

ET10

# The Sourdough

S E N T I N E L



America's Premier  
Airpower Wing

Dec. 3, 1999

Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska

Vol. 50, No. 48

## Cover Story

# Anthrax

The hard facts about

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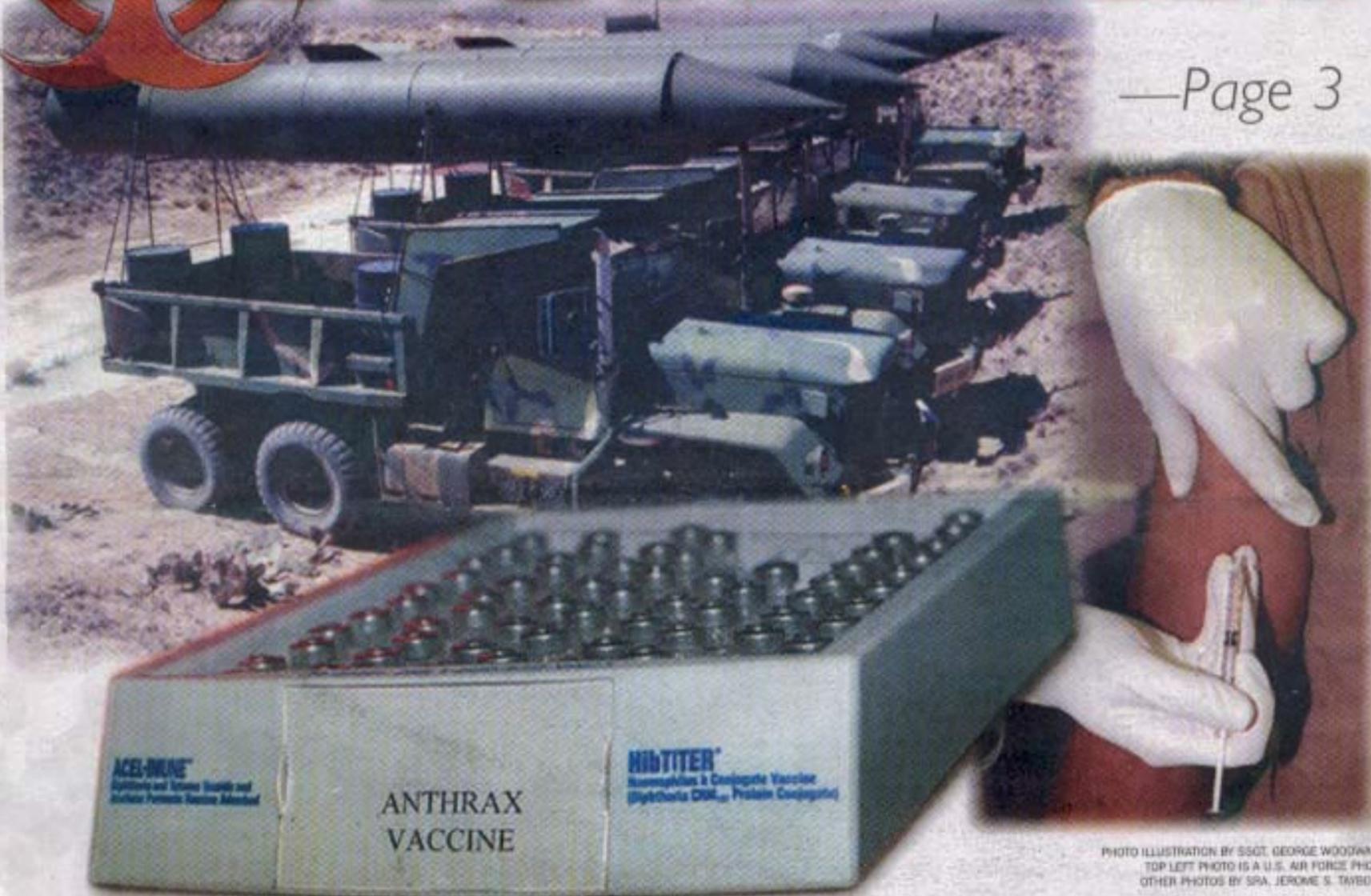


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SSGT. GEORGE WOODWARD  
TOP LEFT PHOTO IS A U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO  
OTHER PHOTOS BY SRA. JEROME S. TAYBORN

## ON THE FLY



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO

Wing prepares for first EAF deployment to SWA—Page 7

## Ice Patrol

632d tests new system for fighting the freeze

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SRA. JEROME S. TAYBORN

**Open Ranks:** What should I get my wife for Christmas?

# News in Brief

## Tree lighting

The Elmendorf Christmas tree lighting ceremony will be Dec. 6 at 4 p.m. at Chapel One. Bring the kids for a chance to take a sleigh ride with real reindeer.

Free chili and drinks will also be offered. For more information, call the chapel center at 552-4422.

## Wing Christmas party

The 3rd Wing Christmas party will be held Dec. 10 at the Susitna Club. Cocktails are at 6 p.m., with dinner served at 6:45 p.m.

The meal will be buffet-style and will feature barons of beef, roast turkey with dressing and whole halibut. The theme for the party is "Home for the Holidays," and the Band of the Pacific's variety ensemble, "Topcover," will perform.

Tickets are \$10 for E-4 and below; \$15 for E-5 to E-7 and GS-1 to GS-6; \$20 for E-8 to O-3 and GS-7 to GS-9; and \$25 for others. Call one of the following people for details:

- Committee chair: Capt. Dick Fulton, 552-3922.
- Logistics group: Capt. Clifford Altizer, 552-1183.
- Medical group: SMSgt. Kevin Chouinard, 580-4162.
- Operations group: Capt. Sarah Bloodworth, 552-3784.
- Support group: TSgt. Michael Callis, 552-9019.
- Wing staff: 1st Lt. Thomas Livingston, 552-7364.

## Airmen's cookie drive

Volunteers are needed to provide cookies for the airmen's cookie drive. The goal is to provide each airman in the dormitories with a dozen cookies.

Volunteers are asked to provide 10 dozen cookies and deliver them to



TSgt. MARK A. SUBAN

## Beauty and the best

Members of the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard Drill Team stand by as Dallas Cowboy cheerleaders take the field during the Thanksgiving Day football pre-game show at Texas Stadium in Irving, Tex. The team also visited area high schools to aid in recruiting and performed precision drill movements before NFL and NBA crowds.

the Red Cross hospital office Tuesday and Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. or the Susitna Club's front entrance Thursday from 7 a.m. to noon. For more information, call Lisa Larkin at 753-3576.

## Holiday decorations

Holiday lights are authorized in base housing until Jan. 10 and may be turned on from 5 to 11 p.m.

Lights should have Underwriters Laboratories-approved, heavy-duty extension cords. Cords should not run through doors or windows.

Live Christmas trees should be

watered frequently and kept away from heating vents and entrances. Artificial trees must be flame retardant or flame resistant. Electric lights are prohibited on metal artificial trees. For details, call 552-2620.

## Leave donations

Civilian leave donations, under the voluntary leave transfer program, are needed for a member of the 611th Air Support Group who has been hospitalized for congestive heart failure.

For information, call Cathy Harris at 552-2519 or the civilian personnel flight at 552-3572.

# Action Line

**Q** I'm wondering if the base could offer an outdoor ice skating area. I called outdoor recreation and was told there is at least one hockey area at the base schools, but I was thinking in the lines of something at Hillberg Lake. An area could be cleared off of the lake for family recreational skating.

As I see it, costs would be very minimal. Just place a few benches along the shoreline and keep a section of the lake cleared of snow. A thin layer of water pumped over the surface would clear any imperfections in the ice.

Hillberg would be ideal as snow equipment is already in place. Furthermore, Hillberg Chalet could be used for warm-up breaks or refreshment purposes. This appears to be a great quality of life incentive which could be offered at a minimal cost to the base.

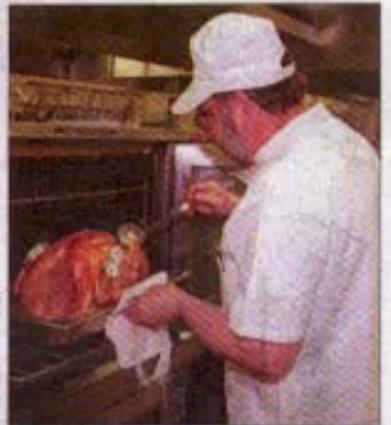
**A** Thank you for asking about an ice skating area at Hillberg Lake. For the last two winter seasons, our outdoor recreation folks have cleared an area for ice skating at Hillberg Lake. We will again provide this outdoor

activity once the ice is safe, which occurs in December or January.

Hillberg Ski Lodge is open Wednesday and Thursday from 3 to 9 p.m., Friday from 1 to 9 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 7 p.m. The lodge is a good place to come in from the cold, use the restrooms or get something hot to eat or drink at the snack bar. Again, thank you for your inquiry.

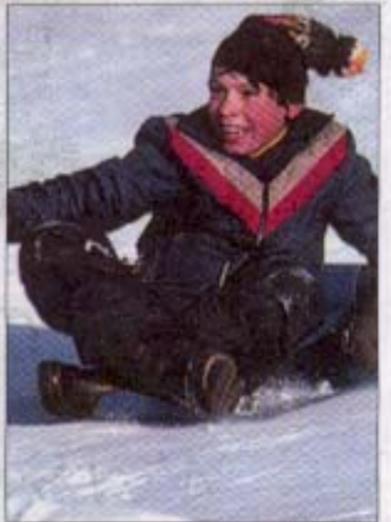
**552-2224**  
actionline@elmendorf.af.mil

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STOCK PHOTO

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SRA. JEROME S. TAYBORN

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The Sourdough Sentinel

Best in PACAF—1998

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80 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

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Staff Writer

SrA. Jerome S. Tayborn  
Photographer



3rd Wing History Moment



**Dec. 3, 1967:** Three 90th Tactical Fighter Squadron F-100s attack a concentration of Viet Cong troops, destroying a gun emplacement, four bunkers and four sampans.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SSGT. GEORGE WOODWARD. VACCINE PHOTO BY SRA. JEROME S. TAYLOR

# The hard facts about Anthrax

The threat is very real

By SSgt. George Woodward  
3rd Wing Public Affairs

In February 1991, while ground forces were routing Iraq's best military units, Saddam Hussein scored his only victory of the Gulf War when an Iraqi Scud missile struck a U.S. military base in Saudi Arabia, killing 28 people and injuring dozens more.

As hard as it was to accept such a loss, Americans knew it could have been worse.

Few understood just how much worse.

Had the Iraqis used a Scud missile with a biological warhead—a capability Iraq has admitted to having had at the time—the death count could have been much, much higher.

An attack by one of the 10 anthrax-armed Scuds Iraq told the United Nations it possessed at the time may have looked very much the same. But millions of deadly anthrax spores would have filled the air, infecting thousands as the invisible cloud drifted downwind. There would have been no cloud, no smell, no taste—nothing that would have indicated an anthrax attack.

Perhaps suspicions would have arisen when thousands began developing flu-like symptoms—aches, pains, fever. But it would have been too late. Within a week, thousands of Americans—perhaps more—would have been dead.

The threat of anthrax and other biological weapons is very real. In 1989, the Central Intelligence Agency reported it believed at least 10 nations were developing biological weapons. By 1995, that number had risen to 17. Most alarming, four of those nations—Iraq, Iran, Libya and North Korea—have a history of hostility toward the United States and are suspected of supporting international terrorism.

In testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee in January, Army Lt. Gen. Patrick M. Hughes, director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, said he believed there was a "high probability that [chemical or biological weapons] will be used in a regional conflict over the next two decades."

Hughes told the committee he was concerned about the use of these weapons in a terrorist attack.

"Such an event could occur in the United States as well as against our forces and facilities overseas," Hughes told the committee. "The planning for such 'smaller-scale' incidents would be extremely difficult to detect, and consequently, to deter or warn against."

In other words, no time to grab your chem warfare mask. No time to protect yourself. If you're not protected when the attack comes, it will most likely be too late. Mortality rates once anthrax is inhaled by an unprotected person are more than 80 percent, according to the Department of Defense, even with aggressive treatment.

## The vaccine: Bottom-line answers to tough questions

By SSgt. George Woodward  
3rd Wing Public Affairs

When SrA. Lisa Lawhead decided to refuse the anthrax vaccine, she laid a lot on the line—her successful, five-year career topping the list.

Why would a good, loyal airman refuse a lawful order, putting her career in jeopardy?

Lawhead told the *Anchorage Daily News* in October she based her decision on "reams of documents available on the internet..."

It's a common theme among the small percentage of people who refuse the vaccine—online documents raising doubts about the safety and effectiveness about the anthrax vaccine.

What do these documents say, and how factual are they? Public health flight commander and base anthrax vaccine program manager Lt. Col. Danny Glover took a look at some of the tough questions raised by these web sites. Here are his responses:

■ **If the anthrax vaccine is safe, why are so many people refusing it?**

"There aren't that many people refusing it," Glover said. "I have been told the refusal rate across the Department of Defense is .6 percent, or six per 1,000. Our refusal rate here at Elmendorf is even less than that."

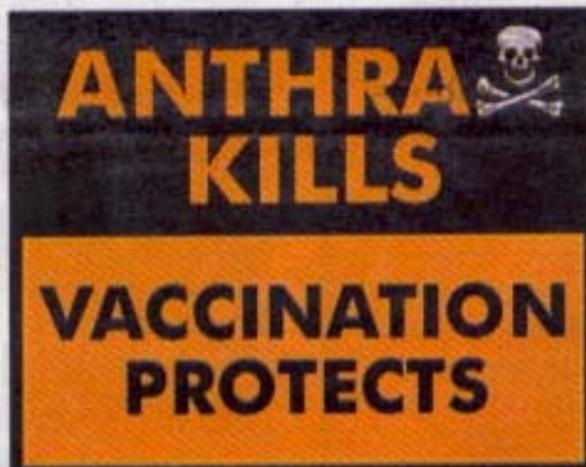
■ **Why did a wing commander at Dover Air Force Base, Del., suspend the vaccination program there?**

"The wing commander at Dover suspended the program there because he said his questions about the program were not adequately answered," said Glover. "After he suspended the program, the Air Force Medical Operations Agency contacted him and answered his questions. Dover resumed the immunization program three days after it was initially suspended."

■ **Isn't it true that this vaccine won't protect me from all strains of anthrax?**

According to Glover, the idea that the vaccine doesn't protect against different strains of anthrax is just plain false.

"The vaccine protects against all 32 known strains of the anthrax organism," he said. "This is possible because the vaccine is made from the toxin produced by the organism, not the actual



organism. All strains of the anthrax organism produce a toxin, and those toxins are molecularly very similar, regardless of the strain. The vaccine produces antibodies that will inactivate all known toxins; this is known as cross-immunity."

■ **What kind of reaction can I expect? Isn't it true that several people have nearly died because of the anthrax vaccine?**

"People are experiencing a variety of responses to the vaccine," Glover said. "Some people report the anthrax shot as no different than any other shot; others report pain and development of a subcutaneous nodule (a lump, in layman's terms) which persists for about two weeks."

"Reports of near-death experiences are not substantiated," said Glover. "The Department of Defense has given more than 1 million anthrax shots since August 1998, and we have had no serious side effects reported at all. One person with a systemic reaction was admitted to the hospital for overnight observation, but was released for normal duty the next day."

■ **The Department of Defense says the vaccine has been used routinely by veterinarians for 30 years. I read on the internet that that's not true. Why did they make this claim?**

"As a licensed veterinarian, I can clarify this misunderstanding from personal experience," said Glover. "The vaccine has been available to any veterinarian, but has been taken mainly by veteri-

# VACCINE: Answers to your tough questions

From Page 3

narians who are considered 'at risk.' The at-risk veterinarians are large-animal practitioners or federal veterinarians involved with importation of livestock from foreign countries where anthrax is considered endemic. Most veterinarians are small animal practitioners, and aren't considered at risk.

**■ Why haven't any long-term studies been done on the vaccine? How can I be sure I won't become impotent or get cancer because of it?**

"Studies have been conducted and results have been published for a very long time," according to Glover. "In fact, anthrax vaccine was first developed by Louis Pasteur."

Glover said one of the main reasons defense leaders are so confident about the vaccine is because of long experience with it.

"The confidence is based on experience with anthrax vaccination of 1,590 laboratory workers at Fort Detrick, Md., and other studies. Most of these workers received 150 to 200 vaccinations; some

received more than 300 such injections during their tenure at Fort Detrick."

Reports on this group were published in 1958 in the bulletin of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, and in 1965 and 1974 in the Annals of Internal Medicine, Glover said.

"There has never been a causal relationship linking the use of anthrax vaccine to impotence, cancer or any other adverse health outcome. With more than a million doses given since August 1998, it is apparent the anthrax vaccine we are using is very safe—possibly the safest vaccine we have in the U.S. today."

**■ I understand the vaccine's manufacturer has been cited for unsafe practices and distributed out-of-date vaccines. How can I be sure the vaccine I get is safe and not tainted?**

"Like all manufacturers of vaccines and other pharmaceuticals, the manufacturer has been, and will continue to be, inspected by the Food and Drug Administration. Yes, an FDA inspection

resulted in findings, which involved some house-keeping and standard operating procedure discrepancies of an administrative nature. The plant has never been shut down by the FDA," Glover said.

Anthrax vaccine production was temporarily stopped to allow the manufacturer to renovate the production facilities, however.

Glover also said the vaccine is closely monitored for safety.

"All lots of the vaccine undergo rigorous supplemental testing to assure the sterility, stability, potency and purity of the product.

"No vaccine has ever, or will ever, be released until all quality control and quality assurance parameters are strictly met. Testing is monitored by the FDA and overseen by an independent contractor, MitreTek."

*Editor's Note: For more questions and answers about anthrax or the anthrax vaccine, check out the Department of Defense anthrax web site at [www.anthrax.osd.mil](http://www.anthrax.osd.mil).*

# THREAT: Danger to U.S. troops is real, experts say

From Page 3

Without it, the death rate is 99 percent.

The only real protection against a surprise biological weapons attack is vaccination, experts say.

"When it comes to anthrax, there is one clear and simple truth," Air Force Surgeon General Lt. Gen. Charles Roadman II said in a March 31 commentary for *Air Force Print News*, "if you are not vaccinated and you inhale anthrax, you will almost certainly die. Period."

Roadman compared the anthrax

vaccine to wearing a Kevlar helmet.

"We wouldn't send people into battle without helmets and weapons, so we should also provide the best possible armor against biological dangers. That armor is immunization."

With that in mind, the Pentagon is pursuing vaccines for other known biological agents.

"The anthrax vaccination is the first in a long series of force protection measures to come," said Mary Gerwin, deputy assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, according to a Nov. 2 American Forces Press

Service report.

The Pentagon's anthrax web site, [www.anthrax.osd.mil](http://www.anthrax.osd.mil), echoes Gerwin's statement. "Vaccines are being developed, whenever appropriate, for all validated biological threat agents," the site states.

Currently, experts in the Department of Defense and other agencies track about 20 biological agents. Anthrax, however, is considered to be the biggest threat, since it is stable, easy to manufacture, fairly simple to deliver and relatively inexpensive.

In a world of terrorist attacks and myriad threats, Pentagon experts insist that vaccination is the best way to protect troops.

"Commanders, airmen and family members must become informed about anthrax," Roadman wrote in his commentary. "Be sure to get accurate facts from reliable sources. Ask your commander about the threat. Ask your doctor about the vaccine. Then keep in mind three things: The threat is very real. Anthrax is a killer. The vaccine will save your life."

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# 632d tests anti-icing agent on C-17

By SrA. Korey London  
3rd Wing Public Affairs

Members from the Boeing Corporation, the C-17 System Program Office, the 62d Airlift Wing and the 632d Air Mobility Support Squadron gathered here Nov. 19 and 20 to validate technical order anti-icing procedures for the C-17 Globemaster III aircraft. Anti-icing fluid prevents accumulation of snow, frost and ice on the wings of aircraft and can be a critical step in ensuring safety of flight.

Over two days, engineers observed a maintenance team from the 632d Air Mobility Support Squadron as they performed the anti-icing procedures. The engineers will review the information gathered from their observations to determine whether the method of application will be approved for use as official Air Force technical orders, according to Maj. Steven Mozel, 632d maintenance officer.

"This is something that's used on Boeing aircraft commercially," said Mozel, "and since the C-17 is a Boeing aircraft, we're just following a commercial best practice."

Currently, maintenance crews working with the aircraft rely on de-icing methods to remove precipitation from the aircraft to complete missions in cold weather. The method calls for ground crew members to remove precipitation from critical surfaces, crevices and hinge points of the aircraft by brushing, blowing or wiping it away and then spraying heated deicing fluid.

The anti-icing method, which has already been approved for use by KC-135 and KC-10 program offices, requires ground crews to apply anti-icing fluid on to the aircraft. The propylene-based fluid prevents ice and snow from building up on the surface and shears from the aircraft during takeoff



SrA. JEROME S. TAYLOR

SrA. Jaime Dusick of the 632d Air Mobility Support Squadron sprays anti-icing fluid on a C-17 Globemaster III Nov. 19 and 20. Engineers were here to validate the process, which is already approved for the KC-10 and KC-135, for the C-17.

once it reaches an airspeed of about 75 knots.

The anti-icing fluid will be a welcome addition to flight and maintenance crews' flight preparation procedures, especially in weather where heavy precipitation becomes a factor, said Mozel.

Crews must comply with Federal Aviation Administration policy—"no person may take off an aircraft when frost, ice or snow is adhering to the wings, control surfaces, propellers, engine

inlets or other critical surfaces on the aircraft."

TSgt. Ken Zera, a 632d maintainer, said Elmendorf was chosen for the validation because it met all the engineers' criteria.

"We're the most northern located base that gets C-17s, and we have the experienced maintenance crews to do this," he said.

The engineers are also looking at implementing the anti-icing method for the C-5 and C-141.

## BUYER'S FORUM

Dear B.F.;

My boyfriend and I are arguing about the advantages and disadvantages to owning a home as opposed to renting. I like renting and not being tied down to one place. He wants to own a place and feel settled in one spot. Other than this, we agree on all other important plans and values. This is getting to be a real problem.

Thanks;

L. C., Anchorage

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**Visa checks**

Bank of America has sent letters to some government travel card holders encouraging them to use "access checks" for bill consolidation and gift purchasing, stating that they will be charged to the "military visa" credit card.

These letters were sent in error, and card holders are urged to destroy any checks received. The government Visa cards are for official travel only.

**Tricare fees**

Tricare beneficiaries who are required to pay the annual enrollment fee should determine whether annual or quarterly payments are best for them. Enrollment fees are not refundable, even if beneficiaries move, disenroll or turn 65 during the enrollment period. Consider the following when making a decision:

■ Make quarterly payments if you'll turn 65 during the enrollment year. As of the first day of the month you turn 65, you are no longer eligible for Tricare benefits, even if you've paid for the entire year.

■ Make quarterly payments if you plan to move to an area where you won't be enrolling in Tricare Prime. Visit the Tricare Service Center to see if Tricare Prime is available in your new area.

Enrollment fees may be paid by check, cashier's check, money order, Visa or MasterCard. Automatic payments are not available at this time. Fees are currently \$230 for individuals and \$460 for families. Call (800) 242-6788 for information.

**Open seasons**

The Federal Employees Health Benefit Program open season continues until Dec. 13. For information, visit the civilian personnel office from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays or check the personnel management web site at [www.opm.gov](http://www.opm.gov).

The Thrift Savings Plan open season continues until Jan. 31. For details, visit the civilian person-

nel office from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays or check the thrift savings web site at [www.tsp.gov](http://www.tsp.gov).

**Infant swing recall**

Century Products, Inc., and the Consumer Products Safety Commission announce the recall of Lil' Napper infant swings manufactured from 1991 to 1997.

Four strangulation deaths, resulting from infants becoming entangled in the swing's shoulder harness straps, have been reported.

Century offers a \$30 reward for the repair of each swing. The swings can be identified by the following model numbers, located on the bottom of the swing's seat: 12-344, 12-345, 12-347, 12-475 and 12-476. For information on the repair kit or the swing, call Century at (800) 231-1448 or visit their web site at [www.centuryproducts.com](http://www.centuryproducts.com).

**CO detectors**

Residents in the ALCOM, Chugach, Dayton, FO/CO and Seattle housing areas are required to pick up carbon monoxide detectors from the U-Fix-It store immediately.

The detectors will protect residents in the event of problems with their heating systems. For more information, call the housing flight at 552-4365.

**Personnel flight hours**

Military personnel flight walk-in customer service hours changed effective Wednesday to 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. weekdays. The section, previously closed Wednesdays for training, will now accomplish training after hours.

**Snowmachine safety**

Mandatory snowmachine safety briefings for anyone wanting to ride on base will be held Dec. 13 at 11:30 a.m. and Dec. 15 at 3:30 p.m. in the Reeves Conference Center in the Alaskan Command building. For information, call TSgt. Royce Qualls at 552-6176.

**TROA scholarships**

The Retired Officer's Association will award 200, \$1,000 scholarships during the 2000-01 school year.

Applicants must be dependent children of active-duty members or drilling reservists or guardsmen, under 24 years old and either a high school student or college student pursuing their first undergraduate degree.

Scholarships are awarded solely on the basis of merit in the areas of scholarship, citizenship and leadership. For more information or to apply, visit the TROA web site at [www.troa.org/Education/](http://www.troa.org/Education/).

**Advisory board members sought**

The Air Force is looking for community members interested in serving on the Elmendorf Air Force Base Restoration Advisory Board. The board involves the community in the environmental decision-making process and includes community members who reflect the diverse interests of the local community.

To make the current board more representative of the community, up to seven more members will be added during this recruitment period. Applications received by Dec. 31 will be considered by the eight current board members in January.

Community board members review and individually comment on plans and activities relating to the ongoing environmental studies and restoration activities at Elmendorf.

Members are asked to serve renewable, two-year terms and to attend board meetings two or three times a year without monetary compensation for time or expenses. Board meetings are open to the public.

Potential board members may obtain application forms by contacting Doris Thomas, environmental community relations coordinator, by mail at 3 WG/PA, 10480 22nd St., Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506-2500; by phone at 552-5755; or by e-mail at [thomasd@elmendorf.af.mil](mailto:thomasd@elmendorf.af.mil).

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# Wing to lead EAF into next millennium

300 people prepare for southwest Asia deployment this month

By A1C. Josh Clendenen  
3rd Wing Public Affairs

**A**s the new millennium dawns, the 3rd Wing will spearhead the Air Force's entry into the 21st Century by serving as the final transition to Expeditionary Aerospace Force.

Led by the Fighting Leopards of the 54th Fighter Squadron, the wing will send about 300 people to southwest Asia to replace the 19th Fighter Squadron, which has been operating there since October.

"We are carrying the 54th Fighting Leopards flag and the 3rd Wing's reputation as America's premier airpower wing to Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia. It's a big responsibility, but we plan on setting the standard and exceeding it," said Capt. Steven A. Green, the 54th Fighter Squadron sortie generation flight commander.

In addition to the 54th, members of the 3rd Component Repair Squadron and the 3rd Equipment Maintenance Squadrons will deploy.

The deployment of the troops and jets will definitely change the mission at Elmendorf, said Green.

"The remaining squadron becomes a 'super squadron' and absorbs the aircraft and personnel left behind," said Green. "Additionally, the returning squadron gets a much needed recovery period."

Green said the 54th anticipates being gone for about 60 days. However, there is always a possibility of an extension.

"I know more than one unit has extended over there, so we wouldn't be the first. It's all contingent on what Iraq does while we're over there," said Green.

Two months with the possibility of an extension is all part of the mission, but it does leave some things undone at home. While the deployment will put additional pressure on families left behind, the wing is trying to make life a little easier on them.

"We are having two info-fairs at the Susitna Club for spouses to inform them of all the services available to them," said Green.

Despite the thought of leaving their families and loved ones behind, Green said morale seems to be high.

"The people are highly motivated, trained and capable to project combat power whenever needed," Green said. "We're ready to take all of our training and put it to use in support of a real-world commitment to defend our country's interests in the region."

Even though the squadron is



SrA. JEROME S. TAYLOR

SrA. Tim Shine of the 54th Fighter Squadron de-ices the windshield of an F-15C before a training flight Monday. The 54th, along with members of the 3rd Component Repair Squadron and the 3rd Equipment Maintenance Squadron, will deploy to southwest Asia later this month.

geared up and ready to go, Green said they do anticipate some problems. However, they don't expect to see any new challenges, just a lot of the same old ones.

"We do have a little more trouble getting parts at Prince Sultan. It takes longer for the parts to get into Saudi and through customs," Green said.

The squadron is prepared and trained to deal with these and other

unforeseen challenges.

"We are very proud that the 3rd Wing—specifically the 19th and 54th Fighter Squadrons—will complete the transition to the EAF. We take that responsibility very seriously and plan on carrying the Elmendorf flag proudly in the desert," said Green. "No matter what challenges we face, we will overcome them and lead the way for future wings."

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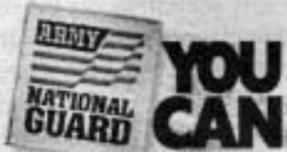
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# Arctic Life

Great Living in the Great Land

Letters  
to the Editor  
—Page 10

For workers at the Iditarod Dining Facility, preparing a memorable Thanksgiving dinner is a

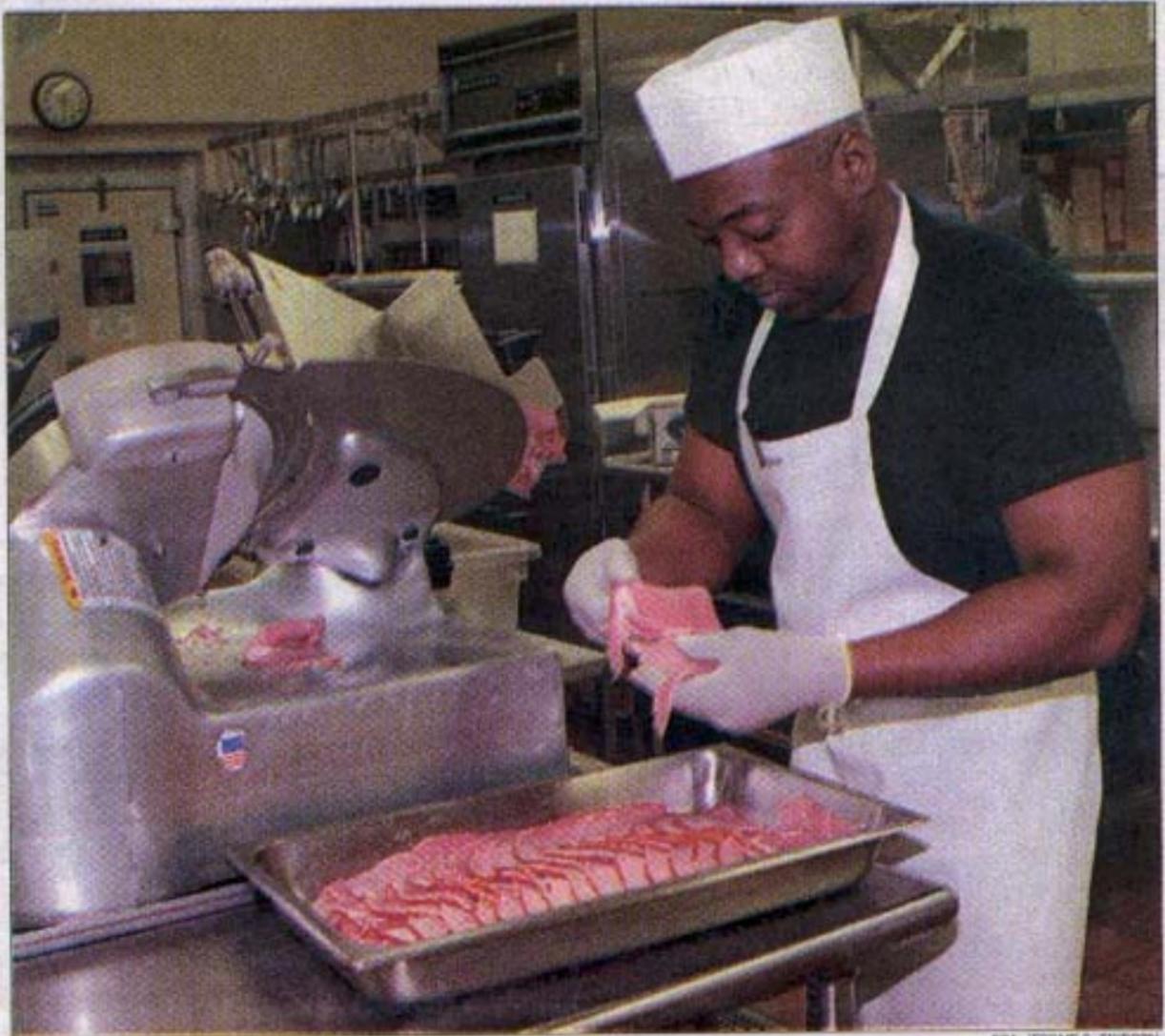
## Labor of Love

By SrA. Korey London  
3rd Wing Public Affairs

It was 2 a.m. Thanksgiving day in the Iditarod dining facility. With the exception of a little music and the occasional sound of chatter from the kitchen, the large facility was still and quiet.

Almost too still and quiet to believe that in a matter of hours, hundreds of people would come to either sit down and eat a delicious Thanksgiving meal or grab one to go.

Entering the Iditarod, people would be immediately overwhelmed by mouth-watering aromas of turkey, ham and cornbread dressing. At the serving lines, they would exchange holiday greetings with wing leaders and their spouses while deciding what to fill their plates with. But how many would stop and think of the people who were there in the



Iditarod cook Samuel Crawford gets the Thanksgiving ham sliced and ready. The dining facility staff arrived before 2 a.m. Thanksgiving morning to get the feast ready.

small hours of the morning working to make sure the food measured up to expectations?

For the Iditarod staff, Thanksgiving is the busiest day of the year. The number of people eating at the facility increases dramatically, but rather than looking at it simply as a day requiring an extra effort on their part, Herald Kinard, head chef at the Iditarod, and his coworkers see it as an opportunity to dazzle the customers with their culinary expertise.

Long before the festivities began, Kinard and food service worker SrA. James Walker were two of the 12 Iditarod staff members who worked through the night to make sure the day's ingredients were ready.

At the end of their labor, 15 turkeys, eight hams and eight prime ribs were among the many menu items ready for roasting.

"I was in food service in the Army," said Kinard. "After I got out, I joined the civil service and got a job here."

That was 32 years ago. Today Kinard draws from his 32 years of experience to make sure his turkeys don't dry out and his candied yams are sweetened to perfection.

But out of all the items he prepares on Thanksgiving, he gives special attention to one in particular.

"The cornbread dressing is what I like fixing," he said. "It started as something my grandma taught me. I combined her recipe with what I learned in the Army and perfected it over the years."

Robert Folks, the Iditarod baker, baked enough cakes and pies to fill up two holding bins and satisfy every customer's sweet tooth. His creative works totaled 20 cakes, 24 pies and 100 croissants.

Other workers shed a few tears slicing onions, and cut carrots and other vegetables to make sure the food was as visually appealing as it was tasty.

"We got here at 7 p.m. and left at about 4:30 a.m.," said Walker, who assisted Kinard in preparing the meats. "We put in a lot of hours for events like Thanksgiving. A lot of us come in early so everything is just right."

"When people come in with their families, and the kids look at the uncut hams and prime ribs and say, 'wow,' then we know we've done our jobs. Little things like that go a long way in making us feel appreciated."



The Iditarod staff didn't focus on food alone. Assistant facility manager Olen Freeman and others also worked hard to make sure the atmosphere was right for the holiday feast.

# Open Ranks

*What should I get my wife for Christmas?*

By SSgt. George Woodward  
3rd Wing Public Affairs

I'm not sure I'm really the one to whom you should be asking this question. You see, judging by the commercials I see, my wife is about the least typical woman on the planet, when it comes to gifts.

First of all, she thinks expensive jewelry is a waste of money (except for engagement rings and 10-year anniversary rings, for which I still have four years to save, thank goodness). A commercial for this \$500 tennis bracelet came on the other night, and she gave me that warning look and said, "You spend that kind of money on a bunch of rocks and I'll kill you." Hey, no sweat, sweetie.

Second, my wife seems to like doing my Christmas shopping for me. She'll waltz in, arms loaded with bags from a trip downtown, and say, "Come see what you bought me for Christmas." So far this year, I've gotten her a couple of nightgowns and a serger, whatever the heck that is. Romantic, ain't it?

So, I really don't know what you should get your wife. But being the nice guy that I am, I've done some research for you, to help you find that perfect—and unexpected—gift for your spouse.

■ **Is your wife into chocolate and babies?** Why not get her something to satisfy her on both counts? "Chocka Ca-Ca" is just the ticket. She'll flip over the miniature diaper, complete with its own, edible "surprise."

■ **Some women like big, strong, virile men wearing thongs, so why not give her what she wants?** She won't know what to say when she opens her new "Sumo Watch."

■ **Want to really light her fire?** Get her a gift she'll never expect—a hand-held flame thrower! She'll be able to shoot balls of flame 10 to 15 feet. Not recommended for wives with short tempers.

■ **Has she been bugging you for a bigger car?** Surprise her with a vintage 1964 Landau Hearse! Now there will always be room for one more bag of groceries.

■ **If your wife is worried about the Y2K bug, get her something special to add to her emergency kit—underwear in a can.** That's right, now there's no reason to worry about having a clean pair of undies—just keep a can with you all the time!

Well, that's all the space I have. I should mention that all the gifts above are actually available for purchase. Since I can't legally tell you where to find them (that would imply government endorsement of the sites, you see), I'll tell you how to look. Just do an internet search on "weird gifts" and explore.

I should also point out that I am in no way legally responsible for any adverse consequences caused by following my gift-giving advice. Happy holidays!

**Got a question? Let us know!**

Phone: 552-2493

Fax: 552-5111

E-mail: woodwardg@elmendorf.af.mil



Winter in Alaska can be full of fun—but it can also be deadly. Knowing the basics of cold-weather safety will help you make the best of the season.

## Keeping winter fun and safe

Eleventh Air Force Safety Office

**F**or some, snow, ice, frigid temperatures and darkness are familiar. But for others this cold, dark season will be the bitterest on record, and many may not expect the challenge.

If this is your first winter in Alaska, you'll see we experience both the best and worst of winter. We have beautiful mountains and trails covered with snow, and we have the severe arctic cold and remoteness. Taking precautions to protect against the cold is not only smart, but vital to our survival in this harsh climate.

Children are particularly at risk, unless adults share with them the proper way to stay safe in the cold. Use the tips below as a guide to safe wintering in Alaska, and teach your children about the dangers and how to combat them.

■ **Winter clothing:** It's a must! Make sure everyone has the proper gear to stay warm. There are plenty of places on and off base to obtain the right equipment. If your budget is limited, contact your first sergeant or stop by the Airman's Attic or thrift shop. They have used items available.

■ **Exposure:** When your children or pets are outside, make sure to check them on a regular basis to ensure they're staying warm. Check their hands, ankles, toes, and ears. Frostbite can happen in a short amount of time.

■ **Plan ahead:** Have a plan that everyone knows, just in case the power fails or your car goes off the road. Do you have candles and an ignition source? Do you have extra blankets and items of warm clothing? Practice keeping warm like you do with a fire escape plan. And remember, body heat is a good thing.

■ **Walking on ice and snow:** Take your time—leave early! Slips, trips and falls can cause severe damage to body parts. Travel gently on unsure surfaces, and resist overestimating your ability to walk safely. Don't run between parked cars, and look both ways before crossing streets. Vehicles are bigger than you are and it takes more time for them to stop, so cars have the right of way.

■ **Reflective gear:** During the long hours of darkness here, a driver's vision is limited. Wearing reflective vests, straps, belts or tape affords a better opportunity to be seen by drivers. Make sure it's on your front, back, and on your backpacks.

■ **Water:** In the dead of winter, water brings to mind ice. But the dry cold of Interior Alaska can quickly leave one dehydrated. Dehydration can interrupt the body's ability to respond properly to cold emergencies. Drink water.

■ **Be active:** Don't be a bear and hibernate. Get out. Despite the harshness of the winter here, it can be enjoyed safely if you prepare for it.

Enjoy winter, and remember—"safety first."

## Can we turn the light back on, please?

I am hoping by writing this letter that my voice will finally be heard and action will be taken. I am writing about the intersection formerly known as Second and Plum. I don't know the new street names yet, but it's the intersection near the Polar Bowl and billeting. For some unknown reason the lights were turned from operational to a two-way stop.

This created a problem—the traffic with the flashing red light is often unaware that cross traffic has a flashing yellow.

I made several unanswered calls to the Action Line, but got no "action." I know a woman who called in repeatedly, and her final call said, "Never mind, I finally got in an accident today at that intersection."



### Letters to the Editor

I approach this intersection at about 10 miles an hour because I never know if the person sitting at the intersection knows that I don't have to stop. And now that the ice has returned I try to avoid it altogether.

It seemed that a sign that reads "cross traffic does not stop" would solve the problem. Signs were put up that read "caution dangerous intersection."

This still didn't solve the problem, probably because they are so small you don't even notice them. Now we have red flags hanging from the top of them. Another bad attempt, however—the flags are covering the words on the sign.

Could we please just turn the light back on? I would rather sit at a red light with no cross traffic than to have a car slam into my child's side of the car.

If this is not possible, can I suggest four way

**Chapel Schedule****Saturday**

■ Catholic Sacrament of Reconciliation, 4:15 p.m. in Chapel One.

■ Catholic Mass, 5 p.m. in Chapel One.

**Sunday**

■ Catholic Mass, 10:30 a.m. in Chapel One.

■ Protestant Liturgical Service, 9 a.m. at the family support center.

■ Protestant Celebration Service (worship in the Protestant tradition), 9 a.m. in Chapel One.

■ Protestant Praise and Worship Service, 11:30 a.m. at the base theater.

■ Protestant Gospel Service, noon in Chapel One.

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday**

■ Catholic Mass, noon at the chapel center.

■ Protestant Praise and Worship Service, Wednesdays only at noon at the hospital chapel.

**Thursday**

■ Catholic Mass, noon in the hospital chapel.

**Chapel News****Protestant News**

■ The Protestant Christmas program will be Dec. 12 at 5 p.m. at Chapel One. Sunday School classes will present "Live from Bethlehem," an animated, heartfelt program. Come see the Christmas story and enjoy a fellowship dinner. Call Patti Harris at 552-6493 for more information.

■ Looking for a fun and challenging religious experience for your children? The AWANA program has begun for kids in kindergarten through sixth grade. Sign-ups for AWANA are going on now at the chapel center. For more information, contact Chaplain (Capt.) Ken Reyes at 552-6495 or call the chapel center at 552-4422.

■ Sunday School classes are available for ages preschool through adult. Come see what Christ can do in your life. Call 552-6493 for information.

■ Adult education classes are held Sunday on the second floor of the chapel center from 10:25 to 11:20 a.m. Call 552-4422 for details.

■ Men's prayer meetings are held Wednesdays at 6:30 a.m. in the Chapel One Annex. All men are invited for a time of prayer

# This Week at Elmendorf



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO

**Tops in Blue**

**Tops in Blue performers A1C. Michael J. Gardea and A1C. Docia A. Buchanan sing a duet. Tops in Blue will perform at the Talkeetna Theater Dec. 11 and 12 at 7:30 p.m. This year's theme is "Just for the Fans," and features favorite hits from the '70s through the '90s. Tops in Blue is the Air Force's premier entertainment showcases and stars airmen from all over the world in a 90-minute show of music, dance and fun. For information on the free performance, call 552-2674.**

and reflection.

■ Officer Christian Fellowship meets Sunday nights at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Mark and Dianne Harmon. For details, call the Harmons at 338-0050.

**Catholic News**

■ Catholic religious education is Sunday from 9 to 10 a.m. at the chapel center, 10427 Kuter Ave. Registration is held after each Mass and in chapel center Room 234 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. You may also get a registration form by e-mail at [olof.ccd@ak.net](mailto:olof.ccd@ak.net).

**General News**

■ The wing Christmas tree lighting ceremony will be Monday at 4 p.m. at Chapel One. Come out for food, music and a

visit from the big guy in the red suit.

■ Club Beyond meets Sundays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the youth center. Come out for games, live music, skits, videos, food and fun. Club Beyond is open to teens in grades 7 to 12. For more information, call Kevin Chelf at 552-6481.

■ Radical Christianity, a mid-week Bible study group for teens wanting to grow deeper in their faith, meets Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Call Mark or Jenna Fletcher at 258-4175 for more information.

■ An Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book study meeting will be held Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Chapel Center.

**Family Support Center**

■ Learn to choose the right

job with the right employer at a new job search planning class from 9 to 11 a.m. today. Call 552-4943 for information.

■ The Hearts Apart Coffee Break is at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday in the family support center. Spouses of remote-tour or deployed active-duty personnel are invited to drop by for information and snacks. No reservations are required.

■ Experts say only 30 percent of available jobs are advertised. Learn to tap this hidden job market at a networking class Monday at 9 a.m. Call 552-4943 for details.

■ Married to the Military, a class for spouses new to military life, is Wednesday. Learn about military terms, customs, ranks, benefits, entitlements, community resources and family and military expectations. Call 552-4943 for details and reservations.

■ The next Mutual Support Group meeting is Thursday at 1 p.m. Call Karen Colman at 552-8068 for more information on the program.

■ Learn to write high-impact resumes that "sizzle" at a resume-writing class Dec. 10 from 9 a.m. to noon. Call 552-4943 for more information or to make reservations.

**Family Advocacy**

■ A condensed version of the couples' communication class will be offered Tuesdays from noon to 2 p.m. Normally held over a six-week period, this session will be held in just four weeks. Couples will learn how to communicate effectively and safely, how to work as a team and how to solve problems and manage conflict. For more information or to register, call 580-5858.

■ Family Advocacy offers a variety of programs to support and strengthen families, including a new parent support program, anger management and couples communication classes. Call 580-5858 for details.

**Armed Services YMCA**

■ The Armed Services YMCA hosts a holiday open house Dec. 17 from noon to 4:30 p.m. at their office at 8111 Craw Ave. Everyone is invited to share some holiday cheer and Christmas treats. For more information, call Judy Atkins at 552-9622.

## About your street name...

**1st Sgt. Lawrence Lambert (Lambert Avenue)**

1st Sgt. Lawrence Lambert was the first person to eject from an aircraft using an ejection seat. Flying over what was then Patterson Field in Ohio in a P-61 at more than 300 miles per hour and an altitude of 6,000 feet, Lambert catapulted from the plane, separated from his seat and landed safely. The seat, and Lambert, were propelled by a 37 mm cartridge and launched about 40 feet above the aircraft at about 40 miles per hour. He cleared the P-61's tail by about 20 feet. Lambert's ejection—his 59th parachute jump—was an important milestone in the development of a safe and effective ejection seat, which was crucial to survival in the jet age. Pilots who bailed out of crippled jets risked being crushed against their aircraft's tail by the rushing air without an effective ejection seat. For his accomplishment, Lambert earned the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Learn more about your street name on the web at [www.elmendorf.af.mil/Library/streetname/Namesake.htm](http://www.elmendorf.af.mil/Library/streetname/Namesake.htm)

**Employment**

● The 3rd Services Squadron has several nonappropriated fund jobs available. Spouse and veteran's preferences are applicable. For more information, visit the human resources office at 10480 22d Street, down the hall from the library, or call 552-4563.

● Temporary jobs are available in support of the 2000 U.S. census. Depending on the position, pay ranges from \$14 to \$18 per hour. For more information, call the Census Bureau's Anchorage office at 271-1281.

**At the MOVIES**

All movies play at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

**At Elmendorf**

● Friday—"Double Jeopardy" (R)  
● Sat & Sun—"Three Kings" (R)

**At Fort Rich**

● Friday—"Drive Me Crazy" (PG-13)  
● Sat & Sun—"The Sixth Sense" (PG-13)

# Services



Get ready to see Alaska in a whole new way—from the seat of a

## SNOW MACHINE

If you're looking for adventure and want to see Alaska in a way you've never seen it before, look no further. Outdoor recreation has planned guided snow machine tours to help you experience the outdoors from a whole new vantage point.

"We are continually trying to expand operations and give different options for winter activities," said Jerry Witmer, an outdoor recreation specialist. "This is a new program this year and is sure to be a lot of fun. Participants will learn snow machine safety and how to properly operate a snow machine."

After a 15-minute safety course, riders will head off to see all that Alaska has to offer by exploring trails throughout the base, at Hatcher's Pass, on the Turnagain Arm and areas they normally wouldn't be able to get to through other means of transportation.

Snow machine rides will be conducted today from 3 to 5 p.m. and 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.; Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 to 4 p.m., and 5 to 7 p.m.; Sunday from noon to 2 p.m. and 3 to 5 p.m. and Dec. 10 from 3 to 5 p.m. and 5:30 to 7 p.m. There is a \$20 fee for each two-hour session and a \$50 fee for each five-hour session.

Don't miss out on this great opportunity for some unique winter fun. Reservations must be made in advance and are expected to go fast, so call 552-5026 to make your reservation now.



### Child Development Center

■ Give Parents a Break is today from 7 to 11 p.m. For details or to make a reservation, call 552-8314. Referral certificates must be current.

■ For more information on any child development program, call the Katmai center at 552-5113 or the Denali center at 552-8304.

### Kenai Dining Facility

■ The Kenai Dining Facility will be closed for major repairs through Jan. 4. The Iditarod Dining Facility will remain open for its normal hours of operation. For more information, call 552-2159.

### Hillberg

■ Are you looking for a facility that's a lot of fun and has real atmosphere for your holiday get together? Check out Hillberg Lodge, which is available for groups or parties for up to 250 people on a first-come, first-served basis. Groups are encouraged to take advantage of the lodge's food service. Call 552-4838 or 3472 for details. Lift ticket discounts are available.

### Information, Tickets and Tours

■ The Northern Lights Coupon Books are here. Pick yours up today for only \$40. The books include coupons from hundreds of restaurants, entertainment and recreation outlets. You can save more than \$12,000. The sale of this book benefits the MWR fund. Call 753-2378 for details.

■ Hit the slopes of Alyeska with \$18 weekday and \$25 weekend and holiday ski-lift tickets. Fridays are considered to be part of the weekend.

### Clubs

■ Football Frenzy is at the Kashim Club Sunday, featuring a breakfast buffet served on a first-come, first-served basis on Sunday mornings starting at 7:30 a.m. For just \$4.25, you can have a delicious breakfast buffet with scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, biscuits and potatoes. Register to win a trip to the Dec. 12 Atlanta at San Francisco game, a trip to the Pro Bowl in Hawaii or a trip to the Super Bowl in Atlanta. Prize packages include airfare, hotel, rental car, game tickets and a special care package for two. A team jersey is given away every week and participants can enter for a chance to win an NFL jacket during the Super Bowl.

■ Check out the Susitna Café for November's chef's choice dinner specials.

■ Today is Super Friday. Check out the extra special social hour snacks and beverage specials.

■ Celebrate the last month of 1999 with Millennium today. There will be tons of prizes from the great folks at Miller to get you ready for the last night of 1999 and for the New Year!

■ "Killians" is the song of the month during

Karaoke from 8:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Dec. 4 at the Kashim Club.

■ For more information on these or other club activities, call the Kashim Club at 552-2393 or the Susitna Club at 753-3131.

### Polar Bowl

■ Bowl for 60 cents a game from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. weekdays except holidays.

■ Enjoy the single life every Monday at Dorm Night. Just show your dorm key and bowl for \$1.10 from 1 to 10 p.m.

■ Take off your boots and lace up those bowling shoes every Tuesday for Xtreme Glow-in-the-Dark bowling to your favorite country tunes from 7 to 9:30 p.m. for \$2.59.

■ Celebrate the down slope of the work week Wednesdays with Hump Day bowling from 1 to 10 p.m. for \$1.10 a game.

■ See red and win Thursdays during Red Pin Bowling. If a red head pin comes up and you get a strike, you could win a free game for every paid game of bowling.

■ Enjoy some fowl play during Turkey Shoot bowling until Dec. 23. For \$2 during league play, bowlers who get a strike in the third, sixth, and ninth frame in one of three games will win a turkey. The limit is one turkey per family.

### Skills Development Center

■ A wood shop orientation is Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. The cost is \$10.

■ Prepare your vehicle for winter by attending an introduction to winter automotive maintenance class today and Dec. 10 from 6 to 8 p.m.

■ The home school program features a Santa countdown, a Christmas album, ceramic trees, and

stamped memo pads Monday from 1 to 3 p.m. and 4 to 6 p.m.

■ Beginning drawing sessions one through four will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday.

■ Soap making is Wednesday at 5 p.m.

■ A picture framing class is Wednesday from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Call 552-7017 for details.

■ A glass-etching class is Thursday at 5 p.m.

■ For more information on these or other skills development center activities, call 552-2031.

### Youth Center

■ See what the decade was all about by attending the '70s Celebration today from 5 to 7 p.m. This activity is open to youth ages 5 to 12. There is a \$2 fee for nonmembers.

■ Power Hour is Monday from 4 to 6 p.m. in the game room for youth 9-12 years old.

■ Arts and crafts is Tuesday at 4 p.m.

■ Family Bingo Night is Wednesday at 5 p.m. Fees are \$1 for one card and \$3 for five cards.

■ The Torch Club meets Thursday at 4 p.m.

■ Parents Night Out is Dec. 10 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. for youth ages 5 to 12. Fees are \$10 for members and \$12 for nonmembers.

■ For more information on youth center programs, call 552-2266.

### Young Adult Center

■ Fabulous Friday is today at 5 p.m. Fees are \$7 for members and \$8 for nonmembers.

■ Play Pictionary Monday at 4 p.m.

■ Coed volleyball is Tuesday at 5 p.m.

■ Weight training is Wednesday at 4 p.m.

■ Arts and crafts is Thursday at 4 p.m.

■ The T.R.A.I.L. Club meets Dec. 10 at 6 p.m.

■ Call 552-8336 for more on center programs.

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# Seeing the 'big picture'

By CMSgt. Dave McClannahan  
3rd Medical Group

As a chief, I'm sometimes asked for advice about issues that affect either my unit, the base or the Air Force in general. It's at those times I'm reminded that I'm rarely an expert source of information, especially regarding the broader subjects not directly related to my career field. However, I often know at least a little bit about a lot of subjects, especially those of a military nature. Although we can never become an expert on everything, it's essential that enlisted personnel make an effort to see as much of the "big picture" as possible rather than stay solely focused on the "pixels" of information immediately in their view.

As I look back, I realize that during the first half of my 27-plus year career I focused almost exclusively on my immediate career field and was essentially clueless about the bigger mission of the Air Force. Although I was technically competent in my job, my view of the world in which our military operated was very nearsighted. Besides, I knew all the big decisions were made way above my pay grade, so I didn't see the need to be informed about how my wing or major command operated. I saw no reason to stay up on world events, understand what other units on base did or pay attention to mission statements.

As I progressed in rank, I slowly realized that I had to expand my awareness of my environment. My troops expected me to explain why higher-level decisions affecting them had been made. I realized I would have little credibility as a leader if my answers to their questions consisted of shrugging my shoulders and saying, "I dunno." I had to get the blinders off and do a little homework.



Where did I start? Where did I look for the big picture? Well, it was a lot easier than I imagined. Once I opened my eyes, I realized that the base paper, network news programs, professional military organizations, base Top 3 and Middle Tier associations, my friends in other organizations and even the *Air Force Times* were the very sources I needed. All I had to do was read and listen.

Putting together these individual pixels of information made my view of the big picture much clearer.

So why is it important to expand your big picture perspective of the overall mission and operational environment? The important answer is, to become more effective at interpreting and explaining policy decisions that affect your troops. The more informed you are about the challenges faced by the entire Air Force and the entire base, the more credible you are in the eyes of your folks and the better team player you will become when dealing with other base agencies. As you progress in your career, you'll find yourself involved in policy decisions that affect far more than just your career field. You have an obligation to those impacted by your input to be informed and aware of the broader issues.

Don't wait, as I did, until you're halfway through your career to realize it's crucial to focus on big picture issues instead of focusing only on the small pixels of information specific to your career field and duty section. If you spend even a little time expanding your understanding of the larger base and Air Force mission, you'll become a much better team leader and mentor. Perhaps just as importantly, you'll rarely have to answer your troop's question with a shrug of your shoulders and an, "I dunno"—most likely you'll be viewed as a big picture, credible leader.

## Festival of Lights

By MSgt. Janet Litke  
Jewish Lay Leader

We are about to enter into one of the best-loved Jewish holidays in America, Hanukkah, which is actually a minor festival on the Jewish calendar. There are very few religious obligations associated with Hanukkah other than lighting the candles in winter's dark evenings and saying blessings over them, then placing the menorah where it can be seen by passers by, proclaiming the miracle of the lights to all the world. This year's celebration begins this evening.

As we recall the Hanukkah story, a small band of Jews, led by the Maccabees, triumphed over the Assyrians and reclaimed the Jerusalem Temple. The Temple had been defiled, and much cleaning and purifying needed to be done. The Jews relit the eternal light, but there was only enough oil to last a day. Miraculously, the oil lasted for eight days; enough time to replenish the supply and keep the eternal light burning.

The meaning of Hanukkah has changed over the centuries and varies depending on where you live. In Israel, it celebrates the military victory of the underdog Jews over the superpower Syrian Greeks. In the United States, we emphasize the struggle for freedom of religion, and gift giving has gained great importance. All over the world, though, the Hanukkah story, the miracle of the light that lasted for eight days, attunes us to the contrast between darkness and light, physically, metaphorically and spiritually.

This year there will be a giant menorah lighting in downtown Anchorage and several celebrations around town. For further information, please call at 552-7868.

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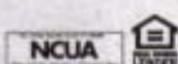
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# Letters

From Page 10

stop signs, or even two way stop signs that read, "traffic from right does not stop?"

This is not a matter of convenience, it's a matter of safety!

**Katherine Sizelove**

In the Oct. 8 edition of the Sourdough Sentinel, the following Action Line response from the wing commander was published regarding your concern:

"Thanks for your concern about this intersection. The traffic light at Fairchild Avenue and Fighter Drive is antiquated and it is no longer possible to adjust the timing of the red-green cycles. It can only operate either with a long-cycle length or as a flashing light. Because the light was causing excessive traffic delays in its normal configuration, I elected to operate it in the flashing mode. I've received a number of calls regarding the safety of the intersection due to the flashing lights.

Last week, I instructed CE to put signs up in addition to the flashing lights currently posted. A diamond-shaped caution sign informing drivers to proceed with caution due to a dangerous intersection ahead has been posted prior to the yellow flashing light going east to west along Fairchild Avenue. Stop signs have been placed at the intersection going north and south on Fighter Drive. I think the signs will clear up any confusion as to who has the right of way and make this a safe intersection."

Send your letters to SSgt. George Woodward at [woodwardg@elmendorf.af.mil](mailto:woodwardg@elmendorf.af.mil), or by fax to 552-5111. Call 552-2493 with any questions or comments.

# The first 'true' Americans

By Gen. Lloyd W. Newton  
Air Education and Training Command Commander

Since American Indians and Alaska Natives are truly the first Americans, it is important that we reflect on their unique cultures and the contributions they have made to our nation's success.

For that reason, we observe National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage month throughout November.

The "first Americans" have remarkably diverse heritages that link them to the very essence of this great land of ours. The remaining tribes of today represent only a small portion of the many tribal nations that previously existed.

Before the arrival of Columbus, Indian nations covered the entire North American continent, extending through Central and South America. These nations were bound only by the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, and stretched from South America to the arctic. They had well-established borders between them that pre-dated the Roman Empire.

Today, there are more than 550 federally recognized tribes in the United States, including 223 village groups in Alaska, and some 250 tribal languages are still spoken.

Alaska Natives and American Indians have repeatedly made important contributions to the nation at every level. For example, Charles Curtis, a Kaw Indian from Kansas, served as vice presi-

dent of the United States under President Herbert Hoover.

During World War II, American Indians accounted for 71 Air Medals, 51 Silver Stars, 34 Distinguished Flying Crosses and two Medals of Honor. Also during World War II, Eskimo scouts faithfully patrolled 5,000 miles of Aleutian coastline and 200,000 miles of tundra, rescuing downed U.S. airmen. During the Vietnam War, 41,500 American Indians served in our military forces.

More recently, in 1990, prior to Operation Desert Storm, some 24,000 American Indian men and women were in the military. Approximately 3,000 served in the Persian Gulf, with three among those killed in action. One out of every four American Indian males is a military veteran and 45 to 47 percent of tribal leaders today are military veterans.

Within the military community, we are privileged to serve with Alaska Natives and

American Indians who contribute their talents in every aspect to our expeditionary aerospace force. Diversity is a strength when the talents of each of us are recognized and harnessed, and our differences celebrated.

During November, I ask that each of you take the time to reflect and learn about the contributions American Indians and Alaska Natives have made to enhance the freedom and prosperity of our nation today. You'll be glad you did.

## American Indian Heritage Month



AP/WIDE

# DIRECTORY ...Services & Churches

**FILIPINO BIBLE CHURCH WELCOMES YOU**

Wednesday 7pm Prayer Time  
Friday 7pm Bible Study and Youth Group  
Sunday 9am Sunday School  
10:15am Worship Time

3340 Raspberry Road, Anchorage Alaska  
907-243-9407  
Pastor Joel Reyes Home 907-522-8304

**First Baptist Church of Anchorage**  
Warmth, Encouragement, Acceptance

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY 9:45AM  
SUNDAY WORSHIP 11:00AM & 6:00PM  
WEDNESDAY 6:00PM

Preschool, Children, Youth, Singles, Senior Adults & Family Activities

Dr. Marvin Owen, Pastor  
1100 West 10th Avenue • 907-279-8481

**Greater Friendly Temple Church of God in Christ**

6310 DeBarr Road (Corner Beaver) Anchorage, AK 99504  
For transportation/information call: (907) 337-7732

**Weekly Services:**  
Sunday: 9am - Prayer & Bible Band  
9:30am - Sunday School  
11am - Morning Worship  
6:30pm - Y.P.W.E.W.

Wednesday - 7:30pm - Prayer & Bible Band  
Thursday - 7pm - Choir Rehearsal  
Friday - 7:30pm - Youth & Sunshine Band

Bishop C. D. Williams Mark 11:22:24  
Pastor  
"If you want to be treated nice, just come to the Greater Friendly Temple Church of God in Christ."

**MIDTOWN WORSHIP CENTER**

Are you looking for a church that feels like home?  
Where you can:  
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• Be accepted without being judged  
• Receive messages that are Positive and Practical

Sunday Bible study 10:00 am  
Sunday Worship 11:00am

Gerald Klimczak  
Pastor, Midtown Worship Center  
2507 Blueberry Rd.  
(907) 272-2891

**Looking For A Place To Worship?**

**Victory Christian World Outreach Center**  
Corner of 17th and Cushman St., Fairbanks AK 99701  
For transportation/information call (907) 456-1716

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Children's Church 1st & 3rd Sunday

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SUNDAY 401 East Manor Avenue  
Bible Study 9:45am Outside Elmendorf Gate on Government Hill  
Worship 11:00am Anchorage, AK 99501  
Evening Worship 6:00pm (907) 276-3803

WEDNESDAY Mitchell Whittington, Pastor  
Bible Study/Prayer 7:00pm Nursery & Preschool provided

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**True Vine NW Baptist Church**  
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Sunday School 9:45am  
Sunday Worship 11:30am  
Evening Worship\* 6:30pm  
\*1st & 4th Sundays only

Equipping & Living Study (Weds.) 6:30pm  
A W A N A (Fri) A Hope & Grace Club for Christ 7:00pm

True Vine Christian School (TVCS) offers a solid back to the basics education (K-9th)

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Pastor  
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**Central Lutheran Church**  
1420 Cordova Street, Anchorage, AK  
277-1622

Sunday Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00am  
Sunday School 9:45am



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A brand new Midtown 6-plex beautiful large 1 & 2 br. 1.5 ba units. All appl incl W/D & basic cable. Security bldg, country kitchens w/ eating bar, priv. deck, covered pking, nice, quiet area. \$595 to \$850 + lts. 277-1776

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This furnished efficiency is conveniently located close to stores, banks, & buses in the Jewel Lake/ Diamond area. ONLY \$450 + elec. Res Mgr. 248-0065. Cook Inlet Realty 276-0000

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1971 Ford F100 matching topper 302 p.s. studded tires \$1000 obo. Call 753-3552

'85 Mercedes, beautiful Benz, 190E 2.3L, 4 dr. coup, sun roof, original Mercedes, AM/FM cassette stereo, electric everything, 2 yr. tags, 2nd owner, non smoker, no damage anywhere, immaculate care given, still looks new, midnight blue w/ grey leather, low 115K mi, 4 summer & 8 studded tires, runs great & very reliable. Must see \$9,200 obo. 349-9648

'94 Saab SE FWD, turbo, power everything, heated seats, below book, beautiful car \$11K obo 245-2636.

'95 Ford Windstar, exc. cond, all power, towing pkg. Moving, must sell \$10,200 obo 753-4111

'97 Chevy Venture LS, 4 dr, ac, 2 sets of rims, studs, cruise, split rear seats, back sound system, midnight blue, 38K miles, NADA Book \$19,000, asking \$18,500. 248-0910

### Health/Cosmetics

Looking for Avon products but don't know where to buy them? Call Laura at 333-3557, Avon Ind. Sales Rep.

### Stuff For Sale

Benchmade AFCK Advanced Folding Combat Knife. Two- one in black, one in silver, both new in box \$75 ea. 696-2627

UNIQUE Hand Painted Furniture 561-3300

### Wanted to Buy

Looking for clean, funky furniture. Small couch or big chair, bright colors or interesting prints. Call days 337-9550 x156

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Licensed childcare, all ages, reasonable rates. 2 openings. Vicki 337-7445

### Perfect Creations has

openings for all ages. Near bases. 338-3318 or 338-3336 DCAS accepted. Mention this ad & get 20% off registration fee.

### Computers & Electronics

Kenwood 5 disc cd player, 1 mo. old. Kenwood cassette player. Marantz tuner, amplifier & equalizer. KLH 15" speakers (2 sets). Valued at \$1400 sell for \$899. Price negotiable if cash in hand. Must see & listen. 563-6000

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Breast feeding shirt \$15. Breast feeding dress \$25. Call 562-0797

Dog run, chain link, good cond. 4'H, 6'W, 8'L, \$80. 753-3472

\$35 Avis XC graphite racing poles. Great for recreational to expert skiers. Sz 140 to 160 cm. Steve 274-1819 or zelemer@aol.com

\$35 Visa Skis new, good qual, made in Russia, for beginners & recreational skiers. Sz 160 to 210 cm. Steve 274-1819 or zelemer@aol.com

1 twin black futon w/ 3 position stand \$150. Call 694-4777

25" Sharp Color TV w/ remote \$100. Stereo, CD player, cassette player & speakers \$100. 272-1417

3 studded tires P235/75R15. Used 2 seasons \$65 Call 696-0142

4 tires on rims 225-75-R-15 \$395. Call 694-4777

Airline coupon good until Oct. 30, 2000. Worth \$500, must sacrifice for \$425. 1st call 272-5958

Bean Bag - poof - new \$170 344-5554

Bed headboard Mahogany \$150. King futon \$60. Lawnmower \$30. 278-1558

Bi Fold Doors, white 24" 3 ea, 48" 2 ea, 36" 1 ea, 30" 1 ea. Exc cond \$15 each. 258-4470.

Cannon BJC 250 photo ready realistic color bubble jet printer. All programs included, like new in box \$60. 537-2666

CD holders, hold 80, black cubes from Metro \$12 a piece. 337-3373

Child GRACO Indoor Playpen, ex. cond. \$60 Infant carrier, Evenflow 0-24 mo. ex. cond. \$10 277-4793

Comforter - down - 5lb German made \$150. 344-5554

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Cosco car seat/infant carrier-recall repairs done \$25. 522-5571

Dbl bed mattress, box springs \$225. 552-7587 days or 344-7066 after 6p

Dining room table with 2 arm chairs, 4 side chairs, & matching china hutch \$150. 333-2775

Elec heaters 750W wall mount 220 V \$25 ea. Elec lamps, ceiling mount \$20 ea. 345-9656

Entertainment center, oak wood 54" X 41" includes Technics turntable, tuner, amplifier, equalizer, double cassette deck, multi disk player (5), 2 speakers, \$400. Call 696-1970

Exercise machine Body Tone 300 \$25, crock pot, cooking pan \$25, coffee maker \$20. Call Mr. Carlos 258-0239

Futon-kings \$50. Lawnmower \$35. Oak magazine rack \$30. Weber barbecue (large) \$35. Herb 278-1558

Graco open top swing \$40. Lego table & 4 sets of duplo legos \$35. 337-1709

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Kenmore All-in-One stackable washer & dryer, white \$275. 907-376-4390

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Koch & Lowry brass floor lamp \$39. 258-2125

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Leather jacket, women's like new \$250. Black w/ red roses & fringes. 258-3447

Little Tikes slide (short) \$25. Fisher Price pool & ping pong table \$45. 562-0797

MTX Road Thunder speaker \$150 obo. Paid \$325 new 277-0187 lv msg

Must go: 19 inch color TV \$75. Dresser \$50. Call 753-1886

Old washer/dryer \$25 ea. Push mower \$25. 4"-15" rims \$40 for 4. Call 277-2117

Older Sears Kenmore washer & dryer, good. Some surface rust \$60. Jeff 563-6046

Pokemon cards for sale! Lots of first editions, call 753-7170 for cards available and prices

Power Wheels Xtreme Machine, like new \$195 obo. Set of 4 15 inch rims \$100. 868-4986

Pure Bred Rottweiler \$300 plus papers. 929-3348

Queen frame, dresser, night stand, highboy, headboard (set) \$325. Couch & love seat \$125. 2 end tables \$50. 753-8173

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Recliner, mauve, brushed cord \$75. Bentwood rocking chair \$75. R13 tires w/ rims \$40, w/out rims \$25. Call 562-0797

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Studded tires 165R13. Very good condition. All 4 for only \$60. Call 258-1796

Taurus, 38 special, 2 in, exc cond. w/ ammo \$150 obo. 753-3472

Tires P195/75R14 studs, on rims, new \$50 each. 345-4064

Trailer 11X7 holds two 4-wheelers, 2" receiver \$450. 376-1684

TV 27" Toshiba, color \$275. TV stand/cabinet \$75. CD rack, wood \$25. Wine rack, oak \$125. 694-8844

Washer/dryer, Kenmore, exc. cond. \$125/pair. 753-3472

Winchester model 70 30/06, feather wt w/ 4x leupold scope. Excellent \$500 firm cash 696-3426

Winnie the Pooh crib w/ name plate \$100. Graco Pack-n-Play & Deluxe baby back pack \$30 each. Call 753-0388

Wood crib w/ new Simmons mattress \$150. Call Kristen 552-3995

Yamaha home stereo amp \$400, Hitachi VCR \$75. Call Shelley 552-4899 days or 337-4615 eves.

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### Lost and Found

Lost cat: Timberline Dr. in Girdwood. Large Siamese mix w/ stripes, male. Call Kerri @ 783-0387

Lost: Australian Cattle dog. Black & grey w/ tan legs. No collar. Responds to "Huleo". \$REWARD\$ 522-5253 in Anch or 694-9472 in Eagle River. Last seen near Northwood & Strawberry

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# Falcons' season a winning one despite final-game loss

By David Kellogg  
Air Force Academy Sports Information Director

Air Force ended its football season with a 6-5 overall mark following a 33-28 loss to the University of New Mexico Saturday before a crowd of 21,013 at University Stadium in Albuquerque.

It marked the sixth consecutive season the Falcons finished the year with a winning record. Even so, it fell far short of the team's goals for 1999. In fact, the Falcons achieved only one of its three pre-season goals—capturing its 13th Commander-in-Chief's Trophy. The other two: winning the Mountain West Conference title and going to a bowl game, were dashed by finishing with a 2-5 league record and losing their last two regular season conference games.

In spite of their finish, the Falcons season was filled with several significant highlights:

■ Air Force won its 13th Commander-in-Chief's Trophy and the 11th under coach Fisher DeBerry. The Falcons defeated Navy, 19-14, and Army, 28-0, in Falcon Stadium. The Falcons have dominated the series, winning 13 trophy titles compared to six for Army and five for Navy. AFA has a 37-19-0 record since 1972, while Army is 23-31-1 and Navy is 22-32-1.

■ The USAFA senior class is the

fourth winningest class in Academy history. The seniors posted a 34-14 record during their careers. The 1985 senior class is the winningest, with a 38-12 record.

■ This season is Air Force's 44th season of varsity football. The Falcons have posted a winning record in 27 seasons. Overall the Falcons' record stands at 261-218-13.

■ Kicker Jackson Whiting finished 1999 with a perfect season. Whiting hit all 12 field goal attempts and all 26 extra points to tie for the conference lead in both categories. Whiting is the career field goal percentage leader at the Academy. Whiting has hit 19 of 23 for his career, which is a .826 percentage. He is third in career PAT percentage with a .987 mark.

■ Air Force captured its 16th conference rushing title. The team finished the season with a 285.5 per-game rushing average. The Falcons won 15 titles while a member of the Western Athletic Conference, including last season with a 266.8 per-game average.

■ Air Force has posted a 28-10 record over the last three seasons—the best record in the Mountain West and eighth best nationally.

■ The Falcons are 24-11 in their last 34 regular season road games. The Academy has won 12 of its last 17 games on the road dating back to 1997.

# BOWLING

## National League

Team	W	L	Team	W	L
1. 3 CS A	60	4	16. 632 AMSS A	32	32
2. 3 TRANS A	48	16	17. 3 CES B	32	32
3. 3 EMS	48	14	18. 3 CS E	29	35
4. 3 CS C	47	17	19. 381 IS C	28	36
5. 3 CS B	42	22	20. Band	28	36
6. 3 SFS	40	24	21. 3 CS D	26	38
7. 632 AMSS B	38	26	22. 3 OSS	25	39
8. 3 CRS B	38	24	23. 372 TRS	22	42
9. 3 CRS A	36	26	24. 11 OWS	20	44
10. 3 TRANS B	36	28	25. 3 SVS	20	36
11. 381 IS B	36	28	26. 611 AOG	18	38
12. 54 FS	36	20	27. 3 CRS C	14	50
13. 3 LSS	35	29	28. 206 CBCS	14	42
14. 381 IS A	34	30	29. 3 CONS	8	56
15. 611 ASG	34	30	30. 3 CS F	6	58

## International League

Team	W	L	Team	W	L
1. 3 CPTS	42	22	4. 517 AS	31	33
2. 3 SUPS A	40	24	5. 3 SUPS B	22	42
3. 3 CES A	38	26	6. 632 AMSS	19	45



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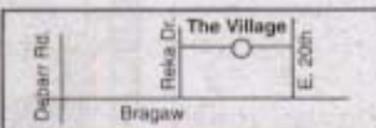
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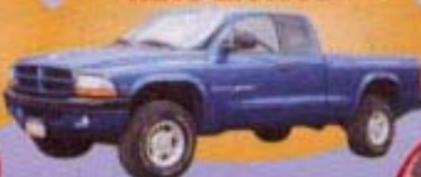
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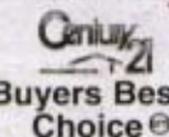
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# Sports News

**Bowling  
standings**

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## Netters take second in tourney

By SrA. Korey London  
3rd Wing Public Affairs

**E**lmendorf Eagles varsity volleyball coach Ken Reyes has high hopes for his team after it placed second out of 12 teams at a Thanksgiving Volleyball Tournament Saturday at Service High School.

The Eagles rolled over five straight teams, including the eventual tournament champions, the Warriors, before being swept in the finals.

"We should've won, but that's okay," said Reyes. "It was our first game situation and we had some mental errors at the beginning of each game that we never quite recovered from. But overall I'm proud of these guys."

Jason Vannaucker led the Eagles on offense, amassing 25 kills through the tournament.

"We had great passing from Tom Wilson and great hitting by Chris McHenry, but Jason was the hot man all day long," said Reyes.

Setters Mike Goldbaugh and Jacey Acol did well too, according to Reyes.

It's hard for Reyes not to be pleased with his team's results in the tournament. Especially when he thinks about how close the team came to not existing.

"All these guys were playing for local teams," he said, "and were stars on those teams. It was tough to convince them to join the Air Force team. We've been practicing three days a week for two hours each day

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that we never quite  
recovered from."*

**Ken Reyes**  
Varsity Volleyball Coach

since September, but we hadn't played in any real games together, so I didn't know what to expect. But I'm impressed, and we've gotten excellent support from the fitness center staff in the 3rd Services Squadron."

The Eagles will get a steady diet of competition to feast on when Metro League competition begins in January. They also expect to contend for the Alaskan Armed Forces volleyball title in February and plan to travel to Eielson Air Force Base and Fort Wainwright for separate interservice matches. That's just for starters. Reyes' ultimate goal for his team is to play in the nationals in Ohio.

For now though, the Eagles' focus is on solidifying team chemistry and improving on the fundamental aspects of the game in preparation for the Metro League season.



Mike Goldbaugh of the Elmendorf varsity volleyball team sets the ball for teammate Jason Vannaucker during a Thanksgiving weekend tournament. The team took second place out of 12 teams in its inaugural outing.

## Hundreds take to the slopes as Hillberg opens



A snowboarder catches air under the lights at Hillberg during opening weekend.

By A1C. Josh Clendenen  
3rd Wing Public Affairs

**S**kiers and snowboarders peppered the slopes Nov. 26 when Hillberg Ski Area opened for the season. An estimated 600 to 800 people turned out to participate in Military Appreciation Day.

"We were really busy," said Jerry Witmer, Hillberg's manager. "It was Military Appreciation Day, and we gave out free lift passes, so we were real busy."

Witmer said the lack of snow didn't seem to keep the people away, and the Hillberg staff worked hard to make sure they weren't disappointed.

The staff has been making snow 24 hours a day since the last part of October, said Witmer. The only time they stop is when base operations shuts them down because of weather.

Despite efforts to make enough snow to cover the slopes, only certain parts have been hit with the snow guns.

"We're gonna keep making snow. Right now we have about half of the half-pipe done," said Witmer.

He said the next areas that will have the snow

guns turned on them is the terrain park and the race slope.

According to Witmer, making snow is a simple process. Water is taken from Hillberg Lake through an underground pipe system. Once the water is taken it is combined with a product called Sno-max and blown into the air.

"We basically blow water up in the air and it freezes on the way down," said Witmer.

The man-made snow attracted many skiers on Hillberg's second day of the season. However, the number of people was considerably lower than the day before.

"We're usually a little busier," said Witmer. "The cold weather probably kept some people away."

Cold weather doesn't seem to be a factor when it comes to skiing for some people. The Elmendorf Youth Ski Team are some of those people.

At 70 members strong, the ski team meets on Thursdays and Saturdays. Witmer said that skiers who want to join the team must have some basic skiing skills. They don't need to be great, but they need to have some experience, he said.

For more information on the team, contact the youth center at 552-KIDS. For more information on Hillberg Ski Area, call 552-4838.