



Scattered T-Storms
84 53
FRI



Scattered T-Storms
74 50
SAT



Scattered T-Storms
80 49
SUN



Determination

Climber overcomes Pikes Peak ascent for 25th time.

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USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO ACADEMY SPIRIT

Vol. 48 No. 33

August 22, 2008

Missile drops

Minuteman III disassembled, removed from display service Wednesday.



Page 3



Remodel

Academy Base Exchange receiving on-going interior face lift.

Page 4



Top ALO

Former Academy graduate earns Best in the Nation title.

Page 6



Fire fight

Local team competes with blazing success.

Page 15



Photo by Dave Armer

Game on

Luke Bergles, 7, meets Defensive End Jake Paulson, #95, in the Falcons' home locker room Saturday during the team autograph signing session. In regular season opening action, the Falcons will square off against Southern Utah University at noon, Aug. 30.

Academy Airmen advance to next grade

Congratulations to the following 37 Airmen for being selected for promotion to the grade of staff sergeant:



- Joel Andres
- Rachelle Barriento
- Nathaniel Bejarano
- Casey Berry
- Jacqueline Buller
- Jonathan Bundrick
- Jeremy Byrd
- Vincent Cannella
- Justin Coffin
- Jodia Cole
- Renee Cole
- Shannon Copeland
- Natasha Coster
- Michael Cross

- Melissa Donovan
- Devin Fodness
- Amanda Garcia
- William Hamilton
- Eric Janes
- Manuel Jimenez
- Erin Johnson
- Antonio Jones
- John Jordan
- Brandon Linger
- Shante Lopez
- Philip Miller
- Emily Norrod
- Nicole Pollard
- Jessica Portilla
- Chase Ray
- Ortiz Rodriguez
- Zerrick Shanks
- Ryan Struck
- Vanessa Thomas
- Terrance Tyler

- Anna White
- Like Willis

The Air Force numbers and averages for promotion to staff sergeant during cycle 08E5 played out like this:

Among the 28,098 eligible for promotion, 12,209 made the grade for a selection percentage of 43.45.

The average time-in-grade for selectees was 2.25 years.

The average age was 25.14 years.

The average EPR score for selectees was 131.62.

The average total points for decorations was .96.

The average Specialty Knowledge Test score among selectees was 53.69.

The average Promotion Fitness Exam score was 54.10.

Finally, the average total weighted score for staff sergeant selectees was 268.39.

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The Enlisted Perspective

By CMSAF Rodney J. McKinley

18 August 2008

Evaluating our Airmen

To truly develop our Airmen we must accurately and honestly assess their strengths and weaknesses and chart their course to success. While giving our Airmen proper feedback is a crucial first step, it is vitally important to follow through and provide an accurate evaluation of performance, abilities, and potential on enlisted performance reports.

We have incredible Airmen serving in our Air Force, but not every Airman is a "firewall" 5. Simply put, average Airmen should not receive the same evaluation ratings as those Airmen who are "truly among the best." When the majority of our Airmen receive the top rating, there is no way to distinguish between our truly exceptional performers and those who are just meeting standards. Inaccurate evaluations are not fair to our top performers. When these outstanding Airmen see others receiving the same ratings they work so hard to earn, it can be demoralizing. Airmen need to know their above and beyond efforts will be recognized and rewarded. It is every supervisors responsibility to provide the correct evaluation of their Airmen.

We've had a constant challenge with over inflated performance reports; Airmen who clearly aren't "truly among the best" but still receive the top rating. We must correct this problem by providing frank and honest feedback, complying with and enforcing established standards, and holding our Airmen accountable. Supervisors must not hesitate to take action when corrections are needed. Airmen deserve to know areas where performance can be improved. Much of this should occur during day-to-day interaction and on-the-spot corrections, but for those Airmen who need to make a concentrated effort to improve, the formal documented feedback session may be the incentive required to tackle those performance shortfalls.

Our Air Force needs sound, reliable documentation to base personnel actions, advancement, and increased responsibility decisions on. The bottom line: We want our Airmen to be successful and continue to improve. Inflated performance reports negate performance as a factor in an Airman's professional development. The process we have to accomplish this is the enlisted evaluation system, a system that must be grounded in integrity.



Rodney J. McKinley
RODNEY J. MCKINLEY
 Chief Master Sergeant
 of the Air Force



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

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Submissions

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

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

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

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

Character Corner Character in the other dugout

By Maj. David Higginbotham
 Center for Character Development

All of us who have the privilege of working and visiting the Academy are constantly reminded of the unwavering character of the cadets. Whether we are watching a game at Falcon Stadium, witnessing a parachutist high above the airfield, reading about cadets serving in the community, or hearing a cadet lecture about his or her humanitarian mission—examples abound. On the other hand, the mainstream media so often focuses on the contrary.

It was very refreshing to read about another example of character in sports outside our gates a few months

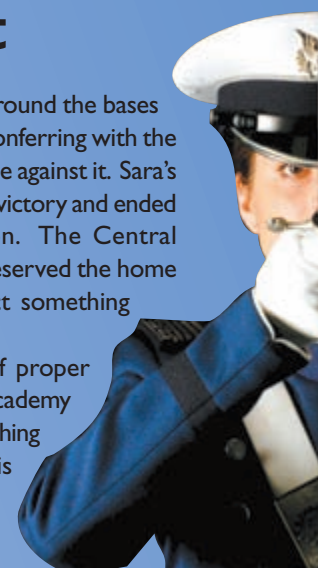
ago in Portland, Ore.

With two runners on base, senior Sara Tucholsky of Western Oregon University hit her first-ever home run in a softball game against Central Washington University, whose chances of winning the conference and advancing to the playoffs were at stake. When Sara missed first base and turned back to tag it, she collapsed with a knee injury, and could only crawl back to first base in agonizing pain. The first base coach advised her that she would be called out if her teammates helped her, and the umpire ruled a pinch runner could be called in, but the home run would only be counted as a single. Then, members from Central Washington stunned

everyone watching by carrying Sara around the bases so her home run would count, after conferring with the umpire who said that there was no rule against it. Sara's home run gave Western Oregon a 4-2 victory and ended the season for Central Washington. The Central Washington players later said Sara "deserved the home run and they didn't consider the act something others wouldn't do."

We constantly see examples of proper character exhibited in the lives of Academy cadets. However, it is particularly refreshing to notice moments when character is displayed in society around us as well.

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



Describe a movie someone should make?

"One about what our country will be like in the year 2033 if we don't start drilling our own oil because it is going to happen if we don't do the right thing now."

Tech. Sgt.
 Greg Manck
 Academy Military
 Trainer, Cadet
 Squadron 27



"A good Samaritan type movie where people and organizations help those struggling accomplish goals and dreams. We need that for our up-and-coming leaders to have good outlooks on life and values."

Susie Vinson
 Spouse,
 Air Force retired



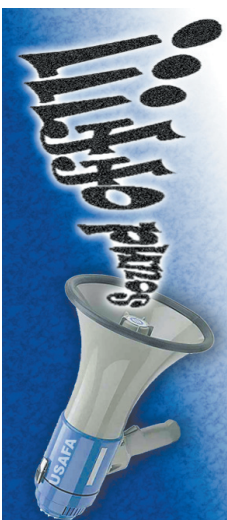
"Make a movie about *3 Cups of Tea*, a book which should be made into a movie because it would share a story of hope and compassion."

Cadet 2nd Class
 Ann Hansen
 Cadet Squadron 24



"One about how to help our younger generation appreciate what they have and how easy it can be taken from them ... hard to get and easy to go."

Marvin Davis
 Air Force retired
 Photo Lab
 customer service



10th MDG knocks down walls to provide better care

By Col. Alan B. Berg
10th Medical Group Commander

The 10th Medical Group continues to make facility renovations and process improvements to better provide medical care for the Academy community.

The next significant milestone in this process is the "wall breaking" for the third- and fourth-floor renovations of the future Academy Clinic.

This project will consolidate pediatrics, physical therapy, occupational therapy and chiropractic services from the Academy Community Center with the other medical services currently provided at the main facility. This consolidation will eliminate time spent by patients traveling between numerous places on base to receive the care they need.

The renovation will also modernize the nuclear medicine, women's health and radiology departments. In addition, this will vastly improve orthopedic post-operative care and will allow the possibility of a post-operative clinic between physical and occupational therapy. The neurology department will allow patients to receive direct intervention by providing multiple services on one floor which then prevents stops to multiple locations on other floors for care.

The project will also increase energy efficiency and lower energy use. The elimina-

tion of fin-tube radiation for heating will lower the overall energy consumption and decrease construction and future building sustainment costs. The project will increase the use of natural light by reengineering the exterior window system and interior workspace, thereby increasing energy efficiency and reducing energy loss.

The project started in mid August and will continue through November 2009. During this time, a temporary phasing facility, located in the lower west parking lot, will house the Allergy and immunizations, neurology and optometry clinics.

United Excel, Inc., is the construction contractor for this project. Approximately 61,000 square feet will be renovated with a programmed cost of \$22.1 million. An additional \$2.3 million for "initial outfitting" costs for medical equipment and furnishings to outfit the new space has also been funded.

In conclusion, this is the second phase to major facility upgrades to the 10th Medical Group that will significantly improve the level of care for patients. Not only will it improve the arrangement of clinics, but it also allows clinics to utilize state-of-the-art techniques and methods stressing multi-clinic interventions that were not possible with the previous layout. In effect, the construction will result in a 10th Medical Group that is built for the 21st Century.



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Laid to rest

A contracted crane crew methodically removed the Academy's Minuteman III ICBM display from its support posts Wednesday morning before it was hauled away via flat-bed. The bulk of the missile frame and shell will be disposed of as scrap metal through the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office.

as we see it

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BX receiving long-awaited makeover

Story and photo by Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Look out for some surprising and pleasant changes in the Academy Base Exchange.

The Army & Air Force Exchange Services main store is being totally revamped with raised ceilings and new floors, lighting and fixtures, among other amenities.

"It's going to be a showcase," said Manager Kimberly Lopez. "Our Academy customers deserve a beautiful BX."

The store remains open during the upgrades, but she urged customers to remain patient.

"We are trying to keep it as 'shippable' as possible," Ms. Lopez said. "The pain will be well-worth the end result."

The Colorado Springs-based firm Wells and West General Contractors is managing the \$1 million-plus project, which is expected to be completed by Thanksgiving, in time for the holiday shopping season.

"We're overdue," she said of the renovations. "This will be a brand new start."

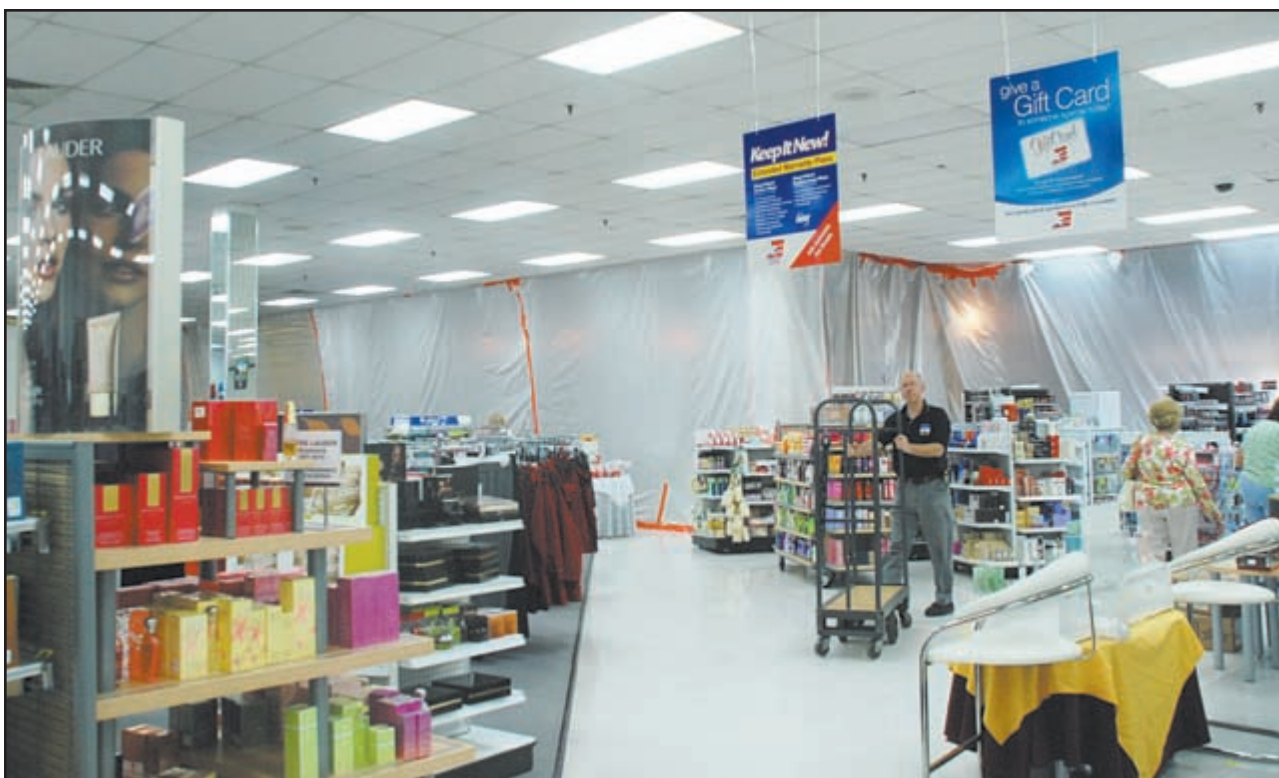
Current construction in the area once home to customer service involves raising that area's ceiling. It will eventually be the site for women's clothing, which will expand from two to five racks in depth.

Throughout the store, aisles will be squared off, creating a better flow and layout, as well as the polished and attractive appearance of larger stores.

"It will have a much airier feeling," Ms. Lopez said. She added the overall effect will result in an expanded visual effect, and the reorganization will allow for increased inventory.

"The walls are stretching without stretching outside," she said.

Not all merchandise will stay in the same place. Books and magazines are to be relocated closer to the entrance. Sporting goods will move next to the soon-to-be expanded Power Zone. Hardware will be shifted to the area previously occupied by sporting goods.



Despite the look of a construction zone, the Academy Base Exchange remains open. Renovations will increase store inventory and greatly improve the appearance. Renovation completion is set for Thanksgiving.

Restrooms will remain in their current location but will undergo a total renovation with all new fixtures and better accommodations for special-needs customers.

The jewelry department will be updated, although the inventory may shrink to eliminate what Ms. Lopez calls "fringe items," or items less in demand.

Outside, the exchange's appearance will change little, except for the relocation of bicycles and shopping carts to the store's interior.

Two more doors to toys and seasonal merchandise will be opened, also adding to the more efficient traffic flow. The store's bedding plants, trees and shrubs will be better protected in warm weather with the addition of a ceiling cover and a new sprinkler system.

Ms. Lopez said future plans could call for testing such merchandise as washers and dryers and ready-to-assemble furniture.

One big plus to the renovation is the addition of the Armed Forces Bank, to be located next to the Power Zone at the back of the store in an area previously used for warehouse space.

Ms. Lopez said the addition will add to the store's one-stop shopping appeal and ease the workload for cashiers who have been managing money orders and Western

Union requests.

The upgrades will allow the store to better utilize AAFES' replenishment program, which stresses getting "the right goods at the right time, in the right numbers."

"We can better define our customers' needs," she said.

Ms. Lopez also urged customers to speak up if they want an item not on the shelves.

"Nothing beats good old-fashioned input," she said. "This is what I'm looking for."

Ms. Lopez said the project has received excellent cooperation from the 10th Civil Engineer Squadron and the Academy's Fire Department during construction.

"The base has been a great support element," she said.

The present store started life as a small shoppette in the 1970s and has undergone add-ons since then.

Present annual sales total about \$8.4 million, which represents a small dip from past numbers. With the new renovations, Ms. Lopez expects an increase in sales.

She reminded customers all profit dollars at the BX support Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

"When you spend your money here, it benefits the Academy," she said.

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Your vote does make a difference

By Maj. Adam Marshall
Academy Installation Voting Officer

The presidential elections in November are fast approaching! Are you ready to exercise your right and duty as an American citizen to vote for the candidates and issues of your choice?

To be eligible to vote in the November elections, citizens must first register ... and the time to register is NOW!

The Academy will participate in the world-wide Armed Forces Voters Week from Sept. 2-6 to ensure everyone has the opportunity to register early enough to receive an absentee ballot before Election Day. During this week, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Academy voting representatives will be available at the Cadet Library and Academy Base Exchange to answer ques-

tions and help fill out on-line and postcard applications.

All Academy and tenant units have a Unit Voting Assistance Officer who is able to provide assistance and the proper forms for registration.

Congress and the Department of Defense have created the Federal Voting Assistance Program to help eligible cadets, active-duty members, their spouses and eligible dependents, register by mail and vote via the absentee ballot. Simply fill out an electronic application at www.fvap.gov, or postcard application and mail it to the county clerk in your state of residence. The county clerk will then send out an absentee ballot before the general election in November.

Additionally, many states allow absentee voters through the same application to be placed on a list of "Permanent Mail-In Voters," which allows them to

receive a mail-in ballot for every election.

Another great source of information is the Federal Voting Assistance Center's web page at www.fvap.gov. This web site contains links to state and local governmental organizations on upcoming elections. Representatives from the center can also be contacted by telephone at (800) 438-8683 or DSN 425-1584.

Remember, you can't vote if you don't register, so register now! Voting laws require voters to be citizens of the United States and at least 18 on election day.

Call the Academy base operator, 333-1110, or the Installation Voting Officers, Maj. Adam Marshall at 333-6724 or Maj. Michael Stone at 333-5298, to find out who your unit representative is, for additional information on how to register and to request an absentee ballot.

AAFES gas stations extend discount to drivers

DALLAS — Army & Air Force Exchange Service gas stations in the continental United States, Alaska and Puerto Rico are being programmed to reflect a discount of three cents a gallon for drivers who pay with a Military StarSM Card.

"Anytime a customer uses a bank issued debit or credit card, the retailer pays a portion of the transaction to a third party financial institution," said AAFES' Chief of Corporate Communications Lt. Col. Dean Thurmond. "Because the Military StarSM Card is administered by the Exchange Credit Program, AAFES is not subject to the additional fees incurred through other 'pay at the pump' options. As a result, we're able to pass savings on to authorized exchange shoppers."

The three cent-a-gallon discount is currently being applied to transactions at 15 installations (Minneapolis-St. Paul Joint Air Reserve Station, Columbus Air Force Base, Redstone Arsenal, Ft. Indiantown Gap, Fort Gordon, Patrick AFB, Robins AFB, the U.S. Military Academy, Laughlin AFB, Yuma Proving Ground, Mountain Home AFB, Nellis AFB, MacDill AFB, Scott AFB, and Joint Reserve Base Carswell). All remaining 177 facilities in the continental United States, Alaska and Puerto Rico received software upgrades Monday evening and were expected to begin applying the three cent-a-gallon discount as of Tuesday.

"I encourage drivers during the first week or so of this new effort, to touch base with the attendant at


their local gas station to ensure the software upgrades have taken effect before fueling up," said Thurmond. "As is the case with anything technical, we expect a few glitches could occur during the first few weeks of the program."

Officials hope to extend the Military StarSM Card three cent-a-gallon discount at all AAFES facilities, but do not have a time table for worldwide implementation at this time.

"This effort is a priority of AAFES command," said Colonel Thurmond. "Entire teams are dedicated to working through the technical challenges to extend the Military StarSM Card discount to drivers at all AAFES locations."

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'92 grad is Admissions Liaison Officer of Nation

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

Admissions Liaison Officer of the Nation Maj. Stewart Anderson has helped two seniors, two juniors, a sophomore, and two freshmen now at the Academy get here.

"The last thing I want to happen is for a cadet to get to the Academy and quit because it was tougher or different than I explained," said the 1992 Academy grad from Knoxville, Tenn., who was chosen earlier this year as the Outstanding Primary Duty Admissions Liaison Officer of the Nation for 2007.

He's one of the about 1,600 largely unseen Academy members scattered around the globe who helps young people get here.

Although, this ALO doesn't sugar-coat anything. "It is extremely important to have up-to-date information regarding the Academy and the military as a whole," said the civilian financial advisor at Merrill Lynch. "When talking to students I talk not just about their time at the Academy, but afterwards as well. I try and make sure that when the students arrive there are no surprises when they get off the bus. I also try not to candy coat my experiences and tell them the good with the bad."

He became an ALO after getting out of the Air Force in 2000, making a clean separation and actually resigned his commission. In 2001, he was at a meeting with some local military people discussing a program to get educators to the various academies and one of people there was the head ALO for Tennessee.

"After discovering I was a grad and new to the area he said 'have I got a job for you' and approached me about becoming an ALO," Major Anderson said. "I remembered working with my ALO while in high school and thought it would be a great way for me to



Courtesy Photo

Admissions Liaison Officer of the Nation Maj. Stewart Anderson, a 1992 Academy graduate from Knoxville, Tenn., is one of nearly 1,600 largely unseen ALOs scattered around the globe who help qualified candidates become Air Force officers.

stay involved with the military, work with great students and give something back to the Academy. I have been an ALO ever since."

He does not consider himself a recruiter and makes the distinction between what he does and what a real recruiter, someone trying to get a person to enlist, does.

"I work very closely with the high school guid-

See LIAISON, Page 7

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AF CHAMPIONS**

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Sep 20	Utah*	2:00 PM	VERSUS
Oct 4	Navy	2:00 PM	VERSUS
Oct 23	New Mexico*	6:00 PM	CBS C
Nov 8	CSU*	4:00 PM	THE MTN.
Nov 15	BYU*	1:30 PM	CBS C

* Mountain West Conference Games. All game times are Mountain Time.

TICKETS FOR TROOPS

The Air Force Academy Athletic Association is pleased to present an exciting new program for Junior Enlisted Troops rank E6 and below. Thanks to supporters who have underwritten the cost of tickets, Junior Enlisted Members are eligible to purchase discounted season and individual game tickets for the 2008 Falcon Football Season.

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www.GoAirForceFalcons.com

Liaison

From Page 6

ance counselors so they know what we are looking for in a student and when one fits the bill, or states that they are interested, the counselor can refer them on to us," the major said. "I also try to let my friends and contacts know what I do so that if they run across someone who says they are interested in the Academy or ROTC they know who to send them to."

Just recently, one of Major Anderson's good friends, a pharmacist, was talking with one of his clients who he hasn't seen for a number of years. She mentioned her son was very interested in the military and would like to look into the Air Force Academy.

"My friend told her he knew the person she needed to speak with," he said. I have since sat down with the student and his family. "

Have prolonged conflicts, and now the economy, impacted his ALO job?

"I haven't seen any drop off of the number of students who we've worked with since 9-11 or since the economy has slowed down," reports the Air Force's top ALO. "As a matter of fact, I would guess the numbers have picked up slightly due to the patriotism of students nowadays and their wanting to serve. And with the economy the way it is, there are

a lot of students looking for ways to have their college educations paid for. When they hear about the Academy and ROTC programs, for some students, it's a natural fit."

There are about 15 high schools he is assigned to in the area.

"I try and get to each school a few times each year and stay in contact via phone with the counselors just to stay on their radar," said the former E-3 AWACS evaluator, air battle manager. "If the school has a career day or a college fair, I make sure I am available to answer any questions or comments that come up."

He does not think attitudes of young people coming to the Academy have changed much in the last decade.

"I don't think they have changed too much since I started doing this eight years ago, Major Anderson said. "Students these days are very driven and their time is stretched to the limits with all the academics and extra-curricular activities they are doing. Technology has also evolved. Students text instead of calling and they are on MySpace and FaceBook."

His interview and evaluation of 13 applicants resulted in two Academy appointees for the Class of 2011 and one Falcon Foundation scholarship, along with earning his unit's Summer Seminar "ACE" award for having three

of three students selected for attendance, states the citation from Academy Admissions Director Col. Chevalier Cleaves.

He chaired three service academy nomination boards and his expertise was key to the evaluation and ranking of more than 110 candidates for service academy appointments.

Now an Air Force Reservist, Major Anderson worked with the Wounded Warrior Project to organize an event that included the Tennessee Titans and raised more than \$300,000 for wounded soldiers returning from overseas and was the founder and president of the Tennessee Chapter of the Association of Graduates.

"I try and keep up with the changes at the Academy by staying in touch with my students," he said, "I encourage them to call me when they are home for vacation and I like to take them to lunch and ask them about what is going on back at the 'Zoo.' I'll ask about the commandant and the superintendent, as well as what they are experiencing regarding cadet life in general. I also hear from some students who have already graduated and they fill me in on what is going on in the active-duty world. And, of course, I still keep up with a bunch of classmates and friends I've been stationed with who keep me informed of what is going on. The Academy also

has some great phase 2 training that is invaluable to the ALOs."

He has a wife, a 5-year-old son and a 9-year-old daughter.

"My wife is very supportive of the ALO program," Major Anderson said. "I really enjoy being an ALO and it gives me great pride when one of my students gets an appointment to the Academy and even more so when he or she graduates. I would encourage officers to consider becoming ALOs if they are looking to get off of active duty or switch to Guard or Reserve jobs."


He said a good ALO is someone who wants to work with quality young men and women and have a passion for helping produce the best officers for the Air Force.

"They must make the time to call and visit their schools and be willing to go out of their way to meet and educate prospective candidates," he said. "You also don't have to be a grad to be a good ALO, and we have parents and retirees who help us out."

"I feel very honored to have received this award. When you think there are more than 1,600 ALO's across the nation, and to have been named the ALO of the Year, it makes me feel all my hard work has been recognized."

Major Anderson will be taking over as liaison officer director for the state of Tennessee next summer.


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Keepin' it clean: 10th MDG takes it to the streets

The 10th Medical Group Top 3 is always looking for ways to participate and give back the Colorado Springs community according to Master Sgt. Jeremy Rennahan, MDG's Top 3 president.

One of unit's Top 3 goals is to expand the support network by participating and encouraging participation in base and civilian community activities.

"We have been involved with the Adopt-A-Highway program for nearly 10 years and have found it to be very rewarding and beneficial," he said. "When we first started this program the 10 MDG Top 3 adopted Highway 83 but had to change recently due to the high flow of traffic in this area. Instead of giving this program up we chose to adopt Highway 21 (Powers Blvd. between mile marker 150 and 151 - Briargate Blvd. and Research)."

The first clean-up of this new adopted highway was conducted Aug. 9 with 10 MDG Top 3 volunteers, their subordinates and family members.

"It felt like I ran a marathon ... very draining but very rewarding." - Master Sgt. Terry Best-Rennahan

"It is always a great feeling when you start off the day doing something positive for the community." - Master Sgt. Jeremy Rennahan

"It was a great public relations event." - Master Sgt. Katherine Steinhauser

Participants in the clean-up effort included: Chief Master Sgt. John Johnston, Senior Master Sgt. Jack Ladley, Master Sgts. Terry Best-Rennahan, Jeremy Rennahan (and son Shane), Karla Jeremiah-Griffith (and husband Raymond), Rita Hunter-Haug, Jeffery Hicks, Kevin Woods and Katherine Steinhauser, Staff Sgt. Dannie Jamerson and Airman 1st Class Maria Macalinga.



Academy members police up the roadside along Hwy 21, Powers Blvd.

Courtesy Photo



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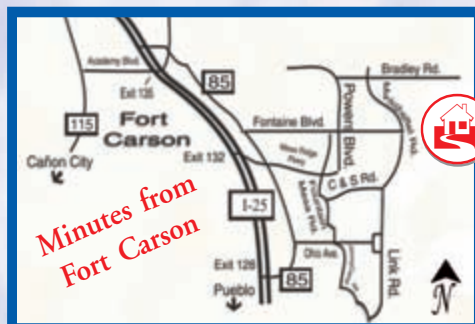
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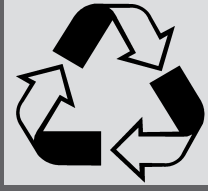
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Education updates clicks away for civilians

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) – Air Force civilian employees who wish to update education information in their civilian personnel records have a new, easier way to do so: through the “MyBiz” Web site.

MyBiz is the self-service module in the Defense Civilian Personnel Data System. Instead of faxing their transcripts and waiting for someone to update their record, employees can now do it themselves.

“The Air Force, in conjunction with the Department of Defense, has been working to streamline and automate the manual processes of updating education, training and special qualifications (certifications, professional licenses) into a Web-based self-service capability,” said Kathryn Houston from the Civilian Future

Operations Branch at the Air Force Personnel Center here. “Now, in addition to updating work and home telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, handicap codes, ethnicity and national origin, and language, employees can update their education through MyBiz and it is immediately reflected in their personnel record. In the future, MyBiz will provide even more update capabilities.”

The goal is to provide faster and smarter service to employees by giving them the ability to go in and update their important career information themselves, so it can be immediately reflected in their personnel record.

Prior to this change, employees could update some personal information, but not education. They had to follow a process that included completing sections of

an OF 612 and faxing copies of transcripts to the Air Force Manpower Agency, who then put the information into the system.

Now, employees can update their own education information. They will only be required to provide personnel a transcript if personnel has a legal or regulatory requirement to verify the education entry, for example, based on the qualification standards, a position requires a degree or a specified number of course hours (this is often referred to as a “positive education” requirement).

For more information, visit AFPC’s “Ask” Web site and search for “Education Updates” or call the 24-hour Air Force Contact Center at (800) 616-3775.

HAWC offers tobacco cessation resources

By Sharon Hawkes

Exercise physiologist
Health and Wellness Center

According to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, National Institutes of Health, the Surgeon General and many other health agencies such as the American Cancer Society, tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death and disease in our society. One of the major contributing factors to disease and illness in the United States and the U.S. military is tobacco use.

The Academy Health and Wellness Center is here to help beneficiaries with their desire to quit using tobacco products. The HAWC offers several options to quitting tobacco use, including:

Tobacco Classes:

All active duty, retired military, dependants and Defense Department civilians can take advantage of the tobacco cessation classes offered on the first Tuesday of every other month at noon, except for December. The HAWC uses the American Cancer Society’s “FreshStart” program as the foundation for this program. The “FreshStart” program is a four-week class consisting of one session per week. The sessions are 1 to 1.5 hours each at the HAWC, located on Park Drive, Bldg. 8137. The remaining classes for 2008 begin Oct. 7 and Nov. 4.

Online Web site

The second option: TRICARE beneficiaries can use is the American Lung Association’s “Freedom from Smoking” on-line or Web-based program. This program

is free and can be accessed at www.ffsonline.org. Once you are at the Web site you will need to create an account. This site provides an overview and explains what you can expect from this online course.

Colorado Quit Line

The third option: Colorado Quit Line, 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669), this is for those ready to quit tobacco use now. This option provides free help and support from a quit coach, available seven days a week. The quit line offers one-on-one support through a personalized quit plan. The HAWC has a handout explaining what the quit line is about and how it helps people quit using tobacco.

Call the HAWC at 333-3733 with questions or to sign up.

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Humanitarian missions in Georgia continue

By John J. Kruzel
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The U.S. military has delivered \$2 million worth of humanitarian aid to Georgia in an ongoing effort to relieve the war-torn former Soviet republic that came under Russian attack 10 days ago.

In addition to 130 tons of airlifted cargo, U.S. European Command has granted the Georgian government in Tbilisi access to a \$1.2 million stockpile of disaster relief and medical supplies stored in Georgia.

"We are going to continue to flow in assistance," Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said today. "We have been over the weekend, and we will continue this week."

More than 700 pallets sent by the U.S. have consisted of thousands of blankets, sheets, sleeping bags, and hundreds of cots. Another 40 pallets have contained medical supplies like sutures, needles, syringes, catheters and gauze, Mr. Whitman said.

But despite the steady flow of supplies, there remains a shortage of food, bedding, tents and other supplies in Georgia, where an estimated 80,000 people are displaced, according to U.S. Agency for International Development figures.

"There is a real need, and we're trying to fill that need and alleviate the suffering," Mr. Whitman said.



Photo by Master Sgt. Scott Wagers

A C-17 Globemaster III from McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., delivers humanitarian aid to a civilian airport in Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia, Aug. 14. The delivery was a joint-service effort between U.S. Army Europe Soldiers, U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Mobility Command Airmen.

Sustained flights by American C-17 Globemaster III aircraft departing from Charleston, S.C., will deliver food over the next several days, in addition to twice-daily deliveries by C-130 Hercules planes leaving Germany with other supplies.

Meanwhile, a C-9 Nightingale is expected to land in Georgia today carrying humanitarian aid, and a C-17 will deliver a shipment of forklifts to aid distribution efforts.

Whitman said fewer than 125 U.S. military personnel are on the ground involved in the relief mission.

Deliveries from U.S. aircraft are handed off to personnel from about 6 non-governmental organizations responsible for delivering the supplies in Georgia, Mr. Whitman said. There have been no reports of significant problems with distribution, he added.

Meanwhile, the U.S. is looking at other options for sustaining the humanitarian operation, including sending naval vessels to the area, Whitman said. The State Department is working necessary agreements to achieve passage through the straits of Turkey and else-

where, he said.

"Surface vessels give us the capability to provide larger amounts of relief supplies because they can obviously carry more, and they also give you platform to operate off of; they give you aerial assets, vertical lift, those kind of things," he said.

Fighting that began in the breakaway Georgian region of South Ossetia on Aug. 8 broadened to include Russian attacks on other parts of the country, including Abkhazia, another heavily separatist region. As clashes escalated, the conflict fueled fears internationally that Moscow would attempt to depose the democratically elected government in Georgia and that Russian aggression could spread to other parts of the region.

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev on Saturday signed a French-brokered peace deal, a move that came a day after Georgia's President Mikheil Saakashvili endorsed the agreement. The plan includes a drawdown of military forces to pre-escalation levels.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice headed to Europe today reportedly to talk with NATO allies about what message the U.S. and its allies should send to Russia about the military intervention.

Meanwhile, a host of international partners have contributed to the U.S.-led humanitarian mission in Georgia, Whitman said.

"There is broad international support for the relief efforts," he said.



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Researcher awarded \$285K for wave energy converter

Academy Spirit staff

The next source of alternative energy could come from ocean waves, and Academy researchers have been granted funding to dive into this research.

The National Science Foundation has awarded the Academy's Aeronautics Department \$285,619 to support a cyclodial propeller wave energy converter research project to harness the ocean's power.

The concept of ocean waves turning power-generating turbines is simple – put propellers underwater and let the motion of incoming and outgoing waves and tidal currents turn the propellers and turbines to crank out electricity. But making those turbines efficient, effective and survivable in both shallow and deep water is what's prevented large-scale application in harnessing wave energy.

But the Academy's Aeronautics Department might be able to solve these problems and make it work. Years of research in feedback flow control and fluid dynamics for various military aircraft have given Aeronautics researchers the rare and necessary expertise to potentially harness wave energy to meet the nation's growing power needs.

"Wave power has the potential to provide a large portion of the world's electric energy needs, if it can be tapped in an efficient way," said Dr. Stefan Siegel, who will oversee this research project.

More traditional alternative energy sources are also subject to more limitations and are less available and predictable than wave energy.

Other current forms of alternative energy such as solar cells and wind turbines are subject to the unpredictable nature of weather. While Colorado Springs has 300 days of sunshine per year, the ever-fickle Colorado weather can send clouds and storms overhead in very short order and thus limit solar energy collection on some days. As for wind turbines, these proven structures can only generate shadow when the wind isn't moving.

Wave energy offers massive availability and an existing level of predictability that allows mariners the ability to predict high and low tides for any port on any day.

"In addition to the energy availability, wave power



File Photo

has some other advantages. Since a large portion of the world's population lives close to the ocean shores, the distance between energy production and consumption is small," said Dr. Siegel, in his original funding proposal to the NSF. "This reduces transmission losses and necessary investments into transmission lines. As opposed to other alternative energy sources, like wind, stream and solar energy, the installation of wave power devices does not require use of already precious real estate. This makes wave power an ideal energy source for providing renewable energy in an efficient manner to densely populated coastal areas."

To make this plan a reality, this project will pursue the development of a novel wave power device based on cyclodial propellers. These propellers have been used for decades in marine applications like ferries and tug boats. The main advantage is the ability to produce thrust in any direction perpendicular to the propeller shaft.

This project investigates the use of cyclodial propellers for energy extraction from unsteady flow fields created by both deep and shallow water waves. Both of the three-dimensional flows are a challenge to energy conversion devices since they provide a flow field that fluctuates in time.

Historically, wave energy converters have some drawbacks, one being the need for some kind of

mooring to the ocean floor, which increases the cost of the device, as well as susceptibility to damage from storms. The cyclodial propeller based wave energy converters investigated in this project has the potential to overcome this and other problems of conventional wave energy converters, such as scalability to large power levels and efficiency of energy conversion.

"We will demonstrate the potential of cyclodial propellers for wave energy conversion by performing numerical simulations as well as water and wave tunnel tests of this new wave energy converter," said Dr. Siegel.

Since Colorado is slightly devoid of coastlines, the Aeronautics Department will partner with Oregon State University to use their wave tunnel for the experimental side of this research project.

Cadets will also catch this wave. Academy cadets will perform the basic research as part of the Aeronautics 471 class during their senior year. Involving future Air Force leaders in basic research will strengthen their appreciation of the importance of basic research and will foster environmental awareness and the recognition that there are alternative options to fossil fuel use.

This project, which is funded through 2011, is part of a broader Air Force effort to address energy related issues and to support renewable alternative energies research.

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Moments after airdropping cargo over eastern Germany, C-130 loadmasters Staff Sgt. Dan Insurriaga and Senior Airman Matthew Merkely, center, invite Cadet 1st Class Matt Sparta, far left, and Cadet 2nd Class Erin Keane to view the drop zone from the end of the cargo ramp.

Operation Air Force puts cadets in the air over Europe



Story and photos by Master Sgt. Scott Wagers
Air Force News Agency

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (AFPN) — The airlift mission prepping to depart here was nothing out-of-the-ordinary for the seasoned C-130 Hercules crew of six. It was another weekly training sortie putting cargo in a drop zone 150 miles away.

For two U.S. Air Force Academy cadets invited to fly with the 37th Airlift Squadron as part of Operation Air Force, it was an opportunity for the junior and senior classmen to see the Hercules up close and witness its capabilities. And they didn't travel to Europe alone.

Throughout the summer from June 9 to Aug. 8, a total of 81 Academy and ROTC cadets visited Ramstein Air Base to participate in the hands-on, job-shadow program created by Air Force leaders in 2004. It was the largest number of cadets sponsored by any overseas base this fiscal year, according to Lt. Col. Allison Overbay, the U.S. Air Forces in Europe's Operation Air Force director.

"It was important for us to demonstrate to some of our future leaders how Team Ramstein works together to conduct air operations throughout Europe, Africa and the Middle East," Colonel Overbay said. "We also strived to create an environment where cadets could better appreciate

what everyone on the Air Force team brings to the fight, the teamwork and the culture that exists on every base."

With that in mind, cadets were given operational tours of everything from the shiny halls of NATO headquarters to the 86th Contingency Response Group's weapons armory. There were also social venues hosted by the Academy Association of Graduates, the company grade officer's council and Col. Bill Bender, 86th Airlift Wing commander.

Colonel Overbay said that various officer and enlisted personnel volunteered to be mentors and sponsors for each cadet. Her team paired senior cadets with sponsors who have the same Air Force specialty. Other cadets were matched based on availability of volunteers.

To round out the experience, each cadet was given an incentive flight and a select few were even funded to fly sorties with overnight stays in Spain and Romania. This allowed them to witness the full spectrum of an airlift sortie from initial mission planning to cargo acquisition and delivery, through crew rest, then planning and executing the return flight.

After returning from their first

Before an airdrop mission over eastern Germany, Cadet 2nd Class Erin Keane observes the preflight duties of C-130 Hercules loadmasters, Staff Sgt. Dan Insurriaga and Senior Airman Matthew Merkely.



C-130 Hercules navigator Capt. Michael Trimble, right, discusses the capabilities of the aircraft with Cadet 1st Class Matt Sparta during an airdrop sortie over eastern Germany. Captain Trimble is assigned to the 37th Airlift Squadron at Ramstein AB, Germany.

airdrop sortie in a C-130, Cadet 1st Class Matt Sparta and Cadet 2nd Class Erin Keane had a new perspective of the Air Force's oldest tactical airlift platform.

"I was surprised to see how much the pilots actually fly the plane instead of using auto-pilot," said Cadet Sparta, a senior classman whose father was an F-4 Phantom weapons systems officer. "It was like flying an A-10 at low-level."

The 20-year-old from Philadelphia is a pilot candidate who said he'll learn where he will attend pilot training in February 2009.

"I never thought of the C-130 as a combat platform," said 20-year-old Cadet Keane after her flight.

"I thought, wow, somebody could be shooting at us right now," she said remembering the evasive maneuvers she experienced in response to simulated ground fire en route to the drop zone.

"When the pallet went out the back, I thought, 'Somebody on the ground gets to eat this week,'" she said.

Firefighters begin world title race

Record-setting rookie pushes team to world games

Story and photos
by John Van Winkle
Academy Public Affairs

A record-setting rookie joins a veteran team of world competitors as the Academy Fire Department begins its 2009 run for the world title in the World Firefighter Combat Challenge XVII.

The Academy Fire Department's Team USAFA is a perennial contender for the Firefighter Combat Challenge's world games, which puts firefighters through a timed course of five back-to-backbreaking tasks, testing their basic job skills, technique and stamina.

"Every part is designed to be a task you would accomplish while fighting a fire. It simulates a working fire to a 'T,'" said Roy Dalton chief of Team USAFA.

In order, the Firefighter Combat Challenge has firefighters:

- Climb a five-story tower carrying a 42-pound fire hose,
- Hoist a rope weighted by a 42-pound fire hose up five stories, while leaning over the top of the tower,
- Hit a 160-pound steel Keiser beam with a mallet, to move the beam five feet horizontally,
- Run 140 feet, then drag a fire hose 75 feet and hit a volleyball-sized target with water from the hose, and
- Drag a life-sized, 175-pound dummy 100 feet while walking backward, across the finish line.

Competitors wear their standard 60 pounds of firefighting gear while running the course.

Firefighter teams must have each team member run the full course individually and against the clock. Three of



Roy Dalton trains to increase his efficiency and speed on the Keiser sled event. The objective of this event is to use a 9-pound mallet to hit the 160-pound middle beam and move it backwards five feet. This event simulates breaking down a door to get inside a burning building to battle a blaze.

their five members finish with a combined time of less than seven minutes to qualify their team for the world games. Individual firefighters who complete the entire course in two minutes or less will qualify individually for the world games. The firefighting teams can also compete in a relay event with one team member finishing an event and passing a baton off to the next team member.

Team USAFA is competing in both relay and overall team events. But no matter what event one competes in, the physical exertion is extreme.

"Two minutes of this would compare to 10 to 15 minutes of strenuous work on a working fire," said Mr. Dalton.

Mr. Dalton heads a veteran team which includes himself and fellow firefighters Pat Kraft, Hans Barkley and Steve Hardman and newcomer Senior Airman David Luckie. During the team's July 11 appearance at the Firefighter Combat Challenge regionals in Seattle, Team USAFA finished with a time of 5:17.01. Team members Mr. Kraft, Airman Luckie and Mr. Barkley clocked in at 1:43.47, 1:46.07 and 1:48.37, respectively, to qualify the team and as individuals for the World Firefighter Combat Challenge. Mr. Dalton clocked in at 1:51.78, while Hardman finished with 2:10.43. In the relay event, Team USAFA finished in second place with at time of 1:20.49.

Competing in his first Firefighter Combat Challenge event, Airman Luckie earned the Greenhorn Award for the best rookie time.

Meanwhile, training continues for the world games. The team is focusing on technique to shave milliseconds off their individual times at each possible turn, and working with the Human Performance Laboratory here to perfect diet and physical conditioning to enhance their competitive edge.

The team sharpened that competitive edge further last weekend, by competing in another regional competition, despite having already secured a berth at the world games. Team USAFA competed at the regionals in Altus, Okla., and came in second with at time of 5:15.15. The only team to outpace Team USAFA was SAM Squad, a team of firefighters from the Department of Defense Fire Academy which includes former Team USAFA firefighters who have transferred to instructor duty.

The advantages of running the world firefighter challenge spread beyond the five-man firefighter team and their alternate, said Academy Fire Chief Ernst Piercy.



Christian Jacobs perfects his technique on the hose hoist, where firefighters use a rope to haul a 42-pound firehose up a five-story distance. Through a steady series of repetitive motions, utilizing upper body strength, firefighters can hoist the hose in less than 10 seconds. Mr. Jacobs is an alternate on Team USAFA, the Academy Fire Department's Firefighter Combat Challenge Team.

"If you take the whole firefighter challenge competition out of the equation, the value to me is the other firefighters who watch them and train with them - and at the end of the day I end up with a better trained workforce that's more fit to fight," said the chief, after last year's World Firefighter Combat Challenge. "They bring a lot more to the equation than just running the course. They're ambassadors for the Academy and the Air Force."

The World Firefighter Combat Challenge XVII is Nov. 11-15 in Las Vegas.



Rod Sanders works on form and conditioning while training for the first event in the Firefighter Combat Challenge, which is hauling a 42-pound firehose up five flights of stairs at the Academy's competition training tower. Firefighters are docked time if they miss a single step on their ascent or descent in this event. Mr. Sanders is competing in the Over-40 category.

Academy prepares new integrated Natural Resources management plan

By Diane Strohm and Dr. Brian Mihlbachler
Academy Natural Resources

One of the most valuable benefits of an assignment to the Air Force Academy is the opportunity it affords to experience the magnificent beauty of the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains. The nearly 19,000 acres of the Academy Reservation and the Farish Recreation Area possess a diverse range of important ecosystems ranging from grasslands to dense forests, habitats for native plants and animals, some of which are classified as threatened, endangered or rare, and important waterways and wetlands.

But the priceless natural resources that we all enjoy at the Academy have more than aesthetic value. Their careful management and conservation are essential to the Academy's overall mission. Maintaining healthy ecosystems is essential to the long-term sustainability of the lands that the Academy requires for its daily operations and for meeting its many diverse training requirements.

The Department of Defense and the Air Force

have long recognized the importance of natural resources management and the responsibility that they have for being good stewards of the public lands entrusted to their care. Those responsibilities are reinforced by a federal law, the Sikes Act, which requires all military installations to prepare a comprehensive Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan that is reviewed annually and completely revised every five years. The Sikes Act also requires that military natural resources programs be managed by professional natural resources personnel.

At the Academy, a professional forester and wildlife biologist form the nucleus of the natural resources staff and are assisted by two full time technicians responsible for many diverse duties such as forest management, wildlife habitat improvement and stream restoration.

The Academy is currently completing the revision of its INRMP which has been prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Colorado Division of Wildlife. Additionally, input has been sought from all concerned Academy agencies as well as from

local conservation organizations. An environment assessment, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act, must be prepared for the INRMP. This process allows for public review and comment of the plan before it is finalized and implemented. The Draft Final INRMP and EA are available for review at the Air Force Academy Base Library in the Community Center.

Copies are also available for public review at the Pikes Peak Library, Briar Gate Branch, 9475 Briar Village Point, Colorado Springs, Colo., (719) 260-6882, and the Monument Branch, 1706 Lake Woodmoor Drive, Monument, Colo., (719) 488-2370. Written comments and inquiries on the Draft Final INRMP and EA should be submitted by Sept. 6 to Jennifer McCorkle, U.S. Air Force Academy Environmental Planning Office, 10 CES/CEV, 8120 Edgerton Drive, Suite 40, USAF Academy, CO 80840-2400, (719) 333-8869 or jennifer.mccorkle.ctr@USAF.af.mil.

The development of a sound INRMP, followed by its conscientious implementation, are the keys to ensuring that the Air Force Academy will be able to meet its mission requirements now and in the future.



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Professor finishes 25th Pikes Peak race

By Steven A. Simon, Class of 1977
Graduate/Donor Liaison

The elements were the big winners at last Saturday's Pikes Peak Ascent footrace, when some 1,200 runners were turned back by sleet, freezing temperatures, biting winds, and lightning. About three hours into the competition that started in Manitou Springs, race directors determined the conditions on the 13.32 mile course, which features 1.5 miles of vertical climb, were too dangerous. No one else was allowed to proceed past the tree line for the final three miles of climb.

Among the approximately 760 hardy souls who had already passed that checkpoint was Ron Furstenau, a 1978 Academy graduate and Assistant Professor of Chemistry. Dr. Furstenau pressed on to the 14,110 foot summit to complete the race—his 25th Pikes Peak finish.

That already impressive feat is made even more inspirational by the fact that he did so with an artificial hip.

Dr. Furstenau has been at the Academy for 26 years, counting his cadet, officer and civilian time. The Norfolk, Neb., native first ran Pikes Peak in 1983, when he was in grad school prior to his first stint on the faculty. He says a friend talked him into it.

After that first run, he was hooked. He even went so far as to take advantage of the unique and daunting opportunity to



Courtesy Photo

Dr. Ron Furstenau, a member of the Chemistry Department, has been a fixture at Pikes Peak races since 1983. Here, he finishes the 2004 Pikes Peak Ascent, the 21st of his 25 finishes. The 2004 run was his third after receiving an artificial hip.

compete in the Pikes Peak Double, which entails running the Ascent on Saturday and the round-trip, 26.21-mile Marathon, the following day. He completed the grueling Double three times, winning the event in 1986. The ever-modest athlete says, "There weren't too many crazy people doing the Double back then."

Dr. Furstenau, a retired lieutenant colonel, has done the Ascent 15 times and the Marathon 10 times. The total of 25 finishes ties him for ninth on the all-time list of "Streakers" – people who have done the race the most times.

As remarkable as all of this is, his accomplishments are even more impres-

sive, given his medical situation. In 2001, side effects of the drug treatment he was on for a form of vasculitis and an autoimmune disorder caused the degeneration of both hip joints. His right hip had to be replaced in April 2001 when his femur ball collapsed. Two months later, a preventive core decompression surgery was done on the left hip to save it.

After only a one-year absence, Dr. Furstenau was back on the mountain in 2002. He was the same determined individual, but things were different. "My running days were over after the hip replacement. I only walk now," he explains.

That humility belies his extraordi-

nary prowess. He does not stroll. Having trained with him, I can attest to his aptitude on the hills. While he can no longer run, he climbs better than any runner I know. Sometimes I swear they replaced his hip with that of a mountain goat.

Long-time training partner Paul Vorndam says, "Ron goes uphill so fast that you can't stay beside him and have a conversation because you're breathing so hard. Then he tells you that you sound like a 'sick moose.'"

The light-hearted banter is another part of Dr. Furstenau's approach. Since 2000, he has trained with fellow Chemistry professor Joel Cain. Though inseparable friends, they never miss the opportunity to tease one another. In fact, both have claimed that Pikes Peak is essentially a two-man race. "I can finish next-to-last and still be happy as long as I beat Joel," Dr. Furstenau kids.

Having run "lots" of marathons and participated in other high-profile events such as the Ironman in Hawaii, Dr. Furstenau says his favorite has always been Pikes Peak. "The Peak is definitely the greatest race I've even done."

With 25 finishes behind him, Dr. Furstenau shows no signs of slowing down. "I love the Peak and love the challenge every year!"

He is already looking forward to race number 26 next year when, hopefully, the weather will be better.

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Falcons' youth a factor; yet team confidence high

By Ken Carter
Editor

One the threshold of the season opener, the Falcon Football program enters the season with abundant youth, yet, insiders say there's plenty of talent for the team to be competitive this year.

According to Director of Athletic Media Relations Troy Garnhart, Saturday's scrimmage was great for the coaches because the weather played a major factor and it helped them evaluate who could put the uncontrollable things behind them and concentrate on the task at hand. "The practice got better and better as the day progressed," Mr. Garnhart said.

The offensive and defensive lines, which have some veteran players returning, will be key to main-

taining the team's continuity this year. "We also have a lot of very talented younger players who are challenging for playing time," Mr. Garnhart said, and added, "competition is always healthy for a program. The biggest thing that the team needs to improve is its consistency. Every position needs to continue to improve every day and not take any steps backwards."

As is always the case, everyone will be watching the quarterback. Both Shea Smith and Eric Herbort will reportedly play in the opening game and both bring something to the table and will be called upon to use it.

"I think fans will enjoy seeing our veteran offensive line play - it's anchored by senior Keith Williams and junior Nick Charles. Sophomore Reggie Rembert is going to play both ways this year which fans should

enjoy," the media relations director said. "He'll be a starter at cornerback on defense and will see significant action at the WR-Z spot. The defense will be led by defensive end Ryan Kemp, outside linebacker Hunter Altman and safety Chris Thomas. All three will be among the best in the conference at their positions."

There's confidence going into the season attributed, at least in part, to how quickly things turned around last year. "I think our guys believe in

Quarterback Shea Smith maintains his focus on his receiver despite poor weather conditions.



Photos by Dave Armer

Reggie Rembert will play as both a cornerback and wide receiver this year.

the coaches and the system and more importantly, themselves," Mr. Garnhart said.

The very young team this year is about two to three years away from being in the position again where mostly juniors and seniors play. "Fans have to be realistic about the overall experience level of our team, yet, I believe we'll be very competitive and will be tough to beat," Mr. Garnhart said.

The coaching staff has a reputation of getting the right players in the right spots who can make plays. "I think they will do that again this year and give us as good a chance to win as possible," Mr. Garnhart concluded.



Huskies hound N.M. in season opener

In the opening game Saturday under conditions that would bring a tear of joy to the eye of Mike Ditka, the Academy Preparatory School defeated the New Mexico Preparatory School 32-7.

The Huskies dominated the field controlling the clock despite only having three weeks of practice time together as a team. Torrential rains made the ball difficult to handle which resulted in several turn-overs, but the Husky defensive line overpowered the visiting New Mexico Preppies controlling play from the first quarter.



Photo by Lt. Col. Ken Korpak

The Dog Pound takes out New Mexico's running back.

Preparatory School 2008 Football Schedule

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT	LOCATION
Aug. 29#	2 p.m.	Snow College	Home
Sept. 6	12 p.m.	Coffeyville Community College	Home
Sept. 13	7 p.m.	Garden City Community College	Garden City, KS
Sept. 19	1 p.m.	Butler Community College	Home
Sept. 27	1:30 p.m.	Dodge City Community College	Dodge City, KS
Oct. 3	2 p.m.	Highland Community College	Home
Oct. 11	7 p.m.	Independence Community College	Independence, KS
Oct. 18	12 p.m.	Hutchinson Community College	Home
OPEN			
Oct. 25	1 p.m.	Fort Scott Community College	Fort Scott, KS
Nov. 7	12 pm	USAFA Freshmen	Falcon Stadium (Tentative)

*All home games Mountain Standard Time and all away games - Central Standard Time. Game dates and times are subject to change without notice. # - Parents Weekend Game

Lomong Places 12th in Olympic Semifinals

BEIJING, China - With a 12th-place finish in the 1500-meter semifinals, Lopez Lomong's Olympic run came to an end on Sunday, in at the National Stadium in Beijing. Lomong, who trains at the Academy with Air Force second-year cross country coach John Hayes, clocked a

time of 3:41.00 to place 12th in the first heat of semifinal action.

None of the three American representatives were able to advance to the finals. Bernard Lagat placed sixth (3:37.79) in the second semifinal heat, falling one spot behind a place-qualification and just 0.02 shy of a time-qualification. Leonel Manzano finished 12th in the second heat with a time of 3:50.33.

Ironmen compete

The Academy Triathlon Team competed in the 5430 Long Course Triathlon in Boulder, Colo., Aug. 10. Aaron Little posted an impressive 4:44:50 at the half-Ironman distance, which included a blazing 1:30:06 in the half-marathon run to close out the final leg of his race. Also competing were Tyler Boyd and Adam Kruse.

2008 Intramural Golf Final Results:

1st Place-Maintenance 2
2nd Place-Maintenance 1
3rd Place-NSSI 1



Triathlon to honor cadet

The Falcon Groundspeed Foundation, established in 2008 by alumni of the Academy Triathlon team, will host the Lindsay Brown Memorial Triathlon Sept. 27. All proceeds go to charity. Cadet 3rd Class Lindsay Brown was a member of Cadet Squadron 5 and an intercollegiate swimmer. She was also a member of the Academy's competitive triathlon team. Cadet Brown was killed in a car accident in Florida Dec. 21, 2007, only four days after she returned home on leave. Lindsay lived every day to the fullest and never had any regrets. She was reading a book at the time of her death in which she wrote a quote while taking notes: "It's time to get out of my seat and get going!" That quote shows her determination and will to try new things. For more information, call Maj. James Thompson at 333-4532.



CADET CHAPEL

Catholic Masses:

Sunday

Confession - 9:15 a.m.
Mass - 10 a.m.

Wednesday

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - 5:30 p.m.
Confession - 5:30 p.m.
Mass - 6:30 p.m.

Weekday

Mon., Tues. and Thurs. - 6:45 a.m.

Protestant Services:

Sunday

Traditional/Liturgical - 9:00 a.m.
Contemporary - 11:00 a.m.

Jewish Services

Friday

Sabbath Service - 7 p.m.

Buddhist Worship

Wednesday

Traditional Mahyana Service - 6:30 p.m.

Muslim Prayer

Friday

Salaat ul-Jumman - 12:30 p.m.

All Other Faiths

Call 333-2636 for more information

COMMUNITY CENTER CHAPEL

Catholic Masses:

Saturday

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

Sunday

Mass - 9:30 a.m.
Religious Formation - 10:45 a.m.
(September - May)

Tuesday-Friday

Mass - 11:30 a.m.

Protestant Services:

Wednesday

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

Saturday

Contemporary - 6 p.m.

Sunday

Traditional - 8 a.m.
Gospel - 11:15 a.m.

Paganism/Earth-centered Spirituality:

Contact Tech. Sgt. Longcrier at 333-6178
Robert.Longcrier@usafa.edu

Movin' on up

It's always a "Great Air Force Day" when Air Force personnel find out they've been promoted to the next grade. Staff sergeant is a particularly important promotion as Airmen enter the NCO corps and prepare to lead the next generation of Airmen. Keeping with Air Force tradition, the Air Force announced its newest staff sergeants Wednesday. The Academy's newest staff sergeant selects will be recognized at the Falcon Club Enlisted Lounge today at 4 p.m. All are invited.

Safety First

Motorists on Aspen and Cedar Drives, near the Preparatory School and the Fitness Center, should use extra caution due to the high number of pedestrians crossing the streets in the area. The speed limit is 20 m.p.h.

Guided Tours

The Cadet Chapel staff is now conducting four daily public guided tours weekdays at 10:30 and 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 and 1:30 p.m., excluding holidays. The 30-minute tours are designed to provide visitors with more in-depth knowledge of the Chapel. Reservations are not necessary. Interested visitors should arrive a few minutes early.

Celebration Tea

The Academy's Officers' Spouses Club celebrates 50 years at the Air Force Academy with a 10 a.m. Tea at the Carlton House Sept. 3. Please RSVP to Debbie Kyger by Aug. 29. The event is for anyone who has been involved with the club over the last 50 years as well as newcomers who want to be a part of the next 50. For more information, call 282-0275 or E-mail d3ekyger@comcast.net

The Airman and Family Readiness Center will be hosting the following classes in September:

Welcome Home/Send-Off Event

Sept. 2; 6 to 8 p.m.

The Airman and Family Readiness Center and the 10th Air Base Wing cordially

invite all personnel to welcome home and farewell our Academy warriors at the Milazzo Center. This event will recognize all who have returned from deployment since Jan. 22, and those projected to depart on deployment by February 2009. Free food, information booths, door prizes and drawings will be provided for returnees and those deploying. Call Tech. Sgt. Lisa Taylor at 333-6393/3444 for more information.

Group Pre-Separation Counseling

Held every Monday (except during TAP week); 2:30 to 4 p.m.

Separating or retiring from the Air Force in a year or less? This mandatory briefing identifies benefits and services associated with your transition and beyond.

Smooth Move

Sept. 4; 9 to 10 a.m. and Sept. 11 from 3 to 4 p.m.

Being prepared certainly lessens the stress of an upcoming move. Learn innovative ways to make your move a smooth one. This is a mandatory class for individuals departing the Academy.

Military Spouse Career Advancement

Sept. 4; 1 to 3 p.m.

If you are the spouse of an active duty Air Force member and have more than a year left at this duty station, and are continuing your education, you may be eligible for an educational grant of \$3,000 per year, two-year maximum.

Sponsorship Training

Sept. 9; 8 to 9 a.m.

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

Troops to Teachers

Sept. 11; 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

This workshop provides information for military personnel interested in beginning a second career in public education as a teacher.

SCORE

Sept. 12; 9 a.m. to noon

Have you ever thought about owning your own business, but you are not sure

how to start!

Then this workshop is for you!

Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

Sept. 15 and 29; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Individuals within 180 days of retirement or separation can have the DAV review their medical records.

Mock Interviewing Workshop

Sept. 16; 8:30 a.m. to noon.

Are you preparing for your next career move but feeling a little rusty on your interviewing skills?

Know what to expect on your next interview. Mock interviewing with real HR representatives!

Newcomer's Orientation

Sept. 18; 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Mandatory orientation for all newly assigned Academy personnel. Spouses are welcome to attend at the Milazzo Center.

TAP Seminar

Sept. 23-26; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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

Newcomer's Red Carpet Tour

Sept. 26; 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

An informative, fun filled base tour that gives insight into the Academy mission and reveals all there is to see and do at the Academy.

Contact the A&FRC @ 333-3444 for any questions and/or registration.




Mental Health

Sept. 13, 6 to 8 p.m., at Memorial Park.

The event will also include hot air balloon activities, food and drinks, face painting, art display and a "Celebration of Light" closing ceremony. To register, or for more information, call 719-473-8477, Nat'l Alliance on Mental Illness or visit: www.namicoloradosprings.org

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