

“2003 AFSPC Best Large Wing PA Office”

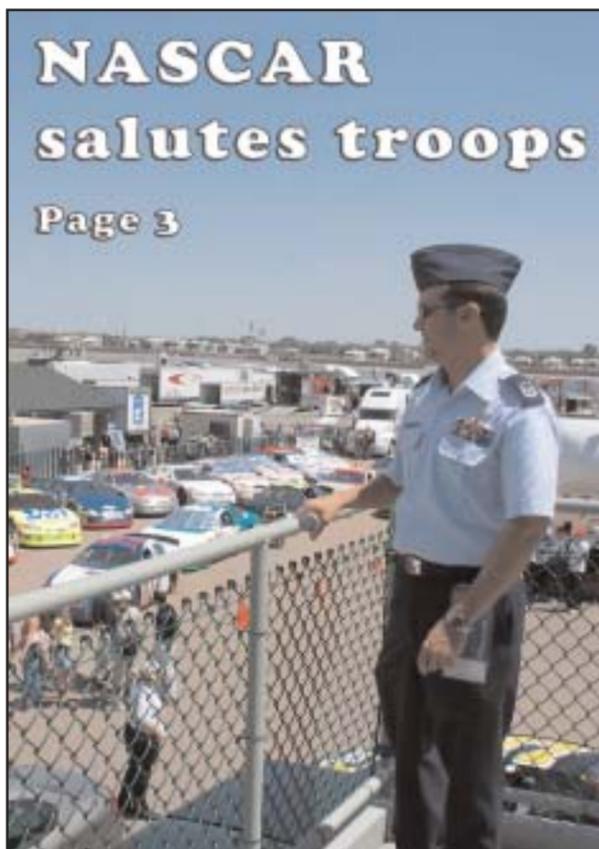
Thursday, August 5, 2004

Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado

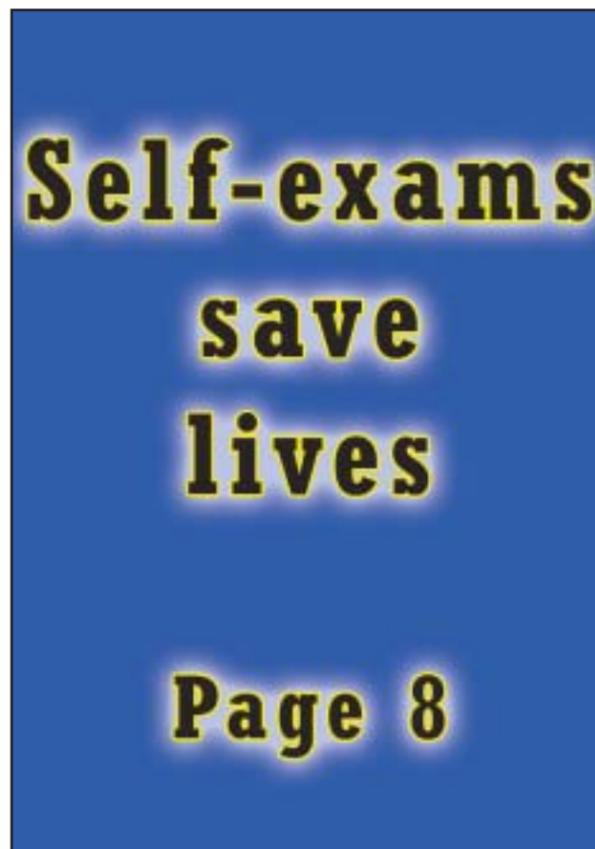
Vol. 48 No. 31



Photo by Budd Butcher



Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo

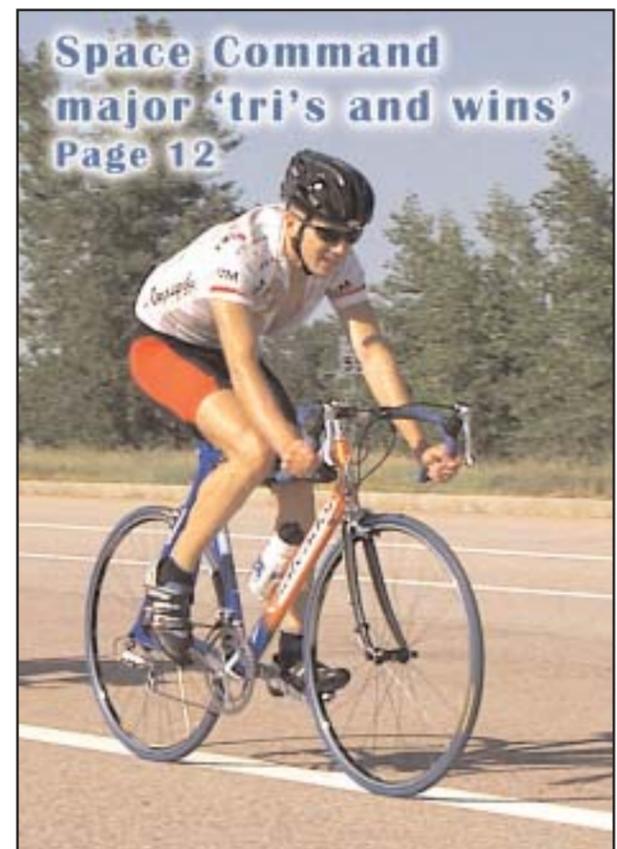


Photo by Budd Butcher



Vice President rallies troops at Peterson AFB

By Merrie Schilter Lowe

North American Aerospace Defense
and U.S. Northern Command

More than 1,500 Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, Canadian military members, civic leaders, civilian and contract personnel and family members braved 90-degree temperatures, body scanners, and a two-hour wait to see and hear Vice President Dick Cheney speak during his visit to the base Aug. 2.

Members across Peterson Air Force Base began preparations for the visit less than a week ago.

Brigadier General Richard E. Webber, the 21st Space Wing commander, pointed out how year-round practice and teamwork can bring about success, regardless of the mission. "It's good, solid promises and the agility to adapt and overcome that brings mission success," the commander said. "Our team has taken the right steps to ensure this visit showcases that agility, adaptability and the teamwork we practice every day in our mission while supporting this unique combination of team missions that make up Team Pete."

That presence was front and center at Hangar 140 as Vice President Cheney addressed the crowds.

"I am honored to bring personal regards to each and everyone of you from our Commander and Chief President George W. Bush," said Vice President Cheney, to which he received thunderous applause. "In less than two years time, you turned a brand new command into a disciplined, professional, effective component of the greatest military force in the world," he told the group.



Photo by Budd Butcher

General Ralph E. "Ed" Eberhart, the North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command commander and Team Pete welcome Vice President Dick Cheney and his wife Lynne, on his morale visit to Peterson Air Force Base Aug. 2. The vice president came to the base to show his appreciation for the dedication to national security demonstrated by North American Aerospace Defense and U.S. Northern Command personnel.

During his visit, the vice president acknowledged the national security contributions of U.S. Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense.

"In NORTHCOM, we have a fully unified command, fully dedicated to defending against threats to the United States," said Cheney. He cited the more than 3,600 sorties NORAD has flown as part of Operation Noble Eagle "to deter and disrupt attacks against America from the skies."

The vice president also addressed the command's homeland security efforts, including providing security for events such as the recent G-8 Summit meetings near Savannah, Ga., the Democratic National Convention in Boston, and efforts to fight drug trafficking.

"In all of these actions, you have demonstrated the high quality of your training and the depth of your dedication," Cheney told the audience. "By carrying out your duties, you make it possible for so many Americans to lead their daily lives with confidence and security, and your fellow citizens are deeply grateful for your service."

The vice president concluded his speech by stating some of the reasons terrorists will fail in attempts to destroy this country.

Chief among those reasons, he said, is the resolve of the American people and its allies, and because "men and women like you stand in their way."

After acknowledging state and local civic leaders and community leaders in the audience, Cheney singled out military family members for their support.

"You're the ones who send letters and packages, care for friends and neighbors in need, and provide prayerful support. America is enormously proud of our military families," the vice president said.

At the end of his speech, Cheney and his wife spent 10 minutes meeting and greeting members of the audience.

General Webber took a moment to pass on parting comments from the visiting staff. "The vice-president's team expressed, on numerous levels, how impressed they were with all the folks who came together to make this event go so well," he said. "From across the base, we all came together – just as we do while accomplishing our day-to-day and wartime missions. We are all one team. You should all be proud of how that message was relayed today. I couldn't have asked for better."

'Middle of Nowhere' represents in South Dakota Marathon

By 2nd Lt. Liz Burke

10th Space Warning Squadron

The 10th Space Warning Squadron prides itself on being extremely physically fit and hosting a very challenging and diverse Fit-to-Fight program in spite of having to workout indoors for much of the year. Squadron members, Maj. Rodney Hart, Maj. Hondo Scott, 2nd Lt. Jeremy Ferguson, 2nd Lt. Liz Burke, Staff Sgt. Autumn Gray and Airman 1st

Class Michael Benson all set their sights on the 2004 Deadwood-Mickelson Trail marathon in Deadwood, S.D., to meet their Fit-to-Fight goals. They developed creative ways to battle the extreme environment and train for the long-distance race.

Affectionately referred to by crewmembers as the "middle of nowhere", Cavalier Air Force Station is a conus-isolated radar system that sits in the northernmost part of North Dakota,

near the Canadian border.

When wind chill causes the temperature to drop to negative-80-degrees fahrenheit and snow stays on the ground from October through May, 10th SWS runners have no choice but to find indoor training methods for the team. Even in May, the 10th SWS runners had to battle extreme winds.

The racecourse was picturesque (the Deadwood marathon is rated as one of the most scenic marathons in the

United States) and the all dirt trails were ideal for running. The most difficult aspects the runners had to deal with were the altitude (5,000ft), the hills the heat. Their preparation stood the test though, as all runners finished the race in respectable times. Lieutenant Burke took home the lone medal for 10th SWS when she took first place in the female 20-to-24-age division.

Half of the runners plan to compete in the race next year.

Space Observer

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

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

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

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

Articles for the Space Observer should be submitted to the 21st SW/PAI, Attn: Space Observer, 775 Loring Ave., Ste. 218, Peterson AFB, Colo., 80914-1294 or e-mail space.observer@peterson.af.mil. Deadline for submission is 4:30 p.m. the Thursday one week before publication. All articles, copy and announcements submitted will be edited to conform to AFI Series 35 and the Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual. For details, call the editor at (719) 556-4351 or DSN 834-4351.

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A Moment in Time



■ **Aug. 5, 1950** – Major Louis J. Seville is killed in action flying a severely damaged F-51 Mustang against an enemy force concentration in Korea. Maj. Seville is the first member of the recently-created Air Force to be awarded the Medal of Honor

■ **Aug. 6, 1945** – B-29 "Enola Gay" dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan.

■ **Aug. 7, 1990** – Operation Desert Shield begins in response to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

The operation's immediate objective is to protect Saudi Arabia from Iraqi aggression and build up allied military strength.

Racers show military appreciation

By 1st Lt. Paradon Silpasornprasit

21st Space Wing Public Affairs

This year's NASCAR Busch Series "Salute to the Troops" got underway Saturday at the Pikes Peak International Raceway in Fountain, Colo., in front of more than 40 thousand cheering fans.

It was military appreciation day at the racetrack. This year was the first year all branches of service were included in the event. Military members came out in large numbers to enjoy the race, military discounts and meet the drivers. They also got a chance to access the garage areas where they could get a close up look at their favorite cars.

"We felt we wanted to give something back for their service to this country," said Rob Johnson, Pikes Peak International Raceway president.

"The military can walk away with the feeling they are appreciated. This gives them the opportunity to spend time with their families," he added.

General Lance Lord, Air Force Space Command commander, Brig. Gen. Richard E. Webber, 21st Space Wing commander along with five other area commanders greeted drivers during the driver introductions. Thirteen Airmen from Peterson Air Force Base, along with Fort Carson soldiers, took part in escorting each driver across a stage during prerace introductions. Other Airmen also added to the success of the event by volunteering to man concession booths and performing security details.

"It was outstanding! They treated us like first class. We had full access and met the drivers.

They went all out for us and we felt like we were

being treated like royalty," said Tech. Sgt. Eric Kahle, an event volunteer escort assigned to the 76th Space Control Squadron.

Country music star Martina McBride was on hand to sing the national anthem as four F-16s from Buckley AFB made a fly-by.

Then sounds of roaring engines rumbled to life as the traditional starting words of, "Gentlemen, start

your engines!" was announced by General Lord, also the ranking grand marshal of the event.

At more than 135 mph, each car sped around the mile long track for more than two hours.

Car number 60, driven by Greg Biffle won the race.

The Series began in 1982. Its annual attendance nationwide exceeds 2.3 million fans.



Courtesy photo
General Richard E. Webber, 21st Space Wing Commander and Col. Suzanne M. Vautrinot, 50th Space Wing Commander, along with the commanders from the Colorado Springs area greet the NASCAR drivers during prerace announcements.

Special Duty Briefing Team to visit base

By Senior Airman
Shawn Clements

21st Space Wing Public Affairs

The Air Education and Training Command team will host a special duty assignment opportunities briefing here Aug. 17 in the Mission Support Building.

For those who've ever been interested in becoming members of one of the most elite group of people in the Air Force the Military Training Instructor Corps -- the Air Education and Training Special Duty Briefing Team may have the answer.

They can also tell Airmen who would like the chance to choose their next assignment

and possibly manage their own office near or in their home state how to make that possible through special duty assignments.

Special duty assignments can be challenging yet satisfying and rewarding. The purpose of the visit is to seek out potential candidates for MTIs and recruiters.

"This visit will give Team Pete members the opportunity to talk with MTIs and recruiters who are currently in the field performing these duties," said Senior Master Sgt. Dan Voss, 21st Space Wing career assistance advisor.

"In recent years, MTIs and recruiters have been difficult positions to fill across the

Air Force. While these jobs are challenging, they are very rewarding," he said.

While here, the team will outline all the qualification criteria and attendees can view video presentations about each career field.

"If you're a senior airman through master sergeant with less than 17 years total active service, the AETC Special Duty Briefing Team may have the answer to your Air Force future," said Master Sgt. Charles Brown, chief of the Recruiting Screening Team. "Recruiters are responsible for the number and quality of young men and women who enlist to begin their Air Force careers. Only the best

need apply."

In addition to volunteers, recruiting officials encourage those people who were identified by the Air Force Personnel Center and who were approved by their commander for recruiting duty to attend the briefing. They suggest that individuals in a mandatory retraining career field attend as well.

"Everyone remembers their MTI," said Master Sgt. Jodie Cameron, MTI Recruiting Team Superintendent. "The MTI sets the stage for each individual's success in the Air Force and mentors hundreds of new Air Force members."

"The job is filled with substantial rewards for those

who want to have a hand in molding tomorrow's Air Force," Sergeant Cameron said.

Applicants from all Air Force specialties are eligible to apply and are encouraged to attend. Spouses are also welcome.

"We are trying our best to get the word out to the entire Team Pete family. This is a prime opportunity to take a close look at yet another career path," Sergeant Voss said. "This is a great opportunity -- don't let it go by."

The team can expedite the special duty application packages in most cases.

For more information about the visit, call Sergeant Voss at 556-9226.

Museum volunteers rebuild history

By Senior Airman
Shawn Clements

21st Space Wing Public Affairs

It's the biggest and heaviest single-engine, single-placed fighter ever built and volunteers at the Peterson Air and Space Museum have spent several years restoring one here. August 1, volunteers added a fresh coat of paint as a step toward completion.

The P-47 Thunderbolt's first flight was May 16, 1941. Soon after that initial flight, the aircraft became a vital asset during WWII. During its service, P-47 pilots destroyed 11,898 enemy planes,

160,000 military vehicles and 9,000 enemy locomotives, tallying more victories than any other American aircraft.

The Thunderbolt has since been retired from active service.

"This particular aircraft was recovered from the Puerto Rican Air National Guard in 1971 and was on display here until 2000," said Ernie Newman, Museum Public Affairs. "The plane was chosen to be restored and displayed in a hangar."

The process can be very tedious and time consuming.

"We've been restoring it for more than three years now and it will probably

be more than four before it's completely finished," said Jerry Oney, Air Force Space Command exercise planner and museum volunteer. "To completely restore one of these aircraft it takes a lot of elbow grease.

"From the tips of the propeller to the back of the rudder, we've worked on almost everything that needed to be cleaned, restored, replaced or repaired," Mr. Oney said. "The engine has been scrubbed and repainted and we've installed a lot of new hoses and clamps and have polished up everything we could get our hands on."

When it comes to preserving a

piece of Pete history, these volunteers are no amateurs.

"The work that the volunteers do is totally professional," Mr. Newman said. "When they finish projects like this, it looks as if the plane just came off the assembly line."

Applying a little elbow grease is worth the effort for the volunteers, who said they enjoy what they do.

"We're all aviation buffs and just love being around airplanes," Mr. Oney said. "The chance to turn a wrench on an old World War II plane is a rare and wonderful opportunity that you can't pass up. I love it."



TEAM PETE RECOGNIZES PROMOTEEES

The monthly Team Pete NCO Induction and Recognition Ceremony will be held 3 p.m. Friday at the Enlisted Club.

MEDICAL GROUP ANNOUNCES TRAINING DAYS, CLOSURES

The Peterson Clinic will be closed from 7:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Aug. 26, Sept. 23 and Oct. 28.

All 21st Medical Group facilities, including the Commissary Refill Pharmacy, will close at noon Aug. 20 due to an official function.

AUTOMOTIVE SKILLS CENTER OFFERS DRIVING SEMINAR

The Auto Skills Center will conduct a free Parent and Teen Driving Seminar from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Aug. 18 at the Youth Center.

Attendees must be at least 14 years old and be accompanied by a parent. For reservations, call 556-4481.

ASSOCIATION LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Non-Commissioned Officer Association needs volunteers to assist selling seatbacks and programs during the U.S. Air Force Academy football season. To view the football schedule, visit www.airforcesports.com. For more information, call Master Sgt. Bill Gardner at 554-2745 or e-mail him at william.gardner@peterson.af.mil.

ASSOCIATION HOLDS OPEN HOUSE, PICNIC

The Non-Commissioned Officer Association will hold an open house and welcome-back picnic at the NCOA Air Academy Chapter Clubhouse at the U.S. Air Force Academy from noon to 5 p.m. Aug. 21. The event celebrates the opening of their new facility and

demonstrates what activities the association has planned for next year. Prospective members are welcome. Free barbecue will be available. For more information, call Master Sgt. Shelton Haskins at 554-2711, or e-mail him at shelton.haskins@peterson.af.mil.

MEDICAL GROUP UNDERGOES EVALUATION

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations conducts an accreditation survey of the 21st Medical Group Aug. 17 and 18 to evaluate the organization's compliance with nationally established standards. The survey results determine the conditions under which accreditation should be awarded the organization. Anyone with pertinent information may request a public information interview with the commission's field representatives at the time of the survey.

Interview requests must be made in writing and sent to the commission at least five working days before the survey begins. Requests should be sent to the Division of Accreditation Operations Office of Quality Monitoring Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, One Renaissance Boulevard, Oakbrook Terrace, IL., 60181, faxed to 630-792-5636 or e-mailed to complaint@jcaho.org.

SUPPORT STAFF REQUIRES TDY CHECK IN

The 21st Mission Support Squadron Commander's Support Staff is the servicing orderly room for the 21st MSS, 21st Mission Support Group, 21st Space Wing, North American Aerospace Defense, U.S. Northern Command, 614th Space Communications Squadron, Detachment 7 Civil Air Patrol and the Defense Courier Service. They are responsible for updating all duty status changes for respective organizations. It is imperative any member departing for

temporary duty checks in with the unit orderly room prior to departure. For more information, call 1st Lt. Cameron Jackson, 21st MSS section commander at 556-4682.

MEDICAL GROUP 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.

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.

HAWC CREATES COOKBOOK

The Health and Wellness Center is creating the "Team Pete ... Let's Eat Cookbook." To submit recipes, visit www.typensave.com.

Login, type full name under Contributor Name, type Peterson HAWC under Group Name and use b0ac3 as the password. For more information, call 556-6544.



Chapel Schedule



Protestant Worship Services:

Liturgical Service, 6:30 p.m. Sat.
Liturgical Worship Service, 6:30 p.m. Sat.
General Protestant
Worship Service, 11 a.m. Sun.
Gospel Worship Service, 12:30 p.m. Sun.
Contemporary Worship Service, 5 p.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.

Last LGM-30G Minuteman produced in 1978



General Characteristics:

Primary Function: ICBM

Contractor: Boeing Co.

Length: 59.9 feet

Weight: 79,432 pounds

Diameter: 5.5 feet

Range: 6,000-plus miles

Speed: Approximately 15,000 mph, Mach 23, at burnout

Ceiling: 700 miles

Thrust: First stage, 202,600 pounds

Load: Re-entry vehicle: Lockheed Martin Missiles and Space MK 12 or MK 12A

Guidance systems: Inertial system by Boeing North American and ground electronic/security system by Sylvania Electronics Systems and Boeing Co.

Unit cost: \$7 million

Date deployed: June 1970

Production cessation: December 1978

Inventory: Active force, 500; Reserve, 0; Air National Guard, 0



The LGM-30G Minuteman ICBM is an element of the nation's strategic deterrent forces. The "L" in LGM is the Department of Defense designation for silo-launched, "G" means surface attack and "M" stands for guided missile.

The Minuteman is a strategic weapon system using a ballistic missile of intercontinental range. Missiles are dispersed in hardened silos to protect against attack and connected to an underground launch control center through a system of hardened cables. Launch crews, consisting of two officers, perform around-the-clock alert in the launch control center.

A variety of communication systems provide the president and secretary of defense with highly reliable, virtually instantaneous direct contact with each launch crew. Should command capability be lost between the launch control center and remote missile launch facilities, specially configured E-6B airborne launch control center aircraft automatically assume command and control of the isolated missile or missiles. Fully qualified airborne missile combat crews aboard airborne launch control center aircraft would execute the president's orders.

A life extension program is under way to keep the missiles safe, secure and reliable well into the 21st century. These major programs include replacement of the aging guidance system, remanufacture of the solid-propellant rocket motors, replacement of standby power systems, repair of launch facilities,

and installation of updated, survivable communications equipment and new command and control consoles to enhance immediate communications.

The Minuteman weapon system was conceived in the late 1950s. Minuteman I was deployed in the early 1960s. Minuteman was a revolutionary concept and an extraordinary technical achievement. Both the missile and basing components incorporated significant advances beyond the relatively slow-reacting, liquid-fueled, remotely-controlled intercontinental ballistic missiles of the previous generation. From the beginning, Minuteman missiles have provided a quick-reacting, inertially guided, highly survivable component to America's nuclear Triad. Minuteman's maintenance concept capitalizes on high reliability and a "remove and replace" approach to achieve a near 100-percent alert rate.

Through state-of-the-art improvements, the Minuteman system has evolved to meet new challenges and assume new missions. Modernization programs have resulted in new versions of the missile, expanded targeting options, improved accuracy and survivability. Today's Minuteman weapon system is the product of almost 40 years of continuous enhancement.

The current Minuteman force consists of 500 Minuteman III's located at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo., Malmstrom AFB, Mont., and Minot AFB, N.D. The last round of base realignment and closing decisions has forced a realignment of Minuteman missiles from Grand Forks AFB, N.D., to Malmstrom AFB.



Compensation possible for hail damage

Master Sgt. Danny Sells
21st Space Wing Legal Office

Hail and thunderstorms in the local area are a reminder of the cost associated with residing in the Colorado Springs community.

The damaging hail this year is more on track with what is generally expected, said Carole Walker, executive director of the Rocky Mountain Insurance Association. The last hail storm resulted in \$28 million in damage to personal property. The state usually averages three to five damaging hailstorms during the peak months of June and July, she said.

The commonality of these storms makes it difficult for individuals to receive compensation from

the government for damages inflicted. Because the Personnel Claims Act is not a substitute for insurance, settlement authorities are limited by regulation as to the type of payments that can be made. According to AFI 51-502, paragraph 2.34.3.3.1, claims settlement authorities do not pay for loss or damage from routine or regularly occurring storms. Settlement authorities do have the discretion to determine that.

Although a particular storm may be routine, the severity of that particular storm may be such that it becomes an unusual occurrence. For example, baseball-sized hail occurs less than pea-sized hail.

Another point to remember is that while one base may pay claims from a particular storm, another

may not. Colorado Springs is fairly unique in that we have three Air Force bases that will weather a storm with varying degrees of intensity. The U.S. Air Force Academy and Schriever Air Force Base both generally receive harsher weather than Peterson AFB. The USAFA may receive larger than expected hail or winds, whereas the same storm may affect this base with routine intensity.

As for individuals who receive damage off an installation, no compensation may be offered except at the direct authorization from U.S. Air Force Headquarters. This is why it is important for members to ensure they have proper insurance coverage for personal possessions. For more information, call the Claims Office at 556-4645.

Twelve Airmen graduate course

Congratulations to the following Airmen who graduated from the First Term Airmen Center July 23.

Airmen Basic:

Jeffrey S. Kissair, 21st Medical Dental Operations Squadron

Chelsey C. Lorenz, 21st Aeromedical Dental Squadron

Airman:

Stephen C. Burk, 21st Contracting Squadron

Airmen 1st Class:

Luis A. Alcantar, 21st Security Forces



- Squadron
- Kerry L. Conner, 21st Medical Support Squadron
- Sean P. Frey, 721st SFS
- Robert H. Henson, 21st Space Communications Squadron
- Ricky S. Honeycutt, 21st SCS
- Jack C. Needam, 21st SCS
- Mark J. Randall, 21st SFS
- Jamie P. Shotkoski, 13th Air Support Operations Squadron
- Abigayle N. Tabita, 21st MDSS

Enlisted Against Drunk Driving

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

Please call us!

Fri. - Sat.

10 p.m. - 3 a.m.

Phone:

719-556-6384

or 55 NO DUI



Pentagon launches 'Operation Blue to Green'

WASHINGTON – Sailors and Airmen may soon be able to “Go Army” under a new Defense Department program intended to rebalance the size of the military. The program is generating new opportunities for continued service and career advancement for those willing to transfer into the Army from other services.

Under “Operation Blue to Green,” the Army will reach out to Sailors and Airmen and underscore the advantages of swapping their current uniform for Army green.

“We admire everyone who serves in the nation’s uniform,” said Lt. Gen. “Buster” Hagenbeck, the Army’s uni-

formed personnel chief, “but I know that anyone who looks closely at today’s Army will find a lot to be excited about – we are growing, and we need experienced people to lead that transition.” Both the House and the Senate have shown an interest in hiking Army strength by perhaps tens of thousands over the next few years, though the final number has not yet been set, officials said.

At the same time, the Navy is planning a force reduction of 8,000 in fiscal year 2005, with the Air Force trimming more than 20,000 over the same period.

When the shifts are done, officials

said, Pentagon leaders are determined to see to it that the best people are still in uniform – even if that means a different uniform. And they plan to achieve that outcome entirely by way of voluntary choice.

Where necessary, the Army plans to use bonuses to stimulate the needed service transfers and to carefully guide the experience mix so that promotions stay strong.

The focus of the effort centers on grades E-1 through E-5, but other grades will be considered in meeting Army needs. For example, the Army will continue to have a sizable demand in areas that share much common

ground with other services in knowledge, skill and ability. These include law enforcement, health care, communications and intelligence.

As an incentive under Operation Blue to Green, bonuses are being offered to those who have skills that convert to the Army’s most needed military occupational specialties.

Upon transfer, new Soldiers would be eligible to compete for promotion so long as they meet Army minimums. The Army’s recruiting goal for fiscal year 2005, is about 80,000. The Army hopes to recruit at least 8,000 prior-service troops. *(Courtesy of American Forces Press Service)*

Personnel corner

Mission Support Squadron announces closure:

The 21st Mission Support Squadron is scheduled to close from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday for a unit function.

Newcomers should turn in Field Record Groups:

All inbound members should turn in their Field Record Groups, which includes the member’s personnel, medical and dental records, to Command Support Staff personnel upon check in to their units. After check in, CSS personnel will schedule the

member for an in-processing appointment with the Military Personnel Flight 8 a.m. Mondays or 10 a.m. Wednesdays. During the summer months, inbound members can also be scheduled for the MPF in-processing session 8 a.m. Fridays.

Finance in-processing is held separately. Finance appointments can be scheduled via e-mail at 21CPTS.FMFC@peterson.af.mil, or by calling 556-4770.

Members can also visit the Finance Office

from 7:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and from 9:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Fridays.

Military cardholders’ responsibilities:

Due to current force protection measures, military personnel who lose their Common Access Cards must produce a signed letter from their unit first sergeant acknowledging the loss occurred prior to being issued a new card. For more information, call the Military Personnel Flight at 556-4680.



Wherever you are, your vote counts

By Gen. Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong

U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany – The most important privilege our nation provides its citizens is freedom. Our nation was built on democratic principles and one of our cherished constitutional rights is the right of each American to vote.

Today our men and women are globally engaged to help bring freedom, including the right to vote, to people around the world.

By registering and voting you honor your fellow Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines who are sacrificing their personal freedoms to provide this staple of democracy.

You also reaffirm the sacred value of this privilege to many who have yet to achieve it. It is the right to vote that allows you to elect officials

who reflect your views and will speak for you in government. Why would people choose not to exercise this right?

By not voting, you abdicate that right and responsibility of citizenship that has cost so many so much to earn. You allow others, with whom you may not agree, to select our future leadership.

The laws and policies enacted today can, and often do, influence the long-term health of our nation. And it is our nation's future – ours and our children's – that should concern you today.

Take the time leading into the 2004 elections to register to vote and request your absentee ballot. The deadlines for completing and mailing a Federal Post Card Application or turning in a Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot are both fast approaching. The Air Force goal is for everyone to complete and mail his or her application before or during Armed Forces

Voters Week, Sept. 3 to 11, to allow applications to meet all deadlines.

America is the greatest democracy in the world. We owe it to ourselves and our great nation to get out and vote. I urge each and every one of you to make your voice heard.

I encourage you to take advantage of a privilege that people around the world continue to fight and die for – whether you are at a geographically separated unit, a one-deep special duty position or deployed in support of an Air Expeditionary Force rotation – no matter where you are, your vote counts.

For more information on obtaining voting forms like absentee ballots here, call the Peterson Voting Assistance Hotline at 556-VOTE.

Servicemembers can also contact their unit voting representatives for additional information on voting practices and policies.

Self-exams – matter of life or death

Staff Sgt. Paul Bogumil

50th Security Forces Squadron

"I'm sorry Paul, but it's cancer." These were the words I heard one year ago. A week before hearing this, I found a mass on my left testicle that wound up being a cancerous tumor.

As soon as I found the mass, I went to the U.S. Air Force Academy Emergency Room. The doctor I saw that night said that I should follow up and get an ultrasound as soon as possible.

The next day I went back to the Academy hospital and had an ultrasound done. The test results confirmed

that the mass was a tumor and it needed to be removed immediately. I was referred to the Urology Clinic at Evans Army Hospital at Fort Carson. As soon as my wife and I got there, the doctor took us back and explained everything. He was concerned and wanted to remove it that very afternoon. I already had plans that could not be changed and we agreed that I would be back the next morning for surgery.

I was back at Fort Carson the next morning and before I knew it, the surgery was over and I was waiting in recovery. I went home the same day and was put on convalescent leave for three

weeks. For the next seven weeks, I had numerous follow up appointments along with more needles in me than I cared to count. Around Aug. 15, I got the call I had been waiting for – remission! But, there was still plenty more for me to overcome – including a doctor appointment every month for the next year. One year later, I still have regular doctor appointments, and I will for the next nine years. I live knowing that over the next nine years, I have a 40-percent chance of a reoccurrence. Testicular cancer in men isn't common. About 1 in every 100 thousand men gets diagnosed. Statistics show that white males

between the ages of 18 and 34 are primarily at risk. Men should conduct self-exams monthly. If you notice anything unusual, see the doctor immediately. Self-exams could save your life. If I hadn't found the tumor right away or if I hadn't done anything about it, the cancer could have quickly spread into my lungs and the lymph nodes in my stomach. If it had spread, or spreads in the future, chemotherapy, radiation treatment or another surgery that would open me up from below my belly button, all the way up to my chest bone are some possible treatments. Bottom line – check yourself monthly.

Vice President makes short-notice morale visit

Wing no stranger to success on a dime

By Staff Sgt. Denise Johnson

21st SW Public Affairs

For the better part of a week, the 21st Space Wing pushed the throttle forward and the pedal to the metal in preparation for a short-notice visit from Vice President Dick Cheney Monday.

The vice president visited Peterson Air Force Base to extend his appreciation to the men and women of the North American Aerospace Defense and the U.S. Northern Command for their support and dedication in defending the air and space front.

Vice President Cheney also thanked military members and families for their selfless and stalwart role in homeland security. The Team Pete crowd appeared revitalized from the extended duty hours in preparation for this event as they applauded and cheered the Vice Commander in Chief's enthusiasm.

"This team was undaunted by the days of hard work and preparation prior to the visit. It's in our day-to-day training to be able to adapt and get the job done," said Brig. Gen. Richard E. Webber, 21st Space Wing commander.

Senior Airman David Cowan, information management noncommissioned officer in charge for the 21st Mission Support Squadron Orderly Room, worked all day Saturday in addition to his regular schedule. "It was a neat experience to be a part of this. Even though it was a lot of physical labor, like putting up the stage and setting up barricades, I didn't mind putting in the extra hours," he said. "Everyone was in high spirits. We did what had to be done."

Airman Cowan wasn't the only one putting in extra hours. More than 100 folks from Team Pete worked on stage production, security and the distinguished visitor reception. With

three-days notice, civilians and military coordinated efforts from the White House advance team, Secret Service, NORTHCOM, Headquarters Air Force Space Command, and the 21st Space Wing to bring this visit to fruition, according to Lt. Col. John Linn, 21st Mission Support Group deputy commander and 21st SW project officer. "It took a lot of folks at every level to pull this thing off. It took the whole team putting in one-hundred percent," he continued. "No one complained, everyone stepped up and did us proud."

Pride was front and center, along with humility and patriotism, as the speaker's words brought approximately 2,000 attendees to their feet with shouts of "Hoo-ah" and chants of "U-S-A, U-S-A" from the various branches of service, civilians and families.

Success abounded in the echoes of the attendees and the smiles of those who stood on stage.

"The vice president's two lead officers told me this was the best support in over thirty combined visits they had worked on. Team Pete set a benchmark for professionalism that the Cheney team said they hadn't seen on any prior visit," Lt. Col. Linn said. "It helped that the advance team never questioned the limiting factors, such as time constraints or specific requests for equipment; instead they accepted advice and helped to ease the event coordination."

With so many units and missions here, it's no wonder the event went off without a hitch. "The history of this base, and the Air Force, is about fusion and integration to meet our goals," Brig. Gen. Webber said. "As long as we continue to apply our training and adhere to our core values, we will always accomplish our mission."

For photos see pages 10-11.

Blotter

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

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

MINOR VEHICLE DAMAGE –July 27

Security forces responded to the Dormitory parking lot, where a military member reported damage to her vehicle. The caller stated she noticed several scratches on the driver's side door of her 2004 Jeep Grand Cherokee.

WINDOW WALLOP – July 27

Security forces responded to a report of vehicle damage in the parking lot of Army Space Command Headquarters. The caller stated the driver's side window of his 2004 gray Honda Accord had been mysteriously broken while he was in his office.

BARRIER BONK –July 27

Security forces responded to a minor vehicle accident at the West Gate. A dizzy driver mistakenly clipped one of the barriers there.

SHOPLIFTING –July 27

Security forces responded to the Base Exchange, where a shoplifter was being detained by store detectives. The suspect attempted to make off with three lighters before being nabbed.

MEDICAL RESPONSE –July 28

Security forces, the fire department and AMR responded to the Shoppette, where an individual was complaining of cramps. The victim was transported to Memorial Hospital for further treatment.

SHOPLIFTING – July 28

Security forces responded to a shoplifting report at the Base Exchange. The shoplifting suspect was spotted swiping a pair of earrings. The Colorado Springs Police Department was notified and issued the fashion-conscious thief a summons for shoplifting.

INFORMATION PLEASE –July 28

Security forces responded to an emergency call from Base Housing. The call turned out to be a misdial. The errant caller had apparently been trying to dial 4-1-1 for information, instead dialing 9-1-1 before hanging up.

MEDICAL RESPONSE # 2 –July 28

Security forces, the fire department and AMR responded to an emergency call in Base Housing. A woman was complaining of post pregnancy complications. She was transported to Memorial Hospital for further treatment.

MEDICAL RESPONSE # 3 –July 29

Security forces, the Fire Department and American Medical Response services responded to a report of an injury at the Temporary Lodging Facilities. A child had broken his arm on the playground there, and was transported to Memorial Hospital for treatment.

BALLGAME BRAWL –July 29

Security forces responded to a disturbance on the base softball fields. Apparently, a shoving match broke out during a game there. A witness stated at the beginning of the second softball game, a group of seemingly intoxicated spectators arrived. The group began to heckle the players on the field, until the umpire asked them to leave. When an individual watching the game asked the hecklers to clean up their language in front of the children, the two parties began to brawl. Security forces took the parties in for questioning, and charged one of the suspects with assault.

ALARMING TRENDS CONTINUE:

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

Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo August 11-15

Tickets to the 2004 Pikes Peak or Bust rodeo are available through TicketsWest at (866) 464-2626 or www.ticketwest.com and at the World Arena box office, King Soopers, the Citadel Mall information booth, the Fort Carson ITR office, and Independent Records. For more information on the rodeo, visit www.coloradospringsrodeo.com.

Rodeo Events

Kiddie Dress-up Revue: 8 a.m. Aug. 11
PPoB Rodeo Parade: 10 a.m. Aug 11
Special Rodeo: 1:30 p.m. Aug 11
Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony:
10 a.m. Aug 14

Showtimes for the PPoB Rodeo are:

Each evening at 7 p.m. Aug. 11-14
Championship Final matinee
at 1:30 p.m. Aug. 15



Team Pete sets the stage



Two of many 21st Civil Engineer Squadron volunteers, Staff Sgt. Silbino Ochoa of the structures shop and Airman Katrina Porter from the power production shop, sign in for the weekend set-up duty. White-House requirements, such as 24-hour security and a 15-foot closed-circuit television production with Hollywood-quality light and sound systems were all part of the three-day set up.



Left to right: Pikes Peak Lodging Clerk, Senior Airman Celia Morse of the 21st Services Squadron, assists 21st Space Wing Military Personnel Flight promotions administrator, Airman 1st Class Joseph Platte and 21st SVS Noncommissioned Officer in Charge of the Commander's Support Staff, Staff Sgt. Todd Farrell as they attach skirting to one of four media platforms. Statewide security-screened television, radio and print reporters covered the vice president's visit Monday, providing nationwide coverage. Media rotated between the four platforms, allowing more balanced coverage of speakers and attendees.



Photos by Budd Butcher

Contractors, hired by the White House advance team, set up required stage lighting and scaffolding in front of the 21st Space Wing's flag.



A contractor, left, joins Staff Sgt. Adam Perkins, a journeyman for the 21st Civil Engineer Squadron Structures Shop, to install lighting in the hangar. Various units from Team Pete provided more than 100 volunteers to help set up required support -- from staging equipment, to a 60-foot-tall boom and operator for television cameras; from a reception area, to the planning and execution of transportation for 2,000 attendees.



Nearly 5,000 feet of crowd-control bike-rack fencing were brought in and set up by volunteers, such as the 21st Civil Engineer Squadron's Airman 1st Class Donald Ingram, power production specialist.



Airman 1st Class David Rust, 21st Civil Engineer Squadron Pavement and Equipment journeyman, paints the steps leading to the newly erected stage. The steps led Vice President Dick Cheney to the podium from where he addressed the 2,000 attendees of the rally.



ABOVE: Members of the 21st Mission Support Group set up bleachers in anticipation of the crowds expected to attend the event.

LEFT: Brigadier General Richard E. Webber, 21st Space Wing commander, talks to a group of volunteers Saturday as they take a break from the weekend set up. General Webber visited Hanger 140, the site for Vice President Dick Cheney's speech, checking on progress while expressing his appreciation to the volunteers.



at your SERVICE

This Week

Today

- Play Group, 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Youth Center.
- 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.
- White water rafting is available daily through Outdoor Recreation. Groups need reservations.

Sunday

- Use the 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. ATWIND event.
- Take an aerobics class at 12:05 or 5:10 p.m. ATWIND event.

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

Airman stay fit to fight in base triathlon



Photos by Budd Butcher



TOP LEFT: Major Erick Jordan of Air Force Space Command and Oliver Smith are cruising through the second stage of the race.

TOP RIGHT: Major Jordan begins the final stage of the race with a quick drink of water. He placed first in the race with an overall time of 1:12:55. The triathlon consisted of three stages including a 400-meter swim, 15-mile bike ride and a 5K run.

LEFT: Sergeant Gilles Boyd, Canadian Forces, from North American Aerospace Defense Inspector General Office begins the first part of the triathlon. He finished fifth overall in the event.

ARAGON DINING FACILITY MENU

Today

Lunch:

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

Dinner:

Roast Loin of Pork
Jaeger with Mushroom Sauce
Glazed Cornish Hen
Potato Halves
Orange Rice
Carrots
Simmered Pinto Beans
Corn Combo

Friday

Lunch:

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

Dinner:

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

Monday

Lunch:

Swiss Steak with Tomato Sauce
Baked Chicken
Hot Italian Sausage
Pepper and Onions
Steamed Rice
Mashed Potatoes
Broccoli Polonaise
Carrots

Dinner:

Roast Turkey
Baked Can Ham
Raisin Sauce
Fish and Fries
Mashed Potatoes
Corn Bread
Dressing
Succotash
Tempura
Vegetables
Herbed Green Beans

Saturday

Brunch:

Crispy Baked Chicken
Cajun Meat Loaf
Rib-eye Steak
Baked Potatoes
Mashed Potatoes
Broccoli
Peas
Glazed Carrots

Tuesday

Lunch:

Onion-Lemon Baked Fish
Pork Schnitzel and Steak
Yakisoba, Beef and Spaghetti
Baked Potatoes
Mashed Potatoes
Simmered Pinto Beans
Spinach
Stewed Tomatoes

Dinner:

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

Sunday

Brunch:

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

Wednesday

Lunch:

Caribbean Jerk Chicken
Beef Porcupines
Chicken Enchiladas
Scalloped Potatoes
Steamed Rice
Mexican Corn
Peas and Onions
Savory Baked Beans

Dinner:

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



Team 21 'fit to fight'

Editor's note: Each month, the 21st Space Wing holds a mandatory Fit-to-Fight session. The following photographs capture the warrior spirit demonstrated at the wing-wide event.



Photos by Rob L. Bussard

Cindy White, the Fitness Center program manager, leads the troops in mass aerobics and stretching. Units across the base represent the warrior spirit monthly.



Fit-to-Fight warriors sprint to physical health as they complete one of the fitness stations. Team Pete members cycled through various stations during the hour-long training held July 22.



Brigadier General Richard E. Webber, the 21st Space Wing commander, and Col. Gary Shuggart, the 21st Space Wing inspector general, lead by example as they stretch out before beginning a mass workout session hosted by the Fitness Center staff.

Sports Shorts

FLAG FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

The Fitness Center is hosting a flag football tournament Sept. 7 through 9. Contact the Fitness Center Special Programs division at 556-4462 for more information or to sign up.

INTRAMURAL BOWLING SET

The Peterson Air Force Base Intramural Bowling meeting begins at 3 p.m. Aug. 20 at the Enlisted Club ballroom. Attendees

will discuss by laws, instructions, and teams. The league begins Sept. 8 through 10 at the Bowling Alley here. For more information, call 556-4607.

WALL CLIMBING

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

TAE KWON DO

Tae kwon do classes are from 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays for children ages 7 to 12, and 7 to 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.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN STATE GAMES OFFERS DISCOUNTS

The Colorado Springs Sports Corporation is offering a 50 percent discount on entry fees to military dependents under age 18 and seniors 55 and older for the 2004 Rocky Mountain State Games July 30-Aug. 31. For more information, call Brian Schell at 634-7333, ext. 1007 or visit www.TheSportsCorp.org.

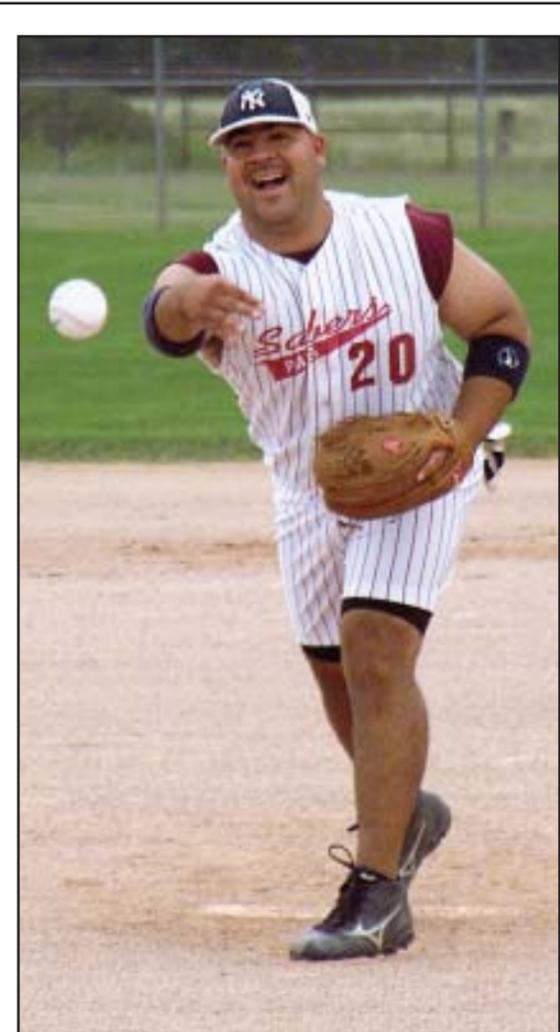


Photo by Budd Butcher

Team Pete swings for the fence

Recreational softball standings

Division #1

Team	W	L
1. AFOTEC DET4	10	0
2. 21 SFS	10	3
3. 21 SCS	6	2
4. 1 SPCS	9	4
5. 21 SVS	6	5
6. N-NC J8	5	7
7. Team Colorado	3	9
8. USAF BAND	2	9
9. Canadian Forces	1	12

Division #2

Team	W	L
1. 21 CPTS/DS	9	1
2. AFSPC/CSS	9	1
3. 76 SPCS	4	4
4. ARSTRAT	4	6

5. NORTHCOM J6	3	7
6. NORAD	1	6
7. 544 IOG/SF	1	7

Competitive softball standings

American division

Team	W	L
1. 21 CES	10	1
2. 21 OSS	9	3
3. CMOC	4	6
4. 21 MDG	4	6
5. 721 MSG	2	10

National division

Team	W	L
1. 21 SCS	11	1
2. Team Colorado	6	5
3. 100th MDB	4	8
4. HQ AFSPC/CE	3	8
5. 721 SFS	2	10

Team Pete swings for the fence

Efrain Roldan of the 21st Civil Engineering Squadron team pitches to the 21st Medical Group team during the softball game.

This softball match was one of several games being played at Patriot Park on Peterson Air Force Base.