

EARLY APPOINTEES

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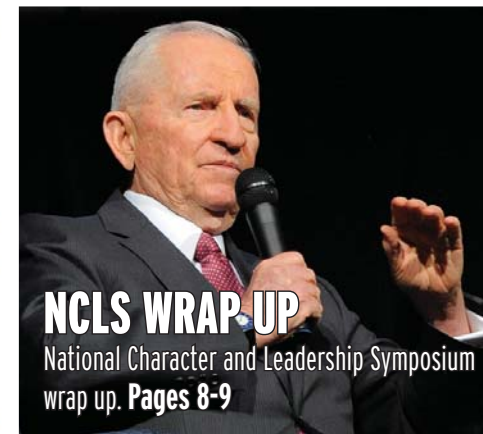
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ELIZABETH ANDREWS

Academy Awards, minus the drama

Lt. Gen. Mike Gould, the Academy Superintendent, left, and Chief Master Sgt. Todd Salzman, the Academy command chief, pose with the Academy's Airman of the Year Senior Airman Joseph McIlvaine, during the Academy Awards ceremony Saturday at the Falcon Club. McIlvaine is assigned to the 10th Surgical Operations Squadron.

For complete coverage of the Academy Awards, see Page 5

Aeronautics instructor earns Wakin award

By Don Branum
Academy Spirit staff writer

The Academy's assistant professor of aeronautics was named the 2011 Brig. Gen. Malham M. Wakin Character and Leadership Award winner during the National Character and Leadership Symposium here Feb. 23.

Lt. Col. Ryan Osteros received the award, in part for his response to an accident at the Reno Air Races in September 2011, as well as for his work to broaden cadets' experience with manned and unmanned aircraft.

During the aircraft accident in Reno, Nev., Osteros responded "without hesitation," according to his award nomination. He helped set up a triage area and coordinated aid and logistics efforts to help save lives. He also ensured the physical and mental well-being of 15 cadets who traveled to the air race with him to conduct classwork for the Aeronautical Engineering 456 course, "Flight Test Techniques," which Osteros leads.

The Flight Test Techniques course challenges cadets to set and achieve demanding academic and



Lt. Col. Ryan Osteros

career goals. Osteros procured \$18,000 in funds from the Association of Graduates that introduced cadets to the Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., as part of that course.

Osteros, a volunteer unmanned aerial systems research mentor, authored new small UAS flight test methodology with four cadets in the aeronautical engineering lab.

As a UAS research mentor, he trains cadets and instructors in data acquisition, analysis, reporting and publishing.

Cadets have given Osteros a six out of six in instructor quality reviews, according to his award nomination. One of the cadets in Osteros' class said it is "obvious that (he) cared not only about our (academic) performance but how we were doing in all aspects of our lives and future careers."

Osteros is the primary UAS pilot in command and the academic and career adviser for nine senior

cadets. The award nomination credits him with setting "an excellent foundation" for the next generation of Air Force engineers, flight test engineers and test pilots.

The Wakin award, named for Brig. Gen. Malham Wakin, is presented annually to the individual or team making the greatest contribution to cadet character development during the previous calendar year. Nominees are considered for significant contributions to cadet character development, conspicuous moral courage, great personal sacrifice, conduct above and beyond the requirements of duty, and leadership and professionalism in keeping with the highest ideals of Air Force tradition, according to USAFA Instruction 36-2805, "Malham M. Wakin Character and Leadership Development Award." Wakin served as vice dean of the faculty and head of the Philosophy and Fine Arts Department from 1959-1995.

Finalists for the Wakin award are recognized at each year's NCLS dinner with a special invitation to dine with Wakin, said Lt. Col. Edward Haskell, the assistant director of cadet character and development for the Commandant of Cadets Staff.

A Stand for Justice

By Cadet 1st Class Brandon Roberts
Cadet Squadron 05

When I think about Black History Month, I am compelled to reflect on the power of visionary leadership and how our nation answered its call to justice. This time of the year evokes images of stalwart men and women who stood up against a corrupt system, and in the face of adversity prevailed against it.

Recently, I had the opportunity to take a Center for Character and Leadership Development-sponsored transformative leadership course that changed how I think about leadership. In the course, we learned how to create a future that seemed impossible, and how to make it a reality. We learned the power of living into a future that was not going to happen otherwise, and bringing about true change. The ideas at first were difficult to grasp and even more difficult to practice.

Thus, I am grateful for the examples set by the leaders of the civil rights movement. It is clear that they not only understood these ideas; they were also masters of effectively exercising visionary leadership.

When the leaders of the civil rights movement set out, they sought to bring about a future that seemed impossible under the existing conditions. Undaunted, they pursued that future, and despite the great cost they created the change for which they stood. In 1963, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. emerged as one of our nation's most visionary leaders. Bringing together the impoverished and broken, he called a nation to justice. Even as a powerful system tried to silence him, he made himself heard, and drove change across our nation. Even an assassin's bullet could not silence his message, because the words he spoke were empowered by truth and justice, and they continue to resound even after his death.

King and the other leaders of the civil rights movement in America not only had the courage to stand up against what was unjust, but to persevere in the presence of injustice and not cave into the demands of an unjust system. It was a slow change, but their visionary leadership has led our nation to adopt behaviors and attitudes of equality where all men and women receive treatment in accordance with the rights outlined not only in the natural world but also in our Constitution.

Consistent with its stand during the civil rights movement, our nation has sought justice, not in theory, but in practice throughout its history. Lady Justice stands with fair scales, a sword for strength and a blindfold to show no partiality. Riddled with periods of failure our history is a potholed road where men and women rose up against the conditions of society and became the voice for justice. Their visionary leadership has charted the course of our nation from its inception until today, changing it in monu-



ELIZABETH ANDREWS

Col. Joseph Sanders, the director of the Center for Character and Leadership Development, poses with Cadet 1st Class Brandon Roberts at the McDermott Library's African-American History Month exhibit titled, "Together We Stand: The Power of Inclusion."

mental ways. We have not always pursued justice to its completion, but each segment brings us closer to achieving justice in the scope of who we are as a nation.

Near the turn of the 18th century, justice cried out and a diverse group of men from 13 colonies met in Carpenter's Hall in Philadelphia. This group had no army, nothing to validate their authority, only the yearning in their hearts to stand for the possibility of justice. With nothing but ideas of freedom, and a commitment to the inalienable rights of all people, this group penned a national declaration founded on the enduring principles of justice.

Five score years before King gave his speech, Abraham Lincoln, in the aftermath of Antietam, issued a proclamation that would free slaves in rebelling states. Lincoln, in his first few days as president, faced a challenge of leadership that few, if any, presidents have ever faced. When our nation became divided, he united us by standing for justice. Exemplifying visionary leadership, Lincoln led the nation through one of its most turbulent times, his proclamation created a future that seemed impossible.

Admittedly, our nation has been marred by unjust conditions, and practices, rarely ever perfecting our 'union.' Despite our shortcomings, the desire to seek truth and justice has never waned. This American way has always produced visionary leaders who have challenged our system's injustice, and brought us closer to consistently manifesting of our nation's founding values and principles. For me, Black History Month celebrates that ancient American spirit which stands for justice.

My experiences as a cadet have convinced me that the Air Force Academy is uniquely postured to be a global paragon for how to create a culture that is steeped in respect for human dignity, and how produce visionary leaders who are educated and equipped to stand for our nation's enduring call to justice.

Celebrating culture

Retired Maj. Gen. Irene Trowell-Harris, the director of the Veterans Affairs Department's Center for Women Veterans, speaks at the Academy's African American History Month luncheon Wednesday at the Falcon Club. The theme for the luncheon was "Black Women in American Culture and History."



RAYMOND MCCOY

ACADEMY SPIRIT

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

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Academy Superintendent
Lt. Col. John Bryan —
Director of Public Affairs
Gino Mattorano —
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Cadet candidate takes nothing for granted

By Don Branum
Academy Spirit staff writer

Most cadet candidates at the Air Force Academy Preparatory School had the benefit of a stable home during their childhood years.

Yohance Salimu is not most cadet candidates. A native of Los Angeles, he spent his high school years in shelters with his younger brother after the family lost their low-income housing in 2008 in the early days of the Great Recession.

"I didn't think a recession could hurt the poor," Salimu said. "When you already have so little or nothing at all, what can a bad economy take from you? But it took our home."

Salimu first found out about the Air Force Academy a year earlier, when he was in eighth grade. He conducted a research project on aeronautical engineering and found out the Academy had one of the top programs in the country. He invested his efforts into getting accepted into the Academy, joining his high school's robotics team and taking part in other after-school activities.

But those activities did more than just prepare Salimu for the Academy and the Prep School: They also helped him maintain an image to his teachers and other students.

"I lived one or two hours away from school," he said. "I used to have to figure out public transportation. At the end of the day, I'd just ask folks,

"Can you give me a ride to the train station?"

When he did mention his situation on occasion, his friends had a hard time believing him.

"My life was a reality to me and just a story to everybody else," he said. "I tried not to let it affect the things I did. The only thing I really had to sacrifice was sleep."

Salimu said life at the Prep School has taken some getting used to, especially when it comes to keeping his room in inspection order.

"I used to be all about getting the job done," he said. "Now, I have to be about the way to get it done."

Doing right things the right way is something Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz has previously called "blocking and tackling." The comparison is apt for Salimu, who was a walk-on defensive end and nose guard for the Prep School Huskies football team. Walk-ons are athletes who are not specifically recruited by a college to play for the college football team.

"I like not being obligated to do something I think is fun," he said. "Being a walk-on gives me a different perspective. It's mostly about being fun, which is why I'll look into the Falcons football team."

Aside from the football possibilities, another benefit not lost on Salimu is one that most of us take for granted.

"I'm happy just to be eating," he



MAJ. KRISTINA MEYLE

Capt. Nathan Allen talks with Cadet Candidate Yohance Salimu during an Air Force Academy Preparatory School football game Oct. 29, 2011. Salimu, a native of Los Angeles, spent much of his high school years homeless after his family lost their home in 2008. Allen is a coach for the Prep School's Huskies football team.

said. "I don't show it, but I hide a big smile every time I think about being able to eat three meals a day. When people complain about it here, I fall into that a little bit, but I honestly think about how much better a situation I'm in right now."

Salimu said he plans to attend either

pilot school or graduate school after graduating from the Air Force Academy, with a major from the Academy in either aeronautical or astronautical engineering. Prep School graduates are not guaranteed entry to the Academy but do enjoy an appointment rate of about 90 percent.

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10 Prep School cadet candidates receive early appointments

By Amber Baillie
Academy Spirit staff

Ten cadet candidates at the Air Force Academy Preparatory School earned early appointments to the Academy Monday.

Appointees received early admission because they had distinguished themselves academically, militarily and athletically for the Academy.

Eight of the 10 appointees are "priors," meaning that they were previously enlisted military members. Of the eight, one was enlisted in the Army.

Lt. Gen. Mike Gould, the Academy Superintendent, attended the event to congratulate candidates on their honorable achievement.

The school offers a 10-month program that combines academic preparation, military training, athletic conditioning, intercollegiate athletics and character development to instill the skills for success at the Academy and as a commissioned officer in the Air Force.

Like the Academy, the Prep School is competi-



SARAH CHAMBERS

Lt. Gen. Mike Gould, the Academy Superintendent, talks with Retired Navy Capt. Mike McGrath, who was the guest speaker at the early appointment ceremony at the Academy Preparatory School Monday.

tive. The Academy Director of Admissions selects candidates, both active-duty enlisted members and civilians who applied to the Academy but weren't selected for direct entry. Those who graduate from the Prep School improve their chances for appointment as a cadet, although it's not guaranteed.

Retired Navy Capt. Mike McGrath was the guest speaker at the event. McGrath was an aviator and flight instructor in the Navy and a Prisoner of War in the Vietnam War. McGrath received top awards including a Silver Star, two Purple Hearts and a

Prisoner of War Medal. He was also recently elected into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

The appointed cadet candidates are: Kemal Baksh, of Ellicott City, Md.; Daniel Bermudez, of Glenn Mills, Penn.; Charlene Blair, of Avon, Ind.; Alejandro Hardaway, of Tomball, Texas; Cameron Kistler, of Lansdale, Penn.; Brendan Mallory, of Maysville, Ky.; Natalia Pinto, of Redford, Mich.; Taylor Publins, of Los Angeles, Calif.; Ella Sidor, of Lanai City, Hawaii and Kimberly Webb, of Bryan, Texas.

Schwartz: Smaller Air Force will concentrate on key capabilities

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPS) — As the Air Force gets smaller in the years to come, it will have to emphasize the areas that will be the most relevant to defense, the Air Force chief of staff said here today.

Gen. Norton A. Schwartz told the Defense Writers Group that as budgets drop, the Air Force must concentrate on four basic areas: control of air and space, global mobility, global surveillance and reconnaissance, and global strike.

"Those areas clearly remain relevant to the strategy that focuses on the Asia-Pacific and the (Persian) Gulf region," Schwartz said.

Because the service will be smaller, Air Force officials must encourage more versatility in the force structure that remains, entailing both surge requirements and overseas rotations. "That's part of the rationale for the adjustments in the force mix that we proposed in the (fiscal 2013) budget," the general said.

Operations and maintenance funding will become a key aspect of this smaller force, Schwartz said, and will become more important to maintain quality.

It's not enough for officials to say the Air Force is good, he added.

"We really have to be good," he said.

Schwartz, who testified yesterday in a congressional budget hearing, re-

“This is a question of trying to design the force for the long term in a way that active-duty, Guard and Reserve can see themselves in these jobs for the long term.”

— Gen. Norton A. Schwartz
Air Force chief of staff



iterated the service's need for a new bomber.

"Do you think that the Chinese have established one of the world's best air defense environments in their eastern provinces just to invest their national treasure?" he asked. "Or, for that matter, that the Iranians have established integrated air defenses around certain locations in their country? I would say they are not doing this for the fun of it. They are doing it because they have a sense of vulnerability.

"What is it that conveys that sense of vulnerability to others?" he continued. "One of those is long-range strike, and that is an asset that the United States of America should not concede. And that's why the long-range bomber is relevant and will

continue to be relevant."

The Air Force is cutting some air mobility assets, but Schwartz said the service still can handle its mobility requirements. The Army and Marine Corps are cutting personnel, he noted, and that will carry a corresponding decline in mobility requirements. The most recent study showed the Air Force has had to transport 32.7 million ton-miles per day, Schwartz said.

The analysis indicates the requirement given the new strategy formulation and force size that flows from that is about 29.4 million ton-miles per day, he added.

Even with the cuts, the general said, the Air Force will have 275 large transport aircraft and 318 small-lift

aircraft, representing about 30.5 million ton-miles of capability.

"We are comfortable that we have a level of capability that is suited to the force structure the new strategy envisions," he said.

Schwartz said he wants the active Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve mix to be balanced "for the long haul." Ideally, he said, he wants a deployment rotation of one year deployed to two years at home station for active duty Airmen and a 1-to-4 or greater ratio for reservists.

"This is a question of trying to design the force for the long term in a way that active duty, Guard and Reserve can see themselves in these jobs for the long term," he said.

Though Air Force officials have made their recommendations, Schwartz said, Congress can block these changes — especially those pertaining to Air National Guard units.

"If the Congress decides to not proceed with some or all of our recommendations, it is a zero-sum game," he said. "The thing I lose sleep over is getting some of this back to us saying, 'You can't do this, you can't do that, and I'm not going to give you the money, either.'"

That formula, he said, is the quickest way to get to a hollow force.

"As convincingly as (Air Force Secretary) Mike Donley and I can, we will do our best to make the case that if it's not what we've proposed, it needs to be ... equivalent in terms of capability and cost," he said.

Academy's finest honored at awards banquet

By Gino Mattorano
Academy Spirit editor

The Air Force Academy recognized 12 superstars at the fourth-annual Academy Awards Banquet Saturday.

Forty-four nominees from across Academy mission elements competed in 12 individual categories to earn the right to be named the Academy's best.

Eighteen enlisted nominees were selected from more than 828 enlisted Airmen across the Academy, while 18 civilians were nominated from more than 1,500 of their peers, and eight company grade officers were nominated from nearly 807 fellow CGOs.

Senior Master Sgt. Jason Malec, the superintendent for the Manpower and Personnel Directorate, was the co-chair for the event. Malec said the event,

which was attended by more than 200, went off without a hitch.

"Overall, everything went really well," Malec said. "In the end, everything really came together. It was great to have the support of the Band, the Junior ROTC and the Cadet Saber Team."

Chief Master Sgt. Todd Salzman, the Academy command chief, was the guest speaker for the banquet. He congratulated the nominees on their accomplishments and thanked them for their service to the nation. He also recognized the supervisors and commanders who ensured their people received the recognition they deserved, and thanked families for their support to the nominees.

"These award recipients are representative of the outstanding men and women we have here at the Academy," Salzman said. "Our Airmen show their commit-

ment to the Academy's mission to produce leaders of character for the nation, support overseas contingency operations and still find time to give back to the local community. And none of them does it alone. Each relies on a support network of family, friends, coworkers and a base support structure to help the Air Force achieve its mission to fly, fight and win. Congratulations to each of the winners and all 44 nominees."

The award recipients will now compete for Air Force-level honors.

Award winners are:

Airman of the Year - Senior Airman Joseph McIlvaine, 10th Surgical Operations Squadron

NCO of the Year - Tech. Sgt. Jon Hyder, Commandant of Cadets staff

Senior NCO of the Year - Master Sgt. Brady McCoy, Commandant of Cadets staff

First Sergeant of the Year - Senior Master Sgt. Patrick Shaw, 10th MSGS

Company Grade Officer of the Year - 1st Lt. Tasia Tindle, 10th Mission Support Group

Honor Guard Airman of the Year - Senior Airman Brian Delmarter, 10th Communications Squadron

Honor Guard NCO of the Year - Tech. Sgt. Carey Kehrer, 10th MSGS

Honor Guard Senior NCO of the Year - Senior Master Sgt. Jay Valloric, Dean of the Faculty staff

Honor Guard CGO of the Year - Capt. Melanie Slattery, Academy Preparatory School

Category 1 Civilian of the Year - LaTonya Wilson, Financial Management

Category 2 Civilian of the Year - Stephen Henry, 10th Medical Support Squadron

Category 3 Civilian of the Year - Carolyn Jewell, 10th MSGS



CMSAF Roy: Developing Airmen key to future

By Tech. Sgt. Richard A. Williams, Jr.
Air Force Public Affairs Agency

ORLANDO, Fla. (AFNS) — Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy emphasized the evolution of training Airmen before a crowd of approximately 400 Airmen, industry officials and Air Force Association members here Feb. 24.

Roy, who spoke on the second day of the Air Force Association's 2012 Air Warfare Symposium and Technology Exposition, told attendees that developing Airmen and working to unlock their full potential are keys to the success of the future force.

"We have great Airmen, we have a good process as to how we develop those Airmen and we need to evolve that process," Roy said.

With around 68 percent of Airmen in the total force joining after Sept. 11, 2001, and with an average age of 21 years upon enlistment, Roy said these Airmen tend to be a bit more mature than recruits were ten years ago, and they quickly get a different Air Force experience than the pre-9/11 force.

"In my view, we have the most combat hardened force that we have ever had," he said. "The experiences they have received over their tenure are certainly different than maybe mine over the last 30 years."

This means several challenges face leaders in today's Air Force, including how to train and mentor the 21st Century Airmen, many of whom have served on the front lines in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Another significant challenge in today's Air Force is training Airmen in an effective, efficient manner using advanced technology, Roy said.

"Today's Airmen are digital natives," he said. "They know new technology, how it works, what it should look like and how it should interact."

"We have Airmen who are using this equipment,



“We are going to have a smaller force so we need to make sure our Airmen, the right Airmen, are at the right place at the right time, with the right skills.”

- Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy

using laptops and other devices out on the airfield doing aircraft maintenance," he added.

These "digital natives" are certainly in tune with how to use the latest technology, and Roy is convinced the service can exploit that to better prepare Airmen to meet mission requirements.

Air Education and Training Command officials are looking into the concept of deploying training materials through electronic readers.

Airmen can already find promotion test study materials online, and Roy said Airmen are in many cases jumping at the chance to download these to their electronic devices.

"Some Airmen today get a link to their CDCs and they have a choice of a hard copy or a soft (electronic) copy," Roy said.

Many opt for the electronic CDCs because they get them immediately, he added.

With this in mind, Air University and the Air War College are both providing electronic materials for distance learning to their students with some success. This could become a viable way to enhance professional military education not only for active duty Airmen, but for Guardsmen and Reservists, of whom only 10 percent currently attend in-residence professional military education, Roy said.

"Digital media would allow everyone to get the most updated versions of material possible," Roy said, adding this would lead to earlier, more consistent exposure to Air Force institutional competencies, better preparing Airmen for mission requirements.

The use of new technologies could help develop Airmen from basic training until retirement, but Roy cautioned that it's not a fix-all.

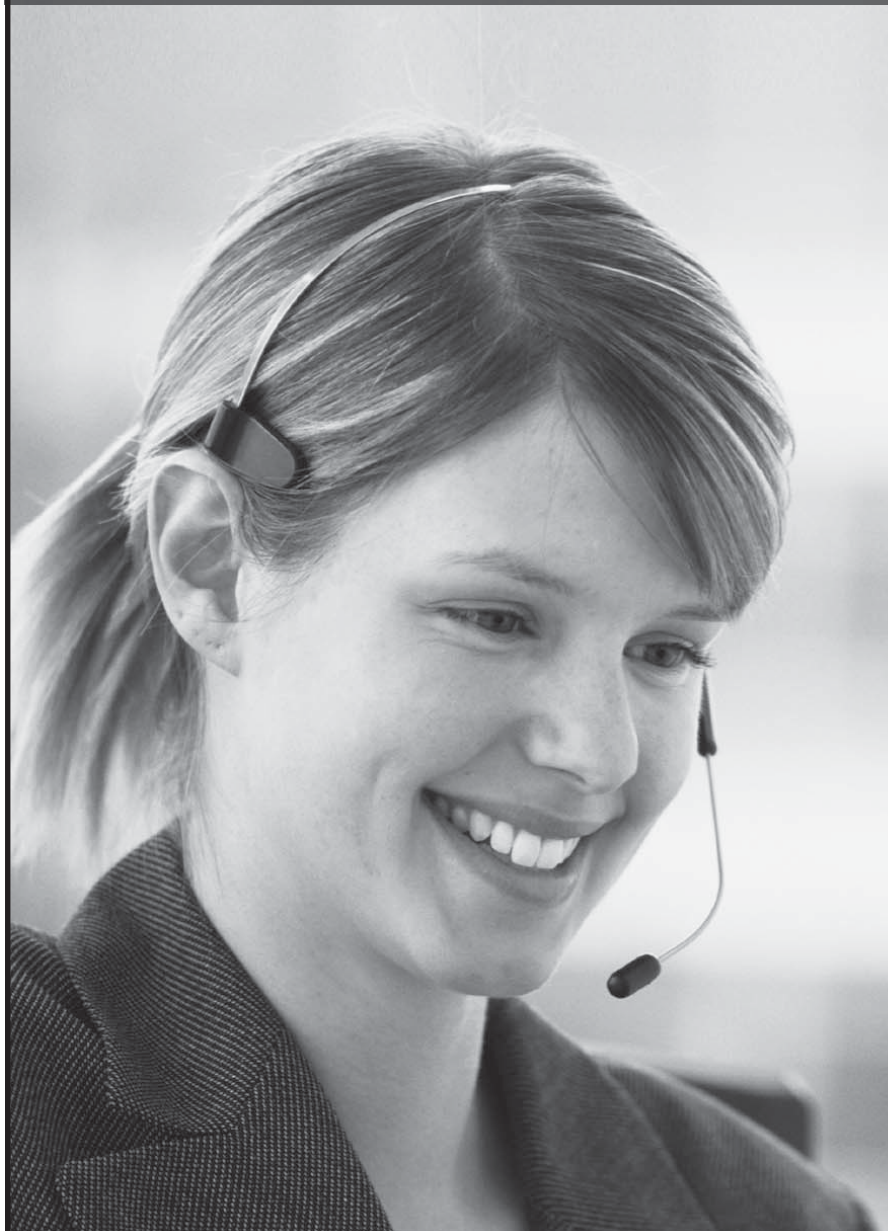
Leaders must still use the proper mix of training and hands-on applications in order for Airmen to maintain their technological edge, Roy said.

"We have to make sure our Airmen are absolutely grounded in the idea of tactical expertise," Roy said. "Fundamentally, that's who we are."

Reiterating earlier comments made by Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley and Chief of Staff Gen. Schwartz, Roy said, "We are going to have a smaller force so we need to make sure our Airmen, the right Airmen, are at the right place at the right time with the right skills."

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Air Force issues flight release for Eglin AFB F-35A



COURTESY PHOTO

The F-35A Lightning II fighter to begin initial operations at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFNS) — Officials at the Aeronautical Systems Center here issued a Military Flight Release today that will allow the F-35A Lightning II fighter to begin initial operations at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

This decision was reached after an airworthiness board conducted an assessment that evaluated potential risks and the corresponding mitigation actions to conduct unmonitored flights.

Flying the Air Force variant of the joint strike fighter will increase pilot and maintainer familiarity with the aircraft, exercise the logistics infra-

structure and continue to develop aircraft maturity. These initial F-35A flights will be limited, scripted, conducted within the restrictions and stipulations of the MFR and flown by qualified pilots, officials said.

“The Air Force, Joint Strike Fighter Program Office and other stakeholders have painstakingly followed established risk acceptance and mitigation processes to ensure the F-35A is ready,” said Gen. Donald Hoffman, the commander of Air Force Materiel Command, the parent organization of ASC. “This is an important step for the F-35A and we are confident the team has dili-

gently balanced the scope of initial operations with system maturity.”

The assessment was conducted with airworthiness engineering subject matter experts within ASC and was fully coordinated with the F-35

Joint Strike Fighter Program Office, Air Education and Training Command and other expert participants. The Air Force is confident the aircraft is ready to fly in a safe and efficient manner, Hoffman said.

Ohio ANG Airmen, AFRL help F-16s go green

By Tech. Sgt. Mareshah Haynes
Defense Media Activity

TOLEDO, Ohio (AFNS) — In a joint effort by Airmen from the Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, and Airmen from the Ohio Air National Guard’s 180th Fighter Wing, the F-16 Fighting Falcon is currently undergoing a field service evaluation of biofuel.

As the largest consumer of energy in the Defense Department and \$8 billion spent on fuel in fiscal 2011, Air Force officials are working toward making the fleet a little “greener” by researching, testing and ultimately implementing the use of alternative fuels.

Although other airframes, such as the C-17 Globemaster III, have been certified to use biofuel for unrestricted operations, this is the first evaluation of the F-16 Fighting Falcon.

Two F-16s from the 180th FW fleet have been designated to test the 50/50 blend of Jet Propellant-8 petroleum and Hydroprocessed Renewable Jet fuel derived from the camelina plant. Camelina is essentially a weed that grows throughout the United States and requires very little horticulture.

The 180th FW was an ideal location for the fuel test because of its proximity to Wright-Patterson AFB, where the Air Force Research Laboratory is located, and its continued focus on green energy. In 2011, the wing was awarded the Reduced Ener-

gy Appreciation Program Award by the Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency’s Air Force Facility Energy Center.

“It’s part of the Air Force’s strategic goals to be able to reduce energy across the Air Force, so we really embrace that,” said Col. Steve Nordhaus, the 180th FW commander. “We’re trying to do everything we can to reduce energy costs because we know that every dollar we save there, we can use to buy more aircraft that protect our country or help support Airmen who are out there doing critical missions that affect our homeland defense.”

The jets have been flying with the blend since mid-December and will continue until the test sample is depleted.

“Our ability to exercise and use this stuff on a small scale or case-by-case basis makes us ideally suited to test the fuel,” said Col. William Gieze, the 180th Mission Support Group commander.

The staff at AFRL worked with commercial fuel manufacturers to develop a blend that would meet Air Force specifications. Considerations such as the flash and freeze points of the fuel were some of the major factors when determining the specifications for the F-16.

“Manufacturers are making alternative fuels for both the military and commercial customers,” said Dr. Tim Edwards, a senior chemical engineer for the AFRL fuels division. “Typically, they’ll send samples of their fuel, and we’ll evaluate and say,

‘Yes, you’re on the right track, this could be a jet fuel.’ When they get to the point where they can make large enough quantities, we’ll hand them over them off to the Alternative Fuels Certification office.”

The Air Force goal, by 2016, is to have half of the fuel that is purchased domestically to be at least a 50/50 blend of conventional and alternative fuel, Edwards said.

Another goal for the researchers and developers was to make the transition as seamless as possible. To date, there has been no additional training, equipment or maintenance required to begin using the fuel.

“When we first started this we were a little concerned because a few years ago we made the switch from JP4 to JP8 jet fuel,” said Col. Scott Reed, the 180th Maintenance Group commander. “The difference between the two caused a few hiccups initially. Some of the gaskets and O-rings didn’t expand as they normally would in the presence of the fuel, so we had leaks.”

The colonel likened the process to driving a car from Los Angeles at sea level to the Rocky Mountains. Adjustments need to be made for the car to operate at peak performance at different elevations. But with the new fuel blend, the transition has been totally transparent.

After each flight, the pilots complete a debrief form and each week the fuels technicians complete a debrief form to provide data to the Alternative Fuels Certification office about how the jets are performing with the new fuel blend.

And just as in real world operations, the jets designated for the test can refuel from the same tanker as the rest of their fleet during mission. Since bio-fuels may not be available at every base, or some overseas locations, the fuel blend must be interchangeable with standard JP-8.

“The truth of it is there has been absolutely no noticeable difference whatsoever,” Reed said. “There have been no fuel leaks, no operational impact.”

Once all of the data is collected and analyzed and any issues are rectified, the fuel can be certified to be used for all F-16s.

“The fact that we’re going to be doing something that not only affects the Air National Guard, but the total force was really our end goal,” Gieze said. “We really want to see the F-16 get certified on this and allow our country some other avenues for fuel.”

Running on biofuels, an F-16 Fighting Falcon from the Air National Guard’s 180th Fighter Wing taxis down the runway for takeoff Feb. 12 in Toledo, Ohio.



MASTER SGT. JEREMY LOCK

Leadership symposium 'flawless'

Nearly 5,400 attend annual cadet-presented event

By Amber Baillie
Academy Spirit staff

The 19th Annual National Character and Leadership Symposium wowed attendees last week with exceptional speakers, a full schedule of events and smooth transportation to and from sessions.

Nearly 5,400 cadets, faculty and visitors attended keynote sessions in Arnold and Fairchild halls as buses traveled to those locations every 20 minutes.

"In terms of execution, I think that it was the smoothest NCLS that we've had," said Cadet 1st Class Jim Evans of Cadet Squadron 12. "Permanent party members who've been at the Academy for 10- plus years and graduates who've been here for five-plus years said that it was the most visibly flawless execution that we've had."

Evans and Lt. Col. Dave Keller, program director at the Academy's Center for Character and Leadership Development, said that a large part of the event's success was due to excellent planning and execution by the cadets.

"The cadet ownership of the execution of the program was stellar, as each took ownership by writing scripts, escorting guests, running command posts and transportation," Keller said. "It made me realize how incredibly gifted our students are."

The symposium consisted of 55 panelists and speakers who each received a plaque on behalf of the cadet wing and faculty at the Academy. Speakers shared inspirational stories and personal examples as a way to motivate and encourage cadets on leadership and character development.

"A lot of visitors were blown away by the Academy, the caliber of speakers and magnitude of the event," Evans said. "We had a great team of speakers this year and they did a great job by sharing their amazing stories and talking about opportunities for cadets."

Keynote speaker Aron Ralston said that he was honored to speak at the symposium.



Retired Brig. Gen. Dick Abel speaks to cadets during his speech at the National Character and Leadership Symposium Feb. 23.

Ralston, an American mountain climber who amputated his right arm in 2003 after he was trapped by a boulder, said that the way in which cadets serve our country to protect the lives of others makes them true heroes.

"It's a tremendous honor to think that I have done something to be standing on this stage and to hopefully have something worth sharing about leadership, character or perhaps even ethical decision-making," Ralston said. "I feel humbled to be in your presence and to aspire that I might have one thing that you walk out of here with that might touch your lives."

In addition to a live video feed from Af-

ghanistan, two new events took place. One was a two-hour interactive workshop that followed the "Biology of Leadership" presentation on the personality traits that make a charismatic and authoritative leader. The other was an interactive volleyball game offered for cadets after the Paralympian Panel.

"Through the different sessions we tried, we learned great lessons on doing more of them in the future," Keller said.

Another change included the way in which reflection period was carried out. The period took place at noon on Feb. 24 in Mitchell Hall and attempted to draw out cadets through a conversational approach.

"We tried to optimize the way we did the reflection period by including more discussion," Evans said. "We are always working to incorporate cadet feedback into our planning and changes that we make."

Cadet 1st Class Rick Cassleman of Cadet Squadron 17 said that he has enjoyed NCLS every year.

"From the total experience of being here four years, it's pretty amazing to see first responders of Sept. 11 to CIA agents all the way to Ross Perot," Cassleman said. "This is my fourth time going to NCLS and I think the fact that I'm still enjoying it and that it's kept me not only entertained, but inspired, is pretty good."

The speakers who inspire ...



Aron Ralston

An engineer, adventurer and subject of the movie "127 Hours," Ralston spoke to cadets about his canyoneering

Speech Highlights

- Avoided death when it had him in its grasp
- Fear is often associated with motivation and expectation. Ralston was able to disassociate from the pain because saving his own life became more important
- "It's a story that touches our spirit, it's not just my story but everyone's story because we often wonder in ourselves who are we? What are we made of? What are we capable of?"
- Adversity and challenge brought Ralston answers to those questions

accident in Utah in 2003 and the courage, grit and tenacity it took for him to amputate his right arm in order to survive.

- It's a different perspective to be able to face the different boulders in our lives
- Boulder showed Ralston what was important in life
- Ralston saw an epiphany of his future son and realized that somehow his was going to escape the canyon
- The secret to perseverance, determination is taking that next step
- "My boulder taught me what was important in life, about what I was capable of and what's extraordinary in me."

Ross Perot

The successful businessman and former presidential candidate shared inspirational stories of military heroes as examples of outstanding leadership including: former Air Force Officers Robby Risner and Lance Sijan, Cpt. Raymond Gerald Murphy of the Marines and Major John Alexander Hottell III from West Point.

Speech Highlights

- "Freedom is precious, freedom is fragile and freedom must be protected"
- Live by the words "where principle is involved, be deaf to expediency"
- The principles of leadership remain timeless

- Leaders must encourage creativity, freedom of action and innovation of subordinates
- In a rapidly changing world, human nature remains constant
- Give your team strong, intelligent leadership



Sherron Watkins

Former Vice President of Enron, once America's seventh largest company, presented on Enron's leadership failures. Watkins spoke about the tribulations that she faced when she confronted the company about its unethical accounting practices and the horror that unraveled as Enron went bankrupt and became the center of a massive fraud scandal. Watkins spoke about how her portrayal as a 'whistle-blower' and the need for checks and balances in each company to avoid fraud.



Speech Highlights

- Enron was once a \$60 billion company
- Thirteen congressional investigations took place as to why Enron went bankrupt
- Enron is a colossal fail in leadership and the byword for mega-corporate scandal
- The story of Enron speaks to the problem, how do we maintain a value system?
- What are the warning signs of corruption?
- Watkins testified to Congress about Enron's demise

- Watkins views the label "whistleblower" as a double-edged sword
- Always speak truth to power
- Leaders not focused on the details shouldn't be in leadership.
- Based on the company's communication core value, every Enron employee had the quote on their desk yet kept quiet: "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Other employees who had protested against Enron structures were ignored or demoted



Ellen Ochoa

As Deputy Director of the Johnson Space Center, Ochoa spoke to cadets about her transition from an astronaut to Deputy Director of Flight Crew Operations and other leadership roles. Ochoa shared information on the technical and organizational issues related to the Challenger and Columbia

Speech Highlights

- Represented crew opinion in meeting for Mission Management Team
- Followed NASA's core value of Integrity and voted against the launch of the SS15 Atlantis, when its engine cut off sensors failed, delaying the flight

Space Shuttle disasters and the important role that she played on the Mission Management Team following Columbia. Ochoa discussed current views of the international space station and showed cadets a video of her space shuttle missions as an astronaut.

- Important to instill a culture where we can speak up, where people listen and ask questions
- Recommended the book, "Seven Habits of Highly Effective People" by Steven R. Covey

Nick Bollettieri

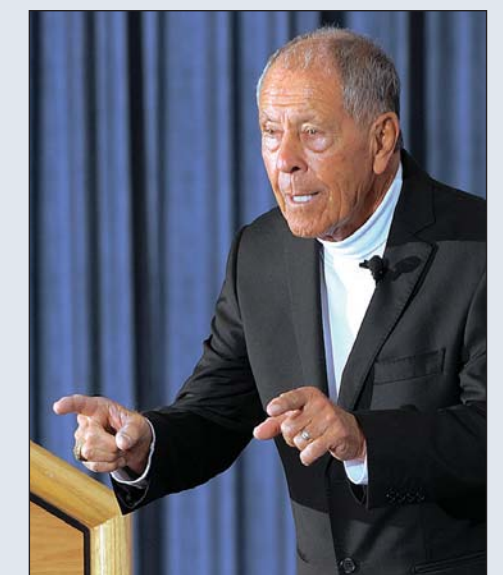
As a nationally recognized tennis coach for number one players such as Andre Agassi, Maria Sharapova, Venus and Serena Williams and Tommy Haas, Bollettieri spoke to cadets about his life, what got him into tennis and his

experiences with world-class champions. He illustrated what it takes to be in a winner in life and that you should never become complacent in life.

Speech Highlights

- Opening questions: Who are you? What do you want to be? What are you willing to do to achieve what you want to be?
- The Air Force Academy provides cadets a foundation, not just for their military career but for the rest of their lives
- Bollettieri wanted to be a star football player and played tennis by sheer accident
- "For every minute of anger that you share, you give up a minute of happiness and also a minute to go to a higher level."

- "Be resilient. Don't be embarrassed by failure and try to do it again with a different approach."
- You become more persuasive when you listen well
- Continue to ask what's next. When you retire from a job, seek a new profession.
- "My number ones get trophies and money but will that make an impact a hundred years from now? That's what's important."
- Bollettieri's IMG Academy has over 500 acres with 7 sports, 900 full-time students from 72 countries.



What the cadets are saying ...

Cadet 1st Class Rick Cassleman, Squadron Command 17
On Ross Perot's Presentation:

"I liked when he talked about air force general officer and fighter pilot Robby Risner, I thought that was pretty smart. ... His perspective was on a person of great virtue and leadership and how much Robby has sacrificed."

Cadet 2nd Class Rick Carr, Squadron Command 4
On Sherron Watkin's presentation and then the conference:
"My favorite speaker was Sherron Watkins, because she was the most polished speaker that I saw. ... She talked a lot on the ethical side of business and didn't necessarily put it into business terms which made it really applicable to everyday life. ... It allows cadets to get a different perspective, especially individuals like Ms. Watkins who

aren't necessarily in the military that have good lessons that we can take away from. It's also good for the Academy to draw in ROTC and the outside to come and interact with us."

Cadet 1st Class Dane Lannon, Squadron Command 22
On Willy Driscoll's presentation:

"I liked it when Driscoll spoke because his experiences were just unbelievable. ... He was very charismatic and brought humor into his presentation."

Cadet 2nd Class Crouse Squadron Command 19
On Aron Ralston:
"I thought it was one of the best I've seen. ... I've read his book and saw the movie, and it helped me get through some tough times sophomore year.

His story is really inspiring how he made it back through such a tough situation, and I think he touched everyone in the audience."

Cadet 4th Class Alexandra Lingle Squadron Command 19
On why the Academy should host the symposium:

"It gives us a break from classes, reminds us why we're here and puts in perspective what's ahead of us."

Cadet 1st Class Michael Oakley Squadron Command 30
On Derek Hall's presentation:

"I heard Derrick Hall speak, and although he's primarily worked with sports teams, he had a really good message directed toward the cadets about giving back to the community."

Falcons edge past Lobos to close out '12 season

Lady Falcons pick up first conference win

Junior Katie Hilbig of Castle Rock, Colo., registered her third double-double of the season to lead the Air Force women's basketball team in a 52-47 victory over New Mexico Wednesday evening in Clune Arena.

With the win, the Falcons snapped a 14-game losing streak, while also posting just their second-ever victory over the Lobos and their first as a Division I team.

Hilbig finished with 12 points and a career-high 14 rebounds for Air Force, while sophomore Cherae Medina, of Denver, also scored in double figures with 12 points. For the Lobos, Caroline Durbin was the leading scorer with 13 points, while Porche Torrance added 12 points and 14 rebounds.

Looking for its first conference win of the year, Air Force (6-23, 1-13) struggled early, going without a field goal for over eight minutes to fall into an 11-1 deficit in the first half. However, the Falcons went on a run to tie the game at 12-12 with a three-pointer from Medina. Air Force and New Mexico traded leads for the remainder of the opening half before going into the locker room tied at 25-25.

New Mexico (9-19, 3-11) notched the first five points after the break to regain the

advantage, but the lead continued to change hands as both teams went on scoring spurts. The Lobos were up by three points, 43-40, with just under five minutes remaining and still had a one-point cushion with 3:07 left on the clock.

After a basket by Medina put Air Force back on top, sophomore Camille Thompson, of McDonough, Ga., converted a three-point play to push the Falcons' margin to four points with 2:21 remaining. Air Force came up with defensive stops down the stretch to hold on to the five-point victory.

Air Force was able to hold New Mexico, the top three-point field goal shooting team in the conference, to just 1-of-11 from beyond the arc. The Falcons also forced 24 turnovers by the Lobos, while grabbing a season-high-tying 15 steals, led by Hilbig and senior captain Jamela Satterfield, of Sacramento, Calif., with three each. Meanwhile, Air Force was outrebounded for the game, 44-36, and shot poorly at the charity stripe, missing 13 free throws on the evening.

The Falcons head to Las Vegas, Nev., next week for the 2012 Conoco Mountain West Basketball Championships being held March 7-10 at the Thomas & Mack Center. Air Force, the eighth seed in the women's bracket, will face top-seeded San Diego State in the opening round of the championships.



MIKE KAPLAN

Senior team captain Jamela Satterfield drives for two of her seven points in Air Force's 52-47 win against New Mexico in Clune Arena Wednesday. The win snapped a 14-game losing streak and marked the women's basketball team's second-ever victory over the Lobos.

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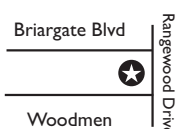
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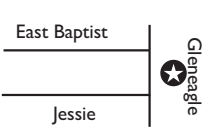
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Prep School captures over-30 basketball title

By Dave Castilla
Intramural Sports director

Prep School overcame the odds to defeat four-time champion Hospital in an over-30 championship match-up, 50-41, and 39-27.

The Prep School had to defeat the undefeated Medics twice to win the base championship. The first half of the championship game was never separated by more than four points, but the Prep School finished up by three to end the stanza, 28-25. In the second half the Medics went on an 8-4 run to take a 33-32 lead, punctuated by a Jerry Travis three-point bucket. But that was the last time they'd see the lead, as the preps went on an 18-8 run to force a second game. Marc Holum paced the preps with 20 points followed by Nate Allen with 11 points. The Medics were led by Frank Samarin with 14 points and James Heller with nine points, all coming on three pointers.

In the final matchup, game times were reduced to two 12-minute halves instead of two 20-minute halves. The Medics Jerry Travis gave hospital the early lead on a three point bucket, but Prep School's Joe Trechter, made a bucket and added a three-point basket to take the lead for good.

Prep School's Raimee Beck sunk a three pointer followed by a bucket off a back-door pass from Trechter making the score 14-9. With about two minutes left in the half, Medic's Jerry

Travis hit a three and Aaron Dawkins made a bucket to close the lead at halftime to 16-14 prep school.

The prep school went on a 12-7 run to start the second half, extending the lead to 28-21. Trechter hit back-to-back buckets, and the Medics called a time out. The Prep School sealed the game at the line as the Medics fouled trying to stop the clock. Trechter hit five of six free throws, and Raimee Beck hit four of four. Nate Allen made two more to seal the deal.



ELIZABETH ANDREWS

Prep School's Bart Weiss drives to the basket past Hospital's Ken Rojas, during the over-30 Basketball championships Feb. 22.

Over-30 all stars shine in double-OT show

By Dave Castilla
Intramural Sports director

The over-30 basketball league concluded its all star game Monday with the combined 10th Medical Group, 306th Flying Training Group and Advanced Space Operations School forming Team No. 1, and Dean of Faculty, Prep School and Cadet Wing competing as Team No. 2. Team No. 1 hung on for the win, defeating Team No. 2, 115-114, in double overtime.

In the first half, both teams fired on all cylinders, making shots and hitting three pointers and fast breaks. Neither team had more than a five-point lead as the lead seesawed back and forth. The score to close out the half was 53-52.

With about 10 minutes left in the second half, Pat Heflin made a layup, and teammate Jerry Travis made a fast-break bucket to give Team No. 1 a 10-point lead, 79-69, the biggest lead of the game.

With less than four minutes in regulation, Team No. 2's Nate Allen had two buckets sandwiched around a three-point basket from Derrick Thompson, closing the gap to within two, 96-94. With less than 25 seconds left, Travis made two free throws, and Heflin added another, making the score 103-100.

Team No. 2 called a time out with 4.4 seconds left, and right on cue, Thompson made a long three to tie the game at 103 each.

In the first overtime the teams played an extra five minutes highlighted by



Prep School's Nate Allen puts up two for All Star Team No. 2, while Bobby Greene, of the 306 FTG, waits for a rebound.

RAYMOND MCCOY

strong defensive play. Both teams went two minutes without scoring until Team No. 1's Heflin hit a two-point bucket. Bobby Greene added two more and the team had a four point lead, 109-105. But back-to-back three pointers from Jesse Gilbert and Scott Gentle put Team No. 2 back in front, 111-109. Heflin tied the game at 111 apiece as time ran out in the first overtime.

The teams squared off for an additional three minutes in the second and final over time, and Chad Holland gave Team No. 1 a two-point lead. But a bucket by Gilbert and a free throw from Thompson gave Team No. 2 their final lead, 114-113.

With about 30 seconds left Pat Heflin hit a basket to seal the deal for Team No. 1.

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Spring football practice kicks off



New assistant offensive backfield coach Jake Campbell works with running backs, showing them how to catch a pitch in the option offense and to secure the ball. Campbell is one of three new offensive coaches, and is a 1996 Academy grad. This four-year letterman in football averaged 6.6 yards per carry during his collegiate career.



Senior quarterback Connor Dietz participates in a passing drill. Dietz will compete for the starting QB job. In 2011, Dietz went 9-of-15 for 128 yards and one score, and 38 rushes for 252 yards and two touchdowns as the backup quarterback.

Mike DeWitt practices catching and securing the football, during a drill. DeWitt carried 117 times for 567 yards and 12 touchdowns during the 2011 season, finishing third on the team in rushing.



By John Van Winkle
Air Force Academy Public Affairs

The face of Falcon Football's 2012 team is being forged with the start of spring football practice.

Spring ball started Feb. 24 and runs through March 22.

That face will be mostly new, with only three starters returning on offense, and two on defense. Special teams skill positions will be solid, with punter David Baska and placekicker Parker Herrington both returning.

A number of significant contributing lettermen are also stepping up, vying for an increased role this season, with increased responsibility and impact. The biggest question on the offensive side will be the new starting quarterback, replacing four-year starter Tim Jefferson. The utterly fearless senior quarterback Connor Dietz returns, along with junior Tucker Tipton. Both received playing time last year, and are the current front-runners to be starting quarterback. But for the past eight years, an unknown freshman quarterback has emerged in the fall to become a four-year starter under center. So who will lead the option offense next year is still at Falcon Stadium is anybody's guess.

In the backfield, junior running backs Wes Cobb, Mike DeWitt and Cody Getz return, along with junior wide receiver Mikel Hunter.

Defensively, familiar faces will be few and far between. Linebacker Alex Means and defensive back Brian Lindsay will be seniors and the only returning starters. Freshman defensive lineman Nick Fitzgerald will lead a group of young faces on the defensive line, and expect to see sophomore defensive back Chris Miller getting lots of playing time in the backfield when the 2012 season kicks off Sept. 1 home against Idaho State.

The Idaho State game will mark Parents Weekend, and is one of four games with firm dates on the 2012 schedule. The other games with firm dates established are Sept. 8 at Michigan, Oct. 6 at home versus Navy to begin the battle to retain the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy, and Nov. 3 at Army.

The Mountain West conference portion of the football schedule will be finalized later this summer, but will give the Falcons home games against Colorado State, Hawai'i, Nevada-Reno and New Mexico, and away games at Fresno State, San Diego State, UNLV and Wyoming.

Falcon Football practice schedule

Saturday, 9:30 a.m.
Monday, 3:45 p.m.
Wednesday, 3:45 p.m.
Thursday, 3:45 p.m.
March 10, 9:30 a.m. at Falcon Stadium
March 12, 3:45 p.m.
March 14, 3:45 p.m.
March 19, 3:45 p.m.
March, 3:45 p.m.
March 22, 3:45 p.m.

But the face of the Mountain West conference will also change, with the departure of San Diego State after the 2012-2013 academic year, and the upcoming merger of the Mountain West and Conference-USA.

The merger is the latest change in the continuing shift of the college football landscape. Announced Feb. 13, the merger of the two conferences will create a new mega-conference to begin competition in the 2013-2014 academic year. Barring continued shifts in the conferences' memberships, this will consist of the Air Force Academy, Alabama-Birmingham, Colorado State, East Carolina University, Fresno State, Hawai'i, Marshall, Nevada-Reno, New Mexico, UNLV, Rice, Southern Miss, University of Texas at El Paso, Tulane, Tulsa and Wyoming. With the exception of Hawai'i as a football-only member, the participation would involve all sports that the current MW and C-USA conferences participate in. A name for the new conference has not been announced yet, but it will reach further than any existing conference, with member schools stretching from the Atlantic Ocean to Hawaii.

The merger of the Mountain West and C-USA will bring the new conference up to 16 teams for football, 15 for other sports. But in the merger announcement, the conferences referenced having 18-24 teams, leaving the door open for continued additions to the conference.

The conference will also have two divisions, regular scheduling between divisions, a championship basketball tournament and a championship football game format that includes semifinal match-ups.



Base Exercise

The Academy will conduct an installation readiness exercise today during normal working hours. The exercise may cause delays at both gates as well as entry control points within the cadet area.

Base housing residents may hear exercise messages from the base alert system. Artificial smoke may be visible from around the Academy. Please drive with caution at this time.



Cadet Chapel

BUDDHIST

Sundays, 10 a.m.

PROTESTANT WORSHIP

Combined Worship Service:
Sundays, 9 a.m.

CATHOLIC WORSHIP

Mass: Sundays, 10 a.m.

JEWISH WORSHIP

Normal schedule
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.
Formation Classes: For students in grades K-8. Sundays, 10:15-11:30 a.m.

PROTESTANT WORSHIP

Evangelical: Sunday, 10:15 a.m.
Gospel: Sunday, 11:30 a.m.
Wednesday Night Live: For ages 3 to adult. Begins with a meal. Wednesdays, 6-7:30 p.m.

LENT

Stations of the Cross and Lenten Suppers: March 29, 16, 23, 20 at 5:30 p.m.
Lenten Communal Reconciliation Service: March 13 at 6:30 p.m.

HOLY WEEK

Catholic Vigil of Palm Sunday: March 31 at 4:00 p.m.
Palm Sunday Mass: April 1 at 8:45 a.m.
Protestant Worship Service: April 1 at 10:15 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.
Holy Thursday Mass and Adoration: April 5 at 6:00 p.m.
Catholic Good Friday Service: April 6 at 6:00 p.m.
Holy Saturday- Easter Vigil and Mass Reception: April 7 at 7:00 p.m.
Easter Sunday- Protestant Sunrise Service- Eisenhower Golf Course: April 8 at 6:30 a.m.
Catholic Mass: April 8 at 9:00 a.m.
Catholic Easter Brunch: April 8 at 10:30 a.m.
Combined Protestant Service: April 8 at 11:00 a.m.

After-Hours Dental Care

The Air Force Academy Dental Clinic allows cadets or Active Duty at the Academy or Peterson to contact their clinic after duty hours for dental emergencies.

If you are active duty and a dental emergency occurs while you're away from your duty station, whether you're TDY or on leave, you may seek treatment from a civilian dentist. Although you may seek treatment from any civilian dentist for dental emergency care, it is recommended that you use a United Concordia network dentist.

To reach a dentist after hours for an emergency call 337-262-4410. To find a dentist call the Active Duty Dental Program (ADDP) help line at 1-866-984-ADDP (2337) or visit www.addp-ucci.com.

Free tax preparation available

The Academy tax center currently offers free tax preparation by appointment to cadets, service members stationed here and their spouses.

Taxes will be done by appointment only. Appointments will be available 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. Mondays and Fridays.

The gross income limit for eligibility is \$60,000 for either an individual or joint tax return.

The tax center, located in Arnold Hall, will take appointments this month. For more info, call 333-3905.

Government housing services

The Academy has a government housing management office located inside the Forest City Residential Management building.

This office provides newcomer information, community housing listings, lease review, liaison for privatized housing and dispute resolution for service members both on and off base.

The office is located at 6556 West Columbine Drive in Pine Valley and can be reached at 333-2247.

Couples Weekend Getaway

The Outdoors Recreational Center will host a Couples Weekend Getaway March 3-4.

The trip will include snowmobiling, skiing and the hot springs.

The cost for the entire weekend, for two people and for a tandem snowmobile is \$585. The cost is \$660 for individual snowmobiles. Call 333-4475 to reserve your spot.

Cadet Orchestra

The cadet orchestra concert will take place March 4 at 4 p.m. in the Arnold Hall Ballroom.

The concert will also feature Amadeus Strings of the Colorado Springs Youth Symphony Association.

The concert is free and open to the public. Guests need to enter by the North Gate.

For more information please call 333-4618.

Indoor Triathlon

The Academy Fitness Center will hold an indoor triathlon March 5-7 featuring a 1/2-mile swim, a 3-mile run and a 5-mile bike ride.

The race will include five heats per day with three people per heat.

People interested in competing can sign up at the Fitness Center's front desk. For more information, contact Charlie Paul at 333-1988.

Optometry Clinic

The USAF Academy Optometry clinic is open to all TRICARE Prime and TRICARE for Life beneficiaries.

No referral is needed to make an appointment for a routine eye exam and services include Diabetic Eye Exams, "Red Eye" Evaluation and Cataract Evaluation.

For routine eye appointments, please call 524-CARE and for urgent care eye appointments please call 333-5144.

Walk 4 Life

The Fitness Center now offers "Walk 4 Life," a low-impact exercise program designed to improve cardiovascular endurance, flexibility and strength.

The walking sessions are approximately one hour, starting at the Fitness Center. Days and times vary.

To register or for more information visit the Health and Wellness Center or call 333-3733.

Air Force Paralegal

Enlisted members may be eligible to re-train as a paralegal for the Judge Advocate General's Department

The minimum qualifications include an ability to type 25 words per minute, a passing PT score, a minimum AQE score of 51 and no derogatory information in your records. If you are eligible and wish to re-train, you must submit a retraining application. In addition, your local Law Office Manager and Staff Judge Advocate

must personally interview you.

To submit retraining applications, contact the Employment section of the MPF.

For more information about the paralegal career field, contact the Law Office Manager, SMSgt Gray at (719) 333-3642.The

Library expands selection

The Community Center Library has created a new collection of existing materials in addition to Exceptional Family Member Program items on a variety of subjects, including development, diversity, resilience and titles currently on the Air Force chief of staff's reading list.

Other subjects include autism, Tourette's syndrome, hearing and visual impairment, physical and mental disabilities and others for both professionals and family members.

Materials will be available for check-out, and book lists will be on hand.

For more information, contact the library at 333-4665.

ATM at Visitor Center

The Visitor Center now has an ATM for visitors' convenience.

A&FRC Offerings

The following class is available at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. Contact the A&FRC at 333-3444 for more information or to register for classes.

Group Preseparation Briefings

Mondays, 2-4 p.m. (except during Transition Assistance Program weeks).

This briefing is mandatory for all retiring and separating military personnel.

Spouses are encouraged to attend.

OPSEC
quote

Intelligence is the exploitation of the other sides' OPSEC failures.

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Bay Area Transit Auth. (abbr.)
5. Pull apart by force
9. Ancient Egyptian King
12. Missing soldiers
13. Capital of Japan
14. Diamond month (abbr.)
15. Spheres
16. Surpassing good
17. British thermal unit
18. Philippine island & seaport
19. Legally argued

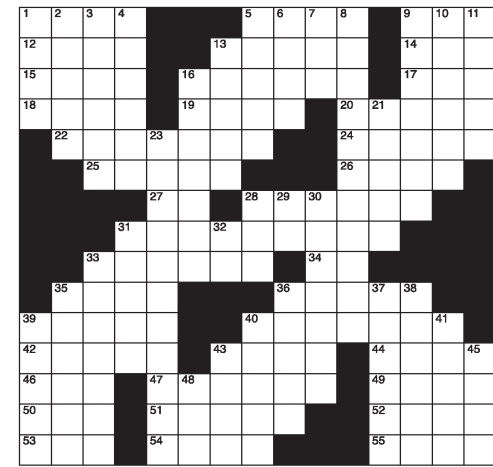
CLUES DOWN

1. Big man on campus
2. Made public by radio or television
3. Labelled
4. Inform positively
5. Drinks habitually
6. Supplemented with difficulty
7. SW Scottish river & port
8. American poet 1874-1963
9. Pads
10. Ingestion or intake
11. Tie up a bird before cooking
13. Bulrushes of the genus Scirpus
16. Turned rod on a spinning wheel
21. Having or covered with leaves
23. The 44th U.S.

20. Belonging to singer Fitzgerald
22. Bowler hats
24. Has a strong odor
25. Doyens
26. London Gallery
27. Rural delivery
28. Rods
31. Stonehenge plain
33. Withdraw from membership

34. Execute or perform
35. Central or Yellowstone
36. Municipality in Norway
39. Bay of NW Rep. of Ireland
40. Skin designs
42. Son of Jephunneh
43. Baseball's Ruth
44. Clare Booth __, Am.

46. Black tropical American cuckoo
47. Filled with fear or apprehension
49. 6th Jewish month
50. Wide metal vessel used in cooking
51. Make by pouring into a cast
52. Colombian city
53. Heat unit
54. Carpenter, red and army
55. Adam and Eve's garden
- procedures
31. A twilled woolen fabric
32. Potato state
33. The work of a sailor
35. Involving 2 dimensions
36. Fanatical or overzealous
37. Consolation
38. Wild sheep of northern Africa
39. Erect leafless flower-bearing stalk
40. Afrikaans
41. Weighing device
43. Very dry champagne
45. Emerald Isle
48. A resident of Benin



SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

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 15

03-02-12

Peak Dining

BILLIARDS



Antique Billiard Museum
3628 Citadel Dr N Colorado Springs, CO 80909 / 719-597-9809 or
Diamond Billiards
3780 E Boulder St Colorado Springs, CO 80909 / 719-596-9516

Two great Billiard Rooms. Best equipment, pricing and pro shop. Over 68 playing pool tables including regulation, snooker billiards and diamond bar tables, 50 cents.

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www.edelweisrest.com

Family owned & operated, Best German Restaurant for over 10 years. Hours: Every day 11:30am-9:00pm. Dinner starts at 4:00pm. Authentic menu with a variety of Old World German dishes includes Schnitzel, Bratwurst, and Sauerbraten. Imported German Beers and Wines and our European-trained Swiss Pastry Chef Bakes all of the desserts from scratch. www.edelweisrest.com

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rastapastacs.com

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CHINESE



Bamboo Court Restaurant
719-599-7383
4935 Centennial Blvd., Suite G

Mon-Fri Lunch: 11:00-3:00pm, Mon-Sat Dinner: 3:00-9:00pm, Sat Lunch: 12:00-3:00pm, Sun Dinner: 4:00-9:00pm Our single combination Dinner Specials come with any entree from the dinner entrees menu and soup of the day, fried or steamed rice, egg roll & crab ragoon. At Bamboo Court, our only goal is to make your expectations a reality!

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FINE DINING



The Margarita at Pine Creek
7350 Pine Creek Rd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80919
598-8667
www.margaritaatpinecreek.com

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21-27 oz.
Select Varieties

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-.50

1.77

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Arizona Tea
128 oz. or
Albertsons Purified Drinking Water
24 pk., 16.9 oz.
Select Varieties

Sale Price \$2.99
-.50

2.49

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MIX & MATCH

Stouffer's Red Box or Lean Cuisine Entrees
6-21 oz.
Select Varieties

Sale Price \$2.49
-.50

1.99

When You Buy Any 8 Participating Items
MIX & MATCH

Lay's Potato Chips
10-10.5 oz.
Select Varieties

Sale Price \$2.49
-.50

1.99

When You Buy Any 8 Participating Items
MIX & MATCH

BONUS MONOPOLY TICKET ITEM

Sara Lee Deluxe Bagels
24 oz. or
Deluxe Bagels
6 ct.
Select Varieties

Sale Price \$2.49
-.50

1.99

When You Buy Any 8 Participating Items
MIX & MATCH

BONUS MONOPOLY TICKET ITEM

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