

Contrail

March 2009, Vol. 43, No. 3



*Bolton takes
Command*

FEATURES

Bolton to command Wing (Page 4)

Wing sweeps awards—Again (Page 5)

Combatant Airmen (Page 6)

Women's History Month (Page 7)

You never want to say If Only (Page 11)

AND MORE...

DEPARTMENTS

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER (PAGE 3)

THE HUD (PAGE 8)

NEWS AIRMEN CAN USE (PAGE 10)

COVER

STANDING ROOM ONLY

Airmen stand in formation during the Change of Command ceremony that was held in the Wing's main hangar on Feb. 8. Col. Robert C. Bolton assumed command of the 177th. Photo by Master Sgt. Shawn Mildren, 177FW/PA.

Chaplain's Corner:

US Airways Flight 1549

By Chaplain Lt. Col. Dean Wentzien

Back on Jan. 15, US Airways Flight 1549 ditched in the Hudson River. It was an event that has captured the hearts of all Americans. About two minutes after take-off from LaGuardia Airport, a flock of birds disabled both engines that crippled the aircraft over the most populous city.

Capt. Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger

had to make a decision within seconds. The decision he made would result in life or death for everyone onboard the flight. In addition to Sullenberger, the other crewmembers were co-pilot Jeffrey Skiles, and three flight attendants – Doreen Walsh, Sheila Dail and Donna Dent. All five crewmembers are heroes in saving the lives of all 155 people onboard.

None of the flight attendants knew they were landing in the water until it happened. Flight attendant Doreen Walsh said, "When I got out of my seat and saw that water, it was the most shocked I've ever been in my life." The impact tore a hole in the plane's tail, and water poured into the cabin.

Welsh said she "just went crazy" and started yelling and pushing people to get them out. "And as I was getting up, I thought I might actually live," she said.

"Cause a second ago, I thought I was gone. So my emotions had gone through, within seconds, accepting death and seeing life. It was unbelievable." WOW! What a statement!

As we go through life without God, we are spiritually dead in our sins.

"So my emotions had gone through, within seconds, accepting death and seeing life. It was unbelievable." That statement has a profound theological connotation. As we go through life without God, we are spiritually dead in our sins. In essence, sin "tears holes" in us spiritually. However, within seconds, we can have life. The Lord made this possible.

By making the decision of accepting the Lord in our hearts, we will survive and have eternal life.

March Chapel Schedule

Sunday March 8

Protestant Service – 8:30 A.M.

Catholic Mass – 9:30 A.M.

Annual dental exam

The Annual Dental Exam, which is required each year, will be completed by your civilian dentist (exceptions include pilots, anyone new to this base, individuals on class three and those who have never been seen by a wing dentist).

Start by obtaining a DD Form 2813 from the clinic or it is available on the local area network (K:\FORMS\ DD\2800\dd2813.pdf); have your dentist complete the form and return it to the clinic.

The State Family Programs Office is available 24/7, call toll free 888-859-0352.

177FW Editorial Staff

Col. Robert C. Bolton, Commander

Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen: Assistant Editor/Layout/Writer/Photographer

Master Sgt. Laura Moyer: Writer

Master Sgt. Andrew Moseley: Multimedia Manager, Photographer

Master Sgt. Shawn Mildren: Photographer

Staff Sgt. Matt Hecht: Photographer, Editorial Cartoonist

Staff Sgt. Andrew Merlock Jr.: Photographer

Staff Sgt. Jamil Abdur-Rahman: Fitness Writer

177FW/PA, 400 Langley Road, Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234

(609) 645-6005; (609) 677-6741 (FAX), Public.Affairs@njatla.ang.af.mil

This funded newspaper is an authorized monthly publication for members of the U.S. Military Services. Contents of the Contrail are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force. The editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 177th Fighter Wing. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.



A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER



For those of you who missed the change of command let me say how excited I am to be your new Commander! It's an exciting and extremely challenging time to be in the Air National Guard and during the next three to five years we will be witness to history in the making. There will most certainly be cuts in the fighter force and the reality is we could lose our mission. I don't say this to scare you but to emphasize how important this particular ORI is. Of all the things Guard units do, including combat operations, the most visibility we get is from our inspection results with the ORI results at the very top of the list. Consider also that our AEF deployment is less than six months after our ORI. If we don't pass the ORI we will most likely be removed from our AEF deployment. Three other Block 30 Guard units have recently failed their Phase 2 ORI's and this is something we can't allow to happen to us. History has shown that we in the 177th always rise to the occasion and we need to continue to show the world what we are made of! **Superior results on the ORI is my main goal for our Wing.**

During the next seven months I will be asking a lot from you. But we are all in this together and I understand that the most important asset we have is YOU! My leadership staff and I will be doing everything we can to ensure a work environment that is both challenging and rewarding to you all. I have a pretty good understanding of the sacrifices you all make as I have been an AGR, Technician, and Traditional Guardsman.

Let me now shift gears and write about three areas. The first concerns the NJANG Climate Assessment Survey. You have all received an e-mail with instructions on how to complete the climate survey. As one of your drill tasks, please complete this important survey. It is your chance to speak out and help emphasize weak areas and ultimately improve the organization.

The next two areas are immediate goals of mine: to improve communications and to ensure we recognize and reward our people. Communications is one of our biggest challenges in the Guard and I want to ensure that we get the word out to everyone. Let me reiterate something I said at my Change of Command in regards to e-mails and communications. E-mails are great but they are not the primary means of communication in the 177th and are never a substitute for leadership. In other words our primary method of communication in our Wing is either by phone or in person. I am mandating live conversation for anything that requires coordination or some type of reply other than routine events. I'm not trying to increase anyone's workload but instead want to increase the amount of

individual contact we have. I also wanted to get the word out in regards to our ORE's. We have decided to increase the length of our June and September ORE's by one day. Next week we have our 180 ORI meeting with the Inspector General and will be asking to increase our inspection by one day. I'm not a glutton for punishment but there are several smart reasons for this which I will talk about at Commander's call.

I will finish by recognizing some folks who have gone above and beyond the normal call of duty. First of all, we had our Alert Force Evaluation on Monday, Feb. 23. It was an extremely challenging scenario that occurred at night outside of normal duty hours. Our full-time Alert force did an outstanding job and the evaluation resulted in a rating of "Mission Ready". These results are briefed at the highest

levels and once again show how awesome we are here at the 177th! In addition to the full-time alert force the following individuals responded to the AFE and need to be mentioned for their outstanding support and dedication:

Lt. Cols. Fogarty and McBrearty, Chief Master Sgts. Shellhas and Urie, Senior Master Sgts. Baggstrom, Capille, Clark, Mason and Monteith; Master Sgts. Batille and Berling, Tech. Sgts. Beaulieu, Carns, Castrenze, Flynn, Lewis and Nabb; Staff Sgts. Ferreri, Galluccio, Humphrey, Klotz, McPherson, Szerbin, Williams and Wood; Senior Airmen Gould, Gunther, Lomonaco and McDevitt.

As you all know we also had quite the snowstorm and I want to thank the following individuals for their outstanding efforts in clearing the ramps and minimizing the time the Alert force was down:

Chief Master Sgt. Harris, Senior Master Sgt. Maurer, Master Sgts. Brown, Gaskill, Gordon, Leek, Mick, Ross and Stratton, Tech. Sgts. Achilles, Egizi and Frank, Airman 1st Class Larsen; and Civilian Personnel: Anthony Alcamo, Michael David, Sergio Delvicario, Edwin J. Headley III, Thomas Headley, Louis P. Tarquino and Charles A. Wright.

Last but certainly not least I want to thank the following three Maintenance Squadron Airmen who came in early after working night hours in order to launch me so I could attend an important event: Senior Master Sgt. Bartlett, Tech. Sgt. Lewis and Staff Sgt. Rancourt.

Have a safe and productive drill!

ROBERT C. BOLTON
Colonel, NJANG
Commander

177TH ORE SCHEDULE

April 2-5

June 3-7

Sept. 9-13

Bolton to command Wing

Photo and story by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177FW/PA

On Feb. 8 Col. Robert C. Bolton assumed command of the 177th Fighter Wing.

Colonel Bolton was born in Norwood, Mass., on Dec. 30, 1961. He graduated from Mansfield High School, Mansfield, Mass., in 1979. He received a four-year Reserve Officer Training Corps Engineering scholarship from the U.S. Air Force and attended the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Mass., where he received a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering in 1983.

The Colonel was commissioned in May 1983 and began Undergraduate Pilot Training in July 1983 at Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas. He completed Undergraduate Pilot Training in June 1984 as a distinguished graduate and was selected to fly an F-15 with the 27th Tactical Fighter Squadron at Langley Air Force Base, Va. In March 1988 Bolton was assigned as a Replacement Training Unit Instructor Pilot with the 22nd Tactical Support Training Squadron flying OV-10's at Patrick Air Force Base, Fla. That same year, Colonel Bolton also attended Squadron Officer School in residence. The unit was relocated to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz, in March 1989 where he remained until June 1990.

Colonel Bolton left active duty to become a Technician Instructor Pilot with the 177th Fighter Wing. As a technician, Colonel Bolton has been the Chief of Training, Weapons, and Scheduling. He was the Operations Officer responsible for the F-16 Air Defense Fighter and the C-model conversions and also the Air-to-Ground upgrade program. He has been on all the unit's major deployments and was the Detachment Commander on two of the unit's counter-drug deployments. In 1998, the Colonel completed Air Command and Staff College.

In March 1999 he was hired by American Airlines and became a traditional Guardsman. As a traditional Guardsman, he served as the Operations Support Flight Commander. When the events of 9-11 unfolded, Colonel Bolton stepped in as the unit's Alert Operations and Scheduling officer and flew on many of the Homeland Defense missions. From September 2003 through January 2006, Colonel Bolton served as the unit's Alert Detachment Commander. In February 2006, he deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom as the unit's Assistant Operations Officer. That same year, the Colonel graduated from Air War College. In August of 2007, he was appointed as the Operations Group Commander.

Colonel Bolton is a Command Pilot with more than 5,400 flight hours, 1,600 of them as an instructor. He has flown the T-37, T-38, OV-10, F-15A/B/C/D, F-16A/B/C/D, MD-80 and the Boeing 777, 767 and the 757.

His major awards include the Laughlin Air Force Base Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 84-06 Distinguished Gradu-



Incoming Commander of the 177th Fighter Wing Col. Robert C. Bolton (right), accepts the 177th's Colors from Brig. Gen. Maria Falca-Dodson (left), Commander, New Jersey Air National Guard, while 177th Command Chief Master Sgt. Michael R. Francis (center) observes during the Change of Command Ceremony held at the Wing on Feb. 8.

ate, 1989 Tactical Air Command Instructor Pilot of the Year and the 1992 177th Fighter Wing Company Grade Officer of the Year. Bolton's decorations include: Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Aerial Achievement Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal with four devices, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with one device, Combat Readiness Medal with three devices, National Defense Service Medal with one device, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with gold border, Air Force Longevity Service Award with three devices, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon with one device Air Force Training Ribbon with one device, New Jersey Ribbon of Honor, New Jersey Merit Award Ribbon with fourteen devices, New Jersey Desert Storm Support Ribbon and the New Jersey Unit Strength Award Ribbon.

Excerpts from Colonel Bolton's Change of Command speech

My expectations are straightforward and simple.

Integrity.....Integrity needs little discussion. It is first and it is a must, especially in our profession where we are entrusted with so much. I like to think of myself as pretty level-headed,

Continued on page 6

Wing sweeps awards – Again

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA; photos courtesy 177FW/PA

Joint Force Headquarters-New Jersey (Air) announced the results of the judging for the New Jersey state nominations for the national Air Force Outstanding Airman of the Year Awards program and the Major General Richard "Craig" Cosgrave Chiefs Award.

The 177th Fighter Wing led the way taking three of the five New Jersey state nominations for the Air Force Outstanding Airman of the Year Awards as well as garnering the prestigious Chiefs Award.

And the winners are...

2009 Airman of Year nomination – Senior Airman Bradley S. Ferguson, 177th Fighter Wing Maintenance Squadron

2009 Non-Commissioned Officer of Year nomination – Tech. Sgt. Jamie L. DeCosta, 177th Fighter Wing Operations Support Flight

2009 Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of Year nomination – Chief Master Sgt. Lance C. Endee, 108th Air Refueling Wing Security Forces Squadron

2009 First Sergeant of Year nomination – Senior Master Sgt. Marie M. Reavis, 108th Air Refueling Wing Civil Engineering Squadron

2009 Honor Guard Member of Year nomination – Staff Sgt. Jamie A. Tonkinson, 177th Fighter Wing Maintenance Squadron

2008 Major General Richard "Craig" Cosgrave Chief's Award winner – Chief Master Sgt. Donald E. Harris, 177th Fighter Wing Civil Engineering Squadron. The Chiefs Award was created to honor outstanding Chief Master Sergeants in the New Jersey Air National Guard that demonstrate superior performance, community service, professionalism, and leadership in the highest standards expected of a Chief Master Sergeant. The award was named in honor of Maj. Gen. Cosgrave, former commander of the New Jersey Air National Guard, who put complete trust and confidence in his Chief Master Sergeants. The selection is based on four areas: individual initiatives, professional-



2009 Non-Commissioned Officer of Year
Tech. Sgt. Jamie L. DeCosta



2009 Airman of Year – Senior Airman Bradley S. Ferguson

ism, demonstrated abilities of a Chief, and adherence to the Core Values of the United States Air Force.

The Air Force Outstanding Airman of the Year Awards, which are selected by the Air Force Chief of Staff at the national level, recognizes 12 enlisted members in a range of grades representing a cross section of the Air Force's career fields. The Airmen are honored at the Air Force Association's annual convention in Washington, D.C. The program was initiated at the Air Force Association's 10th annual national Conference, held in New Orleans in 1956.

Applicants are judged in the three areas. The first, superior leadership and job performance covers how well the Airman performed assigned primary and additional duties and includes any new initiatives or techniques developed by the member that positively impacted the unit and/or the mission.



2008 Major General Richard "Craig" Cosgrave Chief's Award winner
Chief Master Sgt. Donald E. Harris



2009 Honor Guard Member of Year
Staff Sgt. Jamie A. Tonkinson

Second is significant self-improvement. Here the judges look at how the applicant has developed or improved skills related to their primary duties. This also includes any off-duty education not directly related to primary duties. In addition, they look at any other training or activity that significantly enhanced the member's value as a military citizen. The last area of judging is community involvement, and personal achievements. This covers the scope and impact of the Airman's positive leadership and involvement in both the military and civilian community.

Ferguson, DeCosta, Endee, Reavis and Tonkinson will now go on to compete at the National Guard Bureau against all the other states. Should they win, they will compete against their active-duty counterparts. 🇺🇸

**THE ORI IS THIS OCTOBER
READ YOUR AIRMAN'S MANUAL—BE READY**

Combatant Airmen

By Senior Master Sgt. Michael P. Allen, Manager, 177SFS; photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177FW/PA

The bugle sounds, a Call-to-Arms.

The base is under ground attack. A contingent of armed enemy forces breach the base's perimeter fence and quickly make their way toward the Command Post; the base is in peril. Air Base Defenders hunker down in their fighting positions; their aim is accurate and deadly. The siege of enemy combatants has been thwarted. Thank God for the Security Forces; only this time it's not SF defenders.

Who then, came to the installation's rescue? Look no further than yourself -- all who wear the American Air Force uniform, the Integrated Base Defender.

As America finds itself in a protracted war facing a decentralized, non-linear battlefield with unconventional enemy combatants, Air Force leaders are scrambling to redefine and reorganize our force constructs and the battle space that we fly, fight and win in. Realizing this simple truth, current Security Force manning constraints cannot fully execute Base Security Zone dominance alone, we must adapt, augment and in some cases divest old missions to fully execute airpower dominance.

To keep pace, Air Force Policy Directive 31-1, Integrated Defense, states, "every Airman shall receive initial and recurring combat skills training geared toward defending themselves and integrating into defense operations while at garrison and deployed. These skills are required in order to "fight the base" effectively as a single entity". The directive is a sound, a realistic plan that allows us to remain relevant on the modern battlefield. In concept, all Airmen contribute effectively to base defense, whether as an observation sensor, reporting possible



enemy activity to Security Forces, or as an actual defender. Every Airman is a combatant; every maintainer, personnel administrator or civil engineer is a vital contributor to base defense.

Across the global combat spectrum, American Airmen are finding themselves in non-traditional roles to meet cross-service combatant needs. For example, in 2006, to help support a strained U.S. Army, well over 800 Air Force personnel attended Army ground combat skills training at several Army training camps. Otherwise known as "In Lieu Of Training," or "ILO," Airmen learned skills like enhanced combat weapons proficiency training, land navigation and Global Positioning Satellite training, expanded self-aid and buddy care -- known as "combat lifesaver" training -- detecting and responding to Improvised Explosive Devices, and a host of other current tactics determined relevant to certain theaters of operation. That's enough training for an average

Security Force troop to break a sweat, let alone anyone else. But this type of training illustrates what is really happening in the global theater of war.

So as we prepare ourselves for the impending Operational Readiness Inspection and overseas commitments, let us internalize contemporary doctrine -- we are all warriors, combatant Airmen, united in a fight against an increasingly elusive enemy. Embrace small arms training, learn to shoot straight and deadly, keep yourself physically fit to embolden your warrior spirit, and train hard to learn how to survive and fight in an attack environment.

You are the modern Airman -- A Base Defender. 🇺🇸

Excerpts continued from page 4

but I will have no patience nor sympathy for someone lacking integrity. It's that simple.

Service before Self.....In my book, Service before self does not just describe someone who is sacrificing for the good of others. There are times for that. But the bigger definition lies in the way we conduct ourselves on a continual basis. Specifically it means understanding that life is much bigger than just one person and that the only way we truly excel is when we join together for the greater good.

It will be one of my jobs to make sure that all of you understand this. I will do this by setting clear goals for the team and making sure that everyone realizes we are a team and that everyone has value on the team. Your part as a team member will be to respect the chain of command, learn and do your mis-

sion well and do it by the book. And as team members who take ownership pay attention to what's going on around you and don't complain without offering a solution.

In life we observe people at their best when others are depending on them. That is why I feel it's so important to create a team where everyone knows their position or job and everyone realizes the importance of their contribution. It's much harder to let the team down than it is to let yourself down. It will be my job and the job of my commanders and supervisors to set up such an environment. Now I do realize that this is a bit of an oversimplification and there are other factors not the least of which is getting people the proper training and I will work to ensure we do just that. 🇺🇸

Women's History Month

Taking the lead to save our planet

Commentary by Staff Sgt. Jessica Blace, 379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFNS) -- In our nation's history, women's contributions to our great country have been overlooked and completely omitted at times. The idea of acknowledging women's contributions to American History had little support until 1978, when the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County (California) Commission on the Status of Women initiated a "Women's History Week."

In 1981, Sen. Orrin Hatch and Rep. Barbara Mikulski followed California's lead and co-sponsored the first Joint Congressional Resolution to proclaim "Women's History Week." In 1987, Congress approved the resolution and officially proclaimed March as Women's History Month.

This year, the Department of Defense recognizes Women's History Month as "Women Taking the lead to Save Our Planet." Of note are a few women who have and continue to make a positive impact on the Earth's environment for future generations

Mary Arlene Appelhof, who lived from 1936 to 2005, also known as "worm woman," advocated using the earthworm to recycle food waste into fertilizer and introduced the environmentally-significant action of vermicomposting.

Mollie Beattie, who lived from 1947 to 1996, was the first woman to head the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. She led the reintroduction of the gray wolf into the northern Rocky Mountains. For this accomplishment, Congress named a wilderness area in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in her honor. Hillary Rodham Clinton, a name we are all familiar with, is now our Secretary of State. While serving as a senator, she worked to secure federal legislation to protect the environment both on

the Senate's Environment and Public Works Committee and as the senior democrat on the fisheries, wildlife and water subcommittee.

She also co-sponsored the Petroleum Consumer Price Gouging Protection Act and Close the Enron Loophole Act that allowed the president to declare an energy emergency and trigger federal gouging protections.

While observing great women of the past, what about a woman serving in the Air Force and deployed while assisting in Earth's survival.

Captain Elizabeth Yesue, the 379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron programs flight chief, arrived in July 2008 to an air base in Southwest Asia. She also deployed to Baghdad International Airport in Iraq from September 2004 through January 2005. Throughout her deployments, she accomplished many tasks to directly influence the environmental stewardship of those in the area of responsibility and directly impacted us all. She wrote the environmental standards for joint implementation in the area of responsibility, established the base solid waste management plan, and remediated a 186,000-gallon fuel spill that occurred after an attack, just to note a few accomplishments.

During Women's History Month and throughout the year, we should remember all of the women who have made contributions to ensure future inhabitants of Earth have a place to call home.

The contributions of these women -- officers, enlisted Airmen and civilians -- continue to shape women's history as they make American history. 

			
Marty Wiyall	Sgt. Vanessa Sheffield	Betty Gillies	Maj. Nicole Malachowski
<small>In 1944, she was a member of the last class in the Women Airforce Service Pilots program that graduated. More than 100 WASP from around the nation attended the ceremony, and Gen. Henry A. Arnold was the keynote speaker. Less than a month later, the program was deactivated.</small>	<small>Few women were in the maintenance career field in 1977. Sergeant Sheffield used her training to maintain C-130 Hercules aircraft when she was assigned to the 610th Military Airlift Support Squadron at Yokota Air Base, Japan.</small>	<small>On Sept. 12, 1942, she was the first woman pilot to qualify for the Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron. Mrs. Gillies was also the first woman to fly the P-47 Thunderbolt when she checked out the aircraft at New Castle Army Air Base, Del.</small>	<small>The first woman pilot of any Department of Defense military jet demonstration squadron, she performed with the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds in March 2006. She flew the Thunderbird 3 slot, the right wing pilot of the diamond formation.</small>

THE HUD

HEADS UP ON MOVIES, GAMES, & ENTERTAINMENT

Graphic Novels

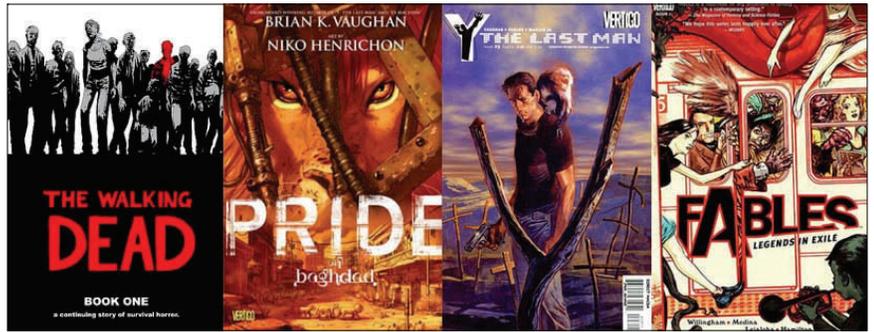
By Staff Sgt. Matt Hecht, 177FW/PA

I thought I would try something different this month.

Movies and home entertainment are great, but there is also another form of geektainment that you might find interesting: the graphic novel. Graphic novels aren't really novels per se; some are a collection of comic series, while others can be standalone works of art. They usually have complicated storylines, and are aimed at a broad audience. Note: some of these stories may not be appropriate for children.

The Walking Dead, by Robert Kirkman and artists Tony Moore and Charlie Adlard tells the story of a group of survivors in a world overrun with the living dead. Throughout this ongoing series the characters really develop, and there is always a feeling of stress and tension.

Pride of Baghdad, written by Brian K Vaughan and illustrated by Niko Henrichon. The novel takes place in 2003 during the Iraq war, and how after the Baghdad Zoo is bombed, a



pride of lions escapes into a city in peril.

Y: The Last Man, also written by Brian K Vaughan as well as Pia Guerra, is an epic story that encompasses 60 comic books bound into 10 graphic novels. The series revolves around Yorrick Brown, a young magician, and his pet monkey, who are the only survivors of a plague that kills off all of the world's male population.

Fables, by written by Bill Willingham, is a series of books detailing the adventures of Fairy Tale characters who now live in the real world. While weighing in at 13 books, it is a fascinating take on the Fairy Tale genre, retold in film noir style.

THE FIGHTING FALCONS by SSgt Matt Hecht



THE AIR FORCE TESTING THE NEW TOC (TACTICAL OFFICE COMMANDO) UNIFORM.

Daylight Savings Time
Begins March 8 at
2 a.m.

Don't Forget to set to set
your clocks ahead
an hour



Our Past

A weapons loader from the 119th Observation Squadron at Newark Airport loads a bomb circa 1930. Photo courtesy 177FW/PA.

ANG set to upgrade to Microsoft Office 2007

Courtesy NGB

Every computer user in the Air National Guard will be experiencing changes in the day-to-day computer use in the coming months as the ANG network is upgraded to Microsoft Office 2007.

The biggest change for users will be in the appearance of the Microsoft Office suite of products. Office 2007 makes some major changes from the older versions of MS Office. Before the changes were made, Microsoft studied thousands of Office users and adapted Office 2007 to their usage patterns.

While this change will affect every computer user in the Air National Guard, it will not affect every user at the same time. There are numerous ANG units participating in the Exchange 2007 pilot program, which began on July 18, 2008.

The first time a user opens his or her email in the Office 2007 environment the account will be empty. Users will continue to receive email sent to their old email addresses in their new accounts. Primary email addresses will change from `firstname.lastname@base.ang.af.mil` to `firstname.lastname@ang.af.mil`. Some users may have a numeral appended to their last name and all contractors will have `.ctr` added.

To capture these older email messages the user will have to take certain actions. Your local CSA and Communications

Flight Help Desk will be able to assist you. These actions will be well publicized through the various outlets prior to the upgrade.

While most of the interface changes are intuitive, the NGB/A6 is mounting an aggressive information campaign to ensure users are aware of and prepared for upcoming changes.

This campaign will include a series of informational publications as well as a Warrior Broadcast aimed at every computer user in the Air National Guard. This information will be distributed to the end user in a variety of ways including the following:

- Targeted emails to every user
- Commander's Call and UTA Briefings
- Warrior Broadcast's

Information and document sharing via the Air Force Portal

As a whole the ANG expects to be completely moved into the Exchange 2007 environment by the spring 2009.

For more information or if you have questions please contact Master Sgt. Aaron Correll at aaron.correll@ang.af.mil or Mr. Rob Burmeister at james.burmeister.ctr@ang.af.mil. Or visit NGB/CIO CoP (Network Architecture) at <https://www.d.mil/afknprod/ASPs/docman/DOCMain.asp?Tab=0&FolderID=OO-SC-AN-51-28&Filter=OO-SC-AN-51>



JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC

MARCH 2008

Value the civilian side of the National Guard

- ✓ *Observe Women's History Month*
- ✓ *Celebrate St. Patrick's Day*

Human diversity makes tolerance more than a virtue; it makes it a requirement for survival.

Rene Dubos



NEWS AIRMEN CAN USE

Compiled by the 177th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

SFRC increases grants

The New Jersey National Guard State Family Readiness Council has increased the amounts of family and business grants up to \$5,000 and \$10,000, respectively.

Both are what are known as TIER I grants. TIER II family grants are also available to New Jersey Army and Air National Guard non-deployed service members who were on State Active Duty or State Missions (e.g., hurricanes, floods, border missions) for more than 20 consecutive days. Service members meeting these criteria are eligible to apply for a financial hardship grant up to \$1,500.

Applications are available at all New Jersey Army and Air National Guard Family Assistance Centers. Contact Mr. Gunning in Building 229 if you are interested in applying. 609.645.6248

177th Children's Spring Party

Open to All 177th Family Members

**PLEASE RSVP to Mr. Gunning, ext. 6248 NLT
March 26**

Saturday, March 28, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

In the Base Dining Hall, Building 400

PLUS:

**Easter Egg Hunt, Face Painting,
Crafts and Tattoos and an**

Appearance by Captain Visual

And A Special Visit From The

EASTER BUNNY

Support our Troops

The National Guard State Family Readiness Council is holding a "Support Our Troops" fundraising concert featuring the Blawenburg Band.

This concert will be held at the Lawrenceville National Guard Armory April 19 between 1-3 p.m.

Tickets cost \$10 and includes complimentary food. Contact Lou Peoples at 609-882-2675 to get your tickets!

NJSHARES

New Jersey SHARES helps households that have fallen behind on their utility bills due to a temporary financial crisis.

A financial crisis can happen to anyone, regardless of age, income or family situation. A crisis is often due to unforeseen circumstances, such as a job loss or illness. We provide assistance to households that are not eligible for other types of public assistance.

Applicants must demonstrate a temporary financial need and a history of good-faith payments to their energy provider.

NJ SHARES is designed to help people who are going through short-term financial problems. Applicants must show a history of paying bills on time and that events have occurred that cause hardship in paying bills now.

Funding is limited and is on a first-come, first-served basis so visit the following websites to get more information. This is a grant, not a loan so check it out to see if you may be eligible for this. Go to www.njshares.org or call 211 and ask about NJSHARES.

One Source offers free tax prep

Military One Source is offering free preparation and filing of both your Federal and State taxes. Just in time for tax season.

This is available for all DoD branches, Guard and Reserves and their families.

To get started or find out more about this valuable benefit, call 1-800-342-9647 or visit www.militaryonesource.com.

Don't let a tax preparer take even more of your money with tax preparation fees. Maximize your refund or minimize your tax bill by visiting Military One Source today!

Airmen, become a Recruiting Assistant and for every person you recruit into the 177th Fighter Wing you earn \$2,000. Logon to <http://guardrecruitingassistant.com/> pick out Air Guard, fill out the application and you are on your way to helping someone make a great career choice and some serious cash for yourself.



You never want to say *If only*

For want of a nail

*For want of a nail the shoe was lost.
For want of a shoe the horse was lost.
For want of a horse the rider was lost.
For want of a rider the battle was lost.
For want of a battle the kingdom was lost.
And all for the want of a horseshoe nail.*

Foreign Object Damage is preventable. It's one of those problems that torture our sense of hindsight. We are all familiar with the horror stories caused by a momentary oversight — a dropped bolt, a lost tool, a piece of paper on the ramp, or a flashlight left inside an airplane.

If only someone had picked up that little piece of debris instead of walking by. If only that final step had been taken when a missing nut couldn't be found.

If only.

But "if only" doesn't cut it once the damage is done.

The following incident actually happened at Tinker. A flight of four F-16 aircraft was on the runway for departure on a windy Oklahoma day. The first two aircraft began rolling down the runway. The last two aircraft were waiting for spacing when one pilot noticed a plastic bag blown by the wind ingested into his wingman's intake.

The F-16 shut down immediately on the runway after being advised by his wingman. Subsequent tests revealed there was no damage to the aircraft's engine. The alert action by the pilots prevented any potential problems, but "if only" that plastic bag had been picked up or secured before it became a foreign

object.

FOD is preventable, and that is one of its inherent frustrations. There is always some way — usually a very simple, easy way — that damage caused by FOD could have been prevented.

Knowing this, we must be absolutely committed to preventing FOD. Prevention includes creating a work environment where it is easy to spot FOD, and where a "clean-as-you-go" attitude is encouraged.

Dealing with FOD after the fact is an extremely expensive, extremely impractical and extremely dangerous approach. Do your part and commit to eliminate FOD potential by adhering to the following steps:

- Perform operations and maintenance tasks according to technical data.
- Practice good housekeeping in all maintenance and operations areas, all the time.
- Participating in FOD walks, to remove FOD from ramps, and access roads.
- Ensure all tools, equipment and hardware are accounted for at the end of each task.
- Perform FOD rollover checks on every vehicle's tires before entering the flightline or taxiway.
- Ensure strict control for all tools, equipment, rags, residue and hardware.

For additional information on FOD prevention measures, contact your organizational FOD monitor.

Because you never want to have to say: "If only." 🇺🇸

A Heartfelt Thank You

By Aaron "Little Shugs" Shugarts

It is with tears that I write this letter; tears of joy, sadness and pride.

On Saturday Feb. 28, family and friends came together to celebrate my father, Tech. Sgt. Robert "Shugs" Shugarts, for both his birthday and retirement.

The joyous tears are those of the love that was shown for my father by the coming together of the family and friends. The tears of sadness are those of 41 years that my father gave this nation, out of pure love for his country, and the realization that it has to come to an end. The tears of pride are for the men and women of the 177th that came out to help us celebrate with him.

My family asked me to write a letter thanking everyone on base, though I don't know what to write I will try. During the past ten years I have been working here I have had the honor of seeing first hand why, for the past 36 years, my father has looked at each and every one of you as his family; his brothers, sisters, sons and daughters.

I would like to thank everyone for coming out to "Shugs" party; it was all he could talk about the next day. The coin he received is an honor he will never forget and will cherish forever, the framed photo and patch with the signatures will soon be hanging in his Air Force room as the center piece of his 41

years of service to America.

I know my father is not a man of many words but I do know my father was truly touched by all who attended and he does send his thanks and his love to you all.

Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts. 🇺🇸





Women's History Month

2009

Illustration by Staff Sgt. Matt Hecht, 177FW/PA