

JANUARY UTA SCHEDULE

Saturday

Time	Activity	Location
6 -7 a.m.	Breakfast @ Troop Dining Facility	Bldg 813
7:15-7:45 a.m.	Wing Element Staff Mtg	Bldg 838/WCR-2107
7:30-8:30 a.m.	Fit To Fight Evaluations & Profiles: LOD/WWD	Bldg 922
7:30-9 a.m.	Flying Physicals	Bldg 922
7:30-11 a.m.	Optometry	Bldg 922
7:30-11 a.m.	Immunizations, Hearing, Lab, Pulm Func Test	Bldg 922
7:30-11 a.m.	Dental Screenings	Bldg 922
9:30-11 a.m.	Non-Flying Physicals	Bldg 922
9:30-10:30 a.m.	Medical Deployment Outprocess	Bldg 922
8:00+	M-16A2 and 9MM AFQC Firing	Firing Range
8-9 a.m.	AEF Deployment Outprocessing	Bldg 838/Rm 2406
8-11 a.m.	CBRNE Refresher (Every 20 Months)	Bldg 838/Rm 1322
8-8:30 a.m.	Newcomers Intro by Wing/CC staff	Bldg 838/Rm 1202
8:30-10:20 a.m.	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 838/ Rm 1202
9:00-10:00 a.m.	Training Managers Meeting	Bldg 838/Rm 2304
10 a.m.	IG Complaints	Bldg 838/Rm 1324
10-11 a.m.	Unit Deployment Managers Mtg	Bldg 838/WCR2107
10:30-11:30 a.m.	First Sgts. Grp Mtg	
Bldg838/MiniConfRm		
10:30-12:30 p.m.	Lunch @ Troop Dining Facility	Bldg 813
Noon-3:45 p.m.	Newcomers Ancillary Trng	Bldg 838/Rm 1202
Noon-2 p.m.	Dental Exams	Bldg
550/NavyClinic		
12:30-2 p.m.	Laboratory Tests	Bldg 922
12:30-3 p.m.	Physicals, Hearing, PFT, Optometry, Immunizations	Bldg 922
1-4 p.m.	CBRNE Refresher (Every 20 Months)	Bldg 838/Rm 1322
4 p.m.	Retreat/Unit: 94 OG/OSS	Bldg 838/Flagpole
4:30 p.m.	Chiefs Group Meeting	Bldg 838/Rm 1202
5-6 p.m.	Dinner @ Troop Dining Facility	Bldg 813

Sunday

Time	Activity	Location
6 - 7 a.m.	Breakfast @ Troop Dining Facility	Bldg 813
7:30	M16A2 AFQC Firing	Firing Range
7:30-8:30 a.m.	Protestant Chapel Service	DARB Base Chapel
7:45-8:30 a.m.	Enlisted Advisor Council Mtg	Bldg 838/WCR-2107
8-9 a.m.	MILPDS Trng	Bldg 838/Rm 2406
8 a.m.-4 p.m.	CBRNE Initial training	Bldg 838/Rm 1320
8:30-9:30 a.m.	HRDC meeting	Bldg 838/ Rm 2107
9-10 a.m.	Catholic Service (Mass)	Navy Chapel
9-10:30 a.m.	Chiefs Group Mtg	Bldg 838/Rm 1202
9-11 a.m.	Physical Exams Follow-Up	Bldg 922
9-11 a.m.	Hearing Tests Follow-Up	Bldg 922
9-11 a.m.	Dental Exams Follow-Up	Navy Clinic
9-Noon	CDC Exams	Bldg 838/Rm 2304
10-11 a.m.	Protestant Service	Navy Chapel
10-11 a.m.	Commander's Mtg	Bldg 838/WCR-2107
10:30 -12:30 p.m.	Lunch @ Troop Dining Facility	Bldg 813
11:30 a.m.-noon	Protestant Chapel Service	Bldg 727/BrfgRm
12:30-1:30 p.m.	56 Group Meeting	Bldg 747/Rm 120
12:30-2 p.m.	Relocation Briefings	Bldg 838/Rm 2406
1 p.m.	CDC Exams	Bldg 838/Rm 2304
1 p.m.	Unit EM Rep meeting	Bldg 838/Rm 1322
1 p.m.	Top Three Mtg	Bldg 747
1-2 p.m.	Flying Safety Mtg	Bldg 732
4 p.m.	Unit Sign Out	Unit Asgnd

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EDUCATION OFFICE

OPRAH'S FAVORITES

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Minute man

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Tanker crew, Dobbins reservists complete critical medical mission

Page 3

Cover photo

A KC-135 cuts through the night sky on a mission. This type of aircraft is normally used for refueling, but was used for a critical transport by a team including 94th Airlift Wing medical techs. (Air Force Photo)

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VIEWPOINTS

Practice doesn't make

perfect

By Maj. Tim Johnson
Public Affairs

When I played high school football I remember an incident at a practice when my team was just kind of going through the motions. I think most players were thinking that there was no reason to "overdo it" and that we should save our best for the actual game.

Well, I can tell you that this only happened one time. As a result, my coach took us through the most grueling ordeal that afternoon that I can remember. He wanted to emphasize the point that you practice how you play. If you are sloppy and give half effort in practice, then that's what ends up happening in the game. As we think about our Operational Readiness Inspection coming up next year, I want to challenge you to consider this lesson and take care to not just "go through the motions," but to have a sense of urgency and realism in how we prepare.

During our last exercise, I heard of several incidents where people were challenged by the exercise evaluation team and really did not respond as if the exercise was real-world. During one incident there was a scenario of an explosion in one building and traces of some type of chemical were found.

As the EET observed the scene, they saw people hanging out "having a smoke" right next to the impact area. Also, many people in the building decided that since it was only an exercise they

did not have to evacuate. It seemed that many felt the scenario "was for someone else".

While it is true that some scenarios are run to test different aspects of our readiness, it is intended that we all participate to the greatest extent possible. We should all "pretend" that what is going on is real and react the way that we would react if it was actually happening.

If a building is simulated to have been blown up, then either help get casualties to safety, or at the very least get out of the building. If chemicals are suspected to be present then find the nearest decontamination area before you die. If you are asked to "deploy," then go through the mobility line like you are really going off to war. If the ORE and the ORI processes are to have any benefit at all, it is to help us practice, learn and continuously improve how we react to our real-world deployment responsibilities.

There are many of us in this wing who have actually been through some real-world deployments where we executed our mobility plans. In my case, I can tell you that when my wing actually did stage and deploy to a forward location, we were ready and we executed just as we had practiced. It was really awesome to see things go off so smoothly.

So, as we go through these next few months and continue to improve our readiness beyond the ORI, I would like to challenge you to have a sense of urgency and help make our exercise "real" for yourself and those around you.

Perfect practice makes perfect

In quotes

"Your tireless efforts keep this the best Air Force the world has ever seen, ready to lead or support the joint fight anywhere, anytime."

-- General T. Michael Moseley, Air Force Chief of Staff

From staff reports
and news service



These are a few of *Oprah's* favorite things



Photo by Master Sgt. Angelita Colón-Francia

It's an Oprah fan's dream to score a ticket to "The Oprah Winfrey Show," especially when it's for the taping of the Thanksgiving giveaway show called "Oprah's Favorite Things." The dream came true for financial technician, Staff Sgt. Rena Christian of the 94th Airlift Wing's Financial Management office, (shown holding a copy of the Macon Telegraph). She was given a ticket to the November taping of Oprah's show in Macon, Ga. Sergeant Christian and the rest of Oprah's Macon fans walked away with a Progressive HD Camcorder, Artisan stand-mixer, a Panini press and the most expensive gift ever given on "Oprah's Favorite Things" show: a top-of-the-line HDTV refrigerator. The stainless-steel appliance has an LCD TV, DVD hookups, a radio, a slide show option for digital photos, and it can display more than 100 built-in recipes at the push of a button.

Best pipes in the state

Tory Bethune, daughter of Master Sgt. Neil Bethune of the 22nd Air Force Headquarters and his wife Tonya, was selected for the Georgia All-State Chorus. Tory, a sophomore at Paulding County High School in Dallas, Ga., was selected through regional auditions to work with peers and fellow music lovers. She will get the opportunity to work under the direction of master conductors and musicians.

Each student auditions at one of five regional sites and must show promise at their first audition to move to the second where they must demonstrate mastery of their music performed at the All-State event. The All-State performance will be held in Savannah Feb. 21 - 23.

Dinner and dance

The Dobbins Consolidated Club will be low-lit on the evening of Feb. 15 as they host the annual Valentine's Day Dinner and Dance. The menu for two includes an entree of Filet Mignon or Halibut, a side dish, desserts and a carafe of wine for two. Reservations are necessary and may be made by calling 770-427-5551.

Volleyball league

The Dobbins Intramural Volleyball League is now forming. If your unit or squadron has not signed up and would like to participate, sign ups are being conducted at the Fitness Center. The League will begin playing Jan. 15 and continue through March. Games will be held on Tuesday and Thursday nights beginning at 5 p.m. Contact the Fitness Center at 678-655-4872 for more information.

Hoop it up

Services is calling all basketball players to participate in a UTA weekend basketball tournament at the Air Force Fitness Center Feb. 2 at 4 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for the first place team. For more information, contact the Fitness Center at 678-655-4872.

New arrivals, new ranks

Promotions

Technical Sergeant	Monica L. Eastman
Andrea P. Moore	Terrence English
Michelle A. Stimpson	Julio C. Gomes
Torrance C. Williams	Anita M. Miller
Myron V. Wright	Senior Airman
Staff Sergeant	Nathaniel D. Mather
James M. Amica II	Airman
	Dalia G. Galvan
	Adriel Conzalez Jr.

Lt. Col. Patricia Brunner
Capt. Isidro Renteriasilva
Master Sgt. Teresa E. Harris
Master Sgt. Maida Yeh
Master Sgt. Larry B. Stewart
Tech Sgt. Darius T. Barnes
Tech Sgt. Duane S. Lanuis
Tech Sgt. Frank F. Lauria
Tech Sgt. Bryan C. Rogers

Newcomers

Tech Sgt. Laquinn M. Walker	Senior Airman Allen M. Colley
Staff Sgt. Barbara A. Epps	Senior Airman Rick A. Ford
Staff Sgt. Tamesha S. Gagliano	Senior Airman James J. Jansen Jr.
Staff Sgt. Rocky C. Hancock	Senior Airman Stephen E. Richey
Staff Sgt. Teresa L. Hullinger	Senior Airman Joseph J. Vlahovic
Staff Sgt. Shanica M. Jones	Airman 1st Class Clayton S. Carlock
Staff Sgt. Brad L. Large	Airman 1st Class Jerveris V. Floyd
Staff Sgt. Sharon L. Tate	Airman 1st Class April M. Lewis
Staff Sgt. Byant L. Williams	Airman Cynthia D. Smith

Answers to Family Readiness Quiz on page 5. 1. F, 2. T, 3. F, 4. F, 5. T



CCAF eases trail to higher education

By Senior Airman Robert Dennard
Public Affairs

For many servicemembers, their decision to join the military is based on a number of factors. One of those factors often includes educational opportunities such as tuition assistance or the GI Bill. However, some don't know other ways the education office can help them fulfill their education goals.

"Higher education is highly recommended for career progression in the Air Force Reserve," said Staff Sgt. Matt Nicely of the 94th Airlift Wing Education Office. "It shows you're doing something when you go before boards and is mandatory for senior enlisted ranks."

One way that servicemembers can continue their education is by earning an associates degree from the Community College of the Air Force. The CCAF, which issued its first degree in 1977, has awarded more than 290,000 Associate in Applied Science degrees. Credits earned through the CCAF also transfer to civilian colleges for credit toward a bachelor's degree.

In addition, some credit hours earned at civilian institutions, such as

English or algebra courses, apply toward the CCAF degree plan. A total of 64 credit hours and a five-level in their career field are required for an associate's degree through the CCAF. In civilian institutions, this is equivalent to about two years of being a full time student.

Many Airmen don't know that they are already enrolled in the CCAF. Every member of the Air Force and Air Force Reserve is automatically enrolled in the CCAF upon their enlistment. Credit is given for technical schools, the Airman Leadership School, and the achievement of a five-level.

Currently the CCAF is working to provide a bachelor's degree program as well. In order to do so, the Air Force must get authority from Congress and earn accreditation from a national accrediting body. The program may be in effect within a year.

Military members can also take College Level Exam Program and Dante's Standardized Testing or DSST exams free at Dobbins. CLEP and DSST exams are tests that students can take in order to receive credit for an entire course. These tests are usually for people who have the life experience to pass the exam without having to sit through an entire semester's class on the subject. In order to schedule a CLEP or DSST exam, service members can contact Senior Master Sgt. Angela Cooper in the education office at (678) 655-4000. The exams are normally scheduled for Wednesdays. The CCAF associate's degree is offered through Air University and is only available to service members.

"The more education you have, the more value you place on yourself in the military and civilian worlds," said Sergeant Nicely.

UCI/ORI and readiness prep

By Senior Airman Robert Dennard
Public Affairs

With Dobbins' mission changing from one of training to operations, servicemembers now need to seriously consider the possibility of an overseas deployment. While training and troop readiness are keys to being successful, servicemembers must also remember to prepare their families as well. Angela Pedersen of the Family Support Center shared some tips that can help prepare military families for what may lie ahead.

Family preparation begins now, before being activated.

"The biggest mistake people make is waiting until they are deployed to start getting things ready," said Ms. Pedersen. "That's what makes it so stressful."

The three main areas that Airmen need to be concerned with are their personal, financial and legal matters. The Family Support Center and your Unit Deployment Manager can help with each of these.

Personal needs that servicemembers should be aware of include their vehicle, property, pets and other things in their lives that need to be attended to in their absence. Simple questions like, "Who's going to mow my grass while I'm gone?" can be helpful. Having a conversation about each family member's responsibilities can help avoid confusion and stress later.

Financially, Ms. Pedersen stated that it is important to learn about medical and dental care beforehand. Will the family be using Tri-Care or insurance from a civilian job? Also, spouses or close family members need to know how to read an LES. This way, any pay problems can be recognized

immediately.

"Another good idea is to develop a TDY budget," Ms. Pedersen said. "You need to ask yourself, 'How will bills get paid while I am gone,'" she added.

Legal considerations include wills, powers of attorney, dependent guardianship issues and emergency data card information. It's also very important to keep legal documents current and in a safe place.

Lastly, for the deployment process to be smooth for them, communication with family is essential. Keeping a list of community and base resources such as the finance office and Family Support Center can be very helpful in case of problems, or even just questions. The Family Support Center has resources like family safety, automotive and household maintenance checklists available for families that can help with preparation, Ms. Pedersen said.

Servicemembers may also want to talk to their families about Operational Security at home, that is, being careful about what they say in public places about a servicemember's absence, unit, location or equipment. While, this can help prevent a burglary or other criminal activity, it is very important to keep information about troop movements out of the wrong hands.

Deployments can be tough on families, but helping them to understand what is happening can take away much of the stress that comes from the unknown. A conversation with the family before leaving can help with that.

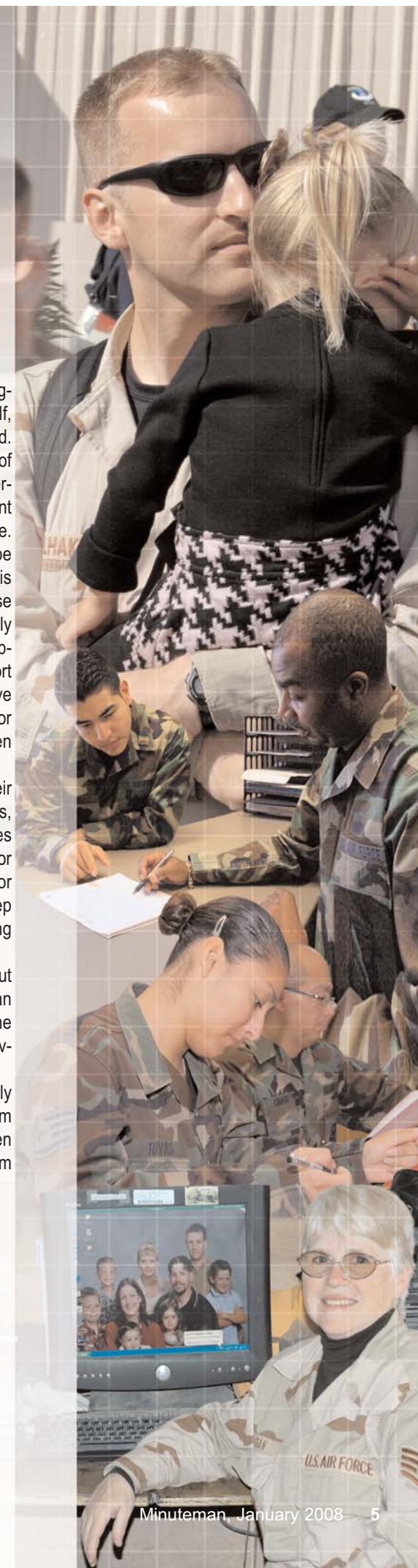
"It's important to have a talk with your family about what is happening," Pedersen said. "Tell them how often you will be able to call home and when they should expect a call. If you don't know, tell them that so they won't worry," she added.

TRUE/FALSE QUIZ

1. Proof of your VRED is not required in your deployment folder.
2. The JAG office can help servicemembers prepare wills and powers of attorney... even on the deployment line.
3. As long as your emergency data card is updated online, you don't need to do it at the Family Support Center.
4. Tri-Care insurance covers automobiles
5. You should have a conversation with your family before

you leave and explain to them when you expect to come home, and how often you expect to be able to call them.

SEE ANSWERS ON THE BOTTOM OF PAGE 7



AIR FORCE RESERVE

The Air Force Reserve's contribution to the security of the United States fulfills visions begun one hundred years ago when, in 1907, the Signal Corps became responsible for military "air machines," and some sixty years ago when President Harry Truman directed in the National Security Act of 1947 that the services revitalize their reserve programs. Since its inception in April 1948, the Air Force Reserve has evolved from a mobilization only force into an operational reserve integrated 24/7 with the active Air Force. Dedicated Citizen Airmen stand ready to support the world's greatest Air Force—*Flying and Fighting as an Unrivaled Wingman.*

60TH

1948-2008



Deployed 94th AW aeromedical techs answer **urgent call** to save lives

By Master Sgt. Angelita Colon-Francia
Public Affairs

Aeromedical evacuation technicians Staff Sgt. Alanta Stevens and Senior Airman Lauren Yancey of the 94th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron recently helped to save the life of a Canadian soldier injured in Afghanistan.

Presently on deployment in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom, Sergeant Stevens and Airman Yancey are members of an aeromedical evacuation and critical-care air-transport team. The team is comprised of Reserve, National Guard and active duty Airmen from Dobbins Air Reserve Base; Ramstein Air Base, Germany; Channel Islands Air National Guard Base, Calif.; Pittsburgh Air Reserve Base, Pa.; and Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. Currently, they are all deployed to Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

Combined Air Force aeromedical evacuation and critical-care air-transport teams, (CCAT,) evacuate casualties from combat zones and operate intensive care units in aircraft cabins during flight.

On November 27, no C-17 Globemaster aircraft were readily available for an urgent medical mission. A KC-135 crew assigned to the 459th Air Refueling Wing at Andrews AFB, diverted from its

usual refueling channel to pick up patients in Kandahar for direct transport to Ramstein, Germany. The team boarded with four ambulatory patients, five litters and medical equipment. On board was a Canadian soldier, critically wounded by a claymore mine.

Sergeant Stevens, a traditional reservist and full-time nursing student, wrote in a statement for the Minuteman that she supervised the configuration and setup of the oxygen and electrical equipment for the patient inside the aircraft's cabin. She also assisted with directing the on/off-load of patients during the mission.

"This mission was one of the best I have ever flown, and I have flown about 60 live (aeromedical evacuation) missions in the past two years," wrote Sergeant Stevens who, along with Airman Yancey, is still deployed to Afghanistan. "Our crew handled a tough situation the way that we are actually trained to."

Lt. Col. Nancy Westbrook, commander of the 94th AES, said she is proud of Sergeant Stevens and Airman Yancey. "They are both doing an outstanding job. They volunteered for deployment and their performance speaks well of character, training, the wing and the squadron."

Sergeant Stevens and Airman Yancey's actions during the flight were recognized when they were named the 2007 94th Airlift Wing Noncommissioned Officer and Airman of the Year.

"It's not surprising," said Capt. Chad Corliss, 94th AES Operations Officer, about Sergeant Stevens and Airman Yancey's roles in the life-saving mission. "We train for missions like this to provide urgent movement and care, to save life, limb or eyesight. They have demonstrated outstanding ability."

Of the 80 nurses, medical technicians and ground support personnel assigned to the AES, roughly 50 percent have volunteered for deployment to support Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom, according to Colonel Westbrook.

Sergeant Stevens is on her third deployment since 2005. This is the first deployment for Airman Yancey.

Sergeant Stevens credits the joint effort of every crew member representing air, aeromedical evacuation and CCAT – Reserve, National Guard and active duty Airmen – for the success of the November mission.

"We all pitched in and saw the importance of helping this patient," she wrote. "We all pulled together and were proud of the job we did. In all of this, we realize that these guys—these wounded Soldiers, are the heroes and deserve everything we can give them. That's why even if it is a long mission, we remember that it is nothing compared to what they have gone through."