



Photo by Keith Pedersen

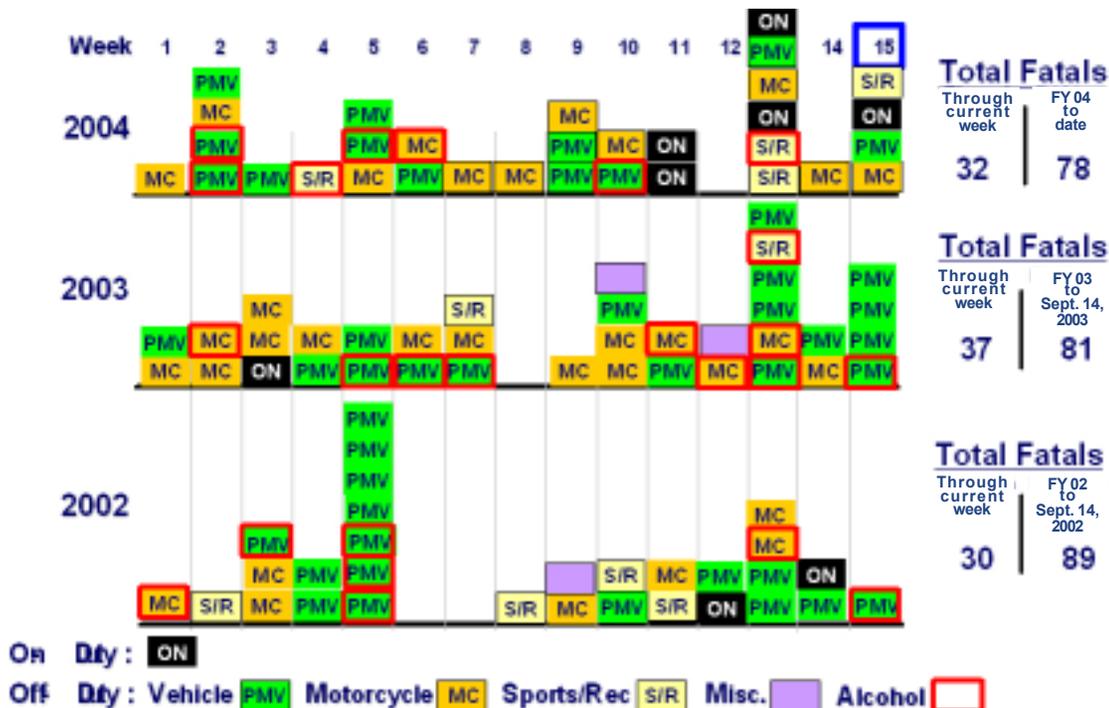
Car totalled—driver OK

A little speed and a split second of driver inattention could be a deadly mix when a vehicle meets gate barrier posts. But sometimes, like for one TEAM KIRTLAND retiree last week, a fatal outcome is avoided thanks to seatbelt use and airbags. Although the vehicle was pronounced totaled, this driver walked away feeling lucky. Speed limits approaching the entry gates from outside are 15 mph. For drivers headed out of the installation, the last posted speed limit as you approach the gate is your correct speed. On Wyoming Boulevard, the posted speed is 30 mph leaving the installation; at the Gibson gate, the last posted speed approaching the gate is 15 mph (school zone). No TEAM KIRTLAND members died within the 101 Critical Days of Summer from Memorial Day to Labor Day during 2004. Seatbelt use and attention to posted speeds by TEAM KIRTLAND members may have helped save Air Force lives during 2004.



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101 Critical Days fatality summary



As of 14 Sep 04

The Air Force lost 29 Airmen in privately owned vehicle accidents during the 2003 and 2004 Air Force 101 Critical Days of Summer between Memorial Day and Labor Day. The Air Force lost 26 Airmen through motorcycle fatalities during that time.

FACT:
 There were 29 Air Force members killed in privately owned vehicle accidents during the 2003-2004, 101 critical days of Summer.
 There were 26 people killed on motorcycles. Very disproportionate considering the number of motorcycles owned and miles driven.

RCI shows employee appreciation

BY CLOVERHATCHER

Nucleus photojournalist

Realizing Confidence and Independence (RCI) hosted a picnic for their employees and consumers last Thursday in Bicentennial Park. The company fulfills the custodial needs of Kirtland AFB while integrating their physically or mentally challenged consumers into the workforce.

Pam Delgado, one of the custodians said, "The picnic was nice. We all got to relax and actually spend time with each other."

At the picnic, the employees ate, laughed and met some members of each other's families.

Victor Van Gorden, one of the custodial supervisors explained that "We take care of over 90 buildings for Kirtland AFB. Our guys work really hard and we just wanted to let them know that they do a great job and we appreciate their work."



Johnny Pacheco and Theo Arellano take a break in the shade.



Randy Torres plays for his coworkers.



Juan Lopez (right) sits with his supervisor, Richard Claraham (left).



Danny Sheffield, (L-R) Pam Delgado, Jeremy Hernandez and Robert LeCompte Jr. enjoy each other's company and a variety of food.



James Cruz, (L-R) Robert LeCompte Jr., Evelyn Lopez and Yolanda Lajeunesse gather at the cooler while Suk Lovato, one of the crew supervisors, gets some food from the buffet.