

Redstone Rocket

VOL. 49 No. 1

Published in the interest of personnel at Redstone Arsenal, AL

January 5, 2000



Photo by Beverly Schaefer

CADETS— Senior defenseman John Williams and the Cadets are in search of their first College Hockey America victory this weekend at UAH. Williams anchors a stingy Army defense that has allowed only 2.5 goals per game this season.

Army, UAH battle on ice

The Army Cadets meet UAH Chargers in two-game hockey series in Huntsville

By Skip Vaughn

It's supposed to be a home series for the University of Alabama-Huntsville hockey team but many in the audience will root for the visitors.

That's because this is an Army town. And the visiting team will be from the U.S. Military Academy.

The Army hockey team will face UAH on Friday and Saturday nights at the Von Braun Center arena. Game time for both contests is 7 p.m.

The Association of the U.S. Army and the Civilian Welfare Fund Council are both sponsoring ticket buyouts for the series. The CWFC is selling tickets for a dollar; and they're good for general admission either night. See your CWFC representative or call Debbie Donius 313-4010.

This is a big series for the UAH Chargers and the Army Cadets who play in the same conference: College Hockey America.

UAH is 7-3-3 overall and 4-2 for third See Hockey on page 17



Photo by The Huntsville Times

TAKING CHARGE— UAH players (in white jersey's go on the offensive during a game against Bemidji State. The Chargers will entertain Army this weekend at the Von Braun Center arena.

Welcome to the new millennium

Construction projects, change in AMCOM leadership marked 1999 at Redstone Arsenal

By Skip Vaughn

The final year of the century brought changes to Redstone Arsenal including new buildings and tighter security.

Here are some of the highlights from the pages of the Redstone Rocket:

- Maj. Gen. Emmitt Gibson, then commander of AMCOM and Redstone Arsenal, predicted a challenging and productive 1999 for the Aviation and Missile Command.

- A plan called Operation Smaller Footprint began with the goal to vacate and close inefficient and obsolete facilities.

- The Boeing Company announced Jan. 20 that its Huntsville facility would receive new work on the Army's PAC-3 missile program that will eventually result in 300 additional jobs. It is anticipated the work on the PAC-3 program would generate approximately \$1 billion for Boeing Huntsville

over the next decade.

- In March the William V. Gudaitis Visitors' Complex was dedicated in memory of Redstone Arsenal people who were killed in the crash of Southern Flight 242 on April 4, 1977. The DC-9 was en route from Huntsville to Atlanta and was flying through a hailstorm when it was forced to make an emergency landing on a rural highway in New Hope, Ga. Seventy-two people, including Gudaitis and eight others from Redstone, were killed.

- A four-plex family housing unit was destroyed by fire April 12. Fire inspectors quickly determined the cause of the blaze: A natural gas line coming into the residence on Walnut Circle was leaking underground and the gas reached a barbecue grill which had been lit by one of the occupants.

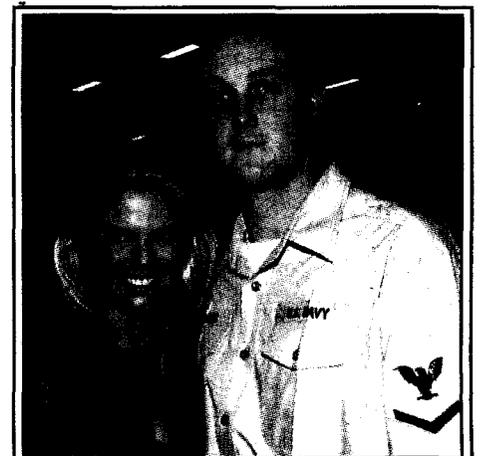
- In June Redstone Arsenal implemented increased security measures. These included closing Gate 2 on Buxton Road; assign-

ing a security guard for each lane of traffic at gates 1, 3, 4, 7 and 9; closing to traffic all unmanned lanes; and checking all vehicles for current decals.

- Maj. Gen. Al Sullivan succeeded Gibson as commander of AMCOM and Redstone Arsenal in July.

- A ground-breaking ceremony in September marked the start of construction for a project to replace 118 enlisted family housing units built in 1957. The \$14 million project is to be completed in May 2001.

- The Richard C. Shelby Center for Missile Intelligence was dedicated in December as the home of the Defense Intelligence Agency's Missile and Space Intelligence Center. Construction began in January 1998. The building wasn't expected to be occupied until June 2000, but MSIC workers began moving into the \$33 million facility in September.



DoD photo by Photographer's Mate 1st Class Dewitt Roseborough

Photo shoot...

Christy Brinkley, famous model, poses with Personnelman 3rd Class Keith Bernauer for a special photo opportunity while aboard the landing helicopter dock ship USS Bataan (LHD 5) for the Christmas USO Show hosted by U.S. Secretary of Defense William Cohen. Cohen's stop aboard Bataan was the first of several visits to military units operating through southern Europe and the Balkans during the Christmas and New Year's holiday season.

Volunteer tax assisters needed
Help wanted

4

Secretary joins museum board
Final frontier

7

MWR opens membership drive
Having a party

10

Letters to the editor

Commander's letter: MWR membership

I am designating the months of January and February 2000 to be Team Redstone Membership Months.

Our MWR and other membership organizations and activities all help sustain soldier, civilian, and family morale and well-being. These activities support the Army's readiness and retention goals by serving as installation focal points for social activities and military events that foster camaraderie, esprit de corps and cohesiveness.

On Jan. 13, Redstone Arsenal MWR is unveiling two new membership opportunities: Team Redstone MWR Services Discount Club, open to all members of Team Redstone, and a new, vastly improved Redstone Officers' and Civilians' Club membership package.

Each of these packages offer great value, significant savings for our customers, and fantastic benefits. I encourage

you to look into the rewards of Team Redstone or Club Membership during the ongoing membership campaign.

Membership is, of course, voluntary. But there is strength in numbers. All membership organizations, be they MWR or the fine private organizations and associations that support our Team Redstone community, need your support to remain strong. I highly encourage membership and your participation and patronage of our activities. Remember, every dollar spent in MWR activities on RSA stays here on the Arsenal, and earnings are 100 percent reinvested in improving the quality of life for our Team Redstone soldiers, civilians, NASA partners, AMCOM contractors, retirees, and their families.

I look forward to seeing you at the Club and all our fine MWR activities.

Maj. Gen. Al Sullivan
commander, AMCOM and Redstone

Proper military leadership

As a retired senior NCO, I feel Maj. Ryder (Rocket letter Dec. 15) took the wrong approach in addressing an issue that's probably prevalent throughout the armed services in this new era of military courtesy and respect. I do believe it starts at the top in our officer corps. When our leadership (officers and NCOs), set the high moral standards of integrity and leadership that's required for a military force to maintain its state of readiness to defend the democratic beliefs of this nation, then perhaps the young soldiers, sailors and Marines will be willing to join our forces, go where the commander-in-chief commits them and fight until the last hill is taken.

With all due respect major, as a well prepared and disciplined NCO when I served, I believe your method of address-

ing an issue that should have been taught in basic training is the wrong approach. As an officer and sworn leader, I believe you should be talking to the officers of the various units of this command and they will in turn talk to the senior NCOs. Soldiers will be reminded of their "proper military courtesy" requirements. Otherwise the soldiers will know you, pass the word on you as an officer and avoid you at all cost. Ma'am, you are not chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff and you can help solve a minute problem with a different approach.

If I offend you, please forgive me. If I were still in uniform I would tell you the same thing. Of course it would be one on one and with the utmost of respect.

Joe W. Buckley
retired MSgt.

Cafeteria kudos

Great cafeteria food and service consistently! My compliments to the management and staff for making the Sparkman Center Cafeteria a great place to eat consistently!

Of the many times I've visited, the friendly and professional staff has been a welcomed break. The food has been good and tasty every time I've eaten and the selections were wide.

Maybe some local establishments can learn things from the Sparkman Center Cafeteria which has provided consistently high quality food and service over a long period of time.

Keep it up, get better and maybe more people will appreciate you.

Name withheld by request with reason being that saying good things about cafeteria food may get you in trouble.

Name withheld by request

Courage to publish

Thank you for having the courage to publish the letter from Sarah Bryan—"Beyond discrimination demands" (Dec. 8 Rocket). Her thoughts agree with mine 100 percent!

John L. Chambers
Huntsville

Bone marrow drive

Robbie Roberson and I say "thank you" to the 87 volunteers that were tested and joined the National Bone Marrow Register on Dec. 7. Also "thank you" to Connie and Linda in the Training Center for their help, to Kathy and Lisa for the letter that was printed in the Redstone Rocket, and for the workers Connie, Doris and Grace from the Red Cross, Lisa and Marie that worked at the Marrow Drive.

Also, we would like to thank everyone that helped to get the message about the Marrow Drive to the people. Especially, a big "thank you" to Skip Vaughn and the Redstone Rocket because our survey the day of the drive revealed that most of the people being tested had read at least one of the two letters that were printed in the Redstone Rocket. Thank you if you previously joined the National Marrow Register and for continuing to help other volunteers to join.

Jean Weisser, IMMC
Robbie Roberson, AMRDEC

Auto service shop

To Dan and his staff at the Base Garage (881-7640), thanks for continuing your effort of giving the RSA customer efficient and friendly service.

David Wilson
IMMC

Child-care fee increase

Each year, the Department of Defense specifies fee ranges for all military child care programs, worldwide. These rates are based on total family income, so that high income earners do, in fact, pay significantly more for the same services than lower income earners. In addition to mandating fee ranges for the entire DoD, Army senior leadership also requires that Child Development Service programs be operated at a non-appropriated fund break-even.

In fiscal '99, DoD-wide, fees were increased to cover rising labor and operational costs. DoD mandated another across the board 1.6 percent fee increase in FY '00 for all CDS programs. These adjustments are implemented purely to ensure that CDS remains a self-sustaining program. This fee structure allows a range of fees to be charged for each income category. The post commander decided early on that we will implement fees here that are at or very near to the lowest possible rate within the required ranges.

While the fee increase for FY '00 is only 1.6 percent across the board, DoD also established an entirely new fee category (Category VI) for families this year: those with total family income of \$70,000 per year and higher. The fee for this new income category is not a result of fee increases at Redstone Arsenal. It is entirely due to DoD's decision to establish a

new fee category for families in the \$70,000-plus income range. While the DoD instruction allows this fee for Category VI families to range as high as \$508 per month, Redstone Arsenal set it at \$458 per month, the lowest possible rate.

It's also important to note that the true cost to the government to provide full-time care for each child at Redstone Arsenal is currently \$553 per month. Every child's non-appropriated fee is subsidized with appropriated funds to cover the difference between patron fee income and the true cost of care. This subsidy ranges from \$376 per child per month for families in the lowest income category to \$95 per child per month for the high income category.

Of course, the civilian child care industry typically charges floating rates based on child age, not Total Family Income as DoD mandates. Our research indicates that the average cost of civilian child care in the surrounding area ranges from \$416 per month for an infant to \$304 per month for a preschool age child.

There certainly are centers in the area that charge less than our new Category VI rates, particularly if you are a parent of a preschooler. But there can be no doubt that the quality of Redstone Arsenal CDC and SAS programs is exceptional. Our CDC program is accredited by the National

See Child care on page 17

Redstone Rocket

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Wanted: volunteer income tax assisters

Tax Assistance Center gearing up for end of century tax season

By Jim Bowne

We all may be living in a new century, but there is still some unfinished business from the last century— filing tax forms.

Fortunately, as in years past, Redstone Arsenal's free tax assistance program will again be available for active and retired military personnel. Under the Army's Legal Assistance Program, the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate is providing a post tax officer as well as volunteer income tax assisters, unit tax assisters, and electronic filing of federal returns for the Redstone Arsenal military community.

According to Capt. Chin-Zen Plotner, the post tax officer for 1999-2000, unit commanders will appoint their unit's tax

assistors.

"However, we're still looking for volunteers, either civilian or military, to train to become income tax assisters," Plotner said. "We'll be holding a training class from 9 a.m. until 4:30 pm. beginning next Monday through Friday. Taking the class and becoming a volunteer income tax assister is a great way for people to learn how to properly fill out their own personal tax forms."

Internal Revenue Service representatives will be on hand to train unit and volunteer income tax assisters in how to prepare personal federal and state income tax forms. The training, scheduled for Jan. 10-14, will be held at the RASA Development Center in building 3447.

See Assistance on page 5

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Advanced Assembly Design Using Pro/Engineer Jan 11-Feb 3 • T-Th • 6-9:20pm • 21000075N
Basic Oracle Database Administration Jan 11-Feb 3 • T-Th • 5:30-8:50pm • 21000302N
Fundamentals of Visual Basic Jan 18-28 • T-F • 1-5:30pm • 21000306N
Tactical Missile Fundamentals Jan 24-28 • M-F • 8:30am-4:30pm • 23000541N
Supporting Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0 - Enterprise Technologies Jan 24-Feb 3 • M-Th • 4:30-8:55pm • 21000101N
Microsoft Word 97 Jan 31 • M • 8am-5pm • 21000298N
Introduction to Hypertext Markup Language Jan 31-Feb 10 • M-Th • 8am-Noon • 21000309N
Six Degrees of Freedom Feb 8-Mar 30 • T&Th • 6-8pm • 23000277N
Basics of Adobe Photoshop Feb 12-26 • Sa • 9am-4pm • 21000327N

Business & Management

Schedule and Cost Parameters Jan 11-Feb 1 • T • 6-9pm • 23000089N
Training and Development Jan 13&20 • Th • 6-9pm • 23000083N
Understanding the Government Procurement System Jan 24&31 • M • 6-9pm • 23000076N
Effective Communication: The Key to Success Jan 24-Mar 6 • M • 6-9pm • 23000095N
Principles of Supervision/Leadership Jan 24-Mar 20 • M • 1-4pm • 23000094N
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Legal Aspects of Government Contracting Feb 7-21 • M • 6-9pm • 23000077N

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Photo by Jim Bowne

PLANNING PROGRAM— From left Plotner, post tax officer, discusses Redstone Arsenal's Tax Assistance Program with SSgt. Michael McGilton, NCO-in-charge, and SFC Don A. Hall, a volunteer income tax assister. Both McGilton and Hall are members of D Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion.

Assistance

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All those who attend the training will have to pass a test at the end of the course before they can become volunteers. Also, all volunteers will be certified by the IRS.

"I want to stress that because of limited resources and expertise, our services will be generally limited to filing personal

income taxes only," Plotner said. She also pointed out that all volunteers would receive on-the-job training while on duty at the Tax Assistance Center.

The Tax Assistance Center will open for business Feb. 1 through April 15. The location of the tax center has changed this year. It will be located in building 3447 and will be open from 8:30 a.m. until 3 p.m.

See Assistance on page 6

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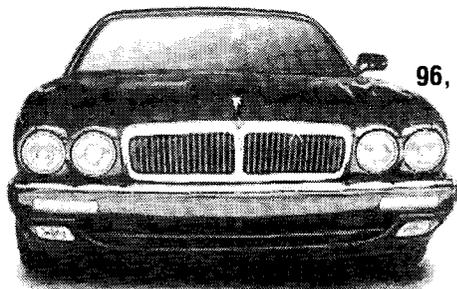


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Assistance

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Monday through Friday. Extended office hours will be held Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5-7 p.m. The office usually has from 5 to 10 volunteers that serve as income tax assisters, in addition to a judge advocate. Individuals will ordinarily be seen by appointment only. Appointments will be scheduled starting Jan. 24.

"HHC AMCOM and the 832nd Ordnance Battalion are expected to assign three full-time soldiers to the tax center," Plotner said. "We also plan to have a number of volunteer income tax assisters who will primarily serve retirees and family members who do not have a supporting unit tax assister. And unlike the unit tax assis-

ters, the volunteer income tax assisters will work out of the Tax Assistance Center."

Plotner pointed out that a staff judge advocate will supervise all tax assisters as well as the preparation of complex tax returns. The officer in charge will also determine, on a case-by-case basis, if clients should be referred to a private tax preparation service. Assistance will be provided on personal tax returns only.

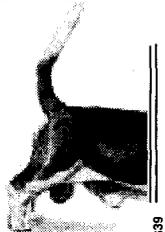
In addition, computer-assisted tax preparation and direct electronic filing of federal returns will be available at the Tax Assistance Center. Computer-assisted tax preparation will be available for several states, including Alabama.

For more information about becoming a volunteer tax assister, call Plotner at 876-9005 or the Tax Assistance Center at 313-3909.

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LOGSA secretary appointed by governor to Space and Rocket Center's board of directors

By Sandy Riebeling

Cynthia McCollum loves a challenge. Her recent gubernatorial appointment to the Alabama Space Science Exhibit Commission may be her biggest challenge yet. The Space Camp program, governed by the Commission, is in trouble—to the tune of \$6 million. Gov. Don Siegelman put this new 18-member board together to get the program out of debt and the Commission back on track. McCollum says she's ready to get to work.

"This is a high profile board because its problems have been blasted across the press on a weekly basis," McCollum, a secretary in the Logistics Support Activity Asset Visibility Center, said. "I'm accustomed to the visibility because I sit on the Madison City Council. Everything we do is put under a microscope. I look forward to being part of a group that can make some changes and hopefully make it better than when we found it."

Area fifth-grade students were previously allowed to attend Space Camp at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville at no cost. It was discovered last year that the



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

ON BOARD— McCollum was appointed to the new Space and Rocket Center board of directors by Gov. Don Siegelman in November, as one of 18 members expected to address the dire financial situation of the organization.

program had not been funded properly and had accumulated a debt of \$6 million. Once the details of the situation were revealed, the director of the Center along with most of the board either resigned or was removed. McCollum joins three former board members, Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer, John Stallworth and interim board president Roy Nichols, along with other local citizens appointed by the governor to create a new board in an effort to overcome

See Board on page 16

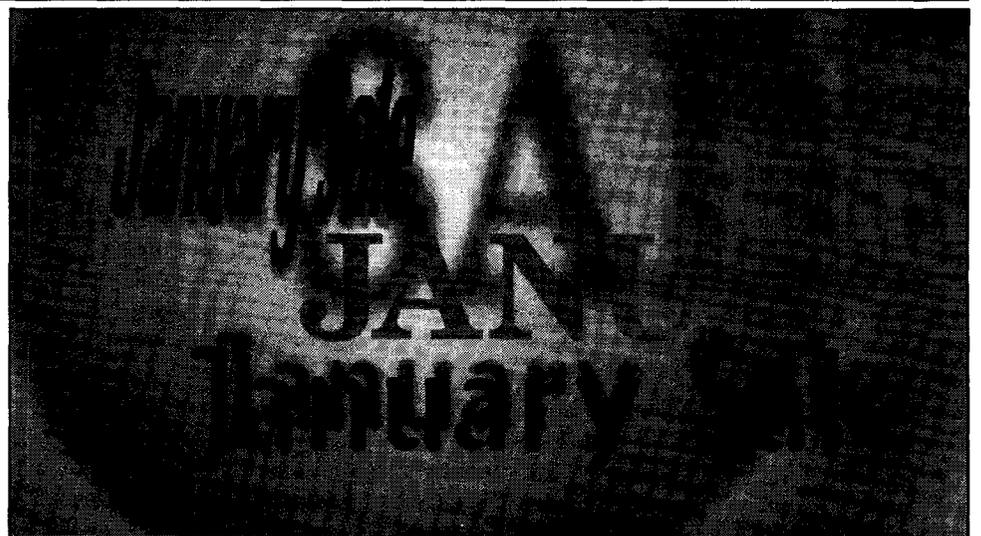


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Mrs. Thomas goes to Washington

Family ties to vice president was ticket to inaugural ball

By Sandy Riebeling

Going to the inaugural celebration in 1997 was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Redstone contract specialist Gail Thomas. Then again, maybe not. A family link to vice president Al Gore earned her the chance to visit the political scene three years ago. A presidential victory in 2000 would mean another trip to Washington.

"My husband, Bob, made all the arrangements to go to the inauguration," Thomas said, explaining the family connection. "Bob is Al's second cousin. Al's dad and Bob's grandmother are brother and sister. It took months to coordinate between the family members who were going and the vice president's office to get the formal invitation and tickets."

It was a whirlwind five-day trip to Washington, D.C. back in January 1997. The first stop was a formal reception at the Thomas Jefferson Reception Room in the State Department the night before the inauguration which included one of the largest fireworks displays in the country.

"We met Kevin Spacey, Dr. Ruth and retired Alabama Senator Hal Heflin,"

Thomas said. "We were served fancy hors d'oeuvres and drinks and went out on the balcony and drank hot chocolate and watched the fireworks. It was really cold out that night."

The next day, Jan. 20, was the vice presidential inauguration on the grounds of the U.S. Capitol. Thomas had a hard time recognizing the area because it was full of people. The couple had seats on the lawn but back behind them were thousands of people standing on the lawn for the ceremony.

"The ceremony and everything leading up to it was full of pomp and circumstance—it was very impressive," Thomas said. "After the inauguration, we went to another private party where we were able to view the parade. They served food and drinks. We had a wonderful time."

Thomas spent the evening dancing the night away at the Tennessee Ball held at Union Station.

"Everyone was dressed to the hilt," Thomas said. "All the men were in tuxedos and the women were dressed in everything from short strapless sequined dresses to full length very formal gowns. I was amazed at some of the dresses."

See Thomas on page 15

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Expecting a Y2K baby?

Food inspector encourages safe food preparation for future moms

By Beth Skarupa

Expectant mothers and those preparing food for them should be especially careful when preparing food.

"The old practices of food safety never die," SSgt. Roger Walden, NCO in charge of food inspection for Redstone Arsenal, said. "Any illness a pregnant woman contracts can affect her unborn child whose immune system is too immature to fight back."

Foodborne bacteria, particularly listeria monocytogenes, can cause miscarriage or illness in newborns. Listeria can be found in unpasteurized milk, imported soft cheese, hot dogs and lunch meat.

According to Walden, people should not buy or use foods that are past their "use-by" dates. It is best to keep foods refrigerated and to use or discard open packages of lunch meat or spreads in three to four days. Even sealed, unopened lunch meats should not be kept more than two weeks after you buy them.

Walden offered this advice to expectant mothers:

- Never eat raw meat such as steak tartare, poultry or seafood—especially raw

oysters and clams.

- Don't eat raw or undercooked eggs or foods that contain them such as Caesar salad, mousse or homemade ice cream. Eggs should be cooked solid, both yoke and white.

- Don't drink unpasteurized milk or foods made with it.

- Don't eat soft cheeses such as feta, Brie, Camembert, blue and Mexican style soft white types as Queso Blanco and Queso Fresco.

- Avoid food from deli counters and thoroughly reheat lunch meats and hot dogs.

- Make sure food is well-cooked with no pink in hamburgers, poultry or seafood. Use a meat thermometer to ensure foods reach high enough temperatures to destroy any bacteria present.

- Don't thaw food on the counter. Defrost food in the refrigerator, in cold water or in the microwave just before cooking.

- Keep work areas clean. Wash hands, utensils and cutting boards in warm, soapy water before and after preparing food or handling raw meat or poultry.



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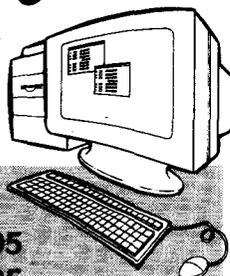
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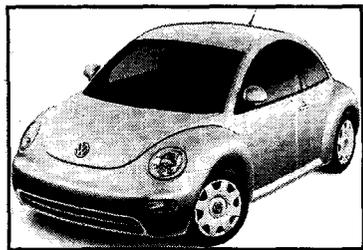
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Membership has its privileges

MWR ceremony kicks off drive with two new memberships

By Sandy Riebeling

If you think the last big party of the season is over, think again. Morale, Welfare and Recreation has a blowout event planned Jan. 13 at the Redstone Officers' and Civilians' Club to showcase two new membership packages.

Everyone is invited to the unveiling ceremony from 4-6 p.m. which will offer a free heavy hors d'oeuvres buffet, a sampling of Budweiser products and soft drinks, gifts to the first 500 attendees, and door prize tickets.

"There is at least \$2,000 worth of door prizes to be given away during the two-hour event," Dan Ahern, director, Directorate of Community and Family Activities, said. "We want everyone to come out and see for themselves what MWR has to offer. We've created a completely new membership that is open to everyone at Team Redstone—contractors, military and federal employees, no matter what grade or rank. We want to get everyone involved in our activities."

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Photo by Sandy Riebeling

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE—MWR has a membership for everyone in the Redstone community. Ahern, right, and McGuire settle the last of the details for the membership drive kickoff ceremony Jan. 13.

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See MWR on page 17

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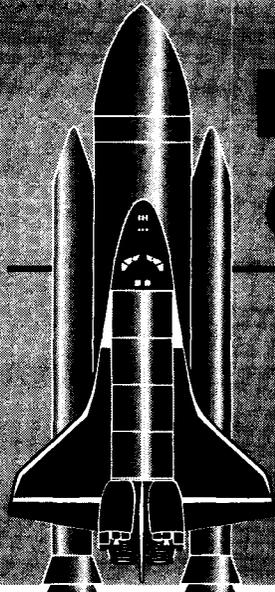
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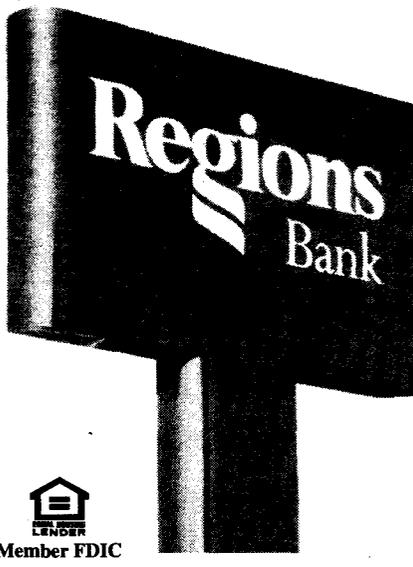
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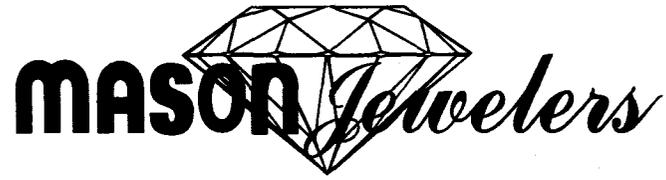


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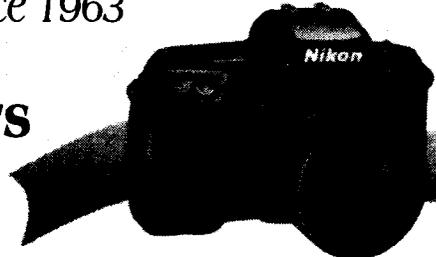
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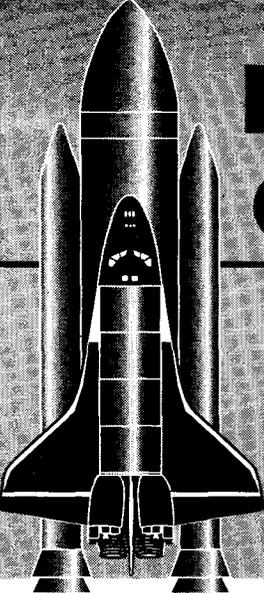
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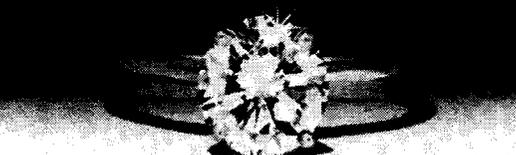
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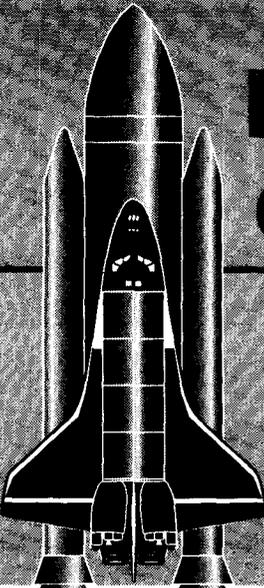
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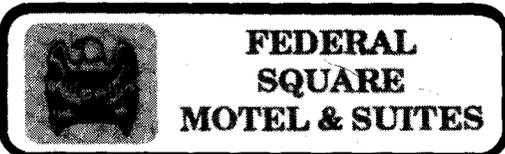
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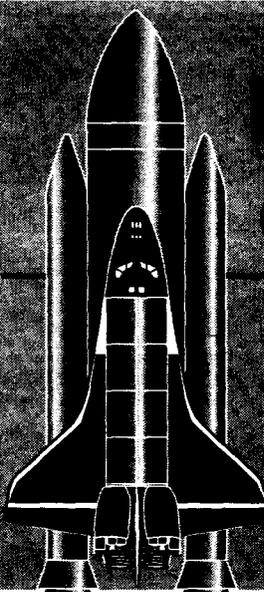
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H'ville Times Restaurant Review



Thomas

continued from page 8

President Clinton and Vice President Gore, along with their wives, visited several parties that evening, including the ball the Thomases attended.

"We didn't speak with the Gores at the ball but they did come by and talk to the crowd," Thomas said. "The whole affair was very elegant—not something I'm used to going to in Arab."

Thomas and her husband visited with the Gores at their home, the Admiralty House, the following day.

"Things were a lot less formal at the Gores home," Thomas said. "Al met everyone as they arrived. That was also the first chance I had to talk with Tipper. I always thought she was pretty when I would see her on TV or in pictures but she is absolutely beautiful in person. All of Al's daughters



Courtesy photo
AT HOME WITH AL— Gail and Bob Thomas visit with Gore at the Admiralty House, the vice president's home in Washington.

are pretty."

Several rooms in the Admiralty House were open to party goers that afternoon. The Thomases viewed the home, mingled with famous entertainers like Aretha Franklin and Stevie Wonder but the real surprise for Thomas came while she was looking at a wedding photo of the Gores.

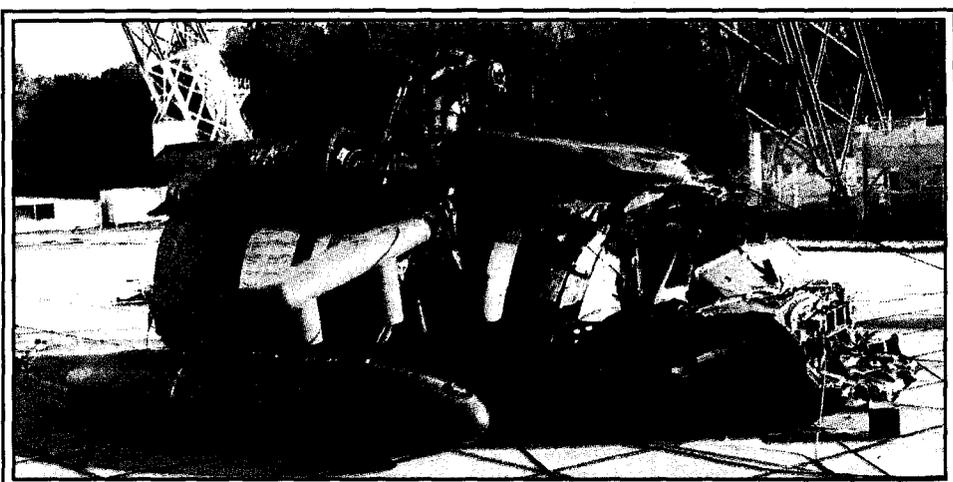
"You know, when you're looking at their wedding pictures you don't think you'll recognize anyone but I did notice that Tommy Lee Jones was in the wedding. I think he was the best man, but I'm not sure. I know he was in the wedding. I thought that was neat."

The relaxed atmosphere gave Thomas a chance that not all Americans get—to see their vice president laughing and having a good time in a casual atmosphere. It was something Thomas wished everyone could see.

"I think the press judges him unfairly," she said. "Most of the time you see him on television or read about him in the paper, he is portrayed as stuffy and uptight but he's not really like that. He has a great sense of humor and is very personable and knowledgeable."

The inaugural celebration was not the first time Thomas had met her husband's famous cousin.

"Bob told me that he was related to Al Gore but I didn't really think much about it," she said. "Then a couple years after we were married, Al was coming through Huntsville and Bob took me out to the airport to meet him. We worked our way



Army photo by Ronald Bowman

Fuel tank test...

The Aviation Applied Technology Directorate, Fort Eustis, Va., recently conducted a successful UH-60A Black Hawk full-scale drop test with an external fuel tank at the Full-Scale Dynamic Research Facility, NASA, Langley Research Center, Hampton, Va. This test was conducted as part of an ongoing agreement between the directorate and Robertson Aviation to develop a crashworthy, ballistic tolerant external fuel tank. The object of the test was to demonstrate that the tanks could survive a crash without leaking. The tanks were filled with 200 gallons of water and then mounted on a UH-60A crash damaged fuselage. The outer shells of the tanks were severely damaged but there were no leaks.

through the crowd and when we finally got up to him Al looked at my husband and said, 'Hi, Bob, how are you doing?' Bob introduced me and Al welcomed me to the family. I was speechless."

The Thomases live in Pine Lake Village, but Bob Thomas grew up near Carthage, Tenn., across the Cumberland River from his uncle, Senator Albert and Aunt Pauline Gore and their now vice presidential son, Al. The cousins don't "buddy around,"

according to Bob, but they are able to stay in contact. "I do have his home phone number. I can call him up and talk to him."

Bob and Gail both worked at Redstone as contract specialists but a couple of years ago, Bob, who is retired military, chose to stay at home with their two daughters, Amanda, 2 1/2 years and Marisa, 11 months old. Bob also has a grown daughter, Laura Williams, who lives in New Jersey.

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Space and Rocket Center board appointee wants to make a difference with 'can-do attitude'

Board

continued from page 7

the debt and ideally, keep all the programs intact.

"I would expect that our first task is to hire a director to deal with the day to day operations of the Space and Rocket Center," McCollum said. "The mission of the board is to set policy. Once we've had a chance to get in there, look at the programs and see the actual numbers, we'll be in a better position to make a plan of action. We need to know exactly what we're dealing with."

While McCollum is cautious about projecting specific strategies, she is not unfamiliar with the process of working on a board or as a member of a team. It was her years experience working through problems and creating new and better programs that brought her talents to the governor's attention.

"I've been involved with and working for people all my life," she said. "I have a reputation for teamwork. I've worked with the governor in other areas and I think my can-do attitude and dedication was the reason I was even considered by the governor. I'm one of the most loyal people you'll meet. When I believe in something, nothing, nothing, nothing will deter me from getting the job done."

It was just this sort of fire the governor's office was looking for when they called McCollum at work in October asking if she might be interested in serving on the new board.

"I was surprised," said McCollum. "I'd never really thought about it before but I

told the governor's emissary that I would give it some thought. He called back and told me that his mission from the governor was to get me to say yes. Once I'd agreed, the governor called me to officially ask me to serve."

McCollum's appointment was effective Nov. 22 for an eight-year term. The first meeting of the new board was Dec. 20. Under normal circumstances, the board would be meeting monthly but she expects to meet more frequently in the beginning.

Another challenge may be finding the time. McCollum currently serves as president pro-tem of the Madison City Council, where she has been an elected member for 11 years, as trustee of the Alabama Municipal Workman's Compensation Fund, executive committee member in the Alabama Democratic Party, executive committee member of the Alabama League of Municipalities and first vice president of the National Black Caucus of Local and Elected Officials.

"You just find the time for the important things," she said. "My family is important to me so I want to make sure and spend time with them but I also want to serve my community. It's something my grandfather taught me a long time ago and it's always stuck with me."

McCollum said that lesson was reinforced while watching a film in a leadership class she was taking. It showed a man walking along a beach line that was just covered with crabs that had been washed onto the shore. As fast as he could, he was throwing them back into the water so they would survive. A man came up and asked what he was doing. When he explained

that he was trying to save them, the man said, "You can't save them all." The other man responded, "I can save the ones I touch."

"I guess that's the way I feel," McCollum said. "I can't save everyone. I can't touch everyone. But I can make a difference. Doing something to help people—I can find time to do those things and still be a loving wife and mother."

True to her words, McCollum has spent her life giving to others. Besides caring for her husband, Jerrel, and the couple's two children, Scott, 25, and Christopher, 16, her past board experience includes Helpline board treasurer, founding member of the Big Brother/Big Sisters of Huntsville, Huntsville/Madison County

Mental Health Center, Voluntary Action Center, Huntsville/Madison County Senior Center, Family Services Center, Kids of Huntsville, Madison Water and Wastewater Board and the Huntsville/Madison/Limestone county Community Action Agency.

"What the Space and Rocket Center has to offer this community is important," McCollum said. "Whatever we can do to educate people and excite them about space, rockets, missiles, aviation—we need to do. We don't know what's out there—what the space industry holds for us but we need to find out. We need to stay excited and fund the programs that will create a better educated work force who will make those wonderful discoveries."

Law change affects reservists' widows

WASHINGTON— The last of the reserve components' "forgotten widows" are now eligible for the two-year-old Annuities for Certain Military Surviving Spouses benefit.

The fiscal 2000 Defense Authorization Act removes an inequity written into Section 644 of the fiscal 1998 Defense Authorization Act, which created the benefit.

"Forgotten widows" describes widows and widowers previously ineligible for survivor annuities because their retirement-qualified military spouses died before having the chance to enroll in the active duty Survivor Benefit Plan, created in 1972, or the Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan, created in 1978.

The fiscal 1998 law said retirement-qualified reservists had to have died between Sept. 21, 1972, and Oct. 1, 1978, for their surviving spouses to be eligible. The fiscal 2000 change removes the 1972 date.

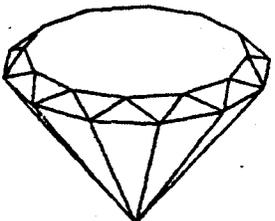
Eligibility criteria now for the Annuities for Certain Military Surviving Spouses

benefit are that the deceased reserve member must have been eligible for reserve retired pay at age 60 by having completed at least 20 qualifying years of service, must have been married to the applicant on the date of death, and must have died before Oct. 1, 1978.

Benefit rules that affect surviving spouses of active duty retirees are unchanged. The applicable date of the member's death remains "before March 21, 1974."

Benefits are not automatic. Eligible surviving spouses must apply and provide supporting documents. Those disappointed for benefits under the previous law who now qualify must reapply. Applicants approved under the new law are entitled to monthly annuities of \$174.76 beginning Dec. 1, 1999, retroactive to Oct. 1, 1999.

For more information, applications and help, contact the retirement services office of the nearest military installation. (From the U.S. Army Personnel Command, Alexandria, Va.; special to the American Forces Press Service)



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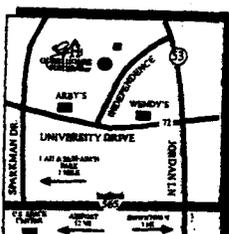


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Team Redstone memberships offered

MWR

continued from page 10

over \$50 when you use your MWR First USA card at Challenger Bingo; \$2 off all outdoor equipment rental fees; \$3 off outdoor Pool season passes (pools open Memorial Day through Labor Day); 5 percent off all Arts and Crafts Center class fees; 5 percent off all Auto Skills Center fees; 5 percent off purchases at the Vet Clinic (for all eligible users); and membership in the four fitness centers on post.

"This package is open to everyone," Ahern said. "With the membership comes the First USA MWR Card which is a MasterCard that offers a whole other package of benefits from the card company. The whole family receives the benefits and everyone in the family can get a card."

For those who do not want to receive the credit card portion, a propriety card is also available, showing membership with MWR activities.

"Besides the discounts and low APR the card carries, just having it saves members a lot of hassle," Yvonne Coleman McGuire, MWR sales and marketing director, said. "Now, DoD family members can use the fitness centers but they have to have the employee come and sign them in every time they want to use it. With the membership card, they don't have to do that. They can use the card as proof of identity."

McGuire also pointed out that the 5 percent off monthly child care discounts can in many instances cover the membership monthly fee.

"Child care fees are set according to income," McGuire said. "Considering the minimum to maximum monthly fees, members can save from \$8.85 to \$22.90—and the membership for package 1 is only \$10 a month."

The second package to be unveiled is the enhanced Club Membership package. This package includes all the discounts in package 1 plus benefits at the Redstone Officers' and Civilians' Club which include:

Unlimited \$2 haircuts year-round at the Club barbershop; up to 20 percent off lunch purchases at the Club (10 percent off every purchase and each 11th lunch free if you

use the frequent diner's card); free birthday party for you and a guest (\$25.90 value once a year); free hors d'oeuvres buffet every Friday in the Big Springs Lounge; \$5 monthly dining coupon for every member; anniversary bottle of champagne; private party/catering privileges; great special events and holiday programs; and reciprocal membership privileges worldwide at any military club.

Package 2 membership fees are \$15 a month. Eligible members include officers—commissioned, retired, and warrant—DoD contractors and federal employees GS-7 and above.

"We are excited about offering the new memberships," Ahern said. "It's not just about discounts though. We want to be our customers' first choice because of service at a great price. We've hired on staff a membership account representative that is there full time to answer customer questions about their First USA Card account. Mil White acts as a liaison between First USA and our members. She can accept payments, handle account inquiries and she is a real person, so our members won't have to go through electronic voice menus to get their questions answered."

Besides the two new membership packages, MWR also offers club memberships for golf, stables and the flying activity.

Current members are encouraged to come and bring a friend to the membership drive kickoff ceremony. Members who sign up new members that night will receive two complimentary dinners to the Soldatenstube and a \$10 credit on their account.

An added benefit of joining early, before March 1, is locking in the \$15 a month rate for package 2. After March 1, the monthly fee will increase to \$17. In October, the beginning of the new fiscal year, the monthly fees for package 2 will increase to \$17 for all members.

"We are encouraging everyone to come out for the ceremony," McGuire said. "It's going to be a great time. We're giving away MWR money, T-shirts, cups, mugs, pen sets, caps, golf T-shirts and lots of them. People can take a look at our new memberships and get all their questions answered."

Child care

continued from page 2

Association for the Education of Young Children.

We know of only one other center within a 50-mile radius that can make this claim. Our CDC and SAS are both DoD certified programs. Our SAS program is also undergoing the self-study for accreditation and offers a computer lab as well as partnerships with Boys and Girls Clubs and 4-H. Quality services with affordable fees still make Redstone Arsenal CDC and SAS the best care value for the dollar.

While increasing fees is never a welcome action, this nominal increase for Categories I to V and implementation of

the new Category VI is necessary now. It ensures continued quality child care services for the Redstone Arsenal community and complies with the Military Child Care Act and DoD instruction.

CDS customers here also have numerous discounts available to them, such as the multiple child reduction of 10 percent or \$25, a parent participation discount program, and a soon to be unveiled MWR Services Discount Club membership discount. Use of these authorized discounts will bring most customer's fees in under the DoD mandated minimum range.

Redstone Arsenal CDC and SAS fees for FY '00 will go into effect Jan. 15.

Dan Ahern
director, Community and Family Activities

Hockey

continued from page 1

place in the conference. The other members of the seven-team conference include Niagara, Bemidji State, Findlay, Air Force, Army, and Wayne State (an affiliate member until becoming eligible for the conference title next year).

Bemidji and Niagara are both tied for first place with 11 points. UAH, with eight points, could take the conference lead by sweeping Army this weekend.

"So this is a big series all the way around for us," Antoine Bell, UAH sports information director, said.

The Cadets (8-8-1 overall) are in the conference cellar at 0-2. This will be their only meeting with UAH this season. The Chargers have a 4-2 record against Army.

"The Army folks are buying up a bloc of 10,000 tickets for the weekend. And this possibly could be like a home-road game for us," Bell said.

UAH, coached by Doug Ross, enters this series after a 5-0 loss to fifth-ranked Michigan State on Dec. 11 at East Lansing, Mich. Charger goaltender Steve Briere, a

senior from Winnipeg, Manitoba, had 31 saves in the game. For the season he has made 263 saves, given up 29 goals for a goals-against average of 2.81, and holds a .901 save percentage. His won-loss record is 6-2-2.

The Chargers are led on offense by Dwayne Blais with five goals and 11 assists for 16 points. Blais is a junior from Sudbury, Ontario.

Army, under coach Rob Riley, is led on offense by Mike Fairman with 11 goals and three assists for 14 points. The junior hails from Little Canada, Minn.

The leading goaltender for the Cadets is Corey Winer, a senior from Rockaway, N.J. He has made 310 saves, given up 31 goals for a goals-against average of 2.81, and holds a .909 save percentage. His won-loss record is 4-7.

The games can be heard on WEUP radio AM-1600 and on the worldwide web at www.liveonthenet.com or on UAH's website at www.uah.edu/Athletics. At the UAH website, just go to the hockey page and then live on the net.

But there's nothing like the real thing, so hockey fans can root for UAH or Army at the VBC this weekend.

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Dawn of American century

Army had rough ride during early years of transition from frontier force to superpower

By Jim Garamone

WASHINGTON— Henry Luce, founder and owner of Time magazine, called the 20th century "the American Century."

Given the tumultuous history of this century and America's role in that history, Luce's term is probably appropriate.

But in 1899, no one could really forecast the emergence of the United States as the world's superpower. The power of the day was Great Britain. The sun literally never set on the British Empire, and the sea lanes were safe thanks to the Royal Navy.

True, America had announced its presence on the world stage by winning a war against Spain, but defeating a fifth-rate European power just hinted at U.S. potential.

The U.S. military that won the Spanish-American War in 1898 was not even state-of-the-art for the time.

There was no Army Staff, as we know it. The Germans— a country only since 1871— had one. The smooth-running Prussian army staff had helped the Kaiser defeat the French in 1870. But the U.S. Army did not follow that example.

The Army commanding general was Gen. Nelson Miles. He held that position because he was the senior officer in the service. He had served as a Union officer during the Civil War. He commanded the combat power of the Army, but could not "command" the bureaus that were responsible for training and equipping the Army. The bureau commanders reported to the secretary of war.

The Navy had it a bit better. The 1890s had seen a revolution in shipbuilding. Coal-

fired, all-steel battleships were the capital ships of the day. While the United States still had Monitor-class ships from the Civil War, most naval ships were modern and packed a powerful punch. U.S. battleships boasted batteries of 13.5-inch, 8-inch and 5-inch guns.

In 1899, the Navy had 16,354 sailors. Seamen earned \$19 a month. Ensigns took home \$1,400 a year if they were on sea duty, but only \$1,190 if they were ashore.

Like the Army, the Navy had no staff system in 1899. Navy Secretary John Long was his own chief of naval operations. At the beginning of the Spanish-American War, he appointed a Navy War Board. The board included one of the most influential naval theorists of the day, Capt. Alfred Thayer Mahan, who advised Long on the conduct of the war. After the war Long discontinued the board.

The commanders in Cuba made their reputations as generals during the American Civil War— on opposite sides. Maj. Gen. William Shafter commanded the V Corps, which invaded Cuba. He had been a Union brigadier general.

Maj. Gen. "Fighting Joe" Wheeler led a division of V Corps. During the Civil War he commanded the cavalry of the Confederate Army of Tennessee. During the charge up San Juan Hill, Wheeler forgot where he was and, as the Spanish ran from their positions, he yelled, "Come on! We've got the damn Yankees on the run!"

Between the Civil War and the Spanish-American War, the U.S. Army was a frontier force. Army regulars and Indian scouts fought American Indians from Little Big Horn to Wounded Knee. The Indian Wars

were over, but soldiers still manned frontier forts and guarded Indian reservations.

In 1898, the entire Army had but 28,000 soldiers stationed at over 80 posts, mostly in the West. By 1899, Congress increased the regular Army to 60,000. Just as today, the National Guard provided soldiers and expertise when needed and the total force numbered 300,000. But the experiences of the Spanish-American War pointed to the need for some sort of national reserve. The seeds for the Army Reserve were planted in the aftermath of the war.

The Army was not trained to fight in "regular" combat. Since the Civil War it had conducted a number of operations— reconstruction of the South, campaigns against Indians and strikebreaking in the North— but none prepared it for battle against a "European-style" army.

The Spanish had better weapons than the U.S. Army. The Spanish used Argentine 8

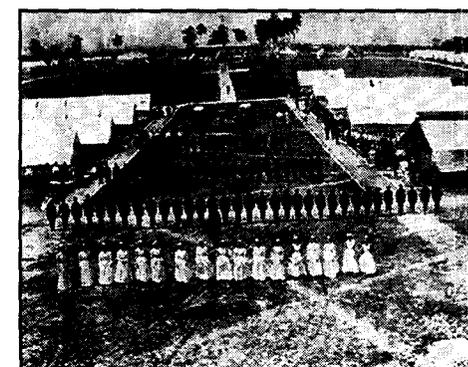


Photo courtesy of U.S. Army Center for Military History
ARMY NURSES— Hospital personnel, including Army nurses, assemble at the Hospital Field in Camp Columbia, Havana, Cuba in 1899. The Army established the Army Nurse Corps that year.

mm Mausers with new smokeless powder. U.S. forces used Krag-Jorgenson .30-caliber rifles. While the United States had some smokeless powder, most infantrymen fired old powder that spewed smoke and gave away their positions. The Spanish wore white cotton fatigues that, after a few days in the field, blended with the foliage.

U.S. soldiers wore woolen blue uniforms
See Army on page 19



Photo by J.D. Saulsbury, courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration
GOING HOME— Nebraska Volunteers board ship following service in the Philippines in 1899.

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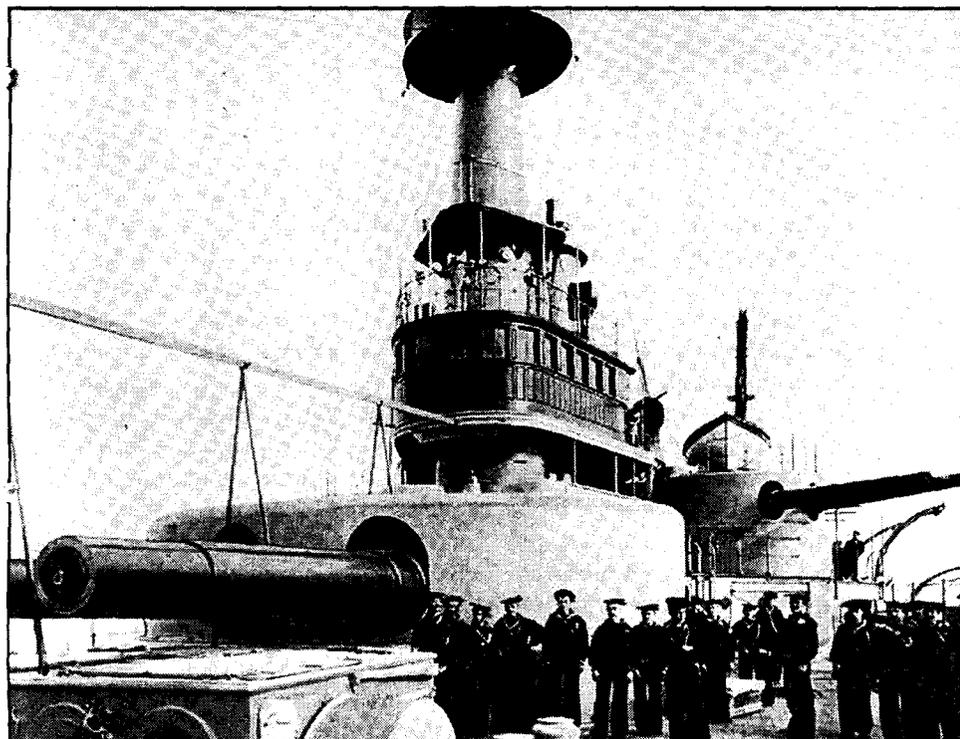


Photo courtesy of the U.S. Naval Historical Center

BATTLESHIP— Crewmen of the U.S. Navy battleship USS Indiana, circa 1897, pose beside the forward 13-inch gun turret and forward port 8-inch gun turret. During the Spanish-American War, the Indiana participated in the naval battle off Santiago, Cuba, on July 3, 1898, and continued in service through World War I. In 1920, the ship was used as a target and sunk during exercises to determine the effectiveness of aerial bombardment.

Army

continued from page 18

their grandfathers wore in 1865. Officers still wore swords into combat.

Mules pulled supply wagons and the cavalry rode horses. Shipping the animals and all their fodder was a logistical nightmare. When the Army arrived in Cuba, the crews just pushed the animals over the side of the ship and hoped they would swim to shore. In one instance, confused animals started swimming out to sea until an alert bugler sounded "Right Wheel" and the

horses turned and swam to shore.

During the training period the average trooper accumulated a kit consisting of a blanket, shelter half, poncho, extra clothes, food and utensils, cartridge belt and 125 rounds, canteen, weapon and haversack. His uniform consisted of flannel shirts, canvas over blouse, khaki pants, high leather boots with gaiters and a campaign hat.

At the start of the war, the Medical Bureau knew it had a problem. It didn't have enough doctors, equipment or medicine available to support the army. The medical field was often the last section to receive supplies, so many units did not have

the proper medical necessities when they deployed. It showed.

During the Spanish-American War 369 soldiers died in battle while 2,061 died from disease. In 1899, the Army established the Nurse Corps. Nurses received \$40 per month for service in the United States and \$50 overseas.

There was no draft, and prominent individuals— often with no military experience to draw on— raised regiments to supplement the Army. William Jennings Bryant, the man who ran against President William McKinley, raised the 3rd Nebraska Regiment for the war. Only D Company of the unit saw combat, but Bryant went by "colonel" for the rest of his life.

Theodore Roosevelt was a bit more successful. The assistant secretary of the Navy when the war broke out, he ordered ships to Manila, resigned his office and became the lieutenant colonel of the "Rough Riders" — the 1st U.S. Volunteer Cavalry. He managed to get the unit to Cuba and, when the commander, Col. Leonard Wood, was promoted, Roosevelt led the unit during the battle for Santiago. The charge up San Juan Hill made Roosevelt a hero and the governor of New York. In 1899, there was already talk of him being president some day.

The entire Marine Corps had 3,142 members in 1899. The commandant was Col. Charles Heywood. The Marines fought in Cuba during the Spanish-American War, taking Guantanamo Bay from the Spanish. There was no permanent Marine Corps organization at the time. To field his force for Cuba, the commandant grabbed Marines from naval bases in Boston, New

York, Philadelphia and Washington to form a battalion. In addition, the Marines provided security aboard Navy ships and helped man the guns during battle.

In 1899, the Marines first adopted linen field khakis, but most Marines still wore Army blue flannel uniforms. The Marines started switching from the 1895 model Winchester-Lee 6 mm rifle to the Krag-Jorgenson. Marines also carried a small knapsack into battle.

The Marines used Army-style campaign hats with the Marine Corps emblem pinned to it. The Marine dress uniform was the last hurrah of the frock coat. Marine enlisted personnel wore the frock coat with red mohair braided shoulder knots. They also wore German-style spiked helmets. Officers had a red plume coming out of their helmets.

The late 1890s saw some of the first interest in machine-powered aviation as a military weapon. On March 25, 1898, Assistant Navy Secretary Theodore Roosevelt recommended appointing two naval officers to work with War Department representatives to examine Professor Samuel P. Langley's flying machine. They were to report on its practicability and its potential for use in war. A month later the first joint Army-Navy board on aeronautics submitted the report on the machine.

Since the machine was a model with a 12-foot wingspan, its value for military purposes was largely theoretical, but the report expressed a general sentiment in favor of supporting Langley in further experimentation. (American Forces Press Service)

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Kwajalein squashes millennium bug

Another successful test for Space and Missile Defense Command at missile range

For more than two years, the U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll/Kwajelein Missile Range, or USAKA/KMR, has worked hard to ensure that it would move through the Y2K challenge without disruption in its mission and capabilities. Now it is a fact that USAKA/KMR, in the central Pacific in the Republic of the Marshall Islands, was the first U.S. Defense installation to face the millennium bug and to successfully squash it. Kwajalein is seven time zones (west of the international dateline) from the Pentagon and it is a major subordinate element of the Space and Missile Defense Command, or SMDC.

"We did it and we are proud to have accomplished this feat," said Lt. Gen. John Costello, commander of SMDC. "Since Kwajalein is seven hours ahead of us, we already found out about it during the last

night of the old year."

This Year 2000 problem had plagued computer experts worldwide for years. The problem, in a nutshell, is that— unless their code is changed— computer systems using the two-digit system for denoting years are expected to interpret Year 2000, or 00, as 1900, and crash, thus losing vital data and interrupting computer-serviced programs all over the globe. Well, engineers at Kwajalein worked diligently on their millions of lines of code for a very long time and came out smelling like roses.

These engineers were aware of the problem assessed it, conducted an intense renovation program, which they then validated and implemented. This was followed by Range-wide integration testing as well as integrated testing with the Cheyenne Mountain Complex and the Alternate Space

Control Center— Dahlgren, Va., for the U.S. Space Command. The atoll's Space Surveillance Network support— to maintain the known object database capability will still work in the new millennium— was also successfully tested. Location of space objects and debris is of vital interest to America.

Kwajelein is a \$4 billion facility with state-of-the-art instrumentation unmatched anywhere in the world. It offers space surveillance, space object tracking and imaging, and full-envelope strategic and tactical missile testing with the world's most sophisticated suite of radars, optics, telemetry, and scoring sensors. This one-of-a-kind test facility supports technology validation programs for SMDC, the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization, and the Program Executive Office for Air and Missile Defense. It also supports the Army Space

Command's Space Surveillance Network and Space Object Identification effort, the Air Force's strategic offensive weapons systems operational and developmental testing, and NASA's Space Transportation System and other orbital test programs.

Kwajelein's foundation for the future began in 1959 when it was selected as the test site for America's first venture into the development of strategic ballistic missile defense. In the years since then, Kwajalein has become America's premier strategic missile test range. Under Army control since 1964, USAKA and KMR have 35-plus years of experience and success in such programs as Nike Zeus, Project Mudflap, the Homing Overlay Experiment, Exoatmospheric Reentry-vehicle Interceptor Subsystem, Minuteman and Peacekeeper.

Cohen adds 'Don't harass' to homosexual policy

Secretary of Defense believes guidance can work when fully implemented throughout military

By Linda D. Kozaryn and Jim Garamone

WASHINGTON— Defense Secretary William Cohen has expanded the description of the "don't ask, don't tell" homosexual policy to "don't ask, don't tell, don't harass."

Defense leaders are determined to make the "don't ask, don't tell" policy on homosexuals in the military work. "I think it's an over generalization to say it's not working," Cohen said during a recent trip to Italy and the Balkans. "What we need to do is make sure it's successfully implemented."

The recent DoD actions are designed to stress the "don't harass" portion of the policy. The actions, announced in August, tasked the services to incorporate in their training stronger language against harassment. "Harassment on the basis of sexual orientation is wrong, just as it's wrong on the basis of race or religion or whether a person is male or female," said Pentagon spokesman Ken Bacon during a news conference.

One DoD memo requires that DoD guid-

ance on the homosexual policy be "effectively disseminated to all levels of command" and be made part of training programs for law enforcement personnel, commanders and supervisors. The memo also requires the instruction be incorporated into recruit training and for servicemembers to attend refresher training thereafter.

A second memo seeks to institute consistent and fair application of the policy. It recommends installation staff judge advocates consult with senior legal officers prior to the initiation of an investigation into alleged homosexual conduct.

The services will present their proposals to Rudy de Leon, defense undersecretary for personnel and readiness, on Jan. 17. De Leon also asked the service leaders to issue strong statements that harassment of servicemembers for any reason, to include alleged or perceived homosexuality, will not be tolerated. Service leaders will direct commanders to take prompt, appropriate action against individuals involved in such harassment. These statements, too, are due

Jan. 17.

"So once again, it's an effort to emphasize that the policy should be described as 'don't ask, don't tell, don't harass,' and to put some backbone in the 'don't harass' part of the policy," Bacon said.

The August directions grew out of a 1997 memo on the subject. Many people had complained that if they come to a commander and say they're being charged with being homosexual for whatever reason, that the commander has then used this as if they were making a "statement" of their homosexuality.

"The 1997 memo says this is wrong," Bacon said. "You cannot take a complaint from a soldier about harassment to be evidence of homosexuality. In fact, what the commander should do is investigate the harasser, the person who is harassing the soldier or making the complaint."

The "don't ask, don't tell" policy grew out of recommendations DoD made in 1993. In 1993, Congress passed Title X Chapter 37 Section 654— "Policy concerning homosexuality in the armed forces."

That law and sense of Congress is the basis for the "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

The addition of "don't harass" grew from years of military experience. "You treat all servicemembers with respect," said a defense official. "Harassment, for whatever reason, is not conducive to good order and discipline."

As a result of complaints of harassment and the murder of a soldier thought to be homosexual at Fort Campbell, Ky., Cohen ordered the DoD Inspector General to assess the command climate of installations in regard to the "don't ask, don't tell" policy. The IG will also judge the extent to which disparaging speech or expression with respect to sexual orientation occurs or is tolerated by individuals in the chain of command, defense officials said.

In fiscal 1998, the most recent statistics available, the services discharged 1,145 servicemembers under the policy. More than 85 percent of those discharged were "statement" cases, DoD officials said. (American Forces Press Service)



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Announcements

Sports & Recreation

Triathletes

The Spring City Triathletes will hold its January meeting at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 17 at Logan's Roadhouse. Scheduled speaker is Mark Noble of PRISM. Everybody interested is invited. Please go to the far left into the private room after entering. For more information, call Bob Mulkey 883-7399.

Army/UAH hockey

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army and the West Point Society of the Tennessee Valley invite you to join them in a weekend of West Point hockey. The Army hockey team is to arrive at Huntsville Airport at 3:16 p.m. Thursday on Northwest Flight 3470 from Memphis. A cadet welcome party will be held 5:30 p.m. Thursday at the Huntsville Hilton, with dinner served at 6:30. Cost is \$15 per plate or \$40 for a family with kids 16 and under. Free tickets to the games, provided by AUSA, can be picked up at the party. A pre-game tailgate at the Von Braun Center, parlor C, across the hall from the indoor ticket windows, will be held at 5 p.m. Friday and 5 p.m. Saturday; cost each night is \$5 per person to pay for the hors d'oeuvres. The hockey games are 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday at the VBC arena. AUSA did a 5,000 ticket buyout. For more information call Zig Roebuck 922-6000 (work) or 883-2364 (home), John Warnke 722-4588 or John Rogers 726-6370.

Miscellaneous

Future scientists

Applications are available for the Science and Engineering Apprentice Program for high school students and the College Apprentice Program. The distribution point of contact for applications is the senior counselor at public, private and parochial high schools. Possible career placement areas at the Aviation and Missile Command include physics, chemistry, computer science, engineering and mathematics. The Science and Engineering Apprentice Program is for students who have demonstrated aptitude interest in science and engineering courses and careers. Eligible stu-

dents must be U.S. citizens who are at least age 15 by the beginning date of the program, June 15. The College Apprentice Program is for undergraduate students who have completed the SEAP and are enrolled in a scientific or technical major. Besides school counselors, applications are also available from the Management Employee Relations and Training Branch, Betty Duke, in building 5303, at 313-4790 or Jerrel McCollum 842-8850.

Officer/civilian women

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club (OCWC) January luncheon will be held Jan. 11 at 10 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. This month's program will be an auction. Members have donated many items to bid on. The menu is tossed salad, beef roulade, whipped potatoes, green peas with pearl onions, rolls, butter, apple strudel for \$8.25 or chef salad in a tortilla shell for \$4.25. For reservations call A-L Glenda Moeller 772-0977 or M-Z Maryellen Myers 464-0583.

Weight control program

For military beneficiaries: Did you make weight management one of your New Year's Resolutions? Well, Fox Army Health Center is here to help you with your goal. Starting Jan. 18, the weight control program, "A Lifetime of Weight Control and Fitness" is being offered. Unlike diet programs that typically fail and make us "fatter," this program has proven success. This program is a nutrition education program as well as a weight control program. Be advised, you will not lose weight quickly. Instead, you will begin making permanent, realistic changes in your eating and exercise habits—changes that will become a natural part of your lifestyle. It may take six months, a year, or more to reach your personal goals, but you will maintain them for a lifetime. Past participants have rated the program as excellent and stated "the program is wonderful," and "I am eating healthier and determined to continue a regiment of exercise." Classes are scheduled from noon to 1:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Jan. 18 to April 18. To register call the Public Health and Education Center 842-0196.

Tobacco cessation

Fox Army Health Center/Public Health and Education Center (PHEC) will offer another

round of tobacco cessation classes beginning Jan. 13. One class will be offered on Thursday, from 11 a.m.-noon. The program continues for 10 sessions over a 2 month period and is offered at Fox Army Health Center. These classes are free and limited to military eligible beneficiaries. The "pill" (Zyban) will be available for use. Recent research has shown this to be highly effective in helping reduce the craving for nicotine. The success rate increases to close to 50 percent when used with education and group support. To register call PHEC, Fox Army Health Center 842-0196. For more information, call Eileen Bailey 842-0149. Space is limited. The next class will be an evening class starting Feb. 22 from 5-6 p.m. if enough interest.

Marine Corps exercise

A mobilization operational readiness deployment test will be held today at the Marine Corps Reserve Training Center in Huntsville. K Battery, 4th Battalion, 14th Marines will be tested on its mobilization capabilities and its ability to deploy rapidly. This test is conducted biyearly by every Marine Corps Reserve unit nationwide.

Merit awards

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club will present one or more Merit Awards to eligible graduating high school seniors who plan to attend an accredited college or vocational school and to undergraduate or graduate students who are enrolled in a college and working toward a degree. Applicants must be family members of active duty, retired, reserve, or deceased commissioned or warrant officers. All applicants just submit a photo-copy of a valid military identification card with the completed application. Their primary residence must be with parents or parent residing in the Huntsville area. Students on a fully paid scholarship or who have previously received this award are not eligible to apply. Merit award applications are also available for spouses of active duty, retired, reserve, or deceased commissioned or warrant officers who have been accepted or are attending an accredited college or university as an undergraduate or graduate student. All applicants must hold a valid military identification card and their primary residence must be in the Huntsville area. Previous recipients of this award are



Photo by Dan O'Boyle

Born free...

Amanda Kruvand, Auburn freshman zoology student, prepares to release "Billy," a red shoulder hawk near Swan Pond in the Bradford Sinks area of Test Area 6. Amanda is the daughter of IMMC's Dan Kruvand and his wife Cookie. Amanda also released "Little B," a barred owl. Both birds were cared for by Amanda at the Southeastern Raptor Rehabilitation Center. RASA's Susan Weber worked with Amanda to arrange the release, and provide for the birds to take advantage of the Arsenal's vast forested bottomland.

not eligible to apply. The deadline to apply for merit awards is March 7. Applications can be obtained by written request to Linda Butler, merit awards chairman, 49 Ripley Drive, Redstone Arsenal 35808. Include your phone number and the type of merit award you are applying for (i.e. high school, college or spouse) on all requests.

Tax assistance volunteers

Redstone Arsenal's Tax Assistance Program is looking for volunteers to help military retirees and family members file their personal tax forms. Volunteers must complete a training class scheduled Jan. 10-14 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Following the successful completion of the class, volunteers will be called upon to volunteer at the Tax Assistance Center which opens Feb. 1. To register for the class or receive further information, call Capt. Chin-Zen Plotner 876-9005.

Meals on move

New to Redstone Arsenal is a mobile food service that will travel to serve lunch at various locations on Redstone Arsenal. The Mobile Meals on the Move truck features grilled yard dogs, fried catfish, barbecue

See Announcements on page 22



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Announcements

pork, and smoked turkey legs. Don't miss out on this food that will be served just outside your building on the following dates: Jan. 5, building 7612; Jan. 6, building 5678; Jan. 7, building 6260; Jan. 11, building 4500; Jan. 12, building 5400; and Jan. 13, building 5250. The Mobile Meals on the Move truck is available at the aforementioned dates and locations from 10:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. For more information, call Bill Bullen 876-8741.

Health center cafeteria

A short month ago the word in the offices and hallways of Redstone Arsenal was that after Dec. 31 the food service at Fox Army Health Center, enjoyed by so many Redstone employees, would no longer be available. Due to economics the Fox dining facility was slated to close. Good news was announced just in time for the new year. Thanks to the efforts of the commander, Fox Army Health Center and his staff, the director, MWR, and the Post Restaurant Fund food service manager a partnership concept was conceived, developed and implemented. The high quality, level of service, and delicious food enjoyed by so many Redstone employees will remain intact as chief cook Ted Burris and staff dished up breakfast and lunch once again Jan. 4. Hours of operation have been extended and carryout is now available. Breakfast hours are 6:15 until 10 and lunch is served from 11-1:15. Ala carte prices are comparable to other Redstone food outlets. The Fox dining facility is open and the welcome mat is out to anyone working on or visiting Redstone Arsenal.

Unity breakfast

The Delta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. of Huntsville will sponsor its 15th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Breakfast at 8 a.m. Jan. 17

at the Von Braun Center. This event is one of the many celebrations honoring the Martin Luther King National Holiday. This year's theme is "Remember, Celebrate! Act! A Day On, Not a Day Off." The scheduled speaker is the Rev. Dr. Walter Malone, pastor, Canaan Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky. For more information, call Kirby Stevenson 772-4974 or 353-4613.

Education committee

The Army Community Service (ACS) Education Committee serves as a liaison between the Redstone Arsenal community and the Huntsville City Schools. It meets monthly (during the school year) with representatives from the area schools. Any parent interested in the educational needs of their child is invited to attend. The next meeting is noon Jan. 19 in the ACS conference room, building 3491. This meeting is open to everyone. It is helpful to call in advance concerning problem areas that need to be put on the agenda. For more information, call Ann Cooper 876-5397.

Space Camp scholarships

Each year Army Community Service awards scholarships to attend a week of Space Camp, Space Academy, and Aviation Challenge. These scholarships are funded through contributions of organizations related to the military community. If your organization is interested in funding a scholarship and you have not previously been contacted, call Donna Scofield 876-5397 or Alice Mockensturm 830-5373 by Jan. 31.

Federal retirees

The National Association of Retired Federal Employees will meet Saturday at the Senior Center on Drake Avenue. For the program, chapter member Carl



DoD photo by R. D. Ward

Cooperation pact...

Secretary of Defense William Cohen, seated left, and Kazakhstan's Minister of Defense Lt. Gen. Sat Takpakbayev, seated right, sign a Defense Cooperation Plan for 2000 at the conclusion of their meetings at the Pentagon on Dec. 17.

Huggins will entertain the members with a Magic Show. Refreshments begin at 9:30 a.m., and the program at 10. For more information, call 837-0382 or 881-3168.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers luncheon will be held at 11:30 a.m. Jan. 13 at Trinity Personal Growth Center, Airport Road. Bill Graveline, assistant director of Huntsville GAO, is to speak on "What do you want to know about GAO?" Cost is \$9 for members and \$10 for non-members. For reservations call Janet Siersma 955-3890.

Investors class

The National Association of Investors Corp. will conduct "Own Your Share of America" from 9-10:30 a.m. Saturday at the Charles Stone Agricultural Service Center, 819 Cook Ave. This free class will be an introduction to investing following NAIC principles and guidelines. All potential investors, adults and teens, are welcome to attend. For more information or to register, call Rita Cramblit 722-0011.

GRC jobs

GRC International Inc., Vienna, Va., has

openings for a logistics analyst and a financial analyst. Submit resume and salary requirements to: GRC International Inc., Attn: HR/KM 1900 Gallows Road, Vienna, Va., 22182, fax (703) 903-9431.

Bible study

Bible study is held every Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the back room of Bicentennial Chapel. Free hamburgers will be served. Both civilian and military are invited. For more information, call 955-4086.

Master's degrees

Nova Southeastern University will hold a registration meeting on its Master of Business Administration program at 6 p.m. Thursday at Calhoun Community College, classroom 51 at 102 Wynn Drive. For more information, call (800) 672-7223, ext. 5039.

Communicators group

Universal Communicators, International Training in Communication, will meet 4:45-6:30 p.m. Jan. 13 at building 5681 (PEO Aviation), conference room 125. For more information, call Janice Isbell 313-4216.

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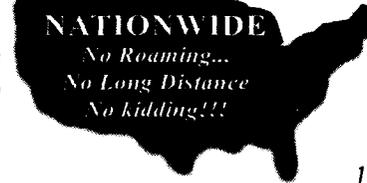


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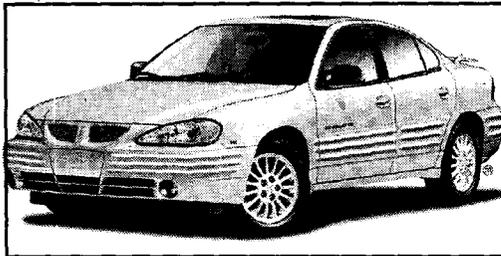
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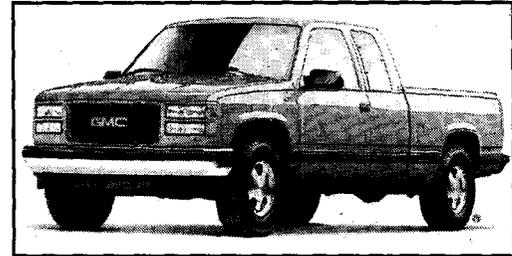
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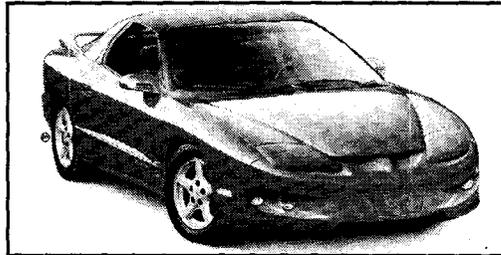
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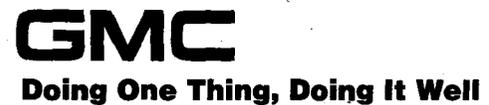
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