



Space Observer

Friday, Feb. 8, 2002

Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

Vol. 46 No. 5

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**Snow Call
Line
556-SNOW**

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



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Alex Lloyd

Prayer luncheon

Rampart Winds, a woodwind quartet and subgroup of the Air Force Band of the Rockies, plays for the 250 people who attended Wednesday's National Prayer Luncheon at the Officers' Club. See complete story, Page 5.

Annual award winners named

By Master Sgt. D.K. Grant
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

During a simple yet moving ceremony last night at the Enlisted Club, Col. Don Alston, 21st Space Wing vice commander, recognized the awe-inspiring accomplishments of the entire wing and the Peterson Complex over the past year, commended nominees for their outstanding performance, and announced the wing's annual awards recipients.

More than 300 wing members and local community leaders attended the annual awards banquet and ceremony to honor the wing's best and brightest.

"We've had another year filled with extraordinary accomplishments, none greater than our determined and overwhelming response to the terror brought down upon our nation on Sept. 11," said Alston.

"As our president said to the nation while addressing a joint session of Congress on Sept. 20, 'I have a message for our military: Be ready. I've called the armed forces to alert and there is a reason. The hour is coming when America will act and you will make us proud.' We were ready. We were called. And we are very proud. The professionals we honor tonight, proven outstanding young men and women, represent the very best of us," the vice commander added.

Adding a few extra-stellar touches to the evening were performances

by the Air Force Band of the Rockies Stellar Brass ensemble, and greetings provided by Mitchell High School Junior ROTC cadets.

According to Chief Master Sgt. Andy Laning, awards committee chairman, the banquet and ceremony were testimony to the hard work of many people, from the planning committee to the club staff.

"Everyone put a lot of work and coordination into making this happen," Laning said. "Without their support, this event would have been less spectacular for our nominees and their guests."

In addition to wing annual awards winners, the banquet saluted High Frontier Honor Guard annual award winners. The honor guard's company grade officer of the year was 2nd Lt. Christopher Connolly, 50th Operations Support Squadron, Schriever Air Force Base. The lieutenant led up to 20 team members during more than 100 ceremonial details, including funerals, POW/MIA day, changes of command and more.

The honor guard NCO of the year was Staff Sgt. David Hodd, 3rd Space Operations Squadron, Schriever AFB. In addition to initiating administrative and management procedures to help improve team operations, Hodd led a 20-member team in support of more than 175 details in the Colorado/Kansas area of responsibility, demonstrating Air Force professionalism to local, national and international distin-

guished visitors.

The honor guard's airman of the year is also the team trainer for Bravo Team: Airman 1st Class David Smith, 50th Communication Squadron, Schriever AFB. Smith, like Bravo leader Hodd, supported over 175 ceremonies last year.

Wing award winners are featured on page 3.

NORAD/USSPACE WINNERS

By Petty Officer 1st Class Beverly Allen
NORAD/USSPACECOM Public Affairs

The North American Aerospace Defense Command and the United States Space Command recognized their annual awards winners during a luncheon Feb. 7, at the Peterson Air Force Base Enlisted Club.

More than 300 people attended the ceremony. The Air Force Band of the Rockies Blue Steel Protocol combo provided the entertainment and Tech Sgt. Timothy Wilson sang a moving rendition of the Canadian and American national anthems.

Commander in Chief, NORAD/USSPACECOM Gen. Ralph E. Eberhart, officiated.

See "Winners," Page 5

Senior leaders: Put survey at top of 'to do' list

by Tech. Sgt. Mark Kinkade
Air Force Print News

SAN ANTONIO -- Time is running out for Air Force people to speak their minds to Air Force leadership through the 2002 Chief of Staff Organizational Climate survey, which is available online through March 8.

The survey, offered every two years since 1997, is designed to gauge how people feel about leadership, communication, supervision, training, job satisfaction and other aspects of Air Force organizations.

The 1997 survey gathered more than 200,000 responses and resulted in a number of quality-of-life and organization changes within the Air Force, survey officials said. The 1999 survey continued the process.

"The '99 (survey) put these types of issues into the cross hairs at every level of our Air Force, from the Pentagon, through the major commands and on down to the unit level," said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Fredrick J. Finch. "With data like this, we can

make this great Air Force of ours better yet. We'll 'shape tomorrow' for the Air Force, our people and our families."

Senior leaders want a stronger turnout for this year's survey, saying it gives Air Force people an opportunity to "speak today, shape tomorrow."

"Sustaining the world's pre-eminent air and space force requires excellence in the work environment," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper. "This survey will provide valuable information to all Air Force leaders to achieve that goal."

As the Air Force strives to shape itself for the 21st century, the input from the survey will be a crucial tool, said Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche.

"In an era which readiness, retention, education and training issues loom larger than ever, the voices of our airmen must be heard," he said. "Leadership must be made aware of what's really going on out there."

Take the survey online at:
<http://131.15.55.250/default.asp>

News Briefs

OFFICER'S CLUB CONSTRUCTION - A section of the Officer's Club parking lot will be closed for construction from Monday until April 30. A contractor will construct landscaped islands and install new parking lot lights.

The entire south portion of the parking lot will be open for parking. A limited number of parking spaces will be available at the north end of the lot.

People who use the parking lot are asked to be alert for construction workers and equipment in the area.

Any questions or concerns should be addressed to Master Sgt. Michael Funicelli, at 556-1634.

GOLF COURSE GRILL CLOSURE - The 19th Hole Grill at the Silver Spruce Golf Course will be closed for renovation from Feb. 18 to April 19.

A contractor will install a new heating, ventilating and air-conditioning system, repair the roof and install a new ceiling.

For more information call Richard Amaya, at 556-7204.

TRAFFIC LIGHT INSTALLATION - Foundations for new traffic lights will be installed at the intersection of Peterson

Boulevard and Selfridge Avenue beginning Monday.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

• The Peterson Air Force Base Black Heritage Committee Luncheon will be held at the Officers' club at 11 a.m. Tuesday. The keynote speaker will be Lt. Gen. John Hopper Jr., Air Education and Training Command vice commander.

Tickets are \$10. For more information, call Maj. Winiford Harvey at 554-6029 or Margaret Harris at 554-3505.

• A Soul Food lunch sale is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 19 at the base chapel.

Tickets are available by calling Master Sgt. Lamont Finney, 556-4723; Master Sgt. Preston Dickens, 556-8971; or Staff Sgt. Arcelius Isaac, 556-4462.

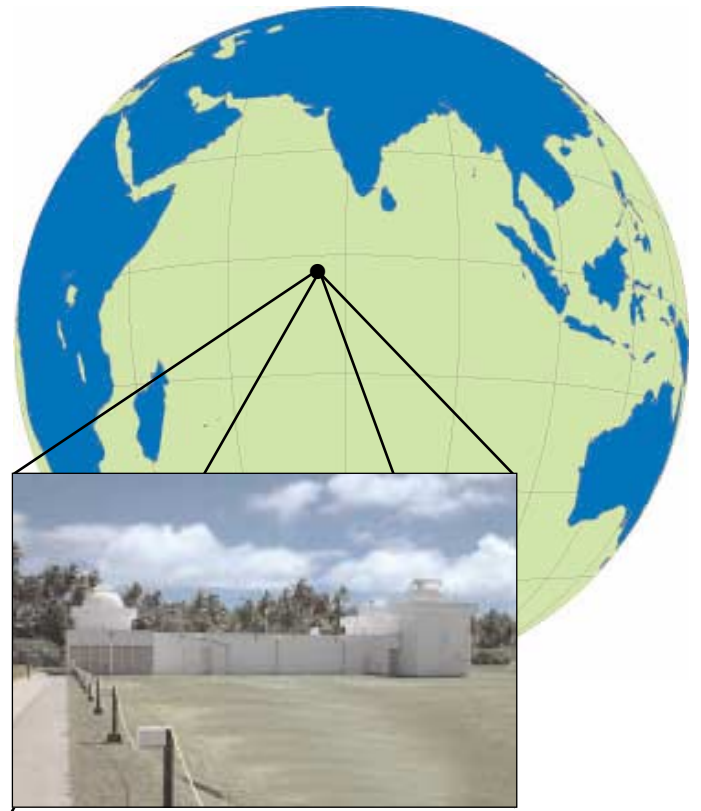
SPACE COMMAND FAMILY DAY: Just a reminder for Peterson Air Force Base, Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station, Schriever AFB, and other local installations: The Air Force Space Command commander has declared Feb. 22 a family day. People should get administrative and personnel errands accomplished before that day, as limited services will be available. Feb. 22 is also the annual AFSPC SnoFest!!! ski day.

21st Space Wing



GSU

At a Glance



Unit: Detachment 2, 18th Space Surveillance Squadron
Location: Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territories
Mission: Detachment 2, 18th SPSS is a dedicated space surveillance unit on the island of Diego Garcia, in the British Indian Ocean Territories.

The primary mission of the detachment is to detect, track, and identify all tasked space objects within its area of coverage. The unit provides data on deep space objects in the orbits from 3,000 to 22,000 miles, although it has a limited near earth detection capability. Satellite information is provided to the Space Control Center, Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station.

The detachment is one of three worldwide Ground-based Electro-Optical Space Surveillance sites, but it is unique in many ways. First, it performs its mission using three powerful telescopes, low-light-level electro-optical cameras and high-speed computers. The three telescopes are main telescopes with 40-inch apertures and a two-degree field of view. Other GEODSS sites operate with two main telescopes and a 15-inch auxiliary.

Second, all telescopes at Diego Garcia are sealed against the environment and each observatory dome has a forced air system to keep out the salt air of the Indian Ocean. Finally, it is the only site south of the equator.

The detachment was activated on June 18, 1986 as Detachment 4, 1st Space Wing, Air Force Space Command. Feb. 1, 1990, it was reassigned to the 18th Space Surveillance Squadron at Peterson Air Force Base upon activation of that squadron.

Space Observer

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News

21st Space Wing announces 2001 annual award winners



**Company Grade
Officer of the Year
Capt. Jonathon P. Davis**

Capt. Jonathon P. Davis, 21st Operations Support Squadron, 21st Operations Group commands the weapons and tactics flight for the largest, most diverse operations group in the Air Force.

As the wing weapons officer, he advises commanders at wing, numbered air force and major command levels on presentation of the wing's 27 squadrons, operations missions, and expeditionary air forces.



**Senior NCO of the Year
Senior Master Sgt.
Bradley W. Steininger**

Senior Master Sgt. Bradley W. Steininger, 21st Space Wing Plans and Programs Division, 21st Space Wing Director of Staff Agencies, is the superintendent for the wing plans and programs agency. As such, his duties vary from oversight of professional development matters for 15 members to providing operations planning direction and guidance in support of wing strategic planning development and execution.



**NCO of the Year
Tech. Sgt.
Timothy E. Winfree**

Tech. Sgt. Timothy E. Winfree is the superintendent of resources and training for the 21st Security Forces Squadron, 21st Support Group. His duties include leadership and mentorship of a 17-member section, which is responsible for training and equipping a 220-person war-ready crime-fighting team. That team is responsible for protecting and defending \$57 billion in resources.



**Airman of the Year
Senior Airman
Bonnie M. Edwards**

Senior Airman Bonnie M. Edwards is a security forces journeyman assigned to the 21st Security Forces Squadron, 21st Support Group. She manages industrial security for Headquarters NORAD, U.S. Space Command, Air Force Space Command and the 21st Space Wing, ensures visitor group security agreements are properly written and coordinated, and trains all base security managers.



**First Sergeant of the Year
Master Sgt.
Robert D. Brooks**

Master Sgt. Robert D. Brooks is the first sergeant for the 21st SFS, serving in a position of significant trust and responsibility, providing leadership and guidance for more than 185 SFS members, 45 READY augmentees and 15 SFS reservists. As the first sergeant he is responsible for maintaining military discipline and standards of conduct, and serves as a liaison between the enlisted cadre and the commander.



**Category III
Civilian of the Year
Maureen P. Atwood**

Maureen P. Atwood is a contracting officer assigned to the specialized flight, 21st Contracting Squadron, 21st Logistics Group. As such, she is responsible, among other duties, for oversight of the \$250 million Thule Air Base, Greenland, operations, maintenance and service contract; a responsibility that demands strong business judgment and ability to work with international corporate and government representatives.



**Category II
Civilian of the Year
Christie A. Bond**

Christie A. Bond is the chief of community relations for the 21st SW commander. As such she is responsible for oversight of community relations activities, programs, plans and policies for the largest, most diverse wing in the command. She develops policies and plans to introduce civilians leaders to Peterson AFB missions and activities, is the liaison with local military units, and schedules and conducts tours and briefings for community groups.



**Category I
Civilian of the Year
Lois T. Foy**

Civilian Category I: Lois T. Foy is the operations assistant and unit public affairs representative, 20th Space Surveillance Squadron, Eglin AFB, Fla. Her responsibilities include advising squadron leaders and members on administrative activities, and oversight of all administration, publications management, facilities management and budget management. As the UPAR, she interacts with wing public affairs to ensure coverage of squadron activities.

Eberhart receives Order of the Sword

By Master Sgt.
Austin Carter
AFSPC Public Affairs

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — The commander of Air Force Space Command has four stars, three hats and now one shining sword.

As the commander, as well as commander in chief of U.S. Space Command and North American Aerospace Defense Command, Gen. Ed Eberhart has accumulated many prizes and trophies. On Jan. 25, he added an enlisted AFSPC Order of the Sword to his wall.

Eberhart joins a short list of just over 200 Air Force commanders who have received the time-honored sword, a symbol of respect paid rarely by the enlisted corps for their leaders' abilities and support of the enlisted forces. Eberhart is the sixth in AFSPC since the command's inception in 1982.

"This award is special to me because it comes from a special group - the Air Force enlisted force. To be honored by these professionals is humbling and truly the highlight of my career," said Eberhart. "It exceeded my wildest expectations."

The ceremony was postponed from the original Sept. 28, 2001, date after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

The delay did not soften the impact. The general was brought to the front of the Colorado Springs hotel by horse-drawn stagecoach in honor of the Colorado Western past. Inside the large ballroom, the stage was festooned with a mammoth American flag backdrop as more than 500 cheering attendees gave standing ovation after standing ovation during the ceremony. The honor guards from across the command were there in their sharpest regalia. The Band of the Rockies brought the house down in one show-stopping



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Alex Lloyd

High Frontier Honor Guard members present the Order of the Sword display to AFSPC Command Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Estrem, center, and Gen. Ed Eberhart, AFSPC commander.

tune after another.

The overall effect was...well, wow.

"All I could say was 'Wow!'" said Chief Master Sgt. Bruce Brady, command chief of the 90th Space Wing, F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo. "I've been to four Orders of the Sword and this was a top-flight production. There were more people from the command than I've ever seen. The execution of the honor guard was flawless. The band was top-shelf. People were cheering. I wish everyone in the command could have seen it but there's no way they can feel the electricity in the air that night."

AFSPC Command Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Estrem, the sergeant major of the night's program was impressed with the enthusiasm of the moment and the dignity of the ceremony.

"I don't know how it could have been any better," he said. "It was a real Hollywood production. The general was honored and humbled. But he's earned it, and we wanted to do it up right for

him."

What impressed the chief more than the ceremony was what he saw afterward. Many of the younger enlisted stayed in a long line to shake the hand of the general. Eberhart shook hands and talked to each of them, giving everyone a commemorative coin.

"For many of them, it was the first time they've ever been at a mess-dress function in the Air Force," Estrem said. "They were very impressed. The line was so long that the general stayed until after midnight to personally thank them all even though he had a TDY at 6 the next morning."

"It was the first time I've ever been to an Order of the Sword ceremony," said Master Sgt. Peggy Scott, the chief of career management for AFSPC Reserve Forces. "I walked out with a lot of pride."

In remarks to the audience, the general spoke of the reliability of AFSPC's enlisted force.

"You should understand how important what you do is," he said. "We thank you

and challenge you. We will never be able to thank you enough for what you do. You serve so selflessly. I believe you are the heroes - the men and women of the armed forces. Our nation knows whom to call. They know whom they can rely on. You're not going to let them down. I'm blessed to serve with you."

All command chiefs of AFSPC must agree in a vote to honor the nominee for an Order of the Sword. If just one says no, the award isn't given.

Judging from the heartfelt emotion shown at the ceremony, it was an easy vote for the chiefs.

There was enough enthusiasm to go around. There were many standing ovations at the ceremony - one was even reserved for Estrem for his efforts in bringing the ceremony to fruition, despite the war against terrorism.

"The general prompted it with his comments. It's the first time I've ever received a standing ovation from 520 cheering people," the chief said.



Photo by Eugene Chavez

General Eberhart thanks Master Sgt. Bobby Hamilton, vice chairman of the Order of the Sword committee, with a commemorative coin.

History of the Order of the Sword

According to Air Force Pamphlet 36-2241 (Promotion Fitness Examination Study Guide), the Order of the Sword is patterned after an order of chivalry founded during the middle ages -- the Swedish Royal Order of the Sword. The rank of NCO was established in the early 12th century. In 1522,

Swedish King Gustavus I enjoined the noblemen commissioned by him to appoint officers to serve him. The system worked so well it was incorporated into the Swedish army as a way to establish and maintain a cohesive, disciplined and well trained force.

This force ensured the protec-

tion of lives and property in the kingdom.

Ancient NCOs would honor their leader and pledge their loyalty by ceremoniously presenting him with a sword. The sword -- a symbol of truth justice and power rightfully used -- served as a token for all to see and know that here was a "leader

among leaders." The ceremony became known as the Royal Order of the Sword. The first recorded use of it in America was in the 1860s when Gen. Robert E. Lee was presented a sword by his command.

The Royal Order of the Sword was revised, updated and adopted by U.S. Air Force NCOs in 1967 and is the highest honor and tribute enlisted members can bestow upon an individual.

Prayer luncheon honors American heroes

**By Tech. Sgt.
Gino Mattorano**
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

More than 250 people attended Peterson's National Prayer Luncheon Wednesday at the Officer's Club.

The luncheon theme this year was "It is comforting to know that in all circumstances, God hears our prayers."

Chap. (Capt.) Bob Borger, 21st Space Wing chaplain, explained: "We wanted to reflect on the tragedy of '9-11' and encourage people that God answers our prayers even in tragedy."

Chap. (Col.) David Park, Air Force Space Command

command chaplain, was the guest speaker for the luncheon.

The command chaplain was ideally suited to speak about the Sept. 11 tragedy because he was at the Pentagon when the airplane crashed into it.

Park spoke about the events of that fateful day and the heroism and selflessness of the service men and women as they rushed to the aid of their fallen comrades-in-arms.

He also spoke of the elation and patriotism they felt as F-16s flew "top cover" missions overhead, and how God will provide that same "top cover" for us.

"We are the men and

women who are tasked with the responsibility to ensure the gift of freedom is passed on to our children and grandchildren," said Park.

"Our mission is the protection of America, concluded Park, "and may God lead us in that mission."

The National Prayer Breakfast was originally established in 1953 by the Senate and House Prayer Groups to seek divine guidance for national leadership and reaffirm faith and dependence on God.

For 32 years, military men and women have been holding their own local prayer assemblies in conjunction with the National Prayer Breakfast.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Gino Mattorano

Chap. (Col.) David Park, Air Force Space Command chaplain, speaks at the National Prayer Luncheon.

"Winners," from Page 5

The selection process began with nominations submitted to NORAD / USSPACECOM Personnel Division the second week of January. A board met to evaluate each nomination and score the packages. Nominees were evaluated on leadership and job performance, self-improvement and base and community involvement. In addition to the package review, all military nominees met a board to answer questions about military knowledge, customs and courtesies, and current events. Scores were based on how well they answered the questions as well as their communication skills and overall appearance.

The board submitted its first place choices to Eberhart, who approved the selections.

NORAD Junior Enlisted

Senior Airman Kathryn Romer, is an Emergency Actions Controller at Cheyenne Mountain. She was the NORAD Junior Enlisted of the Quarter, CMOJ Junior Enlisted of the Year and was hand-picked to represent the Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center to visiting dignitaries.

USSPACECOM Junior Enlisted

Cpl. Sarah Schmidt, U.S. Marine Corps, is a Training NCO for U.S. Space Operations (J36). She was a key player in re-certifying the alternate Space Operations Center in Cheyenne Mountain. As active off-duty as on, she is also a member of the USMC and Joint Honor Guards.

NORAD NCO

Staff Sgt. John Clarke, U.S. Air Force, is the noncommissioned officer in charge for graphics at the Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center. He established a Public Affairs Media Center and the first Public Affairs Operations Center inside the mountain in response to the Sept. 11 attacks.

USSPACECOM NCO

Staff Sgt. Elvin Sanders, U.S. Air Force, is the noncommissioned officer in charge, assignments and training for the Air Force element (J1). He forged the first-ever agreement with the Air Force Personnel Center to permit exchange of enlisted members between the two commands.

USSPACECOM Reserve NCO

Staff Sgt. Rex Scifres, U.S. Air Force Reserve, is a Website production specialist for the Combined Intelligence Center. He served as the section task leader for the massive Joint Intelligence Preparation of the Battle Space web production effort. He has a Community College of the Air Force degree in information communications.

NORAD Senior NCO

Senior Master Sgt. Rickey McCaslan, U.S. Air Force, is the superintendent of the NORAD Operations Division. He is an acclaimed C2 expert

who was the Air Combat Command by-name request to author training/standardization instructions for the NORAD Region Air Operations Centers.

USSPACECOM Senior NCO

Master Sgt. Daniel Hatcher, U.S. Air Force, is the superintendent for the Intelligence Systems Operations Center for the Directorate of Intelligence. He was hand picked to stand up the first-ever Intelligence System Operations Center in Cheyenne Mountain, and did so without a hitch. Hatcher overhauled his section's training plan, dramatically raising first-look maintenance resolution rate.

NORAD Company Grade Officer

Capt. Phil Forward, Canadian Air Force, is the Strategic Forces Section Chief for the Directorate of Intelligence. He produced the first-ever synchronized intelligence and operations indications and warning timeline to coordinate NORAD's response to air sovereignty threats.

USSPACECOM Company Grade Officer

Capt. Ronald Creech, U.S. Air Force, is the executive officer for the commander, Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center. He processed data to decision-makers during the high-profile de-orbit of the Russian MIR space station.

NORAD Reserve Officer

Maj. Glen Wilcox, U.S. Army, works for the Center for Aerospace Analysis. He developed and improved visual analysis representations that rapidly and intuitively provided key decision makers with needed information.

USSPACECOM Reservist of the Year

Lt. Cmdr. Charles Passaglia, U.S. Navy Reserve, is an assistant legal advisor to the Staff Judge Advocate. As the sole legal advisor in the NORAD battle management center during the Sept. 11 attacks, he advised the battle staffs on legal aspects of rules of engagement and use of force.

NORAD Civilian (Category I)

Gale Burt is the secretary, C2 Systems Directorate in the Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center. There, she automated the director's and director's staff members' calendars, providing real time personnel tracking.

USSPACECOM Civilian (Category I)

Marie Coney is a computer specialist, Manpower and Personnel Directorate

in the Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center. She completely updated the center's manpower and training requirements database for 375 people.

NORAD Civilian (Category II)

Margaret Petrowske is the executive secretary to the commander, Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center. She effortlessly melds the commander's numerous requirements to get the job done.

USSPACECOM Civilian (Category II)

Robert Connally is an imagery data system administrator for the Directorate of Intelligence (J2). He was the key manager for the three million dollar NORAD/USSPACECOM Dissemination Element, the command's sole near-real time imagery receipt system.

Air Force committed to AEF rotation cycles

By Tech. Sgt.
Tim Dougherty
[Air Force Print News](#)

WASHINGTON — The combination of America's war on terrorism and steady state commitments worldwide has put increased strain on the Air Force's aerospace expeditionary forces. However, except for a few stressed career fields, officials at the Pentagon say normal rotations should be back soon.

"Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper is committed to the AEF construct — a three-month deployment with a 12-month period at home," said Maj. Gen. Jeffrey B. Kohler, director of operational plans, deputy chief of staff for air and space operations.

"Given the war on terrorism, we had to go through a momentary blip in our rotation schedule," he said. "However, it looks like we're going to be on time in bringing home about 90 percent of the people who are currently deployed. We will rotate the forces deployed for operations Enduring Freedom, Northern Watch and Southern Watch so that those who deployed first will be allowed to rotate home first to the maximum extent possible."

There are some exceptions, Kohler said. While Air

Force leaders are working hard to come up with a solution, a very small number of career fields may not be able to rotate as scheduled, he said.

"We know that there are some stressed career fields, such as security forces, combat communications and fire-fighters, that might have to stay a little longer," Kohler said. "But that's not to say that absolutely everyone in those career fields will be staying longer."

The deployment picture will start to come into focus by the middle of February when the Air Force begins scheduling for the rotation in March, he said.

"It might work out that only one or two unit type codes out of an entire civil engineering squadron might be the stressed career field," Kohler said. "We just don't know yet because we haven't gotten down to that level of fidelity."

The tremendous performance of the AEF in Operation Enduring Freedom is what caused the stress on certain career fields in the first place, Kohler said.

"The Air Force is sort of a victim of its own success," Kohler said. "The reason we are stressed is simple — we do such a great job. We went out and set up these bases and started generating sorties as

soon as we were asked. I think the results speak for themselves in the war on terrorism in Afghanistan. The (U.S.) Central Command commander in chief could not have done what he did without the superb work of all the airmen who went out and set it up."

To ease the problems the Air Force has in stressed career fields under current requirements, about 10 percent of the people will stay deployed a little longer — some up to 135 days; others, up to 179 days, Kohler said. To cover the overlap, the second part of the solution will be to reach into the next AEF and bring replacement unit type codes forward about 45 days. Any reduction in current requirements may get the AEF cycle on track a little bit quicker, he said.

Another way to relieve some of the burden on deployed people is to find airmen who normally do not deploy and place them in an AEF library.

"This crisis has caused us to look a little bit deeper," Kohler said. "We'd like to be able to find people who we haven't originally had in an AEF library who can deploy but normally don't deploy. For example, Air Education and Training Command has instructors who have special skill sets, and the AETC lead-

ership has said that there may be periods in the year when they can rotate. This is just one example and we're looking at all options."

Other fixes for stressed career fields are going to take some time and may only be resolved with increased manpower. Although the Air Force has asked for an end-strength increase of about 22,000 with 7,000 requested for this year, because of training requirements, this is more of a long-term solution, Kohler said.

"This is an extraordinary time for the Air Force and our country," Jumper recently told commanders. "The nation is grateful for the sacrifices our airmen continue to make in meeting our commitments to fight the war on terrorism and defend the American homeland. The secretary and I are proud of the job you are doing and we are personally committed to maintaining the AEF rotation schedule to the greatest possible extent."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shane Cuomo

An Air Force B-1B Lancer crew, 28th Air Expeditionary Wing, discuss the maintenance log before leaving on an Operation Enduring Freedom combat mission.

Today

■ Give parents a break, 7-11 p.m., at the Youth Center.

Monday

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

Tuesday

■ Sponsorship training, 7:30-8:30 a.m., at the Family Support Center.
■ Headquarters U.S. Air Force Career Status Bonus/REDUX briefing, 1-4 p.m., at the Family Support Center.

Wednesday

■ Story time for kids, 10:15 a.m., at the base library.
■ Going Overseas class, 8-9 a.m., at the Family Support Center.
■ Country-style buffet, 5-7 p.m., at the enlisted club.
■ Smooth Move Summary, 9-9:30 a.m., at the Family Support Center.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Gino Mattorano

Road Construction

Stewart Avenue, between Peterson Boulevard and Mitchell Street, is limited to one lane for each direction while a contractor installs a new storm drainage pipeline along the southwest side of Stewart Ave. The work is part of the Peterson storm drainage system improvement project and should last approximately five months. Drivers are asked to use caution when in the area.

■ Air Force Space Command Space Commission Implementation and Career Development Roadshow, 1-4 p.m., at the base auditorium.

Thursday

■ Play group, 10:30-noon, at the base chapel.
■ Job orientation, 1-2:30 p.m., at the Family Support Center.

Feb. 15

■ Seafood buffet, 6-8 p.m., at the enlisted club.

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
■ Red Cross 556-7590

Community Notes**Community News**

CIVILIAN PERSONNEL DATA SYSTEM - The Air Force-wide conversion to CIVMOD begins today and will continue until March 15. During the conversion the Human Resources flight will not be able to update civilian training completion, educational information, occupational certifications or awards and decorations information.
ENLISTED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - The Enlisted Professional Development Seminars are scheduled as follows:

- Senior NCO, Feb. 19
- NCO, Feb. 20
- Airman, Feb. 21

All seminars are held in Building 350, Room 2127, from 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. in the uniform of the day.

Contact your unit first shirt or e-mail Senior Master Sgt. Torrys Johnson at torrys.johnson@cheyennemountain.af.mil to sign up.

AUTODIN - Organizations still using AUTODIN should contact the local communications squadron for help changing over to the Defense Message System and DMS 3.0.

For more information check out the DMS webpage at <https://midway.peterson.af.mil/2letters/sc/css/dms/dms.htm>.

JPPSO CLOSURE - The Joint Personnel Property Shipping Offices at Peterson, Fort Carson and the Air Force Academy will be closed until noon Feb. 14.

COMMISSARY HOURS - The Commissary will be open on President's Day, Feb. 18, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. It will also be open Tuesday, Feb. 19, from 9 a.m.-8 p.m. and Monday, Feb. 25, from 2-6:30 p.m.

ASIAN-AMERICAN PACIFIC/ISLANDER EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM COMMITTEE - The next AAP/I employment program

committee meeting will be held Thursday at 3 p.m. at the base chapel.

For more information, call Yong Sharp at 567-4501.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH - The Peterson Air Force Base Black Heritage Committee Luncheon will be held at the Officers' club at 11 a.m. Tuesday. The keynote speaker will be Lt. Gen. John Hopper Jr., Air Education and Training Command vice commander.

Tickets are \$10. For more information, call Maj. Winiford Harvey at 554-6029 or Margaret Harris at 554-3505.

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

The classes and fees are as follows:

- Adult CPR, Tuesday, 6-9:30 p.m. There is a \$35 fee.
- First-aid, Thursday, 6-9:30 p.m. There is a \$30 fee.
- Babysitter training for youth ages 11-15, Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. There is a \$30 fee.

For more information, call 556-7590.

Community Activities Center

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES CENTER CLASSES - The Community Activities Center will offer a number of classes throughout February and March.

The classes and fees are as follows:

- Framing classes, Feb. 20 and 27, 5-9 p.m. There is a \$25 fee.
- Scrapbooking class, March 6, 5-7 p.m. There is a \$10 fee for the class and supplies. Bring 6-12 photos.

For more information, call 556-1732.

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 will be \$10 each.

■ 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.

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

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

Education Center

GEOLOGY COURSE - Pikes Peak Community College will offer a Geology course starting Feb. 15.

For more information, call the Pikes Peak office at 554-1169, ext. 102.

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.

AIR FORCE AID EDUCATION GRANT - The General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant program awards \$1,500 grants to sons and daughters of active duty, retired or deceased Air Force members, retired reservists over age 60, and Title 10 reservists on extended active duty. Spouses are also eligible if the sponsor is assigned to the continental United States.

Applications are available at the Family Support Center or for download at <http://www.afas.org>.

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 art of childcare

Air Force program provides in-home care for Peterson's military family

By Staff Sgt. Melanie Epperson
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Five small children, ranging from one-and-a-half to two-and-a-half years old, sit around the dining room table midmorning on a Tuesday while "Old MacDonald" plays in the background. The hot topic for discussion today: finger paint. How does it work? How does it taste? What happens if I hit a pile of it with the palm of my hand?

This is a typical scene at the home of a Family Child Care provider here at Peterson Air Force Base.

Family Child Care is an Air Force-wide program that offers in-home care both on- and off-base for children ages two weeks to 14 years. It is already offered at more than 3,000 homes on more than 80 installations worldwide.

"This program is special for providers, parents and children," said Barbara Ziegler, Peterson AFB Family Child Care coordinator. "It gives providers a chance to stay at home and care for their own children, and parents can feel better about the home environment and one-on-one care their children receive."

Prior to being granted a license, FCC providers are required to complete 15 training modules, equivalent to 60 hours; undergo extensive background checks, including their family members; and be selected by a board consisting of the 21st Services Squadron commander, deputy commander and the Family Member Programs flight.

In addition, providers must be at least 18 years old, able to speak English and the spouse or dependant of an active-duty military member. Due to mobility and mission requirements, active-duty military members may not apply.

Providers may be male or female, and once they are licensed, they enjoy special benefits.

The program enables providers to stay home with their own children while earning money through a home-based business.

"I wanted to be able to work and stay at home with my kids," said Sonya Justice, FCC provider at PAFB, "and this seemed like the most practical way to do both."

Providers set their own hours and choose children and age groups at their own discretion.

Another benefit involves the Child Care Food Program, funded by the United States Department of Agriculture and administered by the Colorado Department of Health. The program offers cash reimbursement to providers who participate by serving nutritious meals and snacks, which meet the nutritional requirements set by the USDA.

The FCC also offers several benefits to parents and children.

"Some kids need a home environment more so than a center environment," Justice said. "They adapt better to the one-on-one care."

"These children develop relationships with their providers," said Anna Centeno, FCC provider at PAFB. "We do arts and crafts together, and we spend a lot of time together."

Centeno said that her days with her kids are filled with play times, snacks, activities and music. Once a month she takes her kids on field trips, like bowling or out to eat pizza, and she invites her parents to attend as well.

The program also offers extended-duty childcare for mission-related duty that is beyond the standard 50-hour-a-week arrangement.

It is primarily for sudden deployments, rapid mobilization, temporary shift changes and extended duty days due to exercises or mission requirements.

This program is better for the parents, Justice added, because FCC providers can be more flexible with their hours and more lenient with extenuating circumstances.

"My parents know that if something comes up after duty hours, they can call me and I'll do my best to help them out," she said.

Most importantly, explained Ziegler, parents can feel like their children are safe and well cared for in an Air Force home.

To find out more about the Peterson Air Force Base Family Day Care program, call Barbara Ziegler at 556-4322.



Photos and graphic by Staff Sgt. Melanie Epperson



Photos from top, clockwise: Sonya Justice, Family Child Care provider at Peterson Air Force Base, helps 16-month-old Claudia Huffman with her butterfly craft. Arts and crafts are an important part of the children's day. Chloe Justice, 13 months old, looks on as she tries to figure out the mechanics of the paintbrush. Adrian Sanchez and Conor Justice concentrate on their color schemes for their butterfly craft. Sierra Baker tries her hand, and face, at fingerpainting.

A night of wonder Ball was 'awesome'

By Senior Master Sgt.
Bradley W. Steininger
21st Space Wing Plans and Programs

Awesome.

If you haven't attended an Air Force birthday ball (and even if you have), you should definitely plan to attend next year. This year's ball, held Feb. 1 at the Sheraton Hotel was an experience in excellence. The food was exquisite and the atmosphere and decorations provided the perfect backdrop for the "Celebrating the Patriots Dream" theme.

Hats off to the committee and the Air Force Band of the Rockies Blue Steel ensemble for unashamedly providing an evening of memories and emotions for military members and civilians alike. The hand-blown glass fife and drum centerpieces illustrated the long, noble history of the profession of arms, and the attention to the minutest

details wondrously transformed the room to a Hollywood-like gala.

The Band of the Rockies watered our eyes with its theatrical presentation reflecting on the contributions of Patriot Heroes over the past 70 years. Every guest was poignantly reminded of those who made the ultimate sacrifice, whether during World War II, Vietnam or here on American soil Sept. 11.

To ensure all who wanted to attend would be able to do so, the ball committee made every effort to make the evening affordable for junior members and employees. Ticket prices were offset for junior members, and many supervisors, first sergeants and chief master sergeants hosted younger members for what may be the most spectacular event of these young people's careers. In all, 870 people attended.

Perfect. My wife and I will be there next year; you can count on it. We hope to see you there.



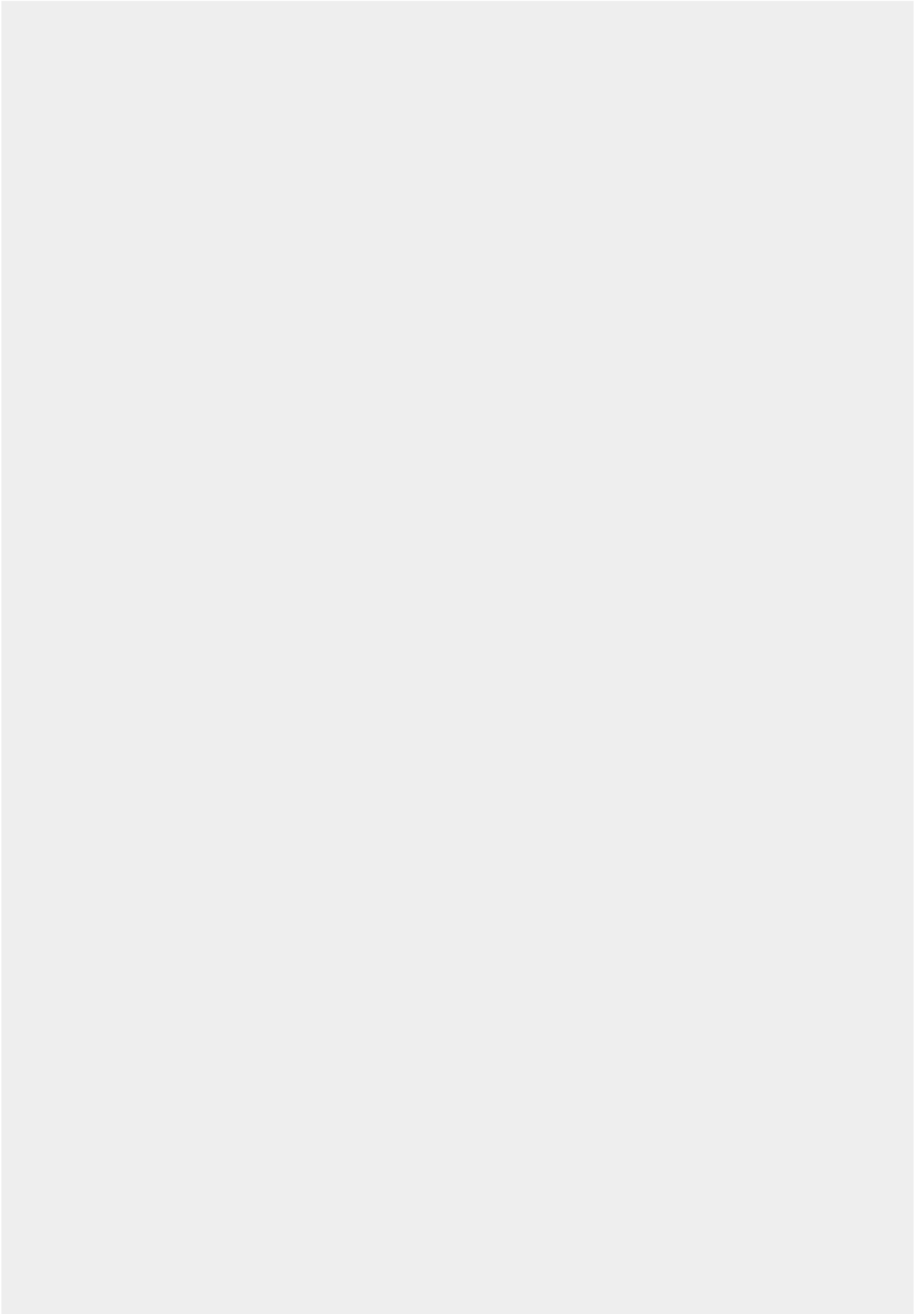
Clockwise from the top: Members of a Wasson High School Junior ROTC unit prepare to post the colors; Master Sgt. Sharon Haines, Air Force Band of the Rockies vocalist, opens the evening with the national anthem; entertainment included a dramatization by Marcia Peterson, of a widow reminiscing about her husband and other military war heroes like Lance P. Sijan, a patriot killed in the Vietnam War; ballroom dancing was also on the evening agenda. **Center:** A special POW/MIA table featuring headgear from the past was a focal point for this year's ball.

Photos by Tech. Sgt. Alex Lloyd

Safety First

10

This is the number of Air Force people killed in vehicle-related mishaps so far this year. Use good judgement when you step behind the wheel. Always wear your seatbelt, don't drink and drive, plan frequent rest stops. The life you save could be your own (Information courtesy 21st Space Wing Safety)



7th SWS crew to compete at Guardian Challenge 2002

By 2nd Lt. John Anderson
[7th Space Warning Squadron](#)

An operations crew composed of Capt. Brian Rico, Staff Sgt. Nathan Spreitler, and Airman 1st Class Kendra Gooch at the 7th Space Warning Squadron was selected to compete in this year's Air Force Space Command Guardian Challenge competition.

Guardian Challenge is an annual event where space and missile crews compete against one another for recognition as the best of the best. The competition is the only peacetime opportunity for Air Force Space Wing teams to fully demonstrate the effectiveness of their mission training procedures in a competitive environment. It creates competition-tough crews, improves readiness and combat capabilities through preparation, innovation and sharing, enhances esprit de corps, and strengthens teamwork across all mission areas.

The 7th SWS will send the operational crew to Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., in May to represent the 21st Space Wing and compete for recognition as the best space operations crew in the world. The last time the 7th SWS represented the wing at Guardian Challenge was 1986.

Unit operational crews are composed of a crew commander, crew chief, and space systems console operator. Operational crews are responsible for ensuring the west coast of North America is safe by detecting incoming sea-launched or intercontinental ballistic missiles and working as a collateral space surveillance sensor for Air Force Space Command while keeping the site operational, safe and

secure.

Guardian Challenge crews execute operational directives under greatly reduced time requirements and performance scenarios which are extremely difficult.

Selection to compete at the Guardian Challenge level forces crews to practice individually as well as work together as a team.

Finally, the crew must take an evaluation ride. Results are compared to all other units in the 21st SW worldwide and those with the best operational crew are selected by the wing to compete.

Rico, crew commander, summed it up best: "You train as hard as you can, trying to anticipate the evaluation, but in the end it comes down to trust, communication, and a little luck, and we had all three."

Airman 1st Class Kendra Gooch, with just over a year in the Air Force, has exceeded all expectations. She said, "I'm fortunate to have excellent trainers and have been able to prove I can hold my own (in) maintaining focus."

Staff Sgt. Nathan Spreitler has one of the most important roles as a bridge between the console operator and the crew commander.

"I'm privileged to be part of a great team, and I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to represent the 7th SWS and the 21st SW at such an important event," said Spreitler.

Lt. Col. Dane Hollenga, 7th SWS commander, set goals to make his squadron the best in the 21st Space Wing

"Improving teamwork, pride and attention to detail are an ongoing process and will help the squadron achieve our goal," he said.

GSU Briefs

20th Space Surveillance Squadron

Members of the 20th Space Surveillance Squadron had the opportunity to attend the visit of President George W. Bush at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. this week.

3rd Space Control Squadron

The 3rd Space Control Squadron at Kapaun Air Force Station Germany recognized Senior Master Sgt. Bob McManus, who was promoted to senior master sergeant in a ceremony Jan. 28.

Send your items for inclusion in "Around the Wing" to:
Space.observer@peterson.af.mil

SPACE COMMAND FAMILY DAY

The Air Force Space Command commander has declared Feb. 22 a family day. All non-essential people are excused from duty and commanders are encouraged to give liberal leave to civilians.

Sports Shorts

Intramural basketball playoffs - Intramural basketball playoffs continue through Feb. 27, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 5-9 p.m.

For more information, call 556-4475.

Volleyball coaches meeting - The intramural volleyball coaches' meeting is at 3 p.m. Feb. 19 in gym two.

For more information, call 556-4475.

Golf coaches meeting - The intramural golf coaches' meeting is March 20 at Silver Spruce GOLF Course club house. For more information call 556-7414.

Youth sports coaches - The youth sports department is looking for coaches for sports like soccer and baseball.

For more information, call the youth center at 556-7220.

Personal trainers - The Fitness Center has personal trainers available. For more information call 556-4462.

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

Tae Kwon Do - Tae Kwon Do classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Fitness Center. Children 7-13 attend 6-7 p.m., and children 14 and older go 7-8 p.m. Military and DoD identification card holders are eligible. Call 556-1515 for details.

Snofest!!!

Snofest is Feb. 22-24 at Keystone Resort.

- For Lodging reservations call 556-1733.

- Lift tickets are available at the community activities center. Adult tickets (13 and older) are \$28 per day; youth tickets (Ages 5-12) are \$18 per day. For information call 556-1733.

- Rental equipment and race registration is available at outdoor recreation, 556-4867.

For general information about Snofest, visit or call the community activities center at 556-7671 or 556-1733.



Would you like your sporting event covered in the Space Observer?

Call the Observer staff at 556-8476 or 556-7846.

Check out the Space Observer online at www.spaceobserver.com

Sports

Air Force boxers hungry for competition

by **Wayne Amann**
37th Training Wing Public Affairs

LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — The 2002 Air Force boxing team is focused on a prize the program has not won since 1975 — the Armed Forces Championship.

This year's bluesuiter card was finalized recently at the 27th annual Air Force Box-Off held in the Bennett Sports and Fitness Center at the Kelly Field Annex here.

Four of the five returning champions defended their crowns, and will form the nucleus of a team that has veteran Air Force coach Osmar Alaniz eager for more competition.

"For the first time in years we have fellas that are really prepared. They're ready," Alaniz said. "I'm a proud papa right now."

Two of his Lackland "sons" retained their titles in back-to-back bouts to open the championship finals.

Southpaw **Bobby DeLeon** used a rapid-fire

combination to stop Edgar Gaytan from Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., :22 into the fourth round, to keep his bantamweight crown.

James DuBois, a third-generation fighter, kept his 125-pound featherweight title, and upped his amateur record to 38-14, stopping Ted Braxton from Dyess AFB, Texas, with body blows at 1:58 of the third round.

Antonio Tamayo, from Ramstein AB, Germany, won a unanimous 5-0 decision over Dylan Luther, from Luke AFB, Ariz., to repeat as the 139-pound light welterweight king.

Jorge Hernandez, from Buckley Air Force Base, Colo., stopped Lackland's Luis Alvarez :53 into the third round, to capture his second straight 156-pound light middleweight championship.

The one returning champ to be dethroned was John Askew, from Dover AFB, Del. In what Alaniz called a real toss-up, a persistent **Fabian Elizondo-Garza** from Travis AFB, Calif., took a 5-0 deci-

sion and 147-pound welterweight laurels.

Completing the Air Force roster are the following:

Deron Elias, from Hurlburt Field, Fla., needed only 1:51 of the first round to grab the lightweight crown over Mark Bautista, from Malmstrom AFB, Mont.

Angel Landrau, from Minot AFB, N.D., took a 5-0 decision over Terrance Graves of Osan AB, Korea in the 165-pound middleweight class.

Daniel Barrera, Vandenberg AFB, Calif., took :38 of round two to beat Daniel Tuberville, McConnell AFB, Kan., for the 178-pound light heavyweight title.

Brian Fields, from Peoria ANG Base, Ill., won by retirement (other corner throwing in the towel) 1:42 in round 1 over Edward Johnson, from Barksdale AFB, La., in the 201-pound heavyweight division.

Lackland's **Muhammad Fallaha**, in the shortest fight of the tourney, knocked out Michael McDuffie of Randolph AFB, Texas, with a



Photo by Yolanda Hunter

Ted Braxton from Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, delivers a right to the chin of James DuBois from Lackland AFB, Texas, during their 125-pound featherweight bout at the Air Force Box-Off recently. DuBois regrouped to defeat Braxton and retain his crown.

straight right hand just :04 after the opening bell to capture the 201-plus pound super heavyweight championship.

The Armed Forces Championships are Sundaay

through Feb. 16, at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

The team comes to Colorado Springs for the national championships scheduled for March 10-16.