



USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO ACADEMY SPIRIT

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In the fight

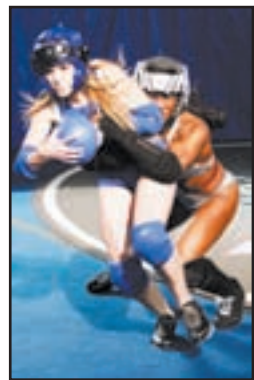


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Survey says



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Grad turns Glad-iator

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B-Y-blue



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37 DAYS UNTIL THE ACADEMY UCI ARE YOU READY?

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Photo by Mike Kaplan

Tops In Blue/Green

Cadet 3rd Class Logan Clark, Cadet Squadron-06, is serenaded by Tops In Blue vocalists in period uniforms (circa late '40s/early'50s) during the Air Force expeditionary entertainment troupe's Sunday performance before a packed house at Arnold Hall. This year's theme, "The Fly By," is a musical tribute to the 60th Anniversary of the Air Force. This year's TIB globetrotting Academy stop featured two shows at Arnold Hall and one at the Keystone Resort as part of Snofest. For more sights of TIB in action here, see pages 14 and 15.

Troops get back pay in February

By John J. Kruzel
 American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Active duty troops will receive retroactive earnings in February, followed weeks later by a supplemental payday for non-active personnel, a Pentagon official said Tuesday.

The National Defense Authorization Act signed into law Jan. 28 by President Bush stipulates a 3.5 percent military pay raise. This hike is 0.5 percent higher than an executive order the president signed Dec. 28 to increase pay by 3 percent,

which took effect Jan 1.

In mid-February, Defense Finance and Accounting Service officials will pay active duty servicemembers the extra 0.5 percent raise earned since the start of 2008. Non-active members will receive the supplement "a couple weeks later," said Bill Carr, deputy undersecretary for military personnel policy.

Mr. Carr said Pentagon officials are "delighted" with the act and praised cooperation by Congress. Disagreement between the president and Congress over non-defense-related earmarks and controversial language about the Iraq war had

delayed the bill's enactment.

"I think it's good news for everybody in uniform," Mr. Carr said. "This Congress has been terrific in working with us in terms of providing to the troops the things that they need."

Between 2000 and 2007, private-sector pay increased by 29 percent, while military pay jumped 42 percent during the same time, Mr. Carr said. Meanwhile, wages paid to noncommissioned officers, which includes corporals and all grades of sergeant and petty officer, spiked by about 52 percent.

See PAY, Page 5

New leader of military archdiocese tours Academy

By Butch Wehry
 Academy Spirit staff

The new Archbishop for the Archdiocese for the Military Services was appointed Jan. 25 one day prior to a visit to the Academy and surrounding military installations.

Academy priest Maj. Joe Deichert and Archbishop Timothy Broglio cele-

brated Saturday Mass at the Academy Community Center Chapel and had breakfast Sunday with the Academy's Catholic cadet chapel staff. A Confirmation Mass was held at the Catholic Cadet Chapel followed by a reception at the Falcon Club and the Association of Graduate's Doolittle Hall.

"I never dreamed that the Academy would have a choir of that quality,"

said the new Archbishop Monday after a visit with Lt. Gen. John Regni, Academy superintendent.

He also visited Fort Carson's Soldiers' Memorial Chapel on Tuesday and Peterson Air Force Base on Wednesday.

"My ministry in the last thirty years has been filled with unexpected dimen-

See LEADER, Page 5

How are you handling change?

By Lt. Col. Frank Battistelli
386th Expeditionary Mission Support Group

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFPN) — Have you ever returned to a base you were once stationed at or go to a town you once lived in and things were just not the same?

The chemistry was different, people changed and you didn't seem to fit in quite as well as you did the first time. Your recollection of the way things once were was different than what you found upon your return.

You may have had high expectations, but unfortunately you were disappointed.

The same holds true in today's Air Force.

Ask one of your senior NCOs or field grade officers what the Air Force was like when they entered the service 15-plus years ago. They would probably tell you performance reports were done using typewriters, e-mail was virtually nonexistent, and most notably, manning was great.

However, over the years technology has significantly changed the way we do business and budget crunches have leveled manning.

As a mission support squadron commander, I asked my flight chiefs and supervisors to read a book called, "Who Moved the Cheese" by Spencer Johnson. It's about change and was especially important to the squadron at the time, given the major transformation of personnel initiatives.

The book discussed that as the world changes and paradigms shift, it's

“... make a decision, embrace change and keep the momentum or remain stagnant and risk missing opportunities.”

important for people to adapt and change with it. However, people don't always respond to change, especially in the Air Force.

Here's what I mean.

When was the last time you asked your supervisor why you do something a certain way and the answer you got back was, "That's the way we've always done it," or "Because that's the way I learned it."

We tend to get hung up on antiquated procedures and fail to acknowledge changes have occurred around us. Hey, typing an evaluation performance report on a typewriter worked very well, but you don't see us typing anything today. In fact, most of you have noticed we are now digitally signing performance reports and never see the paper product until it's in our record.

That's what I mean. We must embrace change by looking at the way it can enhance our quality of life, or work centers and move out of our comfort zone.

If you look at how change has impacted our world, you'll realize it's almost impossible to ignore.

Thomas L. Friedman, in his book "The World is Flat," discusses how the world has become flat over the last

decade. By fiat he means international barriers have been broken and the playing field has become level.

For example, if you are having computer problems at your home in Nebraska, you may pick up the phone and call a 1-800 phone number for computer support. To your surprise, you are connected to an English speaking technician in a foreign country 10,000 miles away from you.

The same holds true for purchasing merchandise online or telephonically. Technology has virtually eliminated the commercial boundaries, and in essence, flattened the world.

Once one begins to accept the world is changing all around them, they will have to make a decision, embrace change and keep the momentum or remain stagnant and risk missing opportunities.

My challenge to the men and women in today's Air Force is to be in-tune with the changes occurring around you and embrace them. Don't get caught up in complacency, instead ask yourself how you can enhance your life or work center by accepting, adapting to change, then slowly make the transition.

ACADEMY SPIRIT

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

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Submissions

Send submissions to: HQ USAFA/PAI, 2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 3100, U.S. Air Force Academy, CO 80840-5016 or deliver to Suite 3100 in Harmon Hall.

Deadline for free classified ads on a space-available basis is 12 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.news.paper@usafa.af.mil.

Character Corner NCLS, Feb. 21-23

By Maj. Tom DeVore
Center for Character Development

Albert Schweitzer said, "I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I do know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve."

With that in mind, the Center for Character Development has put together an inspiring 15th annual National Character and Leadership Symposium "Impassioned Citizenship: Can One Make a Difference?"

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

The answer to this theme is YES! One of our NCLS speakers, Austin Gutwein, is the founder of Hoops of Hope.

In 2006, Hoops of Hope raised \$85,000 to help World Vision build a school in AIDS-stricken Zambia, and the goal for 2007 was \$150,000 to build a medical lab in Sinazongwe, Zambia. The lab will treat parents with AIDS and to keep their children from joining the 15 million youngsters already orphaned by the disease.

Austin is 13 years old; he founded Hoops of Hope when he was only nine!

Hoops of Hope operates hoop-athons where participants shoot free-throws to raise funds. It started with Austin shooting free-throws by himself, on World AIDS Day 2004. During the past four years, thousands of people have joined Austin, and they're making a difference.

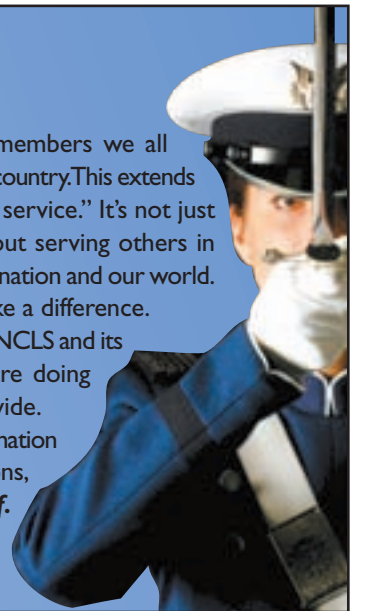
Austin is one of 34 NCLS speakers who are impacting our world — making a difference.

Many ask "Can I make a difference?"

As Air Force members we all agreed to serve our country. This extends into "civic-oriented service." It's not just about "me." It's about serving others in our community, our nation and our world. So yes, you can make a difference.

Don't miss the NCLS and its 34 speakers who are doing great things worldwide.

For more information on times and locations, see www.usafa.af.mil/ncls.



What are your plans for Super Bowl Sunday?



"I'm going snowboarding. Otherwise I would root for the Patriots' quarterback Tom Brady."

Capt. Stephanie Davis
98th Flying Training Squadron



"I'll be watching the game at home and doing house renovations. I'd like to see New England win so they have a perfect record."

Chief Master Sgt. Kenneth Granczewski
10th Air Base Wing



"I'll probably watch the game. I'm really not too interested. I was rooting for Brett Favre of the Packers."

Maj. Mike Jacobson
98th Flying Training Squadron



"I'm going to watch the game and root for the Giants. They're the underdogs and have a chance to win."

Glenda Phillips
HQ USAFA/Public Affairs

Downrange med tech inspired by her patients

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

An Academy aerospace medical technician worked the night shift in the emergency room for 12 hour shifts.

On a typical shift in Kirkuk, ER folks see patients for common colds or general problems, unless they have injured Army soldiers that get airlifted to them for immediate life saving medical care.

"We saw and stabilized the patients and got them prepared for surgery," said Staff Sgt. Melissa Puffer, 10th Medical Group serving as a Kirkuk emergency room technician. "We saw about 60 trauma patients, 3,000 total, and gave over 2,000 vaccinations while in Kirkuk."

For Iraq, she has no complaint about accommodations.

"The dining facility was great as well as our living quarters," said the eight year Air Force veteran from Rancho Cucamonga, Calif., who was deployed to Saudi Arabia in 2001. "We had plenty of activities to keep us busy while on base. It was great to work side by side with the Army. We were over here for the entire holiday season and everyone worked together to make things as festive as possible."

She unwound by taking salsa dancing-lessons.

The sergeant arrived back at the



Academy on Jan. 20.

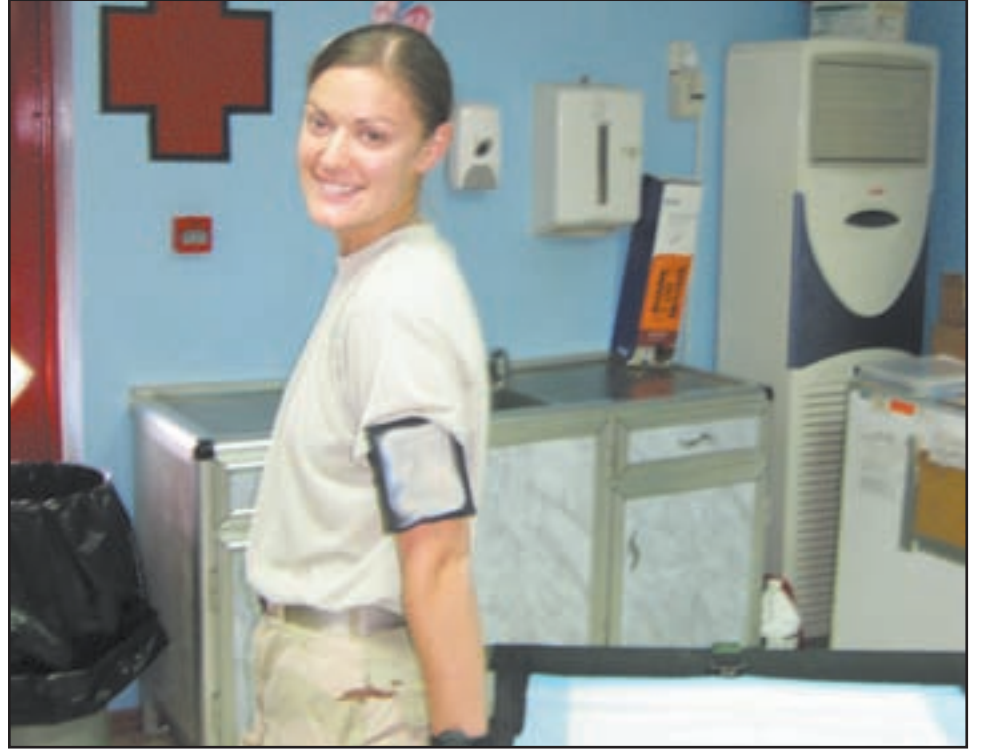
She knew boyfriend Brandon Gipson and her sister Ashley Arispé would be waiting for her return.

Three other people that work with her at the cadet clinic deployed with her.

She returns with some pithy memories.

"It was satisfying taking care of the traumas that come through because we were saving the lives of the Army Soldiers that put their lives on the line for our freedom everyday," said the sergeant.

"Next time you see a Soldier, tell them 'thank you' for their service," said Sergeant Puffer. "They work really hard and they are deployed for 15 months at a time away from their family."



Courtesy Photo

Staff Sgt. Melissa Puffer, 10th Medical Group aerospace medical technician, in Kirkuk's emergency room. She returned to the Academy Jan. 20.

UCI Tip of the Week

By Master Sgt. Dexter Frederick
Inspector General,
Inspections Division superintendent

The Air Force Inspection Agency along with other Air Force, Department of Defense and non-DoD agencies, conduct numerous inspections, evalu-

ations, staff assistance visits and other miscellaneous visits to field units.

The Academy Gatekeeper Program monitors, controls and regulates these activities.

The Academy Inspector General is the official Gatekeeper for the installation. This means all inspections performed by an outside agency on a unit assigned to the Air Force Academy

must be pre-coordinated with the USAFA/IG.

If you have an inspection coming up, call the USAFA/IG at 333-3490 to get the inspection coordinated.

This benefits the Academy because the Gatekeeper will ensure the installation is not getting inundated with inspections and agencies have a proper amount of time between inspections.



CHALLENGER

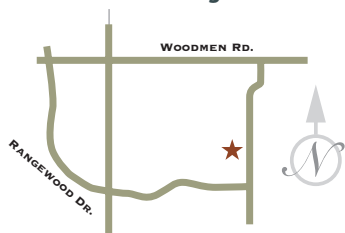
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Leader

From Page 1

sions," said the fourth archbishop for the archdiocese. "My late father always spoke with great respect about Monsignor Clement Krug, the chaplain to the Hospital Unit with which he was stationed in England. Monsignor Krug was legend in our family as I was growing up."

Archbishop Broglio's assignments to the Ivory Coast, Paraguay, the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico allowed him to meet and minister to members of the armed forces assigned to embassies or bases in those countries including experiences at memorable confirmations celebrated in Roosevelt Roads and Fort Buchanan in Puerto Rico.

"Now I look forward to working with Bishops

Photo by Dennis Rogers

Archbishop for the Archdiocese for the Military Services Timothy Broglio gives a homily during mass at the Academy.



Photo by Dave Armer

Archbishop Timothy Broglio of the Archdiocese for the Military Services meets Academy Catholic members during a visit after his Jan. 25 appointment.

Richard Higgins and Joseph Estabrook, Auxiliary Bishops for AMS and the other members of the archdiocese in ministering to the men and women and their families who serve or have served this great nation," he said.

He is aware of the strain the prolonged War on Terror has placed on people.

"As an Archdiocese we face immense challenges meeting the spiritual needs of our gallant warriors and their families," said Archbishop Broglio. "We are desperately short of chaplains. Our chaplains are exhausted. Our engagements in Iraq and Afghanistan have tremendous impact upon our families and we must support them during these difficult times. Likewise, we must provide for the wounded warrior and his or her family. The wonderful people of the Department of Veterans Affairs deserve our gratitude and our full support and cooperation in their mission of mercy. My number one goal is the recruitment of chaplains to serve our Armed Forces. The chaplains are in fact the greatest resource of the AMS.

"Senior leadership in the Armed Forces will tell you that our greatest resource is our people," he said. "The greatest resource of the AMS is our priests. The subjects of the AMS deserve the best priests we can recruit and I will work with the chiefs of chaplains and my brother bishops to achieve this goal.

"I will also explore the rich potential of vocations in the military, not just vocations to the chaplaincy but to the church in the United States. More than 11 percent of the ordination class of 2007 were prior service. I will do all I can to encourage and support young men in the service who express a desire to serve the church as priests.

"One of my first priorities will be to approach the nation's diocese for them to send us more priests," said Archbishop Broglio.

The Archbishop added that he was extremely grateful for the opportunity to visit the Academy and the other installations of Colorado Springs. He equally appreciates the keen commitment of all our men and women in uniform.

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American band a hit on Djibouti radio



Photo by Staff Sgt. Christina Styer

Air Force Academy Band's Senior Master Sgt. Larry Hill, CENTAF Band Operations, is interviewed by disc jockey Kassin Ramadon, Radio Television Djibouti on Jan. 25 in Djibouti, Africa, as Academy Band keyboardist, Tech Sgt. Andrew Benton, looks on. The CENTAF Band will be featured live on the French Radio circuit and broadcast on the AM Somali radio station. This interview was videotaped and will be viewed by more than 400,000 Djiboutians on Radio Television Djibouti in French, Somali, Arabic, and Afar. This is the first time any American Military Band has been featured on Radio Television in this area of the world.

By Tech. Sgt. Joel Langton
U.S. Central Command
Air Forces Public Affairs

DJIBOUTI – More than 400,000 people in Djibouti heard the U.S. Central Air Forces Band Live Round Saturday on the state-run Radio Television Djibouti.

It was the first live performance on the radio station by a band in 27 years.

“We were very excited to have this band and wanted to let the people of Djibouti hear them,” said Abdoul Kader Ahmed Idriss, RTD assistant manager.

The rock band is a blend of members from the Air Force Academy Band in Colorado Springs, Colo. and the Band of Mid-America at Scott AFB, Ill. and is touring Southwest Asia together.

The station's assistant manager said 80 percent of Djibouti's 500,000 residents listen to the station's broadcasts, which are in French.

“It was a great privilege for us to be on this station,” said the Academy Band's Senior Master Sgt. Larry Hill, tour coordinator. “We know this is the station the majority of Djiboutians listen to and it's a great way to share our message with this nation.”

The show was scheduled for 30 minutes, but the disc jockey, Mr. Kassin Ramadan, enjoyed the band so much, he took an extra half hour with the band.

“That surprised us some,” said Christy Stoner, American Embassy in Djibouti's public affairs officer who was instrumental in arranging the visit. “But, it's indicative of how well the band has been received during their time here. The Djiboutian people have loved Live Round.”

Carrying the band's amazing music and the Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa's messages even further is RTD's television station, which translated the band's message into French, Somali, Arabic and Afar and transmitted it throughout the region during the Saturday evening broadcast.

The station said they'll also put a portion of the show on their AM station, which is in Somali and goes into much of North Africa and Southwest Asia.

Mr. Ramadan said he was amazed by the military musicians' talent.

“It's a bit weird to see musicians in the military this good,” he said. “It also changes my view of the American military. Getting to know this band and see how they're reaching out to the community really impressed me and showed me they're good people.”

Pay

From Page 1

“We've made considerable headway, in terms of increasing the value of military pay, to the point where we're now frankly in about the 70th or 80th percentile of similarly educated American earners,” Mr. Carr said.

He noted that the most recent raise, by virtue of exceeding the current inflation rate, will increase servicemember recipients' purchasing power.

Pentagon Press Secretary Geoff Morrell said the retroactive payments ensure “that our forces are compensated commensurate to their service and sacrifice.”

In a news conference at the Pentagon Tuesday, Mr. Morrell noted that troops will benefit in various ways by provisions codified in the act. “It lets us resume offering bonuses to new recruits and re-enlisting troops,” he said.

The act also includes funding to improve health care and benefits for

wounded troops and veterans.

The bill became law just a week before the next budget cycle begins as President Bush sends his fiscal 2009 request to Capitol Hill. That budget proposal, along with a request for \$70 billion in emergency war spending, will be delivered to Congress Sunday.

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Numbers crunching helps guide Academy

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Keeping a pulse on Academy changes and trends are the institutional researchers and analysts with the Plans and Programs Directorate.

Through surveys, existing databases and other assessment instruments, they provide insights and direction for the Academy's strategic planners and senior leadership.

"Institutional research primarily involves universities," said Dr. Kathy O'Donnell, data analyst and supervisory personnel research psychologist with XP.

Researchers collect and direct data to higher education officials who use it to determine where the school stands on certain issues and where it needs to be.

On the Academy, researchers primarily concentrate on the mission elements of the Cadet Wing: academics, athletics and military.

A lot of it is numbers, numbers, numbers.

Detailed data is collected from the time high school students apply for admission to graduation and beyond.

Incoming classes are compared in numbers to other entering classes, for example, in terms of gender, minority selection, medical qualifications, scholarship offers, suitability for flight training, Preparatory School background, prior military service, cadets with service-connected parents, scholarship offers, National Merit scholarship recognition, Scholastic Aptitude and American College test scores and leadership positions.

The numbers can and can't in some ways predict an appointee's success on the Academy.

Dr. O'Donnell said the top and bottom tiers of entering classes in terms of qualifications are predictable

in their Academy performance.

"The ones in the middle we can't predict very well," she said and added cadets in that group may very well become top students by graduation.

Dr. O'Donnell holds a Ph.D. degree in experimental psychology but finds her job includes more than just psychology.

"I am a psychologist trained in statistics," she said.

When Academy researchers want to know what cadets are thinking and feeling about issues, they take a simple step. They ask them.

Through the annual Climate Survey researchers discover what's on their mind about life on the Hill.

Other surveys have involved cadets' attitudes toward gender relations, character and their level of understanding of the Honor Code.

Preparatory School graduates with appointments as cadets are regularly queried as to their thoughts on how the Prep School prepared them for cadet life.

Academy researchers and analysts are also charged with projections on enrollments and determining the needed number of entering cadets to meet legal standards.

Sizing up attitudes and thoughts is not easy.

"Human behavior is so variable," Dr. O'Donnell said. "It's difficult to find real patterns of differences."

Under federal law, the Department of Defense and Air Force Policy, the Academy is required to have a board for the scientific and ethical review of all research involving human subjects. The 16 members of the Academy's Institutional Review Board are experts in science, law, ethics, medicine and institutional policy.

The research and analysis team in XP is also responsible for the Total Assessment Report for the base which is reported to the Air Force.



Photo by Ann Patton

Gail Rosado (right), administrator for the Academy Institutional Review Board with Plans and Programs, briefs Dr. Kathy O'Donnell on a recent report.

Academy surveys are public record.

Academy researchers meet annually with their counterparts in other service academies. The most recent institutional research conference was held Jan. 15 – 16 in Arnold Hall. Participants shared data, practices, assessment techniques, information and processes.

Research results can produce surprises. Dr. O'Donnell pointed out, for example, cadets as a whole are less liberal in their political thinking than they were a decade ago.

From her viewpoint cadets overall are doing well.

"Basically, the cadets are good kids, smart and motivated, and most are pretty happy," she said.

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AFSO 21 pays off for FTG ops

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Following Air Force directives, the 306th Flying Training Group is taking a look at operations with an eye toward improving its processes.

Four areas of the 306 FTG's operations have been under the microscope using the program dubbed Air Force Smart Operations 21.

"The Air Force is always working to make things better. It's always been in our culture," said AFSO 21 facilitator Senior Master Sgt. Ron Sherrill, superintendent with the 98th Flying Training Squadron. "It's based on common sense and good communication skills."

The Air Force adopted the business processes Six Sigma and Lean as its AFSO 21 models for eliminating redundancy and saving money, time and parts.

Originally developed by the Motorola Corporation, the Six Sigma seeks to systematically improve processes by eliminating defects. Sergeant Sherrill said it is used primarily by manufacturers. The model was inspired by decades of quality improvement methodologies like quality control, Total Quality Management and Zero Defects.

The Lean model emphasizes eliminating or minimizing the fat in processes and that the answers to problems do not lie within the grasp of management running the business but with the people who are closest to the process, making them better placed to see value and waste.

Sergeant Sherrill said the 306th FTG has relied about 95 percent on the Lean model and the rest on Six Sigma.

He stressed AFSO 21 is not a way of reducing



people numbers.

"It's about eliminating things not necessary to produce the end item," he said. "They're the same people doing the same things."

Maj. Kenneth Picha, also an AFSO 21 facilitator and assistant director of operations for the 94th Flying Training Squadron, said the program's desired effects within the group are increased productivity of people, significant increase in critical equipment availability rates, improved response time and agility, sustaining safe and reliable operations and improving energy efficiency.

Each of the 306 FTG's four events has been small, with between four and eight participants, who spend a week identifying and hashing out problems and possible

solutions they have first-hand knowledge of.

"We need to keep decision-making at the lowest level," Sergeant Sherrill said.

The first event streamlined student in-processing for parachuting students by coordinating with organizations like as the 10th Medical Group and the Dean of Faculty.

"It saved headaches and time," Sergeant Sherrill said.

The second event refined operations in the parachute loft. Student parachutists were returning parachutes to the rigging area in disarray and with tangled lines. Training students in field packing techniques reduced time and manpower for riggers.

The third event focused on airspace management. "We had no standard process for non-scheduled jumps and for flying," Sergeant Sherrill said. Rezoning airspace resulted in increased training time.

The fourth event examined the group vehicle management the concept of co-utilizing vehicles.

Major Picha noted AFSO 21 is a continuous improvement process. The implementation time after an event can be from two or three weeks to eight weeks long.

After event findings and recommendations are put in place, Major Picha said, "We look at the process at a later date to ensure what we developed is being followed and working. If it is not, then we determine why and fix it."

Sergeant Sherrill's job as a facilitator is to keep the group focused on the task.

"They solve the problem," he said. "I'm amazed at the results we get. We're becoming much more efficient by cutting the waste."



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Dental health begins in the cradle

By **Capt. Casey Campbell**
 10th Dental Squadron, Chief of Periodontics

Editor's Note: February is designated National Children's Dental Health Month by the American Dental Association. This is the first of four articles designed to raise dental health awareness during the month.

While most dental health prevention programs are aimed at the elementary and adolescent population, prevention should begin before a baby gets its first tooth.

Baby bottle tooth decay, a.k.a. "nursing caries," is a common problem seen by dentists treating children. A thorough understanding of the tooth decay process can easily prevent cavities.

Most cavities are preventable through fluoride supplements and good oral hygiene. Baby bottle tooth decay is preventable by educating caregivers.

Baby bottle tooth decay occurs when sugary liquids are given to a baby in a bottle for a prolonged period, such as at nap time, or when given as a pacifier to soothe a fussy baby.

Many sweetened liquids cause problems, including breast milk, formula and fruit juice. Bacteria that are normally present in the mouth use these sugars to produce acids that attack the teeth. Each time your child drinks these liquids, these acids attack. After many attacks, teeth will decay.

It's not just the choice of drink in the child's bottle that causes decay, but the timing and duration of the feeding as well. Giving a child a bottle of a sugary drink many times a day or for long periods of time is especially harmful. Allowing a child to fall asleep with a



CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

bottle during naps or at night will predictably cause tooth decay.

A child's baby teeth are important.

Children need strong, healthy teeth to chew their food, speak and maintain a good-looking smile. Baby teeth also keep a space in the jaw to allow for proper spacing of the adult teeth. If a baby tooth is lost too early, the teeth beside it may drift into the empty space. Then when it's time for the permanent tooth to erupt, there may not be enough room. This can make the teeth appear crooked or crowded.

Additionally, if a baby tooth gets significantly decayed, the bacteria can travel through the tooth and cause decay in the developing permanent tooth.

Often, parents don't realize that a baby's teeth can decay soon after they appear in the mouth. By the time decay is noticed, it may be too late to save the teeth. This can be prevented by following these tips:

After each feeding, wipe the baby's gums with a clean, damp washcloth or gauze pad. Begin brushing your child's teeth when the first tooth erupts, using a pea-sized amount of fluoride toothpaste. Clean and massage gums in areas that remain toothless, and begin flossing when all the baby teeth have erupted, usually by age 2 or 2 1/2.

Never allow a child to fall asleep with a bottle containing milk, formula, fruit juice or other sweetened liquids.

If a child needs a comforter between regular feedings, at night, or during naps, fill a bottle with cool water or give the child a clean pacifier recommended by a dentist or physician. Never give the child a pacifier dipped in any sweet liquid.

Avoid filling the child's bottle with liquids such as sugar water, soft drinks or sport drinks.

If the local water supply does not contain the recommended fluoride levels, ask a dentist or pediatrician how the child should get it. Most areas of Colorado Springs and the Academy lack the adequate amount of fluoride.

Start dental visits by the child's first birthday. Make visits regularly. If the child has dental problems, make an appointment with the dentist as soon as possible.



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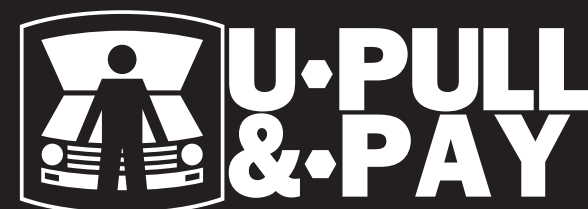
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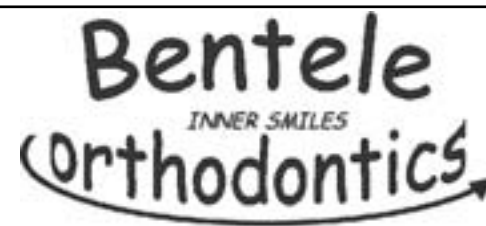
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In these times, know your SCRA rights

By Capt. Jay Bragga
Chief, Legal Assistance and Preventive Law

Due to the current high deployment tempo, Airmen often find themselves away from home for lengthy periods.

This can make it quite difficult to deal with many personal financial and legal obligations. Even for those of us who are not deployed, military service can often be a burden on our ability to address personal affairs.

In recognition of the sacrifices military members make and the hardships military service can cause, Congress has enacted significant protections for military members.

The Servicemembers' Civil Relief Act (SCRA) is a federal law providing military members with a number of important rights and benefits.

Some of the most important benefits for active duty military members include:

Termination of Leases – Members may terminate residential leases upon

entry into military service or after receiving overseas PCS orders or deployment orders for 90 days or more.

Members may terminate automobile leases upon entry into service or if they receive overseas PCS orders or deployment orders for 180 days or more. The notification of lease termination must be in writing and contain a copy of the member's orders.

Six Percent Rule – Generally, military members are able to reduce all pre-service consumer debt interest rates to 6 percent. This can include interest rates on credit cards, mortgages and even some student loans (except for federal guaranteed student loans). To obtain this benefit, the member must contact the creditors and request the rate reduction in accordance to the SCRA. (Note: A creditor may not be required to lower the interest rate if it can convince a court the servicemember's ability to pay is not materially affected by their service.)

Stay of Court and Administrative Proceedings – A military member may



request a civil legal proceeding be delayed for a minimum of 90 days if they are unable to appear in court because of military service. The request to the court must be in writing and explain how military duty affects his ability to appear in court. The servicemember must also provide a date when they'll be available to appear in the future. The request must contain a statement from the member's commander verifying the member's mili-

tary duty prevents an appearance and leave is not authorized for the court appearance.

Default Judgments – This judgment rendered due to a defendant's failure to answer or appear in court. If a default judgment is entered against a military member on active duty, the SCRA allows the member to reopen the lawsuit and set the default judgment aside. In order to assert this right, the military member must show his ability to defend the claims against him was materially affected by his military service, and that he has a potentially valid defense to those claims.

These are just a few of the many SCRA protections, some of which apply to dependants and mobilized guard and reservists.

This article is for general information only, and is not a substitute for advice from an attorney. Rights and benefits may vary with each individual situation. For more information on the protections and benefits of the SCRA, plus sample form letters, call the Academy legal office at 333-3940.

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Olympian Rudolph triumphed over tragedy

By Capt. Sabine Peters

Department of Foreign Languages instructor

Editor's Note: In observance of African-American History Month, notable African-Americans will be highlighted during February in the Academy Spirit.

A most triumphant journey into our history books began in the summer of 1940.

Tiny Wilma Glodean Rudolph, just 4.5 pounds at birth, was born on June 23 of that year, the 20th of 22 children.

Her parents, Ed and Blanche Rudolph, were hardworking people but very poor. The family lived in Clarksville, Tenn., where Mr. Rudolph worked as a railroad porter and Mrs. Rudolph did household chores for well-to-do white families.

Wilma's early childhood was marred by frequent illness: chicken pox, measles, mumps, scarlet fever and double pneumonia. The most crushing was polio, which left her with the use of only one leg. Doctors told the family that Wilma would never be able to walk without metal leg braces, but Mrs. Rudolph refused to listen.

Racial segregation laws made treatment in Clarksville impossible, so for the next two years she took her daughter to Meharry Hospital, the black medical college of Fisk University in Nashville. Twice a week Mrs. Rudolph drove 50 miles each way



to take Wilma to get physical therapy. The whole family encouraged Wilma and helped massage and exercise her leg at home. Finally, at age seven, she was strong enough to use her brace to go to school.

Persistent effort and steadfast determination enabled Wilma to achieve her dream at age 12. She shed her braces, crutches and corrective shoes and walked, normally, like all the other children.

In junior high, she followed her older sister's example and joined the basketball team. Her coach, Clinton Gray, would not put her in a single game for three years and not until her senior year did she finally start at guard.

Rudolph surprised everyone by setting state records for scoring and leading her team to a state championship. During the state tournament, Wilma was spotted by Ed Temple, the coach of the famous "Tigerbells," the women's track team at Tennessee State University, and invited her to a summer sports camp. Coach Temple was impressed by what he saw and after graduating from high school, Rudolph received a full scholarship to TSU.

She quickly became a track star. At 16, Wilma joined the U.S. Olympic Track and Field Team at the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne, Australia, returning with a bronze medal in the 4x100m relay.

In July, 1960, Rudolph broke the world record for 2000 meters and her sights were set on that year's Summer Olympics in Rome. On Sept. 7, she became the first American woman to win 3 gold medals in the Olympics. Rudolph won the 100-meter dash, the 200-meter dash (in 23.2 seconds, a new Olympic record) and joined Tennessee State teammates Martha Hudson, Lucinda James and Barbara Jones to win the 400-meter relay in 44.5 seconds, setting a world record.

Rudolph was hailed as "The Tennessee Tornado - the fastest woman on Earth." She was named "Woman Athlete of the Year" by the Associated Press, and the United Press International "Athlete of the Year."

Upon her insistence, the homecoming parade and banquet held in her honor would be the first fully integrated event in the history of Clarksville.

In 1962, she retired from track competition and returned to Tennessee State, after taking a year off from her studies, to make appearances and compete in international track events. She graduated with a Bachelor's degree in elementary education in 1963 and married her high school sweetheart, Robert



Photo Illustration by Patrick Harris

Eldridge, with whom she had four children. The couple would later divorce.

Rudolph became the track coach at her alma mater, Burt High School, replacing her former coach, Clinton Gray, who was killed in an auto accident. She spoke at dozens of schools. In 1967, Vice President Hubert Humphrey invited her to participate in "Operation Camp," an athletic outreach program for underprivileged youth in the ghettos of 16 major cities.

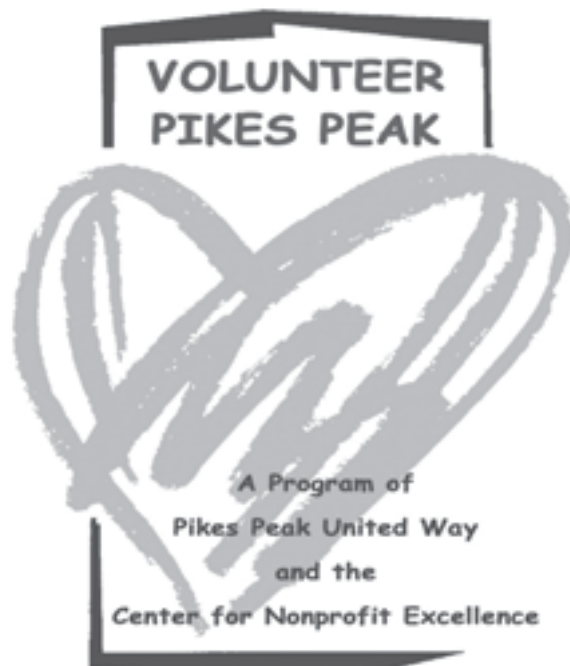
Her own non-profit organization, The Wilma Rudolph Foundation, continued this kind of work providing free coaching and academic assistance. In 1977, NBC made a movie about her life based on her autobiography, "Wilma." Twenty-three year-old Denzel Washington, played her boyfriend.

Shortly after her mother's death in 1994, Rudolph was diagnosed with brain and throat cancer. On Nov. 12, 1994, Wilma Rudolph died in her Brentwood, Tenn., home, survived by four children, eight grand children, and more than 100 nieces and nephews.

"All of us recognize this is a tremendous loss," Olympic Committee President Leroy Walker said. "Wilma was still very much involved with a number of Olympic programs. She was struck with an illness that, unfortunately, we can't do very much about."

Nine months after her death, TSU dedicated its new six-story dormitory the "Wilma G. Rudolph Residence Center." A stretch of U.S. Route 79 in Clarksville is named Wilma Rudolph Boulevard. And in 1997, Governor Don Sundquist proclaimed June 23 as Wilma Rudolph Day in Tennessee.

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Grad turned glad-iator making mark on TV

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

A 1997 Academy graduate who was a cheerleader has joined the ranks of the newly resurrected *American Gladiators*.



Tanji Johnson

Former Cadet Squadron 32 member Tanji Johnson, now known as Stealth, is one of the newest gladiators on the series that debuted Jan. 6 and is being run by boxer Laila Ali and professional wrestler Hulk Hogan.

"I went through basic cadet training, developed leadership skills and began to put my body through its first physical challenge," she says of her Academy days on her official web site. "I was a varsity cheerleader and a member of the cadet honor guard and went through several intense military programs like survival training and Marine Corps officer training. It was quite the adventure."

She graduated with a bachelor of science degree in humanities and was commissioned an Air Force lieutenant.

The one time Airman, who left as a captain in January 2002 and spent a year after graduation helping the Academy recruit minorities, then worked as a maintenance officer on KC-135s.

There's no mistaking this 5' 2" physical specimen. She is ranked fourth in the nation by the International Federation of Body Building in fitness competitions.

She was born in Bamberg, Germany, and grew up as an Army brat in Germany and Korea.

The celebrity wants to take acting lessons.

"I would love to become Hollywood's next black female action hero," she writes on her site. "I have a feeling I could even play the villain role most of the time."

Academy people have an opportunity to face Stealth and her fellow gladiators next season. Open auditions for season 2 contestants is Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the University of Colorado-Boulder's Student Recreation Center in Boulder.

If an active-duty Airmen or cadet competes and is selected to be a contestant, they must work with the Academy's Public Affairs office to finalize the clearance to appear on this national television program.



NBC Photo: Chris Haston

Former Academy cadet and 1997 grad Tanji Johnson, right, a.k.a. "Stealth," attempts to bring down a contestant during an event on the TV show *American Gladiators*.



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When speaking with him he had this to say:
"Some of the most successful real estate investors in the country are my personal friends. I always knew that I wanted to get involved in real estate but I wanted to focus on my other businesses so I always put it on the back burner. Then one day I just decided to do it and started the learning process. I attended seminars, read books and finally found a mentor to walk me through the process. I put away over 1 million dollars the first year! I realized that anyone and everyone could do what we were doing. I wondered why more people weren't doing it. Who wouldn't want to become wealthy in Real Estate, it seems like the American dream to me. Well after a couple of years quietly investing in Real Estate I told my wife that I wanted to teach others to do exactly like we were doing. She was 100% on board with the idea. I know people can be very skeptical so we created a FREE CD to give away to people that may be interested in Real Estate Investing. I didn't believe it at first but anyone can do this. It doesn't matter if you have bad credit, no credit, no experience; even if you didn't graduate from high school you can do this. If you have any interest at all in Real Estate Investing you need to at least get a copy of our FREE CD."

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Honor Guard offers unique opportunities, challenges

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Sharp, crisp and motionless stand members of the Academy's Honor Guard as they pay tribute to fallen heroes and honor their loved ones who are left behind.

Due to attrition, the HG is seeking new members.

The next training class is Feb. 25 - 29, 12:30 - 4:30 p.m., including graduation.

Honor Guards are tasked to

perform two details per month as per the HG contract, which is a one-year commitment with a minimum of 24 details. Training involves rifle manual training, standing manual training and posting of the colors and training in funeral procedures.

Once on the HG team and assigned to the flight, Guardsmen train twice a month for a total of eight hours and practice up to two hours prior to details depending on the event to be performed. Details can last up to four hours.



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Members of the Honor Guard must learn, practice and perform the intricacies of ceremony in proper form.

Honor Guardsmen perform funeral duties at the cadet chapel, memorial pavilion at the cemetery, community center chapel and graveside.

"We are looking for members who are willing to step up and push their comfort zone to the next level," said Master Sgt. Ernest Medina, HG NCOIC and Academy Military Trainer for Cadet Squadron 29.

Being an Honor Guard member takes stamina. The group frequently

stands for long periods and must endure extremes of hot and cold weather. Guards also are required heavy lifting and go face-to-face with grieving family members.

"It's hard work. It has to be," Sergeant Medina said. "We have to look sharp for every function since we are representing the Air Force."

The Honor Guard Creed also requires members to uphold "standards of conduct and level of professionalism above reproach."

The Honor Guard is open to all ranks. Its rolls presently include ranks from airman to major.

"We do not turn away any candidate due to rank," Sergeant Medina said.

In spite of its hard work, the job also offers perks. Guardsmen receive free 24-hour dry cleaning service for the ceremonial uniform, a wind suit, garment bag and high visibility during events.

The group also presents leadership opportunities. The organizational structure is guided by an officer in charge, superintendent, NCOIC, training NCOIC, two flight sergeants, equipment custodian, ammunition custodian and vehicle NCO. Positions are filled competitively with the more experienced members of the team.

Sergeant Medina said the greatest reward, however, is a job well done.

"The biggest incentive Honor Guard members cherish during their time with the Guard are the simple thank-you's from the family after we perform a service," he said.

To apply for the Honor Guard, candidates need to contact their first sergeant, any member of the group or Sergeant Medina at 333-1880.



Photo by Danny Meyer

Paying tribute to fallen heroes and honoring loved ones left behind requires precision and formality.

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The Academy Health and Wellness Center offers:

Tobacco cessation; Tuesday, noon-1 p.m.: Provides information to those trying to quit smoking or chewing tobacco.

A Lighter Side of Cooking; Feb. 19, 5-6:30 p.m.: Demonstrates how to prepare healthy and delicious dishes. Attendees receive free recipe cards for the presented meal, a health heart cook-

book and a sample of the prepared food. The theme is soul food.

For more information or to register for either class, call 333-3733.

Heart Link arrives

The next Heart Link program is Thursday from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. in the Airman and Family Readiness Center. The program is for Air Force spouses, especially those new to the military. Heart Link provides information about Air Force life, a greater awareness of the Air Force and Academy mission, customs, traditions, protocol and the resources and services available from key base agencies. A complementary lunch and refreshments will be served. For more information or to reserve a seat, call 333-3444.

Peter Pan here

Academy Concerts presents the Broadway musical Peter Pan Feb. 8 at 7:30 p.m. in Arnold Hall. For tickets, call the Academy Concerts box office at 333-4497. Special children's pricing is available.

Air Force Ball nears

The Air Force Association, Lance P. Sijan Chapter, Headquarters Air Force Space Command and other local units, host the annual Air Force Ball at the Broadmoor Resort Feb. 15.

Entertainment is by Tops in Blue. A social hour begins at 6 p.m. in Colorado Hall and dinner starts at 7 p.m. in the Broadmoor's International Center. Academy people can purchase tickets from Eddie Lee on the 2nd floor of the Academy Visitor's Center. Tickets range from \$15-\$100 depending on grade and affiliation with the military and the Academy. Tickets must be paid by cash or check. For more ticket information, contact Mr. Lee at 333-7648 or eddie.lee@usafa.af.mil. The last day to buy tickets is today. For more information on the Air Force Ball, visit the Sijan Chapter website at www.afasijan.com. The Broadmoor offers a special room rate of \$155 for the evening. For reservations, call the Broadmoor at (719) 577-5775 and use group code AFB08.

AFAS grants available

The Air Force Aid Society is accepting applications for the General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program, which provides \$2,000 grants to sons and daughters of active duty, Title 10 AGR/Reserve, Title 32 AGR performing full-time active duty, retired, retired reserve and deceased Air Force members; stateside spouses of active duty members and Title 10 AGR/Reservists and surviving spouses of deceased personnel for their undergraduate studies. Applications are available at the Academy Airman and Family Readiness Center, 6248 West Pine Loop

or online at www.afas.org. Applications must be submitted by March 7. Awards are announced in June 2008. Use of funds is limited to tuition, books, fees or other curriculum-required materials.

Estate claims

If anyone has a claim for or against the estate of Cadet 3rd Class Lindsay M. Brown, please contact Lt. Col. Nerisse Fernandez, Cadet Group 2, at 333-6824 or Nerisse.Fernandez@usafa.edu.

Memorial fund

Anyone who would like to give to the Air Force Academy in honor of Mrs. Donna Head may send contributions to: HQ USAFA/CMA, Attn: Mrs. Donna Head Memorial Fund, 2304 Cadet Dr., Suite 3200, USAF Academy, CO 80840-5002. Please make checks payable to the Air Force Academy.

Nominations wanted

The Academy is seeking nominations for the 2008 Air Force Academy Distinguished Service Award. The award is presented annually by the superintendent to a military person, civilian or group whose contributions (not as part of their official duty) have had a distinct impact on the morale or well-being of the Academy. Any individual who has contributed significantly and directly to the morale or well-being of the Academy through the generous donation of time, resources or influence is eligible. Nominations must be submitted by April 1 to HQ USAFA/CMA, 2304 Cadet Dr., Suite 3200, USAF Academy, Colo., 80840-5002. Nomination packages must include a single page with biographical data to include name, rank, organization or company, telephone number and mailing address, in addition to a typed narrative justification, not to exceed one page, describing the nominee's accomplishments. For more information, call Steve Simon at 333-8827.

Tax volunteers needed

The Academy legal office needs Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Representatives for the 2008 tax season to help man the Academy Tax Office, which opens Monday at 8 a.m. Last year's VITA representatives saved clients more than \$76,000 in tax preparation fees. All Academy enlisted, officers and civilians are welcome. For more information or to volunteer, contact Tech. Sgt. Timothy Johnston at 333-3940 or timothy.johnston@usafa.af.mil.

Paralegals sought

The Air Force wants motivated Airmen to retrain into the Paralegal Career Field. There are immediate openings for Airmen in the junior enlisted ranks, and some senior NCO positions. Paralegals provide support to com-

manders, first sergeants and other key personnel on a broad spectrum of legal matters. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Barbara Lamb at 333-3642 or Master Sgt. James Pautler at 333-3940.



Volksmarch club walks

The Falcon Wanderers Volksmarch Club will hold their first event of the year Feb. 9 in Florence, Colo. People can register anytime between 9 a.m.-noon at the Florence Community Senior Center at 100 Railroad St. 10k and 5k courses will be offered, mainly on city streets and sidewalks. People are welcome to walk at their own pace. Large-wheeled strollers can complete the course but wheelchairs are not recommended. For more information, call Kaye Widger at (719)372-3541 or Russ Bechtold at (719)557-5662, e-mail walking@falconswanderers.org or visit www.falconwanderers.org.

Father/Daughter dance

A Military Father/Daughter Dance will be Feb. 15 from 7-10 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Colorado Springs. The event is open to all military ID card holders — active duty, reserve, guard and retired. Tickets are \$20 for E-5 and below and \$30 for all others. There is a \$10 fee for each additional family member and children younger than 3 are free. Tickets must be purchased by Feb. 11 and include a light dinner, dancing and a memory DVD. Photos will be taken and available for purchase. Dress is mess dress or class A for military, business attire for retirees and civilians and party dresses for daughters. For more information or to purchase tickets, call the Southeast Armed Services YMCA at 622-9622.

Running series steps off

The 10th Annual Grand Prix of Running series kicks off March 15 with the "5k For St. Patrick's Day" run in downtown Colorado Springs. More than 1,400 runners are expected on the flat course that ends in Acacia Park. There will be Irish music and refreshments available at the finish line, plus a "Leprechaun Fun Run" for children 12 years old and under. Registration for the 5k and children's run is available at www.csgrandprix.com. People can also register at the Runner's Roost store at 107 E. Bijou St. The runs will be followed by the 25th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade at noon.



CADET CHAPEL

Catholic Masses:

Sunday

Reconciliation 9:15-9:45 a.m.

(or by appointment)

Mass - 10 a.m.

Weekday

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

Wednesday

Catholic Adoration - 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Mass - 6 p.m.

Protestant Services:

Sunday

Traditional - 9:00 a.m.

Hill Fellowship - 11:00 a.m.

Jewish Services

Fridays - 7 p.m.

Buddhist Worship

Wed. - 6:30 p.m. - All Faiths Room

Muslim Prayer

Fridays - Noon - Muslim Prayer Room, Chapel Basement

COMMUNITY CENTER CHAPEL

Catholic Masses:

Saturday

Reconciliation - 3:30 p.m.

Mass - 4 p.m.

Sunday

Mass - 9:30 a.m.

Religious Formation - 10:45 a.m.

(Sept. - May)

Tuesday-Friday

Mass - 11:30 a.m.

Protestant Services:

Saturday

Contemporary - 6 p.m.

Sunday

Traditional - 8 a.m.

Gospel - 11:15 a.m.

Religious formation - 9:30 a.m.

(Sept. - May)

Military Academy Pagan Society

Third Thursday - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

(For more info, call TSgt. Longcrier at 333-6187.)

For more information, call 333-3300.



ACADEMY STRAIGHT TALK LINE
(719) 333-7876



Senior Airman Jonathan Hayden presents his vocal renderings in salute to the 60th anniversary of the Air Force.



Tops in Blue offers up a down home taste of country western.



First Lt. Kimberly Robinson takes her vocals to the house floor of Arnold Hall.



Tops in Blue makes annual visit memorable

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Tops in Blue winged their way over Colorado last weekend, bringing pizzazz, glitter, music and dance to the Columbine State.

The troupe, composed of active duty bluesuiters allowed to temporarily leave their regular jobs, took the stage in the Keystone Conference Center Friday night for SnoFest and in Arnold Hall on the Academy for performances Saturday and Sunday.

"They put on their usual stellar show," said Jim Lovely, 10th Services Squadron marketing director. "It was one of their best shows ever and very well received."

"The Fly-By," this year's theme for Tops in Blue

performances, paid a musical tribute to Air Force members who have served since it was deemed a separate service 60 years ago.

Tops in Blue performers not only sing, dance and play on stage. Along with the technical, operations and production staff, they place and remove equipment and install and strike sets after performing.

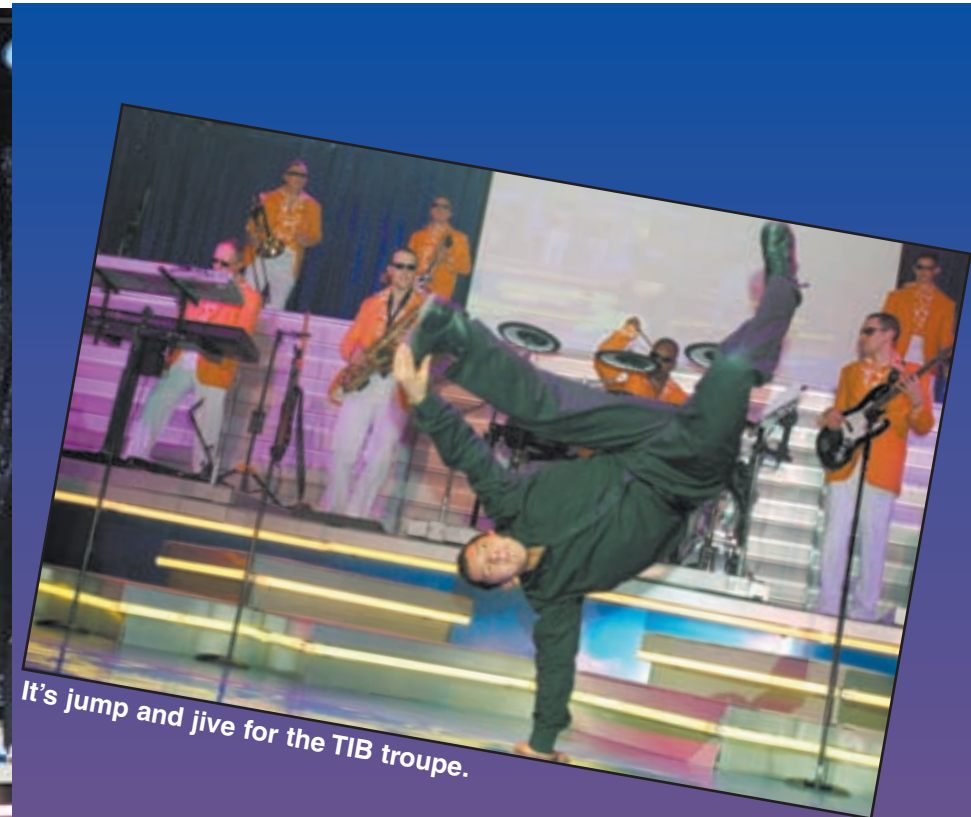
Members are required to audition for the group, which trains at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, in a highly accelerated training process to prepare them to succeed as professional entertainers and ambassadors during their annual nine-month tour.

"They are a very talented group of performers and make us proud they are associated with the Air Force," Mr. Lovely said.

Tops in Blue is one of the oldest and most widely-traveled entertainment groups of its kind. The group made its first world tour in 1953. Since then the performers have appeared on film, produced albums and appeared on television.

Heads of state and dignitaries around the world have enjoyed their high-stepping, spirit-lifting form of entertainment.

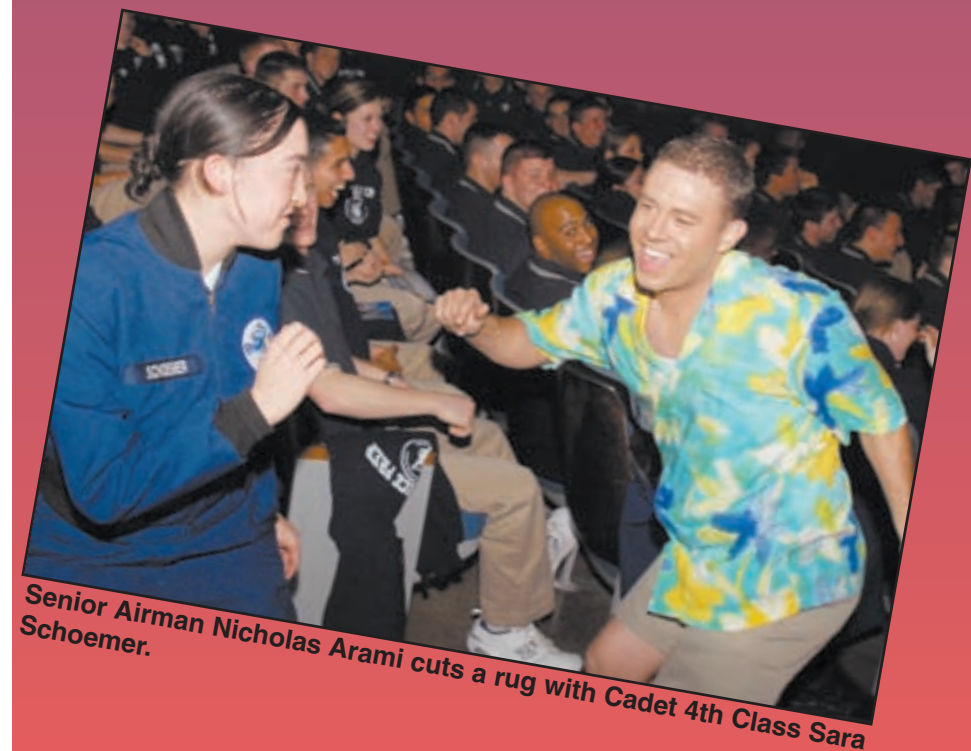
This year's touring season began in April 2007 when they opened in Southwest Asia. Since then, the troupe has traveled around the U.S. and to the United Kingdom, Turkey, Germany, Belgium, Honduras, Guam, Italy and Japan. They will return home to Lackland AFB for two final performances at the end of February.



It's jump and jive for the TIB troupe.



Airmen around the world receive salutes for their patriotism and courage.



Senior Airman Nicholas Arami cuts a rug with Cadet 4th Class Sara Schoemer.

Execution costs Falcons

BYU solves Clune mystique, again

By Wayne Amann
Academy Spirit Editor

Playing catch up leaves little room for error.

Air Force got a sobering dose of that Wednesday night in Clune Arena as Brigham Young refused to lose, or give up the lead, on its way to a convincing 69-53 Mountain West Conference thumping of the Falcons before 4,954 fans who, even at their rowdy best, couldn't will the bluesuiters to victory.

The reason: execution. The Cougars (16-5, 5-1 MWC) finished plays and the Falcons (11-8, 3-3 MWC) didn't.

"We missed seven lay ups and two dunks," Air Force head coach Jeff Reynolds lamented. "We have to execute and score the ball better when we're on the move, and we didn't. BYU did a nice job of not helping on our penetration. The drives were open. I don't have an answer right now."

Each time Air Force climbed within a possession or two, BYU went to its answer men Jonathan Tavernari and Lee Cummard, who combined for 43 points on 16-for-27 from the floor, including seven 3-pointers which kept the Falcons at arms length in the second half.

The forward tandem's hot hands kept the Clune Arena faithful from reaching its ear-splitting norm and Air Force from playing with a lead, a combination which made the Falcons 65-3 at home since 2003-04.

The 16-point defeat was the largest at Clune since losing 64-44 to Tennessee Tech on Dec. 29, 2001. The setback also marked the first time Air Force dropped back-to-back home games to the same team since losing to Wyoming in 2001-02 and 2002-03.

With BYU's highly-touted junior center Trent Plaisted seeing limited action due to a flu bug, Falcon center Keith Maren found himself in the offensive flow early. He

responded by hitting Air Force's first 11 points, including three 3-pointers. The third tied matters at 11, the closest his team would come to taking the lead.

Maren finished with a career-high 15 points and a game-high three steals.

"They (my teammates) were driving, kicking back, I was wide open and hit shots," Maren said. "It was part of the offense."

Conversely, the Falcons leading scorer, senior guard Tim Anderson, who averaged 15.1 points per game coming in, got off to a slow start, hitting just 1-of-5 from the floor in the first half.

With Air Force trailing 29-24 at intermission, Anderson opened the second half by draining a 3-ball from the corner and then cashing in on a three-point play pulling the Falcon within 31-30.

A lay up by Plaisted and a 3-pointer from Cummard negated the spurt by Anderson.

"The key to the game was getting stops when we needed them and we couldn't do that tonight," said a dejected Anderson who finished with a team-high 22 points. "Give BYU credit. They have a lot of weapons and it's tough to stop them."

BYU's decided height advantage was a factor. The Cougars out-rebounded Air Force 34-23, which helped the visitors to take 11 more shots, 52-41.

Execution aside, Reynolds was pleased with his team's work ethic.

"We played hard. I'm not disappointed in our effort," Reynolds said. "I was disappointed in our execution. We have to put this behind us. We need to show some toughness in these next two games and continue to play with the same effort."

Air Force plays at TCU Saturday and at San Diego State on Wednesday.



Photos by Dave Armer

Falcon guard Tim Anderson gets double-teamed by BYU's Trent Plaisted and Sam Burgess, 20. The Air Force senior scored a game-high tying 22 points.



Falcon reserve guard Adam Hood sprints for a loose ball ahead of BYU's Ben Murdock, left, and Jimmer Fredette.



Falcon center Keith Maren takes a charge from BYU's Trent Plaisted. The Air Force senior netted a career-high 15 points, including his team's first 11 points of the game.

INTERCOLLEGIATE

Men's Basketball

Jan. 30 at AFA

BYU 69 **Falcons 53**

Women's Basketball

Jan. 30 at Provo, Utah

BYU 52 **Falcons 47**

Hockey

Jan. 25 and 27 at West Point, N.Y.

Army 2-2 **Falcons 1-1**

Boxing

Jan. 26 at Seattle, Wash.

Washington Athletic Club NCBA Invitational

Falcons 6-3

*158 lbs. Daryn Nelson, dec.

* AF Boxer of the Week

Wrestling

Jan. 25 at AFA

Falcons 39 Colorado School of Mines 3

Falcons 33 Utah Valley St. 6

Jan. 26 at Gunnison, Colo.

Borah Duals

Western St. 25

Falcons 42

Falcons 37

Falcons 36

Falcons 11

Grand Canyon 12

Mesa St. 6

New Mexico Highlands 7

Tennis

Jan. 25 at Meadow Creek Tennis Club

#66 Denver 7 **Falcons (Men) 0**

Jan. 25 and 27 at Lubbock, Texas

Texas St. 4

Texas-Pan-American 4 **Falcons (Women) 3**

Texas Tech 6 **Falcons (Women) 1**

Track and Field

Jan. 26 at Lincoln, Neb.

Big-12/MWC Challenge

(Shot Put)

David Lissy, 56' 6", 1st

Nebraska Wesleyan Open

(Pole Vault)

Rachel Miller, 11' 11 3/4", 1st

Swimming & Diving

Jan. 24 at AFA

#23 BYU 147.5

BYU 155

Falcons (Men) 93.5

Falcons (Women) 82

Jan. 26 at AFA

Falcons (Men) 167 Utah 131

Utah 174

Falcons (Women)

118

Gymnastics

Jan. 27 at Denton, Texas

Texas Woman's Univ. Quadrangular

Falcons (Women) 184.125, 4th

Fencing

Jan. 26 and 27 at Basel, Switzerland

2008 Junior World Cup

(Men's Individual Epee)

Army sweeps sputtering Falcons, 2-1

By Dave Toller
Athletic Communications

WEST POINT, N.Y. – Army's Ken Rowe scored with 1:47 left in the third period as the Black Knights beat 20th ranked Air Force, 2-1, in Atlantic Hockey Association play Sunday, before a near-sellout crowd of 2,645 at Tate Rink (capacity 2,648) in West Point, N.Y., and a national television audience on ESPNU.

Two days earlier Army scored twice in a span of 80 seconds in the third period for a 2-1 win over the Falcons on the banks of the Hudson River.

The weekend marked the first time this season Air Force was swept in a two-game series.

The losses dropped the bluesuiters to 12-10-4 overall and 9-8-3 in the AHA. Army improved to 9-12-3 overall and 9-7-2 in the league. Air Force is tied for second place in the league with 21 points. Army jumped to fourth place with 20 points.

Army has won five of the last nine meetings with Air Force.

"The way they played tonight, they were the best team we've played all season," Air Force head coach Frank Serratore said. "They outplayed us in every aspect of the game. They were stronger. Their determination was outstanding. We had 25 shots in the game, but didn't have much penetration. We've scored three goals in our last three games and you aren't going to win many games

that way."

Sunday's game was scoreless for the first two periods, but Army had a 25-18 shots-on-goal advantage.

The Falcons broke the tie 34 seconds into the third period when Jeff Hajner scored his ninth of the campaign on the power play. Derrick Burnett assisted on the play.

Army quickly answered at 2:18 when Will Ryan capitalized on a Falcon turnover. Lyle Gal collected the Falcon miscue and Ryan scored from the slot to tie the game.

With just under two minutes remaining in the third period, Cody Omilusik skated down the left wing and sent a pass to the slot. Rowe beat the Falcon defense and tipped the puck past Andrew Volkening for the game winner.

Army out-shot Air Force in every period and had a 41-25 advantage in the game. Volkening made a career-high 39 saves for Air Force while Josh Kassel stopped 24 of 25 for the Black Knights.

"He's our best player, Serratore said of Volkening. "He was arguably the best player in the series even though we lost both games."

The Jan. 25, game was the first meeting between these two teams since Air Force's 6-1 win over Army in the championship game of the AHA tournament last March in Rochester, N.Y.

Each team had two power plays, but were unable to convert, and had 10 shots apiece through a scoreless first period.



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Despite Air Force getting swept for the first time this season at Army, Falcon sophomore goalie Andrew Volkening was stellar, facing 66 shots and making 62 saves.

Late in the second period, the Falcons got on the board after winning a face off in the offensive end. In a four-on-four situation, defenseman Brad Sellers fired a slap shot to beat Josh Kassel inside the far post for the freshman's first career goal.

Air Force nursed the 1-0 lead until the final 12 minutes of the game.

A turnover in the neutral zone and a turnover deep in the Falcon end led to two Black Knight goals. Army tied the game at the 12:01 mark when Matt Hickey scored on a rebound. Just 80 seconds later, Cody Omilusik capitalized on the giveaway giving Army a 2-1 lead.

Air Force out shot Army, 35-25, in the game. Volkening made 23 saves for the Falcons while Kassel made 34 for Army. For his 58-save effort in the series Kassel was named the AHA Goalie of the Week.

"The margin of error is awful thin when you score only one goal," Serratore said. "It's sad we lost that game the way we did. When we hold our opponents to two goals, we should win those games. In order to win, you have to deserve to win."

Air Force returns to the Cadet Ice Arena to host Bentley College, today and Saturday. Face off is at 7:05 p.m. for both games.

AF closes in on first series victory

By Nick Arseniak
Athletic Communications

PROVO, Utah - In the closest game ever in the series, Air Force lost a 52-47 heartbreaker at BYU Wednesday night in Mountain West Conference women's basketball action in the Marriott Center.

Trailing 50-47, the Falcons' last two three-point attempts were blocked by BYU (10-8, 4-2). The Cougars sank a pair of three throws with five seconds left to seal the win.

The Falcons owned a four-point lead midway through the second half but couldn't hold it and fell to 7-11 overall and 1-5 in the MWC.

The previous closest game ever in the series was a 78-66 Cougar win in 1998. BYU is 20-0 all time against Air Force.

Seniors Jamie Davis and Pamela Findlay, plus freshman Raimee Beck all hit double-digits in scoring, combining for 36

points. The trio picked up the slack for Falcons leading scorer and rebounder, Alecia Steele, who was limited to seven minutes in the second-half due to a hamstring injury and finished with just three points on 1-for-8 shooting.

Beck led Air Force with 13 points, making three, 3-point baskets and dishing out three assists. Findlay scored 12 points, and sank 8-of-8 free throws. The senior has not missed a free throw since the Dec. 8 game against Wisconsin. Davis scored 11 points, all in the first-half, making a career-high three, 3-pointers.

BYU was led by Mallary Carling, who scored 24 points, 16 in the second-half. Lauren Varley added nine points 15 rebounds and five blocked shots.

Air Force played inspired defense while Davis' hot shooting gave the Falcons a 22-20 lead at the half.

BYU jumped out 5-0 to start the game, but the bluesuiters answered with a 17-3

run to jump ahead 17-8 with eight minutes left in the first half.

The Cougars were held to one three-point basket over an 11-minute span in the first-half while shooting just 34.6 percent from the field.

Davis, meanwhile led the Falcons with 11 points and made all-three three-point attempts.

The Falcons shot 31 percent from the field but made 50 percent, 4-of-8, of their 3-point shots in the opening half.

In the second half, BYU took the lead two minutes into the period and jumped ahead 35-30, with 12 minutes left in the game.

The Falcons responded with a 9-0 run to go back up 39-35 with ten minutes left.

Carling scored eight of the Cougar's final 17 points to secure the win for BYU.

Air Force returns to action Saturday against TCU in Clune Arena.



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Thanks to Falcon senior guard Jamie Davis' 11 first half points, including 3-for-3 from beyond the arc, Air Force forged a 22-20 first half lead at BYU Wednesday.

Peter French, 3rd	306/MSG 68	MDG #1 62	Team	W	L	DFL forfeit win	306 FTG	Team	W	L	Pins	Prep	40	112	53739
INTRAMURAL Basketball Intramural (Final)	CES 70 (20T)	MDG #2 66	MDG*	11	1	MDG forfeit win	NSSI	CW	104	48	56539	BYE*	26	126	0
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MDG #1*	16	3	NSSI*	7	5										
306/MSG*	12	7	306 FTG*	5	7										
CES*	11	8	DFL	4	8										
MDG #2	*6	13	Prep**	5	7										
SFS**	1	15	CW**	3	9										
**Forfeited out															
*In Championship Tournament															
Jan. 24															
Championship Tournament															
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Over 30 (Final)															
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*Accumulates points if team bowling the															
BYE week does not roll a certain score															
Racquetball															
Jan. 27 at AFA															
6th Annual Singles Tournament															
(AB Advanced)															
Giuseppe LaBella, 3rd															
(CD Intermediate)															
Sid Maru, 1st															
Kekoa Kuamoo-Peck, 3rd															
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Thru Jan. 28															