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Welcome home General and Mrs. McNabb

AMC commander, wife to visit base

By
Tyler Hemstreet
Staff writer

Team McChord will welcome Gen. Duncan McNabb, commander of Air Mobility Command, and his wife, Linda, to the base Wednesday.

During his visit, the general will be introduced to the base's Lean initiatives, including the 62nd Maintenance Squadron's Wheel and Tire shop and the 62nd Operations Group's One Stop.

Col. Jerry Martinez, 62nd Airlift Wing commander, said he also would like to update the general on issues affecting McChord's Airmen.

"Most importantly, we'd like the

general to meet some of the best men and women in Air Mobility Command," he said.

General McNabb will also visit the base medical clinic, child development center, Airmen and family readiness center, Escape Zone and base housing before attending the Col. Joe Jackson C-17 Globemaster III dedication ceremony Thursday in Hangar 4.

From July 1996 to July 1997, General McNabb served as 62nd AW commander and is looking forward to having the opportunity to meet the Airmen, active duty, Reserve and National Guard, as well as the local retirees and civic leaders, Colonel Martinez said.

"The best thing I get to do during these trips is visit our Airmen, look them in the eye and say, 'Thanks,'" General McNabb said in his speech during March's Col. Joe Jackson Street renaming ceremony here.

From Team McChord — General and Mrs. McNabb, welcome home!



Gen. Duncan McNabb, Air Mobility commander, greets Airmen at March's dining out.

AFSO 21 a success at McChord

By
Tyler Hemstreet
Staff writer

The banner hanging above the shop floor of the 62nd Maintenance Squadron Wheel and Tire Shop is a sign of the success of the Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century program at McChord.

The "2005 Chief of Staff Team Excellence Award" banner recognizes outstanding team performance and promotion of systematic process improvement, according to an Air Force news story. The award serves to promote mission improvement and cost savings as part of AFSO 21.

Implementing waste-cutting tasks has changed the culture in the shop, said Senior Airman Alexander Rojas, 62nd Maintenance Squadron. For example, an overhead crane was added to assist with the transport of wheels and a storage area was constructed for new tires and machines to help with the buildup and teardown of wheels.

"They're small changes, but they make a big difference," said Airman Rojas.

The simple changes have produced stellar results, he said.

What the wheel and tire shop has been able to accomplish fits right into

the Air Force's goal of changing the culture of killing the non-value-added work and improving how everything operates, said Robert Shaw, a Continuous Process Improvement consultant at McChord.

"We have to get cultural transformation to get long term success," said Mr. Shaw. "The culture doesn't grow itself — continuous improvement feeds the culture."

Under CPI's plan, the five traits that go into breeding a Lean culture are discipline, urgency, communication, empowerment and learning.

"We're trying to get these things engrained into the Air Force culture," Mr. Shaw said.

Another success story at McChord is the 62nd Operations Support Group's One Stop. After combining all the items aircrews need before taking off into one convenient location, launch times have dropped nearly 60 percent, said Maj. John Pantleo, 62nd Airlift Wing, who played an integral role in starting One Stop a little over a year ago.

"It's not just the time savings [for launch times]," he said. "It's administrative too. By bringing the aviation resource and maintenance crew together, there is a system of checks and balances when it comes to the paperwork."

See AFSO 21, Page 5



Photo by Abner Guzman

Getting in the spirit

An Airman puts the finishing touches on the Spirit of Joe Jackson, a C-17 Globemaster III, that will be named after retired Air Force colonel and Medal of Honor recipient Joe Jackson. The aircraft will be dedicated to Colonel Jackson in a ceremony at 1 p.m. Thursday in Hangar 4.

Weekend Weather

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Hi: 77 Low: 52	Hi: 77 Low: 52	Hi: 75 Low: 52

Forecast generated at 7 a.m. Thursday
Courtesy of the 62nd Operations Support Squadron

Mission accomplished

Total McChord sorties	11,910
Total flying hours	37,875.6
Cargo moved (tons)	101,998
Departure reliability rate	94.9%
Mission capable rate	84.7%
Personnel currently deployed	405
Reservists currently activated.....	262

(Jan. 1 to Tuesday. Numbers updated Tuesday.)

Don't miss it ...

Wing-all call

There will be a 62nd Airlift Wing-all call at 9 a.m. Thursday in Hangar 3. For more information, call Master Sgt. Timothy Smith at 982-7832.

Thank you for your hard work, sacrifice

By

Col. Jerry Martinez
62nd Airlift Wing commander

We have more than 400 of our Team McChord warriors deployed around the world. Recently, I got a chance to travel through the area of operations and meet some of those men and women as they make the world a safer place.

Our deployed Airmen are doing an outstanding job keeping up the battle rhythm, from expertly maintaining our planes to diligently supporting operations, and I am very proud of their displays of excellence, great teamwork and positive attitudes.

Being deployed can be challenging, both for you and your family members, but it's something we all have to do at one time or another. And let me tell you, I'm really proud of each and every one of you for the work you do. I'm proud of those of you who have gone out to the AOR and those of you who support the mission here

at home and abroad.

I've deployed before and soon, I will deploy again. I understand the stresses deployments put on both Airmen and family members, but what keeps me going is knowing why we must deploy — We deploy because our nation is in an armed struggle right now that we absolutely cannot afford to lose.

There have been many generations of great Americans who have struggled through hard times because of the demands of war.

In World War II, many were gone for years and experienced incredibly tough conditions. We thank them and the many who served in other wars for the sacrifices they made for our freedoms. And just as we thank them, one day another generation will thank you for the sacrifices you have made.

Today, I thank you for all your hard work and sacrifice. I'm very proud to be your wing commander. Keep up the outstanding work in making us the world's best airlift team!

“... I'm really proud of each and every one of you for the work you do. I'm proud of those of you who have gone out to the AOR and those of you who support the mission here at home.”

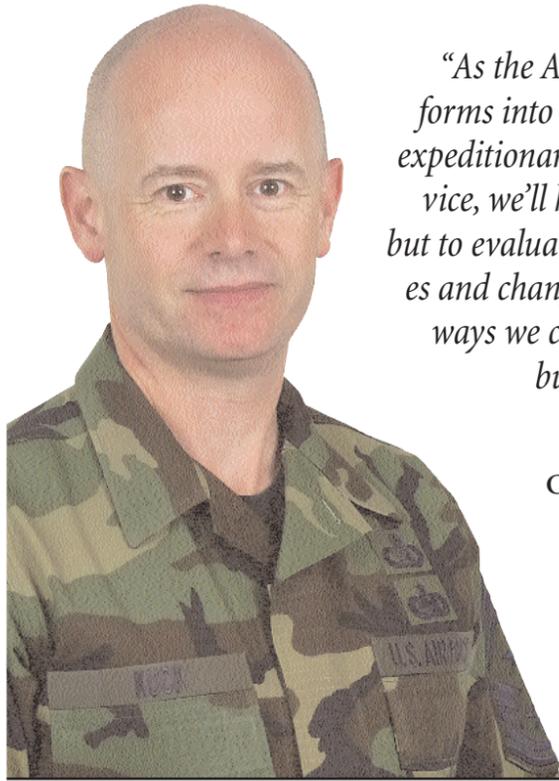
Col. Jerry Martinez
62nd Airlift Wing
commander



Critical change can happen at grassroots level

By

Chief Master Sgt. Russell Kuck
62nd Airlift Wing
command chief master sergeant



“As the Air Force transforms into a leaner, more expeditionary minded service, we'll have no choice but to evaluate our processes and change some of the ways we conduct business.”

Chief Master Sgt.
Russell Kuck
62nd Airlift Wing
command chief

By now you've probably heard that in the next five years the Air Force plans on reducing the number of Airmen currently serving by 40,000.

As the Air Force transforms into a leaner, more expeditionary-minded service, we'll have no choice but to evaluate our processes and change some of the ways we conduct business.

Now, when I say we need to effect change, I'm not talking exclusively about Air Force or wing leadership. I'm talking about each Airman in every organization.

After all, who better to streamline a process than those who use it day in and day out?

We've all heard the phrase, work smarter, not harder. However, we also all know it's easier sometimes to simply plug ahead with a time-tested procedure

than to evaluate it, tighten it and make it better.

That's because as human beings we're naturally resistant to change, however as Airmen, we have to step up and become part of the process of shaping our future force ... that means embracing change.

We are the most well trained, well educated force in history with access to an incredible array of technology. Yet, some of our processes were developed before computers were even part of the inventory.

There is no time left to put that great idea on the back burner for another day. We have to maximize value and minimize waste in our organizations now.

No process is immune from this scrutiny ... every idea is worth exploring. Supervisors, you need to be asking your Airmen how they can improve their processes, and then you have to help them develop their ideas.

By finding more innovative ways to use our materials and personnel, we'll ensure we're always ready to deliver our wartime and peacetime capabilities. Hooah!

Ask the Commander

E-mail ActionLine@mcchord.af.mil or
call 982-2222

Commander's Action Line

The Commander's Action Line provides a direct link of communication between you and me, with the goal of building a better community. Your concerns, questions and ideas are highly valued and are key in enhancing Team McChord's mission and community. I encourage you to give the professionals here, together with your chain of command, the opportunity to address your concerns directly.

However, questions that come through the Action Line have my personal attention. Please be sure to leave your name and phone number, so we can follow up with you. Comments and questions that apply to a large base audience will be published in the base newspaper.

Col. Jerry Martinez
62nd Airlift Wing commander

Q: Can we keep the Barnes Gate open until at least 8 p.m.?

A: While it would be an added convenience to keep the Barnes Gate open longer, manpower and other resource shortages limit that capability. As always, the Main Gate is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, providing the base population easy access to Interstate 5. Thank you for your interest in keeping McChord a great place

to live for our Airmen and their families.

Q: I understand why you installed grooves in the road at the main gate, but they seem to be too deep. When I drive into work they really rattle my car. Can we smooth out the bumps a bit?

I know exactly what you're talking about — those rumble strips rattle my vehicle too when I drive through the gate. However, they're neces-

sary and really not that bad if you're driving at the recommended speed limit of 15 miles per hour in the vicinity of the gates.

The rumble strips provide force protection and enhance safety because it forces drivers to slow down when you roll over them. I ask all motor vehicle operators, to include motorcycle riders, to follow the posted speed limit when entering and exiting the gates to ensure safety at all times. Thanks for your question.

EDITORIAL STAFF

62nd AW commander: Col. Jerry Martinez
Chief, Public Affairs: Capt. Greg Hignite
NCOIC, Public Affairs: Tech. Sgt. Carrie Bernard
Chief, Internal Information: 2nd Lt. Rachel Smith
Editor: Staff Sgt. Tiffany Orr
Staff writer: Tyler Hemstreet
62nd Services Squadron contributor: Patti Jeffrey
Photographer: Abner Guzman
Graphic artist: Angela Jossy

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CONTACT NUMBERS

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Mailing Address:

62nd AW/PAI
100 Col. Joe Jackson Blvd., Suite 1077
McChord AFB, Wash. 98438

Phone: (253) 982-5637 Fax: (253) 982-5025 or
E-mail: northwestairlifter@mcchord.af.mil

AF changes inevitable

Technology impacts future military structure

By

Lt. Col. Thomas Griffin
62nd Airlift Wing

As a squadron commander with a scheduled retirement date, I thought I would share my views on some of the upcoming changes that will impact the Air Force in the near future.

If we look at some of the changes on the horizon such as joint basing, the National Security Personnel System and force shaping, it appears the future will be a very daunting and volatile period for the Air Force.

Additionally, senior leadership is moving the Air Force back to its heritage with the proposed adoption of a uniform similar to the high-collar one from World War I and the incorporation of the old Army Air Corps patch.

Though at first glance it appears the Air Force is looking backward when we should have a strong vision for the future, as a 20-year veteran, my advice is to trust our senior leadership and roll with it.

Years ago senior military and civilian leaders forecasted that we would eventually shrink to a much smaller force due to the change in warfare caused by the elimination of the Soviet Union's massive Red Army. Guess what — that time is here!

While fighting the war against terrorism these past five years, we have

learned to leverage technology in warfare with the use of unmanned aerial vehicles. We no longer need a spy plane pilot to risk his life by flying long hours when technology allows pilots on the other side of the globe to fly aircraft that can not only take pictures of the enemy, but also destroy the enemy if necessary.

The use of technology will continue to make the difference in war because it is impossible to deploy enough troops to cover every possible village or town where a terrorist could hide.

Our forces will now use technology and information to not only fight the enemy, but also influence the populace so the host nation may eventually control their own destiny. More and more conflicts will be won through influence and politics rather than firepower.

Change is inevitable whether you are in the Air Force or a civilian working within a corporation. Our challenge is to learn how to use technology and apply it in all of our peacetime activities.

Take this opportunity to branch out with creative ideas, utilizing technology to the maximum extent.

There will be no better time to think outside the box and break down outdated organizational structures and archaic processes that have been kept around just because "that is the way we always did it."

Jump on board, take some risk and do some good for your organization — the opportunity is ripe for the picking!



Combat Airlifter

of the week

Senior Airman Daniel Kenna

62nd Security Forces Squadron

Duty title:

Installation entry controller

Duty Section:

Operations flight

Hometown:

Belleville, N.J.



What makes him so great?

As a fire team leader, during June's Operational Readiness Inspection, Airman Kenna was responsible for \$5,000 worth of communications equipment, three weapons systems and more than 2,000 rounds of ammunition. Additionally, his attention to detail led to the discovery of a false identification card not previously identified during the ORI. His outstanding performance helped the 62nd Airlift Wing earn an "excellent" rating.

Do you have a story idea?

Spread the news in

The Northwest Airlifter!

Call public affairs at 982-5637 or e-mail us at
northwestairlifter@mcchord.af.mil

Maintaining information integrity

Airmen must safeguard classified documents

By
Tyler Hemstreet
Staff writer

“Don’t get complacent when it comes to classified documents” is the message Air Force officials and the 62nd Security Forces Squadron are stressing when it comes to handling confidential, secret or top secret documents.

“When you have it in your hand, you have to be aware of what you’re doing,” said Chris Caseman, a security officer with the 62nd SFS.

Gen. Duncan McNabb, commander of Air Mobility Command, expressed the same sentiment in a recently released memo.

“I am extremely concerned about our ability to properly safeguard classified material,” General McNabb said. “Any inability to correctly manage and control such documents is not acceptable. As Airmen, we cannot accept anything less than total compliance with existing guidance on management and handling of classified material.”

In situations where Airmen come across classified documents, they are required to protect and safeguard it and call the squadron’s security manager, according to Department of Defense regulations.

Although Airmen who have access to classified information receive annual training from their squadron’s security manager, in 2005 there were five security incidents at McChord in which classified documents were mishandled, Mr. Caseman said.

The reason for the security breaches was complacency, said Mr. Caseman.

“People get in a hurry to get done and forget to do the end-of-the-day checklist,” he said.

The checklist includes thoroughly checking the work area for any classified documents, checking the safe to insure it’s not open and recording the check on a checklist.

Mr. Caseman also suggests keeping the amount of classified documents squadrons have to a minimum and only taking the document out of the safe when it is being used.



From AFSO 21, Page 1

By opening the lines of communication, crews can avoid errors in paperwork by getting together and verifying facts before going their separate

ways, Major Pantleo said.

“You don’t have to chase people down anymore,” he said.

The bottom line of AFSO 21 is all about the results, and One Stop produced those results.

More time can be spent flying

by cutting down on the time it takes for the aircrew to prepare for launch thereby leading to “expanding the footprint of the C-17 [Globemaster III],” Major Pantleo said.

The focus for McChord’s

future is to continue to find ways to further streamline the process and improve on the changes.

“That’s one of the traits of Lean culture — empowerment,” Mr. Shaw said.



AMC to make CAC logon mandatory

By
Tyler Hemstreet
Staff writer

Team McChord employees will soon be required to use Common Access Cards to log on to the Air Mobility Command network.

The Air Force is moving away from using passwords to log on to unclassified computer networks in an effort to thwart hackers, saboteurs and terrorists from putting critical information systems at risk through unauthorized access, fraud, e-mail tampering and eavesdropping, according to a recent AMC news release.

"This is a move in the right direction," said 2nd Lt. Wayne Solley, 62nd Communications Squadron. "The new system adds a much higher level of security when it comes to accessing

the [unclassified computer] network."

According to the release, the switch to the new system is necessary. One of the weaknesses of the network is the use of passwords that are stored on and transmitted over the network.

There have been more than 5,000 attempts to hack into the McChord network this year, Lieutenant Solley said. Using the Smart Card Logon greatly increases network security through "two factor authentication," which requires users to have both a CAC and personal identification number.

By mid-September, the primary method for logging on to an AMC unclassified account will be by CAC logon, according to the release. To log on to the AMC network, users will insert their CAC into the reader and enter the associated six to eight digit PIN they created when the card was issued.

Initially, not all users will be able to use a CAC for logon, according to the release. Such examples include personnel not eligible for a Department of Defense identification card or locations where use of the CAC is impractical or impacts mission effectiveness. These and other issues such as instituting CAC logon outside of the normal work place are next steps in the Air Force-wide initiative.

As McChord moves closer toward the mandated CAC logon to the network, those users who are not CAC-enabled must be exempted from the policy by their commander, according to the release.

However, exempted individuals may be prompted to increase the length of their passwords to avoid unnecessary risks to the network.

(Information from an AMC news story was used in this report.)



Photos by Abner Guzman

Back to school

A McChord family enjoys the last days of summer before school begins by attending the chapel support center-sponsored block party at Carter Lake recently.



(Above) Five-year-old Jaxon Cummings makes the most of his summer before it's time to head back to school by coasting down an inflatable slide during the chapel support center-sponsored block party at Carter Lake recently. School begins Sept. 6 at Carter Lake Elementary. School hours for first through fifth grades are from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Kindergarten at Carter Lake Elementary will be from 8 to 10:37 a.m. or 11:53 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. There will be an open house for students and their families Sept. 5 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. For more information, call 583-5210.

Officials work to create culture of responsible choices

By
Tyler Hemstreet
Staff writer

With all the time and effort that goes into accomplishing Team McChord's mission, there's no room for error caused by irresponsible drinking and illegal drug use by Airmen.

In an effort to encourage Airmen to make more conscientious choices, base officials are urging them to take an active role in the Culture of Responsible Choices, according to the Air Force Crossroads Web site.

The program, which was announced by the Air Force at the beginning of the year, encourages Airmen to be aware of certain behaviors that can impair mission readiness, according to the Web site.

The four-tiered approach of the program emphasizes leadership and base as well as community-level involvement to stress responsible behavior.

"Alcohol misuse and illegal drug use are incompatible with Air Force core values," said Lt. Gen. Arthur Lichte, Air Force assistant vice chief of staff and director of staff. "The misuse of either represents a clear and present danger to Air Force missions, morale and discipline."

Airmen are faced with choices every day, and sometimes it's up to leadership or peers to lead them in the right direction, said Col. Jerry Martinez, 62nd Airlift Wing commander.

The 0-0-1-3 program is just one example of programs McChord is using to help promote CoRC.

"Our Airmen are looking to build a successful career or future for themselves, and it is our responsibility to help lead them in the right direction," he said. "It's also the responsibility of each individual to make the right decisions and understand the consequences of the wrong ones."

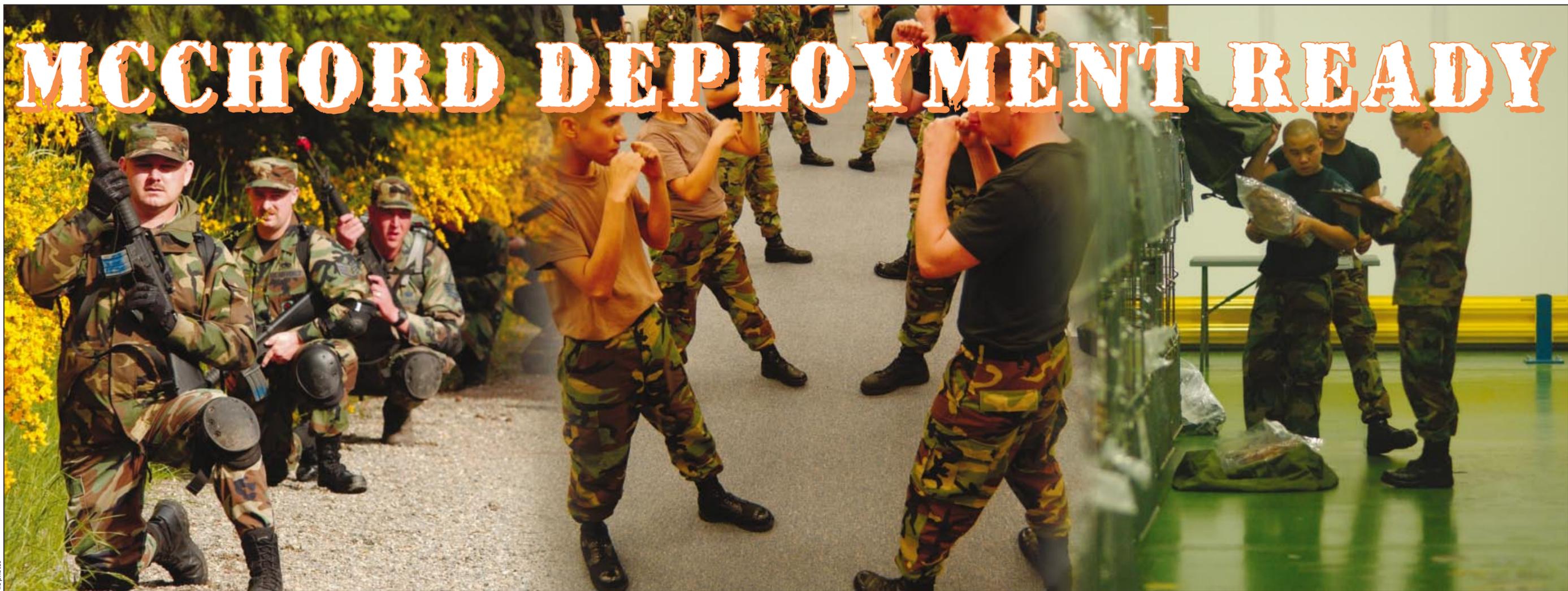
The success behind the 0-0-1-3 alcohol abuse prevention program in the past was because of support at the top levels, said Staff Sgt. Charleen Jones, 62nd Medical Operations Squadron, who's also a counselor with the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention program here.

"It reduced the number of alcohol incidents because the wing commanders were pushing it," she said. "That's the key to the success in [any] program."

The 0-0-1-3 program, which stresses that Airmen should not drink while underage or drive while under the influence, and have only one alcoholic beverage per hour, with a maximum of three drinks per night, is heavily publicized on base. The message is written on posters all over the base and the formula was even printed on water bottles and key chains, serving as a constant reminder of the program.

"Airmen should remember that the only guaranteed way to not get a DUI is not drinking at all. However, for those Airmen who choose to drink, she said the program is a good way to teach them to drink responsibly," said Sergeant Jones. "It's definitely a step in the right direction."

MCCHORD DEPLOYMENT READY



File photos

Deployment support programs

- **Family mass readiness briefing** — 2 to 4 p.m. every third Wednesday at the base theater, Bldg. 742.
- **Readiness briefings** — 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays and 1 to 2 p.m. Thursdays at the Airmen and family readiness center, Bldg. 552.
- **Deployed Spouses' Dinner** — The next dinner will be in October. Free services are offered through the Airmen and family readiness center.



File photo

Airmen practice tackling insurgents as part of the Combat Skills Training Course.



Photo by Abner Guzman

First Lt. John York, 62nd Maintenance Squadron, reviews his deployment paperwork in the deployment processing line.



Photo by Abner Guzman

Senior Airman Melanie Milhorn, 62nd Medical Operations Squadron, adjusts her gas mask prior to being connected to a fit test machine.



File photo

Senior Airman Leonard Washington, 62nd MDOS, gets immunized so that he will be ready to deploy.

Deployment processing at McChord aims for efficiency, less stressful

By
Tyler Hemstreet
Staff writer

Deployment is a reality every Airman has to face while serving.

Fortunately, constant throughout the entire deployment process is a support network available to Airmen, from the many pre-deployment briefings open to Airmen and their families to the unit deployment manager who helps ensure Airmen's pre-deployment checklists are current, said Richard Van Pelt, the 62nd Mission Support Squadron UDM.

The pre-deployment checklist makes sure an Airman's finances are in order and legal matters such as wills and powers of attorney are in place. The list also ensures Airmen are current with their medical and dental checkups and weapons and combat training.

UDMs usually work behind the scenes to ensure the deployment process runs smoothly, said Mr. Van Pelt.

"We're the liaisons between the agencies and our Airmen who need to get prepared to be deployed," he said.

By the time Airmen reach the deployment line, the list is ready to go and just needs to be looked over, said Stacey Poland, 62nd Airlift Wing UDM.

"It's just a matter of double checking your I's and crossing your T's," he said.

In addition to making sure their checklists are in order and picking up their deployment folders, Airmen must also get equipped.

"We are the last stop for Airmen," said Master Sgt. James Kibbee, 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron.

Airmen receive a helmet, web belt, canteen, gas mask and weapon, he said.

Those being deployed to Afghanistan or Iraq have to take their weapons with them, said Mr. Van Pelt.

Airmen receive their heavy equipment, on the other hand, at the theater distribution center once they reach their deployment destination, said Sergeant Kibbee.

By carrying two bags and their weapon instead of four or five bags packed with combat gear, it makes life much easier for Airmen traveling across the country to deploy, said Sergeant Kibbee.

"The mental fatigue of lugging around the extra bags is a lot off their chest," he said.

In addition, it also saves the Air Force a large sum of money because it avoids paying for the extra bags, said Mr. Van Pelt.

"We make them feel at ease," he said.

McChord's Airmen and Family Readiness Center also plays a large part in preparing Airmen and their families for deployment. In addition to hosting the deployed families dinner each quarter, the center also hosts a

family mass readiness briefing the third Wednesday of each month at the base theater. The briefing is a good way for Airmen and their spouses to understand what the process is if there is an emergency, said Russ Moreira a 62nd MSS community readiness technician.

At each briefing, families have an opportunity to hear from all the servicing agencies, he said. Experts in the areas of finance, casualty and mortuary affairs and legal issues are on hand to answer any questions Airmen and their spouses might have. Representatives from the Red Cross and the child development center are also in attendance, Mr. Moreira said.

Additionally, Airmen and their spouses get a chance to meet the "key spouse" for their respective squadron, who serves as a liaison between the other spouses in the squadron and a friendly face, said Mr. Moreira.

"They're there to help educate them on what military life is like and to help them deal with the loneliness," he said.

Each week the center offers additional readiness briefings every Tuesday and Thursday to inform spouses on the services it offers.

Spouses also have the opportunity to borrow cameras and camcorders to record videos and take pictures, which the center will transfer to compact discs and videotapes for them to keep, Mr. Moreira said.

Programs at the Airmen and family readiness center

- **Car Care** — Families of deployed Airmen are eligible to receive a free oil change.
- **Hearts Apart** — Deployed Airmen, their significant others and other family members are eligible for a free 15-minute morale phone call.
- **Escape Zone** — Parents and children of deployed Airmen can participate in activities such as finger painting and arts and crafts at the center.
- **Give Parents a Break** — Spouses of deployed Airmen are eligible for five hours of free childcare each month.
- **Rest Program** — Individuals can make T-shirts, handkerchiefs or pillow cases with photos printed on them for family members who are deploying.
- **Sunshine Callers** — Eligible spouses can receive a bi-weekly phone call from a counselor to make sure everything is going well.

McChord's resident golf pro teaches Airmen, family members

Women's Professional Golf Tour champ gives tips at base golf course

By
Tyler Hemstreet
Staff writer

Whispering Firs Golf Course club pro Chris Burkhart cuts right to the point when it comes to her job at McChord.

"Without a doubt, it's the best golf job I've ever had," the 56-year-old Burkhart said.

She learned to play at age 10, but since there was no female high school golf team at the time, Ms. Burkhart took up tennis, she said. She spent four years on varsity as the team's No. 1 singles player.

Golf came back into the picture after Ms. Burkhart decided to take a leave of absence from her job as a school teacher in Federal Way to try out for the Women's Professional Golf Tour, she said.

She turned pro in 1978 and won two tournaments her first year, capturing the tour's rookie-of-the-year award. After a three-year run on the tour and two attempts to make the Ladies Professional Golf Association Tour came up short, Ms. Burkhart decided to return to what she loved, coaching, she said.

She landed a job as the men's and women's golf coach at Washington State University in Pullman and coached there for six years.

"I quit because I never had any time," Ms. Burkhart said.

She also missed the classroom, she said. After moving back to Western Washington, Ms. Burkhart got a teaching job at Lincoln High School in Tacoma, which included an opportunity to coach girls bowling and tennis.

She also started teaching golf at McChord.

"The first time I came out here, I fell in love with the place," she said.

She's been a big hit with those lucky enough to learn the game from her, said John Robbins, a



Photos by Tyler Hemstreet

Chris Burkhart, Whispering Firs Golf Course club professional, sets up a putting drill for some of her students. Mrs. Burkhart, who played on the Women's Professional Golf Tour in the 1970s, started teaching golf at McChord in 2002.

Whispering Firs pro shop assistant who has known Ms. Burkhart since she started working at the course.

"She's just fantastic," he said. "Everyone is happy with her teaching and they always walk away with a smile."

Ms. Burkhart now teaches golf at McChord to everyone from 6-year-olds to generals. While working at Whispering Firs, she estimates that she's

introduced nearly 100 people to golf. The teaching part of the game is what really excites her now, she said.

"I don't lose any salary if I miss a two-foot putt," said Ms. Burkhart.

And as any beginning golfer knows, the game can be frustrating at times, she said.

"You have to still realize it's a game and to have some fun," she said. "It's not life or death."



Photos by Abner Guzman



Getting out of dodge

(Left) Col. Jerry Martinez, 62nd Airlift Wing commander, winds up his throw during a two-out-of-three dodgeball game against 62nd Services Squadron during McChord's Sports Day, Aug. 18.

(Above) Colonel Martinez and Capt. Victoria Percy, 62nd AW executive officer, get ready for an onslaught of dodgeballs.

First Friday offers food, fun, relaxation

Airmen socialize, enjoy music, win prizes at McChord's Clubs and Community Center

By

Tyler Hemstreet
Staff writer

Airmen piled their plates high with meatballs, buffalo wings, potato wedges and jalapeño poppers while the disc jockey spun some early Michael Jackson Aug. 4 at McChord's Clubs and Community Center as part of First Friday.

Roger Davis, 62nd Services Squadron deputy chief of services, said the monthly event is a good way to boost Airmen's morale.

"People just don't get a chance to relax too much," said Mr. Davis. "First Friday gives everyone a chance to let their hair down in a total relaxed atmosphere."

Several Airmen agreed with Mr. Davis.

"The socializing, the food, the music — it's a good way to unwind after a long, hard week," said Master Sgt. Reneece Huntley, 62nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

Tech. Sgt. Dan King, 62nd Maintenance Squadron, said he heard about First Friday via e-mail.

"It makes a statement that [base leadership is] trying to get every-

one together," Sergeant King said. "It's fun to socialize [with everyone] in a non-work environment."

In addition to free appetizers, there were also door prizes available to all attendees, Mr. Davis said. One enlisted Airman and one officer each received \$100 credit on their club cards. T-shirts and glasses were also given away.

More than 200 Airmen attended the two-hour social gathering, making it the best turnout so far, said Maj. Shawn Campbell, 62nd SVS commander.

"The only problem we've had is keeping up with the crowds," Mr. Davis said. "Each week we do it, we get more people."

Several Airmen in attendance said they planned on coming back for the next one.

"Whenever I can, I will support it," Sergeant Huntley said.

Event info

What: First Friday
Where: McChord's Clubs and Community Center
When: First Friday of every month from 4 to 6 p.m.
Cost: Free to club members, \$5 for everyone else



Photos by Tyler Hemstreet

(Left) Master Sgt. Reneece Huntley, 62nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, and Master Sgt. Chad Ragas, 62nd Communications Squadron, help themselves to buffalo wings during First Friday on Aug. 4.

(Below) Airmen work their way through the buffet line during First Friday. The event, which is held the first Friday of every month, is an opportunity for Airmen to unwind after work.



Names to Note

The following individuals graduated in the 06F class at the Julius A. Kolb Airman Leadership School recently:

- **Senior Airman Seth Ragsdale**, 1st Air Support Operations Group
- **Senior Airman Jesse Kessler**, 8th Airlift Squadron
- **Senior Airman John Tally**, 36th Aerial Port Squadron
- **Senior Airman Talitha Banks**, 62nd Aerial Port Squadron
- **Senior Airman Stephen Palmbo**, 62nd APS
- **Senior Airman Vimish Singh**, 62nd APS
- **Senior Airman Ryan Sullivan**, 62nd APS
- **Senior Airman Phillip Hendrick**, 62nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
- **Senior Airman Timothy Jeffries**, 62nd AMXS
- **Senior Airman Zoltan Keogh**, 62nd AMXS
- **Senior Airman Matthew Mockett**, 62nd AMXS
- **Senior Airman Nikolis Phillips**, 62nd AMXS
- **Senior Airman Trampass Warren**, 62nd AMXS
- **Senior Airman Michael Caylor**, 62nd Airlift Wing
- **Senior Airman Ronnel Garcia**, 62nd Civil Engineer Squadron
- **Senior Airman Christopher Gautier Jr.**, 62nd CES
- **Senior Airman Kiana Moore**, 62nd CES
- **Senior Airman Rebecca Tongen**, 62nd CES

- **Senior Airman Jordan Grace**, 62nd Communications Squadron
- **Senior Airman Joshua Strom**, 62nd CS
- **Senior Airman Jeremy Harrison**, 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron
- **Senior Airman Dustyn Marek**, 62nd LRS
- **Senior Airman Lawrence O'Neill**, 62nd LRS
- **Senior Airman Calvin Tang**, 62nd LRS
- **Senior Airman James Marsh**, 62nd Maintenance Squadron
- **Senior Airman Enrique Matos**, 62nd MXS
- **Senior Airman Leigh-Ann Ping**, 62nd MXS
- **Senior Airman Tameshia Tufts**, 62nd Medical Support Squadron
- **Senior Airman Donald Wilburn**, 62nd Security Forces Squadron
- **Senior Airman Adrian Mays**, 116th Weather Flight
- **Senior Airman Jesse Permenter**, 116th Air Support Operations Squadron

The following individuals earned awards in the 06F Julius A. Kolb Airman Leadership School class:

- **Senior Airman Rebecca Tongen**, 62nd CES, John L. Levitow Award
- **Senior Airman Adrian Mays**, 116th Weather Flight, Distinguished Graduate Award
- **Senior Airman Joshua Strom**, 62nd CS, Distinguished Graduate and Leadership Awards
- **Senior Airman Leigh-Ann Ping**, 62nd MXS, Academic Achievement Award



Faith and Worship Programs

For more information, call the chapel support center at 982-5556.

The following chapel programs take place at the base chapel support center, Bldg. 746, unless otherwise noted.

● **Faith Formation and Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults** are 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. through April.

● **Protestant Men's Bible**

study is 6:15 a.m. Thursdays.

● **Combat Brown Bag Bible study** is from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays.

● **Adult Bible study** will resume in September.

● **Jewish Torah School Classes** for adults and children are 9:45 a.m. Sundays at Fort Lewis, Chapel Five.

Schedule of worship services

Catholic Services:

All Catholic Services are in Chapel Two Daily Mass Tuesday - Friday 11:30 a.m.

Saturday: 4 p.m. Confession

5 p.m. Mass

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Mass

11 a.m. Mass

Protestant Services:

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Liturgical Worship: Chapel One

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages:

chapel support center

11 a.m. Traditional Worship: Chapel One

11 a.m. Contemporary service: chapel support center

Jewish Services:

Friday: 7 p.m. Fort Lewis Chapel

Corner of 12th St. & Liggett 966-8949

Led by Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Avi Weiss

Orthodox Activities:

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy, St. Nicholas

Church, 15th & Yakima, Tacoma

Other services:

Orthodox Christian Community, Cascade Chapel, Fort Lewis

Sundays: 8:45 a.m. pre-Communion prayers

9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Confessions are by appointment; call Father John Anderson at 967-1717 or 906-6843, or e-mail father.anderson@us.army.mil.

