

NEWS AND FEATURES



Photo by Jamie Foster

Brig. Gen. Ian Dickinson, 81st Training Wing commander, takes a spin in one of the new Drunk Buster pedal carts on the parade field behind the Levitow Training Support Facility.

Drunk Buster karts make debut at Keesler

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

Keesler has some new tools in the fight against drunk driving — Drunk Busters.

The three pedal karts, used in 52 countries to reduce alcohol-related incidents, were funded by the 81st Training Wing after receiving a proposal from Keesler's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment program.

Active-duty drunk driving incidents are on the rise at Keesler, according to Capt. Kara Wsniowski, ADAPT program manager for the 81st Medical Operations Squadron.

"ADAPT assessed 29 active-duty individuals who received driving-under-the-influence citations during fiscal 2009," Capt. Wsniowski explained. "For FY 10 ADAPT has assessed 24 active-duty members, and there are still four months to go in the fiscal year."

The captain said ADAPT staff will use these karts on a weekly basis with the technical training students during their in-processing briefing. A kart will also be available for use at the request of squadron or flight commanders.

"The Drunk Busters pedal karts allow Airmen to safely drive a simulated course 'impaired' while wearing impairment goggles so Airmen can experience the simulated effects that alcohol consumption has on one's ability to drive, without actually consuming alcohol," Captain Wsniowski said. "The goggles simulate the effects of impairment, including reduced alertness, slowed reaction time, confusion, visual distortion, alteration of depth and distance perception, reduction of peripheral vision, poor judgment and decision-making, double vision and lack of muscular coordination."

For more information about this DUI prevention initiative, call 376-5716

IN THE NEWS

Temporary gate closures

Due to semi-annual maintenance work for the new denial barriers at each gate, temporary lane closures are scheduled today and Friday.

Today — White Avenue Gate has intermittent lane closures from midnight until 6 a.m.; intermittent lane closures on Floesti Drive north of the Pass Road Gate between 8 p.m. and midnight.

Friday — intermittent gate closures on Floesti Drive south of the Pass Road Gate from midnight to 6 a.m.

Customer satisfaction survey

CSC is conducting an independent survey on customer satisfaction, Monday through June 18

If you've used any of the base operating support services at Keesler such as McBride Library, fitness centers, supply, civil engineering, or weather since Feb. 1, CSC would like your feedback.

The survey is available online at <http://shaarp.inquisitasp.com/cgi-bin/qwebcorporate.dll?dx=FGGSP>. Survey responses are confidential.

For more information contact 377-5213

Heat shifts fitness testing times

81st Force Support Squadron

Due to the summer heat, fitness testing times are being adjusted starting Monday.

Times will be 615 to 815 a.m. and 815 to 1015 a.m.. Unit fitness program managers must schedule testing accord to these new times.

Hurricane town hall meetings

Hurricane town hall meetings are 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday and 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. June 10 in Welch Auditorium.

No phones for lodging June 7-10

Phone and Internet service will be unavailable in base lodging Monday through June 10 while contractors relocate equipment.

For more information, call 377-0845

Clinics close for warrior training

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

The 81st Medical Group conducts warrior training, noon to 5 p.m. June 10

Family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics and general surgery clinics each have one doctor available for urgent appointments. For urgent situations, call central appointments at 1-800-700-8603 or report to the emergency room.

Although pharmacy, radiology and laboratory services are open, they'll have reduced staffing, so patients are asked to delay visits during warrior training.

For emergency situations such as shortness of breath, chest or abdominal pain or bleeding with pregnancy, go to the nearest emergency room or call 911 for an ambulance.