

USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO **ACADEMY SPIRIT**

Vol. 48 No. 13

April 4, 2008

Survey seeks Academy input



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Green Knights look to establish presence



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Deployed NCO focuses on training



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Falcons fall to Miami in OT



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Academy engineers finish Navajo home

By John Van Winkle
 Air Force Academy
 Public Affairs

NAVAJO, N.M., (AFPN) — Mama returned home Saturday and another Navajo family moves into an Air Force Academy-built home this week, due to the volunteer efforts of Academy people.

A group of 20 Air Force Academy cadets, civil engineering professors and family members gave up their spring break March 24-28 to perform volunteer work on the Navajo reservation.

Organized by the Academy's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the Southwest Indian Foundation, this year's spring break projects took the Academy volunteers to the home of Korean War veteran Hoskie Bitsilly, Sr. Mr. Bitsilly's wife, Grace, suffered a stroke recently, and is now wheelchair-bound. But their home was not wheelchair-accessible at the start of the week, which led to a host of projects for the Academy volunteers.

See HOGAN, Page 13



Photo by John Van Winkle

Cadet 3rd Class Ted Ornelas, Cadet Squadron 21, and Cadet 2nd Class Holly Bigelow, CS 28, excavate frozen soil March 26 underneath an Academy-built Navajo Hogan, during their spring break. The soil must be excavated before concrete and block can be set to finish the traditional eight-sided Navajo home's foundation. The hogan was dedicated Saturday and provides a home for a family on the Navajo reservation in northwest New Mexico. Cadets Bigelow and Ornelas were part of a group of 20 cadets, civil engineering faculty, and family members who gave up their spring break to do volunteer work on the reservation.

Award honors Academy's best and brightest

By Kyle Davidson
 Association of Graduates

As spring gets under way, it is once again time to honor two of the Academy's most accomplished and successful graduates. The Air Force Academy's 2007 Distinguished Graduates are retired Lt. Gen. Ervin Rokke and coach of the NBA San Antonio Spurs, Gregg Popovich.

The careers of these two gentlemen could not have been more different, but each has shown the fortitude, grit, determination and leadership that represents the best the Academy has to offer.



Lt. Gen. Ervin Rokke, Class of 1962

Lt. Gen. Ervin Rokke has made an enormous impact in both the fields of military

intelligence and academics over the course of his career.

Upon graduation from the Air Force Academy, General Rokke completed a graduate degree in international relations from Harvard University, then went on to Air Force Intelligence training. The young officer served in several intelligence assignments in Japan and Hawaii before being brought back to the Academy as an instructor for the Department of Political Science.

General Rokke's career would seem to run in similar cycles, as his operational Air Force intelligence assignments would be segmented with various Academic assignments at the Academy.

General Rokke served in four different capacities for the Air Force Academy including assistant dean of the faculty, head of the political science department and dean of the faculty. He is the first Academy graduate to have been appointed a permanent professor,

and he served as the dean of the faculty during the Academy's first major curriculum revision allowing cadets to complete more majors and courses of their choosing.

As an intelligence officer, General Rokke's career has been expansive. Early on, he was heavily involved in negotiations with NATO in promoting standardization of the organizations military force structure, served as the air attaché to the United Kingdom, defense attaché to the Soviet Union and held high-level positions with the National Security Agency, including deputy director for operations for military support during Operation Desert Storm and director of intelligence, U.S. European Command. General Rokke's council and negotiations have been integral in promoting U.S. initiatives and alliances in numerous globally strategic locations.

Upon retiring from the Air Force See AWARD, Page 5

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Don't lead a dog's life!

By **Steve Shambach**
Character Program Analyst

Following a 30-year career in the Army, I recently started a "second career" here at the Air Force Academy. In my current job, I have had the privilege to facilitate a number of group sessions with cadets during various character and leadership development seminars. My first question for them is always "What are your expectations for today and what do you want to get out of this session to improve your leadership and character development?" Invariably, the response is akin to Nipper, the RCA Victor dog.

Putting my past and present thoughts together, I realized the Academy has a practical way to grow and develop leaders of character in any experience.

Think back on something significant you achieved or accomplished as a result of your education, training or experiences in the military or in life. I think you will discover you learned and grew the most when certain conditions were in place.

You probably had a clear expectation about what you wanted to accomplish — a goal or outcome. This could be something you decided you wanted to do for yourself or something you were expected to do in the group or organization to whom you belonged.

There was a certain high level of motivation and inspiration involved ... and probably some stress.

You were prepared for the experience by a high degree of training, education and/or practice. Often, you learned from someone who worked alongside you (a coach), from someone who had been through the experience before or someone with a lot of experience to

guide you (a mentor).

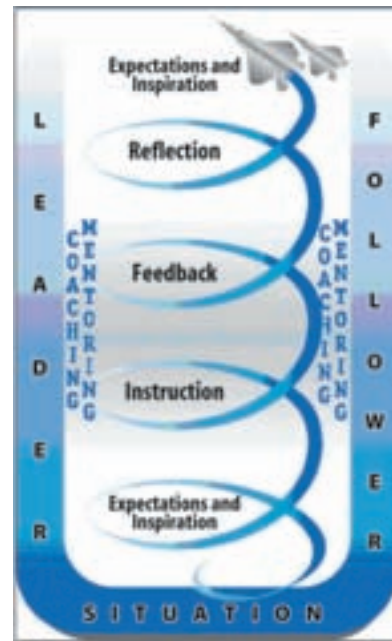
During the experience, you had a sense for your level of performance, either by your own senses, or from those around you... maybe your body and mind telling you how well you were doing (or not doing)... the roar of the crowd... the encouragement of friends and colleagues (or the taunts of an opponent).

As you thought about it at the time, or as you think about it now, you had a great sense of satisfaction but also some ideas about how you could have done better or would do better if you had to go through the same experience in the future.

Well, you have just recalled the parts of what we call the Leadership Growth Model. The LGM is the engine that drives leader and character development through the training, education and experiences within the Officer Development System and in life. Effective leadership results from the complex interaction between the leader and the followers in a specific situation. The LGM defines the key relationships among leaders, followers, and the situation in terms of a four-stage, continuous process. The model is universally applicable throughout all phases of military experience across the entire education, training, and experiential spectrum—in the classroom, the squadron, and on the athletic field. The Model applies equally well to the educator, trainer, coach, element leader and commander.

The chart above details the four stages of the LGM: expectations and inspiration, instruction, feedback, and reflection.

In the first stage, the leader critically appraises the situation, his or her own skills and the skills of the follower; the



leader then sets developmental expectations with the follower. The leader also provides inspiration to the follower by developing a shared understanding of purpose.

In the next stage, the leader provides the essential instruction to help the follower meet the leader's, follower's and organization's expectations and objectives. Note: The instruction as defined above includes training, education and experiences all cadets are exposed to during the course of their development.

As the follower works toward these objectives, the leader assesses the follower's competency and provides feedback throughout their engagement. The leader, during the instruction and feedback stages, must integrate coaching and mentoring techniques to help bridge the gap between expectations and results.

Finally, the reflection stage (where the leader and follower review their expectations, instructions, and feedback) crystallizes any lessons learned and prepares participants to enter the next cycle.

In an ideal scenario, a participant will progress through the process in an

See LEAD, Page 4

ACADEMY SPIRIT

Directorate of Public Affairs mission:
To responsibly inform and educate the Academy community and the public about the Air Force Academy

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

Character Corner Character: What is it & why does it matter?

By **Master Sgt. George Poli**
Center for Character Development

How do you know someone has good character? Is it the way they talk? Is it their family background or their genetics? I would say it is a combination of all of these things and much more.

Dictionary.com says character is, "the aggregate of features and traits that form the individual nature of some person or thing." If we accept this definition, then everything we say and do demonstrates our character. Some examples include showing up to appointments on time or calling ahead and letting the person you are meeting know that you

might be late. It all boils down to treating others with respect.

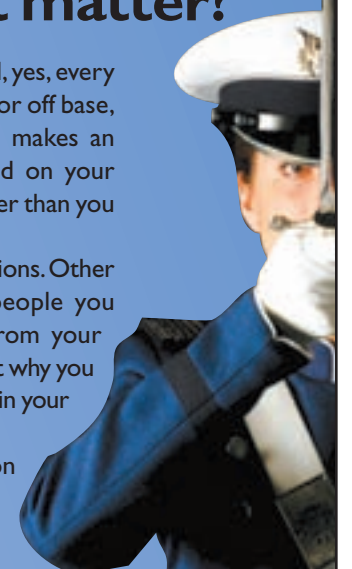
It is NOT about what you believe or what you think about. It IS about how you act. The only way others can see your character is by how you act every single day, in every single interaction you have.

One day, my son asked me if we could go to Mr. Biggs. It was a very busy day, so I told him I would try to take him there. He responded by saying, "It's OK, Dad, I know you will try because you always do what you say you are going to do." He was only 5 years old at the time. My question to you would be, if my 5-year-old noticed, who else did? Who is watching you? The answer is everyone. It's the mili-

tary, civilians and Reservists at work, and, yes, every other person who sees you whether on or off base, in or out of uniform who notices and makes an assessment about your character based on your actions. The impact can reach much further than you ever imagined.

Look at yourself and ask tough questions. Other great sources for character are the people you respect. Look to others you admire from your personal and professional lives, think about why you admire them, and incorporate those traits in your life.

In the end, the answer to the question about what is character lies with you.



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

What will you treat yourself to this year?



"I already have — two brand new knees because I couldn't walk or run anymore from soccer. I'm feeling great now."

Mr. Marty Buckley
Head coach, women's soccer



"Buy a plane ticket to Alaska to learn how to fish and hike in the mountains. I always wanted to see a bear there and will spend some time with a good friend in late summer."

Cadet 4th Class Krystal Sweitzer
Cadet Squadron 23



"Traveling throughout Europe to Paris, Austria, Italy and Poland for some wonderful pottery. We just received orders to Germany!"

Mrs. Kelley Rock
Air Force spouse



"I'll get a monthly massage at a salon because it feels good."

Senior Airman Lacy Landolt
10th Medical Operations Squadron

AFAF campaign runs through May 3

By the Academy Spirit staff

The Air Force Assistance Fund campaign began March 23 and runs until May 3.

Organized by Maj. Joseph Scholes and Tech. Sgt. Jerimiah Dinan, this year's fund drive has representatives responsible for ensuring that 100 percent of active duty, Reservists and Air National Guard Airmen are contacted and given the opportunity to contribute.

"The unit reps report to the mission element rep who reports to myself and Sergeant Dinan," said Major Scholes.



There are no localized themes this year. After reaching the AFAF goal of \$65,000 last year, there may not have to be.

Each unit has a POC responsible for contacting everyone.

"I know people who have been helped with money for emergency plane tickets and for money to help buy necessities when their house burned down," said the Spanish instructor from Durham, N.C. "People should contribute because this is a way for us to help our own. We contribute the money, but we are also the ones who benefit."

Major Scholes is hoping for \$74,485 in Academy member donations this year from 50 percent of personnel

contributing their "fair share." AFAF benefits also go to the Air Force Aid Society, Air Force Enlisted Village, Air Force Villages and the Gen. and Mrs. Curtis E. Lemay Foundation.

Suggested contributions based on rank are brigadier general, \$123; colonel, \$101; lieutenant colonel, \$84; major, \$71; captain, \$55; first lieutenant, \$45; second lieutenant, \$45, senior master sergeant, \$52; master sergeant, \$44; technical sergeant, \$36 and staff sergeant, \$28.

For more information, call Major Scholes at 333-4580 or Sergeant Dinan at 333-8999.

Community Assessment Survey opens this month

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

The 2008 Air Force Community Assessment Survey kicks off April 28 and wraps up the end of June.

It is the ninth such survey, which began in 1988-89 and has been conducted every 2-3 years since then.

Directing the survey from the Air Force Integrated Delivery System is contractor IFC/Caliber, which expects to target about 150,000 active duty members, 50,000 Reservists, 9,000 civilian employees and 160,000 spouses of active duty or Reservists at 85 Air Force bases worldwide.

Those surveyed are scientifically randomly selected.

Lt. Col. Scott Hebrink, Academy public health officer, encourages those selected for the survey to respond.

"It directs us to how we can help the community," he said. "It does a good job of letting bases know what bases

have and what the need is, then putting the two together."

He added, "This is the community's way of saying 'This is what you need to do for us.'"

He stressed this year's survey of the Academy is particularly important. As part of a Department of Defense-sponsored initiative, this year's assessment includes questions on deployment and its impact on spouses which will be used to direct resources to help service members and families base-wide.

Anticipated survey topics will include personal adjustment, family adjustment, individual and family adaptation to the Air Force, community and spiritual well being and safety issues, plus secretive problems such as alcohol abuse, illicit and prescription drug misuse and physical and emotional abuse of partners and children.

Results from the Web-based survey are used in community action planning and funding allocation at the Air Force, major command and installation levels.

Colonel Hebrink anticipates data pertinent to the

Academy to be available by October and analysis to begin in November.

Active duty, Reserve and civilian service members will be notified via e-mail they have been selected. Spouses selected to participate in the survey will be mailed an invitational postcard and a Web link in late April. Respondents may also take the survey by phone.

The Air Force is looking for a 60-percent response rate for active duty and 25 percent for spouses.

Colonel Hebrink wants to assure Academy participants survey methods and information are totally secretive.

"It's a very legitimate concern," he said.

Surveyors have built-in protections so names are never connected with responses. If respondents do the survey by phone, their phone numbers will not be available to the person asking the questions.

Colonel Hebrink estimated time needed to take the survey is between 30 and 45 minutes.



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Shoppers lives saved in commissary **Lead**

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

He was working in the Academy commissary's meat department like he has for 17 years when the produce manager scurried to him with news that an inert female customer was laying on the floor before the delicatessen that March 13 morning.

Mr. Dave Pamplin rushed there and found an elderly woman laying on her back, not breathing and moving in and out of consciousness.

The employee, a trained member of the Manitou Springs fire department, rolled her on her side, had a call made to 911, ordered the aisle to be cleared, and turned to Senior Master Sgt. Michael Amacker, who was here as part of the Unit Compliance Inspection team, for help.

Sergeant Amacker was waiting for his turn at the commissary deli and heard someone nearby call out for some gloves and paper towels.

"When I looked over to see what had been spilled I noticed there was a woman in her late 50's to early 60's who was on her side and vomiting," Sergeant Amacker said. "A commissary employee was attending to her. I asked if I could help and noticed that the woman appeared to be having a seizure and that she also had snoring type respirations."

She was unresponsive but breathing so they decided to support her until the ambulance and fire department arrived. However, the patient soon started to experience a decrease in the number of breaths that she was taking.

"I went to get the Automated External Defibrillator at the front of the store," the Senior NCO said. "We were able to prepare the unit in case her condition worsened."

Then her breathing stopped.

"I was able to determine that she was not breathing at all and started artificial respiration using the pocket mask



Photo by Butch Wehry

Mr. Dave Pamplin employee of the Academy commissary helped save two lives in March.

in the AED kit," Sergeant Amacker said. "After two breaths I discovered that she was pulse-less. We started CPR and attached the AED, which advised that a shock be delivered. After delivering one shock the fire department and ambulance crew arrived."

Five minutes later, a male commissary shopper appeared to have had a stroke and Mr. Pamplin and Sergeant Amacker assisted the possible stroke victim before fire department medical people and a second ambulance arrived and took the ailing shopper for further care.

"These things happen periodically," Mr. Pamplin said. "I like helping people. We all worked great together."

"When there's a commissary emergency they usually call me because I am an emergency medical technician. I take medical courses yearly and test every four years."

Both of the stricken people have recovered.

The Academy fire department presented the commissary worker with a coin and certificate for his efforts. Lt. Gen. John Regni, Academy Superintendent, "coined" Sergeant Amacker at the UCI outbrief.

From Page 2

upward spiral and then begin again at a higher level of expectations and inspiration. However, the participants in any situation must understand the boundaries between phases may be blurred and that some phases may need to be repeated.

We can certainly recall examples of growth and development that occurred without these elements playing a major role. However, I would submit that deliberately following this model will maximize your growth and development (and that of others you lead), if you approach those experiences with this model in mind. So, the next time you face a challenge or are about to go through an experience, don't be passive like Nipper, but set the conditions for success for you and your team by proper preparation, execution and feedback.

"The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it."

— Michelangelo

Correction

In the March 21 edition of the *Academy Spirit*, an article was published concerning the results of the 2008 Unit Compliance Inspection. In the article, Master Sgt. George Poli was identified as a member of the Dean of Faculty staff, when Sergeant Poli is actually a member of the Honor Division of the Center for Character Development, which falls under the Commandant of Cadets. The *Academy Spirit* strives to provide it's readership with the most accurate and up-to-date information and we apologize for the inaccuracy.



WE PUT THE "BURRITO"
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ACADEMY & BRIARGATE

Award

From Page 1

in 1997, General Rokke became the president of Moravian College and Theological Seminary in Bethlehem, Penn., during which time enrollment substantially increased, average freshman SAT scores improved nearly 70 points and several new academic majors were introduced.

While it is clear the retired general has led an amazingly successful career, he deferred the credit to the Academy for setting the foundation and to the tremendous people he has worked with over the years.

General Rokke stated so much of the success he has had over the course of his career has been due to the principles of dedication, hard work and leadership learned while at the Academy. He admitted he has also been blessed to have worked with so many amazingly gifted and talented officers and enlisted airmen.



Coach Gregg Popovich, Class of 1970

Gregg Popovich's career is a true testament to the determination, competitive spirit, and drive to

succeed instilled by the Air Force Academy and Air Force Athletics.

Mr. Popovich was recruited to play basketball for the Academy and started all four years. He explained that while basketball was definitely a benefit, it wasn't his reason for coming to the Academy.

"My family had no connection to the military, but I did well in high school and participated in a variety of activities, heard about the Academy through my counselor and applied. I realized what a great educational opportunity it was and a beautiful place," commented Mr. Popovich on his reasoning for coming to the Academy.

Upon graduation, he was part of the U.S. Armed Forces Basketball Team that toured Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. He got his first taste of coaching in 1973 when he returned to the Academy as an assistant coach, a position he held for six years – three of them even after separating from the Air Force. During his tenure under Hank Egan, he was also able to earn a graduate degree in physical education from the University of Denver.

Mr. Popovich was given his first shot at being a head coach in 1979 when Division-3 school Pomona-Pitzer in Claremont, Calif., selected him for the position. His eight years as head coach there were highly successful. He led

the team to its first conference championship in 68 years and to a berth in the NCAA Division III Tournament. He also served as a member of the school's academic community working as an associate professor and chairing the college's Student Life Committee.

As head coach at Pomona, Mr. Popovich became close friends with then University of Kansas head coach Larry Brown. When Brown was named head coach of the San Antonio Spurs in 1988, he brought on Mr. Popovich as the lead assistant coach, a position he held until 1992 when Spurs owner Red McCombs fired the entire coaching staff.

After a two-year period as an assistant coach with the Golden State Warriors, the new ownership of the San Antonio Spurs brought Mr. Popovich back to Texas as the team's general manager. Midway through the 1996-1997 season, Mr. Popovich fired head coach Bob Hill and appointed himself head coach, a position he has held since.

As head coach of the Spurs, Mr. Popovich has led the team to four NBA championships, has a career winning percentage of .676 with a record of 576-276 (entering the 2007-2008 season), is the fastest coach in NBA history to reach 500 wins and holds the second best playoff career winning percentage. His

92 playoff wins is fifth most in NBA history. All are feats he credits his Academy experience for helping him achieve.

"I give the Academy a lot of credit for instilling certain qualities and beliefs that still remain, first of all, organizational skills. You know, as a cadet you certainly learn to organize your time and your priorities. Beyond that, being dedicated and having a work ethic where you work to be persistent in trying to achieve a goal and not faltering in that regard... and then the idea of teamwork, and understanding that you don't do it on your own."

The Distinguished Graduate Award began in 2001 and is presented by the Superintendent of the Academy and the Chairman of the Association of Graduates to a USAFA graduate whose lifetime of achievement is of such significance as to set them apart from their contemporaries.

The purpose of the award is to recognize outstanding performance by graduates who have demonstrated a lifetime of service to the nation, favorably promote the Air Force Academy and its graduates, and promote and increase awareness of graduate heritage among alumni and cadets.

The Academy and the AOG will honor these gentlemen during the Founders Day dinner today.

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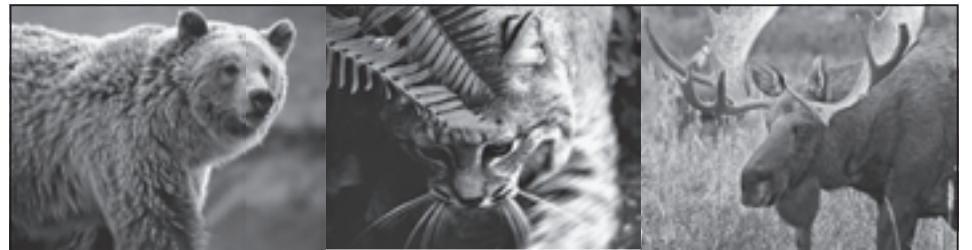
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AFPC officials offer 24-hour customer service

By Staff Sgt. Jeremy Larlee
Air Force News Agency

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — As Air Force people learn how to do more with less, multi-tasking and proper usage of their time is vital.

Unfortunately, an Airmen's dedication to completing the mission may cause them not to take proper care of their personnel records and other vital career actions. They may just not have the time to leave work and visit their local military personnel flight. They also may be deployed or stationed in an area with no MPF available.

The answer to this problem is located at the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base. The 24-hour Air Force Contact Center here employs a tier system to help Airmen fix their personnel problems from a computer or a telephone any time of the day.

The first step in the tier is to visit the AFPC "Ask" Web site at ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil. The Web site contains a wealth of personnel information and services that would have been available only at a MPF in the past.

But if a visit to the Web site doesn't answer a person's question, he or she can call 800-616-3775, where a customer service representative like Ken Nelson

will answer their call.

Mr. Nelson and others in the call center have extensive military personnel experience. He served for nine years as an Air Force personnelist.

There are other advantages to the center besides the fact that it is open 24 hours, Mr. Nelson said. There are fewer restrictions on information than he had in his time working at MPFs in the past.

"We have access to everything. It is almost like we are a super personnelist," he said. "We have worldwide access to numerous different agencies, so wherever you are in the fight, we can help you."

Mr. Nelson will not have the answers for some of the more unique or difficult personnel problems, though. If he encounters something that he can't answer, he will send the caller to the next tier that is composed of people who specialize in certain personnel areas.

If the question is about duty history or duty status, Airmen may speak to Tech. Sgt. Andrea Hall, the assistant NCO in charge of the section.

Sergeant Hall said she spends a lot of her day researching answers to questions and coordinating with other agencies, in addition to being on the phone with customers.

She said great communication is what makes the call center a success.

"I couldn't ask for a better team," she



Photo by Staff Sgt. Bennie J. Davis III

Lauren Hutchings answers phone calls for the Air Force Personnel Center's civilian employment and benefits contact center Feb. 26 at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. The Air Force Contact Center provides 24/7 customer service for all personnel needs.

said. "People are always up to speed and extremely motivated to help our customers."

It is important that people don't let personnel problems linger because, in the end, they can be detrimental to the Air Force mission, Mr. Nelson said.

"The mission of the Air Force requires everyone's personal needs be taken care of to ensure they are properly equipped to do their job," he said. "With this process you can call in 24-hours-a-day across the world, which just wasn't possible for a MPF."

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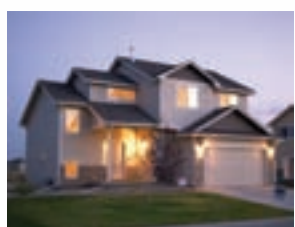
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11240 Falling Star Rd - The Nevada

3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2-car garage, full unfinished basement

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Air Force ready, but general has concerns for future

By Staff Sgt. Monique Randolph
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The Air Force vice chief of staff and his counterparts from the other services, testified on readiness before the Senate Armed Services Committee Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support Tuesday.

Gen. Duncan McNabb addressed Senate questions about the wear and tear on aircraft caused by ongoing operations. General McNabb explained that it is not necessarily the flying hours that cause wear and tear on deployed aircraft. Deployment cycles and conditions are also major contributors.

“For a C-17 (Globemaster III) that is deployed and is being used to transport (cargo) that would have typically (been transported) by ground, the wear and tear is three times what it would be if it was coming from the states, going into theater and coming back out,” he said.

The way deployed aircraft are used can age them by three or four years in a single deployment, he said. Air Force officials have taken risks in recapitalization to ensure the near-term readiness mission was completed.

“We’re now at the point where if you look at our aging fleet, we have 688 airplanes that are restricted and 95 that we had to take off the flying schedule because they’re broken,” General McNabb said. “Those are the things that absolutely concern us.”

The general reinforced the need to recapitalize the Air Force’s aging tanker fleet in order to keep up with current and future demands on air power.

“There are increasing demands on air, and we don’t see that changing,” General McNabb told the two sena-



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Matt Proietti

Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Duncan McNabb testifies before the Senate Armed Services Committee Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support Tuesday. General McNabb expressed concerns for readiness in the future if the Air Force does not recapitalize and modernize its aging aircraft fleet.

tors in attendance. “The number of (hours we fly) has stayed about the same since 1992; however, we are 31 percent smaller in the number of aircraft we have and we’re 41 percent older. This means we are going to age out of equipment more rapidly, and the recapitalization of our assets becomes even more important to us.

“We will continue to do everything we can to continue to support this (war on terrorism), but it is at the expense of tomorrow if we don’t recapitalize, and

that is probably our biggest concern,” General McNabb said.

He praised the investment government officials have made in ensuring the Air Force has “world-class” depot maintenance facilities which he said accomplished a 98 percent on-time delivery rate in 2007. He asked for the committee’s continued support to help recapitalize and modernize aging equipment to improve readiness for future generations.

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Upgraded B-52 still on cutting edge

By David Hopper
Air Combat Command Public Affairs

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (AFP) — The B-52 Stratofortress is continually modified with new technology making the 50-year-old airframe one of the Air Force's most effective long-range heavy bombers.

Modified B-52 aircraft with modern technology are capable of delivering a full range of joint-developed weapons and will continue to be an important element of national defense, said Air Combat Command officials.

Upgrades have not only given the B-52 pin-point targeting capability but also enable it to carry the largest variety of weapons among the heavy bombers, said Lt. Col. Grey Morgan, the ACC B-52 program element monitor.

"We are capable of attacking multiple targets with just one aircraft," Colonel Morgan said. "With the advent of (global positioning system)-capable weapons we can service more targets across the spectrum."

With the newer weapons and the B-52's capacity to carry them, it's no longer a question of how many bombers per target, it's evolved into how many targets per bomber, Colonel Morgan said.

An example of a recent advance in the B-52 is the LITENING Advanced



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Robert Horstman

A B-52 prepares for departure as another B-52 arrives. The B-52 is capable of flying 8,800 miles without refueling and can carry a weapons load of up to 70,000 pounds.

Targeting Pod that is used for targeting, intelligence, reconnaissance and surveillance.

The targeting pod contains a high-resolution, forward-looking infrared sensor that displays an image of the target to the aircrew. It has a wide field-of-view search capability and a narrow field-of-view acquisition and targeting capability. The pod contains a digital camera used to obtain target imagery in the visible portion of the electromagnetic

spectrum, ACC officials said.

New modifications on the B-52 also include a laser designator for precise delivery of laser-guided munitions and a laser rangefinder for exact target coordinates.

One B-52 can engage dozens of targets simultaneously, said Lt. Col. Bryan Harris, the ACC B-52 weapon system team chief. "It is the most combat-capable bomber that we have in the U.S. Air Force."

The last B-52 built was delivered to the Air Force in October 1962, and currently there are only 94 of the original 744 aircraft still operational.

"Despite its age, the B-52 has the highest mission capable rate of the three heavy bombers currently in the Air Force," said Colonel Morgan. "It is still effective in many roles and its capable of performing missions that otherwise would go unfilled."

Other recent initiatives with the B-52 involve its use as a testing platform for synthetic fuels. The B-52 was chosen as the services first aircraft in synthetic fuel testing because it has a unique fuel management system that makes it possible to isolate various fuel tanks in the aircraft.

"This allowed us to put synthetic fuel in one fuel tank which we can control feeding into the desired engines and put more conventional JP-8 in the remaining fuel tanks for the remaining engines," Colonel Morgan said.

The Air Force will continue to upgrade the B-52 to sustain the aircraft's capability and effectiveness, ACC officials said.

The older airframe will continue to be useful as long as it can be modified with new technology at cheaper costs than purchasing new bombers, Colonel Morgan said.

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President outlines importance of 'staying the course'

By John Scaggs
Air Force Materiel Command Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFP) — "The Air Force was critical in liberating the people of Afghanistan, the people of Iraq, and taking the fight to the enemy overseas so we do not have to face them here at home."

Those opening remarks were part of a 40-minute speech delivered by President George W. Bush March 27 at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force, which is adjacent to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. The president's remarks focused on the importance of the United States continuing its military and economic aid to Iraq in order to liberate the Iraqi people and



Photo by Ben Strasser

President George W. Bush discusses the war on terrorism with about 1,100 attendees at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force March 27. President Bush thanked Airmen for their role in the fight against terrorism and outlined the need for continued support to Iraq.

remove a regime that threatened free nations.

Prior to departing for the museum, President Bush presented the President's Volunteer Service award to 1st Lt. Robert Goodreau, from the Aeronautical Systems Center here. President Bush also met with Staff Sgt. Juan Rodriguez Jr., from the 88th Security Forces Squadron. Sergeant Rodriguez was awarded the Purple Heart for injuries received while assigned to Camp Bucca, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

During his speech at the museum, President Bush said Airmen are adding to the tradition of the great aviators honored by the museum.

"The work that today's generation is doing is every bit as challenging, every bit as noble, and every bit as vital to our security as any that came before," the president said. "When the history of this era is written, it will show that the Air Force, and all of America's Armed Forces, performed with unfailing skill and courage. It will show that the United States of America prevailed, freedom advanced and so did peace."

President Bush noted that military achievements in Iraq have been accompanied by a political transformation.

"It can feel like distant history, but it was only five years ago that Iraq was one of the most brutal dictatorships on Earth, a totalitarian nightmare where any election was a sham and dissenters often found themselves buried in mass graves," he said. "In a matter of 15 months, the Iraqi people reclaimed their sovereignty. They went on to choose an interim government and to ratify the most democratic constitution in the Arab world. And in December 2005, 12 million Iraqis elected a government under that constitution, a display of courage that defied the terrorists, disproved the critics and should always inspire the world."

The president acknowledged that progress threatened to unravel in 2006, due in part to extremists using violence to create divisions among Iraqis and within the United States.

"We took a hard look at the situation and responded with the surge," President Bush said. "This dramatic shift in policy had two primary goals. The first was to improve security conditions. So I ordered 30,000 additional soldiers and Marines into Iraq, and gave them a new mission: to focus on protecting the Iraqi people and to hold the gains that had been made."

"The second goal of the surge was to open up space for political and economic progress after security returned," he continued. "So we deployed additional civilian experts and more than doubled the number of provincial reconstruction teams, with a mission to ensure that security gains were followed up by improvements in daily life."

"The surge is doing what it was designed to do," President Bush said. "It's helping Iraqis reclaim security and restart political and economic life. It is bringing America closer to a key strategic victory in the war against these extremists and radicals."

He noted that Iraq wants to solidify its relationship with the United States and Iraqi leaders have requested to form a long-term strategic partnership.

"This partnership would help assure Iraqis that political, economic and security cooperation between our nations will endure," President Bush said. "This partnership would also ensure protections for American troops when the United Nations mandate for Multi-National Forces in Iraq expires in December."

The Iraqi people have chosen to stand with America against our common enemies. And it's in our interest that we stand with them."

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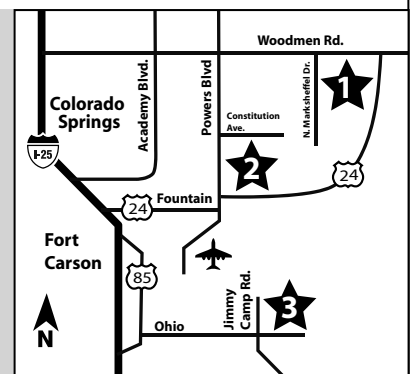
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Academy two-wheelers welcoming riders

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Spring has nearly sprung. It's time for motorcyclists to tune up and gear up for fair weather cruising. The Academy's Chapter 7 of the Green Knights is looking for motorcyclists to share the road with them.

"We want to get a presence established here," said Chapter 7 president Tech. Sgt. Tim Russom with the Cadet Wing.

The national Green Knights military motorcycle club was established in 2000 at McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., and founded on the principles of charity, honor, truth, respect, support, loyalty and commitment.

Sgt. Russom's baseline intention for the Academy club is to create a network of Academy riders who keep in touch and who can call each other to go riding together.

Sgt. Russom is also working on providing an on-base safety course instructor, which will save government



funds. He also wants riders to have a voice to the on-base leadership.

Workshops and sharing ride information are also among the group's goals.

In conjunction with Schriever AFB, Academy riders completed a holiday toy run last fall. A poker run is set for the base picnic, as well as a ride to the Grand Canyon May 5-9.

"It is not just a military organization," Sgt. Russom said of the group. Dependents, retirees, and contractors are all welcome.

"If you have an ID to get on base, you pretty much meet our requirements," he said of membership.

The Academy puts its money where the rubber meets the road in terms of safety education by funding basic courses for new riders. Eligible are DoD personnel, Academy non-appropriated fund employees and civilian contractors.

Currently, the Academy's Green Knights chapter has between 150 and 200 riders' names on its distribution list and about 20 official members.

Membership is not required to participate in activities.

Sgt. Russom would like to see more riders come forward to share rides, information and camaraderie.

"When we get together, we have a lot of fun," he said. "It's a great bunch of girls and guys."

He pointed out El Paso County has more motorcyclists than any other Colorado county.

Sgt. Russom "caught the motorcycle bug" four years ago.

"I don't know how I lived without a bike before that," he said and pointed out two-wheeling is different for everyone.

"For the majority, it's the freedom," he said. Sgt. Russom enjoys the sport because he uses more of his senses, such as hearing, touch and smell than drivers of enclosed vehicles.

"I just enjoy the whole thing, whether is riding on a straightaway or leaning into curves," the Harley Softtail Deuce owner said.

He reminded motorcyclists to be aware of the Academy's requirements for personal protective equipment, which includes helmets, eye protection such as goggles (windshields do not qualify), over-the-finger gloves, a reflective vest, over-the-ankle boots and long pants. If worn over the reflective vests, backpacks must also be reflective.

For more information on the Academy Green Knights chapter, call 333-8459 or e-mail timothy.Russom@usafa.edu.

"I highly encourage any rider to contact us," Sgt. Russom said.

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DOWNRANGE: 'This time it's different

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

CNN was reporting Monday that Baghdad and the Green Zone had been shelled.

"Nothing I haven't been subjected to in the past," said 10th Security Squadron dog trainer Staff Sgt. Jonathan Geren, now a military working dog trainer in Iraq with the 447th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron.

"This deployment is a lot different than the last," said the NCO from Millington, Tenn. "Last



time I was out there with the troops looking for improvised explosive devices. This time, I'm teaching other K-9 handlers how to do it."

The 10-year Air Force veteran is directly in charge of six handlers here with six different ways of doing things.

"I've learned that you can't make everyone happy," Sergeant Geren said. "Since I did not deploy with a dog this time around, it helps me concentrate more on training the other handlers here on explosive detection, attack work and basic obedience with their respective dogs," he said.

He maintains and trains all military working dogs in his area of responsibility.

He spent two weeks at Creech Air Force Base, Nev., preparing for this deployment.

"I've been through that training five times," Sergeant Geren said. "It never gets old!"

The military working dog trainer said his typical day is "training, training, training. I do as much training with the MWD's assigned here to help them with any situation that may arise."

In addition to the six dogs at his location, he works with 18 others at surrounding bases.

"We have all German shepherds at my location," said the NCO. "We use the same dogs from home station. They deploy with the handler."

The time it takes to train a dog varies.

"There is not really an average time," Sergeant Geren said. "The dog teams are always training to keep proficient."

The deployments take time off of a MWD's life. He believes the average life expectancy of an MWD in Iraq is about eight years now.

What does he do to unwind and relax?

"There's not much time to really unwind," he said. "I just hope for a good eight hours of sleep without having to go back out and work again."

Though he has no definite date to return to the Academy, he suspects it will be in five months.

Monday's shelling in the area did not bother him greatly.

"Most things happen outside of our area of responsibility," he said. "But it rattles everything on post."

He said he has always loved deploying and serving his country however it needs.

"The only thing that is different this time around is I'm married with kids now, and I miss them very much," Sergeant Geren said.



Courtesy Photo

10th Security Forces Squadron military working dog trainer Staff Sgt. Jonathan Geren works with six military working dogs at his location and 18 others and their trainers at surrounding bases in Iraq.



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From Page 1

“The cadets are trying to renovate the deck, to extend out the deck so mama can move back in here,” said Mr. Bitsilly. “She’s staying at a friend’s house right now.”

Cadets used tools and materials provided by the Southwest Indian Foundation, as well as salvageable lumber from the old deck.

“The first thing we had to do was demolish the first deck. We had to clear that out so we could actually work here,” said Cadet 2nd Class Nicole Ramstein of Cadet Squadron 40. “Once we got that cleared out enough, we put up the poles for



Cadet 2nd Class Nicole Ramstein of Cadet Squadron 40 secures a screw on a future porch. Cadet Ramstein was the cadet-in-charge of a group of 20 cadets, faculty and family members who did volunteer work on the Navajo reservation.

the support and roof of the deck, then we started trying to frame it up.”

While one group of volunteers worked on the new porch and wheelchair ramp, another group worked on installing a new door.

“We replaced the existing door with a wider door and frame, so she can actually get into the house with her wheelchair,” said Maj. Dan Derby, one of the volunteers and an Academy civil engineering instructor.

Academy volunteers also installed handrails inside the house, and a railing around the heater so the residents would have something to hold on to when near the heater and can maneuver safely around it.

Two miles up the road, the other half of the Academy volunteers group was learning an unscripted lesson on site conditions, putting their engineering experience and coursework to use.

For the past decade, Academy cadets majoring in environmental and civil engineering have built hogans as part of a summer core engineering course. Cadets have built almost 20 hogans over the past decade, and got a chance to see their work on its final location this week.

“This site actually comes from the Navajo hogans that the cadets built in the summer of 2007,” said Major John Christ, officer-in-charge of the group and an Academy civil engineering instructor.

The Southwest Indian Foundation placed the home on its foundation, and the home is then elevated four feet off the ground.

“Now what we’re doing is coming around and filling in the sides underneath the building from the foundation to the base of the floor, and we’re just putting in a cinderblock wall,” said Major Christ. “But before we can do that, we had to go down to the foundation, which required us to unfortunately basically chisel out frozen ground so they could place their block.”

That task more resembled stonemasonry than excavation, but it brought home some long-term lessons.



Photos by John Van Winkle

Maj. John Christ, an instructor in the Air Force Academy’s Department of Civil Engineering, puts his civil engineering knowledge to work as he uses a pick-ax to dislodge frozen ground. The frozen soil would be replaced by cinderblocks and concrete, and become the foundation of a home for a Navajo family.

“This is my first time doing anything like this. I just figured this is the thing to do,” said Cadet 3rd Class Ted Ornelas, CS 21. “Now that I know this is a lot of fun, I’m going to do this again next year.”

“There’s a lot of grunt work, and sometimes you’ve got to get dirty and do stuff like that,” he added. “But when you’re leading your Airmen, they’re going to be doing stuff like this and now I have a better understanding of what they’re going through. So when I ask them ‘can you go dig up some frozen dirt,’ I’m not sitting in my office in my warm chair, I actually understand what they’re going through. And I can actually get down and help them with it.”

The hogan was dedicated Saturday, and the family moved into their new, Air Force Academy-built home.



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A curl and cut above

Academy
hair care pros
primp and
pamper customers

Story and photos by Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff



Clippers hum away at the cadet barbershop in Vandenberg Hall.

Good hair is everything.

"It reflects the way you look and feel and your attitude," said Daniels, manager of the Community Center beauty shop. "Everyone looks good."

Academy hair care shops include the Community Center beauty shops, plus one beauty and three barber shops in the cadet center. They accept appointments, and walk-ins if time is available.

All of them stay busy. Mary Appleton said the Community Center barbershop performs, for example, about 600 haircuts a week. Another barber in the Vandenberg Hall shop, said each of the shops' five barbers must meet a daily quota of 30 cuts a day, with about 10 minutes per customer for each cut.

Good hair is a requirement for military members. Air Force recruits and men require a number-two clipper with a taper or block-off on the sides and no more than 3-inch locks on top.

There is still lots of luxury beauty-wise off and on the hill.

Besides basic cuts, the Community Center beauty shop offers high-and low-lights, color, eyebrow lightening, relaxers, manicures, pedicures, art nails and a full line of beauty products.

"We do everything except extensions and fake nails," said Rodriguez with the cadet beauty shop.

The cadet barbershop in Sijan Hall and the cadet beauty shop in Vandenberg Hall



Above: 2nd Lt. Gregory Roberts, Academy Class of 2007, gets a trim at the Community Center barbershop before beginning pilot training.

offer facials and massages.

Beauticians and barbers work hard. They must stand for long hours, all the while sculpting cuts with clippers and scissors.

"You love the people and don't worry about your feet," Ms. Daniels said. "It is hard work but it is rewarding at the same time."

Ms. Appleton, manager of the Community Center barbershop, said she has worked on various military bases but favors the Academy.

"Everyone is exceptionally nice to our barbers," she said. "And they take good care of us."

Sunny Son with the Community Center barbershop also enjoys being on the Academy. "I love driving up to the Academy. All of our customers become our friends," she said and added when the weather is good she takes a daily walk outside.

Ms. Appleton said the barbers take special note of those deploying and cut their hair so they may blend in more easily overseas.

Ms. Pagan has a special fondness for the cadets. She writes to some after graduation and visits with others when they return to the Hill for a visit.

"All of these guys make me laugh," she said. "I get very attached to them. It's fun."

Lynette Rodriguez with the cadet beauty shop enjoys giving female cadets a restful and relaxing experience in the shop. Before Recognition, she admits to giving four-degree cadets candy and magazines to read while in the shop.

"We spoil them," she said.

Is it true that the talk in a beauty shop alone is enough to curl your hair?

"I could write a book. You would be amazed," Ms. Daniels joked.

The talk in the Community Center shop doesn't curl hair but it does create bonds.

"A lot of our customers share their lives with us and we with them. They all become very special, and our clients are our friends," she said.

Hellene Hommel, also with the Community Center beauty shop, likes the diversity of backgrounds of her customers who have come from as far away as France, Germany and Spain.

"I love the interaction with people. I'm not good at not talking," she said.

Ray Sanchez has been with the Community Center barbershop for nearly 22 years.

"I'm older than the furniture," he said. "I hear lots of stories."

He limits talk with customers to sports and the weather, both safe topics.

Customers of Academy hair care shops appreciate their caregivers as well.

Jimmie Butler, Academy Class of 1963, regularly visits the Community Center barber shop.

"They do a good job, and it's convenient and doesn't take long," he said.

Ruth Kruger, spouse of a retired Air Force member and Community Center beauty shop customer also appreciates the care and friendship from the shop staff.

"I get the best service from all of them," she said. "If one can't do my hair, the others can. I'm always pleased."

Cadet 2nd Class Nicole Paget, with Cadet Squadron 13, took time out from the rigors of cadet life for some pampering and a hair cut at the cadet beauty shop which she enjoys when time permits.

Cadet Paget wears her long hair down over her shoulders for civilian social occasions.

"I don't want to look like a cadet all the time," she quipped.

Air Force women with long hair, including cadets, must wear their hair up and above their collar. Short hair must not hang below the collar. No Dolly Parton big hair for women, either. Their hair must not extend more than three inches out from their head.



Tools of the trade are on display at the Community Center barbershop.

Miami beats Air Force in overtime, 3-2

By Dave Toller
Athletic Communications

WORCESTER, Mass. — Miami's Justin Mercier scored with just under five minutes remaining in overtime to lift the top-seeded Red Hawks past fourth-seeded Air Force, 3-2, in the semifinals of the NCAA Northeast Regional at the DCU Center Saturday in Worcester, Mass.

Miami got on the board quickly on the first shift of the game. Freshman Tommy Wingels scored 19 seconds into the game on a 2-on-1 rush. Wingels skated down the left side and took a wrister from the left circle that beat Andrew Volkening. After that, the game was very even as each team had eight shots after the Miami goal. Each team had

one power play in the period and was unable to convert. Jeff Zatkoff and Volkening each had eight saves in the first period.

Air Force not only tied the game in the second period, but took the lead. Freshman Derrick Burnett tied the game at the 3:21 mark with his seventh of the season. Jeff Hajner won a faceoff in the offensive end, and Burnett stuffed the rebound past Zatkoff to tie the game at 1-1. Five minutes later, the Falcons took the lead on senior Josh Print's first goal of the season. The often-injured senior winger started the rush as he split two Red Hawk defensemen at the blue line. From his linemates, Scott Kozlak and Blake Page, Print scored from right in front of the net for a 2-1

lead at the 8:34 mark.

The Falcons held the one-goal lead until midway through the third period. After a penalty for too many men on the ice on Air Force, Miami capitalized when Carter Campier scored at the 13:44 mark to tie the game at 2-2.

The game remained tied at 2-2 and went into overtime, the first overtime game this season in the NCAA Tournament. Miami had a power play midway through overtime, but Air Force killed it off. Then, late in the overtime period, Mercier skated down the right side, and his wrister beat Volkening for the game-winner at 15:21.

Air Force finished the 2007-08 season with a 21-12-6 record, a school record for Division I wins in a season.



Photo by Michael Silverwood

The Miami University Men's Hockey team defeated the Academy, 3-2 in overtime in the first semifinal game of the 2008 Men's Ice Hockey Northeast Regional at the DCU Center in Worcester, Mass., on Saturday.

Three Falcons earn player of week honors from AHA

By Dave Toller
Athletic Communications

WORCESTER, Mass. — Three Air Force Falcons earned player of the week honors from the Atlantic Hockey Association as a result of the team's performance Saturday at the NCAA Northeast Regional in Worcester, Mass. Fourth-seeded Air Force took top-seeded Miami (the No. 2 overall seed in the tournament) into overtime, before falling, 3-2.

Andrew Volkening was named the goalie of the week, Josh Print was the player of the week, and Derrick Burnett was the rookie of the week.

Volkening becomes Air Force's first player in school history to be named to an NCAA Regional all-tourney team. He made 30 saves in the game vs. top-seeded Miami and made numerous spectacular saves in the game. His stick save on a shot by Jarod Palmer in the second period was named the No. 1 Play of the

Day on ESPN, Saturday. The sophomore from Genoa, Ill., held the nation's top scoring team to just two goals in regulation. Miami ended up winning the game, 3-2 in overtime, but entered the game as the only team in the nation to average more than four goals per game. Volkening made six saves in overtime, including a blocker save on a breakaway shot by Hobey Baker finalist Ryan Jones, the nation's leading goal scorer.

Print, a senior left winger from Timberlake, Ohio, scored his first goal of the season to give Air Force a 2-1 lead in the second period vs. the Red Hawks. He was also a +1 in the game. The goal was his first ever in the NCAA Tournament.

Burnett, a freshman right winger from Corona, Calif., scored AFA's first goal of the game vs. Miami. His goal early in the second period tied the game at 1-1 and was his seventh of the season. It was his first ever goal in the NCAA Tournament.



Photo by Michael Silverwood

Senior forward Josh Print splits two Miami players in the first semifinal game of the 2008 Men's Ice Hockey Northeast Regional at the DCU Center in Worcester, Mass. Print was named the Atlantic Hockey Association player of the week for his performance in the game.

ARENA

Air Force football schedule set for 2008

Six nationally televised games and visits to Falcon Stadium by Southern Utah, Utah, Navy, New Mexico, Colorado State and BYU highlight the 2008 Air Force football schedule, released by the Mountain West Conference.

The Falcons open the season on Saturday, Aug. 30, at noon in Falcon Stadium against Southern Utah, a Football Championship Subdivision (formerly NCAA Division I-AA) team. Air Force is 12-0 all-time against teams from the Championship Subdivision. The game will not be televised.

The Falcons then begin MWC play on Saturday, Sept. 6, by traveling to

Laramie, Wyo., to take on Wyoming at 1:30 p.m. CBS College Sports Network (CBS C), formerly known as CSTV, will nationally televise the game. A non-conference game at Houston on Saturday, Sept. 13, follows. Game time and television are to be announced. The team then plays the first of two consecutive nationally televised games on VERSUS by hosting Utah on Saturday, Sept. 20, at 2 p.m. The Falcons are idle on Saturday, Sept. 27.

Air Force begins its quest for the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy on Saturday, Oct. 4, at 2 p.m. against Navy in Falcon Stadium. The game will be televised nationally by VERSUS. Back-to-back conference road games in the Pacific time zone follow as Air Force plays at San Diego State on Saturday, Oct. 11, at 6:30 p.m. and at UNLV on Saturday Oct. 18, at 7 p.m. Both games will be tele-

vised by the MountainWest Sports Network (The Mtn.).

The Falcons then host New Mexico in Falcon Stadium on a Thursday night national telecast on Oct. 23 beginning at 6 p.m. on CBS C. Air Force then completes CIC play by traveling to Army on Saturday, Nov. 1. The game time and television network are to be announced, although the game will most likely on ESPN U or Classic which are the television partners of Army.

Colorado State comes to Falcon Stadium on Saturday, Nov. 8. The game starts at 4 p.m. and will be televised by The Mtn. Air Force closes out the regular season with two nationally televised games. The Falcons host BYU on Saturday, Nov. 15, at 1:30 p.m. and travel to TCU on Saturday, Nov. 22, for a 2:30 p.m. Central kickoff. The BYU game will be televised by CBS C while VERSUS

will carry the TCU game.

Air Force's complete schedule with dates, kickoff times and television network coverage is below.

2008 Air Force Football Schedule

Day	Date	Time	Opponent (TV)
Sat.	Aug. 30	12 p.m.	Southern Utah
Sat.	Sept. 6	1:30 p.m.	at Wyoming* (CBS C)
Sat.	Sept. 13	TBA	at Houston (TBA)
Sat.	Sept. 20	2 p.m.	Utah* (VERSUS)
Sat.	Sept. 27	OPEN	
Sat.	Oct. 4	2 p.m.	Navy (VERSUS)
Sat.	Oct. 11	6:30 p.m.	at San Diego State* (The Mtn.)
Sat.	Oct. 18	7 p.m.	at UNLV* (The Mtn.)
Thur.	Oct. 23	6 p.m.	New Mexico* (CBS C)
Sat.	Nov. 1	TBA	at Army (TBA)
Sat.	Nov. 8	4 p.m.	Colorado State* (The Mtn.)
Sat.	Nov. 15	1:30 p.m.	BYU* (CBS C)
Sat.	Nov. 22	2:30 p.m.	at TCU* (VERSUS)

* - Mountain West Conference game
All times local to site
(The Mtn.) - MountainWest Sports Network
(CBS C) - CBS College Sports Network, formerly known as College Sports Television (CSTV).

Fencer to travel to Italy for Junior World Championships

By Madeline McGuire
Athletic Communications

Air Force Academy fencer Peter French will travel to Acireale, Italy, to compete in the 2008 Junior World Championships, April 6-14. French earned his spot on the team after earning the men's individual epee silver medal (third) at the Junior World Cup in Basel, Switzerland, in January and winning the championship at the 2008 Junior Olympics in February in Charlotte, N.C. The national title earned him the No. 2 spot on the junior world team.

"Making the World Team is a great honor," said French. "I'm glad I was able to meet my hopes and the expectations of my coach and teammates. I worked hard and fenced well this season, so it feels very good to earn this selection to the World Team."

The Junior World Team is the top three under-20 year old fencers in the United States and is chosen by the U.S. Fencing Association to represent the United States at the World Championships.

In March, French earned All-America honors at the NCAA Men's and Women's Fencing Championship held in Columbus, Ohio. He finished sixth at the NAAs. In Italy, French will compete with two other Americans, Jonathan Yergler and James Hawrot.

French recently gave his thoughts on his fencing career to this point.

Describe the path to Junior World Championships.

"The Junior World Team is the top three under-20 year old fencers in the United States chosen by the U.S. Fencing Association to represent the U.S. at the World Championships. The team selec-

tion is based on points earned throughout the season at national and international tournaments."

You had a difficult time at one North American Cup competition. Why?

"I have hoped to make a world team since I began fencing at six years old. This is my last year in the junior age group, so I put pressure on myself to make the team this year. At this particular North American Cup, I let this pressure distract my fencing and performed miserably as a result. The selection process is very competitive, and even though I was first before the tournament, I now had a very small chance to make the team."

How did you make it?

"The next weekend, Jan. 26, I fenced in a World Cup in Basel, Switzerland. I needed an outstanding result to make the team, and I placed third. However, because of my bad result the previous tournament, this great result only moved me to fourth place. The final tournament of the season, the Junior Olympics on Feb. 15, would decide the team for World Championships. I knew it was an important tournament, but I somehow managed to handle the pressure and win the event. This victory moved me into second place in the rankings and secured my World Team spot."

What is your expectation?

"Coach has worked with me since I came to the Academy to expect and work towards winning. Even though it is the World Championships, I expect to win. I know I am capable, and if I work hard I can win this tournament."



Photo by Abdel Salem

Falcon sophomore Peter French focuses on a practice opponent.

What is the roll of your Coach and the Air Force team?

"I owe a tremendous amount of credit to Coach (Abdel) Salem and my teammates. Coach has dedicated a lot of his valuable time training me and traveling with me to tournaments. He spends extra time with me outside of normal practice to give me instruction. I would not have made the team without the skills he has taught me for the past two years. My teammates deserve praise for their hard work ethic at practice. They always challenged me to work harder, and helped me improve this season."

Your brother, Tim, was a four-time World Team member. Are you relieved to have made the team?

"My brother was a great fencer in high school and while he was at the Academy. His great record of four World Teams was definitely something I hoped to achieve as I grew up. I'm glad I was able to earn the honor and share some of the same experiences he had."

Your brother wants to come back to fencing. Do you think your results have anything to do with this?

"Fencing is a great sport, and something that cannot be quit easily. When Tim retired after college, I'm sure he missed fencing. Maybe after seeing me have success this season he remembered how much he enjoyed fencing. Whatever his reason, I'm sure he will be as successful as he once was."

Abbey Rogers Named MPSF Gymnast of the Year



Photo by Mike Kaplan

By Valerie Perkin
Academy Communications

WOODLAND, Calif. – Junior Abbey Rogers was named Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Co-Gymnast of the Year, the league commissioner announced Tuesday. It is the first-ever such honor for the Falcons' women's gymnastics program. In addition, Rogers was one of five Falcons to earn all-conference accolades.

Rogers currently leads the team on every event, while guiding the Falcons to some of their top team scores in nearly

three years. A two-time MPSF Gymnast of the Week, Rogers has accounted for 13 first-place finishes on the year. She holds the top Regional Qualifying Scores in the MPSF on the floor exercise and in the all-around.

She shares the Gymnast of the Year award with senior Michelle Kulovitz of UC-Davis.

In addition to her yearly award, Rogers earned all-MPSF accolades in the all-around, balance beam and floor exercise. She was one of three athletes to claim conference honors in the all-around, joining sophomore

Michelle Denise and freshman Brittany Dutton.

Rogers and Dutton joined sophomore Kayla Kincade on the balance beam all-MPSF list, while Rogers and Denise earned honors on the floor exercise. Denise was the lone Falcon to earn all-league honors on the uneven bars, while senior Kelly Lewis represented the squad on the vault.

Each MPSF team is represented by their top gymnast in each event, followed by the student-athletes with next four highest RQS averages in the conference.

INTERCOLLEGIATE

Hockey
March 29 at Worcester, Mass.
NCAA Northeast Regional
Miami 3 (OT) Falcons 2 (OT)

Baseball
March 28-29 at Salt Lake City, Utah
Utah 6 Falcons 0
Utah 19 Falcons 0

April 1 at Pueblo, Colo.
Falcons 1 Doane 11

April 2 at AFA
Falcons 37 Doane 13

Men's Tennis
March 27 at Las Vegas
TCU 7 Falcons 0

March 28 at Las Vegas
UNLV 7 Falcons 0

March 29 at Las Vegas
Falcons 6 BYU 1

Women's Tennis
March 28 at Fort Worth, Texas

New Mexico 7 Falcons 0

March 29 at Fort Worth, Texas
TCU 7 Falcons 0

Track and Field
March 29 at Tempe, Ariz.
Arizona State Invitational
Six earn regional qualifying marks
Melissa Beerse, pole vault, 12' 7 1/2"
Rachel Simmons, pole vault, 12' 7 1/2"
Nick Frawley, pole vault, 16' 10 3/4"
Sara Neubauer, shot put, 48' 4 3/4"
Katie Weber, javelin, 157' 1"

David Lissy, discus, 173' 1"

March 28 at Springfield, Mass.
USAG Championships
Navy 353.650
William and Mary 338.450
Falcons 335.100
Springfield 326.200
MIT 317.000

Women's Gymnastics
March 28 at Davis, Calif.
MPSF Championships
UC-Davis 194.700

Seattle-Pacific 193.000
Alaska-Anchorage 192.825
Falcons 192.275

INTRAMURAL

Volleyball

Team	W	L
DFF	12	3
MDG	10	4
CES/CS	8	6
CW	3	9
SFS	1	12

Africa Command makes progress with African allies

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WARRENTON, Va. (AFPN) — U.S. Africa Command is making progress in gaining acceptance in Africa, the command's deputy for civil-military affairs said in an interview here.

"We're doing OK," Ambassador Mary Carlin Yates said in a tone that indicated she'd like to do much better. Ms. Yates is the No. 2 person in U.S. Africa Command and the first civilian to hold such a position in a U.S. combatant command.

The command will reach full operational capability Oct. 1. The going hasn't been easy, AFRICOM officials said, as many African leaders questioned the formation of the command — calling it a U.S. grab for African resources — while others felt the command represented the militarization of U.S. foreign policy.

The U.S. position, Ms. Yates explained, is that the command is a reorganization that allows the U.S. military to help the Africans themselves provide security and to support the far larger U.S. civilian agency programs on the continent.

"What we are finding is that the more we explain, the more understanding (there is) that it is a reorganization," Ms. Yates said, "and that we want the security relationships to continue as they are and find ways to enrich and enhance this."

The command will provide expertise for all of Africa and surrounding island nations, with the exception of Egypt. The continent currently is split among U.S. European Command, U.S. Central Command and U.S. Pacific Command. AFRICOM will take over responsibility for programs those commands are currently running in Africa.



Africa Command also is breaking new ground in that it includes civilians from federal agencies outside the Defense Department. In addition to Ms. Yates, leaders from the U.S. Agency for International Development, the departments of Treasury, Justice and Commerce, and other agencies are integral parts of the new command.

"We believe the new interagency approach is the way we can build more," the ambassador said. "We can buttress what we're doing to have the programs more effective."

Civilian agencies have the expertise in Africa, Ms. Yates said, adding that it's the right time for such a step.

"The biggest difference I have seen in my 20 years of being involved in Africa is the Africans are taking more responsibility for themselves," she said.

Africans want to fight the nearly endemic corruption, she said, and they understand that democracies are less likely to go to war. They also realize they need help in fighting the spread of AIDS. They understand the relationship between security and economic progress, and they believe they are up to the challenge, she added.

"They'll decide which programs they want to enrich their security and stability, and we, hopefully, will be ready and have built a more effective 21st-century structure to work with them," Ms. Yates said.

Africa Command is a "listening command," Ms. Yates said, and command officials have taken every opportunity to explain their mission to African leaders and the African people.

At meetings here last week, the Americans laid out their concerns about problems, and the Africans shared their perspective. Then both sides looked at the common ground.

"What's really important is for us to realize we are different, and we look at things differently," Ms. Yates said. Even the Africans differ depending on their region, their tribe, their history and their resources, she noted.

The ambassador said she believes more dialogues with more people would be helpful, that Americans cannot stay in their stovepipes, but rather must reach out for the cross-fertilization of ideas. If that doesn't happen, she said, "we're not going to get it right."

"One of my biggest 'takeaways' (from the talks here) is that we have to find more ways for routine consultations," she said. "It's one thing for the Americans to interact with the Africans; it's also wonderful to have the Africans interacting with each other and learning from the debates that go on between them."

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CMSAF enlisted call

The Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, Chief Master Sgt. Rodney McKinley, will hold a mandatory enlisted call Thursday from 9:30 to 11 a.m. in the Arnold Hall Theater. Dress for the event is uniform of the day.

Athletic facility closures

The Hall of Excellence, located in the Falcon Athletic Complex, is closed for minor construction through May 17.

AFRF offers options

The Airman & Family Readiness Flight presents:

-Teen Job Search and Resume Writing; Saturday and Wednesday, 8 a.m. to noon and 4 to 6 p.m.: Get job search information and volunteer oppor-

tunities and learn application/resume writing techniques, interviewing techniques and listen to a local employer panel. The session is open to dependent children of active duty, Reservists and DoD civilians only. Minimum attendance age is 14, and attendees must attend both sessions.

-Sponsorship training; Tuesday or April 29, 8 to 9 a.m.: This is a mandatory class for those who have been assigned to sponsor a newcomer to the area. Contact your unit sponsorship monitor for details.

-Area Job Orientation; Tuesday, 9 to 11 a.m.: Offers an overview of the local job market, employment options, Airman & Family Readiness Flight resources and other agencies that can assist with a job search. This course is offered to those seeking full or part time employment and are new to the local job market.

-Smooth Move; Thursday or April 30, 9 to 10 a.m.: Lessen the stress of an upcoming move by learning innovative ways to make it a smooth one. This is a mandatory class for all Academy people going through a permanent change of station.

-Military Spouse Career Advancement Account Orientation; Thursday, 1 to 3 p.m.: If you are the spouse of an active duty Air Force member, E-1 to E-5 or O-1 to O-3, have more than a year left at this duty station and are continuing your education, learn how you may be eligible for an educational grant of \$3,000 per year for up to two years.

-Resume writing; April 16, 9 to 11 a.m.: Learn different types of resume and cover letter styles and how to improve your own.

-United States Secret Service Employment Opportunity Information Session; April 16, 8:30 a.m. to noon: Learn about employment opportunities in Washington, D.C., with the United States Secret Service, Uniformed Division.

-Air Force Civil Service Class; April 17, 8:30 a.m. to noon: Offers information on how to prepare and apply for a civil service career.

-Newcomer's Base Red Carpet Tour; April 18, 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.: An informative, fun-filled base tour that gives insight into the Academy mission and reveals all there is to see and do here.

-Mock Interviewing Session; April 30, 8:30 a.m. to noon: Participate in a mock interview with a real HR representative.

-Transition Assistance Program Seminar: People separating in a year or retiring in two years can call the Airman & Family Readiness Flight to reserve a spot in the next available TAP class. The class guides people through building a resume, interviewing skills, networking, dressing for success and more.

For more information or to register for a class, call 333-3444.

BLAST! at Arnold Hall

BLAST!, winner of the 2001 Tony Award for "Best Special Theatrical

Event" and the 2001 Emmy Award for "Best Choreography" performs Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Arnold Hall. For tickets, visit the Academy Concerts box office or call 333-4497.

Intramural soccer

Intramural soccer teams are forming and a coaches meeting is scheduled for Monday at 3:30 p.m. at the Fitness Center. The deadline for submitting letters of intent is today, and the season will start on or about May 5. People with teams or those who would like to be on a team should call Dave Castilla at 333-4078.

Ceremony recognizes volunteers

Academy volunteers who share their time and talents to make a difference in our military and local communities will be honored with a special Volunteer Recognition Awards Ceremony at the Falcon Club April 25. Deli sandwiches and light hors d'oeuvres will be served from 11 to 11:30 a.m. and the official ceremony will begin at 11:30 a.m. The Academy community is invited to attend and support it's outstanding volunteers.

Toastmasters sought

The Academy is starting a Toastmaster International chapter and is seeking those interested in attending. Those interested must submit their names, and once all the names are collected, a demonstration meeting will be scheduled with the regional director. To submit your name or for more information, contact Master Sgt. Angela Evans at angela.evans@usafa.edu or Master Sgt. Donald Comp at donald.comp@usafa.edu.



Scholarships offered

As part of the Annual Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo Parade, Aleut Management Services, in coordination with the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Division, sponsors scholarships awarded to deserving family members of U.S. Military servicemembers killed or wounded in action while in a designated combat zone. The scholarships are awarded to family members who have been accepted into an accredited college or university, or who are current college students seeking support for either a traditional degree-seeking program up to and including master's degrees, or for vocational, career and technical education. Applicants must be committed to attend during the 2007/2008 academic year.

For more information or for a scholarship application, contact Brian Binn

at (719) 575-4325 or brian@csc.org, or Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo Parade Event Manager, Brenda Carender at (719) 262-7160 or brenda.carender@aleutmgmt.com.

Earth Day opportunity

Volunteers are needed to support Earth Day activities April 19 at Garden of the Gods. A start time is to be determined. Activities include cleaning up the park, 30th Street (along the front of the park) and cleanup of the mesa overview. Lunch will be provided to volunteers, and events promoting Earth Day for children will be offered after the cleanup. Volunteers are encouraged to bring work gloves, drinking water and to dress for the weather. For more information or to volunteer, contact Senior Master Sgt. Keith Roche at 554-2506 or keith.roche@peterson.af.mil by April 11.

Chorale concert set

The Colorado Springs Chorale offers "Music's Fire," a classical concert, April 19 at 8 p.m. in the Pikes Peak Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets range from \$16-\$48 and a \$2 military discount is offered. For tickets, call (719) 520-7469 or visit the Pikes Peak Center box office or any TicketsWest outlet.

Cadets present concert

The Academy Catholic Cadet Choir and Cadet Community Orchestra are scheduled to present a public concert at St. Mary's Catholic Cathedral in Colorado Springs April 20 at 2:30 p.m. The concert will feature sacred choral and patriotic music, as well as instrumental chamber music and will include works by Palestrina, Hassler, Faure', Mozart and Vivaldi Gloria. The concert is free, open to the public, and tickets are not required. For more information, call Gary De Kler at 333-7868.

**ACADEMY
STRAIGHT TALK LINE**
PROVIDING UP-TO-DATE
INFORMATION IN THE
EVENT OF A BASE-WIDE EMERGENCY



(719) 333-7876



CADET CHAPEL

Catholic Masses:

Sunday

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

(or by appointment)

Mass - 10 a.m.

Weekday

Mon., Tues., Thurs. - 6:45 a.m.

Wednesday

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

Mass - 6 p.m.

Protestant Services:

Sunday

Traditional - 9:00 a.m.

Hill Fellowship - 11:00 a.m.

Jewish Services

Fridays - 7 p.m.

Buddhist Worship

Wed. - 6:30 p.m. - All Faiths Room

Muslim Prayer

Fridays - Noon - Muslim Prayer Room, Chapel Basement

COMMUNITY CENTER CHAPEL

Catholic Masses:

Saturday

Reconciliation - 3:30 p.m.

Mass - 4 p.m.

Sunday

Mass - 9:30 a.m.

Religious Formation - 10:45 a.m.

(Sept. - May)

Tuesday-Friday

Mass - 11:30 a.m.

Protestant Services:

Saturday

Contemporary - 6 p.m.

Sunday

Traditional - 8 a.m.

Gospel - 11:15 a.m.

Religious formation - 9:30 a.m.

(Sept. - May)

Military Academy Pagan Society

Third Thursday - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

(For more info, call TSgt. Longcrier at 333-6187.)

For more information, call 333-3300.



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