

Officials cut ribbon to Doug Valley renovation

By Gary McManus
Forest City Military Communities

Officials with the Air Force Academy, developer Forest City-Hunt and Colorado Springs cut the ribbon here April 30 on several extensively renovated homes located in the Douglass Valley neighborhood.

The project is a part of the ongoing privatization partnership the Air Force has undertaken to update its on-base family housing and amenities.

Academy officials gathered with area residents to officially unveil the newly renovated homes and Col. Todd Robison, commander of the 10th Mission Support Group, spoke on behalf of the Air Force.

The ribbon-cutting commemorates the completion of extensive renovation of 123 Air Force family homes in the neighborhood.

Improvements include new, updated energy-efficient appliances and heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems, new flooring, carpeting, and light fixtures and expanded master bedrooms, baths, and dining areas.

Significant exterior improvements have also taken place on each of the homes including new cultured stone siding and garages. These completions are a part of a larger multi-phase, multi-year privatization program involving Air Force family housing in five different neighborhoods at the Academy.

The project includes renovations, some new construction and demolition of outdated housing units. The first phase includes a total of 257 units. More than 123 renovated units are now available, another 93 are currently undergoing renovation and 100 are being demolished.

Construction of 34 new units is also underway, with 23 units now completed. In addition, amenities such as a community center, jogging trail, and playgrounds & tot lots are planned. The project is projected to be completed in 2013.

"The renovations, will significantly upgrade and enhance the quality of life for Academy families," said Tom Henneberry, president of Forest City Military Communities.



Blazing technology

Academy firefighters extinguish an auto that's ablaze here April 30 while testing a chemical found to be 10 times more effective than water. ColdFire foam, according to Academy fire experts, appears as though it would be a significant improvement to the department's suppression efforts. "The most significant advantage is it provides firefighters the ability to extinguish both hydrocarbon (gasoline) and alcohol ethanol fires," said Deputy Fire Chief Ken Helgerson. "This is critical to our response efforts, especially when you factor in our responses on I-25." Firefighting foams currently used are typically good for one type of fire or the other but not both. The product is also designed to provide an alternative to extinguishing metal fires which pose a unique hazard based on their reactivity to water. Overall, it expands firefighters' capability with none of the common drawbacks of other extinguishing methods, officials said.

Photo by John Van Winkle

AFA earns 10-year accreditation

Distinguished evaluation team cites 16 points of commendation

By Tech. Sgt. Cortchie Welch
Academy Public Affairs

The Air Force Academy hit an "institutional grand slam home run," earning a maximum 10-year accreditation after undergoing a comprehensive and intense evaluation by a team of distinguished leaders in higher education April 27-29.

During its visit, the eight-member team representing the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools reviewed the Academy's ongoing ability to meet the commission's criteria for accreditation.

The commission recently released preliminary results of its report, recommending the Academy receive its next accreditation site visit in 10 years. The team, consisting of leaders from diverse and well-respected institutions nationwide, cited 16 points of commendation and only four concerns for the Academy. The final written report is scheduled to

be released at the end of this month.

According to Academy senior leadership, everyone on the installation played a key role in the accreditation process.

"You should feel proud of this superb institutional accreditation—it is a true reflection of your very hard work," said Lt. Gen. John Regni, Academy superintendent. "This is like an institutional grand slam home run for us. Thank you all for your daily commitment to excellence which led to this institutional recognition."

"The team cited 16 points of commendation and noted that was an unusually high number for an accreditation visit."

Brig. Gen. Dana Born, dean of the faculty, expressed her appreciation as well for the Academy's hard work and commitment to making the accreditation visit a success.

"All of us at the Academy can take

great pride in this accomplishment," General Born said. "Although we did a good deal of specific preparation, the overwhelming success of this accreditation visit has to be attributed to the daily pursuit of excellence by every cadet and permanent party member in all the mission elements."

The Academy has been accredited at the bachelor's degree level by the NCA/HLC since 1959. In 50 years since that unprecedented action, the school has been continuously accredited at maximum 10-year intervals.

The Air Force Academy is widely recognized as one of the finest higher-education institutions in the nation. *U.S. News and World Report* ranks the school as the top Baccalaureate College in the West. *Forbes* lists USAFA as the 16th best college in the nation (out of 569) and *Barron's* lists the Academy as one of the "most competitive" colleges in the country.

WEEKEND WEATHER
FRI SAT SUN
Very Windy 67 39 55 38 59 41
Rain
Rain Early

Sandhurst

Air Force cadets finish strong in international competition

Page 4

Outcomes wrap-up

Summary connects ODS dots

Page 7



Baseball update

Falcons find it rough in the diamond

Page 15



Energy Savings Tip of the Week: Check insulation levels throughout your home.

Motorcycle awareness saves lives

By Lt. Col. Bryan Cessna
Academy Director of Safety

With winter in the rear/side view mirror and summer fast approaching, May is typically the month motorcyclists start "getting their motors running."

The warmer weather brings motorcyclists out in full force. Motorcycles of all shapes and types – sport bikes, street bikes, cruisers, and even mopeds will be on the streets and Academy personnel are no exception.

We have an active riding population here.

Research shows that per vehicle mile traveled, motorcyclists are nearly 37 times more likely than a passenger

car occupant to die in a traffic crash. Motorcycle fatalities across the U.S. have steadily increased over the past decade. In the Air Force alone, 11 of 28 fatalities (FY09) have involved motorcycles. Last year, the U.S. Marine Corps lost more Marines to motorcycle accidents (25) than in combat in the AOR. An alarming truth!

In an effort to promote safe motorcycling and reduce motorcycle mishaps, the Air Force and the Academy are joining with other federal, state and local highway safety, law enforcement and motorcycle organizations proclaiming May as "Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month."

Throughout this month, USAFA

Safety will focus on motorcycles and increasing everyone's awareness. I highly encourage all commanders, supervisors and any of our motorcyclists to do the same.

The Academy safety staff will provide information each week, such as videos delivered via e-mail, regarding safe motorcycle operations i.e. visibility, proper protective equipment, techniques, etc. The video is slightly dated. However, the information is still very pertinent.

Even if you don't own or operate a motorcycle, an increased awareness about them will help you avoid potential conflict on our streets and highways.

As always – be safe.

ACADEMY SPIRIT

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

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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: One's moral compass for supervision

By Lt. Col. Blake Brewer
45th Medical Support Squadron commander

PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — Character is the foundation of successful leadership.

The Air Force Academy defines character as one's moral compass, and the sum of those qualities of moral excellence, which compel a person to do the right thing despite pressure or temptations to the contrary. If you allow your character to be compromised, you will never be able to stand strong in your future. The flaws in your character now will only be amplified under the great pressure of supervision, command, and combat.

So it is important to build and keep your character.

There are some basic fundamentals to help develop your character: trustworthiness, responsibility, respect, and fair-

ness. Trustworthiness is one of the major foundations of a person's character. A person must be honest; don't deceive, cheat or steal. Reliability and loyalty also help assemble trustworthiness. A person needs to be reliable and dependable to those above and below him or her on the chain of command. Simply stated, do what you are expected to do.

Responsibility and respect are two other fundamentals to help form your character.

As mentioned earlier, reliability means you must do everything you are expected to do. Responsibility builds onto reliability in the fact that you need to consider the consequences and be accountable for your choices in action. A leader must take responsibility for his or her subordinate's decisions. In simple words, give the praise but take the blame. This basically comes down to respect.

Treat others with respect and follow the golden rule, treat others as you would want to be treated. While working with people, ensure you are peaceful when dealing with anger, disagreements and insults. This will show and gain much respect.

It is imperative to show fair treatment to all people.

Display empathy by being sensitive to the feelings, values, interests, and well-being of others. Fairness also means playing by the rules and not taking advantage of others. Your character in the Air Force will follow you after you PCS, retire or separate. To reach excellence you must first be a leader of good character.

These foundations will help build character. If one lives by the Air Force Core Values, Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence in All We Do, it will be built and maintained for a lifetime.

Character Corner Morality

By Lt. Col. Charles Boyd
Center for Character Development

Let's think of morality as a gold coin. Gold, because it is valuable to possess and a coin because it has two sides.

One side is Respect.

Respect is showing regard for the intrinsic worth of someone or something. It is the restraining side of our morality that keeps us from violating that which we ought

to value, such as human dignity, the rights of others, etc.

On the opposite side of the morality coin is responsibility.

Responsibility encompasses the willingness and ability to respond to any given situation in an ethical and moral manner.

Respect is the passive side of our morality, where Responsibility is the active side that defines our obligations.

To be a moral person and leader of

character, one must be both respectful and responsible. When we master both, then we have something that is truly priceless. Morality will serve us better than a gold coin ever could.

"We are firmly convinced, and we act on that conviction, that with nations as with individuals, our interests soundly calculated will ever be found inseparable from our moral duties."

— Thomas Jefferson

Character Matters airs Wednesdays at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. on Kafa radio, 97.7 FM or listen via www.usafa.org.



"The mother in my life is the wife of my three children Graysen (6), Alexander (3), and Delaney (10 weeks). We will be celebrating her by having the children create a fine breakfast in bed as well as gifts made by the children."

Patrick Kraft
Academy Fire
Department



"When I think of mom, I think of how she is always put together, and how much she loves jewelry. She lives in Augusta, GA. This year I'm sending her a pair of Lia Sophia pearl earrings and a gift certificate to a Day Spa/Salon."

Razelle Krug
Director, Constituent
Relations Association
of Graduates



"My mother is deceased. I'll be honoring her by honoring my wife, Tamara, and our daughter Shayna and we'll visit Mueller State Park this weekend as a family."

Air Force Lt. Col.
(retired) Al Brody



"Honoring my mother for Mother's Day is no easy task because no matter how hard I try nothing can ever be enough. I'm going to tell her that there has never been a better mom and that she did a great job. Most of all I just want her to know that I love her."

Cadet 2nd Class
Ryan Albrecht
Cadet Squadron 28



Doctor: Take anti-flu drugs only after medical diagnosis

By Fred W. Baker III
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Senior military health officials are warning against taking antiviral medicines to fight the H1N1 flu virus until a doctor has confirmed the diagnosis.

Most patients treated at military medical treatment facilities for flu-like symptoms don't actually have the H1N1 or any other kind of flu virus, officials said.

"Everything that looks like flu is not flu. Most of the cases where people think they have the flu, they actually have some other respiratory disease," said Army Lt. Col. (Dr.) Wayne Hachey, director of preventive medicine for the Defense Department's health affairs office.

Taking the flu medicine without having the virus causes several problems, Doctor Hachey said. First, the medicine will have no effect on what actually ails the patient, so the symptoms may only get worse.

The antiviral medicine does not act like a flu vaccine to prevent the flu.

Taking the antiviral medicine before diagnosis simply depletes the national stockpile available to those actually diagnosed with the H1N1 virus, Doctor Hachey said.

Finally, Doctor Hachey warned that all drugs have potential side effects.

"Taking a medication that you don't need subjects you to increased risks," he said.

Doctors at military treatment facilities are not prescribing antiviral drugs such as Tamiflu unless they suspect the H1N1 virus. Tests done locally cannot determine conclusively that a patient has the virus, but Doctor Hachey said they are fairly accurate at pinpointing it.

Military doctors send their suspected samples to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta to confirm the diagnosis. In the meantime, if doctors suspect the virus based on local tests, they take the necessary precautions with the patient and prescribe treatment, Doctor Hachey said.

In the next few weeks, military doctors should be able to conduct the tests locally, Doctor Hachey said. In the meantime, the Defense Department has a robust system of detection across the globe to protect its servicemembers and families, he added.

Defense Department health officials are "pretty familiar with being able to control and limit the impact of those kinds of diseases, especially influenza," he said. DoD experts have been preparing for a pandemic for the past decade, and have been ramping up their abilities to detect and provide services for the past five years, he noted.

A robust surveillance system of 200 sites in 100 countries is tied into a network that reports on patients'

Situation update

The ongoing outbreak of novel influenza A (H1N1) continues to expand in the United States. CDC expects that more cases, more hospitalizations and more deaths from this outbreak will occur over the coming days and weeks.

- As of Thursday, the CDC is reporting 896 laboratory confirmed human infections with novel H1N1 flu in 41 states in the United States.
- Colorado had 19 cases as of Thursday, but none of these cases were in El Paso County.
- Colorado's confirmed cases are located in Adams County (4), Arapahoe County (5), Boulder County (1), Denver County (2), Douglas County (1), Eagle County (1), Fremont County (1), Garfield County (1), and Jefferson County (3).

Sources -- Colorado Department of Health and Environment, Centers for Disease Control

symptoms. If several patients in the same region report similar symptoms, the system shows a spike in that area.

Doctors are tied into the system locally, and senior commanders at the Pentagon can view the results globally in near-real time.

"We really do have a nice global perspective using a multitude of different surveillance assets across the (Defense Department) community that all channel into one site," Doctor Hachey said. "That way we can shift resources, we can do further investigations, and ... we can also tell someone in a particular area (they may) have a problem."

All the information is shared with the CDC and other state and federal agencies, he said.

The Defense Department is not an island, the doctor noted.

"We're part of the national community, so what happens on one part of the fence really impacts what happens on the other side of the fence," he said. "So the more we share information, the better off both of us are."

But for now, military doctors are reporting that the H1N1 virus is relatively mild and is not having much of an impact on the young, healthy troops who make up most of the military. They are, however, urging caution for those who feel they are showing symptoms, and pushing preventive measures to prevent the disease.

"The most important thing right now ... is if you're sick, stay home," Doctor Hachey said. "Right now it's a mild disease, so staying at home is a very effective treatment."

The most critical preventive measures include washing hands and covering your mouth when you cough, the same as with any flu."

NEWS BRIEFS

Parking changes

Due to increased number of events located in the Cadet Area, parking is no longer authorized between Fairchild Hall and Vandenberg Hall.

Parking was permitted in this area due to the construction phases at Vandenberg; however, with cadet processing, parades and other significant events, the space has become a safety issue.

The 10th Security Forces Squadron is monitoring the area, and violators are being cited. Call 333-2000 or the special events noncommissioned officer in charge at 333-3126 with questions or concerns.

Diet supplement pulled from shelves

A recent U.S. Food and Drug Administration warning to consumers has prompted military exchanges to remove the diet supplement Hydroxycut from store shelves, officials said today. Military exchange officials have confirmed Hydroxycut products have been withdrawn from stores. The products are used by dieters and body builders.

In a May 1 news release, the FDA warned consumers "to immediately stop using Hydroxycut products." Usage of such products, the release stated, is "associated with a number of serious liver injuries."

Officials at the Dallas -based Army and Air Force Exchange Service directed managers to remove Hydroxycut from store shelves by noon May 2, said Judd Anstey, AAFES public relations manager.

Patrons of Defense Commissary Agency grocery stores needn't worry about Hydroxycut, said Ronald Kelly, chief of DeCA's public affairs directorate based at Fort Lee, Va. "We do not carry the product in our inventory," he said.

The maker of Hydroxycut, the FDA release stated, agreed to pull the diet supplement off the market. The FDA release lists a number of products subject to the consumer warning.

Second career prep

The Military Officers Association of America (formerly TROA) presents its "Marketing Yourself for a Second Career" lecture from 9 to 11:30 a.m. June 5 at the Airman and Family Readiness Center.

This presentation designed for those contemplating retirement or separation within three years. The lecture is universally-praised by audiences as "up-to-date, hard-hitting and sharply focused - a must see."

The forum includes comprehensive information on resumes, cover letters, job search, networking, career fairs, interview techniques, salary negotiation, benefits packages, the current job market and other relevant and important transition topics. For more information or to register, call 333-3444.

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USAFA Cadets finish eighth at 2009 Sandhurst

By Tech. Sgt. Bryant Ward
Cadet Squadron 1

The 2009 Air Force Academy Sandhurst Team finished eighth among 48 U.S. and international collegiate teams last month at West Point.

Air Force put up a great fight and all Academy team members should be very proud.

The team made a strong showing with good leadership and unity. RMC, the Canadian Academy, took the trophy back from the Brits this year, with BYU on their tail. The Brits took 3rd and 5th, with Echo Company from the 4th Brigade in between. Two other West Point companies were in 6th and 7th.

The Academy team was led by Cadets 1st Class Andrew Musser of CS-17 and Kedem Alon of CS-34. The competition has been held yearly at West Point since it started in 1967 when the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst of Great Britain presented West Point with a British officer's sword.

The intent behind the sword was to provide the corps of cadets with challenging and rewarding regimental skills competition, which enhanced professional development and military excellence in selected soldier fields. The winning team takes the sword home and claims the title of world champion.

Some teams competing this year included:

- Royal Military Academy England
- Royal Military Academy Canada
- National Military Academy of Afghanistan
- Chilean Military Academy
- 32 West Point Companies
- U.S. Air Force Academy
- U.S. Naval Academy

- USMA Preparatory School
- University of Hawaii
- Iowa State University
- Texas A&M
- Georgetown University
- Florida Institute of Technology
- East Carolina State University
- Appalachian State University
- Brigham Young University

The competition tested intense mental and physical endurance along with the team's cohesiveness. Officials in charge include British and American Special Forces members looking to implement a number of scenarios that would challenge a nine-person combat unit in today's military.

This year's event was a tough one, with much more emphasis on problem solving than last year.

Some of the challenges the team faced during the roughly 8 to 10 mile competition was land navigation, varied obstacle courses, assault rifle marksmanship, U. S. and foreign weapons assembly, a zodiac boat course, construction and use of a rope bridge, ascending a 12 to 15 foot wall in 45 seconds, gear inspections, leadership reaction courses, commandant's challenge and a memory scenario.

The team was on foot the entire competition and had to maintain a maximum 50-meter distance from team lead to last member at all times. Failure to follow the rules of the competition, along with missed targets in the marksmanship portion, resulted in time penalties. The team with the fastest time took the sword home.

To date, U.S. Air Force Academy's best finish is third place in 2008.

2009 Competitors

Name	Class Year
Jack Ambridge	2009
Blake Duffy	2010
Christopher Goetz	2011
Richard Kabanuck	2010
Elizabeth Levri	2011
Andrew Musser	2009
Benjamin Otte	2009
Matthew Roland	2010
Calvin Woodard	2012

Alternates who traveled with the competitors and to train as backups and provide support during the week of training at West Point:

Name	Class Year
Michele Ernest	2010
Alec Schwartz	2010
Kedem Alon	2009
Bryan Maynard	2012
Frederick Tarantino	2009

Remaining team members:

Name	Class Year
Edward Foulon	2009
William Friedl	2012
David Greer	2010
Andrew Hendel	2009
Anthony Langdon	2011
Jacqueline Lynch	2009
Andrew Owens	2011
Dominick Totino	2010

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This does not include teenagers in camouflage shorts.



First & Main Town Center (next to JCPenney)

Austin Bluffs Pkwy & Academy Blvd (in the King Soopers shopping center)



AFA promotes National Women's Health Week

By 1st Lt Stephany Watkins, RN
Academy Health Care Integration

Sunday through May 16 is National Women's Health Week.

This special week is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office on Women's Health and encourages women to make their health a top priority. Women are often the caregivers for their children, spouses, and parents and frequently forget to focus on their own healthcare needs.

Research shows when women take steps to improve their health and prevent disease, the results can be significant and everyone around them benefits.

Important steps include:

- Getting at least 2.5 hours of physical activity weekly
- Eating a nutritious diet
- Visiting a health care provider for regular checkups and preventive screenings
- Avoiding risky behaviors, like smoking and not wearing a seatbelt

— Paying attention to mental health, including getting enough sleep and managing stress

National Women's Health Week will also kick off the Woman Challenge.

The Woman Challenge is an eight-week online physical activity challenge for better health. Take the pledge, earn trophies, and after eight weeks of success, receive a Woman Challenge completion certificate.

To learn more and register for the Woman Challenge visit: www.womenshealth.gov/woman/woman-challenge/.

[health.gov/woman/woman-challenge/](http://www.womenshealth.gov/woman/woman-challenge/).

The 10th Medical Group will also have a Women's Health Information Booth available in the main clinic lobby from 9 to 11 a.m. Monday through May 15 to provide information and educational materials on various women's health topics.

Join the thousands of women across the country and celebrate National Women's Health Week by taking the essential steps to living a longer, healthier and happier life.

Depression signs differ between men and women

By Kristen Ward
TriWest Healthcare Alliance

Depression can strike anyone, but the symptoms can be dramatically different between men and women.

Signs and Symptoms

According to the National Institute of Mental Health, nearly 20 million people are currently dealing with depression. Service members who may have been exposed to traumatic events during their deployments have a higher risk for developing depression or post-traumatic stress disorder.

Common symptoms for men and women include feelings of sadness and hopelessness, sleeping problems, weight gain or loss, having trouble thinking clearly, isolation or feelings of guilt.

Differences may include:

Men

- More willing to acknowledge the



Photo by Dave Ahlschwede

physical symptoms of depression such as fatigue, irritability, sleeplessness

- May engage in more risky behaviors such as driving recklessly or getting in fights

- Are more irritable and angry, especially in relationships
- Abuse alcohol or other substances
- Are more likely to complete suicide

Women

- More willing to acknowledge feelings related to depression such as sadness, worthlessness, and excessive guilt
- More likely to have an anxiety disorder
- More willing to admit to problems and seek help
- Are more likely to attempt suicide, but less likely to complete it

Treatment is Available

The good news is there are effective treatments for depression.

Women tend to seek help for depression, while men are more likely to deny their symptoms or not even recognize them. However, help is available for everyone through TRICARE. Call 1-888-874-9378.

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Asian-Pacific American Heritage month kicks off

SAN ANTONIO (AFNS) — Airmen around the Air Force began celebrating Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month May 1 with events, speeches and various other activities.

Events will highlight the culture and achievements of Americans of Asian and Pacific Island descent.

Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month is celebrated with community festivals, government-sponsored activities and educational activities for students. This year's theme is "Lighting the Past, Present and Future."

The heritage month is just one part of several diversity programs supported by the federal government, Department of Defense and Air Force.

In June 1977, Congress introduced a House resolution that called upon the president to proclaim the first 10 days of

May as Asian-Pacific Heritage Week. The following month, a similar bill was introduced in the Senate. Both were passed.

On Oct. 5, 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed a joint resolution designating the annual celebration.

In May 1990, the holiday was expanded further when President George H. W. Bush designated May to be Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month. May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. The majority of the workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants.

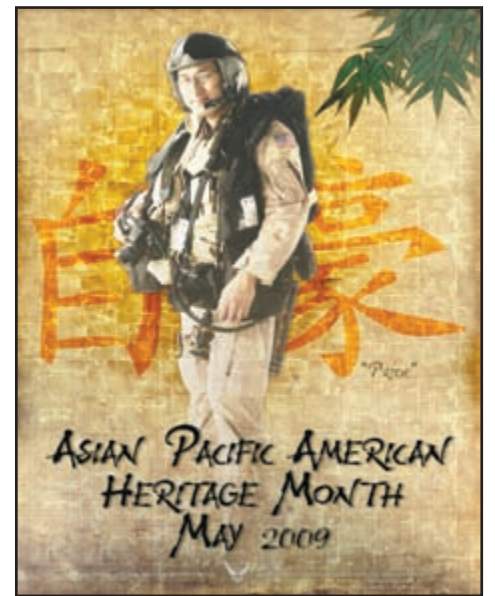
During Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month, Airmen are encouraged to take time to recognize and cele-

brate the dedicated service and contributions of Asian-Pacific Americans, both past and present, to the country and the Air Force.

Some of those Asian-Pacific Americans who made contributions to the Air Force were:

■ On Jan. 28, 1986, the space shuttle Challenger exploded 73 seconds after lift off, killing all seven astronauts aboard. One of the crew, Astronaut (Lt. Col.) Ellison Shoji Onizuka, had become the first Japanese American astronaut the year before when he flew on a secret mission aboard the shuttle Discovery.

■ Colonel Onizuka (June 24, 1946-Jan. 28, 1986) was born and raised on Kona, Hawaii. He received a bachelor's degree in Aeronautical Engineering in 1968 and a master's degree in 1969 from the University of Colorado. The following



year, he joined the U.S. Air Force and became a flight engineer. Colonel Onizuka later attended the Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards Air Force Base.

New selective re-enlistment bonus list announced

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) — Pentagon officials recently released the latest selective re-enlistment bonus list which contains 82 Air Force specialties.

The revised listing increased bonuses for one Air Force specialty code — contracting. Seventeen AFSCs will receive lower SRBs than previously offered and seven AFSCs were removed from the program.

"Since the bonuses announced in 2008 were successful, the Air Force has seen an increase in the overall retention rates," said Michael McLaughlin, chief of Air Force

re-enlistments at the Air Force Personnel Center. "The contracting career field is the only career field in which we are still seeing significant shortages."

Air Force officials use SRBs as an effective retention tool to shape the force and address shortages in skill sets considered necessary to support the joint coalition fight, emerging missions and the nuclear enterprise.

A recent review of the program indicated that some AFSCs have regained manpower and no longer require the bonuses. Other AFSCs, however, require increases to achieve the required retention rates and skill sets.

All increases and additions were effective May 1 and all decreases and deletions will go into effect May 31. Any re-enlistments or extensions of any length that have been conducted prior to the official message release will remain valid.

This release does not apply to Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard personnel.

For a complete SRB listing, visit AFPC's "Ask" Web site and click on the "military" tab. Select "active duty enlisted," then "Reenlistments" and click on "Selective Reenlistment Bonus (SRB)." Call 333-8766.



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Outcomes: Series wrap-up connects ODS dots

By Col. David LaRivee
Department of Economics and Geosciences

For the past several months we have described each of the USAFA outcomes, but we have not spent much time discussing how they fit together to guide the Air Force Academy's Officer Development System.

We all need to understand this relationship in order to fulfill our commitments as members of the Air Force Academy because, as General Creech, former commander of Tactical Air Command, was fond of saying, "the first duty of a leader is to grow more leaders."

Our Officer Development System at USAFA develops officers through a simple framework. It establishes the identity of an officer by relating the most essential attributes of officership—character, professionalism, service to the nation, and warrior ethos—to our Core Values, Oath of Office, and the Constitution of the United States.

It constructs a framework for presenting this identity to cadets and permanent party through role modeling, education, training, and experiences. This Officer Development System seeks to inspire a commitment to the officer identity through association, habit development, and the innate appeal of the core values.

Finally, it provides a four-year course of instruction designed to develop and enhance the competencies associated with being an officer of character.

The USAFA Outcomes are a key component supporting each of these four objectives.

While the four attributes of officership succinctly capture the essence of a leader of character and represent the familiar image of a good officer to the public, an effective developmental process requires the more refined description of the expectations captured in the 19 detailed Outcomes.

When we witness character we see it through actions that exhibit courage, ethical reasoning, respect for human dignity, and other qualities. A military professional stands apart from his or her civilian counterparts by possessing and employing



unique skills and specialized knowledge.

Service, in its most demanding interpretation, requires discipline to sustain a lifetime of rigorous preparation, the willingness to sacrifice personal returns for national imperatives, and the stamina to stay the course despite the heavy burden associated with carrying the load for others.

The warrior ethos that inspires those around us is the indomitable will that springs from the courage, discipline, and stamina through which we employ our skills and knowledge to make the critical decisions necessary to fulfill our responsibilities. Thus, the multidimensional personality reflected in the image of an officer of character is the composite presentation of the USAFA Outcomes. This means that when we develop these attributes, we must integrate our efforts across all mission elements of the Academy. Not one of the 19 Outcomes can be achieved by a single mission element. Likewise, when our graduates serve as officers, they must blend them all together to deliver on their obligation to serve our nation.

Recent events offer a glimpse how well cadets are already combining these talents to meet challenges similar to those they will face in the future.

Recently, 26 cadets applied their knowledge and skills from multiple disciplines to set a new altitude record for a collegiate-built rocket launch, highlighting their competencies in teamwork, engineering and science knowledge, and their understanding of the application of space power.

Our cadet hockey team displayed its indomitable spirit and professionalism this past season, defeating traditional powerhouse teams, and just missing qual-

ifying for the Frozen Four NCAA Championships.

Our outstanding track record for placing graduates in international and national scholarship programs is a testimony to our ability to develop officers whose concepts of public service and civic leadership is comparable to the best from around the world. And, each day, our cadet-run honor system challenges cadets to maintain and enforce high standards of ethical conduct while facing heavy academic, athletic, military and social demands.

Which of the Outcomes is most important to the development of officers? The brutal truth of the matter is that they all are.

Col. H.R. McMasters recently stated that the Iraq war has revealed a need for officers who are "open to change as an opportunity, have a tolerance for ambiguity, and adjust rapidly to evolving situations." So the challenges we face in developing quality officers are enormous. Our officers will be expected to lead much earlier and in more diverse fields of endeavor than ever before.

As military members, our commitment to serve wherever we are needed makes us one of the few all-threat capable resources available to respond to world-wide crises. As a result, Air Force officers are currently serving in a myriad of roles ranging across the military, political, diplomatic, or economic spectrum of natural security issues. We will continue to need officers who possess sufficiently broad capabilities to lead successfully in such a complex environment.

The USAFA Outcomes are soundly based on the experiences of these officers and their predecessors.

The Outcomes point the way.

In the words of one cadet, "overall, the USAFA Outcomes successfully encapsulate and develop the type of leader vital to today's Air Force." Any significant deficiencies in any of the outcomes weakens the core capabilities of any officer and can lead to serious consequences measured in terms of lives, equipment, or national objectives.

As civilian and military leaders of all ranks and positions assigned to the Air Force Academy, it is our duty to grow more leaders who possess the vital qualities captured in the 19 Outcomes.

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Combat medics contribute to rich history

By Lt. Col. Camille R. Looney
10th Medical Support Squadron

“Medic! Medic!” His words rang out, pleading ... trying to be heard over the rumble of the helicopter overhead.

Through the smoke and dust, with utter chaos enveloping, he could see the person moving purposely among the fallen. A medic, a healer, but, nonetheless, a warrior.

Today, the term “combat medic” is used generically to describe military medical personnel performing their duties in support of combat. There is a rich history of medics on the battlefield, dating back to Napoleon’s Army, called “litter-bearers.”

Recently, the 10th Medical Group set out to capture the essence of combat medical care in the context of The Airman’s Creed with a mural painted by Staff Sgt. Jason Martinez, a laboratory technician. Sergeant Martinez began to visualize the scene while deployed to the Honduras.

He received input from 10th MDG leaders who were looking for a pictorial representation of the increased deployments in which medical personnel participate.

From start to finish, the mural took about 60 hours to complete. The final touches are being put on the canvas to prepare it to hang in the clinic’s main lobby. The unveiling will be held on May 28th.

Col. Alan Berg, 10th MDG commander, extends an invitation for all to view the mural, saying, “This is an exciting addition to the lobby of the clinic, capturing the top priority of any military medic, to be ready to go into harm’s way to care for our warriors and defend our nation.”

The Combat Medic

A battlefield's a lonely place, each one a fox before the hounds, sole target of the hunt. Each one a hound, both stalked and stalking. Each ammo flash, each scream, each moan belongs to all--the air alive with sound and blood and body parts. A no man's land of violence.



Combat Medic Memorial at Fort SamHouston, Texas

A bullet finds its home. A fox brought down, a hunter stilled, alone in pain and shadow, bloody mud and sand, shrouded in mist and memory. The hunt recedes to stalk another fox.

A healer moves amidst the carnage, seeking out the fallen. Sure and steady hands find a pulse, probe to stop the life force flowing out. The touch: "You're not alone. I've found you. We're here together, you and I." Two soldiers finding healing in the chaos.

— Linda Lucas Walling

Over time and with increasingly more specialized training and technology, medics on the battlefield became critical to troop survival. An article in the March 2009 DefenseLINK highlighted that in today’s environment, stating “combat medics serve double-duty when deployed overseas. They must not only be ready at a moment’s notice to provide lifesaving medical care, but they also have to be prepared to battle alongside their comrades.”

Operations in Iraq and Afghanistan have raised the awareness of the role combat medics play on the frontlines.

The Combat Medic Memorial Statue at Fort Sam

Houston, Texas, has become a symbol of military medical personnel in the midst of their work. It’s fashioned from a photograph taken by Bill Walling in 1988. A poem written by Linda Lucas Walling often accompanies the photo.

There are photographs, poems, prayers, statues and websites dedicated to the combat medic. There is a Combat Medic Association whose motto is, “Medics never stand taller than when they kneel to treat the wounded.”

From serving in Napoleon’s army to World War II, combat medics continue to honorably serve on the battlefield, saving lives in the midst of utter chaos.

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Airmen distribute Humvees to Iraqi forces

By Staff Sgt. Dilia Ayala
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

CAMP TAJI, Iraq (AFNS) — Joint expeditionary tasking Airmen, including a native of Colorado Springs, and Soldiers here are currently working to arm Iraqi forces with more protective means of transportation.

As U.S. forces change over to the M1151 Humvee, they turn in the older M1114 vehicles to the Taji Redistribution Property Assistance Team here as a means of salvaging the vehicles.

Overall, the team processes M1114 up-armored Humvees prior to distribution to Iraqi army and police.

"We receive them from all over Iraq," said 1st Lt. Victoria Smith, assigned to the 732nd Air Expeditionary Group and the RPAT officer in charge. "We are the central hub or depot point for the receiving and transferring of M1114s over to the Iraqis."

The team then accounts for each vehicle turned in and performs an initial safety inspection, storing them until they are ready to be picked up for processing to the next staging point.

"We take these vehicles in from various companies, various battalions, and whoever is in need of turning them in," said Tech. Sgt. Joseph Dietz, the RPAT yard boss. "Instead of scrapping these vehicles, we use kind of like a recycling program."

"In turn, we continue to improve our

relationship with the Iraqi government by selling these vehicles to the Iraqi government for a much lower price than they are standard," added the sergeant deployed from Moody Air Force Base, Ga. "Then, the Iraqi government takes (the Humvees), does a little work to them and puts them out in their army and police force for better protection (of their forces) against (improvised explosive devices), insurgents, things of that nature."

Once the M1114s are accounted for and have passed their initial inspection, U.S. Soldiers assist in turning the vehicles over to the Iraqis for the next step in the redistribution process. During a typical pick-up, 150 Humvees are taken to the next stage in the process.

"The Iraqi army along with U.S. soldiers come over to pick up the vehicles to take them to their next staging point," said Sergeant Dietz, a native of East Islip, N.Y. "We will transfer the M1114 to (Multinational Security Transition Command-Iraq). They will, in-turn, sell it to the Iraqi (government)."

MNSTC-I is a command that is responsible for helping Iraq organize, train and equip its military and police forces and develop Iraqi security institutions capable of sustaining security with reduced coalition involvement.

While in the hands of MNSTC-I personnel, the vehicles are repainted and any necessary maintenance is performed



Photo by Staff Sgt. Dilia Ayala

Tech. Sgt. Joseph Dietz and Army Spc. Justin Anderson take accountability of an M1114 Humvee as U.S. and Iraqi army soldiers drive the Humvees to the Iraqi-run section for further processing in March at Camp Taji, Iraq.

before they are turned over to Iraqi soldiers and police.

Assisting in the redistribution process, Iraqi soldiers take the vehicles to MNSTC-I for processing, and help bring the Humvees one step closer to being distributed for use on their daily patrols.

"I am so thankful for these vehicles," said Hakem, an Iraqi army private stationed here. "I'm proud to be a part of the process to get them to our Iraqi soldiers and police.

These Humvees will help keep them safe."

"This process is really important," said Lieutenant Smith, a native of Colorado Springs, Colo., deployed here from Holloman AFB, N.M. "It is important what we are doing in this country as far as helping rebuild the infrastructure. (This will) help get Iraq back on its feet and get them to the point where they can provide everyday security on their own streets."

While choosing the best name for your baby, here are some you may want to consider.



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Facts, testimony bust IDEA myths

By April Rowden

Air Force Manpower Agency Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) — In less time than it takes to fill out a credit card application, Darlene Daspit-Pohl was on her way to earning \$10,000 just for having an idea.

Ms. Daspit-Pohl used the Air Force Innovative Development through Employee Awareness Program, or IDEA program, to submit an idea that reduces how much the government spends for pilots' oxygen masks in June 2007.

Three weeks later, the Randolph Air Force Base employee's idea was approved and a cash award was headed her way.

The Air Force IDEA Program routinely distributes recognition certificates and monetary awards for original ideas that benefit the Air Force. Depending on the validated first year savings and/or intangible benefits, the rewards can range from \$200 to \$10,000.

"Ideas don't have to be about technical orders or mechanical improvements or come from the flightline," said Nathaniel Zabel, the Innovation Programs Branch chief at the Air Force Manpower Agency. "We want to see ideas from across the Air Force; from civilians, enlisted and officers, from every career field and every shop, from the cubicles to the cockpits."

From 2004 to 2008, almost 35,000 ideas were submitted for evaluation. Nearly 50 percent of those were accepted and

received personal incentive awards. This fiscal year, close to \$850,000 has already been awarded for innovative ideas.

"The IDEA Web site has made it extremely easy to submit an idea," said Master Sgt. Art Hoven, assigned to Offutt AFB, Neb. To speed up the entire process, "your ... submissions should be as clear and concise as possible."

In an effort to debunk the myths surrounding the IDEA Program, both users and officials offer advice on how to make the program work for everyone.

Myth 1: I have no ideas worthy of a submission.

"Everyone has good ideas," Sergeant Hoven said. "The challenge is to find a way to sell them and work them into the master plan."

Sergeant Hoven's ideas — mostly technical order changes and aircraft modification ideas — have netted him several \$200 awards.

"If you don't know where to start or if you're unsure if your idea meets the program's eligibility criteria, call your local IDEA office," said Lori Sudol, an Air Force IDEA analyst. "They will help you get going in the right direction. Starting in the right place helps ensure your idea will speed through the entire process."

Myth 2: The program is only for those on the flightline.

Steve James and Thomas Finely from Sheppard AFB, Texas, shared a \$10,000 award for their idea to standardize parking

lot lights with light emitting diode, or LED, lights.

Maj. Carol Gordon from Luke AFB, Ariz., earned \$10,000 for her idea to delay reissuing common access cards to junior enlisted Airmen until they become NCOs.

"If you have ever submitted an action line or talked with your fellow co-workers about what could legitimately be done to improve your productivity and your base, then you have valid ideas," Mr. Zabel said. "Save the Air Force real money and you could get real money in your pocket."

Myth 3: My idea doesn't save the Air Force money.

A proposal doesn't have to reflect an actual savings amount to be eligible for an award. Intangible ideas — such as identifying a dangerous intersection or installing proximity card readers — are frequently considered by the IDEA Program.

Staff Sgt. Edward Sells from Lackland AFB, Texas, received \$200 — the maximum award amount for an intangible idea — for his idea to have printable certificates available as proof that Airmen had taken the Physical Health Assessment Online Survey.

"While these ideas do not necessarily save the Air Force money up front, imagine what is being saved in manpower hours and frustration because of Sergeant Sells' submission," Mr. Zabel said.

Myth 4: Very few cash rewards are distributed.

"There's this misconception that the

program only works in unique circumstances, and that these select instances are few and far between," said Staff Sgt. Erik Figi, of the Space and Missile Systems Center at Los Angeles AFB, Calif., received \$10,000 for his idea on historical film restoration.

Since 2004, close to \$10 million has been awarded to Airmen for ideas that have saved the Air Force more than \$537 million. In 2008 alone, the Air Force paid out \$1.4 million in IDEA awards.

Myth 5: It takes too long for ideas to be evaluated.

One of the common culprits leading to an extended evaluation period is a lack of details required to implement the idea, Ms. Sudol said. "The clearer the information the submitter provides, the easier that submission is to evaluate," she said.

"Sometimes an idea just needs a simple re-write or some additional details to make it viable," said Karyne Berman, an Air Force IDEA Program Data System program manager.

Myth 6: No one really cares about my ideas.

Ideas from across the total force assist those in decision-making positions.

"Submitting your idea is a sure fire way to have your voice heard, and possibly have an impact Air Force wide," Sergeant Hoven said.

For more information on the IDEA Program, visit your base IDEA Program office or e-mail idea@randolph.af.mil.

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Preppies pay homage to sponsors' dedication

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Preparatory School cadet candidates and Prep School staff said, once again, "thanks for a job well done" to cadet candidate sponsors during the annual sponsor appreciation reception Saturday at the Milazzo Club.

"We know your commitment draws away from your time, and we thank you," said Prep School commander Col. Zachary Todd.

Sponsor coordinator Cleo Griffith also expressed her appreciation.

"This year you opened your homes and hearts to the cadet candidates, some of whom were often strangers," she said. "You lend a lot of support."

While the Prep School numbers are smaller this year, and there is more of a family atmosphere, Colonel Zachary stressed opportunities for cadet candidates to get away from school for a while is still vital.

"It's a home away from home," he said and added students need friends in a home-like atmosphere.

"You can't do this 24 hours a day and night and get through it," he said.

Mrs. Griffith said cadet candidates and sponsors are matched based on hobbies, interests and activities.

"The sponsor's role is to provide them a place to relax and reconnect with family life and offer non-academic mentorship," she said.

Sponsors do not necessarily need to meet with their cadet candidates every weekend.

"You can flex it however you want," she said. "It's supposed to be nice and easy."

The busiest time for sponsors is at the end of the first semester and the beginning of the second.

Drizzly, foggy weather prevented a parade planned before the reception, but it didn't quell the smiles, camaraderie and heavily-laden food table inside the club.

Sponsor Jo Hite visited with her cadet candidate Jared Erikson during the reception.

"We love Jared. He's a great kid," she said and recalled the fun times over the last year making cookies, playing with the family dog and "really killer domino games."

Mrs. Hite and her husband Michael, a Prep School grad, have been sponsoring for about 10 years.

They became acquainted with Cadet Candidate



Photo by Ann Patton

Army Col. Tom Bergfeld, left, Cadet Candidate Natalie Justice, Wayne MacKirdy and Cadet Candidate Mel Funk partake of the juice fountain during the sponsor appreciation reception in the Milazzo Club.

Erikson through the Community Chapel.

Ron and Debbie Shelton knew Cadet Candidate Mik Legaspi from Germany where he was a family friend of the Sheltons.

"It's great to let them relax and get out of the house and away from school," Mr. Shelton said.

Cadet Candidate Legaspi appreciates those opportunities.

"Any time we can get away it's good," he said.

Cadet Candidate Andrew Steuckermann also appreciates the opportunities the sponsor program gives him to get together with family.

"It's nice to just chill and awesome to just talk to them," he said.

Army Col. Tom Bergfeld and his wife Kari also served as sponsors this year.

What is at the top of the list the cadet candidates like to do with the family?

"They eat," Colonel Bergfeld joked.

Cadet Candidate Raphael Magana enjoyed his time with the family.

"We have fun, and it's good food," he said. "We're always being watched at the school, but we can be ourselves there."

Mrs. Griffith stressed the sponsor program on the Hill frequently overshadows that of the Prep School, and the school always goes wanting for sponsors in order to make it a one-on-one relationship.

Prep School sponsors often sponsor two, three or more cadet candidates at a time.

Sponsors may also follow their preppie to the Hill as a sponsor, thus allowing for a five-year relationship to grow.

"Our sponsors are just as valuable," she said. "They also really need a support system here. I never have enough."

Mrs. Griffith has a special designation for her sponsors who give of their time and caring.

"You are my stars."

Recruiting for Prep School sponsors begins in June.

For more information, or to volunteer, call Mrs. Griffith at 333-2583.

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HAVE YOU MISSED AN ISSUE OF THE ACADEMY SPIRIT?

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Cadets fired up over historic weapons

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Keep your powder dry.

Cadets got a first-hand experience where that phrase came from during the History Club's Annual Historical Weapons Shoot in Jacks Valley Saturday.

The day's soggy, wet weather jammed up the black powder used in rifles and muskets from the Revolutionary and Civil War periods.

The 50 or so cadets fired and learned the ins and outs of more than 20 weapons from the British Brown Bess Musket used in the Revolutionary War to the American M-4 Carbine in use today.

Cadet 4th Class Brent Maggard was impressed.

"This is awesome. I get to see and touch weapons I've only seen in movies," he said. "It's not just the shooting but to get to know the weapons and have time with them."

Also included in the day's stockpile were the pre-Revolutionary Queen Anne's pistols fired during the French and Indian War, German and Russian bolt action rifles, the American M-3 carbine from World War II, the American M-14 from the Vietnam era and the M-9 Beretta from the 1980s.

Very early weapons fired during the shoot are reproductions.

During breaks in the firing, cadets gained insight into life in the early days of the Army's 10th Mountain Division which trained at Fort Carson, presented by members of the 10th Mountain Division Living History Display Group. On display were weapons, period ski equipment and outerwear, shelter, rations and cooking equipment.

"We do it to keep history alive," said member Mike Voelkelt. "Our purpose is to share what happened in World War II. It's hands-on history and unique because the 10th Mountain trained here for two years."

Several cadets and staff dressed in period-appropriate uniforms, including Cadet 1st Class Krista Hubschmidt in uniform from the French and Indian War.

"I always enjoy this," the meteorology major said. "My family reenacts the war at home in New York."



Photo by Ann Patton

A sniper rifle was one of the weapons cadets fired during the Academy History Club's annual historical weapons shoot at Jacks Valley Saturday. The 10th Mountain Division Living History Group gave presentations on the units' participation in World War II.

Cadet 4th Class Evan McCroskey, a Tennessee native, took it all in.

"It was great today," he said and explained he enjoyed firing the MM-240 machine gun.

"I was really excited about the Romanian sniper rifle. That was pretty cool," he said.

Cadet 4th Class Mike O'Donnell also had a blast or two..

"I had a blast," the Syracuse, N.Y., resident said and added although he plans to major in mechanical engineering, "History is one of my favorite classes."

Academy museum specialist Paul Martin was among those who familiarized cadets with historical weapons. He dressed in costume from the mid-1800s and contributed a Harpers Ferry pistol, a flintlock Kentucky Rifle and an 1863 rifle musket, among other weapons, and taught cadets firing techniques.

"It was a good learning experience on how to operate weapons in different time periods," Mr. Martin said. "Learning the limitations of weapons brought it home to them."

Dave Little with the Display Group fielded multiple questions from cadets.

"I am really impressed with the caliber of cadets. They are good, good people," he said. "There are some great kids coming into the service."

Academy history instructor Mike McDermott was impressed with the organization of the cadet-run event as well.

"It's an amazing thing. The leadership role cadets are taking is superb."

All the weapons at the event came from private collections, a fact not wasted on some cadets who expressed interest in starting their own collections.

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Academy finishes season in first place in Rocky Mountain Cycling Conference

By Jim Weinstein
Academy Cycling Club OIC

The Air Force Cadet Cycling Team competed in the conference finals recently in Salt Lake City Utah.

Despite below-freezing temperatures and wet weather, Air Force dominated the competition. The team finished in 1st place in the men's and women's team time trial.

In the criterium, the men and women took 12 top-10 placings in various categories.

In the road race event, the team road strong, but the top rider, Trevor Johnson, made it into the highly selective breakaway, road more than 60 miles at nearly 30 mph and finished 5th overall and 2nd in Division 2. His placing solidified his top ranking as the "best rider in Division 2" for the conference.

His top placing was not an accident. Cycling is a team sport and without the help of his teammates, Justin Goodin, Jay ShalekBriski, Preston Moon, and Adam Kruse, his top ranking would not have been possible—this is a true testament to cycling as a team sport!

The team is competing at the National Championships in Fort Collins through Monday.



Jay ShalekBriski, left, rips through a corner at more than 30 mph.

Courtesy Photo

Sports Hall of Fame Inductees



Ernie Jennings

Photos by Mike Kaplan

Six Academy members were honored at the Colorado Springs Marriott May 1 in recognition of their selection as the Academy's second hall of fame class. More than 300 Academy leaders and sports program fans turned out for the event. Those honored gathered for a group photo and are, from left to right: Jim Bowman, Terry Isaacson, Dr. Ben Martin Jr., Ernie Jennings, Dee Dowis, and Callie Molloy (Calhoun). According to Athletic Media Relations Director Troy Garnhart, the next hall of fame induction ceremony will be in the spring of 2011.



Terry Isaacson



Jim Bowman

Falcons face San Diego State

The Air Force baseball team makes its final road trip of the season, traveling to San Diego State today through Sunday. Internet radio and live stats will be available for the series. Air Force enters the weekend with a 14-31 overall record. The Falcons went 0-5 last week, dropping a pair of mid-week games with Northern Colorado and getting swept

at home by Utah. The Falcons are led offensively by DH/1B Matt Alexander, who is batting .408 with a MWC leading 15 homers and 62 RBIs. RHP Alex Truesdale anchors the pitching staff and has a 2-7 record in 54.1 innings pitched, to go with 40 strikeouts.

Men's gymnastics

Three members of the Air Force men's gymnastics team were named to

the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation All-Academic Team, the league commissioner announced Tuesday. Jake Schonig, Brennan Wolford and Aaron Zaiser were the Falcons' representatives on the academic all-conference squad. Schonig, who is making his third straight appearance on the all-academic team, leads the Falcons with a 3.28 grade-point-average. Wolford earned his second all-academic team selection with a 3.07

GPA, while Zaiser, in his first year of eligibility for the academic award, rounded out the Air Force contingent with a 3.02 GPA.

Women's soccer

The Air Force women's soccer team announced its 2009 Fall schedule Tuesday. The 17-game schedule features eight home games. Along with three scrimmages, the Falcons will play 11

Air Force drops doubleheader to Utah Utes

By Nick Arseniak
Athletic Media Relations

Utah swept both games of a doubleheader against Air Force in Mountain West Conference baseball action Sunday at Falcon Field. The Utes took game one, 12-6, and game two, 19-8. The losses dropped the Falcons to 14-32, 3-12, while the Utes improved to 19-24, 6-12.

In game one, Utah jumped ahead early and then held the lead with some big innings late. The Utes scored in the first three innings to lead 5-0. The Falcons then chipped away at the Utah lead with a run in the fourth and two in the fifth to make it a 5-3 ballgame.

Utah put the game away with seven combined runs in the seventh and eighth innings. The Utes scored two in the seventh and five in the eighth, highlighted by a grand slam by Nick Kuroczko. The Falcons added two runs in the ninth on a two-run homer by Addison Gentry.

Utah had 17 hits in the game. Kuroczko led the way, going 3-for-5 with six RBIs. Devin Walker went 2-for-4 with a homer and three RBIs and Tyler Yagi added four hits.

Air Force had 10 hits in the game. K.J. Randhawa, Matt Alexander, Blair Roberts and Parker Mayo had two hits each. Gentry and Alexander had two RBIs each.

Ute starter Jordan Whatcott (3-2) earned the win, allowing four runs off six hits, while striking out five, in 6.2 innings. Greg Krause picked up the save with 2.1 innings in relief.

Falcon starter Alex Truesdale (2-7) took the loss, allowing 10 runs in 7.1 innings, striking out five. Aaron Kurcz and Mike Kazakoff pitched in relief.

In game two, Utah scored multiple runs in five different innings to power past Air Force 19-8.

Utah jumped ahead 3-0 with a run in the first and two in the third. Air Force came right back with three runs in the bottom of the third to tie the game.

The Utes then answered with three runs off four hits in the fourth to go back ahead 6-3. Parker Mayo then hit a solo home run in the bottom of the inning to make it 6-4. Utah then blew the game wide open with six runs in the fifth to lead 12-4.

Utah added two more runs in the top of the sixth and Air Force scored one in the bottom of the inning,

to make it a 14-5 game. Matt Alexander then hit a solo homer for the Falcons in the seventh before Utah scored five runs in the top of the eighth. Nathan Carter then added a solo homer in the eighth and the Falcons plated

one more run in the ninth.

Robert Chimpky (2-2) picked up the win for the Utes, with three innings in relief. Ute starter Bryn Card went 3.2 innings, allowing four runs off eight hits, while striking out two.

Falcon starter Michael Ceci (1-3) took the loss, pitching 4.2 innings. Evan Abrecht, Michael Ruvolo, Jake Petro, Kazakoff and Andrew Loyd pitched in relief.

Utah had 20 hits in the game. Corey Shimada went 2-for-3 with a homer and five RBIs. Michael Beltran went 4-for-5 with two RBIs. Cooper Blanc also homered.

Air Force had 17 hits in the game. Carter led the way, going 3-for-5, adding a double, two runs and two RBIs. Roberts had three hits in the game as well, giving him five on the day. Alexander, Ben Ausbun, Tytus Moss and Jon McMahon had two hits for the Falcons as well.

The Falcons return to action today, at San Diego State.



Academy shortstop Adam Hill drives a ball up the middle vs. Utah.



Falcon shortstop Adam Hill makes the tag on a stolen base attempt vs. Utah.

Photos by J. Rachel Spencer

Dean of Faculty teams dominate soccer action

By Dave Castilla
Intramural Sports director

The top four teams in the intramural soccer program clashed on the multipurpose field Tuesday and Dean of Faculty #1 and #2 both came out with victories.

In the first match, DF#1 defeated last year's base runners-up, Med Group, 4-2.

Med Group got the early lead as

Peter Golas scored a goal three minutes into the game, however DF#1 scored next as Gabriel Fedinich kicked in a throw in, Sandra Wilson followed later with another goal putting DF#1 up at half 2-1. The faculty members continued their winning ways as Marion Russell kicked a goal with his left foot making it 3-1. Peyton Hobbs closed the gap for the medics making it 3-2, but Russell scored again this time using his right foot to secure the DF#1 victory.

In the night cap the undefeated Dean of Faculty #2 members continued their winning ways defeating 306 FTG 4-2. Kip Kiefer, a 1996 graduate and former USAFA soccer player, scored the first two goals of the game, putting DF#2 up 2-0 at half.

Kiefer didn't let up in the second half as he scored his third goal off a nice assist from present coach and another former Academy soccer player, Jeremiah Kirschman. The flight line got back in

the game as coach Erich Kunrath kicked a goal in with his left foot. DF#2 final goal came as Kirschman scored the goal, with the assist going to Kiefer. 306th closed out the scoring as Erich Ward kicked in a goal off a penalty kick.

The soccer season is about half way through the regular season. The top two teams at season end will be declared the base champion and runner-up respectively. There will be no post season due to graduation week.

home dates total. Air Force hosts three scrimmages in mid-August, taking on CSU-Pueblo Aug. 18, Colorado College, Aug. 21, and UCCS Aug. 23. The Falcons open regular season play at the Razorback/Adidas Classic, Aug. 28-30, in Little Rock, Ark., taking on host Arkansas and Missouri State.

Volleyball

Nine home matches, including eight

within the Mountain West Conference, highlight the 2009 Air Force volleyball schedule, which was released Tuesday. The Falcons will compete in three tournaments during the non-conference season, while renewing a rivalry with local foe Northern Colorado. The squad will open the 2009 season Aug. 28-29 in Philadelphia, Pa. Competing at the annual LaSalle Invitational, Air Force will face Cleveland State, host LaSalle, Fairleigh

Dickinson and Canisius. The Falcons will then head north to Denver on Sept. 4-5, where they will face the host Pioneers, West Virginia, Southern Utah and Eastern Illinois. Air Force closes out the tournament slate Sept. 11-12, when it travels to Conway, Ark. While there, the Falcons will face Louisiana Tech, host program Central Arkansas, Arkansas-Pine Bluff and Louisiana Monroe.

Golf

Air Force golfer Tom Whitney has been selected to compete in the 2009 NCAA Golf Regional Championships, as announced by the NCAA Division I Men's Golf Committee Monday. Whitney is one of 45 individuals overall awarded an at-large invitation, and the first Falcon to participate in an NCAA Regional since Tyler Goulding in 2005.

Volunteers: life blood of Academy community

By Academy Public Affairs

The spirit of volunteerism remains alive and well at the Air Force Academy.

A Falcon Club ceremony April 24 entitled "Celebrating People in Action ... Celebrating Academy Volunteers" honored the approximately 450 often unsung heroes who donated just short of 100,000 hours of tireless support.

Organizations such as the Academy's Thrift Shop, Community Center Chapel, American Red Cross the Military Retiree Activities Office and many others benefit from the contributions of community volunteers.

The various categories and criteria were included in selecting those who were honored at the ceremony.

Nominees/Recipients

12 Outstanding Academy Volunteer Nominees/Recipients

Retiree, family member/civilian, and youth categories.

Nominee must have actively volunteered time and efforts to an Academy of local community organization/agency during the past year.

Evaluated on volunteer service hours, active involvement and volunteer impact.

Six Volunteer Excellence Award Nominees

Established to recognize federal civilians, family members, and military and federal retirees who perform volunteer service of sustained, direct and consequential nature over their lifetime.

Two Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal Recipients

Medal is awarded to members of the Armed Forces who perform outstanding volunteer service to the community.

Service must be significant, sustained, and direct in nature and produce tangible results.

25 President's Lifetime Volunteer Service Award Recipients

Presented to volunteers who have served more than 4,000 hours during their lifetimes; signed by President of United States.

Total Hours Volunteered – 2008
68,383 Hours – Academy Registered Volunteers
99,683.50 Hours – Including Cadet Community Involvement

Nominees and award recipients by category:

Outstanding Academy Volunteer Award:

Retiree Category

Thomas Dowell – Recipient

Rose Phelps – Recipient

Family Member/Civilian Category

Janet Kugler

Margaret "Ann" Carpenter

LeAnn Allison – Recipient

Yvonne Huron

Cynthia Cope – Recipient

Cadet/Cadet Candidate Category

Cadet 1st Class Christy Wise – Recipient

Cadet 2nd Class David Chan

Youth Category

Kaitlin Lugo – Recipient

Special Presentations OAVA:

Staff Sgt. Jodia Cole – Youth Coach

10 MDSS – Volunteer Team

Volunteer Excellence Award:

*All nominees will receive the VEA

Larry Cronk

Charles "Chuck" Ulmer

Shari Calder

Janice Barnes

Tommie Hartman

Sally Sexton

Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal Recipients:

Tech. Sgt. Rex G. Barnes, Jr.

Maj. Steven E. Harrold

President's Volunteer Service Award (Lifetime) Recipients:

Robert Barr

John Barrowclough

Barbara Boykin

Eddie Boykin

Myrna Brandon

Alice Dadds

Bobbie Daley

Jeff Diesing

Mary Dowell

Thomas Dowell

Alvin Dyck

"Bear" Ferrant

LaDene Hancey-Gordyn

Tommie Hartman

Lois Jackson

Robert Munson

Robert Smith

Mary Souza

Gloria Toniolli

John Toniolli

Charles "Chuck" Ulmer

Lloyd Wasserott

Harold Weeres

Lydia Weeres

For more information on the Academy Volunteer Program, call Jeannie Lopez at 333-3444.

Program makes high-cost schooling accessible

By Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Servicemembers and veterans who enroll in the new Post-9/11 GI Bill will be able to attend some of the country's most prestigious – and high-cost – universities, thanks to a new program that's gaining momentum in academic circles.

Keith Wilson, director of education service for the Veterans Benefits Administration, reported growing interest in the Yellow Ribbon Program.

"We're getting a lot of activity in that area," he said. "There are a lot of schools that have expressed interest in participating."

Participating colleges and universities enter into an agreement with VA to fund tuition expenses above the highest public in-state undergraduate tuition rate. That rate, the maximum the Post-9/11 GI Bill can pay by law, varies from state to state.

Under the Yellow Ribbon Program, the school waives or offsets up to 50 percent of those higher costs, and VA will match that same amount.

If, for example, the tuition bill at a participating university is \$20,000 and the Post-9/11 GI Bill can pay only \$15,000, the university and VA will split the \$5,000 difference, explained Tammy Duckworth, who was confirmed last week as VA's assistant secretary for public and intergovernmental affairs.

Duckworth's alma mater, Washington's George Washington University, became

the latest institution to sign on to the program this week. GW's commitment provides for 360 veteran students to benefit during the 2009-2010 academic year, which university officials expect to cover all eligible undergraduate and graduate students.

Under the agreement, qualified servicemembers and veterans attending GW as undergraduates will receive free tuition, and those attending as graduate students will receive a significantly discounted rate.

In announcing the university's participation, GW President Steven Knapp called the school's estimated \$2.5 million investment in the program during the upcoming school year a way of giving back.

"This is a significant investment in those who have sacrificed so much on our behalf," he said. "We as a nation owe our veterans a debt of gratitude, and this commitment will enable veterans who attend GW to have the kind of educational opportunity the original GI Bill envisioned."

Other schools large and small have signed on or are considering the program.

At Knox College in Galesburg, Ill., officials said they couldn't say no to the initiative. "It's really exciting for us, because it's an opportunity for us to serve veterans who have served our country," public relations director Karrie Heartlein said. "As you know, veterans deserve the best our country has to offer, and that includes the opportunity to attend the college of their choice. The opportunity for them to attend Knox College is very exciting."

La Roche College in McCandless, Pa., also joined the program. "We're honored to play a role in helping our veterans reach their education and career goals," said Hope Schiffgens, director of the school's Office of Graduate Studies and Adult Education. "This is a time in our nation's history when education and retraining is vitally important, especially to this group of men and women who have given so much to us."

Jerry Jackson, dean of enrollment management at Union College in Barbourville, Ky., said his school also looks forward to working with veterans through the Yellow Ribbon Program. "We're eager to get this program started and to make sure our veterans know they're welcome as students at Union," he said. "We're proud to be able to help cover the cost of a college education for people who have served our country."

"I am so pleased that Centenary College will be able to provide this benefit to the fine men and women who have served our country," echoed Barbara-Jayne Lewthwaite, acting president of Centenary College in Hackettstown, N.J. "It is an honor to be able to reward these individuals for their dedication. Additionally, we look forward to benefiting from their global experiences in the classroom based on their military service."

In announcing his school's participation, Mari Ditzler, president of Monmouth College in Monmouth, Ill., said he looks forward to the opportunity "to serve those who have served our country."

"The residential liberal arts experience at colleges like Monmouth has been described as uniquely American," he said. "We are pleased that the Yellow Ribbon Program will enable our veterans to experience this special approach to learning and living."

"We are excited to be a part of the Yellow Ribbon Program and to support our nation's veterans," agreed Joel Bauman, vice president of enrollment services at Westminster College in Salt Lake City. "This program allows us to offer educational opportunities to those who have made tremendous sacrifices, and this is one way we can give back and thank them for their service."

In Pittsburgh, Seton Hill University's vice president for enrollment services, Barbara Hinkle, called the program a win-win situation. "We're very excited about the possibilities — both for our current students whose families may qualify, but also for future students as they come back from being deployed or their family members who are here," she said.

Wilson said he expects more schools to join their ranks as Yellow Ribbon Program participants.

"We just started soliciting applications about two weeks ago," he said. "We're processing them as they come in, and we're getting them coming in every day."

VA began accepting applications for the Post-9/11 GI Bill today. The new benefit takes effect Aug. 1. It is among several VA-sponsored educational benefits available to servicemembers and veterans.



Special performance

The Academy Cadet Chapel Music Department presents the 30-voice Denver University Lamont Chamber Choir Ensemble in a concert of "Music by Maurice Duruflé" at 3 p.m. Sunday in the Protestant Cadet Chapel. The choir is directed by Catherine Sailer, and will be accompanied by Joseph Galema, Academy organist. The event is free and open to the public; no tickets required. Parking will be available in the Harmon Hall lots.

Organizational fundraiser

The 306th Operations Support Squadron holds a unit fundraising garage sale from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 15 at 4414 E. Bighorn Drive, unit B. No "early birds" please. Call Staff Sgt. Samuel Perez at 333-2526 for more information.

Douglass Valley's 50th

Douglass Valley Elementary cele-

brates its 50th anniversary May 15. The celebration at the school starts with a barbecue at 4:30 p.m. followed by a program and open house. Call 234-4200 or email Teresa Bland with any questions at: dveanniversary@yahoo.com.

Wine tasting and auction

The Gleneagle Sertoma Club will hold its 5th Annual charity Wine and Beer Tasting and Auction at Falcon Stadium press box from 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday. Your driver's license allows you to enter either gate until 6 p.m. Highlights include specialties from local chefs, a professional auctioneer, an old-time soft drink and ice cream bar, and the beautiful Blue and Silver Room venue. All profits go to Tri-Lakes Cares and other charities. Buy tickets at the door (\$35 for one, \$60 for two). Call 488-1044 or 471-1088 for more information.

A&FRC Offerings

The Airman and Family Readiness Center hosts the following classes during May.

Group pre-separation counseling

Held every Monday (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 in identifying benefits and services associated with transition and beyond.

Mock interviewing

Wednesday; 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sign up for the next best thing to the real thing. We'll offer mock interviews with real HR representatives.

Resume writing

Thursday; 9 to 11 a.m.

Learn different types of resume and cover-letter styles and how to improve yours.

Medical records review

May 18; 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

May 19- through 22; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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

Newcomer's orientation and information fair

May 21; 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

This is a mandatory orientation for all newly assigned Academy personnel. Spouses are welcomed to attend the event held at the Milazzo Center.

Newcomer's red carpet tour

May 22; 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

This tour gives insight into the Academy mission and reveals much of what there is to see and do here.

Veterans Affairs benefits briefing

May 26; 8 a.m. to noon

This briefing provides valuable information on VA benefits for separating or retiring military members.

You're hired!

May 27; 8 to 11 a.m.

This 'how-to' e-networking course will cover online networking sites, netiquette, and making online connections. Popular networking sites such as Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and others will also be featured.

Call 333-3444 for information and registration.



Shopping Spouse's Day

Harry and David in the Outlets of Castle Rock hosts a Military Spouse's Day event all day today. Participants include: Coleman Factory Store, Dressbarn, Heartstrings Childrenswear, Liz Claiborne, Restoration Hardware Clearance Center, Perfumania, SAS Factory Shoe Store, Ultra Diamonds, Worldwide Imports, Zales the Diamond Store and many others. Present military ID., sign up for our preferred customer card and receive a coupon for \$10 off any purchase of \$20 or more. Offers are valid for active and retired military and their families. Visit Harry and David in the Outlets at Castle Rock 5050 Factory Shops Boulevard, suite 705.

Attention Stargazers

Tonight, John-Alex Mason will perform a tribute to blues great Robert Johnson, on the legend's 98 birthday. John's smoky voice, emotional lyrics and at times one man band performances have been captivating audiences all along the Front Range. Taking the stage with John will be some very special guests in honor to Robert Johnson. Check www.stargazerstheatre.com for more information and upcoming events. The Friday Night Concert Series continues with food, drink and music at 10 S. Parkside Drive, Colorado Springs. For more information, call 719-476-2200.



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 Mahyana 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 a.m.
Religious Formation - 10:15 a.m.
(September - May)

Tuesday-Friday
Mass - 11:30 a.m.

Protestant Services:

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

Sunday
Evangelical - 10:15 a.m.
Gospel - 11:30 a.m.

Paganism/Earth-centered Spirituality:
Contact Tech. Sgt. Longcrier at 333-6178
Robert.Longcrier@usafa.edu



Courtesy Photo

Business is picking up

Thirty 10th Medical Group members, family and friends conducted their quarterly Adopt-A-Highway detail on Highway 21 (Powers Blvd.) April 25. The group's Top 3 is always looking for ways to participate and give back the Colorado Springs community. This effort focused between mile marker 150 and 151 - Briargate Blvd and Research during which time the community servants cleared the highway of more than 35 bags of trash. "Adopt-a-highway is one of those programs that no one realizes its existence

unless it isn't done. Having folks drive by and honk or wave knowing you are doing the community some good is a nice feeling. Makes all the nasty stuff you find worth picking up," said Senior Master Sgt. Megan StClair. Additional participants included: Master Sgt Jeremy Rennahan, Lt. Col. Michael Burke, Linda Rennahan, Master Sgt. James Gray, Staff Sgt. Michiyo Litynski, Senior Master Sgt. Julie Branco, Master Sgt. Rita Hunter-Haug, Jeff Haug, Carly Seidy, Master Sgt. Timothy Frison, Staff

Sgt. Joel Andres, Staff Sgt. Costinel Stefan, Tech. Sgt. Marci Cochran, Janet Orta, Master Sgt. Charles Rose, Maj. Mark McDowell, Staff Sgt. Ashley Thompson, Master Sgt. Candace Smith, Master Sgt. Angela Zurun, Airman 1st Class Darell Holden, Airman 1st Class Stern Lloyd, Senior Master Sgt. Brian Salley, Master Sgt. Lonnie Tibbals, Porshe Swain, Linday Pitcher, Airman 1st Class Destiny Berry, Airman Timothy Nelson, Airman 1st Class Michael White and Staff Sgt. Annette Colon-Oliveras.



August 29th

Red White & Brave

Welcome Home Parade

The Welcome Home Parade Committee
is proud to announce the

2009 Red White & Brave Welcome Home Parade

On Saturday, August 29th, Colorado Springs will gather to let the troops and their families know how important their work and sacrifice is to us, and how happy we are to welcome them home.

Soldiers, airmen, Marines and sailors from every base in the Pikes Peak region will march proudly through downtown Colorado Springs. Marching bands of all kinds will play as colorful floats roll down the street. We will warmly welcome The 4th Infantry Division, formerly based at Ft. Hood and now part of the Ft. Carson family, to Colorado Springs.

In 2004, a group of community leaders decided to bring our town together to say thank you to our returning soldiers.

The Welcome Home Parade was a resounding success; 6,500 troops newly returned from Iraq and Afghanistan marched with their heads held high in front of 65,000 spectators. There were lots of smiles and a few tears at this historic event.

This Parade is an opportunity for our community to show our appreciation for the troops whose courage and determination helped defend our freedom.

www.csmng.com/welcomehomeparade