

# USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO ACADEMY SPIRIT

Vol. 50 No. 24

June 18, 2010

## Academy hosts firefighter combat challenge

By John Van Winkle  
Academy Public Affairs

The Academy Fire Department will defend its three world championships at the Rumble in the Rockies, and the public is invited to attend.

The Rumble in the Rockies is a regional firefighter combat challenge competition, June 19-20 at Falcon Stadium. The firefighter combat challenge puts firefighters through their paces practicing their real-world firefighting skills against the clock, and has been called "the toughest two minutes in sports" by ESPN.

The Academy started participating in the firefighter combat challenge in 2001. The experience level and interest level in the competition here has grown over the years, turning the Academy Fire Department into a national power in this firefighting competition.

In 2009, the Academy won gold medals with its over 40 relay team, ladies tandem and ladies relay team, and silver medals with the over-40 relay team and the under-40 team.

See **FIREFIGHTERS**, Page 13



Photo by Johnny Wilson

Academy firefighter Bill Gates practices moving a 150 lb. weight on the Keiser sled with a mallet, while fellow firefighter Anthony "Tank" McMurty times him and Senior Airman Tyler Moran observes. Each will practice these and other firefighting skills on a timed course at the Firefighter Combat Challenge regional competition Saturday and Sunday starting at 10 a.m. at Falcon Stadium.

## Balancing preservation with progress



**USAFA's newest  
Tech. Sgts.**



Photo by Johnny Wilson

Neal Cloud, a representative of the Southern Ute Tribe, and Dr. Jeff Blythe, of the Jicarilla Apache Tribe, view a stone circle at an undisclosed archeological site here.

### Academy hosts first Native American Consultation visit

By Melissa Porter  
Academy Public Affairs

The Academy hosted an inaugural government-to-government Native American consultation visit June 8-9, marking the first time the installation has engaged in dialogue with federally-recognized Native American tribes regarding the preservation and protection of cultural resources located here.

The primary purpose of the visit was to make formal introductions, disclose to the tribes what archeological resources have been identified at the Academy and how they have been managed, and to work toward a mutual agreement with the interests of the tribes and the Academy in mind.

"We're laying a foundation to build a stable and enduring relationship that will benefit all parties as the Academy moves forward with our

mission of developing leaders of character," said Col. Rick LoCastro, 10th Air Base Wing commander and host officer for the visit. "This gathering is long overdue, but we are now on the right track."

The National Historic Preservation Act mandates all federal agencies must identify, evaluate and protect historic properties that have religious significance or cultural importance to federally-recognized tribes as well as consult with those groups.

Presidential Executive Order 13175 and Department of Defense Instruction 4710.02 further mandate installation staff at military bases build stable and enduring government-to-government relations with tribes in a manner that sustains the DoD mission and minimizes effects on protected tribal resources.

The visit included both formal and informal dialogue about what all parties hope to get out of and contribute to the consultation process, as well as fact-finding tours of several archeological sites on Academy property.

See **PRESERVATION**, Page 13

Thirteen Academy staff sergeants and four noncommissioned officers inbound to the Academy were selected for promotion to technical sergeant, the Air Force announced Thursday.

At the Academy the following staff sergeants were selected for their next stripe: Shane Antrim, Headquarters staff; Nathaniel Boyd, Department of Astronautics; Brian Calenberg, Department of Astronautics; Shawn Elmandorf, 10th Surgical Operations Squadron; Mary Gates, Headquarters staff; Scott Gentle, Directorate of Admissions; Amber Hawkins, 10th Medical Operations Squadron; Aleric Hebert, Cadet Chapel; Dion Julian, II, 10th Security Forces Squadron; Brett Newton, 10th Medical Support Squadron; Melissa Pakenham, 10th Medical Operations Squadron; William Roberts, Directorate of Training Support; Joseph Valente, 98th Flying Training Squadron.

And four staff sergeants at other bases who have assignments to the Academy were also selected for promotion. They are: Elizabeth Alicea, Ashley Banks, Nicole Elmor and Matthew Roof.

### WEEKEND WEATHER

**FRI** ▲ 84 ▼ 48 Sun  
**SAT** ▲ 86 ▼ 48 Sun  
**SUN** ▲ 86 ▼ 50 Sun  
Possible T-Storms

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# Gut check on leadership

By **Col. L. Dean Worley Jr.**  
55th Electronic Combat Group  
commander

DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. (AFNS) — The Air Force spends a tremendous amount of time, effort and money on leadership development. We're bombarded with leadership models to study, examples to emulate, and even within the 55th Wing, we have a goal to develop Airmen. This clearly includes bolstering and refining leadership throughout our far-flung unit.

As members of the profession of arms, it's clear that leadership is all-important and key to victory in the ultimate competitive environment of combat. So how are we doing? Better yet, how are you doing as a leader?

This might be a strange question to ask. I'm sure many of you are saying, "I'm doing great, my officer or enlisted performance report says so." Really? Glad you can show your OPR or EPR to your mom. How do you know, in your gut — when your boss isn't there to give you a stroke and you're in a "feedback-free zone," where it's you and your subordinates looking at each other — that you're ready to lead and lead well?

You can't wait until somebody's shooting at you, or you're making a tough call on "greening-up" a jet as a pro super, or working with a patient that may have a fatal condition, or making sure a drunk and semi-belligerent acquaintance you saw at the club gets home in one piece, to determine that you have the acumen to rise to the challenge.

How do you know, besides mentoring and feedback sessions, that your leadership ability is where it needs to be to assure we remain the world's greatest Air Force? The only way you'll know is to have an internal set of standards to measure your leadership competence.

I don't have all the answers, but I'll share my internal benchmark, and it's relatively simple.

Just ask yourself three questions. First: "Do you 'deliver?,' second: "Do you create a climate for success?," and third: "Do you have the highest professional and personal standards?"

Do you deliver? This can also be written, do you translate your boss' intent into action and at higher levels, do you galvanize your organization's

strategy into results? The bottom line is do you exercise leadership and does your leadership produce a positive outcome for the unit? Results-oriented leaders shouldn't need a boot in the behind or constant attention by your superior to generate activity. Even if you don't have subordinates, you have the opportunity to lead every day.

Do you use every tool available to perform your task, mission or job, or do you try to put the monkey on your wingman's back, or worse, your boss? Next time you're getting ready to send an email to a peer or superior that ends with the dreaded "thoughts?" read it closely and see if it's implicitly saying, "Take this burden from me and tell me what to do." You might be surprised about the message you're sending.

Delivering mission success is tough and may require gut-wrenching decisions. Delivering success over and over again is even tougher, but that's what our bosses and the American people expect. Leaders that deliver are the heart and soul of the Air Force, and they're the reason we're respected by our friends, and feared by our nation's enemies.

Do you create a climate for success? This sounds like something you'd read from a touchy-feely, self-help book, but hold on. There's more to this than clichés. This is all about your environment and what you do to make it, and your Airmen, better. This encompasses your attitude and how you project it. Do you broadcast a positive outlook to your subordinates, peers and friends? Is your work area a place where respectful and candid discussions about the mission and Airmen's issues flow up and down the chain? Do you encourage diversity, not just of race, gender, religion and ethnicity, but of thought?

The "Fightin' Fifty-Fifth" has an innovation and agility focus area, so do you encourage folks to "chuck a rock" and take calculated risks to develop innovative ideas? Do you mentor your Airmen on their performance, especially on their leadership development? Are you identifying your successor in your shop or unit and grooming that Airman? Do you encourage professional military education? Do you identify ways to improve your unit and push these ideas to your boss for action?

For an Air Force that's had six

wing commanders fired in less than two years, building that positive climate also includes adhering to our standards of excellence, and demanding their enforcement if you must. Ultimately, the climate you erect will be about focused action, mission success, as well as professional and personal respect and dignity.

Do you have the highest professional and personal standards? This yardstick is arguably the hardest to meet and most critical. It's what gives our leadership its ethical foundation and saves our action-oriented direction from falling victim to an "ends justifies the means" mentality.

Furthermore, it prevents us from abandoning the ethical underpinnings of our profession. It gives us the moral courage to make hard decisions, especially when upholding our service's standards or in the crucible of combat. Additionally, it enables us to lead by example in all things, including professional military education and advanced education, or even developing a professional reading plan.

In an era of non-stop deployments and a high operations tempo, our personal standards will ensure we have mature and adult relationships with our family, friends, co-workers, subordinates and superiors. High personal standards will also help us find the right balance between physical, spiritual and mental well-being as enjoined by the 55th Wing's focus area.

That's it, just three short questions that we can use as an internal gut check to determine our leadership competence. As you can see, these questions drive more questions for deeper reflection and they also influence, shape and reinforce one another. And yes, they're high standards to meet, but this shouldn't be a surprise since we're all charged to lead America's sons and daughters. Passing the gut check ensures that we're worthy of their trust and confidence, as well as the trust and confidence of our superiors. It ensures that we just don't do, but we do well.

Finally, if we have an internal benchmark, we also have a means to assess our subordinates' leadership, mentor them and provide effective feedback. That's the ultimate payback. Our leadership gut check can help us develop the next generation of Airmen into warriors that will execute their missions with honor and win.

## ACADEMY SPIRIT

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

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

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



## What kind of book would you like to write?

"I enjoy science and engineering, mostly for school work. I would like to write text books, engineering and computer science books and get into teaching and education."



Capt. Lee Kashka

"I like mystery thrillers. I'd like to write a murder mystery because they are exciting to read."



Cadet 3rd Class  
Ryan Hogan

"I'd write about my Academy experience and the challenge. My older and younger sister came here and I find it interesting how we all grew up in the same environment, but have had such different experiences."



Cadet 1st Class  
Alexis Tamosuinas

"I like different kinds of books. I like Stephen King. I'm not much at writing but I might try horror."



Jeremy Tobias



# New inspection station to ease gate traffic flow

By Ann Patton  
Academy Spirit staff

Drivers entering the Academy will take notice of changes at the North and South Gates beginning Monday.

All heavy vehicle traffic subject to inspection will be restricted to the South Gate only and must pass through a new temporary large vehicle inspection site on Kettle Lake Road near the South Gate entrance. Large vehicle drivers will receive a temporary pass to the base following a successful inspection.

"It's a great move," said 10th Security Forces Commander Maj. Phillip Born. "It reduces our security vulnerability and improves traffic flow at the South Gate."

Previously, large vehicles were searched at both entry gates, exposing the public to hazards. The new force protection will improve overall base security for both assets and those living, working or visiting on the base.

Brad Wilson, 10th SF plans and programs administrator, said the Academy has coordinated with other area military installations with similar operations. In 2013, a permanent facility is anticipated to be in operation and, after inspection, provide large vehicle drivers entry to the Academy directly without passing through the South Gate.

"It's a long time coming," he said but pointed out once approval was met

for the temporary facility it was put in place within five months.

The large vehicle inspection station will be open weekdays, 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. When it is closed, drivers must use the farthest right line at the South Gate only.

Large commercial delivery vehicles are those vehicles with three or more axles or have four rear tires on the rear axle (dually). If a commercial vehicle is pulling a trailer it will also be considered a large vehicle.

The three-axle rule does not apply to United Parcel Service/Federal Express or DHL vehicles which will be inspected in the same manner as large commercial delivery vehicles and must be inspected and checked for explosives.

U.S. Post Office vehicles are exempt from inspections and explosive checks as are government/GSA vehicles during certain Force Protection Conditions.

Department of Defense identification card holders driving large utility and recreational vehicles for personal use, including moving vans/trucks and all trailers, are also exempt from inspections.

Academy personnel who purchase goods/products from off the installation must inform vendors of the procedures to use the large vehicle inspection station to prevent delays resulting from uninformed drivers being turned away at installation entry points.



Photo by Johnny Wilson

## Walking tall

More than 1,200 people braved a cold and rainy day to participate in the American Heart Association's Colorado Springs Start! Heart Walk June 12 at Falcon Stadium. The event raised over \$105,000 to help fight heart disease and stroke. The event included a health education booth, entertainment, prizes and a light snack for walkers.



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# 1986 grad takes command of Prep School, readies to welcome new cadet candidates

By Ann Patton  
Academy Spirit staff

Having cadet candidates realize they are part of something bigger than they are is but one goal the new Preparatory School commander has for incoming students.

Col. Bart Weiss accepted the guidon from retiring Prep School commander Col. Todd Zachary during change of command ceremonies May 19 at the Milazzo Club.

He will serve in the position for two years.

The new commander said the school is what its name implies—preparing cadet candidates to succeed on the Hill academically, athletically and militarily. Colonel Weiss called it an amalgamation, which includes character development as well, of training with a heavy emphasis on academics in science, mathematics and English.

Prior enlisted Airmen have the opportunity to brush up on academics they may have been away from for a while.

“The bottom line is if they can’t function academically, that will create a whole new series of challenges as a cadet,” he said.

Following the Prep School year, the CCs are

eligible for possible appointments to the Academy and enter as Basic Cadets.

Colonel Weiss, a member of the Class of 1986, previously served as the commander of the 22nd Operations Group and vice commander of the 22nd Air Refueling Wing at McConnell Air Force Base, Kan.

He holds two master’s degrees, one from Marymount University and one from the U.S. Army War College with an emphasis in national security strategy.

He has commanded two operational flying squadrons in Europe and in the Pacific and one operations group, as well as commanding units in support of Operations Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. He also served in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm and has led a 20-ship aircraft formation during Operation Just Cause.

In addition, Colonel Weiss served as director of the Air Force Academy’s Washington, D.C., office.

He is rated as a command pilot with 4,900 flying hours.

His honors include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal and the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters.

He would like incoming students to look at the additional academic year not as a long haul of five years to graduation but to see it is a great opportunity to grow personally and academically.

“Let’s take this year for this year,” he said.

The 24-year Air Force veteran feels his Air Force

experiences and training have prepared him for the tasks ahead at the Prep School.

His experiences, which started in Basic Cadet Training, have included programming and budgeting, teaching simulators and serving as an aide de camp as well as piloting aircraft. The mentoring and training he has provided others and efforts to ensure people are in the right job and with the right team mix he feels will serve him in his new position.

“I think it translates well here,” he said.

A golfer, Colonel Weiss’ family includes his wife Kathy, three children in Colorado Springs and another living in Florida.

The new Prep School class is due to in-process July 14.

Colonel Weiss said it is a very diversified class, especially as they come from widely-varying locales all over the country.

“The Prep School does a good job mirroring that,” he said.

He gives high praise to all the Academy leadership for their support of the CCs, faculty and staff and their dedication to mission.

“Everyone has a common purpose,” he said. “That’s huge.”

Colonel Weiss is looking forward to welcoming the new students.

“I am really excited to get to interact with them,” he said and added the new CCs may experience unknowns but wants them to know “We will be here to help you.”



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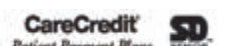


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# Academy hosts SARC summit

By John Van Winkle  
Academy Public Affairs

The sexual assault response arms of three service academies gathered here this week for the 2010 Service Academy Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Summit.

Counselors, victim advocates, lawyers and investigators from the Air Force Academy, U.S. Military Academy and U.S. Naval Academy met Tuesday through Thursday, to take advantage of their semi-down times between graduation and inprocessing to compare programs and confer in person.

"We hope to come together to share some best practices, to discuss some of our barriers and issues in how we each overcome them and also to examine the areas and issues we each face and how we each overcame them," said Ms. Teresa Beasley, the Air Force Academy's sexual assault prevention and response coordinator.

The various service academy representatives were joined by staff of the Defense Manpower and Data Center via teleconference on Wednesday. The service academies must provide data to this DOD annually on sexual assault and harassment incidents, as well as gender relations and overall climate issues.

"We look forward to sharing of best practices and good ideas, because even though we are in different services and all the different services have different rules for running their sexual assault prevention and response programs," said Navy Capt. Diana T. Cangelosi, the U.S. Naval Academy's SARC.

"Because of our common constituency – our cadets and midshipmen – we have more in common with each other than we really do with our fleet, our force, our division or our deployed or whatever counterparts because all of our people are the same relative college age, 18-24, and because of the environments that they are in with very young men and women of college age living in close quarters," added Capt. Cangelosi, who also teaches Ethics at Annapolis.

"So believe it or not, we as service academies actually have more in common with the other fellow service academies than we do with the people out in the fleet or force, where it's a mixture of younger and older people to help balance a young person's life," she added.

As the host, the Air Force Academy showcased its Personal Ethics and Education Representatives, better known as PEERS. This program is a proactive, grassroots approach within the Cadet Wing which currently has 86 cadets who offer education, outreach, listening and referrals to help cadets make healthy lifestyle choices. As such, the PEERS program received extra attention from the other academies present.

"The big thing that happens at these sorts of events is you find resources out and you learn each others' skills and who you can call for what, or even if you've had a bad day — you can just call each other and say 'how's it going.' I think the networking is really big part of this," said Ms. Beasley.

Networking was also a focus for West Point. "It's nice to know that other people feel and experience the same things that we do in executing our general directives," said Army Maj. Maria Burger, Special Assistant to the Commandant for Human Relations, at West Point. "The ideas that other people are using are things that might be free and that we might not have even thought of that would expand our program and strengthen our education and training piece and better our responses for our cadets."

Beyond just presenting and comparing each other's particular programs and initiatives, the service academy counterparts also reviewed some of the common reporting requirements and differing requirements which exist, examined methods to improve these processes, and the battle rhythm inherent in meeting the SAPR reporting requirements to the respective services, DMDC, Government Accountability Office and others.

The Department of Defense's sexual assault policy is that sexual assault has no place in the United States armed forces. "The Department of Defense has a no-tolerance policy toward sexual assault," said Dr. Robert M. Gates, Secretary of Defense.

"This type of act not only does unconscionable harm to the victim; it destabilizes the workplace and threatens national security," added Secretary Gates.

For more information about the Air Force Academy's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program, visit <http://www.usafa.af.mil/units/sapr/>. Information on the Air Force's program is available at: <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/library/sapr/>.

# MIA grad's remains buried at Arlington

Air Force Print News

The remains of a 1963 Air Force Academy graduate who was missing in action were laid to rest with the rest of his aircrew June 11 in Arlington National Cemetery.

Maj. Thomas B. Mitchell of Littleton, Colo., USAFA Class of 1963, was one of nine Airmen buried in a group in Arlington with full military honors. The remainder of the group are: Col. William H. Mason, Camden, Ark.; Lt. Col. Jerry L. Chambers, Muskogee, Okla.; Maj. William T. McPhail, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Chief Master Sgt. John Q. Adam, Bethel, Kan.; Chief Master Sgt. Calvin C. Glover, Steubenville, Ohio; Chief Master Sgt. Thomas E. Knebel, Midway, Ark.; Chief Master Sgt. Melvin D. Rash, Yorktown, Va.; and Master Sgt. Gary Pate, Brooks, Ga., were buried as a group June 11 in Arlington National Cemetery. The individually identified remains of each Airman were identified March 13, 2009 and previously returned to their families for burial.

On May 22, 1968, these men were aboard a C-130A Hercules on an evening flare mission over northern Salavan province, Laos. Fifteen minutes after the aircraft made a radio call, the crew of another U.S. aircraft observed a large ground fire near the last known location of Colonel Mason's aircraft. Search and rescue attempts were not initiated due to heavy anti-aircraft fire in the area.

Analysts from DPMO developed case leads with information spanning more than 40 years. Through interviews with eyewitnesses and research in the National Archives, several locations in Laos and Vietnam were pinpointed as potential crash sites.

Between 1989 and 2008, teams from Laos and the Vietnam, led by the Joint Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Accounting Command, pursued leads, interviewed villagers and conducted 10 field investigations and four excavations in Quang Tri province, Vietnam. They recovered aircraft wreckage, human remains, crew-related equipment and personal effects.

Scientists from JPAC and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory also used mitochondrial DNA, which matched that of the crewmembers' families, as well as dental comparisons in the identification of the remains.

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# Educators see science from kid's eye-view

## Science and technology workshop for educators offers project ideas for the classroom

By Julie Imada  
Research Publicist

With plans and pencils in hand, teachers Robert Young, Kevin McGregor and Kirsten Burda conferred on the next steps in designing and assembling their glider.

Surrounded by high school students firing up their excitement and interest in science and technology with their glider efforts, the teachers were gathering up knowledge and projects for them to take back to their own classrooms.

On June 9 and 10, science and mathematics teachers from Academy School District 20 and Lewis Palmer School District 38 participated in the annual Academy Summer Seminar 2010 Science and Technology Educator Workshop. The workshop offers local educators the opportunity to share their techniques on firing up students interest in science and mathematics, learn new techniques to take back to their classrooms, and to discuss the current challenges facing science, technology, engineering, and mathematics efforts, known as STEM.

"These teachers do a wonderful job of motivating their students toward STEM opportunities and in preparing their students for success in their transition to college," said Col. Neal Barlow, Chair of the the Academy's Engineering Division and Vice President of Education for the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

The Air Force Academy is hoping to do more to support educators in their efforts and has insti-

tuted a broad range of programs available to students, educators, and other regional STEM organizations.

These efforts range from bringing students to the Academy to participate in hands-on science programs like CoolScience and Girls in the Middle to establishing summer STEM workshops and continuing education credits for educators throughout the Southern Colorado region. Efforts also include infusing local STEM organizations such as the Challenger Learning Center and Project Lead the Way with a \$215,000 investment provided by the Office of the Secretary of Defense National Defense Education Program or NDEP.

This year's Summer Seminar Educator workshop was funded by the NDEP grant as well as the Academy School District 20 Board of Education.

Over the course of the two-day workshop, teachers were given hands-on projects and lessons to take into their classroom including glider design, rocket design, laser and optics projects, and mathematics modeling. Each of the educators went home with CD-ROM that included all of the projects, teaching lessons, and required software to incorporate the lessons into their classrooms.

"This is fabulous," said Mountain Ridge Middle School mathematics teacher Laurie Loncar. "This is an opportunity to walk away with good ideas and help kids envision what they can do."



Photo by Julie Imada

From left to right, Academy School District 20 teachers Kirsten Burda, Robert Young and Kevin McGregor work on designing and assembling their glider project. The teachers participated in a two-day educator seminar during the annual Air Force Academy Summer Seminar program.



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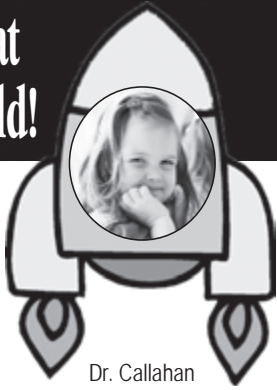
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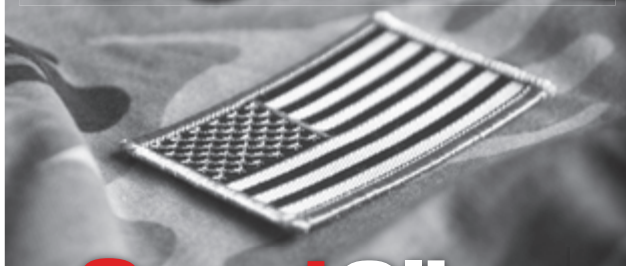
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# AMTs prepare for Class of 2014's basics

By Butch Wehry  
Academy Spirit staff

Academy Military Trainers are getting ready for a new wave of basic cadet trainees next week, as well as Basic Cadet Training.

"BCT is, like everything else at the Academy, a cadet-led program," said AMT Tech. Sgt. Jeanette Copeland. "However, AMTs are the primary trainers while preparing the cadre for BCT and throughout the duration of BCT."

Sometimes you never know the fruits of your labor until years down the road.

"Like when a cadet calls or emails after they've graduated, sometimes two or three years later, for guidance, or to say thanks and that I was right about the 'real Air Force,' or that they wish the NCOs they encounter were more professional like me," Copeland said.

Prior to taking this special duty assignment, she was the noncommissioned officer in charge of the photo department at the multimedia center at RAF Mildenhall, England.

"When I taught an Airman something, I would have them immediately go and apply what was taught, then provide feedback. Building an Officer of Character is a whole lot more different and involved than teaching photography skills.

AMTs are perhaps made rather than born.

New AMTs go through a five-week course that consists of cadet area orientation, various program briefings that affect them as AMTs and the cadets, such as the cadet counseling center, prep school, athletic department, Dean of the Faculty, airfield, Center for Character & Leadership Development, SARC, non-judicial punishment, area defense counsel, and job specific training.



Photo by Mike Kaplan

**Cadet cadre members move basics up the Core Values Ramp after introducing themselves.**

One week is devoted to teach new AMT's personnel management and how to instruct, and the last portion of the course is military drill - where AMTs learn command voice and how to teach and evaluate drill movements. They also learn saber manual and rifle manual drill.

It's not the basic conjured up in the movies.

"There are times when the 'drill Sergeant' role may be effective and necessary — for the most part, though, we do not resort to yelling. Everything an AMT does

and everything we say is on parade in people's faces in order to get our point across," said the NCO. "Our main role is to make sure the first and second classmen are conducting appropriate training - meaning that all training must have a purpose. If training is being conducted that does not serve a specific purpose, then it is stopped immediately and appropriate actions are taken."

Everything an AMT does and says is on parade.

"An AMT can be an drill instructor, first sergeant, supervisor, military education instructor and aunt or uncle as well," said Master Sgt. Daniel Spain, a 17 year Air Force veteran from Grandview, Texas. "All these skill sets will be used in one day. The ability to identify talents in individuals and push those individuals from good to great is a key for any AMT. We have to know when to push cadets and when to pull back a little without compromising standards.

"The relationships between cadets and AMTs are invaluable. We assist them in leading their peers, social skills, briefings, decision making and many aspects of becoming a successful Air Force Officer," said the senior NCO.

"AMTs need the ability to deal with adversity and to adapt quickly," he said. "You need ability when dealing with human nature along with 18 to 24-year olds when things just don't work out like we plan."

AMTs can expect circumstances that no military training prepared him or her for.

"Like adapting military mindset to a college campus," said the basic cadet training instructor.

The best part of being an AMT?

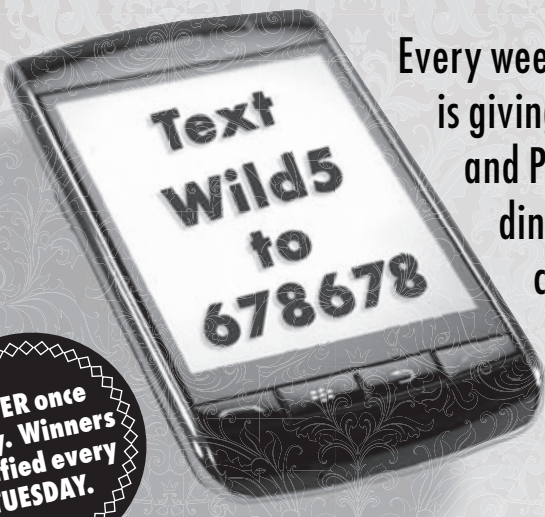
"Watching cadets become respectful men and women," he said. "Knowing we were part of shaping who they will become and being proud to serve alongside phenomenal individuals."

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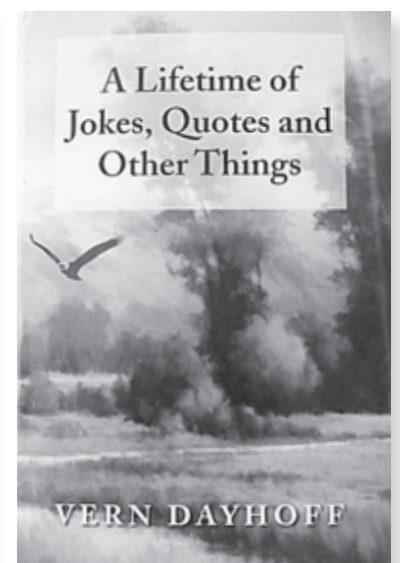
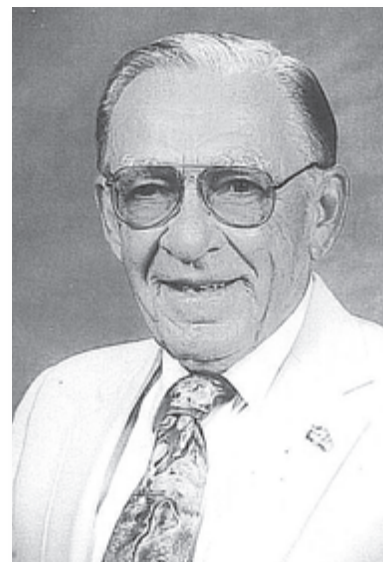
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# Campers, Academy horses team up on the trail

By Ann Patton  
Academy Spirit staff

Military kids from Camp Purple descended on the Academy's Equestrian Center June 8 for a day of learning, riding and relaxing.

It was among the week-long activities on Ponderosa Ranch near Larkspur that included rock climbing, archery, rafting, the ropes courses and nature studies and activities. The camp is hosted by Outer Edge Performance and sponsored by the National Military Family Association, based in Alexandria, Va. Thanks to the Sierra Club, it is free to youngsters 7 to 17 whose parents have been deployed or are ready to deploy.

The 20 or so youngsters are among three sets of campers to enjoy the Equestrian Center this month.

"It's a chance to come out and have fun and meet other military kids," said Bailey Bernius with the NMFA who added it is especially welcoming for children of Guard and Reservists who have little or no contact during the year with other military children.

Irene Klarich, an Academy employee and Equestrian Center volunteer, said it is a great way to get kids outdoors and interact with horses.

"It's a form of fun for them and a way to learn about horses. It's also wonderful therapy for kids to ride them," she said. "Horses have very deep souls."



Photo by Bill Evans

**Beth Herndon reins in T.J. as Mike Herndon explains the Mustang's equine identification marking.**

Most of the Camp Purple campers had never ridden a horse but seemed to take it all in stride once saddled up and ready to head out to the trail.

Not all children who come to the Academy to ride are as comfortable around horses. Ms. Klarich remembers one small lad she helped to ride, starting with brushing and saddling in the corral. Once seated on the saddle, he momentarily closed his eyes and then opened them with a big smile on his face.

"It was an absolute thrill for him," she said. "He told me, 'Thank you, Miss Irene.'" Volunteer and retired Chief Master

Sgt. Bob Diehl had a similar experience with a child who was so fearful she didn't even want to join the trail line. With a little coaxing, she was on her way, and he recalled half way through the ride she started laughing.

"Riding is a big confidence builder," he said. "As a group, it brings them together so they have a common experience."

Husband and wife team Mike and Beth Herndon and their Mustang, "T.J.," all volunteers, have spent many hours teaching youngsters the ins and outs of horsemanship. They shared their expertise and experiences with the campers.

The pair stressed the importance of safety zones in handling the horse—the triangle of head, leg and shoulder on the horse's left side—as well as the proper fit for stirrups and girth which keeps the saddle in place.

T. J. and Mr. Herndon explained the methods for starting and stopping a horse and the three speeds of riding—walking, trotting and galloping.

The campers seemed especially interested in T. J.'s heritage. A Mustang, also known as an "unknown wild horse," the phrase thought to have originated from Native Americans, was indeed a wild horse that was rounded up by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and trained by prisoners in Canon City, who dubbed him "Turbo Jet."

The campers also learned that since horses are not carnivores, or meat eaters, and that determines their behavior.

"It tells us a horse is not a predator and explains how he reacts to things," Mr. Herndon said of the horse's defense mechanisms.

The couple thoroughly enjoys working with children and horses. "We get so much pleasure out of doing this for kids," she said and added horses make great therapists because of the bond between humans and horses. "They take care of us on the trail, and we're taking care of them."

As for T.J., she said, "He's decided kids are the best."

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## Preservation

From Page 1

“There are currently 164 archaeological sites on the Academy,” said Vicki Williams, Cultural Resources Manager for the Academy. “Eight of these sites were identified as having potential interest to tribes.”

The Archaeological Resources Protection Act and NHPA prohibit the Academy from releasing specific archeological site locations or disclosing the findings at these sites to the public, according to Ms. Williams.

Thirteen tribes with known interest in the Pikes Peak Region were invited to the meeting, but not all were available to attend, said Ms. Williams. Among the tribes represented were the Jicarilla Apache Tribe, the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, the Cheyenne Arapahoe Tribes of Oklahoma and the Southern Ute Tribe.

Conrad Fisher, Tribal Historic Preservation officer for the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, was in attendance, along with two other representatives of his tribe.

“Probably the biggest desired outcome (for us) is to ensure that tribal cultural properties are considered in an undertaking when it comes to adverse effects,” he said.

Mr. Fisher said his tribe did have a presence here, but he is uncertain at this time if the tribe has any cultural sites within Academy boundaries. He plans to take back

the information gathered during his time here and further explore that possibility.

Likewise, the hosts felt the visit was an opportunity to learn more about the land the Academy sits on and find out what is important to the Native Americans.

“We would like to see an ethnographic study developed for the Academy from the tribal perspective,” said Ms. Williams. “That plays an important part in developing the written history of the land and in how we move forward in protecting our cultural resources.”

While at the Academy, the tribal representatives had a chance to learn more about the opportunities that exist for younger members of their tribes.

Lt. Gen. Mike Gould, USAFA superintendent, addressed the group and encouraged the group to share with members of their communities the opportunities and to encourage prospective cadet candidates within their tribes to work toward coming to the Academy.

“I want you to understand one of our primary goals is to make our Air Force more diverse and that starts here at the Academy,” the general said. “We feel there is strength in diversity.”

Colonel LoCastro later re-emphasized that message following a presentation provided by the Admission’s Diversity Recruiting Office, which informed guests that

Native Americans represent 1 percent of the cadet population.

“We should work together to find the future leaders of our Air Force and our country,” he said. “You are instrumental in that effort.”

At the end of the two days, all parties seemed pleased with the historic introduction and are looking forward to future interaction.

“This helped bring all parties together under one roof,” Colonel LoCastro said. “But the dialogue and communication doesn’t end here.”

Colonel LoCastro encouraged the representatives to call whenever they wanted and not wait until the next meeting, currently planned for June 2011.

“This is a very valuable working relationship,” the colonel said. “It is all about understanding, appreciation, knowledge, and respect so that we can work together.”

Mr. Fisher said he left the meeting with the impression the Air Force is willing and sincere about working with the tribes and the Academy has done a tremendous job of keeping some areas in as pristine condition as possible.

“It’s a beautiful area,” Mr. Fisher said. “I’m sure the people of the past thought about it the same way. We should be very careful as the gatekeepers to keep it that way.”

## Firefighters



Photos by Johnny Wilson

Above, Academy firefighter Bill Gates drags a ready fire hose while practicing for a firefighter combat challenge event. Below, Pat Kraft runs through the serpentine course, which precedes the fire hose drag.



From Page 1

“For the 2010 regionals, I’m hoping for the same kind of turnout from our department that we had last year,” said Pat Kraft, team captain.

“I know the interest level’s really high. There’s two or three relay teams that are actually starting to assemble and train. When it’s all said and done, I’m looking at 5-10 tandems and probably an additional 3-4 relay teams.

That will amount to about half of the Academy Fire Department competing at the regionals again this year. “We’ll be moving people around to cover trucks and give everyone an opportunity to run like last year,” added Kraft.

The Firefighter Combat Challenge is in its 19th year. “The firefighter combat challenge started in a lab with a FEMA study,” said Dr. Paul Davis, event founder. That Federal Emergency Management Agency study looked at methods to train firefighters to better battle a working fire, which resulted in the challenge’s five events.

“Competitors start the race wearing the same gear they’d wear fighting a fire, which is about 60 pounds of equipment,” said Doctor Davis. Firefighters climb a five story tower carrying a 42-pound fire hose, then hoist another a rope weighted by a 42-pound fire hose up five stories, while leaning over the top of the tower. Next, they



Left, Bill Gates times Senior Airman Tyler Moran’s dragging of the rescue dummy. The Firefighter Combat Challenge course ends with the firefighter dragging a 175 -lb. dummy backwards 75 feet, which simulates a victim’s rescue at a working fire.

race down the tower and pound a 160-pound slab of steel with a mallet, to move the slab 5 feet, to simulate breaking a hole in a roof or door. Next, they weave 100 feet to grab a firehose and drag it 75 feet to hit a volleyball-sized target with water.

“Then comes the killer event that we call the tractor pull, which is taking the dummy — Rescue Randy, weighing 175 pounds — and dragging him backwards 75 feet to safety at the end of the course,” said Doctor Davis.

But competitors are really racing against the clock. A two-minute time finishing the course gets an individual to the world competition.

“We have some people finish this is less than 90 seconds. That’s insane,” said Doctor Davis.

Firefighters can compete in several categories — as individuals, in teams of five, in relay teams and tandems. Firefighters who complete the entire course in two minutes or less will qualify individually for the world nationals. Teams must have three of their five members finish with a combined time of less than seven minutes to qualify their team to advance. Relay teams and tandems compete in a single run, clocking a single time which will determine if they advance to the next level of competition.

Firefighters from the Academy, surrounding communities and adjacent states will meet at Falcon Stadium this weekend to practice their firefighting skills, aiming to improve their skills and earn a spot at the World Firefighter Combat Challenge, Nov. 8-13 in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

# Base picnic culminates end of school year

**By Ann Patton**  
Academy Spirit staff

Perfect timing topped off the success of this year's Academy picnic June 11 as threatening dark clouds held off pouring hail and rain on the Academy until it was over.

This year's picnic pulled out all the stops with tons of food, games, displays and entertainment. Plus, it has a new home at Falcon Stadium which allowed events to be more evenly spaced and parking more convenient.

"We wanted to hit every age group this year,"

said coordinator Master Sgt. Ernest Medina, superintendent with the Academy Preparatory School.

He called it an "awesome, very professional event" and credited the hard work of many to put it together.

"If it weren't for the base agencies coming together, it would not have been possible," he said.

Sergeant Medina said the picnic is in celebration of the culmination of school year events which began last year.

Tots to 'tweeners had their choice of carnival games like darts, bean bag and ring toss to miniature golf. There was a climbing wall, bounce house,

horseback riding compliments of the Equestrian Center, fishing competitions and a dunking booth. Grownup kids played tug of war, basketball, flag football and softball and competed in the Front Range adventure team challenge.

Also on hand were the Wild Blue Country band from the Academy Band, and the Wheels of Blue with sparkling, white-glove clean restored classic cars and trucks including a '72 Corvette Stingray, a '71 Mustang Mach 1 and a '34 Plymouth Coupe.

Picnickers of all ages had the chance to meet The Girls of the West as they signed autographed copies of the Pikes Peak or Bust brochure, see Rocky and Kelly, military working dogs from the 10th Security Forces Squadron, demonstrate their prowess in patrol work and detection, ask questions from Academy firefighters from the 10th Civil Engineer Squadron and meet the falcon mascots from the Academy's Cadet Falconry Team. The Wings of Blue dropped in promptly at noon.

And, of course, there was food and plenty of it. Burgers and dogs cooked on the grill, chips, salads, cookies and drinks chilled in canoes kept hunger at bay while picnickers enjoyed the activities.

Col. Rick LoCastro, 10th Air Base Wing commander, drove his '71 Oldsmobile Cutlass to the picnic and put it on display as well. He has had the car since high school and estimates it has more than 160,000 miles on it, which includes miles he

drove it as a cadet.

"It still purrs like a kitten," he reported.

The colonel said the picnic is a good thing to do for the base, and he gave a hat tip to those who worked to make it "bigger, better and bolder."



Girl of the West Jessica Greene, left, and her aide, Dayna Jenkins, visit with picnic goers at Falcon Stadium.



Right: Barrett Giger takes a try at dunking Chief Master Sgt. Todd Salzman, Academy command chief, during the base picnic. He hits the mark and sends Chief Salzman in for a swim.



Above left: A member of the parachute team Wings of Blue drops in during a demonstration at the picnic.

Above: Robert Davis competes in the human bowling ball contest with Evan Robertson inside the bowling ball.

Left: Col. Rick LoCastro, 10th Air Base Wing commander, picks up yardage during a flag football game.

Right: Chris Jakubin, Academy kennel master, demonstrates military working dog capabilities with Kelly (right) and Rocky (below).



Photos by Rachel Boettcher

# Officials announce plans for third DOS rollback

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) — Air Force officials announced plans June 8 for a third enlisted date of separation rollback with a mandatory DOS of Aug. 31.

This program is part of an overall effort by the Air Force to maintain a quality enlisted force and meet the congressionally mandated end strength.

Under the third DOS rollback, Airmen with fewer than 14, or more than 20 years of service must separate no later than Aug. 31, or retire no later than Sept. 1 if they possess a code preventing their re-enlistment.

Airmen separated or retired under the DOS rollback are authorized transition assistance benefits that include 180 days of extended medical care for themselves and

their families, and an ID card permitting base commissary and exchange privileges for two years.

Those separated with more than six years, but less than 20 years total active service are eligible for one-half the amount of separation pay, but they must sign an Individual Ready Reserve agreement to serve for a minimum three years. Those declining to serve in the IRR will be ineligible for separation pay.

Air Force officials will not recoup unearned portions of education assistance funds, special pay, bonuses or other monetary incentives under the DOS Rollback Program.

Additionally, most Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits will not be impacted; however, the transferability of benefits to depend-

ents may be affected. Airmen should consult their local education centers or the VA concerning transferability.

Airmen with more than 20 years of service who are affected by the DOS rollback must request a retirement date via the Virtual Military Personnel Flight.

Air Force officials said the third enlisted DOS rollback will allow leaders to manage the force and strategically balance skills and abilities in the midst of a 15-year high for retention.

In November, officials announced plans to conduct an April 30 DOS rollback for enlisted members. A second rollback was announced in March with a mandatory DOS rollback of June 30. The third rollback will also accelerate the date of separation for Airmen, based on their years

of service and re-enlistment eligibility or assignment availability codes.

As with the June 30 rollback, commanders are allowed to conduct early consideration under the Selective Re-enlistment Program for Airmen who possess select re-enlistment codes and meet the rollback program criteria, Air Force Personnel Officials said. Any personnel-related actions by commanders must be accomplished before June 24, when the roster of affected Airmen will be pulled by members of the AFPC separations branch.

For more information, visit the Air Force Personnel Center personnel services at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/) and enter "DOS rollback" in the search engine or call the Total Force Service Center at 800-525-0102.

# New systems make military moves more efficient

By Donna Miles  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON - With the busiest season for permanent-change-of-station moves under way, officials at U.S. Transportation Command are encouraging service members to take advantage of new systems designed to make the process more convenient and efficient.

Transcom launched the new Personally Procured Move, or PPM, system to better compensate servicemembers who personally move their household goods on military orders, said Dolly Davidson, a change management outreach specialist at Transcom. PPM replaced the old "Do It Yourself," or DITY, move system.

Under PPM, service members can receive up to 95 percent of what it would cost the government to move their goods using a commercial carrier. They can hire a commercial mover if they choose, move some or all of their goods themselves, and pocket any savings they receive.

While converting to PPM, Transcom also introduced a new system, the Defense Personal Property System, to process and manage household moves.

DPS is a computerized management system for moving the household goods of military members and Defense Department civilians, Davidson explained. It automates many steps involved in military moves: pre-move counseling, scheduling, tracking, invoicing and claims-filing for household goods shipments.

This eliminates the need for servicemembers to schedule appointments at their base to arrange their household goods moves face-to-face, she said, allowing them to make arrangements anywhere, any time.

"In DTS, you can go in 24/7, you can counsel yourself, you can put in your shipment and move arrangements, and everything else is done automatically," she said. "You can do it from your laptop, from your work station, even your living room couch. And you can also track your shipments online, too."

And unlike the legacy paper-based system it replaces, DPS is equipped to process moves servicemembers make themselves - which constitute the vast majority of moves.

Aside from convenience, DPS is a big money-saver for the government, not only reducing PCS processing costs, but also generating lower cost estimates from many

moving companies, said Roland Amos, chief of the DPS functional and requirements branch at Transcom.

That's a big factor for the military, which spends about \$2 billion a year for more than 550,000 household moves, Transcom reported.

With all these factors in DPS' favor, Transcom officials are encouraged by the dramatic increase in its use since the Personally Procured Move rollout.

"The services and the service members have definitely embraced it," Davidson said. "[Usage] went up to about 50 percent right from the get-go."

Now, Davidson added, with the legacy system expected to remain operational until December along with DPS, her mission is to encourage service members to choose DPS to process their moves. With more than half of annual moves occurring between May and August, Davidson is particularly interested in getting that word out now.

Transcom officials also encourage service members to register their household-move experiences through a new online customer service survey found at [www.move.mil](http://www.move.mil).

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# Electronic health records on the right path

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Michael J. Carden  
American Forces Press Service

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS) — The nation may never become entirely “paperless” in the way it documents patient medical records, but the military and veterans health care communities are on the right path and have the technologies in place to one day be very close, officials said last week.

“There was a time that we didn’t have anything really electronic,” Army Maj. Frank Tucker, a physician’s assistant and chief systems architect for the Military Health Systems’ Joint Medical Information System, said at a June 11 electronic health records open house held here. “But we’ve evolved from there with 100 percent deployment of our outpatient electronic records ... [and] are now on a path toward completing [inpatient electronic records] deployment.”

Major Tucker was part of a panel at the event that discussed advances and plans the Defense and Veterans Affairs departments have in electronic health records. The open house featured some of the latest tools the military uses to digitally input and track troops’ medical information.

First responders on the ground in Afghanistan now have the capability to process troop health information from the heat of battle to a theater-level hospital in real time. Data can be exchanged and updated all the way up the chain to regional facilities, such as Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany, and to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., before troops arrive for treatment.

The military first deployed what it considered basic electronic health care records in 1996 under the Composite Health Care System, or CHCS. Everything

from laboratory blood work, prescription medications, X-rays and appointment scheduling were available for outpatient documentation.

Through technologies such as the Armed Forces Health Longitudinal Technology system, also known as AHTLA, and CHCS before that, the military relied on paper files to document patient records. Troops injured in battle were transported with their hard-copy medical records, which sometimes were outdated. That method often left health care providers with many unanswered questions as troops transitioned through different levels of care, Major Tucker said.

Troops severely injured in Iraq, for example, transition to several facilities during their treatment and recovery. Injured troops likely are seen at their unit aid station, then at a field hospital and moved to a larger facility, such as in Landstuhl. Service members then could move to Walter Reed, and then would transition to the VA health care system if they separate from the military.

It can be difficult, Major Tucker said, to keep a perfect record of every laboratory result, including prescriptions and treatments service members receive when they’re injured, by the time they’re seen at a VA hospital. Such shortfalls could delay the care and benefits process, he said.

But today, the VA health system receives only electronic records for service members from the Defense Department, Dr. Ross Fletcher, chief of staff for the VA Medical Center in Washington, D.C., said.

Because of the technologies and integrated electronic records system the Defense Department and VA share, Doctor Fletcher said, the VA will never again file paper records. He explained that some electronic documents he sees may be scanned from paper files, but they’re elec-

tronic by the time they’re passed to VA.

The shared system is much easier and quicker for his staff to help provide the best possible service for veterans, he said. And because of this capability, he added, the two organizations are “very close” to becoming completely paperless.

But a number of factors prevent the departments from becoming completely paperless, several panelists explained.

On the federal government side, Major Tucker cited growing fields of study, such as traumatic brain injury, and evolving missions troops take on, such as humanitarian assistance, that are difficult for federal health care providers to anticipate. It’s a matter of updating software and deploying systems for medical personnel, he said.

This mostly occurs when documenting inpatient care, he said, adding that military providers also are required to document detainee patient records.

“We still have some gaps; we are still finding those gaps as medicine evolves,” Major Tucker said.

Ultimately, the long-term intent is for all health records to be shared, Major Tucker said, adding that troops shouldn’t be hindered with trying to provide proof of their conditions or injuries. The goal is that their health information be provided seamlessly without delay, he said.

“Certainly, there are a number of improvements in information we’d like to see that are shared between both departments [and the civilian sector] that doesn’t impede care and that doesn’t impede our ability to determine benefits,” Major Tucker said. “We do believe, as we move forward and get these other pieces electronically shared with standards, it will provide greater value to the overall community.”

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Jeremy Henderson takes a shot from one of the Thank Troops Solo-rider carts.

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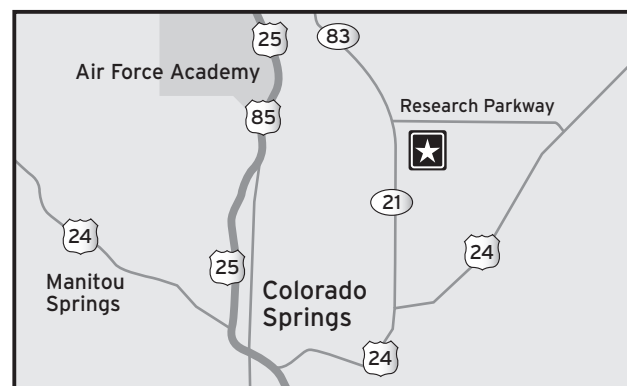
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# Family members can help keep each other safe

By 1st Lt. Kathleen Ferrero  
Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. (AFNS) — He walked past two Airmen operating a dump truck. Minutes later, one Airman accidentally crushed the other to death with the truck's tail gate.

The ensuing investigation marked the first time in Master Sgt. Kenyon Luthi's safety career that he discovered how important his job is.

"Having been there moments before it happened, and then seeing what these guys meant to each other — they hung out four or five days a week, and both were married and had kids — that was hard," said Sergeant Luthi, an AMC Ground Safety Inspector.

"(With the investigation), we had to come up with something of value," he said. "It had to mean something. Not just for the family members, but for people working

in the same conditions. Now it's a part of formal training for civil engineer folks."

Making lessons count and applying sound risk management decisions is everyone's responsibility.

That's why the Air Force is celebrating National Safety Month this month by combining it with Year of the Air Force Family and including family members in the effort to prevent accidents during summertime, when mishaps tend to spike.

"The Air Force needs our help to keep our Airmen safe," said the wife of a staff sergeant during an Air Force Safety Center video. "We as family members should influence our Airmen's behavior where the risk is greatest: when they are off duty."

By combining National Safety Month with Year of the Air Force Family, officials are hoping to drive safety lessons home through involving key spouse groups and using other initiatives.

"We're asking family members to be involved with

active duty members' awareness of safety — traffic, seat belts, drinking and driving, all issues killing our Airmen," said Mark Erpelding, the AMC Ground Safety Division Chief. "If they're involved, they may be able to interject and stop that from happening."

He said focusing on three things can help prevent accidents this summer: drive safely; drink responsibly; and play intelligently.

Private motor vehicle accidents are the number one killer of Airmen, Sergeant Luthi said.

"With driving, it's about control," he said. "Drive at a reasonable amount of speed, so you'll be able to react better to a dangerous situation."

With mishaps involving alcohol, the people involved are "almost always hurt or killed because there was no plan involved," Sergeant Luthi said.

"They have a good idea of what they're going to do when they go out. They just don't plan to get themselves out of a bad situation," he said.

# Officials extend voluntary separation pay

By Daniel P. Elkins  
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) — Air Force officials are extending the application period for eligible officers to apply for voluntary separation pay through July 31, but are lowering the multiplier to 1.5 times the authorized separation pay effective July 1.

"The window to apply for two times separation pay is rapidly closing," said Col.

Joan Garbutt, the director of force management policy at the Pentagon. "Unlike the past, we will not increase the multiplier; therefore, we highly encourage (reduction-in-force) eligible officers to act before June 30 to take advantage of the current rate. For the extended VSP window beginning July 1, the separation pay multiplier will be reduced to one and a half times the separation pay."

Eligible officers include those in the year groups 1998, 1999, 2002, 2003 and

2004, in the grades of major and below with more than six and less than 14 years of commissioned service in the core Air Force specialties 13S, 15W, 21A, 17D, 38F, 61B, 61C, 65F and 52R — except for Catholic chaplains.

Officers approved for VSP will receive a lump sum payment. The specific separation pay amount will be calculated by officials from their servicing finance office and will be subject to applicable federal and state income taxes upon their date of separation.

Air Force leaders announced eligibility for VSP in March as part of expanded force management measures designed to bring the service closer to its authorized end strength. To date, more than 240 eligible officers have been approved for voluntary separation under the force management program. For more information on VSP eligibility and application procedures, visit the AFPC website or call the Total Force Service Center at 800-525-0102.



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## Chris Wilson named assistant golf coach

From Athletic Communications

Chris Wilson has been named the assistant coach for the Air Force golf team, as announced today by head coach George Koury. Wilson comes to the Academy from Coastal Carolina University, where he served for two years as the associate head men's golf coach.

"We are thrilled to welcome Chris and his wife, Heather, to the Air Force golf family," said Koury. "Chris, who brings a great deal of experience and energy, will be an outstanding asset to our program. With the success that he has had, particularly in recruiting, Chris will help us take Air Force golf to the next level."

During Wilson's two-year stint at Coastal Carolina, the Chanticleers won back-to-back Big South Conference titles, extending their run to seven-straight conference championships. In 2009, he helped coach Zack Byrd, a third-team All-American and Big South Golfer of the Year. Wilson was also instrumental in the running of the Chants' program, handling many of the day-to-day operations, helping run the General Hackler Championship and coordinating recruiting.

Wilson arrived at Coastal Carolina in the fall of 2009 from the University of Louisiana-Monroe, where he spent four and a half years as the head men's and women's golf coach. Combined, his Warhawk squads had three tournament wins, 35 top-five team finishes, six individual medalists, 13 all-conference selections and six Golf Coaches Association of America and National Golf Coaches Association All-America Scholars.

While at ULM, Wilson led the men's program to its highest national rankings in 2005 and 2006, earning Southland Coach of the Year honors in 2006. He also started the women's program in August 2005 and both squads were consistently ranked among the top grade-point averages for athletic teams on the ULM campus. He also raised a majority of the funds for each of his programs, while also coordinating all aspects of each squad's practice and travel.

Prior to taking over as head coach at ULM, he worked for two years at McNeese State, starting as the head coach and eventually serving as interim head men's coach before leaving to take the job at ULM. While there, Wilson coached four-time all-conference selection and current European PGA Tour member Adrien Mork. He also worked with two other all-conference players and helped lead the Cowboys to a pair of team tournament titles.

A native of Shawnee, Okla., Wilson started his coaching career at Louisiana-Monroe as an assistant coach for a year, where he helped recruit the 17th-ranked class in the country. That group eventually went on to earn seven all-conference awards, a pair of individual tournament champions and the 2004 Southland Conference Championship.

Wilson, who earned his bachelor's degree from ULM in 2001, was a standout golfer for the Warhawks, playing two years and earning all-conference honors as a senior after winning the New Mexico State Intercollegiate and posting five top-10 finishes on the season. He was also an all-conference selection at Dodge City Community College in 1996-97.

"I am extremely excited to come to the Air Force Academy," said Wilson. "The opportunity to work with these cadets, some of the finest young men in the country, is an honor that any coach would love to have. The school pride, history and honor of the Air Force Academy is something I am thrilled to be a part of."

"I'm looking forward to working with George (Koury), as we work to take the golf team to the next level and compete for a Mountain West championship," continued Wilson. "I've known George for years—he's a great friend and colleague, and well-respected in the world of collegiate golf."

## Custons named to freshman All-American baseball team

From Athletic Communications

Air Force Academy freshman outfielder Garrett Custons was named to the 2010 Pro-Line Athletic National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association Freshman All-American Team, the organization announced Monday.

Custons, a second-team selection, picks up his second frosh All-American honor. He was also named to the Louisville Slugger Freshmen All-American Team by Collegiate Baseball last week.

Custons, a native of Sarasota, Fla., had one of the best freshman seasons ever at the Academy, batting .328 with nine home runs and 64 RBIs. He also led the Mountain West Conference with 16 stolen bases. Custons set Air Force freshman records for at bats (232), hits (76), RBIs, sacrifice bunts (6) and total bases (133). His 64 RBIs is a MWC freshman record and is fifth at the Academy. Custons ranked in the MWC top 10 in seven categories. He started 29 games in right field and 24 at catcher. Despite just 24 starts behind the plate, Custons threw out 14 base runners attempting to steal, good for a 48.3 percent throw-out rate.

Custons was one of two players from the MWC to make the team, joining TCU left-hander Matt Purke. Custons is currently playing summer ball for the Eau Claire Express (Eau Claire, Wisc.) in the Northwoods League.



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Freshman outfielder Garrett Custons bats during the 2010 baseball season. Custons played in 55 games during his freshman year and ended the season with a .328 batting average, nine home runs and 64 RBIs.

## Frawley earns 4th All-American trophy

From Athletic Communications

NEW ORLEANS — Air Force senior Nick Frawley became the Academy's most decorated Division I All-American, as the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association announced its 2010 award recipients on Monday. With his fourth All-America trophy, Frawley has earned more awards than any other athlete in Air Force history.

Frawley tied for third in the pole vault at this year's championship meet, with a season-best clearance of 17'4½". It is the third consecutive year that Frawley has claimed All-America status at the outdoor championship meet. The third-place finish is his best placement since taking second in 2008.

With outdoor awards in 2008, 2009 and 2010, as well as the indoor award in 2009, Frawley has claimed four All-America awards throughout his outstanding four-year

career. That total is the most by any Division I athlete in Academy history.

Senior Sara Neubauer also claimed All-America status, following a seventh-place finish in the discus throw. Neubauer, who earned a pair of awards at the 2009 championships (discus throw, shot put) recorded a distance of 172'9" to match her best finish at the NCAA Championship meet. Neubauer's three All-America awards are tied for the second-most in Division I history.

Frawley and Neubauer have now both claimed three outdoor All-America awards - tying with former standout Dana Pounds for the most all-time.

In addition, the pair joined junior Justin Tyner, who earned All-America honors in the 5000-meter run at the NCAA Indoor Championships in March, as Air Force's 2010 award recipients. It is the first-time ever that three different Falcons have earned Division I All-America honors in a single year.



Photos by Bill Evans

### Fore

Ms. Annika Sorenstam hits the ceremonial first shot at The Broadmoor, following the June 9 announcement that Colorado Springs will host the 2011 U.S. Women's Open, July 4-11, 2011. Ms. Sorenstam is the golf tournament's honorary chair, and has won 72 LPGA tournaments during her pro golfing career.

Above: Chris Bowles, Academy golf pro; Ms. Sorenstam; and Mrs. Paula Gould, wife of Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Mike Gould; pause following the June 9 announcement. Mr. Bowles and Mrs. Gould were on hand to represent the Academy, as the Academy will staff one of the tournament's 18 holes.

# Mountain West Conference adds Boise State

By Academy Spirit staff

The Mountain West Conference announced June 11 that Boise State University has accepted an invitation to join the MWC, effective July 1, 2011.

"We are pleased and excited to welcome Boise State University to the Mountain West Conference," said Commissioner Craig Thompson. "Since our inception just 11 short years ago, the Mountain West has experienced tremendous success, and the addition of Boise State will further enhance that strength."

While Boise State has proven to be an athletic powerhouse in several sports over the past decade, it is best known for the "smurf turf" — the blue, school-color astroturf at its football stadium. Boise State will become the 10th member institution of the Mountain West Conference.

"The invitation to join the Mountain West Conference reflects the excellence that Boise State University has demonstrated academically and athletically," said Boise State President Robert Kustra. "It will be a privilege to compete and partner with such a successful group of member institutions. This move is in the best interests of Boise State's future, and the university is excited to be part of one of the nation's most outstanding conferences."

The Mountain West Conference was born out of the Western Athletic Conference in 1999, when the Academy, Colorado State, UNLV joined WAC founders BYU, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming to leave the WAC and create a new intercollegiate athletic conference. Most of the members of the Mountain West Conference have been long-standing athletic rivalries which dating back to the 1960s.

The Mountain West Conference added TCU in 2005, and the addition of the Boise State Broncos will bring the conference up to 10 schools.

"We welcome Boise State and think they will make a great addition to the Mountain West Conference," said Dr. Hans Mueh, Air Force Academy athletic director.

The move by the Mountain West Conference follows other changes in the college sports landscape.

The University of Colorado at Boulder left the Big 12 conference to join the Pac-10 last week. Colorado's archrival in football, Nebraska, announced June 18 that it was leaving the Big 12 for the Big Ten Conference.

The remaining members of the Big 12 are: Baylor, Iowa State, Kansas, Kansas State, Missouri, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Texas, Texas A&M and Texas Tech. Several of the Big 12's remaining members are also rumored to be eyeing a jump to the Pac-10 or other



Photo by Denise Navoy

Falcon defenders Rick Ricketts, left, and Justin Moore combine to greet a New Mexico running back with open arms, during the Academy's 37-13 destruction of the Lobos Sept. 19, 2009. Despite the recent shifting of the college sports landscape, rivalries with New Mexico, Wyoming and Colorado State are important Division I athletic matchups in relatively close proximity to the Colorado Springs that the Academy wants to continue, both for the fans while making it easier to attend away games. Less travel time to away games minimizes the time cadet-athletes are away from classes. In football, the Academy first played the freshman of CSU, Wyoming and New Mexico each in 1955, and won each game.

conferences, leaving open the chances of further changes to the college athletic landscape. This would effectively decimate the Big 12, and a centerpiece among recent media reports is further expansion by the MWC to bring in Kansas and/or Kansas State. The MWC and university presidents are holding plans and possibilities for further expansion close to the vest, save to acknowledge that they're keeping their eyes open for more possible opportunities.

"The MWC continues to strategize regarding potential membership scenarios and bringing Boise State into the conference is an important part of that evolution," said MWC commissioner Thompson.

Adding Boise State to the MWC is the culmination of a great deal of work, thought and careful assessment by the Mountain West Board of Directors to make the best decision for the conference, said Lt. Gen. Mike Gould, Academy Superintendent.

"This is a dynamic time and I'm in close consultation with the Mountain West Conference Board of Directors and we'll continue to examine further possi-

bilities for the conference," said General Gould. "Regardless of what happens with conference expansion, our mission at the Air Force Academy comes first — educating, training and inspiring men and women to become officers of character and leaders for the Air Force and the nation," said the General. "Along the same line of thinking, Air Force will maintain the scheduling flexibility to play Army and Navy every year. These are time honored games steeped in traditions that will continue."

Existing rivalries would also be preserved if the Mountain West expand further, the general said.

"The Air Force Academy values its traditional rivalries with front range opponents Wyoming, Colorado State and New Mexico and we will work hard to maintain competition with these schools," said General Gould. "This is important for two reasons. First, it will help minimize time away from classroom studies for our cadets and all student-athletes. And because we value our fans' support and loyalty, we need to remain loyal to the fans of all these schools who enjoy the geographic proximity which translates into ease of travel to all the games."



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### July 4th fireworks

The Academy hosts an evening of family-oriented games, music and fireworks to celebrate the nation's birthday. The celebration is open to the general public. Events start at 6 p.m. on the Academy athletic fields, with numerous games, vendors and displays on the Cadet Athletic Fields.

The Colorado Symphony Orchestra plays 6:30 to 7:45 p.m., and the Academy Orchestra plays 8:15 to 9:30 p.m., followed by a fireworks display. Attendees can bring cameras, lawn chairs, blankets, umbrellas, and sealed plastic water bottles. However, no coolers, barbecue grills, pets other than working service dogs, or fireworks are allowed. Water and portable restrooms will be provided.

### Airman's Attic Grand Re-opening

Academy people are invited to attend a grand re-opening of the Airman's Attic scheduled for Tuesday at 11:30 a.m.

The Airman's Attic, located at 4700 East Ponderosa Drive in the Douglass Valley housing area, is a volunteer-run

base organization that exists to lend a helping hand to all Airmen in need. The attic works similarly to commercial donation organizations, only there's no charge to customers. Everything is free.

The Airman's Attic operating hours will be: Monday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Tuesday, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Wednesday, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.; and Thursday, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The Attic will be open the first Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The third Thursday of the month will be "All Ranks Day." For more information, call Master Sgt. Greg Meinert at 333-8303.

### Father's Day brunch

The Father's Day Champagne Brunch is Sunday, 10 a.m., at the Falcon Club. Members who are fathers pay \$10. Cost for other members is \$18.95, for nonmembers is \$23.95 and children 5-10 is \$9.95. For reservations, call 333-4253.

### OSI recruitment

The Air Force Office of Special Investigations is seeking highly motivated individuals to join their criminal and counterintelligence investigation service, and hosts a recruitment event for active duty USAFA Airmen Thursday, 1-4 p.m. at the Milazzo Center. The event will provide information regarding the Special Agent career field, the application process and provide an open forum for questions. The qualifications to retrain into OSI are: officers, O-1 through O-3 with less than six years of commissioned service; E-6, less than two years time-in-grade and less than 12 years time-in-service; E-5, less than 10 years time-in-service; and E-4s must have a line number for E-5.

### Prep School sponsors

Sponsors are needed for cadet candidates attending the Air Force Academy Preparatory School for the 2010-2011 school year. The USAFA Prep School is designed to prepare students for admission and success at the Air Force Academy.

Eligible sponsors are: active/retired GS-05, E-6, O-3 and above. Academy graduates and professors may also apply. To volunteer as a sponsor or form more information, contact Mark Winter at 333-3057 or e-mail him at: [mark.winter@usafa.edu](mailto:mark.winter@usafa.edu)

### USAFA flea market

The next USAFA flea market is June 26, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the base exchange parking lot. Cost to sell items is \$10 per space, or \$15 to sell out of a vehicle, and table rental is \$5 per table. To reserve a spot, call 333-2928.

### Voyage to Book Island

The Community Center Library's summer reading program, Voyage to Book Island, runs now through Aug. 7. For more information, rules and age categories, call the library at 333-4665.

### Stained glass

The Arts & Crafts Center's next stained glass class is June 26, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$50, which includes all materials and use of tools. For more information, call 333-4579.

### Evening Aerobics

The Community Center Sports and Fitness Center now offers evening aerobics classes at 5 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. To sign up or for more information, call 333-4522.

### A&FRC offerings

The Academy Airman & Family Readiness Center will host the following classes in June. 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.

#### Transition Assistance Program

Monday through June 25: 7:30 am - 4:30 pm

Separating in a year or retiring in two years or less? TAP workshop is designed to provide you with the knowledge and skills necessary for a successful transition into the civilian workforce after your military career is completed. 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.

#### Medical Records Review

June 25: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Individuals within 180 days of retirement or separation can have the DAV review their medical records in prepara-

tion of filing for VA Disability Compensation through the VA Form 21-526.

### Red Carpet base tour

June 25: 8:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

This is an informative, fun-filled base tour that gives insight into the Academy's mission and reveals most of the events/activities to see and do while stationed here at the Air Force Academy. Stops include: USAFA Stables, Cadet Chapel, Arnold Hall, USAFA Arts & Crafts Center, Outdoor Recreation, and more.



### Springs Spree

The 33rd Annual Springs Spree is Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., in Memorial Park. Springs Spree is Colorado Springs' oldest community celebration. Over the past 32 years, this celebration has been the region's most anticipated events of the year with up to 70,000 people in attendance, enjoying two days of music, food and free family fun.

Local and national musicians will perform live on four stages all day and into the evening. This year's music will fill four stages and include a variety of genres on such as folk, country, rock, old school, R&B, and even Karaoke. Springs Spree will have more than 10 cultural dance groups along with a handful of street performers.

Other events also include a classic car show, a gravity play kid zone, karate demonstration, human hamster ball rides, and hundreds of food, arts and crafts vendors. For more information, visit: <http://www.springspree.org/>.

### Rodeo Street Breakfast

The Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo Street Breakfast is Wednesday in downtown Colorado Springs. A pancake breakfast is served in the middle of Tejon Street beginning at 6 a.m. The breakfast kicks off the rodeo and the Range Riders horseback ride.

## SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

### CADET CHAPEL

#### Buddhist

Sunday 10 a.m.

#### Jewish

No services until the beginning of the Academic year in August

#### Protestant

Combined Worship Service  
Sunday 10:00am

#### Roman Catholic

Mass  
Sunday - 10 a.m.

#### Sacrament of Penance

Sunday - 9:10-9:40 a.m.

#### Paganism/Earth-centered Spirituality

Contact TSgt Longcrier at 719-333-6187

### The Chapel is open for tours

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon.- Sat.

1 - 5 p.m. Sun.

### No tours during services

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 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.



Photos by Johnny Wilson



## Bowling Alley reopens

Below left, Jim Dahlmann and A.J. Scott sample the lunch specials and regular menu items at the Falcon Lanes grill, as Tracy Troccoli provides customer service with a smile. Below, Allison and Jake Arredondo compete for the highest score during a sibling contest. The Academy Lanes' grand re-opening is today at 11 a.m., and precedes the Academy Lanes' Falcon Family Fun Friday where bowling with free shoes is \$2 and \$3 gets you a hamburger/hotdog combo meal. The newly-remodeled facility features electronic scorekeeping, Wi-Fi, black light and more.



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## BISTRO



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