

KANZA SPIRIT

931ST AIR REFUELING GROUP



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November 2007

McConnell AFB, Kansas

Vol.12, No. 11

ATSO (Ability To Survive and Operate) Rodeo Provides Practice for Reservists

BY TECH. SGT. JASON SCHAAP
931ST ARG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The October Unit Training Assembly brought with it an initial taste of the Group's long schedule of pending Operational Readiness Inspection preparation. For some, it tasted like charcoal.

931st members like Maj. Eric Remsen found themselves blackened Saturday by the charcoal dust generously stuffed into chemical suits the Group uses for training. Saturday's training was designed to familiarize Airmen with inspecting and wearing the suits (complete with mask), followed by a simulated run through a contamination containment area, commonly called a CCA.

The ability to survive and operate, commonly referred to as ATSO, in a chemical environment will be a major graded area of next year's inspection.

Staff Sgt. Thomas Cyphers was one of three active-duty Airmen who volunteered their Saturday to guide 931st Reservists through the training. According to Cyphers, more charcoal and less mouse clicks is a relatively new concept for active-duty Airmen as well.



Maj. Eric Remsen finds himself covered in charcoal after removing a chemical suit inside a contamination control area during training Saturday. Major Remsen is a pilot with the 18th Air Refueling Squadron. (Air Force Photo / Tech. Sgt. Jason Schaap)

"The slideshow world is gone," he said. "Death by Power-Point has transitioned to smaller groups (in real world scenarios).

The 18th Air Refueling Squadron's Major Eric Remsen agreed the hands-on approach was better. Well, "barely" better, he then joked, looking down at his flight suit drenched in black silt and sweat. "You have to do it to remember it," he added. "I forget it."

Senior Master Sgt. Dennis Struve, 18th ARS boom operator, said he could have done without the charcoal dust that does not come out of the different chemical suits Airmen are issued when deployed. But he understood the importance of learning the most



Staff Sgt. Chris Fenton instructs Reservists on how to properly remove parts of their chemical suits. Group members were taught the ability to survive and operate, or ATSO, techniques by Sergeant Fenton and two other active-duty volunteers from the 22nd Air Refueling Wing. (Air Force Photo / Tech. Sgt. Jason Schaap)

up to date methods. "Every time you go through (the CCA) it changes a little bit," Sergeant Struve said.

It was 2003 when Tech. Sgt. Clinton Schmidt was new to the 931st and last went through CCA training. Like most Airmen, Sergeant Schmidt wasn't looking forward to the sweat and silt of ORI prep. Sergeant Schmidt, a 931st ARG paralegal specialist, said he had hoped for opportunities like Saturday's training, however, to be reacquainted with his gas mask.

"I'm already much more confident heading toward the ORI than I was before I showed up for the UTA Saturday," Sergeant Schmidt said.

Staff Sgt. Chris Fenton works with Sergeant Cyphers on the 22nd ARW's Readiness and Emergency Management team. Sergeant Fenton also volunteered to help the 931st Saturday and was pleasantly surprised by the cooperation he saw.

"They are taking this seriously," Sergeant Fenton said about 931st members half way through the training. "They are listening and learning."

Helping Sergeants Fenton and Cyphers was Airman 1st Class Taba Clair, another member of their team that volunteered for Saturday. Group members can expect more training with their associate-wing partners in coming months. The 931st is scheduled to take part in a training exercise with the 22nd ARW for the three days following the November UTA.

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

WHY VETERANS DAY?

Sunday, 11 Nov, is Veterans Day, and it is followed by a free day off on Monday, 12 Nov. Woo hoo, a three day weekend! How did we get so lucky? Well, let me tell you my friends.

Luck, at least good luck, had nothing to do with it. A little over 93 years ago World War I began in Europe. The Germans, Austro-Hungarians, Russians, and Turks started the "War to End All Wars" with the United Kingdom, France, many other European countries, and eventually the United States. That war raged for a little over four years and it took the lives of nearly 10 million military men, and wounded over 20 million military members! Yes, that is right millions and millions of lives. The civilian casualties around the world were nearly equal to the military losses! There were single battles that resulted in the deaths of thousands upon thousands of troops. The map of Europe changed dramatically, as well as the world's political landscape.

Fortunately, with the aid of US forces, the war finally came to a close, and on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 (1100L on 11 Nov 1918) the Treaty of Versailles was signed and the war was officially over. This was commonly called the Armistice.

Shortly after the war many nations chose to observe a day to honor those military members who had served in the war and survived. In 1919 President Woodrow Wilson established Armistice Day. Eventually, this movement grew, and as the US endured World War II and the Korean War, US citizens wanted to officially include living veterans of all wars among those honored on 11 Nov. So, on 11 Nov 1953 the community of Emporia, Kansas, chose to observe Veterans Day, not just Armistice Day, and within a year a Kansas Congressman had succeeded in officially changing the day to Veterans Day.

Why to I go to all the trouble of giving you this brief history lesson? You can see from the above that Veterans Day is much more than a good-deal three day weekend. Sadly I think many of us, or at least our families, friends, co-workers, church

members, the kids at the mall, etc. may have lost sight of the meaning of Veterans Day. Sure, the guys down at the VFW have a ceremony, and the city holds a parade that probably isn't very well attended compared to the Christmas parade. But, is that enough? Personally, I think not. While those public displays are nice, they may miss giving all living veterans what they most want and need-a heartfelt thank you from you, a shake of the hand, a hug, a visit in a nursing home, 5 undivided minutes of your time.

Most would never go out of there way to bring up the sacrifices that they and their families made. They would not brag of their exploits or bravery. They may well tell you about a friend who gave the last full measure and paid the ultimate price. For many the experience was just like yesterday. They're not braggarts and they aren't looking for special recognition. Most are humble, hard working, honest folk who did what they did because they believed in their country and its way of life, and wanted to guarantee its existence for their family and friends.

Today many of our World War II veterans are rapidly passing on. All too soon our Korean and Vietnam veterans will begin to leave us. And I know that you are also among those brave souls who have earned the title of veteran. We owe them and you our debt of gratitude. At a minimum, I ask that you take a moment on Veterans Day to stop and quietly honor those living service members who have served for us during a war. Find a veteran, look into his or her eyes, take their hand and say "Thank you, may we continue to be blessed with people like you in our country."



William T. Cahoon

William T. Cahoon, Colonel
931st Air Refueling Group Commander

Integrity



Service



Excellence

THIS UTA < NOVEMBER 2007 >

Saturday:
HRDC Meeting
Southwind Conf. Room 3 p.m.

Sunday:
Chapel service
Southwind Conf. Room 7:45 a.m.

Photographs from Group events, retirements and ceremonies are now available for all to view and copy off of the share drive, Kanza-05 and are stored in the "PA Photos" folder.



Vol.12 No.11

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Deadlines

The deadline to submit articles and newsbriefs for publication is close of business of the UTA. This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the *Kanza Spirit* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government of the Dept. of the Air Force. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 931st Public Affairs Office. All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

The *Kanza Spirit* is emailed each month to all 931st ARG members. Members not receiving their copy should check with their workgroup manager. The publication is also posted monthly on the unit website:

www.931arg.afrc.af.mil

UTA SCHEDULE

Next UTA: Dec. 8 - 9

Jan. 12 - 13

Feb. 9 - 10

Mar. 8 - 9 (6-7 AT)

DATES IN RED DENOTE MANDATORY UTAs

FITNESS TESTING

There will be Groupwide fitness testing on Saturday at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday at 2 p.m. Units will also have other testing times as needed. Contact your unit fitness monitor for details.

MAIN GATE CLOSURE

The main gate will be closed through Nov. 9 for force protection upgrades. Main gate traffic will be rerouted to Wichita Street. (See map below)



TOTAL RECALL

NEW AUTOMATED SYSTEM HAS ABILITY TO RECALL 2000 AIRMEN IN 2-MINUTES

BY STAFF SGT. K.L. KIMBRELL
931ST ARG PUBLIC AFFAIRS



It's 4 a.m. You are lying in bed sound asleep when you're awakened by the ring of your telephone. You pick up the handset and you hear: "This is the unit recall monitor. This is a recall to active duty. Report to your duty section immediately. If you are on mobility status, bring the required minimum personal clothing," says the caller.

So, you jump out of bed, prepare yourself and get dressed. It's time to go to work.

According to Lt. Col. Clint Burpo, Chief of Plans and Programs for the 931st Air Refueling Group, this style of traditional recall is becoming a thing of the past and is being ushered out by a new computer based system.

"It's more than just a recall system. It's a commercial software solution for subscription-based mass notifications," said Colonel Burpo, who attended a course on the new system at Air Force Reserve Command Headquarters at Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

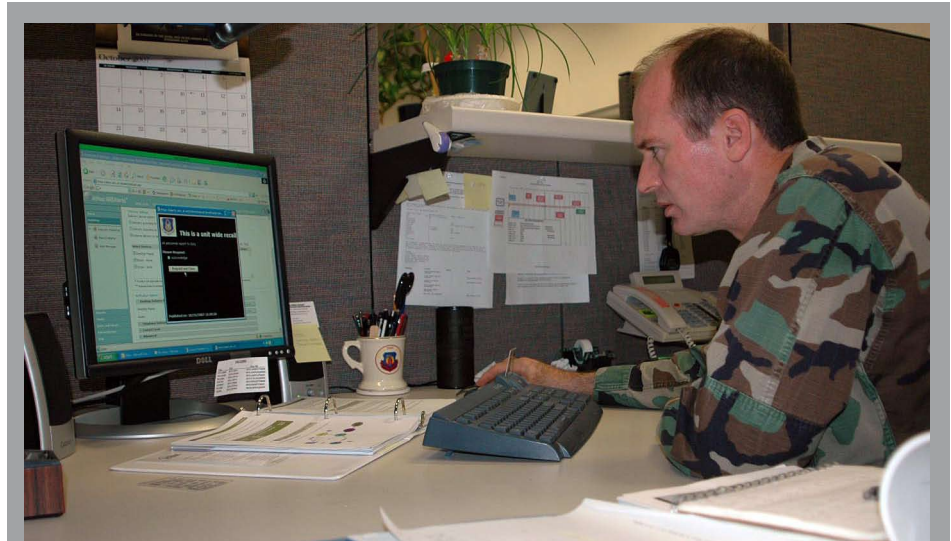
The system, AtHoc's IWSAlerts is already in use at some installations. It uses computer pop-ups or phone calls to distribute information about just about anything, including weather warnings, exercise messages or recall alerts.

"The way it works is the administrator logs into the contractor's website, and publishes alerts that will simultaneously "pop-up" on subscribers' desktops," said the Colonel. "You can also program it to make phone calls."

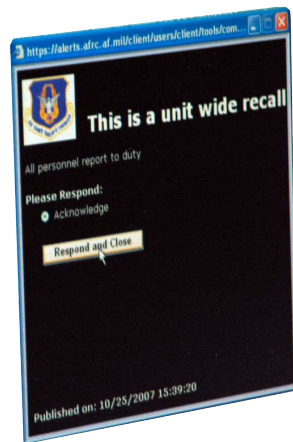
The primary use for the Group would be for just that, phone calls.

"The 22nd Air Refueling Wing has a similar set-up where they can alert the base populace during exercises and real world events that affect FPCON (Force Protection Condition), for example," said Colonel Burpo. "Since their (22nd ARW) command post handles those types of alerts, our use would mainly be limited to unit personnel recalls."

The information will be added by an exist-



Lt. Col. Clint Burpo reviews one of the many pop-up messages available for editing and use on the IWS Alerts website. The IWS Alerts system is capable of recalling 2000 Reservists to active duty in a two-minute time frame. (Air Force Photo / Staff Sgt. K.L. Kimbrell)



ing database of member's information.

"The way the "subscribers" are registered into the system is through MILPDS (Military Personnel Data System)," said Colonel Burpo.

The new process is much faster and automated.

"The main benefit of this system is it can call up to 2000 phone numbers in a 2-minute period, said Colonel Burpo."

The computerized voice will then deliver the selected message to the unit member.

"The member can then press "1" if they

acknowledge," said Colonel Burpo. "The administrator can check the status and number of personnel acknowledging the message on the website."

The 931st is on the books to be entered into the system, so it can be used locally.

"I'm hoping to have it available for the March exercise," said Lt. Col. Burpo.

So, if a mysterious number shows up on your caller-ID during a Unit Training Assembly or during prescribed mandatory Annual Tour, it's probably a good bet to answer the call.

"The contractor is working to make sure when the number comes up on a person's caller ID, it is accompanied by "Air Force Alert" or some similar label," said Colonel Burpo.

When everything is complete, your next 4 a.m. phone call may not be the voice you're used to hearing, but the message will remain the same albeit in a computerized voice.

"This is a recall to active duty. Report to your duty section immediately."



Want To Improve PT Scores?

Schedule A Running Test At Health And Wellness Center

BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS ROY LYNCH III
22ND ARW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

How could the Health and Wellness Center help improve a person's run time for his next physical training test?

Of the many health programs featured at the HAWC, the Running Shoe Evaluation provides a look on how well a person can strut their stuff.

Wearing the proper foot wear while running plays a big part on how people perform. The running shoe evaluation tests participant proper footwear for running. Bart Patterson of the HAWC staff administrates the evaluation.

Bart Patterson starts the process by asking participants general questions: How old are those shoes, are the soles worn away and are there any aches and pains that accompany the physical activity?

The participant then takes their shoes off and stands with feet spread about shoulder width apart.

Mr. Patterson looks for any pronation, which is rotation of the bones, in the foot so that the weight is borne, mainly on the inside foot.

The participant then runs on a treadmill for 30 seconds with their shoes off and then again with shoes on, while Mr. Patterson records the natural bio-mechanics of how the person's joints move.

Mr. Patterson explains to participants their bio-mechanics function and which type of shoe should be worn to improve the stability of the runner.

If soles of the shoes could be worn out, wrinkled, or separating, it may be the reason that there are aches and pains. A person can not run in the right position if there is foot pronation which can lead to an uncomfortable running experience and could result in a slower run time, he explains.

"Most running injuries can be related back to the condition or type of running shoe that person is in," said

Mr. Patterson. "Once you are able to run in the right position, you are then able to push your body, picking up your speed, picking up your distance."

The HAWC can help a person

improve their run time, just take the running shoe evaluation. When people are able to run in the right position then their speed and distance can improve. For more information contact Bart Patterson at 759-1795.

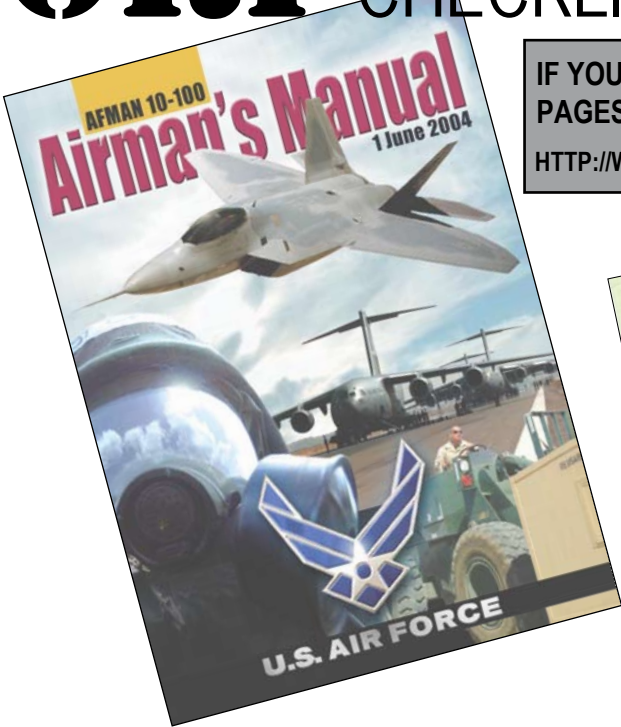


Bart Patterson, Health and Wellness Center health technician, is checking Lt. Col. Jon Woods', 931st Operations Support Flight, arches during a running shoe evaluation Oct. 1, at the HAWC. Most running injuries can be traced back to the condition or type of running shoe that person uses. (Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Roy Lynch III.)



Mr. Patterson, Health and Wellness Center health technician, shows Colonel Woods how his bio-mechanics are working for a running shoe evaluation at the HAWC. By using the footage, Mr. Patterson can show how a person is performing. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Roy Lynch III.)

ORI CHECKLIST: AIRMAN'S MANUAL



IF YOU'D LIKE TO VIEW THE MANUAL ONLINE OR PRINT SPECIFIC PAGES, CHARTS OR TABLES, SIMPLY VISIT:
[HTTP://WWW.E-PUBLISHING.AF.MIL/PUBS/PUBLIST.ASP?PUBORG=AF&SERIES=10](http://www.e-publishing.af.mil/pubs/publist.asp?puborg=af&series=10)



AFMAN 10-100

214 / 215 - SECTION 6 QUICK REFERENCE

AFMAN 10-100 / 1 June 2004 214 / Section 6 / Quick Reference

Battle Dress Overgarment (BDO) and Chemical Protective Overgarment (CPO) and Accessory Inspection Checklist Ref TO 14P3-1-141

Caution: Do not remove overgarments (OG) from factory vacuum-sealed bags specifically for inspection.

ITEM	INSPECT FOR	CORRECTIVE ACTION
BDO/CPO Factory Bag	a. General Cleanliness b. Holes or tears c. Loss of vacuum seal (puffy bag) d. Labels	a. If dirty, wipe clean. b. If present, inspect visible fabric under hole or tear for damage and cleanliness. If undamaged and clean, seal hole or tear with high quality adhesive tape (e.g. common duct tape). When taping of the factory bag is impractical, place the BDO in the original factory bag, in a clear plastic bag and seal with tape. c. Tests have shown that loss of vacuum seal alone does not impact OG serviceability. Inspect for holes, tears, etc., if found, repair. d. Packages that have surveillance information labels in danger of falling off, remove the outer clear plastic bag and using an indelible marker, clearly print on the nylon foil package at a minimum, the following information: Contract number, last four digits of NSN, manufacture date, surveillance marking number and the garment size. Reseal foil package in the outer clear plastic bag.
Coat and Trousers	a. Signs of wetting (i.e. stains, deterioration, etc.) b. Holes or tears c. Cleanliness d. Fasteners proper operation e. Shelf life manufacture date	a. If present, condemn the item. Use for training or dispose of it. b. If present, Use for training or dispose of it. c. If dirty, wipe clean with a dry cloth d. BDO with broken or torn fasteners that cannot be secured, will be condemned. Use for training or dispose of it e. If expired, condemn the BDO. Use for training or dispose of it
Protective Gloves	a. Factory bag cleanliness b. Holes or tears c. Glove material dry rot, brittleness, holes or tears d. Shelf life/manufacture date	a. If dirty, wipe clean b. If present, inspect glove material c. If present, condemn the item. Use for training or dispose of it d. If expired, condemn the item. Use for training or dispose of it

Glove Inserts	a. Factory bag cleanliness b. Holes or tears c. Cotton material condition	a. If dirty, wipe clean b. If present, inspect cotton material c. Dispose of inserts which are damaged to the point where they cannot be comfortably worn
Footwear cover	a. Factory bag cleanliness b. Factory Bag holes or tears c. Footwear cover material dry rot, brittleness, holes or tears d. Footwear cover material oily residue ("slimed" overboot) on unopened/unused overboots e. Laces and elastic fasteners (GVO/BVO) breaks f. Shelf life manufacture date	a. If dirty, wipe clean. b. If present, inspect footwear cover material and laces. c. If present, condemn the item. Use for training or dispose of it. d. If present, suspend the item. Submit a product deficiency report IAW AFTO 00-35D-54. DSCP will authorize one-for-one replacement. e. Replace the laces or elastic fasteners. f. If expired condemn the item. Use for training or dispose of it.



Quick MOPP

MOPP Level	Field Gear	Clothing	Footwear	Mask/Hood	Handwear
0	Worn	Carried	Carried	Carried	Carried
1	Worn	Worn	Carried	Carried	Carried
2	Worn	Worn	Worn	Carried	Carried
3	Worn	Worn	Worn	Worn	Carried
4	Worn	Worn	Worn	Worn	Worn

AFMAN 10-100 / 1 June 2004

215 / Section 6 / Quick Reference

Reserve Employer Certificates of Appreciation

Customized Certificates of Appreciation for your civilian employer are available for all 931st Air Refueling Group members to obtain. Those interested in a certificate should provide their employer's name and their boss's name to the Public Affairs office (Bldg. 850, Suite 221) or by emailing Lt. Col. Dave Fruck at david.fruck@mccconnell.af.mil.



Tricare Reserve Select

The revised plan offers coverage comparable to Tricare Standard for \$81 per month for an individual reservist and monthly premiums of \$253 for a reservist and family.

Reservists can learn more about the new plan and enroll by going online to:

WWW.TRICARE.MIL

REAP the benefits

Have you been on Active Duty for 90 days or more since 2001? If so, you might qualify for the new Montgomery G.I. Bill benefit referred to as REAP. REAP is a new benefit providing educational assistance to members of the Reserve component who are called up to active duty in response to war. You could earn between

\$430 and \$860 a month as a full time student for serving. Contact Staff Sgt. Shannan Hughes at 743-6082 to check eligibility.

MAFB Airman's Council

An Airman's Council has been established at McConnell Air Force Base. The council leadership would like to include Reservists in their meetings and activities. To join or for questions contact Senior Airman Jamie Train at 759-4567.

Submissions?

Have something such as an announcement, request or photograph you would like to see in this or another section of the Kanza Spirit? All submissions are subject to editorial review. Please email submissions to:

DAVID.FRUCK@MCCONNELL.AF.MIL

Training Consolidation

Nine ancillary training courses have been combined into three 30-minute courses of training, saving the Air Force more than 6 million manhours yearly. The courses:

INFORMATION PROTECTION:

- Information Security (INFOSEC)
- NATO Security
- Information Assurance (IA)
- Records Management
- Privacy Act
- Freedom of Information Act

FORCE PROTECTION:

- Protection From Terrorism, Level I

HUMAN RELATIONS:

- Combating Trafficking in Persons
- Suicide Prevention and Awareness

[HTTPS://GOLEARN.CSD.DISA.MIL](https://GOLEARN.CSD.DISA.MIL)

WHO'S THE BOSS

HONORING RESERVE EMPLOYERS FOR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE 931ST ARG PEOPLE AND MISSION

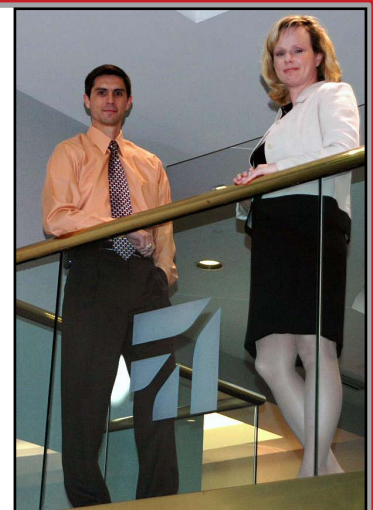
RESERVIST: Master Sgt. Katherine Pett, Boom Operator with the 18th Air Refueling Squadron

CIVILIAN EMPLOYER: Cessna Aircraft Company manufactures the most complete line of aircraft in the world. From Citation business jets, to freight- and passenger-hauling utility Caravans, to personal and small-business Single Engine Pistons. The company's headquarters is located in Wichita, Kan. Master Sgt. Pett has worked as a Brand Manager of Jet Aircraft for the company for more than 7 years.

BOSS: Jeff Sites, Director of Brand Management

QUOTABLE:

"There was a real sense of "family" during that time (Master Sgt. Pett's deployment to Iraq). We weren't just a "company" that was trying to get by without one of its nameless workers for a while, but rather it was a group of people who wanted to do what they could to help and support Kathy, and who were all anxiously awaiting her return. I would say that sense of family is one of the things about Cessna in general that makes so many people appreciative of working here. - Jeff Sites, Cessna Brand Management



WICHITA WEEKEND

The Smothers Bros.

Sept. 15 & 16 — The Orpheum Theatre Presents: The Smothers Brothers, Friday at 8 p.m. Reserved tickets \$65.50 (Front Orchestra), \$55.50 (Rear Orchestra), \$40.50 (Mezzanine) and \$30.50 (Balcony) For More Information or to purchase tickets visit:

WWW.SELECTASEAT.COM

Midwest Cage Combat

Nov. 2 — Midwest Cage Combat at the Cotillion takes place Friday at 8 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Advance tickets are \$75 Ringside, \$40 Reserved and \$25 General Admission. For tickets or more information, visit:

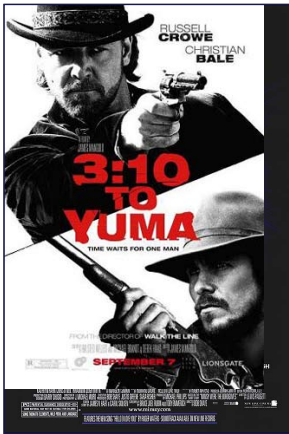
WWW.THECOTILLION.COM

Wichita Thunder

Nov. 2-3 — The Wichita Thunder professional hockey team faces off against Youngstown on Friday and Oklahoma City on Saturday at the Kansas Coliseum. Both games begin at 7:05 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance by visiting:

WWW.WICHITATHUNDER.COM

At the Movies



3:10 TO YUMA

FRIDAY, Nov. 2, 7pm

1 hr. 57 min. A rancher struggles to support his ranch and family during a long drought. Desperately needing money to build a well, he takes an assignment to transport a notorious felon, in the hands of authorities, to Yuma for imprisonment.

MPAA Rating: R, language, violence



THE KINGDOM

SATURDAY, Nov. 3, 7pm

1 hr. 50 min. A team of U.S. counter-terrorism investigators set out to find the perpetrators behind a deadly attack on Americans in a Middle Eastern country. In order to work through the bureaucracy and cultural hostility, the team enlists a local police officer, but still finds itself target for the terrorists.

MPAA Rating: R, violence, language

Movies are shown at the McConnell Air Force Base Theater and are subject to change. Admission is \$3.50 for adults, \$1.75 for children 11 and under. Doors open 30 minutes prior to showtime.

McConnell Movie Line – (316) 759-4181

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