

## Base Briefs

### TIP OF THE WEEK

NCOs are responsible for participating in installation and unit activities. Membership in the enlisted club is strongly encouraged. Support for local and national professional enlisted organizations is also encouraged.

### BULK TRASH

The bulk item pick-up scheduled for Monday has been rescheduled for Nov. 17. Residents must ensure their bulk items are out at the curb by 7 a.m.

### RETIREMENT

Tech Sgt. Donald Babb, 614th Space Operations Squadron, retires at 11 a.m. Nov. 14 in the Pacific Coast Club.

### TRICARE COUNSELING

The TriCare management agency assists TriCare beneficiaries with resolving debt collection issues. They provide priority assistance when presented documentation verifying that a collection action has been started or that negative information is reflected on beneficiaries' credit reports as a result of late or non-payment for medical or dental care received through TriCare.

### EYE CARE

The Optometry clinic is open to all active-duty and TriCare Prime dependents.

Some space available appointments are available for all other categories of Department of Defense beneficiaries. Per TriCare Prime guidelines, dependents of active-duty are authorized one eye exam every 12 months.

Retirees and their dependents are authorized one eye exam every 24 months. To schedule an appointment, call the clinic at 606-4668.

### CLINIC CLOSURE

The Vandenberg clinic is closed Nov. 20 for mandatory medical readiness training. For urgent needs, call 606-CARE (2273).

### SUMMARY COURTS

Anyone having claims for or against the estate of Staff Sgt. Jason A. Lucas, deceased, contact Capt. David Franklin, 576th Flight Test Squadron, at 605-6345.

### GAS MASK INSERTS

All active-duty airmen who require glasses for distance vision must have a usable pair of gas mask inserts.

To order inserts, airmen should stop by the optometry clinic with their medical records or call 606-0468 to schedule an eye exam.

### MPF CLOSURE

Vandenberg's Military Personnel Flight customer service section is closed Dec. 9 for computer system upgrades.

### BOGUS WEBSITE

The Defense Finance and Accounting Services

See BRIEFS Page A4

## Going for 4<sup>th</sup> in 2004

By CALVIN TUCKER

30th Services Squadron

Team Vandenberg's food service operation is set to compete for Air Force Space Command's Best Multiple Food Service Operation during an evaluation here beginning Wednesday.

The two-member Hennessy evaluation team will look at all aspects of food service here, including kitchen operations; training, readiness; sanitation and repair maintenance; and management.

The three-day inspection gives the team a chance to see an experienced group in action.

Many of the Air Force and contracted Life,

Option, Vocational and Resource Center—or LOVARC—personnel here are command-level Hennessy winners, and in one case, Air Force level.

However, the team goes beyond food service personnel to include civil engineers, marketing and data automation sections, senior leadership support, and the customers who present the challenge to be the best food service operation in the Air Force.

The Hennessy trophy is the highest Air Force award given for food service excellence. It is named in honor of John L. Hennessy, recognized as one of the nation's most capable and respected leaders in the hotel and

## Team V competes for 4th consecutive Hennessy trophy

restaurant field. In 1943, President Roosevelt appointed him as the Chairman of the War Food Committee to develop food service systems capable of sustaining millions of military personnel. In 1952, Hennessy was appointed to improve military food service operations. One recommendation he submitted was to encourage the military services to adopt a program of food service competition to inspire better management and command support of food service.

## Future of housing in good hands

By AIRMAN JUANIKA GLOVER  
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

Fiscal 2007—the date set for the completion of a 12-year project to revitalize Vandenberg's inadequate housing is fast approaching. Housing officials have their work cut out for them.

"The objective of the Housing Office is to provide a living environment consistent with contemporary standards (that are) comfortable and promote pride, professionalism and individual dignity by sustaining and revitalizing family housing," said DeAnne Edlund, chief of Vandenberg's housing flight. "We (have) developed a comprehensive replacement program, which includes eliminating insufficient facilities.

"So far we have replaced 835 units with contemporary single-family homes that are some of the most beautiful enlisted housing in the Air Force," Edlund said.

She said that although they have not completed the replacement of enlisted units, the next phase would replace 117 officer units. That phase is projected to begin in 2005.

Then in 2006, 300 officer and senior enlisted units will be replaced. Finally, in 2007, 321 units will be replaced, and inadequate units will be demolished.

"This (plan) will complete our housing program," Edlund said. "This aggressive approach is based on the Air Force goal of replacing all inadequate housing by FY07."

Residents in older homes don't have to feel left out though because the housing office will continue to maintain and upgrade enlisted units in even those scheduled for demolition FY07.

"Our intent is facility preservation for the safety, health and welfare of families and to provide aesthetic integrity for the life of the unit," Edlund said.

See HOUSING Page A4

## Warrior Day



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. CHUCK WALKER

Staff Sgt. David Nolan, 30th Civil Engineer Squadron readiness, teaches a class on using the gas mask drinking tube at Cocheo Park here Wednesday. Warrior Day is designed to help Team Vandenberg members with hands-on training to survive and operate in war-time conditions.



PHOTO BY BILL HARTENSTEIN

Vandenberg's Engine 9, with a strike team from the Central Coast, makes a stand along the Old Road in Newhall, Calif. north of Los Angeles Oct. 29.

## Firefighters return from SoCal blazes

By STAFF SGT. REBECCA DANÉT  
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

Vandenberg firefighters returned home Oct. 31 after nearly six full days fighting flames in Southern California. The crew from Engine 9 was exhausted but said they had learned a lot and enjoyed the chance to deploy with their fellow Central Coast firefighters.

"Everyone's pulled together as a team," said Vandenberg firefighter Ralph Arguijo. "This is the first time we've gotten to work together and we're all on the same page."

Engine 9 deployed as part of a strike team from the Central Coast. Bill Hinds lead the group, which included crews from Santa Maria, Carpinteria, Summerland, Lompoc

"It's a pleasure to work with (the Vandenberg crew)," Hinds said. "I give them an order, they know exactly what to do. I don't have to worry about them. I'd take them wherever I went."

At 108,204 acres, the Simi Fire was a fast-paced experience for the Vandenberg team. It took 1,449 firefighters eight days to contain the blaze, which destroyed 37 homes.

"Every time you go to a fire you learn something new," Arguijo

See FIRE Page A4

## Promotions equal more responsibility for 76 airmen

November promotees include:

Being promoted to airman, are:

Michael Ahola Jr., Detachment 1, 345th Training Squadron  
Dana Beeman, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Timothy Bowles, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Russell Burns Jr., Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Daniel Buss, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Geoffrey Byers, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Radford Cambia, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Alejandro Carrillo, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Arnie Dela Pena, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Max Ford, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Joshua Kinder, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Eric Kluckman, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Charles Manyo, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Smette Pompilius, Det. 1, 345th TRS

Bryan Ramey, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Israel Rivera, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Se Hoon Seo, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Kyle Shaw, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Charles Spence, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Stacey Vick, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Corrie Walden, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
April Welch, Det. 1, 345th TRS  
Brian Barkis, 532nd Training Squadron  
Marco Barraza, 532nd TRS  
Stephen Boyd, 532nd TRS  
Dustin Deaton, 532nd TRS  
Christopher Floyd, 532nd TRS  
Robert Gaskell II, 532nd TRS  
Robert Helm, 532nd TRS  
William Holman, 532nd TRS  
Darrin Lafever, 532nd TRS  
Levi Lindskog, 532nd TRS  
Ryan Maffitt, 532nd TRS

See STRIPES Page A4

**4** Team V members selected for **Chief**  
**Brian Joseph,**  
30th Mission Support Group  
**Michael Watson,**  
30th Space Communications Squadron  
**Anthony Bennett,**  
576th Flight Test Squadron  
**Andrew Cederle Jr.,**  
14th Air Force



**Congratulations!**

In this issue of the



Also view  
The Space & Missile Times at  
[www.vandenberg.af.mil](http://www.vandenberg.af.mil) and click the Space & Missile Times button.



Senior Master Sgt. Ben Caro, a respected member of the 533rd Training Squadron, moves on.  
See Page A5



Destinations Central Coast spies lizards hidden in Santa Barbara's Botanic Gardens.  
See Page B1

Weekend forecast  
Mostly cloudy Friday. Chance for showers all weekend.  
Low/High  
**45/63**  
For a full Vandenberg weather report, visit  
[www.vandenberg.af.mil/30sw/organizations/30og/weather/weather](http://www.vandenberg.af.mil/30sw/organizations/30og/weather/weather)

# This week in history ...

COMPILED BY AIRMAN JUANIKA GLOVER  
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

## November 2

1947 – The Hughes Flying Boat, the largest aircraft ever built, is piloted by designer Howard Hughes on its first and only flight. Built with laminated birch and spruce, the massive wooden aircraft had a wingspan longer than a football field and was designed to carry more than 700 men to battle.

1983 – President Ronald Reagan signs a bill in the White House Rose Garden designating a federal holiday honoring Martin Luther King, Jr., to be observed on the third Monday of January.

## November 3

1903 – With the support of the U.S. government, Panama issues a declaration of independence from Colombia. The revolution was engineered by a Panamanian faction backed by the Panama Canal Company, a French-U.S. corporation that hoped to connect the Atlantic and Pacific oceans with a waterway across the Isthmus of Panama.

1959 – A C-133 makes the first airlift delivery of an Atlas intercontinental missile.

## November 4

1979 – Student followers of the Ayatollah Khomeini send shock waves across America when they storm the U.S. embassy in Tehran. The radical Islamic fundamentalists took 90 hostages. The students were enraged that the deposed Shah had been allowed to enter the United States for medical treatment and they

threatened to murder hostages if any rescue was attempted. Days later, Iran's provincial leader resigned, and the Ayatollah Khomeini, the leader of Iran's fundamentalist revolutionaries, took full control of the country—and the fate of the hostages.

1960 – The USAF reveals the use of a converted C-97 as an airborne command post.

## November 5

1912 – Democrat Woodrow Wilson is elected the 28th president of the United States, with Thomas Marshall as vice president. In a landslide Democratic victory, Wilson won 435 electoral votes against the eight won by Republican incumbent William Howard Taft and the 88 won by Progressive Party candidate Theodore Roosevelt.

The presidential election was the only one in American history in which two former presidents were defeated by another candidate.

1917 – The first artillery adjustments are made from a plane in the U.S.

## November 6

1860 – Abraham Lincoln is elected the 16th president of the United States over a deeply divided Democratic Party, becoming the first Republican to win the presidency. Lincoln received only 40 percent of the popular vote but handily defeated the three other candidates: Southern Democrat John C. Breckinridge, Constitutional Union candidate John Bell, and Northern Democrat Stephen Douglas, a U.S. senator for Illinois.

1930 – Air Force Captain Eddie Rickenbacker is awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions in WWI.

## November 7

1957 – The final report from a special committee called by President Dwight Eisenhower to review the nation's defense readiness indicates that the United States is falling far behind the Soviets in missile capabilities, and urges a vigorous campaign to build fallout shelters to protect American citizens.

The special committee had been called together shortly after the stunning news of the success of the Soviet Sputnik I in October 1957. Headed by Ford Foundation Chairman Rowan Gaither, the committee concluded that the United States was in danger of losing a war against the Soviets. Only massive increases in the military budget, particularly an accelerated program of missile construction, could hope to deter Soviet aggression. It also suggested that American citizens were completely unprotected from nuclear attack and proposed a \$30 billion program to construct nationwide fallout shelters.

1907 – The Signal Corps is allotted \$25,000 to procure an airplane.

## November 8

1960 – John Kennedy becomes the youngest man ever to be elected president of the United States, narrowly defeating Republican Vice President Richard Nixon. He was also the first Catholic to become president.

1950 – The first all jet plane aerial combat in history takes place in Korea.

Now you see it; now you don't



PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. CHUCK WALKER

Five hundred pounds of explosives were used to destroy an old armored vehicle here Tuesday during a Federal Bureau of Investigation course. The class is held twice a year to train law enforcement, DoD, federal, county, and peace officials on investigating the scene of an explosion using a large vehicle explosive device.



## Operation Kids Christmas needs you!

Volunteers are still needed for the following :

- Escorting children during the party
- Setting up the ballroom at the PCC
- Serving lunch to the kids
- Cleaning up after the party
- Food basket delivery

To volunteer call  
1st Lt. Brendan Epps at- 606 6621  
or e-mail him at  
[Brendan.Epps@vandenberg.af.mil](mailto:Brendan.Epps@vandenberg.af.mil)  
(It is best if you volunteer by e-mail)

## SPACE & MISSILE TIMES

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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.

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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 is 4:30 p.m. every Wednesday, nine days prior to publication.**

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)

For information about the Space & Missile Times, call the staff at (805) 606-2040.

# COMMANDER ON CONSOLE

## Integrity, service, excellence: honoring our veterans

By COL. FRANK GALLEGOS

Commander, 30th Space Wing

On Veterans Day we honor more than 48 million Americans who have worn this nation's uniform since 1776. We join together to thank them for their service, sacrifice, and devotion to duty. Whether they served in Korea or Afghanistan, America's veterans all share a common bond—their unwavering belief in the cause of freedom, a belief so strong they were willing to give their lives, if need be, in its defense. Nov. 11 marks the 50th year America has gathered to honor Veterans Day. But this solemn occasion goes back much further. It has its origins in World War I.

Originally the anniversary of Armistice Day, the recognition of the end of World War I fighting at 11 a.m., November 11, 1918. (the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month).

However, in 1954, although 'Armistice' Day

was primarily set aside in honor of World War I veterans, Congress amended the holiday from 'Armistice' Day to 'Veterans' day because of overwhelming requests from many veterans service organizations. From then on, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

While the name has changed over the years, its purpose remains unchanged: to remember the sacrifice of those who have died and to honor those who are still with us.

We owe so much to the sacrifices of our veterans, and it is a debt we can never truly repay. They commanded the future of their day, as we will for tomorrow's airmen. Their stories are the story of our history, because America rose to greatness on their shoulders. We owe them our very way of life, our freedom to live, work and raise our families as we please. Please join me in thanking all veterans, past and present for all they've done for this great country. Go HAWKS!



### Commander's Action Line

Call 606-7850 or E-mail your message to [actionline@vandenberg.af.mil](mailto:actionline@vandenberg.af.mil)



Col. Frank Gallegos commander

By performing Vandenberg's mission safely and effectively, Team V provides proof of its commitment to do the right thing.

Two-way communication is paramount to continued mission success. The 30th Space Wing Commander's Action Line is your direct link to me.

Through the action line you can congratulate your teammates on a job well done, affect change and express productive points of view.

I want your input and I am personally involved in every response.

The action line is always available and it's an excellent tool, but remember to

use your chain of command. Talk to your supervisors, first sergeants, services officials and other base professionals and give them a chance to solve your problem first.

Working together, we will enrich the 30th SW mission performance and the quality of life of our airmen.

When calling the action line, leave your name and phone number in case more information is needed.

## Remembering Veterans Day

### Freedom does not come without cost

By GEN. LANCE LORD

Commander, Air Force Space Command

World War I fighting ended at 11 a.m., Nov. 11, 1918, the 11th hour of the 11th day of the

11th month. This day became known as "Armistice Day."

We pause on this special day of honor, to reflect on the bravery, loyalty and dedication of all who answered the call in defense of our great nation.

Freedom does not come without cost. Some of our greatest citizens gave the ultimate sacrifice so America would remain free. It is truly fitting we pause and pay tribute to all who served.

Their legacy of duty and love of country has been handed down to the

soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and coast guardsmen who stand watch today, both at home and abroad. We have been passed the baton of service, dedication and honor to preserve

freedom and bring peace and stability to a troubled world.

On Nov. 11, please reflect and remember and thank those who served before us. May their example of service and sacrifice continue to inspire us all, and may we always treasure the freedoms they fought to preserve.

Beccy and I offer our thanks to you, the men and women of Air Force Space Command and your families. We appreciate your service and dedication to our great nation.



Gen. Lance Lord

## Honoring those who serve – Past and Present

By MAJ. GEN. MIKE HAMEL

Commander, 14th Air Force

This Veterans Day we pay special tribute to those men and women who have served, and those who continue to serve, in America's armed forces.

With origins dating back to the 1918 armistice that ended WWI, the day was originally a reminder of monumental sacrifice and bloodshed in that war, and hope for a lasting peace.

Today, it is a day where we remember the dedication and selflessness throughout the years of those friends and neighbors, brothers and sisters, fathers and mothers, and sons and daughters who have served so nobly in America's military, our great veterans. The generations of Americans who have gone before us have set the standard to which we all must aspire — service, selflessness, sacrifice.

It is also a time to honor those who carry on this tradition of service today. Great Americans continue to step forward and serve both overseas and at home as part of a joint team of soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines. Together, this team is working to defeat tyranny and

aggression and secure freedom and liberty for generations to come.

We in the 14th Air Force are proud to be part of that tradition of service as we operate, employ and support space capabilities around the globe.

The sacrifices and dedication of our "space warriors" insure America can control and exploit the high ground of space anytime, anywhere to enable military operations. We provide commanders with the means to ensure global vigilance, global presence and global reach in order to defeat our enemies, protect innocent human life and sustain the peace.

Today we continue our global war on terror and more than ever we must stay vigilant as we fight an unpredictable and resilient enemy. Our world was changed forever on 11 Sep 2001, but as Thomas Paine said over 220 years ago: "... tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph." Please join me in remembering and honoring those veterans who have given so much so that our lives and world could be safer and better. Thank you for your service and may God bless you, your families and this great country.



Maj. Gen. Mike Hamel

**Hometown:** Fairmont, W.V.

**Time in service:** West Virginia University ROTC commission with 13 years active duty

**Recent career history:**

Dec. 1997 - July 2000 1st Helicopter Squadron at Andrews AFB, Md.

July 2000 - July 2002 chief of Helicopter Assignments, Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph AFB, Texas

July 2002 - June 2003 Air Command and Staff College Maxwell AFB, Ala.

June 2003 - Present 76th Helicopter Flight commander I bring more than 2,700 hours of helicopter experience to the team. I have been an instructor/evaluator pilot for 10 years, including a tour at the formal schoolhouse.

**Leadership philosophy:** My job is to foster a team environment! To do this, I often refer to General Patton's quote: "Never tell people how to do things. Tell them what to do and they will surprise you with their ingenuity." Simply put, the leader provides the guidance and the

environment for the team to excel. The team will excel to overcome any challenge.

**Hobbies:** I enjoy golfing, which really amounts to job security for the grounds-keeper.

**Personal Information:** Happily married to Kelly for nine years with two daughters: Elizabeth, 8, and Madeleine, 6.

**How do you view core values in the AF?** The adherence to core values in the military environment is paramount to maintaining a strong and responsible national defense.

**Who is your role model and why?** I have three mentors who have played a significant role in my career. They have been there to provide guidance regardless of the issue. I can only hope to do the same for others.

**What do you like best about the AF?** The camaraderie in the AF is unmatched by any corporate business and is the primary reason for my decision to make the AF a career and a way of life for my family and me.



Meet the new commander  
Maj. Greg Urtso  
76th Helicopter Flight

PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. MOLLY GILLIAM

**Hometown:** San Bernardino, Calif.

**Time in service:** 11 years

**Time on station:** 13 years

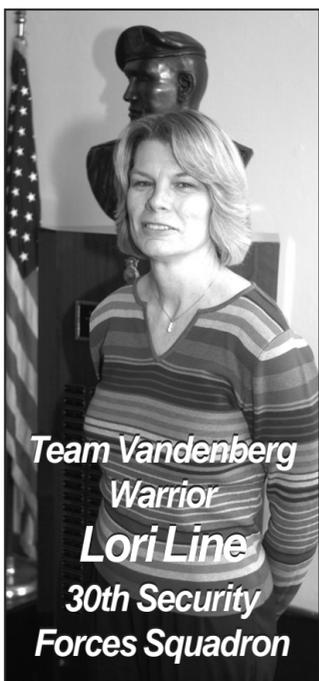
**Role in mission:** security assistant in Reports and Analysis

**How do you contribute to the wing mission?** I have a part in processing all incident paperwork as well as acting as the security forces representative for Federal Magistrate court and the Juvenile Assistance Council.

**What do you like best about the Air Force?** I admire the Air Force members who come together to help and support each other, their families, and other community members.

**What's the most exciting experience you've had so far in the AF?** I get a lot of gratification from helping individuals through the various processes involved in resolving adverse action issues.

**How would you improve life at Vandenberg?** We have a lot going for us here and there have been several improvements made in recent years, however, an additional cost of living allowance would certainly benefit military and civilians.



Team Vandenberg  
Warrior  
Lori Line  
30th Security  
Forces Squadron

PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. CHUCK WALKER

**Who is your favorite leader in history and why?** I have great respect for the women who worked and sacrificed to afford those who came after them more and better career opportunities.

**Favorite movie or book:** The Firm

**Hobbies:** reading, walking, and spending time with friends and my pets.

**Hometown:** Miami, Fla.

**Time in service:** 16.5 years

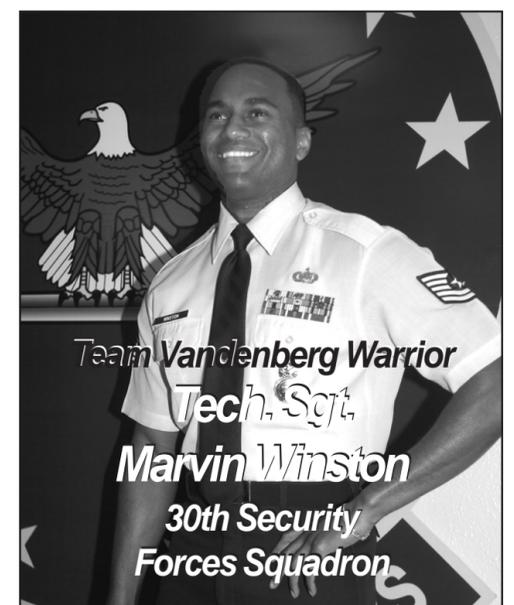
**Time on station:** 3 years

**Role in mission:** NCO in charge of launch operations support. I'm the commander's expert, unit point of contact and liaison for all physical and administrative security requirements for the 30th Security Forces Squadron launch operations. The unit is tasked to provide a safe and secure environment for all commercial and military satellites, components, and missile and rocket launches on the installation.

**How do you fulfill the core values?** I fulfill them by being smart, tough, focused and by making those necessary sacrifices to achieve personal and professional excellence in order to accomplish the mission.

**How would you improve life at Vandenberg AFB?** In my opinion, life on Vandenberg AFB, compared to any other base that I have been assigned to, is excellent. Improvements from this standpoint would only be made from community inputs and concerns or suggestions that the base populace may have.

**Who is your role model and why?** There is no single individual I look to as a role model. I attribute my success as an individual and NCO to superb parenting and my past and present supervisors.



Team Vandenberg Warrior  
Tech Sgt.  
Marvin Winston  
30th Security  
Forces Squadron

PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. CHUCK WALKER

**Who is your favorite leader in history and why?** Martin Luther King. He was an individual who believed in equality and unity amongst all.

**Favorite book:** Any book by Dean Koontz.

**Hobbies:** Spending time out on a lake fishing and keeping trim in the gym.

## ALCON: Alpha

A general condition reflecting responsible alcohol use.

Days since last DUI: 7 AADD saves: 275  
DUI totals for the year: 14

30th OG	1	14th AF	0
30th MXG	1	381st TRG	2
30th MSG	6	576th FLTS	1
30th MDG	0	Det. 9	1
30th SW	0	Others	2

## Dancing the night away



PHOTO BY AIRMAN LAURA MCFARLANE

Maj. Peter Dettelis, 30th Space Wing plans office, and his wife Michelle, were among the more than 350 people who danced the night away at the Centennial of Flight Ball at the Pacific Coast Club here Nov. 1.

## Team V gets opportunity to thank military retirees

By 1st Lt. RICHARD PALMER  
30th Medical Group

The 2003 Retiree Appreciation Day gives Team Vandenberg the chance to thank military retirees and their family members for dedicated service.

The event takes place Nov. 15 at the Pacific Coast Club. All retirees and their family members are invited to participate in this day of information and camaraderie with fellow service members.

Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. with the formal program beginning at 8:30 a.m.

"Retirees are an integral part of our community here and a vital part of the military family," said Col. Frank Gallegos, 30th Space Wing commander. "We encourage them to come out for this educational and entertaining day."

Making reservations for this event is encouraged to help the Pacific Coast Club prepare enough food for all attendees. Everyone interested in attending is urged to contact the Retiree Activities Office as soon as possible – by phone: (805) 606-5474, or e-mail to [retirees.office@vandenberg.af.mil](mailto:retirees.office@vandenberg.af.mil).

To prevent parking problems, the club parking lot will be reserved for handicap attendees. Everyone

else is asked to park at the parade grounds.

Shuttle buses will transport attendees back and forth throughout the day.

Information tables will be set up and organizations will provide literature on various subjects relevant to retirees and their spouses.

Experts will brief on a variety of topics from medical, dental and financial programs to the most updated legislative initiatives being employed.

The Pacific Coast Club will offer a continental breakfast and a buffet style lunch. Meal tickets will be available for purchase during the morning registration. Other dining options include the food court in the Base Exchange and Burger King, which are within walking distance. The main dining room at the club will also be open.

The commissary and base-exchange plan to have promotional items on sale during Retiree Appreciation Day, and you can visit the Joint Retiree Center, which opened three years ago on appreciation day. Team V personnel will also be available to update I.D. cards or vehicle registrations.

## Retiree Appreciation Day Events

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.  
Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:45 – 9 a.m.

Welcome from Col. Frank Gallegos, 30th Space Wing commander

9 – 9:15 a.m.

TriCare

9:15 – 9:30 a.m.

Video: "Launching a Dream"

10 – 10:30 a.m.

Delta Dental

10:30 – 11 a.m.

Defense Finance & Accounting Service

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Lunch

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Retired Maj. Gen. Novaresi speaks

1:30 – 1:45 p.m.

Casualty Affairs

This event promises to be a valuable look into benefits and services along with an opportunity to see the future of America's fighting forces. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Crimebeat ...

COMPILED BY MASTER SGT. WESLEY ASLESON  
30th Security Forces Squadron

Oct. 30

## Stop that barking! – 12:11 a.m.

An airman's wife reported continuously barking dogs from a home on Rolling Hill Drive. An airman at the home was instructed to silence the dogs.

## He zipped when he should've zagged – 4:43 a.m.

A soldier reported striking a deer with a government vehicle on Bear Creek Road and Coast Road damaging the front left fender flare. The soldier said he swerved to avoid one deer and hit another.

## Suspicious activity – 6:50 p.m.

The Vandenberg fire department dispatcher reported a suspicious vehicle with a spotlight traveling on El Rancho Road adjacent to San Antonio Creek. Investigation revealed El Rancho Bridge construction workers were on duty.

## Who let the dogs out? – 7:15 p.m.

An airman's wife residing on Bristol Drive suspected neighborhood children of opening her backyard gate and allowing her pets out while she was away. The 30th Security Forces Squadron rounded up the usual suspects for a line up, but she could not identify the children responsible.

Oct. 31

## Suspected Hit and Run – 3:25 p.m.

An airman reported a maroon pickup backed into her vehicle on California Boulevard and Nebraska Avenue. The airman said the pickup owner then drove away and was possibly unaware of hitting her vehicle.

The vehicle's front quarter panel received scratches.

## No loitering – 4:55 p.m.

A patrolman captured a stray black Labrador and German Shepherd wandering on Mountain View Boulevard. The canines received time in the security forces stray animal facility. The following day an airman bailed his pets out and was issued two Failure to Control Pet letters.

## Darwin Award candidate – 9:40 p.m.

The Main Gate sentry suspected an airman of drunk driving. The open drink beside the driver was a dead giveaway. He was apprehended after failing a Field Sobriety Test and his breath alcohol content was .13. He was released to his first sergeant. The airman was under age 21.

Nov. 1

## No soliciting allowed – 11:20 a.m.

An airman reported two non-base affiliated females soliciting at Minuteman Dormitory... magazine's that is. They did not have written authorization and were removed from the installation.

## Violence not tolerated – 9:15 p.m.

A Marine Corps spouse reported her husband struck her in the head while driving from the Bowling Alley to their quarters. The ride home also included a stop at Cocheo Park where a pushing and shoving match occurred between the couple. The Marine was apprehended for assault and battery. He was issued a "no-contact" order and released. The wife was not seriously injured.

Nov. 2

## No helmet, no service

A patrolman observed three youth's in the Youth Center Skate Park skateboarding without helmets. Two of the boys were an airman's guests on base and released to the airman. The other, an airman's son, was transported to his home and the airman briefed.

## STRIPES:

From Page A1

Wayne Miller Jr., 532nd TRS  
Lebron Miranda, 532nd TRS  
Brandon Moore, 532nd TRS  
Dustin Riccioni, 532nd TRS  
Cottrell Tannehill, 532nd TRS  
Andrew Wamble, 532nd TRS  
Kevin White, 532nd TRS  
Jason Flannery,  
534th Training Squadron  
Tammy Washkow,  
30th Space Wing

## Being promoted to

airman first class, are:

Bradley Barkhauer,  
Detachment 1, 345th TRS  
Matthew Burt,  
Detachment 1, 345th TRS  
Shawn Seher, 532nd TRS  
Walter Krivitsky,  
533rd Training Squadron  
Juanika Glover, 30th SW  
Shaun Russel, 30th SW  
Edmund Gibbons, 30th Space  
Communications Squadron  
Heather Griess, 30th SCS  
Sean Crichton, 30th Logistics  
Readiness Squadron  
Diarra Morris,  
30th Range Squadron  
Carlos Novelo Lopez,  
30th Mission Support Squadron  
Adam Pollow,  
30th Security Forces Squadron

## Being promoted to senior airman, are:

Quonzeles Byrd,  
30th Civil Engineer Squadron  
Patrick Jefferson, 30th CES  
Tyrhonda Johnson, 30th Medical  
Operations Squadron  
Astrid Ramirez, 533rd TRS  
Juan Recendiz, 30th LRS  
Javier Zaragoza, 30th LRS

## Being promoted to staff sergeant, are:

Jeffrey Clemens,  
576th Flight Test Squadron  
Steven Thomas, 576th FLTS  
Timothy Collins, 614th Space  
Intelligence Squadron  
Lindsay Jacobs, 30th MDOS  
Matthew Ruggiero, 30th SCS  
Luis Salcido, 30th SFS

## Being promoted to technical sergeant, are:

Eugene Doctor, 30th SW  
Richard Miller, 30th LRS  
Richard Ribeiro, 30th MSS  
John Weisman, 30th SCS

## Being promoted to master sergeant, are:

Scottie Benson,  
2nd Space Launch Squadron  
Bradley Squires, 2nd SLS  
Stephen Carmean Jr., 532nd TRS  
Hulan Greaves, Detachment 1, 345th TRS  
Johnny Hillary Jr., 30th CES  
Scott Love, 576th FLTS

## HOUSING:

From Page A1

The upgrades include ceiling fans and mini blinds; replacing patio doors and carbon monoxide detectors; upgrading electrical systems; replacing gas lines, wrought iron fencing; repairing storm sewers and sidewalks and overlaying some streets. Exterior painting will be done and faulty garage doors will be replaced, Edlund said.

"We are upgrading some field grade officer units on Laurel, Ash and Beech Streets," Edlund said. "We'll replace countertops, replace and coordinate all light fixtures (everything will match), replace exterior light fixtures, install master bedroom ceiling fans, change out bathroom jalousie windows and install programmable thermostats. We have a similar project to upgrade some of the senior officer housing."

In addition to the aforementioned

upgrades, Edlund said they will replace bathroom vanities and master bedroom windows, install phone jacks in the living room and replace window screens.

"This project has been awarded a site visit to each unit is needed to take measurements for countertops," Edlund said. "The visit should take (30 minutes) per unit. (The) exact date and time of the visit will be at the discretion of the occupant, she said. Construction will start Jan 26, 2004 at the convenience of the occupant and should take no more than two days per unit.

"During the construction program, we will keep disruptions to families to a minimum," said Edlund. "We will not assign permanent party officers to houses projected to be demolished in FY05. We will assign those families to Arbor, Cherry, Beech and Ash Streets. This will allow us to vacate the majority of the units through attrition.

"We will provide families required to

relocate with as much advanced notice as possible. (The) FY05 construction will be accomplished in two phases to allow us to move families from old to new housing after the completion of the first units," she added.

Not only will there be new housing for permanent party, now new housing on portions of Korina street will be assigned to accompanied student officers on one-year tours, she said.

"All movement into (the old houses) will stop 18 months before the demolition date. This will ensure all units will be vacated in a timely manner," said the chief of housing flight.

She said a lot of the residents are notified before moving in that they will be required to move out in time. Some residents move out early by choice.

That was the case with Tech. Sgt. Mark McKinney, 30th Space Wing information manager.

He said he moved by choice and it was

just a matter of setting the date for their move.

"It was probably the smoothest (move) we've had," McKinney said. "The next occupants were able to move in almost right away; not much maintenance or cleaning (was) required. Just look at our current home and you'll see the pride we, and specifically my wife, takes in the appearance of our base home.

"The new housing is far superior to the older housing we were in," he said.

McKinney, who paid for his move, said his advice to base residents who are moving into new housing should make a solid, well-thought out plan ahead of time and start pricing moving companies ahead of time before moving.

According to Edlund, all residents will not be required to pay for their move. It depends on each individual situation. Those residents who are currently residing in old housing that is not scheduled for demolition and want to move into new

housing will be required to pay for their move, because its considered a convenience move.

However, those residents who are required to move out of old base housing into new housing because their homes are being demolished will have their move paid for, Edlund said.

So the future of Vandenberg's housing is set and there is a constant effort to make continued improvements until the project is complete.

"These efforts along with our maintenance program will keep our housing communities safe, comfortable, desirable and attractive places to live, work and play," Edlund said.

So residents who find themselves curious about all the construction going on, can rest assure it's all for the betterment of the community. With new and up to date homes arriving on the market every day, Vandenberg is in the running to meet the requirements of the changing times.

## BRIEFS:

From Page A1

advises airmen that there is a bogus myPay Web site at [www.mypay.com](http://www.mypay.com). When personal information is loaded into the system, it can be connected to commercial loan vendors. The official myPay Web site is <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.asp>.

## GATE OPENINGS

The Santa Maria, Lompoc and Timber Lane Gates are open 24 hours. The Utah Gate is open 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. The Titan Gate is open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily.

## EAGLE EYES

The Air Force's Eagle Eyes program is a community based defensive program combating terrorism. Team V members are encouraged to keep an eye out for suspicious behaviors and report them immediately. To report any unusual behavior, call the Air Force Office of Special

Investigations at 606-1852 or the law enforcement desk at 606-3911.

## TOUR GUIDES

30th Space Wing Public Affairs seeks company grade officers and NCOs to conduct base tours for visiting groups. The duty requires some advanced training and orientation, but takes only short periods of time from regular duties. Call Jack Hokanson at 606-3595 for details.

## OSI RECRUITING

The Air Force Office of Special Investigations is recruiting new agents in grades E-4 through E-7 with less than 12 years total active federal military service. First term airmen must be within their retraining window in order to apply. A cross-flow board is scheduled for November 2003 for active-duty officers in the grades of O-1 through O-3. Call Special Agent Casey Fitzpatrick at 606-1852 for details.

## FIRE:

From Page A1

said. "Sometimes it's hose deployment, if it doesn't go the way you want it to, you have to adapt and find a way around it. Other times it's fire behavior. You learn a lot by seeing how it burns and what the wind does."

"We got into a situation Saturday night where we had fire in front of us, fire behind and it was leaping across the road," said Vandenberg fire captain Bill Burch. He and Arguijo were working behind the engine on a hand line while Vandenberg fire engineer Greg Leptich was on the pump. "That's when Greg started hollering, 'hey we got fire in front of us,'" Burch said. "Ralph and I were working the fire behind and we had to literally make a quick retreat. We put a hole in a section of the hose so we could get the water out of there fast," he added. "Greg barely had time to shut down the pump. We took off until it blew back and then we went right back to our equipment."

Teamwork and experience aside, the Engine 9 crew said they were touched by the kindness shown by the people whose homes they'd fought to save.

One local teacher summed up the community spirit in a letter she sent to the firefighters.

"As I read and listen to the stories my students share, I realize how many of them very nearly lost their homes," wrote Peggy Weak, a second grade teacher at Walnut Canyon School. "All of us appreciate your bravery, skill and determination."

After the Central Coast Strike Team's initial 40 hours fighting the fire, the crew got its first break in a base camp away from the action. There, a group of high school students passed out refreshments.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. REBECCA DANET

Vandenberg firefighter Ralph Arguijo relaxes at base camp after spending 24 hours straight battling the Simi Fire.

"You know firemen, we're supposed to be tough guys," Burch said. "It was really touching to see these kids come in and be so gracious. The community spirit has been amazing."

In addition to the Simi Fire, Vandenberg firefighters deployed to the Piru Fire about 30 miles north of Simi Valley. That fire is about 85 percent contained and covers nearly 64,000 acres. One Vandenberg firefighter is still supporting that incident.

# “What advice would Sergeant Caro give?”

By STAFF SGT. JAMES FRANCIERE  
533rd Training Squadron

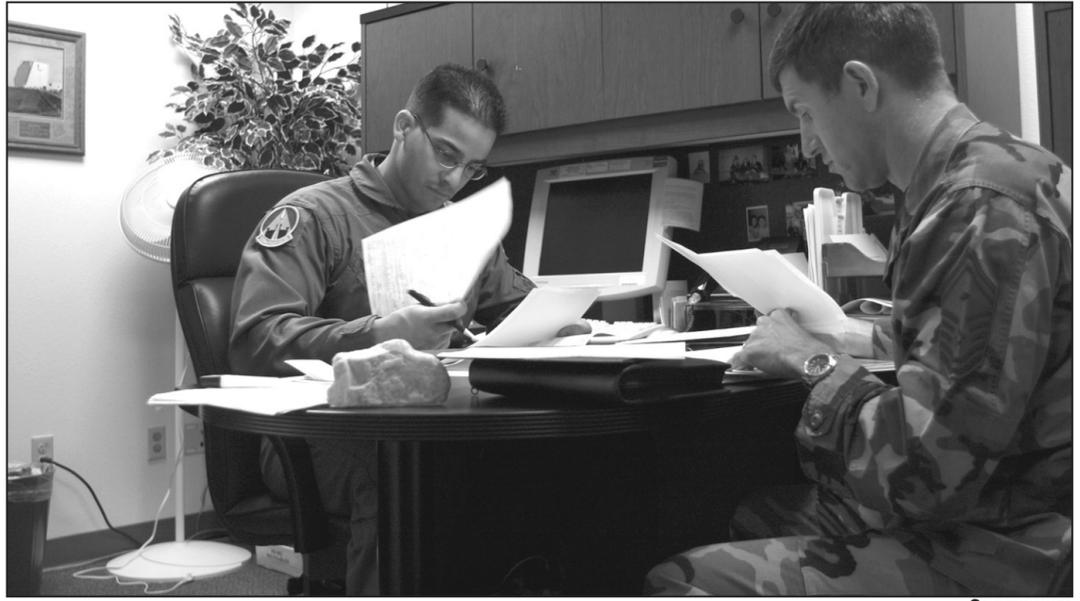
A couple days ago, a fellow NCO approached me for advice with a problem he was confronted with. My first thought was, “What advice would Sergeant Caro give?”

Senior Master Sgt. Ben Caro has been a part of the 533rd Training Squadron and the 381st Training Group since 1999 – he departs Vandenberg for Patrick AFB, Fla. later this month.

Prior to him becoming our squadron first sergeant, I really only interacted with him in passing in the hallway. It didn't take long, though, for his knowledge,

personality and leadership qualities to make him invaluable to the squadron.

During his time at the 533rd, I've taken note of his leadership qualities. Caro has managed to achieve the respect of young airmen and NCOs by showing



COURTESY PHOTO

Senior Master Sgt. Ben Caro (left) leaves his post as the 533rd Training Squadron first sergeant for a new assignment as superintendent of the 45th Range Squadron at Patrick AFB, Fla.

three of the most important qualities people look for in a position of leadership when they seek guidance.

He's approachable. About anything – regardless of how, when or where. He carries a friendly atmosphere and gives his troops a mutual respect that puts them at ease when they approach him.

He's rational. He's level-headed and uses common sense concurrently with realistic military judgment. He has the openness to tell you like it is if you're thinking irrationally, but gives sound advice as well.

He tries. He does it with the honesty and integrity befitting the uniform we wear. He has the military experience that knows when to take “no” for an answer, but more importantly when not to and how not to.

“He's a great listener. He's the type of person that if you need help, he will go out his way and help you out,” said Airman 1st Class Gerald Ocampo, 533rd TRS. “He may have the look of being tough, but he's actually a people person. He's a good motivator too! I'll miss him, even though he may not believe it (laughs).”

One year ago, Staff Sgt. Chad Smith found out his mother had developed a brain aneurysm.

Not knowing what else to do, he immediately called Caro at home for advice. Caro told him, “Get on the next plane, don't worry about anything, and let me know if there is anything else I can

do.”

Smith was on the next available flight home, and – though his mother thankfully recovered – he still speaks of how reassuring it is knowing Caro is around when something like that happens.

To be successful, Caro encourages supervisors to lead by example and be available.

“If the troops don't feel you're approachable or willing to help, they will never come to you with their concerns. Consequently, they'll be thinking about their problems, concerns or personal life as opposed to concentrating their full effort on the task at hand and accomplishing their part of the overall mission.”

Among some of Caro's fondest memories here are the squadron functions where he enjoyed spending leisure time with his fellow squadron members.

“It's a combination of all the things the 533rd has done that have made this assignment extremely favorable,” he said. “Especially within the 381st Training Group, the 533rd has been known in the past to be a fun-loving squadron that excels in everything they do.”

“We've had more internal parties – Halloween, Thanksgiving, Summer Blowout, pig roasts, putt-putt tournaments – and offsite excursions – Boomers, Six Flags, Universal Studios – than any

other squadron in the group and yet we were able to excel in every single inspection that came our way.”

He says he's going to miss a number of things.

“I will definitely miss all the people. Throughout my four years, I've seen many people come and go, however it seems as though we keep getting great personnel into the unit. In my roles as Superintendent and First Sergeant, I feel I've been able to develop good rapport with most of our folks and that alone has made reporting to duty very enjoyable.”

The 533rd Training Squadron commander, Lt. Col. Arthur Beisner, adds that Caro sets the example for the squadron through high military standards.

“He is my go-to person for advice on squadron issues and on decisions I make as squadron commander,” said Beisner. “He succinctly presents both sides of a story. I can really tell he cares about the Air Force, our mission, and especially our folks here in the 533rd.”

As Caro departs to his new job as the 45th Range Squadron superintendent, he leaves a final piece of advice to the members of the 533rd.

“If the majority of us set our sights on our goals and give them a really good effort we are going to be successful. There is no doubt in my mind that we can achieve our goals, be successful and enjoy life while we're at it. It's all a matter of perspective.”

# Around the Air Force

## Auto-continuation rules change

By TECH. SGT. DAVID JABLONSKI

*Air Force Print News*

■ **WASHINGTON** — Regular and Air Force Reserve captains on the active-duty list who are not selected for promotion to major two or more times should not count on automatic continuation said personnel officials.

The new policy will affect captains meeting the Dec. 8 major promotion board. Only a limited number of people in specific career fields who are not selected for promotion for the second time during the CY03B major board will be offered continuation.

"Although the complete list of eligible career fields is still being reviewed, we believe it's best to get the word out about the change to continuation policy sooner rather than later," said Maj. Gen. John

Speigel, director for personnel policy and deputy chief of staff for personnel. "People need as much time as possible to prepare for their future, whether that entails separation or further opportunities to serve their country."

Personnel officials will finalize the selective continuation eligibility list before the CY03B board convenes. Once approved, continuation details will be posted on the AFPC promotions Web site.

## Reservist gives life-saving breath

By SANDRA HENRY

*919th Special Operations Wing*

*Public Affairs*

■ **DUKE FIELD, Fla.** — A craving for bacon and eggs one recent Saturday morning put a 919th Special Operations Wing reservist in the right place at the right time to save the life of a man in the parking lot where she went to shop

for breakfast.

Senior Airman Sonya Brownhill, a resource manager for 5th Special Operations Squadron aircrew training at nearby Eglin Air Force Base, hopped in her car at about 5:30 a.m. to make a quick trip to a convenience store. When she arrived at the store, she saw a woman in a vehicle yelling for someone to help her husband who was unconscious.

"She was yelling that her husband was having a heart attack and that someone should call for help," Brownhill said.

Brownhill saw another man, a bystander in a mechanic's uniform who wished to remain anonymous, already at the scene pushing on the man's chest. She grabbed her gym bag and ran to assist. She and the bystander pulled the unconscious man from the vehicle for better access.

"He didn't seem sure what to

do, so I just took over," she said. "The only thing going through my mind was that (the unconscious man) needs to breathe. If I stop, he is not going to be breathing."

"The selflessness demonstrated by Senior Airman Brownhill to assist someone in need made a huge difference in the lives of a family she never met before," said Capt. Craig Keyes, from the Florosa Fire Department. "I was proud it was an ... airman who was able to do it!" (*Courtesy of Air Force Reserve Command News Service*)

## Scholarship program kicks off

By DONNA MILES

*American Forces Press Service*

■ **WASHINGTON** — The application period for the children of active-duty, retired, Guard and Reserve members to apply for \$1,500 academic scholarships kicks off Nov. 4. The application window for the 2004 Scholarships for Military Children program extends through Feb. 18.

In four years, the Defense Commissary Agency program has awarded nearly \$2.5 million in scholarships to about 1,500 children of U.S. servicemembers and retirees.

Last year, 550 scholarship recipients were selected from 6,500

applicants.

For more information about the scholarship program and application procedures, visit the program's Web site at [www.militaryscholar.org](http://www.militaryscholar.org).

## Cadets may face drug charges

■ **U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo.** — Charges were preferred Oct. 31 against three cadets for drug use.

Cadets 1st Class John-Paul Doolin, James Long and Shane Thomas were charged with various violations of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

No dates have been set for Article 32 hearings or court-martial.

## Airman witnesses deadly attack

By MASTER SGT. JOHN NORRGREN

*447th Air Expeditionary Group*

*Public Affairs*

■ **BAGHDAD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, Iraq** — A scheduling mistake that stranded an Air Force photographer overnight in the Al Rasheed Hotel lobby in Baghdad made him an eyewitness to the rocket attack that killed one soldier and injured 15 others Oct. 26.

Airman 1st Class Brian Ferguson, from the 447th

Expeditionary Communications Squadron, was dozing in the hotel's lobby when the attack occurred. Sitting about two feet from a large picture window, he saw some of the rockets pass by.

"I got left at the Al Rasheed by the folks who were going to take me back to (the coalition provisional authority complex) to stay (for the night)."

I was napping on and off in a chair in the lobby," he said. "All of a sudden I woke up ... I heard whistles, something like a muffled boom. It didn't last long, maybe 30 to 40 seconds.

I felt maybe two or three rockets actually hit the building. One was pretty solid; it shook the building."

"My first instinct was to take a photograph; my second instinct was to get down," Ferguson said. "I got down."

Since documenting events is his job, he opted to do just that. Considering what was going on around him, Ferguson was careful to not get in the way.

"I made sure I didn't get any pictures of injured personnel or anything somebody back home wouldn't want to see," Ferguson said.

(These articles are courtesy of *Air Force Print News*. To view the full stories go to the *Air Force Web site* at [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil))

## Preparing for powwow



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. EFRAIN GONZALEZ

**MIDWEST CITY, Okla.** — After painting his face, Eddie "Two Clouds" Zermeno prepares to dance at the Tinker Inter-Tribal Council's first powwow. Everything he wears, including the color of his face paint, is symbolic. Zermeno is a journeyman electrician at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. November is Native American Heritage Month.

## Travelers support troops at airport

By DONNA MILES

*American Forces Press Service*

■ **WASHINGTON** — Nearly everyone has experienced it at one time or another: An airport bogged down by bad weather, delayed and cancelled flights, and cranky, overtired travelers wanting nothing more than to get to their destinations.

That was exactly what Will Ross, an administrative judge for the Defense Department's Office of Hearings and Appeals in Los Angeles, encountered Oct. 27 at the Baltimore/Washington International Airport.

But he said what he witnessed that day made him proud to be an American.

"(It) also told me why we will win this war (on terrorism)," Ross said.

Like many of his fellow

passengers, Ross had been forced to spend the night in Baltimore. His outbound flight, scheduled for the night before, had been cancelled because of the California wildfires. They had forced the Los Angeles International Airport to close, and the ripple effect drove domestic travel nationwide into a tailspin.

When Ross reported to the airline counter the following morning for the next scheduled flight to Los Angeles, bad weather and aircraft mechanical problems made the prospect of a timely trip even grimmer.

As he waited in the terminal, Ross noticed many servicemembers in their desert camouflage uniforms, arriving from Southwest Asia. All, like Ross and the other passengers at the airport, were awaiting connecting flights — but in the servicemembers' case, it was to begin two weeks of rest and recuperation leave.

Flight delays continued and the airport had become, in Ross's

words, "a zoo." By the afternoon, one particular flight to Denver had been delayed several hours. Airline agents kept asking for volunteers to give up their seats and take another flight, but with few takers, Ross said.

Finally, Ross said an airline spokeswoman for the Denver flight got on the public address system and made a desperate plea.

"Folks, as you can see, there are a lot of soldiers in the waiting area," the agent said. "They only have 14 days of leave and we're trying to get them where they need to go without spending any more time in an airport than they have to."

"We sold them all tickets knowing we would oversell the flight. If we can, we want to get them all on this flight. We want all the soldiers to know ... we respect what you're doing, we are here for you and we love you," the agent continued.

"The entire terminal of cranky, tired, travel-weary people, a cross-

section of America, broke into sustained and heartfelt applause," Ross said. "We're talking about several hundred people applauding, a whole terminal."

"The soldiers looked surprised and very modest," he said. "Most of them just looked at their boots."

Many of the travelers in the terminal wiped away tears, Ross said.

"And, yes," Ross said, "people lined up to take the later flight and all the soldiers went to Denver on that flight."

Ross said he figured that 30 or 40 people had suddenly jumped at the chance to offer their seats to the servicemembers.

"I think people realized that this fight is going to be long and drawn-out, and these kids are in the thick of it," he said. "It was heartwarming to see their outpouring of support."

# 30th Space Wing makes comeback

*With a playoff spot on the line, 30th SW shows no mercy for 30th LRS, they destroy their hopes of winning instead*

By Staff Sgt. Chuck Walker

30th Space Communications Squadron

With their team needing a win to gain the No. 1 seed in next week's playoffs and seeking some revenge for an earlier defeat, the quarterback-receiver duo of David Drake and Omar Robinson delivered big games for the 30th Space Wing intramural flag football team.

Drake passed for 256 yards, three touchdowns, and returned an interception for a touchdown and Robinson caught five passes for 126 yards and two touchdowns to lead the Space Wing to a 28-7 whipping of the 30th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

The victory secures the Space Wing as the No. 1 seed next week and gives it momentum heading into the playoffs.

"Our line did a great job of blocking and gave our receivers a lot of time to freelance and to get open," Robinson said. "Revenge is sweet. When we have all of our guys here, there's not a team in the league that can beat us."

The Space Wing set the tone for the game early. On its first possession, Drake hit player-coach Darren Savella on a 33-yard strike to give the Space Wing a 7-0 lead.

After LRS went four-and-out on its first possession, Drake hit Robinson on a 37-yard bomb to give the Space Wing a 14-0 lead.

Just before halftime, LRS quarterback Donovan Gonzalez hit Andre Dean on a five-yard score to make it 14-7 at the break.

Drake killed any thoughts of an LRS comeback on its first possession of the second half when he returned an interception 25 yards for a touchdown.

Robinson put the final touches on the blowout by catching a 59-yard bomb from Drake to end the scoring at 28-7.

The victory gets the Space Wing back into the winning column after dropping two games last week, mostly due to lack of offensive output.

"We knew we had to win because we haven't played well the last couple of games," Savella said. "We wanted to send a message that yes, we are human, but yes we are back as well."

Savella said Drake took his game to another level against LRS.

"He definitely stepped it up, more than anybody," Savella said. "Last two games he had more interceptions, five, than he did touchdowns. He definitely turned it around and had a big game for us."

For LRS it was just a matter of running into the No. 1 team in the league.

"They just had a good team," LRS player-coach Donovan Gonzalez said.

"They're a good, fast, young team. We failed to convert on some fourth downs and failed to convert some long drives. We had trouble with them. They beat us pretty good."

Gonzalez said LRS will need more players and better focus if wants to be successful in the playoffs next week.

"We need some continuity and we need to get more people out," Gonzalez said. "We've been playing iron-man football and we don't have any subs. We just need to make the easy plays and be patient. If we can do that and maintain our focus and concentration we can have success."

The Space Wing will try to justify its No. 1

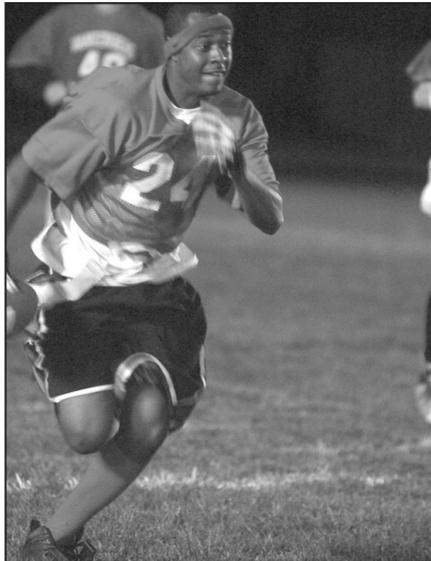


PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. CHUCK WALKER

**Omar Robinson, receiver, ducks and dodges the opposition Tuesday, in an attempt at getting a touchdown for the 30th Space Wing team. Robinson made three touch downs.**

seeded next week as it seeks to win the base championship.

Savella said his team is ready for the challenge.

"We're a young team, we just need to keep our composure," Savella said. "We also need to be level headed. We also need to play with poise. We just can't beat ourselves."

## Falcons fall in triple overtime

By John Van Winkle

U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

■ **U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo.** — A quarterback's slip on the turf and a tight end's first career pass led to the Air Force Academy's third loss of the season, as the University of Utah edged the Falcons 45-43 in triple overtime Nov. 1.

Entering the third overtime period, the Falcons held the ball first. Driving down to the 4-yard line, halfback Anthony Butler dove in for the touchdown, putting the Falcons up 43-37.

NCAA rules require teams to go for a two-point conversion, once the game reaches the third overtime period.

The Falcons went option left with quarterback Chance Harridge carrying the ball.

But Harridge, who had already run for three touchdowns and passed for a fourth, slipped on the ice-soaked grass as he tried to cut upfield with a clear path to the end zone in sight.

The Falcons were up by only six as Utah began its overtime possession.

The loss drops the Falcons to third place in the Mountain West Conference standing with a 3-2 conference record and 6-3 overall.

The Falcons next host service academy rival Army on Saturday. The Falcons wrap up the regular season with away games against conference foes New Mexico and San Diego State.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News).

## Sports Briefs

### CGO COURSE RUN

The Company Grade Officer Course run is at 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the obstacle course. Call 2nd Lt. Korinne Houston at 605-0782.

### BODY CONDITIONING

A total body conditioning class is held from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the Services Center.

### SPIN ON SCHWINN

Through Dec. 19 at the services center take a 10 minute ride on a new stationary bike from Schwinn. Give a quick survey on what you think and you'll have a

chance to take the bike home.

### YOUTH GOLF LESSONS

Marshallia Ranch Golf course holds youth golf lessons at 1:30 p.m. Saturday for youth ages eight and up.

The price is \$5 per session including the use of a rental club set and range balls.

### FITNESS CONTEST

The 'Walk Your Way Through the Holidays' fitness contest begins Monday and runs through Dec. 19. Sign up at the fitness or health and wellness center.

### TENNIS TOURNAMENT

A tennis tournament is at 10 a.m. Saturday at the base tennis courts.

### RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT

A racquetball tournament takes place today at the base main gym.

## Intramural Sports

### American League Flag Football

Team	Wins	Losses
LRS	6	5
CES No.2	5	6
OG/SCS	1	11
SW	10	2
SFS	6	4

### National League Flag Football

Team	Wins	Losses
14/614	11	3
MDG	9	6
533RD	6	9
576TH	9	6
CES No. 1	0	10
381ST	9	5

### Winter Softball

Team	Wins	Losses
SFS No. 1	1	1
SFS No. 2	1	1
CES No. 1	1	2
CES No. 2	2	0
NRO	2	1
14AF	0	3
HAWKS	2	0
1 ASTS	2	0
WS	2	1
533RD	1	1
576TH	1	2
392ND	0	3

# Destinations

# CENTRAL COAST

SPACE & MISSILE TIMES

Nov. 7, 2003

## Outdoor types find nature at its best in Santa Barbara

By MAJ. STACEE N. BAKO

30th Space Wing Public Affairs

Santa Barbara, or the American French Riviera, as it's known, has always had appeal to me. I find the contrast between the ocean waves lapping up on the beautiful beaches against the rugged Santa Ynez Mountains creates one of the most spectacular dioramas I've ever seen. As such, I venture down that way as much as possible. Perhaps not so much as in my B.C. days (before children), but enough to find fun things to do.

My husband and I are outdoorsy types so we're always trying to get our kids involved in outdoor activities and we thought a little trip to the Santa Barbara Botanic Gardens would be a nice adventure for our little ones.

Sunday afternoon we headed up to Mission Canyon Road to the Gardens. The SB Botanic Garden declares itself an "educational and scientific institution, fostering stewardship of the natural world through inspired learning, rigorous scholarship, and premier displays." What that meant to us was a fun nature walk.

There are five miles of walking trails ranging from easy to moderate in difficulty. We chose a mostly "easy" mile-long walk that took us through the Desert,



The Bako boys walk through towering redwoods at the Santa Barbara Botanic Gardens. The Campbell Trail is a one mile walk in the Gardens along Mission Creek.

Meadow, Redwood and Canyon sections of the Garden. since our babies are only 2 and 15 months, and strollers were not much of an option. The little guys were troopers though and walked all of it except the big stairs at the end of the trail. The hazards along the way were mostly stumps or rocks that tripped the boys up now and again, and the poison oak, that required repeating,

"stay on the path" every 10 steps or so, but besides that it was a beautiful scenic walk showcasing indigenous plants from cacti to huge redwood trees.

The Gardens came about in 1925 as a collaborative effort between the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History and the Carnegie Institution. According to the Web site, Carnegie's representative, plant

ecologist Dr. Frederic Clements came to Santa Barbara to find geographic sites that could be used for experimental plant research. The next year, Anna Dorinda Blakley Bliss, a local philanthropist, purchased thirteen acres in Mission Canyon for the Museum.

This initial gift and subsequent acreage given in 1932 provided the foundation for the Blakley Botanic Garden's creation and first ten years of operation.

In 1939, the Botanic Garden incorporated as a separate organization and was renamed the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden.

The goal was to create a garden of native plants that would "...unite the aesthetic, educational and scientific." Based on concepts developed by Clements, the garden was originally laid out in various plant communities, such as chaparral, desert, and prairie with an emphasis on plants from the Pacific slope of North America. Experimental groupings of significant plants were also displayed for horticultural



Left: A wooden stairway is a portion of the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden's trailways which offers hikers a chance to see wildlife at its best. There are more than five miles of pathways to walk in the garden. The botanic garden is a non-profit institution dedicated to the education and understanding of native California plant life. Below: Hayden Bako, 1, walks along one of the garden's paved walk ways exploring its native creatures.



### SBBG General information

The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden has been delighting visitors with plants and wildlife to investigate. The garden is a remarkable collection of native vegetation and creatures. The garden provides five and a half miles of path to walk, childrens programs, a natural living museum, lectures, workshops, special exhibits, and visual bliss.

Admissions are as follows: \$5 for adults \$3 for students, teens and seniors 60 or older Free for children under five. Group rates are available. Members enter free. The garden hours are: Weekdays: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. November to February 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. March to October Weekends: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. November to February 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. March to October For driving directions go to the Web site [www.sbbg.org](http://www.sbbg.org).



As a form of protection, this garden lizard blends so well with his surroundings he's barely visible.

research and to educate the public. By 1936 this emphasis had narrowed to plants native to the state of California and now includes northwestern Baja California and southwestern Oregon, which are part of the California "floristic province," according to the Garden's literature.

Formal recognition efforts as a cultural resource began several years ago when the Garden's Mission Dam was named a State Historic Landmark as well as designated a Santa Barbara County Landmark.

Today the Garden offers guided tours everyday at 2 p.m. as well as an additional tour at 10:30 on Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays, has a Garden

Growers Nursery that grows and sells native California and Mediterranean plants as well as a Garden Shop and library where you can learn everything you'd want to know about getting and maintaining a green thumb.

The Gardens are open year round from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. March through October and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. November through February, except for Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Day and New Year's Day. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors (over 60), students and teens, and \$1 for children 5 to 12. Under 5, children walk for free.

The Gardens offer classes and lectures as well as school group tours. Call (805) 682-4726 for more information.

## Community Calendar

**7 FRI** REDUX, Career Status Bonus - 11 a.m. to noon today at the family support center. Call 606-0039.

"Russia By Motorcycle: A Photographic Adventure" - 7 to 9:30 p.m. today at the Lompoc Center.

Girl Scouts Go Nuts sale - through Saturday. To find a troop, call (888) 824-7747 ext. 105.

**7 FRI** Harvest Celebration - through Saturday in San Luis Obispo. Participants visit area wineries and restaurants tasting gourmet foods and wines. For more information, call the SLO chamber of commerce at (805) 781-2777 or visit [www.visitslo.com](http://www.visitslo.com).

Youth Basketball scholarships - Applications are located at the youth center and base library.

**8 FRI** Cell phone collection - Family Advocacy is collecting used cell phones and accessories to be recycled for people involved in domestic violence.

Collection boxes are located at the commissary, base exchange and medical clinic. Call 606-8217.

**10 MON** Relaxation room - 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Vandenberg Health and Wellness Center. Call 606-2221 for an appointment.

**11 TUE** Stress & Self Management class - 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Dec. 9 at the Health and Wellness Center. Learn skills to deal with conflict, relaxation techniques and positive lifestyle choices. Call 606-0039. Vandenberg Retiree Activities Center -

**11 TUE** Open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Friday in building 10346 in the base exchange shopping center. Call 606-5474 for more information.

Sign language classes - 3 to 3:50 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the education center room E-4. The class is for children in first through third grades. Call (805) 929-6902.

Baby Meet - 9 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the religious education center, building 16140. Baby Meet offers discussion and socialization for expectant parents and those with babies newborn through two years old. Call 734-1461.

**12 WED** Playtime for Tots - 10 a.m. Wednesdays at Cocheo Park. The playgroup is for parents

and children ages two to five. Call 734-2098.

**12 WED** Catholic fellowship - noon Wednesdays at Cocheo Park following 11:30 a.m. mass at Chapel 2.

**13 THU** AFSA meeting - The Air Force Sergeant's Association, Chapter 1356 is conducting a general membership meeting at 3:30 p.m. Thursday in the Services Center.

AFSA membership is open to all active duty and retired enlisted military.

Risk reduction classes - 2 to 4 p.m. Thursdays at the HAWC. Call 606-2221 to sign up.

Chapel singles group - 6:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday of the month at G.I. Java.

Prayer Breakfast - 6:30 a.m. Thursday at the Chapel 1 Annex. Call

Chaplain Terrinoni at 6-5773 for more information.

**14 FRI** Cookie Express - The Vandenberg Spouses Club holds their Annual Cookie Express at 9 a.m. Nov. 14 at the Pacific Coast Club to show appreciation for the many sacrifices single airmen give to support the base.

Help is needed with assembling and decorating 750 cookie bags for delivery to airmen in the dorms. Cookie donations are also needed.

Drop off cookies at the PCC beginning at 6:30 a.m. or cookies may be dropped off early to 633 Aspen Street, on Thursday.

Call Jay LeClere at 588-8205 or Vicki McAlpin at 734-2502 for more information.

Kids movie night - 6

to 8 p.m. Nov. 14 at the Chapel 1 Annex. The night will feature a kid's movie and a simple dinner. This is for kids so mom and dad can have some quiet time.

**15 SAT** Craft and activities lunch - 1130 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 15, at the Chapel 1 Annex.

These events are for spouse of active duty members who are TDY, remote or deployed for more than 30 days.

**23 THU** Thanksgiving Service and Dinner - The Chapel hosts an Ecumenical Thanksgiving service at 5 p.m. Nov. 23 at Chapel 1 followed by Thanksgiving dinner at 6 p.m. in the Chapel 1 annex.

Everyone is invited to this event. Call (Chaplain) Capt. David Terrinoni at 606-5773 for more information.

**Hi-Way Drive-in**  
Santa Maria Ph. 937-3515  
GEN. ADM. \$5 KIDS 4-11 \$1  
THE MATRIX REVOLUTIONS R 7:00 p.m.  
SCARY MOVIE 3 PG-13

**Parks Plaza Buellton**  
Buellton Ph. 688-7434

**RUNAWAY JURY PG-13**  
DAILY 2:00-4:30-7:00 FRI. 9:30  
SAT-SUN 11:30-9:30  
**BROTHER BEAR G**  
DAILY 2:15-4:45-7:15 SAT-SUN 11:45-9:30  
**THE MATRIX REVOLUTIONS R**

**Movie Corner**

DAILY 2:00-4:30-7:00 FRI 9:30 SAT-SUN 11:30-9:30  
**ELF PG**  
DAILY 2:15-4:45-7:15 FRI 9:30 SAT-SUN 11:45-9:30  
**RADIO PG**  
DAILY 2:00-4:30-7:00 FRI 9:30 SAT-SUN 11:30-9:30

**Movies Gemini**  
Lompoc Ph. 736-1306

**BROTHER BEAR G**  
DAILY 4:30-7:00-9:30 SAT-SUN 11:30-2:00  
**ELF PG**  
DAILY 4:30-7:00-9:30 SAT-SUN 11:30-2:00

Call Edwards Santa Maria 10 for movie listings (800) 326-3264

**Movies Lompoc**  
Lompoc Ph. 736-1558

**SCARY MOVIE 3 PG-13**  
DAILY 4:45-7:15-9:30 SAT-SUN 11:45-2:15  
**THE MATRIX REVOLUTIONS**  
DAILY 4:30-6:00-7:00 - 8:30-9:30 SAT-SUN  
11:30-1:00-2:00-3:30  
**RADIO**  
DAILY 4:30-7:00-9:30 SAT-SUN 11:30-2:00

General Admission \$7 kids and seniors  
\$5 All shows before 5:30 p.m. \$5. Movies and times subject to change

### College Football Military Appreciation Night

**Allan Hancock vs. Moorpark at Righetti High School  
Saturday starting at 5 p.m.**

Active-duty airmen and their families are invited to a free tailgate party and barbecue prior to the game. There will be military performances at half-time. Tickets are required to eat for free and are available from unit First Sergeants. Uniform wear is encouraged. Entrance to the game is free with military identification.

# 30th Services News

## SERVICES CENTER

Get ready, it's coming soon!

Family & Teen

## TALENT SHOW

Do you have a talent?  
Do you dance? Sing?  
Play a musical instrument?

If you do, come out and audition for the annual talent show performance held in Dec. We also need volunteers to help with backstage lighting, sound, props, etc. Participation is free for both audition and performance.

**AUDITION**  
Nov. 21, 5 to 10 p.m., at the Vandenberg Center.

**PERFORMANCE**  
Dec. 6, 7 to 9 p.m., at the Vandenberg Center.  
Call Lynn Warner at 605-8974 or Mike Renner at 606-2152 for more information.

**CAKE DECORATING CLASS**  
Nov. 10, 12, 14 and Dec. 8, 10, 12.  
Cost: \$25 for all 6 classes.

Classes held at the Services Center.  
Call 606-7976 for more information.

**AROMATHERAPY TALK**  
The Services Center is offering a free presentation on Christmas and Holy oils, Nov. 13, 11 a.m. to noon.

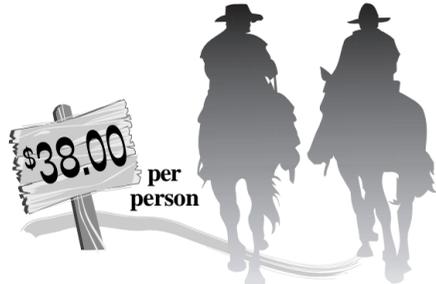
Pick one up today!

## 2004 DISCOVERY DINING BOOKS

Available at the Services Center for \$19.95.

## OUTDOOR REC

### Horseback T-R-A-I-L R-I-D-E at the Circle-B-Ranch



Nov. 22 & Dec. 13  
1:30 to 2:45 p.m.

Sign up deadlines:  
Nov. 14 for Nov. 22 ride  
Dec. 8 for Dec. 13 ride

Depart Outdoor Rec promptly at 11:45 a.m. promptly. For more information or for reservations, call 606-5908.

## CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Are you taking advantage of this great program?



The Air Force has implemented a wonderful program in Family Child Care...

## E-X-T-E-N-D-E-D DAY CARE PROGRAM

The program is available to all military and DoD personnel who are required to work extended duty hours Monday-Friday or weekends. All patrons must be enrolled within the youth flight: Child Development Center, Youth Center or presently in a FCC home, all are eligible to use this great program. Extended Care hours will be provided at a certified FCC provider's home.

For more information on this program, please Contact FCC Coordinator Gwendolyn Jones at 606-4639 or 606-3255.

## SKILLS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

SATURDAY

9 a.m.  
to  
3 p.m.

Front  
Lawn,  
Bowling  
Center

Alternate  
RAIN  
location  
is the  
Services  
Center!

WINTER



FREE CERAMIC  
CRAFTS FOR KIDS!  
6 through 12-yrs  
times to be  
announced by MC

MUSIC!  
Food  
available  
at the  
Bowling  
Center

CRAFTING DEMOS  
throughout the day!

STAINED GLASS  
POTTERY THROWING  
times to be  
announced by MC

Come out Saturday  
for a great day  
of CRAFTS, ART  
and FUN!

For more information, call the Skills Development Center, 606-6438 or the Services Center, 606-5908.

## Find the Missing Reindeer & Win Big

### You heard right...

Eight of Santa's prized reindeer are missing, plus Rudolph, and we need your help to find them. They were last seen in our Services facilities, and chances are they are still hiding out!

Listen to 106.7 My 80s/My 90s/My Music with Jennifer Grant in the morning for daily clues. Clues are also hidden in the Services website, [www.30svs.com](http://www.30svs.com). Game starts Monday. Check the website for the official game rules.

No Federal Endorsement Intended.



## FITNESS CENTER

VAFB Fitness Center  
&  
Health & Wellness Center

Walk your way through the HOLIDAYS

## CONTEST



SIGN-UP  
ANYTIME!  
Contest continues  
until Dec. 19!

### 8-WEEK WALKING CONTEST

Top finishers  
will receive prizes!

The average American  
will gain 10 to 15 pounds  
over the next 3 months!

Sign up at the HAWC or the Fitness Center.

## RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT TODAY

noon at the Fitness Center

**Monday**  
Indoor Cycling  
6 to 6:45 a.m. at  
the Services Center.Fitness  
Improvement Program class

**Tuesday**  
Veterans Day  
Holiday Hours  
8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at  
the Fitness Center

**Thursday**  
Bench Press  
Competition  
noon at the  
Fitness Center

## PACIFIC COAST CLUB

Join us tonight  
at the club and  
sample this  
week's beer!

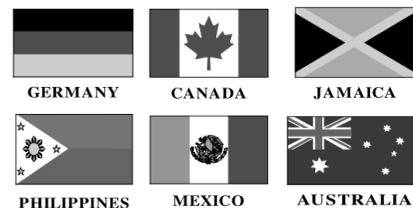


## AROUND THE WORLD

Twenty Countries, Twenty Beers

Object:

To complete your journey around the world by sampling beers offered by the Club from 20 different countries.



Sample  
the great beers  
from these  
countries  
and many  
more!

Enjoy your trip!

## FOGGIO'S New Evening Hours!

Sunday - 5 to 8 p.m. • Mon-Thur - 5 to 9 p.m.  
Fri - 4 to 10 p.m. • Sat - 5 to 9 p.m.