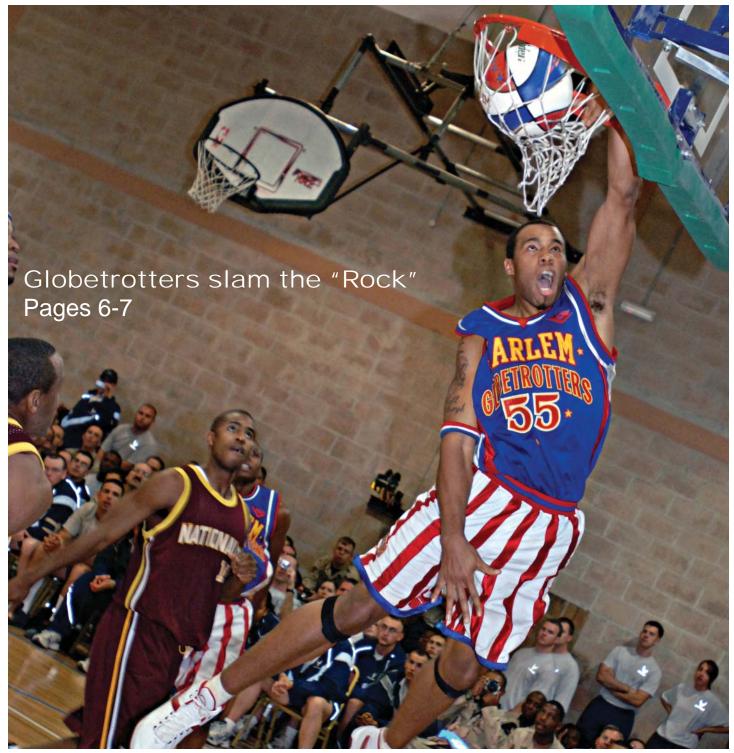


Volume 3, Number 43 386th Air Expeditionary Wing Dec. 01, 2006



It takes good followers to make good leaders

Chief Master Sgt.Stanley Bauer 386 ECS/CEM

Followship.

No – I haven't misspelled that word, and I know followship is not really a word found in a dictionary. But it could be. If leadership is the art of influencing and directing people to accomplish the mission, then followship can be defined as the art of following a leader to accomplish the mission. Often, an article coming from a chief master sergeant would focus on leadership. Why it is important, being in charge, being out front, accountability, courage, blazing a trail, fostering growth, etc. But for this article, at least, I want to take a look at the other side of the equation, i.e. what it takes to be a good follower.

Everyone is a follower in one way or another. No matter what your position, you are going to follow some leader, somewhere at some time. It may be a mentor, or a teacher, or an author, or of course, it may be your boss. Everyone is accountable to someone in some capacity.

To Illustrate, my former group commander, a Colonel, told this story about Colonels and Chiefs. In a typical wing, he concluded, "...Colonels and Chiefs really don't have bosses, at least not looking directly over their shoulders." He quickly discovered he had many bosses and people he had to answer to, now more than ever. He then concluded Chiefs must be the only ones who didn't really have to answer to someone.

That belief changed one night while he was attending an Airmen Leadership School graduation. While there he observed a chief shaking salt all over his food like there was no tomorrow. He stopped the chief and asked;

"What's up with the salt?"

The Chief looked up and said, "My wife is out of town."

It was then that the Colonel concluded; Even Chiefs have bosses. So, if we're going to be a follower sometime, somewhere, we might as well do it right

What does it mean to be a good follower? How do you excel in followship? First, it is worthy to note, it is not "blind following." Blindly following a leader is rarely the best way to go because leaders, like followers, are fallible. The best followers are the ones who can recognize and support the best leaders. Here are some points that help define the art of followship.

A good follower understands the vision. They must be able to see how their work contributes to the organization's big picture. Understanding this vision will help you spot an effective leader who also understands where he or she is headed. Some leaders are neither forthcoming about their destination nor do they know its location until they find it for themselves. The best leaders have an infectious vision which is easily transmitted to their followers.

Followers learn to make themselves more useful to their leaders. Maximize your perceived value through formal education, training, team playing and organizational initiative. Use professional development resources, such as military correspondence courses and formal education to enhance leadership, problem solving, continuous improvement, mentoring, etc. Most leaders will recognize and assign added value to those followers. I'm not suggesting you become a 'yes-man' or 'yes-woman' to fit into organizational goals or maximize your value in that area. Xerox's Barry Rand was right on target, when he warned his people that if you have a yes-man or yes-woman working for you, then one of you is redundant. Good leadership and followship encourages everyone's evolution.

Followers learn to bring important things to a leader's attention. This does not mean you rat on coworkers, bootlick, or any other disgusting things that weasel employees often do. Nor does it mean you become the spokesperson to air any and all complaints. What is needed is for you to become a good sounding board for your leader, bring appropriate news to share with the team, and present relevant data — even if it contradicts the leader's assumptions. Next you work to help define what the future of the organization will be. As followers, your job is to not merely identify problems as many talented and capable members have demonstrated. Your job is to present the problem in a coherent (and least caustic) way and offer several reasonable options for resolution.

Followers should be leaders themselves. Just as a leader has a vision, and a follower learns to share and propagate that vision, they become leaders in whatever capacity assigned. It is important for followers to build leadership skills and then become incredible leaders in their own right.



386th Air Expeditionary Wing Editorial Staff

Col. Paul A. Curlett 386th Air Expeditionary Wing Commander

Capt. Jeff Clark 386th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs Chief

Staff Sgt. Ian Carrier 386th Air Expeditionary Wing Rock Slate Editor

This funded newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services overseas. Contents of the "Rock Slate" are not necessarily the official views, nor endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force. The 386th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs staff prepares all editorial content for the "Rock Slate." The editor will edit or re-write material for clarity, brevity or to conform with the Associated Press Style Guide, local policy and Air Force style as required by Air Force Instruction 35-101.

Unless otherwise noted, all photographs are U.S. Air Force photos. The "Rock Slate" may use news and information from the American Forces Information Service, Air Force Print News and other sources.

Contributions for the "Rock Slate" can be made directly to the 386th AEW Public Affairs Office or through e-mail to: 386AEW.pa@salem.af.mil.

The editor can be reached at 442-2312. Submit contributions by 4 p.m. Thursday, one week prior to publication.

The "Rock Slate" can be viewed electronically by clicking the "Rock Slate" link at http://intranet.salem. af.mil.



Thanksgiving award ...



Air Force/Staff Sgt. Ian Carrier

Capt. Kevin Lombardo, 886th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron Battle Captain, recieves a Navy and Marine Corps Commedation Medal on Thursday, Nov. 23rd at Camp Bucca, Iraq. The award was presented by visiting Major Gen. Jack Gardner, Task Force 134 Commander.



Col. Paul Curlett, 386th Air Expeditionary Wing Commander and Phillip Malcom, from AAFES car sales, present the first place check to Desert Idol winner, Airman 1st Class Chris Sterling, from the 386th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron. Special Agent David Weinberg and 1st Lt. Scott Allen came in second and third place respectively.

Official Singles League Standings

	Name Rank Squadron	Wins	Losses
	American League		
1	Perkinson Col. 386 EMSG	5	0
2	Suvill TSgt. 386 ESVS	4	1
3	Brandy SSgt. 386 ESVS	3	1
4	Dougherty SSgt. 386 EAMXS	3	2
5	Agustin SSgt. 386 EMDG	3	2
6	Nikonovich SrA. 386 ECES	1	2
7	Lankford SrA. 386 ECES	1	3
8	Gunn MSgt. 386 ECES	1	5
9	Galtieri TSgt. 386 ECES	0	5
	National League	1	
1	Curlett Col. 386 AEW	6	0
2	Kennedy Civ 386 ECS	5	0
3	Gregson Maj. 386 EAMXS	5	1
4	McKenzie SSgt. 386 EMDG	3	2
5	Young MSgt. 386 ESVS	2	4
6	Gregor SSgt. 386 ECS 1	4	
7	Hackworth MSgt. 386 ECES	1	5
8	Getchell TSgt. 386 ELRS	1	5
9	Fair SrA. 386 ESFS	0	5

Be a part of the new **Doubles League** starting Dec. 10!



Rock RAQUETBALL



WING PROMOTIONS

A1C Michelle Faircloth - 386 ESFS

A1C Craig Sheasley - 386 ESVS A1C Jonathan Volbrecht - 886 ESFS A1C Blake Witte - 386 ESFS SrA Daniel Amic - 386 EAMXS SrA Jason Brown - 386 ESFS SrA Benjamin Evans - 386 ECES SrA Raymond Field - 386 ESFS SrA William Ferreira - 386 ECS SrA Christa Henry - 386 ESFS SrA Jacob Laub - 386 ESFS SrA John Lewis - 386 ECONS SrA William Margara - 386 EMDG SrA Bryan Roney - 386 ECS SrA Samuel Schumach - 386 EAMXS SrA Bethany Thomas - 386 ESFS SSgt Adam Bush - 386 ECS SSgt Evelyn Chromey - 586 ELRS SSgt Leslie Glassco - 586 ESFS SSgt Lawrence O'Neill - 586 ELRS TSgt Troy Schultzen - 386 ECES TSgt Cassandra Wright - 386 ESVS (pictured) MSgt Althea Dennis - 386 ELRS **MSgt Dario Dryden - 386 EAMXS** SMSgt Scott Powers - 386 ESFS

Cool Weather Brings IN The Critters

Col Charles Fisher

USCENTAF/SG Forward SW Asia

Fall and the impending beginning of winter across the AOR

brings welcome relief from egg-frying heat. However, with the lower temperatures our warm moist quarters become attractive refuges for unwelcome guests.

Scorpions are common across the entire AOR although the deadliest varieties are more common in the warmer regions. They are normally nocturnal hunters, emerging from burrows or hiding places in cracks at night to hunt lizards, small snakes and other small animals. They cannot tolerate the heat of the daytime desert so they are rarely seen in daylight except if their hiding place is disturbed. They are also intol-

erant of extreme cold and hibernate in winter in most regions. Therefore, in the dead of winter, scorpion stings tend to be much less common in the outdoors.

So, they don't like cold and they don't like hot. What they do like is our climate controlled living quarters. During this time of year our quarters provide a temperate environment with lo ts of hiding places (bedding, boots, clothing) for all sorts of critters including scorpions, snakes and the insects and reptiles they eat.

Of the hundreds of types of scorpions only a few are truly poisonous, but of those the worst are found in Iraq and surround-

ing countries. Several types of scorpion stings can be deadly within minutes of the sting by stopping the heart, and others cause intense pain and swelling. And, the size and color of the scorpion are not related to how dangerous they are. The most

lethal type, the "Death Stalker" scorpion is sand colored and only a couple inches long.

A few simple steps can help avoid scorpion stings, and for that matter snake and spider bites too. The comfortable dark places they will want to hide include bedding, boots, closets, clothing, and under loose objects. Before donning clothing, shake it out first. Give boots a good knock to dislodge them before putting them on, and open bedding before climbing in. And finally, do not try to catch them. Some scorpions can spray venom from a distance and all scorpions are quick and power-



The deadly "Death Stalker" scorpion

ful. Leave them alone.

If you are stung by a scorpion seek medical help right away. Describe the color, size and shape (fat or skinny, big pincers or small) as best you can. The medical staff will probably ask you to point to a photo of the scorpion that most looks like the one that bit you. By knowing the kind of scorpion, the medical staff will know what type of treatment will be needed.

Enjoy this fall and winter's cooler weather, but remain vigilant and check before putting hands, feet or any other body part in a dark place. Lots of critters would really like to share your quarters with you!

Protect Yourself from Rodents and Scorpions!

Local guidance/information for the Rock:

Staff Sgt. Patrick Browning

386 EMDG/EMEDS Public Health

The major threats to your health in relation to insects, snakes and rodents specifically on the Rock are limited to a few hazards which are preventable in most cases. Awareness and cleanliness are the keys to staying safe and not having unwanted visitors in your living and work areas.

There to are two rules of thumb that you should always follow to protect yourself from snakes and scorpions:

- If it is not your snake don't play with it.
- Never stick your hands where you can't see them.

If you do happen upon any potentially venomous animal do not try to catch it our play with it. If you are bit-

ten or stung seek medical attention immediately even if you don't think it was poisonous, you may not have time to find out for sure depending on what it was. If the animal is in a living or work area contact Entomology and let the experts handle the situation. Entomology will help identified areas that can be improved to keep the unwanted visitors from choosing your area as their own and most of the time it will be "to improve sanitation". Food items should never be brought into tent city whether the package is sealed or not. General house keeping will help you identify an insect or rodent problem and additionally will prevent most problems from occurrina.

So what is the true threat on the Rock right now? Rodents are going to be the biggest threat during the colder season. The snakes are away hibernating and with low temperatures at night requiring additional clothing there is little chance of being stung if you follow the CENTAF guidance in the article above. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Public Health at 442-3000. If you have a medical emergency or need medical attentions please call 442-CARE or 911.



*GLOBETR TTERS

The world-famous Harlem Globetrotters visited the Rock Nov. 29 on the first stop of their tour to several military bases in Southwest Asia.

Presented by Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) and Armed Forces Entertainment (AFE), the Harlem Globetrotters tour will reach each branch of the U.S. Armed Forces.

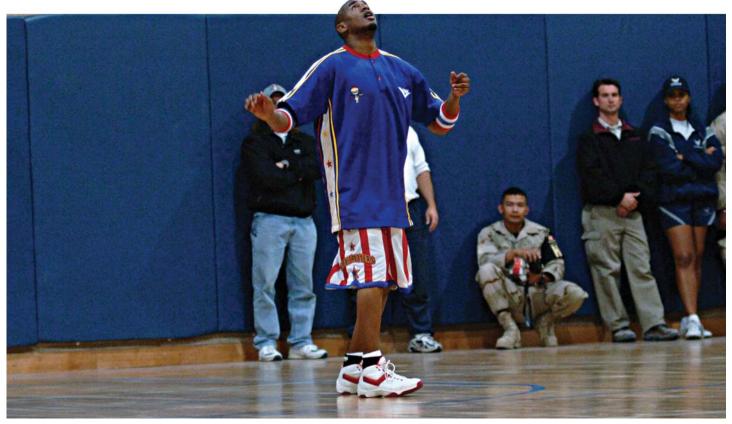
"The Globetrotters are about

first-class entertainment and community support," said Globe-trotters Chairman and CEO Mannie Jackson. "There's nothing more important than supporting our military community, giving them a well-needed break, some good laughs and good memories. We are honored to be invited back to bring one of America's favorite pastimes to those troops stationed overseas."

The Harlem Globetrotters have played before more than 121 million fans in 117 countries worldwide during their 80-year history. They've performed for popes, presidents, kings and queens; own the best winning percentage in any sport with more than 21,800 victories; helped integrate professional basketball; and set the standard for players of all levels around the world.

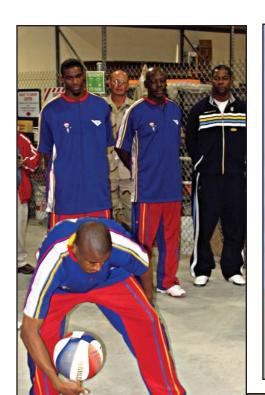
In 2002, the organization was only the fifth team to be inducted into the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame, followed by an induction into the Black Sports and Entertainment Hall of Fame and the World Humanitarian Hall of Fame. For more information about the Harlem Globetrotters, visit the team's official Web site, www.harlemglobetrotters.com.

- Courtesy Armed Forces Entertainment









Harlem Globetrotter frequently asked questions

Q. How long have the Globetrotters been around?

A. Abe Saperstein founded the Harlem Globetrotters in 1926 in Chicago, not Harlem. On Jan. 12, 1998, the Globetrotters played their historic 20,000th career game, a feat unmatched by any other professional sports team in the world.

Q. Are the exhibition games real basketball?

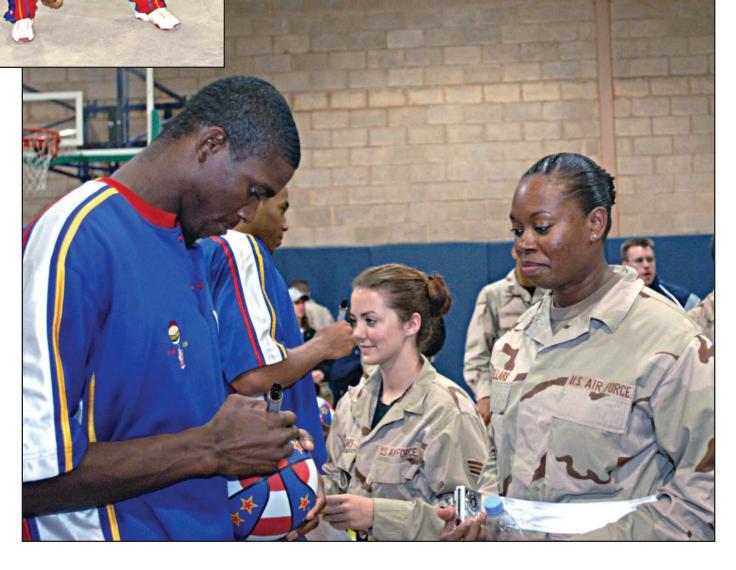
A. They are real basketball games. In fact, a person attending a Harlem Globetrotters game would be surprised by a hard-fought competitive game for the first 15-to-20 minutes, as the Globetrotters establish the tone of the game. Fans will see the show antics once the team has opened a safe lead of 10-to-15 points.

Q. Have the Globetrotters ever lost a game?

A. Yes. In fact, the Globetrotters have lost 343 games over the course of 80 years. However, with over 21,500 wins, the Globetrotters do own the best winning percentage in the history of professional sports.

Q. Where are Meadowlark Lemon and Curly Neal?

A. Both have retired from playing basketball. Meadowlark is now a traveling evangelist based in Scottsdale, Ariz., while Curly occasionally makes public relations appearances for the Globetrotters.



385th Air Expeditionary Wing Rock Solid Warriors



Airman 1st Class Jason T. Lemen

386th Expeditionary Services Squadron 3M051 Services Journeyman/Lodging Front Desk Clerk

Home unit/base: 55th Services Squadron, Offutt AFB, Neb.

How do you support the mission here? I provide Quality of Life lodging support to over 3.2K permanent party, AEF rotational Airmen and coalition forces. We have the second largest operation in the USCENTAF AOR and our beddown surge capacity is 3.3K plus and provide crew rest for over 400 air crews monthly.

How many times have you deployed and what makes this one unique? I've been in the Air Force one year and eight months and this is my first deployment. Putting our Services technical school, Home Station Training and Services Combat Training into action in a deployed environment and seeing the awesome results we offer to our customer's payoff. Also, meeting and making new friends across the wing.

How does your job differ in a deployed environment vs. home base? There is huge difference between our home station operations tempo versus our mission at the Rock. Everyday we learn something new and a new challenge presents itself, so we constantly improve our combat warrior IQ...I strongly feel that our contributions have a positive impact on the success of the wings mission.



Staff Sgt. Kelly L. Tavalozzi

386th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron 3A071 Information Manager/NCOIC, 386 EOSS Commander's Support Staff

Home unit/base: 355th Comptroller Squadron, Davis Monthan AFB , Ariz.

How do you support the mission here? I support both the 386 EOSS and 737 EAS as CSA, Unit Travel Rep, Resource Advisor, Unit Mail Clerk and Facility Manager. My responsibilities include fixing computer issues, ensuring all members redeploy successfully, processing form 9's for all purchases, process an average of 100 mail packages per week, and coordinate with CE on all work orders/job orders for the EOG/EMXG building.

How many times have you deployed and what makes this one unique? This is my 5th deployment. Every deployment has been unique because each one has been to a different location and supporting a different mission.

How does your job differ in a deployed environment vs. home base? I think people rely on the CSS a little more in a deployed location since most of the normal base functions are not available here.