

# USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO ACADEMY SPIRIT

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## Superintendent reviews 1st year of command



By Staff Sgt. Don Branum  
Academy Public Affairs

When Lt. Gen. Mike Gould accepted the Air Force Academy guidon from Gen. Norton Schwartz less than a year ago, the chief of staff lightheartedly shared a few words of advice with his fellow Academy graduate: “Don’t screw it up, Gould.” In a series of superintendent’s calls Wednesday, General Gould credited people from all of the Academy’s mission elements for making “tremendous progress” in continuing to develop leaders of character.

“I’m really proud of what you’ve done, and I want to encourage you to continue the momentum as we have fun with graduation and get ready to roll back into the cycle and do it again,” he said.

The general outlined his vision toward developing a sense of fanatical institutional pride — a vision for which respect is part of the foundation, along with character, people, families and setting an exemplar for others. He spent much of the first year evaluating the current state of the Academy.

“Knowing that the Academy was in good shape when I got here, I didn’t want to change a bunch of things, and we haven’t had to,” he said. “I credit my predecessor and the team before I got here with having done an awful lot to get us on the right vector.”

See REVIEW, Page 3

Lt. Gen. Mike Gould and Cadet 1st Class Luke Hyder step through a pre-flight inspection on a Diamond T-52A aircraft at the Air Force Academy airfield April 15. General Gould, the Academy superintendent, praised Cadet Hyder, who is assigned to Cadet Squadron 33, during a superintendent’s call in the Arnold Hall Theater Wednesday.

Photo by Mike Kaplan

## Faculty honored at 34th OAE awards

By Julie Imada  
Directorate of Research

More than 20 individuals from the Dean of Faculty and Commandant of Cadets staff and the Academy Preparatory School were honored at the Outstanding Academy Educator awards ceremony April 30.

Dean of the Faculty Brig. Gen. Dana Born and Marshall Scholar Cadet 1st Class Austin McKinney shared their thoughts on the value and daily contributions of the Air Force Academy faculty to intellectually preparing and developing tomorrow’s leaders of character.

Cadet McKinney spoke of the three integral aspects of the educators who had made the most significant impacts on his development: educators who espoused passion and eagerness for their subjects, the drive to develop cadets in and outside of the classroom, and purposeful efforts to develop a sense of leadership characteristics and qualities in their students.

“Our instructors are succeeding everyday in building future leaders of the Air Force,” he said.

Highlights from the event included

the debut of the new Academic Mace and the event’s keynote speaker, Prof. Edward Burger.

A professor of mathematics at Williams College, Professor Burger stressed that educators must not simply teach content but also the process of thinking. When education is drawn into divisions — artificial lines in the sand — the question of teaching creativity, innovation and original thought can sometimes get lost in the push for content knowledge. Being able to see and quantify the invisible learning is the key.

“It is difficult to measure innovation ... The question we face as educators, the 10-year question, from today (is), what will students remember from our classes?” he asked and joked that it would not be the quadratic equation that they would remember in a decade. He stressed the need to teach empathy as well as the ability to connect unseen lines as the difference between simply teaching content and teaching creativity and processing skills, he concluded by asking his fellow educators to “show” their students the world and the “moments of seeing the invisible.”

### 2010 Outstanding Academy Educator Award Winners

**Commandant of Cadets Staff:** Maj. Rives M. Duncan  
**Dean of the Faculty Staff:** Dr. Kenneth S. Sagentorf  
**Department of Aeronautical Engineering:** Lt. Col. Ryan K. Osteros  
**Department of Astronautical Engineering:** Capt. Daniel J. Showalter  
**Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership:** Lt. Col. Joseph Don Looney  
**Department of Biology:** Maj. John M. McQuade  
**Department of Chemistry:** Maj. John M. Engesser  
**Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering:** Capt. Andrew Hoisington  
**Department of Computer Science:** Maj. Alexander L. Ackerman  
**Department of Economics and Geosciences:** Maj. Jason R. Stowe  
**Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering:** Lt. Col. Brian S. Peterson  
**Department of Engineering Mechanics:** Capt. Matthew B. Obenchain  
**Department of English and Fine Arts:** Gretchen R. Koenig  
**Department of Foreign Languages:** Dr. Jean LeLoup  
**Department of History:** Maj. John V. Clune  
**Department of Law:** Capt. Hugh B. McClean  
**Department of Management:** Maj. Conrad A. Preedom  
**Department of Mathematical Sciences:** Maj. Dustin Keck  
**Department of Military and Strategic Studies:** Lt. Col. Steven A. Pomeroy  
**Department of Philosophy:** Capt. Michael A. Growden  
**Department of Physical Education:** Capt. Blake J. Baldi  
**Department of Physics:** Lt. Col. Michael Gauthier  
**Department of Political Science:** Lt. Col. Benjamin R. Paganelli  
**USAF Preparatory School:** Maj. Joseph S. Lawrence

**WEEKEND WEATHER**

**FRIDAY**  
51 24  
ISOLATED SHOWERS

**SATURDAY**  
60 26  
AM FOG/ISOLATED SHOWERS

**SUNDAY**  
70 40  
ISOLATED SHOWERS/T-STORM

### NCO wins Levitow Award

An Academy NCO brings home the Vosler NCO Academy’s Levitow Award.

Page 8

### A ‘Wounded’ Heart

An Academy Airman made a hard decision about competing in the Warrior Games.

Page 13

### Headed to Usafastan

Children experience a taste of deployment during Operation Junior Deployer.

Pages 14-15

# Blue Steel delivers Academy message with infectious groove

By Master Sgt. Steven Przyzycki  
U.S. Air Force Academy Band

The Air Force Academy prepares young men and women from around the nation and globe to become future leaders of the greatest air, space and cyberspace force man has ever known. Those fortunate enough to attend the Academy will become prepared for an extraordinary future. How does the Academy get the word out that it is searching for the brightest and the best? One way, is to deliver the message through the universal language of music as it was done this past week in the city of Baltimore by the Academy Band's high-energy pop/rock group Blue Steel.

Taking the Academy's national recruiting efforts straight to the students, the Academy Band's Blue Steel collaborated with the Chesapeake Youth Symphony Orchestra in Pasadena, Md., performing for a packed house Saturday. All of the students in the orchestra donned blue Air Force Academy T-shirts for the concert a few miles down the road from the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis.

"This was a fantastic way to promote the pride and project the power of the United States Air Force, the United States Air Force Academy and the Academy Band," said 2nd Lt. Jason Plosch, the Academy Band's deputy commander.

"It was great to see the kids and the full house enjoy the performance and express so much interest in the Academy," added Tech. Sgt. Andrew Benton, tour manager for Blue Steel.



Courtesy Photo

**Tech. Sgt. Andrew Benton and the rest of the Air Force Academy Band's Blue Steel ensemble perform with the Chesapeake Youth Symphony Orchestra at Chesapeake High School April 30. Sergeant Benton is a native of Colorado Springs.**

Blue Steel arrived at Chesapeake Senior High School April 30 to conduct clinics and master classes and talk about the Air Force and the Academy.

"Being in such close proximity (less than 30 minutes) of the U.S. Naval Academy, it was refreshing for the students to gain a 'new' Air Force perspective," said musical director Master Sgt. Jeremy Laukhuf. "They asked a lot of questions about career opportunities in the Air Force, as well as life as a cadet at the Academy."

The students participated in an impromptu jam session with the members of Blue Steel following the clinics. Afterward, Blue Steel went to

Bodkin Elementary School to further promote the Air Force and the Saturday night concert.

Tech. Sgt. Julie Bradley, lead vocalist, was a high school vocal teacher prior to enlisting in the Air Force.

"This is a very rewarding experience for all of us in the band," Sergeant Bradley said. "We get to put our best foot forward and tell the Air Force story to all of these students. You can actually see the impression we are making on their faces as we answer questions about careers in the Air Force or life at the Academy. It is a lasting impression and one that may produce some of the greatest leaders in the future."

## ACADEMY SPIRIT

To responsibly inform and educate the Academy community and the public about the Air Force Academy

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The *Academy Spirit* also accepts story submissions by fax at 333-4094 or by e-mail: pa.newspaper@usafa.af.mil.



## Character Corner Strength and Honor

By Lt. Col. Chuck Boyd  
Center for Character and Leadership Development

At the beginning of the movie "Gladiator," the Roman commander Maximus, played by Russell Crowe, salutes his centurions and officers by placing his fist over his chest and saying, "Strength and Honor." I love that part of the movie. Just before going into battle, Maximus determines that the most important instruction or advice he can give to his Legionnaires is a reminder that they are to act with strength and honor.

It is my understanding that the motto is historically factual and was actually used by Roman

soldiers. I would argue that such a focus on strength and honor was one of the reasons the Roman military was so successful for so long. "Strength and Honor" pretty much says it all. Strength in body, mind, and spirit is critically important to military personnel who are asked to defend a nation.

The Global War on Terrorism requires us to deploy, operate and excel in many locales and situations worldwide, so strength is as important to us today as it was during Roman times. However, strength without honor is like having thrust without a vector. I think the Romans would have understood this concept if not the aviation lingo.

We must have honor at all time and everywhere we go. The profession of arms and the military forces associated with it must be supported by a foundation of honor. Soldiers and armies that do not operate and live honorably are a very dangerous thing indeed. History is ripe with accounts of atrocities committed when military forces do not act honorably.

We often study and discuss the military tactics and traditions of the ancients. Let's not forget that strength and honor is as important to Airmen today as it was to the Roman legionnaire more than 2,000 years ago.

Tune into KAFA, 97.7 FM for *Character Matters*, Wednesdays at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Also on iTunes or [www.usafa.org](http://www.usafa.org).



## How do you plan to celebrate Mother's Day with your mom?

"I'm going to take her to dinner. It will be her choice of restaurant."

Michelle Campbell  
Air Force spouse



"I will take her out for lunch and give her gift cards for eating out."

Jeannene Havel  
Retired Air Force spouse



"My mom works in a nursing home and does lots of walking, so I'm getting her a pair of specialty walking shoes."

Army Spc.  
Craig Slavens  
Division Special Troops  
Battalion, 4th Infantry  
Division, Fort Carson



"I will take her out to eat, and I always make her a card."

2nd Lt. Laura Vergez  
21st Comptroller  
Squadron  
Peterson Air Force Base



## Review

From Page 1

One of the things General Gould said he wants to encourage through the rest of his tenure is reaching out to surrounding communities, including Colorado Springs, Monument, Falcon and Manitou Springs.

"We want to get out and tell the good story about what we're doing here and start building this pride at the individual level," he said.

In the third and fourth years of his tenure, the general said he wants people to understand the Academy's role in the continuing operations overseas, including current operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and future counterterrorism efforts.

"We want to reach out to everybody and make sure everyone at the Academy understands what the joint, coalition, interagency war that we'll be involved in today and will continue to be involved in for some time is all about," he said. And as the Academy continues beyond 2013, the general aims for "continual growth to take excellence to a new level."

General Gould discussed fostering a culture of diversity and respect, highlighted changes that are underway based on input from Academy team members and recapped the first year of his tenure here during the superintendent's calls.

"I want to make sure we're all on the same page with regard to a couple of issues, and the first is diversity," he said. "When we look at our new cadets, we think about getting all sorts of people from all backgrounds here on this team — not only at the Academy but also so we can develop them to lead throughout our Air Force.

"And here's why: regardless of your own background and what you might think about this, I will tell you, diversity equals strength," he explained. "More and better ideas come forward when you have a diverse group of people contributing ... whether you're talking about a classroom setting, an athletic team, a flying squadron or a civil engineering outfit — it doesn't matter. If you get different ideas in, you're going to be more successful."

Another reason for the focus on diversity is to have an Air Force that reflects the society it defends, General Gould said. However, diversity does not mean establishing quotas or lowering standards.

"We will continue to uphold the highest stan-

**"We want to ... tell the good story about what we're doing here ..."**

— Lt. Gen. Mike Gould  
Academy Superintendent

dards, but we will do it by making sure people from all walks of life have the opportunity to come in here and make our Air Force stronger," he said.

Diversity and a culture of respect go hand-in-hand, General Gould said, adding that he is pleased with the culture of respect that has developed at the Academy in recent years. He recalled the story of a basic cadet from the Class of 2013 who complained of having been proselytized when the cadet went to see a chaplain.

"It was handled within the Cadet Wing, up through the air officers commanding, through the leadership to where we could put the pieces together with no retribution toward anyone," he said. "The individual who felt ... forced or coerced into a certain type of belief was able to talk about it, and we ironed it out right there. We have to have that environment where we respect one another for our backgrounds and for our beliefs, no matter what they are. That's the only way I know we can have a strong team."

Because the Academy has built a climate of respect, General Gould said he is not worried about whether Congress will allow homosexuals to serve openly by repealing "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," which was passed in 1993.

"Regardless of what happens with the law, we will implement it fairly and smartly, and we will do it because we will foster this climate of respect," the general said. "Remind yourself of what we say in the Airman's Creed: 'Wingman, leader, warrior ... I will never leave an Airman behind, I will never falter, and I will not fail.' It doesn't matter what our background is; it doesn't matter our gender or our race. This is the idea that unites us as one team, and it encompasses everyone in the room: officer and enlisted; active duty, Reserve and Guard; civilian and contractor. We're all one team, and this is the creed that we follow.

"We all agree to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies,

foreign and domestic — one team, one fight, with one common purpose," he continued. "That's what respect is all about, and that's why this team is as strong as it is."

General Gould reviewed some of the issues Academy personnel had broached with him shortly after he assumed command, including the state of the computer networks, the food at Mitchell Hall and the base's aging infrastructure.

"First of all, on the network: this is not an easy nut to crack," he said. "Lt. Col. Don Fielden is setting up an A6 (communications) directorate so we get the policy piece right. He's established a great relationship with the 10th Communications Squadron and with communications elements throughout the base." The Academy recently spent \$500,000 to upgrade its server architecture, and the 10th Air Base Wing is laying fiber optic cable to improve bandwidth on the base networks, General Gould said.

Meanwhile, 10th ABW Commander Col. Rick LoCastro and his team have looked at ways to eliminate waste at Mitchell Hall so that cadets get "premier meals at the right time," General Gould said.

Additionally, "we're letting the cadets know so that they don't find out about meals the day after, and they're not saying, 'Oh, man, I should have gone to dinner last night,'" he added. "It takes a lot of effort, but the Mitchell Hall staff is saving money, and they're putting the money they're saving to good use."

General Gould reviewed several highlights from the 2009-2010 academic year, including Class of 2013 inprocessing, Firefighter Challenge, the new Unmanned Aerial System program and some of the year's guest speakers. He returned to the topic of graduation and focused on the Class of 2010, which will graduate May 26.

"I want you to think about what it is these young men and women are going to do," he said, pointing out the number of cadets who will go into Air Force specialties such as combat rescue, special tactics and air liaison. "These cadets from the Class of 2010 are ready — they are ready to go. But they would not be ready to lead in our Air Force and beyond if it weren't for the great work that the entire team has done across all mission elements. My overall message to you all is, keep up the great work. You have accomplished so much."

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# Fulbright scholars prepare for China, India trips

By Butch Wehry  
Academy Spirit staff

Cadet 1st Class David Corpman heads to China and Cadet 1st Class Jarrod Huffman will go to India under Fulbright scholarships following graduation.

The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and citizens of other countries.

## 'I'm thrilled'

Cadet Corpman initially went to China during the 2007-2008 academic year to pursue volunteer activities.

"I returned to China on an Olmsted (cultural immersion) trip in the spring of 2009 and later on last fall as part of the semester study abroad program," said Cadet Corpman, an electrical engineering major with Cadet Squadron 13.

He will first be in Hangzhou taking part in a Fulbright-sponsored language program during the upcoming fall semester and then directly transfer to Nanjing to begin Fulbright-sponsored research.

"I applied for the scholarship, first competing against a pool of candidates nationwide and then



C1C David Corpman

amongst candidates applying specifically for research grants in China," said the Cedar Falls, Iowa, native. Although not fluent in Chinese, "I can get by in it," he said.

Cadet Corpman will attend Zhejiang University of Science and Technology during the first semester. He will arrive there in August.

"I will rent an apartment while in Nanjing," he said. "At the conclusion of my Fulbright grant, I hope to be very familiar with Hangzhou and Nanjing."

This future developmental engineer has a vision. "Our Air Force needs more people with well-informed perspectives about China," Cadet Corpman said. "Considering all of my experiences in China, I hope to contribute a strong understanding to how our nation, and specifically the Air Force, approaches ongoing issues concerning China."

He is candid about his feelings.

"I'm thrilled, he said. "This is an excellent opportunity for self-paced research of my own design. Hangzhou and Nanjing are excellent locations to live and study. I am honored to be a part of the Fulbright community."

## Loves living in India

Cadet 1st Class Jarrod Huffman already has a picture of himself with the Taj Mahal in the background.

He formally outprocessed from the Academy between his sophomore and junior years to do volunteer work in a rural Indian village from fall 2007 to summer 2008 before re-turning to the Academy in fall 2008.

There are some 22 official languages in India, but several hundred are spoken. However, that doesn't

worry this cadet from Goshen, Ind.

"I only speak English. Thus, English is common medium to bridge this gap as it is left over from the British Raj," said the physics major with CS 13.

"I will likely reside near the campus but not on it," the scholarship winner said. "It is difficult to be in India and not be immersed. There just really aren't all that many non-Indians there. I prefer Indian food to American food, so that's not really an issue, although McDonald's is there."

Cadet Huffman won't be a full-time student but will likely take some classes as a "casual student" at Jadavpur University in Kolkata, a metropolis with about 15 million people. He will take classes primarily in Bengali and education.

"The real purpose of the project is to conduct research," the cadet said. "I will be studying how the recent push in India to provide free education through age 14 will improve the lives of children in Kolkata, West Bengal. I sought the scholarship because I love living in India and want to take part in U.S.-India partnerships."

He is pragmatic.

"I just want to do an excellent job next year and learn as much as I possibly can," Cadet Huffman said.

He is off to pilot training after the research project ends.



C1C Jarrod Huffman

## honor your 2010 graduate

### Don't Miss Out on Honoring Your Graduate

in this newspaper's "Congratulations Graduates Commemorative Section" appearing May 27th and 28th

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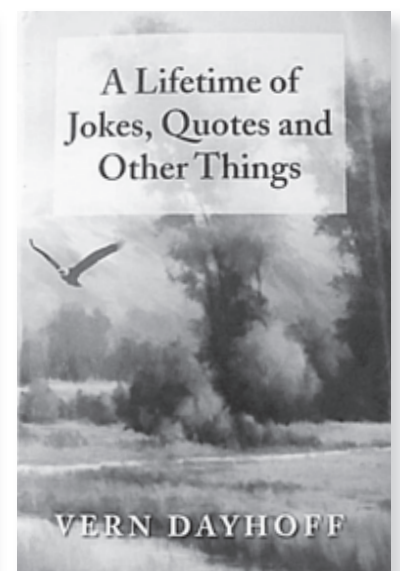
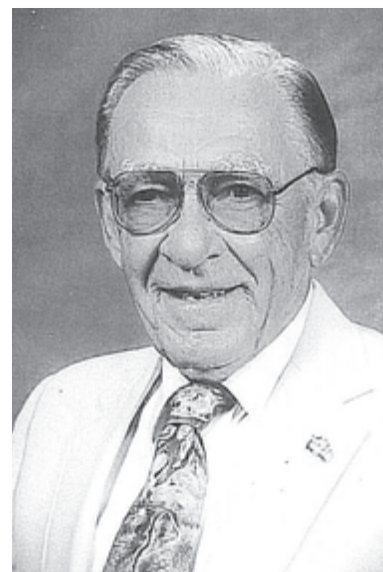
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# Schriever Airman accepted to Prep School

By Staff Sgt. Daniel Martinez  
50th Space Wing Public Affairs

SCHRIEVER AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Airman 1st Class Alan Acosta dreamt of being an Air Force officer since enlisting at the age of 17. Little did he know his dream would be realized.

The Airman from the 50th Comptroller Squadron received an unexpected surprise when 1st Lt. Eddie Cunningham, U.S. Air Force Academy diversity recruiting regional director, personally presented him with a letter of acceptance into the Academy's Preparatory School April 22.

"What we're looking at is the whole-person concept. We look at their high school transcripts, SAT scores, and more importantly, their commander's recommendation and potential for future leadership," Lieutenant Cunningham said. "Every year we have about 11,000 to 12,000 applicants from across the country. We have a selection rate of about 13 percent, so it's very, very selective."

Informing Airman Acosta of his acceptance started out as a ruse to surprise him. While an office meeting was taking place, Lieutenant Cunningham stormed into the office posing as an irate customer wanting to file a travel voucher. Maj. Thomas Smicklas, 50th CPTS commander, asked Airman Acosta to assist the lieutenant while the meeting proceeded. The ruse was up when Airman Acosta flipped the travel voucher over to find his letter of



Photo by Staff Sgt. Daniel Martinez

**Airman 1st Class Alan Acosta assists 1st Lt. Eddie Cunningham, who's portraying an irate customer filing a travel voucher April 22, at Schriever Air Force Base. Lieutenant Cunningham, the diversity recruiting regional director for Academy Admissions, surprised Airman Acosta, a financial management Airman with the 50th Comptroller Squadron, when Airman Acosta found his letter of acceptance into the Academy's Preparatory School hidden behind the travel voucher.**

acceptance. A look of concern on the Airman's face quickly transformed into a smile. His colleagues then congratulated the Airman, along with Col. Wayne Monteith, 50th Space Wing commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Randy LaCombe, 50th SW command chief master sergeant.

"When I first came into the military, I always wanted to become an officer," Airman Acosta said. "One reason I wanted to become an officer was I wanted to have an impact on the Air Force, and what better

way than to become an officer."

Airman Acosta was born and raised in Venezuela and moved to the United States with his family when he was 9 years old. He joined the Air Force in August 2008 straight from graduating high school and received his U.S. citizenship in 2009. Acquiring his citizenship pushed him one step closer to meeting the Academy's rigorous requirements, which also included a fitness assessment, interviews and testing.

The Airman finally completed all of his

requirements in December, but after not hearing anything for almost four months, he figured he probably didn't make the cut. However, that all changed when his crew learned of his acceptance and found a unique way to break the news, getting Lieutenant Cunningham to play along.

Airman Acosta said he values the friendships he's made with his co-workers and the time he's spent as an enlisted Airman. He also said he draws inspiration from his family.

"My brother is in the Army ... he's like a father-figure. I joined the military because he did," Airman Acosta said. "I like to make my family proud ... my parents proud. My mom raised me by herself since I was one so she's done a lot for me, and it's the least I can do for her."

Airman Acosta said the knowledge he's gained as an enlisted member will help him remain humble even as an officer.

"When I become a lieutenant, I don't want to act like I know everything because I've had those people come through," he said. "You can always learn something from even the youngest Airman, from anybody."

As for other Airmen who may consider becoming an officer, he had some advice.

"It's a really long process but it's worth it," he said. "Don't take things for granted because the military is one of the best things you can have in the world."

Airman Acosta will begin at the prep school July 14.



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# AFA NCO named Levitow winner

By Ann Patton  
Academy Spirit staff

The NCO in charge of command career enhancement programs for the Air Force Academy staff here received the John Levitow Award when she graduated from the Vosler NCO Academy at Peterson Air Force Base April 8.

Tech. Sgt. Tiffany Smith was the top graduate among 125 mid-level NCOs who graduated from the NCO Academy's Class 10-3.

"It's humbling and an honor," Sergeant Smith said of the award, named for Vietnam War veteran and Medal of Honor recipient Sgt. John Levitow.

Senior Master Sgt. Robbie Wellbaum,

the interim NCO Academy commandant, called Sergeant Smith a "great briefer" who took the lead on study groups and enforcing standards in class and who helped students who struggled with academics.

"I wasn't surprised at all," Lt. Col. Karen Burke, chief of the Academy's Personnel Support Division, said of Sergeant Smith's award. "She is by far one of the best, if not the best, NCO who has ever worked for me."

Sergeant Smith called the NCO Academy curriculum challenging but "refreshing" at the same time.

"It was a huge investment of time every single day," she said. The wide area of studies included communica-



Photo By Ann Patton

**Tech. Sgt. Tiffany Smith won the Vosler NCO Academy's John Levitow Award for Class 10-3 April 8. Sergeant Smith is the NCO in charge of command career enhancement programs for the Academy Headquarters staff.**

tions, leadership, management and military skills.

Sergeant Smith entered the Air Force after graduation from Doherty High School in Colorado Springs and found her niche in the personnel career field, which appealed to her customer service and administrative inclinations.

Colonel Burke said Sergeant Smith typically goes above and beyond what is expected of her, plans far ahead for upcoming projects and looks for ways to solve issues before seeking guidance.

"She just blows me away," Colonel Burke said.

Sergeant Smith's previous assignments included the 10th Medical Support Squadron here, Air Force Space Command Headquarters at Peterson AFB, and military personnel flights at Peterson AFB and McConnell AFB, Kan. Among other duties, Sergeant Smith is responsible for promotions for officers and enlisted Airmen, awards and decorations and Reserve man days.

"Looking back, I couldn't be happier," the 11-year Air Force veteran said of her chosen field. "I can't imagine myself doing anything else."

The daughter of a retired Army command sergeant major said the qualities of a good leader include focusing on the mission and developing Airmen.

Sergeant Smith is currently working on her Bachelor of Science degree in organizational management and human

resources, an area she would like to pursue in the Air Force professional military education setting as an instructor.

"I very much like the academic setting, and I enjoy public speaking," she said.

She said she would also enjoy a future overseas assignment with her husband, Master Sgt. Joe Smith, who is stationed at Peterson AFB, and their children. The mother of three — two sons and a daughter — enjoys family time while away from the Academy as well as skiing, snowboarding and rafting. She said she looks forward to interacting with her NCO Academy classmates in the future.

"They are a fantastic group of people," she said. "Networking is one of the best benefits."

The Levitow Award is presented to the top graduate excelling in leadership and scholarship at each level of the Air Force's professional military education programs, which include the Airman Leadership School and Senior NCO Academy as well as the NCO Academy. Sergeant Levitow, for whom the award is named, received a Medal of Honor for his actions inside an AC-47 Spooky outside Long Binh Army Base, South Vietnam, when, wounded, he secured a loose, burning Mark 24 flare and hurled it through an open cargo door, saving lives and the aircraft.



Photo By Bill Evans

## Revolutionary 'flash'-back

Cadet 4th Class Garrett Clark fires a long rifle during a historic weapons shoot at the Air Force Academy's Combat Arms Training and Maintenance Facility Saturday. Cadet Clark, who is assigned to Cadet Squadron 28, is dressed as a soldier in the Continental Army's 1st Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment, which fought under Maj. Gen. Baron von Steuben during the Battle of Yorktown in September and October 1781.

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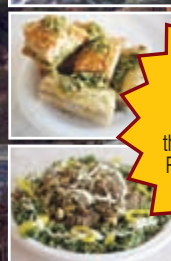


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# Academy hosts inaugural Car and Bike Fest

By 2nd Lt. Meredith Kirchoff  
Academy Public Affairs

A slew of motorcycles, custom cars and enthusiasts invaded the Academy grounds for the first annual Front Range Car and Bike Fest at Falcon Stadium Saturday.

The event was sponsored by the "Falcon Riders" motorcycle group and offered activities for veteran riders and seasoned competitors as well as those new to the festivities.

The show began as an idea to have a base motorcycle safety day but quickly escalated to an all-out event involving participants from Denver to Pueblo with more than 40 cars displayed and more than 100 bikes in attendance.

"It became a way to bring the military and civilian communities together," said Master Sgt. Greg Meinert, first sergeant for the Superintendent's Staff and one of the festival's organizers.

Admission to the event was free for spectators, but bike and car owners alike could enter their vehicles in the competition for a fee. All proceeds benefited the Wounded Warrior Project and Operation Warm Heart.

"We like to do as many shows as we can, especially if it's for a good cause," said Steve Brite, a broadcast training instructor at Peterson Air Force Base. Mr. Brite and his wife, Jennifer, showed off their 2003 Camaro Z28 in the personalized stock class of the competition.



Photo by Bill Evans

Staff Sgt. Vincent Weathers peers under the gull-wing doors of a DeLorean DMC-12 at the inaugural Front Range Car and Bike Fest here, May 1. The DeLorean was shown by owner Wilson Hitchings during the festivities at Falcon Stadium.

In addition to the car and bike show, festivities included a vendor village, safe riding seminars and a poker run and featured a performance by the Air Force Academy Band's Wild Blue Country.

Tom Dowd attended with his four year old son, TJ, and said this was their first car and bike event. Mr. Dowd said TJ was most excited about the bouncy house, but TJ also said his favorite part about the cars was to "look inside."

Safety was emphasized throughout the day said Maj. Todd Yackley and Tech. Sgt. Jermaine Goodman, both leaders of the Falcon Riders.

"We brought out ABATE (A

Brotherhood Active Towards Education) of Colorado and the Military Training Academy to make safety an integral part of the day," Major Yackley said. "We can have fun and be safe at the same time."

Safety was a special consideration during the poker run, in which riders visited three on base and two off-base locations and drew a playing card at each stop; the player with the best hand at the end of the ride won a prize. The activity had about 30 motorcyclists and 15 drivers participate.

Organizers were most pleased with the weather and the turnout, Sergeant Goodman said.

"Just to see all the bikes, cars and people from the community come out for the event was great," he said, and added that the car and bike fest will grow next year with more vendors and activities and will hopefully attract an even larger crowd of enthusiasts from the Front Range.

The organizers are very appreciative to the Academy community, Major Yackley said.

"We couldn't have put the car and bike fest on without all of the volunteers who came out and supported the event," he added.

Judging commenced in the early afternoon and trophies were awarded shortly afterward. Winners in each category are as follows:

**Stock car:** 1974 Volkswagen Bug (Amanda Stinson)

**Personalized stock car:** 1933 Dodge convertible coupe (Penelope Allen)

**Factory muscle car:** 1968 Shelby GT-350 (Bryan Lowry)

**Truck:** 1970 C-10 (Richard Banken)

**Metric class bike:** 2006 Yamaha (Chuck Shertt)

**American class bike:** 2004 Ridgid (Barney Vowell)

**Sports class bike:** 2006 GSX-1100 (Hollywood)

**Vintage class bike:** 850 Norton Commando (Vaughn Fox)

**People's choice car or bike:** 1956 Chevrolet Delivery sedan (Gary Sharpton)

**Commander's choice car or bike:** 1965 442 (Dick Thompson)

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# Academy NCO selected for Warrior Games

By Ann Patton  
Academy Spirit staff

Just before three bombs exploded around Tech. Sgt. Crystal Lovato in Iraq, she was ordering winter coats online for her two children back home.

"It would have been the last thing I had done to show my kids I love them," she said of the moments before the attack and her survival.

Sergeant Lovato, a Dean of Faculty support staff NCO, was selected to compete in the Department of Defense's Warrior Games in Colorado Springs May 10-14. However, a schedule conflict will prevent her from competing; instead, she will meet a medical evaluation board at Wilford Hall Medical Center in San Antonio to determine whether she can continue to serve.

"I really wanted to participate in the Warrior Games," Sergeant Lovato said. "I was ecstatic and pumped, and I felt motivated. The event gave me some hope for myself and a way to show that just because I was injured doesn't mean I can't be fit to fight, too."

Sergeant Lovato left active duty in 2006. Now a reservist with the 302nd Security Forces Squadron at Peterson Air Force Base, she works at the Academy in active reserve status.

She still vividly remembers the bomb attack from her deployment two years ago. As a radio traffic operator deployed to Kirkuk, Iraq, she had just finished briefing the incoming shift operator and stepped outside to wait for transportation when the explosives detonated.

At first, she recalled hearing a "thump, thump," as if a truck were navigating over potholes. The first bomb exploded across the street from her, and another detonated just steps away from her location next to



Photo by Ann Patton

**Tech. Sgt. Crystal Lovato keeps memoirs of her time in Iraq at her desk, where she works as a Dean of Faculty staff support NCO. She was invited to participate in the upcoming Warrior Games in Colorado Springs May 10-14**

a parked Humvee. The explosions destroyed a nearby bus stop, sending wood chips, rocks and dirt flying. Shrapnel pinged as it struck her vehicle.

A third bomb went off just on the other side of a wall where she had taken shelter. The attacks burned her uniform sleeve and injured her right ear, resulting in some hearing loss, but her eardrum remained intact.

Back in Colorado, the frequent and often erratic changes in weather, plus shifts in altitude, caused her pain until the ear "popped," as she described it, equalizing the pressure inside and outside the ear. Sergeant Lovato now has tubes in her ears, which has alleviated the discomfort, but she still has trouble hearing at times. She has to face anyone speaking

to her, including her children and her husband, a FedEx employee at Peterson AFB. She remains in treatment for the injured ear and related functions such as balance. However, like many returning wounded warriors, she has found reintegration hard.

"Coming home has been really tough. It's still a work in progress," she said, explaining the temperament of her world now seems dramatically changed.

On active duty for six years, Sergeant Lovato first served in Turkey in security and later in law enforcement as a patrolman and desk sergeant before being hand-picked for corrections facility training. Born in Albuquerque, N.M., she is the oldest of five siblings and a confessed "Navy brat." Though she desired

a Navy career herself, her father advised her that the Air Force would be a better fit for her.

"I was a good girl and did what my dad told me to do," she said with a laugh. "But I love the organization and structure of the military."

She expects to complete a bachelor's degree in accounting next month. Nonetheless, the path ahead seems unclear for the mother of a son, now 7, and a daughter, now 3.

"I can't plan a future," she said. "I don't have a Plan B." But she remains hopeful, despite her injuries.

She had planned to compete in swimming, discus and archery during the games. Instead, her MEB at Wilford Hall will determine whether the NCO must separate or retire or whether she can remain in uniform.

"It's hard to put into words how I feel about missing out on this absolutely wonderful event," she said. "I really wanted to go because I can see others whom I can support and learn from. Though I'm a wounded veteran myself, I take into account that there are wounded individuals who have a deeper story than mine — those who sacrificed more than me."

Sergeant Lovato said she hopes the Warrior Games become an annual event.

"The injured give an example of strength and perseverance" and demonstrate "the ability to bounce back and be fit to fight," she said. And though she cannot be there to cheer on her fellow wounded warriors, Sergeant Lovato still got something out of this year's games.

"This event enabled me to prove to myself that I can still do anything I put my mind to, and I can do it better than before in some cases," she said. "So, maybe next year."

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# CHILDREN JOURNEY TO USAFASTAN TO SUPPORT OPERATION JUNIOR DEPLOYER

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Don Branum  
Academy Public Affairs

For about 200 members of the Academy community, Saturday started with a 7 a.m. wake-up call from the Command Center. By 9:30 a.m., they filled the predeployment center on the south side of the base to receive safety and cultural awareness briefings, set up allotments to their family members back home and get vaccinations. An hour later, they boarded one of three buses headed for Usafastan.

Only this deployment was a bit different from most: most of the 200 deployers were school-age children, the vaccinations were stamps instead of shots, and Usafastan was just a few miles north in Jacks Valley.

The young troops deployed for one day in support of Operation Junior Deployer, an event put together by the Academy's 10th Force Support Squadron to help children understand some of the things their parents go through before and during their deployments.

During their predeployment briefing, children learned about possible health and safety hazards in Jacks Valley. They also learned a bit about Middle Eastern culture and why it's important to understand different cultures, courtesy of Academy Chaplain (Capt.) Steven Barfield.

"When you understand (other people's) culture, you can build their trust," Chaplain Barfield said. "And when you build their trust, they become your friends, and they can help you beat the bad guys."

After the briefings, the children — broken up into red, white and blue chalks — went through four deployment processing stations. Senior Airman Sarrah Brion of the 10th Force Support Squadron gave orders and dog tags to each child. Airmen 1st Class Geovany Miramontes and Jennifer O'Brien from Academy Finance issued play money and helped children set up allotments to family members. Capt. Valerie Nolan from the Staff Judge Advocate office helped children fill out forms to determine who would take care of

their pets while they were gone.

Finally, Airmen with the 10th Medical Group gave children candy ("malaria medicine") and stamps ("immunizations"). Nearby, volunteers set up stations where children could have their faces painted and write letters to their families.

Once everyone made it through the processing line, Col. Rick LoCastro, the 10th Air Base Wing commander, got the crowd jazzed up and ready to go. The families boarded three buses bound for Usafastan, and Colonel LoCastro led the way in his staff vehicle. Once the buses arrived, the children immediately hit the field, armed with kickballs, flying discs, sacks for a sack race and a tug-o-war rope.

Airmen, civilians and family members from the Academy and nearby bases volunteered to support the event. One of the volunteers was Cynthia Cope, a resource manager with the 10th Medical Group.

"People need to be introduced to volunteering," said Ms. Cope, who started volunteering for projects while she was on active duty and who was involved with reforestation efforts here for Arbor Day in April. "A lot of people don't like to volunteer at first, but once you get them involved and they feel good about themselves, they start to look for other opportunities."

After a lunch of hamburgers, bratwurst and meals ready-to-eat, the children took back to the field to watch two military working dogs, Otis and Benga, show off their antiterrorism skills along with their handlers, 10th Security Forces



Fadio Fenner, Blandon Beeler, Luke Ryktarsyk, Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Young, Ethan Gunn and Matthew Mikovits give their all in a tug-o-war contest during Operation Junior Deployer here Saturday. The day-long experience was designed to help children understand some of what Airmen go through while deploying. Chief Young is the 10th Force Support Squadron superintendent.

rifles that they use downrange. As the afternoon waned, the children reboarded the buses and headed to a "Welcome Home" celebration featuring the Air Force cheerleading team.

One parent who attended Operation Junior Deployer, Leah Terrill, said she first found out about it through a sign near the Community Center and thought it would be a good experience for her children.

"Our kids have never done anything like this before, and I think it will help them out when their dad does deploy," Ms. Terrill said.



Children listen to a safety briefing in the 10th Logistics Readiness Squadron's predeployment area Saturday during Operation Junior Deployer here. Approximately 200 children and family members attended the event, which featured a mock deployment to "Usafastan" or Jacks Valley.



Benga, a military working dog with the Air Force Academy's 10th Security Forces Squadron, shows off his ability to subdue a suspect as part of a military working dog demonstration during Operation Junior Deployer here Saturday. Benga and his handler, Staff Sgt. Zerrick Shanks, recently returned from a deployment to the Middle East.



Jonathan Greiner balances a wooden egg while walking through a field in Jacks Valley here Saturday. Jonathan, who is 10, was one of about 200 children who took part in a mock deployment to "Usafastan" during Operation Junior Deployer.



Capt. Valerie Nolan helps a junior deployer determine who will take care of his pets while he is "deployed" to Jacks Valley during Operation Junior Deployer here Saturday. Other stations in the predeployment line included finance, where children received play money, and immunizations, where Airmen stamped children's hands to simulate vaccinations.



Senior Airman Jacob Heine familiarizes Andy Miller with an M-4 rifle during Operation Junior Deployer at the Air Force Academy May 1, 2010. Airman Heine is a patroller with the Academy's 10th Security Forces Squadron.

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# Cadet research benefits Falcon Stadium

By 2nd Lt. Meredith Kirchoff  
Academy Public Affairs

Two cadets majoring in mechanical engineering devoted their senior capstone research project to studying the heating system under the synthetic turf football field of Falcon Stadium.

Cadets 1st Class Caleb Becker and Ben Saunders simulated the functioning of the heating system in order to determine the minimum amount of time the heater would need to be turned on to eliminate any ice from the field before game time.

"We geared our research toward a real-world scenario," said Cadet Saunders, the squadron commander for Cadet Squadron 15. "Based upon what we heard from the stadium staff, we thought it could be of some benefit."

Theirs is the second of two independent studies on the heating system from cadets in the Department of Engineering Mechanics. The first was accomplished by now-2nd Lt. Will Parker, a Class of 2009 graduate who developed a spreadsheet using an electrical analogy for the transfer of heat through the layers of the turf. The model could be manipulated to reflect average temperatures and winds for December at the Air Force Academy, but the cadets needed to refine the model by adding a layer of ice to the already defined layers of turf for the most recent research endeavors.

The system received an upgrade in heating capacity when artificial turf was installed in 1997, but when the field was resurfaced again in 2006, the resistance heater was left in its current state. Adding the layer of ice to simulate a realistic scenario without available historic data was one of the most difficult parts of the project, said Cadet Becker of CS 07.

"Trying to figure out what was under the field, especially the amount of water present, since we could not dig up the turf was also tough," he added.

Normally, stadium management turns on the heating system a week before a game where weather that might result in ice on the field is anticipated.

"We were doing that because we didn't know how long it would take to get it up to temperature with the rubber layer of the turf," said Mike Wehrmann, Falcon Stadium manager.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Meredith Kirchoff

Cadets 1st Class Caleb Becker (left) and Ben Saunders discuss field conditions with Mike Wehrmann, Falcon Stadium manager. Here, the three examine a cross section of the artificial turf on the field. The cadets' research project found that the heating system that mitigates ice from the field before game time only needs to be turned on for 24 hours as opposed to a week before a cold weather game.

"We found that the heater could be effective to melt layers of ice off the field up to 3/8 inch in 24 hours," Cadet Becker said of the results of their research. "They could save about \$2,600 per game by turning it on for one day instead of one week before the game."

Mr. Wehrmann said the heating system is typically used two or three times per football season.

"It's definitely going to help us with utility cost savings, and will be a big benefit to the Falcon Green initiative," he said, and explained that the Athletic Association is responsible for the utility bill for Falcon Stadium during football season.

"This is as real as it gets," said Dr. Mike Maixner, the professor leading the Engineering Mechanics 499 research course. Cadets' research will be published in the second paper of a two-part series on the heating system projects.

In research like this, "You can't check your answers in the back of the book," Cadet Becker said. "We had

to make sure we were the ones getting the work done."

Cadets Becker and Saunders also had the opportunity to present their research findings at the Colorado Springs Undergraduate Research Forum April 10 at the University of Colorado - Colorado Springs.

The best part of doing this project was getting into the research mindset, Cadet Saunders said.

"Not only did we have to solve the problem, we first had to define it for ourselves," he said.

Cadet Saunders, a native of Katy, Texas, is a Draper scholar and will attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to study aeronautical engineering, while Cadet Becker, of Kingsport, Tenn., will enter pilot training at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., following graduation.

The cadets should be proud of what they have accomplished Dr. Maixner said.

"I didn't know the answer, they didn't know the answer, and that's why they did the research," he said.



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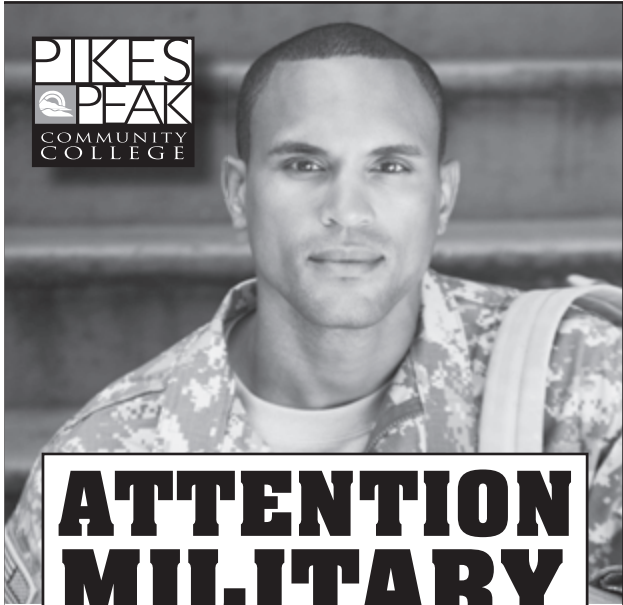
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# Women's lacrosse program flourishes

By 2nd Lt. Meredith Kirchoff  
Academy Public Affairs

The Academy women's lacrosse team concluded their season at the Tri-Service Academy Tournament held at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, NY, April 26. The team capped the year with a victory over the U.S. Coast Guard Academy 15-12.

"They made the Coast Guard work for every goal they scored," said head coach Second Lt. Leanne Babcock, a logistics readiness officer in the 21 LRS at Peterson Air Force Base. "The team has only one and one-half years of experience on average, but by the end of the season they played like a team who has been together for years."

The team traded leads with Coast Guard for the entire game until Air Force pulled ahead with three goals in the last two minutes of play to seal the win.

Women's lacrosse is a club sport at the Academy and a member of the Rocky Mountain Women's Lacrosse League. The lacrosse team placed fifth in the RMWLL this season. Most popular on the east coast, lacrosse teams are becoming more prevalent throughout the country and the sport is growing at the Academy with over 25 athletes on the team Lieutenant Babcock said.

Members cite team cohesion, loyalty and leadership as driving forces in the success and growth of the team. One of two captains, Cadet 1st Class Jess Laco, says the women on the team truly rely on each other and are motivated to work hard for one another.

"I have made many lifelong friends on this team, who were crucial parts of my support structure here at the Academy," said Cadet Laco, a member of Cadet Squadron 10 and going on to be a finance officer after graduation.

Younger members of the team agree that their teammates have provided strength both on and off the field.

"I wouldn't make time for it if it was not worth it and the people are what make it worth going down there every day and working hard to not let them down," Cadet 2nd Class Amanda Robillard said. "I have made some of my best friends on that team and know that above anything, they will always be there for me if I need them."

As a club sport the women's lacrosse team faces



Courtesy Photo

The Academy's women's lacrosse team celebrates after a victory over the U.S. Coast Guard Academy during the Tri-Service Academy Tournament held at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., April 26. The Falcons defeated the Bears 15-12.

many challenges that intercollegiate teams do not have to overcome. Practice times and venues as well as budget and travel are just a few of the obstacles the team pulls together to work through said Lieutenant Babcock.

In addition, the team has competed for over three years without a coach staff until this season when Lieutenant Babcock, midfield coach First Lt. Joe Picariello, and strength & conditioning coach Second Lt AJ Berger from the 4th Space Operations Squadron at Schriever AFB came onto the scene.

"The seniors have always done a great job leading the team but now that we have coaches I think our team will be able to reach a new level," said Amanda's twin sister C2C Alicia Robillard. The balance between being an authority figure and a motivator was difficult for the captains, who ran the team in absence of coaches, Cadet Laco added.

To increase competitiveness on the field, the team put in extra time at the gym incorporating non-traditional training this season. The coaching staff intro-

duced CrossFit workouts at a local CrossFit gym.

Tremendous pride in the team's performance this season is shared by coaches and players alike.

"I am most proud that they set the example of being sportsmanlike for all of the teams in the RMWLL," Lieutenant Babcock said. "As the only service academy in this league, it's important to represent the Air Force, USAFA, and our team in a positive light."

The women's lacrosse team looks forward to living out their motto, "Be the Best" next year and for many seasons to come. With a dedicated coaching staff as well, as three officers in charge from the Academy's faculty, the team has a bright future Lieutenant Babcock said.

"The team will be a force to be reckoned with in the RMWLL this next season!" she said. "Because of the positive growth, the incoming team captains and coaching staff have a strategic plan in the works to build an entire women's lacrosse program. It's exciting for the team because each of them is playing a vital role in the whole process."

## Warrior Games Schedule

Event	Time	Location	Event	Time	Location
<b>Monday</b>			<b>Thursday</b>		
Opening Ceremonies	5 p.m.	Olympic Training Center	Cycling Competition	9:30 a.m. - noon	Air Force Academy
<b>Tuesday</b>			Shooting Competition	1-5 p.m.	OTC Shooting Center
Sitting Volleyball Preliminaries	4-7 p.m.	OTC Sports Center 1	Sitting Volleyball Semifinals	4-5 p.m.	OTC Sports Center 1
Wheelchair Basketball Preliminaries	6-9 p.m.	OTC Sports Center 2	Sitting Volleyball Finals	5:30-6:30 p.m.	OTC Sports Center 1
<b>Wednesday</b>			Wheelchair Basketball Finals	7:15-9:30 p.m.	OTC Sports Center 1
Archery Qualifying Round	9-11 a.m.	Memorial Park	<b>Friday</b>		
Archery Medal Round	11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Memorial Park	Track and Field Competition	8:30 a.m. - noon	Air Force Academy
Swimming Preliminaries	2-3:30 p.m.	OTC Aquatics Center	Swimming Finals	2-4:30 p.m.	OTC Aquatics Center
Sitting Volleyball Preliminaries	4-7 p.m.	OTC Sports Center 2	Closing Ceremonies	6:30 p.m.	Air Force Academy
Wheelchair Basketball Preliminaries	6-9 p.m.	OTC Sports Center 1			

### Golf

The Air Force golf team will end its regular season at the 11th-annual Mountain West Conference championship in Tucson, Ariz., Saturday.

The tournament is being played at the par-71, 7,144-yard Catalina Course, and live hole-by-hole scoring for the tournament is available at [www.golfstat.com](http://www.golfstat.com).

In other golf news, Air Force senior Tom Whitney was named a finalist for the 2010 Byron Nelson award, the Golf Coaches Association of America announced Tuesday. Whitney, a native of La Quinta, Calif., is the Academy record holder for lowest 18-, 36- and 54-hole scores in a single tournament and has posted more top-three tournament finishes than any other golfer in the

Academy's history.

### Volleyball

The Air Force volleyball team returns to the East Gym for the 2010 season with a 21-game schedule, including matches against six teams that competed in the 2009 NCAA tournament.

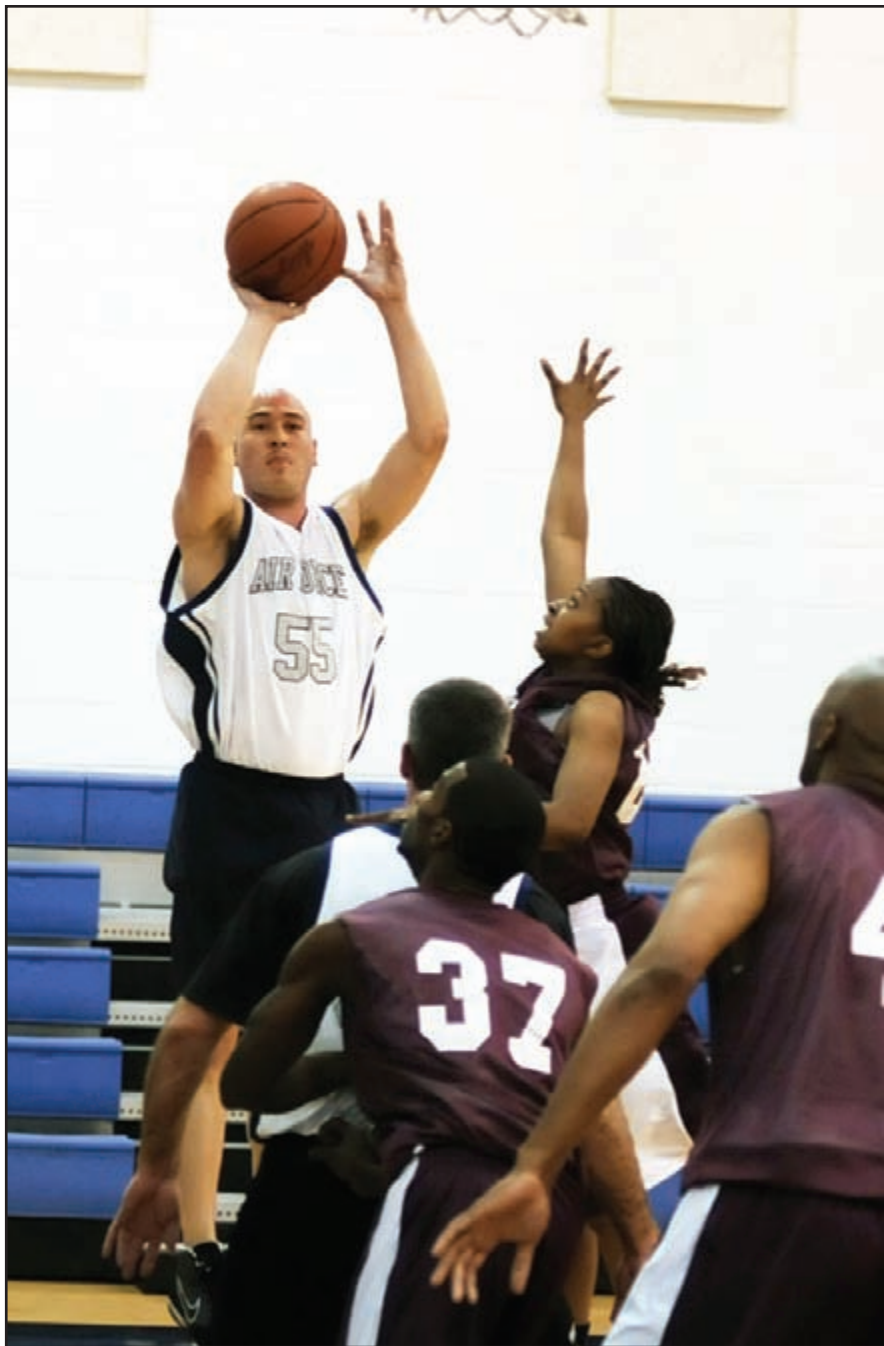
The Falcons will host a four-team tournament in August and will begin

its season Aug. 27 against Long Island University. Opponents will also include Army and Mountain West Conference rivals TCU, BYU and Utah.

### Baseball

Northern Colorado racked up 32 hits and scored runs during every inning in a 26-9 drubbing of Air Force Tuesday at Jackson Field.

K.J. Randhawa led Air Force



# Academy over-30 team wins championship

By Dave Castilla  
Intramural Sports

The Air Force Academy's Over-30 intramural basketball team took their first ever Rocky Mountain Championship April 25 by defeating Fort Carson 56-47.

Peterson Air Force Base, the three-time defending champions, lost to Fort Carson 71-47 in the semifinals of the double-elimination tournament leading up to the championship game.

Two former cadets, Ty Wright and Brett Huyser, were instrumental in helping the Academy notch its victory on the court. The game started evenly, with the Academy team holding an early 9-7 lead. Oliver "OJ" Johnson hit three straight two-pointers, but Fort Carson's BJ McNealy and Angel Goodman nailed four three-pointers to come back within five.

Photo by Johnny Wilson

**Air Force Academy's David Berrios shoots from three-point land during the Rocky Mountain Over-30 Basketball Championship match against Fort Carson April 25. The Academy team defeated Fort Carson, 56-27, to claim its first over-30 title.**

The Academy held an eight-point lead at the half, 30-22. At the start of the second half, Huyser landed three baskets and two free throws, and with about 12 minutes to play, Wright's jumper put the Academy up by 15.

Fort Carson brought the lead back to 10 with two free throws and a fast break, making the score 50-40. Two free throws later by Fort Carson's Ed Jackson brought the Army team to within five, but a long field goal by the Academy's Ted Oakley put the final dagger in Fort Carson's hopes of a championship, scoring the go-ahead points for the Academy victory.

"We knew who their best shooters were," said Academy coach Stan Carter. "We just tried to deny them their favorite spots on the court and played them tough."

Huyser led Academy scoring with 16 points, followed by Wright with 15 points. Fort Carson's leading scorers were David Belton with 12 points and McNealy with nine points.

The Rocky Mountain Volleyball Championships are scheduled to be held May 15 at Schriever Air Force Base.

# Bio goes undefeated to win 2nd championship

By Dave Castilla  
Intramural Sports

The Biology Department has done what few other teams have accomplished in Academy intramural action: they have not only won the base volleyball championship two years straight but have also gone undefeated in both regular and postseason action.

Bio played their championship match against the Foreign Languages Department, defeating the Languages team 25-19, 25-23 in a hard-fought contest.

Biology coach Tim Filzen set the tone early, scoring the first point of the game with a strong spike. DFF called their first timeout to regroup after DFB's Elaine Bryant served eight straight points, giving her team an 11-3 lead. Bio's Laura Terry served another five-point run later to extend her team's lead to 15-7.

DFF started making a comeback as Dave Boyd made a perfect set and Kirk

Reimer made a clean kill. Boyd brought his team within five, trailing 21-16, but back-to-back kills from Aaron Drake and Gary Yale ended the Foreign Languages team's chances of winning Game 1.

The second contest was more evenly played, as the teams tied the score 10 different times throughout the game. Bio had the largest lead of three points throughout the second game of the match.

Foreign Languages scored three of their first five points off two kills from Brett Huyser and a blocked shot from Reimer. With DFF up 12-11, Tim Filzen scored one kill and assisted on another point. Bryant served and set up teammate Drake for a kill to give DFB a 15-13 lead.

The two teams traded the lead before tying up the score at 23. Filzen's serve and kill made the score 24-23, and Gary Yale scored the winning shot with an unreturnable kill to give the Bio team their second-consecutive championship.



Photo by Rachel Boettcher

**Scott Nelson with the Department of Foreign Languages team spikes the ball over the Biology Department's Laura Terry during the intramural volleyball championship match April 29. Bio won in two games, defeating DFF 25-19, 25-23, to win its second straight title.**

scoring, going 4-for-5 with two stolen bases. Matt Alexander, Nathan Carter and Matthew Roberts had two hits each, with Carter hitting his 10th triple of the season. Garrett Custons and Blair Roberts also hit triples for Air Force.

## Lacrosse

The Falcons close out their 2010 lacrosse season Sunday at 1 p.m. when they face 12th-ranked Denver at Falcon

Stadium.

Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children, with live stats available at [www.goairforcefalcons.com](http://www.goairforcefalcons.com).

Air Force is 1-12 overall and 0-6 in the Eastern College Athletic Conference. Its lone victory against Army was played in Falcon Stadium March 13, with Air Force squeezing past the Black Knights in overtime, 8-7.

## Track and Field

The Falcons wrapped up competition at the Payton Jordan/Cardon Invitational Saturday in Palo Alto, Calif.

Senior Ally Romanko and junior Justin Tyner recorded the second-best times in Academy history for their respective events.

Romanko placed second among collegiate runners and third overall with a time of 2:06.29 in the 800-meter

competition. Tyner finished the 3,000-meter steeplechase in 8:41.09, shaving 19 seconds from his previous best to place 13th overall. Sophomore James Walmsley also posted a career-best 3:50.16 in the 1,500-meter run.

The Falcons will travel to Albuquerque Wednesday through May 15 for the Mountain West Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships.



## Asian-Pacific Heritage Month

The Academy Equal Opportunity Office will hold an Asian Pacific American Heritage Month luncheon featuring Colorado Rep. Dennis Apuan at the Falcon Club Thursday at 11 a.m.

Representative Apuan, a native of Manila, Philippines, immigrated to the United States when he was 20 and moved to Colorado Springs in 1997.

The cost to attend the event is \$10 for Falcon Club members and \$12 for non-members. For more information, contact Gina Moore at 333-4258.

## May fun runs

The Health and Wellness Center will hold 5k fun runs at the Park Drive Pavilion each Friday in May starting at 11 a.m.

Refreshments will be provided. For

more information, contact the HAWC at 333-3733.

## Armed Forces Week

The Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce will observe Armed Forces Week with an Air Force Academy Band concert at the Pikes Peak Center Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. and an Armed Forces Luncheon at the Broadmoor May 14 at 11:30 a.m.

The keynote speaker for the luncheon will be Army Chief of Staff Gen. George Casey Jr. Tickets for the luncheon are \$35 for active-duty servicemembers, Defense Department civilians and retirees and \$55 for other guests.

For more information, contact the Chamber at 635-1551 or RSVP online at <http://bit.ly/bLQggR>.

## Chiefs Group Bowl-a-Thon

The local Chiefs Group will hold a Bowl-a-Thon fundraiser Tuesday beginning at 11 a.m. at the Peterson Air Force Base Bowling Center.

Up to 24 five-person teams may sign up; registration is \$10 per person.

For more information or to register, contact Chief Master Sgt. Michael Scobey at 554-3431 or Senior Master Sgt. Michael Dahlhoff at 333-9612.

## Restoration activities

In accordance with Section 300 of the Comprehensive Environmental Restoration, Compensation and Liability Act, the Air Force Academy is seeking public input on their environmental restoration program.

To achieve this, the Academy will offer forums in which members of the community can participate.

Interested persons may participate through face-to-face or phone interviews or by completing a short online survey at [www.portage-it.com/afa](http://www.portage-it.com/afa) by May 14.

For more information or to participate in an interview, contact Patrick Seccomb at 877-332-5159 or e-mail him at [pseccomb@portageninc.com](mailto:pseccomb@portageninc.com).

## Community Center activities

The Community Center will hold a flea market in the base exchange parking lot Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Spaces cost \$10, and tables cost \$5.

For more information on community center activities, contact Charlotte Morris at 333-2928.

## Bonding thru Family Fun

The 10th Force Support Squadron is giving away \$175 per month in prizes for participating in Bonding Thru Family Fun. It only takes two people to be a family. Activities that count are workouts, playing games, hikes, going to ball games.

Those interested in participating can pick up a BFF Card at one of the Services Activities (Library, Base Exchange, Fitness Center, Bowling Center, Youth Center, Outdoor Recreation, Milazzo Club, and Cadet Outdoor Rec).

For more information contact Letitia Wiseman at 333-9133.

## Prepare for the AFPT

The Fitness Center now offers Fitness Improvement Program classes throughout

the week to help Airmen prepare for the revised Air Force Physical Training program.

The high-intensity classes will focus on cardiovascular endurance, core strength and push-ups.

Classes will be held Mondays and Fridays from 6 to 7 a.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

For more information, contact the Fitness Center at 333-4522.

## School, sports physicals

The 10th Medical Group will offer multiple school and sports physical appointment times throughout the summer for family members enrolled through Tricare Prime at the Academy.

Parents may call the Tricare Appointment Line at 457-2273 to schedule a physical for their children and should bring the child's school, sports or camp physical form on the day of the appointment.

## Wine tasting, auction

The Gleneagle Sertoma Club will hold its sixth-annual Charity Wine and Beer Tasting and Auction in the Falcon Stadium Press Box May 22 from 5 to 8 p.m.

Highlights include specialties from local chefs, a professional auctioneer, a soft drink and ice cream bar and the Blue and Silver Room venue.

Admission is \$40. For more information or to purchase a ticket, call 488-1044 or 471-1088.

## A&FRC Offerings

The Academy A&FRC will host the following classes in May. Contact the A&FRC at 333-3444 or 333-3445 with questions or to sign up for a class. Class dates and times are subject to change.

### Group pre-separation counseling

Held Mondays (except during TAP week), 2 to 4 p.m.

Separating or retiring from the Air Force in a year or less? This mandatory briefing assists you in identifying benefits and services associated with your transition and beyond.

### Medical Records Review

May 21, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Individuals within 180 days of retirement or separation can have the Disabled American Veterans review their medical records in preparation of filing for Veterans Administration disability compensation through the VA Form 21-526.

### Smooth Move

Wednesday, 3 to 4 p.m.

Learn innovative and proven ways to make your move a smooth one. "Know before you go" to reduce the stress of your upcoming move. This class is mandatory for individuals leaving the Air Force Academy.

### Key Spouse Training

Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon; and May 27, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The Air Force Academy Key Spouse Program enables open communication among unit leaders and families.

### Sponsor Training

Wednesday, 8 to 9 a.m.

This class is mandatory for those who have been assigned to sponsor a newcomer to the Academy. Contact your

unit sponsorship monitor for details and to sign up for the class.

### Résumé Writing

Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon

Learn different types of résumé and cover letter styles and how to improve your own. Improve your résumé to make it work more effectively for you. The main purpose of the résumé is to entice an employer to call you for an interview; if your résumé is not doing this for you, it probably needs some refinement.

### Civil Service Class

Thursday, 8 a.m. to noon

Learn how to submit a federal résumé, search for internal and external vacancies and apply for Air Force Federal Civil Service employment.

### Military Spouse Appreciation Day

Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This annual Armed Services YMCA event will be held at the Southeast YMCA, 2190 Jet Wing Drive in Colorado Springs. Military spouses may attend for free hair-styling, massage, cooking on a budget demonstrations, lunch, crafts, door prizes and more. Limited child care is available with prior reservations -- call 622-9622.

## Family Advocacy classes

All Family Advocacy classes are open to active-duty servicemembers, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and family members unless otherwise specified. Classes are held at the Airmen and Family Readiness Center. For information on classes offered by the Family Advocacy Office or to sign up, contact Kristin Larkey of Family Advocacy Outreach at 333-5270.

### 1-2-3 Magic Parenting

Thursday and May 20, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

This class offers easy-to-follow steps for disciplining children ages 2-12 without arguing, yelling or spanking.



## Japanese Children's Day

The Japan America Society of Southern Colorado will host "Kodomo-no-Hi" Japanese Children's Day Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Colorado College's Palmer Hall in the Gates Common Room.

The festival will include traditional Japanese craft-making activities; supplies will be provided, and children will take home everything they make.

Festivities will also include martial arts demonstration, Koto music playing and a children's Japanese costume fashion show. To make reservations, contact the JASSC at 266-5625.

## Royal Gorge discounts

Royal Gorge and Bridge Park near Cañon City, Colo., will offer half-price admission to active-duty and retired military personnel with military IDs and their families in May as part of their Military Appreciation Month promotion.

For more information on Royal Gorge, visit [www.royalgorgebridge.com](http://www.royalgorgebridge.com)



## CADET CHAPEL

Call 719-333-2636 for more information.

### Buddhist

Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.

### Jewish

Friday - 7 p.m.

### Muslim

Friday Prayer - 12:15 p.m.

### Protestant

Liturgical Worship Sun. - 8 a.m.  
Traditional Worship Sun. - 9:30 a.m.  
Contemporary Worship Sun. - 11:30 a.m.

### Roman Catholic

Mass  
Sunday - 10 a.m.  
Academic Year, when cadets are present  
Mon, Tues, and Thurs - 6:40 a.m.  
Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.

### Sacrament of Penance

Sunday - 9:00-9:40 a.m.  
Academic Year, when cadets are present  
Wednesday - 5:30-6:15 p.m.

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Academic Year, when cadets are present  
Wednesday - 5:30-6:20 p.m.

### Paganism/Earth-centered Spirituality

Academic Year, when cadets are present  
Monday, 6:30 - 7:50 - Room 1M125  
(1st Floor - Fairchild Annex -- Astronautics Museum)  
Contact TSgt Longcrier at 719-333-6187

## COMMUNITY CENTER CHAPEL

### Catholic Masses:

#### Saturday

Reconciliation - 3:30 p.m.  
Mass - 4 p.m.

#### Sunday

Mass - 9 a.m.  
Religious Formation - 10:15 a.m.  
(September - May)

#### Tuesday-Friday

Mass - 11:30 a.m.

### Protestant Services:

#### Wednesday

Wednesday Night Live - 6 p.m.  
Dinner followed by Religious Education  
(September - May).

#### Sunday

Evangelical - 10:15 a.m.  
Gospel - 11:30 a.m.



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