



Making a Difference

10th Med Group deploys to treat patients in five Belize villages

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USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO
ACADEMY SPIRIT

Vol. 48 No. 24

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Engaged

Base under attack; GE cadets respond to current realistic scenarios

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Softball update

ORFs blow past only other undefeated team

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Photo by Capt. Uriah Orland

Fore sail ...

Cadet 1st Class Jonathan Aronoff, Cadet Squadron 21, guides the tail of a TG-15 glider into a trailer at the Kissing Camels Golf Course Wednesday as Cadet 1st Class Kurt Cloutier, CS-30, and Capt. Erich Kunrath, 94th Flying Training Squadron, look on. Cadet Cloutier, an instructor pilot and member of the Academy Cross Country Soaring team, landed the glider on the course after weather conditions reduced his lift and eliminated the possibility of returning to the Academy airfield. Neither the pilot nor the aircraft were harmed in the landing.

Cadet Chapel designer legacy lives on

By Capt. Corinna Jones
 Chief, Internal Information

Walter Netsch was well ahead of his time when he designed the U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet Chapel, one of the most recognizable structures in the United States. The renowned architect died of pneumonia Sunday at 88 at his Chicago home.



Courtesy Northwestern University Library
 Walter Netsch

Mr. Netsch, 34 at the time, was chosen by Skidmore, Owings and Merrill architectural firm, Chicago, to design the Cadet Chapel in 1958.

Now a building that stands majestically in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains symbolizing faith and freedom, originally the structure was controversial and originally the design was disapproved.

"The chapel design was very controversial at the time because it wasn't your typical church," said Stephen "Pete"



Courtesy Photo

Cadet Chapel during the final phase of construction of the spires.

Peterson, Air Force Academy Cadet Chapel public relations director. "In the '50s when you think of a church, you think of pillars and marble. This is an aluminum, pointed structure. So the design was not very well received."

The Cadet Chapel was part of the original Academy design, but discarded.

Most of the Academy was finished in 1958. Construction on the chapel was not started until 1959. Construction was complete in 1963.

"The cadets came down to the Academy in August of '58 with no church for them to go to. It put a lot of pressure

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Enjoy safe and sane vacations

Courtesy 47th Fighter Wing
Safety Office

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas

Vacations are too few, too far between and too brief. No wonder we try to squeeze them for every bit of enjoyment we can muster. As a result, we tend to overdo it. Too much food, too much play and too much sun can spoil our best-laid plans — all because we took too little preparation.

Here are some helpful summer vacation tips:

Carry a first aid kit

Whether you're traveling to a nearby park or the distant mountains, it's wise to include a well-stocked first aid kit. Your kit should contain bandages, sterile gauze, adhesive tape, scissors, an elastic bandage, acetaminophen, a thermometer, medicated ointments, tweezers, calamine lotion, antiseptic soap, hand towels, a small flashlight and important numbers. Also, learn first aid measures and carry a first aid book.

Beat the Heat

Except for the cold, heat kills more Americans than any other natural hazard, including hurricanes, tornadoes, floods and earthquakes. To have fun in the hot summer sun:

- Restrict strenuous activities to the coolest part of the day. Avoid direct exposure to the sun between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., when the sun's rays are the strongest.
- Wear loose-fitting, lightweight and light colored clothing that reflects the heat and sunlight.
- To stay cooler on long walks,

consider investing in garments made from new high-tech fabrics.

- Drink lots of water and other non-alcoholic fluids before, during and after strenuous activity. And drink even if you don't feel thirsty.
- Don't take salt tablets unless your doctor has prescribed them, especially if you have high blood pressure or a heart condition.
- Adjust to hot environments gradually. It usually takes a couple of days to acclimate to hot weather.
- Avoid direct sunlight as much as possible. Use a sun screen with a "sun protection factor" that matches your skin type.
- Don't wear a snug hat, since your body's heat needs to escape from your head.
- To protect your eyes from the sun's ultraviolet rays, wear sunglasses that shield against UVA and UVB rays. A broad brimmed hat will also help.
- If you're on a prescription, consult your doctor on possible side effects in hot weather.
- Eat light, nutritious meals and avoid fatty foods.

Bugs will Bite

To live in harmony when around stinging insects:

- Wear insect repellent.
- Don't wear bright-colored clothing.
- Don't use cologne or scented cosmetics, especially floral.
- Don't walk barefoot, and watch where you're walking.
- Avoid rapid movements that look like attacks.
- If you happen upon a nest, move away slowly.

• Don't eat or drink sweet things outdoors. They attract insects like a magnet.

• If you are stung by an insect and begin to experience hives, stomach pains, diarrhea, dizziness, chills, or facial swelling (regardless of where you may have been stung), you are having an allergic reaction. Seek immediate emergency medical treatment.

Take a Safe Hike

A favorite summer activity is a hike in the woods, but it should be carefully planned.

- Tell someone where you'll be hiking and when you expect to return and check the forecast to avoid bad weather.
- Establish a leader and a plan for changes of direction in the trail. Carry a map and compass and stay on a blazed path when you can.
- Carry a whistle. Three short blasts is the international signal for help in an emergency.
- Wear proper clothing, preferably natural fibers. Long sleeves and full-length pants will protect you from insects, the sun and brush. Also, wear hiking boots or good sturdy walking shoes that are broken in.
- Hike in small groups of less than ten people. Carry a first aid kit.

Coming Home Safely

So far, so good. Now let's get you home safely.

- Don't try to complete a long drive on the last day. Sure, you want to get home, but more importantly, you want to arrive safely. Drive part of the way the day before, and enjoy the night. On the last day, sleep late and arrive home relaxed.

ACADEMY SPIRIT

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

Lt. Gen. John Regni —
Academy Superintendent
Maj. Brett Ashworth —
Director of Public Affairs
Staff Sgt. Tim Jenkins —
NCOIC, Internal Information
Ken Carter — Editor

kenneth.carter@usafa.af.mil

Butch Wehry — Senior Staff Writer

whalen.wehry@usafa.af.mil

Ann Patton — Staff Writer

elizabeth.patton.ctr@usafa.af.mil

Denise Navoy — Graphic Designer

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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 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

By Chaplain (Maj.) George Youstra

Abraham Lincoln once said:
"Character is like a tree and reputation like its shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing."

Have you ever known someone like that?
Is that someone sharp in front of a group?
Does his or her uniform look spit and polished?
Do they use command voice and have great poise while marching troops down the parade field?
Do they always seem to be chosen for leader-

ship positions because someone sees the outward persona of that individual in other words, the reflection or shadow of what we think cadet leaders should look like?

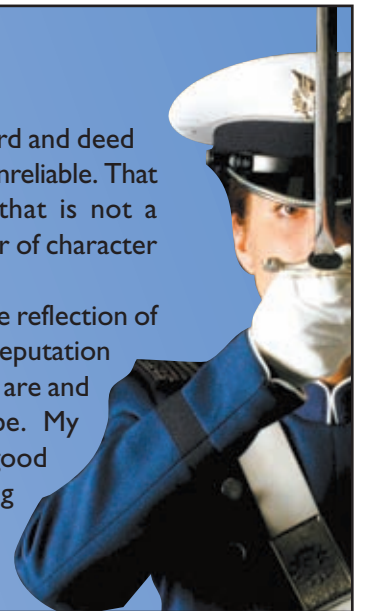
On the other hand, after hours, when the Air Officers Commanding and Academy Military Trainers go home and the watchful eyes of leadership have left the area another person appears.

Maybe when this person is off base his or her actions don't mirror what the uniform of the Academy and our Air Force should reflect.

You cannot trust this person's word and deed because it has been proven to be unreliable. That is the shadow of a reputation that is not a reflection of how a cadet or officer of character must appear.

Your reputation must be a true reflection of the person you claim to be. Your reputation will be based on what you say you are and what people know you to truly be. My hope is that your reputation is good because you are an officer reflecting your personal good character.

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



What are your plans for a summer vacation?

"We're going to Dallas now because it gets really hot later. Our son, daughter-in-law and two grandchildren are there."



Irene Gibson
Spouse of retired
Air Force member

"I'm thinking of going to St. Petersburg, Fla. My daughter, a real estate agent, lives there."



Emily Mathis
Contactor, DECA

"We're going to Quebec City, Canada, for its 350th anniversary and will do some touring. We're practicing our French."



Steve Staley
Retired Air Force
member

"I have no plans. I'm getting ready for the new class of Preppies, but I did a crafting workshop at Glen Eyrie."



Lt. Col. Ida
Widmann
Director of
Military Training,
Preparatory School



U.S. representatives named for Chemistry Olympiad

By Capt. Uriah Orland
Academy Public Affairs

Academy officials named the four U.S. representatives and two alternates for the 40th International Chemistry Olympiad in Budapest, Hungary, during a local banquet Saturday.

The primary representatives are Jonathan Lee, from Northridge, Calif., a recent graduate from Harvard-Westlake High School; Andrew Liu, from Chesterfield, Mo., a recent graduate from Parkway Central High School; Jenny Lu, from Southbury, Conn., a junior at Pomperaug High School; and Yuxin Xie, from East Brunswick, N.J., a recent graduate from East Brunswick High School.

Elizabeth Peng, from Williamsville, N.Y., a recent graduate from Williamsville South High School; and Justin Koh, from Bakersfield, Calif., a recent graduate from Stockdale High School, were selected as the first and second alternates for the international competition.

The winners competed in a two-week camp here against 14 other high school students from around the country, demonstrating their knowledge and skills in classroom lectures and laboratory exercises covering analytical, organic, inorganic, physical and bio chemistry.

During the international competition, the representatives will compete against more than 200 students



Photo by Capt. Uriah Orland

U.S. Chemistry Olympiad Team

From left: Yuxin Xie, Andrew Liu, Jonathan Lee, and Jenny Lu, will represent the United States during the 40th International Chemistry Olympiad in Budapest, Hungary, July 12-21.

from 69 countries. The participants will be tested by written exams and laboratory techniques and skills.

The United States has participated in the international competition every year since 1984 and all partic-

ipants have medaled each year for more than 10 years.

Information about the 40th International Chemistry Olympiad can be found at www.icho.hu/pages/Home.aspx.

Court martial finds enlisted Airman guilty

Airman Basic Justin Rosado was found guilty by a military judge of 16 violations of the

Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Airman Rosado is assigned to the 10th Security Forces Squadron.

The violations included failing to obey orders, dereliction of duty, making false official statements to investigators, larceny, and soliciting another

airman to make a false official statement.

Airman Rosado was sentenced to a bad conduct discharge, six months confinement, two-thirds forfeiture of pay per month for six months, and a \$1,000 fine.

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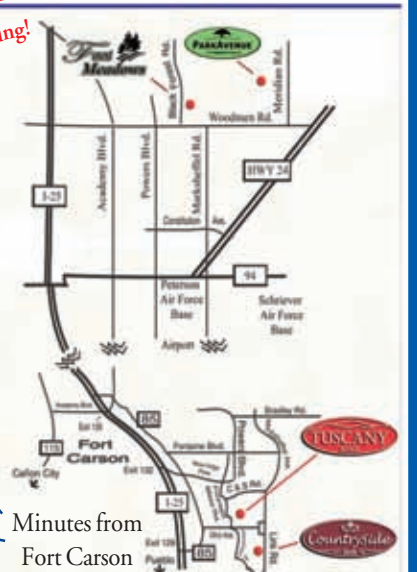
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Academy cadets experience life in special tactics

By Master Sgt. Buffy Galbraith
Air Force Special Operations Command
Public Affairs

HURLBURT FIELD, Fla. — Nearly 30 Air Force Academy cadets took part in a Monster Mash here June 13 as part of an orientation course to experience life as a special tactics officer.

The Monster Mash was a six-mile, on-base race that tested the cadets skills in running, ruck marching, litter carrying, swimming, self aid and buddy care and memory recall. Variations of the Monster Mash are held often in special tactics units, but this one was part of the Academy's Special Tactics Officer Orientation Program held here June 2 through Thursday.

"The Air Force Academy Special Tactics Officer Orientation Program is a three-week program designed to give interested cadets the opportunity to meet special tactics members and see the training we conduct to prepare for current and future operations," said Capt. Eli Mitchell, Special Tactics Training School director of operations.

Now in its third year, the orientation program was the brainchild of Lt. Col. Ron Stenger, a special tactics Officer who was an air commanding officer of a cadet squadron at the Academy.

Colonel Stenger wanted cadets to have a basic understanding of the special tactics mission, organization and people, said Captain Mitchell.

"As a graduate of the Air Force Academy, I wish I could have had the opportunity that these cadets have now," said Captain Mitchell. "I had very little knowledge of special tactics when I was trying to become part of the community."

During the course, cadets observed training by current STTS students during a gunship call for fire, heavy weapons firing, parachute operations, dive operations and fast roping. Additionally, they participated in special tactics-oriented physical training, obstacle courses, marching with heavy ruck sacks and swimming long distances in the waters south of the base.

According to cadets, the orientation program, though intense, continues to gain momentum at the Academy, capturing the attention of would-be STOs and even those who are planning alternate career paths.

"This is a great experience, regardless of where you end up in your military career," said Cadet 1st Class Daniel Balch. "This is the second year I've participated, and I feel like it is preparing me for my future cross-commissioning into the Army. I know I'll be working with special tactics, and it's great experience to see how servicemembers work together."

The cadets agree that getting through the program, especially the Monster Mash, takes working together. They are assigned to teams of five or six cadets.

"Any inability to complete a task or



Photo by Master Sgt. Buffy Galbraith

Air Force Academy cadets lift their "victim" during a Monster Mash at Hurlburt Field, Fla., June 13. The Monster Mash was a six-mile obstacle course designed to test the physical and mental abilities of would-be special tactics officers. The cadets were volunteers taking part in the Special Tactics Officer Orientation Course held June 2 through Thursday.

not having the answer to general Air Force knowledge and history questions results in a penalty of eight-count, body-building push-ups," said Eddie Howard, STTS formal training mentor.

"As individuals, there are people here who can smoke this thing," said Cadet 2nd Class Michael Erickson. "But we are taught from day one at the Academy that teamwork is the most effective way to get the job done, and this course is a lesson in the importance of working as a team."

Teamwork also provides the cadets the ability to watch out for each other, which promotes the ever-important aspect of safety to the program.

"Bumps and bruises are par for the course, but maintaining a safe environment for the cadets is of the utmost importance," said Captain Mitchell. "Every aspect of the course is closely monitored to ensure we can maintain the realism of being in the field."

The cadets, along with two Academy

military trainers and two Naval Academy cadets, participated in the three-week long orientation program. Many plan to return.

"The only thing the cadets get when they complete this program is a sense of pride," said Captain Mitchell. "We have an expectation of future STOs and combat rescue officers, and this program is realistic and demanding. This exposure to our mission and capabilities increases knowledge of what special tactics is Air Force wide, and it's great for recruiting."

Word of mouth at the Academy has recruited a growing number of cadets for the program since 2006, and shows no signs of slowing down, said Master Sgt. Todd Farlee, Academy military trainer and program participant.

"Very few of the cadets had any idea what this was going to be like, but it didn't stop scores of cadets from signing up," said Sergeant Farlee. "I think they've all gained an appreciation and a full perspective of what special tactics is all about."

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Chapel

From Page 1

on the decision makers to choose a design. I believe that pressure is what helped to win the approval of this design," Mr. Peterson said. "Walter was so far ahead of his time that it was hard for others to grasp his concept for this chapel."

According to Mr. Peterson the Cadet Chapel was almost never built. It was too advanced for its era.

"I asked Walter 'why this design? Why something so unique?' Walter said he wanted to design a structure that will stand out and point to the heavens," Mr. Peterson said. "The Academy Cadet Chapel is the only building on campus that points towards the heavens. Everything else is flat."

According to Mr. Peterson, the Cadet Chapel was specifically designed from the beginning to accommodate the religious needs of all cadets regardless of their faith.

"Walter knew exactly what he was doing," he said.

"It's safe to assume this chapel is one of the most recognizable structures in the United States. When people see it they know 'That's the Chapel at the U.S. Air Force Academy.'"

The Cadet Chapel draws more than 800,000 visitors per year from around the world.

"I stress to visitors this is a place of worship first, and a tourist attraction

second," Mr. Peterson said.

Five years of planning and four years of construction went into the building of the Cadet Chapel.

When all was said and done, the aluminum, glass and steel structure featured 17 spires soaring 150 feet toward the Colorado sky. There is no significance to this number. Original designs were judged to be too expensive, so changes were made, including a reduction in the number of spires. The changes did not alter the basic design or the interior square footage of the chapel.

The Cadet Chapel is an all-faith house of worship containing a separate chapel for each of the three major religious faiths represented in the Air Force – Protestant, Catholic and Jewish – plus two all-faith worship rooms. Each chapel has its own entrance and services may be held simultaneously without interfering with one another.

The shell of the structure and surrounding grounds cost \$3.5 million to build. Furnishings, pipe organs, liturgical fittings and adornments of the chapel were presented as gifts from individuals and various organizations. A designated Easter offering was also taken at Air Force bases around the world in 1959 to help complete the interior.

The Cadet Chapel is on the National Register of Historic Places and has had minimum modifications since its completion in 1963.



Courtesy Photos

This view is looking from the entrance to the altar in the Protestant Chapel.



The east side of the Cadet Chapel often appears golden at sunrise.

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Sponsors sought for incoming Preppies

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Members of the new Preparatory School class arrive July 16, and the school is still seeking sponsors for most of them.

"The program for the cadets on the Hill is widely known," said Cleo Griffith, director of the Prep School's sponsor program. "But cadet candidates are just as young and just as needy."

She said the vast majority of Prep School students are 18 years old, those with prior service between 19 and 20. Some are as young as 17 when they enter.

Mrs. Griffith said last year's sponsors totaled 109. Close to 90 cadet candidates had no sponsor. Ideally, she would like to have 200 sponsors.

Prep School sponsors can do as much or as little as they want.

"It's a very easy program," she said. "We want it to be fun and beneficial."

Overall, sponsors provide a family-support system and non-academic mentoring. Typically, they may open their homes to cadet candidates, drop off homemade baked goods at the school or provide transportation for such activities as church or other off-base events.

Mrs. Griffith pointed out; however, sponsors are not asked to be social directors for their Preppies.

"We are not Parties 'R Us," she said. Cadet candidates may want to just make

a sandwich, "vegetate" or sleep.

"It's the very simplest things which are what they want to do," she said.

Mrs. Griffith stressed cadet candidates are polite, considerate and cooperative.

"We have just real good kids here," she said. "They are excellent students, but they can become very homesick."

Sponsors may spend more time interacting with cadet candidates at the beginning of the 10-month Prep School year. Later, as students become more acclimated to the base and make friends with other cadet candidates, sponsors may just want to E-mail them, "just to let them know 'I'm still here,'" she said.

Sponsors and students are matched solely on hobbies, interests and activities.

Mrs. Griffith likes to have a variety of sponsors from different age groups and backgrounds.

Past sponsors have been grandparents, married couples, singles, officers and enlisted.

"Everyone lends their own special touch, and all add to a very good program," she said.

Having a sponsor can make all the difference to a cadet candidate.

"Sponsors are just as much a part of their success as any instructor," Mrs. Griffith said and called them my "shining, twinkling stars" for their dedication.

Sponsors may choose to sponsor one cadet candidate or several. If a match between a sponsor and student doesn't seem to be a good fit, either may switch to another.

"No questions asked," she stressed.

Prep School sponsors may not also sponsor cadets during the same year, but that doesn't mean Prep School sponsors can't move to the Hill with their cadet candidate after graduation.

In fact, the Prep School regularly loses sponsors that way.

"Some form life-long relationships, much like an extended family," Mrs. Griffith said. "There is no pressure to stay here."

She pointed out there is also a program to sponsor the sponsor program through financial donations for such expenses as appreciation events. The Prep School sponsor program receives no government funding.

Dan Beatty and his wife Martha, both retired Air Force members, have sponsored a combination of both preppies and cadets for a total of nearly 50, many of them are "almost like adopted children," Mr. Beatty said.

The Beattys sponsored three preppies last year.

Mr. Beatty surely understands their needs.

"That was the path I came from," he said.

He is a Prep School grad and member of the Academy Class of 1976. He is also current president of the Rampart Chapter of the Association of Graduates.

He would encourage anyone considering being a sponsor to do so.

He believes the program provides critical support in the "pressure cooker" environment and gives their families reassurance their cadets or cadet candidates are cared for.

"We like to show families the Air Force is a family," Mr. Beatty said.

He also said sponsoring is very satisfying and fun.

He and his family regularly like to keep touch with their former cadet candidates and cadets as they develop on active duty, sometimes with surprising results.

One graduate working with the Office of Special Investigations drove down the Beatty's street in an armored SUV with its lights flashing before stopping in for a visit.

Mrs. Griffith will be matching students with sponsors the first week in August, with an official kick-off in early September.

Anyone interested in sponsoring a Prep School student can apply anytime during the year.

"It is never, ever too late," she said.

To sign up as a sponsor or for more information, call 333-2583.

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Academy medical team brightens lives



Capt. Kerry Phelan, 10th Medical Group optometrist, performs an eye exam on a patient in San Juan, Belize.

By Ken Carter
Editor

Given a small window to provide treatment, a dozen members from the 10th Medical Group made a world of difference in the lives of more than 4,400 Belize patients during a recent TDY there.

The team's mission: to help people from five surrounding villages with both medical treatment and through providing pharmaceutical needs. Locations served included: San Juan Village, Independence Village, Trio Village, Red Bank Village and Bella Vista Village.

Performing in high temperatures and 90 percent humidity in an environment very different from home, the Academy team treated patients over a 10-day period.

Technical Sgts. Amy Justice and James Heller, who serve as the Academy's NCOIC of Medical Plans and Programs and NCOIC of the Family Practice clinic respectively, said, "We were surprised how simply they live and how uneducated they are about the things we take for granted."

"It was tough seeing these 14- and 15-year-old girls walking around pregnant or an 18-year-old with three children already," Sergeant Heller said.

Getting patients to line up for all forms of treatment was easier than pulling teeth ... and even that wasn't tough. "They were all very appreciative of what we did," Sergeant Justice said.

"Each team member was a key to overall mission

success." However, Maj. Brent Kincaid, the team's oral surgeon, became what the pair of NCOs jokingly referred to as the 'Big Ticket.' "As he performed extractions on as many as four or five patients an hour, everybody wanted to watch," they said.

According to Major Kincaid, this first-time Belize deployment for him was positive, but initially a shock.

"Standards are very different down there," he said. "It took a few days to fully understand how different the paradigm for medical/dental care is from home. We learned, for example, that a child might miss one to two days of school per week due to severe tooth pain. When we remove a badly decayed tooth on a young child, we are relieving suffering and allowing that child to return to class pain free. In the US, and certainly in the military setting, we would do everything we could to save that tooth, with tooth removal as the very last option. Down in Belize, extraction was really the only option, but it was a wonderful service for them and I was amazed by how many kids would flash a smile and wave to us just a day after we'd removed a tooth." The major added that Tech. Sgt. Pamela Wilson, his dental technician, "was invaluable to oral surgical services provided."

The logistical and climate challenges in the Central American location north of Honduras were substantial according to the Sergeants Justice and Heller, neither of whom had deployed on a humanitarian effort like this before. "It poured down rain the first day and the temperatures and humidity were both high for the duration,"

Sergeant Heller said. The chicken, rice and beans combination for breakfast, lunch and dinner daily were yet another reminder of how different things can be abroad.

The welcome the Academy team received and the opportunity to serve more than made up for the climate and menu monotony.

"There were fliers posted and television notices announcing our arrival ... everywhere we went, people knew we were the Americans who'd come to help," the sergeants said.

The publicity and the response led to some unanticipated relationships.

"Lifelong friendships that were made include an 11-year-old girl I'm corresponding with, one of nine children," Sergeant Justice said. "She served as our interpreter at times and bonded with Amy quite well," Sergeant Heller chimed in.

The entire Academy team gets kudos from the 'Big Ticket' oral surgeon.

"Our team did incredible work and every member was equally valuable to our overall mission. "I think all wish we could have done more, because there is such a need down there," Major Kincaid concluded.

Under the leadership of Lt. Col. Charles Webb, the Academy team consisted of: himself, a pediatrician; Lt. Col. Todd Kobayashi, a dermatologist; Major Kincaid, an oral surgeon; Maj. Jessica Horne, an ER physician; Capt. Kerry Phelan, an optometrist; Maj. Steven Whitmarsh, a family physician; Maj. Shannen Wright, a GYN nurse; Tech. Sgt. Pamela Wilson, Staff Sgt. Megan Rodriguez and Staff Sgt. Brandon Mosher, one each dental, pharmacy and optometry technicians respectively, Sergeant Justice, a medical administrator; and, Sergeant Heller a medical technician.

With the Academy team back on the home turf following the May 3-18 deployment, a similar medical team from Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., has picked up in providing treatment in additional Belize villages furthering the U.S. Air Force humanitarian efforts there.



Maj. Brent Kincaid, a.k.a. BIG TICKET, and TSgt Pamela Wilson, both from the 10th Dental Squadron, extract teeth during a MEDRETE deployment to Belize.

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Academy fire sparks increased awareness

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

A half-acre brush fire Saturday in Jacks Valley should serve as a stern reminder to those who live, work and play on the Academy that they need to be extra cautious about fire safety.

Under ripe conditions, a single spark can ultimately result in a massive fire.

The Front Range has been under numerous red-flag warnings already this year. Such warnings indicate a combination of high winds, warm temperatures and low humidity could set the stage for an explosive, erratic fire that is very hard to fight.

Appropriately, Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter, Jr., has declared next week Colorado Lightning Safety & Wildfire Awareness Week.

More than six million acres of forest land in Colorado is at high risk for catastrophic wild fires, and four out of five fires are caused by negligent human behavior such as smoking in dry, vulnerable areas and improperly extinguishing campfires.

May was very dry on the Academy. Measurable precipitation sank to .53 inches, well below the 1.9-inch average drawn from recorded numbers since the 1970s.

Academy deputy fire chief Ken Helgerson said the Academy has had incidents of unreported and unattended fires



Photo by Dave Armer

Firefighters work to extinguish the half-acre burn in Jacks Valley, Saturday.

this year, including open fires set by hikers in the western hills above the Academy.

"They should be reported even if they are already extinguished," he said. "Early reporting saves in wildfire situations."

Ashes can stay hot for two days, and unobservable fires can grow underground beneath them. Because of the steep terrain and available fuel, a fire on the Academy's western boundary could easily spread to Rampart Reservoir and even to Woodland Park.

Although no open fires of any kind are allowed on the Academy, outdoor chefs also need to be cautious.

"Charcoal will really travel," Chief Helgerson said and urged cooks to use a "cold out" technique, a fire fighter phrase which requires putting a hand into the extinguished fire before leaving the area. If it feels hot to the touch, it isn't entirely out.

Never throw charcoal into dumpsters.

"Even though we have had elevated fire danger levels, we've been very fortunate in the last month," said Academy forester Diane Strohm.

She pointed out this year's Colorado fire danger is below that of the high-fire

years of 2000 and 2002, the year of the Hayman fire.

But she is still cautionary.

"Even without restrictions, people should exercise common sense when camping, hiking or smoking," she said.

Ms. Strohm explained a wildfire needs a "fire triangle" of topography, wind and low moisture.

Steep slopes contribute to ripe fire conditions because as the fire moves up, it pre-heats the area in front of it.

High winds can result in tree crown fires, which travel quickly from tree to tree, causing rapid devastation.

Low humidity dries out low-lying fuel on the ground.

The Academy's Department of Natural Resources has intensified its fire mitigation efforts this year.

The department is calling for about 130 acres of gambol oak to be cut along roadsides, Academy boundaries and oak-covered ridges. That is double the number of acres of the last four or five years.

Gambol oak is particularly sensitive to fire because it is vulnerable to the killing oak borer beetle and serves as "ladder" fuel to fires moving upward into trees.

Fire mitigation this year also includes thinning 150 acres of forest, cutting low conifer limbs and taking out trees that are dead, damaged or infested with the Ponderosa mountain beetle.

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Summer seminar not a high schooler's vacation

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

You'll see them in areas that are normally cadet turf.

Of 2,060 applicants for the Academy's Summer Seminars only 825 were selected. Students are selected based on grade point average and SAT/ACT or PSAT scores.

It was not harsh as the first days of candidate arrivals, but if any of the high school seniors, 16 to 18 year-old students, came here for a vacation they came to the wrong place.

"The students have 'Doolie for a Day' on the day before they depart," said 2nd Lt. Gregory Roberts, admissions adviser for Region 2 and a 2007 Academy graduate. "This shows them what cadets go through. They have to run the marble strips on the terrazzo, eat their meals at attention, and are even woken up basic style to strenuous physical training throughout the day."

Summer Seminar is a unique opportunity to see a realistic picture of what cadet life is about. At the end of the week, they have a very clear understanding of the commitment necessary to attend the Academy and to become an Air Force officer.

Each student spends a week immersed in cadet life. Each is assigned to an element with an upper class cadet

as element leader. The cadet is with them almost 24 hours a day as mentor and guide.

They go to classes taught by the same faculty who instruct cadets. The 30-plus workshops range from aeronautics to humanities. They live in cadet dormitories and eat at Mitchell Hall. They participate in a variety of physical fitness activities from morning PT to a practice Candidate Fitness Assessment.

"The students are given a taste of every major, 32 in all, at the Academy to provide a better overview of the Academies scholastic opportunities," said the lieutenant from Tallahassee, Fla.

Students are restricted to the cadet area while in the program, but on the day of their arrival they are given the opportunity to hike to Stanley Canyon. The hike seems especially popular among this summer's students.

Students take the Candidate Fitness Assessment during one of the afternoons. They participate for two days in dodge ball and football intramurals.

For many, Summer Camp means some fast adjustments.

"There's the altitude, the amount of physical training and the general decorum that we ask them to comply with like hats off inside, retreat formations and the general common 'sirs and



Courtesy Photo

Physical fitness gets plenty of emphasis during the Summer Seminar.

ma'am's' courtesies to officers," Lieutenant Roberts said.

Students participate in a Saturday A.M. Inspection to get a taste of how clean they are required to keep their rooms during their cadet career formations.

Weather permitting, students march to lunch daily.

Yes, march.

Cadets line up to form the first rank

of the flights and students try their best to march in step behind them.

"They are extremely motivated," said Lieutenant Roberts. "During their Doolie for a Day experience students can be seen chanting their element rally cry and encouraging others to persevere through this physically and mentally challenging experience."


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Secretary Wynne speaks at cyber symposium

By Monica D. Morales
66th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

MARLBOROUGH, Mass. (AFPN) — While the Air Force has made great strides in cyberspace during the last three years, it remains an arena that will require the continued efforts and innovation of all Airmen and warfighters, said Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne to attendees at the second Air Force Cyberspace Symposium Wednesday.

“Now it is up to you to determine if this mission succeeds or fails,” he said. “We need to build (cyber) confidence and capabilities just as we would in any other domain.”

The secretary’s speech was the opening key-note address in the three-day conference themed ‘Equipping the Cyber Warrior to Fight in Cyberspace.’ The symposium, co-sponsored by Electronic Systems Center, Air Force Cyberspace Command (Provisional) and the Paul Revere Chapter of the Air Force Association, focuses on the Air Force’s efforts to develop offensive and defensive cyberspace capabilities.

There’s little question that the American face of war is changing because of cyberspace, Secretary Wynne said, and its effects are far reaching. The combination of new technology investments and organizing constructs across a netcentric operation, for example, have resulted from cyberspace’s re-defining relationships with coalition partners.

And while the concept of cyberspace has, at times, met a reluctant defense establishment, the secretary said that continued work and the symposium itself represented a historic shift in how cyberspace is viewed.

“Frankly, these efforts are about to bear tremendous fruit,” Secretary Wynne said.



Photo by Rick Berry

Secretary of the Air Force Michael Wynne addresses the Air Force’s second Cyberspace Symposium in Marlborough, Mass., Wednesday.

This is reflected in Air Force Cyberspace Command publishing its strategic vision in March and the completion of its concept of operations. Similarly, the first versions of cyber doctrine have now been written, and cyber capabilities have now been incorporated into Air Force exercises.

With the structuring of the provisional Air Force Cyberspace Command underway, the secretary said that a number of important points must be considered. Foremost among them is ensuring that innovation

keeps pace with the rapid changes of cyber technology.

“As you go about the matter of structuring the organization and culture of this new command, keep in mind that innovation has to be the top goal,” Secretary Wynne said. “Your organization has to be incredibly agile, more agile than any existing organization in the Department of Defense.”

The secretary also said that Airmen’s strong partnerships with industry will be important in forging new cyber capabilities. It’s also an area, he said, that will require the focus of the total force to include the Guard and Reserve, and, taken a step further, an operating environment free of stovepipes that reaches across the government and the coalition.

He added that his hopes are to see a command in which Airmen are “thought of as premier providers of cyber war capabilities across the joint force and agencies” and whose work would allow joint force component commanders to fully integrate the service’s cyber capabilities into the joint and coalition force.

“We must start on the road that allows us to organize, train and equip our cyber forces as robustly as our air and space forces. ... When we are done, no adversary will be able to engage the United States in cyberspace with any expectation of victory,” he said.

And while the utility of cyberspace may not have initially been clear to commanders, he said, there’s little question now of how these capabilities can vastly improve the ability to fight and win wars.

“Fortunately we live in the greatest country on earth, a country that has surprised the world with its willingness to change and innovate,” Secretary Wynne said. “It is my firm conviction that with your help, they will come to see the immense importance of cyberspace. You all are the leading edge.”

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AU reflects on enlisted degree program success

By Carl Bergquist
Air University Public Affairs

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. (AFPN) — It's been a year since the Community College of the Air Force launched the Air University Associate-to-Baccalaureate Cooperative program for enlisted Airmen and Air Force officials are pleased with the program's results thus far.

When the program started June 15, 2007, Air University officials determined AU-ABC would be successful if 1,000 students enrolled during the first year. To their surprise, more than four times the Airmen have participated in the inaugural year.

"More than 4,000 students have taken advantage of CCAF's '12 steps to becoming a junior' via the AU-ABC, where, in a matter of minutes, they can go from CCAF graduate to college junior," said CCAF Commandant Lt. Col. Ray Staats. "We keep close track of new student enrollments and course

registration data. Our data tells us that not only is the program continuing to attract new students, but also existing students are staying with AU-ABC and are enrolling in additional courses toward completing their degrees."

Another success has been the fact that CCAF officials have essentially doubled the number of bachelor's degrees offered by the colleges and universities involved in the program from 71 to 140. Every enlisted member is enrolled in the CCAF associate-degree program upon finishing Basic Military Training, making every enlisted Airman either a CCAF student or graduate.

"The buzz throughout the Air Force has been really positive," Colonel Staats said. "Many Airmen have approached me saying how exceptional the AU-ABC experience has been for them." The colonel said the only feedback the program has received that could be even remotely construed as negative always involves the questions: "How do you top this? What will CCAF offer next?"

The colonel hinted that CCAF is working on yet another education initiative along those lines.

"With more than 326,000 students, we are the world's largest community college," he said.

CCAF expects more than 18,000 to graduate this year alone. And, many are not only seeking an associate degree, but are aiming toward an eventual bachelor's degree.

As for the AU-ABC's 32 college and university partners, Colonel Staats said they are very happy with the relationship. Partnering schools are attracting the Air Force's high-quality, adult-learning students, while Air Force students are getting a more streamlined, career-focused education.

"Many of our partner schools have really wrapped their arms around the AU-ABC program and are taking off with it," he said.

The colonel said that many older Air Force members will tell you higher education used to be an available benefit

Airman could take advantage of after they completed required training and duties. Today, however, advanced education is now embedded in the Air Force culture, and Airmen are setting higher educational goals for themselves. He said it is encouraging that today's Airmen see education more and more as a life-long endeavor.

More AU-ABC information is available on the Air Force Virtual Education Center homepage on the Air Force Portal.

College and university homepages are also linked to the AU-ABC page and can be brought up to familiarize the student with any of the participating schools. All information about admissions, enrollment and other program information is also available on the site.

CCAF was established in 1972 and is open to active-duty, National Guard and Reserve members. The college offers enlisted Airmen associate in applied science degrees and other academic credentials.

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For more information on Team DenMar services, call Jim Wicker at: 333-3381.

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



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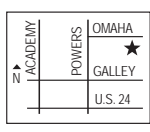
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Combat Survival Training begins

By Academy Spirit Staff

Cadets at Saylor Park (near Woodland Park) constructed shelters to live in Tuesday as part of the 20-day Combat Survival Training program.

The intent is twofold: first is to train 660 cadets in combat survival principles; second, to turn those graduates into cadet instructors enabling them to exercise their leadership skills while supporting the CST Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape specialists as survival, evasion and base training instructor cadre. One hundred and twenty rising second class cadets serve as both students and cadre this summer.

Academy and Air Force leaders recognize this training is valuable for all Airmen, regardless of future career fields. The Academy program fits into



Photos by Mike Kaplan

Academy cadets hit the dusty trail in Saylor Park during Combat Survival Training.

an Air Force plan to better prepare all Airmen to survive and operate globally within challenging environments.

“Offering the course first period required one combat rescue officer and 44 SERE specialists from all over the world,” said Lt. Col. Timothy McCaffery Chief, Training Division, Commandant of Cadets. “These NCOs trained the initial cadet instructors for future periods and years. This is the first time that AETC has run the course. Starting in

2009, the focus will be on training rising C3Cs.”

The intent this summer is to train the trainer for 2009 and beyond. Historically, approximately 630 cadet cadre (210 per period) are needed to conduct the program, led by a small contingent of active duty SERE specialists. In future years, the Academy program will also incorporate Conduct After Capture training, instructed exclusively by SERE specialists and U.S. Air Force Survival School personnel.

This year, CST will train cadets to

employ selected survival and evasion tactics, techniques and procedures using academic, laboratory and operational field training environments.

The living is rustic.

When they take on instructor roles, cadets will sleep in tents near their students’ camps. Students do not sleep in tents—they construct shelters.

Cadets must operate with a high degree of proficiency in an isolated, austere environment with nighttime temperatures dropping to near 20 degrees, with minimal support or equipment. They are tired and hungry while they execute the training tasks and navigate throughout the training area.

Jacks Valley it is not.

“This is very different,” Colonel McCaffery said. “Jacks Valley training during Basic Cadet Training and Global Engagement is focused on the environment found at a bare base. CST is focused on surviving in more austere environments, including hostile territory.”

Left: Setting up and tearing down shelter in rough terrain involves teamwork.



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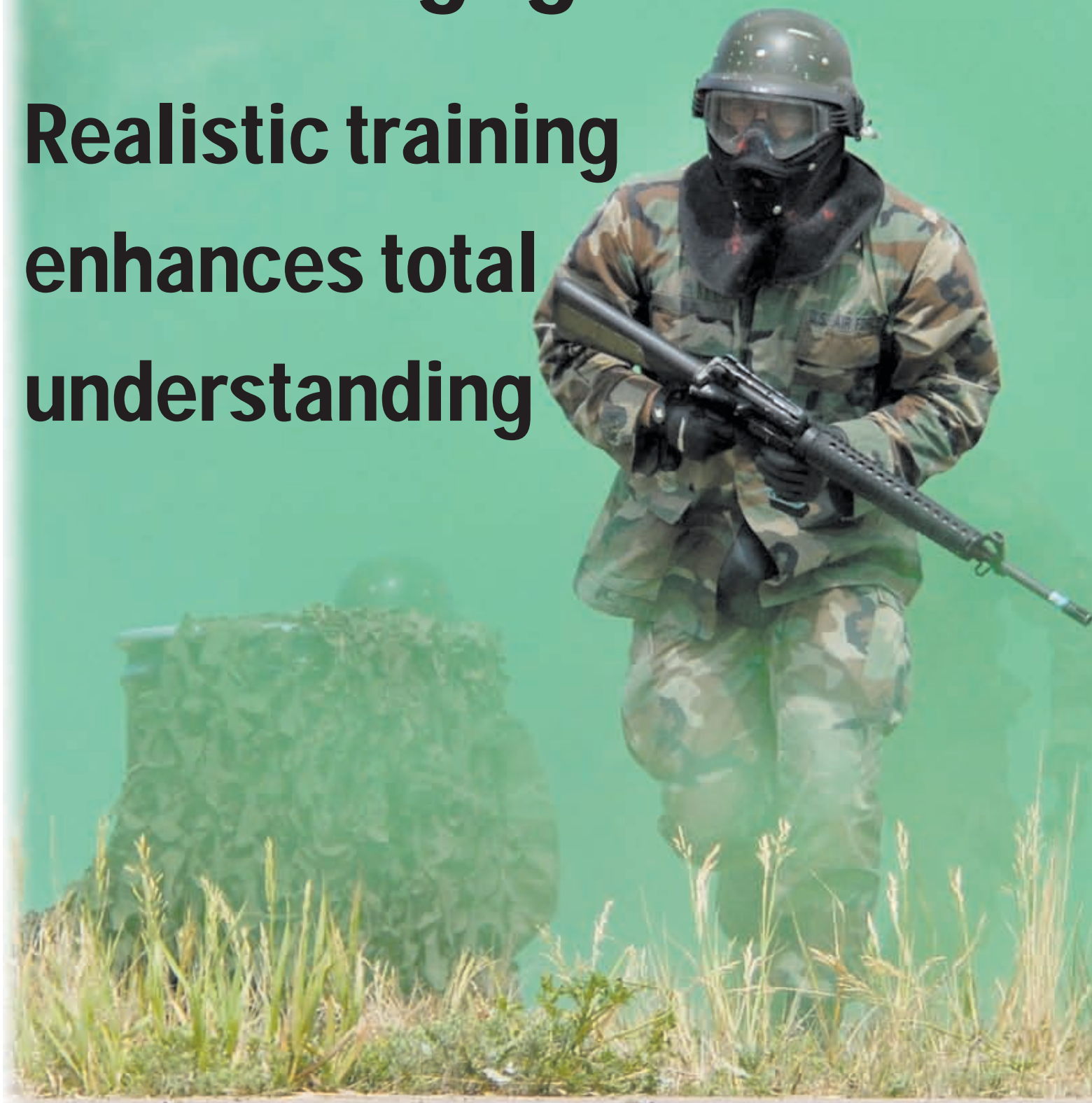
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Global Engagement readies Airmen for future

Realistic training enhances total understanding



By Ken Carter
Editor

By summer's end, 30 subject matter experts from all over the United States will have led some 1,200 Academy cadets through some intensive training getting them globally engaged in the dynamics of bare-base deployments.

The advantage to future Academy graduates in completing the course is that it gives each, including many future pilots, a clearer understanding of all involved in running a successful operation built from the ground up.

According to Global Engagement Superintendent Master Sgt. Allen Chapman the program's goal is: "To provide cadets a realistic training environment of a deployed bare base."

"We bring in 30 subject matter experts from all directions to lead the cadets through current and complete scenarios," Sergeant Chapman said. "About 95 percent of the cadets are rising 3-degrees, there are a few 2-degrees and even Firsties who come through as the course is a graduation requirement."

The course curriculum is divided into four areas of expertise: services, security forces, civil engineering; and emergency management, formerly know as Air Base Operations and Disaster Preparedness.

The 71-day summer schedule in progress includes six sessions with approximately 200 cadets, each learning from the experiences of subject matter experts.

"The course curriculum hasn't changed but the training environment has," the superintendent said. "With the situation in Iraq, now with the search and clear operations going on, there's

more emphasis on military operations in an urban environment."

The implementation of the recent \$80,000 Military Operations Urban Terrain unit has given the training wider application in creating life-like environments.

The MOUT (simulated village) can be reconfigured in many ways to most closely represent the scenarios as described by those who've recently been there, done that. "This is how we select the subject matter experts to conduct the training," Sergeant Chapman said. "It's to everyone's advantage to get the latest conditions we're up against and implement that knowledge into our training tactics."

Between the cost of the MOUT and a similar annual figure (\$80k) to get the subject matter experts here, the senior NCO says taxpayers are getting a great deal. "When you consider the value of the training being provided and the number of cadets receiving the training, that's money well spent," he said.

"The beauty of the MOUT Village is that it is not permanent and can be moved to any location needed via flatbed. Each can be changed for training purposes as the enemy tactics change to simulate actual situations," Sergeant Chapman said. "Global Engagement continues to be a "cradle-to-grave" deployment process program. It's working. Cadets have returned from deployment locations, different Air Bases, stating training received in GEE mirrors what they actually encountered through the deployment process.

"As for the subject matter experts, without a doubt, if not for TDY support from the bases, this great program could not run," Sergeant Chapman said.



Photo by David Ahlschwede

The Global Engagement assault team readies to enter the MOUT village in search of the enemy.



Photo by David Ahlschwede

Cadets practice apprehension techniques near the MOUT village.



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Gas, gas, gas! Rising 3-degree Justin Mitnaul has a new appreciation for the protection his mask provides.

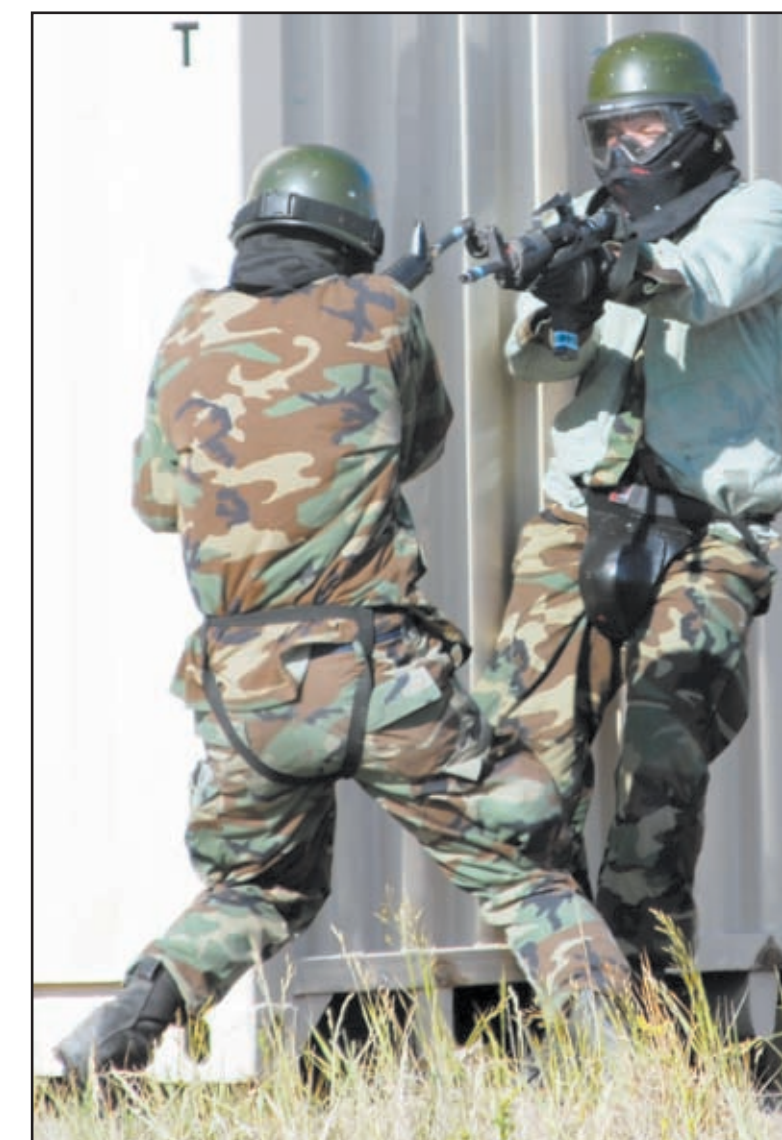


Photo by Mike Kaplan

A cadet, left, is on the offensive against would-be attackers.



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Cadets take cover during a simulated ground attack.

Iraq a 'life-changing' experience

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

One Academy officer describes his deployment to Iraq as a life-changing experience.

Lt. Col. Keith Boyer, Aeronautics Department deputy head, is deployed with the Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq's Directorate of Defense Affairs as the force managements chief.

"Of the approximately 150,000 troops in Iraq, MNSTC-I (pronounced Min-sticky) has about 1,500," said Colonel Boyer. "MMNSTC-I's mission is to generate and sustain Iraqi Security Forces, military and police, and develop ministerial performance; in essence, to work ourselves out of our jobs and help ensure the Iraqi ministries can sustain the gains."

For the first half of his tour, the officer from Utica, N.Y., was lead strategist and planner for the Coalition Air Force Training Team, currently about 330-Airmen strong, whose job is to build the Iraqi Air Force with focus on the counterinsurgency fight.

"Since the beginning of 2007, when we really started this in earnest, the number of Iraqi Air Force aircraft and airmen has nearly doubled. Currently there are more than 70 aircraft and 1,600 people.

Furthermore, the number of sorties has grown dramatically, from about 30 to more than 300 per week," Colonel Boyer said. "Long-term targets include in excess of 10,000 Iraqi airmen and over 300 aircraft. For three months, I also served as an advisor to Staff Lieutenant General



Kamal, the IqAF commander, meeting with him nearly daily to affect decisions and progress."

It's a contrast to being the Dean of Faculty's propulsion curriculum director and instructor/course director for the Academy's thermodynamics and propulsion course where he typically teams up with cadets on research projects.

"All of us in the International Zone have had close calls with indirect fire, some closer than others," said the force management chief. "The indirect fire generally has been sporadic in my 10 months here with the notable exception being the period from around Easter through April when the IZ was rocketed quite hard."

He had a 14-day air advisor training course in San Antonio that included special Opt briefings, basic language and culture training, combat lifesaver two-day course and lots of shooting and driving skills training before arriving in Iraq in August, 2007.

Since the first part of this year, his work has broadened to support the development of the Iraqi Army, Air Force, Navy, Joint Headquarters and the Ministry of Defense.

"My team of four and I coordinate requirements generation, capability development and prioritization against the MoD budget," he said.

Some aspects of his deployment have been pleasant.

"Like the working relationships and friendships with Iraqis and my



Courtesy Photo

U.S. Air Force Lt. Cols Keith Boyer, Paul "Bones" Broten and Dawn Werner "gear up" for Blackhawk intra-theater travel.

coalition brothers and sisters, uniformed and civilian, and dinner at SLTG Kamal's house," Colonel Boyer said. "I recall one coalition meeting when we were talking about Iraqi operations commands, a key component of their C2, and my mind started to wander a bit thinking how cool this was! It was a small meeting made up of a U.S. Air Force O-6 and myself, a U.S. Marine O-6, a U.S. Army O-5 and O-6, and a British Royal Commando O-6.

"And there was meeting my wife, Joyce, in Munich, Germany, after eight months apart and spending an incredible 15-day R&R visiting Bavaria and Venice. One of my fondest memories is the officer graduation ceremony I attended in December at Rustimiyah."

It was only the second graduating class since the school reopened.

"There were about 140 proud young men with their proud families packing the auditorium to standing room only with lot of cheers, hugging, crying, celebrating and dancing afterwards. Families took the floor to pin on shoulder boards of the newly-minted lieutenants."

But the hostilities are never far away.

"It's a helpless feeling, especially being awoken early morning, slapping on body armor and helmet and lying prone on the room floor," he said.

"Over here, working with the Iraqi people, one realizes the majority of them, at least the ones I have interfaced with, from four-star generals to building cleaning crews, are more like us than different. They want to be treated fairly and consistently and do not subscribe to extremism of any kind."

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Photos by Dave Armer

A drop in visit ...

Tuesday a U.S. Marine Corps AH-1 Cobra and a UH-1 Huey helicopter touched down on the Terrazzo over the noon hour. Above, a spotter ensures proper positioning for the Cobra pilot. Right, students in the area were eager to get a look inside the cockpit of the Cobra. The static displays presented an opportunity for aircraft lovers to see up close two of the most versatile military tools in use today.

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CAP cadets get healthy taste of military life

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Following their predecessors, 143 new cadets from the Colorado Wing of the Civil Air Patrol are hunkering down during the wing's annual encampment June 10 through Saturday.

"Cadets get a real appreciation of military life," said Cadet Capt. Stephanie Limelin, public affairs officer. "A lot think it's summer camp, but it's not."

Headquartered in the Preparatory School, the Colorado CAP wing encampment focused on giving raw recruits a very brief glimpse of the military and providing opportunities for leadership and management.

Adding in the cadet and adult staff, the total encampment numbered about 200 and participants came from Colorado, Arizona and Montana.

The new cadets attended classes on aerospace power and heritage and Air Force careers, trained on the leadership reaction course, worked out on the volleyball courts, throttled up in the Fairchild Hall simulators, took Academy tours and buckled down for the essentials—marching, saluting and inspections.

"They get a little bit of everything," said encampment commander Col. Phil Biersdorfer. "It's a full week."

He pointed out the encampment is part boot camp and part summer camp but tipped toward boot camp in emphasis.

Col. Rick Oakes of Aurora, Colo., said he hopes new cadets will also gain experience in military planning and taking responsibility for someone else, all he called "life skills needed later in life."

The discipline is "more than they're probably used to," he said, with properly made beds, clean rooms and responding with "Yes, sir," and "Yes, ma'am."



Photo by Ann Patton

CAP Cadets practice teamwork during exercises.

Maj. Erin Ashley said the training pays off, and she enjoys seeing them grow personally and professionally.

The Academy benefits from the cadets with the CAP as well. One current Academy cadet and a cadet appointee coming in for Basic Cadet Training came from a CAP background.

The Colorado CAP cadet squadrons meet once a week during the rest of the year and rotate training in a four-week cycle among studies in aerospace, physical training, moral leadership and special programs.

All CAP cadets are middle and high school students ranging in age from 12 to 18. With permission, cadets may extend to age 21.

Cadet Captain Limelin estimates Colorado has between 35 and 40 squadrons, composed of senior squadrons which concentrate on emergency services, cadet squadrons with senior cadets in command, and a composite of the other two. Cadet Col. Doug Crawford, cadet commander who headed up the encampment planning, is pleased with the new cadets' performance.

"I think they are just amazing," he said.

He has been a CAP cadet for six years and has found it more than worthwhile.

"It's all about giving back to future leaders," he said. "The encampment is the foundation."

Colonel Biersdorfer said the entire group of recruits was doing well.

"These young people are incredibly bright and motivated," he said. "It's a pleasure to work with them."

New cadets had varying reasons for joining the CAP.

"I wanted to serve my country and go to the Air Force Academy," said Cadet Airman Gabriel Christie, 16, a student at Arrupe Jesuit High School in Denver.

"Search and rescue and orientation rides," answered Cadet Airman Erik Behner, 15, a student at Doherty High School in Colorado Springs.

"I want to get ready for the military, to join the Marines or the Air Force," said Cadet Senior Airman Rachel Billings, 16, who attends Pike Canyon High School in Bailey, Colo.

Cadet Christie found the hardest part of the encampment was "being perfect," with such regulations as bed and room appearance.

"Marching with crutches," joked Cadet Behner, who is being treated for a leg ailment and performing duties on crutches.

Time management, "prioritizing things and getting them done," was the hardest for Cadet Billings.

The entire encampment wasn't gritty lessons to learn and hard work.

All three new CAP cadets said one of the best parts of the encampment was making new friends.

"And senior officers are a lot of fun once they stop yelling," Cadet Behner added.

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Retirees edge undefeated Medics

By Dave Castilla
Intramural sports director

Let the bragging rights begin!

The top two undefeated teams in the intramural softball program, the Retirees and Medical Group #1, battled as the time ran out Monday in the top of the sixth with the Retirees taking a close one, 21-18.

The game got underway about 30 minutes late due to a mandatory meeting called by the wing commander.

The Medics came to play scoring seven quick first-inning runs on six hits. Rob Harasimowicz' two-run single was the key hit in the inning.

The Retirees wasted little time scoring six runs as Mark Hartman, the leadoff hitter, hit a home run, followed by base hits by Joe Fuhrman and Ken Zito and culminated by a three-run home run by Chris Jakubin.

Tim Newman hit a solo home run and Tevita Mafi doubled in the last run of the inning.

The Retirees went ahead in the second inning never to lose the lead again scoring another six runs as Chris Jakubin tomahawked a high pitch over the left field fence for a grand slam followed later by Scott Koenig's two-run blast over the right center field fence. The

Medics tightened the score in the fifth inning when John Johnston hit a leadoff home run which was followed later by Dave Pagani's three-run shot.

In the bottom of the fifth, Scott Koenig's two-run single put the Retirees up, 21-13.

In the top of the sixth, Kevin Zelasko's two-run homer over the centerfield fence and RBI's from Harasimowicz, Ed Trias and Mark McKenzie closed the gap, 21-18, but Retirees pitcher Wade Dolbow caught the final out ending the game.

Coach Dolbow, a former Med Group #1 player and coach, has tasted the championships for the last six years, and now has a chance to win on the Retiree team.

"We have players like Scott Koenig, Tim Newman, and Warren Greenwood who have not won the base championship here due to great Hospital teams; however, I feel they have a legitimate chance to become base champions," he said.

Hospital coach Zelasko said, "A few key errors and mental base running mistakes, not taking the extra base and challenging some of the outfielders' arms were some key reasons why we didn't come out on top. We have one more game with the Retires and we will try to correct the deviancies."



Photo by David Ahlschwede

Retiree's Tim Newman fields a ball Monday evening versus Med Group #1. His team holds bragging rights to being the only undefeated team this season.

Veterans' Home Run

By Jack Anthony
Veterans' Home Run Race Committee

The 2008 Veterans' Home Run - 3rd Tour 5K Run/1K Walk will be held at Air Academy High School at 7 a.m., June 28.

U.S. Paralympics, a division of the U.S. Olympic Committee, has partnered with the Pikes Peak Road Runners in presenting this patriotic fun run/walk to benefit the Colorado Veterans Resource Coalition's Crawford House.

The Pikes Peak Road Runners,

together with U.S. Paralympics, are promoting Paralympic-eligible athlete participation in Veterans' Home Run via a 5K wheelchair division. This is a first-ever event for Pikes Peak Road Runners and Colorado Springs.

The 2008 Paralympic Games will take place in Beijing, China, Sept. 6-17, approximately two weeks after the Olympic Games. The U.S. Paralympic Team will consist of 206 athletes with physical disabilities from all across the U.S.

Wheelchair racing is an extremely

competitive sport. The Pikes Peak Road Runners and U.S. Paralympics seek to boost awareness and showcase these athletes.

The Pikes Peak Road Runners web site (www.pprun.org) has all the information needed to learn more about the Veterans' Home Run and to register. All three Colorado Springs running specialty stores have registration forms, as well as military base fitness centers. There will be race day registration from 6 to 7 am. Registration is \$20 for non-military and \$15 for active-duty members and veterans. Registration fees go directly to the Crawford House. Participants will receive Veterans' Home

Run commemorative T-shirts.

The Crawford House is located in downtown Colorado Springs and is a non-profit organization that serves the homeless military veterans of southern Colorado Springs.

The Crawford House provides a structured living environment for veterans undergoing treatment for drug and alcohol challenges and helps assist them in again becoming productive citizens. Veterans' Home Run sponsors include The Rotary Club of Colorado Springs and Jack Quinn's Restaurant.

Call Jim Beckenhaupt at:(719) 636-2696 or Jack Anthony at:(719) 205-1741 for more.



Photo by Rachel Boettcher

Floored

Team USA member Stacy Sykora makes a dig during an Olympic Exhibition match between top-ranked Brazil and fourth-ranked Team USA at Clune Arena Saturday. Brazil defeated Team USA four games to one during preparations for the upcoming Olympic Games.

Reynolds scores five-year contract

The Air Force Academy and men's basketball Head Coach Jeff Reynolds have agreed on a new five-year contract that runs through the 2012-13 season, according to an announcement

Wednesday from Director of Athletics Dr. Hans Mueh.

Details of the contract are still being worked out and are going through the Academy process.

Reynolds, who was promoted to head coach April 17, 2007, completed his first season

at Air Force with a 16-14 overall record. He guided the Falcons to a fifth-place finish in the Mountain West Conference after being picked eighth in the preseason poll by conference coaches and media, the greatest margin between prediction and actual finish in the MWC

last season.

Reynolds, who enters the '08-09 campaign with a 98-48 career record in five seasons, coached one of the best players in program history, Tim Anderson, who was named the Mountain West Conference Defensive Player of the Year and

second-team all-conference after leading the team in scoring and the MWC in steals.

Last season, Reynolds became the first head coach in school history to win his first three games at Air Force and the fourth to post a winning season in his first campaign.





Cadet Area construction

Construction is underway on Vandenberg Drive which will cause road closures and impact parking in the Cadet Area until its completion in early to mid August. During this time, drivers are asked to follow all warning signs and cooperate with restrictions needed to make improvements to the roads and parking areas. Obey all traffic and warning signs and only park in appropriate spaces. 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. People are highly encouraged to use the shuttle service set up to alleviate parking challenges during the construction period. Shuttle buses will pick up and



CADET CHAPEL

Catholic Masses:

Sunday

Reconciliation 9:15 - 9:45 a.m.
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.
Contemporary - 10 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.

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.

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

AFRF offers options

The Airman & Family Readiness Flight presents:

-Transition Assistance Program Seminar; Tuesday through June 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.

Rodeo volunteers needed

The 68th Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo "Break from the Heard" is upon us again. This event contributes its proceeds towards outstanding programs and services benefiting local military personnel and their families. Since World War II, every performance of the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo has been dedicated to the men and women of America's Armed Forces to thank them for their services.

In order to make this event as successful as the past rodeos volunteers are needed to help July 12 from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Academy volunteers will serve as security, ticket takers and ushers. To volunteer please contact your respective representative:

-USAFA - Master Sgt. Jeremy Rennahan,
Jeremy.rennahan@usafa.af.mil or 333-5645

-USAFA - Master Sgt. Steven Yoder,
Steven.yoder@usafa.edu or 333-2132

-DRU - Master Sgt. David Gobin,
David.gobin@usafa.af.mil or 333-1755

-10 ABW - Master Sgt. Terry Best-Rennahan, terry.best-rennahan@usafa.af.mil or 333-7959

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 men's and women's 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.



Farmers Market Opens

The Western Museum of Marketing and Industry's offers a Farmers Market in front of the museum's Reynolds Farmhouse. The market is open 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. For more, call the museum at 488-0880.

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.

Senior Open Military Day

The 2008 U.S. Senior Open and the U.S. Golf Association Grants and Fellowship Department will honor the large contingent of military in Colorado by hosting Military Family Day July 30. All military personnel (active and retired) with proper identification will receive free admission, a voucher for a free lunch and a discount in the merchandise tent for themselves and their families. Those with valid military identification are also eligible for discounted practice round and championship round tickets. Ticket prices range from \$17 to \$39 for daily tickets. Discounted week-long packages are also available. Military tickets must be purchased at the Championship Office, located at 6 Lake Ave. Those purchased in advance of the championship can be given to non-military friends and family; however, only one ticket can be purchased per military ID at the admission gate. For more information, visit the tickets page at: www.2008ussenioropen.com or call the Championship Office at (719)471-6488.



Summer Fire Safety Tips

from USAFA Fire & Emergency Services

During the summer, especially around the Fourth of July, the number of children playing with fire dramatically increases. The consequences of just one fire play incident can be devastating to a family. In addition to burn injury, loss of life, and property damage, families can be held financially and legally responsible.

Keep your child and family safe with these precautions:

- 🔥 Put matches, lighters, and ignition devices in a safe, secure place. Treat these items as you would a dangerous weapon.
- 🔥 Set clear rules and expectations about their access to matches and fire play.
- 🔥 Talk about peer pressure and what your child should do if they are around other kids who are playing with fire. Teach them to leave the situation and report it to an adult.
- 🔥 Talk about the consequences of fire property damage, injury, and loss of life.
- 🔥 Practice fire safety in your home. Install and maintain smoke detectors and develop and practice a home escape plan.
- 🔥 Remember early identification and intervention is critical.



Have a Happy and Fire-Safe Summer!