



THE LEADER

Vol. 39, No. 6

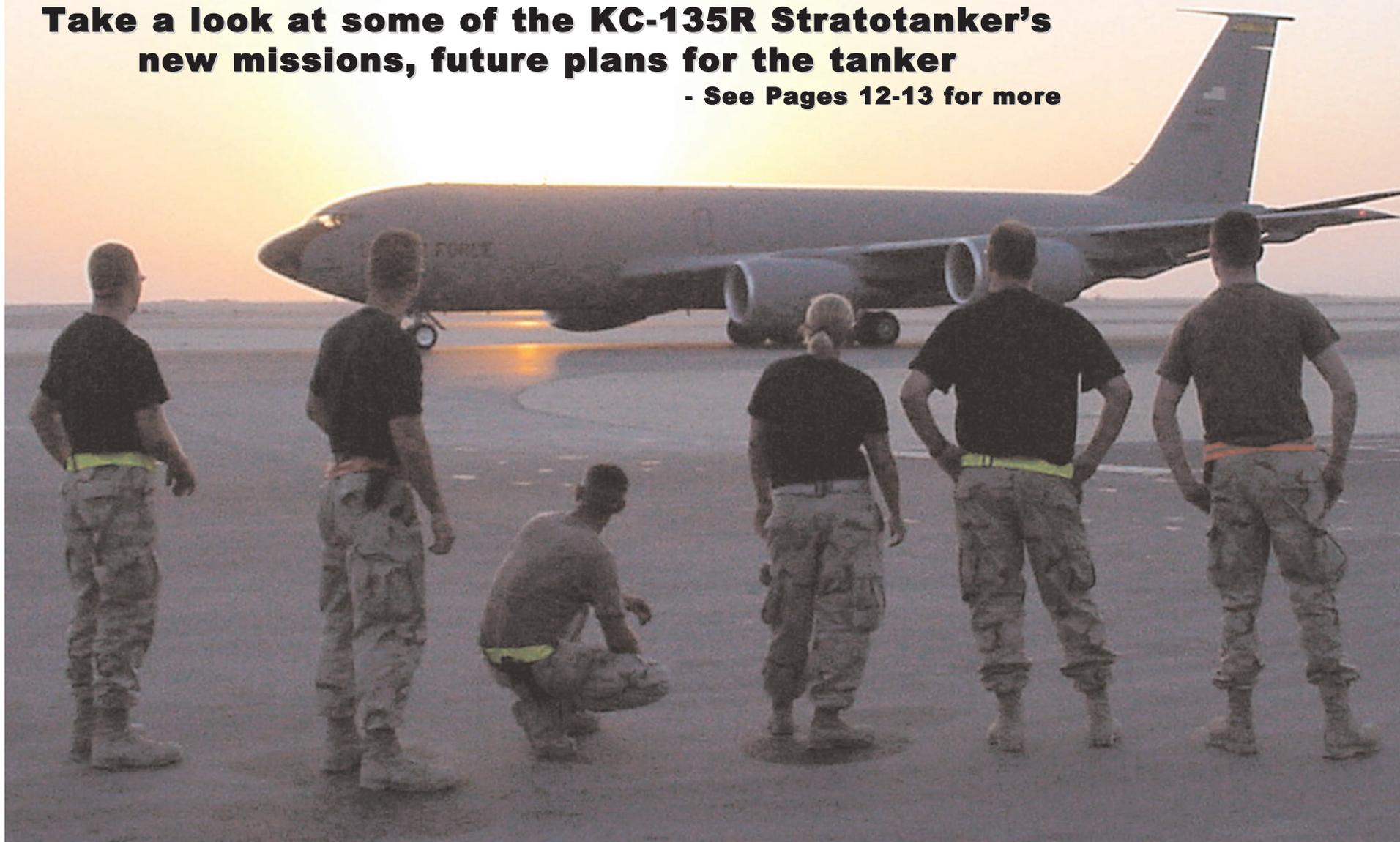
Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D. ♦ <http://public.grandforks.amc.af.mil>

Feb. 13, 2004

A changing future

Take a look at some of the KC-135R Stratotanker's new missions, future plans for the tanker

- See Pages 12-13 for more



319th Air Refueling Wing ♦ Warriors of the North

Inside:

Weekend weather

Today	25/11	Flurries
Saturday	9/1	Partly cloudy
Sunday	10/-15	Snow
Monday	21/1	Mostly cloudy



*Weather information courtesy
319th Operations Support Squadron weather flight*

Emergency response forces show grit

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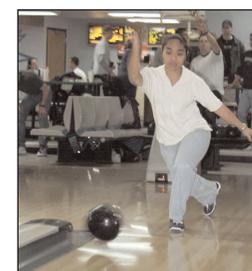
Air Force Assistance Fund campaign starts

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Intramural bowling action

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Misunderstanding the point

By Lt. Col. Mark Burns
332nd Expeditionary Operations Support
Squadron commander

BALAD AIR BASE, IRAQ (AFPN) -- Is flexibility the "key" to airpower? Does thinking "out-of-the-box" really solve problems?

I have heard these two phrases quite often since my entry into the Air Force.

Being an Army brat, I appreciate and take great pride in the adaptability of the Air Force and the creative solutions we find to problems.

As much as I have tried to practice these clever ideals of flexibility and out-of-the-box thinking in my Air Force career, I have become increasingly concerned with the misunderstanding that often surrounds them.

Too often "flexibility" means compensating for poor planning and even worse initial execution. At times "out-of-the-box" thinking is demanded when the solution is not readily apparent at the inception of a problem.

At Balad, we are undertaking an immense task: starting a new base of operations. If we misunderstand the meaning of these two phrases, which we hear so often, we just might make the job a little bit harder.

Flexibility comes from knowing the basics of your job well and from the confidence gleaned from having practiced the basics again and again until they become second nature.

It does not come from trying to accomplish new and different things every time you train. You will never see every possible permutation of a problem.

If you take the time during the planning phase to prepare a solid base for execution, any left turns thrown your way can be overcome. You gain flexibility by nailing down as many variables as possi-

ble with good planning. Good execution allows you to stay ahead of the new wrinkles you will be forced to adapt to. Frequently, practicing the basics can give you the confidence to plow ahead and fix unforeseen problems.

The same is true for thinking out-of-the-box. There are not many solutions to problems that we can think up that have not been thought of and tried before. We just weren't aware of the history of the "new" solution, when we thought it up.

If our basis of good experience and practice is supplemented by a thorough quest for more knowledge of our job, then we have a ready encyclopedia of possible solutions to any problem.

I will bet that often the out-of-the-box solution you come up with is catalogued in the continuity book that is catching dust in your bookcase. The problem may be slightly different, but that old solution still works with a few minor changes.

For more than a decade, the Air Force has been doing rotations to the Middle East. Many of you have had the pleasure of doing them more than once.

There are many lessons to be learned from the problems faced by these previous rotations, which will help today in what we are doing. Share your experiences. What was true then is probably still valid right now.

Wherever you are, be flexible for rapid changes, but use the time to prepare well a solid foundation for those who will follow you.

You will never solve all of the problems, but you can help put those who come behind you on the right track to finish what you have started.

Be open to out-of-the-box solutions to these problems that we face, but remember "out-of-the-box" may mean "dust one off" from previous experiences.

Action Line



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jason Gamble

Col. Mark Ramsay
319th Air Refueling Wing commander

The Action Line is your avenue for information about events and activities on and around the base.

For questions about current events or rumors, call 747-4522 and leave a message. Questions will be answered in the order they are received.

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Scott T. Sturkol

Cover
KC-135R Stratotanker maintainers watch as a tanker passes by at a deployed location in 2003.

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Emergency personnel show grit, expertise in 911 response

By Staff Sgt. Scott T. Sturkol
Public affairs

The evening of Jan. 31 wasn't unlike others except that the base just days before received nearly two feet of snow, and temperatures were minus 20 degrees Fahrenheit or lower.

That evening, just before 6 p.m., the base 911 call center received a call reporting a youth had injured his leg pretty bad while snowboarding in a steep ditch near the Sunflake housing area. Within minutes, an ambulance crew was on scene followed by fire and security forces personnel.

"The 911 call came from the patient's father," said Staff Sgt. Paul Smith, a 319th Medical Operations Squadron emergency medical technician who responded on scene with fellow EMT Senior Airman Edwardo Desouza.

"When we got there, there were some bystanders and the father was also there to show us where the youth was. It was then we saw it was going to be quite an



Photo by Staff Sgt. Scott T. Sturkol

Senior Airman Edwardo Desouza and Staff Sgt. Paul Smith, emergency medical technicians for the 319th Medical Operations Squadron, stand by the ambulance and backboard they used to help an accident victim on base Jan. 31.

effort to get the youth out of that ditch because there was a lot of snow, trees, and it was very cold."

When Tech. Sgt. Charles Lyon, 319th Security Forces Squadron installation patrolman and flight sergeant, arrived with fellow security forces flight sergeant Tech. Sgt. Jeff Schafer, the ambulance was already on scene.

"I got out and looked down in the creek and saw two medical guys helping a teenager," Sergeant Lyon said. "I asked if they needed help; they said yes."

Sergeant Lyon said the creek bank didn't look that steep at first because of the snow.

"I almost fell going down to it because it's almost straight down," he said. "When I got to the bottom I asked what happened to the

kid. Sergeant Smith said it looked like the kid may have broken his leg. I noticed all they had was a backboard to get this teenager out of the creek. I knew there was no way the three of us and the kid's dad were going to carry this kid up a 35- to 40-foot creek bank full of snow, so I had my control center call the fire department and ask if they could bring

some rope to our location as soon as possible, because it was nearly 20-below without the wind chill."

Senior Airman Brent Crispen and Airman 1st Class Jonathon Boss, both firefighters, arrived on scene next. Airman Crispen said medics were finishing putting a leg splint on the patient.

"My crew and I deployed a Stokes basket with two safety lines," Airman Crispen said. "The Stokes basket can act as a sled, so after a C-collar and backboard were placed on the patient, he was placed in the basket and pulled up by us and the security forces personnel on scene."

Airman Boss said they were wearing all the equipment they could to keep themselves warm. The patient was covered with a thick blanket. Sergeant Smith said the patient was already wearing several layers of cold weather gear and was kept stabilized throughout the ordeal.

"It was pretty cold down there when we were getting the patient out," Sergeant Smith said. "I remember briefly

- See **Grit**, Page 5

Air Force Assistance Fund

Help take care of your own and support the Air Force Assistance Fund

drive Feb. 16 through March 29. See a unit coordinator for more details.

Briefs

CMSAF all-call

There will be an all-call with Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray from 10 to 11 a.m. Feb. 20 in the three-bay hangar. This is a mandatory formation for all Warriors of the North.

AMC official visits

Welcome to Brig. Gen. Delwyn R. Eulberg, Air Mobility Command director of installations and mission support, who will be visiting the base Tuesday and Wednesday.

The brigadier general will be meeting with the Col. Barbara Chine, Mission Support Group commander, Lt. Col. Patrick Fogarty, 319th Civil Engineer Squadron commander, and Maj. Elizabeth Demmons, 319th Services Squadron commander to get a sense of what the headquarters needs to do to assist with expeditionary combat support and garrison mission support.

He will also be attending the Nathan F. Twining School gymnasium ribbon cutting ceremony Tuesday from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. Base members are welcome to attend.

AACA scholarships

The base African American Cultural Association announces the release of its 2004 scholarship package for high school seniors who plan to attend a college or university for the fall 2004 semester.

A scholarship will be made available to a selected son or daughter of an active duty or retired military member. Applications may be obtained from local area high schools, the University Learning Center at the University of North Dakota, the base education center, base library, and the family support center.

Deadline for submission is April 15. For details call Dr. Cheryl Saunders at 777-4390, Vonda Ware at 747-3241, or Maxine Roy-Johnson at 594-2777.

Tax center

Tax center volunteers can assist military members, retirees, and family members complete and electronically-file their federal and state tax returns.

The tax center is open Mondays through Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and on Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to noon. To schedule an appointment call 747-3473.

Curling volunteers

Officials with the National Curling Tournament in Grand Forks Feb. 28 to March 6 need volunteers to help with their event.

They are also offering anyone with a military identification card free access to the tournament on March 6, the day it will be broadcast on national television.

For details call Shelle Michaels at 779-7271.

School board applications

The Grand Forks Air Force Base School Board is accepting applications for a new board member. Applications can be picked up and dropped off at the family support center, education center, Eielson Elementary School, and Twining Elementary and Middle School. Deadline for the applications is Feb. 27.

Tunes for troops

Tunes for Troops is a program designed to use music to raise the morale of our troops in forward-deployed locations. A group of volunteers has been formed and they are collecting music compact discs to send to deployed troops.

If anyone has any music CDs they would like to donate to Tunes for Troops, they can drop them off in collection boxes at first sergeant offices throughout base. More volunteers are also needed. For details call Senior Airman Aaron LeRoy at 747-3245.

Volunteer award applications

The Community Action Information Board is accepting nominations on behalf of the wing commander for the 2003 Air Force Volunteer Excellence Award. Nominations can be submitted to the family support center through Feb. 27. For details call 747-3241.

Grit, from Page 3

taking my glove off and within seconds noticing how cold my skin felt. It brought to reality the need for us to get the patient out of there quickly and into a warm vehicle.”

Sergeant Lyon said everyone seemed to work in unison to get the youth out.

“What impressed me the most was that even though there were several people who out-ranked the medical guys at the scene, we all did what the medics told us to do to get it done,” Sergeant Lyon said. “I thought it was exceptional effort even though the medical guys would have liked it to have gone a lot faster. I still think with all the obstacles we faced that day, it was an outstanding success simply because everyone from the fire department, security forces, and medical worked extremely well together.”

Airman Desouza said the patient was driven to Altru Hospital by base ambulance in less than half an hour. He said that showed the main priority there was the welfare of the patient.

“We were just out there doing what we’re trained to do,” Airman Desouza said. “We were glad the patient was all right in the end.”

Airman Crispen said, “All of the base emergency personnel work great as a team. I can tell you they are not missing any training.”

Each person who helped with the effort said the combination of the bitter cold, snow and area where the accident took place was a challenge, but it was one that was overcome because of their dedication.

“The patient and response personnel did get cold,” Airman Crispen said. “But all procedures were followed correctly and the patient did make it through with the least amount of pain possible.”

CMSAF speaks at annual banquet**Compiled from staff reports**

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray is the featured guest speaker for the 2004 Grand Forks Air Force Base annual awards banquet Feb. 20 starting with a social at 5 p.m. and dinner at 5:45 p.m. in the Northern Lights Club.

This is his first visit to this base in his current position.

According to his itinerary, he will be visiting the First Term Airman Center, maintenance areas, the sports and fitness center, security forces areas, the Airey dining facility, the Warrior Airmen Recreation Center and several other stops.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Greg Davis

HURLBURT FIELD, Fla. (AFPN) -- Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray shoots a 50-caliber machine gun during an MH-53 Pave Low helicopter training orientation flight over the firing range at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. He will be visiting Grand Forks AFB Feb. 19 to 21.

Officials limit re-enlistment window to three months

By Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON -- Air Force personnel officials are changing the re-enlistment eligibility window beginning March 5.

The new policy requires active-duty airmen to re-enlist within three months of their term of service expiring, a change from the 12-month window currently in effect.

“In our effort to shape the force, we

continue to seek areas that will give us greater management oversight,” said Master Sgt. Maria Cornelia, the Air Force’s chief of retention and bonus programs at the Pentagon.

“We want our airmen to understand that we’re not discouraging re-enlistments,” Sergeant Cornelia said.

“By reducing the eligibility window, Air Force officials will have a better picture of how many re-enlistments we can expect within a given period.”

Narrowing the window will also will

assist officials with forecasting requirements for personnel programs such as selective re-enlistment bonuses, career job reservations and retraining, Sergeant Cornelia said. This policy shift is not something new, but a return to the policy in place before 2001. The eligibility window was expanded from three to 12 months during a low-retention period.

“Getting a better picture of retention indicators will greatly enhance our ability to optimize personnel programs,” Sergeant Cornelia said.

Air Force Assistance Fund campaign begins Monday

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) -- The Air Force Assistance Fund "Commitment to Caring" campaign runs Monday to May 7, asking airmen to contribute to any of four Air Force-related charities.

The charities benefit active-duty, Reserve, Guard, retired Air Force people, surviving spouses and families. This is the 31st year of the fund drive. Charities receive 100 percent of designated contributions.

"Requests for assistance have continued at record levels since Sept. 11, 2001," said retired Lt. Gen. Mike McGinty, Air Force Aid Society chief executive officer. "Last year the Air Force Aid Society helped 30,000 airmen with (more than) \$22.6 million in assistance. That's a lot of help. Contributions are vital for the society to sustain this kind of help. It is truly an airmen-helping-airmen program."

The secretary and chief of staff of the Air Force recently announced a \$5.2 million goal. In 2003, Air Force people gave \$5.9 million to the fund.

People can contribute through cash, check, money order or payroll deduction to:

❑ **The Air Force Aid Society**, the official charitable organization of the Air Force which provides airmen and their families with worldwide emergency financial assistance, educa-

tion assistance and an array of base level community-enhancement programs. Base family support centers have full details on programs and eligibility requirements. Information is also available online at www.afas.org.

❑ **The Air Force Enlisted Villages** in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., near Eglin Air Force Base, which provides rent subsidy and other support to indigent widows and widowers of retired enlisted people 55 and older. More information is available at www.afenlistedwidows.org.

❑ **The Air Force Village Indigent Widow's Fund**, a life-care community in San Antonio for retired officers, spouses, widows or widowers and family members. The Air Force Village Web site is www.air-forcevillages.com.

❑ **The General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation**, which provides rent and financial assistance to indigent widows and widowers of officers and enlisted people in their own homes and communities. The LeMay Foundation Web site is www.lemayfoundation.org.

Contributions to the AFAF are tax deductible. For more information, visit <http://afassistancefund.org> or the Air Force Personnel Center's voting and fund-raising Web site at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/votefund.

For details see your unit representative or call Capt. Dean Ramsett at 747-4045.



Photo by Ms. Dawn Thompson

Youth of the Year

Jessica Weber, center, holds her Grand Forks Air Force Base 2003 Youth of the Year plaque while her mother Denise and father Lt. Col. James Weber, 319th Maintenance Group, stand by her during her recognition ceremony Tuesday in the wing conference room.

Clinic begins Warrior Day Wednesday

Beginning Wednesday, the 319th Medical Group will hold their monthly training day, Warrior Day, on the third Wednesday of every month from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

According to group officials, this required training enables them to ensure their clinic staff maintains the highest level of competence while providing quality medical care during our peace and wartime missions.

The acute care clinic will provide limited

services between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Warrior Days, officials said. Appointments for the acute care clinic can be obtained by calling the TRICARE Service Center at 594-3000. Calls can be made starting at 7:30 a.m. the day the appointment is desired.

All other services, to include all patient care clinics, pharmacy, radiology, and laboratory services, will be closed.

For details on the Warrior Days, call Mr. Don Miller at 747-5221.

Personnel officials highlight force shaping changes

Recruiting efforts, patriotism, and a struggling economy all contributed to a surge that put the Air Force approximately 16,600 people over its authorized end strength of 359,700, Air Force Personnel Center officials said.

To help get back on track, Air Force leaders authorized the use of force shaping tools to generate additional losses beyond programmed attrition. These efforts will result in an increase of approximately 3,900 officer and 12,700 enlisted losses.

"These tools target specific Air Force specialties in an overage status," said Staff Sgt. Heath Conrad, 319th Mission Support Squadron military personnel flight. "Shortage or critical AFSCs are not eligible."

There is a narrow application window, Sergeant Conrad said, from Feb. 4 through March 12. There is also a restricted separation/retirement window that goes from May 15 through Sept. 15.

"All base personnel who wish to apply need to contact the MPF," Sergeant Conrad said. "AFPC headquarters in Randolph will handle all cases, except for colonels and chiefs who are handled on case-by-case basis."

During this program, the base level authority for miscellaneous separations is suspended, Sergeant Conrad said.

People who are interested should visit their commander support staff or the MPF for initial consultation.

"Time is of the essence on this," Sergeant Conrad said.

Career **not eligible** include:

Officer

11XX, 12XX, 13BX, 13DXA, 42PX, 43HX, 43PX, 44AX, 44BX, 44DX, 44EX, 44MX, 44NX, 44PX, 44RX, 44SX, 44TX, 44YX, 44ZX, 45AX, 45BX, 45PX, 45SX, 46XX, 47XX, 48AX, 48RX, 48VX, and 62EX

Enlisted

1A1XX, 1A2XX, 1A3XX, 1A5XX, 1A7XX, 1A8XX, 1C1XX, 1C2XX, 1C3XX, 1C4XX, 1C5XX, 1N0XX, 1N1XX, 1N3XX, 1N4XX,

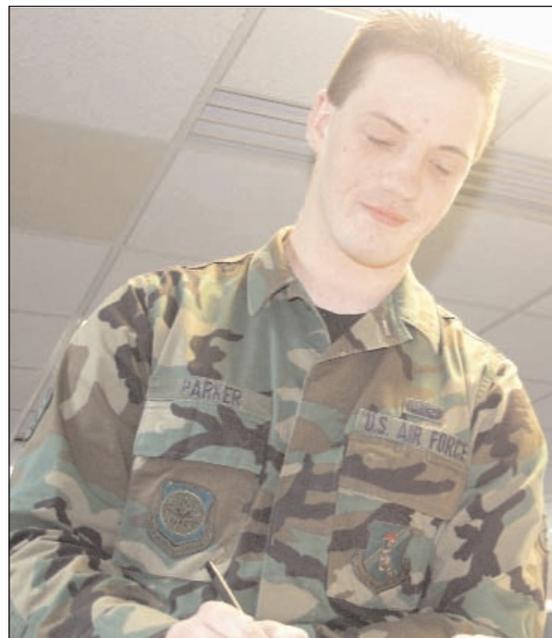


Photo by Airman Patrice Clarke

Airman 1st Class Anthony Parker, 319th Mission Support Squadron personnel apprentice in the military personnel flight, works at the customer service counter. People who are interested in the force shaping program are urged to contact the MPF.

1N5XX, 1N6XX, 1T0XX, 1T2XX, 3E7XX, 3E8XX, 3E9XX, 3P0XX, 4A0XX, 4E0XX, 4N0XX, 4Y0X2, 7S0XX, 8B000, 8D000, 8F0XX, 8R000, 9L000

For additional details on this program, following are people who are available to provide more information:

- Conrad, 747-4295;
- Master Sgt. David Papizan, 747-4339;
- Master Sgt. David Cislo, 747-4136; and
- SSgt Matt Simono; 747-3270.

There are several separate policies within the Force Shaping program. Each one has its own eligibility and ineligibility criteria. People are urged to call to get more details.

Around the Air Force



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeffrey A. Wolfe

Kaboom!

AL FATHAH AIR FIELD, Iraq -- Explosions rock the ground here as Army engineers and Air Force explosive ordnance disposal workers detonate a weapons cache Feb. 5. An estimated 2 million net pounds of explosives were left at the air field by the old regime, making it the largest single weapons cache uncovered by the coalition to date. Workers are destroying an average of 100,000 pounds of weapons per day.



Photo by Maj. Amy Asher

Seeing eye to eye

MANAS AIR BASE, Kyrgyzstan (AFPN) -- Lt. Col. Franklin Malafarina gets up-close and personal during a military working dog training session with Gizmo, a military working dog here, Feb. 5. Working dogs here provide explosive detection support to protect all people and resources, and establish a force-protection presence that will halt or deter hostile action against coalition forces. Colonel Malafarina is the 376th Air Expeditionary Wing chief of staff.



Base theater

Today, 7 p.m.

Lord of the Rings; Return of the King (PG-13)

The final film in Peter Jackson's adaptation of the J.R.R. Tolkien fantasy trilogy follows hobbits Frodo and Sam as they push farther into the land of Mordor to destroy the ring of power. Traveling with them, in an uneasy alliance, is the deceitful Gollum, who brings them to the very heart of Mount Doom.

Saturday, 2 p.m.

Lord of the Rings; Return of the King (PG-13)

Saturday, 7 p.m.

House of Sand and Fog (R)

Jennifer Connelly plays Kathy Nicolo, an alcoholic whose husband leaves her, which leads to the bank's eventual foreclosure on her house.

It's put up for auction and bought by an exiled Iranian air force colonel (Ben Kingsley), a new American citizen who looks forward to raising his family there. But Nicolo won't give up her home without a fight, and she gets help from a married police officer (Ron Eldard) who's become her lover.

Feb. 20, 7 p.m.

Disney's Teacher's Pet

Feb. 21, 7 p.m.

Chasing Liberty (PG-13)

**Tickets: \$1.50 children, \$3 adults
For details, call 747-3021/6123.**



Base chapel

CATHOLIC:

Mass: 9 a.m., Sundays, Sunflower Chapel

Weekday Mass: 11:30 a.m., Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, Sunflower Chapel

Reconciliation: 8:30 to 8:45 a.m., Sundays, or by appointment, Sunflower Chapel

CCD: 10:45 a.m., Sundays at Twining Elementary. For details call Jane Hutzol at 747-3073.

PROTESTANT:

Traditional Worship: 10:30 a.m., Sundays, Sunflower Chapel

Contemporary Worship: 6 p.m., Sundays, at Prairie Rose Chapel

Sunday School: 9 a.m., Sundays at Eielson Elementary

PYOC: 4 p.m. to 5:45 p.m., Sundays at the Youth Center

PWOC Bible Study: 7 p.m., Mondays in the Prairie Rose Chapel conference room

Men of the Chapel Bible Study: Noon, Mondays, in the Prairie Rose Chapel conference room

Young Adults: 6 p.m., Fridays, at Chaplain Brian Swain's home. For details call 747-6468.

JEWISH:

Call Synagogue B'nai Israel at 775-5124 for details.

RUSSIAN/EASTERN ORTHODOX:

Call Dr. Levitov at 780-6540 for details.

MUSLIM, BUDDHIST, OTHER:

Call 747-5673 for details.

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Remembering the pioneers: Working to include African Americans in airpower; establishment of new military unit

Editor's note: This article is the second in a series of four highlighting African-American heritage in airpower.

By Maj. Brian Hill
911th Air Refueling Squadron

Upon learning that African-Americans and other minorities were afforded no place in the newly proposed aviation program soon to be enacted by the Civil Aeronautics Authority, Senator Truman showed great surprise.

When he was made aware that the United States Army Air Corps forbade the enlistment of African-Americans, Senator Truman's astonishment ignited a fire that lit a path straight to the Secretary of Defense and ultimately, the President of the United States.

Senator Truman directed his efforts toward promoting the cause for inclusion in the aviation movement in various ways.

In addition to lobbying before Secretary of Defense Robert H. Hinckley and President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Truman was able to enlist the Negro press

corps of Washington, D.C., which proved to be a powerful tool for spreading awareness and generating interest throughout the entire political community.

During the latter part of 1939, as a direct result of the Spencer and White cross-country flight and the lobbying of Senator Truman, Congress began to open the door towards the equalization of participation opportunities in the nation's aviation movement.

Two laws, crafted under the separate but equal principle of the time, were enacted enabling African-Americans to enter civilian flight training. The Civilian Pilot Training Program Act, or CPTP, authorized certain civilian colleges and universities to conduct student pilot training.

The goal of the program was to build a backlog of competent civilian pilots who could quickly adapt to military training in the event of a nationwide war mobilization.

Six historically black colleges were selected to participate in the CPTP: Howard University, Delaware State College, Hampton Institute, North

Carolina A&T, West Virginia State College, and Tuskegee Institute.

Public Law 18, passed in conjunction with the CPTP package, directly addressed the country's need for military aviators.

It stated the United States government would stock and supply civilian schools by monitoring and dispatching the necessary funds to ensure that military standards and regulations were upheld during student flight training.

The military conducted flight operations under much stricter laws and regulations than those that governed civilian flying.

Though it appeared that the door to equal opportunities was opening for all American aviation interests, forces continued working against the tide of optimism, thereby denying African-American aviators the opportunity to serve the country as military pilots.

The War Department of the United States hoped that by allowing African-Americans to participate in the Civilian Pilot Training Act Program, interest in Army Air Corps service would fade.

Fortunately, it had the exact opposite effect. As the number of African-Americans successfully completing the civilian aviation program grew, so too did the desire for these Americans to become candidates for cadet flight training in the Army Air Corps and ultimately commissioned officers and pilots in military service.

The government tried to delay serious consideration of this issue by keeping it locked in frivolous debate, but because the threat of war was substantially high for America in 1939 to 1940, the answer to the problem of a growing pilot shortage had to be addressed promptly.

African-Americans would have to be given the chance to serve in the Army Air Corps as aviators and support technicians.

In December 1940, the Army Air Corps presented its plan for the inclusion of African-American volunteer airmen. Enlisted men and officers would be employed in a flying squadron, a base group detachment, weather and communications detachments, and all related flight support services necessary for establishing a separate air corps.

Heir Force

Gabrielle E. Senkel, 7 pounds, 9.5 ounces, was born Dec. 23 to 2nd Lt. Shauna and Thomas Senkal, 319th Communications Squadron.

Andrew Jacob Lehman, 8 pounds, 2 ounces, was born Dec. 24 to Staff Sgt. Lynn and Melissa Lehman, 319th Maintenances Squadron.

Joshua William Bachinsky, 7 pounds, 2.7 ounces, was born Jan. 6, to Maj. James and Cynthia Bachinsky, 319th Contracting Squadron.

Brandon Paul Max, 8 pounds, 9.7 ounces, was born Jan. 6, to Staff Sgt. Coley and Sara Max, 319th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

Aubry Kathryn Moshier, 7 pounds, 6 ounces, was born Jan. 8, to Senior Airman Josh Moshier and Jill Wehling, 319th Air Refueling Wing.

Ashlyn Sherry LeeAnn Olheiser, 7 pounds, 6.9 ounces, was born Jan. 15, to Tech Sgt. Kevin and Rhonda Olheiser, 319th Comptroller Squadron.

Jasmine Louise Mansourov, 6 pounds, 6.5 ounces, was born Jan. 16, to Capt. Ramil and Gouluara Mansourov, 319th Medical Operations Squadron.

Jason Christopher Alden, 7 pounds, 3 ounces, was born Jan 16, to 1st Lt. Eric and Anabelle Alden, 906th Air Refueling Squadron.

Jolie Anne Trotti, 8 pounds, 3 ounces, was born Jan. 22, to Airman 1st Class Joana and William Trotti, 319th Aeromedical Dental Squadron.

Akil Banks, 7 pounds, 10 ounces, was born Jan 26, to Senior Airman Christy Banks, 319th Air Refueling Wing.

Tristan Daniel. Bowen, 8 pounds, 2.8 ounces, was born Jan. 28, to Staff Sgt. Joe and Amy Bowen, 319th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

Elizabeth Lorei Mullendore, 7 pounds, .5 ounces, was born Jan. 30, to Staff Sgt. Phil and Misty Mullendore, 912th Air Refueling Squadron.

Laray Jaylene Lopez, 6 pounds, 12 ounces, was born Jan. 31, to Staff Sgt. Larry and Rosa Lopez, 319th Civil Engineering Squadron.

MLK Jr. Awards deadline

The deadline date for submission of nominations for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards is Monday.

There will be a total of eight awards presented in April for the following categories: **(1)** service to the Greater Grand Forks community; **(2)** service to Grand Forks AFB; **(3)** service to the University of North Dakota; **(4)** contribution to the spiritual life of the Greater Grand Forks community; **(5)** contribution to the spiritual life of the base community; **(6)** service to the spiritual life of UND; **(7)** service to humanity; and **(8)** service to the state of North Dakota.

Nominations can be made online at <http://www.und.nodak.edu/dept/erabell> For details call Cheryl Saunders at 777-4390 or M.C. Diop at 777-4259.

Today

GOLF COURSE BREAKFAST: The Plainsview Golf Course offers steak and eggs from 7 to 11 a.m for \$5.75.

PASTA BAR: The Northern Lights Club offers a "pasta bar" along with the day's hot entree from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

CLUB DINING: The Northern Lights Club offers a steak special tonight from 5:30 to 8 p.m.

Prices for three different steaks range from \$10.50 to \$13.50.

OPEN SKATING: Liberty Square

offers open skating for ages 6 to 18 from 6 to 10 p.m. The Liberty Square Teen Center is open from 6 to 11 p.m.

Cost is \$3 and skate rental is \$2. There are also rollerblades to rent.

Saturday

VALENTINE'S DAY DANCES: The youth center is sponsoring dances from 7 to 8:30 p.m. for ages 6 to 12 and 9 to 10:30 for ages 13 to 18.

Cost is \$3 and includes snacks.

Sign up at the youth center.

Community

- Continued from Page 10

SCOTCH DOUBLES TOURNAMENT: Come to the Dakota Lanes Bowling center and participate in the Scotch Doubles Bowling Tournament today beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Cost is \$24 per couple, with prizes given throughout the evening.

For details, call Dakota Lanes at 747-3050.

VALENTINE'S DAY AT THE POOL: Wear red to the base pool Feb. 14 and be entered to win prizes. You can wear red anywhere, it doesn't just have to be the color of your swimsuit.

One person will win a box of chocolates and a bouquet of flowers.

You must be a paying customer or hold a valid swim card to be entered in the drawing, and you must be present to win.

CLUB KARAOKE: The Northern Lights Club offers karaoke from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m.

Free for club members.

CLUB DANCING: The Northern Lights Club offers dancing from 10 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Music is provided by "DJ 'C'."

Free for club members.

Sunday

SUNDAY BRUNCH: The Northern Lights Club offers Sunday brunch from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Cost is \$11.25 for adults, \$7.25 for children 5 to 12 and children four and younger eat free.

Members receive a \$3 discount.

Tuesday

START YOUR OWN BUSINESS: The family support center is offering a workshop on how to start your own business, from 9 a.m. til noon.

Subjects to be discussed include the business plan, funding your business, marketing, and recordkeeping. Spouses are invited and encouraged to attend. To register, call the family support center at 747-3241 or 747-6435.

SOCCER, BASEBALL REGISTRATION: Today is the last day to sign up for indoor soccer for ages five and older.

Cost is \$30 and youth must have a current physical to register.

The season will run from March 9, through April 29.

Today is also the last day to sign u for Bambino/Cal Ripkin Traveling Baseball for youth ages 10 to 12. Tryouts will be held if more than 15 youth apply. No one who turns 13 before July 31, is allowed to participate.

Cost is \$37 plus league and tournament fees.

For details and to sign up for either program contact the youth program.

Wednesday

BREAKFAST READING: There is a breakfast reading from 7:30 to 8 a.m. in the Eilson school cafeteria. Parents are invited to bring their favorite book and read with their child.

For more information contact Lisa Bunce at 594-3351.

COACHES CERTIFICATION: There is a coached certification class for indoor soccer tonight at 5:30 p.m. at the youth center.

For details call the youth center at 747-3150.

Thursday

SCRAPBOOKING SESSION: There will be a scrapbooking session today at the skills development center with a

Valentines theme from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Cost is \$5.50 plus supplies.

For details, call or come by the skills development center 747-3481.

POOL TOURNAMENT: There is free singles pool tournament tonight for ages 9 to 12 at 5:30 p.m. and 13 to 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the youth center.

Upcoming

WINTER BASH: Winter Bash is scheduled for Feb. 21. There will be sleigh rides, smooshing, the Frosty Sailor boat race, a free lunch, basketball tournament, gymnastics demo and more.

The schedule of events will be on administrative messages, the February services guide, and will be handed out throughout the day.

EIELSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YEARBOOK: Parents of students in Eielson Elementary School can get a yearbook for their student for the 2003-04 school year.

Cost of the yearbook is \$13.

For details on ordering or to volunteer to help with the yearbook call Scott Sturkol at 594-3855.

Medical mission: Tankers continue to evolve their AE duties

By Staff Sgt. Scott T. Sturkol
Public affairs

When the KC-135 was designed for its role as an air refueling aircraft in the 1950s, designers probably did not take into consideration the plane would someday become an aeromedical evacuation platform.

The evolution

The decision to retire the C-9 Nightingale, the Air Force's aeromedical evacuation plane of choice for many years, forced yet another decision. What will replace the C-9 for those missions? The answer came in many forms, to include the KC-135 taking on a portion of those missions.

"When the C-9 as an airframe and a program went away, the need for air evac didn't," said Maj. Eric Brumskill, 912th Air Refueling Squadron director of operations. "So what ended up happening is downrange in the areas where troops are deployed, instead of a C-9, they were using strategic airlift such as a C-17, C-5, C-141, and the C-130 to move people forward out of the area. They mainly used C-130s intratheater to pick them up out of the hot spots."

Here comes the tanker

Major Brumskill, a KC-135R pilot who is also a former C-9 pilot, said where the tanker comes in, particularly downrange, is that it's the fastest of all the large aircraft.

"We obviously have the most range because we carry gas ourselves so they figured, let's use tankers when they are not doing air refueling missions," Major Brumskill said.

The major said much of the same thinking applies to tanker use for aeromedical evacuation missions stateside.

"Because the C-9 is gone, C-141s, C-130s and tankers do their generic C-9 runs now," Major Brumskill said. "As this whole thing has evolved, we had to come up with procedures, specific systems, palletizing the litters and many other things to make the tanker capable of supporting this mission."

Major Brumskill said his first aeromedical evacuation mission with a tanker had two patients on board who were hit with a rocket-propelled grenade in Iraq.

"They had severe burns," he said. "There were also others with various injuries who were being moved. Most of the folks we were picking up were from down range in the AOR from places like Afghanistan and Iraq."

"When you see people like that and you know you are doing a mission that is going to help them get better, it's a great feeling," he said. "It's great because we are helping someone who needs our help."

Getting started



Photo by Staff Sgt. Scott T. Sturkol

A 319th Air Refueling Wing KC-135R Stratotanker is silhouetted by the sun as it takes off from a deployed location. The tanker is now one aircraft listed as an aeromedical evacuation platform for strategic airlift in deployed locations.

By last summer, air mobility experts and engineers had figured out a configuration and had interim guidance established.

In the Air Mobility Command guidance, it says the KC-135 is not an optimal platform for aeromedical operations. However, with current operations tempo, the KC-135 is one of few platforms available for use.

"Crew resource management between aeromedical evacuation crews and front-end crews is paramount to the success of this challenging mission," the AMC guidance states. "Crew resource management is critical as many of the tanker crews have never conducted an aeromedical evacuation mission before and aeromedical evacuation crew managers are new to tanker operations."

Major Brumskill said even though the tanker is not ideal for aeromedical evacuation missions, the people in the tanker world have made it happen.

"In this case we have adapted and overcome," Major Brumskill said. "Almost all of the tanker units in the Air Force are now tapped to fly specific aeromedical evacuation flights."

The major, who has flown on two aeromedical evacuation mis-

sions, said the missions for the 319th Air Refueling Wing are now standard.

"When we do a mission, we preposition to Andrews with a crew and a KC-135R Stratotanker and that's where it all starts," Major Brumskill said. "From Andrews we upload what's called a PSP, or patient support pallet. What they are is two pallets that we put on a roller system to configure the jet for aeromedical evacuation. In other words the pallets are configured to support several patients in litters along both sides of the aircraft. It's a pretty unique set-up."

From Andrews, Major Brumskill said the tanker goes on its run, boarding and moving patients at various locations.

"The patients are always stabilized and they quite often are coming out of the area of responsibility such as Iraq or Afghanistan," the major said. "What you see on these missions is amazing and makes you glad you are a part of helping someone."

Learning experience

Capt. Cheri Gavan, a KC-135R co-pilot from the 906th Air Refueling Squadron, did her first aeromedical evacuation mission in September 2003. She said it was quite a learning experience.

"It was a pretty hard mission," Captain Gavan said, "Since these types of tanker missions were still in the early stages, we were still working out a lot of things. Overall though, it was great to do these missions and go to all those different airfields we normally don't go to."

Gavan said because these are humanitarian missions instead of refueling missions, they provide aircrew members with a whole new perspective.

"On these missions, the results of what you have to do are more apparent and hit home a bit more," the captain said. "It can put everything into perspective when you bring someone home to their family or to someplace that is going to help them to get better."



Courtesy photo

A KC-135R Stratotanker is fitted with a specially-designed ramp to upload patients for an aeromedical evacuation mission.

KC-135 brakes changing to carbon

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah (AFP) -- Air Force KC-135 Stratotanker brake systems will go from metal to lighter, longer-lasting carbon now that service officials approved an initiative proposed here, that will save millions in tax payer dollars.

Dubbed the "largest improved item replacement program in Air Force history," the new commercial-rated brake system will not only last longer, but require less frequent maintenance, according to Capt. Adam Curtis. He is the project program manager who estimates that approximately 99

percent of the savings will come from parts.

The last Stratotanker was delivered in 1965, and the 581 aircraft in service are beginning to show their age, Curtis said.

The aircraft have also undergone modifications and retrofitting, expanding their fuel storage area and gross-weight liftoff abilities.

As a result, the current steel brakes are good for 100 sorties, making brake replacement an annual event.

The new brakes will be retrofitted at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., during program depot maintenance. All fleet aircraft will use the carbon brakes by

KC-135 news briefs

October 2009, Curtis said.

Each system costs \$13,150, which is \$2,000 less than the steel brakes, Curtis said. They will take 20 to 25 hours to install, and each Stratotanker has eight brake systems. Crews will replace 4,648 systems.

KC-135 adds communications relay capability

TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. (AFP) -- While mostly known as a "flying gas station," the KC-135 Stratotanker has served in many mission roles throughout its 45-plus years of service.

Soon, this workhorse will add communications relay station to its capability list.

With the installation of ROBE, or Roll-on Beyond Line of Sight Enhancement equipment, the Stratotanker will be able to relay critical data while conducting air refueling.

"One of the goals for Air Force transformation is the better integration of military assets," said Lt. Gen. John R. Baker, Air Mobility Command vice commander.

"The 'smart tanker concept,' which expands the air-refueling mission by including an additional role as a communications platform, is a perfect fit.

The ROBE system is roughly the size of the 2-foot-by-4-foot galley already in the tanker and is strapped to the floor of the aircraft like a pallet. It is the first in a family of terminals that will be used aboard tankers, officials said.

The terminals could also be used on unmanned and ground- or sea-based vehicles, they said. Grand Forks Air Force Base tankers and crews were used to test this new system and make it successful in October 2002.

Initially ROBE will connect battle directors in an air and space operations center with those en route to or in a theater of operations.

Pilot builds AE tanker guide

By Staff Sgt. Scott T. Sturkol
Public affairs

From August to October 2003, Maj. Eric Brumskill served as the director of operations for the 340th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron at an undisclosed deployed location.

While there the major, who is also the director of operations for the 912th Air Refueling Squadron here, helped develop a "how to" for KC-135R Stratotanker aeromedical evacuation, or AE, procedures. He has carried that development from there to this base and the rest of Air Mobility Command.

Major Brumskill, an experienced KC-135R and C-9 Nightingale pilot, said the work to develop the "how to" initiated with a tasking from the Combined Air Operations Center where he was deployed.

"Having C-9 experience, aeromedical evacuation experience, and having been the most knowledgeable tanker guy at the time, the CAOC came down with a mission for an emergency aeromedical evacuation," Major Brumskill said. "They said, 'Can we make this happen?' Well, unfortunately, that was the one day I was flying an air refueling mission so all of our folks did the best they could, but they didn't really know where to look. They didn't have an overall picture or concept and luckily, it got turned off."

From that cancelled mission, Major

Brumskill said they discussed what they could have done to make it work.

"The people associated with the tankers there came to me at that point, and I put together a working document for aeromedical evacuation procedures for the tanker from the deployed area of operations," the major said. "When I left in October, I left the then-established continuity for those people who replaced me."

Air Mobility Command officials, as well as officials currently deployed with the CAOC where all air operations for the area of responsibility are coordinated, say the KC-135 is not the leading choice for aeromedical evacuation operations from those areas. However, having a plan in place helps.

Maj. Rodolfo Savala, an aeromedical coordinator of intratheater airlift in the Air Mobility Directorate of the CAOC, said that while they have the capability to use the KC-135 as an AE tool in theater, it isn't being used as such.

Currently, Major Savala said the only KC-135 AE missions that would like be conducted in their AOR are strategic airlift missions, not intra-theater lift.

"As such, that is controlled by the Tanker Airlift Control Center at Scott (Air Force Base, Ill.), not us," Major Savala said. "But like I said, we do have the capability for these missions."

Brumskill said when he got back from

deployment, 319th Air Refueling Wing leaders wanted him to spearhead a similar project here.

"I actually went to AMC and met with the author of the KC-135 AE program -- Lt. Col. Denise Augustine - and we sat down and talked," Major Brumskill said. "What came out of it was not a training program, but an in-flight guide if you will. It has since evolved into something aircrews can use as a tool to do an AE mission."

Brumskill said there is one guide for each flying squadron on base, and each squadron hands that off to the crew who is tasked with an AE mission.

"Of course I have a master binder from which they are all based," Major Brumskill said. "There is one per flying squadron (4), plus the 319th Operations Support Squadron has one, and there is going to be one in base operations."

Major Brumskill said AMC has now benchmarked what he has done with his "in-flight guide."

"From what we could find, AMC previously had nothing like this," Major Brumskill said. "They had information out there. It was scattered information, which is why I chose to build this guide."

The major said a more generic form of the guide is being coordinated and will

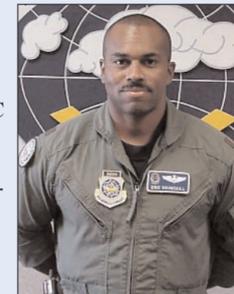


Photo by Senior Airman Lucy Solis

Maj. Eric Brumskill, a KC-135R Stratotanker pilot and former C-9 Nightingale pilot, was one of the main forces behind building a "in-flight" guide book for tanker aeromedical evacuation missions.

possibly be placed on an AMC Web page.

"I came back from deployment in October, and I made a working copy of the guide by the end of October," Major Brumskill said. "Every AE mission our wing has done for the last three months has had the book to use. I have gone on two trips myself with the book and the crew members who went with me found it very useful."

Capt. Cheri Gavan, a KC-135R co-pilot who has used the book on a recent AE mission, said having the guide has been a bonus.

"We don't have to reinvent the wheel now," she said. "It

saves on manhours and the preparation aspect of doing these missions. Just having the guide is huge for us. He did a great job in developing it."

Major Brumskill said he also sent information to deployed crews in two areas where Warriors of the North are currently deployed. He said it will serve as a basis for them to develop their own AE guidance for those areas.

"Since we deployed to Sites 50 and 14, I forwarded information and direction as far as how to set up a program in those areas," Brumskill said.

"Of course, Site 6, where I was last year, already has the information. I didn't build the books for them because each

Revenge twice as sweet for Warrior basketball squad

Compiled from staff reports

After knocking on the door against Jamestown Jan. 23, and being denied entry, the Warriors kicked the door down Feb. 1 against a flustered Jamestown squad as the Warriors posted their first victory over a college team this season, a 99-94 shocker to place them in the championship game.

"Despite the 5:30 travel time, the Warriors started off strong and finished strong," said coach D.J. Lemelle. "We were ready. We controlled the tempo the whole game."

The Warriors never trailed by more than four points and built an 11-point lead to hang on for the victory.

"We knew the key to slowing down Jamestown's offense was to shut down the perimeter," said Lemelle.

In the previous game Jamestown made 19 three-pointers. This game the Warriors held Jamestown at 12 three-pointers.

"This is still a large number to give up during a game however, we wanted them to use their big man more and they did that," said Lemelle.

The Warriors were led by Matt Wireman with a season high 38 points. George Fowlkes poured in 20 points and also played stellar defense against their three-point specialist, holding him to 15 points. Eric Williams chipped in 13 points, Soultz Dukes and Derrick Jones had eight points apiece. O.J. Oden added eight points and Bo Sebastian scored four points and caused

four turnovers, off the bench.

"Our bench play was awesome," said Lemelle. "Dukes, Jones and Fowlkes fouled out but we didn't lose a beat. Oden, Sebastain, and Brian Dokken stepped up to play positive minutes."

With some added confidence, the Warriors headed into the championship game.

Championship game

The championship game matched the Warriors against the University of Mary Marauders. The Marauders beat the Warriors 100-92 earlier in the year at Bismarck. Saturday, the Warriors studied the team for two hours on tape to be completely prepared for the match-up Sunday.

The first time the Warriors played the Marauders they were down by as many as 26 points. This game they went into halftime down by only five.

"We were disappointed because we controlled the first half but turnovers killed us," said Lemelle. "We regrouped and refocused at halftime and played a strong defensive game."

The Marauders were not going to go down without a fight and went on a mini-run and pushed the lead to nine points, their biggest of the game. The Warriors kept their composure and chipped away at the lead. With six minutes left in the game, the Warriors found themselves down by only two baskets.

At that point, coach Lemelle

switched to a full court press. It paid huge dividends as the Warriors went on 13-0 run.

"We were shaky in closing this game," said coach Lemelle. "However, we regrouped again to finish the game with a 77-73 win."

Making an impression

"The Grand Forks Air Force Base men's varsity basketball team has made a great showing this year," said James Powell, sports and fitness center director. "They recently completed play in the downtown league, finishing second only to a UND Alumni team."

The Warriors men's basketball team is not only making an impression on base, but around the state as well. Here's what some of their opponents coaches have to say:

"(The Warriors) are a well coached, classy group of young men," said Craig Irwin, director of athletics and head men's basketball coach, North Dakota State School of Science.

"They are not a typical amateur team; they are a credible opponent who runs sets and makes adjustments. I will definitely keep them (the Warriors) on my list to fill out future schedules," Irwin said.

"They are strong mature players, who give great effort," said Brad Huse, athletic director and head men's basketball coach, Jamestown College. "They gave our junior varsity a really good series and I hope it's something we can continue."



Photo by Airman Patrice Clarke

Sky's the liMit

Paul Dawkins, shows of his winning-dunking skills in the sports and fitness center dunking contest Feb. 3. Out of the three contestants, Dawkins took the top prize.

Sports

Sports and fitness center hours of operation are: Mondays through Thursdays, 5 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Fridays, 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. For details call 747-3384.

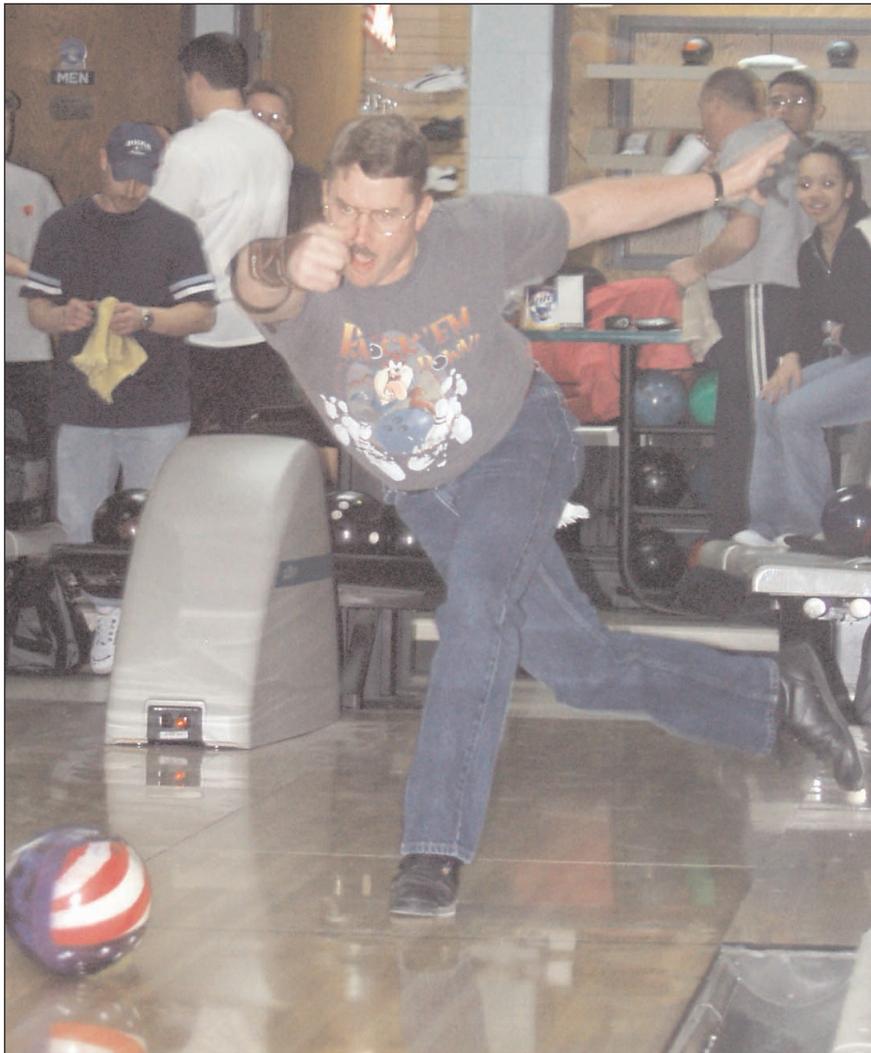


Photo by Airman Patrice Clarke

Striking out the competition

Daniel McCurry goes for a strike for the 319th Logistic Readiness Squadron during Intramural bowling Tuesday afternoon. Intramural bowling is held every Tuesday at the Dakota Lanes Bowling Center at 4:30 p.m.

To sign up, see your unit sports representative.

Intramural Bowling Standings

<u>Place</u>	<u>Team Name</u>
1	Comm A
2	Comm B
3	LRS A
4	LRS C
5	SVS
6	AMXS
7	Med Group A
8	LRS E
9	Comptroller
10	Med Group B
11	CES
12	LRS D
13	LRS B
14	MSS
15	MXS

Standings current as off Feb. 10

Old-Pro Basketball Standings

<u>Standing</u>	<u>Team</u>
8-2	SFS
7-3	OSS
4-4	MSS
3-5	AMXS
3-5	MDG
3-6	LRS
0-3	CS

Standings current as of Feb. 11.