

Base Briefs

OFFICE CLOSURE

The 30th Space Wing Legal Office is closed Monday for a down day. For emergencies, call a legal representative through the base command post.

POW/MIA DAY

Vandenberg AFB honors service members held prisoner of war or missing in action and their families at 2 p.m. Sept. 19.

The base's National POW/MIA Day recognition ceremony takes place at the POW/MIA memorial in front of the base library.

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.

DORM COUNCIL

A Top Life Dorm Council meeting is set for 3 p.m. Sept. 24 in the Delta dayroom, building 13406.

All dorm residents and their supervisors are encouraged to attend. Call Staff Sgt. Raul Molina at 606-3933 for more information.

TRAINING VIDEOS

The Fire Prevention office has new training videos for check out. The videos are for annual fire safety training requirements.

Topics include fire extinguishers, fire drill, fight or flight. Call 9-1-1, Help!, Smokey's Fire Safety Tips, Lessons For Life, Office Fire Safety and Holiday Fire Safety. The videos can be checked out for 2 days. To reserve a copy, call 606-4608 or stop by Fire Station 2, building 10660.

OFFICE CLOSURE

The 30th Medical Group closes on the fourth Thursday of each month for training.

For emergencies a, threat to life, limb or eyesight, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room. For urgent care, call (888) 252-3299 or 606-CARE. Call Capt. Teresa Starks at 606-3308 for more information.

SMT CORRECTION

From "Load 'em up" Page 2 Sept. 12: The bus for Vandenberg's first base tour since Sept. 11, 2001 was provided by the 30th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

A Future Programs briefing is scheduled for 9 a.m. Sept. 22 in the building 7000 theater. This briefing is open to all interested government and support contractor personnel. Call Rose Leventis at 605-2870 for more information.

See BRIEFS Page A2

Army National Guard civilian bosses visit Team Vandenberg

BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS BRYAN FRANKS
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

Ten supervisors and employers of Army National Guardsmen deployed at Vandenberg visited the base last weekend during Boss-lift 2003.

The supervisors and employers were airlifted via Black hawk helicopter from Los Alamitos, Calif. to Vandenberg's flight line where their employees greeted them.

The soldiers of Bravo Company, 578th Engineers Battalion have served here since February, while their employers had to continue business as usual with out them.

The 67 guardsmen were called up to augment the 30th Security Forces Squadron due to the war in Iraq.

The Boss-lift program is set up to give employers a better understanding of what National Guard and Reserve units do when they're deployed. Employers get the opportunity to share the benefits and challenges of having employees who serve in those units.

It gives the guardsmen a chance to show their employers their role in the U.S. military.

"I think it's great," said Sgt. Robert Hammersley, squad leader for the company. "I've been in the National Guard for 13 years and this is the first time to get my boss out to see what we do in the field. This allows



PHOTO BY JANENE SCULLY

Army National Guard Sgt. Robert Hammersley, left, stops for pictures with his civilian co-workers John Palahnuk and Joe Guethlien of Poly-Flow Engineering. The two traveled to Vandenberg for the Boss-lift 2003.

See BOSSES Page A4

Team Vandenberg airmen earn supplemental promotions

The following Team Vandenberg airmen were selected for promotion by the supplemental board.

These individuals may have tested out of cycle due to temporary duty and were not considered during the original release date. They may also have had a weighted factor point change such as valid decoration points added to their total score.

Staff Sergeant

Gabriel Aragon, 30th Space Communications Squadron
Elsie Botello, 30th Operations Group
Joe Callaway Jr., 30th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Brett Guzman, 30th Space Wing
Bradley Hill, 30th SCS
Fred Jackson Jr., 576th Flight Test Squadron
Ronald Mitchell, 576th FLTS
Christopher Newman, 30th Security Forces Squadron
Rivera Perez Ramon, 30th Civil Engineer Squadron
Benedicto Torrijos, 30th CES
Jacob Webb, 30th Aero-medical-Dental Squadron
Danny Williams, 533rd Training Squadron
Technical Sergeant
Steven Leduc, 30th Mission Support Squadron
Wayne Moses, 30th SFS
Matthew Osborn, 30th SCS
Wirick Orion, 30th SCS

AF Star card abuse rates rise

BY AIRMAN JUANIKA GLOVER
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

The military Star card is much like an average credit card in many ways. The user applies for it and is approved based upon their credit. There's an interest rate and payments must be made once a month. Therefore, much like a Visa or MasterCard, if the user goes into delinquency on the account, action must be taken and there could be a negative effect on the user's credit report.

According to the Army and Air Force Exchange Service Web site www.aafes.com, the military Star card is available to all military personnel who qualify. There is no stipulation on rank or age as long as the member is approved. The credit limit is based upon the member's credit not rank. The military star card is designed to help servicemembers save money with no annual fee, while receiving a low

interest rate credit card. The card can be used at all AAFES, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Navy Exchange locations.

Vandenberg is not exempt from the rules and regulations concerning the Star card. During the past two years two Team V airmen faced Article 15 actions due to failure to pay their Star card bills.

According to Staff Sgt. Keith Egelston, 30th Space Wing paralegal, a person falling behind in their star card payments can face reduction in rank, forfeiture of pay and restriction to base.

Since no military member is excluded from applying for the Star card, it is up to the servicemember to be responsible for their bill.

"The Star card abuse rates have risen in the past five years. We are very fair when it comes to giving credit to military members; so it is very hard to tell who has the potential to be a credit abuser," said

Marty Brooks, AAFES Headquarters team manager.

"We run the military member's credit just the same as any other credit company would.

"An airman basic coming into the military with no negative credit could be approved for a balance beginning anywhere from \$300 to \$500 and an higher ranking NCO or officer could receive a limit of up to \$5,000.

"If the person finds themselves in a situation where they cannot pay the balance due, they have several payment options," said Brooks. However, if the person does not pay us we begin to take action at the two-month period by contacting their finance office to begin the process of payroll deduction. At three months, we send their account to a collection agency.

See CARD Page A4

Senior leaders prepare to find out how their organizations are doing

Air Force Climate Survey launches early October so leaders can better serve airmen's needs, concerns as well as national interests.

BY RICHARD SALOMON

Air Force Manpower and Innovation Agency

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas — Air Force leaders at all levels want to know, "How is my organization doing?" The 2003 Air Force Climate Survey begins Oct. 1 to answer this question with the help of Air Force people.

Their participation in the survey is critical, said senior leaders.

"Leadership must be made aware of what's really going on out there," said Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche.

"By taking a few brief moments to fill out this survey, you can help your leaders understand your concerns and ultimately better serve you and our nation's interests."

Previous surveys included active-duty airmen and appropriated-fund civilians.

This year, the survey also will include the Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard, non-appropriated fund civilians and students in a temporary-duty status.

"We want to make sure all members of the Air Force team have an opportunity to participate," said Lori Marcum, the survey's team leader. "Leaders at all levels use the Air

USAF Climate Survey Factors

The 2003 Air Force Climate Survey will cover 13 factors that measure work experience:

- Job
- Resources
- Core values
- Leadership
- Supervision
- Training and development
- Teamwork
- Participation and involvement
- Recognition
- Unit flexibility
- General satisfaction
- Unit performance outcomes
- Job enhancement

Force Climate Survey to target areas for improvement. In order to create positive changes within an organization, (leaders) must know where to begin. This survey provides everyone an opportunity to speak out about strengths and areas for improvement in their organization."

The survey runs through Nov. 23 and can be completed online at <http://afclimatesurvey.af.mil> anytime during the survey period from either a government computer (dot-mil) or personal computer (dot-com).

Because Air Force leaders expect candid feedback, the survey team has taken extraordinary measures to ensure privacy by using advanced information-masking software. Anonymity continues to be a key factor of the survey, officials said.

Results will be released early in 2004, said Gen. John Jumper, Air Force chief of staff.

"The U.S. Air Force is the finest in the world, a great place to serve and raise our families.

"We share a commitment to make it better," he said.

Survey participation has climbed from 39 percent in 1997 and 36 percent in 1999 to more than 65 percent of active-duty airmen and civilians in the 2002 survey.

The 45th Space Wing at Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., used the data from the 2002 survey as a powerful tool for change. Patrick's leaders created a performance plan called START for "Synchronize actions," "Trust people," "All accountable," "Recognize achievement" and "Tenacious execution."

The plan emphasized mentoring and individual development.

It provided mission focus with clear and measurable goals, according to base officials.

Even though the base scored high in most factors, base leaders wanted to make life at Patrick even better, said Judy Nicholson, START director.

"We knew from the Air Force survey that we could improve in some areas. The work the commanders did reviewing the survey feedback resulted in START," she said.

The base introduced monthly civilian commanders' calls and created a civilian-oversight recognition team. Leaders rewrote the rules on the quarterly awards process to focus more on performance than additional duties.

To encourage attendance at commander's calls, leaders use tickets for rocket launches at nearby Cape Canaveral AFS as door prizes.

Brig. Gen. J. Gregory Pavlovich, 45th Space Wing commander, said he continually reviews the survey results to make sure the wing is on the right track.

"START is a direct result of the Air Force survey, so we place a great deal of value on the survey data," he said. "Because of the survey, we've been able to make improvements at all levels, from top to bottom."

In this issue of the



Also view The Space & Missile Times at www.vandenberg.af.mil and click the Space & Missile Times button.



An F/A-22 Raptor from Edwards AFB, Calif. visits Vandenberg during test phase. See Page A2.



The United States Air Force celebrates 56 years of independent service to America. See Page A6.

Weekend forecast
Morning and evening clouds
Saturday and Sunday.

Low/High
50/72

For a full Vandenberg weather report, visit www.vandenberg.af.mil/30sw/organizations/30og/weather/weather

Rare sighting



PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. BRUCE DZITKO

An F/A-22 Raptor lands on Vandenberg's flightline Sept. 12. The 30th Range Squadron and 30th Operations Support Squadron here regularly support flight tests of the F/A-22 on the Western Range. The first flight of the Raptor occurred Sept. 7, 1997. The purpose of the F/A-22 program is to develop, field, and support the next-generation, air-dominance fighter weapon system, and to establish the standard for acquisition excellence. Edwards AFB, Calif. is the current home of the Raptor.

This week in history ...

COMPILED BY AIRMAN JUANIKA GLOVER
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

September 15

1776 — The British occupy Manhattan.
1914 — President Woodrow Wilson orders the Punitive Expedition out of Mexico in search of Pancho Villa.

September 16

1620 — The Mayflower sails from Plymouth, England, bound for the New World with 102 passengers and on November 21 the "Pilgrims" reached Massachusetts.

1940 — The United States imposes the draft: On this day in 1940, the Burke-Wadsworth Act and the first peacetime draft in the history of the United States is imposed. Selective Service was born.

September 17

1862 — Antietam: The bloodiest day in American history. Confederate General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia and Union General George B. McClellan's Army of the Potomac fight to a standstill along a Maryland creek.

1976 — The space shuttle Enterprise is unveiled during a NASA ceremony in California. The spacecraft cost almost \$10 billion to build and took nearly ten years to complete.

September 18

1947 — The Air Force becomes an independent service when W. Stuart Symington becomes the first Secretary of the Air Force.

1964 — North Vietnamese Army begins infiltration. South Vietnamese officials claim that two companies from the North Vietnamese army have invaded South Vietnam.

September 19

1957 — The United States sets off the first underground nuclear test, code-named Rainier, in a mountain tunnel in the remote desert 100 miles from Las Vegas.

1959 — Nikita Khrushchev is barred from visiting Disneyland.

The Cold War, Soviet leader explodes with anger when he learns that he cannot visit Disneyland.

September 20

1963 — Kennedy proposes joint mission to the moon. An optimistic and upbeat President John Kennedy suggests that the Soviet Union and the United States cooperate on a mission to mount an expedition to the moon. The proposal caught the Soviets and many Americans off guard.

1968 — U.S. military officials defend use of defoliants in Vietnam at a news conference in Saigon, claiming that the

use of the agents in selected areas of South Vietnam had neither appreciably altered the country's ecology, nor produced any harmful effects on human or animal life.

1972 — U.S. planes mine waters in northern Quang Tri. The United States Air Force reveals that U.S. planes have been mining the coastal rivers and canals of northern Quang Tri province below the DMZ, the first mining of waterways within South Vietnam.

September 21

1942 — The Superfortress takes flight. On this day in 1942, the U.S. B-29 Superfortress makes its debut flight in Seattle, Wash. It was the largest bomber used in the war by any nation.

1961 — The 5th Special Forces Group is activated at Fort Bragg. The U.S. Army's 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, is activated at Fort Bragg, N.C. The Special Forces were formed to organize and train guerrilla bands behind enemy lines. President John Kennedy, a strong believer in the potential of special forces in counterinsurgency operations, visited the Special Warfare Center at Fort Bragg to review the program and authorized the special forces to wear the headgear that became their symbol, the Green Beret.

BRIEFS:

From Page A1

COUPONS

The Defense Commissary Agency no longer accepts home-printed coupons as the grocery industry comes to terms with the fraudulent use of Internet coupons.

Manufacturers coupons that are received in the mail or clipped from newspapers

or magazines are still accepted.

MUNITIONS CUSTOMERS

All munitions expenditures must be received by Sept. 25. This will enable accounts to be balanced and munitions to be ordered for fiscal '04. Any expenditure received after this date will go against FY04 allocations. The 576th FLTS Munitions Storage Area will be closed for a wall-to-wall inventory Sept 26 through

30. Call Tech. Sgt. Greg Danet at 606-4199 for more information.

NCS PROGRAM

One percent of new airmen will be able to sign up for a 15-month enlistment as part of the National Call to Service Program. The congressionally mandated program is designed to let people serve their country who might otherwise shy away from a regular four- or six-year active-duty enlist-

ment. The 15-month obligation does not begin until the airman completes basic military training and technical training school.

OSI RECRUITING

The Air Force Office of Special Investigations is actively 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 more information.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Officer volunteers are needed for Fresno State University's Reserve Officer Training Corps Career Day from 3:30 to 6 p.m. Oct. 16 at Fresno State University.

Personnel in space and missile operations, security forces and intelligence are needed. Call public affairs at 606-3595 to volunteer.

START ESCORTS

The 30th Space Wing Treaties office needs airmen, staff sergeant and above, to act as escorts during START inspections. Training includes one hour in class and one practical demonstration. Call 606-8727 to sign up.

SPACE & MISSILE TIMES

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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@vandenber.af.mil

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

Comment...

Commemorating AF past leads to stronger future

By COL. FRANK GALLEGOS
30th Space Wing commander

As space warriors we must continue to educate ourselves to ensure we can command the bright future of space. Part of commanding the future is to commemorate the past accomplishments of our heritage and recognize members of our service who made the sacrifices to keep this nation free.

This week commemorated two occasions that bear mentioning. First, we celebrated the 56th anniversary of our Air Force and today we pay solemn respects to our prisoners of war and those still missing in action.

Today's Air Force was created on Sept. 17, 1947, when the new National Military Establishment, came into being. President Harry S. Truman approved the National Security Act of 1947 on July 26 and issued Executive Order 9877, which outlined the duties of the Army, Navy and Air Force. Each service was responsible for the area in which it operated – ground, sea and air.

W. Stuart Symington was sworn in as the first secretary of the Air Force on Sept. 18, 1947 and after many years of planning, an independent air arm was formed. Based on achievements in air superiority, the Air Force became the "first line of defense"

after World War II. Gen. Carl Spaatz was appointed the first U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff on Sept. 25 that same year.

"In this day when a powerful counterattack is America's only real answer to aggression, there can be no question that we need the world's first Air Force. It is only through the global, flashing mobility of the Air Force that we can hold our counterattack poised ... we feel, with deep conviction, that the destiny of the United States rests on the continued development of our Air Force," said Symington.

That remains true today as we continue to develop not only our "air" forces but our space forces as well. By focusing on the global effects of what space brings to the fight and with all the resources of Team Vandenberg we collectively enable space superiority and deliver space power where it's needed!

The second commemoration of this week is more solemn as we remember and recognize the sacrifices of America's POWs and MIAs, both those returned and those still missing, and their families, on National POW/MIA Recognition day.

Almost 60 years after the end of World War II, 78,000 Americans who fought in that conflict remain missing. More than 8,100 from the Korean War, 120 from the Cold War, more than 1,900 from the Vietnam War, and three from the Gulf War are still unaccounted for.

Nearly 50,000 former POWs live among us, including those held captive during all of our conflicts in the last 60

years. During Operation Enduring Freedom we saw firsthand the effects of capture on our young warriors. We also saw the outstanding effects that space brings to the fight in the dramatic rescue of one young soldier from a hospital in Nasiriyah.

We owe a debt of gratitude to these heroes who displayed great honor and who sacrificed so much for our nation.

We continue to offer our thoughts and prayers to the families of those who are still missing.

With Joint Task Force Full Accounting the Air Force continues to provide unwavering commitment and determination to obtain the fullest possible accounting of all Southeast Asia MIAs.

The 30th Space Wing sponsors a ceremony here today at 2 p.m. at the POW/MIA memorial near the base library. I encourage you to attend. It gives us all a chance to remember those Americans who dedicated their lives to preserving and protecting our freedoms. Together we will ensure they will never be forgotten.



GRAPHIC BY SENIOR AIRMAN BRIAN HILL

We owe a debt of gratitude to these heroes who displayed great honor and who sacrificed so much for our nation.

COL. FRANK GALLEGOS
30TH SPACE WING COMMANDER

Commander's Action Line

Call 606-7850
or
E-mail your message to
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.

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.

Q I would like an explanation of how fees are calculated for the Vandenberg Youth Center.

We live in base housing and even though we do not receive Basic Allowance for Housing, it is still calculated in the fees, which puts individuals in a higher category than they should be. I would like an explanation of why BAH is added if it is not received.

I have talked with the director of the youth center and Ken Ostini. Each time I was given the answer, "because it is included in income you would get." This is not a sufficient answer and I would like a better explanation. I have spoken with several other parents and they have voiced the same concern.

A Thank you for the opportunity to explain our School-Age Program rate policy.

The method for determining the fee range is established at Headquarters U.S. Air Force and current guidance is that a

family's fee category is determined by calculating the Total Family Income.

The TFI is computed by adding basic pay, basic allowance for housing, basic allowance for substance, and any income received under the family subsistence supplemental allowance entitlement. Each military person married with dependents is authorized BAH.

Military members who live on base don't receive the BAH in their paycheck but it is considered a monetary benefit since they are receiving free housing and utilities.

On the other hand, military members who live off base receive BAH in their paycheck to enable them to pay rent and utilities. This puts everyone on a level playing field, i.e., a staff sergeant with two children should pay the same living on or off base.

Childcare is expensive, but I am committed to providing military family members high quality childcare in a safe environment at the lowest cost possible.

Canine cop does double duty as security forces airman, friend

By STAFF SGT. JENNIFER VASQUEZ
30th Security Forces Squadron

Rambo was born Jan. 1, 1991 and entered the Air Force for his "boot camp" April 16, 1992. He graduated and was sent to Vandenberg, his one and only base, June 1, 1993.

Throughout his career, Rambo had 10 handlers. If you ask any of them, they would tell you what a wonderful animal he was. He had a personality all his own.

Rambo served our country and our squadron with great dignity. He served on 12 secret service missions in support of President Bill Clinton, Vice President Al Gore, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, Pope John Paul II, and the King and Queen of Jordan.

He is also a veteran of the following operations:

January – March 1995: Operation Sea Signal, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
May - August 1997: Operation Southern Watch, Eskan Village, Saudi Arabia

February – June 1998: Operation Southern Watch, Ali Al Salem, Kuwait
April - August 1999: Operation Desert Thunder/Southern Watch, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

October 2001 - January 2002: Operation Southern Watch, Ali Al Salem, Kuwait
Rambo responded for bomb threats and explosive sweeps in numerous local areas including Hearst Castle, Dos Pueblos Elementary School and the U.S. Penitentiary housing and barracks. Rambo and I cleared Santa Barbara Municipal Airport Sept. 12, 2001 to aid in its re-opening.

Rambo was assigned to me April 30, 2001. I remember asking Tech. Sgt. Andrew Tiedge if I could PLEASE have another dog. Rambo was old and stubborn and the first thing I had to do was go into his kennel and take his bowl from him because he was carrying it around in his mouth!

Then I took him out ... I remember sitting in our training area and this dog with such an old face just came up to me and laid his head on my shoulder and gave me kisses. I thought to myself, "How could I not want him? I have just become his world."

Rambo's health started to go down hill when we returned from Kuwait in 2002. His back legs weren't as steady as they had been and the four months in the desert probably didn't help this 11-year-old dog.

It was determined then that Rambo was going to retire from the Air Force. I



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Staff Sgt. Jennifer Vasquez, 30th Security Forces Squadron, deployed with her canine partner, Rambo.

started the adoption paperwork in the spring of 2002, and in October that year, Rambo came home.

He adjusted wonderfully and was a pleasure to have in our family.

His health improved and I was sent on temporary duty from November 2002 - June 2003. When I returned, Rambo looked a lot slower and was really showing his age. But, he kept going, being as good of a boy as ever. I then left again TDY for seven-level school. My husband didn't want to worry me while I was gone, but Rambo was close to hitting rock bottom.

When I returned and looked into his eyes, I could tell he was ready. He looked miserable. He wasn't walking right. His vision was extremely impaired, and he seemed so very sad.

After a long night of deliberation and looking past selfishness and everlasting love, we made the decision to have him put down. Aug. 15, I watched my partner, best friend, and companion fall asleep with his face in my hands for the last time like he had done so many times before.

As a dog handler everyone wants to know if it's hard to give up your dog. As I sit here with tears streaming down my face, I will tell you this: Rambo touched my heart in the first five minutes that I had him. I would not give up one second of our time together even knowing now how much my heart hurts

without him here.

What the rest of the world doesn't understand is that our canine partners are more than just dogs to us. They are our lifelines. They can bring us home after a long day. They will always be there. They will never back down. I trusted, and still trust, my life with my partner even more than I would with a human.

I was given a once in a lifetime opportunity. I was able to have something that most handlers only dream of. I was able to adopt my first dog and let him live in a nice warm house full of love, puppy treats, a Kong he could have whenever he wanted and food other than Science Diet! I got to see him be happy.

If you ever talk to a handler from Vietnam and hear about how they had to leave their dogs behind, you can tell them you know a handler that was able to adopt hers. They will tell you how lucky I am.

Some people ask us why it is we went K-9. In fact, it's the first question the kennel master will ask you when you put in to re-train.

The next time you see one of our dog teams in guard mount, on the road, or at a post, I want you to look at them. They say that a bond is something that you can only feel with your dog ... but I think it's something that everyone, K-9 or not, can see. You see it in the way the dogs look up at you with those eyes, how they lean into you with their body, and how attentive they are when you speak just waiting to hear a word they can act on to please you. That is why I am a dog handler!

That devotion and love that we share is immeasurable.

I will never forget Rambo. Many of you who knew him know what a great dog he was. The other handlers and I know that one of Rambo's favorite past times was sleeping. If I wasn't moving, he was front feet apart, head down between and out like a light. So after he had passed, he lay there and I told a friend, "I wouldn't want to remember him any other way."

We had a nickname for Rambo in the kennel, "brown dog." We like to think that he's not really gone so we said, "Brown dogs don't die...they just find new places to sleep!"

ALCON: Normal

A general condition reflecting responsible alcohol use. No alcohol related driving incidents have occurred recently and no additional external factors exist.

Days since last DUI: 11
DUI totals for the Year: 13
AADD saves this Year: 244

30th OG	1	14th AF	0
30th MXG	1	381st TRG	2
30th MSG	5	576th FLTS	1
30th MDG	0	Det. 9	1
30th SW	0	Others	2



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. EDWARD BRALY

Hometown: Teaneck, N.J.
Time in service: 3 years
Time on station: 1.5 years
Role in mission: Information Manager
What do you like best about the Air Force? I like all the opportunities it offers. As far as education, it's excellent! You can be what you want to be if you put in a little bit of effort. Not only that, but you get to meet people from different backgrounds and cultures.
If you could change one thing about the Air Force what would it be? The only thing I'd change would be fitness, but I see that is going to change pretty soon. I think our current fitness program is really poor. If you compare our physical conditioning with other branches, you realize how out of shape we are. We have to keep people motivated.

What's the most exciting experience you've had so far in the AF? The most exciting experience I've had was on June 20, 2003 when I became a U.S. citizen along with 4,750 other people. I felt very proud to be in the Air Force because I was recognized at the ceremony along with 24 other military personnel from different branches.
Who is your role model and why? Lance Armstrong is my role model for his determination and perseverance. As a cancer survivor he didn't let the disease bring him down. Instead he had the determination to recover and continue with his hard training.
Favorite movie: The Matrix
Hobbies: Running, biking, reading, and talking to my family on the phone

Academies improve success

Three 30th Security Forces Squadron academies enhance airmen's skills, mission capabilities, confidence, morale

By AIRMAN 1ST CLASS BRYAN FRANKS
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

■ Vandenberg's security forces squadron uses academies to enhance mission capabilities here and abroad.

The 30th Security Forces Squadron has taken mandatory training requirements to a new level by developing three academies to improve it's airmen's skills, confidence and morale. The first academy was established to cover the annual Air Force security forces requirements for mandatory training, said Staff Sgt. Erin Panas, 30th Security Forces Squadron. The commanders thought it went so well, two more were added to cover other important areas.

Each academy was designed to refresh a different aspect of a security forces member's career field.

The Law Enforcement Academy covers

the member's law enforcement aspect of the career field. The weeklong course reviews topic such as radar training, drug recognition, and the breathalyzer test, Panas said. The course provides hands-on training to make the airmen more familiar with their job. The training helps airmen to be more rounded in their career field, since they don't all get the same experience on the job, she added.

The Air Base Defense Academy covers Air Expeditionary Force training. Airmen refresh their knowledge on guarding perimeters and flight lines. It also covers guard duty and tasks that security forces perform during deployments, Panas said.

Base Security Academy, the newest addition, is a Vandenberg specific academy designed to cover topics that Vandenberg's security forces encounter, she added.

The course gives a tour of the base, but more than that, airmen get a tour of some of the areas they are responsible for guarding.

"Some of the airmen would love to see what they're guarding," Panas said. "In some ways it's a morale and confidence booster for them."

Each course lasts one week and consists of hands-on training as well as bookwork. The course is now scheduled to run every quarter and may begin running every month.

"We want all of our airmen to go through each academy to improve our security forces here," Panas said.

"The academies are a great asset for our airmen," said Capt. Paul Quigley, 30th Security Forces Squadron. "It gives airmen refresher training on all aspects of their career field and makes us a more well-rounded squadron."

CARD:

From Page A1

"Before the member gets this far we do let them know that there are ways to keep this process from occurring," Brooks said.

If an account is two months behind, the military member is given the option to make lower payments for a six-month period, she said.

"We let all of our customers know that we are here to help them if they fall on hard times, because it does happen," Brooks said. "If a person is sent to a collection agency it's because they have no intentions of making a payment at all."

"All the person needs to do is make a phone call to us and let us know what's going on. Our biggest problem is people not telling us and just ignoring the situation," she said.

BOSSSES:

From Page A1

them to see what we're doing and why it's important."

"It makes me proud," said John Palahnuk, Hammersley's boss at Poly-Flow Engineering. "I don't mind my tax dollars going to this at all."

Specialist Kyle McCune, was on the job fewer than four months before he was told he was coming to Vandenberg.

Having been gone for almost a year he's going to have to relearn his job at Union Pacific Railroad, he said.

"I wanted my boss to come here to see what we were doing," McCune

said. "Besides, not everyone gets a chance to ride in a Black Hawk," he added.

Supervisors from SBC Communications, Safeguard Business Systems, Caltrans, Union Pacific Railroad, Burton Green School and the City of Palmdale Department of Public Works spent the weekend touring the base, watching a live fire demonstration and taking part in a dining-out ceremony with their employees.

Families of the Guardsmen also came up for the weekend to spend time with their citizen soldiers. They celebrated with a family barbecue at Cocheo Park Sunday.

Crimebeat ...

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

Sept. 11

Vehicle damage – 1:20 p.m.

An airman reported his 2002 Mazda was damaged in the Breakers Dining Facility parking lot. His vehicle received several scratches and boot prints to the front end. No suspects were identified.

Unsupervised child - 4:59 p.m.

An airman's wife reported finding a small child wandering near Ocean View Boulevard. She requested police assistance after escorting the child to his home on Cameron Drive. Investigation revealed the child's 12-year-old sister was supervising him in the mother's absence. She was requested to closely supervise the child. The respective airman's first sergeant was notified of the incident.

Sept. 12

Loud neighbors – 5:36 p.m.

An airman reported a possible domestic disturbance at a home on Arbor Street. The airman at the home in question said he and his wife were having a debate. Everything was in order inside the quarters.

Driving under the influence – 10:31 p.m.

A patrolman suspected a non-base affiliated civilian of driving under the influence after stopping him for a traffic violation on Highway 1 at Firefighter Road. The California Highway Patrol took custody of the man.

Sept. 13

Trespassing – 8:45 a.m.

A patrolman detained a non-base affiliated civilian on Coast Road. Investigation revealed he was a transient who wandered onto base property. He was transported to the South Gate and released.

Sept. 14

DUI and marijuana posses-

sion – 2:10 a.m.

The Timber Lane Gate sentry suspected a non-base affiliated civilian of driving under the influence after approaching his gate. The civilian failed a field sobriety test and was detained. A search uncovered marijuana and drug paraphernalia on his person. His breath alcohol content was .11. He was cited into federal court.

Property theft – 5:33 p.m.

A soldier reported a bag of non-perishable food items was missing from his parents' room in base billeting. The room also appeared to have been cleaned in their absence. There were no signs of forced entry into the room. The Vandenberg lodge receptionist stated the maid possibly mistook the bag as trash.

Found child – 5:59 p.m.

An airman reported finding a 4-year-old child outside his home on Banyan Drive. Investigation revealed the child's father, identified as an airman, was searching for his daughter in the neighborhood. Patrolmen confirmed he was in fact the father of the found child. She was returned to the airman. He stated she wandered off while playing outside.

Sept. 15

Vandalism – 1:01 p.m.

Three airmen reported four other airmen vandalized their rooms in Scout and Delta dormitories. Investigation revealed their bed sheets and pillows were thrown to the floor. Patrolmen contacted the four subjects at the dormitory managers office and they were apprehended for unlawful entry and vandalism.

Shoplifting – 3:04 p.m.

Vandenberg Main Exchange security personnel reported detaining an airman's wife for shoplifting. Investigation revealed she departed the store without paying for various cosmetics. She was cited and released.



Nov. 1 at the Pacific Coast Club. Stay tuned to Team Vandenberg Network and the Space & Missile Times for more details.



U.S. Air Force -- no one comes close

Lookin' out for bad guys



PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. ROBERT HARGREAVES

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM — A pararescueman scans for aggressors while others tend to a mock accident victim during a Combat Search and Rescue exercise. The exercise was designed to hone the skills of the CSAR team deployed to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. The combat photographer who took this photo is deployed from the 30th Space Communications Squadron here.

Around the Air Force

Airmen conduct multinational MRE study

By STAFF SGT. RUSSELL WICKE
455th Expeditionary Operations Group
Public Affairs

■ **BAGRAM AB, Afghanistan** — Frog legs versus Pad Thai fried noodles? Country Captain Chicken versus veal parmigiana?

There is a culinary war of nutrition being waged in Afghanistan as a flight doctor and a pilot with the 455th Expeditionary Operations Group conduct a study of meals ready to eat from at least 13 different coalition countries here.

The study involves a comparison of taste, portability, ease of preparation and nutrition of each of the different countries' issued rations in hopes to produce better MREs everywhere, said Capt. Michelle Vestal, an 81st Expeditionary Fighter Squadron pilot here.

Although the coalition comprises 24 different countries here, not all of them have packaged MREs. But Maj. (Dr.) Michael Paston, chief of flight medicine for the 455th Expeditionary Operations Group, said he was doing what he could to involve every country that deploys here with MREs.

"In a multinational environment like this you never know what you might be expected to eat," Vestal said. "That is one of the reasons I'm curious about what we find."

Paston, who has a background in science and nutrition, said he believes there is a lot more research to do yet.

"We're in the process of getting more MREs from different countries," Paston said. "Many times, we run into language barriers and have a hard time identifying what type of food we're dealing with."

Nevertheless, he said this was a minor

setback in the project.

From their research so far, they said one thing is certain.

"Hands down, the U.S. meals have won the MRE war," Paston said.

"Not only was the taste of our MREs preferred, but the majority of more than 25 participants said they are much more convenient to eat from, and portability is easier. They are lighter, produce less trash and (are) more compact."

The score did not settle at taste and convenience, however.

"Our MREs also proved to be healthier, with better nutritional content," Paston said. "Some of the MREs we tested didn't even have a nutrition label, and many different foreign MREs came packed with a lot of sugar and chocolate."

Even so, their research did find some interesting devices included with foreign meal packages.

"The Italian MREs came with a one-time-use toothbrush that doubled as a toothpick," Vestal said. The toothpaste was pre-packed in the brush.

Dental floss, can-openers and other small devices were found among other packages.

Aside from the devices, certain meals were competitive in single areas.

Secretary receives Order of Sword

By STAFF SGT. C. TODD LOPEZ

Air Force Print News

■ **ANDREWS AFB, Md.** — Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche was inducted into the Order of the Sword during a ceremony here Sept. 13.

Roche became the eighth Air Force-level inductee into the order, and the second secretary, since the "Royal Order of the Sword" ceremony was revised,

updated and adopted by Air Force noncommissioned officers in 1967.

Among the crowd of more than 800 present at the ceremony were former Secretary F. Whitten Peters, himself an Order of the Sword inductee, and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper. A number of former chief master sergeants of the Air Force also attended the event and were joined by the man who currently holds the position.

"The thoughts that come to mind are those that speak of a great compassion and care he has for our airmen," said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray. "It is a common sight to see our secretary surrounded by airmen at a base or a venue asking them how they are, what concerns they have and what can be done better in our Air Force."

"Airmen know that when he asks, he also listens, and when warranted, he acts to make changes to make ... lives better and help us to do our mission more efficiently," Murray said.

During the ceremony, Roche was presented with a copy of the citation, a painting by German artist Hans Roth featuring images of the secretary during his tenure with the Air Force, and a scroll with the names of those who attended.

He also received a symbolic "Alfonso the 10th"-style sword, crafted in Toledo, Spain.

"Fellow airmen, I am genuinely humbled to stand before you tonight and accept this honor," Roche said. "I can assure you that tonight, your decision to honor me with this modern order of chivalry has left me at quite a loss to express my profound sense of pride, humility and also delight."

Roche also praised the enlisted force for the work they do for the Air Force and for the country.

"The success of our Air Force in accomplishing our mission, and the rightful position of respect that we hold in the hearts and minds of the American people, is because of you, and the more than 700,000 active duty, Guard and reservists you represent," Roche said. "The American people trust your competence in conflict. Can there be a higher level of trust? I can't think of one."

Air Force celebrates 56 years of history

By AIRMAN 1ST CLASS BRYAN FRANKS
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

W. Stuart Symington became the first secretary of the Air Force Sept. 18, 1947, just two months after the National Security Act became law creating the Department of the Air Force. This year the U.S. Air Force celebrates its 56th birthday and a long history from its days as the Army Air Corps to today as the most advanced and powerful Air Force in the world.

The U.S. Air Force traces its beginnings back to when it was a small Aeronautical Division of the U.S. Army Signal Corps established Aug. 1, 1907. The group was responsible for the military's ballooning and air machine operations.

When World War I broke out in Europe in August 1914, the small division consisted

of 12 officers, 54 enlisted men and six aircraft, which represented the entire air strength of the U.S. Army. On May 20, 1918, command was transferred from the Signal Corps to two different agencies, the Bureau of Aircraft Production and the Division of Military Aeronautics.

By Nov. 11, 1918, Armistice Day, the U.S. Air Service had more than 740 aircraft assigned to squadrons at the front. It had conducted 150 bombing missions, dropping more than 138 tons of bombs, and downing 756 enemy aircraft and 76 enemy balloons.

Moving forward to World War II, the U.S. Army Air Forces would grow from 26,500 men and 2,200 aircraft in 1939 to 2,253,000 men and women and 63,715 aircraft in 1945. The U.S. Army Air Forces were so large by the end of World War II, plans took shape to make it a separate organization.

The birth of the world's most powerful Air Force came in 1947 after the National Security Act was put into law and Symington was appointed the service's first secretary.

Following its formation, the Air Force made its presence known during the Berlin Airlift delivering a record 12,940

tons of supplies in a 24-hour period. Officially, Allied aircraft were responsible for delivering 2,343,301.5 tons of supplies. The U.S. was responsible for more than two thirds of that.

June 29, 1949, the Air Force became the first service to announce an end to racial segregation in its ranks.

The Air Force began to prove its superiority of the skies by shooting down a North Korean MiG-15 Nov. 8, 1950, during history's first battle between jet aircraft.

During the space race, the U.S. Air Force launched into orbit the first artificial communications satellite using an Atlas launcher Dec. 18, 1958.

The Air Force continued to make firsts Aug. 30, 1960, when the 564th Strategic Missile Squadron at F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo., became the first fully operational intercontinental ballistic missile squadron.

The Minuteman ICBM made its debut with a successful launch from Cape Canaveral, Fla., Feb. 1, 1961. The solid-fueled ICBM traveled 4,600 miles and hit the target area. The U.S. Air Force now has 500 Minuteman III missile in its inventory today. The first Minuteman missile squadron was activated at Malmstrom AFB, Mont. Dec. 1, 1961.

Throughout its history the U.S. Air Force has strived for equality in its ranks. One way was by introducing a policy in March 1971 permitting women who became pregnant to stay on active-duty or be discharged and return to duty within 12 months of discharge.

Then June 28, 1976, the U.S. Air Force Academy became the first of the service academies to admit female cadets. That same year, a group of 10 women pilot candidates entered undergraduate pilot training marking the first time since World War II that women could train to be pilots in the military. During the 1980's women in the military continued to make progress by taking command of squadrons, becoming test pilots, and standing missile alert.

To continue superiority on the ground as well as in the skies, Air Force Space Command created the first space system infrastructure to directly support

a military conflict in the fall of 1990. The system provided communication and meteorological data and could detect short-range missile launches.

Moving into the Gulf War, the 2nd Bomb Wing flew its B-52G Stratofortress' from Barksdale AFB, La., to Iraq and launched 35 cruise missiles. It then returned to

Barksdale marking the longest bombing mission in history. Even though the F-117A Stealth Fighter made up only two percent of coalition aircraft, it was responsible for attacking 31 percent of the Iraqi strategic targets during the opening days of the Gulf War.

The B-2, another stealth aircraft, made its presence known during Operation Noble Anvil in the spring of 1999.

During Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003, the U.S. Air Force provided not only air power but space power as well. Providing satellite intelligence as well as communication and metrological data, giving U.S. forces on the ground and in the skies the most up to date information possible.

"We celebrate the Air Force's birthday as we continue to support Operation Iraqi Freedom," said Air Force Secretary Dr. James Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper in a joint message to airmen. "Your tireless commitment, agility and professionalism are the foundation for integrating air and space power into a successful joint and coalition combat operation — one that has already crushed a tyrannical regime and is now helping to blaze the trail of freedom for millions in Iraq."

"The Air Force's legacy has soared in its short history and greater opportunities are on the horizon — opportunities you'll meet with the same courage, commitment and confidence that define our first 56 years. America is proud of our Air Force, and Americans are proud of you."



PHOTO BY THOM ROGERS

An Atlas II AS rocket blasts off from Space Launch Complex-3 East here. The Atlas began its Air Force career by launching the first artificial communications satellite into orbit.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO

F-105 Thunderchiefs of the 355th Tactical Fighter Wing streak toward an enemy target in Southeast Asia carrying conventional bombs.

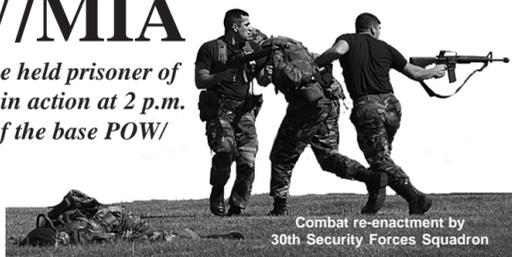


U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO

The P-40 was the Air Force's main attack aircraft during World War II.

POW/MIA

Remember those held prisoner of war or missing in action at 2 p.m. today in front of the base POW/MIA memorial.



Combat re-enactment by 30th Security Forces Squadron

VANDEMBERG CHAPEL WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

Sunday 8:30 a.m. Praise and Worship, Chapel 2 10 a.m. Catholic Mass, Chapel 1	11:30 a.m. Traditional Protestant, Chapel 1 11:30 a.m. Gospel, Chapel 2	11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass, Chapel 2
Monday - Friday		Saturday 5 p.m. Catholic Mass, Chapel 2

Team V captain takes on first marathon

By Tech. Sgt. Mark McKinney
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

Running a marathon is not something that everyone thinks of actually doing! However, Capt. Paul Onderwater of the Canadian Air Force and assigned to the 533rd Training Squadron here is one who thought he would give it a try.

Initially, while stationed at Thule AB, Greenland, the captain decided that the one athletic pursuit he could do without having to worry about lugging around a lot of equipment was running. That decision made five years earlier has lead to his dream nearing reality. Onderwater is going to compete in his first marathon next week, the 2003 Air Force Marathon being held at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. The event is scheduled for September 20.

"Actually, I was never real big into competing in sports and actually if you were to look at me back then, that would be very obvious," Onderwater said. "I quit smoking, cut way back on my alcohol consumption and began to modify my diet. I wasn't in any shape to run right away, so I started off walking.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. EDWARD BRALY

Canadian Capt. Paul Onderwater, 533rd Training Squadron prepares to run his first marathon.

This marathon thing is not something that happened over night, but while I was in Thule, I put in some 1,500 miles."

Onderwater doesn't consider himself a "great" runner; rather, he is someone who found something he likes and is willing to work at it.

"My motivation to do all this running is very simple, it feels good to be in good condition and it's something I can do no matter where I am," the captain said. "Every once in a while I might do some training with a partner, but for the most part I'm into individual training ... sort of me against the clock."

Although he trains on his own, Onderwater acknowledges that he has had some help with his preparation for his big day.

"I went to an Air Force site and used the magazine "Runners World," both of which aided me in setting up my training for the marathon," Onderwater said. "It's sort of a step-by-step with regard to distances, times and types of training. Mainly I put in a great number of miles on a daily basis, but I also do some weight training twice each week and I do some cross-training with stationary bike riding. One thing that I do that helps both my running and on-the-job performance is the fact that I do my running during the week for my lunch

break. It sort of breaks up the day and gives me an opportunity to recharge for the second half of the day."

The Air Force Marathon is a big event in the lives of military runners. Having said that, it is not an event, which is difficult to qualify for, in fact anyone can apply. Depending on how well a runner does, a good enough time can qualify them to compete in the Boston Marathon, one of two world-renowned marathon events conducted annually in the United States.

Along with Onderwater, Team Vandenberg will be represented by 2nd Lt. Lillian Reynolds, 30th Security Forces Squadron; Master Sgt. Ramie Nakashima, 30th Mission Support Squadron; and Senior Airman Eddy Becerra, 30th MSS.

"My goal for this marathon is simply to complete the 26.2 mile race," Onderwater said. "I'm not a fast runner and I'm doing this because it's a goal I set for myself. A little added incentive is the fact that I got some pledges for cancer research. So even though I'm doing it for myself for the most part, maybe this personal success will help a few others as well."

Flag Football

This week's schedule :

- Monday**
30th LRS vs. 30th CES No. 2 at 6:30 p.m.
30th SCS vs. 30th SW at 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday**
614th SOPS vs. 30th MDG at 5:30 p.m.
381st TRS vs. 30th CES No. 1 at 6:30 p.m.
533rd TRS vs. 576th FLTS at 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday**
30th SW vs. 30th LRS at 6:30 p.m.
30th CES No. 2 vs. 30th SFS at 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday**
614th SOPS vs. 576th FLTS at 5:30 p.m.
30th MDG vs. 30th CES No. 1 at 6:30 p.m.
533rd TRS vs. 381st TRS at 7:30 p.m.



Want to see more sports in your paper ?

Tell us what your team's up to!
Submit stories and ideas to: space&missiletimes@vandenberg.af.mil



Disaster Preparedness Tip of the Week

A general safety rule is to be prepared for the unexpected. Make it a habit to randomly check in with friends and family members when away. Be cognizant of your surroundings and know locations of police departments, government agencies, and the U.S. Embassy when traveling abroad.

Omelet expert takes on world's largest omelet

By SENIOR AIRMAN BRIAN HILL
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

There I was, sitting in my living room watching the semi-finals of the U.S. Open. That's a tennis tournament in case you're wondering. Juan Carlos Ferraro had just taken the first set from Andre Agassi and then I looked at my watch.

It was just after 10 a.m. and I was supposed to meet some people for breakfast at Jack's in Old Orcutt in about 30 minutes.

I'd been there one time previously when I was stationed at Peterson AFB in Colorado and was TDY here for Guardian Challenge 2001. I remembered the French dip was really good, and gigantic – about the size of a football. Then I heard they were also famous for their omelets. Being a self-proclaimed omelet aficionado/expert, I thought I'd give them a try.

Jack's owners, Bob and Jean Moss, dub their food the "biggest

and best West of the Pecos." I'm not sure where the Pecos is, but it sounded good to me.

Taking one look at the over-size menu



Above: Waitress Ronda Jones has been serving breakfast, lunch and dinner at Jack's for the past 20 years. Right: Self proclaimed omelet connoisseur Senior Airman Brian Hill, 30th Space Wing Public Affairs, carefully considers his California King omelet at Jack's Restaurant in Orcutt, Calif.



PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. REBECCA DANET

Jack's chefs Elias Juquin (left) and Martin Lemeli, prepare the world's best omelets in record time.

wasn't enough for me. There's such a selection of everything that it took longer than usual for me to decide. I didn't count them, but the slew of choices in the omelet department made me indecisive at first.

I was the last one to order and decided to try the California King Omelet, because it had the guacamole and all the ingredients sounded like they'd go well with the habanera sauce the waitress, Ronda Jones, brought to the table.

Jack's was a crowded place that morning. It's not very big and you can miss it if you're not looking. Most of the people looked like locals, which is

usually a good sign I look for in a restaurant. I mean if the locals won't eat there, would you really want to? It took a little while to get the food, but the conversation was good and pretty soon I had a giant omelet parked in front of me.

The hash browns I'd ordered looked homemade and so did the guacamole. Even if you don't know what that looks like, the taste makes you appreciate it. And the portions are good. Upon first glance I wasn't sure I'd be able to clean my plate, but once I tasted it, I devoured it like I hadn't eaten in days.

No bite-by-bite commentary here. Let's just say it was delicious. I washed

DIRECTIONS TO JACK'S

Head towards Santa Maria. Take the Clark Avenue exit and turn left under the overpass. Turn left at the third stop sign. Jack's is on the left. The doors is easy to miss, but it's the door next to the italian pizzeria.

it all down with three iced teas and walked out of there full and happy. "We don't like to see anyone leave here hungry," Bob said. That's for sure.

Community Calendar

19 FRI CAL-VET home loan class – 1:30-3:30 p.m. today at the family support center. Call 606-0039.

Olde Towne Faire Weekend – 5 to 7:30 p.m. today and Saturday in Lompoc.

Hunters Against Hunger – donate wild game to the needy. Call 606-6804.

Pick your own lavender – through September in Los Olivos. Call (805) 688-7505.

Santa Maria Speedway – 6 p.m. Saturday's through Oct. 12. Call (805) 466-4462 for tickets and reserved seating information.

Homeschooling curriculum – the Lompoc Unified School District offers a new program for 2003 to 2004 to serve grades K-5. Call 736-2371.

PAR, Partners Assisting in Reading – begins in September at Crestview Elementary. Call 734-1651 to sign up. Orientation takes place 2:55 p.m. Wednesday at Crestview Library.

Hebrew, Bar Mitzvah – classes are available. Call 734-3311.

"Other Faces, Other Worlds – Images of

19 FRI Russia, Nicaragua and Mexico" – 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday in the Learning Resource Center on the Allan Hancock College Santa Maria campus.

Free car seats – to E-4 and below. Call 606-5338.

Space and Sea Girl Scouts – accepts members ages 6 to 18 and needs adult volunteers. Call 606-1119.

CLEP tests – College-Level Examination Program pre-tests are available online at www.peterson.com/airforce/testprep.html. Register using activation code FL4610.

The Vandenberg Airmen's Attic – needs donations of items necessary to set up a household. The program is open to military personnel E-5 and below with an Air Force Form 552 from their first sergeant. Call 606-5484.

G.I. Java seeks musicians – G.I. Java is looking for local musicians to play at the coffeehouse during

19 FRI business hours. Solo performers and bands are welcome. Call the Chapel at 606-5778 for an audition.

Gift of Groceries program – The Defense Commissary Agency offers a gift certificate program that allows anyone to purchase commissary gift certificates to donate to military families through charitable organizations or give directly to military friends and family. Gift certificates are available online at www.commissaries.com.

Marriage enrichment counseling – offered on a one-on-one basis for married and unmarried couples. Call 606-9958.

Dads-to-New Dads and Moms-to-New Moms programs – These mentorship programs offer support to new moms and dads. Call Nancy Sias at 606-5338.

Ethel Pope Auditorium Foundation fundraising event – 5 p.m. Saturday at the Santa Maria Inn.

Kid's Fire Camp – 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the Vandenberg Fire Department Station 2.

20 SAT Call 606-2152. **Twilight beach horseback rides** – at Pacific Dunes Ranch in Oceano. Beginners are welcome. Call (805) 489-8100.

21 SUN **CCD classes** – 8:30 a.m. Sunday for children ages 3 to 13. Call 606-2505.

22 MON **Office closure** – The family support center is closed for staff training from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Mondays. Those requiring emergency Air Force Aid will be assisted. Call 606-0801.

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.

23 TUE **Deployed spouses support group** – 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday in the family services center. Call 606-0039.

Vandenberg Retiree Activities Center – Open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Friday in building 10346 in the Vandenberg Base Exchange shopping center. Call 606-5474 for more information.

Single Parents Support Group – 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday

24 WED at the Services Center. Call 606-0039. **Mechanics of Resume Writing class** – 9 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at the family support center. Call 606-0039.

Catholic summer fellowship – noon Wednesdays at Cocheo Park.

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

Asian-Pacific American Association meeting – 5 p.m. Thursday at the base library.

Women, infants and children program – 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday at the family support center. Call 606-0039.

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

26 FRI **Financial planning class** – 11 a.m. to noon Sept. 26 at the family support center. Call 606-0039.

Kids on the Move workshop – 3 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. Sept. 26 at the family support center. Call 606-0039.

Jazz concert – Sept. 27 in Lompoc. Call 733-

27 TUE 2125. **Old Days 2003** – Sept. 27-28 at the Los Alamos park.

Frankenstein traveling exhibition – Sept. 27 through Nov. 1 at the Allan Hancock College Santa Maria Library.

Quilt show – Sept. 27-28 at the Veterans Memorial Building in Lompoc.

Worldwide case lot sale – 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 27 and 10 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 28 at the commissary.

29 SAT **San Luis Obispo Plein Air Painting Festival** – Sept. 29 through Oct. 5 in San Luis Obispo.

Allan Hancock College Fast Track Classes – mail in registration Sept. 29 through Oct. 10. Walk-through registration takes place from 12 to 6 p.m. Oct. 15 and 16 at all Allan Hancock locations. Late registration begins from 12 to 6 p.m. Oct. 20-22. Call 922-6966.

OCT 1 WED **Big Brother, Big Sisters orientation** – 3 to 4:30 p.m. Oct. 1 at the family support center. Call 734-4376, ext. 26.

Movie Corner

Hi-Way Drive-in
Santa Maria Ph. 937-3515
GEN. ADM. \$5 KIDS 4-11 \$1

ONCE UPON A TIME IN MEXICO R
BAD BOYS II R 7:30 p.m.

Parks Plaza Buellton
Buellton Ph. 688-7434

WINGED MIGRATION G
DAILY 2:15-4:45-7:15 FRI. 9:30 SAT-SUN
11:45-9:30
SECONDHAND LIONS PG-13
DAILY 2:00-4:30-7:00 FRI 9:30 SAT-SUN
11:30-9:30
ONCE UPON A TIME IN MEXICO R
DAILY 2:00-4:30-7:00 FRI 9:30 SAT-SUN
11:30-9:30
MATCHSTICK MEN PG-13
DAILY 2:00-4:30-7:00 FRI 9:30 SAT-SUN
11:30-9:30
COLD CREEK MANOR R
DAILY 2:00-4:30-7:00 FRI 9:30 SAT-SUN
11:30-9:30
Call Edwards Santa Maria 10 for movie listings (800) 326-3264

Movies Gemini
Lompoc Ph. 736-1306

UNDERWORLD R
DAILY 4:30-7:00-9:00 SAT-SUN 11:30-2:00
ONCE UPON A TIME IN MEXICO R
DAILY 4:30-7:00-9:15 SAT-SUN 11:30-2:00

Movies Lompoc
Lompoc Ph. 736-1558

COLD CREEK MANOR R
DAILY 4:30-7:00-9:30 SAT-SUN 11:30-2:00
DICKIE ROBERTS PG-13
DAILY 4:45-7:15-9:30 SAT-SUN 11:45-2:15
SECONDHAND LIONS PG
DAILY 4:30-7:00-9:30 SAT-SUN 11:30-2:00
MATCHSTICK MEN PG-13
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

Vandenberg Thrift Shop

The Vandenberg Thrift Shop is open Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Thursday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call 606-3128 to find out more.

The shop is located next to the skills development center in Bldg. 11180. They always need volunteers.

The Vandenberg Food Pantry

Needs food donations

Items needed are:

sugar, Bisquick, pasta sauce, pancake mix, Hamburger Helper, evaporated milk, Chicken Helper, baby wipes, crackers, soups, complete meals, macaroni & cheese, brown sugar, canned vegetables, rice, flour, pasta, peanuts, mixed nuts, tuna, peanut butter, jelly, diapers; sizes 3, 4, 5, juice boxes, cake mixes, frosting, canned fruit and vegetables

The food pantry is located behind the family support center. For more information on hours of operation, call 606-2960.

30th Services News

GOLF COURSE

Marshallia Masters Tournament

Today,
Shotgun, 12:30 p.m.,
Open play shotgun, 7:30 a.m.
Saturday,
Shotgun, 8 a.m.,
Open play 1 p.m.
Sunday,
7:30 a.m. tee times,
front/back open play 1 p.m.



Notice:

Monday through Friday, the golf course will aerate greens and fairways. Twilight rates will be in effect each day from open to close.

For more information, call the golf course at 734-4376/606-6262.

SURF LANES

Learn from a PRO

Professional Bowlers' Tour Player

Mark Baker
will be on hand
Saturday

for one-on-one private lessons.
Tune up your game with individualized tips from a four-time PBA title holder.
• 1/2 hour blocks by reservation
• \$30 per session
Call 734-1310 or 606-3209 for more information.

LIBRARY



Teen Mystery Month

Starts at the library
Sept. 29 with a pizza party from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Children need to sign up prior to the event and they may bring their favorite music CD to the party.

CGOC Reading Discussion Group meets Thursday at 3:30 p.m. in the library. The group will be reading "Lincoln on Leadership" by Donald Phillips.

YOUTH CENTER

Dance Classes

Rhythm
4-year-olds Wednesday 2 to 2:45 p.m.
5 & 6-year-olds Wednesday 3 to 3:45 p.m.

Ballet Beginner
7-year-olds & up Wednesday 4 to 5 p.m.

Ballet I
7-year-olds & up Wednesday 5 to 6 p.m.

Jazz Beginner
8-year-olds & up Wednesday 6 to 7 p.m.

Cost: (with Youth Center membership)

Rhythm
\$24/month w/youth membership

Ballet
\$32/month w/youth membership

Jazz
\$32/month w/youth membership

(Nonmembers add \$5 to monthly fee)

Call the youth center at 606-2152 for more information.



PACIFIC

Oct. 4

Pacific Coast Club Ballroom
Doors open at 6 p.m.

First Round at 7 p.m.

Featuring boxers from our local area and the Los Angeles area.

Buy your tickets in advance and save!

Advanced ticket prices:

\$8 - Members • \$10 - Guests

At the door:

\$10 - Members • \$12 - Guests

SNACKS and BEVERAGES
will be sold at the event

Call 734-4376 or 606-3330 for more information.



COAST CLUB

Come on out for FOOTBALL TOSS! GAMES! DRAWINGS! Monday Night FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

- Sept. 22 - Oakland at Denver, 6 p.m.
- Sept. 29 - Green Bay at Chicago, 6 p.m.
- Oct. 6 - Indianapolis at Tampa Bay, 6 p.m.
- Oct. 13 - Atlanta at St. Louis, 9 p.m.
- Oct. 20 - Kansas City at Oakland, 6 p.m.
- Oct. 27 - Miami at San Diego, 6 p.m.
- Nov. 3 - New England at Denver, 6 p.m.
- Nov. 10 - Philadelphia at Green Bay, 6 p.m.
- Nov. 17 - Pittsburgh at San Francisco, 6 p.m.
- Nov. 24 - N.Y. Giants at Tampa Bay, 6 p.m.
- Dec. 1 - Tennessee at N.Y. Jets, 6 p.m.
- Dec. 8 - St. Louis at Cleveland, 6 p.m.
- Dec. 15 - Philadelphia at Miami, 6 p.m.
- Dec. 22 - Green Bay at Oakland, 6 p.m.

Sponsored by:
United States Air Forces Clubs, Members First,
USAF Services, Miller Lite,
American Airlines, Double Tree Inns
No Federal endorsement intended.

AQUATIC CENTER



for ages 5 to 18 years
Sept. 27 • 10 a.m.
(Warm up at 9 a.m.)

Event is free to participants.

Preregistration is required. Register at the pool
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Registration deadline: Wednesday, 4 p.m.

Free for all swimmers

Medals will be awarded to the top 3 finishers of each event. Ribbons awarded for all other places.

For more information, call Jennifer at 606-3581.



OUTDOOR REC

VOLKSSPORT TRIATHLON



WALK • BIKE • SWIM

Saturday and Sunday
8 a.m. to noon

\$6 per person before event • \$7 day of event

Equipment Checkout Parking Lot, Building. 10250
Corner of Washington Avenue and Alaska, Vandenberg

Contacts:

Bill Uttenweiler, 606-2017 • Curtis Dunster, 606-5908