



# FLIGHT LINES

SERVING HOMESTEAD AIR RESERVE BASE AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY

Vol. 25 No. 05

482d Fighter Wing, Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla.

[www.homestead.afrc.af.mil](http://www.homestead.afrc.af.mil)

May 2006



## Final Flight



**Homestead ARB goes Hollywood**  
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**Cop earns Raven**  
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**Sports**  
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*Photo by Lisa Macias*

**Lt.Col. Tracy Hunt soaks outgoing 482nd Fighter Wing Vice Commander Col. David Lint after his final flight here at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla. on April 7. Col. Lint leaves Homestead after nearly 15 years flying with the 93rd Fighter Squadron Makos. He is now assigned to Reserve Affairs at the Pentagon under the directorate of Air Force Reserve Commander Lt. Gen. John Bradley.**

# Strut your stuff during National Military Appreciation Month



*Air Force Reserve photo*

**By Col. Randy Falcon  
482nd Fighter Wing Commander**

As your commander, each month when I write this column I look for ways to challenge you to go out and do great things; for yourself, your family, your unit and your country.

And this month is no different.

The United States Congress has designated the month of May as National Military Appreciation Month. NMAM allows the American public to educate each generation on the historical impact of our military through the participation of the community with those who serve, encouraging patriotism and love for America.

Holidays such as Military Spouse Day (May 12), Armed Forces Day (May 20) and Memorial Day (May 29) spotlight the Armed Forces, showing recognition, respect, remembrance and appreciation for what we do.

So my challenge to you is to take part in the many activities that are happening in your local community this month, and I'll even give you some suggestions on how to participate.

May 6-7, there is an opportunity for many of you to visit the Ft. Lauderdale Air and Sea Show, where you can

mingle with millions of curious Americans who want to learn more about the Armed Forces; who we are, what we do and why we do the things we do.

On Military Spouse Day, each of you should take the time to do something special for the one person who is always there for you, supporting you while you support your nation. Don't miss the opportunity to thank your significant other on this special day.

May 18-20, the Air Force Reserve Band will be visiting South Florida, to play concerts at local schools and other community venues. Their schedule of events will be posted soon, both on base and in the local community. I encourage you to attend one of their scheduled concerts, not only to have a good time, but to help promote the Air Force Reserve and to thank the community for their constant support of this base.

On Armed Forces Day, there will be many opportunities for you and your families to be recognized. Restaurants, theme parks and shopping centers across America offer 'freebies' to military personnel on this day. Again, this is a chance for you to bask in the recognition and appreciation that American citizens offer to you.

Memorial Day activities will range from parades to solemn ceremonies, honoring all military women and men who have paid the ultimate price in the defense of our nation. I know many of you will take part in this in your own special way.

If none of these opportunities piques your interest, there are still

other ways that you can be recognized during NMAM.

Many schools participate in career days or career weeks during the month of May and they are always looking for military personnel to visit and talk about careers in the military. Each of you can do your part to spread the good word by contacting your children's schools to ask if you can participate somehow in their career day program.

National Military Appreciation Month is a great opportunity for all of us to be recognized, but also to gain more recognition for what we do. Please take advantage of these opportunities and go out and strut your stuff!

## Action Line

**The Action Line is your direct link to the leadership of the 482nd Fighter Wing for suggestions, praise or issues regarding Homestead Air Reserve Base for which no other solution exists. Your chain of command should always be your first option. However, this month the 482nd FW would like some specific feedback:**

**What would you most like to see changed at Homestead Air Reserve Base?**

**Send your responses to:**

**[actionline@homestead.af.mil](mailto:actionline@homestead.af.mil)**

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The Homestead/Florida City  
Military Affairs Committee (MAC)  
Celebrates...

## National Military Spouses Day May 12, 2006



Spouses of military personnel stationed at Homestead Air Reserve Base are invited to join us for a special tour of three of Deep South Dade's most unique attractions.



**ArtSouth** - founded by artist Ellie Schneiderman - is a not-for-profit Artist's community located at 240 N Krome Ave. in Homestead, FL. The 3 1/2 acre campus includes a two story Fine Arts building and a three story Fine Crafts and Sculpture building. The historic Sanctuary hosts concerts, theatrical performances and dance performances. The organization holds an open house which includes 35 artists' studios, non-profit cultural organization offices, entertainment and refreshments on the 2nd Saturday of every month.

Bob Fuchs is a third generation orchid grower and his highly respected operation, R. F. Orchids is one of the finest in the South. Here you will find thousands of exotic orchids growing in a hammock-like setting accented with gazebos, ponds, tiki huts and lush landscaping. The orchids are everywhere, with many of the finest on display at the entrance. Take your time looking around and don't be afraid to ask questions of the staff. They're always winning awards for outstanding work in orchid breeding and growing. When you browse through the greenhouses, it's easy to see why.



He started out with a little card table, a few cucumbers and a sign proclaiming "Robert Is Here" and now, more than 40 years later, the world has beat a path to Robert Moehling's door. Stopping here to admire the cornucopia of genuine Florida goodies is a rite of passage for those that make the trek from down the street or half way around the world. The tropical fruit milkshakes, the flavored honeys, the incredible selection of jams and jellies, the completely unique and original sauces, the fresh produce, the most extensive selection of exotic fruits and vegetables...it's all here. Take your time browsing the shelves to appreciate the depth and breadth of Robert's copious offerings, then load up on all your favorites. You might have to stand in line to get one, but the key lime milkshake is well worth the wait.

The group will meet at the Pan Am Horizons Federal Credit Union Building,  
33004 South Dixie Highway, Florida City, at 8:30 AM for a Continental Breakfast.  
The tour will depart at 9:00 AM and will return at 12:30 PM.

# MAC



**Homestead/Florida City**

**Reservations are required  
as seating is limited to 45.**

Call Irene Murray at 305-246-9001  
to make a reservation.



# Air Force Reserve Goes Hollywood

## WB network films television series at Homestead Air Reserve Base

By Master Sgt. Ray Sarracino  
482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Unseasonably chilly weather greeted hundreds of cast, crew and extras from a proposed WB Network series as they converged here for a marathon day of filming March 27.

They came to Homestead ARB to work on scenes for the pilot episode of "Mercy Reef," a science-fiction themed program that could appear on the network as early as the fall of 2006, according to Lisa Lewis, vice president of Television Production at Warner Brothers.

Vehicles began arriving at 5 a.m. to set up equipment and prepare for the day's shoot at "Tempest Key Joint Training Base," the fictionalized name of the military base. For security reasons, the production team's vehicles and people were under military escort from the moment they arrived until they departed the base about 20 hours later.

Considering the number of visitors and the amount of time they were on the base, this was a Herculean task that was successfully accomplished by good teamwork and coordination



Photo by Lisa Macias

**Airmen from the 482nd Fighter Wing move F-16s into position for a scene in the Warner Brothers television pilot Mercy Reef at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla. on March 27. Dozens of Airmen volunteered as extras.**

among many of Homestead ARB's units, including security, communications, maintenance, civil engineers, operations and transportation among others, according to Lt. Col. Tom Davis, 482nd Fighter Wing chief of public affairs.

Another unique aspect of this shoot involved the "extras," people seen in the background of practically every

television show or movie. Most of the extras for this shoot were military members who had volunteered to be in the show. Staff Sgt. Yami Baker of the 482nd FW's military personnel flight was one of those volunteers.

"I really thought that it was going to be an easy day, sit around, eat," said Sergeant Baker. "When they call, you do your thing and sit around some more. I never thought that we would have to do the same thing over and over and over again for hours for just one scene."

In one scene, viewers can catch a glimpse of about 20 Airmen assigned to Air Force Reserve Command's 482nd FW marching in formation on the flightline. Although not something frequently seen on the flightline, the reservists had plenty of time to get it right in the course of marching back and forth in front of the camera for more than an hour under the increasingly hot Florida sun.

One thing about the film industry is similar to the military, there is a lot of "hurry up and wait." But it was



Photo by Lisa Macias

**Senior Airman Leo Castellano begins teaching two actors from the Mercy Reef drama the proper way to salute before a scene shot at the front gate of Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla. on March 27. The Warner Brothers pilot is expected to air in the fall.**



worthwhile according to Sergeant Baker.

“Once they started filming and the cameras were on and all the commotion started, it was really exciting,” she said. “The director we had was awesome. His name was Oscar, and he was full of energy. He was really into his job and made it exciting to be there. It was also really neat meeting some of the actors. Everyone there was so down to earth and were just wonderful.”

During the course of the filming, some of the extras endured several costume changes that included promotions, demotions and even a change of service. One Air Force staff sergeant was promoted to captain just for his walk across the street in a different scene.

The shoot presented a number of logistical problems that were conquered with relative ease by smart planning on the part of the production company and base people.

One of these involved moving many large tractor-trailers from the front gate to the flightline, around



*Photo by Lisa Macias*

**Miss Universe 2001 Denise Quinones, right, cuts a scene on the aircraft ramp here at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla. on March 27. She plays the role of Rachel Starling, an F-18 pilot and potential love interest of “Aquaman.”**

**See MERCY REEF, Pg. 7**



*Photo by Master Sgt. Ray Sarracino*

**Airmen of the 482nd Fighter Wing performed as extras for the Warner Brothers television pilot Mercy Reef, based on the superhero Aquaman. Miss Universe 2001 Denise Quinones, former daytime drama actor Justin Hartley, and Hollywood veterans Ving Rhames and Lou Diamond Phillips will also star in the show.**

# Retiree Activities Office Director passes

Retired Master Sgt. Dick Turner, a long-time member of the Homestead team, passed away on March 12. He was born Aug. 19, 1939 and raised in Winchester, Mass.

Turner enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1957 after graduating high school and served for 23 years. As an Airman assigned to the Strategic Air Command, he performed as a boom operator in the KC-135 Stratotanker, where he garnered the nickname "Boomer." During his Air Force career he served in the hostile airspace over Vietnam and over the Arctic Circle refueling B-52s during the Cold War.

He retired from the Air Force in 1980. Afterward, Turner ventured into the real estate, mortgage brokerage, and paralegal professions. However, his strong sense of patriotism and service inspired his efforts to lobby for and help establish the Retiree Activities Office on Homestead Air Reserve Base. Turner worked on the base as a volunteer since May 1996, providing guidance on health care, pensions, and other retiree benefits.

He leaves behind his wife, Filomena Turner and five children, Heather, Allan, Richard Jr., Dennis and Linda, 13 grandchildren, and a great-grandchild.



Master Sgt (Ret) Dick Turner in Sep 1978. He passed away on March 12.

# Homestead ARB Airman profiled in USA Today

By Lt.Col. Tom Davis  
Chief, 482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

A Homestead Air Reserve Base Airman serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom was recently profiled in USA Today.

Lt.Col. Charles Herbert is well known and respected on HARB as the Veterans Administration physician assistant-certified. He had provided primary medical care for members of the base and our tenant units for over seven years.

Lt.Col. "Doc" Herbert recently volunteered for a 120-day tour in Balad Airbase, Iraq where he serves at the Balad Air Base hospital. The hospital at Balad is considered the world's premier trauma center.

In his first enlistment, Herbert was a Navy corpsman assigned to the 1st Marine Division, Vietnam. Today he puts those skills and more to work as a trauma team chief. Herbert was on duty the day NBC reporter Charles Woodward was injured when his convoy was hit by a roadside bomb.

"Doc" Herbert is representative of hundreds of Airmen assigned to Homestead Air Reserve Base who volunteer for Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

In the past 24 months, over 400 Homestead Air Reserve Base Airmen have volunteered to support of the War on Terror. Medical personnel, security forces, maintainers, all have contributed to the conflict.





# New lighting system safer for pilots, air controllers

By Dan Galindo

482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

A new airfield lighting system is improving safety for both pilots and air traffic controllers here at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla.

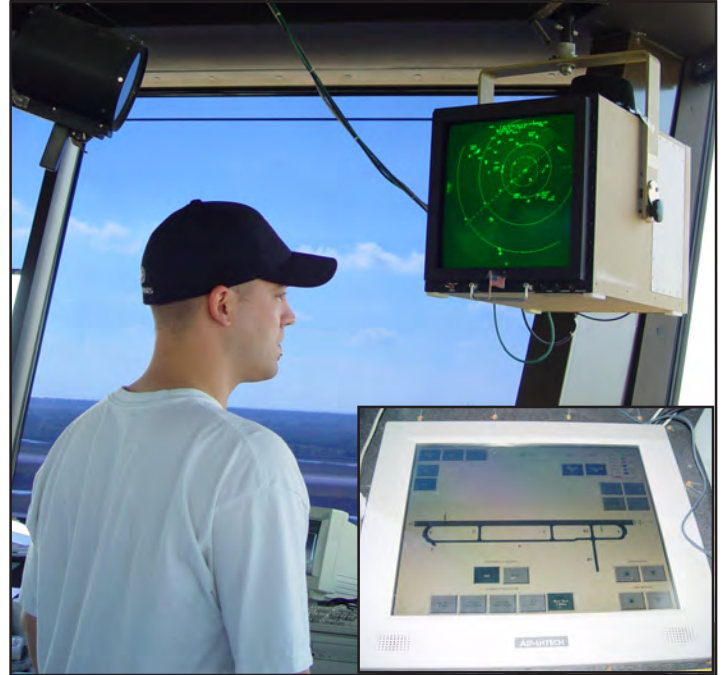
The nearly \$8 million system includes new in-ground taxiway lights, runway edge lights, lighted directional signs and a new vault building with power regulators, controls and a generator. For the air traffic controllers, the new vault building is more reliable and a welcome improvement.

“The old vault would flood after a good rain. So, before a forecasted thunderstorm was due to affect the base we would have to set the lighting system on a brighter setting in case the vault would flood and go into alarm. If the vault went into alarm all control of the system was lost,” said air traffic controller Tony Semeraro.

He said it would sometimes take four to five hours before air controllers could regain control and resume normal operations.

An upgraded touch-screen panel in the control tower is also helping to make life easier for the controllers, too.

**Air traffic controllers at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla. now have greater ease of control with the upgraded touch-screen panel (inset). The 482nd Civil Engineering Squadron worked with the Army Corps of Engineers and contractors to replace the airfield lighting system.**



Photos by Lisa Macias

“The panel has different lighting settings for weather and visibility conditions. This cuts down the time to set the lights. [With the old system] you would have to individually set each light by itself. Now the Preset page does all the lights at the same time for you,” said Semeraro.

The more dependable vault building and efficient touch-panel translates into a safer system. In addition, the

lighting itself provides a better environment for flying operations.

Semeraro said the lights seem to be brighter and make it easier for pilots to navigate from at night.

Originally part of the Mega Airfield Project to resurface and improve the runway, the Army Corps of Engineers, the 482nd Civil Engineering Squadron and civilian contractors put the final touches on the system in late March.

## MERCY REEF, from Pg. 5

several turns and many physical barriers before they arrived at their destination. Airmen in the 482nd Security Force Squadron accomplished the job of arranging barriers to accommodate the increase in vehicular traffic, while still accommodating the typical volume of vehicles during the morning rush hour.

Homestead ARB people also helped out throughout the increasingly warm and sunny day with electrical requirements, equipment movement and simply arranging people and things to get the perfect shot.

Among the more unique pieces of

equipment to enter the base were three “condor” self-propelled cranes.

Capable of hoisting their baskets more than 90 feet in the air, these slow-moving vehicles were instrumental for filming some interesting scenes, including two man-made thunderstorms that were created by elevating an elaborate network of pipes high above the “stage” and directing light into the rain shower to create the visual effect.

The practically self-contained operation included cast, wardrobe and makeup trailers, as well as caterers who successfully fed several hundred people throughout the day.

As the day turned to night, and the unseasonably cool weather returned to South Florida, the dropping temperatures sent many cast and crew scurrying for jackets and sweaters.

“We will not know if the show is picked up for a series until mid-May,” said Ms. Lewis. “Normally we would air [the show] in late September, but we won’t have a firm air date until July.”

For the Air Force reservists involved, it gave them the chance to participate in the movie magic that turns hours and hours of work on the set into seconds on the screen.

**Quick Quotes**

**May 12 is Military Spouse Appreciation Day. What are you planning to do for your spouse?**

**She really helped me a lot when I was in Iraq. I better think of something fast!**



Staff Sgt. Daniel Barrett  
482nd Maintenance Squadron

**I'm going to bring my wife to the base to show her what I do everyday. I also plan a nice, romantic dinner.**



Technical Sgt. Roberto Rodoli  
482nd Security Forces Squadron

**I'm taking my wife on vacation to Colombia for all the support she's given me all year.**



1st Lt. Alejandro Holguin  
482nd Civil Engineering Squadron

**I'd like to bring her to the base to see what I do. She's never had a chance to see how her support really helps me.**



Technical Sgt. Christopher Wilton  
482nd Maintenance Squadron

**Homestead cop earns the moniker "Raven"**

*By Technical Sgt. Scott T. Sturkol  
421st Combat Training Squadron  
Public Affairs*

FORT DIX, N.J. - Senior Airman Frank Betancourt, 482nd Security Forces, recently graduated from one of the toughest training courses for the security forces career field at Fort Dix, N.J. – The Air Force Phoenix Raven Course.

Airman Betancourt now wears the coveted security force Raven patch, putting him in a league of elite Airmen the Air Force relies on to keep bases and aircraft safe in the harshest of environments. It's a distinction the 421st Combat Training Squadron instructors don't make easy to earn.

The definition of a Raven, according to Tech. Sgt. Kelly Tabor, Raven course instructor, is "an Airman, Sailor or Soldier who has readily accepted the responsibility to ensure the success of our force protection mission. They are all volunteers and are prepared to travel at a moment's notice anywhere around the world to protect Department of Defense assets for as long as it takes to complete the mission."

Ravens also must be of the highest caliber and always use judgment that will reflect well on missions abroad, said Tech. Sgt. Bruce McPherson, noncommissioned officer in charge of the Phoenix Raven program.

"Ravens are put in a stressful environment to handle situations professionally and tactfully," Sergeant McPherson said. "The extensive training given to students here is in unarmed defense tactics, application of the force continuum, used less-than-lethal-force weapons, anti-hijacking (procedures), and firearms training. Ravens need to be able to think and communicate in stressful situations in order to accomplish the mission."

Students receive nearly 130 hours of instructional training in about three weeks. There is more than 50 hours of classroom academics along with anti-terrorism training, pressure point control techniques and sections on the collapsible baton and on weapons.

In addition, students have to pass a rigorous physical training regimen. It includes accomplishing 54 sit-ups in two minutes for both men and women, 49 push-ups for men and 25 for women in two minutes, and a two-mile run that has to be at least 16 minutes, 15 seconds for men, and 19 minutes, 18 seconds for women.

Airman Betancourt took part in the 24-member course with three other Air Force Reservists. Air National Guard and active duty Airmen and Sailors also participated. (Dan Galindo, 482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs contributed to this story)



**Staff Sgt. April Apo assists a "victim" injured by a simulated bomb during combat first aid training at the Air Force Phoenix Raven Course on March 27. She was one of 24 students to take part in the Phoenix Raven course.**



# Seven Homestead Reservists inducted into VFW

Story and photo by Lisa Macias  
482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Seven Air Force reservists from Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla. were inducted into the local Veterans of Foreign Wars post 4127 here on April 12.

The reservists, all maintenance personnel, became eligible for membership after completing a recent deployment to Iraq.

“It was the first time a ceremony was held on a reserve base with reservists as the inductees,” said C.J. Heinbaugh, crew chief and VFW member.

“It is an honor to be part of this organization, especially when you have something in common,” said Master Sgt Edward Rodriguez.

Post 4127 commander Chuck Fleming explained the event was “the highlight of his 30 year membership in the VFW.”

The presence of F-16s from the 93rd Fighter Squadron in the background also added a personal effect for the maintainers who work on the flightline added Heinbaugh.

Heinbaugh also received one of the VFW’s most prestigious awards, the Silver Star of Recruiting for his efforts to bring in more than 13 members to the local post.



Major George Palmer, Senior Master Sgt. Gregg Miller, Master Sgt. Edward Rodriguez, Senior Master Sgt. Lance Robertson, Technical Sgt. Leon Pennington, Staff Sgt. Marcio Mattos, Technical Sgt. Adam Kosewski, all of the 482nd Maintenance Group, joined VFW Post 4127 in a flightline ceremony here on April 12.

## 2006 Jump Start Communications Exercise



Senior Airman Scott Everett, with the 452nd Communications Squadron of March ARB, Calif., swaps a line card to ensure that voice and data are supplied to the base during the 2006 Jump Start exercise at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla., on April 13. Reserve, Guard, and active military Airman trained with equipment they would likely use while deployed.

U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Bradley A. Lail

## Air Force refines WAPS test

Beginning with the chief master sergeant promotion testing cycle in September, Airmen will use multiple-use test booklets for promotion testing and be prohibited from marking in booklets.

The change is expected to improve test security and administrative procedures for the Promotion Fitness Examination and the United States Air Force Supervisory Examination.

Since the number of test booklets in the field will be reduced from about 210,000 to 7,000 the opportunity for unauthorized disclosure or loss is greatly diminished. Immediate benefits will be reduced costs and elimination of the need to shred test booklets after each testing session.

## Showcase your artistic talent

Air Force Arts and Crafts launched its Artists Craftsman and Photography Gallery today at [www.airforcegallery.com](http://www.airforcegallery.com). The Artists Craftsman and Photography Gallery replaces the Air Force level contests. Under the previous format, the Air Force level contests recognized very few people. The gallery format allows equal and expanded recognition of all entrants and aids in the development of future artists, craftsman and photographers. For more information about the Arts & Crafts Gallery, please contact Greg Trapuzzano at [gregory.trapuzzano@agency.afsv.af.mil](mailto:gregory.trapuzzano@agency.afsv.af.mil)

## AFRC child care questionnaire

AFRC Services has prepared a brief questionnaire seeking information about current child care options available to Reservists. The questionnaire will help guide future decisions about possible child care options for Reservists. The questionnaire is active and can be accessed at [http://ice.disa.mil/survey\\_library/go.cfm?AFRCChildCare](http://ice.disa.mil/survey_library/go.cfm?AFRCChildCare). Simply enter the Keyword: **SVYASK0206** to begin the survey.

## National Day of Prayer Breakfast

Chaplain (Lt.Col.) William Chambers and the staff of the base chapel are hosting the National Day of Prayer Breakfast on May 4 at 7 a.m. The cost is \$10. Contact Staff Sgt. Ryan Ayers at (305) 224-7576 for tickets. Military personnel may wear the uniform of the day, and civilians may wear business casual clothing.

## BEST newsletter for civilians

The Benefits and Entitlements Service Team newsletter is the best source of information about benefits affecting Air Force appropriated fund civilians, and Air Force Personnel Center officials are encouraging more people to subscribe. By subscribing to the BEST newsletter, civilians will have immediate access to the most current benefits information, legislative changes and system updates. You can subscribe through the Civilian Benefits and Entitlements page on the AFPC website. Click on "Newsletter Subscription Service," and then on "Subscribe." This will automatically launch an e-mail with the required subscription information already entered; click "Send."

## Reminder to drivers on base

While personnel are jogging in formation on base, drivers must wait until instructed to pass by the "leader" or the "road guard" of that formation. Also, drivers must slow down to 10 mph in order to pass a formation. Base Security Forces will be taking an active role to ensure this is accomplished and will be doing selective enforcement at different areas during PT runs. Please be considerate, slow down and use caution when approaching joggers.

## Club hosts Mother's Day buffet

The Falcon's Nest Club will be hosting a Mother's Day Buffet on May 14 from 11:30am till 2:30pm. The buffet includes: Carved steamship round, chicken supreme, whole salmon, honey baked ham, rice pilaf, mashed

potatoes, sweet potatoes, glazed carrots, broccoli, peel-n-eat shrimp, assorted desserts, salad bar, and a flower for mother. Member's price is \$16.95, while the non-member's price is \$19.95. RSVP: Call Tarin or Sheree to make reservations at (305) 224-7167/6784. Buffet is by reservation only. Seating is every 30 minutes from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.

## Scholarship essay competition

The 2006 Club Scholarship program has opened and brochures are available at the Falcon's Nest Club. You can also go online for full details and a downloadable entry form at [www.p.afsv.af.mil/Clubs/Scholarship.htm](http://www.p.afsv.af.mil/Clubs/Scholarship.htm). The deadline for submission to the Services Main Office, is 4 p.m. on July 14. There will be six winners, with the grand prize worth \$6,000. The essay is on the topic "Proud to be an American." Essays can be no longer than 500 words, excluding the title. Participants must also complete the entry form and a one-page summary of their long-term career/life goals and previous achievements. The summary may include civic, athletic and academic awards and accomplishments. Proof of college enrollment is also required. Eligible members include: Current Air Force Club members and their family members (e.g. spouse, son, daughter, stepson and stepdaughter) who have been accepted by or are enrolled in an accredited college or university for entry in the fall 2006 term as a part-time or full-time student. Applicants must provide a copy of their school acceptance letter. Grandchildren who are dependents of the club member are also eligible. Student may be in an undergraduate or graduate curriculum. Services commander, division chiefs, deputy commanders, flight chiefs, club managers, assistant club managers, marketing directors, staffs of MAJCOMs, HQ AFSVA, and HQ USAF/ILV, and family members of these individuals, are not eligible.



# Basketball season ends bitter-sweet for Nighthawks

By Jake Shaw

482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 2006 intramural basketball season ended April 18 with a disappointing loss for the Homestead ARB Nighthawks, who were defeated in consecutive games by the Homestead ARB Services team.

The Nighthawks were favored to win because they had the best regular season record, and they beat the Services team three of out four games prior to the playoffs.

But the loss of a key player during the playoffs cost the Nighthawks dearly.

Virgil Scott, the big man who normally plays center for the Nighthawks, was out during the playoffs with a knee injury, but his team fared well until the final two games.

"We didn't have a true center," said Dexter Porrata, a forward for the Nighthawks. The lack of a center hurt our transition defense, he added.

During the game, the Nighthawks played as they normally do, attempting lots of 3-point shots, but missed most of them.

"We settled for the first shot too often without passing the ball around," said Kelvin Holt of the Nighthawks.

The Services team also stuck to their game plan, playing inside, using their size advantage and passing the ball several times before taking a shot.

But opinions differ about the reason for the Nighthawks loss.

"Every person on our team can beat their team off the dribble," said Darrel Rohlehr, a forward for the Services team.

Anthony Abate, the coach for the Services team added, "Our whole team wasn't here for most of the games in the regular season, but everyone showed up for the playoffs."

One player who showed up and played a key role in the back-to-back Services victories was Anthony



Photo by Jake Shaw

**Stuffed!** The offensive and defensive presence of Services center Anthony Brown was key to the outcome of the 2006 basketball intramural championship. Brown scored 26 points in the championship and had several blocks on the defensive end of the court, like this one where he blocked an attempted lay-up by Nighthawks forward Dexter Porrata.

Brown.

Brown, the Services center, finished the game with a team high 26 points, and many of those points were second chance shots or tip-ins that resulted from his relentless offensive rebounding effort.

"Tonight we stopped worrying about the referees and played defense. We played our game," said Brown.

Regardless of the reason for their victory, the Services team came through when it mattered most,

winning the championship game by a final score of 65-44. But that doesn't mean the Nighthawks were sore losers.

"I had fun this season, even though we didn't win the championship," said Anthony Rubio of the Nighthawks.

The two teams will likely face off again next season, and the Nighthawks will have a chance to redeem themselves, according to several players.

# Officer promotions - are you prepared?

*By Master Sgt. Tina Davis  
Wing Career Assistance Advisor*

Do you find yourself finally eligible for promotion but only three months remain until the board convenes? You received the officer pre-selection brief (OPB) in the mail and put it off because you're certain everything is in order? Well, think again. Many officers scramble at the last minute to make sure any overdue Officer Performance Reports are pushed through and decoration packages are submitted. Others stress trying to complete their last Professional Military Education end of course exam before a fast-approaching suspense. The last-minute scrambling is completely avoidable.

An ounce of preparation is better than a pound of cure; becoming familiar with the following promotion requirements will go a long way to ensure you are ready when it's time for your promotion.

Everyone preparing for a board must review their duty history for accuracy. Make sure your OPR, decorations and academic education are all current. You should keep your records current throughout the year, not just when you receive your OPB.

It can not be overstated that PME must be completed prior to the board's convening. Any candidate who fulfills the required PME has a good chance of receiving a "definite promote" (DP) recommendation.

Candidates currently enrolled and making progress on PME are likely to receive a recommendation of "Promote." Having "no PME" will likely mean "no promotion!"

These are just some of the basic requirements you should be aware of prior to appearing before a promotion board. For further guidance refer to AFI 36-2501, Officer Promotion or contact Career Enhancement at (305) 224-7135.

## Make a note:

### **Rank: Maj.**

Board month: February

PME required: Basic

Developmental Education

(satisfied by Squadron Officer School)

### **Rank: Capt., Maj. & Lt. Col. -**

### **Reserve JAG & Chaplain**

Board month: April

PME required: Basic

Developmental Education for Maj.

(satisfied by Squadron Officer School)

Intermediate Developmental

Education for Lt. Col.

(satisfied by Air Command Staff College)

### **Rank: Capt. & Lt. Col. - Reserve Line & Health Professions**

Board month: June

PME required: Intermediate

Developmental Education for Lt. Col.

(satisfied by Air Command Staff College)

### **Rank: Col. - Reserve Col.**

Board month: October

PME required: Senior

Developmental Education

(satisfied by Air War College)

## Reserve Officer Association advocates for Reservists' Affairs

*By Capt. Paul Hubenthal  
Mission Support Squadron Commander*

Doctors, attorneys, and other professionals often join organizations that foster knowledge and growth within their careers. The same is true for Air Force Reserve officers. The Reserve officer association is our own professional organization, which aims to preserve and build the military of the future.

The ROA has become one of the most trusted military associations in the Nation's Capitol. Naturally, we work to pursue our interests as officers in the Air Force Reserve to our congressionally elected representatives, but as leaders we advocate for the Airmen in our care as well. Of course, this is only possible with officer participation.

Our collective voice gets stronger

with every new member. Even if you cannot be an active participant due to other commitments, your support is needed through membership in the ROA. As we grow in membership, the trust in our military organization on Capital Hill grows as well.

For that matter, the ROA is the recognized voice in congress for your entire family. The organization's ground-breaking Spousal Membership gives spouses, widows and widowers full ROA voting rights and voice on Capital Hill at a reduced membership fee.

You can, and should, support ROA by becoming a member. Reserve officers and spouses may simply log on at [www.roa.org](http://www.roa.org) to sign up. There is no form to fill out, no envelope to stuff, no stamp to buy and no mail box to go to. You can do it all over the Internet.

If you have any questions or would like to sign-up on base, you can call me, the Local ROA President, of Chapter 22, at (305) 224-7415.

## What's in it for you?

- It's YOUR professional organization
- Monthly "Officer" magazine
- Weekly e-mail information updates
- Professional development workshops
- Online career center
- Legislative updates
- Scholarships and educational loans
- Flexible membership plans