

BRONZE STARS

Two 10th Medical Group noncommissioned officers earn Bronze Stars. **Page 4**

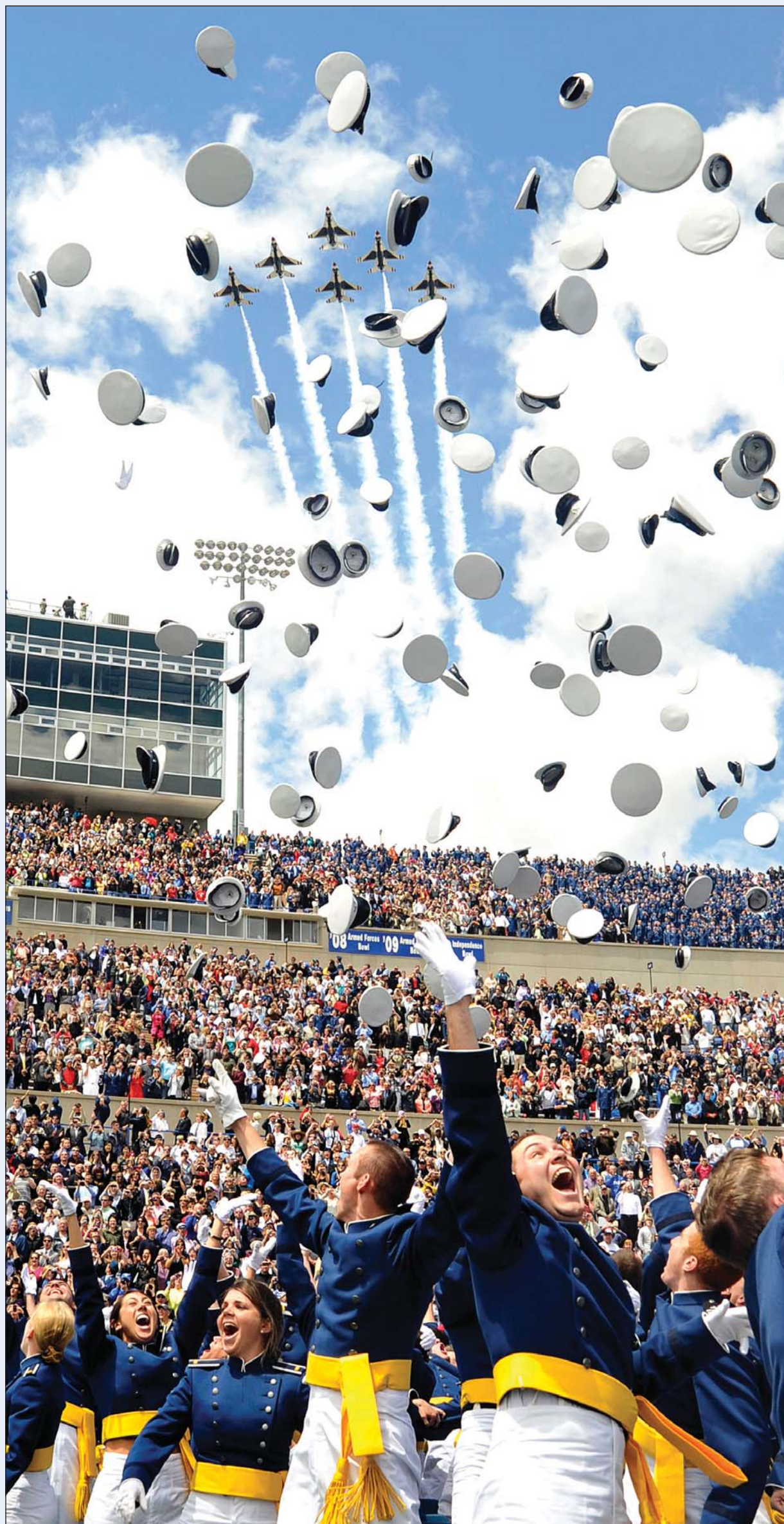
LINGUISTS

Grad, cadet selected for foreign language scholarships. **Page 6**

SCHULTE AWARD

2011 graduate earns character and leadership center's highest honor. **Page 11**

ACADEMY SPIRIT



BILL EVANS

Hats off to the class of 2011!

The 1,021 graduates of the Air Force Academy class of 2011 celebrate becoming second lieutenants May 25 at Falcon Stadium. For more graduation coverage, see Pages 8-9.

New 'milkstool' design could save dollars, backs

By Don Branum
Academy Spirit staff

A C-130 Hercules ramp support platform designed by four cadets here in May could save not only Air Force dollars but also the backs of the loadmasters who currently drag around 75-pound monstrosities.

The newly designed "milkstool," as the ramp support platform is called, would weigh 20 pounds while supporting a Herculean load of up to 61 tons, according to a presentation by Cadets Aadit Patel, Zachary Peters, Jeremy Robben and Joshua Yeaste to the Air Force Academy's Department of Mechanical Engineering on May 5.

The department has begun discussions with the Air Force engineering authority at Robins Air Force Base, Ga., to determine testing requirements for the new milkstool, said Maj. Trent Greenwell, a mechanical engineering instructor who served as the cadets' adviser for the redesign project. The new design could be incorporated into a technical order supplement as early as 2012, depending on when the milkstool fulfills the test requirements.

The cadets began their project in the spring semester as part of their Mechanical Engineering 499 class: an independent study on one of several topics approved by the department head. Cadet Peters, now a senior with Cadet Squadron 24, said the ramp support platform interested him because of its potential application to the operational Air Force.

"One day, a loadmaster could be using what we designed," said Cadet Peters, a native of Columbus, Ohio. "This could help the C-130 community."

Major Greenwell guided the four through a systems engineering process that included preliminary and critical design reviews, development of a prototype and procedure validation and verification.

The cadets began their semester-long project by researching users' requirements. To find out what loadmasters needed from a milkstool, they visited the 52nd Airlift Squadron, part of Air Force Reserve Command's 302nd Airlift Wing at Peterson Air Force Base.

"While in a deployed environment, a loadmaster may lift the milkstool more than 10 times on a normal mission," said Master Sgt. A.K. Roberts, loadmaster superintendent for the 52nd Airlift Squadron at Peterson AFB. "That may not sound like much, but when you take into account the heat and hydration issues that come with flying these missions, a lightweight design would help tremendously."

Loadmasters must also lift the milkstool over cargo or carry it outside the aircraft and in through the crew door due to the cargo configuration -- a process that Sergeant Roberts described as "very cumbersome."

In their Feb. 15 preliminary design review, the cadets concluded the new milkstool must support at least 27,700 pounds without failing, weigh 50 pounds or less -- preferably less than 35 pounds, Cadet Peters said -- and be durable enough to survive the rough working environments in which C-130s take off and land.

"It has to be quickly deployable for combat environments," Cadet Peters said. "And it has to function anywhere in the world, from deserts to tropical environments to the Antarctic, because C-130s fly to all of those locations."

The team brainstormed ideas, including an inflatable bag to a one-column support structure. They faced both budgetary and time constraints, Cadet Peters said.

"We took our timeline and said, 'What's feasible?'" he said.

They presented their ideas in the preliminary design review and opened the floor

See Milkstool Page 6

Academy Superintendent thanks 'Team USAFA'

By Lt. Gen. Mike Gould
Air Force Academy Superintendent

As the class of 2011 moves on to bigger and better things in the Air Force, I'd like to take a moment and thank all the permanent party military and civilians, Reservists, Guardsmen and contractors who worked together to make the 2011 Graduation week a resounding success.

To the 10th Air Base Wing, thank you for pulling everything together at the right time. The Academy has never looked better. The grounds look outstanding -- the bridge construction completion was timely, traffic flow was seamless, and parking was well-executed. Security was present, courteous, and professional -- and all this during Force Protection Condition Bravo. Thank you for showing the public and visiting families how the Academy looks and feels when everything comes together.

To the 306th Flying Training Group, thank you for your timely and accurate weather reports that enabled us to work around the difficult weather we experienced last week. You found ways to get planes in the air which allowed them to pull off flawless performances in the skies above the Academy.

To the Athletic Department, thank you for providing an outstanding venue for 1,021 new lieutenants to finish four challenging years at the Academy. The stadium was in top condition, and graduation was inspiring for those who watched and those who participated. Thank you for keeping the cadets in shape and instilling a workout regimen and spirit of competition they will keep with them for the rest of their lives.

To the Commandant of Cadets and staff, thank you for flawlessly pulling off forty commissioning ceremonies. If it wasn't for your sharp eye, constant tutelage and mentoring, these new second lieutenants would not be ready for the challenges they will soon face. Thank you for the parades, award ceremonies and banquets which put an exclamation point on graduation week activities.

To the Dean and Faculty, thank you for the continu-



Lt. Gen. Mike Gould

ous world-class academic instruction, culminating in tough practical exams that not only prove our cadets are ready to graduate, but also instill confidence in their ability to think for themselves as they venture out into the Air Force after graduation.

To the cadets of '12, '13 and '14 who remain behind looking forward to your day in the spotlight, thank you for keeping the focus of graduation week on the class of 2011 and creating a shining moment for USAFA. Thanks for your perseverance and hard work. I encourage you to reflect on what you've seen and learned, and prepare yourselves to attack the coming year's challenges. Thank you for your dedication to learning how to serve as future leaders in our Air Force.

Thanks to the combined efforts of Team USAFA, Graduation Week 2011 was a remarkable capstone to four years of hard work for the Academy's 53rd graduating class. Over 75 ceremonies, parades, performances and other events took place during Graduation week, and none of it would have been possible without the coordinated efforts of all USAFA personnel. Thank you for your leadership, organizational skills and unselfish contributions that made the 2011 Graduation week a resounding success!

Whether you're a cadet, service member, civilian employee, contractor, or family member; you are the people who make the Air Force Academy what it is. Paula and I salute you, and wish you and yours a safe and exciting summer. Collectively, you made it possible for the 2011 graduates to depart USAFA with fanatical pride in this wonderful institution. Go Falcons!

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Enjoy the summer months ahead, be a good wingman and be safe. Thank you for your service, and all that you do for our Air Force and our nation.

ACADEMY SPIRIT

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

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

AF leaders issue summer safety message

By Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley and Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz

Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day marks the season of greatest risks for our Air Force team. To counter those risks, we will kick off the Critical Days of Summer safety campaign for 2011 on May 28.

Unfortunately, last summer we lost 16 Airmen. While this was an improvement over the 21 lost the previous year, we must strive to do better. The 2011 Air Force goal is zero preventable mishaps and fatalities.

The leading causes of preventable fatalities during the Critical Days of Summer are off-duty private motor vehicle mishaps and drowning.

We therefore emphasize the importance of fastening seatbelts, driving at reasonable speeds and avoiding

situations of driving while distracted, under the influence, fatigued or otherwise impaired. While participating in aquatic activities, we also strongly urge the use of proper equipment such as personal flotation devices and avoiding hazardous areas and dangerous water conditions.

We challenge all Airmen to make this year safer than last. Be each other's wingman. Use risk management principles, both on and off duty, and exercise sound judgment. We encourage each of you to invest a high level of commitment in taking care of one another. Our most important objective for this summer's campaign is protecting military and civilian personnel and their families.

Enjoy the summer months ahead, be a good wingman and be safe. Thank you for your service, and all that you do for our Air Force and our nation.



Frank Serratore
Air Force Hockey Coach

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War memorial: Writing is on the wall

Writings honor fallen, thank the Joint Base Balad staff at Theater Hospital

By Senior Airman Tong Duong
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq (AFNS)—The writing on the walls is clear for all to see.

Servicemembers left messages as a way to commemorate the comrades they had lost. Those who were wounded left their marks to thank medical staff members. Comments from well-wishers also were dotted throughout the room.

With U.S. forces committed to leaving Iraq by year's end, a small group effort is underway to preserve historical artifacts from Joint Base Balad. This includes the contingency aeromedical staging facility's "memorial" walls.

It was around the time of the troop surge in Iraq 2007 that the memorial wall was created, said Dr. Charles Dusch, the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing historian. Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and allied nation soldiers who were waiting to be transported to higher level of care began writing on the walls. Many of them left memorials and tributes to comrades who had fallen and over time the numbers grew.

"You start to see messages from very important people like Air Force Secretary Michael Donley, Army Gens. David Petraeus and Raymond Odierno, football coaches and cheerleaders traveling with the United Service Organizations," the historian said.

Dr. Dusch, a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel deployed from the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., quoted fellow historian Dan



STAFF SGT. KEYONNA FENNELL

Servicemembers' messages to their fellows line the walls of the contingency airlift staging facility at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, in this photo taken May 14. Since the troop surge in 2007, wounded warriors and top military officials have written messages as a way to commemorate their fallen comrades and to thank the Joint Base Balad hospital staff.

Sherman in saying "(Memorials help) transform emotions from grief to honor and a sense of accomplishment."

Dr. Dusch said there aren't many memorials in the world like the CASF walls. Traditionally, a war memorial is put up by someone after the fact, to remember someone.

"The CASF walls were created by

people who actually fought, were wounded, and they had the opportunity to speak and honor one another," he said. "It's become a memorial to Operation Iraqi Freedom, and it could be argued quite possible to the surge."

The messages are individual expressions. Some are very bold, while others are timid and more reserved.

Several are written smaller and more difficult to read, while a couple are larger works of art that stand out.

"It reflects the expression that those individuals at that moment in history ... what was in their hearts and foremost in their minds at that time, and we have that captured here at the Air Force Theater Hospital at Joint Base Balad," Dr. Dusch said.

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Academy medics awarded Bronze Stars

By Leslie Finstein
Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Two enlisted medics from the Air Force Academy's 10th Medical Group were recently awarded the Bronze Star Medal for their actions in support of overseas contingency operations.

Staff Sgt. Alicia Chavez, 10th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, and Staff Sgt. Earnest Aziz, 10th Surgical Operations Squadron, served in Iraq and Afghanistan, respectively, from September 2010 to March 2011, and it was their actions while deployed that earned them this high military honor.

Sergeant Aziz, a surgical technician, served in Afghanistan as a part of the 655th Forward Surgical Team. While at the unit's forward operating base Ghanzi's Polish Hospital, he took on the role of laboratory and logistics technician. He also assumed the role of lead operating room technician.

According to his Bronze Star award package, Sergeant Aziz was recognized by leadership from the FST, Combined Joint Task Force White Eagle and Task Force Medical-East Logistics as a key contributor to the success of the FST mission.

Some of those contributions include;

- Saving the lives of 45 critical patients, some of which were under indirect fire.
- Managing more than 300 laboratory exams, nine during mass casualty events
- Assisting in two whole blood drives, which saved the lives of four local nationals

In addition to treating patients and assisting surgeries, Sergeant Aziz was responsible for a \$15 million budget for medical materiel and equipment. In this role, he identified and eliminated waste and worked to streamline transfer protocols for containers on and off the base.

While Sergeant Aziz earned his medal in Afghanistan performing his medical duties, Sergeant Chavez earned her Bronze Star for the humanitarian work she undertook in Iraq.

Sergeant Chavez is an independent duty medical technician serving in the Academy's cadet clinic. During her deployment to Iraq, she served as the



Staff Sgt. Earnest Aziz



Staff Sgt. Alicia Chavez

medical, media, and humanitarian assistance combat advisor for the Operational Partnership Team in the Basra Operations Command. Originally she was sent there to serve as a traditional medic, said Sergeant Chavez, but that role was already filled by a doctor on base, so she found herself working on humanitarian projects.

During her months in Iraq, Sergeant Chavez worked on coordinating and developing humanitarian aid projects to help the local population.

"Where our camp was, in the middle of no where, we saw people who had nothing," Sergeant Chavez said. "There was trash everywhere, really grubby clothes, and not enough food. It's really sad - we're out there with all these people and we have everything. Even the Iraqi army had little in the way of supplies. How could we not do something?"

Her biggest project was a medical civilian military operation in March. The event brought together eight Iraqi doctors with eight American doctors and medics working as consultants to treat more than 400 patients.

Another humanitarian effort organized and developed by Sergeant Chavez was the donation of blankets, heaters, school supplies and many other items to the Basra community. This effort received great praise in her Bronze Star award package. She worked with Embry Riddle and Old Dominion Universities to raise funds for blankets and heat-

ers, and with elementary schools in Arizona for the school supplies. Sergeant Chavez also facilitated a letter exchange between the American and Iraqi elementary school students, which she hopes will continue when school goes back in session next fall.

The two staff sergeants may have had different experiences to earn the medal, but both felt the same on receiving it: shocked.

"I was shocked," said Sergeant Chavez. "I've always heard about others receiving Bronze Stars for combat or huge events, so I didn't expect it. It's really exciting."

"I was amazed to find out that I was put in for a Bronze Star," Sergeant Aziz said. "It should have gone to my whole team, not just to me."

The leadership of the Academy's 10th Medical Group expressed great pride in the awards and accomplishments Sergeants Aziz and Chavez earned while deployed.

"The accomplishments of Sergeant Aziz and Sergeant Chavez shine a bright light on the enlisted men and women of the 10th MG," said Col. Anne Sproul, 10th MG commander. "We are certainly proud of them and know they will both continue to do great things for the Academy and the United States Air Force."

Col. Karen Heupel, commander of the 10th AMS extended her appreciation for Sergeant Chavez' accomplishments.

"I am proud of Sergeant Chavez," she said. "It is rare to see an enlisted medic earn a Bronze Star, so it was well earned!"

Col. Annette Gablehouse, commander of the 10th SOS, wasn't surprised to see how well her NCO performed in the deployed environment.

"Sergeant Aziz has in-depth knowledge of all aspects of surgical techniques, instrumentation, and sterilization which make him the ideal deployed surgical technician to care for traumatically injured troops," she said. "Sergeant Aziz is the go-to resource to accomplish the mission and is well deserving of the Bronze Star."

Slavic club builds bridges with local colleges

By David Edwards
Academy Spirit Staff Writer

A Russian proverb asserts that it is better to have 100 friends than 100 rubles. And considering that nowadays 100 rubles is worth about \$3, the proverb is more true than ever. So the Air Force Academy's Slavic Studies Club is taking that wisdom to heart.

For the past several months, Dr. Dave Sacko, a political science professor and the adviser of the club, has been engaging with fellow Russophiles at Colorado College. Toward the end of the academic year, his efforts started to yield a partnership that he hopes to continue next year and beyond.

Both institutions boast vibrant Russian programs, and both strive to provide cultural experiences for Russian language students. At CC, each language taught has a corresponding language house that is staffed by a native speaker who serves as the cultural activities coordinator.

Because Russian has been deemed a critical language by the Department of Defense and other branches of the federal government, the Russian program is an integral part of the foreign

language department at the Academy.

The Slavic Studies Club serves much the same purpose as the Russian House at CC, and Dr. Sacko was thrilled to learn he had a counterpart at a neighboring university. This past school year, the Russian cultural coordinator was Yulia Rogovaya, a resident of St. Petersburg, Russia.

After an extended game of email tag, Dr. Sacko and Ms. Rogovaya were able to settle on a mutually convenient time and date, and Academy representatives attended one of regularly held Russian teas at CC.

They believe the conversation and collaboration will lead to even bigger things next year.

"I think there's a (good) possibility that we could do something with CC next semester," said Cadet 2nd Class Jay Zeigler, one of the two cadets in charge. "It seemed like they're looking for more stuff to do as well, and if we pool our efforts, it could prove beneficial for both of our groups."

Cadet Zeigler also said early indications lead him to believe that attendance at club events will increase next year. The membership list has about 60 names, but Dr. Sacko said the level

of participation can vary widely from one event to the next.

In terms of numbers, the Academy has the stronger program on both the language and cultural fronts, but CC Russian professor Aleksei Pavlenko has spent years developing contacts as well as the program itself.

Like many Academy cadets, the Russian students at CC are offered a wealth of opportunities to gain exposure to the country Winston Churchill famously described as "a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma."

As a direct result of Dr. Pavlenko's efforts, CC caught the eye of Tatiana Nikolskaya, a professor of Russian literature at the Gorki Literary Institute in Moscow. She now spends a significant portion of the year as a visiting professor in Colorado Springs. Mrs. Nikolskaya has also toured the Air Force Academy and met her counterparts in the Russian program. It appears likely that next year, CC will bring a group and return the favor, given the overwhelmingly positive response to the Russian tea.

"I had a really nice conversation with the professors," Ms. Rogovaya said. "I think our students would

love to have a partnership with (the) USAFA club. (Many) of our most involved students were in Russia at that time, but still there were a lot of people who attended the event."

The Academy and Colorado College share a history of banding together in a variety of events, so a partnership between their Russian programs would seem like a natural next step. Among the other long-standing partnerships the annual foreign affairs symposium for high school students and the Colorado Springs Undergraduate Research Forum -- which was hosted by the Academy this year -- stand out.

If the partnership between the two Russian programs is to continue, however, it will have to do so without Ms. Rogovaya. Her predecessor's stint as cultural coordinator lasted two years, but Ms. Rogovaya is returning to Russia to work on a master's degree. However, now that Dr. Sacko and the cadet leadership of the Slavic Studies Club are aware of their nearby colleagues, they look forward to nurturing the newfound relationship.

The payoff could very well be the proverbial "sto druzey," or, as we say in English, 100 friends.

Air Force clubs offer Airmen road to education

by Brian McGloin
502nd Air Base Wing OL-B Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) —The road to higher education can be a little easier for members of Air Force clubs around the world, or their dependents, through the 2011 Club Membership Scholarship program, officials said.

“Twenty-five \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to club members or their families attending or accepted to attend a college or university,” said Shelta Reese, of the 902nd Force Support Squadron.

“Current Air Force Club members and their family members who have been accepted by or are enrolled in an accredited college or university for entry during the fall-of-2011 term as a part-time or full-time student are eligible.”

She said that includes dependent grandchildren of members, spouses and children. It also includes graduate and undergraduate students.

“We want to help club members with the costs of higher education, and this is a way for the clubs to reward their members,” Ms. Reese said of the annual scholarship, now

in its 15th consecutive year. “We consider it a benefit of membership.”

To apply for the scholarship, applicants must submit an essay of 500 words or less on the theme, “My contribution(s) to the Air Force.” To qualify, the essays must conform to a standardized style, including the applicant’s name, date and word count.

The applications need to be in Microsoft Word format in 12-point Arial or Times New Roman font, single spaced in the paragraph but double spaced between paragraphs. Essays must be submitted both on CD and in printed form. In addition, applicants must provide a copy of their college or university acceptance letter for new students or the latest transcript for continuing students.

Examples are provided on the application form.

Application forms are available at www.afclubs.net, and application packages need to be turned in to your base force support squadron office by July 1.

Final scholarship awards for the upcoming school year will be announced in mid September.

DIAMOND SHARP



The Diamond Sharp Award is presented by Air Force Academy first sergeants to any Academy member who displays outstanding military bearing, core values, customer service, and/or outstanding dress and appearance.

Name: Staff Sgt. Nicole Jensen

Unit: 10th Security Forces Squadron

Job: Military working dog handler

Hometown: Denver

Best part of the job: “The best part of my job is getting to train my military working dog. It’s great to have your best friend by your side, ready to protect you no matter what.”

Career goals: To continue to be a military working dog handler and eventually work for a civilian agency (as a handler) if I decide to get out of the Air Force someday.

Hobbies: Snowboarding, hiking, wakeboarding and traveling



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Former, current cadets land foreign-language scholarships

By David Edwards
Academy Spirit staff

A recent Academy graduate and a current cadet were recently selected to participate in a State Department sponsored language scholarship.

Cadet 2nd Class Jon Kim and 2nd Lt. Alexander Hillman were each awarded a Critical Language Scholarship that will lead them to China and Russia respectively for several weeks of language study and cultural immersion.

Cadet Kim and Lieutenant Hillman are among the approximately 575 U.S. undergraduate and graduate students who received a scholarship from the CLS Program in 2011.

Languages deemed critical by the federal government include Arabic, Azerbaijani, Bengali, Chinese, Hindi, Korean, Indonesian, Japanese, Persian, Punjabi, Russian, Turkish and Urdu. At the Air Force Academy, four of those languages are taught.

Lieutenant Hillman, a member of the Academy's Class of 2011, is headed to Kazan, the capital of Russia's Tatarstan region.

During his two months there, Lieutenant Hillman will live with a host family and soak up as much of Russia as he can. His selection is a testament to perseverance. He applied for the scholarship last year but was selected as an alternate, not a finalist.

"I thought that I was good enough last year, so I swallowed my pride and applied again for this summer," he said. "I was selected as a primary, and I was absolutely ecstatic about it. I feel like I've waited my time for this prestigious award, and I am ready to make the best of my time in Russia."

He aims to achieve proficiency in both Russian and Ukrainian, which share a great deal of similarity. With his extensive travels to Russia and Ukraine, the contacts he's developed along the way, and a rapidly improving grasp of the two languages, Lieutenant Hillman hopes the scholarship will serve as the next step toward his personal and professional goals.

"I feel that the Air Force is short on officers with true Russian proficiency who are not former religious missionaries or immigrants to the United States after a childhood in their home

country," he said. "A 'policy restart' between Russia and America is important, and I want to be part of the core of company grade officers who actually lead this charge with cross-cultural knowledge and global citizenship."

A similar set of motivations is inspiring Cadet Kim's journey, which begins two days after Lieutenant Hillman's. He is traveling to Shanghai, a familiar destination for him.

Besides advancing his abilities in Chinese, Cadet Kim is looking ahead to medical school. In 2009, he made his first trip to China and met some medical students from Johns Hopkins University who were learning medicine and science from a Chinese perspective. He envisions a future for himself with that same pairing of interests.

"My personal goal is to become completely fluent in Mandarin," Cadet Kim said. "I would like to be able to speak Mandarin well enough so that Chinese people won't be able to tell that I'm American."

In addition to classroom training, a tutor will conduct daily afternoon sessions to help students apply the classroom instruction to real life and im-

prove their pronunciation and flow.

Cadet Kim said he is excited about the format and believes it will pay big dividends for him.

"I'm most excited for the opportunity to solely focus my studies on Chinese for the summer," he said. "As tough as Chinese is, I love the challenge and can't wait to see how much I can improve over the summer."

Cadet Kim and Lieutenant Hillman were selected for Critical Language Scholarships from a pool of more than 5,000 applicants this year. The CLS Program provides fully-funded, group-based intensive language instruction and structured cultural enrichment experiences. Participants are expected to continue their language study beyond the scholarship and apply their critical language skills in their future professional careers.

The State Department launched the program in 2006 to increase opportunities for American students to study critical-need languages overseas. The program is part of a wider U.S. government effort to expand the number of Americans studying and mastering critical languages.

Milkstools

from Page 1

to suggestions from Mechanical Engineering instructors and staff. They got support from instructor Maj. Matthew Obenchain and materials scientist Megan LaBahn, along with others, Cadet Peters said.

After the first review, the cadets split their responsibilities: materials, manufacturing, modeling and analysis. Cadet Peters took charge of materials.

"I started out with 7075 aluminum for initial analysis," he said. "I used some information that Ms. LaBahn gave me." Aluminum 7075 is an alloy of aluminum, zinc, magnesium and copper used in some airframes. Unfortunately, it turned out to be too rare for the cadets to procure it, and the second option was also out. The group went back to the drawing board.

"We ended up going with 6061-T6 aluminum," Cadet Peters said. "It's lightweight, really cheap and readily available in sizes we could work with."

While the 6061-T6 metal has less tensile strength than 7075 aluminum, it proved to be sufficient for the cadets. Their design, which incorporates four

columns with flat top and bottom surfaces, withstood nearly 4½ times the required weight without permanent deformation, Major Greenwell said.

The team received the prototype just in time to present it at the Colorado Springs Undergraduate Research Forum, where it received glowing reviews, Cadet Peters said.

"People loved it. Everyone who was there for our presentations wanted to stay afterward and talk to us about it," he said.

One reason why visitors to CSURF liked the prototype might be the production cost: from \$100 to \$150 apiece, according to Major Greenwell.

"A maintenance shop could build it from easy-to-find parts," Cadet Peters said. "They could weld it together ... and put the wooden deck on top of it to fit the ramp if they needed a spare."

The simplicity and ease of construction would allow the Air Force to bypass the process of seeking outside vendors or sourcing a contract to build the new ramp supports, Major



TECH. SGT. JEFFREY ALLEN

Sitting on this C-130 Hercules' cargo ramp is a "milkstool": a ramp support platform that may be replaced with a more lightweight version designed by Air Force Academy cadets.

Greenwell said.

While the independent study is complete and the prototype built, the four-cadet team hasn't seen the last of their milkstool. Cadet Peters seemed okay with that possibility.

"I enjoyed the project a lot," he said. "Our team really worked well together,

and Major Greenwell and the people in the (mechanical engineering) lab helped us out a lot. We worked hard, but we had fun, and we're happy with what we got out of it."

And if all goes well at Robins, a lot of other Airmen might be happy with it, too.

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Joining the Air Force Family

Reception with senior leaders welcomes cadets and fiance(e)s to the Air Force

By Leslie Finstein
Academy Spirit staff

The day before Air Force Academy cadets of the class of 2011 became second lieutenants, Academy senior leaders took time to introduce them and their fiance(e)'s to Air Force life.

At the Otis House reception hosted by Amy Clark, the wife of Brig. Gen. Richard Clark, the commandant of cadets, graduating cadets took time with their future spouses to relax, meet one another's significant others and learn about life as an Air Force husband or wife.

"It serves a need, giving new spouses a chance to talk to experienced spouses," said Donna Rosa, the consultant of cadet social decorum. "It's to help new spouses understand there is a really big support system for them. It's the help behind the scenes that they need to know about."

Mrs. Rosa, who organizes many of the social decorum classes available to cadets, said this event is part of that training. However, instead of only reaching cadets, it also reaches their significant others and shows cadets how to support them as they transition together to married life in the Air Force.

The cadets and their future spouses to be seemed to enjoy the opportunity to mingle. For many cadets and their incoming Air Force spouses, the thing they are looking forward to most about Air Force life is the travel and new experiences that it offers.

Cadet 1st Class Josh Monroe of Cadet Squadron 12 and his fiancée, Melissa Hogan, said the best advice they got was to keep their families first.

"Even though it's a little harder, with so much attention on the job, you need to keep family first," Ms. Hogan said.

Cadet 1st Class Andrew Miller of CS03, who came with his fiancée, Carla Egner, said the best advice he got was to keep his wife-to-be happy - words that came from General Clark. Ms. Egner said that she was happy to learn about the support network provided by spouses clubs.

"We came to the reception to socialize with everyone and get advice from people who have been there before," Cadet Miller said.

Those who had been there before were many mem-

bers of the Academy's senior leadership. Attendees included Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Mike Gould and his wife, Paula Gould; Dean of Faculty Brig. Gen. Dana Born and her husband, Timothy Born; Mobilization Assistant to the Superintendent Brig. Gen. Catherine Chilton; and Jen Plamp, president of the Air Force Academy Spouses Club and the wife of 306th Flight Training Group Commander Col. Christopher Plamp.

The senior leaders took time to talk to the cadets and share with them the best advice they had after years of Air Force family life.

"Family comes first," General Clark said. "You've got to take care of your family. You may be in the Air Force 20, 30 years, but you're married for the rest of your life."

"As soon as you move to a new base, it's important to get plugged in and settled right away because you never know how long you are going to be somewhere," Mrs. Clark added. "Get out, meet people, get settled into your new home, because you might be there for one year or four years and you never know."

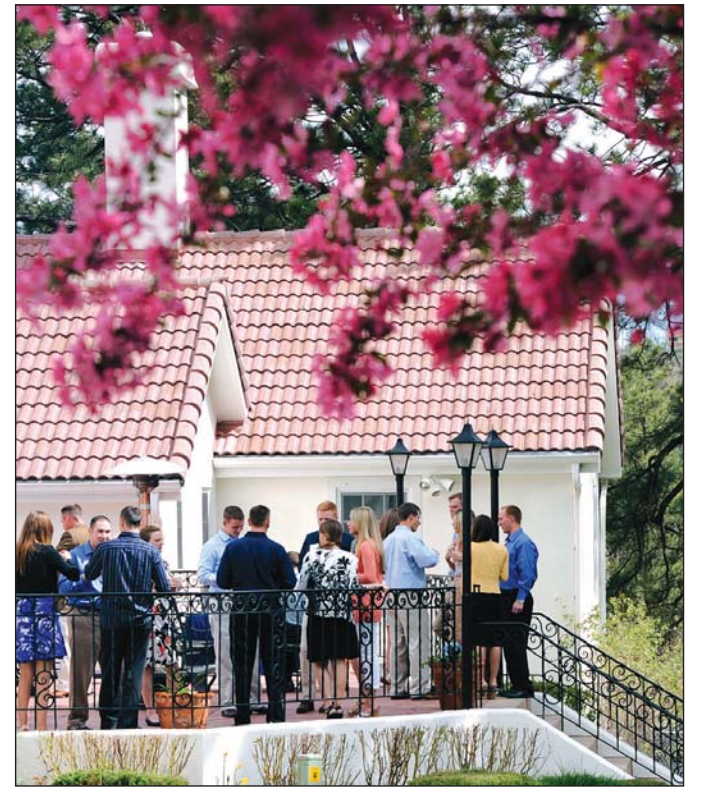
General Born's advice was sweet and simple: "When you spend every day with your best friend, it gets better every day."

Mr. Born, who spent 21 years as an officer in the Marine Corps, advised cadets who are marrying other cadets not to worry about being separated by their jobs.

"The military makes a concerted effort to keep family at the top of the list," he said.

As a parting gift, courtesy of the Air Force Academy Spouses Club, each young couple received a hand painted ceramic plate that said, "Home is where the Air Force sends you."

Words that every Air Force family lives by.



Cadets and their dates mingle on the back porch of the Air Force Academy's Otis House, official residence of the commandant of cadets.



PHOTOS BY RAY MCCOY

Cadets speak with Paula Gould, wife of Air Force Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Mike Gould at the Fiance(e)s Reception. This event, hosted by the commandant of cadets was part of graduation week activities for the class of 2011.

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BILL EVANS

Class of 2011 cadets march into Falcon Stadium to kick off their graduation ceremony May 25.



RAY MCCOY

The Air Force Thunderbirds Aerial Demonstration Squadron performs an air show for a crowd of about 25,000 people after the graduation ceremony.



BILL EVANS

Cadet 1st Class Evan Washington receives his diploma from Secretary of the Air Force Michael B. Donley. Cadet Washington, now a second lieutenant, is a native of Columbus, Ohio.

'You are dismissed!'

By Don Branum
Academy Spirit staff

The secretary of the Air Force spoke at the commencement address for the Air Force Academy's Class of 2011 at Falcon Stadium May 25.

Michael B. Donley congratulated the 1,021 graduates and challenged them to be lifelong learners, team players and doers after they received their diplomas and their commissions.

"I know you couldn't be prouder today," Secretary Donley said to the graduates' parents and family members. "We've raised men and women with the desire, drive and patriotism to succeed at one of the most prestigious universities in the world."

The secretary also thanked the Academy's faculty and staff for their efforts in developing the Air Force's next generation of leaders.

"Thank you for your dedication to the development of these young cadets who have been under your care," he said. "Your tireless efforts have produced leaders with the character, the physical stamina, the academic credentials and the military skills our Air Force demands."

Lt. Gen. Mike Gould, the Academy superintendent, welcomed distinguished guests, parents and family members and joined both Secretary Donley and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz in congratulating the Academy's 53rd graduating class.

"We have challenged these graduates militarily, physically and academically," General Gould said. "The Class of 2011 has demonstrated steadfast resiliency and ... the character traits needed to lead our nation in the decades to come."

The graduation ceremony is a launching pad both for the graduates and for the future of the Air Force itself, Secretary Donley said.

"Continue, and embrace your lifelong education," he said. "I think you will find that you would always like to have more training, more degrees, more languages under your belt. You can always keep learning."

The secretary encouraged the graduates to continue building relationships like the ones they have built during

their four years at the Academy. "National and international security are team sports, and our nations will depend on the coalitions that you can bring together," he said. "It will be absolutely critical as you work with your joint partners on the U.S. (Department of Defense) team, your fellows in other government security agencies and our coalition partners."

Secretary Donley also challenged the new lieutenants to look for ways to contribute to the units in which they serve.

"In the words of Tommy Lasorda, there are three types of batters, and by extension, three types of people: Those who make it happen, those who watch it happen and those who wonder what happened," he said. "My advice to you is to be in the first group: we need Airmen who make it happen."

The new second lieutenants will step into leadership roles amid an Air Force in transition, Secretary Donley said. Increasing numbers of Airmen are entering space, cyberspace and acquisition career fields.

More officers will also enter remotely piloted aircraft fields as the Air Force evolves, with 32 lieutenants from the Class of 2011 entering the RPA pilot career path.

"RPAs have become important assets particularly in the current fight, and there is no doubt they will remain a permanent fixture in our Air Force," he said. "Our RPA force will produce more pilots than our fighter training units this year."

What has not changed is the Air Force Core Values: Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence in All We Do, Secretary Donley said. These core values form the anchor for Airmen's military service.

The oath of office also remains unchanged and binds Air Force Academy graduates with their fellow military officers, the secretary said.

"Your oath of office ... is your head-to-toe promise to your country, your fellow servicemembers, your families and yourselves. Wherever you go in our Air Force ... this oath will bind you together. It will bind you with the generations of Americans before you who have worn the nation's cloth and have sacrificed ... their lives in defense

of this country's freedom. And it will bind you and your story to the future security and success of our nation."

The Air Force will need everything its new officers can offer because the nation's security is tied directly to its Airmen, Secretary Donley said.

"No matter how advanced our systems and technology, we still depend on the education, the training, the commitment and, ultimately, the quality of our Airmen to support these systems and put them to work in our nation's defense," he said.

The secretary encouraged Class of 2011 graduates to continue to look to the Air Force's senior NCO corps as well as its officer corps for mentorship, as they will quickly need to step into leadership roles themselves.

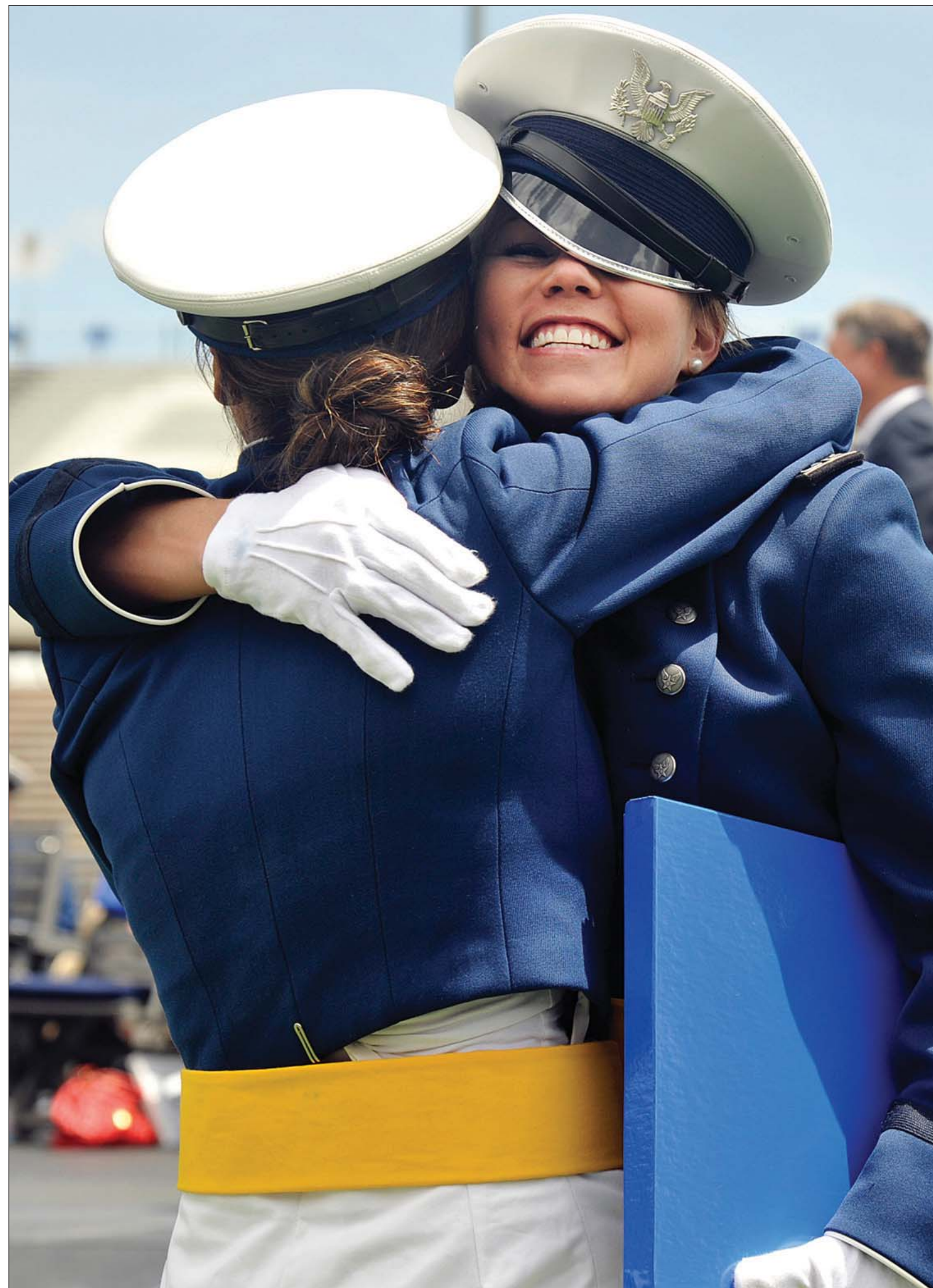
"We will graduate approximately 3,300 officers this year from the Academy, ROTC programs and Officer Training Schools, but meanwhile, 29,000 new enlisted Airmen will join the Air Force," he said. "They will look to you for guidance and leadership. We are counting on you to use your education and training to the fullest."

Secretary Donley concluded by charging the new officers to "make this count."

"Know that we are proud of you, that General Schwartz and the rest of our leadership team are committed to your future success, and that there's no Air Force leader, past or present — not even General Olds himself were he alive today — who does not envy the future ahead of you," he said.

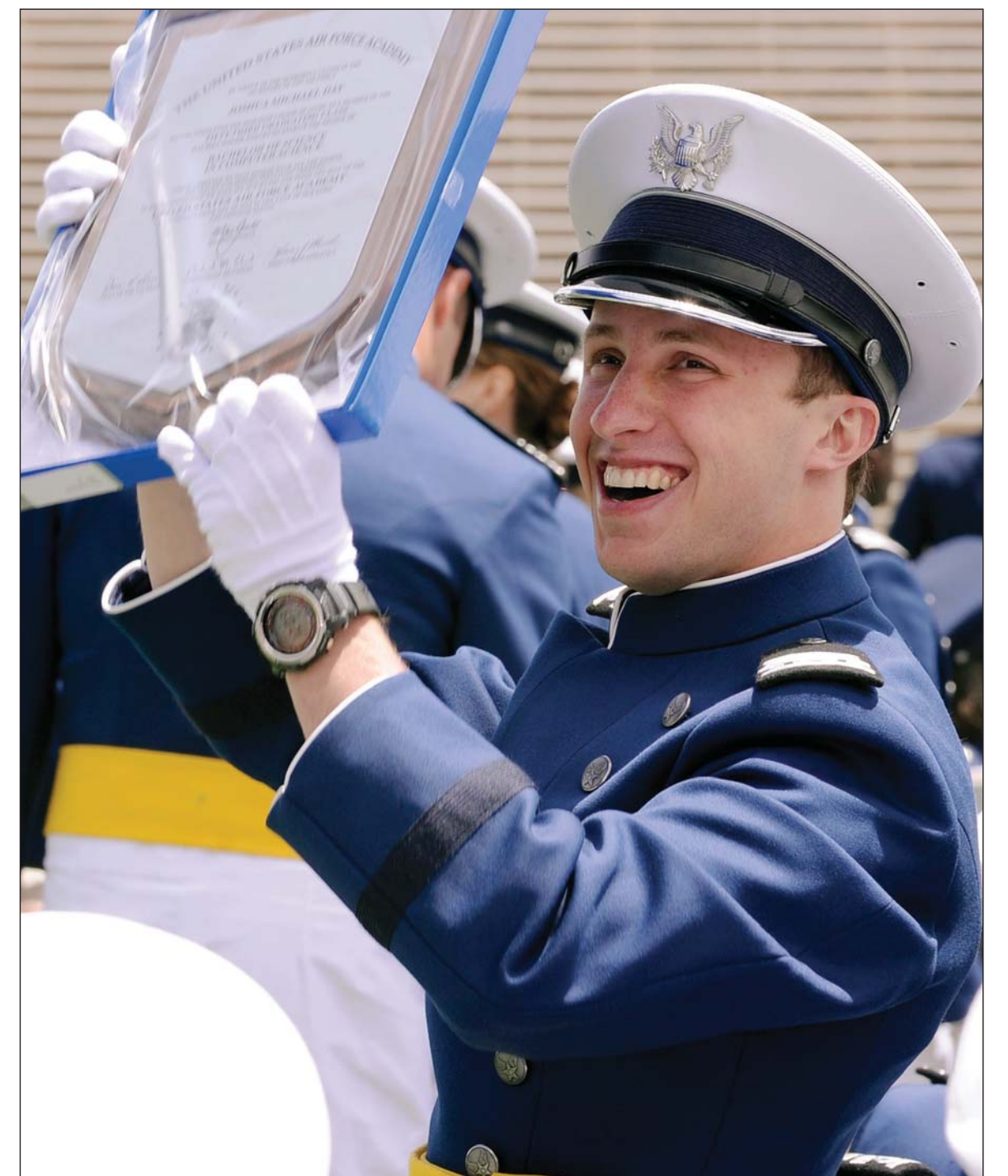
Distinguished audience members in attendance included:

- **Janine Sijan Rozina**, the sister of Medal of Honor recipient Capt. Lance Sijan;
- **Jane LeMay Lodge**, the daughter of fifth Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Curtis LeMay;
- **Sue Ross**, a member of the Academy's Board of Visitors;
- **Cindy McCain**, the wife of Arizona Sen. John McCain;
- Medal of Honor recipient **Col. Bud Day**, whose grandson, Joshua, was among the 1,021 graduates; and
- **Christina Olds**, one of the daughters of the late Brig. Gen. Robin Olds, who was the Class of 2011's cadet exemplar.



BILL EVANS

Cadet 1st Class Brittany Dutton hugs a classmate after receiving her diploma from Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley at the Air Force Academy's 2011 graduation ceremony in Falcon Stadium. The former women's gymnastics team captain is a native of Tucker, Ga.



MIKE KAPLAN

Newly commissioned 2nd Lt. Joshua Day holds up his diploma during the Air Force Academy's Class of 2011 graduation ceremony in Falcon Stadium May 25. The Class of 2011 is the Academy's 53rd graduating class.

Best foot forward

Laughlin Airman, Air Force Academy grad first amputee to graduate from pilot training

By Senior Airman Scott Saldukas
47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Earning the coveted silver pilot wings is a long and difficult journey allowing only a small percentage of officers to earn the right to be called a pilot in the U.S. Air Force.

By becoming the first amputee to graduate from pilot training, 1st Lt. Ryan P. McGuire earned his spot among the elite group May 20, along with the rest of Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training class 11-09, but his dream didn't come easily.

Lieutenant McGuire's injury occurred Labor Day weekend in 2009 during a boating trip. After getting a tube-tow rope tangled around his leg, he was yanked from the boat while jetting across the lake at 40 miles per hour. He dislocated his hip, fractured his pelvis and mangled his right foot.

"At the beginning, when it first happened, it wasn't that bad," Lieutenant McGuire said. "But then it started to get progressively worse. Tissue started to die very slowly after we got there, but we thought everything was going to be ok. After it was getting worse and once the realization set in that I was going to have something amputated, it was pretty devastating."

Doctors at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, where the 2008 Air Force Academy graduate was admitted, tried to prevent the dying tissue from spreading.

While in the hospital trying to stay optimistic about what his next step would be, one moment stood out that gave him hope.

Lieutenant McGuire and his mother were in the hospital before beginning rehab when they saw a Soldier walking down the hall. The Soldier stopped to ask Lieutenant McGuire when his amputation had taken place. The lieutenant revealed that it had been only a few weeks. The Soldier said his was just a year prior, and walked away.

"He was wearing pants and I had no idea he had a prosthetic," Lieutenant McGuire said. "I will never forget that moment and the amount of hope I gained."

About five days after his surgery, he began his rehabilitation process, which was the first of many feats needed to reach his goal of staying in the Air Force.

"It's really difficult before you get your (prosthetic) leg to keep up the motivation and it is really frustrating to be on crutches or in a wheelchair," Lieutenant McGuire said. "My therapist and I developed a plan to get me out of the hospital as quickly as possible but still rehab at 110 percent."

He noted that his injury was always in the front of his mind and he thought being a pilot really wasn't attainable because there were so many boundaries he had to overcome.

"First, it was a big obstacle to stay in the Air Force," Lieutenant McGuire said. "When we found out, my mom started screaming she was so happy."

Two months after being notified that he was able to stay on active duty,

Lieutenant McGuire got a phone call from his flight doctor with more good news.

"I was at work when he called and told me I was able to go back to pilot training," he said. "They were always a step ahead and it was nice to know that I was not forgotten."

Fighting for a second chance to fly was a no brainer for his mother.

"I remember asking specifically if he would ever fly, and they said no," said Debbie McGuire, Lieutenant McGuire's mother. "It just showed that you have to keep trying. Never, ever give up. And this is the combination of that and I know he has wanted this for so long. It's just amazing."

Lieutenant McGuire had planes on his mind since he was young, his mother said.

"I remember way back when he was little, when he was about four, and you asked him 'What do you want for your birthday?', and he would just say 'airplanes,'" his mom said. "We would ask him what else he would like and he said 'just airplanes.' He always wanted to fly. That's all he ever wanted to do."

While staying positive and not taking no for an answer allowed him to get back to pilot training, he accomplished a few things before completing the yearlong course.

"Shortly after learning to walk on my prosthetic, my therapist and I walked 26.2 miles together," he said. "It was a 10 hour and 57 minute hike through the White Sands Missile Range (in) New Mexico. When I crossed the finish line, I started to see what focus and hard work can do."

Still, within a year of receiving the below-the-knee amputation, he also competed in the inaugural Warrior Games at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo., and completed the Air Force Marathon at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. The combination of those feats and the fact they were accomplished on one leg earned him the Air Education and Training Command Male Athlete of the Year title for 2010.

"He has the stubbornness from both his dad and me to go out and do what



AIRMAN 1ST CLASS BLAKE MIZE

First Lt. Ryan McGuire embraces his mother May 20 at Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, after graduating from Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training. Lieutenant McGuire became the first person to graduate Air Force pilot training as an amputee.

it takes to get it done," his mother said. "I think he is more like his dad in that he can stay so focused and see it through to the end. When there's a lot of other things going on around him, he can just stay right on task."

Staying on track is what he did while wrapping up the final phase of his pilot training just like any other graduate.

"Before I became his flight commander, I flew with the flight for about four months," said Capt. Calford Morris, the 86th Flying Training Squadron K flight commander. "I didn't even know Ryan was an amputee. I heard the story, but I didn't put the face with the name. I actually flew with him for the first time before I found that out. You could not tell at all."

His seamless execution during his training allowed him to be the first amputee to ever complete pilot training.

"We made sure that we proved the argument that I can do this," Lieutenant McGuire said. "I am just as capable as anyone else. We did all the training excessively to prove I can do this and that gave me the confidence to get back in the plane. My first instructor, I don't even think he knew I had a prosthetic. I wasn't graded any easier. I was graded like everyone else."

On May 20, after beginning pilot training in 2008, Lieutenant McGuire

graduated pilot training and his family was there to pin on his wings.

"This is probably the best day of my life," Lieutenant McGuire said. "Unfortunately, I had some of the worst days over the last couple of years and this is a complete 180 and something that I thought that was impossible. It hasn't sunk in and I don't think it will for a while. It's been a long time coming."

His hard work to earn his wings did not go unrecognized during his time here. Lieutenant McGuire was also awarded the Daedalian Award during class 11-09's graduation ceremony.

"It is an award based on performance and character as they relate to the tenets of the Order of Daedalians," said Lt. Col. John Binder, the 47th Operations Support Squadron commander. "The tenets are military aviation, integrity and patriotism. It's a whole person award when it comes to military aviation."

Lieutenant McGuire will be moving on to C-17 Globemaster III training at Altus AFB, Okla., and then to McChord Air Force Base, Wash., where he will be stationed.

"I hope this shows people to never give up on their dream," Lieutenant McGuire said. "I worked extremely hard to get where I was before the accident and had to work even harder to get where I am now. You have to keep your goals in mind and have faith in yourself."



PHOTOS BY BOB OWEN. COPYRIGHT 2011 SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS-NEWS, REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION

First Lt. Ryan McGuire, who has graduated from pilot training at Laughlin AFB in Del Rio, Texas, prepares for a flight on a T-1 Jayhawk trainer. Lieutenant McGuire overcame a potentially career-ending leg amputation to continue with training,

Summer wing commander earns 2011 Schulte Award

By David Edwards
Academy Spirit Staff Writer

One day before Cadet 1st Class Megan Hoskins received her diploma from the Air Force Academy, she was handed something else four years in the making.

Cadet Hoskins became the 2011 recipient of the 1st Lt. Roslyn L. Schulte Award at a ceremony May 24 in the McDermott Library. She was one of nine finalists in the Academy's 53rd graduating class.

The award, which is the Center for Character and Leadership Development's crowning achievement, is named for a 2006 Academy grad who was killed by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan in 2009.

Surrounded by dignitaries befitting the occasion, including Lieutenant Schulte's parents, the nine award nominees listened to some parting leadership advice dispensed by retired Gen. Stephen Lorenz, the president of the Air Force Academy Endowment, and Col. Joseph Sanders III, the CCLD director.

The audience also heard from Dr. Fran Pilch, the Academy political science professor who was Lieutenant Schulte's academic adviser. She

spoke lovingly of the young woman for whom the award is named and recalled how trying it was for her to express the department's grief to the news media upon hearing that Lieutenant Schulte had been killed.

After getting a sense of the lofty company they were in, the soon-to-be officers received their leadership charge from General Lorenz in the form of a quotation from former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill:

"To every person, there comes in their lifetime that special moment when they are tapped on the shoulder and offered that chance to do a very special thing, unique to them and fitted to their talents. What a tragedy if that moment finds them unprepared and unqualified for the work that would be their finest hour."

All nine nominees then received plaques in recognition of their accomplishments as budding leaders. In addition to Cadet Hoskins, the award finalists were Cadets 1st Class Lauren Allison, Matthew Avila, Alex Choi, Joe Cortez, Erin Green, Steven Lauver, Alex Parmater and Obura Tongoi.

Particularly notable among the group's achievements were the Falcon Heritage Forum and the 16th Street Miracles program. The former



MIKE KAPLAN

Cadet 1st Class Megan Hoskins, Cadet Squadron 10, second from right, receives the 1st Lt. Roslyn L. Schulte Award at a ceremony May 24 in the Academy's McDermott Library.

brought 10 Academy cadets together with 29 veterans of World War II for a joint trip to Washington. The latter seeks to start an "epidemic of kindness," especially in support of the homeless.

After all the finalists had received their plaques, Colonel Sanders announced Cadet Hoskins as the winner, and the Schulte Award medallion

was bestowed to her by the colonel and by Lieutenant Schulte's parents.

In his closing remarks, Colonel Sanders added a couple of choice tidbits to the cadets' store of wisdom and leadership skills.

"Serving in the profession of arms is indeed a noble endeavor," he said. "When you bring out the best in others, they bring out the best in you."

Space shuttle Endeavor makes final landing at Kennedy

SAN ANTONIO (AFNS) — The space shuttle Endeavour touched down at the Kennedy Space Center Wednesday at 2:35 a.m. EDT, ending the shuttle's 19-year flying career.

The Endeavour crew completed four spacewalks and several maintenance upgrades on the International Space Station as part of the shuttle's final mission.

Endeavour's crew also delivered and installed the \$2 billion Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer particle detector, which is designed to study dark matter, antimatter and other high-energy phenomena that cannot be detected from Earth. The AMS was successfully installed and is being calibrated for upcoming experiments.

Among the crew were two Air Force astronauts, mission pilot Col. Gregory Johnson, Air Force Academy Class of 1984, and mission specialist



CHUCK TINTERA

Space shuttle Endeavour approaches Runway 15 on the Shuttle Landing Facility at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida for the final time. Endeavour landed Wednesday at 2:35 a.m. EDT, wrapping up the STS-134 mission.

Col. Mike Fincke, who were thrilled to be part of the shuttle's final mission.

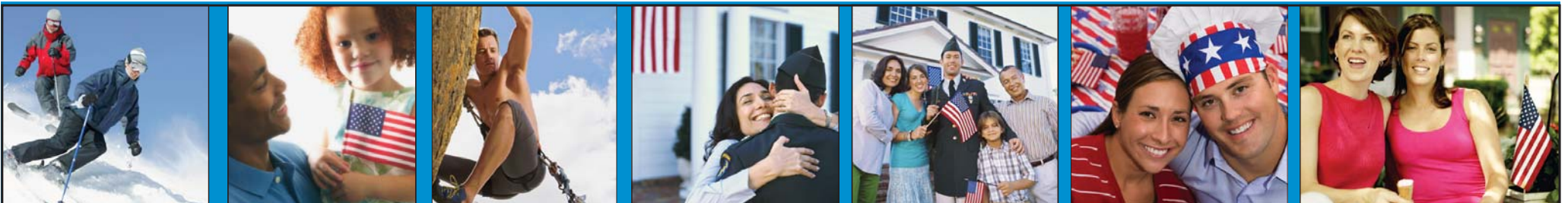
"Endeavour was always my favorite shuttle," Colonel Johnson said. "My first shuttle mission was on it and that was great, but now getting to be on its last mission is just a dream come true."

Colonel Fincke's sentiments were similar.

"Being able to fly in the shuttle is amazing," he said. "But I could never imagine being able to fly on such a historic mission."

Colonel Fincke made history of his own on the mission, becoming the new record-holder for longest time in space with 381 days.

Endeavour's landing coincides with the rollout of the shuttle Atlantis, which is scheduled to launch the final space shuttle mission July 8.



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Tricare now covers smoking cessation counseling

By Shari Lopatin and Diane Mayer
TriWest Healthcare Alliance



Tricare now offers new counseling benefits for smoking cessation. Tricare beneficiaries don't need to have a smoking-related illness to use the benefit, but must receive the counseling from a Tricare-authorized provider who's properly licensed or certified for this type of counseling.

Smoking cessation counseling benefits are not available for Medicare-eligible beneficiaries, however.

According to the American Lung Association, a smoker's lungs will start growing healthier almost immediately after quitting.

Check out any of these resources for more on the counseling benefit, or for help to quit smoking:

- TriWest's tobacco cessation page: www.triwest.com/tobacco
- TriWest Tobacco Quitline: 1-866-244-6870
- Tricare Tobacco Free: www.tricare.mil/tobaccofree
- DOD-sponsored website: www.ucequit2.org
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.smokefree.gov

Stressed out? Breathe out

By Brian P. Smith
TriWest Healthcare Alliance

You're watching the phone, waiting to hear if you got that job. You're sitting in the audience as your daughter starts her first piano recital. You're waiting for the daily email from your deployed spouse.

You're walking through the mall, still trying to get used to crowds after deployment.

These can all be stressful situations. Stress is a part of everyday life for Service members, veterans and families dealing with multiple deployments, homecomings and all the other demands of a military life.

Take a deep breath ...

When you are stressed, do you ever focus on your breathing?

Most of the time, it's an automatic process. Slowing down and concentrating on your breathing can help you react in stressful situations. During stress and times of anger, the body's first reaction is to inhale and hold your breath. Breathing out slowly helps take the body out of the "fight or flight" mode.

The Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury work to promote the resilience and recovery of military members and their families. Their research shows that breathing exercises can help decrease the body's "fight or flight" response to stress. Certain



types of breathing exercises can also help control anger and anxiety.

There's an app for that

Your smartphone can help you learn these exercises and improve control over your body's reactions to stress. The National Center for Telehealth and Technology is a part of the DCOE that develops technology. They've created tools to help you to manage your breathing (along with handy phone apps to track your mood and teach you about post-traumatic stress). Visit <http://www.t2health.org/apps> to learn more about their tools and apps.

Pace yourself

Find more tips just like this on <http://www.triwest.com>. The Behavioral Health Resource Center is an online library with articles about stress, parenting, relationships and other issues. You can read articles on a wide range of topics, find links to the latest relevant information and take self-assessments when it's convenient for you.

CLUES ACROSS

1. A roll of insulation
5. Brazilian dance
10. Something that is owed
14. Middle Eastern chieftain
15. South African village
16. 6th Jewish month
17. Sandwich shop
18. 'Air Music' composer
19. Extinct flightless bird
20. Exabyte
21. 1/1000 of an inch
22. 4th US state
23. Boater

CLUES DOWN

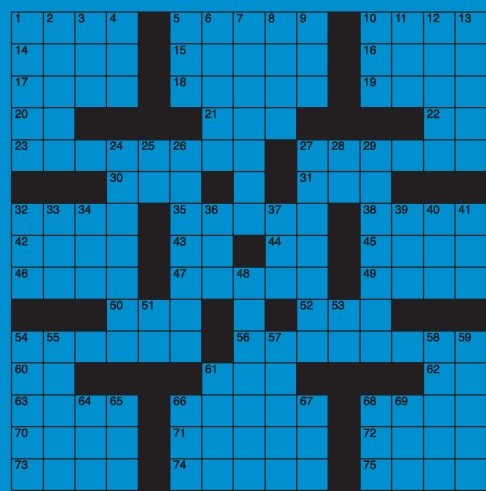
1. Cover with condensation
2. Rhizopodan (alt. sp.)
3. "___ death do us part"
4. Denotes three
5. Swedish krona
6. A pleasant odor
7. One who navigates a ship
8. Yellow edible Indian fruit
9. River in Upper Austria
10. Father
11. Ancient Tokyo
12. Scout merit emblem
13. Region near Troy
24. Common piercing location

27. Quarterback throws
30. Dentist's group
31. Honorable title (Turkish)
32. Ursidae family
35. Removes an apple's center
38. To have supper
42. Back breaking work

43. Public promotion of a product
44. Point midway between N and E
45. Dull in appearance
46. Change by reversal
47. Attack on all sides
49. Scientific workplaces
50. Prickly seed

52. Frozen water
54. Move back and away from
56. Fipple flute
60. Bladed tool
61. Actress Farrow
62. 2001 Spielberg film
63. An explosive device
66. Explosive sounds
68. Duffels
70. Dwarf buffalo
71. Seraph
72. Scottish hillside
73. Czar (alt.)
74. Iraq seaport
75. Metal food containers

40. Grab
41. One point S of due E
48. Elastic coils of wire
51. Newark Del. school
53. Atomic #27
54. Capital of Morocco
55. Interspersed with introns
57. Showing keen interest
58. MN 55121
59. Ascends
61. Supernatural force
64. Extinct bird of New Zealand
65. A measure of music
66. Founder of Babism
67. Patti Hearst's captors
68. London radio station
69. Macaws



25. Rural delivery
26. Suggesting the horror of death
27. One afflicted with paresis
28. Silver
29. A maker of saddles
32. British thermal unit
33. Longest division of geological time
34. Assistance to others
36. A lyric poem
37. Midway between NE and E
39. One of the Gershwins

SUDOKU

		8	3			2		7
			4					1
		7						9
				8	4			
			6					
7	6	2						5
				1			4	
3							9	
1	5				6			2

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Solution on page 6

Level: Intermediate

06-03-11

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Claims against the estate

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of Maj. Phillip D. Ambard, deceased, must present them to Lt. Col. José Cintrón on or before June 17 and have them legally authenticated by the Academy's Staff Judge Advocate office for pro-rata payment, or they will be forever barred, and this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons, firms or corporations indebted to this estate should make immediate payment to Colonel Cintrón in care of the legal office.

Anyone with questions should contact Colonel Cintrón at 333-3940.

AOG Bed and Breakfast program

Inprocessing for the Class of 2015 is June 23. Many appointees will arrive at the Colorado Springs Airport the day before and will need a place to stay that night.

The Association of Graduates Bed and Breakfast Program provides accommodations for these appointees.

Local Academy graduates as well as Academy faculty and staff are being asked to provide appointees with dinner, a bed for the night, breakfast the

next morning, and transportation to Doolittle Hall for inprocessing.

If you would like to participate as a host family, log on to the AOG website at www.usafa.org and click on the "Bed and Breakfast" button on the left side of the home page.

Call for bird watchers

Whether you are a casual birder or a dedicated naturalist, the Natural Resources program could use your help to monitor birds at the Academy.

If you are interested in helping, please visit the eBird website and call Natural Resources at 333-3308.

Repairs under way at clinic

The Academy's main clinic is undergoing a complete repair of the roof and façade.

No impact on parking is expected, but occasional closure of an entrance or walkway may be required. This project is estimated to be completed by late September.

Vacation Bible School

The Community Center Chapel will host its annual Vacation Bible School for children ages 4 years through fifth grade, June 6-10, 5-7:30 p.m. at the chapel. This year's theme is Panda Mania. There will be crafts, games, singing, Bible studies, snacks and lots of fun.

Register now by calling 333-3300. Volunteers are also needed.

Fridays are sticker, decal days

The 10th security Forces Squadron Pass and Registration Center will issue cadet area parking stickers and vehicle registration decals on Fridays only, from noon to 4:30 p.m. Plan accordingly and help spread the word.

Call Staff Sgt. Antonio Jones at 333-2120 with questions.

Academy road closure

East Douglass Drive will be closed for construction between Community Center Drive and 500 feet east of East Ponderosa Drive now through June 10.

'Fore' the troops: July 4

Active-duty and retired military members can receive free admission to the U.S. Women's Open on July 4 by going to www.2011uswomensopen.com.

Tickets are available for other days with a 50-percent discount through local King Soopers stores.

Falcon Family Fun Friday

The Academy Lanes Bowling Center will offer its monthly "Falcon Family Fun Friday" bowling special today from 4 to 6:30 p.m., featuring \$1 shoe rental and \$1 per game per person.

The bowling center will also offer food specials. For more information, call 333-4709.

Education Fair

The base education office will hold an Education Fair July 14 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Community Center breezeway.

Representatives from several colleges and universities will present information about their educational programs, suited to meet the needs of both traditional and non-traditional students.

Everyone is invited to attend and explore the next step in their education. For more information, contact the education office at 333-4821.

Get tickets for summer fun!

The Air Force Academy's Information, Tickets and Tours office offers discounted prices for attractions across the state of Colorado.

Discounts are available for Elitch Gardens, Water World, the Denver Aquarium, Colorado Rockies baseball, the Royal Gorge Bridge and Train in Cañon City, the Durango and Silverton Train and the Pikes Peak Hill Climb.

For information on these and other tickets, contact the ITT office at 333-3348.

Take an outdoor adventure

The Outdoor Adventure Program has several upcoming opportunities for those who enjoy trekking through the Colorado wilderness.

For information on these and other offerings, contact Outdoor Adventure at 333-2940 or visit their website at <http://bit.ly/m8vddh>.

Out There Bike Repair: June 7-8, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Learn how to fix your bike when you're out on the trail. Cost is \$35.

Bike Down Pikes Peak: Tuesday and June 12. Cost is \$49 for the Tuesday trip and \$59 for June 12. You can rent a bicycle from the Outdoor Recreation office at 333-4753.

2011 Bicycle Tour of Colorado Shuttle: June 18-25. For \$39, Outdoor Ad-

venture will transport you and your equipment to the 2011 Bicycle Tour of Colorado. To register for the event, go to www.bicycletourcolorado.com.

Weekend Hut Trip: June 25-26. Visit www.lostwonderhut.com to learn more about the hut. Cost is \$79.

Hiking on the Academy: Women's casual-paced hiking is held Tuesdays at 9 a.m., with co-ed quick-paced hiking held Thursdays at 4:30 p.m. The hikes are free, but registration is required. Contact Outdoor Adventure for more information.

Santa Fe Trail closure

A portion of the Santa Fe Trail will be closed weekdays but remain open weekends until Oct. 30 while repairs are made to the Tri-Intersection Bridge on Southgate Boulevard.

Safety hazards caused by heavy construction traffic under the bridge on the trail are forcing the closure of a stretch of the trail about 2 miles from the south trail entrance to the Academy and about 4 miles from the north gate Santa Fe trailhead.

Community Center offerings

For information on these or other Community Center programs, contact the Community Center at 333-2928.

Flea Market: Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the base exchange parking lot. Setup time is 8 to 9 a.m. The cost is \$10 for those looking to rent a space or \$15 for a truck. Call the Community Center to register.

Ultimate Fighting Championship: June 11 at 6 p.m. in the Milazzo Center. The show begins at 7 p.m. Food and beverages will be on sale.

Outdoor Family Movie: June 17 at 9 p.m. at the soccer fields. The movie will be "Rio." Sodas and popcorn will be on sale.



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.

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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