



Air Show performers ready to take flight

Jon Gagné, NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

The U.S. Navy's Blue Angels and the U.S. Air Force Air Combat Command West Coast Demonstration Team and Heritage Flight headline an all-star cast for the 2008 "Wings Over South Texas" air show April 5-6 at NAS Kingsville.

Both the Navy and Air Force have headline acts performing. On the Navy side, the list is headlined by the world-famous Blue Angels flight demonstration team, and the Navy Leap Frogs, the Navy's premier parachute team. The Blue Angels have been thrilling crowds with their aerobatic maneuvers since 1946, performing in front of more than 450 million fans. Their performance includes graceful aerobatic maneuvers of the four-plane Diamond Formation, in concert with the fast-paced high-performance maneuvers of their two solo pilots.

The Navy Leap Frogs consist of a 15-man team comprised of Navy special warfare personnel. The team began performing in 1969 and was officially commissioned as the Navy's Parachute Team in 1974. The team supports Navy recruiting efforts, as do the Blues, and helps promote the Naval Special Warfare community to the American public. A typical Leap Frogs performance consists of 14 jumpers leaping out of an aircraft at an altitude of 12,500 feet.

On the Air Force side, The F-16 Viper West Coast Demonstration Team is the headline act. The West Coast Team is just one of the six single aircraft Demonstration Teams assigned to Air Combat Command (ACC). The Single-Ship Demonstration Teams perform precision aerial maneuvers, demonstrating to the pub-

lic the unique capabilities of the Air Force's high performance aircraft, the F-16 Fighting Falcon more commonly known to military pilots as the Viper. The Heritage Flight consists of three or more formations passes over the airfield, ranging from two-ship to four-ship formations.

Civilian performers include the leg-

endary Rob Holland flying the MX2 Aerobatic Aircraft by MXR Technologies; 20-plus-year air show veteran and retired Navy pilot Jan Colmer of Dallas flying the "FINA Extra 300L," South Texas native Paul Fiala and his aerobatic biplane, and Tim Weber and the GEICO Extra 300S; and Dr. Rich Sugden's MiG 15bis and F-4 Fury. Legendary Air Show announcer and pilot Rob Reider will keep you informed through the day as the acts take to the air.

There will also be a number of static aircraft displays for air show fans. The list includes an EA-6B Prowler from VAQ-137; an F-16 Fighting Falcon from NSAWC; an FA-18C Super Hornet from VFA-125; an F-4 Phantom from the U.S. Air Force 53rd Wing; HH-65 Dolphin Helicopter from the U.S. Coast Guard; S2-B Pitts from C-152; the SparrowHawk Gyro; an F-5 from VFC-13; and an OH-58 Kiowa Warrior helicopter.

For the kids, NAS Kingsville will open its "Kid Zone" at 10 a.m., providing games, refreshments and activities for all ages throughout the day. Volunteers are still needed to assist MWR with concession sales. If your group or activity would like to volunteer, and earn some extra cash, contact LaVonda Steen at MWR (516-4388). Speaking of kids, we'll also be having a special abbreviated show Friday, April 4 for local school children and base personnel who will be working during the weekend show.

Make your plans to come out to the weekend show and enjoy all the acts. The Air Show Committee is promising to "Blow Your Socks Off!"



Seven receive wings. -- Page 6

Flight Log

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"Wings over South Texas" update.

San Juan, Texas native is March PFAD.



Blue Angels Flight Demonstration Squadron in tight formation.



U.S. Navy Leap Frogs will be dropping in on NAS Kingsville.



From The Bridge...



Capt. Phil "Waddz" Waddingham
Commanding Officer, NAS Kingsville

Greetings NAS Kingsville!

Hard to believe by the time this article makes it to print, it'll be only two weeks until we have F/A-18 Hornets, painted blue and gold and flown by our own Blue Angels, cutting through our airspace with razor sharp perfection. Keep in mind that several of these ambassadors of naval aviation (indeed, rock stars) actually earned their Wings of Gold right here at NAS Kingsville. In that sense, they are returning home for what will be their second public performance of the year. I for one can not wait!

Speaking of returning home, I recently returned from a two week trip to Millington, Tenn., where I was privileged to serve as a voting member of the FY 2009 Aviation Commander Command Board. For two weeks, I, along with 30-plus fellow aviation captains and two rear admirals, met each day to review, grade, and brief from among all active duty and reserve aviation commander command eligible records. It is fairly evident that the staff in

the PERS-43 shop at the Bureau of Personnel have done this before, because the entire evolution was a smooth process. They have it down to a science.

But that alone does not do justice to define the process. The members of the Board, 33 of us, represent all facets of naval aviation with command experiences, and it can be argued that we brought the "art" to the process. I say this because, when it comes to selecting the best and most-fully qualified among a group of superior records, there is more than just science involved. The board process is not a black and white, yes or no, pass or fail proposition. There is, indeed, an art to the selection process, and it begins with the individual's record. It's here, in the FITREPs, officer summary records (OSRs), performance summary records (PSRs) and supporting documents where performance, educational achievements, professional qualifications, decorations, and experience are documented. These documents tell a story about the individual, and it's up to the member who is assigned the task of studying and then briefing the record to the Board, to research this story, and make an assessment on just how strong the record is as compared to others in the same category. The guidance on how to do this is simple—use your experience and judgment, look for sustained, superior performance, consider any established priorities provided by the chief of naval personnel, and then assign a grade.

When the time comes, the record is briefed, along with others in the same category competing for the same command slots, before the entire Board

membership. Each member votes, assigning a confidence factor (100, 75, 50, 25, or 0). This is tallied up, and an overall confidence score is attained. A scatter gram is presented showing the distribution of all scores and the number of records with these scores. A motion is then made to accept records with a minimum confidence score, or to remove records from further consideration at or below a given score, and to "crunch" the remaining records, i.e., brief them again, followed by another vote. The process continues until the number of selects required has been achieved. It is a very thorough process, but it is more art than science.

In a few weeks, the Bureau will compile pertinent statistics on the selects and non-selects, so that this information may be used by leaders in future counseling and development of their personnel, as well as to educate junior members on what boards look for. I plan to give a brief to both NAS and TW-2 personnel when the information is available.

My key takeaway from the process is this: there were many qualified records, and the competition was fierce. Not everyone can be selected, and those that were represented the best of the group. Failure to select does not mean the member had a below average career or is a below average officer. Those who were selected can be justifiably proud, as they broke out in a tough crowd, and we can all feel good about the future of naval aviation.

Until next time...

"Waddz sends"



Tews' Views



Chaplain (Lt. Cmdr.) Mark Tews
NAS Kingsville, Religious Ministries

Shock & Awe

Just a little over 5 years ago it was impossible to listen to any news broadcast or read any account of the events taking place in Iraq without hearing the phrase, "Shock & Awe." Media always looks for a sound-bite that can be repeated often enough to become a slogan. Early on, that was the case with the conflict in Iraq.

During the first days of the war reporters were shocked at the first strike against a perceived location of Iraqi leadership. Then they were awed by the volume of bombs, the precision with which they were delivered on target, and the devastating power that was unleashed against the Iraqi regime. In their politically-blind manner, many of them predicted

that the Iraqi people would never perceive Americans as liberators, but only as conquerors and occupiers. Our own American mainstream media gave enormous face-time to the Arab media establishment to buttress their particular assessment.

Shock & Awe; Coalition troops moved quickly to Baghdad with few casualties taken and remarkably few civilian casualties caused. The news-shapers, who were as certain then, as they are and have been now with the still on-going troop surge, that it all would be the Waterloo for the current administration, were shocked and awed that instead, progress was and is still being made.

Shock and Awe is what was felt by the media prognosticators when their predictions that elections could never be accomplished, were, after all, successfully carried out.

Of course, on the other hand, those who predicted or expected a quick and easy resolution to the entire conflict have also been shocked and awed that the war has lasted this long.

The events in Iraq of course, do not mark the first time that the 'mainstream' has been shocked and awed by events that they would have never predicted. Some 2,000 years ago, an "obviously flawed" plan landed a perceived political dissident from Nazareth on a Roman cross. He had so inflamed

the religious leaders of the day that his life was exchanged for a murderer named Barabbas. Beaten, crucified, and speared he was sealed in a tomb and the palace guards were posted to be sure no funny-business took place with the body.

The political leadership and the religious hierarchy were satisfied. They had salvaged their image and position by crucifying a dissident heretic whose message resonated with the masses. The media probably reported the execution to be exactly as they had predicted – non-eventful, the earthquake and the thunderstorm were just coincidence, nothing more. They all believed the man from Nazareth was dead and buried, no longer an issue, and went on to their regular week-end activities that Friday afternoon. Then came Sunday morning – SHOCK & AWE!!!

Trivia Challenge: No winner to announce this time. Was everyone stumped on the last one? Well, here is your second chance, remember, the answer begins with the letter "O":

Hiram, the King of Tyre, sent his ships to the city of O _____ to get 420 talents of gold for King Solomon.



Capt. Bill "BD" Davis
Commander, Training Air Wing TWO

In The Break...



Hello Warriors! Well, March has certainly roared in like a lion this year. Let's hope it departs like the proverbial lamb, but we need to keep making smart decisions regarding weather and operations even if the climate won't abide by old clichés.

On Friday, March 7, the Marine Corps Aviation Association hosted a talk by former NASA Mission Control Flight Director, Eugene Krantz. Rear Adm. Guadagnini and Col. Thomas Clark were special guests attending the presentation.

The 1 hour talk focused on the mind-set necessary to accomplish a difficult mission in the face of well-known risks. It was titled "Failure is not an Option" and that accurately describes the manner in which those professionals carried out their duties during the Gemini and Apollo space exploration programs. Risk was an ever-present companion to them, but it did not keep them from going into space and on to the moon. They factored risk into their decisions and used Operational Risk Management before it was even an acronym. They constantly determined if the risk involved was worth the potential benefit as they made decisions. When unexpected circumstances arose, such as the damage to the Apollo 13 spacecraft, they immediately sized up the nature of the risk and made informed decisions about the best way to overcome the problem. Sometimes, these decisions were made on the basis of experienced "gut" instincts. But they were never made

cavalierly. They relied on their knowledge and experience and the trust they had in each other. Though the decision-making authority rested with one man, that man was working as part of a team, and he knew he could count on his team to provide him with their very best.

Mr. Kratz's recollections of the hours surrounding the successful return of Apollo 13 were moving and inspirational and should serve as a reminder to us all of the nature of our chosen profession. There is, however, a difference in the nature of most risks we face and those overcome in the early days of the space program. That difference is familiarity. NASA was operating in a world of many unknowns while we operate in a world of mostly repetition. Repetition may increase skill, but can also breed complacency. Naval Aviation has more than its share of inherent risks. We need to equip ourselves as professionals with a complete knowledge of our weapons systems and the systems that support them. We should never be satisfied with our level of knowledge or skill, but should constantly seek to improve both. We also need to ensure that this same mind-set exists across the spectrum of our profession so that we can also trust completely in the skills and knowledge of those who support us. The flight-leader counts on his wingman to know his job. The wingman trusts the flight lead to know his. Marines in contact count on the skills and knowledge of the aviators supporting them. When the deck is pitching, the clouds are low and the seas are high, the aviator trusts the LSO to help get him aboard.

We are all part of an elite team. Great teams are not great because of the strength of any particular team-member, but because each member expects the best of, and seeks to improve the capabilities of every other team member. Truly great players don't merely point out deficiencies in the other players, but work with them to eliminate those deficiencies. Complaining is easy, training is hard. Are you doing your part?
Vaya con Dios.

Names of Pilots in T-34 Accident Released

From Chief of Naval Air Training Public Affairs

MILTON, Fla. (NNS) -- The Navy has released the names of the crew members killed in the March 14, 2008 crash of a T-34 Turbomotor near Ashville, Ala.

The deceased are Maj. David Yaggy, instructor pilot, and 2nd Lt. Alexander Prezioso, both from the U.S. Marine Corps.

The two Marines were members of Training Squadron 6 at Naval Air Station Whiting Field.

Yaggy, 34, was a native of Sparks, Md. and a combat decorated UH-1N Huey pilot with 10 Air Medals and a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with combat "V".

Prezioso, 23, was a native of Lake Worth, Fla. and a 2006 graduate of Embry-Riddle Aeronauti-

cal University. He was a student in primary flight training at the base and had been a Marine for nearly two years.

The cause of the accident is still under investigation.



The T-34C is an unpressurized two-seat, tandem cockpit turboprop trainer used to train Navy and Marine Corps pilots. U.S. Navy photo by Marc Bizzell.

The Flying K

Naval Air Station Kingsville, Texas

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NAS Kingsville Commanding Officer
Capt. Philip L. Waddingham

NAS Kingsville Executive Officer
Cmdr. Scott Allen

TraWing Two Commander:
Capt. Bill Davis

TraWing Two Chief Staff Officer
Cmdr. Tim Carr

Command Chaplain:
Lt. Cmdr Mark Tews

Chief Public Affairs Officer
Jon Gagné

Flying K Staff
Managing Editor

Jon Gagné

Editor / Layout:

Maryann Shramko

Writer/Photographer:

EN3 Brenda Acevedo

Contact Us:

Public Affairs Office
NAS Kingsville Bldg. 2740
554 McCain Street
Kingsville, TX 78363-5054

By E-mail:

KNGV-PAO@navy.mil

By Phone: (361) 516-6219/6146

CAPTAIN'S LINE:

(Info for the Commanding Officer)

Send emails to:

KNGV-PAO@navy.mil. On the subject line type:

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Marriage Enrichment Retreats (MERs)

A marriage is a partnership of a man and woman who seek a life-long commitment to live together. How successful a couple pulls this off depends on many different aspects of their relationship.

Our goal in Marriage retreats is to provide an environment where married couples may work on intimacy as a couple. Communication techniques are explored, the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator is used to talk about different personality types indicated by preferences and how these preferences affect relationships. A variety of different types of exercises and free time are used to help each couple come together in a comfortable environment without the normal everyday distractions of work and home life.

What's being said about Marriage Enrichment Retreats (MERs)

"Wow! Outstanding retreat...casual, not overwhelming. Not so "religious." This would be great for returning from deployments. I have been in 14-yrs and have never heard of this Marriage Enrichment Retreat. Should advertise more and have more retreats. Good to have retreat away from military base environment."

"Thank you so much for your contribution to the betterment of marriages this weekend. I truly enjoyed myself and I thought the program was very informative without too much information. I did learn a lot about my husband and I feel so much closer since the retreat! I really came back feeling refreshed rather than bogged down from classes and more classes. Your teaching style has captured all learning types and I truly believe that all couples have left learning something about their own spouses and how to enrich their marriages. My husband and I have been to marriage retreats before that were really great, but this one by far has been the best! Keep up the good work and I pray that the Lord will continue to bless you as you are a funnel of His blessings to His people."

"I appreciate your help and service that you have provided my wife and I...It has helped us out a great deal and we are doing much better already. Our relationship has already grown closer and there are no ill thoughts of any kind anymore."

"...I really appreciated the outcome of my marriage. Outstanding retreat and it really saved our marriage. Thank you and God Bless"

"I wanted to take a moment to thank you for this awesome weekend. I wish it was longer because it really helped our marriage. My husband came home a "changed" man although we still need to work on it on a higher level like any other marriages.

At one point, I thought that we were hopeless but I believe that the commitment and forgiveness comes a long way."

MERs are designed to help couples discover ways to:

- Keep their marriage growing;***
- Handle the inevitable conflicts better;***
- Build more intimacy and communication;***
- Strengthen their marriage emotionally, physically, and spiritually.***

The upcoming MERs schedule is as follows:

11-13 Apr 08	MER	St. Simons Island, GA
11-13 Apr 08	MER	Fort Worth, TX
2 - 4 May 08	MER	Memphis, TN
16-18 May 08	MER	St. Simons Island, GA
23-25 May 08	MER	Corpus Christi, TX

These retreats have limited space and usually fill up very quickly. Therefore we recommend registering as early as possible in order to insure a spot at the retreat of your choice.

Check our website for updates in scheduling.
<http://www.cnrc.navy.mil/cnrse/Programs/CommandandStaff/ReligiousMinistries/CREDO/index.htm>

HOW TO REGISTER FOR A RETREAT

TO REGISTER FOR A RETREAT simply email us with a request for an updated electronic registration form at: cnrc_credo@navy.mil and we will send one to you, or call us. Commercial Phone: (904) 270-6958 Ext.1608 or menu "7" DSN: 960.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

VITA volunteers are standing by to help you file your Federal return

The VITA Center is located at NAS Kingsville Headquarters Building 2740 on the first deck, Room 106.

Office Hours: Monday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Walk-ins)

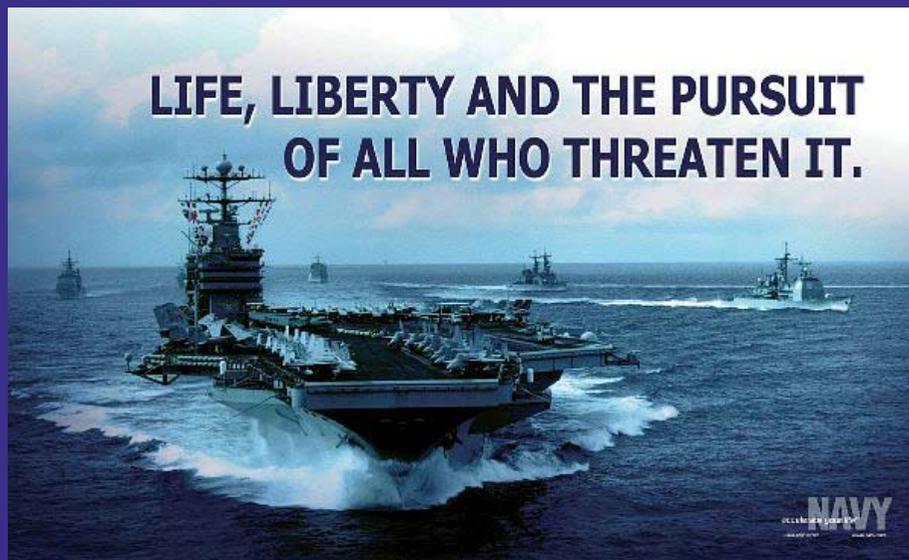
Tuesday-Friday (Appointments Only)- Sign up sheet is on the door.



Phone: VITA Office 516-4829. Office will be open until Tax Day, April 15.

Please schedule an appointment by signing up on the sign up sheet on the VITA office door or call RP2 Christine Roman at ext.6331.

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'Adaptability' a standout trait for Navy's 2007 top training commands

Story by Ensign Jennifer Windstein, Naval Education and Training Command Public Affairs

PENSACOLA, Fla. - Change and how commands adapted to it were key elements in the selection of the 2007 Training Excellence Awards announced Jan. 31 by the Naval Education and Training Command (NETC).

The top training commands for 2007 are: Center for Naval Intelligence (CNI), Virginia Beach, Va.; Trident Training Facility (TTF), Bangor Learning Site and TTF Training Support Detachment, Silverdale, Wash.; Training Support Center (TSC) Hampton Roads, Va.; Officer Training Command (OTC), and Naval Justice School (NJS), Newport, R.I.; and Training Air Wing Five, Milton, Fla.

According to Rear Adm. Gary Jones, commander, NETC, the overwhelming trend shown by these commands is their ability to adapt and innovate to the constantly changing conflict - they are transforming their methods of training to meet the evolving needs of the Navy and our Maritime Strategy.

"Flexibility and innovation in the style and method of developing our Sailors ensures our Navy is able to excel in the constantly changing global environment where we live and operate," said Jones. "By developing new courses to meet emerging requirements while supporting increased throughput for existing courses, our Learning Centers continue to produce the world-class, professional Sailors needed to thrive in the maritime commons."

- One of the winners that showed an increase in their training was CNI. Over the past three years they had an increase of 288 percent in accession level intelligence specialty students with no requisite increases in instructor staffing, and without compromising the quality of the graduates.

- With increased technology being introduced to the Navy, TTF assigned eight instructor billets to a Modernized Training Team (MTT), enabling standardized training which led to operational certification on equipment. Bangor is the only Learning Site providing training to three types of submarines in Guided Missile Submarines (SSGN) Home Port Training Period (HPTP), Fleet Ballistic Missile Submarines (SSBN) Pre-Deployment Training Periods (PDTP), and Attack Submarine (SSN) Pre-Deployment Training.

- TSC improved the effectiveness and efficiency of quota apportionment and assignments in support of Navy training requirements. They offer more than 1,000 courses of instruction in quota management ensuring training opportunities are available regarding use of the automated quota system. Through their efforts, TSC avoided several million dollars worth of spending while improving training.

- The decision to have all three SSN 21 class ships (SSN-21 Seawolf, SSN-22 Connecticut and SSN-23 Jimmy Carter) stationed in the Pacific Northwest de-

manded many changes for the TTF Bangor Training Support Department. In order to accommodate the training required for these ships, TRITRAFAC had to expand facilities and convert new training spaces. This included adding new training and new security measures as well.

- After 18 months of preparation OTCN implemented a new program which combined the Officer Indoctrination School with the Limited Duty Officer/Chief Warrant Officer School.

"The OTCN staff worked very hard and overcame many obstacles over the past year as we merged officer accession training in Pensacola Florida and Newport under one command here in Newport," said Capt. Joseph McBrearty, commanding officer, OTCN. "I am very proud of my staff for putting in all the long hours to prepare these young civilians and enlisted Sailors to become our future leaders. We expect to see almost a 400 percent increase in student throughput in the coming years. I think the future is very bright for the Navy and Officer Training here in Newport." This five week program would also, for the first time include the Navy Chaplain Corps.

"This award is great honor for Officer Training Command Newport and well deserved. This year, OTCN was faced with a huge challenge: to move Navy Officer accessions training from Pensacola to Newport and create the Navy's largest officer training center without any interruption in training. They

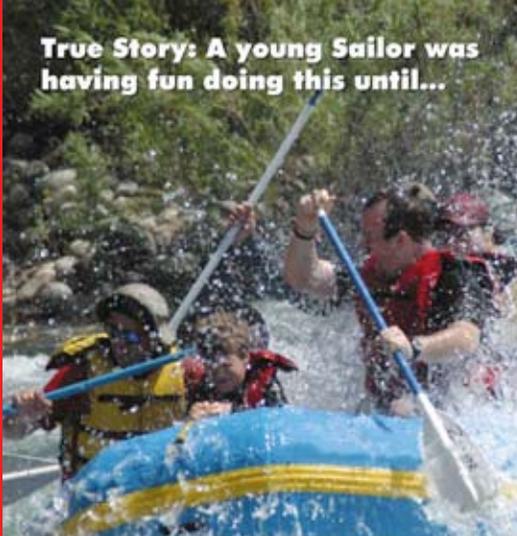
did this, all while driving efforts to recapitalize the aging facilities and make them ready for twenty-first century training," said Rear Adm. Arnold O. Lotring, commander, Naval Service Training Command and in charge of all officer accession programs, except for the Naval Academy.

- Training Air Wing Five (TW-5) coordinated more than 160,000 flight hours, a full 17 percent of all the hours flown in the U.S. Navy world-wide in every model of aircraft. By standing up Helicopter Training Squadron 28 (HT-28), TW-5 grew to a total of three Primary Flight Training Squadrons and three Advanced Helicopter Training Squadrons. They qualified 670 Primary flight students and 575 advanced flight students.

- In response to the growing demand for training in military justice and civil law, NJS has added more training opportunities for senior officers and enlisted. With their limited staffing, 35 instructors, the growth in training is an attribute to their hard work and adaptability.

"All of the commands have excelled at carrying out NETC's mission of educating and training those who serve," said Jones. "By providing the tools and opportunities that ensure fleet readiness, enhance professional and personal growth and development, and align mission focus and resources to validated fleet requirements, all our training commands are promoting a culture of continuous learning in the Navy."

Is this in your future? Drink responsibly.



True Story: A young Sailor was having fun doing this until...

...he decided to dive into the water. He subsequently hit his head on a rock, fractured some vertebrae, and now is paralyzed from the chest down. What made him take such a risk? According to the casualty report, "Member was under the influence of alcohol." How many times do we have to say:

Drink Responsibly!

www.safetycenter.navy.mil



If you think this seat belt is too confining... be prepared to strap on one of these alternatives.



www.safetycenter.navy.mil

Seven Aviators earn Wings at Training Air Wing TWO ceremony

By Jon Gagné, NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

Seven flight students from VT-21 and VT-22 were designated as Naval Aviators and presented their Wings of Gold at a ceremony at The Club Friday, March 14. Training Air Wing TWO commander Capt. Bill Davis presided over the ceremony and squadron skippers Cmdr. Charles Moore and Cmdr. Chris Kirby served as Master of Ceremonies. Chaplain (Lt. Cmdr) Mark Tews provided the invocation.

Prior to the presentation of Wings, the squadron commanders presented a brief slide show about the Naval Aviation training program, slating the presentation to the individuals being recognized for successfully completing their training. "You should be proud of your accomplishments," Moore told the aviators. "I know we are, and we are confident that you will move on to greater accomplishments in the fleet."

Receiving their Wings were:

Lt. j.g. Cory Hansen, VT-21. Hometown: Syracuse, N.Y. Call sign: "Swift." Hanson actually planned on not going to college, instead opting for a football career and a tryout with the Dallas Cowboys. But an injury during his second practice with the team ended his hopes of football stardom.

Lt. j.g. Eric Vanlandingham, VT-21. Hometown: Maryland. Call Sign: "V-12." Vanlandingham is a 2005 graduate of the Naval Academy. He attended Aviation Preflight Indoctrination (API) in Pensacola, Fla. and Primary training at NAS Corpus Christi with VT-27, and Intermediate training with VT-31.

Lt. j.g. Jeremy Arnott, VT-22. Hometown: Guilderland, N.Y. Call Sign: "Romeo." Arnott studied chemical engineering while participating in the Reserve Officer Training Corps at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. After earning his degree, he entered the Navy and began his journey into Naval Aviation. After API in Pensacola, he moved on to Vance Air Force Base, Enid, Okla., where he received training in the T-2 Texan II. His next assignment will be in Norfolk, Va., flying the E-2C Hawkeye.

Lt. j.g. Christopher Cook, VT-22. Call Sign: "Cnutz." Cook completed API and Primary training at NAS Pensacola before moving to South Texas for Advanced training. His next assignment will be in Norfolk flying the E-2C Hawkeye.

Lt. j.g. Jeffrey Fallat, VT-22. Call Sign: "J.C." Fallat is a graduate of the Naval Academy and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in naval architecture. He completed API in Pensacola and Primary with

VT-22 in Corpus Christi, and was also selected for the E-2/C-2 pipeline. After completing Intermediate training with VT-31, he reported to NAS Kingsville for Advanced training.

Lt. j.g. Michael Luebker, VT-22. Call Sign: "Slop." Luebker is a 2004 graduate of the Naval Academy where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in systems engineering. After API in Pensacola, he moved on to nearby Milton, Fla. for Primary training with VT-2. When he was selected for the E-2/C-2 pipeline, he moved on to Corpus Christi for Intermediate training. He reported to NAS Kingsville for Advanced training in April 2007.

Lt. j.g. Steven Tschanz, VT-22. Hometown: Libertyville, Ill. Call Sign: "Chance." Tschanz is a 2004 graduate of Notre Dame University where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in electrical engineering. He entered the Navy flight program after completing studies at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif. Upon being selected for the E-2/C-2 pipeline, he completed Primary training with VT-3 at NAS Whiting Field in Milton, Fla. He then moved on to Corpus Christi for Intermediate training with VT-31, and reported to NAS Kingsville and VT-22 last spring.



Front row (from left): Cmdr. Gerald Murphy, Executive Officer, VT-22; Cmdr. Charles C. Moore, Commanding Officer, VT-21; Lt. j.g. Steven Tschanz; Lt. j.g. Jeffrey Fallat; Lt. j.g. Cory Hansen; Lt. j.g. Michael Leubkert; Cmdr. Timothy Carr, Chief Staff Officer, Training Air Wing TWO; Capt. Bill Davis, Commander, Training Air Wing TWO. Back row (from left): Cmdr. Chris Kirby, Commanding Officer, VT-22; Lt. j.g. Christopher Cook; Lt. j.g. Eric VanLandingham; Lt. j.g. Jeremy Arnott; Capt. Phil Waddingham, Commanding Officer, Naval Air Station Kingsville; Cmdr. William A. Bulis, Executive Officer, VT-21.



Lt. j.g. Michael Luebker is presented the "Top Hook" award from Capt. Bill Davis for receiving the highest score of his class during carrier qualifications.



Lt. j.g. Jeffrey Fallat is presented a letter of appreciation from Capt. Phil Waddingham for his assistance during the 2008 VALERO Cactus Bowl.

CDC/Youth Center host "hopping" good time with the Easter Bunny at the Club; family event includes breakfast and fun

Photos by Jon Gagné,
Public Affairs Officer



A youngster tosses a bone into the dog's mouth to win a special prize at one of the many game booths at The Club.



Delia Gonzalez, Youth Center Director, calls the first age group to the Egg Hunt area.



Who says it's not nice to share? Not these two, that's for sure!



The Family Easter Egg Breakfast included a hot meal, games, and an Easter Egg hunt for the kids. For the adults - plenty of hot coffee!



An extra special Easter gift for this little rabbit.



With a roll of the dice, this little girl gets to move two squares and get closer to winning!



Hop Scotch: Boys and girls enjoyed showing off their jumping skills ...



For this little guy, there were colored eggs EVERYWHERE!



This lucky guy found the Golden Egg and won a special prize for his efforts.



100 Years of Women in the Navy

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Michael A. Lantron,
Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

PEARL HARBOR (NNS) -- Throughout March 2008, Sailors will celebrate and recognize the many contributions of women to our Navy and nation during the 21st annual observance of Women's History Month.

Women have been serving as an integral part of the Navy since the establishment of the Nurse Corps in 1908.

Nine years later, the Navy authorized the enlistment of women as "Yeomanettes." In 1948, the Women's Armed Services Integration Act was signed, making it possible for women to enter the Navy in regular or reserve status.

In 1972, the Equal Rights Amendment was passed by Congress, allowing for no separate management of men and women, authorized entry of enlisted women into all ratings, and opened Recruit Officer Training Command to women.

Today, women account for more than 15 percent of the Navy's Sailors and command expeditionary strike groups, aviation squadrons, combatant ships, civil engineer corps commands, and numerous other operational and shore units.

"The increasing number of women shows that our nation and our military supports equal opportunity and hopefully other organizations will follow us," said Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Amber Reyes, a criminal investigator assigned to the Security Department



Pearl Harbor, Hawaii (Feb. 9, 2007) - Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Kelly Pfau, coxswain for the USS Arizona Memorial Detachment, navigates a white boat during a historic tour of Pearl Harbor for NFL players and their family and friends. Players of the NFL are currently in Honolulu, Hawaii, for the Pro Bowl at Aloha Stadium. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class James E. Foehl.

at Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

Women in today's Navy can be seen doing the same jobs as their male counterparts such as: saving lives in the ocean as search and rescue swimmers; building houses as Seabees; patrolling streets as security force members; and navigating ships as master helmsmen.

"I love showing people that girls can do what guys do, it's why I became a Boatswain's Mate," said Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class (SW) Emily Hernandez, a coxswain serving on

the Pearl Harbor-based Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS O'Kane (DDG 77).

The amount of senior female leadership has increased throughout the years, and junior Sailors see them as positive role models for today's Navy.

"It's great to see more female chiefs and officers every year," said Reyes. "It gives me something to inspire to be and hopefully be a positive role model that people look up to one day."

The Navy continues to embrace the diversity women bring to the fleet and is proud to be part of the trend of attracting top women to the military and compelling them to make it their career.

For more news from Commander, Navy Region Hawaii, visit www.navy.mil/local/cnrh/.



NAS Kingsville
Branch Health Clinic Corner

How are we doing?

How are we doing? That's what we want to know. Branch Health Clinic Kingsville has made some major changes over the past two months and we would like to know what you think. When you walk into our clinic, whether it's for an appointment or just to pick up your medications, we want to know how your experience went.

Before you leave our clinic stop by the check in desk and ask for a customer comment card or you can use our Interactive Customer Evaluation (I.C.E.) system to give us your input. We use these tools to measure our performance. These tools are also used to identify concerns and recognize our staff. We want to make your experience here at Branch Health Clinic Kingsville a very pleasant experience.

If you find that you don't have time to fill out one of our customer service cards or use our I.C.E. System then please feel free to go to:

http://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&service_provider_id=103222&site_id=472

This website will let you fill out an electronic customer service card. This way you still can let us know what you thought about our service and you don't have to feel rushed to do so. We thank you for your input and hope to hear from you soon.



Heartworm disease

Allow me to introduce myself. I am Sgt. Timothy Hair. I am an Animal Care Specialist (Veterinary Technician) for the U.S. Army Veterinary Service stationed here aboard NAS Corpus Christi. I would like to take a moment to inform you about a serious problem affecting our pets here in Corpus Christi: heartworm disease.

What is heartworm disease? Heartworm disease is a serious and potentially fatal condition caused by parasitic worms living in the arteries of the lungs and the heart of dogs, cats and other species of mammals, including wolves, foxes, ferrets, sea lions and (in rare instances) humans. It is considered a worldwide clinical problem and has been reported in all 50 states, with a higher number of cases reported in the southern states (including Texas). We have diagnosed at least seven cases of heartworm disease in dogs here at the NAS Corpus Christi Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF) this year alone.

How is heartworm disease transmitted? Heartworms are transmitted from animal to animal by mosquitoes. When a mosquito bites an infected animal, young heartworms called microfilaria enter into that mosquito's system, and then are injected into another animal through the mosquito's bite. Over the next six months, the infected larvae mature into adults, and eventually migrate through the animal's body reach-

ing the blood vessels of the lungs and heart. As we all know, here in South Texas, mosquitoes are everywhere and are a year-round concern.

What are the signs of heartworm disease? For both dogs and cats, clinical signs of heartworm disease may not be recognized in the early stages. However, as the disease progresses, infected dogs may eventually exhibit a mild, persistent cough, reluctance to move or exercise, fatigue after only moderate exercise, reduced appetite and weight loss, and possibly death. Heartworm disease in dogs can be verified with blood tests. Cats may exhibit clinical signs that are very non-specific, mimicking many other feline diseases. Chronic clinical signs include vomiting, gagging, difficulty or rapid breathing, lethargy and weight loss. In rare cases, a cat may suddenly die from heartworms. Blood testing in cats requires the use of an outside laboratory and is not always conclusive.

Can my pet be treated for heartworms? Usually all but the most advanced cases of heartworm disease can be successfully treated in dogs. However, it is not without risk, and it is a long and costly process. Currently, there are no products in the United States approved for the treatment of heartworm infection in cats.

Prevention is the key. Heartworm disease is almost 100% preventable. There are a variety of options for

preventing heartworm infection in both dogs and cats, including daily and monthly tablets and chewables and monthly topicals. All of these methods are extremely effective when administered properly and on a timely schedule. Depending on which product is used, you can start your pet on preventative at 6-8 weeks of age. The American Veterinary Medical Association recommends a blood test for existing heartworm infection before beginning a prevention program to confirm that your pet is not already infected with the disease. In addition, annual re-testing is recommended to check your pet's status and ensure that the appropriate medication is being prescribed. Our VTF policy is to test dogs at six months of age or older and annually thereafter.

The Veterinary Treatment Facility here aboard NAS Corpus Christi is open from Monday through Friday from 0800-1200 and 1300-1600. We are authorized to provide services to those persons enrolled in the Defense Enrollment/Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). Heartworm testing and preventatives are available here at the VTF and your local area veterinary clinics. Please remember that pets are seen by appointment only. Appointments can be made by calling (361) 961-3952.

Sources: http://www.avma.org/communications/brochures/heartworm/heartworm_brochure.asp and <http://www.heartwormsociety.org/article.asp?id=48>.

Javelina Highlights on April 5 allows potential students, families to experience life at Texas A&M-Kingsville

KINGSVILLE, Texas (March 19, 2008) - Potential Texas A&M University-Kingsville students and their families can learn all about campus life during Javelina Highlights on Saturday, April 5.

This one-day event kicks off at 8:30 a.m. at the Memorial Student Union Building, located on Santa Gertrudis Avenue at University Boulevard in Kingsville.

Javelina Highlights provides current high school and college transfer students and their families the opportunity to meet one-on-one with A&M-Kingsville faculty from their area of academic interest and sit in on some mini-class lectures. University staff also will share information about the services and activities available to A&M-Kingsville students.

A tour of the campus and residence halls will be provided, and current A&M-Kingsville students will be on hand to provide their personal insight to student life. Participants also will have the chance to learn about and complete applications or admissions and financial aid.

Cost to attend is \$8 per person to cover the cost of the continental breakfast and lunch that are provided with the day's activities. All other activities and parking are provided free of charge and participants can expect the day to end at approximately 4 p.m. or earlier.

Reservations are requested by April 3 and participants can register online at <http://www.tamuk.edu/events/highlights/> or by calling 1-800-687-6000 or 361-593-3907.





My View From the sidelines:

Commentary by Jon Gagné
Public Affairs Officer

Not enough hours in the day

In case you've been wondering where Cmdr. Allen's column has been the last two issues, and many of you have asked me about that, I have to tell you that he is "pre-occupied." Actually, it's a good thing; he's taking a week off to finish his work on his Master's Degree. By the end of the week, he'll be one of those people.

I know a lot of folks who hold upper-level degrees, and I've got nothing against any of them. There was a time when I wished I could have been one of them, but not any more. I just don't have the time to do it. Don't get me wrong; off-duty is a great thing – especially for junior Sailors just coming in to the Navy and looking to better themselves. Obtaining a college degree (Associate's or Bachelor's) will only help down the road. I've tried to convince my sons about that, but what I say goes in one ear and out the other. Some things never change.

If I could find some spare time I would probably

think seriously about it, too. But I already know that there aren't enough hours in the day as it is, so there's no reason to lose any sleep over it (from what little sleep I get).

But I'm happy for the XO. He's been working on this degree for some time now, and there have been days when I could tell that his stress level was a little high because of it. I could tell by the way he peeked over his glasses at me and asked, "...ah... yes?" That's when it's time to say what's on your mind and then get out of Dodge, and I did just that. How do we all manage our time anyway? We work 8 hours a day (if we're lucky); spend an hour a day on the highway (if we don't live in Kingsville), and spend maybe 3 or 4 hours at home before we crash on the couch for the night after the nightly news – the early one. Is that all there is to life? Well, no, it's not, and that's why the weekends are so valuable. It's two days to relax ... and do all the other things you didn't get done during the week. I figure, if we're lucky, we can get about four hours to do something we enjoy on our days off, as long as the weather cooperates. A round of golf is nice, but not when it's cold or when it's raining. Maybe we should just take time to relax and forget about everything for a while and appreciate what is really important.

Getting back to the XO ... he'll be back with his regular column in our next issue. But I have to warn you – now that's one of those people with a Master's Degree, you may not understand what he's writing about. You know what I mean?

Around the Navy in 60 seconds.....

PACIFIC OCEAN
(March 18, 2008)
Sailors aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) heave a line to hoist a rescue boat after a man overboard drill. U.S. Navy photo.



PACIFIC OCEAN
(March 18, 2008)
The guided-missile destroyer USS John S. McCain (DDG 56) fires her five-inch gun system during a live-fire exercise. U.S. Navy photo.



PACIFIC OCEAN (March 18, 2008)
Two HH-60H Seahawk helicopters, assigned to the "Indians" of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (HS) 6, transport cargo from the Military Sealift Command combat stores ship USNS Concord (T-AFS 5) to the flight deck of the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVN 68). U.S. Navy photo.



W e l c o m e A b o a r d!



*The following people have
recently reported to NAS Kingsville*

ENS Nicholas Cornwell
Student Naval Aviator, VT-22
Richmond, Va.

LTJG Lucas R. Koran
Student Naval Aviator, VT-21
Black River Falls, Wis.

LTJG Michael J. Brugger
Student Naval Aviator, VT-21
Phoenix, Ariz.

ENS Anthony J. Clay
Student Naval Aviator, VT-22
Mechanicsburg, Pa.

Lt. Kyle D. Lindsey
Instructor Pilot, VT-22
Plano, Texas

ENS Patrick R. Collins
Student Naval Aviator, VT-22
Elkhart, Ind.

ENS Megan P. Mahler
Student Naval Aviator, VT-22
Santa Clanta, Calif.

ENS Richard P. Kopp
Student Naval Aviator, VT-21
Jacksonville, Fla.

Ensign Jaime A. Moreno
Student Naval Aviator, VT-21
Tampa, Fla.

Ensign Gabriel H. Campion
Student Naval Aviator, VT-22
Macungie, Pa.

Ensign Bryce C. Holden
Student Naval Aviator, VT-22
Sparta, N.J.

EN1 Benjamin J. Carnes
Morale, Welfare and Recreation
Avon, Ill.

Comics on Duty

Don't miss this free all headline show at the K-BAR on 26 March at 1930. The lineup includes funny men Steve Bills, Drake Witham, Derek Richards, and Tom Cotter. The show is part of The Comics on Duty World Tour, and is presented by AT&T and Navy Entertainment. The show is not recommended for children under 18. For more information, call x6734. More information about Comics on Duty can be found at (www.comicsonduty.com).

Kids Night Out at CDC and SAC - Take advantage of free child care on Mar. 26 to enjoy a night out at the Comics on Duty. For more information, please call SAC at 516-6718, or CDC at 516-6176.

After School Program - The After School Program is now picking up children from Ricardo School District. Contact SAC at 516-6718 for more information.

MWR's School Age Care Program - is National After School Association certified, and drop in spaces are always available. Contact SAC at 516-6718 for more information.

Easter Breakfast at The Captain's Club - Come join us for an early breakfast following the Easter Sunrise Service at the NASK Pond.

2008 Wings Over South Texas Air Show Blue

Angels Reception - Help welcome the Blue Angels to NASK at the K-BAR on 4 Apr. The reception is open to everyone. Look in the 4 Apr. Flying K for more details.

San Antonio Spurs Tickets - Spend a great weekend in San Antonio watching the game. March and April tickets available in the ITT office call 516-6449.

Fiesta Texas tickets - Daily tickets are \$26, and 2008 season tickets are \$63.

Bowling Center - Active duty military and station personnel bowl FREE Monday - Friday from 1100-1300.

The Men's City Tournament - The tournament has been changed to April 12th and 13th. For more information, contact the Bowling Center at 516-6196.

The Bowling Center - The Bowling Center will be closed on 23 Mar. in recognition of Easter.

Auto Skills Center - Looking for a way to cut down on those vehicle maintenance cost? Join the ASC for a Brake Repair Class on 22 Mar. For more information, contact the ASC at 516-6248.

Need a safe and secure place to store that R.V, boat, trailer or extra car? If so, the Auto Skills Center has just the thing for you. There are a total of 47 sites in 3 locations. All sites except those at the Auto Skills Center will now be accessible 24 hours a day. For more information, contact the ASC at 516-6248.

Outdoor Recreation

Looking for temporary housing? The Outdoor Recreation Center has a 29 foot RV ready for move in. The monthly fee is \$450, and includes all utilities.



Stop by Outdoor Rec for more information, or call 516-6191.

Sports and Fitness - So you think you have the biggest bench at NASK? Come show what you've got at the first MWR Bench Press competition of the year on Mar. 27 at the MWR Gym. Weigh in starts at 1600, with

lifting to follow at 1630. Registration forms can be picked up at any MWR facility.

5K Fun Run - Sign up now for the Inaugural Wings Over South Texas Air Show 5K Fun Run. The 5-kilometer fun run will take place on Apr. 5, and coincide with opening day of this year's exciting Air Show. Registration will continue until Mar. 20, and the cost is \$10 for military, \$15 for youth 8-17, and \$25 for civilians. A late registration fee of \$5 will be assessed for all civilian entries after March 15. Entry fee includes an event t-shirt. Registration forms can be found at all MWR facilities.

Base Library Orientation - The Base Library will hold an orientation on 20 Mar. starting at 1700. This is a great opportunity to learn what the library has to offer. For more information, contact the Library at 516-6271.

Bowling Leagues**Wed. Nite Mixed Standings**

Pos.	Team	Won	Lost	GB
1.	Kool Katz	57.0	39.0	--
2.	DUH's	56.5	39.5	0.5
3.	Laugh Out Loud	54.5	41.5	2.5
4.	Sixty Forty	46.5	50.0	10.5
5.	Big K Rollers	45.0	51.0	12.0
6.	Skippy Strikes	43.5	52.5	13.5
7.	Sharp Shooters	41.0	55.0	16.0
8.	Petes Angels	40.5	55.5	16.5

Wed. Nite - In the Dog House League Standings

Pos.	Team	Won	Lost	GB
1.	The Lane Brakers	27.5	12.5	--
2.	Tumbalos	24.5	15.5	3.0
3.	Hounds	20.5	19.5	7.0
5.	3 Minds in the Gutter	18.0	22.0	9.5
4.	The Pin-Heads	17.5	18.5	10.0
6.	The Rebels	14.0	26.0	13.5

Mon. Nite - Ladies Nite Out League Standings

Pos.	Team	Won	Lost	GB
1.	Gamblers	52.5	27.5	--
2.	Petes Angels	50.0	30.0	2.5
3.	Lucky Ladies	48.5	31.5	4.0
4.	Lady Bugs	48.0	32.0	4.5
5.	Holy Rollers	34.0	46.0	18.5
6.	Ghost	7.0	73.0	45.5

Captain's Cup League Standings

Pos.	Team	Won	Lost	GB
1.	Who's Your Daddy	45.0	15.0	--
2.	Balls Deep	35.0	25.0	10.0
3.	Cookies & Cream	34.5	25.5	10.5
4.	FFSC	5.5	54.5	39.5

Texas A & M
Kingsville

HOG PEN***"Javelina athletes of the week"***

Sam Strickland is this week's (3/10) javelinaathletics.com male student-athlete of the week. Strickland pitched a complete game six-hitter, striking out four and walking just one, earning the win in the Javelinas 10-4 victory over Central Oklahoma in game

four of the series, earning the Javelinas a 2-2 series split. The Javelinas trailed the series two games to one before Strickland's clutch performance. Strickland is now 3-2 on the season with a team-leading 2.00 earned run average.

This year: Strickland could be in the starting rotation or a key middle relief specialist.

2007: In his first year with the Javelinas, Strickland made 11 appearances and four starts finishing with an 0-3 record and an 8.48 ERA. He pitched well in his first career start, allowing just three earned runs in 5.1 innings while striking out four against St. Mary's (3/7). He pitched well in relief against Angelo State (4/20), allowing just three earned runs over 6.1 innings, his longest outing of the season. In his final four appearances he logged 14.1 innings and posted a 5.03 ERA with 12 strikeouts.

For the second time this spring, Julia Canales is this week's (3/10) javelinaathletics.com female student-athlete of the week. Canales drove in all five of the Javelina runs in the series and all with to outs as Texas A&M-Kingsville took two out of three games



at West Texas A&M. She hit .375 in the series and drove in both runs in the 2-0 Saturday victory with a two-out single in the sixth. Sunday she delivered a two-out run scoring single in the first to give the Javelinas a 1-0 lead and then had a two-out, bases loaded single in the fifth to break the tie and give the Javelinas a 3-1 win on Sunday. For the week she went 5-for-14 for a .357 average and drove in all seven of the Javelina runs during the five games last week.

Sailors help out at Saint Gertrude Catholic School annual Science Fair

By EN3 Brenda Acevedo, NASK Public Affairs

This year's Science Fair at Kingsville's Saint Gertrude Catholic School Friday, Feb. 29, provided three NAS Kingsville Sailors the opportunity to serve as judges for 5th and 6th grades students.

The School held the annual science fair in the school's auditorium, and the tables were loaded with colorful displays outlining experiments and theories of everything from how long it takes

popcorn to pop, to what makes girls smarter than boys. Third grade teacher Maria Alvarez serves as program director for the Science Fair and puts in a lot of hours to make the event a success. "I do it for the kids," she said, "to increase the awareness of science that is all around them." Alvarez also hopes that this experience will help continue the bond developed between parent and child.

The Science Fair is open to K-2nd graders on a volunteer basis, but 3rd grade and up is mandatory.

The winners were selected by the vote of nearly 20 judges from the Kingsville community, including the three Sailors from NAS Kingsville's outlying auxiliary field at Orange Grove. The Science Fair winners will on to represent the school at the Diocese Science Fair which is held in Corpus Christi by the Catholic Dioceses at the end of March. This will be a much larger competition that will include most all South Texas local catholic schools.

The NAS Kingsville judges found the students to be extremely smart and detail-oriented when it came down to conducting their experiments. Each student had different hypothesis and actual conclusions, so



The decomposing process of a banana peel has AC3 John Crawford baffled.

many judges were surprised by the results. The NAS Kingsville contingent each had their own favorites.

Aviation Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Sammy Mitchell enjoyed the opportunity to work with the children, and he has always liked science. "These kids came up with pretty unique ideas," he said. And, just like all the judges he had his favorite experiment. "Overall, [the student] did a good job from the introduction to driving his

point home," Mitchell said.

Air Traffic Controller 3rd Class John Crawford said he had loads of fun being a judge and he made it a point to ask a lot of questions about the many interesting projects. His favorite was "Down Memory Lane" a project consisting of a hypothesis of girls having better memories than boys. After studying several subjects and comparing many results, the student's conclusion actually proved her hypothesis to be correct ...at least to her.

Crawford said he was very impressed with the kids. I had to ask him, "So, do you think you're smarter than a fifth grader?"

Crawford paused before replying, "I don't know anymore".

Aviation Boatswain's Mate Second Class Raymond Gross said he was very proud of the children and impressed with their dedication to the project. He was also impressed with their creativity. "I asked the kids a lot of questions about their projects," Gross said. "I focused my questions on their creative process, project planning, and the thoughts behind the experiment. What I learned," Gross add-

ed, "was how different each child was and how their personalities reflected through their projects."

Nationwide, Science Fairs are held for students to help with development and creativity. Learning and decision-making play vital roles in these events. Attending is always fun, because you never know what you might learn.



ABH3 Sammy Mitchell listens in while the student explains his experiment to other judges.



ABH2 Raymond Gross carefully reviews the hypothesis and conclusion before coming to a decision on his overall grade.

*Wings Over South
Texas Air Show
April 5-6,
NAS Kingsville*



Featuring the U.S. Navy Blue Angels, the Leap Frogs, and the U.S. Air Force Viper West and Heritage Flight Demonstration Team. Plus civilian aerobatic performers, fun and games for the kids, refreshments, and more!

Gates open at 10 a.m. both days. General admission is FREE.