

THUNDERBOLT

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AIRMEN



MISSION



COMMUNITY



TEAMMATES

927th ARW medics train to save lives - page 10



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jennie Chamberlin

Reservists from the 927th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, acting as injured patients, fall in line while off-loading from a C-17 Globemaster III during a recent medical exercise at MacDill Air Force Base. The 927th ASTS participated in a training exercise that prepares its members for the quick and efficient transfer of patients from their in-flight caretakers to a ground medical crew.

Critical Days of Summer, week 11: Basketball safety - page 8

COMMANDER'S CORNER



Coaching Air Force values

by Col. Larry Shaw

927th Operations Group commander

My wife, Kris, and I are blessed to be entering a new chapter of our lives here at MacDill Air Force Base. It's been 14 years since I have been stationed on an active duty base - we forgot how nice it was to have so many resources at our fingertips. I would like to thank Col. Douglas Schwartz, Col. Scott DeThomas and the men and women of Team MacDill for making our move such a smooth transition.

As a reservist for 14-plus years, I've been fortunate to have the opportunity to coach baseball at the high school level. One of my roles as an assistant coach was to instill values that I thought were important into the boys. Since I had the ear of 25 high school kids, I took this role seriously.

It was crucial that I addressed the team early in the season, this way we as coaches

could reemphasize our team values throughout the season. It was simple; I used what I have learned from the Air Force and related it to baseball. I spoke about knowing and playing their position, making errors, taking care of one another and how to act on and off the field. As you read this, see if it relates to your Air Force career.

Knowing their playing position is one of the most important parts of the game, I stressed. I'm not just talking about how to play it, but to understand it and take pride in doing it well. In order to better themselves, I challenged them to read, ask questions and work hard. I told them not to worry about what other players were doing, that was for the coaches to worry about.

Don't misunderstand me - I'm not saying not to play well with others; working well together makes a team successful. If there is a 6-4-3



See CORNER, Page 14 Col. Larry Shaw

6th Air Mobility Wing shout-outs

◆ Master Sgt. Vanessa Maxfield, 927th Mission Support Group command support staffer who has not faltered in her position as a senior NCO. Maxfield has stepped up to the challenge of leadership and successfully managed or collaborated on numerous 927 Air Refueling Wing projects. Her strong spirit, character, and dedication radiate Esprit de Corps throughout the wing.

◆ MacDill Air Force Base's Honor Guard leadership would like to

give a shout-out to Senior Airman Landon Brauner. He has performed more than 118 Honor Guard details and has led on 80 funeral honors and color postings. He has logged more than 750 hours on the road performing details from Ocala to the Florida Keys, all in less than five months. During this time, Brauner also found time to develop and train 20 aircrew personnel on the proper handling and movement of fallen warriors while in transit. Job well done, Brauner.



COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE

The Action Line provides two-way communication between the 6th Air Mobility Wing commander and the MacDill community. A 24-hour recording service is provided so personnel may submit questions, concerns or comments. Call the Action Line at 828-INFO (4636) or email macdillwingcommander@us.af.mil.

Commander's vision

To view Col. Scott DeThomas' remarks on his vision for MacDill AFB, go to www.macdill.af.mil and then click on "Col. DeThomas' priorities, mission, and expectations video" in the upper left corner.

MacDill Thunderbolt

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News items for the MacDill Thunderbolt can be submitted to the 6th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs office, 8208 Hangar Loop Dr., suite 14, MacDill AFB, FL 33621, or call the MacDill Thunderbolt staff at 828-2215. Email: thunder.bolt@us.af.mil.

Deadline for article submissions is noon, Wednesdays to appear in the next week's publication. Articles received after deadline may be considered for future use. All submissions are considered for publication based on news value and timeliness.

Every article and photograph is edited for accuracy, clarity, brevity, conformance with the "Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual" and Air Force Instruction 35-101.



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927th medics train to save lives



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Events, Chapel, more...



Settlement of estate

Lt. Col. Jay A. Vietas, commander of the 6th Medical Support Squadron, regrets to announce the death of Senior Airman Douglas Caldas, formerly assigned to 6th Air Base Wing/6th Medical Group/6th Medical Support Squadron/Diagnostic Imaging Flight. Lt. Col. Mark W. Sankey, 6th Medical Support Squadron, has been appointed as the summary court officer to handle the disposition of the personal property of Caldas. Anyone indebted to or having a claim against the estate of Caldas should contact Lt. Col. Mark Sankey at 813-827-9630 or DSN 968-9630.

Leadership Tampa Bay strengthens community bonds while touring MacDill



Photo by Maj. Christine Stanaback

Forty-four members of Leadership Tampa Bay received a tour here of a KC-135R Stratotanker from aircrew of the 63rd Air Refueling Squadron on June 6. The squadron's mission is to fly aerial refueling missions as the reserve associate to the 6th Air Mobility Wing.

by Maj. Christine Stanaback
927th Air Refueling Wing

The 927th Air Refueling Wing hosted 44 members of Leadership Tampa Bay on MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. June 6, 2013.

Leadership Tampa Bay is an organization dedicated to educating and growing ambassadors through a year-long exposure to Tampa's education, arts, transportation, tourism and government sectors. Members of LTB represent Busch Gardens, Tampa Electric, the Tampa Bay Aquarium, Tampa Bay Tribune and dozens of other organizations.

The 4th annual LTB tour of the base focused on reservists of the 927th Air Refueling Wing and also covered other missions of MacDill. The tour fostered an environment of networking, education, and a better understanding of Tampa Bay's citizen Airmen.

MacDill's population includes active duty, reservists, civilians and contractors which constitutes a large part of the surrounding community and contributes \$3.5 billion annually to Tampa businesses.

Col. Douglas Schwartz, 927th ARW commander, welcomed the LTB members at the

Davis Conference Center. During his presentation, he emphasized the role citizen Airmen play in the Tampa Bay area.

"The Airmen of the 927th are bankers, fireman, and teachers in the community, that when called to serve, will put down the tools of their primary trade to answer their nation's call at a moment's notice," Schwartz said.

Many reservists have a civilian and a military job.

"Tours like this give civilian employers and leaders the opportunity to see the requirements placed on the reserve force to better prepare their own companies when a member of their team is called to duty," Schwartz said.

He also emphasized a need for continued participation in the reserve force, promoting the availability of scholarships for people who would like to build two careers while serving their community and nation.

Schwartz concluded his presentation by thanking Leadership Tampa Bay for their continued partnership with the 927th ARW.

"As an ambassador and steward of our Tampa Bay community, having a working knowledge of the missions at MacDill gives us



‘There I was...’

and there I went, thinking, ‘am I ready?’

by Master Sgt. Donald Mills

6th Contracting Squadron contracting officer

I was sitting at my desk cranking away on my day’s work when I was notified that I had been selected for the next deployment. This particular notification marked the eighth deployment I had been selected for in my career, a by-product of 1-to-1 deployment dwells coupled with an insufficient number of eligible deployers.

As such I certainly was no stranger to the process of preparing for deployment. I knew I had to get a power of attorney and the usual information, such as a recall roster and bill information to my wife, but I couldn’t help but let my head fill with what seemed to be an endless to-do list associated with organizing for a six-month absence from work and my family. Fortunately, my awesome deployment managers kept me focused, ahead of the game and prepared for push-off to the other side of the world.

My deployment took me to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, more specifically Eskan Village, and I must tell you it was amazing. It was like no other deployment I had ever encountered before. The living conditions were better than the myriad of deployments I had encountered to Iraq or Afghanistan and the job was different than typical set-ups in those deployed locations.

Daily duties involved obtaining supplies and negotiating construction contracts in support of the Security Forces Squadron, who in turn safeguarded the military training mission for the Saudi military. My 14 to 16 hour days often took me into the heart of Riyadh, the closest city where I could meet with contractors to negotiate requirements. I would purchase supplies needed back on the installation, which included everything from plumbing and Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning parts for Civil Engineering, to obtaining morale Wi-Fi services to augment the Communication Squadron’s already stellar morale network.

Things seemed to be going smoothly – too smoothly and news from back home was about to change all that.



Courtesy photo

Master Sgt. Donald Mills sits at his workstation. He says his deployment to Saudi Arabia was like no other he’s experienced.

My wife is no stranger to deployments either, as she has been with me through thick and thin for each one and considers them just as much her deployments as mine. After all, when I leave I have myself and my troops to look after, but the responsibilities I leave behind just don’t go away.

Around the halfway point in this deployment I get news from back home that truly tested the limits of my wife’s stress level. The waste water pipe had broken outside of the house, there were minor flooding issues and the washing machine went on the fritz. At this point I felt guilty; I was powerless to help and a sense of frustration and empathy fell over me. After I collected my thoughts I told my wife to grab the recall roster I left for her and to contact the squadron. She reached out and I am thankful they were there for us to help lessen the blow.

We as deployers often forget the trials and tribulations our loved ones face with our departures. Between her demanding responsi-

bilities as a full-time nurse for the Brandon Clinic and “super mom” to our two wonderful children, she maintained a hectic schedule of gymnastics, karate practices and multi-city tournaments along with maintaining the house, automobile maintenance, and the list could go on. She had very little time for herself yet still managed to find time daily to communicate with me about all that was going on in my family’s life.

If you remember nothing else from this story, please take away the importance of being prepared, whether it’s prior to deployment or during the deployment. Does the one you leave behind know how to reach out and contact your squadron? What if the unthinkable happens? Are your affairs in order? Are you prepared?

I enjoyed this deployment immensely, but I relish in the fact that I took the necessary steps to prepare beforehand so that crises during deployments became mole hills instead of mountains.

6x10 RYLAND HOMES

NEWS/FEATURES



Two hats one man

by Senior Airman Melissa Paradise
6th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

During the week, Robert Foster is the battalion commander for the City of Atlanta Fire Rescue Department, but for one weekend out of each month for the last 20 years, he dons a different kind of uniform and provides life-saving medical care as an Air Force Reserves chief master sergeant and 927th Aeromedical Staging Squadron superintendent.

“My primary role [as the 927th ASTS superintendent] is to lead and manage approximately 150 medical personnel ranging from emergency medical technicians to surgeons,” said Foster. “However as the battalion commander, my primary responsibility is emergency scene management which includes acting as the on-scene commander for calls such as motor vehicle crashes, high-rise rescues, medical emergencies and structure fires.”

The two careers, although different, go hand-in-hand with each other. Both are high intensity, high stress jobs that deal with saving lives. Firefighting deals with an immediate emergency and being a medic deals with an emergency and long-term medical care afterwards.

For Foster, having both careers has helped him remain calm in situations that could easily overwhelm most individuals.

“My dual careers have enabled me to view a crisis from a variety of directions,” explained



Photo illustration by Senior Airman Melissa Paradise

Chief Master Sgt. Robert Foster, 927th Aeromedical Staging Squadron superintendent, also works as a batalion comander for the Atlanta Fire Rescue Department.

Foster. “This has allowed me to determine the best solution for a situation, which in turn provides the best possible outcome.”

In 1999, Foster was assigned to a paramedic special operations unit in Atlanta which re-

See **TWO HATS, Page 8**

BRIEFS

Help Celebrate Heritage

Join us at the 66th Annual Air Force Ball Sept. 21 at the Hilton Tampa Downtown from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. There will be a social hour, live band and a guest speaker. For more information, visit the website www.tampairforceball.com.

MacDill CAP open house

The MacDill Aviation Cadet Squadron is hosting an open house from noon to 4 p.m. at their new facility, Building 38 next to the base pool, Aug. 10. The MacDill community is welcome to attend and learn more about Civil Air Patrol programs. Membership in the Cadet Squadron is open to teens 12 to 18. Adults may join as senior member volunteers, pilots and mission staff. For more information contact Lt. Joe Mora at 954-604-0704 or email jamora@flwg.us.


Tinker summer closing

Tinker Elementary School is now open.

Hours of registration are Monday through Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. until Aug. 9. Monday-Friday operations will resume Aug. 12.

5X10 ROTC

NATIONAL



Critical Days of Summer
May 24 to Sept. 3

Play basketball safely

Wearing the right protective gear can minimize the chances of being injured during basketball play.

Shoes: Properly laced, non-skid, sturdy shoes court shoes that fit properly.

Ankle braces: Recommended for players with a history of ankle or foot injuries.

Knee brace: Recommended for players with a history of knee injuries.

Mouth Guard: Recommended for people who treasure their teeth.

Knee/Elbow Pads: Recommended

Common Injuries	How to Avoid Hazards:
◆ Ankle & knee sprains	◆ Be fit to start with
◆ Wrist/elbow sprain	◆ Get plenty of rest & eat right
◆ Jammed fingers	◆ Wear PPE
◆ Bruises	◆ Wear proper court shoes
◆ Cuts/abrasions	◆ Maintain a clean play area
◆ Loss of teeth	◆ Warm up/cool down
◆ Fractured bones	◆ Follow the rules of the game
◆ Head concussion	◆ If you're in pain, tired, or stressed...STOP
◆ Eye/forehead injuries	

PURCHASES

From Page 12

sponded to an incident in a high-rise involving an active shooter. His role was to ensure the crew's safety, triage multiple gunshot victims and facilitate the immediate evacuation of critically injured patients while the shooter was still on scene.

"Because of the extensive medical training that I have received in both the military and civilian positions, I find that I have an expanded view of handling emergency situations," said Foster.

With the balance between Foster's two careers and the support of his family, he has had the opportunity to do many great things in his life. After serving 21 years as a firefighter, seven years on active duty, 20 years as a reservist and two years as an Army National Guard helicopter medic Foster now uses all of his skills to help expand the knowledge of others.

"I am very fortunate to have had an opportunity to do all I have done," said Foster. "I plan to continue passing on my knowledge to both the other firefighters and the Airmen."

6X10 NAVY

927th medical teams train in simulated event to save lives

by **Staff Sgt. Jennie Chamberlin**
927th Air Refueling Wing

With a gaping wound on her side, Senior Airman Vanessa Villanueva, 927th Aeromedical Staging Squadron medical material apprentice, smiled as she lay cheerfully on her litter.

“I’m Justin Beiber. I fell off the stage,” she said.

Luckily, the wound wasn’t serious -it was only plastic. Villanueva participated as a simulated patient during a medical training exercise June 3 at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.

As a member of the 927 ASTS, Villanueva and her fellow reservists spent four days preparing themselves for the kind of medical emergencies that they might face on a military deployment. This includes caring for and preparing to transport patients in various states of injury from one airfield to another.

Today’s tasks involved moving a number of patients from a grassy field in sunny Florida to the wide open bay of a C-17 aircraft. Teams of reservists carried real live people acting as patients, like Villanueva, or sometimes medical dummies, and transported other ambulatory patients onto the plane in a matter of minutes.

This is no easy task.

The process has to be extremely organized, said 1st Lt. Elizabeth Kruszewski, 927th ASTS clinical nurse.

With a window of only 30 minutes, over 30 patients and medical personnel have to be loaded and ready to go. Litters have to be hoisted on racks and secured, and patients who are mobile have to be assisted and strapped in. Patient medical records have to be transferred from the ground medical care team to the transporting team, and speed and organization mean everything. After all, lives are at stake and patients are waiting.

As the plane taxis and takes off, activity among medical personnel pauses for a moment. As soon as they reach cruising altitude, the frenzy begins again. People jump from their seats to care for the injured, taking their vital signs and securing their comfort. Flights present unique medical challenges which medical personnel like to prepare for.

Members of the 45th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron train for these particular challenges.

See **MEDICAL**, Page 12



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jennie Chamberlin

Reservists from the 927th Aeromedical Staging Squadron carry a litter with an “injured Airman” to the ramp of a waiting C-17 Globemaster during a recent medical exercise at MacDill Air Force Base. The 927th ASTS participated in a training exercise that prepares its members for the quick and efficient transfer of patients from their in-flight caretakers to a ground medical crew.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jennie Chamberlin

Technical Sgt. Maria Ayala, 45th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, comforts a distraught patient, Maj. Alvin Bradford, 927th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, during a recent medical exercise at MacDill Air Force Base. The exercise was designed to help members of the Air Force Reserve units enhance the skills necessary for caring for patients during a medical evacuation.

MacDill hosts tactical combat care course; prepares medics for war

by Tech. Sgt. Shawn Rhodes
927th Air Refueling Wing

Pamela Ward is used to making life-and-death decisions.

As a Hillsborough County Fire and Rescue Department rescue lieutenant, she is responsible for directing the medical personnel at the scene of an injury. She never anticipated having to make life and death decisions under fire.

Yet, that is exactly what she did as part of the three-day Tactical Combat Casualty Care Course, hosted here June 5-7. As a reservist with the 927th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, she learned to transfer her experience and knowledge from the streets of Tampa to the streets of any combat zone around the world.

Ward's military duties as a second lieutenant could call on her to handle wounded troops on the front lines.

"Any emergency scene is intense, but this course shows me just how intense doing this job in combat can be," said Ward.

For many years, Airmen didn't expect to be close to the front lines of a combat zone. Times, they are a changin'.

"This course makes students aware of a changing Air Force mission," said James Norbeck, 6th Medical Group medical training manager, the active-duty medical unit at MacDill Air Force Base. "Today, Airmen are on convoys, pulling perimeter security. These are things they didn't do before. All these folks have a solid medical background, but very little tactical background. This course changes that."

To keep up with the changing role of Airmen in combat, the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians designed and sponsored the T-CCC course for military members to practice their medical skills in a combat environment.

"The three-day course is divided by classroom lectures and skill stations where students learn the application of their medical expertise in a controlled environment," said Rene Suarez, T-CCC coordinator. "Next, students take the skill stations into mini-scenarios, requiring them to move tactically as a unit. The third day, they put their skills to the test in combat-scenarios."

These scenarios are complete with aggressors firing paintballs, mock-improvised explosive devices, and dummies that actually twitch



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Shawn Rhodes

Emergency medical response Airmen in the active duty and reserve Air Force and Air National Guard post security while they administer emergency care to a teammate simulating a combat wound. The Airmen participated in the three-day Tactical Combat Casualty Care Course in order to match their emergency medical care job fields with tactical training, allowing them to complete their mission in combat environments.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Shawn Rhodes

Staff Sgt. Mark Butanis, 6th Aero-medical Medical Squadron independent duty medical technician, works to stabilize a dummy patient during the three-day Tactical Combat Casualty Care Course here. The course taught Airmen from active duty, reserve and Air National Guard elements the basics of emergency medical care in a tactical situation.

6th Contracting Squadron guide to FY13 purchases

Courtesy of the 6th Contracting Squadron

As we finish another month in 2013 it is important to remember that our fiscal year started Oct. 1, 2012.

It is crucial to plan for upcoming requirements and coordinate those requirements through the 6th Contracting Squadron as early as possible. Our mission is to purchase contracting requirements for the 6th AMW, 927 ARW and our mission partners as needed to

accomplish their mission. Contracting works for you and we will do our best to acquire the items you request. However, by law there are certain regulations that contracting officers must abide by when making purchases. Therefore sole source and brand name justifications should only be used on a very limited basis. Please keep that in mind when prioritizing requirements for fiscal year 2013.

GPC holders can make purchases up to

\$3,000 for commodities, \$2,500 for services and \$2,000 for construction projects. Certain circumstances will allow for up to a \$25,000 purchase, please discuss this potential option with the GPC program coordinator. To allow 6 CONS to process your contracting requirement in a timely manner, please start planning your requirements now and avoid the mad scramble from July through September.

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MEDICAL

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Typically a team of five people consisting of two nurses and three aeromedical evacuation technicians care for a plane-load of patients, occasionally augmented by additional medical personnel. They are the crew members responsible for caring for people in flight, and it can be a busy job.

In flight, a patient has a seizure and has to be transferred to a litter. Another patient bursts into loud sobs, and is promptly attended to and comforted. Not only do the members of the 45th AES have to be prepared to deal with medical emergencies, but they are prepared to deal with in-flight emergencies as well.

“If there’s a rapid decompression in the cabin or a fire in flight, we have to prepare for that,” said Senior Master Sgt. Sonya Smith, 927th AES, superintendent of nursing services. “We train to make sure we

have the steps to take care of patients. We do this training to make sure we’re ready to deploy,” she said.

The exercise allows members of the 927th ASTS and the 45th AES put all their training into action, and that makes a big difference, said Senior Airman Jason Abbey, 927th ASTS biomedical equipment apprentice. “You can talk about it in classrooms and hear all the training briefings, but being out in the field and seeing all the training come together live really opens up your eyes.”

Kruszewski said she was amazed by the teamwork and efficiency of the two squadrons.

“It’s really impressive to watching people come together to keep the patients safe,” said Kruszewski. “I’ve never seen the process before, and it’s an amazing amount of training to fit into a short weekend.”

COMBAT

From Page 11

and squirt red liquid onto the ground.

“When I’m on the job in Tampa, I often have the most experience of any emergency responders on scene,” Ward said. “Here, I’m surrounded by enlisted troops who have a lot more experience than me. I have to rely on their expertise

tactically and medically to get our mission done.”

Ward and her team made their way through the three stations the T-CCC set up for them. One station replicated a room clearing gone wrong, where injured coalition troops and enemy combatants were both inside dimly-lit rooms filled with strobe lights and artificial smoke.

The next station simulated the aftermath of a convoy ambush, complete with wounded troops the team had to remove and treat, all while returning fire against paintball-wielding aggressors.

Team members were required to render aid to multiple patients in a rocky, mountainous environment at the last station. Once the team stabilized the patients, they had to remove them to a landing zone for an air evacuation.

“I understand you have to train as hard as you can to be successful, especially in this type of a situation,” said Ward. “We can’t avoid training as realistically as possible and expect to be successful and save lives. These intense scenarios pull us together as a team so we can accomplish our mission.”

PURCHASES

From Page 12

For FY13 requirements, coordination with 6 CONS is absolutely critical before the following dates:

August 1:

One time services up to \$150,000

August 16:

Commodities/Supplies (including GSA) up to \$150,000

Fiscal year 2013 close-out for ALL base ac-

tivities supported by 6 CONS will be Sept. 26. The last day we will take purchase requests is Sept. 20, with the exception of verified emergencies.

Questions may be directed to the appropriate Contracting Squadron Points of Contact:

◆ Edward Simmons, 828-4783, : Specialized Flight, SCENTCOM/USSOCOM/JCSE/SOCCENT.

◆ Douglas Willard, 828-7454: Performance Management Flight, Civil Engineers and Avon Park.

◆ Calvin Daniels, 828-4784: Base Support Flight, 6th AMW units and other tenant units.

◆ Melissa Biggar, 828-3110: Government Purchase Card Program, GPC holders.

◆ James “Kirk” Krempasky, 828-7482: Closeout Monitor, general inquiries.

CORNER

From Page 2

play, the shortstopper needs to rely on the second basemen to be coming to the bag to receive the throw . If each player plays their position to the best of their ability and works well with others, nothing but good things will happen.

I talked about errors. I don't care what level

of play, there are going to be errors made. It doesn't matter how hard you practice or how good you are, there will be mistakes. And that is ok; it is what you do and how you react to those mistakes which matters. I told them that they needed to own up to their mistakes and learn from them. Nothing bugged me more than when a player shrugged their shoulders or pointed at the umpire, like it was their fault.

The importance of taking care of each other, both on and off the field, was another topic I emphasized. We needed them to intervene if something wasn't going right, such as if somebody was getting into a fight or making a poor decision outside the school. They needed to pat each other on the back when there was an error made, or when somebody struck out. I stressed that all team members were accountable for each other.

Schools today have a huge problem on their hands – it is bullying. Kids do it and parents don't discipline them for it. Every night after practice, one of the coaches spoke on the issue. Our players knew that the quickest way off the team was to bully a kid.

Our left-handed pitcher was the kid that had more talent than he will ever know. He was the team clown. He had an unbelievable personality, and when he walked into the dugout, the attitude changed. As a freshman, he was the player that would greet the umpires and tell stories and joke with them. He was the player that would greet the opposing coaches before our head coach could. You get the picture.

During practice I overheard him joking to another player about how big his ears were. All the kids were laughing, even the boy that was being made fun of. You could see that he was embarrassed, but he was still laughing.

I pulled the lefty aside and explained to him that making fun of others was a form of bullying. He plead his case and assured to me that he wasn't bullying, he was only joking. I explained to him again, they are the same. I asked him how it would make him feel if the kids joked about his faults. He kept his head down and didn't say anything. I told him to continue with practice and think about what had happened, and he and I would talk after practice. I just wanted him to reflect on the situation. See, our star lefty, even though he had the huge personality, was very confident in himself and was well liked, had plenty of faults himself; too many to list.

Before the team was let go from practice, Lefty asked if he could say something to the team. He stood up and took center stage. He explained what he had done and that he was sorry and he wouldn't do it again. He actually explained to the team that it wasn't ok to put people down or make fun of others. He shook the player's hand and looked him in the eyes and said he was sorry. I have had many proud moments in coaching, but that was my proudest!

I wanted the boys to know that wearing the high school uniform was a privilege that each of them earned. With making the team comes some responsibilities. One of the responsibilities was representing their high school, which also means the community. It's not only when they wear the uniform, it was a 24/7 responsibility. They understood that when they were in the community and not in uniform, they still represented the team.

You too wear a uniform, and in or out of uniform, you represent the Air Force. Remember, you might coach young people someday. If you do, please take this opportunity to pass on what you have learned from the Air Force.

MACDILL COMMUNITY



EVENTS

Friday

Bay Palms Golf Complex

Membership Breakfast from 6:30-9 a.m. Club members free; Non-members: \$7.95

SeaScapes Beach House

Luau Escape to the Island Friday Bash is 4-6 p.m. Join us for prizes, great food and lots of fun. Drink specials! Bar bingo! (\$2. a card/cash) Guaranteed \$100 weekly club card winner. Wear Your Favorite Island Clothing!

FAMILY FUN NIGHT!

Fun starts at 5 p.m. Food and drink specials. Kids activities! Games! DJ. FREE Ice cream sundae bar (Peanut-FREE) with all meals.

Saturday

MacDill Lanes & Family Fun Center

Nine-pin, No Tap Tournament at 3 p.m. \$20 entry.

Monday

Last day to sign up

Dash-n-Splash at 10:30 a.m. at the MacDill Beach. Three mile run/jog, 200 meter swim, 3 mile run/jog. Call 828-4496.

Tuesday

MacDill Lanes & Family Fun Center

Brown Bag Lunch & Bowl from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Bring your lunch and bowl for \$1.50 per game. Reminder DFAC right across the street. Single Airman Bowl for free.

Airman & Family Readiness Center (Brandon)

Teen alcohol awareness program at 3:30 p.m.

DIAMOND SHARP

Senior Airman Robert Waggoner 6th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs



Job Title: Broadcaster

Hometown: Midlothian, Texas

Short-term goals: I hope to be a strong shoulder for others to lean on.

Long-term goals: I hope to help make the world a better place.

Advice to others: I don't know that I have a lot of advice for others, but I have realized that my time in the Air Force is very short, but my impact on those who come after me can be lasting. Be good stewards of the younger Airmen, make their lives happier and they will pay it forward.

Role model and why: Master Sgt. Robert Sims. He was my first supervisor and introduced me to the Air Force. His mentorship, kindness, and insistence on putting family first is my inspiration, and I strive to pay it forward every day.

Why did you join the Air Force?: I worked for 9 years in factory jobs and I didn't want to spend my life in the city where I grew up.



EXCHANGE
ARMY & AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE



CHAPEL SCHEDULE

Protestant service

Sunday - 11 a.m. - Contemporary Service

Islamic service

Friday - 1:30 p.m. - Muslim Prayer Service

Catholic services

Saturday - 5:30 p.m. - Mass

Sunday - 9:30 a.m. - Mass

Monday-Wednesday - 12:10 p.m. Mass



Call the chapel at 828-3621 for more information or visit the chapel web site at <http://www.macdill.af.mil/macdillchapel>.

TOUR

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the insight needed to support the base,” said Greg McLaughlin, Busch Gardens director of environment, health safety and risk.

The morning continued with a 927th ARW mission brief by Staff Sgt. Saundra Ruela, 927th ARW aircrew command and control procedures manager, an intelligence briefing by Capt. Henry Diaz, chief of intelligence training and a KC-135 Stratotanker brief by Capt. Brian Craft, chief of wing combat readiness. The briefings at Davis Conference Center ended with presentations from Robert Prucha, deputy director for public affairs, who briefed about the role of U.S. Central Command and Lt. Col. Jeff Worthington, deputy commander, Joint Communications Support Element, who informed the group about the JCSE.

“The Central Command presentation was great,” said Melanie Lachs, Florida Aquarium of Tampa Bay senior manager of foundation relations. “It was interesting to hear about each of the commands and how the world is divided into sections consisting of separate commanders.”

The group then toured a KC-135R Stratotanker. After a stop for lunch, the LTB members split into two groups, each visiting the 6th Civil Engineering Squadron explosive ordnance disposal team and the U.S. Special Operations Command parachute rigging facility to encourage small-group discussions.

“It is interesting how the military is able to coexist and coordinate between different specialties,” said Julie Wills, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society executive director. “This information will aid me in looking how my own office interacts with other teams.”

At EOD, Tech. Sgt. Nicholas Last, 6th CES EOD craftsman, and Se-

nior Airman Sam Reardon, 6th CES EOD journeyman, explained the difference between their mission at home and abroad to the gathered business leaders. Their presentation on EOD’s robotic tool and protective body suit gave the crowd a fascinating insight into how EOD disarm and dispose of unexploded ordnance.

Members learned what it takes to maintain high standards when packing parachutes at the parachute rigging shop from Sgt. Brian Webb, SOCOM parachute rigging NCO in-charge, and his parachute rigging team Staff Sgt. Robert Little, Sgt. Luke Allen, Sgt. Andres Santiago, Sgt. Jorge Alaniz and Sgt. Telles Klemetson.

The group came together for one last briefing from Capt. Randy Tebeest, aircraft operations center commanding officer, and Jack Parrish, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration G-IV project manager and flight meteorologist.

Leadership Tampa Bay members learned about NOAA’s efforts in fisheries, oceans, and their mission as hurricane hunters.

At the end of the day, LTB members told their tour leader the visit gave them a better understanding of various operations at MacDill.

“The experience is both eye-opening and educational,” said Eli Rodrigues, Jr., INROADS assistant regional director. “It makes you appreciate the service and risk our servicemen are taking to defend our country.”

“The feedback from members was very positive and the visit ranked as one of their favorite days,” said Maj. Zach Davidson, 63rd Air Refueling Squadron chief pilot, also a LTB Alumni.