

Special Duty pay increase approved

Road construction on schedule

By Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Pentagon officials recently revised Special Duty Assignment Pay for Military Training Instructors. The revision, effective June 1, increases SDAP levels for MTIs.

According to officials, Air Force Basic Military Training has faced a shortage of MTIs since 2007. As an incentive for MTI recruitment and retention, Lt. Gen. Richard Newton, Air Force deputy chief of staff for personnel and manpower, approved an increase to SDAP for MTIs on June 1.

"Increased accessions and the recent extension of BMT from six to eight weeks triggered a requirement for additional instructors and placed a heavy burden on our current MTIs," General Newton said. "The pay increase will help compensate MTIs for their increased workload and help with the recruitment of more."

According to the Air Force Personnel Center, the increased length of basic training coupled with an increase in activeduty accessions rapidly raised the requirement for MTIs. With aggressive recruiting efforts and the increase in the SDAP, manning levels are on the rise and should meet the command's expectations this fall, said Tech. Sgt. Michelle Cardassi, NCO in charge of MTI assignments.

"That said, we are still looking for high-quality Airmen who want to serve in the demanding yet rewarding MTI mission," Sergeant Cardassi said.

MTIs receive SDAP based on their duty position and with the increase, will now receive the following: \$300 a month for Officer Training School instructors, \$375 for instructors in support positions, or \$450 for BMT flight instructors at Lackland or the U.S. Air Force Academy.

In addition to the increased SDAP level for permanently assigned MTIs, the personnel and manpower community also approved SDAP for Airmen performing MTI duties in a manning assist capacity (179-day temporary duty to BMT). These MTIs are authorized The ongoing road construction project impacting traffic flow from the Academy's South Gate to Pine Drive, officials say, is on schedule for completion by July 28. With reduced speed limits and even stopped vehicles, traffic can be heavy at times. Officials advise drivers to allow for additional travel time or to consider using the North Gate, especially during rush hours.

By Ken Carter

Editor

According to Air Force Academy Construction

Manager Scott Bowshot, the ongoing \$3.5 million paving project started May 29 and has included several unexpected issues such as expansive soil, deteriorated inlet structures and curbing.

"The issues we've faced, however, were nothing Civil Engineering could not resolve and we continue to remain on schedule," he said.

The 93,000 square yards of asphalt required to pave this stretch of roadway and the Thunderbird Overlook parking area involves many workers and a great deal of heavy equip-

finfind the has had ing illy the **Bocky Mountain Asphalt workers remove asphalt from the Tri-intersection Bridge deck**

Rocky Mountain Asphalt workers remove asphalt from the Tri-intersection Bridge decking Monday as part of the ongoing paving project scheduled for completion July 28.

ment along the route requiring Academy motorists to slow and use extra caution for everyone's safety.

"The only complaint we've heard so far is that some drivers have expressed that 25 m.p.h. is too slow," Mr. Bowshot said. "However, we cannot raise the speed limit to 35 m.p.h. because of the changeovers at the bridge and the South Gate require speeds of 25 m.p.h. or less." The intersection of Airfield Drive and South Gate Boulevard also requires a 25

m.p.h. restriction.

Mr. Bowshot reminds all to watch for and obey all traffic warning signs, flagmen, and reduce speeds throughout the construction zone.

The increased added value of a higher state of safety awareness and the final outcome will be worth the inconvenience of slower travel in the long run.

"This project will improve the quality of life and increase driver satisfaction for Academy personnel and visitors alike," Mr. Bowshot said. "The new pavement will reduce wear and tear on vehicles."

Future pavement projects include: North Gate Boulevard, the athletic fields' roads, Pine Drive, and several roads within the cadet area. Major repairs are ongoing to facilities within the cadet area and basewide utilities all of which are connected to the "Fix USAFA" program, which is focused on repairing infrastructure that's a half century old.

For more information, call Scott Bowshot at 333-8397.

Officials update uniform board decisions

By Tech. Sgt. Amaani Lyle Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Air Force officials announced policy updates in the 98th Virtual Uniform Board decisions posted June 10.

The following provides a snapshot of approved uniform wear. Follow-on messages will be released that contain detailed guidance and instructions. All information will be incorporated into AFI 36-2903.

addition of the name, rank and service designators to the green fleece when worn as an outer-wear garment is authorized.

Airmen may use personal cell telephones while in uniform and walking. Cell phones may be worn on either left or right side; however, the cell phone must be a conservative color. Military customs and courtesies are required and take precedence. Talking on a phone is no excuse for not saluting. Still prohibited is wearing hands-free devices such as cell phone attachments worn on the ears.
Enlisted chevrons will be worn on light weight blue jacket sleeves instead of the metal rank insignias on the collar effective Jan. 1, 2010.

Uniform lower leg pocket will increase by approximately 1/2 inch.

— Upper sleeve pockets are authorized on fire-resistant clothing authorized for the Central Command region.

Airmen earning and awarded the Army Parachute Riggers badge are authorized permanent wear on all uniform combinations. For the Airman Battle uniform and the Battle Dress Uniform, the badge will be blue. On the desert combat uniform the approved color is brown.
 Wearing the black Army Air Assault Badge on the Battle Dress Uniform is authorized upon graduation from Air Assault School.

SDAP based on the MTI duties they perform while TDY.

"SDAP is designed for duties identified as extremely demanding," Sergeant Cardassi said. She also explained SDAP may be re-evaluated and adjusted in the future to meet Air Force requirements.

For more information, contact your local military personnel flight or visit the "Ask" AFPC site and search for "MTI." — Effective Oct. 1, 2010, trousers on utility uniforms will be tucked into boots and give a bloused appearance. Tucking had previously been optional.

— The green fleece formerly worn only as the All-Purpose Environmental Clothing System liner is authorized Air Force-wide as an outer-wear garment. The — The ends of boot laces must be tucked into boots. Wrapping the laces around boot is authorized.

- The length of Airman Battle

Organizational ball caps are not authorized to be attached to either lower leg cargo pockets on the BDU trousers.
The female ABU trouser fly buttons will be the same as on men's pants.





'I love you, Dad!' say it like you mean it

By Bob Vasquez

Center for Character Development

"I love you, Dad!" Those are the four most powerful words a father can hear. And, if you're like me, it's a sentiment I'm always listening for. As we celebrate Father's Day I wonder why those same words that bring a man so much joy are so difficult for many of us guys to utter, especially the first time.

I grew up in the 50s and 60s B.A.A. (Before Alan Alda), in a macho, maledominated, old-styled, Latino environment in a very small desert town in southern New Mexico where we were taught men didn't show any type of caring emotion, especially toward other men.

We just didn't do it!

I remember, as a little boy, crying, and my grandfather smacking me as he said, "Men don't cry." I cried more after he hit me. Nowadays that incident may be considered child abuse. Then, it was just the way of life.

I recall observing the men in my community and hoping to be like them one day. I was convinced, however, that my grandpa's goal in life was to keep me from ever achieving that dream. Oh, my grandpa loved me, I found out after he passed away, but he didn't make it obvious. My Dad, a product of the same culture ,was not quite as bad. He was always at every ballgame I played (I was usually the entertainment) and, although he probably hated it, attended every one of my band performances. He eventually even co-managed one of my rock groups. Dad was always there when I needed him but he never mentioned that four-letter word, love.

One day, I don't remember when, although I do know it should have been sooner, having been on active duty for a while, I was talking to my Dad on the phone from a long distance away and for no apparent reason, actually there were many apparent reasons, before we hung up I said, "by the way, Dad, I love you." There was a very long pause at the other end. You must realize that my Dad has always been very aware that silence during long distance calls costs money. He finally replied, "I love you too, Bob." Since that moment on, our relationship has grown. And now, every time we talk on the phone or in person we make sure

we both acknowledge we love each other.

I've been away from home now for almost 40 years. More than 37 of those years I invested serving my country everywhere but in New Mexico. As tough as it may be for them not to have me and my family nearby, Dad and Mom still support my life's mission. So many of my macho buddies who have lost their dads before they took the opportunity to say those four most important words often tell me that if they could do only one thing over again, they'd like to see their father just long enough to say, "I love you, Dad!"

I'm very blessed. My dad is still with me. The highest priority I have on my 'To Do' list every Father's Day is to call my dad and tell him I love him. (It also helps to send a card or a gift.) It seems to me that all fathers have a need to be appreciated. If that's the case, you're dad would probably enjoy hearing those four words from someone he loves - you. Although my thoughts are from a male perspective, I think my point suits you ladies as well. When was the last time you told your dad you love him? If it's been too long, do it now!



To responsibly inform and educate the Academy community and the public about the Air Force Academy Lt. Gen. Michael Gould -Academy Superintendent Director of Public Affairs Tech. Sgt. Cortchie Welch -Chief of Internal Information Ken Carter — Editor kenneth.carter@usafa.af.mil Staff Sgt. Eric Bolt — Assignment Editor eric.bolt@usafa.af.mil Butch Wehry — Senior Staff Writer whalen.wehry@usafa.af.mil Ann Patton — Staff Writer elizabeth.patton.ctr@usafa.af.mil Denise Navoy — Graphic Designer

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



Action Line is a direct link to USAFA's senior leadership. It should be used when other avenues have failed. Concerns should be addressed at the lowest possible level in the chain of command and elevated as necessary. If satisfactory results have not been attained by addressing the chain of command. Mail to:

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Always remember why we serve

By Lt. Col. Victor Moncrieffe

31st Security Forces Squadron commander

AVIANO AIR BASE, Italy (AFNS) — In the summer of 2006, while assigned to the U.S. Air Force Academy, I met a young man who reinforced the reason why I serve.

I was about to enter an elevator when he and his mother, an instructor at the academy, walked in to ascend to the upper floors of the academic building. The mother introduced me to her son and I could already size him up as an upright young man who was a poster child for military service.

As I shook his hand, he informed me that he was about to graduate high school and was contemplating a life in uniform. I took the opportunity to try to recruit the young man into the Air Force and that's when I learned that he came from a proud military family as both his parents were serving or had served in the miliby the expressions on the mother's face, I could also tell she had concerns about her son's plans of service. She knew we were a nation at war and there was no doubt in her mind that her son would do his part.

As we stopped at the designated floor, I once again shook this young man's hand, reminded him that the Air Force was still hiring, but ultimately wished him the best of luck in his future endeavors. His smile and firm hand shake said it all.

On Sept. 5, 2007, the news spread that a child of an Air Force Academy instructor had been lost to an improvised explosive device attack in Iraq ... it was the young man I had met in the elevator almost a year earlier, killed in action at 19 years old.

Although very difficult for me, out of respect, I attended the wake and stood in line to provide my condolences to the family. It was a closed casket. When it was my turn, the mother saw me and immediately screamed out "You know, you know" repeatedly as I embraced her and shared in her grief. kind of man her son was and to what lengths he would go to serve his country. She knew that I knew that her son didn't serve for prestige, money, or medals, but did what thousands of young men and women across our nation do every day: serve the greater good.

To this day, the picture of Spc. Dane R. Balcon remains a permanent fixture on my desk to remind me that freedom is indeed not free, but has a price. That price is paid in the air, land and sea by the men and women in uniform who serve our great country around the world making sacrifices every day to preserve our nation's values and our way of life.

While there may be various personal reasons why some serve, (finances, education, opportunity, travel, etc.), I believe we ultimately serve because of the belief that there is something bigger than ourselves that's worth defending. Call it patriotism, a way of life, freedom, the fact remains that those of us in uniform,

tary.

His mother explained that her son wanted to join the Army as his father did and I could tell he was excited about the opportunity of serving as well. However,

In the five-minute meeting inside the elevator she knew that I could tell what

"Father's Day is one day of the

ognize my father and grandfa-

'fathers'. I like being able to rec-

year to celebrate all of my

regardless of specialty, serve for the greater good. That's what Specialist Balcon believed and that's what I believe as well.

So I ask, why do you serve?

Father's Day personal thoughts



"It's a great way to show appreciation to a man who has taught me every thing I know about being a man."

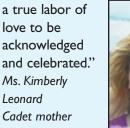
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Cadet 1st Class Cory Apodaca

Allyssa Steed Summer seminar participant

thers."

"Father's Day is not about being a father. It is about honoring what it means to raise up a responsible, confident and respectful child into adulthood. This is



"My father lives in Kuwait. It makes us remember why being a father is important. Being a father is the most exciting and rewarding position I hold. It

is one half of the puzzle to successfully raising children. "

Tech. Sgt. Brad Morton



Cadets rescue 3 from likely drowning in Panama

By Butch Wehry Academy Spirit staff

Four Academy cadets saved three Panamanians from potentially drowning June 7, while on a foreign immersion trip to Central America.

They were returning from a trip to the Panama's inland mountain area of Boquete when Academy Department of Foreign Languages Spanish instructor Victor Nell decided to take a break and let the 13 cadets go for a swim in the Pacific Ocean along Panama's Santa Clara Beach.

He was swimming with Cadet 3rd Class Ben Garoutte when he noticed two young ladies swimming about 30



C3C Allan Foote C3C Ben Garoutte

meters away.

"It was obvious they were in big trouble and were calling for help," Nell said. "I swam out to them and Cadet Garoutte followed me. We were basically in a rip tide type of current and being pulled out away from the beach."



C3C Derrick Rowe

professor, he was trying to keep one of them afloat and struggling to keep her calm. Cadet Garoutte helped with the other young lady. Cadet 3rd Class Bryan Koenig helped the professor keep her afloat and take her to shore.

Nell said he turned around and According to Nell, an assistant noticed a Panamanian man struggling

and screaming, "Auxilio me ahogo", Spanish for "help I am drowning!"

"I was about 15 meters from him at this time and pretty tired and luckily Cadets 3rd Class Derrick Rowe and Allan Foote arrived just in time to help him and pull him to shore," he said. "The cadets were phenomenal and very courageous and the likelihood is that the three Panamanians would probably have drowned," said Nell. "The four cadets had the courage to get in and help. I was extremely impressed with their swimming skills and their courage to come to the aid of people they did not even know.

The travelers arrived in Panama May 20 and are scheduled to return to the Academy today.

AFOTEC hosts cadets for summer program

By Katherine C. Gandara

Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center **Public Affairs**

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO - The Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center is hosting the U.S. Air Force Academy's Cadet Summer Research Program for a second year at AFOTEC locations in California, Colorado, Florida, Nevada, and the AFOTEC headquarters at Kirtland. Cadets work on real-world Air Force projects during five-week sessions. There are 13 cadets working within AFOTEC in a variety of technical positions compared to last year's seven cadets during this year's May 15 to June 18 session.

"Cadets work as members of test and evaluation teams and gain exposure to the operational testing processes, products, and experiences by accomplishing important tasks as full-fledged members of operational test teams," said Maj. Gen. Steve Sargeant, AFOTEC Commander. "The research projects the cadets are participating in leverage on-going test and evaluation of major Air Force warfighting capabilities and allow the cadets to be active members of the test teams working test design, execution, and analysis."

The USAFA Cadet Summer Research Program is a part of the AFOTEC/USAFA Mentoring Program, a joint effort between AFOTEC and the Academy, that seeks to develop an understanding of the tasks, responsibilities, and requirements many cadets find themselves facing upon graduation. The program provides AFOTEC personnel with experience in oper-

ations, acquisition, and test and evaluation, creating a comprehensive mentoring program to assist USAFA cadets during both their academic and professional development.

Brig. Gen. Dana Born, dean of the faculty, in a letter to General Sargeant wrote, "I know the AFOTEC experience is greatly bolstering the technical and leadership development of our participating cadets."

"Our mentoring program with USAFA cadets enables these future U.S. Air Force leaders to enter active duty with a better understanding and awareness of how the knowledge and skill they gain at the Academy will allow them to make a positive impact on delivering capabilities to warfighters expeditiously, conduct their operations with less risk to themselves, and often our Joint and Coalition partners," said General Sargeant.

"Hosting detachments and program POCs will gather lessons from the 2009 summer program experience that we will use to further refine the program for 2010," said Lt. Col. Scott Hunt, Headquarters AFOTEC point of contact for the program.

The idea for the AFOTEC/USAFA Mentoring Program grew from a meeting between General Sargeant and General Born in October 2007 when they discussed ways to create opportunities to fulfill



Cadet 1st Class Andrew Novak receives an incentive flight in allowing our Airmen to more effectively the back seat of an F-15 during a training sortie with the 65th Aggressors Squadron at Nellis AFB, Nev.

the then secretary of the Air Force's desire to increase the cadets understanding of and excitement for engineering and scientific career field options available to them after commissioning. The generals agreed to pursue a collaborative mentoring program involving AFOTEC personnel with Academy cadets and faculty.

AFOTEC is a direct reporting unit under Headquarters, U.S. Air Force. It is the Air Force independent test agency responsible for testing, under operationally realistic conditions, new systems being developed for Air Force and multi-service use.





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Program announces 2009 scholarship winners

By Defense Commissary Agency

Drum roll please . . . "and the winners of a \$1,500 scholarship are . . . Alexander O. Ambard, Abigail R. Ness, Michael T. Farrell, Kody D. Maynard, Amy E. McMahon, and Joseph H. Putko from Colorado Springs, and Kathryn M. Sparks and Bethany R. Prosseda from Monument," announced Kelly Wentling, store director at the Academy Commissary. The scholarships are part of the Scholarships for Military Children Program, funded by manufacturers and suppliers that provide products and services for commissaries around the globe.

"We're excited to report that the scholarship program continues to be a success in helping military families defray the cost of education," said Defense Commissary Agency Director and Chief Executive Officer Philip Sakowitz Jr. "We're proud to be associated with a program that has awarded 4,132 scholarships totaling more than \$6.4 million since its inception in 2001." firm, selects the winners based on academic merit, participation in extracurricular and volunteer activities, and the quality of their essays. Recipients are notified by letter. The full list of scholarship recipients and sponsoring business partners can be found online at *http://www.militaryscholar.org*.

Nearly every one of the Defense Commissary Agency's stores will announce a local winner; many commissaries will announce multiple winners.

The Scholarships for Military Children program is administered by Fisher House Foundation, a nonprofit organization responsible for building comfort homes near military medical centers. The foundation bears all costs of the program so that every dollar donated goes for scholarships. The general public has the opportunity to donate to the program through the military scholar Web site.

The Defense Commissary Agency operates a worldwide chain of commissaries providing groceries to military personnel, retirees and their families in a safe and secure shopping environment. Authorized patrons purchase items at cost plus a 5-percent surcharge, which covers the costs of building new commissaries and modernizing existing ones. Shoppers save an average of 30 percent or more on their purchases compared to commercial prices. A core military family support element, and a valued part of military pay and benefits, commissaries contribute to family readiness, enhance the quality of life for America's military and their families, and help recruit and retain the best and brightest men and women to serve their country.

Editor's Note: Recipients announced at *www.militaryscholar.org* are preliminary and are contingent upon determination of military dependency status by the scholarship evaluation firm. Students to whom this may apply have already been contacted. If it is determined that a student is ineligible to receive a scholarship, or there is a change in a recipient's educational status (for example: the student decides not to attend college), a new recipient will be named.

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Congratulations to USAFA newest Tech. Sgts.

Academy Spirit staff

The Academy has 22 new technical sergeant selects after the promotion results went public Thursday morning.

Air Force officials selected 7,724 of 37,172 eligible staff sergeants for promotion to technical sergeant for a selection rate of 20.78 percent.

The average score for those selected was 319.69, with an average time in grade and time in service of 5.68 and 10.85 years respectively.

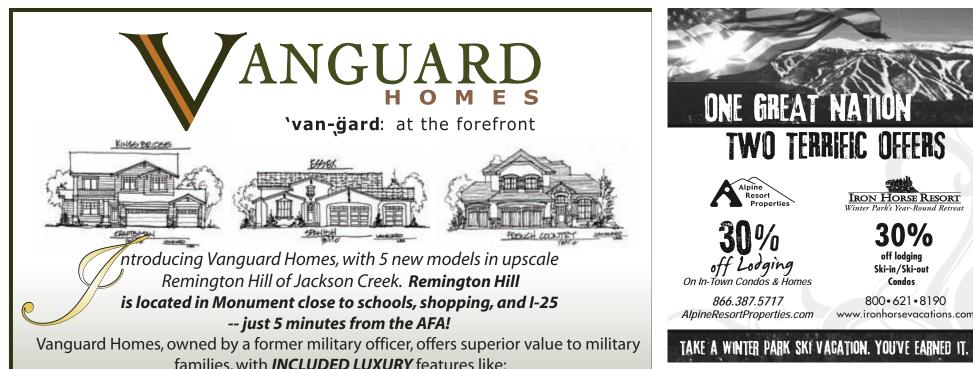
The Academy's newest technical sergeant selects are:

USAF Academy/DRU Jermaine Goodman

Angela Grannis Kevin Kelly Earl Taylor Jr. **Aerospace Medicine**

Dayna Greene Brandon Mosher

Air Base Wing Rafael Alvarez Terrence Dixon Commandant/Cadets Johnnie Gipson Dean of Faculty Mirium Brown Dental Cindy Baker Field Investigations Justin Gamache Force Support Pamela Cavit Medical Operations Christopher Fleming Tamra Whiting Christopher Woodward Joshua Zilin **Medical Support** Ann Flansburg Dana Reyes **Security Forces** Jason Reeves **306th** Jessica Clark Jonathan Wirsing



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Law gives renters more protection

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Michael J. Carden Special to American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, June 11, 2009 -President Barack Obama's latest efforts to look after home renters gives military members additional protection if the homes they rent are foreclosed, a Defense Department official said today.

The President's Protecting Tenants at Foreclosure Act of 2009 was signed into law on May 20. The legislation ensures that renters aren't forced out of their homes if foreclosure occurs and a new landlord takes over.

Renters in every state now have more time to find new homes. The new law greatly benefits the military, as the vast majority of active duty servicemembers rent homes throughout the United States, said Army Col. Shawn Shumake, director of legal policy in the Pentagon's personnel and readiness office.

While about 65 percent of the U.S. population own their homes, only about 25 percent of servicemembers are homeowners, so, foreclosure of rented homes potentially can affect most of the military, Shumake said.

"We've got a lot of folks out there that find that they are in really difficult positions, because their landlords are foreclosed on," he explained in a Pentagon Channel interview. "This law provides them a measure of security and protection they didn't previously have."

The legislation gives renters the right to stay in their homes throughout the duration of their lease, he said, unless the new owner is moving into the home or if the renter is renting under a month-to-month lease. Still, the new law gives renters at least 90 days before they can be evicted, he noted.

"This act is a protection that's really powerful and important, and a great help to our servicemembers," the colonel said. "This provides renters some particular [and] some important rights so they're not kicked out on the street with no notice."

Before the law went into effect, only individual state protection was available, or none at all, Shumake said. There was no consistency from state to state in the rights people had to fight immediate eviction after foreclosure.

The inconsistency may have been difficult on military members, many of whom are transferred from one state to another every two to three years. The federal law now provides a baseline of protection for all renters, no matter where they live in the United States, he said.

"There was no uniformity or anything you could count on," Shumake said. "[The law] now makes things the same across the country, and it at least gives you some basics that you know are there. At the very least, you know you're going to get that 90 days of protection."

The act is one of several laws that ensure military members are taken care of as they move from state to state to new duty stations, Shumake said. He noted the Joint Federal Travel Regulation, which defines financial benefits awarded to servicemembers upon changing duty stations.

The regulation was amended in July because of the rising foreclosure rates to allow the federal government to financially support local moves by military members. So, if one of the two exceptions occurs and servicemembers are forced to move from their home, the government may pay for the move, he said.

The regulation and Obama's new legislation go "hand in glove," Shumake said.

Military members faced with such uncertainty are in the best possible position with the two protections, he said.

For more information, servicemembers should contact their local legal office.

Telephone news line set up for 'non-wired' retirees

Air Force Retiree News Service

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) -- A toll-free telephone news line has been set up for those retirees and surviving spouses who do not have computer access. All readers are encouraged to pass the information to those who don't have Internet access.

By calling (800) 558-1404, retirees and spouses can stay

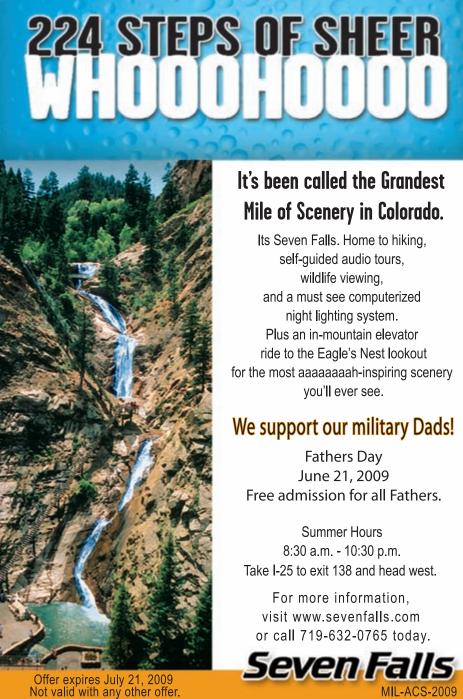
informed using this new easy-to-use menu-driven service.

Callers can select from several different topics that are compiled from various electronic news sources. Topics include pay and annuity matters, medical and health care, and other benefits and entitlements.

This news line joins the e-Afterburner, Air Force Retiree News Service, and Air Force Retiree Web site at www.retirees. af.mil in providing the latest news and information to the service's retiree community.



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Please, 'Bear' with us

Several bears have been spotted on the Academy this week, like this cinnamon bear spotted Tuesday. The Academy Natural Resources staff offers the following tips should you come upon a bear where it could potentially turn dangerous.

If you surprise a bear on a trail:

— Stand still, stay calm and let the bear identify you and leave. Talk in a normal tone of voice. Be sure the bear has an escape route.

— Never run or climb a tree.

- If you see cubs, their mother is usually close by. Leave the area immediately.

If the bear doesn't leave:

— A bear standing up is just trying to identify what you are by getting a better look and smell.

- Wave your arms slowly overhead and talk calmly. If the bear huffs, pops it jaws or stomps a paw, it wants you to give it space.

— Step off the trail to the downhill side, keep looking at the bear and slowly back away until the bear is out of sight.



Academy hosts Firefighter Combat Challenge

Academy Public Affairs

The Air Force Academy hosts a Firefighter Combat Challenge regional competition at Falcon Stadium, June 26 at 3 p.m. and June 27 at 10 a.m.

The public is invited to attend the competition.

The Scott Firefighter Combat Challenge brings together hundreds of firefighters from around the country to compete in what ESPN has called the "toughest two minutes in sports."

The five-event obstacle course tests firefighters' fitness levels and agility.

Several teams from the Air Force Academy Fire Department will compete. For the past decade, the Academy Fire Department is a consistent finalist at the world firefighter combat challenge.

The Academy Fire Department is also fielding several new teams this year, Team USAFA, Team USAFA Relay, USAFA over-40 Relay, USAFA's Terrible Tandem, USAFA GIs, USAFA Anchors and the all-female team, USAFA Femme Bots. The women's team also includes talent from Colorado Springs, consisting of Academy firefighters Elaine Perkins, Andrea Caraway and Jessica Morehouse, as well as Stacy Billapondo from the Colorado Springs Fire Department. Billapondo is the number one-ranked female firefighter in the nation.

Other bases represented include Peterson AFB;



Photo by John Van Winkle

Academy firefighter Patrick Kraft shows off his hose technique during the 2006 Firefighter Combat Challenge regional competition at Westminster, Colo. Kraft continues competition this year with Team USAFA, after a strong finish in the 2006, 2007 and 2008 World Firefighter Combat Challenge.

F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo.; Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; and a team from the Department of Defense Firefighting Academy at Goodfellow AFB, Texas. Civilian fire departments represented include CSFD, Monument's Donald Westcott Fire Department, as well as teams

from Boulder; Westminster; Lubbock, Texas; Rapid City, S.D. and Sheridan, Wyo.

The firefighter combat challenge requires firefighters to wear full bunker gear and a Scott Air-Pak Self Contained Breathing Apparatus while completing a rigorous course comprised of five events: a five-story stair climb with a 45-pound hose, a hose hoist, forcible entry/Keiser Force Machine, a hose advance and victim rescue. Each event represents a job task specific to firefighting and tests each firefighter's resilience and agility.

Firefighters can compete as individuals, in teams of five, or in relay teams of two or five people. But all are running against the clock. If an individual firefighter or a single relay team finishes the course in under two minutes, he or she advances to the nationals. If a team of five firefighters has a combined time of less than seven minutes from their three best times, that team advances to the nationals.

Kids can also get in on the act. In addition to the firefighter combat challenge, On Target Challenge will bring the Kid's Firefighter Combat Challenge to Falcon Stadium.

This event affords children ages 4-12 the opportunity to live out the dream every child has of being a firefighter, through a scaled-down version of the FCC course.







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CAP teens strive "To Define Excellence"

By Ann Patton Academy Spirit staff

Cadet 1st Lt. Alex McGregor, 17, has always been interested in aerospace and a military career.

"I knew I had to join," she said of the all-volunteer Civil Air Patrol.

She is among the 40 cadet leaders and senior staff guiding and forging the way for 140 CAP basic cadets during the annual Colorado CAP encampment June 13 through Saturday at the Preparatory School.

The basic training challenges cadets in drill, team building, proper Air Force uniform wear and appearance, proper care and appearance of quarters, physical fitness and strategic planning. In the classroom, basic cadets delve into such subjects as aerospace history and its impact on American defense and military customs and courtesies. Cadets also enjoy touring the Academy, experiencing flight in the simulators and taking to the skies in a glider.

The Colorado CAP sponsors the event, themed "To Define Excellence" this year. With 35 squadrons all over the state, members focus on emergency services, aerospace education and cadet programs for youth from ages 12 through 18.

"They are all very squared away and



Civil Air Patrol members participate in a team-building exercise during the Colorado CAP encampment June 13th through Saturday at the Preparatory School here.

very mature," Capt. Scott Orr, public affairs officer for the encampment, said of the basic cadets, some as young as 12. "They have a sense of motivation unlike others their age. These are young adults."

During the rest of the year CAP cadets work on accumulating aerospace education, community service, going out on emergency missions, working as scanners and observers on air crews and serving as honor and color guards for events.

Encampment is not a requirement to become a CAP cadet, but attendance is required for cadets desiring to become CAP officers.

Cadet Maj. Aaron Murphy, from Elizabeth, Colo., is serving as cadet commander. A six-year CAP veteran, he gains satisfaction from seeing how CAP is enriching the lives of young people.

He noted that although cadets may not reach the highest standards in some areas, "It is not how well they perform but how they learn the values," he said.

The program stresses teamwork, honor, discipline and excellence. The cadet cadre oversee the encampment with senior staff as overseers.

"I love it," said three-year encampment veteran Cadet Lt. Col. Daniel Jackson, 20, from Sacramento, Calif. "I like to help cadets achieve what they couldn't do on their own."

He said the young cadets often show up confused and scared in a whole new environment. "This gives them a whole new world view."

Cadet Master Sgt. Sabrina Lounsbury, 14, eventually would like to join the Air Force and become a pilot. She is returning for her second encampment, this year for the Advanced Training Flight, and she is impressed with the cadets.

"They are very motivated, and they're working hard," she said.

It's lights out at 9:30 p.m. and up at 5:15 a.m. for the basic trainees, a schedule Cadet Airman 1st Class Devon Bruce, 12, is not accustomed to.

"I have a lot of trouble getting out of bed," he said.

Cadet Bruce, an avid reader from Colorado Springs, joined CAP last summer. He has been looking forward to the encampment since before summer vacation.

"I definitely wanted to come here," he said. "I'm loving it and trying to do my very best."

Cadet Airman 1st Class Teodoro Valerio, 13, from Montrose, Colo., would also like to join the Air Force eventually.

He, too, made the decision himself to come to the encampment.

"It's hard work but I'm enjoying it," he said. "I couldn't wait to get here."

Cadet Valerio's favorite activities are PT and drill because he said his favorite activ-

ities are exercise and following orders. How about the food?

"It's delicious," he said.



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Summer camp promotes Academy interest

By Ken Carter Editor

8

It's a long way from Montgomery, Texas, to the Air Force Academy. However, attending the annual summer sports camp last week may be a beautiful beginning for one teenager from Montgomery who one day desires to join the Long Blue Line.

At 16, Amy Rogers already has more than 30 hours flying time in a Cessna 150, has completed solo flight, and has a dream of possibly becoming a future Air Force officer and Raptor driver. The same versatility she demonstrated on the softball diamond playing catcher, right field and first base, combined with her proven academic savvy and community involvement, has set the stage for her to be a serious candidate for the Air Force Academy Class of 2015.

"The five-day sports camp for softball and the experience was incredible," Miss Rogers said of her USAFA visit. "We got to eat where cadets eat, sleep where they sleep, and use all their athletic facilities. The best part about the whole camp was just getting to see the campus and hanging out with new friends, all while playing softball."

Miss Rogers is on top of more than one game.

She has already contacted her Congressman representative, her ALO, attended the Academy Summer Sports Camp, begun flying lessons, became a member of Civil Air Patrol and has registered with the Academy.

The teen is keenly aware of what it takes in terms of academic achievement, physical fitness requirements and community involvement to be competitive for an Academy appoint-



Amy Rogers attended the Academy Sports Camp here last week and liked everything she perceived about cadet life. She's diligently working hard in Montgomery, Texas, with hopes of earning an appointment for the Class of 2015.

ment. "I play year-round softball, am in an athletic training program with a sports trainer, and participate in community service projects, along with always studying hard to keep my grades up, and taking Advanced Placement classes to raise my GPA," she said.

In December 2008, she attended the Armed Forces Bowl game in Ft. Worth, Texas, and the Air Force Academy Day held for prospective cadets. "We got to hear Lt. Gen. [John] Regni and Col. Chevy Cleaves talk about the Academy program, and we met a few cadets. I have watched the Military Channel program *Inside America's Military Academies* over and over," said the Montgomery High School student with a 5.875 GPA of a possible 6.0 and currently ranked 19 among 443 peers said. Miss Rogers' grandfather, who served in the Army Air Corps/U.S. Air Force from 1943-1949, has told her, "If you graduate from the Academy, your life is pretty much set." He also reminds her of the ever-present risks associated with the profession of arms. But in the end, he says, "Everything is worth it," and continues to encourage Amy to follow her dreams.

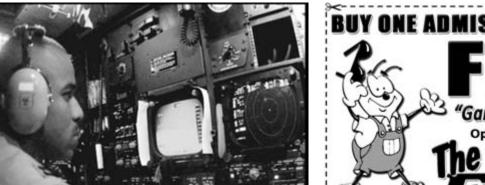
Those dreams include flying the F-22 faster than the speed of sound all over the world.

"I want to fly the F-22 because it is one of the top military aircraft in the world and I think it would be a blast to drive," she said. "My desire to fly must be in my blood, because I have many relatives who are pilots. One uncle attended a training program in the 50s called Aviation Cadets, and said it was the best time of his life. He became a pilot, and worked for Lockheed, working on and flying several confidential projects/missions. He flew his private Cessna 340 for several years. I also have two great uncles who flew, but not in the military. My grandfather was in the Air Force from 1943-1949 and my father also had his private pilot's license, and had his own plane for many years."

All family pilots had told Amy of their love for aviation. The first time she went up in the Cessna, she completely understood why. "Now I can't wait to get my license," she said.

Despite her youth, Miss Rogers sees an Air Force career from a broader perspective than one might think.

"The most attractive things I find in an Air Force career are the travel See ROGERS, Page 16





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Cadet 2nd Class Chad Everett and Cadet 3rd Class Cory Ostrowski approach the memorial wall at Piskarovsky Cemetery, which carries a poem by the Russian poet Olga Berggolts, who survived the siege.

Cultural immersion: Russia

By Butch Wehry Academy Spirit staff

The decision to take cadets for a cultural immersion to Russia was by design.

"We went because the trajectory of political and cultural change in Russia will shape American strategic considerations in the future," said Dr. George Mastroianni, Academy psychology professor.

From May 22 until their return June 13, the Academy travelers saw Moscow, St. Petersburg, Novgorod and Moscow.

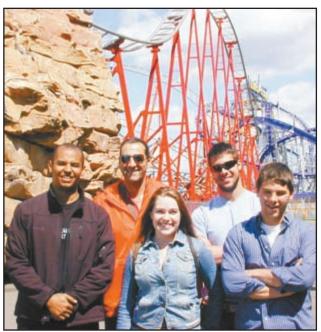
Like Cadets 3rd Class Andrew Cavallo and Cory Ostrowski and Cadets 2nd Class Andrea Bricachek and Chad Everett, this was Professor Mastroianni's first trip to Russia. Each of the cadets had completed at least four semesters of Russian language training prior to the trip.

The immersion gave them opportunity to experience many new things including many local foods.

"Cadets were especially fond of piroshkis, which are pies filled with a variety of fillings, such as meat, cabbage, chicken and rice," Professor Mastroianni said. "There was also pelmenis which are ravioli-like dumplings served in a clear chicken broth. Both were cheap and filling!"

The language barrier wasn't always an issue as a few Russians they met spoke excellent English, some spoke a little and many none at all. That did not deter this visit.

"The Siege and Defense of Leningrad Museum in St. Petersburg was probably the most memorable and moving site we visited," the professor said. "The somber memorial commemorates the 900 days during which Leningrad, whose former name was St.



Left to right: Cadet 2nd Class Chad Everett, Dr. George Mastroianni, Cadet 2nd Class Andrea Brichacek and Cadets 3rd Class Cory Ostrowski and Andrew Cavallo visit Gorky Park on their last day in Russia.

Petersburg, was besieged by German troops during WWII, from 1941-1944. It is estimated that between 60,000 and 1,000,000 civilians and soldiers perished of disease, starvation, and battle injuries during the siege. The exhibits in this museum especially touched us – the tiny bread ration on which Leningraders were forced to attempt to subsist, the scenes of Leningraders pulling bodies on children's sleds during the winter of 1941-1942 down the same streets on which we spent pleasant hours sitting at a sidewalk café enjoying the sunshine in this beautiful city."

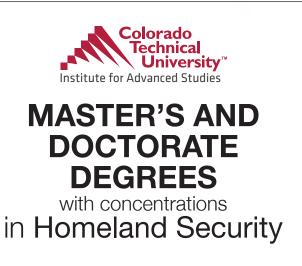
See RUSSIA, Page 17



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The matte-pearlescent painted X-1 Mustang and the stealth-black Air Force Challenger 'Vapor' (below) are the Air Force's newest mobile marketing assets and will be touring high schools and a variety of Air Force sponsored events as part of the 2009 Super Car Tour.

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) — The making of the Air Force's newest national mobile marketing assets, the X-1 and Vapor, can now be seen in a 22-minute documentary featured on airforce.com.

The documentary captures a team of Airmen chosen to work with a crew at Galpin Auto Sports to customize a white Ford Mustang (X-1) and a black Dodge Challenger (Vapor) over a three-month period for the Air Force Recruiting Service 2009 Super Car Tour, a new Air Force recruiting initiative that kicked off in May.

The Air Force partnered with Galpin Auto Sports to create two unique hyper-styled vehicles with the most technologically advanced features available. The vehicles are a combination of form, function and



futuristic entertainment.

"We're looking for hands-on people to serve in critical Air Force jobs, and we're fortunate that this partnership will help attract young people who are looking for opportunities to pursue those interests," said Daniel Elkins, Air Force Recruiting Service. "The Super Car Tour is illustrative of the kinds of opportunities available in the Air Force where technology knows no limit."

Representing the muscle of the Air Force, the 'X-1' Mustang is matte-pearlescent painted with a jet cockpit that includes a single-driver ejection seat in the center of the vehicle, short shifter, flight stick and advanced instrumentation panel. The X-1 also has a concealed motorized steering wheel, custom foot pedals, GPS transponder and the innovative dash is equipped with a touch screen monitor and sensor pack that displays night and thermal vision. The 4.6 liter engine includes three-valve Ford Racing heads, cold air intake, hot rod cams, and long tube headers creating 500hp, and is maintained by a custom Ford Racing Tuning Program. The stealth-black Air Force Challenger 'Vapor' features a biometric access to open the vertical doors, a custom stealth body kit with jet enhancements and a carbon fiber exterior trim. Other exterior components include one-off carbon fiber wheels, a custom stealth exhaust mode that allows the vehicle to run in complete silence or you can open up the headers to facilitate the aggressive sound of the engine, shaker hood, radar-absorbing paint, proximity sensors, and a 360-degree camera with a quarter-mile range. The interior of the Vapor is complete with aircraft style controls, a passenger side steering wheel, GPS tracking, night and thermal vision via a film on the front windshield, and the most technologically advanced computer system with remote control UAS-type access from anywhere in the world utilizing the Internet. The Vapor also comes with two custom flight helmets in line with the Air Force theme of the vehicle.

The stealth-black Air Force Challenger 'Vapor' features a biometric access to open the vertical doors, a custom stealth body kit with jet enhancements and a carbon fiber exterior trim. Other exterior components include one-off carbon fiber wheels, a custom stealth exhaust mode that allows the vehicle to run in complete silence or the headers can be opened facilitate the aggressive sound of the engine. The vehicle features a shaker hood, radar-absorbing paint, proximity sensors and a 360-degree camera with a quarter-mile range.

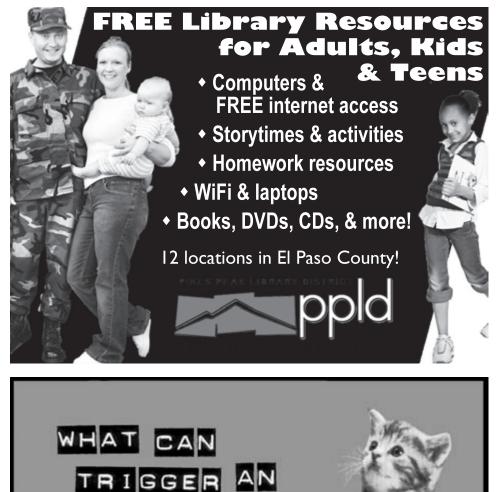
See CAR, Page 16













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Mystery tours keep passengers guessing

Story and photos by Ann Patton Academy Spirit staff

Who would spend good money to go on a trip without knowing where they were going?

Seems like a lot are, and they're having a blast. The Academy's Magical Mystery Tours through the Academy Information Ticket and Tours office have been feeding the adventurous travel yen for eight years, and the demand for them keeps growing.

"The whole idea is to go out and have some fun," said Cathy Wilson, mystery tour director and narrator. "It's OK to be a child. No 'adults' are allowed."

At the beginning of the June 10 tour, 20 travelers began their journey by donning party hats and other festive garb and picking up noisemakers and gift bags with clues buried inside under tissue paper.

Ms. Wilson told passengers she would freely answer any questions, except for the big one: "Where are we going?"

She gave the "assignment" to each of two vans to see and note animals or their likenesses along the way. The van with the most sightings wins.

The first "clue," if you will, was which gate would the vans exit?

Exiting the South Gate meant points north of the Academy were eliminated.

From I-25, it was west out Hwy. 24, past

Woodland Park, and a left onto Hwy. 67.

Cripple Creek?

Not quite. A left turn onto Hwy. 9 meant only one destination: Victor.

After departing the vans, Ms. Wilson gave narratives on the "different lives" of Victor, from the gold rush to the present. She also pointed out landmarks, the refurbished and operating hotel which reigns as Victor's premier building.

As they liked, travelers took free time opportunities to visit shops, the hotel and the museum of Victor's famous son and commentator, Lowell Thomas.

After lunch at one of Victor's small restaurants, the vans headed to Cripple Creek, but not for gambling.

No cash needed for this destination: the Mt. Pisgah cemetery, the resting place for pioneer doctor Dr. Susan Anderson, after whom the television series "Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman" was based.

Also buried there is "the second fastest draw in Cripple Creek" and Pearl DeVere, former owner of the Cripple Creek's Homestead House, where pioneer gentlemen gained rest and recreation. Unknown residents still adorn her grave and tombstone with flowers and beads.

A present-day and very much alive screen writer, after a visit to the cemetery, took one name from a headstone and gave it to one of Hollywood's most infamous horror flick stars: Fred E. Krueger.

On the next stop, travelers viewed a rare white buffalo, symbol of peace for Native Americans, which was rescued from an exploitative owner.

A stop for ice cream in Woodland Park capped the day.

At different stops, travelers read fun facts about Colorado.

"Each place has its own story," Ms. Wilson said of her narratives of destinations. "There is always something to learn."

Beverly Thompson, spouse of a retired Air Force

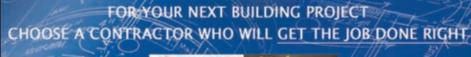


In Mt. Pisgah Cemetery outside Cripple Creek, travelers pay tribute to Pearl DeVere, probably Cripple Creek's most famous businesswoman.

member, had always wanted to go to Victor, and it was her favorite part of the trip.

"The people here were so nice," she said of her conversations with Victor residents. She also enjoyed visiting the Victor Trading Company where brooms are still made by hand."

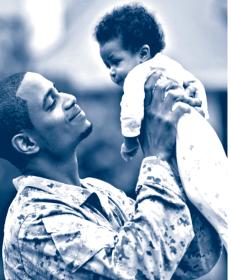
See MYSTERY, Page 17





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FERL promotes 'build first, design later'

A FERL cadet practices welding on a flight project.

Cadets 2nd Class Will Page and Marc Penninga receive instruction from Tech. Sgt. Wilkins from Buckley Air Force Base on hoisting on the 7.5 ton train during the heavy equipment activity.







Editor

Superintendent Master Sgt. Dennis Scott, many tasks have been accomplished at the FERL site throughout Jacks Valley including surveying, concrete placement at the BCT area in support of the cadet wing, supporting civil engineers repaying the road outside the North Gate to the Ardvark in support of UAV project, and a selfhelp project at billeting saving a future



Future engineers get

hands-on experience

By Ken Carter

Some 72 future engineers have rolled up their sleeves here and they're not afraid to get dirty all the way to their elbows.

The annual Academy Field Engineering and Readiness Laboratory that ends today, had mostly members of the Class of 2011, some from the Class of 2010, ROTC students from various universities, and West Point cadets working realistic engineering concepts since June 1.

According to FERL

have to be sent out," Sergeant Scott said. "It's a very realistic type of project."

The senior NCO is quick to point out that without CE's help this project would not have been possible. "CE has done a lot for us ... the funding and coordination of projects ... through the self-help program, they helped us with material to be able to complete this job."

The FERL program is mandatory for cadets majoring in civil engineering.

"It's a build first, design later, handson environment," Sergeant Scott said. "Later, when they start their engineering classes, this training enlightens them on the basic engineering concepts. It exposes cadets and other students to realistic life experiences of the CE operation and the chance to work equally with active-duty members, Reserve, Guard, DoD civilians and contractors."

Sergeant Scott suggests this training provides the hands-on connection with the entire military force. "The networking FERL students learn now between various units and people better prepares them for their careers as future Air Force officers. It's a total team concept ... that's how we get er' done."



Cadets used the total station in one of the surveying activities.



Cadets 1st Class Jon Brateng and Matt Buscemi, along with mentor Tech. Sgt. Denver Long from Whiteman AFB, MO, hang drywall in the wood frame activity.

Car

16

From Page 11

"For Galpin Auto Sports to be commissioned by the most technologically advanced organization on Earth is truly an honor," said Beau Boeckmann, chief designer for Galpin Auto Sports. "This is one of the most extraordinary and important projects that we have ever done."

The vehicles recently debuted in Austin, Texas, during the 2009 AFRS Marketing Conference.

Galpin Auto Sport's lead customizer, Mad Mike, was present for the unveiling and felt a personal connection to this project having started his career in the Air Force.

"If it was not for the U.S. Air Force, I would not have the knowledge and skills that enables me to stand where I am today," said Mad Mike.

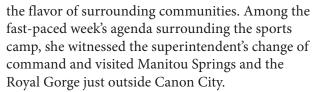
The 2009 Super Car Tour will travel across the country this year as

Rogers _

From Page 8

opportunities, being around the best aircraft in the world, serving my country, and just the overall experience that comes with it," she said. "Of course the least attractive thought is dying in the line of duty. But the way I think of it is this -- everyone has to die one day, why not do it fighting for the United States."

Escorting her daughter for the week, Beverly Rogers, got a small taste of Academy life as well as



"This has been one of the most exciting and memorable weeks of my life, and for Amy, the most life-changing week of her life," Mrs. Rogers said. "The Academy is the most majestic surrounding I have ever seen. Just knowing the honor, loyalty, and

sacrifice the cadets and the Academy represent, I feel

so honored just to be here." Amy told mom on the way home that she definitely is going to keep pushing toward her dream of an appointment to the Academy, that she wants it now more than ever. "Her friends and family will be so proud of her when that day comes, I believe all her hard work, focus, and dedication will pay off if she keeps on the same track," Mrs. Rogers concluded.

I'm giving a **10% MILITARY DISCOUNT ON MY ENTIRE MENU.** This does not include teenagers in camouflage shorts.





ing wheel, GPS tracking, night and thermal vision via a film on the front windshield, and the most technologically-

Left: The stealth-black Air Force Challenger 'Vapor' interior features aircraft style controls, a passenger side steer-

advanced computer system with remote control UAV-type access from anywhere in the world utilizing the Internet. The 'Vapor' also comes with two custom flight helmets in line with the Air Force theme of the vehicle. Right: The 'X-1' Mustang is matte-pearlescent painted with a jet cockpit that includes a single-driver ejection seat in the center of the vehicle, short shifter, flight stick and advanced instrumentation panel. The X-1 also has a concealed motorized steering wheel, custom foot pedals, GPS transponder and the innovative dash is equipped with a touch screen monitor and sensor pack that displays night and thermal vision. The 4.6 liter engine includes 3-valve Ford Racing heads, cold air intake, hot rod cams, and long tube headers creating 500hp and is maintained by a custom Ford Racing Tuning Program.

part of a mobile marketing campaign to educate young people on the mechanical and technical career opportunities available in the Air

Force. The tour will primarily visit high schools and a variety of Air Force-sponsored events including the DUB magazine auto show, Hot Import

Nights, Battle of the Imports, Formula Drift, International Hot Rod Association and local community events.



First & Main Town Center (next to JCPenney) Austin Bluffs Pkwy & Academy Blvd (in the King Soopers shopping center)

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Mystery_____

From Page 13

Lise Kramer, wife of a deceased Army member, also enjoyed seeing the brooms made and always enjoys climbing aboard for the Mystery Tours.

"I always enjoy the outings for a lazy day out," she said.

The tours grew out of an idea Ms. Wilson originally put forth. Eight years later the response has done nothing but grow.

Scheduled once or twice a month from March to October, depending on the weather, the tours have never had a repeat destination.

"I keep an ear to the ground," she said of sources where she learns about possible destinations.

Among other sources, she uses contacts in Chambers of Commerce, explores on her own and gets tips on destinations from travelers.

Russia _

From Page 9

The travelers also visited Piskarovsky Cemetery, where many victims of the siege of Leningrad were buried in common graves. The cadets commented on how psychologically and culturally different the American experience of war was from the Russian experience.

"For the Russians, the war occurred on their own soil: everywhere we walked, there were immediate

Upcoming tours are set for July 17 and Aug. 28. The cost is \$28, and unless notified otherwise, travelers should bring their own lunch or be prepared to purchase it. They should also wear comfortable shoes, and, if notified, wear a warm coat.

The tours fill up fast and may be limited to one van with 10 travelers. To sign up, stop by the ITT office or call 333-4475.

"We always keep a waiting list," Ms. Wilson said and noted an extra van may be added depending on customer demand and driver availability.

The next destination? Don't even bother to ask.

The party starts before departure in the Outdoor Recreation building when travelers don party attire and pick up bagged clues to destinations.



and visual reminders of the tragedy and suffering that had occurred in Russia, whereas for Americans at least since World War I war has been something that happened somewhere else," said the professor.

During the trip the psychology professor also participated in a people-to-people psychology delegation headed by a past-president of the American Psychological Association.

"We met with a number of Russian psychologists, and visited with psychology faculties from both Moscow State University and St. Petersburg University," he said. This was a valuable professional exchange which I will share with my colleagues here and which will enrich our understanding and teaching of Russian psychology, which gave us many important psychologists such as Pavlov and Vygotsky."

In a world of future political and cultural change, the trip will likely be a "win – win" experience and life-long memory for all.

ACADEMY ALLERGY, ASTHMA, AND SINUS CENTER



Ashok Rambhai Patel, MD and Scott Pace, MD

Both Trained at National Jewish Hospital and Board-Certified Allergists Appointments immediately available

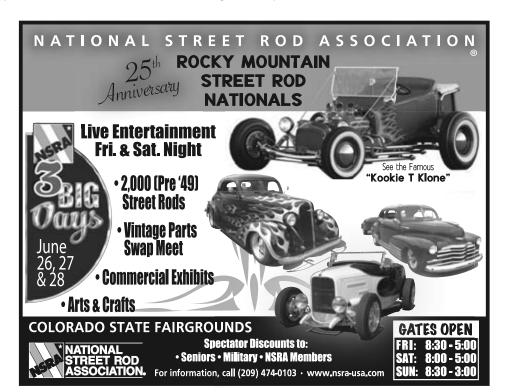
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Two of many compliments we have received from our patients: "I thank you very much for taking care of me during my illness. You are indeed a healer for people with sickness due to allergies, asthmas or any upper respiratory problems."

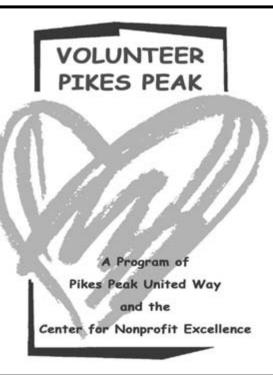
"For 20 years I have struggled with extended bouts of coughing. I consulted you....after using the medications you prescribed, I cough very little and breathe so much more easily."

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Academy senior NCO says: 'I love this job'

By Butch Wehry Academy Spirit staff

She works in a visitor-friendly manner to achieve prompt and proper resolution of investigations and inquiries under the Inspector General Complaint System.

Master Sgt. Cynthia Dunson reviews and formulates strategies for handling sensitive IG complaints and identifies requirements for interventions based on significant trends detected as the result of investigative endeavors.

As she implements, establishes and evaluates procedures to process congressional, presidential and high-level inquires, her manner is anything from stand-offish.

The Academy Inspector General's superintendent for complaints and inquiries functions in a position of trust.

"We never discuss open cases with individuals outside of IG channels," said the 22 year Air Force veteran from Homer, La. Inspector General reports are protected documents. "Only Secretary of the Air Force Inspector General, or designated representatives,



Master Sgt. Cynthia Dunson is the Academy's Inspector General's Superintendent for complaints and inquires.

can approve release of IG documents. Sometimes individuals go to their congressional representative for assistance with issues; if the information which they are seeking is sensitive a release from the subject of the investigation is required."

IG work can be like walking on eggshells.

Her years in uniform and interacting with people come into play. She was deployed to Balad, Iraq, in 2003. This was her second oversees assignment in this field.

"I enjoyed it so much the first time around at Yokota Air Base in Japan," she said. "I've been trying to get back to it ever since."

"I love this job," she said. "I'm presently interning to become a marriage and family therapist so the counseling aspect of my training works very well with the services we provide for complainants."

Last year's workload was well below four year averages on both IG and congressional intakes. Now, 2009 is starting below average as well but is slightly ahead of 2008.

All work and no play can make for a dull Airman. Her job is not to sit on a high altar of justice.

"Exercise is my escape," she said. "I try to jog at least five days a week."

"Individuals are welcomed to drop by our office, call in or stop us on the street," Sergeant Dunson said.



The Welcome Home Parade Committee

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.

is proud to announce the

2009 **Red White & Brave** Welcome Home Parade

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.

www.csmng.com/welcomehomeparade

Nick Frawley earns third All-America Award



By Valerie Perkin Athletic Media Communications

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. – After a long weather-delayed day, Air Force' Nick Frawley claimed All-America honors with a seventh-place finish in the pole vault during the third day of competition June 12 at the 2009 NCAA Championships in Fayetteville, Ark. Frawley cleared a height of 17'6¹/₂" for the third All-America accolade of his career (one indoor, two outdoor).

Frawley missed the first two attempts at his opening height of $17'2'_4$, but responded with a clutch performance to clear the height on his final attempt. That trend continued, as they raised the bar to $17'6'_4$. Unable to clear the first two attempts, Frawley switched to another pole and cleared the bar on his final chance.

As one of the final nine competitors, Frawley attempted a personal-best clearance of 17'10½", but was unable to convert. Not counting the tie-breaking procedures, his final clearance of 17'6½" was the fourth-best height of the meet. In addition, it is the second-best height of Frawley's outdoor career, falling only behind the 17'7" mark he set two weeks ago at the Midwest regional meet.

Rice's Jason Colwick, the 2009 indoor champion, won the outdoor national title, with a clearance of 18'8¼".

With his seventh-place finish, Frawley claimed his second outdoor All-America award in as many years and the third overall in as many meets (indoor and outdoor). He becomes just the third Falcon to claim outdoor All-America status multiple times at the Division I level, joining Dana Pounds (in 2005) and Marcus Nichols (twice in 1996).

Frawley is the second Air Force athlete to earn All-America honors at this year's championships, as classmate Sara Neubauer claimed a certificate in the shot put yesterday. It is the first time since 2006 that the Falcons have earned multiple All-America honors at the same championship meet and just the second time ever (1996, Marcus Nichols and Eric Mack).

The meet was delayed several hours, as a severe storm system brought heavy rains, lightning and tornado warnings to the Fayetteville area. Instead of competing at the originally scheduled start time of 3:45 p.m. (CDT), the pole vault didn't begin until 8:30 p.m., and under the lights of John McDonnell Stadium.

Alexander garners All-American Honors



By Nick Arseniak Athletic Media Communications

Air Force designated hitter/first baseman Matt Alexander was named to the 14th Annual Pro-Line Athletic National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association All-America Team announced June 10. Alexander earned first-team honors, becoming the first player in Air Force baseball history to earn the first-team distinction.

Alexander is the first Air Force All-American since Josh Phifer earned honorable mention honors Mountain West Conference.

Alexander led the Mountain West Conference with 65 RBIs and

was second with 15 home runs. The junior batted .383 on the year and cracked the Air Force singleseason top ten categories in homers (7th), hits (6th) and RBIs (4th). He ranked in the MWC top 10 in several categories as well, including average, slugging (.710), hits (82) and doubles (19).

He picked up several accolades on April 6 and 7 after a monster weekend at Utah Valley. Alexander batted .632 against the Wolverines, going 12-for-19, with six homers, 11 runs and 17 RBIs and just four games. His three home runs in game one of the April 7, doubleheader was the first by a Falcon since 2002.

Falcons' score first double All-American in 13 years

By Valerie Perkin Athletic Media Communications

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. – Air Force' Sara Neubauer made history June 13, as she became the first Falcon in 13 years to claim All-America honors in multiple events at the same meet. During the final day of action at the 2009 NCAA Track and Field Championships, Neubauer finished seventh in the discus throw (163'5") and claimed her second All-America award in as many chances.



With the field of 12 throwing into the wind, Neubauer opened the discus throw with a toss of 156'11". She improved to 160'7" on her second throw and qualified to the final round with a toss of 161'0". In the finals, she fouled off her first attempt, but responded with a throw of 163'5" and tallied a distance of 161'11" on her last chance. Her distance of 163'5" was the seventh-best throw of the meet and just a few feet shy of a top-three finish.

Texas Tech's D'Andra Carter won the national title with a throw of 182'6".

Neubauer picked up her second All-America award of the week, as she also placed eighth in the shot put on Thursday. She is the first Falcon to earn multiple All-America honors at a single meet since Marcus Nichols picked up a pair of certificates (pole vault, decathlon) in 1996.

The native of Bottineau, N.D., is the first female to accomplish that feat since Callie Calhoun won the 3000- and 5000-meter titles at the 1990 Division II NCAA Championships. In addition, Neubauer is only the second thrower ever to claim top-eight finishes in more than one event. She joins Mary Manning, who earned All-America honors in the shot put and discus throw at the 1982 meet. Air Force accounted for three All-America accolades and one Academy record. The three All-America awards are the most for an Air Force program in a single meet since Marcus Nichols and Eric Mark teamed up for three certificates in 1996.

in 2003 and the eighth all-time.

He is also one of 16 semifinalists for the 2009 Dick Howser Trophy, given to the top player in collegiate baseball. He joins San Diego State righthander Stephen Strasburg as the two representatives from the

For his efforts, he garnered several player of the week awards.

Photo by Mike Kaplan

| L | Runners at NCAA | tition in the 1500-meter run. Kellen Curry had a heart- | Intram Softball | ural | DRU/MSS MDG#3 | 3 5 | | 9. MDG#3 | 0 | 6 | 10. CW 2 Division 2 | 10.5 |
|----|----------------------------------|--|--------------------|------|--------------------------|-----------------|------|-----------------------------|---|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | Championships | breaking conclusion to a stellar | June 16th | | MDG#1 | 20 | | Golf | | | I. Maint 2 | 15.0 |
| 3 | Sean Houseworth placed | collegiate career, as he missed | DRU/MSS | 24 | DRU/MSS | 6 | | (Week 6) | | | 2. NSSI | 4.0 |
| | 15th in the 10,000-meter run. | the cut to the semifinals by just | 306 FTG | 11 | CTANDINGS | 14/ | | Division I | | 12.5 | 3. DFM 4. 98 FTS | 1.0 |
| 1 | Houseworth clocked a time of | .005 seconds. Curry clocked a 🚬 | MDG#2 | 21 | STANDINGS | Won 4 | Loss | I. Maint I 2. IOTH MDG I | | 13.5 12.5 | 4. 98 FIS 5. IOTH CS | 9.0 5.5 |
| | 29:31.56 in his first-ever | career-best time of 14.16 in the | SFS | 18 | 2. MDG#1 | 4 | i | 3. DP | | 0 | 6. DFCE | 13.0 |
| | national meet. | first of four heats for the 110- | MDG#2 | 18 | 3. RETIREES | 2 | I | 4. LGR | | 12.5 | 7. DFP | 65.0 |
| -1 | Daniel Castle clocked a | meter hurdles. Curry ended | MDG#1 | 9 | 4. 10 CS | 2 | | 5. 94 FTS | | 6.0 | 8. DFAS | 2.0 |
| 1 | career-best, Academy-record | his career with the seventh- | June 17th | | 5. 10 CES 6. DRU/MSS | 2 | 1 | 6. DFC | | 6.0 | 9. PLC 10. CW 1 | 13.5 15.0 |
| | time of 3:44.08 to place 15th in | best 110-meter hurdles time | CESI | 29 | 6. DRU/MSS 7. 306 FTG | 3 | 2 | 7. DFL 8. CWC | | 5.5 4.5 | IU. LW I | 15.0 |
| Ą | the semifinal round of compe- | in Academy history. | MDG#3 | 11 | 8. 10 SFS | Ö | 3 | 9. NSSI 2 | | 12.0 | | |





Grand opening change

The grand opening of the AAFES main exchange in the Community Center has been changed to July 24.

Track repair

The repairs on Husky Field Track will continue through July 15. For safety reasons, the track is unavailable for use during the construction period. Call Tricia Borsos at 333-3400 for more information.

Lending vets a hand

Showcase your fitness and commitment to local veterans in need by taking part in the 4th Annual Veterans' Home Run 5K run/1K walk at 7 a.m. June 27. Registration begins at 6 a.m. at Air Academy High School in Pine Valley. The Veterans' Home Run benefits the Colorado Veterans Coalition's Crawford House, a recovery center for southern Colorado's homeless veterans.

Information about the Veterans' Home Run and the Crawford House



CADET CHAPEL

Catholic Masses: Sunday Confession - 9:15 - 9:45 a.m. Mass - 10 a.m. Wednesday Adoration of the Blessed Sarcrament - 5:30 p.m. Confession - 5:30 p.m. Mass - 6:30 p.m. Weekday Mon., Tues. and Thurs. - 6:45 a.m.

<u>Protestant Services:</u> Sunday Combined Worship - 10 a.m.

Jewish Services No public services through Aug. 2, 2009

<u>Buddhist Worship</u> No public services through Aug. 2, 2009

<u>Muslim Prayer</u> No public services through Aug. 2, 2009

Call 333-2636 for more information

cause is available at the Pikes Peak Road Runners Web site: *www.pprrun.org*. Race registration is \$15 for veterans and military and \$20 for benefactors of our military. Participants can register at one of the three Colorado Springs running stores, via *active.com*, or download a race application and mail it no later than Wednesday. Veterans' Home Run brochures/race applications are available at the Academy Fitness Center. Paralympian wheelchair athletes are welcomed. Call Jack at 719-205-1741 for more information.

Sponsors needed

Sponsors are needed for students attending the Preparatory School at the Air Force Academy for the 2009-2010 academic year. The USAFA Prep School is designed to prepare students for admission and success at the Air Force Academy. If you are a 0-3, E-7, GS-07or NSPS equivalent and above or general contractor and would like to apply to sponsor one or more of these students, please contact Cleo Griffith at 333-3057 or e-mail *cleo.griffith@usafa.edu*.

Academy Flea Market

By popular demand the Academy Flea Market will be held twice monthly through June, July and August. The dates are as follows: Saturday and June 27; July 18 and 25; and, Aug. 15 and 22. The event runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parking lot between the Academy Exchange and the commissary. Set-up time is 8 a.m. Spaces are \$10 each, \$15 for front to back space with auto and table rental is \$5. Call 333-2928 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays for more information or to reserve a space.

Spaced out?

There's space available at the Milazzo Center and Community Activities Center downstairs for functions. Rooms are available for military functions, retirements, promotions, dining in/out, off sites, meetings and training sessions, etc. Call 333-2928 to make an appointment to visit facilities.

A&FRC offerings

The Airman and Family Readiness Center will host the following classes during June.

Contact the A&FRC @ 333-3444 for any questions or to register.

your spot in the next available TAP class.

Newcomer's tour

June 26; 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This informative base tour gives insight into the Academy mission and reveals much of what there is to see and do at the Air Force Academy.

Medical records review

June 29; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Those within 180 days of retirement or separation can have the DAV review their medical records.

> **Veterans Affairs Benefits Briefing** June 29; 8 a.m. to noon

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



Pike Peak or Bust

The annual Colorado Springs Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo is set for July 8-11 at the Norris-Penrose Event Center. The Air Force Academy is looking for volunteers/contestants to help make this year's event the best ever. To pull our fair share during PPoBR, Team USAFA needs approximately 45 volunteers to perform as ushers, ticket attendants, program sales, security, check-in contestants/ public, canopy set-up, distribute posters around Colorado Springs (in a designated area). The rodeo has forged strong ties with the local military community since World War II and, to-date, it has donated more than \$1.5 million dollars to "Support the Troops". Teams of four also can compete in the infamous cowmilking event. Register your team with Master Sgt. Angela Evans no later than 4 p.m. Tuesday. Applicable waivers and rules apply.

Call Sergeant Evans at 333-3998 or email: Angela.evans@usafa.edu by Wednesday to register or for more information.

Aide to Girl of the West

The Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo is looking for a few good horsewomen interested in an outstanding opportunity. The Girls of the West are not your run of the mill Rodeo Queens; they are Ambassadors of the western way of life. They represent a long tradition of young women who have represented the rodeo since 1922. The Girl of the West and her Aide represent the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo during their reign making over 100 appearances from May through July. They promote the western way of life with education, horsemanship and charisma. The competition for the 2010 Aide to Girl of the West July 10 at the Norris-Penrose Event Center in Colorado Springs. Applicants must be between 18 and 22 by May 10 and never married. Competition will consist of horsemanship, interview, public speaking and appearance. Applications are available online at www.colorado springsrodeo.com or at the Norris-Penrose Event Center. Application deadline is June 26. For more information, call Corliss Palmer at 719-351-1953.

Academy hosts July 4th fireworks

The Air Force Academy plans an evening of familyoriented games, music and fireworks to celebrate the nation's birthday.

The celebration is open to the general public.

Events start at 5 p.m. on the Academy athletic fields, with numerous paid activity games, including bouncy houses, climbing walls and a bungee trampoline, as well as food and beverage vendors.

Music will be broadcast



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

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 identifies benefits and services associated with your transition and beyond.

Sponsorship training

June 30; 8 to 9 a.m.

This class is for those sponsoring newcomers to the area. Contact your unit sponsorship monitor for details.

TAP seminar

Tuesday -June 26; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Separating in a year or retiring in two years or less? Call now to reserve

by the Academy's cadet radio station, KAFA 97.7FM, before and during the fireworks show. The Blue Steel combo of the Air Force Academy Band will perform from 8:50 to 9:20 p.m. The fireworks demonstration will start at approximately 9:30 p.m. and is expected to last 20 minutes.

File Photo

Visitors can bring cameras, lawn chairs, blankets, umbrellas, and sealed plastic water bottles. But, visitors cannot bring coolers, barbecue grills, pets other than working service dogs, or fireworks. Water and portable restrooms will be provided.

Visitors attending the event should enter the Academy through the North Gate, Exit 156-B off of I-25, July 4. Parking will be available at and near the cadet field house, but carpooling is recommended. Traffic is expected to be heavy prior to and after the event. Those traveling to and from the Academy should expect delays and plan accordingly.

Comcast Summer Sale!

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