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Sourdough Sentinel™

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Raptors arrive at EAFB Wednesday

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ILLUSTRATION BY SENIOR AIRMAN MIGUEL LARA

Outstanding Performers

Master Sgt. Daniela Rabickow, 3rd Medical Operations Squadron was vacationing when she came upon a crash involving a motorcycle and an RV. Directing others to control the scene, she assessed the motorcyclist's injuries, controlled bleeding, comforted, and prayed over him. When he developed respiratory distress, she intubated him. While the motorcyclist did not survive the accident, Sergeant Rabickow's actions are a reflection of her outstanding character, leadership, and compassion.

Sourdough Sentinel

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3rd Wing commander

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The deadline for article submissions to the *Sourdough Sentinel* is 4 p.m. Friday. Articles will be published on a space-available basis and are subject to editing by the *Sourdough Sentinel* staff. Submission does not guarantee publication.

For more information, call the *Sourdough Sentinel* office at 552-2493 or 552-4659, e-mail: *sourdough.sentinel@elmendorf.af.mil*, fax us at 552-5111, or write to us at:
3rd WG/PA, 10480 22nd St. Ste. 119
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CSAF Vector - 'Wingmen for life'

One of my top three priorities is developing our Airmen and taking care of them and their families. It's a notion that's deeply rooted in our Air Force culture and heritage. "Taking care of Airmen" means more than just providing them with the training, equipment and quality of life they deserve. It also calls for providing leadership they can trust unconditionally. The wingman concept - the bond we all share as Airmen - is at the core of this conviction. It reflects the ultimate confidence in our fellow Airmen: we trust each other, quite literally, with our lives. It may have begun at the tactical level, with pilots checking each others' six for mutual support, but it has come to transcend flying. Now it extends from taking care of our wingmen during every day routine operations - both on and off duty - to saving lives in combat, and beyond.

One of the most vivid examples of wingmen's commitment to each other began March 10, 1967. That day a strike force of F-105s from the 388th Tactical Fighter Wing and 355th Tactical Fighter Wing and F-4s from the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing "Wolfpack" attacked an iron and steel production complex north of Hanoi at Thai Nguyen, an area considered one of the most heavily defended in the history of air warfare. Thai Nguyen was North Vietnam's only steel mill dedicated to war materiel, and intelligence sources indicated it was protected by six surface-to-air missile sites and more than 1,000 anti-aircraft artillery pieces. Seventy-five miles prior to their bomb run, AAA barrage fire hit the F-4 flown by Capt. Earl Arnan and 1st Lt. Robert Houghton, and fuel poured out of their jet. Determined to strike this operationally important target, they continued their attack and were hit again. AAA fire also hit the F-4 flown by Capt. Bob Pardo and 1st Lt. Steve Wayne. Their F-4 also began leaking fuel, and engine warning lights flashed in the cockpit.

General T. Michael Moseley, Air Force Chief of Staff

On egress, both crews quickly realized Captain Arnan and Houghton's F-4 would not make it safely to the Laotian border and the two would have to bail-out over hostile territory. Captain Pardo and Lieutenant Wayne had enough fuel to limp away from the targets they'd just struck, but doing so would have forced them to abandon their 433 Tactical Fighter Squadron "Satan's Angels" wingmen, possibly to be killed or captured by the enemy. Realizing the only way to save their wingmen was to somehow push the crippled F-4 out of harm's way, Captain Pardo and Lieutenant Wayne first tried to nudge it with their jet's nose. This dangerous maneuver failed. With time running out, Captain Pardo told Captain Arnan to drop his tail-hook, and then maneuvered to push his own windscreen against Captain Arnan's tailhook. The desperate measure worked for about 30 seconds at a time before turbulence caused Captain Pardo to lose contact. Time and again he backed off, maneuvered back into position, and tried again. Even after one of his own engines caught fire and had to be shut down, Captain Pardo repeated this "push" until all four Airmen could eject safely over Laos. They were subsequently rescued by Airmen in HH-3 Jolly Green Giant helicopters escorted by A-IE Sandys, who also risked their lives to bring back fellow Airmen.

The story doesn't end there; the bond between Captains Pardo and Arnan outlasted the war. Captain Pardo continued to care for his friend and wingman Captain Arnan through years of disability brought on by Lou Gehrig's disease. Captain Pardo exemplified the commitment embodied in the phrase, "I will never leave an Airman behind," well before we captured it in our new Airman's Creed. The enduring bond between these two Airmen- and among all Airmen - reinforces the notion that, though all of us will eventually hang up our uniforms for good, we'll continue to serve our Nation, Air Force, and wingmen in myriad ways.

The wingman bonds we share today are a direct link to our proud heritage and yet another way we're standing on the shoulders of the giants who preceded us. While we fly, fight, and win, we're also obliged to treasure and foster our wingman concept, to take care of each other every day, and to never forget, "once an Airman, always an Airman."

Airmen's questions get answered by Wing CC

The following are questions commonly asked by Airmen at the Airmen's Breakfast with Col. Tom Tinsley, 3rd Wing commander.

Question: Please get with Services and ask about the cutting of paid referees this year from intramural softball. Was this a cost savings move? Is there a way to get a referee training class for volunteers to maybe help make this year's games more fair across the board?

Answer: The intramural sports program here at Elmendorf is run by the Fitness Center. Due to funding shortfalls, the Fitness Center staff took a look at alternatives to hiring outside officials to officiate games. This was not a cost-saving move — there simply was no money left to hire referees. Instead of cancelling many of our popular intramural sports, we've decided to solicit volunteers from our base population.

Unfortunately, prior to the slow-pitch softball season, requests for volunteer officials were only answered with eight responses. When referee training took place, only three volunteers actually came forward. The three volunteers were briefed on ASA rules, our base intramural sports rules, and were provided official's booklets to follow. The program is underway, thanks in part to the support teams have provided.

We strive to make volunteer officiating as fair as possible. Our hope is to obtain an officiating contract if Pacific Air Forces receives the funding. The intramural sports program is very popular, and its success, to a great extent, is based on the quality of officiating that is offered. For now, we are planning to continue with volunteer officials.

Question: Where are we at with changing all of the stoplights on base to flashing yellow and red after a certain time at night?

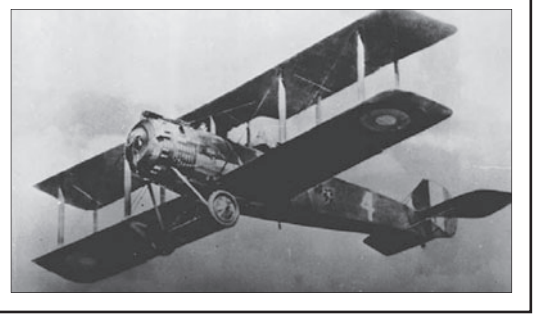
Answer: All traffic lights on base, with the exception of the light at the intersection of Sijan and Arctic Warrior, are set on road sensors to give priority to one direction of traffic unless the opposite sensor is activated. In other words, the traffic light will remain green in one direction until a car approaches from the other direction, at which time it will change for a set time (i.e: 60 seconds, 90 seconds, whatever the setting happens to be) and then change back for no less than the same set amount of time (it again will stay green until another car approaches but will not change before the set amount of time). This is the best way to manage traffic flow in low traffic times. This was an added cost to the traffic lights that were purchased to ensure the best possible traffic flow at all times. Changing the lights to flashing red or yellow would make this technology useless and prove to be less efficient.

The light at the intersection of Sijan and Arctic Warrior does not have the above mentioned sensor. We do not have the technical expertise in-house to reprogram traffic lights, so we will contact the Municipality of Anchorage and coordinate their support to reprogram this light to flash yellow/red in the evenings and weekends. We also have a project in development to place this light on a sensor like the rest of the base traffic lights.

3rd Wing Moment in History

July 31, 1918:

At approximately 10:15 p.m., a small German bombing party flew over the 90th Aero Squadron's hangars. The pilots cut their engines and glided towards the Spad hangar at Ourches Airfield, France. The Germans dropped seven bombs, three of which landed within 20 feet of the hangars, but by great fortune did no damage beyond a few holes in the field. These were filled in before daylight in so photo reconnaissance by the Germans would show how close they came to accomplishing their objective. The 90th Aero Squadron's aircraft inventory at Ourches Airfield consisted of 16 Salmsons, eight Sopwiths, four Spads, and three Breguets.



BRAC requirements going according to plan

In 2005, Congress issued the base realignment and closure requirements for the Department of Defense.

The list was mainly a selection of installations and DoD offices that are to be closed or moved to maximize efficiency.

For the Air Force, it's an important step in transforming the force from a residual Cold War infrastructure to meet future defense strategy and needs, with all BRAC requirements set to be reached by September 2011.

BRAC is a Total Force initiative, affecting active duty, the Guard and Reserves. Together we're incorporating innovative ideas to create a smaller, more capable force. The Air Force is using capability from new technology to capitalize on the wealth of talent and experience across the service.

The efficiencies that will be achieved as a result of BRAC will help free up critical resources needed for today's fight, as well as the needs of the future. The Air Force is committed to ensuring the highest quality of life standards for our people while we continue to sustain and modernize the world's best air, space, and cyberspace force.

BRAC successes already seen:

- More than 120 Air Force installations are impacted by the 2005 BRAC recommendations, allowing us to maximize our warfighting capability to best support a transforming force through 2025.

- Cannon AFB, N.M., will be realigned for an Air Force Special Operations Command mission as their F-16 Fighting Falcons are moved to other locations.

- In San Antonio, the Air Force is partnering with the sister services and integrating two trauma hospitals to provide world-class care for 220,000 patients.

- The Air Force recently decided to close Kulis Air National Guard Base, Alaska and move its people to embrace the missions at nearby Elmendorf Air Force Base. In addition, the Air Force is on track to combine eight other Total Force units to share fighter, airlift, tanker and unmanned aerial vehicle mission responsibilities, and is prepared to merge another eight more.

Find Airman's Roll Call Online Here: *http://www.af.mil/library/viewpoints/*

EAFB welcomes F-22 Raptors

The F-22A Raptor will be officially welcomed to Elmendorf during a ceremony Wednesday.

All military and Department of Defense ID card holders are invited to attend the arrival ceremony beginning at 1 p.m. at Hangar 1. Attendees should park at the old commissary/temporary fitness center parking lot to ride the shuttle or walk to the event. The shuttle service begins at 12:15 p.m. All participants should be in place by 12:50 p.m.

The Raptor will expand Elmendorf's total integration force package with the aircraft being flown and maintained by the active duty and Air Force Reserves -- 90th Fighter Squadron and 302nd Fighter Squadron, respectively -- as well as the corresponding maintenance units.

Learn more about the F-22A at *http://www.pacaf.af.mil/library/pacificf-22/index.asp*.

For more information about the ceremony or parking, call Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp at 552-8014.

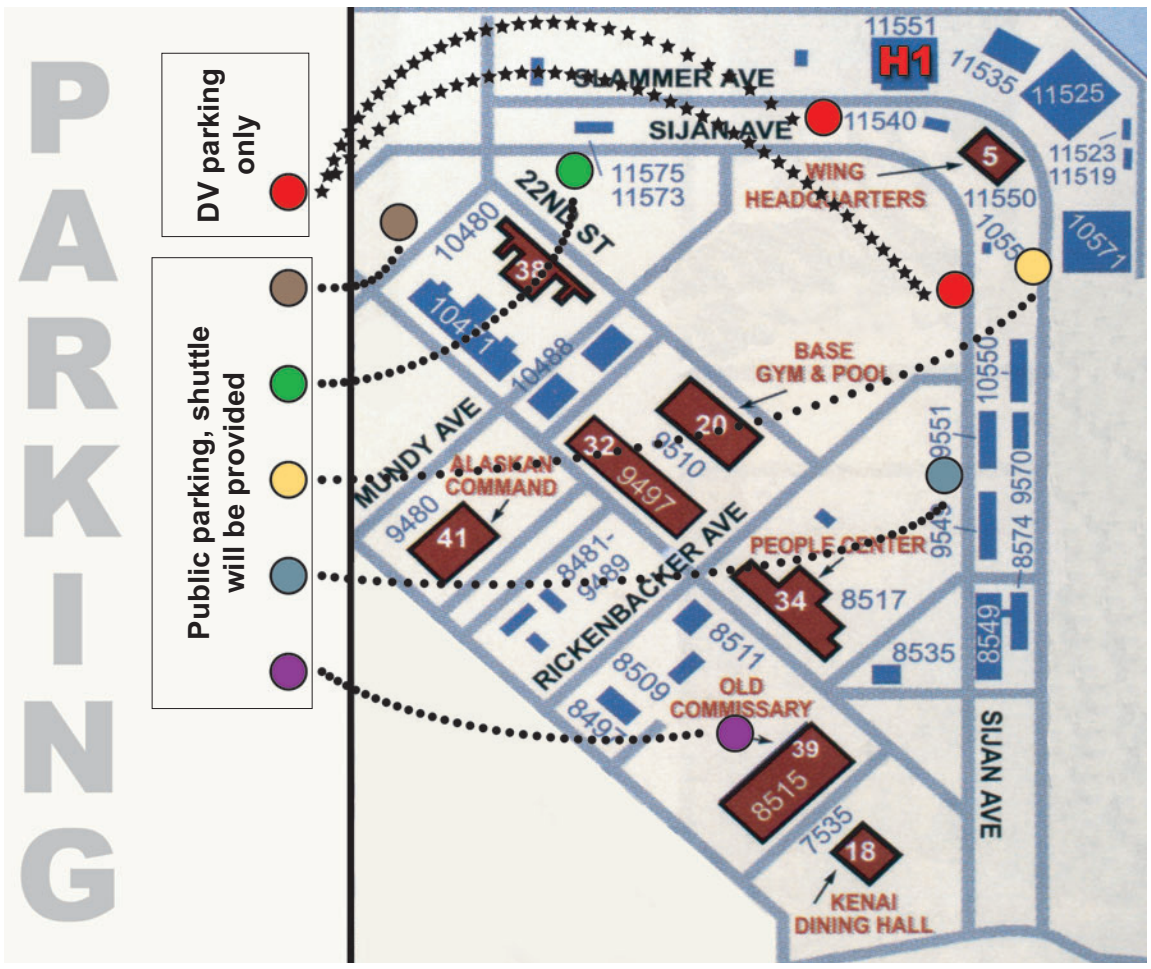


ILLUSTRATION BY SENIOR AIRMAN MIGUEL LARA

Airmen depart RED FLAG-Alaska with air combat experience

By Staff Sgt. Shawn J. Jones
RED FLAG-Alaska Public Affairs

After two weeks of advanced air combat training, the airborne warriors of RED FLAG-Alaska have packed up and headed home.

They didn't leaving empty handed.

The aircrews received realistic combat training at RED FLAG-Alaska. The exercise simulated warfare settings aircrews will encounter in the Global War on Terror.

"RED FLAG-Alaska presented a unique set of conditions which allowed participants to experience exceptional training," said Col. Daniel DeBree, RED FLAG-Alaska deployed forces commander. "The unique characteristics of this training environment prepared us well for the air expeditionary force deployments we will conduct in the future."

The set of conditions that made RED FLAG-Alaska unique included Alaska's vast training range, the contributions of six allied air forces and the intense training provided by aggressor squadrons.

PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN GARRETT HOTHAN

Combat Controllers, Staff Sgt. Nate Niederbrach, 125th Special Tactics Squadron, Portland Air National Guard Base, Ore., Royal Thai Air Force members, communicate with aircraft flying over the Malamute drop zone during RED FLAG-Alaska. More than 80 aircraft and 1,500 servicemembers from six countries flew together in this multinational exercise that provides realistic combat training in a safe and controlled setting over the Pacific Alaskan Range Complex and Eielson AFB.

"RED FLAG-Alaska has the largest training airspace in North America—the Pacific Alaska Range Complex—with realistic bombing ranges and threat emitters," said Colonel DeBree. "In addition, the terrain in the PARC is more mountainous than that which the 4th Fighter Wing trains with in North Carolina, presenting different tactical challenges to aircrew."

During the exercise, American Airmen worked and flew alongside airmen from Japan, Mongolia, Spain, Thailand and Turkey.

"RED FLAG-Alaska fosters military-to-military communication at both the officer and enlisted levels that will help to improve the relationships of the countries involved," said Lt. Col. Brett Pauer, Director of Operations for RED FLAG-Alaska.

Another key benefit of the exercise was the presence of the 65th Aggressor Squadron from Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. The aggressor role expands training opportunities across the board, to include ground, space and cyberspace by simulating the tactics and procedures of enemy aircrews. This provides the most-realistic simulated combat environment possible in a safe and controlled setting.

"The Air Force is engaged every single day in global operations, fighting the Global War on Terror, defending our homeland, providing strategic deterrence, and giving our nation unparalleled Global Vigilance, Reach and Power," according to the 2007 U.S. Air Force Posture Statement.

'PSR' - What are your dental numbers?

By Tech. Sgt. Angelica Chica
3rd Dental Squadron

Most of us have received at least one dental exam in our lives. For us active duty members, we get an exam at least every year. If you can think back on that dental exam appointment you might remember laying back in the chair with your mouth wide open ready for the dentist. The dentist checks your teeth for any cavities and also checks your gums while at the same time calling out numbers to the hygienist/dental technician. What are those numbers?

During the annual dental exam the dentist does a Periodontal Screening and Recording. According to the American Dental Association, the PSR is a diagnostic screening tool for early detection of periodontal disease (gum disease). The PSR consist of numbers/scores which will indicate the level of periodontal health and whether or not you need a more complete examination by a periodontist (gum specialist). How are the scores/numbers obtained?

Remember when it felt like the dentist was "poking" your gums? Well this was actually the dentist measuring your gums with the PSR probe. The healthier your gums the less discomfort you will experience. The dentist measures six sections of your mouth and gives each a score. The following are the descriptions of each score when measuring the space between the teeth and gums with the PSR probe:

PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. AISHA ABELL

Tech. Sgt. Angelica Chica, 3rd Dental Squadron, uses the Periodontal Screening and Recording probe. This process measures the gum tissue health.

Score of 0:
Your mouth is in good periodontal gum health, no bleeding upon probing

Score of 1:
There is some plaque (soft food and bacteria mixture, removable by brushing and flossing)
There is some bleeding upon probing, might be indicative of gingivitis (inflammation of the gums).

Score of 2:
There is some tarter/calculus (hard build-up) noted on your teeth or rough edges around dental work detected

Score of 3:
There is possible deterioration of periodontal health and a more extensive exam might be needed

Score of 4:
There is a definite compromise of periodontal health and a more extensive exam is needed

Score of *:
There are mobile teeth or excessive gum recession (this score, if used, would be combined with a number score)

After reading this article you should be more familiar with your dental numbers. It is important to floss at least once a day and to brush at least twice a day for about two minutes. By following these recommendations, you will be on your way to a healthier smile and obtain a better score with your dentist and hygienist.

Finance: Did You Know???

Did you know that you can update your LES and TSP address through MyPay? Once you have logged in to MyPay, click on the link that says "Correspondence Address." Update your address and save, then confirm your new address. The next page will have a highlighted blue link that states "Update my Thrift Savings Plan information to the same address." Verify that it is the correct address and submit. For more information, call 552-9104. For more information, e-mail the finance office at *3cptsfso@elmendorf.af.mil*

Air University's Associate-to-Baccalaureate program initiated

On June 15th, the Air Force officially rolled out its long-anticipated Associate-to-Baccalaureate Co-op Program, an initiative between Air University and civilian colleges and universities to offer expedited bachelor degree opportunities to every Air Force enlisted member. For many years, Air Staff has listened to calls from the enlisted community to provide Bachelor degree opportunities that build upon the Community College of the Air Force Associate's degree. The AU ABC progam answers that call and offers what promises to be a revolutionary approach to voluntary education for our Airmen.

In the past, Airmen looking to leverage the credit earned from their CCAF degree toward their Bachelor's degree faced the problem of transferability of credit. While obtainment of the Associate's degree typically and historically marks the halfway point to a Bachelor's degree, many Airmen struggled to find civilian colleges and universities that were willing to honor and accept those hard-earned CCAF credits in the technical and PME areas, even though they were requirements for the CCAF Associate's degree. As a result, many frustrated Airmen found themselves no where near the halfway point of their desired Bachelor's degree. Fortunately, the ABC program solves this issue. Airmen who enter a contract with a participating school under the ABC program are now guaranteed full transferability of their CCAF degree and will be required to complete no more than 60 additional semester hours to finish their Bachelor's degree--in some cases much less. Once the school receives the necessary transcript information, every participant will receive a binding degree completion contract from his or her selected school that will lock in the transfer credit and state the remaining degree requirements.

While the ABC program is ideally intended for CCAF graduates, those who have yet to complete their CCAF degree may also participate. However, they will likely be required to complete more than 60 semester hours to obtain their Bachelor's degree. Therefore, in many cases, it is recommended that Airmen first complete the CCAF degree to maximize the transferability of CCAF credit. Moreover, since a Bachelor's degree earned under the ABC program does not replace the CCAF degree requirement for Senior Rater Indorsements, it is also advantageous from a career standpoint to complete the CCAF degree first.

The Air Force Virtual Education Center will serve as the gateway to AU ABC programs and associated student services. Airmen interested in taking advantage of the ABC program can find out more information by clicking on the AU ABC link available on the AFVEC homepage. There they will be able to find out about the program in greater detail and utilize the AFSC search engine to discover what schools and programs are available for their particular Air Force Specialty. To reach the AFVEC homepage, simply log on to the AF Portal and click on the link for AFVEC located under the "Top Viewed: Career" section.

Commanders interested in having an Education Office representative come to their unit to brief their members and answer questions about the ABC program should call Joe O'Neil at 552-9647.

(Information provided by the Elmendorf Education Office)

PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. KEITH BROWN

EOP sees RF-A first-hand

Members of the RED FLAG-Alaska Executive Observer Program stand in front of an Elmendorf F-22A, C-17 and F-15C during their tour of the base July 20. This group of international officers, hosted by Gen. Paul V. Hester, Pacific Air Forces commander, was invited to observe the RF-A exercise and discuss coalition training in Alaska. This photo was incorrectly identified in last week's edition of the Sourdough Sentinel. The Sentinel staff apologizes for this error.

Big Bro/Big Sister picnic

The 381st is hosting the 19th annual Big Brother/Big Sister Picnic from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. today at Goose Lake Park. The event is open to all children ages 6-13.

For more information, call Capt. Celina Noyes at 552-5659.

School shots

The Hospital Immunizations Clinic is extending its hours from 8 a.m.-noon Saturday and 7:45 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday for school immunization shots.

For more information, call 580-5812.

Bible school

The Elmendorf Chapel is hosting "Avalanche Ranch" Vacation Bible School from 9 a.m.-noon Monday-Aug. 10. Children ages 5 through 6th grade are welcome. Games, crafts and music will be provided. Adult and teen volunteers are appreciated.

For more information, call Patti Harris at 552-6493 or Marie Wyman at 552-6492.

Bargain Shop sale

There will be a Bargain Shop bag sale from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday and Wednesday. Cost is $3 for a filled a grocery bag with selected merchandise.

For more information, call 753-6134.

Home buying seminar

There will be a home buying seminar at 1 p.m. Monday at the housing office. The class will last two-to-three hours. You must sign up to attend.

For more information or to sign up, call 552-4439/4328.

STAP applications

Applications for Spouse Tuition Assistance Program funding for school terms beginning Aug.-Sept. are being accepted 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. through Wednesday at the Education Office, 4109 Bullard Ave, Suite 232. Handwritten applications will not be accepted. Do not use your saved application because the application may have changed since you last applied for STAP funding. STAP instructions/information can be found on the Topcover under "Education."

For more information, call Max McQueen at 552-3494 or *max.mcqueen@elmendorf.af.mil.*

3rd WG/PA closed

The 3rd Wing Public Affairs office will closed Aug. 10 for an official function.

For emergency contact, call 229-3771.

Luau volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed to help with the Summer Luau and Pig Roast from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Aug. 10 at the Arctic Oasis Community Center. Volunteers will help run the children's activities and serve lunch.

For more information, call Lauren McGrain at 552-8529 or e-mail *lauren.mcgrain@elmendorf.af.mil*

TAP seminar

A Transition Assistance Program seminar is 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Aug. 14-17 and Aug. 28-31 at the Military Family and Readiness Center for members separating from active duty. This four-day presentation will offer résumé writing, salary negotiation, networking, veteran's benefits and more. You must sign up to attend. Spouses are welcome and highly encouraged to attend.

For more information or to sign up, call 552-4943.

37th Street closure

Due to the Port Expansion Project, all of 37th street will be under construction. Watch for posted detour routes to the civil air patrol building, triangle, and fish lakes. Use of these detours should be limited to authorized personnel only.

For more information, call Senior Airman Nicolas Porter at 552-2440.

Commissioning briefing rescheduled

The monthly commissioning briefing at the Education Office has been rescheduled for 8 a.m. Aug. 15.

For more information, call the Education Office at 552-3164.

Civilian commander's call rescheduled

The Wing Commander's Civilian Call is rescheduled for 9 a.m. Aug. 16 at the base theater.

For more information, call Dianne Harrison at 552-5583.

3rd MSS closure

The 3rd Mission Support Squadron will be closed from 11 a.m. to close of business for an official function Aug. 17.

For more information, call 1st Lt. Keri Matwick at 552-2243.

ESOHCAMP

The 2007 Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health Compliance Assessment and Management Program is Aug. 20-24. The ESOHCAMP is a base wide audit that helps commanders ensure Elmendorf is compliant with all federal, state and Air Force environmental, safety and occupational health regulations. The program also builds financial support for future compliance needs.

For more information, call Jon Scudder at 552-9677.

AF Ball

The 2007 Air Force Ball is at 6 p.m. Sept. 22 at the Egan Civic and Convention Center, 555 W 5th Ave. Anchorage. You must RSVP to attend.

For more information or to RSVP, call 1st Lt. Warren Smith at 552-9057.

Workstations during non-duty hours

All Elmendorf employees are being asked to leave NIPRnet computers on during all non-duty hours. Network pushes such as patches, anti-virus and the SDC 1.2 upgrades happen during non-duty hours. This avoids competing for network bandwidth during high use periods and minimizes the inconvenience of forced computer reboots when you are trying to conduct business. Computers and monitors go into a "power save" mode which draws far less power while remaining on and will save more energy than those that get powered off while not in use.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Daniel Hall at 552-4540.

Yard of the Month

Aurora Military Housing will be offering the Yard of the Month program. Ten winners will be selected through September. Selection will be based on mowing, trimming/edging, grass color and lawn coverage. A $100 prize will be awarded to the winner.

For more information, call 753-1051.

National Observance Committee

The Elmendorf National Observance Committee is seeking both enlisted and commissioned Airmen to help coordinate the national observance events of Elmendorf. The committee will highlight their accomplishments through events and speeches.

For more information or to join, call Master Sgt. Mike Hall at 552-7086 or e-mail *michael.hall@elmendorf.af.mil.*

Child care providers

Any individual conducting child care services in base housing for more than 10 hours per week on a regular basis must be a licensed family child care provider.

For more information on how to obtain certification, call 552-3995.

Free renters insurance

Free renters insurance is being offered to all occupants of Aurora housing. To activate renters' insurance from Allstate, call 279-9000.

For more information, call Aurora at 753-1023.

Knik Bluff hiking trail clean-up

Volunteers are needed to clean-up the Knik Bluff hiking trail.

For more information or to volunteer, e-mail *bob.morris@elmendorf.af.mil.*

Advertise your event

Base members wanting to place event information in the *Sourdough Sentinel* can e-mail *sourdough.sentinel@elmendorf.af.mil*.

Information must be received by close of business Friday at least one week before desired publication date. All information submitted is published on a space-available basis.

Airman 1st Class Sara Hopson

Organization and duty title: 3rd Dental Squadron dental technician

Hometown: Nauvoo, Ala.

Hobbies: Travel, fishing, photography and spending time with my family

Mission contribution: I assist various dentists in general dentistry as well as the specialty areas. I help review more than 100 records a month in order to maintain a 97 percent accuracy rate of dental records. I also write up records for our Military Medical Support Office referral program.

PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS LAURA TURNER

How long have you been at Elmendorf: One year, 8 months

Time in service: Two years, one month

Best part about being in Alaska: The Alaskan views

Quote from supervisor: "Airman Hopson sets the standard for hard work and dedication. With her ethics and drive she will go very far in her dental and military career." Staff Sgt. Mary Neffle

PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS MATT OWENS

Tech. Sgt. Anita Thompson

Organization and duty title: 3rd Comptroller Squadron NCOIC special actions

Hometown: Houma, La.

Hobbies: Reading and listening to music

Mission contribution: Compute and disburse final active duty military pay entitlements for separation/retirements. Submit remission/wavier packages and Dependency Determinations to Defense Finance and Accounting Service. The base monitor of case management system; process and collect travel, military pay and education debts.

How long have you been at Elmendorf: Two years

Time in service: 15 years

Best part about being in Alaska: The beautiful and tranquil scenery

Quote from supervisor: "Sergeant Thompson is a leader, mentor and a FM expert. She is my 'Go-to-NCO' when I need to get the toughest issues resolved in the unit. A recent master sergeant select that is ready for the challenges that lie ahead. She'll make an awesome senior NCO." Master Sgt. Richard Viotto

3rd Bombardment Wing drops the last bombs in Korea

By Douglas Beckstead
3rd Wing History Office

On July 27, 1953, 1st Lt. Donald Mansfield, pilot, 1st Lt. William Ralston, navigator, and Airman 2nd Class Dennis Judd, gunner, 8th Bombardment Squadron, dropped the last bombs of the Korean War flying B-26C "Bye Bye Bluebird" during a "Tadpole" sortie.

Taking off from Kunsan Air Base at 8:15 p.m., the crew dropped the bombs at 9:33 p.m. from 8,000 feet on a suspected supply dump near the front line. Ed Hoffheim, Chief of the Korean Branch, International News Service, accompanied the crew as a passenger and observer. An RB-26C, from the 12th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, crossed over the front line from North Korea behind Lieutenant Mansfield's B-26 shortly afterwards.

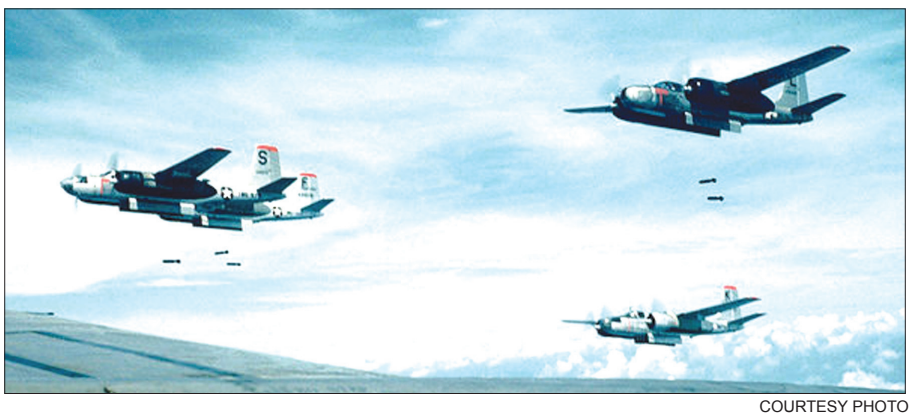
During the final month of the war, the 3rd Bombardment Wing flew 1,305 sorties. The largest number, 901, were "Tadpole" sorties flown under radar guidance from a Tactical Air Direction Post in support of ground operations. The wing reported 792 vehicles, one locomotive, 37 railcars, six bridges and 12 buildings destroyed. They also accomplished 100 road and seven rail cuts. During the final days of the war the wing lost three aircraft and four crew members.

As a result of their service, the 3rd Bombardment Group received its third and final Distinguished Unit Citation of the Korean War for the period May 1-July 27, 1953.

Throughout the Korean conflict, replacement crew manning and experience remained a problem. Because the B-26 was a World War II vintage aircraft, there were no schools at the beginning of hostilities to train crews on the airframe. In June 1950, the 3rd Bombardment Wing was the only U.S. Air Force unit equipped with the B-26.

In late 1950, the Tactical Air Command at Langley Air Force Base, Va., opened a school to train replacement crews for Korea. Unfortunately, the quantity and quality of the graduates never met the demand. At one point, Headquarters U.S. Air Force ordered all Zone of Interior commands to locate personnel in casual status and use them to form combat B-26 crews. As stated by an unnamed Fifth Air Force officer, "Instead of getting the highest qualified individual for this type of flying, we have frequently received … the man who can be spared easiest."

Despite the shortage of personnel and inadequate aircraft for the night missions it was called to carry out, the 3rd BW served the Air Force well and paid a high price in lost crews and aircraft. It flew 4,676 day and 28,544 night sorties for a total of 33,220, and accounted for 35 percent of the locomotives, 37 percent of the vehicles, and 28 percent of the railcars destroyed by Far East Air Force controlled aircraft for the entire war.



COURTESY PHOTO

The 3rd BW and Group histories reported 246 crewmembers lost. The number was reduced to 218 when the lists were compared with post-war records. The difference assumes that non-battle deaths and those who evaded capture and later returned to American--controlled areas were included in the higher count.

Because of the type of missions flown, usually solitary and at night over hostile territory, missing in action accounted for the largest number who gave their lives for their country. Post-war documentation lists 176 men who failed to return, 153 of which were presumptuously declared dead after the war. Their fate remains a tragic mystery of that war. Fourteen men were killed in action. Twenty-eight were taken captive of which two died in captivity and five were presumed dead after the end of hostilities. One captive was returned during the exchange of injured and sick prisoners of war in May 1953, and the others during the general exchange following the end of hostilities.

Another statistic that directly correlates to the number of men lost in combat is the number of aircraft lost in combat. The 3rd BW lost a total of 94 aircraft. Those 94 fell into three categories: aircraft deemed "Class 26," no possibility of repair; crashed or destroyed in flight; and missing in action. As with the men lost to combat, the majority of the aircraft lost in combat were in the category of missing in action, they departed for a mission and were never seen again. The numbers breakout as follows: five were "Class 26;" 31 crashed or were destroyed in flight, and 58 were missing in action.

(Information provided by 3rd Wing History Office)

Not just maintainers, heavy maintainers

703rd AMXS begins training for C-17s

By Airman David Carbajal
3rd Wing Public Affairs

While some Airmen are checking their e-mail at work, the Arctic Warriors of the 703rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron are checking off C-17 pre-flight checklists.

Since being renamed in Jan. 2003, the squadron has maintained C-130s, C-12s, E-3s, C-5s, and their latest assigned aircraft, the C-17 Globemaster III.

Prior to that, the 703rd was part of the 3rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. However, the 3rd Wing believed that a squadron with 1,136 authorizations was too large and difficult to manage. After close consideration, the 3rd WG felt two smaller squadrons, the 3rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron with 769 personnel and the 703rd AMXS with 371 personnel, would provide better support.

According to the Air Force Historical Research Agency heritage rules, a second squadron providing similar services had to have a three digit designation. The wing concurred with the AFHRA's recommendation that the linage and honors of the 3rd Engineering Squadron, a World War II unit which served on Saipan providing maintenance support to B-29 units, could be used.

Since being assigned at Elmendorf, the 703rd's current objective is to maintain their primary aircraft to deploy the Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, aka Fort Richardson Strykers.

One of the biggest obstacles maintainers face is the Alaskan winters.

"Probably the worst part about being a maintainer is maintaining an aircraft in 10 degree weather," said Tech. Sgt. Terry Hooten, a 703rd flying crew chief. "Luckily, we're equipped with some of the best cold weather gear available."

As PCSing Airmen come into the squadron, they bring new ideas to keep the maintainers warm and procedures to streamline operations, said Sgt. Hooten.

Aside from the personal protective equipment the 703rd Airmen are given, they also have diesel powered heaters that can be used on the flightline during winter storms.

"The winters in Alaska are our bread and butter here," said Senior Master Sgt. Kevin Harris, the 703rd AMXS squadron production superintendent. "It's what we do, and we've learned to do it well."

Winters for maintainers means more than just staying warm. They also have to consider the lack of sunlight and de-icing of the plane and flightline.

"The lost sunlight we have in Alaska plays a big role as well," said Sgt. Hooten. "The lack of sunlight makes it more difficult to see and does in fact make our maintainers tire quicker."

One benefit of receiving the newly assigned C-17 during the summer is the training gained.

"Receiving this aircraft in June will give us time to train our Airmen who have only worked on C-130s," said Sgt. Harris. "By the time winter hits, we will be more efficient with this aircraft."

Training the Airmen to be C-17 qualified is something that goes on everyday.

"Us NCOs and some of our experienced crew chiefs train the younger Airmen until they become proficient enough to do the task independently," said Sgt. Hooten.

Fortunately, the younger crew chiefs are at an advantage in their training.

"The Airmen that are being trained now are those that have grown up with the technology used in fixing the aircraft," said Sgt. Harris.

The computers and components in the C-17s are designed to be diagnosed by the technology used by the 703rd AMXS.

"Trouble-shooting an aircraft is done mainly by the computers, but can be wrong from time to time," Sgt. Hooten said. "This is why there is no substitute for experience."

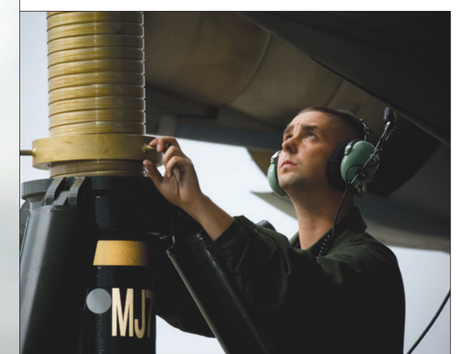
The experience and training of the squadron has led to 30 successful launches since receiving this aircraft and are expected to average more than 70 take-offs per month.

"Our Airmen make it happen," said Sgt. Harris. "It's because of them that we see our tails launch on time."

Above: Staff Sgt. Rachael Wilson, a 703rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, bores an engine during a training exercise Tuesday.

Below: Staff Sgt. Dana Rosso, a 703rd AMXS crew chief, monitors the jack as the aircraft is lifted several inches off the flightline. Lifting of the aircraft is necessary to work on the landing gear of the C-17.

Bottom: Airman 1st Class Caleb Christian, a 703rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, monitors the movement of one of six hydraulic jacks as they lift a C-17.



Above: Maintainers use a pre-set measurement of the aircraft jack to set the other hydraulic jacks to a standard level before placing them under the aircraft before maintenance.

Right: Hydraulic jacks hoist a C-17 off the flightline enabling maintainers to check landing gear during a training session Tuesday.

Photos by Senior Airman Garrett Hothan

Services Eaglet

"Telling the Services Story" in daily activities and special events for the Elmendorf community

"101 Critical Days of Summer" safety campaign **Be A Survivor - Have A Designated Driver!**

Arctic Oasis Community Center

Summer Luau and Pig Roast

Friday, Aug. 10
11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Fun for the whole Family.

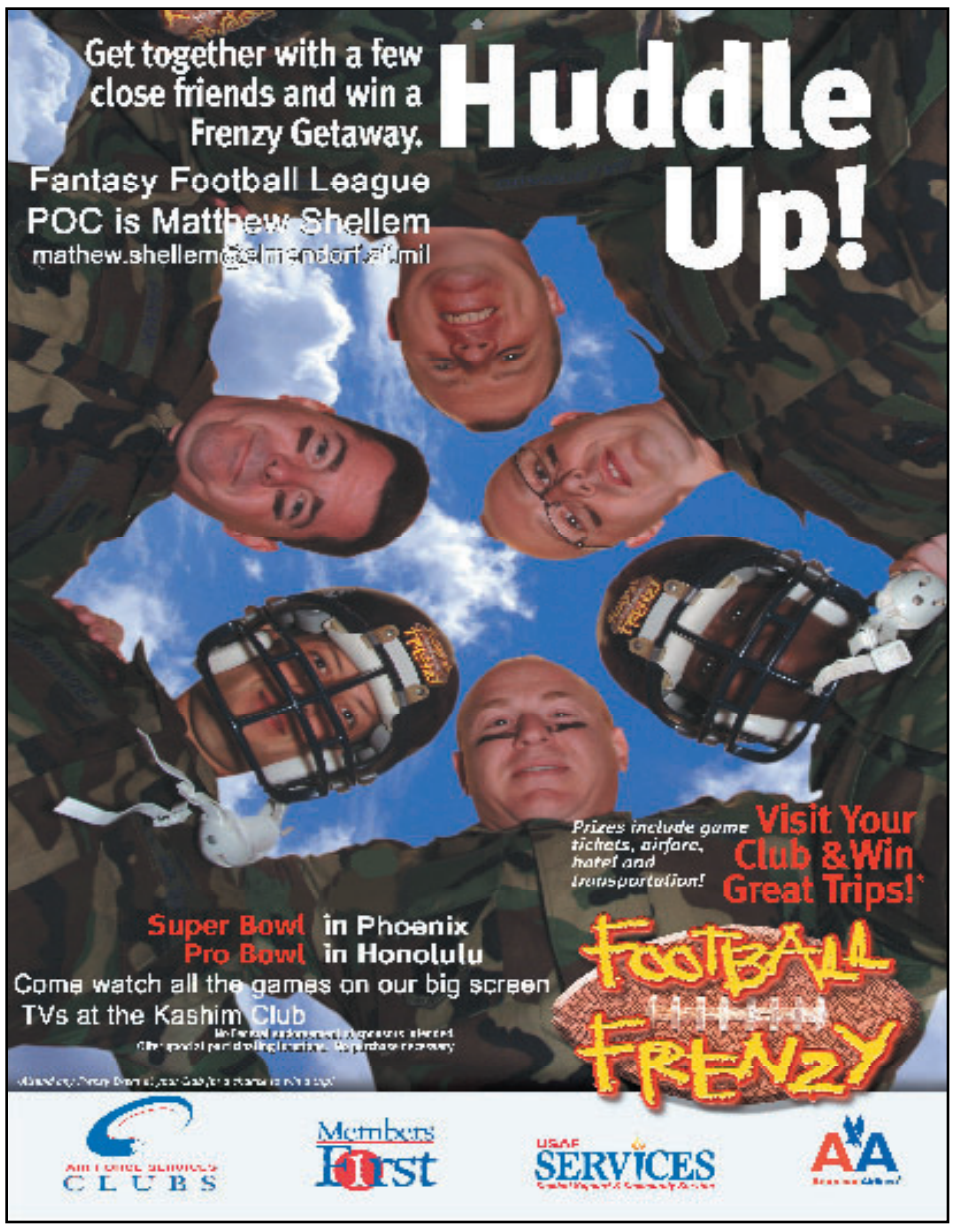
Make sure you come dressed in costume, prizes for best Hawaiian dress. Bouncy house for the kids, face painting, Hawaiian shaved ice, flower lei making, music, family Hawaiian relay races, musical beach towels, hula contests and the limbo.

Tons of fun and prizes.

Advance tickets required:
Tickets available for $5 for adults and kids 12 & under are free with a paying family member.

Purchase advance tickets at

Arctic Oasis Community Center
552-8529



Kashim Club

Sept. 7 at 4 p.m.

Today

Beading Simple Earrings, 5-7 p.m., $7.95 kit plus $25, Arts & Crafts, 552-7012/2470

Basic Stained Glass, 6-9 p.m., kit plus $85, first of 4 sessions, Aug. 3, 10, 24, 31 Arts & Crafts, 552-7012/-2470

RC DJ (The Rajun Cajun), 9 p.m.-3 a.m., (Friday Nights), our DJ has the largest music selection in Anchorage and the military, adults only, Kashim Club, 753-6131

Fit Factor, 4:30 p.m., log your points to get closer to the next FitFactor level, Youth Center, 552-2266

Graffiti Goals, 4 p.m., youth and staff alike write their goals on our wall. We then encourage each other to work towards those goals which are shared with the group, Youth Center, 552-2266

Saturday

Fitness Center, opens at 9 a.m., Lap swim 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Open Swim 1-5 p.m. 552-5353

Saturday Night DJ Karaoke, 9 p.m., cheer your buddies on or just play stump the DJ, adults only, Kashim Club, 753-6131

Senior State Amateur Golf Tournment, Aug. 4-6, Eagleglen Golf Course, 552-3821

Basic Sign Language, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., $45, need sign dictionary, 1 of 4 sessions, Arts & Crafts, 552-7012/-2470

Sunday

Sale on Selected Art Materials, Aug. 5-7, updating our inventory, prices reduced 10-50 percent off, Arts & Crafts, 552-7012/2470

Open Bowling, 2 p.m.-1 a.m., $2.75 per game, $1.75 for shoes, children sizes 13 and below are $1.25, Polar Bowl, 552-4108

Alaska Railroad, Ride to Spencer Glacier and experience the Spencer Glacier Float Tour among the icebergs. Discounts, information, Tickets & Travel, 753-2378

Monday

Monday Evening "Road Bike" ride, 5:30 p.m., free unless you need to rent a bike for $5, ORC, 552-2023

The Driving Range, new range machines and golf balls, range open all daylight hours, Eagleglen Golf Course, 552-3821

Tuesday

Eagle River Rafting, Looking for something to do after work? Join us for this two-hour trip down scenic Eagle River. Cost $35, 5-7:30 p.m., ORC, 552-2023

Back To School Fun Run, sign-ups at 2 p.m. race 3 p.m. 5K, prizes will be given away for the first and second place for both male and female, Fitness Center, 552-5353

Wednesday

Bargain Basement Bowling, 5-9 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, $5 for all-you-can-bowl, Polar Bowl, 552-4108

Daily Bowling Special, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., 50 cents per game, Polar Bowl, 552-4108

Scrapbook Basics, 6-8 p.m., $10, bring photos, Arts & Crafts, 552-7012/2470

Ceramics - Pouring Certification, 6:30-9p.m., class $25, 1st piece free firing. Arts & Crafts, 552-7012/2470

Thursday

Thursday Evening "Mountain Bike" ride, 5:30 p.m., free unless you need to rent a bike for $5, ORC, 552-2023

Eagle River Rafting, Looking for something to do after work? Join us for this two-hour trip down scenic Eagle River. Cost $35, 5-7:30 p.m., ORC, 552-2023

Great trips for the summer, contact ITT for discounts & reservations, save up to $500 on a cruise vacation for two - Royal Caribbean, Carnival and Celebrity Cruises, 552-0297 or 753-2378

Ongoing Programs

In addition to Volunteer care, the FCC works with the AF Aid Society (Military and Family Readiness) to offer 20 hours per child of FREE child care during your PCS time (inbound or outbound) – great opportunity for parents to try FCC if they haven't ever used it before! Find out what it's all about, FCC 552-7840

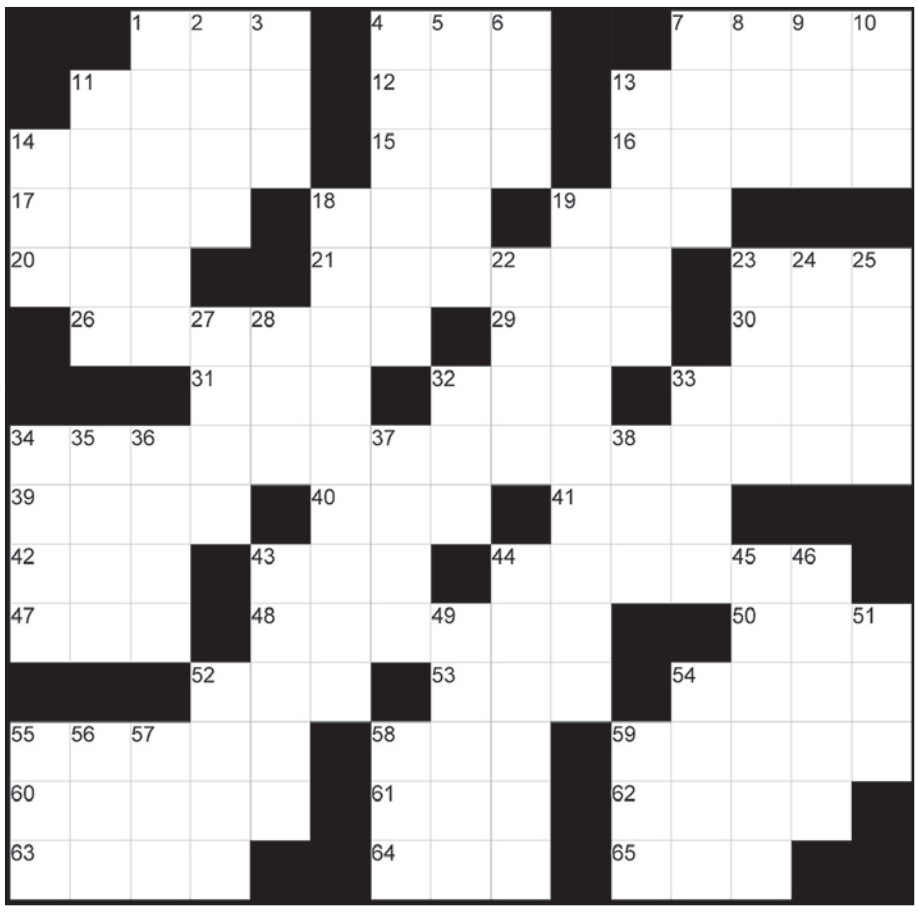
Congratulations!

"We Listen You Win!"
Patrick Michelscheck
Winner of $100 Service Bucks

3RD SERVICES
Combat Support & Community Service

Armistice '53

By Capt. Tony Wickman
71st Flying Training Wing Public Affairs



Across
1. Accountant, in brief
4. Head gear
7. Bamboozle
11. Boutique
12. Fish egg
13. ___ Perimeter; 1950 Korean War site UN forces were pushed to
14. Compose
15. Mistake
16. Peruses
17. Corn shell
18. NY player
19. Place
20. Japanese sash
21. AH-64 helicopter
23. Expire
26. Playful tricks or pranks; capers
29. Coop denizen
30. Computer memory type, in brief
31. Oklahoma town
32. www.af.___
33. ALF search org.
34. Moniker for Korean War
39. Aching
40. Gratuity
41. Age
42. The "I" or self of any person
43. Band of radio frequencies from 300 to 3,000 MHz, in short
44. Tool for cutting shallow holes by removing a core
47. USA equivalent of AFSC
48. Joining of the lips or edges of a wound by stitching
50. Responses used to express dissent, denial
52. Rough, prickly case around the seeds of certain plants
53. Wet, soft earth
54. Chess piece
55. Light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation
58. Dickens' "tiny" character in A Christmas Carol
59. DPRK ally in the Korean War
60. Brawl
61. Motor club
62. Actress Russo
63. School bigwig
64. Possible response to an ANS
65. Still

F	A	S	T			S	E	E	M			R	A	P
A	L	O	H	A		T	A	L	E		P	I	N	E
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July 27 solution

Down
1. ___ Reservoir; 1950 Korean War battle site
2. ___ Chop Hill/Hill 255; 1952-53 Korean War battle site
3. Mock
4. Slithers
5. Heart valve
6. Each
7. Musical composition for two voices or instruments
8. Supporter of the ROK in the Korean War
9. Bachelor's spot
10. USN 0-1
11. Portable breathing device for free-swimming divers
13. Strut
14. TV Guide listing for premium cable channel
18. Supreme UN commander at the outbreak of the Korean War
19. Protected or shielded from storms
22. Signed note for money owed for food, drink, etc.
23. Comedian Carey
24. Ninth letter of the Greek alphabet
25. Chieftain or head of state in some Islamic countries
27. 27th president; Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
28. Altar words
32. Swab the deck
33. Break off
34. 1954 Sci-fi horror movie about giant ants
35. French poet, novelist, and dramatist Victor
36. Ancient Greek god of love
37. Knack
38. Before, poetically
43. Overthrow
44. POTUS at the outbreak of the Korean War
45. Consecrate
46. No person; not anyone
49. Open Eskimo boat
51. Modern style of vocalized Jamaican popular music
52. Legume
54. Syngman ___; ROK president at the outbreak of the Korean War
55. Powerful psychedelic drug of the 70s, in brief
56. Capt. Joseph McConnell was one in the Korean War
57. USAF E-4
58. 19th letter of the Greek alphabet
59. Weep

SPORTS PAGE

Family member kicks at National Tae Kwon Do competition

By Airman David Carbajal
3rd Wing Public Affairs

Gold medals shouldn't be something to kick and scream about but in this case, you have to kick to win.

Four Elmendorf family member competed in the sparring and forms division at the U.S. Tae Kwon Do Junior Olympics in San Jose, Calif., July 10-15.

Athletes from all 50 states and Puerto Rico participated in the competition.

Kayla Timmons, daughter of Master Sgt. John Timmons, won a gold medal in the female 14-15 year old middle weight sparring and forms division. After winning her age group, Kayla was given the opportunity to compete against the winner of the 16-17 year old division and won. Consequently, Kayla is now the 14-17 year old female middle weight National Champion.

"Kayla really showed what time and effort can do during this competition," said Ron Onyon, head master instructor. "It really paid off by winning the gold."

Samantha Duclos, daughter of Master Sgt. Craig Duclos, came away from the competition with a bronze medal in sparring for 8-9 year old red belt division.

Kayla Duclos, sister of Samantha, competed in the 12-13 year old black belt division but did not place in the event.

Michael Barry, son of Master Sgt. Kevin Barry, fought in the 16-17 year old male black belt division but did not return with a medal.

All competitors are trained by Mr. Onyon, former Air Force and Air National Guard member. Mr. Onyon was on the Air Force's and Armed Force's Tae Kwon Do teams from 1994-2001. During that time, he was the Air Force Tae Kwon Do team captain and head coach. Mr. Onyon now teaches at Greatland Martial Arts in Anchorage and has recently started teaching on Fort Richardson twice a week.

"In the near future, I'd like to see these young people use the same passion and intensity towards life," said Mr. Onyon. "Putting the same passion in real-life situations will benefit them in the long run."

PHOTOS BY ERIN ONYON

Above: Kayla Timmons side kicks during the competition July 10-15. Competitors from all 50 states and Puerto Rico participated in the Junior Olympics.

Top left: Kayla won her first gold medal in her division and the 16-17 year old division.

Left: Kayla Timmons spars during the 2007 U.S. Tae Kwon Do Junior Olympics in California.

Sport Shorts

Air Force marathon

The 11th Annual Air Force marathon is Sept. 15 at Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio. Registration for this event is now open.

For more information or to register, visit *www.usafmarathon.com.*

Rifle match

The Alaska Rifle Club will host an 80-shot High Power Rifle Match at 8 a.m. Saturday at Pedneau range on Fort Richardson. Cost is $20. NRA rules will govern.

For more information, call 694-1094 or visit *www.akrifleclub.com*

EIC match

A 50-shot Excellence-In-Competition match will be at 8 a.m. Sunday at Pedneau Range. Cost is $20. CMP rules will govern.

For more information, call 694-1094 or visit *www.akrifleclub.com*

Racquetball ladder

The 2nd annual racquetball challenge ladder will be Aug. 20 at the fitness center. Participatants must register by filling out a challenge information card at the front counter of the fitness center. Registration must be completed by Aug. 17.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Robby Watson at 552-7773.

EIC match

The 3rd Security Forces Squadron combat arms section will be hosting an Excellence-in-Competition Rifle Match at the Elmendorf Firing Range Aug. 25. The competitors who place in the top 10 percent will earn the coveted EIC Rifle Badge to wear in dress uniform. You must be U.S. Military and have never accrued any points towards the Distinguished Rifleman Badge to compete. You must sign up to attend.

For more information or to sign up, call Combat Arms at 552-4196.

Lacrosse players needed

Lacrosse players are needed to start an Elmendorf lacrosse team. The team is open to active duty, reserve, air national guard and dependents 16 years of age or older.

For more information, call Airman 1st Class Matt Owens at 770-1932.