



Space Observer

“2003 AFSPC Best Large Wing PA Office”

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Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado

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TEAM PETE PROVES READINESS DURING INSPECTION PAGES 8-9

Photo by Staff Sgt. Denise Johnson

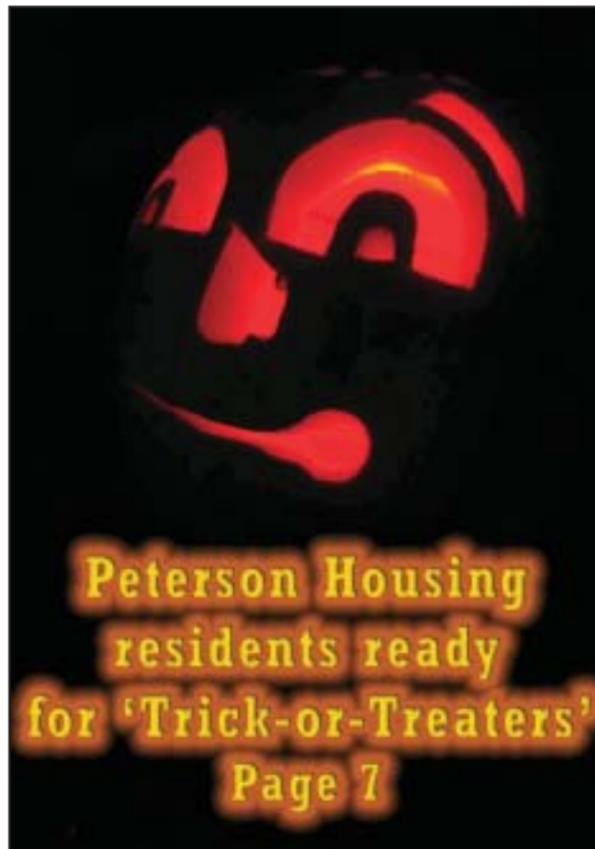


Daylight Savings Time ends 1 a.m. Sunday. Don't forget to set the clocks back one hour.



Cyber Café offers morale boost for Airmen Page 6

Photo by Senior Airman Mike Meares



Peterson Housing residents ready for 'Trick-or-Treaters' Page 7

Photo by Airman Mandy Weightman



Bowling expert tells his story Page 10

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Flight commander clarifies cell phone policy

By Maj. Jeffrey Boleng
21st Space Communications Squadron

The 21st Space Communications Squadron manages more than 500 cellular phones and individual accounts for 21st Space Wing units at Peterson and Cheyenne Mountain. The annual budget for fiscal year 2004 was approximately \$140,000 or just over \$27 per month per official phone. Unit commanders may authorize an official cellular phone to personnel who require frequent, continuous or short notice communication capability for mission reasons. Unit Telephone Control Officials act on the commander's behalf for issues concerning Personal Wireless Communication Service, for example, "cell phones."

In addition to the 500-plus phones issued to people, the 21st SCS maintains 95 loaner cell phones for special events. These phones are provided on a "fee-for-service" basis for official use to any 21st SW unit with a need for them.

Air Force policy normally requires cellular phone costs be paid directly from unit Operations and Maintenance funding. The 21st SW has decided to

consolidate cellular phone management and billing to take advantage of volume discounts in rate plans.

The official issue cellular phone program is experiencing the same budget restrictions as many other services. The 21st SCS is working aggressively to control and reduce costs. Every quarter, all account rate plans are reviewed based on historical usage and adjusted to the most effective rate plan available. These changes are first forwarded to unit Commanders through their TCOs. If the TCO does not intervene, then the proposed rate plan adjustments are made automatically.

This is an important policy change.

Non-concurrence with the proposed rate plan changes requires action by the TCO. If units exceed their allocated rate plan minutes and incur additional charges, the units are directly liable for these charges out of their O&M funding. It's important that TCOs review proposed rate plan changes and ensure they are compatible with the mission requirements of the personnel with issued cell phones.

Although issued for official purposes allows for Air Force policy specific exemptions for authorized personal use. Air Force issued cellular telephones may be used for occasional personal calls related to mission activities, such as informing family members of an unexpected change in schedule. Remember, emergency calls for police, fire, medical or roadside assistance are always authorized. Frequent or extended routine personal calls must be avoided.

There has been some question recently regarding official cell phone usage for personal reasons when this use does not incur any additional cost to the government, for instance when included plan minutes are not exceeded by such use.

This is still forbidden. Air Force Space Command headquarters leadership have specifically addressed this with the Air Force Communications Agency Judge Advocate, and the official policy is clear. Users may not use Air Force-issued cellular telephones for frequent or extended routine personal calls, even if these calls do not incur an additional cost to the government. If

people routinely use all available plan minutes for unofficial purposes, this leads to maintaining a more costly rate plan for that phone. This in turn, leads to excess costs to the government. Limiting cell phone use to official business and limited mission-related personal calls allows for the appropriate rate plan choice and the minimum cost to the government.

Finally, it is important to remember the Air Force issued cellular phones may not be used for Command and Control purposes. They are not a substitute for official communication channels such as Defense Switch Network, Defense Red Switch Network, Secret Internet Protocol Network or Land Mobile Radios, also known as "bricks." Many cellular providers now offer a "push-to-talk" or "walkie-talkie" feature. This feature can be convenient and effective for non-Command and Control applications, but must never be substituted for LMRs when used in a Command and Control capacity.

For more information on Air Force issued wireless communications services, call 554-COMM.

Military Voter considers duty before opinion

By 1st Lt. Elizabeth Kreft
45th Space Wing Public Affairs

As a public affairs officer for the United States Air Force, I'm paid to talk.

I'm paid to communicate ideas and transfer information to thousands of people about issues that are going to affect their families, their everyday lives and their long-term careers. And yet during the next few weeks, one of the most important responsibilities that I'll share with my fellow military members will be to keep my mouth shut.

As tension between opposing political parties grows to a remarkable force, the desire to express a negative view toward political candidates develops with it. But the venue for voicing opinions on the matter is quite small for military

members, and in the waning days before a critical presidential election, even the blandest of comments or actions can draw negative attention to an individual or office with the best of intentions.

Each government employee must recognize that they are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that allows for a completely impartial atmosphere at work. We know during any season, election or not, military members are subject to scrutiny and possible reprimand for inappropriate comments about their chain of command or about elected officials. But during a heated political time such as this, sensitivities to partisan commentary are at an all-time high.

Just one snide remark, one prejudiced e-mail or one biased flyer can be the downfall of a

healthy federal or military career. Even though you might just be attempting to encourage fellow co-workers to engage in a political discussion, we each must remember there is a proper time and place for such dialogue.

I'm speaking from personal experience. I'll admit that I haven't been reprimanded for being too zealous about one side or another – but I feel the itch. I have received entertaining e-mails about the president and the candidate, and at times they are so good I've been tempted to forward on the political satire to the entire base. Each time I turn on the office television I see more information about the upcoming election, and my blood goes from resting temperature to yelling-at-the-TV temperature in about 2.4 seconds. In fact, I should

– See Opinion, Page 6

Recently, there have been reports of military family members receiving phone calls from political parties asking them who they intend to vote for based on their experience of having to see their spouse deploy.

If you or someone you know receives a similar call, contact:

**The Office of Special Investigations
556-4347.**



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A Moment in Time



- **Oct. 28, 1924** – Army planes broke up a cloud formation with electrified sand.
- **Oct. 27, 1970** – Doctors at Wilford Hall U.S. Air Force Medical Center, Lackland AFB, Texas, develop a new device to save infants who are suffocating. Costing only about \$1,000 and built from various standard hospital components, the device helps newborn babies breathe.
- **Nov. 1, 1995** – Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, hosts the presidents of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia for peace talks designed to end the war in the former Yugoslavia.

Classified Message Incidents – be the solution, not the problem

By Lt. Erin Fella

21st Space Communications Squadron

During the past year, Air Force Space Command has experienced an unacceptable number of classified message incidents. A CMI is the introduction of classified information onto an unclassified system. The most common occurrence of CMIs is over the Air Force's e-mail system.

The AFSPC mission depends heavily on reliable and secure networks and everyone must ensure people

understand the importance of strong security and the consequences associated with these security infractions.

The Air Force Special Security Instruction 5020 details specific information on dealing with CMIs after they happen. It specifies that costly, time-consuming data purging and associated recovery actions be performed on all affected e-mail servers and workstations. When this occurs, we basically self-impose a denial of service attack on ourselves.

There are many things computer users can do to help to minimize CMIs.

When composing e-mail, verify none of the contents of a message are classified. Be familiar with what information is and is not classified. When in doubt, check with the security classification guide before transmitting e-mail.

There are certain things that should never be sent over the unclassified network. Sensitive deployment, Unit Type Code or other highly sensitive mobility information should always be sent over the Secret Internet Protocol Router Network, also known as SIPRNET, or other secure means. Also, when attaching items to

an e-mail, ensure the attachment is not classified. Attention to detail is the key.

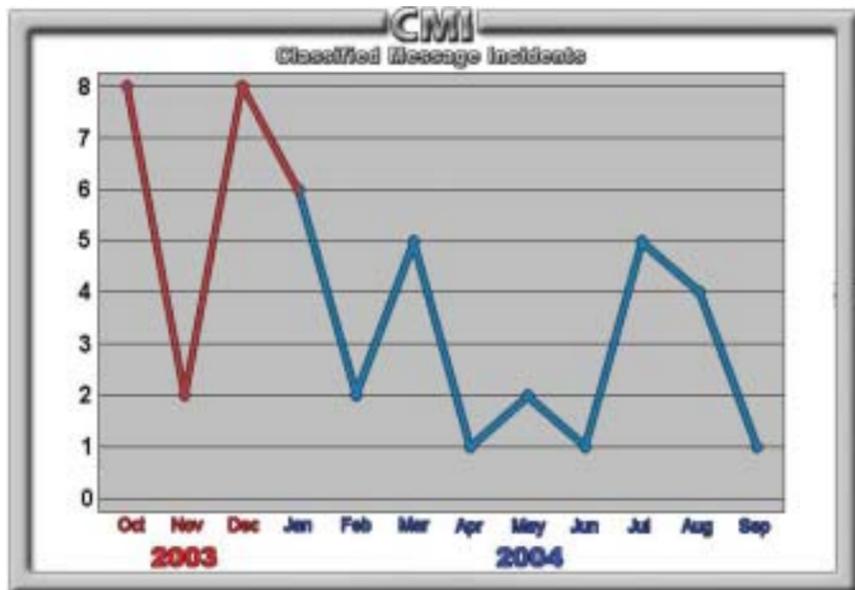
If an e-mail is opened on the unclassified system and contains classified information, contact your Information System Security Officer or workgroup manager immediately via secure communications or in person.

Swift corrective actions can prevent a CMI from spreading any farther, thus minimizing the number of affected systems to be purged.

Since security across the AFSPC-wide network is only as strong as the weakest link, the following is also effective immediately. In addition to appropriate disciplinary action, violating individuals will lose all access and privileges on the AFSPC Enterprise Network until recertified. These violators will be recertified through completion of the Information Assurance awareness computer-based training course.

Security is critical, especially in our present wartime footing. Security incidents involving computer networks are increasing. All CMI's are unacceptable and threaten national security. Everyone must be personally involved to ensure there isn't a classified message inadvertently sent across our unclassified networks.

In the last 12 months, Peterson AFB has had multiple CMI's with at least one every month. The AFSPC command considers this a commanders program and his goal for classified information released onto the unclassified network is zero.



Thrift Savings Plan kicks off open season

The federal government's Thrift Savings Plan kicked off its 2004 "open season" Oct. 15 with slogans to remind servicemembers and civilian government employees they can increase their retirement coffers substantially by investing in TSP, a 401K-type savings program.

Open season – the period when people can enroll in the program or change their options – runs through Dec. 31. "Let It Flow" is this open season's slogan aimed at federal civilian employees, while "Save for Later, Start Now" targets servicemembers. Bro-chures are being distributed to eligible participants.

More than 85 percent of workers covered by the Federal Employees Retirement System, and about 67 percent of employees covered by the Civil Service Retirement System contribute to TSP.

"As of the end of September, we have more than 1.8 million (federal employee) participants, 475,000 (civil service) contributors and 435,000 military participants," said Tom Trabucco, director of external affairs for TSP's overseer, the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board. "All of the money goes into the common fund and is invested by fund, which is more than \$141 billion for military and civilian investors."

Most contributions are invested in five different funds. As of Sept. 30, the Government Securities Investment, or "G" Fund, had \$58.8 billion in it; the Common Stock Index Investment, or "C" Fund, had \$59.6 billion; the Fixed Income Index Investment, or "F" Fund, had \$10.3 billion; the Small

Capitalization Stock Index Investment, or "S" Fund, had \$7.6 billion; and the International Stock Index Investment, or "I" Fund, had \$4.5 billion.

"This brings the total up to \$141 billion," Mr. Trabucco said.

"Open season is a good time to make the initial decision on whether or not you will contribute to TSP if you're not currently contributing," he said. "It's also the time to increase your contributions to take advantage of the increased amounts that you're allowed to contribute this year. If you're not contributing the maximum, now is your time to take a look and see if you can or should."

The primary difference between the 2003 and 2004 TSP open season is "you can contribute more this open season," Mr. Trabucco said.

Servicemembers can contribute from special pay as well as basic pay, he said. Civilians can contribute only from basic pay.

"In the 2003 open season, which was really for calendar year 2004, the contribution limits were 9 percent of pay, up to a maximum of \$14,000 a year," Mr. Trabucco said. For the current open season, which will cover 2005, eligible employees who are members of the uniformed services may contribute up to 10 percent of pay, to a maximum of \$15,000. Those numbers apply to uniformed services and civil service employees.

"FERS people may contribute up to 15 percent of basic pay each pay period, but only up to the elective deferral limit of \$15,000 that's set by the Internal Revenue Service," he said. "FERS people who make more than \$93,333 per

year should be concerned about exceeding the \$15,000 limit. If they're in that category, we have a fact sheet on the Web site, along with a worksheet so they can work it out so that they're sure they put in their maximum amount and pick up the maximum matching contributions from the government."

As soon as an employee covered by FERS is eligible for agency contributions, the agency will automatically contribute an amount equal to 1 percent of the employee's basic pay each pay tributes.

If employees contribute their own money, the agency will match the employee's contributions dollar-for-dollar on the first 3 percent the employee contributes each pay period, and 50 cents on the dollar for the next 2 percent the employee contributes.

Mr. Trabucco said this may be the last TSP open season, because legislation has passed the U.S. Senate and is in the House of Representatives that would eliminate open seasons in the future. The congressional measure would allow people to make their contribution elections at any time.

"So it's an improvement, and one that we and the participants will welcome," he said.

Mr. Trabucco said the board is looking into creating "Lifecycle Funds" beginning next year. These funds provide the benefits of professional asset management to participants who choose them.

"That means Lifecycle Funds will be set up based on different years when you would plan on drawing down your account balance," Mr. Trabucco said. "We don't know what those years will

be established at yet; that's part of the procurement process, and we're collecting bids from industry now on how to structure them.

"For instance, there will be a fund that is established for the year 2015, a second fund for the year 2025, a third fund for the year 2035," he said. "What you would do is pick the year in which you plan on beginning to draw down your funds, and you simply invest in that. The allocation of those investments would be automatically adjusted over time based on the structure of that life cycle fund; in essence, going from a heavier weighting in stocks in the early years, and more toward an investment in bonds and government securities – the more stable investments – as you get closer to the year when you're going to begin drawing those funds down."

TSP participants age 50 or older who are contributing the maximum amount of regular contributions may also elect to make additional "catch-up" contributions up to \$3,000 for 2004, and \$4,000 for 2005, Mr. Trabucco said.

"Those contributions allow those age 50 and over to put in additional funds," he said. "It will rise to \$5,000 in 2006, where it will remain stable."

People who choose to make catch-up contributions can do so at any time, but they must make a new election for each calendar year. For more information, people can check with their agency or service TSP representative for guidance about when to submit their election. Civilian employees should use Form TSP-1-C. The form for servicemembers is Form TSP-U-1-C.

(Information courtesy of American Forces Press Service)



CHAPEL HOSTS FALL FESTIVAL

The Peterson Chapel offers fellowship, food and fun at their Fall Festival from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Sunday. There will be face painting, pumpkin carving, games, prizes and a magician. The event is free. For more information, call Chaplain Charles Knauer or Trish Mehner at 556-4442.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 'BOO AT THE ZOO'

"Boo at the Zoo" is the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo's annual Halloween celebration. Volunteers are needed to park cars from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call Deb Compton at 390-8233.

MEDICAL GROUP ANNOUNCES CLOSURES, POLICIES

The Peterson Clinic will close from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday. Members of the Health Consumers Advisory Council remind everyone of the 21st Space Wing policy that children, 8 years old or less, may not be left unsupervised on base at any time. This also applies to visits to the 21st Medical Group. The Medical Group has no capabilities to supervise children. Parents must plan appropriately, or reschedule visits, when they are unable to supervise their children.

MEDICAL GROUP TEAM CONDUCTS TELEPHONE SURVEY

The 21st Medical Group is conducting a patient satisfaction telephone survey. A contractor may call patients at home a few days after their visits to ask them questions about their visits. The telephone calls will be made between the hours of 5 and 8 p.m., Monday through Friday. The feedback will enable the Peterson Clinic staff to assess the services provided. Surveyors do not have access to any personal medical information and patients are not required to provide that information.

PRACTICE SHOTS TO BE FIRED ON PETERSON

Salute battery rounds will be fired Wednesday and Nov. 5 on base as part of the rehearsal for a change of command ceremony. The shots will be blanks fired by a team from Fort Carson. For more information, call Capt. Gurminder Singh at 554-9434.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE REPS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed by Nov. 1 to serve as Volunteer Income Tax Assistance representatives. Free comprehensive training with the Internal Revenue Service and the Colorado State Department of Revenue is scheduled for the first full week in December. To sign up or for more information, call Staff Sgt. Kellie Soulvie at 556-4403 or e-mail at kellie.soulvie@peterson.af.mil.

TECHNICAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION BEGINS

The 2004 Core Technologies for Space Systems Conference will be held Nov. 8-10, at the Sheraton Hotel, Colorado Springs, Colo. The conference is a non-profit event featuring technical presentations and lectures, intended to provide a forum for sharing the latest ideas in core space technologies. It's intended for aerospace scientists, engineers and technical managers from academia, industry, government and military programs. Military and government registration is \$200 for all three days or \$100 per day. Group discounts for 10 or more are available. For more information or to register visit the conference website at <http://www.spacecoretech.org/> or contact Dale Kunz at dale.kunz@afscn.com or Mark Heinrich at mark.heinrich@cta.com.



ARAGON DINING FACILITY MENU

Today	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<p>Lunch: Roast Loin of Pork Jaeger with Mushroom Sauce Glazed Cornish Hen Potato Halves Orange Rice Carrots Simmered Pinto Beans Corn Combination</p> <p>Dinner: Herbed Baked Chicken Stuffed Cabbage Southern Fried Catfish Black-eyed Peas with Rice Mashed Potatoes Sweet Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Peas</p>	<p>Lunch: Mexican Baked Chicken Swiss Steak with Tomato Sauce Stuffed Green Pepper Baked Macaroni and Cheese Steamed Rice</p> <p>Dinner: Lasagna Spaghetti with Meat Sauce Sweet Italian Sausage Mashed Potatoes Broccoli Polonaise Cauliflower</p>	<p>Lunch: Crispy Baked Chicken Cajun Meat Loaf Grilled Steak Baked Potatoes Mashed Potatoes Broccoli Peas Glazed Carrots</p> <p>Dinner: Fish Almondine Stir Fry Chicken with Broccoli Pork Chops with Mushroom Gravy Rissole Potatoes Rice Pilaf Calico Corn Club Spinach</p>	<p>Lunch: Tuna and Noodles Sauerbraten Chicken Breast Parmesan Au Gratin Potato Steamed Rice Cauliflower Combination Peas</p> <p>Dinner: Ginger Barbecue Chicken Fried Shrimp Spinach Lasagna Orange Rice Mashed Potatoes Black-eyed Peas Lima Beans Corn O'Brien</p>
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	<p>Lunch: Swiss Steak with Tomato Sauce Baked Chicken Hot Italian Sausage Peppers and Onions Steamed Rice Mashed Potatoes</p> <p>Dinner: Roast Turkey Baked Can Ham Raisin Sauce Fish and Fries Mashed Potatoes Corn Bread Dressing Succotash Tempura</p>	<p>Lunch: Onion-Lemon Baked Fish Steak Pork Schnitzel Yakisoba Beef and Spaghetti Baked Potatoes Mashed Potatoes</p> <p>Dinner: Paprika Beef Barbecue Beef Cubes Chicken Fajitas O'Brien Potatoes Steamed Rice Cauliflower Corn on the Cob Lima Beans</p>	<p>Lunch: Mexican Chicken Mexican Pork Chops Chicken Enchiladas Mexican Rice Refried Beans and Cheese Mexican Corn</p> <p>Dinner: Pita Pizzas Country Style Steak Fried Chicken Oven Brown Potatoes Mashed Potatoes Fried Cauliflower Bean Combination Cabbage</p>

The Aragon Dining Facility announces new hours of operation, effective Oct. 1
Weekdays/Weekends: Breakfast 5:30 – 8 a.m.; Lunch 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.; Dinner 4 – 6 p.m.;
Holidays/Down days: Supper 11 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.; All carry out times 7 – 9 p.m.



Cyber café to connect Airmen on personal level

By Senior Airman Mike Meares

50th Space Wing Public Affairs

The idea of a place where Airmen can have free coffee, comfortable furniture, live entertainment, Internet access and a computer gaming network began more than a year ago when a group from the 50th and 21st Space Wings sat down to brainstorm about how to make life in the Airmen dormitories better. When the group started talking about a coffee house with all of these features, they couldn't stop.

Well, this dream has become a reality. Construction on a "cyber café" has begun inside an Airmen dormitory here. A dayroom is being converted into a place for dorm residents hang out.

"The main goal is to make it feel like an off-base environment for those who don't get off base much," said Senior Airman Sean Robbins, 21st Space Communications Squadron, who helped design the Internet portion of the café. "I know I'll sit and enjoy a cup of coffee while I do my homework."

The dream team, spearheaded by Chaplain Capt. Kris Cox, while he was a member of the 50th Space Wing Chaplain Office, wanted a place that was on base with an off-base appeal. After doing research on similar quality of life improvements around the Air Force, the

team was ready to move ahead. Chaplain Cox, now part of the 21st SW Chaplains Office, put together his dream team including Airmen from the dorms, 50th SW Chaplains Office, members of the 21st Civil Engineer Squadron and the 21st SCS.

The effort began when Chaplain Cox took the idea to the 50th and 21st SW commanders. They needed no convincing and immediately pledged their wing's support. With the money needed to start the project, Chaplain Cox went to the civil engineer and communications squadrons for help.

"There's nothing magic about this," said Chaplain Cox. "We're just helping the dorm residents with what they want and need – a place to hang out, have fun, make friends and strengthen their community."

Committed to seeing the dream become a reality, Kolleen Kostboth and Senior Master Sgt. Gordon Wilkins, 21st CES, stepped up to the challenge with interior design and project management.

"This [café] will bring the Airmen dormitories into a new age," said Sergeant Wilkins.

Impressed by the initiative of the team when he stopped in and saw the project, Maj. Gen. Michael Hamel, 14th Air Force Commander, donated \$5,800 in quality of life money toward the project.

"It's always great to see a vision like this coming

together," said General Hamel. "I'm pleased to see the close partnership between the wings as they come together for the Airmen."

The design of the café has many elements to it. There is a dedicated section for computer-based gaming. Around the café, there will be five stations with Internet hook-ups for surfers and wireless connections for those with laptops. The multi-colored floor and black ceilings gives it a true off-base café appeal. A bar will surround the designer coffee makers, espresso machines and drink area along the far side of the room. New state-of-the-art furniture will fill the room with tables, chairs and a stage for live entertainment. Here's the bonus – all of this is free to dorm residents.

"We had a similar set-up at Lackland Air Force Base when I was in [technical] school," said Airman 1st Class Paul Pearson, 50th Security Forcers Squadron and a dorm resident. "I don't have a car or a television yet, so this will keep my friends and I from becoming dorm rats or someone who sits in their rooms bored to death."

More details, including the appliances and the name of the new café, will be worked out as the late winter or early spring of 2005 completion date draws near. Until then, the team is content with working to bring their dream closer and closer to becoming a finished reality.



– Opinion, from Page 2

write a thank-you note to the major news networks for giving my heart a natural workout over And yet I have to hold back. This isn't the place for voicing personal views on elected officials. Healthy discussion is always encouraged, because we know it increases knowledge and social tolerance. But

using federal time or money to voice political views is wrong.

The fact is we cannot allow our personal opinions to interfere with our duty to remain politically unbiased in relation to our federal positions. Military, DOD civilians and any federal employee's primary responsibility is to serve in an impartial manner. And though it might require a bit of tongue

biting or creative articulation, this reservation is needed in order to maintain a healthy, professional work atmosphere.

So, over the next few days as you anxiously count down the hours until the time arrives to make your mark on the nation's future (I know I can't be the only one this excited), remember that government time and resources

have to be kept separate from our personal political agendas. In the end, whoever wins, the victory will be that much sweeter if it is a success brought about by completely legal and honest means – and each of us can do our part to keep partisan politics out the military setting.

(Courtesy of Air Force News Service)



HALLOWEEN FUN HITS PETERSON

With the spooky, but oh-so-fun holiday approaching, members of Team Pete are prepared to make this Halloween a blast for families here. The base housing residents started the fun off by decorating their houses with a wide variety of festive ornaments.

As for fun for children, many Team Pete members are offering numerous activities.

■ The Aquatics Center will host "A Halloween Thing" from 4 to 8 p.m., Saturday. Admission is \$1. There will be carnival games, trick-or-treating and optional swimming. For more information, call the Aquatics Center at 556-4608.

■ The 21st Civil Engineer

Squadron will host indoor trick-or-treating at the main fire station, Bldg. 218 from 5 to 8 p.m., Saturday. There will be a haunted house and different base agencies will take part in the event by setting up various booths and tables for the trick-or-treaters. For more information, call the Fire Station at 556-7354.

■ Base housing will be open for trick-or-treaters, from 4:30 to 8 p.m., Sunday. Security Forces will patrol the area and remind the children to make sure the porch lights are on before ringing the doorbell to get goodies. For more information, call Security Forces Services at 556-8235.



Photos by Airman Mandy Weightman

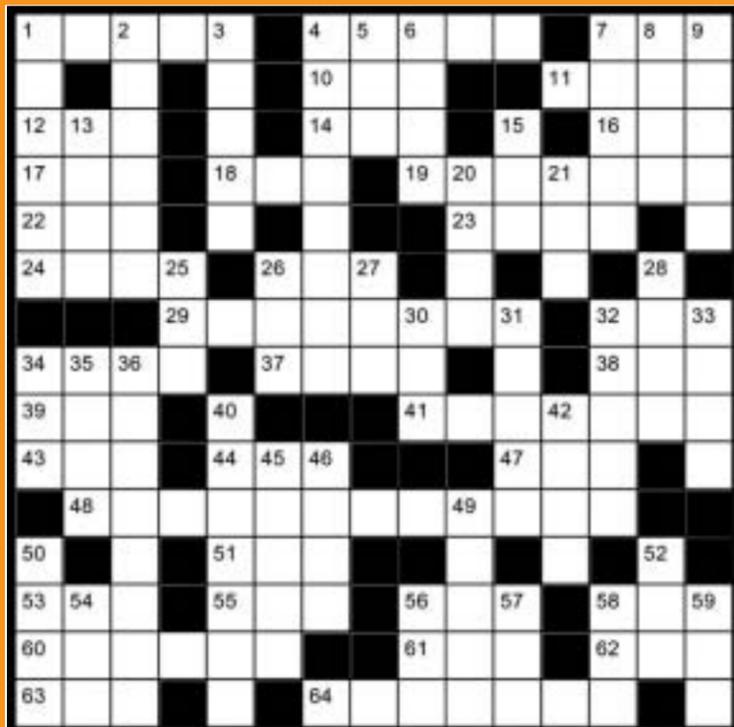
TOP LEFT: In the spirit of not only Halloween, but fall in general, some housing residents decorate their lawns with smiling scarecrows.

TOP RIGHT: A popular decoration among base housing residents is the tall, lighted frightfully funny pumpkins.

LEFT: Lighting up the walkways to their houses, base housing residents use Halloween-appropriate lights for trick-or-treaters to find the way to their doors.

Happy Halloween

Answers on Page 11



ACROSS

1. Halloween spirit?
4. Oklahoma Air Force base
7. ___ Tac Toe
10. Oklahoma town
11. Mastercard rival
12. Mil. uniform
14. Army equivalent to AFSC
16. Terrapin great Bias
17. ___ Angeles, CA
18. Head cover?
19. Type of Halloween house
22. Anger
23. Troubles
24. Type of egg
26. Undergarment
29. Halloween howler?
32. Draft
34. Signing voice
37. Norway capital
38. Lyrical poem
39. Snake
41. What jack-o'-lanterns start out as
43. Listening tool?
44. SECDEF office symbol
47. Actress West
48. Halloween lab creation?

DOWN

1. Halloween gremlin?
2. Burdens
3. Part of Halloween saying
4. Halloween bloodsuckers?
5. Bother
6. "___ Bridges"
7. Leans
8. Get, as in understand (2 words)
9. Halloween goal?
13. French artist known for wood engraving
15. Double
20. Mil. absence against UCMJ

21. Earned, as in cash
 25. Double
 26. Sis' relative
 27. Auger
 28. Gully
 30. Basketball play alley-___
 31. "La ___ Nikita"
 32. Subway need?
 33. ___ up with; shut in
 34. Honest ___
 35. Hang out
 36. Spice
 40. Halloween sight?
 42. Double
 45. Slides
 46. Lairs
 49. Second part of Halloween saying
 50. Bother
 52. 1 ACROSS saying
 54. Compass dir.
 56. ___ the season
 57. Flightless bird
 58. Formerly known as
 59. Explosive combo
- (Courtesy of Alaskan Command Public Affairs)*

WING EARNS 'EXCELLENT' RATING FROM 25 DAY INSPECTION



Photos by Staff Sgt. Denise Johnson
Airman 1st Class Ronnie Ward, Security Forces Squadron Security Response Team, pulls a victim out of a car during the Full Spectrum Threat Response portion of the Operational Readiness Inspection Oct. 21.

By Senior Master Sgt. Ty Foster
 21st Space Wing Public Affairs

The Air Force Space Command Inspector General rated the 21st Space Wing as "Excellent" during the intensive Operational Readiness Inspection out brief here Monday morning.

Addressing a packed house during the out brief, Brig. Gen. Richard E. Webber, 21st Space Wing commander, said, "I want you to savor this moment. You worked hard each day ... this is a total team effort!"

With 44 units at 26 locations in four countries and nine time zones, Col. Brad E. Ward, AFSPC IG, and his team had their work cut out for themselves.

"We wore out our wire brush on this wing," Colonel Ward said. During an inspection, he said, "The question we ask ourselves is 'would we go to war with this unit? The answer is 'Hell yes!'"

In the 260-page report, AFSPC inspectors hailed 465 strengths, 57 outstanding performers and 61 professional teams. Over the 25-day inspection, the command's functional area experts tested the wing's mettle in myriad scenarios at all hours of the day. Among the many noteworthy people and units, the 21st Civil Engineer Squadron turned in a perfect score with zero findings.

Inspection teams traveled to the wing's geographically separated units around the world. These globetrotting evaluators braved short days, cold temperatures and broken-down aircraft to get their job done. Through it all, the wing demonstrated the ability to operate its 15 weapon systems to execute the mission.

"In all seven ERI and ORI major graded areas, we are meeting or exceeding standards," General Webber said. "For the ORI, Operations and Mission Support were rated Excellent - that is quite an accomplishment!"

Unlike many Air Force wings whose ORIs are rarely longer than

a week, Team 21 rallied for nearly a month. Inspection scenarios ran the gamut. There were hazardous spills, car bomb explosions, train crashes, plane crashes and more.

General Webber took a moment to praise the wing's inspector general, Col. Gary Shugart, and his exercise evaluation team during the post-ORI party at the Enlisted Club.

The colonel's team of functional experts planned what AFSPC IG termed as a "robust" Full Spectrum Threat Response scenario involving a car bomb explosion near a critical facility. The base's response was phenomenal.

"They [the wing exercise evaluation team] worked us hard and in the end pushed us over the top," General Webber said to the nearly 500 people gathered at the party.

On top of all the simulated crises, several real-world events gave the AFSPC IG pause to ponder. But Team 21 took the suspicious packages, reports of shots fired on base and a visit from Air Force One all in stride.

The out brief also allowed inspectors to weigh in with a "Satisfactory" rating for the Aug. 23-27 Expeditionary Readiness Inspection. During the ERI, 171 people processed through the deployment line, 16 short tons of cargo were shipped and 140 people deployed to a simulated hostile base. The IG called the wing's rating a "significant improvement" since the Ability to Survive and Operate evaluation in September 2003.

As a commander, General Webber has gone through four major command inspections. He, in fact, led the AFSPC IG cadre during the wing's last ORI back in September 2001.

But with 33 days of inspection over the last 60 days under his belt, General Webber gained a newfound respect for Team 21's abilities.

"This is the hardest scrub I've ever been through," General Webber said. "Once again you have proved to friends and foes alike that this is the best space wing on the planet."

Professional Performers named

Congratulations to the following Professional Performers and Professional Teams for the 21st Space Wing during the Operational Readiness Inspection.

For the 21st Space Wing Staff Agencies: Chaplin Capt. Kristoffer Cox, Peterson Chapel; Airman Santana Brown, Dolorina Daniels, Airman 1st Class Stacie Grimm, 1st Lt. Yolanda Thomas and Airmen 1st Class Jack Wrobel, 21st Comptroller Squadron; Tech. Sgt. Vernon Chester, 21st SW Judge Advocate; and 1st Lt. Jennifer Whitaker, 21st SW Public Affairs.

For the 21st Operations Group: Staff Sgt. Mark Berger, Tech. Sgt. Carolyn Crump, Tech. Sgt. David Dusablon and 2nd Lt. Michael Wadley, 21st Operations Support Squadron; Staff Sgt. Adrian Hall, 6th Space Warning Squadron; Angie Peterson, 10th Space Warning Squadron; Tech. Sgt. Jose Lopezruiz, 12th Space Warning Squadron; Tech. Sgt. Christopher Cumming, Senior Airman Jeremy Lemons and Staff Sgt. Lonnie Sweatt, 13th Space Warning Squadron; Capt. Peter Bonetti and Senior Airman Sherry Martinez, 20th Space Control Squadron; Tech. Lance Brown, 76th Space Control Squadron; and Senior Airman Cederic V. Hill, 21st Operation Group, Detachment 4.

For the 21st Mission Support Group: Paul Buyalski, Staff Sgt. Cedric Davis, Senior Airman Christopher Dindl, 2nd Lt. Myles Gilbert, Staff Sgt. Adam Johnson, Tech. Sgt. Robert Johnson, Robert Quinonez and Cary Ulman, 21st Civil Engineer Squadron; Staff Sgt. Sherry Schuh, 21st Contracting Squadron; Capt. Sterling Hickson, 21st Contracting Squadron, Detachment 1; Staff Sgt. Heather Abney and Senior Airman Jason Sheppard, 21st Logistics Readiness Squadron; 2nd Lt. Hugo Escobar, Tech. Sgt. William Spencer, Tech. Sgt. Cheri Walker, Staff Sgt. Chad Pryor and Cathy Todd, 21st Mission Support Squadron; Staff Sgt. Jason Adams, 21st Security Forces Squadron; and Tech. Sgt. Ed Charping and Senior Airman Lisa Parker, 21st Services Squadron.

For the 21st Maintenance Group: Staff Sgt. Cory Leathers and Staff Sgt. Joel Orzal, 21st Space Communications Squadron.

For the 21st Medical Group: Cynthia White, 21st Aeromedical-Dental Squadron, and 1st Lt. Tonya Moser, 21st Medical Support Squadron.

For the 721st Mission Support Group: Tech. Sgt. Mark Smurda, 721st Civil Engineer Division and Capt. Grant Hargrove and Airman 1st Class Taylor Peterson, 721st Security Forces Squadron.

For the 821st Air Base Group: 1st Lt. Jennifer Tribble, Command Section; Senior Airman Holly Gautreaux, Senior Airman Cameron Herriges and Senior Airman Roxanne Wood, 821st Security Forces Squadron; and Senior Airman LaPeachez Clark, 821st Support Squadron.

Professional Teams
 21st Space Wing: Manpower Office, Protocol Office and Charlie Crew Command Post Controllers.

21st Operations Support Squadron: Intelligence Flight and Weather Flight.

6th Space Warning Squadron: Alpha Crew Oct. 7, Delta Crew Oct. 7 and

Security Forces MWOC Dures Apprehension Team Oct. 8.

7th Space Warning Squadron: Crisis Response Element Team 2.

10th Space Warning Squadron: Charlie Crew Oct. 4.

12th Space Warning Squadron: Alpha Crew Oct. 13, BMEWS Support Team, Standardization and Evaluation Section, BMEWS Site Personnel Oct. 6-18.

13th Space Warning Squadron: Bravo Crew Oct. 9, Charlie Crew Oct. 8, Crisis Response Element, Clear Confined Space Rescue Team and Delta Crew Oct. 8.

1st Space Control Squadron: Alpha Crew Oct. 2 and Standardization and Evaluation Section.

4th Space Control Squadron: Garrison Swing Shift Crew Oct. 13.

20th Space Control Squadron: Echo Crew Oct. 5.

76th Space Control Squadron: Counter Communications System Day Crew Oct. 16, Operations Intelligence Section and Safety Program Team.

Detachment 1, 21st Operations group: Maintenance team.

Royal Air Force Fylingdales: Standardization and Evaluation Evaluator team.

21st Space Communication Squadron: Automated Surface Observation System Preventive Maintenance Team.

21st Civil Engineer Squadron: Confined Space Entry Team, Peterson Hazardous Materials Response Team and Prime BEEF Team.

21st Mission Support Squadron: Outbound Assignments, Personnel Deployment Function and Personnel System Management.

21st Services Squadron: Fitness Center Staff and Granite Inn Dining Facility Staff.

21st Security Forces Squadron: Administration Section, Full Spectrum Threat Response Forces Initial Response Teams, Security Forces Control Center Controllers, Element 1, Sierra 1/1A, 4/4A External Security Response Teams and Training Section.

21st Logistics Readiness Squadron: Logistic Plans Element.

21st Contracting Squadron: Government Purchase Card Team and Detachment 1 Contracting Team.

21st Medical Group: Medical Control Center and Cheyenne Mountain AFS Independent Duty Medical Technicians.

721st Communication Squadron: Security Awareness Team and Mission Systems Flight.

721st Security Forces Squadron: Full Spectrum Threat Response Central Security Controllers and Pass and Registration Section.

821st Air Base Group: Chapel Team, Financial Management Team, Senior Exercise Directors and Threat Working Group.

821st Support Squadron: Environmental and Occupational Health Team, 821st Communications Flight, Quality Assurance Evaluators and Services Mortuary Affairs.

821st Security Forces Squadron: BMEWS External Security Response Team.



ABOVE: Staff Sgt. Donita Whitsitt, SFS patrol, directs traffic as part of setting up the cordon around the accident site of the exercise Oct. 21.

RIGHT: One victim of the accident has her eyes bandaged for her exercise injuries in the FSTR accident near Peterson Boulevard., Oct. 21.



RIGHT: Inspectors speak about their evaluations while an explosion goes off during the Full Spectrum Threat Response portion of the Operational Readiness Inspection.



ABOVE: Senior Airman Peter Goodick and Airman 1st Class Ronnie Ward, both SFS Security Response Team members, assist a victim of the accident during the FSTR portion of the ORI here Oct. 21.



ABOVE: Peterson firefighters approach a victim of the exercise FSTR accident, Oct. 21. The 21st Space Wing's Operational Readiness Inspection went from Oct. 1 through Oct. 22.



Local bowler shares love of game

By **Walt Johnson**
Sports Writer

As a young man, James "J.D." Dennis would set up pins at a local bowling alley so he could make some money and help customers enjoy the game of bowling.

As an adult, Dennis has no interest in making sure pins stay up so others may enjoy the game of bowling – Dennis's aim is to knock down as many pins as he can while competing in the Peterson Air Force Base and Colorado Springs area bowling leagues.

Dennis is recognized in the local area and other parts of the country as one of the best bowlers in his age group in the country. He competes regularly in bowling leagues and tournaments against "some pretty good competition" and does more than holds his own.

With the success and longevity Dennis has enjoyed in bowling, he's been a fixture at the base bowling lanes here since 1984; one would think he has had a lifelong dream of being a competitive bowler. That would not be the case. Dennis said he actually came to the sport because he had "nothing else to do."

Dennis was a manual pin-setter as a child and picked up a bowling ball for the first time when he was in Saudi Arabia.

"I was stationed in Saudi Arabia a long time ago and at the time there was nothing else to do. You couldn't go downtown or anything and bowling at the base was free. The key word with me is 'free,' Dennis said. "When I was setting pins I did it because it was work and I wanted to make some money, I didn't see it as fun at the time. After I started bowling in Saudi Arabia, I realized this is a challenging and fun game"

Dennis realized that it was a game that he could not only become good at, could also satisfy his need to exercise, surround himself with good friends and create great memories. He said some people like to go to the gym to exercise, and while he respects that, bowling is his outlet.

"It depends on what you believe is fun," he said.

Many in the bowling community here say Dennis is at or near the top of the competition in this region. That's no accident for the man who puts an

extraordinary amount of time into perfecting his craft. Dennis finds bowling to be a stress reliever, even when he competes in leagues and tournaments. He bowls in four different leagues and practices five days a week.

"When I practice, I may throw eight to 10 games. I do it so I can keep my timing. Timing is very important to my game," Dennis said. "There is some stiff competition in this town. Also, I bowl in a lot of

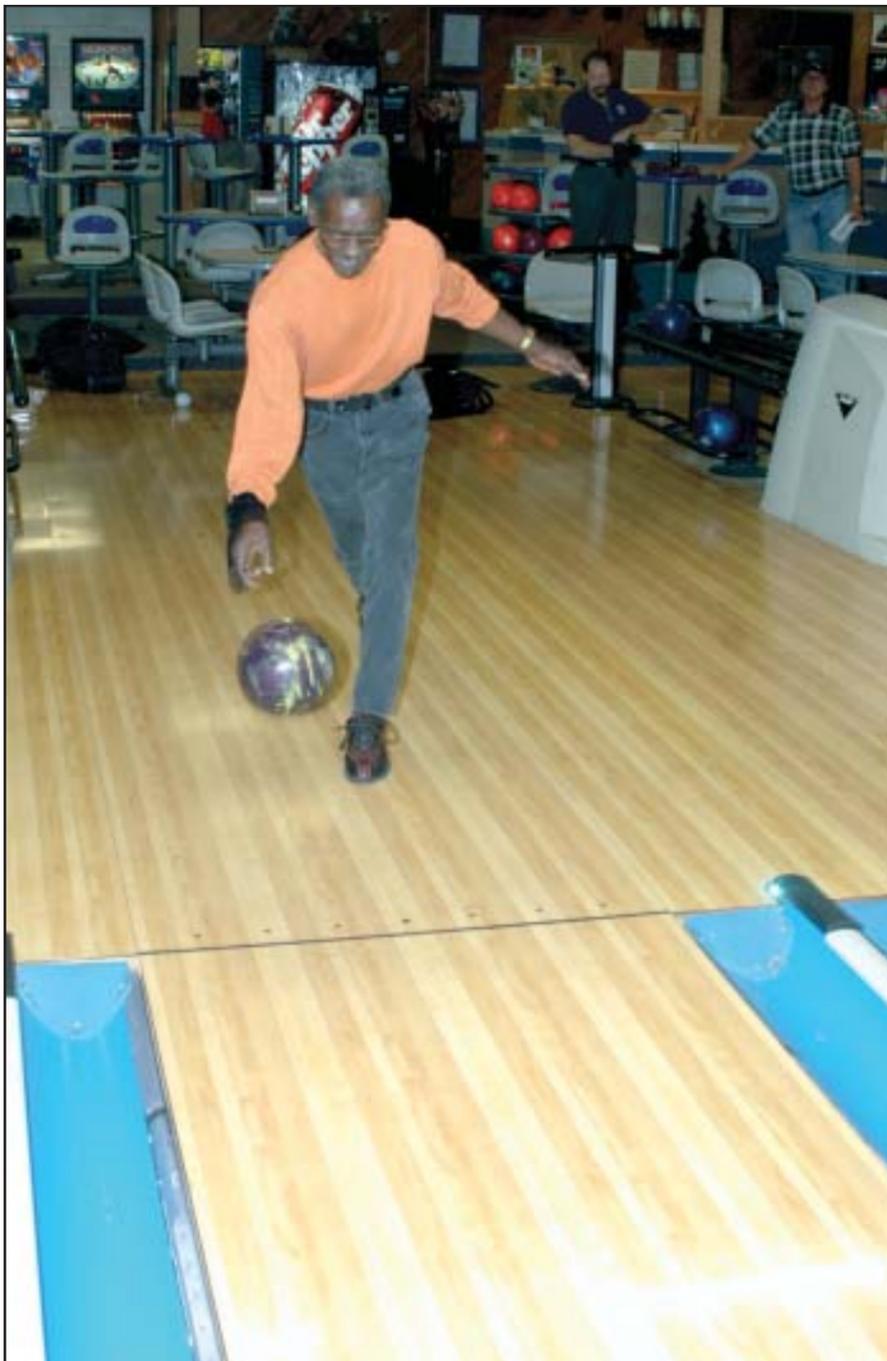


Photo by Walt Johnson

James Dennis has one of his many practice sessions at the Peterson Bowling Center. He practices in numerous local bowling facilities, but names Peterson's his favorite.



tournaments. So in order to stay up with these people I have to practice."

Dennis said the bowling alley has turned into a second home for him because he enjoys the atmosphere. While Dennis bowls all over town, he particularly likes bowling at Peterson's Bowling Center because of the friends he has made and the one achievement every bowler strives for, a perfect game.

"I call this my home, this is the only place I have ever bowled a perfect game. I like the people here too, everyone knows me and I know everyone here," Dennis said. "It's a great family atmosphere,"

As much fun as Dennis has at playing the game he said there is a serious side to being a good bowler. He believes that taking the game seriously while having fun is one of the keys to success.

"A lot of people think it is all about throwing the ball down the lane and knocking a lot of pins down. At the same time there's an art and science to bowling. Bowling is about concentration and love of the game," he said.

"In bowling, the most experienced bowler will tell you not to look at the pins, to look at the dots and arrows on the lanes and concentrate on them. The only reason the average bowler looks at the pins is to make sure all the pins are there. After that you don't even want to look at the pins you want to concentrate on a spot on the lanes because if you can hit that spot, once you find out how the ball is reacting to the lane conditions that is the spot you want to concentrate on and that is all there is to it," Dennis said. "Of course you have to hit the spot each time."

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Davis Thuis
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Brandon Byard
50th CES



Denise Adams
21st SFS



Sam Patton
HHC, 1st Space Bn

Oklahoma at Oklahoma State	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma State	Oklahoma
Florida at Georgia	Georgia	Florida	Florida	Florida
Penn State at Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Penn State
Missouri at Nebraska	Missouri	Nebraska	Nebraska	Missouri
USC at Washington State	USC	USC	USC	USC
Arizona at Buffalo	Buffalo	Buffalo	Buffalo	Buffalo
Detroit at Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Detroit	Detroit
Green Bay at Washington	Washington	Green Bay	Washington	Green Bay
Indianapolis At Kansas City	Kansas City	Indianapolis	Indianapolis	Indianapolis
Jacksonville at Houston	Houston	Jacksonville	Houston	Houston
New England at Pittsburgh	New England	New England	New England	New England
N.Y. Giants at Minnesota	Minnesota	Minnesota	Minnesota	N.Y. Giants
Atlanta at Denver	Denver	Denver	Denver	Atlanta
Baltimore at Philadelphia	Philadelphia	Philadelphia	Philadelphia	Philadelphia
San Francisco at Chicago	Chicago	Chicago	Chicago	Chicago
Miami at N.Y. Jets	N.Y. Jets	N.Y. Jets	N.Y. Jets	N.Y. Jets