

**CONSERVATION AWARD**

The Academy receives a Fish and Wildlife Department award for environmental efforts. **Page 3**

**NEWEST TECH. SGTS.**

36 selected for promotion. **Page 4**

**FIRE UPDATES**

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# ACADEMY SPIRIT



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## Air Force enters fight vs. Waldo Canyon fire



CAROL LAWRENCE

An ominous cloud of smoke from the Waldo Canyon Fire rises from the south behind the Academy's Cadet Chapel as cadets head to Arnold Hall to learn about evacuation procedures Wednesday afternoon. The Academy evacuated both housing areas Wednesday night. **For complete coverage of the fire, see Page 7.**

**By Don Branum**  
Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Academy staff members' mindset can probably best be captured in the now-famous 1939 poster: "Keep Calm and Carry On."

Inprocessing and Basic Cadet Training began as scheduled even after more than 600 families living on base and 110 dormitory residents evacuated due to the explosive Waldo Canyon Fire, which has now claimed as many as 300 homes and more than 16,500 acres of forest be-

tween Colorado Springs and Woodland Park, Colo.

Part of that fire spread to the southwest portion of the Air Force Academy Wednesday, burning about 10 acres before firefighters with the 10th Civil Engineer Squadron quickly contained it.

"This is absolutely the worst wildfire I've ever seen," said Ernst Piercy, the Academy's fire chief. "Essentially, this fire represents one of the most difficult fires in many years here in Colorado."

In addition to families and dormi-

tory residents, more than 600 cadets have been relocated as a result of the fire. Approximately 375 were released to their sponsor families due to the suspension of summer airmanship and other programs while the Academy airfield supports helicopter staging operations. Another 200 cadets are attending summer session classes at the University of Colorado - Colorado Springs.

Officials moved inprocessing reception to the Cadet Field House from Doolittle Hall because the Cadet Area is considered the safest loca-

tion on the Academy due to the lack of combustible materials. Col. Tim Gibson, the 10th Air Base Wing commander, issued a stop movement order for 96 hours or until further notice for service members with permanent-change-of-station orders to the Academy.

The Waldo Canyon fire is the very scenario for which firefighting units around the state have prepared. But even that planning couldn't prepare them for a firestorm June 26 that leapt two ridges and breached the

**See Fire Page 7**

## 26th Commandant of Cadets assumes command ahead of inprocessing

**By Amber Baillie**  
Academy Spirit staff writer

Brig. Gen. Gregory Lengyel took command of the Academy's Cadet Wing during a change-of command ceremony June 25.

Brig. Gen. Lengyel succeeds Brig. Gen. Richard Clark who has been nominated for a Defense Attaché position.

"It's always bitter sweet when we have a change-of-command," said Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Mike Gould. "Gen. Clark, Rich, your legacy will stand for many years here

and if there was a theme to it, your emphasis was on helping cadets find their why: why they serve and helping all of us find why we train, educate and inspire the way we do. Your legacy will be one of a commandant who was visible, approachable and genuine here at the Air Force Academy."

Clark initiated the first Mission Partner Program, piloted the Inspire to Inspire program, implemented programs and curriculums that were warrior focused and created Polaris Warrior, a nine-month tactical war fighting training program to demonstrate real world expeditionary skills.

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times but overall it was the most rewarding and best job I ever had," Clark said. "Awesome cadets, you taught me so much — you taught me to soar farther, to jump higher, persevere stronger, laugh harder and you inspired me."

Clark also thanked Gould for selecting Lengyel as the Academy's next commandant.

"I've gotten to know Brig. Gen. Lengyel, his wife Diane and son Matt over the last two weeks and you made the exact right choice," Clark said.

**See Command Page 4**



Brig. Gen. Gregory Lengyel is the new commandant of the Academy's Cadet Wing.

# A leader knows...

By Lt. Col. Christopher Huisman  
315th Training Squadron Commander

**GOODFELLOW AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** — A friend of mine and fellow squadron commander recently recommended that I watch a presentation that our incoming chief of staff, Gen. Mark Welsh, gave to Squadron Officers School several years ago. My friend had warned me that it was not a short video, almost 90 minutes, but that it would be well worth the time.

I'll be honest: When I sat down to watch I was skeptical and thought that I would watch five, maybe ten minutes at most.

Boy was I wrong. I watched all 82 minutes in one sitting. It is a truly moving presentation, filled with lessons that any leader could apply. Below are some of the lessons that stuck with me.

#### Trust your gut.

There aren't any easy answers in some situations. Sometimes there is no book to reference. If something feels like it is the right thing to do, then it probably is. You were put in a position of leadership because your bosses trusted you. If something doesn't feel right, no matter how many people tell you you should be doing something; if it doesn't feel right...trust your gut.

#### Your people are better than you.

Many leaders make the mistake that they need to be the best at any given task and many think they are. The truth is different. All the people you lead are better than you at something, some are better than you at many things, and a few might be better than you at everything. Don't be surprised or intimidated. A leader's job is to take advantage of their people's skills and apply them to accomplishing the mission. The challenge is figuring out how to lead these people.

#### Everyone is trying hard ... never forget that.

Frustration is the enemy. Leaders delegate tasks to their subordinates and provide them guidance on how to accomplish them. The biggest issue you have as a leader is when your people come back to you with a solution to a problem you gave them and you don't like it. You might get frustrated at them and you let them know it. Before you lose your cool, remember that 99.9 percent of the people you'll work with are trying to do the right thing. If they didn't give you the right answer, it's probably because you didn't give them the right guidance, priorities, or resources, or training.

**The only "fingerprints" that last are the ones you leave on your people.**

When put in charge of an organization, many leaders want to leave their mark or "fingerprints" on an organization. They do this because they care. They might look at strategic vision, mission statements, facilities or reorganization. However, in many cases these "fingerprints" only last until the next leader arrives. The only fingerprints that last are the ones you leave on your people. Leaders need to spend their time and energy on the latter rather than the former. Make sure the fingerprints you leave are good.

For every person willing to lead, there are hundreds more willing to critique them. When you step out as the lead on an issue in an organization, you are making yourself a target. Others might take the opportunity to take shots and critique. Deal with it. Most that take shots will want to be doing what you are, they just don't have the nerve to.

#### You won't always be right.

No matter how talented, motivated, or intelligent you are, a leader is never always right and will make mistakes. When you're wrong, tell everyone that you're wrong, learn from it and move on. Your bosses aren't keeping score and don't keep score on your people. Let your people make mistakes and learn from them.

#### Some days your best isn't good enough.

This shouldn't be a surprise. When it isn't, your people are going to carry you. And the next day when their best isn't good enough for them, you are going to carry them. This is the way that a team works.

#### Being an Air Force Officer, NCO, or Airman means something ... act like it.

Everyone who wears the uniform should know it and shouldn't whine about it when they get punished for doing something stupid. Make sure you say this to the people you lead and then hold them to it. The profession of arms is important. You are important and what you bring to your profession is important, but it brings responsibilities with it: legal, moral, and ethical. All of these responsibilities matter and you will not recover from a mistake that falls into one of these categories, because they are not mistakes, they are bigger than that.

Leaders of every grade and position could pull something from Welsh's presentation, not just squadron commanders. I would highly recommend his presentation to anyone that wants to be inspired to be a better leader. Sit down and give it a view. Just don't be surprised if you wind up watching all 82 minutes.

## Managing risks of an everyday AF life

By Capt. Heather Tevebaugh  
86th Aerospace Medicine Squadron

**RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany** — Is risk management simply a required checklist to complete before performing your duties -something to cover the basics? What about RM and your off-duty activities? The fact that the Air Force loses more Airmen to off-duty mishaps compared to on duty warrants a look at what we do every day that puts us at risk.

As spring gives way to summer, we're all ready to get out, fire up the barbecue, travel and spend time outdoors. However, summertime is a time when safety professionals hold their breath -not because of increased operations, deployments or longer shifts, but because of what you do off duty. No doubt you've had many long-weekend safety briefings, and while those events are good for sharing information, warnings, etc, the most influential way to foster a 24/7 safety mindset results from conversations within your work area and with your family.

The idea of talking about safety, outside of a mandatory briefing, never hit home until my previous assignment with 15 years of service. My flight commander found creative ways to

make it personal and to get us to think about what we do every day and the risks associated. We had the required briefings for high-interest items and long weekends, but here's where he made an impact: instead of long lectures filled with stats, he asked each of us to identify our weekend activity with the highest risk. He then asked us to give the risks or hazards associated with that event and ways to mitigate, or reduce, the level of risk.

I don't think any of us were surprised when someone mentioned activities including kayaking, nights out at the club or skydiving as presenting multiple risks. But for me I am a mom of teenagers. My off-duty time happily revolves around transporting them to sporting, acting and social events. I never saw this as risky until the day we talked about it. So what's the high-risk associated with transporting my kids to these every day events?

A quick survey of fiscal year 2012 statistics reveals that driving is indeed dangerous! We've lost eight Airmen in car accidents so far this year— each of these were part of our Air Force team and loved by family; they're irreplaceable. This new perspective on how I identified risk transformed something as routine as driving a car into a po-

tential high-risk activity with serious consequences.

What remained was to mitigate, or reduce, my risk associated with driving. Simple things like being well rested, staying off the cell phone and keeping my car clean to prevent flying debris in an accident. Seat belts are required for all passengers, regardless how short the ride. A well-maintained vehicle, quality tires and at least a half of tank of gas all reduce my risk of a breakdown or being stranded on the road.

Simple enough, right? Yet, we lost an Airman this year who was struck by a car while changing his tire.

RM is more than a quick mandatory briefing or required checklist and we should never forget our off-duty activities.

What is it that you do that poses a risk: mowing the yard, crafts, working out, do-it-yourself projects around the house, etc.? Take time to discuss the risks and ways to mitigate them with your supervisor, co-workers and never forget with your family. To be forewarned is to be forearmed: be prepared with a 24/7 safety mindset as you head out to enjoy the wonderful summer weather — make it your goal to enjoy a fun, safe 2012 with no regrets!

## ACADEMY SPIRIT

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

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Lt. Col. John Bryan — Director of Public Affairs  
Gino Mattorano — Editor  
Don Branum — Staff Writer  
Amber Baillie — Staff Writer  
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# Fish and Wildlife Dept. presents conservation award to Academy

By Amber Baillie  
Academy Spirit staff writer

The Air Force Academy's Natural Resources Office was awarded the 2011 National Military Conservation Partner Award by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in March, and in recognition for the installation's long-term environmental achievements, the Fish and Wildlife Service formally presented the award to Col. Thomas Gibson, commander of the 10th Air Base Wing, at the Community Center on Tuesday.

Bryan Arroyo, the Assistant Director for the Fisheries and Habitat Conservation, said since 2006, the Air Force Academy has ranked in the top five installations nominated for the award.

"This is the first time we're not awarding for just one or two projects but instead a multi-year of success," Arroyo said. "Five years in a row, that is amazing and it's because of your great leadership. You guys here live it and it comes from the heart."

Arroyo said the Academy demonstrated excellence in communication and cooperation, issue resolution, project creativity and program diversity. Arroyo said it's not easy to meet criteria at that level and for that length of time.

"You guys go above and beyond the call of duty, to make sure to go about things in the right way and more importantly, try to find more effective and efficient ways to deal with those issues," Arroyo said. "You have found a way to help one of the most robust populations, with a range of the species by doing the right kind of leadership."

Arroyo individually recognized Gibson for his leadership in the Academy's environmental accomplishments.

"I spent two to three hours today with you and I could tell right away that you're a man of high integrity, great character and more importantly that you really care," Arroyo said. "You really care about your people."

Gibson said the Air Base Wing in the mission is a team sport and the 10th Civil Engineer Squadron has exemplified that.

"I am thrilled that this organization received this kind of recognition," Gibson said. "Whether it's our active duty officers, enlisted, government civilians or contractors, we're all pulling together toward a common goal and you guys do exactly that and do it extremely well."

Gibson said the squadron's environmental efforts have produced results, which can be difficult to achieve.

"I'm particularly pleased by the fact

that this award is recognition for achievement over time," Gibson said. "By having a plan, a concerted effort to make that plan become a reality, it takes dedication, passion and knowledge."

Gibson said he not only is impressed by the squadron's team efforts but also by the partnership within.

"I feel confident as the installation commander at the Air Force Academy even as a four thousand acre fire is potentially heading our way, I know you guys have partnered with our fire department and the other concerned entities on base to really posture the Academy well, should that fire come to our border," Gibson said.

The Academy Natural Resources staff recognized for the award: natural resource managers Brian Muhlbachler and Diane Strohm, biological technician Greg Speights and forestry technician Steve Wallace.

The award was created by the Fisheries and Habitat Conservation program in 2004 and it is the Academy's first year to receive it nationally. Highlights of the Academy's Natural Resources Office include its forest program, forestry management, mountain pine beetle control and Preble's Meadow jumping mouse conservation.

# Cadet convicted, sentenced

Cadet 2nd Class Stephan H. Claxton was sentenced June 22 to six months confinement, forfeiture of all pay and allowances and dismissal from the Air Force after being found guilty of several charges and specifications in a general court-martial that began at the Air Force Academy June 19.

A panel of seven officers returned guilty verdicts June 21 on the following charges and specifications:

- One specification of violating Article 80, an attempt to engage in misconduct that would be a violation of Article 120, abusive sexual contact;
- Two specifications of violating Article 120, wrongful sexual contact; and
- Four specifications of violating Article 128, assault consummated by a battery.

The sentencing hearing was conducted here June 22.

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## Command

From Page 1

"We're going to be in good shape."

Gould said he is optimistic as the Academy welcomes in the Lengyel family.

Lengyel has great staff experiences that will service him well at the Academy," Gould said. "My only charge to you, General Lengyel, is to take care of yourself and your family mentally, spiritually, physically so that you in turn, you can take care of this great team charged with the mission of training our replacements."

Lengyel is a 1985 distinguished graduate of the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Texas A&M University. He comes to the Academy from Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, NATO, in Mons, Belgium, where he was the executive officer to the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe.

"I have been in the in United States Air Force either as a dependent or active duty officer for 48 and a half years of my life," Lengyel said. "I cannot remember a time when I did not know that I wanted to serve in the United States Air Force. I've been trying to get into this Academy since I was 17 years old."

Lengyel will command the 4,200-member Cadet Wing and more than 300 Air Force and civilian support personnel. He will also oversee the cadet military training, supervise cadet life activities and provide support to cadet facilities and logistics.

"I'm proud to be working with a group of young men and women who have chosen a path of service to our country," Lengyel said. "You have volunteered to live under a strict honor code, to meet a higher standard of personal and professional conduct, and go through an extremely rigorous, military, academic and physical training program and to give up so many of the personal freedoms that most of your peers at other institutions enjoy. Thank you for making that choice."

Lengyel told cadets that their hard work will pay off personally and professionally.

"I know it's an old cliché and you're probably tired of hearing it but if it were easy, anyone could do it," Lengyel said. "My job is to set the conditions for your success and to use this fabulous institution to develop leaders of character and produce the best damn second lieutenants the United States Air Force has ever seen. Go Air Force."

# 36 Academy NCOs selected for technical sergeant

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO - RANDOLPH, Texas** — Thirty-six Academy staff sergeants were informed of their selection for promotion to technical sergeant June 21.

Air Force officials selected 8,518 of 37,402 eligible staff sergeants Air Force wide for promotion to technical sergeant for a selection rate of 22.77 percent.

The average score for those selected was 321.94, with an average time in grade of 5.39 years and time in service of 10.58 years respectively. Weighted factor averages included the following: 132.69 for enlisted performance reports, 5.59 for decorations, 75.37 for the promotion fitness exam and 55.39 for the specialty knowledge test.

Those selected for technical sergeant will be promoted beginning in August according to their promotion sequence number. As a reminder, the selections are tentative until the data verification process is complete, which is no later than 10 days after the promotion release date. Personnel officials will notify Airmen, via military personnel sections, if their selection is in question.



### Technical Sergeant selects:

Samantha Au, 10th Medical Operations Squadron  
Timothy Bailey, 10th Security Forces Squadron  
Athena Ballard, 10th Air Base Wing  
Adam Bartholow, 10th Communications Squadron  
Daniel Blackwell, 10th Aerospace Medicine Squadron  
Jennifer Bricker, 10th Dental Squadron  
Mychael Bulford, 10th CS  
Megan Byers, 10th Medical Support Squadron  
Vincent Cannella, 10th SFS  
Luis Caracosa, 10th MDOS  
David Cook, 10th MDSS  
Sandra Giddens, 10th MDSS  
Jessica Gramlick, 10th ABW Chapel  
Chiquita Green, Headquarters, U.S. Air Force Academy  
Maurice Griffin, 10th Surgical Operations Squadron  
Tiffany Hill, 10th MDOS  
Justin Hughes, Financial Management Directorate  
Stephanie Hyde, Legal Office

Nicholas Igl, 10th MDSS  
Shana Kau, 10th MSGS  
Ivelina Konstantinova, HQ USAFA  
Bartiar Leahy, Academy Preparatory School  
Udell Long, 10th MDSS  
Jorge Lopez, 10th MDSS  
Jason Martinez, 10th MDSS  
Timothy Mitchell, 10th SFS  
Joshua Ramos, 10th SFS  
Morgan Samuel, 10th AMDS  
Nicholas Scott, 10th MDSS  
Robert Searle, 10th AMDS  
John Simpkins, 10th SFS  
Christopher Smith, Dean of Faculty staff  
Daniel Smith, 10th SFS  
Heather Stanton, Public Affairs  
Libby Stringham, 10th MSGS  
Danny Washburn, DF staff

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# Would-be cadets get a taste of Academy life

## High school students participate in Summer Seminar June 4-22

By 2nd Lt. Brandon Baccam  
Air Force Academy Public Affairs

High school students from around the nation had a chance to see what life would be like as an Air Force Academy cadet during Summer Seminar June 4-22.

Participants slept in the Academy dorms, trained and exercised with fellow classmates, and took the charge of Spirit Hill - all in an experience to see if the Air Force Academy was the right school for them.

"Get through my tunnel!" said Cadet 1st Class Josiah Lane, during day two of training. Labeled "Doolie for a Day," this portion of the Seminar, participants endured challenges of physical fitness and team-building exercises. Lane, an element leader, taught attendees how to low-crawl through a "push-up tunnel" created by their peers.

"Right here is the perfect form; this is what I expect to see!" said Lane as he showed the attendees the proper form for a low-crawl. Some of the participants loved the training environment they were in. Others dreaded it - but whenever they complained, Lane got right back in their faces. "I do not want to hear profanity! I do not want to hear, 'this sucks!'"

"Doolie for a Day" began at 5:10 that morning and continued well into the afternoon.

"We want to challenge them while instilling teamwork," Lane said. "We've been seeing a lot of people who've been really encouraging their classmates, and you didn't see that

this morning. There was a lot of discouragement earlier, but it's improving."

At the end of the event, the attendees formed up on the Terrazzo and took Spirit Hill, just like the cadets occasionally do throughout the year.

"This is a tradition that is typically performed by cadet squadrons after overcoming a large hurdle or accomplishing a significant feat as a team," said Cadet 1st Class Kaiti Coffey, the Raptor Flight commander for the seminar.

The cadet experience was the main focus of their training for the day, and allowing the high school students to charge Spirit Hill gave the attendees a little taste of what they could be a part of here at the Air Force Academy, according to Coffey.

Each year, the Admissions Office hosts a five-day summer seminar as part of their recruiting mission in spurring the interests of high school juniors and seniors. There are three different sessions through the first few weeks of June.

Through a selective application process, high school students who are interested in attending the Air Force Academy compete for a spot on the seminar roster. If they are selected, the students' families pay a \$350 fee to cover the food, clothing and equipment, and living quarters that the Academy provides for the week, as well as transportation to and from the Colorado Springs airport.

"The application process is very similar to how they apply to the Academy," said Lt. Col. Lee Taylor, a regional director for the Admissions Office. "They fill out some basic information about their (grade point average) and their test scores, and there's a profile section where they list their accomplishments and leadership activities, among other things."

One aspect in which applying is quite similar to the Academy process



Cadet 2nd Class Adam Geeskie, of Cadet Squadron 19, leads would-be cadets through a physical fitness challenge during Summer Seminar June 19.

is how competitive it is.

"We had almost 4,000 kids apply this year, and only 950 slots to give away," Taylor said.

The level of qualification of the high school applicants is quite impressive - nearly 800 are 4.0 GPA students.

Other activities for each five-day session include intramurals, cadet fitness assessment practice, a campus-wide Heritage Hunt, and tours of the Academy along with numerous informational briefs. These informational briefs include question-and-answer sessions with permanent-party staff, learning workshops with Academy instructors, and an academic majors event, which gives the attendees valuable information on the different curriculums available.

Each student had their own reason why they wanted to come to the Air Force Academy. One student said he was interested in the Physics program. Many others said they were interested in becoming pilots.

"I'm heavily interested in becoming an Intelligence Officer," said Emily Kilen, a high school senior from Apple Valley, Minnesota. "I have the ability to cover a broad range of topics, and I know that career field would be challenging for me."

Overall, the summer seminar is not

just a learning opportunity, but also a challenge. Nearly every student knew that they were seeking a challenging week when they applied. When asked about their experiences with their second day nearly finished, the high school students responded with high spirits and seemed to enjoy it.

"I want the challenge, I love challenging myself," said Phillip Metcalfe from Plano, Texas.

These high school students had already gone through a day's worth of hardships, and were quickly building camaraderie with each other.

"At first, we really didn't know what to say to each other - but within an hour, we became best friends," Metcalfe said.

"It's really hard, but somewhat satisfying," Kilen added. "I know I'm going to wake up sore tomorrow, and I know I'm going to be exhausted when I go to bed tonight, but I'm going to wake up, I'm going to do it again, and I'm going to enjoy it."

The cadets involved with running the summer seminar also found the overall experience rewarding.

"By the end of the day, they're friends with each other, they're telling jokes and laughing," Coffey said. "It's really cool to see them come together from the other side."



PHOTOS BY ELIZABETH ANDREWS

Summer Seminar participants charge Spirit Hill June 19 to get a taste of what life is like at the Air Force Academy.

## Fire

### From page 1

Colorado Springs city limits. Fueled by 65-mph winds, the blaze consumed a swath of homes in the Mountain Shadows subdivision on the city's northwest side. Also destroyed was the Flying W Ranch, an iconic attraction built in the 1930s.

As of Thursday, approximately 1,000 firefighters from around the country were postured to prevent the fire from destroying more structures. That includes the Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., based "Hot Shots," the Defense Department's only wildland firefighting asset. The Hot Shots unit was created after the 1977 Honda Canyon Fire in California killed four people, according to the Santa Maria Times, which reported that the unit faces budget cuts for the 2013 fiscal year.

"These guys will be on the front lines of this wildfire using their training regarding wildfires and urban interface to save lives and structures," said Vandenberg AFB Fire Chief Mark Farias.

Hot Shots Superintendent Jesse Hendricks explained that firefighters use "structure triage" in urban interfaces threatened by wildfire. The team first removes fuel sources from around

structures using hand tools, then burns a controlled fire around the structures to deprive the wildfire of fuel near homes.

"We all got into the mindset that this is going to be a nasty situation," Hendricks said. "When we go into any wildfire, we ... recall similar wildfires and pull from those lessons learned so that we will be more effective."

On the Academy, 10th CES crews and Soldiers with Fort Carson's 4th and 52nd Engineer Battalions have established fire breaks along the base's southern side.

"Our best chance for success is to use both natural and man-made barriers," Piercy said. "We've cut a lot of dozer lines, we've removed a lot of excess brush from the area that's affected, and we have an anchor point using air drops, repellants and break points."

Also contributing crews and assets to the Waldo Canyon fire are Air Force Space Command and the 302nd Airlift Wing at Peterson Air Force Base, the Wyoming Air National Guard's 153rd Airlift Wing, the 50th Space Wing at Schriever AFB, the 90th Missile Wing at F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo., and local cities and counties.

*(Information compiled from Air Force News Service, 30th Space Wing and staff reports.)*

## WALDO CANYON FIRE INFO:

**Medical Appointments:** Canceled through today. Patients have been contacted to reschedule appointments.

**Prescription Refills:** All called-in refills can be picked up at the Peterson Air Force Base Exchange refill pharmacy on Saturday.

**Child Care:** The Peterson and Schriever AFB child development centers and the Peterson Youth Center have capacity for the children of mission-essential personnel at no charge. Due to the emergency, no shot records are required. Call the Peterson CDC at 554-9572 or 556-7460, the Peterson Youth Center at 556-7220 or the Schriever CDC at 567-4742.

**Twitter:** For continuing updates, follow the Air Force Academy (@AF\_Academy), the city of Colorado Springs (@springsgov), the Colorado Springs Fire Department (@CSFDPIO) and the El Paso County Sheriff's Office (@epcsheriff).

**Facebook:** Go to [www.facebook.com/USAFA.Official](http://www.facebook.com/USAFA.Official) to stay up-to-date on the newest developments.



**ABOVE LEFT:** A Siller Brothers firefighting helicopter takes off from the Air Force Academy airfield to fight the Waldo Canyon fire June 25, 2012. The Academy canceled its normal flying operations June 23 to facilitate helicopter operations.

**ABOVE RIGHT:** Firefighters with the 10th Civil Engineer Squadron receive a safety briefing in the Pine Valley housing area Tuesday.

**RIGHT:** A smoke cloud builds around the southwest side of the Academy Tuesday.



PHOTOS BY  
MIKE KAPLAN

Anthony "Tank" McMurtry's pitching helped Fire Dept. No. 2 win a double header sweep.



CINDY CAULFIELD

# Fire Dept. 2 sweeps 10th CS

Fire Department No. 2, the number one team in the recreation league, won a come-from-behind victory over the 10th Communications Squadron 13-12.

Comm. Squadron built up a 10-3 lead in the top of the third. However, in the bottom of the third, Dave Caulfield hit a grand slam, and the firefighters scored six runs.

The score was tied 12-12 in the sixth inning when Anthony McMurtry doubled and Phil Messina drove in the winning run.

The Firefighters made it a double header sweep to increase their lead in the recreational league, defeating the Unknowns 14-11. The Unknowns closed the gap when a Matt Goldsmith double drove in two runs, and the team scored three.

The Cadet Wing, the number one team in the competitive league, continued their unblemished record as they defeated Firefighters No. 1, 21-6.

It was over in the first inning as CW put up 11 runs, Roger Stewart hit a three-run inside-the-park homer, followed by a solo shot from Austin

Reed. Later, Eric Lescarbeau doubled to drive in two runs. The CW had five home runs on the night as Robert Devall hit one earlier in the game.

The Security Forces solidified their second place standings, defeating Firefighters No. 1 27-13. Both teams scored every inning they played: The cops got seven runs in the first inning with a two-RBI single by Mike Young.

The firefighters scored four in the bottom of the first as Ken Kother hit a triple and drove in two runs. CES' Nick Miller hit a solo home run in the second and a two-run shot in the third to close the deficit to one, 12-11.

The cops' Anthony Mason put the team on his back with a two-run double in the fourth. He followed that up an inning later with a grand slam over the centerfield fence.

Mason led the cops with eight RBIs, four hits and four runs. The firefighters were led by Nick Miller who had three hits, three RBIs and three runs.

## 2003 Academy grad goes for gold

By Senior Airman Elisa Labbe  
460th Space Wing Public Affairs

**BUCKLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. (AFNS)** — The sound of thrashing epees and rubber soles squeaking against metal boards ring throughout the fencing gym at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo.

It is here that fencer Weston Kelsey practices twice a day, five days a week, in preparation for the 2012 Olympic Games in London.

Kelsey, Academy Class of 2003, laughs and jokes with his teammates during practice. He's relaxed, as he is no newcomer to the world of fencing. He has fenced for 20 years and will compete in the Olympic Games for the third time this summer.

Prepping for the Olympics is a full-time job, requiring complete dedication and concentration from an athlete, according to Kelsey. A love of the sport helps keep him devoted, and intense training breeds discipline, something Kelsey, a captain with the 310th Force Support Squadron here, has mastered while in the Air Force.

Kelsey decided to join the Air Force while applying for colleges.

"I looked at the Air Force Academy and felt there was no better opportu-

nity out there," he said.

Kelsey was on the fencing team while at the Academy and continued pursuing his dream of becoming an Olympian while on active duty.

"There's no Air Force fencing team, it's just a U.S. Fencing National Team," said Kelsey. "So I was fortunate enough to be stationed at Peterson (Air Force Base, Colo.) so I could continue to train at the Olympic Training Center."

Active-duty lifestyles often clash with personal goals, but that didn't stop Kelsey. He practiced in his free time and even used his own resources for training and personal leave time to travel to competitions.

"It was pretty busy," said the three-time Olympian. "Fortunately, I had a pretty understanding commander who was flexible, but she always said, 'You got to get your work done before you can go do fencing.'"

All of his hard work has certainly paid off. He has made three Olympic teams, has placed second in the world championships and team in 2010, and helped his team win the world championships this year. He's also ranked number one in epee fencing domestically and fifth internationally.

Due to his success, the Air Force named him the 2011 Male Athlete

of the Year. When Kelsey's commander told him he had earned the title, he was thrilled.

"It was pretty exciting," Kelsey said. "I've been pretty good at fencing for a long time, and I finally feel like I had a bunch of results all in the same year that would warrant something great. It was an honor to be named."

Capt. Andrew Williams, one of Kelsey's coworkers from the 310th FSS, said he's integral to his squadron as well as his team.

"When he's on duty for drill, he's there to do his Air Force job," said Williams. "He's committed to the unit and the mission and continually desires to serve and lead in any way he can."

Airmen in his unit also said they look up to him.

"He's inspiring to all Airmen of all grades because of his role as a military officer and because of his athletic notoriety," his coworker said.

According to Kelsey, the support he receives from his squadron makes him proud and nervous to be representing them in the Olympics.

"It's awesome, I really like the Air Force and all the people that I work



STAFF SGT. KATHRINE MCDOWELL

Weston Kelsey, 310th Force Support Squadron supply officer and three-time Olympian, after a practice session at the U.S. Olympic Training Center June 8,

with," Kelsey said. "I feel honored that I get to represent them. It's that core value of excellence. It's also a lot of pressure on the other hand. I have to bring my best game on the day that I compete because I know everyone's going to be there watching and supporting me."

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## Rodeo volunteers needed

Thirty-five volunteers are needed for the 72nd Annual Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo July 14.

Volunteers must be 18 years or older and will help with duties such as gate security and ticket-taking.

Each volunteer will receive two vouchers to attend a performance of his or her choice.

Call Master Sgt. Romney Scheirer at 333-0841 before July 4 if you are interested.

## Summer bowling leagues

The Academy Lanes Bowling Center's summer bowling leagues are now in session.

Available leagues include a parent and youth league Tuesdays at 7 p.m. for \$14 per team, three-person youth leagues Thursdays at 10 a.m. for \$7 per person and four-person adult mixed leagues Thursdays at 7 p.m. for \$10 per person.

Children may receive free bowling lessons during youth league play on Thursdays.

For more information, call Academy Lanes at 333-4709.

## 'Leading Consciously'

The Academy Diversity Office will hold two-day Leading Consciously awareness courses: July 16-17, July 18-19 and July 20-21.

The course introduces partici-

pants to skills that include testing assumptions, clearing emotions, building effective relationships and bridging differences.

For more information, call the Diversity Office at 333-7795.

## Anger Management Class

The Family Advocacy program will offer a four-week session on anger management July 10, 17, 24 and 31 from 3-4:30 p.m. The class will focus on tools needed to manage anger in day-to-day life and healthier ways of relating to others.

To sign up call 333-5270.

## Whitewater rafting

The Outdoor Recreation Center offers rafting trips to Browns Canyon, the Royal Gorge and Big Horn Sheep Canyon through August.

The trips depart from the Outdoor Recreation Center at 7 a.m. and return at 5 p.m.

Trips include transportation, a wet suit, personal flotation device, helmet, splash jacket and lunch.

The trips are a Class 3-5, include certified white-water rafting guides and range from \$55-\$85 per person. For more information visit the Academy Support website at <http://usafasupport.com/the-great-outdoors/outdoor-adventure>.

## Got an IDEA?

The Innovative Development through Employee Awareness, or IDEA, Program is designed to recognize and reward individuals whose suggestions improve the efficiency, economy, and effectiveness of Air Force, Department of Defense and federal government

operations.

Anyone can submit an idea, but only Air Force military members, Air Force federal civilian employee and Air Force Academy cadets who are paid from appropriated funds are eligible for cash awards.

Monetary awards can be as high as \$10,000 for each approved idea that results in validated tangible savings, and \$200 for approved ideas resulting in intangible benefits.

To submit an idea, go to <https://ipds.randolph.af.mil/ipds/> (Common Access Card login required) or contact the IDEA office at 333-4332.

## Acacia Park summer concerts

Acacia Park is in full swing with its summer concert series Saturday evenings June 16, 23, 30, and August 4, 11, 18 from 6-8 p.m.

Free concerts include indie rock, folk, country and jazz music.

For more information visit the Downtown Colorado Springs website at <http://bit.ly/lvwXdY>.

## Youth, teen volunteers needed

The Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department seeks youth and teen volunteers to help with summer programs.

Children ages 10 and up can volunteer at several facilities, including the Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site, Helen Hunt Falls Visitor Center and more. For more information, contact the department at 385-6502.

## USA Pro Cycling Challenge

Colorado Springs will host the

final leg of the USA Pro Cycling Challenge Race Aug. 24 where cyclists will travel from Breckenridge to Colorado Springs.

Also referred to "America's Race," the world's top athletes will race through the Colorado Rockies Aug. 20-26 through 12 host cities from Durango to Denver.

This is the second year of the race. It consists of a 683-mile course that includes 42,000 feet of vertical climbing.

## Half Marathon and 10K race

The Fitness Center's half marathon and 10 K race is scheduled for Aug. 4 at the Santa Fe Trail.

There is no cost to participate, and those who sign up will receive a free shirt.

Signups will take place July 9-23 at the Fitness Center. Participants can also sign up by phone at 719-333-4522.

For more information contact Dave Gray at 719-333-4567.

## Claims against estate

All persons, firms and corporations that have claims against the estate of deceased Cadet Yung C. Chin, must present them to Capt. Yuliya Buquoi by July 9.

All must have their claims legally authenticated by the Academy's Staff Judge Advocate office for pro-rata payment, or they will be forever barred, and this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons, firms or corporations indebted to this estate should make immediate payment to Buquoi in care of the legal office.

For questions contact Buquoi at 951-818-6972 or 333-8388.



### Cadet Chapel

**BUDDHIST**  
Sundays, 10 a.m.

**PROTESTANT WORSHIP**  
**Combined Worship Service:**  
Sundays, 9 a.m.

**CATHOLIC WORSHIP**  
**Mass:** Sundays, 10 a.m.

**JEWISH WORSHIP**  
**Normal schedule**  
Fridays, 7 p.m.

### Community Center Chapel

**CATHOLIC WORSHIP**  
**Mass:** Saturdays, 4 p.m.; Sundays, 9 a.m.; Tuesdays-Fridays, 11:30 a.m.  
**Reconciliation:** Saturdays, 3:30 p.m.  
**Formation Classes:** For students in grades K-8. Sundays, 10:15-11:30 a.m.

**PROTESTANT WORSHIP**  
**Evangelical:** Sunday, 10:15 a.m.  
**Gospel:** Sunday, 11:30 a.m.  
**Wednesday Night Live:**  
For ages 3 to adult. Begins with a meal. Wednesdays, 6-7:30 p.m.



MIKE KAPLAN

# Furry Family 5k kicks off summer 'dog days'

Academy families run with their furry, four-legged compatriots during the Furry Family 5k here Saturday. Water pools located along the trail helped the canine participants stay cool in temperatures approaching 90 degrees.







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