



USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO ACADEMY SPIRIT

CST stands up



Page 6

Cadets head for Sandhurst



Page 10

World commemorates Holocaust



Page 15

Cyclists battle Academy roads



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Cadet leaders honored for service

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Two leaders of cadets were recognized for their outstanding service during parade ceremonies on the terrazzo April 16.

Maj. Fred Cunningham, Air Officer Commanding for Cadet Squadron 37, received the General O'Malley Memorial Leadership Award. Master Sgt. Paul Pohnert, Academy Military Trainer for CS-2, received the Senior Master Sgt. William H. Coltrin Leadership Award.

"I am extremely honored to have been selected," Major Cunningham said. "I do love the Academy, and I have a passion for working with the cadets. It is an incredible opportunity to train and mentor the next generation of Air Force leaders."

This is his second year as an AOC. Previously he flew C-5s, JC-135s and was a T-1A instructor. Before coming to the Academy, Major Cunningham completed a master's degree in leadership and counseling.

Sergeant Pohnert knew he was among four finalists before the awards were announced.

"I was very surprised and humbled by the award," he said. "It truly means a lot to be recognized for your contributions to the mission of the Academy, especially an award named for such an outstanding leader and contributor to the betterment of the Academy."

In June, Sergeant Pohnert



Photo by Mike Kaplan

During parade ceremonies April 16 on the terrazzo, cadets honored Maj. Fred Cunningham with the General O'Malley Memorial Leadership Award and Master Sgt. Paul Pohnert with the Senior Master Sgt. William H. Coltrin Award.

will complete his third year at the Academy. He has directed communications electronics maintenance work centers stateside and deployed all over the Middle East.

Senior Master Sgt. William H. Coltrin was the first Commander of Cadets staff superintendent and introduced cadets to the backbone of the Air Force, the enlisted corps. Sergeant Coltrin served in World War II and received the Silver Star, Bronze Star, Purple Heart and Air Force Commendation Medal.

Gen. Jerome O'Malley served in the initial cadre of the Academy in 1955 at Lowry Air Force Base. He later served as Commander in Chief of the Pacific Air Force and Tactical Air Command. He died in an aircraft accident in 1985 while serving in his last position.

Both award winners have long lists of accomplishments. Major Cunningham was cited as an outstanding commander and for his commitment to cadets. A member of the Academy admissions pool, he spearheaded the plan to raise spirit at away sporting events, facilitated cadet aviation forums, served as sponsor for fourth class cadets and devoted lengthy personal time to non-profits ministering to detention facility prisoners and the homeless.

Sergeant Pohnert was recognized as an outstanding senior noncommissioned officer, team player and motivator of cadets. He authored a comprehensive how-to guide now used across the cadet wing, received superior ratings as an instructor and acquired gear to provide realistic convoy

operations scenarios. Sergeant Pohnert was also cited as a linchpin to squadron improvement and morale and served as a key member in the creation of the Academy Military Training Association.

Major Cunningham, Academy Class of 1994, said his greatest satisfaction "hands-down" is working with and mentoring cadets.

"To see them mature and grow from inexperienced civilians to second lieutenants and know that in some small way I might have provided a positive influence and been a model in terms of their leadership development is very gratifying," he said. "I can think of no other job where one has the opportunity to influence so many incredibly smart and talented young men and women."

See HONORED, Page 5

Cadet cyberwarriors off to AFIT

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

The battle to fly, fight and win increased its scope in 2005 when Secretary of the Air Force Michael Wynne added cyberspace to the Air Force's domains of air and space.

The Academy has kept pace by integrating cyber educational content into the curriculum, and two first class cadets will be the first graduates to go directly from the Academy to the Air Force



Institute of Technology's cyber warfare track.

Cadets 1st Class Aaron Gross and

Nicholas Fritts have followed the Academy's undergraduate cyber warfare degree track as computer science majors.

"Our future role in cyber warfare will continue to grow, and we will continue to be a leading educational and research institution in the field," said Lt. Col. Jeff Boleng, assistant professor of computer science.

Since the early 1990s, AFIT has been teaching and performing graduate-level research, focusing on under

See CYBERWARRIORS, Page 3

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Airpower: More than bombs on target

By Col. Thomas Huizenga
755th Air Expeditionary Group commander

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan (AFPN) — Right now, outside my tent as I write this, yet another close-air-support mission is thundering into the sky. And right now, there is likely an Air Force joint terminal attack controller, or JTAC, ready in the field to employ that airpower in the fight against the insurgents here in Afghanistan.

But as impressive as that classic use of airpower is, that is by no means the only measure of our Airmen's involvement in this counter-insurgency fight.

Everyday, Airmen are deeply involved in this joint fight against extremism and terrorism. Countering an insurgency requires every tool of national power; and yes, that includes the force of combined arms.

Airpower is vital to that striking force. Airpower, however, comes to the fight in many forms. As those CAS sorties fly, there are Airmen busting their tails maintaining the aircraft. There are Airmen working the extraordinary challenges of supplying

those hungry aircraft in a difficult environment. And there are Airmen securing this air base against a complex threat from smart and dangerous adversaries. These things, too, are airpower.

The Air Force contribution extends far beyond the base. From the global mobility provided by our airlift forces, to the worldwide communication and navigation network maintained by our comm and space specialists, to unmanned aerial vehicle operators running Predator sorties from half a world away, airpower is an indispensable part of the joint fight.

And it doesn't stop there.

Every Airman who supports deployed Airmen, and their families back home, is enabling the fight, and bringing airpower to bear.

Airmen also are filling very non-traditional roles in this war, providing key capabilities and skills to the joint force. Whether serving in joint organizations, or often in Army formations, Airmen are taking their skills into the "in lieu of" or ILO field.

Sometimes as teams, frequently as individuals, these ILO Airmen supply valuable expertise in support of our

sister services. Lengthy pre-deployment training, longer deployments, and austere forward bases are the norm for these warriors. While this may not look like airpower, the spirit and talents of the ILO Airmen show airpower at its finest.

Beyond their technical skill, Airmen demonstrate their flexibility and dedication to duty every day. Airmen also go one step beyond: the airpower culture that produced them has taught them to look for the one thing that isn't getting done, and then find a better way of doing it. ILO Airmen, show without a doubt, that our people are the greatest form of airpower, and their contribution to the joint fight is immense.

Some folks may glance at the struggle for Afghanistan and falsely conclude that airpower is but a small part of the equation. Although the numbers of Airmen and aircraft in country may be small, the impact of that airpower is huge and global in scope. Airmen can, and should, be proud of their contribution to this fight. The Air Force and our joint partners are making a positive difference in this country together.

ACADEMY SPIRIT

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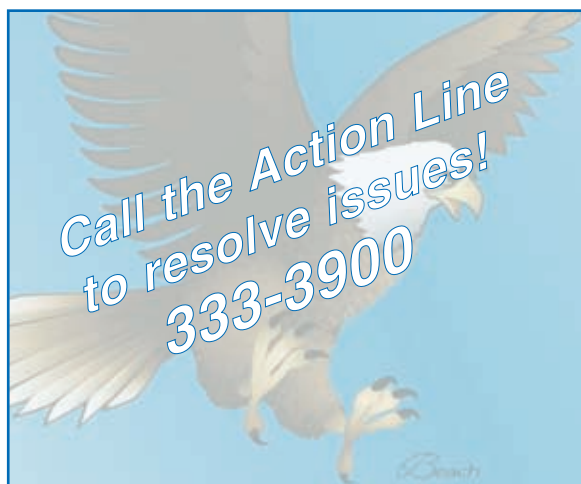
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Character Corner Character Counts

By Chaplain (Maj.) George Youstra
Center for Character Development

John Maxwell in his book *Leadership 101* shares that trust is the foundation of leadership and character. "There are three qualities a leader must exemplify to build trust: competence, connection and character," he says in his book. People will forgive occasional mistakes based on ability, especially if they can see that you're still growing

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

as a leader. But they won't trust someone who has slips in character. In that area, even occasional lapses are lethal. All effective leaders know this truth." PepsiCo chairman and CEO Craig Weatherup acknowledges, "People will tolerate honest mistakes, but if you violate their trust you will find it very difficult to ever regain their confidence. That is one reason that you need to treat trust as your most precious asset. You may fool your boss, but you can never fool your

colleagues or subordinates." Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf points to the significance of character. "Leadership is a potent combination of strategy and character. But if you must be without one, be without strategy," he said. "Character and leadership credibility always go hand in hand. Character makes trust possible. And trust makes leadership possible." Great words to meditate and think about as we become leaders of character.



Whose opinion do you value?



"Thomas Sowell. He's very knowledgeable, an economist at Stanford University and author."

James Boyd
Retired Air Force



"My mother, husband, children, myself and my friends."

Alma Gauthier
Air Force spouse



"My boss and those in leadership positions, my husband and the people who work for me."

Maj. Camille Looney
10th Medical Support Squadron



"My wife. Absolutely. She knows exactly what's going on."

Geoffrey Schilhab
AAFES concessionaire



Cyberwarriors

From Page 1

standing and developing advanced cyber-related theories and technologies.

Both graduating cadets became interested in computers before coming to the Academy.

Cadet Gross, from Anaheim Hills, Calif., said he enjoys video games and has always been interested in how computers interact with each other.

Cadet Fritts, from Dallas, spent three years managing corporate computer networks before joining the military.

"I am always interested in network attacks and the detection of them," he said. "I enjoy being able to figure out that something has changed or isn't acting correctly."

He also enjoys finding ways to crack security systems and spotting system weaknesses.

Both cadets have a good grasp of the threats from cyberspace.

"Threats can encompass everything from minor hacking to other countries trying to steal and bring down our information systems," Cadet Gross said. "The Net is virtually infinite so the range of possibilities for threats and vulnerabilities is almost limitless."

Cadet Fritts also stressed there are threats from every corner of the world.

"In many instances, the best we can hope for is to know what compromises



Photo by Ann Patton

Cadets 1st Class Nick Fritts (left) and Aaron Gross will head to the Air Force Institute of Technology after graduation.

and security breaches we have had," he said. "To suffer a security breach and not know it can be amazingly harmful."

He added that because the threats come through a wire many people don't see them as threats.

"When our private industries are attacked, the government is put at risk from compromised products; products can be modified to become a spy tool or product details can be made available

that allow an adversary to have an advantage when attacking us."

Cadet Gross researched active eye detection in video streams for his information warfare class and he feels the Academy has prepared him well for the challenges ahead.

"I have really learned a lot in regard to the new domain and where it has been and will be," he said.

Cadet Fritts also feels well prepared.

"I had a lot of life experiences before I decided to join the military, but the Academy has helped me learn to focus my energy on the task at hand," he said. "I am better at achieving goals now instead of partially achieving many goals."

Colonel Boleng said since 2004 the department has graduated 37 cadets with the cyber warfare designation and is adding eight more this year.

Core courses directly support the Academy's cyberwarrior development and draw from a variety of departments, including law, electrical engineering, philosophy, physics, chemistry, behavioral sciences, engineering and military strategic sciences, as well as computer science.

Students in the cyber warfare track may select courses in cryptography, information warfare and network security.

"It's pretty exciting heading off to such a new and significant domain," said Cadet Gross. "I imagine that it will get exponentially bigger, thus introducing more vulnerabilities. I will have an important role defending our military's assets from numerous attacks."

Cadet Fritts is also looking forward to new experiences, but he is uncertain where he will be in the future.

"A large part of me wants to stay involved in doing things on the computer," he said. "Time will tell if I will enjoy doing primarily leadership



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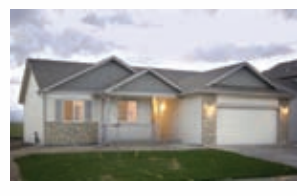
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Educators honored for superior teaching

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

The Outstanding Academy Educator Awards presentations were Thursday, in Fairchild Hall's F-1 lecture hall.

These awards are presented annually to recognize instructors who exemplify excellence in education at the Academy. The award honors educators for superior teaching accomplishments and demonstrated ability to instill high standards of integrity, service and leadership in future officers.

The guest speaker for the event was Dr. Ronald Sega, vice president for Applied Research with the Colorado State University Research Foundation and professor of systems engineering. He is a retired Air Force Reserve major general. During his Air Force career, Doctor Sega served at Space Command and NASA.

Like other winners, Capt. Douglas Leonard was presented with the "Flying Leather" sculpture by Michael Garman. The sculpture is a replica of a World War II aviator wearing a leather jacket, flight scarf and goggles.

Though the awards were all the same, the educators were not.

"I simply don't feel comfortable in a lecture environment - I always try to keep cadets involved in the class via open discussion," said the history department's instructor and executive officer. "While our section sizes are often too large to accommodate a true seminar format, I try to let them guide discussion as much as possible."

To this 1999 Academy graduate from Elk Grove Village, Ill., the skills they will take out of the history courses, particularly critical thinking and analysis, are far more important than factual content.

"I emphasize critical thinking and problem solving, in historical context, more than anything else," Captain Leonard said.

"Cadets now are far more connected with the world than when I was their age - they honestly believe, for the most part, that they are part of a larger whole," said the history instructor. "We identified as Americans first, citizens of the world second - I'm not sure they feel the same way, which I would say is probably a good

thing. On the other hand, I also think that same interconnectedness causes some academic problems for cadets. For some cadets today, spending time online with friends in other locations has assumed a higher priority than completion of coursework, an emphasis that boggles my mind and often frustrates me."

Lt. Col. Kay Smith, Cadet Group Three commander, has her own formula.

"Treat cadets like adults and discuss options available to them," said the colonel from DeWitt, Iowa. "Encourage them to make good choices but stand ready to hold them accountable for poor choices."

A weather officer in the operational Air Force, Colonel Smith teaches professional military education, women's forums, life after the Academy and Air Force Specialty Code Forum, First Year Experience and deployment training.

"I'm very honored to win this award," she said. "Lots

of times the fruits of teaching aren't immediate, and we all hope that we are making a positive difference in developing officers of character."

Dr. Kim Gardner prefers less lecturing at her students and more talking with them.

"I also find that the more you can relate every day experiences to the material being taught, the more interested the cadets are," said the award winning associate chemistry professor from Maryville, Mo. "Although I'm delighted to receive this award, particularly since I am the first civilian in DFC to ever receive this award, the validation that I get is really from the cadets and knowing that I enriched their education."

"I'm delighted to have my department head acknowledge the quality of my work in the classroom and humbled knowing how many amazing teachers there are in my department," Doctor Gardner said.

The recipients for 2008 are:

Maj. Michael Tison, Department of Aeronautics

Maj. Nick Hague, Department of Astronautics

Dr. Wilbur Scott, Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership

Lt. Col. Keith Bishop, Department of Biology

Dr. Kim Gardner, Department of Chemistry

Maj. John Christ, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Lt. Col. Kay Smith, Commandant of Cadets' staff

Lt. Col. Jeff Boleng, Department of Computer Science

Lt. Col. Nancy Rower, Dean of the Faculty's staff

Dr. Sarah Robinson, Department of Economics and Geosciences

Dr. Glen Dudevoir, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Dr. Scott Dennis, Department of Engineering Mechanics

Dr. Andrea Trocha-Van Nort, Department of English and Fine Arts

Mrs. Haning Hughes, Department of Foreign Languages

Capt. Douglass Leonard, Department of History

Maj. John Rieder, Department of Law

Lt. Col. Kenneth Knapp, Department of Management

Maj. Christopher Cullenbine, Department of Mathematical Sciences

Capt. Annemaria Hornby, Department of Military Strategic Studies

Capt. Donald Joy, Department of Philosophy

Maj. Michael Brothers, Department of Physical Education

Dr. Devin Della-Rose, Department of Physics

Lt. Col. John DuMond, Department of Political Science

Lt. Col. Bryan Huntley, Preparatory School

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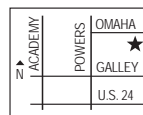
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Academy modifies programs based on survey

By Academy Spirit staff

The confidential 2008 Service Academy Gender Relations survey was administered to cadets last week.

The survey, which asks questions regarding Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Programs, is mandated and used by Congress, as well as senior Defense officials to gauge the progress on these and other issues.

"Cadet input is an essential component of program and institutional evaluation," said Dr. Amanda Lords, Academy psychologist. "We need to hear from cadets to assess how well we are doing and to identify what can be done better."

Cadets were advised not to include any identifying comments to questions. They were administered via paper and pencil and sealed in a plain envelope to ensure anonymity. No identifying infor-

mation was collected that could trace a specific response to an individual cadet.

The results of this and other Academy surveys are used locally and by Congress.

"The results of the 2006 survey were used to inform Congress that cadets and midshipmen were tired of taking this survey every year," said Doctor Lords. "The Defense Manpower Data Center and the Sexual Assault Prevention Office went to Congress and got the law changed that mandated annual surveys. The law was changed to surveys required in even numbered years and focus groups required in odd numbered years – thus reducing the survey burden on our cadets."

The 2006 survey also showed that cadets were tired of traditional PowerPoint training. As a result of the cadet input, training programs continue to be modified to include dynamic

speakers and scenario-based training.

"It is understandable that cadets get burned out taking surveys; however, cadets' voices are heard in all assessments at the Academy," said Doctor Lords. "In fact, we have heard their voices and are firmly committed to doing a better job of communicating how their input is being used by Congress and by Academy decision makers."

Doctor Lords has hunches about the results of this year's survey.

"Cadets indicate that sexual assaults happen at the Academy less frequently than at other colleges," she said. "Cadets help each other learn what is and isn't appropriate behavior. Our cadets watch out for each other."

All cadet women and one third of the male cadets were asked to take the survey.

After completing the survey, many female first class cadets shared that they remembered taking the survey when

they were fourth and third class cadets and were satisfied to learn that their previous input did result in some changes including how often the survey is administered and changes in training.

"We value their opinion," said Ms. Teresa Beasley, Academy Sexual Assault Response Coordinator. "In order for us to better serve the cadets, we need their inputs and their buy-in for a successful program. In order for us to plan our programs, we need to know what works and what doesn't. We do take their responses seriously and try to adjust accordingly."

The results of this survey are not releaseable until they are presented to Congress, typically after winter break starts, but results will be provided to cadets as soon as they are releasable.

The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response team is available 24 hours a day at 333-7272 (SARC).

Honored

From Page 1

Sergeant Pohnert also finds working with cadets his greatest satisfaction.

"I love interacting with them, not just mine, but all cadets," he said. "I think our role here is huge in preparing the next Air Force officers for their upcoming roles."

Both award winners have also met challenges along the way.

"At first I had to get used to not necessarily doing everything myself but utilizing the cadets and helping them grow based on the challenges presented to them," Sergeant Pohnert said.

Major Cunningham said his biggest

challenge is convincing cadets they are in the "real Air Force" right now and the tasks they are expected to do, such as cleaning rooms and having a sharp uniform, are important to leadership development.

"Getting them to see the big picture and approaching every day with a positive attitude while counteracting the cynicism that

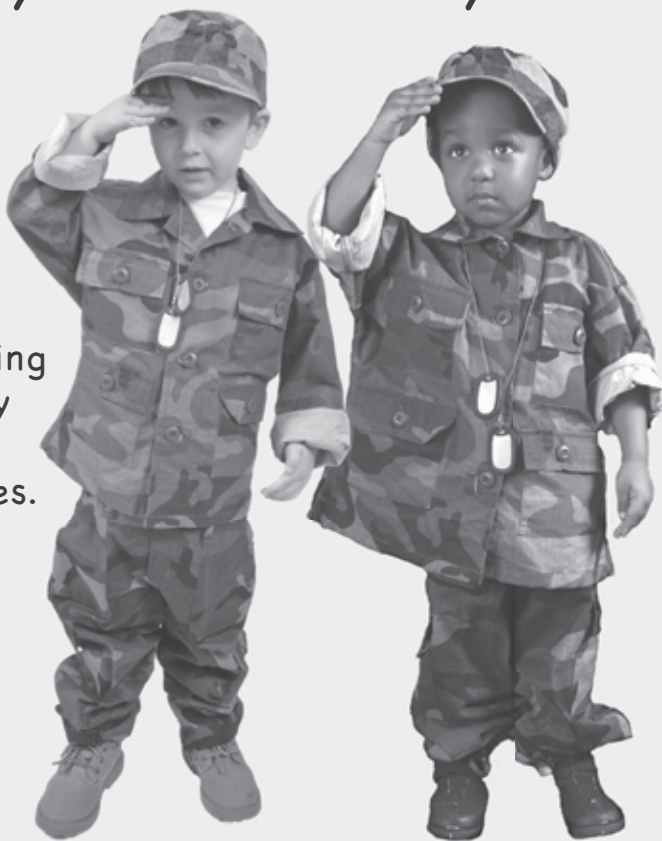
some cadets mire themselves in is a constant battle," he said.

In the future, Major Cunningham would like to command a flying squadron. Sergeant Pohnert would like to go back out to the operational Air Force and work with some of the newly-commissioned officers he helped mentor.

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BX shoplifters decrease community costs rise

By Army & Air Force Exchange Service

Shoplifters at the Academy Base Exchange sent mixed signals in 2007 as sophisticated anti-loss prevention measures helped decrease incidents, but thieves, increasingly interested in "high value items," did their part to raise costs and reduce dividends for all exchange shoppers.

Upgraded camera systems complete with DVR capability, an aggressive educational campaign on the consequences of shoplifting and a 2002 amendment allowing federal retailers to pursue losses and administrative costs related to loss prevention played a role in decreasing occurrences at Academy BX operations by 24 percent, down from 17 percent in 2006 to 13 percent in 2007.

While occurrences decreased, the cost of products involved in detected cases went up from \$1420.52 in 2005 to \$2488.72.

"Shoplifting at the exchange results in a reduced return on investment to our primary shareholders — the military community," said Academy BX manager Kimberly Lopez. "Because (the Army & Air Force Exchange Service) is a command with a mission to return earnings to (Morale, Welfare and Recreation) activities, shoplifting at the BX is essentially the same as taking money directly from the pockets of the military families

the exchange serves."

With a dual mission to provide quality goods and services at competitively low prices and generate earnings to support MWR programs, AAFES, which has contributed more than \$2.4 billion to military quality of life programs in the past 10 years, continues to focus its efforts on reducing theft.

In an effort to protect the MWR dividend, AAFES provides annually and further reduce shoplifting incidents, loss prevention associates are stepping up education efforts to help highlight the cost and perils of stealing through local anti-shoplifting campaigns. AAFES is also testing intelligent video analysis solutions that are expected to further reduce losses. Capable of alerting personnel to crucial incidents as they happen, the new systems will allow store personnel to intervene before merchandise even leaves the store. In addition to these measures, the Academy BX's loss prevention team continues to proactively identify store display areas that tend to have high theft rates.

"No one likes catching shoplifters," said Ms. Lopez. "In fact, one of our major objectives is to deter shoplifting before it ever happens by educating shoppers of all ages on the exchange's ability to monitor and record activity throughout the store. It's our hope that individuals who might be considering theft will see the security

measures, think twice and make the right decision for their family and career."

If shoplifting is suspected, BX loss prevention associates turn the issue over to local law enforcement. In addition to possible disciplinary action and/or criminal prosecution, the Federal Claims

Collection Act, which began March 1, 2002, allows AAFES to enact a flat, administrative cost (civil recovery) of \$200. There may be further fees, in addition to the Civil Recovery Program, depending on the condition of the stolen merchandise.



Photo by Mike Kaplan

CST operating location stood up

Brig. Gen. Susan Desjardins, Commandant of Cadets, speaks with Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape specialists Tech. Sgt. Jared Savage, non-commissioned officer in charge of evasion training, Tech. Sgt. Tony Raciborski, NCOIC of survival training, and Staff Sgt. Jon Wirsing, NCOIC of base training, at Mitchell Hall Monday following the activation ceremony for the 22nd Training Squadron, Operating Location Alpha. The three sergeants are assigned to the 22nd TRS, which is responsible for overseeing cadet combat survival training.



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Heat, wind, dry conditions raise wildfire potential

By Ryan Pille
Academy fire inspector

One definition of tinder is, “a very flammable substance adaptable for use as kindling.” It’s a fitting description of the fire conditions we are experiencing right now. The recent wildfires in El Paso County are a stark reminder of how dangerous wildfires can be, and how easily the fires can start.

El Paso County is dry, but exactly how dry is it? The winds are in high gear, and there is still dry, dead vegetation left over from the

winter. Little precipitation and warmer daytime temperatures are keeping the potential for wildfires high. In fact, it is dry enough for El Paso County to issue an extreme fire danger warning.

Have you heard the term “Red Flag Conditions?” The U.S. Forest Service defines red flag as, “Fires start quickly, spread furiously, and burn intensely. All fires are potentially serious.” In short, it is a dangerous situation that should command our attention to be more cautious when it comes to fire safety.

Although the fire warning

varies from day to day (based on relative humidity and other conditions), we ask our residents to exercise extreme caution and to remember that open burning is prohibited on Academy property.

Additionally, remember that vegetation will ignite easily if contacted by a vehicle exhaust or catalytic converter. Evaluate the risk before you park in the tall grass. Be careful and err on the side of fire safety.

For more information, call the Academy Fire Prevention Office at 333-2473.



Photo by Dave Ahlschwede

A careful look

Master Sgt. Christopher Winder, 460th Space Communications Squadron network control center chief at Buckley Air Force Base, Colo., conducts an open ranks inspection on high school drill team and honor guard members from around the country at the National Invitational Drill Meet Saturday in the Cadet Field House. The event featured an opening ceremony, drill competitions, a performance by the Academy Cadet Honor Guard and an awards ceremony. Sergeant Walker, a former military training instructor, was the head judge at the competition which featured 23 competing teams.

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Cyber Command officials define unit's scope

By Karen Pettit

Air Force Cyber Command (Provisional)
Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. (AFPN) — Ray guns and light sabers may be weapons of science fiction, but using energy as a warfighting tool is one area that members of the Air Force Cyber Command's 450th Electronic Warfare Wing will be charged with exploring.

While details of the wing's composition, mission and manning are still being developed as AFCYBER prepares to become operational by Oct. 1, it's clear that Air Force officials plan to kick it up a notch when it comes to dominance in the electromagnetic spectrum.

"We're going to stop yielding the battlefield to these people who can set off explosives with a cell phone or who can use radar, radio waves or other forms of energy to disrupt our mission or hurt our people," said Lt. Col. Tim Sands, the AFCYBER Transition Team Chief with the 53rd Electronic Warfare Group at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

Since Air Force officials added cyberspace as a warfighting domain and was required to redefine airpower to include the use of electronics and the electromagnetic spectrum, Colonel Sands and his team have been working to identify resources and define the scope of their mission.

"What's happened in warfare is that it used to cost a lot to disable, destroy or degrade capabilities," he said. "You can think of it as needing the missile system, the aircraft or the actual bomb being dropped to dominate the enemy. So, traditionally, our mission as electronic warfare officers has focused on radar jamming, deception, coding new frequencies and such, and mostly on airborne platforms such as the B-52 (Stratofortress), F-15 (Eagle) and B-1B (Lancer).

"Now we've been asked to look at expanding our capabilities and one of these areas is through the use of directed energy such as lasers or microwaves or high powered electromagnetic pulses, for example. It still generates an effect, but not in the traditional sense that we must

actually drop a munition on our target," Colonel Sands said. "Just what will be the scope of operations in this venue is an area that will require intense research and coordination to make sure our commanders have the tools they need both offensively and defensively."

But warfare in the electromagnetic spectrum is more than the use of directed energy. There are visible and non-visible aspects of the spectrum to include infrared, ultra violet, gamma rays, X-rays and so forth, and those are divided even further into electric and magnetic fields.

Determining the capabilities required to achieve a particular effect in support of an overall campaign depends on what portion of cyberspace is contested. Perhaps it would be necessary to use conventional attack methods along with electronic warfare capabilities. That's why another job for leadership is to develop the right type of warfighter for this domain.

Lt. Col. Michael Pandolfo, the 53rd EWG deputy commander for operations, said what they need to do is build on the

skill sets the officers and enlisted members already have.

"The last thing we want to do is create a new tribe or new generation of experts who are only concerned about this one area of warfighting," Colonel Pandolfo said. "We've got to integrate these folks in and through other areas of our Air Force missions. How to do this and what it will look like is something that's being vigorously discussed. What we do know is that we've begun cyber-specific training for our aircrews so they have a better perspective of where we're at and where we're headed. But, there is still much work to do."

Another electronic warfare officer of 23 years who's been leading the charge at the air staff level is Col. Bob Schwarze, the chief of EW and Cyber Requirements at the Pentagon. He said the creation of this new EW wing will consolidate what has been scattered throughout various commands in the past.

"Now what we're doing is looking at our mission and determining the resources we need to accomplish it and do it in a way where we have a clear chain of command," Colonel Schwarze said. "That's why you'll see some intelligence capabilities, some space-related assets, and perhaps some electronic maintenance folks who work with some of our EW airborne platforms and such. Bringing us all together this way will help us manage the resources and the people more effectively, which is one reason why AFCYBER is standing up as a separate command."

During this transition period, the leadership emphasized that current electronic warfare capabilities won't be affected negatively and that their missions will proceed as normal. This is a good thing because electronic warfare has historically been shown to be critical in preventing the enemy from communicating and with providing tactical intelligence.

Winston Churchill described the fighting during World War II as the "battle of the beams," and with today's expanded technology and ease with which its acquired, it's even more important for the 450th EWW to ensure commanders have the tools needed to control and shape the battlefield.



Photo by Capt. Carrie Kessler

Lt. Col. Tim Sands (from left), Capt. Jon Smith and Lt. Col. John Arnold monitor a simulated test April 16 in the Central Control Facility at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. They use the Central Control Facility to oversee electronic warfare mission data flight testing. Portions of their missions may expand under the new Air Force Cyber Command. Colonel Sands is the 53th Electronic Warfare Group AFCYBER Transition Team Chief, Captain Smith is the 36th Electronic Warfare Squadron Suppression of Enemy Air Defenses test director, and Colonel Arnold is the 36th Electronic Warfare Squadron commander.

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Destination: Sandhurst Military Skills Competition

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

Academy cadets depart Saturday for the May 3 Sandhurst competition.

The Sandhurst Military Skills Competition is a constantly evolving program that began in 1967. It is a one-day event conducted annually at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y.

They will compete in a variety of military and combat skills including land navigation, marksmanship, force on force, a leadership reaction course, indoor obstacle course, boat movement, water crossing, a wall obstacle, and a battle exercise which will include the assembly of an AN/PRC-119 radio, 9-line casualty medical evacuation report, and combat lifesaver buddy aid.

Sandhurst features nearly 425 cadets, on 42 teams from West Point, the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, Britain's Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, Canada's Royal Military College and six university Reserve Officer Training Corps teams.

"The team has been preparing all year for this one competition," said Maj. Fred Cunningham, Cadet Squadron 37's air officer commanding. "They have been doing 'two-a-days' where they practice in the morning before class and in the afternoon before dinner. They have also been doing 'monster mashes,' a training event that attempts to mirror what the team will see in the competition. The last one will take place in Jack's Valley this Saturday and will cover approximately eight miles of terrain with military skills events scattered throughout the course."

The competition team will be made up of nine cadets from all four classes including one female cadet. The team leader for this year's Sandhurst team is Cadet 1st Class Kevin Epstein from C S-17, and the assistant team leader is Cadet 1st Class Jack Glojek from CS-3.

Col. Jeffrey Beene, Vice Commandant of Cadets, will



Photo by Master Sgt. John Coleman

Then Cadet 2nd Class Francis Hallada crosses the one-rope bridge at the Sandhurst competition at the U.S. Military Academy April 29, 2006. The Sandhurst competition pits service academy and Reserve Officer Training Corps teams against one another in a series of challenges over a nine-kilometer course.

accompany the team.

Other permanent party leadership supporting the team is Major Cunningham, Master Sgt. Marc Schoellkopf, Master Sgt. Dana Dvorak and Staff Sgt. Chad Hepworth.

Each USMA Cadet Company and visiting team selects a 9-member squad (at least one member must be female) with two alternates. This squad is required to perform a series of military tasks along a 10 kilometer dirt route in less than three hours.

"Scores are determined by combining the points they earn by performing each military task along the route, with the points earned for completing the course within

the three-hour timeframe," said Major Cunningham.

Sandhurst features traditional events like rappelling, building and crossing a one-rope bridge, rifle marksmanship, a raft paddle, 12-foot wall climb, and weapon handling skills.

The Air Force Academy has been competing in the Sandhurst Competition since 2002.

"It provides a challenging military skills competition for the corps of cadets and selected external teams in order to enhance small unit leadership qualities, develop teamwork and promote professional development and military excellence in selected soldier skills," said Major Cunningham.



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A donation for those who served

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

A Class of 1968 donation represents lessons greater than the size of the donation—and these lessons are important for 21st century cadets at the Academy.

No one says it better than retired Col. Jimmie Butler. “Friendships, camaraderie, and loyalties extend out well beyond graduation,” said Colonel Butler. “Those of us who shared combat four decades ago still remember and honor those who didn’t come home with us.”

That respect is spread throughout all who served with dedication during the difficult years of the Vietnam War.

“In a time when much of the media does its best to avoid recognizing the heroism of Americans in combat in Southwest Asia, it’s important that our young people see this demonstration of how older vets honor their fallen comrades in the way American heroes deserve to be honored,” the colonel said.

So on April 15, members of the Forward Air



Photo by Jimmie Butler

FAC Memorial Committee Chairman Jim Palmer (center) accepts a \$10,000 check from 1968 grads Rhip Worrell, Bob Salee, Steve McPhail and Al Blumberg.

Controllers gathered as the FAC Memorial Committee Chairman Jim Paccepted a \$10,000 check from retired Col. Rhip Worrell and 1968 grads Bob Sallee, Steve McPhail and Al Blumberg to eventually build a FAC memorial in Colorado Springs’ Memorial Park.

“The class’s generosity represents the largest cash donation received by the 2008 FAC Memorial Committee

and puts us over the top of our original fundraising goal,” Colonel Butler said. “Their donation, of course, will be a major help in the achievement of our goals of producing a memorial and a dedication ceremony worthy of the nearly 300 men we will be honoring.”

The donation honors, in particular, the five classmates they lost flying the Forward Air Controller Mission in Southeast Asia: John E. Duffy, John L. Ryder, Willis G. Uhls, Paul V. Jackson, III, and Ted B. Hallenback.

The original goal for the memorial was \$50,000.

“Then we became aware of some significant costs that come with dedicating a major memorial in Memorial Park,” Colonel Butler said. “So the Class of 1968’s donation will help us do things right and also help us do some special things for widows and the now-grown-up children of men we will be honoring and informing the Academy community about this ongoing effort to honor our fellow FACs from the war in Southeast Asia.”

Among the nearly 300 names on the FAC Memorial are 29 Academy grads.

Medics deliver superior care, AF leaders testify

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Two Air Force medical leaders told the Senate Subcommittee of Defense April 16 in Washington that the Air Force’s state of medical readiness is aligned with the service’s top priorities.

“Unmistakably, it is the daily delivery of health care that allows us to maintain critical skills that guarantee our readiness capability and success,” said Lt. Gen. (Dr.)

James Roudebush, the Air Force surgeon general.

Both General Roudebush and Maj. Gen. Melissa Rank, the assistant Air Force surgeon general for nursing services, spoke about the challenges within the medical field, such as frequent deployments and dealing with prolonged exposure to trauma and wartime tragedies, recruiting and retaining skilled medical

members, and training.


General Roudebush also spoke of medical readiness regarding all Airmen in uniform, to include talk about mental and psychological health.

“The incident of post traumatic stress disorder is low in the Air Force,” he said, “diagnosed in less than one percent of our deployers (at six months post-deployment). For every Airman affected, we


provide the most current, effective and empirically validated treatment for PTSD.”

Both also spoke of the deployed accomplishments made by Air Force medics.

“Every member of the total nursing team has told me that their deployments, caring for America’s most precious sons and daughters, has been the most professionally rewarding experience of their lives,” General Rank said.



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Envision Express one-stop shop for deployers

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

The hard-to-find facility that's a stop for deploying Academy people is hidden away between the Health and Wellness Center and the southeast portion of the massive warehouse near the South Gate.

Envision Express is just down a one-way street at 8110 Security Dr., Door 11. You'll find Mr. Jim Gerken and his two assistants there.

After getting paperwork from contracting, those readying to deploy go there for issue of cortex jackets and liners, boots, cold weather gear and tactical items like holsters and patches.

"Last year was a big year at Academy with 170 people moving through here for deployment" said EE manager Mr. Gerken, a former Army maintenance and logistics senior noncommissioned officer and Gulf War veteran.

"A person deploying is the number one priority," he said. "They need to be taken care of at all times."

Not all of his customers are deployment bound, and any Academy member with a government purchase card can shop in this sprawling store with more than 600 items, some at costs lower than in the Government Supply Agency catalogue.

Therein lies the story about how Envision Express came to be here. Back in the 1930s, a congressman and senator initiated a law requiring federal government purchase of items made by the blind which has been strengthened over the decades.

There are now non-profit facilities operating on bases and posts throughout the country. The goal is for 70 percent of items stocked and sold at Envision Express to be made by blind people.

The manager retired from a 20-year Army career in 2002, after spending 14 years in Germany. He began as an Envision Express delivery driver at Fort Carson in 2003 and became an assistant manager there in 2004. He became manager of the Academy store in 2005. "I'm just comfortable being around military people," Mr. Gerken said.



Photo by Butch Wehry
Envision Express, down a one-way street at 8110 Security Dr., Door 11, is where Mr. Jim Gerken and his two assistants help Academy people get ready to deploy and others to shop there.

Secretary Gates praises AF for support of GWOT

WASHINGTON (AFP) — During a press conference Wednesday at the Pentagon, Defense Secretary Robert Gates recommended Army Gen. David Petraeus, currently commander of Multinational Force Iraq, to be the next U.S. Central Command commander.

It was at this press conference that a reporter asked him about what the media have perceived as a dig at the Air Force during a speech Monday at Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., and what he was really trying to convey.

Secretary Gates told the reporter that a "significant part of the speech was full of praise for what the Air Force has done in the Middle East, Iraq, Afghanistan

and the whole theater.

"The C-17 takes the equivalent of 5,000 trucks a month off the road," Secretary Gates stressed. "The Air Force has total control of the air."

He also praised Airmen for their medical evacuation missions.

What some sensed as a jab at the Air Force was Secretary Gates expressing frustration about the perceived foot-dragging by all services in getting intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance assets to the troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. Because of the delays, Secretary Gates announced that he had established a task force to push the issue to the front burner.



Photo by Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Molly A. Burgess
Secretary of Defense Robert Gates speaks during a media round table in the Pentagon April 23 where he praised the Air Force and clarified remarks made April 21 regarding the service.

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Annual event brings fun, festivities to Academy families

By James Lovely
10th Services Division

The carnival atmosphere was too much to resist for more than 750 children and parents who attended Funfest April 18 at the Falcon Trail Youth Center.

Jennifer Lingle brought her twin 4-year-old sons, Casey and Ian, to Funfest.

"This is our first Funfest here, but we've been to one in San Antonio," said Mrs. Lingle, wife of Capt. Brandon Lingle, while her boys were taking pony rides.

Photos by Todd Ryan

Four-year-old Casey Lingle, left, and his twin brother, Ian, squint into the sun as they enjoy a pony ride assisted by Cadet Candidate Andrew Cardenas Saturday during Funfest at the Falcon Trail Youth Center. The twins are the sons of Jennifer and Capt. Brandon Lingle.



"We love Funfest. The kids particularly like the mascots and firefighters."

The annual event featured a carnival atmosphere with games, bounce houses,

balloon artist, a magician, clowns, live falcons, emergency vehicles, food and much more. Security Forces and the Fire Department brought McGruff the Crime Dog and Sparky. The lovable mascots distributed hugs galore as their co-workers demonstrated equipment and taught safety.

New this year was a "construction area" where kids and their parents could build wooden airplanes using tools and plane kits provided by Home Depot.

Cheryl Jensen, youth center director, said she thought this was the best Funfest to date.

"It was a beautiful day," she said. "The

Staff Sgt. Justin Gamache helps his daughter, Sophia, 5, build a wooden airplane Saturday during Funfest at the Falcon Trail Youth Center.

Home Depot support was fantastic. The kids really loved making the airplanes. We put on Funfest to celebrate Month of the Military Child, and it's very satisfying to see all the families having such a good time together."

The event's success was due to an outstanding effort by many, many people, Mrs. Jensen said.

"In addition to a great job by the youth center staff, we had 15 volunteers from the Preparatory School and we couldn't have pulled this off without them," she said. "We also had participation by the Fire Department, Security Forces, the Health and Wellness Center, and the Academy Equestrian Center. Of course, our sponsors Home Depot, USAA and Armed Forces Bank were essential, too."



Funding concerns remain for morale, welfare programs

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

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The director of Air Force Services testified before a house subcommittee April 17 about child care and other morale, welfare and recreation issues.

"We've had significant budget cuts, and we've seen our programs reduced across the board," Arthur Myers said to members of the House Armed Services Committee's panel on military personnel. "The Air Force is getting smaller, and it's a budget issue. We have to fight for all our requirements... and the word we're getting from the field (is that) Airmen are seeing their quality of life being eroded."

Child care remains a major concern for Airmen, he said. Over the past two years, Air Force officials have reduced the backlog of child care positions by 2,400, yet 4,000 positions are still needed, said Mr. Myers. Had it

not been for emergency funding the Office of the Secretary of Defense helped obtain, the situation would be much worse, he said.

Another concern of his is the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure legislation that calls for Air Force programs at 10 locations to integrate into a joint-base configuration.

"The BRAC legislation drove us to examine our programs closely," said Mr. Myers. "We've been fully engaged in developing common standards of use for these bases. The quality of the life of our military personnel and their families should not be degraded."

It is important that MWR programs be funded to the highest standards possible, he said.

"Our goal continues to be for our Airmen and their families to enjoy the highest possible quality of life, with the highest possible standards for our MWR programs, regardless of who operates the base where they are stationed," Mr. Myers said in a prepared statement he submitted to the committee.

Library services also have seen significant funding cuts and provide a considerable benefit to Airmen and their families, he said.

"Customer visits to Air Force libraries exceeded 9 million and circulation totaled more than 9.9 million books last year," the printed statement reads.

Officials managing the library program also shipped more than 250 "playaway" kits containing paperbacks and periodicals to deployed locations. Additionally, libraries support deployed Learning Resource Centers and provide deployed members opportunities to record themselves reading stories aloud to send home to their children and, in some cases, have dedicated phone lines for morale calls.

"(MWR programs) foster a sense of community in every environment, from home station to contingencies and deployed locations," Mr. Myers' statement reads. "We take care of people, every minute of every day... and we proudly maintain the human warfighting machine."



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Seedlings taking root on Academy

Story and photos by Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

The Academy's Ponderosa pines are welcoming tiny new neighbors.

About 1,000 Ponderosa seedlings have joined their more stately elders in four base locations this year.

The seedlings are the result of an Academy forestry project begun in 2005 when volunteers, Academy Department of Natural Resources staff and Academy construction contractors came together as a team to collect pine cones for seed extraction.

The effort resulted in 100 pounds of high-quality seeds, a green gold mine for the Academy which could eventually yield nearly a million seedlings.

"It was a very critical project," said Diane Strohm, Academy forester. "Collecting cones is an important investment in the future."

The seeds, viable for about 20 years, will help re-forest troubled areas for the present, and they are akin to a forestry insurance policy in the event of a catastrophic wildfire on base.

About two-thirds of the Academy's 19,000 acres are forested.

The Ponderosa cones, harvested during a bumper crop, were shipped to Nebraska's Bessey Nursery, run by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, which extracted the seeds. The nursery grows seedlings for the Academy as needed and holds the remaining seeds in cold storage.

"They were some of the best quality seeds the nursery had ever seen," Ms. Strohm said of the first seedlings. "Their germination and growth were phenomenal."

She explained that to do well after planting, seedlings must be grown from seeds harvested in areas similar in such factors as climate and altitude.

"We have a very strong and genetically acclimated seed source from the Academy," she said.

Last year the first 1,000 seedlings took root in needy areas such as near the Senior Officers' Quarters and along the re-routed Falcon Trail.

This year, three hundred of the second crop of



Top Left: Seedlings grown in a Nebraska nursery receive tender care from Academy volunteers.

Top Right: Sleeve-like shelters are designed to fend off hungry wildlife.

Left: Airman 1st Class Lacey Pierce with the 10th Medical Support Squadron prepares water-saving mats for the seedlings.



1,000 seedlings have new homes along the Academy's south boundary in the area damaged by the May 2006 wildfire.

Also this year, in the Pine Valley area 100 seedlings were put in place of older trees affected by pesky mistletoe.

Volunteers from the 10th Medical Support Squadron put another 110 seedlings into the ground April 18 south of the recreational vehicle storage lot and the remainder of the seedlings near the Senior Officers Quarters.

"I believe in giving back to others," said Cynthia Cope, who helped organize the tree-planting event. "It's worth thinking green."

Gennie Barr sees her contribution as long-term. "It's something I've wanted to do for a long time. Maybe some day I can bring a grandchild here, point to a tree and say 'Grandma planted this tree,'" she said.

Lt. Col. Mike Burke, 10th MDSS commander, said the squadron selects community service projects and uses them for team building, as well as helping

the community. The once-a-month projects have included a coat drive, puppet show and trail restoration.

"They did a great job and were lots of fun to work with," Ms. Strohm said of the volunteers.

Seedlings are placed in deep, augered holes, then covered with soil by hand. Plastic sleeve-like shelters over the seedlings are held in place by wood stakes, a process which deters wildlife from dining on the fledgling trees.

The shelters remain in place for about two years. Ms. Strohm said the survival rate for seedlings is nearly 80 percent. The seedlings, although they may appear small and fragile, are sturdy overall and generally require no watering. She said the seedlings near the RV lot, however, are in an especially dry area and may need some watering.

Ms. Strohm said Ponderosa pines can live hundreds of years and forest management is crucial. Decades ago and without human intervention, small fires were allowed to burn and naturally manage forests.

In this century, with concerns for human and property safety, forests have to be managed mechanically through thinning.

"Without more growing space, trees can become really stressed," she said of the competition for water, light and nutrients.

Stressed trees are also vulnerable to bark beetles.

Thinning on the Academy has added to a forest's aesthetics.

"Our feedback has been extremely positive," Ms. Strohm said. "People like their park-like appearance."

Forest management has also played a major role in the natural regeneration of aspens on the Farish Recreation Area. Highly prized for their beauty, aspens are very prone to insect invasion.

"But they're coming back beautifully," she said.

Newly-planted seedlings dot the southern border of the Academy after a 2006 wildfire ravaged the area.



World commemorates Jewish Holocaust

By Meade Warthen
Public Affairs

On May 2, the world commemorates the Jewish Holocaust that occurred in Europe between 1933-1945.

No event in the history of human civilization symbolizes more starkly the ability and willingness of some to inflict ghastly and unspeakable horrors on others than the Holocaust. To be sure, other major atrocities have occurred throughout the centuries, particularly the twentieth, in Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America.

But the Jewish Holocaust signaled, perhaps for the first time, a systematic attempt to target a specific population for total destruction. And it nearly worked.

Tens of thousands of documents, books, non-fiction films, artifacts and movies have been produced or uncovered depicting every aspect of the Holocaust. It has been proven beyond any rational doubt, despite the best efforts of a small fringe who deny it ever happened. More details are dug up every day. It is a subject whose evidence occupies good sized libraries around the world, is displayed in museums and memorials, and preserved in reconstructed concentration camps and other sites where most of it occurred. Space is simply too limited here to give anything but a brief summary of how it came about, its execution and its impact on today's world.

It began with the rise of Adolph Hitler and the takeover of Germany in 1933-34 by the Nazi Party that Hitler and his disciples founded. The Nazis were convinced that Germans were racially superior, and that Jews and other populations – particularly Roma (Gypsies) and Slavic peoples (Poles, Russians and others) – were racially inferior. Hitler even refused to accept the theory of relativity since it had been formulated by a Jew, Albert Einstein. One of the great mysteries of the Holocaust is how the German people, who rightly boasted of some of the most brilliant minds and achievements in Western history, could so willingly and readily fall for such xenophobic Nazi propaganda to the point of obliterating entire populations.

Nazi foreign policy was inspired by the vision that Germany was biologically destined to expand eastward by military force and that an enlarged, racially-superior German population would establish permanent rule in eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. Jews, Slavs and Roma would be eliminated from the region. As a consequence, the Nazis planned what the world now knows as the Holocaust.

The catastrophe that followed staggers human sensibilities, all the more so for being deliberately perpetrated by people steeped in the traditions of an advancing civilization built upon the foundations of a progressive, ethical culture and modern science.

One of the first steps taken by the Nazis was to establish ghettos and build camps to detain those deemed enemies of the state. Between 1933 and

1945, Germany established about 20,000 camps to imprison its many millions of victims. Many facilities came to be called “concentration” camps because prisoners were physically concentrated in one place.

There were different types of camps, including forced-labor camps, transit camps, which served as temporary way stations, and extermination camps, built primarily or exclusively for mass murder. Sadly, nearly all of them eventually became extermination, or, more bluntly, death camps.

Names that conjure up some of the darkest images in human consciousness include those of such camps, like Dachau, Buchenwald, Treblinka

people – 6,000 Jews were gassed each day at Auschwitz-Birkenau alone.

And it's sheer folly to believe the Nazis were not fully aware of the magnitude of their atrocities. They knew. They branded the killing centers top secret. They formed special prisoner units to obliterate all traces of gassing operations by removing corpses from the gas chambers and burning them to ashes in specially-designed crematoriums. They re-landscaped or camouflaged the grounds of the killing centers to disguise the mass murders. They went to inordinate lengths to hide the fact that they were among the most evil and savage criminals in history.

When the camps were finally liberated at the end of World War II, many, who upon entering and witnessing the emaciated survivors and rotting bodies piled up by the thousands, became physically sick, including battle-hardened Gen. George Patton. Many others came away thoroughly traumatized, experiencing emotional and psychological problems for the rest of their lives. Nothing in their past had prepared them for what they saw, heard, smelled and felt.

Before the rise of Hitler and the Nazis, nine million Jews resided in Europe. Six million perished in the Holocaust. The Nazis' “Final Solution” failed, but barely. An estimated six million others also died, including, as noted above, Roma, Slavs and Soviet Prisoners of War, as well as so-called enemies of the state. All told, some 12 million people died in the Holocaust.

The Holocaust changed Western civilization's view of the world. Never before had people and nations given much thought to large scale atrocities that threaten the existence of whole populations. But today, mainly because the Holocaust is so well documented and publicized, and its devastating horrors continue to jar us from our complacency, we now are all too aware of humans' capacity and inclination to destroy their fellows.

We have become vastly more alert to the dangers of such an event happening again. We seek out evidence of atrocities in areas of the world troubled by war and tyranny. International humanitarian organizations remain ever vigilant for signs of genocide in even the most remote corners of the globe.

No longer can despots or their armies escape world scrutiny – and accountability – whenever they brutalize their own citizens or those of other nations.

The Holocaust has helped to inform us in the ways of tolerance for all peoples and cultures, however different from us they may seem. Enlightened nations embrace and celebrate diversity to a far greater extent than ever before.

We can never forget the Holocaust. And we must hope that, in time, the lessons drawn from this great nightmare will help countries everywhere create a world far more humane – and more human.

Note: Much of the factual history contained in this article was extracted from the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's website, www.ushmm.org.



Photos by Spc. Stephen Baack

Depicting the suffering of prisoners, this sculpture stands just outside the museum of the Dachau concentration camp. Soldiers and family members of the 1st Infantry Division and U.S. Army Garrison Franconia visited the camp April 20, 2006.

and Auschwitz-Birkenau.

While Jews were the main targets in the eyes of the Nazis, other prisoners included communists, socialists, social democrats, Roma, Jehovah's Witnesses, homosexuals, and persons accused of “asocial” or socially deviant behavior. They also included Catholics and Protestants who opposed the Nazi regime and its policies.

Deaths occurred from exhaustion after endless hours of backbreaking labor each day, exposure to the elements, especially during winter, disease, starvation, beatings, shootings, hangings, torture (including hideous medical experiments on hapless victims), and most notoriously, gassing.

During the height of the Final Solution – the Nazi plan for the complete annihilation of the Jewish



A bundle of flowers lay at the foot of one of four furnaces inside the crematorium at Dachau concentration camp.

Front Range Falcon Classic pits cyclists against Academy hills



A competitor battles one of the Academy's many hills during the Front Range Falcon Classic bike race Saturday. The Men's A group did 5 laps around the course and was won by conference leader Zac Grabowski, from Colorado School of Mines. Cadets 2nd Class Trevor Johnson and Jay ShalekBriski, members of the Cadet Cycling Team, finished in fourth and seventh in Division 2 overall.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Tim Jenkins

The first group of racers take advantage of a downhill stretch Sunday at the Front Range Falcon Classic bike race. The Academy hosted the two-day event, featuring more than 300 racers Saturday and 700 Sunday.



A pack of racers reach the top of the first hill in the race Sunday. Saturday's event featured a time trial and Sunday featured the Air Force Academy Fighting Falcons Road Race. The weekend events were highlighted by the collegiate banquet with speaker and three-time Tour de France winner Greg Lemond. Mr. Lemond spoke to the cadets and 300 collegiate cyclists and guests about "integrity in sport," mentioning the importance of maintaining a moral compass, having the bravery to tell the truth no matter the consequences and most importantly, to always be true to yourself.

Falcons rally from 8-0, down Northern Colorado

Randhawa and Schierholtz spark Falcons with three hits apiece

By Nick Arseniak
Athletic communications

GREELEY, Colo. - Trailing 8-0 after the third inning, Air Force baseball rallied to an improbable 13-12 win over Northern Colorado Sunday afternoon at Jackson Field. The win improves the

Falcons to 13-24 on the season and drops the Bears to 14-24.

Northern Colorado scored eight runs in the third inning to jump ahead with the big lead. The Falcons began their comeback with three runs in the fourth to cut it to 8-3. The Bears responded with a run in the fourth before the Falcons closed the gap significantly with a five-run sixth to trail by one, making the score 9-8.

The Falcons put up four runs in the seventh and jumped ahead 12-8. Air Force was not done, adding an insurance run in the eighth that would prove to be significant as Northern Colorado rallied

with three runs in the eighth.

Reliever Alex Truesdale then shut the door on UNC, in the ninth, retiring all three batters faced to pick up his first career save. David Miller (2-3) earned the win with 4.1 innings of solid relief. Falcon starter Michael Ruvolo pitched three-plus innings, running into trouble in the third and Brad Pingel also saw action in relief.

Reliever Sean Peery (2-3) took the loss for UNC. Northern Colorado starter Jon Klausung went 5.2 innings, striking out eight, but allowing eight runs.

The Falcons had big days from shortstop K.J. Randhawa and third

baseman Vai Schierholtz. Randhawa was 3-for-6 with two RBIs and Schierholtz was 3-for-5 with four RBIs, including the game-winner in the eighth.

Freshman outfielder Tytus Moss also had a solid game for the Falcons. Moss went 2-for-3 with two walks, two stolen bases and three runs scored, including the game-winning run. Addison Gentry and Daniel Walker had two hits apiece with Walker scoring two runs and hitting his sixth triple of the season. Josh Meents had two RBIs and two runs scored and Jeff Abt scored two runs off the bench.

Intramural softball

Spring is on its way, and with it comes the 2008 intramural softball season. Letters of intent are due Wednesday and a coach's meeting is scheduled for Thursday at the community center gym. Preseason is scheduled to start May 19 and the regular season is scheduled to begin June 2. There will be no games scheduled on Memorial Day or during graduation week. For more information, call Dave Castilla at 333-4078.

Simons Named NCAA West Region Coach of the Year

Air Force men's gymnastics coach Kip Simons was named the NCAA West Region Coach of the Year at the awards presentation that runs in conjunction with the 2008 NCAA Championships in Palo Alto, Calif. It is the second coaching award for Simons this year, as he was also named the USA Gymnastics Coach of the Year in late March.

Simons is the only the third Academy

coach to earn the regional coaching distinction from the NCAA, joining Lou Burkel (West Region: 2005, Midwest Region: 1992, 1989) and Carl Townsend (Midwest Region: 1978).

In his third year as the Falcons' head coach, Simons has guided Air Force to back-to-back top-three finishes at the USAG Championships, two USAG national champions, six USAG All-Americans, two USAG Top Senior Award winners, seven NCAA participants and the

program's first NCAA All-American in 15 years.

Simons and Stanford's Thom Giliemi were the finalists for the NCAA West Region coaching award.

Lacrosse season wrap-up

In its regular season finale, the Air Force lacrosse team will host 18th-ranked Denver, Saturday in Great Western Lacrosse League action. The game is slated to begin at 1:00 p.m. at Cadet Lacrosse Stadium.

AF drops GWLL contest to No. 7 Notre Dame

Gnazzo notches one goal, one assist to lead Falcons

By **Melissa McKeown**
Athletic communications

Outscored 7-0 to open the game, the Air Force lacrosse team fell to seventh-ranked Notre Dame, 13-5, Tuesday afternoon at the Cadet Lacrosse Stadium.



Photos by Mike Kaplan

Freshman goalkeeper Brian Wilson attempts a save in the Falcons 13-5 loss to Notre Dame Tuesday at the Cadet Lacrosse Stadium. With the loss, the Falcons drop to 3-8 on the season.

With the loss, the Falcons drop to 3-8 on the season, 1-3 in the Great Western Lacrosse League, while the Fighting Irish improve to 10-2 overall, 3-1 in the league.

Notre Dame opened the scoring at the 11:46 mark in the first period, notching four goals within a span of two and a half minutes. Another score by the Irish with just over three minutes remaining in the quarter gave Notre Dame the early 5-0 lead. Air Force's deficit grew to seven following two more Notre Dame goals in the second period.

The Falcons finally got on the board with 5:27 remaining in the first half when junior long-stick midfielder Dan Gnazzo caused a Notre Dame turnover and responded with an unassisted goal. A minute and a half later, junior Colin Lockhart took an assist from junior K.J. Landgraf to cut the margin back down to five.

Unfortunately for Air Force, the Irish put together another scoring run to take a 13-2 advantage, tallying two goals to end the second period, outscoring Air Force 2-0 in the third period and notching the first two goals of the fourth quarter. The Falcons stopped the run with a score from senior Chris Tubesing, assisted by Gnazzo, while senior David Rose scored a man-up goal with 3:09 remaining. It appeared that 13-4 would be the final margin, until junior Griffin Nevitt sent a shot past the Notre Dame goalkeeper just as the horn sounded.

For the fourth-straight game, Air Force held the advantage on face-offs, winning 11-of-21, led by senior Reilly Smith who won all 11 face-offs for the Falcons. However, the Falcons' man-up offense struggled, scoring on just 1-of-4 opportunities, while the Irish were 3-of-4 on the extra man offense.

Ten different players scored for the Fighting Irish, including Alex Wharton, Neal Hicks and Ryan Hoff with two goals each. Meanwhile, starting goalkeeper Joey Kemp tallied nine saves with just two goals against in over 50 minutes of action.

Air Force closes out the regular season Saturday



Junior long-stick midfielder Mike Gnazzo looks to pass in the Falcons' Tuesday matchup against Notre Dame. Gnazzo led the Falcons with one goal and one assist in the game.

when it hosts 18th-ranked Denver in a GWLL contest. Ten seniors will be honored prior to the game, which is slated to begin at 1:00 p.m. at the Cadet Lacrosse Stadium.

Cadets show strength at powerlifting competition

By **Capt. Brandon Lingle**
Powerlifting assistant officer in charge

Thirteen cadets from the Academy Powerlifting Team competed against students from 38 other schools including West Point and the Naval Academy, at the USA Powerlifting Collegiate National Championships in Denver April 11-13.

The Falcons ladies placed fourth overall while the men finished eleventh.

Senior Cheryl Steiner won her weight class. The 105-pounder squatted 254 lbs., bench pressed 143 lbs. and dead lifted 237 lbs. for a 634 lbs. total. Steiner's performance earned her an invitation to compete with the U.S. Junior World team in South Africa in September.

Steiner is the second Academy lifter ever invited to represent the United States In 2006, then-senior

Mike Tuchscherer traveled to Bulgaria with the Junior World Team where he won his class and second best lifter honors. Now, 2nd Lt. Tuchscherer is one of the top lifters in the sport.

Other notable performances came from: Sophomore Diana Wong who won the 114 lb. female weight class with a total of 678 lbs.; sophomore Brenda Song who finished second in the 165 lb. female weight class with a total of 898 lbs.; junior Dennis Marzo who placed fourth in the 123 lb. male weight class with a total of 865 lbs; and senior Tobias Henderson who earned fourth in the 220 lb. male weight class with a total of 1,466 lbs.

"I was really impressed with this year's team," said junior Nick Underwood, powerlifting team captain. "Some of our top lifters are newcomers to the sport and I anticipate they will be bringing

home a lot more gold and hopefully lead the Academy into a top three spot at Collegiate Nationals in coming years."

Additional Falcons who qualified and competed at nationals included senior Ashley Perez, sophomore Erika Kreiner, senior Hila Levy, senior Jamaal Neal, senior Grant Gavran, sophomore Ryan Schleiden, junior Nick Underwood and sophomore Duke Gibbons.

"This was a building year for the team. All the credit goes to the lifters," said Maj. Andy Bates, powerlifting officer in charge. "The team is producing national and international results. I'm looking forward to next year."

Any cadets interested in joining the powerlifting team should contact Major Bates at 333-9120. The Falcons plan to host the annual tri-service powerlifting meet in October.

INTERCOLLEGIATE		Lacrosse	Track and Field	Women's Gymnastics	Men's Gymnastics
SCOREBOARD	Baseball	April 20 at New Haven, Conn. Yale 10 Falcons 2	April 16-17 at Azusa, Calif. Mt. SAC/California Invitational Decathlon/Heptathlon Noah Palicia, 6,287, 6 th Skylar Morgan, 6,155, 10 th Philip Rancourt, 5,200, 20 th Danielle McCarty, 4,138, 25 th Katherine Higdon, 3,000, 32 nd	April 17 at Shreveport, La. USAG Championships Towson, 193.200 Cornell, 192.150	April 17-19 at Palo Alto, Calif. NCAA Championships Greg Stine, all around, 86.800, 7 th Greg Stine, still rings, 15.300, 6 th
	April 18 at Greeley, Colo. Falcons 8 Utah Valley 7 Northern Colorado 13 Falcons 6	April 22 at AFA Falcons 5 Notre Dame 13	April 19 at Louisville, Ky. Louisville Classic Travis Picou, 200-meter dash, 21.16, 1 st	April 19 at Shreveport, La. USAG Championships Michelle Denise, uneven bars, 9.575, 9 th Kayla Kincaid, balance beam, 8.700, 11 th	
	April 19 at Greeley, Colo. Falcons 6 Utah Valley 17	April 19 at AFA Falcons 2 Colorado State 5 Falcons 7 Metro State 0	Travis Picou, 100-meter dash, 10.64, 1 st Sean Houseworth, 1500-meter run, 3:51.59, 1 st Connor Van Fossen, javelin throw, 194'7", 1 st Nick Frawley, pole vault, 17'3", 1 st Dan Paladino, hammer throw, 189'7", 1 st David Lissy, shot put, 51'3 3/4", 1 st Katie Weber, javelin throw, 153'8", 1 st	Temple, 188.850 Falcons, 188.600	
April 20 at Greeley, Colo. Northern Colorado 12 Falcons 13					

B-2s return to flight after safety pause

By Airman 1st Class Stephen Linch
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

WHITEMAN AIR FORCE BASE, Mo. (AFPN) — A B-2 Spirit made a successful return to flight April 15 here after a 53-day safety pause for the aircraft following the first-ever crash of a stealth bomber Feb. 23 in Guam.

While an accident investigation board is still ongoing, Air Force and Air Combat Command maintenance and safety experts gave 509th Bomb Wing officials the green light to fly.

Col. Tom Bussiere, the 509th Operations Group commander, and Maj. Rich Collins, the 394th Combat Training Squadron operations officer, took a B-2 into the Missouri sky April 15 in the first flight since a B-2 crashed on takeoff Feb. 23 at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam.

“We definitely wanted our return to flying to be deliberate and safe,” said Brig. Gen. Gary Harencak, the 509th Bomb Wing commander.

B-2s have been flying almost 20 years and are renowned in the Air Force for their unprecedented safety record, General Harencak said.

“In the history of aviation, there’s never been an aircraft with a safety record like the B-2,” he said. “These bombers combined have a logged more than 14,000 sorties, 100 combat sorties and 75,000 flying hours without a single Class A mishap until now.”

A Class A mishap is when there is loss of life or damage in excess of \$1 million. But General Harencak said only one flight Class A mishap in 20 years beats the odds of almost any aircraft.

The B-2 that crashed, named the Spirit of Kansas, had logged more than 5,000 flight hours and 1,036



Photo by Capt. Allen Clark

Col. Tom Bussiere (inset) reviews aircraft forms with maintainers before he and Maj. Rich Collins take off in a B-2 Spirit named the Spirit of Florida April 15 at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. The flight was the first since a B-2 crashed Feb. 23 at Andersen AFB, Guam. Colonel Bussiere is the 509th Operations Group commander, and Major Collins is the 394th Combat Training Squadron operations officer.

sorties before Feb. 23, and it was “renowned in the maintenance community for being a great jet,” said Col. Bob Dulong, the 509th Maintenance Group commander.

“The B-2 is airpower at its purest, most elegant

and deadliest form,” the general said. “(It is) an aircraft that cannot be denied access with its range, payload and stealthiness. It has everything that is required to hold at risk any of America’s enemies anywhere, anytime, and we can do it from here.”

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— **Smooth Move;** Wednesday, 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.

— **Mock Interviewing Session;** Wednesday, 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,

and dressing for success and more.

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

Tax assistance

The Academy Tax Center will remain open past the traditional filing season in an effort to further assist redeploying Airmen. While this service is aimed at accommodating deployers, Airmen who have delayed in filing their taxes for other reasons may be seen on a limited basis. If you will receive a refund, there is no penalty for filing your taxes after the April 15 deadline. If you have taxes due, penalties and interest may be assessed. Airman can avoid these fines by submitting an extension request, along with a check for the amount of taxes owed. Even if a refund is anticipated, submitting an extension request is recommended to preserve any actions tied to a “timely filed” return. The Tax Center operates under the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, which is designed to assist in the preparation of simple taxes. The tax preparers are prohibited from preparing business taxes, as well as a few other types of taxes requiring specialized expertise. Hours will be limited. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 333-3642.

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 today. 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 its outstanding volunteers.

Deployment open house

The Airman & Family Readiness Center host an informal Deployment Open House Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. for Academy deployers and their families. The goal is to have an inviting, warm and relaxing atmosphere while offering access to the base support agencies, in addition to acquainting families with the Airman & Family Readiness Center location and available programs. The dress for attendees is civilian casual. Food and refreshments will be provided. For more information or to RSVP, call 333-3444 by today.

Spaghetti dinner

The Airman & Family Readiness Center hosts a free spaghetti dinner for the Academy’s deployed members’ families Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Airman & Family Readiness Center. For more information or to RSVP, call Tech. Sgt. Lisa Taylor at 333-6393.

CCAF graduation

The 10th Mission Support Squadron’s Education and Training Flight will host a Community College of the Air Force graduation ceremony at the Base Theater Friday 2 at 2 p.m. A reception will follow the graduation in the Community Center Ballroom honoring the graduates from the Academy. CCAF, the largest community college in the world, is a federally chartered, regionally accredited institution which offers Associate in Applied Science degrees related to the

service member’s Air Force Specialty Code. Enlisted personnel earn credits through Air Force technical training and voluntary off-base education programs. One of the major contributions CCAF makes to the base and to the nation is through mission readiness. Recent research indicates CCAF graduates and those working toward a CCAF degree tend to be promoted faster and achieve their AFSC skill level significantly faster than those members who do not participate in CCAF. Faster promotion and upgrade times mean having fully qualified personnel earlier and that equates to enhanced readiness and better personnel retention for the Air Force.

The Education and Training Flight cordially invites all base personnel to join the celebration Friday. The Education and Training Office will be closed all day for the event.

Law Day Golf

The Academy legal office will host their annual Academy Law Day Golf Scramble Friday at the Eisenhower Golf Course. The event will be a morning scramble with registration, breakfast and driving range use beginning at 6:30 a.m. Fees for the event, being held on the Silver Course, are \$52 for active duty and DoD civilian personnel and \$85 for non-affiliated guests. The fee includes greens and cart fee, driving range use, food and beverage and hole prizes. For more information or to register, call Capt. Aaron Haase at 333-0739.

Spouse appreciation

A Military Spouse Appreciation Day event will be held May 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Armed Services YMCA at 2190 Jet Wing Dr. in Colorado Springs. The free event will feature hair cuts, cooking on a budget demonstrations, massages, fashion shows, lunch, crafts and more. Limited childcare is available with prior reservations. For more information, call (719) 622-9622.

Athletic facility closures

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

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.

Qualification Board

The 2008 Air Force Reserve Brigadier General Qualification Board will convene at the Air Reserve Personnel Center in Denver Sept. 9. Although not a promotion board, it will identify AFR colonels who have the potential to be assigned to a Reserve general officer position and subsequently compete for promotion. AFR colonels who are currently serving in general officer positions when the board convenes are exempt from consideration. All AFR colonels assigned to the Selected Reserve, those serving in the Participation Individual Ready Reserve, those serving on extended active duty under U.S. Code

10211 and 12310 and reserve officers serving on limited EAD tours are eligible if they meet following criteria: A minimum one year time-in-grade as a colonel on July 9; at least 50 points accrued in each of the two most recent retention/retirement years closing out prior to June 15 and at least 50 points in four of the last five retention/retirement years (if the member’s R/R date is between Jan. 1 and June 14, these R/R requirements must be met for R/R years closing out between 2004 and 2008; if the member’s R/R date is between June 15 and Dec. 31, these R/R requirements must be met for R/R years closing out between 2003 and 2007); date of birth no earlier than July 10, 1954; mandatory separation date not earlier than Oct. 9, 2009; evidence of satisfactory completion of senior developmental education (any method must be updated in the Military Personnel Data System prior to June 9, (Completion of a one or two week orientation or a similar short course does not satisfy this requirement. Contact your education officer for an inclusive list of applicable schools); and a lead officer with a DOS no later than Sept. 9, 2009.

HQ AF/REG will mail letters announcing the board to all AFR colonels who meet the eligibility requirement specified above. If you believe an individual is eligible and they have not received a letter by June 30, call AF/REG at (703) 695-6811.

For more information, call Maj. Rose Hoffman at (703) 695-6811 or Master Sgt. Purvis Alexander at (703) 614-5384.



Take 5 in the Garden

The “Take 5 in the Garden” 5-mile or 5K run is May 3 at 8 a.m. in Garden of the Gods. The race is the second in the Grand Prix of Running Series. Set in Garden of the Gods Park, the courses are hilly and strenuous. Walkers are allowed on the 5K course only. Pets, baby joggers or wheels of any kind are not allowed. Runners are encouraged to pre-register at the Runner’s Roost, 107 E. Bijou or online at www.csgrandprix.com. Race day sign-up is also available beginning at 7 a.m.; however, t-shirts are not guaranteed to race day signups. For more information including parking and bus information, go to www.csgrandprix.com.

NCOA Job Fair

The Non-Commissioned Officers’ Association will host a National Job Fair May 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel, 1775 East Cheyenne Mountain Blvd., in Colorado Springs. A free seminar, “How to Work a Job Fair,” will be offered to attendees at 9 a.m. The NCOA invites retiring or separating military members and their family members to attend the event. People are encouraged to dress appropriately, bring resumes and be prepared to meet with over 40 local and national recruiters who are hiring in all industries. For more information, call 1-800-662-2620, ext. 222, or visit www.militaryjobworld.com.

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

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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