

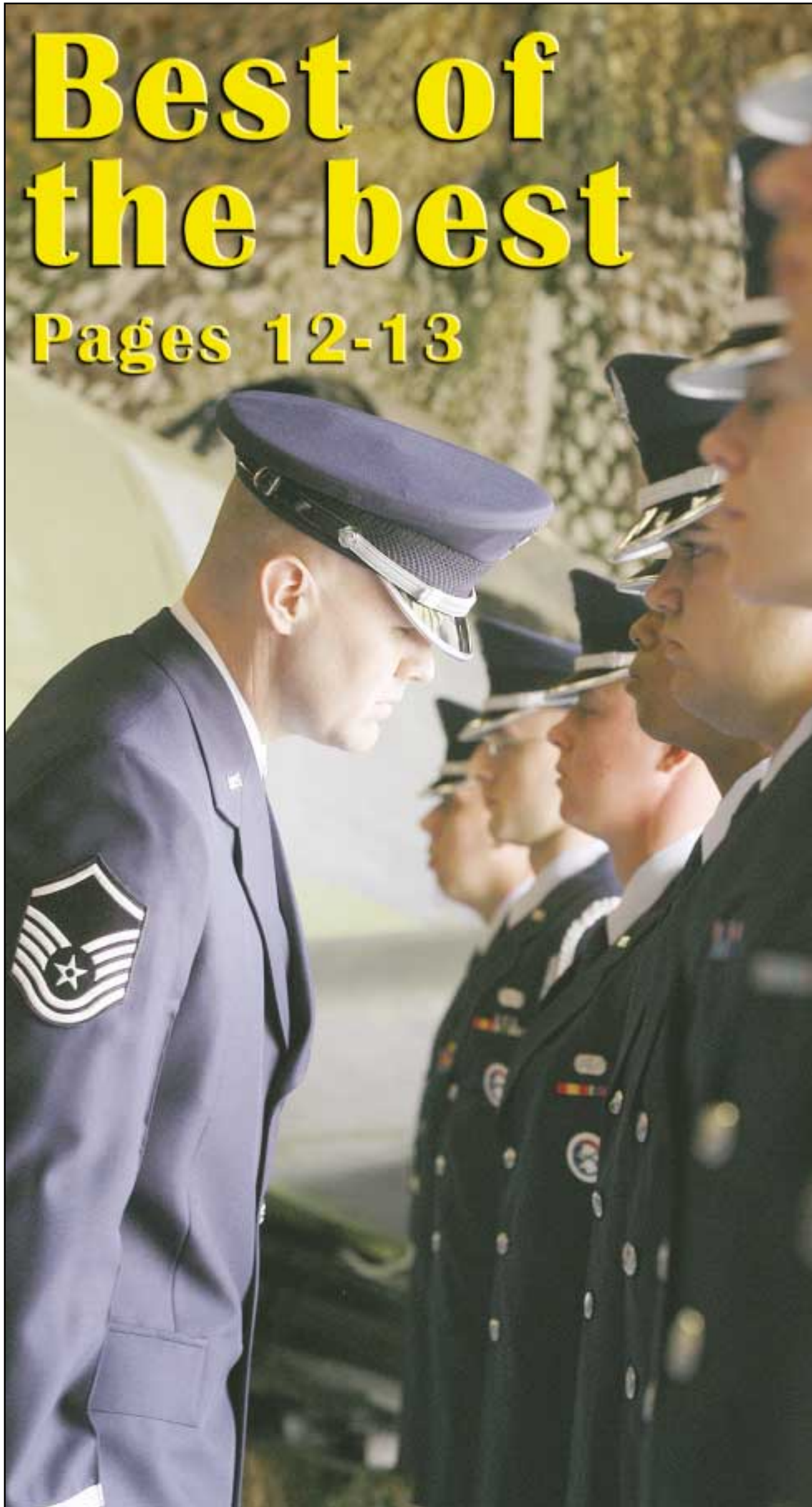
Space Observer

"2003 AFSPC Best Large Wing PA Office"

Thursday, April 1, 2004

Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado

Vol. 48 No. 13



Best of the best

Pages 12-13

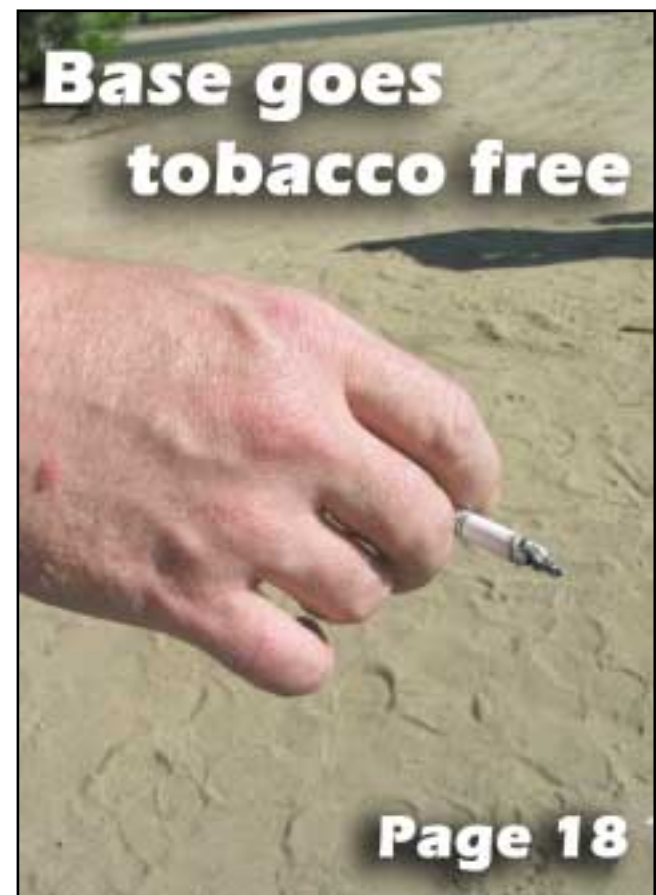
Photo by Larry Hulst



Deal ascends mountain

Page 10

Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Douglas Holmes



Base goes tobacco free

Page 18

Photo by Staff Sgt. Sue Mrowiec

Daylight-saving
time begins
Sunday at 2 a.m.

Inside This Issue:

Blotter ... 11

At Your Service ... 14

Straight Talk Line 556-9154



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sue Mrowiec

Supporting the fight

Joan Sell, the president of the National Defense Industrial Agency presents a \$1,000 check to Dick Dubose, the vice president of the Team 21 Association, as Brig. Gen. Richard Webber, the 21st Space Wing commander looks on. The donation will be used toward Guardian Challenge expenses.



Action Line

Submitting Action Lines

The Action Line is your direct link to the 21st Space Wing Commander. We suggest you first try to resolve problems at the lowest level possible – with the person or activity, and then follow the chain of command.

Though it's not required, we ask that you leave your name and phone number so we can get back to you for clarifications, or if your response isn't printed. If you can't get satisfactory results, call 556-7777. Or you can fax your question to 556-7848.

Natural gas leak

Question: Can something be done about the odor of natural gas in Building 920? For three days in a row at 6 a.m., when we enter the building, there is a distinct odor of a natural gas in the recently added addition to the building. When we brought it to the attention of the facility manager, he said that it is apparently a design flaw where there is a gas escape valve situated adjacent to the air conditioning input, and there is nothing that

can be done about it. Can it possibly be a health hazard for the people in the building? Can somebody look into this and see if this can be rectified? Thank you.

Answer: Thank you for bringing this to our attention! First of all, please consider all suspected gas leaks as an emergency and notify the Base Fire Department by calling 911. Simultaneously, the Base Civil Engineer Utilities Shop responds to shut off appropriate valves to stop the flow of gas. Once the danger is mitigated and the area cleared, the Utilities technicians will troubleshoot and repair as appropriate. In this particular incident, the first notification the Civil Engineers received was your Action Line—and we thank you for your initiative. We dispatched technicians to the scene and indeed discovered a small leak, which was immediately repaired. We spoke with the building manager, and he was unaware of the problem. We hope this has resolved your problem, but if you continue to notice an odor please report it through the channels

outlined above. If you have further questions, call Tex Jewell at 556-1420.

Base residents seek phone directories

Question: How can the residents in Base Housing obtain a Peterson Air Force Base Telephone Directory? Thank you.

Answer: Newcomers to Peterson Air Force Base can pick up a copy of the base telephone directory at the Family Support Center. Those already in base housing can pick one up at the Base Housing office. Further questions can be directed to Brenda York at 556-6290.

East Gate congestion

Question: Can we get some consistency on the inbound lanes at the East Gate in the morning? One day you'll approach and move into the right lane and proceed with no problems. The next day you'll move into the right lane, come around the bend and find it closed. Then you have to depend on a "nice guy" allowing you to merge back into the left lane. This

adds to the congestion. Also, with only one lane open, if someone stops to ask a question, or for directions, everyone must wait. If two lanes were open, traffic could proceed in the other lane. It's a minor issue, but frustrating at the frequency it changes from day to day.

Answer: Thank you for your traffic congestion concern at the East Gate. Our goal is to prevent traffic congestion at any of the installation entry points and maintain consistency in all our operations. Due to the low volume of inbound traffic at the East Gate from 5-6 a.m., manning limitations and a shift change, only one lane is necessary for that hour. Single inbound lane usage also occurs in the afternoon. Your point on consistency is well taken and we have directed our installation entry controllers to consistently close the far lane (right lane to the driver) in the future. Thanks for identifying a potential safety issue and making a difference. Further questions can be directed to Master Sgt. Timothy Sumpter at 556-8177.

Space Observer

Published by Gowdy Printcraft, 22 N. Sierra Madre, Colorado Springs, 80903, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 21st Space Wing. This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

Contents of the Space Observer are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by DOD, the Department of the Air Force, or Gowdy Printcraft, of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 21st Space Wing Public Affairs Office, 775 Loring Ave., Ste. 218, Peterson AFB, Colo., 80914-1294. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

The Space Observer is published every Thursday. For advertising inquiries, call Gowdy Printcraft, (719) 634-1593. Employees of Peterson Air Force Base who want to place a free classified advertisement should call 556-5241.

Articles for the Space Observer should be submitted to the 21st SW/PAI, Attn: Space Observer, 775 Loring Ave., Ste. 218, Peterson AFB, Colo., 80914-1294 or e-mail space.observer@peterson.af.mil. Deadline for submission is 4:30 p.m. the Thursday one week before publication. All articles, copy and announcements submitted will be edited to conform to AFI Series 35 and the Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual. For details, call the editor at (719) 556-7846 or DSN 834-7846.

21st Space Wing Commander

Brig. Gen. Richard E. Webber

Chief of Public Affairs

1st Lt. Michael Andrews

Editorial Staff

Editor

Staff Sgt. Susan Mrowiec

Layout and Design

Kara Magana

A Moment in Time

■ **April 1, 1954** – President Eisenhower signs into law a bill creating the U.S. Air Force Academy.

■ **April 3, 1967** – Paul W. Airey becomes the first Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force.

■ **April 3, 1999** – During Operation Allied Force, North Atlantic Treaty Organization missiles strike central Belgrade for the first time, destroying the Yugoslav and Serbian interior ministries.

■ **April 6, 1924** – Air Service officers begin the first around-the-world air tour.

■ **April 7, 1971** – Second Lt. Susanne M. Ocobock becomes the first woman civil engineer in the Air Force and is assigned to Kelly AFB, Texas.



Photo courtesy of 21st Security Forces Squadron

Top cops

The 21st Security Forces Squadron recently took home the award for Best in Air Force Space Command. "I am very proud of the women and men of the 21st SFS," said Lt. Col. John Brooker, the 21st SFS commander. "Every day they prove their dedication to our nation's security, often in ways and in measures no one will ever know about."



Pete Progress



Family Housing whole house renovation project

The object of this project is to renovate 87 existing Military Family Housing living units. The main items addressed are, the relocation of the laundry facilities to the upper level, remodeling the bathrooms, updating and replacing all interior finishes and correcting deficient emergency exiting. Of the 87 units, 25 will be converted from three bedroom to four bedroom units by adding an addition over the existing garage. Forty-nine of the units will be converted from a three bedroom to a two bedroom unit with the existing third bedroom being converted to a study. Thirteen of the units will remain as a four bedroom configuration.

The following are the project milestones:

- Required start date: May 5
- Required completion date: Oct. 27
- 82 percent of the construction is complete
- A total of 53 units have been completed and turned back to the government



Air Force Assistance Fund

Team Pete goal - \$74,580.66

Week 2 (March 17 - 24) turn in - \$23,116



0%

52%

100%

GOAL



SENIOR SELECTS PARTY

All are invited to a promotion party at the Enlisted Club at 3 p.m. today for senior master sergeant selects from Peterson Air Force Base, Schriever AFB and Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station. Uniform of the day or comparable civilian attire are suitable.

NCO INDUCTION, RECOGNITION CEREMONY SCHEDULED

A Team Pete NCO Induction and Recognition Ceremony is scheduled for 3 p.m. Friday at the Enlisted Club.

ENHANCE YOUR PRODUCTIVITY

The Productivity Enhancing Capital Investment Program has programs to increase the productivity of an office. For more information, call Leroy Howard at 556-7823 or Amanda Braden at 556-3152.

7 HABITS SEMINAR

There is a seminar on "7 Habits of Highly Successful Air Force Families" April 16 and April 23 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Southeast YMCA. Call the Family Support Center at 556-6141 for more information.

INSTALLATION PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

The Peterson Air Force Base Installation Preparedness Guide is now available online at <https://halfway.peterson.af.mil/21ces/cex/index.htm>.

RED CROSS SPONSORS CHARITY GOLF TOURNEY

The American Red Cross office is hosting a charity golf tournament April 16 at the Silver Spruce Golf Course. Check-in time is 8 a.m. The four-man scramble tournament begins at 8:30 a.m. with a shotgun-style start. There is a \$20 entry fee plus green and cart fees. Participants must register by April 9. For more information, call the American Red Cross office in the Mission Support Center at 556-7590.

CLINIC GETTING NEW ROOF

The Peterson Clinic is undergoing construction on a new roof. Anyone with respiratory problems

should contact the clinic in which they have an appointment to discuss the situation and minimize visits to the clinic until this project is complete. The smell could be a respiratory irritant, but is not toxic. All the tar hot pots are placed away from the air intakes to minimize the impact on the building. However, two air intakes on the roof will cause some of the smell to enter the building. Work will begin over the Dental Clinic, and as the workers move to other areas of the roof, they will give as much notice as possible.

FLAG BURNING CEREMONY

There will be a flag burning ceremony at 10 a.m. today at the Fire Station to dispose of unserviceable flags.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Pikes Peak Combined Spouses' Club will sponsor an egg hunt Sunday from 2-4 p.m. at the base picnic area behind the aquatics center. The hunt is open to all military children ages 2-10 (accompanied by a parent). Children should bring a basket to carry home their eggs and other goodies. Activities include the egg hunt, magic shows, balloon animals, face painting, and more. In the event of inclement weather, the egg hunt will be held in the Base Auditorium. For more information, call Kelly Brune at 260-6082.

MOTORCYCLISTS URGED TO COORDINATE WITH WING SAFETY

Active duty military members planning on taking the mandatory Motorcycle Safety Foundation training course are urged to contact the 21st Space Wing Safety Office before enrolling, due to limited funding for this training. Those who take the course without prior Wing Safety coordination may experience delays in receiving reimbursement. Call 556-4392 to coordinate attendance.

OLD UNIFORMS NEEDED FOR MOULAGE PATIENTS

The 21st Medical Group needs old uniforms and clothes for moulage patients to wear in exercise scenarios. Medical protocols require cutting the clothing and exposing the area experiencing simulated trauma. Though medical personnel may not do this every time for every patient, they need a stockpile of uniforms for

occasions when this is necessary. For more information, call Master Sgt. O.K. Stoll at 556-1153, or Staff Sgt. Bella Smith at 556-1053.

OFFICIAL TRAVEL SERVICE FEE CHANGE

The agency service fee charged by Rogers Travel has changed from \$24 to \$18 per ticket. The service fee on leisure tickets issued in conjunction with official travel remains at \$20 per ticket. For more information, call Rogers Travel at 550-1817.

AF KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL APPROVED

As of February, the Department of Defense approved the Korean Service Medal for award to Air Force active duty, Reserve and Guard personnel as recognition for military service in the Republic of Korea and the surrounding waters after July 28, 1954, and ending on a future date as determined by the Secretary of Defense. Air Force active duty, Reserve, and Guard members should direct any questions to the Contact Center at DSN 665-5000 or 1-800-616-3775. Reserve or Guard veterans and retirees under age 60 can call the Headquarters Air Reserve Personnel Center at 303-679-6134. Reserve or Guard veterans and retirees over 60, and family members of deceased Reserve or Guard veterans and retirees can call the National Personnel Records Center Customer Service Center at 314-801-0800.

PASSPORT REQUIREMENTS CHANGE

The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs now requires the personal appearance of all minors applying for U.S. passports, including children under the age of 14, who were not previously required to appear. The change is being implemented to enhance the accurate identification of applicants and aid in the prevention of international child abduction. For passport questions, call the base passport agent, Master Sgt. David Barrett, at 556-7500.

LOST COMMON ACCESS CARD REPLACEMENT

All active duty lost or stolen Common Access Cards will only be replaced with a letter from the
- See News Briefs, Page 5



Chapel Schedule

Protestant
Worship Services:
Liturgical Service, 6:30 p.m. Sat.
Traditional Worship Service,
8 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School 9:35 a.m. Sun.
Contemporary/Inspirational Service,
11 a.m. Sun.

Catholic
Weekday Mass, 11:35 a.m.
(except Monday)
Saturdays, 5 p.m.
Sundays, 9:30 a.m.
Reconciliation Saturdays, 4 p.m.

**For more information -
Call the chapel at 556-4442 for
available chapel programs.

– News Briefs, from Page 4

member's commander or first sergeant. If you have questions, call 1st Lt. Kelly Calle at 556-4819.

ASIAN-PACIFIC HERITAGE COMMITTEE

The Asian-Pacific Heritage Committee will meet every Wednesday through May, from 11 a.m.-noon at the Military Equal Opportunity office. The committee is looking for volunteers and everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, call Master Sgt. Aaron Konia at 554-2475, Yong Sharp at 556-7691, or Dolly Daniels at 556-7039.

DISTANCE LEARNING TESTING

The Education Office acts as a proctor for examinations from colleges and universities for students enrolled in Distance Learning courses. People needing test proctoring may call the Education Office at 556-4034 to schedule a test. Testing is currently done at noon on Mondays and Tuesdays. CallCarolynn Farrell at 556-5034 or e-mail carolynn.farrell@peterson.af.mil for more information.

FAMILY CHILDCARE PROVIDERS MUST BE LICENSED

Military spouses who provide childcare, or who want to care for children other than their own for a total of 10 hours or more per week, must be licensed to do so in quarters on base. The Mission Support Group Commander may revoke the housing privileges of individuals who provide childcare but refuse to become licensed. To learn more about Family Child Care, call 556-4322.

BOOK REVIEW

Chief Master Sgt. (ret) Bob Vasquez of the U.S. Air Force Academy has just completed "7 Basic Habits of Highly Powerful Lieutenants (and How to Employ Them)". All ranks are welcome to attend. The brief-

ing will be from 8 a.m.-noon April 19 in Building 350, room 2137. Contact 2nd Lt. Susan Ruby at 556-8912 or 1st Lt. Kevin Dewever at 556-2752 to schedule attendance.

FSC VOLUNTEER LUNCHEON

The Family Support Center will host a luncheon at 11 a.m. April 22 at the Enlisted Club for all volunteers who have given time to on-base agencies. For more information, call Jim Reynolds at 556-6141.

BLACK HERITAGE SCHOLARSHIP

The Peterson Black Heritage Committee is sponsoring a \$500 scholarship for Colorado Springs high school seniors. To compete, students must submit an essay on a selected topic. The deadline for submissions is April 30. For more information, call Kervin Mack at 554-3257.

POSTAL DUTY POSITIONS

Air Force Space Command is looking for any senior master sergeants and below to volunteer for postal duty overseas. Tour lengths vary depending on the location. Short tour opportunities exist and after postal duty you are eligible for follow-on assignments in your current Air Force Specialty Code. For more information, or to volunteer, log on to the Assignment Management System Web site.

RING OF FAME NOMINATIONS

The Peterson Fitness and Sports Center is requesting nominations for the Ring of Fame, honoring distinguished Peterson Complex athletes. Those selected will be recognized with a photo and a plate inscribed with their accomplishments displayed in the main hallway of the center. Winners will be announced on Sports and Field Day. Nomination packages can be picked up at the Fitness and Sports Center. Deadline for entry is May 10. For details, call 556-7092/556-4462 or send an e-mail to

ernest.martin@peterson.af.mil.

OPERATION FREEDOM LODGING

Vail Resorts is offering three consecutive nights free lodging at their hotels in Breckenridge and Keystone to servicemembers who served 30 or more days in Iraq and Afghanistan. For reservations, call Breckenridge at 1-800-832-3694 or Keystone at 1-800-270-4690.


After making reservations, servicemembers must verify their status by faxing a copy of their orders or a letter from their first sergeants or commanders to Fort Carson Morale Welfare and Recreation at 526-2083 or DSN 691-2083.

NEW YORK AIR GUARD OPENINGS

The 109th Airlift Wing in Scotia, N.Y., has traditional Guard vacancies in the following career fields: 1A1X1, 1A2X1, 1N0X1, 2A5X1, 2A5X3, 2A6X1, 2A6X2, 2A6X4, 2A6X5, 2A6X6, 2A7X1, 2A7X3, 2E1X3, 2F0X1, 2S0X1, 2T0X1, 3C1X1, 3C3X1, 3E0X1, 3E2X1, 3E3X1, 3E4X3, 3E7X1, 3M0X1, 3P0X1, 3S0X1, 4A0X1, 4A1X1, 4A2X1, 4D0X1, 4N0X1, 4T0X1, and 6C0X1. For information, call Master Sgt. Wesley Ryerson at DSN 344-2456, or 1-800-524-5070, or e-mail Wesley.Ryerson@nyscot.ang.af.mil.

HELP DESK RESETS CAC PINS

The capability to reset the Personal Identification Number on the Common Access Card is now available at the Peterson Communication Help Desk in Building 1038, Monday-Friday from 6 a.m.-6 p.m.

Only CAC owners can reset their own cards. Customers whose cards cannot be reset due to card problems will be referred to the Military Personnel Flight. The system equipment in Building 1038 cannot issue or post certifications to CAC cards, as that capability is only provided at the MPF. 

Geobase is coming – are you ready?!

The Air Force mission continues to evolve around us everyday. Deployments increase, requirements change, and mission diversity increases, driving changes to the face of every installation. New ways of doing business are implemented everyday to help you work smarter, faster, and more efficiently. GeoBase is one way of accomplishing this feat visually, centrally, and electronically.

GeoBase is the Air Force program to centralize all mapping, surveying and drawing capabilities into one electronic service. Whether it is a map of the installation, a drawing, geographical information, or even electrical data of a building, the GeoBase Service will provide the information at users' fingertips. In the GeoBase Service, traditional surveying and mapping processes are transformed into digital layers, allowing users to access key graphical information about the installation and facilities with a simple "point and click" from their desktop.

Under the credo, "One Installation ... One Map," the Headquarters AF Geospatial Integration Office has demonstrated the need to have all users operating from the same installation picture. Whether the need is to visualize emergency response, staffing, planning, resource management or infrastructure information, GeoBase allows users to access critical installation information immediately and in real-time.

GeoBase is not a box of software or a piece of hardware; it is an efficient process for managing information. The data is housed in a central location, but maintained and managed by the individual data stewards in every organization. The ability to manage their own

unit's information, or Mission Data Sets, enables users to apply this data to their unit's decision-making tools.

GeoBase is essentially a repository of digital information linked to electronic map layers of installation features. GeoBase provides a detailed picture of the entire installation not previously possible. The foundation of the GeoBase service is the Common Installation Picture. The CIP is a collection of geographically accurate map layers which include aerial imagery, and most above-ground physical features such as paved areas, roads and buildings. The GeoBase service is designed to be hosted from the Base Network Control Center via controlled user access and can serve the mapping and visualization needs of the entire installation community.

The majority of this information is already maintained in one form or another. GeoBase consolidates all the separate data sources into one comprehensive, coherent geospatial informa-



tion warehouse accessible by installation users under one standard.

The base GeoBase effort is led by the 21st Space Wing Geo Integration Office, headed by Chris Jensen, GeoBase program manager for Peterson Air Force Base and the 21st Space Wing.

Peterson's GIO initial focus is on the development of the CIP, Mission Data Sets, and the electronic distribution and access to these data sets. The Geo Integration Office is using the existing Computer-Aided Design and Drafting and Geographical Information Systems personnel and resources to build the initial GeoBase capability. Eventually, the GIO plans to stand up a full workcenter with CADD/GIS technologies to develop and maintain the CIP.

Additionally, a Peterson Air Force Base GeoBase Working Group is in the initial planning stages and will harness the installation's knowledge experts to steer the direction of the GeoBase program. "I look forward to working closely with all tenants and units to provide this capability to Peterson AFB," Mr. Jensen said, "This is a valuable tool that will prove valuable to personnel throughout the installation."

A GeoBase Web site is being developed for Peterson AFB and will provide online information and points of

contact as the program develops. Users will be able access information about GeoBase, training, assets, and upcoming events. A short web-based demo is available to all installation personnel upon request until the webpage is available.

Questions concerning the 21st Space Wing GeoBase Program can be directed to Chris Jensen at 556-1426, or via email at chris.jensen@peterson.af.mil.

The AFSPC Geo Integration Office is responsible for development and implementation of GeoBase policy and guidance; establishing processes to sustain GeoBase and the USAF GeoBase Enterprise Architecture; and addressing strategic and garrison GeoBase requirements at AFSPC installations and directorates.

Staff Sgt. Jason Hall, GeoBase training manager, leads AFSPC's effort on training for all installations. Sergeant Hall is available by request to provide training to all functional organizations on the GeoBase program. He is currently a Trimble GPS Mapping Systems certified trainer and is qualified to train functional mission data set stewards on creating and maintaining their data. For questions on training or to schedule training, call Sergeant Hall at 554-6411 or email him at jason.hall@peterson.af.mil.

(Courtesy of 21st Space Wing Geo Integration Office)





Surgeon general testifies on servicemembers' health

By G.W. Pomeroy

Air Force Surgeon General Public Affairs

WASHINGTON – Pre- and post-deployment health care coupled with the in-theater deployment surveillance health program have resulted in the healthiest servicemembers in history, the Air Force surgeon general told a congressional panel March 18.

Lt. Gen. (Dr.) George Peach Taylor Jr. told the House Armed Services Committee's total force subcommittee that the Air Force's preventive health assessment and individual medical readiness programs ensure all health requirements and screenings have been met before deployment.

"This program has been adopted (Department of Defense-wide), and it is clearly responsible in great part for the 4 percent non-disease battle injury rate across DOD that you've been hearing about – the lowest in history," General Taylor said.

He also said 99 percent of Air Force active-duty and reserve components have completed the "equally important" post-deployment health assessments with health-care providers.

The general said servicemembers are also returning from Operation Iraqi Freedom in better health because of "the incredible deployment health surveillance program that we have fielded." Preventive aerospace medicine teams and biological augmentation teams have been instrumental in helping to protect servicemembers in the region from biological and environmental threats, he said.

"We are using amazing technology, such as our ruggedized advanced pathogen identification device, which can determine the identity of pathogens in only a few hours," he said. "In the future, we hope to reduce the time even further, through new, more advanced – indeed, break-through – genome-based technologies." Such protection technologies and efforts have also

affected the safety of the light, lean and mobile hospitals called the expeditionary medical system.

"Before we left for Iraq a year ago, we realized our EMEDS didn't have the protection we needed from chemical weapons," General Taylor said. "Within 30 days, Air Force medics developed a mature (nuclear-, biological- and chemical-treatment) module that could care for 100 radiological, biological or chemical casualties."

General Taylor said aeromedical evacuation is the "lynch pin" of deployed medical operations. To drive home the point of the "near-seamless integration" of the services working together, General Taylor recounted the role of the various services in the care for former Army Pvt. Jessica Lynch, the first prisoner of war rescued during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Following Private Lynch's rescue from an Iraqi hospital, General Taylor said that Army medics, Air Force aeromedical-evacuation troops and special operations people transported her thousands of miles. They used three different aircraft and provided care in the air during her entire journey, until she reached the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany.

"All of this was accomplished in less than 15 hours," General Taylor said. "And this same scenario saved the lives of many other, less famous but equally courageous, young heroes."

However, such successes do not allow any time to revel, General Taylor said.

"Combat medicine is an ever-evolving art, and we cannot rest for one minute," he said. Developing new, better technology and enhancing



Photo by Master Sgt. Jim Varhegyi

Lt. Gen. (Dr.) George Peach Taylor Jr., Air Force surgeon general, discusses the "Healthcare Quality Initiatives Review Panel Report" with members of the House Armed Services Committee's total force subcommittee March 18.

human performance are critical, he said. "Our human-performance initiatives cross a spectrum from battling combat fatigue, to enhancing vision through corneal refractive surgery, to creating systems that will protect our pilots and our sensors from laser-damage," General Taylor said.

While all of these high-tech programs are taking place, General Taylor said that families are not being ignored.

"We are also quietly caring for our members and their families at home," he said.

"While we prepare for the next generation of Tricare and for the enhancement of relationships with the civilian medical community and the Department of Veterans Affairs, we are always aware of the direct connection of this peacetime care with the readiness of our troops," he said.



A-10 pilot takes aim on terrorism

By Master Sgt.
Jeff Szczechowski

455th Expeditionary Operations Group Public Affairs

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan – Talk to almost anyone in the 455th Expeditionary Operations Group, and a recurring theme is the desire to provide the best support possible for friendly forces on the ground.

The way to do that is by making sure A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft are always ready to fly at a moment's notice, so that an overwhelming air presence is constantly available in the sky over Afghanistan, whenever and wherever needed. Ultimately, the fighter pilots of the 354th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron make air dominance in Operation Enduring Freedom a daily reality.

In a recent battle, 1st Lt. Michael Stock, the 354th EFS' newest, youngest pilot, helped provide the kind of support that ground troops expect from Airmen. He also got his first taste of combat experience.

The success of his timely interdiction during a heated firefight once again demonstrated the lethal efficiency of the A-10.

Lieutenant Stock was flying "convoy-escort" support when an urgent call from a ground radio station came in: "Troops in contact." U.S. Soldiers and members of the Afghan national army

were taking intense small-arms fire from enemy forces who had holed-up in a compound. Two American Soldiers and an Afghan soldier had been killed in the fight, and several others were wounded. Just weeks after being certified "combat-mission ready," the lieutenant was about to enter the fray of battle.

Flying in a two-ship formation with his squadron commander, Lt. Col. John Horner, in the lead and Lieutenant Stock as the wingman, the aircraft swung into action. The youngest and oldest pilots were en route to the scene.

After getting precise guidance from a joint terminal air controller on the ground, Lieutenant Stock provided coverage as Colonel Horner dove in to deliver an AGM-65 Maverick air-to-ground missile that smashed into its target. Despite the direct hit, enemy resistance continued, repelling friendly force attempts to storm the compound.

Getting low on fuel, Colonel Horner called Lieutenant Stock over the radio and told him of the situation. The two pilots rolled back toward the target, first the lead ship, then his wingman, both unleashing deadly accurate 30 mm cannon fire into the compound.

Having entered battle for the first time, Lieutenant Stock fired his weapons with the cool efficiency and professionalism of a seasoned veteran, Colonel Horner said.



Photo by Master Sgt. Jeff Szczechowski

First Lt. Michael Stock sits in the cockpit of his A-10 Thunderbolt II before flying a mission supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. Lieutenant Stock is a pilot with the 354th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron and is deployed from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

"Given his inexperience, his performance was noteworthy," said the colonel. "The scenario we were in was extremely challenging due to the complexity, the dangerously close proximity of friendly forces to the target, coordination requirements with attack helicopters, terrain, communications limitations and extremely low fuel state. He stayed in formation and put his shots

abeam mine with pinpoint accuracy."

Lieutenant Stock said the many months of fighter-pilot training he received from outstanding Air Force instructors made him ready for this moment.

"Everything is very methodical in training," he said. "This was just like training – but with real people and real targets."



Mountain men change at Mountain Man

By Maj. David H. Patterson Jr.
Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center Public Affairs

The end of an era led to a “new Deal” at the Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center. On March 15, Maj. Gen. Kenneth M. “Mike” DeCuir relinquished command of CMOC to Brig. Gen. Duane Deal. The ceremony took place high above the city at Mountain Man Park while family, friends, service members and well-wishers viewed the ceremony.

The presiding officer for the ceremony was Gen. Ralph E. “Ed” Eberhart, Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. During the ceremony General Eberhart thanked General DeCuir for his superior service during his tenure as commander. General Eberhart also stated that he couldn’t have found a better replacement than General Deal.

During his farewell speech, General DeCuir thanked his staff, command directors, and the personnel of CMOC for their commitment and dedication to duty. He stated, “Paula and I have enjoyed our Colorado experience and take with us fond memories of each of you.” He also thanked his wife Paula for her many years of support stating, “I know I married way above my draft pick and I am grateful to have someone as wonderful as you.” General DeCuir was reassigned to Headquarters Air Combat

Command as Director of Operations at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia.

Prior to his assignment to CMOC, General Deal was commander of the 21st Space Wing at Peterson Air Force Base. He was responsible for the Air Force’s largest wing, geographically and organizationally, providing missile warning and space control through its 48 units operating from 20 locations in six countries.

General Deal stated, “I am the happiest guy here today, and am honored and humbled to take command of such an organization. While I’m well aware of the granite mountain directly above my office – nearly 80,000 tons of it – knowing the magnificence of the engineers associated with this mountain, I’m confident it will bear that weight. I’m also well aware of how vital CMOC is to the defense of our nations, but knowing the magnificence of the members of CMOC, I’m

confident they will bear that weight as well.”

General Deal entered the Air Force in 1976 as a distinguished graduate of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps program. He has served

as a senior pilot with more than 2,200 flying hours in seven aircraft types, including the SR-71 Blackbird. Prior to coming to the Mountain, he commanded four squadrons, a group, and three wings.



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Gregory Holmes

Gen. Ralph E. “Ed” Eberhart, the North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command commander; Maj. Gen. Kenneth M. “Mike” DeCuir, now the director of operations at Headquarters Air Combat Command in Langley Air Force Base Va., and Brig. Gen. Duane Deal, the new Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center commander, salute during the March 15 change of command ceremony at Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station.

Blotter

The following real-life events with real individuals from around Peterson are to inform you of crimes, accidents, and events occurring on base. These entries are from hundreds recorded in the Peterson Police Blotter:

*** Editor's note: Although the Space Observer staff may make light of some blotter entries, the intent is to call attention to our security and law enforcement concerns. However, rest assured, our professional Security Forces treat each incident seriously.*

BARRIER BONK AND BOOK – March 18

Security forces responded to a hit-and-run accident at the North Gate. A military member reported she was slowly navigating her vehicle through the barriers as she departed the installation when she noticed an older model white Jeep Cherokee speeding around the partitions. The wild wheeler struck a barrier, pushing it into the victim's car, causing a large scratch along the driver's side door. The road warrior didn't stop, but sped off down Galley Road. The Colorado Springs Police Department was notified of the incident.

BARRIER BONK AND BOOK PART DEUX – March 18

Security forces entry controllers stopped a driver whose white Jeep Cherokee matched the description of the one involved in the hit and run barrier bashing earlier that day. The suspect stated he felt a bump and pulled over to inspect his vehicle. He said he did not realize he caused any

damage to another car. He was issued a summons for Careless Driving.

VEHICLE VANDAL – March 18

Security forces responded to a vandalism incident in the parking lot of the Air Force Space Command Environmental Laboratory. A military member reported his vehicle was keyed while parked at the building, leaving scratches along the driver's side.

SMELLS LIKE TROUBLE – March 20

Security forces responded to the Base Exchange, where store detectives were detaining a woman for shoplifting. The shady lady attempted to pilfer perfume before being snagged by detectives. CSPD responded to the Base Exchange, and issued a summons for Shoplifting.

SMOKE FREE DORM – March 20

Security forces and the Fire Department responded to a small fire on the west side of Dormitory 1270. Firefighters determined the cause of the fire was a lit cigarette tossed in the grass. The fire was extinguished before responders arrived on scene.

BLINDED BY THE LIGHT – March 20

Security forces responded to a minor vehicle accident in the parking lot of the Integrated Support Facility. A woman reported she accidentally struck a light post while exiting the parking lot. She toppled the light post while blinded by the sun. A tow truck responded due to the vehicle being stuck on top of the cement base of the light post. Civil engineers also responded to turn off power to the light post because of exposed electrical wires. Security forces declined to issue a citation due to the sun causing the accident.

SHOPLIFTING – March 20

Security forces responded to the Base Exchange, where store detectives detained two youths for shoplifting. The troublesome teens pocketed cosmetics and hair accessories during

their afternoon stealing spree. Security forces issued citations for Shoplifting and Accomplice of a Shoplifting.

UNSECURE BUILDING – March 21

Security forces patrollers discovered the door to the Peterson Network Learning Center was left open. An interior search of the building revealed all was in order.

MEDICAL RESPONSE – March 23

Security forces, the Fire department and American Medical Response services responded to the Space Operations Intelligence Center, where a military member was experiencing chest pains. He was transported to Memorial Hospital for further treatment.

BASE HOUSING BREAK-IN – March 24

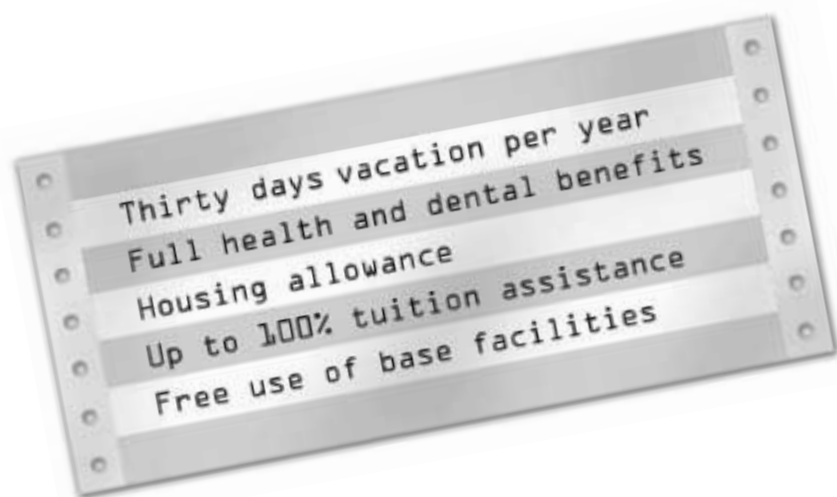
Security forces responded to the Base Housing, where a military member reported his residence was broken into. The caller stated he saw several individuals leaving his home. A window was shattered and his son's wallet was missing. The hoodlums piled into a truck and fled the scene. Security forces initiated a vehicle stop, check and pass at all gates. Entry controllers pulled over a vehicle matching the description of the truck at the West Gate, and challenged the passengers. Security forces discovered several empty bottles of beer, drug paraphernalia and the missing wallet inside the truck. The shady suspects were taken into custody and issued several summonses including Criminal Mischief and Disorderly Conduct.

ALARMING TRENDS CONTINUE:

In addition to these entries, there continue to be too many illegitimate alarm activations on base. Among those noted this week were three activations due to human error.

*** If you have any information on a crime or any of these blotter entries, report it to Security Forces at 556-4000.*

WELCOME TO THE AIR FORCE



U.S. AIR FORCE

CROSS INTO THE BLUE

And that's just the beginning. Once you enlist, you'll also receive a good starting salary with regular pay raises, tax-free housing and food allowances. Not to mention opportunities for higher education and full retirement benefits after 20 years of service. Visit our Web site at AIRFORCE.COM or call 1-800-423-USAF.

Airman's Manual

Online

<https://commweb.hill.af.mil/AMT/>



The complete Airman's Manual is now available online! Browse sections for review or test your knowledge of today's Air Force with online quizzes.



Photos by Larry Hulst

The U.S. Air Force Honor Guard Drill Team demonstrates its prowess in trick drill. The team spends nearly 180 days of the year touring. In its 40 year history, the elite team has performed in every state and has also performed overseas.

Team Patrick earns second straight honor at AFSPC competition

By Stefan T. Bocchino
Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

The "Shark Attack" team erupted in cheers as they were named the overall winners of the second annual Air Force Space Command honor guard competition March 23-25.

In a close competition where six different teams won individual honors, Team Patrick came out on top. The competition is held to determine the best honor guard team within AFSPC and the right to represent the command at Guardian Challenge, the Air Force space and missile competition, in May.

"Our reaction was delayed because they didn't call us 'Team Patrick,' but instead 'Team Shark Attack,'" said Staff Sgt. Janel Heidebrink, noncommissioned officer in charge of Team Patrick. "Once it finally hit us it was overwhelming. We worked so hard to get here. We wanted to remain the champions and bring that trophy home."

The win did not come easily as the seven honor guard teams had to endure two days of competition. The teams came from seven different bases within AFSPC: "Mile High" from Buckley Air Force Base, "High Frontier" from Peterson/Schriever AFB, "Hollywood" from Los Angeles AFB, Calif., "Shark Attack" Patrick AFB, Fla., "The Frozen Chosen" from Minot AFB, N.D., "Big Sky" from Malmstrom AFB, Mont. and FE Warren AFB, Wyo.

Individual award winners were:

- Firing party excellence, Malmstrom AFB
- Pallbearer excellence, Los Angeles AFB
- Veteran's funeral excellence, Buckley AFB
- Uniform inspection, Peterson/Schriever AFB

Funeral honors excellence and color guard excellence, Minot AFB

"This is really a special day," said Brig. Gen. Douglas Fraser, AFSPC director of air and space operations, during opening ceremonies at the Air Space Museum, March 23.

"Over 200 years ago in 1775, this is the day that Patrick Henry gave his famous speech 'give me liberty or give me death.' I think it's appropriate that we honor that heritage because that's what you all do every single day. You represent our Air Force to most of the people around our nation. You are the image they see."

The competition began the morning of March 23. The first order of business was the uniform inspection, followed by six different events: Firing party, pallbearer, veteran's funeral, funeral honors and color guard. The judges, Air Force honor guard members, scrutinized every inch of every team member.

"Little details are basically what we look for," said Airman 1st Class Melanie Steffen, Air Force honor guard. "Overall we are looking for fluidness in what they are doing and that the sequence is correct."

Nerves showed in a few instances, but overall, the teams performed their tasks with precision and dignity. "This is no more nerve-wracking than performing in front of a grieving family," said Senior Airman Regis Hess, High Frontier honor guard. "I just always try to do my best."

Two years ago the Patrick AFB honor guard team won first place honors in the AFSPC honor guard competition.

This year the entire team was comprised of new team members, solidifying the excellence of the team.

The crowd at the competition was comprised of

military personnel as well as friends and family of the honor guard team members. John Sacker drove all the way from Michigan with a friend. His eldest son is a member of Team Patrick.

"It's fun to come down here and watch them compete," Sacker said, who has four sons, two of whom are in the Air Force.

"All of my sons have been through Junior ROTC so I've been to these things before," Sacker said. "I think this competition is a great idea. If people are as nervous as these guys are then it must mean something to them. They are all trying so hard."

Every team can take pride in how they did said Chief Master Sgt. Michael Buckley, Air Force honor guard.

"During the retiree standard honor funeral competition, there wasn't a group out of the seven teams I would not have been proud to see at Arlington National Cemetery," Chief Buckley said. "They portrayed AFSPC well. The seven bases that were here represented themselves and their bases well, and as honor guard members they symbolized the Air Force well. 'Honor with dignity,' and that's what they did."

The guest speaker at the awards banquet was Senior Master Sgt. Kenneth Williams, executive assistant to the director of force structure, resources and assessment, and a former member of the Air Force honor guard. In a speech, he discussed what honor meant to him.

"Respect, courage and excellence, these are all congruent with honor," Sergeant Williams said. "Serving your country as a ceremonial guardsman shows you made the choice to carry the torch for the greatest fighting machine in the Western world."



ABOVE: Team Shark Attack honor guard members from Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., dress to the right as they align themselves for inspection.

RIGHT: Members of the Team Hollywood honor guard unit from Los Angeles Air Force Base, Calif., prepare for competition. The firing party renders three volleys in unison as a tribute to the fallen.



An inspector scrutinizes the High Frontier Honor Guard's rifles during an armed inspection. The firing party detail is part of the duties performed by the honor guard.



Left: The Air Force Space Command honor guard competition judges review all aspects of an honor guard unit's responsibilities, including the flag folding ceremony performed during veteran funeral ceremonies demonstrated by the High Frontier Honor Guard.



A T Y O U R S E R V I C E

This Week

Today

- Job Orientation, 1-2 p.m. at the Mission Support Center, Room 1016.
- Raft Guide training begins at Outdoor Recreation for those at least 18 years old.

Friday:

- Social Hour, 5-7 p.m. at the Enlisted Club

Saturday:

- Thunder Alley, 8:30 p.m. at the Bowling Center.

Monday:

- Assertiveness Training, 2-4:30 p.m. at the Base Library.

Tuesday:

- Sponsorship Training, 7:30-8:30 a.m. in the MSC, Room 1016.
- Women Helping Women, 11-12:30 p.m. at the Life Skills Center.

Wednesday:

- Preseparation Briefing 8-9 a.m. in the MSC, Room 1016. This is a mandatory briefing for those retiring or separating from the military.
- Stress Management, 1-4 p.m. at the Health and Wellness Center.

April 8:

- Play Group, 10:30 a.m.-noon at the Youth Center.

Helpful Numbers

- Family Advocacy 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 556-6141
- Red Cross 556-9201
- Outdoor Recreation 556-4487
- Golf Course 556-7810

Link Up 2 Golf

By Margie Arnold
21st Services Squadron Marketing

Golfing on a busy course can be intimidating for those new to the game.

Silver Spruce Golf Course has a great solution Link Up 2 Golf. It's a program to help you connect, or reconnect, to golf in a way that emphasizes fun in playing golf.

With Link Up 2 Golf participants get a free orientation, group instruction in game rules: etiquette, proper behavior and how to maintain speed of play, from Professional Golf Association golf professional Larry Mullis. Participants also get a golf shirt with logo, ball mark repair tool, complimentary rental clubs, and a three-hole graduation scramble.

Link Up 2 Golf groups are limited to six people to maximize instructor attention and help. Only two sessions will be offered this summer. Also, golfers have a chance to get to know the others in

the group, which may help participants partner with someone of the same relative golf skill.

The cost for Link Up 2 Golf, is only \$99 and participants must be at least 18 years old. Registration and orientation for Link Up 2 Golf will be at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, in the Silver Spruce Pro Shop. The first session is April 19. For more information, call 556-7414.

Other golf notes:

Spring Golf Hours - Begin Saturday: Course: 8 a.m.-dark, Pro Shop: 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m., 19th Hole Grill: 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Driving Range: 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m., weekend tee times are required.

Summer Golf Hours - Begin Saturday, April 24: Course: 7 a.m.-dark, Pro Shop: 6:30 a.m.-7 p.m., 19th Hole Grill: 6:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Driving Range: 6:30 a.m.-8 p.m., daily tee times are required as of Mon., April 26. For tee times, call the Pro Shop, 556-7414.

April 17 - Four-Person Scramble, \$60 per team entry. Sign up in Pro Shop.



Photos courtesy of 21st Services Squadron Marketing
Larry Mullis, a Professional Golf Association golf professional, tells Don Bernal, the Silver Spruce Golf Course manager, to keep his eye on the ball while sharing some golfing tips.

3rd Annual Joining Forces Day at Elitch Gardens, April 17

Park open from 12-6 p.m.

\$17 ticket includes meal! (Regular gate price, \$36.99)
Get tickets at the Community Activities Center, Bldg. 640.
Phone 556-1760

Register at CAC for drawing on April 15. Prizes include
Looney Toons mug and T-shirt,
and tickets to Elitch Gardens good any time in 2004.
No purchase required.



ARAGON DINING FACILITY MENU

Today

Lunch:

Herbed Baked Chicken
Stuffed Cabbage Rolls
Southern Fried Catfish
Black-eyed Peas with Rice
Mashed Potatoes
Fresh Sweet Potatoes
Mixed Vegetables
Peas

Dinner:

Roast Loin of Pork
Jaeger Schnitzel with Mush Sauce
Glazed Cornish Hen
Potatoe Halves
Orange Rice
Carrots
Simmered Pinto Beans
Corn Combo
Mashed Potatoes

Friday

Lunch:

Mexican Baked Chicken
Swiss Steak with Tomato Sauce
Stuffed Green Pepper
Baked Macaroni and Cheese
Steamed Rice
Corn on the Cob
Spanish Style Beans
Peas & Carrots

Dinner:

Lasagna
Spaghetti with Meat Sauce
Sweet Italian Sausage
Mashed Potatoes
Broccoli Polonaise
Cauliflower
Italian Style Baked Beans

Monday

Lunch:

Swiss Steak with Tomato Sauce
Baked Chicken
Sweet Italian Sausage
Steamed Rice
Mashed Potatoes
Broccoli Polonaise
Carrots
Peppers & Onions

Dinner:

Roast Turkey
Baked Ham
Fish & Fries
Mashed Potatoes
Corn Bread
Dressing
Succotash
Tempura
Vegetables
Herbed Green Beans

Saturday

Brunch:

Crispy Baked Chicken
Cajun Meat Loaf
Ribeye Steak
Baked Potatoes
Mashed Potatoes
Broccoli
French Style Peas
Glazed Carrots

Tuesday

Lunch:

Onion-Lemon Fish
Pork Schnitzel
Yakisoba
Baked Potatoes
Mashed Potatoes
Simmered Pinto Beans
Spinach
Stewed Tomatoes

Dinner:

Paprika Beef
Barbecue Beef
Cubes
Chicken Fajitas
O'Brien Potatoes
Steamed Rice
Cauliflower
Corn on the Cob
Lima Beans

Sunday

Brunch:

Tuna and Noodles
Sauerbraten
Chicken Breast Parmesan
Au Gratin Potato
Steamed Rice
Cauliflower Combo
Peas
Fried Cabbage

Wednesday

Lunch:

Mexican Chicken
Mexican Pork
Chops
Chicken
Enchiladas
Mexican Rice
Refried Beans & Cheese
Mexican Corn
Spanish Style Beans
Peas with Onions

Dinner:

Pita Pizzas
Country Style Steak
Fried Chicken
Oven Brown Potatoes
Mashed Potatoes
Fried Cauliflower
Bean Combo
Cabbage



Everyone can help prevent storm water pollution

Many people think water pollution comes from large industries, corporations and sewage treatment plants. But that only accounts for half of all water pollution. Where does the rest come from?

It comes from office supplies, household detergents, pesticides, fertilizers, paints, litter, used motor oil and

other hazardous household products. Over time, these materials accumulate on driveways, roadways, and other surfaces like parking lots. When it rains, these materials are carried by rainwater into storm drains. In Colorado Springs anything going into storm drains eventually flows into Sand Creek or golf course ponds.

With a little effort from everyone, our water can become cleaner.

Storm water flows along the ground when it rains or when snow melts. More runoff comes from excessive sprinkler use and car washing. All water that does not seep into the ground or evaporate finds its way into the storm drain system.

Unlike water discharged through the sanitary sewer system, storm water receives no treatment. Storm water systems drain rainwater off pavements quickly, but the water takes all pollution with it.

Anything on the pavement or in gutters can contribute to storm water pollution. This means that any chemicals or debris on parking lots and streets eventually goes into our waterways, and the pollutants can upset their delicate ecological balance.

Even grass cuttings, leaves and soil can create problems for waterways by introducing nutrients that encourage weed and algae growth, clogging up waterways, and depleting oxygen.

Too much pollution enters the water through carelessness and ignorance. Just as the effects of pollution are cumulative, so are the effects

of positive actions. If we all help, we can have cleaner water.

Here are some ways to prevent storm water pollution:

At home:

- Recycle engine oil, paints and chemicals by placing them in sealed containers for disposal at an approved site.

- Avoid over-watering gardens and lawns.

- Never wash lawn clippings, leaves or stockpiles of soils into the street or storm drain.

- Don't hose or sweep driveway rubbish into the street.

- Don't use lawn control products if rain is likely, as they will just be washed away instead of being effective.

- Properly dispose of animal waste to prevent it from being washed into storm drains.

- Don't litter.

At work:

- Correctly store chemicals.

- Correctly dispose of wastes.

- Install secondary containment measures around storage tanks.

- Regularly inspect and maintain equipment to avoid accidental leaks and spills.

For more information, call Dana McIntyre, the 21st Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Flight water program manager at 556-7088.

(Courtesy of 21st Civil Engineer Squadron)



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sue Mrowiec

The fish-laden ponds at the Silver Spruce Golf Course are the byproducts of storm water runoff.



AFAF provides safety net for AF families in need

By **Stefan T. Bocchino**
Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

Following the devastation of a stillborn child, 2nd Lt. William Parker, 21st Services Squadron, and his wife faced a yet more heart wrenching plight: how to properly lay their child to rest when their insurance company would not pay any funeral expenses.

"Even though funeral homes very often donate their time and a plot in these instances, there are still things that need to be bought such as a headstone," Lieutenant Parker said. "My first sergeant took over and took me to the Air Force Assistance Fund office. They wrote me a check for over \$2200 for expenses. They were quite a blessing in a tough time."

The Air Force Assistance Fund exists to help Air Force people like the Parkers in difficult situations. AFAF charities are open to active duty,

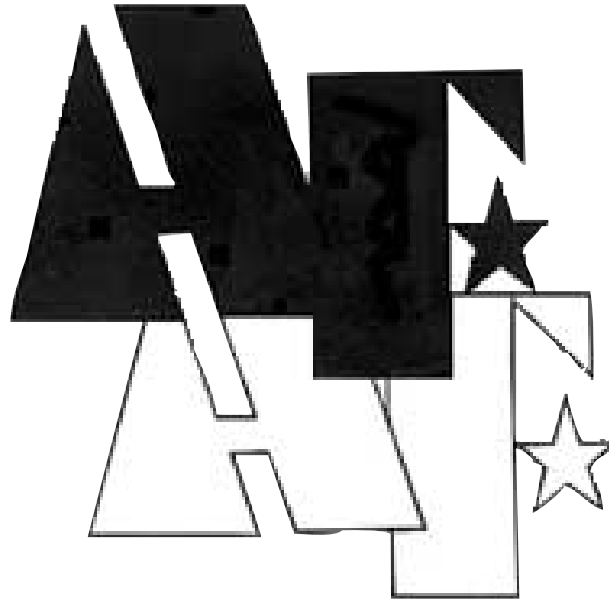
Reserve, Guard and retired members of the Air Force as well as their family members and surviving spouses.

The Parkers are just one of thousands of families and individuals who have received help from the AFAF.

Staff Sgt. LaToya Williams, 21st Security Forces Squadron, has been aided a number of times by the AFAF. The first occasion was when her father died.

"My father passed away on a Sunday," Sergeant Williams said. "The next morning I went to the Family Support Center, and in 10 minutes they purchased a plane ticket for me to go home."

On the second occasion



Sergeant Williams received support with her automobile. With winter approaching, her car had four bald tires. She was in need of financial assistance and turned to the AFAF.

"They purchased four new tires, an alignment and balancing for my vehicle," Sergeant Williams said.

AFAF also provides educational assistance to both military members and their families.

Lt. Col. Karen Kinne, 21st Medical Operations Squadron commander, has six children. Through the Henry H. Arnold Education Grant program, she has been able to fund her children through college. The program offers a \$1,500 grant to each eligible child for each year of college. Without AFAF support it would be financially straining to send the children to college.

"They received a grant each and every year they have been eligible," Colonel Kinne said. "This may not seem like a big deal, but it has been invaluable to me."

Senior Airman Angela

Thayer, 21st Maintenance Operations Flight, is another recipient of AFAF aid.

"On the first occasion they helped me get home when my grandma died," Airman Thayer said. "Then the timing belt on my car needed to be replaced and my husband lost his job, so they helped us pay one month of rent and gave us a voucher to buy food."

The AFAF is comprised of four charities: The Air Force Aid Society, the Air Force Enlisted Foundation Inc., the Air Force Village Indigent Widow's Fund and the General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation. The AFAF is ready to help, but they need regular contributions so they can continue to help those in need.

The Peterson Air Force Base AFAF campaign kicked off March 15 and runs through April 23. For more information, or to contribute, contact your AFAF unit representative.

Do you have an interesting or important job?

Everyone on Peterson Air Force Base has a unique mission. We would like to feature your office or shop in the "A Day in the Life" series, so people can learn more about how you contribute to Team Pete. To nominate your workplace, call the editor at 556-7846 or e-mail the Space Observer at space.observer@peterson.af.mil.



Got lungs? – don't smoke!

By Master Sgt. John O'Brien
Health and Wellness Center

If you pay taxes, and who doesn't, April is not your favorite month. If you are a smoker, you now have another reason to dislike this time of year.

Effective April 1, Peterson Air Force Base will begin strictly enforcing the installation's tobacco free policy – and that's no April Fool's joke.

The installation policy states, "Smoking is only allowed in designated smoking areas." This measure is not harsh or arbitrary; it merely enforces the Air Force's current policy of smoking as outlined in Air Force Instruction 40-102, *Tobacco use in the Air Force*. Team Pete leadership is going to great lengths to inform their community of this. Starting the last week of March,

security forces personnel will be

handing out information cards at the gates. Posters and flyers will be going up around the base, and many people will be wearing "Ask me how to quit" buttons. The question is, "Who is going to enforce this policy?" The answer is you!

In the world of management speak, you have been "empowered" to ask anyone walking around with a lit cigarette or standing in an area not designated as a smoking area to put it out, and to remind them of the base smoking policy.

A recent article by Lt. Gen. Richard Brown III, the deputy chief of staff for personnel stated, "Tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of premature death in the U.S. and costs over \$100 million annually in the Air

Force alone from lost productivity and direct medical costs.

Unfortunately, rates of tobacco use in the military have not declined significantly."

If you really stop and think about it, limiting tobacco use makes sense.

Since April is tax month, let's not forget about the tangible benefit of quitting – the monetary one! Based on an average of \$3.50 for a pack of cigarettes, if you are a pack-a-day smoker, and you quit, you have just saved yourself about \$105 dollars a month or \$1,260 a year. If the price of cigarettes stays the same as today, you will have saved a whopping \$6,300 over five years.

How can you quit? There are many programs available. The Health and Wellness Center offers tobacco cessation courses free of charge. Fort Carson, Schriever AFB, the U.S. Air Force Academy and Buckley AFB HAWCs

also offer free cessation classes.

There are also on-line quit networks. Some of the common ones are: co.quitnet.com or ctepa.org or tepp.org. Quitline, a toll free cessation hotline with a support system, is just a phone call away.

Most of these programs advocate the use of some sort of nicotine replacement products to help kick the nicotine craving whether it be patches, gum, inhalers or tablets.

Some of these products are only available with a prescription, and it is best to consult a physician for drug interactions if you are taking other medications.

It's the tax month, so if you are a smoker, quit this month and get your first month's rebate. Treat yourself to new clothes, a night out on the town, or better yet, invest it in your future.



Sports Shorts

WALL CLIMBING

Climbing Wall Safety Classes are 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays in the Fitness Center. For more information, call 556-1515.

OPEN CLIMBING

Open climbing for certified climbers is 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. For more information, call 556-1515.

TAE KWON DO

Tae kwon do classes are 6-7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays for children ages 7 to 12, and 7-8 p.m. for people ages 13 and older. Cost is \$40 per month for the first family member, and \$30 per month for additional family members. For more information, call 556-1515.

BACK-TO-BASICS CIRCUIT COURSE

The Back-to-Basics Circuit Course is 11 a.m. Mondays, 5:10 p.m. Tuesdays, 6 a.m. and 11 a.m. Wednesdays, and 11 a.m. and 6:15 p.m. Fridays.

The course features 15 exercises and self-paced cardiovascular training.

SINGLES RACQUETBALL

A free Singles Racquetball Tournament is 5 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday in the Fitness Center. Awards and prizes will be presented. The event features double elimination, advanced, intermediate, and novice divisions. Sign up by Monday.

INTRAMURAL VOLLEYBALL

Intramural volleyball games are Mondays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m.- 2 p.m. and from 5-9 p.m.



Falcons place fourth at Diablo Grande Intercollegiate

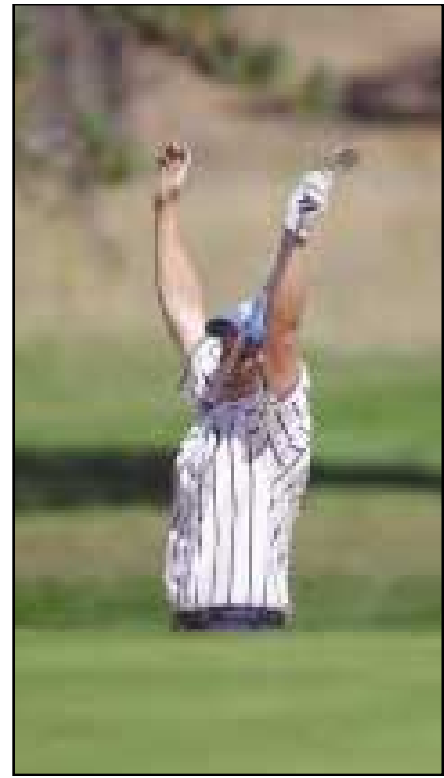
The Air Force golf team notched its best finish of the spring season, placing fourth at the Diablo Grande Intercollegiate tournament. The Falcons carded a three-round total of 316-306-297-919 at the event, which was held March 26-27 at the Diablo Grande Ranch Golf Course in Patterson, Calif. The Falcons improved in every round. Their final round of 297 was the best among the field of nine teams. They were led by J.T. Hamamoto, who carded a 223 (76-74-73). Hamamoto finished just three strokes out of first place. He tied

for third place overall, his highest placing this spring. Tyler Goulding finished in the top 20 for the third time in his career.

Drake University, the tournament's host school, grabbed first place honors with a 904. Boise State's Graham DeLaet won the individual title with a three-round total of 220.

Air Force will next compete in the Wyoming Cowboy Classic on April 12-13. The event will be held in Scottsdale, Ariz.

(Courtesy of U.S. Air Force Academy Athletic Media Relations)



Courtesy photo
Tyler Goulding celebrates as he finishes in the top 20 for the third time in his career.

Air Force scores:

T 4	Air Force Academy	316	306	297	919	+55
T 3	Jarett Hamamoto	76	74	73	223	+7
T12	Tyler Goulding	77	80	73	230	+14
T23	Christian Jackson	82	78	75	235	+19
T30	Kala'e Leong	84	78	76	238	+22
T42	Timothy Thoren	81	76	86	243	+27



Enlisted Against Drunk Driving

Protecting you and your family members by providing a safe alternative to drinking and driving.

Please call us! Fri. - Sat. 10 p.m. - 3 a.m.

Phone: 719-556-6384 or 55-NO-DUI