

Mohawk

442nd Fighter Wing

Vol. 57 No. 3

March 2005

Air Force Reserve Command



**442nd hones CSAR skills
... see pages 6 and 7**



Inside

Commentary 2

Tip of the Spear 3

Tuskegee Airman 4

Brother to brother 5

Patriot Barracuda 6 & 7

Parachute shop 8

Sports 9

Newsbriefs 10

Training planner 11

Family Readiness 12

CC charts UCI course

By Col. Pat Cord

First, I would like to pass on my thanks for all the hard work everyone is doing! Everyday someone impresses me with that unique 442nd culture of “how can I make this better.” It is such a pleasure to be part of this superb organization.

Everyone has probably heard by now that this year’s airshow is cancelled. Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing Commander, and I met several times before this difficult decision was made.

Col. Miller had the final say; his decision was based on the fact that we did not get any of the military demonstration teams. History has proven that without a major demo team, the crowd numbers are not large enough to justify the cost of an airshow.

Next year should be a different story, since we have not had a major demo team for the last two years. We are already working on next year’s airshow to make it an “air show of air shows.”

We are planning an Employer/Family Day for Saturday, June 11 during the UTA. I hope you and your families can make plans to be there. The plan is to have the Employer Day in the morning and the Family Day at mid-day and go until the fun is over.

I am hoping for a great employer turnout, so please register your employer on the following web site: <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/esgr/index.jsp>. We will pull the employer’s contact information for the invitations from this website. However, please extend a personal invitation to your employer for this “shindig” as well. More information will be forthcoming.

It looks like we are on the schedule for a Unit Compliance Inspection next summer. Now is the time to start ensuring we have all the required programs up and running.

Remember, my philosophy is that we should be doing the job the right way everyday and should not have to create any significant programs/processes in the months before a UCI. You should spend that time sprucing up programs and processes already in place to see if you can garnish any of those “best seen to date” accolades. The goal of the 442nd is to come out of this upcoming UCI with “zero” findings. If we start now, this goal will be easy to achieve.

Take care, be safe and I’ll see you during the UTA.

Mohawk



Vol. 57, No. 3
March 2005

This funded Air Force Reserve newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

Contents of the Mohawk are not necessarily the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The editorial content is

edited, prepared and provided by the 442nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office, 931 Arnold Ave., Whiteman AFB, MO 65305-5070.

All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

Deadline for article submission is 12:30 p.m. Sunday during the unit training assembly preceding the desired month of publication.

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On the cover: "Downed" pilot, Lt. Col. John "Karl" Marks, 303rd Fighter Squadron, keeps in radio contact with rescue aircraft during Combat Search and Rescue exercises at Avon Park Range, Fla. See more on pages six and seven. (Photograph by Senior Airman Jacob Tackett)

This newspaper is printed on recycled paper.

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442nd Fighter Wing Tip of the Spear

**Senior Airman Melanie Maham
442nd Medical Squadron**

Senior Airman Melanie Maham is a Medical Services Technician with the 442nd Medical Squadron. She has worked with the squadron as a student hire since Dec. 2003. Airman Maham works in the orderly room and assists in managing the daily operations of the unit. She is responsible for orders processing, medical records management, Reserve Component Preventative Health Assessment assistance and office support as needed.

Her front-line optimism and eagerness to help both unit members and wing customers makes her an invaluable asset to the Medical Squadron.

Airman Maham attends college part-time. She also works part-time at the Warrensburg Manor Care Center. She is from an Air Force family and currently calls Warrensburg, Mo., home.

Editor's note: The "442nd Fighter Wing Tip of the Spear" is a monthly award recognizing superior performers within the wing. Nominations are made through the group commanders. Photo/Illustration by Staff Sgt. Angela Blazier and Master Sgt. Bill Huntington

General Jumper testifies on 2006 Air Force posture, budget

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

WASHINGTON — Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper testified Feb. 10 before the Senate Committee on Armed Services on the defense authorization request for fiscal 2006.

The four service chiefs provided posture statements and answered questions about how each branch developed their portion of next year's budget.

General Jumper's opening remarks described how the Air Force is fighting and winning the war on terrorism.

He said more than 30,000 Airmen are deployed to 14 forward bases in operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, while 10,000 more continue supporting Operation Noble Eagle at home.

About 2,000 Airmen are on convoy duty in Iraq. Guard and Reserve Airmen are flying 55 percent of the sorties overseas and 80 percent of the Noble Eagle sorties over the United States.

With an eye on the future, General Jumper said, the Air Force will continue to purchase as many unmanned aerial vehicles as contractors can produce and looks to the F/A-22 Raptor to guard against enemies who contest airspace around the world. He also stressed that the service seeks to transform space communication and space-based radar to connect to the warfighter and make those assets more useful to commanders on the ground.

The Air Force plans to modernize while, "maintaining

the oldest fleet we've ever had," he said.

During questioning, Sen. Saxby Chambliss asked General Jumper about the Air Force's ability to maintain air superiority in the future.

"In every conflict over the last several decades, we've been able to maintain air superiority and dominance," Senator Chambliss said.

"General, I don't want us to be in a fair fight," he said. "I want the men and women who fly for you, as well as every other branch, to have the capability of knocking anything off the ground that may be shot at us, or anything coming out of the sky that might shoot at us, or shoot at our men and women on the ground.

"Is there any other weapon system out there today that can provide the capability to prevent that from happening other than the F-22," he asked.

"No sir, there is not," General Jumper replied.

But the Air Force future is not just F/A-22. The senate committee requested further discussion on continuing J-model C-130 Hercules production rather than scrapping the upgrade program and suffering contract cancellation costs.

More hearings are expected as the budget process continues.

President George W. Bush delivered his defense budget request for \$419.3 billion to Congress on Feb. 7.

The proposed \$102.9 billion Air Force budget represents a real growth of about \$4 billion over the fiscal 2005 budget of \$96 billion after adjustment for inflation and rising fuel costs.



Tuskegee Airman addresses wing members

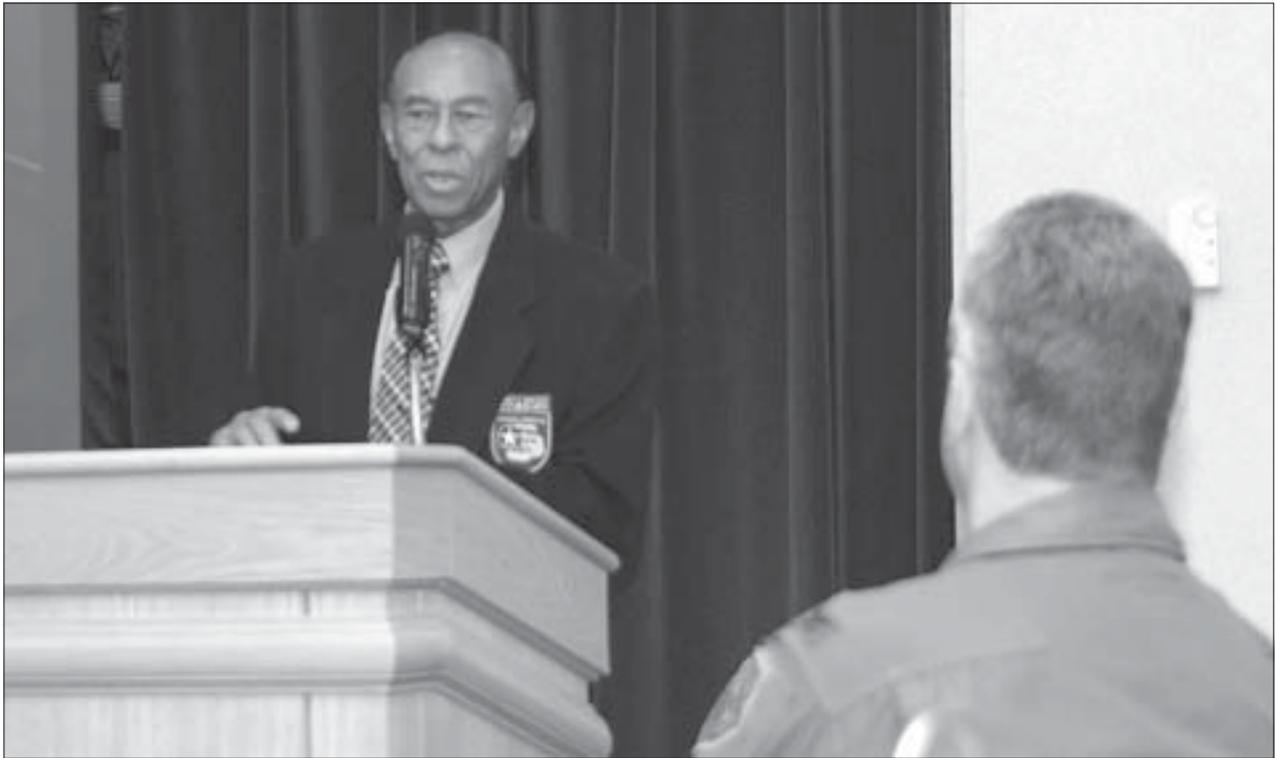


PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. BILL HUNTINGTON

Maj. (Ret.) Harvey Bayless, one of the famed World War II Tuskegee Airmen, addressed a combined Reserve Officer Association/Reserve Enlisted Association gathering to commemorate African-American History month at the Mission's End Club during the February UTA. Bayless, joined at the meeting by former 442nd Civil Engineer Squadron commander, Col. (Ret.) Len Nevels, had been a communications officer with the 96th and 523rd Air Service Groups and talked about many of his experiences during the war.

Teets: Air Force confident, strong, ready

By Louis A. Arana-Barradas
Air Force Print News

ORLANDO, Fla. — The acting secretary of the Air Force assured the Air Force Association here Feb. 17 the service is confident, strong and ready to face any threat.

“And I know it will remain that way,” Peter B. Teets told about 1,000 attendees of the association’s annual Air Warfare Symposium. The association promotes Air Force interests.

Mr. Teets outlined what the Air Force “brings to the fight.” He also summarized the state of the Air Force mission, its commitments and its capabilities by highlighting three key service competencies. The capabilities, he said, work together to help the Air Force develop and maintain its military edge.

Foremost, he said, the Air Force owes its worldwide mission success to its dedicated, professional and talented Airmen. That is why it is vital to keep them well trained.

“Developing Airmen is our first core competency, not because we have to do it, but because we’ve chosen to do it

extremely well,” Mr. Teets said. Providing Airmen chances for growth and development has paid off in mission success, he said.

Working from home and locations around the globe, total force Airmen keep the nation secure and fight the war on terrorism. In 2004, there were nearly 31,000 Airmen in Southwest Asia, of which more than 7,500 were in the Guard and Reserve. Over Iraq and Afghanistan, Airmen flew 225 missions a day.

Airmen are used to a high operations tempo. But what sets them apart today, he said, is that they are doing their regular missions and things they didn’t do before. With their new roles, these “battlefield Airmen” have quickly become vital members of the joint force.

Mr. Teets said the Air Force will continue facing challenges, while continuing to meet mission needs, as it adapts to change, to the new security environment and myriad adversaries.

“But what won’t change is our dedication to defending our great nation,” he said.

Air Force Finance begins transformation

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force financial management community formally kicked off the operational phase of its transformation effort Feb. 2 at a conference in San Antonio.

The conference highlighted the “six lanes” of financial transformation planned for the service in the next decade, which emphasize customer service, said Michael Montelongo, assistant secretary of the Air Force for financial management and comptroller.

“The conference is symbolic in a way,” he said. “We effectively dropped the gavel of change from strategic planning to what we call the operational phase of transformation. Primarily, that means the kickoff of the implementation of our service delivery model.”

The six transformation lanes are:

- Restructuring financial services
- Enhancing resource adviser positions
- Developing a cost analysis center of expertise
- Enhancing support to warfighters
- Restructuring Air Staff-level bud-

get processes

- Developing a training mechanism to support the transformation effort

Financial services is the area Airmen perhaps are most familiar with. This is where transactions occur. A “transaction” is the series of paperwork and button-pushing events when an Airman needs just about anything done at his or her base finance office. A transaction could be the filing of a travel voucher, adjusting an allotment or correcting a pay error. It is the processing of these transactions, said Roger Bick, director of financial management strategic planning and transformation, where the Air Force financial management community starts its transformation efforts. Relationships between the finance office and other Air Force communities are also ripe for development, Mr. Bick said.

“You may go into (the finance office) because you are short \$100 in your paycheck,” he said. “They’ll tell you it’s because the personnel system didn’t do ‘X’ — perhaps they didn’t start your entitlement. You say ‘thank you’ and go to personnel. You stand in the personnel line, and they tell you to check with finance.

“Such a runaround is not uncommon,” Mr. Bick said.

Streamlining shop-to-shop processes and transactions is only part of the solution, Mr. Bick said. Also on the agenda is the development of finance call centers where Airmen can ask questions and get most of their financial issues resolved. Those call centers would be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

“In the future, we expect finance and personnel to be together when it makes sense,” he said. “In the call center, personnel (officials) might be right there with us.”

“Many transactions happening in today’s finance office would disappear in the future,” Mr. Bick said. “Online systems like MyPay, Leave Web and Virtual (Military Personnel Flight) already allow Airmen to handle many of their needs from any computer with an Internet connection.

With call centers, Airmen may never have to see the inside of a finance office again. That, Mr. Bick said, frees them from standing in line and allows them to spend more time on mission requirements.



PHOTO BY MAJ. KEN ERNEWEIN

Brother to Brother

Maj. Mark “Rags” Ernewein, a 442nd Fighter Wing A-10 Thunderbolt II pilot, hooks up to a KC-135 Stratotanker from MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.

The KC-135 pilot, Maj. Ken Ernewein, 6th Air Mobility Wing command post officer-in-charge, was able to snap this photo of his brother after making initial contact. The Erneweins are 13 months apart, with Rags being the oldest.

Patriot Barracuda

Combat Search and Rescue 442nd Fighter Wing style

In the air and on the ground, Airmen from the 442nd Fighter Wing teamed up for valuable Combat Search and Rescue training at MacDill Air Force Base and Avon Park Range in central Florida.

Below, Tech. Sgt. Mark Rader, 442nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, documents work done on an A-10 Thunderbolt II.

Photo by Master Sgt. Bill Hummeron



HH-60G Pave Hawk
from the 920th Resc
Patrick Air Force Base,
the exercise which cover
and night operations.



PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. BILL HUNTINGTON

Tech. Sgts. Bob Holtshouser and Rick Ventresca guide Staff Sgt. Butch Portell as they load a suspension utility unit flare dispenser for ground illumination flares on an A-10 at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.



PHOTO BY LT. COL. JOHN MARKS
**helicopters
ue Wing at
Fla. joined in
ered both day**

PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. BILL HUNTINGTON

Senior Airman Catherine Dunham, 442nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, and 1st Lt. Adam Ratican, 303rd Fighter Squadron, at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., discuss aircraft maintenance issues following a Combat Search and Rescue training mission over nearby Avon Park Range.



Parachute shop safeguards pilots

Story by Master Sgt. Sam Sola
442nd Maintenance Squadron

When an A-10 pilot ejects from an aircraft, it is not the time for him or her to wonder if their parachute is in working order.

The 442nd Maintenance Squadron Survival Equipment Shop, or "Parachute Shop," ensures that 442nd Fighter Wing pilots need not wonder about their survival equipment.

"We want to make sure each pilot straps in the ejection seat with confidence - knowing their parachute will open in an emergency situation," said Senior Airman Kephart, 442nd MXS survival equipment technician.

The parachute shop inspects and packs the recovery parachute and drogue parachute assemblies installed on the A-10. They also inspect safety gear such as the inflatable life preservers and rafts.

"The ACES II (Advanced Concept Ejection System) ejection seat provides an automatic ejection escape sequence for the pilot which in turn, deploys the recovery parachute for him," said Airman Kephart.

"We offer a money back guarantee," joked Master Sgt. Sam Sola, 442nd MXS.

The parachute shop inspects the



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ANGELA BLAZIER

Senior Airman Kephart, 442nd Maintenance Squadron survival equipment technician, inspects a parachute.

recovery parachute system annually, according to Airman Kephart.

"Parachutes are inspected and packed in a climate controlled environment designed to prevent static buildup," he said. "Static makes the nylon parachute canopy material stick together during the packing process.

Ideal conditions for the inspection & packing process is a temperature of 70 degrees Fahrenheit and relative humidity of 60 percent."

The parachute shop works in close coordination with other shops such as the 442nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Plans and Scheduling Section and the 303rd Fighter Squadron Aircrew Life Support Shop to ensure the unit's aircraft have serviceable recovery and drogue parachutes and life rafts and preservers.

"We're the technicians behind the scenes," said Airman Kephart. "...It's a great feeling to have teammates in all the shops work together."

Though the parachute shop is currently understaffed, Sergeant Sola maintains a positive attitude.

"It hasn't changed the workload at all...but it would be nice to get a couple of reservists," he said smilingly.

Airman Kephart, a recently hired Air Reserve Technician, is content with his work here.

"Our shop is a close knit team; we don't get out much from behind our sewing machine," he said. "But one thing is for sure - each parachute is inspected and packed as if it's going to be used that same day to save a life."

(Staff Sgt. Angela Blazier contributed to this story.)

C-model A-10 takes first flight

By 1st Lt. James Madeiros
96th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. (AFPN)— The newly designated C-model A-10 Thunderbolt II, modified with precision engagement technology, was flown for the first time here recently by a 40th Flight Test Squadron pilot.

Precision-engagement technology allows the Air Force's premier close-air support aircraft to also use smart weapons such as Joint Direct Attack Munitions and wind-corrected munitions dispensers, incapable in the previous model, officials said.

"We have taken the world's greatest close-air support platform and made it even better by adding a wide array of laser and Global Positioning System-aided munitions, the latest in targeting pods and the infrastructure to support data link," said Maj. Michael Rawls, the pilot who made the flight.

The increased capability also allows for the A-10C to accept more high-value target missions.

The A-10's performance in recent conflicts and its program enhancements make it an invaluable part of the Air Force fleet, officials said.

"The A-10 provides a ground commander with a capability no other platform can in terms of survivability, loiter time and array of weapons," Major Rawls said. "Bottom line, it means (it) is here to stay for awhile."

For those who have seen an A-10, the new model looks identical from the outside because the modifications are largely in the software and cockpit hardware. The appearance would be different, though, when loaded with a new array of munitions.

"We are moving the A-10 into the 21st century with the capability to deliver the latest precision-guided weapons," said Col. Robert Nolan, 46th Test Wing commander.

442nd FW wins over 30 league again

By Senior Airman Joe Lacdan
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Call them the Los Angeles Lakers of Over 30 League basketball.

The 442nd Fighter Wing won the Whiteman Over 30 League Championship Feb. 4 at the fitness center for the third consecutive season.

This year's victim: the 509th Communications Squadron.

CS never got any closer than five points, as the 442nd (10-1, 3-0 in the tournament) cruised to a 46-32 win Feb. 4 at the fitness center.

Fueled by hot shooting from guard Ron Clark who drained his first four shots, the 442nd jumped to a 24-16 lead and never looked back.

"(Ron Clark) kind of surprised us," said 442nd FW coach Carl Clark (no relation). "He came out and shot better than he has in awhile. He wasn't the dominant player, but in that game he was the dominant player."

Kelly Askew led all scorers with 20, Ron Clark chipped with 12 points, and Donald Butler had 10. William Hall led CS with 12 points.

With mostly the same core of players during the 442nd's three-year run, Carl Clark said it worked out to the



PHOTO COURTESY 509TH BOMB WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

442nd Fighter Wing Over 30 League winners (from left) Tech. Sgts. Kellie Askew, Paul Rambo, Steve Luke, Rik Davis with son, Brandon, Steve Miller, Carl Clark, Ron Clark, Staff Sgt. Donald Butler, and Master Sgt. VerNessa Stoudermire pose for a victory photo with Col. Pat Cord, 442nd FW commander. (Not available for photo, Master Sgt. John Bazzle) team's advantage.

"We know what each other's roles are and we know how to play with each other pretty well. Each person understands their role and limitations. We've got some really outstanding players."

Coach Clark said Kelly Askew, the squad's leading scorer at about 14 points per game, was the team's most consistent player.

"He put pressure on defenses more than anyone else on the team," Coach Clark said.



PHOTO BY 2ND LT. MARY OLSEN

CMSU salutes Team Whiteman

Central Missouri State University officials present an autographed team basketball to Col. Pat Cord, 442nd Fighter Wing commander, during the opening exercises of the Feb. 12 men's game against Emporia State University as Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, looks on. CMSU designated the day Whiteman Appreciation Day and military members were admitted to the game free of charge. The Warrensburg Military Affairs Committee provided more than 250 vouchers for free refreshments to the military attendees.



March pay dates

The March pay dates are as follows: March 1, 4, 9, 11, 15, 18, 23 and 25. The March 5 and 6 UTA pays March 15. The March 19 and 20 alternate UTA pays March 30.

EOC Tests

End of Course exams will be held Saturday, March 5, and Sunday, March 6, at 12:30 p.m. Members should their unit training manager to be scheduled to test for either day.

Communion offered

Communion will be held as part of the chapel service on Sunday, March 6, at 1:30 p.m. Chapel service is held in building 48, Room 121. All wing members are invited to participate in this event.

College grants offered to Airmen's families

WASHINGTON (AFPN)— Air Force Aid Society officials said they are offering as many as 4,500 college education grants to Air Force family members through the Gen. Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program.

Applications for the \$1,500 need-based grants must be received by March 11.

The program is open to dependent children of Airmen on active duty, in the Guard or Reserve performing fulltime active duty, retired or deceased. Spouses of active duty and deceased Airmen are also eligible. Applicants must be enrolled as fulltime undergraduates at an accredited college or university during the 2005-2006 academic year, and they are required to maintain a minimum 2.0 grade point average. Selection is heavily based on cost of attendance, family income and the number of eligible applicants competing. A final need assessment will be made by an independent agency.

Students can find an application and review full eligibility requirements, procedures and application instructions on the society's Web site at www.afas.org. They also can call (800) 429-9475 for an application brochure.

The program averages a 50 percent-plus selection rate, officials said.

Training meeting scheduled

There will be a training meeting on March 5 at 8:30 a.m. in building 48's second floor conference room.

Citizen airman, employer award competition begins

WASHINGTON—April 1 is the deadline to nominate reservists and their employers for Air Force Reserve Command's Citizen Airman Award and Employer of the Year Award.

The awards recognize both an enlisted person and an officer who deployed in support of current operations in 2004.

The employer award honors the person who strongly supported the activation and deployment of one or more Citizen Airmen.

Nominees submit a one-page narrative of the reservist's contribution, a one-page narrative of how the employer helped his or her reservist and the Air Force Reserve, and a biography on the reservist or employer.

Nominations should be mailed to Chief Master Sgt. Troy McIntosh, 12313 Manchester Way, Woodbridge, VA 22192; faxed to DSN 227-9103 or commercial 703-697-9103; or e-mailed to Troy.McIntosh@pentagon.af.mil to arrive no later than April 1.

The Air Force Association will recognize the selected reservists and employers at its annual convention in Washington in September.

The reservists will receive a command plaque, and the employers will get an AFRC eagle trophy. (AFRC News Service)

Employer/Family Day planned

The 442nd Fighter Wing will host an Employer/Family Day for Saturday, June 11. The Employer Day is scheduled for the morning and Family Day starts at mid-day.

All employers will be invited using the database created when reservists registered their employer on the DoD Employer website, <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/esgr/index.jsp>.

All 442nd FW members and their families are invited to attend.

Welcome

442nd Aircraft

Maintenance Squadron

Staff Sgt. Darren Rawson

Staff Sgt. Ronald Sigloch

Senior Airman Joshua Fleener

Senior Airman James Jarvis

Senior Airman Steven Lockett

Senior Airman Nicholas Stipa III

Airman 1st Class Heather Bax

Airman 1st Class Christopher Bishop

Airman 1st Class Clarissa Hawkins

Airman 1st Class Minh Nguyen

442nd Logistics

Readiness Squadron

Airman 1st Class Christopher Brockway

442nd Maintenance Squadron

Staff Sgt. Ricky Crowder

Airman 1st Class Jaime Fahlgren

710th Medical Squadron

Staff Sgt. Emma Sebby

Senior Airman Brandyann Kienzle

Senior Airman Christina Snyder

Know your recruiter

Whiteman AFB, Mo.

Senior Master Sgt. Robert Gardner

Master Sgt. TeNeuss Land

(660) 687-4017/4014

Blue Springs, Mo.

Tech. Sgt. Ryan Noorlander

(816) 229-2141

Springfield, Mo.

Master Sgt. Dave Manecke

(417) 889-97782

Officer Accessions

Master Sgt. Dave Cox

(618) 229-7080



March training planner

What (# to call for info)	When	Where	What (# to call for info)	When	Where
04 March 2005, Friday			05 March 2005, Saturday (cont.)		
Executive Working Group	1100	Wing CC office	Computer Based Testing (3354/3527) (call for appt)	1230	Bldg 48, Room 117Admin
Pre-UTA staff meeting	1500	Bldg 48, Multi-Purpose Room	Admin Training (3355)	1430	Bldg 705, Comp. Training Room
First Sergeants Mtg (3233)	1700	5-bay hangar, Conf room	Sign Out	1630	Assigned units
05 March 2005, Saturday			06 March 2005, Sunday		
Sign In	0700-0730	Assigned Units	Sign in	0700-0730	Assigned Units
CBRNEDT Refresher (3333)	0830-1130	Bldg 705, DP Classroom	CBRNEDT Refresher (3333)	0830-1130	Bldg 705, DP Classroom
QNFT fit test available (3950) <i>Must schedule appointment first</i>	0900-1500	Bldg 604, Bio-Environ.Eng.	Admin Training (3355)	1000	Bldg 705, Comp. Training Room
Immunizations (4304)	0900-1100 1300-1500	Base Hospital Immun Clinic	CDC Course Exams (3353)	1230	Bldg 48, Room 117
HRDC Meeting	1000-1130	Bldg 48, Multi-Purpose Room	Chapel Service (3827)	1330	Bldg 48, Wing Chapel room
Legal Assistance	1000-1200 1300-1400	Bldg 48, Room 115	SORTS Mtg/ Executive Wrap-Up	1330	Bldg 48, Multi-Purpose Room
ROA/REA (4008)	1230-1300	The Club	Sign Out	1630	Assigned Units

Vaught pioneered women in AF leadership

By Maj. Christina M. Abbott Marks
Human Resource and Development Council

A leader, a commander and a woman - this is not strange in today's military. Yet two decades ago, there were not many women that reached the rank of brigadier general.

Wilma L. Vaught is such a woman. Retired Brig. Gen. Vaught was raised in rural Scotland, Ill., and graduated from the University of Illinois, Urbana, in 1957. She worked in the corporate world, but saw little possibility for managerial advancement. After reading an Army recruiting appeal offering the opportunity to be a manager and supervisor, Vaught decided to join the Air Force and received her commission as a second lieutenant in 1957.

Vaught held many jobs at different locations earning numerous distinctions, but was limited in promotions and job selection.

In 1967, President Lyndon Johnson signed a measure into a law that permitted advancement of women to generals and admirals. The same law also lifted quotas placed on women in achieving other ranks, allowing for new career opportunities.

During her career, Vaught served as a chief for Data Services and chief for Management Analysis Divisions. She commanded the Women in the Air Force Squadron Section at Barksdale Air Force Base, La. Vaught was the first woman to deploy with a Strategic Air Command operational unit and was the first female officer to attend the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

Vaught's other "firsts" include her promotion in the comptroller career field to brigadier general and the first female to command a unit receiving the Joint Meritorious Unit Award. When she retired in 1985, she was one of three female Air Force generals and one of seven female generals in the



It was a recruiting appeal, similar to this one, that started Brig. Gen. Wilma Vaught down the road to establishing women in Air Force leadership and, consequently, in to history.

United States Armed Forces.

During her career, she stated that the Air Force "gave her an opportunity to participate in historic events, broaden her education and work with a committed group of people" who she described as "fascinating, dedicated, well-educated and who almost never say 'can't and never say 'won't.'"

One of Vaught's lasting accomplishments is the establishment of the Women in Military Service for America Memorial in 1997 at the main gateway to Arlington National Cemetery. As president of the Women's Memorial Foundation board of directors, Gen. Vaught spearheaded the campaign that rose over \$20 million. For all this and more, Vaught was recognized as one of the 2003 Women's History Month honorees. She will be remembered as one of the women who helped pave the way for thousands of other military women to be judged on their abilities - not their gender. (Courtesy the National Women's History Project.)

Charge-of-Quarters

**Master Sgt.
Cody Ellett**
442nd Civil Engineers
Squadron

Call the CQ from on-base at 99-1 (660) 238-7428. Local off-base number; (i.e., Concordia, Warrensburg, Sedalia, etc.) dial (660) 238-7428. To leave a message for the CQ from off-base dial (800) 260-0253 and press seven after the prompt.



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
442ND FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS
931 ARNOLD AVE.
WHITEMAN AFB MO 65305-5070

TO THE FAMILY OF:

FAMILY NEWS



Avoiding job conflicts

Tips for better reservist/employer relations

Submitted by Tech. Sgt. Calvin E. Acklin
442nd Family Support

Being candid with an employer, concerning the obligations one has as a member of a reserve component, can avoid most employment conflicts. Do not take the employer's support for granted. Members should keep their supervisors informed about what they do for the military and when they have reserve commitments. Members should also let the employers know the vital mission supported by their participation in the reserve. Lastly, members should let their employers know how the military experience and training will make them a more capable civilian employee. Take time to recognize the sacrifice of supervisors and coworkers that support the member.

Here is a summary of advice from the Employer Support for the Guard and Reserves to avoid employment conflicts.

Talk to your boss

Regardless of military assignment or specialty, a reservist should tell their employer about it. An employer might be pleased to know that learned military skills are paying off on the job. If the military job is different from the civilian job, sharing the details may impress the employer. Using spare time to participate in a second career might be an indication to coworkers that the member is a person whom seeks out and can handle serious responsibility.

Annual Training Schedules

The same rules apply for Annual Training. Annual Training is typically scheduled months in advance - that is the time to provide notification to the employer.

Federal law

Federal law guarantees the right to take time off from work for military responsibilities. The more a reservist, their supervisor, and personnel office know about the federal laws and legal precedents, it is less likely a misunderstanding will occur. Protections apply to employees whom are full-time,

part-time or probationary, so long as the employment is not brief, non-recurring and not expected to continue for a significant period.

Drill schedules

The earlier a member shares their drill schedules, annual training plans, reemployment rights and rules and any extra time-off requirements with their employer, the easier things will go. Remember, it is the responsibility of the reservist to give the employer advance notice of any military service, including drills.

Scheduling

While performing military service, the employer is not obligated to reschedule time lost. However, if employees who miss work for nonmilitary reasons are afforded opportunities to reschedule, a reservist must receive the same opportunity. Furthermore, the member is not required to find a replacement worker for the shift(s) missed as a condition of awarding time off to perform military service.

Vacation

Federal law allows a reservist to use earned vacation while performing military service, but it is not required. The only possibility in which it could be required is if the company planned a shutdown period when everyone must take vacation and the military service coincided with that period.

Reward the Boss for Supporting Service

The Department of Defense will send a personally prepared certificate of appreciation to the employer if the reserve member requests. The certificate comes mounted in a folder bearing the Department of Defense seal embossed in gold. Applications may be obtained from public affairs or the ESGR website: www.esgr.org.

If a member experiences any type of employment conflicts or needs more information concerning employer rights and responsibilities, please stop by the Family Support Center in Building 48, room 1142 to speak with Tech. Sgt. Calvin Acklin or call (660) 687-7350.