

S P A C E OBSERVER

Serving Team 21 and its Global Mission
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Uniform changes

The following Air Force Uniform Board decisions take effect Feb. 1.

- When wearing ribbons, "all" (including devices) are required.
- Fingernail length cannot interfere with duty performance or hinder proper fit of prescribed safety equipment or uniform items.
- Attaché case, gym bag, backpack and women's purse are authorized to be carried in either hand as long as it doesn't interfere with rendering proper salute.
- Attachments for access passes/badges are authorized (plain dark blue or black ropes, silver or plastic small conservative link chains, and clear plastic chain). Attachments are authorized as long as they do not interfere with safety and must be conservative and free of advertisement.
- Center the excellence-in-competition badge on the welt pocket of the service dress jacket.
- Pharmacy technician certification badge may be worn on the utility uniform (whites) 1/2 inch above nametag.
- "Camel pack" water containers are approved as part of standard hot weather uniform.
- The re-sized mini-badge is authorized for wear when available for purchase.
- In addition to the AFUB items, name tags are described in AFI 36-2903, paragraph 5.3, as: "laminated ultramarine blue plastic material with white, block-style letters engraved on the plastic and a clutch-type fastener." There are no provisions for an epoxy resin covering or coating. Additional guidance will be forthcoming in the next update of AFI 36-2903.
- Contact the Military Personnel Flight Customer Service at 556-7377 or your first sergeant for more information.

'Mountain cops' best in command

721st Security Forces Squadron receives its third consecutive Outstanding Active-Duty Security Forces Squadron Small Unit award

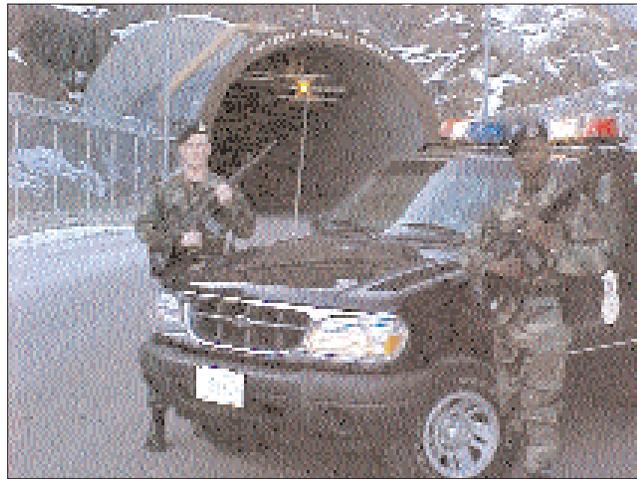
By Senior Airman
Melanie Epperson
21st SW Public Affairs

The 721st Security Forces Squadron at Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station was recently named the Outstanding Active Duty Security Forces Squadron, Small Unit, for Air Force Space Command. The team earned its third consecutive trophy for a unit with fewer than 115 people and is now competing for the Air Force title.

"It takes a lot of innovation and dedication to be selected," according to Chief Master Sgt. David L. Raimondi, 721st SFS manager. "Security Forces team members have to be sharp and vigilant as they stand at their posts all day, they can't leave work to run errands and they have to make immediate judgments that could affect national security and personal safety," he added.

The team was scored on four categories: mission accomplishments, unit involvement in base and community activities, individual performance of unit members and inspection/evaluation results.

Under the leadership of Maj. Kyle C. Lundberg, 721st SFS



Photos by Master Sgt. David Pitts

Senior Airman Chase Gatlin and Airman 1st Class Jason Ellington, members of the 721st Security Forces Squadron, stand posted as external response in front the north portal tunnel entrance to Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station.



Airman 1st Class Dave Kechter uses a search mirror to check a truck for explosives. Every vehicle entering Cheyenne Mountain receives such an inspection.

commander, the 721st SFS worked through the year to upgrade the CMAFS security system to meet 21st century standards. They added fences, alarms, and video surveillance, motion detection and thermal imaging cameras. The unit also upgraded its central security control system and established an installation consolidated mail delivery station where all articles are fully examined and x-rayed before entering the main gate.

"These elite cops are my most visible representatives and always leave a lasting first impression on the public that we are professional, trained and ready to meet any challenge levied upon us," said Col. Bruce W. Crownover, 721st Support Group commander.

While on post at Cheyenne Mountain, guards are in highly visible positions. All guards at entry control points wear Elite Guard uniforms because of the number of dignitaries visiting CMAFS. Visits from high profile leaders also means intensifying an already tight security system. These are examples of challenges the team met to garner the award and earn praise from senior leaders worldwide.

Community service also plays a vital role in the 721st SFS winning team.

"Everyone works together on and off duty," said Staff Sgt. Patrick M. Yocum. "When a job needs to be done, we're there."

See AWARD, Page 4

Inside

From the Top News	Page 2
Commentary	Page 3-5
People	Page 6
Feature	Page 7
FYI	Page 8,10,11
Sports	Page 9
	Page 12-13

News



Martin Luther King memorial service -Page 3

News



Shopping cart related injuries involving children on the rise

-Page 4

Feature



21 SFS Bike Patrol Program -Page 6

Message from the 21st Space Wing commander

Congratulations! I am delighted to report that we celebrated the season with zero safety missteps or mishaps.

We set that goal for ourselves before the holidays and because we met success, I've declared today a Wing Goal Day. Seize the day. Spend it with family and friends. Truly make it a down day.

But, DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN. Although we remained safe throughout the holidays, our new year is off to an unfortunate start.

Last week a member of our Wing was involved in a two-car accident which resulted in the loss of one life and injury to another.

I urge each and every one of you to take on a heightened sense of awareness regarding your safety and the safety of those around you—this weekend and every day after that.

As part of this long weekend, we

pay tribute to one of the great leaders of the 20th century, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. King was renown for articulating his dreams where he imagined a better life for all Americans.

One way he brought his dreams to life was through encouraging volunteerism. He dared people to take action; he dared people to make a difference in their communities.

It was Dr. King who said, "every-one can be great because everyone can serve."

So throughout the country this weekend, thousands of people will honor Dr. King by participating in community service projects.

For those of the 21st Space Wing volunteering your time and talents, I salute you for helping keep the dream alive and for making our community, "our" community.

Information Assurance 10 Ways to protect your information system

1. Know who your computer systems security officer is.
 2. Make sure your systems are certified and accredited. Systems designated to process classified information must have an emission security assessment completed before processing is authorized.
 3. Make sure passwords contain at least eight characters, consisting of numbers and special characters, and are exclusive to each system or user.
 4. Never write down or share passwords and change them often (at least every 90 days).
 5. Use a password-protected screen saver when your computer is left unattended.
 6. Always scan disks, e-mail attachments, and downloaded files using the latest updated antiviral product and signature file.
 7. A data owner is responsible for the data. Know the sensitivity level of the information you are processing, the requirements for protecting it, and the security limitations of the systems used to transmit it.
 8. Share information only with people and systems authorized to receive sensitive/classified information.
 9. Clear/sanitize appropriate processing and storage devices.
 10. Report incidents and vulnerabilities to your CSSO.
- For more information assurance go to www.afca.scott.af.mil

Action line



Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler

Submitting Action Lines

The Action Line (556-7777 or by fax: 556-7848) is your direct link to me. It provides an avenue for you to voice concerns over unsolved problems, share good ideas or provide some constructive criticism.

As a reminder, the Action Line is not a replacement for using your chain of command. Action Lines can help make the Peterson Complex and the wing a better place to live and work.

Q. Can something be done about the attitude of the staff at the youth center? I've been here for over four years and have seen the youth center go from "the place to be" to "don't want to go there." The hours change from day to day and no one seems to know what's going on. In the past, on any given Friday night or Saturday, the center would be filled with kids and parents. Now there may be one or two kids during the weekend. I've talked with other parents and the feeling is that the staff does not want to be bothered with the kids or parents. I know that they are short on staff, however, in the past parents like me and others volunteered our time to help. We are still available to help, but our perception is that the staff wants to go home.

A. The youth center historically experiences lower levels of participation during the summer and increases during the school year. Overall, the program has experienced a significant increase in the youth sports and open recreation areas. The hours of operations have not changed, but on occasion, the center has closed early on a Saturday to save labor costs. I apologize for this – it wasn't the right decision and in future we will ensure the center remains open as advertised. We have also reminded the youth center staff to be courteous and professional. We want parents to volunteer as coaches, advisory council members, chaperones for trips and pre-teen and teen activities. Please contact Jane-Marie Kopycinski or Sonny Campbell at 556-7220 if you are interested in volunteering. We can always use your help! Thanks for calling.

Q. Why do the express lines at the commissary accept checks and credit cards? It seems to diminish the effectiveness of an express line. An

express line should be limited to cash only. It goes a lot faster. The express line takes just as long as the other lines because they don't restrict the method of payment. Thank you.

A. Thank you for your call. Our commissary manager, Rita Harper, tells me commissary supervisors will closely monitor movement through the express lines to ensure orders are processed as efficiently as possible and, if necessary, add more express lines. To provide all valued patrons with the best possible service, the commissary must accept various methods of payment. For many customers, cash is not the sole – or in many cases, the preferred – method of payment. If you have additional questions or comments, please feel free to contact Rita at 556-7765.

Q. Can the recycle bins behind the commissary be emptied more often? I am an enthusiastic recycler and I appreciate very much the center behind the commissary. Sometimes, though, I have to take my recyclables home because the bins are full. We need to encourage recycling. Thank you very much.

A. Thank you for your interest in the recycling program. We are currently constructing a new recycling drop-off center, which will be located behind Building 1324, Civil Engineer Squadron. The new center will have additional recycling containers with room for future expansion. It will also provide easier access than the current containers allow by providing a drive through approach. Estimated completion date for the new center will be May. Until then, we will look at increasing the pickup frequency for the bins behind the commissary. If you have additional questions about our recycling program, feel free to contact Joe Partoll, 21st Civil Engineer Squadron, at 556-1458. Thank you also for your interest in preserving the environment.

Q. Are Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and similar groups allowed to sell door-to-door in base housing? I have had different groups trying to sell (to me). I have a Boy Scout, Tiger Scout and a Brownie in my family and our scout troop was asked not to go door-to-door on base, and to only talk to people we know. Thank you so much for your time.

A. Thanks for your question. Yes, we do allow scouts and similar groups to solicit on base, but only if they get approval prior to the event. You can contact Colleen Miller at Peterson Housing Office, 556-4332, for details on how to get approval for such solicitation. The bottom line is, it isn't expressly prohibited, but coordination and approval are a must.

Peterson Complex hosts memorial service fit for a King

By Master Sgt. Larry S. Lincoln
NORAD/USSPACECOM Public Affairs

An enthusiastic crowd packed the Peterson Chapel Wednesday to pay homage to noted civil rights pioneer, humanitarian, and Nobel Prize recipient, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The annual ceremony, sponsored by the base, Air Force Space Command and 21st Space Wing Military Equal Opportunity offices and the Peterson Complex Black Heritage Committee, brought together a cross-section of the base community to celebrate King's life and accomplishments.

Nov. 3, 1983, President Ronald Reagan signed legislation establishing the third Monday of January as the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Holiday.

Wednesday's memorial service at the chapel marked the 17th year since the holiday was founded.

The ceremony, fit for a king, commenced with rich pageantry and precision as the High Frontier Honor Guard posted the colors. It continued with Air Force Band of the Rockies vocalist Chief Master Sgt. Marcelle Hureaux's stirring rendition of the National Anthem, and ended as the strains of "We Shall Overcome," echoed through the chapel.

One ceremony highlight proved to be the short video "The Sitting Place," a fictional account featuring an encounter between King and a southern bigot.

The video, produced by the F.E. Warren Air Force Base Military Equal Opportunity office, drew hearty applause from the audience shortly before guest speaker Chaplain (Col.) David M. Park, AFSPC command chaplain took the podium.

In his remarks, Park likened King to biblical figures who overcame unpleasant circumstances to accomplish God's will.

"Just like Jonah, Moses and Jesus, who all had experienced the sometimes

uncomfortable will of God but still managed to say 'Yes,' so too did Dr. King," Park said. Whether facing state troopers on a bridge in Selma, fire hoses in Birmingham, or standing at the steps of the Lincoln Memorial imploring 'let freedom ring,' God saw a 'yes' on the face on Martin Luther King, Jr., he added.

Present at the service were AFSPC Vice Commander Lt. Gen. Roger G. Dekok, 21st SW Director of Staff Col. Charles Bateman, and North American Aerospace Defense Command, United States Space Command and AFSPC Command Chief Master Sergeant Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Estrum.

Park urged everyone to embrace King's continuing legacy.

"This event was absolutely appropriate for today," said attendee Lori Powell.

"It was relevant in the sense that it was about inclusion, which was Dr. King's message. I have small children at home, and I want to educate them about the present, and the future as well as the past."

Leroy Howard, Peterson Complex Black Heritage Committee vice president, agreed.

"Events like this are important because we should not forget Dr. King's struggle. It's important for younger generations to be aware of it," said Howard.

By making them aware of that struggle, he added, they are given the opportunity to live the dream King spoke of.

According to Master Sgt. Charles Desaussure of AFSPC MEO, commemorating King's life and achievements supports Department of Defense and Air Force goals of promoting equal opportunity understanding and cooperation.

"The Air Force is a microcosm of the society outside of our gates. Events like this serve to remind us that we owe it not only to ourselves, but to society to reflect on where we've been, and where we still need to go," he explained.

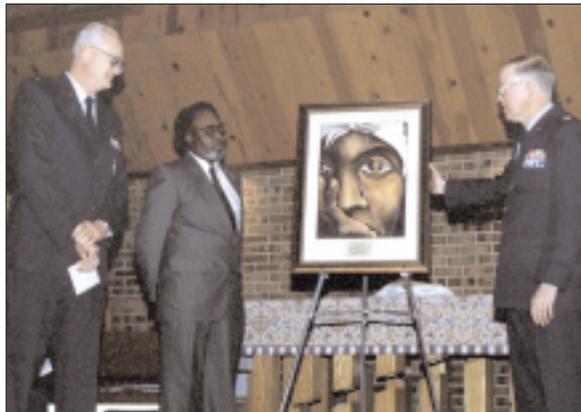


Photo by Staff Sgt. Alex Lloyd

Col. Charles Bateman, 21 SW director of staff, and Leroy Howard, Peterson Complex Black Heritage Committee vice president, present Chaplain (Col.) David M. Park, Air Force Space Command command chaplain, with a painting by a local artist representing the vision of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



Courtesy photo

A STEP up

Tech. Sgt. Jose Reyna, 84th Airlift Flight, receives a promotion to master sergeant through the Stripes for Exceptional Performers program from Maj. Randall Gibb, 84th ALF commander.

Full scale Anthrax vaccine program may restart in October

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

Department of Defense officials expect the full-scale anthrax immunization program to begin again in October. Officials are confident that Bioport, the sole producer of the vaccine, will overcome problems and receive approval for its new facility.

"The producer of the vaccine has made some substantial progress in recent weeks," said Marine Maj. Gen. Randall West, senior advisor to the Secretary of Defense for Biological and Chemical Protection.

West said DoD representatives have spoken with the Food and Drug Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and others monitoring Bioport. "They and we have confidence that [Bioport is] going to achieve approval for new production and that will probably occur not later than the third quarter of the coming year," he said. This means full-scale vaccination would probably begin by October.

Nov. 28, DoD announced it was halting anthrax immunizations for service members bound for Korea. Currently, only service members and DoD

civilians reporting for duty in Southwest Asia receive the inoculations.

In Korea, the vaccination program hasn't completely stopped but it has slowed, West said. "There are some vaccine supplies there that we will continue to use until they are gone," he said.

Officials made the decision because of the shortage of FDA-certified vaccine. The vaccine program will resume once tested and certified supplies of the vaccine are available.

Officials said service members and DoD civilians who have started the six-shot series will not have to start at shot one when the program resumes. "Personnel who have had their shot protocols interrupted will not have to go back and start over. They will pick up where they left off," West said.

West said DoD is disappointed that it cannot provide vaccine to the total force right now. "We're trying to provide it in the area where we feel the threat is highest," he said. "There is, however, an additional supply available to a unit if it were deploying against an adversary we know to possess the capability, and we had reason to believe might use it."

The inoculation program has generated controver-

sy. About 400 service members have refused the shots. As of Dec. 7, almost 2 million individual doses of the vaccine have been administered to 496,026 active and reserve service members. There were 1,326 reports of adverse reactions to the vaccine. Most were minor reactions at the shot site. A total of 52 required hospitalization. All returned to duty.

DoD ordered the inoculation program in 1996 with the first vaccines administered in March 1997.

The department is seeking a second source for biological warfare protection. "We don't want to be in a position where we have to rely on a sole-source, non-government producer in the future," West said. "We would like to have capabilities like that duplicated. We would like to have a facility where we can call all the shots and make all the decisions. So we are pursuing a government-owned production facility — not just for anthrax but to include several other vaccines we would need in the future."

He said such a facility would not be operational for at least five to seven years.

For more information visit the program Web site at www.anthrax.osd.mil.

— AWARD, From page 1

Team members have supported the CMAFS Adopt-A-Highway program, prepared and served food on Sunday mornings for thousands of homeless people at the Marion House Food Kitchen, and delivered food to the elderly for Silver Key. During National Police Week, they honored police officers killed in the line of duty, participating in a joint military/civilian police retreat ceremony at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Award consideration includes the accomplishments of the unit as a whole and of individual members. The squadron counts among its members an airman of the year, noncommissioned officer of the year and a company grade officer of the year just to name a few.

Higher headquarters inspections, tests and evaluations results are also considered.

The 721st SFS Antiterrorism/Force Protection team was lauded for its prac-

tices and procedures by the Air Force Vulnerability Assessment Team, which conducted a thorough evaluation of CMAFS in September. The unit also received an excellent rating by the 21st Space Wing Logistics Plans Office when it conducted a War Reserve Material Surveillance inspection.

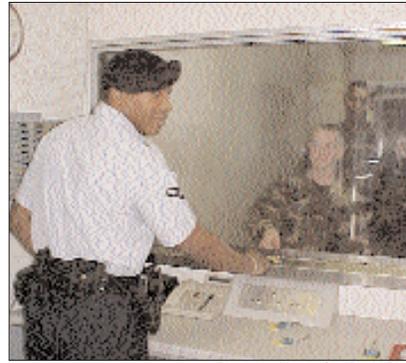
"I'm very proud for the troops who are in the squadron," Raimondi said. "It doesn't happen often in one's career, but now they will always be able to say they were in a unit that was the best in Space Command."

The 721st SFS will now represent AFSPC in the 2000 Air Force Security Forces Awards program where the winners from all MAJCOMS will vie to be among the top three.

After the top three are named, the Air Force Security Forces Team will travel to those units bases to evaluate them and to choose the Air Force-level winner.



Master Sgt. Brad Stowe conducts an open ranks inspection on Nighthawk flight while **Tech. Sgt. Harrison** observes. Each flight in the 721st SFS receives an open ranks inspection once a week.



Airman 1st Class Ramon Alexander checks badges at protection level one entry control point.

Photos by Master Sgt. David Pitts



Airman 1st Class Justin Priest demonstrates how to challenge someone for a security infraction at the blast doors inside the tunnel.

Shopping cart safety big issue; injuries involving kids on rise

In 1998, nearly 25,600 children ages 14 and younger were treated in hospital emergency rooms for injuries associated with shopping carts.

Children 4 and younger accounted for 83 percent of these injuries.

The number of children ages 5 and under injured in shopping cart-related incidents has increased more than 30 percent since 1985.

Children suffer lacerations, contusions, fractures, concussions and internal injuries when they jump or fall from a shopping cart, the cart overturns, they get pinched in the folding seat or they fall against the cart. Small children also are at risk from running into or being hit by shopping carts, tipping over carts while climbing onto the outside of the basket, and getting fingers or toes caught in the wheels.

Falls from shopping cart seats and baskets are the most common incidents. Shopping carts have high centers of gravity and narrow wheel-bases making them top heavy when loaded and therefore easy to tip over, especially when a child is placed in the seat. When children stand in a cart, their chances of falling or tipping the cart over increase.

Deaths and injuries

· Since 1985, at least five children have died from shopping cart-related injuries.

· Falls from shopping carts account for an average of 60 percent (or 12,800 injuries) of all shopping cart-related

injuries among children 5 and younger.

· Five percent of children injured falling from shopping cart seats require hospitalization.

How and where injuries happen

· Head injuries account for about two-thirds of all injuries associated with falls. More than half of those injured also suffer severe injuries such as concussions and fractures.

· One out of four injuries due to falling from shopping cart seats occurs among children younger than two.

· Nearly 3,900 injuries among children 5 and younger are associated with incidents in which a child runs into a shopping cart or strikes a body part against the cart. The average age of those children is 3.

· Approximately 1,800 shopping cart-related injuries occur when carts tip over and children fall, carts fall on children, or carts tip over with children in them. Tipover injuries occur primarily among children 12 months and younger.

· Around 8 percent of shopping cart-related injuries occur when a child gets caught in the shopping cart. Nearly 75 percent of these injuries are finger injuries, and 25 percent are wrist or toe injuries. The average age of children who sustain these injuries is 3.

Who is at risk?

· Children ages 5 and younger are at greatest risk, accounting for two-thirds of all shopping cart related injuries.

· Boys are more likely to be injured



Photo by Staff Sgt. Devin Fisher

Mars bound

The 2001 Mars Odyssey probe sits on the Buckley Air Force Base flightline next to the C-17 Globemaster III that transported it to the Kennedy Space Center in Florida Jan. 4. Once in Florida, the Odyssey spacecraft will be loaded on a Delta II rocket. Then it's destined for the planet Mars with a launch date of April 7.

from shopping cart-related incidents than girls.

· Children left unattended are at greater risk. More than 80 percent of parents/caregivers leave a child unattended at least once on a shopping trip.

Child safety restraints

· In 80 percent of falls from shopping cart seats the children were unrestrained primarily because the cart did not have a safety belt or the belt was broken.

· Research shows that even when shopping carts have safety restraints parents don't use them.

Shopping cart laws and regulations

· Nearly all new shopping cart manufacturers voluntarily include safety straps.

· Texas and New York have passed legislation requiring all new carts to include safety straps.

Prevention tips

· Always use safety belts to restrain children in shopping cart seats to prevent falls.

· Consider bringing a harness or safety belt when you shop to prevent your child from falling or climbing out of shopping carts.

· Always stay close to the shopping cart.

· Do not let your child stand in the shopping cart.

· Never let a child push or steer the shopping cart.

This information was compiled by the National SAFE KIDS Campaign.

Look before you leap; the grass isn't always greener on the other side

Dr. David L. Bullock
21st Space Wing History Office

Recruiting and retention has long been a concern of the military. I'd like to share a personal experience that hopefully will cause you to stop and think before heading for greener pastures.

In the 20 years I've been part of the Air Force - either in uniform, as part of the standby reserves or as a Department of the Air Force civilian - I've had my share of joys and tears, frustrations and satisfactions. If my experiences can prevent someone from giving up a unique uniformed career, so unlike any other in the world, then maybe I will have repaid an organization I respect.

I graduated from Officer

Training School in May 1979, serving thereafter in Air Intelligence in Europe and at Red Flag. I got out in 1983 lured by one of those "greener pastures" we often hear about. In the end, this splendid business opportunity didn't pan out as promised, and instead I found myself thinking about the "good old days" of camaraderie, travel, and the united purpose of facing a common foe during the Cold War.

I tried to return to active duty, but the Air Force was downsizing. I did the next best thing. Going back to college, I earned a PhD in European Military History and rejoined the Department of the Air Force as a civilian.

The impact of giving up a uniformed service career

struck me deeply in May 1999. I had gone to visit a long-time pen-friend in Russia and was vacationing along the green-banked Volga River in the old, historic Tsarist town called Samara. As I gazed out my hotel window across the silver-blue ribbon of the Volga, I realized if I had stayed in the military, that day would have been my retirement date.

I still felt young at 44 years, not old as I had thought I would be when I decided to leave the military at age 27. The next morning I would have begun to draw my life-long pension and would have been free to pursue a dream to travel and write. The thought hit me in the gut.

Often we forget that retirement from the military after only 20 years is a spectacular and unique career benefit. Backed up by a pension, we can start a second career, and take a job we really want even if pay is low. We can invest

the pension, or use it to pay start-up business expenses.

I'm talking about freedom of action and a very significant reward for having served our country.

As for money, many of us are aware that many in the enlisted ranks are underpaid. This issue continues to be discussed at the highest levels of our government. In addition to general pay increases, active duty military should see some meaningful bonuses in several career fields. Even in an era of tightened budgets, commanders seem to take morale and welfare issues seriously, and we continue to see facilities renovated. Last year, Congress made family housing an important issue, and since then we've seen improvements throughout the military.

I ask you to think beyond mere compensation to the many other benefits of active duty. Many of us obtain positions of responsibility far beyond what we would have

in the civilian world, and faster too.

We have opportunities to travel and even live in foreign countries with all the mind-broadening experiences that follow. True, we have to put up with deployments and more than occasional separations from our families. But the Expeditionary Air Force concept in place now promises to alleviate many of those concerns.

As it happens, I also moonlight at one of the local colleges here in Colorado Springs as an instructor. Many of my students are NCOs and often I'm able to advise them about career opportunities. I always tell them my story and ask them to consider staying in. We're serving a cause larger than any one of us and for a higher ideal than personal needs or wants.

I think the tangible rewards are greater than we sometimes realize. Please look before you leap.

Star Performer

NAME: Staff Sgt. Richard D. VanWinkle

UNIT: 21st Security Forces Squadron

HOMETOWN: Chanute, Kan.

TIME IN SERVICE: 14 years, one month

ABOUT VANWINKLE:

VanWinkle has been assigned to the 21st Security Forces Squadron for the past 15 months. As a Military Working Dog handler, he provides detector dog support here and to Schreiber Air Force Base, Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station, the U.S. Air Force Academy and the Secret Service for the President, Vice President and designated dignitaries.



VanWinkle's K-9 partner is MWD Mowgli, a 4-year-old Belgian Malinois.

VanWinkle and Mowgli were selected to represent Peterson Air Force Base at the 2000 Air Force Space Command Military Working Dog competition at Patrick Air Force Base where they took first place for explosive detection, third place for the tactical obedience course and second place overall.

VanWinkle was devoted to the protection of others while in support of the 2000 United States Attorney's Conference, U.S. Marshals and Attorney General Janet Reno commended him after he located uncontrolled explosives adjacent to Reno's vehicle.

He has supported 11 short notice taskings of more than 51 days in several states on the presidential election campaign trail 2000 for the U.S. Secret Service.

VanWinkle performed numerous MWD explosive detection sweeps for both the Democratic and Republican Parties, thus ensuring the safety and security of both candidates and thousands of supporters.

VanWinkle has his Community College of the Air Force degree in criminal justice and is currently pursuing a criminal investigation degree from Pikes Peak Community College. He was recently selected for promotion to technical sergeant. He spends free time sharpening his carpentry skills on woodworking projects. His skills were put to the test during a \$35,000 dollar self-help project where he enhanced the MWD handlers' office and created cabinets for all handlers and kennel gear.

Off duty, VanWinkle spends time with his wife, Sally, and two sons, Joshua and Kristjan. He spends time with his family hiking, camping and coaching sports for his sons.

Submit your articles to the *Space Observer*

E-mail article submissions at least 10 days prior to the date you would like them to run to AIC Shane Sharp at shane.sharp@peterson.af.mil or Senior Airman Melanie Epperson at melanie.epperson@peterson.af.mil
Call 556-7846 for more information.

Congratulations

The following people were selected for Officer Training School during the last board.

Russel Putney, 21st Logistics Group

Jeffrey McKiernan, Air Force Space Command

James Lee, AFSPC

Corbett Knowles, 50th Space Wing

Dina Kampa, 50th SW

21st SFS Bike Patrol program helps keep base safe

Peddalling patrolmen serve the community fighting crime and teaching bicycle safety

By Capt. Jason Carroll
21st Security Forces Squadron

There are some who believe that cops do nothing more than drive around in white cars and eat doughnuts. However, that couldn't be further from the truth here.

The men and women in the 21st Security Forces Squadron work diligently to keep people and property safe and secure. To help combat misconceptions, the 21 SFS has formed a bike patrol to expand the idea of community-oriented policing. The bike patrol program is economical, flexible and educational.

The bike patrol originated a year ago with three old, dilapidated bicycles and five volunteers. Today, the program consists of 21 trained bike patrol members and 10 police mountain bikes.

The cost of buying 10 mountain bikes and outfitting 21 people is considerably less than buying one police sedan. With bikes there are no fuel costs, which saves the squadron—and ultimately the taxpayer—a lot of money. Maintenance is considerably cheaper as well. Plus, we have healthier members due to the cardiovascular impact of bike riding.

Not just economical, the bike patrol is also highly flexible.

Bike patrol members are required to train at least twice a week. In addition, members must work on the road at least four hours per week. Each member performs at least one community service activity per month to remain in the program.

As for the bikes, they are able to go places the sedans and trucks cannot. Bike patrolmen are trained to ride on streets, mountains and even steps. The police mountain bikes are built with the finest components on the market. Bike patrolmen are able to quietly arrive at any incident or illegal activity at a moment's notice.

In addition to law enforcement, members of the bike patrol program also take advantage of opportunities to educate children on bike-riding safety and rules.

Next spring, bike patrol members will conduct bicycle safety classes here for children and adults. Until then, here are 10 tips for safe and enjoyable bicycle riding on Peterson Air Force Base and in the local community:

1. Protect your head: Wear a helmet. Using a bicycle helmet can reduce injuries up to 85 percent.

2. See and be seen: Wear proper clothing. Clothes should be light in color and close fitting.

3. Go with the flow of traffic: The safe way is the right way. You must obey the rules of the road.

4. Look both ways: Be aware of traffic around you. Seven out of 10 car/bicycle crashes occur at driveways or other intersections.

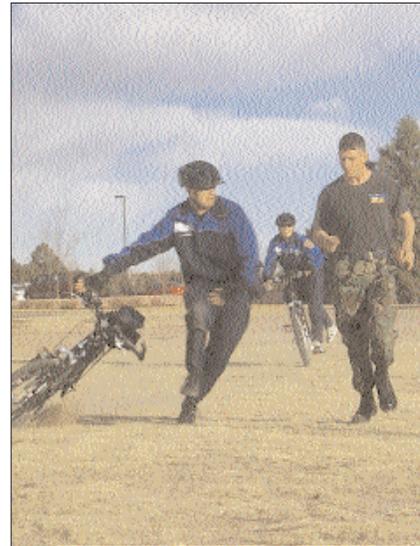
5. Stay alert: Keep a lookout for obstacles in your path. Watch out for potholes, sewer grates, cracks, railroad tracks, glass and loose gravel.

6. Beware of the dark side: Be cautious when biking at night. Display front and rear reflectors on your bicycle and wear reflective clothing to make you more visible to

motorists after dark.

7. Go off road: Follow designated bike routes if available.

8. Fix it up: Make sure your



Left: Airman 1st Class Aliex Kofoed demonstrates how to apprehend a fleeing suspect (played by Airman 1st Class Jamie Daniels). As he dismounts to intercept the runner, Staff Sgt. Tisha Gerrell dismounts behind to provide backup.

Below: Kofoed finishes the take-down. This is just one of the many challenging tasks bike patrolmen are trained to accomplish if the need arises.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Shane Sharp

bicycle is adjusted properly. Your bicycle should be correctly adjusted to fit you.

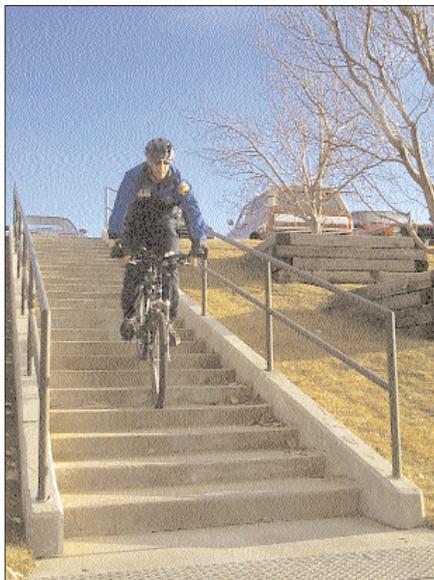
9. Stop it: Check brakes before riding. Control your speed by using your brakes.

10. Don't flip your bike: Bicycle wheels should be securely fastened. Check wheels before every ride, after every fall and after transporting your

bike to ensure the wheels are secure.

The 21st SFS bike patrol program is a low cost, flexible, safety oriented program established to help expand security forces' ability to police the community.

Bike patrol members are here to keep the base population safe and secure as well as to educate people on the proper use of bicycles.



Above: Staff Sgt. Scott Glassic demonstrates the ability bike patrolmen have to go virtually anywhere by riding down a staircase.

Right: From left to right, Staff Sgt. Chad Schroeder, Glassic, Kofoed and Gerrell patrol the streets of Peterson Air Force Base. They are part of the 11-person bike patrol team on base.



New Items

Flu Shots: Dependents, retirees, other military care beneficiaries and DOD civilians can get flu shots at the base auditorium 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Thursday. Call 556-1118 for more information.

Enlisted professional development: The next EPD meeting is 3 p.m. Thursday at the 21 Space Wing conference room in Building 845. Call Senior Master Sgt. Rene Melero at 474-3599 for more information.

Living Last Supper: All those interested in participating in this year's Protestant presentation, meet at 10 a.m. Jan. 13 in Room 1 of the chapel. Actors and people for make-up, costumes, music and lights are needed. For more information contact Trish Mehner at 556-4442 or 591-1539.

Secure Telephone Unit: The STU-III should be rekeyed every quarter. To have the phone rekeyed, check the CIK and dial 1-800-635-6301. To find out more information about this phone and its program see AFI 33-209. Call your local STU-III responsible officer or the COMSEC office at 556-7142 for information about your STU-III.

Miscellaneous

White House Communications Agency: The WHCA needs dedicated professional airmen to provide communications support to the president of the United States. Communications, audio-visual, administrative and support fields are needed.

Applicants must also be able to travel, work with little supervision, and be extremely responsible. Applicants must be able to obtain and keep a top secret security clearance, have no history of derogatory information and be able to serve in a four-year presidential support duty billet.

The WHCA nomination team will visit here for an orientation in the base auditorium Wednesday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. The team will review records, and identify, interview, select and nominate qualified airmen. Interested personnel of any grade in AFSCs 2E1X1, 3COX1, 2E1X1, 2E1X4, 2E2X1, 2E3X1, 2S0X1, 3COX1, 3COX2, 3E4X3, 3N0X2, 3V0X1, 3V0X2, 3V0X3, 6COX1 or 6F0X1 are encouraged to attend the briefing. For more information contact Sgt. Lillard at (202) 757-5150 or DSN 284-2000, extension 75150.

Education Center 556-4064

Federal Employee Scholarships: Did you know that the Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund provides college scholarships exclusively to federal and postal employees and their family members? Scholarship applications are available January through March. For the application and more information, go to <http://www.feea.org/scholarships.shtml>.

Scholarships for military children: High school level children of active duty, reserve component and retired military members can win scholarship awards worth at least \$1,500 each thanks to the new Scholarships for Military Children program sponsored by the Defense Commissary Agency and the Fisher House Foundation.

The American Forces Press Service reports that students need a minimum 3.0 high school grade-point average to apply and must write a short essay on "What Being a Military Dependent Means to Me." Completed applications and essays are due to the local commissary before Feb. 15. Store officials will validate applications.

More than 280 awards totaling over \$400,000 in college scholarships will be presented under the program. Interested students can pick up instructions and applications at commissaries or download them from the DeCA Web site at <http://www.commissaries.com>.

Family Support Center 556-6141

Bundles for babies: If you are a pregnant USAF active duty member or pregnant spouse of an active duty member, you are invited to attend this informative class. Learn about budgeting for a baby, investing for the future, available resources and other Air Force Aid Society programs. All eligible personnel will receive a special "Baby Bundle" compliments of the Air Force Aid Society. Personnel from other branches of service are welcome to attend the briefing if space is available; however, they are not eligible for the baby bundle. Call 556-6141 to reserve your seat.

American Red Cross: The Red Cross offers several classes in first aid. Adult CPR is scheduled for Thursday from 6-9:30 p.m. Community CPR (adult, child and infant) is offered Jan. 23 and 25 from 6-9:30 p.m., and Babysitting is scheduled for Saturday and Jan. 20 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Call the family support center for details.

Family Advocacy 556-8943

Common sense parenting: This six-session workshop offers fun, practical and skills-based training in raising responsible kids and building happy families. Class dates are Thursday and Jan. 25, and Feb. 1 and 8, 2-4 p.m. at the PAFB Chapel.

Stress management: Learn basic techniques for managing stress. Course takes place Tuesday and Jan. 23 and 30, 2-3:30 p.m. at the PAFB Education Center.

Blended family parenting: Learn more about the unique challenges of how a stepfamily functions. Class dates are Wednesday and Jan. 24, 31, 2-3:30 p.m., at the PAFB Library.

Commissary 556-4500

Hours of operation: The Commissary will be open Tuesday and Feb. 20 regular hours, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Extended Commissary operating hours are in place to improve customer service.

Community Activities Center 556-7671

Monday: The CAC will be closed.

Tickets: Friday - Castle Rock Outlet mall, \$10 per person. Sign up by Tuesday.

Jan. 23 - Museum of Natural History, IMAX Theater and Denver Zoo, \$28 per adult, \$17.50 per child ages 4-17. Sign up by Jan 20.

For tickets to adventure in the local area and beyond, call the CAC first and save money.

SnoFest 2001: Buy your SnoFest!!!2001 packages now while great deals on lodging are still available. Packages include lodging and lift tickets for SnoFest!!! military ski weekend at Copper Mountain Resort March 2-4.

Call now and you can get packages for as little as \$128 per person for a two night stay in an eight-person condo, a two-day lift ticket and fees for both parties.

Youth Center 556-7220

Monday: The Youth Center and Teen Center will be closed.

Basketball practice: Today from 8-11 p.m. and Jan. 19 from 5-7 p.m.

CDs and popcorn night: Tonight from 5-11 p.m. at the Teen Center.

Martial Arts: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-7:30 p.m.

Teen Center Super Bowl Party: Jan. 28.

Officers' Club 556-4181

O' Club closed temporarily: The Officers' Club is closed for maintenance and is tentatively scheduled to reopen Wednesday.

Members are invited to attend a complimentary heavy hors d'oeuvres party Jan. 26, 5-7 p.m. in the club ballroom. Cornerstone will entertain in the lounge. Call 556-4181 for more information.

Enlisted Club 556-4194

Monday: The Enlisted Club will be closed.

Tuesday Night Family Buffet: Mexican buffet from 5-7 p.m. Tuesday. Adults \$5.95, children ages 6-12 \$2.50 each, children 5 and under eat free.

New York Strip, chicken or fish: Your choice for \$8.95 per person from 5:30-8 p.m. Jan. 19.

Legal Office 556-4500

Legal Services: Assistance is offered Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays by appointment.

Chapel Schedule

Protestant Services

Liturgical Worship
8:15 a.m.

Traditional Sunday Worship
11 a.m.

Gospel Services
12:30 p.m.

Sunday School
9:45 a.m.

Catholic Services

Mass
Weekdays
11:35 a.m.
Saturdays
5 p.m.
Sundays
9:30 a.m.

Reconciliation
Saturdays
4 p.m.

Religious Education
Adult and
pre K-12th grade
Sundays
8:30 a.m.

Army vet recalls marching with King to end discrimination

By Rudi Williams

American Forces Press Service

Blatant, in-your-face discrimination against African Americans in his hometown of Selma, Ala., made Vincent L. Johnson an angry young man.

That anger fueled a fire for equality and justice for African Americans. He joined civil rights demonstrations and marched with Martin Luther King Jr. Now, age 53, he's focusing the energy inspired

by and lessons learned during the civil rights struggle toward building equal opportunity and diversity in the Air Force's civilian work force.

Johnson, a GS-14 personnel management specialist, is chief of the disability and black employment programs in the Air Force's Human Resources Development Division at the Pentagon. His responsibilities include developing and implementing poli-

cies and procedures for managing discrimination complaints.

He also coordinates training for nearly 360 Air Force equal employment opportunity counselors.

He said he didn't personally experience the discrimination his family knew in Alabama because most of his formative years were spent living on Army posts in Germany, Texas, Missouri,

Virginia and Oklahoma.

His father, the late Army Master Sgt.-retired Vincent L. Johnson, was drafted in 1944 and served in a trucking outfit overseas during World War II.

Young Johnson's experiences with racism came during vacations with his family in Alabama.

"I was angry during that period," said Johnson, a 1968 Army draftee who earned two Purple Heart Medals as an

infantryman in Vietnam.

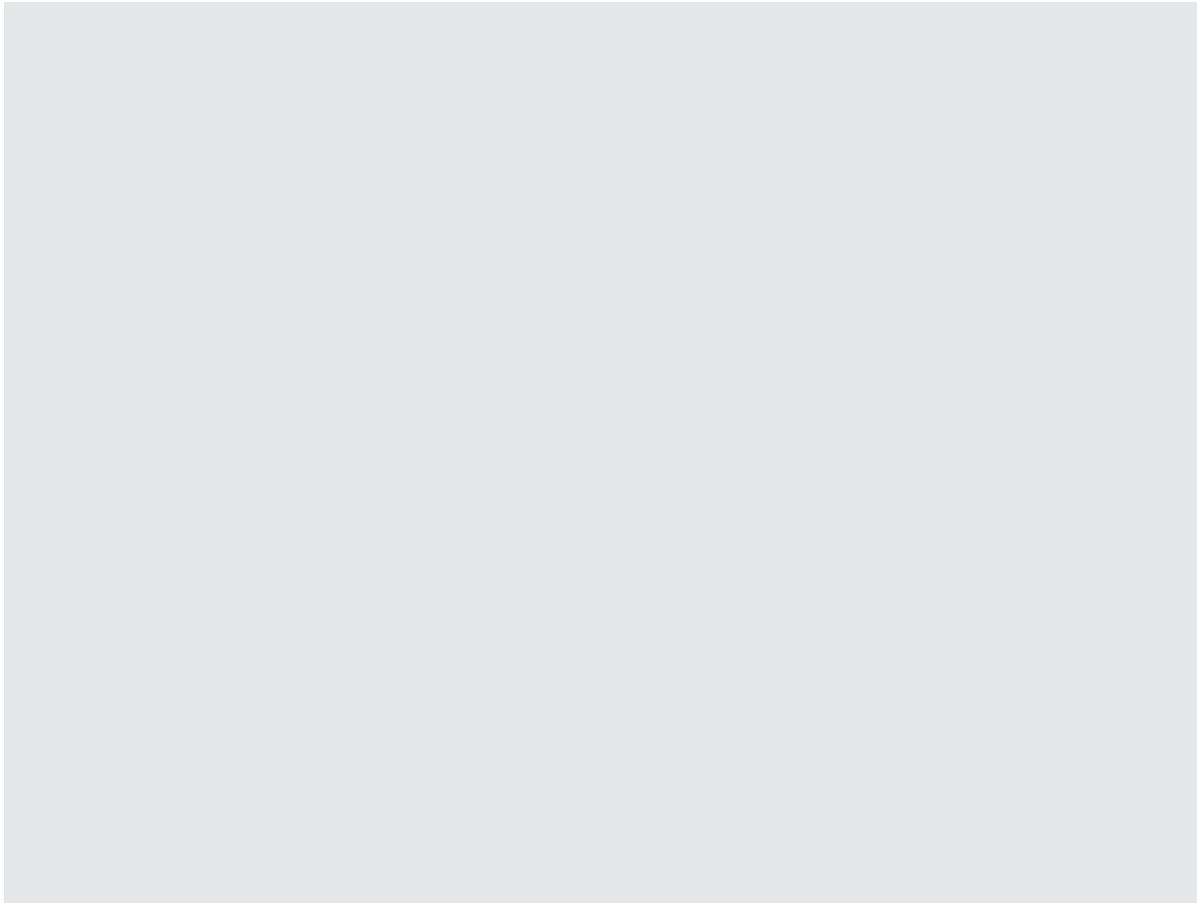
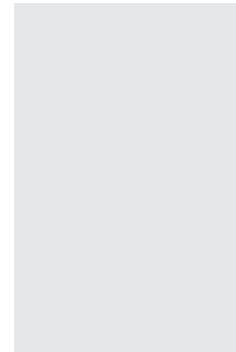
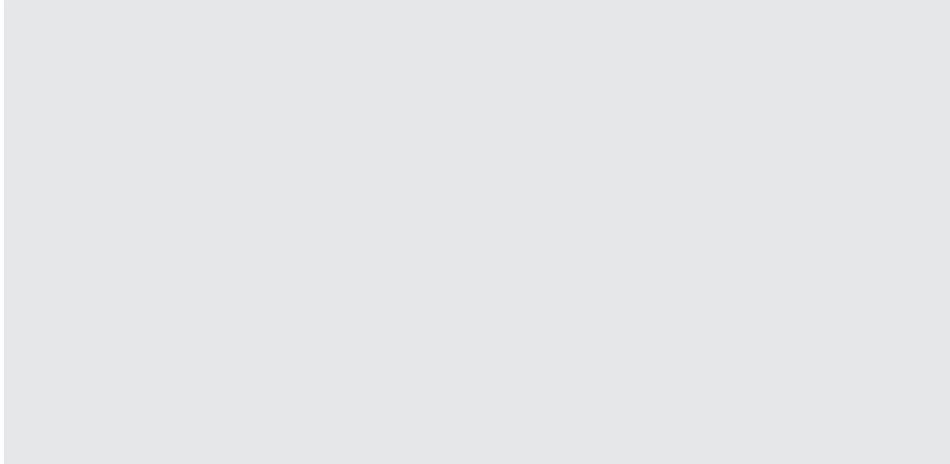
"How could I have not been? My father and uncles put their lives on the line for their country in the military, yet we were treated as less than human during that period."

When he visited relatives in Alabama, it was particularly galling to witness the discrimination his aunts and uncles endured.

One of his aunts was a high school teacher, another taught elementary school, and an uncle owned a small construction company.

Even though they spent

See MARCH, Page 11



— MARCH, from Page 10

their money in white-owned businesses, they were not allowed to use any facilities — bathrooms, water fountains — and they always had to wait until all the white folks were served, Johnson said.

In comparing life on Army posts to living in Alabama, Johnson believes the military led the way for equality and fairness for minorities.

“The Army gave my father the opportunity to grow professionally and as a man,” he noted. “And the Army got him out of the coal mines.”

Being a military dependent changed his outlook on life by exposing him to different cultures overseas and providing him with the opportunity to attend better schools than those open to African Americans in Alabama, Johnson said.

“I learned very fast that I was just as smart, just as athletic and could compete with anyone,” he said. He also learned to understand how segregation was “hurting the country by not using the talents of all our citizens.”

He said marching with King taught him that one person could make a difference by standing up for what is right and for his beliefs.

When King led his famous Selma-to-Montgomery march on March 21, 1965, Johnson was among the more than 8,000 protest marchers in Selma. Protected by federal troops, they were joined along the way by more than 25,000 marchers.

King mobilized and embarrassed the country into changing discriminatory practices faster than it would have happened otherwise, Johnson said. He thinks things would have eventually changed, but at a much slower pace.

Johnson returned to Selma in 1970 when his father retired and moved back there to live until his death at 88 in 1997. Armed with a bachelor’s degree in education from Langston (Okla.) University, he pursued a master’s degree in education and a doctorate in guidance and counseling at Alabama (Montgomery) State University.

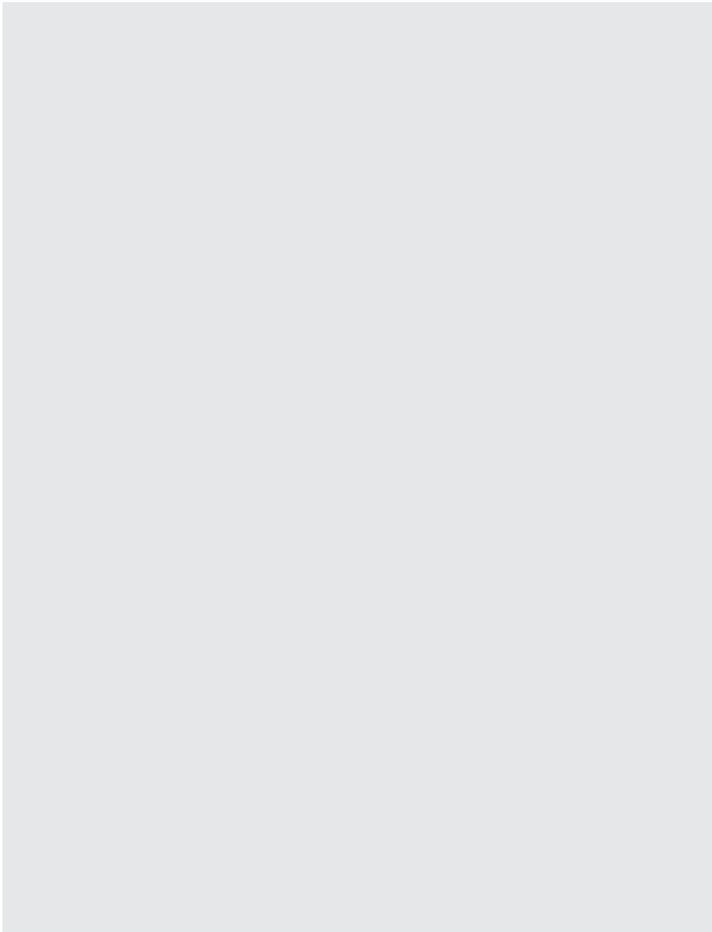
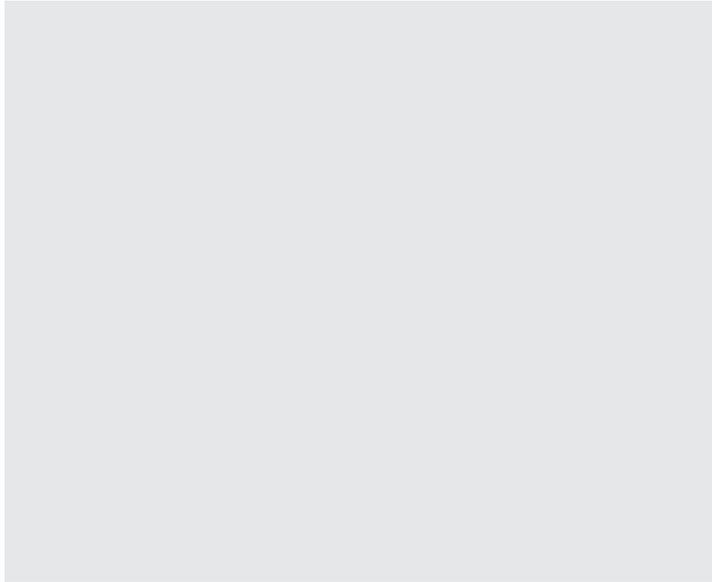
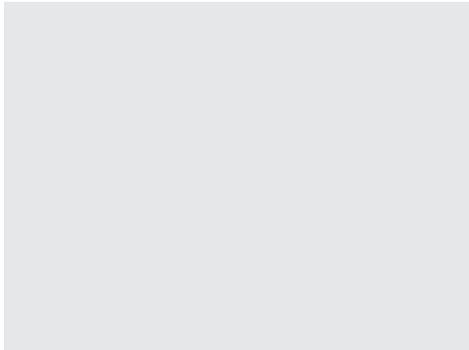
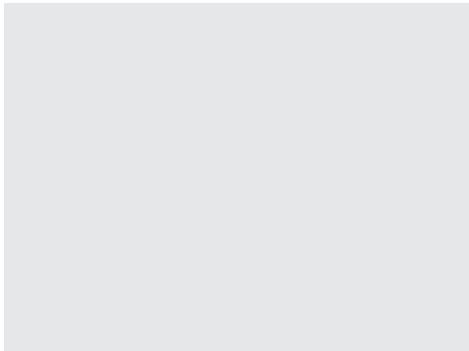
He said those hated “white only” and “colored only” signs are gone now and African Americans have made phenomenal progress in Alabama, including in the political arena.

Johnson credits DoD and the military with making remarkable strides in improving race relations and opening opportunities for African Americans, other minorities and women.

“I’m impressed with the progress DoD has made in my 20-year civilian career,” he said. “DoD should be the leader as we are the defenders of freedom for all Americans.”

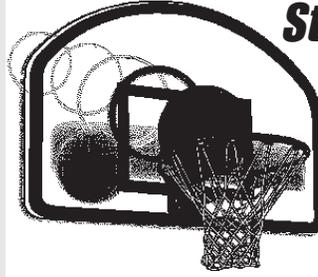
Explore rugged back country on ATVs

Trips Sunday and Jan. 27. Call Outdoor Recreation at 556-4867 or 556-4487 for more information



Intramural Basketball Standings

As of Jan. 7



Over 30 Monday, Wednesday:

	<u>Wins</u>	<u>Losses</u>
1. AFMC	5	0
1. AFS "A"	5	1
3. 21 CS	4	2
4. JPPSO	2	3
5. 76 SOPS	1	4
5. AFOTEC	1	4
7. AFS "B"	1	5

Recreational Monday, Wednesday:

	<u>Wins</u>	<u>Losses</u>
1. AFSPC	6	0
2. 11 SW	6	1
3. 21 SFS	4	2
4. 21 CES	3	4
5. 84 ALF	2	4
6. 721 SFS	2	5
7. 721 CS	0	7

Competitive Tuesday, Thursday:

	<u>Wins</u>	<u>Losses</u>
1. 2 SOPS	7	0
2. 721 CS "A"	6	2
2. 10 MDG	5	1
4. 721 CES	5	2
5. 13 ASOS	4	2
6. 50 OSS	3	3
6. AFMC	4	4
8. 1 SOPS	3	5
9. 1 CACS	2	5
10. 3 SOPS	1	6
11. 21 CES	0	10

Over 30 Tuesday, Thursday:

	<u>Wins</u>	<u>Losses</u>
1. AFS "C"	7	0
2. 721 CES	7	1
3. AFS "A"	6	1
3. J2	6	1
5. AFS "B"	3	1
6. 21 CES	4	4
7. CMOC	2	4
7. J6	2	4
9. 367 RCS	2	6
10. NORAD/J5	1	6
11. 21 SW	1	7
11. 21 SVS	1	7

Intramural Racquetball Standings

As of Jan. 7

Monday, Wednesday League:

	<u>W-L</u>
1. AFOTEC	2-0
2. 21 SVS "A"	1-1
2. Team Colorado A	1-1
4. 21 SFS	0-2

Monday, Wednesday League:

	<u>W-L</u>
1. 721 CS	2-0
1. Team Colorado B	1-0
3. 21 SVS "B"	1-2
4. 511 IOG	0-1
5. LG	0-0

Sports Short**Learn to ski or snowboard**

Trips planned for Jan. 20,21
Call outdoor recreation at 556-4867 or 556-4487

Sports and Fitness Center holiday hours

The sports and fitness center will be open 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday, Martin Luther King Day, with aerobics at 9:30 a.m. There will be no spinning classes Monday.

Volleyball coaches meeting

There will be an intramural volleyball coaches meeting 10:30 a.m. Jan. 24 at the sports and fitness center.

Hockey

Any active-duty, reserve or civilian members interested in playing pick-up ice hockey can call Chris Spacone at 556-4507.

Aquatics Center

The Aquatics Center will be closed Monday.

Aquaboxing (kickboxing in water) 11 a.m.-noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Call 556-4608 for details.

Silver Spruce Golf Course

Modified winter hours are in effect. Golf course, 8:30 a.m.-dark; pro shop, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; driving range, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; 19th Hole Grill, 7:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

The golf course is open seven days a week unless the temperature is below freezing or the course is snowcovered, when the course will be closed. Call 556-7810 to check playing conditions.

Bowling leagues

The men's and women's bowling leagues need bowlers.

Men's league is Tuesday and Thursday nights. Women's league is Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

Call Danny Butcher at 556-4607 for more information or to sign up.

Tennis and racquetball games

The sports and fitness center is compiling a list of tennis and racquetball players for matches against other competitors. Call Chris Hicks at 556-1515 for more information.