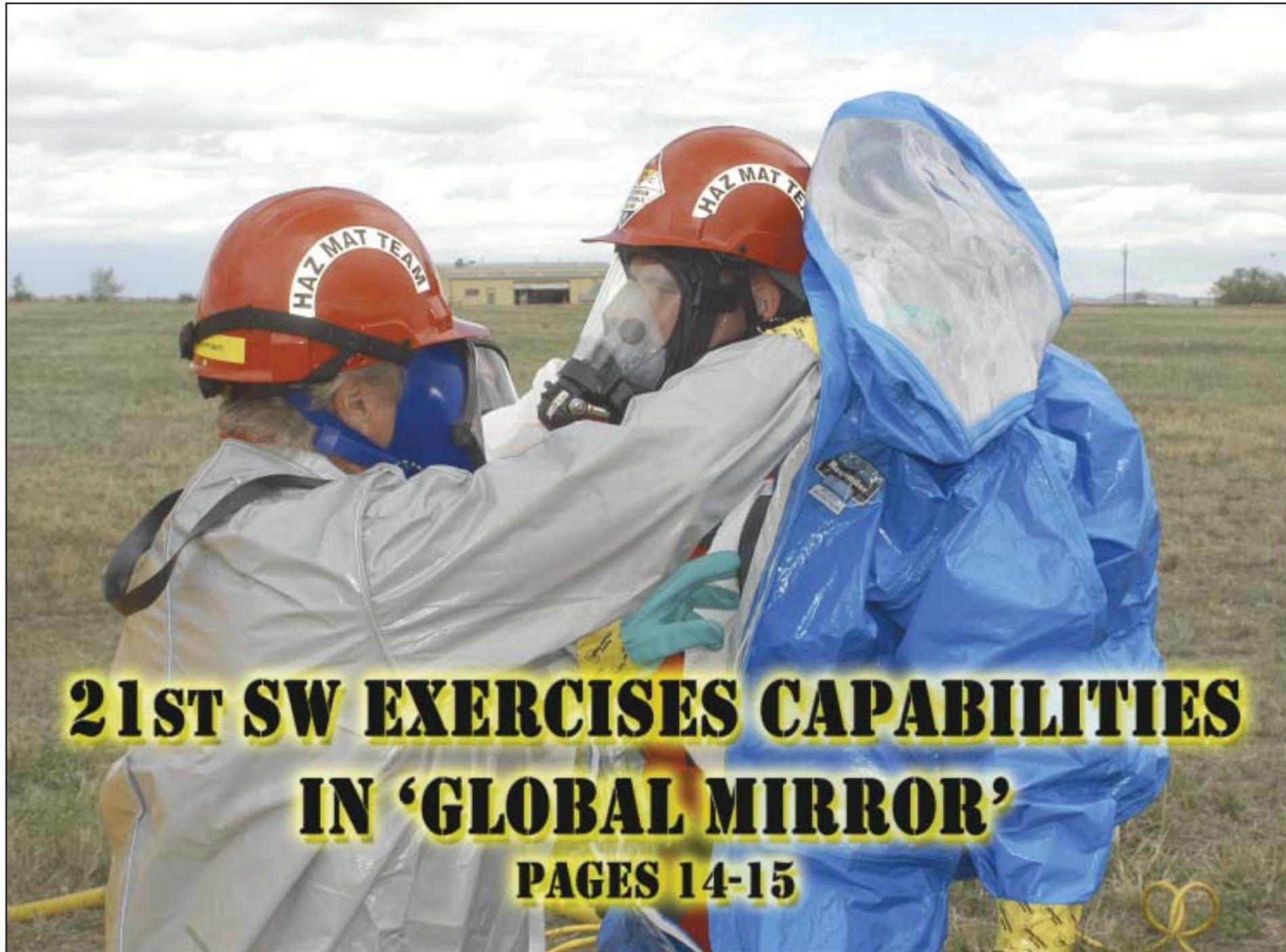


“2003 AFSPC Best Large Wing PA Office”

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado

Vol. 48 No. 20



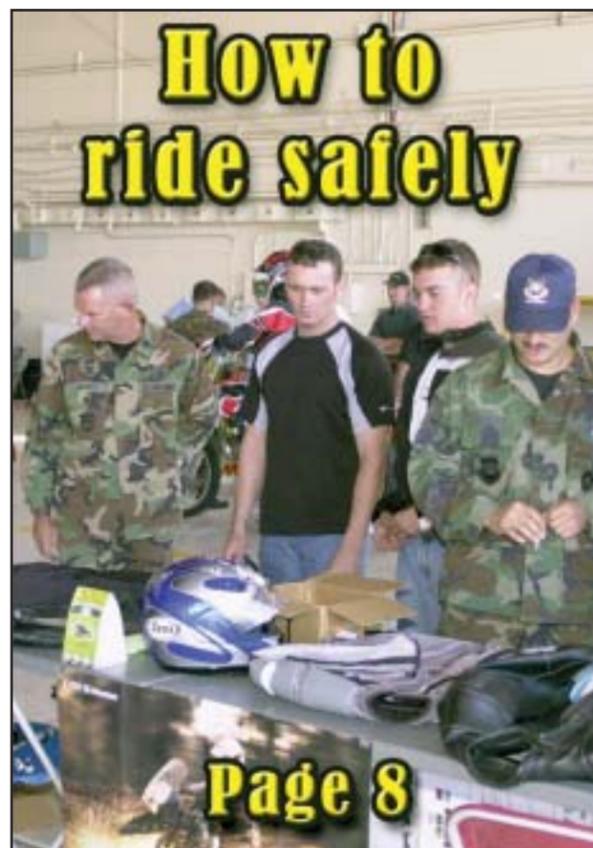
21ST SW EXERCISES CAPABILITIES IN ‘GLOBAL MIRROR’ PAGES 14-15

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the Life’
exhibit
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Photo by Staff Sgt. Sue Mrowiec



AFSPC Commander reflects on sacrifices, Memorial Day

By Gen. Lance W. Lord
Air Force Space Command Commander

It is my hope that this Memorial Day finds you and your families safe, healthy and happy. Let us all pause and reflect on this great day and remember the heroes who have gallantly gone before us and gave the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

We first observed this day of remembrance after the Civil War, by decorating the graves of the soldiers who gave their lives in that conflict. Since then, wars have been fought on many fronts to ensure the liberty of free nations – from the jungles of the South Pacific

to the bloody beaches of Normandy, atop the slopes of the Korean peninsula to the rice paddies of Vietnam, and from the mountains of Afghanistan to the deserts of Iraq.

This Memorial Day finds our nation once again engaged in a conflict that challenges the very ideal of American freedom. The war on terrorism is a war we did not seek, but it is a war we will win. We know victory will again come with a heavy price, but let us all be filled with a renewed sense of mission. We are honored to stand in an unbroken line of patriots who dare to give all so that freedom might live, grow and increase its blessings. The torch of freedom is now

ours to carry.

May the quality of our deeds and our devotion to duty set a shining example for all Americans. Let us reserve the honors this Memorial Day for those who sacrificed their lives for the cause of freedom. May we continue to keep these veterans in our hearts, on our minds and in our prayers. May God bless the United States and all the heroes we honor today.

Becky joins me in saluting your outstanding performance. I am proud to serve along side each and every member of Air Force Space Command. We wish you and your family a safe and enjoyable holiday.



Photo by Budd Butcher

Team Pete educates voters

Elaine Tucker, a program analyst in the Federal Voting Assistance Program, conducts a Voting Workshop May 11 in the Mission Support Center. Unit Voting Representatives were encouraged to attend the two-hour workshop, which covered topics like absentee ballots and why voting is important.



Correction!

The article featured on page 5 of the May 13 *Space Observer*, titled, "21st Space Wing celebrates 15th anniversary", should have read, "21st Space Wing celebrates 12th anniversary." We apologize for any confusion.

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 556-4351 or e-mail the Space Observer at space.observer@peterson.af.mil.

Space Observer

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A Moment in Time



- **May 20, 1951** – Capt. James Jabara becomes the world's first jet ace, shooting down his fifth and sixth MiGs in the Korean War.
- **May 22, 1934** – The MacKay Trophy is awarded to Capt. W.T. Larson for developing instrument takeoff and landing procedures.
- **May 23, 1999** – NATO begins a bombing campaign of the Yugoslav electricity grid, creating a major disruption of power affecting many military related activities and water supplies.
- **May 25, 1984** – A Military Airlift Command C-141 Starlifter transports the body of the Unknown Soldier of the Vietnam War for interment at Arlington National Cemetery.



FTAC participates in commissary awareness month

By Master Sgt. Kristin Clark

21st Mission Support Squadron

May is the Defense Commissary Agency's "Commissary Awareness Month" and this year is the first time DECA has invited Air Force First Term Airmen Centers to participate. The FTAC here received \$100 in DECA checks for participating and will also compete for \$250 and \$750 based on participation during May. Seventeen of Team Pete's newest Airmen paid a special visit to the Peterson Commissary May 4.

The Airmen enjoyed orange juice, donuts and breakfast pastries before a guided tour of the store with Commissary Administrator Randi Robinson and various department managers. They learned about special programs and sales, store features such as fresh-made

deli sandwiches and party trays, and the cost-savings benefits of choosing DECA over local off-base grocery stores.

Then teams of Airmen competed in a shopping challenge. They raced up and down the aisles to be the first to fill their cart with all the items on a special shopping list created by Staff Sgt. Autumn Redline, 21st Medical Group.

The shopping lists relate to three menu plans Sergeant Redline had created specifically for Airmen in the dorms – the plans include healthy meals and snacks that are inexpensive and simple to prepare. Future FTAC Airmen will receive these menu plans. The Airmen had a great time racing to shop, and the winning team members received \$15 each in DECA gift certificates.

Every Airman received a reusable chiller-bag

filled with items donated by DECA and local vendors, including cereal, chocolate covered nuts, energy bars, coupons for free soda products and coffee travel mugs.

Finally, each Airman from May FTAC classes can compete in a price-comparison contest by comparing prices on their team's commissary list with like items at an off-base retailer – the winning entry will receive a DECA gift certificate and other items. A second FTAC class visited the commissary for similar events Tuesday, and future classes will now include commissary visits as part of their tour day.

Vicki Smith, Army and Air Force Exchange Service Store Manager, also invited the Airmen to visit and tour the Base Exchange, where Airmen were given AAFES gift bags containing coupons and product samples as well as a guided tour of the main exchange, garden shop and recreation annex.

Dedication of AF memorial

Gen. Lance W. Lord, commander of Air Force Space Command, speaks at the dedication ceremony for the Air Force Memorial May 11 at Memorial Park. The Lance P. Sijan Chapter No. 125 of the Air Force Association dedicated the memorial. This is one of several memorials in the park dedicated to those who have served or are serving in the military. This is the first memorial in the park specifically dedicated to Air Force members.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Ken Bergmann



Photo by Camilla Smith

Community celebrates military members

Brig. Gen. Richard Webber, the 21st Space Wing commander, speaks during the Join-R-Forces Day May 15 in Memorial Park. General Webber presented challenge coins to outstanding service-members from the local area. One hundred coins were presented during the ceremony.





FERP TEAM INSPECTS BASE

A team from the Air Force Space Command Headquarters is visiting the base today and Friday as part of the biennial competition to select the recipient of the Facilities Excellence Program award for AFSPC. The program centers around the concern for providing the best possible quality of life for members. The FERP team will tour all aspects of the installation, including outside and inside the facilities, observing the landscaping and Force Protection standards and how well workspaces are maintained.

LEGAL SETTLES ESTATE CLAIMS

Anyone who has claims against the estate of Staff Sgt. Kevin Daniels, 50th Security Forces Squadron, may call 1st Lt. Scott Sims at 567-6172.

AFCEA LUNCHEON SET

The Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association is holding a luncheon today at the Enlisted Club. Jake Henry, NORAD/NORTHCOM programs and resources director, will speak about NORAD/NORTHCOM capabilities and requirements. This year's Science Fair winners from local schools will be recognized at this luncheon. Cost is \$12. For more information or to make a reservation, call Judy Arnold at 277-4028 or Judee Albert at 277-4007.

CCAF SCHEDULES GRADUATION

The 2004 Community College of the Air Force graduation ceremony begins at 2 p.m. Friday at the Enlisted Club. Graduates and their guests are encouraged to attend. Graduates planning to attend should call the education office at 556-4064.

FTAC ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETS

The next First Term Airmen Center Advisory Council Meeting begins at 3:45 p.m. May 27 in the Mission Support Center, Room 1052. Commanders, first sergeants, superintendents, supervisors and other interested members of Team Pete are invited. For more information, call Master Sgt. Kristin Clark at 556-9158.

SCOUT GROUPS MEET ON BASE

Boy Scout Troop 199 meets at 7 p.m. Wednesdays in the Enlisted Club. The group welcomes boys ages 11-17. For more information, call Scoutmaster Alex Welton at 574-8970.

Cub Scout Pack 99 meets at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays in the Base Chapel. The group is for boys ages 7-10. For more information, call Cubmaster Wendy Jendrick at 637-0397.

Girl Scout Troop 422 meets 6 p.m. Mondays at the Base Chapel. The group is for girls ages 11-17. For more information, call Laura Pitcher at 392-1102.

CHAPEL NEEDS PIANIST

The Fort Carson Command Chaplain's Office seeks a pianist for the Ethnic Protestant (Gospel) Service held at 11 a.m. Sundays in Prussman Chapel. This is a temporary bidding. The one-year contract for fiscal year 2004 ends Sept. 30 and will be rebid for fiscal year 2005. For more information, call Margaret Wright at 526-3841.

21st MDG CONDUCTS CUSTOMER SURVEYS

The 21st Medical Group needs patients to use an Opinionmeter device to record their views regarding medical care, interactions with medical staff and specific issues regarding the 21st MDG. The Opinionmeters are located next to the main doors across from the pharmacy and in the laboratory waiting area. The medical group will use survey responses to improve target areas and recognize outstanding service. For more information, call Capt. David Schatz at 556-1109.

21st SW PARKING LOT REPAVING PROJECT BEGINS

The repaving project for the north parking lot of the 21st Space Wing Headquarters building, beside the Temporary Lodging Facilities, and the east parking lot, near the golf course, begins Saturday8. The project should be completed by May 31. Building 845 workers may park in the front of the Headquarters building, flagpole side, and in the 302nd Airlift Wing parking lot. People are encouraged to stay away from this area during construction.

TOP 3 SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The Pikes Peak Top 3 needs volunteers, of any rank and over the age of 18, to take tickets, serve as ushers and check hand-carried bags during the U.S. Air Force Academy graduation ceremony June 2 at Falcon Stadium. President George W. Bush will speak

at the event and most of the volunteers will have the opportunity to hear his speech. There is a dress code for volunteers. The Top 3 will issue volunteers stadium dollars for food. Graduation starts at 11 a.m. and show time for volunteers is 4-5 hours before the ceremony. For more information, call Master Sgt. Bea Macliz at 556-6794.

BUILDING RENOVATION CONTINUES

The renovation at the front entrance of the Mission Support building should last until Aug. 3. A temporary sidewalk built around the construction area allows access to the front entrance to the building. For more information, call Ernie Branch at 556-1422.

MED GROUP ANNOUNCES CLOSURE

The 21st Medical Group Clinic closes at 12:30 p.m. June 3 for training. The refill pharmacy at the Commissary will be open.

AFSPC ANNOUNCES 2004 FAMILY DAYS

Air Force Space Command designated family days are: July 2, Sept. 3, Nov. 26, Dec. 23 and Dec. 30 to coincide with the federal holidays of Independence Day and Labor Day, and Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day, respectively.

WELCOME HOME PARADE FOR TROOPS SET

The City of Colorado Springs will hold a Welcome Home Parade 10 a.m. June 5 for troops previously deployed from local military installations. Servicemembers from Fort Carson, Team Pete, Schriever Air Force Base and the U.S. Air Force Academy will march in the parade.

SITE LISTS SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Service members, their families and veterans can now search for scholarships online at <http://www.military.com/Education/ScholarShip/newsearch>.

CLINIC ROOF CONSTRUCTION POSTPONED

The work on the 21st Medical Group roof has been postponed for two weeks. The new project completion date is May 28.

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.

1960: *Spy satellite program takes flight*

By Master Sgt. Dan DeForest

50th Space Wing

From the first launch in February 1959, the world's first reconnaissance satellite program, known to the public as Discoverer and in military and intelligence circles as Corona, experienced several less than completely successful missions,

including launch failures and lost satellite capsules.

Several of those lost capsules contained experiments and exposed film from reconnaissance cameras.

The satellite recovery failures, coupled with other programs' lack of success in gathering intelligence on Soviet military facilities, caused a great deal of pressure on Air Force engineers and their

contractor counterparts to make this pioneering satellite program succeed.

By applying lessons learned from "partial successes" on the first 12 Discoverer missions, the team finally succeeded when Discoverer XIII launched Aug. 10, 1960. The satellite capsule, which carried a U.S. flag, was recovered from the Pacific Ocean the next day, after 16 orbits around the Earth. Successful recovery of that 85-pound instrumented capsule marked the first recovery of a manmade object from an orbiting satellite and, possibly, saved the only viable satellite reconnaissance program from the budget axe.



Courtesy photo



A U.S. Air Force C-119J recovers a Corona Capsule returned from space. The C-119J was specially modified for the mid-air retrieval of space capsules re-entering the atmosphere from orbit. On Aug. 19, 1960, this aircraft made the world's first midair recovery of a capsule returning from orbit when it snagged the parachute lowering the Discoverer XIV satellite at 8,000 feet altitude, 360 miles southwest of Honolulu, Hawaii.



17 Airmen graduate FTAC

Congratulations to the graduates of the First Term Airmen Center Class 04-12.

Senior Airmen

Douglas A. Hattabaugh, 721st Security Forces Squadron
Michael S. Wellman, Space and Missile Systems Center, Detachment 11

Airmen 1st Class

Donterio M. Acree, 721st Communications Squadron
Jerrienne M. Araneta, 21st Medical Support Squadron
Garrison T. Balusek, SMC, Det 11
Christopher W. Burton, 21st Civil Engineer Squadron
William Davis, 21st SFS

Tenea P. Oliver, 21st Aeromedical Dental Squadron
Robert Orabuena Jr., 721st SFS

Airmen

Jason R. Brown, 21st SFS
Katrina E. Porter, 21st CES
Derek L. Waugh, 21st Space Communications Squadron
Amanda L. Weightman, 21st

Space Wing Public Affairs

Airmen Basic

Santana D. Brown, 21st Comptroller Squadron
Rashelle L. Gomez, 21st CPTS
Katherine B. Hansen, 721st CS
Bryant A. McIlwain, 21st Services Squadron



Personnel Corner

Transition Planning Class mandatory

The Transition Planning Class is mandatory for 21st Space Wing military members with 18 years of service or from three to five years of service for those planning to separate. The Family Support Center developed a course to help with the retirement and separation process. This course provides basic information on relocation, financial planning, tax implications, job skills and the current job market. Six classes are offered annually. The classes are limited to 20 people and pre-registration is required. Class schedule is: May 27, July 29, Sept. 23 and Nov. 30.

Civilian Career Brief available online

Air Force civilians now have the capability to view their career information online. The virtual Civilian Career Brief offers current position data, pay and benefits, appraisals, education and more. Civilian employees should review their Career Brief periodically to ensure all experience and education is documented. To access the virtual Civilian Career Brief, visit <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afpcsecure/>

[default.asp](#) or contact the Civilian Personnel Flight. **SECAF lowers TIG requirement**

Time-in-grade requirement for retirement lowered for lieutenant colonels and colonels. Effective May 6, the Secretary of the Air Force authorized reduction of the three-year TIG requirement for retirement for active duty O-5s and O-6s to a minimum of two years. This isn't retroactive and won't apply to any previous retirements. The maximum number of O-5s and O-6s, that will be allowed to retire under this provision are 214 and 75 respectively. Members must have between two and three years TIG by the requested retirement date, which can be no later than Sept. 1. Members must also have 20 years of active service and 10 years of active commissioned service. Members must have served satisfactorily in their grade, and all career fields can apply.

Personnel, pay info available

One-stop shopping for pay and personnel information is available at all times by calling the Air Force Contact Center at 800-616-3775 or online at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/cst/>.

MPF announces closure

The Military Personnel Flight will be closed

7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Friday for a team-building function. The customer service window will be open with limited services. Customers may experience longer waiting periods in the morning.

MPF offers uniform tidbit

Miniature and regular badges are authorized on blue combination uniforms. The badges may be worn together; however, do not mix size of badges in the same category. The exception is miniature wings, which may be worn with a regular size occupational badge or regular size medical badge. Reference Air Force Instruction 36-2903, Dress and Appearance of Air Force Personnel paragraph 6.

In addition, master sergeants who have a 7-skill level and completed five years in their specialty are entitled to wear the senior occupational badge. Badges, when worn on the long sleeve, short sleeve shirt or service dress uniform are placed a half inch above ribbons. If ribbons aren't worn, the badge should be worn a half inch above the pocket on the male uniform. On the female uniform, wear badges a half inch above ribbons when worn. If no ribbons are worn, the badge is worn level with the bottom of the nametag. Reference AFI 36-2903, paragraph 5.3.



ALS graduates 28 new leaders

Team Pete congratulates the 28 Airmen Leadership School Graduates of class 04-E.

The following graduates earned honors:

John L. Levitow Award

Senior Airman Chad M. McManus, 721st Space Communications Squadron

Academic Achievement Award

Senior Airman Maurice L. Gale, 22nd Space Operations Squadron

Distinguished Graduates

Senior Airman Brandon M. Alvey,

721st SCS

Senior Airman Maurice L. Gale, 22nd SOPS

Leadership Award

Staff Sgt. Zackory S. McGee, 13th Air Support Operations Squadron

Other graduates are:

Staff Sgt. Joshua N. Colomb, 50th 46 Civil Engineer Squadron

Senior Airmen

Bruce J. Brophil, 50th CES

Robert S. Perdue, 50th Space Communication Squadron

William J. McKowan, 50th SCS
Sherika L. Jackson, 544th
Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center
James F. Raison, 721st Security Forces Squadron

Kenneth A. Miner, 721st SFS
Matthew W. O'Brien, 721st SFS
Jonathan B. Metzgar, Detachment

Justin R. Wilson, Headquarters Air Force Space Command

Stephanie A. Martinez, Joint Personal Property Shipping Office
David P. Hodge, 2 SOPS

Carlos A. Cortez, 21st CES
Kashya D. Chavies, 21st CES
Efrain Roldan, Jr., 21st CES
Oscar R. Rodriguez, 21st Medical Dental Operations Squadron
Megan E. Curry, 21st Medical Support Squadron

Laura E. Contreras, 21st MDSS
Richard M. Martin, 21st SCS
Robert J. Chrisman, 21st SCS
Craig J. Sullivan, 21st SCS
Steven W. L'Heureux, 21st SFS
Frederick J. Nitz, 4 SOPS
Kent A. Kaminski, 4 SOPS

Court reporters learn new capabilities

The 21st Space Wing legal office recently held a week-long training session for the Air Force Space Command Court Reporters on the AudioScribe SpeechCAT court reporting system.

Chad Theriot, President of AudioScribe, and Suzette Magee, AudioScribe's Platinum level trainer and user, traveled here from their home office in Southern Louisiana to teach 12 military court reporters from throughout the command.

Court reporters from other commands attended also.

The session was divided into a beginner class for new AudioScribe users and an advanced class for current users.

The SpeechCAT system by AudioScribe, now used by most court reporters within the Air Force, is a combination of programs interfaced with speech

recognition software for the purpose of producing a court transcript. The court reporter speaks into a speech silencing dictation mask and words are simultaneously transferred onto the computer screen.

The learning process involves the reporter becoming educated on how the software interfaces and essentially, the computer adapting to the way the reporter speaks and the reporters unique voice patterns. This process takes a lot of hard work and continual use and practice with the system to ensure success and accuracy.

Chief Master Sgt. Ricky Darling, HQ AFSPC paralegal manager, addressed issues and concerns with the court reporters in regards to using the AudioScribe equipment and allotted training time during an ice-breaker.

The beginners were familiarized with initial set

up of the system, initial case data, software updates and capabilities. To practice using the system and to build the vocabulary database, portions of court-martial transcripts were read from. Use and practice was emphasized again to ensure everyone understood the system's capabilities.

Advanced users got more into the nuts and bolts of the operating software by exploring, a lot of the whys and why-nots and further capabilities of the program. They also took part in exercises to evaluate and hone their skills.

Once proficient, court reporters can use SpeechCAT to produce documents related to the Judge Advocate General department. These include depositions, reports, hearings, boards, investigations, recommendations and letters.

(Courtesy of the 21st SW legal office)



Motorcycle Safety Day: *Riders rev up for rally*

By Senior Master Sgt. Ty Foster

21st Space Wing Public Affairs

The 21st Space Wing holds Motorcycle Safety Day from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Friday at the picnic grounds adjacent to the base Aquatic Center. Anyone who has access to any of the Colorado Springs, Colo., area military bases may attend, whether they operate a motorcycle or not.

Lt. Gen. Daniel Leaf, Air Force Space Command vice commander, kicks off the event with a motorcycle ride through the base. The rally leaves the main parking lot at AFSPC Headquarters at 10:30 a.m. Anyone who has base access and rides a motorcycle may join the general in the ride from headquarters.

All riders on base must wear protective equipment required by Air Force Instructions: a Department of Transportation-approved helmet, goggles or face shield, long-sleeved shirt or jacket, full-fingered

motorcycle gloves, pantslong pants, sturdy shoes or boots, and brightly colored or contrasting vest or jacket during the day and reflective material during the night.

The ride ends at the base picnic grounds where Col. Diann Latham, 21st SW vice commander, will issue opening remarks and introduce General Leaf.

General Leaf will speak on the importance of motorcycle safety and have his bike inspected.

Those who attend may have their motorcycle inspected, visit local vendors presenting motorcycle-related gear and information while Blue Steel, an ensemble group from The U.S. Air Force Academy Band, rocks the house.

The 21st SW Motorcycle Safety Day is part of AFSPC's on-going campaign to raise awareness and stem the increase in motorcycle fatalities among Department of Defense personnel within the command.

Since 1999, the Air Force has lost 77 people in motorcycle mishaps, said Sandy Mock, 21st SW ground safety manager. "In the past two years, 60 percent of the motorcyclists killed were between the ages of 18 and 25."

The aim of Motorcycle Safety Day is to educate motorists and riders alike in the hazards they face together on the road, said Tech. Sgt. Terrell Grant, 21st SW safety NCO.

In addition to boosting driver awareness of motorcycles, riders can check out cutting edge motorcycle safety equipment and learn about training opportunities for beginners and advanced riders, Sergeant Grant said.

Additionally, the base's motorcycle club, The Pikes Peak Freedom Riders, will be on hand to accept new members. The club meets today at 2:30 p.m. in the Enlisted Club lounge. All base riders are welcome and encouraged to attend.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Ken Bergmann

Motorcyclists prepare to ride during the Motorcycle Safety Day rally last year.



'A Day in the Life' exhibit visits Pete museum

Dozens of images of the U.S. Armed Forces members are on display at the Peterson Air and Space Museum May 11 - June 5 as part of the "A Day in the Life of the United States Armed Forces" tour – a national tribute to the military underwritten by The Boeing Company.

"Boeing is pleased to give the American public a glimpse into the gallantry, and physical and mental courage that the men and women in the Armed Forces exhibit daily in routine and extraordinary ways," said John Lorber, vice president of Boeing IDS, Colorado Operations. "The unselfish acts of these individuals are captured in this stirring exhibit."

The pictures in the exhibit were selected from more than 300 photographs featured in the book "A Day in the Life of the United States Armed Forces." Boeing is the exclusive underwriter of the book and tour, which is going to nearly two dozen military bases and numerous cities nationwide.

Captured over a 24-hour period – Oct. 22, 2002 – by 125 photographers who fanned out globally, the exhibit pays tribute to the integrity and commitment of the U.S. Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard members. The result is a documentary of an ordinary day in the lives of the men and women who protect America's freedom.

The exhibit features the work of three photographers assigned to the Colorado Springs, Colo., area. Rick Rickman documented the Army's World Class Athlete Program; David Butow photographed cadets at the Air Force Academy and Mark Richards went deep into the tunnels of the Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center.

"The photos are a moving visual reminder of the routine and heroic work, the courage and the dedication required to defend America," said Matthew Naythons, president of EpiCom and project co-pro-



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sue Mrowiec

Visitors to the exhibit can purchase the book, "A Day in the life of the United States Armed Forces," at the base Air and Space Museum.

ducer. "This tour celebrates the work of the brave men and women who serve our country every day."

The show will also be a cornerstone feature of the Defenders of Freedom exhibition June 11-13 at the Phil Long Expo Center. A smaller exhibit will be

at the U.S. Air Force Academy Visitor Center May 26-June 7. Exhibits are free and open to the public.

For more information on the exhibit and the book, visit www.daymilitary.com.

(Courtesy of Boeing)





VA reaches out to newest combat veterans

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs is expanding its efforts to reach veterans of combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan to ensure they are aware of benefits they earned.

Anthony Principi, VA secretary, is sending a letter to more than 150,000 veterans of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom who have recently separated from the military to thank them for their service. In the letter, he also reminds them of their eligibility for VA health-care and other benefits. “I want these men and women to know that we are grateful for their service to our country,” Mr. Principi said. “Those who served in Afghanistan, Iraq and other places around the world have risked their lives to make America more secure. One of the ways the nation shows its gratitude is by ensuring veterans receive the benefits they deserve.”

Mr. Principi’s letter includes brochures and links to the department’s Web pages that contain more

details about VA benefits, including an opportunity to apply for benefits online.

As the veterans continue to leave active duty, VA officials said they expect to mail about 10,000 letters each month. The first letters were sent May 10. Department officials also regularly mail information packets to servicemembers separating from the military to remind them of eligibility for basic benefits, such as VA-guaranteed home loans and education benefits. In addition, there are provisions in these programs for reservists and National Guard members. The additional outreach to those recently deployed to combat areas alerts them to special eligibility that increases their access to health care for two years after separation from the military for illnesses and injuries that may be the result of military service. For those medical problems, VA waives co-payments for inpatient and outpatient care. The VA focuses special attention on those with service-related disabilities, officials

said. The department’s goal is a seamless transition from military to VA services, with claims for financial benefits receiving expedited processing.

For seriously wounded people, the VA has counselors working at the bedsides of patients in military hospitals with the largest numbers of casualties to begin benefit applications before they leave the military. The department’s social service people work at these military facilities to plan health-care coordination as servicemembers move from military to VA care. This helps ensure a smooth transition to a VA hospital or clinic near the veteran’s intended residence for continuing medical care, officials said.

“VA has learned many lessons since the Gulf War in 1991 and other conflicts, which will ensure that this newest generation of war veterans receives the health care and assistance they deserve when they return to civilian life,” Mr. Principi said. *(Courtesy of American Forces Press Service)*



NASA selects servicemembers to explore space

By Army Sgt. 1st Class
Doug Sample

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Four servicemembers were among 11 candidates NASA has chosen to be the next generation of space explorers, officials announced May 6.

Maj. James Dutton, 35, and Marine Corps Maj. Randolph Bresnik, 36, were chosen to be space shuttle pilots. Navy Lt. Cmdr. Christopher Cassidy, 34, and Army Maj. Shane Kimbrough, 36, will be mission specialists.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration grounded shuttle flights after the Feb. 1, 2003, breakup of Columbia above north-central Texas as it maneuvered for landing at the Kennedy Space Center, Fla. The shuttle was slated to land 15 minutes prior to the accident, which killed all seven astronauts, including five U.S. military officers.

Agency officials announced April 30 their intent to resume the flight program in spring 2005.

Major Dutton, an F/A-22 Raptor test pilot at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., has flown combat air patrols over northern Iraq. He was raised in Eugene,

Ore., and has degrees from the U.S. Air Force Academy and the University of Washington.

Four civilians – three school teachers and an orthopedic surgeon – will join the servicemembers when their training begins this summer at NASA’s Johnson Space Center in Houston.

The astronauts are in the “next steps in the new exploration vision,” said Sean O’Keefe, a NASA administrator.

“The class is made up of pilots and engineers who will help us develop the next generation vehicle, scientists who do research to help humans live and

travel in space, and three new educator astronauts to help ensure a new generation is ready for the challenges of exploration,” he said.

The candidates are the first announced by NASA under President Bush’s new space initiative.

In early 2004, the president committed the United States to long-term human and robotic programs to explore the solar system, starting with a return to the moon as well as future exploration of Mars.

“We will give NASA a new focus and vision for future exploration,” the president said.



Deployed members improve quality of life, morale

By Master Sgt. Jeff Szczechowski

455th Communications Squadron

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan – It's appropriate that the Airmen currently deployed to the 455th Expeditionary Group's Communications Flight arrived here around springtime. The communications transformation that's come over Camp Cunningham since their mid-March arrival has been like the new life that sprouts up and covers the landscape after winter turns into spring.

New telephone and computer wiring is crawling all over the camp, like the ivy on the outfield walls of Chicago's Wrigley Field. That's because the comm flight has been working non-stop, upgrading the communications network here.

"The entire comm team is working their tails off," said Lt. Col. Bob LaBrutta, 455th Expeditionary Services Squadron commander. "They are working daily to enhance our communications network capabilities. New lines are being dropped every day, new computer upgrades are occurring, and the overall archaic infrastructure here is being replaced or modified at an astounding rate."

The flight has done a little bit of everything, often tackling issues that they wouldn't be confronted with in a fully-staffed shop at their home bases.

First Lt. Keith Strandell, 455th CF commander, said that his unit has maintained and upgraded computers, telephones and radios. They have troubleshoot cameras, fixed television sets, run coaxial for cable TV, laid down phone and network lines, and set up public address systems for distinguished visitors. They even ran cable to an outdoor break area so the Camp Cunningham community can watch television there.

Everyone in the comm flight has had plenty of opportunities to "get our hands dirty," Lieutenant Strandell said.

This applies to everyone from the flight com-

mander right down to the information manager, who readily admitted that she wouldn't be doing the kind of work back home that she's doing here.

"I've done line and cable installs, dug trenches, run telephone lines and network cables, lots of things which I would never have done if not deployed — it's been a good experience," Senior Airman Daisy Almacen said. "I've learned a lot, and I've worked with great people. They've been so willing to help me out and teach me new things."

The lieutenant added that, "back home, our 'techies' get all the hands-on experience and the contractors run the wires and maintain the infrastructure. Here, because we are such a small team, all of us have had a chance to step in and work in areas that are sometimes new to us."

Senior Master Sgt. Paul Gorom, 455th CF superintendent, said from "day one, everyone here has hit the road running and hasn't looked back." The brisk pace is a good thing at a deployed location like Bagram.

"My philosophy is to stay busy and time will go by fast. We're pretty much constantly on the move, whether we're fixing computer problems, laying new cable or installing antennas," he said.

Judging by the workload, time should be flying by. Whether they're trying to keep computers fully functional against the damaging effects of the always-present dust and sand in the air, or trying to keep up with the never-ending call for communications upgrades as the 455th EOG expands or upgrades its facilities, there's always plenty to do.

"We've run telephone and network connectivity to the new buildings, removed old wiring, and buried quite a few cables, which extends their life," Sergeant Gorom said. Members of the flight can often be seen slugging away at the ground with pick axes, digging trenches for those cables and other communications wires.

He said removing the old wiring improved the flight's ability to troubleshoot problems simply because there's less wire to contend with. He also said it has helped to spruce up the appearance of the camp.

Like Airman Almacen and Lieutenant Strandell, Sergeant Gorom talked about the hands-on work that is a part of everyday life in the 455th CF.

"The hands-on experience is unbelievable. You do what it takes to get the job done," he said.

Sergeant Gorom said that the pace here never slows. When one project is completed, it's time to move on to another.

"Since Camp Cunningham is in a constant state of moving, we have to make sure communication is in place when the new owners move into a B-hut or clamshell [large, tent-like structure that house maintenance facilities]," Sergeant Gorom said. "We just finished up moving telephone and networking capabilities for the security forces squadron supply guys. Next is an MWR move, which will be a large undertaking because of the amount of phone lines and networked computers involved, and our own re-location. We are also planning on adding key strategic communications closets, connected via fiber, throughout the base to prepare for future growth and further moves."

Lieutenant Strandell said that he is thankful for the opportunity to be a part of Operation Enduring Freedom, working not only with the Air Force, but sister services and other coalition forces, as well. But it's his communications flight that he's most proud of.

"I've been blessed to work with a great team," he said. "They came in with a 'can-do' attitude and pressed full speed ahead. They get the job done, and then ask what else can they do. For the most part, every one of my troops spends a good deal of their time working outside of their normal career field boundaries. They are learning other aspects of comm and using what they learn to make Camp Cunningham a better place."



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 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 BANGUP – May 6

Security forces responded to the West Gate, where a person reported that a vehicle hit one of the barriers. The barrier basher was issued a citation for careless driving.

DOOR DING DAMAGE – May 6

Security forces responded to the Reserve

Forces Operational Training building parking lot, where a person reported that someone caused damage to his vehicle. The destructive door damager put dents in the driver-side door and fled the scene.

GATE RUNNER – May 7

Security forces initiated a traffic stop after an entry controller reported a gate runner. The mistaken motorist thought the entry controller waived him through.

VEHICLE VANDALIZATION – May 7

Security forces responded to the Shoppette parking lot, where a person reported damage to her vehicle. The crazed cruncher dented the vehicle, ripped molding off of it, then fled the scene before security forces arrived.

GATE RUNNER #2 – May 7

A security forces member reported a vehicle that had ran the West Gate. Security forces stopped the vehicle and explained gate entry procedures.

EAGLE EYES – May 8

Security forces received an Eagle Eyes report from a person who reported someone taking pictures in the direction of the flight line.

BAG BURGLARY – May 10

Security forces received a report from a person who said his personal bag had been stolen.

The person said that his bag was with other bags that looked similar and when he returned to retrieve it the bag was missing.

PROBATION BLUNDER – May 11

A security forces member reported he ran a check on a contractor and it turned out the person had a warrant for failure to comply with conditions of probation. The Colorado Springs Police Department responded and took the blockhead into custody.

TRESPASSING TROUBLE – May 11

Security forces responded to Dormitory 1164, where a person reported that someone was on base after being barred from bases in the Colorado Springs area. The encroaching entrant stated that he thought he was only barred from one of the bases. Security forces took the non-compliant nincompoop into custody and issued a citation for trespassing here after being barred. CSPD then escorted the oaf off base.

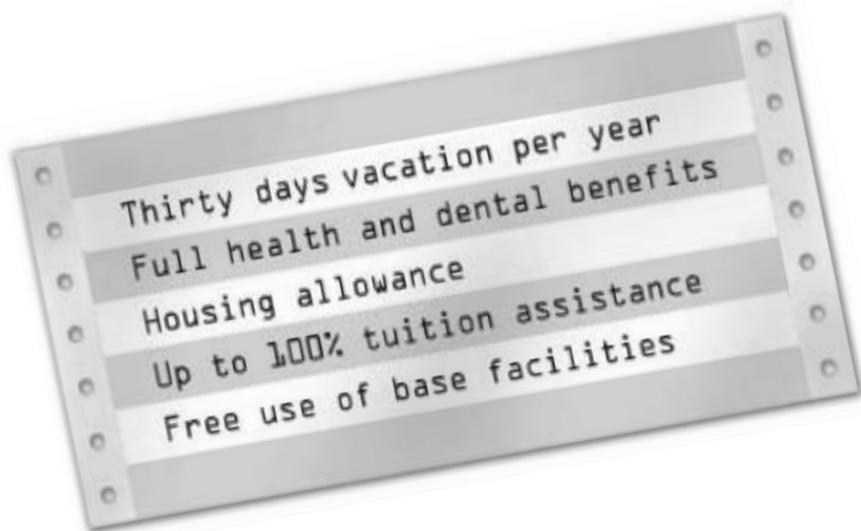
ALARMING TRENDS CONTINUE:

In addition to these entries, there continue to be too many false alarm activations on base. Among those noted this week were eight 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.*



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TEAM PETE PROVES THEY HAVE WHAT IT TAKES

By 2nd Lt. Jennifer Whitaker
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Peterson Air Force Base demonstrated its capability to respond and coordinate with city, county, and federal authorities in a combined exercise.

The exercise, dubbed Global Mirror, tested the 21st Space Wing's ability to provide military support to civil authorities and first response capabilities with a simulated aircraft crash and potential terrorist attack with a "dirty" bomb, said Col. Gary Shugart, 21st SW Inspector General.

"For Peterson, the objective is to exercise communication channels used in an emergency – relaying information from on-scene back to the battle staff for additional support and making sure the battle staff, disaster control group and first responders all work together," Colonel Shugart said.

Jeffrey A. Nash, a contingency operations specialist with the 21st SW operations center and the battle staff exer-

cise controller, said the exercise was a good opportunity for the wing to "flex its muscles" with command and control.

"The learning is vastly improving," said Vic Duckarmenn, 21st SW exercise director. "But, we've still got a long way to go to integrate (terrorist response) principles into all our operations."

"A lot of this is new – things we haven't done before," Colonel Shugart said.

The military is still learning its role in terrorist response in the wake of Sept. 11, 2001, Mr. Nash said.

"Senior leadership's involvement in the exercise has enhanced morale," Mr. Duckarmenn said. "Seeing the commander out there (with the disaster control group) was very positive for the men and women who were responding."

Both Shugart and Duckarmenn said they were pleased with the volunteers who played victims. The volunteers simulated casualties with realistic made-up wounds and acted out the symptoms of their injuries.

More than six months of planning went into coordi-

nating the exercise, which tested city, county, federal, and military responses, coordination and abilities.

"These exercises are created in support of our (Air Expeditionary Force) deployers – not to pass an inspection, but to prepare the people we send to the combat theater for real world contingencies," Mr. Duckarmenn said.

The exercise also prepares the base to respond to homeland security issues.

"Overall, I am quite pleased with the great teamwork and professionalism I observed with our city and El Paso County partners," said Brig. Gen. Richard E. Webber, 21st SW commander. "Our combined military and civilian team proved, once again, that they have what it takes to respond to a difficult scenario."



Photo by Dennis Plummer

ABOVE: Disaster Control Group responders meet with members of the local sheriff's department at the Mobile Command Center to discuss the simulated aircraft accident at Meadow Lake, Colo.

LEFT: An airplane donated to the Air Force by a local resident was used in a scenario involving weapons of mass destruction. The aerial photographs were taken from aircraft flown by Civil Air Patrol members. The CAP's role in Homeland Security was put into play during Global Mirror.

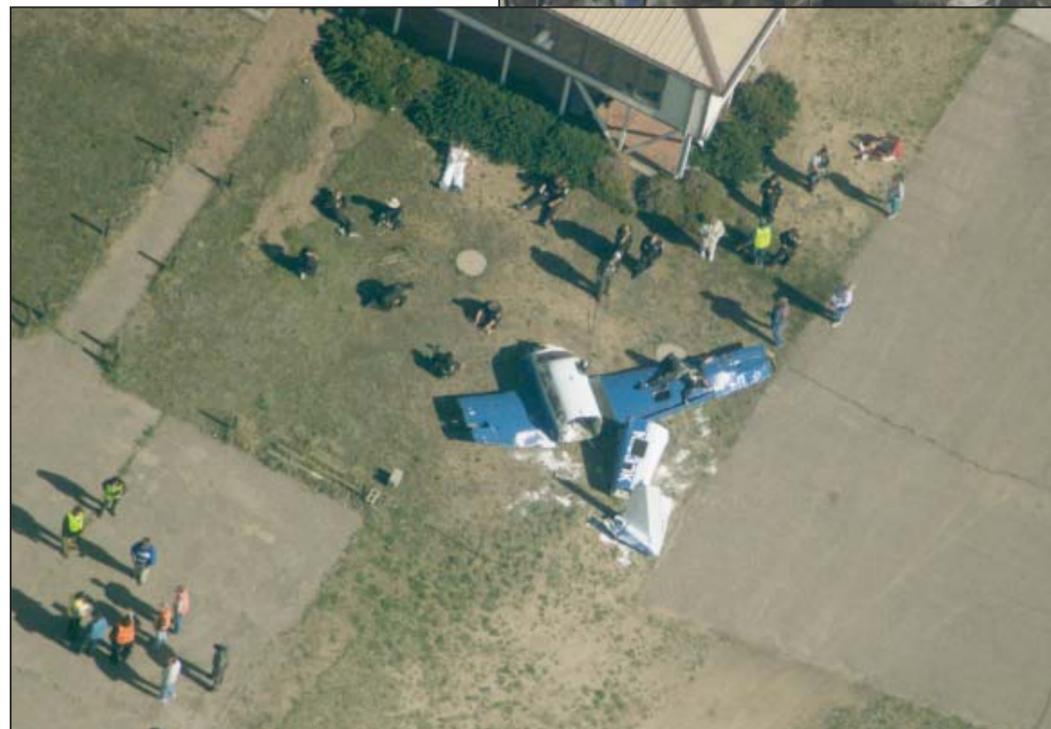


Photo courtesy of Civil Air Patrol



Photo by Joe Fischer

ABOVE: Lionel Rivera, the mayor of Colorado Springs, Colo., Brig. Gen. Richard Webber, the 21st Space Wing commander, Col. Gary Shugart, the 21st Space Wing inspector general, and Christie Bond, the 21st Space Wing chief of community relations, observe responders at a simulated vehicle accident scene outside the West Gate.

RIGHT: A major vehicle accident was simulated during the exercise. The scenario involved a canister of radioactive material dropped from an aircraft on first responder vehicles outside the West Gate.



Photo courtesy of Civil Air Patrol



Photo by Dennis Plummer

LEFT: Members of the sheriff's department and specialists from the city practice decontamination measures after responding to an exercise input involving weapons of mass destruction. During the exercise, first responders to the scene were taken out of the scenario to test the vigilance of the contingency backup plan.



at your SERVICE

This Week

Today

- Job Orientation, 1-2 p.m. in the Mission Support Center, Room 1016.
- Basic Investing, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the MSC, Room 1016.

Friday

- Readiness Briefing, 11 a.m.-noon in the MSC, Room 1016. This briefing is for those deploying or going on remote tours. Spouses are welcome.

Tuesday

- Sponsorship Training, 7:30-8:30 a.m. in the MSC, Room 1016.
- Resume Review, 9-11 a.m. in the MSC, Room 1016.

Wednesday

- Pre-separation Briefing, 3-4 p.m. in the MSC, Room 1016. This is a mandatory briefing for those retiring or separating from the military.

May 27

- Job Orientation, 1-2 p.m. at the MSC, Room 1016.

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

Base offers water sports to Team Pete

A two-hour class to introduce people to scuba diving will take place Tuesday and June 29 at the Aquatics Center. The \$10 fee includes equipment. The class is limited to the first 20 people who register.

There's a three-week Professional Association of Diving Instructors scuba course available July 5-29 and Sept. 13-30. The course includes six pool sessions, three classroom meetings and an open water dive in Blue Hole, near

Santa Rosa, N.M. The \$289 fee includes a manual, equipment, open-water instruction, lodging, video, PADI dive plan, open-water emblem and professional instruction. Bring extra money for food.



Courtesy photo

A group braves the rapids on an Outdoor Recreation rafting trip. Whitewater rafting trips are available daily to sections of the Arkansas River. The \$65 fee includes a thrilling rafting experience, safety gear and equipment, lunch and transportation. There's a minimum of four people per trip. Registration is required.

ARAGON DINING FACILITY MENU

Today

Lunch:

- Mr. Z 's Baked Chicken
- Pepper Steak
- Pasta Primavera
- Mashed Potatoes
- Rice Steamed
- Mixed Vegetables
- Fried Okra
- Green Beans

Dinner:

- Orange-Spiced Chops
- Liver with Onions
- Tempura Fried Fish
- Rissole Potatoes
- Steamed Rice
- Broccoli
- Peas and Carrots
- Wax Beans

Friday

Lunch:

- Simmered Corn Beef
- Pineapple Chicken
- Yankee Pot Roast
- Crispy Potato Wedges
- Simmered Potatoes
- Fried Cabbage
- Carrots
- Black Eye Peas

Dinner:

- Baked Fish
- Beef and Corn Pie
- Roast Turkey
- Franconia Potatoes
- Pea and Pepper Rice
- Corn on the Cob
- Stewed Tomatoes
- Mustard Greens

Saturday

Brunch:

- Baked Fish
- Hungarian Goulash
- Barbecue Chicken
- Parsley Buttered Potatoes
- Rice Steamed
- Vegetable Stir Fry
- Boston Baked Bean
- Cream Corn

Sunday

Brunch:

- Stir Fry Beef with Broccoli
- Turkey Nuggets
- Strip Loin Steak
- Mushrooms and Onions
- Baked Potatoes
- Rice Pilaf
- Corn on the Cob
- Green Beans

Monday

Lunch:

- Chili Mac
- Beef Cannelloni
- Southern Fried Chicken
- Cottage Fried Potatoes
- Mashed Potatoes
- Steamed Squash
- Glazed Carrots
- Peas

Dinner:

- Pot Roast
- Baked Stuff Fish
- Roast Loin Of Pork
- Oven Brown Potatoes
- Steamed Rice
- Cauliflower Combo
- Succotash
- Green Beans with Mushroom

Tuesday

Lunch:

- Country Captain
- Chicken
- Meat Loaf
- Turkey a-La-King
- Steamed Rice
- Mashed Potatoes
- Harvard Beets
- Mustard Greens
- Okra and Tomato Gumbo

Dinner:

- Teriyaki Chicken
- Veal Parmesan
- Salmon Cakes
- Filipino Rice
- Parsley Buttered Potatoes
- Fried Cabbage
- Succotash
- Mixed Vegetable

Wednesday

Lunch:

- Beef Sukiyaki
- Szechwan Chicken
- Sweet and Sour Pork
- Steamed Rice
- Pork Fried Rice
- Fried Cabbage
- Glazed Carrots
- Vegetable Stir Fry

Dinner:

- Barbecue Ham
- Steak
- Turkey and Noodles
- Beef Ball
- Stroganoff
- Egg Noodles
- Mashed Potatoes
- Calico Corn
- Spinach
- Lima Beans



Some things never change

By Chief Master Sgt.
Danny M. Brock
21st Civil Engineer Squadron

Like death and taxes, it seems to me that one thing in the Air Force will never change: inflated Enlisted Performance Report ratings. For more than 28 years, I've listened to this gripe and have actively participated in the debate on the subject. I've taken the pro and con positions at different times in my life. There is a drawer in the bottom of my desk with a folder that contains every performance report I've received in my career. On those days when humor is needed, I open the drawer and pull out my early reports.

My first Airman Performance Report, or APR, closed out July 1, 1977, it covered 482 days. I don't know if that was correct or not, because I was an Airman and didn't care as long as I got a nine rating. This is kind of the same mindset that an Airman has today, con-

cerning his or her first EPR; I don't care as long as I get a five.

The APR was written in a narrative format and my first one totaled 19 lines: this is the same as today's EPR except half of my back page was blank. You would think they could've found more to write about since it covered 482 days, but I suppose this is still somewhat typical new on initial EPR's.

Sometime around 1980, the Air Force updated the April 1970 APR version. The front went through some cosmetic changes, but the back received a major overhaul. The backside was divided into individual sections for the rater and the endorsers. I still had a lot of white space in the comment sections, but a new twist was added due to some conflicts. No one could get a nine APR unless one of the written comments stated that the member supported the Equal Opportunity Program. That hung around for a few years and then we were told not to put it in the APR anymore.

Still, the nine APR was the norm in those days.

The APR was tweaked more throughout the 1980's until the big one hit. The one change that turned our world upside down was the introduction of the EPR in 1989. We were told it was out-of-the-box thinking. The old dogs were in an uproar because we went from nine blocks to five! But heck, most people never went lower than an eight so did we really need all of those boxes? This was supposed to be the big change that would fix the inflated APR. In a very short time we were back to the fire-walled five EPR. The reason for the return to the fire-walled five? We don't want to hurt our people and we want our people to be competitive for promotion.

In 1993, my world came to an end as a time-in-grade senior master sergeant when I received a four EPR. The reason or reasons for it I will save for another article one day. Needless to say

I was devastated and decided that I would retire as a senior master sergeant. There's nothing wrong with retiring as a senior master sergeant. But despite that setback, I still went to work, changed stations, and took temporary duty assignments that no one wanted. I watched a lot of people pass me by. Then one day, perhaps because I was the only senior master sergeant left in the Air Force, I was promoted to chief master sergeant. They say God looks after dumb animals, but the point is I still made it to the highest enlisted rank without a perfect career.

We don't hurt our people by giving them less than perfect reports. The people we do hurt are those who are busting their tails and we give them the same perfect score that we give those who are just showing up for work. And we wonder why some get promoted and some do not get promoted. If you have not been doing it, then maybe it's time for you to start making the hard call. 

Good health manners reduce spread of viruses

There's a new phrase you'll see in the 21st Medical Group and across the country: respiratory etiquette. You could also call it good health manners. But, it's more than simply being polite, these manners can save lives.

Respiratory etiquette is a measure to help prevent the spread of infections such as influenza, bacterial meningitis, whooping cough, severe acute respiratory syndrome, measles, colds and chicken pox. This year's influenza season illustrated how easily a virus spreads and causes serious illness or death. The 21st MDG wants to help prevent the spread of these types of diseases by reminding everyone that there

are some simple things you can do to keep from spreading germs to others.

Respiratory etiquette can prevent the spread of viruses and bacteria that are passed from person-to-person in the tiny droplets of moisture that come out of the nose or mouth of an infected person. The new campaign emphasizes the basics of respiratory etiquette: cover your mouth and nose with a tissue every time you sneeze or cough; put used tissues into the trash; wash hands well and often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

Health care workers will ask people with a fever and cough or a fever and a rash to wear a mask, use

tissues, wash their hands or to sit at least three feet away from other people in the waiting area. If you have a fever with cough or rash, let us know and we'll get you a mask is the message carried by signs that will be posted and distributed widely in clinic waiting areas.

While this is a new experience for most patients and visitors, it's expected to become the normal way of life in the health care system.

Respiratory etiquette protects visitors and staff in addition to patients, who are often at risk of serious complications from these diseases.

(Courtesy of the 21st MDG) 

HIPAA privacy rules safeguard family medical records

Access to a spouse or child's medical information can be very important. However, in strengthening the rules that protect medical privacy, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 requires that signed authorization be provided before a spouse or parent may view their immediate family members' medical records.

As a federal law, HIPAA helps ensure the security and privacy of a person's protected health information while permitting the flow of data necessary to provide high-quality medical care.

To protect your privacy, the Privacy Act of 1974 and HIPAA require written and signed authorization before TriWest can release claims information about you to your spouse or another designated individual.

In most cases, if you want your spouse or parent to have access to your health records, you must give written permission.

A properly completed and signed TriWest Authorization to Disclose form may be submitted to TriWest's Claims Department or to the appropriate TriWest claims processing subcontractor for process-

ing. To print this form, visit www.triwest.com and access the beneficiary portal, select "Learn More About the TriCare Program" then "Your Privacy Rules and Regulations." Finally, select the "Authorization to Disclose Information" link.

A medical power of attorney is another way a spouse may gain access to a beneficiary's PHI. Parents or legal guardians generally have the right to see their child's medical records, but state laws that protect minors' privacy rights can be more stringent than federal law.

Parents, custodial parents or legal guardians may apply for an exception to accessing a child's medical records in cases involving sensitive matters, like behavioral health, substance abuse, birth control, abortion and sexually transmitted diseases. This is also true when one of the following applies:

A parent isn't legally considered to be a child's personal representative regarding his or her health information if:

- State or other law doesn't require a parent's consent before the minor can obtain a health care serv-

ice.

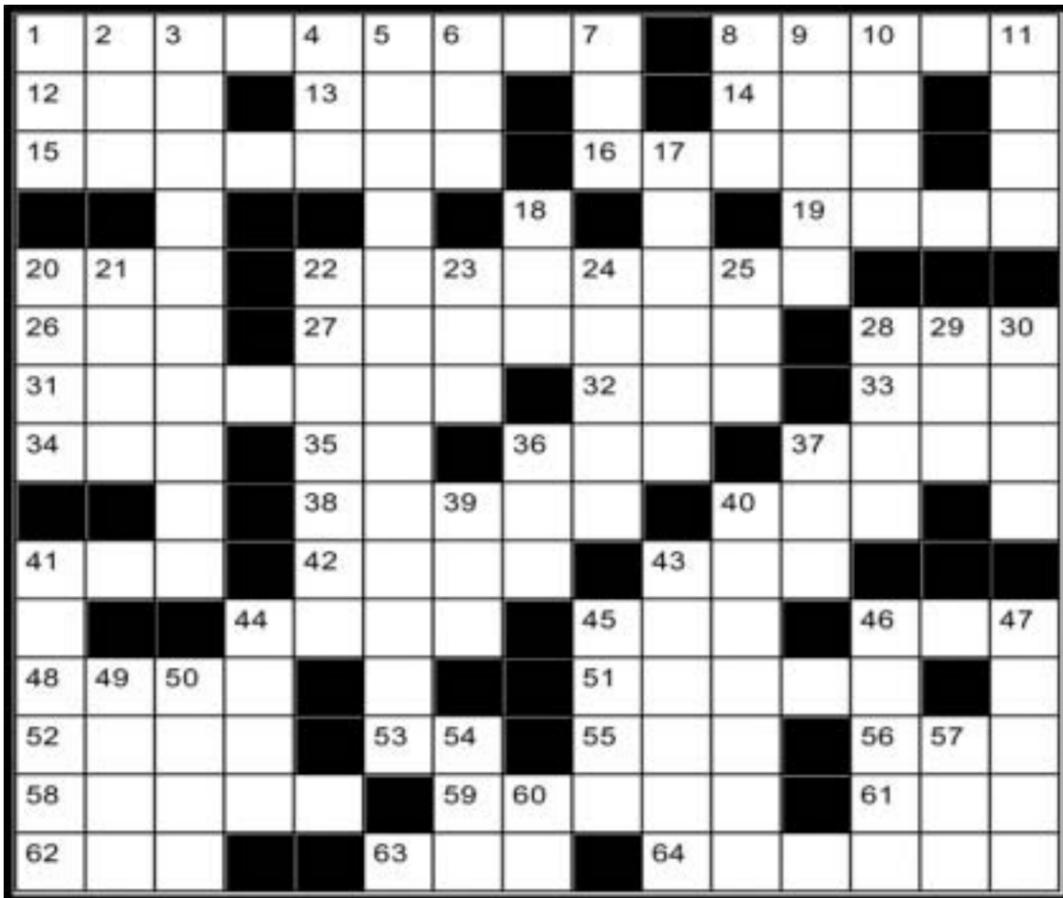
- A court designates someone other than the parent to make treatment decisions.
- The parent agrees that the minor and the provider may have a confidential relationship.
- The treating physician suspects abuse or neglect or believes that releasing the information to the parent or guardian would endanger the child.

Privacy rules will not affect your ability to receive emergency care. The HIPAA privacy rule permits disclosure of an individual's protected health information without authorization in emergency situations.

The new HIPAA privacy rules change the process for obtaining medical information about your spouse or child. However, the new rules are in place to help ensure the security of your medical records. For more information, visit TriWest's Web site at www.triwest.com, the Tricare Management Activity at www.tricare.osd.mil or the U. S. Department of Health & Human Services at www.hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa.

(Courtesy of 21st Medical Group)

Little-known USAF places



ACROSS

- Florida AS
- ACC location in Canada (pt.1)
- '70s spoon-bender Geller
- Picnic crasher
- Military ed. office person (abbrev.)
- Internal organs
- Sprinter Carl
- Snakelike fishes
- USAF enlisted PME
- North Dakota air station
- Constrictor
- Beasts
- Damage
- Circle
- Police officer
- Actress Lupino
- Actor Elliot
- VCR setting
- "Round ___ in a square hole"
- Computer maker
- Crustaceans
- Lyrical poem
- Prohibit
- Mineral and baby
- Terminate
- '30s actress ___ May Oliver
- Inventor Whitney
- Part 2 of 8

ACROSS

- Window edge
- Base in Bosnia-Herzegovina
- Utensil
- Tail marking for 149th FW
- Lubbock school (abbrev.)
- Primary color
- Aquatic mammal
- Jowl
- Rapper Dr. ___
- Turner who led slave insurrection
- Giants great Ott
- Person in distress?
- DOWN**
- Driving crime
- Pot
- USAF location in Alaska
- Distant
- USAF auxiliary field in Nevada
- Acronym for time to separation
- State home to Dover AFB
- New Hampshire AFS (pt.1)
- Wicker twig
- Thorny flower
- Towel marker
- Summation

18. Marmalade

- Lincoln and Vigoda
- 1999 movie *Run ___ Run*
- Massachusetts AFS
- Contest
- Frilly fabrics
- Third eye?
- Rodents
- Summer drink
- Scarce
- Public TV network
- Compute
- Pie ___ mode
- California AFS
- Part 2 of 8 DOWN
- Extracted by a solvent
- Fashion magazine
- Kitchen extension
- Poets
- Sing
- Smidgen
- NFL Hall of Famer Ronnie
- Hole-in-one
- Before, in olden days
- Tail marking for 388th FW

(Courtesy of 1st Lt. Tony Wickman)



Are You Ready?

(101 Critical Days of Summer)

8 days and counting.....

Next week get ready by reading about
Alcohol and its sad tale
The heat of Sunburn
Frustration and driving
The electrifying experience of lightning
Hypothermia and Colorado, a tale of two altitudes
and ACT

Services holds fitness events

Team Pete celebrates National Fitness Month with activities at the Fitness Center.

- A softball throw will take place 10 a.m.-noon Thursday at Patriot Park.

- The deadline to sign up for Retirees Fitness Day is Friday.

- A road bike ride to Schriever Air Force Base and back is scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday.

- The deadline to sign up for the Singles Tennis Tournament is the close of business Sunday. The tournament will take place from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday.

- Retirees Health and Fitness Day takes place 8 a.m.-noon Wednesday.

- There is a 5K family walk and run scheduled for 10 a.m. May 29. The entry deadline is the event time. For more information, call 556-1515.

- Intramural Softball begins Tuesday. For more information, call 556-7708. These events are free.



Sports Shorts

WALL CLIMBING

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

OPEN CLIMBING

Open climbing for certified climbers is from 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 at 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.

INTRAMURAL VOLLEYBALL

Intramural volleyball games are Mondays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m.- 2 p.m. and from 5-9 p.m. For more information, call 556-1515.

GOLF TOURNAMENT SCHEDULED

The Air Force Sergeants Association will host a Golf Tournament 8 a.m. May 21 at the golf course. For more information, visit <http://www.afsa1181.org>.

SOCCER FIELD CONSTRUCTION SET

The soccer field will be closed now until June 16 for seeding. Softball field No. 4 can be used for soccer.

BASEBALL PRACTICE BEGINS

Youth Baseball Practice IS from 5-8 p.m. the week of May 24.

AMERICA'S KID RUNS

America's Kid Runs is scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday at the Fitness Center track.



Answers to the puzzle on page 19