

Point of Pride

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Davis wins award

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Graduation

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Wedge in

The weigh in is scheduled for the June UFA. Giveaway: the unit lost 2 individuals last year.

Induction Banquet

First Annual Chiefs Group Induction Banquet is scheduled for 7 May 97 at 6 pm. See any MAFB Chief for ticket. Mess Dress on Semi-formal attire (Military). Coat & Tie (Civilians)

Art competition

With the Air Force actively celebrating its 50th anniversary, Air Force Reserve Command is readying for its own anniversary celebration. The first step in the celebration plan calls for a contest to design a commemorative logo.

The only rule is that the logo design can be reproduced clearly in black and white. The anniversary committee will select the winner.

Entry address: HQ AFRC/PAB, 155 Second St., Robins, AFB, Ga. 31098-1635. Any questions about the contest can be referred to Brinkman at DSN 497-1762 or (800) 223-1784, ext. 1762.



Photo by Staff Sgt. David Brumley

44th comes on line

Lt. Col. Ellis Yoder receives command of the reactivated 44th air refueling squadron from 931st Air Refueling Group Commander Col. Vik Malling during the commander's call in April at the base theater. Chief Billy Meade, 931st ARG senior enlisted advisor, stands watch with the flag of the 44th, along with retired Lt. Col. Don Miller. Miller was an original member of the 44th before its deactivation in 1964.

It only HRDC (hurts) for a little while

By Maj. Thomas Foster
Chief, Safety

What is HRDC? It's the Human Resource Development Council and it was chartered as an advocacy agency to advise and make recommendations to the commander on matters pertaining to work force

diversity, career development, assignment and promotion opportunities, and other human resource issues. Our focus is providing training and opportunities for every reserve and civilian member aimed at maximizing

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**EO 2000
is everyone's
concern**

By Maj. Susan Lovus
Chief, Social Actions

To assure a stable environment and foster strong leadership at all levels throughout the Air Force, Secretary Sheila Widnall and Gen. Ronald Fogleman, Chief of Staff of the Air Force, have directed that all military and civilian personnel attend a four hour Equal Opportunity education program. Some of you have already attended this training, all who have not had it will be scheduled in the next few months.

This training is designed to support the Air Force mission by enhancing unit cohesion through reaffirming our commitment to equal opportunity. The training allows everyone to know their roles and responsibilities to ensure that episodes of discrimination and sexual harassment do not go unchallenged.

The time invested in this training will better equip us to maintain a quality, combat-ready force to carry out the Air Force mission. It's all about people - people wanting to be treated fairly and

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Major command recognition a point of pride

By Col. Vik Malling
Commander

As you probably know, Air Force Reserve Command was activated during the 1997 Reserve Officers Association Mid-Winter Conference and Military Exposition in February.

Maj. Gen. Robert A. McIntosh is the AFRC commander. According to him, there will be little change in how the Reserve works within the Air Force, since it has functioned as a major command for many years. He recently said that in recent exercises and deployments, telling the reservists from active duty personnel was hard to do.

"That is why we wear our gaining command patches," he said. "The seamless daily operation enjoyed today serves us well."

The revision came about to recognize the realities of reserve component partnership in the Total Force and to better prepare the ... airman ... in time of peace and duties in war.

Previously, the Reserve was a field operating agency. AFRC headquarters is at Robbins Air Force Base, Ga.

The standup of the Air Force Reserve as an Air Force major command came as a result of revisions in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1997. The revision came about to recognize the realities of reserve component partnership in the Total Force and to better prepare the American citizen-soldier, sailor, airman and Marine in time of peace for duties in war. This revision is in line with the 931st's



Col. Vik Malling

mission statement, "to provide mission ready reservists to fly, maintain, and support Global Reach for America."

The recognition of the reserve component as a major command is something we can all take pride in.

Protect yourself from ultra-violet radiation

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) — Research has shown that ultraviolet radiation, or UV, is potentially damaging to your eyes. UV can have short and long-term effects on your eyes and vision.

Unprotected exposure to excessive amounts of UV over a short period of time can cause photokeratitis, a sunburn of the eye. While this can be a very painful experience, it is usually temporary and rarely causes permanent damage to the eyes.

Long-term exposure to UV radiation can be more serious. Research has shown that small amounts of UV exposure over your lifetime may increase your chances of developing a cataract or cause retinal damage. This damage is not reversible. Researchers can not say exactly how much is too much. The best advice is to protect your eyes with quality sunglasses that block UV, and a hat or cap with a wide brim when outdoors in the sun.

May highlights physical fitness, sports

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) — In celebration of May as National Physical Fitness Month, each Air Force installation will host a variety of programs encouraging fitness and healthy lifestyle choices.

Last year's program had more than 50,000 participants.

"Physical Fitness Month is targeted at getting more Air Force people to make fitness a part of their lifestyle," said Maj. Carl Zimmerman, chief of Air Force Fitness and Sports. "This year we (Air Force Services) have broadened the program's scope to include youth programs and fitness events. We hope to increase participation with this

larger program and an aggressive publicity campaign."

Nearly half of Americans ages 12 to 21 are not vigorously active on a regular basis, according to the Surgeon General's Report on Physical Activity and Health. More than 60 percent of U.S. adults do not engage in the recommended amount of physical activity, while nearly 25 percent are not active at all.

Air Force fitness centers are teaming up with youth centers to provide a variety of fitness and sports activities, such as 5-kilometer family fun runs/walks, basewide sports days, 10-mile hikes, bike rides tournaments and more.

Kanza Spirit
Volume 2, No. 3

Monday, May 26, is the deadline for articles in the June 1997 issue of the **Kanza Spirit**. All articles and photographs must be turned in to the 931st Public Affairs office, Bldg. 1218, Room 221 by 4 p.m.

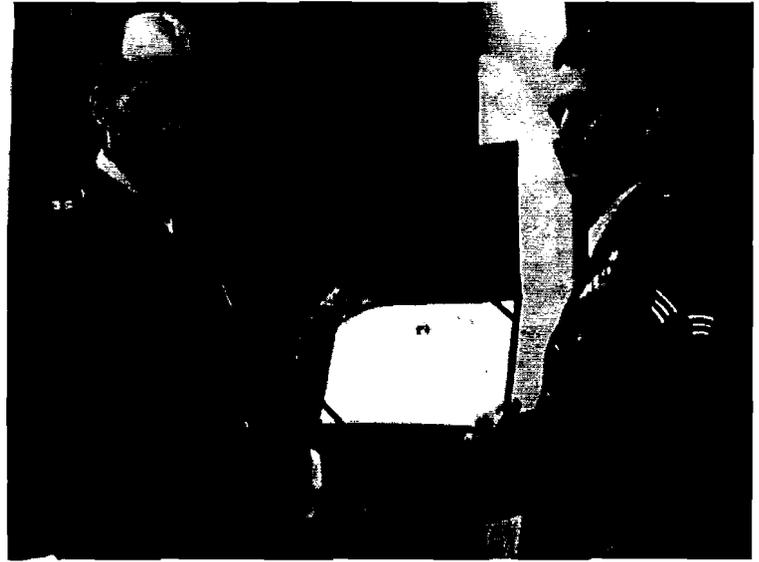
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Education is the key



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Brian Bowman

In the left photo, Staff Sgt. Mark Jacobs receives his bachelor's degree from Mr. Kent Rowe, faculty member of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. At right,

Senior Airman Shaun Hoobler receives his associate's degree from 22nd Air Refueling Wing Commander Col. Lawrence Stevenson.

Members of 931st receive degrees at McConnell commencement

By Tech. Sgt. Brian Bowman
931st Public Affairs

It's no secret that education is the key to advancement in many career fields, including military careers.

Nearly 100 airmen—including two members of the 931st—moved ahead in the pursuit of their career goals Monday at the McConnell Air Force Base spring graduation ceremony.

Associates, Bachelors and Masters degrees were awarded from five institutes of higher learning available at McConnell. Students took classes from the Community College of the Air Force, Butler County Community College, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Webster University and Kansas Newman College.

Col. Lawrence H. Stevenson, 22nd Air Refueling Wing Commander, summed up the importance of higher education in Air Force careers in his address.

"Eighty-nine percent of chief master sergeants have an associates degree or better," Stevenson said. "More than three-fourths of the majors selected have a master's degree or better.

"Each graduate ... will reap the rewards," added Stevenson, who himself has a master's degree. "There is no doubt in my mind about that."

Senior Airman Shaun Hoobler of the 931st Civil Engineering Squadron earned an associate's degree in

Mechanical and Electrical Technology from Community College of the Air Force.

"I'm happy to get this part done," Hoobler said. "Right now, I'm going to (Kansas University). I'm trying to get my bachelor's in electrical engineering."

Hoobler said he did much of his coursework while on active duty at Barksdale AFB, La. He left active duty and joined the 931st in October.

"(Hoobler is) just starting that transition from doer-manager to manager-doer," said Capt. Kimberly Thompson, Hoobler's commander. "Civilian education is one important side of that development."

Staff Sgt. Mark Jacobs, of the 931st Aircraft Generation Squadron, earned his bachelor's degree in Professional Aeronautics from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. "I've been working on (the degree) for a long time," Jacobs said. "Each semester, I would take a few hours ... I kept at it"

Jacobs said he had been working on his bachelor's degree since joining the Air Force in 1988.

"I emphasize human resource development," said Col. Vik Malling, commander of the 931st. "Education improves performance. It makes the unit member not only better at their civilian job, but here as well. They bring better ideas and that improves the quality of the 931st."

"Each graduate will reap the rewards. There is no doubt in my mind about that."

--Col. Lawrence H. Stevenson



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Brian Bowman

Davis is top grad

Senior Airman Barbara Davis, right, stands for inspection this week at Airman Leadership School at McConnell. Davis graduated Friday and earned The John L. Levitow Award. The Levitow Award is the highest award earned in professional military education and is presented to the top student based on outstanding performance in every aspect of the curriculum. Davis is a public affairs specialist for the 931st ARG.

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their potential and promoting their career aspirations. We are authorized by the commander to review the human resource aspects of the entire group and make recommendations for improvement, wherever possible or needed.

The council meets as required but not less than quarterly and is composed of key personnel and members from different cultural groups, gender groups, work force segments and

categories. There are representatives for the wing commander, junior officers, unit-level senior and junior NCO's and non-ART civilians. The following is a list of council members:

If you have any questions concerning the activities of the HRD council or any agenda items you think are appropriate for their action, please contact any council member at your convenience. It is your responsibility to tell us what you think and to give us ideas for improvement. It is our responsibility to act on your concerns.

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equitably in an environment free from personal, social, or institutional barriers that prevent them from rising to the highest level possible of responsibility.

As a result of classes that have already been held, issues have arisen that need to be addressed. During the EO 2000 class, individuals of diverse backgrounds are asked to come together and discuss a subject most of us only talk about in our own private groups. In order for participants to feel comfortable discussing the issues of sexual harassment and discrimination it is important that everyone feels comfortable asking questions that may be of concern to them. To facilitate this, it is essential that a climate of nonattribution be maintained.

Related to nonattribution is academic freedom which allows the privilege of debate with discretion on any subject related to the curricula within the classroom setting. The training environment of the EO 2000 class must provide an atmosphere where ideas can be exchanged freely, frankly and in a civil manner without fear of reprisal.

Every human relations incident detracts from our ability as service members to do our jobs to the best of our ability. When you are confronted with such a situation, whether you're the victim, the offender, supervisor, co-worker, or commander, you have a role. We have a responsibility to be part of the solution.

For example, two individuals in an office regularly speak in Spanish to each other, another person in the office does not speak Spanish and feels very excluded when they are speaking to each other in a language he/she does not understand. The individual mentions this to the Spanish speaking co-workers and they say they understand and will refrain from doing this in the office. If this solves the problem, there is no need to elevate it to a higher level.

Our ability to accomplish the mission assigned to us and work together will be facilitated by solving our human relations problems at the lowest level possible.

REFER A FRIEND !!

There are positions available within the 931st ARG. Help your unit recruit by providing them a name of a friend or have them contact one of their area recruiters listed below:

MCCONNELL AFB, KS
MSgt Torry Gosh (316) 652-4350
MSgt Lester Shaw, Jr. (316) 652-3766

TINKER & VANCE AFB, OK
MSgt Al Garza (405) 734-5331
ALTUS AFB, OK & Lawton, OK
MSgt Larry Giles (405) 357-2784
SNEPPARD AFB, TX
MSgt Bob Wright (817) 676-3382

MIDWEST CITY, OK
MSgt Linda Smith
TSgt Erick Gilck
(405) 733-9403

Personnel News You Can Use

Military Personnel Flight Hours

The core hours of operation for the Military Personnel Flight are as follows:

Monday - Friday	0730-1600
Saturday - UTA	1000-1600
Sunday - UTA	1000-1600

Record of Emergency Data (DD Form 93)

This is the single most important source of information within your personnel record for dependent data and notification of next-of-kin in an emergency. If data is incomplete or incorrect, the Air Force cannot extend dependent benefits, and proper and timely notification cannot be made in the event you become injured, seriously ill or die while on duty. You are the only one who can keep this document current. Remember there is no such thing as a minor error on this form. Check the form in your mobility folder. If any information is in error or out of date, come by the MPF Customer Service to update the information. Data accuracy is critical. You may be one of the lucky ones who escape injury or illness, but can you afford the alternative?

Servicemembers Group Life Insurance (SGLI)

Currently, all service members are afforded the opportunity to elect up to \$200,000 coverage under the SGLI. If you are unsure of the coverage you have elected or the beneficiary you have chosen, please contact Customer Service at ext 3593.

Outprocessing

All personnel scheduled to do any of the following items must outprocess through Personnel Relocations:

- TDY for 30 or more days
- Retirement
- Separation
- Assignment
- TDY School Tour

Contact Msgt Melvin at ext 3637 for info.

PEP PROMOTIONS

Next PEP promotion is effective 1 Oct 97.
The following schedule will be adhered to:

<u>Eligibility cut off</u>	30 Jul 97
<u>Packages to DPMPE</u>	11 Jul 97
<u>Board Date</u>	Aug UTA
<u>4th AF Board Date</u>	6 Sep 97

Speaking of Promotions, how does your education level and PME completion compare with your peers? The Training office can help you get to the next higher level. Stop by and see them in Bldg 1218 or call ext 3673.

Family Care Plan

The Family care program will be implemented on all members who are single parents, dual military couples, and members with civilian spouses who have unique family situations. A Family member is an unmarried child under the age of 19, an unmarried child 19 years of age or older incapable of self care; a parent or another person related by blood or marriage who depends on the member for over half of their support and resides in the household. Family Care is a Commander Program. If you have any questions, please contact your commander or First Sergeant.

Going to a Military Formal School?

All members attending formal military schools away from home station must outprocess through the MPF before departing; and must inprocess upon return. This includes ART's attending in-resident PME in civilian status. If you have any questions, please contact Msgt Melvin at ext 3637. Remember all personnel must meet weight standards prior to departure.

931st Annual Weigh-In

The weigh-in for 931st personnel will be on 7 Jun 97. A reminder for all weight management monitors, all scales need to be taken to PMEL for calibration before the Jun weigh-in.

DID YOU KNOW.....

All personnel will be weighed and if appropriate measured before the following actions: promotions, reenlistment, reassignment actions, all TDYs, school tours. Personnel attending PME courses will be **weighed and measured** not later than 10 days before departure for the course.

931st Airman/NCO of the Quarter

The Airman/NCO of the Quarter board will convene on Saturday, 19 Jul 97 at 1400, in the Group conference room. Below is the scheduled dates.

<u>Nomination Quarter</u>	<u>Due to DPMPE</u>	<u>Board Date at 1400</u>
Apr-Jun	Jun UTA	Jul UTA
Jul-Sep	Sep UTA	Oct UTA
Oct-Dec	Dec UTA	Jan UTA

Military Courses Offered

The 931st has received 3 guaranteed slots in the FY98 Airman Leadership School. For those interested in attending this excellent course, we will publish a schedule as soon as it's available.

The summer session of the Reserve Component National Security Course is being offered to Lt Col (SEL) and above. The course will be held in Washington DC 14-25 Jul 97. Eligible members have been notified and must have their AF Form 101 submitted to 931 MSF/DPMAT NLT 28 May 97.

The AFRC Professional Development Center announces class 98A of the Junior Officer Leadership Development Seminar-II (JOLDS-II). The two-phase class with a home/unit study portion covers approximately a 7 month period. The Phase I session will be held 23-26 Oct 97 at Kelly AFB TX and conclude with a 4 day Phase 2 session in Mar -Apr 98 (dates and location

TBD) First and Second Lieutenants and Captains are eligible to attend.

Reserve members can take the AF Officers Qualification Test (AFOOT) and the AF Classification Test (AFCT) through the active duty testing proctor right here at McConnell?? Those interested should contact their unit training manager or base training for details. CLEP and DANTES exams are also available at the education center. 931st DPMAT has a complete list of the exams that are offered – stop by and pick one up. They are free and can save students both time and money in the pursuit of their degree!!

For more information on any of these courses, please contact MSgt Pam Summers in DPMAT at ext. 3587.

NEW AREA CODE FOR KANSAS

A new area code, 785, will be assigned to the area which extends west to the Colorado state line in the north half of the state. The Kansas City area will retain the current 913 area code. The 316 area code is not affected at this time. This change is effective 20 Jul 97.

