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27th EFS takes training to Langley

By Staff Sgt. Beth Del Vecchio
36th Wing Public Affairs

The 27th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (EFS) from Langley Air Force Base, Va., is redeploying after four months at Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) in support of the Theater Security Package mission.

The 12 F-22 Raptors will head back to the 1st Fighter Wing, along with the more than 289 personnel that seamlessly integrated into the operations at Andersen AFB.

The 27th hit the ground running in June, but the work started long before they got to Guam. Their hard work and forward thinking paid off. By the end of July, the Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Unit (EAMU) had decreased the number of ground aborts due to the wet weather effects on the F-22, by 78 percent for the month.

"A sister Raptor squadron deployed here last summer lost a lot of sorties due to the extreme wet weather," said Capt. Adrienne Stahl, 27 EAMU officer in charge. "Our specialists and low observable (LO)



Launch: Staff Sgt. Micheal Oberst, 27th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron crew chief, and Airman 1st Class Christian Avila, 27th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Unit specialist, launch an F-22 Raptor during Valiant Shield 2010 on Andersen Air Force Base (AFB). Both Airman are deployed to Andersen AFB from Langley AFB, Va. (U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Adrienne Stahl)

technicians put in a lot of work to make modifications to the jets in preparation for the rainy season in Guam."

And that was just the beginning. In August, the Team Langley packaged maintenance plans (PMP)

and LO sections made history by completing two accelerated PMPs in 10 days each, which had never been accomplished on an F-22. A PMP is heavy maintenance performed on the Raptors every 300 flight hours. The process normally takes more

than a month to complete.

"Our Airmen reduced the traditional PMP time by 34 days and did it with 30 percent less personnel than we would have dedicated to the task at home station," Stahl said. "We did it faster and with less peo-

ple, than has ever been done before. This was important because we proved that we could keep up with any wartime sortie generation scenario.

But that first was not the last for the 27th EFS. The squadron took the fight on the road to Japan for Exercise Coral Mustang, a training operation involving the forward deployment of eight F-22s, 90 personnel and seven short tons of cargo from an already deployed location.

"We've done smaller, one and two-ship forward deployments, but we've never tried it with this much cargo, people and airplanes," said Lt. Col. Pete Fesler, 27th EFS commander. "It worked out great. In fact, we returned home with 45 out of 46 scheduled sorties flown, which are a testament to the caliber of our maintenance team."

Soon after Coral Mustang, the squadron was back in the cockpit and turning wrenches for Exercise Valiant Shield 2010, a U.S. Pacific Command Exercise focusing on

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Firefighters receive three new emergency vehicles

By Jesse Leon Guerrero
Joint Region Edge Staff

U.S. Naval Base Guam's (NBG) Fire and Emergency Services held a ribbon cutting ceremony for two new fire trucks and a wildland brush truck at Fire Station 1 on NBG Oct. 1.

Capt. Richard Wood, commanding officer of NBG and guest speaker, said he was glad the Navy was able to replace the firefighters' older models with top-of-the-line equipment.

"I appreciate what you do out in the community," Wood told the firefighters. "I also appreciate what you do for the people who live on base and everyone in between."

Of the two new fire trucks, Engine 4 will serve at U.S. Naval Hospital Guam and Engine 7 will stay

at NBG Ordnance Annex. They bring the total number of fire trucks maintained by Fire and Emergency Services to six, located at five fire stations.

Nicholas Perez, fire captain at NBG Ordnance Annex, said the new fire trucks' closed cab compartments comply with a safety regulation from the National Fire Protection Association.

"Both trucks are identical, so they can pretty much respond to any emergency call that we might need, whether it's structural, medical and [Hazardous Materials]," Perez said.

The new brush truck, also known as a forestry truck, carries multiple water lines and is more mobile for getting into tighter areas. It allows for a pump and roll firefighting technique so a firefighter can follow

along on foot while the truck moves and distributes water through its hoses. This differs from the larger fire trucks that must stay stationary when they pump water.

Robert Green, fire chief for NBG, said the equipment will help the firefighters do their jobs, but it is their frequent and intense training that they rely on to protect the community everyday.

"I've been in the fire service over 20 years and I've never seen the enthusiasm [and] pride that I see in these guys here," Green said. "In case something happens to my family, I know these guys will be there and [my family] will get quality, quality care."

In case of an emergency, contact NBG Fire and Emergency Services at 333-HELP (4357).



Fire truck: Capt. Richard Wood, right, commanding officer of U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG), discusses the features of a new fire truck with Nicholas Perez, fire captain of NBG Ordnance Annex fire station, following a ribbon cutting ceremony for the truck, another fire truck and a forestry truck at Fire Station 1 on NBG Oct. 1. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)

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integrated joint training with our sister services.

"The exercise was unique because most of the time when we train, we do part-task training focused on a narrow segment of our combat missions. It might be a fight that lasts only 20 minutes and then we come back," said Fesler. "This training was more representative of how we will actually employ our forces, where we have a long drive to even get to the fight, we hit the tanker and join a fight already in progress, we go back to

the tanker and then back into the fight – multiple iterations of this and then at the end, still have a long flight home."

During Valiant Shield, the pilots flew sorties sometimes 400-miles to the fight and back to the base. Normally, they travel 80-150 miles away.

"We had to manage weapons and fuel differently than in our part-task training at home or even here at Andersen prior to Valiant Shield," Fesler said. "It was more like a wartime rehearsal."

According to Stahl, the 27th flew 80 sorties and 210 flight hours

during Valiant Shield. Maintainers on the ground, who were used to one- to two-hour sorties, were seeing up to six-hour sorties.

"The operations tempo that the maintenance folks were moving at, with the short turn times along with multiple aircraft landing at the same time, really tested our abilities and what we could handle," Stahl said. "We learned how the airplanes would react to longer sorties, and how quickly we could turn the jets and get them back into the fight."

In four short months, the 27th EFS had not only broken records

and set the standard, they had honed skills they will take with them to other parts of the world. Fesler and Stahl agreed that they could not have been successful without the support of Team Andersen.

"Andersen's airfield team dealt with a quantity of aircraft that they aren't used to and they did great," Fesler said. "We could not have safely conducted our operations without the work that Andersen's team did so professionally."

Stahl echoed the colonel's remarks.

"Every single maintainer came

to Andersen and integrated into already established permanent party organizations – Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Maintenance Squadron, Munitions Squadron, Logistics Readiness Squadron and Communications Squadron, to name a few," she said. "The permanent party folks here took all of our people in and gave them great support throughout our deployment."

The 27th EFS will return to Langley and prepare for their next deployment, no doubt taking a lot from their stay here to use on their next mission.

27th EFS: Service members from Langley Air Force Base, Va., assigned to the 27th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron at Andersen Air Force Base pose for a group shot. (U.S. Air Force Photo illustration by Tech. Sgt. Mike Andriacco)



EOD Mobile Unit 5 assists fleet security

By Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Charles Oki
Navy Public Affairs Support Element
West Det. Japan

A small but vital part of USS George Washington's (CVN 73) Carrier Strike Group (GWCSG) team is Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Mobile Unit 5, Platoon 522.

This six-man team composed of EOD technicians and Navy divers provides EOD and diving support to George Washington (GW) and Carrier Strike Group 5 while patrolling in the largest area of operations in the U.S. Navy.

These units are normally deployed as expeditionary assets assisting combat units with the disposal of unexploded ordnance and improvised explosive devices (IED) in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. The opportunity to deploy on GW is a chance for the EOD technicians to experience the blue-

water Navy as well as earn warfare qualifications that are normally out of reach for most expeditionary forces.

"The primary mission of Platoon 522 is to provide support of flight operations whenever live ordnance is being handled," said Lt. Thomas Radich, Carrier Task Force (CTF) 70 EOD liaison officer. "The EOD technicians are on watch and ready to respond to any ordnance incident that could occur on the flight deck or within the task force. Without the platoon on board it might take days to respond if something occurred. EOD as a whole is multi-faceted and can respond to a variety of situations such as IEDs (improvised explosive devices) or floating mines in the open ocean. The platoon can provide support to other units within the strike group with their fly-away capability that enables the platoon to operate anywhere within reach of the carrier."

Less than one year ago, members

of Platoon 501 received a message from the Military Sealift Command Fleet Replenishment Oiler USNS Rappahannock (T-AO 204) that a large mooring line had become entangled in its starboard propeller and requested the platoons assistance in its removal.

Within 24 hours, four Sailors from Platoon 501 were in a helicopter en route to the Rappahannock. Soon after arriving on the ship, Rappahannock arrived at White Beach Naval Facility in Okinawa, Japan where they immediately began work to remove the line.

"The location of the dive job was good because we already had access to a dive locker and decompression chamber," said Navy Diver 2nd class (DSW) Joshua Melius. "With the support of the Rappahannock, we were able to get into the water quickly and within an hour of hitting the water, we had already removed the mooring line and conducted an inspection

to ensure the screw had not been damaged."

Even when the Strike Group pulls into a liberty port the job of Platoon 522 is never over since EOD technicians are on call to assist GWCSG units in the event that an explosive device is found on or near the ship.

"It's every Sailor's responsibility to keep the ship safe and we're just another tool in the tool box," said Chief Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician (EWS/SW) J. Smaistrle, leading chief petty officer of Platoon 522. "We're ready to respond to ensure the ship stays safe and capable of doing its mission. Just like how the master-at-arms personnel are the first line of defense in finding an explosive device, we're able to ensure that no harm comes to the ship and its personnel."

The Sailors of Platoon 522 also assist Sailors on board GW through physical training (PT) sessions and information about career opportuni-

ties within Naval Special Warfare Command and Navy Expeditionary Combat Command.

"We hold these PT sessions first and foremost to help the Sailors to be more mission ready and prepare for special programs," said Navy Diver 2nd Class (DSW/SW) Brody Dorton, who is temporarily assigned to Platoon 522 from Mobile Diving Salvage Unit 1. "There are also a lot of the Sailors who come to our sessions and ask questions about what we do and other special programs of the Navy because they don't know anything about them, so we do our best to provide background information of what programs they might be interested in and help them through the process of applying for these programs."

GW is the Navy's only full time forward-deployed aircraft carrier and operates from Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan. It is currently on a deployment ensuring security and stability in the Western Pacific.

Deployed Andersen Airman helps BEEF up Marine Corps mission

By Senior Airman Melissa B. White
451st Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

One Airman from Andersen Air Force Base uses his skills while deployed to build sun shades to improve the quality of life for a new F/A-18 Hornet squadron Sept. 23-24 at Kandahar Airfield (KAF), Afghanistan.

Staff Sgt. Daniel Wissmann, a 36th Civil Engineer Squadron Airman deployed to the 777th Expeditionary Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force (BEEF) Squadron, assisted his squadron and worked with members of the 232nd Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) to set up the structures for their aircraft. The F/A-18 squadron from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., is the first Marine Corps unit of its type at Kandahar Airfield and has been in place for about four months.

"We're here to provide them with better facilities, and it works out great because they're hard workers," said Wissmann, a structural journeyman. "It's really hot out here

so we're working together as fast as we can to get the job done."

On the busy work site, Airmen and Marines worked side-by-side under the hot sun and cloudless sky to fasten bolts, move arches, secure a canopy and operate machinery in a smooth partnership.

"I like being out here with these guys," said Cpl. Cody Deppen, 232nd VMFA structural and hydraulics mechanic, about working with the Airmen. "It's a good change of pace from the day-to-day work ... I never get the chance to work with them back in the states."

The Prime BEEF squadron is currently in the process of building a total of 10 sun shades for the unit, with an estimated completion in October or November. It typically takes the group about a day-and-a-half to complete one, with an additional week to pour the concrete blocks and allow for them to cure before they are able to anchor each structure.

Building the sun shades will enhance the quality of life for the Marines who work on the aircraft 24/7 and will also increase mission



BEEF: Staff Sgt. Daniel Wissmann signals to Airmen in forklifts to pull a canopy over a metal frame for an F/A-18 Hornet sun shade Sept. 24, at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan. Wissmann is a structural journeyman for the 777th Expeditionary Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force (BEEF) Squadron and hails from Schertz, Texas. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Chad Chisholm)

effectiveness. Wissmann said there was a survey done where they monitored the temperature at up to 30 degrees cooler under the sun shades. Summer temperatures at KAF can exceed 120 degrees

Fahrenheit.

"Sometimes the sun makes the jets so hot that they're too hot to work on," said Lance Cpl. Drew Petti, 232nd VMFA aircraft ordnance technician. "The shades

create a great improvement in temperature ... the improvement is great."

Deppen also said the Marines won't have to worry about sunburn or heat stress factors as much during their daily routines.

The Prime BEEF Squadron received help from the Marines because it didn't have all the Airmen in the unit available at the time.

"We don't always have a lot of people on hand because we generally do work out at the forward operating bases rather than on KAF," said Wissmann. "It's great having the Marines help us so we, in turn, can help them."

The Prime BEEF squadron, which handles smaller-scale construction projects than Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron, Engineer (RED HORSE) units, falls under the 577th Prime BEEF Group at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, and is one of three Prime BEEF units in the country.

"I like the fact that I'm improving the quality of life and helping others, especially those who put their lives on the line every day," said Wissmann.



Kandahar: Airmen from the 777th Expeditionary Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force (BEEF) Squadron provided the skill set and assisted members of the 232nd Marine Fighter Attack Squadron to set up sun shades for F/A-18 Hornets, Sept. 23 at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Chad Chisholm)

Van Wert, Inmon named Andersen's Best



Van Wert: Master Sgt. Jerome Van Wert, center, poses with his co-workers at the 36th Maintenance Squadron on Andersen Air Force Base Sept. 23. Van Wert is a recent winner of the Andersen's Best award after displaying superior work ethic and selfless dedication to his job and fellow airmen. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Julian North)



Inmon: Col. Tod Fingal, 36th Wing vice commander, presents Tech. Sgt. Andrea Inmon, 36th Mobility Response Squadron (MRS) noncommissioned officer in charge of training, with a certificate after being awarded Andersen's Best at the 36th MRS, on Andersen Air Force Base Sept. 27. Inmon was recognized by her squadron and wing leadership for her innovative process to manually transfer hard copy training records over to Training Business Area, the Air Force's computerized on-the-job training records system. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Nichelle Anderson)



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MSFSC SSU: Superior service with teamwork

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert
Joint Region Edge Staff

Military Sealift Fleet Support Command, Ship Support Unit, (MSFSC SSU) Guam provides full spectrum operational, repair and logistics support to all other Military Sealift Command (MSC) vessels making port of call in Guam.

The ship types and missions MSC supports spans the gamut of fleet replenishment oilers, dry cargo, ammunition carriers, military preposition assets, hospital ships, tug and salvage vessels, oceanographic sur-

vey platforms and a myriad of other fleet support vessels.

"We are a forward-deployed MSC out port that provides operational, engineering, logistics and administrative support to MSC-owned, operated and controlled ships and their crews (military and civilian) operating in Western Pacific in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom," said Cmdr. Norm Maple, commanding officer, MSFSC SSU, Guam.

Though the command supports any MSC ship that comes to Guam, only one MSC vessel is homeported in Guam — USS Frank Cable (AS-40). Yeoman 1st Class (SW/AW)

Maria Manchion who is assigned to the command said though she has been normally a fleet Sailor, working for the MSC command isn't much different. While the composition of this command is predominantly civilian, many civilian employees are retired members of the Navy, Marines, Army and Air Force.

"Truth be known, the working environment at this command is refreshing in a manner which rank and position do not fully dictate what an individual's role is in support of the command mission," Manchion said. "We work fine together which is amazing considering the age range and different experience levels of

the personnel that work here."

Manchion said the exposure of the programs required to be managed and the interaction with personnel up and down the chain of command instills a sense of purpose and a feeling of satisfaction at day's end when big projects come to fruition. She also said she was in a unique position working with the logistics side of the U.S. maritime mission.

"Admittedly, the overall level of knowledge regarding the significant logistics support MSC provides U.S. Navy's fleet is lacking amongst a vast majority of fleet Sailors," she said. "When deployed aboard a fleet ship,

all food, fuel, beans, bullets, mail, sodas, etc... come from an MSC ship when underway. Until a person looks behind the veil, they have no comprehension of the size, reach, capability, and reliability the MSC fleet and mariners bring to the fight."

Overall, Manchion said the command truly believes in their slogan "Superior service through teamwork," and has said her experience with the command will be valuable when she returns to the fleet.

"This dynamic environment ensures a person will be a team player and will leave this command a more well-rounded and capable leader and manager," Manchion said.

Fear not a factor for members of Team Andersen

By Airman Whitney Amstutz
36th Wing Public Affairs

Service members, dependents and civilians braved the wind and torrential rain Sept. 25 at Arc Light Memorial Park on Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) to determine one thing: is fear really a factor?

NBC's Fear Factor is known for its outrageous stunts and truly vile challenges. Thanks to the creative minds at the 36th Services Squadron, Andersen AFB has its own version of Fear Factor in which the stunts are just as shocking.

More than 20 competitors participated in Andersen's Annual Fear Factor challenge for a grand prize of round-trip airfare to Japan. Following an initial qualifying round, which narrowed the field to eight, contestants completed a series of challenges testing the limits of both mind and body.

"You can't have a Fear Factor event without some gore and gagging," said Michele Jacobs, director of the HotSpot. "We obviously can't

put anyone's life in danger, like jumping out of a helicopter or driving a car off a cliff, so it's always challenging trying to come up with the physical and mental stunts."

There was no rest for the weary as the eight remaining competitors were quickly ushered on to the next stunts which consisted of a 25-foot rock climbing wall, a low-crawl pit and tire obstacle course. The challenge tested the competitor's speed and hand-eye coordination. Once all participants completed the course, the six fastest individuals moved on to round three.

The semi-final round tested the principal of mind over matter. The remaining six competitors, all vying for a spot in the final, were faced with perhaps the most difficult challenge yet: consuming a partially developed bird embryo.

"The eating stunt is surprisingly easy to create," Jacobs said. "On Guam there are many delicacies that most of us would not think of eating."

After overcoming their fears and gag reflexes, the finalists awaited

the unveiling of the final event.

"We boiled a large amount of pig and chicken parts to make the final challenge," Jacobs said. "Everything had to be completely sanitary to ensure that no one got sick, but we had to keep that grotesque element as well."

The final three competitors thrust their heads into large buckets of water filled with various animal parts in an attempt to fish out five chicken feet and be named Andersen's Fear Factor champion.

Jacob Greathouse, a Team Andersen dependent, dominated the competition and finished several seconds ahead of the field proving that for him, fear is not a factor. Having won the grand prize, Greathouse is looking forward to taking a vacation.

"I wanted to compete just to see how I would do," Greathouse said. "At the time I signed up I don't recall if there was any listing of what the prizes would be, but I am very excited about the prize. I haven't been able to visit Japan yet. I am very happy with it."



No Fear: Airman 1st Class Michael Martin, 36th Medical Group Aerospace medical technician, scales a 25-foot rock wall in the hope of becoming Andersen Air Force Base's Annual Fear Factor champion Sept. 25 at Arc Light Memorial Park. More than 20 servicemembers, dependents and civilians came out for a chance to prove that fear is not a factor and win the grand prize of round-trip airfare to Japan. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Whitney Amstutz)

News Notes

Job Announcements

Interested individuals can view the vacancy listings at <https://www.cnrc.navy.mil/Marianas/index.htm> or at <https://chart.donhr.navy.mil>. For more information, call 339-4222/6210.

U.S. Naval Base Guam

Fire Protection Inspector, Closes Oct. 13
Marine Transportation Spec, Closes Oct. 14

Employment Opportunities

Looking for a part time job? 36th Force Support Squadron offers multiple employment opportunities. Current job vacancies and job descriptions within 36th Services

are available online at

www.36thservices.com by clicking on HRO jobs. For more information, visit the Human Resources Office (HRO) or call 366-6141.

U.S. Naval Base Guam Bus Shuttle

Starting Oct. 1, four busses will have shuttle routes around U.S. Naval Base Guam and to Polaris Point and Naval Munitions Command. There will be no charge. The service is available to military ID and CAC holders. The bus schedule is as follows:
Daytime shuttle
- Seven days a week, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Rush hour shuttle
- Monday-Friday, 6-8 a.m., 4-6 p.m.

GWA Online Payments

Guam Waterworks Authority (GWA) will accept online payments at www.guamwaterworks.org. GWA already accepts credit card payments at its Tumon office which is open from 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday. Additionally, GWA customer service representatives are now located at the Guam Power Authority Julale Shopping Center office in Hagatna and can accept credit card payments there as well. For more information about online payment log onto the GWA website at www.guamwaterworks.org.

Navy Citizenship Codes

Service members who become naturalized citizens should immediately report citizenship changes to their local service record holder. Some Personnel Support Detachments may not have access to the appropriate codes required to enter citizenship changes in the Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System. For a list of codes, refer to the Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS) Instruction 1080.53, Enlisted Distribution and Verification Report Users' Manual, Section 11.3 Citizenship. This document can be accessed online at: <http://www.npc.navy.mil/NR/rdonlyres/0899052A-1212-437B-9FB1-0DF3CF366858/0/108053.pdf>.

Navy appoints new Ombudsman-at-Large

By Bruce Moody

Navy Family Readiness Program,
Commander, Navy Installations
Command

Brandy Clingan is serving as Ombudsman-at-Large after being appointed by Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead. Clingan accepted the appointment as Debby Greene stepped down from the position after 15 months of service.

Clingan and Bobbi West, spouse of the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, are now the Navy's two Ombudsmen-at-Large.

As Ombudsman-at-Large, Clingan and West are responsible for advising the Chief of Naval Operations and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy on matters affecting Sailors and their families. They report directly to Chief of Naval Operations.

They act as a focal point for the important flow of information from Navy Ombudsmen, Sailors, and their families to the CNO. They serve as an advocate for the Navy Family Ombudsman Program.

Ombudsmen-at-Large may travel to Navy sites with the Navy In-

spector General and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy. They may also visit commands, meet with command Ombudsmen and family members, and attend meetings and conferences. From these visits, information important to the successful operation and improvement of the Ombudsman Program may be shared with the Commander, Navy Installations Command's Ombudsman Program Manager.

Clingan is also chairman of Naval Services FamilyLine, an organization of Navy Family volunteers which equips our Sea Service fam-

ily members to succeed through various educational platforms.

"I am deeply honored and humbled by this appointment," Clingan said. "Ombudsmen play an important role in the success of a command's mission, because family readiness is key to mission readiness."

This month marks the 40th anniversary of the Navy Family Ombudsman Program. Ombudsmen serve as a vital two-way communication link between the command and the Navy Family.

"As a Navy spouse, I have

watched the Navy's Ombudsman program grow," Clingan said. "The program is stronger than ever, thanks to the program managers and an amazing, global network of volunteers. They are doing extraordinary work in extraordinary times."

Clingan said she is impressed with the support ombudsmen provide family members of Active Duty, Reserve and Individual Augmentee Sailors. They provide support to families serving in locations which are remote, isolated or outside the close proximity of a Navy installation.

Reduce number of home fires with safe cooking

By Andersen Fire Prevention
Flight

Unsafe cooking habits are the No. 1 cause of home fires in the United States.

The leading cause of home cooking fires and injuries is unattended cooking. Safe cooking can prevent fires and save lives.

Always keep an eye on food being heated. If you leave the kitchen, turn off the heat. If the phone rings or something else requires you to leave the kitchen momentarily when cooking, take a pot holder or wooden spoon with you as a reminder to get back to the kitchen quickly.

Keep young children away from appliances when cooking. If you allow older children to cook, supervise them closely and teach them safe cooking practices. Try enforcing a

three-foot kid-free-zone around the range and teach youngsters not to play in that area.

Dress appropriately for cooking. Wear short or tight-fitting sleeves when cooking and use caution when working near heat sources. Try not to reach or lean over the stove. You can avoid this by not storing items you use directly over or behind the stovetop.

Provide plenty of quality, fire resistant pot holders and oven mitts for the cooks in your household. Select heavy, fire-retardant oven mitts that nearly reach the elbow to protect your entire forearm from heat.

Turn handles inward so pots and pans won't be pulled or knocked off the stove.

Keep the stove top clean and clear. Store things that can catch fire away from heat sources. Keep food or grease from building up by clean-

ing your stove often. Never re-use grease.

Monitor hot oil carefully and heat it slowly, keeping the pan lid close at hand. Guard against splattering grease. Know what to do in case a grease fire occurs. Use caution with electrical appliances. Plug one appliance into an outlet at a time. Have appliances with frayed or cracked cords repaired before using. Never stand in or near water when using electrical appliances.

Always have pot holders and lids ready when cooking. You may need them if you experience a small pan fire.

If a pan fire starts on the stove top, carefully slide a lid or large pan over the fire and then turn off the burner. Never pour water on a grease fire, because splashed grease can ignite combustibles in your kitchen, spreading the fire.

Don't try to carry a pan that's on fire outside or to the sink. This is extremely dangerous, because it can easily ignite your clothing or other combustibles you may pass with the pan.

If a pan fire starts inside the oven, turn off the heat and keep the door closed to smother the flames. If a fire starts inside your microwave, keep the door shut, push the stop switch, and unplug the unit. Keep the door closed until the fire is out. Call the fire department to report the fire via 911.

If your clothing catches fire, do not run. Stop, drop to the ground and roll over and over until the flames are smothered.

Make sure the fire extinguisher for your house is in operating condition. Check the gauge and ensure the pressure is in the green range and that a pin is secured in place

with a plastic seal.

Remember to turn off the burners if you are cooking and a power outage occurs.

If you do not have a fire extinguisher, you can get one at the base Self Help Store if you live in base housing. The recommended type for household use is multi-purpose ABC dry chemical.

If a fire is too large for you to control or you think you might get hurt trying to do so, get out of your dwelling immediately. Evacuate everyone and call the fire department via 911 from a neighbor's house. If you do have a fire that you extinguish you must report this to the fire department as well, so they can ensure your house is fire safe.

If you have any questions or need assistance please contact the Fire Prevention Section of the fire department at 366-5264/5284.

Military launches domestic violence awareness campaign

By Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

The Defense Department is observing National Domestic Violence Awareness Month by reminding the military community about resources and programs to help in preventing or stopping domestic violence.

President Barack Obama issued a National Domestic Violence Awareness Month proclamation Oct. 1, emphasizing the U.S. government's commitment to reducing its prevalence, supporting victims and bringing offenders to justice.

"Ending domestic violence requires a collaborative effort involving every part of society," he wrote. "This month – and throughout the year – let each of us resolve to be vigilant in recognizing and combating domestic violence in our communities, and let us build a culture of safety and support for all those affected."

Domestic violence is a national problem that cuts across socioeconomic, age, gender, ethnic, racial and cultural lines. National statistics reveal that it affects more than 4 million people a year, with almost 17,000 of them murdered by an intimate partner and an estimated 2,000 children dying at the hands of a caregiver.

The FBI reports that people are more likely to be assaulted in their own homes by someone they know and trust than on the street by a stranger. Typically, the injuries are more devastating.

But domestic violence isn't always physical, officials emphasized. It can be more subtle: emotional, psychological or economic. Regardless of its form, it hurts individuals, ruins families and weakens communities.

The military faces the same challenges as society at large, particularly in light of the high operational tempo and the strain it puts on servicemembers as well as their families. Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates acknowledged these stresses during a lecture last week at Duke University.

"As a result of the multiple deployments and hardships associated with Afghanistan and Iraq, large swaths of the military – especially our ground combat forces and their families – are under extraordinary stress," Gates said during the Sept. 29 address.

This comes with consequences, the secretary said, including "more anxiety and disruption inflicted on children, increased domestic strife and a corresponding rising divorce rate – which in the case of Army enlisted has nearly doubled since the

wars began – and, most tragically, a growing number of suicides."

The Defense Department has added muscle to its programs addressing all these issues, including domestic violence. This month, it's stepping up its outreach to remind the military community about programs in place to prevent domestic violence and to ensure people know what where to turn if they experience or witness it.

Installation family support centers offer a wide variety of programs and classes for military members and their families, and Military OneSource and Military Homefront provide online access to information and resources, officials noted.

In addition, the family advocacy program is responsible for addressing violence in military families through prevention, early identification, intervention, victim support and treatment for abusers. The program's staff members work with commanders, military law enforcement personnel, medical staff and family center staffers and chaplains, as well as civilian agencies, to provide a coordinated response to domestic abuse.

To protect those who might otherwise not file a report, the family advocacy program allows people to submit a "restricted report," officials explained, to report domestic abuse

by a servicemember without initiating a law enforcement or command notification or investigation.

Military installations are highlighting these and other programs with their own National Domestic Violence Awareness Month campaigns.

Fort Meade, Md., for example, held a candlelight vigil Oct. 1 to kick off a variety of awareness-building events this month. These include seminars on subjects ranging from couples communication to healthy versus unhealthy relationships and spousal rights.

At Scott Air Force Base, Ill., the 375th Medical Group's family advocacy office launched voluntary anger management workshops to teach attendees to understand their anger issues and deal with them in nondestructive ways.

Meanwhile, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., is spotlighting its successful Power Workshop. The program gives victims of domestic violence an opportunity to share how it has impacted their homes, and teaches participants how to defuse potentially violent domestic situations, and what to do if they escalate.

At Joint Base Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle

Pacific, launched his command's domestic violence awareness campaign by urging vigilance.

"I want to thank you for all that you do in trying to eradicate domestic violence," Smith said at the Sept. 30 event. "We're not perfect yet, but we're definitely making progress. This is a very important issue, and we need to stay ferocious on our attack to eliminate domestic violence."

Officials call information the most important tool in stopping domestic violence before it begins, and emphasize that everyone can play a part in preventing or ending it.

- They recommend these steps:
- Teach young people that violence is not acceptable;
 - Promote general domestic violence awareness by talking to your friends and family about this issue;
 - Offer support and understanding – not judgment – to a friend or family member that you may be concerned about;
 - Support your friends and family by informing them of resources that can help them if they are experiencing relationship problems;
 - Become active in domestic violence prevention activities on your installation or in your local community; and
 - Report to law enforcement or your local family advocacy program if you suspect abuse.

Take steps to stop phishing in its tracks

By Airman Whitney Amstutz
36th Wing Public Affairs

In this day and age face-to-face communication has taken a back seat to the numerous avenues provided by modern technology. Throughout the United States and across the globe, in-person exchange has become obsolete to the speed and efficiency of phone calls and e-mail.

Unfortunately, advanced technology can put users at risk when the proper precautions are not taken. Phishing scams have been a long-time favorite for hackers and others intent upon the theft and misuse of personal information. It is important that service members know how to protect themselves and the military against such attacks.

Master Sgt. Ronald Goon, 36th Security Forces Squadron noncommissioned officer in charge of training, recently received a bachelor's degree in information technology and said he believes the first line of defense against phishing attempts



is awareness.

"Phishing is an attempt to extract or solicit valuable information from individuals to gain access to their personal accounts and e-mails," Goon said. "Scams are most often targeted at those who are not Internet savvy and don't know very much about Internet security. If service members just took some time to

read about the prevention of identity theft and passed that information along, we would see a decline in the amount of successful phishing attempts."

Scams can come at users through a multitude of different avenues of approach such as phone calls, e-mail, links and pop-ups. In addition to awareness, having solid protection

software can divert many attempts to gain access to personal information.

"Use anti-virus and anti-spyware software, as well as a firewall, and update them all regularly," Goon said. "Some phishing e-mails contain software that can harm your computer or track your activities on the Internet without your knowledge."

Tricare, the health care program serving active duty service members, National Guard and Reserve members, retirees and families of survivors worldwide, is also commonly used by individuals seeking to steal information.

Recently, several Airmen at various installations reported receiving phone calls from an individual asking for information such as social security numbers, home addresses and dates of birth. Due to their suspicious nature, the calls were reported, leading to an investigation that revealed a phishing scam.

"Tricare, or any official agency, will never ask personal information

over the phone or through an insecure website," said Staff. Sgt. Bradford Shanahan, noncommissioned officer in charge of Tricare. "Any information we require will be solicited through official mail, or the service member will be asked to come into the office. For those who use Tricare Online, information is sent exclusively through our secure site."

It is vital that unusual phone calls and e-mails are reported immediately to the proper authorities. Key things to be on the lookout for include requests for personal or financial information. Legitimate companies don't ask for this information via e-mail. In addition, review all credit card and bank statements as soon as they are received to ensure the information is accurate.

Vigilance is the key to both information and operational security.

"Just like on the battlefield, attacks come from 360 degrees," Goon said. "We have to have the knowledge and the skill to fight back."

MCPON sends 2010 Navy birthday message to fleet

Special from Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) (SS/SW) Rick D. West

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON)(SS/SW) Rick D. West released the following Navy Birthday message to the fleet Oct. 5: "Shipmates and Navy Families, On this wonderful occasion of our Navy's 235th birthday, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for your outstanding dedication and commitment to our great Navy.

As you know, our Navy is the best it has ever been; we're operating on land, on, above and below the world's oceans, with the most advanced equipment and technology, but, at the end of the day, we are only as good as our people. It takes Sailors like you to ensure we continually meet the demands of our expanded Navy environment and increased mis-

sion requirements.

I would like to thank each and every one of you for your service to our nation and our Navy, and for truly making our great Navy a global force for good.

As we celebrate our anniversary, take a moment to remember those currently on watch around the world and those who have gone before us and laid the foundation to which you build upon.

I also want to say "thank you" and express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to our Navy families. Your role in your Sailor's life and the Navy is vitally important.

Happy birthday Shipmates! I am really proud of who you are and the outstanding job you do every day.

Happy 235th birthday Navy and HOOYAH!"

For more news from Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, visit www.navy.mil/local/mcpon/.

To watch the CNO's birthday message, visit <http://www.navy.mil/navydata/featurePlay.asp?id=107>.



MCPON: Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) (SS/SW) Rick D. West talks with Sailors aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Stethem (DDG 63) during his visit to Fleet Activities Yokosuka. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Jennifer A. Villalovos)

Frank Cable returns to Polaris Point



Heading Home: The submarine tender USS Frank Cable (AS 40) pulls away from Guam Shipyard and heads to her normal berth at Polaris Point on Guam Sept. 24. Frank Cable finished a Military Sealift Command integration and is preparing for sea trials. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class David R. Krigbaum)

Navy promotes energy security at upcoming forum

From Chief of Naval Operations
Energy and Environmental Readiness
Public Affairs

The 2010 Navy Energy Forum will be held Oct. 12 through 13 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C. The theme for this forum is "Seapower Repowered: Energy as a Force Multiplier and Strategic Resource."

The forum will bring together military, government, and industry leaders to discuss the importance of energy to the warfighter and combat capability. Energy and environmental organizations are encouraged to participate.

Distinguished Navy speakers include the Honorable Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy, and Admiral Gary Roughead, Chief of Naval Operations. Guest speakers include Former Senator John Warner (R-Va), Dr. George Friedman, international affairs expert and chief executive officer of STRATFOR, and Dr. Daniel Yergin, chairman of Cambridge Energy Research Associates and Pulitzer Prize winner for his bestseller, "The Prize."

Building on a year of progress toward the Secretary of the Navy's energy goals announced in fall 2009, participants will focus on policies, partnerships, technologies, and culture change needed to move these goals forward. Issues such as reducing lifecycle energy costs, grid security, and alternative fuels will be addressed. The forum will also address the "Navy Energy Vision for the 21st Century," which identifies the Navy's way forward for increasing energy security.

"Energy is a national security issue, both for the Navy and the nation, and our use of this critical resource must be looked at in strategic terms. Reforming energy use within the Navy will, first and foremost, increase our combat capability, while it also advances our energy security and promotes environmental



Energy Forum: John Bigus, left, a fuels engineer assigned to Naval Air Warfare Center-Aircraft Division in Patuxent River, Md., explains the greening of Navy Fuels at last year's Naval Energy Forum hosted by the Office of Naval Research and Task Force Energy. (U.S. Navy file photo)

stewardship," stated Rear Admiral Philip Culom, director of the Navy's Energy and Environmental Readiness Division and director of the Navy's Task Force Energy.

A newly recast OPNAV N45, the Energy and Environmental Readiness Division, which leads Navy's Task Force Energy, is hosting this event with help from National Defense In-

dustrial Association (NDIA). Those interested in participating or exhibiting at this event should contact Ms. Kari King, CMP at kking@ndia.org or (703) 247-2588.

More information on the conference can be found at <http://www.ndia.org/meetings/1600/Pages/default.aspx>.

Those requesting information regarding Navy's energy and environmental programs may contact Ms. Tracey Moriarty, Chief of Naval Operations Energy and Environmental Readiness Division, at tracey.moriarty@navy.mil.

For more news from Navy Environment and Energy, visit www.navy.mil/local/nee/.

Legislation extends special stop-loss pay deadline

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

President Barack Obama signed legislation Sept. 30 extending the Retroactive Stop-Loss Special Pay deadline through Dec. 3.

Officials estimate about 80,000 eligible service members, veterans and beneficiaries have yet to apply for the special stop-loss pay.

"It's important that all those eligible for this benefit take the opportunity to apply for what they've earned," said Lernes Hebert, Defense Department acting director of officer and enlisted personnel management. "We encourage those eligible to apply as soon as possible, to avoid the last-minute rush, which can increase processing time."

The program was due to run out Oct. 21. The extension is part of the continuing resolution that funds federal government operations. Congress has not yet passed authorization or appropriations bills for fiscal 2011.

The program affects military members whose service was involuntarily extended under stop-loss between Sept. 11, 2001, and Sept. 30, 2009.

Eligible members or their beneficiaries are required to submit a claim to their respective military service in order to receive the benefit of \$500 for each full or partial month served in a stop-loss status.

The original deadline for claims was Oct. 21.

Stop-loss allows the military to extend service members beyond their end-of-term of service dates. The program has been used extensively since 9/11 to maintain personnel strength in deploying units.

The program allows the military to extend service members whose end-of-term of service, retirement or end-of-service obligation date falls during a deployment. They may be involuntarily extended until the end of their unit's deployment. The Army and Marine Corps used the policy the most.

The special pay is meant to remunerate the service members for their sacrifices. When the program began last year, the services estimated 145,000 service members, veterans and beneficiaries were eligible. Most had already separated from the services.

The services have sent direct mail to those eligible under the program. The military has engaged with military and veteran service organizations. The services also reached out via social networks and media outlets.

Last month President Obama reached out to veterans in a video posted to the White House Web site encouraging those who are eligible to apply for the benefit.

For more news, visit www.navy.mil.

Sexual assault advocates receive certificates



Advocates: Certificates were awarded to 17 new Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) victim advocates Sept. 24 on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG). The new advocates completed the 30-hour SAPR Academy intervention and advocacy training Sept. 20-24. Each of the victim advocates was interviewed and carefully selected for the Fleet and Family Support Center's (FFSC) SAPR program, under which they will respond to victims of sexual assault. The victim advocates are required to complete an additional 10 hours of training within a year. The certificates were presented by Cmdr. Kevin Gillam, NBG executive officer, front left, and Evangeline Cabacar, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, front, third from left. (U.S. Navy photo by Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Joy Bercide)

Hollywood films 'Battleship' aboard Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Mark Logico

Commander Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

A Universal Pictures production crew was aboard Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) Sept. 7-24 to film the new action-adventure movie "Battleship," based on the Hasbro board game.

Directed by Peter Berg, Battleship will feature the U.S. and Japanese navies stumbling upon the point of an alien invasion. Berg's previous directorial works include "The Kingdom," "The Rundown" and "Hancock."

"I've always been a huge fan of the Navy," Berg said. "My father was a Marine and a naval historian. I was brought up learning about Pearl Harbor, the campaign of the Pacific, and the Battle of Midway. He was particularly obsessed with World War II. The idea of making a film about naval warfare was something that was always interesting to me. What better place to set it than Pearl Harbor?"

The film is set in modern day, dur-

ing a Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise. RIMPAC is the largest real world multinational maritime exercise that occurs every two years in and around the Hawaiian islands. This year, seven nations participated in RIMPAC, showcasing more than 30 modern naval ships, with the goal of building relationships, increasing interoperability and improving readiness among allied countries.

Berg said there have been a number of films with old battleships like the USS Missouri.

"I thought it would be interesting to introduce the audience to the modern surface warfare," he said, "and some of the current destroyers, missile cruisers and some of the other things that the Navy has now, that they didn't have back in the old days."

One of the modern U.S. Navy destroyers featured on "Battleship" is USS Hopper (DDG 70), where the film crew shot several action scenes on the ship.

"The movie gives the Sailors a chance to see what Hollywood is like, and believe it or not, they are not unlike us," said Chief Warrant Officer 2

Jim Dewitt, USS Hopper. "It brings a lot of different people out to see what the Navy is all about. All the people who are in the background, and all the people who are working for Hollywood themselves probably never got to do some of the stuff that we get to do."

When the casting call was announced for scenes aboard the Battleship Missouri Memorial, Dewitt signed up to play an extra in the film. More than 300 Sailors and actors playing Sailors signed up to participate in the filming aboard Missouri.

The scenes shot aboard the Missouri included actors Taylor Kitsch, Brooklyn Decker, Alexander Skarsgard, Rihanna and Liam Neeson.

"I met most of the actors and actresses, and they are all very nice," Dewitt said. "They are very approachable individuals. A lot of people were kind of 'should I talk to them, should I not?', but they are as excited about being here as much as we are."

JBPHH Chief Staff Officer Capt. Lawrence Scruggs, showed his support for the movie by signing up to be an extra as well.

"The real value of having Sailors as part of that production is that we could "Sailorize" the actors who have no military affiliation," Scruggs said. "With Battleship, this is an opportunity for the Navy to reach out to the civilian population and say, 'Hey, look at us and look at what we do.'"

Scruggs said it is important to depict U.S. Sailors accurately.

"Somebody is going to see Battleship and see those actors and extras, and that's going to be their only impression of the Navy," Scruggs said. "You want that to be a good impression, because there are 330,000 Sailors and Marines out there right now who are just doing great stuff for the country. We want to portray those individuals accurately as well as those Sailors who have come before us."

Berg said he believes in research and authenticity, citing his previous movies "Friday Night Lights" and "The Kingdom," in which he used actual football players and FBI agents.

"As an actor, I like taking people who have never acted before and helping them find their inner actor,"

Berg said. "We all have an actor inside of us. To have the guys and gals on board ships like the Hopper, Shoup, Ronald Reagan, and some of the other ships that we have been on, do what they do... we could not teach an actor to do as well as they do it. They have a lot of fun. They're good at it, and it is fun to put real Sailors in the movie."

Dewitt said he hopes that he could at least be seen in the movie.

"There were a few scenarios where we had some close-ups done, but you just never know," Dewitt said. "It was still a fun experience. I expect that we will have a good portrayal of the Navy. They've done a lot of good Navy shots, incorporating a lot of the Sailors and service members around Hawaii. I also think that we are going to see a lot of action in this movie. They're pulling off a lot of different stunts and a lot of different things. They're going to show what the Navy is all about."

Battleship is scheduled to be released May 18, 2012.

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

Student teachers learn from DoDEA teachers

By Frank Whitman
Joint Region Edge Staff

Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) schools on Guam are opening their doors and classrooms to student teachers from the University of Guam (UOG).

During the current semester, three student teachers – two at Andersen Elementary School (AES) and one at Guam High School – are benefiting from the instructional structure of the DoDEA schools as well as the experience and knowledge of their respective master teachers. In August 2009, DoDEA and the university signed an agreement initiating the partnership, which is part of DoDEA's commitment to education.

"We want to be able to provide an opportunity for future teachers, to prepare them for teaching whether they are military or civilians, whether they will teach in DoDEA or the [Guam] Department of Education schools," said Maria Rubio, DoDEA Pacific-Guam Instructional Systems Specialist for Continuous School Improvement, Assessment and Program Evaluation. "It's a way that we can contribute to education in the community."

Shawnette Celes, a UOG student who is doing her student teaching in a fourth-grade class at AES, is the daughter of an Air Force mother and the product of DoDEA schools. She entered the education field after switching majors and finding while working

with children in a before- and after-school program in Dayton, Ohio.

She said that she is enjoying her student teaching "immensely" for which she credits her master teacher, Amanda Cox.

"I expected it to be more difficult, but she's wonderful," Celes said. "I love her style, how she teaches, how she runs her classroom. It's a great fit. I feel really lucky."

Celes said that she really was interested in teaching only in the DoDEA schools.

"I want to make it a career to teach in DoDEA schools," she said. "I want to learn the process and how everything works in the DoDEA schools so that it will be an easier transition when I apply."

UOG student Vanessa Iriarte is student teaching in a second grade AES class, an experience she said she finds herself enjoying.

"I love being around the children and helping them to learn new things," she said. "I'm still learning. I teach them and they teach me."

Iriarte grew up in Yigo, Guam, and requested the DoDEA schools because her husband, a member of the Army Reserves, is planning to become an active-duty Soldier.

"It will be good to have this experience if we live somewhere else and I want to teach in a military school," she said. "I've done my practicums in the public schools so I wanted to try something different."

Iriarte said she finds the experi-

ence eye-opening.

"We learn a lot from books, so when you get into the classroom, you expect them to learn what you've prepared, but it isn't like that," she said. "The teachers are always planning and preparing lessons, and they stay after school pretty late. I didn't realize being a teacher was such hard work."

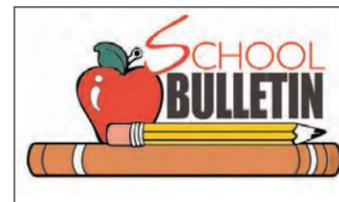
Student teaching is a requirement for an education degree from the university. Students spend one of their final semesters in an actual classroom working with the teacher to develop lessons and gain hands-on experience. The current semester is only the second during which student teachers from UOG have been in the DoDEA schools.



Math: Shawnette Celes, University of Guam student, helps fourth-grade students at Andersen Elementary School during an exercise in which the students simulate purchasing items with practice currency at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, Oct. 6. Celes is a student teacher at the school fulfilling her elementary education requirements before becoming a certified teacher. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Nichelle Anderson)



Spelling: Vanessa Iriarte, University of Guam student, assists Andersen Elementary School second-grade students with their spelling words at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam Oct. 6. Iriarte is a student teacher at the elementary school fulfilling her Elementary Education requirements before becoming a certified teacher. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Nichelle Anderson)



School Bulletin aims to promote educational activities in the Navy and Air Force communities. If you know of an education-related event that you would like to include, send it to jointregionedge@fe.navy.mil or call 339-7113.

Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA)

School board meetings are scheduled for the second Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. Upcoming meetings are:

Oct. 12 at Andersen Middle School (AMS)
 Nov. 9 at Guam High School (GHS)
 Dec. 14 at McCool Elementary/Middle School

No school on Columbus Day, Oct. 11.

PDI STARS (Professional Development Institute: Students, Technology, Assessment, Research, and Standards) is a districtwide event in which all DoDEA teachers will be participating. It is scheduled for Oct. 22, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at GHS. No school for students. For more information, contact Maria Rubio at 344-9167.

Andersen Elementary School

The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is soliciting donations of bags of popcorn kernels for Popcorn Fridays. If you would like to donate, drop them off in the PTO office.

Scholastic book orders are due Oct. 13.

Andersen Middle School

Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) meeting will be Oct 13, 2:30 p.m. in the AMS atrium.

Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/ National Merit Qualifying Scholarship Test (PSAT/NMQST)) testing for eighth grade AVID students and other interested seventh and eighth grade students will be Oct. 13, 8-11 a.m. For more information, call 366-3880.

McCool Elementary/Middle School

PSAT/NMQST testing for all eighth grade students will be Oct. 13. For more information, contact Julie San Nicolas, middle school counselor, at 339-2399.

Phone Numbers

Andersen Elementary School: 366-1511
 Andersen Middle School: 366-3880/5793
 Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School: 339-8678
 Guam High School: 344-7410

GNOSC and USO team up for bigger and better craft fair

By Jesse Leon Guerrero

Joint Region Edge Staff

Guam Naval Officer Spouse Connection (GNOSC) and United Service Organizations (USO) invite the military community to their Holiday Craft Fair scheduled to open at Top O' the Mar Oct. 30, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Admission cost is \$5 per person, which covers the fair and a playroom for children.

More than 60 vendors will showcase a variety of items for sale including candles, greeting cards, hand-carved figures, jewelry, printed artwork, shell decorations and decorative wreaths.

"It runs the gamut and there will be a rug vendor this year," said Jill Barton, GNOSC president.

Barton said attendees can look for a gift for themselves or a loved

one, especially with the holiday season approaching. The fair will also feature door prizes for lucky winners, while all children get a free DVD gift from USO. Barton added that children who wear a costume at the event get a chance to win a Playstation 2 gaming console.

Every half hour the GNOSC/USO team will have a drawing for a door prize, the chances for which are included in the admission charge. GNOSC will also have baked goods for sale for hungry attendees.

"Last year's [craft fair] went great and we had a super turnout," Barton

said. "Everyone had fun shopping, and this time it's going to be even bigger."

The money raised from the event will be donated to charity and used to help run the USO for its military and family patrons. Using revenues generated from previous fairs and fundraising activities, GNOSC has contributed to Guam Animals In Need animal shelter, the anti-violence visitation center known as Erica's House and other charities.

"Last year, we ended up giving \$2,500 to the Andersen [Air Force Base] Operation Christmas Drop

and we gave \$2,500 in toys to the Salvation Army," Barton said. "The people are very welcoming here and we want to do something in return."

Leigh Graham, USO director, said she looks forward to having the USO's broad base of patrons attending the craft fair. Graham said USO welcomes about 7,000 visits per month at its recreation center and office in Tumon.

"The fair is a highlight that people who enjoy those kinds of events look forward to each year," Graham said. "We felt honored that GNOSC wanted to partner with us."

Children can look forward to having as much fun as their parents because the fair will have an inflatable bouncy house, an apple-bobbing game, and Halloween-themed face painting and picture taking.

"It's not a babysitting service, but it is something extra to do so please come down and have fun with us," Graham said.

For more information about GNOSC, email contactgnosc@gmail.com. For more information about USO, call 647-4USO (4876) or visit online at <http://affiliates.uso.org/Guam>.

On a Budget

FREE

Movie Night at Arc Light Park

Join family and friends for the Hotspot's Free Outdoor Movie Night at Arc Light Park Oct. 9, 7 p.m. and watch the PG-rated movie "Furry Vengeance." Bring your blanket or lawn chairs and enjoy a movie under the stars. For more information, call 366-2339.

Andersen Travel Fair

Andersen's "Around the World at a Glance" Travel Fair is scheduled for Oct. 14, 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Sunrise Conference Center. There will be representatives from many travel-related/recreational companies and several airlines to showcase what they have to offer the Team Andersen community. The travel fair will be a great place to find all the information you'll need to help you plan your next vacation or weekend getaway. There will also be lots of great door prizes! For more information, call 366-2220.

Comedy Show

Sample New York's freshest batch of mixed nuts as Armed Forces Entertainment brings to Hightides in the Top of the Rock the New York Underground Comedy Festival All-Stars Oct. 13, 8 p.m. Featured comedians will be Carole Montgomery, Leighann Lord, Kevin Downey Jr., Mark Riccadonna and Stephen Kruiser. The show is free and is for adults only. For more information, call 366-6166.

UNDER \$10 Hike to Sigua Falls

Join Outdoor Recreation for an adventure to one of Guam's most spectacular waterfalls during their hike to Sigua Falls Oct. 17, departing at 7:45 a.m. and returning at approximately 2:30 p.m. Be sure to wear a swimsuit for a refreshing dip when you get to the falls. Rating for this hike is difficult and is for ages 15 and over. Cost is \$5 per person. Sign-up in advance at Outdoor Recreation, or call 366-5197 for more information.

Hike to Fonte Dam

Outdoor Recreation will lead you on a hike to secluded Fonte Dam Oct. 23, departing at 7:45 a.m. You'll be amazed to see this picturesque red-brick dam built 100 years in the middle of the jungle. Cost is \$5 per person. Difficulty rating is Medium and is for age 8 and older. Sign-up in advance at Outdoor Recreation, or call 366-5197 for more information.

Thirsty Thursdays

Thirsty Thursdays at Gecko Lanes every Thursday, starting at 5 p.m. Enjoy \$1 games, shoe rentals, fountain sodas and more! For more information, call 366-5117.

Bowling Mondays

Bowl all you want at Gecko Lanes every Monday, starting at 6 p.m. for just \$5 plus shoe rental. For more information, call 366-5117.

On a Budget

Karaoke Fun Night

Karaoke Fun Night (weather permitting) at Bamboo Willies every Saturday, 7-10 p.m. For more information, call 366-6166.

Under 21 Night

Every Wednesday High Tides Enlisted Lounge hosts Under 21 Night from 7 p.m.-midnight. Patrons can enjoy Mongolian Barbecue, music and a fun environment to hang out and unwind. Patrons 18 years and older can participate. For more information, call 366-6166.

Game Time Sports Grill

Begin or end your day with a delightful meal at Game Time Sports Grill. The overlook of the golf course offers a relaxing atmosphere for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Breakfast specials are served daily ranging from \$4.50-\$5.50. Breakfast hours are 6-10:30 a.m. Lunch specials are also served daily and are only \$6.95 with fountain soda. Lunch hours are 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Also enjoy 18 holes of golf and a lunch package available at the Pro Shop for \$46 per person. For more information, call 344-5838 or 734-2155.

Breakfast at Top of the Rock

Starts below \$10. Breakfast hours are Monday-Friday, 6:30-9:30 a.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 7:30-9:30 a.m. For more information, call 366-6166.

\$10 AND UP Piano Lesson Openings

The Andersen Air Force Base Youth Center currently has openings for piano lessons on weekdays after school and on Saturdays. Cost is \$60 per month for four 30-minute lessons. Contact Dale Garcia at 366-3490/91 or email: youth1music@yahoo.com for more information.

Oktoberfest Golf Tournament

Oct. 16, noon show, 1 p.m. shotgun, Admiral Nimitz Golf Course, \$30 per player (E1-E5, Ret.); \$35 per player (E6 & above, Ret.); \$45 per player (Civilian, DOD) Sign up at the MWR Main Office by Wed. Oct.13. For more information, call 344-5838.

Jazzy Sundays

Sundays from 5-8 p.m. at Willie's Beachside Jazz on Andersen Air Force Base. Enjoy a relaxing evening at the beach while you listen to great jazz music. If you get hungry, you can order one the delicious offerings from our Bamboo Willie's menu. For more information, call 366-6100.

Orote Point Lanes Deal

Family Value Package at Orote Point Lanes available on the following days and times: Sunday, 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Monday-Thursday 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m. and 9-10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 10:30 a.m.-midnight. Cost is \$40 per lane with a limit of five people. Fee covers two hours of bowling, shoe rentals for five people, one large single-topping pizza and one pitcher of soda. For more information, call 564-1828.

Lunch at Top of the Rock

Got a big appetite? Grab your friends and enjoy the tantalizing Smoker Menu, which features dishes like St. Louis ribs served with our own fried bread and honey butter, pulled pork sandwich, brisket quesadilla with all the extras, and a hickory chicken Caesar salad. Want a lighter lunch? Feast on the soup and salad bar for only \$6.95. Hours of operation: Monday-Friday, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. For more information, call 366-6166.

Clipper Landing

Savor the flavor of our delicious entrees as you enjoy a spectacular view of Sumay Cove Marina. Hours of operation are Wednesday and Thursday, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and 4-9 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. For more information, call 564-1857.



FRIDAY, OCT. 8

7 p.m.: Takers • PG-13

SATURDAY, OCT. 9

2 p.m.: Takers • PG-13

7 p.m.: The Last Exorcism • PG-13

SUNDAY, OCT. 10

7 p.m.: The Expendables • R

The movie schedule is subject to change due to circumstances beyond Meehan Theaters on Andersen Air Force Base. **The Meehan Theater hotline is 366-1523.**



FRIDAY, OCT. 8

7 p.m.: The Switch • PG-13

9:30 p.m.: The Other Guys • PG-13

SATURDAY, OCT. 9

1 p.m.: Nanny McPhee Returns • PG

3:30 p.m.: Eat, Pray, Love • PG-13

7 p.m.: The Lottery Ticket • PG-13

SUNDAY, OCT. 10

1 p.m.: Step Up 3 • PG-13

3:30 p.m.: Scott Pilgrim vs. The World • PG-13

7 p.m.: Pirahna 3-D • R

MONDAY, OCT. 11

1 p.m.: Nanny McPhee Returns • PG

3:30 p.m.: Scott Pilgrim vs. The World • PG-13

7 p.m.: Pirahna 3-D • R

The schedule is subject to change due to circumstances beyond the theater's control. **The Big Screen Theater hotline is 564-1831 or visit mwrguam.com.**

(Source: Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation Office)

Chapel Schedule

Naval Base Guam

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Roman Catholic Mass

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:30 p.m.
 Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 5 p.m. and Sunday, 8:30 a.m.

Protestant Worship Service

Sunday Service: Traditional Service: 8 a.m.
 Contemporary Service: 11 a.m.
 Women's Bible Study: Monday, 9:30 a.m.
 Men's Bible Study: Wednesday, 6 p.m.
 Prayer Time: Thursday, 11:30 a.m.
 Choir Practice: Traditional: Wednesday, 6 p.m.
 Choir Practice: Contemporary: Thursday, 6 p.m.

Jewish Shabbat

Friday, 6:30 p.m.

Naval Hospital Guam

Roman Catholic Mass

Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.
 Chapel of Hope: Sunday, 9 a.m.

Protestant Service

Monday-Friday, 12:15 p.m.
 Interfaith Chapel

Andersen Air Force Base

Roman Catholic Mass

(Chapel 1)
 Weekday Mass: Tuesday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.
 Saturday Vigil Mass: 5 p.m.
 Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 4:30-4:50 p.m.
 Catholic Women of the Chapel: First and third Wednesday of the month, Chapel 1 Annex, 6:30 p.m.
 Catholic Youth of the Chapel: Second and fourth Wednesday of the month, Chapel 1 Annex, 6 p.m.
 Choir Rehearsal: Saturday 4-5 p.m. and Sunday, 8-9 a.m.

Protestant Worship Service

Praise Service: Sunday, Chapel 2, 9 a.m.
 Gospel Service: Sunday, Chapel 2, 11:30 a.m.
 Emerging Worship Service: Sunday, Lighthouse, 7 p.m.
 Protestant Women of the Chapel: Second Monday of each month, Chapel 2 Annex, 6:30 p.m.
 Protestant Men of the Chapel: Wednesday, Lighthouse, 7 p.m.
 Protestant Youth of the Chapel: Thursday, Chapel 2 Annex, 7 p.m.
 Protestant Young Adults: Thursday and Saturday, Lighthouse, 6 p.m.
 Protestant Sunday School: (September-May) Sunday, Chapel Activity Center, 10:15 a.m.

Schedules subject to change. To confirm times or for information about other programs, call the chapels at:

Andersen Air Force Base: 366-6139
 U.S. Naval Base Guam: 339-2126
 U.S. Naval Hospital Guam: 344-9127

Overcoming our trials through prayer

By Lt. Cmdr. Ronald Rinaldi
 USS Frank Cable (AS 40)

Jabez was more honorable than his brothers, and his mother named him Jabez saying, "Because I bore him with pain."

Now Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, "Oh that You would bless me indeed and enlarge my border, and that Your hand might be with me, and that You would keep me from harm that it may not pain me!" And God granted him what he requested. *1 Chronicles 4:9-10*



What's in a name? In the Navy, names such as John Paul Jones, Chester Nimitz, Carl Brashear and many others stir pride in our ranks, and are associated with the core values that Sailors strive to emulate.

Likewise, names like Bin Laden, Hitler and Hussein are connected with evil in our world and often bring about negative connotations.

As they have throughout history, names held a particular significance in biblical times as well. Case in point — Jabez. The name itself is

a play on the Hebrew word for pain, as was evidenced by the trials and travails of his life. Yet, despite the many pains inflicted on Jabez, he steadfastly maintained his faith and sought the Lord in a prayer with four significant elements.

Jabez first sought God's blessing on his life. He wanted God to bestow upon him success, prosperity, fruitfulness and a long life — much like many of our own natural desires today.

He then requested that God enlarge or "make great" his territory. In doing so, Jabez was not necessarily seeking land, inasmuch as he wanted God to relieve him of the many agonies of his life and enable him to do what seemed impossible.

Third, seeking God's hand meant that Jabez desired God's guidance over his life and direction through the uncertainties of this world.

Finally, Jabez prayed for protection from harm and evil. His world, like ours, often brought many temptations and stumbling blocks. God's presence and power in Jabez's life provided him with the courage to overcome his difficulties.

This four-part petition is more than a "formula" for prayer. Jabez teaches us that maintaining a heart of faith and trust in God's involvement in our lives will bring us honor and God's positive response. The best part of this story is that you and I can make this principle a part of our lives as well.

Panthers make history, finish season undefeated

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert
Joint Region Edge Staff

Guam High School Panthers shut out the John F. Kennedy Islanders 28-0 in the final game of the regular season Oct. 2, remaining undefeated in high school football for the first time since the school was established 13 years ago.

It's been a long road. There are some powerhouse teams on the island; they are well coached and organized, however, this is our year," said Billy Henry, head coach of the Panthers. "We are fortunate this year to have an explosive offense and stacked defense. These kids have been playing well all year for the team as well as [performing well] academically. They have represented the school well."

The game started with an offensive blitzkrieg featuring the Panthers running game stomping the competition with little resistance. The Islanders lost sight of running back/kicker D.J. Cruz all game allowing him to gulp large chunks

of rushing yardage at will.

The offense was great, the defense was stingy and the special teams were opportunistic in the first half. The halftime score was 21-0 in favor of the Panthers.

"The team played well the first half," said Henry during halftime. "Now they must remain disciplined and focused to finish."

The second half featured second- and third-string players. The coaching staff said they felt it was a perfect opportunity to get everyone some playing time. They also felt that running up the score would teach the children poor sportsmanship.

The second half saw a glimpse of light for the Islanders who had control of the ball all during the third quarter. Unfortunately, they couldn't get the ball into the end zone.

The Panthers' final score of the game came late in the fourth quarter with a handoff for a 13-yard scamper. The game ended with strong play defensively as the Panthers picked off the Islanders' quarterback.

"My players have worked hard in the

classroom and on the field," Henry said.

Panthers Captain Ricardo Granados from Yigo said despite the score, both teams played well and have a great relationship.

"We have good camaraderie with the other team," he said. "It's about sportsmanship, they had a bad game today, but who doesn't? It is not for us to make fun or look down on them."

Granados, a senior, said he remembers the loss last year to rival George Washington High School. He said this year his team is going to the playoffs with a new weapon — unity.

"Last year we had the potential but fell short," Granados said. "This year it's about teamwork. Our team is the outsiders, made up of many cultures and races. It doesn't stop us; we are close like family and have each other's back. That's what got us this far."

The Panthers have the home field advantage and have a bye the first week of the playoffs. Their next game will be the semi-finals scheduled for Oct. 16. The time and location have not yet been determined.



Football: Guam High Panthers quarterback Paul Floyd scrambles for a first down during the final regular season high school football game against the John F. Kennedy High School Islanders at Okkodo High School Oct. 2. The Panthers won the game 28-0, remaining undefeated in the regular season for the first time in the school's 13-year existence. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

Who is your favorite football team?

Joint Region Edge asked its readers who their favorite football team is and how they are doing this season.



"San Diego Chargers, they aren't doing very well -- contract disputes, Shawn Merriman is a bust, poor coaching to name a few reasons why we are in turmoil. However, they will work it out."

—Lt Cmdr. Cameron Rogers, assistant supply officer, USS Frank Cable (AS 40)



"Duke University. They are not doing too good right now. They have to get better at recruiting because they focus more on basketball. But I am a fan, win or lose."

— Spc. Leroy McKiver, Western Pacific Department Veterinary Command Guam



"The Oakland Raiders is my favorite team. I have liked them since I was 5-years-old. So far, they're one and two. They could be doing better, but we need some good quarterbacks before we can go all the way to the Super Bowl."

—Sid White, Power Zone Associate at the BX



"My favorite NFL team is the New England Patriots. Tom Brady is going to be the MVP and they're going to win the Super Bowl this year. They're not doing so great right now, but they'll get better. I don't think they will lose any more games this season."

— Staff Sgt. Kenner Sagorsor, 36th Comptroller Squadron/Finance Flight noncommissioned officer in charge



"The San Francisco 49ers. We are not doing too well right now. We lost our offensive coordinators and that will set us back. But it's my team; I've been a fan for years."

— Eugene Torres, Morale, Welfare and Recreation employee

Sports Shorts

The following is a list of sports and health-related activities held on U.S. Naval Base Guam. To submit your sports note, e-mail jointregionedge@fe.navy.mil.

Register Online

Runners can submit registration for Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) sponsored runs via e-mail. Click on the "NEW Run Registration Form" on the MWR website at www.mwrguam.com.

Trick or Treat 5K

Trick or Treat 5K is scheduled for Oct. 23 starting at the Charles King Gym. It is free to run; T-shirts are \$8 (pre-registration) and \$10 (day of race). Start at 7 p.m., show up at 6:30 p.m. Register at Charles King Gym by Oct. 16. For more information, call 564-1862.

Swimming Lessons

Registration has begun for swimming classes to begin Oct. 18. For more information, call 564-1844/5.

The following is a list of sports and health-related activities held on Andersen Air Force Base. To submit your sports note, call 366-2228.

Paintball

Try out your paintball skills at Outdoor Recreation's paintball field next to the 21000 softball field. Paintball participants must be at least 10 years old to use the facility. Ages 10-17 must be accompanied by a parent.

Hours of operation are Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and Sunday and holidays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Open play is available unless a tournament or special function has been scheduled. For more information, call 366-5197.

Tumbling for Tots

Tumbling for Tots, an interactive play program for kids and parents, is now available at the HotSpot Gym. Hours are Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to noon, closed holidays. For more information, call 366-5197.

Airman to try out for All-AF soccer team

By Airman 1st Class
Anthony Jennings

36th Wing Public Affairs

One of Team Andersen's very own will soon be competing for the right to play on the All-Air Force soccer team.

Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Schultze, 36th Wing Public Affairs photographer, was selected to attend the Air Force soccer trials at Hurlburt Field, Fla., Oct. 1-18.

"I always knew that if I joined the military, I would pursue playing at the Air Force level," Schultze said. "I'm now one step closer to fulfilling my dream."

In order to be eligible for the trials the players had to fill out an Air Force Form 303, Request for USAF Specialized Sports Training, which is like a sports resume. The forms were forwarded to the Headquarters Air Force Services Agency, where 43 players were selected to compete for 10 positions on the All-Air Force soccer team.

Since the age of 9, Airman Schultze has had a distinct passion for soccer. He found a home on the field next to the goal. He has played the position of goalkeeper since he was in the eighth grade and hopes to continue as the goalie for the Air Force team.

"For many kids at that age, goalkeeper was the worst position to play because you always felt like

you weren't a part of the game," Schultze said. "At first I felt the same, but as I got older I started to realize it was the most important in a lot of ways. If you screw up, it's all on you. But on the flipside, you get that recognition for keeping the other team from scoring. I like the aspect of that constant pressure; it keeps me on my toes."

Upon arriving to Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) in November 2009, Schultze immediately had the urge to play competitively. He joined the Toyota Football Club the following December and played the last half of the season with them.

By March of this year, he decided to apply for the All-Air Force soccer team.

"I knew I had a good resume from my days in high school, but I also knew I needed something current to give me an edge," Schultze said. "So I got in contact with some of the players on FC Guahan, who also played in the Guam's Men's National Team, and asked if I could train with them. After coming out, I found out it was actually a tryout for me and I was allowed to play with them."

From that point on, he has trained with FC Guahan three to five times a week during the past six months, which has helped him to hone his skills.

"I actually got on the team at the perfect time because we had colle-

giate players from the states here training during the summer who brought a good level of playing experience for me to draw from," Schultze said.

By the end of the trials at Hurlburt, only 16 field players and two goalkeepers will be picked to play on the Air Force team.

"There'll only be four or five goalkeepers there," Schultze said.

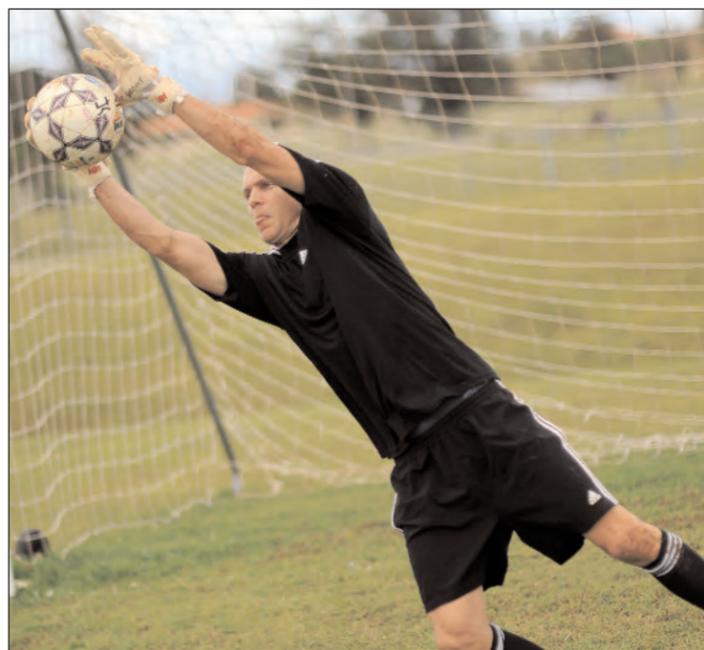
"I actually played with one of them before," he said with a chuckle. "He was the backup goalkeeper behind me in high school. I figure I only have to be better than the other two and I'll be good."

Hurlburt Field, Fla., happens to be where Schultze's father, a retired chief master sergeant, and mother live. The trip home will be bitter-sweet for him, as he will be parting with his wife, Amy, who is eight-months pregnant with their daughter.

"I'm so proud of him," Amy Schultze said. "It's really exciting that out of the entire Air Force, he was one of the 43 chosen to attend. I've watched all of his games and I think he's really good. I'm happy for him but I will miss him too. I just hope our baby girl stays in while he's gone."

Schultze attributes getting his shot at fulfilling his dreams to the support of his wife.

"Amy has been super supportive of me and allowed me to pursue my dream," Schultze said. "Soccer has



Soccer: Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Schultze, 36th Wing Public Affairs photographer, practices goalkeeping at Andersen Air Force Base Sept. 28. Schultze has been selected to attend the Air Force soccer trials at Hurlburt Field, Fla., Oct. 1-18. He will be competing for the right to play on the All-Air Force soccer team. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Julian North)

dominated my life for the past six months and I have her to thank as much as anyone for making this possible. Practicing five times a week and coming home to a loving wife has been amazing."

Schultze is hopeful, but aware that

a position on the All-Air Force team is not guaranteed. Either way, he says he's just happy to have the opportunity to compete.

"It's an honor just to be picked," he said. "This is my World Cup, my Olympics and I'm going for the gold."

254th ANG clinches volleyball championship

By Airman 1st Class
Julian North

36th Wing Public Affairs

The 254th Air National Guard team was crowned champion after narrowly defeating the 734th Air Mobility Squadron, 2-1, during the 2010 Intramural Volleyball Championship game Sept. 24, at the Coral Reef Fitness Center on Andersen Air Force Base.

"It's just another championship," said Michael Rabago, 254th coach. "We've been playing volleyball together for a long time now, so we're able to play as a team rather than a group of individual players."

The 254th team, who beat the 734th in the playoffs, was defending its title as the seven-time reigning champion. The winner was determined by who won two out of three matches. The first two matches went to 25 points and if both teams won one match apiece, the game would go to a third, 15-point match. The 734th would have to defeat the 254th team twice in order to clinch the title.

As the underdogs coming into the matchup, the 734th proved their worth on the court after winning the first match 25-23.

"I think we did good," said Lawrence Chargualaf, 734th coach.



Volleyball: A member of the 254th Air National Guard volleyball team spikes the ball past two members of the 734th Air Mobility Squadron during the 2010 Intramural Volleyball Championship Sept. 24, at the Coral Reef Fitness Center. The 254th team was crowned champions after narrowly defeating the 734th, 2-1. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Julian North)

"We worked hard to get here. We're a great team with a lot of heart."

Coming into the second match, the ANG team switched up their game plan to exploit deficiencies in their opponent's lineup.

"After the first match, I rotated the lineup to mismatch the hitters," Rabago said.

The second match quickly became a seesaw battle as both teams fought for the lead. The game was tied at seven, 11, 18, 20 then 22 points. Each time one team would pull away with the lead the other would adjust and fix any weaknesses.

However, though the 734th team carried momentum into the second half, they were unable to keep it up and the 254th team was able to break away with the win, 25-22.

"At one point we noticed they had two weak passers next to each other so that's where we capitalized," Rabago said. "When you have a guy who can't set the ball, then you can't attack the ball. Nobody saw that, though."

The 734th team entered the third match focused knowing the match only went to 15 and drew first blood, jumping to an early 3-0 lead. However, the 254th quickly recovered to tie the match at three. From there, the 254th team was able to take the lead with spot-on serves and aces, scoring

four more points.

After a quick, 30-second timeout, the 734th composed themselves and managed to claw their way back up the scoreboard and evened the score at seven. Another seesaw battle tested the grit and determination to win of both teams until the score was tied once again at 13.

The 254th broke the tie and on game point scored with a spike that sent the ball close to the sideline. The 734th team let the ball go, and the line judge called the ball out of bounds. However, a controversial in-bounds call by the officiating referee ended the game giving the title to the 254th.

"You know, I feel if the line judge called it in bounds, it's in bounds," said Christopher Konopka, 734th team member. "That's what he's there for. But hats off to the Guard team for a fun match that I'm sure we'll be talking about for some time. Watch out though, the 734th will be back next year and we will win."

Despite the controversial call, the game was about having fun and friendly competition. Both teams shook hands and exchanged hugs with laughter and smiles afterwards.

"Either way, win or lose, there will be a barbecue after the game," Rabago said.