

Meaning swift and valued runner, the *Kukini* in ancient times took news from one Hawaiian leader to another.

# HICKAM *Kukini*

Serving the Air Force Hawaii Community

**HOT TOPIC**

**Housing  
Town Hall  
meeting set**

- See Page 10

Vol. 11, No. 29

July 23, 2004

Hickam AFB, Hawaii

*15th Services Squadron is making some changes to put its dining facilities ...*

## Back into the Black

By Tech. Sgt. Andrew Leonhard  
15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Changes are coming to services' food venues across the base.

The 15th Services Squadron leaders and Col. Ray Torres, 15th Airlift Wing commander, spoke to about 100 top enlisted leaders and supervisors, at the Memorial Theater Monday.

The commander spoke about adjusting the number of food service venues and their hours to better serve customers and to decrease the losses in some of our dining venues.

"The services dining facilities are losing money," said Col. Torres. "They are not intended to be highly profitable establishments, but they aim for the best value and service."

The changes 15th Services are making this Fall intend to do just that ... offer customers great value and great service.

"Our investment in supporting the clubs today - brings us the clubs of tomorrow [like the new enlisted club]," said Thom Guthrie, officers club manager.

This is a call to action for the more than 3,500 members of the E'club and the more than 1,800 members of the O'club.

"The more you use it, the more we can put back into each establishment to improve customer satisfaction," said Mr. Guthrie.

When the all ranks Wilbur and Orvilles Wright Brothers café, located next to the officers club, opens up this fall after a \$750,000 renovation, the 15 SVS will adjust hours of operation and dining options for Team Hickam.

To start, JR Rockers and the enlisted club buffet will be open to all ranks at lunch. To reduce internal competition and since a buffet lunch is also currently offered at the Sea Breeze, the buffet lunch at the enlisted club will be operated Wednesday through Friday only.

The Sea Breeze buffet will expand to Mondays to provide customers with five days a week buffet service at one of the most beautiful locations on base! With the opening of the Wright Brother's Café which serves an a la carte lunch menu, the officers' club will close for lunch. The officers' club nighttime dining hours will also change in September since Wilbur and Orvilles also offers a dinner menu. Public Affairs and 15th SVS will advertise the new hours before the change.

"The bottom line goal of the changes we are making in our dining operations is to have more of the popular dining venues available to more of the population as evident by our recent opening of L & L barbecue at the Par 3 Golf Course" said Lt. Col. Denise Hollywood, 15th Services commander.



Photo by Mark Bates

**Chief Master Sgt. Jim LeVack, 15th Airlift Wing command chief, and Senior Airman Audra Carman, 15th Services Squadron, serve breakfast to Tech. Sgt. Hien Parker, Pacific Air Forces, and Airman 1st Class Justin Hegge, Joint Intelligence Center Pacific, at the Hale Aina dining facility Wednesday morning.**

### Top of the top one percent

## 15th AW command chief is on board

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Munsey  
Kukini Editor

The rest of Team Hickam chief master sergeants can cross off one of their recent additional duties; Chief Master Sgt. Jim LeVack is now signed in as the 15th Airlift Wing command chief, relieving other base chiefs of filling in during the last two months.

He is no stranger to command chief duties, having been in the top enlisted billet for a year prior to arrival, but in a far different environment.

Chief LeVack was the 9th Aerospace Expeditionary Task Force and U.S. Central Command Air Forces Forward command chief at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, where he was the principal advisor to the theater commander on health, welfare and morale issues affecting approximately 17,000 enlisted members.

Much like those members in theater, one thing immediately struck Chief LeVack about the enlisted members of Team Hickam.

"Our enlisted people are prepared and good at what they do," Chief LeVack said. "They're motivated, they are professional and extremely

helpful every where I've been."

Having spent 14 years as a first sergeant, Chief LeVack said taking care of the enlisted force is foremost on his mind.

"Involvement with Airmen is an opportunity to help prepare them for the future," he said. "We spend time with them in upgrade and on-the-job training, but we also need to invest time developing them professionally.

"Things like getting them involved in the Airman's council, a great forum to bring in guest speakers on a wide range of topics, from career opportunities, deployments, and assignment issues to pay and education concerns, and so forth," he said.

"The housing concerns, especially the dorms, are a challenge," he said. "We'll be looking to the Airman's council for more participation and involvement to address the needs of those who live in base dormitories."

And making sure they realize their commitment doesn't end at the gate.

"It is also a time to get them involved in the community, both on base and downtown," he said.

Mentoring those Airmen is everyone's responsibility, he said, and it starts with the junior NCOs.

"The mid-tier enlisted have a tremendous responsibility. This group of warriors directs the work effort of our force," he said. "They ensure their subordinates are learning to be the best at what they do. The 56 Council provides a tremendous opportunity for professional development, a sense of community and builds social camaraderie among their peers."

Maintaining the overall responsibility of the enlisted force falls under the top three, the chief said.

"The senior NCOs - they are the enlisted leadership of our Air Force," he said. "They provide top-cover while enforcing standards and developing our mid-tier NCOs and airmen."

"Professional organizations like the Hawaii Top-3 help build relationships and provide a forum that allows us to focus on the issues that affect our future."

Even as the chief presses for enlisted involvement in their rank-appropriate professional organizations, one thing is clear, he said.

"It's astounding to see what they can do, what they can accomplish, and that they do it without even blinking an eye."

See New Rules on Page 3

# Newspaper survey

Voice your opinion to the 15th AW commander

By Col. Ray Torres  
15th Airlift Wing commander

The Kukini is my primary means of communication with the members of Team Hickam. I rely on my public affairs staff to 'get the word out,' and in this sense the paper is a wing commanders tool.

But it's also very much your paper. From announcing upcoming events to capturing mission accomplishments and award-winning programs, the Hickam Kukini should be a true reflection of the Team Hickam spirit.

Therefore, I have asked the PA staff to compose and distribute a newspaper readership survey. Consider this your direct link to

the wing front office to tell me exactly what you like about the paper as well as provide suggestions.

There are several formats for you to access the survey. You can log on to the following Web site [www.afnews.af.mil/internal/survey/survey\\_index.htm](http://www.afnews.af.mil/internal/survey/survey_index.htm).

There will also be a demographic mail out to a portion of the base populace.

I encourage you take the time to complete the survey, and ensure your dependents have access to this forum to provide their feedback.

The survey will commence Aug. 13, lasting three weeks. Take a few minutes to provide your honest feedback. It will go a long way to help me provide you the best base newspaper possible.

## Action Lines

**Editors Note:** The purpose of the Action Line is in its name – it's your direct link to me so we can work as a team to make Hickam a better community. It also allows you to recognize individuals who go "above and beyond" in their duties – and we all know there are plenty of those folks here. All members of Team Hickam are welcome to use the Action Line, however, I urge you to give the normal chain of command the first crack at resolving problems or issues. It's only fair to give our commanders and managers the first opportunity to work issues under their responsibility. If you have done this and are still not satisfied, give my commander's Action Line a call. If you want me to get back to you, leave your name and number, state your issue, tell me who you have talked to and why you were not satisfied with their response. I'll work your issue and respond verbally or in writing. The Action Line number is 449-2996. Messages may also be sent by e-mail to [15aw.pal@hickam.af.mil](mailto:15aw.pal@hickam.af.mil).

# Establishing life's opportunities

By Maj. Chad Conerly  
5th Comptroller Squadron commander

**MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D.** – My addiction started in 1997 when I discovered my first Starbucks coffee shop. A friend took me there and he got a "froufrou" coffee with caramel, nutmeg, lavender, rose petals and a hug.

I just wanted a plain cup of joe.

He quickly informed me that ordering a plain coffee in Starbucks was like going into a Harley shop and driving off on a Schwinn. I didn't want to be banished from Starbucks (or from a Harley dealership), so I reluctantly tried the café mocha. I convinced myself that it was just coffee with chocolate and was able to leave Starbucks with my "machoness" in tact.

I played off the taste to my friend, but I knew I was hooked. I found myself sneaking to Starbucks at all hours of the day for a café mocha fix. At the height of my addiction, I was spending more than \$100 a month on café mochas.

I realized then, I had a thinking problem. I kept thinking about how much I was spending on café mochas. I ran some numbers and realized that over a four-year period, I spent about \$4,800 on café mochas. Had I invested the \$4,800 at 8 percent interest, I would have more than \$82,000 at age 70.

After that point, I started looking more carefully at opportunity cost. Opportunity cost is the cost of a given purchase in terms of forgone opportunities. My café mocha addiction did not just cost me \$4,800, it cost me other opportunities. My wife and I could have gone on three cruises (we're bargain

cruisers), or I could have had \$82,000 more for my golden years.

Am I off café mochas completely? No. Opportunity cost is not about deprivation. It is understanding that financial decisions have consequences beyond the actual dollars spent. To some people, the cost of a café mocha each day is well worth sacrificing a cruise every few years. Comparing planned expenditures to other opportunities ensures you get maximum bang for your hard-earned buck.

Here is an example to mull over. A couple spends \$3.50 a day each on cigarettes. If they smoke from age 18 to age 70, they will spend just more than \$135,000 on cigarettes. However, if the cigarette money was invested at 8 percent interest, the couple would have more than \$2 million at age 70, just from their cigarette savings. In this example, the opportunity cost of smoking equates to a beachfront retirement home in Florida. I'm not picking on smokers. Had I maintained my café mocha habit for the same duration, it would have cost me more than \$1 million in potential savings.

Another example: buying used cars versus new cars and keeping them seven years versus four years can save you more than \$500,000 in your life time, even after adding in the higher maintenance cost.

I'm not saying to live poor so you can die rich. I'm recommending you analyze decisions with a whole life perspective.

Living far from family, we go "home" as often as possible. The trips home costs us some missed opportunities, but it's worth every penny. We sacrifice some niceties to ensure our kids know their extended family. It's a personal choice. With each

major decision we make, we ensure that we're willing to pass up a future opportunity for the one at hand.

Opportunity cost is not just about money. It's about life. If you golf twice a week, the opportunity cost of golfing is about eight hours of lost family time. The opportunity cost of living in a quiet country setting may be longer commutes, equating to less family time and higher fuel bills. The opportunity cost of eating in front of the TV is lost dinner-time conversation. There's nothing wrong with any of these. It's a personal choice. Just realize that every choice (opportunity) has a cost (lost opportunity).

Years ago, I set "life goals." Some were monetary but most were not. Occasionally, I review them to see how I'm doing and to make adjustments as priorities change. This "vector check" has been one of the most beneficial efforts in my life.

Like most people, when shopping for a car I want the pricey sports car. However, looking at opportunity cost and my life goals, I realize that the sports car is not a life-long desire of mine. The pricey car will not satisfy a "life goal" but may hamper my ability to retire before age 55, which is a life goal.

If you do not have long-term goals established for your life, consider doing so. Life is a one-way journey. Striving to obtain goals makes the most of your journey. Analyzing opportunity cost (monetary and personal) is a solid method to stay the course. When you reach the end of your journey, you will be no less dead than the next guy. However, you can "rest" assured that your journey had fewer potholes and wrong turns than the guy lying next to you.

Now, put down that mocha and get back to work.

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**Deadline for copy is 1 p.m. Friday for the following Friday's issue. Copy must be typed and double-spaced or e-mailed, in 12-point type and on a 60-character line.**

## Crisis Response Lines

**Hickam Family Support Center  
449-0300**

**Life Skills Support Center  
449-0175**

**Law Enforcement Desk  
449-6373**

**Base Chaplain  
449-1754**



## Stryker on the move

An Army Stryker vehicle, a highly deployable armored vehicle combining firepower, mobility and versatility rolls off of a C-17 at Hickam July 13. The vehicle will become part of the Army's 25th Infantry Division (light) newly-formed Stryker Brigade Combat Team at Schofield Barracks. The Stryker will be on display from 5 to 7:30 p.m. on the following days and locations:

**Tuesday - Haleiwa Ali'i Beach Park**  
**Wednesday - Wahiawa District Park**  
**Thursday - Waianae Intermediate School**

For more information, contact the Army, Hawaii Public Affairs Office at 655-4816.

Photo by Mark Bates

# Major safety changes to take effect for all Team Hickam motorcyclists

By **Jim Hammonds**  
 15th Airlift Wing Ground Safety chief

As a result of increased motorcycle fatalities and serious mishaps throughout the Air Force and Pacific Air Forces in recent years, PACAF commander directed his safety office to re-write their supplement to Air Force Instruction 91-207, Air Force Traffic Safety Program.

PACAF Safety has directed bases implement the supplement requirements by July 31. All motorcyclists are strongly advised to ensure they are in full compliance before then.

Some of the major changes in the PACAF supplement are listed below, but base motorcyclists should read the full supplement.

- Temporary base registration while awaiting a training course will not exceed 15 days. Successive 15-day training permits are authorized only if approved by the operator's group commander.

- Inexperienced riders are prohibited from carrying passengers during their first year of riding.

- Recurring Motorcycle Safety Foundation training must be accomplished every three years.

- Personnel are prohibited from loaning motorcycles to other personnel who are not properly trained and licensed.

- All motorcycle and lightweight motorized scooter operators and passengers will wear reflective vests with a minimum of 138 square inches of reflective material, the vest must be international orange and lime green, and it must not be covered by a backpack or similar item. The vest must be worn at all times, day and night.

- Security Forces personnel will not allow motorcyclists access to the base unless the rider and passenger are wearing all required personal protective equipment.

- Security Forces will enforce all non-use of occupant protective devices or PPE as a primary

## Motorcycle safety briefings

Motorcycle safety briefings will be conducted at the Memorial Theater on July 29 at 9 a.m. and 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. to fully discuss the new changes to the Air Force Traffic Safety Program. Attendance is mandatory for all base motorcyclists and Unit Motorcycle Monitors. Unit Safety Representatives, supervisors of motorcyclists and any commander or first sergeant is welcome to attend. Supervisors will ensure motorcyclists under their supervision attend one of the briefings, and attendance will be taken. A question and answer period will follow the briefings.

violation; meaning these violations alone are justification for traffic stop and grounds for citation.

These changes are made with only one objective in mind – motorcyclist safety, according to Lt. Col. Jeff Spear, 15th Airlift Wing Safety chief.

"That one person we save from a fatal or paralyzing injury is worth any perceived inconvenience," Colonel Spear said. "It's one less set of parents a commander will have to explain a tragedy to."

Military members are reminded that the provisions of the instruction and supplements are binding at all times, on base or not. They apply to non-military personnel island-wide if riding a motorcycle in the performance of official Air Force duties.

For more information about base safety programs, contact Jim Hammonds at 449-0789.

# Countdown to UCI New Rules *Continued from Page 1*

**Editor's note:** The 15th Airlift Wing Unit Compliance Inspection is scheduled to start August 9. The following is the seventh in an eight-part tip series from the 15th AW Inspector General's office.

**Hot Tip No 7** – Check your unit training records. Ensure everyone is current or they have a scheduled training date for ancillary items.

**Short Note No 7** – Be aware of your surroundings. Suspicious objects can be defined as oddly shaped, out of place, leaking and lacking easy identification. If you spot a suspicious object, immediately call 9-1-1 or contact the 15th Security Forces Crime Stopper line at 449-7114.

Questions about the UCI may be directed to the 15th AW IG office at 448-4444.

### Enlisted club

Sunday brunch 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
 Lunch buffet Monday to Friday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### JR Rockers

Sunday 4:30 to 9 p.m.  
 Monday to Wednesday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
 Thursday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.  
 Mongolian barbecue 5:30 to 8 p.m.  
 Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.  
 Dinner  
 Sunday to Thursday 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
 Friday and Saturday 5:30 to 9 p.m.

### Officers' club

All ranks breakfast  
 Monday to Friday 6:30 to 9:30 a.m.  
 Saturday 7 to 11 a.m.  
 Sunday Brunch 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### Lunch

Monday to Friday 11 to 1

### Dinner

Wednesday and Thursday 5:30 to 8 p.m.  
 Friday and Saturday 6 to 8 p.m.  
 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

### Sea Breeze

Lunch  
 Tuesday to Friday 11 to 1

### Dinner

Sunday, Wednesday and Thursday 6 to 8  
 Friday and Saturday 6 to 8:30 p.m.

### Sand bar

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 6 to 8 p.m.  
 Friday 4 to 10 p.m.  
 Saturday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.  
 Sunday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

# 15th MSS NCO named top volunteer

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Munsey  
Kukini Editor

They say it's the busiest people who have the most time, and it's never truer than in the case of Staff Sgt. Lisa Thomas, 15th Mission Support Squadron Enlisted Promotions and Special Actions noncommissioned officer in charge.

Sergeant Thomas was selected as one of five recipients of the National Military Family Association Very Important Patriot Award of Honor.

The worldwide program is open to Active Duty, Guard, Reserve and retired members of the armed services.

When the duty day ends, Sergeant Thomas' commitments are just beginning.

She ran in the 'Race for the cure' of breast cancer and went at a slower pace in the Hawaiian Multiple Sclerosis Walk.

She helped a family fulfill their dreams by partnering with Habitat for Humanity and molding the future of Oahu through multiple programs such as turkey trot, multicultural and school career days at Aliamanu Middle School.

Her efforts have not gone unheralded, according to Maj. Chris Herring, 15th MSS commander.

"Lisa has been an uplifting asset to Team Hickam and to my unit in particular," Major Herring said. "When time permits, it's common to see her helping to serve others. Her volunteer spirit and leadership is very contagious."

While the direct result of her contributions may not always be seen, Sergeant Thomas knows they are definitely being felt.

"It's the impact volunteers have in making the difference between pass or failure, paid or unpaid and even life or death," she said. "It's looking at a child who wants to be read to, or walking for charity for a faceless person who will directly benefit from your contribution."

All volunteer programs have their merit, but for Sergeant Thomas, there is one that touches her heart and she feels to the bone.

Sergeant Thomas is registered on both the National and Department of Defense Bone Marrow registry, and she has already provided a match, helping save the life of a stranger.

Not all of Sergeant Thomas' volunteer efforts are for those she normally wouldn't have contact with; like most charities, one of her volunteer programs starts right at home.

While stationed at Randolph AFB, Texas, she volunteered in the San Antonio Special Olympics, an effort to

prepare for the future participation of her two-year-old daughter, Alicia, who is diagnosed with Downs Syndrome.

"I am very proud to see her national recognition reflect so favorably on herself, her family, and the United States Air Force," Major Herring said.



Photo by Mystil Bicoy

Staff Sgt. Lisa Thomas works at the Habitat for Humanity house in March.

## That bites get the buzz on mosquitos

By Staff Sgt. Samantha Sigler  
15th Medical Group

Mosquito bites are only regarded as irritants in Hawaii, but elsewhere they are the cause of serious disease and deaths. Many diseases are transmitted by mosquito bites and include encephalitis, yellow fever, malaria, West Nile Virus and filariasis.

In 2002, O'ahu had an outbreak of dengue fever, and we have concerns West Nile virus may occur in our state. You can help reduce the number of mosquitoes in your neighborhood and on Hawai'i by following these guidelines:

- Empty and change the water in bird baths, fountains, wading pools, rain barrels, and potted plant trays at least once a week if not more often.
- Remove, repair, or empty anything that collects rainwater such as: cans, bottles, buckets, used tires, flower pots, and cover garbage cans, and recycle bins.
- Spray the surface of breeding areas (fish ponds, unused swimming pools, or other large containers) with 4-6 oz of liquid dish detergent in a gallon of water. Repeat every 2-3 days.
- Keep rain gutters unclogged.
- Ensure window and door screens are "bug tight."
- Clean pet containers at least once a week.
- Replace outdoor lights with yellow "bug" lights.

Members from 15th Medical Group and Civil Engineering Squadron as well as the State Health

Department are currently conducting mosquito surveillance in base housing. They are surveying residents' yards for mosquitoes and providing educational brochures on how to get rid of the mosquitoes.

Part of the surveillance is reporting dead birds which may mean West Nile Virus is circulating between birds and mosquitoes. West Nile Virus cannot be passed from person to person.

To date, there has been no evidence of West Nile Virus in Hawaii. Base residents can play an important role in monitoring for the virus by reporting dead birds. Avoid directly touching dead birds, though you cannot catch West Nile Virus via contact.

For further information about mosquito surveillance or West Nile Virus, contact base public health at 449-1269 or pest management at 448-9264.

# Your vote is your voice

Team Hickam can access updated absentee voting information on-line at [www2.hickam.af.mil](http://www2.hickam.af.mil).

Registration and Absentee Ballot Requests – Federal Postcard Application - may be obtained from your Unit Voting Assistance Counselor or from the Hickam Voting Assistance Office.

For more information, contact the VAO at 448-0918 or by e-mail at [15aw.vote@hickam.af.mil](mailto:15aw.vote@hickam.af.mil). (Information courtesy of Hickam Voting Assistance Office.)

## Voter Registration

Unregistered absentee voters should request their ballots at least 60 days before the election; registered voters at least 45 days prior. Voter registration can be affected for several reasons: not voting for a period of time, changed residence since the last registration or election, changed name since the last registration or election, or changing political party preference (primary elections only) since the last registration. Registering to vote at a new place of legal residence cancel a persons registration at your previous residence and might cause them to incur state or local tax liabilities. For more information contact Unit Voting Assistance Counselor.

## Legal Voting Residence

Legal voting residence address helps determine the type of ballot a local election official sends to you. As long as people continue claiming a state as their legal residence they may vote in that state. Residency guidelines can be found clicking on the February newsletter icon of the Federal Voting Assistance Program Web site: [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov).

## Notarizing Voting Materials

Always check the home state to determine whether it requires a witness or notary on the FPCA and/or the ballot return envelope.

## Where To Send It

Unit Voting Assistance Counselors will have the address to send SF76 FPCA or the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot for each specific state to avoid delays in ballot delivery.

## Electronic Transmission

Visit Web site [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov), select 'State by State Instructions,' to find out if your state allows electronic transmission of voting materials. If so, use this method to expedite processing of your voting materials.

## Status of Your Application

In the remarks section of the FPCA, provide telephone number with all country prefixes or e-mail address. Add other information that may assist local election officials in processing the application. If the information does not fit in section, continue on a separate sheet of paper and place inside the FPCA before sealing. As soon as a person receives their ballot, vote and return it immediately. Have the postal clerk hand stamp the ballot envelope verifying the mailing date. Don't forget about the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot as a back-up write-in ballot for Federal Offices in the General Election.



## TEAM HICKAM

## News Notes

**715th AMOG Change of Command** – The 715th Air Mobility Operations Group will be having a change of command Monday at 8 a.m. The location will be at the channel display/missing man behind the officer's club. The incoming commander is Colonel Alan Hunt, Jr how comes from MacDill AFB, FL, were he was the Chief U.S. Transportation Command Liaison Officer to U.S. Central Command and U.S. Special

Operations Command. Outgoing commander Colonel Gail Wojtowicz will become the Chief, Long Range Plans Division Directorate of Strategic Planning at USAF, Pentagon, Wash. DC.

**Hickam Housing Privatization Town Hall Meetings Slated** – A housing privatization town hall meetings will be held Tuesday at 3 and 7 p.m. at the Memorial Theater. All residents in the Capehart and Earhart housing areas are highly encouraged to attend. For questions, contact the Hickam Housing Privatization office at 448-3965 or visit the Web site at [www2.hickam.af.mil](http://www2.hickam.af.mil) and click on the "Housing Privatization" link.

**School starting dates for students** – Nimitz Elementary School starts classes Thursday, Hickam Elementary School and Mokulele Elementary School both begin Aug. 25. If a child needs to register, the following items are required: birth certificate, TB clearance, school physical examination (Form 14) or appointment verification, complete immunization record to include the varicel-

la vaccination or certificate of actual chicken pox by a doctor. For kindergarten registration, the child must be 5 years of age by December 31, 2004. Register children as soon as possible. All registration forms must be filled out in the school office. Hours of registration are from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Parents with questions should call the appropriate school office: Nimitz Elementary School 421-4165, Hickam Elementary School 421-4148 or Mokulele Elementary School 421-4180.

**NCOIC of Honor Guard wanted** – The 15th Services Squadron is looking to fill the Honor Guard noncommissioned officer position. Those interested should call Master Sgt. Craig Howell, 15th SVS first sergeant, at 449-1030, ext. 233.

**Volunteers needed** – The Family Support Center is in need of volunteers to assist with their monthly Deployed Spouse/Remote Tour Families' Bowling Extravaganza Wednesday from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Hickam Bowling Center. Volunteer

duties will include set-up, breakdown, photograph, sign-in, food assistants, lane assistants and goody bags. People interested can email [wilhelmina.cromartie@hickam.af.mil](mailto:wilhelmina.cromartie@hickam.af.mil). A complete list of volunteer assignment will be sent to volunteers no later than Tuesday.

**Opera summer production** – The Hawaii Opera Theatre's summer production, The Mikado, is scheduled to run Aug. 6 through 15 at the Blaisdell Concert Hall. The production is a Gilbert and Sullivan comedy Broadway-style musical. A special performance designated as "Military/Group" Night is Aug. 14 where every seat in the \$20. Call 596-7858 for tickets.

**Dorm Managers Wanted** – Anyone interested in becoming a dorm manager should submit a resume, five years of EPR's and three letters of recommendation to Liz Perry, Unaccompanied Manager, at building 1805 room 151. All applicants must be a Staff Sgt. or above. For questions, call Master Sgt. Wayne Wu at 448-0373 or Cell 306-2936.

# Around the Air Force



## Nocturnal Raptor

NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE, Nev. – An F/A-22 Raptor assigned to the 422nd Test and Evaluation Squadron sits on the flightline here. The Raptor is the newest fighter in the Air Force inventory. It is currently undergoing test and evaluation and is tentatively scheduled to be operational in late 2005.

Photo by Ken Hackman



## U.S. AIR FORCE

**Retroactive reimbursement available for R&R leave** – WASHINGTON (AFP) – Servicemembers who traveled on rest and recuperation leave while deployed supporting operations Enduring Freedom or Iraqi Freedom between Sept. 25 and Dec. 18, may be eligible for reimbursement of airline costs.

Reimbursement for airline costs is retroactive for those people who paid for commercial airline tickets from the port they flew into from overseas, such as Baltimore-Washington International Airport, to their final leave destination.

According to records, about 40,000 servicemembers traveled during the period.

More information is available at [www.armyg1.army.mil/WellBeing/RRLeave/index.HTM](http://www.armyg1.army.mil/WellBeing/RRLeave/index.HTM). (Courtesy of U.S. Army Public Affairs)

**Nellis Airmen move into first quad dorm in Air Force** – NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE, Nev. (AFP) -- More than 120 Airmen here received a quality-of-life improvement July 17 when they moved into the Air Force's first quad-style dormitory.

The dormitory is the first of its kind in the Air Force and provides a quad that will be shared by four Airmen, said Tech. Sgt. Mike Merlo, 57th Equipment Maintenance Squadron dorm manager.

"It's the new standard in the Air Force," he said.

Each quad contains many items not seen in past Air Force dorms.

"The first thing people might notice when they walk in the quad is the kitchenette area," said Sergeant Merlo. "The kitchenettes provide each quad with a full-sized fridge, microwave, sink and stove top."

Another change from past dorms is the addition of full-sized washers and dryers in every quad.

"In the old dorms, we had four washers and dryers on every floor," said Airman 1st Class Trevor Powers, a 57th EMS Aircraft Structural Maintenance specialist. "It's nice to not have to walk to the laundry room and wait while my laundry is being done and not have to worry about someone leaving their clothes in the washer or dryer and not knowing who they belong to."

Each quad also has a kitchen table in a small social area with a stereo and a private balcony.

"The goal in these dorms was to provide Airmen more privacy, but to also allow them to have a place to socialize," said Gary Faron, 99th Civil Engineer Squadron facility projects team chief.

Besides the common area, each quad has four rooms to house four Airmen.

The goal of the new dorm design is to move dorms from their traditionally institutional design to a more residential feel, Mr. Faron said.

The dorm will house 144 Airmen in 36 quads. It was built in 16 months and cost about \$10 million, Mr. Faron said. (Story by Staff Sgt. Chris Stagner, Air Warfare Center Public Affairs)

**Air Force communications vital to Army effort in Iraq** – BAGHDAD, Iraq (AFP) – Even though Capt. Alycia Vrosh is afraid of heights, she climbs up a ladder to check on communication equipment atop the Al Faw Palace here.

While ensuring the comm lines are good to go, two Blackhawk helicopters circle overhead, and she waves to them.

"I love (the crew) and always wave to them when I'm up here on the roof," said the communications operations action officer for Multinational Corps-Iraq.

This time they treat her to a flyby before landing north of the palace.

Happy with the greeting, she heads back down to the first floor of the three-story palace where she has spent the past four months tackling large and hectic projects for the Army.

"Because the Air Force is in a support role, we've been able to work the details of several projects that are vital to (Soldiers), that they would not have necessarily been able to accomplish without our help," she said.

She has taken the lead on projects such as organizing and ensuring 180 Internet cafes were working for the more than 140,000 troops stationed throughout Iraq.

"When I got here, it was a mess because not all the cafes were set up, there were parts missing, broken assets and no way to fix (them)," she said. "Our team came up with a solution where we tracked each Internet café, brought in laptops and satellite phone systems and got the program manageable. I think of this as one of the big success stories from the past four months."

Another successful mission was ensuring the commanding general had reliable communications to his subordinate commanders. Two of the major problem areas involved poor infrastructure in the country and frequency dead spots. The team not only provided a primary solution, but also a second and third back-up systems so that now comm or lack of comm is never an issue.

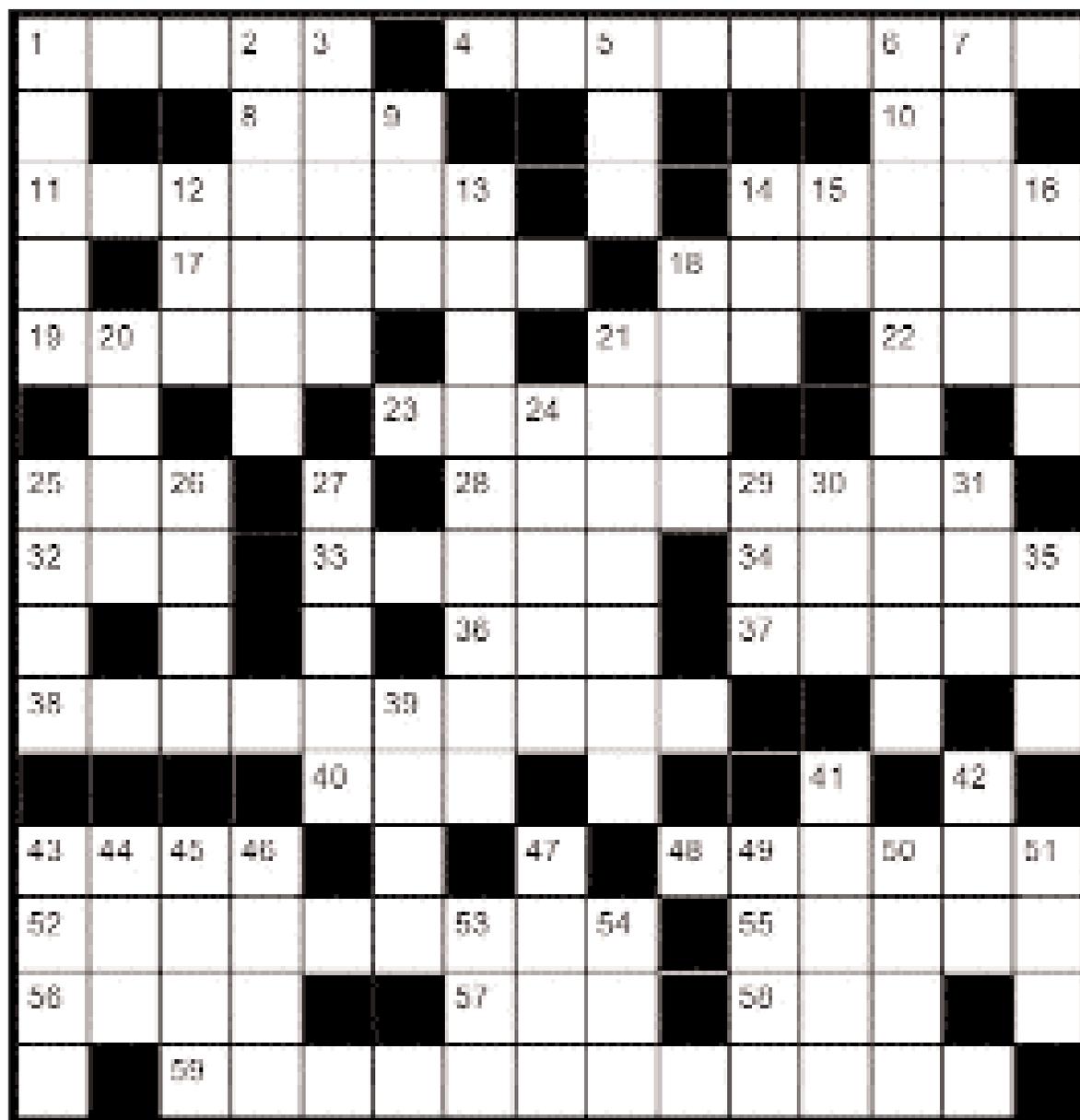
Her boss, Army Maj. Kenneth Patterson, chief of operations and plans for MNC-I communications, said the project's success resulted from working in the joint environment and that Airmen, with Marine support, kept this working.

He said that with the three- or four-month turnover for Airmen, it can be a challenge in continuity, but that bringing in people with fresh ideas and new enthusiasm is worth it.

Captain Vrosh said her enthusiasm is still high even as she prepares to head back to the 100th Communications Squadron at Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England.

"And, I'm just glad to have been part of bringing communications to our young troops on the front lines who work long hours, in the heat, and just doing such hard work," the captain said. "To have them be able to send a note home or pay their bills or have some entertainment has been rewarding. And to ensure that our commanders can communicate to leaders in the field is a critical part of the mission that I've been proud to be part of." (Story Master Sgt. Karen Petitt, Multinational Corps-Iraq Public Affairs)

# Crossword puzzle: Number your Air Force



## ACROSS

1. NAF headquartered at Tyndall AFB, FL  
 4. NAF headquartered at F.E. Warren AFB, WY  
 8. Questioning remarks?  
 10. Formulae of unique exemplification, briefly  
 11. Giving strength  
 14. Authorizes, as legislation  
 17. Third largest island in the world  
 18. NAF headquartered at Barksdale AFB, LA  
 19. Either of two large African antelopes  
 21. Petty NASCAR sponsor  
 22. Article

23. Embattled  
 25. Morgue arrival, briefly  
 28. Paybacks  
 32. AF deployment code for an IDO  
 33. Angry  
 34. NAF headquartered at Shaw AFB, SC  
 36. 2,000 lbs  
 37. Key on a computer  
 38. NAF headquartered at Vandenberg AFB, CA  
 40. Towel marker  
 43. Iowa city  
 48. NAF headquartered at March AFB, CA  
 52. NAF headquartered at Aviano AB, Italy

55. Ascertain  
 56. Singing group Kingston \_\_\_\_  
 57. AF list for entry into restricted area  
 58. German one  
 59. NAF headquartered at Dobbins ARB, GA

## DOWN

1. Allegory  
 2. NAF headquartered at Keesler AFB, MS  
 3. NAF headquartered at RAF Mildenhall, England  
 5. Terminate  
 6. NAF headquartered at Scott AFB, IL  
 7. NAF headquartered at Carswell ARS, TX  
 9. Shannon, Ireland airport abbrev.  
 12. Lawyer's org.  
 13. Creates  
 14. Small drink  
 15. USAF org. concerned with complaints  
 16. Cast off  
 18. Designates diminutives  
 20. Despoil  
 21. NAF headquartered at Osan AB, Korea  
 24. First native-born American to be canonized  
 25. Homer's favorite elixir  
 26. Org. concerned with American rights  
 27. NAF headquartered at Yokota AB, Japan  
 29. Compass dir.  
 30. A type of mill?  
 31. Sault \_\_\_\_ Marie  
 35. Univ. degree program concerned with people  
 39. Ireland of old  
 41. Type of cabinet  
 42. Vehicle for off-roading  
 43. Movie dog  
 44. Former Russian orbiter  
 45. Leave  
 46. Hide away  
 47. Halt  
 49. Oil org.  
 50. Actor Munro of Cop Land  
 51. Female chick  
 53. Clear, as in money  
 54. Dept. run by Secretary Tom Ridge

See page 22 for SOLUTIONS

## Team Hickam History *The Air Force's most historic airfield*

### *This week in 15th Airlift Wing and Hickam Air Force Base History:*

**July 24, 1950** – The Transient Mess Hall in Block 57 was reopened, and the In-flight Mess operated in two shifts to handle the large influx of personnel transiting Hickam because of the conflict in Korea.

**July 26, 1935** – Capt. Howard Nurse, constructing quartermaster, arrived in Hawaii to plan, design, and supervise the construction of Hickam Field.

**July 26, 1969** – The crew of Apollo 11 (America's first humans to set foot on the moon), encased in a mobile quarantine facility,

passed through Hickam AFB en route to Houston, Texas.

**July 29, 1975** – The first two military working dogs assigned to Hickam arrived from Kadana AB, Japan, and stayed in the State Quarantine facility pending completion of a mandatory 120-day quarantine period and establishment of a permanent facility on base.

**July 27, 1982** – The Aloha Theater at Hickam discontinued its movie operation due to poor attendance.

For additional historical information concerning the 15th Airlift Wing and historic Hickam, visit [www2.hickam.af.mil/ho](http://www2.hickam.af.mil/ho).



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with the Facts Online at:

[www2.hickam.af.mil/staywithus](http://www2.hickam.af.mil/staywithus)

## Movies

**Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 7 p.m.**  
**"The Terminal"** – An Eastern European immigrant is forced to live at Kennedy Airport when his former war-torn country's borders are erased, voiding his passport leaving him with no political home. The refugee meets and falls in love with a flight attendant, which prompts a bold escape plan.

Starring Tom Hanks and Catherine Zeta-Jones. Rated PG-13 (for brief language and drug references).

**Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m.**  
**"Garfield"** – Garfield's owner takes in sweet but dimwitted pooch Odie, turning Garfield's world upside down. Garfield wants only one thing: Odie out of his home and life! But when the pup is kidnapped by a nasty dog trainer, Garfield, for the first time in his life, feels responsible and springs

into action to return the pup.

Starring Breckin Meyer and Jennifer Love Hewett. Rated PG (for brief mild language).

**Monday and Tuesday**  
 Closed

**Wednesday and Thursday at 7 p.m.**  
**"Around the World in 80 Days"** – Passepartout, a Chinese thief steals a valuable jade Buddha and then seeks refuge in the traveling companionship of an eccentric inventor, Fogg, who has taken on a bet with members of his gentlemen's club that he can make it around the world in a mere 80 days. Along the way, Passepartout uses his amazing martial arts abilities to defend Fogg from the many dangers they face.

Starring Steve Coogan and Jackie Chan. Rated PG (for action violence, some crude humor and mild language).

## Reunion Tips

*From the Family Readiness Program Staff*

**Editor's Note:** *Reunion is a time of adjustment after separation. The following tips are suggestions to help people prepare for a loved ones homecoming and their greatly anticipated reunion.*

### This week's tip:

*Plan on some family togetherness time*

Suggest a picnic or a special family meal. Time together helps the returning spouse to get back into the rhythm of family life.



## Chapel

**Editor's note:** *For more information on Base Chapel services or for prayer requests call the Chapel Center at 449-1754 or Nelles Chapel at 449-6562.*

### Protestant

*Nelles Chapel*

Sunday contemporary service – 8:30 a.m.

Sunday Gospel Worship – 11:15 a.m.

*Chapel Center*

Wednesday Mid-Week service – 5:30 p.m.

Sunday traditional – 8:30 a.m.

### Jewish

Aloha Jewish Chapel, Pearl Harbor – 473-0050

Jewish Lay Leader – Mr. David Bender – 527-5877

Naval Station Chapel – 473-3971

### Catholic

*Nelles Chapel*

Weekday Mass – 11:30 a.m.

Saturday confessions – 4:15 p.m.

Saturday Mass – 5 p.m.

*Chapel Center*

Sunday Mass – 10 a.m.

### Orthodox

For more information, call 438-6687.

### Islamic

Friday congregational service (1935 Aleo Place, Punahou) – 1 p.m.

Muslim Association of Hawaii, 947-6263.

### Buddhist

Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin A Shin Buddhist Temple – 536-7044

**What: "Praise Gathering"** Contemporary Worship

**Time:** Sunday at 5:30 p.m.

**Where:** Nelles Chapel

*Regarding instrumental/vocal interest in the Praise Gathering Worship Team, contact Lt. Col. Michael Rits at 230-1624.*

**SPORTS DAY**

**August 20, 2004**

**Earhart Sports Complex**  
**7:30 a.m.**

**2-mile run • Volleyball • 3 on 3 Basketball**  
**Dodgeball • Bowling • Tennis • Soccer**  
**Horseshoes • Fitness Challenge • Bed Race**

For more information, call 448-4640

HICKAM AFB SERVICES  
HICKAM Fitness & Sports

## Sports Shorts



**AYSO Fall Youth Soccer Registration** – American Youth Soccer Organization Hickam/Pearl Harbor Region 188 will hold the final registration for fall youth soccer on July 31 from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Hickam BXtra. Registration is open to boys and girls ages 4 to 18. Season runs August through early November. The registration fee is \$55. Proof of age required for first time registrants. Pre-register on-line @ [www.aysoregion188.org](http://www.aysoregion188.org). For more information call 834-5979 or email [registrar@aysoregion188.org](mailto:registrar@aysoregion188.org).

**Coaches meetings** – The over-30 basketball coaches meeting will take place July 26, 10 a.m. at the fitness center. The mini-soccer coaches meeting will occur on the same day and location at 11 a.m. The co-ed softball coaches meeting will be held on August 9 at 10 a.m. at the fitness center. For more information, contact Staff Sgt. Mike Hindman at 448-4640.

## Number Your Air Force

*This week's crossword answers*

M	O	N	R	O	E		A	B	E	T		A	L	A	
I	R	E	N	E		D	R	Y		O	K	R	A	S	
C	O	W	A	R	D	I	C	E		P	A	R	I	S	
					E	A	T		B		L	O	R	I	
S	O	N	S	O	F	L	I	B	E	R	T	Y		G	
E			A	D	E		C	O	L	E		D	O	W	N
C	O	N	C	O	R	D		S	A	V	E		A		
T	A	O		R		E		T	R	E		S	S	O	
	R	E	A	S	O	N		O	U	R		O	H	M	
G		L				S	E	N	S	E		D	I	I	
E	O	S		A	L	E	E				R	A	N	T	
O			T	D	S		L	O	O	S	E		G		
R	E	R	E	A	D	S		A		P	A	S	T	A	
G	L	E	A	M		J	E	F	F	E	R	S	O	N	
E	L	F		S	E	A		S		D		E	N	T	



Photos by Mike Dey

502nd Air Operation Group's Lucas Menebroker's spike manages to penetrate the 15th Logistic Readiness Division's block for a kill shot during the first game in Monday night's action.

# Prime Time Volleyball Action

By 2nd Lt Craig Savage  
15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Smash it. Spike it. Dig it. Dump it. No, I'm not describing an extreme home makeover – they're simply the keys to building a volleyball championship tournament run.

The players of the 502nd Air Operations Group coed intramural volleyball team took those keys to heart Monday night with a two-game sweep over the 15th Logistics Readiness Division team to open up the 2004 Intramural Volleyball tournament.

Game one was a see-saw battle until LRD's Tanuoppo Fesili slammed a Lawrence Rotolo set for a winner, tying the game at 25. However, 502 AOG sealed the first-game win with two of John Arnold's 14 kills.

Arnold, a towering net presence at 6 feet 7 inches tall, connected on 14 of his 17 kill attempts.

Jonnathan Camacho, Jeffery Guerrero and Fesili made a formidable frontline for the LRD destroyers, but with defensive specialist Bridget Arnold on the court for the 502nd AOG few down-balls were easily scored for points.

It was nip and tuck in game two as both teams had to execute with surgical precision. Mandy Woods notched two aces in a row augmenting the AOG lead from 16-12 to 18-12 a lead that wouldn't be relinquished in the amazing race for the tournament cup.

Fortunately for the 15th LRD the tournament is double elimination and they would be able to have another shot at notching a tournament victory and moving on. Outside hitter Eassie Soares-Haae

maintained a positive outlook.

"We still have another chance. It's double elimination," said Soares-Haae. "We gave it our all tonight. This was the best game we've played all season. We just came up a little short."

Much like the hard work of an upcoming apprentice, Monday night's game was a reality show of competition.

The tournament, scheduled to run through the end of this month, showcases teams from the Hawaii Air National Guard, Pacific Air Forces Computer Systems Squadron, 15th Mission Support Squadron, Headquarters PACAF, 15th Communications Squadron, 352nd Intelligence Operations Squadron, JPAC, 735th Air Mobility Squadron, and the combined Defense Courier Service/15th Services Squadron.



Above; 15th LRD's Eassie Soares-Haae goes up for a joust against 502nd AOG's Lucas Menebroker.

Left: 15th LRD's Jonathan Comacho fails to bypass the massive solo block put up 6 feet 7 inches John Arnold of the 502nd AOG.

