



Photo by John Van Winkle

Cadets trade beaches for hammers

Cadets 3rd Class Kirby Forssell and Chris Miller, Cadet 1st Class Michael Bates and Cadet 3rd Class Paola Gavilanes assemble a wall frame in Bryan, Texas, March 23. The cadets volunteered to travel to the small Texas town and build homes as part of Alternative Spring Break March 20-26. See story and more photos on Pages 12-13.

Academy receives \$5-million donation



Rendering courtesy of the USAFA Endowment

The Air Force Academy received a \$5-million donation through the USAFA Endowment to fund the construction of a new indoor athletic training facility. Shown here is an artist's depiction of the facility, which is scheduled to be complete by 2011.

From the USAFA Endowment

The Air Force Academy received a \$5-million contribution March 15 through the USAFA Endowment from 1965 graduate Bart Holaday and his wife, Lynn, toward the construction of a new indoor athletic training facility.

The contribution marks the largest gift from a graduate to the Academy in the institution's history.

"This athletic facility will allow our cadets to safely train all year-round," said Dr. Hans Mueh, the director of Academy Athletics. "This is a tremendous step forward for the athletics program and the Academy in terms of providing vital support for our cadets' development and success."

The indoor training facility is slated for completion by early 2011. The 92,000 square-

foot center will house a regulation-sized field that can accommodate football, lacrosse, and soccer, in addition to many other athletic activities. The demand for practice time in the Cadet Field House, which was built in 1968, far exceeds the building's capacity.

The new facility will support the intensive year-round training and competition schedules for the Academy's 27 intercollegiate sports, 14 intramural sports and numerous physical education classes for more than 4,400 cadets. Cadet athletic development and performance will be enhanced through reduced weather delays, increased practice time and improved replication of game conditions that the facility provides.

The training facility will foster short- and long-term success in all cadets' lives, said football head coach Troy Calhoun, a 1989 graduate.

See DONATION, Page 3

WEEKEND WEATHER

FRIDAY
40 23
SLIGHT CHANCE RAIN/SNOW

SATURDAY
52 28
Sun

SUNDAY
57 30
Sun

'91 grad to pilot Shuttle

Col. James Dutton makes his first trip to space for the Space Shuttle's 33rd trip to the International Space Station.

Page 5

DADT changes

Secretary of Defense Robert Gates announced changes to the military's enforcement of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

Page 6

Cops vs. Youth

Children from the Academy community take on Security Forces Airmen ... and win.

Page 11

Understanding the Holocaust: 'What you do matters'

By Lt. Col. Benjamin F. Jones
Academy Department of History

When people think about the Holocaust, they tend to think of the grey death camps they have seen in dreary 1945 photographs or the fetid living conditions of the skeleton-like survivors, but there are many more aspects to the Holocaust. Millions endured Hitler's oppression without having to endure Auschwitz. These survivors are often secondary to our thoughts, and those who hid them are seldom in our thoughts at all.

While a few, such as the Bielski brothers, survived by actively fighting back, most survived by hiding. And what of those who did the right thing and hid them? What made a person risk the Gestapo's anger to hide and care for a stranger's child?

The extraordinary kindness of hundreds of thousands of Europeans — who risked arrest, deportation and death — deserve our attention during the upcoming Holocaust Remembrance events April 8. This year's guest speaker is a "hider," a Holocaust survivor due to the kindness of a Belgian family who brought him into their home and treated him as one of their own.

Sam Lauber's family arranged for him to hide with another Belgian family for more than a year when Mr. Lauber was 3. He arrived at a stranger's home with very few belongings and no understanding of the world war raging all around him or why he was separated from his family. He did not know whether he was being punished, who the new people were or if he would ever see his parents again. Thankfully, after a year went by and the war had ended, his



parents were able to come back and get him.

Efforts like those of the Belgian sponsor family remind us of what is best about people. They remind us that what we do matters. While the Nazis passed anti-Jewish laws that identified, segregated, confiscated property, and ultimately sent millions to their deaths, they could only enforce these laws in regions controlled by the Germans, such as Poland and the occupied areas of the Soviet Union.

The collaborationist governments, such as Norway, France, Denmark, Belgium and even the German ally Italy, lacked the zeal to effectively do the same. Friendship means something, and where normal people knew their Jewish neighbors to be something other than Nazi propaganda claimed them to be, the Nazis could not be as effective.

Historians have shown that many Europeans in Nazi-occupied Europe hid their neighbors from Hitler's forced labor and death camps. For example, brave and kind French citizens from all walks of life protected an estimated 200,000 of their Jewish friends from being deported to the Eastern European death camps. Friendship meant salvation for many, and



Courtesy Photos

Left: Sam Lauber, the guest speaker for the Air Force Academy's Holocaust Remembrance, served in the Air Force from 1963 to 1967.

Above: A postcard shows the residence Mr. Lauber hid in with a foster family during the Nazi occupation of Europe.

Mr. Lauber's case is a flesh-and-blood reminder of this.

As an adult, Mr. Lauber returned the kindness by keeping children's needs in his heart. After his family immigrated to the United States in 1948, he worked hard to get an education in his rough New York City neighborhood, despite suffering the loss of both his parents by the time he was 18. He used his education to become a military family counselor and has spent his adult life advocating for military families and children, paying back the kindness shown to him. He adopted and raised a newborn baby boy when the boy's mother could not care for him. Later in life, Mr. Lauber tracked down the Belgian family who hid him and met back up with his "brother."

I hope you will take the opportunity on the 8th to come meet Mr. Lauber and hear his story first hand.

ACADEMY SPIRIT

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

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



Character Corner The birth of virtue

By Lt. Col. Jim Homoki
Cadet Wing Training

I had the privilege of serving in the Air Force rescue community as a helicopter pilot for more than 15 years. While stationed in Korea, our squadron was called to rescue people stranded on rooftops in Seoul during a horrific flood. While hovering over a five-story building, one of the helicopters lost an engine and went down. Miraculously, no one was injured, but the resulting investigation and cleanup was a commander's nightmare.

As a young officer, my radar was up to see how our commander would bear up under the wire brush of the investigation. His actions and decisions astounded me. His display of honesty, good judgment, mercy, moral courage and taking responsibility serve today as an inspiration of how Air Force officers ought to act. You could say that encounter was transformational in birthing virtue in me.

We can work hard to try to change Airmen by simply forcing them to "practice" being good. But this method has never demonstrated success

in changing underlying motives (i.e. hearts). Relationships do bring change, however. When a person meets another person who captures them with a new vision of life, nobility and honor, we find a real basis for virtue. Through the exemplar program, the Air force Academy is committed to identifying those in the past who have displayed virtues that can transform. But we all also desperately need each other now — to be living inspirations that give birth to virtue in others.

Tune into KAFA, 97.7 FM for Character Matters, Wednesdays at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Also on iTunes or www.usafa.org.



What is your favorite sign of spring?

"The warmth, sunshine, no more snow and things growing."



Hallie Hawks
Air Force spouse

"Sunshine and no more snow."



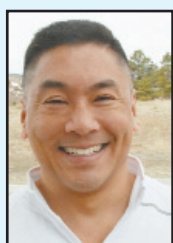
Jose Caraballo
Retired Soldier

"My favorite thing is looking at my Mercedes Benz roadster, putting the top down and driving up into the mountains."



Chandler Bergen
Retired Soldier

"The warm weather and (that) everything is growing again."



Brig. Gen.
Cary Chun
National
Reconnaissance Office

Donation

From Page 1

"Discipline, fortitude and toughness are key character traits that Air Force Academy graduates will draw upon while serving as leaders for our country on active duty and beyond," Coach Calhoun said. "The construction of the indoor facility will continue to provide optimal support and training grounds for the young men and women at the world's finest leadership institution. This tremendous commitment and investment will be returned many times over by the quality of officers who, in the years to come, will lead our Air Force."

Presently, the Academy is the only service academy, and one of only three institutions in the Mountain West Conference, without a dedicated indoor training facility.

"We are thrilled to receive such an unprecedented gift and appreciate Bart and Lynn Holaday's generous and thoughtful support of our Academy," said Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Mike Gould. "This training facility will be among the most important donor projects in the Academy's history. It will be a part of our cadets' daily lives. Every time they see this landmark, they will know that it was built specifically for them by the dedicated graduates and friends of the Air Force Academy."

Mr. Holaday shared his motivation behind offering the gift.

"My experiences at the Academy provided the foundation that I built my life upon: integrity, trust, hard work, persistence and loyalty," he said. "The Academy emphasized the profound importance of sacrifice and service, inspiring me to support others in reaching their full potential. Lynn and I hope that this new facility will, in turn, inspire others to give back to the institution that gave so much to the two of us."

Mr. Holaday and his wife, the former Lynn Buckingham Villella, met at a student conference at the Academy in 1964. A 1965 graduate of the Academy,

Mr. Holaday majored in economics. He set records in varsity football, served as Cadet Wing commander and class president, chaired the Cadet Forum and was a Rhodes Scholar. He holds a master's degree from Exeter College, Oxford, in philosophy, politics and economics and a J.D. from Georgetown.

Mr. Holaday has served in public and private capacities in the Air Force, federal government, the energy industry and banking and finance. In 1997, he founded his own philanthropic non-profit organization, the Dakota Foundation. Mrs. Holaday, an award-winning writer, editor and community leader, serves as the Foundation's executive director.

Mr. Holaday currently serves as vice president of the Falcon Foundation after serving as trustee for the last 25 years. He is also a founding director and chairman of the USAFA Endowment, a charitable foundation dedicated to raising private funds in support of the Air Force Academy, and is a Sabre Society member.

He has also offered extensive financial support to the Academy's athletic, academic, and character and leadership development programs, including the Senior Scholar-in-Residence program. He and his wife endowed a \$1-million scholarship in his mother's honor eight years ago. The scholarship provides two years of graduate study for a top-ranking cadet at England's Oxford University.

In 2009, Mr. Holaday was the first graduate to receive the Distinguished Service Award, an accolade reserved for individuals and organizations that impact the morale and well-being of the Academy through their personal generosity and dedication.

"This indoor training facility is a landmark that heralds a new era of private philanthropy at the Academy, initiated by two exemplary individuals who, through their outstanding personal and professional conduct, truly embody Air Force Academy values," said Dr. Erv Rokke, president of the USAFA Endowment.

2 locals selected for Warrior Games

Two local Airmen, one from the Air Force Academy and one from Peterson Air Force Base, are among 20 athletes selected March 26 to compete in the Department of Defense's Warrior Games May 10-14 in Colorado Springs.

Competitors in the local area are Tech. Sgt. Crystal Lovato, a Dean of Faculty Support Staff NCO here, and 2nd Lt. Marc Ward, a 2008 Academy graduate who is assigned to the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center Detachment 4 at Peterson AFB.

Wounded, ill and injured active duty, Guard and Reserve members, as well as retired members and veterans from the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard will participate in Warrior Games hosted by the U.S. Olympic Committee's Paralympic Military Program at the Olympic Training Center.

Other athletes for the 2010 Air Force team are:

- Matthew Bilancia, formerly a senior airman, from Washington, D.C.
- Retired Master Sgt. Kimberly Bradshaw from Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va.
- Staff Sgt. Christopher D'Angelo from Malmstrom AFB, Mont.
- Tech. Sgt. Israel Del Toro from Lackland AFB, Texas.
- Staff Sgt. Marc Esposito from Pope AFB, N.C.
- Retired Staff Sgt. Jeanné Goldy-Sanitate from Medford, N.J.
- Senior Airman James Gray from Lackland AFB.
- Crystal Jacobson, formerly an Airman, from Minot AFB, N.D.
- 2nd Lt. Ryan McGuire from Laughlin AFB, Texas.
- Chief Master Sgt. Damian Orslene from Keesler AFB, Miss.
- Stacy Pearsall, formerly a staff sergeant, from Charleston, S.C.
- Retired Master Sgt. Patrick Roberts from Cleveland.
- Matt Sanders, formerly a staff sergeant, from Edwards AFB, Calif.
- Senior Master Sgt. Michael Sanders from Scott AFB, Ill.
- Retired Senior Master Sgt. Noel Sepulveda from Severn, Md.
- Jennifer Stone, formerly a senior airman, from Denver.
- Ricky Tackett, formerly a staff sergeant, from Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.
- Adam Tanverdi, formerly a captain, from Roanoke, Va.

(Information compiled from Air Force News Service and staff reports.)

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Academy awards \$215,000 to local education organizations

By Julie Imada
Academy Research publicist

The U.S. Air Force Academy Research Office and Chief Scientist Col. Rob Fredell have announced the first recipients of a regional grant award for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics education.

The Colorado Consortium for Earth and Space Science Education was awarded \$215,000 towards supporting regional STEM education efforts for students in grades kindergarten through 12 as well as providing professional development opportunities to local educators.

The \$215,000 grant was provided by the Office of the Secretary of Defense through its National Defense Education Program, which invests in science, engineering and math education from middle and high school through college and post graduation. NDEP's mission is to support a new generation of scientists and engineers who will apply their talents in our nation's defense laboratories and contractors who support the national defense. More information on the program is available at www.ndep.us.

The primary program to benefit from this grant will be the Challenger Learning Center of Colorado, housed at Challenger Middle School in Academy School District 20, and offers hands-on, space-based simulation missions. This grant will support professional development opportunities for educators as well as classroom lessons at low-income schools in El Paso and Teller counties who would not otherwise be able to attend this program.

Several "Project Lead the Way" classes and camps in Academy School District 20 and Colorado School District 11 will also benefit from this grant. The "Project Lead the Way" curriculum encourages more students to pursue

careers as scientists and engineers through projects and lab work.

The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs will also be involved in a variety of support services for this effort, including assessment, assistance with teacher training, and credits for educator professional development.

Cool Science is a Colorado Springs-based hands-on science program offering inquiry-based activities to local elementary and middle-school students. A portion of this grant will help Cool Science continue to offer a variety of different hands-on experiences for local school programs. The Academy provides access to their laboratories and classrooms in support of Cool Science.

"The Academy takes pretty seriously our role in facilitating STEM education at the K-12 level across the Pikes Peak region," Colonel Fredell said. "We look forward to partnering with CCESE in this endeavor."

The United States currently trails behind several countries when it comes to STEM education. Currently, only 58 percent of U.S. science teachers have science degrees.

However, STEM is becoming a priority. In Southern Colorado alone, 600 math and science teachers will attend STEM workshops, and more than 1,100 middle school students will attend programs such as Science Challenge and STEM Summer Academy — along with many new volunteer faculty programs — all in an effort to raise awareness.

Projects like those at the Challenger Center are under way to "kindle the fire" for science among tomorrow's leaders, scientists, and educators.

"This grant will help to make great strides in science education in Southern Colorado. By encouraging proven educational organizations to work together, the big winners will be the students," said CCESE board member Vivian Teets.

Gen. Holm remembered in Arlington ceremony

By Staff Sgt. J.G. Buzanowski
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

The first female two-star general in the Air Force and Department of Defense was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery March 29.

Retired Maj. Gen. Jeanne M. Holm is credited as the single driving force in achieving equality for military women and making them a viable part of the mainstream military. She was a champion of diversity and advocate for equal rights for women.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz and other senior leaders, active and retired, attended the funeral ceremony and internment. After the service and burial, members of the Women in Military Service for America Memorial hosted a wake where friends and family members shared stories.


"It's fitting that we're here remembering her," said retired Col. Yvonne Schilz in reference to the Women in Airforce Service Pilots display at the memorial. "Where the WASP cracked the glass ceiling, Jeanne blew it open ... I was able to attend the Air Force Academy because of what she did."

"In some way, we just all want to give back to her, so this felt like the right place to be today," Colonel Schilz added.

Retired Brig. Gen. Wilma Vaught echoed the colonel's sentiments.

"She made my career in the Air Force possible," said General Vaught, president of the board of directors of the Women In Military Service For America Memorial Foundation, Inc. "She definitely knew how to get things done, and it was amazing to see her work."


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Academy cadet named Truman Scholar

By 2nd Lt. Meredith Kirchoff
Academy Public Affairs

A junior with Cadet Squadron 06 was named one of 60 Truman Scholarship recipients in an announcement released by the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation Tuesday.

Cadet 2nd Class Jennifer Bandi, a native of Winchester, Mass., is the Academy's 16th Truman Scholarship winner.



C2C Jennifer Bandi

"Cadet Bandi is well deserving of this prestigious scholarship, as she has excelled in our academic, athletic and leadership programs," said Brig. Gen. Dana Born, the dean of the faculty. "Her involvement in the Academy's Scholars Program, language cultural immersion programs, and her independent study on HIV-AIDS in Africa, demonstrate her commitment to

excellence and to making a difference through her service."

A political science major, Cadet Bandi has completed several international immersion trips and research endeavors focusing on African studies, including HIV-AIDS research in Namibia and Botswana as well as a current project on the origin of conflict through U.S. Africa Command. She is also an intercollegiate athlete, playing on the Air Force women's basketball team.

Cadet Bandi attributes the greatest influence to her success to her parents for "their constant example of faithfulness and perseverance even in the toughest situations."

As an intercollegiate athlete, Cadet Bandi says sports have helped to shape her life and her Academy experience.

"Athletics has always been one of my biggest passions in life," she said. "Playing sports at the Academy has taught me the value of hard work, self-sacrifice and discipline as well as blessing me with an incredible group of friends."

She is a member of the Academy's Scholar Program

and the third recipient of the Truman Scholarship from the program, said director Maj. Derek Varble. The Academy Scholars program graduated its first class in 2007.

Cadet Bandi said she intends to use the scholarship to study ways to alleviate the HIV-AIDS crisis in Sub-Saharan Africa. She has not yet chosen a graduate school that will provide the best fit for her endeavors.

After graduating from the Academy in May of 2011 and completing graduate studies, she hopes to serve as an intelligence officer.

"The Truman Scholarship will enable this soon-to-be Lieutenant Bandi to build upon excellence and contribute even more as an officer of character to our great Air Force and nation," added General Born.

The Truman Scholarship is a memorial to Harry S. Truman, the 33rd president of the United States, and began in 1977. Selection for the scholarship emphasizes a commitment to public service and requires candidates present a policy proposal that addresses a particular issue in society.

'91 graduate to pilot STS-131 mission

By Capt. Corinna Jones
Academy Public Affairs

A 1991 graduate of the Air Force Academy will pilot the STS-131 mission to the International Space Station aboard the Space Shuttle Discovery, with liftoff currently scheduled for Monday from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla.



Col. James Dutton

Col. James Dutton said the Air Force Academy played a significant role in preparing him for his career as a fighter pilot, test pilot and astronaut.

Colonel Dutton graduated from the Academy as the top graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in astronautical engineering. As a cadet, he was also a

member of the intercollegiate Cadet Competition Flying Team. The STS-131 mission will be his first trip to space.

The colonel, a native of Eugene, Ore., was a distinguished graduate from Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training in 1992. From there, he went on to earn top graduate from F-15C Eagle student training in 1995 and completed Air Force Test Pilot School in 2000.

Colonel Dutton flew F-15s at RAF Lakenheath, England, from October 1995 to May 1998, flying over 100 combat hours providing air superiority in support of Operations Provide Comfort and Northern Watch over Northern Iraq. In May 1998, he was reassigned to the 422nd Test and Evaluation Squadron at Nellis AFB, Nev., where he flew operational test missions in the F-15C. After Test Pilot School, he flight tested the F-16 Fighting Falcon as a member of the 416th Flight Test Squadron until June 2002, when he joined the F-22 Raptor Combined Test Force.

He has logged more than 3,300 flight hours in more than 30 aircraft. Selected as a pilot by NASA in July 2003, Colonel Dutton was initially assigned to the Exploration Branch, working on the development of the Crew Exploration Vehicle cockpit and to the Capsule Communications Branch as a shuttle capsule communicator. He was the Ascent and Entry Capcom for STS-122 in February 2008 and STS-123 in March 2008.

STS-131 is the 33rd shuttle mission to the station. Navy Capt. Alan G. Poindexter will command the STS-131 mission. Mission specialists are Clayton Anderson, Rick Mastracchio, Dorothy Metcalf-Lindenburger, Stephanie Wilson and Naoko Yamazaki.

Discovery will deliver a multi-purpose logistics module called "Leonardo" built by the Italian Space Agency. The module is filled with science racks that will be transferred to laboratories on the ISS. The 14-day mission will include three spacewalks.

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Pentagon changes 'Don't ask, don't tell' enforcement

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Michael J. Carden
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — The Defense secretary announced changes to the Pentagon's regulation on homosexuals serving in the military that he said make the Defense Department's enforcement of the so-called "Don't ask, don't tell" law "fairer and more appropriate" here March 25.

Secretary Robert M. Gates announced Feb. 2 he'd ordered a review to understand the implications of a possible repeal of the 17-year-old law that bans gays and lesbians from serving openly in the military.

President Barack Obama has called on Congress to repeal the law.

The initial 45 days of that review, the secretary said, produced findings that "would enforce the existing law in a fairer and more appropriate manner" and are supported by Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Navy Adm. Mike Mullen and Vice Chairman Marine Corps Gen. James E. Cartwright and the service chiefs.

"Today, I have approved a series of changes to the implementation of the current statute," Secretary Gates told reporters at a Pentagon news conference. "They were developed with full participation of the department's senior civilian and military leadership, and the changes are unanimously supported by Chairman (Admiral) Mullen, Vice Chairman (General) Cartwright and the entire Joint Chiefs of Staff."

The changes include:

— Only a general or flag officer may separate an enlisted member believed at the conclusion of an investigation to have engaged in homosexual conduct.

Under previous policy, a colonel — or for a captain in the Navy and Coast Guard — could order separation.

— A revision in what's needed to begin an inquiry or a separation proceeding. Information provided by a third party now must be given under oath, "discouraging the use of overheard statements and hearsay," Secretary Gates said.

— Certain categories of confidential information — such as information provided to lawyers, clergy and psychotherapists — no longer will be used in support of discharges. Information provided to medical personnel in furtherance of treatment, or to a public-health official in the course of seeking professional assistance for domestic or physical abuse also is excluded, as well as information obtained in the process of security-clearance investigations, in accordance with existing Pentagon policies.

"These changes reflect some of the insights we have gained over 17 years of implementing the current law, including the need for consistency, oversight and clear standards," the secretary said. "I believe these changes represent an important improvement in the way the current law is put into practice — above all, by providing a greater measure of common sense and common decency to a process for handling what are difficult and complex issues for all involved."

The military services have 30 days to conform their regulations to the changes. The new policies, however, took effect immediately upon Secretary Gates' announcement, meaning that they apply to all open cases, he said.

"All separations from this point forward will take place under the revised regulations," he said. "As of my signature, every case that is currently still open will be dealt with under these new regulations. So, they

will be reinitiated by a flag-rank officer."

The intent for open, ongoing investigations is not to restart the proceedings, but to carry them forward with regard to the types of information allowed in the new policy, he said.

"As far as the services are concerned, every case that is open as of this morning will be reinitiated and evaluated under the new regulations that I've just set forth," Secretary Gates said.

The secretary also stressed that the policy changes are not an attempt to change the law, but rather to be prepared to offer Congress reliable information should the law be repealed.

The Pentagon's top lawyer, Jeh Johnson, and Army Gen. Carter F. Ham, commander of U.S. Army Europe, head Secretary Gates' working group charged with studying the potential implications of the law's repeal. The panel will report its findings by Dec. 1. The group will spend the next several months traveling to military installations to learn how servicemembers and families will react to a potential repeal.

"There is a great deal we don't know about this [potential repeal of the law] in terms of the views of our servicemembers, in terms of the views of their families and influencers," Secretary Gates said. "There is a lot we have to address in terms of what would be required in the way of changed regulations. There are a lot of unanswered questions in terms of the implementation of this proposed change."

"We need to do this thoroughly and professionally," he continued. "We need to do this right, and I think doing it hastily is very risky and does not address some of the concerns that have been expressed by the chiefs of staff of the services, and a number of questions that have been raised."

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C-17 crews to receive precision airdrop training

By Staff Sgt. Chris Powell
Defense Media Activity - San Antonio

ALTUS AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. (AFNS) — A new training course will be soon implemented into the syllabus for all C-17 Globemaster III aircrew members attending technical training here.

Air Force officials are relocating the Improved Container Delivery System and Joint Precision Airdrop System training to Altus Air Force Base in the coming months so that pilots and loadmasters will be fully qualified to provide airdrop support as soon as they arrive at their first duty station.

“Doing this frees up training resources because the operational wings are extremely busy,” said Capt. Erik Fisher, a C-17 instructor pilot. “By doing that training here, we’re freeing up resources at operational units.”

An important step for that implementation took place March 18 when a C-17 instructor aircrew successfully performed an ICDS drop from 6,000 feet and the bundles landed within 40 yards of their intended targets.

“Today was the first time we dropped using ICDS and JPADS procedures, and it went outstanding,” said Capt. Bryan Bailey, the precision airdrop officer on the mission. “It was a test to make sure the instructors are ready and that we have the appropriate aircraft equipment, ranges, airspace and maintenance.

“Now we’re ready to start training the trainers, so that every student who comes through the airdrop courses will be trained in ICDS and JPADS procedures,” Captain Bailey said.

The main reason for ensuring pilots and loadmasters are trained before they leave Altus AFB is because some Airmen don’t receive the proper ICDS and JPADS



Photo by Master Sgt. Jack Braden

Staff Sgt. John Frisk releases a dropsonde March 18 over Altus Air Force Base, Okla. Sergeant Frisk is a C-17 Globemaster III loadmaster with the 54th Airlift Squadron.

training at their duty stations prior to deploying.

“When I deployed to (Southwest Asia), I flew with guys who had only been airdropping for 60 days, and that’s not enough time to get them ICDS and JPADS qualified,” said Captain Bailey. “We’re going to make (trained) warfighters here before they go to their squadron.”

JPADS uses GPS technology, steerable parachutes and onboard laptop computers to guide bundles to

their desired locations, Captain Bailey said. Because of costs related to the guidance units on the JPADS parachutes, trainees will use conventional parachutes.

“We’ll use the JPADS in the airplane to come up with a better release point for where those parachutes go, so we’ll get better accuracy than we could without the computer,” he said. “ICDS gives us most of the accuracy that we can get with JPADS for a fraction of the cost.”



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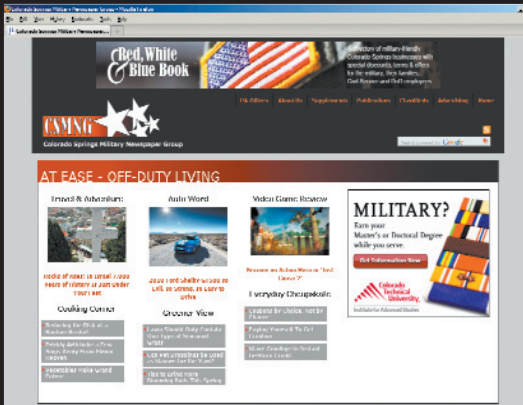
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Two Academy grads win NSBE awards

By Tammie Adams
Academy Admissions

Two Air Force Academy graduates will be honored at the 36th-annual National Society of Black Engineers convention April 3 in Toronto.

Retired Col. Fred Gregory, a 1964 graduate, was selected as the Golden Torch Legacy Award winner, and Col. Jeff Butler, a 1988 graduate, was selected for the Lifetime Achievement in Government award.

"I just don't have the words to summarize my feelings other than to truly acknowledge ... that the Air Force Academy shaped and prepared me and thousands like me for a role at the time undefined and unanticipated, and it did so in a way unchallenged by other academic institutions of higher learning," Mr. Gregory said.

After graduating from the Academy, Mr. Gregory served as a pilot until he was selected for the astronaut program in January 1978. After his selection as an astronaut and subsequent training, Mr. Gregory flew three shuttle missions, making history with two. He became the first African-American to pilot a spacecraft during the STS-51B and Spacelab-3 mission launched from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla., April 28, 1985, according to his official biography. Because of the sensitivity of the mission, the fact that it was the first space mission commanded by an African-American was almost ignored.

After working for NASA until 2005, Mr. Gregory retired as NASA's deputy administrator. He now serves on the Board of Advisors at Howard University School of Engineering and at the University of Tennessee Space Institute. He continues to be a consultant for NASA and serves on the Smithsonian Board of Regents.

Colonel Butler currently serves as an Air Force

"... This gives me an opportunity to encourage all students and especially fellow African-Americans to pursue engineering and make great contributions to their communities."

— Col. Jeff Butler

Academy permanent professor and head of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. After graduating from the Academy with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Electrical Engineering, he obtained his Master of Science in Electrical Engineering from Florida State University in 1991. While acquiring his doctorate in Computer Engineering, Colonel Butler was selected as the Air Force Institute of Technology's IEEE Student of the Year in 1998.

Colonel Butler developed new electronic warfare techniques, served as an engineer and program manager for the development of the F-22 Raptor, performed research on the combination of remotely piloted aircraft and intelligence gathering, and studied Eurasian security policy at several universities, resulting in a published book, according to his award nomination letter.

"I am extremely honored by the selection," Colonel Butler said. "NSBE is one of the largest student-run organizations in the country, and it's very humbling to receive such a prestigious award. I am also excited that this gives me an opportunity to encourage all students and especially fellow African-Americans to pursue engineering and make great contributions to their communities."


The National Society of Black Engineers was founded in 1974 with a mission "to increase the number of culturally responsible Black Engineers who excel academically, succeed professionally and positively impact the community." One of NSBE's many objectives, according to their Web site, is to "strive to increase the number of minority students studying engineering at both the undergraduate and graduate levels."

The Air Force Academy is helping to meet this objective with its own recently established NSBE chapter, whose goal is to inspire and develop cadets to become outstanding officers of the Air Force and technical community while educating and providing communities with a positive image of the Air Force and Air Force Academy.

"Group members will all work on various projects and activities that will help build a better relationship with our community and also help retain more minorities at the Academy," said Capt. Steven Brooks, officer in charge of the Academy's NSBE Chapter. "Membership and participation in this chapter shall be free from discrimination of the basis of gender, race, religion, ethnic group, national origin or sexual orientation."

The Academy's chapter currently has about 34 members who meet twice a month. All chapter members are affiliated with the Academy, whether officers, enlisted, civilians, cadets or even past Academy grads who live outside the area. However, most of the members are primarily from the cadet wing.

To become a NSBE member, one must support the NSBE mission and objectives from the chapter constitution and pay an annual chapter due. For more information or to become a member, contact Captain Brooks at 333-8574.



Draft Final Environmental Assessment
US Air Force Academy Mobile Aircraft Fire Trainer

A Draft Final Environmental Assessment prepared by the US Air Force Academy (USAFA) for a Proposed Action to construct the Mobile Aircraft Fire Trainer is available for public review and comment through April 14, 2010. The document is available at the USAFA McDermott Library, 2354 Fairchild Drive, Suite 3A10, and at the following Colorado Springs Public Library branches:

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At the end of the 30-day review period, the USAFA will consider all comments submitted by individuals, agencies, or organizations in making a decision. Public participation opportunities and decision-making on the Proposed Action are guided by 32 CFR Part 989.

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Academy grad hosts 'Gladiator' boot camp

By **Monica Mendoza**
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — When fitness professional Tanji Johnson was auditioning for a spot on the TV show "American Gladiators," she wanted to stand out among her peers, some who towered over her petite frame.

The former Air Force Academy cheerleader, honor guard member and aircraft maintenance officer said she felt she had more of a gladiator spirit than other competitors because she had been an Airman.

"We had two minutes in front of the judges," she said. "So, I walked in there and I called the room to attention."

She got the job.

Ms. Johnson, known as "Stealth" on the NBC 2008 season of American Gladiators, helped celebrate Women's History Month on Peterson March 24 by teaching a "Gladiator Boot Camp" workout during a fitness fair at the Sports and Fitness Center. For one hour, Ms. Johnson led a group of Airmen through jumping jacks, front crawl, back crawl, side to side lunges, three sets of shuttle runs and a series of squats.

"This is one of the best benefits of being a part of the Air Force, to be able to participate in Fit to Fight activities,"



Photo by Dennis Howk

Tanji Johnson teaches "Gladiator Boot Camp" March 24 at the Peterson Air Force Base Sports and Fitness Center as part of the Women's History Month Fitness Fair. Ms. Johnson, an International Federation of Body Builders fitness professional and 1997 graduate of the Air Force Academy, was an American Gladiator during the show's 2008 season.

Ms. Johnson, an International Federation of Body Builders fitness professional and 1997 graduate of the Air Force Academy, was an American Gladiator during the show's 2008 season. Col. Joan Sandene, 21st Space Wing senior individual mobilization augmentee and host of the event.

This year, the Air Force launched a new fitness program requiring Airmen to take a physical fitness test twice a year using more rigorous standards. The goal of the program is to motivate Airmen to maintain health and fitness year-round, not just prior to a physical fitness test. The new fitness program emphasizes aerobic conditioning,

strength and flexibility training and healthy eating.

Ms. Johnson, who has been featured in Oxygen, Flex and Muscle and Fitness magazines, separated from the Air Force in 2001, but she said she found her desire for fitness while at the Academy.

Today, she is a contender to be the next Fitness Olympia Champion and holds five International Federation of Body Builders titles.

When working out, Airmen should ask themselves what they are doing, why are they doing it, what muscle are they working and what results are they looking to achieve, Ms. Johnson said.

"Be very intentional about your athletic goal," she said.

Ms. Johnson offers these tips:

— Change-up a workout. If jumping jacks are boring, add weights. If pushups are boring, add a clap in the middle. Try sprinting in a series of shuttle runs - choose points on the basketball court and sprint to the first point touch the ground and turn, sprint back, then out to the second line and back, etc.

— Focus on muscular endurance. In strength training, do weight-specific exercises that target triceps and the shoulders, including the chest press, shoulder press and even bench dips. If Airmen get stronger in those muscles, pushups will be easier.

— Change up your nutritional plan. If you lose a little body fat, it will help you run faster and do more pushups. Try breaking up your total daily calorie intake into five or six mini-meals instead of two or three large meals.

"Anybody can pass the test," Ms. Johnson said. "But, if you don't plan for it, you won't be successful. You need to make it a lifestyle."

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10th SFS challenge youth in sporting events

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Airmen with the 10th Security Forces Squadron squared off against youth athletes from on and off base during the first-ever Cops vs. Youth Challenge March 26 at the Falcon Trails Youth Center.

About 60 children participated in the event, plus 10th SFS team members and fans.

The purpose of the event was to strengthen the bond between youth and security forces Airmen, said Capt. James Couch, the squadron operations officer.

The first event was basketball: five 10-minute games with four youth teams up against the Airmen. The boys' basketball team from the Cornerstone Baptist Academy showed no mercy, winning handily 22 - 8.

"We play as a team all the time," said Dace Miller with the boys' Cornerstone team. "It was fun, and we played our hardest, moved the ball around well and found our open man."

Security Forces Airmen blamed their loss on old age.

"We're saying they are about 20 years younger than us," said Staff Sgt. Jason Reeves. "We let them win the first game."

Squadron Commander Maj. Phil Born rationalized, "We're just old people compared to the kids."

However, the cops tied one game with Youth Center athletes and dominated the boards for two other matches.

Following the basketball matchups, the Community Center Chapel provided a light lunch of hot dogs, chips and sodas. After lunch the 10th SFS teams took on youth teams for tug of war and locked in two wins out of four, losing only to — once again — the boys from Cornerstone and a match against members of



Photo by J. Rachel Spencer

Jedediah Johnson moves the ball up the court during a basketball game against the 10th Security Forces Squadron during the inaugural Cops vs. Youth Challenge at the Falcon Trail Youth Center March 26. Students from several local schools competed with the Airmen in basketball, tug-of-war and volleyball.

all the youth teams.

In volleyball, the 10th SFS team squeaked out one win out of four games, losing to both the Cornerstone girls' junior varsity and boys' teams. They also endured a 15-2 thumping from

Cornerstone's lady Cougars' varsity team.

The Airmen's only victory in volleyball came in the matchup against the impromptu "Team Underdog," recruited by Theresa Daniels from the Academy's Department of Political Science, who heard of the pre-competition recruitment and rounded up interested youth she was acquainted with.

Team Underdog, which suffered losses in all three competitions, was undeterred in the enthusiasm department. Phillip Savin, 15, plays basketball and soccer for Falcon High School and took the losses in stride.

"This was a lot more fun," he said of the Youth Center challenges. "It's not competition, it's just enjoyment. I had a really good time."

Before the top team honors were announced, Major Born reiterated the goal of the competition.

"Our main purpose is to have friendly interaction," he said. "They see us too many times when we're called for an emergency. We're not just big, bad cops."

About 90 percent of what security forces Airmen do are community activities, he said.

"It helps us get our job done better in the end. Another reason is we have fun," he added.

The Cornerstone boys' team took top honors for basketball, and the combined Cornerstone teams won first in the tug of war. Cornerstone's girls' volleyball team medaled for volleyball.

Col. Rick LoCastro, the 10th Air Base Wing commander, praised the tired but upbeat 10th SFS team after the competitions.

"These guys have the highest operations tempo in the Air Force," he said. "(Holding this event) says a lot about them."

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Cadets spend 'Alternative Spring Break' building homes

Story and photos by John Van Winkle
Academy Public Affairs

WICHITA FALLS, Texas — Dozens of Academy cadets traded in spring break's sunlit beaches for hammers, nails and saws to build homes for the needy during Alternative Spring Break March 22-26.

The Center for Character and Leadership Development hooked up 63 cadet volunteers with Habitat for Humanity housing projects in Kansas City and the Texas towns of El Paso, Wichita Falls, Bryan and Victoria.

The 14 cadets who travelled the furthest from the Academy started their spring breaks at a warehouse in Victoria, Texas, loading lumber for a construction site.

"The cadets are essential to our work here," said Victoria Habitat coordinator LeAnne Welder. "We couldn't get it done without them. I have very few trained leaders, that's what we struggle for the most. The trained leader needs hands to help him get the job done. We have the leaders, but we don't have crew."

For a week, they had the crew — from the Cadet Wing. The only college group going to Victoria this spring break was from the Academy, and all were eager and more than willing to get to work.

Directing the cadets at the job site was Habitat's local construction leader, Texas Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Steve Speer. The tanker-turned-recruiter tapped into his previous job experience in construction to lead the work on the house.

Cadet 2nd Class Bobby Walker said the cadets were excited about the cause and the change of pace. Six or seven classes, combined with military duties in the squadron and athletics can wear on even the most resolute of cadets.

"Compared to USAFA, doing manual labor in Texas is a vacation," joked Cadet 3rd Class Brendan



Cadet 3rd Class Sarah Sauter of CS 16 and Cadet 2nd Class Bridget Flatley of CS 37 work in muddy terrain while building a house as part of a Habitat for Humanity project March 22 in Victoria, Texas.

Maestas, a San Antonio native assigned to Cadet Squadron 40.

Cadets Maestas and Walker were two of several would-be comedians among the group of cadets, helping to keep a light-hearted approach to the hard work ahead, and keeping it fun. Each time the words "spring break" came up in anyone's conversation, there would be a pause and the cadets would yell "Spring break, woohoo!" in unison, with Cadet Walker being one of the chant's ringleaders.

Some of this camaraderie was born on the drive to Victoria. It took two days for the cadets, driving two vans, to reach the small Texas town. Victoria, which is an hour inland from the Gulf coast, opened its arms to the cadets. A local church gave them a place to sleep, local businesses donated food, and a church youth choir even serenaded the cadets upon their arrival.

When they arrived to the 800 Block of Virginia Avenue in downtown Victoria with their building supplies, they found a site that had a concrete base but zero electricity and moat of mud surrounding the concrete. With a generator and some elbow grease, the cadets had two of the home's exterior walls in place before lunch.

Ten cadets went to Bryan, Texas — a small central town in central Texas well-known among college football circles. Bryan borders the town of College Station — home to Texas A&M University. It's the second time in four years that Academy cadets have visited Bryan for Alternative Spring Break.

The Bryan chapter of Habitat for Humanity has been building homes in the Angel's Gate subdivision on the western edge of town for several years. With several groups of volunteers coming through for their respective spring breaks, Habitat's team leaders in Bryan have a system in place to turn inexperienced college students into construction workers with a minimal amount of time.

When it comes to interior wall frames, they have supplies neatly divided and even color-coded. Studs treated with different colors serve different purposes — pink 2x4 studs are vertical struts, while green boards are bottom horizontal struts for the wall frame and uncolored boards are the top of the frame. Green and uncolored boards are marked at certain intervals, to show where the pink studs or door frames should be nailed. The frames are also marked by their interior location in the design. So instead of spending the morning hammering under the hot Texas sun, the cadets are able to mass-



Cadets lift the west wall of a home in Victoria, Texas, March 22.

assemble 10 interior walls in a cool warehouse unbothered by weather, and then bring the completed wall frames to the job site that same afternoon.

"We're having a lot of fun — we've got a really good group and some hard workers," said Cadet 1st Class Michael Bates of CS 16, the cadet in charge for the Bryan group and a native of Allen, Texas. "This is my third year with Alternative Spring Break. I picked College Station just because I liked the area. I almost went to Texas A&M over the Academy and have a lot of friends who are there."

It's also another chance to practice his leadership skills. After a bit of paperwork, organization and delegation, he took his team on the road for what this year's Alternative Spring Breakers regard as one of the top destinations this year.

"It's a good time," Cadet Bates said. "It's a lot better getting a chance to get away from the Academy for a week. I, and my assistant cadet in charge, are given responsibility and we're actually in charge of the people. I have to use my best judgment without any officers around, which is pretty nice."

One of his team members even worked through an injury to participate.

"I hurt my knee trying out for women's rugby," said Cadet 3rd Class Kirby Forssell of CS 27. "I got tackled and my knee bent the wrong way, tearing my ACL." It's her second year at the Academy her and second spring break with Habitat for Humanity. She went to Phoenix last year with her roommate from Basic Cadet Training.

Volunteering for Alternative Spring Break only costs \$20, giving cadets an economical way to spend a week out of town, see someplace new, do something meaningful and still stay within their budgets.

However, cadets still have to budget their time carefully, as not every cadet can responsibly toss the books aside for an entire week. In Victoria, Cadet 4th Class Uddit Patel brought his French books with him



Cadet 1st Class Darren Montes from Cadet Squadron 25 and Cadet 2nd Class Casey Hawkins from CS 31 fit a ceiling into a home during a Habitat for Humanity project March 25 in Wichita Falls, Texas. The cadets volunteered over their spring break as part of the Alternative Spring Break program.

to keep up with his coursework and complete his foreign language requirement for his freshman year. In Wichita Falls, Cadet 4th Class Rebecca Bailey of CS-30 was one of those cadets who admitted to juggling coursework during spring break.

"I've got a 5-7 page history paper due that I have to do research on, and I have to list five books as sources, so I have to read them," she explained, "and I've got a 5-7 page math paper — a progress report — due about a week after I get back." So she spent some of her spare time, and the hours travelling between the Academy and Wichita Falls, working on history and calculus classes.

Cadet Bailey was one of 10 cadets who traveled to Wichita Falls, where they teamed up with 16 students from the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point to



Cadet 1st Class Ben Shoptaugh from CS 12 weathersproofs the roof of a house in Wichita Falls.

work on three houses on Wichita Falls' east side. The three homes are part of a growing subdivision that Habitat is building with the help of college student volunteers. The students and cadets divided up into smaller teams to tackle projects, make new friends and move each of the houses closer to completion.

"I've been painting," said Cadet 3rd Class Allana Gallant of CS 36. "Mostly just like the house color and trim color. The other part of our group's been putting tresses on the other house, roofing it and putting particle board up inside."

The biology major had some painting experience going into spring break, but had never put up tresses or particle board before. Some of the work wasn't perfect, and there were several rough edges to be refined after the drywall was put in, but the majority of the manual labor was done. Unfamiliarity with the task wasn't stopping the cadets or students — all were focused on the end goal of community service.

"I wanted to give back to the Air Force because they give so much to us, and I wanted to give back to the community that helps pay for our college tuition,"



Cadet 1st Class Dan Paladino from CS 36, Cadet 2nd Class Paola Gavilanes from CS 24, Cadet 4th Class Kristin Cromwell of CS 29 and Cadet 1st Class Alex Chung from CS 16 stack a wall frame in a warehouse March 23 in Bryan, Texas.

said Cadet Gallant. "This is just a way to give back to the people who give so much for us."

Alternative Spring Break gives cadets a paid but no-frills opportunity to go somewhere new during spring break to work with Habitat for Humanity and to put deeds behind the words "service before self." It is an extension of the Cadet Service Learning Program, said Capt. Julie Mustian, the CSL Program director. This year, 63 cadets volunteered to help build homes with Collegiate Challenge, a Habitat for Humanity Program.

"Past cadet feedback has continually been positive," Captain Mustian said, "with comments saying, 'This has been one of the most rewarding and memorable weeks of my life.' It is amazing and humbling to watch all the countless selfless acts the cadets do throughout the year. Alternative Spring Break is just one of those selfless acts."

During the 2008-2009 academic year, cadets collectively volunteered 36,334 hours of community service on 2,202 different projects and events. During the fall 2010 semester, cadets completed more than 16,900 hours of community service.

Air Force upsets #5 TCU, splits two-game homestand



Photo by Rachel Boettcher

TCU's Aaron Schultz attempts to tag out Air Force senior first baseman Matt Alexander during the Frogs-Falcons game at the Air Force Academy March 26. Air Force upset fifth-ranked TCU in the contest, winning 14-11. Schultz is a native of Oak Park, Calif.

By Nick Arseniak
Athletic Communications

Air Force split two games with TCU, upsetting the fifth-ranked team in the nation 14-11 March 26 and losing the first game of a double-header Sunday, 20-6.

A third game was halted in the seventh inning due to TCU's travel schedule, with the Falcons leading 16-15, and will conclude when Air Force plays TCU May 14.

The March 26 victory is the Falcons' biggest win in seven years under head coach Mike Hutcheon and biggest upset since knocking off top-ranked Rice in 1999.

Addison Gentry went 4-for-5 with two home runs, a triple and four RBIs. Garrett Custons went 3-for-5 with a homer, three runs and three RBIs. Travis Lane went 2-for-5 with a homer and four RBIs.

The Falcons led TCU 6-0 at the end of three innings and scored runs in each of the first seven innings. TCU scored nine runs in the middle innings to tie

the game at 9-9, but a Horned Frog error in the bottom of the sixth allowed the Falcons to score three unearned runs. Custons, a freshman and native of Sarasota, Fla., knocked in the go-ahead run.

TCU won Sunday's first game convincingly, racking up 24 hits to win by 14. Bryan Holaday led the Horned Frogs, going 4-for-5 with a home run, four runs in all and three RBIs. Matt Curry, Taylor Featherston and Brance Rivera also homered for TCU.

The Horned Frogs looked to win the second game as well, hitting eight home runs to gain an early lead, but Air Force retook the lead with several timely hits. TCU responded to a 4-1 deficit in the second inning by scoring eight runs to lead 9-4. With TCU leading 11-6 in the fourth inning, Air Force erupted with a seven-run streak to lead 13-11. Six of the runs came with two outs. TCU scored two runs in the fifth and sixth innings to lead 15-13, but Air Force came right back with three runs in the sixth. The game was halted at the bottom of the seventh with Air Force holding onto a one-run lead.

Falcon football schedule announced for 2010

Ten nationally televised games and visits to Falcon Stadium by league rivals BYU, CSU, Utah and New Mexico and a service academy rival highlight the 2010 Air Force football schedule released today by the Mountain West Conference.

Air Force opens the season on Saturday, Sept. 4 on the Academy's Parents' Weekend against Northwestern

State at noon. The Falcons open MWC play at home against BYU, Saturday, Sept. 11, at 2 p.m. The first leg in the race for the Commander-in-Chief Trophy will be settled on Oct. 2 when the Falcons host Navy at 12:30 p.m. AFA travels to West Point to face Army on Nov. 6. The season concludes with a Thursday night game at UNLV, Nov. 18, at 7 p.m. on CBS College Sports.

2010 Air Force Football Schedule

Day	Date	Time	Opponent
Sat.	Sept. 4	12 p.m.	Northwestern State

Sat.	Sept. 11	2 p.m.	BYU
Sat.	Sept. 18	TBA	at Oklahoma
Sat.	Sept. 25	12 p.m.	at Wyoming
Sat.	Oct. 2	12:30 p.m.	Navy
Sat.	Oct. 9	12 p.m.	Colorado State
Sat.	Oct. 16	5 p.m.	at San Diego State
Sat.	Oct. 23	7 p.m.	at TCU
Sat.	Oct. 30	5:30 p.m.	Utah
Sat.	Nov. 6	12 p.m.	at Army
Sat.	Nov. 13	4 p.m.	New Mexico
Thur.	Nov. 18	7 p.m.	at UNLV

Menefee, Mills collect USA Gymnastics titles

By Valerie Perkin
Athletic Communications

Sophomore Devin Menefee set an Academy record on the vault to claim a USA Gymnastics national title along with junior Nash Mills during the USAG Collegiate National Championships Saturday at the Cadet West Gym.

Menefee, a Houston native, won the vault with a score of 15.950, retaking the outright lead on the program's all-time list and improving on his previous best by .100.

Mills, a native of Coto De Caza, Calif., claimed top honors on the parallel bars with a score of 14.500. His title comes just one day after he claimed champion honors in the all-around.

In addition to his first-place finish on the parallel bars, Mills earned USAG All-America honors on the still rings (13.650) and vault (15.400), while finishing eighth on the high bar with a score of 12.350.

Junior Dan Klimkowski placed second on the still rings, claiming his first USAG All-America certificate with a score of 14.050. Freshman James Okamoto was the national runner-up on the pommel horse, earning USAG All-America accolades behind a career-best score of 14.350. Sophomore Chase Nobles was also named a USAG All-American, as he finished fourth on that event with a score of 13.700.

Air Force also collected USAG All-America honors from senior Garrett Canter, who placed fifth on the high bar with a score of 13.250. Canter also participated in the event finals of the parallel bars, scoring a 12.750 to finish eighth.

Navy's Dylan Parrott was the USAG champion on the floor exercise (14.750) and high bar (14.300), while William and Mary's Derek Gyax won the pommel horse (14.400) and teammate Steve Duetsch finished first on the still rings (14.150).

Air Force returns to action next



Photos by Johnny Wilson

Nash Mills competes on the rings during the USA Gymnastics national competition Saturday at the Cadet West Gym. Mills, a junior, won the parallel bars contest with a score of 14.500.



Devin Menefee, a sophomore and Houston native, set an Academy record on the vault to claim his USA Gymnastics national title. He is seen here competing on the rings.

Saturday, April 3, when it travels to Norman, Okla., for the 2010 Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Championships.

Lacrosse

Air Force lost a 9-6 road contest to Denver Saturday afternoon at Peter Barton Lacrosse Stadium in Denver, falling to 1-6 on the year. Air Force struck first in the contest on a goal by junior Zack Carroll, but Denver answered with three goals to take a 3-1 lead. The Pioneers scored the go-ahead seventh goal midway through the last quarter. The Falcons will finish their four-game road trip Saturday against

Robert Morris in Moon Township, Pa.

Gymnastics

Four members of the women's gymnastics team were selected Monday to compete at the NCAA Regional Championships in Salt Lake City April 10. Sophomore Jenna Dudley and junior Brittany Dutton will compete in the all-around, while junior Lisa Wong and senior Michelle Denise will compete as specialists on the balance beam and floor

exercise, respectively.

Track

Junior distance runner Justin Tyner was named the Mountain West Conference Male Outdoor Track and Field Athlete of the Week, the first time he has received a weekly track and field honor. Tyner, a native of Baxter, Minn., won the 1,500-meter and 5,000-meter races at the Military Track and Field Championships in Lexington, Va.,

Saturday, setting career-best times and meet records in both events.

Baseball

In other baseball action, freshman rightfielder Garret Custons drove in nine runs to lead Air Force to a 25-7 rout of Colorado Christian Tuesday at Falcon Field. Custons, a native of Sarasota, Fla., set an Academy record by going 6-for-7 with two home runs, two doubles and nine RBIs.



Holocaust Observance

The Academy will hold a Holocaust Observance luncheon Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Falcon Club.

Samuel Lauber is the guest speaker for the luncheon, which is themed, "A Hidden Child's Story"

Cost is \$10 for club members and \$12 for non-members. Meal choices are vegetable or meat lasagna. For more information or to purchase a ticket, contact Master Sgt. Annette Williams at 333-4258.

Egg Hunt, FunFest

The 10th Force Support Squadron will hold a free Easter egg hunt at the Academy Preparatory School Parade Field Saturday starting at 10 a.m., followed by FunFest at the Youth Center from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Attractions at FunFest will include

CADET CHAPEL HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Protestant Services:	Catholic Services:
Good Friday Today, 5 p.m.	Good Friday Today, 6 p.m.
Sunrise Easter Service Sunday, 6:15 a.m.	Easter Vigil Saturday, 8 p.m.
Easter Sunday Sunday, 8, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.	Easter Sunday Sunday, 10 a.m.

inflatable play areas, an appearance by the Falcons mascot, a petting zoo and various activities for children of all ages.

For more information, contact Youth Programs at 333-4169

Summer employment

Students enrolled or accepted to a college, university, technical or vocational school may apply for summer jobs at the Air Force Academy through Wednesday.

Applicants must hold a 2.0 or better grade-point average and be 16 years old by June 1.

Positions available include clerical, food service worker and general laborer jobs. Announcements at www.usajobs.gov will contain details and specific examples.

Applicants may e-mail completed applications to the 10th Force Support Squadron at 10fss.seep@usafa.af.mil. For more information, contact 10th FSS at 333-4363.

Free tax preparation

The Air Force Academy will prepare tax returns free for active-duty servicemembers stationed at the Academy as well as cadets and retirees in Arnold Hall near Hap's through April 15.

Hours of service are weekdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To have your tax return prepared, you will need a military ID card, wage and earning statements from your employers and any interest and dividend forms. You will also need bank routing and account numbers if you would like your tax refund issued through direct deposit.

For more information, contact the tax center at 333-3905.

Arbor Day observance

The Academy will celebrate Arbor Day April 16 from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Scout Huts on Community Center Drive.

Col. Todd Robison, the 10th Air Base Wing vice commander, will accept a Tree City USA award on behalf of the Academy in recognition of its urban forest management program.

The event will also include a tree planting by Academy Youth Center students to restore an area that had been infested with dwarf mistletoe. Volunteers will also have a chance to plant a tree and should bring gloves.

Civilian tuition assistance

The Civilian Tuition Assistance Program has money available for appropriated-funds employees of the Academy who are in an active civilian pay status. For more information or to apply for tuition assistance, call Christy Pfallmer at 333-4821.

Community Center Activities

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

Family Fun Friday

Falcon Family Fun Friday will offer games and bingo today at the Milazzo Center from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Admission to the event costs \$5 for adults and \$3 for children ages 4 to 12.

Pizza, snacks and drinks will be provided. Games and bingo are free.

Body Conditioning

Body conditioning class takes place Mondays and Wednesdays in the Community Center Ballroom from noon to 1 p.m.

Admission to the six-week class costs \$60 and entails full-body workouts using dumbbell weights, resistance bands and rings and other provided equipment.

The class helps participants improve their strength, posture, muscle tone and bone density and is appropriate to all fitness levels.

Dancing

Ballroom and line dancing classes are available in the Community Center Ballroom and are ongoing throughout the year.

The cost to attend the six-week classes is \$40 per person or \$70 per couple for ballroom dancing and \$35 per person for line dancing.

Ballroom dancing classes are taught Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. for beginners, 6:45 p.m. for intermediate dancers and 8 p.m. for swing dancers. Line Dancing classes are taught Mondays with classes at 5 and 6:15 p.m.

A&FRC Offerings

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

Group pre-separation counseling

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

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

'Iron Chef' canceled

The Family Plus "Iron Chef" cooking competition originally scheduled for April 10 has been canceled due to a scheduling conflict.

The event will be rescheduled for September.

For more information, contact Ashley Royall at 333-2928.

Family Advocacy Classes

All Family Advocacy classes are open to active-duty servicemembers, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and family members unless otherwise specified. Classes are held at the Airmen and Family Readiness Center. For information on classes offered by the Family Advocacy

Office or to sign up, contact Kristin Larkey of Family Advocacy Outreach at 333-5270.

Common Sense Parenting

Thursdays through April 22, 3 to 4:30 p.m.

This is a skill-based parenting program for parents of children ages 5-18 that teaches parents practical and effective ways to increase their children's positive behaviors, decrease their negative behaviors and appropriate alternative behaviors.

Anger Management

Mondays through April 26, 3 to 4:30 p.m.

This class will help participants better understand their anger and where it comes from, how to handle conflict in frustrating situations and how to relax and de-stress their lives.

Couples Communication Seminar

April 16, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

This one-day seminar teaches participants how to communicate more effectively and improve their relationships. Everyone is welcome, whether they are married, engaged, dating or single.

1-2-3 Magic Parenting

May 13 and 20, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

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



Free day at Denver Art Museum

The Denver Art Museum offers free admission the first Saturday of each month. The museum is located at 100 West 14th Avenue Parkway in Denver.

'Only Rock-n-Roll'

The Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum presents a collection of rock-n-roll concert images by photographer Larry Hulst through May 29. The exhibit includes photos of Janis Joplin, Jimmie Hendrix, the Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin and others. Admission to the museum is free.

Pikes Peak or Bust scholarships

The Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo Parade will sponsor scholarships to family members of servicemembers killed or wounded in action while in a designated combat zone.

The scholarships are awarded to family members who have been accepted to an accredited college or university or who are current college students and can be applied for either traditional degree programs or vocational and technical education.

Applicants must apply by May 30 and must be committed to attend during the 2010-2011 academic year. Students who have already been selected for full scholarships or have been selected to attend a service academy are not eligible.

For more information, contact the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce at 719-575-4325.

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

CADET CHAPEL
Call 719-333-2636 for more information.

Buddhist
Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.

Jewish
Friday - 7:00 p.m.

Muslim
Friday Prayer - 12:15 p.m.

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

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

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Academic Year, when cadets are present Wednesday - 5:30-6:20 p.m.

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

Native American Services:
Sweat Lodge and Inipi
Saturday, 2:30 pm
Fort Carson Turkey Creek Recreation Area
Contact Tech. Sgt. Theresea Coccoziello at 505-453-6367 or by e-mail kanista.foundation@yahoo.com

COMMUNITY CENTER CHAPEL
Catholic Masses:
Saturday
Reconciliation - 3:30 p.m.
Mass - 4 p.m.
Sunday
Mass - 9 a.m.
Religious Formation - 10:15 a.m. (September - May)
Tuesday-Friday
Mass - 11:30 a.m.

Protestant Services:
Wednesday
Wednesday Night Live - 6 p.m.
Dinner followed by Religious Education (September - May).
Sunday
Evangelical - 10:15 a.m.
Gospel - 11:30 a.m.

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