

**“Because of its independence of surface limitations and superior speed the airplane is the offensive weapon par excellence” –**  
Gen. Giulio Douhet

## News in Brief

### Colonel promotion

Congratulations go out to Lt. Col. Marc Luiken, 47th Operations Group deputy commander, who has been selected for promotion to colonel.

### Pilot graduation

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training class 03-06 will graduate at 10 a.m. today in Anderson Hall auditorium.

### Motorcycle meeting

The 47th Flying Training Wing Safety Office will conduct a meeting for all active motorcycle riders at 4 p.m. Monday in Anderson Hall.

The meeting is mandatory for all active-duty military members who ride motorcycles and highly encouraged for civilian and contractor personnel who ride motorcycles on base.

For more information, call 298-5662.

## Mission status

(As of March 7)

Days ahead or behind with mission capable rate

T-37	-2.06	90.4%
T-1	-1.2	80.6%
T-38	-1.79	76.7%
T-6	-0.33	78.4%

## Defense Dept. stands ready for action

**Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample**  
*American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON, March – Saddam Hussein is “an accomplished deceiver” who will stop at nothing to “deceive the world and his own people,” Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said in his Pentagon briefing Tuesday.

“There are many examples, but the point is this: He lied during the Gulf War, and if there is another war he will lie again. Indeed, he already is. The only question is whether he will be believed despite his record,” the secretary observed.

The United States and a “coalition of willing countries” await the U.N. Security Council decision on a second resolution on Iraqi disarmament, Mr. Rumsfeld said.

“We hope to see the United Nations act... but if the Security Council fails in this test and resolve, the coalition will be ready to act,” he said.

**See ‘Iraq,’ page 4**



Photo by Airman 1st Class Yvonne Conde

### Painting leaves...

Sherry Helton, Child Development Center care giver, helps Brenden Mendiola, 16-month old son of Airman Sheena Mendiola, paint leaves on a “friendship tree”. The Fiesta Center painted a large tree and allowed base members to create the leaves by using their handprints. The painting is now on display at the Fiesta Center.

## Wing leaders talk ‘Laughlin’ in Washington

**By Airman 1st Class Yvonne Conde**  
*Staff writer*

Col. Dan Woodward, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Ted Pilihos, 47th FTW command chief, recently visited Washington and Capitol Hill on behalf of the men and women of Team XL.

The Air Force Congressional Relations Program is an Air Force Chief of Staff initiative for Air Force commanders and senior leadership to

meet with congressional leaders who represent their base. Under this program, Colonel Woodward and Chief Pilihos spoke directly with Congressman Henry Bonilla, who represents the 23rd District of Texas, and with the senior staff of Texas Senators John Cornyn and Kay Bailey Hutchison.

“Meeting with the people who directly represent Laughlin is a unique opportunity,” said Colonel Woodward. “It’s very important that our representatives understand what we’re doing here and it’s also impor-

tant that they understand what they can do to make us more effective and efficient.”

To give the legislators an understanding of the total realm of the military, Chief Pilihos provided an enlisted perspective on the topics Col. Woodward addressed. “Being there to give an enlisted perspective helps the legislators to understand how we work so they can make informed decisions when it comes to issues involving Team XL,” said

**See ‘Washington,’ page 4**



## Commanders' Corner

**Maj. Michael Claffey**  
47th Contracting Squadron commander

# Sun Tzu, Boy Scouts teach success with principles

What do Sun Tzu, the Boy Scouts and Air Command and Staff College have in common? Believe it or not, more than you may surmise. Hopefully, my attention grabber worked and you will spend the next five or 10 minutes with me and read further.

Actually, as many of you know, Sun Tzu is a prominent author, theorist and military strategist studied in Air Force professional military education schools like ACSC. Who can ever forget, "All warfare is based on deception" or "To subdue the enemy without fighting is the acme of skill." You may be thinking, "well this is great, but I'm at Laughlin Air Force Base in Del Rio, so why should I care about Sun Tzu who wrote his book, *The Art of War*, in 500 B.C.?" Please bear with me.

In fact, movie producers and scholars have taken the principles of Sun Tzu and repackaged them for application in the business world. In the case of Hollywood, writers for the movie *Wall Street* espoused *The Art of War* as being the "corporate raider's bible." Further, a guest speaker at ACSC last year explained how to become a "strategic leader" by forming Sun Tzu's thoughts into principles such as, "Make your strategy drive your organization."

Perhaps a lesser known thought from Sun Tzu is the first of his five fundamental factors, "moral influence." Sun Tzu explained moral influence as "that which causes the people to be in harmony with their leaders, so that they will accompany them in life and unto death without fear of mortal peril." Our ACSC speaker, Mr. McNeilly, translated this into modern terms with his tenet: "Build your character, not just your image." The essential crux of this tenet is "true leadership is based on character." I enjoyed hearing the applicability of Sun Tzu outside the realm of war; however, I still felt it was too esoteric in many ways. This is where the Boy Scouts come in.

Instead of reaching back to 500 B.C., we can orient our "moral compass" using a more modern, straightforward approach. Namely, the Boy Scouts. While working my way toward becoming an Eagle Scout, I learned that a Scout must be trustworthy by telling the truth and keeping his promises. Also, a Scout is loyal to his fam-

ily, friends, Scout leaders and the nation. Further, a Scout must be helpful, friendly, courteous and kind. Likewise, a Scout must be obedient by following rules and laws. Next, a Scout will be cheerful and thrifty in addition to being brave. Not just physical bravery but moral courage as well. Scouts will stand up for what is right even in the face of mockery. Similarly, a Scout keeps his body and mind clean. Finally, a Scout is reverent to God. We should look to God in all things. God should be the "heading" upon which we orient our moral compass every moment of every day.

***"I believe Sun Tzu had it right when he emphasized the importance of moral influence and how this will either be helpful or detrimental to leader-follower relationships."***

You can definitely correlate the Air Force core values to these Scouting principles as well. I believe Sun Tzu had it right when he emphasized the importance of moral influence and how this will either be helpful or detrimental to leader-follower relationships. Mr. McNeilly then elaborated by tying leadership with a person's character. Leaders have the responsibility to model our Air Force core values because without character, a leader will quickly, and rightfully, lose the allegiance of his followers. How do we practically commit ourselves to these areas each day and avoid the pitfall of just paying them "lip-service?" I suggest the 12 principles found in the Boy Scout Law offer a good place to start.

In closing, I think the Boy Scouts sum it up perfectly with their oath. Each Scout recites this oath at the start of weekly troop meetings:

"On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law. To help other people at all times. To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight."

I think all of us would do well by incorporating this oath into our lives. Simply by modifying "and to obey the Scout Law" with "and to embrace our core values" this oath is directly applicable to all of us in the Air Force. Our practical approach could then be as simple as applying the 12 scouting principles in our lives every day.

I hope this provided some "food for thought" and now you know the connection between Sun Tzu, the Boy Scouts and ACSC.



### Editorial Staff

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Commander

**Capt. Paula Kurtz**  
Public affairs chief

**2nd Lt. Lindsay Logsdon**  
Internal information chief

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Editor

**Airman 1st Class Yvonne Conde**  
Staff writer

The Border Eagle is published every Friday, except the first week in January and the last week in December, by the Del Rio News Herald, a private firm in no way connected with the U. S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 47th Flying Training Wing, Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas.

This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 47th Flying Training Wing. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

#### Deadlines, Advertising

News for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338, Laughlin AFB, TX, 298-5262. **Copy deadline is close of business each Thursday the week prior to publication.**

Advertising should be submitted to the Del Rio News-Herald, 2205 Bedell, Del Rio, TX, 774-4611. Advertising should be submitted by 4 p.m. each Friday.

Submissions can be e-mailed to: [timothy.stein@laughlin.af.mil](mailto:timothy.stein@laughlin.af.mil) or [yvonne.conde@laughlin.af.mil](mailto:yvonne.conde@laughlin.af.mil).

## Actionline 298-5351

This column is one way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and



Col. Dan Woodward  
47th Flying Training  
Wing commander

phone number, you are assured of a timely personal reply. It's also very useful in case more information is needed in order to pursue your inquiry. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the Border Eagle.

Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation, and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.

AAFES	298-3176
Accounting and Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
EEO	298-5879
FWA hotline	298-4170
Hospital	298-6311
Housing	298-5904
Information line	298-5201
Legal	298-5172
MEO	298-5400
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810

***“Excellence –  
not our goal,  
but our  
standard.”***  
– 47th FTW motto

## Serving country makes tremendous career

By Col. A.J. Stewart  
71st Flying Training Wing  
commander

VANCE AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. – I read the news everyday and it occurs to me I have been fairly disconnected from the current financial cloudy days. For 22 years, I've never wondered about my paycheck. I've never actually seen one since they have been direct-deposited to the exact same account number since I was a cadet.

I've never worried about affording health care for my family. Most of the time, health care was free. My kids were all born in military hospitals and received the very best of care.

Truthfully, I've always made enough money to live comfortably, and today very comfortably. Every year I've earned 30 days of paid vacation and lived in “gated” communities among my very good friends and colleagues.

The opportunities for education,

experience and career advancement have been nearly boundless. I have received, free of charge, training in an array of courses from small arms, unarmed combat, survival, CPR, chemical warfare defense, navigation, leadership and too many more to begin to name.

Help for anything I needed was never more than a phone call away to a first sergeant or commander at worst, and at best right next door.

Commissary, base exchange, my very own club, a world-class fitness center, a bowling center, golf course, child care facility, library, auto skills center, wood hobby shop, youth center, swimming pools – I can use them all for nominal fees or for free.

My retirement system is outstanding. Don't believe me? Ask some of your civilian friends or family members with company-funded retirement funds based in the stock market. The news is not good. Some folks who planned to

retire, can't.

Best of all, I get the immeasurable satisfaction that comes from honorably and proudly serving our country. I have the respect of the American public. Check the polling data and you'll find uniformed military men and women are at the top of the list of respected professions.

So, what has this great life cost me? Family separations, early mornings and late nights, hard work, and missed holidays and birthdays, among others. But that list applies to most professions today.

I left out the fact I might be put in harm's way or even die for my service to the country. So did thousands on Sept. 11, 2001, at the World Trade Center.

What's my point? Serving the country in the Air Force is a tremendous career when you take into account all the tangible and intangible benefits. Knowing what I know now, I'd start over and do it all again.

## Women's rights movement marks 155th year

By Chief Master Sgt.  
Cassandra Haines-Jessel  
341st Space Wing

MALMSTROM AIR FORCE BASE, Mont. – This year marks the 155th anniversary of the women's rights movement in the United States.

It began in 1848 in a small town in New York when five women got together for tea. The conversation soon turned to the limitations on their lives and before they knew it, they were planning a convention to discuss the “rights of women.”

Since that time, other important events have shaped the lives of women in our country:

The Woman Suffrage Amendment was introduced in the U. S. Congress in 1878. The wording remained unchanged and didn't pass both houses until 1919.

The 19th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution was ratified in 1920, and women were granted the right to vote.

In 1948, President Truman signed into law the Women's Armed Services Integration Act, giving women permanent status in the armed forces. No longer would special women's “components” be formed for the duration of military emergencies. However, at the same time, it restricted promotions and established a 2 percent ceiling on the number of women in each of the services.

President Lyndon B. Johnson signed Public Law

90-130 in 1967 that repealed such restrictions on women's promotions.

In 1980, President Carter issued a message to the public encouraging them to recognize and celebrate women's historic accomplishments during the week of March 8, Women's History Week.

A bipartisan effort in Congress in 1987 led to a National Women's History Month Resolution and, since 1992, a presidential proclamation directing observance of this important national celebration. For more than 140 years, women have served in all major U. S. military conflicts.

“American military women did just about everything on land, at sea and in the air (during the Persian Gulf War) except engage in the actual fighting,” said retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Jeanne M. Holm, “and even there the line was often blurred. It was obvious from the beginning that the front lines were not what they used to be and non-combat units regularly took casualties.”

During that conflict, five women were killed in action and two were prisoners of war.

Today, in the Air Force, women represent 19.5 percent of the people in the service. And throughout the Air Force, Women's History Month committees are making efforts during the month of March to remind the community of this year's theme: “Women Pioneering the Future.”



Photo by 2nd Lt. Lindsay Logsdon

### Inner workings...

Ronnie Hill, Automotive Skills Development Center assistant manager, show the basics of what is under a car hood to Helen Sykes and Tech. Sgt. Mary Davis during an auto skills demonstration at the Women's Health Fair held March 7 at the Fiesta Center.

### 'Washington,' from page 1

Chief Pilihos.

During the visit, Colonel Woodward discussed the status of recent military construction projects, those currently under construction and future projects in the future year defense program.

In addition, each office was given a list describing the impact Laughlin has on the Air Force mission, Air Education and Training Command and in the local community. Colonel Woodward emphasized that as the largest pilot training wing in the Air Force, Laughlin is a major contributor to the success of the Air Force. He also pointed out that as the region's largest employer, with nearly \$200 million in economic impact, Laughlin is a vital part of the future of Southwest Texas. "The community partnership we share with Del Rio is the best in the Air Force," said Colonel Wood-

ward. "Laughlin and Del Rio are unified by patriotism and common interest."

Colonel Woodward also talked about the successes Laughlin people have had during the operational readiness inspection and the Environmental Safety Occupational Health Compliance Assessment. "These two evaluations were tough," said Colonel Woodward, "but our people showed they were tougher."

Colonel Woodward and Chief Pilihos returned to Laughlin with all three congressional offices sending messages of appreciation and thanks to the men and women of Laughlin. "They understand it is a big mission and they are grateful now, more than ever, that we've got really good people doing the job at Laughlin Air Force Base," said Colonel Woodward. "These people are our biggest supporters, there's no doubt in my mind. We are very fortunate."

### 'Iraq,' from page 1

The U.S. troops deployed now exceed 225,000, said Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, Joint Chiefs chairman, adding that "if the president decides to act, they stand ready to disarm Iraq." He also reported stepping up Operation Southern Watch to support diplomacy and to keep pressure on Iraq. "We are now flying several hundred sorties a day, with 200 or 300 over the Southern No-Fly Zone."

Mr. Rumsfeld said that the question before the United Nations is

clear: "Is Saddam Hussein taking every opportunity to disarm or not?" He said the answer to that question is "increasingly obvious."

"He makes a show of destroying missiles which he claims in his declaration do not violate U.N. restrictions, but now admits that they do . . . Yet even as he destroys those missiles, he's ordered the continued production of the very same missiles."

Mr. Rumsfeld called Iraq "one of the most repressive regimes on the face of the Earth. They threaten all of their people every day. That's

how they live in that country, under threat of the government."

During the first Gulf War, he pointed out that Saddam ordered his forces to dismantle a mosque in Baghdad, while placing the blame for the coalition forces' bombing.

Mr. Rumsfeld said that Saddam sought to maximize civilian deaths to create the "false impression" that coalition forces targeted innocent lives. Hussein placed Iraqi civilians inside bunkers, telling them that it was an air raid shelter for protection.

"Right beneath them," Mr.

Rumsfeld said, "was a military command and control center that was being used by senior Iraqi officials for military communications. We later learned that Saddam Hussein had decreed that all Iraqi military bunkers would also house civilians."

General Myers also confirmed reports of a vehicle accident in Afghanistan in which a U.S. soldier and three Afghan nationals struck a land mine while riding in a vehicle. The accident killed one Afghan and seriously injured another. The U.S. soldier and other Afghan were unharmed.

### Group beneficiary services

The 47th Medical Group Beneficiary Services Office will close everyday at 2 p.m. the week of March 24 - 28 due to an annual records inventory. Anyone needing to pick up medical records from outpatient records or active duty personnel needing to inquire about medical consults or medical TDY orders will need to do so before 2 p.m.

For more information, call 298-6368 or 298-6371.

### Medical group closure

The 47th Medical Group will be closed for training from noon to 4:30 p.m. March 27. The

## Newslines

training is essential to maintain the medical group's ability to respond to mission and wartime requirements.

During the training times radiology, the laboratory and the pharmacy will be closed. Afternoon dental and medical sick call will not be available. The Nurse Triage Line will not be available. The Tricare Service Center will still be open. If medical treatment is needed during this time report to the Val Verde Regional Medical Center Emergency Room. For other care, call (800) 406-2832.

For more information, call 298-6309.

### CLEP study program

The Laughlin Education Office is offering a College Level Examination Program study program for the five general CLEP exams. Sessions are held 11 a.m. to noon every day for one week and are in video format with accompanying workbook. Each session is limited to 12 people.

The sessions begin:

Monday - Social Science and History

March 24 - Natural Science

March 31 - Humanities

April 7 - Mathematics

To sign up or for more information, call 298-5545.

# Photos and Web sites may violate security

**By Airman 1st Class  
Timothy Stein**  
*Editor Border Eagle*

Air Force officials are warning members and their families that photos of deployed airmen can compromise operations security and put members at risk.

"Photos sent home from a deployed location and put on a public Web site can be accessed by anyone," said Pedro Bernal, 47th Communications Squadron information assurance chief. "These photos may give anyone who wishes us harm lots of information. It may

give them clues to where we are, the best way to attack and what types of munitions are located there."

Photos from deployed sites should not be sent, Mr. Bernal said, for they may pose operational security risks.

Another worry of posting such photos on a family Web site is the risk it may pose to the people back home.

"Someone could learn who the deployed member's family members are and strike at them at home," said Frederick Ervin 47th CS wing computer security manager.

According to Air Force officials, photos taken by an airman and placed on a personal Web site have already been downloaded and used on an anti-American Web site.

Air Force officials are also warning members against any Web site which requests service members' names, addresses, Social Security numbers as well as names and addresses of family members and other privacy act information.

One Web site, the North American Center for Emergency Communications or NACEC, claimed to provide emergency notification to loved ones back home.

Officials warn such Web sites are not associated with the federal government and should not be trusted.

Any information provided to such sites could be used for identity theft, intelligence gathering by foreign nations or terrorists and could pose a threat to service members, their families and their privacy.

Military personnel should remind family members that the proper and fastest way to be contacted in an emergency situation is through the American Red Cross, said Air Force officials.

## With April 15 coming, Laughlin offers tax help

**By the Laughlin  
legal office**

With five weeks remaining to file tax returns, active-duty, retired members, reservists and family members are encouraged to visit their unit volunteer income tax assistance representative.

The VITA representatives have been trained to prepare basic federal tax forms such as interest and dividend income, and adjustments for childcare, education and earned income credits. VITA representatives also have computer programs available to assist in tax returns.

A significant benefit of these tax computer programs is that it will check to assure members get as accurate a return as possible. It is updated immediately and is more current than the published date the IRS provides.

The tax statutes have recently changed in favor of the deployed military member. There have also been changes in education, home

sales and other areas. The tax office asks members to take advantage of the tax program and not to miss these important changes as unit representatives can assist members in maximizing their potential returns along with having your return e-filed. Returns are filed over the Internet and the IRS receives your return the next day for processing.

In addition to tax advice for military members, the VITA representatives will give retirees or dependents tax assistance for free.

Members wanting to use VITA should schedule an appointment with their unit representative when they are ready to file. Everyone should take all necessary documents, including W-2s and Social Security cards for the filer and all dependent, when seeing the VITA representative.

Members unsure of who their VITA representative is or who need additional assistance may call Gus Glaser at 298-4858.



# Graduation



## SUPT Class 03-06 graduates



**Capt. Rafael Carroll**  
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



**Capt. Shawn Timpson**  
KC-135, RAF Mildenhall, U.K.



**Capt. Danielle Willis**  
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



**1st Lt. Robin Chew**  
F-16, Tengah AB, Singapore (INT)



**1st Lt. Robert Kain III**  
RC-135, Offut AFB, Neb.



**1st Lt. Steven McMenamin**  
B-52, Barksdale AFB, La.



**1st Lt. Malcolm Pinto**  
F-16, Tengah AB, Singapore (INT)



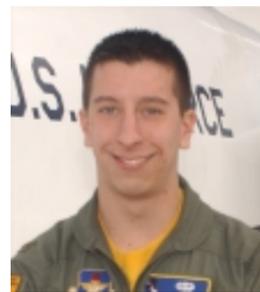
**2nd Lt. Dominic Barberi**  
C-21, Scott AFB, Ill.



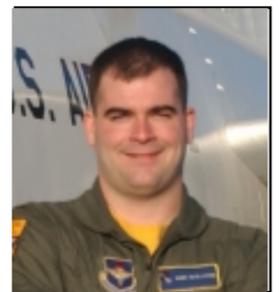
**2nd Lt. Aaron Brown**  
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



**2nd Lt. Brent Curtis**  
T-37, Laughlin AFB



**2nd Lt. Aaron Martin**  
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



**2nd Lt. Marc McAllister**  
C-21, Langley AFB, Va.



**2nd Lt. Sarah Metthe**  
C-21, Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio



**2nd Lt. Jonathan Mueller**  
F-15C, Klamath Falls, Ore.



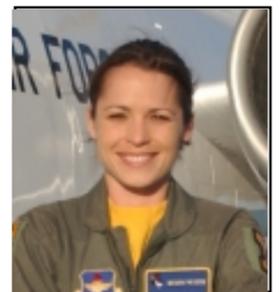
**2nd Lt. Andrew Nash**  
F-16, Fort Smith Regional Airport, Ark. (ANG)



**2nd Lt. Colleen O'Connor**  
KC-10, McGuire AFB, N.J.



**2nd Lt. Daniel Olthoff**  
F-15E, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.



**2nd Lt. Megan Pasierb**  
C-5, Travis AFB, Calif.



**2nd Lt. Zachary Smith**  
KC-10, Travis AFB, Calif.



**2nd Lt. Paul Stucki**  
T-37, Laughlin AFB



**2nd Lt. Kristen Thompson**  
E-3, Tinker AFB, Okla.



**2nd Lt. Nathanael Tolle**  
KC-135, McConnell AFB, Kan.



**2nd Lt. Matthew Walz**  
KC-135, Grissom ARB, Ind.

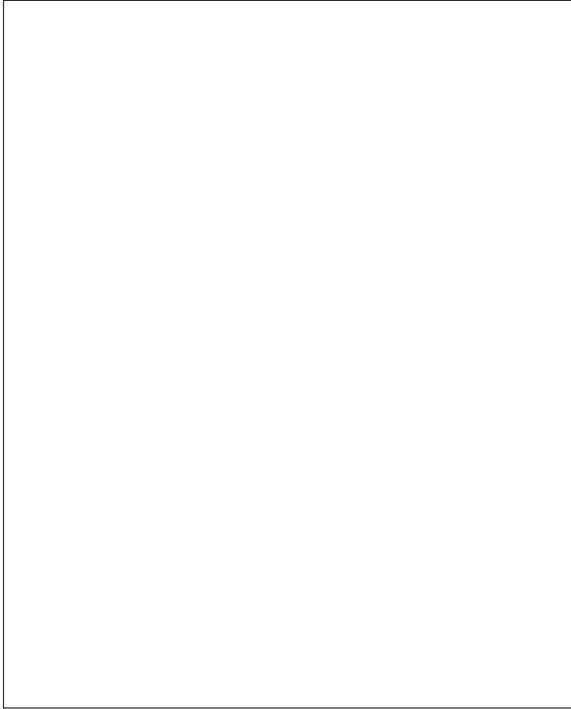
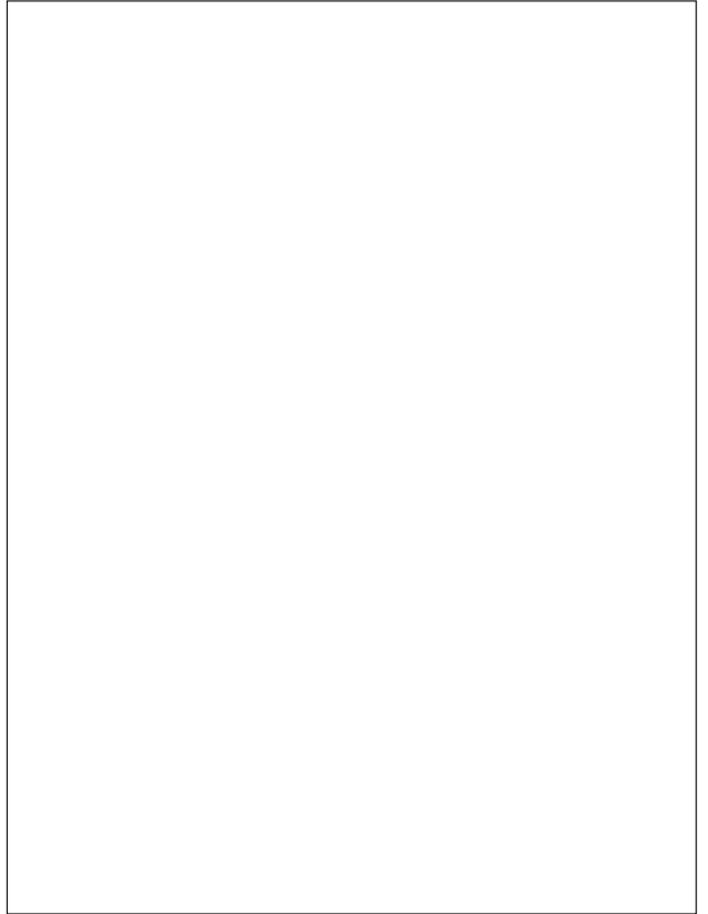


Photo by Airman 1st Class Yvonne Conde

## Honorable Woodward...

Del Rio Mayor Dora G. Alcala congratulates Col. Dan Woodward, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, after reading a proclamation naming him Honorary Mayor of Del Rio at the City Council meeting Tuesday. Mayor Alcala serves as Honorary Wing Commander at Laughlin as part of the wing's Honorary Commanders Program which gives civic leaders insight into base organization and activities.



## This month in Centennial of Flight history:

**March 1, 1954:** The United States exploded the first hydrogen bomb in the Marshall Islands, located in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. A fusion weapon, the hydrogen bomb was many times more powerful than the earlier fission atomic bombs such as the one that destroyed Hiroshima in 1945.

**March 2, 1949:** Capt. James Gallagher and his crew in *Lucky Lady II*, a B-50 Superfortress, completed the first nonstop flight around the world. They flew more than 23,450 miles in slightly more than 94 hours.

**March 2, 1964:** Lt. Hayden Lockhart became the first USAF prisoner of war in Vietnam after his F-100 was shot down in a raid over

North Vietnam. He evaded the enemy for a week before he was captured and remained a prisoner until February 12, 1973.

**March 6, 1942:** The Army Air School at Tuskegee, Alabama, graduated the first five black military pilots.

**March 15, 1916:** The 1st Aero Squadron, under Capt. Benjamin Foulois, became the first U.S. aviation unit to engage in field operations when it joined Brig. Gen. John J. Pershing's punitive expedition against Mexican revolutionary leader Pancho Villa.

**March 16, 1926:** At Auburn, Massachusetts, Dr. Robert Goddard successfully launched the world's first liquid-fueled rocket.

**March 18, 1945:** Some

1,250 U.S. bombers escorted by 670 fighters dropped 3,000 tons of bombs on Berlin's transportation and



industrial areas. In terms of numbers of bombers, this daylight attack was the largest of the war.

**March 19, 1910:** At Montgomery, Alabama, Orville Wright opened the first Wright Flying School on a site that later became Max-

well Air Force Base.

**March 21, 1997:** At Pensacola, Florida, Lt. Col. Marcelyn Atwood became the first woman to command a training squadron and the first Air Force officer to command a Navy squadron. The squadron trained both Air Force and Navy pilots.

**March 23, 2001:** After more than 15 years of service in orbit, Russia's *Mir* space station fell to Earth.

**March 26, 1999:** On the third day of Operation ALLIED FORCE, one F-15C pilot shot down two MiG-29s in aerial combat over Yugoslavia.

**March 28, 1943:** Official dedication of Laughlin Army Air field takes place. The station was named in honor

of Lieutenant Jack Thomas Laughlin, a native of the Del Rio community who lost his life during World War II.

**March 28, 1964:** After a massive earthquake in the area of Anchorage, Alaska, the United States launched Operation HELPING HAND. By April 17, Air Force cargo aircraft, including C-124s, C-123s, C-130s, and C-97s, had delivered 1,850 tons of relief equipment and supplies.

**March 28, 1973:** The last USAF aircraft departed South Vietnam.

**March 31, 1995:** The first woman USAF bomber pilot, 2d Lt. Kelly Flinn, began B-52 flight training at Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana.

### The *XLer*

**Hometown:** Elyria, Ohio

**Family:** Husband, Paul; daughter, Taylor; and dog, Yogey Bogey

**Time at Laughlin:** Six years, 11 months and 10 days

**Time in service:** Seven years, four months

**Greatest accomplishment:** Keeping a sense of humor while being a mother, wife and active-duty military member

**Hobbies:** Fishing, cross-stitching, almost anything outdoors

**Favorite music:** A little bit of everything

**Favorite movie:** Monty Python and the Holy Grail

**If you could spend one hour with any person,**



Photo by Airman 1st Class Yvonne Conde

**Staff Sgt. Samantha Bogumil**  
47th Flying Training Wing

**who would it be and why?**  
My grandfather, he wanted so much to hold and kiss his great granddaughter

and I did not get the chance to say good-bye before he passed away.

# Laughlin IP recalls flying President in Marine One



Courtesy photo

Marine One Sea Knight helicopter arrives at the White House. This aircraft along with the Marine One Black Hawk are used for the president's local transportation.

## By Airman 1st Class Yvonne Conde

Staff writer

With 16 years in service, Maj. Frank Fuller, a new 85th Flying Training Squadron T-37 instructor pilot, is no stranger to assisting the United States with important missions. He currently holds the responsibility of training the world's best pilots here, but before he joined the Air Force, he had the responsibility of flying the leader of the free world.

Before joining the Air Force last July, Major Fuller was a Marine Corps CH-46E Sea Knight helicopter pilot, who from 1998 through 2002 was one of the co-pilots for Marine One, the president's helicopter.

Major Fuller enlisted in the Marine Reserves directly after high school in 1987. Three and one-half years later, while studying aviation management at Central Missouri

State University, he was called to active duty to help support Operation Desert Storm as an anti-Tank Optical and Wire guided missile gunner.

He received a commission into the Marine Corps shortly after that and became a naval aviator in 1994. Major Fuller flew the Sea Knight helicopter for five years before receiving the chance to co-pilot the U.S. president's helicopter.

"I was happy to be able to serve [in] this capacity," he said. "I respected the job and the mission." Major Fuller said it was an honor to work with individuals who go out of their way to accomplish the mission. "Everyone is so enamored with the presidential support mission, but what you have to remember is that Marine officers are flying America's sons and daughters each day and night in the most demanding conditions," he said.

Major Fuller also had the same ambition. In 1998, he applied through a board within the Marine Corps presidential support squadron for the opportunity to fly the U.S. president. "I was selected to do a job that many couldn't qualify for [because of] clearance or flight times issues," he said. With about 1,800 flight hours, Major Fuller met the requirement.

At the age of 28 and with more than the required 1,500 flight hours, a top-secret clearance and five years of operational flight experience, he was selected as a co-pilot for former President Bill Clinton and later a back-up aircraft commander for President George W. Bush.

As the co-pilot for the U.S. president in Marine One, just a few of his responsibilities were to coordinate with various agencies such as the secret service and approach control to safely transport the president to a secure location while ensuring the helicopter's power, altitude and tail clearances remained accurate and stable.

As one of the youngest pilots in the squadron, he remembers checking in and being the only captain in a squadron of majors and above. "I was one of 70 pilots who were assigned to this squadron," he said. "There are only five who can act as the aircraft commander for the president to provide local travel. It was great to fly in such a high-visibility squadron ... we kept busy flying various support missions [and] going overseas in advance of the president."

Although he took part in countless backup and support missions and also acted as aircraft commander for

many important leaders such as former Vice President Al Gore and current Vice President Dick Cheney, he can still recall the 14 times he co-piloted Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush in Marine One. "The first time I flew the president was with the honorable Mr. Clinton," said Major Fuller. "We landed on the south lawn of the white house and were to take him to Andrews Air Force Base. He was having a press conference, and we ended up sitting as a fixture in the backdrop of his speech for about 45 minutes. During that time the aircraft commander [and I] used the cell phone to tell our wives to turn on CNN and check us out. My wife was too busy getting the kids ready for school to turn on the TV. Talking to her on the phone was a big dose of reality ... I'm sitting on the south lawn getting ready to fly the most powerful man in the free world, and the kids are late for school."

Although Major Fuller said it was an honor to have flown important leaders of the United States and to work with great Marines, he was ready to try something new. "I wanted to train pilots and the Marine Corps couldn't give me that opportunity," he said. "It's really the only thing I haven't done."

Major Fuller joined the Air Force for that opportunity and other reasons. "Lets just say life is better here," he said. "I haven't been here long enough to train the world's best pilots, but I can see motivation everywhere I turn. The desire and determination is literally imbedded in these students. I can't wait to be a part of that."



*"March is women's history month: Who is the most influential woman in history?"*



**Staff Sgt.  
Latanya Denmon**  
47th Flying Training Wing

*"Esther Blake, the first woman in the Air Force. She paved the way for the rest of us."*



**Master Sgt.  
James Martin**  
47th Civil Engineering Squadron readiness

*"Amelia Earhart. She set many records and shattered stereotypes."*



**Airman  
Debra Ramirez**  
47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron

*"Eleanor Roosevelt. She brought back faith to American people during a difficult time."*

## Chapel Schedule

### Catholic

- Friday ● 6 p.m., Stations of the Cross
- Saturday ● 5 p.m., Mass
- Sunday ● 9:30 a.m., Mass
- Thursday ● 6 p.m., Choir; 7:30 p.m., R.C.I.A.
- Reconciliation ● By appointment
- Religious Education  
● 11 a.m. Sunday

### Jewish, Muslim and other

- Call 298-5111

### Nondenominational

- Sunday ● 6:30 p.m. Officer Christian Fellowship, call 298-2238
- Friday ● 7 p.m., Unity in Community Fellowship (activities for children)
- Monthly ● Women's fellowship (call 298-1351 for details)

### Protestant

- Sunday ● 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Sunday school  
● 11 a.m., General worship (blend of contemporary and traditional worship, nursery provided)
- Wednesday ● 10 a.m., Women's Bible study  
● 7 p.m., Choir at chapel

**For more information on chapel events and services, call 298-5111.**

## Interested in the Air Force?

*Call Del Rio's Air Force recruiter at 774-0911.*

# Fitness workouts OK after smallpox shot

**By Wayne Amann**

*37th Training Wing Public Affairs*

LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – Air Force fitness center patrons who receive the smallpox vaccination got a welcome shot in the arm concerning their fitness routines thanks to some common sense rules.

Vaccinated gym-goers can go about their workouts by simply following the precautions prominently posted in the various fitness facilities.

“The main reason for the rules is just close contact with bare skin,” said Maj. John Dice, the officer in charge of the Immunizations Clinic at Wilford Hall Medical Center and a

physician in the Allergy and Immunology Clinic. “A vaccinated upper arm shouldn’t touch someone else or a common object like a shirt or towel, thereby transmitting the vaccine virus that sits on the skin.”

■ The only off-limits area is the sauna or steam room. The risk of transmitting is much higher in these rooms since people are sitting close to each other wearing very little clothing.

■ A band-aid or bandage must cover the vaccine site. As the first layer of protection, they effectively reduce the side effects of transmitting the virus.

■ No tank tops are allowed, only shirts with sleeves that cover the immunization site. They provide an-

other barrier.

■ Equipment must be wiped down after use with a solution provided by the fitness center. Normally a 60 percent alcohol-based solution is good. However, the virus can be inactivated by cleaning with hot, soapy water. Wiping can be done with a paper towel or common towel over any sweaty area like a chair.

“The chance of transmitting something down your arm onto equipment is fairly small, but not zero,” Dice cautioned. “So it’s better to inactivate anything still on there.”

■ Showers can be used.

But, how do they differ from the sauna or steam room?

“It’s not much of a risk because you’re using hundreds of gallons of hot, soapy water,” Major Dice explained. “That’s pretty good at diluting the virus down the drain. Just keep the vaccine site clear of others in the shower.”

■ When the scab falls off, return to normal gym use. The vaccine-site will heal and form a scab, which holds a little virus. Generally it takes about three weeks for the scab to fall off, leaving normal flat skin.

“That’s your marker. That means the site’s completely healed over and there’s no virus on the skin surface,” Major Dice said. “Your arm’s back to normal.”

## Basketball standings

### Eastern Conference

Team	W-L	PF	PA
87th	13-0	552	382
86th	10-4	558	479
OSS No. 1	10-3	480	366
LCSAM	6-7	377	370
84/85th	1-9	282	364
OSS No. 2	0-12	206	419

### Western Conference

Team	W-L	PF	PA
CES	12-2	788	548
SFS	8-5	489	435
Med Gp	8-5	551	534
CPTF	6-8	602	643
LSI	4-10	519	633
CCS	4-8	407	472

## XL Fitness Center hours

<b>Monday –</b>	<b>Friday:</b>	<b>Saturday –</b>
<b>Thursday:</b>	5 a.m. to 8	<b>Sunday:</b>
5 a.m. to mid-	p.m.	9 a.m. to
night		8p.m.