

USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO ACADEMY SPIRIT

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See full story Page 4

Air Force Graphic by Jessica Jones

Academy to transform Character Development program

By Academy Spirit Staff

Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Mike Gould unveiled plans today for a major transformation and expansion of the Academy's character development efforts.

Plans include re-designating the Center for Character Development to the Center for Character & Leadership Development (CCLD), and relocating it into a new \$29 million facility scheduled to open in late summer 2012. Construction for the new building is anticipated to begin in March 2011.

The transformation will add research, assessment, and curriculum enhancement capabilities to advance the overall effectiveness of the Academy's ability to shape cadets' character, place an increased emphasis on leadership development, and more deliberately integrate the entire faculty and staff in cadets' character and leadership growth experiences.

Furthermore, a new position, the Permanent Professor of Character & Leadership Development, has been created and will be filled later this year to head up the center.

"This transformation will mark a significant first step in our journey to take officer development at USAFA to the next level," said Col. John Norton, Director

See CCLD, Page 14



The design for the CCLD was selected from one of three proposals and features modern appeal for which the Academy is known. Artist Rendering

WEEKEND WEATHER

FRIDAY
81 50
PARTLY CLOUDY

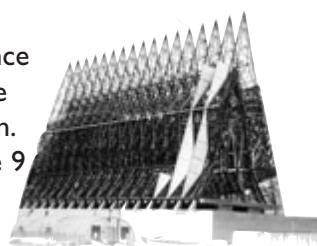
SATURDAY
81 49
PARTLY CLOUDY

SUNDAY
80 49
PARTLY CLOUDY

Chapel turns 50

Today marks 50 years to the day since construction on the Cadet Chapel began.

Page 9



Flying, golf and family

"The ball has absolutely no brains. It goes where you hit it."

Page 11

Tops In Blue

Tops In Blue was able to bring in the largest showing in more than 9 years.

Pages 12-13



10th ABW commander urges Airmen to remember their PBJ

Col Rick J. LoCastro
10th Air Base Wing commander

A peanut butter & jelly sandwich. Simple—but sustaining. A recognizable necessity—everyone knows what it is and can relate to it. Basic—all the ingredients are in the cupboard. When asked what my vision and focus are as I took command of the 10th Air Base Wing—the answer is “PBJ.” At my recent first 10th Air Base Wing Commander’s Call I outlined this focus and it’s a simple thought to remember...PBJ. PEOPLE. BASE. JOB.

PEOPLE: Mentoring, Motivating, & Inspiring. Taking care of those we serve and also those we serve with. Our “customers”... but also our fellow co-workers, families, and retirees. ALL who serve or are served on our Air Force Base. A concentration on professional and respectful service to others, quality of life, and recognition of effort and performance. “Recruiting” first-round draft pick superstars instead of just “hiring” personnel. Preparing our Airmen for deployment and taking care of their families while they are gone. Ensuring first-class efficient service to our Academy cadets while we also focus on building leaders of character in the

10th Air Base Wing. Enjoying what we do as well. Just because our jobs are tough—doesn’t mean they can’t be fun!

BASE: Our strategic processes, base appearance, and the way we do business. A cohesive and integrated team focused on the entire installation to make it better, and leading with quality and efficient programs for those we serve. Lots of untapped potential on our base to lead at all levels. Benchmarked services, award-winning energy conservation, and a Fix USAFA plan we can all be proud of ... all while delivering first-class service to our entire USAFA Family.

JOB: Tactical processes each individual is responsible for. Making sure we are doing things better, faster, cheaper and smarter if at all possible. Always professionally, and with a passion for service across the board ... and recognizing those who are doing so. “Leading” exceptional programs and processes—not just being caretakers of them. Thinking BIG and looking at all angles and asking, “If I were the person receiving this service ... how would I want it?” What we do is what makes us great—but HOW we do it is what makes us truly phenomenal.

Very tough and challenging to do all of these things with less money, fewer

people, and more requirements and need ... but our diverse base counts on our air base wing to figure out how, and to do it every day. To return to the Air Force Academy where my career all started and in what I consider the best job on the base has been amazing. Definitely an honor, privilege, and great responsibility. The United States Air Force Academy is not just an amazing academic institution, but also a fully functioning Air Force Base ... and it’s our air base wing who takes pride in running the daily operations of the Air Force’s premier installation. Definitely some uniqueness compared to other locations, but that is what makes us even more special. Lots of Air Force bases—but only one Air Force Academy. Our 10th Air Base Wing is passionate and proud about what we do and how we do it ... and there’s no team I’d rather be a part of.

PBJ and the 10th Air Base Wing. PEOPLE. BASE. JOB. Simple ingredients we sometimes overlook ... but a lifesaver in a pinch and together form an amazing recipe all can appreciate. PBJ—most look the same...but when you combine exceptional ingredients—you immediately know. It’s nothing like the rest ... and you can see and taste the difference.



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

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Deadline for free classified ads on a space-available basis is noon every Tuesday for that week’s publication date. Paid classified advertising is accepted by the publisher at 329-5236. The number to call for display advertising is 634-5905.

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.



The **Action Line** is a direct link to USAFA's senior leadership. It should be used when other avenues have failed. Concerns should be addressed at the lowest possible level in the chain of command and elevated as necessary. If satisfactory results have not been attained by addressing the chain of command mail to:

Directorate of Public Affairs/ACTION LINE

2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 3100
USAF Academy, CO 80840-5016

Items may also be e-mailed to action.line@usafa.af.mil.

Character Corner Questions

By Tech Sgt. Michael Anderson
Center for Character Development

The other day I was driving into work listening to talk radio, and I realized that there is a lot of turmoil and debate circulating in our country. The discussion covers topics ranging from politics to professional athletes, and who is dancing with what star. It seems that every person has a side or perspective on these issues, and if you’re not careful, you may take on one of those views before getting all the facts.

These debates can be overwhelming to the average person. Words like character, leadership and responsibility are being thrown around a lot. Instead of focusing on the individual it is being directed at, I wonder if folks are looking at themselves first. Is it easier to point and say how someone else should be living?

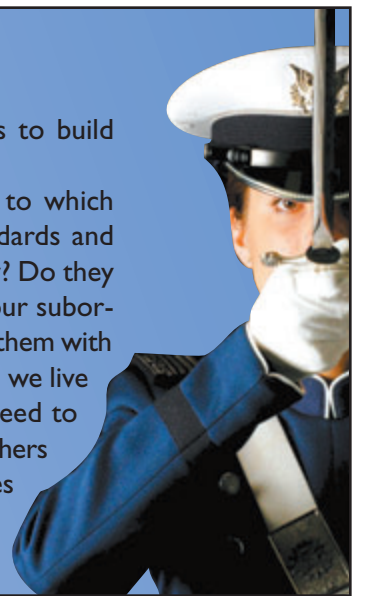
The Air Force has three core values we are encouraged to apply to our daily lives.

These core values are interwoven in all training we receive throughout our careers. At the Air Force Academy we go even further.

The mission of the Academy is to build officers of character.

We even have an honor code to which cadets are held. But do those standards and values stay here when we’re off duty? Do they stop at the gate? Do we only hold our subordinates to these values? Do we take them with us when we go on leave or TDY? Do we live by them? These are questions we need to be asking internally. Before we hold others accountable ... do we hold ourselves accountable?

Tune into KAFA, 97.7 FM for *Character Matters*, starting Aug. 13 at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Also on iTunes or www.usafa.org.



What are your plans for Labor Day?

“I intend to go to Denver for a family BBQ.”

Cadet 2nd Class
Calder Goc
Cadet Squadron 31



“It means recognition of America’s working people, and rest and relaxation.”

Visiting professor
Dave Cole
Army Corps of
Engineers



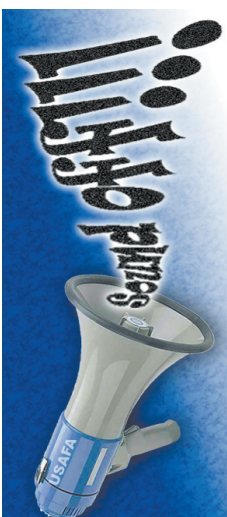
“It is the final days for us New Yorkers. We’ll be on the road in the house trailer until Nov. 1.”

Retired Sgt. Maj.
David Henry
Family Camp



“Summer fun and travelling to Indiana.”

Rhonda Study
U.S. Marine Corps
spouse



Slow down for final denial barriers

Capt. James "Doug" Couch
10th ABW Security Forces Operations Officer

You find yourself driving home from work on a Friday afternoon. You can't wait to hit the local restaurants with family and friends, but what is this ... you have to slow down from 45 mph to 25 mph and then all the way to 20 mph? What are these gate barriers all about anyway? The final denial barriers are part of USAFA's Antiterrorism Plan and a recommended DoD force protection enhancement. The primary purpose of the barriers is to stop threat vehicles from entering the installation and carrying out a terrorist attack.

In September 2008, USAFA received an Air Force Vulnerability Assessment Team Evaluation. The Academy received "Positive Observations" from the team on the placement and use of the barriers.

There are four sets of hydraulic barriers at the south gate and north gate which cover inbound and outbound lanes. Each set is well sighted and placed at a suitable distance from the actual gate house. All barriers are marked with warning signs, sirens and lights on both sides of the road. In addition, speed measuring devices were installed in the approach zone of the barriers as a reminder to stay within the speed limit.

Once the barriers are activated, a loud horn sounds and the yellow flashing lights turn to a solid red light signaling vehicles to immediately stop.

These barriers are designed to stop a 15,000-pound vehicle traveling 50 mph. If you are driving at the posted speed limit of 25 mph, your overall stopping distance will be approx 40-50 feet in dry conditions and 60 -70 feet in wet conditions. This enables you time to safely stop your vehicle in case of barrier deployment. The higher your rate of speed, the greater your stopping distance will be and thus increasing your chances of personal injury and property damage. Striking these barriers at any speed will result in significant vehicle



Courtesy Photo

Adhering to the posted speed limits when approaching the final denial barriers will give drivers adequate time to stop their vehicle if the barriers deploy. The final denial barriers are part of USAFA's Antiterrorism Plan and recommended DoD force protection enhancement.

damage. Injuries resulting from a barrier strike could range from cuts and bruises to neck, spine and internal organ damage or even death. Also, higher rates of speed than 25 mph cause severe stress on the barriers and will result in a higher rate of replacement need.

Safety and security is Job #1 for the 10th Air Base Wing, 10th Security Forces Squadron, and all of TEAM USAFA.

So be "Barrier Aware"...and please slow down for SAFETY.

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Academy joins social media scene

By Staff Sgt. Don Branum
Academy Public Affairs

Editor's Note: This is part one of a two-part series examining Academy initiatives to reach out to the public using the Internet and social media. Part two will be published in the Sept. 4 Academy Spirit.

The U.S. Air Force Academy officially enters the social media sphere today with the launch of Web pages on two popular social networking sites.

In order to offer the public a convenient way to see what's going on at the Academy, the public affairs office here has created a page on <http://www.facebook.com/> called "US Air Force Academy (Official)" and an account on <http://twitter.com/> named "AF_Academy."

The Academy's public affairs office decided to establish its presence on the social networking sites after holding a social media conference here Aug. 11. Attendees included public affairs officials from the Air Force Public Affairs Agency in Washington, D.C., and Air Education Training and Command Headquarters at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, as well as the Academy's chief information

officer and representatives from admissions, the dean of faculty office, the athletic department and cadet wing public affairs.

"There's no quick answer to social networking," Larry Clavette, AFPAA's director, said at the conference, recognizing that Air Force policy cannot keep up with public affairs offices' operational requirements.

The lead officer for Internet relations is 2nd Lt. Meredith Kirchoff, a 2009 graduate and self-described avid Facebook user since 2005.

"I was introduced to the idea of an official (Air Force Academy) Facebook page my first week at work," Lieutenant Kirchoff said. "My reaction was, 'Of course — naturally we should be on Facebook. Lots of businesses and colleges are on Facebook, so why aren't we already there?'"

Most of the Academy's cadet population is there already, said Cadet 1st Class Andrea Wise, the cadet wing public affairs director.

"Out of 4,400 cadets, probably 4,000 are on Facebook," said Cadet Wise, who gave a presentation on cadet use of social media at the social networking conference. "I only know one person who doesn't have a page."



Air Force Graphic

The U.S. Air Force Academy officially enters the social media sphere today with the launch of Web pages on two popular social networking sites.

In addition, many prospective attendees and family members are on Facebook, Lieutenant Kirchoff said.

"They may not already be on our Web site, and they're not necessarily reading our base newspaper, but they are on social media. We need to be out there so they can interact with us," she said.

The two Web pages will serve somewhat different audiences: While most cadets have Facebook pages, Twitter reaches a slightly older audience. According to the Pew Internet and American Life Project, the median age for Twitter users is 31.

The Academy will use Facebook and other social media sites to drive traffic toward its official public Web site, <http://www.usafa.af.mil/>, Lieutenant Kirchoff said. The public affairs staff can publish photos and other content to the Facebook page that might not be a good fit for the public Web site.

"Social networking gives us a more flexible way to present our story," she said. "It's a less formal venue where we can post fun, interesting, accurate information."

While Facebook and Twitter will offer a casual means for sharing information and interacting with the public, Academy officials can also use Twitter to inform the public about delays or closures due to weather conditions, or issues affecting

public health or safety such as the outbreak of H1N1 influenza that affected the Academy in July, Lieutenant Kirchoff said.

Facebook and Twitter pages are the first steps in a coordinated social media strategy. The next step will be to build a second-tier social networking presence through multimedia sites such as Flickr and YouTube and examining the feasibility of Air Force Academy blogs.

"You never know what the next new hot site is going to be," Lieutenant Kirchoff said. "I would like us to react quickly and have people active on our pages. I'd like us to be more proactive."

Cadet Wise said she and her public affairs representatives stand ready to assist.

"We want to get the Academy story from a cadet perspective and help the public affairs office get those stories out there," she said. Cadets can also help the public affairs office stay informed of new social media hotspots.

AFPAA is working with other Air Force organizations to develop an Air Force instruction governing social networking policy. In the interim, the agency has released "New Media and the Air Force," a pamphlet with advice on how to responsibly participate in the social media arena. The pamphlet is available as a download from Air Force Link's New Media page, <http://www.af.mil/news/newmedia/>.

Social Networking Do's and Don'ts

■ Do Stay in your lane. If you're an aircraft mechanic, you're well-suited to talk about aircraft maintenance, but you might not be so well-suited to talk about legal issues.

■ Do share your opinion. Tell people what you think — just make sure you state that it's your opinion and not that of your employer. Also, make sure to identify what's opinion and what's factual.

■ Do identify yourself. Identification makes you more credible.

■ Do be safe. Don't let the desire to gain attention to your videos or photos compromise your consideration for safety.

■ Do be aware of the image you present. If you're using a visual medium, don't let your message get overshadowed because of an improper uniform or something going on in the background.

■ Do use common sense. If you

wouldn't say it in front of your mother — or in front of a general's mother! — you probably shouldn't say it on the Internet. Once it's out there, it's out there forever.

■ Do engage the public. The enemy is engaged in the battlespace of public opinion. You can help the Air Force win through engaging there as well.

■ Don't give classified information. Operational security is crucial to our mission. A harmless video of an Airman dancing on a flightline could be sensitive if it's a deployed environment showing sensitive material in the background.

■ Don't lie. Credibility and integrity are crucial. Without them, no one cares what you have to say.

■ Don't be afraid to take calculated risks. Take in as many variables as possible in order to make the best decision, but don't fear ambiguity.



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Air Force unveils new fitness program

By Daniel Elkins

Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – Approval of the new Air Force fitness instruction in the coming weeks brings about some of the most significant changes to the Air Force fitness program in the last five years and shifts a greater responsibility of maintaining physical fitness 365 days a year to all Airmen. Those changes take effect Jan. 1, 2010.

In June, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz announced changes to the service's fitness program following

an audit that identified inconsistencies in fitness testing that failed to create a culture of fitness required to meet the warfighting demands on today's Airmen.

"I take fitness seriously, and so should you," Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy said. "The new Air Force fitness test is coming soon and will incorporate significant changes aimed at creating a continuous culture of fitness."

Chief Master Sgt. Mark Long, the Air Force's enlisted promotions, evaluations and physical fitness chief, also underscored the importance of fitness in maintaining that combat capability while

at the same time advising that Airmen shouldn't wait until the new year to begin preparing for the changes.

"The culture of fitness that began with earlier endeavors intended to prepare Airmen to be 'fit to fight' established a sound foundation to build upon," said Chief Long. "We've come a long way in the last five years, only now it's time to incorporate changes that will bring about not only increased fitness but greater clarity and understanding for both commanders and Airmen."

Some of the significant changes outlined in the new Air Force Instruction

10-248, Fitness Program, include the testing frequency, establishment of fitness assessment cells to proctor tests, and increased emphasis on the aerobic component in scoring. The instruction is expected to be signed and approved by the Air Force chief of staff in the coming weeks.

Until then, Airmen can learn more about some of those changes on the horizon and view the approved fitness charts and other valuable fitness related information at the Air Force fitness program website at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil.

Civilians eligible for professional development

By Maj. Beth Kelley Horine

Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – Civilian Airmen can now apply for a new professional development opportunity—the Civilian Acculturation Leadership Training program. Applications are due to the Air Force Personnel Center by Sept. 4.

The CALT program provides a unique in-residence experience at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., focused on Air Force culture, mission and the significant role leaders play in overall team success.

"As the responsibilities of our civilian workforce have increased, so has the need for civilian development," said Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz in

their June 26 Memorandum for all Airmen.

"Civilian Acculturation Leadership Training, an Officer Training School-like experience that focuses on leadership, communication and warfighting skills, will be a key development training opportunity for select civilians," Secretary Donley and General Schwartz said.

Applications for CALT are now being accepted from Air Force civilians in NSPS pay bands 1 and 2, GS grades 1 through 13, and DCIPS pay bands 1 through 3. Applicants must have two to five years of continuous federal service, hold a bachelor's degree and not have prior military service.

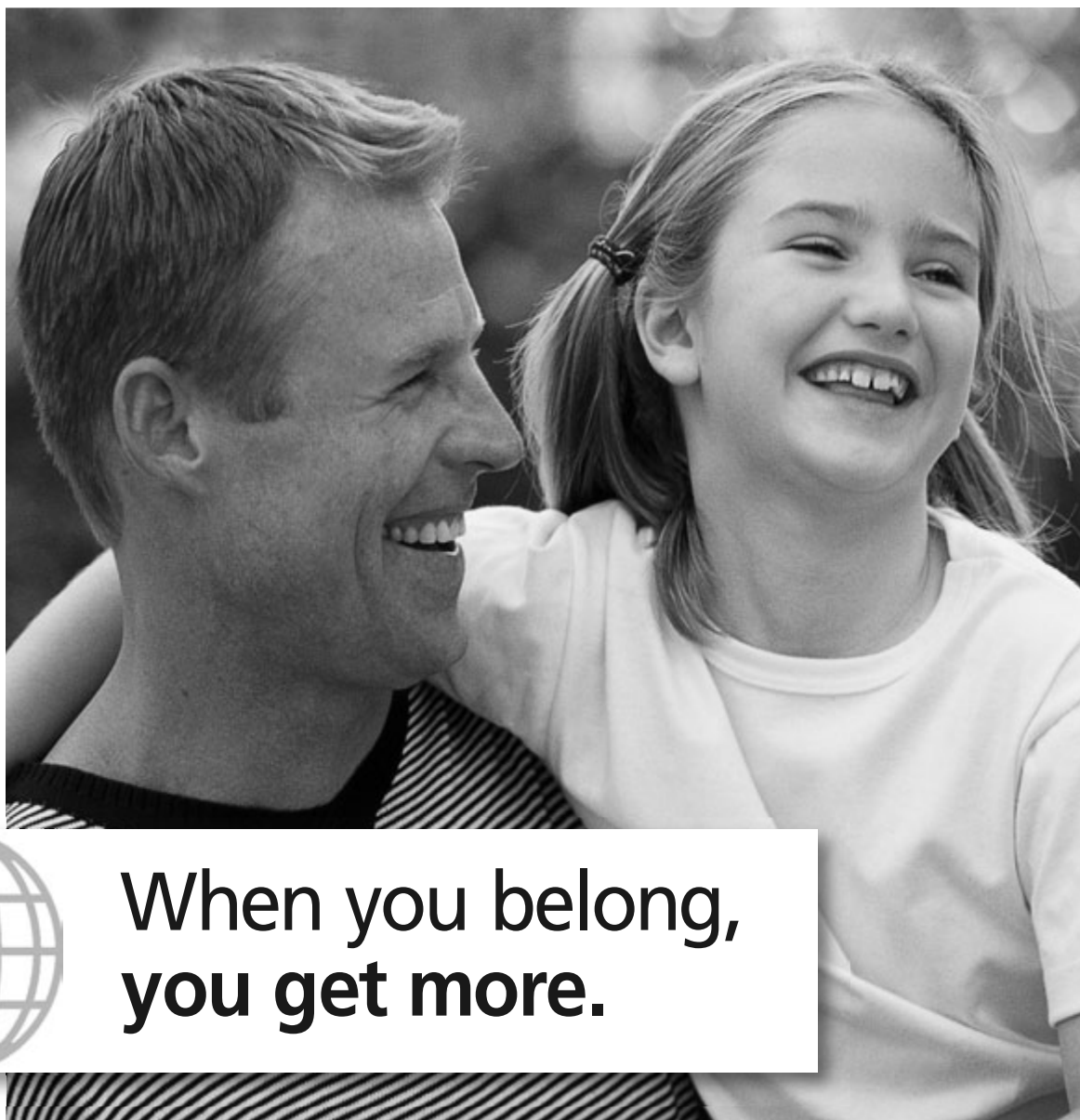
"The curriculum will parallel the leadership modules taught at OTS and will include team-building exercises, some outdoor activities, simulation exercises, and time for personal health and wellness to help maintain a level

of physical fitness," said Michelle LoweSolis, AFPC's Civilian Force Integration director.

The CALT program is one of many civilian force development initiatives the manpower, personnel and services community has developed to encourage the continuum of learning for civilian Airmen.

"This is an exceptional opportunity to bring together our best and brightest that have already shown leadership qualities the Air Force needs for developing future leaders," Ms. LoweSolis said.

CALT offers eight class dates in FY10, the first scheduled to begin Oct. 26. For more information on the CALT Program, to include class dates, application requirements, and course information, visit AFPC's "Ask" site, key word search "CALT," or contact the Total Force Service Center at (800) 525-0105.



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CSAF offers recommended reading list

By Gen. Norton Schwartz
Chief of Staff

As Airmen, we must continually ready ourselves for the day when our training is put to the ultimate test in combat. An essential element of that preparation is a reading program that expands our minds and informs our thoughts. If we learn the lessons of the past, both successes and failures, we decrease the risk of repeating mistakes. The three books I have selected from the 2009 Reading List are meant to teach us some of those lessons.

For a historical view of navigating change, and the pitfalls of ignoring innovation, open up *Fast Tanks and Heavy*

Bombers: Innovation in the U.S. Army, 1917-1945, by David E. Johnson.

This story is not one of inevitable historical forces but of human decisions. Johnson argues that the Army's reliance on lightly armored fast tanks and the Air Corp's belief in the invincibility of the bomber left both forces ill prepared and vulnerable in the early days of WWII. The early tanks were no match for heavy Panzer divisions, and the Eighth Air Force was nearly decimated without long-range fighter support.

As we prepare to mark the eighth year of our involvement in *Operation Enduring Freedom*, I offer a fascinating chronicle in *Afghanistan: A Short History*

of its People and Politics, by Sir Martin Ewans.

Sir Ewans examines the historical evolution of Afghanistan, from a succession of early dynasties through the Soviet invasion, civil war, and the birth of the Taliban and its support of Al Qaeda. The book concludes with initial OEF victories, and provides a warning to take the long view towards Afghanistan's future. This treatise is an intriguing read for all, and a must for anyone deploying to the region.

Finally, for a deeper understanding of our current fight, I recommend David Galula's *Counterinsurgency Warfare: Theory and Practice*.

Inspired by his experiences as a

French military officer and attaché, the author realized the "need for a compass" in the suppression of insurgency, and proceeds to "define the laws of counterinsurgency warfare, to deduce from them its principles, and to outline the corresponding strategy and tactics." Written in 1964, this new printing is the first translated into English, and is foundational to the U.S. Counterinsurgency Field Manual used by our forces today. While the book is only 100 pages, when you are done reading, you should understand why winning small wars is important to broader strategic objectives.

The entire 2009 reading list can be found at www.af.mil/library/csaf-reading.

NASA accepting applications for aeronautics scholarship

By Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Officials in NASA's Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate will begin accepting scholarship applications on Sept. 1 for the 2010 academic year. The application deadline is Jan. 11, 2010.

"These scholarships are a fantastic way to support our brightest students and encourage them to finish their education, expose them to NASA's research programs and inspire them to pursue a career in aeronautics," said Jaiwon Shin, associate administrator for the Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate at NASA Headquarters in Washington.

NASA officials expect to award 20 undergraduate and five graduate scholarships to students in aeronautics or related fields. Undergraduate students entering their second year of study will receive up to \$15,000 per year for two years and the opportunity to receive a \$10,000 stipend by interning at a NASA research center during the summer. Graduate students will receive up to \$35,000 per annually for up to three years, with an opportunity to receive a \$10,000 stipend interning at a NASA research center up to two consecutive summers.

Students who have not committed to a specific academic institution or program still may apply. However, if accepted, they must be admitted by fall 2010 into a

suitable aeronautical engineering program or related field of study at an accredited U.S. university. All applicants must be U.S. citizens.

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Academy earns own 'Best Reviewer'

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

Major John Martin earned a "Best Reviewer" award from the Business Policy and Strategy Division of the Academy of Management Aug. 10.



The award, presented to the top five percent of over 2,500 reviewers for the Academy of Management Conference in Chicago, Ill., recognizes reviewers for the quality and constructive feedback given to authors who submitted manuscripts. This is the second time Major Martin has received this award in the last three years.

"The Business Policy and Strategy Division within the Academy of Management rewards reviews that are constructive in nature and developmental in tone," said the best reviewer from Eugene, Ore. "During the blind review process, authors receive feedback from reviewers. After the authors review the feedback, they rate the quality of that reviewers' review. The Business Policy and Strategy Division of the Academy of Management uses this rating as one piece of information when making the Best Reviewer Award decisions."

An acquisitions manager in the operational Air Force, the 14-year Air Force

officer instructs international management, strategic management, and power and influence.

The assistant professor of Management and deputy for Academics identified areas that might make pencil-sharpening worthwhile.

"Treat the authors with respect," he said. "They have spent a lot of time developing a manuscript that they think will make an intellectual contribution to the field of management. As a result, reviewers need to use a positive tone when writing their review."

Provide constructive feedback, said the award winner. When a reviewer finds an inconsistency or an area to improve, they should make suggestions on how the manuscript can be improved.

"When possible, point authors to examples of published articles that serve as exemplars for the work they are trying to accomplish," the major said.

He favors using the sandwich approach.

"Begin by complimenting their efforts, then follow with suggestions for improvement, and end with some sort of motivating closing comments," Major Martin said.

And last but not least: "Treat the authors as you would want to be treated by a reviewer."

"I do not think most people dread reviews," he said. "Rather, I think most

scholars want to see what great ideas people are studying and trying to introduce to the field of management. Given the time constraints of our busy jobs, conducting a review is not always our highest priority so finding the time to conduct a value-added review is often a challenge."

He has a "don't list":

1) Don't tell them how poor their work is!

2) Don't tell them to find another line of work.

3) Don't tell them their work is only

useful at one of those "lower tier" conferences.

4) Don't accidentally share your confidential comments, which are intended for the editor, with the authors.

5) Don't write a review that is longer than the manuscript the authors submitted!

The secrets to his success?

"Great mentors, both in my PhD program and in the Academy's Department of Management, have helped me approach the review process with a tactful tone," Major Martin said.

ESOH CAMP audit just around the corner

The Environmental, Safety, and Occupational Health Compliance Assessment and Management Program (ESOH CAMP) is a comprehensive audit program that evaluates an installation's overall compliance with environmental, safety, and occupational health laws and regulations. The ESOH CAMP audit will be conducted the week of Sept. 14.

This year's audit will be an external audit conducted by an external team of military, civilian, and contractor personnel. The Academy's Environmental Flight, Bioenvironmental Engineering Flight, and Safety Office will conduct assistance visits to assist all Academy organizations to prepare for the audit. The audit team will out-brief findings to the DRU ESOH Council.

Questions?

Point of contact for the ESOH CAMP Audit is Phil Marne at 333-6716 and for the ESOH CAMP preparation is Kelvin Stone at 333-6455.

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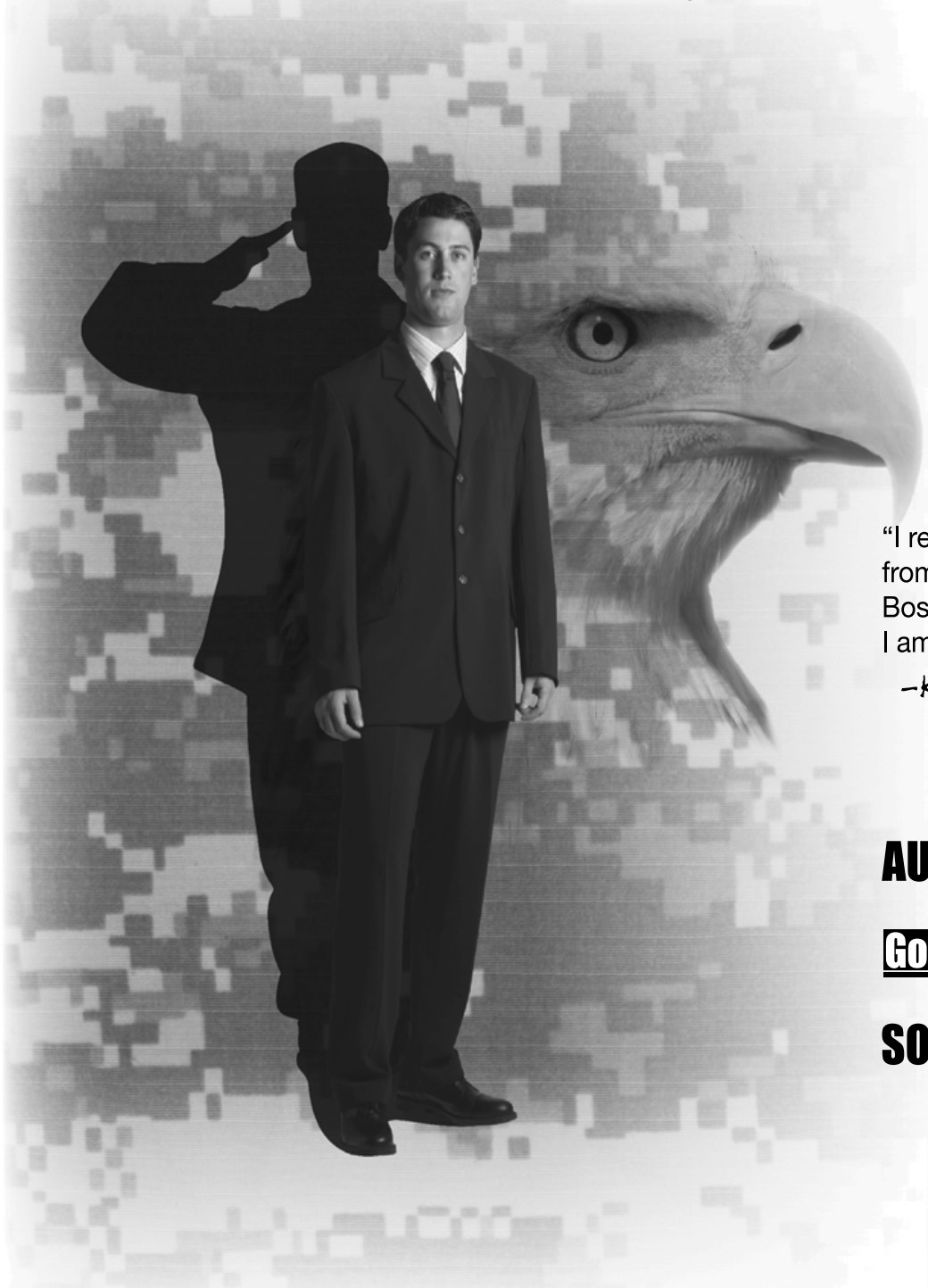




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Cadet Chapel groundbreaking turns golden

By Stephen "Pete" Peterson
Cadet Chapel Public Relations director

Today marks 50 years to the day since construction on the Cadet Chapel began. It was on this day in 1959 that its world-renown design would go on to impact millions of future guests who'd visit the spectacular house of worship.

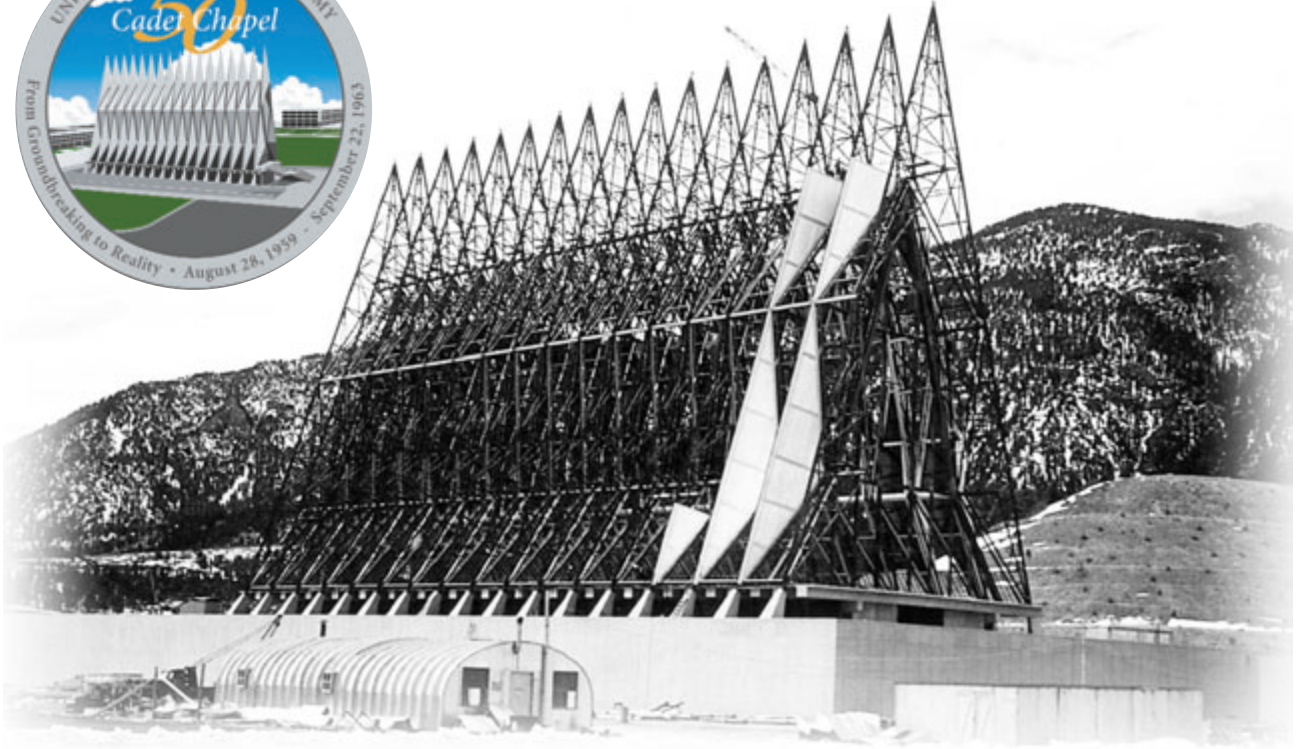
To celebrate, the chapel staff invites the public to attend the Golden Anniversary of the groundbreaking at 2 p.m. today. A concert featuring U.S. Air Force Academy Band Stellar Brass, Organ and Cadet Chorale is planned. The concert is expected to last approximately 40 minutes.

Historical storyboards will be displayed throughout the chapel showcasing rarely-seen construction photos as well as background information on the design and building of the structure. A video presentation of the 1963 dedication service will also be shown immediately following the concert. All levels of the chapel will be open to the public and chapel guides will be available to answer questions.

The principal designer-architect of the Cadet Chapel was Walter A. Netsch Jr.

Born in Chicago in 1920, Mr. Netsch studied architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Upon receiving his degree in 1943, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He began his career as an architect working for L. Morgan Yost. In 1947, he joined Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, when the firm was designing Oak Ridge, Tennessee, an Atomic Energy Commission town. It took Mr. Netsch, who was just 34 years old, five years to design the Cadet Chapel.

Robert E. McKee, General Contractor Inc. of



File Photo

The unique design of the Cadet Chapel took shape starting in 1959.

Santa Fe, N.M. built the chapel from 1959-1963 for \$3.5 million.

Mr. McKee was born June 15, 1889, in Chicago, Ill. His family moved to St. Louis, Mo. when he was a very small child. After the accidental death of his father when he was 10, he began his career of work and helping others. He received his education at the Manual Training School of Washington University. He left St. Louis as a young man to live on his Uncle

"Bud" Cleve's ranch located in Elk, New Mexico. After a short stay at the ranch, with a few dollars in his pocket, he moved to El Paso, Texas to begin an illustrious career in the engineering and construction field. He formed his own general contracting company in 1913 with a contract in the low four figure range. At the time of his death, his efforts in construction had expanded into one of the nation's largest

See CHAPEL, Page 14

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Golfer's life packed with flying and family

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Mike Gould, his father Carl Gould, and 103 members of the Eisenhower Men's Golf Association were among those who teed off for the Vic Kregel Championship on the Eisenhower Golf Course Aug. 20.

A luncheon followed the 18-hole match in the club house. Named as winner of the championship was John Sova.

The guest of honor, who himself won three straight of those championships, was unable to attend due to unexpected health concern.

But by no means was he overlooked as golfers and friends of Victor Kregel, paid tribute to the golfer who from childhood into his 80's made the game his own and literally got the ball rolling in initiating the championship rounds at the Eisenhower Course.

"We wanted to honor him, and we renamed the championship after him," said Joe Schaefer, the group's historian. "This is a first-class honor for Vic."

The renaming occurred five years ago, after Mr. Kregel "hung up" his clubs for good.

"He was a warrior and an athlete," said Bob Hayes, incoming EMGA president.

Mr. Kregel, now 87, began golfing at age 10 as a caddy in western Pennsylvania. The retired lieutenant colonel entered the Air Force in 1942 and began flying air-sea rescue planes. After the war, he opted out of a professional golf career in favor of the Air Force.

His luggage always included golf



Photo by Ann Patton

Academy links legend Vic Kregel recalls with fondness the Air Force Memorial Bob Hope trophy he captured for play during his Air Force career.

clubs as well as his flight bag as he entered, and usually won, dozens of tournaments.

After the Air Force, Mr. Kregel joined the aerospace company Temgo Vought in Dallas, Texas, a job for which he was interviewed on, where else, the golf course. He stayed there for 20 years.

All told, during the 76 years following his caddying as a youth, he has won more than 40 golf championships in Germany, England and numerous U.S. locations. He has won the Colorado Golf Association's Match Play Championship twice and its stroke play championship eight times.

Mr. Kregel also coached the University of Maryland's freshman team at his alma mater and varsity teams at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and the Academy.

Three of his former students at UCCS are now on professional golfing tours.

Remarkably, the courses he frequented from 1992 to 2005 matched or were less than his age.

Mr. Schaefer recalled that at 69 Mr. Kregel shot his age at the EMGA tournament and did so for the next 13 years.

On one outing on the Academy links he also remembered when Mr. Kregel was nearly 80, the senior golfer said, "It's been a great life, and I don't care if I die on the first fairway."

Along the way of his Air Force and golfing life, he met and married his wife Marie. The pair have two sons, both Air Force members, and a daughter who lives in Fort Collins. The couple now resides in assisted-living accommodations.

Although unable to tee off for this year's EMGA championship, in his home Mr. Kregel generously shared his thoughts, memories and highlights of golf, the Air Force and his family, to whom he is devoted.

He recalled winning the European Amateur Championship in 1959.

It is one trophy he still displays and just one of the dozens and dozens he has won over the years. A great many of his trophies he donated to youth golfing activities and to the Eisenhower Golf Course.

A scrapbook contains photos of his most memorable golfing triumphs, including play at the Pebble Beach, Calif., for the Bing Crosby Clambake, the Bob Hope Charity Golf Course, the Nottingham Challenge in England and, of course, the Academy. He also pointed out photos of another love—after family, Air Force and golf—fishing, which he still enjoys with others at the assisted living center.

Despite a life packed with flying, golf and family, Mr. Kregel found time to give back to others.

He served as national president of the Air Force Association, headed up charity events for the needy and gave generously of his time to civic groups, in addition to his volunteer time at the Eisenhower Golf Course.

"Golf has been very good to me," he said and added when he went to sign his discharge papers from the Air Force, a sergeant cautioned him to "Never let go."

Mr. Kregel took that advice. "I always look for ways to help out," he said. He even now gives advice to golfers on the small putting green outside his home.

"The ball has absolutely no brains," he said. "It goes where you hit it."

At the end of the visit, he reminisced about life and golf on the Academy.

"I never fell out of love with it."

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Photos by Dave Ahlschwede

Members of TOPS In BLUE perform at the Arnold Hall Theater in front of cadets, servicemembers and their families last weekend. TOPS In BLUE serves as an expeditionary entertainment unit to provide quality entertainment from within Air Force resources for the Air Force family, with priority to Air Force personnel stationed worldwide at remote and deployed locations, while simultaneously promoting community relations, supporting recruiting efforts and serving as ambassadors for the United States of America and the U.S. Air Force.



Senior Airman Jennifer Bone, Ground Radio Maintenance Journeyman, 17th Communications Squadron, Goodfellow AFB, Texas, is a member of the 2009 TOPS In BLUE cast. Although the mission of TOPS In BLUE is currently multi-faceted in meeting the needs of the Air Force, it still maintains the original concept of "family entertaining family".

Tops in Blue a big USAFA hit

By Academy Spirit staff

TOPS In BLUE, the Air Force's renowned international touring entertainment ambassadors, performed twice last weekend in the Arnold Hall Theater.

The TOPS In BLUE team was able to bring in the largest showing in more than nine years with 2,126 attendees Saturday and 2,610 Sunday.

"TOPS In BLUE are a moral builder for our military and their families all over the world," said Candyce Thomas, cultural arts and entertainment director and TOPS In BLUE project officer. "The discipline and protocol that makes up every waking hour during months of touring is commendable and a role model to all Airmen."

Ms. Thomas continued to state how big a triumph the event was.

"This event was a total success from first planning to waving them goodbye at lodging," she said. "We had bus loads of people coming down from Denver and people within a 100-mile radius attend."

The cultural arts and entertainment office prides itself on the caliber of entertainment it brings to the Academy.

"It is the mission of the entertainment office to bring in culturally enriching and educationally rewarding entertainment programs for the cadet wing and all base and military personnel," Ms. Thomas said.

The CA&E office has lined up many other shows to hit the Academy over the next few months.

Academy Concerts will have the renowned comedian/commentator, Dennis Miller open this year's 2009-2010 season Sept. 19 followed by the 1940's retro Big Band Theatrical Swing revue Oct. 16 featuring string singers, dancers and the "String of Pearls Band Orchestra" with all the favorite hits of Glen Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Benny Goodman, Frank Sinatra, Harry James, The Andrew Sisters and many more.

For additional information on the lineup during the 2009-2010 concert season contact Academy Concerts Ticket Office at 333-4497.



Senior Airman Tarryn Holyfield, Bioenvironmental Engineering Apprentice, 42nd Medical Group, Maxwell AFB, Ala., above, performs during a TOPS In BLUE performance in Arnold Hall.



Staff Sgt. Bryce Zabric, C-5 Crew Chief, 433rd Maintenance Squadron, Lackland AFB, Texas, displays his vocals for the audience during the TOPS In BLUE performance.

Chapel

From Page 9

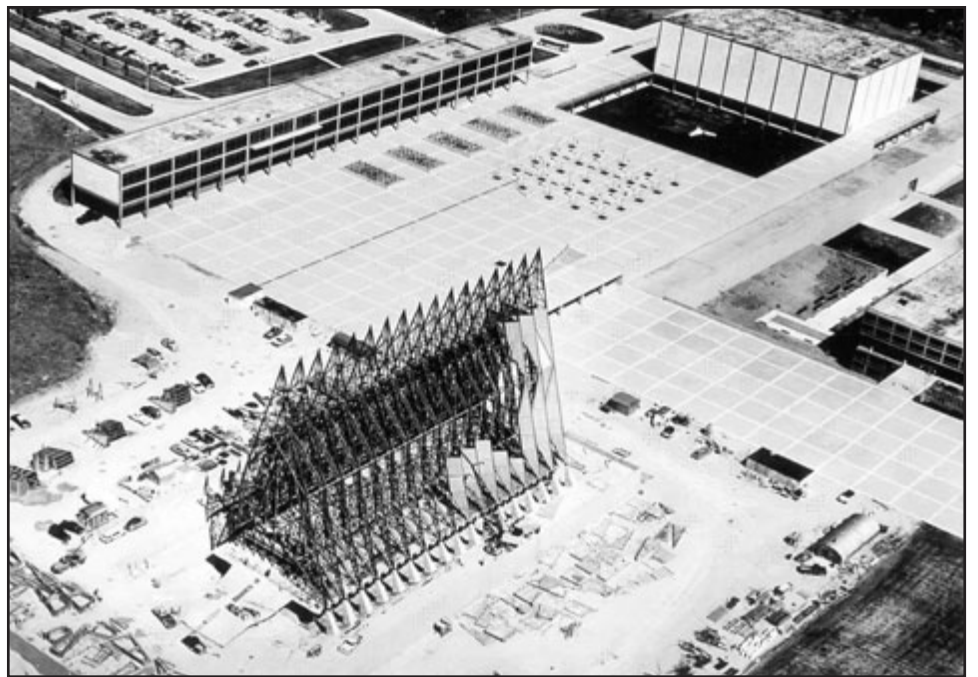
and most stable operations. During his lifetime career in the construction business, the Robert E. McKee company built some of the finest hospitals, hotels, libraries, educational buildings, industrial facilities and governmental offices in the United States.

Other major accomplishments included large military installations in the Panama Canal Zone and in the Territory of Hawaii as well as many large military posts in the United States.

The employees of Robert E. McKee General Contractor were presented the Army-Navy "E" Award for high achievement on the Atomic Bomb Project at Los

Alamos, N.M. In 1959 he was the major contractor for the new Los Angeles International Airport. While building a variety of major projects in 35 of the 50 states, he kept his headquarters and home in El Paso, with branch offices in Dallas, Santa Fe, Los Angeles, Honolulu, and the Panama Canal Zone.

At completion, the aluminum, glass and steel structure soared 150 feet toward the Colorado sky. The chapel remains a house of worship for all faiths designed to accommodate the spiritual needs of cadets. Visually the most compelling structure on the Academy's grounds (as well as Colorado's top man-made tourist attraction) the chapel's 17 silvery spires can be seen from miles away.



File Photo

Weather, including snow and ice, created challenges during ongoing construction efforts.

CCLD

From Page 1

of the Academy's Center for Character Development. "This will truly strengthen the Academy's ability to provide the nation with professional officers ready to make the tough calls when we give them the tremendous responsibilities of winning our nation's wars and leading our sons and daughters.

"In a phrase, it will greatly advance the Academy's impact on our primary mission of graduating Air Force officers of character," he said

As the centerpiece for the Academy's mission of developing officers of character ready to lead, the expanded CCLD will ensure Academy programs support the imperatives of a dynamic profession of arms and effectively instill them in graduating cadets.

The new center will be housed in a single facility compatible with the existing architecture of the Academy. The building is designed by Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, the same firm that originally planned and designed the Academy campus and Cadet Chapel. Up to now, the character development staff and associated cadet offices have been spread among three separate buildings and even off base.

Current plans call for the facility to be located at the north end of the Academy's Honor Court adjacent to Arnold Hall. This location will provide convenient access for cadets.

"The CCLD will represent a physical and symbolic statement of carrying out the mission of character and leadership development by fitting contextually within the architectural style of the Academy," said Duane

Boyle, the Academy's architect.

He added that the facility will be environmentally friendly, being a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, or LEED Platinum level certified building. Platinum is the highest level "green" designation by the Green Building Certification Institute of the U.S. Green Building Council, with only 17 other higher education buildings in the nation having reached that level.

The U.S. Air Force Academy is a four-year bachelor of science degree university. USAFA's mission is to educate, train and inspire men and women to become officers of character motivated to lead the U.S. Air Force in service to our nation. All graduates are commissioned as second lieutenants in the U.S. Air Force. For more information on the Academy, visit www.usafa.af.mil.

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Academy gymnastics announces 2010 schedule

By Valerie Perkin
Athletic Communications

Women's

The Air Force women's gymnastics team and head coach Doug Day released the 2010 schedule Monday. Over the four-month season, the Falcons will compete in six meets within the state of Colorado, including four at the Academy's Cadet West Gym.

Air Force will open the 2010 season with three consecutive road meets, beginning with a Jan. 8 meet at Oregon State. The Falcons will then travel to Denver, Colo., Jan. 16, for the first of three meets with the Pioneers this season. Air Force will wrap up the season-opening road trip in Normal, Ill., Jan. 24, when it faces Illinois State, Western Michigan and Wisconsin-La Crosse.

The Falcons will make their home debut Jan. 27, when they host Alaska-Anchorage for the first of four competitions against their conference foe. Air Force remains at home, hosting fellow MPSF opponent UC Davis Jan. 30. Air Force will then travel to Denton, Texas – site of the 2009 USAG Championships

– on Feb. 7, for a regular season triangular meet with Texas Woman's University and Northern Illinois.

Air Force returns to the Academy Feb. 20, for a triangular meet with Southeast Missouri State and conference opponent, Seattle-Pacific. The Falcons will then head up Interstate-25 Feb. 22 for another meet with Denver, before jetting to Anchorage, Alaska, for a pair of dual-meets with the Seawolves (March 12, March 14).

The Falcons close out the 2010 regular season March 22, hosting Denver.

Post-season competition begins for the Falcons March 26, as they travel to Seattle, Wash., for the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Championships. The NCAA Regional Championships are slated April 10 in Salt Lake City, Utah, while the USA Gymnastics Collegiate Championships will be April 15-17 in Denton, Texas.

Men's

Highlighted by five home competitions, including the two-day USA Gymnastics Collegiate National Championships, the Air Force men's gymnastics team embarks on another

ambitious season, fifth year head coach Kip Simons announced with the release of the 2010 schedule.

"I'm so excited with this year's competitive schedule," Simons said. "I'm pleased with the fact that we finally have a strong home schedule."

Air Force opens the 2010 campaign Jan. 16, when it hosts the annual Rocky Mountain Open and welcomes several of the nation's top programs to the Cadet West Gym. Simons is expecting a strong showing from his team at the RMO, as the coaching staff gets a real indication of the freshmen's talent in their first competitive meet.

The Falcons will then travel to Minneapolis, Minn., to face Minnesota Jan. 30, before heading to Aliso Viejo, Calif., Feb. 13, for the annual All-Academy Championships.

"It is crucial for us to have a strong showing at the All-Academy Championships due to the amount of pride between the academies," Simons said of his team, which finished second at the 2009 meet behind several outstanding performances.

Air Force travels to Lincoln, Neb., for a quadrangular meet with Nebraska,

Illinois-Chicago and Ohio State Feb. 21, before heading to Tempe, Ariz., Feb. 27, for the first of two meets at Arizona State. The Falcons return to the Academy for a pair of dual meets against Illinois-Chicago March 5 and 7.

Following their homestand, the Falcons head out for a busy road trip that features three meets in a one-week span. Air Force will face Army for the second time March 12 in West Point, N.Y., before traveling to Springfield, Mass., to take on Springfield College March 14. The Falcons will wrap up the regular season March 19, with a return trip to Arizona State.

Air Force returns to the Academy March 26-27 to open postseason action. The Falcons will host the 23rd USA Gymnastics Collegiate National Championships at the Academy's Cadet West Gym. Simons hopes that the 'home field advantage' will help the Falcons bring home their first-ever USAG team title.

The Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Championships will be held in Norman, Okla., April 3, while the 2010 NCAA Championships will be held April 15-17 in West Point, N.Y.

USAFA water polo team, chosen to finish fifth

By Melissa McKeown
Athletic Media Communications

For the third-straight year, the 19th-ranked Air Force water polo team has been chosen to finish fifth in the Western Water Polo Association, as selected by the conference's head coaches in the 2009 preseason poll. Two-time defending conference cham-

pion Loyola Marymount, ranked sixth in the national preseason poll, was a unanimous choice for the top spot in the league, garnering 157 points on the ballot.

No. 10 UC San Diego finished second in the voting, with 141 points. Fifteenth-ranked Santa Clara took third place with 135 points, followed by No. 14 UC Davis in fourth place (127 points) and Air Force in fifth place (109 points).

Redlands was selected to finish sixth in the WWPA, followed by Pomona-Pitzer and Whittier in seventh and eighth place, respectively. Rounding out the conference rankings were Claremont, Cal Lutheran, Chapman, Occidental and La Verne.

Courtesy Photo
Alex Churnside, senior, led the Falcons with 77 points last year and ranks among the top 25 career scores in Air Force history.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Don Branum

No. 1 Fan

Air Force football coach Troy Calhoun autographs a football for Alex King during Kids' Day at Falcon Stadium Aug. 22. Alex attended with Dave Krause, a deputy sports editor for the *Denver Post*.

Intramural Flag Football 2009			SEPT 1	SEPT 3	SEPT 22	SEPT 24	SEPT 29	OCT 1
Organization	Head Coach	Duty Phone	6 p.m. 1-4 *	4-3	6 p.m. 1-4	4-5	4-3	1-5
			7 p.m. 5-3	2-5	7 p.m. 2-3	2-1	2-5	4-2
					* PRESEASON			
					OCT 6			
1. 10 CES	Joseph Stevens	3-4260	SEPT 8	SEPT 10	SEPT 15	SEPT 17	6 p.m. 1-3	
2. 10 SFS	Brad Bricker	3-2000	6 p.m. 1-4	1-3	5-1	5-3		
3. 10 MDG#1	Jermaine Lockett	3-5676	7 p.m. 2-3	4-5	4-2	2-1		
4. 10 CS	Darryl Parker	3-9485						
5. PREP	Allen Willoughby	3-9330						
					Top 4 to double elimination Tournament			



Cadet Sponsorship office short 200 sponsors

The Air Force Academy Cadet Sponsor Office is 200 sponsors short for the Class of 2013. Officers, O-3 and above and enlisted, E-6 and above who are at least 28 years old, either active duty or retired, are eligible to be cadet sponsors. Civil Service employees who are GS-05 and above, or the equivalent pay band, are also eligible. For more information on the Cadet Sponsor Program, see the Sponsor Handbook online by logging on to the USAFA website: www.usafa.edu. On the right menu on the homepage under Special Interest, click on Cadet Sponsor Program.

Anyone interested in becoming a cadet sponsor should call 333-2727 or via e-mail at cadet.sponsor@usafa.edu.



CADET CHAPEL

Catholic Masses:

Sunday
Sacrament of Penance - 9:15-9:45 a.m.
Mass - 10 a.m.

Wednesday
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 5:30-6:20 p.m.
Sacrament of Penance - 5:30-6:15 p.m.
Mass - 6:30 p.m.

Weekday
Mass - Mon., Tues. and Thurs. - 6:40 a.m.

Protestant Services:

Sunday
Traditional - 9:00 a.m.
Liturgical (Music Room) - 10:30 a.m.
Contemporary - 11:00 a.m.

Jewish Services

Friday - 7:00 p.m.

Buddhist Worship

Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.

Muslim Prayer

Friday Prayer - 12:15 p.m.

Paganism/Earth-centered Spirituality:

Contact Tech. Sgt. Longcrier at 333-6178 or Robert.Longcrier@usafa.edu

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.

Final Friday

The Falcon Club will hold its "Final Friday" event from 4 to 6:30 p.m. today. Free food with Steamship Round of Beef will be served and karaoke is on the agenda from 5 to 8 p.m. A membership drive featuring three free months for new members is planned and two \$50 gift cards will be drawn for one officer and one enlisted member. "A great chance for us all on the last Friday of every month to get together," said 10th Air Base Wing Commander Col. Rick LoCastro.

Parade Float

Team USAFA is looking for members of the Veteran's Day Parade Float Committee (design & construction). No Skill level is too small and ideas and past experience are welcomed. Members will meet to design/construct the float approximately every other week until October, then weekly until the Parade, Nov. 7. For more information, e-mail megan.stclair@usafa.af.mil or todd.farlee@usafa.edu.

Temporary closure

On Sept. 14, the 10th FSS Customer Service Section will be closed due to Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System upgrades. DEERS-associated transactions to include issuing ID/CAC cards, PIN resets or update any dependent or member information will be unavailable. Alternate DEERS/ customer service locations include Peterson Air Force Base (556-4673), Schriever AFB (567-5900) and Fort Carson (524-3704). A call to one of these locations in advance to ensure their DEERS terminals are operable is suggested. Call 333-8750 for more information.

WNL begins

Wednesday Night Live will meet every Wednesday beginning at 6 p.m. for dinner and religious education classes for infants through adults. Call Diane Brewner at 333-6770, or the chapel staff at 333-3300 to sign up or for more information.

Ongoing road work

In the ongoing effort to repave deteriorated Academy roadway surfaces and install drainage lines, there will be a partial road closure on North Gate Blvd. Phase I runs from through Wednesday during which time westbound lanes will be closed. Phase II will run from 6 a.m. Sept. 8 through Oct. 6 when the eastbound lanes will be closed. For more information, call Christopher Padilla at 896-6445.

Strength training

Many activities continue at the Academy Health and Wellness Center including a new strength training class called, "Basics to Strength Training." If you're intimidated by strength training machines, and techniques, then this class is for you. Every Friday at 8 a.m., Sharon Hawkes, fitness program manager, and assistant Victoria Green will teach. The goal is to ensure attendees learn to create a more efficient, productive, and healthy exercise routine. The staff will help demonstrate correct lifting technique, the proper machine functions, and the overall basics to an effective exercise routine. Call 333-3733 or 333-4522 for

more information.

Spaced out?

There's space available at the Milazzo Center and Community Activities Center downstairs for functions. Rooms are available for military functions, retirements, promotions, dining in/out, off sites, meetings and training sessions, etc. Call 333-2928 to make an appointment to visit facilities.

A&FRC Offerings

The Academy's Airman and Family Readiness Center hosts the following classes in September. Call 333-3444 with questions or to register.

Pre-separation counseling

Held 2 to 4 p.m. every Monday (except during TAP week);

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

Bundles for Babies

Wednesday; 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Are you expecting? This free informational class features information about nutrition, infant care, car seat safety and more. Classes are open to all ranks and are not limited to a first pregnancy.

SCORE - business sense

Sept. 4; 9 a.m. to noon

Those considering starting a personal business can get answers!

VA briefing

Sept. 8 and Sept 28; 8 a.m. to noon

This briefing provides a comprehensive overview of VA benefits for separating/retiring military personnel. Topics include: medical care, disability compensation, education, vocational training, vet preference, small business loans, home loan guarantees, and more.

Sponsorship training

Sept. 10; 8 to 9 a.m.

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

Contact your unit sponsorship monitor for details.

Medical records review

Sept. 14 and Sept. 28; 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 in preparation of filing for VA Disability Compensation through the VA Form 21-526.

Smooth Move

Sept. 15; 3 to 4 p.m.

Learn innovative and proven ways to make your move a smooth one.

*This is a mandatory class for individuals departing the Academy.

Troops to Teachers

Sept. 16; 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 to this rewarding career.

Newcomer's Orientation & Information Fair

Sept. 17; 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Mandatory orientation for all newly assigned USAFA personnel. Spouses welcomed.

Event is held at the Milazzo Center.

Resume Writing

Sept. 18; 9 a.m. to noon

Learn different types of resume and cover letter styles and how to make them more effective. Learn to entice an employer to call for an interview.

TAP seminar

Sept. 22-25; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Separating in a year or retiring in two years or less? The Transition Assistance Program workshop is designed to provide the knowledge and skills necessary for a successful transition into the civilian workforce. Learn interviewing skills, resume writing, networking, negotiations, dress for success, and much more. Call now to reserve your spot. Plan to attend well in advance as these workshops fill up quickly.

Newcomers Red Carpet Base Tour

Sept. 25; 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

This informative, fun-filled, base tour gives insight into the Academy's mission and reveals most of the events/activities at the Air Force Academy. Stops include: USAFA Stables, cadet chapel, Arnold Hall, skills development center, outdoor recreation, and much more.



Bear Creek Nature Center

The Bear Creek Nature Center offers programs for all ages. Reservations are required, to reserve your spot call 719-520-6387.

Moonlight Expedition

Sept. 4, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The whispers, silhouettes and cool crisp air of the night are yours to enjoy as we walk along the trails of the Bear Creek foothills by the light of the full moon. (\$3/member, \$4/nonmember)

Honey Harvest

Sept. 12, 9 a.m. to noon

Honeybees make honey, pollinate plants, and offer a fascinating glimpse into the animal world. Watch beekeepers extract honey from the comb and enjoy a sample, discover the A, B, C's of bee biology, create a "bee-utiful" craft, and buy local honey products. (\$4/member, \$5/nonmember)

Teddy Bear Picnic

Sept. 19, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Children are invited to bring their favorite teddy bear for a hiking adventure in Bear Creek Park. After the hike we'll enjoy our favorite picnic, story, and a teddy bear parade. (\$3/member, \$4/nonmember)

Bear Creek Stewardship Day

Sept. 26, 9 a.m. to noon

Calling all helping hands! Scouts, families, teens, and others are invited to give back to the park by working in the native water-wise gardens and along the trails completing various projects. BYO gloves. (Free)

The center is located in the western portion of the Bear Creek Regional Park near 26th Street and Lower Gold Camp Road at 245 Bear Creek Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80906.

For more information log on to their Web site at http://adm.elpasoco.com/Parks/Bear_Creek_Nature_Center.htm.



August 29th

Red White & Brave

Welcome Home Parade

The Welcome Home Parade Committee is proud to announce the

2009

Red White & Brave

Welcome Home Parade

On Saturday, August 29th, Colorado Springs will gather to let the troops and their families know how important their work and sacrifice is to us, and how happy we are to welcome them home.

Soldiers, airmen, Marines and sailors from every base in the Pikes Peak region will march proudly through downtown Colorado Springs. Marching bands of all kinds will play as colorful floats roll down the street. We will warmly welcome The 4th Infantry Division, formerly based at Ft. Hood and now part of the Ft. Carson family, to Colorado Springs.

In 2004, a group of community leaders decided to bring our town together to say thank you to our returning soldiers.

The Welcome Home Parade was a resounding success; 6,500 troops newly returned from Iraq and Afghanistan marched with their heads held high in front of 65,000 spectators. There were lots of smiles and a few tears at this historic event.

This Parade is an opportunity for our community to show our appreciation for the troops whose courage and determination helped defend our freedom.

www.csmng.com/welcomehomeparade

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