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Connecting Team McChord with the Combat Airlift Mission

October 31, 2008

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Team McChord readies for NSI

By
Tyler Hemstreet
Staff writer

Base officials are ramping-up to welcome members of the Air Mobility Command Inspector General team and Defense Threat Reduction Agency in the new year for the operational phase of McChord's Nuclear Surety Inspection.

The teams will focus on four major graded areas throughout the inspection: nuclear surety program management and administration, the personnel reliability program, tools, test, tie down and handling equipment and logistics movement, said nuclear surety manager Tom Thompson, 62nd Airlift Wing Safety.

The inspection includes the teams accompanying the 4th Airlift Squadron on an upcoming mission, Mr. Thompson said.

The nuclear surety program management and administration area will look at the wing leadership's involvement in the program and wing safety. The PRP area will focus on the 62nd Medical Squadron, the 4th AS and the 62nd Force Support Squadron. Tools, test, tie down handling equipment will examine tie down devices and chains maintained by the 62nd Aerial Port Squadron and the logistics movement area will spotlight the 4th AS's ability to conduct the missions. The 62nd Maintenance Group's role in selecting and preparing the airplanes and the command post's role in monitoring mission movements will also be examined, Mr. Thompson said.

Each area will receive a separate grade which will contribute to the wing's overall grade of Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory, he said.

"The PNAF mission is the No. 1 'no-fail' mission of this wing," said Col. Jeffrey Stephenson, 62nd

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Photo by Abner Guzman

Warm sendoff

Denise Dyer, left, Pierce County economic development director and 4th Airlift Squadron Honorary Commander, talks with 1st Lt. Robert Dukart, 8th Airlift Squadron, and his family prior to his deployment with the squadron Monday. Approximately 150 Airmen from the 8th AS departed McChord for the war zone to support the Global War on Terror for a 120-day deployment. It has been close to a year since the 8th AS returned home from its last deployment in July 2007. The 8th AS Airmen will deploy as the 817th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron to various locations throughout Europe, Southwest Asia and the Middle East area of responsibility. They will replace McChord's 4th Airlift Squadron which is scheduled to return home Wednesday.

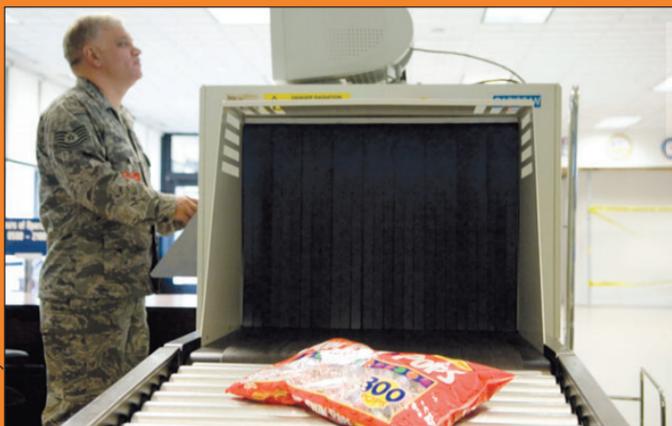


Photo by Abner Guzman

The 62nd Aerial Port Squadron will also be available to scan Halloween candy today until 9 p.m. and 5 to 9 p.m. Saturday in Bldg. 1179.

Operation SAFE STREETS 2008

The 62nd Security Forces Squadron needs volunteers to ensure the safety of McChord streets for trick-or-treaters today. Volunteers meet at 5 p.m. at the armory, Bldg. P-21 today. Cold and wet-weather gear, flashlight, reflective belt and uniform of the day for military members are required.

Volunteers will break into small groups with 62nd SFS members to patrol

both housing areas. The trick-or-treat hours are 6 to 8 p.m. 62nd SFS' McGruff will be throughout both housing areas handing out candy. In addition, the 62nd Civil Engineer Squadron will be at 62nd Force Support Squadron's Youth Center to X-ray candy 5 to 9 p.m. today. The housing gate is open from 3 to 9 p.m. for Halloween. To volunteer, contact Tech. Sgt. Mark Stalcup at 982-0750.

Weekend Weather

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Hi: 57 Low: 46	Hi: 56 Low: 45	Hi: 54 Low: 44

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

Countdown to success

Nuclear Surety Inspection	69	days
Rodeo	262	days
Operational Readiness Inspection	360	days

Don't miss it ...

Reminders

Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday. Set clocks back one hour.

Election day is Tuesday.

Attain great leadership through followership

By

Lt. Col. Christina Austin-Smith
62nd Airlift Wing
Staff Judge Advocate

It is behind us. The first MOBEX this wing has accomplished since earning an excellent in the 2006 ORI. It required many of us to work over an entire weekend, through the night, to “deploy” personnel and cargo to Base X within a limited timeframe.

The following week those “deployed” personnel took over at Base X to establish operations and survive attacks from the enemy, providing combat airlift where and when needed. The cobwebs were quickly dusted off and Team McChord demonstrated once again how we can pull together to accomplish our mission.

What strikes me looking back on the week’s exercise is how over and over again what made the difference between success and failure was not the leadership sitting in the command post. Rather it was the leadership of the “followers” in the wing making it happen, through ingenuity, initiative and dedication to our mission.

It was the personnel on the mobility line streamlining how we process deployers, folks within LRS improving how we prep cargo, professionals in the communications squadron finding workarounds for system failures, or our maintainers on the flight line generating aircraft no matter the conditions. It was a group of “followers” who demonstrated a “can do” attitude to

overcome inevitable obstacles as they arose and got the job done.

It might be easy in our rigid military rank structure to assume that the only leaders in a unit are those senior in rank or designated as commanders. However, ultimately, people in those positions realize that while they often must make difficult decisions and bear responsibility for all that happens in their unit, it would never happen without the leadership of those within their unit.

“However, ultimately, people in those positions realize that while they often must make difficult decisions and bear responsibility for all that happens in their unit, it would never happen without the leadership of those within their unit.”

— Lt. Col. Austin-Smith

So how do you lead as a follower? There are many ways, but I will focus on what I consider to be the top three.

First, ownership of your job. It makes no difference if you are the door guard, a C-17 pilot, or a security forces member. Your particular job should be the most important thing to you. Your commander is counting on your to do that job to the best of your ability. If you fail, the impact

will definitely ripple throughout the unit. So take pride in what you do and give it your best effort. Everyone doing this at every level will exponentially increase your unit’s success rate.

Second, take initiative. Do not be content to just do things “the way it’s always been done.” There usually are always better ways to do things as the job, people or environment change. Don’t be content with the status quo. If you see a way to improve your job or solve a problem, make it happen.

Third, communicate. This goes along with the first two items. You should always try to keep your supervisors informed about the status of your job. Your commander will be continually making decisions, but can only do it based on what he or she knows at the time. Be sure to communicate “all is well” along with any problems areas, so your commander has an accurate sight picture when making decisions. Similarly, if you have an idea or a way to improve things, take the initiative and ensure you speak up. It is easy to say after the fact “I could have told you that problem was going to happen,” but much better to have identified it ahead of time and be part of the solution. That is leadership.

Team McChord will have several more opportunities to practice before our big ORI test next October. So I challenge each and every one of us to rise to the occasion and practice leadership through great followership so we can claim our well-deserved prize of an “Outstanding” rating on this next ORI.

When working with classified information, keep security in mind at all times! Use approved OPSEC, EMSEC, COMPUSEC and Info Protect facilities and equipment only!

The Sharp Airman ...

...wears the Airman Battle Uniform cold weather liner and jacket correctly.

- Airmen can wear the cold weather liner with the Improved Rain

Suit.

- All Purpose Environmental Clothing System jackets cannot be ordered with unit funds.
- The IRS can be ordered as an equipment item (if required for duty) using unit funds.
- Woodland Battle Dress Uniform Gortex jackets can no longer be worn with ABUs.

Professionals of the week

Western Air Defense Sector

Tech. Sgt. Glenn Quesenberry

Duty title:

Noncommissioned officer in charge, intelligence

Duty section:

Intelligence division

Hometown:

Olympia, Wash.

Why he’s super:

Sergeant Quesenberry has rapidly made himself an indispensable member of the Intelligence Division at WADS. A career analyst with eight years active duty and two years as a Washington Air National Guardsman, Sergeant Quesenberry brings a hard earned breadth of experience and knowledge to our Air Defense mission. He has deployed four times. During his most recent deployment to Afghanistan, he was an integral part of the team coordinating close air support for troops-in-contact. At WADS, Sergeant Quesenberry is a key member of our watch providing global situational awareness and threat warning to the commander.



Staff Sgt. Kourtney Larson

Duty title:

Tracking technician instructor

Duty section:

Anchor crew, surveillance

Hometown:

Darrington, Wash.

Why she’s tops:

Sergeant Larson is acting noncommissioned officer in charge of surveillance, where she is responsible for the instruction of all newly assigned operations personnel. She stepped into this role with no notice and seamlessly supervised the instruction of 19 trainees entered into initial qualification training. Furthermore, she continued to meet her own combat mission readiness requirements in both her positional qualifications, tracking technician and identification technician. Her leadership and expertise has been instrumental in our mission. Sergeant Larson has been active in the community and at WADS.



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62ND AIRLIFT WING, McCHORD AFB, WASHINGTON

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Although this survey is available on Sharepoint, those without computer access may fill this version in and fax it to 982-5025.

Joint basing civilian employee survey

How many years of service do you have as a government civilian?

- 0-5
 6-10
 11-15
 16-20
 21 or more

What is your civilian employee designation?

- GS
 NSPS
 WG
 NAF
 ART

Which component do you work for?

- Air Force Active Duty
 Air Force Reserve
 Air National Guard

If you work for the 62d Airlift Wing, what group do you work for?

- Maintenance Group
 Mission Support Group
 Operations Group
 Wing Staff

How well informed are you about joint basing?

- Not informed
 Somewhat
 Adequately
 Fairly
 Very informed

If you attended the last town hall, do you feel better informed about joint basing due to the town hall and follow-up meetings?

- Not better informed
 Somewhat more informed
 Very informed
 I didn't attend the last town hall

Do you have any concerns relating to job retention due to joint basing?

- Not concerned
 Somewhat
 Concerned
 Fairly
 Very concerned

How informed do you feel about which branch of service civilians will be aligned under Joint Base Lewis McChord?

- Not informed
 Somewhat
 Adequately
 Fairly
 Very informed

Do you think your job will be transferred to the Army?

- Yes
 No
 I don't know

Do you feel comfortable with the Army civilian personnel system?

- Not comfortable
 Somewhat
 Adequately
 Fairly
 Very comfortable

How confident are you that leaders are looking out for your best interest if you transfer to the Army?

- Not confident
 Somewhat
 Adequately
 Fairly
 Very confident

Do you believe that Ft. Lewis leaders will treat you fairly if you transfer?

- Yes
 No
 I don't know

Do you have concerns about this alignment? Please note which of the following contribute to your concerns:

- Seniority transference
 Cultural differences
 Job security
 Other

Have you visited the joint basing website?

- Yes
 No
 I wasn't aware of the website



Photo by Abner Guzman

Addressing concerns

Col. Shane Hershman, 62nd Airlift Wing joint basing director, talks with civilian employees from the 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron about joint basing. A town hall for all civilian employees is 3 p.m. Nov. 12 at the McChord Clubs and Community Center.

Do you have a story idea?

Spread the news in *The NW Airlifter!*

Call Public Affairs at 982-5734 or e-mail us at northwestairlifter@mcchord.af.mil



AF receives Environmental Protection Agency energy award

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Air Force officials received an Environment Protection Agency award for leading the federal government in purchasing renewable energy in October in Denver.

The Air Force was named the winner of the 2008 Green Power Leadership Award in the Green Power Purchaser category.

Air Force officials made an annual purchase of more than 899 million kilowatt hours, making it the top federal government purchaser of green power and ranking it among the largest purchasers on the EPA Green

Power Partnership list.

In addition, Air Force leaders have implemented several renewable energy projects on bases:

- A 14.2 megawatt photovoltaic solar array — the largest in the western hemisphere located — Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.
- A 0.4 megawatt photovoltaic array at Luke AFB, Ariz.
- A 0.4 megawatt photovoltaic rooftop at March Air Reserve Base, Calif.
- A 3.3 megawatt wind farm at F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo.
- A 2.7 megawatt wind farm at

Ascension Island, England.

- A 2.3 megawatt landfill gas project at Hill AFB, Utah.
- 3,500 ground source heat pumps at various locations.

“As the largest federal energy user, the Air Force consumes significant amounts of energy in executing its national defense mission,” said Kevin W. Billings, acting assistant secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Logistics.

“The increasing costs of energy and the nation’s commitment to reducing its dependence on foreign oil have led to the development of

the Air Force energy strategy — to reduce demand, increase supply and change the culture within the Air Force so that energy is a consideration in everything Airmen do. A key component of our strategy is the imperative to eliminate waste and conserve resources as well as seek new, alternative sources of energy. This award recognizes our efforts in that area.”

The Air Force is a previous winner of the Green Power Leadership Award in 2004, and received the Green Power Partner of the Year award in 2003 and 2005.



McChord Airmen

AROUND THE WORLD



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Erik Gudmundson

IRAQ — Master Sgt. Richard Winter, 62nd Civil Engineer Squadron, signals a front-end loader to dump a load of rock into a concrete bucket during a recent deployment.



Courtesy photo

AFGHANISTAN — Staff Sgt. Herbert Dungca, 62nd Force Support Squadron, left, stands with an Army Field Artillery Training mentor to the Afghan National Army during a recent deployment.



Commander discusses 'jewel in crown' of America's military

By

Jim Garamone
American Forces
Press Service

The United States military is the best-manned, best-equipped and best-trained force in the world, but that doesn't mean a thing if it can't get to the fight, said the commander of U.S. Transportation Command.

The 138,000 military and civilian men and women of the U.S. Transportation Command and its service components — the Air Force's Air Mobility Command, the Navy's Military Sealift Command and the Army's Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command — "are really the jewel in the crown" of the American military, said Gen. Duncan J. McNabb in an October interview here.

Transportation Command gives the United States the strategic ability "that is just tremendous" to move and sustain its forces globally, the general said. "That allows our warfighters to have great flexibility in their options. If we've done this right, they never worry about us. They just assume it's going to be there."

The command — established in 1987 — supplies the day-to-day needs of a military force fighting two wars and operating in more than 70 countries. With civilian partners, the command also stands ready to support humanitarian assistance missions such as the ones that followed

the earthquake in Pakistan, the tsunami in Indonesia or hurricanes in the United States.

The command has its own alphabet soup of acronyms, officials here said, but the mission is simple: get the warfighters to the fight, sustain them during the fight and bring them home. Transportation Command officials use air, sea and land modes of transportation to accomplish the mission. Command officials prioritize requests from the combatant commands and put together the best way to deliver the capabilities. Depending on the mission, requests may be filled by airlift, sealift, ground transportation or — more likely — a combination of them all.

General McNabb said the transportation of mine-resistant, ambush-protected vehicles to Iraq and Afghanistan is a good example of the way Transportation Command works. In July 2007, very few MRAPs were in service in Iraq. Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates asked Congress for more MRAPs, and the vehicles began coming off assembly lines and were readied for shipment to U.S. Central Command.

As the "distribution process owner," Transportation Command officials have end-to-end responsibility for the supply chain, from assembly line to user. The command staff worked closely with industrial partners to plan the movement of the MRAPs to Central Command and monitored the various choke points along the way. The effort got under

way in September 2007, and by the end of the year, 1,500 MRAPs were in the combat theater. To date, more than 10,300 of the vehicles have been delivered.

This was more than just collaboration, it was fusion, General McNabb said.

"If you think about collaboration, a lot of that is just knowing what everyone is doing," he said. "But if you think of why you want collaboration, it's because you want to synchronize what they're doing. That's fusion."

The command flew the first vehicles to the theater aboard heavy-lift aircraft. Later shipments went by sea. In addition, Transportation Command officials had to ensure there were people in theater who knew how to off-load the vehicles and ensure they were combat ready. The command also worked with Central Command logistics officials to get the vehicles from airports or seaports to the men and women who needed the protection these vehicles provide.

This was an example of all involved working together to identify potential bottlenecks for the distribution process and put in place ways to smooth the flow of goods and materials, General McNabb said.

"Synchronizing" and "orchestrating" are two terms constantly heard at Transportation Command, and General McNabb said he wants to improve the distribution coordination in the military. The Transportation Command organiza-

tion charged with this responsibility is the Deployment and Distribution Operations Center, "a true fusion cell," where members of the command and its service components receive the combatant commands' requirements and generate distribution solutions.

In determining the best solutions to fulfill the need, the group asks a lot of questions, the general said. Should the goods be delivered by military assets or by civilian lift partners? Should it be delivered by air or sea or by some combination of both?

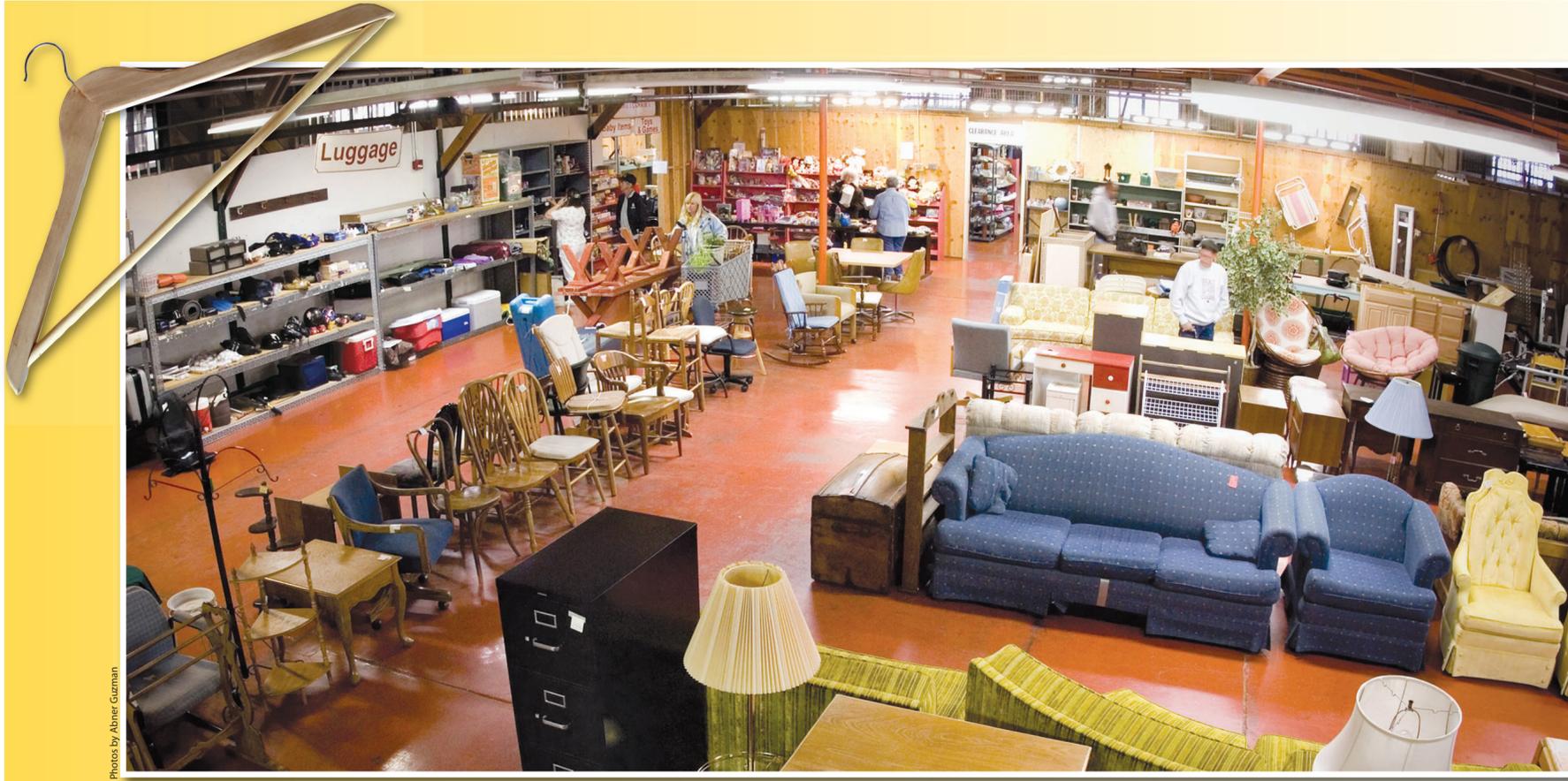
"I want to put everything together in a way that is precise," General McNabb said. "You fuse your operation. You need to have redundancy in your system, but you want to make sure you have it all orchestrated."

With new organizations called joint deployment and distribution operations centers, Transportation Command now has the end-to-end visibility it needs to do its job and provide warfighters with better service, General McNabb said. The first of these stood up in Central Command in January 2007, and now all of the combatant commands have them.

Technology will help with the transportation mission, the general said, noting that Transportation Command is the DOD proponent for automatic identification technology and radio frequency identification. Both provide better visibility of cargo in transit.

"If you can see it, you trust it," General McNabb said.





Photos by Abner Guzman

McChord's Thrift Shop offers a wide array of goods ranging from furniture, outdoor equipment, sporting goods and lawn equipment.

Bargains abound at McChord's ...

Thrift Shop

The McChord Thrift Shop might contain the most eclectic collection of second-hand goods of any shop in town. Since a majority of the items donated to the shop or sold on consignment come from military retirees who've lived all over the world and are looking to downsize, the shop contains an interesting mix of items — everything from appliances, clothes and furniture to jewelry, antique dishes and baseball cards.

"There are some real treasures here," shop manager Gwen Hershman said.

Retiree David Wolander was recently in line with his wife purchasing a used shop vacuum for \$28.

"I can't come in here too much because I spend too much money," said Mr. Wolander, who was stationed here for eight years while he was on active duty and now lives in Tacoma.

His most memorable thrift shop purchase was a three-wheel bike he got awhile ago for \$65.

"That was a great deal," he said. "I ride it back and forth to work."

The shop is the benefactor of donations from retirees, military families undergoing a permanent change of station who don't have room to take everything and families who want to get rid of items and want the money to go to a good cause, Mrs. Hershman said.

The shop receives 20 percent of the purchase price for items sold on consignment and full price for items that are donated. The shop is run by the Officers' Spouses Club and all of the monthly proceeds go toward the club's charitable causes.

Last year alone, the club gave away nearly \$20,000 in scholarships and distributed nearly \$40,000 in donations or goods to local Reserve Officer Training Corps programs, the Tacoma Rescue Mission and local battered women's shelters, Mrs. Hershman said.

By cycling in and out donated items with items that have been on consignment

ment for more than 30 days and haven't sold, the shop is able to make clothing donations to various local charities, while also giving customers a wide variety of goods to shop for. Airmen and their families struck by tragedy can also receive support from the shop through its voucher system administered through each unit's first sergeant or the Airman and Family Readiness Center. The program allows them to pick out certain items such as clothes, jackets and blankets in times of need.

"People sometimes don't realize how many nice things can come from their donations," Mrs. Hershman said.

The culture of the shop is also reflected in the volunteers who help with day-to-day operations, some of whom have been volunteering for nearly 30 years.

"It's just fun and it gives me the opportunity to meet people," said Susan Englar, a retired public health nurse who's volunteered at the shop since 1984. "For me it's a service to the military and the community. It's a great thing to do ... it doesn't feel like work."

The thrift shop — which is located off 4th Street across from Adventures Unlimited — is open Tuesday through Thursday and the first Saturday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Consignment items are accepted on those days from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. While anyone with base access can shop at the thrift store, only military ID card holders may sell items on consignment.

BY
Tyler Hemstreet
Staff writer



Volunteers Barbara Lee, foreground, and Shirley Bunton, check in merchandise while working the consignment counter.



Tech. Sgt. Kelly Anderson, 62nd Airlift Wing, browses the children's section during her lunch break recently.



Thrift shop volunteer Jim Simons, left, assists customer Sharon Sargent with a purchase from the electronics section.



Customers browse the shop in search of bargains.

Air Force keeps father-son bond strong

By
Tyler Hemstreet
Staff writer

When it comes to certain career fields, there is an inherent good-natured rivalry ingrained in the Air Force culture.

Aircraft maintainers and loadmasters and crewchiefs, for example, don't always see eye to eye on everything.

"They break our planes," Tech. Sgt. James Castle, a 446th Airlift Wing air technician, said of his fellow Airmen with a laugh.

But the rivalry disappears for the former maintainer when it comes to his son, Senior Airman Logan Castle, 7th Airlift Squadron loadmaster.

The father-son team has been stationed here nearly four years and routinely cross paths on the flightline throughout daily operations.

It's a relationship the Air Force played a role in from the very start.

While flying back to the U.S. from Royal Air Force Lakenheath, United Kingdom, where the family was stationed while Sergeant Castle was on active duty, Airman Castle — at that time a young boy — made a decision about his career path.

"I knew I wanted to be involved with the Air Force in one aspect or another," said Airman Castle, the youngest of three siblings.

Sergeant Castle left active duty after 16 years and the family moved to the Portland, Ore., area to settle down.

"I knew the family would benefit from staying in one place," said Sergeant Castle.

Airman Castle enrolled in the junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Battleground High School and was on his way to an Air Force career.

After the installation in Portland where Sergeant Castle worked as a Reservist closed due to the Base Realignment and Closure Act, he was transferred to McChord. The timing worked perfectly with his son's first duty assignment location.

"We never thought (the two being at the same base) would happen the way the military is always moving people around," said Logan's mother, Melanie. "It's a pretty unique situation. We're pretty blessed."

The relationship is beneficial in that the two get to see each other and share some bonding time in the midst of high operations tempo.

"Military families are close, but this gives us a totally different dimension," Mrs. Castle said.

While working one day on the flightline, a maintainer ran up to Sergeant Castle and told him a specific aircraft needed his urgent attention. After persistently questioning the messenger about the problem, the



Senior Airman Logan Castle, 7th Airlift Squadron, left, and his father, Tech. Sgt. James Castle, 446th Airlift Wing, discuss airpower recently.

Airman spilled the beans to Sergeant Castle.

"It's your son ... he wanted to say goodbye before he leaves," the Airman said.

With the busy flying schedule — locally and worldwide — loadmasters endure, the quick goodbye provided a chance for Airman Castle to leave on a high note.

The family will likely hold onto these moments while they can as Senior Airman Castle prepares for a permanent change of station after he

completes loadmaster instructor training in six months.

"It's a good career choice for him ... he's going to enjoy being a loadmaster instructor," Sergeant Castle said.

The family is excited to see newly-married Airman Castle on an Air Force adventure and perhaps add a new chapter to the saga, Mrs. Castle said.

"I'm excited for them ... they're going to experience their first PCS and at that location they'll probably start their family," she said.



From NSI, Page 1

Airlift Wing commander. “Our nation’s leaders, the American people and global allies sheltered by America’s Nuclear Umbrella look to our Air Force and this wing to guarantee the safety, security, reliability and surety of our nation’s nuclear deterrent. I’m counting on every Airman in the Wing to meet our responsibility in every area of this critical mission.”

“We’re expecting an outstanding grade (the highest possible grade) in all of the four areas,” Mr. Thompson said. “As the only PNAF unit in the Air Force, it is a responsibility the wing and the nuclear surety office take very seriously. Wing leadership has made it clear: outstanding is the standard.”

This week Air Force leadership released the Nuclear Enterprise Roadmap, a document directed by the Secretary of the Air Force to address cultural and systemic challenges across the service’s nuclear forces. The roadmap is vital to improving Air Force stewardship of the bomber, missile and associated logistics capabilities that form the foundation of

America’s strategic nuclear deterrent, according to Air Force officials.

The 62nd AW’s nuclear surety program has won an Air Force Safety Award nine of the last ten years.

The 62nd AW PNAF mission has also maintained a constant state of readiness, as shown most recently by the results of the 2007 limited-notice, multiple-agency NSI, said Maj. Jeffrey Meyers, chief of the 4th AS office which plans and executes the PNAF missions.

“We look forward to once again showcasing the wing’s No. 1 no-fail mission,” Major Meyers said. “We take tremendous pride in our highly-focused program, which is grounded in extensive training, high standards, precise execution and support through leadership commitment at all levels.”

“With PNAF, nothing is taken for granted; nothing is assumed,” said Colonel Stephenson. “Like every mission we do, it is executed by the book.”

The administrative phase of the inspection is scheduled for Jan. 7-12.

Honored

Sixty-one master sergeants and master-sergeant-selects were formally welcomed into the senior NCO ranks Oct. 17 in the Team McChord Senior NCO Induction Ceremony at the McChord Clubs and Community Center. In addition to previously being selected for promotion to the rank of master sergeant (or recently sewing it on), the NCOs completed a one week Air Force-mandated course focusing on enlisted force structure, networking, teambuilding, communications and more to better prepare them for the increased responsibilities and leadership role associated with their new rank.



Photo by Abner Guzman



Fairchild AFB Airman captures AMC Icon title

By

Mark Diamond
Headquarters AMC
Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — Airman 1st Class Johanna Brooks of Fairchild AFB, Wash., was named the winner of the Air Mobility Command Icon competition following the command performance here Oct. 23.

Airman 1st Class Naomi Nadeau of Dover AFB, Del., garnered second place, and Master Sgt. Robert Martin, representing Travis AFB, Calif., took third.

Other AMC Icon finalists included: Senior Airman David Verde, Charleston AFB, S.C.; Senior Airman Cassandra Seifert of Grand Forks AFB N.D.; Senior Airman Kenneth Dansby, MacDill AFB, Fla.; Airman 1st Class Jonathan Lankford, McChord AFB, Wash.; Airman 1st Class Ruth Rogers, McConnell AFB, Kan.; Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Collins, McGuire AFB, N.J.; Staff Sgt. Marivic Williamson, Pope AFB, N.C.; and Staff Sgt. Tim Herrman, Scott AFB.

Airman Brooks said it may sound silly, but being a performer has been a dream of hers since she was a little girl singing into hairbrushes and vacuum cleaner handles.

"I feel so lucky to be a part of this competition," she said. "Nothing is better than the thrill of performing for a crowd; making them happy, reflec-

tive, [and] evoking the smiles, cheers and heartfelt gratitude."

In addition to bragging rights, as the winner of the AMC Icon competition, Airman Brooks earned \$1,000 in cash and a special invitation to audition with *Tops in Blue* - the U.S. Air Force's premier entertainment showcase. For capturing second and third place, Airman Nadeau and Sergeant Martin earned \$600 and \$400 respectively.

Airman Brooks said performing for her fellow servicemen and women made the experience even more special.

"There is not a better crowd than my fellow servicemen and women, who I have great respect for," she said. "I cannot even begin to thank them enough for the work they do and sacrifices they make every single day."

She said she has enjoyed every part of her Icon experience.

"Not only have I met a lot of nice people that I wouldn't have otherwise [met], but the recognition feels really good, too. It feels good to get noticed for something you've worked for."

But Airman Brooks said it's not all about winning. "Just getting the chance to be on stage performing for true American heroes and living my dream is a huge reward in itself," she said.

Airman Seifert, Grand Forks' top active-duty vocalist, said her journey to the icon finals was an incredible opportunity for her both professional-



Photo by Senior Airman Jonathan Lovelady

Airman 1st Class Jonathan Lankford, 62nd Operations Support Squadron, sings Frank Sinatra's "Come Fly With Me" during the Air Mobility Command Icon command performance Oct. 23 at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

ly and personally.

"This experience has shown me that the Air Force supports the talents of its Airmen, young and old, by showcasing them in a way that America has shown great interest," explained Airman Seifert.

For the final icon competition, the special panel of judges included Capt. Lyndsey Goodman, a C-17 pilot and former American Idol contestant; St. Louis radio personality "Smash" from 103.3; and Dr. Phillip Wilhelm, director of music at McKendree University in Lebanon, Ill.

Walter Campbell - who has toured

with *Tops in Blue* and performed throughout the United States and around the world - was the master of ceremonies for the command performance.

The event also featured the Air Force Band of Mid America's Starlifter.

In addition to the live performance at Scott AFB, the final AMC Icon competition was broadcast to clubs at several major AMC bases.

AMC Icon, loosely based around the hit TV show "American Idol," featured vocalists from all 11 AMC bases.



Airman Leadership School graduates

The following Airmen graduated from the Julius A. Kolb Airman Leadership School here Oct. 23:

- **Senior Airman Michael Barker**
62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron
- **Senior Airman Logan Castle**
7th Airlift Squadron
- **Senior Airman Paulino De Avila Diaz**
62nd LRS
- **Senior Airman King Ellis**
446th MXS
- **Senior Airman James Fenner**
173rd Maintenance Squadron
- **Senior Airman Adam Fruit**
5th Air Support Operations Squadron
- **Senior Airman Joshua Goss**
62nd Aerial Port Squadron
- **Senior Airman Jordan Jakubowski**
5th ASOS
- **Senior Airman Adrian Jensen**
62nd LRS
- **Senior Airman Shannon Jordan**
62nd Security Forces Squadron
- **Staff Sgt. Robert Koleas**
1st Air Support Operations Group
- **Senior Airman Mollie Langjahr**
1st Weather Squadron
- **Senior Airman Hector Laureano**
62nd SFS
- **Staff Sgt. Christopher Leului**
62nd LRS
- **Senior Airman Bert Leuschen**
62nd SFS
- **Senior Airman Michael Little**
62nd APS
- **Senior Airman Larry Moorhead**
62nd MXS
- **Staff Sgt. Joshua Morris**
62nd SFS
- **Senior Airman Jeremy Nalley**
62nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
- **Senior Airman Lucas O'Neill**
62nd AMXS



Photo by Adamarie Lewis-Page

The Julius A. Kolb Airman Leadership School Class 08-G.

- **Senior Airman Daniel Peveto**
62nd AMXS
- **Senior Airman William Welborn**
7th AS

AWARD RECIPIENTS:

- John L. Levitow Recipient:**
- Senior Airman Zachary Wahlers
22nd Special Tactics Squadron

Distinguished Graduate:

- Senior Airman Justin Seider
22nd STS

Academic Achievement Award and Distinguished Graduate:

- Senior Airman Jessica Lafo
62nd Civil Engineer Squadron

Leadership Award:

- Senior Airman Andrew Snow
62nd MXS



Return x-bags

MOBEX participants are reminded to return their X-bag with helmet, web belt and canteen and ponchos to the 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Items must be clean and dry. Do not turn in items received from unit readiness, only what was received from the 62nd LRS.

Quarterly Awards luncheon

The Quarterly Awards luncheon is 11 a.m. Monday at the McChord Clubs and Community Center. For more information contact Master Sgt. Bruce McPherson at 982-2208.

HAWC offices relocating

The base Health and Wellness Center is closed Thursday through Nov. 10 to relocate from the fitness center annex to inside the McChord Clinic. The HAWC classrooms and the base exercise physiologist's office will remain in the annex.

MPF customer service hours

Customer service hours for all military personnel flight services have changed. The new hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays, beginning Monday. Services are available 7:30 to 9 a.m. for appointments and emergencies only.

Holiday portrait event

The Airman and Family Readiness Center hosts its 12th annual Holiday Portrait Event 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday in the Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746. No signup is required. For more information, call 982-2695.

Asphalt paving work

Until Nov. 7, Lincoln Boulevard, from Barnes to Outer Drive and 16th Street, from Barnes to Commissary Street will close. There are detour signs directing traffic around the construction area. The Shoppette will remain accessible.

McChord Energy Club

Meeting is 4:45 to 6 p.m. Nov. 13 in the wing conference room, Bldg. 100.

New hours at McChord Clinic

The McChord Clinic doors now open at 7:20 a.m. instead of 7 a.m. The change is for safety reasons to ensure there are adequate staff members present to assist patients. Pharmacy windows will continue to open up for patients at

7:30 a.m. and close at 5 p.m.

Clinic closed Nov. 18

The McChord Clinic closes Nov. 18 instead of its usual second Tuesday of the month, due to Veteran's Day.

Customer service new hours

Customer service hours for passports and in-processing have changed. Passports are from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for walk-ins and 3:30 to 4 p.m. for appointments and emergencies only. In-processing is now 9 a.m. to noon for walk-ins and 7:30 to 9 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. for appointments and emergencies only. Hours for all other services remain the same.

Virtual out-processing applications

The virtual out-processing application available online through the virtual military personnel flight is mandatory for active duty members at each installation. Due to manning losses, the military personnel flight no longer provides this face-to-face service. Appointments for final out-processing, retirements and separations remain available. In November, assignment notification letters will be sent directly to the member and not through MPF.

Catholic classes

The McChord Chaplain Corps Catholic community welcomes adults interested in learning more about the faith. Adult programs begin this month; all are welcome. For more information, contact Karen Lynch at 982-8178 or Karen.lynch@mcchord.af.mil.

Rape Aggression Defense course

Free RAD courses are scheduled throughout October. Classes are from 1 to 4 p.m. each Tuesday and the courses are open to women ages 16 and older. Prior self defense experience is not required. For more information, call 982-0457.

Community response

Have a concern, question or complaint? E-mail the action line <http://public.mcchord.af.mil/main/contactus.asp>. The inbox is monitored daily and inquiries are sent to the appropriate base agency for response. Team McChord is encouraged to use this system to resolve issues, after first using the chain of command.



McChord Chaplain Corps Faith & Worship Programs

For more information on Chapel services and programs, please call 982-5556.

To contact Duty Chaplain after duty hours, contact the Command Post at 982-2635

CATHOLIC SERVICES and RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

All Catholic services are in chapel two.

Saturday:

4 p.m. Confession: Chapel 2, Bldg. 181

5 p.m. Mass: Chapel 2, Bldg. 181

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Mass: Chapel 2, Bldg. 181

11 a.m. Mass: Chapel 2, Bldg. 181

12:30 p.m. Why Catholic? Small Group Study: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746

Monday:

12:00 p.m. Why Catholic? Small Group Study: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746

Wednesday:

6:30 p.m. Faith Formation: 1st, 2nd & 3rd Wednesday of the month: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746

6:30 p.m. Why Catholic? Small Group Study: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746

PROTESTANT SERVICES and RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:**Sunday:**

8:30 a.m. Liturgical Worship: Chapel 1, Bldg. 180

9:45 a.m. Sunday School: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746

11 a.m. Traditional Worship: Chapel 1, Bldg. 180

11 a.m. Contemporary Worship: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746

JEWISH SERVICES:**Friday:**

6 p.m. Every 1st, 3rd & 5th Friday of the month: Ft Lewis, Chapel 5, Bldg. T-2270

OTHER PROGRAMS:

The following Chapel programs take place at the Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746.

Tuesday:

9:30 a.m. Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS); 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month

6 p.m. Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) Bible Study; 1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesday of the month

Wednesday:

11 a.m. Adult Bible Study

Area Defense Counsel appointments

ADC customers must now call and schedule appointments instead of entering on a walk-in basis. For an appointment, call 982-2240.

CAC security concerns

Airmen are reminded not to not allow any person in an unofficial government capacity (i.e. commercial businesses, hotel or motel, bank, etc.) to take control of, scan, swipe or photocopy common access cards.

