



The GUNFIGHTER

Volume 16, Number 12

366th Fighter Wing, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho

March 26, 2004



Photo by SSgt. Christopher Gish

Raise the roof

Approximately 30 members of the Mountain Home Military Affairs Committee visited the base Wednesday to view the new housing construction project. Members of the committee were given a tour of the new neighborhood and two homes that were recently completed.

Newsline

ACC award winner

Congratulations to the 366th Operations Group for winning the Air Combat Command Aircrew Life Support award, large wing category.

Tax information

American forces serving in designated combat zones supporting the war against terrorism continue to get a tax break from the federal government.

Depending upon rank, eligible service members can exclude from federal income tax either all or some of their active-duty pay, and certain other pays, earned in any month during service in a designated combat zone. Contact the finance office at 828-2170 for details.

Women's history month

The Family Health and Wellness Fair is today at the fitness center at 8 a.m. A 2-mile walk/run will begin at 9 a.m.

The women's book club and tea time is scheduled for 11 a.m. at the community center Tuesday.

Any book or author that illustrates women and their contributions can be read and shared. Suggested book readings can be picked up from the library or can be brought.

This is the start of a quarterly book club. This meeting is open to the public.

The Women's History Month luncheon is scheduled for 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Gunfighters Club. The guest speaker is Ms. Leslie Goddard.

Fitness center improvements slated

By Mr. Ron Dillon
366th Services Squadron

The Fitness Center is about to undergo a major facelift and when completed, the fitness center and swimming pool will be connected and share common locker rooms.

There will also be a new parking lot, main entrance, and basketball court. Construction begins in April and continues through the fall of 2005.

Patrons will experience some temporary inconveniences during the four phases of construction.

"This is a challenging project but when it is completed the base will have a truly outstanding facility," said Maj. Brad Montgomery, 366th Services Squadron commander.

Phase 1 (Begins Wednesday through Spring 2004)

The current parking lot, swimming pool locker rooms, front entrance of the fitness center, and the racquetball courts near the front entrance are torn up.

The main entrance to fitness center is temporarily relocated to the Aardvark side of facility. Fitness programs are not affected.

A covered walkway will lead from the temporary parking lot to the back doors of the swimming pool and the gym.

During this phase, swimmers should plan on using the gym locker room or coming dressed ready to swim.

Phase 2 (Spring 2004 to Summer 2004)

During the second phase the same entrances will be used. Construction of new locker rooms, office area, front entrance, health and wellness center, and small group exercise room takes place.

Phase 3 (Summer 2004 to Spring 2005)

The new front entrance, co-located locker rooms for the pool and fitness center, health and wellness center and small group exercise room will be completed.

Renovation of the current facility begins and the entire fitness center will be changed except for basketball court #2, racquetball court #2, and the weight room.

Phase 4 (Spring 2005 to Summer 2005)

Facility construction and renovation is completed and the parking lot and landscaping begins.

During construction, no fitness center parking will be allowed at the Burger King or at the car wash.

All fitness center parking shall be at the temporary parking lot that will be accessible from Liberator Street near the water tower.

Limited handicap and reserved parking next to the gym on Desert Street is available.

During construction, the Stevenson Middle School gym is open Monday through Thursday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. for Fit-to-Fight group exercise.

"We've opened Stevenson to help our airmen meet their fitness requirements. Please take advantage of this facility as much as possible while the main gym is under construction," said Mr. Rick Holmes, fitness center director.

Commander's Hotline

This Hotline is your direct line to me.

It's your opportunity to make Mountain Home AFB a better place to live and work.

I review every response to Hotline questions, but functional experts prepare most responses.

If possible, you should first contact the organization responsible for the problem or function.

Your first sergeants, commanders and agency chiefs want to help, so please let them try.

If you do not know how to proceed or if you have already tried your chain of command, then do not hesitate to contact the Hotline at 828-6262 or CommandersHotline@mountainhome.af.mil.

Not all Hotlines are published, but if you leave your name and phone number or e-mail address, I will make sure you get a reply.



Col. Hansen

Col. Blair Hansen
366th Fighter Wing commander

Last DUI:

(As of noon Thursday)

366th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

Days without a DUI:

18

AADD made 5 saves since March 19,
53 in 2004

That will never happen to me

By Lt. Col. Michael Kucej
Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander

Have you ever been to a memorial service for someone killed while riding a motorcycle? Odds are that it was a closed casket.

The extreme trauma caused by the combination of high speed and no protection during a collision make it difficult to make a body presentable for viewing. Many of you won't get past this paragraph.

Why?

You'll never be associated with a motorcycle accident, right? You're bullet proof and too smart or experienced to get in a motorcycle accident. Your level of risk is low because you've been riding for years, right? Wrong, on all accounts.

First, let's talk about risk level. Several factors raise your risk to at least a medium level, especially with respect to street riding.

Second, there is obviously no protection from things outside your control, like bouncing rocks, wind, or the ever-present pavement if you should have to lay your bike down. And what about those inattentive "blind" drivers?

If you get on your motorcycle without the mentality that every vehicle on the road is out to get you, you're destined to be a statistic.

See **Riding**, page 3



Courtesy photo

A law enforcement official investigates the aftermath of a motorcycle accident at an undisclosed location. Note the rider's helmet stuck in the grill. Air Force Instructions mandate that all active-duty members wear a helmet while riding motorcycles and all terrain vehicles.

Wearing a helmet while riding a motorcycle is not an option, it's mandatory



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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, (208) 828-6800.

All photographs are Air Force photographs unless indicated.

Deadlines: All articles intended for publication in The Gunfighter must be submitted to the 366th Fighter Wing, Public Affairs Office, 366 Gunfighter Ave., Bldg. 512, Suite 314, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho 83648, by noon Friday. All submissions will be considered for publication based on news value and timeliness. Every article and photograph will be edited for accuracy, clarity, brevity and appropriateness. All articles will be edited to conform with the AP Stylebook and Libel Manual as stipulated in Air Force Instruction 35-101.

Coverage: Coverage of upcoming events should be arranged in advance by calling the public affairs office at 828-6800 or by sending an electronic message to pa.news@mountainhome.af.mil.

Classified Ads: Free classified advertisements of a non-commercial nature are published in The Gunfighter on a space-available basis. Free advertising is limited to: Air Force people (active and retired), Department of Defense civilian employees and their family members. Ad forms are available in Bldg. 512. Deadline for free classified advertisements is 5 p.m. Monday.

Welcome to Gunfighter
Country — home of a
winning attitude!



Deck 'em up — Annual Gunfighter winners



Air Combat Command Awards 10



12th Air Force 4

Gunfighter Justice



(Editor's note: The following information is provided as a public service by the 366th Fighter Wing legal office. Punishments for the same offenses may vary based on facts and circumstances surrounding the offense and the offender.)

Four members found guilty of larceny at courts-martial

The final of four courts-martial issued a sentence to the last member of a ring of four security forces personnel convicted of larceny, housebreaking and conspiracy to commit larceny on base.

The events leading up to these convictions ended a string of incidents involving on-duty security forces personnel breaking into and stealing items from various supply rooms and office buildings throughout the installation.

The four members plead guilty to the charges and specifications brought against them in four separate courts-martial from December to March.

Of the personnel convicted, two of them were NCOs and two were Senior Airmen.

They received a variety of sentences as indicated below: The technical sergeant received a reduction to airman basic, total forfeiture of all pay and allowances, confinement for 18 months, three months hard labor without confinement and a bad conduct discharge.

The staff sergeant received a reduction to airman basic, total forfeiture of all pay and allowances, confinement for 12 months and a bad conduct discharge.

One senior airman received a reduction to airman basic, forfeiture of \$795 for 10 Months, confinement for 10 months and a bad conduct discharge.

The other senior airman received a reprimand, reduction to airman basic and confinement for six months.

"These cases were very difficult for the security forces squadron since not only is theft contrary to Air Force core values, it is particularly contrary to the standards of security forces members," said Maj. Marion Dallison, 366th Security Forces commander.

"Completion of the courts-martial process on the four members has been something of a healing process within the squadron and demonstrates that theft and conspiracy are incompatible with military service and cannot be tolerated," said Maj. Dallison.

Airbase Road construction project starts Thursday

Airbase Road will undergo a construction Thursday through late June.

The Idaho Transportation Department will reconstruct Airbase Road from the main gate to the intersection with State Highway 51 (aka Bruneau Highway/Chevron intersection).

Improvements include new asphalt surface, minor widening, improving the merging lane from Grand View Highway and possible inclusion of rumble strips to shoulders.

"The project will restrict traffic to one lane in each direction," said Mr. Bryant Kuechle, Idaho Transportation Department. "The speed limit will be reduced to 55 miles per hour, so base personnel should plan for extra time during their commute."

The project will occur in three phases.

Phase 1 will reconstruct the east-bound lanes from the Grand View Highway intersection heading into town. Phase 2 will reconstruct west-bound lanes from the town to the Grand View intersection.

Phase 3 will reconstruct all lanes from Grand View intersection to the main gate.

"All work directly in front of the base will occur at night," said Mr. Kuechle. "The construction in between the Grandview intersection and the gate will only take about five days."

Gunfighters are reminded to adhere to the rules of the road at all times and to be cautious of construction crews working on the road. *(Gunfighter Public Affairs)*



PDF Junior returns

By Ms. Betty Frederickson
Family support center

In an informal setting, Col. Blair Hansen spoke to an audience of more than 200 young Gunfighter and their families and asked, what is PDF Junior?

The responses varied. In a casual question and answer setting, Col. Hansen explained what the Personnel Deployment Function for Juniors was and why they were gathered in the youth center gymnasium complete with camouflage netting, displays of weapons, field communication gear and more.

The message was clear – "Your Gunfighter parent is doing an outstanding job of protecting the nation's freedom," said Col. Hansen. "That may mean your parent has to go to another country and leave you for a while, but your parent is well prepared for the deployment."

PDF Junior is a program designed to help children and spouses of military members understand the deployment process.

While the children were receiving their ID cards at the youth center more excitement ensued. The fire alarm went off



Photo by SSgt. Christopher Campbell

Children receive their passes March 19 as they make their way into the youth center to attend PDF Junior. More than 200 guests attended the event designed to educate Gunfighters about what members go through before being deployed.

See PDF, page 6

Riding, from page 2

Aggressively defensive is the best posture to minimize your risk level.

Next consider your attitude when riding 2-wheel or all-terrain vehicles. I'd say it's a safe bet that if you own or ride one of these types of vehicles, you like to go fast.

It's a perfectly natural sensation.

We work around fast jets and we ride fast motorcycles.

Who can get from Mountain Home to Boise the fastest? Who can jump the farthest out at the pits on their dirt bikes?

The key to living another day to tell about it is maintaining the right attitude. The 366th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron is proud to have two motorcycle-riding Chiefs who are able to tell their riding stories — because they've maintained the right attitude throughout their motorcycle-riding career. They learned a long time ago that it is far less painful to have heard and internalized stories about

riders who've lost a pound of flesh to the pavement or had to replace hundreds of dollars worth of chrome, rather than repeat the same mistake themselves.

Consider this seemingly contradictory concept, especially in motorcycle riding — conservative is cool.

I have a theory, that there's a direct and powerful linkage between our desires to go fast, which make us do stupid things, and the throttle, which makes the motorcycle accelerate.

The key is to disconnect that linkage every time you ride. When your buddy dares you to jump farther than he just did, disconnect the linkage. When he says, "last one to Strike Dam buys a round," disconnect the linkage. Being old enough to tell riding stories is all about attitude, and disconnecting that desire to throttle linkage is the way you demonstrate that attitude. In fiscal 2003, the Air Force lost 24 airmen to motorcycle accidents. That is a ridiculously high number of unnecessary deaths. In one of many command-wide efforts to prevent these tragedies, Lt. Gen. Bruce Wright, Air Combat Command vice commander, mandated that commanders must make the tough calls on

deciding whether our airmen, officers and enlisted alike, possess the necessary maturity and level of responsibility to ride motorcycles.

No one wants to take away the privilege of riding a motorcycle, but if it will save someone's life, we will not hesitate. He also re-emphasized that commanders and supervisors at every level are the vital ingredient to preventing unnecessary motorcycle fatalities.

From our most junior enlisted members all the way to our most senior officers, those of us entrusted with the future of the Air Force must consider preventing motorcycle fatalities a personal challenge. Even those not yet graduated to supervisory status but who have many years of riding experience, can make a difference.

Is this a difficult challenge? You bet.

If you know someone who rides recklessly and you don't attempt to dissuade them or let their supervisors know, you share some of the responsibility for their eventual demise. How will you respond to this unpopular challenge?

Airman Leadership School graduates

Congratulations to the following senior airmen:

366th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Shawn Bowman

Alrick Bryan, leadership award

Joshua Cook

Jason Harris John L. Levitow Award

Shawn Hunt, distinguished graduate

Byron Johnson

Keith Pluta

Aaron Spike

Shawn Varnado

366th Civil Engineer Squadron

Rory Cain

Maria Carolina-Perez

Graham Feldman

Eric Laflin

Joshua Moorehead

366th Communication Squadron

Zuri Rosell

Anthony Sells

366th Component Maintenance Squadron

Jason Cannon

Brent Polen

John Spears, distinguished graduate, academic award

Monique Wright

366th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

Jason Bader

Neeraj Diwan

Travis Fritz

Jason Harrier

Craig Schafer

Jesse Wood, IV

366th Medical Operations Squadron

Katherine Bullock

366th Maintenance Operations Squadron

Nathan Simpson

366th Operations Support Squadron

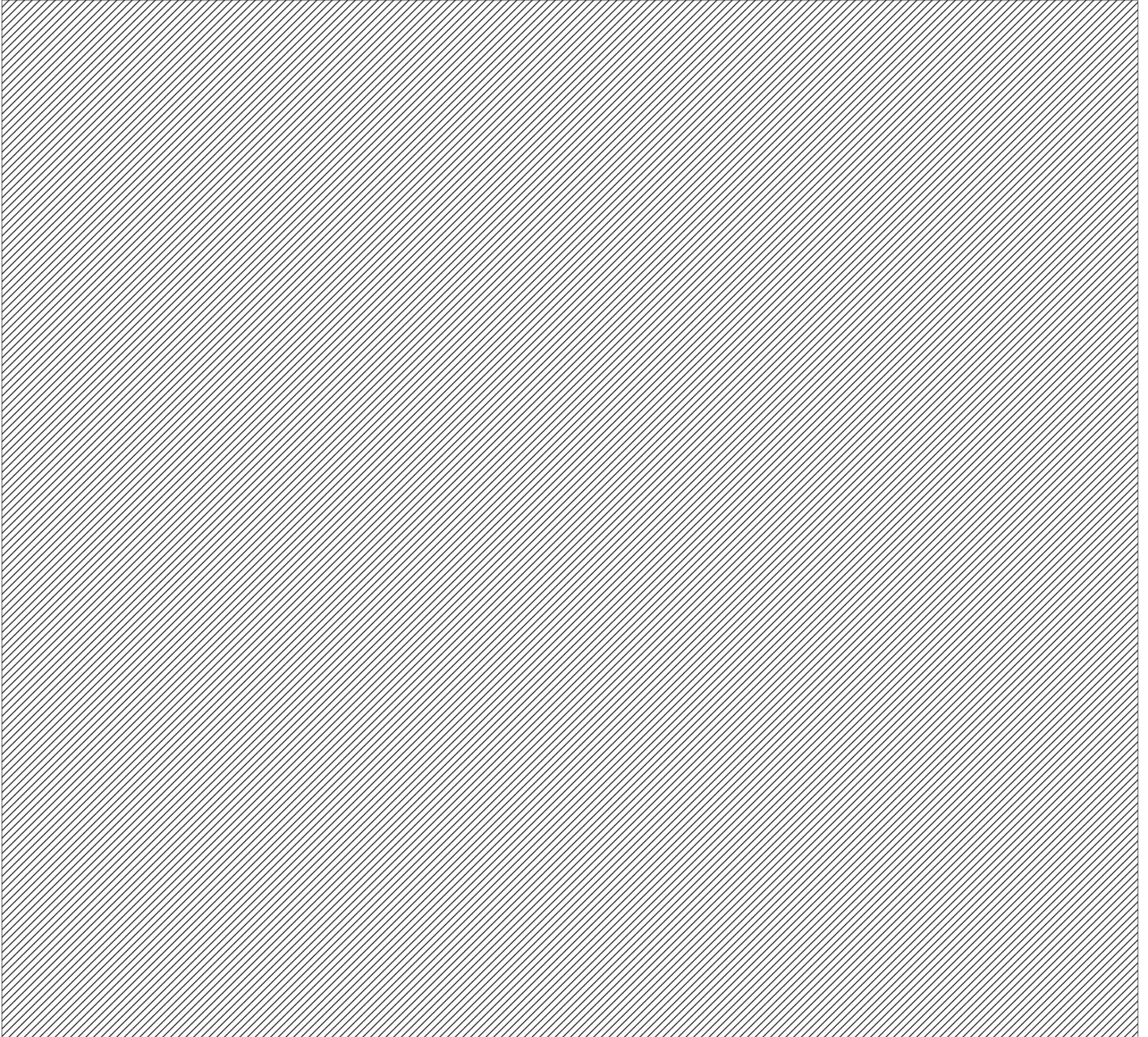
Adrienne LaMothe

366th Fighter Wing

Cory Bishop

726th Air Control Squadron

Phillip Stephan



PDF Junior highlights mission, deployment process



Col. Blair Hansen addresses the crowd of young Gunfighters during the PDF Junior event March 19.



SSgt. Chris Marrero, 366th Security Forces Squadron, shows Gunfighters the various weapons that members might utilize when deployed. The Personnel Deployment Function Junior activity at the youth center gave Gunfighters a chance to see what happens when members get deployed.

Photos by SSgt. Christopher Campbell



Gunfighters get their final briefings about where they are going and what laws they have to follow while in the deployed location.



Colyn Zacha gets a quick peek through night vision goggles. The goggles were part of an array of equipment on display during PDF Junior.



SSgt. Eric Danielson, 366th SFS, helps Alexander Campbell with a Kevlar helmet during his PDF Junior experience.

PDF , from page 3

twice. After evacuating the building for the second time some took the opportunity to tell the children this is what happens to people in the deployment location, everything could be running smoothly and then chaos sets in and everyone has to adjust to deal with the situation.

Family members had an opportunity to see the deployment process in action.

They were given a mock mobility folder complete with shot record, unique dog tags and fun worksheets on finances, locator cards and health evaluations.

All attendees received a thumbnail sketch of the deployment process.

While half the group was experiencing the PDF line, the other half was viewing various aircraft and munitions and asking questions of the pilots and their crews.

The children seemed to enjoy running from aircraft to aircraft and looking inside the cockpit.

After the two groups met up again at the youth center they had an opportunity to go through a temper tent and view the living conditions of their parents.

After tasting MREs, the kids received a Gunfighter pillowcase.

The base fire department brought the Jaguar fire truck to perform a demonstration which drew a lot of attention.

After the event was over, all had an opportunity to eat at the youth center snack bar for a dinner of hamburgers, hotdogs, nachos and ice cream bars.

"This activity takes a lot of coordination and support from senior leadership," said TSgt. Steve Wright, wing readiness NCO and coordinator for the PDF Junior program. "Over 100 volunteers help put this effort together. It was without saying, the best PDF Junior to date."

Congressional award program open to airmen

Air Force Services is encouraging first-term active-duty military members, active-duty spouses under age 23 and teen family members to participate in an award program offered by the base community and youth activities centers.

The Congressional Award program honors young Americans for positive volunteer service and personal development. It is a non-competitive program open to all interested and motivated people ages 14 to 23.

The Congressional Award recognizes young people for achieving individual goals in four program areas:

- ❑ Voluntary public service – serving others and the community
- ❑ Personal development – developing interests, social and employment skills
- ❑ Expedition/exploration – undertaking a wilderness or venture experience.

Participants select an adult to serve as their advisor. The advisor can be anyone other than a relative, who can monitor his or her progress toward the award. With the advisor's help, participants complete a registration form, which identifies their goals in the four program areas.

The form and a registration fee are then submitted to the Congressional Award program for processing.

The actual awards (bronze, silver and gold medals) are presented by U.S. Senators and members of Congress during local, state and national ceremonies.

Each level involves setting goals in the four program areas but age requirements, accumulated hours and duration of activities differ.

The benefits of the Congressional Award program are remarkable and lasting. While working to earn an award, young people become aware of their potential and value within society.

They develop compassion, a sense of responsibility and practical life skills.

At the same time, participants enhance quality of life by making communities better places to live and work.

Call the community center at 828-2246, the youth activities center at 828-2501 or visit the Web site at www.congressionalaward.org for details.

(366th Services Squadron)



Photo by: Ms. Patricia Playle

Spring cleaning take a break

Last year's community center Spring Spa day saw more than 22 vendors and 350 people. This Spring Spa day is planned for April 17 and attendance is expected to double. To get a booth or table at this year's Spring Spa day call the community center now at 828-4590 to reserve a space.

Members take a break, swing away

By Ms. Patricia Playle
366th Services Squadron

The robin usually heralds the arrival of spring, but at the Silver Sage golf course it is a different type of "birdie" being sought. Golfers of all ages are hitting the links searching for the elusive "eagle" and the nearly-extinct "hole-in-one."

But thanks to Mr. Ray Newman, golf course manager, would-be duffers stand a better chance of bagging their birds by attending an intro to golf seminar scheduled for Saturday at 10 a.m. The golf course staff will provide an introduction to the game of golf to all interested non-golfers and golfers alike.

"The seminar covers many of the basics of golf," said Mr. Newman. "We talk about the proper grip, stance, posture and playing procedures."

"Golf is a game you can play your whole life," he said. "There are no age limits. Many adult golfers I know wish they had learned to play years before they started."

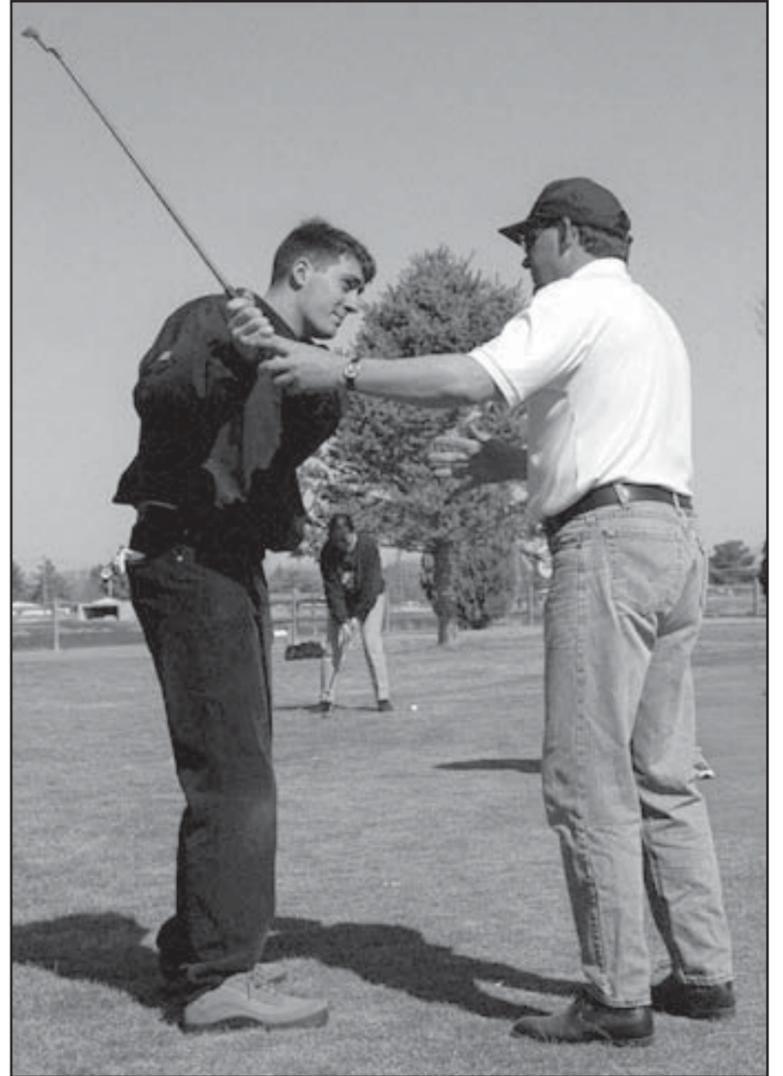
Mr. Newman emphasizes that would-be golfers should not be intimidated by the sport.

"Golf is not an elite sport," he said. "With our game cards and season passes, a round of golf equals an inexpensive day of leisure."

"Golfing is a lot of fun and a good opportunity to get out and enjoy the fresh air and sunshine."

Mr. Newman added. "It's a game you can play by yourself, or get together with a couple friends and make a day of it."

Call Mr. Ray Newman at 828-6559 for more information.



Courtesy photo

Mr. Ray Newman, Silver Sage golf course manager gives a fellow golfer a few tips on his golf swing.

SMART teaches teens life skills

In response to the growing need to provide teens with the necessary information to build strong minds and bodies, the Mountain Home AFB Boys and Girls Club, Youth Programs and the Mountain Home Youth Action Council are introducing Project SMART, Strengthening Mature and Responsible Teens.

The project is a prevention program targeting teens ages 13 to 18. Project SMART is supported by Association of Idaho Cities and other local agencies as part of their commitment to improving health and the life skills of teens in their community.

Project SMART provides gender and age-specific information to help teens develop the necessary skills for a long and healthy life.

Passport to Manhood is a resource for promoting positive attitudes and responsible behavior in young men and represents a targeted effort to engage young men

in interactive discussions and activities.

SMART Girls consists of rich, experiential activities designed to offer direction for emotional stability and character development by instilling the values of integrity, self-discipline and mutual respect.

The goals of Project SMART are to develop leadership and team building skills and provide teens with a greater knowledge of the information and resources that exist within communities.

The project has begun at the Mountain Home AFB Boys and Girls Club Youth Center and will run through December.

They plan to invite surrounding communities to participate during project events.

Project SMART is held every Tuesday from 6 to 7 p.m. at the youth center. All teens ages 13 through 18 are invited to participate. *(366th Services Squadron)*

Separating from active-duty? Contact the Air Force Reserve in-service recruiter for Palace Chase and Palace Front career opportunities at DSN: 728-1972.

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