

Reservists ramp up for Rodeo

By Staff Sgt. Nick Przybyciel
 Wing Public Affairs

MCCHORD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. – Don't expect any complacency at the 2007 Air Mobility Rodeo from the world's 2005 Best C-17 Wing.

After picking up top honors for best C-17 wing at 2005's Rodeo – along with five other awards – the 446th Airlift Wing is working diligently to keep its title. When Rodeo competitions begin at McChord Air Force Base July 21, this group of Reservists will put all their hard work and practice to use in order to top their rivals (uh, make that full partners in the war on terrorism).

"We are practicing to win. We're putting a lot of time and effort into the competition – nothing is being left up to luck. But, the competition is very tough," said Lt. Col. Gregory Pyke, 446th AW team chief for 2007 Rodeo.

Colonel Pyke would like to see each of the five teams the 446th AW has competing in this year's Rodeo place in their respective competitions. If this happens, he believes the wing has a good shot to hold on to its title.

"We are going there to win Best C-17 Wing. If we come away with one trophy, we want that to be it," he said.

Colonel Pyke brings years of experience to his leadership role. Taking part in a total of six Rodeos throughout his career, Colonel



Photo by Staff Sgt. Nick Przybyciel

Reservists from the 446th Airlift Wing work with active-duty Airmen from the 62nd Airlift Wing to raise the main tent July 11 at the future site of Rodeo's Rainier Ranch. The ranch serves as the central focal point for entertainment and camaraderie when Rodeo competitors have a few moments to kick back and relax.

Pyke has flown in two competitions and umpired one. He hopes to pass on this experience to 446th AW competitors through rigorous practice.

"I think we've put more effort into it than most wings," Colonel Pyke said.

The 446th AW will compete in aircrew, maintenance, security forces, aerial port and aeromedical evacuation competitions.

High standards for this year's aircrew were set at Rodeo 2005 when the 446th crew nabbed top prizes for Best C-17 Airdrop Team, Best C-17 Air Refueling Team and Best C-17 Aircrew.

Although the aircrew is comprised completely of Reservists, they are practicing full-time during the week, which presents an array of challenges. "Trying to coordinate our training with the (active duty's) training is a juggling act because there are only so many planes available," said Maj.

Charles Corrigan, 313th Airlift Squadron pilot and Rodeo co-pilot.

Bringing home gold is the prime goal for this year's aircrew. "We're going to do no less than last time," said Maj. Garin Tentschert, 97th AS pilot and Rodeo aircraft commander.

Making sure they have the best bird available to sweep the competition are 446th AW maintainers. "We've taken on an aircraft that's been out in the system flying hard," said Senior Master Sgt. Cameron Pence, regarding the C-17 Globemaster III he and his fellow teammates are busy gearing up for the 2007 Rodeo.

At the 2005 competition, Reserve maintainers from the 446th AW won the Best Pre-Flight Team award. However, their



**Turn to Page 12
 for a schedule of
 Rodeo events.**

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The 446th Associate Press
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July 25 is the deadline for articles in the August issue of **The 446th Associate Press**.

All articles and photographs must be turned in to the 446th Airlift Wing Public Affairs office, Bldg. 1214, Room 124 by 4 p.m.

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For up-to-date news & information, visit:
www.446aw.afrc.af.mil

Many hands make Rodeo premier event for all

By Brig. Gen. Eric Crabtree
Wing commander

After months, and even years, of preparation on the part of many individuals, it is time to execute Rodeo 2007.

The planning and coordination on the part of the two wings here has been a huge and daunting process. This is especially true when you take into account there is a war going on and McChord AFB units are some of the most heavily involved in the U.S. Air Force.

The dynamic efforts of the 62nd Airlift Wing, and the continuity and corporate memory of the 446th Airlift Wing, have merged to build a strong plan and ensure Air Mobility Command will put on a first-class event.

There are a number of people who have contributed huge amounts of time and effort, and I would like to recognize them.

Lt. Col. Pat Kearney has been involved in so many past Rodeos that his expertise and guidance has been a tremendous help to everyone.

Master Sgt. Stephanie Rumley has spearheaded fund raising events and coordinated a number of critical areas to ensure the teams have the support they need to succeed.

Lt. Col. Rainie Myr has been preparing the support issues and building team spirit for the wing participants.

Senior Master Sgt. Joe Steinbacher has done a great job helping to find volunteers to fill staff positions that will ensure the whole events sched-

ule and VIP support goes well.

Master Sgts. J.P. Wirth, Robbie Robertson, and Ladonna Couthran, and Maj. Martin Oliver, have all given huge amounts of their time and energy planning and will help execute the events.

Senior Master Sgt. Cindy Thomas is putting many hours into the equestrian portions of the pageant with her team of riders.

The wing's Rodeo team chief, Lt. Col. Greg Pyke, has put many hours and much effort into coordination and training for our teams. And, each of these team leaders are vital to their functional area: Maj. Garin Tentschert, aircraft commander; Senior Master Sgt. Cameron Pence, for the maintenance team; Master Sgt. Laura Nepute, for the aeromedical evacuation team; Master Sgt. Ron Cargill, for the aerial port team; and Master Sgt. Chris Pierce, for the security forces team.

The number of foreign teams attending as competitors and observers is a tribute to how highly regarded the competition is throughout the air forces of the world. Many of the wing's squadrons have stepped up and volunteered to host those teams; a clear statement about how important we think this effort in competition and diplomacy is to all of us.

The first sergeants are hosting teams from Switzerland and Malaysia. The 446th Airlift Control Flight is hosting the Oman. The 446th Aerospace Medicine Squadron is hosting Finland. The 446th Civil Engineer Squadron is hosting Indonesia. The 446th



Brig. Gen. Eric Crabtree

Maintenance Operations Flight is hosting a group from India. The 446th Maintenance Squadron is hosting a contingent from New Zealand and The United Arab Emirates. The 446th Mission Support Squadron is hosting an observer from Greece. The 728th Airlift Squadron is hosting 14 people from the Netherlands. The 86th Aerial Port Squadron is hosting the Kuwaitis. The 446th AMXS is hosting Poland.

As you can tell from all of this, we are huge players in the support and execution of Rodeo 2007. Please take the time to come out and observe the competitions and cheer our teams to victory. But also take the time to meet the foreigners who are here to compete and observe. The bonds that are formed between members of militaries world-wide are the glue that will help us to be successful in whatever may be the next contingency or conflict. We want to be the best of the best as ambassadors and competitors. And when it is all over we want to be able to say it was a worthwhile effort.

All photos except bottom right, by Abner Guzman.
Photo bottom right by Staff Sgt. Nick Przybyciel

WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE

From team practices to event set up, 446th Airlift Wing Reservists are placing their brand on Rodeo. After winning Best C-17 Wing in Rodeo 2005, along with five other awards, the competition will be aiming for the gunslingers of the 446th AW.



REWARD \$ 1,000,000

General Duane H. Cassidy trophy

3 advance to AFRC for Sijan

By Senior Airman Desiree Kiliz
Wing Public Affairs

MCCHORD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. – Three McChord Reservists will represent the 4th Air Force for the 2007 Lance P. Sijan USAF Leadership Award at the Air Force Reserve Command level.

Representing 4th AF are: senior officer category, Lt. Col. Colin Carr, 446th Operations Group; junior officer category, Capt. Rhonda Maloney, 446th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; junior enlisted category, Tech. Sgt. Jack Todd, 446th Maintenance Squadron.

The Sijan award was first presented in 1981 and is given to officers and enlisted Airmen who demonstrate the highest qualities of leadership in their duty performances and their own lives. Nominees are selected based on their community involvement, leadership image, professional leadership and scope of responsibility.

Lance P. Sijan was the first U.S. Air Force Academy graduate to receive the Medal of Honor after his plane, flying over Vietnam, was shot down Nov. 9, 1967. He was captured, escaped, and recaptured after 45 days and later died while in a Vietnamese prisoner-of-war camp.



Photo courtesy of Maj. Timothy Greminger

Maj. Timothy Greminger competes in the Mountain to Sound relay race. He, along with 14 other people from McChord, participated in the 100-mile adventure relay June 24.

McChord teams tackle 100-mile adventure race

By Staff Sgt. Paul Haley
Wing Public Affairs

MCCHORD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. – Push-ups, sit-ups and a 1.5 mile run are the elements the Air Force uses to test Airmen's fitness. If you think that's tough, try a 100-mile race that includes running, biking and kayaking. Now that's a test of fitness.

The 446th Airlift Wing contributed the only competitors from McChord Air Force Base to the June 24 Mountain to Sound Relay Race, a 100-mile adventure race from Snoqualmie Pass to Puget Sound.

The race consists of 23 miles of mountain biking, 50 miles of road bike riding, a 12-mile canoe/kayak course, a half-marathon and a six-mile run, according to the event's web site, www.mountaintosound.com.

Last year, the 728th Airlift Squadron fielded a team for the event because it sounded like fun, said Maj. Tim Greminger, a pilot with the 728th AS who organized the teams and paddled the kayak leg for his team. The team enjoyed it so much that they talked friends into joining them.

This year, three teams consisting of 12 people from the 728th AS, as well as one person from the 97th Airlift Squadron and two civilians, raced alongside the original team.

Each member of a five-person team performs a different portion of the race. By running the race in a relay, the members play to their own strengths.

"Everyone trains in their own discipline, so there was nothing out of the ordinary from our workout routines," Major Greminger said.

While individuals train on their own events, and by their own methods, teamwork still has an impact on training, said Capt. Jennifer Henderson, a pilot from the 728th AS, who ran the half-marathon.

"Being on a team pushed me more, because I didn't want to let anyone down," she said. "I don't know if I would have worked as hard on my own."

Major Greminger's team, Sofa Kings, finished fourth of 13 teams in the corporate division, and 21st overall.

Captain Henderson said her team,

See RELAY, Page 7

Medical team provides care to Blackfeet

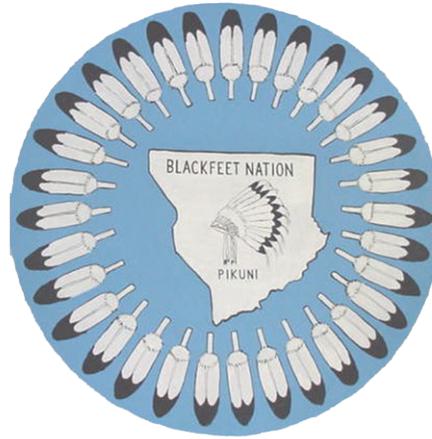
By Staff Sgt. Nick Przybyciel
Wing Public Affairs

MCCHORD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. – Deploying to impoverished, third-world countries is nothing out of the ordinary for medical professionals from the 446th Aerospace Medicine Squadron. However, providing assistance to a region devastated by poverty in our own country is.

Jumping on the chance to lend a hand in their own backyards, 15 Reservists from the 446th AMDS recently returned from an annual tour to the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, Mont. According to the U.S. census, the reservation is one of the top 100 regions of poverty in the country.

“Many times, we’ve sent out individuals to assist where needed, but this time we were able to send a larger group to give medical care and aid to the (people of the) Blackfeet Reservation. It was a great opportunity for us and for the reservation. It was an opportunity to give back,” said Col. John Lenihan, squadron commander.

Airmen from the 446th AMDS filled in crucial roles at the Blackfeet Community Hospital, which serves a community of about 7,000 American Indians. Working alongside the small staff of resident caregivers, as well as a contingent of pharmaceutical students from the University of Alabama, the Airmen provided experience in all areas, from the emergency department



to the dental department.

“They’re restricted to limited federal funding, so they ask for help wherever they can get it,” said Capt. James McManus, a health services administration officer with the 446th AMDS.

In an area where the unemployment rate hovers around 70 percent, one of the biggest issues McChord Reservists had to deal with was tied directly to the poor economy – alcoholism.

“Alcoholism was just rampant. One of the roads leading to town was called ‘Death Road,’ because of all the drunk drivers on it. A nurse we worked with got hit head on there and died,” said Master Sgt. Mark Devaney, 446th AMDS.

Sergeant Devaney said the hospital was loaded with patients who were injured due to being intoxicated.

“This one guy came in after putting his arm through a window. We had to hold him down, even though he was basically bleeding to death,” he said.

However, the professionalism of the local medical caretakers impressed Sergeant Devaney.

“It was one of the toughest set-ups we’ve ever had, but they were some of the friendliest people I’ve ever worked with,” he said.

Due to the remote location of the reservation – near Glacier National Park – the team had to overcome several logistical hurdles in order to pull off the mission, such as a 30-mile commute through winding terrain every day.

Sergeant Devaney recounted a local story of the weather extremes. “In the winter, the temperature can stay around 40 degrees below zero. There’s a record wind gust of 168 mph. I heard a story that the winds have even knocked over freight trains,” he said.

The 446th AMDS was the first-ever Air Force unit to provide assistance to the Blackfeet Indian Reservation. And despite the uninviting weather, the friendly people and their needs make it inviting to return.

If Captain McManus has his way, this won’t be the last time the unit provides assistance to the people of the reservation. “We probably won’t go back next year, but we’d like to go the year after,” he said.

RODEO

Continued from Page 1

active-duty counterparts and Rodeo rivals from the 62nd AW walked away with the prize for best C-17 maintenance team.

Meanwhile, 446th AW aerial porters are hoping to make another strong showing this year. The team garnered first prize for Best C-17 Engine Running On / Offloads during the 2005 Rodeo competition, and they’re anxious to prove their mettle once again.

“The team is really excited. They know their goal and are ready to compete,” said Master Sgt. Ron Cargill, this year’s team manager. “Our (Reservists) have all sacrificed their own time, coming in two evenings each week and performing both the A and B weekends to accomplish training and meld as a team.”

Further helping matters is the experience that comes from the last competition.

“In 2005 we didn’t have any prior competitors on the team, so we had to learn as we went. This year, two of us are returning and can share the skills and scenarios we experienced previously,” said Tech. Sgt. Josh Warbiany, a Rodeo veteran.

After walking away from the 2005 Rodeo without any hardware around their necks, security forces and aeromedical evacuation Reservists from the 446th AW plan on making their marks this year.

“We have a really well-rounded team, with a variety of backgrounds. We’re eager to show off what we can do and win the trophy,” said Senior Airman Giovanni Garcia, a member of this year’s team.

Hoping to overcome one of the biggest

challenges in the aeromedical competition – demonstrating skill on a variety of airframes, Airmen from the 446th AES have participated in joint medical exercises such as Golden Medic. “We had multiple airframes to train on,” said Col. Jan Moore-Harbert, 446th AES commander.

With all their hard work, Reservists from the 446th AW are optimistic about how they will fare in the 2007 Rodeo. However, Sergeant Pence from the maintenance team pointed out that there is more to the event than just friendly competition.

“It’s a chance to enhance our professional abilities and knowledge,” he said. “It’s a great growth opportunity for everyone involved.”

Reserve family adopts from Russia

By Senior Airman Desiree Kiliz
Wing Public Affairs

Приедьте игра is easily translated into “come play” by Master Sgt. Ernie Barrera and his family, who learned Russian in order to speak with their 5-year-old son from Vladivostok, Russia.

Valery, nicknamed Vale by family and friends, moved to the U.S., June 5, 2005 after he was adopted by the Ernie and Shari Barrera.

The Barreras already had a 10-year-old daughter, Alesha, and wanted to raise another child, but didn’t want a baby because of Shari’s teaching and Sergeant Barrera’s flying schedule. Sergeant Barrera is a loadmaster with the 313th Airlift Squadron. Instead, they looked into adopting a child between age three and seven.

Their search began in the U.S., and then went international. After researching other cultures, the couple finally ended in their search Russia.

Usually, international adoptions are a lengthy process, but Valery’s adoption took only 10 months due to the experience of Shari.

“My wife’s family had adopted five children and she was familiar with the lengthy

process, but I wasn’t at all,” said Sergeant Barrera. “She filled out all the paperwork as fast as she could to make the process move along.”

During the adoption process, the Barrera family traveled to Russia twice to spend time with Valery before he came to live in the U.S., which is required by many governments, including Russia.

Since Valery was already 5 years old when the Barreras adopted him, he only spoke Russian. The Barrera family learned enough Russian to speak with Valery while they visited him in Russia, which also helped him transition into speaking English.

Once in the U.S., Ernie, Shari and Alesha started their new life with Valery just as any other family begins. Sergeant Barrera said there was a period where Alesha and Valery didn’t get along, but now they act just like any other sister and brother - playing one day and arguing the next.

The family conformed to each other and still incorporates the Russian language and culture into daily life. Valery is now fluent in English and an average 7 year old with energy to spare. When asked the kinds of activities his family does together, Valery said, “My



Courtesy photo provided by Shari Barrera

Alesha Barrera, 10, greets her new brother Valery, 5, at SeaTac airport in 2005. Valery was adopted by Master Sgt. Ernie and Shari Barrera.

mom makes pancakes and we play outside and sometimes go to the zoo.”

Although it has been more than two years since Valery moved into his home, the four Barrera family members

continue to grow and develop together. “He’s the right kid to be part of our family,” said Shari. “He’s made our family complete.”

RELAY

Continued from Page 4

Hopefully Optimistic, was competing more against themselves than the other competitors in the all-female division.

“Our goal was really just to finish,” she said. “It was such a great time and I think it has really built up the morale of the 728th.”

It probably doesn’t hurt their Fit to Fight scores either.

Mountain to Sound 2008 - will you be there?

Next year’s Mountain to Sound Relay is June 29. Registration opens Oct. 1.

The Mountains to Sound Relay is a relay race open to all persons 15 years or older. The relay consists of mountain biking, road biking, canoeing/kayaking and running. Each leg finisher needs only to touch off to their next leg racer.

Teams will consist of one person for

each leg of the race for five total (or six total for the tandem paddle). A person may compete on only one team, and in only one leg of the race.

Pairs teams consist of two people, each competing in every other leg.

The Iron Solo division is for one person to complete all five legs and the full 100-plus miles alone.

Employer Orientation Day

Oct. 20, 2007

Return this completed form to:
 446th AW/PA
 1205 12th St., Room 125
 McChord AFB WA 98438-1320
 Fax: (253) 982-0078
 E-mail: 446aw.pa@mcchord.af.mil
 DEADLINE: Oct. 1



Office use only
 Date received _____
 Primary/Standby _____

Reservist's Information

Rank/Name _____ Unit _____ Duty Phone _____
 Home address: _____ Home E-mail: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Home phone: _____ Civilian work phone: _____
 **SSAN: _____ My military status Oct. 20 will be: UTA or Orders (*circle one*)

Employer's Information

Supervisor's courtesy title/full name (Mr./Mrs/Ms.) _____
 Supervisor's job title/position: _____ E-mail address: _____
 Company Name: _____ **SSAN: _____
 Business address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____
 Business phone: _____ Home phone: _____
 Emergency contact Name/Relationship _____ Daytime phone: _____

I acknowledge I am responsible for notifying my military supervisor if my employer will attend. I will be on duty status Oct. 20. I will provide a workplace tour for my supervisor. There is no charge for my employer's lunch. My employer has not participated in an Employer Orientation Day in the past two years.

Reservist's signature _____ Date _____

****PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT:** Information requested is affected by the Privacy Act of 1974. Authority for requesting this information from you is Title 10, U.S. Code, Section 8012 (Secretary of the Air Force, Powers and Duties Delegated by) and Executive Order 9397 (Numbering System for Federal Accounts Relating to Individual Persons). This information is required to manifest passengers for a C-17 orientation flight. Social Security Number is used to make positive identification of the individual applicant. Disclosure is voluntary. However, participants will be denied boarding for the C-17 orientation flight without the requested information.

S a f e t y



July 8, 1943 -- Col. Malcom G. Grow, 8th Air Force surgeon, received the Legion of Merit for developing the flak vest. Today, the medical center at Andrews AFB, Md., bears his name.

Promotions

Lieutenant Colonel

Stephen Resnick, 446th ASTS
Chris Wallington, 313th AS

Captain

Ernest Wong, 86th APS

Senior Master Sergeant

Kimberly Johnson, 446th MOF

Master Sergeant

Leah Crawford, 446th AES
Brian Deerly, 446th MXS
Lynda Goedde, 446th AES
Oliver Jaeger, 446th AES
Irene Noyes, 446th LRF
Elizabeth Springer, 446th AES

Technical Sergeant

Jon Ausman, 446th SF
Sara Beldin, 446th OSF
Melissa Boos, 446th AES
Adam Bowens, 446th CE
Thomas Bowers, 446th ASTS
Michael Burke, 446th OSF
James Eastman, 446th AES
Nathan Felix, 446th AES
Jason Fowler, 446th AMXS
Rand Huso, 446th AMDS
Michael Shaudis, 446th AES
Natalie Stockhausen, 446th AES

Staff Sergeant

Jason Donat, 446th AMXS
Shane Foster, 446th AMDS
Ann Gilmore, 446th AES
Sara Lang, 86th APS
Travis Lange, 313th AS
Christopher Parcasio, 446th MXS

Samuel Phillips, 446th MXS
Taylor Reed, 446th ASTS
Melissa Reimer, 446th AMDS
Ronald Rendorio, 86th APS
Brook Teafoe, 86th APS
Kara Waldher, 446th MXS
Caleb Williams, 446th AMXS

Senior Airman

Joshua Barry, 446th MXS
Brandi Cundiff, 86th APS
Thomas Hathway, 446th AMXS
Timothy Howell, 446th AMXS
Matthew Kempfe, 446th AMXS
John Kim, 446th AMXS
William Mackenzie, 446th AMXS
Christina Phelps, 446th AMXS
Vikash Prakash, 86th APS
Kyle Vandyke, 44th AMXS

Airman First Class

Jesse Manaolis, 446th AMXS
Joshua McCabe, 446th AMXS
Daniel Urness, 446th AMXS

Newcomers

Major

Rob Luzader, 313th AS
John Wood, 446th ALCF

First Lieutenant

Michael Burke, 446th LRF

Master Sergeant

Thomas Gambill, 86th APS

Technical Sergeant

Robert Falkowski, 728th AS

Staff Sergeant

Brian Beaudry, 446th MSS
Sara Beldin, 446th OSF
Timothy Brown, 446th MXS
Heather Isaac, 36th APS
Luis Rivera-Cruz, 446th AMXS

Senior Airman

Michael Manske, 446th OSF

Airman First Class

Ryan Maughan, 446th AMXS
Tyler Mohning, 446th AMXS

Airman Basic

Tyler Akers, 86th APS
Liam Arellano, 446th AMDS
Kandis Brooks, 446th AMDS
Scott Bright, 446th SFS
Eline Fellores, 446th ASTS
Jesse Masters, 728th AS
Cesar Morales, 86th APS
Chris Reyes, 446th AMDS
Jason Walsh, 97th AS

Retirements

Major

Heather Julian, 446th AES

Master Sergeant

Michael Allen, 446th AMXS
Robert Hinkle, 446th MXG
Robert Sidur, 446th AMXS
Ricki Reyton, 446th AES

Technical Sergeant

Aure Silva, 86th APS
Scott Brihn, 446th AW
John Larson, 446th MXS



Photo by Staff Sgt. Nick Przybyciel

Saddle Up!

Senior Master Sgt. Kari Schmidt, left to right, Maj. Maureen Carroll, and Tech. Sgt. Stephanie Atwell, show team sprite at a June wing commander's call where the 446th Airlift Wing's Rodeo teams were introduced. All three are from the 446th Maintenance Squadron.

Just Briefly

What do you look forward to the most at Rodeo 2007?

Great Fun

It will be great for all of the cultures to come together. Right now it's a lot of grunt work, but it should be a lot of fun when the competition kicks off.



◆ Senior Airman Mike Richardson
446th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Old Friends

I'm a mechanic, so I like seeing the different aircraft. I use to work on (KC-) 135s, so I'm excited to see buddies from my old squadron.



◆ Staff Sgt. Nick Huebsch
446th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

New Skills

Getting to train with different squadrons from different bases. Basically, working with each other to learn everyone's jobs.



◆ Senior Airman Erik Merrill
446th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Cultural Exchange

To learn and achieve new heights in our skills. But mostly to make friends and learn other cultures, beliefs and methods.



◆ Tech. Sgt. Leonard Bernsdorf
446th Maintenance Squadron

Maintenance offers quarterly mentoring classes

The 446th Maintenance Group hosts a mentoring class once a quarter. The one hour class provides instructional introduction to the practical application of the processes, procedures and expectations of mentoring. Classes will be held in August and November. The class will be conducted in Bldg. 1142, upstairs, in the Blue auditorium, at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday of the A and B Reserve weekends. Members from all units are welcomed to attend. For more information please contact Master Sgt. Scot Sherbert or Master Sgt. LuCinda Oglesby at 982-1081.

MXS Top Three Golf Tournament

The 446th Maintenance Squadron Top 3 is sponsoring a golf tournament for fun and socializing on Saturday of both August A and B Reserve weekends at 4:30 p.m., at Whispering Firs. Cost is \$5 plus green fees; prizes will be awarded. Expert golf skills are not required. Limited space is available. Contact Senior Master Sgt. Kari Schmidt at 982-8465 to sign up, or e-mail her at Karilyn.Schmidt@mcchord.af.mil.

Care and Share hosts Golf Tournament Aug. 23

Care and Share will host at golf tournament Aug. 23, at 1 p.m. at Whispering Firs Golf Course. Everyone is invited to participate. Care and Share is a charitable organization that works closely with the 446th Airlift Wing Family Support Center.

Care and Share distributes emergency financial assistance, food, and clothing to distressed wing members and their families. All wing Reservists are eligible to receive assistance from Care and Share.

Don't be fooled by Space-A Travel Web site that asks for donations

There is a Web page, takeahop.com, that asks for donations and allows you to sign up for Space-A travel on-line. It allows these donations via PayPal and Visa/MC. It will even give you a receipt and allow you to pre-pay your airport and federal inspection tax for an overseas flight. It is not an official web site. In accordance with DOD 4515.13R, sign-ups will be accepted by mail, fax, e-mail, or in person; not over the phone. You may only sign up at the departure terminal for flights from that terminal (i.e., you can only sign up for McChord flights at McChord and cannot sign up at McChord for flights from any other location.

The Web site's on-line form requires social security numbers and a lot of personal information (that should be a red flag all by itself). It implies if you fill out this information, you'll be guaranteed a Space A seat.

In one case, a woman presented her receipt from this Web site at SeaTac Airport so she could get on the final night's flight. Needless to say, she was a bit upset when told the site had never been heard of and was not an official web site. She was especially upset that she paid \$78, but did not get her seat reserved.

Eligible passengers may call the passenger terminal at 982-7259 with any questions regarding Space-A travel.

60th Anniversary Picnic honors all McChord alumni - Sept. 8

On Sept. 8, the 446th Airlift Wing will host a base-wide picnic at Heritage Hill that honors those who have served at McChord, as well as honor the 60th anniversary of the Air Force. The event will feature squadron food and memorabilia booths, live music and guest speakers from McChord's past. This event is a one-time replacement for unit Family Day events.

Dining Facility is open to officers

Contrary to rumor, officers are allowed to eat in the McChord Aerospace Dining Facility. The 62nd Services Squadron point of contact has confirmed anyone on orders in a per diem (non-commuter) status, is authorized to eat at the dining facility.

Headphones prohibited while exercising on base roads

As a reminder to all Reservists, AFI 91-207 prohibits wearing portable headphones, earphones, or other listening devices while running, jogging, walking, etc. on Air Force installation roadways. This includes when you are on the jogging path and crossing the streets.

I-90 Interchange closes for 19 days this summer

Don't forget to plan ahead for major I-5 lane closures in August. Please let your colleagues, friends and family know about this major construction project and it's affects on traffic.

The Washington State Department of Transportation will complete a major rehabilitation of I-5 between Spokane Street and the I-90 interchange this summer. This construction will significantly affect traffic near downtown Seattle, particularly during 19 continuous days of intense construction from Aug. 10-29. During that time crews will close several lanes of northbound I-5 at all times, including workdays, leaving only two or three lanes open to traffic.

Lengthy backups are expected.

To learn more about the project visit WSDOT's Web site at www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I5/SpokaneStreetBridgeRepair/

Chief Pfingston laid to rest in Arlington

By Staff Sgt. J.G. Buzanowski

— Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFPN) – Former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Gary Pfingston was laid to rest July 6 at Arlington National Cemetery.

The 10th CMSAF, an Evansville, Ind., native, lost his battle with cancer June 23. He served as the highest ranking enlisted Airman from August 1990 to October 1994.

“Chief Pfingston was the epitome of a great Airman and he will be missed,” said current Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Rodney McKinley. “It’s appropriate his final resting place is in Arlington, where so many of our nation’s heroes are honored.”

A B-52 Stratofortress performed a fly-over for the ceremony in tribute to Chief Pfingston, a former B-52 crew chief at Castle Air Force Base, Calif., and Plattsburgh AFB, N.Y.

His career also included tours overseas as well as a stint as a military training instructor at Lackland AFB, Texas. He went on to become the commandant of the MTI academy and eventually served as a first



Photo by Senior Airman Rusti Caraker

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley gives his regards to the family of former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Gary R. Pfingston at his burial site July 6 at Arlington National Cemetery, Va. The 10th CMSAF was born in Evansville, Indiana and entered into the Air Force in Feb 1962. He passed away June 23 in San Antonio, Texas.

sergeant before becoming a senior enlisted adviser.

On Aug. 1, 1990, he became the chief master sergeant of the Air Force. His focus was on caring for Airmen while the Air Force was dealing with drawdown and budget issues. After concerns over basic allowance for subsistence arose during increased deployments to support the first Gulf War, he worked to continue BAS for Airmen living in field conditions, as well as toward increasing Servicemen’s Group Life Insurance benefits.

Chief Pfingston was a regular speaker at

Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy graduation ceremonies and other CMSAF panel discussions.

Throughout his career, Chief Pfingston believed in the value of good leadership.

“You manage things and you lead people,” he said in a 2006 Air Force News Service interview. “You do that by being up front, honest, sincere and visible. I’ve always felt strongly that you can’t ask somebody to do something that either you won’t do, or that you haven’t done someplace along the line before. It’s not ‘do as I say, not as I do’ -- it just doesn’t work that way.”

Air Force News

At A Glance

Airmen may qualify for Kosovo medal

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (AFPN) – On May 3, 2000, President Clinton approved the establishment of the Kosovo Campaign Medal to recognize the accomplishments of military service members participating in or in direct support of Kosovo operations within established areas of eligibility.

Today, many military members may still not know about the medal or have been recognized for it. <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123060100>

President picks Army general as first commander of U.S. Africa Command

by Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) – President Bush named Army Gen. William E. “Kip” Ward July 10 to help stand up U.S. Africa Command as its first commander.

General Ward has served as deputy commander of U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany, since May 2006. In that role, he has been responsible for the day-to-day activities for U.S. forces operating across 92 countries in Europe, Africa, Russia, parts

of Asia and the Middle East, the Mediterranean and most of the Atlantic Ocean. <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123060218>

Active-duty unit marks first year under Guard

by 1st Lt. Tim Lockwood

153rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AFPN) – Airmen of the 153rd Airlift Wing celebrated the first anniversary that marked the assimilation of active-duty Airmen into the Wyoming Air National Guard July 7 here.

One year ago, active-duty Airmen reported to Cheyenne Regional Airport as the 30th Airlift Squadron stood up as Air Mobility Command’s first active associate unit under the operational control of the Guard’s 153rd AW. <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123060095>

Editor’s Note: *Air Force News – At A Glance* features the top stories on the Air Force News web site recommended by Air Force Leaders as essential reading. For the full story, type the hyperlink into your web browser.

Hill Reservists bid farewell to F-16s

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah (AFRC) – The last of the 419th Fighter Wing's F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft left here June 28, signifying an end of an era and a beginning of another for the unit.

The pilots and maintainers from the Air Force Reserve Command wing will now team up with Hill's active-duty 388th FW to carry out a joint flying

mission. The transition is part of the Air Force's total force integration program, which joins similar units in an effort to increase overall combat capability.

The Air Force Reserve wing's entire fleet of Block 30 F-16 aircraft are now assigned to other Reserve and Air National Guard units. The jets began departing in April.

Seven went to the Iowa National Guard's 132nd Fighter Wing at Des Moines. Another jet transferred to the Wisconsin National Guard's 115th FW at Truax Field in Madison. The remaining nine jets are now assigned to the Reserve's 482nd FW at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla.

Hill's active-duty fighter wing will receive additional Block 40 F-16 aircraft from Cannon AFB, N.M., raising its total to more than 85 aircraft.

The departure of its last aircraft marked a significant milestone for the Reserve wing. Many 419th FW people said they'd miss seeing the Reserve aircraft on Hill's runway. The 419th FW has flown and maintained its own F-16 aircraft for more than 20 years.

Maj. Terry George, a 419th FW pilot, said he has always been proud to fly the wing's jets because they were expertly cared for by the wing's maintainers.

"Our jets are known as some of the best in the Air Force," Major George said. "These aircraft are special to many people

here. Some of our maintainers have spent whole careers on one jet."

Senior Master Sgt. Craig Fowler, aircraft section flight chief for the 419th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, said he has a soft spot in his heart for his unit's jets.

"It's sad to see them go, but it opens up a new chapter of where we're going," he said.

Sergeant Fowler has worked on the same F-16 since 1993.

The wing's pilots and maintainers will now take on the task of melding their high experience levels with the increased personnel and resources of the 388th FW.

"We'll take the best of both worlds and make it better for everybody," Sergeant Fowler said.

"We will be an asset to the younger, active-duty personnel," added Senior Master Sgt. Louie Martinez, 419th Maintenance Squadron accessories flight chief. "We have seasoned professionals who have worked on (the F-16) for over 20 years."



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Michael Owens

The last three F-16 Fighting Falcons assigned to the 419th Fighter Wing prepare to taxi for departure June 28 from Hill Air Force Base, Utah. The wing's entire fleet of F-16s have been reassigned to other Reserve and Air National Guard bases.

DOD offers \$1 million prize for innovation

WASHINGTON (AFPN) – A typical dismantled troop going out for a four-day mission carries as much as 40 pounds of batteries and rechargers in his pack. Defense Department officials want to reduce that load significantly, and they're dangling a \$1 million carrot to entice people to help.

DOD launched its "wearable power" prize competition July 5 to come up with innovations to lighten warfighters' loads.

The goal, explained William Rees, deputy undersecretary of laboratories and basic sciences, is to reduce the weight for the power system that drives radios, night-vision devices, global positioning systems and other combat gear, including a recharging system, to about 2 pounds per day.

"He expressed hope that a competi-

tion will attract some of the best minds in business, academia and elsewhere to help achieve that goal.

After all, he noted, it was the opportunity to win a prize that drove Charles Lindbergh to make the first nonstop trans-Atlantic flight.

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency personnel have experienced similar successes using a contest to attract competitors to develop innovative unmanned vehicles able to navigate a 132-mile course through the Mojave Desert.

Now Defense Research and Engineering Office officials are hoping to tap into that same competitive spirit to develop longer-duration, lighter-weight power supplies.

Three prizes will be awarded in No-

vember 2008: \$1 million, \$500,000 and \$250,000.

Competitors have until Nov. 30 to register for the competition. Everyone -- private citizens, companies, international organizations -- is eligible, Mr. Rees said, although the lead member of all teams must be a U.S. citizen.

Information about the technical details, contest rules and qualification requirements is posted on the Defense Department Web site. A forum to be held in Washington in September will review these details for potential competitors.

"The mantra is four days, 4 kilograms," said Mr. Rees. Competitors would do well to keep that in their minds as they set about the task of lightening a Solider's load.



RODEO SCHEDULE

Ya'll come down!

July 21

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Rodeo General Mercantile Store
in Hangar 3 - open all week.

8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
U.S. teams arrive

8:30 a.m. - 446th Airlift Wing

8:30 - 10 a.m.
Fit to Fight for international
teams - Rainier Ranch

10 a.m. - 4: p.m.
Fit to Fight for U.S. teams - Rainier
Ranch

July 22

11 - 11:45 a.m.
Opening Ceremony - Base of
Control Tower (Delta Taxiway)

6 - 6:30 p.m.
Convoy Demonstration - Rainier
Ranch

TBD - AMC Band of the Golden
West - Rainier Ranch

7:30 - 10 p.m.
'50's Night/Elvis/Holly/Orbison
Tribute - Rainier Ranch

July 23

Competition events begin -
schedule varies.

TBD - AMC Band of the Golden
West - Rainier Ranch

7:30 - 10 p.m.
'60's Night/Beatles/Creedence
Clearwater Revival Tribute -
Rainier Ranch

July 24

Competition events continue

7:30 - 10 p.m.
'70's Night/Zeppelin/Disco Trib-
ute - Rainier Ranch

July 25

6 - 6:30 p.m.
**Awards Ceremony - Rainier
Ranch**

*Best Joint Airdrop Inspection
Team*

*Best AE Contingency Flight
Crew*

Best AE Configurations Crew

Best Intransit Visibility Team

Best Joint Inspection Team

Best Aerial Port 10k Forklift

Operators

Best Aerial Port 25k Halvorsen

Team

Best Fit To Fight Team

TBD - AMC Band of the Golden
West - Rainier Ranch

7:30 - 10 p.m.
'80's Night/Blues Brothers/Ret-
ros Tribute - Rainier Ranch

July 26

Competition events continue

TBD - AMC Band of the Golden
West - Rainier Ranch

6 - 8 p.m.
**Award Ceremony - Rainier
Ranch**

Best C-5 AR Crew

Best C-17 Airdrop Crew

Best C-17 AR Crew

Best C-17 Shortfield Landing

Crew
Best C-130 Airdrop Crew
Best C-130 Shortfield Landing
Crew

Best KC-10 AR Crew
Best KC-10 Cargo Loading
Crew

Best KC-135 Ar Crew
Best KC-135 Cargo Loading
Crew

Best C-5 Preflight Team

Best C-5 Postflight Team

Best C-17 Preflight Team

Best C-17 Postflight Team

Best C-130 Preflight Team

Best C-130 Postflight Team

Best KC-10 Preflight Team

Best KC-10 Postflight Team

Best KC-135 Preflight Team

Best KC-135 Postflight Team

Best C-5 Aircrew

Best C-17 Aircrew

Best C-130 Aircrew

Best KC-10 Aircrew

Best KC-135 Aircrew

Best C-5 Maintenance Team

Best C-17 Maintenance Team

Best C-130 Maintenance Team

Best KC-10 Maintenance Team

Best KC-135 Maintenance

Team

Best C-5 ERO Team

Best C-17 ERO Team

Best C-130 ERO Team

Best En route ERO Team

Best Aerial Port Challenge

Course Team

Best AE Challenge Course

Crew

Best Security Forces Combat

Weapons Team

Best Security Forces Individual

Combat Shooter
Best Security Forces Combat
Tactics Team
Best Security Forces Combat
Challenge Course Team

July 27

Competition events continue

8:30 p.m. - midnight
Aaron Tippin - Rainier Ranch

4 - 5:30 p.m.
**Closing Celebration -
Hangar 4**

Best Aerial Port Team

Best Security Forces Team

Maintenance Knucklebuster
Award

Best Aeromedical Evacuation
Team

Best C-5 Team

Best C-17 Team

Best C-130 Team

Best KC-10 Team

Best KC-135 Team

Best International Team

Best Aerial Refueling Team

Best Airland Team

Best Tanker Team

Best Airdrop Team

Best Air Mobility Team - "Best
Of The Best"

July 28

8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
General Mercantile Store

8:45 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Teams Depart

ASSOCIATE PRESS
446TH AIRLIFT WING/PA
1205 12th St. Room 125
MCCHORD AFB, WA 98438-1320
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TACOMA, WA
PERMIT NO. 800