

Airmen check out options



From left: Senior Airman Magdalena Torres, Cadet 4th Class Chelsea Renfro and Airman 1st Class Janeka Perry conduct a chemistry experiement while visiting the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., Jan. 14. Airmen Torres and Perry took part in a Leaders Encouraging Airmen Development **Diversity Visitation** Program Jan. 14 and 15. Airman Torres is assigned to the 914th Maintenance Squadron at Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, N.Y. Airman Perry is assigned to the 137th Airlift Control Flight at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. See Page 7 for story and photos.

JOHNNY WILSON

306th OSS NCO named Regional CFC Hero

By Monica Mendoza 21st Space Wing Public Affairs

The NCO in charge of airfield management for the 306th Operations Support Squadron at the Air Force Academy was named a Pikes Peak Regional CFC Hero Jan. 13 for his leadership in the 2010 Combined Federal Campaign. Staff Sgt. Jose Gonzales, who received the award during the annual CFC Awards ceremony here, will be considered for national recognition. "During the campaign, Sergeant Gonzales lost his grandmother to a seven-month battle with lung cancer, according to his citation. His heartfelt inspiration led him to raise 118 percent of his unit's goal and led the Flying Training Group to an all-time record of 127 percent of the goal. The organizers of the CFC threw a glitzy, New Year's Eve-style party to celebrate the \$2.4 million donated from across the region that includes the Academy, Air Force Space Command, Fort Carson, Peterson Air Force Base, Schriever AFB, North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command,

CFC DONATIONS:

- Air Force Academy: \$590,750
 Air Force Space Command: \$252.887
- Fort Carson: \$575,000
- Peterson AFB: \$327,090



Schriever AFB: \$233,106
NORAD/NORTHCOM: \$220,000

and the U.S. Postal Service and federal employees.

Col. Tamra Rank, the Academy's vice superintendent, said the amount of money raised at the Academy was "just exceptional."

The average gift from each contributor in the region was \$226, said Pikes Peak Region CFC director Barbara Barfield. The region covers Southern Colorado from Monument to New Mexico and over to Utah. However, military bases make up 95 percent of the region's givers.

"Federal and military personnel are extraordinarily generous, particularly because they feel safe with their own employment," she said. RIM. B. LISANSY B. LIS

ROBB LINGLEY

Col. Tamra Rank presents a CFC Hero award to Staff Sgt. Jose Gonzales Jan. 13. during the 2011 Combined Federal Campaign Awards ceremony at Peterson Air Force Base.

The CFC is the world's largest workplace giving program. It allows active-duty military and Department of Defense civilian employees to make one-time donations or make payroll deductions to thousands of charitable organizations. Employees can designate money to specific charities or allow the donation to go into a general fund, which is distributed equally among the charitable organizations. More than 3,000 charities worldwide benefit from CFC.



Reflections on Rev. MLK Day

By Dr. Adis Vila Academy Chief Diversity Officer

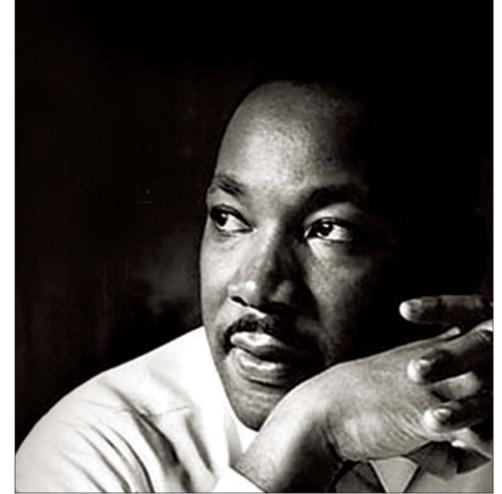
Earlier this week we celebrated the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, and I am hopeful we also recommitted ourselves to the unity of the human race. For him, racial justice was a moral issue that threatened to undermine the integrity of our nation. From his perspective, we all have a role to play.

When I went to Rollins College in the fall of 1970, I brought with me the hope of my family, school and neighborhood, as I was the first to graduate high school and attend college, and among the first Cuban girls allowed to go "away" to college. Rollins' 1970 entering class had a few minority students: as I recall, I may have been the only Hispanic. African-Americans numbered fewer than 10.

We were hungry for a top-rate education, and we worked hard to succeed -- not unlike the cadets here who came from all walks of life. From my short time here, I've learned that the Academy offers excellent support to all students -- and that's a great thing.

But we must not be passive observers who take our accomplishments lightly. We must not simply watch the scenery but must make the sacrifices and exert the effort required to progress. As Dr. King put it, "Every generation stands on the shoulders of the one before."

Dr. King also said, "Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable. Even a superficial look at history reveals that no social advance rolls in on the wheels of inevitability. Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle, the



tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals."

And so it is with making the Air Force Academy more attractive for minority students. Many people have toiled to make it possible for minority students to attend and succeed at the Academy. The Class of 2014 is the most diverse in the Academy's history. However, while we have much to celebrate, we must remain vigilant. We must remember the history of our country each and every year so subsequent generations know what it will

take to create a more just America and a more inclusive Air Force.

Dr. King's lessons of justice, brotherhood and harmony should have no boundaries of race, nationality or time. Through his teachings and leadership principles, Dr. King speaks to people everywhere. I have faith that one person's example can spark others to action. I have faith that individuals can inspire communities to move mountains of indifference and hostility toward participation and inclusion.



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

Lt. Gen. Mike Gould -Academy Superintendent Lt. Col. John Bryan Director of Public Affairs Staff Sgt. Don Branum -NCO in Charge, Internal Information Staff Sgt. Raymond Hoy Editor David Edwards — Staff Writer Carol Lawrence — Graphic Designer

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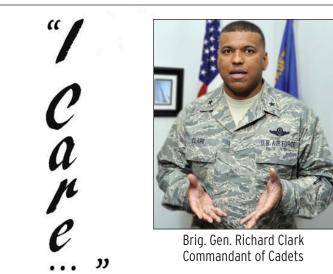
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Deadline for all stories is noon Friday, one week prior to the desired publication date. Refer questions to the Academy Spirit editor at 333-8823.

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



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What's your favorite part of Air Force Hockey?



"My roommate is in it, Aaron Quick.' Cadet 4th Class Roed Mejia, CS 33



"It's totally rad." Airman 1st Class Austin Cooner. 52nd Operations Support Squadror



"Well, our Air Force is the best in the world, so our hockey is the best." Cadet 4th Class Daniel Burke,



CS 27





D20, Rocky Mountain PBS to air professor's 'Code Talkers' documentary

By David Edwards Academy Spirit Staff Writer

Ask a movie buff to name a film about the Navajo Code Talkers in World War II and the answer is bound to be "Windtalkers," starring Nicolas Cage. But judging from reviewer comments at the Internet Movie Database, many viewers think director John Woo did not adequately tell the story of the Code Talkers, instead showcasing Hollywood star Cage.

Dr. John Farley agrees, and he is out to fix that. Dr. Farley and two of his colleagues in the Academy's English department will soon release "Navajo Code Talkers," a documentary film several years in the making.

The idea began to germinate when the two colleagues, Bill Newmiller and Jack Niday, were discussing a newspaper article.

"It was a small, almost insignificant article about a medal Presidents (Ronald) Reagan and (Bill) Clinton had approved to honor the Navajo Code Talkers for their service during World War II," Dr. Farley said. "We all thought this would be a great ceremony to attend but for different reasons.

"I had several false starts because the material that I had from the interviews led in several different directions. I've finally decided I wanted to talk about their training and what they thought and felt about it and their service to the country.

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What pushed me the most was my desire to tell their story, one few people knew anything about."

Besides teaching English, Dr. Farley oversees BlueTube, a course that teaches cadets the fundamentals of video production. But the documentary about the Code Talkers was personal, "a labor of love and dedication."

The run time of the documentary is about 25 minutes, making it an ideal fit in the programming schedule of Rocky Mountain PBS. The public TV station plans to air "Navajo Code Talkers" in March or April.

In addition, Academy School District 20 will include the documentary in its curriculum. He hopes the students will appreciate the sacrifice the Navajo made on behalf of a country that was less than grateful to them.

One aspect of the film focuses on the education the government forced on the Navajo. They were made to learn English. At the time, that was just another hardship of reservation life, but it turned out to be serendipitous. If they had been unable to speak English, their unbreakable code would have been useless to the military.

"I knew I wanted to make this documentary and tell their story for a lot of reasons," Dr. Farley said. "I thought it would be the perfect tool to educate schoolchildren and other people who knew nothing about the Navajo Indians, the code talkers, and what they did dur-



MORRIS BITSIE

Navajo Code Talkers stand and salute as the colors are posted during a Code Talkers Day in 2008.

ing World War II. Their story is fascinating and at times humorous, as I point out in the documentary."

The film tells how the military came to rely on the Navajo in the first place. It also points out that American Indians from other tribes served as code talkers as well. These included the Cherokee, Choctaw and Comanche.

In addition, the film clears up a common misconception about the Navajo who fought in World War II. Many people believe that all of them were code talkers. The film, however, states that only a small percentage of them were picked for this duty and that the Navajo, like members of other Indian tribes, served proudly in the regular Army and Navy.

One part the Navajo Code Talkers'

training makes for some funny moments in the film. They were required to pass a swim test, but because there's no water on the reservation, the recruits tried to dog-paddle their way through the test. That didn't work out too well, so they had to go through remedial swimming training before being sent into combat.

All of the Navajo Code Talkers interviewed by Dr. Farley expressed their genuine patriotism and love of the United States. As the film shows, they are intensely proud of their service, and they are role models for young Navajo growing up on the reservation.

"Fortunately for us, some of them began to tell their stories," Dr Farley said. "And the world found out about the silent heroes who served our nation so proudly."





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Untangling TriCare

By Shari Lopatin TriWest Healthcare Alliance

When it comes to the Air Force, you know the lingo. But when it comes to navigating your TriCare health benefit, you're suddenly lost.

Sound familiar?

That's OK. Navigating the TriCare health plans can be confusing, especially to someone who's new to the Air Force. To make it easier, here's a breakdown of the three main TriCare plans: Prime, Standard and Extra.

Prime

TriCare Prime works much like an HMO plan from a private health insurer. After you enroll into Prime, you'll either choose or get assigned a primary care manager, or PCM. A PCM can be a nurse practitioner, gynecologist, pediatrician, or a general family doctor. Your PCM may also be your local military clinic.

You go to your PCM for all health care needs. They play the role of your family doctor. However, if you need to see a specialist—such as a heart doctor or skin doctor—your PCM will make a referral for that specialist and coordinate with TriWest for you.

Prime is the most cost-effective option in TriCare. All active duty service members must be enrolled in Prime. However, their family members can choose to enroll if they want this plan, or remain with another TriCare option.

For family members who choose Prime and want to begin coverage the next month, they must enroll by the 20th of the prior month. For example, to start coverage May 1, a family member needs to enroll on or before April 20. If that family member enrolls after April 20, coverage won't begin until June 1. Additionally, after a birth or adoption, a family has 60 days to enroll the new child into Prime.

If a family member chooses not to enroll in Prime, or doesn't enroll their new child within 60 days, they'll still have TriCare, but as different plans: Standard and Extra, which are discussed in more detail below.

If you're an active duty service or family member with Prime, you'll pay no enrollment fees and no out-of-pocket costs, as long as you receive your care from your PCM or with a referral to a specialist. However, anyone who is covered under TriCare Prime—active duty or not—will have higher out-of-pocket costs if they receive specialty care without a referral from their PCM.

Standard and Extra

These two plans work together. With Standard and Extra, you don't have a PCM, and you don't need referrals to see specialists. However, you still must see a TriCare-authorized provider. And while you don't need a referral to see a specialist, some procedures or services might need pre-authorization from TriWest.

With Standard and Extra, you will share the cost of the doctors' visits with TriCare.

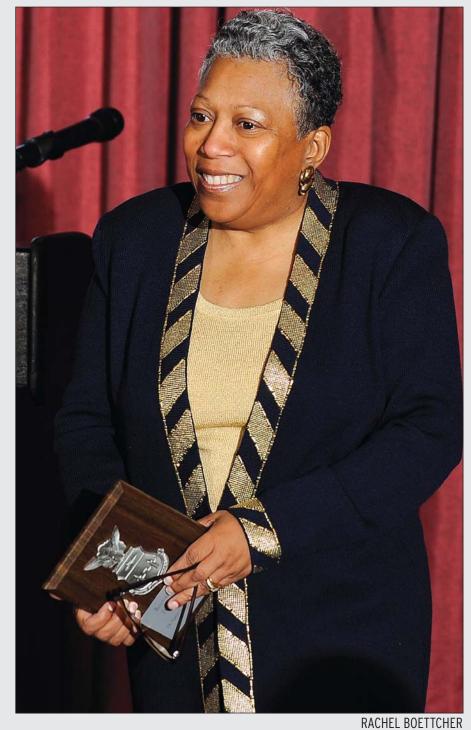
This "cost-share" depends on where you get your medical care. The beneficiary usually pays 15 or 20 percent of the doctor's fee.

TriCare Standard and Extra are not an option for active duty service members. If family members do not enroll in Prime, they will automatically be covered by TriCare Standard and Extra, as long as their information is current in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). This means you don't have to worry about enrolling. It is automatic.

If you're not sure whether you're eligible or your information is up-to-date in DEERS, you can check by visiting the Beneficiary Web Enrollment website at www.triwest.com/bwe. You can also register for a secure triwest.com account to check your eligibility.

Still have questions about your TriCare plan? Visit www.triwest.com or use the TriCare Plan Wizard at www.tricare.mil.

Honoring Rev. Martin Luther King



Rev. Terry McCray Hill receives a gift from the Air Force Academy after speaking at the Academy's special observance breakfast Thursday for Martin Luther King Day. Reverend Hill is the pastor of the Payne Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church in

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Officers face consequences for not completing IST

Panel may choose reclassification or discharge for failure to comply

By Staff Sqt. Don Branum U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Air Force Academy graduates who fail to complete initial skills training after graduation or choose not to train will be considered by a panel of officers for reclassification or discharge from the Air Force, according to service personnel officials.

The Air Force may also seek recoupment of costs for tuition if an officer is discharged, Air Force Personnel Center officials added.

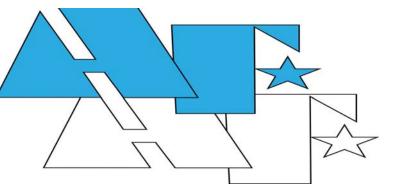
Maj. Gen. A.J. Stewart, AFPC commander, raised awareness of the policy during a December visit with an Academy third-year cadet in San Antonio. The cadet informed the general very few cadets knew about the consequences of failing IST after they graduate.

"As a general rule and out of fiscal responsibility, the Air Force seeks to recover the cost of educating Airmen who do not complete their service commitments," said Col. Leslie Formolo, the director of personnel service at AFPC, upon announcing changes in June to procedures for line officers eliminated from IST.

Officials explained that the Air Force classifies and accesses officers to fill specific requirements. When cadets volunteer for an Air Force specialty classification, they are agreeing to fill an Air Force requirement in exchange for being accessed to active duty. Once on active duty, if an officer fails to complete their IST, the Air Force must re-evaluate whether or not another valid Air Force requirement exists that the officer is qualified to fill.

A five-member panel at AFPC reviews reclassification packages for officers who fail to complete or who self-eliminate from IST. The IST panel determines, based on current Air Force requirements, the officer's qualifications and input, along with their commander's recommendation, whether reclassification or discharge is appropriate.

Factors the panel considers include an officer's potential to complete future training or to develop in his career field, special abilities or skills in high-demand languages benefiting the career field or Air Force needs, academic degree emphasis, demonstrated officership and commitment to the Air Force, and investment already made by the Air Force, according to officials.



AFAF campaign to kick off Feb. 7

The 2011 Air Force Assistance Fund home and caring community. Campaign, themed "Commitment to Caring," is scheduled to kick off Feb. 7.

"Your support and generous donations ensure a solid financial foundation for AFAF charities and provide our Airmen with a full range of muchneeded services," wrote Senior Master Sgt. Spenger Zamy, one of the Academy's two installation project officers, in a Jan. 14 e-mail. "These organizations ... are an example of Air Force people taking care of their own."

The AFAF campaign supports four charitable organizations:

• The Air Force Aid Society provides emergency financial aid, educational loans and spousal tuition assistance.

• The Air Force Village and Air Force Enlisted Village provide retirees, widows and widowers with a

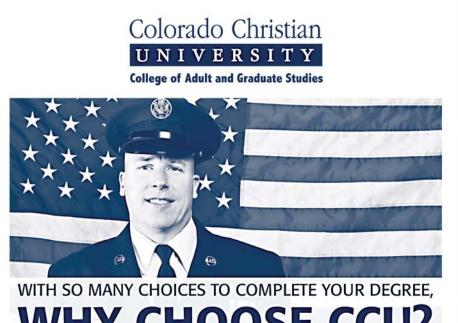
• The Gen. and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation seeks out and lends a helping hand through financial grants for widows and widowers of Air Force retirees.

"We appreciate your thoughtful consideration in supporting the 2011 AFAF campaign as we strive toward our Air Force-wide goal of \$6.36 million," Sergeant Zamy wrote. "A renewed 'commitment to caring' will once again underscore the importance of taking care of our Air Force family."

The Air Force Academy's 2011 goal is \$82,255. Active-duty Airmen may donate via allotments. Contributions are tax-deductible.

For more information on contributing to the AFAF, contact Sergeant Zamy at 333-5569 or Maj. Michelle Nash at 333-3188.





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Afghanistan 2010 airdrop levels set record

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. (AFNS) — Mobility Airmen supporting operations in Afghanistan airdropped 60.4 million pounds of cargo airdropped throughout the country, setting a record.

In all, the 60.4 million pounds is nearly twice the previous record year of 2009, where just over 32.2 million pounds of cargo was airdropped, Air Forces Central statistics show.

Experts attribute the increase to the surge of an additional 30,000 troops to Afghanistan between December 2009 and August 2010. In those nine months, AFCENT stats confirmed more than 40 million pounds of cargo were airdropped. Throughout Afghanistan, the mountainous areas, remote operating locations and limited infrastructure have made the need for airdrops a necessity. That necessity has grown with more troops on the ground. According to a Jan. 12 Department of Defense news report, "numbers of U.S. troops and civilians, allied trainers and combat forces, Afghan army and police trainees all increased" in Afghanistan by more than 100,000 in 2010, compared to previous years.

Since 2006, the annual amount of airdrops has nearly doubled each year. According to the AFCENT statistics released Jan. 19, the amount of airdrop poundage in Afghanistan over the past five years are 3.5 million in 2006, 8.12 million in 2007, 16.57 million in 2008, 32.26 million in 2009 and 60.4 million in 2010.

"These airdrops are critical to sustaining ground forces at austere locations where other means of re supply aren't feasible," said Col. David Almand, who served as director of the Combined Air and Space Operations Center's Air Mobility Division in 2010. "This continued sustainment of our warfighting forces is key to counter insurgency operations, which require persistent presence and logistics."

The mobility Airmen assigned to support those airdrops missions have

said they are proud to be able to directly support those "boots on the ground" with the supplies they need, no matter where in Afghanistan they are operating.

"It's very humbling to have such an impact on the war effort," said Staff Sgt. T.J. Grover, a C-130J loadmaster deployed with the 772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron. "Especially when you hear about people on the ground who have close to nothing, and we make their day if we even fly in something that's bare-minimum, but it's still a step above what they had. These guys at forward operating bases aren't getting stuff because they want it; they get it because they need it."



TSGT. CHAD CHISHOLM

TOP: A C-130J Hercules from the 772nd Expeditionary Airlift
 Squadron releases 16 container delivery system bundles for a remote, forward-operating base in Afghanistan Oct. 7.
 RIGHT: Airmen and Soldiers help load Container Delivery
 System bundles into the back of a C-130 Hercules at Bagram
 Airfield, Afghanistan, Nov. 21. The Air Force airlifted more than 60 million pounds of cargo into Afghanistan in 2010.



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LEAD Candidates visit Academy

Program seeks Airmen to enter Academy

By Staff Sqt. Don Branum U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

More than 25 Airmen from bases in the United States and Europe visited the Air Force Academy Jan. 13-14 as part of the Leaders Encouraging Airmen Development Diversity Visitation Program.

LEAD is a commissioning program that allows up to 85 active-duty Airmen and 85 reservists or Guardsmen to enter the Academy as cadets.

Airman 1st Class Justin Loutfy said he began his application for the Academy almost immediately after he finished Basic Military Training.

"I was fortunate, because my vice wing commander on my base was also an Academy grad," said Airman Loutfy, who is assigned to the New Jersey Air National Guard's 177th Fighter Wing. "He helped me out tremendously along the way."

Airman 1st Class Christine Haight, a dental technician with the 88th Dental Squadron at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, said many of her patients are Academy graduates.

"Everyone says (the Academy) is really hard, but it's totally worth it in the end," she said. "And the whole opportunity to even come out here and visit was really awesome."



LEFT: Col. Tamra Rank presents Leighanne Hyan Jin Ob with a certificate of selection to attend the Air Force Academy Preparatory School during a Leaders Encouraging Airmen Development Diversity Visitation Program conference Jan. 13.

BELOW: Airmen 1st Class Daniel Bermudez and Nicholas Fisher talk between briefings at the LEAD Diversity Visitation Program . Airman Bermudez is assigned to the 305th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J. Airman Fisher is assigned to the 65th Comptroller Squadron at Lajes Field, Azores.

PHOTOS BY RACHEL BOETTCHER





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PHOTOS BY MIKE KAPLA

Falcons, Black Knights split 2-game series

The Air Force Falcons split a two-game series against the Army Black Knights here Jan. 14 and 15.

The Falcons bludgeoned the Black Knights in the first game of the series, winning 5-1 on goals by Tony Thomas, Ryan Timar, Jacques Lamoreux, Paul Weisgarber and Brad Sellers and 27 saves by Falcons goalie Jason Torf. Army's only goal came on a shot by Mike Hull.

Army rebounded for the second game: Cody Omilusik scored two goals and Andy Starczewski scored one to give the Black Knights a 3-0 lead in the first period. The Falcons tied the score in the second period, and the two teams traded goals in the third. The Black Knights held off a late Falcons rally to win the second game, 5-4.



Air Force forwards Jacques Lamoreux, left, and Kyle De Laurell fight for control of the puck against Army defender Cheyne Rocha in the final seconds of Army's 5-4 victory Saturday. Air Force travels to meet the UConn Huskies Jan. 21-22 at 7:05pm each night in Storrs, Conn.



Air Force sophomore forward Kyle De Laurell just misses a shot on goal against Army goalie Ryan Leets during the Falcons' game against the Black Knights at the Cadet Ice Arena Saturday. Army held off a late rally by the Falcons Saturday game to defeat Air Force, 5-4.





Emily Cotharn leaps over a hurdle during the women's 60meter hurdles at the Air Force Academy Jan. 14. Cotharn, a native of Cedaredge Colo., finished ninth with a time of 9.53 seconds.

BILL EVANS

Falcons set school records at 1st track meet of 2011

By Valerie Perkin Athletic Communications

kicked off the 2011 season with a Academy's Cadet Field House.

Several Falcons added new entries 5:36.97. to the women's record books, while Air Force had two of the top three the combined squad accounted for 11 top finishes among collegiate competitors.

shot put with a career-best distance 11'11³/4". Junior Kimber Shealy tied of $47'6'_{4}$, while also placing first for third with a height of $11'5'_{4}$. among collegiate competitors (and with a mark of 51'7¹/₄". Blackburn's Sophomore Cale Simmons won the distance in the shot put is a personal improvement by nearly two feet and the third-best throw in Academy his-second at $16'0'_4$ ". tory.

Freshman Jackie Ahloo placed third in the shot put with a collegiate debut men Jake Hawkins, Shawn Dubbs of 44'2" - the sixth-best throw in pro- and Matt Caldwell clocked a time gram history. Air Force also earned a of 8:11.57 to win the non-traditional top-six finish in the weight throw from race. senior Christina Burke, who tossed a Junior Bryce Bergman was the top $45'0^{1/2}$ " to place sixth overall.

The women's high jump received several additions to its all-time list, 8.20, while running the first leg of the as three freshmen recorded distances 4x400-meter relay team that finished of 5'5" - the ninth-best clearance in first among collegiate teams with a Academy history. Jamie Hart and time of 3:15.59. Joining Bergman on Regan Rogers tied for first among col- the relay was classmate Manny Smith, legiate competitors (and second over- sophomore Anthony Delgado and seall), while Rachel Herald took fifth with that height based on attempts.

triple jump to finish third (overall) who tied for the top mark, but place and move into fifth on the program's third overall based on attempts, was all-time list - the first addition to that just one foot shy of breaking the proevent's top-10 since 2007.

peting during the indoor season for $(6'6'_4'')$ and sixth $(6'4'_4'')$, respecthe first time, was the top collegiate tively, in that event. finisher in the 200-meter dash with a The Falcons added three top-three time of 25.55 - the fourth-fastest time overall finishes, including a pair in in program history. Junior Tawny the throwing events. Junior James Lambuth, who also tied for fourth in the pole vault with a clearance of ond among collegiate throwers in the 11'11³/₄", finished fifth in the 60-me- shot put, accounting for a distance ter dash with a time of 7.88. The time, of 52'5¹/₄". Classmate Robert Drye which was third among collegiate tossed a 58'8" in the weight throw to runners, is tied for the eighth-fastest finish third. Freshman Matt Caldwell time in program history.

meter relay squad that finished first overall. among collegiate teams with a time Air Force returns in Lincoln, Neb., freshman Tasha Mayne.

Junior Katie Carroll was the top collegiate finisher in the 800-meter run (2:24.68), while Air Force swept the The Air Force track and field team top three spots of the mile run. Sophomores Kate Kanetzky (5:31.14) and strong showing at the annual Air Melissa Fuerst (5:35.22) finished first Force All-Comers Meet Jan. 14 at the and second, respectively, while junior Alexa Ramsier took third in a time of

collegiate clearances in the pole vault, highlighted by Lambuth and senior Melissa Beerse's tie for second (fourth Junior Paige Blackburn won the overall) with matching heights of

On the men's side, Air Force claimed second overall) in the weight throw the top two spots in the pole vault. meet with a clearance of $16'6''_4$ ", while his twin brother, Rob, placed

> The two-mile relay squad of sophomore Jeremy Drenckhahn and fresh-

> collegiate finisher (second overall) in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of nior Chris Severino.

Freshman Tyler Jordan was the top Fellow freshman Kassie Gurnell collegiate finisher in the high jump recorded a distance of $37'9'_{2}$ " in the with a clearance of $6'8'_{4}$ ". Jordan, gram's top 10. Sophomores Travis Sophomore Bethany Gross, com- Smith and Zach Wood placed fifth

Cole finished third overall and secclocked a time of 4:25.00 in his col-Gross also ran a leg of the 4x400- legiate debut of the mile to take third

of 4:01.54. She ran the third leg of at the Nebraska Wesleyan Invitationa squad that included juniors Ra- al today and the Adidas Classic on chel Thomas and Emily Cotharn and Saturday. Complete results are available at http://bit.ly/hK7yfm.

www.usafaspirit.com

CSAF meets with Airmen during Bagram visit

Gen. Norton Schwartz discusses force management, DADT repeal

By Tech. Sgt. Michael Voss

455th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan (AFNS) — Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz visited the Airmen of the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing here Jan. 18-19 during a trip to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility.

The Air Force's 19th chief of staff also took time to present Purple Hearts to Capt. Gil Wyche and Senior Airman Brandon Cullen Towle, and to address more than 300 Airmen during an all call Jan. 19.

"This wing has done some heavy lifting for the Air Force, and you should be proud," General Schwartz said. "I am proud of each and every one of you.

"It doesn't matter if you are in force support, intelligence, operations, security forces, civil engineering or (explosive ordnance disposal), everybody counts, and everybody contributes," General Schwartz said. "If everyone doesn't play their position, the whole team does not succeed."

The general said the Air Force faces some challenges in the near future, such as the continuing struggle to bring the service's personnel inventory to its congressionally-mandated end strength.

"We are still over our manning lim-

its," the general said. "Over the last year or so, we have tried some voluntary and involuntary programs. None of these programs are fun or easy, but they are necessary."

Having too many Airmen means money is not available for other pressing requirements, including needed equipment, child care programs and flying hours, among other things, General Schwartz said.

The general said the Air Force brought enlisted manning down to required levels in 2010, but the officer corps numbers are still too high. He also explained how the service is looking to other ways of lowering operating costs, from flying more efficiently to changing how the Air Force develops new weapons systems.

"There is a place and time for great ambition," General Schwartz said. "Without ambition, we would not have developed the B-2 Spirit. But when the nation is facing a trillion-dollar deficit, I think we have to dial back the ambition a little bit."

For example, the new bomber the Air Force will develop as part of the longrange-strike family of systems will not be all-new technology, the general said.Instead, the Air Force will integrate existing technology, engines and avionics to create an airplane that is very capable but still affordable.



"We have to be more pragmatic with the resources given to the Air Force," he said. "We can't afford to always strive for the 100-percent solution. We may have to go with the best available solution."

General Schwartz also expressed concern about taking care of Airmen.

"The Air Force is experiencing more suicides than we have at any other point in our history," he said. "I appeal to each of you to look to the Airmen at the right and left of you. If they are under stress or in distress, offer assistance or encourage your wingman to seek help."

In addition, the general spoke about the contributions of the total force, recalling that in many areas, members of the Guard and Reserve represent more than 50 percent of Air Force capability. Lastly, he discussed upcoming changes related to the repeal of the law commonly known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

"This is not about changing anyone's core beliefs," General Schwartz said. "This is about how we act and interact with each other. Our standards of conduct will not change."

After answering some questions from the audience, the general ended the all call by leaving the attendees with a single thought.

"It is important we do things the Air Force way," he said. "Our joint teammates on the ground have trust and confidence that the Air Force will do whatever is required to enable their success and protect them while they are in harm's way. Is there anything more noble? I am extremely proud of our Air Force."

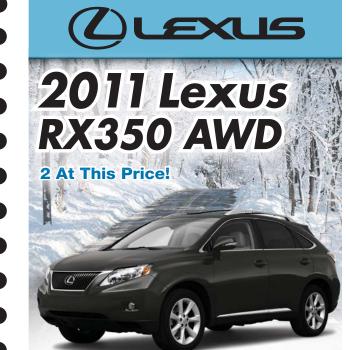
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Agademy Spirit

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2011

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz speaks to Airmen during an all call at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, Wednesday. General Schwartz talked about his vision for the Air Force and answered questions from Airmen.

SENIOR AIRMAN SHEILA DEVERA





11

Bio dept. 'hunts' for answers about AFA's deer

Data helps researchers know about herd's residency

By David Edwards Academy Spirit Staff Writer

The Air Force Academy's mule deer hunters don't have dinner in mind when they do their work. Their pursuit of deer is done in the name of science.

Over the Christmas break, biology professor Tom Unangst kicked off a two-year project to track the Academy's herd of mule deer. Joining him on the mission were Dr. Brian Mihlbachler and Greg Speights of the Academy's Natural Resources Department and Matt Yamashita of the Colorado Division of Wildlife. The foursome captured 15 mule deer and outfitted them with radio collars.

So why track the Academy's deer? Two reasons: research and resource management.

"Answers to countless questions about the deer

herd on USAFA are possible from the data received from the collars," Dr. Unangst said. "One simple question addresses the actual residency of the deer herd. Do the deer we see each day actually live on USAFA year-round, or are they transient?"

The project will run through January 2013, so the deer will be tracked for two years. Two cadets in the biology department are assisting Dr. Unangst. The work is part of their independent research project.

The Geospatial Program Office is involved as well, and cadet researchers studying geospatial sciences are likely to be included in the project at some point.

Data from the tracking collars is collected at six-hour intervals each day. That allows real-time tracking of the deer's movements and behavior. There is a 24-hour lag time on the data.

"The LOTEK radio collars are state of the art," Dr. Unangst said. "Essentially, each collar is equipped with a cell phone SIM card that communicates remotely with a modem in the ... Deer/ Coyote Research Laboratory. Information is sent via a text message one time each day."

The superintendent and dean of faculty funded the project in 2009. But assorted setbacks pushed the start date for the project to the end of 2010.

Now that it's underway, the synergy created during its two-year lifespan figures to be considerable. The tracking will involve cadets, faculty members, Academy wildlife managers and the state of Colorado.

On a lighter note, the project will also help satisfy researchers' natural curiosity.

"Want to know where a particular deer is today, (or was) last week, last month?" Dr. Unangst said. "(I) can tell you."



10 things you didn't know about: Cadet 3rd Class James Okamoto

By Leslie Finstein

Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Cadet 3rd Class James Okamoto, from Yorba Linda, Calif., is a member of the Air Force gymnastics team. Cadet Okamoto won the pommel horse Saturday during the 13thranked Falcons' season-opening meet. In doing so, he became the third Air Force gymnast in the last decade to capture an event title at the Rocky Mountain Open.

The men's gymnastics team will host Army at 1 p.m. Saturday.

1. When did you begin gymnastics? Who got you started?

I started gymnastics when I was six years old. It looked like my older sister was having fun, so I decided to try it out, too.

2. Favorite sports to play off-season?

Rock climbing has become my main hobby since I've come to Colorado.

3. Favorite professional athlete and team? It's an amateur sport, but I really look up to gymnast Kohei Uchimura of Japan. I'm not

a big fan of professional athletes, in general. 4. Favorite movie or TV show? The Shawshank Redemption 5. Favorite food?

Pho is definitely my favorite food. It's just a plain Vietnamese noodle soup, but I love it. **6.** Favorite subject in school?

Japanese; the language class is so different than other classes that it's interesting to me, even if I'm not that good at it.

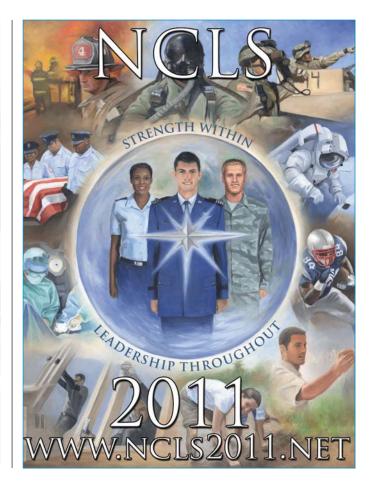
7. If I were not a cadet, I would be ... A normal college kid at one of the UC schools back in California.

8. If my friends had to use one word to describe me, it would be ...

Relaxed.

9. The best part of being a gymnast is ... The sport itself is the best part of being a gymnast. It's such a diverse and challenging sport; there's really no comparison to it. **10.** I came to the Academy because ...

I wanted to prepare for a life after gymnastics. Most NCAA teams don't do that for you.







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SnoFest 2011

Deadlines are approaching quickly to buy tickets for SnoFest 2011 events, including the evening parties, lodging and beer tasting session. See ad below.

Visit **www.usafaservices.com/snofest** for more information on events and how to register.

Air Force Ball

Tickets are now on sale for the Air Force Ball, scheduled for Feb. 18 at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs.

Admission prices per person are as follows:

E-1 to E-3, GS-3 to GS-4 and cadets: \$25

E-4 to E-6 and GS-5: \$35 E-7 to E-9, O-1 to O-3 and GS-6 to

GS-11: \$50 O-4 to O-5 and GS-12 to GS-14: \$75

All others: \$100

Parking is an additional \$8. Tickets must be purchased by Feb. 5. To



Cadet Chapel

BUDDHIST Sundays: 10 a.m. Thursdays: 6:20 p.m.

PROTESTANT WORSHIP Traditional: Sundays, 9 a.m. Contemporary: Sundays, 11.a.m.

CATHOLIC WORSHIP

Mass: Sundays, 10-11 a.m.; Mondays, 5:45-6:15 a.m.; Tuesdays-Thursdays, 7-7:30 p.m. Confession and Adoration: Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m. Holy Days of Obligation: 7 p.m.

JEWISH WORSHIP Shabbath: Fridays, 7 p.m. purchase tickets, contact Capt. Uriah Tobey at 333-7994.

National Prayer Luncheon

The U.S. Air Force Academy National Prayer Luncheon is scheduled for Feb. 10 at 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Falcon Club. The guest speaker will be Marine Lt. Clebe McClary. Tickets can be purchased for \$6 for club members and \$7 for non-club members.

For more information, call the Community Center Chapel at 333-3300.

Community Center activities

The following activities are ongoing at the Community Center. For more information on these or other events, contact Community Activities at 333-2928.

Free Family Movie Night -Today The first movie, "Secretariat," starts

at 6 p.m. The second movie, "You Again," starts at 8 p.m. Soda and popcorn will be for sale.

Bible study

The Community Center Chapel offers a women's Bible study titled "Faithful, Abundant, True: Three Lives Going Deeper Still," featuring Kay Arthur, Beth Moore and Priscilla Shirer, Wednesdays at 9 a.m.

For more information, contact Susan Peoples at 472-9157 or the chapel at 333-3300.

USAFA's Got Talent

The 10th Force Support Squadron is offering prizes, including a weekend getaway at Rocky Mountain Blue, to customers who regularly visit 10th FSS facilities here.

To enter the "USAFA's Got Talent" drawing, pick up a card at any 10th FSS facility and write your name and phone number or e-mail address on the card. Every time you visit a 10th FSS facility, have someone stamp the back of the card.

When the card is completely filled out, drop it into a drop box to enter the drawing.

In addition to the weekend getaway at Rocky Mountain Blue, other prizes include a VIP weekend stay at the Academy, a one-night stay at the Farish Recreation Area or a family fun package comprising bowling, horseback riding and golf.

For more information, go to www. usafaservices.com and click on "USA-FA's Got Talent."

Winter preparation tips

• Check your battery, fluid levels, turn signals, heater and defroster, tires and brakes.

• Keep a windshield scraper and small broom in your car for ice and snow removal.

• Keep your gas tank at least half-full during the winter season.

• Keep a small supply of emergency supplies in your vehicle, including non-perishable snacks, several bottles of water, blankets, matches, extra clothes, a small shovel and battery jumper cables.

Volunteer call

Volunteers are needed for each of the following upcoming events.

• Spouses Club Thrift Shop: The Academy Spouses Club Thrift Shop is seeking new volunteers for its location in the Community Center Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays and the first Saturday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Proceeds from the thrift shop go to Spouses Club scholarships for military family members and other charitable activities that benefit the local community.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Thrift Shop manager Michelle Day at 333-4059 or Thrift Shop chair Cat Donovan at 264-1315.

• Honor Guard: The Academy Honor Guard needs officer and enlisted volunteers who can support two details per month for one year and who can attend training every other Wednesday from 1 to 4 p.m.

Contact Janet Edwards at 333-3323 or Staff Sgt. Hugo Reinor at 333-5621.

A&FRC offerings

DAV Medical Records Review - Monday and Jan. 28, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Individuals within 180 days of retiring or separating can have the Disabled American Veterans review their medical records in preparation for

filing Veterans Administration disability compensation. Call 333-3444 for more information or an appointment.

13

Transition Assistance Program - Jan. 24-28, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

This workshop is designed to provide the knowledge and skills necessary for a successful transition into the civilian workforce. Learn interviewing skills, résumé writing, and networking, Call 333-3444 well in advance to reserve your seat.

Red Carpet Base Tour - Jan. 28, 8:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

This base tour provides information about the Academy's mission and covers many of the events and activities at see and do while stationed here.

Family Advocacy classes

Classes are open to active-duty service members, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and their families. For more information on classes, call Family Advocacy at 333-5270.

Anger Management - Tuesdays, Jan. 18 - Feb. 8, 8 to 9:30 a.m.

Learn simple, innovative techniques for managing your anger and healthier ways to relate to others.

1-2-3 Magic Parenting - Feb. 2 and 8, 9 to 11 a.m.

This class offers easy-to-follow steps for disciplining children without arguing, yelling or spanking.

Laugh Your Way To a Better Marriage - Feb. 7 and 10, 6-7:30 p.m.

Join marriage and family speaker Mark Gungor at the Airman and Family Readiness Center as he explores the underlying dynamics of relationships. The chapel will provide pizza, soda and popcorn. Call 333-5270 to register.

Fitness Center activities

Singles racquetball tournament -

Saturday and Sunday

This double-elimination tournament is open to all Department of Defense employees. Registration is \$15. Contact Dave Castilla at 333-4078 for more information or to register.

Intramural volleyball meeting -Monday, 3:30 p.m.

Letters of intent are due today, with the intramural volleyball preseason beginning on or about Feb. 21 and the regular season to start on or about Feb. 28.

OPEN FOR TOURS Monday-Saturday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday: 1-5 p.m.

Service times are subject to change without notice due to mission requirements. Please call 719-333-2636/4515 for more information.

Community Center Chapel

CATHOLIC WORSHIP

Mass: Saturdays, 4 p.m.; Sundays, 9 a.m.; Tuesdays-Fridays, 11:30 a.m. Reconciliation: Saturdays, 3:30 p.m. Religious formation: Sunday, 10:15 a.m. September-May

PROTESTANT WORSHIP Wednesday Night Live: 6 p.m. Dinner followed by Religious Education September-May Evangelical: Sunday, 10:15 a.m. Gospel: Sunday, 11:30 a.m.





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The Gazette gazette.com	engine 3.5 fully loaded. Excellent condition, AWD- new tires. 40K mi. please call 719-306-9005	put your sudoku sayyy to the test
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Law alling		Sudoku the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each
	It's music	3 2 9 row, column and box. Each number can appear
		only once in each row, column and box. You
	to your	6 4 can figure out the order in which the numbers
		9 3 6 1 will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you
	career.	nome the engine to get to get the puzzle
		Level: Intermediate name, the easier to gets to solve the puzzle!
	springs jo<u>bs</u>	Solution on page 11 01-21-11
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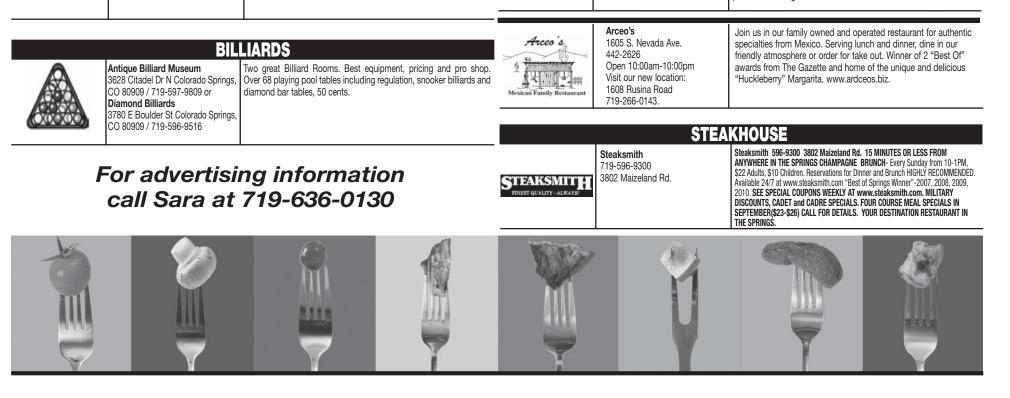
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Academy Spirit FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2011

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