

# WRIGHT TIMES



**Seymour named Tree City USA third year in a row**  
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Seymour Johnson AFB, Goldsboro, N.C.

Vol. 47, No.18

## 335th FS provides support to ground troops



**For the first time, 335th Fighter Squadron aircrews provided close air support to ground troops during Operation Anaconda using only the F-15E's 20 millimeter cannon.**

**By 2nd Lt. Beverly Mock**  
Public Affairs

While the 335th Fighter Squadron was deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, two of the unit's aircrews provided close air support in what they called their hardest, most complicated sortie during the "war on terrorism."

Maj. Chris Short, pilot, and Lt. Col. Jim Fairchild, weapons systems officer, flew the lead in the two-ship formation during a March 4 Operation Anaconda mission. Captains Kirk Rieckhoff and Chris Russell, were on their wing.

While flying a sortie supporting several different ground forward air controllers, they were directed to support another ground FAC whose tone of voice told them it was an urgent matter.

"The sense of urgency was incredible in my

Slick 01's tone of voice, and we realized he needed us right away," said Short.

The ground FAC, call sign Slick 01, happened to be in the CH-47 Chinook helicopter when it crashed on a ridge. He was calling for emergency close air support, Short said.

Slick 01 told the aircrews there was a downed helicopter, and he and the people from the helicopter were coming under fire with enemy troops 75 meters away. He said he wanted 20 millimeter cannon fire only - an abnormal mission for an F-15E. Slick 01 then proceeded to talk the two-ship on to the target area.

"This was a big shift," Short said. "We don't train for emergency close air support. Dropping laser guided bombs is what we are very good at, what we're trained at, and what we've been doing and now the FAC wants us to use the gun."

"This is the first time anyone in my

squadron has ever used the gun in a close air support scenario," said Lt. Col. James Dennis, 335th FS commander. "The gun is designed for air-to-air, not air-to-ground."

But Short had unique knowledge on air-to-ground firing.

"Short is a prior A-10 pilot, so he was a little more familiar with close air support," said Rieckhoff. "He was the 'lead' on that mission and we were very lucky. It took only about a minute to get in there and he rolled right in getting the 'talk on' and started putting bullets on target."

Rieckhoff explained that Slick 01 would 'talk' or direct the two-ship to the target he needed eliminated. For example, one particular target was narrowed down as far as one tree in a certain clump of trees.

Rieckhoff said in his mind he was thinking it was impossible to hit one tree at

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## POW MIA Guidelines on how to display flag outlined

**By Senior Airman Travis Riley**  
Public Affairs

Displaying the prisoner of war-missing in action flag is a right of each American citizen, but many people may not know the proper occasions to post the flag.

Guidelines have been established by Congress for those people who want to fly the flag.

The Defense Authorization Act of 1998 was signed by President Bill Clinton Nov. 18 1997, which requires the federal government to fly the POW/MIA flag on six federal holidays.

These days are: Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day and Veterans Day.

While these are the holidays the federal government flies the flag, flying the flag any day is also acceptable.

To display the flag properly, the American flag should be hoisted first and followed by the POW/MIA flag.

The two closest holidays for those to post the flag are Armed Forces Day May 18, and Memorial Day, May 27.

For more information, call public affairs at 722-0027.

### UP FRONT FOCUS | Those left behind

## Getting the job done *Training has evolved out of manning shortfalls due to OEF*

**By Staff Sgt. Bryan Bouchard**  
Public Affairs

Maintaining 42 stand-by electric generator sites, 15 mobile generators, seven deluge fire suppression systems and four aircraft arresting systems is no easy task for the 15 people working in the power production work center in the 4th Civil Engineer Squadron. Now divide that workforce in half, and the job becomes even more daunting.

This has been the situation faced by those working in the "power pro" shop since October, according to acting NCO-in-charge, Tech. Sgt. Walter Brosseau. The shop's numbers diminished through winter when by February, the usual manning of 13 Air Force members dwindled to five. This has become a familiar situation in units on Seymour Johnson.

"Everyone here has stepped up to the challenge," Brosseau said. "We have airmen pulling jobs usually done by NCOs. Each one accepted the responsibility, and I couldn't be more proud of them."

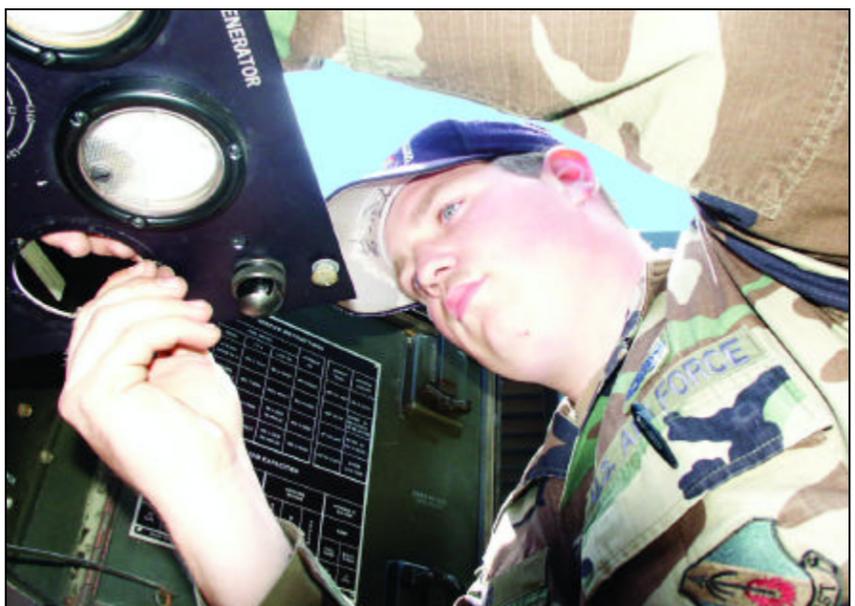
Airman 1st Class Michael Karr is one airman who's accepted that challenge, Brosseau said.

While most people in Karr's shoes are continuing upgrade training in their career field at a prescribed pace, he found himself quickening his own training to keep up with his job's needs.

"I had newer airmen coming to me for help," Karr said. "But since I didn't know enough on the equipment, I had to step up my own training to help them."

Traditionally in power production, the more experienced senior airmen are expected to tackle those responsibilities. But Karr said he doesn't mind he had to accelerate his training. Now that at least two airmen have returned from deployment, the increase in responsibility makes Karr's and the returning airmen's job a lot easier.

"When I left, Karr was still new," said Senior Airman Scott Dennis, who was deployed for six months in support of Operation Enduring Freedom



Staff Sgt. Bryan Bouchard / WT

**Airman 1st Class Michael Karr, a power production specialist in the 4th Civil Engineer Squadron, removes a gauge from a generator Monday. Karr along with the rest of his shop have persevered despite losing more than half of their workforce to deployments.**

and returned to work at the beginning of April. "He knows a lot more than when I left, and it's easy to see what he knows and what he still needs to learn. It's nice to have more qualified people in the shop."

Now that Dennis is back, he finds himself in Karr's shoes, having to reach the next level and act as an NCO for some of the other airmen he works with.

"Usually I am outranked by a lot of people around here," Dennis said. "Now I get to see a whole different side to this job that the higher ranking guys usually see."

Brosseau agreed and added that many of the airmen are getting more leading opportunities than they normally would.

"These guys are getting more leadership experience than they would in the first place," Brosseau said. "And the mission still gets accomplished and in a professional manner."

Dennis concurred and said that part of that mission is helping his "acting" NCOIC get the job done.

"No one can do it all; that's what we're here for," Dennis said.

## Underage drinking busts rising; experts look at reasons why

**By Staff Sgt. Bryan Bouchard**  
Public Affairs

Underage drinkers don't think they're going to get caught.

So says the base's chief of military justice, Capt. Sherri Brewer, about the base's recent rash of underage drinking incidents.

"Until people realize there

are consequences, they'll keep doing it," she said.

Between January and April, the base substance abuse office has counseled 20 people after they were caught drinking alcohol underage. Six of those people were arrested for driving under the influence.

More important than the statistics are the reasons behind them.

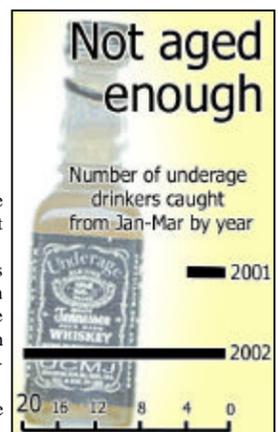
"I have some people come in and they blame peer pressure," said substance abuse counselor Master Sgt. Barone Bartley. "That's just garbage."

Bartley agreed with Brewer that people never think they'll be caught. He also said the large number of people caught may not be a direct reflection that more underage airmen are drinking. Instead, he and some

of the other people at the Life Skills Support Center think it may be linked to Sept. 11.

"I don't think the numbers are because of any increase in the number of underage drinkers," Bartley said. "It's an increase in the number of people caught drinking."

Since Sept. 11, he said more



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Staff Sgt. Bryan Bouchard / WT

### Weekend weather

**Saturday**

Cloudy  
High: 78  
Low: 61

Occasional light rain

**Sunday**

Cloudy  
High: 82  
Low: 64

Partly cloudy in the afternoon

Weather information provided by the 4 OSS weather flight.



**America's Air Force & the 4th Fighter Wing**  
No One Comes Close

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**Softball: TRANS slips past 334th**  
See Page 7 for story.

# The secret is communicating - *with your spouse*



By Capt. Leo Pfeifer  
4th Fighter Wing OPSEC manager

Wanted: Information on American military member - please include home and work address, phone numbers, family member's names and a complete description of duties and contributions to the war on terrorism. For more information, call (800) 888-OSAMA. Lines are open 24 hours a day - seven days a week.

How many people would answer an ad like that? Who would allow their personal information to be advertised for all to see? As the 4th Fighter Wing operational security program manager, I often see OPSEC violations that do just that.

Recently a co-worker brought to my attention an article in a local trade paper. The story recognized one of our own wing members and the article completely described the location they were deployed to and the mission they

were carrying out, among other pieces of critical and personal information.

We all deserve kudos for our hard work, but it must be balanced against the need for OPSEC.

The information for the newspaper article came from the person's spouse. While you could argue that the spouse didn't know better, the spouse was a retired military member who should have known better.

Non-military spouses need to know and understand the importance of OPSEC as well. It's your responsibility to fill your spouse in on basic OPSEC principles and let them know that any critical military information they discuss with other's might end up harming the ones they love, as well as the country they love.

There are three simple OPSEC principles to remember and teach your family. See box to right.

It just might keep your family and our critical mission out of the news.

## Basic OPSEC principles:

■ **First**, if you are not sure whether or not to talk about something - don't talk about it.

■ **Second**, do not assume that if you've seen or heard it elsewhere, then it is okay to talk about.

■ **Third**, if anyone ever asks for information from you, call security forces, Office of Special Investigations, the wing OPSEC manager or the public affairs office, depending upon who is asking.

# Is your career worth a six-pack?

By Master Sgt. Barone Bartley  
Substance abuse counselor

Recently, I became acquainted with a 19-year-old airman. I met him because he'd gone out to a local bar with his friends. After successfully scrubbing the red dye from the back of his hand, which marked him as under 21, he spent three hours drinking from pitchers of beer his friends bought.

After more than six beers, he stopped drinking in an attempt to sober up before leaving the club, which is when his story took a downward spiral.

Rather than calling Airmen Against Drunk Driving, he got into his car and drove to base.

As he approached the main gate he said a prayer that the gate guard wouldn't notice. His prayers were not answered.

The staff sergeant who was manning the gate that night did notice and the airman experienced his first interaction with military police officers and was also given the chance to get to know his commander personally.

He was arrested for underage drinking and driving under the influence.

But unfortunately, he's not alone.

He's one of 20 airmen arrested and charged with underage drinking since the beginning of the year.

So it was no surprise to me when he asked:

"But Sergeant Bartley, if at age 19 I can go to war and die for my country, what is

the big deal if I have a few beers?"

This is the most common question that is asked of me in my line of work.

On the surface, the rationale of the question looks logical; however, a closer inspection reveals something worrying.

Since January, 20 of our active-duty members - our most precious resource - have incurred fines, lost stripes or as in the case of two underage drinkers - lost their careers.

For me the most alarming fact is that a percentage of all underage drinkers who are caught will re-offend before reaching their 21st birthdays.

I believe the key to reducing the negative impact of underage drinking rests with educating our airmen at all levels. It means all supervisors must drive home the message that underage drinking is not tolerated and will cut careers short.

The substance abuse staff has noted that many of our underage clients engage in a behavior known as binge drinking.

In 1999, the Harvard School of Public Health completed a study of binge drinking among college age students and found that the behavior was associated with many alcohol-related tragedies, such as acute alcohol poisoning, falls, drowning, automobile accidents, fires and death.

Supervisors must realize that college dorm life and military dorm life tend to mirror one another when it comes to alcohol-related activities and need to educate themselves and their troops about the dangers of underage drinking.

## Know the facts

■ A binge drinker is defined as a person who drinks five or more drinks on the same occasion on at least one day in the past 30 days.

■ In 2000, almost 7 million people aged 12 to 20 met criteria for binge drinking; that is, about one in five persons under the legal drinking age was a binge drinker.

■ The rate of binge drinking among underage persons is 19 percent, which is almost as high as the 21 percent among adults aged 21 or older.

■ Underage persons who reported binge drinking were seven times more likely to report use of illicit drugs during the past month than underage persons who did not binge drink.

Facts provided by the substance abuse office

# Thanks for the speeding ticket

By Tech. Sgt. Jim Brabenec  
9th Reconnaissance Wing  
Public Affairs

BEALE AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. (ACCNS) - I imagine the headline sounds a little weird for most people. How can anyone be thankful for a speeding ticket? For that matter, why would anyone ever admit to receiving a ticket?

While I can't answer those questions for other people, in my instance I can explain my thankfulness. I had hopped into my car for the quick ride to work recently. I looked at the clock on the dashboard and saw I had plenty of time to get to work.

Cruising through base housing, I rolled down a slight downgrade while completely oblivious to my speedometer, which hovered near 30 mph.

About that time I noticed the security forces officer waving me across the intersection just opposite of his shiny white police car.

I dutifully complied, pulled to a stop and fished out my documents from the glove box.

"I was going a little quick there, wasn't I?"

"Yes sir, we clocked you at 29 miles per hour in a 20 zone.

Could I see your driver's license, proof of insurance and registration?"

I waited for the pink slip to arrive. Meanwhile other drivers, some of whom I knew, sidled past. Strangely, I didn't experience the green-gilled feeling that usually accompanies such humiliating circumstances. After all, I deserved this. When the security forces officer walked up to explain the situation, I thanked him for issuing the ticket. He was certainly surprised. He said most people get indignant about being ticketed.

He was out there, he said, because the base had received reports of some near misses involving kids darting into the street in front of speeding drivers.

I knew my thanks was justified. I'd rather receive a ticket reminding me to pay better attention to my driving habits than experience the trauma of hitting a pedestrian. Imagine looking into the eyes of a parent and trying to explain why you were in such a hurry. No thanks.

I'll take the ticket and the reminder to drive safely.

**WRIGHT TIMES**

Wright Times  
722-0021

e-mail submissions to: [wte.4fwpa@seymourjohnson.af.mil](mailto:wte.4fwpa@seymourjohnson.af.mil)  
Deadline is Friday at noon, the week prior to publication.

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office at Seymour Johnson. Photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

## Action Line



Edgington

Seymour Johnson's Action Line is brought to the base by 4th Fighter Wing Commander, Brig. Gen. David Edgington.

It provides a communication channel for people to obtain information and assistance in making Seymour a better place to live and work.

Edgington asks that before calling the Action Line, people should try to resolve their particular problem with the responsible base agencies listed here:

Base exchange	735-8512	Military pay	722-5373
Chaplain	722-0315	AFOSI	722-1220
Civil engineering	722-5139	Public Affairs	722-0027
Civilian pay	722-5358	Safety	722-4093
Commissary	722-0321	Security forces	722-0121
Military equal opportunity	722-1180	Services	722-5331
Inspector general	722-0008	Transportation	722-5089
Housing maintenance	736-7021	Travel pay	722-5362
TRICARE	(800) 931-9501	Youth center	722-0339

722-0006 or [4fwactionline@seymourjohnson.af.mil](mailto:4fwactionline@seymourjohnson.af.mil)

## Legal office releases courts-martial results

### Airman returned from Korea to face drug charges

By Staff Sgt. Princess Coleman  
4th Fighter Wing Legal Office

In a general court-martial held April 4-6, a 4th Fighter Wing airman was sentenced to be reduced to the grade of E-1, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, 2 years confinement and a bad conduct discharge for drug offenses.

Senior Airman Joseph Horton III was returned early from his short

tour at Osan Air Base to face charges for his illegal drug activities when he was previously assigned to the 4th Component Repair Squadron. Horton was charged with the wrongful use and distribution of marijuana and wrongful use and distribution of ecstasy. Horton pled guilty to the use and distribution of marijuana and not guilty to use and distribution of ecstasy.

A panel of officers found Horton

guilty of both ecstasy offenses. At the conclusion of the trial, Horton was searched, handcuffed, and transported to the Camp Lejeune base brig to begin serving his sentence.

The adjudged sentence will now be reviewed by the general court-martial convening authority, Brig. Gen. Robert Elder Jr., 9th Air Force vice commander. He may approve the sentence as adjudged, or a lesser sentence, but may not increase it.

### Airman convicted of theft and forgery

By Staff Sgt. Samantha Hamilton  
4th Fighter Wing Legal Office

In a special court-martial held April 18-19 a 4th Fighter Wing airman was sentenced by a panel of officers to be reduced to the grade of E-1 and a bad conduct discharge for stealing and forging checks.

Senior Airman Lori Alexander from the 4th Transportation Squadron was tried for stealing and forging her friend's check, to which she pleaded guilty. Alexander was also tried for failing to pay her government travel card debt.

A panel of officers heard her case and found Alexander not guilty on the charge of failing to pay her

GTC debt. The panel sentenced her for the offenses to which she pled guilty.

The adjudged sentence will now be reviewed by the special court-martial convening authority, Brig. Gen. David Edgington, 4th Fighter Wing commander. He may approve the sentence as adjudged, or a lesser sentence, but may not increase the punishment.

### Turning up the heat



Master Sgt. Jerry King / 376 AEW

**OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM - Senior Airman Greg Burgess, 376th Civil Engineer Squadron heating, ventilation and air conditioning section journeyman, removes the motor from an M-80 boiler for cleaning at a deployed location in Kyrgyzstan, Sunday. The boiler is used to heat water for the shower areas at the coalition base. Burgess is deployed from Seymour Johnson.**

## New initiatives announced for MilPDS pay issues

**AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER** - The nearly year-old Military Personnel Data System is still giving some airmen and commanders fits, and the senior person responsible for the system has announced several new initiatives to fix the remaining problems.

"The worst thing is that too many people are still not getting paid their regular paychecks properly," said Maj. Gen. Mike McMahan, commander of the Air Force Personnel Center. "And we simply must fix that."

At the end of last year officials here believed there were no 'systemic' problems in MilPDS and its interface with the pay system. That changed in February and March when "we took a few steps back," as new problems were identified, said the general. "Our assessment at the time was wrong."

"The fact that it has caused so

much disruption to our hard-working, patriotic airmen throughout the Air Force is what concerns me the most," he said. "I've been out there talking to airmen and I hear their concerns. They certainly have let me know how they feel about the system."

Some of those comments and customer feedback through AFPC's contact center have helped to identify many of the ongoing problems, he said. "We encourage feedback. It's our way of finding out how what we do here is affecting everyone out there."

Among the efforts is a renewed emphasis on customer service for people calling the AFPC Contact Center at DSN 665-5000 or toll free (800) 558-1404 or (866) 229-7074.

One focus will be on calling

See **PAY**, on Page 5



Senior Airman Chrissy Szczepanski / VI  
**Ashli Blanton (left) checks out the wine and cheese tasting Tuesday.**

## Organizers declare spouses' week a success

By Senior Airman Travis Riley  
Public Affairs

For the second year in a row, the support agencies at Seymour Johnson continued to take a different approach to spouse appreciation day by turning it into a week-long celebration in recognition of the important role spouses play in the 4th Fighter Wing mission.

Nancy Mayo, family programs manager, said the role spouses play in the

military is pivotal to the success of the 4th Fighter Wing's mission being accomplished.

"Behind every good soldier stands a great spouse," said Mayo. "These people are the backbone of the military and we felt one day just wasn't enough to show how much they are appreciated."

Events started Sunday, but Tuesday was the busiest day for the spouses. The day was devoted to wellness, spiritual, physical and mental wellness classes all day. The day was capped off

with a wine and cheese celebration.

Leaders from the base were on hand to serve the wine and cheese as people listened to guest speaker and author P.K. Johnson, who emphasized the importance of spouses to the Air Force mission.

Activities conclude today with individual units holding their own events.

"Since Friday is actually spouses appreciation day we decided to let the units on base decide how they wanted to honor the spouses," said Mayo. "Some are having cookouts and some

are having tours of their facilities, which gives the spouses a chance to see where their spouses work."

Mayo added that when the Air Force takes time to recognize the people who support them the most, good things happen.

"We've had nothing but positive feedback from the programs and presentations this week," said Mayo. "Some of the people who've attended are new to the military and said this week has helped initiate them with the Air Force way of life."

## SJ garners 3rd Tree City USA award

### Base earns honor through projects, improving urban forestry program

By Airman 1st Class Charity Jules  
Public Affairs

For the third year in a row, the National Arbor Day Foundation named Seymour Johnson Air Force Base as a Tree City USA.

The Tree City USA program recognizes towns throughout the country, which develop comprehensive urban forestry programs. To become a Tree City USA, a community must meet four standards: a tree board or department, a community tree care ordinance, a comprehensive forestry program and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

In conjunction with being named a 'Tree City,' the base was also awarded the Growth Award. The Growth Award recognizes significant environmental improvement and higher levels of tree care in Tree City USA cities.

"I think very highly of this program," said Johanna Arnold, natural resource manager, from the 4th Civil Engineer Squadron. "We (the Air Force) do take care of the environment. It starts with hazardous waste disposal and compliance with regulations and it ends with the protection of our resources - our envi-

ronment, and the plants and animals in our ecosystem."

Part of the Tree City USA award's standard requirements is that for every person who lives in the city two dollars per year must be spent on improving the urban forestry program.

Seymour soared past this minimum standard last year - spending \$16 per person.

"Last year, we spent \$337,310 on our forestry program," said Arnold. "The funds covered such forestry projects as tree purchases and tree removals, trimming and pruning, fertilizing and integrated pest management."

Being named a Tree City USA for a third time is an impressive accomplishment, said Arnold. However, receiving the Growth Award is even more so.

"In order to win the Growth Award, the base earned it through projects that improved upon our forestry program," explained Arnold.

The projects, which earned the base the award, were establishing a wildlife habitat in sections of the Three Eagles Golf Course, cre-

ating a tree hazard tracking program and establishing a program to prevent destructive practices against base trees.

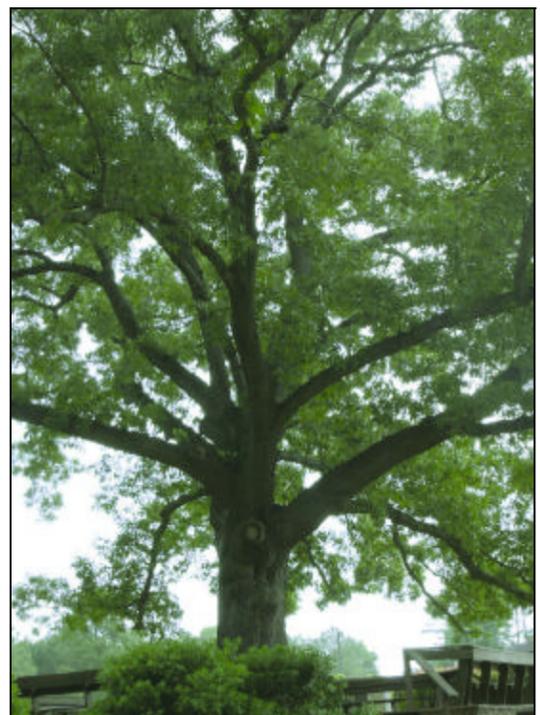
"There were many people who helped make this happen," Arnold said. "Everyone at Three Eagles has done a lot to help create ecosystems for wildlife in large sections of the golf course by creating 'no mow' zones, which has allowed the area to become wild again and form places for birds and other animals to live."

The tree hazard program and the destructive practice prevention program work hand in hand to ensure the health of trees on base.

"Mowing crews and maintenance crews record any damage to trees, which allows for us to track not only damage to the trees, but the action taken to correct any damage," said Arnold. "And there's a program to eliminate destructive practices provides monthly awareness briefings to the mower crews about the consequences of mower hits to the trees."

The importance of the observation of Arbor Day observance and Tree City USA award lies within the awareness that they create in communities, said John Rosenow, president, National Arbor Day Foundation.

"More than ever, today we understand the importance of trees to our cities and towns," said Rosenow. "Trees help clean our air and water, moderate heat and cold and bring warmth and grace to our homes."



WT file photo

**Arnold explained this Southern Red Oak located next to the club house at the Three Eagles Golf course is the oldest tree on base. Its exact age is unknown, but it is estimated the tree was here long before the base was established in 1942.**

# NEWS BRIEFS

## New summer hours for bowling center

Beginning Sunday, the bowling center's new hours are Monday through Thursday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday 7 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., and Sundays from 1-8 p.m. For more information, call 722-0350.

## Food drive begins Saturday

United Way and the Goldsboro Postal Carriers conduct their eighth annual food drive Saturday. They are looking for volunteers to help collect and distribute food. For more information, call 735-3591.

## Ed Center holds summer registration

Registration for the summer college term begins Monday and continues through May 24. Military members are given priority to register the first two days. The summer term begins May 28 and concludes July 27. For more information, call 722-5800.

## Commissary holds truckload sale

The commissary holds a truckload sale Thursday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., in front of the store. For more information, call 722-0319.

## Legal closed May 22

The legal office closes at noon May 22 for an office function. If emergency assistance is needed, call the command post at 722-2679.

## Now pay travel card online

Bank of America now allows government travel card customers to pay bills online. Cardholders with a B of A checking account and already enrolled in the online bill pay can add GTC services to their payee list. For more information, go to [www.bankofamerica.com](http://www.bankofamerica.com).

## Anti-terrorism briefings this week

The anti-terrorism awareness briefings are being held at the base theater Monday and May 17 at 7 a.m., 11 a.m., and 2 p.m. All military and Department of Defense civilians are required to receive annual AT awareness training to ensure people are aware of the need to maintain vigilance for possible terrorist actions and employ AT tactics, techniques and procedures. These briefings are also open to contract employees and family members if they wish to attend. For more information, call Master Sgt. Jeffery Gardner at 722-2554.

## ID cards for children

All military dependents, age 10 and older must have a dependent identification card. However, the children of single parents or military-married-to-military couples, regardless of age, should have an ID card issued to them. This is to ensure the children will continue to receive care, such as medical and dental when the military member is deployed. For more information, call the military personnel flight at 722-4017.

## Free compost available

The compost facility, located on Daymond Road near the Slocumb Gate, is open weekdays from 7:30-10:30 a.m., and from 12:30-3:30 p.m. Customers may drop off lumber, wood debris and brush. A roll-off dumpster is available for painted and treated lumbars; all other lumber is included in the compost process. To drop off materials, people need to check-in with greenhouse personnel so they can be directed to the correct drop-off location in the yard. Compost is available to military family housing residents and facility managers for free. Others may purchase compost for \$12 per small-sized truck, \$24 for mid-sized truck or \$36 for large-sized truck. For more information, call 722-5159.



This section of the Wright Times features excerpts from the 4th Security Forces Squadron blotter entries as provided by the 4 SFS.

**Dog bites:** Two children were riding their bicycles in housing when a dog, which was being walked without a leash, got out of the owner's control. The dog knocked one child off a bicycle and then chased down the other child and bit her. Both children were treated by medical technicians at the scene. The dog was caught by animal control and removed from the base. Security forces reminds pet owners to be responsible and ensure that pets are controlled at all times.

**Vehicle accidents:** During the past week there were an unusual number of minor vehicle accidents - an average of more than one accident per day. Speed limits are low on base, however this should not lull drivers into being inattentive. Many of the accidents occurred in parking lots, however, some were at intersections. All were preventable. The 101 Critical Days of Summer are fast approaching and children will be out of

school walking and riding bikes more frequently around the base. Be alert and be safe!

**Unlicensed driver:** A security forces patrolman stopped a car for exceeding the posted speed limit. Upon further investigation it was discovered the driver did not have a valid driver's license or insurance for his vehicle. He was issued a ticket for his violations and his car was towed to an off-base impoundment yard.

**Possible vandalism:** Security forces received a complaint from a car owner that someone had broken the passenger side mirror from her car while parked in the parking lot of dormitory Bldg. 3613. A mountain bike parked at dormitory Bldg. 3605 had both its tires cut. Anyone who observing either incident or has information that might be helpful in determining the culprit or culprits should call security forces investigations at 722-2097.

# Thirty-six graduate from Airman Leadership School

(From left to right) Master Sgt. Lamont Virgil and Senior Airman Marc Rivard and Roland Nelson and from the Airman Leadership School clean up Berkeley Avenue April 27. Each class that attends ALS spends one Saturday morning cleaning up the stretch of road which leads to Seymour Johnson.



Airman 1st Class Charity Jules / WT

By Senior Airman  
Ameé Lamos  
Airman Leadership School

Thirty-six airmen received diplomas May 3 after graduating from CMSAF James Binnicker Airman Leadership School Class 2002-D.

The following airmen were award winners for Class 2002-D:

Senior Airman Jesse Sardina received the John L. Levitow award. Sardina, who is from the 4th Operations Group, also won the Leadership Award.

Senior Airman Trevor Bliven, from the 4th Component Repair Squadron, received two awards as well. He was a distinguished graduate for his class and he received the academic achievement award.

Senior Airman Deryk Lambert from the 4th Communications Squadron and Senior Airman Jeremy Freeman from the 333rd Fighter Squadron were also distinguished graduates.

Other graduates of the class were senior airmen:

Joseph Crittall, David Kelley, and Yvette Klubertanz and Michael Weaver from the 333rd Fighter Squadron; Camden Stewart from the 334th Fighter Squadron; John Slusher and Michael Allen from the 335th Fighter Squadron; Anthoine Corpening, Christopher Fortson, Timothy Freigant, Andrew Narog, James Shealey III and Anthony Paglia from the 336th Fighter Squadron; Aaroan McClellan, Joseph Harrell and David Johnson from

the 4th Equipment Maintenance Squadron; Roland Nelson Jr., Jeremy Moyer and Matthew Tilson from the 4th Component Repair Squadron; Tabatha Thrasher and Adam Schill from the 4th Operations Support Squadron; Sarine Arisdakessian from the 4th Fighter Wing; Yashari Finklin-Pinder and Malcolm Journic from the 4th Comptroller Squadron; Cheryl Corbin and Sandra O'Neal from the 4th Contracting Squadron; Henry Geigenmiller Jr. from the 4th Services Squadron; Andarius McCoy, Lakesha Johnson and Timothy Linder from the 4th Civil Engineering Squadron; Marc Rivard Jr. from the 4th Security Forces Squadron, Stephen Hickman from the Office of Special Investigations Detachment 216.

## PAY: MilPDS initiatives announced

From Page 3

people back and monitoring their situations until the customers are satisfied that the problem is solved, said Maj. Alessandra Stokstad, chief of the Contact Center.

Such calls are an opportunity to identify lingering systemic problems, she said. And a renewed emphasis on follow-up calls might have a good chance at highlighting problems that AFPC thought were fixed, she said.

The general said every effort is being made to eliminate pay problems caused by the personnel data system.

"The best thing we can do is to fix these problems so that every airman can get back to his or her job and not have to spend extra time worrying about if such things as their pay will be right," the general said.

The general pointed to senior Air Force leaders' concern about the problems as well. In March, Air Force finance, personnel and manpower leaders formed a

'personnel/pay council,' lending ongoing high-level commitment to efforts to solve difficult pay problems.

Pay problems have been with the system since it was launched in June.

MilPDS, then called Military Modernization, or MilMod, was a necessary transition to get the Air Force's personnel data system in line with current technologies and current needs "to allow us to move forward," the general said. "We can't stay stuck in the past using ancient technology.

"And when we finally get it working as designed, it will improve service and accuracy. But until we get hard fixes to all the problems, it is more work and more disruptive than the old system--and that's why we're working very hard to fix it," the general said.

"Truth is, this system has great potential to make the personnel function more responsive to airmen's needs," he said.

Among initiatives to get final

control over MilPDS is a push for additional training for the workers at MPFs about how best to use the system to serve customers.

The plan is to give MPFs and finance offices better access to the latest information and to offer them more training, conducted by experts at the center, said Dave Ashton, in charge of requirements for the data system.

A desire to offer the good training resources is spurring development of 'online help' for personnel specialists. The electronic document will contain not only the technical orders for the data system but also 'clickable' links to current temporary 'workarounds,' said Mr. Ashton.

"It'll be, pardon the expression, 'the MilPDS bible' for personnelists," he said. "We've identified this as a need for the field since we're fixing, updating and developing workarounds constantly, and there's almost no way for folks

at the MPFs to all keep current. This will be up-to-the-minute current," he said.

The document will be similar to the linked 'help' function in many standard commercial computer programs, he said.

Another effort at training the "overtaxed" MPFs and finance offices will be webcasts for base personnel flights. A live question-and-answer format running simultaneously with live online demonstrations of procedures will allow more than 20 people at more than 20 locations worldwide to be trained on the latest processes at the same time.

"But when we need to send out [training] teams, we'll do that, too," Mr. Ashton said.

"We have had challenges with several different important issues begging for attention all at once, but pay and customer service have been, and will continue to be, very high priorities for us," said the general.

Before calling the AFPC Contact Center, people should call the MPF at 722-4013.

## Seymour's Spotlight Janet Howard

### 4 MSS

#### Job title:

Human resource specialist

#### Hometown:

Mt. Olive, N.C.

#### Personal goals:

To retire June 1, spend more time with my family and be even more involved in my community and church.

#### Most memorable moment at Seymour:

My most memorable moment at Seymour, was when President George W. Bush visited and I was able to see him from just a short distance.

#### Strongest attribute:

The ability to meet and



interact with new people in social and professional environments.

#### Worst flaw:

Planning my husband's work day to keep him busy since he's retired. He doesn't care for that very much!

## 335th: Chiefs tackle targets

From Page 1

10,000 feet away going 500 knots, but Short did just that. One of the calls they said they heard from Slick 01 was "direct hit, I can smell the pine, those bullets are right on, good guns."

Short said it doesn't happen very often when they have to transfer their mindset from dropping LGBs to what this "kid" on the ground wanted: 20 mm cannons. After both aircraft made several passes and used almost all of their ordnance, more air assets arrived to support Slick 01 and the two-ship was directed to go to a nearby tanker for refueling before heading back to base.

On the flight back to base is when the aircrews said they had time to think about what really happened that day.

The aviators said they felt good about being able to help out fellow Americans that day but they realized "it took someone to have a bad day for it to happen," said Short.

"I was just doing my job, what anyone else in our squadron could do, and in the end it's the ground FAC and the guys in the helicopter who are the heroes," said Rieckhoff.

## UNDER: Minors will be punished

From Page 1

people are reporting suspicious things or loud noises. That leads law enforcement officials to the scene, where sometimes they stumble upon parties in progress. This combined with heightened security at the base's entry points and the random patrols through housing and dormitories makes it all but impossible for security forces members to not find underage drinkers.

"Our dormitories mirror college dorms," Bartley said. With that college dorm atmosphere come parties. This is where both Bartley and Brewer say most people get caught.

Once people are discovered, they may face a myriad of consequences according to Brewer.

"It's up to a unit commander to decide what punishment to hand down to an underage drinker," she said. "Some commanders give letters of reprimand, others go for non-judicial punishment in the form of

what's commonly referred to as an 'Article 15,' and the member could face a reduction in rank."

Either way, Air Force regulations mandate people must attend at least six hours of substance abuse education.

So what can people do to prevent this upward trend from rising further?

Bartley suggested that supervisors may play a key role.

"Supervisors need to let their troops know that they will not tolerate underage drinking," he said. "You can't tell your airman, 'I just don't want to catch you,' but when you say that, you're condoning it. It's still against regulations and the law."

Although Bartley and Brewer differ in why they think the underage drinking incidents have risen, they both agree that it's a problem that needs to be resolved.

"We will punish underage drinking; it is against the law," Brewer said.



Senior Airman Travis Riley / WT

334th Fighter Squadron Eagles first baseman Robert Worthlin reaches out for the ball in plenty of time to get the transportation squadron's runner out Tuesday at Tinker Field. Despite defensive plays like this one, the Eagles lost to TRANS 6-4.

## TRANS clips Eagles' wings

By Senior Airman  
Travis Riley  
Public Affairs

The 4th Transportation Squadron took advantage of a three-run sixth inning to speed past the 334th Fighter Squadron Eagles 6-4, in an intramural softball game at Tinker Field Tuesday.

The Eagles didn't wait any time scoring in the first inning, as pitcher Mike Reel scorched a line drive to right center field, allowing him to coast into second base with a stand-up double. Outfielder Tim Jordan brought Reel to the plate with a slow roller up the middle, putting the Eagles ahead 1-0. The transportation squadron answered

the call in the bottom of the inning. Designated hitter Richard Short hit a lazy fly ball to right field, while driving in a run, evening the score at 1-1 after an inning. The Eagles again jumped on TRANS pitching right away, scoring one run on two hits, with second baseman Mike Taylor getting the RBI by beating out the throw to first.

After TRANS went scoreless in the bottom half of the inning, it was 2-1 in favor of the Eagles.

In the third inning the Eagles continued their hot hitting, again jumping all over TRANS pitching.

After a Jordan single to left, Tony Gollotto hit the gap for a double. With Gollotto standing on second, Jake Sudfund

drove him in with a soft-liner over the shortstop's head. TRANS was again unable to score, and found themselves looking at a 4-1 deficit with time running out.

With time at a premium, and a runner on first, TRANS batter Stephen Copes put his team back into the game with a towering drive over the left field fence making it a 4-3 game after four innings.

Still down by one in the bottom of the sixth inning, TRANS took the lead for good. With runners on first and second, Rob Thomas hit a screamer down the third base line, driving both runners in and winding up at second base with a double.

Then Joe Coggins drove him in with a base hit to left, extending the

TRANS lead to 6-4.

Down to their last at bat and trailing for the first time in the game the Eagles quickly flew out twice to center field and found themselves down to their final out.

TRANS would make the game interesting though, as they walked the bases loaded and watched as the Eagles big hitter, Mike Reel strolled up to the plate.

But Reel's impatience showed, as he swung at the first pitch he saw and popped the ball to the shortstop ending the game and the Eagles hopes of a comeback victory.

With the win, TRANS inches closer to the top with a 2-3 record and the Eagles continue their spiral downward to 3-3.

## Standings

Softball

### Women's League

916 ARW	3-1
4 MDG	2-1
4 OSS	3-2
4 CES	0-4

### National League

4 EMS AGE	4-0
4 EMS A	5-1
4 MSS	5-1
333 FS	4-2
334 FS "A"	3-2
4 CES "B"	2-3
4 TRANS	1-3
4 SVS	1-4
335 FS	1-4
916 ARW	1-4
4 CRS "B"	0-4

### American League

4 SFS	4-0
4 CRS "A"	4-0
334 FS OPS	3-0
4 CS	3-1
4 OSS	2-2
4 EMS FAB	2-3
4 MDG	2-3
4 EMS "B"	1-3
336 FS	1-4
4 CES "A"	1-4
4 SUPS	1-4

Standings provided by the fitness center staff at 722-0408.

## Sports shorts

### Diabetes education at the HAWC

Learn about the importance of diet and exercise in managing the fight against diabetes Tuesday from 10-11:30 a.m., at the health and wellness center.

For more information, call 722-0407.

### Prenatal class teaches nutrition

Learn the importance of nutrition during the critical months of pregnancy and eating healthy for your baby May 30 at 10 a.m., at the HAWC. For more information, call 722-0407.

### YMCA offers youth, adult swim lessons

The YMCA is offering swim lessons for youth and adults Mondays through Thursdays from 4:30-5 p.m., and from 5-5:30 p.m. Registration is open to anyone.

For more information, call 778-8557.

### Martial arts classes at youth center

The youth center offers martial arts classes Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 6 p.m., for school-aged base members up to 18-years-old. Cost is \$35 per month.

Participants must be a member of the youth center and membership is \$10 annually.

For more information, call the youth center at 722-0502.

### Lower blood pressure through exercise

Learn about the effects of high blood pressure and how to lower it through exercise and dietary changes at the hypertension class Wednesday from 10-11:30 a.m., at the health and wellness center.

For more information, call the HAWC at 722-0407.

## Golf tourney

May 17 at noon at  
Three Eagles Golf  
Course

Cost is \$25.  
Mulligans cost \$1.  
For more, call 1st  
Lt. Heather Dawson  
at 722-3236.

## Beach Bingo

**Bingo on the beach:** The officer and civilian spouses club holds its final event of the season Saturday. Bingo on the beach begins at 6 p.m. starting with a social and dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Ten games of bingo will be played prizes will be awarded to the winners. The cost for the event is \$6.50. For more information, call Rhonda Chatham at 759-2652 or Kerri Love at 751-8723.

## Brunch

**Mother's Day brunch:** The officers' club presents a Mothers Day brunch Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$11.95 for members and \$14.95 non-members. The event is open to all ranks and reservations are required. For more information, call 722-1340.

## Lessons

**Voice and instrumental lessons:** The community center offers voice, guitar, keyboard and piano lessons beginning May 20. The lesson are held Mondays, Tuesdays or Thursdays from 5 to 6 p.m. Cost is \$17.50 per hour and \$8.75 per half-hour. For more information, call 722-0339.

## Pool tourney

**Pool tournament:** The community center holds a pool tournament May 27-

31. The tournament is single elimination with awards going to first, second and third place finishers. For more information, call 722-0339.

## Birthday parties

**Community center:** The community center is now open for birthday parties. The center opens Fridays from 6-8 p.m., for youth celebrations. Parents must provide the refreshments, and the center will take care of setting-up and tearing-down the party. For more information, call 722-0339.

## Camping

**Camping program:** Fort Fisher is participating in the Air Force frequent camper program, designed as an incentive for recreational vehicle campers who travel around the county. Cost is \$25 for coupons for camping, including military living RV and outdoor recreation around the world. Also included are coupons for free nights. For more information, call (910) 458-6549.

## Party

**School's out party:** The youth center holds a school's out party May 24 from 3-5 p.m., at Debden Park. For more information, call 722-0502.

## Open house

**Open house:** The child development center holds its

annual open house May 17 from 3-5 p.m. Activities include children's performances and snacks for both parents and children. Parents will receive a portfolio of their child's work. For more information, call 722-1198.

## Award program

**Congressional Award program:** The community center offers the Congressional Award program for ages 14-23. The program helps to build leadership skills, self-confidence and provides recognition for voluntary services, personal development and physical fitness. For more information, call 722-0339.

## Youth center

**Give Parents a Break:** The 4th Services Squadron presents "Give Parents a Break" night May 17. The program is open to youth age six to 12. Reservations are accepted in advance and must be made 48 hours prior to the scheduled date. For eligibility requirements or more information, call the child development center at 722-1198 or the youth center at 722-0339.

## Thrift store

**Thrift store:** The thrift shop is open Tuesdays, Thursdays and the first Saturday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Consignments are taken from 9:30-11:45 a.m. A drop box is available for donations after hours.

Some proceeds from the thrift shop are donated to the officer and civilian spouses scholarship fund. For more information, call 722-1189.

## Girl Scouts

**Girl Scouts:** The Seymour Johnson Girl Scout troop is participating in a community service program to help the Smart Start program. They are in need of new or used books for pre-schools throughout the city to aid at-risk preschoolers in learning how to read. For more information, call 751-5013.

## Travel

**Fall Mediterranean tour:** The Foundation of Wayne Community College sponsors a "Mediterranean Rhapsody" tour which includes stops in Athens, Rome and Florence and a four-day Aegean cruise. Cost is \$2,387 per person and includes most of the trip costs. For more information or reservations, call 736-7430.

## Fort Fisher

**Fort Fisher:** All of the

facilities offered at Fort Fisher open for the summer season May 24. Active-duty members may call to reserve their slots in advance to avoid the summer rush. For more information, call (910) 458-6549.

## Oil painting

**Oil paintings:** The oil paintings of Grant Hacking are on display May 17 to June 23 at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences art gallery. The exhibit is free. For more information, call Pat Bazany at (919) 733-7450 Ext. 361.

## YMCA

**YMCA:** The YMCA has a parent's night out the second Friday of each month from 6-9 p.m. Children may participate in supervised programs that include swimming, basketball, and other games and activities. People must sign up no later than the Wednesday before the Friday designated as a drop off day. Cost is \$5 per child. For more information, call 778-8557.

## Chapel schedule

### Catholic

•Weekend Masses: Saturday - 5:30 p.m., Sunday - 9:30 a.m.  
•Weekday Masses: Weekdays - 11:30 a.m. to noon  
•Confessions: Saturday - 4:15 to 5:15 p.m., weekdays by request  
•The Catholic Women of the Chapel meets the first Friday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel Annex. For information, call 751-0140.

### Protestant Services

•Sunday services:  
8 a.m. - Liturgical worship service  
9:30 a.m. - Religious education, ages three through adult, meets in Bldg. 4403  
10:45 a.m. - Extended religious education  
11 a.m. - Traditional service  
12:30 p.m. - Inspirational service  
•The Protestant men meet at 9 a.m. the first Saturday of every month.  
•The Protestant women meet at 7 p.m. the second Thursday of every month.  
•For more information or to contact a chaplain during duty hours, call 722-0315. To contact a chaplain after duty hours, call the command post at 722-2679.

### Jewish, Orthodox and Muslim

Call the chapel at 722-0315.

Wright Times deadline is Fridays at noon

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KITTY HAWK THEATER 722-0359		
Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Blade II (R) 7 p.m.	Ice Age (PG) 2 p.m.	Ice Age (PG) 2 p.m.
Showtime (PG-13) 9 p.m.	Monster's Ball (R) 7 p.m.	Ice Age (PG) 7 p.m.
	Death to Smoochy (R) 9 p.m.	

\* Shows subject to change. To confirm movies, call theater or check the theater marquee. For more movie information, visit the AAFES web-page at [https://odin.aafes.com/conus\\_ner/seymour\\_johnson/movie.htm](https://odin.aafes.com/conus_ner/seymour_johnson/movie.htm).

crime before it starts call ...  
**CRIME STOP**  
at 722-1205