

## Air Power

Quote of the Week

**“Air power alone does not guarantee America’s security, ... it best exploits the nation’s greatest asset -- our technical skill.”**

– Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg,  
Second AF Chief of Staff

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www.laughlin.af.mil

April 18, 2003

## News in Brief

### Community survey

The Family Support Center will distribute a community assessment survey to 800 active duty members and all spouses on Laughlin this month.

The survey assesses the current state of the Air Force community.

For more information about the survey, call 298-5342.

### Covered parking

The covered dormitory parking areas across from building 140 are reserved for dormitory residents only.

Base personnel, other than dorm residents who live there, are reminded not to park vehicles there at any time.

### CE manning

The 47th Civil Engineer Squadron will be minimally manned from noon to close of business today for a unit event. Call 298-5488 for emergencies.

## Mission status

(As of April 11)

Days ahead or behind with mission capable rate

T-37	-1.34	84.7%
T-38	-0.10	77.9%
T-1	0.43	80.5%
T-6	-1.98	66.8%

## CE member earns monetary award

Money-saving idea to use metal roofs could be adopted AF-wide

By Tech. Sgt. Anthony Hill  
Public Affairs

Less than six months after suggesting Laughlin replace asphalt roofs with metal roofs in base housing, Donald Hendrix is reaping the benefits of nearly \$4,000.

Mr. Hendrix, 47th Civil Engineer Squadron construction representative, received a \$3,969 award Thursday for an idea he submitted under the Innovative Development through Employee Awareness Program here.

After a severe hail storm hit Laughlin last year and caused extensive damage to asphalt roofs in base housing, they had to be replaced.

**See ‘Idea,’ page 4**



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Anthony Hill

Donald Hendrix, 47th Civil Engineer Squadron, discusses a new metal roof with Lt. Col. Michael Blaylock, 47th CES commander, atop a home in base

housing Tuesday. Mr. Hendrix earned an award of \$3,969 for his idea to replace asphalt roofs in base housing with metal roofs.

## Officials emphasize drinking age policy

### Compiled from staff reports

Military members here under the age of 21 are reminded to correctly follow a policy that allows them to possess and drink beer and wine on base.

The major command director of services is authorized to grant an exception to policy and lower the drinking age at Air Force installations located within approximately 50 miles of a state that has a lower drinking age, according to Air Force Instruction 34-219, Alcoholic Beverage Program.

Since Laughlin borders Mexico, a state with lower drinking age limits, the wing commander requested an exception to allow active-duty members between 18 and 21 to con-

sume beer and wine on base. The Air Education and Training Command services director approved the waiver for Laughlin.

The exception was requested in an effort to reduce the likelihood that members would drive while intoxicated, said Chief Master Sgt. Theodore Pilihos, 47th Flying Training Wing command chief. “AFI 34-219 and Laughlin’s exception to policy letter refers to active-duty personnel only,” the chief explained. “The drinking age for all civilians, to include dependents of active-duty members, is governed by state law. The minimum drinking age in Texas is 21.”

While consuming beverages, those covered by this policy are encouraged to strictly adhere to the

rules. Military members may drink only beer and wine, not “hard” liquor.

“As long as they have alcohol in their systems, we want them to remain on base,” said Chief Pilihos. “Since they are under 21, if they leave base with alcohol in their system, they become subject to state law and could be prosecuted for underage drinking.”

He also encourages everyone not to drink and drive. “This applies to anyone who consumes alcohol, no matter what age.”

Commanders can take disciplinary action against military members who do not follow the drinking policy and violate Article 92 of the

**See ‘Policy,’ page 5**



## Commanders' Corner

Col. Victor Hnatiuk  
47th Mission Support Group commander

### E.J. – you fooled everyone!

I recently attended a suicide prevention training session here in early March run by Chap. (Col.) John Blair, Air Education and Training Command chaplain and Col. William German, AETC surgeon general.

The message was a new approach to helping folks in crisis and on the road toward suicide. The model they brought forward discussed four dimensions of human wellness: physical, emotional, social and spiritual wellness.

It had been a tough week to that point for me and I was tired, and it was only a Wednesday. With the fatigue, I must admit my mind wandered at times during their presentation. As is always the case when suicide is the topic, my thoughts will eventually settle on my first flight commander as a young pilot, his call sign was E.J.

E.J. was a true piece of work. First, he was a physical specimen. Dark hair, dark brown eyes, five-feet, 11-inches, about 185 pounds, and I would guess about 5 percent body fat – you get the picture. Emotionally, E.J. seemed to have it all in one sock too. He was not boastful but seemed to have a very healthy self-esteem. He was not only the A-flight commander, but for a time the squadron scheduler. He was clearly the “go to” guy for the squadron’s senior leadership. Socially, E.J. had lots of friends and was popular. Everyone liked him and those of us in his flight were proud to be under his command. To a man, we pretty much worshiped the guy. Spiritually, I cannot remember E.J. ever talking much about church or God.

Next come the memories of a particular day that started out like any other day in our squadron. A typical morning sortie for me; two-ship, very low altitude training at 300 feet and over 500 mph groundspeed in the RF-4. In short – a blast. The squadron was gearing up for a red flag deployment in a few weeks and morale was high.

E.J. flew that afternoon, so I did not see much of him. He was flying single ship, just he and his backseater. They were running late as they stepped to their jet. This was not good, as crews were required to make hard entry time windows to low-level routes in order to assure deconfliction with other aircraft using the same route.

Well, instead of coordinating for a new time or just coming home, E.J. and his weapons systems officer decided to enter their route late and nearly ran over another wing aircraft flown by our director of operations (today that would be the operations group commander). It was, to say the least, a severe lapse of flight discipline on E.J.’s part with severe consequences. By that evening, E.J. had been stripped of his instructor pilot status and relieved as A-flight commander. E.J.’s response was even more se-

vere. He drove home, parked his car in his garage, left the engine running, closed the garage door, got back into the car and slowly died of carbon monoxide poisoning.

I was appointed the summary court officer tasked to gather all facts and data concerning E.J.’s suicide. This position gave me a much more accurate picture of E.J. and his life; insights not so obvious to the rest of our squadron members. Applying the four dimensions model, his physical dimension “rating” remained strong. However, the other three dimensions now had some big issues. To start, E.J. was in deep financial debt with huge credit card balances, a hefty car payment and mortgage – all highlighting a problem in the social dimension of the model. Also, he was experiencing severe marital difficulties in regards to the model’s emotional dimension. Add in the flight discipline breach and its consequences, and one could see that the only thing he really had left was his spirituality. Apparently, that wasn’t enough.

**“The scary thing to me is that E.J. fooled us all so easily.”**

The scary thing to me is that E.J. fooled us all so easily. None of us knew about his money problems or marital stress. He never gave us any indications of the problems he was facing away from work. So when E.J. had his bad day at the office – actually in the jet – those who knew about the incident viewed it as the only issue on his plate. True, maybe we could have looked harder, but it sure would have helped if E.J. had given us some help too.

So Col. Hnatiuk, you ask, what’s your point? Well first, all the Look, Inquire, Note and Know, or LINK training and four dimensions techniques in the world are useless if we don’t start with honesty on both sides of the equation. As a first line supervisor, flight commanders, flight chiefs, etc., ask yourself if you truly take the time to get to know your troops. Do you know who is married or single, having a baby, coming home from a deployment or just off a remote assignment? Do you take the time to write a personal note to someone having a rough period in his or her career or personal life? Do you make sure those who are doing great things are quickly recognized and feel their accomplishments directly contribute to our mission?

Good supervisors and leaders share in both the bad and good times of their people. So the bottom line is — do you care about your people and do your people know you care about them? If they are convinced someone cares, hopefully they will trust you (or someone else), talk about their troubles and give us a chance to help. Your people have to trust you, and that relationship must be

See ‘Suicide’ page 3



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Internal information chief

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#### 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 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.



Col. Dan Woodward  
47th Flying Training  
Wing commander

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.”***

– 47 FTW motto

## Chief's sight picture: *Air Force stewards – instructors invest in future forces*

**Gen. John P. Jumper**

*Air Force chief of staff*

One of the basic leadership principles of any successful organization is the investment of time and energy in properly preparing successive generations.

To adapt to our transforming world and develop airmen prepared to operate in this dynamic environment, we recently announced our new personnel concept of Force Development. As stewards of the future Air Force, we all have a stake in preparing those who follow to lead this Total Force team. As such, we will follow this time-honored principle and make instructor opportunities a valued part of officer development for leaders of our Air Force.

In the past, many have been skeptical about the effect of leaving one's primary career field, however temporary, for a tour in training or education. I confess to having been one of those. Yet it's hard to deny the positive effect outstanding teachers and instructors have had on our proficiency and our professional development. We know that those involved in education or training are invariably rewarded by the impact they have on succeeding generations. They also come away from their experience with a renewed appreciation for their profession, both in terms of the skills required to be an expert in a chosen field and, more so, with respect for the airmen who are following in their footsteps.

We're currently developing appropriate criteria for tours in education and training in order to be specific about how it will impact your career. Many officers already perform duties as instructors or educa-

tors sometime during their very successful careers. These include duty in various levels of training, professional education, and commissioning sources. Although not all line officers will have this opportunity, we should all expect at least one tour as a trainer or educator during our career.

Apart from your personal investment in our future success, there are many benefits of these career-broadening tours. In recent years, we have seen few opportunities to expose operators to other parts of our Air Force. An operational presence in Officer Training School, ROTC, the Air Force Academy, our Air University PME courses, and our functional training courses provide role models for our cadets and officers to emulate, and offer an opportunity for operators to expand their knowledge and professional abilities.

As we develop criteria for tours in training and education, we will be mindful of legitimate concerns about professional progression and proficiency in one's selected career field and balance those with the desire to expose our officers to a broader cross-section of the Air Force. In fact, as long as we suffer shortages in rated career fields it's reasonable to expect that most rated officers will be required for rated-type training. However, it is necessary to have a broad cross-section of officers, including those with operational experience, in our commissioning and professional development courses to represent the wide range of missions and capabilities our diverse force brings to the fight.

Assignments in education and training positions benefit the entire

Air Force. By embracing the training of future generations as a key principle of leadership, we ensure our successors are trained by professionals who pass on their knowledge and experience. Instructor duty benefits not only the students who learn from practitioners steeped in the traditions and the latest tactics, techniques, and procedures of their specialty, but also those instructors who revisit the fundamentals of their profession. Instructor duty enables each of you to view the world through the eyes of your students, absorb your students' enthusiasm at what lies ahead, and make a valuable contribution to our most fundamental competency of *Developing Airmen*.

Our force's capabilities are based on the collective abilities of our personnel and a dedicated career-long focus on the development of professionals. We are the best Air Force in the world because our people are the best at what they do. Our combat capability as an Air and Space Expeditionary Force depends on each of us passing knowledge gained through years of education, training, and real world experience to those who follow.

We must all recognize the importance and value of instructor duty. Service as an instructor is part of a full career and I challenge each and every one of you to take advantage of these opportunities. As an institution, we must also acknowledge its value and reward those that take on the responsibility to perform instructor duty.

I am extremely proud of all that you do each and every day to make our Air Force the best trained and educated Air and Space Force in the world.

we have to give them a fighting chance and tell them when we are struggling.

Finally, to E.J.: to be honest, I am still mad at you for what you did to me, our squadron and yourself. I wish you had let us into your life a bit more than you did. It wasn't fun to learn about you by going through your personal records, photographs and belongings in the days after your death. I hope you are doing OK. Take care, Gnat.

### **'Suicide,' from page 2**

built long before a crisis is upon your organization.

Second, for all potential E.J.'s out there, be honest with yourself. We must admit that we are all vulnerable at some time in our lives. We must ask for help when needed and go to those we trust for that help. People are out there and ready to do whatever it takes to help us, but

**'Idea,' from page 1**

Mr. Hendrix said he researched and found that metal roofing lasted longer and did a better job than asphalt roofs Laughlin used. He also found that metal roofs would better withstand heavy hail and high winds, and thereby save Air Force money in roof replacement costs.

As the base evaluator, Marvin Parvino, 47th Civil Engineer Squadron deputy base civil engineer, conducted a detailed analysis of Mr. Hendrix's research and confirmed that replacing the roofs with metal would benefit the Air Force with \$1,130,744 in savings over 45 years.

About half of Laughlin base housing is covered with metal roofing as a result of Mr. Hendrix's suggestion. Civil engineer officials expect Laughlin to have 100 percent of housing fitted with metal roofs within the next year.

The metal roof has a 50-year warranty against hail and 120-mph wind damage, whereas asphalt roofs did not warrant these types of damages.

"The metal roof provides better comfort for residents," said Mr. Hendrix. "It reduces installa-

tion time by 50 percent, and produces minimal amounts of construction debris such as nails and other dangerous objects. The metal roof also looks like traditional asphalt shingles."

Mr. Hendrix said he is not as excited about receiving the award as he is about Laughlin having such an extensive project like this one.

According to civil engineer officials here, Laughlin is the first Air Force base to replace asphalt roofs with metal for all base housing.

"His idea has been forwarded to AETC for wider use," said Anita Cox, 47th Flying Training Wing IDEA analyst. "If the command decides to use it at its other bases, there could be more savings identified. That also means more award money could be earned by Mr. Hendrix."

The maximum limit for an IDEA award is \$10,000, said Ms. Cox.

Laughlin military and civilian members may submit suggestions as individuals, teams or groups through the IDEA Program Data System at <https://ideas.randolph.af.mil>.

For more information about the IDEA Program or submitting suggestions, call 298-5236.

## Airmen stay busy despite end to major war hostilities in Iraq

**By Master Sgt. Scott Elliot**

*Air Force Print News*

WASHINGTON — Even though hostilities in Iraq appear to be winding down, airmen who fly combat missions over that war-torn nation say their job is not finished yet.

"We still have pockets of resistance in various areas, and until we have complete control we need to have air power up there supporting the ground troops," said Lt. Col. Grant Bishop, an F-16CJ Fighting Falcon pilot. Bishop, deployed supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom, spoke to reporters during an interview April 14 via satellite feed from Doha, Qatar.

"It may look like things are slowing down ... but there are coalition fighters up in the air 24-hours-a-day around Iraq making sure no problems exist," he said.

According to Capt. Mary Melfi, an F-15E Strike Eagle weapons system officer, providing support to the ground troops means coordinating closely with them to find out what specific targets they want hit.

"We'll talk with the guys on the ground, the Army and Marines, to find out what kind of tasking they have for us," she said. "They might have a specific goal -- an airfield or a city they're trying to take -- and need us to clear the way."

Successful coordination with ground troops

has been an evolutionary process that has been getting better every day, Melfi said. Bishop claimed it was all part of the plan.

"This war has been probably the first time we've operated as integrated forces," he said. "It was a well-developed plan: you had the Army moving in with the Air Force clearing the way, making it easier for them to progress as fast as they did."

The results of air supremacy are evident from up above, he added. "From my cockpit, as I look down, I know we're doing a great job because you can see (our) tanks racing across the desert with big rooster tails of dust behind them," he said. "They're not slowing down. We're doing a good job, and they're picking up the bits and pieces we've left behind."

Coalition air power's success, in large part, is because of the coordinated efforts of the various strike aircraft, Bishop said.

"Our primary goal is to suppress the enemy air defense systems so folks like (Melfi) can go in and drop bombs," he said. "Probably the toughest job for any aviator is going into a threat that's trying to take your airplane out. We have lots of training to counteract the surface-to-air missiles. Once they shoot them up, we turn in and take them on, one-on-one."

## Newslines

### Family day, egg hunt

A family day Easter egg hunt will be held Saturday, starting at the base chapel.

Activities begin with a parade at 9 a.m. in the chapel parking lot. Children in age categories 0-4, 5-7, 8-10, and 11-18 can decorate their strollers, wagons and bicycles to be judged. Prizes will be awarded in each category.

Parade vehicles will travel from the chapel parking lot, west on Laughlin Drive to the Ribas Dominacci Circle. The route then follows Mitchell Blvd. east to Fourth Street, north on Fourth, then right onto Colorado Ave. and continue to Liberty Drive, ending at the Fiesta Community Center.

Parade walkers begin at the chapel parking lot, go north on Fifth Street to Mitchell Blvd., then head east on Mitchell to Fourth Street, north on Fourth, just past the 47th Mission Support Squadron, cutting across the field there to the Fiesta Community Center.

The egg hunt, which is planned for children up to 10 years old, begins at 10 a.m. in the field next to the Fiesta Center.

Games and activities will follow the egg hunt. Sparkey, the Easter Bunny and the Border Patrol Robot are some of the featured guests. A canine demonstration will be conducted by security forces and pony rides also will be available.

### Medical group closure

The 47th Medical Group will close at 3:30 p.m. Monday for commander's call.

During this time, radiology, the laboratory and pharmacy will be closed. The nurse triage line will not be available.

The Tricare service center will remain open.

Anyone who requires medical treatment during this time should pursue it as if it were a week-end or holiday.

For medical emergencies, go to the Val Verde Regional Medical Center Emergency Room. For other care, call 1-800-406-2832.

### Budgeting class

A budgeting class will be held 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesday in the Family Support Center conference room.

The class helps people who need help setting up a budget and want to learn how to reduce their debt. Information about credit consolidation companies and obtaining a copies of credit reports will also be available.

To sign up for the class, call 298-5262.

See 'Iraq,' page 8

**'Policy,' from page 1**

Uniform Code of Military Justice, noted Capt. Thomas Biediger, 47th FTW assistant staff judge advocate. He added that military members may face similar consequences and be held accountable if they provide alcohol to underage civilians while on base.

"In such cases, the individual's commander considers a broad range of responses and takes action as warranted by the circumstances," said Captain Biediger. "Potential consequences include administrative action, nonjudicial punishment or, in extreme cases, court-martial."

State law applies to the base marina. If military members conduct a party or other event at the marina, active-duty members under 21 cannot consume any alcohol, the staff judge advocate con-

tinued.

"The lowered drinking age for active duty members does not extend beyond the base gates," Captain Biediger explained. "AFI 34-219 and the wing commander's request for waiver specifically refer to 'on-base' drinking.

"In addition," he said, "the policy for allowing such waivers is that we don't want to encourage our members to go drinking in Mexico and then face the prospect of having to drive back to base."

Chief Pilihos added that military members should ensure they understand the policy, then follow the rules and act responsibly.

"Drink responsibly," he said. "Do not overindulge. Be responsible for your behavior. Being under the influence of alcohol is no excuse for abusive or destructive behavior."

**Defensive Driving:** *Always Think for Two, The Other Guy and You!*

**ONLINE  
news**



**Laughlin AFB featured on AF TV News**

Pilot Training:

First Phase of Training Examined

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United States Air Force.

**Tune in to the  
Commander's Ac-  
cess Channel  
Base Channel 34  
to view up-to-date  
information on  
Laughlin activities**

1X2  
Balloon Tie

# Clinic treats recent chicken pox cases

## Compiled from staff reports

The Laughlin Pediatrics Clinic has treated four cases of chicken pox within the past month, and parents are being reminded of the best way to avoid spreading this infection.

Because chicken pox is spread only through person-to-person contact, Capt. (Dr.) Tad Shirley, base pediatrician, advises parents to keep infected children at home.

"Unless there's a doubt about the diagnosis or the child has some kind of problem, there's really no need to even bring the child into the clinic," Capt. Shirley said. "The most important step in preventing the infection from spreading is to limit an infected child's exposure to others."

Frequent hand washing is another way to prevent the infection from spreading, he said.

Chicken pox, or Varicella, is a viral illness with a characteristic rash. The rash consists of a clear vesicle, or blister, on a red base. When the vesicle bursts, a scab forms. The rash is intensely itchy and usually consists of vesicles in varying stages.

People with chicken pox are contagious beginning two days prior to the rash's onset until all lesions are crusted over. The rash usually appears 14-16 days after exposure.

Aside from the itchy rash, the ill-

ness is also associated with a low-grade fever, headache and loss of appetite.

The treatment for chicken pox is symptomatic care, such as Calamine lotion, Tylenol, rest and plenty of fluids.

According to Capt. Shirley, it's important to avoid aspirin, as it has been linked to a condition called Reye Syndrome, which can damage the liver. Children may return to normal activities once all lesions have crusted.

Parents are advised to immunize children between 12 and 18 months old. Children who have been immunized can still get chicken pox, but in a less severe form. There are normally 250-350 lesions in chicken pox; however, if an immunized child acquires chicken pox, there will usually be only 15-20 lesions.

Chicken pox is most common in late winter or early spring. In 2002, Val Verde County reported only 16 cases of chicken pox, but the county has already seen 13 cases through March. For more information, call Captain Shirley at 298-6476.

## Network user space limited

By Airman First Class  
Yvonne Conde  
Staff Writer

Laughlin has begun a computer network policy that limits the amount of e-mail and file storage space on network servers.

The policy is designed to ensure network resources are effectively managed and to manage growth as Laughlin continues to add new users, said Capt. Scott Johnson, 47th Communications Squadron information systems flight commander.

"Prior to the policy, every person on base had an [almost] unlimited e-mail account," said Captain Johnson. "By knocking the average user back down to 20 megabytes for e-mail and 100 megabytes for storage, our servers [are less likely to] crash."

A user with text-only e-mails is capable of having hundreds of e-mails or about four PowerPoint presentations with a 20-MB e-mail capacity. For unit storage drives, personnel are authorized five times that amount. "We had some e-mail servers reaching their

maximum capacity, so what this will do is keep everyone at realistic and manageable file storage limits to ensure our e-mail and file resources are always available."

To ensure important e-mail documents are still available, every user has the ability to create personal folders to store e-mail and other documents on their computer hard drive. "The best way to maintain important documents is to take a proactive stance," said Captain Johnson. "We sent out a notice to airmen with tips on managing e-mail, including sent and deleted items. Just hitting 'delete' doesn't actually wipe it off your computer or the server.

"My best advice is to constantly check your e-mail box and ensure that you move your e-mails to your hard drive or have them delivered directly to your hard drive via a personal file."

For more information on how to create a personal folder or manage e-mail, contact your unit workgroup manager or the network control center help desk at 298-5200.

Read Airman Magazine online at <http://www.af.mil/news/airman/indxflas.html>

# Security forces revive ride along program

**By Tech. Sgt. Anthony Hill**  
*Public Affairs*

The 47th Security Forces Squadron is bringing back a program to let people get a first-hand view of law enforcement operations.

Security forces members see Project Ride Along as an opportunity to show people there's more to law enforcement than what most believe.

"Project Ride Along gives the Laughlin and Del Rio communities a chance to observe the complexity of police work and meet security forces members," said Tech. Sgt. Roberto Rangel, 47th SFS law enforcement superintendent. "It provides exposure to a military police environment for individuals interested in a law enforcement or Air Force career. The program also caters to Air Force members considering a career change into law enforcement."

Participants can expect to spend two to four hours with security forces members during a ride.

"We can show them what our mission is about," explained Sergeant Rangel. "Some things they will see include the types of equipment we use and how we handle situations

that may occur. We can also provide demonstrations with our narcotics and explosives-detection dogs."

Everyone 12 years of age or older can participate. Individuals under 18 years old require parent or guardian approval. School, scouting and other organized groups are also invited to participate in the program.

"We invite everyone to come and see what the Air Force, security forces and law enforcement are all about," said Sergeant Rangel. "Coming on a ride-along with us can be a lot of fun, and at the same time people can learn about our mission and what we do on a daily basis."

People interested in the ride-along must schedule a date and time with security forces at least one week in advance. Each participant must complete and return parts one and two of the application. Scheduling is done on a first-come, first-served basis. Future participants should be aware that unforeseen contingencies or base activities may limit available days and times.

Everyone interested in participating in Project Ride Along should call the security forces law enforcement desk at 298-5100.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Anthony Hill

## Radar removal

Tech. Sgt. Laszlo Nyerges, a member of the 272nd Engineering and Installation Squadron from Houston, prepares Laughlin's old radar for removal April 8. The radar,

located behind the old radar approach control building for the past 30 years, was replaced by a new radar this past year.

## 'Iraq,' from page 4

With the air war slowing down, Bishop said the focus of air power is shifting to a different phase.

"It's important to remember this war is going in phases," he said. "You've seen on television that we're flying water and various supplies to the people of Iraq. Obviously, everyone wants to go home

and see their families, but we know we have a job to do."

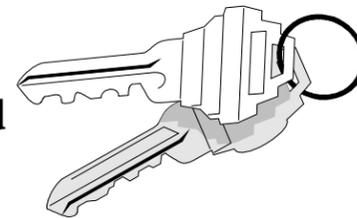
It has become a rebuilding process, he said.

"If that means we have our forces on the ground in Iraq, then we'll do that to help the Iraqi people maintain their freedom," he said. "The Iraqis are the same as we are -- they want the same things: freedom and the pursuit of happiness."

**If you know of or suspect fraud, waste and abuse, call the FWA hotline at 298-4170**

## Remember Home Security:

**Keep your doors locked**



**Always Think Safety First**

# Laughlin recycling program ranks among best in Texas

## Compiled from staff reports

The base community here observes Earth-Arbor Day Tuesday with a focus on challenging people to keep the environment clean and healthy.

The recycling center staff has stepped up to the challenge and made a strong commitment to that effort. They have produced one of the leading recycling programs in Texas.

In 2002, the center moved up a notch and passed Texas City to become the sixth-ranked recycling program in the state. More than 500 tons of material were recycled this past year, keeping 25 percent of the base's solid waste from adding to landfills.

Goodwill Inc. and the people in this community contributed to the success of the recycling program, said Duane Wingate, 47th Civil Engineer Squadron pollution prevention manager.

"Without their support and continued emphasis on improving our environment, our recycling program would not be where it is today," he said. "It is the culmination of everyone working together to create a pollution-free environment."

Recycling efforts here have consistently exceeded a 25 percent diversion rate, said Mr. Wingate. As a result, the base adhered to environmental compliance laws and substantially relieved

excess stress upon the environment caused by pollution.

As an integral part of the Randolph-Central Texas Recycling Association partnership, more than \$9,000 was earned here in 2002 from recycled items.

An environmental audit in 2000 revealed that the base saved more than \$1 million by using its compost, or recycled vegetative debris and wood, for cover at an old landfill. Laughlin received an award for that accomplishment during the Environmental Excellence Awards Banquet, which was part of the 2000 Texas Recycling Summit.

The recycling center staff encourages all base members to recycle every day, not just on Earth-Arbor Day. The center is capable of handling and recycling cardboard, paper, aluminum, glass, and plastic containers labeled types 1 and 2, according to Mr. Wingate. In addition, he cautions that materials brought to the recycling center must not be contaminated with oils, paints or any other type of hazardous substances that will make the items nonrecyclable.

The recycling center is located in building 2018. It is open 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Recyclable items may be placed inside the bins adjacent to the recycling center. For more information, call 298-4230.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Anthony Hill

Duane Wingate, base pollution prevention manager, places aluminum cans into bins outside the base recycling center. The bins are available for base members to deposit their recyclable paper, glass, plastic, cardboard and aluminum.

# Command announces 2003 family days

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AETCNS) — Gen. Don Cook, commander of Air Education and Training Command, announced dates the command will observe as family days.

July 3, Nov. 28, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2, 2004, are the designated family days this year.

Family day means military members will get the day off, giving most people in the command an extended break for the observed holidays.

In his announcement, General Cook stated the days are in apprecia-

tion for the remarkable undertakings of AETC people this year.

"In appreciation of the many tremendous accomplishments this year, I look back at all the sacrifices and hard work made by AETC personnel to date and declare 2003 family days," said General Cook.

People who have questions about their days off should check with their supervisors, who will determine mission-essential staffing.

For military members required to perform duty on the family days, commanders are encouraged to grant

compensatory time off during the first week following the holiday, mission requirements permitting, the general said.

Air Force Instruction 36-3003, Military Leave Program, should be followed regarding passes and chargeable leave.

Under current rules for Department of Defense civilians, commanders can encourage liberal leave, use of previously earned compensatory time or use of already approved time-off awards, General Cook stated in his announcement.

Group time-off awards, specifically for the purpose of giving the day off, are prohibited by Air Force Instruction 36-1004, Managing the Civilian Recognition Program.

"During your holiday activities, please think safety first. Use common sense, drive defensively and wear your safety seat belts. Commanders and supervisors must provide a safety briefing to their personnel to ensure they understand that risk management should be used on and off duty," said General Cook.

## Thinking about getting out? Think again.

Make sure you've got all the facts first! Call the 47th Flying Training Wing career assistance adviser at 298-5456 for information on your future career.

Remember:  
Observe OPSEC  
On and Off Base

## AFAF campaign underway toward goal

**By 2nd Lt.  
Lindsay Logsdon**  
*Public Affairs*

After the first week of collections for the 2003 Air Force Assistance Fund campaign, team XL raised \$3,581.

The campaign is conducted among Air Force people to benefit Air Force people. It began April 7 with Laughlin's goal to raise \$21,217 by May 9. As of Wednesday 17 percent of that goal was met.

Funds raised from the campaign go to four AFAF affiliates. The affiliates are Air Force Village Indigent Widows' Fund, Air Force Aid Society, Air Force Enlisted Foundation and The

Curtis E. LeMay Foundation.

This year's goal is a 20 percent increase over the amount that was collected last year, said 2nd Lt. David Shrack, installation project officer for the 2003 AFAF campaign.

"The goal increase is partly due to the increased demand placed on the affiliates due to increased deployments from the war on terrorism and Operation Iraqi Freedom," he said, "in addition to the decline in the economy, which has forced financial constraints on the airmen and their families."

The funds raised also benefit Air Force and members here. "Last year the Air Force Aid Society provided

over \$77,000 in assistance to Laughlin personnel, which was over six times the amount received in donations during the 2002 AFAF campaign," said Lieutenant Shrack.

Every squadron has a representative who can explain and assist anyone interested in supporting AFAF.

"They are working hard to make sure every military member at Laughlin has the opportunity to contribute and help other airmen locally and throughout the Air Force," said Lieutenant Shrack.

For more information or to contribute, contact unit representatives or Lieutenant Shrack at 298-5744.

For the latest information about Laughlin activities, call 298-5201

## 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.

# Laughlin T-37 IPs soar skies in F-16s:



Photo by Capt. Denis Casaubon

Capt. John Caplinger, 84th Flying Training Squadron instructor pilot, astens his safety restraints as Master Sgt. David Guenther,

56th Operation Support Squadron life support at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., stands by to ensure he is secure April 9.

**By Airman 1st Class  
Yvonne Conde**

*Staff writer*

Twelve 84th Flying Training Squadron instructor pilots recently completed three days of F-16 fighter training at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz.

Lt. Col. Kelly Fletcher, 84th FTS operations officer, said the group, which consisted of major-weapon system and first assignment instructor pilots, received this training for three reasons: to further develop their instructor skills, orientation into the fighter community and personal and professional growth.

"These IPs have very little fighter experience, so this helps [unravel] the mystique," said Colonel Fletcher. "The additional training gives them the perspective to understand how it all fits into the overall Air Force picture. They can build upon the basic foundation of training, so they can talk to their stu-



Photo by Airman 1st Class Yvonne Conde

Capt. Dan Szarke, 84th FTS IP, returns from an air combat maneuver sortie April 11. This was his second flight during the three-day training.

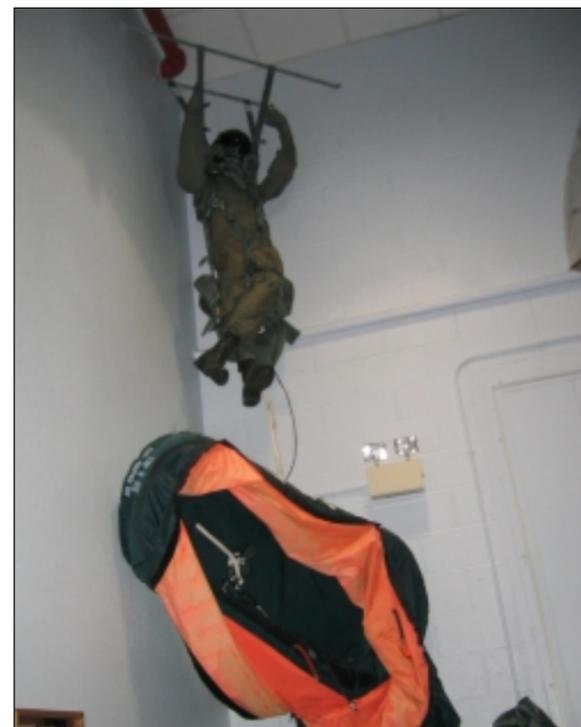


Photo by Capt. Denis Casaubon

A Laughlin IP performs another egress training exercise prior to flying the F-16.

## 84th Flying Training Squadron takes Luke trip for three-day introduction to fighter training

dents from an educated point of view. Instead of responding with 'I don't know,' or 'I've heard,' they can now say, 'I've experienced.'"

The pilots began this process with egress training, which ensures they know how to get out of the F-16 in an emergency situation. "The F-16 egress was very similar [to the T-37]; the only differences were the switches involved and the body position to eject," said Capt. Denis Casaubon, 84th FTS IP. "The training was good because there's not a lot of time for the [F-16] pilot to explain things to us when we go fly. So, getting acquainted with the radios and other cockpit features increased our situational awareness during the flight."

Before the flight, most Laughlin pilots received additional training in an F-16 simulator. Eager to experience an F-16 flight, 1st Lt. Jeremy Hintz flew a simulated aerial combat mission, which he referred

to as "the ultimate video game." While he flew at speeds of over 500 mph, enemy aircraft were positioned on the screen to shoot down. "This is awesome," he said. "I'm shooting [targets] down."

A couple of pilots were scheduled to fly the F-16 before they could receive sim training. 1st Lt. Gabriel Repucci, 84th FTS, was the first to climb into the back seat of the jet. "It was totally different than the T-37," he said. Although Lieutenant Repucci flew back seat with an F-16 instructor pilot, he was given the opportunity to fly the jet. "I was a little tentative at first, but it was great," he added. "It's so powerful and there are so many gadgets. The biggest difference was having the control stick on the right as opposed to the [center] on the T-37s."

While Lieutenant Repucci flew in a two-ship tactical formation, Captains Dan Szarke and John Caplinger, 84th FTS, had

an opportunity to fly in a 10-ship air combat maneuvering instrumentation formation, which was tracked and recorded through a computerized, three-dimensional system. The system allows aircrews to train in aerial combat, air-to-ground weapons delivery and surface-to-air defenses with real-time monitoring, recording and

replaying missions for debriefing to enhance combat aircrew training.

"The mission [we] flew brought everything together that the students learn at Luke," said Captain Szarke. "It was an F-16 10-ship [formation] going in to strike a target, which went against four F-16s that were trying to take them out. It was in-

teresting to see how they might employ under a real threat. The training was very realistic, and provided us a great picture of what is expected of trainees going through F-16 training there. It was beneficial to learn more about another facet of the Air Force, and [it] provided us more insight to pass on to our own students here."



Photo by Airman 1st Class Yvonne Conde

First Lt. Jeremy Hintz, 84th FTS IP, adjusts his helmet as he settles in for the first of his F-16 rides April 10.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Yvonne Conde

A four-ship F-16 formation prepares to take-off. Two Laughlin IPs were in the formation getting hands-on training of the different fighting tactics.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Yvonne Conde

A two-ship formation carrying two Laughlin IPs conducts basic fighting maneuvers training.

## The *XLer*

**Staff Sgt. Sean McCauley**  
Laughlin Fire Department



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Anthony Hill

**Hometown:** San Antonio, Texas

**Family:** Wife: Glenda and Children: Anthony, 11; Crystal, 8

**Time at Laughlin:** Three years, 10 months

**Time in service:** 12 years

**Greatest accomplishments:** Married to a wonderful wife, and great kids  
**Hobbies:** Bowling, sports and spending time with my kids

**Favorite music:** R&B

**Favorite movie:** "A Few Good Men"

**If you could spend one hour with any person, who would it be and why?** My grandfather. He died when I was very young. I would like to have known him better because he was a great influence on my mother.

## This month at Laughlin in Centennial of Flight history

**April 1, 1957**

Control of the base passed to Strategic Air Command.

ATC closed its 3645th wing, and SAC moved its 4080th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing (Light) to Laughlin from Turner AFB, Ga.

**April 1, 1962**

The Air Force transferred base jurisdiction from Strategic Air Command to Air Training Command.

**April 1, 1998**

The 96th Flying Training Squadron, an Air Force Reserve associate squadron,

was activated. The 96th provided instructors to augment the wing's instructor force.

**April 2, 1990**

To prepare for the implementation of specialized undergraduate pilot training, Air Training Command activated three new flying training squadrons: the 39th, 84th, and 87th. The new units joined the 85th and 86th Flying Training Squadron to provide training. The 47th Student Squadron inactivated. Its duties were incorporated into the flying training squadrons.



Please recycle this newspaper

## Volleyball standings

As of April 11

Eastern Conference	W/L	Western Conference	W/L
86 FTS	2-0	CCS	1-0
84/85 FTS	2-0	MED GP	0-2
87 FTS	2-0	FTW	0-2
LCSAM	1-1	CES	0-2
OSS	1-2		

## Air Force cancels sports camps

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** — Air Force Services Agency announced the cancellation of the remainder of the 2003 Air Force and Armed Forces sports camps and will not accept any more applications.

“In view of world events, ops tempo, and stop-loss measures, the sports programs are regrettably cancelled,” said Maj. Mason Pigue, Air Force Fitness and Sports Programs, chief.

While the remainder of the camps will be cancelled, those currently under way

will continue as scheduled, which include wrestling, women’s basketball and the power lifting competition.

The following Air Force training camps and sports competitions are immediately cancelled:

- Women’s soccer
- Men’s soccer
- Triathlon
- Taekwondo
- U.S. Racquetball Association’s National Championships.

The following Air Force training camps and sports are tentatively cancelled pending

review in 90 days:

- Men’s volleyball
- Women’s volleyball
- Track & Field Air North
- Armed Forces Marathon
- Golf
- Men’s softball
- Women’s softball
- Men’s basketball
- Rugby
- Shooting

For more information and further updates, go to <https://www-r.afsv.af.mil> (under Fitness and Sports, All Air Force Sports).

**(Courtesy of Air Force Services Agency)**

**Don’t forget to wipe down the fitness center equipment after you are finished using it.**