

USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO
ACADEMY SPIRIT

Vol. 49 No. 9

March 6, 2009

Congratulations to the following Academy master sergeants selected for promotion to senior master sergeant.



Todd Farlee
 James Hiatt
 Jackie King
 Pernell Parker
 Paul Pohnert
 Jeremy Rennahan
 Marc Schoellkopf



Historic legends

Prep School hosts honored guests
 Page 5



Outcomes

Teamwork vital to mission accomplishment
 Page 7



Old soldier passes

Stubbs passes, leaves legacy
 Page 8



Boxing

Wing Open set for Sunday, 2 p.m.
 Page 15



Photo by Dave Ahlschwede

Combat rescue

Those on or near the Terrazzo Thursday afternoon witnessed a Combat Search and Rescue demonstration. An HH-60 crew from Nellis Air Force Base manned the aircraft including Academy graduates: Maj. Lee Boedecker, Class of 2000; Capt. Terry Parham, Class of 2002; and Capt. Rudy Taute, Class of 2003.

Academy toasts 2008's best

By Ken Carter
 Editor

And the winners are ...
 When the nominees arrived at the Falcon Club Feb. 27 for the annual 'Academy Awards' program there was both electricity and anticipation in the air. The red-carpet arrival for nominees, including Academy Honor Guard Representatives, Airmen, NCOs, senior NCOs, company grade officers and civilians of the year (categories I, II and III) included photographic flashes illuminating the Falcon Club's foyer.
 According to Senior Master Sgt. Gayle Elliott, appointed by the command chief to chair this year's committee, maintaining the 'Academy Awards' ambiance to the evening was the goal. "To go along with

the theme, we called ourselves the 'supporting cast' and I was the 'producer,'" she said.

Sergeant Elliott had two co-chairs, called 'associate producers', Bob Diehl and Capt. Julio Cano. "They were exceptional advisors throughout the entire process."

The senior NCO had nothing but praise for the caliber of this year's nominees and winners alike.

"I was so impressed with all of this year's nominees," Sergeant Elliott said. "They represent dedication and outstanding work of individuals across all mission elements at USAFA. I feel honored to work here where we have such incredibly talented and diverse professionals to support the mission. Across the Academy, great things are happening

every day to shape future officers for our Air Force."

Teamwork clearly was the key to success for the awards program which came off without a hitch. According to Sergeant Elliott, this year's committee did an amazing job in honoring all Academy Annual Awards nominees in a way that upheld tradition, honored each nominee equally, and culminated in an evening all in attendance would remember.

"An integral part of the event is the donations and support from our community partners and professional organizations," Sergeant Elliott concluded. "It is only through their support we are able to acknowledge and honor the nominees in the red-carpet style they truly deserve."

See Pages 12 and 13 for more coverage on the event.

2.9 percent raise for troops proposed

By John J. Kruzal
 American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON - President Barack Obama's fiscal 2010 budget proposal includes a 2.9 percent pay increase for U.S. servicemembers.

The figure is lower than pay raises requested the past two years, Defense

Secretary Robert Gates said recently. But he noted Congress has a precedent of increasing the amount initially requested.

"Two years ago, we went to the Hill with about the same request; it was 3 percent. And last year, we went with a request for 3.5 percent," Gates told reporters at a Pentagon news conference.

"In both cases, the Congress added to it."

Gates cited the "constrained economic environment" for the smaller proposed pay raise, but said the request is "not all that different from what we submitted in the past."

The bump in pay is part of the Defense Department's \$534 billion base

See RAISE, Page 6

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Academy fan offers shout out

Editor's note: The below was recently sent to U.S. Air Force Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. John Regni.

To: Lt. Gen. John Regni and all current and future commanders of the U.S. Air Force

Sir:

My family and I would like to take a minute and thank you for your service to our nation.

All too often the men and women of our Air Force are forgotten about during troubled times at home when headlines change from saluting our hero's and calls of patriotism to bailouts for Banks and the Auto Industry.

My wife Diana and I, having never

served in the Air Force, are so very inspired by the fact that the U.S. Air Force is an all volunteer Air Force. Men and women from all walks of life have, in this time of war, taken upon themselves the responsibility of defending this great nation against the evil that seeks only to destroy freedom-loving people around the world. Knowing that at any moment they could be called upon to pay the ultimate price for freedom they still proudly serve.

We can find no words to express how, as ordinary Americans, how grateful and appreciative we are for all of those who serve and have volunteered to take on such a daunting task. This speaks to the character of all of our men and women in the U.S. Air Force; and that character only comes from exceptional leadership.

Yours has to be one of the most difficult and demanding jobs in the world.

We can't imagine the decisions you have to make on a daily basis and the hardships you face as a commander of so many young men and women. Diana and I thank you for your willingness to stand and make the difficult decisions that must be made in times like these.

We pray God will ease the burdens that are placed upon you, and bless you with peace and confidence in a just cause. Please know that we are grateful we have people like you leading the men and women of the Air Force and our prayers are always with you.

Sincerely & Respectfully
Steve & Diana Rogge

Women's History Month: Taking lead to save planet

By Staff Sgt. Jessica Blace
379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron

In our nation's history, women's contributions to our great country have been overlooked and completely omitted at times. The idea of acknowledging women's contributions to American History had little support until 1978. And now we celebrate "Women's History Week."

This year, the Department of Defense recognizes Women's History Month as "Women Taking the lead to Save Our Planet." Of note are a few women who have and continue to make a positive impact on the Earth's environment for future generations

Mary Arlene Appelhof, who lived from 1936 to 2005, also known as "worm woman," advocated using the earthworm to recycle food waste into fertilizer and introduced the environmentally-signifi-

cant action of vermicomposting.

Mollie Beattie, who lived from 1947 to 1996, was the first woman to head the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. She led the reintroduction of the gray wolf into the northern Rocky Mountains. For this accomplishment, Congress named a wilderness area in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in her honor.

Hillary Rodham Clinton, a name we are all familiar with, is now our secretary of state. While serving as a senator, she worked to secure federal legislation to protect the environment both on the Senate's Environment and Public Works Committee and as the senior democrat on the fisheries, wildlife and water subcommittee.

She also co-sponsored the Petroleum Consumer Price Gouging Protection Act and Close the Enron Loophole Act that allowed the president to declare an energy emergency and trigger federal gouging

protections.

While observing great women of the past, what about a woman serving in the Air Force and deployed while assisting in Earth's survival.

Capt. Elizabeth Yesue, the 379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron programs flight chief, arrived in July 2008 to an air base in Southwest Asia. She also deployed to Baghdad International Airport in Iraq from September 2004 through January 2005. Throughout her deployments, she accomplished many tasks to directly influence the environmental stewardship of those in the area of responsibility and directly impacted us all. She wrote the environmental standards for joint implementation in the area of responsibility, established the base solid waste management plan, and remediated a 186,000-gallon fuel spill that occurred after an attack, just to note a few accomplishments.

ACADEMY SPIRIT

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

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

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



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Center for Character Development

We sometimes see, hear, and experience things that we do not like or agree with. We all get frustrated at times, but how we deal with that frustration says a lot about our character. When frustration turns to cynicism, it often results in negative and unproductive behaviors. Cynicism is not conducive to effective operations. But when we turn frustration and concern into effective action,

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we can be the catalyst of positive change for ourselves and those around us. While a cynic complains, a person of character takes action to solve problems and make things better. Who would you rather have on your team? Focus on the positive and what you can change, not on the negative and what you can't.

"We can destroy ourselves by cynicism and disillusion just as effectively as by bombs."
Kenneth Clark



Remember to spring forward at 2 a.m.
March 8th

Any words of encouragement for the Falcons basketball teams at the MWC tourney next week?

"Prepare well the night before and know that it's not always the big school that goes away with the victory."

2nd Lt. April Harker
Academy
Admissions Office
Greenville, N.C.



"Aim high, play a strong mental game and good luck!"

2nd Lt. Valencia
Gore
Academy
Admissions
Atlanta, Ga.



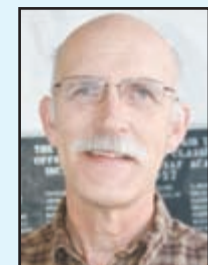
"Adversity will only make you stronger. Without it, you can't become strong leaders."

Jeanne Hollander
Cadet Activities
Specialist
Casper, Wyo.



"Work hard, have fun, keep your integrity."

Scott Saxon
Arnold Hall
Facility Manager
Colorado Springs,
Colo.



First Lady advocates for military women, families in predecessor's mold

By John J. Kruzel
American Forces Press Service

ARLINGTON, Va., – First lady Michelle Obama received a tip from a retired female Air Force general today: Keep modeling herself after her World War II-era predecessor, Eleanor Roosevelt.

Retired Brig. Gen. Wilma Vaught, speaking recently at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial here, drew a comparison between

Obama and her first lady forebear.

“From the very beginning, she has made servicewomen and their welfare a priority on which she is focusing,” Vaught said of Obama. “In doing this, she is following in the footsteps of first lady Eleanor Roosevelt’s WWII fame.”

Without Roosevelt’s steadfast advocacy, women — including African-American women — might not have been allowed to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces, said Vaught, president of the Women’s Memorial Foundation.

The timing of the event, which brought together several dozen current and retired military women of various rank and branch, coincided with the first week of Women’s History Month. It also comes as the current first lady seeks to extend her campaign focus on military families, according to White House officials.

Stepping into Roosevelt’s mold, Obama opened her remarks by accepting Vaught’s challenge to revive a bygone tradition: hosting women troops in the audience to the White House for tea, a luxury that gained Roosevelt popularity among female servicemembers.

Obama said women have been contributing to the U.S. military since the Revolutionary War, citing their earliest antecedent Deborah Samson, who disguised herself as a man and enlisted in the 4th Massachusetts Regiment in 1782.

“Throughout our nation’s history women have played an important role in the military as well as in organizations supporting the military during times of conflict,” she said. “Our foremothers and our sisters today have joined our forefathers and our brothers today in securing our liberty and protecting our country.”

Echoing remarks President Barack Obama made last week at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C., the first lady said service doesn’t end with the person wearing the uniform, adding that she’s been honored and deeply moved to

meet military families in recent years.

“They are mothers and fathers who have lost their beloved children to war; they are husbands and wives keeping the families on track while their wives and husbands are deployed on duty,” she said. “They are grandparents, aunts and uncles, and sisters and brothers who are taking care of children while single moms or dads in uniform are away.”

Obama recognized members of the audience who blazed the trail for female servicemembers, including Army Gen. Ann Dunwoody, the first female to receive the rank of four-star general; Coast Guard Vice Adm. Vivien Crea, the first woman to serve as a vice chief of a military branch; and Alyce Dixon, a 101-year-old former company clerk in the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion during World War II.

Dunwoody praised the generations of women servicemembers who paved the way for her.

“As you go through the history of our early beginnings and recognize the generations of women who have gone before us, their dedication and commitment has opened the doors for women today,” she said.



Photo by Joyce N. Boghosian

From left to right, Mary Ragland and Alyce Dixon, both company clerks in the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion during World War II; First Lady Michelle Obama; and Esther Corcoran, one of the first women to achieve the rank of Army lieutenant colonel, pose for a photo during a March 3, 2009, event honoring Women’s History Month and military families at Arlington National Cemetery’s Women in Military Service for America Memorial Center in Arlington, Va.



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Academy hosts cost analysts to guide cadets

By Mark Pleimann
Academy FFRDC Representative

Given the current state of the U.S. economy and future budgetary constraints facing our next generation of Air Force leaders, preparing cadets to enter the world of Department of Defense (DoD) acquisition requires they understand financial processes and resources available to provide capability to our warfighters.

Mr. Wayne Sidebottom, visiting professor of Economics and Anders Chair, welcomed The MITRE Corporation to provide a Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC) perspective of acquisition in the Air Force for his Defense Economics 478 classes on Feb. 27.

As part of MITRE's academic outreach initiative Robyn Kane and Chris Dalton, both certified cost estimator/analysts, gave cadets an overview of DOD acquisition within the Air Force. Ms. Kane is the Secretary of the National Society of Cost Estimating and Analysis (SCEA) Board and co-founder and former president of the



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Robyn Kane, certified cost estimator/analyst of the MITRE Corporation, explains to cadets what will be expected to execute in their new roles as acquisition leaders after graduation.

Pikes Peak Chapter of SCEA. She supports Headquarters Air Force Space Command Financial Management as a cost analyst. Mr. Dalton is a 1994 Academy graduate and former president of the Pikes Peak Chapter of SCEA.

Their combined experience helped cadets understand the opportunities and challenges they will face as future Air

Force officers with the demanding responsibility of managing funds to provide our warfighters needed capabilities. Cadets are acutely aware of the challenges they will face as one asked "Will the budget numbers be changing under President Obama?" and "Will former President Bush's FY09 budget remain intact?" Ms. Kane and Mr.

Dalton explained the Program Objective Memorandum process and how budgets are created and managed through the planning, programming, budgeting, and execution process.

During the discussion of traditional and non-traditional acquisition within the execution process, the cadets were acutely aware and commented on ethics, legality, cost, and performance considerations of managing Air Force resources. Ms. Kane and Mr. Dalton explained the role of an FFRDC as the government's trusted, unbiased advisor and how other agencies also fulfill this role to support them as financial managers.

With fewer than 100 days from becoming commissioned officers, cadets had questions regarding their roles as financial managers and associated expectations they will be required to uphold. The experts shared their personal experiences and offered further guidance as part of USAFA and MITRE's continuing collaborative academic extension through the Defense Economics 478 capstone project where MITRE will host teams of USAFA cadets this spring semester for a more in-depth acquisition review.



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Tuskegee Airmen share experience, wisdom

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

In a large-scale effort to expand the Army Air Corps, the U.S. Congress passed Public Law 18 in 1939. One section of that law authorized training programs to employ African-Americans in various areas of the Air Corps.

The first such college was Tuskegee Institute, as it was known then, in Tuskegee, Ala. The first African-American unit was designated the 99th Pursuit Squadron.

During World War II Tuskegee Airmen in the unit, later named the 99th Fighter Squadron, destroyed or damaged 409 enemy aircraft in the Mediterranean and European theaters. Among other awards, individuals in the unit received 95 Distinguished Flying Crosses and three Tuskegee Airmen went on to become Air Force generals.

Cadet candidates at the Academy Preparatory School were privileged to meet and talk with three second-generation Tuskegee Airmen during their visit Feb. 26.

"This is a very special treat, a once-in-a-lifetime occasion," Prep School military commander Lt. Col. Ida Widmann told the students. "Consider it an honor."

The Air Force became racially integrated officially in 1949, but African-American Airmen still had hurdles to overcome.

"We went through the good, the bad and the ugly," retired Chief Master Sgt. Loran Smith, 77, told the Prep School



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Retired Col. Lowell Bell (left) and retired Chief Master Sgt. Loran Smith enjoy the company of cadet candidates during their visit as members of Hooks Jones chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. Retired Col. James Randall also attended.

students. "We paved the way for your moms and dads."

Pilot and retired Col. James Randall recalled crossing the Pacific Ocean and musing on opportunities in the Air Force.

"I thought here I am sitting in a \$12-million airplane when people a few years ago said I did not have that capability," he said. "I enjoyed every year I spent in the Air Force."

Mr. Randall, 83, piloted 75 missions in Korea and was shot down in 1965 during the Vietnam War while flying an F-105 on his 44th mission.

The three Prep School guests are members of the Hooks Jones chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., which among its interests are scholarships. All emphasized their dedication to service above all and pride in it.

"We fought and flew combat for our country," Mr. Smith said.

Retired Colonel Lowell Bell, 75, retired in 1978 with more than 6,000 flying hours. A graduate of what is now known as Tuskegee University, he took advantage of the opportunities in the Air Force.

"I piggy-backed on those who came before me and made the most of it," he said.

The guests spoke individually and also fielded questions after their presentations. The three had plenty of advice for the cadet candidates on issues involving the military and the students' futures.

Discipline was one of those issues. "Rules are OK," Mr. Bell said. "They are made for a specific purpose. At some point you are going to be the rule makers."

Promotions were another issue inter-

esting Prep School students.

Mr. Bell said there is no sure fire method for obtaining them.

"Push the guy in front of you up the ladder," he said. "It's easier than trying to go around him."

The Tuskegee Airmen encouraged students to continue to learn after their Academy days.

Mr. Smith summed up his three keys to success very simply: education, education, education.

Mr. Bell said the cadet candidates have much to offer prospective cadets, even in their hometowns.

"I encourage you to look how you got here and what you will do with it," he said and urged them to contact their high schools and stress the importance of language, math and science.

The Prep School students, many of whom gathered around the Airmen after the formal session, appreciated their visit and its significance.

"I got to see some real history and was interested in everything they said," said Cadet Candidate Su Kim.

"It's always good to hear what others have to say, especially when it's history of importance," said Cadet Candidate Nick Clayton.

Cadet Cody Felipe expressed his appreciation for the speakers' accomplishments.

"It's good to know what they initiated for us," he said. "It felt good to be in their presence."

Of the original 916 Tuskegee Airmen, 130 are still alive.

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More troops, families to qualify for new GI Bill

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Troops nearing retirement eligibility may be able to tap into the transferability benefits provided in the new Post-9/11 GI Bill, even if they're unable to serve four more years of duty due to service policies, a senior defense official said.

The Post-9/11 Veterans Education Bill that takes effect in August and will offer more benefits and the ability to transfer benefits to a spouse or child has proven to be a hit with the troops, Bill Carr, deputy undersecretary of defense for military personnel policy, told the

Pentagon Channel and American Forces Press Service.

Of servicemembers surveyed in August, 97 percent said they plan to take advantage of the Post-9/11 GI Bill, particularly its transferability provision, Mr. Carr said.

"Enormous interest has been expressed in the transferability provision and how it would work, because so many in the force have families," Mr. Carr said. He noted that half of the military force is married. By the time troops have served six years of duty, about two-thirds have families.

To qualify for transferability under the Post-9/11 GI Bill, servicemembers must

have served six years on active duty or in the Selected Reserve and must commit to another four years. But Mr. Carr said the rules could be tweaked soon to allow mid- or late-career troops to qualify, even if they can't sign on for another four years of duty due to service restrictions.

Rules expected to be published in the months ahead will clarify exactly who is or isn't eligible to transfer their Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits. Mr. Carr said he expects those rules to be "very flexible" to allow servicemembers with 15 or even 20 years of service to qualify. What's definite now is that only those in the active or reserve components on Aug. 1 will be eligible for transferability under the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

"The law doesn't allow it to be retroactive" to cover those who already have left the military, Mr. Carr said.

The new bill represents the most comprehensive education package since the original World War II-era GI Bill, he said. Unlike the current GI Bill, it covers 100 percent - rather than 80 percent - of the cost of tuition, fees and books. Servicemembers no longer will have to pay \$1,200 out of pocket, at the rate of \$100 a month for their first year of service, to qualify.

In addition, most troops will receive a "living stipend" while drawing GI Bill benefits. That benefit will equate to the basic allowance for housing that an E-5 with dependents serving on active duty

receives, Mr. Carr said. And for the first time, servicemembers will be able to transfer any benefits they don't use themselves to their immediate family members.

Of those surveyed in August, 73 percent said they would transfer benefits to their spouse, while 94 percent said they would transfer them to their children.

This is a particularly attractive option for servicemembers who have earned degrees before entering the military or while on duty through the military's tuition assistance programs, Mr. Carr said. These programs will continue when the Post-9/11 GI Bill takes effect.

Troops automatically are eligible to transfer to the Post-9/11 GI Bill program when it takes effect, but must elect to do so, officials said.

The Department of Veterans Affairs, which administers the program, has more details about the basic program on its Web site. The Defense Department will oversee the transferability program and set up a Web-based application servicemembers can use to request transfer of their Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits, Mr. Carr said.

Mr. Carr expressed hope that servicemembers will take advantage of the new benefits.

"The new GI Bill provides some wonderful opportunities for the military," he said. "These are benefits that we had hoped for — for a number of years, and finally have received."

Raise

From Page 1

operating budget for fiscal 2010, which represents a 4 percent, or \$20 billion, increase from the previous fiscal year.

At a news conference yesterday, Gates expressed confidence that the department's budget share will be enough to sustain its requirements, including personnel needs.

"I'm confident this funding level will allow the department to meet its long-term institutional priorities of taking care of the troops and their families, rebalancing our capabilities for conventional and irregular warfare,

completing the growth of the Army and Marine Corps and preserving essential modernization programs," he said.

The budget summary released by the White House yesterday says the military pay increase reflects the administration's commitment to caring for troops and increases servicemembers' purchasing power.

"After years of asking more and more from our troops and their families, this budget reflects the priorities of an administration that is committed to caring for the servicemembers who protect our security and the families who support them," the summary states.

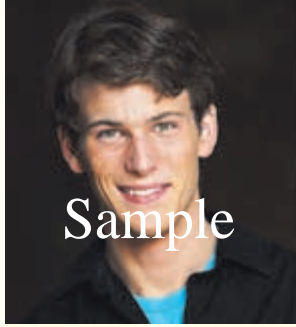
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Teamwork — A Skills Outcome

By Col. Greg Seely
Teamwork Outcome Team Lead

“Upon the fields of friendly strife are sown the seeds that upon other days and other fields will bear the fruits of victory.”

— Gen. Douglas MacArthur

Teamwork has always been essential to military success and to the success of Air Force Academy cadets. It can be defined in many ways, but at its heart is one fundamental idea: a group of individuals working together to achieve a common goal is better than the collective performance of the individuals. In order for a team to maximize its full ability, everyone on the team needs to buy in on the idea of the mission or task

at hand and believe in it.

As future military officers, Academy cadets have committed to be part of something bigger than themselves. They are expected to work together on teams to advance the goals of that team, sometimes at the expense of their personal goals. The Air Force calls this “Service Before Self.”

Teamwork is an Academy warrior skill that empowers our graduates to succeed as officers and leaders in the operational Air Force. Therefore, a goal of the Academy is to commission officers who embody the following qualities:

- Commitment to team goals – Team members ensure the goals are shared and understood by all team members.

- Inspires and empowers others – Share the team responsibilities, assist others with their responsibilities, inspire members to achieve high levels of performance, and ensure all members of the team contribute in constructive ways.

- Holds self and others accountable – Each member holds themselves and the others on the team to high standards.

- Builds trust and a positive environment – ensure other team members feel comfortable asking questions, providing inputs, and seeking assistance. Trust creates a climate of openness and mutual support to help teams reach maximum performance.

Cadets practice and hone their teamwork skills throughout their Academy career. From their first days at the Academy, cadets are immersed in experiences that develop teamwork. During the six-weeks of Basic Cadet Training, basic cadets quickly discover how teamwork with their classmates helps them succeed in the challenges they face.

The Officer Development System specifically recognizes the value of teamwork with the incorporation of it into the systematic process of Personal-Interpersonal-Teamwork-Organization model. Throughout the rest of their four years during the “academic year,” cadets live in dormitories organized in groups, squadrons, flights, and elements and practice leadership and teamwork on a daily basis. As a cadet first class recently stated: “This place naturally shows you that there is no way you can make it through alone. Teamwork, whether it be on my team or just in my squad, is highly important to overall performance.”

Additionally, cadets are organized



into small teams to work on projects for a variety of academic courses, helping develop teamwork skills. An example is their introductory engineering course where they are placed in teams of four to design and build rockets, gliders and bridges. The opportunity to work in academic teams continues throughout a cadet’s four-year Academy experience.

Teamwork also evokes thoughts and images of competitive sports, and cadets participate in a variety of competitive athletics. Whether as an NCAA intercollegiate athlete, club sport competitor or participant in intramurals, cadets see first-hand how teamwork makes them more successful. From being a new team member to serving as team captains, they are able to practice teamwork and take valuable lessons with them upon graduation. Mia Hamm of the U.S. Women’s National Soccer Team described it as “... I rely on the team, I defer to it and sacrifice for it, because the team, not the individual, is the ultimate champion.”

Gen. Douglas MacArthur said, “Upon the fields of friendly strife are sown the seeds that upon other days and other fields will bear the fruits of victory.” This quotation helps us understand how teamwork cadets learn and practice on Academy athletic fields can translate into later military success.

Teamwork is a critical skill for Academy cadets and they develop teamwork skills throughout their Academy experience to become effective leaders of character for the nation. Without such skills, no military unit can be successful.



Photo by Dennis Rogers

Teamwork can be viewed from many perspectives.

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Stubbs takes final retirement bow

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Happy trails, old soldier.

At age 46, Equestrian Center veteran "Stubbs" left his Academy home behind for good Feb. 24 and headed for heavenly pastures.

He was a very much loved favorite horse of the Equestrian Center staff and the children and adults he squired around the Academy.

Except for routine check-ups and immunizations, Stubbs had never seen a veterinarian. The perfect employee, he worked six days a week, never took a vacation and never filed a complaint of any sort, Equestrian Center manager Billy Jack Barrett once said of him.

Over the years his coat faded, mostly to white, his gait slowed and he was allowed to go barefoot later in life.

Three times he was honored by Academy youngsters with a birthday party, one at age 40, another at age 42 and another last August. The celebrations were complete with custom-crafted birthday cards, hats, games, a Horse of the Year medal for service, and, of course, cake, human and horse-style made of alfalfa, fruit and vegetables.

He had a remarkable lifetime for a horse.

An average horse, if well taken care of all its life, lives well into its 20s. Less

often a horse lives into its 30s. A horse of Stubbs' longevity is practically unheard of.

Stubbs, like all Academy horses, received a diet of quality grain and hay as well as routine maintenance, such as care to hooves and teeth.

Mr. Barrett said one secret to the elder equine's long life was probably his ancestors—the fine, sturdy Appaloosas raised by the Nez Perce Native Americans who sold the U.S. Army Cavalry some of its first horses.

He and Stubbs enjoyed a long and enduring friendship. Mr. Barrett was serving in the color guard at Fort Carson in 1968 when the 6-year-old gelding caught his eye at a horse auction. Mr. Barrett bought him for the Army and promptly named him "Stubbs."

The Air Force later purchased the horse for the Academy, and the horseman/horse pair settled in on the Academy in 1980.

Other Academy horses held a high regard for Stubbs.

"They treat him as if he were the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff," Mr. Barrett once joked.

He also once remarked, more seriously, that the Academy seemed to be an ideal retirement destination for Stubbs.

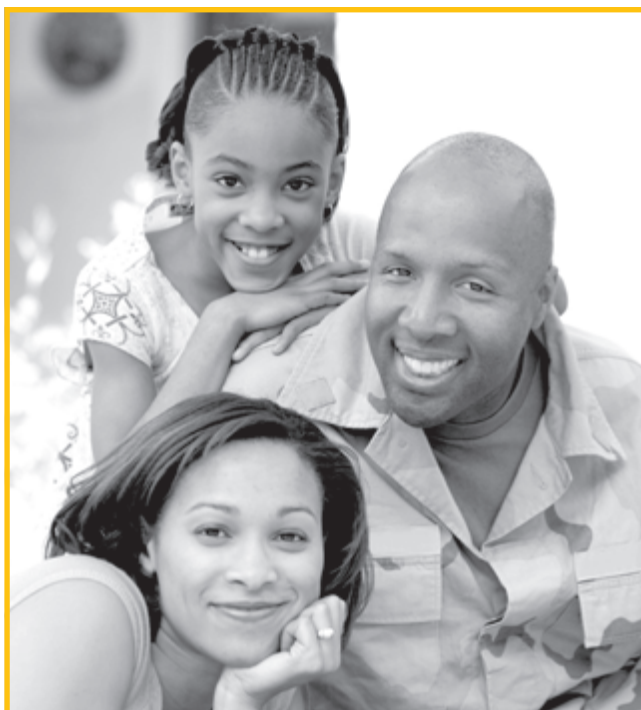
"I'm sure he thinks he is in horse heaven," Mr. Barrett said at the time.

No doubt his friends and admirers believe he is now enjoying the real thing.



Stubbs has touched the lives of many over the years.

Courtesy Photos



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By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

Staff Sgt. Zerrick Shanks and his working dog have deployed to an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia. Their duties consist of searching vehicles, packages, equipment, luggage and random facilities to prevent possible terrorist attacks and help fight the Global War on Terrorism.

It's the 10th Security Forces K-9 handler's first deployment. His partner, Haus, is a German short-hair pointer who'd deployed as recently as 2007.

The duo has worked together for nine months and traveled aboard the same flight. Whenever deploying for the Air Expeditionary Force they always travel as a team.

Haus did surprisingly well on the trip, the dog handler said.

"He's pretty much like a person when it comes to travel," said the 26 year-old NCO from Atlanta. "He got on the plane and moved around a couple of times, then found a comfortable relaxed position and pretty much stayed there the whole flight. We had a couple of TDYs before I came over here on commercial flight lines where he actually flew up above with myself and the rest of the human passengers. He received compliments for his good behavior. I think he actually does better than some babies. He has had a great reaction to this country. Although I think the high temperatures over here are having a little affect on us. It's still not stopping us from completing our mission."

Most military working dogs are trained at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. Haus is unique; the 4 year old, 57-pound canine was trained and certified locally by Academy kennel master Mr. Chris Jakubin.

"He is the first military working dog I have had the privilege of working with," Sergeant Shanks said. "Haus

An Airman and his dog



Courtesy Photo

Staff Sgt. Zerrick Shanks and Haus conducting a vehicle sweep.

has been trained basic obedience which is your common things like sit, and heel. He has also been trained many different types of explosive odors."

A dog may be man's best friend, but roommate?

"The living accommodations over here are pretty nice," said the six-year Air Force veteran. "We have dorm rooms with bunk beds. Most rooms are three to four people PER room but with K-9, our rooms our considered our secondary kennel just in case something happens

to our primary. We only have two handlers to a room with our kennels located in our rooms."

The sergeant finds dining facilities are somewhat similar to those at the Academy and are open 24/7.

The kennels are within walking distance to the dorms.

"The threat of terrorism is definitely dangerous worldwide," Sergeant Shanks said. "But the location that I am at is not as dangerous as the war in Afghanistan or Iraq. I still have to keep Haus and I alert at all times."


"Haus has a great loving personality," said the sergeant. "He loves to constantly be petted and be the center of attention. He's known as the loudest one in the kennel because every time someone comes in walking down the center aisle he barks constantly to get some love and affection."

He's also a really hard worker, "He's constantly sniffing for odor," said the handler. "Sometimes he's working without me even giving him the proper commands. His hunt drive is so amazing that sometimes when we're conducting training he would find explosives, then he seeks his reward, a tennis ball. Then he'd walk away and drop the tennis ball to go back to work for explosive odor."

At the Academy, Haus is known as the public relations dog. "When we conduct military working dog demonstrations, we usually take Haus to do an open field search for explosives and to allow children a chance to pet a military working dog," said Sergeant Shanks. "He's also very popular at the Academy football games, if anyone wishes to see him or pet him they should definitely attend a game this season."

By the time the handler returns to the Academy he hopes to have his Community College of the Air Force degree completed.

"I also want to save money while I'm on this deployment," he said.




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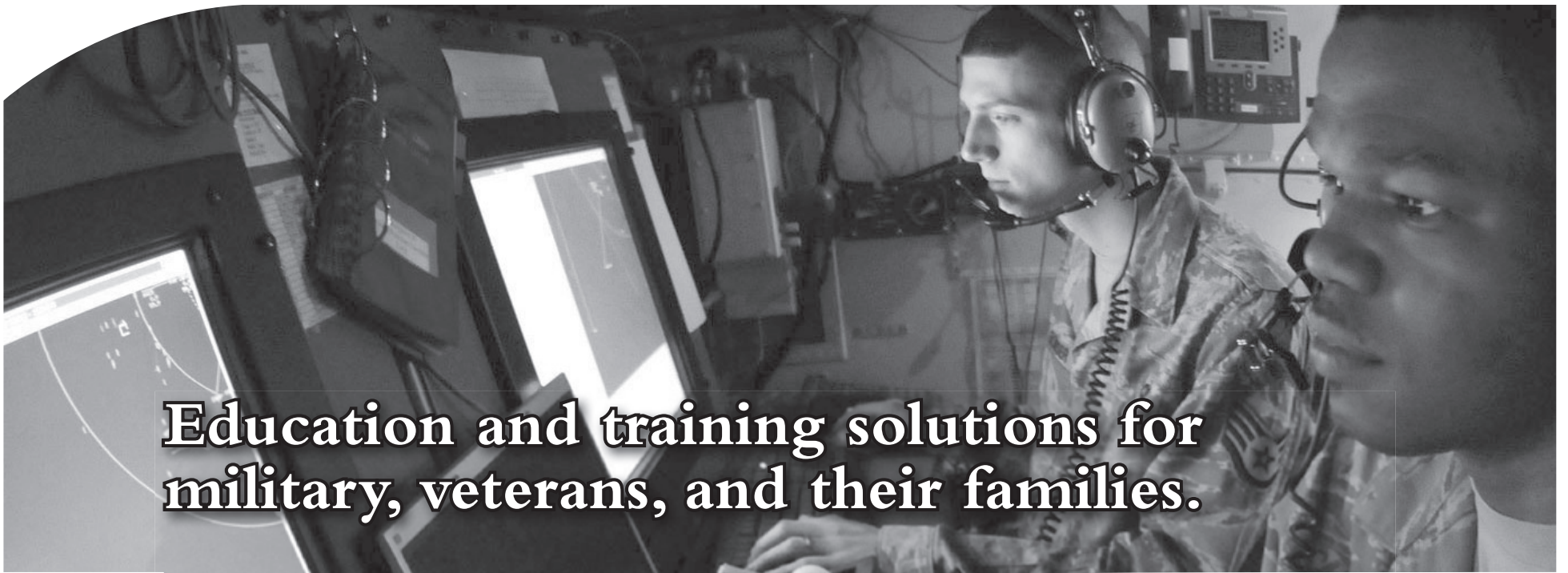



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History making, nation-building in Afghanistan

Constitutional foundation includes Islam

By Academy Spirit staff

Someday the historical records of the National Military Academy of Afghanistan may tell of the professional skill and advice from U.S. Air Force people on its way to becoming a world-class institution.

Like Col. Thomas Drohan, Military Strategic Studies permanent professor and head. Since his first visit to West Point in 2006 to meet the Afghani Academy's planners he has served as the Academy's point of contact in augmenting the U.S. Army effort. He returned from his 4th deployment there last month.

"Academy involvement has involved many academic departments and now includes registrar mentoring and this summer, admissions office mentoring," said Col. Drohan. "Nation-building—I use this term because we are conducting a mission of Foreign Internal Defense that helps Afghans develop institutions for their own security, according to the charter of the Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan, a "transition security command" which replaced the "warfighting command" of Combined Forces Command there. NMAA in particular is nation-building on a small scale because nearly every province in Afghanistan provides cadet candidates, from every major ethnic group such as Pashtuns, Tajiks, Hazaras, Nuristanis and Uzbeks, and family-based clans (there are hundreds of them)."

As these ethnically and tribally diverse cadets live and learn the profession of arms together, forging Academy and professional identities in common service to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, CSTC-A is helping Afghans build their military and an infrastructure for a self-sustaining national government across a society fractured by 40 years of continuous conflict.

Future history records might recall that it was a four-year academy model that integrated military, academic, athletic

and character programs in a military professional experience that helped build a national identity.

"One main difference from our academies is that the constitutional foundation in Afghanistan includes their religion of Islam rather than separates it out," Colonel Drohan said. "This is important to Afghans where Islam is intended to be a unifying factor across tribes and ethnic groups.

8. First graduation was 25 Jan 09....Lt Col Lawrence can give you specifics.

The colonel helped establish the air corps curriculum by developing courses, having them translated into Dari, advising the selection of an Afghan National Army faculty who could teach airpower, and now mentoring their faculty.

Partnership

None of which is being done in a vacuum.

"The partnership is based on close coordination with the NMAA team chief in Kabul, and involves alternating assignments between our Academy and the U.S. Military Academy duties such as the U.S. senior faculty mentor who mentors the NMAA Dean.

Academy members are part of partnership with West Point, who together provide the faculty pool of volunteers that NMAA selects to fill mentor positions each semester.

They go to discuss for instance, perspectives on the subject of integrating women at NMAA. Women will arrive this summer in a limited way as Afghan National Army medical students begin a year of military orientation.

USAFA planners work with the Air Expeditionary Force Center to fill these deployments. Although every deployment takes someone away from the Air



Courtesy photos
At graduation, a new Afghan Army second lieutenant receives his diploma, commission and sword from President Karzai, with Sebghatullah Mojaddedi Chief of the Council of Elders seated and a former president of Afghanistan.

Force Academy mission, and this is scrutinized very closely, there are benefits of the NMAA deployments for USAFA.

The Academy can match its specialized expertise to urgent faculty needs at NMAA that will accelerate progress in developing future leaders for the Afghan National Army.

"There is no better prepared person to mentor cadets at a foreign academy than someone who has served in one of our academies," Colonel Drohan said. "For our Academy, it's a perfect match of our skills with wartime requirements. Our faculty bring back current operational insights precisely into their mission of teaching and learning. The professional relevance of Academy academic, athletic, character and military programs is made crystal clear when you see this Afghan Military Academy in its wartime environment. Good leaders don't happen automatically — it takes an organized effort to establish and run a military academy and we are fortunate as the Air Force Academy to be part of this historical process."

Transcending cultural differences

Lt. Col Mark Bradley will observe the Afghani physical education classes that start on March 22.

"I've already talked at length to the PE department head and half of the 14 PE instructors," said the Academy's Department of Military Strategic studies director.

NMAA currently offers four PE classes for the 1st year freshmen and 2nd year cadets. There is training in health and nutrition; Polymetric, a "generic" strength and conditioning class; weight lifting and individual

fighting. The cadets do not currently participate in intramurals but they love to compete. In the afternoons, they have a fairly robust "club" program where a good portion of the cadets participate in Kung Fu, Taekwondo, boxing, kickboxing, wrestling, weight lifting, running, soccer, volleyball, and basketball. The Afghan PE instructors are all well-trained and are experts in their disciplines.

It is Colonel Bradley's first deployment to Afghanistan.

"For the most part, physical Education and intramurals do transcend cultural differences. In any culture, physical excellence is critical for mission success for individual leaders and their subordinates," he said. "We want the cadets to value a lifetime commitment to sport and physical activity; to develop integrity and a sense of fair play and sportsmanship; and to develop initiative, courage, confidence, teamwork, self-sacrifice, physical toughness, and the Will to win. Cadets at NMAA are very active physically and are especially fond of soccer and volleyball."

Academy people live at the Kabul International Airport and take a 10 minute drive to NMAA each morning.

"We share KAIA with over 25 other countries, so it definitely has an international atmosphere," Colonel Bradley said. "The food at the chow hall has a distinctive European flavor and is definitely more healthy than typical 'American food,' although I sometimes miss a good old fashioned hamburger."

The living quarters are tight, but they have a warm and dry room, a comfortable bed, a hot shower in the morning, and wireless internet. At NMAA, except for wearing a 9 mm handgun everywhere they go, it's fairly similar to an office in the States although supplies are sometimes limited.

NMAA is actually one of the nicest facilities in Afghanistan.

"The bathrooms are a little different and take some getting used to, but I'm sure the soldiers in the field would love to have these accommodations," said the colonel.



The affirmation ceremony occurs three days before graduation with the Afghan Chief of Staff Gen. Bizmullah Khan, West Point Superintendent Lt. Gen. Franklin Hagenbeck, and U.S. Air Force Academy Dean of the Faculty Brig. Gen. Dana Born observing from the reviewing stand.

Academy Awards

Each of the 2008 Academy Award winners were asked the following questions. Near their respective photos you'll find their corresponding answers.

- 1. Describe what you felt when your name was announced as top winner in your respective category?**
- 2. What do you believe were your keys to success?**
- 3. What are your personal and professional goals for 2009?**
- 4. How will you mentor others in the future to promote success in their lives and careers?**

Each winner also provided a personal photo revealing a little more about him or herself.

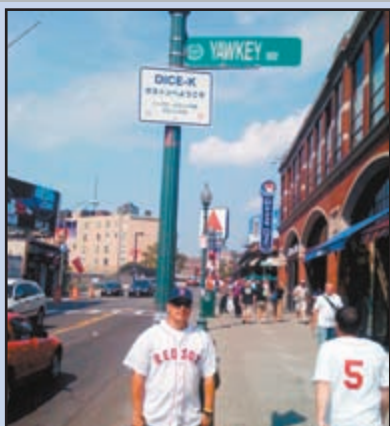


Name: Hugo L. Reinor
Rank: Staff Sergeant
Unit of Assignment: 10 MDOS
Duty Title: Physical/Occupational Therapy Craftsman
Hometown: Los Angeles, Calif.
Time on Station: 2 years 6 months
Award Category: Honor Guard NCO of the Year



Name: Brian P. Pille
Rank: GS-08, CIV
Unit of Assignment: 10 CES/CEF
Duty Title: Fire Inspector
Home town: Wounded Knee, SD
Time on Station: 2 years
Award Category: Civilian Category I

1. I was mostly surprised and pretty excited to hear my name announced, I am honored and humbled to even be considered for an annual award for USAFA.
2. My supervisor makes it easy to be successful by sharing his expectations with me throughout the year and during appraisal times. He encourages ownership of programs that are entrusted to me and keeps the workplace fun every day.
3. I want spend more time with my family; hopefully take a family vacation to Yellowstone. I will also finish my B.S. in Fire Science by the end of the year.
4. Mentoring someone is something that I never considered I would be doing. Setting a positive example every day is the only way I would know how to mentor those around me.



Name: Donald Joy
Rank: Captain
Unit of Assignment: USAFA/DFPY
Duty Title: Instructor of Philosophy
Hometown: Mechanicsburg PA
Time on Station: 2 years 6 months
Award Category: Honor Guard CGO of the Year

1. I was fortunate to have a great core of NCOs, Airmen, and civilians working with me on the Base Honor Guard. This award is less of a reflection of me and my success than, the recognition of the accomplishments of all of the volunteers who comprise the Base Honor Guard.



Name: Jeanette Copeland
Rank: Technical Sergeant
Unit of Assignment: Cadet Wing/ Cadet Squadron 13
Duty Title: Academy Military Trainer
Hometown: Reading, Penn.
Time on Station: 2 years
Award Category: NCO of the Year

1. A bit surprised. When you go up against the best and brightest on base...you never know what the outcome will be...especially when everyone is equally deserving.
2. Getting and staying involved in CW/USAFA/local community programs and activities. Plus, I'm a fixer...always looking for ways to improve a process/program.
3. Personal: Finish my bachelor's degree and spend more time with my three children.
Professional: make master sergeant.
4. A positive attitude goes a long way! Look for opportunities to get involved in programs and activities of interest.



Name: Roderick A. Schwald
Rank: Senior Master Sergeant
Unit of Assignment: Commandant of Cadets
Duty Title: First Sergeant
Hometown: Mountlake Terrace, Wash.
Time on Station: 2 years 1 month
Award Category: First Sergeant

1. I was surprised.
2. God. My family and their 100-percent support of me and my career. My leadership always encouraging me and placing challenges in my path.
3. Earn a set of jump wings. Pursue the completion of my Bachelor's Degree. Take my wife on a nice vacation. Hopefully be selected for chief master sergeant.
4. Remind them to try and maintain a positive attitude. Do my best to take care my subordinates, superiors, and my peers. Never give up, even in the face of adversity. Don't forget where you came from, and try to remain humble



Name: Daniel Hill
Rank: YD-02
Unit of Assignment: HQ USAFA/DFEM
Duty Title: Deputy Director of Operations
Hometown: Parker, Colo.
Time on Station: 3 years 6 months
Award Category: Senior Civilian of the Year, Category II

1. Shocked, having won the same category last year I figured I would have been at a disadvantage.
2. The first key to my success are parents that taught me good work ethics and to trust in God from a young age. Second was a wife who has been behind me as I attended school and worked hard to excel at my duties. The last key to my success are very supportive and wonderful supervisors and department members that have played an important part in mentoring me and my professional development.
3. To continue developing my relationship with my wife and kids. To continue the growth and development of the boys in my Boy Scout Troop.
4. Most of the opportunities I get to mentor come from my position as Scout Master. Through weekly Troop meetings and monthly Troop activities I am given the opportunity to help shape these young men in an environment that is foreign to most of today's youth; the outdoors!



Name: Sabrina Hibbens
Rank: AIC
Unit of Assignment: 10 AMDS
Duty Title: Medical Technician
Hometown: Bass Lake, Calif.
Time on Station: 1 year 2 months
Award Category: Honor Guard Airman of the Year

1. I felt surprised and nervous at the same time.
2. My main key to success would have to be the support and dedication from my supervisor and NCO's in my section. I work with a great team and without them I would have never made it this far. I would also say the Honor Guard team was very influential.
3. My goals for 2009 are to complete my CCAF and continue pursuing a nursing degree.
4. I would have to tell people that they need to do what makes them happy.



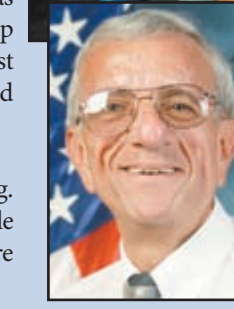
Name: Jeremy Rennahan
Rank: Master Sergeant
Unit of Assignment: 10 Medical Support Squadron
Duty Title: Flight Chief, HQ Medical Readiness
Hometown: Cypress, Calif.
Time on Station: 3 years 4 months
Award Category: Senior Non-Commissioned Officer

1. I was totally shocked when I heard my name announced since getting to this level is hard enough but for a medic to win it is rare.
2. I believe the keys to my success were my leadership having faith in me and giving me freedom to do my job the way I saw best fit the 10 MDG and AF mission.
3. 2008 was a great year for me and I would like to see myself continue down the same road in 2009. Since all the USAFA inspections (UCI/HSI) are complete, I would also like to re-focus on my second Masters degree in Homeland Defense.
4. I will continue to mentor those around the way I have been mentored and that is by leading by example. Always look at ways to improve process within their areas, get involved with the wing and community, and always work on yourself by staying educated.



Name: Andrew Resch
Rank: Captain
Unit of Assignment: 10th Security Forces Squadron
Duty Title: Operations Officer
Hometown: St. Cloud, Minn.
Time on Station: 2 years, 10 months
Award Category: CGO

1. Did they really say my name?
2. Definitely the keys to my success were the great people I'm surrounded by—not only within security forces, but many other organizations on base and some great professionals in the local law enforcement community.
3. Personal: Gain closer relationships with family and friends, ski a double-black diamond, Climb Mt. Elbert, and see as much of Colorado as I can. Professional: Further develop working relationships with fellow first responders (both on and off-base), and have another successful graduation.
4. Focus on doing the right thing. Ensure they understand their jobs/role for the USAF and keep bigger picture in mind.



Name: Lawrence L. Duran
Rank: Civilian, YC-02
Unit of Assignment: 10 CES, 10 ABVM
Duty Title: Chief, Contract Services
Hometown: Canon City, Colo.
Time on Station: 39 years 6 months
Award Category: Supervisor/Manager of the Year, Category III

1. I felt extremely honored and humbled knowing that there are a lot of hardworking and very deserving supervisors/managers at the Academy.
2. My career has been a case of "hard work meets opportunity" and I'm grateful for the opportunities that I've had. But one cannot succeed without the support of those whom one supervises and a key to my success has been the caliber of workers in my office. I could not have succeeded without my supervisor recognizing my efforts; to him, I am also thankful.
3. After 39 and-a-half years of civil service, all at the Academy, my goal is to continue contributing to the mission and goals of the civil engineer squadron and the Academy as a whole.
4. I will definitely promote thinking outside the box, for oftentimes, there lies the answer. I would also tell others that one must not think of why something cannot be done, rather one must find a way to get it done.

Air Force teams with NASCAR to aid recruiting

By Master Sgt. Eric M. Grill
Defense Media Activity-San Antonio

LAS VEGAS (AFNS) — The Air Force was on display at the Shelby 427 race March 1 at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway in Nevada as the Air Force NASCAR was on hand for race fans to see and the Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron, the Thunderbirds, performed.

A crowd of 200,000 people witnessed Lt. Gen. Ronald F. Sams, the Air Force inspector general, enlist a group of future Airmen prior to the NASCAR Sprint Cup series race.

Just before the race, the Thunderbirds flew over the racetrack. Members of the Thunderbirds also were on hand during the race to sign autographs.

NASCAR fans got an upclose look at the Air Force paint-schemed No. 43 car on display during the weekend.

"Advertising and marketing that goes beyond the race track will help us connect with fans and emphasize the speed, power, precision and teamwork that is common to both NASCAR and the Air Force," said Col. Timothy Hanson, Air Force Recruiting Service strategic communications director, in January.

Additionally, the sport of racing aligns well with the fans' interests and the Air Force's brand of speed, teamwork and technology, inspiring young Americans to consider the Air Force as a great career choice.

Air Force officials partnered with Richard Petty Motorsports and the storied No. 43 car, which Richard Petty has driven to 200 wins while winning seven Cup championships. Reed Sorenson is the current driver of the No. 43 car.

"Representing the Air Force in itself is a great honor for not only me, but for everyone on the team," Mr. Sorenson said. "Having Richard Petty as part of our team as well is an added bonus. There is a lot

of stuff going on and there are a lot of great sponsors like the Air Force to represent, and also having to back up the 200-plus wins that the No. 43 (car) has; we have a lot of good things going on for our team."

What parallels the Air Force mission and NASCAR is teamwork and what it takes to get the mission done, he said.

"I think that the teamwork that you see on the race teams and the teamwork you see in NASCAR kind of follows up with the teamwork you see in the Air Force," he said. "Every race is kind of like any type of mission that you would do in the Air Force. They seem to correlate together. They're both about speed and being fast; those go together as well."

NASCAR and the Air Force are a natural fit, "because of the high-tech industry that you're dealing with," said Master Sgt. Jeff Phillips of the 368th Recruiting Squadron.

"NASCAR correlates directly with the Air Force when you're talking about our airframes, power plants and different things like that even though (they are) completely different with internal combustion engines and a jet engine," Sergeant Phillips said. "Still, high-tech, very-dedicated individuals — the very people that are committed to what they do with NASCAR — team with the Air Force."

Having a presence in NASCAR gets Air Force in front of people and "that's ultimately what we're looking for," Sergeant Phillips said. "We have to have the time to interact with young people (and) parents. "It's actually a good event for us to interact with the parents and grandparents and people like that because they're also the influencers that we have to sell on the Air Force lifestyle as well."

The Air Force-sponsored No. 43 Dodge finished the race in 34th place after spinning in turn two of lap 138.

While the Air Force is the primary sponsor on the No. 43 car for four of the 38 races in the 2009 season, the Air Force

has a presence on the car as an associate sponsor throughout the rest of the season. Mr. Sorenson will drive the Air Force paint-schemed No. 43 Dodge

at Talladega Superspeedway, Ala., Lowe's Motorspeedway in Charlotte, Daytona International Raceway, Fla., and at Dover International Raceway, Del.



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Tough "D"

Falcon guard Evan Washington battles it out on the boards against the Cowboys. The Falcons fell, 65-62, to Wyoming Saturday in Clune Arena.

Season ticket prices hold; fans gain incentive

By Troy Garnhart
Athletic Communications

Air Force Academy Director of Athletics Dr. Hans Mueh announced Tuesday there is no change in the 2009 football ticket prices. In addition to no increase in prices, the department has established a payment plan for season ticket renewals. Fans will have the opportunity to renew their tickets with three monthly installments rather than a one-time fee.

On-line season ticket renewals will make fans

eligible for several incentives like season tickets to another Air Force sport, a \$100 gift shop shopping spree, tickets to a pre-game Pride Club tailgate and team merchandise. The first 100 fans to renew will also receive an Air Force football media guide.

Fans in the 50-Yard Line Club will receive enhancements to the current program. The retail value stored tickets will be stored for the entire season, not just \$5 per game. That means fans will have \$30 of stored value on their tickets to be used at anytime during the season at Falcon Stadium.

"We're excited to tell our fans we're listening and

we understand the economic impact the economy has had on everyone," Dr. Mueh said. "We hope that no increases and our payment plan will help folks in our community with the purchase of their tickets. We also hope that changing the setup with stored value tickets will help our fans more effectively take advantage of this great program."

Season tickets range from \$50 to \$275. There are also family-value packs in areas for as low as \$325. For more information, call the athletic ticket office at 800-666-USAF or visit: www.goairforcefalcons.com

Gymnastics

WOODLAND, Calif. - Abbey Rogers claimed her third Gymnast of the Week award of the season from the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation, the league office announced Tuesday. It is the sixth career honor for Rogers, who also received recognition

this season on Jan. 13 and Feb. 3. Backed by Rogers' three weekly awards, Air Force has now accounted for four of the eight awards handed out on the season. Brittany Dutton was named the Gymnast of the Week Feb. 17. Rogers paced the Falcons' to a perfect 3-0 weekend at the Wisconsin-

La Crosse Triangular Feb. 27 and at Hamline Sunday.

Golf update

PENSACOLA, Fla. - Paced by medalist Tom Whitney, the Air Force golf team took fifth place at the Argonaut Invitational, hosted by West Florida at the par-72,

6,815-yard Pensacola Country Club. The Falcons finished the tournament with a three-round score of 889 (+25). Whitney fired a three-round score of 207 (-9), to finish in first place, four strokes ahead of his closest competitor. It matched his lowest tournament score of the season, and

is tied for third-lowest in Academy. It also marks the second first-place showing of Whitney's career, as he last earned medalist honors at the 2006 Service Academy Golf Classic. Next in the individual standings for the Falcons was Shaun O'Bryant who finished tied for 21st at 224 (+8).

More records fall on MWC final day

By Melissa McKeown
Athletic Communications

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. – Finishing with one individual champion and four new school records Saturday, the Air Force men's and women's swimming and diving teams concluded competition at the 2009 Mountain West Conference Championships in Oklahoma City, Okla. The Air Force men finished second overall, their best showing since 2004, with 613 points, while the Falcon women came in ninth place with 128 points. UNLV captured the men's team title for the fifth-straight season, while BYU won the women's championship for the eighth time in the conference's 10-year history.

Kyle Van Valkenburg brought home the sole individual championship for the Falcons Saturday, defending his title in the men's platform dive. Van Valkenburg saved his strongest performance for the finals, recording a career-best mark of 347.20, improving on his preliminary score by nearly 70 points.

The Falcons have now won four consecutive conference titles in the men's platform dive; prior to Van Valkenburg's win last season, 2007 graduate Brady Lindberg won the platform in both 2006 and 2007. Meanwhile, the Falcons also had three other scorers in the event, with David Arlington, Jesse Bicknell and Randy

Rogers, placing eighth, 10th and 12th, respectively.

One of Air Force's new school records came in the men's 400 freestyle relay, where Chris Morin, Sean O'Keefe, Benjamin Gunn and Robert Dawson posted a time of 2:58.63, finishing third. During this week's championships, the Falcons have rewritten the school standards in four of five relays.

Meanwhile, Gunn also notched his third individual school record in as many events this week, clocking an NCAA 'B' standard time of 1:46.40 in the finals of the 200 butterfly to finish fourth in the event. He was joined by two other Falcons in the event who posted Academy top-10 times. Captain Nick Dixon registered a preliminary mark of 1:48.81 before placing seventh, while Eric Robinson recorded a time of 1:49.51 in the prelims before going on to win the consolation finals. Dixon's preliminary time ranks sixth in the Air Force record books, while Robinson moved into eighth place on the list with his morning swim.

In the men's 200 backstroke, Kai Yamashiro recorded a career-best mark of 1:46.44 to take second place in the event, while Tom Hansen placed sixth following a personal-best time of 1:48.49 in the preliminaries. Yamashiro's mark now ranks second in the Air Force record books, while Hansen moves into fifth-place with



Courtesy Photo

Jane Hwang was honored with a Senior Recognition Award.

his performance.

In the 200 breaststroke, three Falcons earned points for the team, led by Justin Day and Josh Hammervold, who placed sixth and eighth, respectively, while Greg Edmonds placed 13th overall. All three posted Academy top-10 times during their morning swims—Day's preliminary mark of 2:02.46 ranks third all-time in Air Force history, Hammervold ranks sixth with his time of 2:02.84 and Edmonds moves into seventh place with his mark of 2:03.75.

O'Keefe was Air Force's top finisher in the men's 1650 freestyle, placing fifth in the event with a personal-best mark of 15:24.41. O'Keefe retained his spot as the third-fastest in Air Force history, while Corydon Butler moved into the Falcons' top 10 with a mark of 15:34.14, placing

seventh. Also scoring for Air Force in the event was Hansen, who finished 14th with a time of 15:49.18.

Dawson was the Falcons' top performer in the men's 100 freestyle, placing 13th overall. His preliminary mark of 45.56 is good for 10th place in the Air Force record books.

The Air Force women also set a pair of school records Saturday. The Falcons notched a new school record in the 400 freestyle relay, as Laken Stogner, Cassie Fletcher, Alison Ceranski and Jane Hwang posted a mark of 3:27.30 to finish seventh in the race.

In addition, Hwang, who was honored with the conference's Senior Recognition Award, also set a new individual school record for the third-straight day.

Intramural volleyball heats up; DFL blazes

By Dave Castilla
Intramural Sports Director

The intramural volleyball league is underway starting its second full week of action.

The top two teams, 10th Medical Group and Law Department, battled off for the top rung in intramural play Monday night. Both teams came in undefeated at 3-0 and something would have to give. It was DFL's time to shine as they defeated last year's base runners-up medics 25-16, 25-15.

It didn't take long for former medic player Tim Filzen, who now works in DF, to make an early block then a kill shot for a point.

At the beginning of the game, DF's Shawn McKelvy served and the team scored five straight points and DFL never gave up the lead.

After a medic time out with DFL leading 17-9, and with Paul Pirog still

serving, the team scored eight points making it 22-9.

On MDG's service, coach Tevita Mafi brought the team back with his serves and sets and were down 16-22. After a side out, McKelvy served out the match. On DFL's 24th point, Laura Terry blocked a shot and Tim Filzen finished it off with a kill shot. On the game point, MDG hit it out left.

The second game started out tighter. With tough defense nearly every server lost serves on a side out.

DFL held a slight lead at 12-10 when former coach Gary Yale served up four straight points making the lead 16-11.

After a MDG time out, Mafi made a set and Nhan Le pounded one to the floor, however, DFL's team defense proved just too strong.

DFL ended the game on a kill shot off the net by Filzen for team point 24. A MDG member then hit it long for the match.



Photo by Dave Ahlschwede

Wing Open

The 2009 Air Force Academy Wing Open Boxing Championships is set for 2 p.m. Sunday in Clune Arena at the Cadet Field House. The Wing Open is one of the Academy's annual premier athletic events. There will be 12 three-round matches with each boxer vying for a berth on the team representing the U.S. Air Force Academy at the regional and national championships. The Academy team has won the National Collegiate Boxing Team Championship 18 of the last 27 years. The event is free.

Robert Belz ended the tournament tied for 39th place at 230, while Kyle Bailey tied for 47th overall with a three-round score of 233.

Lacrosse

Air Force's K.J. Landgraf was named the Great Western Lacrosse League Player of the

Week for games through March 1, as announced Wednesday by the conference. It is the first career conference honor for Landgraf, and the first conference honor for a Falcon this season.

Straight shooters

The NCAA Men's and

Women's Rifle Committee announced the team and individual qualifiers for the 2009 National Collegiate Men's and Women's Rifle Championships. Air Force marksman, Tom Chandler was AFA's lone qualifier for the event. Chandler will compete in the smallbore three-position (60

shots) competition. The championships will be held March 13-14 in Fort Worth, Texas at the TCU Rifle Range and the Daniel-Meyer Coliseum. Chandler is the Academy's first marksman to qualify for the NCAA championships since 2006 when Chris Hill earned All-America honors in the

smallbore. His regular-season highs were 587, 580 and 580 for an aggregate 1747 points (avg. 582). His 587/600 was a seasonal best shot in the Reno-UTEP matches Nov. 15, 2008, while the 580s were achieved on Jan. 31, 2009 vs. The Citadel and TCU, Feb. 14, at the NCAA qualifier match.

Mining museum a gem in Academy backyard

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

It's called "the museum that works."

Right outside the Academy's North Gate sits one of the Front Range's most intriguing attractions, the Western Museum of Mining & Industry.

Spread over 27 acres, it tells the tales of mining in the West, from historic operating machinery, to the dismal plight of miners, to the culture and lifestyles surrounding it, to modern-day issues of mining.

"It's interesting to visitors on two levels," said education director David Futey. "There is a lot of history here related to the West, mining and the Industrial Revolution."

He said the museum also highlights the struggles those involved with mining endured, including noisy, dusty working conditions, little pay and labor in a cold, dark environment, which led to diseases like black lung and siliosis from inhaling minute rock particles.

This year marks 150 years of mining in Colorado.

Visitors can browse the museum on their own or take a guided tour, and they may stay as long as they like.

"It's a hidden gem, and it's right in our own backyard," said marketing director Cindy Brandt.

Outside the main museum building is an antique steam shovel and train, a walking tour of mine reclamation and a working stamp mill used to pulverize rock and process ore, which is run in the summer. A picnic area is available outside as well.

In tribute to four-legged miners, who in mining's early stages pulled wagons of ore, the museum cares for Nugget and Oro, its burro mascots.

The property was originally a dairy farm and ranch and is fronted on North Gate Blvd. by the farmhouse, used now as a private residence. Several of museum's



Photo by Ann Patton

A mock-up of an early mine drift gives visitors a taste of life inside a mine.

outbuildings are on the state's historical register, including the barns, bunkhouses and the chicken coop.

The museum was incorporated as a non-profit 501(3)c in 1970 and is run by staff members and volunteers.

Inside the main museum building is a treasure trove of information, artifacts and working mining equipment.

Just inside the entrance is an 1895 37-ton Corliss Steam Engine. The museum also boasts a working Skinner generator attached to a 67 horse power engine and an Edison dynamo steam engine.

Also on display is a Downie steam-powered water pump, which was used to pump water from the mine some 240 feet below the surface and which served as a community water source.

Visitors can walk through a small but vivid mock-up of conditions in mines in the "drift" which contains artifacts illustrating ore blasting techniques, mine lighting and rail system.

Outside the drift is a display case containing a working model of a stamp mill.

Other floor exhibits include one of

both field and office assaying, the process of early determination of a potential mine's value before mining.

Additional exhibits portray the process of ore removal, from hand-held and powered drilling to dynamite blasting performed by "powder monkeys," the change house where miners were monitored for ore hidden in their clothing and an early bucket hoist to transport miners up and down the mine. A full-size mock up of a saloon bar is remindful of miners' after-hours diversions.

By "catch-and-release" only, visitors can sift through water and sand for gold in the museum's real-life panning tubs.

Visitors may also learn how mining relates to modern-day life.

"They can realize if it's not grown, it's mined," Ms. Brandt said.

On display are minerals and the products they contain such as gold used in cell phones, sulfur in shampoo and talc for baby powder.

A special exhibit area currently displays "Mine Your Own Business" with documents, photos and narratives of mining companies, which emerged after

prospecting waned.

Through photos and narratives, the museum's walls tell the stories of communities which sprang up around the mines. Life revolved simply—around fire department parades, barbershops, merchant shops, churches, schools saloons and, in the winter, snowshoeing.

Another area depicts the Cripple Creek-Victor Mining District and, yet another, the gold standards on environment, reclamation, wildlife preservation and the progress of gold mining.

The museum also hosts special events throughout the year, including spring break with the burros, family explorations days and a heritage lecture series. Staff members are also exploring adding a story time and noon talks.

"There are events for every generation," Ms. Brandt said.

The museum main building also houses a small gift shop area and library of researchable items to draw scholars and where school groups may enjoy special projects.

Museum board member and five-year volunteer, Matt Mathisen was a geologist and mine engineers in 37 different countries over 35 years.

He enjoys the museum for its uniqueness.

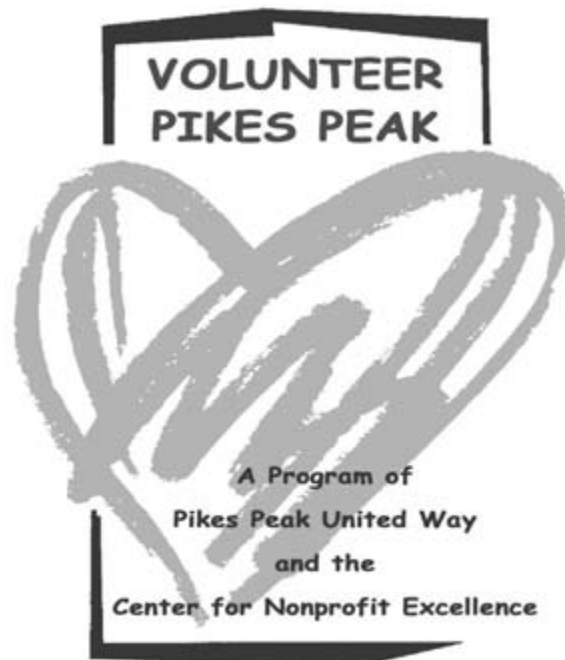
"Visitors can also see things up close, unlike other museums," he said.

The museum is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday from September through May and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. June through August. Guided tours, which include a short movie, are at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Admission is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children ages 3 to 12. A \$1 discount applies to AAA and military members, seniors and students. Children, younger than 3, are free with a paid adult. Group rates are also available.

Call 488-0880 for more information.

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Recycle this newspaper!





Student summer employment

Once again, the Air Force Academy is offering student employment for temporary jobs this summer. Current positions include: clerk (GS-0303-01) starting at \$9.57 per hour; food service worker (WG-7408-03) starting at \$11.32 per hour; and laborer (WG-3502-01) starting at \$9.22 per hour. Announcements are posted at <http://www.usajobs.gov> and will remain open through March 31. Mail completed applications to: Summer Program Team, 5136 Eagle Drive, USAFA, CO, 80840-2803 or FAX to: 719-333-3741. Candidates must be at least 16 at the time of appointment and have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better on a 4.0 scale.

Discrimination hotline

The Air Force Discrimination Hotline number: 1-888-231-4058; the commercial phone number, 210-565-5214; and,

DSN 665-5214 activated recently. The Discrimination Hotline was established in January 1995. It allows all personnel to immediately report complaints regarding discrimination, to include sexual harassment. A stand-alone number for Equal Opportunity complaints will ensure concerns are quickly identified and resolved. The new number will serve all active-duty, Guard, Reserve, and civilian members. Academy members are highly encouraged to contact the Academy's Equal Opportunity office first at 333-4258.

Silent auction, art and music show

The PTO hosts a silent auction, art and music show beginning at 5:30 p.m. today to raise money for future programs and activities at Douglass Valley Elementary. Specialty items, themed baskets, gift cards, and hot air balloon rides will be auctioned off. Creative artwork and musical performances from DVE students will be featured. Complimentary beverages and desserts will be provided. Auction bidding runs from 5:30 to 7 p.m. followed by a special musical performance at the school, 4610 Douglass Dr. For more information, e-mail Krystle Marts at krystle.brian@comcast.net.

Women's Golf Association welcome

The Eisenhower Women's Golf Association is holding a free welcome coffee 9:30 a.m. March 18 (snow date March 25) at the golf course. The group offers weekly Wednesday play, and players can play as often as schedules allow. For more information call 282-4105 or 598-1330.

ISOPREP/Passport/Visa Photographs:

Each Friday through March, the Team DenMar Photo Lab, located in Fairchild Hall (Suite 1J3), will provide walk-in photography services to any faculty member or cadet requiring ISOPREP/Passport/Visa photographs. This service is for members requiring an official government passport, Visa, and ISOPREP photos, and cannot be used for personal use passports.

Members can simply come to the photo lab and receive support without an appointment; the service will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis from 8 a.m. to noon and 12:30 to 4 p.m. Pre-filled work orders are available at the lab customer service desk. Standard studio services, including head and shoulder portraits and full-length special duty photos will continue to be offered Monday through Thursday on an appointment basis only. Call 333-3430/3431 or e-mail the lab's org box at HQ USAFA/PAVSCP (photography work orders) for more information.

A&FRC offerings

The Airman and Family Readiness Center hosts the following this month:

SCORE

Today; 9 a.m. to noon

Have you ever thought about owning your own business, but you are not sure how to start! Then this workshop is for you! Get answers to key questions!

Medical records review

Monday and March 30; 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.

Resume writing

Wednesday; 9 to 11 a.m.

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

Teen job search workshop

March 14; 8 a.m. to noon and March 17; 4 to 6 p.m.

(Must attend both days)

Workshop consists of job search information, volunteer opportunities, application/resume writing techniques, interviewing tips, and local employer panel. Open to dependent children of active duty, retiree, Reservists and DoD civilians only. Minimum attendance age is 14. Call Jeannie Lopez at 333-3168/3444 to register.

Troops to teachers

March 18; 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

This workshop provides information for military personnel interested in beginning a second career in public education as a teacher. Learn how you can make the transition.

Newcomer's orientation/information fair

March 19; 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.

Academy deployment event

March 19; 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Join the A&FRC for an informal evening of information and networking! There will be free food, drinks and door prizes. Bring the entire family; "G" rated movie will be shown; Military: UOD (to identify those deploying) Civilian: Casual; RSVP required; Call Tech Sgt. Lisa Taylor at 333-6393 or e-mail: lisa.taylor@usafa.af.mil

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

Teachers sought

Leisure time instructors in all levels of piano and Mexican cooking (Tamale, Salsa and Tortilla making) are being sought for

Academy programs. Contact Linda Crom, 333-2928 for details.



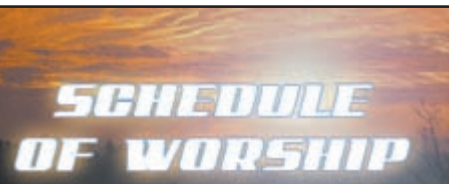
Women in Mining presentation

The Western Museum of Mining & Industry, Northgate Blvd. and I-25, is offering "Women in Mining" as a family exploration day from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 14. The Augusta Tabor portrayal stars at 10 a.m. followed by an Edwardian tea and another performance at 1:30 p.m. The event will also feature miniaturist displays, pioneer kitchen accessories, quilting, weaving and more. Customary admissions apply. For reservations call 488-0880 or visit www.wmmi.org for more information.

Father/Daughter dance

Fathers can enjoy a special date with their daughters at the Father Daughter Dance from 7 to 10 p.m., April 3, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Tickets must be purchased by March 30. Admission includes a light dinner, dance and a memory DVD. Photographs will be taken the night of the event. Dress: Mess Dress or Class A for military; business attire for retirees and civilians; party dresses for daughters. Cost is \$25 for technical sergeants and below; \$35 for master sergeants and above and retirees. There will be a \$10 fee for each additional daughter. Tickets can be purchased at the Southeast YMCA, Briargate YMCA or the ITR at Outdoor Recreation, Fort Carson. For more information, call 622-9622.

The mother and son event is set for Sept. 10. Doors open at 6 p.m. for photos. Both events are presented in partnership by Fort Carson Army Community Service, Peterson Air Force Base, U.S. Air Force Academy & Schriever AFB Airman & Family Readiness Centers and Armed Services YMCA.



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 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.

Paganism/Earth-centered Spirituality:
Contact Tech. Sgt. Longcrier at 333-6178
Robert.Longcrier@usafa.edu



Courtesy photo

A toast!

Charter members of the Academy Orators Toastmasters Club display their banner signifying official status as a new club! Toastmasters International provides members a weekly opportunity to improve speaking, listening and evaluating abilities. The club normally meets from 12:05 to 1:05 p.m., Fridays at Hap's Place in Arnold Hall and is open to all. Today, there will be a club contest showcasing some of the chapter's experienced speakers. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Angie Evans at angela.evans@usafa.edu
Left to right: Roy Aiken, Master Sgts. Don Comp and Angie Evans (club president), Tech Sgt. Jeff Nagengast, Lt. Col. Andreas Wesemann and Chaplain (Capt.) Gary Davidson.



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