

# Space Observer

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Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

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## This Issue

### Air Force News



Eielson airman takes trophy brown bear in Alaska  
Page 3

### News



Stop-Loss update - Page 4

### Feature



The 21st Space Wing Year in Review - Pages 8-9

### Inside

- Air Force News....3
- News....4-6
- FYI....7
- Commentary....13
- Sports....15-16

**Snow Call  
Line  
556-SNOW**

Call the 21st Space Wing Snow Call Line for current information on weather delays or closures.

# SBIRS reaches initial operational capability

**By 2nd Lt. Mike Andrews**  
*21st Space Wing public Affairs*

A ceremony was held Dec. 21 at the 2nd Space Warning Squadron at Buckley Air Force Base to declare the initial operational capability of the new ground segment of the Space-Based Infrared System.

Increment 1 ushers in a consolidated ground segment that will streamline the current software capabilities with an open architecture that will accommodate SBIRS High and Low components as they are fielded.

SBIRS is an integrated "system of systems" with multiple space constellations and evolving ground elements.

Brig. Gen Bob Kehler, 21st Space Wing commander, presided over the ceremony that consolidated the existing Defense Support Program ground stations into a single Mission Control Station at the 2nd SWS.

"Since the terrorist attacks, the rest of the Air Force has started to fully understand what the space team brings to the fight," said Kehler. "SBIRS is a system that will provide the nation with critical missile defense and warning capability well into the 21st century."

SBIRS is one of the Air Force's highest priority space systems. It is designed to incrementally upgrade and eventually replace the Defense Support Program. DSP satellites continue to operate and provide data to the nation.

The consolidated ground segment will also now provide the missile-warning customer a single, unambiguous, and improved messaging for detected events.

The Defense Support Program satellites have provided the National Command Authority and the nation with critical missile warning data from space for over 30 years, and is expected to continue providing data through the end of the decade.

The total cost on the ground station was \$250 million. This includes the development of software, construction of the facility, equipment housed in the building, and additional funds provided by the contractor, Lockheed Martin Missiles and Space.

The next phase, Increment 2, will be marked by the addition of SBIRS High. It will consist of satellites in geosynchronous earth orbit, and sensors in an elliptical orbit. SBIRS Low will be added as part of Increment 3.

It will consist of a constellation of satellites in low earth orbit.

Together, all these systems will form an integrated SBIRS system of systems providing far greater missile warning capability to the nation and warfighter.

The 2nd SWS falls under the 21st Space Wing, the Air Force's only organization providing missile warning and space control to unified commanders and combat forces worldwide.

*(Information courtesy of the Space and Missile System Center SBIRS Program Office)*

### SBIRS At a Glance

The Space-Based Infrared System combines national and DoD infrared detection systems into a single architecture, fulfilling the nation's missile warning and defense, technical intelligence, and battlespace characterization requirements.

This emerging capability will enhance the tools that national policy-makers and unified and theater commanders have at their disposal to provide Integrated Tactical Warning/Attack Assessment information to verify an adversary's technical ability, strength and disposition of forces.



The graphic depicts the operation of the 2nd Space Warning Squadron's ground segment of the Space-Based Infrared System and the Defense Support Program satellites. The graphic is not intended to show specifically how the 2nd SWS communicates with each individual satellite.

# Around the Wing

Our vision, "First in the fight. Providing space superiority and the eyes of global vigilance," is only as successful as the people who work hard at performing that vision.

Our professionalism and the class with which our team around the globe carry the flag for the 21st, are the reasons why we are and will continue to be successful. The men and women who keep a watchful eye from space and fill the many critical roles to support the important mission of missile warning and space control ensure our country's safety and security. Just this week, I had the opportunity to perform one of the greatest duties of being wing commander: which is to step promote two of Team 21's outstanding airmen, one from the 3rd Space Surveillance Squadron at Misawa AB in Japan and another from the 21st Civil Engineer Squadron here at Peterson. A chance to truly recognize some of our best professionals.

Professionalism reaches into our workplaces, our mentoring, and our homes. It brings with it an air of confidence and an attitude that our daily actions serve a purpose and contribute to the "big picture." Professionalism means doing the job until the job is complete. It means mentoring our young troops and knowing when to cry foul to our supervisors. It means staying on top of our professional military education and volunteering in our local communities. It means looking sharp and acting sharp. I am proud to say I have seen this professionalism displayed at every one of our units. Just like a playoff-bound football team feeds off the winning "swagger" of its teammates, professionalism is a contagious quality that breeds success everywhere. And from this success, we'll develop a swagger of our own.

I'm confident as we begin a new year, that I will have those opportunities to recognize our many professionals who perform their duties around the globe. Thank you for your continued pursuit of excellence in all you do.

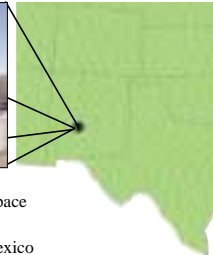
*(Courtesy of Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler, 21st Space Wing commander)*

## 21st Space Wing



# GSU

## At a Glance



**Unit:** Detachment 1, 18th Space Surveillance Squadron

**Location:** Socorro, New Mexico

**Mission:** Detects, tracks and identifies deep space objects; operates a network of optical sensors in four worldwide locations; passes data collected to the Space Control Center at Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station, and the Combined Intelligence Center at Peterson.

Besides providing staffing support and quality assurance management to a work force of more than 150 military and contractors at the worldwide detachments, the unit began operating the Optical Command, Control and Communications Facility, or OC3F, in February 2000. The sites play a vital role in tracking 2,000 objects in space.

## Action Line

**Q:** Why are civilians allowed to use the bank on base? They are not military and they don't work on base. Thank you.

**A:** 5 STAR Bank primarily serves members of the Armed Forces family; however, it does serve the banking needs of non-military members both locally and nationally.

As the bank has only one office located on base, there is a definite need to allow non-military individuals access to

its facility.

Many of the bank's civilian customers are former military individuals and their families who reside in Colorado Springs and choose to maintain their banking relationship with the bank.

Remember, only those civilians allowed access to Peterson Air Force Base have access to the bank on base.

### Submitting Action Lines

To submit an Action Line call 556-7777 or fax your question to 556-7848.



**Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler**

## Space Observer

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### 21st Space Wing Commander

**Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler**  
Chief of Public Affairs  
Capt. Donald B. Kerr  
NCOIC Internal Information  
Tech. Sgt. Gino Mattorano  
Editor  
Senior Airman  
Josh Clendenen  
Assistant Editor  
Staff Sgt. Melanie Epperson

## News Briefs

**MICROWAVE HOOD COMBINATION RECALL** - The Whirlpool Corporation is recalling microwave-hood combinations with model numbers MH-7140 and GH-7145. Whirlpool received seven reports of fires.

The recall involves microwave ovens with a serial number beginning with XC.

Customers should contact Whirlpool for a free repair at 1-800-785-8897.

**AIR FORCE BALL** - The Air Force Ball is slated for Feb. 1 at the Sheraton Colorado Springs Hotel.

Tickets are available through the following representatives:

■ NORAD/USSPACE - Lt. Col. Mike Hennessy at 554-3442.

■ AFSPC/ Cheyenne Mountain - Maj. Penny Heiniger at 554-2442.

■ 21st Space Wing - Maj. Craig Biondo at 556-1430 or Senior Master Sgt. Brad Steininger at 556-1714.

■ 367th Recruiting Squadron - Capt. Jeff Gibson at 554-1246.

■ USAFA/ 10th Air Base Wing - 1st Lt. Joy Kaczor at 333-3752.

■ 50th Space Wing/Space Warfare Center - 2nd Lt. Damion Barbour at 567-5612.

For details, call Jeri Andrews at 638-1305.

**CHANGE OF COMMAND** - Lt. Col. Scott Schofield will relinquish command of the 200th Airlift Squadron to Lt. Col. Richard Martin in a ceremony Saturday, 1:30 p.m. in Building 140.

For more information, call Maj. Bernard Obluda at 556-8541.

**CSAF SURVEY** - The Chief of Staff Organizational Climate Survey will be Jan. 22 - Mar. 8.

The survey is designed to gather information from Air Force personnel so senior leaders can make improvements in areas that are lacking.

To take the survey, log on to <http://csafsurvey.randolph.af.mil>

**AEF BRIEFINGS** - There are mandatory Air Expeditionary Force briefings for all Peterson Air Force Base and Cheyenne Mountain Air Station personnel Jan. 15 at the base theater.

The briefing times are 9, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

For more information, call Tim Donegan at 556-8054.

**ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET TICKETS** - The 21st Space Wing Annual Awards Banquet is Feb. 7, 6 p.m. at the Enlisted Club. Tickets are on sale through Feb. 4.

For more information, contact any first sergeant.

## Around the Air Force

# Eielson airman takes trophy brown

By Tech. Sgt. Elton Price  
354th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

**EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska** — An Eielson hunter recently bagged one of the largest brown bears ever taken in North America.

Senior Airman Theodore Winnen, a load crew member with the 18th Fighter Squadron, took a 10-foot, 1,800-pound brown bear during a hunt Oct. 15 on an island in Prince William Sound.

Winnen explained the true measure of a bear is its skull size, "and this one's skull measured 28 and 1/2 inches."

The world record brown bear - also taken in Alaska - had a skull measuring 30 5/16 inches. Winnen said the bear should make the top 150 in the Boone and Crockett scoring system, which records North American big game trophies.

Winnen and the rest of his four-man hunting party had flown to the island from Valdez Oct. 14.

His hunting partner was Staff Sgt. Jim Urban, a supply technician with the 18th FS. Ron Lutrell, an F-16 equipment specialist with the Air Force Engineering Tech Services, and his hunting partner was Jim Scheu, a flight chief in the jet engine shop at Elmendorf AFB set up the hunting trip. Winnen shot the bear during their first full day of hunting.

"That first day, after we got to our cabin, my hunting partner and I went out and just scouted the area," he said.

They were encouraged, seeing signs of lots of Sitka Blacktail deer, which is what the group had set out to hunt.

"The islands down there are overrun with deer," Winnen said. "They really don't have that many predators, so the deer are every where."

After getting up for an early breakfast, Winnen and Urban started the hunt around 7:45 a.m. They had agreed that Winnen would take the first shot at a bear and Urban would get the first shot at a buck.

"We were walking along a creek, and saw a deep pool with salmon, so right there, we thought we might see a bear. We also saw fresh deer tracks, so

we decided to follow the creek," Winnen said.

The hunters came to a point where the creek split, leaving an island in the middle.

"We went on the island and noticed vines with large berries all around the outside of the island," he said. "That was another good sign that bears might be in the area."

As they walked a bit farther on the island, "I looked up and saw a bear about 40 yards up the creek. He was walking in the creek, looking for salmon. I grabbed Jim by the arm, yanked him over close, and said, 'There's a bear.'"

Both hunters chambered a bullet as the bear continued walking toward them.

"There was a large log between the bear and us, and I told Jim that as soon as the bear walked over that log, I was going to shoot," Winnen said.

The two decided to take cover behind a large pine tree and watched as the bear continued toward them, climbing from the creek onto the island.

"By this time, he was about 10 yards away, and he was still walking directly toward us. Jim kept saying, 'Shoot. Shoot.'"

Winnen finally did, taking aim at the bear's eyes, and firing his .338 hunting rifle.

"He raised his head like he was going to roar, but he didn't make a sound. He just fell over backward." He fired a few more shots into the bear's vital organs to ensure he was dead.

"Then the work began," Winnen said. He and Urban spent the next six hours skinning the bear and scraping the hide.

Winnen packed the hide, which weighed about 250 pounds, while Urban packed the skull, his pack and Winnen's pack. After making their way out of the drainage, Urban took a tarp from his pack and used it as a makeshift sled. The two then dragged everything over the wet grass.

They got about half a mile, before deciding they could use a little more help. Urban went back to the cabin to get Lutrell and Scheu as Winnen stayed with the hide.

Together, the four hunters finally made their



Courtesy photo  
Senior Airman Theodore Winnen, a load crew member with the 18th Fighter Squadron, holds up the paw of a 10-foot, 1,800-pound brown bear he killed in Alaska.

way back to the cabin.

Winnen spent the next couple of days fleshing out the hide, then salting it down to keep it from spoiling. He estimates it will cost about \$1,400 for a taxidermist to turn the hide into a rug. He plans to have the skull mounted on a plaque.

Winnen wasn't the only successful hunter on the trip - Urban got a doe, and Lutrell and Scheu took three deer altogether.

Though this was his first bear, Winnen said he bear-baits near Nenana and hopes to also get a black bear some day.

## 16th AEF troops help deploy French forces to Afghanistan

By Capt. David L. Englin  
16th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

**AVIANO AIR BASE, Italy** — Aerial port specialists from a unit in the 16th Air Expeditionary Wing based in Istres, France, loaded French equipment and troops onto C-17 Globemaster III transport jets bound for Afghanistan between Dec. 17 and Dec. 22.

Typically, the 16th AEW units based at Istres perform air-to-air refueling missions for NATO aircraft flying over the Balkans in support of operations Joint Forge and Joint Guardian.

However, when Operation Enduring Freedom required American C-17s to transport French troops and equipment, the 16th Expeditionary Air Base Squadron, with airmen who specialize in loading heavy aircraft, was there to lend a hand.

Airmen from Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., are deployed to Istres to augment the air transport operations specialists already there. Together they loaded more than 1,000 tons of French equipment over several days, making the equipment safe for flight, securing the equipment into the

aircraft, and performing all of the necessary calculations to ensure the equipment and troops made it to Afghanistan safely.

"It feels good to be involved in Operation Enduring Freedom," said Tech. Sgt. Richard B. Rowcliffe, non-commissioned officer in charge of air transport operations for the 16th EABS. "If I had my choice, I'd be even farther forward."

Rowcliffe, who was a Marine field artillery specialist during Operation Desert Storm, is now an Air Force reservist who spends more than 250 days a year on active duty. He is deployed to the 16th EABS from the 27th Aerial Port Squadron at Minneapolis.

Tech. Sgt. Timothy Dickens, an air transport operations specialist with the 16th EABS, said that dealing with French equipment was slightly different, but nothing they could not handle.

"We train to do this all the time," Dickens said. "We came here to do the job, and that's just what we're going to do."

Dickens' home station is the 69th Aerial Port Squadron at Andrews AFB, Md. He is self-employed and has served more than 16 years in the Air



Photo by Master Sgt. Keith Reed  
Senior Airman Justin D. Kessler, an aircraft cargo specialist from the 437th Airlift Wing at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., directs a French armored personnel carrier onto a C-17 Globemaster III. Kessler and three other Charleston airmen augmented aerial port specialists from the 16th Air Expeditionary Wing who loaded French forces onto several C-17s bound for Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Force Reserve.

"This is another example of the total force of active-duty, Air Force Reserve Command and Air National Guard airmen in action," said Col.

Terry L. New, commander of the 16th AEW. "Whether securing the skies over the Balkans or executing the war against terrorism, we're ready for whatever our country asks of us."

## Kehler STEP promotes two NCO's

By 2nd Lt. Suzy Kohout  
*21st Space Wing Public Affairs*

Two NCO's were STEP promoted by the 21st Space Wing last week. A 21 Civil Engineer Squadron NCO was STEP-promoted for master sergeant during a NCO induction ceremony on Jan. 4. Wing CC, Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler, presented the Stripes for Exceptional Performers to Tech. Sgt. Warren T. Greenwood, Civil Engineering unit training manager. Greenwood was among 14 airmen who were promoted at the Enlisted Club.

In presenting this STEP promotion, Kehler said, "I have always stressed the importance of wearing your uniform correctly. There is somebody here who is out of uniform, somebody here is missing a stripe, would Tech. Sgt. Warren T. Greenwood come up here?"

Greenwood's face lit up as he realized what the General was talking about as he jogged up in front of the crowd.

"I was totally surprised," said Greenwood, "I was submitted while I was deployed in Kuwait and totally forgot about it."

Kehler said Greenwood



Photo by Dennis Plummer

**Chief Master Sgt. Ralph Curtis, 21st Communications Squadron, administers the senior noncommissioned officer oath to Tech. Sgt. Warren Greenwood after he was STEP-promoted to master sergeant.**

was a unit training manager four times at four different bases, which qualified him to win NCO of the year for all of those occasions.

This year only two STEP promotions were awarded to the 21st wing. One was for staff sergeant to technical sergeant and another for technical to master sergeant.

In addition to Greenwood's promotion to master sergeant, a 3rd Space Surveillance Squadron NCO from Misawa AB, Japan was also awarded STEP promotion. Tech. Sgt. Lindsey

Lawton was made aware of this via teleconference Jan 8.

According to the Promotion Fitness Examination, the STEP promotion program entitles commanders to promote a limited number of airmen who have proved themselves exceptional. Also, the promotee must have served a certain number of years in service and have completed certain Professional Military Education courses.

"Everybody here today who was promoted, was promoted because they deserved it!" said Kehler.

## Stop-Loss update

**Master Sgt. Laura A. Velasquez**  
*21st Space Wing*

During a recent 21st Space Wing Commander's Call, several questions surfaced concerning the status of Stop Loss.

Although there have been little changes since the initial Stop Loss implementation, here is the current status of Stop Loss.

The duration of Stop Loss is difficult to predict, as the outcome of the ongoing military operations is uncertain.

Major Command and functional managers have until Jan. 15 to provide an updated list of Air Force Speciality Code requirements to United States Air Force Directorate of Personnel.

These inputs will then be consolidated and will ultimately determine which AFSC's can be released. The expected release date to the field is late January or possibly early February.

The wing commander is considering waivers on a case-by-case basis, with final approval by Air Force Space Command vice commander. Specific eligibility criteria, as outlined in the Headquarters USAF/DP message, must be met to apply for a Stop Loss waiver. Some of the items being considered during the process are individual circumstances, Air Force and local manning levels, critical and stressed AFSC's.

Information concerning Stop Loss can be found at your local Military Personnel Flight or by web at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/retsep/stoploss](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/retsep/stoploss).

The MPF Relocations Section can furnish additional guidance regarding hardship retirement or separation procedures as well as non-mission essential exemptions.

For more information on Stop-Loss, call Master Sgt. Laura Velasquez at 556-4824.



## News

## Wing shines in annual awards competitions

By Staff Sgt. Gino Mattorano

21st Space Wing Public Affairs

The 21st Space Wing was recently highlighted at the Air Force Space Command Commander's Conference.

The biannual conference features an awards luncheon where command-level awards are presented to AFSPC units.

Col. Don Alston, 21st Space Wing vice commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Fred Schoettler, 21st SW command chief, accepted the awards on behalf of the wing.

**The Services Program Award for Fitness and Sports Programs** was awarded to the 21st Services Squadron. The unit was recently recognized for its outstanding fitness programs when it was selected as the number one fitness center in the Air Force.

The 21st Civil Engineer

Squadron was recognized for its outstanding snow and ice control program. **The Balchen/Post Award** honors Col. Bernt Balchen and Wilfred M. Post. It recognizes outstanding performance by military snow and ice control personnel during the previous winter.

**The Innkeeper Award** (small installation category) went to the 21st Services Squadron for excellence in providing lodging for transient personnel.

The 4th Space Surveillance Squadron at Holloman AFB, N.M., was awarded the **Maj. Gen. Maurice C. Padden Trophy** (small installation category). The award recognizes installation excellence for the interior and exterior appearance, functionality, maintenance, and operations of installation facilities.

Along with the award,



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Gino Mattorano

**Members of Team Peterson take advantage of the Peterson fitness center, which was named the best fitness center in the Air Force for 2001.**

the 4th SPSS received a check for \$50,000 from Air Force Space Command to help with the units facilities excellence program.

"We were honored and pleased to receive the award," said Lt. Col. Stephen Tanous, 4th SPSS commander. "Our people put a lot of work into the program and it was a unit-wide effort to set our plan in motion. We're proud to represent the wing."

The squadron will use the money awarded for quality-of-life improvements at the site.



**Pikes Peak Lodge demonstrate the customer service that earned them the Air Force Space Command Innkeeper Award for lodging excellence.**

## Comptrollers earn AFSPC awards

The 21st Comptroller Squadron received several awards at the Air Force Space Command Financial Management and Comptroller award competition for fiscal year 2001.

- **Financial Management Finance Officer of the Year:** 2nd Lt. John Decker
- **Financial Management Analyst Civilian of the Year (GS-10 and below):** Deborah Lombardi
- **Financial Management Airman of the Year:** Senior Airman Faith Fix, (12th Space Warning Squadron, Thule Airbase, Greenland.)
- **Non-appropriated Fund Analyst (Installation) of the Year:** Richard Dubose

# A call to action: The commissary incident

**By Tech. Sgt. Michael Phillips**  
*21st Space Wing Public Affairs*

As Team 21 began to wind down operations in preparation for the Christmas break, members of the Wing's Hazardous Materials Response Team were reminded that threats to security never take a holiday.

The team was called to action at 1:08 p.m. Dec. 21, in response to a report of a suspicious envelope containing a yellow powder near the base commissary.

Security Forces members at the scene reported a white male between the ages of 25 and 35 had dropped a piece of tissue paper containing the powder near the commissary entrance and had fled through the building.

As a precaution, security forces placed a cordon around the area and temporarily closed the commissary and the Peterson Main Exchange. As an additional security measure, gates at the base were closed to incoming and outgo-

ing traffic for about two hours.

Approximately 30 people at the scene complained of burning eyes and respiratory distress.

All were checked by medical personnel and released, with the exception of one female commissary employee who complained of respiratory distress and backaches. She was transported by ambulance to Memorial Hospital. After undergoing examination at the hospital, the employee was released that evening.

Hazardous Materials Response team members on scene quickly determined there was no biological hazard, and the situation was terminated at approximately 3:15 p.m.

Identification testing conducted at the U.S. Army Criminal Investigating Laboratory later determined the yellow powder to be CS, commonly known as tear gas.

The Air Force Office of Special Investigations continues to pursue leads in the case and has released a composite

sketch of the suspect.

If you have any information concerning this case, please call 556-4000.

Incidents like this highlight the need to always remain vigilant of our surroundings. If you see a suspi-

cious activity, report it immediately.

Noting small details such as a description of a suspect, the clothes he or she was wearing, and license numbers and descriptions of vehicles could make a big difference in

helping law enforcement authorities track down a suspect.

By being aware of our surroundings and vigilant for suspicious activity, we're sending a message that terrorism – foreign or domestic –

**WANTED BY AFOSI  
REWARD**

**up to \$2500**

**If you have ANY information which could lead to the arrest and/or conviction of the individual who dispersed yellow powder at the Peterson AFB Commissary on 21 Dec 01 at approximately 1230 hours.**

The individual was wearing a white or pale yellow sweatshirt, jeans and tennis shoes and is described as:



Composite Composite  
21 Dec 01

**Caucasian Male  
Approximately  
6 Feet  
20-30 years of age  
Slim build  
Light brown hair  
Light Complexion**



Composite Sketch  
4 Jan 02

\*\*\* IF DESIRED, CONFIDENTIALITY CAN BE PROTECTED FROM DISCLOSURE \*\*\*  
CALL 556-4000 OR 556-4347 to pass information directly to AFOSI

**Today**

■ Mothers on the Move, 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the Family Advocacy Center.

**Monday**

■ Mothers on the Move, 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the Family Advocacy Center.

**Tuesday**

■ Sponsorship training, 7:30-8:30 a.m., at the Family Support Center.  
■ REDUX briefing, 1-4 p.m., at the Family Support Center.

**Wednesday**

■ Story time for kids, 10:15 a.m., at the base library.  
■ Mexican food night, 5-7 p.m., at the Enlisted Club.  
■ Mothers on the Move, 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the Family Advocacy Center.

**Thursday**

■ King crab legs, 6-8 p.m., at the Officer's Club.



Photo by 21st Space Wing Safety

**Parking illegally**

When some people drive into a parking lot and can't find a place to park they park illegally. This is not only a safety hazard it is also a violation of the law, according to AFI 31-204, para 4.8. The 21st Security Forces Squadron writes numerous parking tickets each week for vehicles that are illegally parked.

**Jan. 18**

■ Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Interfaith Commemorative Service, 11-noon, at the base Chapel.  
■ Registration for session one, spring and summer swim lessons at the Fitness Center.  
■ Prime rib, 6-8:30 p.m., at the Officer's Club.  
■ Mothers on the Move, 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the Family Advocacy Center.  
■ PREP Couples Communication class, 8:15 a.m.-3:30 p.m., at the Family Support Center.

**Helpful Numbers**

■ Family Advocacy Center 556-8943  
■ Education Center 556-4064  
■ Library 556-7462  
■ Community Center 556-7671  
■ Aquatics Center 556-4608  
■ Fitness Center 556-4462  
■ Officers' Club 556-4181  
■ Enlisted Club 556-4194  
■ Youth Center 556-7220  
■ Family Support Center 556-6141  
■ Chapel 556-4442

**Community Notes****Community News**

**PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR KINDERGARTEN** - The Peterson Family Member Programs Flight is sponsoring a training session on preparing your child for kindergarten.

The workshop is free and is scheduled for Jan. 23, noon-1:30 p.m., at the base theater.

For more information, call Karen Kirshenbaum at 554-9572.

**RED CROSS CLASSES** - The American Red Cross will offer a number of classes throughout January.

The classes and fees are as follows:

- Adult CPR, Jan. 22, 6-9:30 p.m., there is a \$35 fee.
- Child and infant CPR, Jan. 30, 6-10 p.m., there is a \$30 fee.
- First-aid, Jan. 24, 6-9:30 p.m., there is a \$30 fee.
- Babysitter training (for youth 11-15 years old), 9 a.m.-1 p.m., there is a \$30 fee.

For more information, call 556-7590.

**TAX VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - The base tax office needs volunteers for the coming tax season. Volunteers will be trained to serve as Volunteer Income Tax Assistance tax preparers.

To volunteer or for more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Debra Henry at 556-4403, or [debra.henry@peterson.af.mil](mailto:debra.henry@peterson.af.mil).

**BONE MARROW DRIVE** - The Department of Defense Bone Marrow Donor Program will be at Peterson Jan. 14 to take donor registrations.

For more information on the marrow donation program, call Tech. Sgt. Kristin Clark at 556-8474 or e-mail [kristin.clark@peterson.af.mil](mailto:kristin.clark@peterson.af.mil).

**AIRMAN'S ATTIC HOURS** - The Airman's Attic is open Tuesday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., and Thursday, noon-3 p.m.

The Airman's Attic is located in the basement of building 1156, Columbia Hall.

The Airman's Attic is a non-profit organization designed to assist junior enlisted member and their families with household goods including furnishings, dishes, toys and clothing.

Donations are accepted during normal hours of operation. Those who want to donate large items that require a pick-up, can make arrangements with advance notice.

For more information or to donate items, call 556-3125.

**Community Activities Center**

**SNOFEST** - SnoFest is Feb. 22-24 at the Keystone Resort.

**PARTIGRAS** - Tickets are on sale at the CAC for \$7 each for those who purchase tickets by Feb. 15. Tickets purchased after Feb. 15 are \$10 each.

**LIFT TICKETS** - Lift tickets are on sale now at the CAC. Adults (ages 13 and older) pay \$28 per day and youth (5-12 years) pay \$18 per day.

**RENTAL EQUIPMENT** - Equipment is available for rent at Outdoor Recreation. Reserve equipment at least 24 hours in advance. Call 556-4867 for more information.

**RACES** - Race categories include individual, team, commander's cup and challenge. Look for details in the January issue of Good Stuff or Leisure News. Register at Outdoor Recreation, call 556-4867.

For general information about SnoFest, visit or call the CAC, 556-7671 or 556-1733.

**Education Center**

**SCHOLARSHIPS FOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN** - School grants of \$100 to \$1,000 are available for dependent children. Apply on line at <http://www.troa.org>.

Application deadline is March 1.

The scholarship program is sponsored by the Retired Officers Association.

**SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MILITARY CHILDREN PROGRAM**

Applications for the second annual Defense Commissary Agency/Fisher House Foundation Scholarships for Military Children Program are now available at your local commissary or for download at <http://www.commissaries.com>.

Qualified (sons and daughters) of U.S. military ID card holders, including retirees, may apply for the \$1,500 scholarships.

Application deadline is Feb. 5. **DANTES TEST PROGRAM**- The DANTES Test Program will no longer offer the following tests:

- Introductory business law
- Calculus with elementary functions
- Information systems and computer applications
- Human growth and development

After July 1, the center will no longer be offering the following tests:

- American government
- College algebra and trigonometry
- Principles of marketing
- Introductory sociology
- Trigonometry

For more information on the cancellations, call the Education Center at 556-4064.

**Leave Donations**

**VOLUNTARY LEAVE DONATIONS NEEDED** - Civilian annual leave donations are needed for numerous individuals throughout the Air Force.

To donate leave, or for more information on the program, call the Civilian Personnel Flight at 556-9231.

## Peterson Air Force Base 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.

# The Year in Review

By Senior Airman Josh Clendenen  
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

When you think of the events of the past year, one stands out in almost everyone's mind. The terror attacks of Sept. 11. But for the 21st Space Wing and the Air Force, the year held more than the tragedies of that day.

From winning awards to activation of a new satellite system, the wing has experienced nearly everything. As many people do to welcome the new year, let's take a look back at the events of the 2001.

## January

■ Air Force Space Command received a 10-12 percent raise in Basic Allowance for Housing.

■ The 721st Security Forces Squadron won its third consecutive Outstanding Active-Duty Security Forces Small Unit Award.

■ The 21st Security Forces Squadron implemented bike patrol.

■ January marked the 10-year anniversary of Operation Desert Storm.

■ Col. Michael Selva took command of the 21st Support Group.

■ The 76th Space Control Squadron activated.

■ Secretary of the Air Force F. Whitten Peters retired.

## February

■ Peterson Complex celebrated Black History month.

■ Donald Rumsfeld was sworn in as Defense Secretary.

■ Construction crews broke ground on the new crash/fire rescue station for the Fire Department.

■ Clear Air Force Station activated a new radar.

■ Peterson conducted Condor Crest 01-1.

■ Wing named annual award winners.

■ The 21st Logistics Group won intramural racquetball championships.

■ Peterson entered into an affordable housing agreement with Creekside at Nor'wood to offer cheaper housing to military members.

■ Correctional custody facility at Peterson closed.

## March

■ Air Force introduced Top-Up.

■ Wing members teamed up with the Colorado Springs Police Department to train in a hostage situation exercise.

■ The AFSPC basketball team won recreational league championships.

■ The 20th Space Surveillance Squadron benefited from new energy project.

■ High year of tenure changed for E-6's.

■ A 21st SW military working dog team took top honors at the Central Florida Working Dog Competition at Patrick Air Force Base.

## April

■ Air Force opened first Laser Eye Surgery clinic at the Air Force Academy.

■ Chief master sergeant launched the Colorado Rockies season by singing the National Anthem.

■ Peterson honored more than 600

volunteers during Volunteer Recognition Luncheon.

■ Buckley sailor delivered a baby in a parking lot.

■ Peterson Airman Leadership School instructor is named best in the Air Force for 2000.

■ AFSPC named airmen of the year.

■ Peterson crews broke ground on new Temporary Lodging Facilities.

## May

■ Guardian Challenge kicked off at Vandenberg Air Force Base.

■ Peterson's Air Terminal was named AFSPC Air Terminal Unit of the Year and the AFSPC Transportation Activity of the Year.

■ The 21st SW repeated as Guardian Challenge champions.

■ "Around the World in Ninety Days" kicked off at the library.

■ The 21st and 721st Security Forces volunteered for Special Olympics torch run.

## June

■ Vice President Dick Cheney visited Peterson.

■ Acting Secretary of the Air Force Dr. Lawrence Delaney visited Peterson.

■ The 76th SPCS changed command.

■ Dr. James Roche was sworn in as the 20th Secretary of the Air Force.

■ The 821st Space Group changed command.

■ Base dedicated new flag plaza.

■ Air Force members helped clean up after a tornado tore through Ellicott.

■ June marked the anniversary of the bombing of the Khobar Towers on King Abdul Aziz Air Base, Saudi Arabia.

■ Air Force team took Armed Forces Eco-Challenge.

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## GOTTA GO, GOTTA GO GOTTA RODEO



Graphic design by Senior Airman Josh Clendenen

■ Peterson Complex members participated in Sports Day.

■ Pikes Peak or Bust Parade kicked off the 61st Annual Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo.

■ The 2nd Space Warning Squadron celebrated 30 years of service.

■ The Peterson Air and Space Museum was rededicated.

■ The 302nd Air Lift Wing helped suppress wildfires in Idaho.

■ The Air Force announced the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance policies will cover family members.

■ Peterson Complex members took on the Pikes Peak Marathon.

■ The 821st Space Group changed to the 46th Air Base Wing.

■ A 21st SW military working dog team made the largest marijuana bust in DoD history while working with U.S. Customs on the United States/Mexico border.

## September

■ The Air Force Office of Special Investigations Detachment 808 assisted the Drug Enforcement Agency in a drug case spanning two states.

■ Two hijacked airliners crashed into the World Trade Center Towers. Another hijacked airliner crashed into the Pentagon.

■ A pilot who was missing in action for 30 years was buried at the Air Force Academy with full military honors.

■ The Air Force celebrated its 54th birthday.

■ President George W. Bush

proclaimed Sept. 14 as a National Day of Prayer and Remembrance.

■ The Operational Readiness inspection wrapped up.

## October

■ Peterson members remembered lost and fallen comrades during POW/MIA day.

■ Air Force implements Stop-Loss.



Photo by Senior Airman Shane Sharp

Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler, 21st Space Wing commander, pins the Purple Heart on Michael J. Chavez.



Photo by Master Sgt. David Pitts

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

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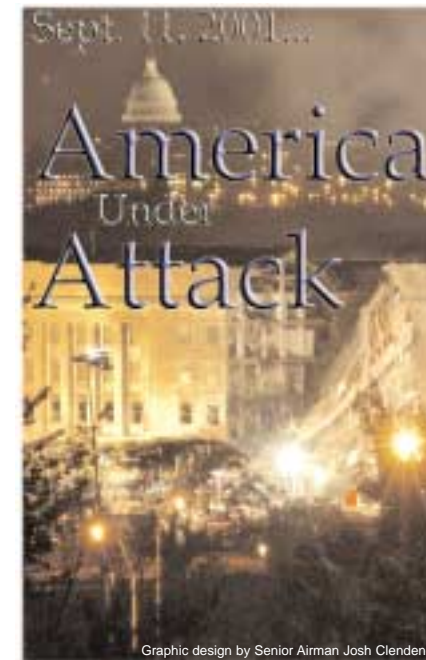
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Graphic design by Senior Airman Josh Clendenen

# TERROR



Graphic design by Senior Airman Josh Clendenen



# Things to remember when filing taxes

By Dianne Smith  
21st Space Wing Legal Office

The tax season is upon us. One thing to remember is that incorrect and missing information delays refunds and in some cases generates a penalty, so it's important your tax return be accurate and timely.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistant support is available here at no cost to active duty members, their dependents, and retirees. So whether you are filing 1040EZ or 1040 with schedules, we can help.

Many events during the year affect your taxes, so it's smart to take action before the tax season arrives. Two of the most common changes in taxpayer status are name changes and dependent status changes.

**Name changes:** During calendar year 2001, did you or your dependents have any name changes due to marriage, divorce, adoption or birth? You must report name changes to the Social Security Administration.

The IRS database is linked to the SSA. If you have a name change and don't report it to SSA, two things happen.

First, the wages you are reporting under your new name may not be credited to you, and second, the IRS will reject your electronic filing because the names on your tax return won't match their master file.

**Dependents:** If you have a child born in the year 2001, a social security number will be issued to him or her. You cannot claim the child as a dependent on your tax return until you receive the social security number.

There are five tests to determine whether you can claim a person as your dependent and all five tests must be met.

**Member of Household or Relationship Test** – The dependent must be a relative or live in the taxpayer's house all year, except for temporary absences for school or hospital stays.

**Joint Return Test** – The dependent can't file a joint return with someone else unless it is only to claim a refund of tax withheld.

**Citizenship Test** – The dependent must

be a US citizen or resident of Canada or Mexico.

**Support Test** - You provide more than half the total support (includes food, clothing, shelter, education, medical and recreation) to the dependent. Two exceptions are multiple support and children of divorced or separated parents. The custodial parent is considered the provider of more than half the child's support if all the following are met:

1. The child received more than half of his or her support from one or both parents.
2. The parents are divorced, legally separated, or have lived apart the last six months of the year.
3. The child was in the custody of one or both parents for more than half the calendar year.

The custodial parent will not be considered the provider of more than half the child's support if any of the following exist:

1. More than half the support of the child came from third parties, such as relatives.
2. Custodial parent signed Form 8332, Release of Claim to Exemption for Child of Divorced or Separated Parents, allowing non-custodial parent to claim the child. This form must be attached to the noncustodial parent's return.
3. A decree or agreement that went into effect after 1984 unconditionally states the noncustodial parent can claim the child as dependent.

4. A qualified pre-1985 agreement provides that the noncustodial parent is entitled to claim the child and pays \$600 toward the child's support during the year, unless pre-1985 agreement is modified after 1984 to specify that this provision will not apply.

**Gross Income Test** - The dependent must have a gross income less than the amount of a personal exemption, \$2,800 for tax year 2001.

The exception is if the taxpayer's child is under age 19, or a full-time student (five months of the year) under age 24.

If you have tax questions, you can access the IRS web site at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

## Air Force legal offices ready for tax season

*What will, will not change this year*

**WASHINGTON** — Air Force legal offices are gearing up for the 2002 tax season, which experts said would present only a few subtle changes to last year's laws.

What will not change, they said, is the traditional system of support provided at Air Force bases around the world.

Air Force legal offices, in conjunction with the Internal Revenue Service and volunteers from the military community, annually set up tax centers and recruit and train volunteer unit tax advisers, providing bluesuiters with a convenient process for filing their yearly returns.

"The Air Force tax program saved the military community more than \$12 million in tax preparation fees in 2001," said Capt. Jennifer Hyzer, tax program manager for the Air Force Legal Assistance Division at the Pentagon. "The quality of life for our people is greatly enhanced by the services of volunteers at bases around the world, and such initiatives as electronic filing."

Electronic filing improves the quality-of-life for people, enabling them to receive their income tax refunds in a fraction of the time it takes to process a paper return, all without paying an electronic filing fee, Hyzer said.

"Electronic income tax filing services for Air Force members were introduced as part of the 'People First' ini-

tiative, a quality-of-life program announced by the Secretary of the Air Force in 1994," she said. "More than 129,000 federal income tax returns were electronically filed in 2001."

A few changes in the tax law may affect the returns of Air Force people in 2002. Each tax bracket over 15 percent has been cut by 0.5 percent. The new 2001 rates for the top four tax rates will be 39.1 percent, 35.5 percent, 30.5 percent, and 27.5 percent. The lower rates — 10 percent and 15 percent — will not change. Most Air Force people fall in the 15- and 27.5-percent tax brackets, Hyzer said.

Additionally, first time filers and those who did not owe any taxes for 2000 will receive a rate reduction credit on their 2001 returns.

Hyzer said many taxpayers have already taken advantage of the credit, in the form of a refund mailed out last year.

"The Treasury Department mailed out checks last July for many people," she said. "For those who did not already receive the refund, married couples will save up to \$600, single parents up to \$500, and singles up to \$300."

Finally, the tax credit for each child younger than 17 increases from \$500 to \$600 this year.

The maximum income amount to qualify for the credit will remain the same — \$110,000 for married couples.

People can contact their local base legal office for more information on this year's tax laws, and for the locations of the nearest Air Force tax center.

## Commentary

# Drunk driving changes families, careers forever

By Richard Zowie  
Randolph AFB, Texas

What seemed like a normal Sunday afternoon in Athens, Ga., turned into a tragic day for my family. My cousin, Randy Burris, was in his neighbor's front yard talking with a woman who was walking her daughter in a stroller.

Hearing a car approach from behind, Randy glanced over his shoulder and saw that it was speeding out of control. It rounded the corner, left the roadway and headed straight toward them.

The woman was unable to get the baby and stroller over a rut in the yard, so Randy pushed the mother out of the vehicle's path and grabbed the stroller just in time to minimize the impact on the stroller and baby.

The woman and baby escaped without serious injury, but the car struck Randy. He died two days later. The driver was cited for driving under the influence, driving without license or insurance, driving too fast for conditions, leaving the scene of the accident and felony vehicular homicide. He must now live the rest of his life knowing he took some-

one from a family.

Unfortunately, Randy's death isn't an isolated incident. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 16,653 Americans were killed in crashes involving alcohol in 2000.

The traffic safety administration further reported that about three out of every 10 Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some time in their lives. Even more disturbing, the safety administration also discovered that, among the drunk driving fatalities in 1999, nearly two alcohol-related traffic deaths occurred per hour, 48 per day and 303 per week. To put this on a more alarming level, these deaths were the equivalent of two jetliners crashing every week.

In addition to the guilt surviving drunk drivers must bear, military people caught driving while intoxicated can face career-ending and damaging punishment.

"The disposition is the commander's decision," said Maj. Stephen Kelly, deputy staff judge advocate for the 12th Flying Training Wing. "Our recommendation will be driven by the facts of the situation and the individual involved."

For a DWI offense, the punishment ranges from Article 15 nonjudicial punishment to a general court martial.

If there's no personal injury, the maximum sentence in a general court-martial is a bad conduct discharge, or dismissal from the service if the member is an officer.

For enlisted members, it may also include forfeiture of all pay and allowances, confinement for six months, reduction to E-1 for enlisted personnel and a fine.

If death results from a DWI incident, the person could be charged with involuntary manslaughter, which may include a maximum sentence of 10 years confinement in addition to other measures.

With these consequences to consider, if you choose to drink, it's imperative that you plan for a designated driver, or take a taxi home. If you see people preparing to drive after having too much to drink, do what you can to stop them.

I pray for the endurance of Randy's legacy. That legacy is about a man laying down his life for a child and about the irreversible effects of drunk driving.

## *Families can overcome stress from separation because of deployments*

By Lt. Col.  
Gregory Ditzler  
90th Security Forces Squadron

The global-reach capability of the Expeditionary Air Force is an exciting change to our Air Force culture. However, with EAF comes separation from home and family.

As a commander, the results of that painful separation are all too clear when my first sergeant and I help families cope with separation-related problems.

The Air Force has increased its focus on family support over the years, but separation causes unique problems within the family that only the family members themselves can overcome.

Here are some tips to combat separation problems:

Realize that before the deployment begins, stress and anxiety will build.

Take time as a family to plan how you'll maintain communication during the separation.

Build a reliable family

support net consisting of squadron and local community contacts, relatives and friends.

Discuss known future events that will occur during the separation (such as major purchases, birthdays), so some joint decisions can be made face-to-face in advance.

Assure one another of the confidence you share in the relationship and in the family's strength and ability to overcome challenges.

Communicate before and during a TDY or remote assignment. Communication is key to maintaining a strong and peaceful relationship during the time apart.

My wife doesn't mind me sharing that our first big argument in our marriage occurred when I was half-way around the world starting a remote tour.

We were married only three months, and I was busy feeling sorry for myself. I got really upset at her over a trivial matter — what a wasted morale call that was.

Looking back, I should have realized my young wife

was also going through a difficult period being on her own for the first time.

Keep your phone calls positive, at all costs.

You might need to discuss difficult subjects, but remember each of you will review negative words many times after you hang up.

E-mail is a great tool to keep each other updated, so consider investing in a home computer and possibly a laptop for the deploying member. Some deploying members have even purchased video capability for their personal

computers.

Videotapes are a great way to share birthday parties and your baby's first steps.

Regular mail, while slow, delivers valued greeting cards and treats from home.

Communicate after a TDY or remote, too.

Homecomings can create lifelong memories. However, remember real-life homecomings don't necessarily look or feel like those in the movies.

Realize family and friends change and the member has as well, so build in plenty of time to adjust to one

another.

Routines at home may have changed in the military member's absence, so allow time to adjust.

Understand your spouse may have increased his or her sense of independence during your TDY, but this doesn't mean the returning military member isn't needed or important.

It's important to understand that military family members serve the Air Force as well and make sacrifices to keep our country free.

## Tip of the Sword

## Star Performer: Senior Airman Kelly Robles

**NAME:** Senior Airman Kelly Anne Robles  
**UNIT:** 21st Logistic Support Squadron  
**HOMETOWN:** Fresno, Calif.  
**TIME IN SERVICE:** 4 years, 5 months

Senior Airman Kelly Anne Robles has been assigned to the 21st Logistics Support Squadron since August.

After arriving from Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, where she was assigned to the 51st Communications Squadron for 18 months, she quickly changed hats from a maintenance technician to that of a subject matter expert.

As a Satellite/Wideband/Telemetry and Space Systems Maintenance Technician, she is the team lead for Space-Based Infrared Radar Systems.

Robles directly supports the Integrated Tactical Warning/Attack Assessment system by reviewing proposed modifications for completeness and accuracy.

Additionally, she is responsible for tracking the

implementation of Standard Change Forms covering five geographically separated units performing missile warning and space surveillance missions. She also serves as the space-based systems representative during the Operations Approval Sub-Board and as the 21st Space Wing liaison representative for contractor process action reviews.

Besides her regular duties, she alone reviewed the outdated training plan and expertly created a new, valuable training tool ensuring continuous monitoring.

Her efforts enabled speedy training of four new personnel since her arrival in August. She is her unit's alternate unit force protection monitor, where she displays how well she operates while ensuring all force protection policies and guidance at squadron commander's calls are carried out.

In addition to her military duties, she is very much dedicated to her health and fitness.

She developed her own strenuous aerobics schedule during her lunch hour to maximize personal fitness, which has resulted in her receiving the highest fitness score for female members for both Cheyenne Mountain and Peterson complexes.

She was recently selected by Col. Don Alston, 21st SW vice commander, for the ribbon cutting ceremony to officially open the Health and Wellness Center.

Her efforts as a Star Performer extend beyond personal growth.

As an active member in the community, she has volunteered to fill in for an absent Spanish translator to deliver the liturgy at the Hispanic Heritage Mass, organized unit/group/ wing points of contact for 21st SW holiday reception, and actively participates in Peterson's Hispanic Heritage Committee.

She took an active part in coordinating Peterson's Hispanic Heritage Month Luncheon. She is currently



Photo by 2nd Lt. Suzy Kohout

**Senior Airman Kelly Robles, 21st Logistics Support Squadron, is this week's Star Performer. Robles is currently working on her bachelor's degree in Liberal Arts. She is also a member of the High Frontier Honor Guard.**

assisting the committee to establish scholarships for Hispanic youth in the Colorado Springs area. On top of that, she is a member of the High Frontier Honor Guard.

Robles, who turned down an Academic/Athletic

Scholarship, has taken her place within the Air Force so she can obtain life experience no college education alone could suffice.

She is currently working toward a bachelor degree in Liberal Arts.

## ALS graduates 30

Thirty airmen graduated Airman Leadership School Dec. 13.

The John L. Levitow Award was given to Senior Airman Ashly L. Erickson, 810th Medical operations Squadron.

Distinguished Graduates were Senior Airman Joshua T. Clendenen, 21st Space Wing, and Senior Airman William J. Mattaliano, Detachment 46, Air Force Technical Applications Center.

Mattaliano also received the Academic Achievement award and Clendenen received the Leadership Award.

These airmen are graduates of Class 02-B: Matthew C. Bowman  
Justin Brown  
Chad E. Browning  
Jason G. Carlson  
Nathaniel Cassillas

Joshua T. Clendenen  
Ricarda Q. Crawford  
Charlene Dalio  
Christopher T. Dowell  
Ashly L. Erickson  
Bruce R. Estep  
Brandy M. Fleer-Williams  
John A. Galdamez  
Michael W. Gee II  
Christina M. Gold  
Mario M. Gonzalez  
Jeffrey P. Haggett  
Joshua D. Hanson  
William J. Mattaliano  
Jeffrey S. Milam  
Julius V. Myers  
Jason M. Panetti  
Anthony W. Rice  
Heath W. Roberts  
Jean B. Schiller  
Erik J. Silva  
Connie M. Sivadon  
Anthony L. Wiggins  
Terry L. Witmer Jr.  
Jose Zaragoza Jr.

(Courtesy of the Peterson Airman Leadership School)



## Sports

# Outdoor recreation offers to drive you skiing

*Breckenridge, Keystone, Ski Cooper, weekend, weekday--not a problem*

**By 2nd Lt. Mike Andrews**  
*21st Space Wing public Affairs*

The Peterson Community Activities Center now offers customized weekday and weekend trips at reduced prices to several popular Colorado ski resorts.

The activity center is offering over 60 weekend trips to Breckenridge, Keystone, and Ski Cooper.

The trips will leave the activity center Saturdays at 6 a.m., and will leave the resort to return to the base at 4:30 p.m.

The Ski Cooper trip is \$50 and includes transportation to and from the resort, equipment (including skis or snowboard, boots, and poles) your lift ticket, and a two-hour professional skiing lesson.

Additional equipment such as helmets or jackets are available at an extra charge.

Trips that include roundtrip transportation and light snacks are also offered to Ski Cooper, Breckenridge and Keystone for \$10. Lift tickets can also be purchased at the ticket office.

The CAC needs a minimum of six people to schedule each trip.

"Just come in to the ticket office and sign up by Thursday of the week you're going, or you can call and order the tickets over the phone, whichever is easiest for the customer," said Victoria

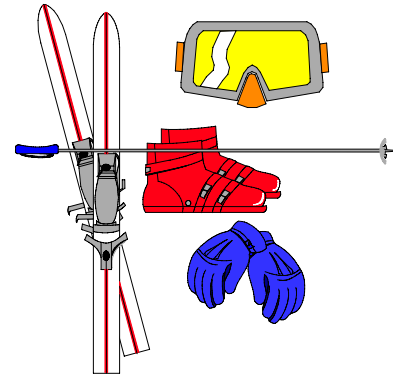
Crump, lead recreation assistant.

Rob Miller, outdoor recreation assistant, gave some helpful tips for skiers or snowboarders planning on taking advantage of one of these trips.

"Wear the same socks to the boot fitting at outdoor recreation that you plan on wearing on the trip. This helps cut down on blisters," said Miller.

"Dress in layers while skiing. This ensures you'll be comfortable the entire trip," said Deb Connor, director of the community activities center.

"Don't forget to wear goggles and bring sun-block,



and then have a great time," she added.

The ski trips are open to

all base-eligible personnel. For more information, call 556-1733.

## Sports Shorts

**Self defense classes -** Self defense classes are scheduled for Jan. 12-13 at the Fitness Center. The classes will be given in two, four-hour sessions. Cost is \$20 per person. Call 556-1515 for more information.

**CMAFS 5K fun run - A** 5K fun run is scheduled for Jan. 11. The entry fee is \$1. The deadline for registration and race start time is 11:30 a.m. the day of the race. Participants should meet in front of the Technical Support Facility at CMAFS.

**Fitness Center 5K fun run - A** 5K fun run is scheduled for Jan. 18. The entry fee is \$2. Participants should meet in front of the Fitness Center.

**Military Ski Team -** The Military Ski Team is looking for skiers who have had some racing experience or are strong recreational skiers. Racers must be active

duty, reserve or National Guard, Department of Defense civilians, dependents or retirees. The minimum age to race is 18.

For more information on the ski team, call Dan Wilson at Peterson Air Force Base, 554-9189; Brian Healy at Schriever AFB, 567-4759; or Andy Thorburn at Buckley AFB; DSN 877-6721.

**Tae Kwon Do - Tae** Kwon Do classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Fitness Center for Children 7-13, 6-7 p.m., and children 14 and older, 7-8 p.m. All military ID cardholders are eligible. Call 556-1515 for details.

**Personal trainers -** The Fitness Center has personal trainers available. If you are interested in hiring a trainer, call 556-4462 for more information.

**Yoga -** Yoga classes, Wednesdays, at 6:15 p.m. and Fridays, 12:15 p.m.

## Sports

## SnoFest!!! races are coming up fast

By Margie Arnold  
21st Services Squadron

**S**noFest!!! races are scheduled for Feb. 22 and 23 at Keystone Mountain Resort.

SnoFest!!! is hosted by the 21st Services Squadron and staffs at the Air Force Academy, Fort Carson, and Peterson, Schriever, Buckley and F.E. Warren Air Force Bases.

Competitive individual and team races will be Feb. 22, and youth and family races on the National Standard Race -- NASTAR handicap system will be Feb. 23. The races are free and open to all eligible participants.

The youth and family races will be Feb. 23 on the NASTAR slope. Prizes will be awarded under the NASTAR handicap system for fastest male and female skiers and snowboarders in youth, cadet, and open ski categories.

The deadline is race day, which begins at 8 a.m. at the Mountain House.

Commander's Cup ski and snowboard races start at 10 a.m. Feb. 22 and end at 12:30 p.m. on the NASTAR slope, which is accessed via the Peru ski lift.

Race categories and awards include first, second and third place in squadron, unit and organization team ski competition.

While this is one of sev-

eral race categories, it is perhaps one of the more important. At its heart is teamwork, the essence of success. Once a group of skiers is chosen, it's the camaraderie and esprit de corps that transform the group into a team that can ski the pants off any other team on the hill.

Other Commander's Cup race category awards include first and second place in individual ski competition for men 17 years and older; first and second place for women 17 years and older; first and second place in individual snowboard competition for men 17 years and older; and first and second place in individual snowboard competition for women 17 years and older.

Individual times also count toward the Commander's Cup but not toward team scores.

The Commander's Cup trophy will be awarded to the installation with the fastest combined time of their top two skiers.

Those two times are taken from times scored in individual and team competitions. Whether you ski as an individual or on a team, your finish times count toward the Commander's Cup trophy.

Individual skiers and snowboarders are scored on the fastest run time from two runs.

Teams are scored based on the top three times. Each time is the fastest of two times

from each team member. Fewer than three finish times on a team disqualifies the team from the competition.

An installation's score is the combination of the top two times from each installation.

The registration deadline for ski and snowboard competitive races for individuals and teams is Feb. 14.

Team captains meet Feb. 15 at Peterson Outdoor Recreation, Bldg. 675. Race day check-in is 8 a.m. Feb. 22 at Mountain House, when race numbers will be assigned.

No more than five teams per installation are allowed. Teams sign up on a first-come, first-served basis.

Teams may be comprised of no more than four and no fewer than three skiers from a squadron, unit or organization. Teams may register two alternate team members. Members from small squadrons may race with other squadrons. Large squadrons may have more than one team.

Registration rosters are available at Outdoor Recreation.

All eligible Services customers age 17 or older may compete for individual honors in Friday's races.

To score points in the squadron team competition, racers must be active duty or civilian employees assigned to the squadron represented in the team race and a registered member of the squadron team.

Individual times scored



Photo by Margie Arnold

**SnoFest 2001 participants prepare for competitive races. This year's event will be at Keystone Resort. Anyone interested in joining a race team can register for the races at Peterson Outdoor Recreation.**

in the team competition also count toward individual honors and the Commander's Cup.

To score points for the Commander's Cup, a racer must be active duty or a civilian employee at a competing installation and does not have to be racing for a squadron team.

Cheer on your favorite installation commanders and their teams in some good-natured competition between 12:30-1:30 p.m. Feb. 22, on the NASTAR slope at the Peru lift.

The cardboard box derby is an open category and will be Sat. at 4 p.m. Feb. 23 on the Discovery slope.

Cardboard "sleds," constructed only of cardboard, tape, rope and paint, will be judged by appearance, structure and the accuracy of hitting a target area. All eligible Services customers may participate.

For information on any of the events, call K.C. Henderson at Outdoor Recreation, 556-4867, or Warren Schroeder at Services Marketing, 556-7874.