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# USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO

# ACADEMY SPIRIT

Vol. 48 No. 43

October 31, 2008

USAF Goal: \$520,000



CFC Update \$499,180 - 96% Campaign runs through Nov. 11



## A half-century of service

Brig. Gen. (ret.) Malham Wakin passes 50 years of service to the Academy.

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## Firefighters place 3rd

Academy firefighter teams place third at national competition.

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## AF topples NM

Falcons recover from early turnovers to thump Lobos.

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## High five

Cadet 2nd Class Matthew Beckerleg high fives NASA Astronaut Cadet 1st Class Michael Maziarz on the Terrazzo. Cadets showed their Halloween spirit by donning costumes during the noon meal formation Wednesday.

Photo by Mike Kaplan

# AF to establish nuclear command

By Fred Baker III  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — The Air Force will stand up a new major command specifically to manage its nuclear assets, the service's top official announced Oct. 24.

Air Force Secretary Michael Donley said the new command will fold into its ranks thousands of Airmen and all of the Air Force's domestic nuclear capabilities in response to what he called "painful lessons learned" during a series of senior oversight reviews of the Air Force's nuclear program.

This change is part of a broader sweep of changes Secretary Donley introduced Oct. 24 as a roadmap to improving the Air Force's stewardship of its nuclear program.

"This is a critical milestone for us. It's a new starting point for reinvigoration of this enterprise," Secretary Donley said at a Pentagon media roundtable to introduce the plan.

"The changes we make today will help us focus on this enterprise regardless of other changes in Air Force missions along the way, and regardless of how big or small the nuclear enterprise is," he said.

The new command, called Global Strike

Command, will include both the 8th and 20th Air Force. Eighth Air Force, currently within Air Combat Command, is made up of the Air Force's B-2 Spirit and B-52 Stratofortress bombers. The 20th Air Force, currently under Air Force Space Command, maintains and operates the service's arsenal of intercontinental ballistic missiles. Eighth Air Force's headquarters is at Barksdale Air Force Base, La., and 20th Air Force's headquarters is at F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo.

An additional squadron of B-52s, mandated by Congress, also will fall within the new command.

See CHAPEL, Page 5



# Eagle Eye movie showcases Rosario Dawson as OSI character

By Academy Office of Special Investigations

The newly released movie *Eagle Eye* is an action/thriller film directed by D.J. Caruso and starring Shia LaBeouf and Michelle Monaghan. The two portray a slacker and a single mother, respectively, both of whom are framed as terrorists. Actress Rosario Dawson portrays Zoe Perez, an Air Force Office of Special Investigations agent.

In the movie, Jerry Shaw (LaBeouf) and Rachel Holloman (Monaghan) are two strangers thrown together by a mysterious phone call from a woman they have never met. Threatening their lives and family, she pushes Jerry and Rachel into a series of increasingly dangerous situations, using the technology of everyday life to track and control their every move.

To prepare for her AFOSI role in the film, Ms. Dawson visited AFOSI Detachment 810 in Los Angeles in October 2007. She spent one-on-one time with Special Agents Sarine Arisdakessian, Stephanie Lee, Bridget Davis and Marjorie Ayers Israel. If you watch the movie closely, you may catch a glimpse of Special Agent

Arisdakessian who plays a background part as an assistant partner.

Ms. Dawson also visited AFOSI headquarters at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., in Nov. 2007 to talk with selected AFOSI agents and senior leaders about her plans to portray a female AFOSI agent.

During her visit, Ms. Dawson toured AFOSI headquarters, attended a working luncheon where agents helped her with script corrections, visited members from the 33rd Field Investigations Squadron and the 3rd Field Investigation Region. Additionally, she received some combat arms training and maintenance which she definitely uses in the film.

Ms. Dawson also visited the Pentagon, the 1st Helicopter Squadron and attended a private dinner with special agents during her visit to the base.

Although the story is not specifically about the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, the Air Force's participation afforded the opportunity to positively highlight the dedication and professionalism of the AFOSI mission through the character Special Agent Perez.

In addition to the AFOSI character, the Air Force also featured the following aircraft in the film: the C-17 Globemaster III, KC-135 Stratotanker, F-16 Fighting Falcon, and C-130 Hercules. An HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopter was also used for both aerial and ground photography in San Pedro, Calif.

Aerial filming included a UH-1N Huey landing at the Pentagon and the filming of the MQ-9 Reaper Unmanned Aerial Vehicle on location at Creech AFB, Nev. The Air Force also provided Airmen as extras in several military-related scenes in Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles.

*Eagle Eye* is the third blockbuster movie the Air Force has supported recently and comes off the heels of the blockbusters *Iron Man* and *Transformers*.

Air Force officials said they will continue to take advantage of opportunities to build awareness and inform the American public about the Air Force through movies when the characters and Airmen portrayed reflect our core values.

For more information on how you can become a real AFOSI agent, call (719) 333-3305 or DSN 333-3305.

ACADEMY SPIRIT

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

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The *Academy Spirit* is published by Colorado Springs Military Newspaper Group, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the U.S. Air Force Academy. This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the *Academy Spirit* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the U.S. Air Force Academy Directorate of Public Affairs. The editor reserves the right to edit articles to conform to Air Force policy and Associated Press style. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

## Submissions

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

## Character Corner Accountability Requires Moral Courage

By Col. John Norton

Center for Character Development

Transforming civilians into leaders of character involves more than molding them into professionals whose conduct embodies our core values. They must also develop into strong wingmen who hold others accountable, insisting their fellow Airmen meet reasonable standards of ethical conduct, respect for others, and duty performance. The primary hallmark of a profession is adherence to minimum standards — this is especially true in the profession of arms, where the stakes are high and lives are often at stake.

Holding teammates accountable, however, is one of the tougher things for young leaders to master. Why is this so? We all came from a culture where confronting others and “calling them out” on unacceptable practices is unusual. Civilian society teaches us to avoid confronta-

tion and encourages the kind of moral relativism that says, “whatever you do is okay as long as it doesn’t bother me.”

We are now in a different culture — one that is held together by subtle forces known as trust and shared values. In such a culture, the motivation to hold others accountable is to improve that individual and the unit, not to put the other person down. This is also a culture where failure to enforce a minimum standard is a guaranteed way to lose one’s credibility.

At our great Academy, this shared sense of accountability is the basis of the Cadet Wing’s Honor Code. The final clause “... nor tolerate among us anyone who does” is the most difficult part of the Code to adapt to, but it is also the glue that holds the whole Code together.

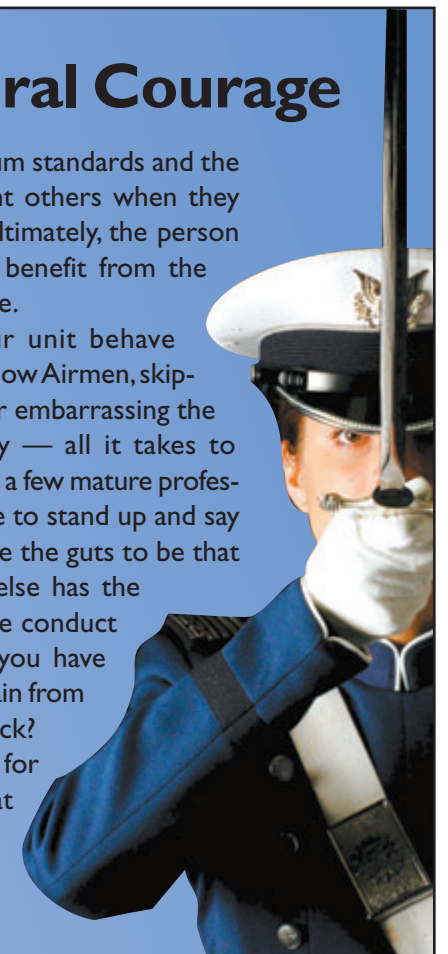
Holding others accountable — especially friends — when they fail to meet our minimum standards, runs counter to the “values” of many in civilian society. Yet to be true professionals,

we must have both minimum standards and the moral courage to confront others when they violate those standards. Ultimately, the person who was out of line will benefit from the confronter’s moral courage.

When others in your unit behave poorly — disrespecting fellow Airmen, skipping mandatory training, or embarrassing the unit by acting immaturely — all it takes to reverse such behavior is for a few mature professionals with moral courage to stand up and say “knock it off!” Do you have the guts to be that person? When someone else has the moral courage to challenge conduct you know is wrong, will you have the professionalism to refrain from giving that person push-back?

“All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing.”

- Edmund Burke



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

## If you could live 2008 over, what would you do differently?

“I would have taken my parents’ offer to buy me a new car. Once I drove mine from home to Colorado, I realized my Jeep had a cracked radiator and misfiring spark plugs. I could have skipped the 18-hour drive!”

Cadet 2nd Class  
Spencer Schardein  
Cadet Squadron 10



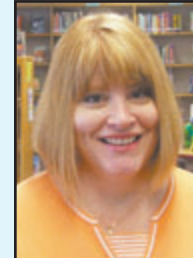
“I would have reallocated my investments earlier in the year. I think we all know why.”

Maj. Chris Maddox  
Prep School



“I would have spent more hours with my three children, rather than at work away from them and my husband. Time goes quickly, children grow and my marriage and family are precious.”

Melanie East  
Community Center  
library employee



“I wish, as a family, we would have spent more time together before my husband’s deployment.”

Chelle Alaniz  
Air Force spouse





# Academy salutes general for 50 years of service

By Department of Philosophy

Brig. Gen. Malham Wakin is Emeritus Professor of the Academy's Department of Philosophy and has taught here since 1959, marking 50 years of service to the institution.

Through those years he has held a number of important positions including permanent professor and head of the Department of Philosophy, head of the Department of Political Science and Philosophy, chairman of the Humanities Division, assistant dean, associate dean, first chair of the graduate scholarship committee, and chair of numerous other Academy committees.

Prior to coming to the Academy, he began his 42-year active duty career in 1953 as an air rescue navigator. He also took a year away from teaching to serve a combat tour in Vietnam in 1968. General Wakin has earned a wide variety of military decorations including the Distinguished Service Medal and the Legion of Merit, with two oak leaf clusters.

Educated at some of the finest educational institutions in the country, he earned a Ph.D. in Philosophy from the University of Southern California, a Master of Arts in secondary education and school administration from the State University of New York at Albany, and a Bachelor of Arts in mathematics from the University of Notre Dame. He also received honorary degrees from St. Mary's University in San Antonio and Illinois Benedictine University.

He has authored or edited five books, including the widely-used anthology, *War, Morality and the Military Profession*, and his most recently published collection, *Integrity First: Reflections of a Military Philosophy*. He has written many scholarly articles and book chapters, most dealing with the ethics of leadership and other applied ethics issues.

After retiring in 1995, General Wakin worked full-time at the Air Force Academy for another two years, occupying the prestigious Lyon Chair in Professional Ethics. He continues to engage cadets in learning and development by volunteering over 30 times a year at the Academy Character Enrichment Seminars and to new instructors twice a year at faculty orientation – General Wakin remains the Master Educator of Educators. Retired Col. Tom Berry, Academy Class of 1971 and



**After a half century of loyalty and dedication to the Academy mission, one senior leader here isn't ready to stop changing lives. With many accomplishments under his belt, mentoring tomorrow's Air Force leaders remains his golden focus.**

Photo by Dennis Rogers

Deputy Director of the Academy's Center for Character Development, marvels at General Wakin's teaching skill and says he "still relates to cadets as well as he did when I was a cadet!"

In addition to his vital work with cadets and faculty, General Wakin is also in great demand outside the Academy community.

Colonel Jim Cook, present permanent professor and head of the Department of Philosophy, calls him "a national treasure."

General Wakin averages approximately 50 keynote presentations each year to a variety of audiences in Colorado Springs, around the United States and throughout the world. He has done a course on military ethics for *The Learning Channel*. He was, from 1979 to 1992, national chairman of the globally prominent Joint Services Conference on Professional Ethics and a long-standing member of the Ethics Oversight Committee for the U.S. Olympic Committee. He has served on the Tri-Service Medical Ethics Board and Ethics Oversight Committee for the U.S. Naval Academy. He has also been a regular lecturer for the Justice

Department's U.S. Border Patrol and the U.S. State Department Senior Seminar.

Throughout his career, he's been frequently recognized as an important figure in ethics education. He was featured as one of America's 12 "great professors" in the Oct. 13, 1975, issue of *People Magazine* and was the subject of a feature article in the Nov. 19, 1984, issue of *Newsweek*. He has received the Terence Cardinal Cooke Medal, a Colorado "Notre Dame Man of the Year" award and Notre Dame's coveted Corby Award. In 2007, Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. John Regni presented General Wakin the Academy's annual Distinguished Service Award in front of a crowd of thousands at Falcon Stadium where he was cited for his "exemplary support throughout the years."

Over and above the accolades he has garnered in his professional life, General Wakin and his wife Lynn are extremely proud of their eight children and nine grandchildren. The Academy faculty and staff look forward to many more years of General Wakin's friendship and mentorship as he continues to shape the future of the Air Force.



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# Commissary offers college scholarships

By **Caroline Williams**  
DeCA marketing specialist

FORT LEE, Va. – The Defense Commissary Agency's 2009 Scholarships for Military Children Program opens Monday.

Scholarship applications will be available beginning Monday in commissaries worldwide and online through a link at [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com) and directly at [www.militaryscholar.org](http://www.militaryscholar.org).

The program kickoff each year coincides with the National Military Family Month, and the scholarships allow commissaries to get involved with the community and demonstrate support for the contributions of military families.

According to DeCA Director and Chief Executive Officer Philip Sakowitz Jr., the program has awarded more than \$6.4 million in scholarships to more than 4,000 children of military families since the program began in 2001.

"We know that education is the key to a better future," Sakowitz explained. "We're thrilled to be a part

of something that makes it a little more affordable for military families."

Commissaries are known for the savings they provide authorized customers who shop regularly – savings averaging 30 percent or more. The scholarship program is emblematic of DeCA's commitment to improving the quality of life of America's service members and their families by making military paychecks go further in today's uncertain economy. The program awards \$1,500 scholarships to well-rounded, accomplished children of military families, meaning these families don't have to dig as deep into their pockets to pay for tuition.

Only dependent, unmarried children (22 and younger) of active-duty members, Reserve/guard and retired military members, survivors of service members who died while on active duty, or survivors of individuals who died while receiving retired pay from the military may apply for a scholarship. Eligibility is determined using the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database. Applicants should ensure they, as well as their sponsor, are enrolled in the

DEERS database and have a current ID card. The applicant must be planning to attend, or already be attending, an accredited college or university full time in the fall of 2009, or be enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

Applicants should prepare to submit an essay on the following topic: "What would you place inside a time capsule to help people in the next century understand military life today?" Applications must be turned in to a commissary by close of business on Feb. 18, 2009.

At least one scholarship will be awarded at every commissary location with qualified applicants.

Every dollar donated to the program by manufacturers, brokers and suppliers that sell groceries in commissaries, and the public at large goes directly to funding the scholarships. Fisher House Foundation underwrites the cost of administering the program, which is handled by Scholarship Managers, a national, nonprofit, scholarship management services organization.

## CSAF Vector focuses on political activities

By **Janie Santos**  
Defense Media Activity - San Antonio

SAN ANTONIO (AFNS) — In his second Chief of Staff of the Air Force Vector, the service's top general addressed the balance between the

Department of Defense and the political process.

"As the November elections approach, I encourage all Air Force personnel — active duty, National Guard, Reserve and civilian employees — to participate in our nation's political

process to the maximum permissible extent," said Gen. Norton Schwartz.

The general said it was important to all to comply with the rules regulating the political activities of DOD personnel.

"These rules — rooted in U.S. law — are intended to strike the proper

balance between a government employee's involvement in the political process while avoiding an improper appearance of official DoD endorsement of a particular political party, candidate, cause or issue," General Schwartz said.

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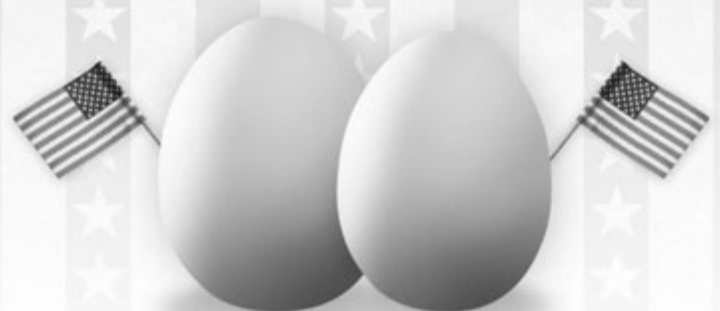
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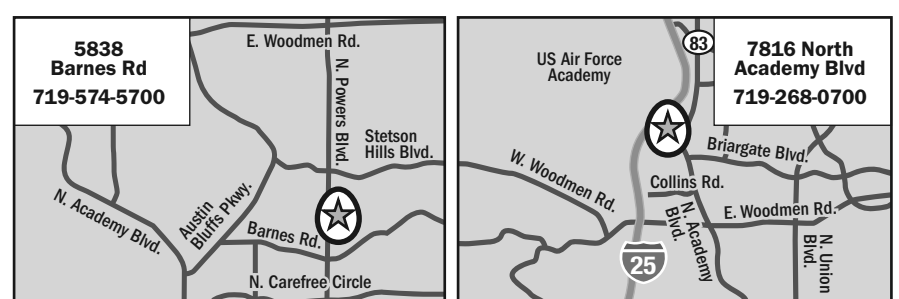
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Photo by Ann Patton

**Air Academy High School student and military dependent Grayson Tate puts a new treadmill to the test. Through the Quality of Life Initiatives program, the Fitness Center received replacements for worn out equipment.**

# Quality of Life Initiatives go hand-in-hand with mission

**By Ann Patton**  
Academy Spirit staff

The Academy spent almost a million dollars on quality of life initiatives for fiscal year 2008, and is looking to keep the improvements rolling.

Toward that end is the Academy's Quality of Life Initiatives for this fiscal year, the Academy allocated \$900,000 for facility repairs and purchases of equipment and furniture.

"The whole point is to keep the promise of the Air Force," said Academy Command Chief Master Sgt. Arvin Davis. "Our number one function is to take care of our folks."

The Quality of Life Initiatives list for fiscal year 2008 includes a new picnic/playground for Academy residents, repairs to the Academy Equestrian Center and Farish Recreation Center, replacement of exercise equipment at the Fitness Center, new furniture for the Airman dormitories and fire stations and a big screen television for the Youth Center.

Chief Davis said furnishings at the fire stations receive heavy use and needed replacing.

"They are our first responders, and they live there," he said.

The same is true for Airmen's quarters.

"We want to make sure our Airmen have the best," he said.

The Youth Center has received a big screen television, an item, which in addition to the new picnic area/playground, makes life more interesting and fun for family members and youth.

Initiatives awaiting funding for 2009 include additions

to the youth center gym, plus computers and a pickup truck for the center and recreational equipment for Airmen dorms and fitness equipment for the fire department.

"I'm confident we're going to get there," Chief Davis said of funding for the 2009 Quality of Life Initiatives. "People will like what they see in the end."

He estimated planning for 2010 Quality of Life Initiatives will begin in January or February for initiatives to maintain current quality of life areas and make additions.

"There is a wide range of things we could do," Chief Davis said.

He urged anyone on the Academy with ideas of how to make life better to speak up.

"We need everybody to chip in," he said. "We can never, ever forget quality of life items."

Some of the ideas put forth include paintball equipment for Airmen, additional picnic/playground areas, running tracks and even an outdoor gazebo for Harmon Hall staff.

"I just want folks to give me some ideas," he said and added if an idea is just not feasible for funding, the idea donor will be given an explanation why not.

Chief Davis emphasized a high quality of life directly impacts mission readiness.

"It goes hand-in-hand," he said. "The Air Force always does its mission. You want happy, contented folks. This can't help but affect the mission."

Academy members who have ideas toward improving quality of life here should contact first sergeants, chiefs or other top supervisors.

"This is exciting," Chief Davis said as a reminder. "It keeps our promise to our Airmen."

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# Personnel center adds new mission

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) — Air Force officials announced an added mission for the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph AFB, Texas, Thursday to improve the accountability of medical records and aid in the timely processing of veterans' disability claims.

Starting with Randolph AFB as the test base, AFPC will collect and then transfer Health Treatment Records (medical and dental records forwarded together) to the servicing Department of Veterans Affairs location of retired and separated Airmen who left the Air Force after Sept. 1.

The new mission, directed by the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense, will capitalize on a policy announced in 2007 to hold medical and dental records at medical treatment facilities 30 days past an Airman's date of separation to capture documentation from medical appointments and procedures toward the end of a member's

service. The policy directs all services to transfer medical and dental records to the DVA from a "centralized personnel out-processing location." Therefore, the mission was assigned to AFPC.

"This is not a scanning or storage operation like unit personnel records, but an initiative to ensure complete Health Treatment Records and any late-flowing documents are sent to the VA," said Barbara Duggan, AFPC Records Branch Quality Assurance.

In the case of a late flowing document, if such a late-flowing medical document is forwarded to AFPC by an MTF, the Center can confirm the record was, or was not, already sent to the DVA by annotating a form letter to help ensure a complete record for the Airmen.

"We've worked with the VA to ensure expeditious processing of these late-flowing documents," Ms. Duggan said. "This could be the one document an Airman needs that is holding up their VA disability claim."

Airmen do not have to wait until after they separate or retire to file a disability claim with the DVA. They can file up to six months in advance providing they can be available for DVA medical appointments. In these cases, Airmen can request a copy of their records from their servicing MTF to provide to the DVA. Then, following the new guidelines, the Airman's MTF holds the original record until 30 days after separation or retirement when it is sent to the AFPC Health Treatment Records Central Cell.

"Although the medical records mission is an accountability and transfer function versus scanning, we are confident we will provide a valuable service to the member and to the VA," said Sharon Hogue, Master Personnel Records Branch chief. "When Airmen's medical records are transferred by the Air Force Personnel Center, we will be their advocate if the records are misrouted at some point in the transfer process."

# '89 grad completes 100th combat sortie

By Staff Sgt. Don Branum  
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq — An F-16 pilot with the 332nd Expeditionary Fighter Squadron flew his 100th combat sortie, an armed overwatch mission over Baghdad recently.

Lt. Col. David Serage's accomplishment highlights a 19-year Air Force and Air National Guard career that began as a childhood dream.

"I've always wanted to be a pilot," Colonel Serage said. "My Mom said, when I was about 5 or 6, I started talking about flying.

He kept his vision in mind, even though he didn't know quite how to fulfill it until he got into high school. "When I was in my sophomore year, my brother told me about a little wayward school in Colorado Springs," the 1989 Academy graduate said. The "little wayward school" was the U.S. Air Force Academy,

and the Grove, Okla. native set his sights on attending. He spoke with an Academy liaison in Tulsa, Okla. who helped him put together a nomination package. His Congressman endorsed the nomination, and he then competed against candidates from other states for a slot in the prestigious institution.

"I was 18, and the Air Force Academy was a far cry from Grove High School," the colonel said. "It was a huge culture shock coming in, but it was a good experience and

a great education. I made lifelong friends there and got a real appreciation for the Air Force."

After graduating from pilot training at Vance Air Force Base, Okla., Colonel Serage flew the B-52 Stratofortress and the T-38 Talon. It was while flying a T-38 cross-country flight that he met his wife in Toledo, Ohio. They married in 1995 and immediately moved to Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Wash.

See GRAD, Page 17

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# Footprint shrinks with fuel dependency decrease

By Karen Bell and Thomas Hykes  
10th Civil Engineer Squadron

There are many practical things a consumer can do to take responsibility and lower environmental impact. The less our reliance fossil fuels becomes, the better off we will all be as a country.

A carbon footprint is the impact combined actions have on the environment. Emissions of carbon dioxide are part of how the carbon footprint is measured.

There are many day-to-day things we can do to reduce carbon footprints, and to decrease personal consumption of natural resources.

We can get started right at home by making small changes that really do make a difference. Things like how much electricity we consume, the amount of gas we use, and even the brands of products we pick make a real difference in our carbon footprint.

There are many tips and tricks that can be used in the home that are extremely simple and effective.

A good starting point is with the high energy-use heating and cooling systems, which account on average for 45 percent of household energy.

For each degree we lower the setting on our thermostats, there is about a 5 percent savings in heating costs. Closing the curtains during the hot day and



keeping windows ajar at night lets in cooler air and conserves energy. Using a ceiling fan where it is practical in under used areas, and watch the dollars fall off your annual electricity and heating bills. Setting thermostats back 5-degrees at night will save an additional 5 percent.

Electronic devices, every household possesses in great number, use up electricity even when not in use. Unplugging all appliances when not in use eliminates this phantom electrical load, especially

from cell phone chargers, televisions and computers. It has been calculated the average household could save around \$250 in lower electrical costs each year from this alone.

Invest in compact fluorescent light bulbs for the home, which last much longer and offer much better energy efficiency.

For example, a 13-watt florescent bulb has the same capacity for lighting your home as a 60-watt old style incandescent model. How about foregoing

that long soak in the bathtub for a quick and refreshing shower every once in a while?

Lower a garden's carbon footprint. The garden can also become a model of carbon neutral efficiency. Why not plant a tree to provide that extra bit of shade. They are attractive, inexpensive and reduce the carbon dioxide in our air while producing extra oxygen. Encourage friends and neighbors to follow your example and it is a simple step that can even add a little value to one's home. Cut down on all but necessary sprinkler use. A mechanical lawn mower rarely breaks down or runs out of fuel and helps you stay in shape at the same time. Consider putting aside a small patch of land for your very own vegetable or herb garden. What could be more gratifying than enjoying a home-grown vegetable? Save hundreds of dollars on grocery bills and fewer trips to the grocery store mean less carbon emissions from your vehicle.

Although some households make a big commitment to sustainable living through adding solar or geothermal power, any small change that you make will make a big difference as we all begin to work toward the common goal of lowering our carbon footprints. Americans have a greater environmental impact than the global average, so even these small changes are positive changes.

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Nov. 14	Western State	7 PM
Nov. 16	Cal State-Bakersfield	3 PM
Reggie Minton Air Force Classic		
Nov. 22	Texas Pan-Am vs. Wofford	2:30 PM
	Air Force vs. UCCS	5 PM
Nov. 23	Texas Pan-Am vs. UCCS	2:30 PM
	Air Force vs. Wofford	5 PM
Nov. 26	Stanford	7:30 PM
Nov. 30	Norfolk State	3 PM
Dec. 3	Northern Illinois	7 PM
Dec. 6	Northern Colorado	7:05 PM
Dec. 13	Texas Pan-American	3 PM
Dec. 22	Texas Southern	7 PM
Dec. 27	Portland ~	TBA
Dec. 28	California/Dartmouth ~	TBA
Dec. 31	Stony Brook (Mtn.)	3 PM
Jan. 3	San Diego State*	7 PM
Jan. 10	New Mexico* (Mtn.)	7:30 PM
Jan. 14	Utah* (Mtn.)	8 PM
Jan. 17	TCU* (CBS C)	1 PM
Jan. 20	Colorado State* (Mtn.)	8 PM
Jan. 27	Wyoming* (Mtn.)	6 PM
Jan. 31	UNLV* (VERSUS)	2 PM
Feb. 3	BYU* (Mtn.)	6 PM
Feb. 7	San Diego State* (CBS C)	7 PM
Feb. 11	New Mexico* (CBS C)	8 PM
Feb. 14	Utah* (Mtn.)	2 PM
Feb. 18	TCU*	7 PM
Feb. 21	Colorado State* (Mtn.)	7 PM
Feb. 28	Wyoming* (Mtn.)	4 PM
Mar. 4	UNLV* (CBS C)	7 PM
Mar. 7	BYU* (Mtn.)	7 PM
Mar. 11-14	MWC Championships**	TBA

**Home games in Bold**  
 ~ Golden Bear Classic  
 \* Mountain West Conference opponent  
 \*\* Las Vegas, NV  
 All times local to site and subject to change



# Nuclear

From Page 1

This change effectively splits the Air Force's bomber force, leaving its B-1B Lancer bombers with Air Combat Command. It also moves the cyber and intelligence, reconnaissance and surveillance responsibilities out of 8th Air Force.

"It was our conclusion that a major command that did space, cyber and nuclear perhaps was too much for a single organization to address with the necessary focus," Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz.

Management of nuclear-capable aircraft assigned to Europe will not fall under the new command, officials said.

A three-star general will lead the new command, Secretary Donley said. Officials have not yet picked a location for the command's headquarters or identified who its commander will be, but said they plan to name a provisional commander in the next few months. Secretary Donley said he plans to have the command operational by September.

This plan, designed by the Air Force Nuclear Task Force, comes on the heels of major turmoil for the force

in the past few years. In 2006, nuclear missile nose cones were inadvertently shipped to Taiwan, and in August 2007 the Air Force mistakenly flew nuclear weapons from Minot AFB, N.D., to Barksdale AFB, La.

The force's top two leaders resigned, and 15 senior officers, including six generals, were disciplined.

This roadmap, Secretary Donley said, addresses long-standing, systemic problems in the force's handling of nuclear assets. The plan addresses structural changes within the force, changes in its processes and procedures and a change within its culture, he said.

One of the problems identified in recent reports was in the force's nuclear inspection process. The secretary said the Air Force did not have consistent policies in place with consistent interpretations across commands, and needed a stronger oversight of the inspection process.

"We were not getting out of our inspection process what we need," Secretary Donley said, noting he has moved those responsibilities under the force's inspector general, who will oversee all inspector training and certification. Also, a new Air Force headquarters staff directorate will be formed to provide oversight of nuclear

issues within the force, Secretary Donley said.

The Air Force secretary also announced establishment of a nuclear oversight board at the headquarters level that he will chair with General Schwartz.

General Schwartz joined the roundtable via teleconference from Iraq, where he is visiting deployed Airmen.

"While today's fight is vitally important to our Air Force, the capabilities that we provide in support of our nation's nuclear deterrent force is just as, if not more, important," he said. "The nation trusts us to provide them safely and securely."

General Schwartz said the roadmap provides a "back to basics" approach for accountability, compliance, precision and reliability.

Officials also plan to rebuild the Air Force's nuclear expertise within its ranks of Airmen through training and career development, and officials said they plan to invest more heavily in the mission as it modernizes its nuclear capabilities.

The Air Force spent about \$85 million in the last fiscal year revamping its nuclear program. It expects to spend about \$270 million in fiscal 2009, officials said.



Photo by Scott M. Ash

Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley answers questions from the press during a media

roundtable hosted in the Pentagon Oct. 24. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz made

comments and answered questions as well via video teleconference from Joint Base Balad, Iraq.

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# Chief of staff reenlists crew chief over SW Asia

By Senior Master Sgt. Sean Cobb  
Office of the Chief Master Sergeant of the  
Air Force

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFNS) — The Air Force chief of staff reenlisted a C-17 Globemaster III flight crewmember 32,000 feet above the U.S. Central Command area of operations Oct. 23.

Gen. Norton Schwartz signed up Senior Airman Tyrell Haney, a 437th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, for another tour of duty — his second — in a ceremony aboard the Charleston Air Force Base, S.C.-based C-17 during the general's week-long visit of the CENTCOM AOR.

During the reenlistment, the chief of staff said it's vitally important the Air Force retain its quality Airmen.

"Airmen are doing an incredible job, and every Airman the Air Force retains is one less that has to be trained up to accomplish our mission," he said.

"More importantly, career Airmen are better able to leverage their experience and expertise to deliver the precision and reliability required for the Air Force to meet its joint war-fighting missions," General Schwartz added.

Airman Haney was excited to continue his Air Force experience.

"Four years just wasn't enough time to do everything I wanted to do," he



Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz, right, reenlists Senior Airman Tyrell Haney Oct. 23 aboard a C-17 Globemaster III cruising above the U.S. Central Command area of operations. Airman Haney is a 437th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief from Charleston Air Force Base, S.C.

said. "I love my job. You can't beat working on these aircraft. This has been an amazing opportunity for me. I might not have left Nebraska if I hadn't joined the Air Force!

"I didn't expect the chance to have the chief of staff reenlist me," the crew chief said. "I was a little nervous at first, but he seems real down-to-earth, so I was comfortable and really felt a part of the team throughout the ceremony and

this entire flight."

Airman Haney, a native of Hyannis, Neb., has deployed for two 120-day-plus tours to the AOR. In addition to the high-speed visit around the AOR and reenlisting, Airman Haney also celebrated his 23rd birthday.

Other maintainers on this flight congratulated Airman Haney.

"He knows a lot about this jet," said Staff Sgt. Blaine Douglas, also a crew

chief with the Charleston maintenance squadron. "He is doing very well on this, his first buddy flight, and I have enjoyed working with him. It's good to know he will be working with us for years to come."

Sergeant Douglas is on his second reenlistment and has deployed five times.

The Air Force's top enlisted leader also was on hand to join the C-17 crew in witnessing the event.

"I am so proud of Tyrell," said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney McKinley. "We are a nation at war. We are proud of every Airman who raises his or her right hand to join our team. Every Airman already in the fight who chooses to continue service demonstrates continued commitment to our nation's cause. I am truly proud to serve alongside the incredible Airmen of the U.S. Air Force."

Airmen Haney's decision is not only a great moment for the Airman and his family, but a win for the Air Force and commendable example to all Airmen, General Schwartz said.

"Every Airman counts," he said. "We are all in, and we need our best to stay with us."

The C-17 flew General Schwartz and Chief McKinley to numerous Southwest Asia CENTCOM locations, including bases in Iraq, Afghanistan and the Horn of Africa.



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# Air Force wins EPA energy award

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Air Force officials received an Environment Protection Agency award for leading the federal government in purchasing renewable energy in October in Denver. The Air Force was named the winner of the 2008 Green Power Leadership Award in the Green Power Purchaser category. Air Force officials made an annual purchase of more than 899 million kilowatt hours, making it the top federal government purchaser of green power and ranking it among the largest purchasers on the EPA Green Power Partnership list. In addition, Air Force leaders have implemented several renewable energy projects on bases:

— A 14.2 megawatt photovoltaic solar array — the largest in the western hemisphere — Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.;

— A 0.4 megawatt photovoltaic array at Luke AFB, Ariz.;

— A 0.4 megawatt photovoltaic rooftop at March Air Reserve Base, Calif.;

— A 3.3 megawatt wind farm at F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo.;

— A 2.7 megawatt wind farm at

Ascension Island, England;

— A 2.3 megawatt landfill gas project at Hill AFB, Utah;

— A 3,500 ground source heat pumps at various locations.

“As the largest federal energy user, the Air Force consumes significant amounts of energy in executing its national defense mission,” said Kevin Billings, the acting assistant secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Logistics.

“The increasing costs of energy and the nation’s commitment to reducing its dependence on foreign oil have led to the development of the Air Force energy strategy — to reduce demand, increase supply and change the culture within the Air Force so that energy is a consideration in everything Airmen do. A key component of our strategy is the imperative to eliminate waste and conserve resources as well as seek new, alternative sources of energy. This award recognizes our efforts in that area.”

The Air Force is a previous winner of the Green Power Leadership Award in 2004, and received the Green Power Partner of the Year award in 2003 and 2005.



Photo by Ann Patton

## A clearer vision

Chaplain (Capt.) Regina Samuel presided at a re-enlistment ceremony for Staff Sgt. Vincent Weathers outside the refractive surgery center at the 10th Medical Group Oct. 20. Service members must have six months of active duty time remaining on their commitment in order to qualify for the surgery. Sergeant Weathers had less than six months and chose to reenlist to qualify.

Active duty members from all services and locations are eligible for refractive surgery through the 10th MDG’s center. To apply, e-mail [10mdg.lasereyeclinic@usafa.af.mil](mailto:10mdg.lasereyeclinic@usafa.af.mil). To learn more about it, visit [www.refractiveeyesurgery.org](http://www.refractiveeyesurgery.org).

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# Airmen speed delivery of lifesaving medicine

By Master Sgt. Jeff Loftin  
379th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFNS) — Coordination and hustle between several American military agencies here enabled a lifesaving package to reach an Iraqi snakebite victim and save a life Oct. 15.

The Army Medical Materiel Center Southwest Asia staff received an urgent request for anti-venom to help a young Iraqi woman who was in critical condition, and the staff immediately turned to members of the 8th Expeditionary Air Mobility Squadron for help.

“We have a very strong partnership with the 8th EAMS and we simply could not do our mission without their assistance,” said Army Maj. Jennifer Allouche, the chief of support operations at the center. “I know that when I call the 8th

EAMS team for assistance, they will make it happen 100 percent of the time. They have never said no or told me they could not support our requirement.”

Master Sgt. Todd Lunge, the 8th EAMS superintendent of air freight, received the call and immediately started checking flight schedules to get the package to Baghdad right away.

“Right after the call from Major Allouche, I started calling those I knew would be involved and telling them to be ready,” he said.

The cargo arrived within two hours



Photo by Staff Sgt. Darnell Cannady

**Senior Airman Michael Rodriguez stacks cold bricks on top of medical supplies as Staff Sgt. Michael Bonecutter logs the re-icing time Oct. 23 at an air base in Southwest Asia. The unit processes thousands of pounds of medical supplies and equipment for shipment to units in the area of responsibility**

and Airmen from 8th EAMS special handling processed the package and got it ready for shipment in 15 minutes.

“Whenever the mission is ready, we process it in the system so we have visibility over it and we can track it all the way to its destination,” said Staff Sgt. Richard Nedrow, the NCO in charge of special handling deployed from Charleston Air Force Base, S.C. “(On this package) we had to make sure the temperature was maintained, which is hard out here because it is so hot. We have to keep it below certain limits. We store it (in refrigerated rooms) until it gets ready to ship out. We track the ice times to make sure the ice is good.”

Sergeant Lunge found a C-130 Hercules mission that could take the package to Baghdad less than two hours after it arrived on base. However, after 1.5 hours the Air Terminal Operations Center staff notified 8th EAMS members that a maintenance problem would delay the flight until the evening.

“When the C-130 broke, they said it would be another hour before they would know if it could take off, so I started looking for another mission,” said the native of Buffalo, N.Y.

He found a C-17 Globemaster III mission leaving in 10 minutes that wasn't scheduled to take cargo.


Capt. Keith Grawert, a C-17 pilot with the 816th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, got the call and made the decision to hold the aircraft to wait for the lifesaving package.

“All we were told was that it was a ‘life-or-death’ shipment of cargo,” Captain Grawert said. “It’s not every day that we hear those words, so it seemed like a straightforward decision to go ahead and wait for it. The interesting thing about airlift is that one never knows for sure what impact a particular mission may have on someone’s life regardless of how routine it may seem to us.”

The aircraft taxied away as soon as the package was on board. As soon as the aircraft was airborne, Sergeant Lunge contacted the Combined Air and Space Operations Center staff, which coordinated with other agencies in Baghdad to pick up the package and deliver it to its final destination.

The anti-venom arrived and was administered in time to help the snakebite victim, who improved over the next few days.

The box of anti-venom was one of four life-or-death deliveries 8th EAMS has handled in the past five months. “Without immediate resupply of the items to the hospital, patients’ lives were at risk,” Major Allouche said. “This is incredible support that no commercial carrier could provide to our organization.”




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# Warfighter's Edge goes AF-wide

Academy program helps aircrews better prepare for training, combat sorties

## Academy Spirit staff

A U.S. Air Force Academy program went Air Force wide recently, enhancing the situational awareness of aircrew preparing for training and combat sorties.

That program is Warfighter's Edge – better known as “WEdge” – and is the latest product of the Academy's Institute for Information Technology Applications, exposing real time data never before possible in a briefing room.

This cutting-edge program has been funded by Air Combat Command, supported by Air Force Reserve Command and the Air National Guard. WEdge will be delivered throughout the combined Air Force.

WEdge is a briefing room system built for operational flying units to enhance pre-mission situational awareness. WEdge enhances the briefing process by bringing near real-time information to the warfighter that is more accurate and easier to manage. The system accesses a multitude of net-centric data sources and then transports that data via the use of “data tags” into a customizable format, thereby dramatically reducing time spent manually retrieving, verifying, and organizing mission information. WEdge is the briefing room System of Record for ACC.

The Institute for Information Technology Applications began development of the project in mid-2005 when it was recognized that information flow into the briefing room could be dramatically improved.

In today's increasingly technological world, the old-school “pen and ink” system of mission briefings faced many limitations, including being difficult to change a briefing once one is prepared, and it being nearly impossible to maintain currency.

Individual flying units solved this by creating computerized briefing programs that worked well at home-station. But those local programs couldn't be used at a deployed location and were incapable of being shared with other flying units at any other base.

WEdge fixed that.

“Many briefing room systems were evaluated throughout the Air Force and the Tulsa Air National Guard Briefing Room Interactive program was chosen as the best choice for pilots,” said Lt. Col. Andy Berry, in a 2006 interview with the Academy Spirit.

Colonel Berry, Technical Lead in IITA's Unit Level C2 Research, along with Lt. Col. Mike Lattanzi, IITA's director of Unit Level C2 Research, were the primary researchers, leading the development of WEdge since the project's inception in 2005.

“WEdge is in a format that is pilot-friendly, easy to update and meaningful,” said Colonel Berry. “It is a way to verify that your mission products are correct while reducing the preparation time for a mission briefing.”

A prototype was developed here and presented at Joint Expeditionary Force Exercise 2006, an Air Force Chief of Staff-directed experiment to evaluate new operational concepts, processes, and technologies and expand Expeditionary Air Force capabilities. The participating warfighters evaluated the tool and provided their feedback.

WEdge's success at JEFX is only a small portion of the picture. ACC, recognizing the utility of the software, began sponsoring the program in late 2006 and



there was a lot of demand in the field for an operational base to get WEdge integrated into squadrons.

WEdge was then run through its paces by the 54th Flying Training Wing at Luke AFB, Ariz., the Oklahoma Air National Guard's 138th Fighter Wing at Tulsa, the 509th Bomb Wing at Whiteman AFB, Mo., and the Air Force Reserve's 457th Fighter Squadron at Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base, Texas.

The application that started in 2005 is now fully developed and was fielded Air Force-wide on Sept. 1 and is now enhancing the situational awareness of pilots and crews preparing for training and combat sorties.

“That's a very quick turnaround of a product from the C2 Battlelab into the field with very low overhead,” said Colonel Berry.

Research initiatives at the Academy such as WEdge would not be possible without the seed funding provided by the Air Force Office of Scientific Research. AFOSR provides on-going seed funding to the 10 research centers and two research institutes here and supports the mission of providing cadets real-world experience in basic research.

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# Big Brothers Big Sisters impacting children's lives

By Ann Patton  
Academy Spirit staff



## Big Brothers Big Sisters® of Colorado, Inc. Pikes Peak

The bigs and littles don't get measured by their height but by the size of their hearts.

As Pikes Peak Big Brothers and Big Sisters buddy up with their smaller charges, their littles, they bring friendship, mentoring and healthy opportunities for fun and growth.

The local chapter expects to serve 500-plus youngsters for this calendar year.

There is always a need for both Big Brothers and Big Sisters, especially Big Brothers, who may wait up to two years for a Big Brother, said Lt. Col. Freddie Rodriguez, director of reserve research at the Academy's Institute for Information Technology Applications and a Big Brothers Big Sisters Board member.

The inaugural Big Brothers Big Sisters Week in August, through the "60 Men in 60 Days" push, netted more than the targeted number of Big Brothers.

Yet currently about 20 boys and 10 girls await a mentor.

"That 60 in a short time made a huge impact," he said. "We still need more and guys with good hearts."

Once in the midst of maintaining a busy Air Force career, Colonel Rodriguez gave a second thought to becoming a Big Brother. It was about 12 years ago he made the call to Big Brothers Big Sisters and has been a mentor ever since.

"These are tough economic times, and everyone is busy. But for our one-on-one matches with the community-based mentoring program, we're asking for two to four times a month for a few hours each," he said. "Some of the greatest joys and learning moments come from just hanging out and doing everyday things, like running errands, hiking and watching movies."

The cadet Falcon Club members, all Big Brothers Big Sisters who share mentoring, find it more than worthwhile.

"The best part has been hearing my little say how happy he is to spend time with my partner and

me," said Cadet 2nd Class Darren Montes. "He always has a smile on his face when he's with us."

Cadet 2nd Class Tiffany Sollman recalled one special moment with her little.

"It was watching my 5-year-old little dancing in excitement when she got the bowling ball all the way to the pins by herself," she said.

Big Brothers Big Sisters seeks to improve the sense of self and community, improve attitudes toward school and learning — and learning to avoid negative or delinquent behavior.

The organization has found, as a result of their participation, littles get better grades and improved attitudes toward school, get along better with parents and peers, and are less likely to begin using drugs and alcohol or to hit someone.

Big Brothers Big Sisters accepts referrals for children between ages 7 and 12. Some common issues and backgrounds the children come from include being a child of a single, incarcerated or deceased parent or a child in the custody of extended family or foster parents. Some are homeless, others are in temporary housing. They may have experienced traumatic events, neglect or abuse or need guidance from a mentor outside their family.

Referrals come from family members, neighbors, friends, teachers, coaches or private counselors.

Bigs and littles may participate in community-based mentoring on a one-on-one basis or site-based mentoring when each big and little meets regularly at a specific supervised location such as a school or with the Falcon Club.

Volunteers must be 16 to become a school-based mentor and 18 for all other programs. Both bigs and littles receive training and briefings prior to building relationships and on-going support thereafter.

Bigs are encouraged to offer no- or low-cost activities. Program staff matches bigs and littles,

taking into consideration backgrounds, personalities, interests and experiences of both. Bigs undergo background checks.

Colonel Rodriguez said the program is not just a convenience for parents.

"We are not a babysitting service. Our goal is to mentor. That's what makes a difference in kids' lives," he stressed.

Building trust between bigs and littles takes time, but it is time well-spent.

"I enjoy seeing them get less shy the more time you spend with them and open up to you as they trust you," said Cadet 1st Class Gregory Rettler, who now has his second little.

"I find it satisfying to show a child that people are about my little," Cadet Sollmann said. "It's a great opportunity to just spend time with a kid, make her happy and encourage her to do her best."

Cadet 2nd Class Kathleen Schjodt feels the same way.

"The pure joy I see on my little girl's face when she sees and plays with her other Big Sister and me makes the time I spend with her completely worthwhile," she said.

Littles also give cadets a mental break from life on the hill.

"It is very fun. It's a great opportunity to spend time with people who are so much different than the people I see in school and around the Academy every day," said Cadet 4th Class Christopher Chorney. "I essentially get to live as a kid again and, at least for the two hours a month, get to see the stress-free, good world through the eyes of the kids."

The Big Brothers Big Sisters program originated in New York City in 1904. It began in Colorado in 1918.

For more information on the program, visit [www.bbbscolo.org/pikespeak](http://www.bbbscolo.org/pikespeak) or call 633-2443.

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# CST memories carry through winter months

By Butch Wehry  
Academy Spirit staff

Combat Survival Training started June 1 and ended Aug. 2, but it's far from being just a memory.

CST planning and preparation for next year continues throughout the year.

Conducted at Saylor Park at more than 9,000 feet elevation, it comes with safety risks like steep slopes, drop-offs, cliffs and vertical rock faces.

"Our cadets, who are acclimated to roughly 7,000 feet elevation, definitely felt the altitude," said Tech. Sgt. Jarod Savage, of Lucasville, Ohio. "We had multiple medical issues to include heat exhaustion, anaphylactic shock, cellulitis, insect bites, blisters and rolled ankles. The terrain was interesting to say the least."

Tent living was seldom a challenge.

"We have wall tents for individual instructors and Alaskan tents for all cadet cadre and key staff," said the Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape specialist with 12 years in the Air Force. "There are poncho tents for cadets going through as students."

Sergeant Savage admits to a personal satisfaction that goes with conducting CST.

"Watching cadets go through a physically and emotionally taxing situation and seeing the power of positive mental attitude is satisfying," he said. "With PMA, anything is possible. Without it, we're of no use. It's also neat to see junior and senior cadets step up and run the show. We put the responsibility to our key staff and trust their decisions."

The permanent party's job is to allow a CST learning outcome like no other.

The capstone event of the importance of bringing back CST this summer was the real-world search and rescue mission conducted July 2 in Saylor Park, he said.

"I tell cadets that I'll let them run the show, make mistakes, fail at some things," said Sergeant Savage. "I'll even allow someone to walk over a cliff, as long as safety is maintained and they can continue. To me, it is paramount to allow our future Air Force leaders the chance to make decisions, sometimes bad ones, in order to be better prepared for the Air Force. CST is the program for that."

Next summer, CST will include evasion and conduct after capture training. It is a mandatory graduation requirement for the Class of 2012 and beyond.

In retrospect, Cadet Squadron 7 meteorology major, Cadet 3rd Class Taylor Olson said being pushed mentally and physically made CST a worthwhile experience.

"Night navigation was intense, especially leading it. You really had to trust your instincts and training," said Cadet Olson. "CST removed any physical advantages people may have had and forced everybody to dig deep."

The mental barriers that had to be overcome were significant, he said.

"The best part of it was that the training was real," Cadet Olson said. "Although many of us may never have to use it, we will all face times in our lives that will test our determination to continue. CST forces you to figure out what really motivates you."

Cadet 2nd Class Neil Pfau, a CS-35 member, first went through CST as a student, then returned weeks later as an instructor.

"The most important thing I took from CST is the professionalism that my instructors inspired me to live up to," the Paola, Kan., native said. "That standard was tested when, just a few short weeks later, I had the opportunity to instruct survival for



Photos by Mike Kaplan

**Combat Survival Training students set up a poncho tent during the survival phase of training. The Academy reestablished CST this year as a summer training program after a four-year hiatus.**

the Class of 2011."

"This was an amazing leadership experience and a testament to the trust our leadership has in cadets," Cadet Pfau said.

He was paired with another cadet and instructed 11 students on survival skills ranging from shelter craft and knots to aircraft signaling and land navigation.

"We were there to see our students make some mistakes, but also learn from those and advance to success," he said. "CST gave me the desire to have my students succeed and the tools to teach them how."

The early snow and gusts of winter has not diminished Cadet Pfau's memory of CST.

"When I was a student during the evasion portion, my element woke up while it was still dark and we were moving to our next point," Cadet Pfau said. "We were bundled up in our Gortex and thermals with our ALICE packs on, hiking through foggy swamps and groves of aspen trees trying to make progress to our point and avoid the SERE specialists trying to find us. We were tired and we were hungry, but we kept hiking for hours because the only thing keeping us warm was our body movement. Eventually, we saw the sunrise and the warmth that came with it."

Cadet 1st Class Jonathan Rodgers had arrived in time to attend the 2004 CST. This summer, the CS-15 military strategic studies major was CST commander.

"The level of training was definitely higher in 2008, because of the great number of SERE professionals available," said Cadet Rodgers, a Colorado Springs native. "All the basics were still the same, with killing, cleaning and cooking your meals, hiking around the woods."

One major difference this year was that the cadets only got to do three of the four checkpoints.

"In 2004, we had to make two checkpoints a day, both day and night," he said. "We ended up doing about seven or eight checkpoints, which translates to a lot of hiking."

To Cadet Rodgers, CST made a difference.

"It made me more confident in the outdoors, able to move freely," Cadet Rodgers said. "I loved it from the moment I started in 2004 until I got to command in 2008. I felt safe in the woods, and

more able to take care of a wide-range of problems. It was training that was real, applicable, and important. And I learned what rabbit tastes like."

Time hasn't dimmed the memory of when Cadet Rodgers and other students got to Checkpoint Charlie at the top of the hill and, because of lightning, they were made to sleep on the hill-side.

"They told us to sleep by a tree that was on a 30-40 degree slope," said Cadet Rodgers. "We ended up tying all of our sleeping bags to this tree and the four of us all slept with our heads tilting inwards, falling to the bottom of our sleeping bags. That was a very cold, wet night, but fun to look back on."



**A cadet prepares wood shaving for a fire during Combat Survival Training in Saylor Park near Woodland Park, Colo., west of the Academy.**



# Academy firefighters tops in Colorado, on way to world trials



Air Force Academy firefighter Pat Kraft hauls a firehose over his shoulder and begins to cross the 75 feet between him and the a volleyball-sized target during the World Firefighter Combat Challenge XVI in 2007.

By Ann Patton  
Academy Spirit staff

For the first time ever, the Academy's firefighters took center stage on the awards podium following the national Fire Fighter Combat Challenge Oct. 17 – 18 in Atlanta.

Team USAFA, the veteran team, finished in third place with more than 60 teams entered. Their final standing makes them the Colorado state champions for the fourth year in a row.

Team USAFA Over-40, in its first competition, finished third in the category, and the team was also awarded the Colorado state champion title for the same category.

"I was proud beyond anyone's wildest imagination," Academy Fire Chief Ernst Piercy said. "I called the fire station first to let the crews know, then I called everyone else I knew."

In his very first competition, Senior Airman David Luckie was named fastest challenge competitor in Colorado, with a time of 1:35 minutes at a regional competition.

"I left it all on the course that day," he said. "It's

incredible how quickly 95 seconds can go by and what could be accomplished in that time."

In addition to Airman Luckie, Team USAFA included Patrick Kraft, Roy Dalton, Hans Barkley, Lance Gore and Stephen Hardman. Team USAFA Over-40 included Rod Sanders, Ken Helgerson, Ron Prettyman, Brian Pille and Dan McAuliffe.

The teams head to Las Vegas Nov. 11 – 15 to compete in the world championships.

Airman Luckie, a five-year firefighter veteran, said the Challenge seeks to encourage firefighter fitness and demonstrate the profession's rigors to the public. Weighted with full bunker gear and the Scott Air-Pak breathing apparatus, pairs of competitors race head-to-head as they simulate the physical demands of real-life firefighting by performing a linked series of seven tasks.

The competitions included climbing the five-story tower with a 42-pound hose load, hoisting another 42-pound load to the top of the tower and making a quick descent out of the tower. Other tasks included performing a forcible entry simulation by hammering a 160-pound steel keiser beam with a 9-pound mallet, completing a serpentine through 140 feet of delineators, then dragging a charged 225-pound hose line 75 feet and spraying a target. Finally, competitors rescued a life-sized 175-pound "victim" by dragging him backwards for 100 feet, which Airman Luckie called "the longest 100 feet we've known."

The Academy went against some rugged contenders in larger departments.

"Our confidence level was always high despite the tough competition," Chief Piercy said. "Our open relay team is made up of world class athletes who

have competed several times in this contest, and that experience was a definite advantage that allowed our team to overcome any pre-competition anxieties."

He added the Over-40 team brought a spark to the team's spirit and definitely pushed the younger team.

"After only two months of training, they are already posting times associated with teams that have been competing for years," he said.

In preparation for the events, Chief Piercy said the teams stepped up their efforts this year with a regimen that included comprehensive nutrition and conditioning which prepared them for what ESPN calls "The toughest two minutes in sports."

"I think the Over-40 team lost the combined weight of a firefighter in the process of their preparation," he said.

Training and conditioning is underway for the nationals.

"Lean and calculated diets," said Airman Luckie are a key component. "After that, it's daily regimented training, high-intensity training."

The teams are adhering to high intensity interval training.

"I pound my legs and lungs with weighted stair sprints, parachute wind sprints, compound weight training, ballistic training and squats, hams, quads and leg presses," he said.

Staying motivated and resisting temptation to cheat on diets or slack off from training is half the battle, he said.

Chief Piercy said the team's spirit, dedication and hard work combined is its greatest strength in the upcoming competition.

Airman Luckie is looking forward to joining his teammates once again in competition.

"I can't describe what it feels like, but we go to represent the Air Force Academy Fire Department, firefighters everywhere and ourselves, as some of the fastest, strongest and most capable firemen in the world every time we compete."

Photos by John Van Winkle

**Far Left: Air Force Academy firefighter Lance Gore hops to the Keiser sled during the 2007 World Firefighter Combat Challenge XVI, where he will use a 9-pound mallet to drive a 160-pound steel beam a distance of five feet**

**Left: The most grueling part of the Firefighter Challenge is the last event, the dummy drag, where firefighters pull a 175-pound rescue dummy backwards 75 feet with the last of their strength in this timed trial.**





# Resolve shows our underlying strength

By Butch Wehry  
Academy Spirit staff

An Academy professor of military strategic studies presented his "Disarming Hezbollah" paper and served as chair of the "Middle East: Ongoing Security Dilemmas" panel and a roundtable panelist on "Thinking Strategically About Terrorism Policy" at the International Studies Section Annual International Conference, Vail, Colo., Oct. 24 and Saturday.

Accompanying Dr. Brent Talbot was Col. Thomas Drohan from Military Strategic Studies, who chaired the panel on "Asia-Pacific Security Issues"; Dr. James Smith from the Institute for National Security Studies, chaired a panel on "Lessons of the Global War on Terror," and served on the same roundtable panel with Doctor Talbot on "Thinking Strategically About Terrorism Policy"; Dr. Dave Sacko, from political science, presented a paper on "Russia's Role in the Emerging Security Environment" and Dr. Damon Coletta from Political Science, presented a paper on "Inducing Indivisibility and Rationalist Explanations for War".

Hezbollah in Arabic means literally "party of God"

and is a Shi'a Islamic political and paramilitary organization based in Lebanon.

Universities were represented by attendees from the United States, United Kingdom, Japan, Australia, and Canada. Attendees also came from Mexico, India, Chile, Haiti, and Israel.

"Hezbollah has become a powerful yet destabilizing force in Lebanon—affecting internal stability, allowing Syria and Iran's dangerous influence, delaying peace with Israel, and complicating the Israeli-Palestinian conflict," Doctor Talbot said.

"It forces the United States to grapple between traditional support for Israel and newfound support for Lebanese democracy."

Doctor Talbot, an associate professor with the Academy's military strategic studies, teaches classes such as International Threats, Middle East Strategy, U.S. Foreign and National Security Policy.

"The international community should capitalize on Hezbollah's damaged public image following its 2006 war with Israel and pursue a multiparty disarmament effort, to include incentives to the major regional players; namely, Hezbollah's continued presence in the Lebanese

Parliament, international support for the Lebanese Armed Forces, return of the Golan to Syria in exchange for cutting military support to Hezbollah, and a nonaggression agreement between Israel and Lebanon," the 13 year Academy professor from Roy, Utah, said.

He presented his paper to the panel and two other panelists discussed the way forward in Iraq and globalization's impact on the Arab world.

"Our resolve is for stepped up airport security, driving the Taliban out of Afghanistan, overthrowing Saddam, shows our strength and sends a message to the terrorists which deters another 9/11 attack in the short term," Doctor Talbot said. "But, in the long term, we need to counter the terror message to stop the start up al-Qaeda franchises from sprouting up around the world that will strike again, unless we can counter that message by winning the hearts and minds of their would-be supporters."

Showing for the conference were 119 people. The annual conference been ongoing for a number of years, but this was only third time in Colorado. Past conferences have been held in Washington, D.C., Montreal, Los Angeles and other locations.



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# USPS releases mailing deadlines, package options

To help families and friends of military personnel this holiday season, the U.S. Postal Service is providing information about deadlines and efficient ways to mail packages overseas.

Mail sent to overseas military addresses is charged domestic mail prices. The domestic mail price for the largest flat-rate priority mail box is \$12.95. But for packages to APO/FPO addresses overseas, USPS has

reduced the price to \$10.95.

"Flat-rate priority mail boxes offer the best bargain in holiday shipping," Managing Director, Global Business and Senior Vice President Paul Vogel said. "The contents can be any weight for one low rate. If it fits, it ships."

The U.S. Postal Service is offering free military care kits, designed specifically for military families sending packages overseas. Customers can order the mailing kits

by phone at (800) 610-8734. Each kit includes two priority mail boxes, six priority mail flat rate boxes, eight priority mail labels, one roll of priority mail tape and eight customs forms with envelopes.

Mail addressed to military post offices overseas is subject to certain conditions or restrictions regarding content, preparation and handling. In addition, APO/FPO addresses generally require customs forms.

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APO/FPO AP ZIPs 962-966	Dec. 18	Dec. 11	Dec. 11	Dec. 4	Nov. 28	Nov. 13

## Grad

From Page 6

"The Air Force had retired the F-111 (Aardvark), and the EF-111 (Raven) was in the process of retiring, and that left a dent in the Air Force's air defense suppression capability," Colonel Serage said. "So Air Force pilots flew EA-6B Prowlers jointly with the Navy."

Colonel Serage was deployed for about 2½ years out of the four years he flew with the Navy.

In 1999, Colonel Serage moved to

Tulsa where he joined the Air National Guard. He flew his first F-16 missions with the Tulsa ANG's 138th Fighter Wing, conducting missions in support of Operation Southern Watch.

"It was a little tricky, adjusting from B-52s and EA-6Bs to F-16s," the colonel said, who has flown a total of 4,700 hours. "But I had some good instructors – some very patient instructor pilots."

Colonel Serage deployed to Joint Base Balad in 2007 to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. The tempo of combat has

changed significantly in that year, he said. "Last year, it seemed like we were dropping ordnance quite a bit," he said. "This year, that portion of our mission has scaled back. I attribute that to a successful military and diplomatic operation. Still, our strength and troop support is projected through continuous armed air presence."

Reaching 100 sorties doesn't mean what it used to.

During World War II, bomber pilots were lucky to reach 50 combat sorties without being shot down. During the

Vietnam War, pilots had to fly 100 sorties before they could return home from their tour. Today, reaching such a milestone means something different.

"When I hear the words, '100 combat sorties,' I think of the great Airmen of earlier wars," Colonel Serage said. "To me, achieving this mark reminds me of our proud Air Force heritage. The Airmen who flew, fought and won in previous conflicts have brought us the freedoms that make our country the greatest in the world."

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# Air Force sweeps American International

By Dave Toller  
Academy Athletic Communications

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. – Air Force scored two power-play goals in the second period and held off American International College for a 3-1 win in an Atlantic Hockey Association game Saturday at the Olympic Ice Center in Springfield, Mass.

Air Force earned its second road sweep of the season and improved to 6-0 overall and 4-0 in the AHA. The 6-0 start is the best since the 1971-72 team started out 8-0. The 6-0 start is the best ever versus Division I teams. AIC fell to 0-4 overall and 0-2 in the league. Air Force's six-game winning streak vs. Division I teams ties as the best in school history. AFA also had a six-game winning streak at the end of the 2006-2007 season.

Air Force got on the board first on Josh Frider's sixth of the season at the 3:42 mark. Brent Olson fed the point to

Michael Mayra and Mayra blistered a slap shot from the left point. Frider tipped the puck in front to put the Falcons on the board.

The Falcons opened the second period with two power-play goals by Jacques Lamoureux. The first came 21 seconds into the period on a 5-on-3. Lamoureux followed up a shot by Olson that was saved. Mayra also assisted on the play. Just over a minute later, he netted his nation-leading seventh of the season. Mayra took a shot from the point and Lamoureux redirected it past goaltender Tom Fenton. Olson earned his third assist of the game on the play.

Neither team was able to score until AIC broke up the shutout in the final minute of the game on the power play. After winning a faceoff in the offensive end, AIC's Chad Richardson took a shot from the left point that slipped past Volkening on the short side with 28 seconds left. The Yellow Jackets pulled

their goaltender in the final 20 seconds, but weren't able to score.

Air Force outshot AIC 31-26, in the game. AFA was 2-for-8 on the power play while AIC was 1-for-3. Volkening made 25 saves while Fenton made 28 for the Yellow Jackets.

"We got away from our game a little bit in the second period, but we reeled back in the third," Head Coach Frank Serratore said. "We were much better in the third period, but we just couldn't get that fourth goal. AIC kept battling and kept coming and messed up the shutout for Volks."

Air Force (6-0, 4-0 AHA) returns home for a two-game AHA series with Bentley College today and Saturday at 7:05 p.m., each night at the Cadet Ice Arena.

Senior defenseman Michael Mayra's three assists helped lead the Falcons to a 3-1 win over AIC.



Photo by Mike Kaplan

# Falcons conclude regular season with Air Force Open

By Valerie Perkin  
Assistant Athletic Media Relations Director

With nine top-five finishes in four different races, the Air Force cross country team concluded the regular season Oct. 24, at the annual Air Force Open.

Andy Schweitzer (6K) and Becca Burditt (4K) finished first in their respective events, while Scott Balcao (8K) and Phaelen French (6K) were the top finishing Falcons in the other two races.

The meet, held for the first-time in several years at the Academy's Eisenhower Golf Course, featured distances of 4K and 6K for the women and 6K and 8K lengths for the men.

Balcao clocked a time of 26:52 in the 8K race to finish second in the 28-runner event. Jonathan Rock and Chase Welch also finished within the top-10. Rock posted a time of 27:50 to finish seventh, while Welch crossed the finish line in 28:39 to take 10th.

Also in the 8K race, Tyler Small ran the course in 28:47 to finish 11th, while Nick White (29:12), Jacob Fulton (29:16), Ryan Del Grosso (29:35) and Alex Zubey (29:55) finished 14th-17th, respectively. Classmate Zachary Marx rounded out the Air Force contingent with a 20th-place time of 30:30.

Schweitzer won the 6K race with a time of 20:38, while classmate John Oliphint placed second in 21 minutes flat. Conor Murphy picked up a fourth-place finish in 21:21 and Matthew Cain recorded a time of 23:40 to finish eighth.

Air Force claimed three of the top-five spots in the women's 6K race, as these runners vied for a spot in next week's conference meet. French finished third and was the second-fastest collegiate runner after crossing the finish line in 25:42. Alexa Ramsier placed fourth overall with a



Photos by Mike Kaplan

Becca Burditt, center, finished first in the 4K race during the Air Force Open Oct. 24 at the Eisenhower Golf Course.

time of 25:46. Danielle Snider clocked a time of 26:17 to finish fifth.

Clocking a winning time of 17:41, Burditt led a trio of Falcons that were competing in the women's 4K race. Glorimar Torre' Santiago crossed the finish line in 18:16 to finish third, while Catherine Haycraft finished sixth in a time of 21:17.

Select members of the Falcons' squad will begin the 'championship' portion of the season Saturday, when they travel to San Diego, for the 2008 Mountain West Conference Cross Country Championships. The race will be held at Mission Bay Park.



Andy Schweitzer, center, finished first in the 6K race during the Air Force Open Oct. 24.

## MWC championships

The championship season begins this weekend for the Air Force cross country team as it travels to San Diego, for the 2008 Mountain West Conference Championships. The meet, held at Mission Bay Park, will feature six men's teams and nine women's teams.

## Hockey

Number-17 Air Force (6-0-0)

overall and 4-0-0 in the AHA) returns home to host a two-game Atlantic Hockey Association series vs. the Bentley Falcons (1-1, 0-0 AHA), today and Saturday at 7:05 p.m. each night.

## Cross country

Scott Balcao and Phaelen French, of the Air Force cross country team, were named the Mountain West Conference' Runners of the Week, the league

office announced Tuesday. Balcao becomes just the third Falcon to earn more than one weekly award in his career, as he also received the honor in 2006. This is the first such honor for French.

## Volleyball

The Air Force volleyball team (5-18, 0-10) travels for a pair of conference matches this week visiting 14th-ranked Colorado State at Moby Arena Saturday. The

contest is scheduled for a noon.

## Boxing

Austin Almand and Bailey Ball earned victories as the Air Force boxing team concluded competition at the Service Academy Classic in Detroit, Oct. 24. The Falcons recorded a 2-4 record against their opponents. Both Falcon wins came against Army boxers. Almand earned a victorious decision over Stephanie

Manuel in the 165-pound bout, while Ball's win in the 149-pound match came over Johnnie Garcia.

## Rifle

The Academy rifle team fell to the Ole Miss and UTEP rifle teams Saturday in El Paso, Texas. The Falcons lost the match with a total of 4532 points. Ole Miss won the match with an aggregate score of 4569. UTEP came in second with a score of 4556.



# Opportunistic Falcons topple New Mexico

By Maj. Brett Ashworth  
Academy Public Affairs

Air Force survived a first quarter marred by turnovers and a strong New Mexico running game to pull out a 23-10 victory on a blustery night at Falcon Stadium Oct. 23.

The Falcons turned the ball over on three of their first four possessions, spotting the Lobos 10 points while allowing 149 total yards, 101 on the ground. New Mexico was looking to push their lead to 17-0 following Air Force's third turnover of the quarter, when Lobo quarterback Brad Gruner connected with Jermaine McQueen on a 38-yard pass play to the Air Force 13. Two plays later Gruner was stripped of the ball by Falcon linebacker Brandon Reeves. Safety Aaron Kirchoff scooped up the fumble and scampered 96 yards for a Falcon touchdown. The return was the second longest in school history.

"I think that was the big momentum shift," said New Mexico Head Coach Rocky Long. "Yet, there was a lot of game left to be played. That didn't win the game for them. That got them back into the game."

Both teams settled down in the second quarter with kicker Ryan Harrison converting on the first of three field goals to tie the game at 10 going into the intermission.

"Our young kids, this is the first time they played on national television on Thursday night," said Air Force Head Coach Troy Calhoun. "They just needed to settle down and play."

Air Force took advantage of one of New Mexico's four turnovers when they recovered a Lobo fumble on the second half kickoff. It took the Falcons seven plays to march 26 yards for the go-ahead score. Quarterback Tim Jefferson connected with tight end Travis Dekker on a one-yard jump pass to put the Falcons ahead 17-10. They would never look back.

The Falcons defense stepped up following the first quarter, allowing the Lobos 151 yards the rest of the game while stopping them on three of four



Photo by Dennis Rogers

**Linebacker Brandon Reeves wraps up New Mexico tailback Rodney Ferguson to turn another Lobo play into an exercise in futility. New Mexico scored only 10 points, all off of turnovers deep in Falcons territory. Except for those gifts, the Lobos weren't able to score on the Falcons defense, and Reeves ended the game with four tackles, one forced fumble and one pass breakup.**

fourth down attempts. Safety Chris Thomas paced the Falcons with 10 tackles while cornerback Reggie Rembert made nine tackles, including one for a loss of yards.

"It's a simple deal tonight (on fourth downs). If you turn the ball over and then you can't make fourth-and-short, you're going to lose," Long said.

Two Harrison field goals in the fourth quarter provided the final scoring, icing the game for the Falcons. The second of which culminated a 14-play, 51-yard, clock consuming 7:33 drive, all but ending any Lobo hopes for a comeback.

Running back Asher Clark led a balanced rushing attack for the Falcons with 86 yards on 23 carries. Fullback Todd Newell added 65 yards and Jefferson chipped in 64. Air Force only put the ball in the air three times with the one completion to Dekker.

"That's a gut-it-out win. I thought in

the first quarter we really struggled. It was because we weren't ready to play, our guys were stirred up, maybe too much. After we settled down a little bit I thought we played pretty good football for the last two and a half quarters," Calhoun said.

The win pushed their season record to 6-2, and 4-1 in Mountain West Conference play. The six wins also make

them bowl eligible for the second consecutive season.

The Falcons are back in action Saturday against Army at Michie Stadium at the U.S. Military Academy.

"We're going to have a tough one in nine days when we go up to play Army," Calhoun said. "Those are always tough ones. They are always very intense football games."



Photo by Mike Kaplan

**Tailback Kyle Lumpkin drags New Mexico defenders for extra yardage. The falcons ground game dominated the Lobos, gaining 227 yard on 69 rushes in their 23-10 win over New Mexico.**



Photo by Dennis Rogers

**Falcon free safety Aaron Kirchoff rambles downfield during his 96-yard return of a fumble recovery for a game-changing touchdown against New Mexico.**



# MWC names players of the week

Air Force Falcons free safety Aaron Kirchoff and placekicker/punter Ryan Harrison were honored this week as Mountain West Conference defensive and special teams' players of the week, respectively.

Kirchoff registered four total tackles, including two solo stops, a pass breakup, a forced fumble and a fumble recovery for his first career touchdown in Air Force's 23-10 win over New Mexico. Kirchoff recorded the second-longest fumble recovery in Air Force history when he scooped up a Lobo fumble and ran it back 96 yards for the score. His recovery came with Air Force trailing 10-0 in the first quarter and New Mexico driving inside the

Falcons' 10-yard line.

Harrison matched his career-high with three field goals in Air Force's win over New Mexico. His first field goal of 30 yards tied the game at 10-10 in the second quarter, while his second kick of 43 yards made it a two-possession game early in the fourth period. His third field goal came from 32 yards to give him a 16-of-18 completion rate on the season. Harrison also recorded four punts for an average of 41.5 yards and six kickoffs for an average of 63.5 yards in the contest. This is the second straight week Harrison has earned the honor this season and the third time of his career to be honored.



Aaron Kirchoff



Ryan Harrison



Photo by Dave Armer

## Double Dribble

Freshman guard Shawn Hempsey (left) was among the Air Force Falcon basketball players working with youngsters who'd turned out for the 7th Annual Mid-Day Madness event in Clune Arena Saturday. Both the men's and women's teams were introduced to guests and head coaches Jeff Reynolds and Ardie McInelly spoke about the upcoming season. The players conducted a free clinic for all interested children in attendance.

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**Tax help**

The Academy Legal Office seeks Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Representatives for the 2008 tax season. This program is a vital service to the military community. All officers, enlisted members, and civilians associated with the Academy, may volunteer to support Air Force members, families and retirees. Comprehensive training the first week of December with the Internal Revenue will be supplemented with TaxWise computer training organized by the legal office. Contact your unit commander and Capt. Jacob Frank at 333-6222 or 333-3642, or e-mail: [jacob.frank@usafa.af.mil](mailto:jacob.frank@usafa.af.mil) or [jan.pardalis@usafa.edu](mailto:jan.pardalis@usafa.edu) before Nov. 21 to volunteer.



**CADET CHAPEL**

**Catholic Masses:**

**Sunday**

Confession - 9:15 a.m.  
Mass - 10 a.m.

**Wednesday**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - 5:30 p.m.  
Confession - 5:30 p.m.  
Mass - 6:30 p.m.

**Weekday**

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

**Protestant Services:**

**Sunday**

Traditional/Liturgical - 9:00 a.m.  
Contemporary - 11:00 a.m.

**Jewish Services**

**Friday**

Sabbath Service - 7 p.m.

**Buddhist Worship**

**Wednesday**

Traditional Mahayana Service - 6:30 p.m.

**Muslim Prayer**

**Friday**

Salaat ul-Jumman - 12:30 p.m.

All Other Faiths

Call 333-2636 for more information

**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. (September - May)

**Tuesday-Friday**

Mass - 11:30 a.m.

**Protestant Services:**

**Wednesday**

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

**Saturday**

Contemporary - 6 p.m.

**Sunday**

Traditional - 8 a.m.  
Gospel - 11:15 a.m.

**Paganism/Earth-centered Spirituality:**

Contact Tech. Sgt. Longcrier at 333-6178  
[Robert.Longcrier@usafa.edu](mailto:Robert.Longcrier@usafa.edu)

**SnoFest lift & party tickets on sale Saturday**

If you already have your accommodations for SnoFest 2009, you can get your party and lift tickets starting Saturday. SnoFest isn't until Jan. 30-Feb. 1, but don't wait to get your tickets - they usually sell out. For more SnoFest information, visit the 10th Services Squadron Web site at [www.usafaservices.com](http://www.usafaservices.com).

**Greatest generation**

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Jesse Boyd has planned a special Academy event sure to draw golfers and history buffs alike. World War II veterans, ages 82 and older, are expected to be on hand Nov. 11 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Eisenhower Golf Club, in the Eisenhower Room, displaying military memorabilia, answering questions, shaking hands and offering photo opportunities for anyone who'd like to stop by and experience history first-hand. Members of the "Greatest Generation" will include both combatant and non-combatant service members, ground warriors, former POW's and more. Anyone interested in finding out more, or attending as a WWII veteran, should call Mr. Boyd at (719) 495-3238 or (719) 209-4970. This event will be cancelled in the event of bad weather.

**Recognizing heritage**

November is National American Indian Heritage Month and the Academy Equal Opportunity office is looking for highly-motivated volunteers to plan events. The committee's first meeting is 3 p.m. today in Bldg. 6980, Otis Dr., behind Air Academy High School and is open to everyone. Please call 333-4258 or 333-6713 with any questions or for more information.

**Academy hoopsters**

The Academy Intramural and Over 30 basketball programs start preseason games Tuesday at the Fitness & Sports Center. Both leagues will play Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, with the Over 30 league playing at 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. The intramural program will play at 6, 7 and 8 p.m. Any Academy DoD personnel interested in playing should call Dave Castilla at 333-4078. All DoD eligible women, 18 and older, may play in either league.

**Health fair**

The Academy Civilian Personnel Flight sponsors the 2009 Annual Federal Employees Health Benefit Health Fair Nov. 13 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., at the Falcon Club. Health plan representatives will answer questions on their plans' benefits, methods of obtaining services and distribute new medical coverage guides. This event is open to all current appropriated civilian employees and retirees. Open season enrollment runs Nov. 10

through Dec. 8. For more information, call Lydia Peterson at 333-4363.

**10-punch card for water aerobics**

The Base Fitness & Sports Center is now offering a 10-punch card for Water Aerobics. The cost is \$30, and the card does not expire. Water Aerobics classes are offered every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 5:05 p.m. Improve your muscular strength and endurance and increase overall aerobic conditioning with zero impact on the joints! For more information, call 333-4522.

**America recycles**

To commemorate America Recycles Day Nov. 15, the 10th Civil Engineer Squadron will hold an electronic recycling event November through January. Each Wednesday and Thursday during these months, electronic items can be taken to Bldg. 8125 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. for recycling. This recycling event is free to all participants. Some recyclable items are personal computers and components, televisions, DVD or CD players, stereos, speakers and VHS players. Call Jeanie Duncan at 333-0812 for more information.

**Ski rental fitting appointments**

If you want season ski rentals from the Outdoor Recreation Center, you must first make an appointment for a fitting. Fitting appointments are available by calling 333-4753.

**In the bag**

Student hire applications are being accepted at the Academy Commissary for store associate positions. Stop by the commissary for more information or call Janice Davis at 333-2227, ext. 3111.

**Guided tours**

The Cadet Chapel staff conducts public guided tours weekdays at 10:30 and 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 and 1:30 p.m., excluding holidays. The 30-minute tours are designed to provide visitors with more in-depth knowledge of the Chapel. Reservations are not necessary. Interested visitors should arrive a few minutes early.

**Dance classes**

The Academy Community Activities Center offers ballroom dance classes Wednesdays at 5:30 and 7 p.m. and salsa dance classes Tuesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. Call 333-2928 for more information.

**5K turkey trot**

The Fitness Center's Turkey Trot 5K Trail Run is just around the corner. The annual Turkey Trot will be held Nov. 14 at 3:30 p.m., and is free and open to everyone age 18 and older. The race will be run on the Par Course Trail, which

starts and finishes behind the Fitness Center. For more information, call 333-4522.

**Volunteer program**

There are several on-base organizations in need of volunteers. Contact Jeannie Lopez at 333-3168/3444 for more information.

**Arts & Crafts Contest winners**

Entries have been submitted and judged in the annual Air Force Arts & Crafts Gallery Showcase (formerly known as the Artist/Craftsman/Photography Contest) at the Arts and Crafts Center. Everyone is invited to come out and view all the entries and meet the artists at the Art Show Awards Ceremony Saturday, 3-5 p.m. For more information, call 333-4579.

**The Airman and Family Readiness Center**

Contact the A&FRC at 333-3444 for any questions and/or registration.

**Group Pre-Separation Counseling**

Held every Monday (except during TAP week); 2:30 to 4 p.m.

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

**Medical Records Review**

Monday; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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

**TAP Seminar**

Nov. 18-21; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Separating in a year or retiring in two years or less? Call now to reserve your spot in the next available Transition Assistance Program class.



**Adoption workshop**

The Academy Airman & Family Readiness Center, in conjunction with the Peterson, Schriever and Fort Carson, hosts a Joint Military Adoption Workshop & Information Fair Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Southeast Armed Services YMCA, 2190 Jet Wing Drive. Several organizations will answer questions about local and infant open adoption, foster adoption, interstate adoptions, and international adoption services. For more information and registration, call 333-3444 or 333-2213.

**FRAUD, WASTE AND ABUSE**

IF YOU KNOW OF ANY INSTANCES OF FRAUD, WASTE AND ABUSE, REPORT IT TO ONE OF THE HOTLINE NUMBERS

**FRAUD:** Intentional deception of the DoD such as bribes, gratuities or false claims

**WASTE:** Extravagant, careless or expenditure of government funds

**ABUSE:** Intentional wrongful or improper use of government resources

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