

**DR. ADIS VILA**

Q & A: Chief diversity officer answers our questions. **Page 3**

**GLIDER PROGRAM**

Glider aero competition teaches cadets to soar. **Page 7**

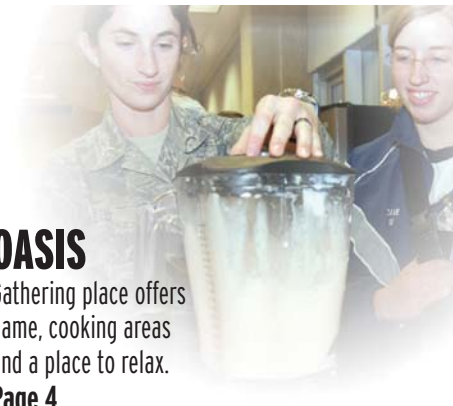
**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

Falcons win against Cowboys 71-52. **Page 10**

# ACADEMY SPIRIT

**OASIS**

Gathering place offers game, cooking areas and a place to relax. **Page 4**



## Academy Band opens doors



Chie Imaizumi, right, conducts during a rehearsal of her musical piece, "Opening New Doors." It is the first piece Ms. Imaizumi, a native of Saitama, Japan, has composed for an orchestral band. **For story and more photos see pages 8-9.**

STAFF SGT.  
DON BRANUM

## Cadets LIFT spirits of Army families

Program promotes learning through leadership combined with a day of fun

By Staff Sgt. Raymond Hoy  
Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Academy cadets invited family members of deployed Soldiers from Fort Carson to a day of fun Saturday at the Cadet Field House here.

More than 100 family members were greeted by 75 cadets as they enjoyed movies, face painting, inflatable obstacle courses and ice skating. The field day was the brainchild of the cadets and was a part of the Leaders in Flight Today, or LIFT, program.

"It's one of the programs we have to go through here," said Cadet 2nd Class Delaney Kiernan, one of the cadets in charge of the event. "Cadets have to go through similar programs each year and they kind of build on one another. It's all about learning how to be a leader."

This particular program gave the cadets the opportunity to learn how to be leaders of a different sort.

"It's important for us to realize that there are other ways to be a leader," said Cadet 2nd Class Colin Swanson, another event organizer. "We need to know that we aren't just in charge of our people on the battlefield, we need to take care of our people at home as well."

"I think we're here so often and put so much into this school, that it's good to get a look at scope out into the real world and understand that we're not the only ones going through something tough," Cadet Kiernan added.

And while the cadets got a good learning experience, the families got a fun break away from what can be a very monotonous time while mom or dad is away.

"Knowing that we could come here

See LIFT Page 5

## F-15 pilot, '04 grad receives Jabara Award

By Steve Simon  
Academy Development and Alumni Programs

An F-15 pilot at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., and 2004 Air Force Academy graduate was selected Tuesday to receive the 2011 Col. James Jabara Award for Airmanship.

Capt. Michal Polidor distinguished himself through heroic actions during an Operation Enduring Freedom sortie supporting American and Afghan ground forces while deployed to Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, in 2009.

"I'm tremendously honored to receive this award from the Jabara Family, the Association of Graduates and the Air Force Academy," Captain Polidor said.

Captain Polidor was the flight lead of an F-15E Strike Eagle two-ship tasked to support Coalition Observation Post Keating in the Nuristan province of Afghanistan Oct. 3, 2009.

See JABARA Page 5



SENIOR AIRMAN FELICIA JUENKE

Capt. Michal Polidor stands next to his F-15 Eagle while deployed to Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, in November 2009. Captain Polidor is a 2004 Air Force Academy grad.

# From diversity to inclusion in 10 months

By Col. Bart Weiss  
Academy Preparatory School commander

In the November/December 2009 issue of "Profiles in Diversity Journal," Shinder Dhillon writes, "(Diversity) is about getting the right mix of people, with the right mix of skills and competencies." That has been my vision as a commander at every opportunity I've had to command in the Air Force, and it is my vision for the Air Force Academy Preparatory School.

Our diversity grows from our population of cadet candidates with prior service in the Air Force as well as cadet candidates who come here directly after graduating from high school.

Some of the cadet candidates have deployed. Some may know brothers or sisters in arms who never came home. Our prior-service cadet candidates are usually among the first to step into leadership positions and we capitalize on their experience to develop high school graduates into leaders.

Cadet candidates who come directly from high school may not have the experiences of those with prior service, but they too have leadership potential. Anyone who positively stands out, regardless of his or her age or background, will receive recognition and opportunities to achieve greater goals in the service of the Academy and Country.

While our population encompasses a wide variety of age and experience levels, they all share a common ground: they all need a little work academically to get them ready for four years at the Academy. The Prep School lifts all participants academically and makes sure those who come from weaker schools or who have been away from academics while deployed are prepared for the rigors of an Academy education.

Part of the reason we conduct basic military training



Col. Bart Weiss

Americans, football players, basketball players. But because we focus on the concept of brothers and sisters in arms, the dynamic changes within a few months from sitting together based on similarities to sitting together based on shared interests.

These shared interests rapidly evolve into forged bonds that transcend ethnic and cultural barriers and make the Prep School an inclusive environment.

At the end of their 10-month stay, our class no longer consists of high school graduates, recruited athletes or prior-enlisted Airmen. Instead, they are one team, one class of cadet candidates — "Preppies." The inclusion bridge is gapped, measured and seamed within the 10-month timeframe, to begin anew during Basic Cadet Training at the Academy.

*Col. Bartholomew "Bart" Weiss is the commander of the Air Force Academy Preparatory School in Colorado Springs, Colo. He is a 1986 graduate of the Air Force Academy and a native of Muskegon, Mich. He holds a Master of Science degree in strategic studies from the Army War College and a Bachelor of Science degree in financial management from the Academy.*

at the Prep School is to build relationships and esprit de corps among the 240 cadet candidates who attend each year. Basic training brings the cadet candidates together as a class by forcing them to depend on one another.

At the start of the academic year, when cadet candidates no longer have to sit with their flights, they tend to gravitate towards the groups of candidates with whom they most identify: African-Americans, Hispanic-

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

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Lt. Col. John Bryan — Director of Public Affairs  
Staff Sgt. Don Branum — NCO in Charge, Internal Information  
Staff Sgt. Raymond Hoy — Editor  
David Edwards — Staff Writer  
Carol Lawrence — Graphic Designer

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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.

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## "Where were you when the Challenger exploded?"

"I was at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., working as a missileer, watching it on TV."

Lt. Col. John Donovan,  
Department of History



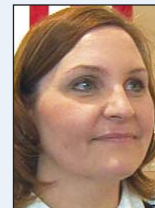
"I was in the fifth grade living in Germany, and I ended up writing a science report on the explosion while I watched it unfold."

Tech. Sgt. Mike Anderson,  
Center for Character & Leadership Development



"I was home sick that morning from school and watched it from my couch."

Stacy Villanueva,  
Cadet Wing Media



"I was a junior in high school and in class when it happened."

Master Sgt. Tammy Steiner,  
Cadet Flight Medicine Clinic



# Q&A: Dr. Adis Vila, chief diversity officer

By Staff Sgts. Raymond Hoy and Don Branum  
Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Dr. Adis Vila is the Air Force Academy's first chief diversity officer. As the CDO, her role is to build on the Academy's existing efforts to make the institution more inclusive and to ensure that future officers have a comprehensive understanding of the diverse world in which they will serve.

Dr. Vila's previous experience includes careers as a professor at Rollins College in Winter Park, Fla., vice president for regulatory policy and government affairs for Nortel Networks, assistant secretary of management for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, policy roles at the Commerce and State departments and a White House Fellow.

She is a native of Cuba and speaks five languages: Spanish, English, French, Portuguese and German.

**Q:** This is your first foray into the military, right?

**A:** It is.

**Q:** How's that been?

**A:** You can see I've got the haircut now, and I'm signed up for water aerobics twice a week so I can get more fit and enjoy some of the good qualities of the military.

But all kidding aside, the transition



Dr. Adis Vila

has been quite smooth for me, in large part because of the openness of our workforce. People have received me with open arms. They have been very gracious, sharing their expertise and their time. I've gone through about 25 immersion briefings, so little by little I'm getting to know the organization and its many contributors.

But it's also my responsibility. This includes making myself accessible by walking around, getting to know people at every level of the organization. And I've begun to do that as my schedule has allowed. I've made sure that I've been out to the Community Center Chapel for worship services, and that I've gone to the Fitness Cen-

ter to work out and see folks, and attended a men's basketball game. And then today we had a very special Martin Luther King service, and I was sure to be there early so I could say hello to folks who came to that.

I think being accessible is key. If you're the newbie, as I am, I must make sure to reach out to Cadets and colleagues.

**Q:** Let's talk about diversity in the military. How important is it?

**A:** Some of your colleagues may look at problems or issues in a different way; they might ask different kinds of questions. Of course, that is true not just with race and ethnicity as variants, but it's also true with functional responsibilities. If you are trained as a lawyer, you look at issues in one way; if you are trained as a sociologist, you look at the issue in a very different way.

That's why the definition of diversity in the Air Force is so broad, because we believe that all of those different life experiences affect how any of us might approach a problem. The world is changing so fast that, as hard as we might try, we cannot predict the situations that a graduating cadet will face over a 20- or 30-year lifetime of service. So our greatest contribution is to share experiences or conditions in which we might place cadets so that, when they are placed in those very diverse situations, they can grab

from these goodie bags of experiences that they've had at the Academy and say, "A-ha! This is how these different experiences can help me."

**Q:** What are the biggest challenges in an institution like the Air Force Academy, where you're not only an educational facility but also a military installation?

**A:** A lot of people believe that diversity is about lowering standards so that we can let some of these "different" kinds of people in, but it's not. It's really about ensuring that we reach out to folks using my experience in different organizational settings and helping people find new ways to look at different challenges: something as simple as suggesting journals that serve our recruitment needs so that ... we get a variety of folks applying. An inclusive workplace builds on the diversity of thought that different people bring to the table.

A second place where I think it is challenging — and where I hope I can play a role — is that we require services from outside experts. I would like to see us support the Colorado Springs and greater Colorado communities by making sure minority-owned and women-owned businesses feel comfortable coming to the table and competing for contracts. I think that will send an important signal about our commitment to inclusivity.

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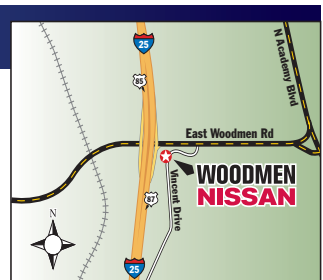


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# Oasis offers refuge from Academy life

By Staff Sgt. Don Branum  
Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Cadets can always use a place to get away from the breakneck pace of academics, athletics and military training. The chaplains have such a place: the Oasis, situated on the Terrazzo level of Sijan Hall, where cadets can come together to hang out, cook or even study for a few hours a night.

Painted above the doors between the Oasis and the chaplains' offices are the words, "May all who enter as guests leave as friends." Round tables sit between the lounge's north-facing windows, a coffee bar packed with syrups and mugs and a vending machine that produces coffee or hot chocolate on demand. A projector hangs from the ceiling on the opposite side of the room, and several X-Box 360 game consoles rest beneath large flat-panel TVs.

If that's not enough to keep cadets occupied, the room also holds a piano, a massage chair and a game table on which cadets can play chess, checkers or backgammon.

The one thing the Oasis hasn't had since it first opened in 2003 was a grand opening party. That will change come Monday, with a ribbon cutting at 5:30 p.m., followed by refreshments, cake, milkshakes, coffee and more.

"We'll have door prizes as well," said Chaplain (Capt.) Heather Bodwell,

who manages the Oasis project. "For instance, there's a door prize for the cadet with the most unique coffee drink, a prize for the highest Guitar Hero score and a prize for who can drink a milkshake the fastest."

Anywhere between 35 and 50 cadets visit the Oasis on any given night, said Chaplain (Capt.) Zebulon Beck, who recently turned over the Oasis project to Chaplain Bodwell.

"It's a home for cadets in the evening: someplace where they can relax and get to know one another," Chaplain Beck said.

Windfall money paid for much of the renovation, with about \$18,000 coming from appropriated fund grants, said Tech. Sgt. Aleric Hebert, the Chapel's NCO in charge of chapel funds. The Chaplain Tithes and Offerings Fund provided \$5,000 toward renovation and pays for the Oasis' operating costs.

Some planned renovations, such as wood floors for the part of the lounge that's currently tiled, won't take place until after the grand opening party, Chaplain Bodwell said. The chaplains will hold interfaith discussions, such as one that took place Wednesday night, once per month.

The Oasis is open weeknights from 7:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. The lights go out on the game consoles and TVs after Academic Call to Quarters at 7:50 p.m.



STAFF SGT. DON BRANUM

Cadets 3rd Class Heather Udell, left, and Christina Cave prepare a vanilla milkshake in the Air Force Academy's Oasis lounge Wednesday. The lounge's amenities include a coffee bar, game consoles, a massage chair and a piano. The Oasis, sponsored by the Academy chapel, allows cadets to take a break from the rigors of Academy life.

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PHOTOGRAPHY



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## LIFT

from PAGE 1

and have something fun to look forward to, that was a huge deal," said Janelle Ginsburg, wife of a Fort Carson chaplain. "Instead of sitting around on another Saturday looking at each other saying, 'What do you want to do? I don't know, what do you want to do?' Just being able to look forward to something fun to do was a big impetus for us to come."

Following the field activities, the families were treated to an Air Force Falcons basketball game by the Athletic Department.

This was the second LIFT program event this school year, and coordina-

tors and cadets would like to see it happen again.

"I thought the event went extremely well this weekend," said Lt. Col. Bryan Huntley, director of character and leadership development. "We definitely enjoy ourselves and we know the families definitely appreciate it. What made it especially meaningful was pairing a cadet to each family; the connection between the children and cadets was immediate. I received many comments from both cadets and parents saying how special this event was because of the direct interaction."



MIKE KAPLAN

Cadet 3rd Class Layne Harrod, left, and Cadet 2nd Class Chelsea Ragland, right, help Oakley Gardner build a balsa glider at the Leaders in Flight Today outing at the Cadet Field House. Oakley is the daughter of Army Staff Sgt. Erich Gardner, who is stationed at Fort Carson, Colo.

## JABARA

from PAGE 1

More than 80 Coalition soldiers were pinned down and taking fire from a well-orchestrated, 360-degree attack by 250 Taliban insurgents in the rugged Kamdesh Valley.

Once he arrived on station, Captain Polidor assessed the ground picture, which revealed multiple fighting positions, several insurgents inside the boundary and more than 90 percent of the post either on fire or destroyed.

He assumed the tactical control-airborne role, coordinating and integrating the efforts of six F-15 Es, four A-10 Thunderbolt IIs, two AH-64 Apaches, a B-1 Lancer and six other aircraft. In addition, he managed two in-flight emergencies when other F-15Es experienced mechanical failures and had to return to base.

However, he didn't just remain above the fray. During four different attacks, he dropped four bombs and executed a perfect 20mm strafe against a target in close proximity to friendly forces, effectively destroying multiple enemy fighting positions.

Captain Polidor continued to orchestrate incoming air assets even while refueling.

Once back on station, he safely managed another airborne emergency when another F-15E experienced a rapid cabin decompression and had to leave the fight.

In all, more than 30,000 pounds of ordnance and 170 rounds of strafe eventually eliminated enemy strong-

holds, saving 72 American and Afghan lives. Eight soldiers from Fort Carson's 4th Brigade Combat Team were killed in the battle, according to Associated Press reports.


Capt. Pritchard Keely, Captain Polidor's friend and classmate at the Academy and the 2010 Jabara Award winner, flew aboard a different F-15 in the same engagement.

"Without 'Ox' being overhead, there would have been significantly more casualties," Captain Keely said. "This was the first attack of its kind, and his quick thinking in the dynamic environment paid huge dividends for the forces on the ground."

Captain Polidor was one of 12 nominees for this year's Jabara Award among competitors from major commands, forward operating agencies and direct reporting units. Previous years' winners include Karl Richter and Steve Ritchie, astronaut Karol Bobko and Hudson River landing pilot Chesley Sullenberger.

"This year's competition was extremely tough, and you can be proud of your selection. It is a true testament of your exemplary performance and professionalism," Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Mike Gould wrote in his congratulatory letter to Captain Polidor.



Captain Polidor will be presented the 2011 Jabara Award May 6 during the noon meal at Mitchell Hall and will be feted with a dinner and award reception at Doolittle Hall later that evening.



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# AF, Army join forces on FalconSAT-3

By John Van Winkle  
Air Force Academy Public Affairs

The U.S. Military Academy joined the Air Force Academy's FalconSAT-3 operations team Jan. 21 with a new ground control station, kick-starting West Point's small-satellite program and potentially doubling the number of possible contacts with the satellite each day.

The idea of joint FalconSAT operations began during a deployment, explained Astronautics professor Bill Saylor, the Academy's Schriever chair and a 1972 West Point graduate.

Faculty from the Air Force Academy's Astronautics department and West Point's Physics Department were both deployed to the National Military Academy of Afghanistan, supporting the growth of that country's military academy. As the faculty members shared stories, they came up with the idea of working toward joint space operations between the two academies.

This milestone paves the way for future joint operations of research satellites and West Point's work on its Black Knight 1 Cubesat, Professor Saylor said.

With two geographically separated ground control stations, the teams can conduct more satellite contacts, explained retired Col. Jack Anthony, chief of operations for the Academy's

Small Satellite Research Center and a 1978 Academy graduate.

"From the Academy, we can get three to four passes per day due to orbital mechanics, but with West Point's ground station, we can get seven or maybe eight passes a day to communicate with FalconSAT-3," Mr. Anthony said.

Air Force Academy cadets were teleconferenced with West Point Jan. 21 and commanded FalconSAT-3 to broadcast a signal while the satellite passed over West Point. Cadets from West Point's Small Satellite Research Group and Ham Radio Club staffed the ground control station and received the signal.

The amateur radio club, which dates back to 1909, has already demonstrated the capability to monitor and track some satellites in orbit. That capability went up a notch after John Clark from the Air Force Academy's Department of Astronautics oversaw the installation of the FalconSAT-3 electronics suite in West Point's Bartlett Hall.

FalconSAT-3, launched March 8, 2007, is part of the Air Force Academy's two-satellite space fleet. This research satellite has several scientific experiment in its payload, including:

- **Flat Plasma Spectrometer:** characterizes the effects of non-Maxwellian charged particles on the formation, propagation and decay of iono-



U.S. ARMY

John Clark, left, trains U.S. Military Academy cadets on the new electronics suite that will allow them to contact the Air Force Academy's FalconSAT-3 satellite. Mr. Clark, who works for the Air Force Academy's Department of Astronautics, installed the suite in West Point's Bartlett Hall to allow cadets from both service academies to operate FalconSAT-3 jointly.

spheric plasma bubbles. These space weather effects can impact space-based communication and navigation signals, including the Global Positioning System and other civil and military communications.

- **Plasma Local Anomalous Noise Element:** which identifies and char-

acterizes spacecraft-induced plasma turbulence.

- **Micropropulsion Attitude Control System:** a low-thrust, electric-pulsed plasma system with a thrust of 150 micro-Newton, established the space flight heritage for this new technology.

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# Cadets take flight in glider program

By David Edwards  
Academy Spirit staff writer

People know that the sport Cadet 2nd Class Charlie Meyer and Cadet 1st Class Justin Lennon participate in looks cool. But few of them have any idea what makes one cool-looking performance better than another and what the Air Force Academy team accomplished this past season.

So Cadet Meyer and Cadet Lennon, members of the glider aerobatic team, offered what in another context might be called a “crash course.”

One of the unique aspects of competitions in this sport is that there are no age categories. Private individuals can bring teams to compete against college-age flyers. Some people start by entering competitions and work their way up to professional sponsorship.

“You got 20-year-olds competing against guys who have been doing it for 20 years,” Cadet Meyer said. “You have to pay attention every second you’re in the air. You don’t have the luxury of moving around, so you monitor your position constantly.”

Glider aero is different from other intercollegiate sports in another respect as well. Whereas most teams spend the regular season tuning up for a conference tournament or some sort of championship event, glider aero teams have a much more limited window.

The season starts in September and runs into November. The placing when the season ends is definitive, and the Falcons are coming off a string of historic success.

The team recently finished second and outper-



Air Force Academy cadets fly in a TG-15A glider over Colorado Springs. Cadets typically fly 10-15 training sorties in the TG-15A and undergo 50-hour cross-country upgrade training before they can fly cross-country solo in the TG-15B. The 94th Flying Training Squadron conducts more than 30,000 sorties per year in support of the Academy soaring program.

TECH. SGT.  
SAMUEL BENDET

formed rival Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University for the first time.

Academy glider pilots compete in two categories: sportsman and advanced. The former is for juniors, the latter for seniors. Each event tests flyers in three types of routine: known, free and unknown. The free routine is determined by the individual.

Judges watch pilots’ routines from the ground and assess a grade for each maneuver. The grade is multiplied by the number of points awarded for each move, so the score is rendered as a percentage of the total possible points.

Glider aerobatics training at the Academy follows a progression. Cadets first learn basic flying. After a process that includes about 65 flights, they reach the level of instructor. Another 30 flights or so qualifies them for aerobatics. The next step is competition in the sportsman category. The concluding upward bump, to intermediate, requires 10 more flights.

Both Cadet Meyer and Cadet Lennon said that nothing they had done prior to joining the Air

Force Academy could have prepared them for glider aerobatics. Neither of them had ever done anything remotely close to it.

“Our goal is to take someone who has never been in a plane before and teach them to fly,” Cadet Meyer said.

Cadets also fly demos, meaning they have they have something akin to the all-star games familiar in other sports. But unlike those exhibitions, glider aerobatics demos take place much more often than once a year. Several months after the Academy’s first-ever invitation to the Royal Air Tattoo in England, cadets still recall that demo as the thrill of a lifetime.

As a senior, Cadet Lennon is done with competition for the Falcons, so he is passing on the lessons he’s learned to those who will have opportunities to use them. He’s also scheduled to fly the glider demo at the Academy’s graduation.

“What I think about is making your own roller coaster,” he said. “It’s so much fun, and it’s all hands on. Once you get used to it, it’s great.”

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# Academy Band, Japanese composer open 'New Doors'

Chie Imaizumi cites a Helen Keller quote as inspiration for the composition she wrote for the Air Force Academy Band.

By Staff Sgt. Don Branum  
Air Force Academy Public Affairs

**PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE** — Author Helen Keller once wrote, "When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us."

Chie Imaizumi cites Ms. Keller's quote as inspiration for "Opening New Doors," a piece she began composing in October 2010 and rehearsed with the Air Force Academy Band here Jan. 21. Her own life's journey, however, may also have served to inspire the piece, as it reflects her personal journey.

Ms. Imaizumi, a native of Saitama, Japan, began her music career at age 4, playing electric organ. After high school, she attended Senzoku Gakuen Junior College in Takatsu, studying to become a jazz pianist. She worked for a year after finishing school, then moved to Boston to attend the Berklee College of Music.

Shortly thereafter, tendonitis struck her forearms and hands. The door to her music career had slammed shut.

"It was really hard," the petite young woman recalled. "I still wanted to graduate."

Ms. Imaizumi didn't know any English at the time, but she knew the language of music. She used that to open another door. She started writing music so she could graduate as a jazz composition major ... and she came to enjoy composing so much that she no longer misses the piano.

"Well, I do," she clarified a beat later, smiling. "but I love what I'm doing so much, I'm glad I got tendonitis. Kind of."

The composer stayed in Boston for about two years after graduating, moved to New York for a year, then lived in Denver for three. She now lives in the Los Angeles area.

Her first encounter with the Air Force Academy Band took place in the summer of 2008, when she met a member of the Falconaires ensemble.

"I had my own jazz big band, and I was looking for a trom-

bone player, and someone introduced me to (Master Sgt.) Scott Crump," Ms. Imaizumi explained. After Sergeant Crump got a feel for her music, he introduced her to the rest of the Falconaires ensemble, who commissioned her to write "Sharing the Freedom."

"They suggested to Lt. Col. Larry Lang that I write a piece for the concert band," she said. "I had never written a piece for a larger ensemble than jazz big band, but something told me I should do it."

Shortly before she began working on the piece, she drove from Los Angeles to Arizona to meet the concert band on tour.

"I wanted to hear what kind of sound they had," she said. "Every musician is different, and I usually write for a specific person, so that helped a lot."

Once she had mostly finished the piece, she came to Peterson Air Force Base to rehearse with the band in their studio. The cacophony of sound from the bandmen warming up on their instruments faded into silence as Colonel Lang walked to the podium.

He brought the band in sync by leading them through Bach's Symphony No. 16, then brought Ms. Imaizumi to the conductor's podium.

"It's been great having Chie here," he said. "She's a lot of fun. The music itself is extraordinary, and we're all pleased to be part of this creative process."

Ms. Imaizumi led the band through each of the piece's three movements. The first represented happy memories; the second, a struggle as one door closes; the third, exultation as a new door opens. The band rehearsed each movement individually, with Ms. Imaizumi making minor corrections to her composition as they played.

At the session's end, the band played "Opening New Doors" in its entirety. Ms. Imaizumi became one part conductor and one part dancer, her face beaming as the band hit its crescendo. Injury had closed one door in her life, but through perseverance, she found and opened a new door.



**TOP:** Tech. Sgt. Emanuel Jester III performs part of the second movement of "Opening New Doors" in the Air Force Academy Band's recording studio at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., Jan. 21. Sergeant Jester, a native of Orlando, Fla., is a tubist with the Academy's concert and marching bands and the Stellar Brass ensemble.

**ABOVE:** Tech. Sgt. Monica Ding (right, foreground) and other Air Force Academy Band performers rehearse "Opening New Doors," by Chie Imaizumi, in their recording studio at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., Jan. 21. The piece comprises three measures, which represent memories of fond times, a struggle to overcome adversity and realization of new opportunities. Sergeant Ding, a native of Mount Prospect, Ill., is an oboist with the Academy Band's concert and marching bands and Rampart Winds ensemble.



Chie Imaizumi conducts the third movement of "Opening New Doors" during a rehearsal with the Air Force Academy Band in their recording studio at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. The three movements represent recalling previous memories, overcoming adversity and enjoying new opportunities. Ms. Imaizumi is a native of Saitama, Japan.

PHOTOS BY DON BRANUM



# Falcons get back to winning ways against Wyoming, 72-51

(AP) — Air Force's status as Mountain West Conference doormat could very well be a thing of the past.

Michael Lyons scored all of his game-high 17 points in the first half as Air Force snapped a three-game losing skid with a 72-51 win over Wyoming Saturday.

The Falcons (11-7, 2-3 Mountain West) shot 57.9 percent (11 of 19) from 3-point range and had four players reach double figures. Air Force has now won three of its last four against Wyoming (8-11, 1-4), including a 59-40 victory in the first round of the 2010 Mountain West Conference Tournament in Las Vegas.

"We shot the ball very well," Air Force coach Jeff Reynolds said. "Their zone is really big and is different from any zone you play. You can't run your normal stuff, and yet, our guys adapted very well. I thought the way we were able to stretch it out was that we made some shots."

Wyoming cut Air Force's lead to nine points, 53-44, with 6:34 remaining, but the Falcons closed the door with an 11-2 run during the next three minutes. Air Force improved to 9-2 at Clune Arena this season, while the Cowboys fell to 0-6 on the road.

"I think our kids played pretty hard," Wyoming coach Heath Schroyer said. "Air Force is a good team, and when they make threes in this building, they're tough to play. We need to try to find a way to make some baskets. When you don't make baskets, it's hard to hold your intensity."

Air Force shot 56.5 percent from the field, out-shooting its opponent for the sixth consecutive game (3-3 record). The 21-point victory margin was the Falcons' largest against a conference foe since they defeated TCU 57-36 on March 5, 2008.

Tom Fow scored 14 points for the Falcons, and Todd Fletcher had 13 points and five steals and Evan Washington added 11 points and nine assists. Air Force tallied 22 assists in the game and scored 16 points off Wyoming turnovers.

"It felt great, especially because last year this didn't hap-



BILL EVANS

Air Force guard Evan Washington maneuvers past a Wyoming defender during the Falcons' game against the Cowboys Sat. Washington, a native of Columbus, Ohio, scored 11 points in Air Force's win.

pen," said Fletcher, who hit three 3-pointers. "We're making progress. I've been struggling to score this year and really haven't been a threat, but the whole time I knew I could (score) if I wanted. My shot really hasn't been feeling right all year, but I worked on it this week and feel comfortable now."

The Falcons have now won more regular-season conference games this year than they did the past two seasons combined (1-31).

"I feel that we're a whole lot better than last year," Lyons said. "We've got experience, and our confidence is way higher than it was last year. We feel like we can hang with anybody and beat anybody."

# Falcons, UConn skate to 5-5 tie

By Dave Toller  
Athletic Communications

**STORRS, Conn.** — Air Force battled back from a two-goal deficit in the second period for a 5-5 overtime tie in an Atlantic Hockey Association game Saturday at the Mark Edward Freitas Ice Forum in Storrs, Conn.

Air Force stays in fourth place in the AHA, 8-5-4 in the league and 10-9-4 overall. UConn remains in sixth place in the league with a 7-8-2 league record and 7-13-4 overall.

Air Force outshot UConn, 36-34, in the game. Torf was credited with the tie as he made 14 saves while allowing three goals in 35 minutes. Caple made 15 saves and allowed two goals in 30 minutes. UConn sophomore Garrett Bartus made 31 saves. AFA was 2-for-4 on the power play while UConn was 0-for-4.

"I thought we played terrific. Our goaltenders let in three one-shot goals tonight, and it is tough to overcome that," head coach Frank Serratore added. "Our goalies have won some games for us, and I still have confidence in them, but tonight they let in some bad goals."



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STAFF SGT. DON BRANUM

Aaron Dawkins, left, waits for a serve from Tevita Mafi during the first round of the Air Force Academy's singles racquetball tournament Saturday. Both Dawkins and Mafi competed in the men's B/C division.

## Racquetball tourney results

The Fitness Center announced the results Monday from the annual singles racquetball tournament held Saturday and Sunday.

The doubles racquetball tournament will be held Feb. 12-13. The entry fee is \$30 per team. Divisions will be Open/A men's, B/C men's and all women's. Open-division players cannot combine to play as one team.

For more information on the next tournament and other Fitness Center events, contact intramural sports director Dave Castilla at 333-4078.

### Men's Open

- 1st: Ray Cordero
- 2nd: Richard Romero
- 3rd: Andre Chun

### Men's A Division

- 1st: Rob Heiser
- 2nd: Pat Boyle
- 3rd: Joe Lynn

### Men's B/C division

- 1st: Rich Peters
- 2nd: Tom Settecerri
- 3rd: Harvey Kraft

### Women's Division

- 1st: Patsy Joiner
- 2nd: Sandy D'Angelo
- 3rd: Sandra Ingrassia



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# 10 things you didn't know about ... **Cadet 4th Class Kassie Gurnell**

Cadet 4th Class Kassie Gurnell, from Houston, got her Academy Athletics career off to a good start, jumping into the Academy track and field record books Jan. 14 at the All-Comers Invitational Meet. She recorded a distance of 37'9½" in the triple jump to finish third overall and move into fifth on the program's all-time list, the first addition to that event's top 10 since 2007.



**1. When did you start track and field? Who got you started?**

I started basically when I was able to walk. My big brother ran track, and from there, I kind of followed.

**2. Favorite sports to play off-season?**

I like playing basketball and volleyball, but for the most part, anything competitive gets my attention.

**3. Favorite professional athlete and team?**

I love Olympic track runner Jeremy Warner. My favorite pro basketball player is LeBron James, and the Miami Heat and the Celtics are my favorite professional basketball teams.

**4. Favorite movie or TV show?**

My favorite movie is "Love and Basketball."

**5. Favorite food?**

My favorite food is anything with carbohydrates: bread, baked potatoes and pasta. My all-time favorite dessert is ice cream

**6. Favorite subject in school?**

I have always been good at math, but I find behavioral science interesting.

**7. If I were not a cadet, I would be ...**

I would probably be at Rice University, Triple Jumping on a full track scholarship, working with a head coach who is known for sending Triple Jumpers to the Olympics and getting a decent education that secures me a job anywhere in Texas after I graduate.

**8. If my friends had to use one word to describe me, it would be ...**

Determined.

**9. The best part of competing in track and field is ...?**

The friendships you build and the feeling you get when you just finished a great workout.

**10. I came to the Academy because ...**

A guaranteed job after graduation, and I wanted to be a part of something bigger than myself.



STAFF SGT. DON BRANUM

Joseph Ross of Med Group Team 3 clears Scott Fletcher's defense and shoots for two during the intramural basketball match between Med Group Team 3 and the Security Forces-Communications team Jan. 25. Med Group Team 3 defeated SFS-Comm, 44-33, in the first round of the intramural playoffs.

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## Black History Month events

**Basketball clinic** - Feb. 12, 10 a.m. to noon

The Fitness Center will hold a children's basketball clinic hosted by former Boston Celtic Nevil Shed. Registration continues through the date of the event or until all 100 openings are filled. Eligible age groups are 7-9, 10-12, 13-15 and 16-18. For more information, contact the Fitness Center at 333-4567 or Master Sgt. Bryant Ward at 333-8994.

**Health fair** - Feb. 16, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The 10th Medical Group Clinic will hold a health fair to discuss diabetes, obesity, cancer, HIV/AIDS and cardiovascular and related diseases. The primary care clinics, Health and Wellness Center, Airmen and Family Readiness Flight, TriCare, Veterans Administration and Colorado Department of Public Health will be among the information presenters. For more information, contact the clinic at 333-5111.



## Cadet Chapel

### BUDDHIST

**Sundays:** 10 a.m.  
**Thursdays:** 6:20 p.m.

### PROTESTANT WORSHIP

**Traditional:** Sundays, 9 a.m.  
**Contemporary:** Sundays, 11 a.m.

### CATHOLIC WORSHIP

**Mass:** Sundays, 10-11 a.m.;  
Mondays, 5:45-6:15 a.m.;  
Tuesdays-Thursdays, 7-7:30 p.m.  
**Confession and Adoration:**  
Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m.  
**Holy Days of Obligation:** 7 p.m.

### JEWISH WORSHIP

**Shabbath:** Fridays, 7 p.m.

### OPEN FOR TOURS

**Monday-Saturday:** 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
**Sunday:** 1-5 p.m.

Service times are subject to change without notice due to mission requirements. Please call 719-333-2636/4515 for more information.

## Community Center Chapel

### CATHOLIC WORSHIP

**Mass:** Saturdays, 4 p.m.; Sundays, 9 a.m.; Tuesdays-Fridays, 11:30 a.m.  
**Reconciliation:** Saturdays, 3:30 p.m.  
**Religious formation:** Sunday, 10:15 a.m. September-May

### PROTESTANT WORSHIP

**Wednesday Night Live:** 6 p.m.  
Dinner followed by Religious Education September-May  
**Evangelical:** Sunday, 10:15 a.m.  
**Gospel:** Sunday, 11:30 a.m.

## Air Force Ball

Tickets are now on sale for the Air Force Ball, scheduled for Feb. 18 at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs.

Admission prices per person are as follows:

E-1 to E-3, GS-3 to GS-4 and cadets: \$25

E-4 to E-6 and GS-5: \$35

E-7 to E-9, O-1 to O-3 and GS-6 to GS-11: \$50

O-4 to O-5 and GS-12 to GS-14: \$75

All others: \$100

Parking is an additional \$8. Tickets must be purchased by Feb. 5. To purchase tickets, contact Capt. Uriah Tobey at 333-7994.

## Award nominees sought

The Academy is seeking nominations for the 2011 Air Force Academy Distinguished Service Award, which the superintendent will present to a servicemember, civilian or group whose contributions outside of their official duties had a positive effect on the Academy.

Nominations must be submitted no later than April 1 to: HQ USAFA/CMA, 2304 Cadet Drive Suite 3200, USAF Academy, CO 80840-5002. Packages should include a single page with biographical data, including name, rank (if military), organization or company, telephone number and mailing address, and a typed narrative less than a page in length describing the nominee's accomplishments.

## National Prayer Luncheon

The U.S. Air Force Academy National Prayer Luncheon is scheduled for Feb. 10 at 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Falcon Club. The guest speaker will be retired Marine Lt. Clebe McClary. Tickets can be purchased for \$6 for club members and \$7 for non-club members.

For more information, call the Community Center Chapel at 333-3300.

## Bible study

The Community Center Chapel offers a women's Bible study titled "Faithful, Abundant, True: Three Lives Going Deeper Still," featuring Kay Arthur, Beth Moore and Priscilla Shirer, Wednesdays at 9 a.m.

For more information, contact Susan Peoples at 472-9157 or the chapel at 333-3300.

## USAFA's Got Talent

The 10th Force Support Squadron is offering prizes, including a weekend getaway at Rocky Mountain Blue, to customers who regularly visit 10th FSS facilities here.

To enter the "USAFA's Got Talent" drawing, pick up a card at any 10th FSS facility and write your name and phone number or e-mail address on the card. Every time you visit a 10th FSS facility, have someone stamp the back of the card.

When the card is completely filled out, drop it into a drop box to enter the drawing.

In addition to the weekend getaway at Rocky Mountain Blue, other prizes include a VIP weekend stay at the

Academy, a one-night stay at the Farish Recreation Area or a family fun package comprising bowling, horseback riding and golf.

For more information, go to [www.usafaservices.com](http://www.usafaservices.com) and click on "USAFA's Got Talent."

## Winter preparation tips

- Check your battery, fluid levels, turn signals, heater and defroster, tires and brakes.

- Keep a windshield scraper and small broom in your car for ice and snow removal.

- Keep your gas tank at least half-full during the winter season.

- Keep a small supply of emergency supplies in your vehicle, including non-perishable snacks, several bottles of water, blankets, matches, extra clothes, a small shovel and battery jumper cables.

## Volunteer call

Volunteers are needed for each of the following upcoming events.

**Spouses Club Thrift Shop:** The Academy Spouses Club Thrift Shop is seeking new volunteers for its location in the Community Center Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays and the first Saturday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Proceeds from the thrift shop go to Spouses Club scholarships for military family members and other charitable activities. For more information or to volunteer, contact Thrift Shop manager Michelle Day at 333-4059 or Thrift Shop chair Cat Donovan at 264-1315.

**Honor Guard:** The Academy Honor Guard needs officer and enlisted volunteers who can support two details per month for one year and who can

attend training every other Wednesday from 1 to 4 p.m.

Contact Janet Edwards at 333-3323 or Staff Sgt. Hugo Reinor at 333-5621.

## A&FRC offerings

**DAV Medical Records Review** - Today, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Individuals within 180 days of retiring or separating can have the Disabled American Veterans review their medical records in preparation for filing Veterans Administration disability compensation. Call 333-3444 for more information or an appointment.

**Red Carpet Base Tour** - Today, 8:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

This base tour provides information about the Academy's mission and covers many of the events and activities at see and do while stationed here.

## Family Advocacy classes

Classes are open to active-duty service members, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and their families. Call Family Advocacy at 333-5270 for information.

**Anger Management** - Tuesdays, through Feb. 8, 8 to 9:30 a.m.

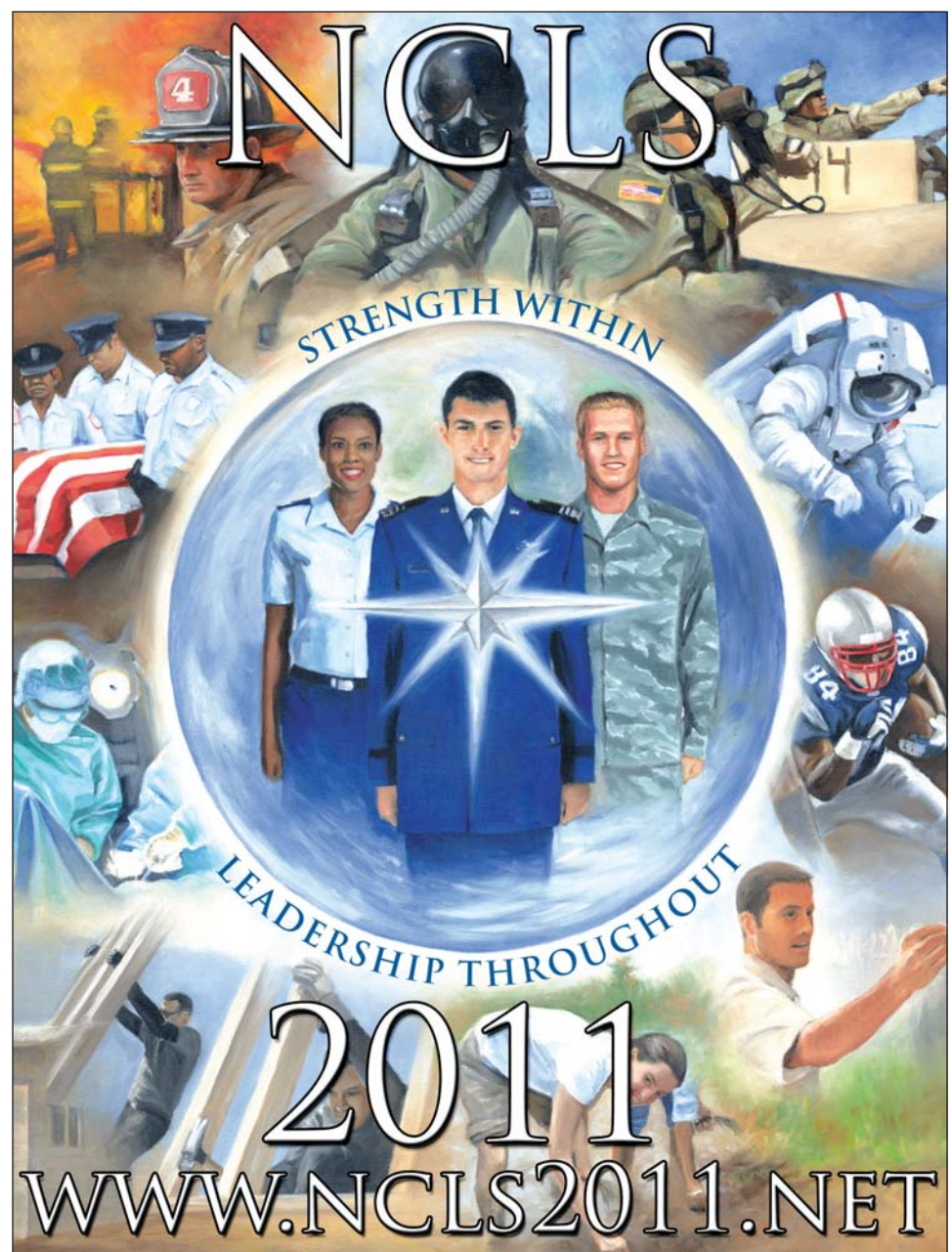
Learn simple, innovative techniques for managing your anger and healthier ways to relate to others.

**1-2-3 Magic Parenting** - Feb. 2 and 8, 9 to 11 a.m.

This class offers easy-to-follow steps for disciplining children without arguing, yelling or spanking.

**Laugh Your Way To a Better Marriage** - Feb. 7 and 10, 6-7:30 p.m.

Join marriage and family speaker Mark Gungor at the Airman and Family Readiness Center.





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**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Cavalry sword
- 6. Cleaving tools
- 11. Fall flower
- 14. Insures residential mortgages
- 15. Gran Argentine plain
- 16. Beak or bill
- 18. Isaac's mother
- 21. Sloping loose rock debris
- 23. Ballerina painter Edgar

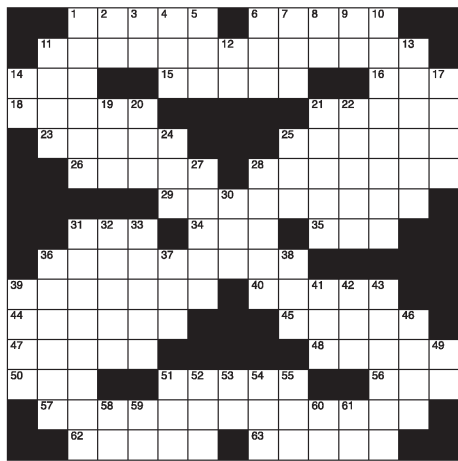
**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Allotments
- 2. One of the six noble gases
- 3. Next to
- 4. Upper left keyboard key
- 5. Used with sis boom bah
- 6. Supervises interstate commerce
- 7. The 17th Greek letter
- 8. Old English
- 9. 1/16 inch in printing
- 10. First lights
- 11. N. Central African country
- 12. Sodium
- 13. More humble in spirit
- 14. Foreign Service
- 17. Hive insects
- 19. Honorable title (Turkish)

- 25. Work stoppage
- 26. Self-immolation by fire rituals
- 28. Can't move
- 29. Measures atmospheric pressure
- 31. Dash
- 34. Adult male human

- 35. Foot (Latin)
- 36. Hearths
- 39. Milksops
- 40. Wax letter closures
- 44. Withdraw from circulation
- 45. Manila hemp
- 47. An alloy of copper and zinc

- 48. Fire embers
- 50. Thousand cubic feet (abbr.)
- 51. Catches
- 56. British Air Aces
- 57. Blossoming
- 62. Rush-like marsh plant
- 63. Small integer



- 20. Head covering
- 21. Throat infection
- 22. Mediterranean Greek island
- 24. A brother or sister
- 25. Golfer Snead
- 27. Indigenous Laplanders

- 28. Cornbreads
- 30. Radioactivity unit
- 31. Flax spinning staff
- 32. Upbeat part of a measure
- 33. Inheritors
- 36. Marked by extreme

- emotion or force
- 37. Perceive with the eye
- 38. A very large body of water
- 39. Nuclear near reach weapon
- 41. Basics
- 42. Thai language
- 43. In short supply
- 46. Wings
- 49. Left heart there
- 51. Domestic swine
- 52. They \_\_\_
- 53. Point midway between S and E
- 54. Western states time zone
- 55. Upstate NY airport code
- 58. Iron
- 59. Libyan dinar
- 60. Trauma center
- 61. Point midway between N and E

**SUDOKU**

				1		3	4	
							2	5
	3	2	9	5				
		8						
	1		5		7	6		
9			3		1	8		
	1					6		
	6	8			7			
	5							4

Level: Intermediate

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Solution on page 10

01-28-11



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Albertsons *Weekly Coupon*  
Coupon Effective 1/26/11 - 2/1/11



Albertsons  
Large Eggs  
12 ct., Grade AA

**89¢** ea.  
With Coupon  
Limit 2, Additional up to \$1.69 ea.

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Albertsons *Weekly Coupon*  
Coupon Effective 1/26/11 - 2/1/11



Albertsons or  
Tombstone  
Original Pizza  
17.7-29.5 oz.  
Select Varieties

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Albertsons *Weekly Coupon*  
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Albertsons  
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24 oz.  
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**Final Price**  
Coke  
12 pk., 12 oz.  
Select Varieties  
Sale Price \$3.25 ea.

**2.75** ea.  
When You Buy 4  
Limit 1 Reward Per Transaction

**Corona or Heineken**  
12 Pack Bottles  
Select Varieties

**13.99**

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Sale Price \$1.99 ea.

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