

The NORTHWEST AIRLIFTER

Vol. 41, No. 32

McChord Air Force Base, Wash.

Connecting Team McChord with the Combat Airlift Mission

August 21, 2009

INSIDE

62nd APS ups customer service,
Page 3

Sports Day highlights,
Pages 8-9

AMC commander receives special honor,
Page 13

18th Air Force welcomes new commander

By

Capt. Shilo Weir
18th Air Force Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. – Lt. Gen. Robert R. Allardice formally assumed command of the 18th Air Force from Maj. Gen. Winfield W. Scott III in a change-of-command ceremony Wednesday at the Scott Club.

“Thank you for the opportunity,” said General Allardice. “I feel like today we stand on the shoulders of giants, fellow Airmen who have endured with incredible purpose, Airmen who have endured incredible perils.”

“I believe that in this command we set the conditions for success for our country,” the general said. “Whether it’s a combat mission, a humanitarian mission, or some kind of natural response mission, this command sets the conditions for success of our nations.”

The 18th Air Force is Air Mobility Command’s sole warfighting numbered air force and is responsible for the command’s worldwide operational mission. With more than 51,000 active duty Airmen and more than 1,400 airlift and air refueling aircraft, 18th Air Force manages a streamlined organization that focuses the warfighting capability through the 618th Tanker Airlift Control Center, two expeditionary mobility task forces, 18 wings and one stand-alone group.

The 618th TACC serves as the command’s air operations center, planning and directing tanker and transport aircraft operations around the world. The 15th and 21st EMTFs serve as the lead agencies for conducting mobility operations worldwide. They are the 18th AF’s key to the execution phase of warfighting, providing worldwide expeditionary mobility support.

During General Scott’s tenure his leadership directly supported the continued success in today’s fight with execution of more than 177,000 airlift sorties; delivery of more than 2.5 million passengers, 846,000 tons of cargo, and offload of more than one billion pounds of fuel supporting combatant commanders worldwide.

General Scott oversaw the stand-up of four new wings and championed the creation of the first-ever C-130 active duty associate airlift squadron. The success of this endeavor led to the creation of future follow-on Total Force units at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., and Scott AFB, Ill.

He coordinated aeromedical evacuations for more than 16,000 warrior patients, maintaining a 97 percent survivability rate on more than 300 urgent patients suffering life or limb injuries.

General Scott commanded the 18th AF since June 2008. He will retire from active duty service in October of this year.

General Allardice is the fifth commander of 18th AF since its reactivation in 2003.



Photo by Randy White

Airlift Excellence

Chief Master Sgt. Dudley Baker, Air Mobility Command Inspector General team, left, and Master Sgt. Kevin Tirrel, 62nd Force Support Squadron, review Personnel Reliability Program records Thursday at the Airman’s Clinic as part of a Nuclear Surety Inspection which concludes Monday. The NSI tests every aspect of the wing’s Nuclear Surety Program and examines the units that perform the Prime Nuclear Airlift Force mission.

Wing celebrates as nearly 200 Airmen are selected for E-5

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) — Air Force officials here selected 15,223 of 30,574 eligible senior airmen for promotion to staff sergeant for a selection rate of 49.79 percent.

Nearly 200 Airmen from the 62nd Airlift Wing were among those selected.

The average score for those selected was 275.81, with an average time in grade and time in service of 2.09 and 4.69 years, respectively.

The average score was based on the following point averages: 131.57 for enlisted performance reports, 59.01 for the promotion fitness exam, 58.5 for the specialty knowledge test, 18.3 for time in grade, 11.47 for time in service and 0.94 for decorations.

The full staff sergeant promotion list can be viewed on the Air Force Personnel Center’s public Web site and on AFPC’s “Ask” site at Spotlight and Enlisted Promotions.

Airmen can access their score notices on virtual Military Personnel Flight and the Air Force Portal. Those selected for staff sergeant will be promoted according to their promotion sequence number be-

ginning in September.

As a reminder, the selections are tentative until the data verification process is complete, which is no later than 10 days after the promotion release date. Air Force Personnel Center officials here will notify Airmen, via military personnel flights and military personnel elements, if their selection is in question.

The virtual promotion release is one of the many technological initiatives AFPC has taken to deliver personnel services via 24/7 Web-based personnel information.

For more information, visit the enlisted promotions page on AFPC’s “Ask” Web site or call the 24-hour Total Force Service Center at 800-525-0102.



For a complete list of McChord’s newest staff sergeants, see Page 6.

Weekend Weather

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Hi: 72 Low: 55	Hi: 72 Low: 54	Hi: 73 Low: 52

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

Countdown to success

Next MOBEX.....	21 days
Operational Readiness Inspection.....	65 days
Joint Base IOC.....	163 days

Don’t miss it ...

Selection party

The 56 Club hosts a party for staff sergeant selects at 4 p.m. Tuesday at the McChord Clubs and Community Center ballroom.

2009 CSAF reading list offers valuable insight

By
Gen. Norton Schwartz
Air Force chief of staff

As Airmen, we must continually ready ourselves for the day when our training is put to the ultimate test in combat. An essential element of that preparation is a reading program that expands our minds and informs our thoughts. If we learn the lessons of the past, both successes and failures, we decrease the risk of repeating mistakes. The three books I have selected from the 2009 Reading List are meant to teach us some of those lessons.

For a historical view of navigat-

ing change, and the pitfalls of ignoring innovation, open up "Fast Tanks and Heavy Bombers: Innovation in the U.S. Army, 1917-1945," by David E. Johnson. This story is not one of inevitable historical forces but of human decisions. Johnson argues that the Army's reliance on lightly armored fast tanks and the Air Corp's belief in the invincibility of the bomber left both forces ill prepared and vulnerable in the early days of WWII. The early tanks were no match for heavy Panzer divisions, and the Eighth Air Force was nearly decimated without long-range fighter support.

As we prepare to mark the eighth year of our involvement in Operation Enduring Freedom, I offer a fascinat-

ing chronicle in "Afghanistan: A Short History of its People and Politics," by Sir Martin Ewans. Ewans examines the historical evolution of Afghanistan, from a succession of early dynasties through the Soviet invasion, civil war, and the birth of the Taliban and its support of Al Qaeda. The book concludes with initial OEF victories, and provides a warning to take the long view towards Afghanistan's future. This treatise is an intriguing read for all, and a must for anyone deploying to the region.

Finally, for a deeper understanding of our current fight, I recommend David Galula's "Counterinsurgency Warfare: Theory and Practice." Inspired by his experiences as a French

military officer and attaché, the author realized the "need for a compass" in the suppression of insurgency, and proceeds to "define the laws of counterinsurgency warfare, to deduce from them its principles, and to outline the corresponding strategy and tactics." Written in 1964, this new printing is the first translated into English, and is foundational to the U.S. Counterinsurgency Field Manual used by our forces today. While the book is only 100 pages, when you are done reading, you should understand why winning small wars are important to broader strategic objectives.

The entire 2009 reading list can be found at www.af.mil/library/csaf-reading.

Force development produces smart, competent Airmen

By
Chief Master Sgt. Alvin Thomas
62nd Airlift Wing Director of Staff superintendent

Our Air Force's core values are the foundation of our leadership.

Integrity is the basis of trust and the unbreakable bond that unifies leaders and followers. "Service Before Self" is the essence of our commitment to the nation. "Excellence in All We Do" is our commitment to the highest standards of service to our country. Leaders set the standard for excellence in their organizations.

Great world leaders are usually not born and fully developed; thus a maturation period must occur to allow young leaders to grow into the responsibilities required of senior leaders, commanders and chiefs.

Our Air Force is answering challenges and opportunities through our ability to think and act globally through intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance assets as part of the Total Force. Airmen and Defense Department civilians are our focal point for providing critical capabilities we contribute for winning today's fights. We have five focused priorities: reinvigorating the nuclear enterprise, partnering with the Joint and Coalition teams, developing and caring for our Airmen and their families, modernizing our Air and Space inventories and recapturing acquisition excellence.

The Air Force has adopted a "Force Development" concept. Our commitment to developing our people is an important non-monetary tool that pays dividends by not only tracking careers of Airmen and civilians, but for the Air Force's ability to manage our most valued resource to meet the needs of the joint environment. Senior leadership

can review and track developmental education and training plans to ensure personnel are postured to meet current and future missions. This force development concept provides leadership focus at all levels.

Great leaders can only be created through an iterative process of development involving education, training and expeditionary operations seasoned with experience and ongoing mentoring. The end result is an individual capable of successfully operating as a leader at all levels anywhere, anytime.

Force development takes individual capabilities and, through education, training and experience produces skilled, knowledgeable and competent Airmen who can produce a required operational capability.

Tying future assignments and force development together is the key to our service's success and our system of national security.

The Sharp Airman ...

knows what needs to be done and does it.

- If unable to meet the suspense for a task the Sharp Airman coordinates an extension well before the due date.

- If an extension isn't granted, the Sharp Airman puts in the time necessary to complete it on time.
- The Sharp Airman also knows that for any appointment, 10 minutes early is considered on-time, on-time is considered late and late is unacceptable.
- Finally, the Sharp Airman knows and practices all customs and courtesies.

PROFESSIONALS

of the week

62nd Security Forces Squadron

Staff Sgt. Vickie Armstead

Duty Title:
Desk sergeant/NCOIC, Transitional flight

Duty section:
Security Forces operations

Hometown:
Mobile, Ala.



Why she's super:

Sergeant Armstead was recently appointed to NCOIC of the transitional flight, due to her exceptional leadership abilities. Prior, she served as a security forces control center controller where she oversaw 62nd SFS armed flight operations. Now she maintains effective control and monitors the wellbeing and morale of 10 personnel awaiting return to duty. She also spearheaded \$2,000 in self-help projects to facilitate the squadron's move back to the main facility at Building P-7. These upgrades were recognized by the Air Mobility Command Rodeo chief, as well as bolstered the professional image of the unit and enhanced the morale of assigned personnel.

Pamela Harper

Duty Title:
Security assistant

Duty section:
Reports and analysis

Hometown:
Graham, Wash.



Why she's tops:

Ms. Harper is truly phenomenal and has been crucial to maintaining the law and order mission. When patrol Airmen have to prepare a report or issue a citation, Ms. Harper makes sure the documented information is accurate. She oversees nearly 143 reports and citations as well as 117 background investigations a month for people wanting access to the base. She is also the one who answers the questions of commanders, first sergeants, legal and other police agencies as well as the public at large — all with confidence and professionalism.

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62ND AIRLIFT WING, MCCORD AFB, WASHINGTON

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Editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by 62nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

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62nd APS vacuum packs freshness for passengers

By
Tyler Hemstreet
Staff writer

When Airmen returning home from the desert on a C-17 Globemaster III from McChord reach for a pillow and blanket to catch some shuteye, they can rest assured that the linens they receive are fresh and clean.

Thanks to a recent change in operations within the 62nd Aerial Port Squadron's fleet services section, Airmen are now using a vacuum sealer machine to pack pillows and blankets in individual bags for storage on the aircraft.

"It's really about making the passengers feel comfortable," said Airman 1st Class Heriberto Dominguez, 62nd APS.

The process isn't only providing a higher level of service to passengers, but also saving the Air Force money, space and time.

Previously, the section packed large plastic bags with pillows and blankets for each aircraft and loadmasters handed each out on the flight as needed. When the flight landed, fleet services Airmen collected the pillows and blankets and sent them to be dry cleaned for the next use.

"Now there isn't a guessing game on whether or not the pillow or blanket has been used," said 1st Lt. Timothy Underwood, 62nd APS passenger and fleet services commander. "Aircrews only open the bags that they need."

The unused bags now go back into the rotation without having to be unnecessarily laundered. Lieutenant Underwood estimates it's saved the Air Force nearly \$700 a month in dry cleaning bills.

Less washings also means the pillows and blankets last longer, which has reduced the attrition rate by nearly 25 percent and saved another \$500 a month, he said.

Combined with the fact the squadron uses



Photo by Abner Guzman

Airman Basic Matthew Bristle, 62nd Aerial Port Squadron, uses a vacuum sealer to prepare passenger pillows and blankets for storage while Staff Sgt. Melinda Shooks prepares the bags recently at the fleet service warehouse.

48 percent less trash bags (a \$924 savings), the vacuum sealing process has saved the Air Force a total of more than \$2,000 a month.

The move has also freed up more space in the warehouse, as well as made the job of restocking the aircraft easier for Airmen, said Master Sgt. Bart McCullough, 62nd APS fleet services NCOIC.

"There are many savings that we can't measure," Sergeant McCullough said.

That includes Airmen making fewer trips back to the warehouse from the flightline to restock

with pillows and blankets because more can be stored in the delivery truck.

There's also a good chance the idea will catch on across the command.

During a recent teleconference presentation with Air Mobility Command officials at Scott Air Force Base, Ill., APS squadron leadership recommended to squadrons to think about adopting the practice of using a vacuum sealer and to contact the 62nd APS for more details.

"We've already gotten a couple of responses," Lieutenant Underwood said.



What's an ORI?

By

Maj. Dean Richardson
62nd Airlift Wing plans and programs

Editor's note: The following is the first in a series of articles submitted in preparation for the Operational Readiness Inspection, which takes place in October.

With the expeditionary nature of today's Air Force, it is important for Airmen to be prepared to take the fight anywhere.

But what is an ORI? An Operational Readiness Inspection is, in short, the final exam on how well a wing can conduct its wartime mission. At

the end of the inspection, each wing that participates will receive one of five grades ranging from Outstanding to Unsatisfactory. Team McChord's ORI will be a joint operation with the 319th Air Refueling Wing from Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D., and the 621st Contingency Response Wing from McGuire AFB, N.J. Air Mobility Command Inspector General inspectors will evaluate how well we deploy to and operate out of a combat environment, in this case simulated by the Combat Readiness Training Center at Alpena, Mich., in addition to an as yet undisclosed Forward Operating Location.

This operation will simulate real world conditions at a deployed location and will grade the nearly 1,000 participants on their ability to survive

and operate during several different scenarios. The inspections also place a greater emphasis on preparedness for current-day battle conditions such as mortar, rocket and chemical attacks.

Those deploying to Alpena and the FOL are not the only personnel responsible for the success of this inspection. During the initial response phase of the exercise, the time frame immediately prior to deployment, an IG team from AMC will arrive at McChord and grade us on every aspect of base operation in support of the wartime mission. Inspectors will observe and grade everything from the generation of aircraft and mission planning to the situational awareness of an Airman walking down the street. No detail is too small for the IG team.

Safety, installation and personal appearance, as well as proper customs and courtesies are the responsibility of every member of Team McChord. It is never too early to begin preparing for the ORI. In fact, our wings have already executed several exercises in preparation and we have one more fly away exercise planned for September. This ORI is a very serious event and will provide an opportunity for Team McChord and our Grand Forks and McGuire partners to demonstrate our outstanding ability to accomplish the combat airlift and air refueling missions. An Operational Readiness Inspection is not a game or just another exercise; it needs to be treated in the same manner as going to war. Airlift Excellence...Right Here...Right Now!



President pledges support for troops, veterans

By

Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — America's men and women in uniform have done their duty and fulfilled every responsibility that's been asked of them, President Barack Obama said Monday.

"And now," he said, "a grateful nation must fulfill ours."

President Obama offered high praise for the troops, calling them the heart and soul of the world's best military during a speech at the Veterans of Foreign Wars' annual convention in Phoenix.

"It's not the powerful weapons that make our military the strongest in the world. It's not the sophisticated systems that make us the most advanced," he told the veterans.

"No, the true strength of our military lies in the spirit and skill of our men and women in uniform."

President Obama said he recognizes his responsibility to "America's most precious resource" and vowed to be deliberate in how he commits them.

"I will only send you into harm's way when it is absolutely necessary," he said. "When I do, it will be based on good intelligence and guided by a sound strategy. And I will give you a clear mission, defined goals, and the equipment and support you need to get the job done."

President Obama promised to ensure troops have the resources, equipment and strategies they need to succeed in the current conflicts as well as future ones. "We need to keep our military the best-trained, best-led, best-equipped fighting force in the world," he said.

The president outlined some of the initiatives under way to support this goal:

- Growing the Army and Marine Corps, and halting reductions in the Navy and Air Force to increase time between deployments, reduce stress on the force and bring an end to the Army's stop-loss, an involuntary extension program;

- Providing more assets to support current operations: helicopters and crews; intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities; special operations forces; and armored vehicles and protective gear;

- Conducting a top-to-bottom review of military priorities and posture to develop a new blueprint for the 21st century military the United States will need;

- Balancing military capabilities to face unconventional as well as conventional threats;

- Modernizing the force by investing in new skills and specialties as well as new technologies; and

- Reforming the way the Pentagon does business to reduce waste and get the most capability out of every defense dollar.

President Obama also recognized the country's responsibility to take care of its men and women in uniform, as well as veterans.

He noted that his fiscal 2010 budget funds "increasing military pay, building better family housing and funding more childcare and counseling to help families cope with the stresses of war."

President Obama also noted the billions of dollars in the new budget that will go toward treating post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injuries that have become the defining wounds of today's wars.



Photo by Abner Guzman

Distinguished visit

Tommy T. Thomas, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy, talks to McChord first sergeants about quality of life issues inside the wing conference room during a visit here Aug. 13. Secretary Thomas, a former 62nd Mission Support Group commander, is responsible for policy, advocacy, and oversight of all community support to service members and families such as quality of life issues; family and casualty assistance; morale, welfare and recreation programs; Military OneSource and Military Homefront Web sites; the Department of Defense Education Activity; and the Defense Department's commissary and exchange services.



Continue from Page 1 —

Congratulations to the following senior airmen who have been selected for promotion to staff sergeant!

- **Janno Adelan**, 62nd Security Forces Squadron
- **David Albertson**, 62nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
- **Benjamin Alexander**, 7th Airlift Squadron
- **Michael Allen**, 62nd AMXS
- **Debra Alvarez**, 62nd Medical Squadron
- **Melanie Andrade**, 62nd Maintenance Squadron
- **Matthew Arkel**, 62nd Communications Squadron
- **Michael Asuncion**, 62nd SFS
- **Luis Avila**, 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron
- **Lawrence Barnard**, 62nd SFS
- **Joshua Bell**, 62nd MXS
- **Roppert Beltran**, 62nd Civil Engineer Squadron
- **Kyle Bergemann**, 62nd MDS
- **Joseph Berggren**, 62nd LRS
- **Joshua Bigger**, 62nd AMXS
- **John Blanton**, 10th Airlift Squadron
- **McQuade Boeckholt**, 62nd CS
- **Joshua Borushko**, 62nd AMXS
- **Robert Bowen**, 62nd AMXS
- **Vernon Bowman**, 62nd SFS
- **Joseph Brock**, 62nd SFS
- **William Broughton**, 62nd LRS
- **Michael Brower**, 62nd LRS
- **Brandon Brown**, 62nd MXS
- **Melissa Butterfield**, 10th AS
- **Coty Cain**, 62nd SFS
- **Issac Camacho**, 62nd SFS
- **Xaviour Campbell**, 62nd

- LRS
- **Jason Caro**, 62nd LRS
- **Diana Carrillo**, 62nd Force Support Squadron
- **Jeffrey Catan**, 62nd MXS
- **Bryan Charles**, 22nd Special Tactics Squadron
- **Toby Christensen**, 8th Airlift Squadron
- **Robert Clark**, 4th Airlift Squadron
- **Brian Conlee**, 62nd SFS
- **Dirk Cook**, 62nd AMXS
- **Charles Coppock**, 62nd AMXS
- **Jose Cosio**, 62nd AMXS
- **Tara Creekmore**, 62nd Contracting Squadron
- **Justin Curtis**, 62nd CES
- **Justin Davenport**, 8th AS
- **Bradley Davis**, 7th AS
- **Jonathan Davis**, 62nd CES
- **Dominic DePaolo**, 62nd SFS
- **Daniel Denman**, 4th AS
- **Beau Dicken**, 62nd MXS
- **Daniel Dixon**, 62nd SFS
- **Brian Dossett**, 62nd MXS
- **Levi Duppstadt**, 10th AS
- **Michael Eddy**, 62nd AMXS
- **Benito Enad**, 62nd LRS
- **Kevin Espinoza**, 62nd AMXS
- **Daniel Estrada**, 62nd AMXS
- **Kerrylee Evans**, 62nd AMXS
- **Jason Felts**, 62nd MXS
- **Justin Fiegen**, 62nd AMXS
- **Cameron Fine**, 62nd LRS
- **Jeremy Foor**, 62nd AMXS
- **James Fletcher**, 62nd AMXS
- **Dustin Franklin**, 10th AS
- **Gregory Gadsby**, 62nd SFS
- **Kelsey Gainer**, 8th AS
- **John Garcia**, 62nd SFS
- **Daniel Gilliland**, 62nd AMXS
- **David Gioia**, 62nd SFS
- **Joshua Godfrey**, 62nd SFS
- **Alexander Gogol**, 62nd FSS
- **Kyle Goodhart**, 62nd LRS
- **Matthew Goodness**, 62nd AMXS
- **Sonny Goot**, 62nd LRS

- **Chad Graham**, 62nd SFS
- **Esteban Granados**, 62nd FSS
- **Terrance Greenwood**, 62nd LRS
- **Samuel Gullett**, 62nd LRS
- **Amelia Hadrava**, 62nd LRS
- **Ryan Hall**, 62nd LRS
- **Cecilia Hardy**, 62nd Operations Group
- **Jereme Harris**, 62nd CES
- **Paul Hedges**, 8th AS
- **Joshua Hendrickson**, 62nd MXS
- **Aaron Holtz**, 5th Air Support Operations Squadron
- **John Howard**, 4th AS
- **Matthew Huff**, 4th AS
- **Sean Ide**, 8th AS
- **James Irby**, 62nd AMXS
- **Shane Ireby**, 62nd LRS
- **Joshua Jaburek**, 62nd AMXS
- **Olusegun Jegede**, 62nd MDS
- **Adam Johnson**, 62nd AMXS
- **Ahmad Johnson**, 62nd AMXS
- **Corby Johnson**, 62nd LRS
- **Kevin Johnson**, 8th AS
- **Elizabeth Jones**, 62nd AMXS
- **Michael Jones**, 62nd FSS
- **Parley Jones**, 62nd LRS
- **Daniel Jordan**, 62nd MXS
- **Joe Joslyn**, 62nd AMXS
- **Natasha Juarez**, 62nd FSS
- **Michael Katzer**, 62nd MXS
- **Cody Kell**, 62nd OG
- **Chris Kelley**, 4th AS
- **Bryce Kester**, 10th AS
- **Dane Kirkendall**, 10th AS
- **Aaron Kissell**, 62nd AMXS
- **Joseph Kohler**, 62nd SFS
- **Angela Kost**, 62nd Airlift Wing
- **Ross Krotzer**, 62nd AMXS
- **Jared Lee**, 62nd LRS
- **Kyle Little**, 62nd LRS
- **Justin Magee**, 62nd SFS

- **Trevor Maiden**, 62nd AMXS
- **Sheffy Martin**, 62nd AMXS
- **Joshua Mauch**, 10th AS
- **Brian May**, 62nd CS
- **Brian McClure**, 62nd MXS
- **Patrick MCGarrh**, 62nd AMXS
- **Evis McGee**, 62nd SFS
- **Osealoe McNabb**, 62nd CES
- **Stephanie Mendez**, 62nd AW
- **Brock Merriman**, 62nd Maintenance Squadron
- **Robert Michels**, 10th AS
- **Nickolas Milton**, 62nd Comptroller Squadron
- **Seyyed Mirlohi**, 62nd LRS
- **Crystal Moland**, 62nd MXS
- **Ronald Morales**, 62nd LRS
- **Timothy Moxley**, 62nd MXS
- **Jennifer Mueller**, 62nd MXS
- **Donald Nachand**, 62nd SFS
- **Ramon Negron**, 62nd LRS
- **Justin Nolan**, 62nd LRS
- **Ryan Norman**, 62nd AMXS
- **Nathan Nowak**, 62nd MOS
- **Mathew Omoore**, 62nd MXS
- **Joshua Osterbur**, 62nd SFS
- **Garrett Ouzts**, 62nd CS
- **Ryan Pappas**, 62nd LRS
- **David Parsons**, 62nd AMXS
- **Anthony Pendleton**, 8th AS
- **Amber Perez**, 62nd SFS
- **Paul Petro**, 62nd AMXS
- **Michael Plummer**, 62nd CS
- **Travis Porter**, 62nd LRS
- **Jacob Ralston**, 62nd SFS
- **Colin Rawlings**, 10th AS
- **Adam Reis**, 62nd MXS
- **Michael Richardson**, 62nd LRS
- **Alexander Rodriguez**, 62nd CES
- **Raulo Rojas**, 62nd OSS
- **Ronald Rowe**, 62nd LRS
- **Joseph Ruiz**, 4th AS
- **Joseph Sabo**, 62nd AMXS
- **Chancey Sanders**, 62nd MXS
- **Matthew Schwartz**, 62nd

- CS
- **Micah Schweinsberg**, 62nd SFS
- **Bryce Seltveit**, 62nd LRS
- **Christopher Severe**, 62nd CES
- **Rick Short**, 62nd AMXS
- **Knena Smith**, 62nd SFS
- **Robert Smith**, 62nd AMXS
- **Cole Stewart**, 62nd LRS
- **Ryan Stoks**, 62nd LRS
- **Takuma Strain**, 62nd MDS
- **Vincent Stutts**, 62nd MXS
- **Daniel Tabb**, 62nd AMXS
- **Scott Taylor**, 62nd MXS
- **Justin Theriot**, 62nd Operations Support Squadron
- **Sean Tietje**, 62nd LRS
- **Melinda Thomas**, 62nd LRS
- **Dovvom Torres**, 62nd MXS
- **Timothy Tubbs**, 8th AS
- **Lani Unger**, 62nd FSS
- **Ronnie Vance**, 62nd AMXS
- **Adrian Vega**, 62nd MXS
- **Joshua Vigil**, 62nd AMXS
- **Marin Vilca**, 62nd CES
- **Amanda Vo**, 62nd LRS
- **Louisa Waikiki**, 62nd SFS
- **Glenn Walker**, 4th AS
- **Michael Wampler**, 62nd SFS
- **Shane Wassnik**, 4th AS
- **Andrew Wenrick**, 62nd AMXS
- **Joshua Whitfill**, 62nd SFS
- **Mark Wicherek**, 62nd AMXS
- **Bradley Williams**, 4th AS
- **Demetrius Williams**, 62nd AMXS
- **Thomas Winger**, 62nd MXS
- **Tyler Winslowe**, 62nd LRS
- **Shannon Witt**, 62nd CS
- **Gary Woo**, 10th AS
- **Rachel Yandon**, 62nd CS
- **Brandon Ybarra**, 8th AS
- **Seth Yothers**, 62nd MXS
- **Ashley Zdancewicz**, 62nd SFS
- **Anthony Zamora**, 62nd CS
- **Alana Zautner**, 62nd OSS
- **Jared Zautner**, 62nd OSS



62nd Airlift Wing Sports Day

More than 450 Airmen and their family members turned out for Sports Day activities.

Airmen participated in a wide range of games and activities, including dodgeball, golf, hockey, track relays, a fire truck pull, bowling, basketball and an obstacle course.

Team winners included the 8th Airlift Squadron, the overall winner in the large squadron division; the 62nd Aerial Port Squadron, second in the division; and the 62nd Force Support Squadron, third in the division.

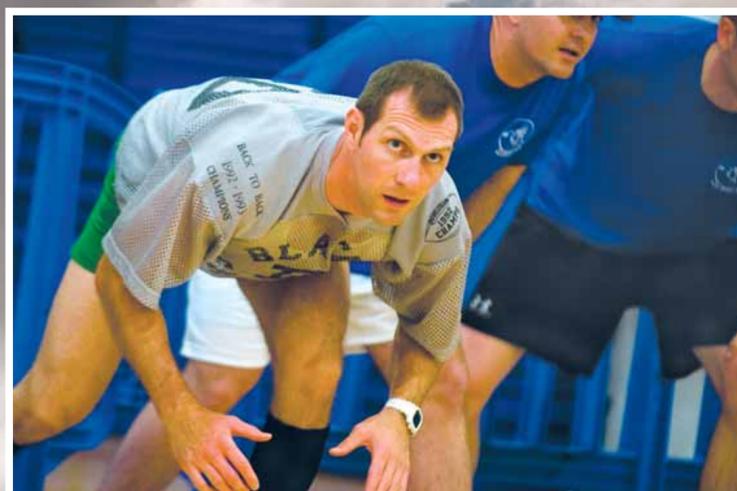


Photos by Abner Guzman

Maj. Jamie Rhone, 62nd Contracting Squadron commander, navigates a turbo bike out of the pit area during the 1st annual Wacky 1,600-meter miler at the base track. Four member teams, required to alternate riding a tricycle or sport bike to complete the race, competed in the event as part of McChord Fitness and Sports Day.



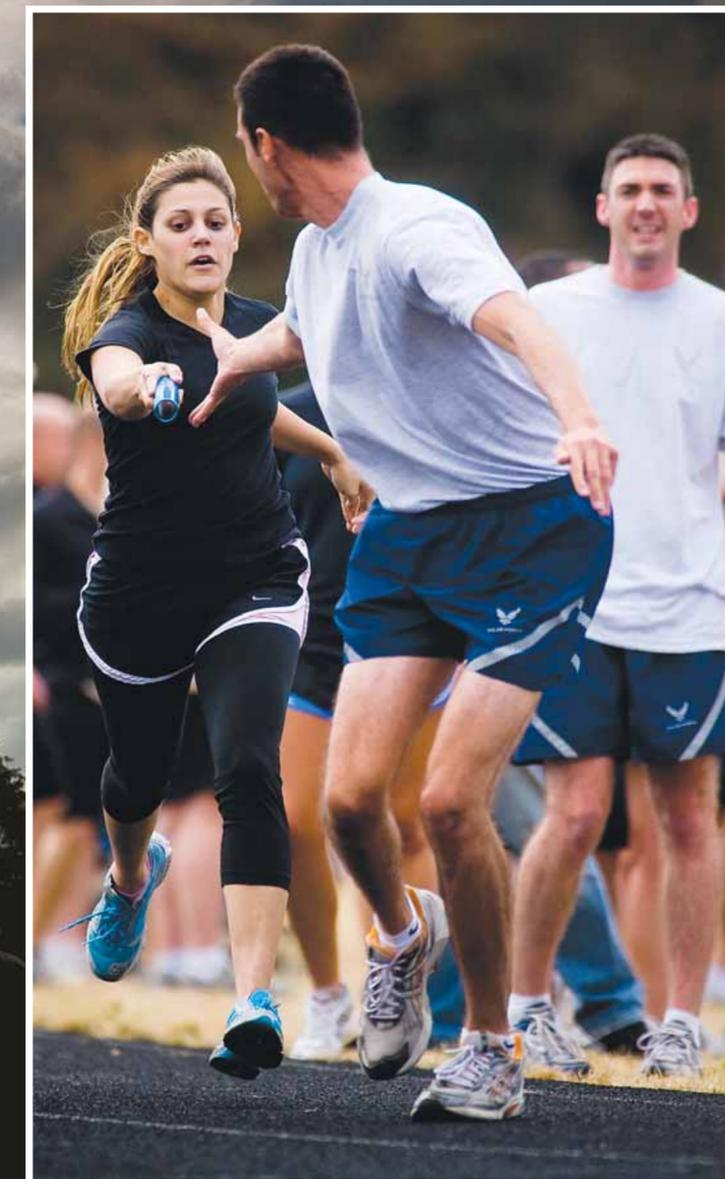
Airmen participate in a dodgeball game at the base fitness center gym.



Capt. Ed Szczepanik, 62nd Operations Support Squadron, readies for a game of dodgeball at the fitness center gym.



Senior Airman Jayne Kaufman, 7th Airlift Squadron, swims the backstroke while competing in the 4x50-meter medley swim relay at the base pool.



Senior Airman Savanna Wadtke, 62nd Force Support Squadron, passes the baton to a waiting teammate while competing in a coed relay race at the base track as part of the day's competitions.

Senior Airman Mallory Paul, 62nd Force Support Squadron, reviews team scores while coordinating fitness and sports activities at the base track.

McChord Airmen

AROUND THE WORLD



Courtesy photo

CAMP VICTORY, Iraq — Capt. Mikal Nuhn, 62nd Airlift Wing, sits on the set of Comedy Central's "The Colbert Report" after a recent taping of the television show for Airmen and Soldiers in Iraq.



Courtesy photo

KUWAIT — Master Sgt Richard Stage, 62nd Operations Support Squadron, looks over forecast model charts before preparing a flight weather briefing during a recent deployment.





**Arrive Alive!
Don't Drink
and Drive!**

AADD's mission is to provide free, safe, confidential rides HOME to McChord Personnel who have been drinking within a 30-mile radius of McChord AFB and make the responsible decision to let someone else do the driving.

I am a Wingman...

Senior Airman Sarah Hemrick, 62nd Aerial Port Squadron, was recently presented a Wingman coin for embracing her belief in the Air Force Core Value "Service Before Self," which led her to become the 62nd Airlift Wing's Airmen Against Drinking and Driving president.

Airman Hemrick took over the AADD program in October 2007 and currently still holds this position.

Airmen who volunteer in the AADD Program are on call for one week. With the AADD program averaging 20 calls per month, the program has helped keep Washington's roads safe and allowed Team McChord personnel to have a safe ride home when they have had too much to drink.

I will never leave an Airman behind!



First enlisted sensor operators begin technical school

By

Senior Airman Katie Hickerson
12th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) — The U.S. Air Force boasts more than 130 enlisted career fields and on Monday one more was officially welcomed as the first class of 10 enlisted unmanned aircraft system sensor operators began their technical school.

Because of their capabilities, unmanned aircraft have become in exceedingly high demand in a very short time, according to the UAS Flight Plan for 2009-2047. Air Force operators are flying 660 percent more missions now than five years ago, and there is no end in sight for demands on these aircraft.

Since Randolph instructors began training Airmen some 70-odd years ago, they have primarily focused on training officer aviators. Now, with the advent of the enlisted sensor operator course, enlisted aviators are welcomed once again.

“Randolph competed against other AETC bases to be able to host this training,” said Lt. Col.

Larry Earls, 12th Operations Group Detachment 1 sensor operator lead. “We were ultimately selected, and started setting short, mid and long term goals to eventually reach a fully operational organization by fiscal year 2010.”

Future ground-based aviators mark the inaugural class of 1U0X1 sensor operators in the Basic Sensor Operator course.

“The Basic Sensor Operator Course is a 3-level technical training certification for the newly developed Air Force Specialty Code 1U0X1,” said Col. Jimmy Donohue, Detachment 1 commander. “This training lays the foundation for developing our enlisted force in this new career field, which is critical to meeting the demands of emerging UAS operations.”



Photo by Staff Sgt. James L. Harper Jr.

An Air Force MQ-9 Reaper from the 62nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron takes off recently from Kandahar Air Base, Afghanistan, for a mission in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

He went on to explain that the training includes UA flight characteristics, sensor capabilities and techniques. Additionally, it will provide a basic understanding of full-motion video employment.

Following initial classroom instruction, the course will pair the UA pilot and sensor operator tracks, said Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Bobenrieth, Air Education and Training Command career enlisted aviator functional manager. By doing this, they may start honing their crew coordination and situational awareness skills, which before now, were major challenges for students to overcome as they arrived at their field training units.

It is predicted that future UA pilots will routinely fly multiple aircraft during static portions of a mission. This capability requires each pilot to

be engaged for total situational awareness.

“Once they successfully complete the training here, they will be certified as sensor operators,” Colonel Donohue said. “Although certified, they will still require specialized follow-on training before achieving a fully mission capable status.”

UAs offer an alternative to traditionally manned platforms. The integration of manned and unmanned aircraft increases Air Force combat capabilities, adaptability and safety of personnel.

The UAS Flight Plan vision calls for an Air Force that teams with the other military services, allies, academia and industry to capitalize on the unique UA attributes of persistence, connectivity, flexibility, autonomy and efficiency.

(Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs personnel contributed to this article.)



AMC commander receives Order of the Sword

By

Capt. Bob Everdeen
Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. (AFNS) — Arriving at the Scott Club in a horse-drawn carriage while a bagpipe melody filled the air, the commander of Air Mobility Command and his wife became a part of military history Aug. 14 here.

Gen. Arthur Lichte and Chris Lichte received the carriage ride under security forces escort as the start of a rich military tradition where the enlisted men and women of AMC bestowed the high honor of Order of the Sword to the general.

The event, which draws its customs from a Middle Ages ceremony, recognized General Lichte for his leadership at AMC since his arrival here nearly two years ago. It was a ceremony that saw enlisted Airmen donning full mess dress to honor their leader in the finest of traditions.

Chief Master Sgt. Joe Barron, the AMC command chief, notified General Lichte of the nomination in April. As chairman of the Order of the Sword committee, Chief Barron said the primary reason the general was chosen for the award is because he is a "leader among leaders and an Airman among Airmen."

"I cannot think of a leader more deserving of this recognition," Chief Barron said.

General Lichte said he didn't

learn or build his Air Force career just from professional military education or books, he said he learned from the enlisted core.

"(Learning) happens when the chief comes in and closes the door and tells me what needs to be done," General Lichte said. "It's when NCOs shoulder the load of the Air Force, and when I look into the eyes of Airmen and see the pulse of the U.S. Air Force."

General Lichte cited many examples of enlisted leadership and the inspiration and education it has provided him. He said it was an Air Force sergeant who encouraged him to join the Air Force. He also highlighted an Airman who was a boom operator and refueled the planes with enthusiasm during his early days at Plattsburgh Air Force Base, N.Y., and he singled-out an NCO from maintenance who worked on those aircraft throughout the night showing tremendous dedication and professionalism.

"When I was the vice commander for the United States Air Forces in Europe, every other country wanted to be like the United States Air Force," General Lichte said. "They wanted to come and train with us. They wanted to come to our professional military education. They wanted a professional enlisted corps."

"I learned that lesson again just a few weeks ago at (the AMC) Rodeo when I met the Afghanistan air force chief of staff," General Lichte added. "He was not impressed by



Photo by Staff Sgt. Paul Villanueva II

Gen. Arthur Lichte speaks to Air Mobility Command Airmen at his induction ceremony to the AMC Order of the Sword Aug. 14 at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

the aircraft, tactics or techniques, but the Airmen. It is this fantastic force that gives us a competitive military advantage."

The competitive advantage of any military, General Lichte said, has always been and always will be

the enlisted force.

"There is no doubt about it, you -- our enlisted force - are the greatest asymmetrical advantage we could possibly have," he said. "That's not just for our Air Force, but for our nation."



Gates, Mullen use new media to hear from troops, public

By

Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Got questions you'd like to pose directly to the defense secretary or chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff? Now is your chance!

Robert M. Gates and Navy Adm. Mike Mullen have launched interactive, virtual town hall sessions through the Internet.

The initiatives are part of a broad administration effort to connect more closely with the military, the American public and people overseas. The goal, officials explained, is to provide a forum for people to ask questions or offer suggestions or insights and get direct feedback.

The new Defense Department

home page that went live recently features a prominently placed "Ask the Secretary" section. Anyone visiting <http://www.defense.gov> — military members, American citizens, people overseas — can submit a question to Secretary Gates.

Questions will be accepted for two weeks, then participants in the town hall will have another two weeks to vote on the questions submitted. The secretary will answer the five to 10 questions that top the list.

Meanwhile, Admiral Mullen launched an "Ask the Chairman" venue Tuesday that enables anyone to pose a question to him via YouTube. The virtual town hall is open to everyone, whether they are in the military or a military family or simply care about military issues, officials said.

Viewers can ask questions about whatever is on their minds — the wars in Afghanistan or Iraq, what the military is doing for wounded warriors and families, the new Post-9/11 GI Bill or another topic of interest — by visiting <http://www.youtube.com/dodvclips>.

"The chairman really wants to have a conversation with the troops akin to the way he does all-hands calls at bases all over the world," said Navy Capt. John Kirby, Admiral Mullen's public affairs officer. "He wanted that conversation to be as interactive as possible and reflective of what is on their minds."

August 31 is the deadline to submit video questions. After the deadline, Admiral Mullen will watch questions submitted by YouTube viewers, then respond in a podcast, officials said.

Price Floyd, principal deputy assistant secretary of defense for public affairs, said taking advantage of new media tools will enable Pentagon leaders to engage in an important two-way conversation with the public.

"We do live in a democracy, and that feedback from people is important to know what they're thinking, what they believe is important," he said. "It's their national security policy, it's not ours. It's theirs. The president was elected, and he appointed people here at the Defense Department to lead, but it starts with the American people."

White House officials are planning a similar interactive venue for President Barack Obama to take questions directly from U.S. troops deployed in the U.S. Central Command area of operations.

Do you have a story idea? Spread the news in The NW Airlifter. Call Public Affairs at 982-5637 or e-mail us at northwestairlifter@mcchord.af.mil



Loadmaster picnic

The Professional Loadmaster Association hosts a picnic from noon to 5 p.m. at the Overlook Park Pavilion. PLA loadmasters and their families are invited to attend. Burgers fried chicken and beverages are provided. Attendees are asked to bring side dishes and desserts. For more information, call Walt Baade at 253-584-7310.

Joint Base Town Hall Meetings

Joint Base Town Hall Meetings are scheduled from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Sept. 1 and 8 at the McChord Clubs and Community Center Ballroom. An update on joint basing progress and introduction of the Joint Base commander and deputy Joint Base commander are planned. All Airmen and civilian employees interested in Joint Basing are welcome to attend. The briefings are an approved alternate duty location for civilian employees. For more information call Capt. Todd Sealey at 982-7617.

62nd MOS car wash

The 62nd Maintenance Operation Squadron hosts a car wash from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sept. 3 at the McChord Medical Clinic parking lot. For more information call Tech. Sgt. Cleo-

phus Burks at 982-7041.

Enlisted Appreciation BBQ

The Enlisted Appreciation Barbecue is noon to 4:30 p.m. Sept. 3 at the base softball fields. The event features a classic car display, a 1950s Look Alike Contest, three legged races, a pie eating contest and a kickball tournament. Airmen interested in signing up for the kickball tournament should contact Tech. Sgt. Roger Littlefield at 982-7273 or Airman 1st Class Thomas Gregory at 982-6922.

Barnes gate closure

The Barnes Street gate will be closed from 9 to 11 a.m. Sept. 1.

Limited service at McChord Clinic

The McChord Clinic is open weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The clinic includes both the 62nd Medical Squadron, which serves active duty beneficiaries, and the McChord Medical Clinic, which serves family members and retirees. The clinic closes at noon every second Tuesday for medical readiness training, except in September, as the day will fall on Sept. 15. The clinic will be closed Sept. 7 in observance of Labor Day. Please direct any questions or concerns to the 62nd

MS group practice manager at 982-2304.

AF Ball 5K run

The Air Force Ball committee hosts a 5K run as part of the monthly wing run today at 3 p.m. Both events start at Hangar 4 at the normal wing run starting point. Prizes will be awarded. A suggested donation of \$5 per participant (in the AF Ball 5K only) will go toward making the 2009 Ball a stellar

event. To sign up or for more information, contact Master Sgt. Wayne Gilbert at 982-5107.

AFRC hosts transition seminar

The Airman and Family Readiness Center hosts a special seminar on transitioning from military to civilian life from 8 to 11 a.m. Aug. 28 at the center's annex classroom. For more information and to register for this event, contact the AFRC at 982-2695.



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:

Noon. 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

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

11 a.m. Adult Bible Study

11 a.m. Adult Bible Study

