

The NORTHWEST AIRLIFTER

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McChord Air Force Base, Wash.

Connecting Team McChord with the Combat Airlift Mission

March 16, 2007

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McChord celebrates women

By

Staff Sgt. Tiffany Orr
62nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

March is Women's History Month, and McChord is celebrating through a number of on-base activities.

Some of the festivities planned include free movies at the base theatre and a luncheon featuring former astronaut Dr. Bonnie Dunbar.

One of the organizers of the month's events, 2nd Lt. Sarah Lindsay, 62nd Medical Support Squadron, said she is particularly looking forward to the luncheon at 11:30 a.m. March 23 featuring Dr. Dunbar, who has spent more than 50 days in outer space. She said she hopes other Airmen share her enthusiasm about the event.

"Being in the military, we are in a unique environment," she said. "It's important to remember the Women's Airforce Service Pilots and the fighter pilots [among others]. They've made a big impact on the military and society."

Lieutenant Lindsay said the fact that we celebrate Women's History Month shows that the country's attitude as a whole towards women is changing.

The fact that attitudes are changing is a very good thing, said Master Sgt. Patti Cummings, 62nd MDSS, reflecting on her life.

"I have experienced [gender] discrimination in my life, and I'm not that old," she said.

"Thankfully there have been women who have stepped up to the challenge and proved that gender is not, and should not be, a major factor."

The selflessness of these women is just one reason why it's important to celebrate Women's History Month, said Sergeant Cummings. The month serves as a reminder not only of the rights that women have earned, but also celebrates the tremendous asset they have become at home, in politics and even overseas with our military force, she said.

"We must take a look at where we were to know how far we've come. We need to thank every woman who has paved the roads before us, but more importantly, now, we need to pave the road today for our daughters tomorrow."

For more information about women's history, visit the National Women's History Project Web site at <http://www.nwhp.org>.

A timeline of women's history

- 1848 — The first women's rights convention is held in Seneca Falls, N.Y.
- 1920 — The 19th Amendment to the Constitution, granting women the right to vote is signed into law.
- 1948 — Due to the Armed Forces Integration Act, women were authorized to comprise 2 percent of the military work force.
- 1976 — Service academies were opened to women.
- 1996 — The Supreme Court ruled that the all-male Virginia Military School had to admit women in order to continue to receive public funding.



Courtesy photo

Steppin' up

Chief Master Sgt. Russell Kuck, 62nd Airlift Wing command chief master sergeant, right, tacks on step-promotee Tech. Sgt. John Emmons, 62nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Tuesday at the Blue Aircraft Maintenance Unit's roll call.

New survey aims to improve information delivery to Airmen

By

Maj. Robert Pope
Secretary of the Air Force
Office of Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — The secretary of the Air Force Office of Communication at the Pentagon has launched a study to find out how Airmen want to get information about the Air Force.

A randomly selected group of Airmen and Air Force civilian employees will receive an e-mail invitation from Brig. Gen. Erv Lessel, Air Force director of communication, asking them to complete an online questionnaire to share their views on several information sources,

products, and technologies.

"This is a very important project for the Air Force, because we're working hard to improve our Air Force information delivery channels and products so Airmen get the information they want and need, when and how they want it," General Lessel said.

"If we hear from Airmen that some of the information channels are working well while others are broken, we'll know where to focus our attention. If Airmen tell us they flat-out can't get some of the information they really want or need, we'll look hard at ways to fix that."

Researchers anticipate the results of this "Where Airmen Get Information" survey will be used to

focus Air Force Public Affairs' attention on the products Airmen use and value most, permitting the Air Force to cease publishing less desired products and stop operating less used channels.

"It has been almost three years since we last surveyed Airmen about their information wants and needs. If you think about how the information environment has changed during that time, with new media and new technologies coming on line, you see why this study is both essential and overdue," General Lessel said.

According to Dr. Steve Everett, principle researcher in the secretary of the Air Force Office of Public Affairs assessment division, the

survey relies on hearing from all invited participants.

Dr. Everett said, "If we hear back from only the Airmen who have computers on their desks, we won't have anywhere near an accurate, complete understanding of an Airman's information preferences. The Air Force is going to extra lengths to get the word out about this survey so invited Airmen will know it's the 'real deal' and their supervisors might give them 15 minutes of computer time to complete the survey if Airmen don't have computer access of their own. Otherwise we risk getting input only from Airmen with easy computer access, to the exclusion of people in career fields who don't have easy access to the Internet at work."

Weekend Weather

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Hi: 58 Low: 36	Hi: 58 Low: 43	Hi: 55 Low: 40

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

Mission accomplished

Total McChord sorties	3,128
Total flying hours	11,151.2
Cargo moved (tons)	28,677.1
Departure reliability rate	94.8%
Mission capable rate	86.5%
Personnel currently deployed	544
Reservists currently activated	226

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

Don't miss it ...

Women's History Month luncheon

McChord will host former astronaut Dr. Bonnie Dunbar at 11:30 a.m. March 23 at McChord's Club and Community Center in honor of Women's History Month.

Women's History Month celebrates progress

By

Col. Jerry Martinez
62nd Airlift Wing commander

Throughout our history, women have made great contributions to our country. Women fought for independence, became doctors, ministers and lawyers; and this was all before finally gaining the right to vote in 1920. It's in honor of these great women of our past that McChord celebrates Women's History Month this March.

In the Revolutionary War, when troops marched into battle, women were among their number, whether in disguise in uniform, fighting out of uniform or serving in support roles for the combat forces. Our freedom and victory belong to the total force of American men and women who fought so bravely. Female patriots stood proud again in the Civil War, distinguishing themselves and serving with honor, such as the first female Medal of Honor recipient, Dr. Mary Walker, a surgeon for the Army Medical Corps who was captured as a prisoner of war during her service.

Women continued to serve through the years. In Air Mobility Command, we're lucky to be able to claim some of these pioneering women as our own.

During World War II, Jacqueline Cochran and Nancy Harkness Love crusaded to assist the then Air Transport Command by using female pilots to ferry aircraft for non-combat missions. These first female military pilots, the Women's Airforce Service Pilots, proved their worth, flying over 60 million hours in 77 different types of aircraft. Their contributions, along with others in the Women's Army Corps, propelled our services to where we are today.

The first female Airman, Soldier and Marine in combat have already deployed and returned, only to be replaced by other female servicemembers. When missions and operations launch worldwide, women continue to serve in the proud tradition of those that came before them and paved the way. Women are serving in Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom every day, and their ability to serve as equals is proven and unquestioned.

Like our country, women's rights have come a long way in a relatively short amount of time thanks to the bravery, courage and determination of the first few who refused to take no for an answer.

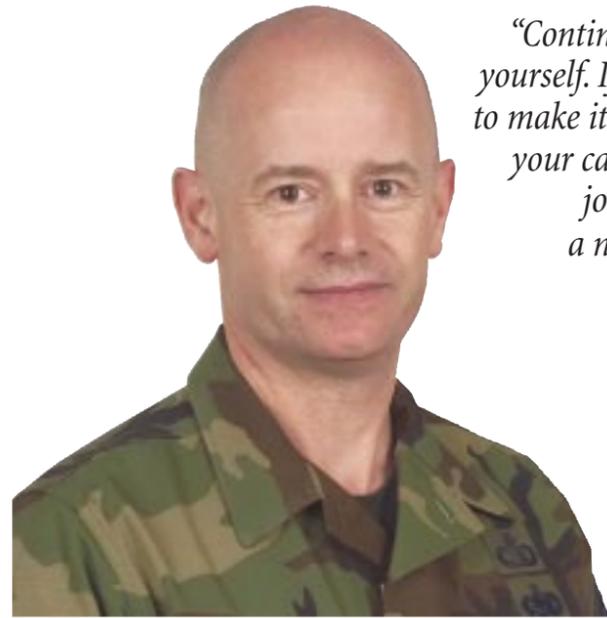
I hope you will join me at some of the wing's events this month to celebrate these incredible women.

“ Like our country, women's rights have come a long way in a relatively short amount of time thanks to the bravery, courage and determination of the first few who refused to take no for an answer.”

Col. Jerry Martinez
62nd Airlift Wing
commander



Senior noncommissioned officers rise above odds



“Continue to challenge yourself. If your goal was to make it to this point in your career, it's time to journey to a new goal.”

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

By

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

This week, the list of senior master sergeant selectees was released. Accepting this stripe symbolizes more than another promotion in your career. You've fought an uphill battle and will soon be one step closer to becoming the highest enlisted grade in the Air Force.

Let's examine what it takes to become a senior master sergeant. In addition to the two phases of the Weighted Airman Promotions System factors, — the promotion fitness examination and specialty knowledge test — master sergeants also had to compete against their peers in their Air Force specialties at a central

evaluation board, which determines whether or not each individual is fully qualified to be promoted.

Most enlisted Airmen complete their Air Force careers without obtaining the rank of senior master sergeant. Historically, by law the Air Force can only promote 3 percent to the top two enlisted grades. So out of every 100 Airmen, only two make the cut for senior master sergeant and one will make it to chief master sergeant.

Continue to challenge yourself. If your goal was to make it to this point in your career, it's time to journey to a new goal.

This promotion speaks volumes to those you work for as well as those who are junior to you. Remember, as you continue to climb the promotion ladder, reach back and bring up the next person to replace you. 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: Is it correct to pull over to the side of the road during the playing of the National Anthem? On several occasions, I have pulled to the side of the road, and I have had people lay on their horn in anger. I could see if it was just one car to the side of the road, but there were several of us showing our pride.

A: Thank you for giving me this opportunity to remind all of Team McChord about our Air Force customs and courtesies.

If in uniform, it is appropriate to stand at attention and face the flag when you hear the retreat bugle. At the first note of the national

anthem, those in uniform should render a salute and hold it until the last note of the music. Those not in uniform should stand and face the flag during retreat and place their right hand over their heart for the national anthem.

Retreat is played on base at 4:30 p.m. every day. If you're in a car, turn down the radio and listen for the music. If you're driving down the road and hear the music, find a safe place to stop your car while the anthem is playing.

I encourage everyone to take this time each day to pay respect to our country.

Not only is it the right thing to do, it's a

small way we can honor all those who have served and continue to serve our country.

Q: The crosswalks in front of the commissary are getting so worn that you can hardly see them, even during the day. Is there any way they could be painted?

A: I have also noticed those crosswalks in front of the commissary and agree that they are pretty worn. As soon as funds become available, my civil engineer squadron will arrange to have the crosswalks repainted. Thank you for bringing this safety issue to my attention.

EDITORIAL STAFF

62nd AW commander: Col. Jerry Martinez
Chief, Public Affairs: 1st Lt. Erika Yepsen
NCOIC, Public Affairs: Staff Sgt. Corinna Quick
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

E-mail: northwestairlifter@mcchord.af.mil

The bottom three

Leaving your mark

By

Lt. Col. Ted Detwiler

62nd Operations Support Squadron commander

I recently came across a series of questions, the origin of which is somewhat sketchy. I take no personal credit for them, but I think they offer an excellent opportunity for all of us to reflect on our roles as leaders. The questions posed here are not direct quotations, but capture the essence of the argument. Regardless of rank or position, I challenge you to consider the following set of questions:

First, the top three

1. Name the last two Heisman Trophy winners.
2. Name the last two Oscar winners for best actor or actress.
3. Name the last two Nextel Cup champions.

Next, the bottom three

1. Name the two coaches or teachers who had the greatest impact on you.
2. Name the two supervisors who influenced you most.
3. Name the two people who were there for you when you needed it most.

I'm guessing most of you can't answer the first three correctly, although true NASCAR fans can probably name the Nextel Cup champions and argue about why their favorite driver should have won.

But each and every one of you can answer the bottom three and can probably name more than two people who fit the bill.

Gen. Wilbur Creech summed it up when he said, "The first duty of a leader is to create more leaders." We develop leadership in many ways, but first and foremost we do it by example. None of us can be everything to everybody, but we all have the opportunity to be something to somebody. Whether you're the "go-to Airman" in the squadron, the wingman who everybody turns to, the company grade officer who has been there and done that or the squadron commander, your duty is to develop future leaders. Don't talk about the example, be the example. Do this, and you are guaranteed a spot in the "bottom three."

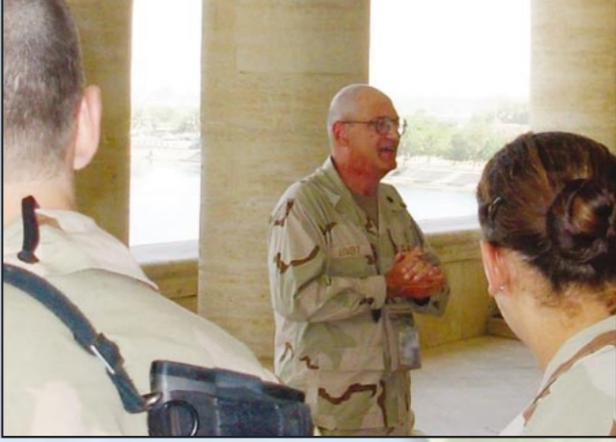
My point is simple. When you move on, regardless of whether it's a result of retirement, separation or a permanent change of station, how do you want to be remembered? The "top three" will be remembered by some, forgotten by most and immortalized in print as the answer to a trivia question. The "bottom three" will be remembered by many, leave a lasting legacy and be immortalized by those who they have had the opportunity to touch. Stories, myths and legends will be told and retold about them, each better than the last.

Being in the "bottom three" requires focused effort and dedication beyond normal day-to-day responsibilities, but the payback both personally and professionally certainly outweighs the cost. I challenge you to set your sights a little lower and become a member of the "bottom three."



McChord's Airmen

AROUND THE WORLD



Courtesy photo

SOUTHWEST ASIA — Chaplain (Lt. Col) Michael Lovett, 62nd Airlift Wing, speaks to Airmen during his recent deployment.



Courtesy photo

SOUTHWEST ASIA — Staff Sgt. Jeremy Ybarra, 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron, refuels a helicopter during a recent deployment while a member of its crew looks on.



AMC directive limits dining facility patronage

By
Tyler Hemstreet
Staff writer

As part of Air Mobility Command's contract and support reduction initiative, base officials will limit patronage in the dining facility starting April 1.

The move is an important step towards conserving resources in a time of increasing budgetary constraints, according to a press release from AMC.

The dining facility's primary purpose is to serve Airmen as their primary eatery, provide a training environment for food service personnel and provide meals in support of daily flight operations, said 2nd Lt. Rena Sandgren, 62nd Services Squadron.

The dining facility will continue to serve enlisted members receiving essential station messing or basic allowance for subsistence, military members and civilians on temporary duty assignments with an authorized meal per diem on their orders and officers and Department of Defense civilians who chose to eat

midnight meals while on duty if there are a lack of eating establishments on or near the installation during midnight meal hours.

Family members of active duty Airmen, retirees and their immediate family members may eat at the dining facility only on federal holidays, Easter and the Air Force's birthday.

Dependents of deployed Airmen may also eat at the facility on Tuesday nights.

"There will also be a poster at the entrance to the dining facility detailing the changes in policy," Lieutenant Sandgren said.

In addition, there will be signs talking about the changes in policy at the golf course, fitness center and lodging facilities, she said.

Military members of all ranks, dependents and retirees will still have a number of dining options available on base from both the 62nd SVS and the base exchange's food court. The 62nd SVS offers meals and appetizers at McChord's Clubs and Community Center, Habañero Mexican Grill, Sounder's Lane's snack bar, Buster's, Café Lancelatte and Smoothee's Juice Bar.



Airmen 1st Class Lori Fiorello, 62nd Comptroller Squadron, enjoys a meal Tuesday at the base dining facility located in Bldg. 578.

Below-the-zone promotions



McChord congratulates the following Airmen on their below-the-zone promotions:

- **Airman 1st Class Kevin Johnson**, 8th Airlift Squadron
- **Airman 1st Class Robert Wilkins**, 62nd Aerial Port Squadron
- **Airman 1st Class Johnathan Eubanks**, 62nd APS
- **Airman 1st Class Jose Garfias**, 62nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
- **Airman 1st Class Kristopher Savell**, 62nd AMXS
- **Airman 1st Class Benito Enad**, 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron
- **Airman 1st Class Andrew Drury**, 62nd Operations Support Squadron



St. Patrick's Day

Cooper Smith decorates a shamrock photo magnet Wednesday at the Escape Zone as part of a St. Patrick's day-themed craft day.

Congrats



The Air Force recently announced the following officer promotions:

McChord congratulates **Lt. Col. Renee Bennett**, 62nd Airlift Wing, on her promotion to colonel and the following majors for their promotion to lieutenant colonel:

- **Maj. James Bailey**, 62nd Airlift Wing
- **Maj. James Dittus**, 7th Airlift Squadron
- **Maj. Philip Kase**, 62nd Operations Support Squadron
- **Maj. Stephen Polomsky**, 62nd Airlift Wing
- **Maj. Alesia Quiton**, 62nd Maintenance Squadron



AFPC announces senior master sergeant promotees

By
Staff Sgt. Tiffany Orr
62nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Fourteen of McChord's master sergeants were selected for promotion to senior master sergeant recently.

McChord's promotees are:

- Master Sgt. David Carr, 5th Air Support Operations Squadron
- Master Sgt. Kyle Disney, 8th Airlift Squadron
- Master Sgt. Crystal McClish, 62nd Aerial Port Squadron
- Master Sgt. Vicente Cruz, 62nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
- Master Sgt. Darryn Forrest, 62nd AMXS

- Master Sgt. John Offe, 62nd AMXS
- Master Sgt. Edwin Ramos, 62nd AMXS
- Master Sgt. Chad Ragas, 62nd Communications Squadron
- Master Sgt. Thomas Spitzer, 62nd Maintenance Squadron
- Master Sgt. Timothy Sutton, 62nd Maintenance Operations Squadron
- Master Sgt. John LaChance, 62nd Medical Operations Squadron
- Master Sgt. Mark Yurkovich, 62nd Medical Support Squadron
- Master Sgt. Viette Sanders, 361st Recruiting Squadron
- Master Sgt. Thomas Stanko, Detachment 1, 605th Test and

Evaluation Squadron

These Airmen are part of a larger group of 1,282 master sergeants who Air Force officials selected for promotion to senior master sergeant.

The promotion list was released publicly Wednesday, and the complete list is on the Air Force Personnel Center's Web site.

The board, which convened Feb. 5 to 23, considered 14,626 master sergeants, for an 8.77 percent selection rate. Last year's selection rate was 8.63 percent.

The average score for those selected was 663.89, with an average time in grade and time in service of 4.5 and 20.53 years respectively. The average score was based on the following

point averages:

- 134.99 for enlisted performance reports
- 32.88 for time in grade
- 21.52 for time in service
- 21.12 for decorations
- 65.42 for Air Force supervisory examination
- 387.97 for board score.

Score notices will be available on the virtual military personnel flight and Air Force Portal. Those selected will be promoted to E-8 beginning in April.

For more information, contact the MPF.

(Information from an Air Force Personnel Center news release was used in this article.)

READY FOR WAR



Staff Sgt. Anthony Allen, 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron, assists an Airman Monday while working the front counter at the war readiness section warehouse, Bldg. 576.

LRS section gets Airmen set for deployment

By
Tyler Hemstreet
Staff writer

A visit to the 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron's war readiness section to get outfitted is part of the deployment procedure, no matter where the final destination may be. Every Airman stationed here at one time or another will likely pass through its spacious confines.

Shelves stacked to the ceiling with plastic containers packed with supplies line each aisle, while metal baskets holding everything from chemical suits and gas masks to sleeping bags and mukluk boots fill the walkways.

The giant warehouse contains the items needed to make up different types of bags an Airman needs on a deployment. But as Airmen continue to work closer with the Army in deployed locations, the section's role in providing gear has changed, said material inspector Richard Olszewski, 62nd LRS.

"It is more of a joint mission," he said. "We give them half, and the Army gives them the other half."

Now, Airmen routinely get gear issued to them by the Army. And in an effort to ease the travel burden on Airmen and prevent the Air Force from paying for extra

bags on commercial airlines, more Airmen are getting fully equipped at warehouses set up at deployed locations.

However, the war readiness section still distributes cold weather bags that contain parkas, wool socks and mukluk boots; chemical warfare bags that contain suits, decontamination kits and litmus tape; and the standard bag that contains a sleeping bag, helmet, flak vest and poncho.

With nearly 500,000 items, the supply warehouse has the capability to outfit the entire 62nd and 446th Airlift Wings, Mr. Olszewski said.

"Most of our time is spent taking inventory," he said. "We're constantly checking the shelf life of items and pulling samples to see how they are holding up."

Through an open line of communication with the Air Force, the section keeps a close eye out for manufacturing recalls on any equipment that Airmen may depend on while deployed, said Master Sgt. James Easterling, 62nd LRS.

"If we find a chemical suit with a hole in it, we will pull it out of the rotation until we find out what we're supposed to do with it," Sergeant Easterling said.

Most of the factory recalls target the lifesaving items such as chemical suits and gas masks, he said.

Those items also require a bit of extra care to get checked and put back into the rotation.

Each time an Airman comes through the warehouse to get outfitted, they are reminded of their responsibility.

"Our responsibility is to issue them the right stuff," Mr. Olszewski said. "They are responsible for the upkeep and bringing it back."



Senior Airman Alfredo Samson, 62nd LRS, left, and Mr. Olszewski prepare for future deployments Monday by assuring shelves are properly stocked and items are readily available.



Material inspector Richard Olszewski and Master Sgt. Karen Baker, both 62nd LRS, review an inventory checklist Monday during an inventory inspection.



Airman Samson uses a forklift to replace a plastic container filled with inventoried supplies Monday at the war readiness section warehouse.

Five-star fitness



Photo by Abner Guzman

Staff Sgt. Ronald West, 62nd Services Squadron certified personal trainer, prepares for the fitness improvement class by straightening a row of spin bikes recently at the fitness

center annex. The fitness center offers free spinning classes Monday through Friday at 6 a.m. Other services available include yoga, step and fitness readiness, among others.

Two 62nd SVS programs earn highest grades

By

Tyler Hemstreet
Staff writer

The 62nd Services Squadron recently earned Five Star status for its outdoor recreation and fitness programs here.

The award, which is given by the Air Force Services Agency, provides annual recognition and acknowledgement for bases that have reached the highest standard of achievement in all aspects of program management, AFSA officials said. The program recognizes excellence in the five areas of operations, programs, training, facilities and customer service.

After receiving four stars last year, the Adventures Unlimited staff worked hard to make the jump to five stars, said program director

Josh Boisvert, 62nd Services Squadron.

"It was just a matter of looking at the benchmarks, asking ourselves how we can get [to the next level] and putting together a cohesive vision," Mr. Boisvert said.

He also praised the support from leadership that helped to push the effort along.

The fact that some staff members completed additional wilderness medicine and rafting training also helped the program achieve Five Star status, Mr. Boisvert said.

"It's all about providing extra service for our customers, even if it means stepping outside the box a little bit," said trip director Gabe Laramie, 62nd SVS.

The staff also worked hard to enable customers to sign up for trips online and direct program funding so that new skis, snowboards and boats could be purchased, Mr. Boisvert said.

"We are here to cater to the needs of Airmen," he said.

Despite being one of the smaller fitness facilities in the Air Force, the fitness center earned Five Star recognition, said Bill Johnson, 62nd SVS fitness center director.

"We've done the best we can to work with what we have been given," Mr. Johnson said. "It has forced us to work harder in other categories, but we did it."

With the support of leadership, the fitness center staff has used some innovative thinking to get the best possible use out of its facilities and keep it operating at the Five Star status, Mr. Johnson said.

The staff converted some of the extra racquetball courts into rooms that give Airmen more opportunities to use strength equipment machines, while still providing the Air Force-required minimum of four courts. The center also poured extra effort into adding amenities such as the only artificial-grass athletic field in the Air Force and an inline hockey rink, he said.

In 1998, AFSA realized the need for a formal fitness recognition program. As a result of combined efforts from base, major command and agency personnel, the Five Star Fitness Center Recognition Program was established in 2002.

Following the initial success of the program with fitness, libraries established their Five Star recognition program in 2003, followed by

outdoor recreation, aero clubs and bowling in 2004, and golf in 2005.

Eighty-seven fitness, library, outdoor recreation and golf programs were distinguished as Five Star for 2006 by AFSA officials, recognizing their high quality and trust.

Thirty other Air Force bases achieved Five Star recognition in fitness, while 18 bases achieved Five Star recognition in outdoor recreation.

(Information from an Air Force News article was used in this story.)



File photo

Patron Erica Hoffman climbs the climbing wall at McChord's Adventures Unlimited.

Air Force Falcons blanks Holy Cross Crusaders 3-0

By

Dave Toller
U.S. Air Force Academy
Athletic Media Relations associate director

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — Ben Worker stopped all 17 shots he faced as Air Force blanks Holy Cross, 3-0, in the Atlantic Hockey Association quarterfinal game at the Air Force Academy's Cadet Ice Arena Saturday.

With the win, Air Force advances to the AHA Final Four in Rochester, N.Y., where the fourth-seeded Falcons will face top-seeded Sacred Heart.

The Falcons improved to 17-15-5 overall while Holy Cross fell to 10-20-5.

With just over four minutes left in the first

period, Theo Zacour scored the eventual game winner as he skated the puck through the neutral zone and past two defenders. He then passed the puck around a Crusader, collected it in the slot and scored his fourth of the season. Defensemen Matt Charbonneau and Frank Schiavone assisted on the play.

Neither team scored in the second period as the Falcons carried a 1-0 lead into the final 20 minutes. Air Force out-shot Holy Cross, 13-3, in the final period, despite the Crusaders having six full minutes of power plays in the period.

Mike Phillipich gave the Falcons a 2-0 lead at the 5:25 mark with a wrister from the right side. Ehn fed Phillipich in the neutral zone for the sophomore's 14th goal of the season. With two minutes left in the third period, Phillipich

drew a penalty on HC's Marty Dams, giving the Falcons a power play. Just 39 seconds into the power play, Air Force capitalized as Ehn won a faceoff and Greg Flynn fired a slap shot from the left point for his first career goal. Phillipich also assisted on the play.

Air Force out-shot Holy Cross, 34-17, in the game. Holy Cross was 0-for-6 on the power play while Air Force was 1-for-4. The Holy Cross power play was 13th in the nation coming into the game. Worker made 17 saves for AFA while Charlie Lockwood made 31 for the Crusaders. Sacred Heart and Air Force are joined in the AHA Final Four by Army and UConn in the semifinals today. The two winners of the semifinals will meet Saturday at 7 p.m. EST. The winner of the AHA Tournament gets an automatic berth to the NCAA Regionals.

McChord wraps up Operation Deep Freeze

By

Bud McKay
62nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

McChord C-17s, along with ski-equipped New York Air National Guard LC-130 Hercules' redeployed from Christchurch, New Zealand, recently wrapping up the 2006 to 2007 season of Operation Deep Freeze. Operation Deep Freeze is a unique, joint and total force mission that has supported the National Science Foundation and U.S. Antarctic Program since 1955.

"Operation Deep Freeze is the most challenging, non-combat mission there is for us," said Col. Damon Booth, 62nd Operations Group commander. "We ask our aircrews to land our mammoth C-17 on a frozen sheet of ice that is just a few feet thick. In some places this year, the ice wasn't all that thick — you could actually see the water below the ice surfaces. But our aircrews thrive on challenges, and we're ready for anything."

During the recently concluded 2006 to 2007 season, McChord C-17s flew 57 missions to McMurdo Station, Antarctica, from Christchurch carrying nearly four million pounds of cargo and 2,700 passengers. On the return missions from the frozen sea shelf of McMurdo, C-17 aircrews flew more than 720,000 pounds of cargo and 2,600

passengers back to Christchurch.

Lt. Col. Jim McGann, commander of C-17 operations for Deep Freeze, explained that the runway used at McMurdo was much like landing on Puget Sound's Elliot Bay in Seattle — if the Puget Sound was frozen solid.

"Despite that environment our aircrews flew in to, landing and off-and on-loading people and cargo in temperatures at times -58 F we didn't miss a beat," said Colonel McGann, who is assigned to the 62nd Operations Group. "McChord has been doing Operation Deep Freeze missions now for the last 10 years in a row, and we know what we're doing."

Earlier in the season, McChord C-17 aircrews achieved an airpower milestone Dec. 19, 2006, by completing the first C-17 airdrop mission delivering about 70,000 pounds of supplies to the South Pole.

The airdrop was required in order to test the aircraft in the harsh conditions it will perform under should the mission continue. Crews wanted to see how the avionics systems, cargo ramp and door and parachute deployment shoot perform under the -40 F temperature the C-17 and crew will encounter above Antarctica's frozen surface.

The last airdrop at the South Pole was in 1999 by a C-141 Starlifter that was also flown by McChord



Photo by 1st Lt. Erika Yepsen

Cargo is transported from a McChord C-17 Globemaster III to an awaiting LC-130 Hercules operated by the New York Air National Guard Nov. 14, 2006, at McMurdo Station, Antarctica.

Airmen. The ability to airdrop supplies using the C-17 versus the LC-130, which is the traditional platform used to airlift supplies on the ice, allows aircrews to deliver up to four times as many supplies in a single airdrop mission in conditions that do not permit airlift missions.

Aircrews and support members

from McChord's 62nd and 446th Airlift Wings teamed up with Airmen from the 109th Airlift Wing, New York Air National Guard to support air operations for Joint Task Force-Support Forces Antarctica. Plans are already underway for the 2007 to 2008 Operation Deep Freeze missions.



Medical group closure

The 62nd Medical Group's medical and dental clinics will be closed on March 23. For emergencies, call 911 or visit the Madigan Army Medical Center's emergency room. Normal clinic operations will resume March 26.

Embry-Riddle registration

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University is currently registering students for its upcoming term. The deadline to register is Monday. For a list of course offerings, visit <http://www.erau.edu/tacoma>.

Legal notice

Until March 30, legal assistance appointments will be reserved for active duty personnel with deployment-related issues only. Powers of attorney and notary services will still be available on a walk-in basis from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Women's History Month

McChord's Women's History Month Luncheon is from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 23 at McChord's Clubs and Community Center. The keynote speaker is Dr. Bonnie Dunbar, former astronaut and current chief executive of the Boeing Museum of Flight. Tickets are available at the club for a suggested donation of \$5.

Parent University

Carter Lake Elementary School will host its 10th Annual Parent University from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 7. The free event is designed to teach parents new information and skills to make parenting more enjoyable. Complimentary child care will be available for military parents at the base child development center. For more information, e-mail parent.university@mcchord.af.mil.

Combat logistics

The 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron is hosting a five-day combat logistics seminar from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. April 18 to 26. The course is open to company grade officers, noncommissioned officers, senior NCOs and GS-9 to GS-12 personnel. Those interested in attending should e-mail their name, rank, unit, duty position and duty phone to Jose Diaz at jose.diaz@mcchord.af.mil by April 2.

Strategic logistics management

The Air Force Institute of Technology is sponsoring a free, five-day strategic logistics management seminar from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 9 to 13 at McChord. Field grade officers, senior noncommissioned officers and civilians GS-13 and above in logistics, sustainment, maintenance and logistics-related career fields are

eligible to enroll. To R.S.V.P., call Jose Diaz at 982-5024.

Knucklebuster 2007

The 62nd Maintenance Group will host Knucklebuster 2007 on April 19th in Hangar 1 at 6 p.m. The Knucklebuster is an award that recognizes the 62nd Maintenance Group's Airmen. The guest speaker for the event will be Army Brig. Gen. William Troy, deputy commanding general of I Corps at Fort Lewis. Dress for the event is battle dress uniform for military members and Northwest casual for civilians. For more information, call 1st Lt. Chad Dimon at 982-3663 or Senior Master Sgt. John Roed at 982-4933.

Win Trip to Wrestlemania

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service and World Wrestling Entertainment are tag teaming to provide military families with an exclusive opportunity to win a trip for two to WWE Wrestlemania 23. To register to win, visit <http://www.aafes.com>. No purchase is necessary to enter.

DECA scholarships

Qualified military family members planning to enroll in a four-year program or college students already enrolled may apply for Defense Commissary Agency scholarships at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>.

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, through April. ● **Adult Bible Study** is from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

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 at the chapel support center
11 a.m. Traditional Worship: Chapel One
11 a.m. Contemporary Service: chapel support center

Jewish Services:

Friday: 6 p.m. Fort Lewis Chapel every 1st, 3rd and 5th at the corner of 12th Street and Liggett Avenue 966-8949

Orthodox Activities:

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy, St. Nicholas Church, 15th Street and Yakima Avenue, Tacoma

Other services:

Orthodox Christian Community, Cascade Chapel, Fort Lewis
Sundays: 8:45 a.m. pre-Communion prayers
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

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

