

Memories
Academy facility burns mementos to last for generations.

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USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO ACADEMY SPIRIT

Vol. 48 No. 27

July 3, 2008



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High school visitors experience Academy life through ninth camp.
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Altitude!
Jump program promotes trust, self confidence and breaks fear's backbone. See Pages 14-15 for more.

Photo by Mike Kaplan

SERE specialists save three lives

By Ken Carter
Editor

It's one thing to garner the expertise to save lives through great training. It's another to experience, what one member of a joint survival, evasion, resistance and escape (SERE) team is calling a miracle.

Combine three lost children ages 5, 7 and 12 with zero visibility during total darkness, ever cooling evening temperatures at more than 9,200 feet above sea level, inadequate clothing, dangerous terrain, known mountain lions and bears in the area ... this was a recipe for big trouble.

The search for the missing children

began about 10 p.m. July 2, using the last known location, Missouri Gulch, where a family of five was camping. The area is just west of Saylor Park edging into Teller County.

Academy Airmen and members from Fairchild Air Force Base were assigned nearby putting cadets through their paces during the evasion portion of Combat Survival Training, which was reinstated this year, after a five-year absence.

Airman 1st Class Kenny Paxson, assigned to the 22nd Training Squadron at Fairchild AFB, Wash., was first to get word from the distraught mother who'd given him basic details of her children's disappearance. The mother had flagged him down from the roadside as he was

en-route back to the command post. Mom said the kids were carrying a whistle which later turned out to be a very good thing.

Senior Airman Ryan Reinhold, also assigned to the 22nd TRS, is an expert at wilderness tracking and he quickly picked up the children's trail, despite the challenges associated with darkness. The searchers spread out, about 100 meters apart and began yelling the children's names.

Tech. Sgt. Jarod Savage, an Academy SERE specialist with more than 11 years experience in his field, and father of two, said he could relate to what the parents of the lost siblings must have been feeling

See RESCUE, Page 3

Air Force Clubs – room to socialize, mentor and conduct business

By Senior Master Sgt. Tony Barnes
Headquarters USAFA First Sergeant

In the movie *The Great Santini*, Robert Duvall plays an outside of the box Marine Corps aviator. The movie chronicles his not-so-orthodox antics that earn him the reputation of being a renegade.

Several scenes in the movie take place in the officers club, depicting a place where pilots go to unwind after a hard day of flying. In this movie, the club is clearly a central part of the social life of those in uniform.

In real life, I clearly remember retired Chief Master Sgt. Rodney Ellison, former command chief of Air Education and Training Command, relate his first encounter with the enlisted club. He had decided to snub the Air Force standards regarding acceptable hair styles. The young Chief Ellison had discovered a method of making his hair look acceptable while in uniform.

Yet, at night, he could fluff it out to be a full head of hair coming nowhere close to an Air Force haircut. He had a job that involved isolated duties in a building seldom visited by his chain of command. Young Ellison decided one

day to not worry about packing his hair down as he was getting ready for work. As luck would have it, that was precisely the day Airman Ellison's boss decided to visit. Imagine the veins popping out on the neck of his supervisor as he encountered Airman Ellison.

Not only did his supervisor nearly have an aneurism over the site of his Airman with an unacceptable haircut, the technical sergeant made Airman Ellison report to the enlisted club every day for the next 30 days to have breakfast with himself and two other NCOs.

For those 30 days, Airman Ellison ate breakfast with three NCOs. But, more importantly, the future Chief Ellison was mentored and he learned lessons that propelled him to the highest enlisted position within Air Education and Training Command. The club was a central part in mentoring a person to exemplify Air Force core values before we had ever defined core values.

At the Academy we have a club system that does a great job and is open to feedback. The services leadership has great vision for the future of our clubs. But, these visions will become reality only as we

gain greater participation.

Imagine for a moment that you have bought an ice cream store. Everyday you have about 20 customers who come in and buy an ice cream and all have great ideas on how you can make your store better. You love their ideas, but deep down you know you can't afford it because you don't have the cash flow. But, if you can get 40 customers to come in every day you will have the cash flow to be able to implement the ideas to spruce up your store.

When I consider what it would cost to be a member of a comparable club in Colorado Springs, the Air Force club dues on the Academy are a mere fraction of the cost.

Consider becoming a club member. Together we can make things fantastic as we begin to grow our club system and once again make it a place to mentor and to socialize. Air Force clubs aren't just the stories of movies or a retired chief that first encountered the club system 30 years ago. Our clubs can and should be the central place we socialize with our fellow warriors.

Consider visiting the Falcon Club and becoming a club member today.

Blocking and tackling: key to success

By Chief Master Sgt. Rodney McKinley
Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force

Many Airmen know that I enjoy college football. I have been a loyal Ohio State Buckeyes fan since the mid 1960s. Of course, I am also a fan of our own Air Force Academy Falcons. This has been a lot of fun throughout my Air Force career. Many Airmen have taken the opportunity to remind me when their favorite teams have defeated my Buckeyes. In particular, that team up North, the Michigan Wolverines, and recently the Florida Gators and LSU Tigers, who defeated us in the last two National Championship games. There is one thing that is common to all successful teams, they all practice and perform the basics very well; the blocking and tackling.

Our Air Force is no different. We recruit the very best Americans from across our country and sometimes around the world. We then send them to the finest Basic Military Training,

Officer Training School, and Air Force Academy we have ever had, and we continue to improve. We then send them to technical training to learn the basics of their Air Force Specialty. At BMT and technical training they learn the basics, or blocking and tackling. They learn how to properly wear our uniform, military bearing, standards and discipline, customs and courtesies, military justice, following technical data and Air Force Instructions, being followers, being good Wingmen and many more important details and attributes. These basics are embodied in our core values of Integrity First, Service Before Self, and

Excellence in All We Do.

As leaders, it is our responsibility to ensure those basics our Airmen learned are reinforced every day. We do that by not only living our core values, but exemplifying them in everything we do. We must hold our Airmen accountable. Leadership is not a popularity contest. It is difficult.

Leaders get commitment from

others by being totally committed themselves, by building an environment that encourages creativity, and by operating with honesty and fairness. Leaders never walk by a problem. If you do, you are now part of the problem. You must never miss the opportunity to provide feedback to our Airmen, positive or negative. When Airmen perform in an outstanding manner, recognize them for it. If an Airman is not following tech data, not properly wearing the uniform, or anything else you recognize as wrong, you must step in and correct it. We don't pick and choose what AFIs or policies we follow. We follow them all. That is Integrity.

For football teams, the season is only a few months long and at the end of the day, it's only a game. However, the Air Force performs its mission every second of every day at locations around the globe, in air, space and cyberspace. What we accomplish is no game – our actions matter for our children, our grandchildren, our nation and for the preservation of democracy.

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* is published by Colorado Springs Military Newspaper Group, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the U.S. Air Force Academy. This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the *Academy Spirit* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the U.S. Air Force Academy Directorate of Public Affairs. The editor reserves the right to edit articles to conform to Air Force policy and Associated Press style. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

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Deadline for all stories is noon Friday, one week prior to the desired publication date. Refer questions to the *Academy Spirit* editor at 333-8823.

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

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Brenda Phillips
Headquarters, U.S. Air Force Academy

"Raising good kids. It's one of the hardest things to do."



Lt. Col. Eric Rokke
Preparatory School

"I'd honestly have to say brewing the best beer in the world, something everybody just loves."



Senior Airman James Steel
10th Communications Squadron

Rescue

From Page 1

as the experience unfolded.

The eldest boy with a younger sister and still younger brother were enjoying the beauty of the Colorado mountains during what started out as a normal family camping trip in early July.

The three children had been instructed by their mother to stay on a path near base camp and to return within 20 minutes. Hours passed and they had yet to return. At some point they wandered off the beaten path and began their unintentional trek toward being surrounded by potential dangers.

As a Boy Scout, the 12-year-old recognized once darkness had set in bedding down and not moving was the best move of all. The children were surrounded by steep drop-offs, more than 40 feet in places, potentially dangerous wildlife in the area, and unfavorable temperatures further complicated by light-weight summer clothing unsuitable for the environment. Any one of these challenges could have been life threatening ... combined, they created a situation understandably leaving both parents fearing for their children's safety.

The El Paso County Search and Rescue had received some erroneous information through a 911 call concerning the family's camp site location causing a delay in their arrival. According to Incident Commander Skee

Hipszky, communications are always an issue near the Rampart Range, especially cell phone coverage. "Too many people rely on a cell phone to get out of trouble," he said. "The initial call to 911 gave a location that was not possible since the intersection referenced did not exist."

With global positioning system and night vision goggles in their arsenal and a keen sense for tracking, SERE team members Airmen Paxson and Reinhold and Master Sgt. Tim Knapp from the Air Education and Training Command at Randolph AFB, Texas, located the children after navigating terrain they said would have been potentially dangerous even during broad daylight.

Dogs were brought in to track the children's scent. When SERE team members finally heard the kids respond to their names being called through the cold night air they yelled, "blow your whistle, blow your whistle." This would give the team a greater sense of the children's precise location. They were ultimately discovered hunkered down, cold and afraid, about 2.5 kilometers from the family campsite.

Lt. Col. Tim McCaffery, Cadet Wing chief of training division, calls the rescue team heroes. "It's no stretch to say they saved these kids' lives."

By 1 a.m., July 3, the family had been reunited and it was quite an emotional experience for all, Sergeant Savage said. "I believe it was a miracle."

Master Sgt. Chad Watts, Combat



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Tech Sgt. Jarod Savage, SERE specialist, explains evasion training operations to Brig. Gen. Susan Desjardins, Commandant of Cadets, during a recent visit to Saylor Park.

Survival Training superintendent said, "Even with all the assets that deployed to support the El Paso SAR, it is no surprise CST personnel found the children. What an incredible impact they had on a local family."

Cadet cadre connected to the search included: Cadet 1st Class Jonathan Rodgers and Cadets 2nd Class Spencer Bell, Christopher Carillo, Jaclyn Fleming and Ryan Pitts.

"This showed us the importance of the skills we've learned up here," Cadet Pitts said, "that the training

we get really works!"

El Paso County Search and Rescue officials confirmed there were no immediate medical needs among the children.

It was a touching experience to reunite the family.

"Pure elation," Sergeant Savage said. "It was the adrenaline high of the year."

Sergeant Savage concluded with, "It's important to be well equipped with needed supplies, appropriate clothing and so on. A basic compass, flashlights and warmer clothes would have all been a good call."



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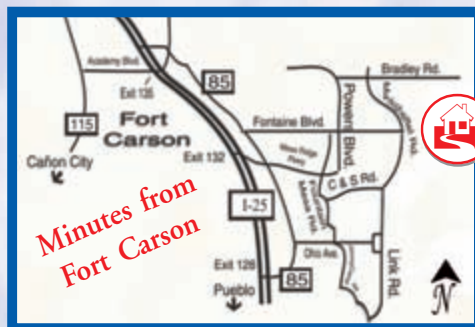
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Academy offers special opportunity to support 'local troops'

The Air Force Academy athletic department is featuring a special program called *Season Tickets for Troops* for fans and graduates to help enlisted members of the local military community attend Falcon Football games. Fans can support the program by purchasing football season tickets and helping underwrite the cost of a season ticket for enlisted members and their families. Fans can purchase a \$100 season ticket through July 31, that in turn will be offered to enlisted members and their family at a heavily discounted price. The tickets will be made available to enlisted members in early August at just \$4 per game or \$20 for the season in a reserved section normally costing \$144.

The program is designed for Air Force fans that may or may not live in the area who want to make a tax-deductible donation to support Air Force athletics and the local service members at the same time.

Last year, fans and graduates helped spur Air Force football to one of its most successful seasons ever. The Falcons finished the season 9-4 overall, including a second-place finish in the Mountain West Conference with a school-best 6-2 mark. The Falcons earned a trip to the 2007 Armed Forces Bowl, its first post-season bowl in five years, and fans and alumni showed their support in record numbers. Air Force sold a school-record 12,000 tickets for the bowl game, becoming one of just 10 schools in the country to sell more than the bowl allotment for tickets (10,000).

Air Force opens the season Saturday, Aug. 30, against Southern Utah at noon in Falcon Stadium. The Falcons' home schedule includes visits by MWC opponents Utah, New Mexico, Colorado State and BYU. The team's quest to win the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy begins with Navy on Saturday, Oct. 4, at 2 p.m. in Falcon Stadium.

"When you consider the unmatched pride and pageantry at Falcon Stadium, combined with the mission of our graduates, an Academy football game is of the most unique experiences in all of college football," head coach Troy Calhoun said. "By purchasing *Season Tickets for the Troops* you are going to help enlisted members and their families enjoy the game day experience at Falcon Stadium."



Photo by Mike Kaplan

As football season approaches enlisted fans will have a new opportunity. For ticket information call 472-1895.

Free online language materials activated

PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY - The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center activated its new Language Materials Distribution System website July 1, making available hundreds of language survival kits and other materials free of charge to deploying service members. To view the shopping cart, go to: <https://lmds.dliflc.edu>.

— The website offers Language Survival Kits - pocket size booklets with audio CDs, in more than

30 languages, ranging in topics from public affairs, cordon and search, to medical terminology.

— DLIFLC also offers new headstart language DVD programs that use cutting-edge technology and computer animation to teach 80-hours of self-paced lessons and are designed to teach survival phrases in Iraqi Arabic, Afghan Dari and Pashto.

— Language materials can be viewed, downloaded, and ordered at www.dliflc.edu under the Products tab. You must register and receive DLIFLC account approval before placing your order. Some products are not available for download to the general public.

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Airmen fight California fires for 12th day

By Staff Sgt. Luke Johnson
302nd Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AFPN) -- Airmen of the 302nd Air Expeditionary Group began their 12th day of aerial firefighting support missions Monday in a coordinated effort to control wildfires in California.

The 302nd AEG military airborne assets performed 69 airdrops delivering more than 100,300 gallons of fire retardant and water Sunday.

To date, 302nd AEG members have performed 746 airdrops and have delivered close to 850,000 gallons of fire retardant and water since June 26.

C-130 Hercules firefighting sorties covered fires throughout the state Monday. Sixteen sorties were flown to the Basin fire within the Los Padres National Forest located five miles southeast of Big Sur as the aircraft delivered approximately 44,800 gallons of fire retardant, while 11 sorties were flown to the Piute fire located in the located in the Sequoia National Forest fire as Airmen dropped more than 30,800 gallons of retardant.

Marine CH-46E and Navy helicopters performed 42 airdrops on the Basin Complex fire, delivering approximately 24,700 gallons of water.

The C-130s covering the fires in Southern California reloaded fire retar-



California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger visits members of the 302nd Air Expeditionary Group at McClellan Airfield, Calif., July 4 to thank them for their service in assisting with the California wildfires.

dant and refueled at Channel Islands Air National Guard Station in order to save time traveling to the wildfires in Southern California. The aircraft then returned to McClellan Airfield at the end of the flying day for maintenance and the next day's launch.

The 302nd AEG consists of three Air National Guard units -- 145th Airlift Wing from Charlotte, N.C., the 146th

Airlift Wing from Channel Islands, Calif., and the 153rd Airlift Wing from Cheyenne, Wyo. -- and one Air Force Reserve unit -- the 302nd Airlift Wing from Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

Airmen of the 302nd AEG use eight C-130s fitted with the Modular Airborne Firefighting System, which can drop up to 3,000 gallons of fire retardant per mission.

They operate out of McClellan Airfield, and Navy Reserve and Marine helicopters operate out of Naval Air Station Lemoore, Calif.

Three Marine helicopter units -- Marine Medium Helicopter Training Squadron 164, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 268 based out of Camp Pendleton, Calif., and Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 465 based out of Marine Corps Air Station Miramar in San Diego -- fly CH-46E Sea Knight and CH-53E Sea Stallion helicopters equipped with specialized firefighting buckets.

Navy Reserve helicopters flying at NAS Lemoore are assigned to Helicopter Sea Combat Support Squadron 85 based out of Naval Air Station North Island, Calif. The squadron is flying MH-60S helicopters with 420- and 360-gallon specialized firefighting buckets.

The 302nd AEG provides unique capabilities and is part of a unified military support effort of U.S. Northern Command to assist to the U.S. Forest Service, CAL FIRE, and the National Interagency Fire Center.

NORTHCOM continues to monitor the California wildfires closely to anticipate additional requests for Department of Defense assistance to local, federal, and state civil authorities and will launch as many missions as officials require to battle the wildfires. Fire information is current as of 3 p.m. Monday.

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SAME camp promotes service excitement for high schoolers

By Ken Carter
Editor

Sixty high school students converged from all directions at the Air Force Academy, June 27 through July 3, for the annual Society of American Engineers summer camp program.

According to Capt. Andrew Hoisington, SAME officer in charge, the camp's objective is to bring high school juniors or seniors (if started ROTC or Academy application process) and get them excited about engineering and the U.S. Air Force.

Students were represented from nearly every state including Alaska and Hawaii. Two participants traveled from Germany and Korea respectively.

"Like the Field Engineering Readiness Laboratory program, that rising Academy civil engineer and environmental juniors participate in, the SAME camp has the slogan 'design first then build,'" Captain Hoisington said. "Almost all activities are hands-on engineering with explanation of concepts after students have seen them in action."

Activities during the week-long event required student flights to:

- Design and build 16 foot reinforced concrete beam (destroyed on last day to see who made strongest beam)
- Design and build a water treatment plant using ordinary materials
- Design and build a catapult
- Design and build a balsawood bridge
- Go through the Engineering Reaction Course (like the Leadership Reaction Course with engineering fundamentals). The favorite was building a raft and trying to

Continued on next page



SAME Camp participants learn the aspects of handling hazardous materials.

Courtesy Photo

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SAME

From previous page

save "Wilson" (volleyball) on other side of retention pond.

- Design and build sprinkler systems
- Design and build storage sheds

The SAME camp is advantageous immediately for participants and, for the long haul, the Academy.

The Academy is exposed to 60 possible cadet candidates. Historically, 30 percent of the participants have either gone to an academy or joined ROTC, the captain said. In addition, five Academy cadets and two Coast Guard cadets improve leadership opportunities while in charge of a flight of 10 students each. The cadets also get exposure to 12 industry mentors (young engineers) who help the program. Finally, all participants get the opportunity to hear from engineering leaders both from within and outside the military.

"We had lead engineer for SAME: Dr. Bob Wolff and others including Maj. Gen. Del Eulberg; Brig. Gen. Tim Byers; Brig. Gen. Bud Martin; and, Richard Barror who lent their expertise to the students," the captain said.

Students also tour the Academy with cadet leaders to get a better perspective of the school as a whole. Col. Chevy Cleaves and his staff discussed admissions procedures with the young visitors.

"We had direct 10:1 ratio with students to cadets with the cadet flight commander being with students for the entire week ... including spending the night in a tent with them," Captain Hoisington said. "The group had lunch at Mitchell Hall one day and morning PT was also very fun."

Various tours on and off the Academy further broadened students' perspectives on the engineering field. Stops included: the Cadet Area, a tour of the NORAD facility where the group discussed unique design and engineering feats there and local engineer firms and job sites to discuss what private engineers do. Furthermore,

the group visited lab areas for a hands-on demonstration in environmental, civil, mechanical, aero, astro, and electrical labs.

This was the ninth offering of the SAME camp.

"We started this camp with a joint program between the Society of American Military Engineers and the Academy," Captain Hoisington said. "It was the first camp of its kind when it started and now it has been duplicated by the Army and Navy."

"This was another great partnership between SAME and the Academy," Captain Hoisington said. "We especially appreciate Lt. Col. (retired) Scott Prosuch who heads SAME efforts and serves as camp director, along with Dean of Faculty Civil Engineer Department Head Col. Greg Seely, who directs Academy efforts.

Another successful year, the captain reports! "There were lots of smiling kids when they left. The program's only complaint from the students is they are too busy. We keep them going with engineering related projects from sun up to sun down."

The student selection process involves participants applying to local SAME posts throughout the country. Each post is given two positions.

"The Pikes Peak and Denver Posts have five each because they are so instrumental in running the program," Captain Hoisington said.

The local posts provide sponsorship to the participants and pay for travel costs and have the cost of the camp. "The campers pay only \$350 each for the week," the captain said.

Academy cadet participants in guiding the future engineers included: Cadet-in-Charge Cadet 2nd Class Tom Synovec, Flight Commanders Cadets 2nd Class Kaiao Goodhue, Katie Grieshop, Joshua Martinez, Mercy Te'o, and, representing the U.S. Coast Guard, also as Flight Commanders Cadet Jay Shirey and Cadet Sabrina Taylor.

Clinic Third Party Collections Policy

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The 10th Medical Group's Third Party Collections Office has established a "Blue Card" Program; a DoD requirement. The program presents the easiest way to collect OHI information involving additional coverage. Here's how it works: upon check-in for a medical appointment, the clinical staff will ask to see your Blue Card. If you do not have one, they will ask you to fill out and sign a new DD Form 2569 (insurance form). After completion, a Blue Card, valid for one calendar year, will be issued. The Blue Card confirms current OHI in our system. At all future appointments you will be asked if any OHI information has changed since the card was issued. If it has, the completion of a new DD Form 2569 will be required.

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The 10th MDG benefits because all of the funds collected through this process remain at the MTF. The money is used to purchase medical equipment, supplies and furniture. It also helps pay for minor hospital renovations and continuing education for the staff.

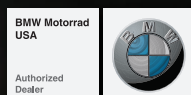
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See the light, take shelter

By Capt. Corinna Jones
Academy Public Affairs

"If you don't like it, wait five minutes, it will change," is the common expression often used to describe Colorado's weather. However, one weather element that will not change is lightning - it's deadly.

According to the Academy's meteorologists, weather is a force to take seriously and particularly during the 101 Critical Days of Summer everyone needs to keep an eye on the sky.

"There is an average of 13.7 lightning related injuries and three fatalities per year in Colorado," said Charles Evans, 306th Operations Support Squadron meteorologist. "From 1998 to 2007, Colorado ranked third in the country. From 1959 to 1997, Colorado ranked eleventh in the country."

Mr. Evans believes the increase in more recent years is due to an increase in outdoor recreational activities.

"Lightning injuries in Colorado have occurred April through October, but peak significantly in June, July, and August," he said.

In Colorado, lightning is the number one life threatening weather hazard, according to the Colorado Division of Emergency Management web site. It states lightning occurs with all thunderstorms with an average of 73 deaths and 300 injuries nationwide each year, more than tornadoes and floods combined.



Senior Airman Colleen Wroneck

Lightning strikes near Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

Most victims are struck while playing golf or field sports or while in or near water.

People can be struck many miles away from a storm, so seeking immediate and effective shelter when thunderstorms approach is an important part of lightning safety.

On June 24, two Colorado Springs police officers were hospitalized after a lightning strike hit close to their motorcycle training area. Neither officer was hit directly, but both were hospitalized, one seriously injured.

The average flash of lightning has 125 million volts of electricity - enough

power to light a 100-watt light bulb for more than three months. Also, lightning can and does strike the same place twice.

At any moment, there are 2,000 thunderstorms occurring around the world and as many as 100 bolts of lightning every second — 8,640,000 per day and over 3 billion per year. Yet odds of being struck by lightning are more than 2 million to one.

Florida ranks first in the nation for lightning, with an average of 100 thunderstorm days per year. The lightning capitol of the world is the West coast of Africa, with as many as 295 thunderstorm days per year.

Lightning Safety Tips:

- If you feel your hair stand on end, drop to the ground in a crouched position, hands on knees. Do not lie flat on the ground.
- Avoid being the highest object in any area.
- Avoid hilltops, trees or telephone poles. In a forest, move under a growth of small trees.
- Stay away from water during a thunderstorm. Water conducts electricity.
- Get off or away from open water and metal equipment (golf carts, tractors, bicycles). Drop golf clubs and remove golf shoes. Keep several yards away from other people. In open areas, go to a low place like a ravine or valley.
- Stay indoors and away from windows during a storm.
- Inside a home, avoid using the phone and unplug unnecessary appliances.
- Watch for flash flooding.
- Many people apparently "killed" by lightning can be revived if quick action is taken.
- Learn mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and CPR.
- If you're affected by a lightning strike, see a physician immediately.
- Stay or go indoors! If you hear thunder, don't go outside unless absolutely necessary. By counting the seconds between the flash and the thunder and dividing by five, you can estimate your distance from the strike (in miles).
- Stay away from anything that could conduct electricity. This includes fireplaces, radiators, stoves, metal pipes, sinks, and phones.
- Don't use plug-in electrical appliances. If lightning strikes your house they can conduct the charge to you.

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Dye to retire after 41 years

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

He will tell you he just provided top cover for the people who worked for him; he actually owes any personal success to those he got to serve.

A widely-known Academy elder, Mr. Charlie Dye is retiring after working for the Air Force for 41 years, 20 in the military and 21 here at the Academy as a civilian.

Retired Col. Sarah Gella, former 10th Air Base Wing vice commander, will officiate Mr. Charlie Dye's retirement ceremony at 3 p.m., July 31, in the Falcon Club.

Mrs. Karen Dye worries her husband will have a hard time not driving in the Academy South Gate every morning and it will take him a while to adjust, but he will.

After serving seven superintendents, six commandants, four Mission Group commanders, 11 bosses, 25,000 incoming cadets, as well as working the deployment of more than 800 active-duty members and cadets to the AOR, four Unit Compliance Inspections, and four audits - this elder Airman won't die, but, rather, just fade away.

After spending time in Berlin; Eglin

Air Force Base, Fla.; DaNang Air Base, Vietnam; Ubon, Thailand; Taiwan, China; Rhein Main AB, Germany; and, McClellan AFB, Calif., the Academy's logistics czar is packing it in.

To him it doesn't seem that long ago he joined the Air Force in Charleston, W. Va.

After Mr. Dye retired from the Air Force he began working at the Academy for Raytheon Corp. as a base supply contractor.

"When I retired from the Air Force I was living in Sacramento assigned to the Air Force Technical Application Center. We decided to move to Colorado Springs which we had fallen in love with several years before while on vacation," he said. "Plus, I was offered a very good job."

There was some difficulty transitioning, because he didn't take any time off from wearing the uniform to becoming a civilian for Raytheon.

"I advise every military person I get to talk with to take a minimum of 30 days off," said the logistics director. "It is tough being around the people who understand where you have come from, what you're expected to know, and in most cases, know what you did or are capable of doing - and then being around people who don't know you at all. I've told



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Charles Dye

several people lately once you take the uniform off, you're just another civilian and you have to prove yourself everyday to your new boss and your new employees."

In 1987, Mr. Dye took his first civil service job moving to Mitchell Hall where he worked the supply, facility and budget areas. His main project was bringing in uniforms for all Mitchell Hall personnel and being the key project officer for the large, almost one-year long renovation when they fed the cadets at the High Country Inn.

"That was a fun project, finishing ahead of schedule, under budget with

great partnering with the entire base and contractors," he said. "What a total team effort."

He moved to cadet issue where he was the stock fund manager and one of the people who helped change in-processing from a manual system - working until 2 a.m. - to a 100 percent automated operation that finishes by 8 p.m. and is envied by the other service academies.

Then the 10th Air Base Wing stood up and Mr. Dye was asked by the 34th Training Wing commander if he would stay and work cadet logistics in the Cadet Support Group. He managed the \$34

See DYE, Page 13



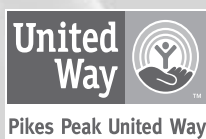
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SECAF shares his perspective with Airmen



Photo by Duncan Wood

Acting Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley held a town-hall style meeting with members of the Air Force Space Command at Peterson Air Force Base, July 1. He outlined three perspectives for the audience; jointness, support to the war on terror, and the welfare of Airmen. He candidly addressed the challenges facing the Air Force, in particular the nuclear enterprise issue.

By Ed White
Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. (AFPN) — The U.S. Air Force core values of Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence in all We Do will remain in place, said Acting Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley during a July 1 visit here.

In his first visit to an Air Force base since being named to the position, Secretary Donley held a candid town-hall style meeting with members of Air Force Space Command.

“We are working through the issues confronting the Air Force,” he said, referring to the nuclear enterprise issues and others that caused his predecessor to resign. “We need to build back inner confidence in our Air Force and we need to rebuild our credibility.”

Secretary Donley outlined three perspectives he brings to this position based on his previous experience.

“The first thing you will get from me is ‘jointness,’” he said. “The Air Force is one part of a big team.”

He outlined some of the ways the Air Force contributes to the ongoing joint fight in Iraq, Afghanistan and the war on terrorism both in the United States and around the world.

“I know the Air Force is contributing lots of mission sets and capabilities, and it is an impressive array, I can tell you,” the secretary said.

A related theme is the support to the war on terrorism.

“This is a priority for this Air Force,” he said. “We have more than 30,000 Airmen deployed around the world engaged in the war on terrorism in Iraq and Afghanistan.”

One of Secretary Donley’s first acts upon appoint-

ment was to visit Walter Reed Hospital and speak with wounded Airmen. From this visit he gained an appreciation of their sacrifices and inspiration from them as well, as these warfighters all expressed their desires to heal quickly and get back in the fight. He also recognized those who stand behind and support the people on the pointed end of the spear.

His third theme is the welfare of Airmen. The secretary said the Air Force is a technology-driven service, but its most important asset is the knowledge, experience and commitment of the people who make it all work to support the warfighter.

“The welfare of our Airmen is very important to me, and I will try to strike the best balance in the Air Force budget between equipment needs and our people,” Secretary Donley said.

After addressing his overall concerns, he spoke to the issue closest to Air Force Space Command members right now.

“The Air Force’s credibility has been tarnished, and we need to rebuild it,” he said. “The Air Force leadership needs to develop a roadmap for the nuclear enterprise to put us on the right track for stewardship of the nuclear mission that the defense establishment and the American people expect from us.

“There is no quicker route to recovery than the power of tens of thousands of Airmen and civilians rededicating themselves to the high standards of excellence that have always been the hallmark of the world’s best Air Force,” he said.

Secretary Donley carried this message to Airmen at Peterson AFB, Offutt AFB, Neb., Barksdale AFB, La., and Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, in a two-day tour of these bases.



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Air Force video earns top awards

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — A Secretary of the Air Force video describing the role of air power in the war on terrorism earned two top television awards recently.

The Telly Awards honored the service's *Setting the Conditions for Victory* video with two Silver Awards, which is the highest honor bestowed to the best of local, regional and cable television commercials and programs, as well as video and film productions, and work created for the web.

The 29th Annual Telly Awards received more than 14,000 entries from all 50 states and five continents. Only about 10 percent of entries win awards.

"The fact that we were recognized by an outside organization shows that within the military we have very professional and capable people who can produce products that rival what's being done in the civilian sector," said Staff Sgt. Juan Femath from Air University Television at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

He was one of the key players behind the creation of the video, and was also the one who submitted it for the award.

"A lot of work went into telling the entire Air Force story in that video, and it included a lot of things that I knew made it competitive with other entries, such as quick-cuts, music, the use of broadcast, graphics and combat camera," he said. "While using all those

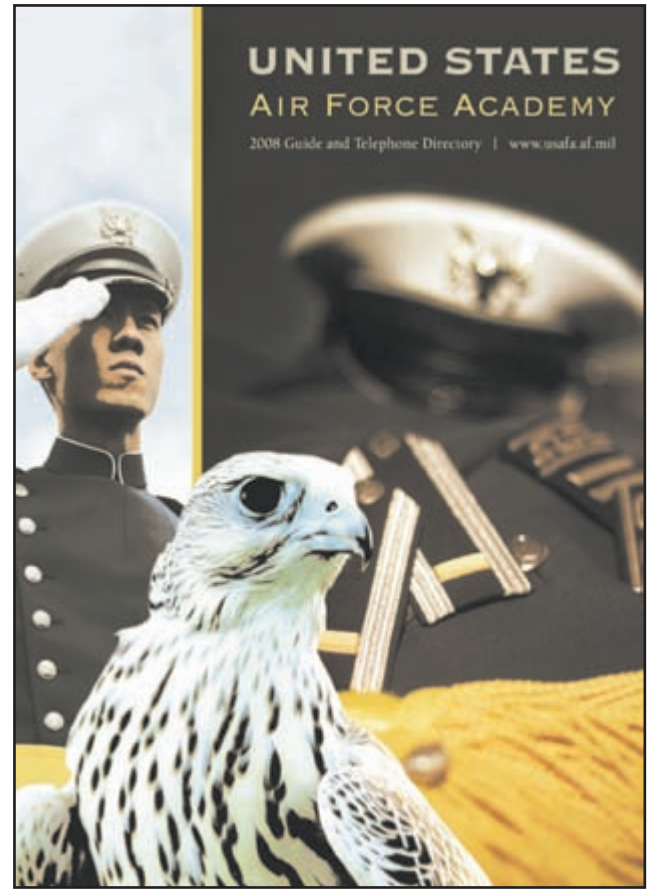
GWOT

techniques, we also made sure we had Airmen of all ranks in there to include everyone's perspective."

The eight-minute video, which was created by Air Force broadcasting and public affairs Airmen, outlines the Air Force role in the war on terrorism and how the service succeeds in its domains of air, space and cyberspace. The video features Airmen discussing their role in the Air Force and how it contributes to the Air Force's mission statement to "fly, fight and win."

Setting the Conditions for Victory also further defines how the Air Force provides the president and combatant commanders sovereign options in executing tasks, everything from delivering humanitarian aid to working alongside our sister services on the front lines of conflict, from "destroying a target anywhere in the world" to employing satellites around the planet.

The video, which is available on www.af.mil, earlier won first place in the Internal/Public Affairs Category of the Department of Defense Visual Information Contest.



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Dye

From Page 9

million general upgrade in dormitory environment project, replacing all furniture in both Sijan and Vandenberg halls. He also was responsible for moving cadets during the major renovation in both Vandenberg and Sijan which took place from the mid 90's through 2003.

Outside parking in the cadet area, uniform flight, tailor shop, barber and beauty shops, cadet media, computer support, safety, facilities, budget, and supervising 24 people for the 34th Training Wing – were all under his leadership.

In 2002, Mr. Dye was asked by the Academy commandant to take on the project of bringing the M-14 rifle to the Academy to replace the old M-16 rubber duck. With help from Logistics and the devil engineer squadron, he was able to make it happen.

He worked issues in the 34th TRW following 9/11, and in 2004 he was asked by the 10th Air Base Wing, with the recommendation of on-base officials, to become the director of the 10th Logistics Readiness Division. He will tell you it has been both challenging and a great opportunity.

"I was originally going to retire in 2007 but decided to stay one more year because of the UCI coming up ... plus when the rumor started CST was coming back," the civil servant said. "I wanted to ensure my people understood how important this training is to the cadets and that we needed to be successful."

Home now is Colorado Springs, and he has four daughters and eight grandchildren.

"I hope to volunteer some time at a hospice here in town for a few months, then I'm taking the wife on a tour of the East Coast starting at Niagara Falls and working south from there during the fall and the changing of the leaves," he said.

Mr. Dye is also in the process, of writing two books which he hopes to get published, late 2009.

"I have a lot of hobbies," he said. "I want to spend more time with my family, there are still some fish I haven't caught in Colorado, plus my wife has at least six months of 'honey do' stuff. Most important, I need to get back in shape and now I won't have the excuse I don't have enough time.

"I will miss the great people who I have worked with over the past 21 years on the Academy, I will miss the

'Ops Tempo' and I know how hard most people work to meet the mission every day," said Mr. Dye. "But what I will miss most is watching new basics arrive each in-processing day, making conscience decisions as to whether or not they will make it and then watch them mature to become great officers.

"I hope the people on the Academy never forget how lucky they are to get to work at this beautiful place and the great mission we have of training future offi-

cers of character," he said.

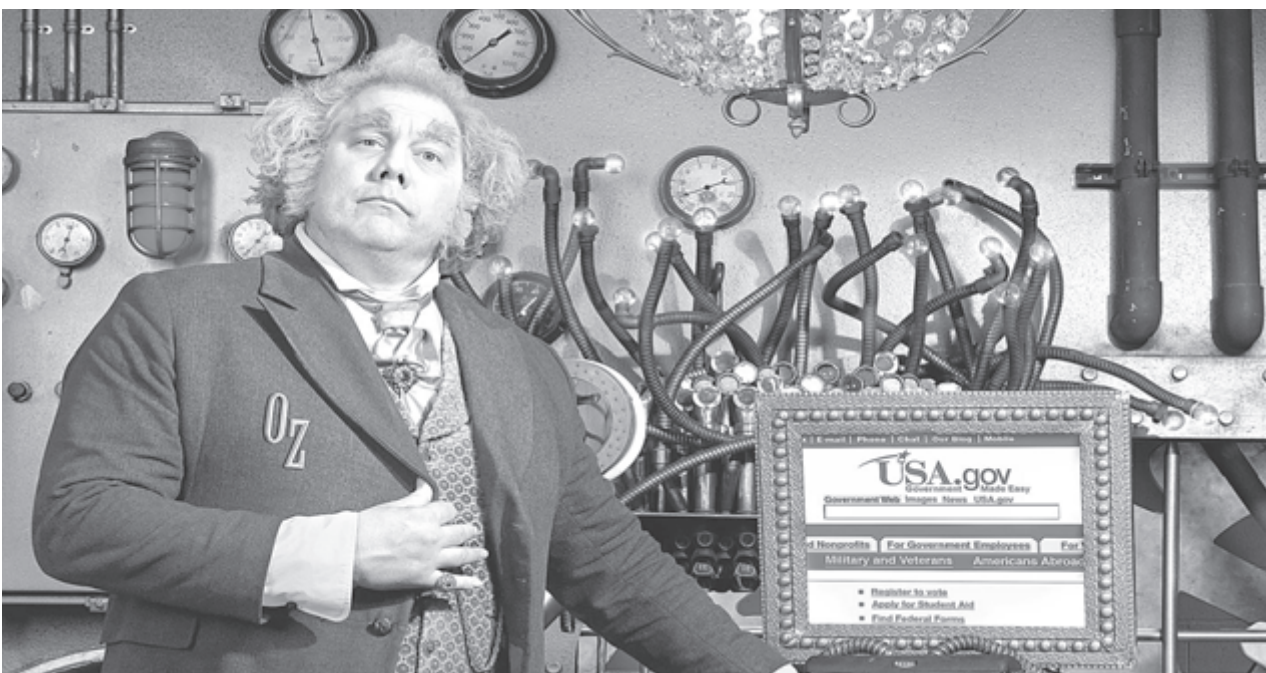
"We must always be able to laugh, have fun at work and still meet the mission. If we can't - it's time to find another job or retire. You put your hand in a bucket of water, you take it out, you still have a bucket of water and life goes on," he said. "It's time for young people who are better at thinking outside the box to take over and make this Academy even better. Thank you for letting me spend part of my life with you all."



Photo by Paul Martin

Fine tuning display

Ben Wilmoth, left, and Mike Douglass remove Magnesium-Thorium components from the speed brake system of the F-105 display on the Terrazzo Wednesday. The components being removed will be replaced by replica fiberglass parts. The team is detailed here from the restoration branch of the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. They travel the country removing this type of material from display aircraft. MAGTHOR is radiological properties to the point of requiring special handling and disposal, but poses no danger to visitors viewing the aircraft. Experts say daily routine exposure to the elements produces a higher level of radiation. MAGTHOR is a light-weight metallic alloy that was installed in planes in various locations to increase strength. This particular F-105 display aircraft was built from parts from as many as 10 different aircraft. During the decade between 1960 and 1970, the F-105 was used extensively in missions over Vietnam.



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Cadets experience the ultimate *rush*

Photo by Capt. Uriah Orland
Cadet 3rd Class Tom Baker,
Cadet Squadron-27, experiences
the thrill of a lifetime as he
leaves the door of a UV-18 Twin
Otter on his first jump June 27.

Crazy, nuts, insane ... or maybe just adventurous. Any of these adjectives could be used to describe students of Airmanship 490, the Academy's basic parachuting course.

By Capt. Uriah Orland
Academy Public Affairs

But the cadets have different perspectives. "It was awesome! I was expecting to be scared but I wasn't," said Cadet 3rd Class Kyle Ames, of Cadet Squadron 8, after his first freefall jump. "I've never experienced anything like it before."

Cadet Ames is right, not many have an opportunity like this.

"The U.S. Air Force Academy's basic parachuting course is the only parachuting program in the world where a student's first jump is unassisted," said Lt. Col. Alexander Cos, 98th Flying Training Squadron director of operations. "That is to say that the student will leave the aircraft without any external aid, human

or machine, freefall for 10 seconds, and manually deploy a parachute which he or she will steer to a safe landing."

To prepare for that first step from the plane, basic parachuting students run through more than 33 hours of ground training, learning proper parachuting procedures before taking to the skies in the DeHavilland UV-18B Twin Otter to complete five freefall jumps.



Photo by Capt. Uriah Orland



Photo by Capt. Uriah Orland



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Top left: Cadet 3rd Class Whitney Beck, Cadet Squadron 33, practices the correct arch position with the help of Cadet 2nd Class Justin North, a member of the Wings of Blue.

Top right: Cadet 2nd Class Lauren Franks, a Wings of Blue member, briefs a load of jump students prior to their first freefall June 27.

Left: Shelly English, a rigger with the 98th Flying Training Squadron, packs a parachute for the Airmanship 490 Basic Parachuting course.

“Through the training we receive and the work we put into the program, we can approach it with confidence and hopefully we are giving that confidence to the students to jump out,” said Cadet 2nd Class Spencer Schardein, a Wings of Blue member and course instructor.

The basic parachuting course focuses on an individual’s ability to overcome natural born fears and perform under the extreme stresses of potentially life-and-death situations. When a cadet steps out of the airplane at 4,500 feet above ground, he or she must trust equipment, training, and more importantly, his or her self-discipline to get safely back to the ground.

“It takes a lot of (guts) to stand in the door,” said Cadet Ames. “This was one of the biggest challenges for overcoming stress and is the most memorable experience so far here and one I’ll remember for life.”

Overcoming that stress is why parachuting is a perfect character development program.

One of the founders of the character development program for the 98th FTS, Maj. Gen. Frank Watson, put it simply, “In parachuting, you learn to risk with calculation and without foolhardy, ill-prepared action ... you train and learn skills to allow you to be successful. But the key is in uniquely executing those skills ... creating superior performance in a high-speed, unstable environment.”

This is still the goal of the 98th today.

“Graduates will be able to look back on their experience in AM-490 and apply what they learned to many situations they will face personally and professionally,” Colonel Cos said. “Our hope is that they will maintain cool, level heads while making life-critical decisions.”

Members the Wings of Blue and the 98th FTS train more than 800 Academy and ROTC cadets annually in the basic course and upgrade about 25 cadets through a year-long program, known as the Wings of Green. After completing AM 491 and 492, the cadets become part of the Air Force’s only parachuting team, the “Parachute Team Wings of Blue.”

The members of the Wings of Blue are the instructors of AM 490 and are responsible for ground training, equipment fitting, pre-flight inspection, aircraft loading, all pre-jump actions to include emergency procedures, and safe and orderly egress from the aircraft. In addition, they are the jumpmasters for nearly every jump in the basic program.

“The Academy prides itself in having cadets teach and train other cadets,” said Colonel Cos. “What better

learning environment than working and training with your peers.”

“This is a pretty awesome way to spend a summer—teaching people how to jump out of an airplane,” Cadet Schardein said. “The

students think they are the most tired. But we are here 20 minutes before them and 20 minutes after them and spend the night preparing for our lessons. They get all stressed about jumping and we get all stressed about throwing them out of the airplane.”

The motivation is more than instilling unbeatable confidence in cadets.

“It’s more than just teaching,” Cadet Schardein

remarked. “We get to represent the entire Air Force through our competition and performance teams. That is a huge motivating factor for me.”

The competition team is composed of approximately 10 members: two four-way teams, and one two-member team performing vertical relative work. The competition team has been recognized as the leading collegiate team in the nation 29 of the last 39 years.

The demonstration team represents the Academy and the Air Force around the nation at Air Force forums, air shows, football games such as major college football bowl games during the holiday season and Monday Night Football games, and various other sporting events. These jumps are composed of relative work consisting of colored smoke jumping and flag/streamer presentations.



Photo by Capt. Uriah Orland



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Above: Cadet 2nd Class Lauren Franks leads a load of jump students as they board a DeHavilland UV-18 Twin Otter at the Academy Airfield.

Above right: Cadet 3rd Class Ryan Kim flares his parachute just before touching down for a perfect landing.

Right: Jump students walk back after successful jumps at the Academy Airfield Wednesday.



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Preserving memories name of the game

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

An old running shoe, a canoe oar, a rock, a hockey shirt, a baby quilt, shrapnel fragments and a hatchet are just a few of the items the engraving and gift shop inside the Academy Arts & Crafts Skills Center has preserved.

"Memories can be made for all different kinds of items," said Center Manager Paula Dickinson. "It's fun to be part of it."

A retiring Army member even requested the list of his career assignments be engraved on the back of a flask.

The shop also personalizes the traditional memory pieces such as plaques, statuary, glass commendations, clocks, sports trophies, key chains, money clips, decanters and glasses, as well as traditional picture framing.

Such items are traditionally presented for awards, retirements, special recognitions and gifts.

Products range in materials from metal, stone, wood, glass and leather to acrylic and marble.

The likes of items such as a horse halter or an old stethoscope can be preserved in custom-made shadow boxes.

"We can make really unusual awards really special," Ms. Dickinson said.

The shop uses two laser engravers for customizing pieces. Artisans lay out

lettering and graphics on a computer art software program and send the design to the engraver, much as another computer might send a document to a paper printer. An etching machine is used for coins, and an adapter to one laser engraver even allows for custom engraving on round glassware.

Arts & Crafts staff member Debby Brown said the shop is extremely busy in the days before and after graduation, and many folks on the Academy know about and rely on it for special gifts.

"But we still hear people say, 'We didn't know you were here,'" she said.

Department of Defense-eligible customers get not only high-quality products created by a well-trained staff, they can also save money.

"We are about half of what it might cost downtown," Ms. Brown said. "It's a good deal."

She added, however, that the shop can't compete with the price of a ready-made picture frame.

"We're strictly custom," she said.

The shop buys materials from five suppliers. Each provides a catalog customers can browse through for product ideas.

The shop also has an ample supply of clip art which might be engraved on an item, including stock art for the chapel, aircraft, etc.

It also inventories some memorabilia items and other supplies in-house.



Photo by Ann Patton

A laser engraver can place images and type with accuracy.

Customers may wish to bring their own art for engraving. Ms. Dickinson stressed customer-provided art should be fairly simple, however.

"Cleaner and crisper graphics are better," she said.

The shop does its own work in-house rather than subcontracting it elsewhere.

Staff members and customers consult on an item's design, and staff give a free estimate of the cost. If the shop staff members feel they don't have the materials, machinery or skills to produce a product, they will readily refer customers to other sources.

For the creative-minded, the center is a haven for practicing or learning a new hobby or craft.

Classes this summer include pottery,

stained glass, matting, mosaics, drawing, painting, glass fusing, basket weaving, children's arts and crafts, beading, knitting, crochet and woodshop.

Class spaces are allotted on a first-come, first-served basis.

"This is a happy place," Ms. Dickinson said. "We do some fun things here."

Customers may also request a special class for a group, such as co-workers and friends.

The Arts & Crafts Skills Center is open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday. It is closed Tuesdays after Monday holidays.

Call 333-4579 or visit www.usafa-services.com/skills/artcraft.htm.

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IM softball action winds up

By Dave Castilla
Intramural Sports Director

In Tuesday intramural softball action DRU/MSS pushed across seven runs in the bottom of the fifth to defeat 306 FTG 14-4.

David Norman drove in the final run on a walk. The game was halted by the 10-run rule after five innings.

The DRU/MSS squad, trying to finish the season in at least sixth place to be eligible for post season, started the day in eighth place with 10 CS and 10 CES in seventh and sixth respectively.

Coach Mike McMahon stressed to his players they needed to beat the flight line twice to have a chance in the intramural softball championship tournament.

DRU/MSS took the first-inning lead and never looked back, Rich Heath's two-run double drove in Jim Hiatt and Andre Sarmiento. In the second inning Pete

Waltz' two-run double off the centerfield fence was the key hit as DRU/MSS scored five runs and pushed their lead to 7-1.

In the bottom of the fourth inning the flight line scored two runs closing the gap as Craig Watson's RBI single drove in Mark Stoffel, later Rich Milner's double drove in another run as Watson just beat the tag at home.

Tony Anderson drove in the final run for the flight line with a double that scored Ted Burgess. The 306 FTG was only down 7-4 headed to the bottom of the fifth but a combination of errors and some timely hits by DRU/MSS made this the final inning. Hiatt singled followed by a double by Waltz and were both driven in by Sarmiento who singled. Chris Kieffer singled driving in Sarmiento. Rich Heath doubled scoring Kieffer, Steve Erwin scored on an error and with the bases loaded Norman who had a full count walked, driving home Tim Modjeski ending the contest.



Photo by Dennis Rogers

Craig Watson's eye glasses nearly come off as he slides into home plate ahead of the tag from Nate Bell. Rich Milner's RBI double scored Watson in the top of the 4th inning.

Air Force's Peter French garners MWC award

Academy sophomore Peter French is the Mountain West Conference Hal Rothman Sportsmanship Award recipient for 2007-2008.

The award, established in 2005-2006 and re-named in honor of the former UNLV faculty athletics representative, is presented to the student-athlete who has distinguished him or herself through sportsmanship and ethical behavior. The student-athlete also must demonstrate good citizenship outside of the sports-competition setting and be in good academic standing.

A native of Austin, Texas, French has competed as a member of the Falcons' fencing team for two years. He routinely portrays the ideals of sportsmanship and competitive respect, and his character was never more evident than during a match at the 2008 Junior Men's

Epee World Cup in Basel, Switzerland.

During a bout to determine the top eight individuals and eventual selection to the world team, French struck the floor in a failed attempt for his opponent's foot. The scoring director did not observe the floor touch, and awarded a point to French.

Immediately, French acknowledged the mistake and asked the director to remove a point his score – a gesture not usually exhibited in international competition. French's opponent thanked him for his sportsmanship and the bout continued.

Several touches passed, and French's opponent accidentally hit the floor. He, too, acknowledged his mistake with a mutual understanding he was returning the earlier favor.

French emerged from the bout victorious and later finished third in the competition, leading to his selection to the world team.

In addition to his academic and athletic commitments, French maintains an active role in the fencing community, conducting weekly instruction classes with local youth to help them develop their fencing skills while instilling the ideals of sportsmanship, respect and integrity.

He has been involved in house-building projects and sports camps in post-Katrina New Orleans and has also extended his community service role overseas, teaching English in a Latvian orphanage.

French is the first Air Force student-athlete to earn this award.

Marathon registration on pace to shatter '07 record

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFP) — If current figures are an accurate predictor, the 2008 U.S. Air Force Marathon appears well on its way to shattering last year's registration record of more than 6,700 runners and could approach the 10,000 mark.

As of mid June, the total number of runners registered for the 12th annual event stood at 2,326. That compares with 1,013 total registered runners at the same time a year ago, or about a 130 percent increase.

According to Molly Loudon, marathon director, enhanced marketing and publicity efforts combined with strong word-of-mouth from previous marathon participants is helping fuel the surge in registration.

"For the past three years, we have stepped up marketing," Ms. Loudon said. "We've consistently attended regional

marathon expos and advertised in national magazines.

"Also, word of mouth is a huge factor, and the marathon has received fantastic reviews from past runners on running blogs like *marathon guide.com*."

Registration numbers are confirming high interest in both the full and half marathon. The June 13 figures show 1,098 runners registered for the full marathon, compared to 512 for the same time last year; the half marathon has received 885 registrants, compared to 333 for the same date a year ago.

Ms. Loudon said runners planning to participate in this year's marathon are encouraged to register early, especially



considering the significant increase in registrants to date.

"We are encouraging runners to register early online not only to save money, but to ensure they get into the event," Ms. Loudon said. "This is the first year we might have

to close registration due to the number of registrants. It is very exciting, but our numbers are nearly triple what they were last year. For planning purposes, we will close registration if we get near the 10,000 mark."

A prominent change to this year's marathon is the phase-out of the four-person relay teams and the introduction of a 10k. Runners registering for the 10k

can do so as individuals or can run as part of a four-person team.

Each 10k team member will start the race at the same time and will end at the same location. By including a four-person 10k team option in place of the marathon four-person relay, marathon officials sought to eliminate challenges such as team members having to wait for buses or searching for teammates on the course.

For the second straight year, the marathon's 5k will take place the day before the marathon on Sept. 19 at Wright State University. According to Ms. Loudon, the marathon, half marathon and 10k taking place Sept. 20 at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base will be limited to 10,000 runners, and the 5k at Wright State University will be limited to 2,000 runners.

For more information or to register for the 2008 U.S. Air Force Marathon, visit www.usafmarathon.com.

Six Falcons named to Atlantic Hockey All-Academic Team

Seniors Matt Charbonneau, Eric Ehn and Frank Schiavone were joined by juniors Greg Flynn and Mike Phillipich and sophomore Matt Fairchild on the Atlantic Hockey All-Academic Team. Charbonneau, Ehn and Schiavone all graduated in the Class of 2008 on May 28.

Charbonneau, a defenseman from Stillwater, Minn., carried a 3.16 cumulative grade point average as a management

major. Ehn, a center from Dexter, Mich., had a 3.04 GPA in systems engineering management. Schiavone, a defenseman from Oceanside, N.Y., had a 3.59 GPA in management. Flynn, a senior-to-be defenseman from Lino Lakes, Minn., has a 3.25 GPA in management. Phillipich, a senior-to-be right winger and team captain from Lansing, Mich., has a 3.74 GPA in systems engineering management. Fairchild, a junior-to-be forward from Ashburn, Va., has a 3.57 GPA in systems engineering management.

INTRAMURALS

Softball

	W	L
1 RETIREES	15	0
2 MDG#1	12	1
3 MDG#2	10	5
4 CW	8	4
5 SFS	9	7
6 CES	7	7
7 DRU/MSS	6	9
8 10 CS	5	10
9 306 FTG	3	10
10 MDG#3	0	16
11 ATH. DEPT	2	8 F-OUT

Golf (Week 8)

Division 1	Pts.
1. 306 FTG	14.5
2. 10TH MDG 1	19.5
3. 98 FTS	18.5
4. NSSI 2	12.0
5. DRU 1	2.0
6. DRU 3	11.5
7. DFEG	13.0
8. 10TH CS	4.5
9. DFM	3.5
10. CW 1	11.5
11. DFP	10.0

12. MAINT 2 Division 2

	Pts.
1. NSSI 1	23.0
2. MAINT 1	18.0
3. 94 FTS	18.0
4. 10TH MDG 2	11.5
5. DRU 2	8.5
6. DFL	15.5
7. CW 2	6.5
8. XP	7.5
9. CWCX	2.0
10. 10TH MSS/CCA	4.5
11. DFENG	6.0
12. LGR	16.0

Community effort thrills Independence Day crowd

Record numbers of spectators visit for fireworks

By Ken Carter
Editor

More than 12,000 spectators “ooooed” and “ahhhhhed” during the 2008 Freedom Fest July 4th. It was the 48th Annual Fireworks Celebration held on the Academy.

According to Candyce Thomas, Cultural Arts & Entertainment Director and the July 4th project director, members of Class of 2012 were especially pumped when they came over to the fireworks display area near Arnold Hall.

“I watched them march over and you could tell they didn’t know what to expect but were excited about coming to something that did not require training,” she said.

Ms. Thomas noted this was the first year the event was open to the public since 9/11 and planners did not expect such a crowd from outside the gate.

“The public hasn’t been used to coming up here now for nearly seven years; it was a pleasant surprise to host such a gathering.”

An event of this size doesn’t just

happen; it takes a lot of coordination and hard work.

“Each year I work with just about every unit on the Academy,” Ms. Thomas said. “The contact people number more than 28 not including all the worker bees. This operation runs smooth as silk and the support every organization gives is second to none.”

It’s all about teamwork, she goes on to explain.

“There may be a complete operation plan, but that plan means nothing if everyone on the Academy is not behind me to support it. We have everything from Lite-Alls to light the fields and stairwells for safety; Porta-lets spotted about in all areas where attendees would be; water buffalo for hydration for attendees; medical staff on the viewing fields; sprinklers turned off all over the Cadet Area, Arnold Hall and athletic fields; public affairs to inform the public; marketing to promote attendance through internal E-mails; *Good Things Magazine*, safety and fire department representatives ... and the list goes on,” she said. “The can-do attitude from everyone is super, and I truly feel blessed to have the opportunity to work with all. In the process, every year I advance my education and further my understanding of the function of each organization.”



Photo Composite by Dennis Rogers

The event is not held exclusively for the new incoming class. However, the basics tend to get the biggest thrill from it. It’s one of their first chances to let whatever little hair they may have down for a few minutes and relax outside of an intense training environment.

“I also believe it gives basics a few moments to see their chain of command as real people needing relaxation and fun in the midst of all the training and as people who understand basics need this also,” Ms. Thomas said.

Some would say it presents a wake-up call for basics and serves as a reminder of their future commitments in preserving America’s independence.

“From their cheering and ‘CLASS SOUND OFF,’ you can feel the pride they have and maybe it even washes away a bit of the anxiety they may be feeling,” Ms. Thomas said. “Even if only for a few minutes, they’re forgetting about sore feet, blisters and the fact they are running on little sleep.”

Basics were overheard making comments including: “Thank you, ma’am for the band, the music and the rockin’ fireworks and making me feel not so far from home.” Other basics’ comments overheard were: “Wow – what a night!” “Wait until I tell Mom about these fireworks.” “This sure beats a few sparklers,” and “Rad, man. Rad.”

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Kids Science Camp

This is a program for youth ages 7 to 13 offered by the Falcon Trail Youth Center. For more information, call 333-4169.

2nd Annual 1/2 Marathon

Sign up now for the Base Fitness and Sports Center's 2nd Annual 1/2 marathon. The free 13.1-mile race is Aug. 2, beginning at 6:30 a.m. The 1/2 marathon begins and ends at the Santa Fe Trail at the south entrance to the Academy. Eligible participants include valid military ID card holders including active duty, retirees, civilian employees and family members 18 and older. Registration forms are available at the fitness center or HAWC. Return or fax them by July 25. For more information call 333-4522 or 333-9133.

Taco Bar and Cash Giveaway

Wear a Hawaiian shirt and cool sunglasses to Academy Lanes Thursday and feast at a free taco bar (need not wear cool apparel to eat free)! One lucky participant in the bowling center's summer promotion, "Mr. Cool," will win \$100 when his or her name is drawn. If present, the winner gets \$200. The taco bar will be open from 5 to 6:30 p.m. and the drawing at 7 p.m. Bowling will be \$1.50 a game that night. For more information, call 333-4709.

Hap's Expands Menu

Pick up breakfast items from 7:30 to 9 a.m. or lunch from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Hap's has added hot dogs (\$2) and brats (\$3) to the menu and combos are available with baked beans or potato salad. An all-you-can-eat taco bar is offered Tuesdays and Thursdays for \$5. Orders of 10 or more can be faxed ahead by 9:30 a.m. to be ready by 11 a.m. For more information call 333-3908.

Honor Guard Needs Members

Join an elite group and gain valuable leadership skills while having fun and advancing your career. Training is held periodically. All ranks are eligible. For more information call 333-5684.

Trash to Cash

Buy and sell trash and treasure at the community activities' monthly outdoor flea market and tailgate sale in the parking lot between the commissary and the base exchange. The turn your "trash" into cash flea market runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 19. Rent a space for \$10. Bring your own table or rent one from community activities for \$5. Seller set-up time is 8 to 9 a.m. For more information call 333-2928.

Annual Picnic

The Annual Base Picnic is Aug. 1, at the Pine Valley youth fields adjacent to the Airmen and Family and Readiness Center. Parking will be available at Pine Valley Elementary School, Air Academy High School (with shuttle bus service to the picnic areas), and Pine Drive next to the fields. Price is \$3 per ticket; see your first sergeant.

Sponsors needed

The Preparatory School for the 2008-2009 academic year still needs sponsors. The Prep School is designed to prepare students for admission and success at the Air Force Academy. To apply to sponsor one or more students, call Mrs. Cleo Griffith at 333-2583 or E-mail cleo.griffith@usafa.edu.

Volunteer Recognition Golf

The Volunteer Recognition Golf Fundraiser is scheduled for Aug. 7 at 1:30 p.m. on the Eisenhower Golf Club Silver Course. Entry fee is \$30 for airmen through staff sergeants and first and second lieutenants and \$40 for all other players. Entry fee includes lunch, golf cart, green fees, range balls, post round drinks and rental clubs if needed. Additionally, the Professional Golfers Association staff will conduct a golf clinic from noon to 1:15 p.m. All proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the Academy Volunteer Recognition Program. Prizes will go to the first-place team, and men's and women's longest drive and closest to the pin. For more information, Call Tim Neuman at 333-2137 or Jeannie Lopez at 333-3444.



County Fair Tickets

The El Paso Country Fair runs in Calhan July 19-26. There children can meet extreme canines, cows, bulls, dock dogs and various other critters. There's a demolition derby, tractor pull, carnival and assorted pageantry. Ticket prices vary by event and are available at ITT. For more information, call 333-4475.

Break From the Herd

Tickets for the 68th Annual Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo are on sale. The rodeo runs through Saturday with the Academy sponsoring the matinee Saturday. Adult tickets are \$10, \$15, and \$27 depending on seat location. Children's tickets are \$5, \$7.50 and \$12.50. Military personnel and groups of 20 or more receive a \$2 discount. For tickets, visit www.ticketswest.com or call 576-2626. Visit www.coloradospringsrodeo.com or call 635-1101.

Farmers Market Opens

The Western Museum of Marketing

and Industry's offers a Farmers Market in front of the museum's Reynolds Farmhouse. The market is open throughout the summer from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Renowned for being locally grown and fresh, farmers' markets allow farmers to avoid the middleman thus preserving the nutritional content of fresh produce. The market also allows consumers to talk directly to the grower, get the freshest produce possible and experience the health benefits of fresh produce. For more information, call 488-0880.

Senior Open Military Day

The 2008 U.S. Senior Open and the U.S. Golf Association Grants and Fellowship Department will honor the large contingent of military in Colorado by hosting Military Family Day July 30. All military personnel (active and retired) with proper identification will receive free admission, a voucher for a free lunch and a discount in the merchandise tent for themselves and their families. Those with valid military identification are also eligible for discounted practice round and championship round tickets. Ticket prices range from \$17 to \$39 for daily tickets. Discounted week-long packages are also available. Military tickets must be purchased at the Championship Office, located at 6 Lake Ave. Those purchased in advance of the championship can be given to non-military friends and family; however, only one ticket can be purchased per military ID at the admission gate. Visit the tickets page at: www.2008useniropen.com or call the Championship Office at (719) 471-6488.

Volksmarch Set

The Falcon Wanderers Volksmarch Club of Colorado Springs will hold a 5K and 10K Volksmarch July 19. Both are family oriented and non-competitive. The trail will follow city streets and sidewalks and the Pikes Peak Greenway Trail. Goose Gossage Ball Park on Mark Dabling Blvd. will serve as the start/finish location. Registration is 7:30 to 11 a.m. For more information, call Gerry at 264-1178 or Russ at 667-5662.

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

CADET CHAPEL
Catholic Masses:
Sunday
 Reconciliation 9:15 - 9:45 a.m.
 Mass - 10 a.m.
Protestant Services:
Sunday
 Traditional - 10 a.m.

COMMUNITY CENTER CHAPEL
Catholic Masses:
Saturday
 Reconciliation - 3:30 p.m.
 Mass - 4 p.m.
Sunday
 Mass - 9:30 a.m.
 Religious Formation - 10:45 a.m.
 (September - May)
Tuesday-Friday
 Mass - 11:30 a.m.
Protestant Services:
Saturday
 Contemporary - 6 p.m.
Sunday
 Traditional - 8 a.m.
 Gospel - 11:15 a.m.
 Religious formation - 9:30 a.m.
 (September - May)
Paganism/Earth-centered Spirituality:
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ACCEL members include: Colorado Christian University, Colorado State University-Pueblo, Colorado Technical University, DeVry University, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, National American University, Nazarene Bible College, Newman University, Pikes Peak Community College, Regis University, Troy University, UCCS, University of Phoenix, University of the Rockies and Webster University.

ACCEL (Alliance of Colleges and Corporations for Education and Leadership) formed in 1995. We are a non-profit organization comprised of volunteer representatives from higher education institutions. All ACCEL members are regionally accredited and hold classes on-ground in Colorado Springs. www.accelcs.org

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