

**WING ELEMENTS NAMED AFRC'S BEST PGS. 4-5**

# SOUTHERN FLYER



# SERE'd TO PERFECTION

**SPECIALISTS COOK UP SURVIVAL TRAINING EVENT**

# SOUTHERN FLYER



Vol. 49 Issue 02  
February 2011

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 02 *Commentary*  
Col. Robert H. Shepherd
- 03 Fighting for Feedback  
Money Matters
- 04-05 Finance, training  
named best in AFRC
- 06-07 Wingmen get unique  
escape, evasion training
- 08 Comm Check: WikiLeaks  
Photos: Shepherds & Sheep
- 09 Around the Wing  
Caption Contest
- 10 News briefs  
Promotions
- 11 UTA schedule/  
General info
- 12 Back Page

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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# Active association possible

**“I**n my final article on our support of Air Force priorities, I’ll focus on how we are teaming with the active component (AC) to keep our combat capabilities flexible and relevant.

**AF Priority:** Modernize our air and space organizations, training and equipment.

**USAFR Priority:** Broaden Total Force Integration (TFI) opportunities.

**908 AW Mission:** Provide unrivaled theater airlift and flexible combat support across the spectrum of military operations.

Many of you may not realize it, but the 908th has been identified for a possible associate relationship with the AC. It would likely be an active association, in which the regular Air Force (RegAF) would have a number of aircrew members in our operations group, flying our assigned C-130s.

This association is not imminent and may not happen at all, but it’s an exciting possibility.

We have recently seen our integration with the RegAF increase dramatically through the realignment of the Maxwell Command Post.

There is now one command post here, which combines our 908th Airmen in the same facility with the controllers from the 42nd Air Base Wing. There are still two different chains of command, but all of the controllers share the duties of supporting all of the Maxwell-Gunter organizations.



COL. ROBERT H. SHEPHERD  
Commander, 908th Airlift Wing

This is a real boon for the Airmen from both components; our Reserve members learn about broader responsibilities and the AC controllers build some experience through flight following duties. It also eliminates some duplication of effort.

Finally, the 357th Airlift Squadron should welcome a couple of active duty navigators this summer to help with their ongoing shortfall in that crew position. These aircrew members have been made available as the RegAF converts its C-130 units to fly the J-model, which does not require a navigator. Once again, creative thinking benefits both components.

The Reserve will play an increasingly essential operational role in the years ahead and I know that you are more than ready for the challenge.

# A MOMENT WITH THE CHAPLAIN

CH. (MAJ.) JAMIE DANFORD

In the *Tongue and Quill*, one of the major points about communicating is that you need to “fight for feedback” to understand your audience and make sure you are connecting with them. When it comes to knowing whether or not you are doing your job right, you likewise need to “fight for feedback” from your supervisor or commander.

You are responsible for your career, so fight for the performance feedback necessary to improve your chances for career enhancement.

Similarly, the chapel staff wants your feedback regarding the spiritual care that we are doing for you. During the upcoming Unit Training Assembly, much like businesses take inventory at the beginning of the year, we will be taking stock of you, our customers, to see what your needs and desires are with regards to the 908th’s chapel programming.

There will be a short three-to-five minute e-mail survey that you can fill out, or you can simply call the chapel offices at 953-5373 and tell us what you think. There’s also a drop box available outside our offices for any surveys, feedback forms, or suggestions. Just like you want to know how you can get best EPR/OPR from your supervisor, we want to know how we can best meet your needs. Please take five to 10 minutes this UTA and give us your feedback.

We’re fighting for it!

# IDT travel payback date gets extended

By Staff Sgt. Evelyn Baxter  
908th FM

It’s been extended!

Congress recently approved an extension of the reimbursement for Inactive Duty Training (IDT) related travel thru March 4. In addition to the extension, the critical staffing shortage Air Force Specialty Codes (AFSC) were updated effective Jan. 1, as reflected below.

In order to be eligible for this entitlement, a member must be in one of the AFSCs below, per Headquarters Air Force Reserve Com-

mand/A1, be on the squadron’s updated authorization letter on file with the 908th Reserve Pay Office and have a valid DD 1610, Order.

The reimbursement still covers up to \$300 in actual costs incurred by Reserve members who performed Unit Training Assemblies, Readiness Management Period, Additional Flight Training Periods and Ground Training Periods.

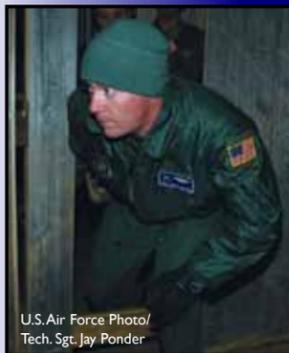
If you have any questions, stop by the Reserve Pay Office and we will be happy to assist you.

ENLISTED					
1A1	1C7	1W0	2W2	8B0	
1A4	1N0	2A3	3D1	8D0	
1A6	1N1	2A6	3E6	8F0	
1A8	1N3	2G0	3E8		
1C2	1N5	2M0	3S3		
1C4	1T0	2R0	5J0		
1C5	1T2	2W0	6C0		
1C6	1U0	2W1	7S0		
OFFICER					
10C	11U	13S	32E	44R	46S
11B	12B	14N	40C	45A	47S
11E	12F	16F	41A	45B	48A
11F	12G	16G	42E	45N	48G
11G	12M	17C	43B	45S	48R
11H	12R	20C	43D	45U	51J
11K	12S	21A	43H	46A	52R
11M	12U	21R	43M	46F	61D
11R	13B	30C	43T	46N	64P
11S	13D	31P	44M	46P	

## SOUTHERN FLYER

### COVER PHOTO:

Master Sgt. Adam Childers checks to see if the way is clear during an escape and evasion exercise put on by wing SEER specialist Staff Sgt. Chad Breauswieg during the January UTA.



U.S. Air Force Photo/  
Tech. Sgt. Jay Ponder

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We solicit articles, drawings and photographs and reserve the right to edit materials to conform to “Southern Flyer” editorial policies. Because of the printing and mail-out schedule the newspaper goes to press on Friday, two weeks prior to the unit training assembly.

The submission deadline for articles or information is the Monday two weeks prior to the UTA. Send inquiries and submissions to 908AW/PA, 401 W. Maxwell Blvd., Maxwell AFB, AL 36112 or e-mail them to 908aw.pa@maxwell.af.mil. Our phone number is (334) 953-6804 or DSN 493-6804; our fax number is (334) 953-2202 or DSN 493-2202. For information about this schedule, call this office at (334) 953-7874.

# No reservations about it

## 908TH AIRIFT WING'S FINANCIAL ANALYSIS, EDUCATION AND TRAINING SNCO TAGGED TOPS IN AFRC

By Gene H. Hughes  
908th AW Public Affairs

In a time of economic short-falls when every penny has to be carefully accounted for, having a team of dedicated professionals makes all the difference.

That is the conclusion Air Force Reserve Command recently came to during its deliberations of the 2010 AFRC Outstanding Financial Management and Comptroller Awards.

In the financial analysis category, the 908th Airlift Wing Financial Management Office was judged to be the best.

The office processes thousands of transactions each day, ranging from pay requests and travel vouchers to debt collections and government purchase card (GPC) transactions.

The FMA, staffed by only seven full-timers, supports the wing's 1,200+ personnel roster, as well as more than 600 Individual mobilization augmentees during Fiscal Year 2010. This is even more impressive due to the fact that the office was at less than 50 percent strength during the majority of this time.

Among the office's accomplishments are:

The wing has 50 cardholders and one checkwriter who made more than \$1.3 million in GPC transactions during the year. The program was executed with an accuracy rating



The 908th FMA was recognized as the best in AFRC. Pictured are staffmembers Debbie Smith, Mary Henley, who recently retired, Senior Airman Kidd and Mary Lacy. Ella Treece, who also recently retired, is pictured below. Not pictured is Jasmine Shannon.

of 99.9 percent with no significant undisbursed funding.

The office, despite its manpower shortage, assisted the Yellow Ribbon Program coordinator in the planning of four major events and the processing more than 200 individual orders for wing members and their families. An office member was available at each event to answer questions and assist with voucher and orders issues.

Aside from its duties to the wing and its members, including monthly benefits and entitlement briefings for newcomers, the office also shares its expertise with many of the officer training courses of Air University, with an average class of more than 100 students.

With more than 650 of the wing's personnel deploying to everywhere from Germany to Afghanistan, not to mention the short-fuse contingency of relief flights to Haiti, members of the FM processed and certified more than 11,000 orders, totaling more than \$2.5 million with a 100 percent obligation rate.

"Our financial analysis office works with our most important assets in mind," said wing commander Col. Robert H. Shepherd. "This award reflects the dedication they have to take care of our Airmen every day."



By Gene H. Hughes  
908th AW Public Affairs

Master Sgt. Roderick Parker is responsible for the oversight of all education and training for the 908th Airlift Wing. If the Reservists are prepared to go to war at any given moment, chances are that he and his staff had a big hand in it.

In recognition of his management of such programs both here and overseas, Sergeant Parker was recently named as the 2010 Education and Training Staff Non Commissioned Officer for AFRC.

While education is the primary customer service function, assisting members with matters concerning the GI Bill, tuition assistance, the Community College of the Air Force and other Air University-type

programs. But Sergeant Parker sees his primary focus as managing on-the-job training for wingmen's career development and making sure members are able to do their jobs.

"Our central focus is always on enlisted personnel," he said. "The more technically proficient we are, the better prepared we are to go to war and come home safely.

"We try to develop programs to ensure that our trainers and supervisors are equipped to train, qualify and certify our people.

Sergeant Parker's opinion the award, despite recognizing his day-to-day activities, had a great deal to do with his being able to be where there was a need for his expertise.

"They needed someone in Afghanistan to fill a billet that required

a four-year degree, and unfortunately, not as many training managers had it," he said.

But it was more than just being at the right place at the right time. While deployed, he had the opportunity as the 451st Air Expeditionary Wing Test Control Officer to visit downrange installations and train test-control officers. This allowed alert personnel – specifically pilots – to continue their career progression in place.

"They were not able to travel to Kandahar where I was stationed," he said. "So I went to where they were and trained someone down there so they would be able to keep their careers on track."

After 25 years in the service, 15 in education and training, Sergeant Parker believes the key to success in his field has two main characteristics: Proficiency and passion.

"You have to know what you're talking about if you're going to train someone to train someone else," he said. "If the process by which you do that is flawed, then you'll end up with a flawed organization.

"After all my years, I still have a great passion for this job. If I could afford to, I'd do it for free because I really enjoy what I do. I take my charge very seriously, and each day I try to positively impact the lives of our members so they are able to realize their dreams as a part of this Air Force."



Master Sgt. Roderick Parker, center, recognized as AFRC's 2010 Education and Training SNCO, discusses an upcoming UTA schedule with staff members Staff Sgt. Aaron Knight and Master Sgt. Belinda Ray.

SURVIVAL, EVASION, RESISTANCE AND ESCAPE TRAINING PREPS WINGMEN TO

# Bring 'em (selves) Back Alive

By Tech. Sgt. Jay Ponder  
908th AW Public Affairs

Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape, (SERE) instruction concentrates on the principles, techniques and skills necessary to survive in any environment and return with honor. Given the nature of their special occupations, refresher training in these techniques is crucial for aircrew and air evacuation personnel. Luckily, experts whose mission is to help ensure Airmen come back "with honor" are available to share their expertise.

Staff Sergeant Chad Braunschweig, SERE Specialist with the 908th Operations Group, assisted by fellow specialists Staff Sgts. Bryan Smith and Joseph Whitfield of the 22nd TRS and civilian contractors and military veterans Derek 'Coach' Whaley and Daniel Medlock, recently conducted combat survival training for members of the 908th Airlift Wing. The SERE team guided the Reservists through a classroom lecture, hand-to-hand combat exercises and a night escape and evasion course.

"Only a few bases besides Fairchild AFB Wash. have the capability to conduct this (urban evasion) training, so being able to take advantage of it here is really important to our warfighters," he said.

"I think Airmen have an awesome opportunity here because of the SERE members who enjoy coming out and helping these guys get some good exposure to real-world situations," said Sergeant Smith.

The training, required every three years and designed to ensure Airmen are updated on current recovery techniques conditions in the operational environment, focused on a new type of jungle, the urban jungle.

"It has been five or more years since most of this class's attendees have attended the SERE school," explained Sergeant Braunschweig. "It's important to introduce these folks to an alien environment because they already have the skills. We want to bring this training to the forefront of their memories so it is always fresh.

Evading in an urban environment has just recently been implemented, so it is most likely that most of the Airmen in this refresher course have never evaded in an urban environment.

"We are always trying to make this training the most applicable training we possibly can. They need all the skills we teach, but evading in an urban environment is probably the most likely evasion skill Airmen will need in the future."

Beginning the day with a two-hour classroom lecture on escape tactics, Sergeant Braunschweig taught the Airmen the importance to think before taking action in a hostile environment, as well as techniques in camouflage construction and hole-up sites. The group then moved to the gym to renew skills in hand-to-hand



Maj. Travis Zimmer climbs over a wall during the night escape and evasion course. Lower left, Staff Sergeant Chad Braunschweig, SERE Specialist with the 908th Operations Group



TSgt. John Metcalf attempts a bit of stealth.

combat and disarming an assailant of a weapon during an escape.

During drills, each member took a turn facing an assailant, practicing several techniques which could be used, like the "Hammer Fist," to ward off an attacker.

After a brief dinner break, the class convened just before sunset to put the day's training to the test in the night escape and evasion course. As the sun and with it, the temperature, began to drop, instructors sent small groups into Maxwell's realistic mockup of an urban area, where aircrew members began using their renewed evasion skills.

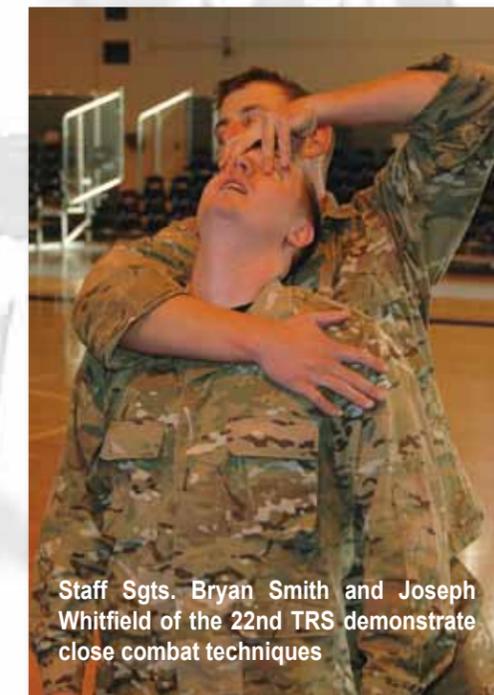
Some skills learned while in the evasion portion were how to break into a vehicle without being noticed,

evading through weak spots in fence rows and using solid objects to blend in while evading bad guys.

"I can just about guarantee these guys are feeling some tension, feeling some emotions about now," Sergeant Braunschweig said as he watched his students making their way through the course. "This will help make effective evaders should they ever have to do it in the real world."

When it was all over, everyone gathered to discuss what they had just been through. Wing members were impressed with the training they had received.

"The escape and evasion lab is very realistic, especially when all the sights, sounds and realistic characters are added to the scenario," said Chief Master Sergeant Patrick L. Weir, Superintendent of Nursing Services, 908th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron. "This adds to the overall experience of the course. If in this type of situation, AES members might not only have themselves to take care of, we might have patients as well."



Staff Sgts. Bryan Smith and Joseph Whitfield of the 22nd TRS demonstrate close combat techniques

"The realism part is hard to mimic, but what the SERE members have done is as good as they can do locally," said Lt. Col. Stanley Jesionowski of the 357th Airlift Squadron. "The training benefited us in a major way because we deploy often. You can't place a price tag on that kind of training once you're in that type of environment."

Sergeant Braunschweig said one of the things he really loves about his job is that everything he teaches, everything he does, has been learned not from books, but from the experiences of guys who have been there, returned and shared their stories.

"The techniques we teach here are because of those who came back and said, 'I wished I had known this,'" he said. "This is also for your family so you can come back to them."



Chief MSgt. Patrick Weir practices hand-to-hand combat moves with the assist of TSgt. Christopher Hines.

# DON'T BE SOAKED BY A LEAK

DOCUMENTS RELEASE SITE OFF LIMITS TO AIR FORCE PERSONNEL, CIVILIANS

Information provided by 908th Comm Flt

There have been a lot of stories about WikiLeaks recently, about extradition disputes, frozen assets and threats of retaliation involving the release of nuclear weapons information. But what is WikiLeaks?

WikiLeaks is an international non-profit organization that publishes submissions of otherwise unavailable documents from anonymous news sources and leaks. Its website, launched in 2006, is run by The Sunshine Press.

Per SAF guidance, the WikiLeaks website is not to be visited by any Air Force personnel, to include military members, civilians, and/or contractors. This website has been

identified as having "apparently classified information" that appears to have been disclosed without appropriate review and authority, and visiting this site could introduce potentially classified information on an unclassified network.

This introduction of classified information onto your unclassified network constitutes a Classified Message Incident (CMI) and has the potential of placing our service-members at risk.

The WikiLeaks site is being monitored by network sensors and/or DISA/USCC. Do not attempt to visit the site. Severe disciplinary action could occur. If you need to research anything, please use reliable sources such as the Air Force Portal at [www.my.af.mil](http://www.my.af.mil) or a respective

Community of Practice (CoP).

The complete policy letter on WikiLeaks use can be viewed at:

[https://maxpoint.maxwell.af.mil/sites/tenants/908/CF/Shared%20Documents/WikiLeaks\\_Policy\\_Letter.pdf](https://maxpoint.maxwell.af.mil/sites/tenants/908/CF/Shared%20Documents/WikiLeaks_Policy_Letter.pdf)

Remember, all Air Force personnel must continue to protect information commensurate with the level of classification assigned to that information until the information is assessed by the appropriate Original Classification Authorities. The government information technology capabilities should be used to enable our warfighters, promote information sharing in defense of our homeland, and to maximize efficiencies in operations.

Remain vigilant!

## TEAM BUILDING: A MATTER OF TRUST



Commanders of the 908th took part in a 'Shepherds and Sheep' team-building exercise during the January UTA. The team leader, or 'shepherd,' was expected to guide his 'sheep' into a designated area without verbal commands. Far left, Lt. Col. Scott Davis places Lt. Col. Jacqueline Jacobs. Left, Col. Edward Jennings uses clapping to guide Command Chief Master Sgt. Cameron Kirksey. Below, Lt. Cols. Craig Drescher and Madalyn Marlatt don blindfolds. Below center, Maj. Kirsten James helps Capt. Tonia Stephens get situated.



## AN AWARD-WINNING SMILE



Air Force Photo/Gene H. Hughes

For his accomplishments during the period from June 2009 to May 2010, Lt. Col. (then-Maj.) William J. Friday, currently serving as the maintenance group deputy commander, was named as the recipient of the 2010 General Lew Allen, Jr., Trophy, which is awarded annually to an Officer and a Senior NCO in the aircraft maintenance or munitions career fields directly involved with setting up aircraft sorties. The trophy finally caught up to him during the January UTA, presented by 908th Maintenance Group Commander Col. Constance vonHoffman.



## CAPTION CONTEST

What does this photo say to you? If you think you can come up with a clever caption for this photo, send an e-mail with your submission to the Public Affairs Office at:

[908aw.pa@maxwell.af.mil](mailto:908aw.pa@maxwell.af.mil)

The winner will be published in next month's Southern Flyer.

# Welcome Newcomers!

- |                                 |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Maj. Gerald D. James, AES       | SrA Roderick Franklin        |
| TSgt. Alfred Davis              | SrA Rosella G. Sears         |
| SSgt. Armen M. Weinrick, 25 APS | A1C Brittany D. Storey       |
| SSgt. Bryan Smith               | A1C Deloise V. Reecler       |
| SSgt. Joseph M. Himmel          | A1C Christopher J. Cavanaugh |
| SrA Justin D. Swinsick, 25 APS  | AB Adam J. Wilkerson         |

## Retirement Requests 2010-11

- |                                     |                                |                                  |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Col. James W. Bedsole               | Master Sgt. Joe B. Houston     | Master Sgt. Denise L. Thrailkill |
| Lt. Col. Donna Roberts              | Master Sgt. Cyrus J. Jones     | Master Sgt. Richard G. Windham   |
| Lt. Col. Noreen A. Burke            | Master Sgt. Geoffrey S. Meehan | Master Sgt. Joseph L. Smith      |
| Chief Master Sgt. George E. Edwards | Master Sgt. Vera I. Berry      | Tech. Sgt. George W. Carter Jr.  |
| Senior Master Sgt. Jurgen Kropp     | Master Sgt. Terry W. Calhoun   | Tech. Sgt. Anita M. Gray         |
| Senior Master Sgt. John R. Rawls    | Master Sgt. Kenneth E. Carter  | Tech. Sgt. Winston L. Williams   |
| Senior Master Sgt. Martha L. Molloy | Master Sgt. Randy B. Garrett   |                                  |

### BRIEFS

#### UTA Officer Meetings

There will be a Wing Officers Call at 4:30 p.m. Saturday of the February UTA at the Officers Club in the Daedaleion Room, followed by a Reserve Officers Association meeting at 5:30 p.m.

#### Operation Purple Family

Operation Purple Family Retreats are designed to allow families to reconnect after experiencing the stresses surrounding a deployment. These four-day retreats take place in beautiful National Parks and are led by experienced outdoor educators.

Retreats are open to service

members and their families who have experienced deployment within the last 15 months. To be eligible, service members must have returned from deployment no less than three and no more than 15 months prior to the start date of each retreat. Travel expenses are not included. However, families who attend will receive a \$200 stipend per family before departing from the retreat to offset the cost of travel. Retreats are free thanks to support from the Sierra Club and the Sierra Club Foundation.

Visit <http://www.militaryfamily.org/our-programs/operation-purple/family-retreats/> for information.

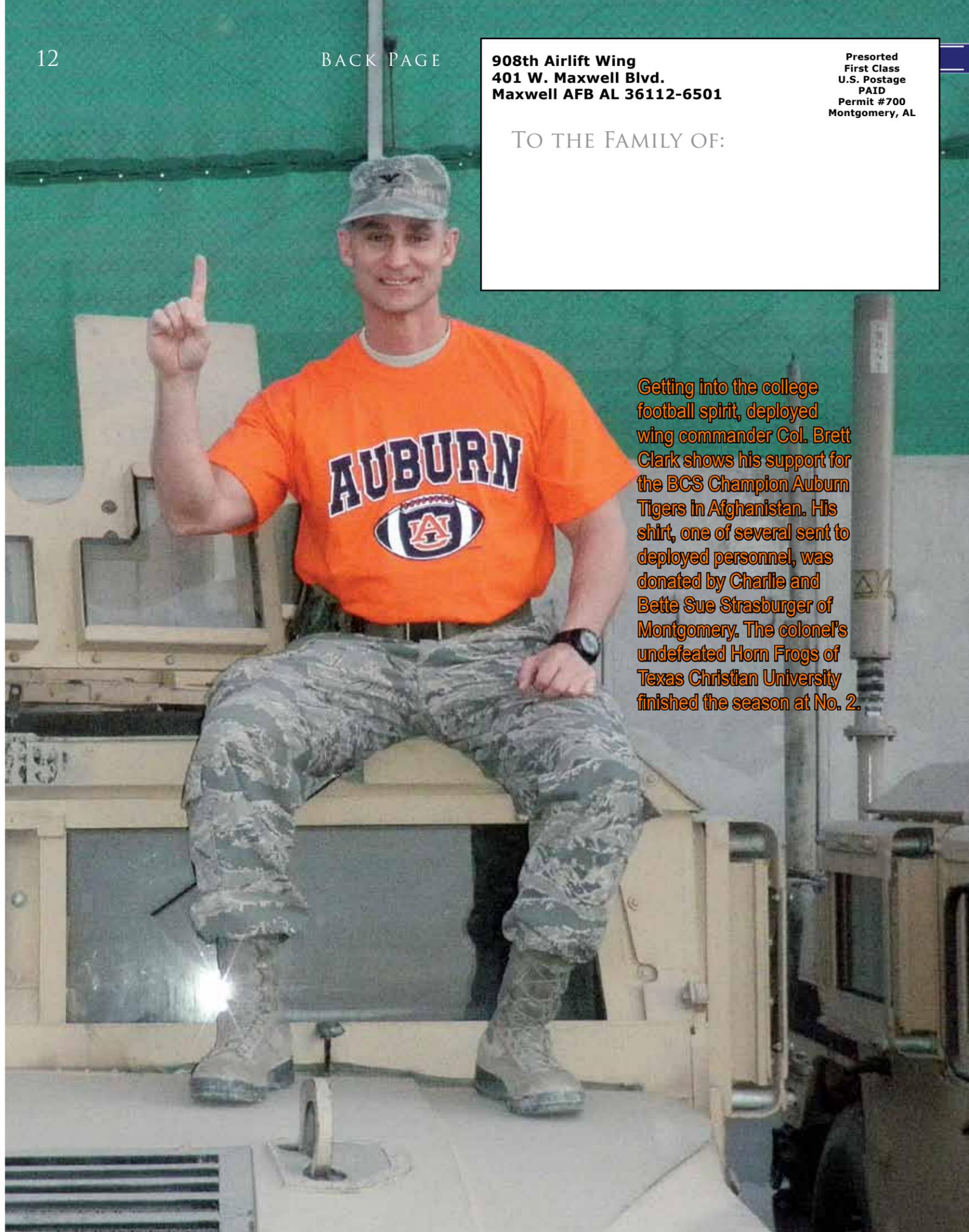


- ### ENLISTED
- Chief Master Sergeant*  
 Godfrey Hutto
- Senior Master Sergeant*  
 Donald P. Washington
- Master Sergeant*  
 Brian G. Harper  
 David J. Oliver
- Technical Sergeant*  
 Brandon S. Grisaffi  
 Matthew W. Johnson  
 Edward B. Melendez  
 Bennie L. Smith III
- Staff Sergeant*  
 Jason L. Aplin  
 Ronaldo J. McConico  
 Kurt B. Meadows
- Airman First Class*  
 Alexander A. Amber  
 Tyeshia T. Payton
- Airman*  
 Robert E. Johnson  
 Demetrious D. Kimbrough  
 Ricky W. Richards  
 Brian E. Walters

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TO THE FAMILY OF:



Getting into the college football spirit, deployed wing commander Col. Brett Clark shows his support for the BCS Champion Auburn Tigers in Afghanistan. His shirt, one of several sent to deployed personnel, was donated by Charlie and Bette Sue Strasburger of Montgomery. The colonel's undefeated Horn Frogs of Texas Christian University finished the season at No. 2.

Professional stuntmodels - Do not attempt

**YOU'VE BEEN DRINKING**

How you feel ... Before driving

How you look ... After driving

**TALK ABOUT SMART**

Professional stuntpersons - Do not try at home