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**Lightning Awareness Week**  
Saturday-May 4  
For more information visit the 21st Space Wing Safety Web page on Petecentral

Courtesy photo

# Lord takes command

By Capt. Adriane Craig  
Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

For the first time in a decade, Air Force Space Command has its own commander.

Gen. Lance Lord took the reins of AFSPC from Gen. Ed Eberhart April 19 in a ceremony presided over by Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. John Jumper.

Secretary of the Air Force James Roche and Peter Teets, undersecretary of the Air Force, also attended.

It was almost unprecedented having the SECAF, CSAF and USECAF together at one event. All acknowledged they wanted to be on hand for the important and historic event.

"A separate four-star commander for AFSPC is a testament to the necessity and importance of our responsibility to carry out the recommendations of the Space Commission and assume our role as the executive agent for space," said Jumper.

"We take this special step today not for the sake of reorganizing, but simply because it is the smart thing to do for national security," said Teets.

Last year, the Space Commission recommended the duties of the AFSPC commander be separated from those of the Commander in Chief of North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Space Command.

Roche acknowledged that the change creates a strong lineup for space advocacy.

"The team of Secretary Teets, General Eberhart and General Lord will champion the realm of space for America," he promised. "Look for great things."

Eberhart will remain at Peterson as commander in chief of NORAD and USSPACE.

During the ceremony, Eberhart was recognized with the Distinguished Service Medal. He saluted the men and women of AFSPC for their selfless dedication in providing support 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

## AFSPC names outstanding airmen of the year

By Senior Master Sgt. Cathy Segal  
Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

Five enlisted members from Buckley, Schriever and Peterson Air Force Bases, Colo. and Malmstrom AFB, Mont. shared top honors April 18 during Air Force Space Command's Outstanding Airman of the

Year banquet 2001 at the enlisted club.

Nineteen enlisted members from throughout the command competed for the title of Outstanding Airman, NCO, Senior NCO, First Sergeant and Individual Mobilization Augmentee of the Year.

After winning those titles at their respective bases or units, they went on



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Alex Lloyd

Gen. Lance Lord accepts the colors and command of AFSPC from Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. John Jumper.

"There is not a soldier, sailor, airman, Marine or coast guardsman who goes into harm's way that doesn't benefit from what you do everyday. You make their operations more efficient, more effective and more lethal," said Eberhart, saluting the troops in formation representing 14th Air Force, 20th AF, the Space and Missile Systems Center, Space Warfare Center, and Headquarters AFSPC.

Lord, called "a warrior and a scholar with a diamond-sharp mind and a compassionate heart" by Roche, echoed these sentiments and outlined his vision for the command.

"We are at a critically important time in the already distinguished history of the Air Force Space Command," said Lord. The importance and necessity of space power has been clearly articulated, and it's up to us to shape the future," said Lord.

"We will work hard as a major command to organize, train and equip our forces and fully 'flex our MAJ-COM muscles' as a command that is

skilled in air power, has expertise in space power, is a model of acquisition, and a leader in the integration of warfighting capabilities to achieve combined effects."

Lord is the first career space officer to head the command. A former vice commander and director of plans for AFSPC, much of his career has been spent in the missile field. His first duty assignment was as a Minuteman II combat crewmember with the 321st Strategic Missile Wing, Grand Forks AFB, N.D. He has also had assignments as a Minuteman II evaluation member and missile operations staff officer. His first command was for the 10th Strategic Missile Squadron at Malmstrom AFB, Mont. He also served as commander for the 90th Missile Wing, F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo., and the 30th Space Wing at Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

"Putting the reins of AFSPC in the hands of a career space officer is a capstone step as we focus on national security space," said Teets.

to represent 14th Air Force, 20th Air Force, Space and Missile Systems Center, Space Warfare Center and Headquarters AFSPC in the command-level competition.

Senior Airman Claudia Van Hassel, 460th Medical Squadron, Buckley AFB; Tech. Sgt. James Logan Jr., 17th Test Squadron, Schriever AFB; and Master Sgt. Michael Faulkingham,

341st Space Wing, Malmstrom AFB, will now compete at Air Force level.

In addition, Master Sgt. Robert D. Brooks, formerly assigned to the 21st Security Forces Squadron, will compete for Air Force First Sergeant of the Year.

The command's IMA of the Year, Senior Master Sgt. Catherine E. Redmond

-See AIRMEN, page 3

Action Line

Identification please

**Q:** Why didn't anyone check my identification when I came through the west gate March 11? I was there at 10:07 a.m. according to my watch. I was waved on through. It was six months to the day after the events of Sept. 11, and everything should not be that normal. Thanks.

**A:** Thank you for your concern about our security. Identification procedures at the gates range from a minimum of one person producing a valid ID for base access to a maximum of 100 percent of the vehicle's occupants producing IDs. The procedure varies based upon a lot of factors. If you were the only one in the vehicle, our troops should have checked your ID. The security forces and all our augmentees have done a remarkable job keeping us safe since Sept. 11. All of us bear the responsibility to keep the installation and all of the people and resources secure. If your ID isn't checked again, please offer it along with a reminder, and then call Master Sgt. Scott Barnhart at 556-7167. We'll take appropriate follow-up action. Thanks again for being concerned with installation security. You are our best eyes and ears.

Why wait?

**Q:** When we drop off new prescriptions at the pharmacy, why do we have to wait until our number is called? Why can't we come back later to pick up the medication, instead of waiting for several hours? Thank you.

**A:** Thank you for your concern about our pharmacy. Patients may, in fact, drop off prescriptions and pick them up the next duty day. The volunteers in the pharmacy lobby can assist you with this. However, if patients need a prescription filled the same day, they will need to take a number and use the new bank teller system we've recently installed. This system has reduced the average waiting time to less than 40 minutes, down from 1 1/2 or 2 hours under

the old system. We are also establishing a refill pharmacy at the commissary. Once this is up and running, we expect wait times at the clinic pharmacy to go down even more. If you have further questions, please contact Capt. Aaron Middlekauff at 556-1109.

More food

**Q:** Is it possible to get another food outlet besides McDonald's on Peterson AFB? Would it be possible to get a Kentucky Fried Chicken, Del Taco or a Taco Bell to give people another choice?

**A:** Thank you for your questions. Currently, we are not considering adding another fast food facility on Peterson AFB. Besides McDonald's, we currently have seven other food outlets to serve the base community. Anthony's Pizza and Frank's Franks are located in the main exchange. Robin Hood sub shop is located in the shoppette. We have snack bars in the bowling alley and at the golf course. And both the Officers' and Enlisted clubs offer dine-in or carry out service. If you have any other questions regarding food service on base, please contact the 21st Services Squadron Business Flight Chief, Steve Parker at 556-7412.

Submitting Action Lines

The Action Line is your direct line to the commander. As a reminder, the action line is not a substitute for your chain of command.

To submit a question or comment call 556-7777 or fax your question to 556-7848.



Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler  
21st SW commander

21st Space Wing



GSU  
At a Glance



**Unit:** 13th Space Warning Squadron

**Location:** Clear Air Force Station, Alaska

**Mission:** The primary mission of the 13th Space Warning Squadron is to provide early warning of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles and Sea-Launched Ballistic Missiles to the Missile Warning Center at Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station. Its secondary mission is to provide space surveillance data on orbiting objects to the Space Control Center also located in the Cheyenne Mountain Complex.

The 13th SWS accomplishes these missions using the Solid State Phased Array Radar System radar, which is housed in a triangular-shaped 11-story building on site. The radar was originally located at El Dorado Air Station, Texas, as part of the PAVE PAWS program and was only recently transplanted to Alaska to replace the United State's last mechanical missile warning radar site.

Clear is Site II of the Ballistic Missile Early Warning System. Site I is at Thule AB, Greenland, and Site III is at RAF Fylingdales-Moor in the United Kingdom. Along with the PAVE PAWS radar sites at Cape Cod, Mass., and Beale AFB, Calif. and the PARCS radar at Cavalier AFS, N.D., the 13th SWS provides continual ground-based missile warning to defend the United States and Canada.

News Briefs

**CAR WASH CLOSURE** - The car wash will be closed May 6-10 for painting. The painters will be using a special epoxy, and it must stay dry for a certain period of time.

**PAINE STREET LANE CLOSURE** - Paine Street at the southern entrance to Building 1, U.S. Space Command and Army Space Command complexes will have road work done starting May 6. Two way traffic, one lane each way, will be open at all times.

For more information, call John Moreau or Bryon Bednar at 556-4184.

**POWER OUTAGES** - Buildings 1026 and 1030 will have scheduled power outages Monday, 9-11 a.m. Building 1164 will have a scheduled power outage Tuesday, 9-11 a.m.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Lemuel Campbell at 556-1634.

**ROAD CLOSURES** - Suffolk Street from Duluth Avenue to Hamilton Avenue will be closed May 13-24 to allow completion of the new fire station. Hamilton Avenue from Peterson Boulevard to the south end of Hamilton and the flightline gate

between Buildings 119 and 117 will also be closed those dates.

**INSTRUCTOR OPENING** - The Peterson Air Force Base Airman Leadership School is accepting special duty applications through July 31. The school is looking for a staff sergeant with at least an associate's degree or the ability to complete one within 12 months.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Joey Quiroz at 556-7737 or Staff Sgt. Kevin Allen at 556-4940. **NCO PROMOTION RECOGNITION**

**AND INDUCTION CEREMONY** - The noncommissioned officer promotion recognition and induction ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday at the base flagpole in front of Building 845, 3:30 p.m. Students from the Peterson Air Force Base Airmen Leadership School will perform the retreat ceremony following the induction.

**LEGAL NOTICE** - Anyone having claims for or against the estate of Staff Sgt. Dorie Gillespie should contact Lt. Col. Allan Linehan at 556-1600 or by e-mail [allan.linehan@peterson.af.mil](mailto:allan.linehan@peterson.af.mil).



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## Paralegal participates in first OEF court martial

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

A Peterson paralegal recently had the opportunity to be a part of history when she participated in the first Air Force court-martial at an Operation Enduring Freedom deployed location.

Staff Sgt. Tracy Reagan-Ogas, 21st Space Wing Legal, traveled to Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar on short notice to participate in the trial as a court reporter for a deployed member of the 366th Air Expeditionary Wing.

The trial was for a deployed Air Force member from Beale Air Force Base, Calif., who stole nearly \$1,300 in music and video disks and video games from the Al Udeid base exchange store while employed there part time.

Air Force paralegals don't typically fill court reporter billets at bases in the United States, so when the request came for a court reporter, Reagan-Ogas was taken a bit by surprise.

"Although I fill a deployable court-reporter billet, I never thought I'd actually have to deploy as one," said Reagan-Ogas. "Paralegals normally don't even sit in a court room during trials. We usually work behind the scenes, so the idea of playing such a key role in a trial was a little scary."

The legal office received the tasking to deploy someone on a Wednesday, and Reagan-Ogas was on a plane four days later. Fortunately, she was well prepared for her trip.

"Ms. Jackie (Jackie Davidson, 21st SW Legal

court reporter) helped prepare us for the possibility of deploying as a court reporter when I was assigned to the position," said Reagan-Ogas. "We receive some very basic training in our technical school, but without the training I received from Ms. Jackie I could never have done it."

After a lengthy trip, Reagan-Ogas arrived at the deployed location to find that the trial was not only going to be out of her normal environment, it would be taking place in a tent.

"When I arrived at the base I realized I was the only person there who knew how to set up and operate the court reporting equipment, and I was going to have to do it in a tent," said Reagan-Ogas. "There was sand everywhere and I was so nervous. It was my first trial as a court reporter and I was afraid it was going to be the first one ever without a record of trial!"

On the day of the trial, Reagan-Ogas did final checks to make sure that everything was ready, hoping all would go as planned.

"I had everything all ready to go," said Reagan-Ogas. "But since the trial was in a tent, I was afraid that the flightline noises and other noises from around the base would prevent me from hearing what was being said. The recording machines have two recorders in the event one malfunctions, so I made sure they were both ready to record. But when the bailiff said, 'All rise,' I pushed play and the first machine didn't work! Fortunately, the other one did, but I was so nervous! After that happened, I continued and fortunately didn't have any trouble hearing

what was being said. Everything went smoothly through the rest of the trial."

Once the trial was over, Reagan-Ogas returned to Peterson, but her work was far from over.

"Court reporting is a lot more than talking into the recording equipment," she said. "You have to listen to everything that's being said, repeat it into the recording mask and write at the same time. Then, after the trial is over, you have to transcribe it all into a document and prepare the entire record. Fortunately, I convinced them to allow me to return to Peterson to prepare the trial record, because with my limited experience, I really needed Ms. Jackie's help putting it all together."

"It took nearly an entire week to put the record together. Trial records can go all the way to the Supreme Court so it's crucial that everything is perfect."

Her hard work contributed to the eventual conviction of the Air Force member.

"In a place like that, a base exchange is a very important thing," said Reagan-Ogas. "It's a morale boost for people to have those type of facilities, so it's especially important that people who steal from these types of facilities be prosecuted."

After her ordeal in the desert was over, Reagan-Ogas was ready for some well-deserved rest from her court-reporting duties. But instead of taking a vacation, she's off to parts unknown to put her now-confirmed court reporting skills to the test once again.

## Peterson to celebrate Law Day

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

Peterson Air Force Base legal office will host the annual American Bar Association Law Day Wednesday and May 6.

Law Day is set aside as a way to familiarize the local with the justice system.

According to Maj. Gen. Thomas Fiscus, judge advocate general, in 1961 Congress officially designated

May 1 as Law Day to recognize and honor the country's rich heritage of liberty, justice and equality under the rule of law.

"Law Day is important because it gives the local community a chance to see the many players involved in the legal system, as well as the varied services we provide on a daily basis," said Capt. Jenny Johnson, judge advocate.

Law Day starts Wednesday with a 6:50 a.m. all faith worship service at St. Mary's Catholic Cathedral and continues with an all-day open house at the Peterson legal office.

The open house will include cookies and beverages for those who stop by to learn about legal services.

Judge Advocate officers will be on hand to answer questions about the

military justice system, claims, notaries, tax preparation and legal assistance.

Law Day continues May 6 with a 6:45 a.m. 5K Gavel Run starting at the fitness center. The running route will be the same as the fitness center's Fun Run, past the golf course to Pete East and back. There is an \$8 entry fee, which includes a T-shirt, due by close of business Monday and there is no entry fee for those who don't want T-shirts. Prizes will be awarded to top winners.

Queen Palmer Elementary School third, fourth and fifth graders are designing posters for the Gavel Run T-shirts. The elementary school children design is based upon this year's theme: Celebrate Your Freedom-Assuring Equal Justice for All. The winner will

receive a \$25 gift certificate for a local toy store.

The run will be followed by a 10:00 a.m. military working dog demonstration by the 21st Security Forces at the base park pavilion. Here MWD teams will demonstrate such skills as drug searches, attacks and a car search.

From 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. JA officers will host a luncheon at Peterson's officer's club. Here guest speakers, Maj. Jimmy Bardin, 21st deputy staff judge advocate officer, and Maj. Vance Spath, 50th deputy staff judge advocate officer, will discuss the Law Day theme as it pertains to their most recent deployment experience.

For more information call Johnson at 556-4500.

**-AIRMEN, from page 1** from AFSPC Directorate of Requirements, will compete at Air Force Reserve Command for Air Force Reserve Senior NCO of the Year. If she wins there, she will go on to compete in the OAY competition.

Van Hassel, a mental health technician, performed duties as the drug testing program assistant manager, helping to deter illegal drug use by assessing 1,700 individuals during 96 random testing days. She also coordinated 45 suicide prevention briefings for 8,000 area Department of Defense workers and orchestrated immediate intervention

for 12 people.

Logan, noncommissioned officer in charge of his squadron's training flight, co-authored a phased array missile warning radar system plan for a 20-day test valued at \$130,000. He's also an assistant test manager for a \$182 million Air Force Satellite Control Network upgrade, locating 13 defects during 250 tests at four worldwide locations.

As career assistance advisor, Faulkingham led Malmstrom AFB to its highest enlisted retention rate in recorded history, saving the Air Force more than \$3 million in new accession

replacement costs. He established a first-term career seminar that swayed more than 70 percent of the attendees to re-enlist.

Brooks, now stationed in Korea, created, chartered and chaired a 60-member inter-service dorm council devoted solely to the quality of life for first-term enlisted members. He also performed security police augmentee duty logging more than 100 hours controlling entry at the base gates and performing other security duties so he could better empathize with his troops.

A unit reservist at Peterson AFB until October

2001, Redmond now works full time as the superintendent of the Requirements directorate's superintendent of the spacelift vehicles branch. There, she plays a critical role in developing, coordinating and implementing programming, policy and guidance for the \$18.9 billion Evolved Launch Vehicle program. She also resolved a procurement issue for missile propellants and cryogenic fluids helping to reducing launch costs.

The theme of the OAY banquet was "Beyond the Call." In addition to recognizing the ways this year's OAY nominees went above

and beyond the call in the accomplishments that earned them their awards, attendees also paid honor to those who lost their lives in the line of duty Sept. 11.

As host of the banquet, General Ed Eberhart, in one of his last official acts as AFSPC commander, said, "Beyond the call, you understand what beyond the call is. You live it every day and we salute you. Karen [Eberhart] and I could not think of anything that we would prefer to do our last night, before we change command, than to celebrate and honor our enlisted corps."



# Peterson receives Tree City USA awards

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

Peterson Air Force Base was recognized for its continued dedication to environmental excellence in a ceremony at the Child Development Center April 17.

Dennis Will, Assistant District Forester for the Colorado State Forest



Smokey the Bear helps Adam Bull from the child development center plant a tree.

Service, presented Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler, 21st Space Wing commander, Tree City USA and Tree City USA Growth Awards.

"The Air Force and Peterson Complex place a high premium on caring for the environment at this base," said Kehler. "We're firmly dedicated to preserving and protecting our vital natural resources as part of this great community."

This marks the eighth consecutive year that Peterson has been named a Tree city USA, and the third year the base has received a Tree City USA Growth Award.

In addition to presentation of the awards, the ceremony also focused on education and partnerships. The U.S. Forest Center and the 21st Space Wing environmental flight provided educational materials to the children and parents present.

The Peterson McDonald's also participated by providing gift certificates to the CDC children.

Three blue spruce trees were planted next to the CDC during the ceremony as a symbol of the long-term vision of protecting the environment.

The National Arbor Day Foundation, in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the United States Department of Agriculture, provides the Tree City USA Growth Award. The award recognizes environmental improvements and encourages higher levels of tree



Photos by Joe Fischer

Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler, 21st Space Wing commander; Dennis Will, Assistant District Forester; Smokey the Bear and Kirstin Cox help plant a blue spruce tree next to the child development center during Arbor Day festivities Wednesday.

care throughout America. This award is designed not only to recognize achievement, but also to communicate new ideas and help the leaders of all Tree City USAs plan for improving community tree care.

The Tree City USA award recognizes communities that are committed to meeting the tree city standards. Each city must have a tree board, or

commission with the responsibility for writing and implementing an annual community forestry work plan. This plan oversees the tree management program, and ideally provides clear guidance for planting, maintaining and removing trees from streets, parks and other public places.

For more information or educational materials call 556-9322.

# Guardian Challenge

## Security Forces team prepares for competition

*Editor's note: This is the fourth in a series on 21st Space Wing participation in Guardian Challenge 2002.*

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

The 21st Space Wing security forces team scheduled to compete in Guardian Challenge 2002 is missing from Peterson.

Sources close to the team revealed that team members are at an undisclosed training location in northern New Mexico honing their skills to defend their title as best security forces unit in Air Force Space Command. The returning champions secured their title in the 2001 competition and have no plans to give it up this year.

"Experience will be a big advantage for our team," said Tech. Sgt. Timothy Winfree, 21st Security Forces Squadron team leader. "I don't think anyone else has a team as solid as ours. We're going down there to win and we'll put forth 110 percent effort to make that happen."

The team is sequestered at its secret location to make the most of the training opportunity.

"We're training here at //data masked// to get away from any distractions so we can concentrate solely on building our team and going to Vandenberg and bringing the trophy back," said Winfree. "Here, we have access to an obstacle course that mirrors the course we'll be competing on at Vandenberg, and we also have unlimited access to some outstanding firing ranges."

The team wants to maximize its training time, which began for all competing teams April 15.

"We'll be doing a variety of things to improve our fitness and team skills," said Staff Sgt. Jeremy White, assistant team leader. "The competition will test our ability to react to situations that we might run into in our day-to-day work, so we have to be prepared for any situation they might throw at us."

This year's security forces team was selected through an Army physical training test and weapons firing test. The team selected was the best



Photo by Dennis Carlson

**Security forces team members from the 21st Space Wing practice on an obstacle course that mirrors the one that will be part of competition for security forces members at Guardian Challenge 2002.**

the 21st SFS had to offer, which includes three returning team members from the award winning 2001 team.

Team members are Winfree, team leader; White, assistant team leader, and Staff Sgt. Sean Gunning, Senior Airman Richard Russell and Senior Airman Chris Detone, team members.

While most team members are from the 21st SFS, Detone is a member of the 721st SFS at Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station, Co. Due to manning constraints, Detone was only allowed to participate when the 21st SFS gave the mountain a replacement security forces member to make up for his absence.

The 2001 competition featured a new goal for AFSPC security forces teams: the Flying Tigers award. A trophy is awarded to the top security forces team. Last year's trophy went to the 21st Space Wing.

"That trophy has our name on it," said Winfree, "and we plan to keep it that way."

Security forces members compet-

ing at Guardian Challenge compete in three areas that test their skills in a variety of security forces disciplines.

### Competition categories

#### Combat Marksmanship -

Combat Marksmanship tests the ability to identify and engage a variety of enemy targets at varying distances in a hostile environment. Competitors fire the M16 rifle, the M9 pistol and the M203 grenade launcher.

**Combat Tactics -** Combat Tactics tests security forces in a realistic scenario that could be encountered by any unit. This scenario tests the ability to defend/recapture resources and personnel while engaged in direct combat with enemy forces.

**Obstacle Course -** The obstacle course tests security Forces physical fitness. The course consists of 13 obstacles run over a distance of two miles.



Photo by Adam Gramarossa

**Security forces team members practice firing the M9 pistol in preparation for Guardian Challenge 2002 competition.**

## Guardian Challenge Santa Maria BBQ

The 21st Logistics Group is hosting a Santa Maria Style BBQ, 11:30 a.m.

May 2 in Hangar 140.

Tickets are \$6 and must be purchased by April 24.

**Tickets are available from:**

- Unit first sergeants and chiefs
- 21st Logistics Support Squadron, 556-6527
- 21st Logistics Group, 556-3047
- 21st Contracting Squadron, 556-4381



## Around the Air Force

# Contracting keeps Al Udeid stocked

By Capt. Sean McKenna  
379th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

**OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM (AFP)** — Jim Bane is busy bartering with the foreign salesman, working the price of the refrigerator from \$500 down to just under \$400. For some people this storeroom haggling would seem a pain, but for this technical sergeant it is all part of the job.

Bane is a "buyer" at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar. You could call him the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing's personal shopper, hunting down items from the mountain of purchase orders he processes daily. Racing from store to store in the Qatar capital city of Doha, he barter and buys the goods, then either throws them into the back of his SUV or arranges for a quick delivery to the base.

"I'm not the kind of person who likes to sit in an office locked behind a desk," said Bane, whose shopping trips can last up to 12 hours and lives by the credo that the first price is never the final price. "This gives me a chance to get out and meet the people."

Bane is one of 11 people deployed to the 379th Expeditionary Contracting Squadron whose job it is to keep the base here well stocked with all the key ingredients needed to keep cooking in the war against terrorism.

Since October, the squadron has committed \$17.5 million to nearly 1,500 contracts and agreements for goods such as rental vehicles, utilities, furniture, force protection gear, computers and kitchen equipment.

Getting Operation Enduring Freedom's largest deployed wing up and running has not come cheap, and the contracting squadron has been the center of that spending spree, said to Capt. Andre Prude, contracting chief.

"We play a part in so much of this base, whether it's buying ice, generators, swimming pools or tents," Prude said. "If you need it, we can get it."

While the finance office manages the funds for the base, contracting officers are the only ones authorized to commit the government's money to products and services, Prude said.



Photo by Capt. Sean McKenna  
**Tech. Sgt. Jim Bane, 379th Expeditionary Contracting Squadron, reviews prices for a saw blade with a hardware vendor in Doha, Qatar. Bane, who is deployed supporting Operation Enduring Freedom, makes daily trips from Al Udeid Air Base to local vendors to buy goods and services for the 379th Expeditionary Wing.**

"We are charged with taking the customer's needs, placing it into a buying process and making sure (the process is) equitable to both the vendor and customer," he said.

"We want to give the government the best bang for its buck while ensuring the purchase is legal, fair and timely."

While small items less than \$2,500 can be bought on the fly, anything over that has to be put out for competition, which is where the fun usually begins, said Prude. On a big-ticket item — anything more than \$200,000 — contracting typically puts the bid out for a minimum of 10 days. Only then will

contracting officers award a contract to the lowest bidder.

"Our job, by law, is to purchase requirements that meet the minimum needs of the government," Prude said. "This way we spend the taxpayers' money wisely."

With the wing moving past its initial buildup phase, the requirements are not nearly as rapid for the contracting squadron, but they do stay steady. The daily need for tools, computer software and other items continues, he said.

Jim Bane and others stand ready to go buy it, wherever "it" may be.

## Predators akin to traditional aircraft — sort of

By Jim Garamone  
American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON (AFP)** — The Predator is just like every other aircraft, you just do not ride in it.

That is the conclusion of Lt. Col. Eric Mathewson, commander of the 15th Reconnaissance Squadron at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. He should know, as his unit flies 24 of the unmanned aerial vehicles on missions worldwide.

Mathewson, who flew F-15 Eagles before joining the squadron, said pilots qualified in other aircraft feel right at home in the Predator world.

The whole process involved in flying a mission in a Predator is virtually the same as any other aircraft, he said.

Before each mission, pilots attend briefings cover-

ing weather, route and intelligence reports.

"You step to the airplane and do the pre-flight check," Mathewson said. "When you're finished, instead of getting in the cockpit, you get in a ground-control station."

The transportable station is like a cockpit. Predators are flown the same as crewed aircraft are. A pilot sits in the left seat, the officer in charge of the sensors is in the right seat and behind them is a flight engineer. The cockpit control array includes a stick, rudder and all the other switches, buttons and lights any other plane would have.

Once in, they start engines, taxi and it is "ready for takeoff."

The same procedures apply upon landing.

"We land, taxi back and debrief the mission just like any other," Mathewson said.

Mathewson said there were some surprises when he came to the aircraft.

"For one, it's larger than I thought," he said. "Also, when you are flying the aircraft, you know you're not aboard it, but you think you are."

Mathewson, who has commanded the squadron for 18 months, said pilots also realize they are not in simulators, but on real missions. There is no pushing the reset button if they are "shot down" or encounter an unrecoverable problem.

"You are aware that what you're controlling is a real aircraft," he said.

In fact, flying the Predator is harder than flying a manned aircraft in many ways, he said.

"It's more challenging than landing an F-15," he said. "There's no sound, no 'seat-

of-the-pants' feel to it, and the peripheral vision is limited."

Maintenance of the aircraft is the same as any other plane in the Air Force. Mathewson said the same number of specialties is needed to maintain the aircraft, generate and plan missions, and service the payloads.

All told, Predator squadrons have 350 to 400 people, including 27 pilots assigned. He said aircrew members come from all walks of Air Force life. He has crew members who started in C-17 Globemaster IIIs, KC-135 Stratotankers, F-15s and C-141 Starlifters.

Another thing the Predator can do that other aircraft cannot is switch crews. The aircraft can fly up to 40 hours at a stretch, but there is no need for one crew to fly the whole mission, Mathewson said.

"We mitigate the fatigue by changing out pilots and sensor operators every four hours," he said.

"Pilots and sensor operators have so much information to process that four hours is about as much as they can take. Each mission is briefed to a crew of two pilots and four sensor operators."

The aircrews in the squadron have to adhere to the same crew rest routines and must meet the same physical requirements as manned-aircraft crew members.

Mathewson said the experience with the Predator has been eye-opening for him.

"I'm a zealot," he said.

"I know this is going to be part of the air power future, and I can see from our successes in Operation Enduring Freedom that this is going to play a pivotal role in air power for years to come."



**Today**

■ Estate planning seminar, 1-4 p.m., Family Support Center.

**Saturday**

■ Month of the military child and child abuse prevention carnival, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., base park, next to the aquatics center.

**Monday**

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

**Tuesday**

■ Assertive communication class, 2:30-4 p.m., base library.  
■ Sponsorship training, 7:30-8:30 a.m., Family Support Center.  
■ Resume review class, 9-11 a.m., Family Support Center.

**Wednesday**

■ Stress management, 2:30-4 p.m.,



Photo by Staff Sgt. Melanie Epperson

**Here's to you**

**Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler, 21st Space Wing commander, says a few words as he presents Gen. Ed Eberhart, Commander in Chief NORAD and U.S. Space Command, with a framed memento of the wing in a surprise informal ceremony April 18. Gen. Eberhart shared his gratitude with the wing and his many thanks for working with the wing over the past few years.**

Peterson Air Force Base Health and Wellness Center.

- Chicken buffet dinner, 5-7 p.m., enlisted club.
- Mongolian barbecue, 6-8 p.m., officers' club.

**Thursday**

- Children's play group, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., base chapel.
- Job orientation, 1-2:30 p.m., Family Support Center.
- National Day of Prayer

**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 556-9201

**Community Notes**

Community News

**U.S. AIR FORCE BAND OF THE ROCKIES** - Tickets are available at Ticketmaster for the United States Air Force Band of the Rockies free, public "Armed Forces Concert," May 16, 7:30 p.m., Arnold Hall Theater, U.S. Air Force Academy.  
**VOLUNTEER LUNCHEON** - Base volunteers will be honored at a luncheon Tuesday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at the enlisted club. Cost is \$7, except for volunteers, who eat free.

For tickets call 556-6141.  
**AIRMAN'S ATTIC:** The Airman's Attic is open noon-3 p.m. Tuesdays and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. the second and fourth Saturdays of the month.

To volunteer at the Airman's Attic, call Linda at 472-4837.  
**QUIT SMART** - The Health and Wellness Center is looking for motivated non-smokers who have a desire to help people quit using tobacco. Volunteers will attend a one-day training course and then conduct the tobacco cessation classes.

For more information or to sign up, call Deena Gerber at 556-4292 or Master Sgt. Luis Pacheco at 556-6674.  
**WRITING SEMINAR** - The Enlisted Professional Development Committee will be conducting the effective writing seminar May 6, 9-11 a.m., in the Family Support Center classroom.

To sign up, e-mail Senior Master Sgt. Torrys Johnson at [torrys.johnson@cheyennemountain.af.mil](mailto:torrys.johnson@cheyennemountain.af.mil).  
**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - Volunteers are needed to help with the El Paso County Household Chemical Waste Collection Program today and Saturday at the Penrose Equestrian Center.

For more information, call Dan Pedersen at 556-7328 or e-mail [daniel.pedersen@peterson.af.mil](mailto:daniel.pedersen@peterson.af.mil).  
**CARNIVAL** - The month of the military child and child abuse prevention

carnival is scheduled for Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the base park, next to the aquatics center.

For information, call Jane Marie Kopycinski at 556-7220.

**CHILD CARE** - Military spouses who provide child care, or who want to, for children other than their own for 10 hours or more per week must be licensed to do so in on-base quarters. A series of three eight-hour orientation classes are being offered May 14-16 for anyone interested in becoming a Family Child Care provider.

Preregistration is required at least one week in advance.

For more information, call Barb Ziegler at 556-4322.

**DEFENSE COMMISSARY AGENCY** - DECA is accepting applications for the student temporary employment program in the areas of checker and worker.

For more information, call the Peterson Air Force Base Commissary at 556-7765 or 556-7770.

**VANITY FAIR** - The Armed Services YMCA, Air Force Academy, Schriever and Peterson Air Force Bases, and Fort Carson are sponsoring a Vanity Fair May 7, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Armed Services YMCA, 2190 Jet Wing Drive. There will be refreshments, crafts, hair cuts, massages, make-overs and more free.

**PIKES PEAK MILITARY FAMILY COOKBOOK** - The Peterson Air Force Base Officers' Wives' Club is creating a cookbook and wants to include all military families in the Pikes Peak region.

Submissions may be made by e-mailing Linh Narum at [lnarum@msn.com](mailto:lnarum@msn.com) or mailing Linh Narum, c/o Peterson Officers' Wives' Club, P.O. Box 14066, Peterson AFB, Colo. For more information, call Narum at 591-7010.

**CLUB MEMBERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP**

**PROGRAM** - Nominations and essays for scholarships available through the enlisted and officers' clubs must be received by July 15.

Essays should be 500 words on the topic, "Air Force clubs -- how to continue the tradition."

For details, call club managers at 556-4194 or 556-4181.

Military Personnel Flight

**HOURS:** The MPF is open for appointments only, 8-10 a.m. daily. Customer service and records hours are 8 a.m.-4 p.m. for military identification cards, DEERS enrollment and verification. Active duty members can also view their personnel records by using the virtual MPF. Log on to [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil) and click on VMPF and follow the log-on procedures.

**FAMILY MEMBER ID CARDS:** Family members' ID cards are only renewed if they are about to expire or lost and not for change in grade. They can only be reissued 20 days prior to their expiration. The military member must be present to sign the ID card application unless the family member has a power-of-attorney.

Community Activities Center

**YOUTH ART CLASSES** - Children ages 10-13 may attend art classes tomorrow, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., at the CAC. Space is limited.

To learn more or sign up, call 556-1733.

**DOG OBEDIENCE TRAINING** - A dog obedience training class will be held starting May 7 for seven weeks.

There is a \$99 fee per dog. Owners must bring a six-foot leash. All other supplies will be furnished.

For more information or to sign up, call 556-1733.

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.

# Honor Guards shine in first ever competition

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

Air Force Space Command held the first-ever honor guard competition here Tuesday and Wednesday to test the skills of the command's honor guard teams.

"A few years back, the senior chiefs in Space Command said we needed to do something more for our honor guard teams," said Senior Master Sgt. Kathryn Godfrey, AFSPC Honor Guard competition coordinator. "We came up with the idea of holding a competition that would increase their skills and their training so that while they perform this very important ceremony they do it perfectly.

"We're proud to have taken this on," she said. "We're hoping it will go Air Force-wide."

During opening ceremonies, the seven teams from Patrick Air Force Base, Fla.; Malmstrom AFB, Mont.; F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo.; Minot AFB, N.D.; Los Angeles AFB, Calif.; Vandenberg AFB, Calif.; and the High Frontier Honor Guard consisting of members from Peterson, Schriever and Buckley Air Force Bases, were introduced to thunderous applause from a crowd of nearly 200.

At the commands, "Space Command Honor Guards! ... Attention! ... Fall out and prepare for inspection!" by AFSPC Vice Commander Lt. Gen. Robert Hinson, the competition was underway.

The teams competed for awards in six categories: posting and retiring of the colors, flag folding, firing party, pall bearers, weapons cleaning and standard funeral honors.

"We invited the United States Air Force Honor Guard from Bolling AFB in Washington, D.C. to be our judges," Godfrey said. "They're 'the best of the

best' and they're also the trainers for the Air Force Honor Guard."

Throughout the competition, precision movements reflected competitors' months of practice and the dedication. In each event, teams moved flawlessly through their paces, under the trained and watchful eyes of the judges. The slightest misstep meant point deductions in overall team scores.

"I think we're doing really well," said High Frontier Honor Guard member Airman 1st Class Jessica Sanchez.

"We practiced our routines straight from the regulation, so there's really been nothing surprising," said Sanchez. "After each event, we get together as a team and talk about our performance. We can tell what we did well and what we'll have points deducted on."

"We try not to pay attention to the other teams and stay focused on what we need to do," she said.

"The dedication (of the teams) shows," said Staff Sgt. John Payne, a member of Bolling's U.S. Air Force Honor Guard. "The dedication to doing things right is just awesome.

"There's a famous quote by General Patton that goes, 'If you do your full duty, the rest will take care of itself,'" said Payne, an honor guard member for 6 1/2 years. "To see these folks putting in their full effort, that's awesome."

"The folks who came out — especially for the second day to watch the standard honor funerals — hopefully it brings something to them," Payne said. "That funeral is going to be for them. They're going to have a flag be presented at their funeral.

Hopefully, they understand what that means.

"Senior Master Sgt. Godfrey has done an outstanding job bringing this all together," he said. "Of

course, she had a lot of help, but her persistence and dedication have been key to making this event happen."

"With the flag and the stage, the opening ceremony Tuesday morning was awesome," Payne added. "The actual bier mock-up and 1939 hearse -- they pulled out all their resources to make it happen.

"It's been talked about for years," he said. "To see it kick off and to be a part of it is monumental.

"Ten years down the road, when I go to a MAJCOM-level competition, I'm going to know where it started. It started right here with this event.

"Once again, Space Command has taken the

lead on this, and they've set the benchmark."

At Thursday's banquet, the final scores were read and the Patrick AFB "Shark Attack" was named the 2002 AFSPC Honor Guard Competition champion.

"We have a 'traveling trophy' that will go to their wing," said Godfrey. "They'll have that distinction of being the 'best of the best' in Space Command."

The team will also represent AFSPC as the official honor guard for this year's Guardian Challenge competition May 6-10 at Vandenberg AFB, Calif.



Airman 1st Class Elizabeth Farmer, F.E. Warren Air Force Base, performs "Taps" for the standard funeral honors competition.



Photos by Alex Lloyd

Teams competed in events such as standard funeral honors, colors posting, firing party and paul bearers (clockwise from top right).



Sports

# Fitness month to begin Wednesday

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

Want to go to the Bahamas? Go to the gym.

In May, every time you work out or participate in certain fitness center or Health and Wellness Center activities, you will not only improve your fitness level, but you'll also earn points to become eligible for a round-trip vacation for two to Jamaica or the Bahamas.

It's all part of the Air Force's 16th Annual May Fitness Month celebration and, according to the Peterson Air Force Base coordinator, Ernie Martin, there are a variety of activities planned to appeal to the gamut of participants.

This year's theme is "Mission Fitness," and planned activities range from playing an old childhood favorite – dodgeball – to attending a HAWC diet and nutrition seminar.

People who are unable to participate in many of the high-point activities can still qualify for the vacation drawings just by attending the Wednesday opening and May 31 closing ceremonies. Each ceremony is worth 10 fitness points, and you only need 20 points to be entered in the drawing.

Various activities (including the ceremonies) earn a specific number of fitness points. Fitness points are tallied on a Fitness Month scorecard, stamped by the Fitness Center staff upon completion of an activity. Once a participant has earned 20 points, his or her card is submitted for a May 31 drawing. The more points you earn, the more cards you complete, and the more chances you have to win. Two names from Peterson AFB will be drawn and forwarded to Air Force Space Command. AFSPC will send its cards to Headquarters Air Force and HQ will draw the winners' names.

The Peterson celebration begins with an opening ceremony Wednesday, noon, in the

Fitness Center, Gym 2. Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler, 21st Space Wing Commander, will kick off the ceremony which will also feature a 15-minute performance by the Air Force Band of the Rockies Stellar Brass ensemble.

Following the opening ceremony, Peterson runners and walkers will join Americans nationwide in a Worldwide Mission Fitness 2002/Armed Forces Day 5K run or 1.5K walk that begins at 12:30 here. Runners and walkers will meet in front of the Fitness Center and those interested can sign up as late as starting time Wednesday.

Among other activities is a Jackpot Stairmaster event. Stairmaster computer programs will be set to randomly identify prize winners. Exercisers need only be using the Stairmaster equipment May 4 or 5 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. to be eligible for a random-jackpot prize.

In addition to the grand prize eligibility, fitness month participants could win a prize just for walking into the aerobics room for their normal workout, Marten said. Instant winners will be identified throughout the month, and their prizes will range from sports sunglasses to T-shirts. Unlike previous years, eligi-



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Gino Mattorano

**As a part of the personal-fitness program, participants can earn points toward completing their scorecard by running.**

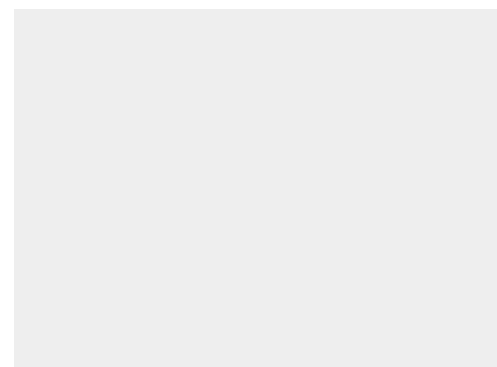
bility for such prizes is not tied to point accumulation. Says Martin, it's just a matter of being in the right place at the right time.

Martin encouraged all base members to come out and support the opening and closing ceremonies, which, he explained, will not only be exciting but is also the chance

to get points to be entered in the vacation drawing.

For more information about May Fitness Month events, contact Martin at 556-7092, or call the Fitness Center main office at 556-4462. To sign up for any of the scheduled events, stop by the Fitness Center and fill out the registration forms.

EVENT	DATE	TIME	PLACE	SIGN-UP DEADLINE	POINTS EARNED
Opening Ceremony	Wednesday	Noon	Gym 2	N/A	10
5K run/1.5K walk	Wednesday	12:30 p.m.	Fitness Center	Wednesday, 12:30 p.m.	5
1 Pitch Softball	May 2-3	9 a.m.-6 p.m.	Softball Fields	Monday	5
Jackpot Stairmaster	May 4-5	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	Fitness Center	Wednesday	5
Tug-o-War, Relay Race	May 8	Noon-2 p.m.	Pavilion area	May 7	5
Kickball Tournament	May 9-10	11 a.m.-1 p.m.	TBD	May 7	5
Sand Volleyball	May 14-15	11 a.m.-1 p.m.	Pavilion area	May 10	5
Horseshoe Tournament	May 16	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Pavilion area	May 13	5
3-on-3 Basketball	May 18-19	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Fitness Center Outdoor Court	May 15	5
Wallyball Tournament	May 20-21	11 a.m.-2 p.m.	Fitness Center	May 16	5
3-point Shootout Basketball	May 28	11:30 a.m.	Gym 2	May 24	5
Dodgeball Tournament	May 29	11 a.m.-1 p.m.	Fitness Center	May 24	5
Closing Ceremony	May 31	Noon	Gym 2	N/A	10



MORE POINT EARNERS	DATE	TIME	POINTS EARNED
Attend a Health and Wellness Center Seminar	Anytime in May	As scheduled	5
Fitness Assessment at the HAWC	Anytime in May	Schedule with HAWC staff	3
Personal Workout Session	Anytime in May	Notify Fitness Center after workout	2 points per day maximum
Aerobics Class	Anytime in May	Schedule Available at Fitness Center	2 per class (1 per day)
Other Fitness Classes (yoga, spinning, etc)	Anytime in May	See Fitness Center Schedules	2 per class (1 per day)

# MEO technical sergeant coaches UWFL

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

Are you ready for some football? It's that time of year again, when hard-hitting, full-contact football featuring pure speed on both sides of the ball rumbles into town.

If you thought professional football didn't start for another four months, you're wrong. I'm talking about the United Women's Football League, not the National Football League.

This is the UWFL's inaugural season, with seven teams competing for the championship trophy. Each team will play 12 games under NFL rules, from the time clock down to the equipment they're allowed to use.

What's unique about the hometown Colorado Springs Koalas is the team is coached by one of the Wing's



own, Tech. Sgt. Lawrence Lewis. This isn't his first football-coaching job, he was the assistant defensive backs coach at Albany State, Ga. For his day job Lewis works in the 21st Space Wing Military Equal Opportunity office.

"Coaching is applying principles that the military teaches you," said Lewis, who oversees 40 players and a seven-member coaching staff. "Excellence in all we do, attention to detail, and organizational skills are a few examples that can be really beneficial in meeting any challenge you face."

Each team held tryouts in November for those female athletes who wanted to call themselves professional football players. Tryouts consisted of the same grueling workouts demanded of their male counterparts in the NFL.

The Koalas played their first game of the season April 14, annihilating the Sweetwater County Outlaws 69-13. All home games are played at the Harrison High School football field.

Who are the players in this league? They're mothers, sisters, and college students when they're not competing on the gridiron. They range in



Photos by 2nd Lt. Mike Andrews

Tech. Sgt. Lawrence Lewis, 21st Space Wing Military Equal Opportunity Office, motivates the all-female team through the agility ropes, above, and demonstrates the proper passing techniques, below.

age from 18 to 48, and each of them signed a one-year contract to play for the Koalas. They are paid \$50 for every game, and travel and meals are provided when they have away games.

Lewis says he's still looking for players.

"Playing football helps gets you in both mental and physical shape, while allowing you to compete at a higher level and have a good time," said Lawrence.

For information on signing up, call Lewis at 290-6550.

## Sports Shorts

**Baseball fields** - Youth baseball fields are off limits to everyone except the base youth program participants. Field number 4 is open for general use.

To reserve an adult baseball playing field, call Ernie Martin at 556-4462.

**Golf course** - Summer hours go into effect at the Silver Spruce Golf Course Monday.

The course is open 7 a.m.-dark. The pro shop is open 6:30 a.m.-7 p.m., and the 19th Hole Grill is open 6:30 a.m.-5 p.m. The driving range is open 6:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Daily tee times must be scheduled.

For more information, call 556-7414.

**Youth sports camps** -

Youth may still sign up for summer camps in archery, baseball, basketball, golf, football, soccer and tennis. Space is limited.

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

**Competition** - A youth baseball competition for 7-12-year-olds is scheduled for May 11, 10 a.m., at the youth baseball fields.

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

**Baseball registration** - Youth baseball registration continues through May 17. Coaches are also needed for baseball teams for youths ages 3-12.

For more information, call the youth center at 556-

7220

**Basketball tournament** - A Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station 3-on-3 basketball tournament is scheduled for Saturday. Times are to be determined.

For more information, call 556-1515.

**Play rooms** - Two parent-supervised child play rooms are available in the fitness center's aerobics room and just off court 1.

For details, call 556-4462 or 556-1515.

**Personal trainers** - The Fitness Center has personal trainers available.

**Fitness center** - People can play competitive or recreational volleyball or racquetball. Call the fitness center for details at 556-1515.

## Correction

The 544th Information Operations Group volleyball team was incorrectly identified as the 544th Inspector General team, and the 810th Medical Group volleyball team was incorrectly identified as the 10th Medical Group team in a stand alone photo on page 12 of the April 19 *Space Observer*.