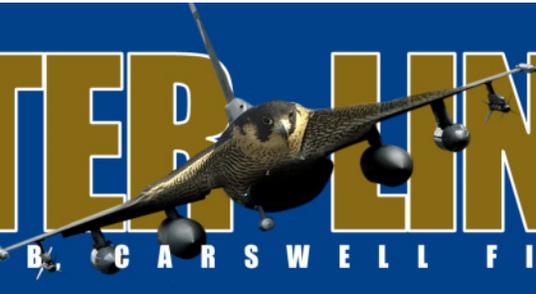




# FIGHTER LINE

N A S F O R T W O R T H J R B , C A R S W E L L F I E L D



Vol. 32, No. 2

Air Force Reserve Command: Proud Partner in the Total Force

February 4, 2006

## NEWS BRIEFS

### AFSA banquet set

The Air Force Sergeants Association Chapter 1055 will hold their annual awards and installation of officers banquet Feb. 11 in the Desert Storm Conference Center at 6:30 p.m. Call Travis Claridge by Feb. 5 at 817.731.9100 for tickets.

### AFA gala scheduled

The Fort Worth Air Force Association is holding this year's banquet at the Worthington Hotel on Feb. 25. Call Capt. Clay Sanford, 817.782.7450, for tickets before Feb. 10.

### Cowtown needs walkers and runners

The Cowtown 5K, 10K and marathon is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 25. To be apart of this year's wing team, call Maj. Chris Clark, 817.782.7868, and sign up.

### VA loan amount increases in 2006

Starting this year, changes in the loan guaranty limits will mean veterans are able to get no-down payment loans up to \$417,000. The previous ceiling was \$359,650. More information about VA home loan benefits is available on the Web at <http://www.homeloans.va.gov/>.



### Welcomed showers

Col. Bill Schauffert (right), 301st Fighter Wing vice commander, gets a well-deserved champagne shower from Lt. Col. Steve Olmos, 457th Fighter Squadron pilot, following the colonel's fini flight in January. Colonel Schauffert is being reassigned as the Mobilization Assistant for the 19th Air Force commander at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. The new vice commander will be Col. Tommy Williams. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Julie Briden-Garcia, Public Affairs.)

## CE commander shares vice president's kudos

**Staff Sgt. Kristin Mack**  
Public Affairs

"We are proud to count Afghanistan as a free country, a fellow democracy, and a friend of the United States of America," said Vice President Dick Cheney Dec. 19. He spoke to the troops at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan, following his appointment to witness the first assembly in the Afghan parliament; a

country that was oppressed and under heavy Taliban rule.

Vice President Cheney acknowledged the one-year anniversary of the first democratically-elected president in Afghanistan and addressed the milestones made from the efforts of our brave service members and friendly allies... "America and our superb coalition partners acted with speed and precision—bringing down the

Taliban, capturing or killing hundreds of Al Qaeda, and liberating 25 million people from tyranny."

He singled out the 455th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron, commanded by Lt. Col. Stephen Becker, deployed 301st Civil Engineer Squadron commander, for their

(CES continues on page 6)



# UCI fever – catch it

Col. Bill Schauffert

301st Fighter Wing Vice Commander

In just a few weeks you'll have the opportunity to "open your books" to the Air Force Reserve Command Inspector General and *show off* why you think your shop, and this wing, are *OUTSTANDING*. The Unit Compliance Inspection is basically an open book test, and the IG is comprised of top-tier functional experts who *want* us to pass this inspection with flying colors. *They want us to succeed.*

We are ready...bring it on! Over the past few months, we've all been scrubbing our regulatory compliance and fixing discrepancies and problem areas. Our friends at 10th Air Force visited us last July and conducted a thorough Staff Assistance Visit. We have been working hard to correct weaknesses identified by their fresh set of eyes.

We've conducted regular compliance inspection preparation meetings. So what's left to do?

1. Re-read our last UCI report card from December 2000. Certainly we want to avoid repeat write-ups. Also check out reports from other units as well. These can be accessed through our own 301st Fighter Wing Web site under the "AFRC IG" tab on the "Wingman Assistance" IG link. Feel free to call the AFRC IG office directly and discuss with the functional inspector any subject you'd like to cover before his visit.

2. Remember, checklists provide excellent guidelines, but simply answering a checklist is no substitute for understanding the underlying source guidance. Compliance with *written* guidance is the key, not just checklist compliance.

3. Documentation proves you are getting the job done. The first thing the inspector is going to tell you is "Show me..." They aren't just looking for pretty binders, they're seeking facts to validate you are meeting mission requirements.

Once the IG steps on base, a positive attitude and sharp appearance goes a long



way in projecting a good first impression. Know your job inside and out. Be sure your shop members talk up programs your unit is proud of. If a program is weak, demonstrate how your shop is getting up to speed. I know we'll ace this open book test, and when the IG departs after the March UTA, they'll know exactly why the 301st FW is *OUTSTANDING!*



from the First Sergeant's desk

## This year -- you deserve some credit

Senior Master Sgt. Pearletta Ullrich

301st Mission Support Squadron First Sergeant

*Did you know you can lose your security clearance due to bad credit?*

Did you also know:

\* Your commander, first sergeant, security manager, and civilian employer or supervisor are not authorized to obtain or review your credit report unless you give it to them willingly?

\* The Defense Investigative Services is a government agency

authorized to access your credit report for the armed forces' security investigations or reinvestigations?

\* Employers use your credit report to assess your creditworthiness, to qualify for a particular job and to achieve a security clearance?

The holidays have now come and gone and the bills are here. OK, but I had so much fun spending money at Christmas and I always spend some on -- you guessed it -- me! This is typically the season for overspending.

This isn't a rare phenomenon. Many people have bills that are bulging and exceeding comfortable limits. This heavy spending can affect your credit score, so set a goal that will help increase it.

Do you know your credit score? If not, order your free credit

**(1ST SGT continues on page 10)**

## FIGHTER LINE

Fighter Line is an Air Force Reserve funded publication for members of the U.S. military services.

Contents of the Fighter Line are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 301st Fighter Wing public affairs office, NAS Fort Worth JRB Carswell Field Texas.

All photographs in the Fighter Line are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

**Deadline for unsolicited submissions is close of business Monday after the "A" schedule unit training assembly.**

Articles should be typed, single-spaced, and, if possible, submitted via email to the public affairs office at [301fw.pa@carswell.af.mil](mailto:301fw.pa@carswell.af.mil). For more information, call the 301st Fighter Wing public affairs office at 817.782.7170.

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Capt. Richard C. Sanford.....Chief, Public Affairs  
Tech. Sgt. Julie A. Briden-Garcia.....Editor  
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Tech. Sgt. Stephen C. Bailey.....Staff Writer  
Staff Sgt. Kristin E. Mack.....Staff Writer  
Ms. MaryBeth Ritchie.....Proofreader



**301st Fighter Wing**

Airman of the Quarter  
Jan. - Mar. 2006

**Senior Airman Todd Hall**

**Assistant Crew Chief**

301st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron



**Senior Airman Hall's accomplishments:**

*Senior Airman Hall is an outstanding performer from being hand-picked to deploy to Luke AFB, Ariz., in Feb. 05 to volunteering to deploy to Balad AB, Iraq, during AEF 7/8. Airman Hall performed in Balad as a dedicated crew chief, hardened aircraft shelter supervisor and end of runway supervisor which lead him to be a 332nd Expeditionary Aerospace Wing top performer. He was also picked for the 332nd Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Diamond Sharp Award. Airman Hall is currently pursuing a Community College of the Air Force degree. He also volunteers in the 301st Fighter Wing Honor Guard and supports other unit programs such as the base air show.*

**301st Fighter Wing**

NCO of the Quarter  
Jan. - Mar. 2006

**Tech. Sgt. Mike A. Donnelly**

**F-16 Crew Chief**

301st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron



**Tech. Sgt. Donnelly's accomplishments:**

*Tech. Sgt. Donnelly developed and implemented a homestation "Alert" continuity checklist improving the shift change process, tool control, quality of life and the overall duty operation efficiency. During a selfless 120-day volunteer deployment to Balad AB, Iraq, from Sept. 2005 to Jan. 2006, he multi-tasked as a hardened aircraft shelter supervisor, alert supervisor and flightline expediter achieving a 92 percent pass rate by quality assurance evaluators. Sergeant Donnelly contributed to the 100 percent micap rate, a rare accomplishment and a first during AEF 7/8. In his downtime, he volunteered at the Air Force Theater Hospital in Balad and, while at home, he coaches Pee Wee football in his community.*

**301st Fighter Wing**

SNCO of the Quarter  
Jan. - Mar. 2006

**Master Sgt. Charles M. Yaws**

**Avionics System Craftsman**

301st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron



**Master Sgt. Yaws' accomplishments:**

*Master Sgt. Yaws became proficient in the Theater Airborne Reconnaissance System pod to ensure all his members received proper training before deploying in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from Oct. 2005 to Jan. 2006. He was key in managing six Rover targeting pods and first in the Area of Responsibility to have all pods operational with 24 hours. He also contributed to the continuous Software Capabilities Upgrade for the fleet keeping the F-16 on the cutting edge of technology. Sergeant Yaws supported more than 3,500 flying hours during this 80-day deployment. He also helps community handicapped kids through Little League baseball participation.*

## Realistic training makes the difference

**Tech. Sgt. Stephen Bailey**  
Public Affairs

*Picture this:* A military cargo plane carrying a team of scientists equipped with an experimental small pox vaccination crashed into the base exchange today causing mass fatalities and injuries, leaving a path of wreckage that stretched throughout the entire base.

Now imagine this tragedy happening on a weekend when most response agencies are not readily available. This is when the 301st Aerospace Medicine Squadron steps in.

More than 70 unit members practiced a response scenario similar to the one above Jan. 8 to maximize their efficiency in handling such a horrific event. “We practice for real-world events so we can adequately provide immediate care for the injured, help in securing the accident site and by staying in direct communication with on- and off-base rescue agencies,” explained Capt. Doug Smith, 301st AMDS medical readiness officer. “Our training and preparation is part of our annual training and our unit

mission – there is no room for error in the work we do, so we must always be ready to perform.”

This exercise included unit members, 25 volunteer casualties and 15 evaluators who worked within the impromptu scenario. Response members performed medical assistance by diagnosing, treating, monitoring, and transporting casualties. Since a biological scenario was also a factor, team members performed their responsibilities in chemical warfare ensemble.

“This was a great learning experience which helps keep us prepared,” said Senior Airman Stacey Taylor, 301st AMDS medical apprentice. “The taskings we were given were job specific and keyed to our mission and, although a few times we felt a little rusty, I know the work we did today can make the difference in saving someone’s life.”

The exercise also gave its participants the opportunity to focus on communicating with local civilian response agencies including the Dallas Fire Department, the 911 call center, the Denton Regional Hospital and the Civil Air Patrol.

“Our responsibility is in the initial response of being the first on scene, we then work with the host wing commanders, emergency teams and civilian agencies to make it all happen. It’s a team performance,” Captain Smith said.

A few onlookers also got a chance to see the exercise up close and personal. Spectators, including some new Air Force recruits who were here on a tour, were able to see how the Air Force Reserve medical field members performed their jobs within a disaster situation.

“Our people did a great job today – we demonstrated



Simulation



301st Aerospace Medicine Squadron members assist simulated victims during a recent mass casualty exercise. Exercises such as these help eliminate any room for error when it comes to real-world medical care. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Stephen Bailey, Public Affairs.)

superb team work and a quality of professionalism that shows we can and need to be ready at all times,” said Lt. Col. Zoela Clements, 301st AMDS education and training

commander. “I am very proud of the work we did and even though this was just an exercise, we must be ready because tomorrow we may be faced with the real thing.”



## DOD office helps military sexual assault victims

By **Gerry J. Gilmore**

American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON (AFPN)** — A new Defense Department organization is dedicated to address the needs of servicemembers who have been sexually assaulted, a senior official said here Dec. 22.

The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office is DoD's central point of accountability for sexual assault incidents, the office's deputy director, Dr. Kaye Whitley, said. The office began operations Oct. 1.

"We focus only on (sexual) assault, not harassment, in the military," Whitley said.

The SAPR office's mission, Whitley said, is threefold:

- To reduce the number of sexual assaults in the military, including the service academies

- To assist sexual assault victims in obtaining care, and;

- Offender accountability.

The SAPR office was created as a result of the Joint Task Force for Sexual Prevention and Response that was established in October 2004 and headed by Air Force Brig. Gen. K.C. McClain, Whitley said.

The task force's recommendations prompted DoD to establish a new sexual assault policy and an office to oversee it, Whitley said. The policy employs a standardized system that all servicemembers can use to report sexual assaults and to obtain the care

they need.

"We are now transitioning to a permanent office, based on the findings from the task force," Whitley said.

Trained sexual assault response coordinators assigned at military installations worldwide are available to assist victims to obtain medical care, counseling and access to other support resources, Whitley said.

"There's a whole system in place for victim care," she said.

The chain of command is kept in the loop, since the sexual assault response coordinators have direct access to senior installation commanders, Roger Kaplan, the SAPR office's director of communications, said.

"The key here is that the commander is responsible for the training (of the coordinators)," Kaplan said, noting his office stands ready to help.

Military sexual assault victims can opt to file a confidential, restricted report, Kaplan said.

"Health care will notify the SARC ... but the command isn't going to be told that 'Sally Jones' or 'Bob Richards' was (sexually) assaulted," Kaplan said.

"They will learn that an assault took place," he said, "and they'll get certain information that'll allow them to take, hopefully, preventive action for the future."

The 301st Fighter Wing SARC, Vicki Majors, can be reached at 817.782.3827.

## Secretary of Defense recognizes employers with Support Freedom

The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, a Department of Defense agency, hosts the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom award ceremony annually in Washington, D.C. This prestigious Department of Defense Award is the highest in a series of ESGR awards that recognizes and honors the sacrifices made by America's employers who support you and your fellow members of the National Guard, Reserve, and your families in the defense of our nation.

It is important to distinguish the difference between the ESGR Patriot Award and the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. The ESGR Patriot Award recognizes your employer and is usually presented by you, or an ESGR Field Committee Member, to your employer. This Award requires no justification, and is easily requested on line at the ESGR website <http://www.esgr.mil>.

The Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award nomination process is much more detailed and requires you to answer ten questions about the support that you receive from your employer. These questions are targeted at: pay policies, benefits and leave policies,

previous ESGR awards, supervisor training, ESGR advocacy, service member recognition, family support, deployed member support, hiring preferences, and general military support.

If you are knowledgeable of your employer's exemplary policies that support your military service, and you can provide answers to the ten Freedom Award nomination questions, please visit <http://www.esgr.mil> and complete the nomination form. The 2006 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award nomination season began Jan. 9, 2006, and will conclude on Feb. 28, 2006.

The 56 ESGR Field Committees then review all nominations, and verify the Employer information received via the ESGR web site. The ESGR National Ombudsman Team will then investigate all nominations to ensure that Employers nominated for the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award do not have numerous, significant or outstanding USERRA complaints registered in the ESGR database. Up to fifteen Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Awards will be presented in Washington, D.C. on Sept. 19, 2006.

### Links to useful Web sites:

DoD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response: [www.sapr.mil/](http://www.sapr.mil/)  
 HQ AFRC/SG Behavioral Health Website: <https://www.mil.afrc.af.mil/HQ/SG/Behavioral%20Health/bh%20HOMEPAGE.htm>  
 Tarrant County Women's Center: [www.womenscenter.info/](http://www.womenscenter.info/)  
 Texas Association Against Sexual Assault: [www.taasa.org/](http://www.taasa.org/)

It's coming...  
 this summer...  
 to a hangar near you,  
 ... CDI!



Members of the 455th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron make repairs in the runway by cutting a hole and filling it with quick-drying cement. These operations help prevent hazards on the busiest runway in Afghanistan. (Photo by Capt. James Cunningham, 455th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs.)

construction projects within the last four months.

Their largest and most visible project was the Bagram runway, which required ongoing repair due to excess use, age and weather. A nine-man repair team spent at least three hours every day repairing shallow breaks in the concrete. These critical “spall” repairs kept the loose debris from damaging aircraft engines and tires. It’s estimated this structure supported around 3,000 vital combat and humanitarian operations each week, giving it the title of the “busiest runway in Afghanistan.”

Other major projects completed in the past four months include: contributing to the Pakistan earthquake relief efforts; installation of a new aircraft arresting system resulting in 12 successful engagements of fighter aircraft; sealing 80,000 linear feet of cracks and joints on the airfield; the removal of 60,000 square meters of rubber on the runway to prevent slippery surfaces; and preparing for multiple dignitary visits — including the vice president of the United States, the secretary of the Air Force and the secretary of defense.

With this much activity occurring in such a volatile area there were considerable risks involved.

“The area was extremely dangerous because there was no guarantee we wouldn’t hit a landmine while digging to build new ramps and taxiways,” Colonel Becker added.

During his tour, there were three contractors who lost limbs while trying to

(CES)

continues on page 7)

(CES)  
continued from page 1)

outstanding job in maintaining the busiest runway in Afghanistan.

Colonel Becker began command Sept. 8 of the 455th ECES, a 67-troop strong unit composed of active-duty personnel from 12 different bases throughout the United States, Europe and Guam. Their specialties included firefighting, engineering, explosive ordnance disposal, heavy equipment operations

and armed escorts to monitor the contractors.

“One of the greatest challenges was coordinating with 15 other joint coalition engineering organizations to ensure we were not competing against one another for the scarce resources,” said Colonel Becker.

Even with 20 percent of their unit being forward deployed to support missions throughout Afghanistan, this unit still managed to complete 42 airfield



The ECES team manipulates the concrete to make a near seamless repair. (Photo by Capt. James Cunningham, 455th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs.)

clear areas for construction projects; none of the injured personnel belonged to the 455th ECES. However, the previous commander was airlifted to Germany for treatment of an injury from an anti-personnel mine just before Colonel Becker's arrival.

"The EOD teams were in constant danger with each mission they conducted outside the wire," said Colonel Becker. "During these last few months they have successfully conducted more than 200 missions and destroyed more than 7,000 enemy munitions."

There were also some close calls when members from the fire department were attacked during two separate

deployments. Fortunately, only their tent and side of their fire truck was damaged by shrapnel during one of the attacks.

"There is nothing that prepares a commander for the helplessness he feels when his fire department calls him on a satellite

phone requesting close air support shortly after they have survived a rocket attack," Colonel Becker solemnly recalled.

With all of the work to be accomplished there wasn't a

whole lot of time to sleep or play.

"The position required you to focus on the job 14 to 16 hours a day, seven days a week," Colonel Becker said. "There was no downtime. There's too much going on with coordinating

airfield construction and running the day-to-day operations of a squadron — I worked on problems and issues right up to the time I got on the plane to head home."

The colonel departed for home around the middle of January and can now appreciate the many contributions made by himself and his comrades toward the nation that continues its quest for freedom and independence.

"It has been an honor to be the commander of an active-duty squadron complete with EOD and fire department teams," said Colonel Becker. "Despite all of the so-called hardships we have embraced into our daily routine, this deployment will be one I will cherish for the rest of my life. It's the one where I used all of my training. It's the one that I am able to point to as having made a difference in our fight against terrorism."

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**"...there was no guarantee we wouldn't hit a land mine..."**

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**-- Lt. Col. Stephen Becker, 301st Civil Engineer Squadron**

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## Tax season means tax-exempted for deployed troops

**Army Sgt. Sara Wood**

American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON (AFP)** — Tax season has once again arrived, and military personnel should know several things to make their returns easier and more beneficial, a military official said here yesterday.

One of the most notable changes to the tax code this year is the addition of provisions for victims of hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma, said Army Lt. Col. Janet Fenton, executive director of the Armed Forces Tax Council.

The provisions for hurricane victims are lengthy and complicated, so servicemembers who were affected by the hurricane should seek advice from their installation tax center or the Internal Revenue Service, Colonel Fenton said. The provisions can include extensions for tax filing and help for those who lost homes or property, she said.

Servicemembers who spent time deployed have important things to keep in mind when filing their taxes, Colonel Fenton said. For example, Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia and Kosovo all qualify as combat zones where military income is tax exempt, she said. For enlisted servicemembers, all income earned in a combat zone is exempt, but for officers, income is excluded up to a certain limit. For 2005, the limit for officers' tax-exempt income was \$6,529 a month, she said.

Tax-exempt income is a great thing, but it has worked against some servicemembers by exempting them from important credits, Colonel Fenton said. Two credits that military members often qualify for — earned income credit and child tax credit — require earned income to be claimed, she said. Starting this year, servicemembers can elect to include their combat zone income to qualify for these credits, she said. She stressed that this income will not be taxed, but will allow servicemembers to receive credits for which they qualify.

"Just because you think you didn't have earned income due to

your combat zone time, it's worth your effort to go to the tax center and find out if you do qualify for these two important credits," Colonel Fenton said.

Servicemembers in a combat zone during tax season get an automatic extension to file their taxes, Colonel Fenton said. Servicemembers have six months from the time they leave the combat zone to file, she said. Servicemembers who are stationed elsewhere overseas have a two-month extension to file.

The colonel said almost every military installation offers a tax center for military, retired military and family members. Volunteers at the center are trained by the IRS and military legal office and can provide advice or assistance in filing taxes. Returns filed through the tax center are sent electronically, and people will receive their refunds within seven to 10 days, she said.

Each installation determines its tax center's operating hours and whether people need an appointment to come in, Colonel Fenton said.

Military personnel can also get help online with their taxes. The IRS provides a free file service on its Web site, which lists several tax preparation services, many of which provide free service to military members, she said. The Web site Military OneSource also provides free tax assistance to military members.

To prepare to file taxes, servicemembers should make sure they have their W-2 forms from the military and any other jobs they had in the past year, the colonel said. Servicemembers should also make sure they have Social Security cards for themselves and their dependents.

W-2s are available on MyPay for all servicemembers including retirees and reservists. The Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Tax Center has opened for the 2005 tax season. Call to schedule an appointment at 817.782.6050/6051.

For more information on filing your taxes, visit the Internal Revenue Service Web site at <http://www.irs.gov/>.

## Reenlistment and retention

# Perspective: Four years and I'm out?

**Staff Sgt. Christopher Tuck**  
379th Expeditionary  
Contracting Squadron

**SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFPN)** — I am willing to bet every Airman has heard these words at least once in his or her career: “Four years, and I’m out.”

Maybe it’s an off-hand remark at the end of a frustrating week or after a long, thoughtful gaze at the inviting green grass on the other side. Either way, most of us have considered it.

But, somewhere along the way a change occurs. Whether the decision comes as a gradual realization or it hits you like a lightning bolt, something happens to change your mind.

Another quote you are likely

to hear is: “I joined the Air Force to get money for college.” I’ve said it myself many times. The Montgomery G.I. Bill is the reason I enlisted, but not the reason I stayed.

Today’s Air Force is the most educated in history. For the enlisted, more Airmen hold associate’s and bachelor’s degrees today than ever before. On the officer side, master’s degrees are quickly becoming the norm. If it is knowledge you seek, the educational opportunities are there.

So, how does an Airman migrate from, “Should I stay or should I go” to a distinguished 20- or 30-year career?

It may be the feeling of being part of a trusted and honorable profession.

A Gallup poll in May 2005 asked adults nationwide how

much confidence they had in a variety of professions: a great deal, quite a lot, some or very little. Seventy-four percent said they had a great deal or quite a lot of confidence in the U.S. military. That ranks higher than all other entities offered by the survey, including: the police, organized religion, the president and banks.

It may also be our accomplishments as a force.

The services people here provide more meals in one week than any one of us will consume individually in our entire lifetime. Think about that. Look at our civil engineers; in the past few weeks lodging tents have grown like mushrooms where parking lots once were.

And of course, there is always the runway. When you have a chance, watch the aircraft come and go and think about the effort required to

launch and fly those sorties. All of these great things are accomplished by Air Force and coalition units, but where the rubber meets the road there is an individuals giving their best effort to bake the biscuits and turn the wrenches.

We all have days where our commitment is tested, but life has a funny way of changing you. “Four years and out” was my mantra some years and one reenlistment ago. I gradually realized the Air Force offers a great way of life, job satisfaction and a sense of team absent in many civilian careers.

The decision to stay in or separate is your personal choice to make. When you find yourself straddling the fence, your motivation tested and that grass on the other side is looking awfully green, watch our jets overhead and remind yourself: “I did my job today.”

## F-16 pylons receive upgrade

**G. A. Volb**  
Ogden Air Logistics Center  
Public Affairs

**HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah (AFPN)** — Wiring for pylons on F-16 Fighting Falcons are being upgraded by the 309th Commodities Maintenance Squadron at Ogden Air Logistics Center here, enabling the jets to handle 21st century smart munitions.

The cables that deliver the pilot’s commands to the munitions must be more complex as weapon systems and munitions improve.

“The current modifications consist of removing the wiring harness, machining the pylon to accept a new, larger version, then installing it and reassembling the pylon,” said Steve Morlock, the squadron’s armament flight chief. “Then we have to perform elec-

trical tests to ensure everything is working as planned and finish it off with a paint job.”

The result is a better-equipped aircraft able to use more precise munitions and limit collateral damage on the battlefield.

The pylon shop recently improved its process, cutting several flow days off the production schedule.

“The pylon team was given the reins to make it all happen,” said Capt. Joe Fuller, the squadron’s director of operations. “They bought into the process (and) used the expertise of our consultants to stay on track.”

Consequently, the pylons return to the supply system earlier than expected, Captain Fuller said. This enables aircraft worldwide to upgrade munitions capability quicker. *(Courtesy of Air Force Materiel Command News Service)*

## Federal statute restricts cell phone, listening device use

Vehicle operators on DoD installations are prohibited from using cell phones unless the vehicle is safely parked or unless they are using a hands-free device.

Wearing any other portable headphones, earphones, or other listening devices (except for hand-free cellular phones) while operating a motor vehicle is prohibited. Use of those devices impairs driving and masks or prevents recognition of emergency signals, alarms, announcements, the approach of vehicles, and human speech. DoD Component safety



guidance should note the potential for driver distractions such as eating, drinking, operating radios or compact disk players, global positioning equipment, etc. Whenever possible, you should only use these when the vehicle is safely parked.



## Fighter Focus on...

### Tech. Sgt. Clyde "Buck" Buchanan



**Hometown:**

Richardson, Texas

**Organization:**

301st Security Forces Squadron

**301st member since:**

March 1989

**Position:**

Fire Team Leader

**Which means:**

"I supervise and direct SF members to perform individual and team patrol movements, tactical drills, battle procedures, convoys, military operations other than war, and antiterrorism duties."

**When not at NAS JRB:**

"I'm a Patrol Supervisor (Sgt.) at the Carrollton Police Department."

**The most rewarding aspect of my job:**

"... is being able to pass on knowledge to younger Airmen to not only excel, but enhance their ability to lead, think on their feet, and solve problems in an quick manner."

**Favorite pastime/hobbies:**

"My enjoyment of lifting weights has been surpassed by enjoying time with my infant son and my wife."

**Goals:**

"My goal is to make promotion to Master Sgt. in the 301st and to Lieutenant in my civilian job."

## AFRC operates with fewer reservists

WASHINGTON — Air Force Reserve Command will have a smaller force in 2006.

The 2006 Defense Appropriations Act, signed by President George W. Bush Dec. 30, funds an end-strength of 74,000 reservists. That's 2,100 fewer reservists compared to the 2005 end-strength of 76,100.

The new legislation also approves 9,852 full-time air reserve technicians and 2,290 full-time Air Guard and Reserve members.

The defense bill covers a 3.1 percent military pay raise for active and reserve forces.

AFRC receives about \$1.29 billion for its reserve personnel appropriation and about \$2.46 billion in operation and maintenance funds to run the command. (AFRC News Service)

## Defense authorization act benefits AFRC

WASHINGTON — People serving in the Air Force Reserve Command and other reserve components could receive new or enhanced benefits this year.

The 2006 National Defense Authorization Act lets the Department of Defense offer reservists a variety of benefits more on par with their active-duty counterparts, said Chuck Witschonke, DoD's deputy director for compensation. President George W. Bush signed the defense bill Jan. 6.

One big change is a provision that shortens the duty time before reservists qualify for the full housing allowance. People called to active duty for non-contingency operations for more than 30 days will now get the full allowance, just as active-duty troops do. In the past, reservists serving in non-contingencies had to be called to active duty for at least 140 days.

For reservists who experience pay cuts when called to active duty, a new provision for income

replacement will help reduce the strain military service places on the family.

The 2006 authorization act also permits increases in recruiting bonuses for reservists. People could get accession and affiliation bonuses of up to \$20,000 to enlist in the Selected Reserve. Officers could see an increase from \$6,000 to \$10,000 for initial service in the Selected Reserve.

People who possess a designated critical skill could earn a bonus of up to \$100,000.

More information about pay and benefits is posted on the DoD's military compensation Web site at [www.defenselink.mil/militarypay/](http://www.defenselink.mil/militarypay/) (AFRC News Service from American Forces Press Service)

## Travel card billing date changes

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Air Force government travel card billing cycles for individually billed accounts will begin closing out on the 22nd of each month beginning in March.

The current cycle ends the third day of every month, so cardholders will experience a long cycle running Feb. 3 through March 22.

Bank of America will have customer service representatives available and prepared to handle all calls relating to the cycle date change.

Cardholders can now register online for electronic account government ledger system user IDs and passwords using information found on GTC statements. This system allows cardholders to view current transactions and previous statement activity and maintain account information online.

To register, visit [www.gcsuthd.bankofamerica.com/eagls\\_selfregistration/selfreg.aspx](http://www.gcsuthd.bankofamerica.com/eagls_selfregistration/selfreg.aspx). EAGLS user IDs and passwords will be mailed to the address associated with your GTC.

Call the EAGLS technical help desk at 800.472.1424. (Courtesy of Air Education and Training Command News Service)

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**(1ST SGT continued from page 2)**

report. The Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act entitles you to one free credit report every year, no strings attached.

Never underestimate the importance of your credit report. This is how creditors and employers assess your creditworthiness. Your credit rating determines what kind of credit you qualify for -- which impacts your interest rates, insurance rates, whether you get a particular job or qualify to rent an apartment or home. It will also alert you to signs

of identity theft, which can plummet a credit score in minutes. Here are a few basic actions for improving and fixing a low credit score.

**\$ Make payments on time** - This works wonders for your credit score and keeps interest rates low. Call credit card companies and ask for a lower interest rate. Sometimes all you have to do is ask. This rarely works if your credit payment history with that company is poor, unless you threaten to transfer your balance (*hint*).

**\$ Apply for credit sparingly** - Every time you apply for credit, the creditor

notes the request on your credit report. Too many applications in a short period of time will throw up a red flag.

**\$ Pay down balances** - Paying down your balance on credit cards could boost your credit score.

**\$ Budget** - Pay off higher interest rate items first, not the highest balance. Remember sometimes there are five-versus four-week months in your payment schedule and your budget will work better.

**\$ Seek counseling** - Beware of quick-credit-fix offers; most are gimmicks for adding more costs than solutions. Start with our 301st Fighter Wing's Family

Readiness Office at 817.782.7435.

**\$ Don't be an ID-theft victim** - Don't give or share your credit information, copies of debts, etc., with anyone. It's never a requirement for unit members to do so.

Requests for information for official government or other legitimate purposes will never require you to provide copies of your own personal information.

Go for it! Set your goals, obtain data, and know how your information can be accessed. This year, you deserve some credit! (*For more information, log onto [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov)*.)

## RESERVE PAY FOR 4 DRILLS

EFFECTIVE 1 JANUARY 2006

PAY GRADE	YEARS OF SERVICE														
	<2	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
<b>COMMISSIONED OFFICERS</b>															
O-10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1782.00	1790.72	1827.96	1892.84
O-9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1558.60	1581.00	1613.48	1670.08
O-8	1102.80	1138.92	1162.88	1169.60	1199.48	1249.48	1261.08	1308.56	1322.16	1363.04	1422.16	1476.72	1513.16	1513.16	1513.16
O-7	916.36	958.92	978.64	994.28	1022.64	1050.60	1083.00	1115.32	1147.72	1249.48	1335.44	1335.44	1335.44	1335.44	1342.20
O-6	679.20	746.16	795.12	795.12	798.12	832.36	836.88	836.88	884.44	968.52	1017.88	1067.20	1095.28	1123.68	1178.84
O-5	566.20	637.80	682.00	690.28	717.80	734.32	770.56	797.16	831.48	884.08	909.08	933.84	961.92	961.92	961.92
O-4	488.52	565.52	603.24	611.68	646.68	684.24	730.96	767.44	792.72	807.24	815.68	815.68	815.68	815.68	815.68
O-3	429.52	486.92	525.56	573.00	600.40	630.52	650.04	682.12	698.76	698.76	698.76	698.76	698.76	698.76	698.76
O-2	371.08	422.68	486.80	503.24	513.60	513.60	513.60	513.60	513.60	513.60	513.60	513.60	513.60	513.60	513.60
O-1	322.16	335.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28	405.28
<b>COMMISSIONED OFFICERS WITH OVER 4 YEARS ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE AS AN ENLISTED MEMBER OR WARRANT OFFICER</b>															
O-3E	0.00	0.00	0.00	573.00	600.40	630.52	650.04	682.12	709.12	724.60	745.72	745.72	745.72	745.72	745.72
O-2E	0.00	0.00	0.00	503.24	513.60	529.96	557.52	578.88	594.76	594.76	594.76	594.76	594.76	594.76	594.76
O-1E	0.00	0.00	0.00	405.28	432.84	448.80	465.16	481.24	503.24	503.24	503.24	503.24	503.24	503.24	503.24
<b>WARRANT OFFICERS</b>															
W-5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	762.68	788.84	815.08	841.48
W-4	443.84	477.48	491.20	504.68	527.92	550.84	574.12	596.76	620.20	656.96	680.48	703.48	727.32	750.80	774.80
W-3	405.32	422.24	439.52	445.24	463.40	484.20	511.64	538.72	567.52	589.12	610.64	619.88	629.44	650.24	671.00
W-2	356.52	376.88	394.72	407.64	418.76	449.28	472.60	489.92	506.84	518.44	528.20	546.76	565.20	583.88	583.88
W-1	314.84	340.60	357.84	369.00	398.72	416.64	432.52	450.24	462.00	472.64	489.96	503.08	503.08	503.08	503.08
<b>ENLISTED MEMBERS</b>															
E-9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	536.28	548.44	563.76	581.80	599.92	629.04	653.64	679.60	719.20
E-8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	439.00	458.44	470.44	484.84	500.44	528.60	542.88	567.16	580.64	613.80
E-7	305.16	333.08	345.84	362.76	375.92	398.60	411.32	424.04	446.72	458.08	468.84	475.44	497.68	512.08	548.48
E-6	263.96	290.40	303.24	315.68	328.68	358.00	369.40	382.04	393.16	397.08	399.80	399.80	399.80	399.80	399.80
E-5	241.88	258.04	270.48	283.28	303.16	320.28	332.88	336.88	336.88	336.88	336.88	336.88	336.88	336.88	336.88
E-4	221.72	233.08	245.68	258.12	269.12	269.12	269.12	269.12	269.12	269.12	269.12	269.12	269.12	269.12	269.12
E-3	200.16	212.76	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60	225.60
E-2	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32	190.32
E-1 >4	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80	169.80
E-1 <4	157.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

NOTE--BASIC PAY FOR O7-O10 IS LIMITED TO \$1657.76

LEVEL III OF THE EXECUTIVE SCHEDULE

NOTE--BASIC PAY FOR O6 AND BELOW IS LIMITED TO \$1460.00

LEVEL V OF THE EXECUTIVE SCHEDULE

USD(PERSONNEL AND READINESS)

3.1%, 2006 Increase as established under § 1009 of US Code Title 37.

An adjustment under this section shall have the force and effect of law - Released October 11, 2005.

1.9% Increase for Level III and Level V for year 2006.



## Unit Training Assembly Schedule

### Friday, February 3

1500  
1530-1630

**Commander's Staff Meeting** (Bldg. 1654, Commander's Conference Room).  
Chiefs Meeting (Bldg. 1654, Room 151).

### Saturday, February 4

#### Sign-In

0630-0700  
0700-0715  
0700-1400  
0700-1400  
0700-1400  
0730-0800  
0730-1100  
0730-1200  
**0745-0845**  
**0745-0845**  
0800-1100  
0800-1300  
0830-1130  
**0900-1030**  
1000-1100  
1000-1100  
1030-1230  
1100-1200  
1230-1530  
1300-1400  
1300-1430  
1300-1600  
1300-1630  
1400-1500  
1500-1530  
1500-1600  
1600

#### Sign-Out

1545-  
1615-

301st MXG and subordinate units.  
301st MSG/OG/Wing and subordinate units.  
Immunizations for physical exams (Bldg. 1711, Base Clinic).  
Physical/Dental Examinations (Bldg. 1711, Base Clinic).  
Medical Clinic Customer Service (Bldg. 1780, Medical Records).  
FM closed for pre-UTA Meeting (Bldg. 1654).  
Newcomers Briefing (Bldg. 1654, Wing Conf. Room).  
Wing Immunizations including flu (Bldg. 1654, break room).  
**OG Commanders Call (Bldg. 1790, Spad Ops).**  
**MXG Commanders Call (Bldg. 1643, Wing Hangar).**  
Annual Training - Wing Staff (Bldg. 1654, Wing Auditorium).  
Sexual Assault Prevention Training (Bldg. 1662, MSG Training Classroom).  
CBRN Refresher Training (Bldg. 1792, Readiness Classroom).  
**Physical Fitness Testing - 301 MXS (Lake Route).**  
Supervisor Safety Training (Bldg. 1650, MXG Training Classroom).  
HRDC Meeting (Bldg. 1654, LGRR Conf. Room).  
Galley Hours for lunch.  
First Sgts. Meeting (Bldg. 1654, Wing Conf. Room).  
CBRN Refresher Training (Bldg. 1792, Readiness Classroom).  
Family Support Spouses' Meeting (Bldg. 1776, Family Readiness).  
MSG Right Start Briefings (Bldg. 1660, MSG Conf. Room).  
Gas Mask Fit Testing (Bldg. 1780, Bio-Public Health).  
End of Course Testing (EOC) (Bldg. 1654, Room 185).  
Unit Deployment Managers (UDM) Meeting (Bldg. 1654, Wing Auditorium).  
Wing Advisory Council Meeting (Bldg. 1654, Wing Conf. Room).  
Education and Training Newcomers Orientation (Bldg. 1654, Room 159).  
SORTS due to Command Post.

### Sunday, February 5

#### Sign-In

0630-0700  
0700-0715  
0730-0800  
**0730-0830**  
0730-1200  
0730-1200  
0730-1200  
0800-1200  
0800-1200  
0815-0845  
0900-1000  
0900-1000  
0900-1230  
0900-1430  
1000-1100  
1030-1130  
**1030-1200**  
1030-1230  
1200  
1300-1400  
1300-1400  
1300-1400  
1300-1400  
1300-1600  
1300-1600  
1400-1500  
1400-1600  
1430-1600  
1500-1530  
1500-1600  
1600

#### Sign-Out

1545-  
1615-

301st MXG and subordinate units.  
301st MSG/OG/Wing and subordinate units.  
Worship Services (Bldg. 1615, Aerial Port Squadron).  
**MSG Commanders Call (Bldg. 1845, Base Theater).**  
Wing Immunizations including flu (Bldg. 1654, Breakroom).  
Dental Class IV only (Bldg. 1711, Base Clinic).  
Lab Draws (Bldg. 1711, Base Clinic).  
MEO First Duty Station Training (Bldg. 1660, MSG Conf. Room).  
SABC Instructor Course (Bldg. 1776, Family Readiness).  
Catholic Confessions (Bldg. 1838, Base Chapel).  
Catholic Mass (Bldg. 1838, Base Chapel).  
Unit Safety Representative (USR) Briefing (Bldg. 1654, Wing Conf. Room).  
End of Course Testing (EOC), (Bldg. 1654, Room 185).  
CBRN Initial Training (Bldg. 1792, Readiness Classroom).  
MSG 3A Training (Bldg. 1710, Contracting Conf. Room).  
General Protestant Worship (Bldg. 1838, Base Chapel).  
**Physical Fitness Testing - 301st Wing Staff (Base Track).**  
Galley Hours for lunch.  
ART Reports due to LGRR (Bldg. 1654, Plans office).  
Crisis Communication Training (Bldg. 1619, Security Forces).  
MPF closed for 3S0 Personnel Training (Bldg. 1654).  
MSG Pre-SORTS Meeting (Bldg. 1660, MSG Conf. Room).  
CITRIX Training (Bldg. 1654, Wing Auditorium).  
Ancillary Training - Wing Staff (Bldg. 1654, Wing Auditorium).  
Finance closed for training (Bldg. 1654).  
Wing SORTS/Hotwash Briefing (Bldg. 1654, Wing Conf. Room).  
Legal office closed for training (Bldg. 1651).  
MEO In-House Training (Bldg. 1660, MEO office).  
Worship Services (Bldg. 1780, 701st MDS Conf. Room).  
Montgomery GI Bill Briefing (Bldg. 1654, Room 151).  
Lodging Rosters due to Services (Bldg. 3341).  
301st MXG and subordinate units.  
301st MSG/OG/Wing and subordinate units.

## E-exam schedule

#### Weekdays:

Tuesday - 1 p.m.

Thursday - 9 a.m.

#### "A" UTA:

Saturday - 1 p.m.

Sunday - 9 a.m.

#### "B" UTA:

Saturday - 1 p.m.

If someone needs to test outside the above scheduled times, please call us at 817.782.6977. With a few hours notice, this office may accommodate same-day testing.

## UTA reminders

#### -When family status changes

- Update Wills and Power of Attorney
- V-red (Emergency Data Card)
- Finance office
- Update family care

#### -When your address changes

- Update recall roster
- Update changes in Finance
- Update changes in MPF and orders clerk
- Update changes in vMPF

**Remember:**  
there's no alternate UTA weekend in February.



### Awards recognize AFRC safety performances

**ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga.** - Air Force Reserve Command officials announced in January the command's safety award winners for 2005.

The awards recognize achievements in flight, ground and weapons safety along with well-done performances between Oct. 1, 2004, and Sept. 30, 2005.

The weapons safety NCO award went to Master Sgt. Michael R. Sherman, 301st FW, NAS JRB Fort Worth, Texas. The 301st FW crash recovery crew from NAS JRB Fort Worth, Texas, took the ground well-done award. Members of the crew are Senior Master Sgt. Dennis J. Walters, Tech. Sgt. Mike A. Donnelly, and Staff Sgts. Jeffrey D. Powers and Todd A Sigler. *(AFRC News Service)*

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
301ST FW PA  
1651 LYONS SUITE 135  
NAS JOINT RESERVE BASE  
FORT WORTH TX 76127 6200  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

### TO THE FAMILY OF

### OPSEC tip of the month -

Do not discuss sensitive information in public.

## PROMOTIONS, REENLISTMENTS and NEWCOMERS

### Promotions

#### 301 MXS

Staff Sgt. Darlene K. Ipock  
Master Sgt. John A. R. Candey

#### 610 SFS

Airman 1st Class Christopher Southern  
Senior Airman Angela H. Garza  
Staff Sgt. Marty G. McDaniel  
Tech. Sgt. Kyle A. Gayden  
Master Sgt. Richard G. Rocha  
Master Sgt. Robin R. Sheehan

#### 301 AMDS

Airman 1st Class David Thomas  
Senior Airman Tiffany K. Colbert  
Master Sgt. Latonya S. Hodo  
Senior Master Sgt. Kevin C. Walker

#### 73 APS

Senior Airman Landon T. Bonds  
Senior Airman Juan A. Peralta  
Senior Airman Joshua J. Taylor  
Staff Sgt. Rhan E. Burrell  
Staff Sgt. Michael F. Christopher  
Staff Sgt. Jennifer L. Pflughaupt  
Tech. Sgt. Bruce A. Venable  
Tech. Sgt. Amy N. Williams  
Senior Master Sgt. Charles D. Venable

#### 301 CES

Senior Airman Anthony Gillespie  
Staff Sgt. Michael D. McFetridge

#### 301 FW

Senior Airman Shane G. Kidd  
Staff Sgt. Jamie M. Futrell

#### 701 MDS

Senior Airman Samuel D. Morrison  
Staff Sgt. Robert K. Mayo

#### 301 MSS

Staff Sgt. Julie A. Hoefler

#### 457 FS

Tech. Sgt. Lynn B. Hrisco  
Col. Tommy J. Williams

#### 10 AF

Chief Master Sgt. Donald J. Morton

#### 301 SVF

Senior Master Sgt. Patricia L. Roark

### Reenlistments

#### 73 APS

Tech. Sgt. Kevin R. Speed

#### 301 MOF

Staff Sgt. Paula K. Hockett  
Tech. Sgt. Esther N. Cox

#### 301 AMXS

Staff Sgt. Chadwick W. Lutz

#### 301 MXS

Tech. Sgt. John A. R. Candey

#### 301 LRS

Tech. Sgt. Barbett F. Powers

#### 610 RSG

Senior Master Sgt. William A. Bourgeois, Jr.

#### 10 AF

Master Sgt. Patricia A. Borrego  
Senior Master Sgt. Kelley M. Hicks  
Senior Master Sgt. Evelyn A. Mickles

### Newcomers

#### 701 MDS

Airman Magdalena Huntsman  
Staff Sgt. Marcus N. Allen  
Staff Sgt. Carrie A. Villa  
Maj. Butch B. Tubera

#### 301 CF

Capt. David W. Bryant

#### 301 AMXS

Staff Sgt. Tracy Morris Caudell

Senior Airman Adam D. Caudle  
**10 AF**

Tech. Sgt. Lisa M. Pina  
Master Sgt. Evelyn A. Mickles  
Senior Master Sgt. Donald J. Morton  
Maj. Melani Skalberg Howard  
Lt. Col. Robert L. Cole, Jr.  
Lt. Col. Michael J. Loida

#### 610 SFS

Airman 1st Class Thomas C. Kowalski  
Staff Sgt. Guy Didomenico  
Staff Sgt. Roy P. Shelton  
Staff Sgt. Thomas C. Shelton  
Master Sgt. Anthony Lawrence

#### 301 LRS

Staff Sgt. Scott J. Fisher  
Maj. Michael S. McDonald

#### 73 APS

Airman Victoria M. Guerra  
Tech. Sgt. Kevin R. Speed

#### 457 FS

Tech. Sgt. Earlene T. Hodge

#### 610 RSG

Senior Master Sgt. Stephen K. Hughes  
**301 SFS**

Senior Airman Randal B. Isaac  
Staff Sgt. Mathew T. Jensen

#### 301 LRS

Senior Airman Shakira Montelaro  
Tech. Sgt. Yolanda D. Johnson

#### 810 CEF

Tech. Sgt. Jerrel D. Paul  
Capt. Jeffrey A. Payne  
Maj. Kevin C. Mccue

#### 301 MXS

Airman 1st Class Brandon R. Reese  
Tech. Sgt. Scott D. Watkins