

Friday Partly cloudy to sunny Lo: 64°F Hi: 87°F	Saturday Chance of thunderstorms Lo: 65°F Hi: 93°F	Sunday Chance of rain Lo: 64°F Hi: 87°F
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Sergeant alternates bombs and songs
 See Page 7



365th TRS holds off 381st/383rd
 See Page 1B



Sheppard Senator



Combat Capability Starts Here

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Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas

July 30, 2004

SFS says farewell to four-legged hero

By 1st Lt. Nathan Broshear
 Base public communication

Staff Sgt. Pablo Martinez's best friend retired from active duty on Thursday.

Instead of bringing him a plaque or squadron coin, Sergeant Martinez threw him a rubber ball attached to a nylon rope. For his best friend, it was the perfect gift.

Dolfy, a military working dog at the 82nd Security Forces Squadron, received all the honors and accolades one might expect for a human security forces troop, including a Meritorious Service Certificate and retirement papers.

Tech. Sgt. Buffie Verhagen, kennelmaster at the squadron, said the picture-perfect long-haired shepherd's presence on the force will be missed.

"He's an amazing dog...gentle and obedient, but he's all business when it comes to explosive detection and patrol duty," she

said. "If he did not have these medical ailments, I know he'd gladly work for the rest of his life as a military working dog."

Dolfy was medically retired from active duty due to a degenerative back disorder which hinders him from performing patrol duty and other tasks. Although his condition causes him a significant amount of pain, Sergeant Martinez said his duty always overrode the discomfort.

"Dolfy will work all day for a few minutes of playing with his ball or a good scratch," he said. "There's no slowing him down, but searching high and low all day will certainly hurt him. This retirement is the most humane thing to do."

But don't worry too much for Dolfy. He's headed for a life of rest and relaxation.

"He's going from being a military working dog, to being just a normal family dog," Sergeant Martinez said. "We're going to

spoil him rotten." Sergeant Martinez and his wife are looking forward to the newest addition to their home. Until 2000, working dog handlers could not adopt dogs that were retired from active duty.

But under a program that screens retiring working dogs, he was able to bring home a new companion and protector for his family.

"Rosalind can't wait to have him home. She keeps asking me when he'll be at our house permanently," Sergeant Martinez said.

During his 5 1/2 years of military service – or 38.5 in dog years – Dolfy has served in a variety of deployed locations including Saudi Arabia, Mexico and Austin, Texas.

Dolfy has been responsible for searching vehicles, luggage, packages and buildings for some

See DOLFY, Page 4



Staff Sgt. Pablo Martinez looks down at his former partner and new family member, Dolfy, during a retirement ceremony for the military working dog. Dolfy specialized in explosive detection during her 5 1/2 year service to Sheppard.

Photo by 1st Lt. Nathan Broshear

On the Inside

International CAP students visit Sheppard

A group of international pilots visited Sheppard Monday but they weren't on base for Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training.

Young men and women from Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany and the United States toured Sheppard in a program associated the Civil Air Patrol called the International Air Cadet Exchange.

For full story, see Page 2.

Recommendation made for review of 517 jobs

The 82nd Training Wing has recommended an A-76 standard competition of 517 positions on base, according to the Competitive Sourcing Office.

The recommendation was the result of an in-depth study by the Competitive Sourcing Office of the costs and services performed by multiple base support functions. The study was conducted between October 2003 and May 2004.

For full story, see Page 2.

President gets budget

A 3.5 percent pay raise, elimination of out-of-pocket housing expenses and continued funding for military transformation are all parts of the \$416.2 billion Defense Appropriations Act that Congress has sent to President Bush.

Excluding supplementals and the \$25 billion Emergency Wartime Appropriation to cover the costs of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, this is still a \$25 billion increase over fiscal 2004.

For full story, see Page 4.

Index

- Activities8A
- Editorial7A
- Features6A
- News2-4A
- Soundoff8A
- Sports1-4B
- Spotlight8A

A promise made...

Airman makes good on promise to brother to serve

By John Ingle
 Editor

To Airman Diana Herbert, her reason for serving in the Air Force was simple – she made a promise.

She didn't seek or want the attention she's getting, but that doesn't change the enormity of her promise to her brother, Army Private 1st Class Rayshawn Johnson.

Airman Herbert, 18, fulfilled her pledge Wednesday when she graduated from the Aircraft Fuels Systems apprentice course. But, Private Johnson, wasn't at the graduation ceremony. He was killed Nov. 3 in Tikrit, Iraq, when the Humvee he was riding in hit a land mine. He was a combat engineer in the 299th Engineering Battalion, 4th Infantry Division.

"This was to fulfill a promise to my brother," she said. "It was the last thing he wanted me to do."

Airman Herbert said she had visited with a recruiter in Brooklyn, N.Y., weeks before her brother's death. She had even taken the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery and was waiting to learn when she would enter.

Her brother had spoken with her about how the Army had changed his life and how it could change hers. It would be a change that would take her from the foster family system in New York the two and their younger brother, Michael Johnson, had known for years.

She was returning from a movie when she saw



Airman Diana Herbert holds a photo of her brother, Private 1st Class Rayshawn Johnson, that ran in her hometown newspaper following his death in Tikrit, Iraq, in November.

Photo by Senior Airman Chris Powell

Michael outside their home, crying. "He never cries," she said, sensing something wasn't right.

That's when she heard of her Private Johnson's death.



Photo by Senior Airman Chris Powell

Airman Diana Herbert, a recent graduate of the 361st Training Squadron's Aircraft Fuels Systems apprentice course, gets ready to climb into the fuel cell of a C-130 trainer. Airman Herbert promised her brother, Private 1st Class Rayshawn Johnson, that she would enlist in the military.

"My first reaction was 'it's not true. Maybe it was someone else,'" she said. "He always protected me. I always relied on him."

Airman Herbert said the news of his death didn't really hit home until about a week afterward when she and Michael had received a letter from Private Johnson.

"When my letter came ... my younger brother thought he was alive," she said.

Airman Herbert struggled through the first weeks of basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, often thinking of her brother when Taps would play. Her thoughts would immediately go to the day her family buried her brother.

As the days passed and she continued on to technical training here, she looked to her brother for strength and encouragement.

"Anytime I feel I can't do anything, I think about him," she said. "It reminds me why I'm here, and makes me want to try harder."

Airman Herbert's next assignment is at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, N.M., where she will work on A-10 Warthogs and C-130 Hercules.

But, there could be a sequel to this story of triumph over tragedy. Her younger brother, Michael, is planning to join the Marines; another testament to the impact one person – one Soldier – can have on someone else.

Sheppard wins big at Texas AFA convention

By 1st Lt. Nathan Broshear
 Base public communication

Sheppard was named the best in Texas Saturday at the Air Force Association Texas State Convention in Fort Worth, Texas.

Col. H.D. Polumbo, 80th Flying Training Wing commander, and Col. Marc Atkinson, 82nd Training Wing vice commander, jointly accepted the award for Texas Military Organization of the Year. The 82nd TRW and the 80th FTW were nominated jointly as one organization for the convention.

"The fact that both wings work as one for volunteer



events, charitable work and community partnerships is well known in Wichita Falls," said Lt. Col. John Gorla, AFA Chapter 284 President. "But it's great to be recognized by our peers as leading the way state-wide."

Colonel Polumbo praised the men and women of Sheppard's AFA organization for their commitment to revital-

izing the local chapter.

"This group went from life-support to full-of-life in only 18 months," he said. "They've been raising money for the Solid Rock Café, Junior ROTC programs at local high schools and scholarship programs for area youth ... the AFA at Sheppard is a powerful, positive influence in Texoma."

Colonel Gorla said although

Sheppard was named the best in the state, the honor is also a reflection of the support Sheppard gets from local communities.

"This award is the culmination of many people's efforts," he said. "Our community partners, along with the members of the AFA, are helping to spread the word about America's aerospace future and

the importance of science in the classroom."

During the AFA banquet, held at the Green Oaks Hotel in Fort Worth, Capt. Ruben Matos, formerly of the 82nd Medical Group, received the Officer of the Year award for his work at Sheppard, on an extended deployment and his commitment to community service. Captain Matos will also be honored next month with the presentation of the Bronze Star medal for his actions in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

During an awards luncheon held the same day, Sheppard's

See AFA, Page 4

International students 'CAP' off Sheppard visit

By Carolyn Knothe
Base Public Communications

A group of international pilots visited Sheppard Monday, but they weren't on base for Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training.

Young men and women from Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany and the United States toured Sheppard in a program associated with the Civil Air Patrol called the International Air Cadet Exchange.

IACE was established in 1946 by the UK Air Training Corps and the Air Cadet League of Canada to develop international friendships. The United States joined the program in 1947 and many other countries around the world have followed suit.

"IACE follows many of the same ideas as ENJJPT," said Capt. Chris Van Vliet, the Canadian Senior National Representative at the 80th Flying Training Wing. "It removes stereotypes and promotes understanding between countries."

Capt. Larry Lees with the Oklahoma contingent of the Civil Air Patrol agreed.

"The cadets come here to learn about two things," he said. "They learn about aviation in the United States and culture in the United States."

The group has been in the United States since July 20 and has visited Washington, D.C., in addition to their trips to Oklahoma and Sheppard. They made a special trip to Sheppard because of the ENJJPT program and the interest many of the cadets have in aviation.

"I fly the Grobttutor, a two-seater trainer in the Royal Air Force," 19-year-old Cadet Kirsten Lobban said. "It is similar to the T-37 that you have here, but much more basic."

Not all of the cadets have aspirations to be pilots, however. Yves Provencher, from Quebec, Canada, wants to be a musician.

"I got involved in Air Cadets (of Canada) because of the music, but

there is also much to learn in the knowledge of airplanes," he said.

Captain Van Vliet said the IACE cadets are interested in more than just flying an aircraft.

Many of them develop an interest in the technical side of flying," Captain Van Vliet said.

The cadets commented on their exposure to American culture and geography with humor.

"It's very hot and flat here," Cadet Provencher quipped.

"One of the best parts of our trip has been living with an American family," Cadet Lobban, from Scotland, said.

"Everyone has been so welcoming and friendly, and our host family even has a pool!"



Photo by Carolyn Knothe

Civil Air Patrol cadets and personnel take a look at a T-37 Tweet static display during the group's tour of Sheppard Monday. Six international CAP cadets from Germany, the United Kingdom and Canada, as well as their escort toured the home of the Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training Program during their visit.

More than 500 jobs to be reviewed during A-76

By James McReynolds
82nd Training Wing competitive
sourcing manager

The 82nd Training Wing has recommended an A-76 standard competition of 517 positions on base, according to the Competitive Sourcing Office.

The recommendation was the result of an in-depth study by the Competitive Sourcing Office of the costs and services performed by multiple base support functions. The study was conducted between October 2003 and May 2004.

Two A-76 town hall meetings were held July 14 to update Team Sheppard on the A-76 preliminary planning project. The town hall meetings were not a public announcement of an A-76 competition.

It was only a status report about preliminary planning activities leading up to a potential competition.

At the conclusion of the research, a

Competitive Sourcing Decision Package was constructed. The decision package is the wing's recommendation to Air Education and Training Command and the Air Force on whether or not an A-76 standard or streamlined competition should be conducted.

The recommendation doesn't necessarily mean a competition will occur. The recommendation must still be approved by AETC, the Air Force, Department of Defense and the President's Office of Management and Budget.

There will be an announcement and competition only if all levels approve the recommendation.

It is impossible to say how long the staffing and approval process will take. The Competitive Sourcing Office expects this process to take 60-90 days, but could take longer.

For questions regarding Competitive Sourcing or the preliminary planning process, please call 6-2555 or send an e-mail to a76@sheppard.af.mil.

WSOC: forging leaders for tomorrow's Air Force

By John Ingle
Editor

Remember the old adage "can't see the forest for the trees?"

Sheppard leadership is helping lieutenants and junior captains "see the forest for the trees" as they learn about the bigger mission through the Wing Squadron Officers Course.

Col. Joseph L. Brown, 82nd Training Wing Inspector General and advisor to the course, said the one-week course is designed to give the young officers more tools to put in their tool kits to make them more effective leaders and managers, and improve their interpersonal skills.

"We're leaning forward here at Sheppard and developing our people because when they leave here, we want them to be able to stand up and be able to meet those issues head on without flinching," he said, adding the

The next Wing Squadron Officer Course is scheduled to begin Monday at the Sheppard Heritage Center. For more information or to sign up, call Capt. Jillian VanEns at 6-6509.

ultimate goal is to create a successful officer.

Wing, group and squadron commanders provide insight during the course, discussing topics from leadership to force development, he said.

Senior enlisted members give the officers a glimpse of what the enlisted corps is about and discuss enlisted issues.

"We offer them a very broad mix of experienced people coming in to give their perspective," Colonel Brown said, "and ultimately have a greater impact on the mission."

The WSOC was created in 1998 when Sheppard senior leaders recognized the need for junior officers to have a course that would further develop leadership characteristics.

The WSOC was designed to meet the need for Professional Military Education between the Aerospace Basic Course for new officers and Squadron Officers School for more experienced officers.

"This one kind of bridges

the gap between the brand new and the seasoned officers," Colonel Brown said.

The extra course has been successful, the colonel said. Students have approached him on their own volition to express their gratitude for the course and how they've been able to take what they learned at WSOC and incorporate those concepts in their every day jobs.

He said they've garnered a new appreciation for other career fields across the base, especially when it comes to Sheppard's two wings.

"When we merge the 80th (Flying Training Wing) personnel with the 82nd (Training Wing) personnel, they gain an appreciation for what the other does," he said.

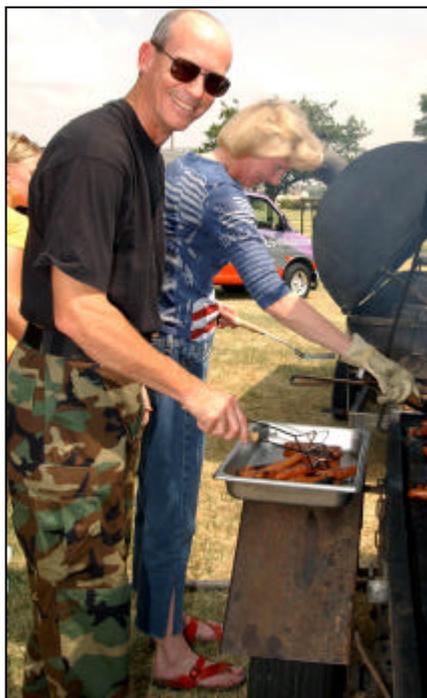
The next WSOC is scheduled to begin Monday at the Sheppard Heritage Center. For more information about the course, contact course administrator Capt. Jillian VanEns at 6-6509.

For more Air Force news, check out www.af.mil.

Have some old furniture, clothes or lawn equipment to sell? Call the Times Record News at 761-5151 to place an ad.

Thank you Team Sheppard enlisted members

Photos by Mike Fiore



Above, Brig. Gen. James Whitmore, 82nd Training Wing commander, and Col. Rebecca Russell, 82nd Medical Group commander, take up some hot dogs from the grill during Enlisted Appreciation Day July 22. Below, the chow line snakes around the hospital pavilion as hungry Airmen line up for food.



Flames from a barbecue pit jump out as 1st Lt. Sara Carder, 363rd Training Squadron, gets ready to grill some hamburgers. The Company Grade Officers Council hosted an Enlisted Appreciation Day July 22 at the hospital pavilion to say thank you to all enlisted members of Team Sheppard. More than 600 people were served hot dogs and hamburgers during the event.



Master Sgt. Steve Sinatra, center, 82nd Training Wing safety office and fill-in singer for local band Tillage, watches the band's lead guitarist, Airman 1st Class Will Taylor hammer out a riff during Enlisted Appreciation Day July 22. Kevin Wells, the band's bass player, watches from the background.



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A spending we will go

Congress sends \$416.2 billion budget to President Bush

By Jim Garamone
Armed Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — A 3.5 percent pay raise, elimination of out-of-pocket housing expenses and continued funding for military transformation are all parts of the Defense Appropriations Act that Congress has sent to President Bush.

The act calls for \$416.2 billion in spending in fiscal 2005. Excluding supplementals and the \$25 billion Emergency Wartime Appropriation to cover the costs of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, this is still a \$25 billion increase over fiscal 2004.

Congress passed the legislation July 22. It is the first part of a duo of bills that must pass before the Defense Department can spend money. The other leg is the fiscal 2005 National Defense Authorization Act. Officials on the Senate and House armed services committees would not hazard a guess on when that piece of legislation will pass.

DoD does not have to wait until passage of the authorization bill to begin using the \$25 billion Emergency Wartime

Appropriation. This money will cover the estimated cost of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan from October 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005. The most recent reports indicate operations costs run about \$4 billion per month.

The emergency appropriation covers personnel support costs, operations and maintenance costs and transportation costs.

The appropriations act calls for \$416.2 billion in spending in fiscal 2005. Excluding supplementals and the \$25 billion wartime fund, this is still a \$25 billion increase over fiscal 2004.

Military personnel accounts receive almost \$104 billion. This funds an across-the-board 3.5 percent pay increase for military personnel. The fiscal 2005 budget raises the basic allowance for housing, finally eliminating out-of-pocket housing expenses service members had incurred.

The program started in the Clinton administration, and in a fine example of bipartisan politics was continued in the Bush administration, said DoD officials.

The Defense Health

Program is also fully funded at \$18.2 billion in fiscal 2005. It includes a \$19.2 million to improve amputee care at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Operations and maintenance accounts total just over \$121 billion in fiscal 2005. It fully funds all readiness indicators — tank miles, flying hours, steaming days — and ensures forces are trained for the global war on terrorism.

Procurement accounts are at \$77.6 billion. This funds buys of Navy and Marine Corps F/A-18E/F fighters, Marine and Air Force V-22 Osprey aircraft, the Air Force's F/A-22 fighter, Air Force C-17 airlifters and unmanned aerial vehicles.

Research and development is pegged at almost \$70 billion, including money for continued development of the Joint Strike Fighter, unmanned aerial vehicles and the Army's future combat system.

Congress is very hot on the idea of "ground forces recapitalization." This initiative provides \$1.5 billion above the president's budget request to recapitalize combat vehicles, helicopters and to procure ammunition.

The money funds the fielding of an additional Army Stryker brigade, money to modernize the Bradley fighting vehicle, money to buy eight more Chinook helicopters and 12 Black Hawk choppers for the National Guard.

Congress agreed with the cancellation of the Army Comanche helicopter program and the DoD plan to redistribute funding to other programs.

The appropriation bill provides more than \$11 billion for shipbuilding, including funds for a Virginia-class submarine, an LPD-17 assault ship, three DDG-51 destroyers and two supply ships. The budget earmarks almost \$1 billion for the next-generation CVN-21 aircraft carrier and \$457 million for development of the littoral combat ship program. These ships are a new breed of fast, agile vessels and an important part of the Navy's transformation efforts.

Missile defense programs account for \$10 billion of the fiscal 2005 budget. About \$4.6 billion goes to ground-based missile defense program and almost \$1 billion for the Patriot-3 theater missile systems.

Briefly Speaking

Giant voice tests

In accordance with the new Force Protection Condition measures, the command post will conduct a weekly "giant voice" test at 12 p.m. beginning Monday.

If imminent weather is in the local area, the test will not be conducted.

Road construction begins today

A section of Second Avenue between Avenues D and E will be closed for construction beginning Monday.

The roadway will be closed for about three weeks to replace the deteriorating asphalt.

Road delays should be expected as the lanes could be reduced to one lane on both avenues during specific phases of the work.

For more information, call Jay Gilmore at 6-5704.

Unit advisory council to hold fundraiser

The 360th Training Squadron Unit Advisory Council will host a fundraiser at the BX Tuesday featuring "Paleface," the squadron's famous longhorn steer.

The fundraiser will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Paleface will be available for rides and photos for \$5 per person.



Pet owners have responsibilities

Pets are welcome on Sheppard, but pet owners do have special responsibilities for care of their pets.

The pet area must be kept clean to control and prevent vermin infestation. Pet droppings will be picked up on a daily basis.

Pet owners are also responsible for picking up pet feces while walking their pet on base. Scoop it up and dispose of it properly.

Pets, including cats, must be under constant control, on a leash or chain; animals placed outside must be in an enclosed fenced area if left unattended. For more information, call 6-5769.

Safety Zone to promote child safety

A base-wide event to educate the Sheppard community on child safety is scheduled for Aug. 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Madrigal Youth Center parking lot.

Personnel from the 82nd Security Forces Squadron, family support center, the Wichita Falls D.A.R.E. program, Sheppard Fire Department and others will be on hand to provide information about keeping children safe.

Thrift Shop hours

The Thrift Shop hours have changed due to unforeseen circumstances.

The shop will be open only on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Consignments will be taken from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The Thrift Shop will not be open on the first Saturday in August or September. For more information, call 6-0310.

Block party rescheduled

The block party that was to be held in Wherry Housing has been cancelled and will be held in Capehart Housing.

The "Cool at Capehart" Pool Party will be Aug. 21 from 6 to 9 p.m. There will be watermelon and beverages available.

Everyone is invited to participate in family fun, music and games. To volunteer for the event, call 6-3866, 6-8459 or 6-7695.

LEAD Phase I sign-up underway

Applications are now accepted for Leaders Encouraging Airmen Development Phase I, a program for highly qualified airmen to attend the Air Force Academy Preparatory School with the intention of Air Force Academy appointment to follow.

The applicant must not have passed their twenty-second birthday on July 1 of the year entering Prep School and be unmarried with no dependents. The LEAD Phase I program has been a great success in the past. Selected airmen will attend the Air Force Academy Preparatory School.

Airmen may also be selected to enter directly into the Air Force Academy. Potential applicants should start now to beat the Jan. 31, 2005, deadline for applications to be at the Air Force Academy. Interested airmen should visit with a counselor in the Education Services Center, Bldg. 402, Room 306, very soon for additional information and assistance in preparing an application. The Air Force Academy Admissions Liaison Officer on Sheppard is Maj. Joe Houk. He can be reached at 6-8414. Additional information may be found at: <http://www.academyadmissions.com/home.htm>. Information on the Air Force Academy Prep School can be seen at the Air Force Academy Preparatory School website at: <http://www.academyadmissions.com/admissions/prepschool/index.htm>.

Video 'demystifies' SNCO board process

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER - In an effort to educate all Airmen on senior enlisted promotion boards, the Air Force Selection Board Secretariat and the Enlisted Promotions Branch here have partnered to produce a new video to help shed light on the inner workings of the selection board process.

A copy of the video, entitled "How Senior NCOs Are Promoted to Senior and Chief," will be distributed in September to each Air Force installation public affairs office, military personnel flight, command chief master sergeant, as well as to all NCO academies and the Senior NCO Academy.

The video provides an insider's view of boardroom activity at the Air Force Personnel

Center, including how records are scored and what board members actually do when evaluating candidates for promotion.

"It's important for all enlisted personnel, as well as officers and civil service employees who supervise them, to know how the Air Force promotes senior NCOs to the top two grades," said Senior Master Sgt. Nathalie Swisher, video production coordinator.

The video explains the process from the way board members are chosen to sit on selection boards to how board members impact the final promotion list. One point of emphasis is the importance of each master and senior master sergeant keeping his or her records current and correct.

AFA

Continued from Page 1

civilian trainers were in the spotlight as they scooped up two honors.

Timothy Robbins, an aerospace propulsion instructor at the 361st Training Squadron, won the award for Technical Training Civilian Instructor of the Year while Technical Training Support Civilian of the Year went to David Ferry, an equipment management supervisor at the 82nd Training Group.

"The job at the 82nd Training Wing is so multi-faceted, we're working on training for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter and the ground equipment that goes with these systems," Mr. Ferry said. "I could not have won this award if it wasn't for the people in my group that have guided me and mentored me along the way. Also, the support of my family has been critical in my success."

This sentiment was echoed by Mr. Robbins. "My wife has put up with long hours of overtime and last-minute deadlines ... her support gives me the drive to keep going," he said.

The AFA individual awards aren't just about job performance. Other criteria that were considered were community involvement and higher education pursuits.

Lt. Gen. John D. Hopper Jr., Air Education and Training Command vice commander, was the keynote speaker at the awards luncheon. During his speech he stressed the importance of training on battlefield readiness and specifically praised the instructors of the 80th FTW for preparing combat-ready pilots.

"Their performance during Operation Iraqi Freedom has been incredible," General Hopper said.

DOLFY

Continued from Page 1

of the most high-profile leaders in government.

"In Austin, Dolfy helped to enhance the safety of the First Lady's visit to the city," the sergeant said, "and he's been directly involved with several visits by the President and Vice President of the United States."

One particular mission that Dolfy went on had a particular importance. During the Unity of the Americas conference in Mexico, Dolfy helped to protect the site for a group of distinguished visitors: The presidents from every country of North and South America.

"We were responsible for securing President Bush's vehicle, the buildings and checking gifts that were presented to dignitaries such as President Vicente Fox," Sergeant Martinez said. "Dolfy seemed to understand that his job was important, and he gave 100 percent every day."

At Dolfy's retirement ceremony, Sergeant Martinez noted that human military members work for their country and monetary compensation while military working dogs devote their service for their favorite toy and compassion from their handlers.

only after he completed his tasks...now, he can play all he wants," Sergeant Martinez said as he paid Dolfy for his service with the white rubber ball that has motivated his canine counterpart to protect countless men and women from harm.



Photo by 1st Lt. Nathan Broshear

Military working dog Dolfy gets a jump start on "a dog's life" Monday during his retirement ceremony.

"Thank you my friend," he said. "The U.S. Air Force and the United States of America thanks you."

*Loading bombs
and singing songs*

Instructor aims for stardom

By Airman 1st Class Jacques Lickteig
Staff writer

He grew up in a small, Texas town, singing along to Hank Williams, Merle Haggard and other country music legends, daydreaming about performing for a large crowd.

But Staff Sgt. Chris Brade shelved his childhood ambition of becoming a professional singer five years ago to serve his country in the world's greatest Air Force.

Now, the armament instructor from the 363rd Training Squadron is shaking the dust off his dream and finding it's not as impossible as it seemed.

He and his agent, Jason Dauman from Dauman Music, met with Henry Marx, the chief executive officer of Sin-Drome Records, earlier this month in Beverly Hills, Calif., to discuss a recording contract.

During a lunch meeting, they discussed Sergeant Brade's willingness to tour often and sing other people's songs, Sergeant Brade said.

Afterwards, Bill Dern, senior vice president of Sin-Drome Records, and Mr. Marx listened to Sergeant Brade perform live.

"I think Henry Marx is very interested in Chris," Mr. Dauman said. "There's genuine interest there. We've just got to do a little more strategizing."

Sergeant Brade seems confident about his chances, but he said the heads of the record label only heard him sing self-written songs.

"It's always better to have a well-known songwriter backing you," he said. "The decision makers might take more than a glance at your recordings if there's a name they recognize on it, and they have more of a chance of helping that song become a hit."

Sergeant Brade is scheduled to meet with Mr. Marx again in Nashville in November to further negotiations.

But this time he'll be armed with professionally-written songs.

Songwriter Diane Warren, who wrote for many artists such as Tim McGraw, Faith Hill, Cher and Celine Dion, wrote one of Sergeant Brade's

demo songs, "Last Kiss". Rodney Crowell, singer/songwriter, wrote "Ladder of Love," Sergeant Brade's other demo song.

But even if the demo secures a record deal, Sergeant Brade will continue an Air Force career through the Air National Guard or Air Force Reserve.

When it all began

Although it seems like his career could launch in one night, Sergeant Brade invested countless hours of work to reach his goal since he was 8 years old, when his parents bought a guitar, he said.

He taught himself how to play it. Then, he started singing along to the music he made and developed his own style, he said.

When he was 13, he and his brother joined a band called Country Boys. He headed the group for about three years.

At 16, he became the lead singer and guitarist for a bigger band, Wild Country.

They performed at dance halls around Giddings, his hometown, most Friday and Saturday nights for about three years.

After graduating high school in May 1998, he applied to join the Air Force.

"I knew I wanted to pursue a country music career, but I needed to do something with my life until I could get my career going," Sergeant Brade said.

He said while he was waiting to get into the military, he landed an audition with Emotions, the top dance hall circuit band in his area.

A week before he was scheduled to go to basic training, a member of the band called Sergeant Brade to tell him he'd got the job.

But he didn't let that sway his decision to join.

"I figured I'd already signed up for the Air Force so I decided to finish my six years," he said. "I knew I'd still have my voice, so I thought I'd pursue my career when I got out of the Air Force."

Finding inspiration

He said he didn't anticipate chasing



Photo by Airman 1st Class Jacques Lickteig

Staff Sgt. Chris Brade, an armament instructor at the 363rd Training Squadron, plays his guitar at Sheppard's main gate. Sergeant Brade is negotiating a record deal with Sin-Drome Records, a record label out of California.

his dream during his military obligation. But, when he was stationed at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., in 2000, he met a fellow Airman who changed his mind.

He said he was playing and singing in his backyard, and his neighbor, Tech Sgt. Jeffrey Daws, approached him.

"I was amazed," Sergeant Daws said about when he heard Sergeant Brade singing. "I loved the way he played and sang."

Sergeant Daws described his music as something that is from the heart that tells a story people can relate to.

Sergeant Daws inspired Sergeant Brade to play for audiences again and get in the studio, Sergeant Brade said.

He joined another band, Mending Fences, and played with them as the secondary lead vocalist and guitarist.

With the help of friends and neighbors, he started recording his first album, a self-titled compact disc with four songs he and Sergeant Daws wrote.

"We worked on recording for about nine months straight," he said.

He said they sent the record to every

radio station and every label they could.

A few of the local stations played his music, and he landed an interview on one of the stations.

He also played every venue he could, including a 30-minute show at the base exchange at Edwards to say goodbye to the base before he left.

He came to Sheppard Aug. 1. He competed in Texoma Idol within the first week he was here, but he didn't make the top ten.

"After that, I was ready to pack my guitar away and call it quits. I couldn't even place in a local talent competition," Sergeant Brade said.

Catching a break

But his rut didn't last long. The Monday following the competition, Sergeant Brade got an e-mail from Mr. Dauman expressing his interest in representing him.

The talent agent visited Sergeant Brade's Web site, www.chrisbrade.com, and listened to his music.

"I thought, 'he is a very talented singer,'" Mr. Dauman said about his

first impression of Sergeant Brade's music. "He has a very unique, warm voice."

Since then, Mr. Dauman has scheduled his shows and marketed Sergeant Brade to different record labels.

Sergeant Brade plays for many charitable events, and he gives half of his CD sale profits to each charity for which he performs.

He has played for Pennies for Prescriptions, Relay for Life and he plays at the Red Door Senior Center about once a month.

He showcases for the Miss Wichita Falls and Miss Burleson competitions.

He also plays for private functions, such as Christmas parties, weddings and anniversaries.

Upcoming performances

He'll be scheduled to perform in front of JCPenney at Sikes Senter Mall Saturday from 4:30 to 5 p.m. as the pre-show entertainer for the Treble Makers recital.

He'll also be featured at Lucy Park Tuesday night as part of the Concert in the Park series beginning at 7:30 p.m.



Heatstroke

A life threatening disease for pets

Capt. Olivia Price
Sheppard Veterinary Treatment Facility

Each summer heatstroke claims many victims among our dog and cat population.

Heatstroke is defined as excessive body temperature – greater than 105 degrees F – due to fever or hyperthermia. This disease has many causes, and is usually preventable.

Most often, this occurs when owners leave their pets in an enclosed, parked car, or leave the pet outside without access to shade and water.

North Texas gets very hot in the summer and the heat index can rise well over 100 degrees on any day. Temperatures inside a hot, parked car can reach lethal levels within minutes.

Pets cannot perspire like humans and can overheat very quickly. This can also happen when pets exercise too much in the heat and are denied shade and clean water to help keep them cool.

Additionally, if you and your pet have just moved to the Wichita Falls area, make sure that you slowly acclimate your pet to the severe out-

door summer heat.

Symptoms of heatstroke include heavy panting, weakness, excessive slobbering from the mouth, vomiting and diarrhea, and maybe even coma or death. Pets that are not acclimated to hot, humid environments are especially susceptible to heatstroke.

If your pet is showing symptoms of heatstroke, quickly reduce the animal's body temperature by soaking it with cool water and seek veterinary treatment immediately. Without treatment, body temperatures can continue to rise to 109 degrees or greater, at which irreversible brain damage and organ failure will occur.

To keep your pet safe from this potentially lethal disease:

Never leave your pet in a parked car!

Only exercise your pet during the coolest times of the day.

Provide plenty of clean, cool water and shade for outdoor pets.

Provide adequate ventilation with screened, open windows, air conditioning, or fans for indoor pets.

Acclimate your pet to the outdoor heat.

Commander's Corner

Take 10 seconds to really think

By Lt. Col. Janelle Costa
383rd Training Squadron commander

Shortly after I arrived on base in late May, I heard some students say, "It's not illegal unless you get caught."

The implication of this statement is that it's okay to violate laws and regulations, just don't get caught. However, there are two major problems with this philosophy.

First, it violates our core values, especially integrity. If you don't embrace our core values, why are you in the military?

Second, it violates the laws of probability. If you habitually violate the rules, you will eventually get caught. It's just a matter

of time. Just ask the Airmen punished for underage drinking this past month.

Ask the Airman awaiting punishment for driving under the influence of alcohol and without insurance. Ask the Airman awaiting discharge after receiving an Article 15 for shoplifting. Ask the Airman with a bad conduct discharge serving an 8-month sentence in the city jail for his involvement with illegal drugs.

None of them thought they would get caught, yet they were, and the consequences beyond the immediate punishment can be severe and haunt them for years.

For those booted out with a general discharge, bad conduct discharge, or criminal

record, what employer will want to hire them? For those allowed to remain in the military with an Article 15, how eager is the military going to be to allow them to reenlist when thousands of others live by our core values and obey the rules?

So the next time you're tempted to violate the rules, take 10 seconds before you act to ask yourself these three questions:

Would your family be proud of what you're about to do?

Is it worth ruining your career?

Is it worth ruining your life?

I hope you will do what's right, have a great Air Force career, and serve your country with pride!



Photo by Mike Fiore

More than just calling cadence

Col. Mark Atkinson, 82nd Training Wing vice commander, presents the AETC Senior Military Training Leader of the Year for 2003 to Master Sgt. Jeff Taylor, the 82nd Civil Engineer Squadron's first sergeant and former 362nd Training Squadron MTL.

Take your pet to the vet

Tips to ensure a smooth appointment

By Jim Hale
82nd Services Division chief

I had the enormous pleasure of taking my kitty cat to the vet for his annual check-up and shots.

It took three people to hold him down to do what needed to be done.

They also wanted to check him for worms through a blood test. Well, the only blood drawn that day came from his dad, and I am happy to announce, I don't have worms! Maxwell, won that battle.

When taking your pet to the vet there are things you need to remember for the safety of yourself and your pet.

First, keep your pet on a leash or in a carrier. This provides you a placebo affect that you are somewhat in control. It also helps to prevent animals from visiting each other, spreading disease, or even biting other humans.

Second, when with the vet, be careful. The reason

they wear gloves and other protection is that there are bio-hazards present - blood, urine and other bodily secretions.

Third, watch out for claws and teeth!

Your pet is scared, you would be too. There only defense is to fight back. I find that wearing falconer gloves prevent deep bites and back claws.

Lastly, when you transport your pet to the vet, make sure it is safely secured and comfortable. You need to concentrate on the road for both your sakes.

Pets are a wonderful addition to your life. They are a part of your family and play a vital role in relieving stress. As you can tell, after this experience, I am stress free for at least another year.

The 82nd Services Division is concerned with its people. If you have any questions please contact our Safety Representative, Ms. Cindy Perpitch or you can contact me at 6-2745.

Pay attention to detail lead the charge in preventing mishaps

By Gen. Robert "Doc" Foglesong
U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (AFPN) – A recent rash of mishaps in my command compels me to ask all Airmen to take a moment to step back and assess attention to detail in their work and home activities.

Several mishaps within the past two months could have been averted if individuals had paid more attention to detail in their activity at hand. We had an F-16 ingest a plastic pod cover into its engine; a KC-135 crew damage its multi-point refueling system; and three F-15 aircraft sustain various levels of damage from bird strikes

within a two-hour period. In addition, during transport activities, a C-130 propeller unit was damaged when dropped from a forklift.

In off-duty activities, we've also had some preventable accidents. A couple was seriously injured in a head-on collision when the distracted driver drifted left of the centerline, and a motorcyclist is still in serious condition after he drifted wide in a turn and struck a guard rail.

These mishaps represent a disturbing trend that must be stopped before we lose an aircraft, or worse, a life. The investigations of these mishaps are still ongoing, but in each case there appears to have been an opportunity for the individuals involved to

pay closer attention to the task at hand. Had they paid closer attention, they would have been able to assess the risks of their actions and make a decision that could have reduced risk and potentially averted the mishap.

The investigations will likely yield recommendations to further improve procedures.

However, there is never a substitute for active leadership, at all levels, to keep everyone properly focused on completing their tasks correctly.

Whether it is a last check to remove covers before a jet engine start, or putting off distractions to keep in the proper lane while driving, I need commanders and supervisors to emphasize the

importance of keeping each individual focused on each task. Attention to detail, following established procedures and guarding against complacency are still our best front-line defense against mishaps.

You must put forth a renewed effort to emphasize attention to detail in daily tasks.

We cannot afford to lose combat capability by destroying an aircraft, aircraft parts, or other resources. And finally, we can never replace the enthusiasm and courage each individual brings to our Air Force if he or she is injured or killed in a preventable mishap. Do your part to lead the charge in stopping this trend of mishaps!

Action lines

Loud Car Stereos

Question: The Sheppard policy for loud car stereos is that you shouldn't be able to hear it more than 50 feet away. Every time I hear a loud car stereo, I run outside my house in hopes of catching the offender only to find out that the vehicle was either in the main gate area or driving down 1st Ave. along the Wherry housing fence. I was told by security forces that they would come out and investigate a com-

plaint, if I gave them the vehicle's identification.

Unfortunately, I work night shift, which means that I'm sleeping during the day. So by the time I get out of bed, get dressed and run outside, the car is long gone. Also, the fence around Wherry housing doesn't let you see the cars along 1st Ave and the main gate. That brings up two questions:

1) What are security forces doing to curb this annoyance?

2) Why can't they put up signs at the entrances of the base and housing areas?

I'm sure if drivers were actually aware of the base policy, they might consider turning down their stereos. Then maybe the housing residents won't be woken up several times while they sleep. I'm sure the lack of sleep is hurting personnel work performance and increases the likelihood of a mishap at work from being too tired.

Considering we are in the 101 Critical Days of Summer, you would think that not having tired drivers on the road would be a priority. I honestly cannot remember the last time that I slept more than six hours (or one hour on some days) without being woken up by music. You know if putting up the signs are too costly, let me know and I will help pay it. I know other residents would help pay too. We'll even make our own if we have to!

Answer: You are absolutely correct. Excessively loud music is an annoyance as well as a safety concern because it certainly distracts drivers.

Security forces patrols will stop and cite drivers who insist on driving with extremely loud music. The police services flight publishes a bi-monthly article in the Sheppard Senator. In the next edition, we will insert a cautionary warning to loud music offenders.

Submit your questions and concerns about Sheppard to action.line@sheppard.af.mil or call 6-2000.

Your submission may be printed in *The Sheppard Senator*.

Sheppard Senator

Brig. Gen. James Whitmore, 82nd Training Wing commander

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Sheppard Spotlight

15 lines of fame

1. Name: Jason Haufschild
2. Rank: first lieutenant
3. Organization and position: 89th Flying Training Squadron, T-37 instructor pilot
4. Most rewarding aspect of your job: Watching pilot training students progress during the first phase of their development into combat pilots for the NATO alliance.

5. Why did you join the Air Force? I wanted to serve my country in the military, and I always wanted to fly airplanes. The Air Force seemed like the best place to do both.

6. Favorite Air Force assignment: My only other assignment besides Sheppard was Minot AFB, N.D., where I was a squadron section commander for nine months while I awaited pilot training. I really liked the people and outdoor activities at Minot, but flying here at Sheppard would make this my favorite assignment.

7. Date

8. Hometown: Arlington, S.D., (Home of 999 happy people and one grouch)

9. Married or single (include your family if you'd like): Married to my beautiful wife, Alyssa. No kids. Alyssa is a services officer here at Sheppard.

10. Favorite thing(s) to do in your free time: Hunting, fishing, camping, snowmobiling and sailing.

11. Funniest childhood memory: You had to be there.

12. Favorite book or movie: "Band of Brothers."

13. Dream vacation: Lounging on a sandy beach on a Caribbean island with my wife..

14. If you could be anyone for one day, who would you be? A professional golfer - since I haven't got into golfing (yet) it would be fun to be good at it for a day.

15. Other than your family, what is your most prized possession? 1976 Chevy Pickup that my dad and I restored when I was 14.



IN FILM



The Terminal (PG-13)
 Today at 6:30 p.m.
 Tom Hanks, Catherine Zeta-Jones - An immigrant is forced to live at Kennedy Airport when his former war-torn country's borders are erased, voiding his passport and leaving him with no political home.



Around the World in 80 Days (PG)
 Today at 9 p.m.
 Saturday at 2 p.m.
 Jackie Chan, Steve Coogan - A Chinese thief steals a jade Buddha and seeks refuge in the friendship of a London inventor.



Dodgeball (PG-13)
 Saturday at 4:30 p.m.
 Sunday at 7 p.m.
 Thursday at 7 p.m.
 Ben Stiller, Vince Vaughn - The crew from Joe's gym enters a high-stakes dodgeball tournament in order to save their cherished local gym.



Two Brothers (PG)
 Saturday at 7 p.m.
 Sunday at 2 p.m.
 Guy Pearce, Jean-Claude Dreyfus - Twin tigers, one bold and one shy, are captured. One is becomes a circus performer, while the other becomes the companion of a governor's son.

82nd MDG members win awards

The following were selected as recipients of the 82nd Medical Group quarterly awards recently:

Second Lt. Jessica Beal, 82nd Medical Support Squadron, Company Grade

Officer; Master Sgt. Dianna Vallely, 82nd MDSS, Senior NCO; Staff Sgt. Khampheng Tomey, 82nd MDSS, NCO.

Airman 1st Class Jennifer Wilt, 82nd Dental Squadron, Airman; Tony McCurdy, 82nd

MDSS, Civilian, Senior Level; Jean Maxwell, 82nd MDSS, Civilian, Intermediate Level; and Alma Taylor, 82nd Medical Operations Squadron, Civilian, Entry Level.

Wing staff agencies announce award winners

The following were selected as recipients of the 82nd Training Wing Staff Agencies quarterly awards recently:

Airman 1st Class Rebecca Egger, Finance, Junior Enlisted; Staff Sgt. Jodi Schmidt, Finance, NCO; Master Sgt. Judith Richardson, Legal,

Senior NCO.

Capt. Matthew King, Legal, Company Grade Officer; Gary Brown, Safety Entry Level Civilian; Frances Goodwin, Training Operations, Intermediate Level Civilian; and Danielle Hurley, Finance, Senior Level Civilian.



No. 1

Clever Captions

The rules

1. Write an imaginative, humorous, tasteful caption for photo No. 1.
2. E-mail entries to sheppardsenator@sheppard.af.mil or call 6-7246.
3. Please include the photo number, your

name and phone number.

4. The winning caption will be printed in the *Sheppard Senator*.
 5. All entries are judged by the *Senator* staff.
- Good luck!

Club activities

Football Frenzy

Football Frenzy at the enlistment club is just around the corner. Watch the games at the club and enter for chances to win an all-expenses-paid trip to Florida to watch the Atlanta Falcons play against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, a paid trip to the Super Bowl and another to the Pro Bowl. Other prizes will include plasma screen TVs and X-Box Game systems.

Pre-season football games are Aug. 12, 13, 19, 26 and 27 at 7 p.m., Aug. 20 at 6:30 p.m. and Sept. 3 at 6:00 p.m.

The club will also show the Dallas vs. Houston game Aug. 14 at 7 p.m., the Dallas vs. Kansas City game Sept. 2 at 8 p.m.

Chapel schedule

Catholic services
Confession by appointment only

Sunday

Mass: 9 a.m. (south chapel); noon (Solid Rock Cafe); 5 p.m. (south chapel)

Daily Mass

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: 11:30 a.m. (south

chapel)

Protestant services

Sunday

10:30 a.m. Community Worship (Bldg. 1900)

10:30 a.m. Inspirational Gospel Worship (south chapel)

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Worship (Solid Rock Café)

Protestant Parish Ministries

Protestant Men of the Chapel: Saturday, 6:30 a.m. (south chapel)

Weekday Bible studies: Tuesday, 6 p.m. and Thursday, noon, (south chapel)

Protestant Religious education

Adult religious education, 9 a.m. (Bldg. 962)

Tuesday Bible study, 6 p.m. (south chapel)

Thursday, noon Bible Study, lunch provided (south chapel)

PWOC Thursday Bible study, 6 p.m.

PMOC Tuesday Bible study, 6 a.m.

For more information about other religious activities, call the base chapel at 6-4370.

Student stuff

FITS

Saturday - Water polo will

begin at 10 a.m. at the north fitness center.

Aug. 7 - Volley ball will begin at 10 a.m.

For more information, call 6-6336.

Student ministry

Solid Rock Cafe (Bldg. 450)

Monday through Thursday,

7:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Friday,

7:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Saturday,

1 to 11:30 p.m., Sunday, 1 to 9:30 p.m.

Sunday Protestant Bible study, 4 p.m.

Contemporary Praise

Worship Service, 5 p.m.

Holy Communion Worship,

10:30 a.m.

Praise and Prayer,

Wednesday, 8 p.m.

Students Awaiting Training

classes, Tuesday and Thursday,

8:15 to 10 a.m.

Chapel Ropes Meeting,

Tuesday, 11 a.m. to noon and

4:15 to 5 p.m.

Parents and Tots, Monday,

1:30 to 3:30 p.m. and

Wednesday, 10 to 11 a.m.

Praise Band Rehearsal,

Saturday, 10 a.m. to noon.

Solid Rock Saturday Meal,

6:15 p.m.



Sheppard Sports



Co-ed softball team gets national ranking after tourney

By Master Sgt. Jeff Szczechowski
Base public communications

A new team made up of players from Sheppard's men's and women's varsity softball programs began their first season this summer. The Sheppard Co-ed Senators made their debut recently during a tournament at Softball World in Euless, Texas.

Though the team finished the tourney with a 1-2 record, a victory over the Oklahoma City Majic Stix, which had already won two tournaments this year, and a hard-fought, 14-9 loss to Team Airport, from Wichita, Ks., and ranked 21st in the nation among co-ed softball teams, turned some heads. The Co-ed Senators returned home ranked 67th in the nation among 372 teams. Sheppard's other game in the tournament was against the Untouchables, a powerhouse ranked 7th nationally.

Since this is the team's first year, and there are no other Air Force co-ed varsity softball teams that Senators coach Ron "Bama" Brown is aware of, the Co-ed Senators do not have a set schedule.

He said that the team would only play in tournaments this year, but that they hope to find themselves in an Air Force or off-base league next year. The only upcoming games on the radar at this time are at a tournament in Carrollton, Texas, on Aug. 31.

Brown, who is a player-coach for the co-ed team; a pitcher on the Sheppard Senators men's varsity "A" team; and coach for both the Sheppard Baseball Club men's varsity "B" team and the Lady Senator's varsity team, is a veritable softball icon at Sheppard. When he's not playing in a game or coaching, he can often be seen tossing batting practice or taking swings with a few teammates during the weekend on Sheppard's softball diamonds. He said that his love affair with softball began 25 years ago. Now, a quarter-century later, he's playing on his first varsity co-ed team. Why did it take so long to get a mixed team started here?

"Mixed, or co-ed, softball seems to be gaining in prominence. It's really coming on big," he said. "But it was hard in years past just to get men and women's teams going, much less a combined team."

Brown said that between the thousands of innings he's played and coached, he took a few moments this spring to ponder one of life's greatest mysteries.

"You're just sitting out there one day and say, why don't we have a co-ed team?" he said.

And just like that, the making of the Co-ed Senators was set in motion.

There are some rules that are unique to the co-ed league, but for the most part, said Brown, the ballgames follow most of the same slow-pitch softball rules as other leagues. Here are a few of the differences:

- At all times, half of the players in the game must be women;
- The batting order has to be staggered so that the line-up is man-woman-man-woman throughout and
- If a man receives a walk, the next batter is automatically issued a base-on-balls.

As is the case in Sheppard's intramural softball league, where some teams have men and women on the roster, a 12" men's regulation softball is used when men are batting, and an 11" women's

regulation softball is used when women hit.

Brown tipped his hat to the women on the co-ed team—both active duty and spouses—saying they are holding their own in the field and at the plate. He said "playing like a girl" should be considered a compliment. He also said that the women seem to relish the challenge of playing with and against the men.

"Ultimately, everyone on the team is competitive and they want to play at a high level," Brown said.

Even though the Co-ed Senators won't be taking the field any time soon here, Coach Brown said there's plenty of great intramural action still taking place on Sheppard's playing fields. He encouraged others to come out to the games and cheer for their unit teams.

"People should really come out and watch and support their co-workers, if they're not playing," he said. "It's really a lot of fun."

As for himself, Brown said he plans on playing softball at least another 10 years.

"It's just fun. I like playing," he said. "I think there's a kid in me that I just can't get rid of."

Sports Briefing



Dominators win cup

The Sheppard Dominators won the American Darters Association Military Cup Challenge July 22 at the Riviera Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.

Although the name of the team is Sheppard Dominators, only one person of the three-person team, Troy Colen, is from Sheppard.

Richard Barter from Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C. and Hal Coleman from Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. are the other two members of the team.

Since the team members are from different bases, the cup will go to each base for four months.

Youth three-on-three basketball tournament

There is a three-on-three youth basketball tournament at 11:30 a.m. July 31 at the Madrigal youth center.

The event is free for participants. There will be divisions for youth ages 8 to 9, 10 to 12 and 13 to 15 for boys and girls.

There will be prizes for the teams that place first and second.

The deadline for registration is July 30. The forms are at the Madrigal youth center.

Volunteer officials are needed for the event. Call the Madrigal youth center at 6-2342, for more information.

National kid's day

National kid's day will be celebrated at Sheppard from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 31 at the Madrigal youth center.

Youth can dance with Billy Bob and the Green Machine; participate in video game tournaments; play in the Jupiter Jump, dunk tank; watch a movie on a big-screen TV and enjoy hot dogs, chips and a small drink.

There will also be door prizes given away every 30 minutes. Call 6-5437 for more information.

Seabee Golf Tournament

The Seabee Golf Tournament is today at 1 p.m. at the Wind Creek Golf Course.

The green fee costs \$25. The proceeds will go to the Seabee Ball.

There will be prizes awarded for first place team, longest drive, closest to the pin and longest putt.



Photo by Senior Airman Chris Powell

Joe Calderon, 365th Training Squadron, hits a line drive Tuesday during his game against the 381st/383rd Training Squadron. The 365th TRS won the game 12-9.

Late surge by 381/383 TRS not enough against 365 TRS

By Senior Airman Chris Powell
Senator sports editor

The 365th Training Squadron Eagles' bats were too powerful for the 381st/383rd Training Squadron Ball Busters to handle Tuesday as they won 12-9.

A two-run homer by Ball Busters' Andy Nelson and a sacrifice fly by Doug McCray helped to close an early gap to 7-6 in the third inning.

In the top of the fifth inning, the Eagles' Brian Wearer hit a long double to score John Bahuta and Joe Calderon to pad their lead 12-6.

The Eagles were still up 12-6 in the sixth inning, but a late rally from the Ball Busters made a game of it.

Andy Nelson started the inning by hitting a line drive up the middle for a single and his hit was followed by a line-drive single by Brian Muse to put a man on first and second base. Brad Evans blooped a single to score Nelson for the Ball Busters only score of the inning.

The Ball Busters played good defense in the bottom of the sixth as they caught two pop ups and threw out Kevin Taylor as he was sliding into first base to end the inning.

Knowing it was their last inning to make a comeback gave the Ball Busters motivation and that's exactly what they had.

JoJo Tobias singled up the middle and McDonald followed his hit with a single of her own. After a pop up by Kris Walker, Mike Trebing hit another single, but McDonald was called out at second. With a man on first and third and two outs, Andy Nelson hit a clutch bloop past the third



Photo by Senior Airman Chris Powell

Right Fielder Bill Muse, 381st/383rd Training Squadron, makes a catch during his game against the 365th Training Squadron.

baseman to score Tobias and Trebing, closing the gap 12-9. Eagles' pitcher Rich Prier was able to get Muse to hit a pop up to end the game.

AETC officials select three teams for Air Force Marathon

By 2nd Lt. Amber Millerchip
Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AETC-NS) – Air Education and Training Command recently selected three teams to sponsor in the 2004 Air Force Marathon.

AETC will send one men's, one women's and a coed team to compete in its respective open relay Sept. 18 at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Twelve team members were chosen based on prior marathon experience and running times, said 2nd Lt. Adam S. Vaccarezza, AETC Fitness and Sports Program chief. They completed nomination forms listing running times from the past three years. Selections were based on the information provided. There were no tryouts.

As command-sponsored teams, AETC Services will pay each team's entry fee, travel and lodging expenses and daily maintenance fees.

AETC Services is also paying the entry fee for one relay team from each AETC installation. Those teams have not been selected yet.

The sponsorship is an initiative to support the Air Force chief of staff's "Fit to Fight" program, Lieutenant Vaccarezza said.

The men's and coed team members are all from Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. Three members of the women's team are assigned to Randolph Air Force Base, and one is assigned to an AETC unit in California.

- The men's open relay team members are:
- Team captain, Capt. William Poteet, 308th Fighter Squadron
 - 2nd Lt. James Kepka, 56th Maintenance Operations Squadron
 - Senior Airman Charles Lawrence, 56th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
 - Airman 1st Class Joshua Terwoord, 62nd Aircraft Maintenance Unit

- The women's open relay team members are:
- Maj. Jennifer Kilbourn, AETC inspector general's office
 - Team captain, Capt. Jenise Carroll, AETC commander's action group
 - Capt. Cilla Peterek, Defense Language Institute, Presidio of Monterey, Calif.
 - 1st Lt. Alejandra Czerniak, 12th Mission Support Group

- The coed open relay team members are:
- Capt. Therese Losi, 56th Medical Group
 - Capt. Risa Riepma, 56th Aerospace Medicine Squadron
 - Team captain, Master Sgt. Tony Gurrola, 56th Medical Operations Squadron
 - Tech. Sgt. Lester Niepert, 56th Operations Support Squadron

The Air Force Marathon, traditionally held on the third Saturday of September in honor of the Air Force's birthday, had more than 3,500 participants last year. The relay course is 26.2 miles which is broken down into four legs. The longest leg is about 7.7 miles.

PME incorporates Fit-to-Fight program

By Tech. Sgt. David A. Jablonski
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Professional Military Education students will exercise under a more formal structure beginning in August as part of the Fit-to-Fight initiative.

Students will perform physical conditioning three days a week to reinforce the school's new focus, said Chief Master Sgt. Sharon R. Turk, vice commandant of the College for Enlisted Professional Military Education.

Even though many schools have moved toward this, it is not officially a part of the curriculum until August for the noncommissioned officer academies, and November for airman leadership schools, she said.

Course attendees will notice a focus on combat leadership throughout enlisted PME with lessons

such as national security strategy, joint-force components, expeditionary Airman, terrorism and force protection, force packaging and joint perspectives.

"The major difference in our curriculum today compared to before is that we are focusing on the combat environment versus a business environment," Chief Turk said.

These changes will be implemented at all levels of PME starting with Airman leadership schools, with added intensity as the level increases.

"Fit-to-Fight is an area where we need everyone's support because of the way it is performed while attending PME," she said.

Students will perform physical conditioning before, during or after the duty day, which last from 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. However:

- Schools have the flexibility to schedule exercise time.
- Constraints such as shower facilities, physical training access areas, and graduation schedules will

affect each school differently.

Each school will design its own physical-conditioning program ensuring programs consist of proper warm up, push-ups, sit-ups, running and cool down.

Every program will comply with guidance provided in Air Force Instruction 10-248. All students, no matter what fitness category, are allowed to attend PME. Instructors will perform an unofficial fitness assessment to determine students' fitness level. Based on their fitness level, they will be paired up with students in a like category. If someone is not physically fit, the instructors will support their fitness prescription to ensure safe workout activities. If no fitness prescription is received and the assessment indicates that the Airman is not physically fit, officials will work with and monitor his or her involvement in the program.

"The bottom line is that students must participate to the fullest extent possible in our fitness program," Chief Turk said.

Bowling

For more information, call 6-2170.

North bowling lanes closed on Wednesday nights

The north bowling lanes will not be open Wednesday nights for the remainder of summer. The center will fully re-open Sept. 7 to be ready for the fall bowling season.

Combo bowling every Thursday

Combo bowling will be held every Thursday at 12:30 p.m. at the south lanes.

For more information, call Donna Dobbins at 569-2430 or Vivian Umlah at 569-1619.

Rock It Bowl at the north lanes

A glow-in-the-dark Rock It Bowl takes place every Friday and Saturday night from 5 to 11 p.m. at the north lanes.

Bowling center birthday parties

The north and south bowling centers are available for birthday parties.

The cost is \$2 at the north lanes and \$1.50 at the south lanes.

The cost is more at the north lanes because it features Glow Bowling. Feel free to bring your own cake and ice cream, but all drinks and other food must be purchased at the bowling center snack bar.

Community center

For more information, call 6-3866.

Jeet Kune Do classes

There are Jeet Kune Do classes from 2 to 4 p.m. Sundays at the community activity center.

Cost is \$35 per month.

Tang Soo Do classes

There are Tang Soo Do classes from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays for people ages 7 and older. Cost is \$25 for adult members and \$20 for children members.

The cost for children who are non-members is \$25.

Call 6-6826 for more information.

Pool tournament

A pool tournament begins at 2 p.m. Saturday at the community activity center.

Trophies will be awarded to first and second-place winners.

Table tennis tournament

A table tennis tournament begins at 5 p.m. the second Saturday of every month. Cost is \$2.

Trophies will be awarded to first and second-place winners.

Chess tournament

The chess tournament is at 10 a.m. the last Saturday of every month.

Trophies will be awarded to first and second-place winners.

Fitness center

For more information, call 6-2972.

Aerobics at the north

All aerobics classes will be held at the new fitness center.

Push it to the Max

Push it to the Max is a free program that's designed to teach people how to do correct push ups and will improve push up ability.

The program is from 5:30 to 7 a.m. Tuesdays in the aerobic room at the south fitness center.

Air Force cycling program

This program is designed to promote cycling as a life-long recreational

activity that supports personal fitness goals.

For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Yulanda Moffett at 6 - 2972.

Spinning at the south fitness center

Spinning classes are at 4:30 p.m. weekdays at the south fitness center.

Aerobiccenter offers classes

The aerobiccenter, located in the main fitness center, offers coed aerobics classes seven days a week.

Abdominal class

Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11 a.m.

Cardio blast

Monday at 7:15 a.m.

Step aerobics

Tuesday and Thursday at 5:15 a.m.

Body pump

Monday at 6 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday at 9:15 a.m.

Thursday and Saturday at 11:30 a.m.
Wednesday at 6 p.m.

Yoga and pilates

Monday and Wednesday at 10:15 a.m.

Wednesday at 5 p.m.

Thursday at 6 p.m.

Saturday at 3 p.m.

Sunday at 4 p.m.

Basic step

Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7 p.m.

Sunday at 2 p.m.

Kickboxing

Tuesday and Thursday at 7 p.m.

Sunday at 3 p.m.

Intermediate step

Saturday at 10:15 a.m.

Advanced step

Monday, Tuesday at 5 p.m.

Combo step

Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11:30 a.m.

ITT office

For more information, call 6-2302.

Dallas Cowboys tickets on sale

Tickets are on sale for \$38 for the upcoming Dallas Cowboy season at the ITT office.

Seat locations are on the upper level corners and/or end zones.

Ticket orders are on a first come, first serve basis.

Acceptable payment methods are cash, check or club card. Payment is due when an order is placed.

Games available include: Cleveland, Sept. 19; New York Giants, Oct. 10; Pittsburgh, Oct. 17; Detroit, Oct. 31; Philadelphia, Nov. 15; Chicago, Nov. 25; New Orleans, Dec. 12; and Washington, Dec. 26.

Pool

For more information, call 6-6494.

Lap swimming

People can participate in lap swimming from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. until Sept. 24 at the main pool.

Pool passes

Pool passes can be purchased at outdoor recreation, ITT office and all of the pools.

An individual pass costs \$35 and a family pass pass is \$65.

Water aerobics

The water aerobics class is at noon, 5 and 6:15 p.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the main pool.

Softball

For more information, call 6-0491.

Permanent Party Monday/Tuesday

Team	Won	Lost	GB
82 MDOS/MDSS	11	1	--
366 TRS	11	3	1
363 TRS	9	3	2
362 TRS	8	3	2.5
80 FTW	6	5	4.5
82 MSS/SVS	5	7	6
82 SFS	5	8	6.5
AAFES	2	8	8
82 DENTAL	2	9	8.5
82 CS	0	12	11

Permanent Party Tuesday/Thursday

Team	Won	Lost	GB
365 TRS	11	1	--
364 TRS	11	3	2
82 CES-A	9	3	2.5
361 TRS	8	3	3
360 TRS	6	5	3.5
382 TRS	5	7	4.5
366 TRS-Elec.	5	8	7
366 TRS	2	8	7.5
381/383 TRS	2	9	8
82 CES-B	0	12	8
363 TRS	0	12	9

Student League

Team	Won	Lost	GB
363 TRS	11	3	--
365 TRS	9	3	.5
364 TRS	8	3	1
366 TRS	11	3	2
362 TRS	9	3	3
360 TRS	8	3	3.5
361 TRS	8	3	4

TSTV schedule

Informative, educational and entertaining programming is available 24 hours a day, seven days-a-week on Team Sheppard TV, channel 14. In addition to Department of Defense productions, the base public communication office produces local programming exclusively for Team Sheppard.

For more information about TSTV or to share your ideas with the TSTV staff, please contact public communication at 6-1327 or check out our Web site at <http://www.sheppard.af.mil/82trwpa/default.htm>.

Friday July 30

10 a.m. Lunch and Learn: Ms Dee Decker
5 p.m. History of the Navy, Part 2
9 p.m. Famous Generals: George S. Patton

Saturday July 31

10 a.m. The Army in Action - Global War 5 p.m. Montford Point and Beyond: A Chapter in Marine Corps History
9 p.m. History of the Navy: Cold War Navy (1945-1964)

Sunday Aug 1

10 a.m. Navy Marine Corps News Special

5 p.m. Famous Generals: Joseph W. Stilwell
9 p.m. Leadership Breakfast: Lt Col Mack Breeland

Monday Aug 2

10 a.m. Sheppard Today
5 p.m. The Mission and History of the Air National Guard
9 p.m. Lt Clebe McClary

Tuesday Aug 3

10 a.m. Famous Generals: George S. Patton
5 p.m. Level 1 Anti-Terrorism Briefing

9 p.m. Weekly Commander's Corner

Wednesday Aug 4

10 a.m. History of the Navy: Cold War Navy (1945-1964)
5 p.m. AFN SE Centennial of Flight
9 p.m. In Service for My Country-Sheppard Deploys

Thursday Aug 5

10 a.m. US Navy Hospital Corps
5 p.m. 21st Century Command and Control
9 p.m. Berlin Airlift



Run of remembrance

ROYAL AIR FORCE MILDENHALL, England – People from the 321st Special Tactics Squadron take a 3-mile morning run on Utah Beach here on June 6 exactly 60 years after D-Day. The run was to honor all those who gave their lives during the Normandy Invasion in 1944.

Photo by Airman 1st Class Franklin J. Perkins

Benefit run to assist wounded comrades

By Pfc. Chris Stump
17th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan — On the Fourth of July, over 1,200 Coalition troops showed their generosity and support to wounded veterans who fought here and in Iraq by raising money to assist their families while they are hospitalized.

The “Freedom is Never Free” run, a 10k walk/run around Bagram Air Base, was organized by Logistics Task Force 725. Personnel from throughout Combined Joint Task Force-76 donated money and participated in the run, raising over \$21,000 to donate to the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The VFW will ensure the money gets distributed to two Fisher Houses back in the States — one near Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the other near Bethesda Naval Hospital, both in Maryland, said Capt. Soraya Esmaili, LTF 725 personnel officer. Fisher

Houses are located near U.S. military hospitals to enable the families of troops to be near their loved ones while they recover.

The money raised during the run will be used exclusively to support the families of those injured in Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom by covering part or all of the cost of their stay at the Fisher House, she said.

Since many of these service members are being treated at Walter Reed and Bethesda, the proceeds will be most beneficial at those locations.

“The money will go a long way to help the families of those injured stay by their loved ones for an extended period of time,” said Sgt. 1st Class Jennifer Flores, LTF 725 personnel NCO in charge.

“It’s all for a great cause — Soldiers helping Soldiers,” she said.

And the troops who participated in the run also got something back for their efforts.

In addition to the T-shirts, phone cards and flags they received, participants got a feeling of satisfaction and camaraderie in being able to give to the families of their fellow servicemen.

“It feels good to pay back for all the sacrifices those before us have made,” said 1st Lt. Wesley Hall, Task Force Victory. “We

wouldn’t be here today if they hadn’t put up the fight before us.”

Not only did the participants show they cared about veterans, they showed the military is all one family. And when part of the family needs help, Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines will step up to help.

“Some people don’t have the means to be near their families — we’ve got to help these people,” said Spc. Alexander Spei, Company F, 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment.

That’s just what the organizers at LTF 725 wanted to do with the event — show support for the families whose troop made a great sacrifice, said Esmaili.

The initial fundraising goal was \$10,000. But the generous outpouring of support from the Coalition members assigned here went way beyond expectations.

“We are all honored to be part of such a generous Task Force,” said Esmaili. “And we know that in the spirit of independence, the Fourth of July and camaraderie among Soldiers, we have brought a little bit of hope and love to our injured Soldiers at home.”

Legendary football coach Ben Martin passes away

Courtesy of the Air Force Academy News Service

Ben Martin, the former Air Force coach known widely as the Father of Air Force Football, passed away Saturday at the Village at Skyline in Colorado Springs. He was 83 years old. A memorial service for Martin is scheduled for Saturday, at 10:30 a.m. in the Academy’s Cadet Protestant Chapel.

Martin put Air Force football on the map during his 20-year (1958-77) coaching tenure. His short, controlled passing game enabled the much-smaller Falcons to compete on a national scale. Martin engineered upset victories over national powers Nebraska in 1963, UCLA in 1964, Washington in 1966, North Carolina in 1969, Stanford in 1970 and Arizona State in 1972.

The coach led the Falcons to three bowl games, including the 1959 Cotton Bowl, 1963 Gator Bowl and 1971 Sugar Bowl. The Cotton and Sugar bowl games mark the only New Year’s Day bowl games Air Force has participated in. Martin’s 1958 team, his first at Air Force, is still considered one of the top teams in college football history.

The Falcons went 9-0-1 in the regular season before battling to a 0-0 tie with Texas Christian in the Cotton Bowl to finish 9-0-2. The undefeated team is still the only one in Academy history. That team featured the school’s first consensus All-American, tackle Brock Strom. He and starting quarterback Rich Mayo went on to be inducted into the Verizon Academic All-American Hall of Fame in the 1990s. Wide receiver Ernie Jennings, a star on the 1970 team, also went on to earn consensus All-American honors and finished eighth in the Heisman Trophy balloting that year.

Martin’s 20-year stint is the second-longest in service academy football history and his 96-103-9 record at Air Force is the second-best in school history. Only current Falcon mentor Fisher DeBerry’s 21-year tenure and 156-88-1 career record are better in each category.

“This is a sad time for Falcon football,” DeBerry said. “We enjoy a national prominence because of the foundation Ben Martin built. He will always be the Father of Falcon football. He was a great inspiration to me and a great mentor. He will be greatly missed in our community. He is one of the greatest coaches ever and was such a great commentator.”

Martin was a 1946 graduate of the Naval Academy where he was a three-year letterwinner in football and track (1942-44). In 1944 he earned the Thompson Trophy Cup, which is presented to the Midshipman to have done the most during the year for the promotion of athletics at the Naval Academy.

After a stint of sea duty in the Navy, Martin returned to the Naval Academy as an assistant coach from 1949-54. Navy’s 1954 “Team Named Desire” squad went 8-2 and defeated Mississippi, 21-0, in the Sugar Bowl. Martin left Navy following that season to become the head coach at Virginia. He coached the Cavaliers for two seasons before taking over at Air Force.

Martin authored two books on football while coaching, “Ben Martin’s Flexible-T Offense” and “End Play.” He also coached in several all-star games, including the East-West Shrine game and the North-South game. Following his retirement in 1977, Martin went to work for ABC Sports as a color analyst.

He returned to the Academy in 1987 and spent 16 seasons as Air Force’s color analyst for radio broadcast before retiring following the 2002 season.

A native of Prospect Park, Pa., Martin attended Hill Preparatory School and Princeton University before his appointment to the Naval Academy.

Martin will be buried at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., alongside his wife, Harriett, who died in 1998. He is survived by his two sons, Bud, and Ben, Jr.

Marathon man plans run after beating cancer

By Tech. Sgt. Gerald Sonnenberg
932nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill., — It was a warm July day in 2003, and the heat radiated from the tennis court where the two men were competing.

Perspiration fell in large, frequent drops and evaporated on the court, but soon, one of the men fell to the court's hard surface. His name is Maj. Brian Kissinger. What was first thought to be a case of heat exhaustion soon became a fight for life for the 35-year-old husband and father of three young daughters.

Kissinger's tennis partner, a paramedic, called 911, and an ambulance rushed the Air Mobility Command major to the emergency room. The medical team stitched a cut in his scalp. As a precaution, they conducted a computerized tomography scan that revealed a tumor "the size of a baseball."

Previous bouts with headaches and memory loss now made sense, and the major revealed that his sister had died of a brain tumor as a young child. Now, barely a month into his assignment at Scott Air Force Base, he had to face a life-threatening situation without the comfort of his family, who was still in Charleston, S.C.

Kissinger is an Air Force reservist and navigator serving a controlled tour at Scott. He spent eight years on active duty, then served as a traditional reservist at Charleston Air Force Base before accepting the Scott assignment. Having had no chance to relocate his family, he had to tell his wife, Priscilla, and daughters, Alexa, Gabby and Belle, about his illness by phone.

"Like with any life-threatening illness, it was frightening," said Kissinger.

Having been healthy and athletic, he said he cried at the nearly overwhelming thought of maybe losing his life. A navigator, he was also saddened at the prospect of not being able to fly again. He turned toward his faith and went to the base chapel to speak with a chaplain.

Kissinger's tumor was thought to be a stage 2, or slow growing tumor. Surgery and chemotherapy were inevitable if that was true, but would wait until September so he could move his family to Illinois and get settled.

"The separation made it more difficult, but the ER docs and staff at the Scott hospital were great," he said. "They performed all the pre-surgery tests and treatments."

After mid-September, the surgery was accomplished at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis.

Kissinger motioned with his hands as he talked easily about the procedure. With a thick head of hair, it's difficult to see where a large incision over his right frontal lobe was made to expose bone that was removed to give access to surgeons.

"They stitched it all up and put in titani-



Courtesy photo

After battling a brain tumor, Maj. Brian Kissinger is now participating in a beginner's regimen for marathon running. After more than 100 days, he plans to be running 25 to 30 miles a week.

um screws with mesh," said the major. "They later said they were hoping it was a stage 1, but that since they confirmed it was a stage 2, they needed to do chemo."

Kissinger explained that he has an MRI scan every six months as a precaution, and because of the nature of the tumor, the doses of chemotherapy are low and in the form of a pill.

"I'm in cycle 8 out of 24," he said. "Five days on (medication), 23 off. And every month they take a blood sample to make sure my white blood cell count is all right. If it's too low, it can indicate something is wrong."

Though Kissinger's hair has grown back and the low dosage doesn't affect it, he said there are days when he feels run down and can't work. However, he rarely lets this interfere with his goal — running the Air Force marathon at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, in September.

He was in the hospital for about a day-and-a-half during his diagnosis when he realized he didn't want to just lie around and wait. He had run a couple of marathons before his youngest child was born, but that was 10 years ago. Now, with the help, support and encouragement of friends and family, he is almost ready while raising money for the American Brain Tumor Association.

"We're following a beginner's regimen

for marathon running," he said. "This includes a long run on Sunday, then two or three training runs during the week. And we get a couple of days of cross-training in there, too. At 106 days out, we were doing 25 to 30 miles each week. That will increase as we get closer."

He said exercise is good for anyone, but it also helps with a person's state of mind.

A growing team of runners is assembling around Kissinger and raising money. They are a mix of current and former coworkers, military retirees and civilians. And, what started as a goal of \$2,500 in pledges has grown to \$5,000.

"I hit a bump in the road, but I have a lot of friends and family praying for me," Kissinger said. "When we run the marathon Sept. 18 (the Air Force's birthday), it will be almost one year to the day that I had my surgery."

"My first marathon was a milestone," he said with a smile and determination. "With my recovery, this is a milestone that says I'm almost completely healthy, even with the chemo. That makes it pretty special."

"Another reason I'm doing this is to raise money and awareness about brain tumors," he added. "I'm the healthiest patient at the oncology office, and I realize a lot of people have worse things happening to them. I feel fortunate."

Military supports Olympic hopefuls on road to Athens

By Samantha L. Quigley
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, — Many athletes dream of standing atop an Olympic medal podium. However, without the necessary support, even the slightest chance of that happening is a long shot.

Military athletes can find that support within their respective services. Though none of the services' programs are the same, there are similarities.

The Army and Air Force each have two sports programs available to serious athletes.

The Army's All-Army (Sports Program) chooses a number of athletes for any of about 20 sports and sends them to a three-week trial camp, said Karen White, chief of the Army Sports, Fitness and World Class Athlete Program. If they make the cut there, they become a member of the All-Army team for their given sport.

The All-Army team then competes in the Armed Forces championships. Performance at this level decides placement on the All-Service team, which competes international military championships organized by the Conseil International du Sport Militaire, or better known as CISM.

According to Air Force sports chief Steve Brown, the Air Force Sports Program is nearly identical. Athletes are selected from a pool of applications to attend a training camp and, upon selection, join an All-Air Force team. With skill and luck, it's on to the All-Service team and CISM competitions.

Both services also run a World Class Athlete Program designed to help nationally ranked athletes train toward a goal of competing in the Olympics. Duration and location are the two biggest differences between the services' programs.

The Army allows for a training period of three years prior to the Olympics. Air Force athletes are limited to two years. As for location, the Army WCAP is located at Fort Carson, Colo., near the Olympic training site, while the Air Force lets athletes train where it's best for them.

The Navy and the Marine Corps' support structures for athletes are quite different from those of the Army and Air Force. Neither has a WCAP, nor do they actively recruit athletes.

For the Navy, once an athlete is identified as being of Olympic caliber, he or she must request a special assignment consideration, John Hickok, head of Navy sports, said. Upon approval of special assignment, the program tries to relocate the athlete to a location beneficial for training purposes. Training usually begins about 18 months before the Games.

If a Marine Corps athlete is invited by a sport's national governing body to participate at a training center, he or she then becomes a member of the corps' National Caliber Athlete Program, Steve Dinote, director of Marine Corps sports, said.

A Marine athlete is not allowed to train for more than three and a half years without returning to the fleet, Dinote said.

Training expenses are always a concern for an athlete. And all four services offer some type of financial assistance to their athletes. That assistance is usually in the form of entry fees, transportation and lodging associated with competition to advance their goals.

"If you're saying you're going to support (athletes), then you have to support them with the minimum to make the team," White said.

If a sport's national governing body taps an athlete for training, that concern over training costs becomes less urgent.

Each service has at least one athlete qualified to participate in the 2004 Summer Olympic Games in Athens, which begin Aug. 13.