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Photo by Abner Guzman

## Explosive action

Staff Sgt. Michael Occiano, 62nd Medical Operations Squadron, provides medical attention to an Airman injured during a simulated bomb explosion Tuesday. The simulation was part of an antiterrorism exercise this week.

## AF to cut 1,400 enlisted positions

By  
Tyler Hemstreet  
Staff writer

The Air Force recently announced plans to cut 1,400 enlisted members during the 2007 fiscal year.

These cuts will be achieved through two different programs: the Limited Active Duty Service Commitment and the Date of Service rollback.

The LADSC program will allow technical sergeants and master sergeants with at least 20 years of service to waive their remaining service requirement, said Capt. Todd Ladd, 62nd Mission Support Squadron.

Once they visit the virtual Military Personnel Flight Web site, they will see a list of Air Force Specialty Code overages and can check if they are eligible for the program, Captain Ladd said.

"Airmen can do everything on their personal computer instead of coming down to the customer service mall," he said.

Airmen interested in the program must apply online no earlier than 10 a.m. Monday.

If they are accepted, they

must retire no later than September 2007.

The DOS Rollback program applies to Airmen with less than 14 years and more than 20 years with certain reenlistment eligibility or assignment availability codes. Those selected will be required to separate or retire, according to a report from Air Mobility Command.

No AFSCs are excluded from the DOS rollback program and Airmen with more than six years of active service, who are required to separate as a result of DOS Rollback, will be entitled to the half rate of separation pay. Those who are retirement eligible and choose retirement are not eligible for separation pay, the report said.

Under the DOS rollback program, retirement eligible Airmen will be afforded the opportunity to request retirement of April 2007 or earlier via the vMPF online process.

For more information about Force Shaping, visit the Air Force Personnel Center's Force Shaping Web site at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/retsep/forceshaping/shape.htm>

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

## Leadership develops energy-saving strategies for McChord

By  
Tyler Hemstreet  
Staff writer

With a utility budget of more than \$6 million a year, conserving energy at McChord is a top priority.

The Energy Management Steering Group, which is composed of wing and group commanders, is scheduled to meet with the 62nd Civil Engineer Squadron in the coming weeks to review energy reduction goals and their status, said Andrea Griffin, 62nd CES' deputy chief maintenance engineer.

The focus of the group is to make energy conservation a collective base effort,

said 1st Lt. Joe Myhra, 62nd CES.

"It's nice that we can [get] the group and wing commanders to vote on and help set the energy policies here on base," Ms. Griffin said.

The energy-saving policies that EMSG sets here are crucial as Air Mobility Command is requiring the base to take a 5 percent cut in utility funding in the near future, Lieutenant Myhra said.

Lately the base has been exceeding its energy reduction goals, Ms. Griffin said.

"We've been doing something right," she said.

Some of the policies the EMSG will discuss include setting base-wide standards for building temperatures, maintenance goals for heating and air conditioning systems and building lighting retrofits.

The group will also discuss having energy meters installed at as many buildings as possible, so that it is easier to identify where to focus energy conservation efforts, Ms. Griffin said.

The energy conservation effort is also being extended to the 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron when it comes to cost-saving measures such as using alternative fuels in base vehicles.

The 62nd CES is also looking to propose future energy projects to the board that will pay for themselves in ten years, Ms. Griffin said.

"We think that [we] can get some funding [for the projects] because of the interest AMC and the Air Force have in energy conservation," Lieutenant Myhra said.

### Weekend Weather

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Hi: 59 Low: 39	Hi: 61 Low: 39	Hi: 59 Low: 41

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

### Mission accomplished

Total McChord sorties	15,999
Total flying hours	49,758.5
Cargo moved (tons)	128,302.9
Departure reliability rate	94.9%
Mission capable rate	84.8%
Personnel currently deployed	722
Reservists currently activated	295

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

### Don't miss it ...

#### Daylight-saving time

Daylight-saving time ends Sunday at 2 a.m.  
Remember to set clocks back one hour.

# Communicating the key to success

By

Col. Shane Hershman  
62nd Airlift Wing vice commander

Good communication is the key to success for many things. From marriage to work to the Burger King drive-through, failing to communicate can lead to bad results. At the drive-through, it may mean you get a cheeseburger with mustard when you only wanted ketchup, but in our work and personal lives poor communication can have much more serious consequences.

This week, McChord underwent an anti-terrorism exercise where Airmen were challenged to respond to various scenarios. As the scenarios played out, it became obvious that communication, led to success for the scenario. With good communication, Airmen responded quickly and took the proper measures to prevent further loss or damage.

In this age of information technology, Blackberries, wireless networks and satellites, there's no reason we should

have difficulty communicating with each other. So why do we still sometimes fail to get our message across?

Just because technology is putting communication at our fingertips, it doesn't mean we can take the responsibility of communicating with those around us lightly. We still must make the effort to ensure our messages are received and understood, and to pay attention to the messages others try to communicate with us. Technology can't do that for you.

We must make the effort to communicate whether in a daily meeting, responding to an emergency or spending time with family. By taking the time to ensure we understand each other, we can work together to accomplish the task at hand.

This week's antiterrorism exercise showed me that McChord Airmen know how to communicate with each other and work together to save lives, but there's always room for improvement. The exercise was a success due to communication up and down the command chain. Keep up the good work. I'm proud of you.

“ This week's antiterrorism exercise showed me that McChord Airmen know how to communicate with each other and work together to save lives ... ”

Col. Shane Hershman  
62nd Airlift Wing  
vice commander



## Know, understand our Air Force customs, courtesies



“ ... the traditions which we follow and hold in high esteem define us as a force and tie us together at the most basic level. ”

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

By

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

On a recent trip to visit our Airmen supporting Operation Deep Freeze, I had the unique opportunity to experience a very old New Zealand tradition, one that actually dates back hundreds of years.

As my group arrived at Christchurch, we were challenged by a New Zealand Maori warrior, carrying a spear. As the chief enlisted advisor for our Airmen, I stepped forward and made eye contact with the warrior.

Over the next few minutes, the warrior shouted, bulged his eyes and confronted me, as he determined whether or not my intentions were friendly.

Because I was briefed on this tradition beforehand, I knew not to break eye contact with the warrior as he shouted and moved menacingly toward me. Eventually, he placed a symbolic wooden knife, or taki, on the ground as a way to communicate an

invitation for us into the Maori community.

I accepted the knife as a symbolic offering of peace ... and then proceeded to rub noses with him.

With the ceremonial challenge complete, and the rest of my group of Airmen busy rubbing noses with the warrior, I couldn't help but reflect on how deep-rooted traditions such as this one so clearly define the values, ideals and principles of those who practice them.

In the Air Force, we too have ceremonies, customs and courtesies built upon our rich history. From our dining ins, promotions and change of command ceremonies to something as simple as rendering a salute, the traditions which we follow and hold in high esteem define us as a force and tie us together at the most basic level.

As noncommissioned officers, it is your responsibility to know and carry out these traditions. Because just like that Maori warrior who challenges every individual who wishes to enter his "village", it's your duty to ensure our heritage, values and commitment stand the test of time. Hooah!

## Ask the Vice Commander

E-mail [ActionLine@mcchord.af.mil](mailto:ActionLine@mcchord.af.mil) or  
call 982-2222

## Vice Commander's Action Line

*The Vice 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. Shane Hershman  
62nd Airlift Wing vice commander

**Q: The base jogging path from Bldg. 100 to Holiday Park used for physical training has some safety issues I think should be addressed. The cross-walk by the dorms has trees that block drivers' views of joggers, lighting is limited and joggers are running on the street in the dark on both sides of the street. Thank you.**

A: Fitness and safety are two topics I am always interested in. I encourage Airmen to stay fit, but everyone should do so safely. Jogging is prohibited

on West and A streets, as well as Fairway, Lincoln and Col. Joe Jackson boulevards. Joggers should use base jogging paths and wear light-colored clothes and reflective belts when running near roads during hours of reduced visibility. Airmen can wear the Air Force physical training gear at all times without reflective gear. iPods, MP3 players or other listening devices are prohibited for safety purposes.

The lighting levels along the base jogging paths as well as many sidewalks and intersections on McChord are not as well lit as I would like. So light-

ing levels along Barnes and Lincoln boulevards have been upgraded and a project has been identified to upgrade lighting on Col. Joe Jackson and Tuskegee boulevards.

My engineers examined your concern regarding the view at the crosswalk and found it within safe margins. They did, however, locate several unsafe conditions and will repair those areas along the path as funds become available. Thank you for bringing these important safety issues to my attention.

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# Those who fail to plan essentially plan to fail

**By**  
Chief Master Sgt. Cary Hatzinger  
62nd Mission Support Group  
chief enlisted manager

It's never too soon to start thinking about promotion. From the day you come in as a slick sleeved airman basic, airman or airman first class, you should start looking ahead to your next promotion.

Promotion through senior airman doesn't take much in the way of planning, but after that things get a little more complicated. Promotion to staff sergeant, technical sergeant and master sergeant are still pretty straight forward under the Weighted Airman Promotion System.

You do have to plan to study and then follow through, but there's not much more planning to it than that.

As you approach the senior noncommissioned officer ranks, things become a little more difficult. Two of the unspoken rules have just become set in stone: you need to have finished your senior NCO academy

correspondence course and have an associate's degree from the Community College of the Air Force. Unless you have completed both of these tasks by the applicable promotion cycle, you will not be eligible for a senior rater endorsement. Without that endorsement, your chances of being promoted are about as good as getting a month of solid sunshine in Washington in December.

You can sign up for the SNCO academy as soon as you are selected for promotion to master sergeant. You have a year to complete the course. It takes most folks a lot longer to finish their CCAF. The point here is this: start working on your CCAF as soon as you are done with your 5-level career development course. By completing just one class a year, you will be done before you're eligible for promotion to senior master sergeant.

It takes planning and follow-through; but if you get it done early, you will be well on your way to a bachelor's degree, and guess what ... that makes you better prepared for your next career after retirement.



## Holiday portraits and pictures with Santa

The Airman and family readiness center is hosting its 10th annual holiday portrait event from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday at the chapel support center, Bldg 746. Pets are welcome. For more information, call the AFRC at 982-2695.



## Combat Airlifter

*of the week*

### Senior Airman Nikolai Adderley

62nd Medical Support Squadron

**Duty title:**  
Client server administrator

**Duty Section:**  
Medical information systems flight

**Hometown:**  
Dangriga Town, Belize

#### What makes him so great?

Airman Adderley is an outstanding customer service representative, who has been positively noted by name on a number of customer surveys. He provides swift technical support to clinical areas ensuring that there are no delays in the care of patients. Airman Adderley's commitment to doing an outstanding computer systems job is enhanced by his pursuance of a bachelor's in computer science. He is also involved in the local community having spent more than 100 hours as a mentor with the Big Brothers Big Sisters organization.



## Do you have a story idea?

Spread the news in *The Northwest Airlifter!*  
E-mail us at [northwestairlifter@mcchord.af.mil](mailto:northwestairlifter@mcchord.af.mil)

# Halloween night creeps closer

By

Chris Caseman  
62nd Security Forces Squadron

All the ghosts and goblins will take to the streets of McChord on Halloween night Tuesday.

Extra safety precautions will once again include walking patrols of volunteers and members of the 62nd Security Forces Squadron to help make this a safe and fun time for everyone.

With the assistance of McGruff the Crime Dog, volunteers will be passing out a variety of goodies and glow sticks donated by local companies and base organizations.

Trick-or-treating hours for McChord housing areas will be from 6 to 8 p.m. on Halloween night. As a reminder, children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult. The housing area will be cleared of all non-resident personnel starting at 8 p.m. using the Woodbrook gate until 9 p.m. The 62nd SFS would like for all housing residents to have children back in their homes by 8 p.m.

Additionally, the 62nd Civil Engineer Squadron will be at the youth center to run items through an X-ray machine to check for foreign objects.

McChord would also like to remind everyone not to drink and drive. Drivers should take extra precautions by driving more slowly than usual and expect trick-or-treaters to do the unexpected. Those who are staying home to pass out treats to children should provide a well-lit area for them.

For more information on Operation Safe Streets or to sign up to patrol the housing area on base, call Charles Thornton 982-2897 or Chris Caseman at 982-1144 for additional details.

## Halloween safety tips

- Costume material should be fire resistant, easily visible at night and shouldn't pose a tripping hazard.
- Masks that can block vision should be avoided.
- A flashlight or glow stick may help children see where they are going and increase their visibility to motorists.
- Parents should go over basic safety and traffic rules with their children, such as crossing at intersections and walking along sidewalks and if there is no sidewalk, they should walk close to the curb and face the traffic.
- Children should not go to unlit houses, go into houses or accept rides from people they don't know.
- Children should not eat any fruit, candy or other treats until their parents inspect them. Unwrapped candy should be thrown away.
- Base volunteers should wear reflective vests or belts to ensure they are seen while on patrol.

*(Information courtesy of the 62nd SFS.)*



Photo by Abner Guzman

## Purple heart

Col. Shane Hershman, 62nd Airlift Wing vice commander, presents the Purple Heart decoration to Tech. Sgt. Robert Coon, 62nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Oct. 18 at a 62nd AMXS commander's call. Sergeant Coon sustained injuries to the right side of his face and arm during a rocket attack in Afghanistan in July.





# The changing Air Force

"Our Air Force is undergoing several structural and manpower changes due to budget restrictions and the Global War on Terror. McChord is also undergoing changes due to joint basing with Fort Lewis. To keep McChord Airmen informed and up to date with these changes this new addition to the Northwest Airlifter, 'The Changing Air Force' explains the various changes happening around base. It can be found in the last issue of The Northwest Airlifter each month."

- Col. Shane Hershman  
62nd Airlift Wing vice commander

## Base Realignment and Closure

The Base Realignment and Closure Commission was created to provide an objective, thorough and non-partisan review and analysis of the list of bases and military installations which the Department of Defense has recommended be closed or realigned.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld released 190 recommendations for closing and realigning military installations in May 2005, calling them an opportunity to "reset our force," to make it more efficient and cost-effective.

The list of recommendations was formally presented to the BRAC Commission on May 13, 2005.

The recommendations resulted in 25 major installations being marked for closure, 24 others identified for major realignment and 765 smaller actions. With more than 800 locations affected, these closures and realignments affect more than twice as many places as previous BRAC actions combined.

McChord is one of the bases approved for realignment with Fort Lewis. The realignment will strengthen ties between the two bases.

The medical clinic at McChord will realign under Madigan Army Medical Center at a yet to be determined date. This action is separate from the joint basing realignment, but will be the first major change to occur here. Wing personnel and clinic beneficiaries should not notice any change, as the realignment mostly involves the administrative areas.

## Program Budget and Decision 720

Program Budget Decision 720, the "Air Force Transformation Flight Plan," outlines the service's plan to save more than \$21 billion between 2007 and 2011.

The Air Force will direct that money into programs that make a "more lethal, more agile, streamlined force with an increased emphasis on the warfighter," according to the document.

The plan included retiring several aircraft in order to free up \$2.6

billion for more F-22 Raptor fighter aircraft.

PBD 720 also outlines military personnel and civilian reductions at each Air Force installation. Over the next four years, McChord might have to reduce its manpower by approximately 320 military and 11 civilian positions.

The proposed cuts will likely come in the form of the elimination of a position after a worker has moved to a new position elsewhere.

Some of the possible support options for affected employees include the Voluntary Early Retirement Authority, Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay and placement via the Department of Defense Priority Placement Program.

The military cuts will likely come from attrition or Airmen moving to different positions or to new bases due to permanent changes of station.

## Force Shaping

Force shaping is a manpower reduction program affecting both enlisted Airmen and officers.

As part of force shaping, the Air Force recently announced plans to cut 1,400 enlisted members during the 2007 fiscal year and 40,000 members by 2011.

These cuts will be achieved through two different programs for enlisted members; the Limited Active Duty Service Commitment and the Date of Separation Rollback.

The LADSC program will allow technical sergeants and master sergeants with at least 20 years of service as of requested retirement date and time left on their service requirement to waive the requirement.

The DOS Rollback program is available to Airmen in two different time-in-service brackets: those with fewer than 14 years and those with more than 20 years. Those who fall into the selected career fields will be required to separate or retire.

There are three programs for force shaping at the officer level: voluntary separation pay, the force shaping board and the selective early retirement board.

Voluntary separation pay is open to officers with more than six years of service and less than 12 years of completed service, who fit the over-age criteria. The selective early retirement board is open to lieutenant colonels and colonels with a select year's grade who have been a lieutenant colonel or colonel for at least four years.

The FSB identifies career fields that have an excess of sustainment strength levels.

Officers up against the FSB were evaluated for retention based on information in their central selection record. After providing voluntary options for officers to transition to

other forms of service inside or outside the Air Force, a central board will identify those officers to be separated to achieve the appropriate force balance.

## Joint Basing

McChord was identified in the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Act as one of 12 locations selected to become a joint base.

As a joint base, certain installation support functions at McChord and Fort Lewis will be consolidated under a single joint base commander and organizational structure. The distinct Air Force and Army missions, as well as tenant units, will not be consolidated. They will continue to operate under control of their respective services.

The Army has the lead for this joint base operation.

A joint basing implementation road map study was conducted here last fall to help draft an initial joint basing guidance plan for officials at the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

More than 200 officials from Fort Lewis and McChord were involved in the study, which was detailed in a 1,000 page report. The objective of the study was to help OSD draft terminal guidance for the joint basing plan.

Base leaders at Fort Lewis and McChord have already started talking at functional and leadership levels to identify what installation support areas are common to both bases, plan efforts and address issues related to implementation.

There are still questions about which responsibilities will fall under direct control of the joint base organization, as well as how that organization will be structured. The bases expect further guidance to be provided by the Department of Defense and service headquarters in the following months.

The move to joint basing is being made to reap savings in personnel and infrastructure areas and free up war fighters so they may focus on the mission.

The implementation period is set to start in the 2008 fiscal year, with full implementation expected to take place over a 12 to 18 month period.

## National Security Personnel System

The National Security Personnel System, or NSPS, is a human resources system that recognizes and rewards Department of Defense civilian employees based on performance and the contributions they make to the mission.

It encourages employees to take ownership of their performance and successes and creates open communication with their supervisors so they know what is expected of them.

It also accelerates the Department's efforts to create a total force (active duty, civilian, Reserve, Guard and contractors), operating as one cohesive unit with each performing the work most suitable to their skills.

On Feb. 27, 2006, Judge Emmet Sullivan issued his decision in a federal lawsuit regarding the legality of certain provisions of NSPS regulations.

While the court did permanently prohibit DOD from implementing certain parts of NSPS, it did not abolish the entire system, including major portions of the human resources system such as performance management, classification, compensation, staffing and workforce shaping.

Therefore, the majority of DOD civilians are eligible to be covered by most of the elements of NSPS.

Nearly 11,000 non-union DOD employees converted to NSPS in April as part of the first of three conversion groups. Those employees will have their first performance-based payout in January. The Department is reviewing options for deployment of groups two and three planned for later this year and early 2007. Over the next two or three years, DOD will incrementally phase-in the next two groups, improving NSPS as it goes forward.

## Personnel Delivery System

The Personnel Delivery System, which went on line in April, uses technology to place the capability for conducting routine personnel transactions into the hands of Airmen.

Several processes, which were worked through base-level military personnel flights, such as retraining, reenlistments and retirements, are self-initiated via the internet and centrally managed and processed at the Air Force Personnel Center.

The system expands online and contact center options to make personal inquiries and self-service transactions available worldwide, giving Airmen who are deployed a chance to access the system at their leisure.

PSD will change personnelists' focus from conducting rote transactions to providing more valuable and strategic advisory services. In addition to improving availability of up-to-date and accurate personnel and manpower information, the system improves services through standardization, improved data and enhanced self-service accessibility.

The Air Force's goal is to move 85 percent of military personnel flight actions online.

Airmen can access the Web-based services by visiting the McChord intranet site at <https://62mdg.mcchord.af.mil/default.aspx> and then clicking on the virtual MPF link.

(Information compiled by 62nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs from various Department of Defense resources. For more information, visit <http://www.af.mil/>)

in a nutshell

BRAC will close 25 major installations and realign 24. **Force shaping** will cut 1,400 enlisted members by fiscal year 2007 and 40,000 total members by 2011. **Joint Basing** will combine certain installation support functions at McChord and Fort Lewis. Both bases will be consolidated under a single joint base commander and organizational structure. **PBD 720** proposes McChord reduce manpower by approximately 320 military and 11 civilian positions over the next four years. **Personal Delivery System** enables Airmen to register for retraining, retirements or reenlist online from their personal computer using the virtual military personnel flight. **National Security Personnel System** is a human resource system that recognizes and rewards Department of Defense civilian employees based on performance and the contributions they make to the mission.

McChord's Airmen

# AROUND THE WORLD



Courtesy photo

**CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand** — Team McChord Airmen receive a traditional welcome from a Maori warrior during their visit to New Zealand as a part of Operation Deep Freeze recently.



Courtesy photo

**BARGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan** — Fourth Airlift Squadron loadmasters load one of two Army medic Blackhawks recently.





Logistics Readiness Squadron aircraft parts store front counter display.



Airman Laketta Evans, 62nd LRS, uses a pallet jack to maneuver crates containing large aircraft parts.



Senior Airman Nicholas Rice, left, 62nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, points to a parts display in order to help Airman Kaleb King get familiar with the ordering process.



Photos by Abner Guzman

Airman 1st Class Roy Bayne, 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron, organizes a parts drawer during a routine inventory count.



Staff Sgt. Shane Johnson, 62nd LRS, takes an aircraft part from the main warehouse to the front counter of the aircraft parts store for customer pickup.

## Aircraft parts store supplies nuts, bolts of Air Force mission

By  
Tyler Hemstreet  
Staff writer

While at technical training school, Airman Laketta Evans, 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron, wasn't shy about asking her instructors how the different jobs in the Air Force link together.

Airman Evans didn't have to wait long to find out how important the parts store is in the bigger Air Force picture.

"I didn't know exactly how much it would be a part of the mission, but after working here for two months and learning more, I saw what [my instructor] was talking about," Airman Evans said.

The parts store's main purpose is providing flightline support to the aircraft maintenance crews 24-hours a day, seven days a week, said Staff Sgt. Shane Johnson, 62nd LRS.

By keeping a careful inventory and watchful eye on a variety of aircraft parts, the parts store is a key cog in keeping each aircraft mission ready.

Each time a maintenance person comes

into the store, a member of the 62nd LRS is ready to spring into action.

"We try and get them whatever part they need as quickly as possible," Sergeant Johnson said.

Whether that means finding a substitute part in place of one that's not in stock in the warehouse or locating the part in one of the many toolboxes throughout the shop, the parts store provides support no matter the situation.

"We are always doing inventories to determine what needs to be ordered," Sergeant Johnson said. "We manage it to make sure everything stays stocked."

In fact, the shops' large tool boxes keep everything from small screws and nuts and bolts to specialized gaskets and brackets. Bigger items such as aircraft doors and even thrust reversers are kept in the supply yard under a metal roof.

The parts store also serves as a storage warehouse for maintenance workers to keep aircraft parts.

Clearly labeled bins with each aircraft's tail number on the front filled rows of shelves out in the supply yard.

According to the status of each repair job, maintenance workers can store parts until there is an opportunity to install it, Sergeant Johnson said.

The real challenge, however, comes when a red streak is signaled.

A red streak happens when an aircrew needs a part as soon as possible so they can stick to their takeoff schedule.

"There's a little bit of pressure when we get a red streak," Airman Evans said.

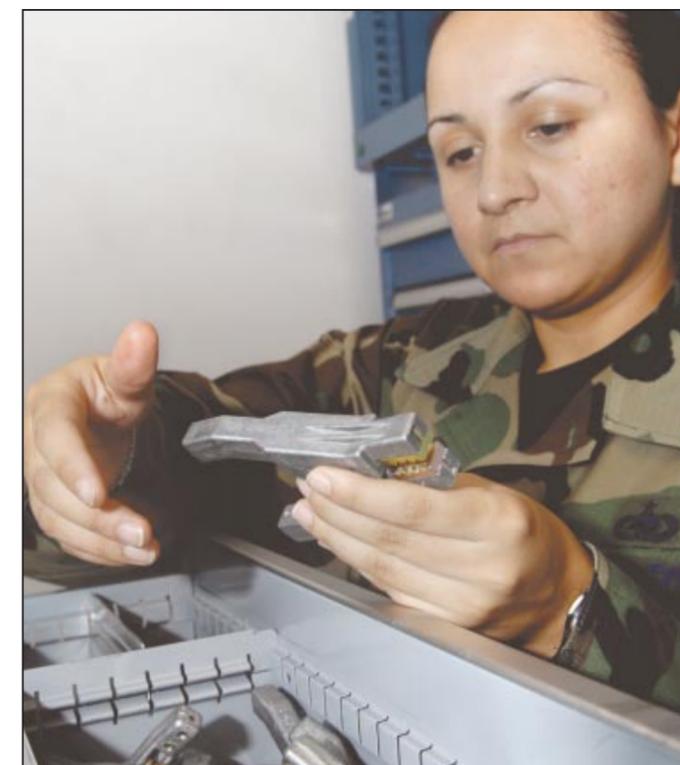
The part store crew has just 15 minutes to take the order, see if the part is in stock, process the order and get the part out to the flightline.

Urgency and delivery aren't the only situations where the parts store helps out in a jam. It also provides part support for other bases.

"Sometimes it's faster for other bases to get a part from us than from the depot," Sergeant Johnson said.

The parts crew then puts the needed part on an aircraft and ships it out.

"We supply the Air Force as needed," he said.



Staff Sgt. Monica Rodriguez, 62nd LRS, inspects a part during a routine inventory count in the warehouse of the aircraft parts store.

# Right equipment keeps riders safe

## Wing safety office urges Airmen to be careful

**By**  
Tyler Hemstreet  
Staff writer

As fall weather sets in and visibility on the roads starts to diminish, base officials are stressing continued awareness when it comes to motorcycle safety.

Making sure motorcycle riders are wearing the correct protective gear is a top priority of the wing safety office, said Lt. Col. Brian Newberry, 62nd Airlift Wing chief of safety.

The correct protective gear includes full fingered gloves, a long sleeve shirt, a proper vest or jacket, long pants, sturdy shoes and a helmet, he said.

To help motorists be aware of riders, Colonel Newberry also said riders must wear brightly colored contrasting clothing or two distinctly dissimilar colors at night.

Active duty and Reserve members must also take a motorcycle safety course if they ride a street bike, motor scooter or moped, said Joy Fowlkes, 62nd AW safety officer.

"They need to take a training course if they ride on or off base," Ms. Fowlkes said.

Department of the Air Force civilians who ride on base must also take the course, she said.

McChord offers a free experienced riders training course once a month for those with an endorsed license or permit. The safety office will reimburse riders up to \$250 for a beginning rider's safety course offered off base, Ms. Fowlkes said.

"We would like to identify who the riders are on base," said Senior Master Sgt. Michael Derion, 62nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, one of the course instructors. "That way we can give them the proper training and make sure they are wearing the right equipment."

The course helps teach riders how to corner properly, one of the biggest causes of crashes on base, said Sergeant Derion.

It also offers the chance for riders who have been on their bikes for a while to get a refresher course, said Master Sgt. Roy Puchalski, 446th Maintenance Squadron, also a course instructor.

"Guys who have been riding for a while are sometimes hesitant to come to the class, but they thank us in the end," Sergeant Puchalski said.

For more motorcycle specific information for McChord, riders can visit <http://mcsafety.mcchord.af.mil/forums.asp>. In addition to the site, Sergeant Puchalski hosts a "ride to lunch" trip on the first and third Thursday of the month.



Photo by Abner Guzman

## Quick response

Airman 1st Class Eric Dybing, 62nd Civil Engineer Squadron, uses a safety rope to pull up equipment needed to apply a capping kit to one of the vapor valves on a chlorine tank car during Transcaer, a national outreach exercise that helps communities prepare for and respond to possible hazardous material transportation incidents.



# New fitness equipment available for families

**By**  
Tyler Hemstreet  
Staff writer

Families visiting the Fitness Center Annex will now have a better opportunity to get a complete workout.

The annex recently received six new fitness machines that offer strength training exercises such as squats, abdominal crunches, bicep curls, chest presses and lateral pulldowns.

Each of the machines has simple push and pull levers to increase or decrease the desired weight.

Along with the existing treadmills, the new machines are strategically placed adjacent to two different children's playrooms so mothers and fathers can get an entire workout while keeping an eye on their children, said 1st Lt. William Parker, 62nd Services Squadron.

"This is top-of-the-line equipment. It really enhances this area," Lieutenant Parker said.

In addition to the new machines, the center also features several rows of stationary bikes, seven recumbent bikes, five treadmills, two stair-climbers and a rowing machine. The annex also has a co-ed spa — containing a whirlpool bath, steam room and sauna, aerobics and yoga classes and personal trainers on staff to assist patrons with workouts.

The center is also awaiting delivery of a weight bench and a rack of dumbbells to pair with the new machines.

Before the addition of the new equipment, parents couldn't bring their children into the strength training room on the other side of the building due to the safety involved with the free



**Staff Sgt. Jennifer Rogers, 62nd Operations Support Squadron, works out Wednesday using one of the fitness machines recently added to the family fitness room at the Fitness Center Annex.**

weights, said Master Sgt. Robert Snyder, 62nd SVS.

"There was no strength training here before, but now you can do a full body workout," Sergeant Snyder said.

The machines were purchased in the spring after the center received customer feedback about enhancing the area nearest to the playroom for children, Sergeant Snyder said.

The concept of the rooms is based on each parent or guardian having line of sight responsibility of their children, Lieutenant Parker said.

The area is divided into two separate rooms, a

crawler room for children ages 6 to 11 months and a toddler room for ages 1 to 7 years old.

While the rooms are there for Annex patrons to utilize, Sergeant Snyder stressed the fact that the Air Force and its employees do not assume responsibility for children in the annex.

He recommends visitors visit McChord's Services Web site at <http://www.62ndservices.com> and click on fitness center to read the list of rules pertaining to the family fitness rooms.

The Fitness Center Annex is open from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Friday and closed on weekends and holidays.



Photos by Airman Jonathan Snyder

## Ice, ice baby

(Above) Kyle Greentree of the University of Alaska-Fairbanks Nanooks and Cadet 4th Class Chris Hepp of the U.S. Air Force Academy Falcons draw penalties for fighting during their recent match at the Carlson Center in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska. The Nanooks went on to win the game 8 to 4.

(Left) Dion Knelsen of the University of Alaska-Fairbanks Nanooks faces off against Cadet 2nd Class Josh Print of the U.S. Air Force Academy Falcons.

# Airmen walk to raise breast cancer awareness

**By**  
Airman 1st Class Justin Goodrich  
Air Force News Agency

AVIANO AIR BASE, Italy — More than 200 Airmen and family members here put their best foot forward to help raise awareness of breast cancer during an Aviano Community Enlisted Spouses Club-sponsored walk Saturday.

The ACES club arranged the walk as a way to encourage Combined Federal Campaign donations to those charities addressing elimination of causes, research, treatment and outreach programs for breast cancer.

Event coordinator Kathrine Kosmala, dressed in pink, a color commonly associated with breast cancer awareness, talked about the pervasiveness of breast cancer.

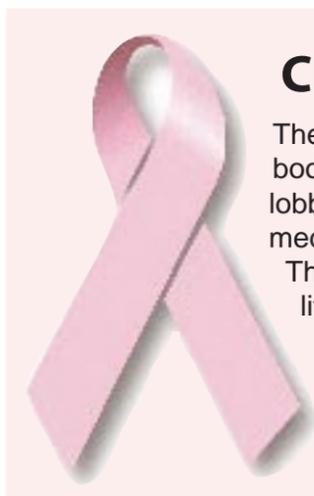
"People are touched by this — one in eight women will be affected and even men. So I believe that somewhere, someone has been touched by this event and they believe in it. So they came out to support us. I mean this is amazing," she said.

"We all come together for camaraderie and just make sure that everyone's doing their job and their part to make sure there's awareness

out there for breast cancer," said event walker Rebecca Cobos.

Among those doing his or her part was Staff Sgt. Rhonetta Jones, who walked "to support all the women who have breast cancer or all the people who know someone who had breast cancer."

"I think it was a good cause. We raised money to help support the breast cancer research," she said.



## Check it out

There is an information booth on display in the lobby of McChord's medical clinic.

The booth features literature and pamphlets on breast cancer awareness.

Photo by Senior Airman Colleen Wieman



**More than 200 Airmen and family members at Aviano Air Base, Italy, put their best foot forward to help raise awareness of and donations for breast cancer issues during an Aviano Community Enlisted Spouses Club-sponsored walk Saturday.**

**CFC volunteers**

The base combined federal campaign is seeking volunteers for the following events:

- Information booth manning and set up at the base commissary from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday.

- A bowling tournament at the base bowling alley at noon Nov. 22.

To volunteer or for more information, call Capt. Jeff Brittain at 982-2474.

**American Indian luncheon**

The American Indian Heritage Committee is hosting an American Indian Heritage Month food sampling event with Fort Lewis personnel at 11:30 a.m. Thursday at McChord's Clubs and Community Center. For more information, call Capt. Russell Foxworth at 982-1224.

**Furniture sale**

Base lodging will have a furniture sale from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Nov. 3 in Bldg. 1149. Items for sale include mirrors, lamps, headboards, mattresses, armoires and desks. For more information, call 982-5613.

**Retirement ceremony**

Chief Master Sgt. Susan Koch, 62nd Operations Group, will retire at 3 p.m. Nov. 9 at the holiday park pavilion.

**Retiree appreciation**

Retiree Appreciation Day will take place from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 18 at McChord's Clubs and Community Center.

The event will feature a health fair at the base clinic, offering a wide range of medical services to retirees such as flu shots, blood pressure checks and bone density tests, as well as oral cancer screenings and nutrition and fitness classes. Representatives from various military service organizations will also be on hand to answer questions about retiree benefits. For more information, call the retiree activities office at 982-3214.

**UFT training**

The Air Force Personnel Center is currently accepting applications for the undergraduate flying training selection board. The board will review active duty officer applications for selection for pilot, combat system officer and air battle manager training. For more information on the program or to apply, call formal training at 982-3357.

**Free Wi-Fi**

Free wireless internet is now available at the Surf Spot at McChord's Clubs and Community Center.

**Federal Employees Health Fair**

A Federal Employees Health Benefits Health Fair is scheduled for 3 to 5 p.m. Nov. 15 at McChord's Clubs and Community Center. Representatives from health carriers will be available to provide information and answer questions about health plans. For more information, please contact

Dinah Naputi at 982-3805.

**Voting hotline**

For questions and information about voting, call 982-VOTE. Information on voting is also available on McChord's Voting Assistance Intranet Web site at <https://62aw.mcchord.af.mil/VotingAssistance/default.asp>, the Federal Voting Assistance Web site at <http://www.fvap.gov>, by calling Maj. Rob Schmidt at 982-9937 or speaking with a unit voting representative.

**Board meeting**

The next parent advisory board meeting is 11:15 a.m. Dec. 6 at Habanero Mexican Grill, Bldg. 895. Parents of children who attend the child development center, school-age care or the family child care programs are encouraged to attend.

**Kindlemarkt 2006**

This year's Kindlemarkt is scheduled to run from 4 to 10 p.m. Dec. 8 at the running track pavilion, near McChord's Clubs and Community Center. This free European-style Christmas bazaar will feature vendors, food and music.

**Lost and found**

The 62nd Security Forces Squadron investigations section maintains a lost and found program for McChord. For items lost or misplaced on base within the last 180 days, call 982-2950.



# 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 Youth Confirmation and Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults** are 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. through April.

- **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](mailto:father.anderson@us.army.mil).

**Name to Note**

**The 62nd Services Squadron** recently earned the 2007 Air Mobility Command-level Curtis LeMay Award. The award recognizes the commitment of deserving services squadrons to customer services and programs at bases with more than 6,000 personnel.



## Career enlisted aviator positions

WASHINGTON — Opportunities are now available for Airmen who wish to cross-train into career enlisted aviator fields.

The Air Force has immediate openings for in-flight refueling (boom operators), flight engineers, loadmasters, airborne mission systems, airborne battle management, flight attendants, aerial gunners and airborne cryptologic linguists.

Interested Airmen are encouraged to visit the virtual MPF retraining site at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/vs/> or the career enlisted aviator Web site at <https://www.a3a5.hq.af.mil/a3o/a3ot/a3ota/cea/cea.htm> for more information.

## VA announces 'pride' initiative

WASHINGTON — Leaders of major veterans organizations joined Veterans Affairs Secretary R. James Nicholson here to launch an effort to "kindle a new spark of patriotism" by asking men and women who have served in the military to wear their medals on Veterans Day.

VA is offering information about

the campaign on a Veterans Pride Initiative Web site at <http://www1.va.gov/veteranspride/> where veterans also can obtain information about how to replace mislaid medals and learn how to confirm the decorations to which they are entitled.

## Bush signs defense authorization act

WASHINGTON — The fiscal 2007 National Defense Authorization Act provides more than \$530 billion to maintain the military in the shape it must be to win the war on terrorism.

President Bush signed the bill, officially called the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007, during a small ceremony in the Oval Office recently.

The act provides \$462.8 billion in budget authority for the Defense Department. Senate and House conferees added the \$70 billion defense supplemental budget request to the act, so overall, the act authorizes \$532.8 billion for fiscal 2007.

The act sets aside \$4.4 billion for

22 C-17 Globemaster III airlifters, \$1.4 billion for procurement of 14 Marine V-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft and \$1.5 billion for 43 MH-60R/S helicopters.

The act authorizes \$841 million for 122 Stryker combat vehicles, including \$41.5 million to replace combat losses. The act also provides \$1.4 billion for 20 F-22 Raptor fighters and reduced funding for the F-35 Lightning II fighter due to schedule delays.

The \$70 billion supplemental provision covers the cost of ongoing operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and the Horn of Africa, as well as other expenses affiliated with the war on terrorism. The supplemental funding also provides \$23.8 billion to help "reset" Army and Marine Corps equipment, which is wearing out faster than originally planned because of the war.

The supplemental measure further provides \$2.1 billion for the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Task Force, \$1.7 billion to train and equip Iraqi security forces and \$1.5 billion to help train and equip Afghan security forces.

The authorization act provides a

2.2 percent pay raise for American servicemembers, effective Jan. 1. It continues the Army at its end-strength of 512,400 and raises the Marine Corps end-strength to 180,000. The Army National Guard end strength is set at 350,000.

The act authorizes the expansion of eligibility for the Tricare health care program to all members of the selected Reserve while in a non-active-duty status and their families. Payment is set at 28 percent of the premium amount established by DOD. The act also prohibits any increase in Tricare Prime and Tricare Select Reserve in fiscal 2007.

The act authorizes \$36.6 billion for operations and maintenance costs, including \$700 million for body armor and \$149.5 million for ammunition.

The act authorizes construction of seven warships, including the next-generation destroyer and the amphibious assault replacement ship. The act also provides \$794 million in advance procurement authority for the next generation aircraft carrier, the CVN-21.

