

# USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO ACADEMY SPIRIT

Vol. 50 No. 7

February 19, 2010

## Cadets ponder career options during Majors' Night

By Staff Sgt. Don Branum  
Academy Public Affairs

Before the Air Force Academy's 1,000-plus fourth-class cadets reach recognition in March, many of them will decide what to do with the rest of their lives. Majors' Night, a semiannual event held in Fairchild Hall, gives cadets who haven't declared their field of study a chance to look into their options and make an informed decision.

The Dean of Faculty staff held Majors' Night on Fairchild Hall's second floor Feb. 11. Freshman, undeclared sophomores and cadet candidates from the Academy Preparatory School squeezed through crowded hallways to learn more about each of the 32 majors offered at the Academy. Instructors and guests from other Air Force bases set up exhibits showcasing everything from trained rats to a full-scale, disassembled R2-D2 droid, a Van de Graaff generator and a remotely piloted aircraft simulator.

One of the guests was 2nd Lt. Elizabeth-Ann BuPane, a launch systems officer with the 5th Space Launch Squadron at Patrick Air Force Base, Fla. The 2008

See MAJORS' NIGHT, Page 3



Photo by Rachel Boettcher

Cadet 4th Class Kyle Schory, Lt. Col. David Bibighaus and Cadet 3rd Class Robert Cilla watch a 3-D presentation at the Department of Computer Science station during Majors' Night Feb. 11. Colonel Bibighaus is an assistant professor for the department. Cadet Schory is assigned to Cadet Squadron 20, and Cadet Cilla is assigned to CS 10.

## Tuskegee Airmen recall Air Corps, Air Force experiences

By Ann Patton  
Academy Spirit staff writer

Three Tuskegee Airmen spoke with visitors, answered questions and shared experiences as part of the Academy's celebration of Black History Month at the Academy Base Exchange Tuesday.

Samuel Hunter Jr., retired Col. Lowell Bell and retired Chief Master Sgt. Loran Smith are all members of the Denver-based Hubert L. "Hooks" Jones chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.

"It's history. It's American history," said retired Chief Smith, a second-generation Tuskegee Airman. "The Tuskegee Airmen have a great legacy."

In the backdrop of the Tuskegee Airmen visit was a Tribute to Jazz and Poetry exhibit featuring Louis Armstrong, Maya Angelou, Dizzy Gillespie and Billie Holiday. A five-piece jazz band from Air Academy High School entertained shoppers with jazz selections.

Public Law 18, passed by Congress in 1939, included authorization for



Photo by Johnny Wilson

Cadet Candidate Indigo Blakely meets with Samuel Hunter Jr. and retired Lt. Col. Lowell Bell during a presentation at the Academy Base Exchange Tuesday. The presentation was part of the Academy's celebration of Black History Month. See the community calendar on Page 14 for more events.

training programs to employ African-Americans in various areas of the Army Air Corps. The first such training program was the 99th Pursuit Squadron,

later renamed the 99th Fighter Squadron. Tuskegee Airmen received 95 Distinguished Flying Crosses for World War II service, and three Tuskegee

Airmen went on to become Air Force generals.

Mr. Hunter, one of the original Tuskegee Airmen, went to the Tuskegee Institute, Ala., in 1942 as a B-25 pilot by way of civilian pilot training he received at West Virginia State University. He recalled the undercurrent thinking that blacks were not capable of pilot training. To disprove the notion, black pilots had to be exceptional.

"We feel we laid the groundwork for the future of blacks in the Air Force and also for airline pilots," he said.

He recalled his three-year Tuskegee experience and his first solo flight in a 65-horsepower Piper Cub, an aircraft with "about the power of a lawnmower."

"I thought, look at me up here in the air. Now all I have to do is get down," he said.

In the beginning Tuskegee pilot trainees had to be college graduates. Later, younger candidates were allowed in the training.

See TUSKEGEE AIRMEN, Page 7

**WEEKEND WEATHER**  
FRIDAY  
33 15  
SNOW  
SATURDAY  
32 16  
SNOW  
SUNDAY  
32 15  
SNOW

### AF, DOD pioneer dies

Maj. Gen. Jeanne Holm, the Air Force's first female two-star general, passed away Feb. 15.

Page 5

### Academy grad reaches out

A 1985 alumnus makes a difference in the lives of Ethiopian children.

Page 9

### 100s Night

While the firsties are away, the freshmen will play.

Pages 10-11

# African-American Airmen make AF history

By Master Sgt. Rosemary Howard  
Vosler NCO Academy

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. -- There is no better way to celebrate African-American History Month than to look at how the Air Force has benefited from the contributions of African American Airmen.

One of the first African-American pilots to make history was Eugene Jacques Bullard. In August 1917, 30 years before the Air Force became an individual branch of the U.S. military, Bullard, an American volunteer in the French army, became the first black military pilot in history and the only black pilot in World War I.

Other contributions to the Air Force were from the Tuskegee Airmen of World War II, a group of African Americans who served in combat and contributed to the eventual integration of the U.S. Armed Services. The roots of the Tuskegee Airmen were formed in 1938 when the Roosevelt administration created a reserve of trained civilian fliers to serve in the event of a national emergency.

In 1940, the Selective Training and Service Act banned racial discrimination in recruitment, allowing African Americans to be trained for Air Corps service. The Tuskegee Institute participated in the Roosevelt administration's pilot training program and graduated its first civilian licensed pilots in May 1940. The Tuskegee Institute was the only source of black military pilots in World War II.

Tuskegee Airman Capt. Benjamin O. Davis Jr. was selected to lead the Tuskegee pilots because he was one of only two black line officers in the Army - the other was his father. Captain Davis was a West Point graduate who was placed in command of the 332nd Fighter Group, a unit that did not lose a single bomber to enemy fighters. Captain Davis later became the Air Force's first black general.

The Tuskegee pilots proved they were capable of serving in a highly technical field. The Air Force, having become a separate service in 1947, benefited from the experience of the Tuskegee Airmen and became a leading proponent in integrating the military. In

fact, the Air Force was the first service to erase the color line, thanks largely to the efforts and courage African American Airmen demonstrated during World War II.

Gen. Daniel "Chappie" James Jr. was another Airman who had a great impact. General James received his commission as a second lieutenant in July 1943. During the Korean War, he flew 101 combat missions in F-51 and F-80 aircraft. In 1960 he was assigned to Bentwaters, England, where he served as assistant and director of operations and later, commanded two fighter wings. In 1973, General James was commander of North American Air Defense Command. He was promoted to general on Sept. 1, 1975, and became the first African American to hold the highest Air Force rank. General James retired from active duty on Feb. 1, 1978. He was widely known for his patriotic speeches.

These are a few contributions African American Airmen have made to the Air Force. It is the contributions of these African American Airmen that set the standard for excellence in today's Air Force.

ACADEMY SPIRIT

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

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

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

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

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



## BOX BLUES



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## Character Corner Guardians of trust

Maj. Olivia K.D. Nelson  
Center for Character and Leadership Development

I should've known better. It just sort of ... happened.

One evening a few weeks ago, my two-year-old and I snuggled on the sofa watching *Sesame Street*. As my husband strolled down the stairs to leave for squadron roll call, I offered the customary farewells, each echoed by my young son:

"Good-bye, Daddy."  
"GOOD-BYE, DADDY!"  
"Drive safely, Daddy."  
"DRIVE SAFELY, DADDY!"  
"I love you, Daddy."  
"I LOVE YOU, DADDY!"

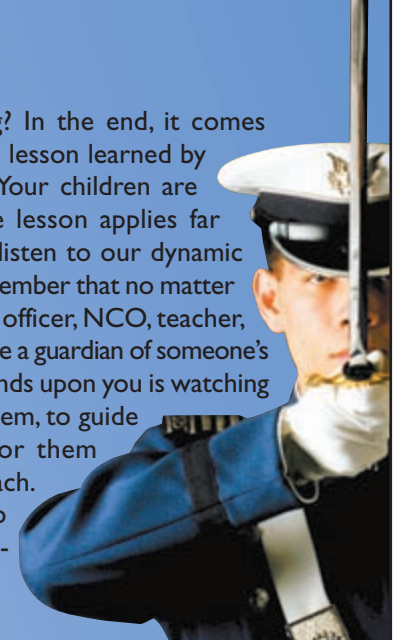
And then, (I don't know what came over me), drunk with the power of my own little parrot, I hollered, "Poop in your pants, Daddy."

Followed by the resounding echo, "POOP IN YOUR PANTS, DADDY!"

Later that evening, my husband and I laughed heartily. He chided me for being the bad influence, considering "Momma" is usually the "straight man" in this act. It ought to have ended there. But on our way out the next morning - totally unprompted this time - our son Colin regaled us again with his potty humor.

I will be months correcting this simple social faux pas that has occurred every morning since. I keep waiting for my boy to yell his new sendoff to someone in the grocery store or at church.

What was I thinking? In the end, it comes down to the same simple lesson learned by parents the world over: Your children are always watching. But the lesson applies far more universally. As you listen to our dynamic NCLS speakers today, remember that no matter what your roles in life - officer, NCO, teacher, student, mother - YOU are a guardian of someone's trust. Someone who depends upon you is watching for you to take care of them, to guide them, to demonstrate for them how to lead, love and teach. Seize this opportunity to grow from others' experiences, including mine.



Tune into KAFA, 97.7 FM for *Character Matters*, Wednesdays at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Also on iTunes or [www.usafa.org](http://www.usafa.org).

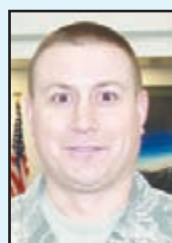
## Are you active in social media?

"Facebook and Twitter are the best way to keep in touch with people back home."



Cadet 3rd Class  
Shauna Casey  
Cadet Squadron 39

"I use Facebook to keep in touch with family and friends, and to connect with old friends."



Tech. Sgt.  
Travis Snider  
10th Medical Group

"Yes, with Facebook. I reconnect with old friends and stay in touch with current events with Facebook."



Master Sgt. Christopher  
Terrio  
76th Space  
Control Squadron,  
Peterson Air Force Base

"I use Facebook only to keep connected with my children."



Kathleen Ryan  
10th Medical  
Operations Squadron



# Majors' Night

From Page 1

graduate and astronautics major spoke to cadets in front of the Astronautics Department's FalconSAT display.

"I've always been interested in space," said Lieutenant BuPane, who was a space operator for FalconSAT-3 and worked on the design for FalconSAT-5. "My mother worked in the space program, so coming here and working with satellites seemed like the logical choice."

On the opposite side of the building, Capts. Matthew LeBlanc and Jordan Hudak, instructors with the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, gave cadets the opportunity to hit his display with a rubber mallet.

"Don't hit the glass, or it'll shatter," Captain LeBlanc instructed a cadet with mallet in hand. "Aim for the metal part underneath and hit it as hard as you can." The freshman gave the display a solid whack, turning a piece of steel that represented a building foundation into a miniature Leaning Tower of Pisa. Captain LeBlanc talked to cadets about how civil engineers can design and build foundations that will remain standing during an earthquake.

Further down the hall, Michele Fincher let cadets put their hands on every zombie's favorite treat: brains. Ms. Fincher, an associate professor with the Behavioral Sciences and Leadership Department, explained how an understanding of the human brain could apply to officers' careers.

"Understanding the brain helps us understand things like traumatic brain injuries and how they relate

to suicide, depression and anxiety disorders," she said. "It's important as a leader to have a basic understanding so they can determine, 'Is my Airman having problems because he doesn't want to be in the Air Force or because he might have some sort of brain injury?'"

Cadets have until October of their sophomore year to choose a major. That choice is a significant milestone for cadets, said Cadet 2nd Class Vai Schierholtz, a systems engineering management major with Cadet Squadron 03.

"It's a pretty big deal, because it's what you're going to be doing for the next three years and possibly your career," Cadet Schierholtz said. "Once you declare, that's one way you identify yourself with other cadets. You have a lot going on inside your major."

Cadets 4th Class Corey Leibbrand and Joshua Gilly said they were considering declaring for economics. Both cadets are assigned to CS 35.

"I'm looking at economics and management," Cadet Leibbrand said. "One's more people-based, and one's more math-based. The main considerations for me are flexibility in my Air Force career and marketability once I'm out of the Air Force."

Cadet Gilly said he's been interested in economics since he came to the Academy.

"Whenever I do get out, going into the business field is something I want to do," he said.

Col. Richard Fullerton, the permanent professor and department head for the Department of Economics and Geosciences, offered both cadets a few words of advice: "Find a major that you enjoy and pursue it passionately."



Photos by Rachel Boettcher

Top: A group of prep school cadet candidates marvels at holding human brains in their hands at a Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership display.

Above: Cadet 4th Class David Besson from Cadet Squadron 29 tries out a Department of Engineering Mechanics racer as Cadet 4th Class Philip Keup from CS 20 and Lt. Col. Kevin Gibbons watch.



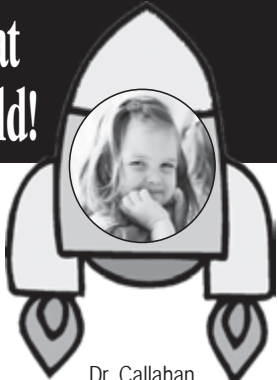
Far Left: Cadets 4th Class Aaron Gibson and Cody Verge attempt to land their simulated flight. Both cadets are assigned to CS 05.

Left: Cadet 1st Class Jesse Lind demonstrates a game he programmed. Cadet Lind is assigned to CS 20.

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# Tuskegee Airman interred at Arlington

By Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Lt. Col. Lee Archer, a World War II fighter pilot with the Tuskegee Airmen, was laid to rest in a ceremony held Feb. 12 at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

Active-duty members, retirees and their families gathered at Colonel Archer's final resting place to pay their respects.

Among those in attendance were Tess Spooner, a member of the Air Force Arlington wives as well as wife of retired Maj. Gen. Richard E. Spooner and close friend of Colonel Archer.

She presented the family with a small memorial token and whispered kind words that brought smiles to Colonel Archer's surviving family members; daughter Ina Archer and sons Lee III, Roy and Raymond.

As the funeral continued and respects were paid, a four-ship F-16 Fighting Falcon mission flew overhead piloted by members of the 187th Fighter Wing from Montgomery, Ala. However, in homage to Colonel Archer, one of the aircraft pulled up just as they were passing over the cemetery transforming the configuration into a missing-man formation.

After the rifle volleys were fired and a rendition of "Taps" filled the air, Lt.



Photo by Senior Airman Alexandre Montes

**Airmen with the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard render full military honors during a funeral for retired Lt. Col. Lee Archer at Arlington National Cemetery Feb. 12. Colonel Archer was one of the Tuskegee Airmen and flew 169 combat missions during World War II.**

Gen. Richard Y. Newton III, the deputy chief of staff for manpower and personnel, presented Colonel Archer's daughter with a folded American flag on behalf of the Air Force.

"Lee Archer was a trailblazer in many ways," Mrs. Spooner said. "As a Tuskegee Airman he not only fought prejudice and segregation on the home front, but also he fought selflessly for his country. He was a great man and he will be dearly missed."

Colonel Archer entered the Army in November 1941 and received training

as a telegrapher and field network-communications specialist. In December 1942, he was accepted into aviation cadet training and reported to the Tuskegee Army Airfield in Tuskegee, Ala.

On July 28, 1943, after graduating No. 1 in his class and receiving his commission as a second lieutenant, he was assigned to the 302nd Fighter Squadron under the 332nd Fighter Group. The group was transferred to Italy during World War II.

Colonel Archer flew 169 combat

missions, flying cover and escorting long-range bombers over more than 11 countries, as well as strafing missions against enemy landing zones and troops on the ground.

Colonel Archer held numerous post-war leadership and staff positions including chief of protocol for the French Liaison Office, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe; White House Air Force-France project officer; chief or executive officer of three international military organizations including the SHAPE Liaison Office, the 36th North American Air Defense Division and Headquarters U.S. Air Force Southern Command in Panama.

Colonel Archer enjoyed continuing success in civilian life, as vice president for urban affairs at General Foods Corporation; CEO of North Street Capital Corp.; and chairman of Hudson Commercial Corp. He also served on the Board of Directors of Beatrice International Foods and the Institute for American Business, a General Motors Venture Capital Subsidiary.

He earned the Distinguished Flying Cross and received special citations from Presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy and Johnson, along with the director of the CIA. Colonel Archer retired as a lieutenant colonel after 29 years of service and resided in New Rochelle, N.Y.

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# AF's first female general officer dies

By Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — The first woman to serve as a major general in the Department of Defense and the Air Force passed away Feb. 15.

Retired Maj. Gen. Jeanne M. Holm is credited as the single driving force in achieving parity for military women and making them a viable part of the mainstream military.

The Portland, Ore., native attained the rank of two-star general in 1973 after a career that began 31 years earlier in 1942, when she enlisted in the Army. General Holm entered Women's Army Air Corps in January 1943 where she received a commission as third officer, the WAAC equivalent of second lieutenant.

General Holm also became the first woman to attend the Air Command and Staff School at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., in 1952.

She was promoted to brigadier general July 16, 1971, the first female Airman to be appointed in this grade. She was promoted to the grade of major general effective June 1, 1973, with date of rank July 1, 1970 - the first woman in the armed forces to serve in that grade.

In recognition of General Holm's pioneering career, Air Force officials renamed the Air Force Officer Accession and Training Schools at Maxwell AFB the Jeanne M. Holm Officer Accession and Citizen Development Center in June 2008. Its mission is Air Force officer recruitment and training within the Air University.

General Holm was also an author of two books about women in the military. "Women in the Military: An Unfinished Revolution" came out in 1982 and was updated in 1994. Four years later she wrote "In Defense of a Nation: Servicewomen in World War II."

During World War II, General Holm was assigned

to the Women's Army Corps Training Center at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., where she first commanded a basic training company and then a training regiment. At the end of the war, she commanded the 106th WAC Hospital Company at Newton D. Baker General Hospital, W.Va. She then left active military duty in 1946.

In October 1948 during the Berlin crisis, she was recalled to active duty with the Army and went to Camp Lee, Va., as a company commander. The following year she transferred to the Air Force, when a new law integrated women in the regular armed forces.

General Holm served in a variety of personnel assignments, including director of Women in the Air Force from 1965 to 1973. She played a significant role in eliminating restrictions on numbers of women serving in all ranks, expanding job and duty station assignments for women, opening ROTC and service academies to women, and changing the policies on the status of women in the armed forces. During her tenure, policies affecting women were updated, WAF strength more than doubled, job and assignment opportunities expanded, and uniforms modernized.

The general retired in 1975. She served three presidential administrations: special assistant on women for President Gerald Ford, policy consultant for President James Carter and first chairperson of the Veterans Administration's Committee on Women Veterans for President Ronald Reagan.

General Holm's awards include two Distinguished Service Medals, a Legion of Merit, a Women's Army Corps Service Medal, a World War II Victory Medal, an American Campaign Medal, an Army of Occupation Medal with Berlin Airlift Device and a Medal for Humane Action.

General Holm was also a member of the Air Force Historical Foundation's Board of Trustees, a member of the Board of Directors for Camp Fire Girls, Inc., a member of the Pentagon Federal Credit Union's Board



U.S. Air Force photo

**Retired Maj. Gen. Jeanne Holm died Feb. 15. General Holm was the first woman to serve as a major general in the Air Force and Department of Defense. She is credited as the single driving force in achieving parity for military women and making them a viable part of the mainstream military.**

of Directors, and a member of the Air Force Association.

She received a Distinguished Alumni Award from Lewis and Clark College in 1968, a Citation of Honor from the Air Force Association in 1971, and a Eugene Zuckert Leadership Award from the Arnold Air Society in 1972.

General Holm wrote *Women in the Military: An Unfinished Revolution* after retiring.

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# TriCare patients have a year to file claims

By Tyler Patterson and Shari Lopatin  
TriWest Healthcare Alliance

When you visit the doctor, you probably pay your co-pay, then leave. But what if you visit an out-of-network doctor or have other health insurance? You might need to file your own TriCare claim, something your TriCare network provider is required to do for you.

That's why you should know this important rule: You have one year, from the date of your medical visit or discharge for inpatient services, to file that claim. Once you do that, TriCare will process your claim and send you any applicable reimbursement, depending on your plan.

To file your own TriCare claim, follow these four steps:

1. Ensure your information in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting

System is current. You can do this in person at a military personnel office, online at [www.tricare.mil/deers](http://www.tricare.mil/deers), by fax at 831-655-8317, by phone at 800-538-9552, or by mail by sending the required information to the Defense Manpower Data Support Office, Attn: COA, 400 Gigling Road, Seaside, CA 93955-6771.

2. Once you update DEERS, TriWest Healthcare Alliance, which administers TriCare throughout the West Region, will be notified of any changes. Verify with TriWest the changes have been made before proceeding.

## Have Other Health Insurance?

If you have primary health insurance, other than TriCare or Medicare, your provider needs to submit your claim to that company first. After your primary insurance company pays its portion, some providers will then file the secondary claim with TriCare. If they don't, you must send in the claim. Make sure to attach your explanation of benefits showing the amount to be paid to the provider.

Possible Third Party Liability Form." Both forms are available by clicking on "Find a Form" at [www.triwest.com](http://www.triwest.com). If you were injured and go to a hospital, hospitals file your claims for you; however, some emergency room doctors, urgent care doctors, radiologists or ambulance companies may not file claims.

4. Attach a copy of the doctor's bill to

3. Complete and sign a Department of Defense Form 2642, "Beneficiary Claim Form." If you were injured at work, home, or in an accident, you may need to complete a DD Form 2527, "Statement of Personal Injury—

your claim form. Make sure the billing information includes the name and address of the person who treated you, the date and place of each service, a description of each service, the charge for each service, and the diagnosis. If the diagnosis is not on the bill, remember to complete "Block 8a" on the claim form. After that, mail the information within the one-year deadline to:

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PO Box 77028  
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# Keep your heart healthy through prevention

By Tyler Patterson  
TriWest Healthcare Alliance

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, making heart health an important issue for people of all ages. The most common cause of heart disease is coronary artery disease, a narrowing or blockage of the coronary arteries that supply blood to the heart. However, you can take steps to prevent both coronary artery disease and other causes of heart disease:

**Eat a healthy diet.** Choosing healthy meals and snack options can help you avoid heart disease. Be sure to eat plenty of fish, poultry, and fresh fruits and vegetables.

**Maintain a healthy weight.** Being overweight or obese can increase your risk for heart disease. Your doctor can help you determine whether your weight is in

a healthy range.

**Exercise regularly.** Physical activity can help you maintain a healthy weight and help lower your blood pressure and cholesterol.

**Don't smoke.** Cigarette smoking greatly increases your risk for heart disease and other major illnesses. If you smoke, quit.

**Limit alcohol use.** Alcohol causes high blood pressure. If you drink, drink responsibly and in moderation.

If you have other risk factors such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol or diabetes, you can take additional steps to lower your risk for heart disease.

**Have your cholesterol checked.** Your doctor should test your cholesterol levels at least once a year.

**Monitor your blood pressure.** High blood pressure has no symptoms so be sure to have it checked regularly.

**Manage your diabetes.** If you have diabetes, monitor your blood sugar levels closely.

**Take your medication.** If you are taking medication for high blood pressure, high cholesterol or diabetes, it's important to follow your doctor's instructions and remember to take your medications regularly. Always ask questions if you don't understand something.

**Talk with your doctor.** You and your doctor can work together to prevent or treat the medical conditions that lead to heart disease. Regularly discuss your treatment plan and don't forget to bring a list of questions to your doctor's appointments.

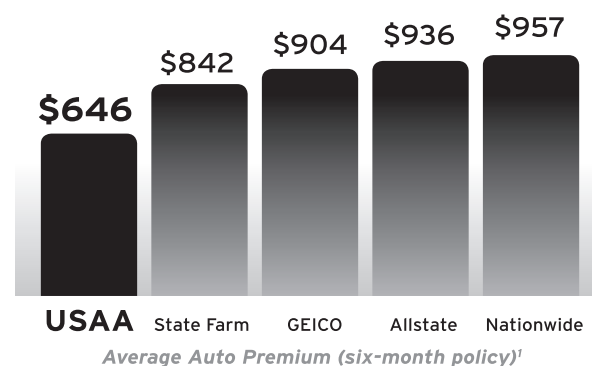
For more information on heart health, visit the American Heart Association at [www.americanheart.org](http://www.americanheart.org) or search for "Heart Disease" at [www.triwest.com/beneficiary](http://www.triwest.com/beneficiary).

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# Recycling takes bite out of trash

By Ann Patton  
Academy Spirit staff

Two recycling centers on the Academy are making it easier to lighten the load of household trash — and maybe stash some cash at the same time.

“(Recycling is) not only the right thing to do, it’s very easy to do,” said Jeanie Duncan, Academy environmental program manager.

The first recycling center outside the base exchange in the Community Center is open 24/7 with bins for recycling plastic, paper, metals, cardboard and glass. Pickups are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

“Drop-N-Swap” is open in Building 8125 near the 10th Civil Engineer Squadron Wednesdays and Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. for recycling or picking up reusable household products such as cleaners, paints, pesticides, fertilizer, used oil, antifreeze and non-alkaline batteries, including car batteries.

Ms. Duncan said it is a great way to save money on home projects that, for example, may only require a small amount of a still-usable product such as paint or deck stain. Also, it is a way for service members and their families who are moving on to another duty station to help out others and safely dispose of products house-

hold moving companies may prohibit.

All items for Drop-N-Swap must be in the original containers.

The Academy recycled 8.4 million pounds of material and disposed of 13.1 million pounds of trash in 2009, which equates to a 39 percent diversion rate of refuse from landfills. At the Community Center site, the Academy recycled 288,540 pounds of cardboard, 539,210 pounds of paper, 55,370 pounds of aluminum, 125,810 pounds of plastic and 243,900 pounds of glass. The Academy also recycles bulk scrap metal, concrete and asphalt, various recyclable hazardous wastes, used cooking oils, biosolids, toner cartridges and government-owned electronics.

Ms. Duncan said recycling not only helps reduce landfill waste, it can also reduce the amount of trash from households, saving people money in terms of trash pickup fees.

A plastic water bottle can remain in a landfill for 500 years, depending on the climate. Aluminum, although a naturally occurring element, can remain in a landfill anywhere from 50 to 100 years. On the other hand, aluminum cans are the most widely and efficiently recycled, and, within 24 hours, a whole new can may be manufactured from the recycled aluminum, Ms. Duncan said.

“Recycling should be a part of everyday activities,” she said. “Once you establish a system of recycling it becomes easy to do.”

She also said it is advantageous to get the kids involved: “They will grow up, and it will become automatic.”

Ms. Duncan said buying items in bulk can also pare down the amount of household trash. Reducing product use is part of the “recycle, reduce, reuse” motto for resource conservation.

She asks people who use the recycling center to only leave recyclable items at the recycling sites and ensure cardboard is clean and free from grease and other food items.

“If non-recyclables get into a bin, it will contaminate the whole container,” she said.

The sites are not dumping grounds for furniture and used appliances, which have been discovered there in the past, she said. Anyone found leaving non-recyclable materials at the site may face fines.

Future recycling events include celebration of Earth Day in Douglass Elementary School in April and an electronic recycling event from November 2010 to the end of January 2011. The last electronic recycling event drew about 4,000 pounds of electronics to be recycled

## Tuskegee Airmen

From Page 1

“At 18, they couldn’t get a driver’s license, but they could fly an airplane,” he said.

During the three years at Tuskegee, Mr. Hunter said he had a chance meeting

with a close white high school friend, then also a pilot, from their days at Colorado Springs High School, now Palmer High School, and his brothers from the national college fraternity Omega Phi Psi.

Colonel Bell retired in 1978 with

more than 6,000 flying hours. He is a graduate of what is now known as Tuskegee University.

The trio are also meeting with youngsters at the Youth Center today.

Mr. Smith said he entered the Air Force at age 21 in 1952, during the some-

times-uneasy transition period following racial integration of the Air Force in 1949. He stayed in for the next 29 years.

“We were a fighting unit, and we must get along to survive,” he said of the bottom line, guiding principle.




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# Academy grad reaches out to Ethiopian children

By Chief Master Sgt. Sean Stevenson  
607th Air and Space Operations Center superintendent

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea (AFPS) — For one Air Force family stationed at Osan Air Base, South Korea, the Year of the Air Force Family means providing an even greater impact by meeting others' needs through the "option of adoption."

Col. John Marselus, a 1985 Air Force Academy graduate and commander of the 607th Air and Space Operations Center, and his wife, Kim, traveled to Addis Adaba, Ethiopia, in January, where they picked up their newest son, Caleb, a 5-year-old orphan whom they adopted.

"The adoption process took about two years, but in reality this journey started well over two decades ago," Colonel Marselus said.

The couple's trip to Ethiopia opened yet another opportunity to meet face-to-face with one of the many children they had sponsored worldwide for almost three decades.

As a cadet at the Academy, the colonel started sponsoring needy children across the globe. The Marselus family was able to provide food, clothing and school supplies for dozens of children for the past 27 years. One of the children they sponsored was an Ethiopian girl named Meseret.

"We first started sponsoring Meseret about a decade ago when she was only 8 years old," Colonel Marselus said. "Here was this poor little girl, literally living on the other side of the planet in an environment we couldn't even begin to comprehend, and we were getting these touching letters from her thanking us and telling about the difference our involvement was having in her life."

After 25 years of sponsoring multiple children, the



Courtesy Photo

Col. John Marselus and his wife, Kim, pose for a photo with their adopted son, Caleb, age 5. The Marselus family adopted Caleb from Ethiopia in January. Colonel Marselus is a 1985 graduate of the Air Force Academy.

Marselus family decided it was time to have an even greater impact on a needy child. They decided to pursue the option of adoption.

"Sponsoring needy children like Meseret is great, but we were convicted to see if there was a child who needed a family," Colonel Marselus said. "We strongly felt that the right thing to do was provide an orphaned little boy or girl the love and nurturing they so desperately deserve."

After contacting an adoption agency and beginning the adoption process, the Marselus family discov-

ered the many programs and benefits the Air Force has in place to support adoptive parents. The National Defense Authorization Act provides for reimbursement of up to \$2,000 of expenses per adoption with a maximum of \$5,000 reimbursement per year. Additionally, Air Force Instruction 36-3003, "Military Leave Program," allows upward of 21 days of permissive temporary duty for travel associated with qualified adoptions.

"These are exactly the types of benefits needed for Airmen who are pursuing adoption," Colonel Marselus said. "We are extremely pleased to see this commitment from the Air Force to help anyone who would pursue this option."

While in Ethiopia finalizing the adoption of their new son, the couple met Meseret, the girl they started sponsoring 10 years ago.

"It was an incredible experience, getting to finally meet this amazing young lady who has changed our lives in so many ways," the colonel said. "We celebrated her 18th birthday with her, and we were quite impressed with her and how well she was thriving in such an impoverished environment. Sponsorship had obviously had a positive impact as she recently completed high school and now has her eyes on becoming a doctor."

The Marselus family credits the Air Force for their successful adoption of Caleb.

"Beyond the financial support and permissive TDY time, several on-base agencies such as the chapel, Airman and Family Readiness Center, the military personnel section and medical group have been amazing in helping Caleb transition from being an impoverished orphan into a healthy, cared-for and truly happy Air Force family member," the colonel said. "Without a doubt, traveling to Ethiopia, meeting Meseret and having Caleb become a part of our family was the adventure of a lifetime."

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# SENIORS GET DUTY STATIONS, 'EXTREME MAKEOVERS' FOR 100s NIGHT



Photos by Denise Navoy  
Cadet 4th Class David Jorgenson of Cadet Squadron 07 coordinates a relocation of Cadet 1st Class Bryan Holtz's living area from his dormitory to a stairwell in the southwest corner of Vandenberg Hall.



Photo by John Van Winkle, Inset photo by Denise Navoy  
Cadet 4th Class Corey Swartz from Cadet Squadron 11 replaces the door to Cadets 1st Class Michael Skidmore's and William Boyd's dorm with two sheets of plywood and 500 pounds of sand.



Photo by John Van Winkle  
Cadets 4th Class Michael Winstead and Ryan Thompson from CS 36 build a labyrinth out of chests in Cadets 1st Class Benjamin Brice's and Michael Langley's dorm.



Photo by Denise Navoy, Inset photo by John Van Winkle  
Cadet 4th Class Jakob Fischer from CS 29 covers Cadet 1st Class Jason Sewell's living area with a copy of the Cadet Sight Picture.



Photo by John Van Winkle, Inset photo by Denise Navoy  
Cadet 4th Class Katie Danno and others "quarantine" Cadet 1st Class Jenna Lindquist's bed as part of their Majors' Night redecoration. Cadet Lindquist, the director of standardization and evaluation for Cadet Group 3, had a reputation for promoting hygiene after last summer's H1N1 outbreak.

By John Van Winkle  
Academy Public Affairs

Seniors got two surprises last weekend with the 100s night tradition. The Academy's 100s Night tradition marks the Friday closest to 100 calendar days from graduation, when senior cadets first find out where they will be assigned after graduation. That same night, the freshman cadets traditionally unleash their creativity to redesign the firsties' rooms. Seniors cadets — aka firsties — listened to a presentation by retired Gen. Charlie Holland, a former commander of U.S. Special Operations Command, during the "100s Night" ceremony here Feb. 12. After his presentation, the cadets gathered together by squadron to learn where they would be stationed after they finished technical training.

The second surprise for the firsties came courtesy of the freshman cadets in their respective squadrons, as the freshmen delivered "extreme dorm makeovers" to senior cadets in the late hours of Feb. 12 as part of 100s Night. Some were mild. One room in Cadet Squadron 32 was turned into a "princess room," complete with a mural and an aluminum foil-coated chandelier. Freshmen filled the room of Cadets 1st Class Sean Quintana and Joshua Bouquio with balloons.

"I was very surprised when I opened my door when I got back from the weekend," Cadet Quintana said. "I had to come back on Sunday night because I had to catch a bus for a jump at 4:45 a.m. the next morning. I got back at around 11 p.m. expecting to go straight to bed. Instead, I had to spend 30 minutes popping enough balloons to clear off my bed and then swim through the rest of the balloons to get to the uniforms I would need the next morning."

Cadet Quintana, the starting tight end for the 2009 Falcon football team, was a bit apprehensive about what could happen to his room after 100s Night.

"I did hear a rumor that they were going to try to move everything in my room to the football stadium, but luckily they changed their minds," he said.

Tapping into three years of seeing 100s Night unfold, Cadet Quintana knew that providing snacks or entertainment for doolies was one way to mitigate the damage.

"We left them \$20.10 to get pizza if they wanted and also left them more snacks for the weekend, so maybe that had some sway on the nice decoration," he said.

The firsties' reputations were a factor in the redesigns. For example, Cadet Wing Instruction 36-3501 is the Cadet Sight Picture, which sets the standards for cadet uniform wear, dormitory standards and a host of other cadet activities, in effect becoming the 'how-to' book on cadet life. In CS 29, Cadet 1st Class Jason Sewell is known for his in-depth knowledge of the Cadet Sight Picture, so Cadet 4th Class Jakob Fischer divided Cadet Sewell's room with a wall of pages from the Cadet Sight picture and covered the firstie's living area.

When it comes to inspections, the guru of dorm inspections in Cadet Group 3 is Cadet 1st Class Jenna Lindquist, CG 3's director of standardization and evaluation.

"We had her during (Basic Cadet Training)," said Cadet 4th Class Katie Danno from CS 30. "She was in charge of checking to see how clean our rooms were, and she would always find something."

So a team of doolies took her inspection-order dorm room to the next level, with a few miles of plastic wrap, mummifying her bed and clothing items. They also left an abundance of cleaning supplies, as the firstie was known for promoting hygiene following the H1N1 influenza outbreak during BCT.

"I had an idea that my room was going to get 'wrapped,' because I do have a reputation for being clean and somewhat fearful of germs (depending on who you ask), so the theme was appropriate," Cadet Lindquist said. "I'm just relieved that it took very little time for me to clean up my room."

Some were more diabolical. Cadet 4th Class David Jorgenson orchestrated the total relocation of Cadet 1st Class Bryan Holtz's living area from his dorm room in CS 07 to a stairwell in the southwest corner of Vandenberg Hall — setting up a mattress, bedding, computer, chair, table, books and uniforms into a space less than three feet high.

Others were creative but less sinister. Back in CS 32, Cadets 4th Class Lindsay Cordero and Kelly O'Grady led an all-star team of the squad's Class of 2013 into a radical remake of the Cadets 1st Class Brent Killion's and Peter Kaszynski's room. The team of freshmen turned the firsties' clothes and bedding into a giant disco ball and decorated a cardboard cutout with one of the firsties' suits.

Other supplies for 100s Night mischief included Sakrete, plywood, wading pools and 1.5 tons of sand. A bag of birdseed sat next to a soda machine near one room — we didn't ask.

In CS 36, Cadets 4th Class Michael Winstead and Ryan Thompson transformed Cadets 1st Class Benjamin Brice's and Michael Langley's room into a labyrinth. Cadet Winstead drew up a diagram of how to arrange the trunks. They adjusted the overall design as they went along, including "little prizes" at the dead ends.

"They're bigger guys, and we think it would be really funny to watch them crawl through it," Cadet Thompson said. "These (trunks) are not empty; they're pretty big boxes on the inside."

Cadet 4th Class Elaine Bradford prepares a mural for Cadets 1st Class Nicole Hardig's and Nora El Queslati's room as part of a "Princess Room" treatment.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Don Branum  
Cadets 1st Class Benjamin Schimelfening and Justin Warner celebrate after receiving their first duty assignments during a celebration at Mitchell Hall.

You'd be surprised how much you can get into them."

Cadet 4th Class Corey Swartz of Cadet Squadron 11 tapped into historical knowledge to unleash an unforgettable 100s Night experience on the room of Cadets 1st Class Michael Skidmore and William Boyd. The door was removed, and in its place were two sheets of half-inch plywood bolted together. The freshmen then poured about 500 pounds of sand and other materials into the space between the plywood boards, Cadet Swartz said. Inside, the freshmen had filled the firsties' room with more than 800 balloons containing glitter, flour and sugar.

"There's a huge smiley face in the middle of the floor made of flour," Cadet Swartz said.

Cadet Swartz said he tapped into the knowledge of "a graduate of this fine institution," but that the room was mostly his idea.

"We thought about putting water balloons in there, but we thought that might be a bit much," he added.

Photos by Denise Navoy  
Cadet 4th Class Elaine Bradford prepares a mural for Cadets 1st Class Nicole Hardig's and Nora El Queslati's room as part of a "Princess Room" treatment.



# Falcons wrap up Air Force Invitational

By Melissa McKeown  
Athletics Communications

The Air Force track and field team wrapped up competition at the 20th-annual Air Force Invitational Saturday at the Academy's Cadet Field House, with the men's track and field team finishing in third place and the women's team finishing sixth.

Cadets set six new Air Force records during the event along with several personal bests.

Senior Sara Neubauer upped her Academy record in the shot put for the fourth time this season as she won the 42-member event with a distance of 52 feet, 6 inches. Her throw, a three-inch personal improvement, beat the field by more than four feet.

Junior Cresha White clocked a career-best time of 7.69 seconds to place seventh in the 60-meter dash and move into a tie for second on the program's all-time list. Sophomore Tawny Lambuth cleared a career-best 12'5 1/2" to place seventh in the pole vault, while junior Rachel Simmons used a 10th-place clearance of 11'11 3/4" to score for the Falcons. Lambuth, who first cleared the 12-foot bar last week at New Mexico, moved into a tie for fourth on the program's all-time list.

Junior Katherine Ward scored for the Falcons in the one-mile run, clocking a time of 5:35.48 to finish seventh. The relay quartet of senior Jessica Mapes, sophomore Emily Cotharn, senior Danielle McCarty and freshman Morgan Mosby finished fifth with a time of 4:01.78.

Although McCarty just missed a scoring finish in the high jump, the senior cleared a career-best 5'5" to make her debut on the all-time list on that event. With the seventh-best clearance in program history, McCarty is the first Falcon to appear on the high jump list since 2001.

On the men's side, junior Tyler Stanley was the top collegiate finisher in the 800-meter run, while senior Nick Frawley placed first amongst collegiate athletes in the pole vault. Stanley recorded a season-best time of 1:56.91 to finish third overall, while Frawley cleared 17'4 1/2" to place second in the full field of 13.

Frawley was one of three Falcons to score in the pole vault. Freshman Chase Cooper placed sixth with a career-best clearance of 17'0 3/4", while junior Noah



Photo by Mike Kaplan

**Pia Goodman competes in the women's pole vault during the Air Force Invitational at the Cadet Field House Feb. 12, 2010. Falcons athletes beat six previously held Air Force records during the meet. The men's track and field team placed third overall, and the women's team placed fifth. Goodman, a freshman, is a native of Chatham, Ill.**

Palicia finished ninth with a personal-best height of 16'0 3/4". Cooper became just the ninth Air Force vaulter to clear the 17-foot bar and debuted in a tie for fifth on the program's all-time list.

Freshman Uzor Udensi picked up a pair of scoring finishes for the Falcons. He finished sixth in the 200-meter dash with a time of 21.99, while placing eighth in the 60-meter sprint in 7.01. Sophomore Phil Ofili also scored for the Falcons in the 60-meter dash, placing ninth with a time of 7.02.

Three Falcons picked up points for the team in the mile. Senior Andy Schweitzer clocked a time of 4:29.21 to finish sixth, while sophomore Nick White placed seventh in 4:33.12. Fellow sophomore Matthew Cain crossed the finish line in 4:34.47 to place ninth.

Air Force gained a pair of scoring finishes in the 400-meter dash, as well as the 60-meter dash. Clocking career-best times, sophomore Manuel Smith (48.94) and junior Chris Severino (49.07) finished eighth and ninth, respectively, in that race. Severino, Udensi and Smith teamed up with junior Matthew Jones to finish second in the 4x400-meter relay, behind a time of 3:19.06.

In the men's shot put, sophomore Kyle Schwochow finished fifth with a career-best toss of 52'11 1/2", while classmate Robert Drye measured a career-best distance of 51'10 1/2" to place eighth. Bettering his personal-best distance by over a foot, Schwochow's throw is the ninth-best toss in Academy history. Drye also improved his PR in that event by a foot.

The men placed third with 73.50 points. BYU won its first-ever Air Force Invitational with 89 points, while Colorado State finished second with 81. With 66 points, Wyoming finished fourth behind the Falcons, while Wayland Baptist (42) rounded out the top five. The women finished sixth with 37.50 points. BYU won its second straight title at the Falcons' annual meet with 150 points. Colorado State tallied 69.50 to edge Wayland Baptist (66) for second. Wyoming (45) and Wichita State (43.50) rounded out the top five.

History was made at the Air Force Invitational, as Kelsie Hendry, an unattached pole vaulter from Canada, set her country's indoor pole vault record at 14'7 1/4". That mark was one of two Air Force Invitational records to fall this weekend. In addition to Hendry's mark in the pole vault, former Colorado State standout Jenay DeLoach broke the meet's 13-year-old record in the long jump, recording a distance of 21'3 1/4".

Air Force returns to action today, when they travel to Laramie, Wyo., for the annual Robert Shine Invitational. The meet will serve as a final tune-up for the 2010 Mountain West Conference Championships, which will be held Thursday and Feb. 27 in Albuquerque, N.M.

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# Cougars take down Falcons, 78-53

By Nicholas Arseniak  
Athletics Communications

The Air Force women's basketball team dropped a 78-53 game to BYU Saturday at Clune Arena.

The loss dropped the Falcons to 3-21 (0-11) on the season and lifted the Cougars to 16-6 (7-3).

Freshman guard Alicia Leipprandt led Air Force with 12 points and six rebounds. Junior guard Raimee Beck followed with 10 points and tied a career-high with six assists. Senior forward Kathleen Schjodt and freshman

forward Katie Hilbig added eight points each. Hilbig also tied for the team-lead with six rebounds.

Four Cougars reached double figures in scoring, led by Jazmine Foreman's 17 points. Foreman also led BYU with five steals and five assists. Mindy Bonham followed with 13 points and Kristen Riley and Corianne Wood both scored 10 points.

Air Force faced another team going with a full-court press the entire game and struggled to hold onto the ball. The Falcons were forced into 26 turnovers and allowed the Cougars to dominate the points-off-turnovers battle

35-12. Air Force did have a strong game on the boards however, out-rebounding BYU 34-27.

The first-half was a back-and-forth affair as big runs carried both teams. The Falcons started the game hot, leading 8-2 three minutes in. BYU then went on a 13-0 run to lead 15-8 after seven minutes of play. Air Force responded with a 16-8 run over the next seven minutes to lead 24-23 with 7:36 left in the first-half. BYU closed out with a 14-2 run to lead 37-27 at the break.

Air Force returns to action Saturday against New Mexico at Clune Arena. Tipoff is set for 2 p.m.

## MWC Athlete of the Week

Air Force senior Ally Romanko was named the Mountain West Conference's athlete of the week following a record-setting performance in the 800-meter run during a track and field meet at the Academy Saturday.

Romanko scored a career-best 2:06.91, the fourth-fastest time in the MWC and 21st-fastest at the national level. She becomes the third Air Force

to earn the MWC athlete of the week award during the regular season.

## Rifle

The Academy's rifle team lost its NCAA qualifier match to TCU, 4,654-4,607, in Fort Worth Saturday.

Air Force's Tom Chandler was the Falcons' top shooter in both qualifying matches, shooting 588 in air rifle and 580 in small-bore. His aggregate score of

1,168 was second-best among both teams' competitors.

## Baseball

Air Force will kick off its 2010 baseball season with a four-game series at Cal State-Bakersfield today through Sunday.

Returning for the 2010 season are six starters and 14 letter winners. Seniors Matt Alexander, K.J. Randhawa and Alex Truesdale are the team captains.

## Falcons @ Home

### Saturday

#### Women's Basketball

vs. New Mexico at 2 p.m.

#### Women's Gymnastics

vs. Seattle Pacific with SEMO at 6 p.m.

### Wednesday

#### Boxing

Wing Open Semifinals at 4:30 p.m.

#### Men's Basketball

vs. Utah at 6:30 p.m.

# 44 Falcons named to all-MWC team

By Staff Sgt. Don Branum  
Academy Public Affairs

Forty-four Air Force athletes were among 384 student-athletes named to the fall 2009 Academic All-Mountain West Conference team, the MWC's communication division announced Feb. 11.

Fall sports include men's and women's cross-country, football, women's soccer and women's volleyball.

Student athletes were selected based on their academic and athletic excellence, according to the MWC: "To be eligible for selection, student athletes must have completed at least one academic term ... while maintaining a cumulative grade

point average of 3.0 or better and be a starter or significant contributor on their athletic team."

Falcons named to the all-MWC team are:

### Women's Cross-Country

- Dominique Amor
- Jennifer Bremser
- Katherine Carroll
- Auriele Fain
- Kara Hovseth
- Kate Kanetzky
- Brittany Morreale
- Meghan Prinkey
- Kathleen Vardell

### Men's Cross-Country

- Ryan Del Grosso
- Jeremy Drenckhahn

- Thomas Heikkinen
  - Zachary Nordahl
  - Gage Owens
  - Andrew Quallio
  - Andy Schweitzer
  - Tyler Small
- ### Football
- Keil Bartholomew
  - Jeffrey Benson
  - Nicholas Charles
  - Kevin Fogler
  - Benjamin Garland
  - Kyle Halderman
  - Joshton Hall
  - Olawale Lawal
  - Justin R. Moore
  - Tyler Schonsheck
  - Christopher M. Thomas

- Nathan Walker
  - Austin Wallerstein
- ### Women's Soccer
- Sharon Aradine
  - Eryn Avjian
  - Lyndsey Horn
  - Kelly Laurent
  - Anna Lowe
  - Bridgett Murphy
  - Shannon Nail
  - Krystin Shanklin
  - Kelsey Yip
- ### Women's Volleyball
- Michelle Harrington
  - Jessica Hellmann
  - Caroline Kurtz
  - Maiya Perich
  - Nichole Stilwell

# Medics win 4th-straight over-30 basketball title

By Dave Castilla  
Intramural Sports director

The Medics did what few teams before them have done at the Air Force Academy by capturing their fourth-straight over-30 intramural basketball title, defeating the Cadet Wing 35-31 in the championship game Feb. 9.

The Medics had to win the hard way, however, as the Cadet Wing forced a tiebreaker match by winning the first game, 57-47.

The teams played 12-minute halves instead of 20-minute halves for the second contest of the day. CW

took an early lead in the second game, with Ted Oakley scoring the team's first five points, and held onto that lead through halftime.

However, the Medics took control in the second half, as point guard Todd Garland spotted Mike Davis under the hoop and set Davis up for an easy layup. The Medics then went on a 7-3 run, moving the score to 22-15 with Garland scoring four points.

CW's Jaron Roux, a former Falcons basketball player, scored six points of a seven-point run to close the gap to 25-22. However, the Medics' Derrick Whiting and Steve Baker hit back-to-back shots, pushing the lead

back to seven, with less than two minutes left. Roux and Oakley struck back with three-pointers to shave the edge to 29-28 with 1:13 left.

The final decision came down to action at the free-throw line. Baker hit two to give the Medics a three-point lead, but a foul on Oakley's three-point shot tied the game at 31. Garland broke the tie, scoring four points on two fouls by CW to give the Medics a hard-earned victory.

Whiting led the Medics in scoring with 10 points, followed by Garland with nine and Baker with eight. Roux and Oakley led CW in scoring with 11 points apiece.

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## Black History Month

The Air Force Academy will celebrate Black History Month with events today through Monday.

**Today:** The Academy Clinic will offer a "soul food" themed meal in the 10th Medical Group dining hall from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Youth Center will have exhibits, games and presentations set up from 4 to 6 p.m., and the Tuskegee Airmen and Buffalo Soldiers panel will return to the BX from 4 to 6 p.m.

**Monday:** Colorado Rep. Terrance Carroll, speaker of the Colorado House of Representatives, will speak at a Black History Month Luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Falcon Club.

## Claims against estate

With deepest regrets to the family of

Staff Sgt. Tara M. Mendez, deceased. Any person or persons having claims for or against the estate of Sergeant Mendez, who passed away Feb. 1, 2010, should contact Lt. Col. Chet Barton, summary court officer, at 333-5142.

## Board of Visitors to meet

The Air Force Academy's Board of Visitors is scheduled to visit the Academy Feb. 26-27. For more information, go to the Board of Visitors' Web page at [www.usafa.edu/superintendent/pa/bov](http://www.usafa.edu/superintendent/pa/bov).

## Military child nominations to close

Nominations close Thursday for the 2010 Military Child Award, which recognizes the service and sacrifices of servicemembers' children.

The winner will receive \$5,000 and will be flown with a parent or guardian to Washington, D.C., for an award ceremony.

The nominee must be enrolled in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System and be between 8 and 18 years old. For more information, visit [www.operationhomefront.net](http://www.operationhomefront.net).

## Community Activities

For information on upcoming activities at the Milazzo Center, contact the Community Activities office at 333-2928.

### Bridal Faire

March 6, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The faire has everything a couple needs to plan their wedding day: venues, catering, wedding cakes, a fashion show, wedding coordinators, travel planners, florists, music, dance instructors, photography and more.

### Free tax preparation

The Air Force Academy will prepare tax returns free for active-duty servicemembers stationed at the Academy as well as cadets and retirees in Arnold Hall near Hap's. To have your tax return prepared, you will need a military ID card, wage and earning statements from your employers and any interest and dividend forms. You will also need bank routing and account numbers if you would like your tax refund issued through direct deposit.

For more information, contact the tax center at 333-3905.

### Civilian tuition assistance

The Civilian Tuition Assistance Program has money available for appropriated-funds employees of the Academy who are in an active civilian pay status. For more information or to apply for tuition assistance, call Christy Pfallmer at 333-4821.

### Sports camps

Regular registration is now open for 12- to 18-year-olds to attend 2010 Falcons Sports Camps. Sporting events include baseball, basketball, football, cheerleading, and diving and swimming.

Prices start at \$175 for three-day commuter camps, \$350 for one-week commuter camps and \$550 for weeklong camps with boarding at the Academy.

For more information on prices, check-in times and registrations, call the Athletics Department at 333-2116.

## H1N1 vaccine

TriCare beneficiaries can visit TriCare retail network pharmacies to receive seasonal flu, H1N1 flu and pneumonia vaccines at no cost. This expanded coverage is available to all TriCare beneficiaries eligible to use the TriCare retail pharmacy benefit.

To receive the vaccines, beneficiaries can call their local TriCare retail network pharmacy to make sure it participates in the vaccine program and has the vaccine in stock. To locate a participating retail network pharmacy, go to [www.express-scripts.com/Tricare](http://www.express-scripts.com/Tricare) or call Express Scripts at 877-363-1303.

At the Academy, the 10th Medical Group offers the H1N1 influenza vaccine to all servicemembers, TriCare beneficiaries, Department of Defense civilians and contractors. Active-duty servicemembers are required to receive the H1N1 vaccine in addition to the seasonal flu vaccine. Visit [www.usafa.af.mil/information/h1n1](http://www.usafa.af.mil/information/h1n1) for more information.

## A&FRC Offerings

The Academy Airman and Family Readiness Center will host the following classes in February. Contact the A&FRC at 333-3444 or 333-3445 with questions or to sign up for a class. Class dates and times are subject to change.

### Group pre-separation counseling

Held Mondays (except during TAP week), 2 to 4 p.m.

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

### Key spouse training

Today, 9 to 11 a.m.

The Academy Key Spouse Program enables open communication between unit leadership and families. Training includes roles and responsibilities, resources, making connections, responding to the call, and how to support families during deployment.

### Orientation and information fair

Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

This is a mandatory orientation for all newly assigned Academy personnel. Spouses are welcome to attend. The event is held at the Milazzo Center.

### TAP seminar

Monday to Feb. 26, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Separating in a year or retiring in two years or less? The Transition Assistance Program workshop is designed to provide the knowledge and skills necessary for a successful transition into the civilian workforce after a military career. Learn interviewing skills, resume writing, networking, negotiations, dress for success, and much more. Call now to reserve your spot in the next available TAP class. These workshops fill very quickly so plan your attendance well in advance.

### Newcomers base tour

Feb. 26, 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

This informative base tour gives insight into the Academy's mission and reveals most of the events and activities to see and do while stationed at the Academy. Stops include the stables, Cadet Chapel, Arnold Hall, Arts and Crafts Center, Outdoor Recreation and more.

## Medical records review

Feb. 26, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Individuals within 180 days of retirement or separation can have the Disabled American Veterans review their medical records in preparation of filing for Veterans Administration Disability Compensation through the VA Form 21-526. Call for more information or an appointment.

## Family Advocacy Classes

For information on classes offered by the Family Advocacy Office or to sign up, contact Kristin Larkey of Family Advocacy Outreach at 333-5270.



## Cripple Creek Ice Festival

The third-annual Cripple Creek Ice Festival, taking place through Sunday, will feature ice carving, retail and food vendors and a "dueling chainsaws" competition Saturday from 1 to 2 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

## Garden of the Gods Winter Lectures

The director of Pikes Peak Urban Gardens, Larry Stebbins, will share how to grow vegetables in Colorado's high-altitude climate at the Garden of the Gods Visitor Center Sunday at 2 p.m. The event is part of Garden of the Gods' free winter lecture series.

## National History Day

Colorado College and the Tutt Library will hold a regional competition today and Saturday featuring more than 500 local middle and high school students' research projects on "Innovation in History."

The competition is free and open to the public.

Exhibits will feature papers, Web pages, exhibit backboards, performances and video documentaries. The top three entries in each category will compete in the state competition in Denver in May.

For more information, call 389-6607.

## Academy Band Appearances

Rampart Winds, featuring Master Sgt. Sandra Tiemens on flute, will play at the Sangre de Cristo Arts and Conference Center in Pueblo Monday at 7:30 p.m., followed by a show at Colorado College's Packard Hall in Colorado Springs Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Go to the Academy Band's appearances page at [www.usafacademy.band.af.mil/events/](http://www.usafacademy.band.af.mil/events/) for more information.

## Quilting on display

Quilting expert Bobbie Aug will teach participants how to store, display, clean, repair and insure quilted textiles during a presentation at the Western Museum of Mining and Industry Saturday from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

## Volunteers wanted

Cheyenne Mountain State Park will hold a volunteer open house Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. For more information, contact the park at 576-2251.

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

CADET CHAPEL

Call 719-333-2636 for more information.

**Buddhist**  
Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.

**Jewish**  
Friday - 7 p.m.

**Muslim**  
Friday Prayer - 12:15 p.m.

**Protestant**  
Liturgical Worship Sun. - 8 a.m.  
Traditional Worship Sun. - 9:30 a.m.  
Contemporary Worship Sun. - 11:30 a.m.

**Roman Catholic**  
Mass  
Sunday - 10 a.m.  
Academic Year, when cadets are present  
Mon, Tues, and Thurs - 6:40 a.m.  
Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.

**Sacrament of Penance**  
Sunday - 9:00-9:40 a.m.  
Academic Year, when cadets are present  
Wednesday - 5:30-6:15 p.m.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**  
Academic Year, when cadets are present  
Wednesday - 5:30-6:20 p.m.

**Paganism/Earth-centered Spirituality**  
Academic Year, when cadets are present  
Monday, 6:30 - 7:50 p.m. - Room 1M125  
(1st Floor - Fairchild Annex -- Astronautics Museum)  
Contact TSgt Longcrier at 719-333-6187

COMMUNITY CENTER CHAPEL

**Catholic Masses:**

**Saturday**  
Reconciliation - 3:30 p.m.  
Mass - 4 p.m.

**Sunday**  
Mass - 9 a.m.  
Religious Formation - 10:15 a.m.  
(September - May)

**Tuesday-Friday**  
Mass - 11:30 a.m.

**Protestant Services:**

**Wednesday**  
Wednesday Night Live - 6 p.m.  
Dinner followed by Religious Education  
(September - May).

**Sunday**  
Evangelical - 10:15 a.m.  
Gospel - 11:30 a.m.



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