

SHEPPARD SENIATOR

Inside Look

Change of command for 19th Air Force.....Page 2

Armament training prepares Sheppard students for real-world warfighting.....Page 3

Exercise tempo at Sheppard to increase.....Page 4

Martin Luther King Day commentary.....Page 6

Comedians bring big laughs to enlisted club.....Page 7

AF members can keep perks from official travel.....Page 8

AETC turns 60.....Page 9

Soundoff.....Page 11

Achievers.....Page 12

Family Advocacy Center honors fallen airman.....Page 13

“Leaders need to worry about the folks who work for them. The classic way of military thinking — ‘My mission, my people, my self’ — that has to continue. It’s clear it’s there; it’s not broken. Don’t fix it; just encourage it.”

— Dr. James Roche,
Secretary of the Air Force

MLK Day Service

The south chapel will hold a Martin Luther King Day service today at noon. Col. Joe Harrison, 82nd Training Wing vice commander, will be the guest speaker.



Expert guidance

Airman 1st Class Melvin Underwood, 363rd Training Squadron armament student, secures a fin to the guidance control unit of the GBU-24 A/B. Underwood is in the F-16 course, one of eight armament courses taught by the 363rd TRS. For more information about armament training at Sheppard, see story and additional photos on Page 3. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Pamela Stratton)

Texas Rangers Winter Caravan Tour to visit Sheppard

The Texas Rangers Winter Caravan Tour is coming to Sheppard Tuesday, and all Team Sheppard members are invited to the autograph session and dinner with the Rangers.

The Winter Caravan display will begin at 3 p.m. at the base exchange, and the autograph session is from 4 – 4:45 p.m. at the exchange.

The Caravan Dinner will be held at the officers club ballroom. Doors open at 5 p.m., and the buffet dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale at information, tickets and tours. The ticket prices are \$7.95 for adults, \$3.95 for children (ages 5-12) and free for children under 4.

Sports announcer Josh Lewin will serve as master of ceremonies and will introduce Texas Rangers manager

Jerry Narron, and pitchers Doug Davis and Chris Michalak.

In addition to the Caravan Tour, Sheppard members can register to win one of three all-inclusive weekend getaway packages to visit the Texas Rangers Training Camp “2002 Ranger Rally” March 22 – 24 in Port Charlotte, Fla.

The grand prize includes three nights and four days accommodations, round-trip airfare with ground transportation, one-on-one time with the Texas Rangers Baseball Club, plus fun, food, and excitement for two. The drawing will be held Feb. 8 in Arlington, Texas.

For more information and ticket prices, those interested should contact Denise Tilley or Janelle Shroads at 6-2302.

Autograph session – 4-4:45 p.m., base exchange

Dinner – doors open at 5 p.m., buffet starts at 5:30, officers club ballroom



Action Line 676-2000, action.line@sheppard.af.mil



**Brig. Gen. Michael Collings
82nd Training Wing
commander**

The 82nd Training Wing's Action Line is your direct line to me for any concerns and suggestions you have. I am personally involved in every reply, and I am committed to making Sheppard AFB a better place to live, work and play. Before you call the Action Line, however, I ask that you give your chain of command or other base agencies an opportunity to work your concerns. If you still do not receive a satisfactory response, call me at 676-2000, or send an e-mail to action.line@sheppard.af.mil. Please in-

clude your name and telephone number. Those concerns with a wide impact at Sheppard may be published in *The Sheppard Senator*.

- AAFES.....6-2211
- AF suggestion office.....6-IDEA
- AFI 36-2903 issues.....6-2984
- Civil engineer/housing.....6-2846
- Facilities maintenance.....6-6524
- Civilian pay.....6-4890
- Commissary.....6-2750
- Comm squadron.....6-5524
- Education office.....6-6231
- Family support.....6-4358
- Fraud, waste and abuse...6-2222
- Inspector general.....6-2031
- Military pay6-1851
- MEO.....6-2360
- Patient advocacy6-7791
- Safety.....6-4149
- Security forces.....6-2745
- Services Division6-2089
- CDC.....6-4244
- Youth center.....6-5395

- Golf course6-6369
- Billeting, gyms, athletics, and dining halls.....6-7429
- South bowling center.....6-2170
- Victim assistance.....6-7206
- Base straight talk line.....6-4438

Security in Wherry Housing

Q I am concerned about the security in Wherry Housing. I have seen people jumping the fence to get on and off base. I want to know what is being done to stop the offenders. My husband has reported it when he's seen it happen. He even stopped one of the people and asked for their ID but the guy ran across the street and got away. If anyone can get on and off the base this way, I was wondering why there isn't more security around the fences.

A This is a great example of why force protection is everyone's business. Security Forces employ a variety of strategies to ensure

the security of the base, including motorized patrols, foot patrols, and Military Working Dog patrols. As a Random Antiterrorism Measure, Security Forces conduct periodic inspections of the entire fence perimeter. With approximately 20 miles of fencing around the perimeter, it is everyone's responsibility to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity. Various portions of the perimeter fence will be repaired/replaced, increasing our Force Protection capabilities. If you see someone illegally entering the installation, try and get a good description of the individual, their direction of travel, and call the crime stop hotline at 6-1100.

Christmas thanks

I would like to thank everyone who donated Christmas toys. My grandson had a wonderful Christmas because of your donations. I work on base and I really appreciate it.
Signed, Grateful

Change of command for 19th Air Force

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Maj. Gen. Steven R. Polk, commander of 19th Air Force, has been nominated for promotion to lieutenant general and reassignment as the vice commander of Pacific Air Forces.

Maj. Gen. James Sandstrom has been named to succeed Polk at 19th AF.

Pentagon officials announced the assignments Jan. 11. A change of command ceremony is scheduled for Jan. 24 at Randolph.

Polk has served as commander of 19th AF since May of 1999. As commander, he is

responsible for the day-to-day training of approximately 19,000 U.S. and allied students annually. The students range from entry level flying training through advanced combat crew training, and ultimately become fully qualified aircrew personnel for the warfighting commands.

General Sandstrom is currently serving as special assistant to the commander, Air Education and Training Command. He previously was the director of operations for Headquarters U.S. Central Command.



Important guests

Members of the Air Force Board watch as students and instructors in the 366th Training Squadron demonstrate the skill of pole climbing on Jan. 15. The board visited five bases in Air Education and Training Command to learn more about the command's mission of training America's warfighters. (Photo by Tom Steele)



Published by the Times Publishing Company of Wichita Falls, Texas, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 82nd Training Wing.

This commercial-enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of *The Sheppard Senator* are not necessarily the official views, or endorsed by the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the DoD, the Department of the Air Force or the Times Publishing Company of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or other non-merit factors of the purchaser, user or patron.

Content is edited and prepared by the 82nd TRW public affairs office. Copy deadline is noon Friday the week before publication. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise credited. E-mail submissions to SheppardSenator@sheppard.af.mil 82nd TRW/PA, 419G Ave., Ste. 3, Sheppard AFB, Texas 76311-2943

**82nd Training Wing commander
Brig. Gen. Michael Collings
Sheppard Senator editorial team**

- Director of Public Affairs.....Maj. John Skinner
- Chief of Internal Information.....Mike McKitto
- Deputy Director.....2nd Lt. Ann Hatley
- Noncommissioned officer in charge.....Master Sgt. Jeffrey Szczechowski
- Editor (6-7243, Pamela.Stratton@sheppard.af.mil).....Airman 1st Class Pamela Stratton
- Action Line coordinator (6-2000).....Terri Tyler

Armament students train for real-world warfighting

By Airman 1st Class Pamela Stratton

Base public affairs

With eight separate courses graduating more than 1,600 students per year, the 361st Training Squadron's Armament Flight is constantly replenishing the Air Force's combat capability by training students in this essential career field.

The F-16, F-15, B-52, A-10, B-1, special missions, fundamentals and 7-level courses each focus on a different aspect of armament training. The courses vary in length, from the two-week 7-level course to the five-and-a-half-month B-52 course.

Armament students learn the basic principles of Air Force weapons, including bombs, missiles and guns, as well as the workings of the systems in which they function.

Master Sgt. John Chatham, an armament instructor of eight years, said, "This isn't just loading a bomb onto an aircraft. Armament troops are responsible for everything from the weapons themselves,

to the wiring systems and computers they use, to the cockpit switches that control them."

Students learn about many types of armament from laser- and Global Positioning System-guided bombs that can hit targets hundreds of miles away within approximately seven feet, to guns that can shoot 100 rounds per second, said Chatham.

The 363rd TRS has several aircraft dedicated to armament training, along with the recently added LINK computer system and interactive courseware. The flight has also introduced SMART board technology into each classroom, which brings together three teaching mediums into one system. Their crowning achievement, according to Chief Master Sgt. Ronald Wilson, Aircraft Armament Flight chief, is their F-15E Virtual Reality Safe for Maintenance Trainer.

The armament training at Sheppard gives students the fundamental knowledge they will build upon out in the field, where they will fulfill an integral part of the Air Force mis-



Airman Rose Salaz, 363rd Training Squadron armament student, affixes a fin to the guidance control unit of the GBU-24 A/B. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Pamela Stratton)

sion, Chatham said.

As he pointed to the words "U. S. Air Force" embroidered above the left front pocket of his uniform, Chatham said, "Without armament, it would just say 'U. S. Air.'"



Airman Todd Edin (left) and Airman 1st Class Melvin Underwood (right), 363rd Training Squadron armament students, adjust the sway brace pads on the MAU-12 bomb rack. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Pamela Stratton)



Airman 1st Class Melvin Underwood, 363rd TRS armament student, positions the GBU-24 A/B lugs into the hooks of the MAU-12 bomb rack. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Pamela Stratton)

Exercise tempo at Sheppard to increase; Commander urges understanding, patience

By 2nd Lt. Nathan Broshear
Base public affairs

The aircraft mishap exercise this past week was only a prelude of things to come....get ready, the exercise tempo is increasing here at Sheppard.

On Jan. 9th, base personnel responded to an exercise scenario involving an Air National Guard C-21 that crash-landed next to the runway, resulting in 10 casualties. Emergency response forces responded with equipment and manpower during the 6-hour exercise designed to test Sheppard's security forces, fire, medical staff, services, and overall on-scene response. The command post, tower, and accident scene were bee-hives of activities as people dug into checklists designed to keep the response on the right track. The exercise evaluation team added a dose of realism with fake wreckage and simulated wounded

airmen.

Base medical staff treated and transported the "injured" aircrew to the hospital while security forces secured the area and fire fighters dealt with the wreckage. This exercise was a preview of the coming months when Sheppard can expect to be tested with a renewed level of commitment.

By all accounts, Wednesday's exercise was a learning experience.

Col. J.R. Tillery, 82nd Support Group commander, the on-scene commander for the exercise said, "Sheppard has a unique setup with two wings. It's important to coordinate our response and responsibilities. Exercises like this one make sure the left hand knows what the right hand is doing, and vice versa."

Brig. Gen. Michael Collings, the 82nd Training Wing commander, termed the increase in exercises



A member of the exercise evaluation team looks on as on-scene responders attend to one of the casualties from the mock crash Jan. 9. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Nathan Broshear)

training as, "an insurance policy. This is our chance to practice so that we are ready for the real thing."

It's important to understand that base exercises can have a short-term impact on meetings, appointments and operating hours, the general emphasized. However, Collings pointed out, "The short-term pain is worth the long-term gain."

He continued by stressing, "We'll definitely be in the way sometimes. I hope everyone will understand these exercises are an important part of our readiness."

Maj. Jill Shaw, chief of the exercise evaluation team noted that, "This is no secret. AETCI 10-205 lays out all of our exercise requirements. You can bet that these scenarios will show up sometime soon. It's a good idea for each unit to review those in-

structions and their responsibilities."

According to Shaw, even after reviewing AETCI 10-205, units need to take some time and brainstorm because EET will throw some curveballs. "We're not trying to 'teach the test,'" she said. "Our units need to be ready to deal with a variety of tasks and scenarios. The scenarios are going to become progressively more challenging."

Shaw points out that exercises are not a chance to earn "write-ups" or to give Sheppard staff a hard time, "Don't take constructive criticism or the results as a personal affront—don't take them personally, but do take them seriously."

Collings summed up the coming months, "Most importantly, base staff need to remember that exercise or not, training is a way or life; it's how we get better."

Tips for preparing for an exercise

Maj. Jill Shaw, chief of exercise evaluations offers these tips to help make the most of every exercise:

1. Don't react differently—act as you would in an actual emergency.
2. Don't simulate—this is your chance to use your training and tools.
3. Follow your checklists—in times of crisis you may overlook small details.
4. Take time to teach—exercises are a chance to mentor your staff.
5. Correct mistakes immediately—prompt instruction will instill knowledge and keep information fresh in your mind.
6. Ask questions—EET is on the scene to make sure you get the most out of these experiences.



Maj. Paul Kasuda, 82nd Security Forces Squadron commander, briefs Col. J. R. Tillery, 82nd Support Group commander, at an exercise Jan. 9. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Nathan Broshear)

Seize the teachable moment—one lesson at a time

By Laura McGowan

Base public affairs

As we come upon the day we celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday, I began to reflect on the lessons he left behind concerning peace and equality for all people.

I began to think about my experiences and what I teach my children.

Basic Training

In July of 1976, I was in basic training at Lackland Air Force Base. My training instructor selected me to be the bay chief, and I marched my flight to the different places we were required to go.

One evening after "lights out," I was totally exhausted and looking forward to getting a little sleep when I sensed someone close. I turned around and Peaches, who was from Georgia, was up near my bed staring at me.

I asked her what she thought she was doing, and she said she had never seen a Negro in person. I was so very tired and didn't feel like going through this lesson, so I

said, "Peaches, rub my arm so you can see that the black doesn't come off, and then go back to sleep." She did, and she did.

Later when I had a chance, we talked more. She was just curious and wasn't meaning to be disrespectful. I let her ask questions that I couldn't believe anyone could believe, and I answered her questions and let her know that the same color blood that runs through her veins runs through mine, also.

I don't know whatever became of Peaches, but I know she has seen a Negro in person, and she knows a lot more about blacks than she knew when she first came into the military.

I have had many teachable moments in my life, and will continue to have them, I'm sure.

The "N" word

The first time I was called the "N" word, I was in 5th grade, and I didn't handle it in a way that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. advocated—peacefully. However, when my son

was five years old and was called the "N" word (and I heard it), I handled it a lot differently.

We lived at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, and I was getting ready to go and teach. I ran outside and asked, "Who said that?" All of the other children pointed to a cute blonde-haired boy who was about 8 or 9 years old. I asked him what his name was and where he lived. He told me his name and pointed to a house across the lawn. I said, "Well, since we're new here, let's go to your house so I can meet your mom."

When we got to the house, I rang the bell, and his mother came to the door. I introduced myself and said I'd like for her son to tell her what he called my son. She demanded he tell her at least three times before he said it.

She was horrified. She apologized and wanted him to apologize to my son. I told her that that was O.K. because my son didn't even know what a "N" was. If her son had called my son stupid, he would have cried for days. I just wanted

her to know what her son had said so they could handle it.

On another occasion, my son was getting ready to sit down at a lunch table at school, and one of his classmates said that he could not sit by her because he was black. I talked to his teacher about it, and she talked to the girl only to find out that she was taught at home that African Americans were inferior—period.

Out of that incident, I was asked to organize that school's first Cultural Diversity assembly six years ago, and we will be celebrating our 6th annual Cultural Diversity assembly in February.

Dr. King would have been so proud. Social Actions came to the school with me and showed an eight-minute video about a boy named Blue. I read the *Butter Battle* book by Dr. Seuss, and then I took out a yellow delicious apple and a red delicious apple.

I asked what the obvious differences were. Then I cut the apples in half and peeled them a bit and asked what

the differences were. They couldn't tell the apples apart without the skin.

I explained that's how people are. We're different on the outside and have different life experiences, but we're the same on the inside and are all part of the human race. We are of the same species.

We have come a long way from having to sit on the back of a bus and drink from separate water fountains; however, there is still some work to be done by everyone.

Comfort zones sometimes act as barriers to interacting with people who are different from us. Ample opportunities are available to chip at the wall, and the events of September 11, 2001 should inspire us or propel us to continue chipping, because that day showed the world what can happen when hatred has gone amuck.

Every nationality was represented in the World Trade Center. See, even our enemies think of us as the same — Americans.

Comedians bring big laughs to Sheppard's enlisted club tonight

By **Master Sgt. Jeff Szczechowski**

Base public affairs

The base enlisted club continues its commitment to providing Sheppard members a quality venue for night time entertainment, when it presents the *M L K Weekend Comedy Jam 2002* tonight at 8 p.m. in the enlisted club ballroom. Doors to the show open at 7:30 p.m. Comic View Comedians D'Militant and Lonie Love are featured, and they'll offer up their hilarious perspectives on life exclusively for Sheppard members. Walt-Bruce – new to the Comic View Comedians

team – will host the event, which is open to all ranks. Tickets are \$5 for club members, and \$8 for non-members. Reserved seating is available with advanced ticket purchases.

Comedian Darryl Littleton, otherwise known as D'Militant, studied music and theater at Cal State University in Long Beach, Calif. He worked in the stage production of "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" and "Jobie," and worked the lead in Julian Barry's "Lenny." His studies continued at The Inner City Cultural Center under Shirley

Jo Finney (The Wilma Rudolph Story) and at Marla Gibbs' Crossroads Theater, and it was at this time that the comedy bug bit. Littleton flexed his comedic muscles by writing and doing voiceover work for "The Tom Joyner Morning Show," the top-rated radio program in the nation. He experimented with parodies, sketches and developed his own repertoire of characters, including D'Militant.

Littleton's character was so popular it was heard on PREMIERE radio system for two years. Meanwhile, he made numerous television appear-

ances on shows like the "HBO Comedy Jam," "Showtime At the Apollo," Robert Townsend's "The Parent 'Hood," and even won the grand prize of \$10,000 on ABC's "America's Funniest People." His character was also showcased on BET's hit comedy show, "Comic View," laying the foundation for what would become a five-year relationship with that program. Littleton has written material for Cedric, The Entertainer ("The Steve Harvey Show"), Don "DC" Curry ("Grace Under Fire"), and D.L. Hughley ("The Hughleys").

Lonie Love, a Detroit native, believes in the joy of love and laughter. She is a graduate of Prairie View A&M University in Texas, and studied acting with the talented Veronica Redforest of "The Young & the Restless," and Chris Berman of "Second City" and the "Carol Burnett Show."

Love has starred in numerous theater productions, including "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" and "Devil's Journey." She is currently appearing in commercials for the German pro-

See COMEDY, Page 12

Government travelers can keep perks for personal use

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AETCNS) — People who travel at government expense can now keep the perks they earn for personal use.

Effective Dec. 31, 2001, a change to Section 1116 of the fiscal 2002 National Defense Authorization Act allows travelers to keep benefits such as points or miles, upgrades, access to carrier clubs or facilities, or other promotional items, announced S. W. Westbrook, director of the Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee.

In a memo announcing the change, Westbrook said the policy applies to promotional items received before, on or after Dec. 31, 2001. The material must be obtained under the same terms as those offered to the general public and must be at no additional government cost.

One example cited in the memo was the voluntary relinquishing of a seat on an airliner. Under the policy change, a traveler may keep payments from a carrier for vacating a seat. However, no additional expenses, such as per diem,

may be paid as a result of the traveler's delay.

"Additional travel expenses incurred as a result of voluntarily giving up a seat are the traveler's financial responsibility," Westbrook said.

When a traveler is involuntarily denied a seat, the traveler enters "Awaiting Transportation" travel status for per diem and miscellaneous expense reimbursement. In that case, any monetary compensation, including meal and lodging vouchers, belongs to the government.



For the latest weather reports, the base weather flight provides the following:

- *Current observations: 855-9045
- *Forecasts, warnings, watches and advisories: 676-6995
- *82 TRW internet weather page: <https://26ows.barksdale.af.mil/sheppard/>

(Courtesy of the 80th Operation Support Squadron)

AETC celebrates 60 years of training

By Master Sgt. Michael Briggs

AETC public affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AETCNS) — When they began flying training operations during World War II, the members of the Army Air Corps Flying Training Command could probably never have envisioned the growth and changes in their industry.

More than 25 million graduates later, the recruiting, training and education arm of the Air Force observes its 60th anniversary Jan. 23.

Today, the members of Air Education and Training Command are doing things not even dreamed about on the pages of comic books and science fiction novels six decades ago. Air traffic controllers hone their skills using virtual-reality equipment to simulate every aspect of their operations. Medical specialists train with computer-enhanced manikins that can display a plethora of human symptoms. The first class of F-16 pilots to qualify flying with night vision goggles graduated recently.

This would all have been considered “space age” stuff 60 years ago, when the air corps was conducting basic flying training using biplanes and jet engine designs were still on the drawing board.

At the same time, AETC remains actively linked to its heritage today. Take the T-6A Texan II, for example. The newest trainer aircraft in the Air Force inventory connects the past to the present, as it is named for an aircraft used to train aviators during World War II: the T-6A Texan.

The heritage of the command and the people who conduct the mission are the rea-

sons AETC has remained the longest continually operating major command in the Air Force, said Gen. Don Cook, AETC commander.

“The men and women who conduct our mission today follow in the footsteps of the great active duty, Reserve, Guard and civilian airmen who forged and developed this command,” the general said. “It is our heritage that binds us together, our innovative spirit that keeps

See AETC, Page 10

AETC

Continued from page 9

us out front, and our warrior drive that will build on our successes as we move forward into the future.”

What began as an effort to meet the demand for aviators during World War II has evolved into a mission that now touches the lives of all Air Force people at some point during their careers.

The AETC of today originally began as three separate commands in the 1940s. For lineage purposes, the command traces its roots to the Air Corps Flying Training Command, since that is the command the technical training and education commands joined to eventually form Air Training Command in 1978, which later became Air Education and Training Command in 1993.

The Army stood up the Air Corps Flying Training Command Jan 23, 1942, in Washington, D.C. In July 1943, the technical training command and basic military training function joined the flying training command to form the Army Air Forces Training Command.

That year, the command graduated 11,411 pilots and 600,000 technicians, according to the command history. Those numbers dwarf the training production of today's smaller force that produced about 7,400 total aviation graduates and 131,000 technical training graduates in fiscal 2001. The command has become significantly leaner in terms of people and bases since World War II. At the peak of the war, the training command consisted of 461,656 people and 438 training bases. Today, 101,000 people conduct the mission at 13 training bases.

By the end of World War II, the command was feeling the effects of a drawdown. It was reduced to 39 bases and

fewer than 200,000 members. In 1946, the named changed from Army Air Forces Training Command to simply Air Training Command. Also that year, Air University, the element that would eventually put the word “education” in AETC's mission and name, stood up as a major command.

By the mid-1950s, the command had experienced the birth of the Air Force as a separate branch of the military, increased production to provide aviators and technicians for the Korean War and was again facing a drawdown. A critical function of training for the war effort occurred in June 1950 when Air Training Com-

mand began to pick up the crew-training mission. That mission expanded to the point that ATC established the Crew Training Air Force in 1952, which eventually went back to Tactical Air Command and Strategic Air Command in 1958.

Also in the '50s, the command assumed operational control of Air Force recruiting on March 6, 1954. Later in the decade, in 1957, the command headquarters moved from Scott Air Force Base, Ill., to Randolph AFB, Texas, where it remains today.

AU joined the command in 1978, left again in 1983 to become a major command again

and returned to the command July 1, 1993, when ATC became AETC. When AETC stood up as a command, initial aircraft qualification training for all aircrew members returned to the command.

From its beginnings in World War II to today's Operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle, AETC has adjusted and refined its missions to provide America's Air Force, other branches of the military and allied nations more than 10 million technical training graduates, nearly 300,000 pilots, 160,000 navigators, 9 million graduates from field training programs, more than 5.2 million basic military

training graduates and nearly 500,000 graduates from officer training and ROTC programs, according to the command history.

For more details about the history of AETC, people can visit the command historian's Web site at www.aetc.randolph.af.mil/ho.



Soundoff

What does readiness mean to you?



“Prepared for all things, alert, watchful, vigilant.”

- *Airman 1st Class Rodney Tinsley, student, 362nd TRS*



“Being alert and knowing my responsibilities. Being prepared to accomplish tasks.”

- *Airman Basic Jenni Ginger, student, 362nd TRS*



“Readiness to me is being prepared mentally and physically and planning ahead.”

- *Airman Joseph Mojica, student, 362nd TRS*



“As an MTL, it’s ensuring every airman I lead is one hundred percent prepared for any type of deployment—worldwide.”

- *Tech. Sgt. Michael Tate, military training leader, 362nd TRS*

COMEDY

Continued from Page 7

duction line, "Virginia Chicken." For the past three seasons, she has performed on "Comic View." She is also the host of the "Comedy Clinic" at the Ice House in Pasadena, Calif, and performs regularly at the Laugh Factory and Comedy Store in Hollywood. In the past, she has opened for many talented performers, such as Renaldo Rey, Guy Torre, DC Curry and Eddie Griffin. Love has additional theater and film projects due for release later this year.

"We want to bring the Sheppard community together, and give them quality entertainment," said Gary Carithers, enlisted club manager. "For those who feel that the club doesn't offer them any entertainment, that there is nothing to do here, we hope this show will help to change that perception."

Carithers said he and his staff will continue to work extra hard to permanently remove the notion that the e-club doesn't offer enough for its members. Besides the Comedy Jam, he pointed out that Circle of Nine, a "true Blues" band, will perform at the e-club on Saturday, and

that guitarist Jeffery Smith will appear there on Jan. 25. He would like to get even bigger names to headline at the e-club in the months ahead, and a good crowd for tonight's show would be a solid indication that the base community endorses his plan.

"We're working hard for



Lonie Love



D'Militant

our enlisted club membership, trying to give them something to do on base, instead of having to go downtown to have a good time," said Carithers. "If tonight's show gets the support we hope it will, if we can start building support for this sort of thing, then we hope to keep this going."

For more information on what promises to be an evening of huge laughs and great fun, call the enlisted club at 6-6427. The show is intended for mature audiences.

Achievers

982nd Training Group

The 982nd Training Group's annual award winners for 2001 were as follows: CGO of the Year—Capt. Paul Sturges, 373rd TRS; Senior NCO of the Year—Master Sgt. William Medlin, 372nd TRS, DET 17; NCO of the Year—Tech. Sgt. Scott Collins, 372nd TRS, DET 17; Junior Enlisted of the Year—Senior Airman Dimikio Osbond, 373rd TRS; Civilian of the Year (GS-9 and above)—Arthur Dunn, 373rd TRS;

Civilian of the Year (GS-8 and below)—Lee Kent, 373rd TRS, DET 1.

82nd Medical Group

The 82nd Medical Group's annual award winners for 2001 were as follows: CGO of the Year—Capt. Anne Whitis, 82nd MDOS; Senior NCO of the Year—Master Sgt. Susan Neil, 82nd MDOS; NCO of the Year—Tech. Sgt. Martha

See **ACHIEVERS**,
Page 18

Family advocacy center honors fallen airman

The family advocacy program at Sheppard hospital will be renamed the "Airman 1st Class Chattler Family Advocacy Center" during a dedication ceremony today at 9 a.m.

Chattler was assigned to family advocacy for her first assignment out of basic training. She had been on active duty for less than a year when she died unexpectedly on June 2, 2001 of viral encephalitis.

"The short time she was on active duty, she excelled tremendously," said Senior Master Sgt. John Farrell, 82nd Medical Group first sergeant.

As the Exceptional Family Member Program coordinator, Chattler increased the enrollment in this DOD program by over 25 percent. Her job performance contributed to Sheppard's family advocacy program receiving the highest Health Services Inspection rating in over six years. Chattler's promising career was also evidenced in her Career Development Course end of course exam, on which she scored over 90 percent. For all these accomplishments, Chattler was named Airman of the Quarter for her flight, squadron, group and wing. Shortly after receiving these honors, Chattler died at the age of 27.

After her death, the men and women at the family advocacy center decided to rename the center in honor of Chattler as an appropriate way to honor her memory, said Farrell. (*Courtesy of base public affairs*).

Civilian personnel answers questions about new data system

Effective Feb. 15, the Air Force will deploy the Modern Defense Civilian Personnel Data System, also known as CIVMOD. This Department of Defense system will replace the civilian personnel data system currently used throughout Air Force.

The primary impact on permanent civilian employees will be that they will no longer be automatically considered for promotions. Employees will be required to self-nominate (apply) for any positions in which they are interested. During briefings presented on Dec. 14, Jan. 7 and Jan. 14, employees were presented information and guidance on the application procedures under the new system.

Following are some of the most frequently asked questions that arose during the briefings. People with on-base computer access can find additional information in Sheppard's Public Folders, 82 MSS Information – Civilian Personnel.

QUESTIONS

1. Will the number of promotion candidates that may be referred to a selecting official change with the new merit promotion changes in CIVMOD?

A: No. Though the AFI provides that all best qualified candidates may be referred, our local GS union contract stipulates that a list of 10 (up to 15 for tiebreakers) best-qualified employees will be referred to the selecting official. The union contract takes precedence.

2. If the system says that I am not qualified, does it say why?

A: Yes. There are system codes that will indicate if you lack time-in-grade, lack specialized experience, etc.

3. Can the selecting super-

visor look at a resume for permanent employees?

A: Permanent employees are not required to develop a resume in order to be considered for positions within Air Force. However, a "skeletonized" resume will be available for the supervisor. It resembles the same experience and placement briefs that are used under the current system; i.e., it includes skill codes, education, training, appraisal data, etc.

4. I am a current Training Instructor, GS-1712. Will it show in the new system that I am GS-1750 qualified?

A: When a base-level staffing specialist determines an employee is GS-1750 qualified, the employee's name is sent to the Training and Instructional Systems Career Program. This information is not reflected on the career brief or on the career program registration page. Staffing specialists at the career program manually screen

promotion rosters to ensure employees referred for selection meet the GS-1750 qualifications criteria.

5. How do you get your PIN number to access the Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) or a password to access the Employee Benefits Information System (EBIS)?

A: If you already have a PIN for IVRS and a password for EBIS, those will still be valid. If this is your first time using the system and you have never established a PIN for IVRS, you will need to call the BEST Line, 1-800-997-2378. At the prompt, enter your social security number. When prompted for your PIN, enter your birth month and year (example: if you were born in January 1963, your PIN would be 011963). Listen carefully to the complete menu for the action you desire. If you have never established a password in EBIS, you must first access the AFPC secure website at

www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afpcsecure. Instructions on establishing the password are easy to follow. Just be sure to have your service computation date (SCD) and date of birth handy.

6. If a person will be retiring, when will the vacancy announcement for that position appear on the web site?

A: If management decides to backfill the position, the fill request will be submitted to the local Civilian Personnel Office no earlier than when the current incumbent submits his retirement papers. The vacancy announcement will be posted after the position clears the Priority Placement Program and the fill request is forwarded to AFPC.

7. If a permanent employee is temporarily promoted to an

other position, does he have to self-nominate later in order for it to become a permanent promotion?

A: Not necessarily. Management may choose to recomplete the filling of the position. In this case, the incumbent would be required to self-nominate. However, if the incumbent's temporary promotion was made using full competitive procedures, the supervisor could opt to make the promotion permanent without further competition. In this case, the incumbent would not be required to self-nominate.

Be sure to read the *Sheppard Senator* next week for more questions and answers. (Courtesy of civilian personnel)

General activities

Women's self defense class

The community activity center will host a women's self-defense class, instructed by Harley Elmore of Warrior's Way, Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for ages 16 and up. There will be individual attention given while techniques are being shown. Participants are advised to wear comfortable clothing for this class. For more information call 6-3866.

Computer class

The Madrigal Youth Center is hosting a special computer course for its members. Basic computer to Microsoft Windows 2000 will be available. Classes will be held every Wednesday, beginning Jan. 23, from 4-5 p.m. Limited space is available. For more information, call 6-KIDS.

Upcoming trips

JFK Museum and Medieval Times

Information, tickets and tours will sponsor a Jan. 26 trip to the JFK Museum, West End and Medieval Times. The cost is \$59 per person. The trip departs from the community center at 9 a.m. Those interested should register no later than Tuesday.

North Hills Mall

Information, tickets and tours will sponsor a Feb. 2 trip to North Hills Mall. The cost is \$15 per person. The mall is located in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex and has a patio food court, Imagisphere Children's Museum and a unique selection of local and regional retailers. Those interested must register no later than Jan. 29.

Club activities

Comedy jam at e-club

The enlisted club will present the Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend Comedy Jam 2002. Comic view comedians D'Militant and Lonie Love will perform at the enlisted club ballroom tonight. Walt-Bruce, new to the Comic View Comedians team, will host the event. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., and the show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for club members and \$8 for nonmembers. Reserved seating is available with advance

ticket purchase. The show is for mature audiences. For more information, call 6-6427. (See story on p.7).

Enlisted club dining

The enlisted club will be open for dining in the Chiefs and Diamonds room Wednesday and Saturday nights from 6-10 p.m. The club managers special offers two dollars off the food or beverage item of the customer's choice with a minimum \$4 purchase. The enlisted club also offers several meeting rooms for private bookings and special events. For more information, call 6-2083.

Big Bucks Club Card drawings

Officers club and enlisted club members are now eligible for the Big Bucks Club Card drawings held every Friday from 6-7 p.m. at both clubs.

Enlisted club music night

The enlisted club will host motown, blues and jazz night every Sunday from 6-11 p.m. Call 6-2083 for more information.

E-club hours

The enlisted club observes Martin Luther King Day Jan. 20 with extended hours in the main lounge from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. For more information, call 6-2083.

Live "true blues" band

The enlisted club invites Sheppard to come out and listen to true blues band "Circle of Nine" perform live Saturday. This event is free for club members and \$5 for nonmembers.

Live jazz performer

Jazz recording artist Jeffery Smith of Dallas will perform live at the enlisted club Jan. 25 from 5-9 p.m. and at the officers club Jan. 26 from 6-10 p.m. This event is free for club members and \$5 for nonmembers. For more information call 6-2083 or 6-6460.

Family night at e-club

The enlisted club will host family night Thursday from 5:30-8 p.m. Participants can enjoy the family buffet and register for assorted door prizes. This event is sponsored by Chaney Financial Group. (No Federal endorsement of sponsor intended)

At the Flicks

Friday 6:30 p.m.

Behind Enemy Lines

Friday 9 p.m.

Not Another Teen Movie

Saturday 2 p.m.

Black Knight

Saturday 4:30 p.m.

Behind Enemy Lines

Saturday 7 p.m.

Not Another Teen Movie

Sunday 2 p.m.

Behind Enemy Lines

Sunday 4:30 p.m.

Not Another Teen Movie

Thursday 6 p.m.

Behind Enemy Lines

This schedule is subject to change without notice. For movie information, call 6-4427.

Behind Enemy Lines (PG-13) – Gene Hackman, Owen Wilson – A Navy pilot is shot down over enemy territory and struggles to survive. With time running out, his commanding officer goes against orders to carry out a desperate rescue mission.

Black Knight (PG-13) – Martin Lawrence, Tom Wilkinson – Jamal works unhappily at a di-

lapidated theme park called Medieval World. After falling into the park's moat, he crawls out into fourteenth century England.

Not Another Teen Movie (R) – Chyler Leigh, Chris Evans – In this parody of teen movies, the all-American football star takes a foolish bet to turn the school outcast into the prom queen at John Hughes High.

Chapel Schedule

Student programs

Tuesday, 11 a.m. and 4:15 p.m., chapel rope meeting, North Chapel
Saturday, 5 p.m., Solid Rock Cafe, South Chapel
Sunday, 5 p.m., Student bible study and activity night, North Chapel

Catholic activities

Mass

Saturday, 5 p.m., North Chapel
Sunday, 9 a.m., North Chapel
Sunday, noon, North Chapel
Mon.-Fri., 11:30 a.m., Hospital Chapel

Religious education

Sunday, 10:20 a.m., classes for preschool through adult, Bldg. 962

Reconciliation

Saturday, 4-4:30 p.m., North Chapel

Protestant activities

Worship services

Sunday, 9 a.m., Liturgical Communion, South Chapel
Sunday, 10:30 a.m., Inspirational Gospel Service, South Chapel
Sunday, 10:30 a.m. Protestant Community

Service, North Chapel

Religious education

Saturday, 5:30 p.m., Growing in God's Grace, South Chapel
Sunday, 9 a.m., classes for ages 3 to adult, Bldg. 962

Bible studies

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., South Chapel
Thursday, noon, South Chapel
Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Protestant Women of the Chapel, Bldg. 962
Saturday, 6:30 a.m., Protestant Men of the Chapel Bible study
Second Saturday of month, 8 a.m., Protestant Men of Chapel breakfast

Lay-led faith groups

Islamic activities, Friday, 12:45 p.m., South Chapel
Jewish activities, call Maxine Simpson, House of Jacob Synagogue at 322-4177
Latter Day Saints, Sunday, 2 p.m., Hospital Chapel
Mystic Grove Pagan Study Group, Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Bldg. 962.

For more information, call the base chapel at 6-4370

Student Views: The Air Force is no laughing matter

By Airman 1st Class Allan Rice Jr.

361st Training Squadron student



If you would have asked me one year ago about joining the military, I probably would have laughed in your face and walked off. Sure, I had spent four years with the AFJROTC in high school, and my father spent twenty years with the Air Force, but I had no intentions of joining the military. I thought, "what do they have to offer me?" But then I saw one of those commercials for the Air Force with the planes flying, and those people with all that pride and courage on their face. It was my senior year in high school, and my options were running low.

But, I still thought the military was not my style. I still laughed at the thought. In fact, I laughed all the way to the recruiter's office, MEPS, and eventually basic military training. There weren't any options left. Yes, I joined the Air Force, but I thought the Air Force was just a big joke. I knew what to expect as far as BMT, tech school and the military lifestyle, and I found it funny how people in my situation couldn't handle it, and that I ended up there in the first place.

Then, one morning I turned on the television. I hadn't started my tech school yet and I was on details. I saw two very familiar, tall buildings engulfed in smoke and flames, and I saw them eventually collapse. All of a sudden nothing was funny to me anymore. It was at that moment that I knew I had to get serious. However, I did not know how my part in the 'world's greatest air power'

could help defend this nation of ours.

I recently graduated from technical training here at Sheppard. I am an aerospace propulsions apprentice for the C-130 aircraft, or a jet engine mechanic, if you will. I had no mechanical background whatsoever. I probably couldn't have told you the difference between a hammer and a screwdriver. The training I received here has made me realize that everyone's job is important to one another. If I didn't have the knowledge that I now have about my job, it would not

be possible for the aircraft I work on to complete the mission it is tasked to do.

So, having realized that I do play a big part in the Air Force, when I went through the school, I did everything to the best of my ability. I thank my instructors for making it easy for me to understand my job.

I also had the pleasure of being a rope, or student leader, which helped me build leadership skills and character. It gave me chance to step up and show what I was made of.

Aside from the training, living the military lifestyle was not as bad

as I thought it might be. The people on base were very warm and friendly, especially the officers that everybody seems to fear. It was very nice to see Col. Caudill, 82nd Training Group commander, make a visit to the Jets school to help out my class in some maintenance we were performing. The base facilities were also excellent. From bowling, to the gym, to the theater, to the BX, there was always something to do.

All in all, the military isn't half bad. In fact, I think it's something that everyone should consider. I plan to stay with this for a while. I went home for the Christmas exo-

dus, and the look of envy and respect on everyone's face back home made me glad to be doing something with my life. I hope that later on, I can become a military training instructor at Lackland Air Force Base, or become an officer. I'm not a high achiever; if I make lieutenant general, I'll be satisfied. This is great, though. I'm not laughing any more about the military, but I'm smiling gladly. If you were to ask me today how I feel about joining the Air Force, I'd tell you "I wouldn't have it any other way."

ACHIEVERS

Continued from Page 12

Briggs, 82nd AMDS; Junior Enlisted of the Year—Airman 1st Class Jason Hrdina, 82nd MDOS; Civilian of the Year (GS-9 and above)—Rodney Leonard, 82nd MDOS; Civilian of the Year (GS-8 and below)—Gloria Perez, 82nd MDOS.

82nd CS

The 82nd Communications Squadron's quarterly award winners for October through December were as follows: CGO of the Quarter—1st Lt. Deborah Hummel, Senior NCO of the Quarter—Master Sgt. Connie Trombley, NCO of the Quarter—Staff Sgt. Adinah Kimbley, Airman of the Quarter—Airman 1st Class Michael Vollmer, Civilian of the Quarter (GS-8 and below)—Melody Ellis.

383rd TRS

The 383rd Training Squadron's quarterly award winners for October through December were as follows: CGO of the Quarter—Capt. Carmia Sykes, Senior NCO of the Quarter—Master Sgt. James Sedoris, NCO of the Quarter—Staff Sgt. Lawrence Guajardo, Civilian of the Quarter—Robin Hart.

372nd TRS

The 372nd Training Squadron's quarterly award winners for October through December, 2001, were as follows: Senior NCO of the Quarter—Master Sgt. Marc Biren, Det 5; NCO of the Quarter—Staff Sgt. Jeffery Eddings, Det 13; Airman of the Quarter—Georgianna Alvarez; Civilian of the Quarter—William Reaves.

2002 Top Tech postponed

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. – Top Tech X, previously scheduled for April 8-12 at Goodfellow Air Force Base, is postponed until the spring of 2003. Top Tech is an AETC-level competition conducted biennially by Second Air Force. This highly competitive event focuses on instructional excellence of technical training instructors, military training leaders (MTLs) and military training instructors (MTIs) by showcasing the best of the best.

“We have very talented instructor and base support teams across our wings and groups, and Top Tech is one way to showcase just how good we are,” said Major General John F. Regni, Second Air Force commander. “But I also know there’s a significant behind-the-scenes investment of time, manpower and even fundraising to conduct Top Tech at the level of excellence it deserves. We have been very busy in 2001, and as we enter 2002 I feel we need to concentrate on our primary mission of

providing officer and enlisted troops to operational units in a timely manner. Given the increased demands of Operations ENDURING FREEDOM and NOBLE EAGLE, we need to focus our manpower on solving time-sensitive issues impacting the world of technical training, and do our part replenishing stressed operational units fighting our war on terrorism.”

Although this competition is delayed, group and wing commanders will continue acknowledging outstanding performers through base- and MAJCOM-level awards programs. These awards salute individuals who make significant achievements and demonstrate high measures of dedication and expertise.

“We look forward, with great anticipation, to honoring our ‘Top Gun’ instructors in the spring of 2003 at Top Tech X at Goodfellow Air Force Base,” said General Regni. *(Courtesy of Second Air Force)*

TELEPHONE MAINTENANCE AND SWITCHBOARD CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS: People who are not satisfied with maintenance or telephone operator service can file an Air Force Form 714, Customer Complaint Record, and send it to 82 CS/SCMT, Stop 36. For more information, call 676-2054/4433/5581.

Briefs

Blood drives

American Red Cross blood drives are held from 3-7 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of each month in the student center. All those eligible to donate blood are encouraged to do so.

annual awards banquet will be held Feb. 5.

The guest speaker will be Chief Master Sgt. Robert Martens, AFSOC command chief.

Those interested in attending should contact their first sergeant for tickets and additional information.

Bowl-a-thon

The Sheppard-Falls NCOA Chapter 1419 will be having a bowl-a-thon Jan. 29 at the south lanes.

The \$10 cost includes three games and a meal.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Olmstead at 6-6214, Master Sgt. Durst at 6-

5333 or Tech. Sgt. Johnson at 6-5339.

Change to dental sick call hours

Starting Feb. 4, the afternoon dental sick call will begin at 1 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The morning dental sick call will remain at 7:30 a.m. Monday through Friday. This change will allow better service for dental patients. The clinic apologizes in advance for any inconvenience this change may cause.

Please contact the dental clinic at 6-4474 for more information.



Slips, Trips and Falls

Slips

• Factors like weather conditions and housekeeping work can create slippery surfaces and wet floors.

• Uneven walking areas and certain types of shoes also pose a hazard.

Trips

• Damaged steps or congested walking areas cause trips.

• Running or walking in unlit areas or being in a hurry are sure ways to invite injury.

Falls

• Eliminate the hazard when possible (i.e. broken chair, unstable ladder, etc.)

• Practice good judgment—don't lean back in a chair or climb on unstable shelving or tables.

• Use handrails when ascending or descending stairs.

Prevention

• If something is creating a potential slip, trip, or fall hazard...take care of it (repair it, remove it).

• Place signs to warn others until the potential hazard is eliminated.

• Be attentive—watch where you step.

• Use common sense.

(Courtesy of the 82nd Training Wing safety office)

TRICARE travel benefits

Non-active duty Prime or TRICARE Senior Prime beneficiaries may be reimbursed for travel expenses when referred by their primary care manager more than 100 miles one way for medical care. Receipts for all expenses are required for claim. This entitlement is retroactive to Oct. 30, 2000.

For more information, call beneficiary services at 6-4413 or 6-604.

Telephone directories

The new Greater Wichita Falls Telephone Directories for 2001-2002 have been delivered and are ready for pickup at Bldg. 24. For more information, call at 6-2054.

Housing office stresses bus stop safety

Everyday, children are dropped off and left unattended at bus stops in family housing.

The base housing office reminds parents that they have a responsibility to make sure their children behave appropriately and don't damage people's property. They are also encouraged to stay at the bus stop, when possible, to make sure their children are keeping safety in mind at all times.

Awards banquet

The 82nd Training Wing's

Views: Do you really know DOD equal opportunity policy?

By Master Sgt. Steve Keller
82nd MSS/MEO

When I first arrived at Sheppard two years ago, I was asked to write an article for the base paper. I had recently retrained into the military equal opportunity career field, and I didn't feel that I had enough experience to do justice to the subject. Today, after two years in the career field, I'm better prepared to address the DOD policy on equal opportunity.

Most servicemembers and DOD civilians say they understand the DOD policy on sexual harassment and discrimination. When asked the question, "What is the policy?" responses often go like this: "Zero tolerance. No member should be discriminated against based on race, color, sex, national origin or religion." Right answer. However, I found that many people don't realize the use of disparaging terms is also considered a form of discrimination.

Disparaging terms are words, phrases, or names used to degrade or connote negative statements pertaining to race, color, gender, national origin, religion or age. These terms include insults, jokes, printed material, visual material, signs, e-mail, symbols, posters or insignia. Based on my experience, the use of disparaging terms in the workplace or classroom is the most common violation of equal opportunity policy.

Over the past couple of years, I have heard varying interpretations of the DOD policy. Among those are:

"If you heard it on television, you can say it in the workplace."

"We know Sgt. Wilson is offended when we tell the jokes, so we respect her by waiting until she is not around to tell them."

"I've always called my closest friends by that term and it is

meant as a term of endearment, not a racial term."

"I'm proud to be a referred to as that term, so it doesn't bother me if my friends call me this. I even like the jokes."

"My coworker has a coffee mug that has a disparaging term on it. She doesn't mean anything by it."

"We don't use disparaging terms or tell jokes in front of instructors or MTLs, we just use them to help our class relieve some stress. None of my classmates are offended."

All of these interpretations of the policy are wrong. To comply with DOD equal opportunity policy, you must conduct yourself as a professional 100 percent of the time, in the workplace, the classroom, on or off duty and on or off base. Yes, if you conduct yourself inappropriately at a local establishment off base, you are still held accountable for your actions.

A typical scenario involves a

closely knit group of workers in an office or classroom in which an "understanding" exists that members of this group can behave in certain ways because the members know each other and are not offended. This situation is usually brought to light when someone goes "too far" with a joke or comment and someone becomes offended, or the comment is overheard by a bystander or guest in the workplace or classroom. Once the behavior is reported it will be addressed.

This involves the offended party contacting the chain of command or the base military equal opportunity office. If this scenario sounds like your office or classroom, consider your responsibilities to address the situation. You can do this simply by speaking up and explaining to your coworkers or classmates that their behavior is in violation of DOD policy, and asking them to refrain from making inappro-

propriate comments or jokes. This can be a very difficult thing to do, but the alternative is to risk your career by condoning the behavior and failing to act.

When I give an equal opportunity briefing, or conduct a first duty station class, invariably, the question is asked, "What can we say in the workplace?" or "Is there a list of off-limit terms or jokes?" The answer is, no, there isn't a list of acceptable or inappropriate terms.

If you are struggling with whether a comment or joke you heard on the radio is appropriate to repeat in class or in the duty section, ask yourself this question, "Would I tell this joke if my supervisor or mother were in the class or office?"

If the answer is no, then don't tell the joke. If the answer is maybe, then don't tell the joke. If you are still not sure, then ask yourself if being unsure is worth offending your coworkers and possibly risking your career.

Sports

MLK basketball tourney

The Ninth Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Men's Basketball Tournament will be held Jan. 19-21 at the north and south fitness centers. For more information, call 6-6336 or 6-6754.



Texas Rangers visit

Several members of the Texas Rangers will visit Sheppard Tuesday.

They will hold an autograph session from 4-4:45 p.m. at the main exchange.

In addition, people can register for three give-a-way trips for two to the Texas Ranger's spring training camp in Port Charlotte, Fla. The trips are sponsored by Destination Arlington (*No federal endorsement intended*).

For more information, call Denice Tilley or Janelle Shroads at 6-2302.

Squadron Cardio Combat

The base fitness centers invite all squadron members to participate in a new fitness challenge, called Squadron Cardio Combat. By participating in individual exercise regimes, anyone can track their workouts and score fitness points for their squadron. For more information, call the south fitness center,

at 6-2972.

Aerobics classes

The AerobiCenter is located in the south fitness center and offers coed aerobics classes seven days a week. Classes are offered as early as 5:30 a.m. and as late as 7 p.m. The classes include low impact, intermediate to advance exercises, floor and step exercises, muscle sculpting and kickboxing. Call 6-2972 for more information.

Golf specials

The Wind Creek Golf Course's specials include the following:

Now – Feb. 2 — *2 for 1 Student Special.* The cost is \$24 per person and includes golf cart, green fees, and rental clubs for two.

Now – Feb. 2 — *Tee 4 – 2.* This two-person special is available Fridays only, before noon. The cost is \$32 per person and includes an 18-hole cart (for two), 18-hole green fee (for two), cof-

fee or tea, and donuts (for two).

For more information, call 6-6369.

R & R: Return to fitness prescription program

Fitness programs are now available for adults over 50. An instructor leads the class through a low intensity and low impact strength training session. Some light aerobics may be involved. The classes are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8-9 a.m. at the south fitness center. The south fitness center has free personal trainers and aerobics classes. For more information, call 6-2972/7491.

South Bowling Lane Tournaments

The South Bowling Lanes will host the Colorama Tournament Jan. 5, at 7 p.m. Participants can bowl with lights out and knock down glowing colored pins in a special position to win cash. For more information, call 6-2170.