



T-41Cs launch

Workhorses return to Peterson and Kirtland Air Force Bases.

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USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO

ACADEMY SPIRIT

Vol. 48 No. 39

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A little “Change” goes long way



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Jon Karroll, dressed as George Washington, emceeds the kick-off event for the 2008 Air Force Combined Federal Campaign Tuesday morning in Arnold Hall. The event marked the start of the 2008 campaign for all Air Force bases in the Colorado Springs area. Mr. Karroll is a local news anchor for Channel 13.

Local bases aim high toward exceeding goals for seventh straight year.

By Ken Carter
Editor

Giving is a recurring theme at the Air Force Academy and throughout Colorado Springs military installations for that matter.

For the Academy, right on the heels of a blood drive to send much-needed units overseas to those fighting the Global War on Terror, came hosting the annual Combined Federal Campaign kick-off gathering in Arnold Hall Tuesday morning.

Installation and unit project officers and unit keyworkers being “critical” to the 2008 CFC’s success was the common thread running through key speakers’ spool of related comments.

Among those representing the Academy, NORAD and U.S. NORTHCOM, and the 10th Air Base Wing respectively were: Superintendent, Lt. Gen. John Regni; Commander, Gen.

Gene Renuart; and, Commander, Col. Jimmy McMillian. They, and other local military leaders, emphasized that a little “change” goes a long way ... employing a play on words tied into the CFC theme this year: “Faces of Change.”

Master of Ceremonies President George Washington (a.k.a. Jon Karroll, a Colorado Springs T.V. news anchor) steered the gathering of hundreds toward a little friendly competition in games of retrieving change from chair cushions pre-positioned on stage, as well as a bean bag toss at targets. Members of Team Schriever dominated the competition ... at least their vocal enthusiasm suggested they did.

Speaking of the Academy’s goal of \$520,000 in charitable contributions targeted for this year, General Regni referred to it as “ambitious.”

The current U.S. economy may present even more of a challenge for some to determine exactly how deep their pockets are this year.

“It may be a little more challenging than in previous years,” General Regni said. “It’s critical for everyone involved to recognize both the goals and the benefits.”

In light of Gorge Washington serving as the event’s emcee, the super-

intendent hinted Ben Franklin may have been a better choice noting that Franklin is on the \$100 bill vice the \$1 bill. That comment and George himself saying, “Let’s get this underway; my horse is double parked,” both brought laughter from the group about to get down to some serious business.

Also sharing a personal testimony was retired Lt. Col. Mark Backlin who spoke of having lost his wife, Col. Judith Lombeida, in a tragic car accident. He has since become president of the Judith Lombeida Medical Foundation ... one of approximately 90 charitable organizations present with representatives and displays on hand at the kick-off.

Keyworkers will be circulating throughout duty sections for the campaign’s duration with the goal of 100-percent contact.

“Whether you can give a little bit, or a little more, the opportunity is there,” General Renuart said. “Even a few dollars can make a difference in peoples’ lives.”

The CFC began in 1961 and benefits thousands of non-profit human health and welfare charities. Last year, the CFC of the Pikes Peak Region collected more than \$2.2 million, a 2-percent increase over 2006, for a sixth consecutive record campaign.

Sheltering approach can lead to disappointing assignments

By Ken Carter
Editor

Travelling faces are often happier faces.

Living in base housing, getting to and from work, shopping on base and suddenly realizing you haven't seen the Academy's south gate in your rear-view mirror for 30, 60 (or more) days can be depressing.

It took the significant portion of a 24-year Air Force career (including "living" in Pine Valley for nearly a decade) for me to totally get it ... one can be a consummate professional, dedicated to the team and to the mission, and still lead a "normal" life outside the gate too. Many young families (and some not so young) will spend two, three or more years at a particular assignment and miss one of the most exciting aspects of a military career, exploring the local community. If you spend all of your spare time on base, it's time to shift into a higher gear.

If soaring fuel costs are holding you back, that's certainly understandable. However, with a little thoughtful planning and saving just a few dollars every two weeks, a family can overcome that hurdle. If you're "over-worked," and can't get away, take it from a workaholic of two decades, there's nothing at your desk worth sacrificing your health or home life over. Leaving work at work and focusing on home when home does not make one guilty of clinically diagnosed multiple personalities—even if

in the military. In many ways, it can improve one's performance at work and his or her focus on unit mission.

In the interest of putting ink to the benefit of getting out the gate more often, we're about to "re-dedicate" a portion of our Community page periodically to identifying activities around town and beyond worthy of consideration. *The Academy Spirit* "Outside the Gate" concept is not new. Our staff saw the added value for readership in creating the content in the mid 90's. Just as being editor of the then, *Falcon Flyer*, as an active-duty technical sergeant on the Academy Public Affairs staff, I see it now as a retired Air Force civilian. The benefit to on-base residents who need encouragement from time to time is even clearer today.

Whether you're surrounded by the beauty of Colorado, Washington state, Florida or New England (or about to head overseas), your opportunity is only limited by willingness to get outside one's comfort zone.

A single assignment (Iraklion Air Station, Crete, Greece, 1989-1991) started opening my eyes to the disastrous position we can slip into by allowing the Air Force (and residing on government property) to become our "whole" lives. In the middle of the Mediterian Sea, it was not uncommon for wind to delay delivery of commissary goods from Athens by two to four days. American military families, I'm not kidding, would nearly panic over the lack of bread or milk in the

commissary as though it was a life-threatening situation. Many of these same families lived on the economy (actually on the outside of the gate) and the active-duty member passed some of the most incredible bakeries and quaint grocery shops in all of Europe—both to and from work. Yet, families remained distraught about the lack of food deliveries from Athens to the American run commissary. Meanwhile, many of those who resided on the air station were there 24 months and had no idea what they were missing on the outside of the gate whatsoever — regardless of the weather.

The "unknown" has always, to some extent, created fear among humans. But are all our "fears" reasonable? Many are not ...

Why not make the greater Colorado Springs area, Colorado and beyond the "known" in your life. The experience and benefit may come as a pleasant surprise.

Keep an eye on the Community page for ideas of what you "could do" this weekend. In some cases, we'll show photos of what happened the previous weekend (like this week) if for no other reason, to reveal what you "could have" done.

Government Funded Assimilation Opportunity – is what the Air Force might call this benefit if it had a name—at least with overseas travel. It's the one benefit from being stationed around the globe entirely too many active-duty members, and families alike, are missing out on.

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.news.paper@usafa.af.mil.

Character Corner

At the U.S. Air Force Academy, cadets live under specific guidance on how to live honorably, known as the Honor Code.

There is no Honor Code on the walls of the operational Air Force.

Is this because honor is less important there than it is here?

Of course, the need to live lives

of integrity is vital in both places, but the stakes are so high in the operational Air Force that living honorably is often even more important there.

With the outcomes of our nation's wars and troop's lives at stake, the actions of military professionals are based on absolute trust of each other.

We routinely place our lives in the

hands of strangers, yet we assume that stranger is a fellow professional who has earned our trust.

New graduates will find our first Core Value of Integrity is so ingrained in who we are in the Air Force that there is no need for a written code ... it is in our hearts, and in our actions.



Character Matters airs Wednesdays at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. on KAFA radio, 97.7 FM.

How can we keep Halloween safe?

"Halloween is a long-standing celebration that I fully support. Safety training begins in the home. Parents should educate their children to bring any goodies to them before opening and consuming."



Clifton Ford
10th Air Base Wing
equal opportunity
assistant

"If you choose to wear dark clothing make sure to wear a light colored belt or some sort of light clothing so you can be seen. Go trick or treating early and in neighborhoods you are familiar with. Be safe and have fun!"



Melissa Kelley
10th Services
program technician

"For children, costumes should be visible. Children should carry flashlights and have no masks that obstruct visibility. Parents should inspect candy. For dogs and black cats, keep them inside."

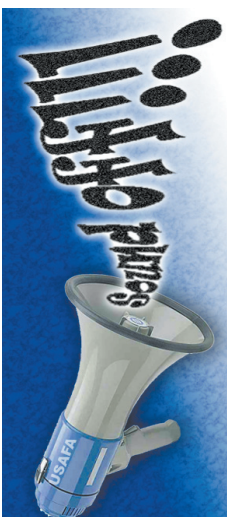


Linda Brennen
Veterinary technician

"Go to the mall as a family and attend group activities in school or church."



Bob Schooner
Lt. Col,
U.S. Army retired



Strength through diversity – Strategic Goal #4

By Capt. Uriah Orland
Academy Public Affairs

“We have become not a melting pot, but a beautiful mosaic – different people, different beliefs, different yearnings, different hopes, different dreams,” said former U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

In today’s expeditionary world, this diversity expands understanding, enables the Air Force to adapt and overcome an ever-changing enemy, and is the source of one of America’s greatest strengths.

Strategic Goal #4 is centered on enhancing the diversity of the faculty, staff and cadet wing with the intent of broadening the cadet learning environment and preparing Academy graduates to lead in a global expeditionary Air Force.

“When cadets graduate, they will enter an Air Force that is diverse and expected to become more diverse,” said Dean of the Faculty Brig. Gen. Dana Born. “They will have to work with and lead people from a variety of backgrounds, and they need to learn to do that while they are here. They need to learn to leverage the strengths of individuals different from themselves.”

Too often, diversity is simplified to gender, race and ethnicity. However, the Air Force broadly defines diversity as “a composite of individual characteristics, experiences and abilities consistent with the Air Force Core Values and the Air Force Mission. It includes, but is not limited to, personal life experiences, geographic background, socio-economic background, cultural knowledge, educational background, work background, language abilities, physical abilities, philosophical and spiritual perspectives, age, race, ethnicity and gender.”



Photo by Capt. Uriah Orland

In the Air Force Diversity Statement published in March, then-Secretary of the Air Force Michael Wynne wrote, “At its core, such diversity provides our force an aggregation of strengths, perspectives, and capabilities that transcends individual contributions. Air Force people who work in a diverse environment learn to maximize individual strengths and to combine individual abilities and perspectives for the good of the mission. Personal experience within such a diverse force is an important component of Air Force leadership development.”

The value gained through diversity is recognized across all mission elements. The collective experience, academic research and experiences of other universities confirm that education of the highest quality at the university level can be best achieved in an academic

environment that challenges young people by exposing them to a broad range of ideas and experiences.

The academic environment here is expanded to include the entire cadet experience and provides cadets the chance to live with people of dissimilar backgrounds and, in doing so, allows them to examine their personal assumptions and philosophies in contrast to others.

“The opportunities to learn are best realized when the cadet wing is widely diverse,” said Maj. Tina Erzen, regional diversity director. “Cadets from diverse backgrounds bring different strengths, views and ideas to the team. When they learn how to bring these contributions together, they achieve greater mission effectiveness. This, in turn, produces officers who are better prepared to lead in today’s and

tomorrow’s global environment.”

To create this environment, the Academy actively identifies and recruits potential students who, through the collective impact of their individual diversity, will provide such an environment, because it is as important for leadership training as it is for helping stimulate academic excellence. Additionally, the combined effect supports attainment of multiple Academy Outcomes through direct development of requisite responsibilities, skills and knowledge.

“Part of our mission is to expose a diverse high school population to the opportunities available here,” said Academy Director of Admissions Col. Chevy Cleaves. “We have a Diversity Division that leverages the Academy diversity definition to interest those communities across the country and informs students how they can compete for an appointment.”

In addition to serving in and later leading a diverse Air Force, cadets must be prepared to serve well in an increasingly complex global environment.

“Cadets will encounter cultures that differ significantly from ours here in America, and in many cases, these diverse cultures and perspectives will reflect the variety that is representative of our worldwide coalition of partners,” said Colonel Cleaves.

Learning to understand both friendly and enemy forces is vitally important to all members of the Air Force. “To most effectively defend the nation, we must each be committed to an environment of mutual respect that allows every member of the Air Force team to achieve his or her greatest potential,” reads the Air Force Diversity Statement.

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Program fosters academic, research diversity

The Dean of Faculty organization of the U.S. Air Force Academy consists of 757 faculty and staff members, including twenty-six professors from institutions of higher education, senior government personnel, nationally and internationally known scholars, and renowned scientists who come to teach here as part of the Academy's Visiting Faculty program. Eight of the visiting faculty are funded by the Endowed Chair program, which is based on major philanthropic gifts intended to bring in distinguished educators from industry and the private sector.

The Visiting Faculty Program began in 1975 with only two visiting professors. This year the program includes visiting faculty in fifteen of the twenty academic departments. Most spend one year at the Academy prior to returning to their home institution or organization.

Dr. John Sherfese, Director of Civilian Faculty Programs, explained the importance of the Visiting Faculty program by saying, "These eminent civilian educators bring a vital expertise to the Air Force and take back to their permanent positions a broadened awareness of the Air Force Academy environment." He further elaborated, "They transfer to our faculty members their knowledge of teaching techniques and advising philosophies. They enrich our faculty development initiatives through

our faculty's exposure to their individual academic skills, by assisting with our scholarship and publishing efforts, by providing us with valuable contacts at civilian colleges and universities, and by broadening the understanding and appreciation of the Academy's position as an institution of higher learning in the eyes of the outside academic community. These visiting faculty members also provide cadets the opportunity to experience different teaching methodologies and to be exposed to a more diversified perspective of the issues inherent in the various academic disciplines."

Furthermore, the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, the Academy's institutional accrediting agency, considers the Visiting Faculty Program a critical part of the Academy's overall academic program. The accrediting team continually emphasizes the academic value derived from the reciprocal sharing of information between the visiting faculty members and Academy faculty.

Why do visiting faculty members accept the invitation to be a visiting faculty member and what are their first impressions of the Academy?

"The Academy's strong academic reputation, focus on student learning, and extremely high national rankings across several criteria," said Northwest Missouri



Courtesy Photo

Brig. Gen. Dana Born and her husband, Tim, hosted the Visiting Faculty Appreciation Reception Sept. 23, attended by the visiting faculty and spouses, as well as Superintendent Lt. Gen. John Regni. Entertainment was provided by *In the Stairwell* a cadet vocal group led by Cadet 2nd Class Ryan Gipson.

State University professor Dr. C. Taylor Barnes. "I wanted to contribute to this phenomenon and hopefully return to my home institution and implement some of the learning processes we're employing here."

Dr. Samuel Sambasivam a professor from Azusa Pacific University, teaching in the Computer Science department, shared that he came to the Academy because he, "wanted to be a part of preparing our future Air Force leaders

and officers of character to serve and protect our great country."

"I had previously experienced teaching at the Academy and knew how rewarding it was," said Dr. Gary Yale, who is currently serving in the Philip J. Erdle Chair in Engineering Sciences. Dr. Yale, an Academy graduate had previously spent 10 years teaching in the Academy's Astronautics department prior to becoming a consultant for NASA.

Continued next page



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Faculty

From previous page

He explained, "I was able to interact with some very remarkable cadets and some truly fantastic faculty."

"I was impressed with how the department encouraged its faculty to participate in the extra-curricular activities of the students," said professor Dr. Michael Mosher, a chemistry professor for University of Nebraska Kearney. He further commented, "The faculty here have the ability and capability of tailoring their instruction to each specific learning style and the cadets seem to respond quite well to the personalized instruction."

What aspect of their Academy tour has surprised the visiting faculty the most?

"The degree of responsibility that cadets have with regards to what they do. Whether it is as a soaring instructor, in jump school, or in managing the Operation Warrior course, cadets quite literally have the lives of other cadets in their hands, and take direct responsibility," explained history professor Dr. Robert Wettemann from McMurry University. He further elaborated, "You will not usually find an enterprise of that magnitude and risk going at a typical civilian university."

"I've been extremely impressed with the high level of collaboration and collegiality between faculty, staff and other mission elements," said Dr. Barnes who was also surprised by the faculty. "Faculty cooperation and willingness to help, both within and across departments is striking."

Throughout the program's 33-year existence, the Visiting Faculty Program has proven to be invaluable to the Academy. All those have the opportunity to interact with the visiting professors quickly realize they bring a wealth of expertise, experience, and sage advice to the Academy.

Visiting Faculty for Academic Year 2008-2009

Visiting Faculty

- Prof. Frank M. Anechiarico, Law Dept.
- Dr. John L. Barkdull, Political Science Dept.
- Dr. C. Taylor Barnes, Economics & Geosciences Dept.
- Ms. Elizabeth A. Coffey, Political Science Dept.
- Dr. Norman D. Dennis, Jr, Civil and Environmental Engineering Dept.
- Dr. Heidi Fearn, Physics Dept.
- Mr. Steven P. Fulton, Computer Science Dept.
- Dr. Jean W. LeLoup, Foreign Languages Dept.
- Dr. Michael D. Mosher, Chemistry Dept.
- Dr. Mark R. Parker, Management Dept.
- Dr. Timothy A. Philpot, Engineering Mechanics Dept.
- Dr. John H. Pletcher Jr., Aeronautics Dept.
- Dr. Kristina G. Proctor, Chemistry Dept.
- Mr. D. Michael Reinert, Political Science Dept.
- Dr. Samuel E. Sambasivam, Computer Science Dept.
- Dr. Lauren F.V. Scharff, Behavioral Sciences & Leadership Dept.
- Dr. Robert P. Wettemann, Jr., History Dept.
- Dr. Daniel S. Zupan, Philosophy Dept.

Home Institution

- Hamilton College (NY)
- Texas Tech University
- Northwest Missouri State University
- Central Intelligence Agency
- University of Arkansas
- California State University, Fullerton
- National Security Agency
- State University of New York, College at Cortland
- University of Nebraska at Kearney
- Carroll College (MT)
- Missouri University of Science & Technology
- Air Force Research Laboratory Munitions Directorate (FL)
- Colorado State University, Pueblo
- U.S. Department of State
- Azusa Pacific University (CA)
- Stephen F. Austin State University (TX)
- McMurry University (TX)
- Valley Forge Military Academy and College (PA)

Endowed Chairs

- Dr. Elias A. Bensalem, Foreign Languages Dept.
- Mr. Jesse D. Carter, Philosophy Dept.
- Dr. Joseph J. F. Liu, Physics Dept.
- Gen. (ret.) James P. McCarthy, Political Science Dept.
- Mr. William W. Saylor, Aeronautics Dept.

For

- The ARDI Chair in Arabic Studies
- The William Lyon Chair in Professional Ethics
- The Holland H. Coors Chair
- The ARDI Professor of National Security
- The General Bernard A. Schriever Chair in Space Systems Engineering
- The William A. Anders Chair in Economics of the Defense Industrial Base
- The William T. Coleman III & Dr. William E. Richardson Chair in Computer Sciences
- The Philip J. Erdle Chair in Engineering Sciences

Mr. H. Wayne Sidebottom, Economics & Geosciences Dept.

Dr. Richard F. Sincovec, Computer Science Dept.

Dr. Gary E. Yale, Aeronautics Dept.

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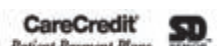


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Academy fire safety remains hot topic

The Academy Fire and Emergency Services Flight joins the National Fire Protection Association and fire departments across North America in observing Fire Prevention Week. Fire Prevention Week runs Sunday through Oct. 11 to mark the anniversary of the 1871 Great Chicago Fire, and to raise public awareness of fire safety.

This year's theme is "Prevent home fires".

Important facts everyone should know:

- Only 23 percent of households have developed and practiced a home fire-escape plan to ensure fami-

lies could escape quickly and safely.

- In 2004, there were almost 400,000 reported home structure fires and 3,190 associated deaths in the United States.

- One-third of American households believed they had at least six minutes before a home fire becomes life-threatening (the time available is often less than four minutes).

- Only eight percent said their first thought on hearing a smoke alarm is to get out.

- Academy residents can learn more about general

fire prevention tips by visiting the NFPA's official Web site: www.nfpa.org.

For all those junior firefighters out there, visit www.sparky.org.

The Academy's Base Exchange is reducing the cost of fire safety related products, including smoke detectors, during Fire Prevention Week to ensure family safety.

Purchasing fire extinguishers and carbon monoxide detectors is highly encouraged.

For additional information, call 333-2374.

'Strategic thinker' updates cadets, staff

By Col. John Norton

Center for Character Development

The Air Force is rapidly transforming how it applies airpower to joint warfighting, as information effects become as essential as kinetic effects across the spectrum of conflict.

"We are moving from industrial age warfare to information age warfare, where 'finding' the enemy is often more of a challenge than 'finishing' them," said Lt. Gen. David Deptula, deputy chief of staff for Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance during addresses to the Academy's faculty staff and first-class cadets Tuesday.

General Deptula spoke about overall air, space, and cyberpower trends, as well as specific transformation in the ISR community. In response to the crucial role of ISR in Operations *Enduring Freedom* and *Iraqi*

Freedom, overall coordination of all three missions has been consolidated and reorganized under his office, also known as AF/A2.

He addressed the role of unmanned aerial systems such as Predator, Reaper, and Global Hawk in current and future operations. Ground forces are ever more dependent on the situational awareness such systems provide, and now strike capabilities are integrated into many of the same systems that find elusive targets such as terrorists.

General Deptula gained fame in 1990-1991 as the primary air campaign planner for Operations *Desert Shield* and *Desert Storm*. Since then, he commanded Operation *Northern Watch* and held key positions at Air Combat Command and Pacific Air Forces, including his last job as vice commander of PACAF, and he is considered to be one of the Air Force's top strategic thinkers.

The character of joint operations is changing, according to the general. Interdependence, rather than self-sufficiency, will be the future way of life as services can no longer afford to duplicate one another's capabilities. With future budgets even more constrained than today, "working smarter, not harder" will be essential, said the general. This is especially true in the world of ISR, where the cost of scarce systems such as space surveillance satellites is in the billions.

The general's address to the faculty and staff was important to keep them informed about the Air Force most of them will return to, and to better equip them to mentor cadets about their future career options. For the cadets, the briefing was a valuable peek into a future which will be much more joint and will emphasize persistence and awareness as the key to targeting elusive enemies.



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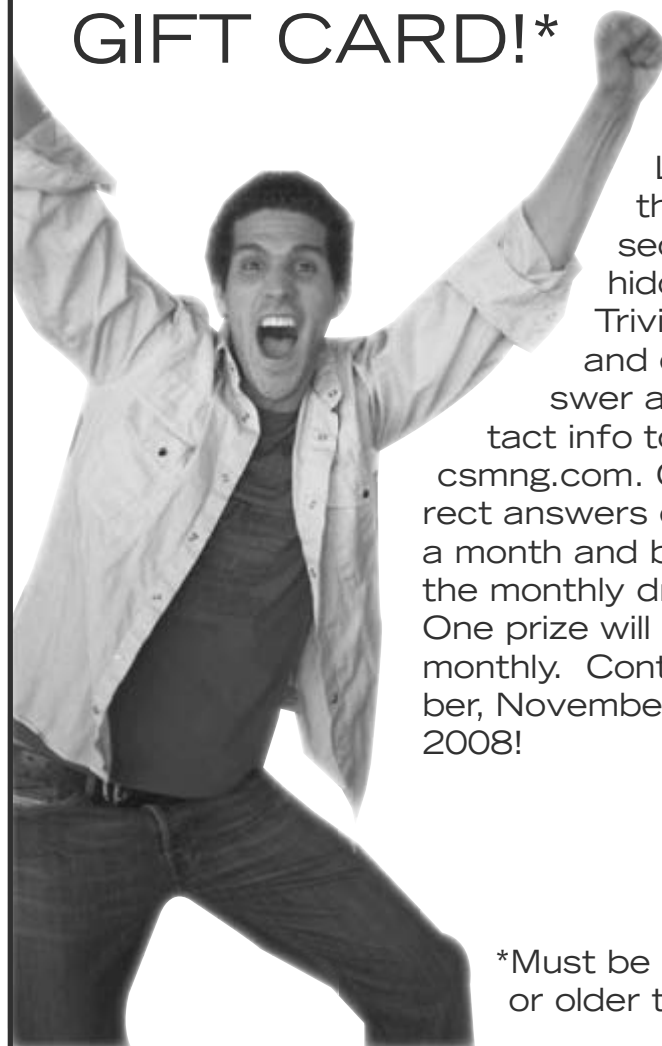
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October: Energy Awareness Month promotes Savings

By Paul Degner
Base Energy Manager

The leaves are changing, daylight hours are decreasing, and morning air is getting brisk.

You may have even heard the home furnace fire up a morning or two already. It's time to start thinking about energy conservation before those winter utility bills hit.

According to the Energy Information Administration (division of the Department of Energy), residential heating oil prices during the upcoming heating season (October through March) are projected to average \$4.13 per gallon, an increase of about 25 percent over last heating season. Residential natural gas prices over the same period are projected to average \$14.93 per Mcf (1,000 cubic feet of gas) compared with \$12.72 per Mcf during the last heating season, an increase of about 17 percent.

October is National Energy Awareness Month and a good time to consider energy conservation habits that could put dollars back in your pocket.

As daylight decreases and the mercury starts to drop, here are a few suggestions around the home and office to save energy and consumption costs:

- Get in the habit of turning off



lights when leaving a room.

- Set the thermostat to 68 degrees. A thermostat setting of 70 during the heating season will use nine percent more energy on average.

- Consider turning the thermostat down further at night (as well as during the day if you're not home.)

- Turn off equipment (televisions,

computers, printers) around the home and office when not in use.

- Use the power-down or sleep-mode feature for computers and monitors at home.

- Replace existing incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs. They cost a little more up front, but the bulbs last up to 10 times longer than an

incandescent bulb, and burn less than a quarter of the energy.

For homeowners wishing to make energy efficiency improvements, consider participating in the Insulate Colorado Program.

During 2008, Colorado Springs Utilities is partnering with the Governor's Energy Office to offer rebates of up to \$500 directly to qualifying homeowners who insulate and air-seal their attics and walls. Visit www.CSU.org for details.

Drive a hybrid or fuel-efficient car. Not looking for a new car – get your current vehicle tuned up before the cold winter months, it saves fuel and is safer on the road.

Even though summer has passed, it's never too late to install reduced flow shower heads, sink faucets, and toilets to save water, especially hot water.

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Look for weekly energy articles this month, and remember to save energy at every opportunity – the planet and your finances will both be better off.

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Policy changes benefit Airmen deploying for 365 days

By Master Sgt. Kat Bailey
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) Effective Oct. 1, Air Force officials here implemented policy changes to improve sourcing efficiency of 365-day deployments and ensure Airmen receive adequate notification prior to deployment.

The new policy sets the deployment "accept or decline" option at three calendar days, streamlines the verification process and incorporates the air and space expeditionary force reclama process (request to cancel the selected Airman) for 365-day taskings.

It also requires a medical pre-assessment for Airmen attending combat skills training. Officials expect the changes to reduce or eliminate late reporting dates and provide Airmen more lead time than the 60 days or less notification some currently experience.

"These changes are designed to streamline the process and provide Airmen adequate time to prepare themselves and their families before departing on 365-day deployments," said Maj. Gen. K.C. McClain, the Air Force Personnel Center commander.

More than 1,850 Airmen are on 365-day deployments, and about one-third received less than 60 days notification. Several factors slowed the

selection process such as short notice of the requirement, an increase in declinations, and medical profiles.

Reducing the "accept or decline" option to three calendar days provides more time to notify the next Airman in line. If the third calendar day is a weekend or holiday, the official notification period is extended to the first duty day thereafter.

The verification process is streamlined by identifying the most eligible Airman Air Force-wide rather than identifying a capability within a command. This will reclaim up to six days in the overall selection process while maintaining major command visibility.

The adoption of the AEF reclama process standardizes all deployment cancellation requests by routing them through major command vice commanders. This standardizes and automates the process, increasing major command and wing leadership visibility and placing the decision point with commanders in the field.

Finally, required medical pre-assessment to ensure the rigorous physical requirements of combat skills training can be met. The medical pre-assessment speeds the reselection process if an Airman is found medically unfit to attend CST.

"These changes are the result of a

team effort by personnel, operations and medical working together to take care of deploying Airmen," General McClain said.

For more information, visit the AFPC "Ask" Web site; select "365

Extended Deployments" under the Military Quick Links (a Common Access Card is required). You can also get more information through the 24-hour Air Force Contact Center at 800-616-3775.



Photos by Ken Carter

Intense gestures ...

Master Sgt. Donald Comp, an Academy Military Trainer school instructor, and the Academy's Orators, Toastmaster International president, delivers his, "My First and Last Hunting Experience" speech Sept. 26 during the noon meeting in Arnold Hall. The group will meet again at noon Oct. 10 and encourages anyone interested to check it out.

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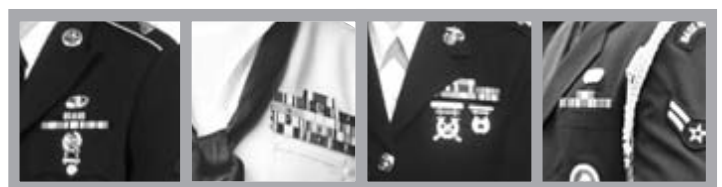
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New department head comes with familiar face

By Ken Carter
Editor

The Academy's Management Department recently welcomed a new permanent professor and department head.

For Andy Armacost, the opportunity to serve in this capacity came with a promotion to colonel June 27 and was followed by his investiture ceremony at Doolittle Hall Aug. 22. His previous assignment was as chief analyst and as a division chief at Air Force Space Command, Peterson Air Force Base. Prior to that, the scientific analyst with almost 19 years of Air Force active-duty time under his belt, was on the Academy faculty.

As department head, Colonel Armacost is now guiding a department of 37 military and civilian faculty members and is responsible for all curriculum, personnel, budget, research and long-range planning. Further, he is a member of the Academy's senior leadership, and works on a variety of strategic planning issues.

His goals for the management department overall are to continue to focus on developing the best future Air Force leaders.

"My immediate goals include building upon the



Col. Andy Armacost

“*The foundation of my success stems from my relationship with family and friends*”

strong sense of teamwork and family that exist in the department and continuing to be a strong advocate and mentor for our cadets,” he said. “I hope to build strong, collaborative relationships with the other departments at the Academy. In addition, one important long-term focus is to ensure a strong connection between our curriculum and the needs of our Air Force.”

In his new position, Colonel Armacost shoulders the responsibility to ensure that what cadets get out of Academy academic programs truly benefits them. “The academic majors run by my department include a significant percentage of the cadet wing, and so the courses we offer will affect many,” he said.

Preparation of Academy graduates includes continuing to examine curriculum to ensure academic programs best prepare cadets for the complexities of management and command in the 21st century. “The single biggest challenge we face is to prepare cadets for the complex interactions between the many systems in which they will operate,” the colonel said.

Colonel Armacost has adopted the approach that doing something well produces a significantly better

outcome than doing it fast.

“My predecessor, Brig. Gen. Rita Jordan, is an outstanding leader who left the department in great shape,” he said. “I will continue to build upon her successes and will look for opportunities to continue improving the department. There have been some changes already, but the big ones will take time. We are preparing to launch an exciting new core course for firsties called ‘Management and Command.’ In addition, we are expanding our reach to our graduates, faculty alumni, and stakeholders through a new system based on the idea of ‘six degrees of Kevin Bacon’ and social networks. By year’s end, we will also have laid the foundation for a comprehensive curriculum review. Finally, we are making preparations for re-accreditation of our program by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business,” he said.

The colonel uses words like, “great honor,” “an awesome responsibility,” “an awesome faculty,” and, “I’m thrilled to be able to return in this new role,” to reflect on his career success.

“The foundation of my success stems from my relationship with family and friends,” he said. This support was clearly evident when more than 200 people attended his Investiture Ceremony, including family members who had travelled from all over the country.

“Even my 92-year-old grandfather travelled all the way from Orlando to support me,” the colonel said.

During the investiture ceremony, Colonel Armacost presented roses to his mother, Sue, his sister, Katie, his daughters, Ava and Audrey, and his wife, Kathy.

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AFSC SPOTLIGHT

Personnel specialist buckles down

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

The night before she was to join the Navy, a persuasive Air Force recruiter called Staff Sgt. Carly Evans and talked her into joining the Air Force.

"I wasn't sure what I wanted to do in the Air Force," said the Academy commander's support staff NCO-in-charge. "My recruiter said I would be good in the personnel career field. Since then I haven't been fired from a job yet."

She is assigned to service the commandant of cadets, dean of the faculty, athletic department and the direct reporting unit staff, totaling more than 800 military members.

"My specific duties include the leave web monitor, updating duty information, and a retirement counselor for the organizations," Sergeant Evans said.

Her work is critical to a service member's career as it involves updating evaluation or duty information in time for a promotion board or correcting his or her duty information.

"If a member's short tour return date shows incorrectly, for example, we need to get that updated as soon as possible so the member doesn't get selected for a 365-day TDY," said the



Staff Sgt. Carly Evans is the Academy commander's support staff NCO-in-charge with her 2-year-old son.

six-year Air Force veteran.

An average month finds her processing approximately 150 leave requests, 100 duty information requests and 75 evaluations.

She doesn't do the work alone though. Her best friend, who she met

in basic training, is also stationed here.

"We went on to tech. school together and then eventually met up here at the Academy," she said. "What a small Air Force!"

According to Sergeant Evans, there

are many high moments to her work.

"Like knowing a member appreciates the work you did for them or knowing that I possibly was able to help an individual get promoted," she said.

However, she said if she could change one thing about the Air Force, it would be the enlisted promotion system.

"If a member is separating or retiring and he or she has a line number for promotion, the line number should go to the next member in line," she said. "In the current system, the stripe goes to waste."


As Sergeant Evans works hard to help others get promoted, she hopes to earn a promotion herself.

"I will be busy over the next four months," Sergeant Evans said. "I'm taking a speech class now and then I will start studying for technical sergeant and hopefully make it this year. I just got an assignment, so we will be leaving at the beginning of the year."

Her family is also a top priority. Her husband and 2-year-old son are with her at the Academy.

"I spend time with my family, non-stop play with my son, watch movies, work out, shop, and nap when I get a chance," she said. "I love to bake and have an obsession with buying baking magazines."

United States Air Force Academy




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Please Recycle

Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates, shares

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

Academy Spanish instructor Capt. Victor Lopez regards Hispanic Heritage Month as an opportunity to reflect on a rich culture and heritage and sharing traditions, food and history with non-Hispanics.

"The food, different traditions, customs, dance, music, double the pleasure!" said Captain Lopez. "Such opportunities allow for a cross functional and broader understanding of the human race."

He should know. His childhood in El Paso, Texas, was a mix of mainstream America and Hispanic cultures.

"I got the best of both worlds, celebrating the 4th of July with family and friends while eating a hotdog and apple pie — and also a piñata on my birthdays," he said.

He has served with a diverse group of people as a communications officer, space situational awareness officer, command and control team member, Air Force Space Command communications control center director of operations, a logistics technology officer, flight

commander and executive officer.

"The majority of Hispanics, like any other race, strive to be sound, productive members of the United States, the Air Force and society," said Captain Lopez. "At the end of the day, it's not about what nationality one is part of; it's about the human race as a whole and being of good moral character."

The captain said he loves the Academy, Colorado Springs and Colorado in general.

"Colorado (along with the southwest region of the country and other states) are rich 'con el sabor Latino,'" the instructor said.

The military has given him opportunities to excel based on merit.

"Developing leaders of character while teaching Spanish is truly an honor," Captain Lopez said. "Sharing my native tongue and my 'Mexico-Americano' heritage with our future leaders will certainly broaden cultural awareness and competence."

Activities began Tuesday with a class on making tamales. There is a 10 a.m. story-time session at the community center library today. A piñata will be on hand



Courtesy Photo

Then 1st Lt. Victor Lopez

in Pine Valley, 10 a.m., Wednesday, and a dinner and dance in the Milazzo Center Ballroom from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., Thursday. Hispanic history exhibits are also available in base libraries.

Academy gas, electrical systems set for overhaul

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Over the next two years major elements of the Academy's aging utility infrastructure will undergo renovation.

The Academy and Colorado Springs Utilities have teamed up to upgrade the Academy's gas and electrical delivery services. The contract for the privatization was sealed Sept. 23, thus shifting the designing, building, owning and operating of the systems to CSU. The agreement will cover the entire natural gas system and a significant portion of the electrical system on base.

"Colorado Springs Utilities will provide us excellent technology, skilled workers and the newest modern materials," said Mark Malone, privatization action officer and civil engineer with the 10th Civil Engineer Squadron.

"This is their job, and it's what they do full time."

The contract is the culmination of about 10 years of effort. It is also a significant move toward meeting the Air Force's goal of privatizing base utilities when feasible.

"If it makes economic sense and doesn't affect mission readiness, then it's our goal to privatize," Mr. Malone said of the Air Force.

The Air Force has also taken steps to emphasize its



Photo by Ann Patton

Mark Malone, 10th Civil Engineer Squadron, traces utility service lines set for upgrades.

privatization efforts, particularly recently with its decision to place management and funding of projects with the central Air Staff.

Following that trend, the Academy received \$1.5 million initially for assessment of the base's utilities. Mr. Malone said the assessment justified actions which resulted in forging and approving the agreement with CSU.

The Academy also received \$3.5 million from Air Staff to buy the new natural gas service. The remainder of the purchase price of \$5 million, or \$1.5 million, comes from Academy funding.

Mr. Malone said the gas and electric infrastructure, built in the late 1950s into the early 1960s, has seen its better days.

"The design life for the technology and materials has expired," he said.

Upgrades are expected to beef up the systems' reliability with modern equipment and controls, operation and maintenance by a professional utility and the addition of system redundancies.

New gas lines of tough medium density polyethylene polymers will be inserted into existing steel pipes. The new lines will have a heavy wall thickness, allowing for a safe increase in the maximum allowable operating gas pressure from 50 pounds per square inch to a more

efficient 76.

One additional gas entry point will also be opened near the RV lot, which, with the one other existing entry point east of I-25, will add redundancy safeguards in the event one source is out of service.

On tap for improved electrical service is the removal of the aging south sub-station. In its place, CSU will design, build and maintain a new station.

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Cadets inspire at Sally Ride Festival

Courtesy, Department of Astronautics

Lt. Col. Lynnane George, Lt. Col. Anne Clark and Cadet 3rd Class Stephanie Martin led a group of five cadets to participate in the Sally Ride Festival at UCCS Sept. 13.

The cadets manned an Academy recruiting booth in the morning and talked about the opportunities they have had.

The cadets also met Dr. Sally Ride in person and listened to her keynote presentation.

Dr. Ride was the first American woman to fly in space in 1983 when she made a six-day flight aboard the Space Shuttle Challenger. She made her second

trip into space in 1984.

The doctor is now a professor of physics at the University of California, San Diego. She is also the founder of Sally Ride Science, a company that creates innovative programs and publications for young people interested in science.

During her keynote presentation she shared many insights about being a NASA astronaut and inspired her captivated audience to pursue careers in the fields of science and engineering.

Other cadets who helped with the workshops included Cadets 1st Class Nicole Ramstein and Ariella Walker and Cadets 3rd Class Kathryn Blythe, Elizabeth Norvell and Jonathan Vance.

"It was a great experience to see Sally Ride in person and find out everything she went through in order to achieve her dream career of being an astronaut," Cadet Norvell said. "Her stories encouraged young girls to pursue whatever their hearts' desired. In the classroom, I had fun working with the kids and teens, building bridges and watching their proud, delighted faces as their bridge was put to the test."



Courtesy Photos

Cadets 3rd Class Stephanie Martin and Jonathan Vance assisted students with numerous projects during their visit.



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Academy workhorses return to Peterson, Kirtland aero clubs

Story and photos by Ken Carter
Editor

Last week four rented T-41Cs (two from Peterson Air Force Base Aero Club and two from Kirtland's) launched from the Academy's airfield for the last time.

The four aircraft began military service in January 1968 at Peterson AFB as part of a screening program for cadets aspiring to become Air Force pilots. The program was designed to motivate cadets towards aviation careers, as well as screen for pilot aptitude which would decrease attrition rates at Undergraduate Pilot Training, according to Academy aviators.

Maj. Michael Dodson from the 557th Flying Training Squadron and assistant director of operations said the timeline for the service these aircraft have provided since 1968 (original cost: \$13,465; replacement cost for comparable aircraft: \$350,000) is as follows:

■ In 1974, after the Academy airfield had adequate facilities to continue the program, the T-41Cs were based here.

■ From 1974 to 1995, they continued the mission of screening cadets for UPT. With the advent of Enhanced Flight Screening, a new airplane was needed since the new syllabus called for aerobatics and advanced maneuvering which the T-41C was unable to accomplish.

■ In 1995, the T-41Cs were given to various Air Force aero clubs around the country; these particular aircraft went to Peterson and Kirtland AFBs.

■ In 2007, the Academy flight screening program disbanded and all flight screening operations in the Air Force were consolidated at Pueblo, Colo., leaving a powered flight program void at the Academy.

■ In November 2007, the Air Force chief of staff expressed his desire and approval for a powered flight program open to all cadets.

■ While Air Education and Training Command focused on finding a suitable aircraft to fly up to 600 cadets per year, additional aircraft were needed for the Powered Flight Program class starting in March 2008. The T-41C was the best candidate due to its 200hp engine and impeccable safety record at the Academy from years past. The 557 FTS determined four aircraft would be adequate for the first 100 cadets in the program and negotiations with AETC and Air Force Services (owners of the T-41C) ensued.

■ Starting March 2008, the first of the four T-41Cs arrived at the Academy.

■ From March through September this year, the four T-41Cs flew 1,075 hours and 675 sorties in support of PFP.

■ In November, AETC will contract for aircraft and maintenance; for "interim" aircraft.

By fiscal year 2013 the numbers being trained are anticipated to increase more than seven-fold. "Some 750 cadet pilots will train here once the Air Force ultimately procures the final aircraft for all Academy powered flight training," Major Dodson said.

Inquiries of cadets who've flown in the Academy's PFP rate it very high, according to Major Dodson.

"It is the only powered flight program at the Academy in which any cadet can have the opportunity to fly an airplane and possibly solo that aircraft in



The T-41C has served the U.S. Air Force as a trainer since 1968.

as few as nine sorties," he said. "Based on cadet end-of-course critiques, the vast majority have rated PFP as the best program offered here."

The objective of PFP (regardless of aircraft utilized) is to motivate cadets, the major said. "It

motivates them toward careers in aviation, introduces them to an operational Air Force flying squadron and to powered flight, and provides them with opportunities to solo a light, general aviation aircraft.

Above and beyond the specific objectives of the Academy's Powered Flight Program, it also supports the following officer development outcomes:

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Decision Making
Stamina
Courage
Discipline
Teamwork

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Principles of Engineering and the Application of Technology



Maj. Michael Dodson conducts a pre-flight inspection prior to heading for Kirtland Air Force Base.

COLORADO FOR KABUL KIDS BRIGHTENS SCHOOL DAYS FOR AFGHAN KIDS

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

What a difference a few pencils, some writing paper and a pair of scissors can make.

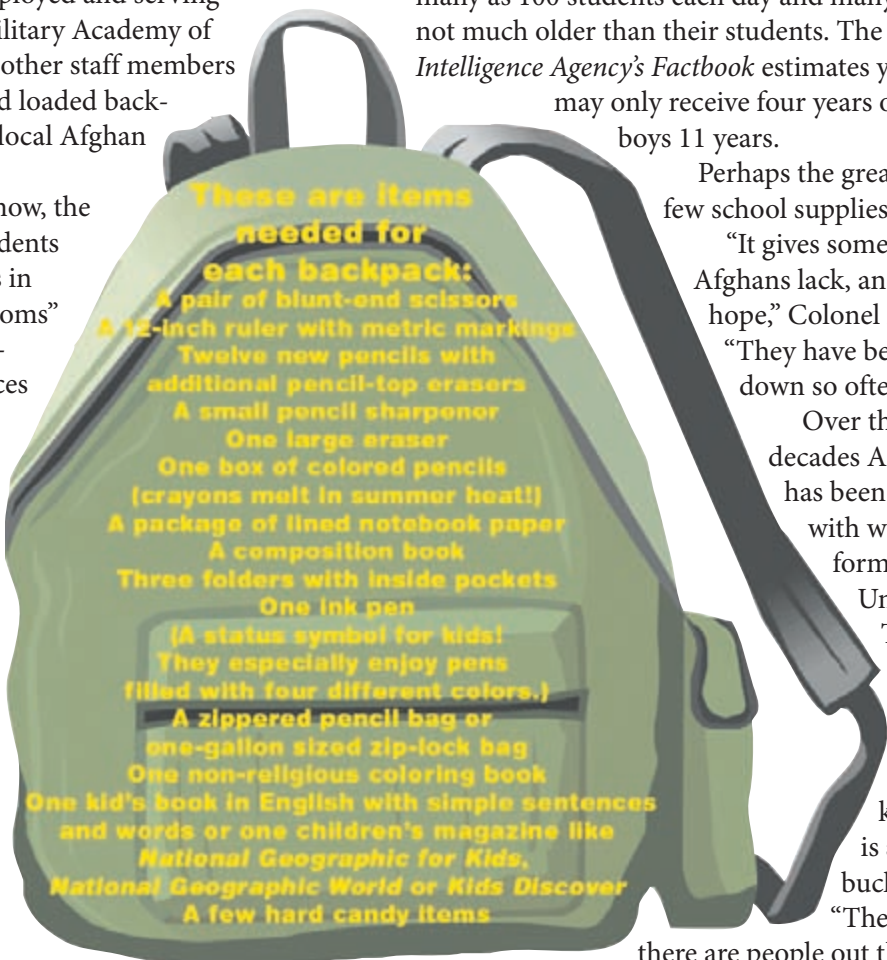
Lt. Col. Brent Morris knows all too well.

While he was deployed and serving with the National Military Academy of Afghanistan, he and other staff members gathered supplies and loaded backpacks destined for a local Afghan school.

Little did they know, the school had 4,000 students who attended classes in three shifts. "Classrooms" consist of tents abandoned by NATO forces or run-down mud huts. Some have desks, others do not. Some have chalkboards, others do not.

Pressed by the need to find a way to better help the youngsters, the Academy's now director of faculty development contacted his family and friends in Colorado. Together they started the non-profit Colorado for Kabul Kids Empty Backpack Campaign.

When the 150-plus empty backpacks in the Morris family dining room are loaded with supplies and on their way to Afghanistan this month, CKK will have brightened the lives of about 700 Afghan school children.



A number of the first items collected came from a Connecticut Girl Scout troop and CKK.

"It gives the kids a chance to have a better quality of life and receive resources to increase other opportunities," he said of the project.

One teacher in Afghan schools may instruct as many as 100 students each day and many teachers are not much older than their students. The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency's Factbook estimates young girls may only receive four years of school and boys 11 years.

Perhaps the greater value of a few school supplies is intrinsic.

"It gives something the Afghans lack, and that is hope," Colonel Morris said.

"They have been beaten down so often."

Over the last three decades Afghanistan has been ravaged with war from the former Soviet Union and the Taliban, among other entities.

"To see kids smiling is a million bucks," he said. "They know

there are people out there who care so the real product is a little bit of hope."

U.S. service members personally deliver the backpacks to ensure security in delivery.

"It's a neat treat for soldiers to give them out," Colonel Morris said and added war-time activities consume much of their time.

Colorado for Kabul Kids would like some help



Courtesy Photos

A backpack to call their own is a huge gift for Afghan youngsters.

with donations of time, supplies and tax-deductible donations for supplies, shopping costs and advertising.

Weather determines the school year in Afghanistan, and classes are generally suspended from November to the end of March. Colonel Morris said filling backpacks will continue during that time, however.

For the long term, he would like to see more volunteers become involved.

"We need sustainability and those willing to take ownership," he said.

Colorado Springs school classes or youth groups might be one of several possibilities to help grow the project.

For the present, supplies can be dropped off at Colonel Morris' Fairchild Hall office, room 4K25A. Tax-deductible cash donations can be mailed to Colorado for Kabul Kids, P.O. Box 51474, Colorado Springs, CO 80949.

For more information on CKK, visit their Web site at: www.coloradoforkabulkids.org or call 333-2549.



Above: Afghan classes are often held in tents or mud huts.

Left: A soldier takes time away to brighten a child's life.



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Please Recycle

Captain makes major difference in Kabul

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

There wasn't time for Academy Dean of the Faculty Brig. Gen. Dana Born to tell the whole story behind the Bronze Star she presented to Capt. Seth Tribett Sept. 15.

The captain was the G-1 mentor and education director from May 2007 to 2008 for the entire Afghan National Army, the equivalent of the U.S. Army's venerable Training and Doctrine Command that embraced nine schools and a headquarters staff.

"I wrote ANA-wide regulations in conjunction with the ANA G-1 and director of education," said the Academy Spanish instructor and teacher of American Government 400. "I basically ran the meetings for the ANA and coalition generals, took notes, and wrote and processed directives."

As if being a young Air Force officer advising the G-1 staff of the Afghan National Army Training Command wasn't challenging enough, there was the situation on the ground.

"We arrived at a command that was less than one year old," said Captain Tribett. "There were schools in place, but the headquarters had done very little in support of them. We had former jihadists on staff wearing general officer rank without basic literacy skills."

Tribal issues and civil war era alliances also created a difficult working environment.

"We arrived as a team of five and started by changing the relationship with the ANA," the captain said. "We worked with them to learn on the job and only offered advice and support for good decisions

rather than overt leadership."

A Western military organization is not what coalition leadership was striving for, but instead an Afghan solution that works in Afghanistan.

"We stopped trying so hard to turn them into us and made a real attempt to learn how and why they performed as they did," said Captain Tribett.

He found working with the restoration of the school to be the most satisfying.

"You can't imagine the conditions there," he said. "Maybe 70 percent of the buildings were bombed out from the civil war. Young boys were sleeping on filthy half-inch-thick mattresses from the bazaar on old Soviet donated bunk beds covered with rust."

Windows were still blown out in most buildings. Single rooms housed up to 40 boys at a time who were lucky to have one or two bare light bulbs to see by. Bathrooms didn't work so boys used the shells of empty buildings.

All of this for boys who were in the top one-percent of each of their high schools and represented the cream of the crop from every Afghanistan province.

"The Afghan Army didn't really want to take care of the school and the Ministry of Education wasn't interested. They considered it the Army's problem," he said.

The captain organized a planning support meeting to outline the problems and invited representatives from all nations currently active in Afghanistan, both within and outside the formal coalition.

Fourteen nations responded and they received major offers for assistance from Turkey, France and Luxembourg. Turkey has now taken the lead and provides full-time military and educational advisors and is rebuilding the school from the ground up from

a donation of more \$8 million. A donation from Turkey of more than \$500,000 provided new uniforms and a generator for the students.

France provided medical support and fully stocked a new pharmacy, while also providing rewiring in the clinic and a new generator. Luxembourg provided \$750,000 for immediate academic needs.

Captain Tribett was able to secure another \$30,000 for emergency blankets, mattresses, refrigeration units and cooking supplies.

"By the time I left, more than 600 students had been relocated to a renovated building with electricity and running water," he said. "Since I have left, the Turks have started all the major construction projects and the National Military High School will be one of the finest schools in the nation."

This deployment was the Pittsburg native's second and longest at almost 15 months, including combat training with the Army.

"The hardest part was missing a lot of important days for my wife and three kids," he said.

Despite the challenges of being away from family, Captain Tribett acknowledges the time was time well spent.

"I could not have had a better job," he said. "I was able to be a part of an Air Force team where we were forced to depend on, and learn from one another. I had an amazing team chief, Academy graduate Lt. Col. Jack Mateer, who let us make mistakes, as well as experience some lasting success. It was the most exciting time of my life. I was able to spend every day with Afghans outside the wire and participate in more than 300 convoys without a major incident. I felt blessed to be there and would recommend a similar tour to anyone with the opportunity."



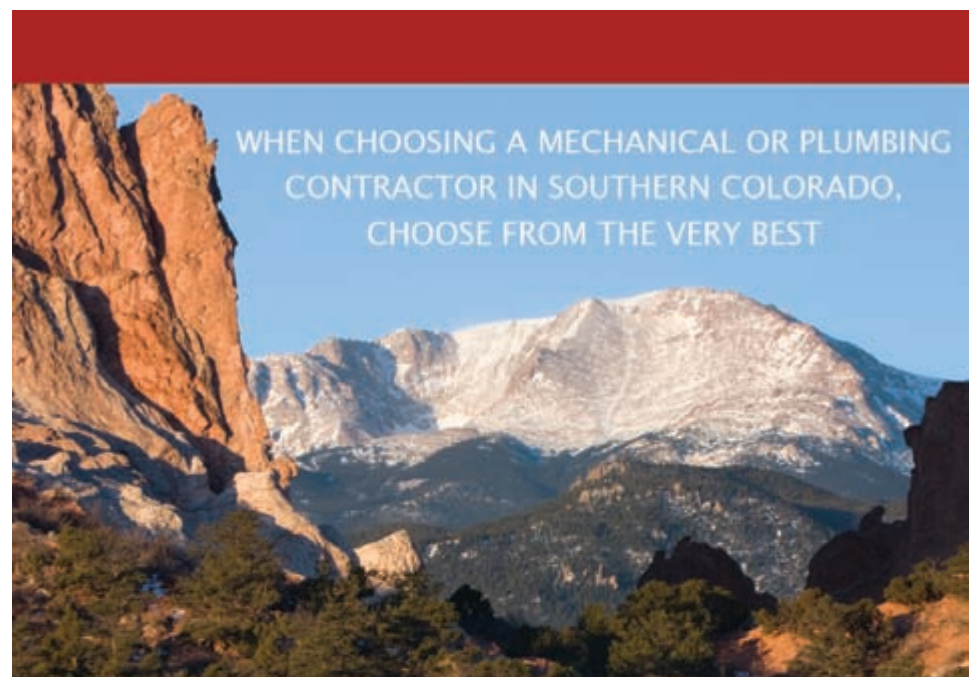
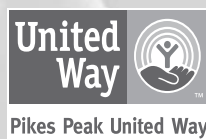
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Triathlon garners \$7,000 for Rando Fund

By Maj. James Thompson
Cycling team OIC

Some 212 athletes participated in the Inaugural Lindsay Brown Memorial Triathlon at the Academy Saturday. A total of 134 individuals, and 28 teams took on the 3,200 feet of elevation change in a 750m swim, a 14.69 mile bike ride, and a 5k run.

All saw Michael Hagen scream to the first-place finish in 1:09:35 and Deborah Janssen finish in 1:25:48, both setting course records. For the Academy, a record 59 cadets participated in the individual event, and 48 cadets played a part of a relay team in the event.

Gordon Haller, the first Ironman winner in Hawaii, launched every swimmer at the start, and met most at the finish line, including handing out all awards. R.K. Williams, vice commandant of cadets and Jake Schonig, the cadet wing commander, also presented a special LB Memorial award to the most diligent working sophomore cadet on the LB Tri staff. The Class of



Photos by Mike Kaplan

Ross and Terri Brown attended the event honoring their daughter.

2010 gave a special "Fallen Soldiers" portrait presentation to the parents of Lindsay Brown.

Most importantly, the event raised \$7,000 for the Dennis Rando Fund, a charity that provides plane tickets to cadets to attend funerals of family members, and for the cadet wing to attend funerals for any fallen cadets. In a tribute to Cadet Brown, who was involved in a tragic automobile accident last December, the Falcon Groundspeed Foundation and the Academy's Triathlon Team are proud and honored to have executed an extremely successful event. The comments from athletes, competitors, and volunteers have been truly humbling. Perhaps the most eloquent is as follows:

"Major Thompson,

Please accept my congratulations on an outstanding event and tribute to Lindsay Brown. I can't imagine how this inaugural Triathlon could have been more successful. Your entire team must know how much we, as participants, appreciate all the effort and energy it took to plan and execute this event. No small feat considering the "Red Tape" you had to navigate through to pull off this first-time ever USAFA event.

On a personal note, we knew Lindsay when she was 3 and have been friends with Ross and Terri ever since. During and following the Tri, we spent time with the Browns. They confessed they had some nervous energy leading up to Saturday's event because they needed this Tri to be successful. They were thrilled ... ecstatic actually because Lindsay would not have settled for anything less than perfection. You've energized all the tri-athletes, USAFA & community regarding this event and I believe it has the potential of becoming an annual event bigger than anyone ever could have envisioned a few months ago. I can't adequately express my sincere gratitude to you and all the volunteers.

V/R

Lt. Col. Charlie Schweitzer, USAF Ret."

No event is possible without the support of our many sponsors and this event was fortunate to have several. Criterium Bicycles, Home Depot, USAA, Chipotle, Runner's World, Acme T-Shirts, USAFA Triathlon, USA Triathlon, BodyGlide, Central Florida Parents Club, Deep Rock Water, Blue Ribbon Trophies, and REI all made significant, generous donations of both funds and materials in order to make the event a possibility. Clearly, without the phenomenal support of the 10th Mission Support Group, and the 90 cadet, military, and civilian volunteers, nothing on race day would have been possible.

The USAFA triathlon team will be hosting a Spring and Olympic triathlon event in April, as well as the 2nd Annual LB Triathlon next September. Interested athletes and volunteers should monitor www.falcongroundspeed.com for details and updates.



Jane Hwang finishes the running portion of the triathlon in memory of Lindsay Brown.

Hospital hoses firefighters in flag football

By Dave Castilla
Intramural Sports Director

In Tuesday night flag football action, Hospital #1 secured the #1 seed in the post-season tournament by defeating the #3 seed firefighters, 41-7.

Hospital dominated both sides of the ball holding the firefighters to a single first down in the first half. Three times the medics held CES without a first down.

Sacks by Jermaine Lockett and Zack Willis ensured the firefighters did not come close to scoring a first-half touchdown.

On the other side of the ball, the offense was in good hands with QB Russell Pollard, after holding CES on downs at the 25-yard line, Pollard threw a 15-yard pass to Drew Pennell, and later ran 7 yards to the left for the initial score making it 6-0. After another four and out by CES, aided by a sack by Willis on the 12-

yard line, Pollard threw a screen pass to Will "the bulldozer" Dougherty who rumbled 12 yards for a score, Pennell caught the extra point making it 13-0.

On CES' next set of downs, Micah Yarbrough intercepted to the medics 37-yard line. A few plays later Pollard found Pennell down the right side for a 22-yard scoring strike. Darell Holden scored the extra point, making it 20-0.

With less than two minutes left in the half, CES was stopped again on downs. Pollard then found Chris Kazmierczak on a 4-yard touchdown. Joe Ross caught the extra point and the half ended with the medics holding a commanding lead, 27-0.

The second half didn't change much when on the first play Pollard found Yarbrough over the middle for 33 yards down to the 27. Two plays later he found Pennell again on the right side for a 27-yard touch-

down. Lenwood Brown added the extra point making the score 34-0.

The firefighters finally got on the board as Robert Reschke found Joseph Stevens on a 35-yard pass play. Tyler Moran took over the quarterback duties and completed three passes in a row, finally connecting with Robert Williams for an 8-yard touchdown. Leatrice Robinson scored the extra point.

As the medics were headed for another score Robinson intercepted at the CES 3-yard line. CES gave it back on downs on their 16-yard line. Pollard took advantage and scored the final touchdown scampering seven yards to the left. Patrick Sullivan scored the final extra point for the final of 41-7.

The double-elimination tournament begins Thursday when top of the heap MDG#1 squares off versus #4-seeded MDG#2 at 6:30 p.m., followed by #2 SFS versus #3 CES at 7:30 p.m.

Women's soccer

Air Force Falcons (3-7) at Wyoming Cowgirls (5-5-1)

The Air Force women's soccer team opens Mountain West Conference play today at Wyoming. Kickoff is slated for 3 p.m. at the Madrid Sports Complex.

Boxing

After weeks of intense prepara-

tion, the Air Force boxing team officially kicks off the season at 4:30 p.m. today, when it hosts service academy rival Navy in the annual showdown. The Falcons and Midshipmen will take to the ring of the Cadet Gym Upper Boxing Room for 11 bouts, ranging from the 115-pound weight class to the heavyweight division.

Volleyball

The Air Force volleyball team is

home this weekend for a Mountain West Conference match against local foe Wyoming at 7 p.m. Saturday in Clune Arena.

Women's tennis

The Air Force women's tennis team wrapped up play Sunday at the Jayhawk Invitational hosted by the University of Kansas. The Falcons split their six singles matches Sunday, with Allie Chermel, Shelley Johnson and Shannon

Young each posting a victory.

Water polo

Going 1-1 on the second day of competition, the 20th-ranked Air Force water polo team wrapped up its weekend at the Slugfest Tournament Sunday, defeating Cal Lutheran, 7-4, before falling to No. 16 Redlands, 10-8. The Falcons move to 5-8 overall on the season and 5-2 in the Western Water Polo Association.

Academy cheerleaders throttle up Falcon spirit

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Cheers to the cheerleaders.

The faithful, energetic crew of cadet cheerleaders will lead the football squad on to the field Saturday to rev up Falcon fans in the Academy's bout with Navy at Falcon Stadium.

"I am their biggest fan," said head cheer Coach Laura Hutcheon. "They are the smartest and hardest-working kids on this campus. I could brag on them all day long."

The dance, co-ed, mascots "The Bird" and junior varsity squads practice anywhere from four to six days a week, learning and going through pyramids, basket tosses, cheers, chants, stunts and tumbling.

Besides scheduled practices, cheerleaders lift weights and do cardio through running or aerobics.

"Everyone on our squad really enjoys working out and being in good shape for our games and competitions," said Cadet 1st Class Meredith Leake. "It is definitely a necessity for us to be athletes with the stunts, tumbling and routines we perform."

"While practice is tough, it does not provide me with the workout I need to meet the physical standards of the Air Force," said Cadet 1st Class Ashley Maddox. "We lift weights with a trainer twice a week, and I also find time to run at least three times a week on my own."

At home or on the road, Academy cheerleaders support men's and women's basketball and football, plus special events on the Academy. The Bird does all the above, as well as spreading spirit at Falcon hockey and volleyball games.

The permanent squad is culled from about 100 cadets who try out every year.

Cheerleading has its rewards.

"I love cheerleading because I love performing. Football and basketball games are fun events and even more fun when you can be on the field or court and a part of everything," Cadet Leake said.



Photo by Ann Patton

Head cheer Coach Laura Hutcheon emphasizes critical pints during practice.

Cadet 1st Class Drew Vorhies gets a kick out of unnerving the opposition.

"It is an awesome feeling when the managers from the other team tell me after the game that the Cadet Wing was so loud the opposing players had a hard time concentrating," he said. "It's also a blast to see the games from the sideline because I get to take in the whole Falcon Stadium experience."

The cheerleaders also take responsibility for keeping the spirit going when the Falcons face tough times.

Cadet Vorhies, aka "Mic Man" in cape, blue wig and all-blue dress, keeps on trucking.

"With Air Force, it's never over 'til it's over, because our players never stop. That's what I love about Air Force," he said. "Our players do not give up, and neither should the Cadet Wing."

For Cadet 1st Class Sean Perry, revving up the spirit when the game's score sours comes naturally.

"To keep ourselves and the fans upbeat, we usually do lots of cool pyramids with the girls flying through the air or just do a really loud cheer to get everyone motivated," he said.

Hitting the road with the Falcon teams is icing on the cake for cheerleaders.

"Traveling is one of the coolest parts about being on the varsity squad. We go to awesome cities and cheer at some very exciting games," Cadet Leake said. "I think it shows our dedication to the teams that we are willing to travel anywhere with them."

Mic Man, Cadet Vorhies, travels on every away game.

"The most memorable experience on the road was at Notre Dame where we beat them 41-24," he said. "The tradition and spirit that is in that stadium is amazing, and getting to see a game there, especially on the sidelines, has always been one of my life dreams."

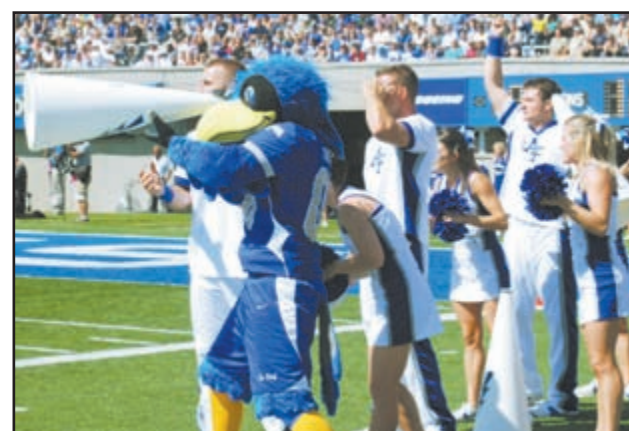
Academy cheerleaders also attend an annual cheerleading training camp, and for the last two years they have gone up against other schools' cheerleaders in competitions sanctioned by the National Cheerleaders Association.

When the fans and teams have emptied the stadium or court, Academy cheerleaders will always be cadets.

"They didn't come here to be cheerleaders," Ms. Hutcheon said. "They came to be officers. I'm incredibly proud to have them."

Photos by Denise Navoy

Falcon spirit shines on game day as the co-ed, dance and mascot teams come together to pump up the volume in Falcon Stadium. Cheer teams take on heavy practice schedules, workouts and games, in addition to their vigorous schedules as cadets.





Academy Fire Prevention Week Activities

Monday

9 a.m.: Academy Child Development Center, fire engine display, Smokey and Sparky visit. There will also be a special DVD presentation.

Tuesday

9 a.m.: Part Day Enrichment Center, Fire Engine Display, Smokey and Sparky visit. Fire Prevention DVD presentation.

Wednesday

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Base Exchange, 1929 REO Speedwagon fire truck display with fire safety literature and fire prevention materials.

Thursday

9 a.m.: Douglass Valley Elementary School; fire safety puppet show and fire fighting gear demonstration; Smokey and Sparky will also visit.



CADET CHAPEL

Catholic Masses:

Sunday

Confession - 9:15 a.m.
Mass - 10 a.m.

Wednesday

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - 5:30 p.m.
Confession - 5:30 p.m.
Mass - 6:30 p.m.

Weekday

Mon., Tues. and Thurs. - 6:45 a.m.

Protestant Services:

Sunday

Traditional/Liturgical - 9 a.m.
Contemporary - 11 a.m.

Jewish Services

Friday

Sabbath Service - 7 p.m.

Buddhist Worship

Wednesday

Traditional Mahyana Service - 6:30 p.m.

Muslim Prayer

Friday

Salaat ul-Jumman - 12:30 p.m.

All Other Faiths

Call 333-2636 for more information

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:

Wednesday

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

Saturday

Contemporary - 6 p.m.

Sunday

Traditional - 8 a.m.
Gospel - 11:15 a.m.

Paganism/Earth-centered Spirituality:

Call 333-6178 or E-mail Robert.Longcrier@usafa.edu for more information.

Oct. 10

9 a.m.: Part Day Enrichment Program; fire engine display, Smokey and Sparky will visit and there will be a fire prevention DVD presentation.

1 p.m.: Sparky visits the Falcon Youth Center presenting "The Smoke Alarm Show" and fire safety education trailer.

All week

Random fire drills will be conducted at Academy facilities. Call the fire prevention office, 333-2473, to schedule a facility for a fire evacuation drill.

Star gazers

The Academy Observatory holds an open house from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Oct. 11. This is the observatory's first open house since 9/11 and the general public is invited. Visitors should park at the Cadet Field House, where shuttle buses to and from the observatory will be provided.

It's in the bag

Student hire applications are being accepted at the Academy Commissary for store associate positions. Stop by the commissary for more information or call Janice Davis at 333-2227, ext. 3111.

Treatment hours

The 10th Medical Group will have limited services Oct. 10, 10th Air Base Wing down day, and is closed Oct. 13, Columbus Day. Areas open for patient care Oct. 10 include: cadet clinic, normal hours (cadets only); family practice and women's health, limited appointments available; and, pharmacy, normal duty hours - all locations. Call 457-2273 to make an acute care clinic appointment.

Toastmasters gather

Want to improve your speaking, listening and evaluating skills? Looking for an opportunity to practice some plan-

ning, conducting and be an emcee for a meeting? Toastmasters is for you! Join our new club that meets again Oct. 10 from noon to 1 p.m. at Arnold Hall. Contact andreas.wesemann@usafa.edu for more information.

Guided tours

The Cadet Chapel staff is now conducting daily public guided tours weekdays at 10:30 and 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 and 1:30 p.m., excluding holidays. The 30-minute tours are designed to provide visitors with more in-depth knowledge of the Chapel. Reservations are not necessary. Interested visitors should arrive a few minutes early.

The Airman and Family Readiness Center will be hosting the following classes.

Contact the A&FRC at 333-3444 for any questions and/or registration.

Group Pre-Separation Counseling

Held every Monday (except during TAP week); 2:30 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.

Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Medical Records Review

Monday and Oct 20; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Individuals within 180 days of retirement or separation can have the DAV review their medical records.

Sponsorship Training

Tuesday; 8 to 9 a.m.

This class is for those who have been assigned to sponsor a newcomer to the area.

Contact your unit sponsorship monitor for details.

Resume Writing

Oct. 15; 9 a.m. to noon.

Learn different types of resume and cover letter styles and how to improve your own.

Newcomer's Orientation & Information Fair

Oct. 16; 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Mandatory orientation for all newly assigned USAFA personnel. Spouses are welcome to attend at the Milazzo Center.

TAP Seminar

Oct. 18-21; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Separating in a year or retiring in two years or less? Call now to reserve your spot in the next available TAP class. Contact the A&FRC @ 333-3444 for any questions and/or registration.

Smooth Move

Oct. 23, 3 to 4 p.m.

Being prepared certainly lessens the stress of an upcoming move. Learn innovative ways to make your move a smooth one. This is a mandatory class for individuals departing USAFA.

Newcomer's Red Carpet Base Tour

Oct. 24; 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

An informative, fun filled base tour that gives insight into the Academy mission and reveals what there is to see and do at the Academy.



Boo Hoo

Cheyenne Mountain Zoo is looking for volunteers to help with Boo at the Zoo nights, Oct. 17-19 and 24-26. Anyone interested should contact Shannon Cole at (719) 633-9925, ext. 147.

The Great Pumpkin

Farmers from Colorado and surrounding states will compete Saturday in the 4th Annual Giant Pumpkin Weigh-Off in the Old Town Plaza on the corner of 25th St. and West Colorado Ave. in Historic Old Colorado City. Pumpkins so large they have to be moved by a forklift will be displayed and judged from noon until about 4 p.m. The public is invited to not only observe this unique competition, but also to cast votes for the best color, best shape and smoothest skin among the entered pumpkins. Visit www.shopoldcoloradocity.com for more information about the Giant Pumpkin Competition.

Kiev Symphony Orchestra and Chorus

One hundred-fifty musicians, singers and folk actors from Ukraine will be converging into Colorado Springs to perform their only concert in this area. Tickets purchased at the door will be \$2 more than if purchased before the day of the concert. Location of concert is 420 North Nevada Avenue, downtown at First United Methodist Church. Concert time is 7 p.m. Thursday. MasterCard and Visa credit cards, cash and checks (payable to FUMC) are accepted. Call the concert information line: 471-4361 to purchase tickets and visit: www.fumc-cs.org (select Music Ministries-click Sacred Concert Series) for more information.



Photo by Ken Carter

Bronco mania

Hundreds of loyal Denver Broncos' fans turned out Sept. 26 at Metcalfe Park in Fountain, Colo., (30 minutes from the Academy's south gate) to meet and get autographs from Ring of Fame member Billy Thompson. Also on hand were Bronco Cheerleaders Christina Connolly and Melissa Aust. The revered Super Bowl trophies and team mascot rounded out the visit. The normal September shades of green prevalent throughout the park were, for the late afternoon, overshadowed by waves of orange and blue. Fountain was one of eight Colorado communities selected for the visit based on the mayor's response to a query from the super bowl champs asking, "What makes your community special?" Other Colorado cities selected for the visit are: Walsenburg, Julesburg, Westminster, Steamboat Springs, Craig, Grand Junction and Milliken.