

USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO ACADEMY SPIRIT

Vol. 49 No. 2

January 16, 2009

Inauguration viewing

The 10th Air Base Wing commander has authorized, mission permitting, all 10th ABW military members and civilians (APF/NAF) to view the inauguration of the 44th president of the United States from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday on television within duty sections. For those without TV access, Arnold Hall is an alternate duty location during that time. The event will be televised on the wide screen there. The Richter Lounge, 100 seats, will be available. There will also be 30 overflow seats in the west end of the Arnold Hall Ballroom. Leave will not be charged to those who view with supervisor approval, however, all must report to duty at the normal time before proceeding to Arnold Hall.



Parade practice

Cadet Squadron 4 perfects its marching skills in preparing for Inaugural Parade Tuesday in the nation's capitol.

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South Pole visit

Academy cadet conducts holiday research at the Earth's South Pole.

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Basketball action

Hoopsters struggle to get out of the pit.



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Photo by Rachel Boettcher

Get a grip

Cadet 1st Class Andrew Morris from Cadet Squadron 17 takes on Cub Scouts Dakota Ruby and Mateo Perez in a tug of war contest during Winterspree at Falcon Stadium Saturday. Nearly 300 Cub Scouts from about 40 dens across the Pikes Peak Council, Boy Scouts of America, parents and 80 cadets participated in the event which included challenges, displays, demonstrations and interaction with cadets. The Cub Scouts range in age from 8 to 10. See related story on Pages 12-13.

Academy among nation's top 100

Academy Spirit staff report

The U.S. Air Force Academy was recently named one of the nation's top 100 "Best Value Colleges" for 2009 by *The Princeton Review*.

The Princeton Review is one of America's most widely known education services and test preparation companies.

"The Air Force Academy is honored to earn this distinction," said Brig. Gen. Dana Born, Dean of the Faculty. "It is further recognition of the great effort we are making in providing cadets with not just a world-class education, but a full spectrum of learning experiences which develop their character and leadership so they become officers that are ready to meet the challenge of serving the Air Force and the nation."

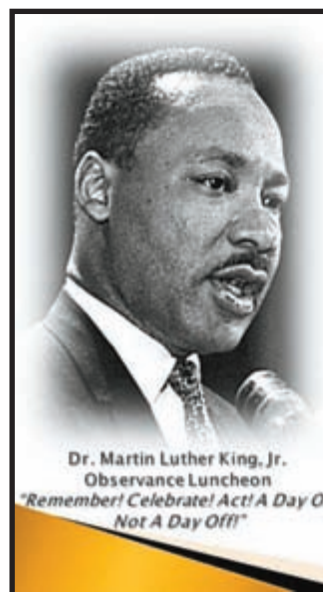
The Best Values College list, features 50 public and 50 private colleges. *The Princeton Review* selected these institutions as its "best value" choices for 2009 based on its surveys of administrators and students at more than 650 public and private colleges and universities. The selection criteria covered more than 30

factors in three areas: academics, costs of attendance, and financial aid, using the most recently reported data from each institution for its 2007-2008 academic year.

The Princeton Review has also recognized the Air Force Academy's academic prowess in previous years. In *Princeton Review's Annual Best Colleges* book, it has named the Academy the nation's #1 college for professor availability for the

past four years, as well as highlighting other Academy academics such as: a student-faculty ratio is 8:1, an average class size is 20, 100 percent of the faculty is full-time, and zero classes taught by teaching assistants.

Also making the *Princeton Review's* Best Value Colleges List were each of the other service academies, as well as Colorado College and the University of Colorado at Boulder.



Jan. 23

Falcon Club

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Cost: \$15 (E-6/GS-9 and above, and NSPS equivalents)

All other grades including cadets, \$11

Dress

Uniform of the Day

Guest Speaker

Dr. Aaron Byerley

Department of Astronautics

Menu

Grilled chicken, steamed green beans, mashed potatoes, coffee, tea, butter and rolls

Ticket points of contact

10 ABW staff, Nona Spotts; 10th CES, Staff Sgt. Norman Henderson; 10th CS, Airman 1st Class Jeremy Marshall; 10th MDG, Tech. Sgt. Ian Bernard; 10th MSS, Al Holland; DF, Dr. Alan Osur; CW/AD, 2nd Lt. Jamie Davis/2nd Lt. Valencia Gore; DoDMERB, OS2 Curtis Thompson; and, 306th FTG, Airman 1st Class Brashad Whiting

We train cadets to be leaders, warriors

By Bob Vásquez

Center for Character Development

I teach at the U.S. Air Force Academy in the Center for Character Development and find it an honor and a pleasure to be part of a team whose purpose is to empower the future leaders of our great Air Force.

It's an incredible thing to watch our cadets grow from immature wide-eyed youngsters, as they get off the bus. They become strong character-based young men and women willing to put their lives on the line so you and I can do what we want to do without worrying whether or not we'll be put in jail because we believe a certain way, as happens in many countries throughout the world.

Recently, I was again honored to watch our men's hockey team win again as I also listened to our football team win. As I browsed through the Academy Web site the following morning I learned that our water polo team had won again as well. Many of our teams won again that week, while a few didn't. Overall, our cadets did very well.

It's always fun to be on a winning team. But there's a difference between this winning team and any other in the world.

Whenever you see any of our Academy athletes perform, you should note none of them will become professional multi-million dollar salary athletes upon graduation. Let me take a step back and tell you the Academy is by all standards an Ivy League school, except that ivy doesn't grow very well at a 7,200 foot elevation so there is none on our campus.

The academic standards our cadets have to live up to are as high, if not

higher, than most schools in the nation. In addition to having to live up to extreme academic requirements, our cadets are constantly training in athletics, character development and military leadership. Their days are packed, and I do mean packed, with mandatory learning all day long and many weekends and holidays.

The purpose of other colleges is to enable their students to get out and make a lot of money, or at least a lot more money than they would without a college degree. The purpose of our Academy, and the other service academies, is to ensure our graduates are prepared to go into, and lead others, into battle. Other schools may train future CEOs. We train future warriors.

Whenever I see future warriors on the field, whichever field they may play upon, I don't see future professional athletes. Oh, they may dream of being the next Michael Jordan or Maria Sharapova, but they know the reality of their futures is not in product endorsements.

What I see on those fields is men and women who will soon (to them it's not soon enough) willingly jump into the cockpit of airplanes to be shot at by those willing to try about anything to destroy our way of life. I see leaders who will do what's right because it's the right thing to do. I see people whose ultimate purpose in their lives will be to serve, not to be served.

There is no other academic institution in the country so focused on teaching its students the highest ideals of moral courage. None!

The difference is that other schools teach their graduates to make a living, we teach our graduates to save lives even at

the risk of losing their own.

I am so proud of each of our cadets that I can't wait to be among them every day. We often refer to them as the best and brightest. Their GPAs validate that. More importantly, they are who will one day be considered among the greatest generations.

I'll never make excuses for our cadets' performances on any athletic court. They either do their best or they don't. At the end of the game they've either won or lost. They're mature enough to accept either. But what you won't see on the electronic window to the world is what happens after every football and basketball game, and at other sporting events we participate in. I believe all U.S. military academies have similar ceremonies at the end of their games.

Following each contest, our cadets and coaches gather together in front of our Drum and Bugle Corps, remove their helmets, hold hands and sing the third verse of The Air Force Song. It's a toast to those who have sacrificed their lives for the freedom we all enjoy. It's also a commitment to doing the same after the uniforms have been put away and the final buzzer has sounded.

The difference is not found in sports. The difference is found in freedom.

I send congratulatory notes to as many of our Fighting Falcons as I know personally after every game telling them how proud they've made me.

What I don't have to tell them is how proud I am for who they are. They know that because I tell them every day. Every Sunday morning I think, it's just 24 hours before I can see and salute them again! I can hardly wait to ask them, "Isn't THIS a great day to be an American Warrior?!"

ACADEMY SPIRIT

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

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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.

Deadline for free classified ads on a space-available basis is noon every Tuesday for that week's publication date. Paid classified advertising is accepted by the publisher at 329-5236. The number to call for display advertising is 634-5905.

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

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



Character Corner

By Maj. Shane Coyne

Center for Character Development

Before I deployed to Iraq in the spring of 2005, my boss challenged me with the following: Are the ethics and values of the war zone the same as those we teach here inside the cozy walls of the Air Force Academy?

In other words he was curious as to whether war and combat made all the "peace time character talk" impossible to really live up to. It was an interesting question I sought to analyze and bring back answers during my months serving as the J-1

(manpower and personnel directorate) in a joint task force (85 percent Army) for detainee operations.

One of our sights happened to include the scandal-ridden Abu Graib prison on the western edge of Baghdad. I found there was no lack of temptations for our military to abandon, stray, or otherwise rationalize away the ingredients of character.

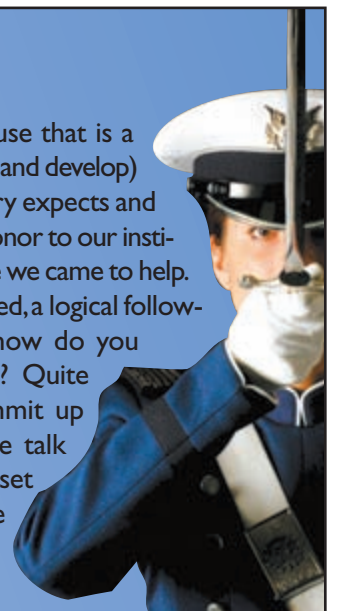
From the long days and weeks, separation from family and stress from some seeing their buddies killed or wounded, there existed countless reasons to drift from the moral compass to "deal with" with a particular challenge.

Time and time again, I saw American soldiers (and

I use that term collectively because that is a mentality all of us need to embrace and develop) hold true to the values our country expects and display the integrity which brings honor to our institution and respect from the people we came to help.

So with that question answered, a logical follow-on question arose which was how do you ensure that you will never waiver? Quite simply, I think you have to commit up front that character qualities we talk about every day at the Academy set the tone for the environment we go into.

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



Do you plan on watching the presidential inauguration on TV Tuesday?

"I won't be watching the Inauguration, I'm not a big fan of politics. I will, however, continue to serve our country under my new commander-in-chief with pride."

Staff Sgt.
Jessica Clark
306th Flying
Training Group



"Yes. It's historical. The first black president as well as what he has to say."

Mr. Roy Rogers
Manager Auto
Hobby Shop



"Yes. It's an historical event in U.S. history."

Retired Tech. Sgt.
Elizabeth Joniak



"Yes, because it's of an historical nature and to witness the peaceful change of power."

Chaplain (Capt.)
Travis Yelton
10th Air Base Wing



Eyes right ... no in this case left!



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Members of Cadet Squadron 4 have spent hours perfecting their marching technique in preparation for the Inaugural parade in Washington D.C. Tuesday.

The following members representing the Cadet Wing's Outstanding Squadron for 2008, as well as other members from the cadet wing, will honor President-elect Barack Obama in America's capitol along with hundreds of other U.S. military participants.

C4C Troy Agard
C4C Steven Alsen
C4C Aaron Ashley
C3C Erol-George Asu
C2C Benjamin Ausbun
C3C Anthony Belviso
C1C Peter Betz
C1C Timothy Black
C2C Elizabeth Blair
C4C Matthew Blessing
C1C Chase Bowen
C2C Jamey Boyd
C4C Jeffery Brenner
C3C Matthew Brew
C2C Nolan Brock
C4C Thomas Browning
C1C Joseph Castro
C3C Monique Cazares
C3C Curtis Christensen
C2C James Curran
C1C Aaron Dachroeden
C4C Alyssa Deiters
C1C Robert Doyle

C1C Robert Doyon
C4C Thomas Erlinger
C1C Chelsea Fitch
C3C Erin Flanigan
C3C Mark Gaudette
C1C Robert Glenn
C4C Caitlin Gregory
C2C James Gullo
C1C Lara Harris
C4C Jordan Hauschild
C4C Kaylee Hay
C1C Dustin Helsel
C3C Lyndsey Horn
C1C Drew Hundley
C4C Alexander Hutcheson
C4C Cristina Jung
C4C Jeffrey Kelly
C2C Brett King
C4C Alexander Kingsley
C4C Philip Knodel
C1C John Lachiewicz
C2C Brent Lavey
C3C James Leli
C3C Christopher Lester
C1C Maverick Lewis
C1C Brooke Lunde
C4C Victoria Martinez
C2C Kevin McCarthy
C3C Robert Menzel
C1C Eric Miller
C4C Kenneth Moak

C2C Fakhri Mokni
C1C Patrick Morris
C1C Griffin Nevitt
C1C Tony Parsram
C4C Tague Patino
C2C Amanda Peterson
C3C Raychel Poremski
C2C Daniel Puhek
C2C William Reed
C2C Chris Reichelt
C1C Kurt Rommel
C3C Keenan Ryner
C2C Nicholas Sahagun
C3C Michael Sayers
C4C Charles Seat
C1C Clare Shannon
C4C Christopher Shields
C3C Kyle Smith
C1C Nathan Smith
C1C Jessica Soto
C3C James Spidel
C1C Joe Spitz
C2C Eric Straub
C2C Josh Tempel
C3C William Waugaman
C3C Chad Weaver
C4C Jackson Wehmeyer
C4C Erin Winner
C4C Jeffrey Witt
C2C Brad Wolff
C3C Derek Worth

C2C Andrew Yaszemski
C3C Ryan Zielinski

Maj. Rafael Carroll, Air Officer
Commanding, CS-37
Lt. Col. Darlene Cheatham, Group 3
deputy commander
Col. Gail Colvin, vice commandant
Tech. Sgt. Albert Desarro,
standardization/evaluation
Senior Master Sgt. Marino Duran,
Group 1 first sergeant
Tech. Sgt. Porter Gee, Academy
Military Trainer, CS-4
Maj. James Dobbs, AOC, CS-20
Lt. Col. Christopher Froeschner,
Group 1 deputy commander
Maj. George Sebren, AOC, Cadet
Squadron 2
Maj. Jill Whitesell, AOC, CS-4
Master Sgt. William Fleetwood, AMT,
CS-6

National news reports suggest spectator attendance at the Inauguration and the surrounding mall area will range from two-and-a-half to five million as the 44th president of the United States is sworn in at the 56th such parade with military participation.



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AF remains committed to unmanned aircraft

By Megan Orton
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Air Force officials are “all in” with regard to unmanned aircraft systems, and understand the defense secretary’s direction to field the systems in the combat theater as fully and quickly as possible, a senior leader said here Monday.

Lt. Gen. Norman Seip, the commander of 12th Air Force and Air Forces Southern, also said the Air Force has 85 percent of its theater-level UAS capability deployed in support of operations in Southwest Asia.

The other 15 percent are stateside to train UAS pilots and for operational

test and development. The Air Force is doing all it can to speed up the UAS pilot training process, he added.

“Next year, the Air Force will procure more unmanned aircraft than manned aircraft,” the general said. “So I think that makes a very pointed statement about our commitment to the future of UAS and what it brings to the fight in meeting the requirements of combatant commanders.”

Additionally, he said, teams at the Air Warfare Center at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., are developing countermeasures for potential enemy use of unmanned aircraft systems.

“When, in the future, we encounter a near-peer or asymmetric threat, or a

terrorist organization that has the UAS capability, we’re going to certainly need to be working toward active techniques so that we can counter those capabilities,” General Seip said.

These techniques will be essential for the Air Force to dominate airspace when needed and allow for freedom of maneuver for ground forces, the general explained.

General Seip also updated the group on maintenance issues surrounding A-10 Thunderbolt II close-air-support fighter jets following a technical order issued in October requiring immediate inspection and repair of wing cracks in a portion of the A-10 fleet.

Though 40 percent of thin-skinned

A-10s are grounded, he said, 12th Air Force officials still are able to provide warfighters with the close-air support they need in the combat theater. Repairs should be completed by June, he said.

General Seip noted 12th Air Force’s busy pace in supporting the war on terrorism and continuing its ongoing mission as the air component for U.S. Southern Command.

“It is an exciting time in both 12th Air Force and Air Forces Southern, as the Air Force continues to fight the long war on terrorism as well as support its ‘soft-power’ commitment in South (America), Central America and the Caribbean,” he said.

MQ-1 PREDATOR Unmanned Aircraft System



Mission

The MQ-1 Predator is a medium-altitude, long-endurance, unmanned aircraft system. Its primary mission is interdiction and conducting armed reconnaissance against critical, perishable targets. When the MQ-1 is not actively pursuing its primary mission, it acts as the Joint Forces Air Component Commander-owned theater asset for reconnaissance, surveillance and target acquisition in support of the Joint Forces commander.

Features

The MQ-1 Predator is a system, not just an aircraft.

A fully operational system consists of four aircraft (with sensors), a ground control station, a Predator Primary Satellite Link, or PPSL, along with operations and maintenance crews for deployed 24-hour operations.

General Characteristics

Primary Function: Armed reconnaissance, airborne surveillance and target acquisition

Contractor: General Atomics Aeronautical Systems Incorporated Power

Plant: Rotax 914F four cylinder engine

Thrust: 115 horsepower

Wingspan: 48.7 feet (14.8 meters)

Length: 27 feet (8.22 meters)

Height: 6.9 feet (2.1 meters)

Weight: 1,130 pounds (512 kilograms) empty

Maximum takeoff weight: 2,250 pounds (1,020 kilograms)

Fuel Capacity: 665 pounds (100 gallons)

Payload: 450 pounds (204 kilograms)

Speed: Cruise speed around 84 mph (70 knots), up to 135 mph

Range: up to 400 nautical miles (454 miles)

Ceiling: up to 25,000 feet (7,620 meters)

Armament: two laser-guided AGM-114 Hellfire missiles

Crew (remote): Two (pilot and sensor operator)

Initial operational capability: March 2005

Unit Cost: \$30.5 million (fiscal 1997 dollars)

(includes four aircraft, ground control stations, and Predator Primary Satellite Link)

Inventory: Active Force, 110; ANG, 0; Reserve,

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National Geographic considers documentary

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

The National Geographic Channel is interested in producing a special entitled "The Escape Factory" based on a former Academy superintendent being one of the first American pilots shot down during World War II.

The organization has requested help in gaining access to photographs and other materials from the Albert P. Clark Special Collection, stored in the McDermott Library's Special Collections Branch.

The film would relate the untold story of MIS-X,

a secret WWII agency that assisted allied POWs in Germany. Lt. Gen. A.P. Clark is one of the main characters in the story, and National Geographic representatives feel items from his scrapbook would greatly enhance viewer understanding of what happened in the POW camps.

General Clark, the sixth Academy superintendent from 1970-1974, was one of the first American pilots shot down during World War II. He was put in Stalag Luft III, then populated mostly by Royal Air Force pilots, including Roger Bushell, mastermind of the "Great Escape".

A lieutenant colonel at the time, General Clark was

the ranking American officer and, in addition to participating in the tunneling efforts, wrote the first letter decrypted by MIS-X, the American intelligence operation, then based at Fort Hunt, Va. MIS-X stayed in touch with the POWs, sending them items that included cameras and maps.

"Recently the National Park Service became interested in the WWII buildings and has done an exhibit for which Special Collections sent some digital photos," said Dr. Mary Ruwell, Academy Archivist and special collections chief. "NPR did a nice story at <http://www.npr.org/> which I think inspired the interest from this National Geographic crew."

VA officials assist veterans with health care costs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — For veterans struggling financially due to a job loss or decreased income, Department of Veterans Affairs officials offer an assortment of programs that can relieve the costs of health care or provide care at no cost.

Veterans whose previous income was ruled too high for VA health care may be able to enter the VA system based upon a hardship if their current

year's income is projected to fall below federal income thresholds due to a job loss, separation from service or some other financial setback.

Veterans determined eligible due to hardship can avoid co-pays applied to higher-income veterans. Qualifying veterans may be eligible for enrollment and receive health care at no cost.

"With the downturn in the economy, VA recognizes that many veterans will

feel the effects," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake. "Therefore, it is important that eligible veterans learn of the many ways VA has to help them afford the health care they have earned."

Also eligible for no-cost VA care are most veterans who recently returned from a combat zone. They are entitled to five years of free VA care. The five-year "clock" begins with their discharge

from the military, not their departure from the combat zone.

Each VA medical center across the country has an enrollment coordinator available to provide veterans information about these programs. Veterans may also contact VA's Health Benefits Service Center at 1-877-222 VETS (8387) or visit the VA health eligibility Web site at www.va.gov/healtheligibility.

CLAIMS AGAINST ESTATE:

Any person or persons having claims for or against the estate of Capt. Levi Torkelson, who passed away Dec. 27, 2008, should contact Summary Court Officer, Capt. Nickolas Thompson, at 333-3628.

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Keeping private things private; TriWest protects

By Diane R. Mayer
TriWest Healthcare Alliance

We all know that it's important to protect your personal financial information; things like your Social Security number, bank account number, credit card number. It is equally important to protect your personal and potentially sensitive health information.

TriWest Healthcare Alliance wants you to rest assured that we are hard at work keeping your private information private.

TriWest has recently updated the www.triwest.com terms and conditions to include information on the use of electronic signatures. These terms and conditions and the TriWest privacy policy also include details regarding the use, review and correction of personal information.

To further protect your privacy, TriWest established a standard of confi-

dentiality for information about a range of medical conditions that are considered sensitive. Information that is deemed to be "sensitive health information" is anything related to the treatment of:

- Reproductive health
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Substance abuse
- Mental health
- HIV
- Abuse
- Rape

The detailed list of all specific sensitive diagnoses is available at www.triwest.com>[Beneficiary Services](#)>[Auths/Referrals](#)>[Popular Links](#).

Personal health information about the range of medical diagnoses that are considered particularly sensitive is not available to registered users of www.triwest.com. Beneficiaries with a secure www.triwest.com account will receive QuickAlert e-mails only for non-



sensitive authorizations and referrals. The restriction of access to sensitive diagnoses information is just one of many ways TriWest protects the privacy of TRICARE beneficiaries.

Sensitive diagnosis information will be mailed to the beneficiary or it may be requested by calling 1-888-TRIWEST (874-9378).

New Feature Online

TriWest has recently expanded the viewing capability of sponsors on www.triwest.com. Previously, authorizations, referrals and other information about family members age 12 and older were not accessible. Sponsors now have the ability to view all non-sensitive diagnosis authorization, referral and claims information about family members under age 18.

To see non-sensitive information for spouses and family members age 18 and older, specific access must be granted by the spouse and family member.

If you have questions regarding this policy or your TRICARE benefits, please visit www.triwest.com, contact TriWest at 1-888-TRIWEST (874-9378), or use the secure Web mail function of your www.triwest.com account to send us a secure message.

Academy seeks comments in accreditation process

The U.S. Air Force Academy is seeking comments from the public in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency.

The Academy will undergo a comprehensive evaluation visit April 27-29 by a team representing the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Air Force

Academy has been accredited at the Bachelor's degree level by the Commission since 1959. The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet the Commission's Criteria for Accreditation.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the Air Force Academy to:

Public Comment on the United States Air Force Academy

The Higher Learning Commission
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400
Chicago, IL 60602

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing and signed; comments can't be treated as confidential. All comments must be received by March 27.



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Quantitative and Information Literacy — A skills outcome



“We’re drowning in information and starving for knowledge”
~ Rutherford Rogers

By **Dr. Mike Brilleslyper and Dr. Edward Scott**
Quantitative and Information Literacy Team Leads

The traditional definition of “literacy” pertains primarily to reading and writing abilities. However, today’s world of ubiquitous information requires new, more complex skills for retrieving, interpreting, and appropriately applying vast amounts of data. Being able to deal effectively and efficiently with today’s information-rich environments is critical for the Air Force officer of today and tomorrow.

The importance of 21st century literacy skills is clearly evident in the current war on terror. The most salient images of the war may be heavily-armored U.S. soldiers battling insurgents or a precision-guided bomb hitting its target. However, what these images don’t show are the incredible logistical, technical, and analytical support needed for the operations to succeed.

Air Force analysts work behind the scenes to give decision makers the information they need to support the troops with the equipment and information needed to win the battle. From optimal air drop routes to troop movements to radar data interpretations, the skills of Air Force analysts are playing a critical role in winning the war on terror.

Maj. Mike Martinez, an analyst and Academy math department professor, is currently deployed to southwest Asia where he brings his extensive skills to bear on important decisions that directly support the warfighter. Soon after arriving in theater, Maj. Martinez identified numerous ineffi-

cient airlift routes, which were subsequently eliminated.

He also made a significant impact on asset allocation in theater, ensuring more effective support for thousands of troops. The continuing call for analysts to deploy speaks volumes about the importance and relevance of quantitative and information literacy in modern warfare.

Twenty-first century literacy skills are stepping stones to a greater understanding of and effectiveness in the modern world. Literacy is a requirement for solving the problems of today and the future, and it has become a critical measuring stick of opportunity, advancement, and development for societies and a necessary skill for every graduate of the Air Force Academy.

We’ve identified two types of 21st century literacy skills here. The first type is Quantitative Literacy, which focuses on these four facets:

- Interpreting and constructing mathematical models such as formulas, graphs, and tables and drawing inferences from them.
- Representing quantitative information (e.g., symbolically, visually, numerically, verbally) using appropriate technology.
- Applying a wide variety of analytical methods to solve real-world problems.
- Critically evaluating mathematical models and solutions to determine reasonableness and to identify potential errors.

The second type of 21st century literacy skill is Information Literacy, which we define as the set of skills needed to find, retrieve, analyze, evaluate, and effectively and ethically

apply information. Several distinct but related facets must all come together to produce an officer who:

- Defines and articulates a need for information;
- Locates information sources, exploits information technology, and accesses information to build knowledge;
- Critically evaluates sources and information;
- Uses information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose ; and,
- Understands the economic, social, ethical, and legal issues surrounding the access and use of information.

The Air Force Academy has long recognized the vital role that Quantitative and Informational Literacy plays in developing outstanding Air Force officers. At a minimum, cadets must take or validate a full year of calculus and a semester of statistics.

In addition, they complete technical core courses in information systems, science, and engineering that provide a basis for understanding the modern, complex world.

Today, battles take place not only in the traditional arenas of land, sea, and air, but also in outer space and cyber space. Whether operating unmanned predators, performing mobility analysis, interpreting satellite data, or shaping the Air Force for the demands of the 21st century, an officer corps with extensive quantitative and information literacy skills is critical to the success of the mission.

Thanks to their firm grounding in technical areas, Academy graduates are ready to contribute immediately as second lieutenants.

Photo by Joel Strayer

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CJCS ready to execute new president's decisions

By Samantha Quigley
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON - Whatever decisions President-elect Barack Obama makes regarding Iraq and Afghanistan, the military is prepared to carry them out, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said in an interview recently on the CBS TV show *60 Minutes*.

"When President-elect Obama gets in and says, 'Here's the decision,' the United States military, led by me, is going to march off and execute that decision," Navy Adm. Mike Mullen told correspondent David Martin.

Should that decision be to withdraw troops from Iraq, as Obama stated he would in campaign addresses, it's up to Mullen to tell the new president what it will take. Before Christmas, the chairman visited the front lines in Iraq to determine for himself what it will take to get 140,000 troops out of the country gracefully.

"I don't think it's 'Mission Impossible,'" Admiral Mullen said, noting that the president-elect has said consistently that he wants to withdraw troops responsibly.

"Certainly, a responsible withdrawal ... is, I think, a very, very possible outcome here, given what I've seen transpire over the last couple of years and literally what I saw walking the streets of Samarra," the chairman said.

Samarra is home to the al-Askari Mosque, a Shiia Muslim shrine also known as "the Golden Mosque." The February 2006 bombing of the mosque sparked sectarian violence that nearly tore Iraq apart. The structure is now being rebuilt.

Mullen also made his way to Afghanistan during his pre-holiday trip, and he said he stands by his earlier



Photo by Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Chad J. McNeeley

Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, during a *60 Minutes* interview said the military is ready to support President-elect Obama's national security policy.

assessment that "we are not winning" the war there.

"I said it because I believed it, and I still believe it," he said. "I think the level of violence in 2008 surprised us all. The sophistication of the tactics of the insurgency surprised us all."

A possible answer to the upswing in violence in Afghanistan includes more troops on the ground, he said. "The exact number isn't known," he acknowledged. "I talked ... about a range between 20,000 and 30,000."

That would nearly double the number of troops fighting the insurgency in Afghanistan. But even increased troop numbers won't do any good unless the

insurgent safe haven in Pakistan is mitigated, the admiral said. Pakistan shares a border with Afghanistan, and Taliban extremists have been using safe havens within Pakistan to plan and train for attacks inside Afghanistan.

"That safe haven's got to be shut down to a level where it doesn't have the effect that it's having now," Mullen said. "In the long run, if that is not done, then additional troops are not going to have that big an impact."

Mullen said he makes a point of meeting with his Pakistani counterpart whenever he's in the area, including this past trip. This visit marked his seventh visit to the country since he took office in October 2007. It's a critical relationship, Mullen said, adding that relations with the country are equal to, if not more important than, those with any other country right now.

The relationship between the new president and the military he'll command also is critical, Mullen said. The chairman met with Mr. Obama in Chicago shortly after the election at the president-elect's request.

"As commander in chief, the connection with the military is absolutely vital," he said. "So making that connection as early as possible and as solid as possible is a huge deal."

Mullen said he doesn't sense any hesitancy from the military over the incoming president.

"What's really important about us in the military is that we stay neutral and remain apolitical," he said. "We work for whoever the president is. All of us in the military will do that faithfully to support President Bush until the 20th of January, and we'll do the same thing for President-elect Obama once he gets into the position."



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Assessment program vital to patient care

By Academy Spirit staff

WASHINGTON — Patient feedback through the Service Delivery Assessment— a centralized telephone survey program — provides Air Force clinics with direct, rapid and relevant feedback from their patients vital to national security, Air Force Medical Service officials said.

“Improving the health of Airmen and their families is our mission and patient feedback is vital to our efforts to continuously improve,” said Maj. Gen. (Dr.) Bruce Green, Air Force deputy surgeon general.

Since 2003, the Air Force Medical Service has relied on SDA to assess and improve upon the patient experience at all Air Force clinics. Survey questions are customized by each facility. The results are disseminated in a weekly report to the facility’s staff and AFMS leadership.

“Here at the Academy clinic we value all patient suggestions,” said Col. Alan Berg, 10th Medical Group commander. “We appreciate your participation in the SDA as well as your written comment cards and personal input.

The weekly report allows Air Force clinics to quickly take corrective action in areas where there are shortcomings or improvement needs. It also helps Air Force clinics understand what is working well at their facility; promote and perfect best practices; and share successes with other facilities through lessons learned.

The reports have shown that Air Force health care providers and staff are succeeding in this mission by upholding the highest standards of care and delivering that care with courtesy, respect and dignity to every patient.

The way SDA works is simple. A trained caller contacts the patient by phone within 48 hours after the patient’s



Photo by Dave Ahlschwede

Airman 1st Class Alain Dautruche, 10th Medical Support Squadron, draws blood from then Basic Cadet Tate Montgomery during in-processing. Feedback from Academy patients is used to help the 10th MDSS constantly improve services provided.

visit to an Air Force clinic. The interviews are brief (typically less than five minutes) and, as with all matters related to a patient’s health, complete patient privacy is maintained. Questions focus on the patient’s observations about the facility and the patient’s health care providers, including: Ease of setting the appointment; check-in and wait time; staff courtesies and attention; overall satisfaction with

facility; and overall satisfaction with provider.

Through programs like SDA, AFMS can continue to build on successes, and fulfill its pledge to maintain a healthy, steady and ready fighting force.

To provide comments about services at the base clinic, call the 10th MDG’s Patient Advocate Office at 333-5283.

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Cadet walks on top of bottom of world

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

For 10 days in December, an Academy meteorology major walked on top of the bottom of planet Earth with the U.S. Antarctic Program and the Air Force's Nation Science Foundation.

"My task was to discover and observe the numerous NSF research and scientific projects occurring at McMurdo Station and the Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station," said Cadet 1st Class Patrick Warfel. "Another primary duty was to observe the Air Force logistical operations to include airlift, cargo transport, weather, services, medical, and the mission and role of Air Force personnel deployed to McMurdo Station."

The program began last year with two midshipmen from the U.S. Naval Academy. Participation was opened this year to cadets from all service academies.

Competitively selected for the research internship through the National Science Foundation offered to oceanography, Meteorology, and physics majors from the U.S. Service Academies and staying a night at Christchurch, New Zealand, the

Courtesy Photo

Cadet 1st Class Patrick Warfel launches a weather balloon from McMurdo Station.

cadet from Renton, Wash., was "on ice" from Dec. 21 to New Years Eve.

"I thought this would be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to travel to Antarctica and perhaps the South Pole of the Earth," said the cadet who will

attend undergraduate pilot training after graduation with the goal of becoming a pilot. "I always heard about the C-130's that takeoff and land with skis and was naturally curious how the Air Force

Continued on next page



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Antarctica

From previous page

manages to operate in such extreme conditions and remote locations.”

He couldn't have chosen a spot further from home or the Academy. Antarctica is the Earth's southernmost continent, overlying the South Pole. About 98 percent of Antarctica is covered by ice which averages at least 1.6 kilometers, or one mile, in thickness.

On average, Antarctica is the coldest, driest and windiest continent, and has the highest average elevation of all continents. Since there is little precipitation except at the coasts, the interior of the continent is technically the largest desert in the world. There are no permanent human residents.

The trip took considerable advance coordination between academic departments, The Naval Academy, NSF, Government Travel Office, and numerous other individuals who made the trip possible.

“The Antarctic Internship is a week-long program under the sponsorship of Air Force Lieutenant General Loyd “Chip” Utterback, U.S. Air Force, the standing Joint Task Force - Support Forces Antarctica commander for *Operation DEEP FREEZE* and Dr. Karl Erb, the director of Polar Programs for the National Science Foundation,” said Col. Neal Rappaport, Academy associate professor and head of the Department of Economics and Geosciences.

Cadet Warfel was competitively selected to participate in this program.

Midshipman Leah Jordan from the U.S. Naval Academy was the other service academy participant. They were joined at McMurdo by Air Force Col. Ian Biggins, the defense department

liaison officer to NSF.

Before departing to Antarctica the cadet did his best to study up on the Antarctic Air Force mission, DEEP FREEZE, The U.S. Antarctic Program, and the current NSF studies occurring on the “ice”.

McMurdo Station is in fact a little town.

Roughly 1,000 people live there throughout the summer season; approximately 150 are Air Force personnel, and the rest are contractors with Raytheon, employees of NSF, or scientists/researchers.

“I tried to meet as many people as I could during my short stay,” Cadet Warfel said. “I spent most of my time with officers and enlisted personnel from New York's 109th Airlift Wing Air National Guard as well as with weather observers and forecasters from the McMurdo Weather shop. New Zealand's Scott Base is around the corner from McMurdo station and I was privileged to spend time with the ‘Kiwi's,’ as they are called, on a few occasions.”

He found Antarctica much more impressive than he'd ever imagined.

“Little did I know Antarctica has the highest average elevation of all continents and it is 1.4 times the size of the U.S.” he said. “There are mountain ranges, volcanoes, lakes, and rocks, not just ice. McMurdo Station is built on rock and dirt. I was impressed with the infrastructure of McMurdo and Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station.”

Furthermore, he was amazed to see an entire town, powered by generators, thrive and bustle where the sun never sets.

“I expected the facilities to be fair at best, but this was not the case,” the cadet said. “I had my own dormitory room, with a shared bathroom, a land line telephone, and even a TV with seven channels.



Courtesy Photo

Cadet 1st Class Patrick Warfel on top of Caster Rock with the Mt. Erebus volcano in the background.

We used pagers down there to communicate instead of cell phones. LAN Internet was available on station along with a two-lane bowling alley, and a rock climbing wall.”

He was surprised to see how everyone worked harmoniously, military and civilians, crane operators and pilots, janitors and priests, scientists and firefighters, day after day to support the overall mission to explore, discover, research, and preserve Antarctica, the coldest, windiest, driest place on Earth.

“The landscape and geography of the continent was simply beautiful and amazing,” Cadet Warfel said. “Flying to the South Pole, looking outside the cockpit window along the route, I witnessed the pure beauty and vastness of Antarctica from the Trans-Antarctic mountain range, to massive glaciers and melting sea ice.”

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Winterspree

Cadets, Cub Scouts come together

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Cadets and Cub Scouts took to the field in Falcon Stadium Saturday for a day of challenges, learning and a lot of just plain fun during Winterspree.

Nearly 300 Cubs from about 40 dens across the Pikes Peak Council, Boy Scouts of America, 200 parents and 80 cadet escorts participated.

"Each one of our events was an opportunity to learning something new, whether the Scouts were learning about the falcon, a fire engine, first aid or themselves as they played soccer and challenged themselves on the obstacle course, they were able to have fun doing it," said Cadet in Charge Cadet 2nd Class David Arlington.

The event represented assets of the Academy and served to encourage Cub Scouts to continue in Scouting by providing examples of activities they can do with the skills they learn through Scouting.

Cub Scouts range in age from 8 through 10.

Indoor events included a demonstration of the Academy falcons, an orange balance on spoon race, a stretcher and three-legged race and a tug of war. Academy athletes signed autographs and fielded questions.

The weather cooperated for outdoor events which included a cadet physical fitness challenge, soccer game, obstacle course and Frisbee. Working military dogs from the 10th Security Forces Squadron and the cadet rifle drill team showed off their skills, and participants became acquainted with a glider and fire engine.

The Bird and cadet honor guard members and

cadet emergency medical technicians also paid visits. Each pack of about 10 Scouts was escorted by a cadet escort.

"This event could not have been much of a success without them," Cadet Arlington said. "They did everything from making funny faces, telling ridiculously tall tales, initiate pint-sized group hugs, to constantly monitoring for frost bite, dehydration and other concerns."

He credits the cadet escorts for keeping up the enthusiasm.

"What is wonderful about cadets getting involved with youth organizations is that no matter how 'lame' the activity might be, as long as the cadets are excited, the youth will also be equally excited," he said.

Cadet 1st Class Gordon Boom agreed.

"Cadets loved hanging with the kids, and the kids were having a blast," he said. "Even the parents enjoyed watching their kids let loose."

The Winterspree as an event made a comeback after being absent from the Academy calendar for several years. After 9/11, heightened security measures made it and the Boy Scout Freezoree impractical.

Cadets Arlington and Boom, with Cadet 2nd Class Christopher Kopp, all Eagle Scouts and members of Cadet Squadron 39, had volunteered with the Pikes Peak Council and explored other opportunities to serve Scouting. They and another 30 or so Boy Scouts received status as an official Academy club, the Eagle's Club, in 2007.

Among other activities, the group began "testing the drive" for bringing back Winterspree early in 2008.

"Scouting has had such a huge impact on my life that I wanted to give back to the organization," said Cadet Kopp. "The idea to create the club was set on the foundation of focusing our service to others on the teaching and mentoring of the local youth since it is there we can have the largest impact."

He added their goal is to make that impact as positive and large as possible.

Cadet Arlington sees a strong correlation between Scouting and his days on the Hill.

"The Academy keeps us physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight, but the Eagle's Club allows us to help, not just one person here and there, but rather hundreds of local youth and their parents all the time," he said.

Cadet Boom hoped the Cub Scouts gained a future direction from Winterspree.

"I wanted to give them a glimpse of what they could achieve. Cub Scouts, and most Scouts in general, are still relatively young enough where they can significantly impact their futures, for better or worse," he said. "I hope we showed them what could happen if they continue in Scouting."

Cadet Kopp also has his reasons for supporting Scouts.

"It is a joy and pleasure to give my time to the youth of our community," he said. "And on top of that, working with Scouts is fun."

The Eagle's Club now numbers about 60 members and is supporting area activities, including mentoring Life Scouts through their Eagle project in a "fledgling program."

The club is also open to support of future Scouting projects and invites requests to the club via e-mail at usafa.eagle.club@gmail.com.



Members of the Cadet Honor Guard team demonstrate for the cub scouts. Photos by Rachel Boettcher



Cadet 3rd Class Andrew Geist hands his M-1 rifle to Cub Scout Andrew Garnhart after the Honor Guard demonstration.



Cadet 2nd Class Brennan Jones shows Joshua Wheeler how light weight the wing of a glider is.



Cadet 3rd Class Brian Riley shows the scouts how to make a stretcher.



Above Left: Cadet 2nd Class Jacob Johnston helps Cub Scout Danny Hillman complete his pull-ups during the PT portion Winterspree. Top: Cadet 1st Class Kavar Patel steadies the barrier at the start of the obstacle course for Cub Scout Bailey Hansen. Bottom: Cub Scout Jason Winchell runs through the obstacle course.



Cadet 1st Class Kavar Patel shows scouts Garret Nelson, Caelon Moore, and Ammon Carlson how a handmade stretcher works.

Disney resort makes vacations more affordable

By William Bradner

Special to American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – A Disney vacation just got more affordable.

With the “Disney’s Armed Forces Salute” offer, active and retired U.S. military personnel, including active members of the U.S. Coast Guard and activated members of the National Guard or Reserves, can enjoy complimentary, multi-day admission into Disney’s U.S. theme parks, and additional special ticket offers for family members and friends.

“For so many of the men and women who serve in our U.S. military, time together with their families is cause enough for celebration,” said Jay Rasulo, chairman of Walt Disney Parks and Resorts. “We are grateful for their service and hope ‘Disney’s Armed Forces Salute’ will allow our troops to create wonderful, magical memories with their family and friends.”

Shades of Green, a resort hotel on Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Fla., is open exclusively to servicemembers, retirees, defense civilians, and their families. It is a safe haven for military families whether they’re reintegrating after an overseas deployment, having one last “family fling” before mom or dad deploys, or simply getting away for a weekend.

“If I suddenly break down and cry in a Holiday Inn, everyone’s going to be looking at me funny,” one guest recently explained. “Here, if it suddenly dawns on me he’s leaving in a week and I start to cry, I’ve got 10 people asking how they can help and offering support.”

Resort Manager Brian Japak is a retired soldier and his son has survived two roadside-bomb attacks while



Photo Courtesy of Walt Disney Co.

Naval officers Lt. James Corbett and Lt. Cmdr. Erin Duffy take a whirl on Cinderella’s Golden Carrousel with daughters Maggie, left, 5, and Aoife, 8 months, and son Dessie, 2.

serving in Iraq.

“I have great empathy for the families that we serve here,” he said.

Mr. Japak said the staff makes every effort to ensure the guests are pampered Disney style — with just a touch of “home” through the tax-free Army and Air Force Exchange Service shoppette and a Mickey Mouse statue decked out in red, white and blue. Security at the hotel complies with standard base force protection regulations, ensuring the soldiers and families can sleep soundly and not worry about their personal safety. Shades of Green is an Armed Forces Recreation Center hotel run by the Army’s Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command based in Alexandria, Va. The command’s mission is

to provide soldiers and their families with the same quality of life they are sworn to protect. Rates are set on a sliding scale, based on rank, and with no shareholders to answer to or profits to be made, the rates are kept remarkably low.

At the Walt Disney World Resort in Florida, from Jan. 4 to Dec. 23, each active or retired member of the U.S. military may obtain one free five-day “Disney’s Armed Forces Salute” ticket with “Park Hopper” and water park options. The ticket is valid for five days of admission into the four Walt Disney World theme parks, plus a total of five visits to a choice of a Disney water park, DisneyQuest Indoor Interactive Theme Park or certain other attractions.

During this offer period, active or retired U.S. military personnel also may make a one-time purchase up to five “Disney’s Armed Forces Salute Companion” tickets — good for five days — for \$99 each, plus tax, for family members or friends. Although this ticket for family members and friends does not include either the Park Hopper or Water Park Fun & More options, it can be upgraded to add either such option, or both, for an additional \$25, plus tax, per option. All tickets and options are nontransferable and must be used by Dec. 23.

A similar offer is in place at Walt Disney Land in California. More information is available at installation ITT/ITR offices.

AFRCs offer four other world-class destinations for families, including Edelweiss Lodge and Resort in Garmisch, Germany; Dragon Hill Lodge in Seoul, South Korea; the Hale Koa Hotel in Honolulu, and the Cape Henry Inn and Beach Club at Fort Storey, Va.

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Potential participants must attend one of our free “Considering a Business” workshops offered from 5:30pm to 8:30pm.

01/13/09 or 01/20/09. Class starts 01/27/09.
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Call 1-866-844-0091 or e-mail:
 icandelano@micasaresourcecenter.org to reserve your spot. \$25.00 is due at time of Workshop.

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America is at War...
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Men and women in military uniforms are on the front lines of our war on terrorism. In wars past, a Blue Star Banner in the window of a home showed a family's pride in their loved one serving in the U.S. Armed Forces and reminded others that preserving America's freedom demands much.

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From the more than 4 million men and women of The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, the Sons of The American Legion ... and all your fellow Americans ... we say, “Thank you.”

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TriCare Standard, TriCare Reserve and TriCare for Life also accepted. Prescriptions may be filled anywhere. Contact lens evaluation available for additional cost. Call for program details.

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Wednesday 7:00pm Bible Study and Prayer Meeting
Thursday 9:30am and 6:30pm Visitation
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Cadet reins in top 2008 youth award

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Cadet 4th Class Jennifer Kinsey has three rules for working with horses. Never hold a grudge. Give them the benefit of the doubt. Biting is unacceptable, as is "walking over," or invading the rider's space. As the 2008 top youth reiner for the South Carolina American Quarter Horse Association, Cadet Kinsey has a fourth rule.

"You can't make a horse rein," she said. "You have to make them want to rein."

The award, presented Dec. 6, was a surprise to the freshman who left in the middle of the competition year to come to the Academy.

"I was excited and couldn't believe it. I won although I wasn't there," she said.

The dozen or so competitive youth riders under 18 years of age in South Carolina racked up points for show performances from March through November. At the conclusion of the year, scores were calculated for top prizes.

Cadet Kinsey will keep her prize, a belt buckle, on her dorm wall.

Reining is a Western equestrian sport judged on the finesse, cooperation and precise execution of a pattern that is announced shortly before a reining event begins.



Courtesy Photo

Cadet 4th Class Jennifer Kinsey and her quarter horse Boogie perform a sliding stop during a reining event. The sport tests teamwork, precision and strength for both horse and rider.

Patterns consist of small and large circles and sliding stops.

Sliding stops involve stopping from a gallop that may be 10 to 25 feet of sliding, or roll-backs, which are sliding stops that are immediately reversed to a gallop in the opposite direction.

Spins involve using the horse's rear inside feet as a pivot as the front feet rapidly cross each other.

The strength and precision of reining depends on horse and rider working as a team, something Cadet Kinsey finds exciting.

"It's about knowing I'm on the same page as the horse, and we're thinking the same way," she said.

Horsemanship is a way of life in Belton, S.C., for the Kinsey family, starting with grandfather John Kinsey to Cadet Kinsey's parents, Mike and Jenny. The "Start 'em Right" Ranch breeds and trains horses, and everyone gets involved from ranch chores like feeding, cleaning and fixing fences to training.

Cadet Kinsey found her forte in "starting" young horses.

"If it was dangerous, I was the one riding," she said. "For the most part, I was the bronc." Her brother, 2nd Lt. Jon Kinsey, Academy Class of 2008, is awaiting flight school at Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas. He, too, worked the ranch while growing up.

Cadet Kinsey is looking forward to bringing her one of her best friends, Boogie, to live on the Academy during the next school year.

She and the quarter horse began reining together about a year and a half ago.

Before taking up the sport, the cadet preferred trail riding, but, with a few nudges from her father, she gave it a try.

Boogie had undergone some training in reining before Cadet Kinsey took it up. "We got better together," she said.

At home, they practiced anywhere from three to seven days a week.

She talked with affection of her mare. "She's very bright, very athletic. She's always thinking," Cadet Kinsey said. "I think she's brighter than some people I know."

That is not to say Boogie is a perfect horse.

"She's a bit of a spoiled brat," the cadet said and added, "She's my therapist back home."

Cadet Kinsey was determined to make the Air Force her career goal, one way or another.

Unsure if the Academy would accept her as a cadet, she enlisted with the South Carolina Air National Guard.

When she was accepted, she dropped what she called "Plan B."

She finds the Academy tough but very rewarding.

"I know I'm here for a reason," she said. "I want to serve my country so we can stay free. When I'm old, I want to go to sleep and know I've helped."

Cadet Kinsey has yet to declare her major but enjoys military studies, history and English.

After graduation she would like to fly the C-130 or C-17.

"I'm willing to go anywhere the Air Force sends me," she said.

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Med Group tranquilizes CW



Photos by Dave Ahlschwede

CW's Jarod Savage hits the sweet spot over the outstretched hands of MDG's Terrance Tyler. Savage had 12 points in the championship game second only to Sam Cox with 14.

Third time remains charm for consistent champs

By Dave Castilla
Intramural Sports Director

Med Group, the two-time defending champions in over-30 basketball, added another year to their crown by defeating the tough CW team 60-52, making it a threeppeat Monday.

Hospital and CW were the top two teams in the league and each game was a battle.

CW, in the loser bracket of the double elimination tournament, got the early lead in the championship match as Chad Rauls had a bucket and a pair of free throws with CW taking an early 6-3 lead. Hospital as usual got the fast break untracked as Todd Garland scored and dished out three assists in a 17-6 run that put hospital up 20-12.

To stop the run, CW coach Ken Nahrwold called a time out with 7:50 left in the first half. CW then played even with the medics, Sam Cox hit a pair three-point buckets followed by two buckets from Jarod Savage. Stephen Baker from Hospital also hit a pair of three pointers and ensured hospital kept a seven-point lead at half time 31-24.

Early in the second half CW went on a 10-4 run, and were down 35-34, as Bryant Evans made a basket and free throw to tighten up the game. Later Hospital's Mike Davis made a bucket and free throw putting the medics up 38-

34. From there they would never lose the lead.

Medics James Heller hit a pair of three-point buckets and a basket and hospital had stretched the lead to 54-45.

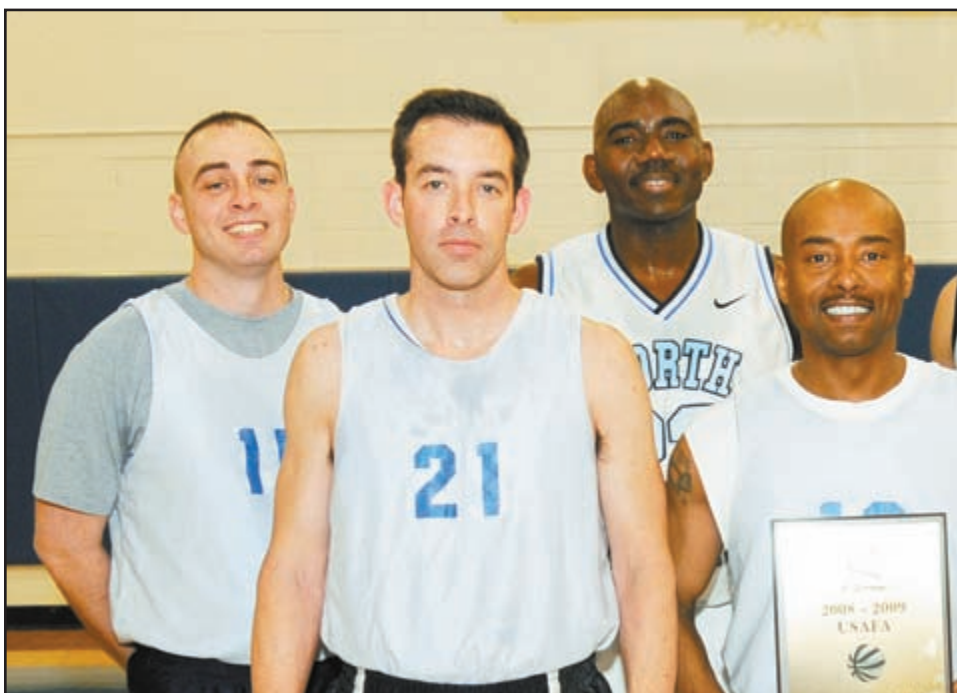
The CW made a last-ditch effort to close the gap as they went on a 7-0 run. Cox hit another three pointer followed by Savage's bucket making the score 54-52. However, key free throws down the stretch by Greg Schneringer and two more by Terrance Tyler plus an earlier bucket iced the game at 60-52, giving Hospital their 3rd straight championship.

Coach Todd Garland said, "It was a team effort CW played tough defense on both himself and Mike Davis and we had to get scoring from everyone to win."

The medics had four players in double figures: Terrance Tyler had 15; followed by Stephen Baker with 12. Greg Schneringer and James Heller had 10 apiece.

CW coach Ken Nahrwold said, "It's so hard to keep that fast break intact, whenever they needed points Garland would push the ball and find the open man. I'm proud of our guys we just fell a little short at the end."

The CW also had four players in double figures as Sam Cox had a team-high with 14, followed by Chad Rauls and Jarod Savage with 12, and Rob Hartwig with 11.



Members of the MED Group Over-30 Champs are left to right #21 Greg Schneringer, coach Todd Garland, #4 James Heller; Back Row Stephen Baker, Mike Davis, Terrance Tyler.

Hockey top honors

As college hockey heads into the second half of the season, it's time for the fans to help determine the winner of the Hobey Baker Award as the game's top player. The fan-voting phase is available by visiting the Hobey Baker website: hobeybaker.com. Click on the Vote for Hobey

Baker icon and follow the prompts to make your selection from this year's outstanding crop of college hockey players. This first phase of fan balloting will run now through March 8, 2009. Phase two of fan balloting will then begin on March 20 from the list of Top-10 Hobey Baker finalists. Three Falcons

are on the initial ballot: Greg Flynn; Andrew Volkening; and, Jacques Lamoureux.

Gymnastics

Gymnast Abbey Rogers was named the first Mountain Pacific Sports Federation's Gymnast of the Week of the 2009 season, the league office announced Tuesday. It is the fourth such honor of Rogers'

career. In addition to winning the all-around, she claimed a share of three event titles during the Falcons' season-opening triangular meet with Wisconsin-Eau Claire and Wisconsin-La Crosse Jan. 9. The team captain won the floor exercise outright with a score of 9.775, while tying for the top score on the

uneven bars (9.425) and balance beam (9.550). Rogers, who finished second on the vault with a team-leading score of 9.600, posted a combined score of 38.350 to win the all-around.

Wrestling

The Air Force wrestling team opens its 2008-09 home slate today. First, the Falcons



Photos by Mike Kaplan

Senior Kim Kreke drives to the hoop during the 73-39 loss against the New Mexico Lobos Jan. 9.

Air Force drops contest to New Mexico, 73-39

By Nick Arseniak
Athletic Communications

The Air Force women's basketball team dropped a 73-39 contest to New Mexico in Mountain West Conference action Saturday afternoon at Clune Arena.

The loss drops the Falcons to 4-11, 0-2 while the Lobos improved to 13-2, 2-0.

Three Lobos reached double figures, led by Amy Beggin, who had game-highs of 16 points and nine rebounds. Angela Hartill added 11 points and six rebounds and Sara Halasz had 10 points and three rebounds off the bench for UNM.

Kim Kreke was the leading scorer for the Falcons with 10 points to go with six rebounds and two blocked shots. Brooke Cultra added nine points and nine rebounds to go with two blocked shots.

Air Force had a tough go of things in the first-half, as cold shooting lifted New Mexico to a 33-12 halftime lead. The Falcons shot just 20.8 percent from the field in the opening stanza.

Despite a down afternoon from the field, the Falcons managed to get to the free throw line in the second half, to score 27 second-half points. Entering the game leading the nation in free throw shooting percentage (82.7), the Falcons went 14-of-18 from the line, good for a 77.8 percentage.

Jenny Bandi notched a career-high four points off the bench and Amber Wilmore notched career bests with two points and two rebounds.



Sophomore guard Raimee Beck drives around a New Mexico Lobos defender during the game at Clune Arena Jan. 9.

Academy track coach inducted into hall of fame



Photo by Steve Walters

Air Force Academy track and field head coach Ralph Lindeman addresses the team during a track meet. Mr. Lindeman was inducted into the Arizona Track and Cross Country Coaches Hall of Fame Jan. 9 in Glendale, Ariz.

GLENDALE, Ariz., (AFNS) — Air Force track and field head coach Ralph Lindeman was inducted into the Arizona Track and Cross Country Coaches Hall of Fame Jan. 9 at a banquet in Glendale, Ariz.

Mr. Lindeman, who is entering his 20th season at the helm of the Falcons' track and field program, is one of four members of the Class of 2009.

Mr. Lindeman spent the first 11 years of his career coaching in Arizona at the high school and collegiate levels.

He began coaching in 1973 at Carl Hayden High School in Phoenix, before moving on to Glendale High School in 1974. During his five-year stint as the head cross country coach, Mr. Lindeman coached four Arizona state champions and a team that finished second at the state championships. In addition, he served as Glendale's head track coach beginning in 1976. Mr. Lindeman then coached at Westwood High School in Mesa, Ariz., from 1979 to 1980.

Mr. Lindeman moved to the collegiate level in 1980, serving as an assistant coach on the men's team at his alma mater, Arizona State. During his three-year tenure with the Sun Devils, he led seven individuals to PAC-10 championships and helped ASU to their only PAC-10 team title in 1981.

From 1982-84, Lindeman served as an assistant coach for the men's and women's teams at the University of Arizona. While there, he coached six PAC-10 champions and one NCAA champion.

Joining Mr. Lindeman as 2009 inductees into the Arizona Track and Cross Country Coaches Hall of Fame are Bruce Frankie, Greg Hull and Ron Mann. Mr. Frankie is the longtime coach of Washington High School in Phoenix, while Mr. Hull, a coach of two Olympic champions, is the head coach of Sky Athletics, the top professional pole vault club in the county. Mr. Mann is currently the head coach at the University of Louisville, but was the head coach at Northern Arizona for 24 years.

"For me, this is a greater honor than being selected to the 2004 Olympic coaching staff, because this selection is by my peers and the guys I started out with in the profession," Mr. Lindeman said. "It's particularly gratifying being inducted along with Greg and Ron, two of my closest friends in the profession."

The purpose of the Arizona Track and Cross Country Coaches Hall of Fame is to honor men and women, who have distinguished themselves both as coaches and leaders, in that they furthered the growth and quality of track and field and cross country in Arizona.

host Stanford at 7 p.m. today. Saturday, Air Force welcomes 22nd-ranked Northern Iowa in a 7:30 p.m. conference dual. Both matches will take place in Clune Arena, with live stats and video streaming available on goairforcefalcons.com. Meanwhile, 10 other Air Force wrestlers head to Omaha, Neb., Saturday for the annual Glen

Brand Open, hosted by Nebraska-Omaha.
Track and Field

The Air Force track and field team kicks off the 2009 indoor season at 4 p.m. today with the annual All-Comers Meet at the Cadet Field House.
Schedule Of Events - Field
4 p.m. - women's weight throw, men's weight throw, women's

shot put, men's shot put
4 p.m. - men's pole vault, women's pole vault
5 p.m. - men's long jump, men's triple jump
5 p.m. - women's long jump, women's triple jump
5 p.m. - women's high jump, men's high jump
The track events begin at 6 p.m.

09 Hall of Fame Class

The Air Force Academy announced its second class for induction into the Air Force Academy Athletic Hall of Fame. The six 2009 inductees, Jim Bowman, Callie Molloy (Calhoun), Dee Dowis, Terry Isaacson, Ernie Jennings and Ben Martin will be inducted May 8 at the Air Force

Academy Falcon Club.

The six inductees represent a former athletic coach and administrator, a track and cross country multiple All-American, two of the football program's most decorated performers, a multiple-sport standout and a former coach who held one of the longest tenures in Air Force history.



Gym closure

The Cadet Gym will be closed for non-cadet use from 5 a.m. Sunday until 8 p.m. Monday, due to renovation work. There will be no heat or water to the entire building during this time. The facility will reopen to serve all authorized patrons again starting Tuesday. For more information, call Roger Gustafson at 333-4228.

Grand reopening

The Stripes Lounge, complete with a newly installed bar, will hold a grand reopening at 3:30 p.m. Jan. 23 in the Falcon Club. The club will offer heavy hors d'oeuvres with a \$5 cover charge for non-members. Two club members will receive \$50 gift cards. The evening will also offer

an enlisted membership drive where new members will have the cover charge waived and have the chance to receive a \$100 gift card. Call Senior Master Sgt. Amy Cook at 333-0050 with questions or for more information.

Dance lessons

Weekly ballroom dance lessons, one hour each for five more weeks, continue Wednesday at 7 p.m. Learn the swing, foxtrot, slow waltz and rumba dance steps. Cost is \$70 for couples and \$40 for an individual. Call 333-2928 for more information or to sign up.

National Eye Care Month

Community Programs is conducting a "used/unwanted" eye glasses drive this month. Adult and children's glasses are needed. They will be given to Doctors Without Borders where they will find new life in third-world countries. Drop off boxes are located at Milazzo Center, marketing office, outdoor recreation and the Academy Child Care and Youth Centers. Call 333-2928 for more information.

Horse cents

The Academy Equestrian Center is offering a winter deal for serious riders. The basic cost is \$150 for the first horse and \$100 for each additional horse per month, per family. Arrangements for the Winter Lease Program are by appointment only with Jeanne Springer at 472-8639 or e-mail jeanne.springer@usafa.af.mil

Volunteer opportunity

Anyone interested in being a volunteer track and field official at Academy indoor and outdoor meets for the 2009 season should contact scott.irding@usafa.edu or call at 719-333-3013 or toll free at 1-800-379-1455 extension 3013. If no answer, leave a message.

A&FRC offerings

The Airman and Family Readiness Center hosts the following classes for January. Call the A&FRC @ 333-3444 with any questions or to register.

The Art of Love

Academy artisans will pay tribute to St. Valentine during the Academy Arts & Crafts Center's "That's Amore" art contest. All forms of art may be entered but must either contain the color red, a heart and the word "love" or its concept. Entries will be accepted Jan. 28 - Feb. 4, and entry forms are available at the center. A show and awards reception is set for Feb. 6 and will include light refreshments. For more information, call 333-4579.

Group Pre-Separation Counseling

Mondays (except during TAP week); 2 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.

Sponsorship Training

Thursday; 8 to 9 a.m.

This class is for those who have been assigned to sponsor a newcomer to the area. Contact your unit sponsorship monitor for details.

Newcomer's Red Carpet Base Tour

Jan. 23; 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

This informative base tour offers insight into the Academy mission and reveals what there is to see and do at the Academy.

Disabled American Veterans medical records review

Jan. 26; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Individuals within 180 days of retirement or separation can have the DAV

review medical records.

TAP Seminar

Jan. 27-30; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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

Water aerobics

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

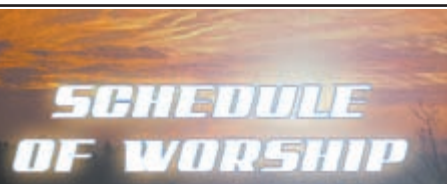
America recycles

The 10th Civil Engineer Squadron will hold an electronic recycling event through January. Each Wednesday and Thursday electronic items can be taken to Bldg. 8125 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. for recycling. The 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.



SnoFest headquarters

Lift tickets, party tickets and accommodations are now available for SnoFest 2009, the 19th annual military snow sports weekend, Jan. 30 - Feb. 1, 2009, at Keystone Resort. For more information, visit: www.usafaservices.com/SnoFest.html.



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 a.m.
Contemporary - 11 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



Photo by Arnie Spencer

Nunsense

Mother Superior Sally Struthers, center, performed to the delight of a near-capacity crowd in Arnold Hall Theater Saturday evening in the ever popular musical, "Nunsense." The two-time Emmy Award and Golden Globe Award winner is featured in the 25th anniversary tour of the production. Ms. Struthers is most widely recognized as "Gloria Stivic," wife of "Meathead" where she starred with Archie and Edith Bunker (Carol O'Connor and Maureen Stapleton) during the 1970s and 1980s in the sitcom, *All in the Family*.