

BRONZE STARS

Two officers from 10th Medical Group receive medals for their service. **Page 4**

LET IT SNOW!

Be prepared and know the facts about snow days at the Academy. **Page 6**

THE DO'S AND DON'T'S

What's expected in the political arena when you wear a uniform. **Page 7**

ACADEMY SPIRIT



AIRMAN 1ST CLASS VERONICA A. CRUZ



JOHN VAN WINKLE

Spirits of the season

Above: Abby Kitts, 4, (left) dressed as Dorothy meets another Dorothy, Master Sgt. Netha Manby, with the 10th Dental Squadron, at the Trunk-or-Treat Halloween event Tuesday. Abby's father is Tech. Sgt. Justin Kitts, an Academy Military Trainer.

Left: The Crystal Park Fire Department team races to the finish line to clock in at 23.63 seconds for the fastest overall time at the Emma Crawford Coffin Races Saturday in Manitou Springs. The team consists of individuals from the Crystal Park Fire Department, Air Force Academy, Fort Carson and KXRM Fox 21. Team members are, from left, Lt. Col. Shane Coyne, Maj. Jonathan Murphy, Kristyn Leon, 2nd Lt. Zachary Bennett and Army Capt. Kyle Bills.

Religious respect conference attendees discuss Academy's progress

By Don Branum
Academy Spirit staff writer

Representatives from Air Force major commands, religious endorsing organizations, First Amendment watchdog groups and others gathered at the Air Force Academy Tuesday and Wednesday to review the religious climate here. Foremost among the topics discussed

was the religious respect training program, which was established after a similar conference in 2010 outlined what form it should take.

Cadet 4th Class Wasim Soomro shared a recollection of his experiences with balancing faith and cadet training Wednesday morning. A native of Columbus, Ohio, Soomro is from a Muslim family.

"Coming here for basic cadet training, I had a lot of questions on my mind," he said.

But Soomro didn't have to put his faith aside for BCT. The military guidance officer knew from Soomro's biography that he was Muslim and wanted to know how to meet his religious needs.

"He asked me what times of day I was supposed to pray," Soomro said. "(By)

the third morning of basic, I got a knock on my door five minutes before that to pray. I may have prayed more consistently at basic than I did at home."

He and fellow Muslim cadets also received permission not to fast during the portion of Ramadan that overlapped with Phase 2 of BCT through a fatwa, or religious edict.

See Respect Page 4

Critical thinking: Joint Engagement Exercise 2012

By Lt. Col. Jessica Sullivan
Instructor and director of staff,
Military and Strategic Studies Department

What do playing games and conducting military operations have in common? Critical thinking.

Central to any military innovation or reform is a clear understanding of the specific strategic problem presented. Historically, the game of chess was a war game, played by top royal nobles and commanders as a way to maintain their strategic prowess and proficiency in thinking ahead. War gaming clarifies problems and raises areas for further study. A quality war game helps planners confront difficult questions. Thus, Cadets 1st Class Carlos Berreteaga and Tim Mobley created the Joint Engagement Exercise, a simulator-based war game, to test their strategic prowess in the 21st century. JENEX was hosted October 13 in the Cadet Battle Lab, lecturers, and department classrooms located in Fairchild Hall.

The cadets created JENEX to also fulfill their Capstone requirements within the Department of Military and Strategic Studies, which educates cadets on the context, theory, and application of military and strategic forms of power. The program blends the strengths of the social sciences and humanities, preparing cadets to think, lead and operate across the spectrum of conflict in any operational domain.

JENEX is a fantastic way to incorporate the department's major's core competencies into a realistic scenario, and it allows cadets to interact with their military and academic peers, which does not happen frequently.

Approximately 70 peer undergraduate students from the political science departments at DU and the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs attended JENEX, as well as Air Force and Navy ROTC Cadets and faculty from the University of Colorado at Boulder. The participants faced a variety of situations that could only be solved using cooperation with joint and non-military organizations using available tools of national power in atypical ways.

Their aim was to engage participants in a multitude

"Although the game's resultant plan may not exactly fit a future conflict, the experience of having critically thought through a problem provides invaluable insight."

- Lt. Col. Jessica Sullivan
Department of Military and Strategic Studies

of scenarios utilizing the Air/Sea Battle concept in the Asia-Pacific Region. Although the game's resultant plan may not exactly fit a future conflict, the experience of having critically thought through a problem provides invaluable insight. In this sense, the JENEX helped cadets develop critical thinking skills and avoid errors of logic, mental rigidity, and the misuse of evidence.

"The 'Red Cell' students were advised on variations of unrestricted warfare, hybrid warfare and fourth-gen-

eration Warfare — current and future styles of warfare that present irregular, asymmetric, non-military, and influence threats to the U.S.," said Lt. Col. Dan McLagan, one of the faculty running the event.

JENEX engaged participants in a multitude of scenarios utilizing the Air/Sea Battle concept in the Asia-Pacific Region. The participants had to overcome other teams' countering goals and restrictions, red forces, and the friction ultimately created by simulation control.

"The Navy Team that included Midshipmen students and Marine instructors from Boulder demonstrated great ingenuity and a sharp sense of humor, as they reacted to a barrage of real-world scenarios staged across the seven seas," said Navy Cmdr. Kyle Michael. "They quickly discovered that the Navy and Marine Corps team has a variety of assets spread throughout the world."

Berreteaga and Mobley conceived the idea to run the wargame after participating in Denver University's Josef Korbel School of International Studies annual Crisis Diplomacy simulation in April 2012. This was the second year the Academy participated in CENEX, but the first time cadets participated. Previously, only fac-

"I have received overwhelmingly positive feedback from students and faculty about what a great experience this was, how much they learned, and how well they were treated."

- Dr. Terry Schwartz, Associate Dean,
UCCS School of Public Affairs

ulty was involved.

JENEX is a more military and operationally-focused version of CENEX, but it still included strategic planning and critical thinking. JENEX is also tailored for undergraduate students. CENEX supported graduate school-level curriculum requirements.

The faculty involved said they were pleased with JENEX's planning and execution and desire another run during the 2013-14 academic year.

"I have received overwhelmingly positive feedback from students and faculty about what a great experience this was, how much they learned, and how well they were treated," said Dr. Terry Schwartz, associate dean of the UCCS School of Public Affairs. "I hope there will be additional ways we can connect in the future...thank you again for giving our students this unique opportunity in their educational experience."

Cadets Berreteaga and Mobley are conducting thorough debriefings to review exercise strengths and weakness, determine lessons learned, and to commence preparation of a formal written report on the exercise findings.

JENEX would not have been a success without the support of 20 cadets; Col. Robert Krause, Academy chief scientist and director of research; and faculty members Lt. Cols. Jerry Boone, Dan McLagan, Eric Moody, Steve Pomeroy, Jessica Sullivan, Cmdr. Kyle Michael, Maj. Brook Lee, Navy Lt. Rebecca Greenbaum, Dr. Jim Titus, Dr. John Farquhar, and Jim Schlagheck.

ACADEMY SPIRIT

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2nd Lt. Brandon Baccum — Chief of Internal Communication
Tech. Sgt. Vann Miller — Editor
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Former AFMC commander named '11 TD White Award winner

By Don Branum
Academy Spirit staff writer

A former vice chief of staff and commander of Air Force Materiel Command received the Air Force Academy's Thomas D. White National Defense Award in a ceremony here Oct. 25.

Retired Gen. Lester Lyles received the award for his involvement with the president's Intelligence Advisory Board and the Defense Science Board, as well as for his advocacy for science, technology, engineering and mathematics outreach.

Lyles joined the Air Force in 1969 after graduating from Howard University with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. He received his commission through ROTC.

"Serving in some capacity for me was ... something I looked forward to," Lyles said during an address to cadets in the Arnold Hall Theater.

Lyles served in uniform for 35½ years in positions that included director of tactical systems for Air Force Systems Command at Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass., and director of medium launch vehicles for the Space Systems Division at Los Angeles AFB, Calif. He retired in 2003 and was named to the Intelligence Advisory Board in 2009.

Lyles said it would be increasingly challenging for the United States to stay ahead of its rivals as society becomes increasingly technological.

"It's a tremendous challenge because society is so tech-focused and broad when it comes to capability," he said. "We're no longer number one when it comes to some areas of technology."

To continue to compete, the U.S. needs a technologically proficient workforce, Lyles said. That includes not just information technology but also biotechnology, astronomical technology and "math in more ways than you can imagine."

Lyles started addressing the challenge during his command at AFMC. When he entered the position, pilots re-



Gen. Lester Lyles (ret.)

ceived the lion's share of promotions among line of the Air Force officers. He brought the matter to the attention of then-Air Force Secretary James Roche.

"Roche personally talked to every young engineer in the Air Force," Lyles said. "He called it re-recruiting."

The Air Force also revised the Academy's curriculum to make it more technology-heavy and to give cadets a broader basic understanding of science and mathematics.

"We hope one of the outcomes will be more people invested in a technological workforce," Lyles said.

But in order to innovate, tomorrow's leaders will also need the freedom to fail, Lyles said, recalling efforts in 2001 to test-fire a Hellfire missile from an MQ-1 Predator remotely piloted aircraft.

"It would have taken six months and \$60 million," Lyles said. Upon hearing that, Gen. John Jumper, who was Air Force chief of staff at the time, was livid.

"He just wanted to know, can we do it?" Lyles said.

Jumper told Lyles that AFMC was "authorized to fail," Lyles said. With that, AFMC officials revised the test program, getting it done in about six weeks and spending less than \$5 million.

Another issue Lyles took on, as chair of the Congressionally chartered Military Leadership Diversity Commission, was how to improve diversity among the Defense Department's top ranks.

"Way back in 2009, diversity was not very large on the horizon," Lyles said. "Now the Air Force has its first female four-star general. The Army's first female four-star, Gen. Ann Dunwoody, retired about five months ago. The Navy has its first African-American four-star (admiral) running the Pacific Fleet for U.S. Pacific Command."

Increasing diversity within both senior officer and senior enlisted ranks will put the Defense Department "in great stead to have a diverse military organization reflecting the makeup of the civilian population."

The Thomas D. White Award is presented annually to a U.S. citizen who has contributed significantly to U.S. national defense, according to the award's fact sheet. A plaque is displayed in Arnold Hall with names of annual winners, who in past years have included Bob Hope, Sen. Barry Goldwater, Dr. Condoleezza Rice and Sen. John Glenn.

3rd quarter awards

The U.S. Air Force Academy Quarterly award winners for the 3rd Quarter, July through September, were announced October 24.

The following members were recognized for their accomplishments in their respective categories:

Airman of the Quarter:

Airman 1st Class Caitlin Delzoppo,
10th Security Forces Squadron

NCO of the Quarter:

Staff Sgt. Sophie Holden,
USFA Financial Services Office

Senior NCO of the Quarter:

Master Sgt. Jessica Waltman,
10th Medical Surgical Squadron

Company Grade Officer of the Quarter:

Chaplain (Capt.) Heather Bodwell, Cadet Chapel

Civilian of the Quarter:

Michael Trenker,
10th Civil Engineer Squadron

Senior Civilian of the Quarter:

Michael D. McMahon,
Manpower and Personnel director

Manager/Supervisor Civilian of the Quarter:

Patricia A. Humphrey, Student Academic Affairs
and Academy Registrar

Honor Guard Airman of the Quarter:

Senior Airman Tonzon Ball,
10th Medical Surgical Squadron

Honor Guard NCO of the Quarter:

Staff Sgt. Mike Watson,
10th Medical Support Squadron

Honor Guard Senior NCO of the Quarter:

Master Sgt. James Normandin,
10th Force Support Squadron

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Officers from 10th Med Group receive Bronze Stars

By 2nd Lt. Brandon Baccam
Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Two Air Force officers from the 10th Medical Group received Bronze Star medals here Wednesday for their exceptional meritorious service while on deployment.

Maj. Charles Haggerty and 1st Lt. Patrick Cording were in different areas of Afghanistan on separate tours, providing medical care to service members and the local Afghan population in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

During the public ceremony, Lt. Gen. Mike Gould presented Maj. Haggerty and 1st Lt. Cording with the Bronze Star medals in the 10 MDG building lobby.

"These two have done something special," Gould said during the ceremony.

Maj. Haggerty is an orthopedic surgeon here at the 10th Medical Group, and took over command as deputy commander only two months into his tour. Some of his finest achievements include providing care for 230 traumas and 80 operative cases, fostering relations with local Afghan physicians with on-site lectures and open discussion of rural medical practice, and establishing the first walk-in orthopedic clinic in a forward operating base for non-battle injuries.

"It is a tremendous honor," Haggerty said. "Especially how much it means to other people — What it means to the Academy, the 10th Medical Group, and what it represents in terms of what we were able to accomplish there."

He was the sole orthopedic surgeon in the area and provided 24/7 on-call coverage, delivering care to 275 outpatients with a 99 percent return to duty rate.

Cording, also assigned to 10th Medical Group,

is a physician assistant in family practice here. He received the bronze star award for his support of Counter Insurgency operations for Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force-Afghanistan. He evaluated and treated 15,000 patients at Tarin Kowt Forward Surgical Element. Cording also established a joint-care clinic with Afghan medics resulting in medical care for 400 commandos. He was an essential asset in 200 trauma resuscitations involving United States, Coalition, host nation partner force, and local national patients.

Cording recounted some of the challenges he faced while on his deployment, and explained how coordinating and working as a team was one of the main ones.

"It was a matter of getting to know the personnel you were with," said Cording.

Haggerty said that limited availability of supplies was a difficulty he experienced.

"We basically did not have running water in the hospital, which made things difficult at times," said Haggerty.

Both Cording and Haggerty agreed that while they were honored to have been awarded the Bronze Star medal, they were also very humbled because they believe there are many others that are just as deserving as they are.



SARAH CHAMBERS

Maj. Charles B. Haggerty (left) and 1st Lt. Patrick D. Cording from the 10th Medical Group wear their bronze star medals they while serving in Afghanistan.

"It is a very prestigious award for going to work and taking pride in what you do on a daily basis," said Cording. "We were with special ops guys — SEALs — who lived outside the wire for months at a time...it is certainly humbling."

As the ceremony concluded, nearly every individual in attendance stood in line to walk up and congratulate the two for their accomplishments.

"War is war, it is very tough — but even in that difficult situation, it gives you the opportunity to do a lot of good," Haggerty said. "We both took advantage of it, helped a lot of people, and made things better over there."

Respect

From Page 1

Muslims typically must fast from sunrise to sunset during the month-long holiday, but the cadets were given an exception.

"We do have to make it up, but the fatwa allowed us to miss Ramadan with a clear conscience," he said.

Soomro said those accommodations exemplify a culture at the Academy that respects members of various religions. But it goes beyond worship services, even influencing interpersonal communication.

"I think it's actually brought me closer to them because they know who I truly am, and they're not afraid to come ask questions," he said.

Establishing an understanding of diverse backgrounds encourages respect, said Brig. Gen. Cathy Chilton, the mo-

bilization assistant to Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Mike Gould.

"Not understanding religion leads to fear," she said. "Even though it's different from the way I believe ... it really does help you to be able to get along, to understand where they're coming from. The military is a team — we can't do what we do without being a team."

The chaplain corps has worked to institutionalize the religious respect training program so that it will endure when new leaders arrive. That step is important to prevent the climate here from backsliding, said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Dan Brantingham.

"The institutional mission is to develop leaders of character," Brantingham said. "This is an institutional issue. I'm firmly convinced the Academy's senior leadership is committed to this. This is

a system that couldn't work if not for senior leaders broadcasting the expectation of respect for human dignity."

Chaplain (Col.) Robert Bruno, the Air Force Academy chaplain, said the Air Force's senior leaders also support the Academy's religious respect initiatives.

"If a future superintendent tries to change that, I think — I hope — he would be called to account for that," Bruno said.

The long-term outcome of the training program will be to wash away "islands of intolerance" that still exist within the organizational Air Force. One cadet experienced an incident during a visit to a base in which he was discriminated against due to his religion, said Chaplain (Maj.) Shawn Menchion, the chapel's chief of plans and programs.

Menchion continued. "If you've never experienced any type of discrimination, then you don't know what type of pain people feel. It makes me want to press harder to emphasize the importance of being one team, focusing on the mission and taking care of one another."

Beyond religious respect training, the chaplains keep a lookout for incidents of disrespect and ask the members of the Cadet Interfaith Council to do the same, Brantingham said.

"We try to keep our ears open," he said. "The Cadet Interfaith Council is closer than we are, and we ask them to be the first responders if at all possible," he said. "Wherever we can hear it, wherever we can find it, we will address it, and where we can get the cadets to address it first, that's even better."

Representatives said they're encour-

aged by the training program and by the climate evidenced in Soomro's example.

"It validates what you are doing," said Scott Levin, director of the Anti-Defamation League's Rocky Mountain Region. "When people in his unit are freely asking about his religion, and when he feels free to answer, that's a culture change, so congratulations."

Retired Col. Frank Clawson, representing the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, said the conference illustrates that the Air Force Academy has not swung the pendulum so far that people are afraid to discuss religion altogether.

"Our biggest concern was that ... we'd become a secular university with no opportunities for religious respect, and those who wanted to exercise their faith would be so looked down on that there would be no religious discussion at all," Clawson said. "I was so encouraged with (Soomro) ... to see how you've taken the concept (of religious respect training) and that we've seen very positive results the first year."

"You have to keep rejuvenating these to keep them current and relevant," he said.

Dr. David Oringderff represents the Sacred Well Congregation, a Wiccan faith group that serves as an endorsing body for Congress and for other non-Defense Department government organizations. He attended the 2010 conference and returned for this year's.

"When I came back this time, I expected to see some movement forward. I did not expect to see the enormity of the movement forward," Oringderff said.



DON BRANUM

Lt. Gen. Mike Gould speaks with Bishop Michael Sheridan and Scott Levin during the Academy's 2012 religious respect conference. Sheridan represents the Catholic Archdiocese for the Military Services. Levin is director of the Rocky Mountain Region of the Anti-Defamation League.

Firefighters take team, relay, solo national titles

By John Van Winkle
Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Air Force Academy firefighters added more national titles to their collection, at the Firefighter Combat Challenge nationals, Oct. 26-28 in Las Vegas.

The Academy Fire Department took the 2012 national championship in the team, relay and individual categories.

This challenge simulates the tasks a firefighter must perform at a working fire in full gear, on a timed course where races are won by tenths and sometimes hundredths of a second. The amount of physical exertion is so extreme that most firefighters can only run the full course at full strength once per day.

Academy firefighter Bill Gates took the individual title, with a time of 1:29.76, just 2.6 seconds ahead of his nearest competitor.

Each Academy firefighter at the national competition finished with a time below two minutes in individual races. The team consists of Gates, Anthony "Tank" McMurtry who finished fourth, Pat Kraft who finished ninth, Roy Dalton who finished 13th, Hans Barkley who finished 14th and Steven Rousseau, who finished 16th overall.

For the team competition, a team's fastest three times are combined for a total team score. For USAFA, that score was 4:55.85, earning a national title in the team category. That was 7.98 seconds ahead of the number two team, from the Department of Defense Firefighting Academy at Goodfellow AFB, Texas. This is also the first time the Academy Fire Department has won the national title in the open team category and the individual category.



The Air Force Academy Fire Department's national championship team is, from left, Roy Dalton, Anthony "Tank" McMurtry, Hans Barkley, Steven Rousseau, Bill Gates and Patrick Kraft. Gates took the individual title, with a time of 1:29.76, just 2.6 seconds ahead of his nearest competitor.

COURTESY PHOTO

"I am extremely proud of the firefighters at the Air Force Academy, and the success they have had competing in the firefighter combat challenge," said Ernst Piercy, Academy fire chief. "While certainly winning the national championship is a huge accomplishment, I think the resulting fitness of our firefighters should not be discounted."

Piercy went on to elaborate on the health of the firefighters contributing to their success.

"Heart attacks continue to be the number one killer of firefighters on a national level, but if we can slow that process by increasing the cardio vascular health of our responders, it is incumbent upon us to do everything that we can in that regard," Piercy said. "Not only are my competitors in superb condition, but their fellow firefighters, who are in the gym right next to them, are equally fit. Everyone wins in this equation."

Firefighters compete in the categories of individual, two-person tandems or teams of five to six firefighters. This year, the Academy Fire Department is fielding teams in the men's division and men's over 40 division, as well as tandems and in the individual categories.

Academy firefighters also took second, sixth,

eighth and ninth places in the male tandem category and second in the over-40 male tandem category. The over-40 male tandem was Kraft and deputy fire chief Ken Helgerson, both veterans of the event, who clocked in at 1:28.29 and will advance to the world competition in this category.

The Academy also took first place in the single elimination relay tournament. In the championship round, the Academy firefighters finished with a time of 1:14.21, just six hundredths of a second ahead of another team, for the win and another national title.

To qualify for an advance to the world firefighter combat challenge, teams must have three team members finish with a combined time of less than seven minutes. Individuals, tandems and relay teams can qualify for the world games with a total time of less than two minutes finishing the course.

The Academy Fire Department has competed in the firefighter combat challenge national and world games for 10 of the past 11 years, breaking several records and winning several world and national titles along the way. They will look to add to their list of world titles at the World's Firefighter Combat Challenge, Nov. 12-17 in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

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Be prepared for snow days

Academy preps for Winter weather

By Airman 1st Class Veronica A. Cruz
Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Winter weather is approaching the Air Force Academy, and the 10th Civil Engineer Squadron is ready for action.

Although the changing of seasons brings with it snow, ice and additional hazards on the road, snow crews are prepared to face the elements, according to John Sutherland, a heavy equipment supervisor.

Snow routes are clearly marked, snow removal equipment has been serviced and snow crews are prepared to respond at the first sign of inclement weather.

After every winter season, summer is spent rebuilding snow removal equipment, which includes replacing worn parts and doing a thorough safety inspection, said Sutherland.

"We take safety very seriously and our snow equipment is inspected by the drivers of these trucks every time it is operated throughout the winter prior to getting on USAFA roads," said Sutherland.

After coordinating with the proper authorities, Security Forces patrolmen and Sutherland close snow gates that lead to secondary roads when harsh weather hits the base.

These roads are closed for the good of public safety because they do not get the same attention during heavy snowfall as the priority snow routes, said Sutherland.

During snow clearing operations, for their safety, it is important for pedestrians to stay off the

roads. Plow operators, who maneuver 18 ton trucks, often do this on ice, Sutherland said.

Master Sgt. Russell Devino, the Academy's Ground Safety Manager, suggests that drivers should have a winter safety kit prepared in case of emergency.

The kit should include winter necessities, such as a cell phone, warm clothing, tire chains, an ice scraper and extra washer fluid, Devino said.

Emergency supplies to keep warm, energized, and prepared to make minor repairs should also be included in any emergency kit, Devino said.

Also, no matter the kind of vehicle, proactive driving is key to winter road safety, Devino said.

"I ask that everyone reduce their travel speed and increase the following distance of the vehicle ahead of them," said Sutherland. "This is an extra safety precaution that everyone can benefit from."

Winter driving techniques, such as steering into a skid and avoiding the use of cruise control, will also help drivers maintain control of their vehicles, said Devino.

After the announcement of inclement weather,



CAROL LAWRENCE

Master Sgt. Amy Wilson scrapes her windshield in the parking lot outside of Harmon Hall at the Air Force Academy, Oct. 26, 2011. Making sure your windshield is clear is a must during adverse weather.

er, students and staff can be notified of delayed openings, closings and early releases through the Falcon Alert system, social media sources like Facebook and Twitter, local radio and television stations, and the snow line at 333-2800.

Each unit commander will determine who is mission-essential and will report for normal duty hours or as directed. The AAFES service station, base exchange and commissary will follow the same plan as last year and open according to designated late reporting times. The Child Development Center will maintain its normal operating hours.

the Snow Call Line at 333-2800. Academy residents working at other local bases should follow the reporting times for those installations.

Am I mission-essential?

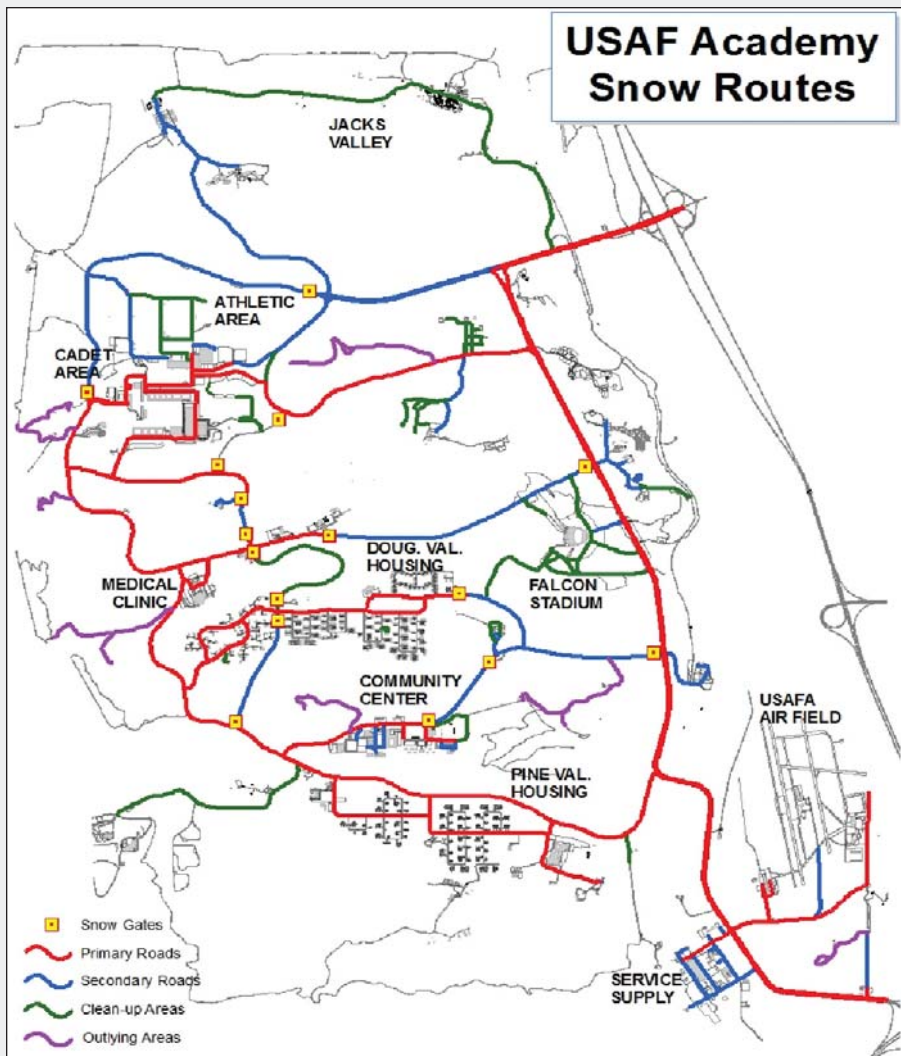
Mission-essential workers are determined by each unit commander and report as directed. The base exchange, commissary and AAFES service station will open at the designated late reporting time. The Child Development Center will open at its normal time to accommodate mission-essential workers. Check with those facilities on their operating hours and other pertinent information.

Delays, closures, early release

Delayed reporting or base closures at the Academy will be released to local radio and television stations by Public Affairs. Listen to your local radio or television stations prior to reporting to work. If there is a significant snowfall, the local media will provide you of reporting times for Academy personnel. Late reporting and early release is designed to ensure everyone's safety.

Automated closure or delay information, along with road conditions, via a recorded message can also be obtained by calling

the Snow Call Line at 333-2800. Academy residents working at other local bases should follow the reporting times for those installations.



Snow routes

Roads coded red are Emergency Access or primary snow routes and must be kept open 24-hours-a-day, seven days a week.

Major Roads, coded in blue, are secondary routes. Overnight, these roads do not receive the same attention as the Emergency Access Roads, so stay on snow routes during and immediately after every

snow event.

Snow Gates: A new snow gate has been installed just west of the scout huts on Community Center Drive. When the gate is closed, the steep portion of Community Center Drive is off limits. The location of the new gate provides Douglass Valley Housing residents an alternate exit through East Douglass Drive.



Drivers on Academy roads should not attempt to pass these vehicles. Stay at least 100 feet behind any snow removal equipment.

Workshop to improve relationships

By Tech. Sgt. Vann Miller
Air Force Academy Public Affairs

A special workshop intended for people interested in improving their relationship will be made available here November 10.

Though the event is hosted by the 10th Air Base Wing Chaplain Corps, it is designed to be non-faith based, according to Chaplain (Capt.) Steve Cuneio.

"For couples who take my advice to attend a marriage retreat or seminar, nine times out of 10 they come back reporting a positive, beneficial and worthwhile eye-opening experience," said Cuneio.

The workshop was a result of the new partnership with the Colorado Healthy Marriage Project. The goal of this partnership was to provide relationship workshops and retreats free of charge to all USAFA Airmen, both civilian and military, according to Lt. Col. Randall W. Erwin, Wing Chaplain.

The subjects discussed in the workshop provide the tools for creating a healthy marriage, Erwin said.

The 8 hour workshop explores strategies to prepare, improve, or repair your marriage.

"The number of people seeking help for troubled marriages far outnumbers those seeking help for depression, family tensions, alcohol or drug abuse, anxiety, spiritual concerns, past traumas, or crises," said Cuneio.

The chaplains here see trends in overall lack of preparation to develop healthy relationships. Most couples or individuals do not participate in premarital counseling/relationship preparation,



according to Erwin. Furthermore, some couples lack healthy communication, conflict resolution, and interpersonal relationship skills. This can lead to anger and depression, which are two of the most common side effects of unhealthy relationships. Unfortunately, approximately 50 percent of the time, the problems or concerns are spilling over to the work center impacting mission accomplishment.

"The good news is that people are seeking help on their own," said Erwin.

This relationship workshop is led by professionally trained educators from The Colorado Healthy Marriage Project. Two of its most recent attendees were members of Team USAFA.

Senior Airman Justin Snyder of the 10th ABW Security Forces Squadron commented on how the workshop benefited him, his wife and their marriage.

"This retreat really helped my wife and I open up to each other like never before," Snyder said. "We were actually able to communicate about issues that we couldn't beforehand."

This workshop addresses such things as: Effective Communication skills; Conflict Resolution skills; the importance of fun and romance in your marriage; and personality profiles of you and your partner.

"We left the retreat closer and stronger in our marriage," said Snyder. "It was definitely worth our time."

The Workshop will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 10 at the Community Center Chapel. To register or to receive more information, call Leena Budhu at 333-3300.

Do's and Dont's for Airmen during political season

By Maj. Jennifer Clay
Air Force Global Strike Command Judge Advocate

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE, La. (AFNS) —

With the 2012 general presidential election only weeks away, please keep in mind that special ethics rules apply to active-duty Airmen regarding their political activities.

The purpose of these rules is to ensure the Department of Defense does not influence our nation's electoral process. Violation of these rules can have serious consequences and could result in criminal or administrative penalties.

The following is a quick reminder of the basic rules:

As an Airman, you may:

- Register, vote and privately express your opinions on political candidates and issues (but not as a representative of the Armed Forces).
- Make monetary contributions to a political organization.
- Encourage other military members to exercise their voting rights, however, you may not attempt to influence or interfere with the outcome of an election. Also, you may not encourage subordinates to vote for or against a particular issue or candidate.
- Sign a petition for specific legislative action or a petition to place a candidate's name on an official election ballot. You may not identify yourself by rank or duty title.



See Politics Page 10

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Puzzle solutions for 11-02-2012

PUZZLE SOLUTION	T A B U	B A S H	B U B	1	9	5	6	2	4	8	7	3
	A V I V	A B B O T	A A R E	6	4	2	7	8	3	1	9	5
	P E R U	D U E R O	B L U E	7	8	3	5	1	9	4	6	2
	S O L	S M A	C K S	9	3	7	8	6	1	2	5	4
	A T M	P H E S T		5	1	8	2	4	7	6	3	9
	S U S H I	S H E	U C A	4	2	6	9	3	5	7	1	8
	P A L	U N C I A L	K A W	2	6	1	3	5	8	9	4	7
	A B N	D R I L	A M A	3	7	4	1	9	2	5	8	6
	V I A	T A R R E D	S P Y	8	5	9	4	7	6	3	2	1
	O N E	H N Y	C A S E S									
	P E B A	K R A										
	S L E D G E	B A A										
	U L E X	A R R A U										
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Respect, Service, Honor

Academy Base Honor Guard in need of members

By Amber Baillie
Academy Spirit staff writer

Staff Sgt. Matthew Duggie has been a part of the Academy's Base Honor Guard for three years and said the best part about the job is not the recognition he receives for being a part of the team or opportunity to perform at major events. Rather, it's the opportunity to give back to military families, particularly active duty members who have lost their lives in combat.

Duggie, along with 22 noncommissioned officers and junior enlisted volunteers, comprise the base's part-time honor guard. They perform ceremonial duties such as casket carry, flag fold, flag presentations, color posting and taps at Academy retirements, change of command ceremonies and funerals.

"It's a feeling of accomplishment," Duggie said. "When we perform, we don't wear name tags and wear our hats low so we remain nameless, faceless and can honor the fallen."

Staff Sgt. Michael Watson, an Academy biomedical equipment technician and trainer on the team, said the Academy is the only Air Force installation that has an active cemetery and is the team's area of responsibility.

"Our average during busy season, May through August, is to attend 25-30 details a month," Watson said. "During our off season, we receive roughly 10 details a month and have attended approximately

100 this year so far."

Members practice the second and fourth Wednesday of every month from 1-4:30 p.m. and must sign a one-year contract. A training class for new members is held every quarter, the next one being on Nov. 5-9.

"During that week we teach them the basics and then evaluate them individually to see if they'll make it on the honor guard," Duggie said. "All ranks are welcome. We've had chiefs and lieutenant colonels on the team."

The honor guard's mission is to "honor with dignity", Watson said occasionally the team will perform at sporting events, weddings and parades.

"We try to be involved in the community as much as we can," Watson said. "We need people on the team who will be able to lift, bend and stand on their feet for long periods of time."

Duggie and Watson recently returned from temporary duty travel in Washington D.C. to train with the Air Force Honor Guard for two weeks and prepare for the upcoming class.

"Being trainers or in a leadership role, you have an opportunity make an impression on other people," Watson said. "There are many who don't know military people so we try to represent the Air Force for them."

Watson said every time the honor guard receives a letter of appreciation, the team reads it together. "We do this so everyone remembers why we do this and what it means to family members," Watson

said.

Watson said the team needs 40 members to cover all honor guard requests. He said the team needs members who are committed and will care about what they're doing.

"You're the last military person in some cases who the family is going to see at the funeral," Watson said. "It takes a special person to do what we do because we're around funerals all the time and are ambassadors for the Air Force."

The Academy also has a Cadet Honor Guard made of approximately 70 cadets. They attend Academy parades, formations attended by the Cadet Wing and funerals for cadets and graduates of the Academy. They have a drill team, color guard and are comprised of a prestigious cadet unit that draws in less than two percent of the Cadet Wing as its members.

Graduation for new Academy Base Honor Guard volunteers will be Nov. 9 at 3 p.m. at the Academy Memorial Pavilion.

For those interested in joining the Academy Base Honor Guard, please contact Staff Sgt. Michael Watson at 333-5095 or Janet Edwards at 333-3323.



MIKE KAPLAN



Members of the Academy's Base Honor Guard practice the second and fourth Wednesday of every month and must sign a one year contract. The next training class for new members will be Nov. 5-9.

ELIZABETH ANDREWS



MIKE KAPLAN

Twenty-two non commissioned officers and junior enlisted volunteers comprise the base's part-time honor guard. They perform ceremonial duties such as casket carry, flag fold, flag presentations, color posting and taps at Academy retirements, change of command ceremonies and funerals.



The base honor guard's mission is to "honor with dignity." The 40 member all honor guard requests and needs volunteers who are committed and will care about what they're doing.

SARAH CHAMBERS

Derek Damien, from the pollution prevention staff, says people can drop off their electronics they wish to recycle. They are collecting at the CES Complex Bldg. 8125 from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. every Wed. and Thurs. through January.

TECH. SGT. VANN MILLER



Free electronic recycling event

By Tech. Sgt. Vann Miller
Academy Spirit editor

Reuse, recycle, dispose — that's the idea behind the annual recycling event held here to commemorate America Recycles Day on Nov. 15.

Each Wednesday and Thursday starting now through January, the 10th Civil Engineer Squadron will hold its free Electronics Recycling event for the Academy and surrounding community. People can take their electronic items to the 10 CES Complex at building 8125 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"People with access to the base can take an opportunity to properly dispose of their old or broken electronic equipment," said Derek Damien, pollution prevention manager.

Currently, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's web page, there are no federal mandates for electronic recycling. However, the EPA encourages recycling of used electronic devices.

"Not all parts of the electronics are considered to be hazardous material," Damien said. "But, within electronic equipment

hazardous material, like mercury, can be found."

Recycling is an improved solution as opposed to throwing items into a landfill, according to Damien. For six years collectively, the Academy has recycled more than 50,000 pounds of household electronics; which is nearly the weight of three F-16s.

According to the EPA, an estimated 438 million electronic products were sold nationally just three years ago. As more consumers use electron equipment, including equipment that comes to the end of its life-cycle, recycling becomes increasingly important. And,

Recycling gives consumers a way to responsibly discard such items, Damien said. Some recyclable items include personal computers and components, televisions, DVD or CD players, stereos, speakers, and VHS players.

For more information on this recycling event, call Derek Damien at 333-3224. For details about rules for recycling, visit the EPA website at <http://www.epa.gov/osw/conservematerials/recycling/rules.htm>.

Politics

From Page 7

- Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper expressing your personal views on public issues or political candidates, if such action is not part of an organized letter-writing campaign. You may not identify yourself by rank or duty title. If the letter identifies you as being on active-duty status (or if you are otherwise reasonably identifiable as a member of the Armed Forces), the letter should clearly state that the views expressed are your individual views and not those of the Air Force or DOD.

- Display a small bumper sticker on your private vehicle.

The following activities are prohibited by the Joint Ethics Regulation, DoD Regulations, Air Force Instructions and federal law. Violation of these rules may result in criminal penalties or disciplinary action.

As an Airman, you may not:

- Use your official authority, influence or government resources including e-mail, to interfere with an election, affect the course or outcome of an election, encourage votes for a particular candidate or issue, or ask for political contributions from others.

- Participate in any radio, television or other program or group discussion as an advocate of a partisan political party or candidate.

- Solicit or fundraise in federal offices, facilities or military reservations for a partisan political cause or candidate.

- Display a large political sign, banner or poster (as distinguished from a bumper sticker) on the top or side of a private vehicle.

- Participate in any organized effort to provide voters with transportation to the polls if the effort is organized by a partisan political party or candidate.

- Attend partisan political events as an official representative of the Armed Forces.

- Display a partisan political sign, poster, banner or similar device visible to the public at one's residence on a military installation, even if that residence is part of a privatized housing development.

- Under Article 88 of the Uniformed Code of Military Justice, military officers may not publicly disrespect or undermine certain elected officials, federal secretaries or congress.

Partisan political activities are actions that show support for a particular political party or candidate.

Earlier this year, an Army reservist was reprimanded for appearing in uniform on CNN to support a presidential candidate. This is just one example of what not to do.

Energy future front and center at NREL

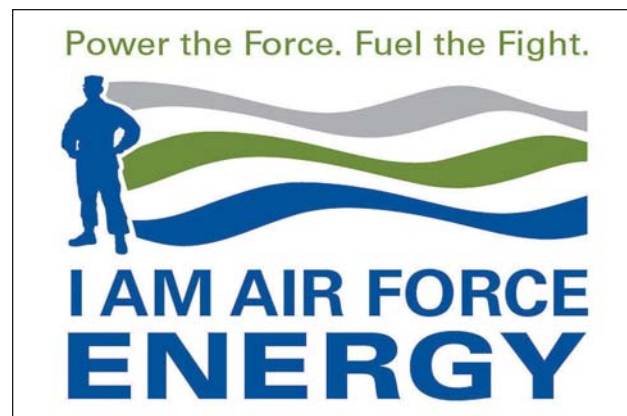
Becoming a Net-Zero installation is on the list of many energy goals for the US Air Force Academy. Efforts to utilize solar, geothermal, and other renewable energy sources can be seen in across the Academy from the solar array at the South gate to the solar panels installed on the roof of Vandenburg to the hybrid vehicles on use across the base. As part of USAFA's wider support of the Air Force Energy Action Month campaign, a group of USAFA personnel from the 10th Air Base Wing Civil Engineering Squadron and the USAFA Office of Research recently toured the epicenter of US research efforts in renewable energy - The National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, Colorado.

Led by USAFA Chief Scientist, Col Robert Kraus, the group got a behind the scenes look at the current and emerging energy technologies being applied at the NREL campus. From the landscape and architecture to the cutting edge research being done in NREL labs, every detail has energy in mind. The NREL campus is home to multiple centers and departments including the National Center for Photovoltaics, the National Bioenergy Center, and the National Wind Technology Center. Additionally, the campus is conducting research in

Energy Sciences, Biological Sciences, Chemical and Materials Science, and Engineering.

From the cutting-edge, solar power-generating open air garages that feeds unused energy back onto the local grid to innovative, energy-conscious building and office space design; USAFA civil engineers brought home great ideas on how to address a wide-range of energy issues. Some of the solutions to energy use were simple such as NREL's use of the energy saving surge protectors that help reduce wasted power, also known as vampire loads, by up to 85 percent, community printer stations, and use of passive solar and lighting. Others were more complex such as the 360,000 sq. ft. Research Support Facility.

According to NREL, in addition to solar roof arrays, the interior of the RSF includes sustainable building materials, many of which are Indoor Air Quality certified. An example of this is the reclaimed pine beetle-kill wood used throughout the interior. The building is a Platinum LEED building but currently exceeds those building code efficiency standards by 50 percent or more. During the tour, Bosch demonstrated electrochromic window technology utilized in areas of the building and Bosch



said NREL is researching other low-cost versions that will be applicable to larger market segments. He noted that the RSF has won 30 awards and its green data center uses a "bio-inspired" air intake for cooling and the center's waste heat is used to warm the entire middle wing of the building in winter.

"The Research Support Facility showcased numerous high-performance design features, passive energy strategies, and renewable energy technologies," said USAFA 10 CES Energy Manager Oscar F. Reyes. He added that the visit offered valuable knowledge for USAFA Civil Engineers. "The RSF is a prototype for the future for ultra-efficient building design technologies that can be implemented at USAFA."

The group also toured the Science and Technology Facility which houses NREL's largest photovoltaic laboratory called the Process Development Integration Laboratory. The PDIL develops solar technologies for the future such as new processes for raising solar cell efficiency

and cost-effective PV manufacturing. The most common materials researched by the lab include the specialized compounds, Silicon Film Technology, Organic Photovoltaics, High Efficiency Solar Cells (III-V Multi-Junction and IMM devices) and Concentrated Photovoltaics. The lab also researches the materials that com-

prise Concentrated Solar Power technologies.

"The cutting edge research at this facility is inspiring and will help the United States reduce our dependence on foreign energy," said USAFA Chief Scientist Col Bob Kraus. "While USAFA does not have the same resources as NREL, our cadets and faculty across disciplines are making significant contributions to the energy challenges facing both USAFA and the Air Force. These efforts include new applications of black silicon solar for space operations, bio-fuels research, and solar cell and energy conversion research."

While the USAFA research office has had several cadets support research efforts at NREL via the Cadet Summer Research program, Kraus is looking to expand those opportunities. He said the faculty is also considering implementing energy research awards to recognize outstanding cadet energy research projects and energy-conscious projects throughout the cadet wing.