

# KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base  
Biloxi, Mississippi

Vol. 66, No. 21  
Thursday, June 1, 2006

Develop America's Airmen today ... for tomorrow

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Keesler News on Web:  
<http://www.keesler.af.mil>



Dragons deployed – 52

## In remembrance



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Capt. Frank James, 332nd Training Squadron, places flags on graves at Biloxi National Cemetery Saturday in preparation for Monday's Memorial Day observance. Maj. Gen. Mike Gould, 2nd Air Force commander, was the keynote speaker at the event.

## Hurricane season: Plans in place at Keesler, DOD

American Forces Press Service and Keesler News staff

As hurricane season opens today, Keesler activates its preparedness plan and the Defense Department identifies assets to offer a civilian-led response to a major disaster.

Keesler is now in Hurricane Condition 5.

"HURCON 5 tells units and individuals to review their checklists, and as necessary, update them and take appropriate action," said Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso, 81st Training Wing commander. "This is the stage in our plan where the goal is to heighten awareness and emphasize the need to make preparations."

The general said Keesler remains at HURCON 5 through Nov. 30, the end of the hurricane season.

In the event of a specific threat, the base moves to HURCON 4, which identifies the forecast arrival of winds of at least 58 mph in 72 hours. At HURCON 1, the final stage of the base plan, mission-essential personnel and

students should be in shelters and all others should've evacuated.

A tabletop test of the base plan was conducted recently, and exercise scenarios are being developed that simulate a hurricane making landfall in the immediate area.

"We know from Hurricane Katrina last year and countless other storms that preparedness is the key to withstanding these ferocious forces of nature," said General Capasso. "As well prepared as we've been at Keesler in the past, we're determined to do even better this year."

Spokesman Paul McHale said DOD's assets "are ready for deployment, and ... we are better prepared than at any point in our nation's history to move that assistance as rapidly as is humanly possible."

DOD preparations include assigning defense coordinating officers full-time to each of the Federal Emergency

Please see **Plans**, Page 9

## This week in the Triangle

Air traffic control tower, 9 a.m. today, Cody Hall.  
Combat control, 9 a.m. today, Cody Hall.  
Aviation resource management, 10 a.m. today, Cody Hall.  
Computer networking cryptographic systems, 10 a.m. today, Bryan Hall.  
Communications information system, 11 a.m. today, Stennis Hall.  
Theater deployable communications system planning, 11 a.m. today, Stennis Hall.  
Communications-computer systems control apprentice, 10 a.m. Monday, Thomson Hall.  
Combat weather team operations, 9 a.m. Wednesday, weather training complex.  
Ground radio, 10 a.m. Wednesday, Jones Hall.  
Network management infrastructure, 1 p.m. Wednesday, Stennis Hall.



### Student numbers

Total students — 3,457

Non-prior service — 2,167

Temporary duty — 1,263

Combat controllers — 27

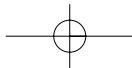
Non-prior service arrivals — 157

Guard, Reserve — 848

International — 20

Fiscal 2006 graduates — 15,424

Total since 1942 — 2,223,485



# COMMENTARY



The flag in front of 81st Training Wing headquarters is lowered during a formal retreat ceremony May 11.

Photo by Kemberly Groue

## Retreat – it’s about more than just lowering our flag

By Lt. Col. Randy Coats

333rd Training Squadron commander

At the end of every duty day, three or four Airmen outside the Levitow Training Support Facility participate in one of our most meaningful military traditions — the retreat ceremony.

Unfortunately, many of us rarely take the time to attend, much less participate. Sure, we stop our cars or come to attention during the national anthem, but that’s not the same as standing in formation as the flag is lowered and secured for the day. All too often, we go through the motions without considering what this ceremony actually means.

These days, the sound of retreat reminds me of something I heard last year. I was at an American Legion Post’s Memorial Day ceremony. The crowd consisted almost entirely of senior citizens — veterans and their spouses, predominantly from World War II and Korea.

I spoke with many of them. What struck me most was a comment from one veteran who thanked me for being at their ceremony. He said, with more sadness than bitterness, “The crowd ought to be bigger, but these days it’s mostly us veterans who come out, and we end up just honoring ourselves.”

What a sad — and embarrassing — testament. It made me realize once again the importance of honoring our veterans and supporting the traditions and ceremonies they hold dear. That day I saw first-hand the respect and reverence with which those veterans treat our flag. It made me think of how we treat the flag at Keesler, and about the retreat ceremonies I knew happened but which I’d never attended.

The version of the national anthem played during Keesler’s retreat is 67 seconds long. Because of that veteran’s comment, whenever I hear it played now I make it a point to spend

that time thinking about what the ceremony means to me.

First, retreat is conducted at the end of the duty day. The lowering of the flag at sunset symbolizes the end of the watch and reminds me of all those who’ve served on active duty before me, standing guard over our nation and its people.

Second, after the flag is folded and I hear words, “The colors are secure,” I’m reminded the ideals and principles our flag represents are also secure. I know with the absolute certainty as the sun rises in the morning so, too, will our flag be raised to mark another day of protecting and defending the freedom Americans hold so dear.

Finally, throughout retreat, I think about the most important place our flag is seen around the world — on the shoulders of hundreds of thousands of my comrades at deployed locations. We lose some of them every day; American fighting men and women who come home with the flag not only on their shoulders, but draped across their caskets. I think about them during retreat.

In January, the 81st Training Wing commander started a new Keesler tradition — formal monthly retreat ceremonies at wing headquarters. In April and May, the 81st Training Group conducted the ceremony for the first time, and I was proud to be part of it.

In the grand scheme of things a monthly retreat is a small gesture, but an incredibly important one. It gives us an opportunity to formally pause and focus on military tradition and honoring the warfighters of today and the past. I’m sure many veterans and deployed military members wonder if anyone thinks of them and their sacrifices. I wish I could tell them all, for at least 67 seconds every time I hear the national anthem at retreat, I think of nothing else.

## ACTION LINE ... 377-4357

By Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso

81st Training Wing commander

First, try to work concerns through the proper chain of command. When you’ve exhausted this recourse, turn to the commander’s action line for assistance.

We welcome any suggestions to help make this a more valuable and useful tool. You may call the commander’s action line at 377-4357, write to Commander’s Action Line, 81 TRW/PA, Keesler AFB, MS 39534-2603, e-mail 81 TRW Commander’s Action Line (on-base) or commanders.line@keesler.af.mil (off-base). For a personal response, include your name, address and phone number.

Items of general interest may appear in this column.

### Hot over no hot water

**Comment** — With all the remodeling and repair work going on, how about getting hot water in the Building 2801 (telephone maintenance) restrooms?

I’ve worked in this building for 20 years and we’ve never had hot water.

This isn’t the first time this has come up, but nothing ever seems to come of it.

**Action** — Thanks for calling this to my attention.

Our civil engineers have generated a work order for the installation of instant water heaters at the sinks in your restrooms.

The history behind the lack of hot water in your building is two-fold: first, it was cut off during a period of extensive energy conservation measures and never restored; second, a hard freeze burst the hot water lines several years ago and they were never repaired.

# TRAINING AND EDUCATION

## 2 sergeants head back to college through commissioning program

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Two Keesler staff sergeants have been selected to attend college this fall through the Airman Education and Commissioning Program.

**Staff Sgt. Ivelina Konstantinova**, aide to Maj. Gen. Mike Gould, 2nd Air Force commander, attends Ohio State University and majors in Russian. She's been in the Air Force for 5 1/2 years and came to Keesler in November.

**Staff Sgt. Kristy Williams**, a manpower analyst who manages Keesler's Innovative Development through Employee Awareness program, majors in mathematics at the University of Southern Mississippi. She's been in the Air Force for seven years and has been at Keesler for 18 months.

AECP allows enlisted members with excellent academic records to continue their college education and attend Officer Training School after graduation.



Sergeant Konstantinova



Sergeant Williams

The program is a permanent change-of-station assignment in which students continue to draw all pay and benefits, have their tuition paid up to \$15,000 and receive a \$600 book allowance.

Selectees have the first two or three years of college completed, plan to graduate in about two years and major in nursing, foreign language, foreign area studies, engineer-

ing and computer science.

"The program originally started to allow the Air Force to 'grow their own engineers' from their most talented enlisted troops and recently added critically short career fields, such as nursing and linguists," said Robin Manson, an education specialist in the education services offices.

For more information on AECP, call 377-2323 or 5149.

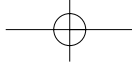


If you've had too much to drink, don't drive —  
call Airmen Against Drunk Driving,

**547-1534**

10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Thursdays before down Fridays,  
working Fridays and Saturdays.

AADD offers a free ride home to active duty of all ranks, Guard, Reserve, retirees, Department of Defense civilians and their spouses.



# 'You Made the Grade' rewards good students

## AAFES Corporate Communications

DALLAS — Children of military families often face unique educational challenges.

Many move from one location to another every two to three years and deal with deployed mothers or fathers — sometimes both — who are called to serve in harm's way.

There are currently more than 1.2 million kids of military parents who experience this lifestyle, according to Army and Air Force Exchange officials.

Despite these challenges, most military students are high achievers who are actively engaged in defining their roles as tomorrow's leaders.



AAFES regularly recognizes outstanding students with exceptional academic achievement through its "You Made the Grade" program.

Initiated in February 2000, the Keesler exchange's education rewards effort is designed to recognize Keesler students for above-average academic achievement.

Qualifying students receive a coupon booklet that includes free admission to an AAFES Reel Time movie, a free magazine and a free slice of Anthony's pizza with drink, as

well as other coupons.

"AAFES recognizes the value of education and is pleased to provide students an incentive for diligent studying and success," said Daniel Schmidt, Keesler's general manager. "You Made the Grade is an incentive for students not only to stay in school, but to excel as well."

Each program booklet also contains an entry form for a quarterly savings bond drawing in which three winners are randomly awarded savings bonds in \$2,000, \$3,000 or

\$5,000 denominations.

To receive the booklet, students must bring a valid military identification card and proof of an overall "B" average or better to the Class Six/Four Seasons, Building 1704, 607 Meadows Drive.

Students may receive one coupon package for every grade report they receive, but may enter the savings bond drawing only once per calendar quarter.

For more information, call 436-3683.

News tips  
are welcome  
at the  
Keesler News.  
Call 377-3837,  
4130, 7340,  
3163 or 9966,  
or e-mail  
kn@keesler.af.mil.

An American is sexually assaulted every 2 1/2 minutes.

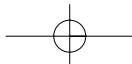
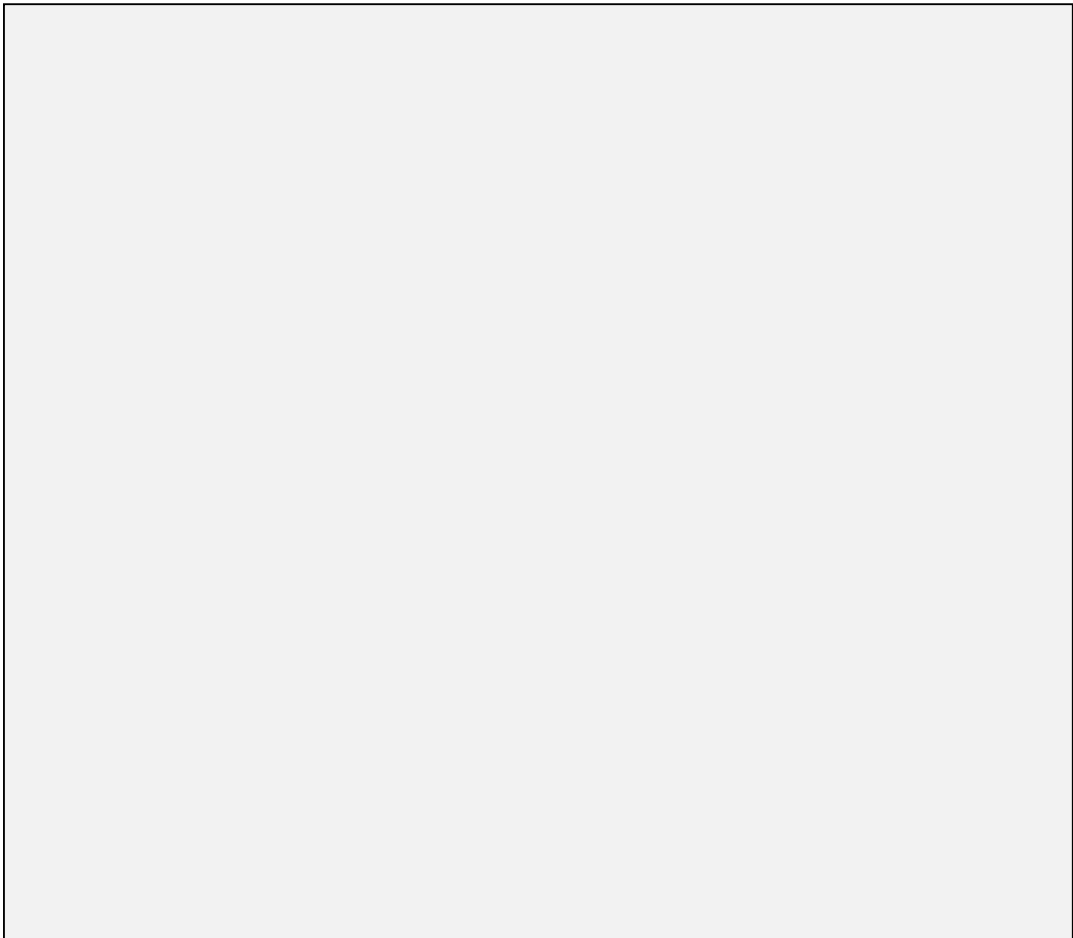
One in five American women has been the victim of an attempted or completed rape.

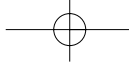
About 10 percent of sexual assault victims are men.

At least 2/3 of sexual assaults are committed by someone who is known to the victim

44 percent of rape victims are under age 18, and 80 percent are under age 30.

To report sexual abuse, call Keesler's sexual abuse response coordinator hotline, 377-7278 or 697-0562.





## TRAINING AND EDUCATION NOTES

### Tuition aid change

Effective July 1, Air Force tuition assistance pays only for reimbursable fees associated with a class.

Place the fee amount in the appropriate box of the course information screen at the Air Force Virtual Education Center's site when applying for tuition assistance.

For further information on tuition assistance, fees and other education issues, call the education office, 377-2323 or 2171.

### Special duty jobs

An Air Education and Training Command recruiting team holds a special duty assignment briefing, 8:45-11:30 a.m. June 22 in Welch Auditorium.

Positions to be discussed

are recruiters, military training leaders, technical training instructors, professional military education instructors and career enlisted aviators.

Positions are open to senior airmen with at least 36 months time in service through master sergeants with less than 17 years total active military service from all Air Force specialty codes.

For applications, call Master Sgt. Kelle Turner, 377-3697.

### Scholarship program

Homefront America, Inc., a nonprofit organization, has partnered with the W. Daniel Tate Family and Sara's Hope Foundation to fund a scholarship program for military children.

The American Patriot Freedom Scholarship Award essay

contest provides 20 individual \$1,000 scholarships.

For more information, go to <http://www.nmfa.org>.

### Supply classes

General supply indoctrination, bench stock management, repair cycle management and equipment management classes are available monthly in Room 109, Taylor Logistics Center.

To schedule a class, call 377-2270.

### Testing dates

The education office offers ACT, SAT and PRAXIS tests.

Deadlines are:

**ACT** — June 8 for July 11 test.

**PRAXIS I** — June 26 for Aug. 7 test.

**PRAXIS II** — June 26 for Aug. 8 test.

To schedule, call 377-2323.

### Weapons training

Weapons training is conducted by the 81st Security Forces Squadron at Camp Keller in Woolmarket.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Barry Hardy, 377-3354.

### Civilian tuition aid

College tuition assistance is available for permanent civil service employees at Keesler.

Courses must be related to the Air Force mission.

For more information, call or visit the education office, 377-2323, Room 212, old Cody Hall.

### Drill downs, parades

Drill down competitions

are every other month on the drill pad, and student parades in alternate months on the parade grounds.

**Drill downs** — 8 a.m. June 16; 7 a.m. Aug. 11 and Oct. 20.

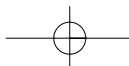
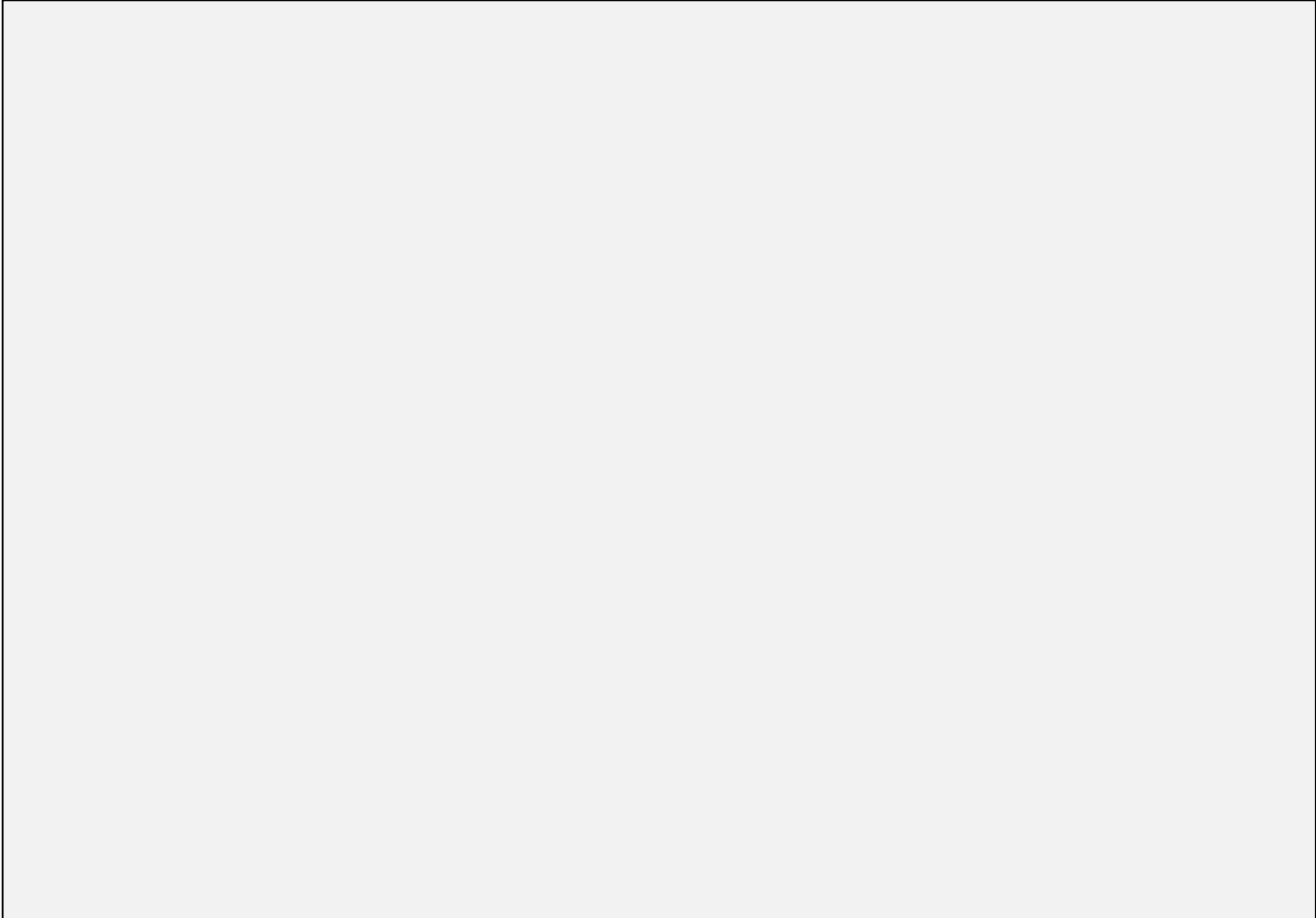
**Parades** — 7 p.m. July 13 and Sept. 21; 6 p.m. Nov. 16.

For more information, call Staff Sgts. Kwame Felton, 377-9527, for drill downs and Deanna Attaway, 377-2103, for parades.

### JROTC openings

Air Force Junior ROTC positions are available to retired or soon-to-be retired officers and noncommissioned officers.

For more information, call 1-866-235-7682, ext. 35275 or 35300, or DSN 493-5275 or 5300.



# NEWS AND FEATURES

## Air Force public affairs awards recognize base's Katrina response



Colonel Foss

The 81st Training Wing Public Affairs Office and its director are Air Force award winners for 2005.

The office won the Air Force Public Affairs Director Award for Special Achievement in a Crisis Situation.

Lt. Col. Claudia Foss, director, was named the Air Force's outstanding wing-level public affairs field grade officer after winning command-level awards two consecutive years.

The special achievement award covers "exceptional public affairs performance in a crisis situation above and beyond the day-to-day activities." Specifically, the office

was recognized for its response to Hurricane Katrina.

Significant contributors were Colonel Foss and Staff Sgt. Lee Smith, civilian employees Jerry Taranto and Perry Jenifer, and contractors Susan Griggs and Kemberly Groue.

Colonel Foss was recognized for her leadership of the office leading up to, during and in the aftermath of Katrina, the most destructive natural disaster in U.S. history. She was only two months into her assignment at Keesler when the hurricane struck Aug. 29.

## Air Force explores service dress changes

### Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force Uniform Board is reviewing several concepts that Airmen have suggested regarding the appearance of the service dress uniform.

Informal feedback about the current service dress includes Airmen wanting to revamp the service dress to look more military, like the other services.

One senior airman said, "The current uniform resembles a cheesy business suit." A staff sergeant said, "Think world's most dominating air power, not CEO," and another described it as a "cheap leisure suit."

Others suggested the uniform needs to reflect the Air Force's history more. On an Internet message board, an Airman wrote, "I want to look good and be proud of my Air Force heritage." Another Airman wrote the dress uniform pales in comparison to any of the other services.

The Air Force began exploring these ideas by producing several prototypes that reflect a combination of ideas that have been gleaned from comments, suggestions and informal surveys conducted over the past several years.

A more formal survey soon provides additional opportunities for Airmen to provide feedback and comments.

This process uses the standard Air Force Uniform Board process and as with the Airman's battle uniform, Airmen are encouraged to take the



Photo by Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez  
Senior Master Sgt. Dana Athnos, left, and Brig. Gen. Robert Allardice model prototypes of the Hap Arnold heritage coat in the Pentagon, May 15. Sergeant Athnos is a member of the Air Force Uniform Board, and General Allardice is director of Airmen development and sustainment.

opportunity to directly contribute to how their new service uniform might look.

The Air Force presents options based on feedback received on possible service dress designs through the uniform board process.

## IN THE NEWS

### Commander's call

An 81st Training Wing commander's call is 3:30 p.m. today in Welch Auditorium.

### Another look at lieutenants

#### Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force recently notified 844 lieutenants that they wouldn't be retained as a result of the April 2006 Force Shaping Board.

An anomaly with some records during the board process means the records of 192 lieutenants not selected for retention are reconsidered by a special board convening June 26.

The lieutenants have until June 19 to decide if they want to be reconsidered for retention or accept the results of the April board. The Air Force personally notifies each of the 192 lieutenants who will meet the special board. No officers retained by the April board are affected by the June special board.

Results are announced July 19. Until then, separation processing continues.

### Pecan Dining Hall closes today

The Pecan Dining Facility closes today.

Live Oak Dining Facility expands its hours to accommodate former Pecan patrons, 5:15-7:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. weekdays. On weekends, holidays and down Fridays, hours are 7:30-9 a.m., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4:30-6:30 p.m.

For 403rd Wing training weekends, breakfast is also served 6-7:30 a.m.

Permanent party officers are no longer authorized use of the dining facilities. Permanent party enlisted members are authorized to dine from 12:15-1 p.m. only. Officers, enlisted and civilians on official temporary duty orders for training can use the Live Oak, Azalea and Magnolia.

### Entrée limits

Starting today, Keesler's dining facilities limit customers to one entrée on their first trip through the serving line, said Donald Cook, 81st Services Division director.

The limit is an effort to curb excessive food waste.

"There's no limit on vegetable, starch and dessert items," Mr. Cook pointed out. "Customers may return for seconds, but must go to the end of the line."

### Retiree Appreciation Day June 9

Keesler hosts its annual Retiree Appreciation Day June 9.

The event includes health and information booths, speakers, front-of-the-line service at various base offices, a barbecue with free hot dogs and hamburgers and free boat rides.

For more information, call the retiree activities office, 377-3871.

### No Keesler News July 6

By contract, the Keesler News doesn't publish the week in which the Independence Day federal holiday falls.

This year, that week is July 3-7.

The newspaper office is open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. July 3, 5-6 and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 7.

Publication resumes with the July 13 issue.

# Retirees: Seek shelter from hurricanes off-base

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Limited space at Keesler requires military retirees and their family members to seek shelter off-base if a hurricane threatens south Mississippi.

"Several years ago, the base was able to provide sheltering on a space-available basis for retirees, but that's no longer the case," said Lonnie Arnold, director of the retiree activities program. "Facilities and

space are now limited and Keesler can no longer offer shelter to the large number of retirees and family members in the three coastal counties.

"Retirees should first attempt to seek shelter outside the immediate area," Mr. Arnold added. "If you're unable to leave the area, local Civil Defense offices will announce shelters through the media."

Crowded conditions in base shelters during Hurricane Katrina last August and Hurricane Georges in 1998 have forced Keesler to scrutinize its disaster

preparedness plan and rethink space allocations.

Base shelters don't have adequate space to protect the entire base population, so only mission-essential personnel and students will shelter at Keesler if another hurricane targets south Mississippi, said Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso, 81st Training Wing commander.

Currently, the Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency is assessing which Keesler buildings will serve as shelters and the total capacity of each.

**What is AFROTC?**

AFROTC is a 2- to 4-year program that produces officers to serve on active duty in the Air Force for a 4-year commitment

**Who can join?**

- Students who:
- \* Are pursuing a college education
  - \* Have a 2.0 grade point average or higher
  - \* Are in good physical shape
  - \* Are U.S. citizens
  - \* Have high moral values

**What are the benefits of active duty?**

- \* \$38,000 starting salary
- \* Free medical/dental coverage
- \* 30 days vacation each year
- \* 100% tuition assistance

**What scholarships are available?**

- \* In-College Scholarship Program: Competitive program for any major
- \* College Scholarship Program: High school seniors only

To learn more, visit [www.afrotc.com](http://www.afrotc.com)



**DET 425**  
Mississippi State University  
Mississippi University for Women  
(662) 325-3810



**DET 432**  
University of Southern Mississippi  
(601) 266-4468



**DET 430**  
University of Mississippi  
(662) 915-7166



**DET 004**  
Jackson State University  
(601) 979-1630

## Plans,

from Page 1

Management Agency's 10 regional offices to ensure coordinated planning and operational integration among DOD, the Department of Homeland Security and FEMA. In addition, DOD can offer aviation assets capable of providing near-real-time damage assessments, according to Mr. McHale, assistant defense secretary for homeland defense.

Coordination and communications also were issues in the aftermath of 2005's disastrous hurricane season, said Navy Adm. Timothy Keating, commander of U.S. Northern Command. In addressing the former concern, he said significant discussions have led to an understanding between the National Guard and Northern Command about how each will respond to a disaster.

Each of three Northern Command communications units allows dozens of cell phones to operate from a mobile tower. The command would also distribute hundreds of satellite phones this summer, as it did during Hurricane Katrina.

FEMA also has a new understanding of the nation's communication architecture, said George Foresman, under-secretary of FEMA for preparedness.

"Our national communications system ... (specialists have) gone out and mapped the communications architecture," Mr. Foresman said. "What that means to us is, in advance of a storm, we will know better what communications assets we need to be able to put on the ground to

support state and local systems that may be impacted by the storm."

The National Guard's \$800 million interoperable communications package, funded by Congress, also helps alleviate issues faced during the 2005 hurricane season.

"This year we're more ready than we have been in the past," said Army Lt. Gen. Steven Blum, chief of the National Guard Bureau.

He said 376,000 citizen Soldiers and Airmen are "ready and prepared to respond to whatever comes our way during the hurricane season."

Noting that as many as 17 storms, at least five of which are considered significant, have been predicted for this hurricane season, General Blum said the National Guard knows its role and capabilities.

"There will be no command-and-control issues this year," he said. "Our job is to save lives, not waste time arguing about who's in charge. The governors will be in charge of their National Guards."

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff thanked DOD and its representatives for being partners in mapping out a hurricane-preparedness strategy.

"We have really ... achieved a degree of integration in our planning that we've never seen before," he said. "I think the ... beneficiaries of that will be the citizens of any community that find themselves on the receiving end of a hurricane."

Samantha Quigley, American Forces Press Service, and Perry Jenifer, Keesler News editor, contributed to this report.

# PERSONNEL NOTES

Editor's note: This column is a service of the Keesler News. Contributors include the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, and the 81st Mission Support Squadron's military and civilian personnel flights.

## Self-service for civilians

### Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Beginning today, the Air Force launches two self-service modules that allow civilians to access their personnel information.

**My Biz** provides civilian employees access and the ability to update information about themselves.

**My Workplace** provides military and civilian managers access to information about their staff.

My Biz allows employees secure, real-time, online access to view information such as benefits, awards and bonuses, and positions from their official personnel records. In addition, employees may update their telephone number and e-mail address, disability codes, race and national origin and foreign language proficiency online with My Biz.

My Workplace brings key information to civilian and military managers and supervisors about their employees together in one place, streamlining the human resources decision-making process and helping to balance managerial tasks with day-to-day demands more easily. My Workplace keeps managers and supervisors informed about their employees' personnel actions. With online access to employees' personnel information, managers are able to make budget decisions, manage staffing plans and work distributions more efficiently.

For more information, contact your local civilian personnel flight or visit [http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/main\\_content.asp?prods3=2469&prods2=264&prods1=44](http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/main_content.asp?prods3=2469&prods2=264&prods1=44).

## Adoption leave of absence

### Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Airmen adopting children now may be authorized up to 21 days of non-chargeable leave per calendar year.

A qualifying adoption is defined as the member being eligible for adoption reimbursement of qualified adoption expenses such as adoption, placement, legal and medical fees under Section 1052, Title 10, United States Code.

Adoption leave may be authorized in conjunction with ordinary leave. However, if two service members are married to each other and choose to adopt children, only one service member is granted an adoption leave of absence.

Title 32 Guardsmen aren't authorized adoption leave unless federalized under Title 10 for more than 29 consecutive days. Reservists must also be on active duty for more than 29 consecutive days before they can take adoption leave.

For more information, contact your commander's support staff or call the Air Force Contact Center, 1-800-616-3775, option 1, 1, 2 or DSN 665-5000.

## Update duty history online

### Air Force Print News

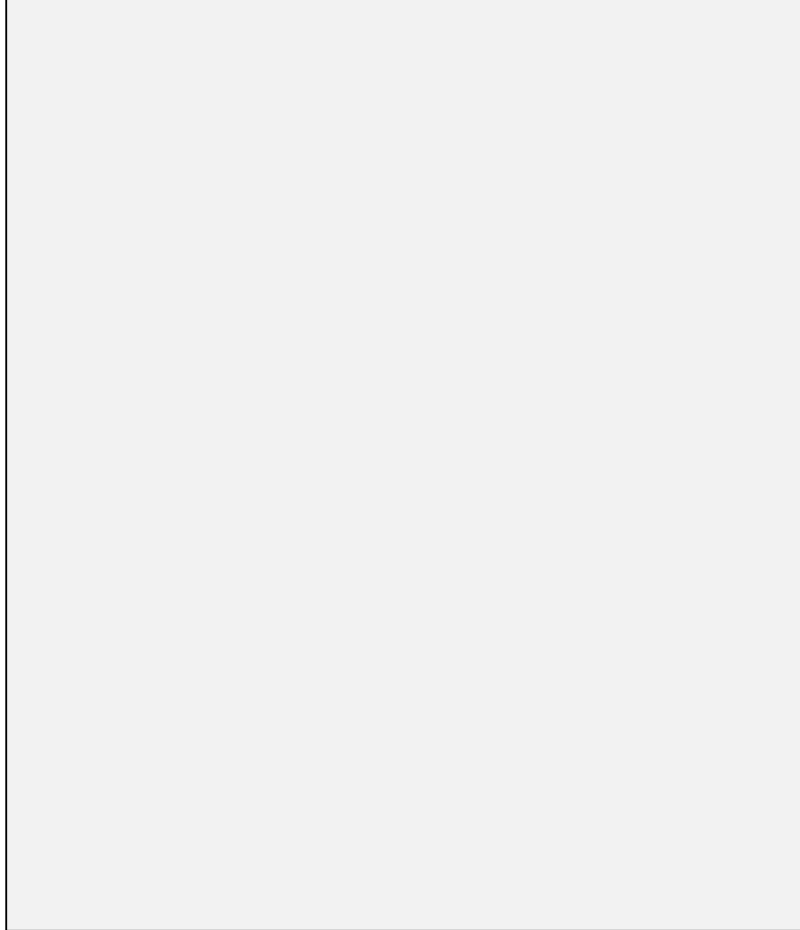
RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Airmen are now responsible for reviewing their duty history and requesting changes, additions or deletions online through the virtual military personnel flight.

Airmen can enter the vMPF by logging onto the Air Force Personnel Center's secure Web site where they can access their duty history under "Most Popular Applications" or "Self-Service Actions/Personal Data."

Members requesting an action related to duty history can log on to the Personal Services Delivery Transformation Web site and click on "duty history" at <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/psd>. Check the related link for a tutorial on updating your duty history online.



For Keesler News delivery or display racks, facility managers call 377-3163.





# June 12-15

## Keesler celebrates 65 years

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Turning 65 is a good reason for Keesler to throw a party – and one day isn't enough.

The base's birthday celebration, June 12-15, includes these activities:

### Today

**5:30 p.m.** — Keesler Idol preliminary round for all personnel, Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call Dave Bowers, 377-3308.

**Birthday card contest deadline** — enter by e-mailing michael.newson@keesler.af.mil. Cards made of 4-foot by 8-foot plywood sheets with 4-foot poles on both sides providing support; pick up plywood at Dock 4, Taylor Logistics Center, Building 4002. Vertical or horizontal cards; all exposed wood, front and back, must be painted with non-toxic, water-based paint. One entry per unit; contact person's name, squadron and duty phone on back in lower left corner. Prizes are credits to be used for unit activities at Services facilities — \$500 first place, \$250 second and \$125 third.

For more information, call 2nd Lt. Michael Newson, 377-7626.

### June 8

**5:30 p.m.** — three Keesler Idol semifinalists chosen, Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call Mr. Bowers, 377-3308.

### All week

**10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** — historical display, heritage museum.

### June 12

**Noon** — bring unit birthday card entries to parade field; cards moved to marina park after opening ceremony for display.

**4-5 p.m.** — celebration kickoff with opening ceremony, reception and cake cutting; parade grounds.

### June 13

Squadron competitions:  
**8 a.m.**, one-pitch softball tournament, Field 1; register by Wednesday at Blake Fit-

## Pride Week – spruce-up time

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

The 81st Civil Engineer Squadron sponsors Pride Week in conjunction with Keesler's 65th birthday celebration.

"We need facility managers, housing residents and tenant squadrons to join in and help make Keesler the showpiece of our command," said Capt. Brad Ledford, project officer.

Suggested tasks include weeding and edging flower beds, cleaning dumpster enclosures, beautifying entryways, sprucing up exterior signs, pressure washing and weeding parking lots and walkways, cleaning utility and electrical closets, replacing ceiling tiles, cleaning air vents and painting projects.

Volunteers are needed for several common area projects.

By Wednesday, lists must be submitted to the self-help store, Building 3517, to order special materials or large quantities of paint, plants, ceiling tiles and other supplies.

For more information, call Captain Ledford, 377-5805, or Master Sgt. Andrew Reed at the self-help store, 377-3864.



ness Center.

**3 p.m.**, confidence course challenge. For more information, call 377-5342 or 3653.

### June 14

Family day events:  
**7:30 a.m.** — 5-kilometer run/walk, youth center.

**9 a.m.** — grand reopening of youth center.

**9:30 a.m.** — water balloon activities and fire truck tours, youth center.

**1-3 p.m.** — family crafts and youth cupcake decorating contest, arts and crafts center.

**2-4 p.m.** — C-130 and C-21 aircraft tours, base operations.

**5 p.m.** — family movie, youth center.

### June 15

Birthday bash, marina park:  
**9-10:30 a.m.** — bring birthday cake entries to Katrina Kantina; judging at 11, with prizes for best decorating, most unique and best tasting. For more information, call 377-2821.

**11 a.m.** — food lines, booths and activities begin. Disk jockey and live performances all afternoon.

**11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** — fishing tournament.

**Noon** — welcome by Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso, 81st Training Wing commander; birthday cake contest winners announced.

**Noon to 3 p.m.** — free boat rides.

**1 p.m.** — birthday cake entries sliced and served.

**1:10 p.m.** — Oreo cookie-licking contest.

**2:30 p.m.** — sponsor giveaways. Corporate sponsors are Abita Springs, Cellular South, Gatorland, Geico, Grainger, Keesler Federal Credit Union, Planet Beach Tanning and Spa, Raising Cane's, Rex Distributing, The Home Depot and USAA.

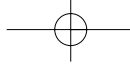
**3 p.m.** — karaoke.

**3:30 p.m.** — Keesler Idol finals.

**4 p.m.** — awards presentation and recognition of those selected for promotion to technical and master sergeant by General Capasso. Activities end at 6 p.m.

**Noon to 7 p.m.** — free swimming at base pools.

For more information, call 377-1597 or youth center, 377-4116; arts and crafts activities, 377-2821, and sporting events, 377-4385.



# Keesler's government travel card delinquency rate down

## Air Force Print News and Keesler News staff

More Airmen are paying their government travel card bills on time, and Keesler airmen are doing their part with fewer delinquent accounts so far in 2006.

The GTC is used to pay for expenses when personnel make a permanent change of station move or go on a temporary duty assignment.

Upon arrival to the new duty station or return from temporary duty, the individual files a travel voucher at their finance office so that he or she can be reimbursed for the travel card expenses.

The card is paid off when the member chooses the split disbursement option on the voucher.

An account is considered delinquent when it hasn't been paid off after 30 days of receipt of bill.

According to the latest numbers provided by the 81st Comptroller Squadron for 2006, only 71 Keesler GTC holders have delinquent accounts.

The base's delinquency rate is 2.54 percent.

For the last two calendar years, Keesler had significantly higher delinquency rates. In 2005, 2,790 Keesler personnel had GTCs. Of those, 196 had delinquent accounts, 7.02 percent.

Keesler's 2004 rate was almost identical, as 2,960 members had GTC accounts. Of those, 421 were delinquent, 7.03 percent.

According to Air Force officials, the Air Force had a delinquency rate of 4.95 percent in 2004.

Since February 2005, the Air Force has a delinquency rate of 4.27.

The commercial sector's delinquent account rate average is about 4.7 percent.

The goal for the Air Force, and other government agencies that use travel cards, is to keep the number of delinquencies under 2 percent.

Managing and tracking those cards seemed daunting, especially when the program was still developing and concise guidelines weren't yet established.

Delinquency rates were high, and a 2 percent goal seemed like a dream a few years ago, said Mike Bilbrey, the Air Force banking officer who oversees the Bank of America charge card program.

However, aggressive actions were put into place to develop guidelines that explained the program, its rules and regulations.

As a result, delinquency rates have dropped over the past few years.

"We really wanted to make this a commanders' program," said Charles Maddox, charge card program coordinator. "Educating commanders and supervisors was key."

Mr. Bilbrey said he also sees commanders becoming more involved with the program.

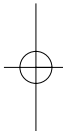
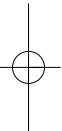
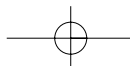
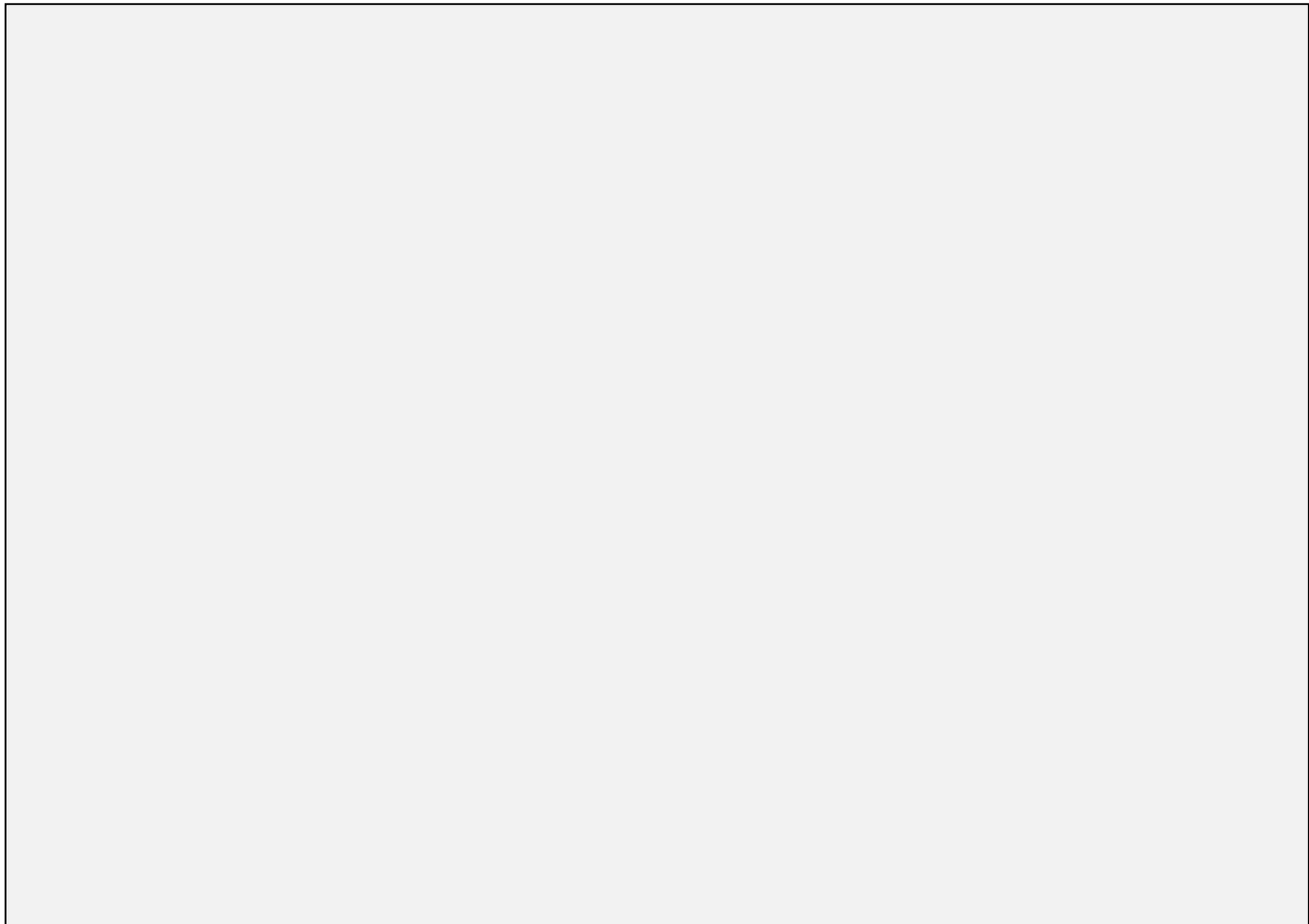
"They are able to have more control," he said. "In the past, a lot of the program was dictated to them, such as how to discipline Airmen who didn't pay on time."

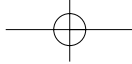
He said Vance Air Force Base, Okla., has gone a full year without a single delinquency.

"They have an excellent GTC program out there with great support," he said. "It's really the people who are being responsible and living up to the core values who should get credit for the success."

Cardholders should continue to use the split disbursement option, Mr. Bilbrey said.

Staff Sgt. Lee Smith, Keesler News staff, contributed to this report.





# More than 26 million veterans victims of identification theft

**By Samantha Quigley**  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—Veterans Affairs officials announced May 22 the theft of personal information on up to 26.5 million veterans.

However, VA Secretary R. James Nicholson stressed there's no indication the information is being used for purposes of fraud.

"We at the VA have recently learned that an employee here, a data analyst, took home a considerable amount of electronic data from the VA, which he was not authorized to do," Secretary Nicholson said. "His home was burglarized and this data was stolen."

The compromised data includes names, Social Security numbers and birthdates of veterans who separated from the military since 1975, he said.

The information also may have included data on veterans who separated before 1975 but who submitted a claim for VA benefits.

No medical or financial information was compromised, though the files might

have contained numeric disability ratings in some cases, Secretary Nicholson added.

A statement issued by the department indicated that spousal information also might have been compromised in some cases.

"There is no indication that any use is being made of this data or even that (the thieves) know they have it," he said.

Exercising what the secretary called "an abundance of caution," the department is working through a number of channels, including the news-media, to make veterans aware of the situation.

Individual notification letters are also being mailed to veterans.

The department is providing more information through the <http://www.firstgov.gov> Web site.

Call centers that can be reached at 1-800-333-4636.

The call centers are able to handle more than 250,000 calls a day.

"The most important priority that I have right now is to get the word out to our veterans and get them alerted and aware of this possibility,"

Secretary Nicholson said.

The department also is encouraging veterans to watch their financial accounts for any signs of fraud or identity theft.

If suspicious activity is detected, veterans should contact the fraud department of one of the three major credit bureaus: Equifax, Experian or TransUnion.

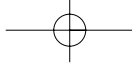
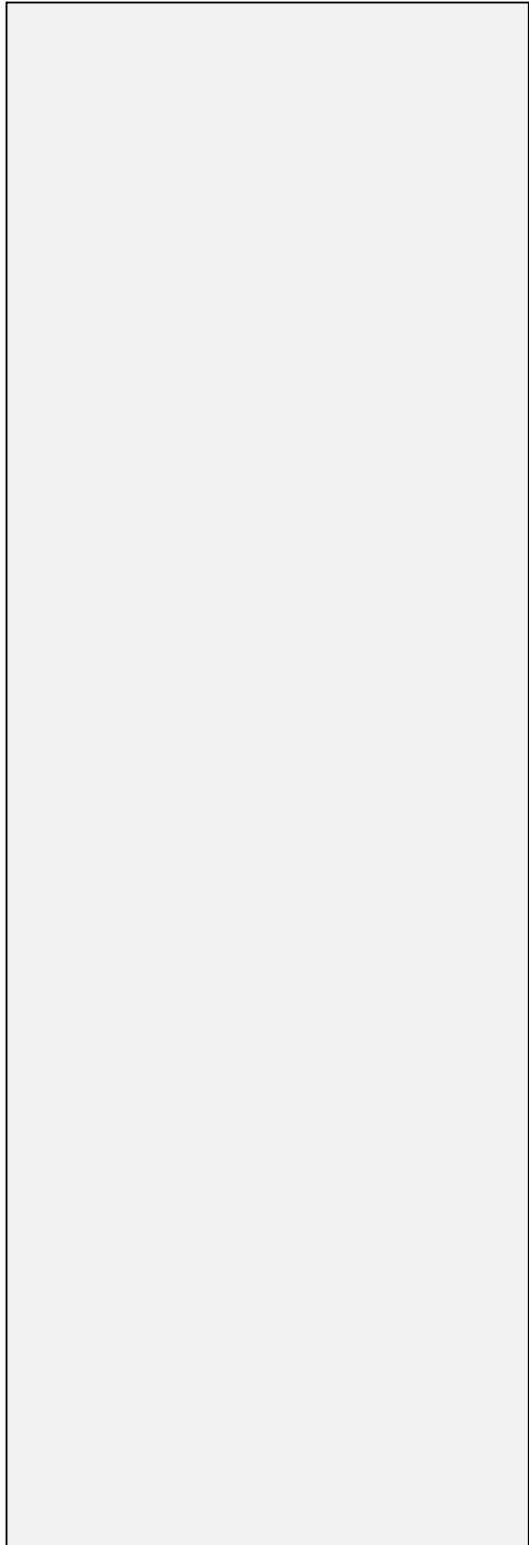
Secretary Nicholson said the Federal Trade Commission has alerted credit bureaus of a potential increase in requests for fraud alerts and for requests for credit reports.

Any accounts that have been tampered with or opened fraudulently should be closed.

The veteran should file a report with local police or the police in the community where the identity theft took place.

Those who suspect identity theft also are encouraged to contact the FTC via its identity-theft hotline, 1-877-438-4338, or through its Web site.

"The employee has been placed on administrative leave pending the outcome of (a full-scale) investigation," Secretary Nicholson said.



# Deployed medics vital link in treatment chain

By Steve Pivnick

## 81st Medical Group Public Affairs

They went for four months and stayed six.

Maj. (Dr.) James Dolan was a member of a team of more than 50 Keesler medics who deployed to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany, Nov. 5.

They expected to spend four months augmenting Army medical personnel who themselves had deployed to Pakistan to assist in humanitarian efforts after an earthquake devastated part of that nation.

## 2-month extension

However, around half of the expeditionary medical support deployment package had their tenure extended an additional two months. They returned home May 5.

The major, a general and advanced laparoscopic surgeon with the 81st Surgical Operations Squadron, was a staff surgeon in a combined Army-Air Force surgical unit. "We cared for U.S. Air Forces in Europe and U.S. Army Europe personnel," the major explained.

This included essentially all of U.S. European Command as well as serving as a Level Four combat medical facility receiving both critically-injured and less critically-injured service members from Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

## No 9-to-5 days

"Our group, led by Lt. Col. (Dr. Eric) Letonoff (also with the 81st MSGS) did hundreds of procedures over the six-month period," Major Dolan said. "He and I did 200-300 procedures each. We treated numerous wounded soldiers, many of them critically ill. Our internist and family practice doctors were busy as well."

Duty hours were long for the surgeons and staff. There were no 9-to-5 days.

The major said Keesler medics, especially those involved in treating the war wounded, made a significant contribution to the Army and Air Force goals at Landstuhl.

"I think there was only one death among all the patients we cared for during the six months we were there," he

## Online survey indicates healthy returnees

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez

### Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force has reassessed about 12,500 Airmen since December after they returned from deployment and found most of them to be healthy.

At the close of 2005, the Air Force began asking Airmen who returned from deployment to places like Afghanistan and Iraq to complete a post-deployment health reassessment survey or PDHRA.

The assessment, mandated by the Department of Defense, is the second health survey military members must take after completing an overseas deployment. The first is taken at the end of a deployment. The PDHRA is taken anywhere between 90-180 days after returning home.

The PDHRA survey is online and takes about 15 minutes to complete. The survey asks questions about an Airman's mental and physical well-being after his or her deployment, and is designed to determine if the Airman needs additional medical care from the Air Force, said Lt. Col. Jim Favret, the clinical consultant to the Air Force surgeon general for the biomedical sciences corps.

"The primary reason for the PDHRA is that we want an opportunity to address health concerns that may emerge after a deployment," Colonel Favret said. "So we want to give people an opportunity to let us know if they have health problems related to their deployment."

The colonel also said the survey serves a readiness purpose. Being fit, both physically and mentally, is part of an Airman's commitment to the Air Force.

"We are constantly monitoring the health of Airmen because part of our job as Airmen is being fit enough to deploy," he said. "This is just another sequence in how we do that."

According to Colonel Favret, fewer than half of those completing the PDHRA have claimed any kind of medical complications, and most of those are minor.

observed.

Planes carrying the wounded from the battle zones of Iraq and Afghanistan arrived daily at nearby Ramstein Air Base. Three times a week, stabilized patients were evacuated to major stateside medical facilities for further treatment.

In addition to his time in surgery, Major Dolan took more than 530 hours of in-house intensive care unit call and more than 550 hours of general surgery call in support of the Landstuhl mission.

"I also became the laparoscopic consultant for the European Command," he added. "In addition to serving the wounded, due to my laparoscopic background, I was able to teach surgical residents who rotated through Landstuhl and the medical center surgeons advanced laparoscopic procedures, such as splenectomies and laparoscopic reflux surgery."

Major Dolan credits the mission's success to the caliber of the medics deployed with him.

"This tremendous group of ward and critical care nurses,

"Right now, about 40 percent of the folks filling it out express some health-care concern," he said. "They are contacted and followed up on, and it kind of goes from there. A provider meets with them or talks to them and does further assessment to see what they can do for them."

The colonel said many of those who need further assistance claim some sort of minor physical problem, such as a runny nose, fever, headaches or muscle aches. About 20 percent of all deployment returnees report psychological concerns.

"Most of those, fortunately, are mild," he said. "And we are getting very few people expressing post-traumatic stress disorder concerns. Most are mild depressive symptoms or loss of interest in activities, kind of in the normal range."

Post-traumatic stress disorder is a psychiatric disorder that occurs after exposure to highly traumatic experiences, such as combat, personal assault or natural disasters. Symptoms range from severe nightmares and flashbacks to insomnia and increasing social isolation.

Colonel Favret said less than half a percent of Airmen have reported symptoms that point to post-traumatic stress disorder.

Airmen who've returned recently from deployment should fill out the PDHRA between 90-180 days of returning home. The Air Force would also like all Airmen who've been deployed since Sept. 11, 2001, to complete a PDHRA.

The Web site for the PDHRA is <http://www.afchips.brooks.af.mil/pdhra>. Users should ensure their Web browser security settings are correct before taking the survey. Using Internet Explorer, go to "tools," then "internet options," then "advanced." Under the "security" header, ensure "Use TLS 1.0" is checked.

Personnel reliability program personnel must make a medical appointment to take the PDHRA in person.



"This is true 21st Century war medicine – absolute dedication at all levels coupled with rapid evacuation to get the troops out of theater and treated."

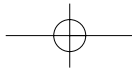
— Major Dolan

unfortunate but unique. Most damage was done by shrapnel which had injured extremities or had gotten around body armor."

A large number of patients had also suffered head and intra-abdominal injuries. They also treated non-battle-related maladies, such as pneumonia, abdominal problems and accident injuries.

"There were also a lot of patients who had suffered major burns covering 35-95 percent of their bodies," he continued. "Brooks Army Medical Center sent their burn team over to treat burn patients and return them to the U.S. It

Please see **Deploy**, Page 15



# Deploy,

from Page 14

was absolutely cutting-edge care from the Brooks team. It was good to see our troops getting 100 percent from the burn experts.”

The system of care involved immediate triage of wounded on the battlefield, timely surgery at combat support hospitals and rapid evacuation to the Air Force field hospital at Balad Air Base, Iraq. Once stabilized, patients were air- evacuated to Landstuhl by critical care air transport if necessary and finally would receive critical-care airlift back to the U.S.

“This is true 21st Century war medicine — absolute dedication at all levels cou-

pled with rapid evacuation to get the troops out of theater and treated,” Major Dolan stressed.

To maintain quality of care for the wounded, there were weekly video teleconferences between all downrange medical facilities and Landstuhl and U.S. medical facilities.

“There was excellent continuity of care,” Major Dolan said. “During the teleconferences, we discussed patient care as they traversed the pipeline and what could be done better or differently in difficult cases. The down-range folks did a tremendous job in getting these young service members to us in one piece.”

The major noted the Army was impressed with the Keesler medics’ performance and submitted them for many awards and decorations for their efforts.

Major Dolan said Colonel Letonoff, the team leader, “took great care of us at every level, officer and enlisted.”

Being deployed so soon after Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast, Major Dolan observed, “Considering the reduced medical activity at Keesler Medical Center as the facility recovered, it was essential we maintained our skills by assisting our wounded warriors.

“When Katrina hit, we were all slated to go to Southwest Asia but that deployment was cancelled — then it was on again for January,” he continued. “However, in November we were given this short-notice tasking to go to Germany. Regardless of where we went, we were ready to go.

“We all missed anniver-

saries, birthdays and holidays, but the deployment was well worth it, in terms of experience you don’t get every day,” he added. “It also prepared us for future deployments. Personally, it was a good experience because it allowed me to perform and teach laparoscopic surgery again.

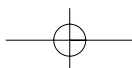
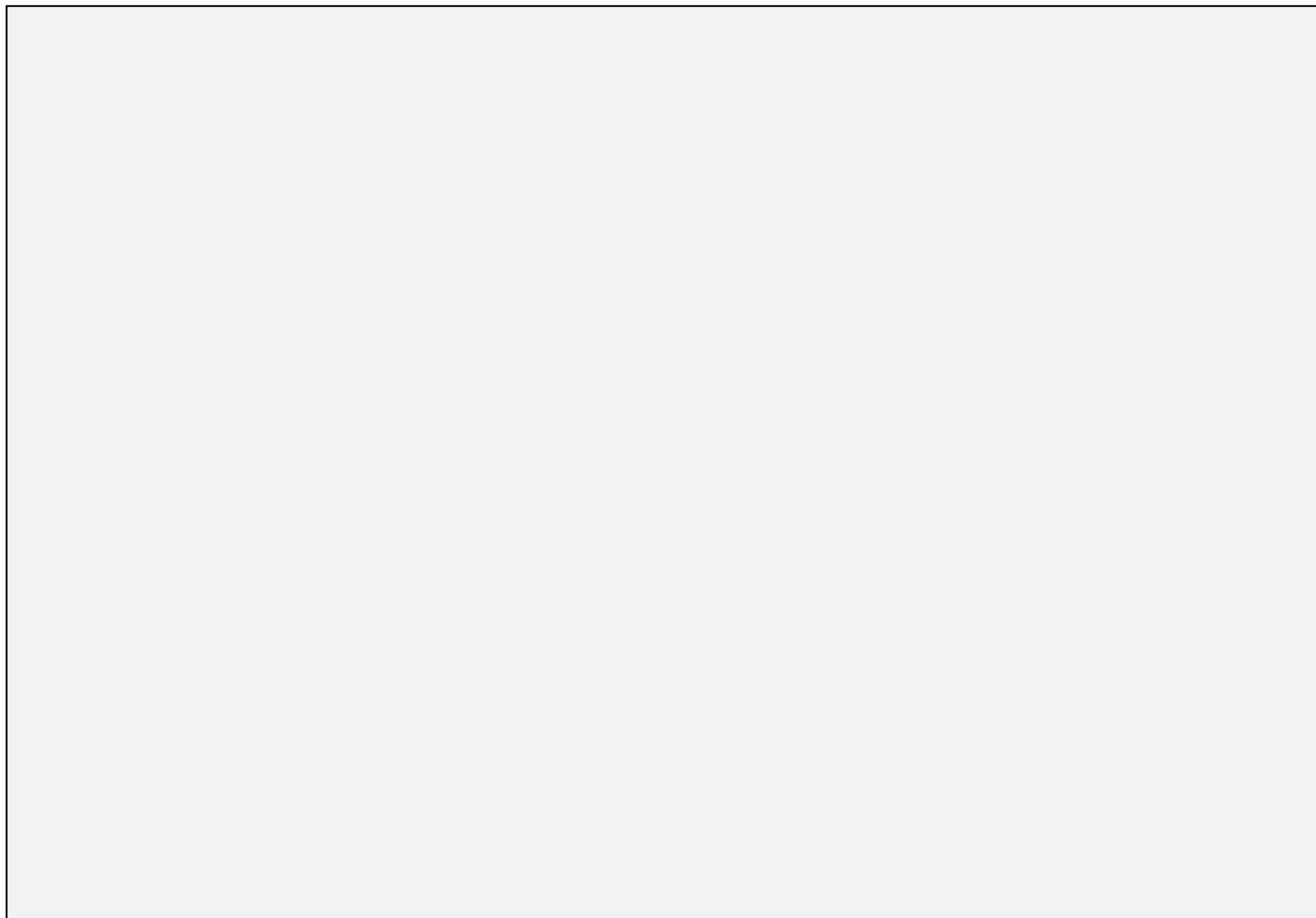
Many of the deployed medics had suffered severe Katrina losses. Major Dolan mentioned Maj. (Dr.) Mark Hinton, a team psychiatrist, had only four walls left to his home and had to deal with insurance companies and rebuilding while deployed.

Major Dolan, a native of Ireland, came to the U.S. after high school. He earned a degree in microbiology from San Diego State University, where he was commissioned through ROTC. He complet-

ed medical school at Stanford University, surgery residency and a postdoctoral research fellowship at the University of California at San Francisco and fellowship training in minimally invasive surgery at Oregon Health and Science University.

Major Dolan, whose mother was born in New York City, said he wanted to make a difference when he came to the U.S. Many of his family members have served in the military, so he said, “ROTC and the Air Force were a good fit!”

The major, who’s been selected for lieutenant colonel, lives in Ocean Springs with his wife, Marian, and their sons, Patrick, 4 1/2, and Ronan, 19 months.



# 32 years later, medic and birth mom reunite

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Almost a year after she first contacted her birth mother, Staff Sgt. Katherine Blade reunited with her.

The medical laboratory craftsman with the 81st Medical Support Squadron Clinical Laboratory Flight, used e-mails, letters and documents she accumulated to locate her mother, Marsha Gibson, in Centralia, Wash., about 90 minutes south of Seattle.

After speaking regularly on the phone over the past year, Sergeant Blade flew to Washington in March to finally meet her mother. They spent almost a week together.

"It all went so wonderfully," she recalled. "It was a perfect meeting; it couldn't have gone any better.

"She met me with flowers at the airport. When we first saw one another, we held each other's face and cried. After 32 years, I couldn't believe it."

Mother and daughter spent the night at her mother's friends' home. The next morning they went to her new-found grandparents' house.

"It was really nice," Sergeant Blade said. "My grandfather invited me into his house saying, 'My house is your house.' He gave me a kiss on the cheek and a great big hug as I walked through the door."

Sergeant Blade said her grandmother has been very ill the past year as she battles pancreatic cancer. Her grandfather has health issues as well. However, right now both are doing well.



Courtesy photo

**Sergeant Blade, left, and her birth mother, Marsha Gibson, during their reunion in Centralia, Wash.**

She spent most of the rest of her stay with her mother.

"We went to the beach (on the Pacific Ocean) at Westport, getting a hotel right on the beach," Sergeant Blade recalled. "We went out to dinner and later stayed up late talking. She asked me what my life had been like. I shared little stories about growing up.

"I asked if she felt guilty about giving me away. She said she did, a bit, and I told her not to. She had given



**Sergeant Blade works in the clinical laboratory at Keesler Medical Center.**

Photo by Steve Pivnick

me to a wonderful family and I had a wonderful childhood. She made the right decision."

During the almost five days of her trip, Sergeant Blade not only met her mother and grandparents but also her Uncle Roy and spoke on the phone to her Aunt Gail who lives in southern California.

Since finding Marsha last year, Sergeant Blade has spoken with her on the phone about every two weeks. She has also talked to her brother Justin, 14, and sister Melissa, 22, who live in Boise, Idaho.

Sergeant Blade said her grandmother, who crochets and knits, "gave me a huge crocheted blanket. She told me I had to bring something home from her.

"It was a great visit," she said. "My mother and I got along like high school girlfriends. We talked about everything. We even compared our toes, hands and noses. We both have birthmarks on our backs. We don't look exactly alike but we have the

same smile; you can tell I'm her daughter.

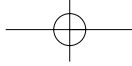
"Now I know where my son, Eric, gets his great big blue eyes — his grandmother. She has some big, blue eyes."

The sergeant said she and her mother "have a lot of silly things in common. Neither of us can stand to have water in our ears after showering — we immediately grab a Q-tip. We both love seafood. Neither of us likes to be cold, but we always have cold hands and feet, and are always bundled up — we both wear sweats in the summer. We both love the beach and doing outdoor things."

All three of Sergeant Blade's sons — Eric, 9; Shane, 5, and Wesley, 4 — know who Marsha is.

Her adoptive mother, Nora Olynick, was pleased everything turned out so well, Sergeant Blade said. So was her husband, Tracii.

"Everyone in my family encouraged this, and I had a blast," the sergeant said of the experience.



## KEESLER NOTES

### Hurricane guides

A limited number of copies of the Keesler News' 2006 hurricane guide are available in the base newspaper office.

To reserve copies, call 377-4130, 3837, 3163, 7340 or 9966. Pick copies up 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. work days in Room 113, Taylor Logistics Center, L Street.

### Housing survey

Surveys are being mailed to housing area residents.

For residents' convenience, a pre-addressed, stamped envelope addressed to CEL and Associates is enclosed with the survey.

Housing officials ask that completed surveys be returned within two weeks of receipt.

For more information, call Brett Long, 377-0668.

### Yard program

The yard of the month program sponsored by the housing office kicks off this month.

For more information, call Lisa Kallio, 377-7202.

### Gate hours

The Meadows Drive Gate is open 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. work days.

The Judge Sekul Avenue Gate is now open 3:30-5:30 p.m. work days for outbound traffic only.

Both gates are closed weekends, federal holidays and compressed work schedule Fridays.

The White Avenue and Pass Road gates operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

### Tax office

The Keesler Tax Office,

Room 234, old Cody Hall, remains open through Sept. 15 because of filing extensions due to Hurricane Katrina.

Extensions apply to federal and state tax returns.

Office hours are 8 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m. work days.

For more information, call 377-4454.

For Katrina-related questions, call the Internal Revenue Service, 1-866-562-5227.

### New hours

New hours for the customer service section of the 81st Mission Support Squadron:

**Five-day weeks** — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

**Compressed work schedule weeks** — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday.

For more information, call

Tech. Sgt. Troy Taillac, 377-6281.

### Self-help store moves

June 19, the self-help store relocates temporarily to Dock 4 on the east side of the Taylor Logistics Center, Building 4002, while hurricane repairs and upgrades are made.

Repairs are expected to take six to eight weeks.

The phone number at the temporary location is 377-3864.

### Honor guard

The Keesler Honor Guard has openings for officers and senior non-commissioned officers to serve on the Brass Team.

Brass Team members supplement the rotational honor guard and perform details throughout the Mississippi and

Louisiana Gulf Coast.

Honor guard members receive a ceremonial uniform, free dry cleaning for ceremonial dress and honor guard battle dress uniform, and the opportunity to honor fellow Airmen and their families.

For more information, call 377-1986 or visit <https://www.mil.keesler.af.mil/honor/index.htm>.

### Playgroup

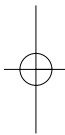
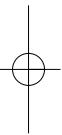
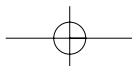
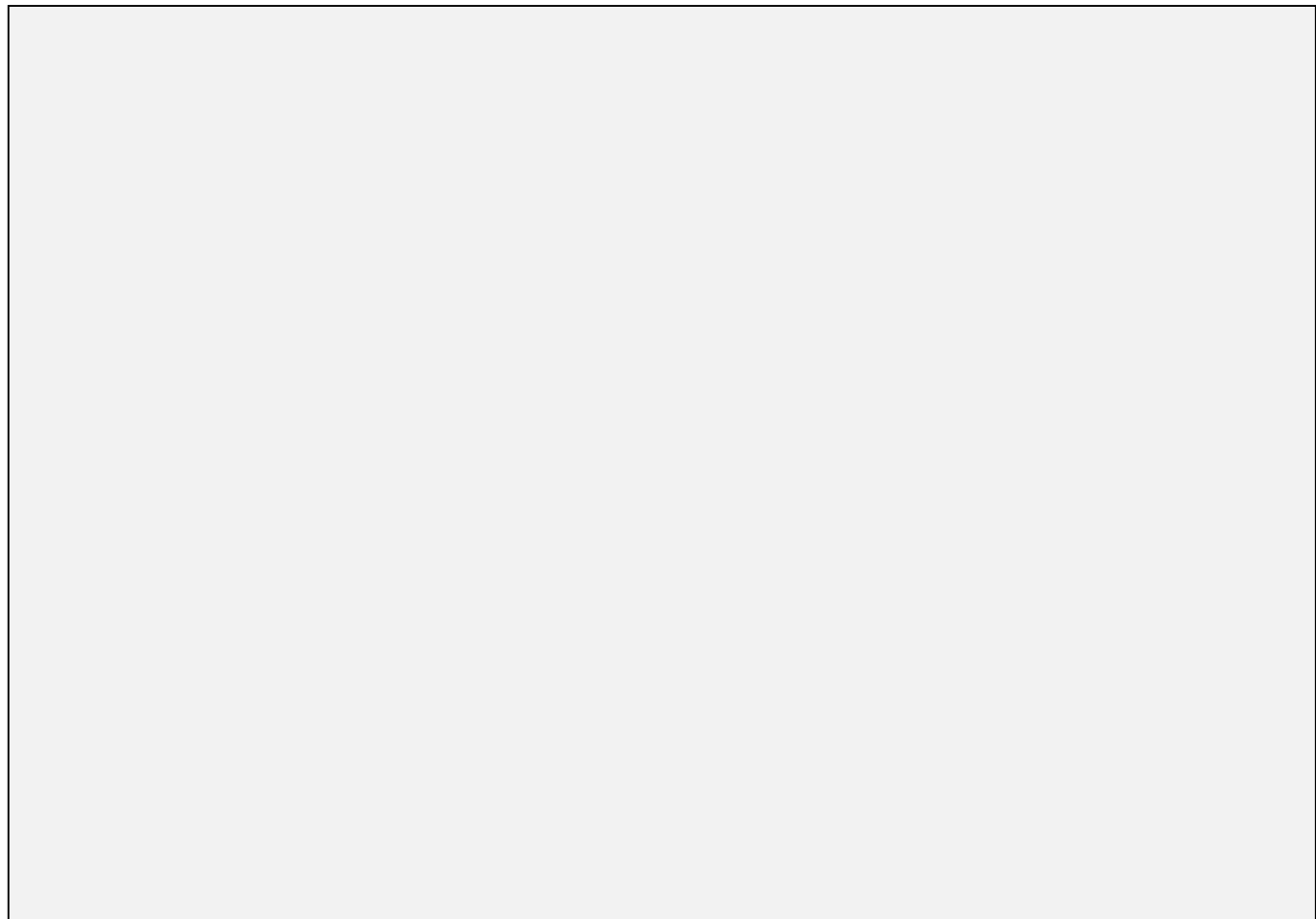
The preschool playgroup sponsored by family advocacy staff meets 9:30-11 a.m. Tuesdays at the youth center.

For details, call 377-8612.

### MEO office

The military equal opportunity office is in Room 239, old Cody Hall.

For more information, call 377-2759.



# SPORTS AND RECREATION

## When heat and humidity hover, hazards prevail

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

South Mississippi summers can render the hardest souls "heat beat." The searing heat, coupled with blazing sunshine and oppressive humidity, can cause serious health risks while working, exercising or playing outside.

Heat injuries can range from fainting and cramps to heat exhaustion and heat stroke, which may result in brain damage or death unless treated promptly.

To monitor heat dangers, the 81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron's bioenvironmental engineering flight uses special monitoring equipment to perform wet bulb globe temperature measurements during the summer months to determine work and rest cycles.

The hand-held device is used to take a reading in direct sunlight in front of Building 0420 north of Sablich Center. On weekends, Blake Fitness Center personnel take the readings.

The WBGT index considers dry air temperature, air movement, relative humidity and radiant heating. The WBGT index must be measured when the predicted or actual outside temperature reaches 85 degrees Fahrenheit as a daily high, according to Air Education and Training Command Instruction 48-101, Prevention of Heat Stress Disorders. Keesler specifics are outlined in Supplement 1 to the instruction dated Oct. 23, 2001.

At Keesler, bioengineering technicians and base fitness personnel monitor heat conditions with official readings 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. today through Sept. 30. Times and dates may be extended based on weather conditions.

WBGT readings can change significantly during the day, depending on how quick the weather changes. Readings can go from 80 degrees to 75 degrees within minutes if wind increases and clouds move in.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

**David Banks, 81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron, uses a heat stress monitor to take a reading of heat stress levels, May 25 in front of Building 0402. The device gives WBGT readings.**

That information is given to the command post, which disseminates it to unit control centers across the base. Supervisors determine the type of work their staff is performing and implement the appropriate work-and-rest cycles based on the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's technical manual for heat stress that's produced by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists.

Flags are posted outside the base fitness centers and the south side of the Levitov

Training Support Facility to signal the degree of heat intensity. Colors, Fahrenheit temperature, hazard explanations and work-rest requirements are:

**White flag (78 to 81.9)** — Normal activity for people accustomed to climate; extremely intense physical exertion may cause heat stroke for people who aren't. No limits light and moderate work; heavy work 40 minutes, rest 20 minutes.

**Green flag (82 to 84.9)** — Normal activity for those accustomed to the climate;

### Heat stress, water intoxication warning signs, symptoms

(from AETC Instruction 48-101 dated Oct. 4, 2000)

#### Early symptoms

Dizziness, headache, dry mouth, unsteady walk, weakness and/or muscle cramps.

#### Actions

Remove from training, allow casualty to rest in shade and take sips of water.

If symptoms don't improve in 15 to 30 minutes, transport to medical facility. If symptoms worsen, call an ambulance.

#### Later signs and symptoms

Hot body with high temperature, confusion, unresponsiveness, coma, vomiting, involuntary bowel movement, convulsions and/or weak or rapid pulse.

#### Immediate actions

Call ambulance for immediate transport to hospital. Lay person down in shade with feet elevated until ambulance arrives. Give sips of water while waiting for ambulance. Begin active cooling if skin is hot to the touch. Undress as much as possible. Pour cool water over the person and fan.

people who aren't should use discretion in planning intense physical activity. No limit light work; moderate work 50 minutes, rest 10; heavy work 30 minutes, rest 30.

**Yellow flag (85 to 87.9)** — People accustomed to the climate should use caution in planning intense physical activity; those who aren't should curtail strenuous activities. No limit light work; moderate work 40 minutes, rest 20; heavy work 30 minutes, rest 30.

**Red flag (88 to 89.9)** — Those accustomed to the climate should curtail strenuous exercise and limit conditioning for periods not exceeding six hours; people who aren't should terminate all physical conditioning. No limit light work; moderate work 30 minutes, rest 30; heavy work 20 minutes, rest 40.

**Black flag (90 and above)** — No physical conditioning takes place and all outdoor classes involving physical exertion are canceled. Light work 50 minutes, rest 10; moderate work 20 minutes,

rest 40; heavy work 10 minutes, rest 50.

Clothing types may add to the WBGT factor. Cloth coveralls add 2, melt-blown polypropylene add 4, vapor transmitting water barrier clothing adds 6, spun-bond polyethylene garments add 7, lightweight limited-use vapor barrier garb adds 8 and heavyweight reusable vapor barrier clothing adds 11.

Experts note that the most important safety measure during hot weather is to drink plenty of water or sports drinks a few hours before and during heavy work or exercise.

However, hourly fluid intake shouldn't exceed 1 1/2 quarts, and daily fluid intake shouldn't exceed 12 quarts. Rapid ingestion of large amounts of water may lead to hyponatremia, or acute water intoxication, a life-threatening condition that may lead to weakness, convulsions, loss of consciousness and death if not recognized and treated promptly.

Please see **Heat**, Page 21



# College football Former Falcon Chad Hennings to Hall of Fame

## Air Force Print News

Former Air Force Academy great Chad Hennings received one of the highest honors in sports when he was elected to the College Football Hall of Fame May 16.

Hennings is one of 13 players and two coaches to be selected to the hall of fame from a ballot of 77 candidates and a pool of hundreds of eligible nominees.

## 1988 graduate

Hennings, a 1988 graduate of the academy, is considered one of college football's great defensive linemen of his era.

A unanimous first-team All-America selection in 1987, Hennings received the Outland Trophy as the nation's top interior lineman.

A two-time first-team all-conference selection, he is a member of the Western Athletic Conference all-time team and was named WAC defensive player of the decade for the 1980s.

## Sack master

Hennings led the nation with 24 sacks in 1987 and played in numerous post-season all-star games.

Hennings also received the Stan Bates Award as the conference's top scholar-athlete in 1987.

"It's a great honor — I never went into playing football for the individual accolades; it's always been about team. To be recognized with this honor is a testament to the guys I played with at the Air Force Academy," Hennings said.

Hennings, who is a successful business owner, is very active in his community, serving as a member of the board of directors for Happy

Hills Farm, a home for abused and neglected children.

"This is a great day for Falcon football," said Fisher DeBerry, academy head coach. "Chad has brought distinction to the Academy, Falcon football and himself. Nobody ever deserved to be in the hall of fame more than Chad. This signifies him as one of the best that ever played the game."

## Now there are 2

Hennings joins former Air Force great Brock Strom, academy class of 1959, as the only other Air Force football player in the hall of fame.

"If anyone ever lived the core values of the Academy and the Air Force to the limit, it's Chad," said Dr. Hans Mueh, athletics director at the Academy and a member of the academic faculty at the Academy while Hennings was a cadet.

"He continues to support us as a role model to our cadets and the Air Force and he is a strong supporter of the athletic program," Dr. Mueh said. "This honor is well-deserved, but Chad will be humble in his acceptance and give credit to others for recognition he so clearly earned."

## Class of 5

Included in this class are players Carl Eller and Emmitt Smith, and coaches Bobby Bowden and Joe Paterno.

The 2006 class will be inducted at the 49th annual awards dinner Dec. 5 in New York City. They'll be officially enshrined at the Hall in South Bend, Ind., during ceremonies in the summer of 2007.



Wayne Cox posts a black heat flag outside Blake Fitness Center. He's a 403rd Wing reservist assigned to the 81st Services Division.

Photo by Kemberly Groue

## Heat,

from Page 20

Also, eat balanced meals, avoid products with caffeine and ensure appropriate work and rest cycles.

If a person is unsteady, weak or has muscle cramps that don't go away with rest and fluids, he should seek medical attention immediately.

If you notice someone who is confused, unresponsive or vomiting, get them into the shade, remove any excess clothing and call for medical assistance. If he isn't perspiring, try to help him cool off by fanning him or dabbing his face and neck with a cool cloth, but don't throw or pour cold water on him.

For information about heat-related illnesses, call public health, 377-6896. For current heat conditions, call bioenvironmental engineering, 377-6545, or go to <https://www.mil.keesler.af.mil> and view the flag conditions and temperature at the top right of the screen.

## Physical conditioning guidance for students

### 81st Training Support Squadron

Specific conditions classified as easy, moderate, and hard apply to physical conditioning activities for students at Air Education and Training Command installations.

Conditions are outlined in AETC Instruction 48-101, Prevention of Heat Stress Disorders.

Physical conditioning for the sole purpose of fitness improvement should be conducted before the onset of heat categories when possible, according to the instruction. Physical conditioning may be conducted in shorts and T-shirt under the following flag conditions:

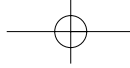
- White** — no limit.
- Green** — 50 minutes.
- Yellow** — 40 minutes.
- Red** — 30 minutes.
- Black** — 20 minutes.

Under AETC Instruction 36-2216, Administration of Military Standards and Dis-

cipline Training, Keesler won't accomplish physical readiness training for non-prior service Airmen under black flag conditions.

At Keesler, nonprior service Airmen accomplish a 30-minute self-paced run, considered a moderate workout, on Mondays and Thursdays and a timed 1.5-mile run, considered a hard workout, on Tuesdays for progression in the 2nd Air Force phase program in place of the regular self-paced run, according to Senior Master Sgt. James Lane, superintendent of military training for the 81st Training Group.

Runs take place at 10 a.m. or 4 p.m., depending on class schedules. Workouts also include brief warm-up and cool-down periods. Wednesdays, other training activities such as open ranks inspections take place.



## Fore!



Photos by Kemberly Groue

Above, Ray Hernandez, Biloxi, putts on the Bay Breeze Golf Course putting green April 27 with a blue-roof covered clubhouse in the background. Below, an excavator is used to demolish the clubhouse Friday. The clubhouse sustained damage during Hurricane Katrina last summer. Plans call for construction of a new facility.

# Keesler bowling alley gets facelift

By Staff Sgt. Lee Smith  
Keesler News staff

Gaudé Lanes closed Friday to make renovations estimated at \$360,000.

According to Greg Schon, facility manager, it closed its doors for much needed and overdue work.

"We'll have a 75 percent new facility," he said. "We'll have new bathrooms, bowling lanes, ceiling, and carpeting; some of which were here when the building opened in 1977."

Mr. Schon said the renovation project is a two-part process.

"CH2M Hill will handle gutting the ceilings, replacing the floor and the carpet," Schon said. "The 81st Civil Engineer Squadron will redo the men's and ladies' rooms. Once that process is completed, the 11th Frame Café will be open to the public.

"The second part of the process involves replacing the overlays on the bowling lanes themselves, as well as painting, putting in new ceiling, floors and carpet," he said. "That contract hasn't been awarded yet, but we're hoping

to have some word in the next two to three weeks."

Schon said summer is probably the best time to have these renovations done.

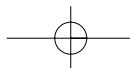
"All of our base leagues were completed May 23," he said. "And historically, people tend to bowl less and do other outdoor activities. This is also a time when school's out and people tend to go on vacation with their children.

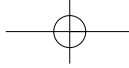
"There are those who bowl throughout the year, regardless of the season. I know, because I'm one of them," Schon said. "I'll be bowling at Ocean Lanes in Ocean Springs. There's also the AMF Bowling Center in Gulfport and a new bowling center on Pass Road, also in Gulfport."

Schon said that once the renovations are completed, people should like the new Gaudé Lanes.

"When we open our doors again, hopefully they will be wowed," he said.

The 11th Frame Café is scheduled to reopen in early August and the bowling alley in early September.





## Memorable run



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Left, Christal Hanrahan, 81st Medical Support Squadron, approaches the finish line during the Memorial Day 5-kilometer run at the marina park Friday. Hanrahan was the first female runner to cross the finish line with a time of 27 minutes. Right, Junior Samuel, a student in the 333rd Training Squadron, makes the turn to head for the last part of the race. Samuel, stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash., was the first male runner to finish the race in 18 minutes, 35 seconds.

## SCORES AND MORE

### Auto hobby shop

**Cruise in** — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 10. Register your vehicle by Saturday. For more information, call 377-3872.

### Fitness centers

**Blake Fitness Center** — open 4:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Mondays through working Fridays; 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. non-working Fridays; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

**Dragon Fitness Center** — open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. workdays.

**Free aerobic and yoga classes** — for more information, call 377-2907.

**Free water aerobic classes** — 1:15-2:15 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the main pool. Participants without a pool pass must pay to use the pool.

**Triangle Fitness Center** — closed until further notice.

### Golf

**Bay Breeze Golf Course** — open 7 a.m. to dusk daily. Free for walkers only. Driving range opens at 7 a.m. daily for free use. Retrieve your own balls due to loss of ball picker.

**Two-for-one golf lessons** — schedule a half-hour lesson for \$25 and receive a second half-hour lesson

free. For an appointment, call 377-3832 or 348-7589.

### Motorcycle

**KRA rally** — Keesler Riders Association meets at 3:15 p.m. Tuesday at The Joys of Coffee outside the Pass Road Gate.

The meeting is to make preparations for a rally beginning 11 a.m. June 29 in marina park.

For more information, call Lynda Richmond, 377-0749.

### Outdoor recreation

**Father's Day special** — June 18. Free rod and reel rental for dads.

**Fishing trip to oil rigs** — Saturdays. \$100 per person. For reservations, call 377-3160.

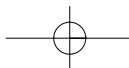
### Youth center

**Three-on-three soccer** — accepting late registration for ages 5-12. For more information, call 377-4116.

**Taekwondo** — 6-7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, ages 6 and older. Cost is \$35 for members, \$40 for non-members. For more information, call 377-4116.

**Classes** — gymnastics, taekwondo and dance. For more information, call 377-4116.

**Open recreation** — Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., ages 6 and older.



# DIGEST

## HONORS

### Student honor roll

#### 332nd Training Squadron

**Metrology** — Airmen Basic James Ahn and Jens Knudsen; Airman Jaron Haines; Airmen 1st Class Len Carter and Edward Sayers.

#### 334th TRS

**Air traffic control operations training flight** — Airmen Basic Thomas Comstock, John Henry and Michael Robbins; Airmen 1st Class Jonathan Allard, Nicolas Bell, Timothy Bonner, Audra Justice, Morgan Morris, Michael Piazza and Evan Woodhead; Senior Airman Emmanuel Lwando; Staff Sgts. Jeremy Crowe, Barry George, Scott Hupp, Yuri Miller, Robert Pate, Aaron Paul, Jonathon Reid and Delorean Sheridan.

**Command post apprentice course** — Airman Basic Matthew Rowley; Airman Jessica Macias; Airmen 1st Class Karrah Aubry, Sean Gilrein, Joseph Gorgoglione, Christopher McCallister and Patricia Testa; Senior Airmen Aaron Burne and John Sorensen; Staff Sgt. Bart Grant; Tech. Sgts. Dru Duran, Shawni Hedberg, Martin Rivera, Bryan Tweedie and Douglas Waithe; Jeffrey Withrow.

#### 335th TRS

**Comptroller training flight** — Airmen Basic Kwadwo Agyenfrempong, Christopher Bing, Scott Caldwell, Kenneth Newton, Elisa Parris, Samuel Shim and Matthew Terkay; Airmen Carol Close, Vickie Erickson and Michael Rowe; Airmen 1st Class William Allen, Ryan Foster, Wayne Mace, Andrea Murcia, Meredith Scott and Miyoung Song; Senior Airmen Kersha Bumsted and Sandra Memmel; Staff Sgts. Dawn Erdmann and Gasper Persio; Tech. Sgts. Katrina Cruz, Jerome Digennaro, Juana Hernal, Ruby McBride, Jill Miller and Sonia Walls; Master Sgt. Jeanie Helms.

**Weather training flight** — Airman Basic Weston Dahl; Marine Pvt. James Ciccarelli; Airmen Jaime DeWitt, Courtney Johnson, James Pann and Joshua Stewart; Airmen 1st Class Sean Ayres, Aaron Moyer and Brandon Wallis; Navy Airmen Phillip Brody, Jacob Cerda, Jared Thornton and Anthony Valence; Senior Airman Fred Horner; Staff Sgts. Roy Bock and David Crabtree.

#### 336th TRS

**Communications-computer systems training flight** — Airmen Basic Joshua Miller, Jason Pedicord, Neal Phoetema, Benjamin Symanowicz and Jared VanOrman; Airmen James Brown and Lance Weston; Airmen 1st Class David Aiken, Andrew Burton, Daniel Routier, Mark Withers and Brandon Zahn; Senior Airmen Gene Pabst, Christopher Petro and Amber Stanley; Staff Sgts. Robert Beauparlant, Brad Brophil, Mark Heikell, Steven Maestas, Lucio Reza, Delone Rush and Jeffrey

Wills; Tech. Sgts. Kodie Killian, Rodney Thompson and William Wilcox; Tracy Mangino.

**Communications and information management training flight** — Airmen Basic Bryan Colburn, Jason Gilley, Steven Reichard, Tyrone Stroman and Stephen Swircek; Airmen 1st Class Jeremie Alicdan, Richard Craft, Ondina Flores, Gustavo Reyes and Christopher Tran; Senior Airmen Danielle Gantt and Compton Moore; Staff Sgts. Ted Cleverly, Gary Johnson, Lani Nishimura, Steven Walters and Chorvy Willis; Tech. Sgts. Charlie Brown and Scott Shields; Senior Master Sgt. Bridgit Pena; Capt. Ali Nadeem.

#### 338th TRS

**Radar systems flight** — Airmen 1st Class Brian Housholder  
**Visual imagery and intrusion detection apprentice course** — Airman Basic Colby Citte; Airman Justin Myers; Airman 1st Class Justin Ramsey.

## CLASSES

### Airman Leadership School

**Class 06-D** — graduation June 15.  
**Class 06-E** — July 12-Aug. 12.

### Keesler NCO Academy

**Class 06-4** — graduates today.  
**Class 06-5** — June 12-July 20.

### Arts and crafts center

**Cruise-in** — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 10, auto hobby shop. Enter vehicles by Saturday. For more information, call 377-3872.

**Summer youth camp** — 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays beginning Tuesday. \$25 per week.

**Ceramic painting** — 10 a.m. Saturday. Make a Father's Day gift. For more information, call 377-2821.

**Scrapbooking** — 1 p.m. June 16. \$15 including supplies for two-page layout; bring photos.

**Kids crafting class** — 11 a.m. June 17. \$10 including supplies. Father's Day project; parent must accompany ages 7 or younger.

**Mold pouring** — 10 a.m. June 24. \$25 including first firing.

**Macrame** — for information on new class, call 377-2821.

**Beginners woodworking** — 5 -7:30 p.m. June 28. \$25. Earn safety certification and operator's card.

**Beginning intarsia woodworking** — 5 p.m. June 9 or 23. \$15. Intarsia is the art form of inlaying pieces of wood in a decorative pattern.

**Advanced intarsia** — 10 a.m. June 10 or 24. New project each month.

**Framing** — one class, four sessions, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays. \$60.

**Advanced matting** — 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. June 30. \$25.

**Engraving shop** — custom items for gifts, mementos and squadron awards.

**24-hour coin-operated car wash** — features foamy brush wash, high pressure rinse, wax system, towletpets, Armorall and vacuum station.

**Vehicle resale lot** — corner of M and T Streets; buy, sell or trade privately-owned vehicles. For more information, call 377-2821.

### McBride Library

**Orientations** — 6 p.m. Wednesdays for commanders, first sergeants and instructors.

**Flower festival** — 10 a.m. Wednesdays, ages 2-5.

**Tours** — for more information, call 377-2181.

## CLUBS AND CENTERS

### Vandenberg Community Center

**Block party** — noon to 5 p.m. June 24 for nonprior service students only.

**Eight-ball pool tournament** — 6-9:30 p.m. Mondays.

**Nine-ball pool tournament** — 6-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays.

**Game night** — 6 p.m. Wednesdays. Board games, ping pong tournament and more.

**Karaoke** — 6 p.m. Thursdays.

**Late night dance and DJ** — 6 p.m. to midnight Thursdays before nonworking Fridays, Fridays and Saturdays. \$3.

**Half Time Café** — open for lunch and dinner. Buffet specials 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Wednesdays, Italian, \$5.95; working Fridays, catfish, \$6.50.

Please see **Digest**, Page 25

## SHUTTLE SCHEDULE

### 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays

Minutes after hour	Bus stop
:00	332nd TRS, Building 6955
:01	338th TRS, Building 6965
:02	Welch Auditorium
:05	AAFES Furniture Store
:08	Jones/Bryan/Hewes Hall
:10	Thomson Hall
:11	New Cody Hall
:13	Supply, civil engineering
:14	Shoppette
:16	Shaw House
:17	Muse Manor
:19	McBride Library
:21	Medical Center, Tyer House
:22	Sabllich Center
:23	Dental clinic
:24	Allee and Wolfe Halls
:25	Base operations
:27	Hangar 4

### Technical training route

#### 5:10-5:37 a.m. weekdays

Minutes after hour	Bus stop
:10	Building 5025
:12	Building 5022
:14	Shaw House
:16	Muse Manor
:18	Tyer House
:20	TLQ east side 2000 block
:21	Medical east side of Locker House
:25	332nd TRS
:28	Welch Auditorium
:33	Thomson/Dolan/Cody Halls
:34	McClellan Hall
:36	Allee/Wolfe Halls
:37	Stennis Hall/Weather

### Prior-service students lodged off-base

Call 377-2432 for transportation needs. Traffic in the local area impacts base taxi times.

**Editor's note: Duty passengers have priority over "space available" riders. Schedule may be impacted by increased official operations or severe weather. Those who are physically challenged, have excess baggage, medical appointments at off-base hospitals or clinics or unable to ride the base shuttle, call 377-2432 for the base taxi. For more information, call 377-2430. Until further notice, weekend shuttle service isn't available. Taxi service is available on an "as needed" basis.**

## COAST AREA TRANSIT

**Keesler Express** — runs between the Triangle and Edgewater Mall. Bus service begins from the base, 5:50-8:30 p.m. work days, 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. down Fridays and Saturdays, and 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sundays.

The route is limited to specific pickup and dropoff points:

Minutes after hour	bus stop
:30	Hercules Street bus stop
:32	Welch Auditorium
:45	Pass Road Wal-Mart
:54	Arrive Edgewater Mall
:00	Depart Edgewater Mall
:09	Pass Road Wal-Mart
:22	Welch Auditorium
:24	Hercules Street bus stop

The regular adult fare is \$1. An unlimited one-day pass is \$5 and one-month pass is \$45.  
For more information, call 896-8080.

## CHAPEL SERVICES

**Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2520.**

### Roman Catholic

**Sunday Mass**  
Triangle Chapel.....9 a.m.  
**Daily Mass**  
Triangle Chapel.....11:15 a.m.

### Protestant

**Sunday worship**  
Larcher Chapel traditional service.....8:30 a.m.  
Triangle Chapel contemporary worship service...10:30 a.m.  
Triangle Chapel gospel service.....Noon

### Islamic

**Building 2003** — prayer five times daily; Salaat ul-Jumma congregational prayer, noon Friday.  
For more information, call 377-2520.

### Latter-Day Saints

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints** — student group service, 2 p.m. Sundays, Triangle Chapel.  
For more information, call 396-5274 or 1-661-747-4738.

# Digest,

from Page 24

## Katrina Kantina

Cook your own steak night — 5 p.m. June 29.

## Youth center

**Annual membership** — \$25, ages 6 and older. Receive discounted prices for programs, classes and sports.

**Taekwondo** — 6-7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, ages 6 and older. For more information, call 377-4116.

**Self-directed activities** — 3-7 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, ages 9-18.

**Summer camp/clinics registration** — archery, track and field, basketball and cheerleading. For more information, call 377-4116.

**Teen extreme camps registrations** — FitFactor; Kids for Broadway Theater; Lights, Camera, Action; Extreme Adventure; Understanding Me/Understanding You; Weird Science; Backyard Mississippian and Teen Warrior. For more information, call 377-4116.

**Congressional award program** — 6 p.m. June 12, ages 14-21.

**Creative corner** — 4:30 p.m. June 8 and 17.

**Free home alone safety workshop** — 6 p.m. June 15, ages 10 and older. Parent must accompany child.

**Three-on-three soccer registration** — accepting late registrations, ages 5-12.

**Instructors needed** — for programs including those for ages 3-5 and special classes. For more information, call 377-4116.

**Movies and snacks** — 5 p.m. Mondays, ages 9 and older.

**Pediatrics playgroup** — 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays, ages 2-5.

**Smart girls** — 5 p.m. Tuesdays, ages 9-16; girls-only topics.

**Training responsible adolescents in leadership/Keystone Club** — 6-7 p.m. Tuesdays, ages 13-17.

**Game room tournaments** — 5 p.m. Wednesdays.

**Torch Club** — 3 p.m. Thursdays, ages 9-12.

**FitFactor fitness club** — 5 p.m. Fridays, ages 9-18.

**Friday dances** — 6:30-10 p.m., ages 9-15.

**Super Saturdays** — 2-5 p.m., ages 6-12; 6-10 p.m., ages 13-18. Games, sports and crafts.

## TRANSITIONS

### Workshops, briefings

**Veterans benefits briefing** — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 15, July 13, Aug. 17, Sept. 14, Oct. 19, Nov. 16 and Dec. 14, Room 122, old Cody Hall. To pre-register, call Ron Bublik, 377-8592 or e-mail ronald.bublik@keesler.af.mil.

**Transition assistance program workshop** — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 12-14, July 10-12, Aug. 14-16, Sept. 11-13, Oct. 16-18, Nov. 13-15 and Dec. 11-13, Room 122, old Cody Hall. To pre-register, call Ron Bublik, 377-8592, or e-mail ronald.bublik@keesler.af.mil.

**Web sites**

**Defense Manpower Data Center** — <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dors> or <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/tbb>.

**Air Force Blue to Corporate Gray** — <http://www.blue.togray.com>.

**Air Force Federal Employment Resume and Information** — <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/resweb>.

**Civilian job certification and licensing requirements for military personnel and veterans** — <http://www.dol.gov/dol/vets>.

**Department of Veterans Affairs** — <http://www.vba.va.gov/efit/index.htm>; for members returning from Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

**Southern Region Military and Civilian Job Fair** — <http://www.mesc.state.ms.us/jobfair>.

**New military spouse career center** — <http://www.military.com/spouse>. Extensive job board including jobs from public and private sectors. For more information, call Vince Patton, 703-269-0154, or e-mail at [vince@militaryadvantage.com](mailto:vince@militaryadvantage.com).

**Military Connection** — online resources database for military family members seeking civilian employment at <http://www.militaryconnection.com>

**America's Job Bank** — <http://www.ajb.dni.us>.

## TICKETS AND TOURS

**Editor's note:** Located inside Vandenberg Community Center.

**Discounted tickets** — for many attractions including Gulf Islands Water Park in Gulfport, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays. For more information, call 377-3818.

**Brochures** — information on area and out-of-state attractions.

## MEETINGS

**Editor's note:** To list time, place and contact for organization meetings, call 377-3837 or e-mail KN@keesler.af.mil.

**African-American Heritage Committee** — 3:30 p.m. second Tuesday of the month, Room 109, Taylor Logistics Building. For more information, call Paulette Powell, 377-2270, or Kurt Higgins, 377-1390.

**Air Force Sergeants Association** — 11:30 a.m. third Tuesday of the month, Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call Master Sgt. Scott Sippel, 377-2337.

**Air Force Sergeants Association Auxiliary** — 6 p.m. third Thursday of the month, youth center, J Street. For more information, call Desarae Chereskin, 341-0988.

**At Eze Toastmasters Club** — noon Tuesdays, Building 1101 conference room. For more information, call Chief Master Sgt. Don Seaton, 377-5958, or Fred Blache, 377-1048, or visit <http://www.toastmasters.org>.

**Keesler Christian Home Educators Association** — 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of each month, September-May, Larcher Chapel. Open to all military home educators. For more information, call Michelle Durkin, 872-9393, or e-mail chelle1m@yahoo.com.

**Keesler Spouses Club** — meets the second Tuesday of each month. For time and location, call Tammie Searfass, president, 273-4324, or visit <http://www.geocities.com/keeslers/KSC.html>.

**Native American Heritage Committee** — for more information, call R.I. Whiteside, 863-0479, or Capt. Elizabeth Tailon, 377-6242.

**Retired Enlisted Association Magnolia Chapter 81** — 6:30 p.m. second Thursday of each month, Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call Larry McKean, president, 377-3252 or 374-5922.

**Rising VI Association** — 3 p.m. third Wednesday of the month, Keesler NCO Academy auditorium. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Shanda Yarborough, 377-3653, or Tech. Sgt. Kevin Benjamin, 377-7924.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Movies

**Editor's note:** Movies are shown at Welch Auditorium. Tickets are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children for regular features, and \$2.50 for adults and \$1 for children for matinees. For a recorded message about current features, call 377-6627.

### June weather outlook

Thunderstorms commonly occur along the Gulf Coast in June. Most form due to the sea breeze effect common during the summer months. Although frontal passages are infrequent, squall lines may form and drop heavy rainfall. June is also the first month of hurricane season, but tropical storms and hurricanes don't usually affect Mississippi this early. Daily temperatures and humidities rise considerably in June. Nights are warm with occasional thunderstorms that form off the coast during the early morning hours. While morning storms sometimes affect Keesler, the afternoon sea breeze is more likely to bring activity over the base.

Extreme maximum temperature (F).....	101
Mean daily maximum temperature (F).....	87
Mean daily minimum temperature (F).....	75
Extreme minimum temperature (F).....	55
Mean relative humidity (percent).....	74
Mean monthly precipitation (inches).....	5.53
Mean number of days with precipitation.....	9
Mean number of days with thunderstorms.....	11
Maximum 24-hour rainfall (inches).....	5.5
Percentage of observations with ceiling less than:	
2,000 feet.....	1.8
1,000 feet.....	0.2
300 feet.....	0.0
Percentage of observations with visibility less than:	
6 miles.....	12.1
3 miles.....	0.4
1 mile.....	0.1
Percentage of observations with wind:	
0-3 knots.....	35.1
4-10 knots.....	58.1
11-21 knots.....	6.7
22 knots or greater.....	0.1

Base personnel can access radar and satellite data and a general forecast on the local area network in the public folders under 81 OSF Weather.

## DINING HALL MENUS

### Today

**Lunch** — baked chicken, pepper steak, pasta primavera, mashed potatoes, rice, gravy, mixed vegetables, fried okra, green beans, potato salad, fruit salad, cream of broccoli soup, chicken and wild rice soup, chili, buffalo wings and roast beef subs.

**Dinner** — orange-spiced pork chops, braised liver with onions, fried fish, rissole potatoes, rice, gravy, broccoli, peas and carrots, wax beans, fruit salad, potato salad, chicken and wild rice soup, chili, buffalo wings and cream of broccoli soup.

### Friday

**Lunch** — corned beef, cornbread, pineapple chicken, Yankee pot roast, potato wedges, simmered potatoes, gravy, fried cabbage, carrots, blackeyed peas, three-bean salad, clam chowder, garden vegetable soup, frontier chicken chili, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

**Dinner** — baked chicken, Swedish meatballs, creole turkey, cornbread, frantonia potatoes, pea and pepper rice, gravy, corn on the cob, stewed tomatoes, mustard greens, pasta salad, three-bean salad, clam chowder, vegetable soup, frontier chicken chili, barbecue pork and burritos.

### Saturday

**Lunch** — baked fish, Hungarian goulash, barbecue chicken, potatoes, rice, gravy, stir-fry vegetables, baked beans, creamed corn, fruit salad, kidney bean salad, country bean soup, chicken gumbo, chili and chicken nuggets.

**Dinner** — baked chicken, Swedish meatballs, creole shrimp, baked potatoes, rice, gravy, creamed corn, asparagus, steamed squash, fruit salad, kidney bean salad, country bean soup, chicken gumbo, chili and chicken nuggets.

### Sunday

**Lunch** — stir-fry beef with broccoli, turkey nuggets, loin strip steak, mushroom and onion sauce, baked potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, corn on the cob, green beans, jellied spring salad, tomato salad, vegetable beef soup, Italian wedding soup, frontier chicken chili and cheese pizza.

**Dinner** — oven fried fish, spare ribs, grilled mustard chicken breast, macaroni and cheese, egg noodles, gravy, peas, sweet potatoes, broccoli combo, jellied spring salad, tomato salad, vegetable beef soup, Italian wedding soup, frontier chicken chili and cheese pizza.

### Monday

**Lunch** — chili macaroni, cornbread, beef canelloni, fried chicken, cottage fries, mashed potatoes, gravy, steamed squash, glazed carrots, peas, cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumpling soup, minestrone soup, chili with beans, grilled sausage and steak and cheese subs.

**Dinner** — beef pot roast, baked stuffed fish, cornbread, pork loin, potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower combo, succotash, green beans, cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumpling soup, minestrone soup, chili with beans, grilled sausage and steak and cheese subs.

### Tuesday

**Lunch** — country captain chicken, meatloaf, turkey a la king, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, garlic toast, harvard beets, mustard greens, okra tomato gumbo, fruit cocktail salad, spinach salad, bean with ham soup, chicken noodle soup, white chicken chili, barbeque beef sloppy joes and roast beef subs.

**Dinner** — teriyaki chicken, veal parmesan, salmon cakes, garlic toast, filipino rice, parsley buttered potatoes, gravy, fried cabbage, succotash, mixed vegetables, fruit cocktail salad, spinach salad, bean with ham soup, chicken noodle soup, white chicken chili, barbeque beef sloppy joes and roast beef subs.

### Wednesday

**Lunch** — lasagna, garlic toast, spaghetti with meat sauce, chicken cacciatore, noodles, baked potatoes, baked beans, green beans, simmered squash, Mexican coleslaw, frijole salad, pasta fagioli soup, chicken tortilla soup, vegetarian chili, cheese fishwich and Monte Cristo sandwich.

**Dinner** — barbecue ham steak, baked turkey and noodles, jalapeno cornbread, beef ball stroganoff, egg noodles, mashed potatoes, gravy, calico corn, spinach, lima beans, Mexican coleslaw, frijole salad, pasta fagioli soup, chicken tortilla soup, vegetarian chili, cheese fishwich and Monte Cristo sandwich.