



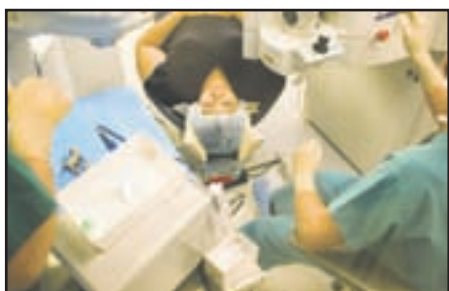
# USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO ACADEMY SPIRIT

Vol. 48 No. 7

February 22, 2008

## Bringing life into focus

Page 9



## Moonstruck

Page 15



## Falcons fall

Page 16



**16 DAYS UNTIL THE ACADEMY UCI ARE YOU READY?**  
 UCI Tip of the Week Page 3

### INSIDE

Commentary	2
News	3
Features	13
Sports	16
Community	19
Classifieds	20



Photo by Dennis Rogers

## Touching gift

Capt. Carla Sizer, Academy Department of Management, with Project Compassion Founding Artist Kaziah Hancock, views for the first time, a portrait of her son, Army Private 1st Class Dane Balcon, who was killed Sept. 5, 2007, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Kaziah painted two portraits – one for Private Balcon’s family and one to be permanently displayed at the Academy. The paintings were presented to Captain Sizer Wednesday. Project Compassion provides oil portraits of service members who have died on active duty since Sept. 11, 2001, to their families at no cost to them.

## 10th ABW commander new honorary chief

By Ann Patton  
 Academy Spirit staff

Col. Jimmy McMillian prepared for a speech he didn’t give.

The 10th Air Base Wing commander thought he would be the speaker for the Chief Master Sergeants’ dining-in Jan. 30 at the Falcon Club.

Instead, the chiefs turned the tables on him and made him the guest of honor—and an honorary chief.

“It’s a huge honor,” Colonel McMillian said. “I will cherish it for life.”

He added, “Not everyone gets to be

a chief. There is not much to top it.”

The presentation was planned months in advance, said Chief Master Sgt. Kenneth Granczewski, 10th ABW superintendent.

He said Colonel McMillian was the chiefs’ unanimous choice for the honor.

“It’s a very rare event,” Chief Granczewski said. “I’ve only seen it two times in my 27 years in the Air Force.”

In his nomination for Colonel McMillian, Chief Granczewski cited his ability to focus on taking care of Airmen, to champion for enlisted needs in the Wing and on the Academy and to lead from the front as he continuously meets

with enlisted personnel to gather their opinions and perspectives.

“He’s genuine,” said Chief Master Sgt. Arvin Davis, Academy command Chief Master Sergeant.

“From the most senior chief to the most junior airman basic, Colonel Mac can talk the issues of the day and make you feel good about serving in our United States Air Force.”

Chief Granczewski praised Colonel McMillian for his walk-around visits to Airmen, often well outside regular duty hours.

“He’s very approachable, and people

See CHIEF, Page 5

By Julie Imada  
 Dean of Faculty research staff writer

If all goes as planned, cadets could soon have the opportunity to learn unmanned aerial vehicle piloting skills at the Academy.

Cadets already build and fly their own radio controlled planes for hobby

purposes, but Federal Aviation Administration airspace and aircraft weight rules for official flight of unmanned aerial vehicles has stymied the cadets’ ability to get advanced piloting experience. The restrictions could change soon thanks to ongoing negotiations between the Academy and the FAA.

In the meantime, Lt. Col. Dean

Bushey and Capt. James Lotspeich are preparing to undergo range training at Fort Carson with the Academy’s larger UAV, the “Cyberbug Grande.”

“UAV training will help to prepare cadets for what they may experience in real world combat missions, and the hope is to begin hands-on UAV training during

See UAV, Page 4

# American history, African American history, a family history

By Staff Sgt. Mareshah Haynes  
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq (AFP) — My family has been in the same business for more than 65 years now. It started with my grandfather in 1941. He handed it off to my father in 1976, and my father handed it to me in 2001.

Some families run restaurants or bakeries. Some families own and operate their own auto shops or construction businesses. My family business is the Air Force.

My grandfather, Harvey Leon Haynes, was a Tuskegee Airman and a member of the Doolittle Raiders back in World War II. He served in the Army Air Corps and later in the Air Force for a total of 30 years. The majority of those years were during a time when he wasn't even allowed to enter a movie theater through the front door simply because of the color of his skin. Still, he and his fellow Tuskegee Airmen and others like them served this country with pride and dedication so their children and grandchildren could be free from the discrimination they had to endure.

Decades after the original 332nd Fighter Group, the first group comprised of African-American pilots, was inactivated, here I am the second in my family

to be called a Tuskegee Airman. I'm currently deployed to Balad Air Base, Iraq, and assigned to the 332nd Expeditionary Air Wing. For the second time, a Haynes is serving overseas, far from home, friends and family, fighting a war.

While I was inprocessing at Balad AB, Brig. Gen. Burton M. Field, the 332nd AEW commander, told a story about Gen. Benjamin Oliver Davis Jr., one of the first commanders of the Red-Tailed Angels, the nickname given to one of the most successful bomber escort groups in World War II. General Field shared with us the story about General Davis while he attended the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. During General Davis' entire four years at the Academy, he was the only African-American in attendance, and his classmates refused to talk to him.

When I think about what he had to endure, it makes me feel like whatever obstacles I'm facing aren't so insurmountable. When I feel like giving up or halfheartedly doing a job, I think of my grandfather and the original Tuskegee Airmen. Where would I be if they had just given up? For that matter, what kind of state would our country be in if they had given up when things got hard? What if they hadn't exemplified the core values of

service before self, integrity first and excellence in all we do?

When I think of my grandfather, General Davis and all of the Tuskegee Airmen of the past, present and future, it makes me proud to be called a Tuskegee Airman.

It makes me want to bring the same credit to the name. I want to continue the legacy of excellence and perseverance so I can make my country and my family proud. I want to make my fellow Airmen proud to serve alongside me in this war and beyond.

Even though my grandfather passed away, I would like to think I am making him proud by my service. I think of him often, especially when I have to make a decision. I ask myself, "What would Papa think?"

Even though I can't talk to him anymore, his memory and his spirit affect me every day, even more so since I joined the Air Force. He makes me realize the legacy really does continue, and it doesn't stop with us.

Who knows, maybe one day my grandson or granddaughter will be writing a commentary of their own about how proud they are to be a Tuskegee Airman — the next generation of the family business.

## Academy sergeants graduate NCO Academy



Congratulations to the following Academy technical sergeants who grad-

uated from the Forrest L. Vosler NCO Academy at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., Feb. 14:

**James Dixon**  
306th Flying Training Group  
**Robert Harasimowic**  
10th Surgical Operations Squadron

**Michael Holland**  
10th Security Forces Squadron  
**Robert Longcrier**  
Dean of Faculty staff  
**Ralph Ortiz**  
10th Aerospace Medicine Squadron  
**Sonia Poulin**  
10th Medical Support Squadron

## Character Corner NCLS Part 4

By Capt. David McManus  
Center for Character Development

NCLS has arrived! Hopefully you are already enjoying and benefiting from the speakers who have presented so far...there is still more to come! Among the key-note speakers to speak Saturday is Greg Mortenson. His inspirational story is rife with passion and adventure. Let me tell you a little bit about him:

Greg Mortenson is the co-founder of the nonprofit Central Asia Institute, Pennies For Peace,

and co-author of New York Times bestseller *Three Cups of Tea*. Since a 1993 climb on Pakistan's treacherous K2 (world's second highest mountain and considered most dangerous to climb), Mr. Mortenson has dedicated 11 years to establishing girls' schools in remote regions of Pakistan and Afghanistan. In 31 trips, encompassing over 60 months, Mr. Mortenson has become an expert on a region few people know about—but now front and center on the world arena and the war on terror. Through his unique perspective of the region's culture, history, geo-politics and developmental aspects,

Mr. Mortenson will share insightful commentary and stunning photography about his extraordinary journey of a decade-long effort to promote girls' education.

Come to NCLS and listen to speakers who are doing great things in our world. We are more than halfway through an exciting four days for permanent party as well as cadets—if you've missed some you will not want to miss the rest! For more information on times and locations, see [www.usafa.af.mil/ncls](http://www.usafa.af.mil/ncls).



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

## What is your biggest pet peeve?



"One of my biggest pet peeves is a dirty table in a restaurant. I can't eat there if it's not clean."

Staff Sgt. Justin Kirk  
10th Communications Squadron



"People who procrastinate and waste time and people who don't know how to drive in Colorado in the winter."

Ray Magee  
10th Civil Engineer Squadron



"People saying they're going to do something then don't. I'm one who doesn't make promises without carrying through."

Joyce Suter  
10th Services Squadron



"I don't really have any. I'm a normally happy person, and I try not to let things irritate me."

Colanyosa Thompson  
Association of Graduates



Directorate of Public Affairs mission:  
To responsibly inform and educate the  
Academy community and the public  
about the Air Force Academy

**Lt. Gen. John Regni** —  
Academy Superintendent  
**Maj. Brett Ashworth** —  
Director of Public Affairs  
**Staff Sgt. Tim Jenkins** —  
NCOIC, Internal Information  
**Wayne Amann** — Editor  
wayne.amann@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

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

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force, or Colorado Springs Military Newspaper Group, of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. The printer reserves the right to reject any advertisements.

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

### Submissions

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

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.news.paper@usafa.af.mil](mailto:pa.news.paper@usafa.af.mil).

# Falcon Loan to help ease financial emergencies

By Academy Spirit staff

The Air Force Aid Society will begin a new interest-free loan program for active duty Airmen and their spouses March 3.

The Falcon Loan is intended to enhance the support of Airmen on the Academy, said Donna Chavez, family life education and information and referral specialist with the Airman & Family Readiness Flight.

"The Society is relaxing the loan process in hopes Airmen will feel less threatened to come forward for help," she said.

The Falcon Loan requires no budget information, backup documentation or approval from first sergeants or commanders.

The only information needed to process an allotment or automatic withdrawal from a bank account is the person's signature on a downloadable application.

A loan of \$500 or less may be used for needs such as rent, utilities, car repairs and emergency travel.

Receipt of a Falcon Loan does not make a service member or spouse ineligible for a standard AFAS loan or grant while the Falcon Loan is being repaid.

Applicants may not be listed on the AFAS Record on File, which signals a client's history and must be reviewed by Headquarters AFAS.

All applicants need is a completed AFAS financial assistance application from the Airmen & Family Readiness Flight or through [www.afas.org](http://www.afas.org), an ID card and current leave and earnings statement. The material is to be returned to the AFRF for processing.

Spouses with power of attorney may also be assisted.

For dual military couples, each member is eligible for a \$500 loan. They may qualify for a second loan after the first is paid.

Loans fall due in 10 months or by separation from the service.

"The Falcon Loan is not free money," Ms. Chavez stressed. "It has to be repaid, and it is for people with genuine needs."

Capt. Anthony Mariapain, chief of scheduling for the 98th Flying Training Squadron said young, new personnel to the Air Force with families may especially benefit from the program.

Ms. Chavez noted one side benefit to the new loan is Airmen can begin to build a relationship with the AFRF.

"We want them to feel comfortable with coming to us for services," she said.

Ms. Chavez stressed the Falcon Loan will also provide an alternative avenue of financial support in place of off-base pay-day loans with high interest rates which can ensnare Airmen in a debt trap.

"We're here and want to help," she said.

## UCI Tip of the Week

By Lt. Col. Bryan Cessna  
USAFA/XPL

**USAFA/IGI note:** *One way the Academy can demonstrate its excellence to the UCI inspectors is by all mission elements and personnel understanding how they fit into the overall Academy mission: developing cadets into leaders of character ready to serve the nation. Inspectors will undoubtedly be impressed if they observe personnel throughout all mission elements using the Officer Development System as a common lexicon, and tying everything we do into our overall mission. Being able to explain and demonstrate how the ODS is applied in your own functional areas will help the Academy achieve the goal of an "outstanding" rating. The following article provides a good review of the Academy mission and the ODS.*

The mission of our United States Air Force Academy is to develop cadets into leaders of character ready to serve the nation. To ensure every cadet receives the required competencies to fulfill this mission, we utilize the Officer Development System. The ODS provides all members of the Academy a framework and set of strategies to accomplish our mission.

I'm sure you have seen the blue ODS pamphlet originally published in February, 2004. Academy Plans and Programs, in coordination with a cross-mission element team, is currently revising the ODS and converting it to an Academy manual. The overarching concepts and themes remain the same, and our focus is still on character development. The revisions merely update the document to today's operating environment. One of the most significant

changes is the replacement of the original ODS outcomes with the Academy outcomes: responsibilities, skills and knowledge. These outcomes provide a focus and goal for everything a cadet does while at the Academy. Additionally, the developmental models in the original ODS are revised and enhanced providing a clear, well-defined, 4-year path for cadet development.

Three critical objectives are embodied in our Oath of Office supporting our goal of developing officers of character— identity, commitment and competence. To meet these objectives, the Academy must:

1. Increase each cadet's appreciation that being an officer is a noble way of life
2. Foster a personal commitment to officership
3. Develop competencies essential to officers of character

The Character-Based Officer Framework, which identifies the path to the objectives listed above include three key constructs, ranging from broad philosophical considerations to practical competencies. These constructs provide answers to the "why?" (foundation), the "what?" (outcomes) and the "how?" (process) of developing officers of character.

Officers develop best when they are committed to an ideal, accept challenges with optimism and are dedicated to continued personal and professional growth. A cadet's experiences in the Air Force Academy's Officer Development System will prepare them to lead Airmen as an officer of character. In the operational Air Force, a complex global community and the challenges of modern officership will confront graduating cadets with unique opportunities to rely on the training and the skills they nurtured at the Academy.

**NCUA** All rates and offers current as of February 1, 2008 and are subject to change. \*Certain restrictions may apply. †Visa USA determines which stores are categorized as supermarkets.



# A great deal just got better

## VISA Platinum Cash Rewards

- 5%** Cash Back on gas paid at the pump\*
- 2%** Cash Back on supermarket purchases†
- 1.25%** Cash Back on all other purchases

 **Pentagon Federal Credit Union**  
*Superior Rates. Proven Service.®*

PenFed.org/BetterDeal • 800.247.5626

Come visit us at our branch:  
6045 Barnes Rd  
Colorado Springs, CO

## UAV

From Page 1

the Cadet Summer Space Program,” Captain Lotspeich said.

Until the FAA restrictions over the Academy are changed, the Academy can't even utilize the technology they have on hand. Fort Carson has restricted airspace and without the threat of mid-air collisions, is the perfect place for flying the Academy's Cyberbugs.

During the several days of training scheduled at Fort Carson, Colonel Bushey and Captain Lotspeich will train on pre-flight processes, the launch and landing processes, in-flight emergency procedures, manipulating the mounted ball turret camera in flight and the various systems and modes of flight operations including manual and auto pilot.

“Once FAA restrictions are fixed, we can train cadets to fly the Grande... the importance is that it can carry up to 10 pounds of payload and support a number of USAFA research projects,” Captain Lotspeich said.

The other goal of undertaking a serious UAV training program at the Academy is to network and partner with other universities UAV programs. “New Mexico State University wants to work with us. They have a very advanced UAV program,” he said and added that the New Mexico program has benefited from working at White Sands Missile Range.

Colonel Bushey added any UAV efforts the Academy offers “incredible research experience for cadets.”

Colonel Bushey said because of the multi-disciplinary nature of UAV work, to include electrical and mechanical engineering, computer science and aeronautics, cadets have the opportunity to push the envelope.

“Beyond the Academy, we are directly supporting and developing Air Force leaders for the future,” Colonel Bushey said. He added cadets who are trained in advancing technology become officers who are knowl-



Photo by Julie Imada

**Lt. Col. Dean Bushey and Capt. James Lotspeich, computer science department instructors, make some touch-ups to an unmanned aerial vehicle recently. The two are scheduled to undergo range training at Fort Carson to fly the Academy's larger UAV, the “Cyberbug Grande.”**

edgeable about the systems they will use in the Air Force.

Another significant offshoot of the new UAV training opportunities at Fort Carson is new opportunities for other UAV researchers.

Dr. Daniel Pack of the Academy's electrical and computer engineering programs agreed that the Fort Carson opportunity offers more research flexibility and access. But Doctor Pack also said until the FAA restric-

tions at the Academy are waived, cadet participation in UAV programs and research opportunities will be limited.

Colonel Bushey and Captain Lotspeich's efforts are a precedent, and by opening the door for their fellow Academy UAV researchers, Bushey said it helps in the establishment of a world-class UAV program at the Academy and in “what we can do for cadets becoming Air Force leaders.”

## Winning Smiles For Everyone!

### EXPERIENCED, CARING AND GENTLE

Cosmetic Dentistry  
Bonding & Veneers  
Root Canal Therapy  
Childrens Dentistry  
Crowns & Bridges  
Orthodontics  
Teeth Whitening  
Oral Surgery  
Dentures  
Implants  
Wisdom Teeth  
White Fillings  
Porcelain Laminates  
Gum Care



**PROVIDER FOR ACTIVE MILITARY DEPENDENTS**

**Personal Dentistry with a Soft Touch for  
Children, Parents & Grandparents.**



**SAME DAY EMERGENCY CARE**



**597-9737**

[www.powersdentalgroup.com](http://www.powersdentalgroup.com)



**Caring For Smiles Since 1974**



## AT EASE.

Oakwood's energy efficient building ensures  
your comfort is top of mind.

★ THE GABLES: From the mid \$200s - 719.380.5078

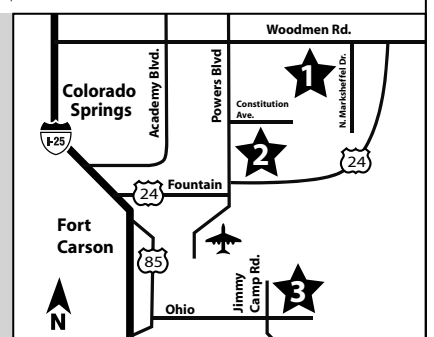
★ FEATHERGRASS: COMING SOON! From the high \$100s - 719.380.5082

★ CUMBERLAND GREEN: Oxford, From the low \$200s - 719.322.9456  
Cameron/Evans, From the high \$100s - 719.382.1281



**OAKWOOD  
HOMES**

Prices, terms, specifications, are subject to change any time without notice.



[HomesPeopleLove.com](http://HomesPeopleLove.com)



## Chief

From Page 1

can confide in him," Chief Granczewski said.

He also praised Colonel McMillian for recognizing Airmen in public for their accomplishments with such awards as coinings and "First-Down" certificates, which Colonel McMillian instituted.

"The simple thank-you he shares with all he comes in contact with motivates them to want to do a better job for their commander," Chief Davis said. "You just can't fake genuineness on behalf of a commander caring for his or her Airmen."

Growing up, Colonel McMillian recalled caring for siblings while his mother worked to care for her family financially. The responsibility as a youth required structure and discipline, traits he found uncommon among his peers at the time.

He also admired the energy, enthusiasm and team work of the military.

"They were all opportunities for growth," he said.

Before coming to the Academy, Colonel McMillian served as executive officer to the commander of the Air Force Space Command at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. He has 25 years service with Air Force Security Forces in various locations.

Among his commendations are the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with six oak leaf clusters and the Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster.

As 10th ABW commander, he has more than 2,000 military, civilian and contract personnel under his command who support base-level activities.

"It's never about you," Colonel McMillian said. "It's about the people who serve. It's on their shoulders where I stand."

His formula for success is simple.

"The measure is how your people are doing," he



Courtesy photo

**Colonel Jimmy McMillian sports his Honorary Chief's medallion with the congratulations of Chief Master Sgt. Kenneth Granczewski (left), and Chief-select Maurice James and Chief Master Sgt. Robert Altenbernd.**

said. "They want to know 'Do you care about me and can you lead?'"

Colonel McMillian gives great credit to his team on the Academy for their energy and professionalism.

"They bend over backward to make it happen," he said. "I have world-class people providing world-class support to our Air Force Academy, our United States Air Force and our United States of America."

During Air Force functions he regularly checks

for the presence of Old Glory.

"I always like to stay close to the colors. The red, white and blue is a constant reminder of why we serve for all Americans," he said.

Also close to Colonel McMillian are his family—son, Darrius, and wife, Mary, to whom he has been married 24 years.

"They are the wind beneath my wings," he said. "I'd be nothing without them."



**A GOURMET BURRITO.  
IT'S KINDA LIKE A  
LUXURY PICKUP TRUCK.**



# Cadets to gain leadership awareness at conference

By Capt. Peter Reiley  
Instructor, Department of  
Behavioral Sciences and Leadership

Four cadets will represent the Academy at the 2008 Student Leadership Conference hosted by the Center for Ethical Leadership at the University of Texas at Austin. Cadets 2nd Class Mark Bailie, Ashley Miller, Caroline Tetrick and Danny Velo will participate in the international conference with over 180 undergraduate students invited from colleges and universities around the United States and Mexico on Thursday, March 2.

"The conference will be a fast-paced, intense experience featuring a blend of great speakers, small-group workshops and opportunities for informal discussions with peers about leadership and important issues," said Dr. Howard Prince, Director of the Center for Ethical Leadership. "Students will share their knowledge and experience while taking part in leadership enrichment challenges and skill development activities; we are pleased to have Air Force Academy Cadets at our conference."

The conference will also be highlighted by several distinguished speakers including the Honorable Michael Powell, son of General Colin Powell, former Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission Ms. Ginger Kerrick, an International Space Station systems instructor for the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center and the first non-astronaut spacecraft communicator, and Dr. Rosemary O'Leary, who served on the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Return to Flight Task Group and the Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel as a consultant to NASA management on issues pertaining to organizational culture and change.



(Left to right) Cadets 2nd Class Mark Bailie, Caroline Tetrick, Ashley Miller, and Danny Velo will participate in the the 2008 Student Leadership Conference hosted by the Center for Ethical Leadership at the University of Texas at Austin Thursday,-March 2.

The stated goals of the 2008 Student Leadership Conference are to inspire young men and women to seek or accept leadership responsibilities as part of their contribution to society, increase awareness of current and emerging leadership challenges in a variety of settings, and develop a network of younger leaders to support future collaboration among these emerging leaders. For the cadets, the conference not only prepares them for future leadership positions in the Cadet Wing but also provides expo-

sure to leadership perspectives outside of the military culture.

"I think that the conference will be a great opportunity that will allow me to see a different point of view on leadership, get connected with peers and superiors in a new environment, and increase my awareness of leadership as a whole," said Cadet Velo. "I am hoping to learn how others are leading and interacting in the civilian world and apply what I learn at USAFA and throughout my career."



## Help us build the ROCKY MOUNTAIN WILD with a personalized river rock.

Help us "Rock The Zoo" with a personalized river rock for yourself, your family, a special friend or any of the other important people in your life.



Your rock will be permanently displayed on a Community Wall of Names at Moose Lake, an integral part of our new Rocky Mountain Wild exhibit. And it will help guarantee the Zoo keeps rocking for years to come.

**Reserve your rock by March 15 and have it displayed on the Community Wall for the May 2 opening of Rocky Mountain Wild!**

Order online at [www.cmzoo.org](http://www.cmzoo.org)

Cheyenne Mountain Zoo reserves the right to refuse to engrave any name or organization it deems to be inappropriate. Questions? Call **719-633-9925 ext. 115**, or e-mail [info@cmzoo.org](mailto:info@cmzoo.org).

Thank you for your donation. A letter of receipt from Cheyenne Mountain Zoo will be mailed to you for your file.



Prices and offers valid February 22<sup>nd</sup> - February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008

# ULTIMATE<sup>®</sup>

## ELECTRONICS

Colorado Springs Location Only

### Appliance & Billiards Grand Opening

Ranges • Cooktops • Microwaves • Dishwashers  
Washers • Dryers • Refrigerators • Freezers

**save \$100**

Best Buy's Price **\$849<sup>98</sup>**

Not available at Home Depot

Lowe's Price **\$948<sup>00</sup>**

**\$799<sup>98</sup>**

If Sold Separately **\$899<sup>98</sup>**

**Whirlpool**  
25.3 Cu. Ft. Stainless Steel  
Front Load Washer/Dryer Set

Not available at Best Buy  
Not available at Home Depot  
Not available at Lowe's

Take an Extra **\$50 off**

**\$999<sup>99</sup>**

LAUNDRYPACK7 contains: FTF530FS, FEQ332ES

ED5FVGXSS

**Whirlpool**  
Stainless 25.3 Cu. Ft. Side-by-side Refrigerator

Offer not available at Best Buy

Offer not available at Home Depot

Offer not available at Lowe's

**Every Day We Shop for You and Adjust Our Prices to Beat Theirs, so You Know We Have the Lowest Prices Period.**

Mark Wattles  
Owner  
Ultimate Electronics

Prices posted in this ad reflect appliance prices shopped online at Home Depot, Lowe's and Best Buy on 02/13/08. Ultimate Electronics prices reflect the in-store sign price. Ultimate Electronics is not affiliated with or sponsored by Home Depot, Lowe's and Best Buy.

**Stainless 3-piece Kitchen Set ALL 3!**

25.9 Cu. Ft. Refrigerator

Electric Range

Dishwasher

**\$1799<sup>97</sup>** when purchased as a set

Offer not available at Best Buy

Offer not available at Home Depot

Offer not available at Lowe's

KITCHENPACK1 contains: FRS6HR5HSB, FEF368GC, FDB1050REC

**STORE HOURS: Monday - Saturday 10am - 9pm • Sunday 11am - 7pm**

**Colorado Springs**  
7207 N. Academy Blvd  
719-278-3898

The items in this advertisement were selected in advance. If an advertised item is temporarily out of stock due to unanticipated increases in demand or manufacturer shipping delays, we will offer a comparable discount on a similar product or provide a raincheck for the advertised item if possible. Our goal is to maintain accuracy in our advertising, but type and pictorial errors can occur and we may not be held liable for such errors.

\*Offer does not apply to limited quantities, final closeout merchandise, accessories and special orders. The promotional offers in this advertisement are good only for the

dates indicated, while quantities last and do not apply to previous purchases. Advertised promotions not to be combined or valid with any other offers. Participating stores only.

†Best Buy, Lowe's and Home Depot appliance prices reflect the online price on 02/13/08 after all listed discounts. Ultimate Electronics is not affiliated with Best Buy Co., Inc., The Home Depot U.S.A., Inc., Lowe's Companies, Inc. or Circuit City Stores, Inc. Ultimate Electronics prices shown in the ad reflect the in-store sign price and are active in all store locations.

# 100 and counting ...



Photo by Dennis Carlyle

Cadet 1st Class Brian Rahl, Cadet Squadron 7, learns where his first Air Force operational assignment will be during the Academy's annual 100th Night celebration Feb. 15. The Academy tradition allows fourth classmen to "decorate" the rooms of cadets 1st class while they are out at the 100th Night celebration in Mitchell Hall.



Photo by Dennis Carlyle  
Lt. Col. Scott Kniep, Cadet Squadron 23 Air Officer Commanding, hands out assignments at 100th Night.

Photo by Cadet 4th Class Corrine Millen  
Right: Cadets 4th Class Rebecca Boddke and Nathan Carter turned Cadets 1st Class Cadet Brian Heemstra and Bradley Davis' room into a janitor's closet equipped with supplies and a hat. The cadets are members of Cadet Squadron 2.



Photo by Cadet 4th Class Jason Holland

Cadets 4th Class wove a tangled web of yarn and balloons in a Cadet Squadron 24 room during 100th Night.




## THEY SALUTE YOU -AND So Do We.

Supporting our Nation's  
Military for over 40 years.

Call today  
for details  
about exciting  
new military  
scholarship  
opportunities.



 **Colorado Technical University™**  
**COLORADO SPRINGS**  
(888) 266-1555  
[www.ctudegreenow.com](http://www.ctudegreenow.com)

## OUR MISSION

is to provide our growing community with the highest quality automotive solutions possible from purchase to service.

## WE WILL

treat every customer and team member with respect and integrity to achieve a positive, supportive and productive environment.

## YOU'VE

made a commitment to our country.

## WE'VE

made a commitment to your family.

Find your perfect car.

**DODCARS.COM**

**1-888-876-7604**



**Totally Free Checking**  
direct deposit required  
**\$0 balance to open**  
**No service charge**  
**Unlimited check writing**  
**Free Visa Check Card**  
**Free Online Banking**  
**Free Online Bill Payment**



**Special Offer for Savers!!**

**Open a Savings Account during**

**Military Saves Week**

**(Feb. 25-March 4)**

**No minimum deposit to open**

**No minimum balance required for first 6 months**

**Certificates of Deposit**

9 mo **3.85%** apy

15 mo **3.80%** apy

To open a certificate of deposit and obtain the stated annual percentage yield (APY), you must deposit a minimum of \$500. APY's stated as of date of publication are subject to change without notice. Penalty for early withdrawal.

**ARMED FORCES BANK**

**United States Air Force Academy**

Community Center Branch  
Community Ctr. Dr.  
**472-1090**

Cadet Branch  
Sijan Hall  
**472-0205**

Member FDIC • Equal Housing Lender

*Welcome to Colorado Springs!*

ARE YOU CONSIDERING  
**PLASTIC SURGERY?**



- ▶ BREAST ENLARGEMENT
- ▶ BREAST LIFT
- ▶ TUMMY TUCK
- ▶ LIPOSUCTION

*Free Consultation  
Affordable Financing Options  
Military Discounts Available  
Call for details*

**DR. DOUGLAS J. RASKIN, M.D., D.M.D**

*Harvard & Stanford Trained  
Certified by American Board of Plastic Surgery*

578-9988 • 559 E. Pikes Peak Ave., Suite 209  
www.pcisys.net/~djr • email: djr@pcisys.net

**TriCare Prime offers off-base routine eye examination benefit!**



No Primary Care referral is necessary. Simply call for an appointment.

**No out-of-pocket cost for an eye exam for glasses!**

- Active-duty dependents are eligible once per year.
- Retirees and their dependents are eligible once every two years.



**The doctors next to LensCrafters are contracted TriCare Prime Providers.** They offer three convenient Colorado Springs Locations for eye examinations with appointments Monday through Saturday. No more waiting for an appointment on base.

Southside Between Northside  
**Citadel Mall Vickers & Academy Chapel Hills Mall**  
**598-1392 548-8717 598-5068**

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

**Be A Blood Donor... and be proud!**



**BETTER PROTECTION FOR THE VEHICLE YOU DRIVE. WHEN YOU'RE NOT AT WORK.**

On duty, it's Humvees, Abrams and APCs. Off duty, it's SUVs, minivans and sports cars. That's where GEICO comes in. We offer 24-hour service, money-saving discounts, easy payment plans, vehicle storage options and storage protection plans, whether you store it yourself or on base. For seventy years, GEICO has been serving the special needs of the special people who serve our country. We're ready to do it for you.

**GEICO**  
Local Office

AUTO ★ HOME ★ RENTERS ★ MOTORCYCLE ★ BOAT

**(719) 622-3080 | 3235 E. Platte Ave. | Colorado Springs**

Homeowners, renters, and boat coverages are written through non-affiliated insurance companies and are secured through Insurance Counselors Inc., the GEICO Property Agency. Some discounts, coverages, payment plans, and features are not available in all states or in all GEICO companies. Military discounts not available in all states or in all GEICO companies. • Government Employees Insurance Co. • GEICO General Insurance Co. • GEICO Indemnity Co. • GEICO Casualty Co. • These companies are subsidiaries of Berkshire Hathaway Inc. GEICO auto insurance is not available in Utah. GEICO, Washington, DC 20057 © 2007 GEICO

COI



"I LOVE TO SWIM!"

"I love to swim." Those words are amazing coming from Brandon, a vibrant 13 year old doctors thought would never walk. He was diagnosed with cerebral palsy shortly after birth. Today he is as playful and mischievous as any other kid his age.

With United Way providing funding, the Cerebral Palsy Association helped cover out-of-pocket expenses of therapy and provided wheelchairs and walkers for Brandon over the years.

Roller coasters are Brandon's biggest thrill. When he describes his favorites, his eyes light up. Brandon has to work hard every day just to keep moving, and with a little help from his "friend," he'll continue to push forward.



To learn more about our programs or to make a pledge, visit [www.ppunitedway.org](http://www.ppunitedway.org) or call 719-632-1543



**Air Force Parent Pin Program**

[www.guardiansoffront.com](http://www.guardiansoffront.com)



# Refractive surgery bringing life into focus

By Ann Patton  
Academy Spirit staff

Forget “four-eyes” or dried out, dirty contact lenses.

The Academy’s Refractive Surgery Center is doing away with the need for glasses and contacts and doing it with the most technically sophisticated equipment available.

Operational since 2001, the Center at the 10th Medical Group has performed more than 15,000 refractive eye surgeries since it opened.

“Overall, almost 90 percent of patients are seeing 20/20 or better without glasses or contacts, and virtually all are 20/40 or better, the legal driving limit,” said Maj. Derrick Montgomery, 10th MDG Ophthalmologist, Corneal Specialist and the Chief of the Refractive Surgery Center.

The Center prides itself on providing the highest quality eye care to patients from the Army, Navy, Coast Guard and Air Force warfighters, cadets and pilots, as well as reservists from all over the world.

The 10th Medical Group hospital was recently acknowledged as the top Air Force hospital in the CONUS and the USAFA is fortunate enough to have a Laser Center commensurate with its prestige. Led by some of the most qualified physicians, optometrists and administrators in the Department of Defense, the Center is forging into the new millennium, utilizing the most cutting edge technology.

“Our equipment is state-of-the-art,” said Paul Dondi, Center manager. “It’s the best on the market.”

For deployed warriors, refractive surgery is especially attractive because it eliminates the need for



Courtesy photo

## Improvements in technology are making refractive eye surgery more precise.

vision corrective gas mask inserts and modifying night vision goggles to conform to eyeglasses.

The Center boasts a 99 percent pilot-qualifying success rate on pilot candidates who have received laser surgery at the Center.

“Most people are good candidates,” Maj. Montgomery said of the two kinds of refractive surgeries, which would come with hefty price tags off base.

Mr. Dondi, estimated the cost for the elective surgeries could run between \$4,000 and \$5,000.

The cornea functions much like the lens of a camera, and the retina the film. Refractive surgery involves reshaping the cornea, which functions much like a “windshield” of the eye, to make light rays fall precisely on the retina.

The Center also provides patients with the oppor-

See FOCUS, Page 12

**Military appreciation days at**

**U·PULL &·PAY**  
SELF-SERVE USED AUTO PARTS  
(Formerly A-1 Auto Recyclers, Inc.)

Just bring your tools, pull your parts and pay!

Bring your military ID and this ad for FREE ADMISSION any Sunday!

- 1,500 cars in inventory
- Open Mon-Sat 8:30 - 5:00, Sun 8:30 - 4:00
- 31 day return policy on most car parts

We buy junk cars and trucks. Free towing!

3745 South U.S. Highway 85-87  
**(719) 392-5900**  
coloradosprings.upullandpay.com

**Free COLLEGE CHECKING**

No matter how many times you change your major, you'll never have to change your account.

At Ent®, we understand there's not a lot of extra money when you're in school. Free College Checking lets you earn dividends on your balance, with no monthly fees or minimum balance. And, it comes with a free Visa® Check Card that earns Rainbow Rewards<sup>SM</sup> cash back, free Online Banking and Bill Pay, free eStatements and Email Alerts, and access to thousands of free ATMs nationwide.

For more information, visit [Ent.com/FreeCollegeChecking](http://Ent.com/FreeCollegeChecking).

**Ent®**

Colorado Springs: (719) 574-1100 • Pueblo: (719) 542-5276  
800-525-9623 • Ent.com

Ent is a community-chartered credit union.  
Equal Opportunity Lender • Federally insured by NCUA • © Ent Federal Credit Union, 2007  
Ent is a registered trademark of Ent Federal Credit Union.

NCUA

30130 01/08

You are invited to  
**First Baptist Church of Peaceful Valley**



- Independent - Fundamental
- King James Bible
- Soul Winning and Visitation Program
- Bus Ministry
- Faith Promise Missions
- Annual Missions Conference
- Old Fashioned Preaching
- Strong Bible Centered Families

**Services are as follows:**

Sunday 9:45am Sunday School  
10:30am Preaching Service  
6:00pm Evening Service

Wednesday 7:00pm Bible Study and Prayer Meeting  
Thursday 9:30am and 6:30pm Visitation  
Saturday Men's Prayer Meeting

We are located at the corner of Fontaine and Powers  
7925 Fontaine Blvd, Colorado Springs, CO 80925  
AW Payne, Pastor (719-392-4444)  
[www.firstbaptistchurchofpeacefulvalley.org](http://www.firstbaptistchurchofpeacefulvalley.org)

# Fluoride prevents tooth decay

By Capt. Casey Campbell  
10th Dental Squadron

February is National Children's Dental Health Month, and we should use this time to review the use of fluoride supplements to overcome the fluoride shortage in the drinking water both on base and in most of Colorado Springs. Our city remains to be one of the largest American cities lacking fluoride supplementation.

Ironically, the benefits of fluoride were first discovered here in Colorado Springs. In the early 1900s, a young dentist documented mottled, brown teeth that were harder than normal teeth, yet lacking in any cavities. It was eventually determined that this was due to extremely high natural levels of fluoride in the water supply. The fluoride levels in old Colorado City and Manitou Springs have remained the same, and residents of those communities have ample fluoride—too much, in fact. Yet in the very city where scientists first documented what would later be named by the Centers for Disease Control as one of the "Ten Great Public Health Achievements—United States 1900-1999," two-thirds of the citizens have too little fluoride in their drinking water. While not particularly a problem for adults, it is a detriment to our children.

Fluoride is nature's own cavity fighter. It is a mineral that occurs naturally in all water sources and is effective in preventing and reversing the early signs of tooth decay. It makes the tooth structure stronger so teeth are more resistant to acid attacks. Acid is formed when the bacteria in plaque break down sugars and carbohydrates from the diet. Repeated acid attacks



**CHILDREN'S  
DENTAL HEALTH  
MONTH**

break down the tooth, which causes cavities. Fluoride also acts to repair, or remineralize, areas in which acid attacks have already begun. The remineralization effect of fluoride is important because it reverses the early decay process as well as creates a tooth surface that is more resistant to decay.

An abundant source of fluoride is even more important in the early years of life (6 months to 16 years) while the permanent teeth are developing. It is during this stage that fluoride is able to integrate into the biochemical structure of teeth from deep within. After teeth have erupted in the mouth, fluoride can only act on the external surfaces of teeth which, while still beneficial, is not as fully protective as the integration from within which can only happen from systemic fluoride during tooth development.

Water supply fluoridation, which has been around for more than 50 years, is the process of adjusting the

fluoride content of fluoride-deficient water to the recommended level for optimal dental health. The recommended level for our climate is 1.0 parts fluoride per million parts of water (ppm). Fluoridation is an extremely effective and inexpensive means of obtaining the fluoride necessary for optimal tooth decay prevention.

The water supply at the Air Force Academy and most of Colorado Springs has been documented by Colorado Spring Utilities as having 0.2-0.3 ppm of fluoride, well short of the recommended levels.

Dietary fluoride supplements (tablets or drops) are available by prescription and are primarily intended for use by children ages 6 months to 16 years old who live in non-fluoridated areas. A dentist or physician can prescribe the correct dosage based on the natural fluoride concentration of the child's drinking water and the age of the child. To find out the fluoride concentration in the area where you live, you can contact Colorado Springs Utilities and ask for a free copy of their citywide map detailing fluoride levels throughout the city and surrounding areas. Some other sources of fluoride can be found in some over-the-counter vitamin supplements, as well as certain bottled waters.

In addition to fluoride supplements, there is also a documented benefit to the topical use of fluoride on the enamel. Most of us will get this topical dose from standard toothpastes bearing the American Dental Association seal of approval. There are also a variety of over-the-counter mouth rinses containing fluoride.

For more information, contact your dentist or pediatrician.

**30 Cars  
Under  
\$9,995**



**Used Car  
Super Store**

## DAVE SOLON KIA

**2007 LEXUS IS-250  
AWD**



All wheel drive, #K7032B

**\$31,950**

**2003 Ford Sport Trac**



Low miles, 4x4, #P70324A

**\$13,950**

**2005 Jeep Wrangler  
4x4**



9k miles, 4.0L, #P70338

**\$18,950**

**2006 Nissan Sentra**



6 Speed, Low miles, P70378

**\$15,950**

**2005 Mustang GT**



Great miles, #K70224B

**\$19,950**

**2003 Jeep Liberty  
Renegade**



Good miles and shape, #P70387

**\$11,950**

**1560 Auto Mall Loop  
Colorado Springs, CO 80920  
719-785-6100**

## DAVE SOLON NISSAN/SUBARU

**1999 Ford Mustang**



N8389AA

**\$8,995**

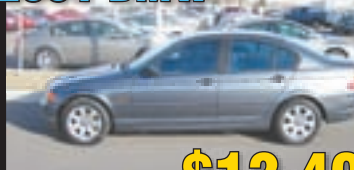
**2004 Chevrolet  
Corvette**



#N8492A

**\$31,995**

**2001 BMW**



#N8542A

**\$13,495**

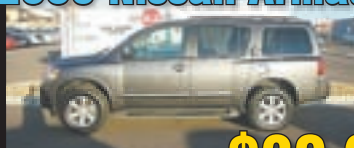
**2005 Hummer H2**



#P8114

**\$30,995**

**2008 Nissan Armada**



#P8118

**\$30,995**

**2004 Toyota Tundra**



#8104A

**\$22,995**

**2525 US Hwy 50 West  
Pueblo, CO 81008  
719-545-4145 or 888-550-4145 toll-free**

## Summer jobs available at Air Force bases worldwide

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — Students and certain other eligible persons can gain marketable skills and earn money while enjoying their summer vacations with the Air Force Summer Hire Program, Air Force Personnel Center officials here said Feb. 19.

Job vacancies will be posted on the USAJobs Web site and may be advertised locally by a base's civilian personnel flight via bulletin boards, services squadron newsletters or base newspapers.

Also, many civilian personnel flights interact with local community colleges and high schools and have already identified eligible and interested students. In either case, the job request and the name of the hire will be sent to AFPC and processed.

In most cases, the request for personnel action will be sent to an AFPC Management Advisory Clearing House, or "MACH," inbox. There is a specific MACH for every major command. There it will go through normal checks and balances, advertised for hire, and a list of qualified names sent to the requesting official, just as any recruitment action would do.

Applicants must be able to show proof of their eligibility; either school enrollment paperwork, proof of citizenship, or other proof before being hired.

"These great temporary jobs will run from May through September," said Robbie Brown, a technical adviser to the deputy director of Civilian Force Integration at AFPC. "Bases are looking for clerical workers, lifeguards, recreation aides, computer clerks and general laborers. However, if a person was a temporary hire last year and still qualifies for the program, he or she may be asked by the hiring official to volunteer for the program again."

This program gives Air Force bases a highly qualified and enthusiastic group of temporary workers to fill important seasonal positions, Ms. Brown said.

# Air Force is 'Above All'

By Staff Sgt. J.G. Buzanowski  
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The Air Force has a new advertising campaign to recruit the next generation of Airmen as well as better inform people about the Air Force mission:

"Above All."

"The new slogan is admittedly a bold one," said Col. Michael Caldwell, deputy director of Air Force public affairs, "but so are Airmen." This campaign accurately portrays Airmen and how they're executing the Air Force mission to ensure the security and safety of America now and in the future.

"Above All" is about what we do and how we do it," Colonel Caldwell said. "The job of the Air Force is to defend America, and we do that by dominating air, space and cyberspace. The new campaign and slogan captures our roots, but also illustrates where we're going as a service as the Air Force prepares to contend with future threats."

The purpose of the campaign is to create a dialogue with potential recruits, their parents and those most likely to influence young people to join the military about the critical role the Air Force plays in defending America's future, said Colonel Caldwell.

The "Above All" campaign kicks off this month and will be prominent on television, in print and, of course, in cyberspace. In addition to being shown at several sporting events, "Above All" ads will be seen in magazines and during commercial breaks on many top-rated commercial and television news and entertainment programs, Colonel Caldwell said.

The campaign will feature real Airmen performing their missions, like Staff Sgt. Lee Jones from Barksdale Air Force Base, La. He's featured prominently in the



campaign as a warrior on the front lines of the Air Force's newest warfighting domain, cyberspace.

"I'm excited to be a part of this and to represent the Air Force this way," said Sergeant Jones, a computer systems operator and cyberwarrior. "Above All" is a great slogan because it says how we shine in what we do to defend our nation and accomplish our mission."

The "Above All" slogan was chosen over several other phrases as the best description of the Air Force mission, Colonel Caldwell said.

"From all the research we did about how people feel about the Air Force - including civilians, Airmen and representatives from other services - this was the phrase that stood out the most," said Colonel Caldwell. "This campaign captures the professionalism of our Airmen, our technological edge and our ability to meet today's threats while at the same time prepare for future challenges."

"When anyone in our Air Force family sees an 'Above All' ad, we hope it reminds them that their role is important to America," Colonel Caldwell said. "This campaign makes it clear the Air Force's mission 'Above All' is national defense and protecting the American people."



**Raspberry Mountain**  
INVESTMENTS  
Tax Planning & Preparation Services

**HAVE YOUR TAXES PROFESSIONALLY DONE AT TURBO TAX RATES!!!**

- Why Pay More To Do The Work Yourself?
- Your Taxes Are Done In The Privacy Of Your Home Or Office
- Protect Your Financial Privacy
- E-File Included
- Military & Senior Discounts
- All Competitor Coupons Honored

By Appointment Only  
7 Days a Week  
Through April 15th  
**Call Now (719) 487-0383**



Get more of what you love with...

# MAX Checking

Powered by BancVue

**6.01%** APY\* and Free ATMs Worldwide\*\*



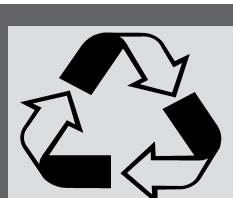
The tools needed to restore disaster-ravaged lives aren't always hammers and nails.



The hurt of disaster cuts much deeper than the eye can see. That's why a caring touch and understanding can sometimes be the most powerful tools of all. When lives need rebuilding, The Salvation Army knows it takes much more than the tools that come from the hardware store...it takes the tools that come from the heart. So please give generously. Call 1-800-SAL-ARMY, donate on-line or send your monetary contribution to:

National Disaster Fund  
The Salvation Army National Headquarters  
615 Slaters Lane Alexandria, VA 22313  
WWW.SALVATIONARMYUSA.ORG • NEED KNOWS NO SEASON





## Please Recycle

<p>EARN MAX RATES</p> <p><b>6.01%</b> APY*</p> <p><small>On Balances From \$0 - \$50,000</small></p>	<p>AND</p> <p><b>1.01%</b> APY*</p> <p><small>On Balances Over \$50,000</small></p>	<p>OR BASE RATE</p> <p><b>0.25%</b> APY*</p> <p><small>If Requirements Are Not Met</small></p>
--	---	--

To earn the MAX Rates, perform the following each cycle\*\*\*:

- 12 Check Card Transactions - Check card transactions must be signature (credit) based to qualify. PIN based transactions are not eligible.
- Receive Electronic Statement
- One direct deposit or ACH Auto Debit

**AIR ACADEMY**  
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION  
aafcu.com 800-223-1983

Colorado Springs • Fountain • Monument • Castle Rock • Parker • Highlands Ranch • Elizabeth

\*APY=Annual Percentage Yield. 6.01% APY paid on balances between one penny and \$50,000, and 1.01% APY paid on all amounts above \$50,000 each cycle the minimum requirements are met. Dividends begin to accrue upon account opening. If you do not meet the requirements during a given cycle, you will earn the Base Rate of 0.25% APY. Rates as of February 1, 2008. We may change the dividend rate and APY at any time after the account is opened. 12 Check card transactions must be signature (credit) based to qualify. Make twelve or more signature/credit-based transaction purchases using your Visa® Check Card. PIN based transactions do not count toward the 12 required transactions. Select or ask for the credit option to ensure the transactions meet the requirements for Max Checking. ACH or Direct Deposit must be to/from MAX Checking (S12) account. No minimum balance required. No minimum balance to open this account. Available to personal accounts only. No monthly service charge. If you do not meet the requirements per cycle, your account will still function as a free checking account earning the Base Rate, however it will not receive ATM Refunds for that time period. \*\*ATM refunds up to \$25 per cycle (limited to \$4.99 per item) if requirements are met. \*\*\*A cycle is defined as the period between the last business day of the month and the next to last business day of the following month. Federally insured by NCUA.

## Focus

From Page 9

tunity to have a Wavefront or CustomVue ablation profile. This is the latest advancement in excimer laser computer software technology which allows the computer to ascertain an individualized representation of every patient's eye and provide a treatment profile which is unique to only that eye.

Even James Bond would be impressed with this program which includes an "iris registration" capability or an "iris fingerprint," to identify subtle, one-of-a-kind differences unique to that particular eye that enables the clearest possible vision after surgery, in many cases even better than 20/20.

There are several types of refractive surgery but two in particular are most commonly performed at the center, both of which use an excimer laser. The excimer laser uses "excited" electrons to create a laser beam that is so accurate that one pulse "photoablates" 0.25 microns of corneal tissue. One micron is equal to 1 millionth of a meter.

Photorefractive keratectomy, or PRK, involves removing of the top layer of cells of the cornea, called the epithelium. A laser is then applied directly to the corneal stromal bed that remains, thus reshaping the cornea and allowing for better vision.

The second refractive surgery is Laser in Situ Keratomileusis, or LASIK, and is a variation of PRK. LASIK involves creating a paper thin corneal stromal, or flap. The laser is applied to the corneal bed once the flap is lifted and retracted. The corneal flap is then replaced in its original position.

There are two alternatives for making the flap. The

first, a microkeratome, is used extensively around the country with great results and utilizes a super sharp blade to make the corneal flap.

The second, the IntraLase femtosecond laser, created by Advanced Medical Optics, is known as the "blade-less" or "all-laser LASIK." Over one million procedures have been performed with the IntraLase laser since its inception in 2001.

Creating a corneal flap with a mechanical blade is reliable but does incur the remote risk of flap complications that are possible even in the best surgical hands. IntraLase takes the guesswork out of the procedure by providing a virtually "perfect" flap every time.

The IntraLase femtosecond laser works by using infrared light to divide corneal tissue by a process known as photodisruption. The laser delivers energy to the underlying corneal stroma at 30,000 pulses per second to create an extremely uniform plane at a precise depth within about 15 seconds.

There are several advantages of using the femtosecond technology. Because of the amazing accuracy of the laser, it broadens the scope of the procedure in that the surgeon can more confidently treat patients who might not otherwise be eligible for the procedure, such as very near-sighted people or those with thinner corneas. This vanguard procedure has garnered so much acclaim and confidence nationwide, that it has even been approved by NASA for its astronauts!

The Academy Refractive Center is expected to receive an IntraLase laser in the next six months.

The decision to have PRK or LASIK depends on

the individual characteristics of the candidate's corneas and subject to the surgeon's discretion.

Major Montgomery pointed out the recovery time for LASIK is considerably faster, and post-operative drops are usually discontinued within one week after the procedure, allowing for faster troop deployments than PRK.

Though intricate and requiring a highly-skilled medical team, refractive surgery is surprisingly fast, and any discomfort afterward can be relieved with topical and oral medications.

Following pre-operative procedures, patients are in the laser surgery suite only about 10 minutes for surgery on both eyes. However, patients must undergo eight follow-up examinations after having PRK.

"The safety of the patient is paramount," Major Montgomery said, and added the Center needs to monitor patients closely. Following surgery, the Air Force requires retainability for six months, the Navy 12 months and the Army 18 months.

The Academy performs about 25 refractive surgeries a day but always welcomes new patients.

"There is practically no waiting period," Mr. Dondi said.

"The USAFA Refractive surgery Center is honored to serve those who serve our country so tirelessly, and provide them with the best quality vision science has to offer," said Major Montgomery. "Maybe you can be next!"

To apply for refractive surgery on the Academy, email [10mdg.lasereyeclinic@usafa.af.mil](mailto:10mdg.lasereyeclinic@usafa.af.mil). To learn more about refractive surgery visit [www.refractiveeyesurgery.org](http://www.refractiveeyesurgery.org).

# Recycle this newspaper!



## COSTCO WHOLESALE

**BUSINESS MEMBERS HOURS**  
Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**HOURS FOR ALL MEMBERS**  
Monday – Friday, 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**VISIT OUR NEW WAREHOUSE  
FOR LOW PRICES ON**

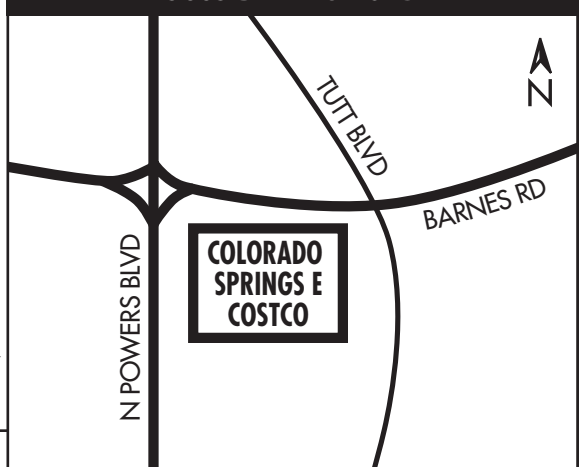
Gas Station • Electronics • Tire Center • Jewelry  
Fresh Meat • Books, CDs & DVDs  
Pharmacy • Groceries • Fresh Bakery  
Housewares • Food Court • Computers  
Fresh Produce • Rotisserie Chicken  
1-Hour Photo • Travel Program • Automobile  
Buying Program • Service Deli • Office Supplies  
Clothing • Liquor Store (outside)  
Optical Department with an Independent  
Doctor of Optometry • Special Order Kiosk

# WE'RE NOW OPEN IN COLORADO SPRINGS EAST!

**COSTCO IS PROUD TO SUPPORT OUR  
MEMBERS OF THE ARMED SERVICES.**

**COME IN AND  
JOIN TODAY!**

**COLORADO SPRINGS EAST**  
5885 BARNES ROAD



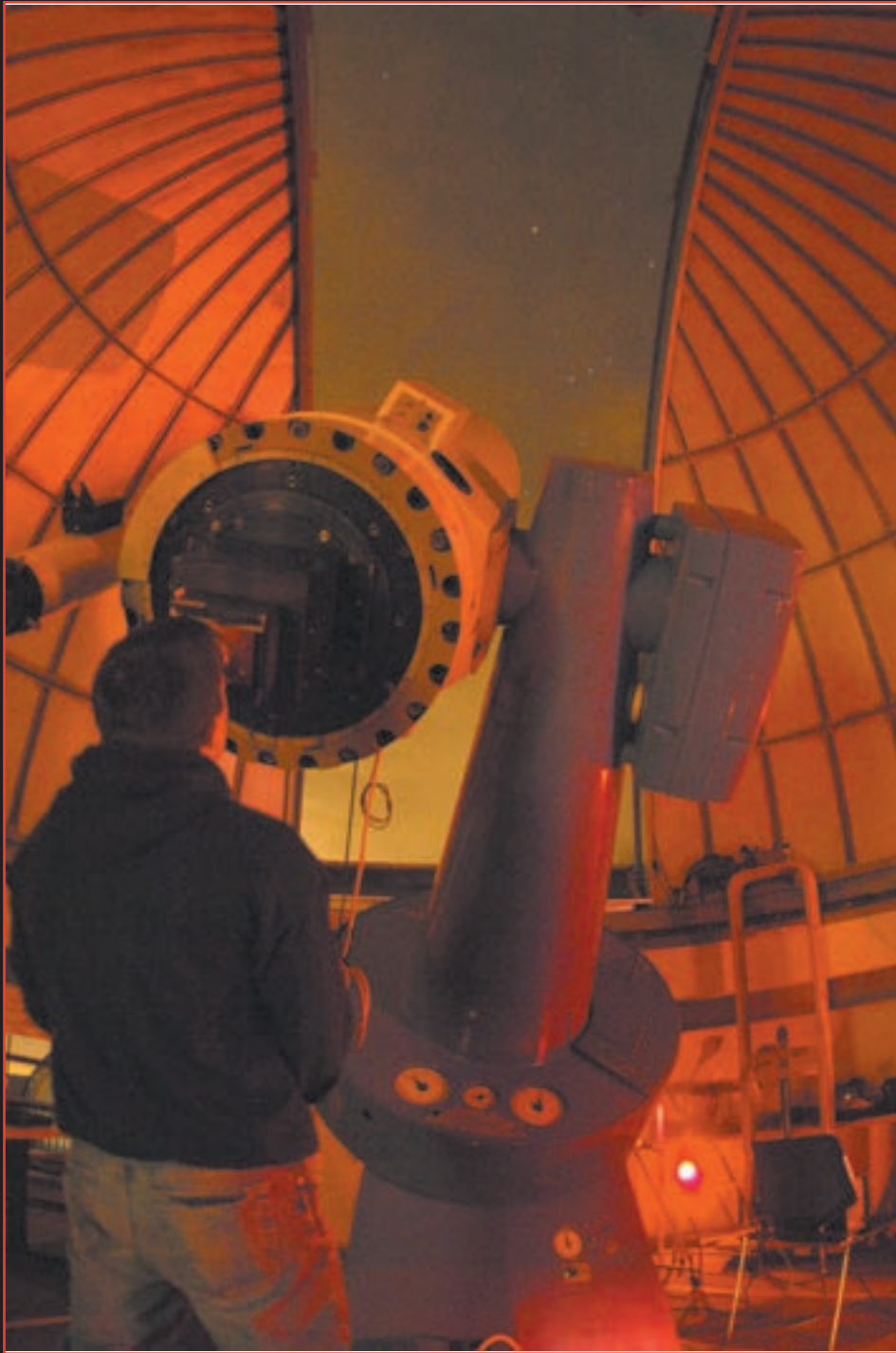
08300618p 2/08

# Moonstruck!

## Total lunar eclipse wows cadets, visitors at Academy observatory



Photo by Devin Della-Rose  
This photo of the moon was taken from the Academy observatory Monday.

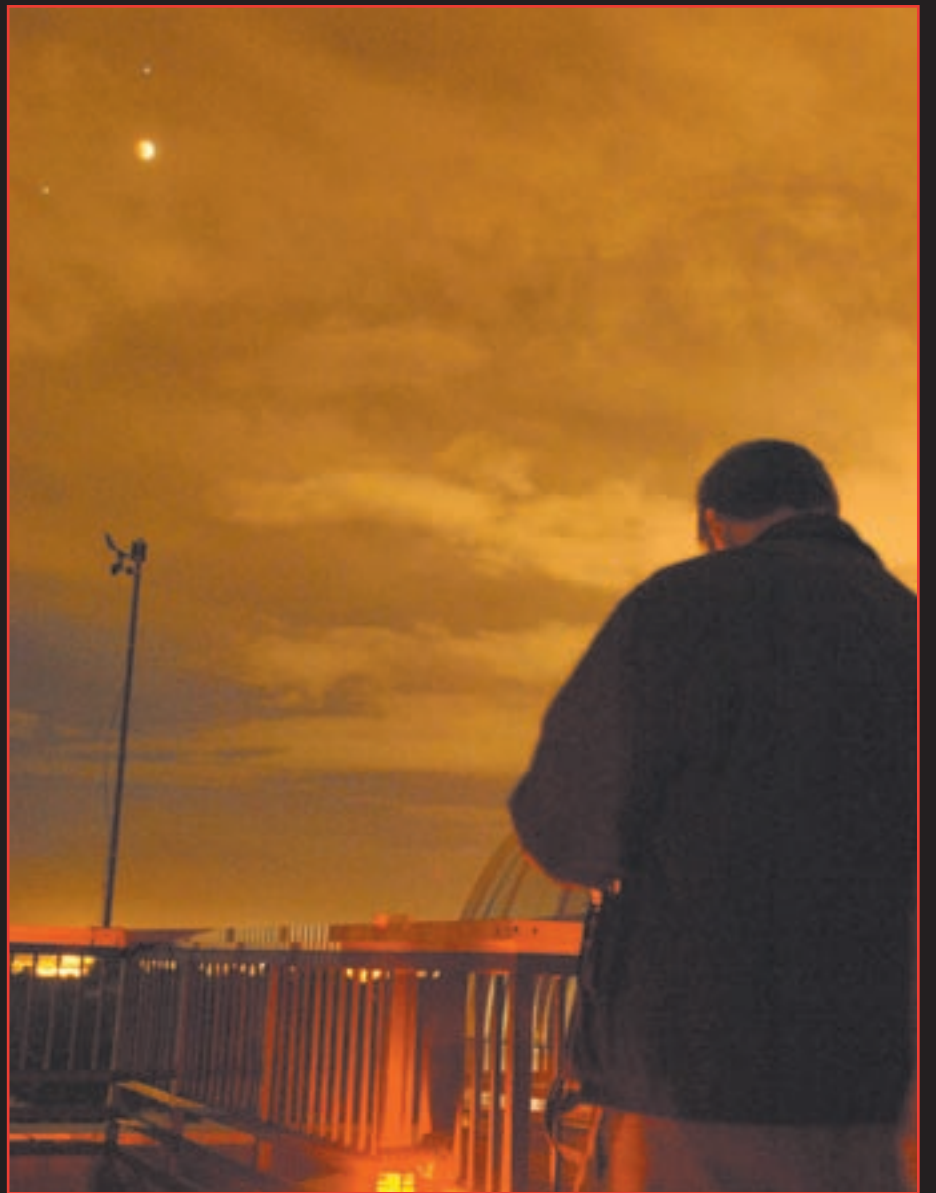


Photos by Staff Sgt. Tim Jenkins

Cadet 1st Class Kevin Nastasi, Cadet Squadron 3, takes an opportunity to view Mars through the observatory's 24-inch Cassegrain reflector telescope Wednesday while the total lunar eclipse was blocked with cloud cover. Cadets, instructors and guests stopped by the observatory to view the total lunar eclipse, which will not happen again until 2010.



Cadet Nastasi views the full lunar eclipse through one of the observatory's telescopes. The entire event was visible from South America and most of North America Wednesday night, as well as Western Europe, Africa, and western Asia on Thursday.



Dr. Devin Della-Rose, Academy Observatory director, takes some photos of the eclipse during a break in the clouds as Saturn and the star Regulus shine nearby. Regulus is the brightest star in the constellation Leo. The physics and astronomy clubs hold education and public outreach events at the observatory throughout the year. For more information, call 333-3266.



Cadet 2nd Class Shannon Kranich, Cadet Squadron 31, aligns one of the observatory's two telescopes.

# Abernathy a champion for human rights

By Capt. Sabine Peters

Department of Foreign Languages instructor



Abernathy

The success of any major endeavor rarely comes at the hand of only one person, and the American Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 60s is no exception. Many capable hands and minds worked tirelessly in the shadows, side-by-side with the people whose names so quickly come to mind when talking about

America's quest to end social injustice. One such person was Ralph David Abernathy.

The tenth of twelve children, Ralph was born March 11, 1926, in the small town of Linden, Ala. His parents, William and Louivery Abernathy, were sharecroppers and, like many of Linden's black residents, made their living working the fields of local white landowners. William was a very hardworking and frugal man who eventually managed to escape poverty by saving enough money to buy land, 500 acres in all, which made the Abernathy's owners of one of the largest farms in the area and even better off than many of the white families in Linden. During the Great Depression, the Abernathy farm supplied the community with a variety of food and other essentials so the family was largely protected from its widespread devastation. Because of his work ethic, William Abernathy became one of the leaders in the African American community serving as deacon in his church and on the school board of the local African-American high school. He became the first African American in Linden to vote and serve on a grand jury.

Throughout Ralph's early childhood, his family called him by his baptismal name, David, after the biblical character who conquered Goliath. His grandmother was a midwife and helped with his delivery. She had sensed the boy had a special calling. The family was very religious, attending church and Sunday school regularly. Young David knew he wanted to be a pastor and began dreaming about and longing for his own personal experience with God. One day, after a day of fasting and praying, God came to him. "I only know that a sudden peace flooded my soul, and in an instant, I was a different human being," said Abernathy.

Despite the hardship that came with working a large farm, the family was close-knit. David was assigned to watch his younger sister, Susie, and brother, James Earl, and help his mother in the kitchen while his father and older siblings worked in the fields. He was particularly close to his paternal grandfather who would tell him stories of his life as a slave. One of his sister's favorite teachers was a gentleman named Ralph, so she began calling her brother Ralph David. The name stuck and he would be known as Ralph David for the rest of his life.

When Ralph was 16, his father suffered a massive stroke and passed away. Soon after their father's death, Ralph's three older brothers left home to serve in the Army. In April of 1944, shortly after his 18th birthday, Ralph received his own orders to report for active duty and was sent to Fort Devens, Mass., for basic training. He became a platoon sergeant and boarded a ship for France. The war in Europe was almost over by the time he arrived, but he saw first hand the destruction and complete devastation this war had caused. After being forced to spend time out in the rain supervising the punishment of two of his soldiers, Ralph contracted rheumatic fever. His unit forward deployed to the South Pacific without him, and Ralph learned later that he and a fellow soldier were the only two members of his unit to survive the war. His experiences during this time were pivotal in his commitment to a life of nonviolence.

After the war, Ralph enrolled at Alabama State University in Montgomery and majored in math. Not

long into his studies, his mother's health began to deteriorate due to rheumatoid arthritis, and two days after Thanksgiving in 1947, she died. Even though Ralph was one of the youngest, his siblings mainly turned to him for strength and support. His political activism began in college. He was elected president of the student council and led protests to improve living conditions in the dorms and the food served in the student cafeteria. He was an active member of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity and even worked as the first African-American disc jockey at a white radio station in Montgomery. A civics professor once talked to his class about the power voting would have for black people. Ralph was so inspired by his words that he convinced a group of students to go to the courthouse with him to get registered to vote. His friends failed to complete the lengthy registration form and were refused, but Ralph managed to provide every bit of detail the form called for and received his voter registration card.

In 1950 he graduated from Alabama State with a bachelor's degree in mathematics and a year later with a master's degree in sociology from Atlanta University. During his time in Atlanta he had the opportunity to be a guest preacher in other churches in the area. One Sunday, he attended service at Ebenezer Baptist Church to hear another young preacher by the name of Martin Luther King. Ralph later admitted he felt envious of King's "learning and confidence." He immediately saw King as "a man with a special gift from God." He introduced himself to King that day, and the two men became friends.

Abernathy returned to Montgomery and became a full-time minister at the First Baptist Church. In college, Ralph had met and dated Juanita Odessa Jones, and on August 13, 1952, the two were married. Sadly, their first child, Ralph II, died in infancy. Thankfully, the couple would have three more children, Juandalynn, Donzaleigh, and Ralph III. In 1954, Martin Luther King Jr. moved to Montgomery where he accepted a position as minister of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, and their friendship grew into a close, enduring partnership.

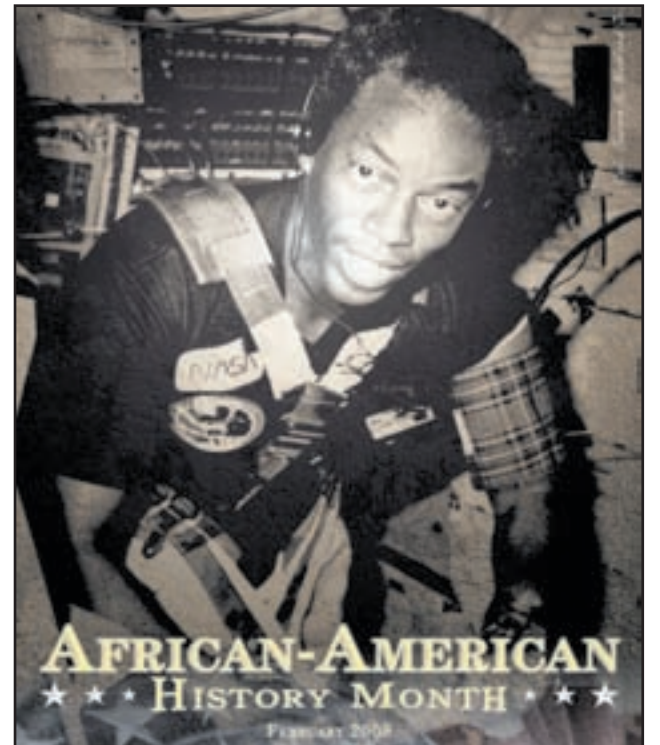
In December 1955, a Montgomery seamstress named Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat to a white man on one of the segregated city buses. Mrs. Parks was arrested, and the news and circumstances of her arrest spread quickly. King and Abernathy were contacted about initiating a boycott of the buses, and, along with leaders from other African American organizations formed the "Montgomery Improvement Association" to guide the protest. Over the next 381 days, the 17,000 black residents of Montgomery walked or car-pooled, and on December 20, 1956, the boycott ended with the Supreme Court's affirmation that segregation on city buses was unconstitutional.

In 1957, King and Abernathy met with other African-American clergymen to form the "Southern Christian Leadership Conference," an organization committed to using non-violence in the struggle for civil rights in all other areas of life. King became president, and Abernathy was elected secretary-treasurer of the organization.

King returned to Atlanta in 1959 and officially announced Abernathy as the new president of the MIA. "Abernathy has proven his ability as a leader ... and I predict that under his leadership, Montgomery will grow to higher heights and new and creative things will be done," said King.

Juggling his responsibilities as a minister, treasurer of the Atlanta-based SCLC and president of the MIA proved too much, and, at the urging of King, Abernathy followed his friend and accepted a position as pastor of the West Hunter Baptist Church in Atlanta.

In the spring of 1963, King and Abernathy, along with other SCLC leaders, organized wide-spread desegregation efforts in Birmingham, Ala. Treatment of African-American protestors at the direction of



Graphic by J. Luke Borland

Eugene "Bull" Connor, Birmingham's head of public safety, quickly drew national attention. Both King and Abernathy, along with more than 3,000 other African-Americans, were arrested and sent to jail. In the end, demonstrations in Birmingham proved successful, and more desegregation efforts began in over 250 other cities throughout the South, eventually opening parks, schools, restaurants and hotels to people of all races.

The next massive demonstration was planned for August 28, 1963, in Washington D.C. The famous "March on Washington" attracted over 250,000 people from all over the U.S. By the next summer, the Civil Rights Act would finally be signed into law, followed by the Voting Rights Act a year later.

At King's request, Abernathy became vice-president of the SCLC. In early April of 1968, King and Abernathy, along with several other civil rights leaders, traveled to Memphis to support striking sanitation workers. In the early evening hours of April 4, the group was getting ready to go to dinner at a friend's house. King was out on the balcony of the motel when Abernathy heard a gun shot and ran outside. Martin Luther King Jr., his best friend of 18 years, lay on the ground, struck down by an assassin's bullet. Abernathy rode to the hospital in the ambulance and followed him into surgery, but the wounds inflicted by the bullet proved too severe. King was pronounced dead at 7:05 p.m.

Abernathy succeeded King as president of the SCLC, and he had little time to mourn his friend. Less than a week after the fatal shooting, he led the planned march in support of the sanitation workers in Memphis. A Poor People's Campaign in Washington followed in May of that year, intended to bring attention to the nation's impoverished. He spoke to tens of thousands of people in front of the Lincoln Memorial, but during the course of the events was arrested for unlawful assembly and spent three weeks behind bars.

In 1977, Abernathy left the SCLC and was able to devote more time to his church and his family. He went on to lecture throughout the United States and published his autobiography "And The Walls Come Tumbling Down" in 1989. He was awarded honorary degrees from Long Island University in New York, Morehouse College in Atlanta, Kalamazoo College in Michigan, and his alma mater, Alabama State University. A year after publishing his autobiography, Ralph David Abernathy died of heart failure on April 17, 1990, at Crawford Long Hospital in Atlanta.

Upon hearing of Abernathy's passing, Andrew Young, former mayor of Atlanta, stated that Abernathy had performed "a silent labor that was very much needed. Abernathy was a jovial, profound, loving preacher who gave his life in the service of others." A section of Interstate 20 and Abernathy Road in Atlanta are named in his honor.

# Academy personnel accomplish important mission away from home



By Butch Wehry  
Academy Spirit staff

Camp Slayer is part of Victory Compound, a large area in Baghdad surrounding Baghdad International Airport. Academy Protestant Chaplain Capt. Michael Shannon and Cadet Chapel Programs NCOIC Staff Sgt. Holli Meuschke's part happily doesn't see a lot of rocket attacks, just mostly small arms fire.

"Part of it is surrounded by mostly water which makes it a harder target," explained the chaplain. "The rest of Victory Compound experiences much more hostility than those of us in our location."

Assigned to the 10th Air Base Wing and working primarily with the Preparatory School and Security Forces, the chaplain from Atchison, Kan., is now the 360th Civil Affairs Airborne Brigade's deputy brigade chaplain.

His main duty is to provide for the "Free Exercise of Religion" to all service members, ensuring all service members have the right to worship according to their faith.

"I also provide counseling, visitations, and brief moral and ethical situations to the commander, preach every now and then and teach Bible studies as needed," Chaplain Shannon said. "Although I'm deployed with an Army unit, the unit is made up of mostly Navy and Air Force personnel. Our mission is to 'Win the Hearts and Minds of the Iraqi people.'"

The unit helps with the building of the infrastructure of water systems, roads, electricity, economics, rebuilding schools, rule of law, medicine, medical clinics, veterinarian support and agriculture.

"Some of our people work to find sponsors in the States to send Iraqi children back to the States to get much needed surgery," said the chaplain. "It has been heart breaking to see these parents with beautiful and lovely children who, like us, want nothing more than the best for their children and get the kind of help we Americans take for granted. I'm so proud of what we do here to help the Iraqi government and the Iraqi people. Our people are often times faced with difficult circumstances and people. Under pressures many back home cannot even begin to imagine, our troops continue to shine and perform an outstanding service to

the Iraqi people."

He was also deployed to Kirkuk in 2004 - 2005.

Unit members are scattered all over the country, which means he has to do a lot of traveling around the Area of Operations to see troops.

"Some of them are in some very dangerous areas and have seen a lot of conflict," said Chaplain Shannon. "Many are 'battle stressed' and weary. The warriors I minister to are faced with loss of relationships due to lengthy deployments, stress due to having to go 'outside the wire' each day not knowing if today is their last, the loss of life and seeing people killed. They have to maintain a constant state of vigilance which results in a battle stressed soldier."

One soldier recently approached Chaplain Shannon and wanted to know, "How do I get images out of my mind?" He had seen a fellow soldier killed by an IED and half of his body was gone. He couldn't get that image out of his mind.

He meets Islamic people on base. "We have by cultural, by-lingual advisors," the chaplain said. "They are ex-Iraqis that are now American citizens and have come back to Iraq to help in various ways. We have three or four doctors and a pharmacist. Sergeant Meuschke and I go to one of the medical clinics with them from time to time to help out. It's interesting to hear their stories of what Iraq was like before the first Gulf War and then the sad decline between the first war and the second. They give you a clear picture how just how ruthless and evil this man was to the Iraqi people." Brutality notwithstanding, this man of the cloth shared what he said is the greatest demand for his services.

"I provide a taste of home and a continuity of faith similar to what they experience in their home churches," Chaplain Shannon said. "I also provide a lot of counseling on marriage relationships, dealing with battle stress, suicide and family reunions. Both of these points I have found to be very important to the warriors I serve."

To many people, Iraq seems to be a desert.

"Camp Slayer was something like a resort for Saddam Hussein," the chaplain said. "There are lakes and several of his palaces surrounding us, and it is, at times, a very peaceful and beautiful place to be. This, I think, makes Camp Slayer something of a paradox. You are sometimes easily lulled or even captured by the beauty of this place, but then you are awakened to the fact



Courtesy Photos

**Academy protestant Chaplain Capt. Michael Shannon (left) and Cadet Chapel Programs NCOIC Staff Sgt. Holli Meuschke (right) are deployed to Camp Slayer, part of Victory Compound, a large area in Baghdad surrounding Baghdad International Airport.**

that right over the wall there's a war going on and there are people who want to kill you.

He likes being out with the troops making visits and talking with them about their issues. "Whenever I help these warriors, even if it's just one, I have an overwhelming sense of satisfaction, Chaplain Shannon said. "There's a great line by Eric Liddell in the movie, *Chariots of Fire*, when he says, 'When I run, I feel God's pleasure.' That's what it's like for me. When I preach or I'm out with the troops providing spiritual care I feel God's pleasure. This is what gives me purpose and satisfaction in life and ministry. That's why I came into the military...to help people. I also have made some good life-long friends with those serving in the Army and Navy."

His wife, daughter and son await his return to the Academy in April.

"I know it's been hard on my wife, like most spouses who remain behind, to do the parenting and everyday life on her own, but overall they are all doing well."

The chaplain believes he'll return a changed man.

"I can't imagine someone going through all of this and not have it change you in some way," he said. "I think it's helped me to put things in better perspective as to what's really important in my life. You only get one shot at life."

He has concluded there's more to life than career, rank, awards, privileges and power.

"When it's all said and done, no one is going care what rank I achieved, or what awards I've won, but for those who will attend my funeral I would hope they will remember the character of the man in the casket and his legacy of being uncompromisingly devoted to his faith, a loving husband and father to his wife and children, and a caring friend and chaplain," he said. "It's all about perspective. I deeply love my wife, and I think she is the real hero in all this. She has made tremendous sacrifices to allow me to do this great work here. Besides Christ, she really is the love of my life."

Sergeant Meuschke is now serving as the 360th CA Brigade's Religious Support Team's NCOIC. The sergeant from Paris, Mo., departed and will return with Chaplain Shannon.

She was deployed to Kuwait in 2001 and Oman in 2003 and said she was ready for the arrival at Camp Slayer. Captain Shannon and Sergeant Meuschke spent time training at Fort Bragg, N.C., before entering Iraq in October.

"I was very ready," Sergeant Meuschke said. "I was well trained and well equipped."

She works mostly with deployed Air Force people and an Army and Air Force chaplain.

Her duties shadow Chaplain Shannon's.

"I see spiritual things happening at the Academy as well as here," she said. "What makes it different here is people seem to cling more to their faith in a place of uncertainty."

She helps distribute donated items, such as clothes, shoes, medicine, food, and toys to the local Iraqi people at the Civil Military Operations Center.

"I have drawn closer to God and my faith," Sergeant Meuschke said. "This has been the most mentally and spiritually challenging deployment for me. I would like to think I'm stronger for it."

What satisfies her the most so far? "Seeing the Iraqi children smile when I visit them," she said. "I love children, and it helps to hug them when I'm missing my own children."

Sergeant Meuschke and her husband have four children.

"By the end of this deployment I will have missed all their birthdays, but I have made my 3-year-old promise not to turn four until I get home, and he happily agreed," she said. During the other deployments, her husband was a writer and worked from home.

"Now he works out of the home, and the kids are older," said the sergeant. "I think this has been very hard on them. I couldn't do my job if it wasn't for the confidence I have in my husband to run the home-front. He is the one I look up to."

# Hot-shooting Lobos top Falcons

By Maj. Brett Ashworth  
Director, Public Affairs

New Mexico rode a steady offensive wave to hand the Falcons a 68-51 loss in front of 3,658 fans at Clune Arena Wednesday night. The 17-point loss is the biggest home defeat this season for Air Force.

The Lobos shot 57 percent from the field, including 73 percent from the three-point line, in the first half and 55 percent from the field in the second half to hold off the Falcons. Air Force fought back from a 27-13 deficit in the first half behind the hot hand of Eric Kenzik to tie the game at 29 with just over four minutes left in the first half.

Andrew Henke hit a three-pointer with less than a second left in the first half to knot the game at 35 at intermission. Kenzik scored all 11 of his points

in the first half in leading the Falcons to 58 percent shooting from the field.

"They boxed out, played zone and probably played more man than they have in the past," said New Mexico coach Steve Alford. "We got into them (his team), because I thought that our offense was really good, and we didn't guard."

The second half was a different story. The Lobos continued their offensive assault while the Falcons cooled to 33 percent shooting after the break.

"They played very well offensively. We just couldn't defend them," said Falcons coach Jeff Reynolds. "We had three turnovers right off to start the second half, and I think that set the tone for the rest of the game."

New Mexico went on a 14-2 run midway through the second half with help from Air Force turnovers and a

cold shooting to put the Falcons away.

"They definitely stuck it to us in the second half. They took it right to us," said Henke. "They got to the line and made shots. We had momentum going into halftime and the ball to start the second half. We have to take advantage of that, and we didn't."

Senior Tim Anderson echoed Henke's assessment.

"I think at halftime they came out fired up, and we came out nonchalant," he said. "We need to come out with

more intensity."

Kenzik's 11 points and 22 minutes were both career highs. The loss drops the Falcons to 13-12 on the season and 5-7 in the Mountain West Conference. New Mexico climbs to 21-6 and 8-4.

Next up for the Falcons is a road game at 7 p.m. Saturday at Colorado State.

"We've had a couple of rough games (at home)," Anderson said. "We now need to bounce back coming down the stretch."



Photos by Dennis Carlyle

Junior Guard Andrew Henke goes up for two against the Lobos Wednesday. Henke was one of three Falcons to score double figures in their 68-51 loss.

Left: Senior Center Keith Maren drives to the bucket. Maren had 10 points and 5 boards in the game.

# Falcons Split Pair of 4-3 Matches

Air Force downs  
Montana State, falls to  
Arkansas State

By Athletic Communications

The Air Force women's tennis team split a pair of 4-3 matches Sunday at the Academy. In the morning, Air Force won its third consecutive match, defeating Montana State, before falling to Arkansas State in the afternoon match. With the split, Air Force is now 3-7 this season.

Air Force relied on a pair of freshmen to seal the victory over Montana State. Trailing 3-2 to the Bobcats, Air Force freshman Christen Monreal won the No. 6 match over McKenzie Hilmer, 6-3, 6-4, setting up the deciding match at No. 5 singles between AFA freshman Sarah Cassman and Remy Clark. Cassman rallied from a set down and saved two match points in the second-set tiebreaker to defeat Clark, 1-6, 7-6, 6-2 and give the Falcons the victory.

Air Force jumped out to a 1-0 lead by winning the top two doubles matches, with seniors Lauren Wilson and Erika Shortridge winning at No. 1, while

juniors Christine Abayan and Meghan Kiser took the No. 2 match. Wilson won the No. 3 singles match 6-3, 6-3, over Nuria Hernandez.

"Sarah and Christen really came through for us against Montana State," said Air Force head coach Kim Gidley. "Our top two doubles teams also played very well in this match."

In the nightcap against Arkansas State, it was déjà vu as the Falcons were trailing 3-2 with two freshmen remaining on the courts. This time, Katrina Eromin rallied from a set down to defeat Leydi Zora, 2-6, 6-0, 6-4 at No. 6, but Cassman could not repeat her performance and fell

to Renee Branker at No. 5, 7-5, 6-1. Cassman saved 12 set points in the first set but could not pull it out.

The Indians captured the doubles point with wins at the top two spots. Academy sophomore Erlyn Rudico and freshman Samantha Sarkis won the No. 3 match, 8-4.

In singles, Kiser won the No. 3 match 6-4, 6-3, over Rone Van Wyk, and Sarkis won at No. 4 over Menna Kamal 1-6, 6-1, 6-1.

"The effort from our entire team was amazing today," said Gidley. "We are improving week by week and this weekend was a huge stepping stone."



# 2004 grad enjoys arena football career

By Lorna Gutierrez  
Schriever Sentinel

SCHRIEVER AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Playing football after high school is a dream for many, and playing after college simply a fantasy. For Brett Huyser, a former satellite operator for 4th Special Operations Squadron, the fantasy is a reality.

Mr. Huyser, the assistant deputy director for international plans at the U.S. Air Force Academy, is one of 24 men who play for the Arena Football League's Colorado Crush. This will be Mr. Huyser's second year on the squad, where the 6-foot-4 inch, 310-pound reservist plays offensive line. He appeared in six games for the Crush in the 2007 season and had 2.5 tackles for the year.

Prior to his time with the Crush, Mr. Huyser played with the Arena Football League 2 team, the Green Bay Blizzard, where he earned Second Team All-af2 honors. He also played college ball at the Academy, where he earned All-Mountain

West team honors as a senior.

Mr. Huyser said the best part of football is being part of a team.

"I get to play games and I get paid for it," he said of the experience.

Mr. Huyser and the rest of the Crush squad practice about four days a week during their 17-week season, with practices beginning at 10 a.m. Games are played on the weekends and, just like the NFL, there is Monday night football, which is broadcast on ESPN 2.

A native of Rock Valley, Iowa, Mr. Huyser is loyal to both the military and football in addition to farming. He goes back to Iowa every year to help his dad harvest on his farm.

Mr. Huyser also comes from a military family. His dad and siblings are part of the South Dakota Air National Guard, his sister has recently been assigned to Peterson Air Force Base and his girlfriend, 1st Lt. Carey Wooten, is also assigned at Peterson.

The Crush's official season kicks off March 2 versus the Columbus Destroyers at the Pepsi Center in Denver.



Academy graduate Brett Huyser (63) in one of his games as an Air Force Academy Falcon. Mr. Huyser, now Academy assistant deputy director for international plans, plays for the Arena Football League's Colorado Crush. Photo by Dave Armer

# Sean Houseworth Breaks Academy 5000-Meter Mark

*Two NCAA provisional qualifying marks achieved at Husky Classic.*

SEATTLE, Wash. - Backed by one Academy record, two NCAA provisional marks and two other Academy record book incursions, the distance members of the Air Force track and field team wrapped up a strong weekend of competition at the Husky Classic in Seattle, Wash.

Junior Sean Houseworth posted a new Academy record in the 5000-meter run, after crossing the finish line in a career-best, NCAA provisional qualifying time of 13:59.28. Finishing seventh overall, Houseworth broke Ben Payne's 2004 standard of 14:04.26, while posting the second-fastest time in the conference to date.

Senior Kevin Hawkins also set a provisional qualifying time, as he clocked a time of 1:49.52 to finish sixth in the 800-meter run. That time improves Hawkins' third-place standing on the Falcons' all-time list. Classmate Calvin Glass finished the race in 1:55.69 to place 43rd.

Senior Ian McFarland improved his eighth-place standing on the Falcons' all-time list, as he crossed the finish line of the 3000-meter run in a career-best 8:11.48 to finish 18th. Junior Matt Williams clocked a time of 8:24.56 to finish 42nd, while sophomores Thomas Richter (8:29.73) and Zach Nordahl (8:36.59) finished



Junior Sean Houseworth posted a new Academy record in the 5000-meter run, crossing the finish line in a career-best, NCAA provisional qualifying time of 13:59.28. Finishing seventh overall, Houseworth's performance earned him the second-fastest time in the conference to date. Courtesy Photo

52nd and 61st, respectively.

In addition to Houseworth, four other Falcons competed in the 5000-meter race. Junior Joe Curran posted a time of 14:30.60 to finish 33rd, while classmate Parker Cowles earned a 40th-place time of 14:35.13. Seniors Josh van Wyngaarden (14:45.82) and Kenny Grosselin (14:55.36) rounded out the Air Force contingent with respective 43rd- and 46th-place finishes.

Junior Daniel Castle was the lone Air Force

competitor in the mile, finishing in 4:13.52 to finish 34th.

On the women's side, sophomore Ally Romanko clocked an 800-meter time of 2:12.39 to finish 18th, while senior Kelly Robinson finished the mile in 5:11.08 to finish 49th.

Air Force competes again today in the Robert Shine Invitational in Laramie, Wyo. The meet will serve as a final tune-up for the Mountain West Conference championships, which are set to begin Thursday at the Academy.

<b>SCOREBOARD</b>	<b>INTERCOLLEGIATE</b>	<b>Boxing</b>	Feb. 17 at Ogden, Utah	Feb. 16 at Brookings, S.D.	Kevin Hawkins, 1:49.52, 6 <sup>th</sup> (800-meter run)
	<b>Men's Basketball</b>	Feb. 20 at AFA	<b>Weber State 6</b> Falcons 1	<b>South Dakota State 26</b> Falcons 10	<b>Gymnastics</b>
	Feb. 16 at AFA	Wing Open Semifinals			<b>Women's</b>
	<b>Falcons 72</b> Wyoming 66	156-lbs.: Ryan Price* dec. Rudy Bowen			Feb. 9 at AFA.
	Hywt.: Cory Tintzman rsc. Ross Elder	<b>Women's Tennis</b>	Feb. 16 at Fayetteville, Ark.	David Lissy, 53'10½", 12th (Shot put)	Falcons 186.775
Feb. 20 at AFA	*AF Boxer of the Week	Feb. 16 at AFA	Tyson Invitational	Rachel Simmons, 12'6", tied for 4th (Pole vault)	<b>UC Davis 188.525</b>
Falcons 51		<b>Falcons 7</b> South Dakota State 0			<b>Men's</b>
<b>Women's Basketball</b>		Feb. 17 at AFA	Feb. 15-16 at Seattle, Wash.	Husky Classic	Feb. 17 at Aliso Viejo, Calif.
Feb. 16 at Laramie, Wyo.		<b>Falcons 6</b> Northern Colorado 1	Sean Houseworth, 13:59.28, 7 <sup>th</sup> (5000 meter run)		<b>Navy 330.850</b>
<b>Wyoming 71</b> Falcons 52		Feb. 17 at AFA			Falcons 322.800
		<b>Falcons 6</b> Montana State 1			Army 318.700
Feb. 20 at Albuquerque, N.M.		Falcons 1			
<b>New Mexico 79</b> Falcons 40		<b>Arkansas State 6</b>			
		<b>Wrestling</b>			
		Feb. 15 at Fargo, N.D.			
		<b>North Dakota State 20</b> Falcons 17			



## Black History Month

In celebration of Black History Month, the Academy presents:

**Food tasting;** Today, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Community Center Ballroom.

**Storytelling in the African American tradition;** Wednesday, 2:15-3:30 p.m. at Pine Valley Elementary School: The event features Opalanga D. Pugh as the storyteller.

**Movie Night;** Feb. 29, 7 p.m. in Fairchild Hall (F1): The event offers a double feature: *A Soldier's Story* and *Stomp the Yard*.

A Black History Exhibit will be available in the Cadet Library for the remainder of the month.

For more information on any of the Black History Month activities, call Master Sgt. Ingrid Williams at 333-9412.

## AFRF offers classes

The Airman & Family Readiness

Flight offers the following classes:

**Transition Assistance Program Seminar;** Tuesday-Feb. 29, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.: Learn how to build a resume, interviewing skills, networking and dressing for success. This class is offered to those separating in a year or retiring in two years or less.

**Home Buying Seminar;** Thursday, noon-4 p.m.: Learn about obtaining a mortgage, VA vs. FHA loans, mortgage loan fees, working with a realtor or broker and other factors to consider when buying a home. To register, call 333-2247.

**Newcomer's Base Red Carpet Tour;** Feb. 29, 8:45 a.m.-2:30 p.m.: An informative, fun-filled base tour that gives insight into the Academy's mission and reveals all there is to see and do here at the Academy.

**Area Job Orientation;** March 4, 9-11 a.m.: Get an overview of the local job market, employment options, Airman & Family Readiness Flight resources and other agencies that can assist with job searches. This course is offered to those seeking full or part-time employment and are new to the local area job market.

**Mock interviewing;** March 5, 9 a.m.-noon: Participate in a mock interview with a real HR representative.

For more information or to register for a class, call 333-3444.

## Going once ... going twice

Douglass Valley Elementary School presents a Silent Auction and Art & Music Show today from 6-7:30 p.m. The event features a silent auction on items donated from Academy people and local businesses. Students' artwork can be viewed throughout the school, and students will provide entertainment with vocal and instrumental performances in the school gym. A complimentary dessert will be provided and all proceeds from the auction benefit the Douglass Valley Elementary community.

## MWC blood drive

A blood drive will be Feb. 28 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in Arnold Hall. The drive is being held in conjunction with other Mountain West Conference schools to see which school can collect the most donations. For more information, contact Cadet 1st Class Pam Findlay at [C08Pamela.Findlay@usafa.edu](mailto:C08Pamela.Findlay@usafa.edu).

## OSC offers brunch, Bunko

The Academy Officers' Spouses' Club offers "Bunko for the Cure" with the Peterson Air Force Base OSC Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Peterson AFB club. All proceeds from the event will go to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. For more information or to RSVP, contact Jeanine by Saturday at 243-3887 or [pikespeakcsc@yahoo.com](mailto:pikespeakcsc@yahoo.com).

## Donations needed

The fifth graders at Douglass Valley Elementary are conducting a fundraiser for deployed troops. For the month of February, students are collecting microwave popcorn, beef jerky, hard candy, Crystal Light singles and ChapStick. The items will be sent to military members deployed overseas. Donations can be dropped off at the Douglass Valley Elementary School main

office or at the District 20 administration building. For more information, call Greg Miller at 234-4266.

## Awards banquet nears

The Academy 2007 Annual Awards Banquet is Thursday at 6 p.m. in the Falcon Club. Cost is \$25 for club members and \$27 for non-members. Dress for the event is mess dress or semi formal for military, formal for civilians. For more information contact a unit first sergeant.

## Astronautics turns 50

The Academy will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of its Department of Astronautics March 7. Throughout the day, the Department of Astronautics will host facility and classroom tours as well as discussions of past and current activities. The day will culminate in a gala affair at Doolittle Hall with a reception, dinner and presentations. All current and former astronautics, space operations, engineering science (astronautics track) and systems engineering (space track) majors are invited to attend, as are all current and former Astronautics Department faculty and friends. Seats for the reception and dinner are limited. For reservations, call Dawn Gagnon at 333-4110 or Dr. Ken Siegenthaler at 333-6993.

## Cats visit Arnold Hall

The musical show *Cats* will be performed in the Arnold Hall Theater March 7 at 8 p.m. and March 8 at 2:30 and 8 p.m. Tickets can be purchased by calling the Arnold Hall theater box office at 333-4497 or by visiting a Ticketmaster outlet.

## Scholarships offered

The Academy Officers' Spouses' Club offers 2008 Merit Scholarships for high school seniors and non-military spouses of 0-3 equivalent and below. Eligibles include dependents or spouses of active duty stationed at the Academy, dependents or spouses of retirees eligible for membership at the Academy Club, dependents or spouses of active duty on remote tour, dependents or spouses of POW/MIA or deceased Academy affiliates and dependents or spouses of civilian employees eligible for membership at the Academy Club. The application period runs through March 31. Applications are available at the Academy Education Office, area high school counseling centers and the Academy Thrift Shop. For more information, call Sally Mueh at 599-0694 or Carrie Oliver at 488-9625.

## Lunchtime volleyball offered

A group of volleyball players is looking for other players interested in participating in pick-up games in the Cadet Gymnasium's east gym. Games are played once a week from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. The activity is open to active duty, retired, dependents and contractors. For more information or to add your name to the mailing list, contact Ed Halik at 964-7058 or [spooker@aol.com](mailto:spooker@aol.com).

## AFAS grants available

The Air Force Aid Society is accepting applications for the General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program, which provides \$2,000 grants to sons and daughters of active duty, Title 10 AGR/Reserve,

Title 32 AGR performing full-time active duty, retired, retired reserve and deceased Air Force members; stateside spouses of active duty members and Title 10 AGR/Reservists and surviving spouses of deceased personnel for their undergraduate studies. Applications are available at the Academy Airman & Family Readiness Center, 6248 West Pine Loop or online at [www.afas.org](http://www.afas.org). Applications must be submitted by March 7. Awards are announced in June 2008. Use of funds is limited to tuition, books, fees or other curriculum-required materials.

## Estate claims

If anyone has a claim for or against the estate of Cadet 3rd Class Lindsay M. Brown, contact Lt. Col. Nerisse Fernandez, Cadet Group 2, at 333-6824 or [Nerisse.Fernandez@usafa.edu](mailto:Nerisse.Fernandez@usafa.edu).

## Memorial fund

Donations to the Air Force Academy in honor of Mrs. Donna Head should be sent to: HQ USAFA/CMA, Attn: Mrs. Donna Head Memorial Fund, 2304 Cadet Dr., Suite 3200, USAF Academy, CO 80840-5002. Make checks payable to the Air Force Academy.

## Nominations wanted

The Academy is seeking nominations for the 2008 Air Force Academy Distinguished Service Award. The award is presented annually by the superintendent to a military person, civilian or group whose contributions (not as part of their official duty) have had a distinct impact on the morale or well-being of the Academy. Anyone who has contributed significantly and directly to the morale or well-being of the Academy through the generous donation of time, resources or influence is eligible. Nominations must be submitted by April 1 to HQ USAFA/CMA, 2304 Cadet Dr., Suite 3200, USAF Academy, Colo., 80840-5002. Nomination packages must include a single page with biographical data to include name, rank, organization or company, telephone number and mailing address, in addition to a typed narrative justification, not to exceed one page, describing the nominee's accomplishments. For more information, call Steve Simon at 333-8827.



## Running series steps off

The 10th Annual Grand Prix of Running series kicks off March 15 with the "5k For St. Patrick's Day" run in downtown Colorado Springs. More than 1,400 runners are expected on the flat course that ends in Acacia Park. There will be Irish music and refreshments available at the finish line, plus a "Leprechaun Fun Run" for children 12 years old and younger. Registration for the 5k and children's run is available at [www.csgrandprix.com](http://www.csgrandprix.com). People can also register at the Runner's Roost store at 107 E. Bijou St. The runs will be followed by the 25th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade at noon.

### SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

**CADET CHAPEL**

**Catholic Masses:**

**Sunday**  
Reconciliation 9:15-9:45 a.m.  
(or by appointment)  
Mass - 10 a.m.

**Weekday**  
Mon., Tues., Thurs. - 6:45 a.m.

**Wednesday**  
Catholic Adoration - 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.  
Mass - 6 p.m.

**Protestant Services:**

**Sunday**  
Traditional - 9:00 a.m.  
Hill Fellowship - 11:00 a.m.

**Jewish Services**  
Fridays - 7 p.m.

**Buddhist Worship**  
Wed. - 6:30 p.m. - All Faiths Room

**Muslim Prayer**  
Fridays - Noon - Muslim Prayer Room, Chapel Basement

**COMMUNITY CENTER CHAPEL**

**Catholic Masses:**

**Saturday**  
Reconciliation - 3:30 p.m.  
Mass - 4 p.m.

**Sunday**  
Mass - 9:30 a.m.  
Religious Formation - 10:45 a.m.  
(Sept. - May)

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

**Protestant Services:**

**Saturday**  
Contemporary - 6 p.m.

**Sunday**  
Traditional - 8 a.m.  
Gospel - 11:15 a.m.  
Religious formation - 9:30 a.m.  
(Sept. - May)

**Military Academy Pagan Society**  
Third Thursday - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.  
(For more info, call TSgt. Longcrier at 333-6187.)

For more information, call 333-3300.

VA mortgage.  Lower rates.

VA Interest Rate Reduction Loans.  
Act now to take advantage of this low rate!

- Rate: 5.50%\* **APR: 5.624%\***
- Refinance
- New home purchase
- No closing cost option available
- No appraisal required
- Fast and easy process

Call your VA loan specialist today  
for a free mortgage analysis:

Ingrid Crosier  
303-885-9412



©2008 CitiMortgage, Inc. CitiMortgage, Inc. does business as CitiMortgage in NM. CitiMortgage, Inc. is an equal housing lender. Citi and Citi with Arc Design are registered service marks of Citigroup Inc.; Let's Get It Done is a service mark of Citigroup Inc.  
\*Interest rate effective 02/15/08. 30 year fixed rate VA interest rate reduction loan. 30 down payment required on a \$100,000 loan with 360 monthly payments of P&I of \$562.79. VA interest rate reduction offer may terminate at any time without notice. Rate and Annual Percentage Rate calculated on a 365 day year with typical/normal closing costs. Rates/APRs subject to change without notice. Properties and applicants must qualify. Other restrictions may apply.

**You're Not Advertising In Colorado Power Classifieds?!**



**You're missing out on reaching over 70,000 active, retired and DoD employees and high-level business executives.**

**Colorado POWER Classifieds**

Call now for rates and info

**(719) 329-5236**

Or email: [classifieds@csmsg.com](mailto:classifieds@csmsg.com)



**CHALLENGER**

H O M E S

**Challenger homes offers tons of ways to help you buy a new home...  
Move in today!**

Wildwood at Northgate



Stetson Ridge



**FOR OUR MILITARY!  
All Active Duty Military  
Save 5% or up to \$25,000!**



**719.598.5192**  
[www.MyChallengerHomes.com](http://www.MyChallengerHomes.com)

**5 MODELS TO CHOOSE FROM  
Military Incentives • Seller Financing  
Rent-to-Own • Trade-Up Program**

# WIRED FOR SUCCESS

Business Administration • Computer Sciences • Health Sciences  
 Information Technologies • Education



## Anyone, anytime, anywhere.

TUI is an accredited university specializing in flexible 'No-Cost' education programs that lead to long-term civilian careers for active-duty military personnel.

- Specialized teaching methodology designed for active-duty military personnel.
- Flexible programs geared to accommodate deployments, PCS and extensive TDY.
- High-quality and fully accredited bachelor's and master's programs.
- No Cost to you means full military tuition assistance of \$4500 per year.

**AU-ABC**

**GoArmyEd**

**SOC/DANTES Affiliated**



**TUI UNIVERSITY**

www.tuiu.edu • info@tuiu.edu • (800) 509-7864

Formerly: Touro University International.