

"2003 AFSPC Best Large Wing PA Office"

Thursday, June 17, 2004

Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado

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Team Pete serves up competition

Pages 12-13

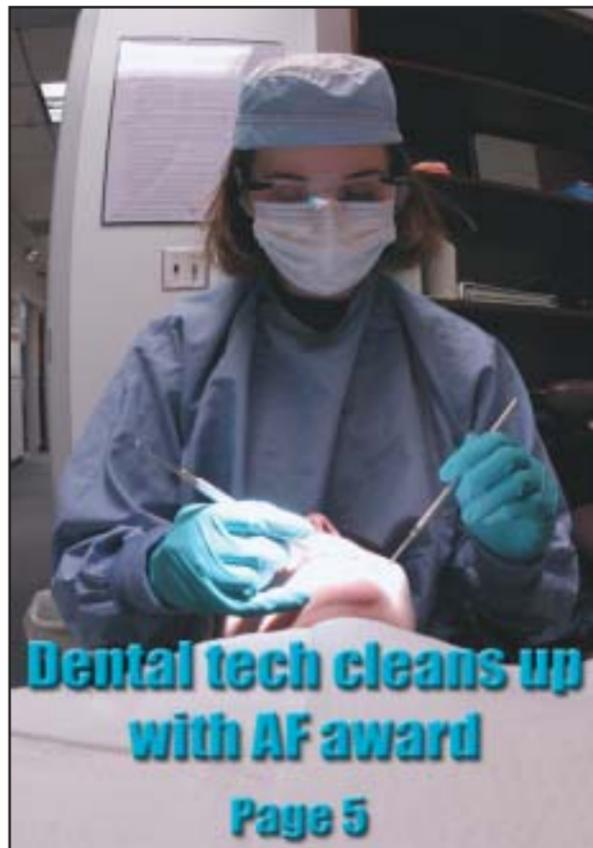


Photo by Camilla Smith



Base honors former CINC
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Photo by Larry Hulst



Dental tech cleans up with AF award
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Photo by Senior Airman Mike Meares

Spouses find support at Heartlink



Page 8



Photos by Larry Hulst

Base says farewell

ABOVE: As President Ronald Reagan is laid to rest in California, members of the High Frontier Honor Guard pay tribute during a dedication ceremony at the base flag pole June 11.

LEFT: A member of the High Frontier Honor Guard presents Brig. Gen. Richard E. Webber, the 21st Space Wing commander, with the flag previously flown at half-staff in honor of former President Ronald Reagan while Chief Master Sgt. Vance Clarke, the 21st SW command chief, and Chief Master Sgt. Wayne Barron, 21st Maintenance Group look on.

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 is 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.

Question on new garage use

Question: Why can't we use the new garages that were built about six weeks ago? I feel we are receiving unsatisfactory and unclear answers from the Base Housing Office. The garages are completed and there are 16 families without garages or adequate parking that are causing other parking issues. Thank you.

Answer: Thank you for the opportunity to shed some light on this subject. You should have received the keys to your garages by May 28. Construction of the first two garage units began in October 2003, and

was scheduled to be completed Nov. 15, 2003. Unfortunately, there were differing site conditions and the asphalt layout had to be reconfigured, which delayed the project nearly four weeks. Once cold weather set in, the contract had to be put on winter exclusion until conditions became acceptable for continuing work. The contractor did a good job with the completion of the first set of garages. But when the walk-through inspection was accomplished March 30, there were some items that needed to be addressed before ownership could be turned over to the Housing Office. These items have recently been resolved. Construction of the remaining garages is expected to be completed by Aug. 1. Thank for your patience. If you have further questions, call 1st Lt. Scott Sinclair at 556-6190.

Batting cage inquiry

Question: I heard that in approximately 1995, the Peterson Complex purchased four batting cages (frames, net, balls, pitching machines, etc.). As a youth baseball coach and one of the people

who helps run the on-base summer baseball camp, use of these batting cages would be a powerful learning tool. I spoke with the people at the gym, but they have no knowledge that the batting cages were ever purchased. My question is this: How can I verify that these batting cages were purchased, and how can I ascertain the status of these for future availability. Rumor has it that these batting cages are currently sitting outside somewhere near the Outdoor Recreation Center getting rusty.

Answer: Thank you for your inquiry. I'd love to make the batting cages available for our children to use. The batting cages will eventually be installed and made available for adult and youth activities. However, the 21st Services Squadron has to compete for the funding to install them. The project has been sited and installation/construction will take place when funds become available. 21st SVS will continue to carry this project on their end-of-year unfunded priority list and they remain optimistic for funding this year. For more information, call Sharon Duell at 556-8069.

Space Observer

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**21st Space Wing
Commander**
Brig. Gen. Richard E. Webber
Chief of Public Affairs
Capt. Amy Sufak
Editorial Staff
Editor
Staff Sgt. Susan Mrowiec
Assistant Editor
Senior Airman
Shawn Clements
Staff Writer
Airman Mandy Weightman
Layout and Design
Kara Magana

A Moment in Time



■ **June 17, 1993** Lt. Col. Patricia Fornes assumes command of the 740th Missile Squadron at Minot Air Force Base, N.D. She is the first woman commander of a combat missile squadron.

■ **June 18, 1965** Strategic Air Command B-52s are used for the first time in Vietnam when 28 aircraft, flying from Guam, strike Viet Cong targets near Saigon.

■ **June 18, 1981** – First flight of the F-117A Nighthawk at Edwards AFB, Calif.

■ **June 19, 1970** Minuteman III missiles become operational.

544th IOG holds change of command

By Tech. Sgt. Rickey L. Johnson
544th Information Operations Group

Col. George V. Eichelberger assumed command of the 544th Information Operations Group from Col. Lance Schultz during a change of command ceremony held June 7 here.

Col. Bruce Bingle, 67th Information Operations Wing commander, presided over the ceremony.

Under Colonel Schultz watch, the 544th has become a leader in the Information Operations business, Colonel Bingle said. The group has achieved ever closer collaboration with the Air Force Space Command, has a greater involvement in space operational planning and has become a key player in National Agencies discussions of space-related issues.

Before performing the change of command, Colonel Bingle praised the 544th for helping the wing win the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor saying, 544th members deployed to Iraq and Greece and fought from reachback positions around the world leveraging National and Tactical intelligence opportunities to further the war effort.

Colonel Schultz, who is retiring after 35 years of honorable and dedicated service, took the podium to say his good-byes and express his thanks.

After welcoming the seventh commander in the 544th's history, Colonel Schultz praised the group for its accomplishments during his tenure as commander.



Photo by Dennis Plummer
Col. George V. Eichelberger accepts the guidon from Col. Bruce Bingle, the 67th information Operations Wing commander and the ceremony's presiding officer, as he accepts command of the 544th Information Operations Group in a ceremony June 7.

The group took systems engineered and previously employed to support science and technology activities, rewrote the books and took them to war without additional resources and under extreme time constraints. And you (the group) performed beyond expectation. You figured out a way to bring national

systems to bear on the problems of the tactical warfighters, the person in the trenches provided support directly to the warfighter they will never do without again established a mechanism for cross-flowing information between two national agencies to avoid duplication of effort.

Colonel Eichelberger comes to the 544th and Team Pete from Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., where he was the 55th Operations Group deputy commander.

In his remarks, Colonel Eichelberger reaffirmed the importance of the bond between the 544th and AFSPC.

Today, we can no longer afford to do business the old way, we can no longer afford to limit the sharing of expertise to within our own tribe, the Colonel said. Today we can look beyond traditional boundaries and realize the term warfighter has taken on new meanings. For this group, that has meant partnering with AFSPC and the warfighting capabilities of 14th Air Force. Breaking down old barriers to find new and improved ways to better support the Space Control Team.

The group will keep a mindset that says I'm ready for the fight and have done everything in my power to ensure my skills are honed and I'm ready to do what it takes to get the right information to the right customer in the most timely manner possible. I look forward to the next two years as together we continue to build on the proud traditions of the past, and look to the bright promise of the future, Col. Eichelberger said.

Squadron announces change of command

By Tech. Sgt.
Robert Burnett
12th Space Warning Squadron

THULE AIR BASE, Greenland In a change of command ceremony held May 27, Lt. Col. Thomas A. Doyne relinquished command of the 12th Space Warning Squadron to Lt. Col. Franklin J. Hinson. Lt. Col. Robert D. Gibson, 21st Operations Group deputy commander, presided over the ceremony.

Colonel Doyne, previous Commander of the 12th Space Warning Squadron, is bid a fond farewell on his journey to Geneva, Switzerland, where he will attend the Geneva Center for Security Policy training courses.

Colonel Hinson was previously assigned to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization AIRNORTH, Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

He entered the Air Force in 1987 upon graduation from The Citadel Military College of South Carolina with a commission from the ROTC program. Colonel Hinson started his Air Force career as a weather officer and served as a detachment commander at King Fahd Air Base, Saudi Arabia, in support of

Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

In 1995 he cross-trained into the Space Career field and since that time has served in a variety of space operation and staff assignments associated with early warning and space surveillance systems.

While assigned as the director of operations at the 20th Space Surveillance Squadron, Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., Colonel Hinson was responsible for the day-to-day operations of the unique AN/FPS85 phased array radar, which is the largest contributor to the space surveillance network of global sensors.

In his most recent assignment, Colonel Hinson served as an air planner and executive officer at NATO Headquarters AIRNORTH at Ramstein AB, Germany.

As the 12th SWS commander, he is responsible for providing the United States and Canada with tactical warning of ballistic missile attacks. The secondary mission is to provide radar data on man-made objects in space to the Space Surveillance Center at Cheyenne Mountain Air Station, Colo. in support of U.S. Strategic Command's space control mission.



Photo by Camilla Smith

21st CPTS welcomes new leader

Brig. Gen. Richard E. Webber, the 21st Space Wing commander, presents Lt. Col. Brian D. Schimel, the 21st Comptroller Squadron commander, with the guidon during a change of command ceremony at the Mission Support Center June 11.

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.



PHONE MAINTENANCE TO CAUSE SERVICE INTERRUPTION

Base telephone extensions that start with DSN prefixes 554 and 556 will experience service interruptions for between five to 30 minutes on June 16 and 17 respectively. During the interruption, customers will not be able to receive incoming off-base commercial calls. Outbound local and long distance commercial calls, as well as all DSN calls, inbound and outbound, will still work. To reduce mission impact and down-time, blocks of 500 numbers will be transferred beginning at 5 a.m. During the short time that extensions are being transferred, incoming calls from commercial numbers will receive a busy signal. For more information, call the 21 Space Communications Squadron Help Desk at 554-COMM (554-2666).

TOP THREE COUNCIL MEETS

The Pikes Peak Top 3 meets at 11:30 a.m. July 1 in the Enlisted Club. Membership is open to all master sergeant selects through chief master sergeants who are assigned here. Retirees who are sponsored by an active-duty top three member are also welcome to join as associate members. Pikes Peak Top 3 actively supports enlisted causes and professional development through a variety of activities. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Leyda Pendergrass at 556-9022.

FSC HOLDS ADOPTION INFORMATION FAIR

The Family Support Center will host an Adoption Information Fair from 9 a.m. to

1 p.m. June 24 in the Mission Support Center Atrium. To register for the session, call the FSC at 556-6141.

21st MDG SEEKS CUSTOMER FEEDBACK

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.

BUILDING RENOVATION CONTINUES

The renovation at the front entrance of the Mission Support Center 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.

FITNESS CENTER CONSTRUCTION SET

A second level is being buildt over the dumbbell room at the Fitness Center for storage and to reinforce the floor of the Health and Wellness Center unit above the free weight room. Construction should be completed July 19. During that time, the dumbbell room will be collocated with the Spinning Room.

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 at 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.

SPACE WARFARE SYMPOSIUM TO HIGHLIGHT 50 YEARS OF SPACE, MISSILES

The Lance P. Sijan chapter of the Air Force Association sponsors the first Space Warfare Symposium, Commanding the Future, June 28-30 at the Keystone Resort and Conference Center, Keystone, Colo. The symposium showcases Air Force Space Commands continuing transformation from space support to space combat and highlights 50 years of Air Force space and missiles. For more information, go to their website at www.spacewarfare.org.

HIGHWAY 24 CONSTRUCTION NEARS END OF ROAD

All traffic lanes on Highway 24 from Peterson Boulevard to Constitution Avenue are now open with limited shutdowns for signal, landscaping, striping and shouldering operations. The project should be completed by Friday. Rocky Mountain Asphalt, Inc. extends its thanks for base members cooperation throughout the project. For more information, call Doug Coffee at 473-3100, Ext. 121.

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.



Photo by Charley Starr

Retirees gather, share experiences

Hundreds of people from the retired military community attend Retiree Appreciation Day at the U.S. Air Force Academy June 12. An Information Fair was held in the Arnold Hall Ballroom, where retirees and their families had the opportunity to visit with local, state and national organizations with an interest in retiree affairs.

Positive attitude helps Airman garner award

Staff Sgt. Jennifer Thibault
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Most Airmen arrive at their first duty station fairly blue, while others arrive blue to the bone.

Former Louisiana native, Airman 1st Class Jennifer Livingston, has already impressed her peers and supervisors with the blue pumping through her veins. Airman Livingston is a dental tech who was recently named Air Force Outstanding Dental Airman of the Year.

She's an outstanding individual, a true go-getter with lots of initiative, said Airman Livingston's supervisor, Staff Sgt. Leticia Johnson, 21st Aeromedical Dental Squadron NCO in

charge of dental logistics and supervisor. Since she arrived here, she's been ready to go and involved in everything.

Her positive attitude has impressed me the most, Sergeant Johnson said. It doesn't matter what she's dealing with, she always manages to turn it into a positive. She's always willing to help whoever, with whatever.

Although Airman Livingston falls under the 21st Aeromedical Dental Squadron, she spends the majority of her duty days at Schriever Air Force Base.

The clinic offers a fast-paced environment with more additional duties and hands on work, Airman Livingston said.

It's considered a privilege to be selected to man the clinic at Schriever.

Our techs out there have to be extremely versatile and interchangeable, Sergeant Johnson said. Normally the chosen ones are higher in rank, but Sergeant Johnson said Airman Livingston's keen time management skills and independence allowed them to reward her skills and experience by sending her to the clinic.

Airman Livingston still gets choked up and embarrassed by all of the attention she's gotten as of late but said it has fueled her drive to achieve her goals.

I love the Air Force. I enjoy working with new people and the chal-

lenges that I've had so far, Airman Livingston said.





1964, 1965 are substantial years in air, space history



1964

April 21, the number of ICBMs equals the number of bombers on Strategic Air Command ground alert for the first time. Afterward, the number of missiles surpasses the number of bombers in the nuclear-deterrent force.

July 28, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration launches its Ranger VII spacecraft from Cape Kennedy on a flight to the Moon. Ranger VII completes its mission of taking and relaying 4,316 high-quality close-up pictures of the lunar surface before crashing into an area northwest of the Sea of Clouds July 31.

1965

March 18, Alexei Leonov of the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics becomes the first man to walk in space, performing the extravehicular activity from the Voskhod 2.

March 23, NASA launches the first Gemini

manned flight. Aboard this capsule were Maj. Virgil I. Grissom, the first man to go into space a second time, and U.S. Navy Lt. Cmdr. John W. Young. This was the first spaceflight during which the orbit was deliberately changed.

April 20, Strategic Air Command shipped its last Atlas missile to storage facilities to be used as a launch vehicle in various research and development programs. This completed the first phase-out of the first generation of intercontinental ballistic missiles, all of which were liquid-fueled.

June 3-7, James A. McDivitt and Maj. Edward H. White set a U.S. space-endurance record of 97 hours, 30 seconds. They complete 63 orbits around the Earth. During this orbit, Major White becomes the first U.S. astronaut to walk in space.

June 30, the last of 800 Minuteman I missiles becomes operational at Francis E. Warren AFB when Strategic Air Command accepted the fifth Minuteman wing from Air Force Systems Command.

July 8, the NASA transfers its Syncom II and Syncom III satellites to the Department of Defense. The Air Force Satellite Control Facility and its remote tracking stations in the Pacific and Indian Oceans become responsible for their orbital control.

July 14, NASA's Mariner 4, which had been launched on Nov. 28, 1964, reaches the vicinity of Mars, becoming the first spacecraft to send close photographs of the Red Planet back to Earth.

October 31, Strategic Air Command accepts its first 10 Minuteman II missiles, assigning them to the 447th Strategic Missile Squadron at Grand Forks AFB, N.D. The Minuteman II is larger and more advanced than the Minuteman I, but can be fired from the same silos.



Bioenvironmental engineering reports water quality

By Mike Puleo
21st Medical Group

Base employees can get the facts about the water they drink from recently released Colorado Springs Utilities 2004 Water Quality Report.

This report is designed to inform the public about the water quality and services CSU delivers to the city's population.

According to CSU, the drinking water continually meets or surpasses state and federal standards.

CSU, as well as the 21st Medical Group's Bioenvironmental Engineer, tests the water consumed.

We test water at 13 different sampling locations including the child development centers, the dining facility and the housing area for microbiological contaminants.

All but one bacteriological water sample reported negative for the presence of bacteria. One sample collected from the second floor of Building 122 on Dec. 15, 2003, tested positive for Total Coliform bacteria. Follow-up samples from that location and from sites located upstream and downstream tested nega-

tive on Dec. 16 and 17.

In April 2003, we performed annual lead sampling at both Child Development Centers and Youth Center to ensure our water met all state and federal standards. Our samples reported lead well below the Environmental Protection Agency action level of 15 parts per billion.

Local surface water sources are from the north and south slope of Pikes Peak, North and South Cheyenne Creeks, Fountain Creek, and the Northfield Watershed. Local ground water sources are three Woodmen wells pumped from the Arapahoe aquifer and four Pinello Wells that are pumped from the Widefield aquifer. All water is treated at six Colorado Springs water treatment plants using widely accepted, standard technology.

Throughout the process of collection, treatment and distribution, certified water treatment plant operators and laboratory staff, monitor the water quality for its chemical and biological content. Some of these analyses are required to meet federal and state standards, while others are part of ongoing testing to assure a continual supply of high quality drinking water.

As water travels over the surface of the land and through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material and other substances.

The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. For more information about the contaminants and potential health effects, call the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or visit www.epa.gov/safe-water.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general public. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The EPA/Center for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by

Cryptosporidium and microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

For more information about Peterson Air Force Base water quality, call me or Christopher Caswell at 556-7721. *(Water quality information courtesy of Colorado Springs Utilities and Bioenvironmental Engineering)*

Personnel corner

Change made to E-8 test cycle: Beginning in December, all master sergeants competing for promotion to senior master sergeant will test on the U.S. Air Force supervisory examination between Dec. 6-17. The testing cycle will no longer be conducted in January.

Volunteers needed for Armed Forces Inaugural Committee: The

Air Force is seeking 32 high-caliber individuals to support the 55th Presidential Inauguration period from Jan. 15-24. The TDY is unit-funded in Washington, D.C., and must be approved by individual unit commanders. The unit will pay all TDY expenses. Various Air Force Specialty Codes are required for this opportunity. Interested applicants must submit

applications to the Air Force Personnel Center/DPAPP1 by July 12. For more information and applications, call your Commander Support Staff.

Global War on Terrorism Medal authorized: Eligibility requirements have been released, but criteria and procedures to award the GWOT Service Medal are still being finalized and will be announced at a

later date.

If the medal is not updated, members should fax documentation to the Air Force Contact Center so they may determine eligibility and make the update in the system. Individuals may contact their Commander Support Staff or the Air Force Contact Center at DSN 665-5000 or 1-800-616-3775.



Heartlink helps spouses

By Airman
Mandy Weightman
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

The role of a military spouse isn't always an easy one, but it's a very important one. The Air Force Community Action Information Board and the Integrated Delivery System got together in 2001 and created the Heart Link workshop. Peterson picked up the program in May 2002. It's offered by the Family Support Center and is available to inform spouses on services accessible to them and show them how important they are to the Air Force mission.

According to the program's guidelines, it also familiarizes them on what that mission is, the different customs, traditions and protocol so they have more understanding of the military's way of life.

The words on the Spouse Coin, which is handed out to every spouse who attends a program, are The Air Force Spouse, Heart of the Team, said Jane Gutierrez, a community readi-

ness consultant for the Family Support Center. We want to show them that they are the heart of the Air Force.

Not many people know about the Heart Link program, Mrs. Gutierrez said. Most times, spouses don't become acquainted with helping agents, such as the FSC, until a crisis occurs. This is what we are hoping to prevent through this program.

Peterson's Heartlink workshop is planned to be interactive and enjoyable for the participants. The day consists of activities such as:

- You and the Air Force where you fit in
- Mission Briefing
- Tool Kit for Preparedness
- Introduction to the Air Force Family
- Communicating within the Air Force

The workshop is held quarterly, the next one is scheduled for Aug. 18. Childcare options are available. Call Jane Gutierrez at 834-6141 to register or for more information. 



Peak Performer

Name: Senior Airman Jason Sheppard

Organization: 21st Logistics Readiness Squadron

Duty Title: Deployment Training Inspector

Time in Service: 3 years, 10 months

Home Town: Pueblo, Colo.

Off-duty interests, hobbies: I enjoy NASCAR, motorcycle and drag racing, and basically all types of motor sports. I really like to camp. I love to spend time with my family.

Why did you join the Air Force? My grandfather was in the Air Force and I want to see the country.

What inspires you to do what you do? I support my family, which is inspiring. My son has inspired me to live life to the fullest and accomplish as much as I can, because life is short. I



Sheppard

want to accomplish something good, and become someone.

Favorite part of your job? I like to teach what I do for a living to others, and I really enjoy performing joint inspections.

What goals have you set? I would like to make staff sergeant this year and prepare for a potential career in the Air Force. 

Convoy course prepares Airmen for duty in Iraq

By James Coburn
37th Training Wing Public Affairs

LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas Air Education and Training Command leaders saw the need for the Basic Combat Convoy Course for Airmen during a visit to Iraq in March, and 37th Training Wing experts here assembled the course in record time.

The first platoon of Airmen began the course June 7, training to relieve transportation Airmen currently in Iraq, said Master Sgt. Phil Coolberth, operations superintendent of the 342nd Training Squadron. He designed the three-week course and is its top enlisted leader.

A second platoon began its first week of training June 14. The goal is to have multiple three-platoon truck companies trained over a 13-week period, officials said.

The seven-days-a-week training actually lasts five weeks here. The Airmen get about two weeks of integration and onward-movement training as they go through the course, Sergeant Coolberth said.

Forty-one subject-matter experts from here, F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo.; Altus AFB, Okla.; and Air Force medical detachments nationwide serve as instructors. They are scheduled to work seven days a week, 18 hours a day during the course, said 1st Lt. Leo Martin, course commander from the 342nd TRS. The instructors will return to their regular jobs afterward.

But it's not about us, Sergeant Coolberth said. He said the true heroes are the current battlefield Airmen who are supporting Soldiers as they drive trucks and man .50-caliber machine guns and M-249 automatic weapons mounted on either 5-ton cargo trucks or Humvees to run supply convoys down mean streets, highways and byways of Iraq.

We are honored to even be considered to provide combat training for them, Sergeant Coolberth said.

Gen. Donald G. Cook, AETC commander, and Maj. Gen. John F. Regni, 2nd Air Force commander, went to Iraq and visited with these Air Force truck companies, Sergeant Coolberth said. They identified the need to train (transportation) battlefield Airmen, and they thought there was no better place to do that than where battlefield Airmen are trained, and that's here at Lackland.

Before the course began here, transportation Airmen went through basic convoy training at several Army posts, then additional training in Kuwait, Sergeant Coolberth said. Airmen completing the course here also will receive advanced training in Kuwait.

The first week of the course is here, where the Airmen receive intelligence briefings and live-fire training on the M-4 carbine, Lieutenant Martin said. They also receive combat simulator training and some initial vehicle training before going to nearby Camp Bullis for two weeks of weapons tactics and maneuver training.

Instruction includes multiple weapons systems and qualifications, specific Army communications systems, Global Positioning System navigation tools, combat lifesaver skills, tactical-vehicle qualifications and heavy emphasis in small unit leadership and troop-lead-

ing procedures. All aspects of the training are encased in combat convoy operations.

If there are people out there searching for the perfect battlefield Airman, it doesn't necessarily have to be a special operator on a horse calling in a B-52 [Stratofortress] strike, said Sergeant Coolberth, who just returned from a month-long trip to Iraq along with two other instructors. (The transportation Airmen) are involved in combat every single day, and they were former dispatchers and shuttle bus drivers on any Air Force base you can name.

(The Airmen) are extremely disciplined with focused awareness, he said. These are combat-hardened troops who have a rough job.



Courtesy photo
Staff Sgt. Scott Grant (foreground) and Tech. Sgt. Richard Conrad observe as students begin firing their M-4 carbines during a Basic Combat Convoy Course at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. The 342nd Training Squadron instructors will be working seven days a week, 18 hours a day for 13 weeks as several hundred students go through the course.



Deployed Peterson AFB member helps children in Iraq

SOUTHWEST ASIA A deployed master sergeant from Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., is helping bring stability and peace to Iraq through some grassroots generosity.

Master Sgt. Richard Weissgarber, a manpower and organization analyst, is a

volunteer for Win The Peace, a humanitarian project to deliver school supplies to Iraqi children.

The Win The Peace program is conducted by Air Force members from the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing in Southwest Asia. They are deployed in

support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Sergeant Weissgarber is the 380th AEW Chief of Manpower.

Members of the wing have made three deliveries to schools in Iraq since 2003, affecting more than 700 children.

Each child receives a backpack full of supplies such as paper, pens, hygiene products and other useful items. The supplies are bought with donations or contributions from the wing and organizations from the United States.

All children should have the opportunity to get a quality education and have the tools necessary to accomplish that

goal. The love and support we show children now will always be with them, they will always remember what we did and see it as a truly positive moment in their very turbulent lives, Sergeant Weissgarber said.

Sergeant Weissgarber worked with his mother, Joanne Tew, to coordinate a donation from her employer, in the Mashantucket Pequot Indian Reservation in Mashantucket, Conn. The business contributed backpacks, calculators and assorted items.

This is a generous offer by the American force to give these gifts for students, said Jassem Mohmed Hasson, an Iraqi education development specialist about a Win The Peace delivery made to Qurtabah Elementary School and a nearby facility near An Nasiriyah, Iraq. These gifts will help the students in their studies and encourage them to do their best.

He said the donations will make the relationship between the Iraqi people and the Americans very strong, and also, that (they) will give students hope to study because the students were suffering during the previous regime of Saddam Hussein.

The next Win The Peace delivery of supplies is set for late May. Five hundred backpacks will be delivered to schools and orphanages in An Nasiriyah.

(Courtesy of 380th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs)



Photo by Capt. Angela Smith

ABOVE: Master Sgt. Richard Weissgarber (right) assembles backpacks that will be given to Iraqi children. Sergeant Weissgarber is deployed to Southwest Asia from Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

LEFT: An Iraqi boy accepts a Win The Peace backpack during a delivery made to a school near An Nasiriyah. The school supplies are sent to children by the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing in Southwest Asia.



Photo by Tech Sgt. Bob Oldham

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 BASHER – June 3

Security forces responded to the West gate, where a truck got into a fight with a barrier and lost. There was no damage done to the barrier, but the truck came out with a 5-inch gash on its rear outer wall.

THAT STUFF ISN'T FREE – June 4

Security forces responded to the Base Exchange, where a store detective caught an individual trying to leave with full pockets. The Colorado Springs Police Department issued the sticky-fingered fiend a summons for shoplifting.

HIT AND RUN – June 6

Security forces received a call from a person who stated that he just witnessed someone hit

another person's car and drive off. He also said that the car cruncher got out of her car, assessed the damage and left the scene. Security forces stopped the vehicle and detained the person responsible. They issued her several citations including Improper Backing and Leaving the scene of an accident.

YOU CAN'T COME IN – June 7

A security forces member asked the security forces control center to run a check on a person who was requesting entry onto base. The check revealed that the nincompoop had a warrant out for failure to appear. The CSPD responded and took the criminal into custody.

EAGLE EYES – June 7

A military member called security forces and stated that there was a person taking photographs outside the base perimeter. The El Paso County Sheriff's Department was contacted and conducted a sweep of the area.

VEHICLE ACCIDENT – June 8

Security forces responded to the intersection of Stewart Avenue and Paine Street, where a vehicle accident was reported. The CSPD determined that a vehicle traveling west on Stewart Avenue ran a red light and hit the car traveling south on Paine St. They issued the person a summons for failure to stop for a red light.

ANYONE NEED A SWIMMING BUOY? – June 9

Security forces responded to the Aquatics Center, where a verbal altercation was reported. A witness stated that the altercation started because a person entered a swimming lane at

the pool without telling the two people that were already in the lane. One of the members became irritated and confronted the person and said that he should've have given them the courtesy of announcing that he was also going to use the lane. The two men then exchanged words. The altercation instigator then threw his swimming buoy at the other person and walked away.

BETTER PAY FOR THAT – June 9

A Shoppette employee called security forces and stated that a person had come in a day earlier to pay for gas and a drink and the individual's check would not clear. The employee instructed the man to come in the next day and pay for it. When the employee arrived the next evening he found that the man hadn't paid yet. Security forces got in touch absent-minded individual and told him to go pay the bill.

PLAY NICE – June 9

Security forces responded to a base housing park, where it was reported that a verbal altercation had taken place between two children. A concerned mother stated that there was another child harassing her son and using profanity. Security forces responded and diffused the situation.

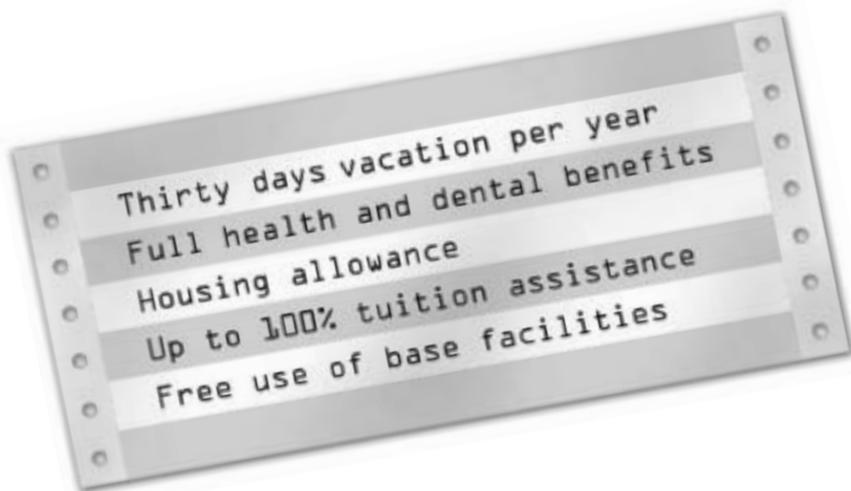
ALARMING TRENDS CONTINUE:

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

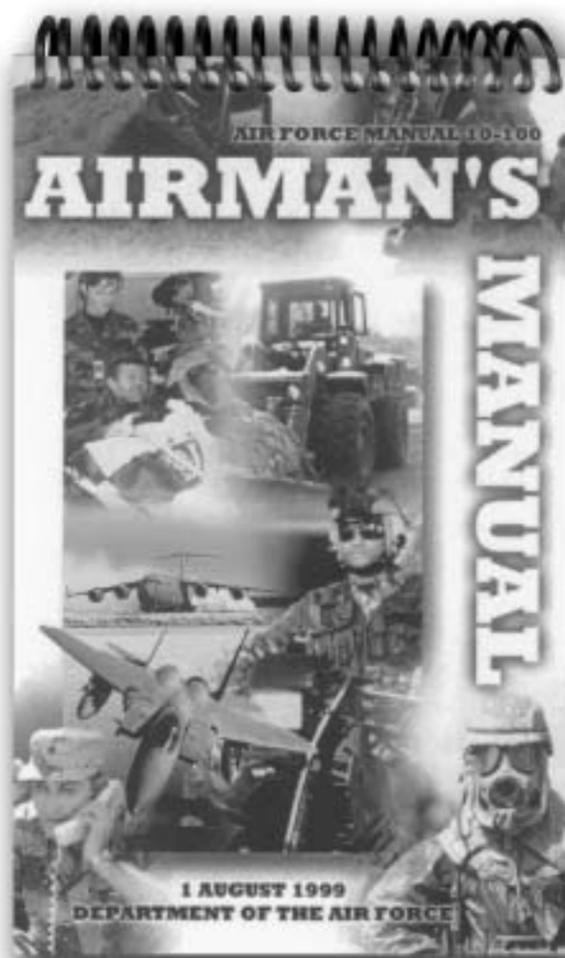


U.S. AIR FORCE
CROSS INTO THE BLUE

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.

Sports and Field Day kicks off at Eagle Park

By Staff Sgt. Sue Mrowiec
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Team Pete sprinted, dove, leapt and swung into action during the base's annual Sports and Field Day June 9.

Members from 32 units celebrated fitness by participating in events like volleyball, softball, tennis and soccer.

Competitors wishing to beat the heat opted to partake in activities like lap swimming at the Aquatics Center or

bowling in the air-conditioned Bowling Center.

It was a well-planned and well-executed, morale building event, said Staff Sgt. Bill Wagner, a 21st Space Wing manpower analyst and Sports Day

event manager.

Mary Gregor, a recreation assistant at Outdoor Recreation who helped plan the events, also said she thought the day was successful.

It went really smooth, she said. We had a great turnout for Sports and Field Day. It was a lot of fun.

The day's events extended beyond sports and athletic competition.

Volunteers served a free barbecue picnic lunch at Eagle Park, where guests could also visit promotional tents and collect Around the World in Ninety Days game pieces.

An award ceremony was also included in the festivities. The Fitness Center recognized Ring of Fame inductee, Staff Sgt. Jacob Hey, 21st Security Forces Squadron. The award acknowledges athletic achievement above and beyond.

Athletic achievement, healthy competition and love of sport were themes embodied by Team Pete members at Sports and Field Day. 🏆



Photos by Camilla Smith

The 21st Space Communications Squadron team digs in their heels during a tug of war challenge against the 21st Medical Group. The 21st MDG pulled their way to victory.



Riders take to the streets during the 10K bike race. David Anderson, from the 10th Dental Squadron, placed first in the competition.



Large competition category teams from the 21st Medical Group and the 302nd Airlift Wing shoot hoops.



ABOVE: Hundreds participated in morning 5K run and 5K walk events. Gordon Birdsall, from Air Force Space Command Headquarters, and Antonio Eppolito, from the 21st Medical Dental Operations Squadron, were winners in the run.



Swimming enthusiasts dive into competition at the Aquatics Center June 9. Events included the 50 Meter, 100 Meter and 200 Meter Freestyle Swim.



at your SERVICES

This Week

Today

■ Family Swim Night, 6 p.m. at the Aquatics Center. ATWIND event.

Friday

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

Saturday

■ Thunder Alley, 8:30 p.m. at the Bowling Center aTWIND event.

Sunday

■ Use Automotive Skills Center and get an ATWIND game piece.

Monday

■ Water aerobics class, 6 p.m. at the Aquatics Center. ATWIND event.

Tuesday

■ Family Swim Night, 6 p.m. at the Aquatics Center. ATWIND event.

Wednesday

■ Eat the weekly ethnic meal at the Aragon Dining Facility and earn an ATWIND game piece.

■ Take an aerobics class at 12:05 or 5:10 p.m. and earn an ATWIND game piece.

June 24

■ Play Group, 10:30 a.m. to 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

Team Pete bowls for the Stars & Strikes

By Margie Arnold
21st Services Squadron

Bowl often for a chance to win cash and prizes with Bowl for the Stars & Strikes, an Air Force Services-wide program. It may sound similar to Around the World In Ninety Days in some respects, but it's a separate ball of wax.

All summer long, customers at the Bowling Center will get punched, sort of. Each customer will get a Bowl for the Stars & Strikes punch card and have a chance to earn rewards by collecting punches on the three different levels of punch card: red, white and blue.

For every 15 punches, bowlers and non-bowlers will receive the corresponding reward for that level, while supplies last. Rewards include items such as a bowling pin key chain, bowling ball bank or a T-shirt. Plus, every completed punch



Photo by Camilla Smith

Bowlers roll for free games and beverages during Bowl for the Stars & Strikes. Players are given punches on a card for every game bowled or for each large fountain beverage purchased at the Strike Zone Café June 1 through Aug. 31. Completed punch cards are good toward a free soft drink and two free games of bowling.

card becomes an entry for monthly prizes. Blue-level cards can enter for a chance to win a \$500 cash grand prize or the second prize, a Pride of Our Nation Viz-A-Ball bowling ball.

Punches are given for every game

bowled or each large fountain beverage purchased at the Bowling Center's Strike Zone Café now through Aug. 31. Participants will also get a coupon good for a free medium beverage and two free games of bowling for every card completed.

No additional purchase is necessary to enter to win monthly and grand prizes. For complete contest rules and an entry form, stop in the Bowling Center, or call 556-4607.

Bowling Center Makes Lunches a Wrap

The Bowling Center offers a healthy lunch alternative for the carb conscious. It's called a wrap healthy foods prepared in a calorie-light fashion and wrapped in a flavorful tortilla. Wraps come in

three different varieties: Caesar chicken, Southwestern beef and tuna and are available at the Bowling Center's main desk. No waiting at the snack bar. A perfect lunch that's Fit-to-Go. Try one after your next workout.

ARAGON DINING FACILITY MENU

Today

Lunch:

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

Dinner:

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

Friday

Lunch:

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

Dinner:

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

Saturday

Brunch:

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

Sunday

Brunch:

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

Monday

Lunch:

Pot Roast
Baked Stuff Fish
Roast Loin of Pork
Oven Brown Potatoes
Steamed Rice
Cauliflower Combo
Succotash
Green Beans with Mushrooms

Dinner:

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

Tuesday

Lunch:

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

Dinner:

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

Wednesday

Lunch:

Lasagna
Chicken Parmesan
Hot Italian Sausage
Green Peppers & Onions
Jefferson Noodles
Potatoes Au Gratin
Stewed Tomatoes
Broccoli

Dinner:

Lemon-Herb Chicken
Barbecue Spareribs
Stuffed Pork Chops
Scalloped Potatoes
Steamed Rice
Cauliflower Combo
Mexican Corn
Tempura Vegetables



One man thinks outside the box

By Chaplain (Capt.) Tim Wilson

[302nd Airlift Wing](#)

David Phillips is the master at thinking outside of the box. He dreamed of traveling and exploring Europe with his family. When he ran across a promotional offer made by a food company, the wheels in his head started turning. He started thinking outside the box. You won't believe what he came up with.

The advertisement promised 500 airline miles for every barcode sent to the company before the end of the year. What to do? Dave went shopping scouring discount grocery stores for the

cheapest company product he could find. It was easy. Cleaning out the inventory of most local stores, he filled his garage with 12,500 cups of pudding.

He and his family went to work eating pudding and collecting bar codes. Unfortunately, it wasn't long before pudding for breakfast, lunch and supper lost its pizzazz and the end of the year deadline was fast approaching. This called for some major thinking outside the box. Dave filled up the car to the ceiling with pudding packs and headed down to the inner city shelter for the homeless. He made the staff an offer that was hard to refuse. The volunteers eagerly saved the lids bar codes while

serving their clients all the wonderful pudding they wanted with their meals. Dave even got a tax deduction for his pudding contribution!

With the bar codes turned in and the flight vouchers in hand, the Phillips family wasted no time in seeing the world. To start, Mr. Phillips took his wife, daughters and some family friends to Cancun, Mexico, for Thanksgiving, Sweden for Christmas and, Italy, Spain and London for Easter. When all was said and done the Phillips family had earned more than 1.2 million frequent flyer miles.

Thinking outside the box can bring remarkable results. The Bible calls this

kind of thinking faith. The New Testament sums it up, Faith is the firm foundation under everything that makes life worth living. It's our handle on what we can't see, Hebrews 11:1-2, The Message. Faith lets us live beyond the box of our circumstances, outside of that which we cannot fully understand, to an unseen powerful reality. The journey of faith is rewarding.

Oh, by the way, you might be wondering what the cost was for the Phillips international adventures? Years of worldwide enjoyment and discovery were theirs for a grand total investment of just \$3,140. Not a bad investment in the pudding market.

Safety shares tips on how to mow like a pro

It's finally summer. It didn't seem like it would ever get here after being buried under all that snow. With summer comes the fun of keeping the yard looking nice. With that, of course, comes the fun of cutting the grass.

Cutting grass with a power mower can be extremely dangerous if it's not used properly. The biggest cause of mishaps and injuries is complacency on the part of the operator. It's easy to leave the engine running when you empty the grass catcher, it's also a way to lose a finger or a hand.

Another common practice is to remove guards from the mower such as the grass chute and the foot guard on the rear of the mower so you don't step on it. Well, that's what the guard is for, to keep you from placing your foot under the mower and slicing off toes and feet.

Power mowers can also hurl objects out from under the mower at speeds of 200 mph and distances of up to 50 feet. A word to the wise—take the extra time to pick up debris in the path of the mower so as not to hurl an object through a window or at an innocent child playing off in the distance. This can also damage your mower.

Gasoline has a habit of catching fire or exploding when exposed to a heat source. When filling a mower's fuel tank with gas, always do it outside, never overfill the tank (gasoline on a hot engine is bad) and never smoke around gasoline due to the large concentrated amounts of vapors given off. If a spill does occur, move some distance from the spill before attempting to start the engine.

Another point of interest is the muffler on the engine of the mower. If you've ever been mowing in

the evening after a long period and looked at the muffler, you've noticed it had a nice cherry glow to it. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that it's not only hot, but very hot. A tenth-of-a-second touch would prove to be at least a second-degree burn, if not worse. A child touching a hot muffler could fair much worse.

When actually cutting grass, it's always best to push the mower and not pull it because it's very easy to slide under the mower when pulling it. When cutting grass on a hill (and we do have a hill or two here in Colorado) or slope it's always best to cut across a hill and not up and down the hill. The likelihood that you will slip and get hurt by the mower is reduced when using the mower in this fashion.

(Courtesy of the 21st Space Wing Safety Office)

Editor's note: Team Pete units are finding creative and unique ways to stay fit together. Below are a few photographs featuring some of their recent adventures.



Courtesy photo

Mike Guthrie helps Detachment 11 teammate Capt. Michelle Villavaso navigate the obstacle course at the U.S. Air Force Academy.



Courtesy photo

21st MOF trains together

Members of the 21st Maintenance Operations Flight finish up a four-hour, 25-mile bike ride during a recent unit Fit to Fight session. The group stopped at Pic Ice Lake, Colorado Springs, Colo., for a group photo opportunity.



Photo by Joe Fischer

21st SW runs the gauntlet

Members of the 21st Mission Support Group run the fitness trail through Eagle Park during the 21st Space Wing's first Fit to Fight session.