

## Commander's Connection



Photo by Senior Airman Susan Penning

Col. Philip Ruhlman talks to Shaw's Company Grade Officers Oct. 8 in the Conference Center.

Q Sir, in this day and age we as Airmen in the Air Force hear a lot about inappropriate comments, actions, and behaviors. We also hear about unwanted sexual advances, harassment, and assaults. With all that said, would you not think that the advertisement for Scooter's Lounge in today's Shaw Spirit as inappropriate? While this article may be more acceptable in a regular newspaper, I feel it's very inappropriate and offensive for any Military advertising publication. References to "pole dancing" and "wet t-shirt contests" have no place in a military base paper. With all the recent focus on sexual assaults & harassment throughout the Air Force, this type of activity conveys the wrong message to our young troops. A question to ask yourself - would you allow such an activity at Club Shaw? I would ask that you reconsider placing ads like this in the base newspaper.

A Let me assure you, this ad was totally inappropriate, unacceptable, and one I have taken immediate action on. The publisher drove from Camden Tuesday

to offer his apology and assurance it would never happen again. He met with me, the 20th Fighter Wing Public Affairs chief, *The Shaw Spirit* editor, and the 20th FW Judge Advocate in my office and we discussed this serious incident at length.

As you may know, the publisher sells and places ads in our paper...that is how the paper is funded. We have an agreement on what type of ads can be published...this one clearly stepped out of bounds. You have my promise I will do whatever it takes to prevent this from happening again.

*"Commander's Connection" is a link between Col. Philip Ruhlman, 20th Fighter Wing commander, and the Shaw community.*

*Questions or concerns that can't be resolved through normal channels can be called in and recorded at 895-4611 or e-mailed to commandersconnection@shaw.af.mil.*

*Callers should leave a name and telephone number in case questions need clarification.*

*Comments of general interest may be published in The Shaw Spirit.*

## Refueling tools

Staff Sgt. Kevin Raffa (right), a fuels resource center controller for the 447th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron at Camp Sather in Baghdad, Iraq, hands Airman 1st Class Lonny Cobb the personal equipment needed to refuel an aircraft.

Airman Cobb is a hydrant fuels equipment operator from the 20th Logistics Readiness Squadron assigned to the 447th Expeditionary LRS at Camp Sather in Baghdad, Iraq, supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael O'Connor

## The Shaw Spirit

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Classified ads may also be dropped off at *The Shaw Spirit* office in Bldg. 1122 by Tuesday at 2 p.m.

# Safety takes on new face

By Lt. Col. David C. Hathaway  
20th Fighter Wing Safety chief

I stepped into the position of the 20th Fighter Wing Safety chief Oct. 1. Although I am not new to Team Shaw, I am new to the safety office. This new position brings on new challenges and opportunities. Safety is not something we do or think about only on Safety Day or after an incident. Rather, safety should be ingrained in everything we do and think. It is a mindset. To help foster that mindset, my goal is to ensure all the tools are available to units and commanders to help educate and mentor the folks here at Shaw.

As Col. Philip Ruhlman, 20th Fighter Wing commander, has said on numerous occasions, "We need to take care of our own."

My goal is to provide you the tools to do that. More importantly, if we can ingrain safety and risk management throughout the Shaw community, we can help prevent needless injuries and loss of life.

Just as the non-flying environment brings on challenges, the flying environment continues with significant challenges

as well. I have heard pilots talk about how being safe and tactically aggressive are somehow exclusive.

On the contrary, I believe any tactically smart plan is inherently safe. Of course there is risk, and that varies daily based on a myriad of things.

The key is to assess the risk, and adjust the plan to compensate and hopefully mitigate much of the risk. The 55th Fighter Squadron is on the leading edge of the Common Configuration Improvement Program for the Block 50 F-16.

The capabilities include putting the jet on the internet with the other friendly aircraft, new color displays, a targeting pod and a helmet display. The 55th FS stresses daily the need to prioritize tasks to ensure jets don't run together while using these new tools to be lethal instruments of the U.S. military.

As the 77th and 79th FS begin CCIP upgrades over the next year, we must continue to stress task prioritization and channeled attention avoidance in order to be lethal, yet survive.

Make safety part of your mindset, and pass it on to others.

# DUIs: inconsistent with AF values

By Capt. Nicholas A. Lind  
20th Medical Operations Squadron  
Commander

Most people don't drive after drinking, but a few people at Shaw seem to have a poor perception of what is considered normal drinking behavior in the Air Force.

Because the DUI rates are on the rise this year, this issue has rightfully received a great deal of attention on base. Indeed, we're reminded of the most recent statistics each time we leave the Main Gate.

We are interesting creatures. We like to think that we're autonomous beings that forge our own paths when, in fact, we're often manipulated by unknown social influences.

Even at Shaw Air Force Base, where the best of the best secure the freedom of the country by supporting the most state-of-the-art fighter jets, we find that many of us are putting health and safety at risk.

However, now, we can acknowledge social influences and deal with them directly. Given that Shaw as a community condemns driving under the influence, and that we're Airmen 24/7, we should have no trouble achieving better drinking habits.

If we can't, the words "integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do" are just that; words.

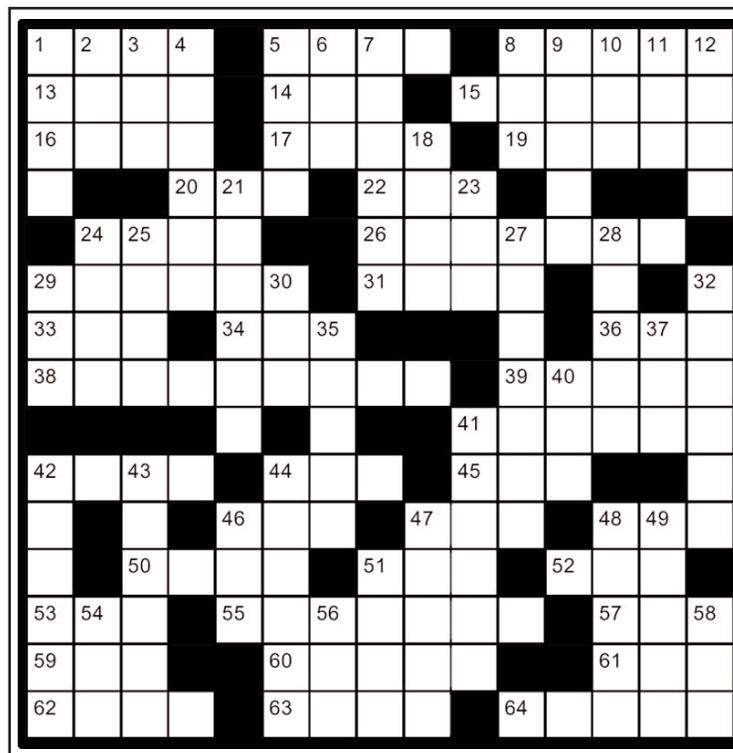
## C R O S S W O R D

# Faster than speeding bullet

### ACROSS

1. Test pilot Marion \_\_\_; 953 altitude record in D-558-II
5. Test pilot Albert \_\_\_; 1947 speed record
8. Researcher John P. \_\_\_; tested G-forces on body
13. What was under princess' mattress? (2 words)
14. Behold
15. Antenna
16. Cardinal great Musial
17. Amphibian
19. Where in the World person
20. Alias, in brief
22. Space
24. Mint
26. Test pilot Frank K. \_\_\_; 1953 speed record in YF-100
29. Scattered throughout
31. Nevada town
33. Pie \_\_\_ mode (2 words)
34. Talk
36. Expert
38. Test pilot Iven C. \_\_\_; first to fly above 100,000 ft.
39. Test pilot Robert M. \_\_\_; first to exceed Mach 4 & 5
41. River tributary
42. \_\_\_ Ready to Eat
44. Actress Ryan
45. German city
46. Org. run by SECDEF
47. Everything
48. Foreign hat?
50. Lapse
51. Craft
52. Vase
53. Mil. acronym for how to deal with enemy
55. Test pilot Wilbert D. \_\_\_; only "space ace" with satellite kill
57. Hubris
59. Actress Margaret of Grumpy Old Men
60. Test pilot N.K. \_\_\_; completed Have Blue test program
61. Lord of the Rings character
62. Abominable snow-

- man?
  63. Detected
  64. Military academy recruit
- ### DOWN
1. Throw
  2. Test pilot Mel \_\_\_; first to exceed Mach 3
  3. Actor Stephen of The Crying Game
  4. Hawaiian patios
  5. Greek letter
  6. Nigerian town
  7. Test pilot Charles E. \_\_\_; first to break sound barrier
  8. Stitch
  9. Hunt down
  10. Enrage
  11. Bachelor's place
  12. Trick
  18. Kevin Kline movie
  21. Test pilot William J. \_\_\_; piloted X-15 to Mach 6
  23. Write, as in a novel
  24. Columbian city
  25. Air Force base home to 51st FW
  27. Alien town?
  28. Having agreeable taste
  29. Golfer Se Ri \_\_\_
  30. Actress West
  32. Test pilot Eldon \_\_\_; 1971 speed record in SR-71
  35. Leak
  37. Roadway, in short
  40. Fringe
  41. Test pilot Fitzhugh L. \_\_\_; 1962 heaviest payload/altitude record
  42. Test pilot Arthur \_\_\_; first to see curvature of Earth
  43. \_\_\_ Without Leave; UCMJ violation
  44. Mechanized bicycles
  46. Dunk
  47. Torching
  48. Let go
  49. Test pilot Joe H. \_\_\_; X-15 pilot and STS-2 spacecraft commander
  51. Rear end (British)
  54. Mil. operation begun 9/11
  56. Vote in favor
  58. Commonly



By 1st Lt. Tony Wickman



Oct. 8 puzzle solution