**  
30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Commander  
**Capt. Tom Knowles**  
Director of Public Affairs  
**Master Sgt. Ty Foster**  
Chief of Internal Information

**Staff Sgt. Andrew Leonhard**  
*Editor*  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Michelle Mayo**  
*Staff writer*  
**Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Jessica Ramos**  
*Photographer*

The *Space and Missile Times* is published by Lompoc Record Publications, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing.

This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

Contents of the *Space & Missile Times* are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed by the U.S.

Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in the publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or Lompoc Record Publications, of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available

for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Vandenberg AFB Public Affairs Office. All photos, unless otherwise indicated, are Air Force photos. The Public Affairs Office

reserves the right to edit all submissions for style and space. **Deadline for publication deadline is 4:30 p.m. every Friday.**

Send submissions to: 30SW/PA, 747 Nebraska Ave., Room A-105, VAFB, CA 93437; via fax at DSN 276-8303 or commercial (805) 606-8303; or by e-mail to [Space&MissileTimes@vandenberg.af.mil](mailto:Space&MissileTimes@vandenberg.af.mil)

Questions regarding the paper can be directed to the *Space & Missile Times* staff at (805) 606-2040.

# Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941

## Two Central Coast veterans recall their roles

By 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Carlos Diaz  
30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Public Affairs

Two generations ago, the character of our nation was tested when Japanese aircraft attacked Pearl Harbor.

Capturing the nation's physical and emotional wounds in words, President Franklin D. Roosevelt said, "Yesterday, Dec. 7, 1941, a date that will live in infamy." In that address to Congress, he called his nation to arms and America answered.

The passing years have thinned out the numbers of Pearl Harbor survivors, but Robert Smith and Ernest Mahler can still vividly recall that day's events.

Dec. 7, 1941, Marine Private Smith was aboard the USS Helena docked in harbor. At 8 a.m. he was posting the flag.

He and his shipmates heard explosions, he said, but they didn't know what was going on.

The ship's loudspeakers blared, "Man your battle stations!"

"My battle station was turret No. 3," Smith said. Before he reached his station, a torpedo exploded, rattling the whole ship.

Turret No. 3 proved to be useless in the fight – it was too large – so Smith moved to the anti-aircraft station and kept the crew stocked with ammunition.

"The Japanese kept hitting the harbor, but we managed to hit some of them with our guns," the 79-year-old veteran recalled. Later that day, he pulled guard duty, watching the welders working through the night.

"It was pitch black," he said.

"The only thing that you could see were the sparks of the welders making holes on the ships trying to get people out of the ships (and) the flames from the sunken ships."

Smith had been told that almost all the ships were hit and that the Arizona and Oklahoma were sunk.

"It was a nightmare," he said.

Five years later, Smith landed at Okinawa.

"I can really say that I was in the two places — where the war started and finished for the United States," he said.

Smith retired with 21 years of service as a Marine captain.

Army Sgt. Ernest Mahler, born in Yugoslavia in 1919, viewed the attack from a different vantage — Schofield Barracks — about 25 miles north of Pearl Harbor.

"The Army, at that time, was one of peace (so) everybody was green and young," Mahler said.

"The planes flew from the north to bomb Wheeler Field and Pearl Harbor and we didn't have any idea of what the hell was going on."

Mahler, who joined the Army at 17 because he only needed one

parent's signature, was assigned to a field artillery unit.

"We were informed of what was happening in Pearl Harbor and started to get our machine guns," he said. "But there was a problem — the guy in charge of the ammo was out of town and (had) left the depot locked."

They ended up making due with the weapons they could find ammunition for, he said.

Following the attack at Pearl, the Japanese pilots flew directly over Schofield Barracks, strafing the grounds. Mahler and his buddies returned fire.

"Our main concern at that time was to prevent any airdrop of soldiers. They really surprised us, but we fought (back) with all we (had)," he said.

Mahler went on to become a veteran of the Tunisian campaign in Africa where Patton's Army forced Rommel's German Africa

Corps to surrender. He said he was also part of the first landing in Italy at Salerno. Later, while serving in Korea, he was commissioned and rose to the rank of captain.

Looking back, Mahler said he wouldn't trade his experience.

"It was an adventure and an honor to be there," he said.

Smith and Mahler are only two of the thousands of veterans who've sacrificed for their nation. They answered a call to war and watched their friends die at their sides.

World War II galvanized the nation — and built the character of the men and women known as "The Greatest Generation."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Robert Smith



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ernest Mahler with his family before WWII.

## Team Vandenberg Spotlight



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS JESSICA RAMOS

**Name:** Carolyn Yeates

**Assignment:** 30<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron – Child Development Center

**Hometown:** Bakersfield, Calif.

**What she likes about her job:** "Everyday is exciting, children are so entertaining, and at times challenging. I enjoy being busy and learning something each day. The friendships I have acquired are priceless and I feel that I am providing a service of love for our community and our country."

**Supervisor's comments:** "Carolyn has been a great mentor to all staff, especially at the junior level. She takes her lead responsibilities very serious and is a asset to the CDC program. Her ability to communicate with children, parents and staff make the team concept work for all," according to Verna Brown, CDC director.

Send Team Vandenberg spotlight info to [space&missiletimes@vandenberg.af.mil](mailto:space&missiletimes@vandenberg.af.mil)

## Clinic gives Team V shot in arm

By Tech. Sgt. Brian Rosby  
30<sup>th</sup> Medical Group

Flu shots have finally arrived. The immunization clinic will give flu shots to dependents and retirees Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Services Center. Shot records are required for vaccinations. Children under three require a prescription from their physician.

Active-duty people who missed the mobile clinic this week may also get their shots at the Services Center.

Influenza, also known as the flu, is a serious disease. It spreads when viruses pass from an infected individual to the nose and throat of others. Influenza can cause, fever, chills, headache, cough, sore throat and muscles aches. It can also lead to pneumonia and death in more severe cases.

Although influenza can make any individual sick, some people are only ill for a few days, while others have a much more serious illness and may need to be hospitalized. People of any age can get influenza. Influenza causes thousands of death each year, mostly among elderly. "Flu season" in the U.S. is November through April each year.

Flu viruses change often, so the



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS JESSICA RAMOS

**Tech. Sgt. Frank Rapp, 30<sup>th</sup> Medical Group medical technician, gives 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Jared Heath, 392nd Training Squadron student, his flu shot at the medical group's mobile flu shot clinic Tuesday in Bldg. 10577.**

vaccine is updated each year to make sure it is as effective as possible. An immune response develops in about two weeks and may last up to a year.

Individuals considered high risk include all people 65 years and older; residents of long-term care facilities housing; persons of any age with chronic medical conditions; and any child or adult with a serious long-term health condition.

Long-term health conditions include heart disease, anemia,

metabolic diseases like diabetes, asthma, lung or kidney disease.

Since influenza viruses change frequently, the vaccine may not prevent all cases, but vaccinated people who do get influenza often have a milder case.

All the components are killed so you can't get the influenza from the vaccine. Some other viruses mimic the flu. Those viruses are not covered by the vaccine. For information about flu vaccines, call the clinic at 606-8474.

## Team V honors promotees

Team Vandenberg recognized its newest promotees Thursday during the monthly induction and promotion ceremony held at the Pacific Coast Club.

### Airman first class

Brown, Tene	30 <sup>th</sup> Space Wing
Gillison, Ricke	30 <sup>th</sup> Mission Support Squadron
Hernandez, Nina	30 <sup>th</sup> Operational Support Squadron
Heywood, Blaine	30 <sup>th</sup> CivilEngineer Squadron
Jensen, Bradley	576 <sup>th</sup> Flight Test Squadron
Lopez, Rene	30 <sup>th</sup> Transportation Squadron
Mercado, Thamara	30 <sup>th</sup> MSS
Porter, Brandon	30 <sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron
Quintana, Daniel	30 <sup>th</sup> SFS
Salas, Alicia	392 <sup>nd</sup> Training Squadron

Santos, Reyel	30 <sup>th</sup> TRANS
Shepherd, Dion	532 <sup>nd</sup> TR

### Senior airman

Cady, Kelley	30 <sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron
Davis, Thomas Jr.	30 <sup>th</sup> SFS
Goodrich, Jennifer	30 <sup>th</sup> CS
Kaiser, Brian	576 <sup>th</sup> FTS
Liberatore, Victor II	30 <sup>th</sup> SFS
Provencio, Michael	30 <sup>th</sup> CES
Salausa, Shavon	30 <sup>th</sup> CS
Swales, Courtney	30 <sup>th</sup> Aeromedical Dental Squadron
Taylor, Zachary	576 <sup>th</sup> FTS
Traylor, Robert	30 <sup>th</sup> SFS

### Staff sergeant

Bush, Jeremy	30 <sup>th</sup> Comptroller Squadron
Frantz, Khristopher	30 <sup>th</sup> SFS
Golden, Kevin	576 <sup>th</sup> FTS
Lamb, Valerie Lynn	533 <sup>rd</sup> TS
Lepetri, Thomas	30 SFS

Ostil, Rhodora	2 <sup>nd</sup> SLS
Tucker, Phillip Jr.	576 <sup>th</sup> FTS
Ward, Alan	576 <sup>th</sup> FTS

### Technical sergeant

Barrett, Billy	30 <sup>th</sup> CS
Coutee, Frank Jr.	30 <sup>th</sup> SFS
Gosselin, Douglas	30 <sup>th</sup> Contracting Squadron
Pahnke, John	30 <sup>th</sup> Medical Group
Sanchez, Raymond Jr.	30 <sup>th</sup> CS

### Master sergeant

Atkins, Warren Jr.	14 <sup>th</sup> Air Force
Boyd, Kevin	614 <sup>th</sup> SOPS
Corwin, John	30 <sup>th</sup> Range Squadron

Gardner, Kurt	30 <sup>th</sup> SW
Korsten, David	533 <sup>th</sup> TRS
Smothermon, Andrew	614 <sup>th</sup> SOPS

### Captain

Anderson, Robert	392 <sup>nd</sup> TRS
Brudos, Dawn	Det. 911

# For those about to rock – climb!

By MASTER SGT. TY FOSTER  
30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Public Affairs

A growing group of Team Vandenberg members take upward mobility and hanging out to an extreme – sport that is.

Rod Paronto, Base Fitness Center varsity sports director, has been rock climbing for about 10 years.

He said he's climbed at various locations throughout the state with the hardest pitch being at Castle Craig near Mt. Shasta in Northern California.

Paronto has found that California's Central Coast offers plenty of variety at little to no cost. His problem was a lack of climbing partners.

So he started the Vandenberg Rock Climbing Club.

"There are five members with eight years or more experience climbing with the club and in other areas," Paronto said. Their experiences vary from multi-pitch climbs in Alaska, to single-pitch and red rock climbs in the desert southwest. A pitch is roughly half the length of the climber's rope, ranging from 100 to 200 feet.

With a decade of climbing under his harness and three courses of instruction at the Yosemite Climbing School, Paronto is teaching eager new climbers the ropes.

"The most important thing I stress is safety," he said. "Proper use of knots and trust in your teammates – especially your belayer – are all vital to climbing."

Paronto and the experienced climbers in the club teach novices

how to place their hands, what to look for in a handhold and how to use their shoes and chalk.

"Right now, the club is working with top-rope climbing since we have so many beginners," Paronto said.

According to Paronto, top-rope climbing reassures a novice climber's sense of safety while maintaining the rush that rock climbing brings.

In top-rope climbing, the climbing rope is run through a triple set of anchors at the top of a climb, he said. The rope is run through the anchors and one end is tied onto the

climber's harness. At the other end, the belayer uses a belaying device to pull up slack in the rope. This keeps the rope taut for the climber so that, in the event of a fall, he won't go far. When the climber reaches his goal, the belayer lowers him back to the ground.

Clint Carpenter, a novice climbing club member, had only climbed in gyms up until Saturday's outing.

Climbing gyms, located throughout the country, have artificial handholds and are common top-rope climbing sites for those who can't get to a more natural setting.

"This was

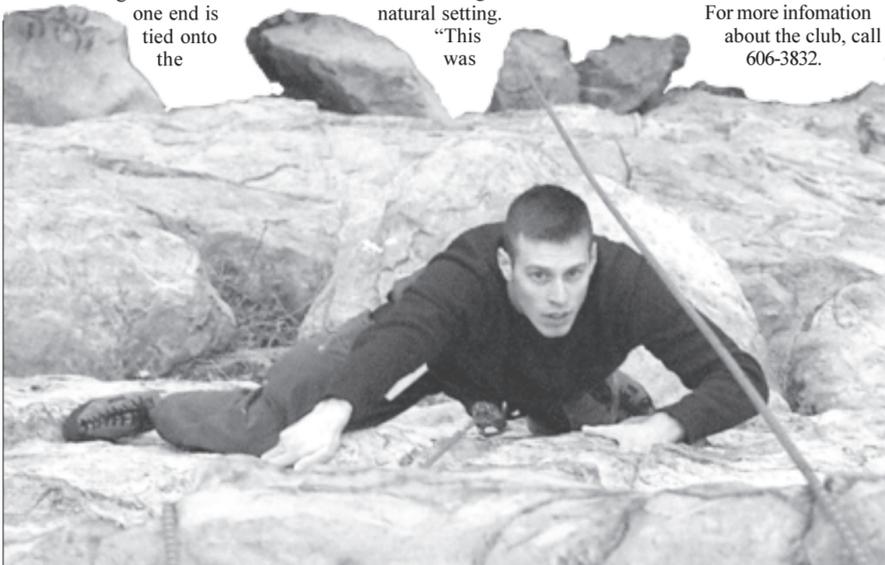
my first time climbing outdoors," he said. "It is completely different and a million times better than the gym – I may be hooked."

At 48 years old and still climbing strong, Paronto is proof that rock climbing is for everyone, regardless of age.

"It helps to be in some reasonable shape; however, most of your upward mobility comes from your legs," the veteran climber said. "Your hands are mainly for balance."

"It doesn't take a yoga master to go rock climbing," he said. "If you can climb stairs or a tree, you can rock climb."

For more information about the club, call 606-3832.



Jason Hasker scrambles up Gibraltar Cliff near Santa Barbara Calif. Vandenberg rock climbing club meets every weekend. Call 606-3832 for information.

By MASTER SGT. TY FOSTER  
30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Public Affairs

There's no feeling in the world like reaching the top. Ask any general or chief. But reaching the top takes years – unless you're a rock climber.

One of my favorite movies is "Cliffhanger" starring Sylvester Stallone. Even now when I watch my well-worn video, my hands sweat and my heart begins to race during the climbing scenes. That movie spurred me to confront a life-long nemesis – my fear of heights.

Eight years ago, I took a beginner's class and went climbing with a group of experienced climbers in the mountains just outside Alamogordo, N.M.

Looking back on my first climb – about 50 feet – I'd consider it easy. I could probably walk it. But that wasn't the case back then.

My hands shook, my muscles tensed and my mind wrestled with its insecurities. But inch by inch and foot by foot, I made my way up the route. Cheers echoed across the canyon as I reached the top, touching the anchors. I felt like I'd just tackled El Capitan in Yosemite.

After a few more "easy" 50-foot climbs, my confidence had risen so much that I felt I could conquer a 75-foot route the advanced climbers were having fun with.

Given the slight overhang at the beginning of the climb, it took some doing just to get started.

There were a couple of times

my fear almost overwhelmed me. My instructor helped by telling me where to put my hands and feet. The encouraging words from my friends below also urged me on.

Each finger hold, toe hold and heel hook took me ever higher up the cliff. I know my fear consumed more energy than the climb truly demanded, but I was still surprised by how little strength it took at times to continue upward.

Within 10 feet of the top, I learned that strength is required at times.

The final move required me to launch myself away from the cliff – out from under a 3-foot overhang – and grab a handhold above me and pull myself up to the summit.

This was the test – a leap of faith. It took all of my strength – physical and mental.

The mount, as it's called, proved too much for me. I lost my grip, falling away from the rock wall. I swayed in the air – held only by my safety man, the belayer.

But I didn't give up, I tried a second and third time to complete the strenuous mounting maneuver. By then, my arms were heavy, unable to maintain my grip on the hand hold. I was dog tired, but not deterred.

I've climbed many times since then. Climbing helped me overcome my fear of heights. It gave my self esteem a boost and it gave me another outlet to bond with my sons.

But my hands still sweat when I watch "Cliffhanger."

## Climbing to conquer fear



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. JERRY CLEMENS

Alex Hawthorne rappels down a rock near Santa Barbara.



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS JESSICA RAMOS

Phase Seven housing on Oceanview Avenue should be ready for residents in March.

## Homes beyond feasible repair

HOUSE from Page 1

plete that need.

The project began after a 30<sup>th</sup> CES assessment of the existing Capehart homes dating from the 1958 to 1964 period. They determined the cost to bring the homes up to current code standards and repairing some of the problems in the homes exceeded 70 percent of the replacement cost.

"It made more sense to replace the homes rather than what is termed a 'whole house renovation,'" Griswold said. "Replacing the homes also gave us the opportunity to improve the neighborhoods and community support facilities with the greenbelt paths."

Construction began in 1994 for the entire base housing project slated at \$216.4 million.

To date, \$124.4 million has been spent on the seven phases.

## IN REMEMBRANCE



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Justin Thomas, 1958-2001

Justin "JT" Thomas member of the 30<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron, died Sunday morning as a result of injuries sustained in a car accident off base.

JT was the assistant manager at the Pacific Coast Club. He came to Vandenberg from Laughlin AFB, Texas, where he worked at the Youth Center and the Laughlin Officers' Club. He joined the Pacific Coast Club staff in June.

JT joined the Air Force in July 1976 and retired from active duty as a technical sergeant in July 1996. During his career, he served as a financial management and services craftsman. JT was a Desert Storm veteran.

JT quickly made his mark known at Vandenberg. He was a friend to all, customers and employees alike.

A memorial service is planned for Thursday in Chapel 2, time to be announced.

The 30<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron has established a fund to offset the family's costs for JT's services. Donations may be dropped off at 30<sup>th</sup> SVS in Bldg. 11073.

# Community Calendar

## EVENTS

**7 FRI** The Santa Maria Civic Theatre presents **Fruitcakes**, a production of music and laughter written by Julian Wilkes, today, Saturday, Dec. 14 and 15. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and curtain time is at 8 p.m. Call (805) 922-4442 to make reservations.

Lompoc's **60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Pearl Harbor Memorial Ceremony** is today at 10 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial Building, South H and Locust. Keynote speaker is Navy Cmdr. Julius Byrd, 14<sup>th</sup> Air Force. Also representing the Air Force and Vandenberg is Col. Steve Robinson, 30<sup>th</sup> Support Group commander.

Santa Maria's **60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Pearl Harbor Memorial Ceremony and Freedom Monument** unveiling is today at 2 p.m. at the Abel Maldonado Youth Center. Col. Robert M. Worley, 30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing commander, represents the Air Force and Vandenberg.

**8 SAT** The Vandenberg Spouse's Club December event is a **Holiday Outing in Solvang** Saturday. Meet at the visitor center at 8:30 a.m. to car pool. Breakfast is at the Belgian Café for \$10. A holiday ornament and decoration exchange follows breakfast. The price range is around \$10 for the ornament or decoration exchange. R.S.V.P. to Beki Melone at 734-2668 if your last name begins with A through K or Dawn Orban at 734-2218 for all others. Menu selections do not have to be made until seated at the restaurant. New members and guests are always welcome.

**9 SUN** Lompoc Pops **Holiday Magic Concert** is Sunday at 4 p.m. at the Trinity Church of the Nazarene, 500 East North Ave. (across from the public library). Admission is \$12 for adults and \$5 for children. Tickets available at the door or Longs Drugs, Santa Barbara Bank and Trust, the Chamber of Commerce or by calling 736-6792.

## Fly away to Neverland



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1<sup>st</sup> CLASS JESSICA RAMOS

**Rebecca Tourino plays Peter Pan during a performance of J.M. Barrie's classic story Nov. 25 in Santa Maria. For showtimes and ticket sales, call the PCPA Theaterfest box office at (805) 922-8313.**

**12 WED** The Vandenberg Commissary has a **zucchini break bake-off** Wednesday. The winner receives a \$50 shopping spree. For more information, call 734-3354.

Los Padre Elementary School presents **Christmas on Candy Cane Lane**, a musical production by students in the first through fourth grades, Thursday at 7 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call A'Lynn Berg at 734-0035.

**14 FRI** The annual **Lompoc Children's Christmas Parade** is Dec. 14 at 6 p.m. at Pine Avenue and H Street. Immediately following the parade is the Community Christmas Tree Lighting at Centennial Park. For more information, call JoAnne Plummer at 736-6565, Ext. 15.

## CLASSES

**7 FRI** **Sewing Class for Beginners** is today from 5 to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Anderson Recreation Center, Panorama Room in Lompoc. Students can leave class with a finished garment. Sewing machine required. Fabric and patterns are provided. The fee is \$60 for discount residents and \$72 program fee.

**8 SAT** A **Holiday Workshop: Rubber Stamping Gift Bags and Boxes** is Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Anderson Recreation Center conference room in Lompoc. This one-day workshop provides ideas and techniques to create beautiful gift bags and wrapping paper

using rubber stamps. A \$7 materials fee is payable to the instructor. Fee is \$10 for discount resident and \$12 program fee.

**Homemade Bread Making** class is Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Lompoc Valley Community Center kitchen. This one-day workshop covers all of the how-tos with lecture, demonstration and hands-on experience. Bring a very large bowl and an apron. The fee is \$20 discount resident and \$24 program fee.

**10 MON** The Family Support Center has a **Financial Basics** workshop Monday at 11 a.m.

Learn financial management skills such as checkbook maintenance, credit spending, choosing a financial institution, credit pitfalls, financial terminology and making your paydays count. For registration, call Jimmy Camacho at 606-4491.

A **Sponsorship Training** class is Monday at 3 p.m. in the Family Support Center. Learn sponsorship responsibilities, relocation resources, and tips to assist newcomers to Vandenberg. Call relocation assistance at 606-0801 to register.

**11 TUE** An **Individual Transition Plan** session is offered every Tuesday morning from 8 to 9 a.m. except during the transition assistance seminar week. An ITP is required for military members scheduled to retire or separate at least 90 days before leaving service. The mandatory counseling session includes information about servicemember's benefits. Spouses are welcome and encouraged to attend. Call Sunny Park at 605-0134 for more information.

**12 WED** The Health and Wellness Center has **weekly nutrition classes** Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Topics include heart smart for cholesterol control, meal planning for diabetes, prenatal and child nutrition, and nutrition for health. For more information, call the HAWC at 606-2221.

**13 THU** The Family Support Center has a **Resume Writing** workshop Thursday at 9:30 a.m. in the FSC. Learn how to write a winning resume or update an old one. Topics include current formats and styles, hot words and power statements to include in a resume. The workshop is open to all active-duty people, family members, retirees, and DoD civilians. For more information, call Tinisha Agramonte at 605-8557.

## CHAPEL NOTES

### Catholic Worship Services

Saturday at 5 p.m. in Chapel 2.  
Sunday at 9:45 a.m. in Chapel 1.  
Daily Mass is Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m. in Chapel 2.  
Catholic religious education is Sunday at 8:30 a.m. in the religious education building.  
Confirmation is Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the religious education administration building. Youth confirmation is Sundays at 6 p.m. in the religious education administration building.

### Protestant Worship Services

Contemporary Service is Sunday at 8:30 a.m. in Chapel 2.

## AT THE MOVIES

### Today FROM HELL

Starring Johnny Depp, Heather Graham

Five women exist on the brink, earning a meager living with their bodies in a society that concurrently dishonors and feeds upon them. Owning virtually nothing of value, their ranks are terrorized by a gruesome murderer. Rated R.

### Saturday 13 GHOSTS

Starring Tony Shalhoub, Shannon Elizabeth

When a rich doctor dies, he leaves his house to his nephew, who moves in with his daughter. The house comes with 13 ghosts. There's a fortune hidden somewhere in the house and someone wants it. Rated R.

### Sunday THE LAST CASTLE

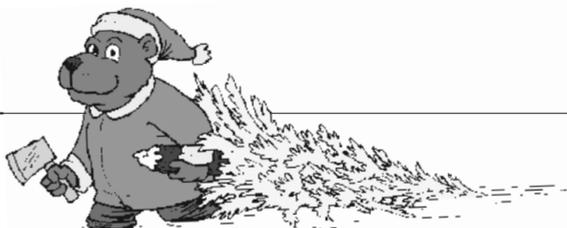
Starring Robert Redford, James Gandolfini

A three-star general wrongly court-martialed and sentenced to a military maximum security prison rallies the 1,200 inmates to revolt against the corrupt warden and his guards. Rated R.

All movies start at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

# S 30th Services

# NEWS



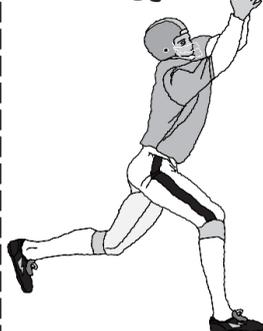
## FOOTBALL Frenzy 2001

at the Pacific Coast Club

FOOTBALL TOSS!

WIN PRIZES!

FOOD! FUN!

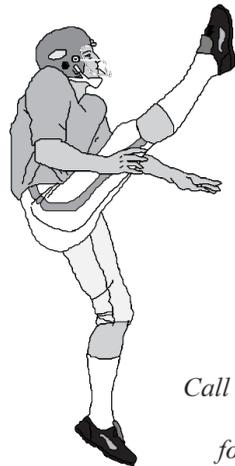


Monday  
**Indianapolis**  
vs.  
**Miami**

Dec. 17  
**St. Louis**  
vs.  
**New Orleans**

Dec. 22  
**Tennessee**  
vs.  
**Oakland**

Dec. 29  
**Baltimore**  
vs.  
**Tampa Bay**



Call the Pacific Coast Club  
at 606-3330  
for more information.

# Breakfast With Santa



## 15 Dec 9-11am Youth Center Gym

### TICKETS:

\$2.50 Members/Global Hearts  
\$3.50 Non-members  
Purchase Tickets by 12 Dec

Each Ticket Gets You:  
Pancakes, Sausage, Eggs,  
Juice, Coffee, and  
a Picture with Santa!

Save Those Tickets For  
Door Prizes!  
Christmas Bingo!

Santa Will Visit  
From 10-11am.

Questions??  
Contact the Youth Center  
at 606-2152

Tickets not available at the door. Minimum participation required.



Get your  
**Christmas Gift Certificates**

now at Natural Knead

Certificates for 90-minute, 60-minute or 30-minute massages are available.

We also have GIFT BASKETS!

See us at the Arts & Crafts Faire

Dec. 8 at the Services Center!

Call 605-4748  
for more information.

V.I.T.T.

### BOWLING

**HAM ROLL** - Bowl an open play game and receive a ticket for each game bowled, plus a bonus ticket if three or more games are bowled in any one session for a chance to win a ham. Drawing held Dec. 21 with up to four large hams to be given away. Bowl for hams Sunday through Dec. 15. Thunder Alley not included.

From Sunday through Saturday, eligible users of the Bowling Center who bring an ornament to hang on the Center's tree will receive two bowling coupons for free games and a reduction of the cost of a beverage of their choice (nonalcoholic). Come and join the fun!

### FITNESS CENTER

**FRIDAY - FLAG FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT**  
Base football field. Kickoff at 6 p.m. Contact Brian for more information at 606-3834.

**BODY COMPOSITION TESTING** -  
Wednesday, 1 to 3 p.m.

**ALL-AMERICAN SHOOTOUT** -  
Dec. 14 through 16 at the Fitness Center. For more information, call Rod Paronto at 606-3834.

### GOLF

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SALE!**  
The golf course pro shop will have a Christmas sale - 10% off any item over \$10, not already on sale (excluding club sets) from Tuesday to Dec. 16. Come in and do your Christmas shopping for those special people in your life.

**WEDNESDAY** -  
Ladies Priority, 8:32-9:04 a.m.

### V.I.T.T.

**STARS on ICE** - Jan. 13, 2002, \$98.  
Kurt Browning, Kristie Yamaguchi, Tara Lapinski and more! Directed by Scott Hamilton. For more information, call 606-7976.

**UPS COUNTER ONLY** -  
Open Saturday and Dec. 15, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (No tickets available those days).

### YOUTH SPORTS

**VAFB YOUTH BASKETBALL PROGRAM**  
is still taking registrations for boys, grades 6th-8th, to fill the Senior Boys Basketball Division. Registrations will be taken Mon-Fri, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Youth Center. Call 606-2152 for information.



## SANTA VISITS BASE HOUSING

If you would like Santa to visit your children in your home (base housing only), stop by the Services Center and sign up today. Cost is \$5 per family. Just bring a small, wrapped gift for each child to the Services Center the day before your scheduled visit, and Santa will deliver them in person.

Visits available this  
Monday through Friday  
and Dec. 17 to 21.

For more information, call 606-7976.

Get Your Tickets NOW for the...

PACIFIC COAST CLUB

## New Year's Celebration

December 31 • 8 p.m.

\$30 per person  
Heavy hors d'oeuvres  
8 to 10 p.m.

Champagne or sparkling cider  
toast at midnight  
Breakfast from 12:15 to 1 a.m.

Live entertainment 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.  
featuring 'Great American Dance Party'

Come and celebrate the New Year in New York-style!

Get your tickets at the club. Call 606-3330 for more information

## Volksmarsh

Start Time:

8am-Noon at Building #21300  
Combat Arms Training Maintenance  
(CATM)

Fees:

Participation is Free To Everyone!

Pre-registration  
(international event / distance  
awards program)

Pre-registration - \$7 (Includes IVV credit  
with commemorative medal)  
Day Of Event Registration - \$8 (Includes  
IVV credit with  
commemorative medal)

Events:

• 6km Walk • 10km Walk  
• 13km Bike • 25km Bike



For more  
info check:

www.concentric.net/~wuttenwe global.html  
or call Michael J. Renner at 606-5267.



in the  
Enlisted Lounge  
**HAWK'S NEST**

Saturday, 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

## Arts & Crafts FAIRE



Saturday

9 a.m.

to

3 p.m.

in the

Services

Center

For more  
information, call  
the Services Center  
at 605-8974 or  
Skills Development  
at 606-6438