



USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO
ACADEMY SPIRIT



Air Force update

Secretary Gates visits Colorado Springs Airmen, clarifies leadership changes and offers encouragement.

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Summer course

Civil engineering cadets not afraid to get hands dirty in helping Navajo Nation.

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Scholarship winner

2008 AAHS graduate overcomes vision impairment, advances to CU-Boulder.

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Comm shines

Intramural softball action heats up.

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WWII Airman presented overdue Purple Heart

By Ann Patton
 Academy Spirit staff

All Army Air Corps Tech. Sgt. Bill Laubenstein wanted to do was go home. The radio operator and gunner for the B-17 Flying Fortress had survived a Luftwaffe air attack, imprisonment in a German POW camp and a forced thousand-mile walk in the dead of winter.

For nearly 60 years, he said little of his wartime ordeals until he began to talk soldier-to-soldier with Jake Thompson, a retired Army Special Forces member and husband of Mr. Laubenstein's great niece, Army Lt. Col. Erin Dowd.

When Sergeant Laubenstein began to open up about his wartime experiences, it became apparent to Mr. Thompson Sergeant Laubenstein had duly earned official recognition for his courage and valor under fire.

Armed with scrapbooks containing news clips, official documents, letters to home and even telegrams to Sergeant Laubenstein's wife about his detainment, Mr. Thompson and Colonel Dowd worked with Colorado 5th District Congressman Doug Lamborn to make, with Air Force validation, the awards a reality.

Nearly 64 years after the war, Sergeant Laubenstein, now 90, was at long last recognized Monday with a Purple Heart, Prisoner of War Medal, American Campaign Medal and World War II Medal presented to him by U.S. Air Force Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. John Regni.

The event coincided with the wedding of a granddaughter in Boulder, Colo., the preceding Saturday and with Sergeant Laubenstein's fondness for the Academy.

All four of Sergeant Laubenstein's



Photo by Dave Ahlschwede

Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. John Regni congratulates Tech. Sgt. Bill Laubenstein on his purple heart and his courage and valor under fire.

children, seven of his nine grandchildren and numerous friends attended the presentations in the superintendent's conference room in Harmon Hall.

Also attending was retired Air Force Lt. Gen. A. P. Clark, the Academy's sixth superintendent, who also was held prisoner in a German POW camp.

Congressman Lamborn had read the citations into the Congressional Record on the floor of the U. S. House of Representatives the previous day, and Jeanie Lamborn, his wife, read them again for the ceremony in his absence.

"We had a lot of tough missions, many for eight to 10 hours," the great grandfather of four said of his experi-

ences. "We did our mission with pride."

Realizing his draft number was coming up in 1941, Sergeant Laubenstein enlisted in the Air Corps, a move General Regni called "good judgment at such an early age."

After brief flight training, Sergeant Laubenstein was assigned to kitchen patrol. Tired of peeling potatoes and clearing tables, he asked his commander for more exciting duty.

He was granted an assignment with the 384th Bomber Group, 8th Air Force in England. Before leaving for Europe, he married Josephine, also known as "Pep," his wife for 64 years.

See PURPLE HEART, Page 5

Academy hosts Chemistry Olympiad

By Capt. Uriah Orland
 Academy Public Affairs

For the 25th year, the nation's top 20 high school chemistry students have gathered at the Air Force Academy during the 2008 U.S. Chemistry Olympiad Study Camp, June 1 through Sunday.

Fifteen boys and five girls from 14 states vie for four spots on the U.S. team

to represent the nation at the 40th International Chemistry Olympiad in Budapest, Hungary, in mid July.

"The Academy continues to host this high-visibility event as it provides national recognition of the quality of our education, while also allowing us to provide a service to our country's secondary educational program at a national level," said Dr. Kim Gardner, Academy Olympiad director.

"The American Chemical Society, who is the primary sponsor of the program, has explored but ultimately declined to move the program elsewhere because they realize that there is no other institution in the United States which is capable of offering the level of quality and the immense support that the Academy provides," she said.

See CHEMISTRY, Pages 14-15

Enjoy barbecue with safe practices; Grill sergeants encouraged to cook

Fire in the grill, under hot dogs, steaks and burgers, is a welcome sight at the family cookout. But fire anywhere else can make your summer kick-off barbecue memorable for all the wrong reasons.

Facts & figures

■ Gas and charcoal grills cause 3,400 structure fires and 4,900 outdoor fires in or on home properties, resulting in a combined direct property loss of \$137 million annually.

■ Gas grills have a higher fire risk than charcoal grills; leaks and breaks are the leading cause, accounting for two-fifths (41 percent) of the gas grill structure and outdoor fires.

■ Careless use of gas-fueled grills cause an estimated 2,800 home structure fires and 4,400 home outdoor fires annually.

■ Charcoal grills have a higher risk than gas grills of death due to unvented carbon monoxide; most of these deaths do not involve fire.

■ Charcoal-fueled or other solid-fueled grills cause an estimated 600 home structure fires and 500 home outdoor fires annually.

■ Placing combustibles too close to heat is the leading cause for charcoal grill home fires.

■ Most gas grill and charcoal grill home structure fires begin on an exterior balcony or unenclosed porch, be especially

diligent in these areas.

■ Flammable or combustible gas or liquid, including gasoline, is the leading item first ignited for home gas grill fires.

■ Structural member or framing and exterior wall covering or finish, are the leading items first ignited for home structure charcoal grill fires.

In short: Keep your charcoal and gas grills away from the side of the house! A good rule of thumb is to use the back of your hand to feel anything that may be heated by your grill. If its too hot to touch, move the grill or the object further away. If you have any questions about grill safety or any other fire safety questions contact the fire prevention office at 333-2051

Got something to share; bring it on

This week's *Academy Spirit* commentary page includes summer barbecue/ fire safety information for two good reasons.

One: As we work our way through the 101 Critical Days of Summer, the potential for fire-related accidents cannot be ignored.

Two: We aren't receiving much in the way of commentaries from our Academy audience.

Consider that an invitation to contact the *Academy Spirit* staff with ideas or questions about how you can provide editorial commentary to be published in your base newspaper. Know that submitting something does not guarantee publication and

that the *Academy Spirit* staff reserves the right to edit for style, etc.

Editorials should support Air Force leadership programs and policies and nothing discrediting the Air Force, or the U.S. government, or an individual, will be considered for publication. This policy may seem entirely too restrictive for some. Our staff believes suitable content for an interesting editorial is limited only by one's imagination.

Whether it's pride in your unit, the importance of furthering one's education, the benefits of a military career, the sky's the limit. Try something funny, if it's not, we'll waste no time printing it. Get it?

Much like the objective of a speech, our goal is to inform, to persuade or to entertain. If you feel uninformed, haven't been persuaded or could use a little more entertainment in your life, let us know. It's why we are here. If you like what we're doing, let us know. If you dislike what we're doing let us know. Either way, we're flattered because we know you're reading.

Call 333-8823 or E-mail: kenneth.carter@usafa.af.mil to discuss how to become involved with the Academy community through sharing your editorial thoughts. Thanks in advance for your future contributions and let us know how you feel we can improve the paper.

1959 graduate sees Air Force in good hands

When members of the U.S. Air Force Academy Class of 1959 visited one another and others during this year's Richter Class activities, it was like a brief history lesson to passers by.

During the days leading up to graduation, *Academy Spirit* reporter Butch Wehry exchanged brief E-mails with several Class of 1959 members and we'd like to pass one of those Q&A sessions along.

**Maj. Gen. (ret)
Harold W. "Pete"
Todd**

Original hometown?

Born in Chicago, Ill., but moved to Washington, D.C.,



when I was very young. I consider DC more of a "hometown" than my birth city since I grew up and went all through primary and high school there.

Current hometown?

Colorado Springs (since 1989)

Date entered U.S. Air Force?

July 11, 1955, entered with the first Class of USAFA at Lowry AFB, Colo.

Date retired?

July 1, 1989

Career field?

Pilot. Over 4,000 hours of flying time in B-47, B-52, and many fighter aircraft. Flew 156 combat missions as B-52 aircraft commander during Vietnam conflict.

Have you attended other Academy graduations?

Yes.

The feelings, thoughts and memories as you watched the 2008 Richter Class graduate?

The Class of 1959 was the first and (so far) only class to conduct graduation indoors (due to inclement weather,) a remarkable record, spanning half a century, given the vagaries of Rocky Mountain meteorology.

I am amazed and gratified that the Air Force Academy can still attract and graduate such high quality leaders despite much wider civilian career choices than I had in the 1950s and in the face of the protracted war that our country faces.

Having gotten to know many of the young men and women graduating in the Class of 2008, I am convinced that the future of our Air Force will be in good hands.

ACADEMY SPIRIT

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

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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.

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

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

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, call the Action Line at 333-3900 or fax 333-4094 or 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.

Do you miss having the cadets around during the summer?

"It's nice to have a bit of a break but at the end of summer I'll be ready for them to come back."



Capt. Curtis Baack
History instructor

"Yes. It's so quiet here. They liven up things and bring a spirit that's missing over the summer."



Dawn Gagnon
*Secretary,
Department of
Astronautics*

"Yes. I came back to the Academy at the end of April and couldn't get a chance to say goodbye to the cadets I'd been counseling."

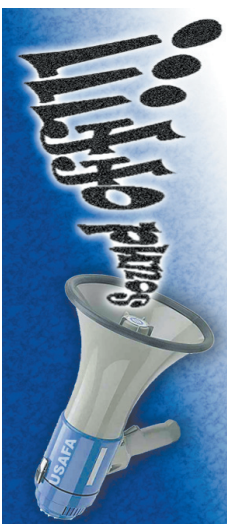


Lt. Col. Douglas Morris
*Director of Faculty
Development*

"Oh, yes, definitely. It's very slow without them, and they're like my kids."



Patty Shook
*AAFES staff,
Fairchild Hall*



Prep School welcomes new commander

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

When he became commander of the Academy's Preparatory School two years ago, Col. Larry Jones, about to retire, placed 739 marbles in a jar to mark the days he had to make a difference.

One by one he placed them in another jar until he presented the final marble to Col. Todd Zachary, incoming Prep School commander, during change of command ceremonies June 5 in the Community Center auditorium.

"I've finally lost all my marbles," Colonel Jones joked.

Rainy weather forced the ceremony inside from the planned location on Black Memorial Field.

Beforehand, Colonel Jones said he felt his biggest accomplishment was further integrating the Prep School into the Academy's mission of developing officers of character.

He stressed the school works closely with students as individuals.

"It's the people and the focal point of my time here," he said.

Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. John Regni praised Colonel Jones for his command.

"Larry has been an excellent commander by any measure," he said.

Under Colonel Jones' command, General Regni said the school has flourished with programs for reading enhancement, physical education, diversity, student advisory and facility upgrades.

"He has set the bar extremely high," the superintendent said.



Photos by Dave Armer

Col. Larry Jones displays the final marble marking the end of his command at the Preparatory School. Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. John Regni passes the responsibility of command to Col. Todd Zachary, June 5.

Before his two-year command at the Prep School, Colonel Jones served as Current Operations Air Division and Chief, Readiness and Information Division, HQ USNORTHCOM at Peterson Air Force Base.

A member of the Academy Class of 1982, he is a command pilot and has logged more than 2,400 hours aboard the F-15.

"I found a passion," he said of his Prep School command. "I love working with this age group."

Colonel Jones said cadet candidates, who may come to the school as young as 17, are "starved for structure and leadership" and also form strong, unifying bonds as part of the whole Air Force family.

"I will really miss the interaction with students on a daily basis," he said. "It is truly a profession and not just a job."

Colonel Jones gave high marks to the 60 Prep School faculty and staff who all

give freely of their time to cadet candidates outside the classroom. Many, for example, may coach sports as well as teach academics.

"It's not about reputation. It's about character," he said of their motivation. "The only recognition they want is watching their students walk across the platform in Falcon stadium. I couldn't be more proud of them."

With concentrated documentation and evaluations in place for the school, Colonel Jones said, "It's a different Prep School now."

He is looking for Colonel Zachary to take the school to the next level for strategic long-range planning.

"I am deeply humbled and honored to be part of this team," Colonel Zachary said during the ceremonies.

He is anxious to get started, beginning with meeting members of the incoming class when they arrive July 7.

At the outset, he is also looking forward to continuing the integration between the Academy and Prep School and refining it from an organizational standpoint. Colonel Zachary said the Prep School heritage program is a valuable asset for students and needs to be continued.

"They need to know there is a future out there for them," he said. "The Prep School has a very distinguished past."

A graduate of the ROTC program at California State University at Northridge, he is a command navigator and has a long history in training. During his last assignment, Colonel Zachary served as deputy director for operations for the Alaskan Command and Joint Task Force, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, and as J-3 director.

"I have always enjoyed the training environment. Getting this command was like winning the lottery," he said. "I'm going to love every minute of it."

His wife, Sheri, daughter, Kate, and son, Brandon, will stay in Alaska in order to complete his senior year of high school.

Colonel Zachary enjoys all sports, especially skiing.

"I'm sort of a sports fanatic," he said.

Colonel Jones, for the time being, will stay in Colorado Springs with his wife, Cristi, daughter, Kara and sons Kyle, Kreg, and Clark, while Kreg completes his high school senior year.

He wants to lend his support as a volunteer for the Prep School's character and leadership program and serve as a cadet candidate sponsor.

"It's hard to step away," he said.

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SECDEF orders increased focus on nuclear mission

By Ed White

Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. (AFPN) — Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates spoke candidly to Air Force Space Command members here Tuesday about the resignation of top Air Force officials and problems of leadership and accountability in the control of nuclear assets.

He charted a new course for the Air Force leaders at all levels.

“The harsh reality is that the Donald Report documents a serious decline over at least a decade in the Air Force's nuclear mission focus and performance, resulting in a degradation of authority, standards of excellence, and technical competence of the Air Force's nuclear mission,” Secretary Gates said.

His direction to all Air Force leaders throughout the chain of command is to take charge, establish accountability, look for problems and fix them immediately; listen to, and where appropriate, act on the concerns of the force and raise the bar to the highest possible standards. Secretary Gates' visit here and to two other key commands is, effectively, a demonstration of what he expects from his subordinate leaders.

“This will yield a service that is — from the very top to the very bottom — more reflective and more responsive to shortcomings that may arise in this (nuclear) or any other critical area,” Secretary Gates said.

Secretary Gates directed the command to do two specific things: “Embrace accountability in all that you do, for everything in your area of responsibility. When you see failures or growing problems in other areas — outside your lane, as it is often described — throw a flag: Bring them to the attention to people who can do something about it.”



Photo by Ken Carter

Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates addresses some 500 Peterson Air Force Base Airmen and civilians Tuesday on leadership updates and future Air Force changes concerning accountability.

Second: “Rededicate yourselves to the standards of excellence that have been the hallmark of the U.S. Air Force for more than 60 years.”

The secretary had high praise for the historical and current contributions of Air Force members, citing the service of the 25,000 Airmen deployed in harm's way every day and the indispensable contributions made to the ongoing wars in the areas of logistics, and space, among others.

“You have been forward deployed, and at war for

17 years — since the first Gulf War,” he said. “Your families have borne this burden and the Air Force has its own fallen heroes — often struck down while serving on the ground alongside Soldiers and Marines.”

The final thought the secretary left for command members was positive.

“I have every confidence in you and in the Air Force that has served our country so well,” he said. “From the bottom of my heart, I thank you for everything you do to protect the American people.”

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Purple Heart

From Page 1

The English called the Americans “bloody Yanks” whom they predicted would contribute little or nothing to the air war.

“We proved them wrong, so wrong,” Sergeant Laubenstein said with a chuckle.

From 1943 to 1944 he flew 26 recorded missions over enemy-occupied Europe.

With only nine missions left of his assignment and on a supposed “milk run” over France, Sergeant Laubenstein’s plane, “Little Barney,” took a direct hit on its nose. The attack killed nearly half the crew, including two pilots.

Sergeant Laubenstein and two fellow crewmen kicked out a panel of the crippled aircraft and parachuted out, with no jump training whatsoever.

Injured by flack, he landed in an apple tree and was rescued by a French farm family.

Another family had sheltered Sergeant Laubenstein’s assistant radio operator, and both families arranged a secret reunion for the men.

Tipped off of the men’s whereabouts, the Germans captured both Americans.

Sergeant Laubenstein was sent to Stalag Luft III in Poland.

“We were always hungry. We never had enough,” he said. “The living conditions were miserable.”

The men in the camp shared stories

and scant Red Cross parcels, exercised as best as they could, debated and wrote letters. Sergeant Laubenstein also learned to play bridge.

“People stuck together and tried to help each other,” he said.

After almost a year in the camp, he and his fellow soldiers were led, in bitter cold, on a 90-day march, sometimes called “The Black March.” Sergeant Laubenstein dropped 60 pounds and shrank to a mere 90 pounds by the end of it.

On May 2, 1945, the German guards had vanished, and the prisoners walked to Boizenburg, Germany, where they met up with English forces.

“That was so beautiful,” Sergeant Laubenstein recalled.

He returned to Little Falls, N.Y., to the house he lived in when he enlisted and where he and his wife eventually raised their family. Sergeant Laubenstein still lives there when not visiting family members.

“He is one of the greatest generation of soldiers,” said Colonel Dowd, referring to Tom Brokaw’s book on the heroes at home and abroad in World War II.

“He is a hero, and it’s nice to finally honor him,” Mr. Thompson said.

Sergeant Laubenstein lost his wife three years ago. He enjoys an occasional round of golf, gardening, reading and keeping up with current events.

During his remarks at the ceremony,



Courtesy photo

The crew of the “Little Barney” from the Army Air Corps’ 384th Bomber Group takes a needed break from the air. Sergeant Laubenstein is in the lower right corner.

he continually paid homage to his comrades in arms and tearfully said, “I’m just now finding out where they were buried.”

Sergeant Laubenstein’s son, Joe, said recognition is never about him. “It’s about the plane and the crew. That’s my dad,” he said.

Mr. Laubenstein said the awards also brought some closure to his father’s war experiences.

“He needed to finish the last chapter,”

he said.

The Laubenstein family was deeply appreciative to the Academy for its hospitality.

“This is an incredible day. It is just awesome,” said Mary Shea, Sergeant Laubenstein’s daughter.

Sergeant Laubenstein was humble and gracious about the ceremony.

“I never realized I was going to be honored by a general,” he said. “Everybody really went all out.”

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Enrichment: Cadets, mentors, Navajo Nation all benefit through FERL event

By Ken Carter
Editor

The Field Engineering and Readiness Laboratory is at it again. Cadets and mentors alike are learning about one another, refining their engineering skills, and positively impacting the lives of many through hard, rewarding work.

The FERL Course Director, Capt. Matthew Caudell, said Thursday the primary objective is to give the 67 cadets currently in the three-week program in Jacks Valley some hands-on exposure to various aspects of engineering. "We have 45 USAFA cadets, six from West Point, and 16 ROTC working as a team in the construction of two hogans which will be delivered to the Navajo Nation during spring break next March." Among the team this year for the first time in program history is an international cadet from Afghanistan.

The tasks in the course result in bottom to top home construction.

The 940 square-foot hogans are comprised of two bedrooms, one bath, a kitchen, dining room and a small living room. During some 2,500 man-hours from cadets and mentors combined, two units will be completed at a cost of \$33,000 each not including the foundation or transport to New Mexico. Each home is built in two halves and final assembly is conducted at the destination. "The homes are designed with eight sides to match the traditional Navajo culture," Captain Caudell said.

This community service project by the 67 cadets and mentors is admirable ... however, they benefit from



Photo by Dave Armer

Basic welding technique is included in FERL curriculum.

the experience as well.

Mentors to train the cadets are selected from around the globe.

Lead mentor for power production is only on board for one week of the entire construction process. Therefore, Senior Master Sgt. Shawn Witten has his work cut out for him.

Cadet Commander and Environmental Engineering Major Cadet 1st Class Donnie Bussell, "it's a great opportunity to totally engage with NCOs and officers from captain through full colonel ... something we don't get up on the hill." The 21-year-old from Atlanta says he particularly enjoys the interaction between the officers, NCOs and all cadets representing USAFA, West Point and ROTC. "My responsibility as FERL cadet commander includes being in charge of all activities and to ensure we have an environment where cadets can learn."

And the learning is diverse.

Each day over the course of FERL, cadet flights are rotated through different training opportunities to meet the final goal. Construction one day, heavy equipment training the next and surveying the next would not be uncommon. The course is offered each year during the first summer period only and is a requirement for every cadet majoring in civil or environmental engineering, about half of whom will become pilots and the balance entering the civil engineering field.

"We get the most out of every day by having the cadets stay out here in tents, they live here, they eat here, and we avoid all the time it would take to transport to and from daily," Captain Caudell said. Result: more efficiency.

The man-hours invested in building the hogans may exceed, 2,500, but appears a small price when families will benefit for generations.

With 27 years in the Air Force, 22 in power production, the senior NCO recognizes talent when he sees it. "These cadets are of a very high caliber," he said. After working with two graduates at home station, the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron, Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, the first time Academy visitor wasn't surprised. "The students are very smart and quick learners. When I heard about the opportunity to be a mentor here by word of mouth through a friend at AFPC, I put my name in the hat."

According to FERL



Photo by Dave Armer

Building forms and concrete work is but one of many FERL projects.



Photo by Ken Carter

Cadet 2nd Class Stephen Grace says "this is a great experience, and he loves building stuff."



Photo by Dave Armer

Cadets study a blueprint to determine the next step.

2008 AAHS graduate earns scholarship to CU-Boulder

Student with 4.5 GPA can "SEE THE FUTURE"

By Ken Carter
Editor

Not many 19-year-olds can lay claim to a high school final GPA far exceeding 4.0, nor can many say they've experienced all the thrills of whitewater rafting, skydiving, hiking, tandem bike riding, skiing ... or even being accomplished in the game of goal ball.

Jordan Walters can.

To hear her speak of it all though, it's no big deal. Her story is amazing, however, when one takes into account the 20/2700 visual impairment she's been challenged with since birth. She also has a profound loss of peripheral vision due to her Leber's Congenital Amaurosis. To understand the scope of Ms. Walter's vision loss ... consider what someone with "normal" sight sees clearly at 2,700 feet, then consider Jordan would have to be within 20 feet to see the same object.

She doesn't dwell on it though ... she's too busy reading in her room in Douglass Valley Housing and laying the groundwork to succeed in helping others in the future who also are visually impaired. Her goal: To further the advancement of adaptive technology.

Between now and then ... it's off to college.

"I'll have a guide dog and a roommate in CU Boulder," Jordan said, "and I'm especially looking forward to being out on my own and living in the dorms.

"With just a cane you have to run into something to know it's even there, but a guide dog can take you around it," she said with a smile.

The scholarship blessing came from the Kane Family Foundation in partnership with the SEE THE FUTURE Fund and was presented to Jordan, along with seven other visually impaired and blind recipients from across Colorado Saturday in the annual SEE THE FUTURE program at the Marriott Hotel in Colorado Springs.

The dinner event featured guest speaker Tom Sullivan, 60, whose accom-



Photos by Ken Carter
Mr. Lou Tutt interviews Jordan Walters during the "SEE THE FUTURE" Live segment of the scholarship awards program Saturday.

plishment list is astounding, despite his total blindness since birth. The actor, author, athlete, advocate, musician, and a whole lot more, (with faithful guide dog Edison at his side) offered nothing but encouragement for the eight youth who'll enter a world among the 36 million blind.

"Most are not as gifted, loved or as talented as these eight," Mr. Sullivan said. "There's no fence that cannot be climbed," he said metaphorically, after sharing a baseball story of his youth when he heard the three most important words of his life from neighboring children in New England at age 10 ... "Want to play?" Those words came from Billy, "the sighted

kid next door who's been my best friend for 50 years." That was all it took for the young Sullivan to scale the tall chain-link fence separating their yards. The nose dive to the ground on the other side didn't slow him down one bit. He's been climbing, and succeeding, ever since.

Jordan, who says her IQ is "140-something," does get away from her electronic reading devices from time to time, and is most likely to cross paths with family over a quick meal or an occasional cooking project with Mom. With both a younger and an older brother, she reflects briefly on their differences. Her older brother, Justin, 21, is attending the University of Nebraska, and has had the luxury of driving as well as enjoying the benefits of public transportation while in college. Jordan, on the other hand, has, to some extent, lacked a social life while on the Academy and notes there aren't even sidewalks in enough places for her to safely get out and about. As for Connor, 12, Jordan doesn't feel as envious.

Soon, Jordan's parents Army Lt. Col. Shawn Walters and wife Terri will be

moving on with Connor to Washington D.C. where the colonel will serve as a Russian Foreign Area Officer who continues to coordinate the return of American pilot remains of those who were lost during World War II. Meanwhile, Jordan and Justin will continue their educations.

Those at the SEE THE FUTURE dinner agreed, that the love, nurturing and encouragement children receive at home makes all the difference "We have the same expectations of all three children," Mrs. Walters said. With a master's degree in special education, she is studying in Greeley to become an orientation and mobility specialist. "Had it not been for Jordan's vision, I wouldn't have known the career path even existed," she said.

"Goal ball is kinda like human bowling — and I like playing defense the best," Jordan said. "If your opponent can't score, they can't win."

Emcees for the evening included SEE THE FUTURE Founder and Chairperson Dr. Thomas Theune and Principal Tutt of the Colorado School for the Blind.

For more info about the SEE THE FUTURE Fund, visit www.seethefuture.org or contact Dr. Theune at twtheune@prodigy.net or call 719-471-3200.



Jordan and Terri Walters team up to get some muffins into the oven. Terri said, "Meal time is when we see Jordan the most. The rest of the time she is studying."



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Airmen help graduate Afghan's newest firefighters

By Navy Petty Officer
1st Class Douglas Mappin
Combined Security Transition Command-
Afghanistan Public Affairs

KABUL, Afghanistan (AFPN) — Eleven members of the Afghan National Army Air Corps recently became the first graduates of the Air Corps Firefighting School May 29 at Kabul.

The graduates completed four months of class work, countless hands-on exercises extinguishing various types of fires and practicing lifesaving techniques under the direction of American Airmen and firefighters.

"Today is a very big day for the air corps," said Brig. Gen. Jay Lindell, the Combined Air Power Transition Force commander at the graduation ceremony. "You are your country's future."

The increased attention given to the firefighters program will help the Afghans become more responsible for their own safety and security, General Lindell said.

"You are a significant part of rebuilding your country," the general said. "In a bigger sense, you are all about the security of Afghanistan and about building a free democratic country."

During the past four months, Master Sgt. Michael Marascia, an Air Force firefighting instructor from Langley Air Force Base, Va., built a rapport with his students. Even with the language barrier, Sergeant

Marascia said he and his students soon formed a bond like brothers.

"We've grown together as firefighters," Sergeant Marascia said to the students. "We firefighters are brothers. We know no boundaries of nationalities or race. We are sworn to protect lives, and I am proud to call you my brothers."

The students' backgrounds ranged from farmers and students to former soldiers of the Afghan national army.

For Basir (some Afghans go by only one name), 63, this day was a matter of pride and love for his people and country. Basir said being a fireman is all about serving his people.

"Before I was a driver and had only a third-grade education," Basir said. "I have always wanted to be a firefighter. I want to protect my people and my family."

Basir's classmates fondly called him ka ka (uncle in Dari) out of respect for his age. In contrast, the youngest student was 25.

A veteran of the Afghan national army, Razzuddin, 48, was assigned as the class' fire chief and has a long history of serving his country.

"After serving my country for 23 years, I decided I wanted to be a firefighter. They are the rescuers of the people," Razzuddin said. "I want to be an example to my people. This is an important job. I hope that others will follow in our footsteps. I am even encouraging my 19-year



U.S. Navy Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Douglas Mappin
Master Sgt. Michael Marascia pins a firefighting badge on 48-year-old Razzuddin at a graduation ceremony of the first Afghan National Army Air Corps Firefighting Class May 29 in Kabul, Afghanistan. The 11 graduates will be assigned to the new ANAAC North Side Cantonment at the Kabul International Airport, scheduled to open in October.

old son Ekramuddin to be a firefighter."

Initially, the new firefighters will be assigned to firefighting units around Kabul. Later in the year, this group will be the first firefighters assigned to the new Afghan National Army Air Corps North Side Cantonment at the Kabul International Airport, scheduled to open in October.

With 20 new self-contained breathing apparatuses, 60 masks, firefighting suits

and other pieces of donated equipment from the United States, Denmark, Switzerland and the Ukraine arriving just in time for the next session of classes, the equipment will help the firefighting program expand.

"We have our instructor to thank. Mike was compassionate and shared his experience as a firefighter. He was a good teacher," Basir said. "Because of him, we are ready to respond."

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Got milk?

Rodeo event E-mail pulls and squeezes for participants

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

Academy people reading the E-mail immediately knew it was something out of the ordinary.

It was entitled "Wild Cow Milking" and called for volunteers for this year's Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo at the Norris-Penrose Events Center Arena July 9-12.

"It's getting closer to the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo and we currently only have two teams that have stepped up for the Wild Cow Milking Contest," wrote message sender Master Sgt. David Gobin, 10th Air Base Wing's inspections superintendent. "There is no experience necessary, all you need are four brave people—two muggers, one anchor and a milker. So far we have an all female team and a chiefs team. We still need some representation from the DRU.

"Is anyone else brave enough?"

"If you find yourself daring enough to enter a ring with an 880 pound wild cow please email me," the E-mail said.

"We have not had much luck getting volunteers by word of mouth so I thought a mass E-mail with a little challenge might stir people up," said the 18 and a half year Air Force sergeant from Indiana. "I lived in the country until I was in seventh grade and I only had one other neighbor within a two-mile radius. I was raised around cows. My grandfather always had a small heard of about 20 for family needs."

Sergeant Gobin believes the message title stirred a lot of people to look twice.

"It is one messy contest with cow drool and all," he said. "All you have to do is get a little milk in the bottle



Four members of the Basic Cadet Training Cadre take on wild cow milking chores at the 2005 event.

but it is very exciting to see how they do it"

Western attire must be worn: long sleeve shirt, jeans, boots and cowboy hat or helmet and the competition will have a two minute time limit.

The plan is for the chute to be opened and cow is released. A cow must clear the chute completely to begin competition.

The idea is for an anchor and muggers to hold the cow while the milker milks her using a standard 12 oz. longneck large mouth bottle.

Such a deal. Winning teams get to return Sunday for the finals.

The winning team will be awarded a traveling trophy, a belt buckle for each team member and a \$1,000 donation for the winning team's charity of choice.

"I'm game," wrote back Airman 1st Class Matthew Duggan, with 10th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire and

Emergency Services.

The Airman from Laguna Beach, Calif., has zilch experience with cows. Could he be a milker?

"To be honest, I just hope to have a good time no matter what part of the team I'm assigned to," he said. "It sounds like there is some fun to be had. Worse comes to worst I'll have a great time, some laughs, and a great story for family and friends back home."

"Please let me know when this occurs - I'd like to see if some of the cadets in the photo club would like to make a day of shooting you folks," wrote Maj. Roy Haley, Department of Economics and Geosciences assistant professor. "Neat stuff!"

Academy people interested in participating in the contest can E-mail Sergeant Gobin at david.gobin@usafa.af.mil.

Proceeds from the event go back to benefit all military installations throughout Colorado Springs.

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Summer Immersion cadets visit the heart of Poland

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

Lt. Col. Joe Derdzinski chose Poland for a summer immersion visit for a number of reasons.

"Poland's history is particularly interesting for my field of democratization because it had one of the world's first working legislatures, the Sejm, which existed until Poland was partitioned by Austria, Germany and Russia in the 1790s," said the chief of comparative politics in the Political Science Department.

During the first summer period, Colonel Derdzinski is escorting a group of cadets to Poland. This is in addition to 13 other faculty members who will escort the 74 cadets and 10 Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets on cultural immersion trips to locations

including the Balkans, Brazil, Israel, Thailand and Turkey.

"The end of Communism in Europe could arguably be traced to Poland's Solidarity movement in the early 1980s, and since 1989, Poland has made a real commitment to democratization," said the colonel from Milwaukee, Wis. "It is a country that successfully made the democratic leap, as well as in developing a vibrant economy. Poland is very strong supporter of the United States in all realms."

Name notwithstanding, Colonel Derdzinski does not speak Polish.

They left May 27 and are due back Saturday.

They have visited Warsaw, the political capital, including the Old Town, interviewed and toured the Sejm with Polish members of parliament, visited with the National Security Adviser's

office, the Uprising Museum and the Stalin-era Place of Culture.

"We stopped in Czestochowa to see the Black Madonna, the symbol of Poland itself, and now we're in Krakow, the cultural heartland of Poland," he said Monday. "This portion also includes a visit to the death camps of Auschwitz and Birkenau. We're then traveling to the Tatra Mountains."

The Academy travelers also visited a Polish MiG 29 base.

This is his second visit to Poland and the first for Cadets 1st Class Brian Dunn, Mike Hofer and Luke Coquerille and Cadet 2nd Class Mike Wojciechowicz.

They won't return hungry.

"We've eaten pierogi dumplings, kielbasa, pastries, mushroom soup, lody ice cream, potato pancakes, lots of cabbage, cold cuts for breakfast and pig

knuckles," said the colonel. "We're getting a feeling for living in Poland by using all forms of public transportation like buses, trams and trains, shopping in local grocery stores and of course going to local restaurants."

The economy is growing at a very strong rate of five percent per year and the dollar yields the equivalent of \$.42 in zloty.

"The immersion is allowing us to understand what the Poles value, what they're proud of, how they see themselves in relation to the rest of the world, and to understand the capabilities of a committed NATO partner," Colonel Derdzinski said. "The Air Force benefits because now at least we'll have four officers who are comfortable traveling and being mobile abroad, and understand the geo-strategic value of East-Central Europe."



Photo by Brad Milliman

Breaking ground

There's a lot of noise on the north and east sides of the Cadet Area lately, as workers from multiple companies haul away the concrete remains of what was once Vandenberg Drive. Construction will cause road closures and impact parking until its completion early to

mid August. During the construction period, the Vandenberg/Field House Gate will be open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and will close weekends. The Sijan Gate will be open 24 hours a day. All are encouraged to use the shuttle service set up to alleviate parking

challenges during the construction period. Shuttle buses will pick up and drop off in the lower east Field House parking lot every 15 minutes starting at 5 a.m. and running until late in the evening.

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Top high school chemists compete to represent U.S. in 25th annual event



Photo by Dave Armer



Photo by Dave Ahlschwede

During the two-week camp, the students are participating in classroom lectures and laboratory exercises covering analytical, organic, inorganic, physical and biochemistry.

The four students who are selected to attend the international competition in Budapest July 12-21, will be notified Saturday during the Olympiad banquet at the Marriott Hotel.

The format of the study camp is designed to prepare the students for the international competition, where they will take a five-hour written exam and complete a five-hour laboratory practical.

"The international competition is very difficult," said last year participant Justin Koh from Bakersfield, Calif. "The five-hour theoretical test was the hardest thing I've taken in my life."

Despite the difficulty of the testing process, seven students are returning from previous camps.

Justin is back at the Academy for his third year. "You can't take anything for granted because you are competing against the other students," the recent graduate of Stockdale High School said. "Each year is new and you can't get complacent. You have to keep your focus up and hopefully everything will turn out well."

The Academy's role is to provide more than a location and laboratory for the event.

Academy professors help teach subject areas not covered in high school chemistry.

"The academic capability of these kids is amazing! The system they've gone through has honed them into a very bright group," said Lt. Col. John Peak, Academy chemistry professor. "I'm glad they get a chance to use our facilities. By far, this is one of the only institutions where they can come in and have access to the equipment and not be interrupted by the activities around them. The space is completely dedicated to them."

This year, 69 countries will participate in the international competition. All U.S. participants have medaled every year for more than 10 years.

The annual International Chemistry Olympiad competition started in 1964. The United States has participated since 1984, the same year the Academy began hosting the U.S. Chemistry Olympiad.

More information on the international Olympiad is available at: <http://www.icho.hu/pages/Home.aspx>.

Watch for the June 20 edition of the *Academy Spirit* for the Olympiad's final results.

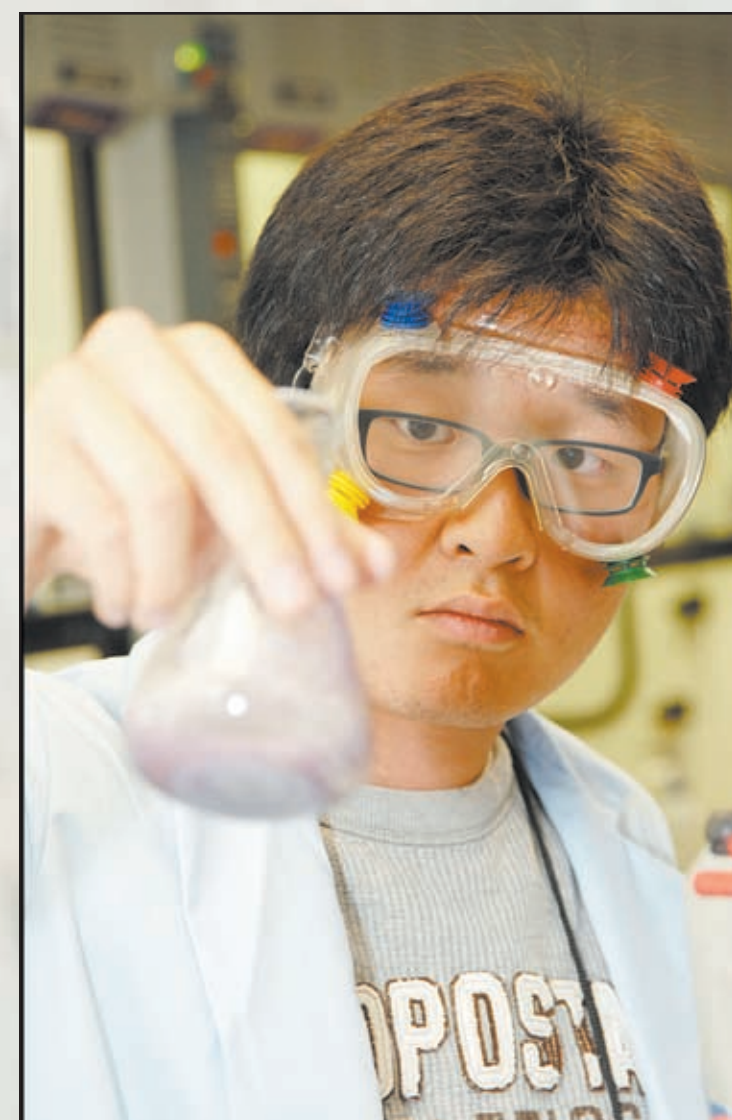
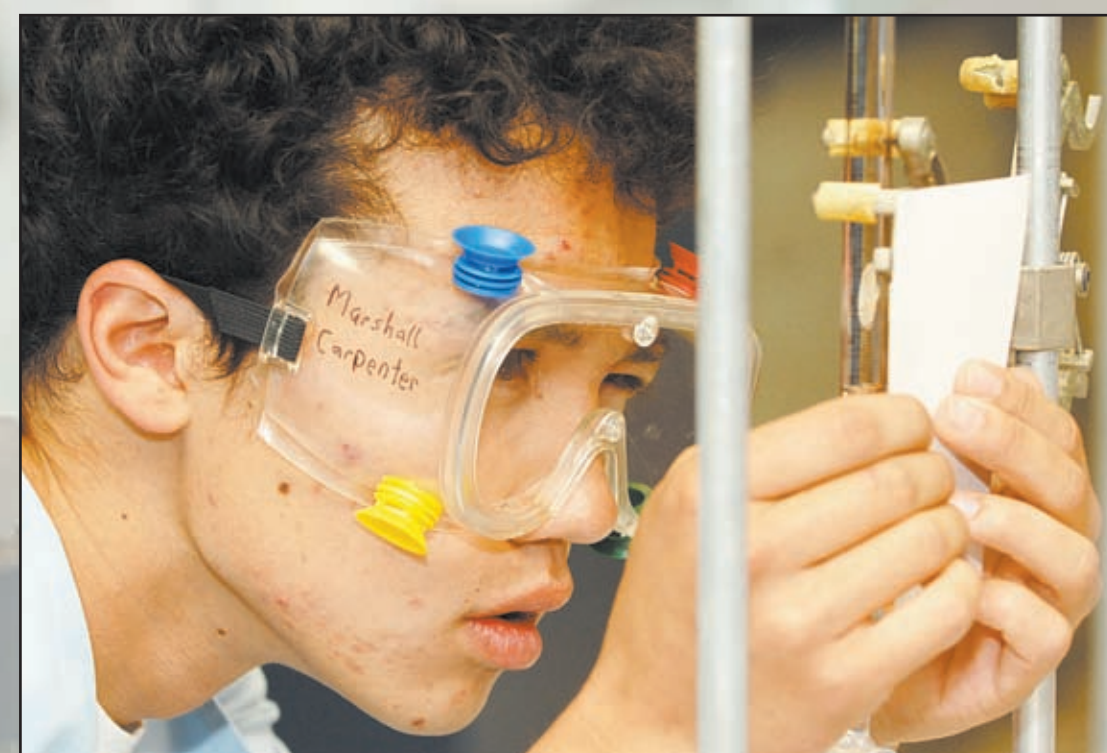


Photo by Dave Ahlschwede
Top left: Three-time Olympiad participant Justin Koh, Bakersfield, Calif., eyes the chemical change during a redox titration experiment.

Top right: Anna Chithelen, a senior from Scarsdale, N.Y., watches the meniscus in her burette closely during a titration experiment.

Left: Lafayette, Colo., native, Marshall Carpenter, finds the exact titration amount.



Students participating this year

Name	Hometown	High School	Class	Name	Hometown	High School	Class
Andrew Allman	York, Pa.	Central York	2009	Justin Koh	Bakersfield, Calif.	Stockdale	2008
Nathan Benjamin	West Lafayette, Ind.	W. H. Harrison	2010	Jonathan Lee	Northridge, Calif.	Harvard-Westlake	2008
Vivek Bhattacharya	Cary, N.C.	W.G. Enloe	2008	Andrew Liu	Chesterfield, Mo.	Parkway Central	2008
Marshall Carpenter	Lafayette, Colo.	Fairview	2008	Jenny Lu	Southbury, Conn.	Pomperaug	2010
Alex Chang	San Diego, Calif.	Torrey Pines	2009	Philip Mocz	Mililani, Hawaii	Mililani	2008
Anna Chithelen	Scarsdale, N.Y.	Horace Mann	2009	Elizabeth Peng	Williamsville, N.Y.	Williamsville South	2008
Brian Chmielowicz	Cheektowaga, N.Y.	St. Joseph	2008	Michael Tarczon	Glenview, Ill.	Glenbrook South	2009
		Collegiate Institute		Yixiao Wang	Westfield, N.J.	Westfield	2010
Ari Frankel	Buffalo Grove, Ill.	Chicagoland Jewish	2008	Yuxin Xie	East Brunswick, N.J.	East Brunswick	2008
Aditya Kalluri	North Olmsted, Ohio	North Olmsted	2009	Young Xu	Bellaire, Texas	Bellaire Senior	2009
				Simon Ye	Andover, Mass.	Andover	2008

DenMar photographers hit visual jackpot during Richter Class graduation

By Ken Carter
Editor

If ever there was a week for a group of co-workers to purchase a lottery ticket this might have been it.

With a "to-do" list of work to be accomplished in Falcon Stadium May 28, DenMar photographers were ready to execute their plan.

Four of the five team members have an unbelievable nearly 80 years military photo experience between three Air Force retirees and one Navy veteran.

Each was assigned to document the day and determined to provide professional, comprehensive coverage.

Come hat toss day, that's the exclusive focus.

All activities associated with the commencement ceremony were to be photographed. The "shoot" list included President George W. Bush speaking, candid shots of graduates in formation/seated, etc., other distinguished visitors, families in stands, the hat-toss/flyby, etc. – this event itself generated more than 2,000 images.

Two-thousand-eight to be exact!

At week's end the DenMar team-members were astonished when their combined efforts resulted in capturing precisely 2,008 images documenting the swan song for the Richter Class.

"When Dennis first collected the information, I

gave him my numbers...567," Mr. Ahlschwede said. "I thought that was an unusual number since the digits were sequential. I was blown away by the actual total, what are the odds?"

"Each of us thought it was an amazing coincidence and we couldn't believe it," Mr. Rogers said. "Considering the 28th was a Powerball lottery day, we should have purchased a few tickets. When the reality struck of this mathematical coincidence, my staff felt it worthy to share our excitement with *Academy Spirit* readers."

What better way to do so than to show each photographer's "favorite" image from the day. We've included one shot by each here, along with a brief statement from the photographer why it's his number-one choice.

The DenMar team may not be lucky enough to split a lotto jackpot worth millions, however, once again, they have provided our community with historical photos nothing short of priceless.

"We continue to serve," Mr. Kaplan said. "To me, this solidifies our competence and the dedication we offer our customers. Our team takes great pride in providing dynamic images capturing the essence of the unique mission of the Air Force Academy, building tomorrow's leaders of character."



The DenMar Photo Team

Back: Rachel Boettcher, Dave Armer, Michael Kaplan
Front: David Ahlschwede, Dennis Rogers

What's the impact on a photographer covering the event for the first time?

"I could feel the pride, excitement and sheer joy from these graduating cadets," Mr. Ahlschwede said. "I went through basic training and I went through college...but not at the same time...and not for four long years. I can't imagine all they must have endured, but was glad I got to share in their special day."

"Rachel Boettcher is also a valuable part of our team; while we were all partaking of the festivities, she worked all the alert functions and provided direct photo support to Security Forces," Mr. Rogers said.

Editor's Note: Photo lead Dennis Rogers discovered the number while reconciling the graduation ceremony workorder and in completing the production count. By photographer: Mike Kaplan shot 753 images; Dave Armer – 382; Dave Ahlschwede – 567; Dennis Rogers – 306.

Continued on next page.

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"This was my sixth consecutive Academy Graduation. It's always exciting to be a part of this event, and as a former Navy Aircrew member, I especially enjoy the airshow. But even though it was weathered out this year, I still enjoyed the excitement associated with the graduation. As for my favorite photo choice, who knows? It might make a good puzzle one day." — David Armer



"Second Lieutenant Katie Newkirk clearly expresses the happiness of sharing this moment with her family in the stands while showcasing her commander - in - chief!" — Mike Kaplan



"As I spent most of the day in the media center processing and transmitting photos, I only had 5-10 minutes to capture a handful of images. This is my favorite because it represents the excitement of a young person who has met a challenge and accomplished a significant milestone. His enthusiasm is evident in that he's attempting to locate his visiting family to show off his degree and share the joy." — Dennis Rogers



"This image to me captures two primary aspects of cadet life at graduation. First, the joy and excitement and second, the trust they have built through four years of enduring Academy life together. To take a leap of faith, brought upon by the excitement of the day and know that your wingman is there to catch you," — David Ahlschwede



it could be

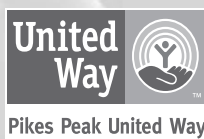
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Athletics announces new booster club initiative

The Air Force Athletic Department is providing its fans all over the world with the opportunity to become a part of the Falcon family with introduction of the Falcon Pride Booster Clubs. The program entails four booster clubs all in support of Air Force Athletics: The Falcon Pride Club, The Falcon Pride Letterwinner's Club, The Blue & Silver Club and Kid Force.

The Falcon Pride Club

Tailgate in style! Have lunch with the Coach! No matter the level of contribu-

tion, your commitment to the Falcon Pride Club ensures that your Falcon pride is rewarded!

Eligible members include: General Public.

Unrestricted gifts to support all Air Force Athletics Athletic Programs.

The Air Force Academy Athletic Association announces the newest Booster Club to support Air Force Athletics ... The Falcon Pride Club. Open to every Air Force fan, this booster club will offer special benefits exclusive to members only and opportunities to

personally make a difference in the future of Air Force Athletics.

The Falcon Pride Letterwinner's Club

This elite club exclusively for former Falcons!

Eligible members include: Former Air Force Academy athletes, coaches, parents, trainers, managers, administration, and support personnel.

Restricted gifts to specific sport of your choice.

Benefits will mirror the Falcon Pride Club.

The Falcon Pride Letterwinner's Club is a part of a new initiative with Air Force Athletics. The ultimate goal is to provide former members of the Falcon Athletics family the opportunity to stay involved, participate in alumni events, stay in contact with former teammates and accept donations for the program of your choice, to excel at the next level. Benefits will mirror the Falcon Pride Club with additional opportunities.

The Blue & Silver Club

Show your true blue! With six levels of contribution and benefits, be rewarded for your commitment to the highly prestigious Blue & Silver Club. A corporate hospitality and VIP ticket club.

Eligible members include: General Public.

Unrestricted gifts to support all Air Force Athletics Athletic Programs

Since 1984, individuals and companies in Colorado have enjoyed the exclusive benefits of the Blue & Silver Club membership. Benefits at the superintendent's level and above include Blue and Silver press box privileges during Falcon Football games featuring pre-game catered meals, complimentary cocktails and the opportunity to mingle with community leaders, AFA alumni and current leadership of the Air Force Academy.

Kid Force

Parents! Let your little Falcons be part of the coolest club this side of the playground!

Eligible members include: Children in 8th grade or younger.

Kid Force is the official kids' club of Air Force Academy Athletics. The club features fun and interactive membership benefits while educating kids about teamwork and sportsmanship. Kid Force members have access to some 27 Academy intercollegiate sports and all the Falcon FanFest pre-game activities.

Falcon Pride Booster Club members can register and manage their account online, compare benefits, priority point ranking, see a calendar of events and have opportunities to volunteer.

For more visit: www.GoAirForceFalcons.com



Photo by John Van Winkle

The Bird rocks ... and reclines in Falcon Stadium



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Zero cash out of pocket!

Payments from \$1,132 (PI, TI)*

Payments from \$1,154 (PI, TI)*

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7502 Willow Pines - The Alaska
3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage, full unfinished basement
This home is perfect for those that want everything on one level. You'll find a washer/dryer, refrigerator, garage door opener, and a full basement - all included! This home is ready for move in. Come see!



11240 Falling Star Rd - The Nevada
3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2-car garage, full unfinished basement
The views are incredible, and this home has great access to the area's abundant trails. Included is a washer/dryer, refrigerator, garage door opener, and a full basement. There are great schools nearby. This home is ready for move in. Visit today!



7452 Wind Haven Tr - The Sheridan
3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage, full unfinished basement
One level living at its finest. This home flows and feels open. Included is a washer/dryer, refrigerator, garage door opener, and a full basement. This home is ready for move in. Open and airy!

Many more homes are available for immediate move in!



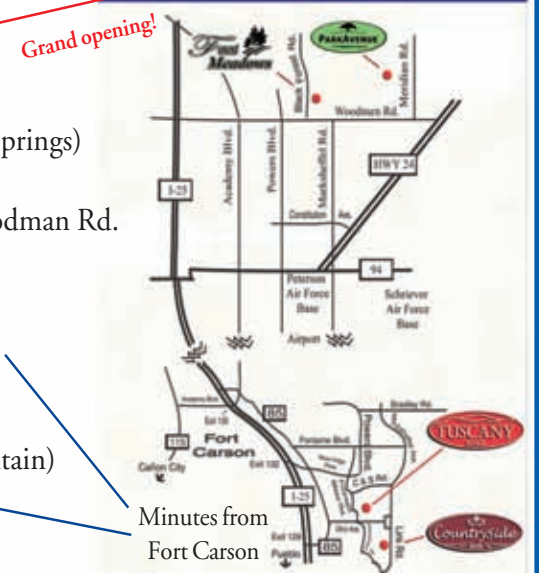
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All prices & availability subject to change without notice. Payments on a VA Loan with 2/1 buydown. APR not quoted. WAC through use of a preferred lender.

CS tops FTG in intramural softball matchup

By Dave Castilla
Intramural sports director

The 306th Flying Training Group started strong, but faded quickly as the 10th Communications Squadron earned a 22-7 victory in intramural softball action Tuesday.

Both the 306th FTG and 10th CS were playing short on players with eight apiece.

The 306th FTG, looking for its first victory of the season, started the first inning strong scoring four runs. 306th FTG player Ted Burgess started the game with a triple down the left field line and was singled home by Dave MacVoy. Aric Zeese and Craig Watson followed with base hits and a single from Mark Stoffel drove them both in.

The strong effort was quickly answered. 10th CS got in high gear as Tom Sapp and Justin Kirk both hit back-to-back homeruns. Tony Mickelberry drove in four runs on a single and a double as 10th CS went thru the line up

twice scoring 14 runs in the first inning.

Sam Fleming's triple and two RBI's highlighted the fourth inning as 10th CS pushed across seven more runs sealing the victory at 22-7.

The intramural softball season kicked off its regular season May 22. The six-time defending base champions Hospital #1 have a new and tough team to defend its crown this year.

The Fitness and Sports director has approved all DoD retirees may combine on one team. Those DOD retirees already assigned to a unit that have a team must be released by the sports representative or current coach. The Retirees, coached by Wade Dolbow, have players with vast softball experience that have played on base championship teams here and other bases, played on command championship teams, played in the intra-service championships and Worlds.

"They will be a tough team to beat," said current medic coach Kevin Zelasko, "but we will be up for the challenge."



Photo by Ken Carter

10th CS third baseman Sam Fleming prepares to tag out 306th base runner Ted Burgess.

Nick Frawley Qualifies for NCAA Pole Vault Finals

By Valerie Perkin
Athletic media relations

DES MOINES, Iowa – Air Force sophomore Nick Frawley advanced to the finals of the pole vault during the opening day of action at the 2008 NCAA Track and Field Championships on Wednesday in Des Moines, Iowa. Topping out at 17'2¾", Frawley matched the best clearance of the day and will compete in the upcoming event finals.

One of 28 participants in the preliminary heat, Frawley advanced to the finals on just three attempts. After passing the first clearance of 16'2¾", he cleared the 16'8¾" mark in two attempts, before clearing his first shot of the 17'2¾" height. Frawley was one of 15 pole vaulters to clear that 17'2¾" plateau and advance to the NCAA finals.

In addition, senior Kevin Hawkins clocked a time of 1:50.38 in the 800-meter run to finish 21st in the event's preliminary heat. His time, which was fifth in the first heat of competitors, was just 0.37 seconds shy of qualifying for tomorrow's semifinal heat.

Frawley will close out the collegiate season today when he competes in the pole vault finals at 4:15 p.m. (CST) at Drake Stadium in Des Moines. Weather caused several delays during the first day of action at the NCAA Championships, but is forecasted to be partly cloudy at 79 degrees during Friday's pole vault finals.



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Rodeo coming

Tickets for the 68th Annual Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo are on sale. The rodeo is July 9 through 12 with the Academy sponsoring the matinee on July 12. Adult tickets are \$10, \$15, and \$27 depending on seat location. Children's tickets are \$5, \$7.50 and \$12.50. Military personnel and groups of 20 or more receive a \$2 discount. For tickets, visit www.ticketwest.com or call 576-2626. Visit www.coloradospringsrodeo.com or call 635-1101.

<p>USA vs Brazil volleyball</p> <p>The USA-Brazil volleyball match today at the Olympic Training Facility in Colorado Springs is sold out. Tickets are still available for the Saturday night match at the Air Force Academy. Tickets can be purchased at www.GoAirForceFalcons.com or by calling the ticket office at 719-472-1895.</p>	<p>Intramural</p> <p>Golf (Week 4)</p> <p>Division 1 Pts.</p> <p>1. 306 FTG 12.5</p> <p>2. 10TH MDG 1 14.5</p> <p>3. 98 FTS 10.0</p> <p>4. NSSI 2 9.0</p> <p>5. DRU 1 2.0</p>	<p>6. DRU 3 6.0</p> <p>7. DFEG 8.0</p> <p>8. 10TH CS 1.5</p> <p>9. DFM 0</p> <p>10. CW 1 5.5</p> <p>11. DFP 10.0</p> <p>12. MAINT 2 11.0</p> <p>Division 2 Pts.</p> <p>1. NSSI 1 15.0</p> <p>2. MAINT 1 12.0</p>	<p>3. 94 FTS 9.5</p> <p>4. 10TH MDG 2 8.0</p> <p>5. DRU 2 8.5</p> <p>6. DFL 12.5</p> <p>7. CW 2 4.0</p> <p>8. XP 5.5</p> <p>9. CWCX 2.0</p> <p>10. 10TH MSS/CCA 0</p> <p>11. DFENG 6.0</p> <p>12. LGR 7.0</p>
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July 4th public fireworks

The Fourth of July fireworks show at the Academy will be open to the general public this year. Everyone in the community is welcome to view the show, which will start about 9:30 p.m. and is expected to last 20 minutes. Viewers should enter through the north gate beginning as early as 6:30 p.m., where they will be directed to parking in lots near the Cadet Field House. Bringing cameras, lawn chairs and blankets is encouraged. There will be no entertainment or food and drink vendors, and coolers and grills will not be allowed. Water and portable restrooms will be provided. Radio station KAFA 97.7 FM will be broadcasting the music for the fireworks show. The viewing area will be from the grassy fields north of Arnold

Hall. Call Project Officer Candyce Thomas 333-4497 for more.

Sponsors needed

The Preparatory School for the 2008-2009 academic year needs sponsors. The Prep School is designed to prepare students for admission and success at the Air Force Academy. To apply to sponsor one or more of these students, call Mrs. Cleo Griffith at 333-2583 or e-mail cleo.griffith@usafa.edu

Mountain lions spotted

Recently at least two mountain lions were observed on or near the Eagle Peak Trail and they displayed little wariness around people. Mountain lion attacks are rare, but they may key in on easy prey such as pets or small children. Do not approach a lion. Most mountain lions will try to avoid confrontation if given a way to escape. Immediately report any mountain lion sightings to Security Forces at 333-2000 or the Natural Resources office at 333-3308.

USA Volleyball

Tickets are still available for the USA-Brazil volleyball match today at 7:30 p.m. at the Olympic Training Facility and Saturday at 7 p.m. in Clune Arena. Tickets for today or Saturday can be purchased at www.GoAirForceFalcons.com or by calling the ticket office at 472-1895.

AFRF offers options

The Airman & Family Readiness Flight presents:

-Newcomer's Orientation and Information Fair; Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.: This mandatory orientation, held at the Milazzo Center, is for all newly-assigned Academy members. Spouses are welcomed.

-Transition Assistance Program Seminar; June 24-27, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.: Those separating in a year or retiring in two years can call the Airman & Family Readiness Flight to reserve a spot in the next available TAP class. The class guides attendees through building resumes, developing interviewing skills, networking, dressing for success and more.

-Newcomer's Base Red Carpet Tour; June 27, 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.: This informative, fun-filled base tour gives insight into the Academy mission and reveals much of what is to see and do here. Call 333-3444.

Veteran's Home Run

The Pikes Peak Road Runners offer the Veteran's Home Run June 28 at 7 a.m. The run will start at Air Academy High School and will follow a route through the Academy. Cost is \$15 for active-duty, veterans and dependants and \$20 for all others. Proceeds from the run go to the Crawford House, a local veteran's home. All participants will receive a Veteran's Home Run T-shirt. Race-day registra-

tion will be held June 28 from 6 to 7 a.m. at Air Academy High School. Call John Cornick at 554-5340 or Maj. Tara Nolan at 333-6025.

Fire, Fire, Fire!!!

The fire department staff reminds all to call 911 immediately upon spotting any fire, even if one's just been extinguished. This is required to ensure there is no hidden fire areas smoldering that could reignite. Additionally, the fire department needs to document the cause to track fire trends and determine how best to educate. Call 333-2473.

Volunteer recognition golf

The Volunteer Recognition Golf Fundraiser is scheduled for Aug. 7 at 1:30 p.m. on the Eisenhower Golf Club Silver Course. Entry fee is \$30 for airmen through staff sergeants and first and second lieutenants and \$40 for all other players. Entry fee includes lunch, golf cart, green fees, range balls, post round drinks and rental clubs if needed. Additionally, Professional Golfers Association staff will conduct a golf clinic from noon to 1:15 p.m. All proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the Academy Volunteer Recognition Program. Prizes will be awarded to the first-place team, and male and female longest drive and closest to the pin. For more information or to register, call Tim Neuman at 333-2137 or Jeannie Lopez at 333-3444 by Aug. 5.



Free concert

The World Music Series 2008 kicks off its first concert of the year with La Bande Feufollet today at 7 p.m. on the Armstrong Quad at the Colorado College Campus. The concert will be held in Armstrong Theater in the event of inclement weather. For more, contact Dee Vazquez, Pikes Peak Library District Community Relations Officer at 531-6333, x1200 or dvazquez@ppld.org.

Farmers market opens

The Western Museum of Marketing and Industry's Farmers Market will reopen Monday at 9 a.m. in front of the museum's Reynolds Farmhouse. The market will continue throughout the summer months on Mondays and Wednesdays, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Renowned for being locally grown and fresh, farmers' markets allow farmers to avoid the middleman thus preserving the nutritional content of fresh produce. The market also allows consumers to talk directly to the grower, get the freshest produce possible and experience the health benefits of fresh produce. Stop by the market and receive a free coupon to the museum with every purchase. Call the museum at 488-0880.



CADET CHAPEL

Catholic Masses:

Sunday

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

(or by appointment)

Mass - 10 a.m.

Weekday

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. - 6:45 a.m.

Wednesday

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

Mass - 6 p.m.

Protestant Services:

Sunday

Traditional - 9 a.m.

Hill Fellowship - 11 a.m.

Jewish Services

Fridays - 7 p.m.

Buddhist Worship

Wednesday. - 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.

(September - 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.

(September - May)

Paganism/Earth-centered Spirituality:

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

For more information, call 333-3300.

Youth Fire Safety Camp

Learn fire safety tips, emergency reporting, the importance of smoke detectors, stop drop & roll, junior bucket brigade, hose competition, fire safety education trailer, recognizing home fire hazards, and identifying hazard solutions.

When:
9 July 2008
1000 to 1400 hrs

Where:
Fire Station 1
6202 Pine Drive

Who:
for ages 8 through 12

How:
Sign up by 2 July 2008
phone 333-2051
e-mail tracy.nichols@usafa.af.mil



Provided by Academy Fire & Emergency Services. Lunch & Course Certificates will be provided.

FRAUD, WASTE AND ABUSE

IF YOU KNOW OF ANY INSTANCES OF FRAUD, WASTE AND ABUSE, REPORT IT TO ONE OF THE HOTLINE NUMBERS

FRAUD: Intentional deception of the DoD such as bribes, gratuities or false claims

WASTE: Extravagant, careless or expenditure of government funds

ABUSE: Intentional wrongful or improper use of government resources

ACADEMY
1(719)333-3490
DSN: 333-3490

AIR FORCE
1(800)538-8429
DSN: 425-1562

DEPT. OF DEFENSE
1(800)424-9098
DSN: 664-8799