



The IGUANA



Volume 16, No. 5

March 5, 2004

Up for grabs



Photo by Pfc. Michael Tuttle

Players from the Comayagua and MEDEL basketball teams battle for a loose ball near the Comyaguan basket during an intramural game Feb. 26. MEDEL won the game 37-26. The basketball season got under way Feb. 19 with the title up for grabs for the six participating teams.





Trusting under the shadow of his wings

By Chap. Dale A. Code
JTF-Bravo Chaplain

"How excellent is thy loving kindness, O God! Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings." (Psalm 36:7)

Did you know that the Lord has wings and feathers? According to Psalm 91:4 He does; "He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust."

Does that make God a bird? No, it is simply a way in which the Almighty, infinite God chooses to reveal Himself to finite, limited man. What better way could there be for the Lord to convey in human terms how much He cares for His people than to use the descriptive terms of our "trusting under the shadow of His wings?" Picture yourself under a pair of great overshadowing wings and trust that God is shielding you from enemies, sheltering you from calamities and providing you shade from the blast of Hades.

God shields us with His favor; "For they got not the land in possession by their own sword, neither did their own arm save them: but thy right hand, and thine arm, and thy countenance because thou hadst a favor unto them." (Psalm 44:3)

God also promises to shield us from enemies because it is our birthright; "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord." (Isaiah 54:17)

As a bird protects its flock under its wings, we can trust the Lord to shield us from the blast of our enemies.

Have you ever wished you had wings to fly away with? If so, you are not alone. At some point in our lives we have all wished we could sprout wings and fly away to escape unpleasant circumstances. We have felt like the Psalmist who said, "...O that I had wings like a dove! for then would I fly away, and be at rest. Lo, then would I wander far off, in the wilderness, Se-lah. I would hasten my escape from the windy storm and tempest." (Psalm 55:6-8) We may not be able to sprout wings and "fly away" but we can certainly trust that God will shelter us from the blast of calamities and disasters when they strike; "Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee: yea in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge until these calamities (disasters) be overpast." (Psalm 57:1)

The good news about calamities is that they pass and we can take refuge under His wings until they do. When disaster was about to strike the city of Jerusalem Jesus cried, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem...how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings and ye would not!" (Matt. 23:37)

The best thing a person can do during a storm is to run for shelter. Unfortunately, the people of Jerusalem would not seek shelter under the shadow of His wings and the city was consequently destroyed. According to Scripture, even greater disasters will come upon the face of the earth. The Lord's wings are still spread and

He cries out for people to come under them before the storms strike and it's too late to find shelter. Jesus is our shelter in the time of storm and He bids us to take refuge under the shadow of His wings.

Psalm 91: 1,2 states, "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty."

When the heat is turned up, we can trust the Lord to provide us shade under His very own shadow from the blast of Hades. "The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day not the moon by night." (Psalm 121: 5,6)

Soto Cano Air Base has its own "Winged Warriors" who provide protection and security to this region. But even more so, the Lord Jesus is our "Winged Warrior" as our Shield, Shelter and Shade from the blasts of our enemies, disaster and of Hades when they come against us.

SUBMISSIONS

The Iguana is always looking for submissions. Any articles, photos or letters to be submitted to *The Iguana* should be sent to the PAO at michael.tuttle@jtfb.southcom.mil or delivered to the Public Affairs Office, Bldg. D-06. If you have questions about possible submissions call ext. 4150 or 4676 to talk to the editor.

Are you your unit's weakest link?

By Lt. Col. Cephias Franklin
14th Communications Squadron Commander

The host of the popular television game show "The Weakest Link" puts contestants on the spot by firing question after question at them in a timed round.

The player who best handles the pressure and answers the most questions correctly usually winds up the winner.

Let's play this game in under less stressful conditions. I'm going to ask you to answer some simple yes-or-no questions geared toward information technology.

— Do you have your network or e-mail password written under your keyboard or in an area anyone can easily access?

— Have you shared your network or e-mail password with anyone?

— Did you click "yes" when the virus-warning screen popped up on your computer, instead of notifying your computer security manager?

— Have you shared your new Common Access Card personal identification number with anyone?

— Have you walked away from your desk while logged into the network without locking your computer?

— Have you forgotten the name of your system administrator or computer security manager?

— Have you loaded software on your computer without permission or approval?

— Have you connected any items to your computer or the network without an OK from the designated approval authority?

— Have you visited unauthorized Web sites?

Now that you've taken the quiz, here's the secret: If

you answered "yes" to any of the questions, you could be the weakest link in your unit's ability to secure its part of the Air Force network enterprise.

The days of base networks being stand-alone and independent of the rest of the Air Force are no more. What you do at your base has an immediate impact on your major command's infrastructure and subsequently the rest of the Air Force. The bottom line is we've become a network-centric entity, and each member shares the responsibility of protecting the network.

It is not just the communication squadron's responsibility. Every member of the team plays an important role in protecting this valuable resource.

A breach of network security could influence whether we strike the right target, cause innocent civilians to lose their lives or cause an international incident.

That is where every person comes in. We are the keepers of the gate when it comes to network security. It is our responsibility to understand the policies, know the procedures and know where to go for help when network security issues arise.

If we blow it, we have a negative impact on national security, we affect the Air Force's ability to perform its mission and we impact our people.

The next time you change your password, store it in a secure place. The next time your computer becomes infected with a virus, know the procedures and who to contact. When you need software for operational use, ensure the designated approval authority OKs it.

Remember, as gatekeepers we are the enforcers. Don't be your unit's weakest link. What we do does not just stop at the front gate — it stretches far and wide across the Air Force. Make network security a part of the way you conduct business every day.

The IGUANA

EDITORIAL STAFF

JTF-Bravo Commander

Col. William G. Phelps Jr.

Public Affairs Director

1st Lt. Rob Goza

Superintendent

Tech Sgt. Roel Utley

Editor

Pfc. Michael Tuttle

Photo Technician

Martin Chahin

E-mail:

PUBLIKAFFAIRSOFFICE@jtfb.southcom.mil
Website: <http://www.southcom.mil/home/jtfbravo>

This funded, joint U.S. Air Force/Army newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military overseas. Contents of *The Iguana* do not necessarily reflect the official view of, and are not endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense or the departments of the Air Force or Army.

Content is edited, prepared and provided by the Joint Task Force-Bravo Public Affairs Office, APO AA 34042, in Building D-06. Telephone numbers are 011-504-234-4634, ext. 4150 or 4676. Fax is ext. 4550. or DSN 449-4150/4676. Readers with story ideas should call the Public Affairs office. All photographs are property of JTF-Bravo unless otherwise noted.

PRINTED BY PUBLYNESA





March 5, 2004

News

The IGUANA 3



Photo by Pfc. Michael Tuttle

JLOTS demonstrates combined effort

JTF-Bravo commander Col. William Phelps (center) walks with U.S. Ambassador to Honduras Larry Palmer (left) and Col. Todd Travas, Deputy Director of Joint Training and Exercises, during a tour of the Joint Logistics of the Sea exercise at Porte Cortes Feb. 25. A contingent of visitors were guided through the exercise that is being conducted from February to May 2004. JLOTS operations are designed for the loading and unloading of strategic ships when fixed port facilities are unavailable. The mission is to be able to discharge cargo from vessels anchored off-shore, transport cargo to various shore-based off-load sites and gather cargo for movement inland.

DOD releases 2002 sexual harassment survey results

By Gerry J. Gilmore
Armed Forces Press Service

Incidences of sexual assault within the active duty military dropped by half between 1995 and 2002, according to a DoD sexual harassment survey released Feb. 25.

The congressionally mandated survey was taken in 2002 and polled 60,000 service members — from private to colonel, Dr. David S.C. Chu, the under-secretary of defense for personnel and readiness, told reporters at a Pentagon press briefing.

About 20,000 service members, he said, responded to the survey.

Chu said the sexual harassment survey is an important instrument that helps DoD “to root out” prohibited behavior, to change attitudes and “to change how people treat each other and to ensure that everyone is treated with the respect that he or she deserves.”

The next sexual harassment survey, he said, is slated for 2006.

Rachel Lipari from the Defense Manpower Data Center, who accompanied Chu to the briefing, noted the survey shows a decline from 6 percent to 3 percent since 1995 in the incidence of sexual assault in the armed services.

Also, she said, the survey demonstrates a 22 percent decline in sexual ha-

arrassment incident rates across the services between 1995 and 2002.

The majority of survey respondents — 79 percent of men and 77 percent of women — noted they’d received anti-sexual harassment training in the past year, remarked Timothy Elig, Lipari’s co-worker, also at the briefing.

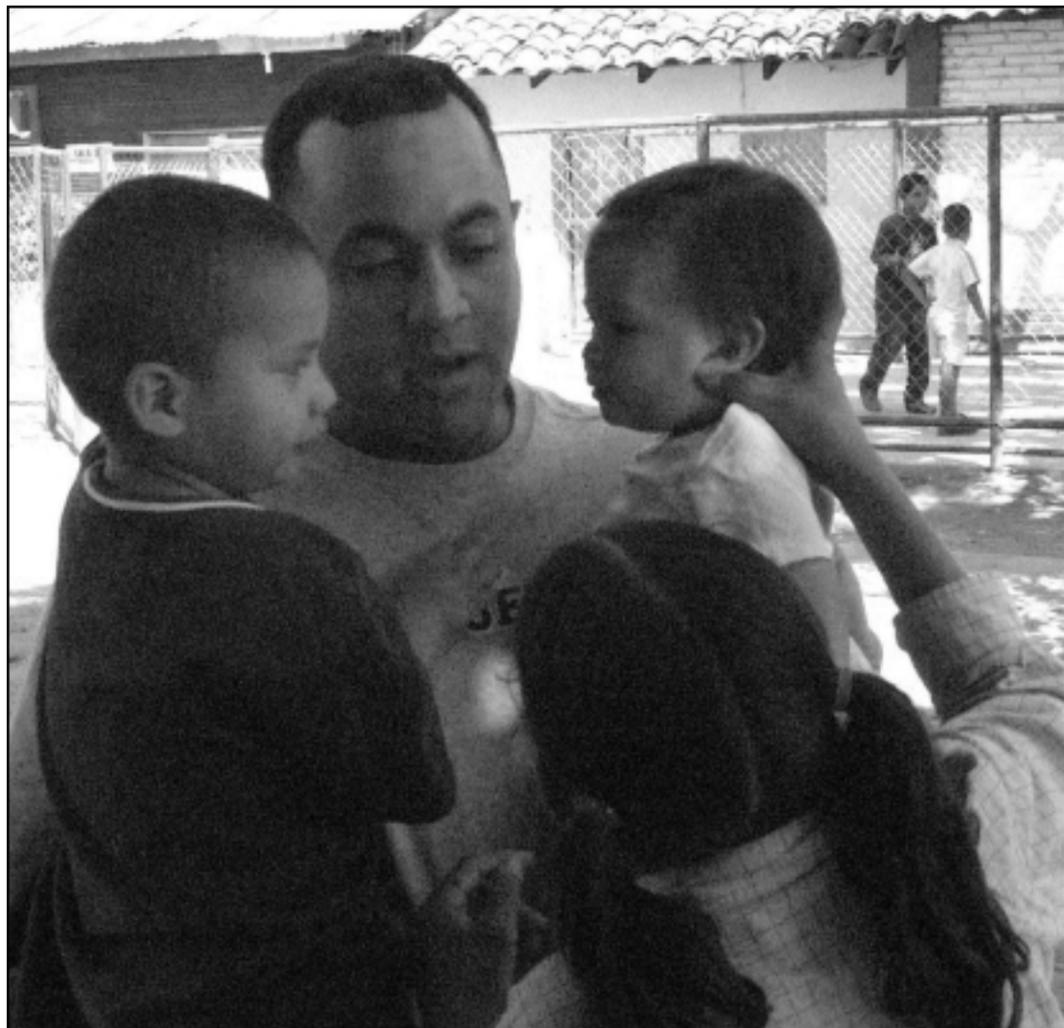
And at least 75 percent of both men and women respondents reported that their service’s training conveyed “a good understanding of what sexual harassment was, an understanding of what behaviors were offensive and could not be tolerated, that sexual harassment makes it difficult for service members to perform their duties,” Elig said.

Chu maintained that the 2002 survey demonstrates that the majority of service members polled see their anti-sexual harassment training as being effective.

“And that’s a good news story, because we’ve been investing heavily for some years now ... in training as one of the ways to change behaviors,” Chu said.

During Senate testimony earlier that day, Chu also said the survey shows that most service members have faith that commanders are willing to take appropriate action on issues of sexual harassment and more serious forms of sexual misconduct.





Top: Staff Sgt. Paul Hrynio watches on as Sgt. Christopher Young holds a fence post for Staff Sgt. Jose Flores to hammer into the ground. To the right of Flores is Spc. Christopher Stephens hammering another fence post as the volunteers construct a garden Feb 21 at the orphanage.

Top Left: Sgt. 1st Class Manuel Olmotorres talks to three of the children from the orphanage.

Left: Sgt. Marcin Lajdecki loosens the ground with a pick axe.

Bottom: Staff Sgt. Virginia Castillo helps to hand out lunch.





Time well spent at La Tierra

Photos and story by Pfc. Michael Tuttle
Editor

There are many ways for service members stationed here at Soto Cano to spend their free time. One opportunity they have been taking advantage for a long time is to visit a local orphanage.

A group of volunteers from ARFOR did just that Feb. 21 when they spent a few hours at La Tierra orphanage in La Paz.

"I wanted to come down here because these kids don't have much, but they look forward to interacting with us," said Sgt. 1st Class Francisco Ramirez.

The volunteers spent the bulk of their time building a garden. Starting from scratch they removed rocks and loosened the dirt to prepare the ground. They also put up a fence around the perimeter of the garden as they laid the foundation for what would be something to benefit the orphanage every day in the future.

The volunteers also spent much of their time interacting with the children. They played basketball and styled some of the little girls' hair. The children also received brown bag lunches full of goodies.

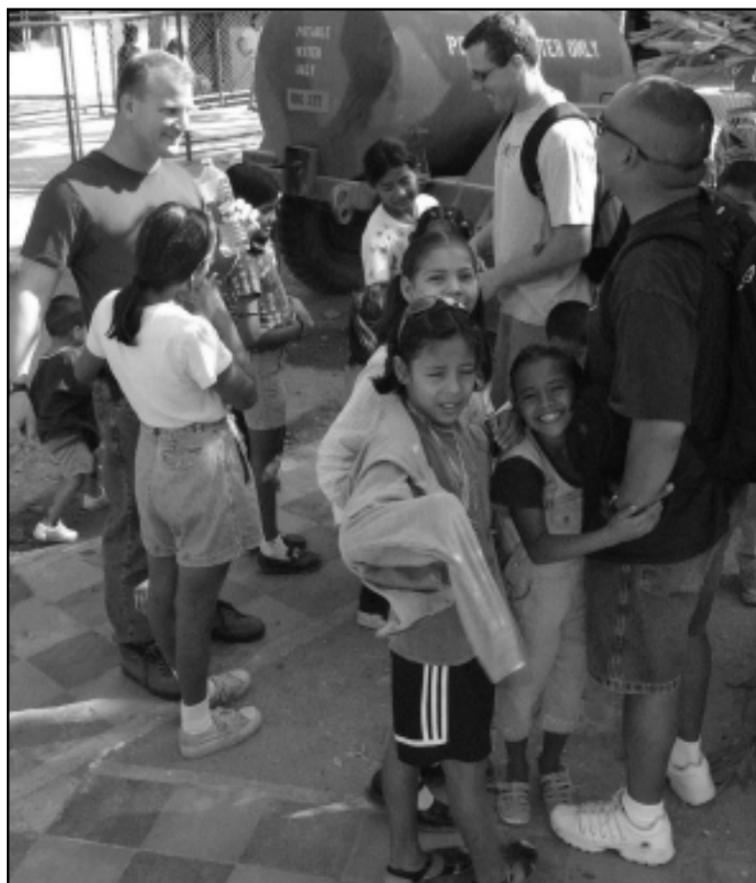
Smiles were plentiful among the children and volunteers.

"I'm not able to see my family while I'm here so it makes me feel good to spend time here," said Sgt. Marcin Ladjecki.

Bottom left: From left to right, Sgt. 1st Class Mark Inman, Sgt. Christopher Young and Sgt. 1st Class Francisco Ramirez are cheerfully greeted on their arrival to the orphanage.

Bottom middle: Cpl. Titiana Henry styles a young girl's hair while many more wait for their chance.

Bottom right: Sgt. Young coaches a girl on her jumpshot.





Tops in Blue to perform here Sunday

Air Force Press Release

Tops in Blue, the entertainment showcase of the United States Air Force, will perform here at 7p.m. Sunday in building R-550.

The current edition of Tops in Blue, "Soaring With Eagles," is a musical celebration guaranteed to captivate the entire audience.

Just as Tops in Blue has been energizing audiences around the world for 50 years, this year's show will certainly please all their fans, young and old.

Tops in Blue will take center stage and perform a free, 90-minute show, taking you on a musical journey celebrating 50 years of Air Force Entertainment and 100 years of powered flight. The show, appropriately named, "Soaring With Eagles," is a musical celebration of their proud entertainment history. As always, Tops in Blue will celebrate with music that captures their history, and our American heritage.

According to Tom Edwards, the show's producer and director of Air Force Entertainment, "This year is indeed a milestone in the history of the program and the history of the Air Force. We plan to celebrate with our fans by performing some of our all-time favorite songs. It's the music which reflects the true essence of Tops in Blue, and it's what we do best."

Tops in Blue will put you "In The Mood" for an evening of celebration as they revisit their favorite songs from the past five decades.

The '60s and '70s come alive with some oldies but goodies from the

Supremes, Tina Turner's "Proud Mary," and the Village People's ever-popular "YMCA."

Favorite hits from Gloria Estafan, MC Hammer, BOYZ II MEN, Ricky Martin and Marky Mark will energize you with all the "Good Vibrations"

Tops in Blue has to offer. The night's entertainment builds to the stirring medley that embraces the "Soaring With Eagles" theme.

Known as the Air Force's Expeditionary Entertainers this year's team of 35 active duty military members will travel to 22 countries and perform over 150 shows.

"They are indeed a reflection of the 'best of the best,'" added Edwards. "As this year's team continues the tradition of worldwide ambassadors, this group of talented young Air Force men and women displays the pride, patriotism and dedication felt by all Air Force personnel around the world."

MWR will be awarding prizes in addition to the performance. A weekend for two at the Maya Hotel, a weekend for two at the Excesbar, a DVD player and a Thrifty Car rental for one weekend will be given away.

"We are always looking for ways to entertain the troops," said Robin Gonzalez, MWR manager.

This is a way for the military to show off its own talents for its own people, she added.

For information on the Tops in Blue program or how to join, visit their official web site at www.topsinblue.com



Sgt. Maj. of the Army focuses on safety

By Spc. Lorie Jewell
Army News Services

In his first few weeks as the Army's top enlisted soldier, Sgt. Maj. of the Army Ken Preston said he's getting a crash course on the 'big picture' Army while zeroing in on key issues he'll focus on.

"Right now, I need to understand a little bit of everything across the board," Preston said during his first "Sergeant's Time" interview as sergeant major of the Army with Soldiers Radio and Television. "The Army staff is doing a wonderful job in getting me smart. Once they finish, I'll really start focusing on a couple things I can make a difference on over the course of the next three or four years."

Safety is one of those issues. With a mandate from the secretary of defense to reduce the accident rate by 50 percent, Preston plans to spearhead plenty of dialogue about the subject.

So far this quarter, 79 soldiers have died in accidents - 20 more than the first quarter of fiscal year 2003, Preston said. From fiscal years 2001 to 2003, the number of accidental deaths in the Army jumped from 168 to 255, according to the U.S. Army Safety Center at Fort Rucker, Ala.

"It's about not becoming complacent," Preston said. "It's ensuring Soldiers out there follow procedures established in policies, regulations, operating manuals."

Sergeants have a responsibility for enforcing the standards, for making sure soldiers aren't taking short cuts or taking things for granted, he added.

Preston acknowledged that the current fast-paced operations tempo plays a role in the accident rate, but

stressed he believes awareness can make a difference.

"We have 325,000 soldiers in more than 120 countries across world, and eight divisions in transition. The operations tempo is much higher, but nevertheless when a soldier dies because of accident, particularly when it could be prevented, it's a tragedy," Preston said. "I really think that the more we focus on it and the more we talk about it, even with the current pace of operations, we can reduce the rate."

The Army's most pressing priority at the moment is the global war on terrorism and upcoming troop movements into and out of theaters, Preston said. But leaders are also focused on concurrent goals, such as transitioning from a current to future force that remains relevant and ready, he added.

"As the Army changes and evolves, so must other things," Preston said. "One of the things I want to look at is the future of the non-commissioned officer education system. It needs to evolve to take into consideration the modern battlefield we're currently on."

The Army's current design and organization was for the cold war-era fight, for a time when the good guys were at one end of the battlefield, the bad guys at the other, and they met in the middle for a "clash of the Titans" type battle, Preston explained.

"It is truly now a 360-degree battlefield," he said.

Training centers like NTC in California and JRTC in Louisiana are evolving to incorporate the lessons soldiers are learning in Afghanistan and Iraq, Preston added. Emphasizing the Warrior's Ethos is another way of mentally preparing soldiers for the new battlefield.

"The Warrior's Ethos is what quantifies what soldiers are about today," Preston said. "If you look at

what's going on in Iraq, all soldiers there are warriors. The mentality that every soldier is a rifleman first is so, so important."

Balancing the force is another way of better preparing for the new battlefield. Preston said the Army's 100 artillery battalions were designed, again, for the cold war era.

That number will be pared down, while other units in heavy demand - military police, for instance - will be increased.

The current 33 brigade combat teams will be refigured into 48 brigade units of action, he said.

Such changes will not only make the Army more modular and better able to quickly deploy, but will offer soldiers more predictability in when they'll deploy, Preston said.

Preston will be testifying before Congress in the near future, giving a state of the Army address from the enlisted soldier's point of view.

"They want to know what soldiers think when the rubber meets the road," he said.

One of the most frequent questions Preston fields has to do with morale. He said he answers based on what he knows, which comes from his interaction with soldiers in Iraq.

Preston believes morale is high across the Army. When he talks to soldiers there, he shares his belief that a year from now, they will all be proud of their accomplishments in Iraq.

"The greatest gift you can give any human being is the gift of freedom," Preston said.

Soldiers are encouraged to e-mail Preston questions. The address is: smaweb@hqda.army.mil.





Basketball season tips off

The JTF-Bravo intramural basketball season started two days late on Feb. 19 because of inclement weather. However, the season is now fully underway with three games per night on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The regular season will conclude on March 23. The playoffs will follow with the six teams being seeded based on their finish in the regular season. Here are the current standings as of March 1:

	<u>Wins</u>	<u>Losses</u>
MEDEL	3	0
Comayagua	2	1
Fire Dawgs	2	1
Caxa Real	1	2
ARFOR	0	3
Caxa Real	0	3



Photos by Pfc. Michael Tuttle

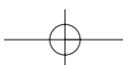
ARFOR Sgt. Jon Cates drives the lane against Caxa Real Feb. 26. Caxa Real won 44-32.



MEDEL's Sgt. Scott Kibler finishes a fastbreak ahead of Comyaguan defenders Feb. 26. MEDEL won the game 37-26.



MEDEL's Sgt. Hugo Quintero attempts to score over a Comyaguan defender in a game Feb. 26.



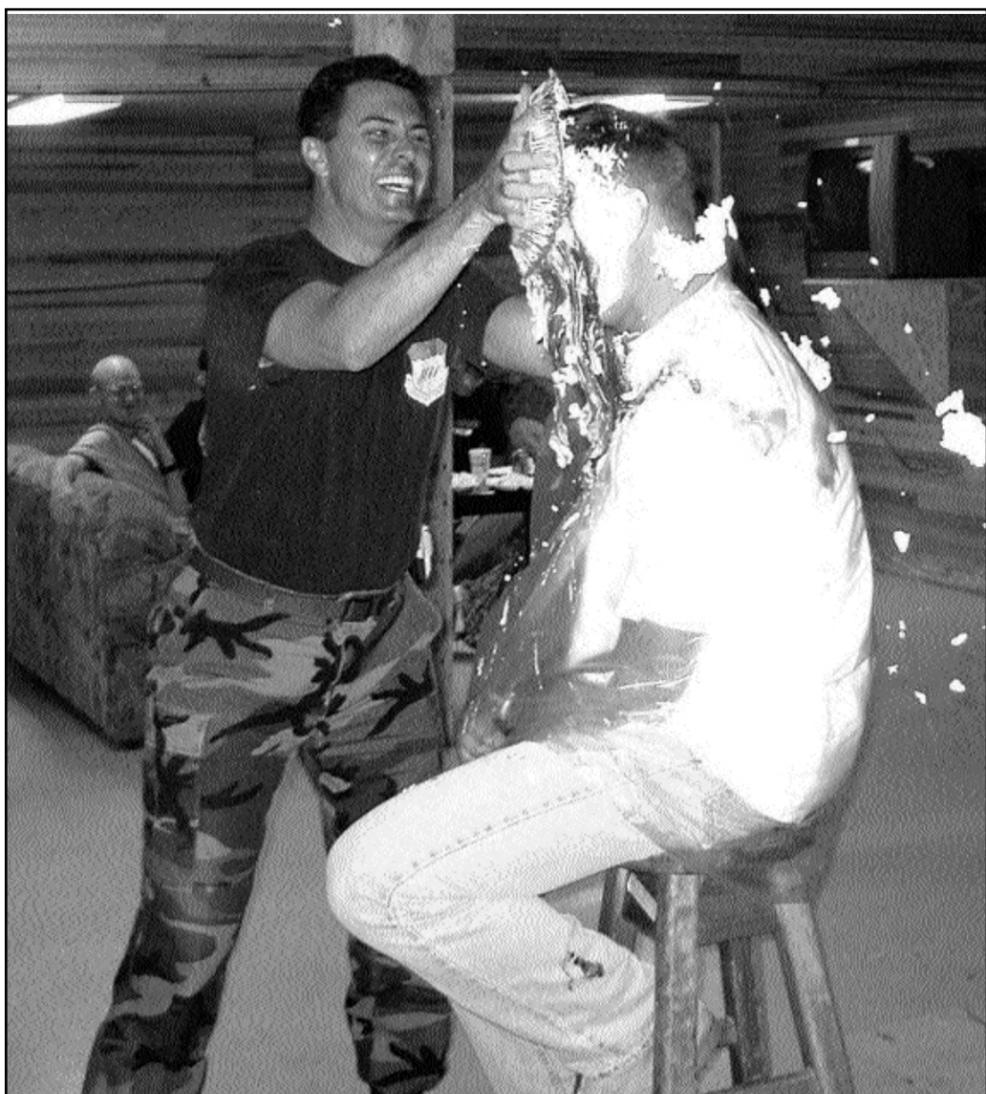


Photo by Lt. Col. Michael Lowry

Master Sgt. Jefferey Ramsey, JTF-Bravo JSF, smashes a pie in the face of Tech. Sgt. Jay Messinger, housing superintendent, during a fundraising event for AFFOR's Airmen's Association Feb. 26 at the Oasis Club.



Photo by Pfc. Michael Tuttle

A group of Honduran soldiers step off the plane as they return home from Iraq Feb. 18.



Photo by Pfc. Michael Tuttle

MEDEL service members use their BDU trousers as floatation devices during a drown-proofing exercise in the Soto Cano pool Feb. 25. They learned several simple techniques that should keep them from drowning in any situation.

JTF-Bravo Chapel Activities Schedule



Protestant Activities:

- SUNDAY
- 0945 Bible Study (Base Chapel)
- 1100 Protestant Worship Service (Base Chapel)
- TUESDAY
- 1230 Ladies Bible Study (Crossroads)
- 1830 Off-Post Bible Study at the Miller's home (Comayagua)
- WEDNESDAY
- 1900 Bible Study (Base Chapel)

Catholic Activities:

- SUNDAY
- 0815 Mass (Base Chapel)
- 0930 Bible Study/Breakfast (Dining Facility)
- WEDNESDAY
- 1200 Spanish Mass (Base Chapel)
- SATURDAY
- 1630 Mass (Base Chapel)

Latter Day Saint Activities:

- SUNDAY
- 1700 LDS Fellowship (Base Chapel)

Other Activities:

- FRIDAY
- 1800 Crossroads (Bohio) - Games, snacks, and fellowship

For more information call the Chapel at 6844/6845.

