

“2003 AFSPC Best Large Wing PA Office”

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Denise Johnson



Photo by Airman Mandy Weightman



Photo by Staff Sgt. Denise Johnson



Photo by Larry Hulst



Secretary, chief send birthday message

Editor's Note: The following is an Air Force birthday message from Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper:

Happy birthday to the Airmen of the world's greatest air and space force! Our 57 years of history may be short, but they are packed with astounding accomplishments. We've broken the sound barrier, expanded military operations to the reaches of space, ushered

stealth technology and precision-strike capability into modern warfare, delivered humanitarian aid to austere locations, jointly won the Cold War and provided decisive air and space power for wars in Korea, Vietnam, the Balkans, Afghanistan and Iraq. Your dedication to excellence, your integrity and your faithful service is recognized and appreciated by all Americans.

Since our inception in 1947, America's Air Force has flown lead in

defending peace and freedom around the world. That legacy was made possible by millions of professional Airmen dedicated to accomplishing critical missions with total success.

Today, you are the torchbearers of our legacy. You are performing remarkably across the globe delivering aid to people in need and defending and protecting our great nation from emerging threats and new enemies. Your competence, dedication to the mission and

pride of service is renowned. We know you also have wonderful families who support your long hours and deployments away from home. We are grateful for their support.

You represent the strength and patriotism of our great nation. America is proud of our Air Force because of you. Thanks for your service and again, happy birthday!

(Courtesy of Air Force News Service)



Constitution guarantees Airman right to vote

By General Lance W. Lord
Air Force Space Command commander

Voting is one of the most important rights we have as Americans. The very Constitution every Airman swore to defend guarantees us that right. I challenge every Airman, civilian and family member to exercise your right to vote in the upcoming elections. Let me remind you that our most recent national election was decided by less than 1 percent of the overall vote, so every single vote matters!

I know military members and their families suffer unique challenges when it comes to voting.

We are usually serving our nation in assignments outside of our home states. Therefore, it is absolutely critical we provide each of you the means to exercise your right to vote. Each unit in the United States Air Force has a voting representative to assist you. Your voting representative can help you fill out applications to receive absentee ballots from your home state. I vote using the absentee ballot system, and it works.

To simplify and expedite the process for obtaining absentee ballots for all our Airmen and family members, we have recently established key links for voter registration and information on the

Air Force website available via the "Airmen Votes" icon on the www.af.mil website. This link contains all the information required for every Airman, family member and Air Force civilian to register to vote in your home state with just a few clicks from anywhere in the world.

The time left to register is running out, so contact your unit's voting representative today. Please pay attention to the directions on your absentee ballots and make sure you mail your ballot before the required deadline. Remember, you've earned the right to vote and every Airman vote counts – so please register and vote!



Accurate communication key to contracting jobs

By George Romero
21st Contracting Squadron

"The past six years have witnessed the most significant reshaping of the federal workforce in recent history."

Paul C. Light – The Brookings Institute

The numbers of military and civilian employees are being drastically reduced. The government is getting out of the business of commercial enterprise so they may take care of government business. A recent estimate of contractors who are authorized access to Peterson Air Force Base in 2003 was 15,000. Not all were primary contractors and their employees, many were subcontractors. Members of the 21st Contracting Squadron,

Army Corps of Engineers, Electronics Systems Center Detachment 11 and others have awarded hundreds of contracts to provide the 21st Space Wing and its tenants with the contracted support they need to meet their daily missions.

In order to comply with Federal laws and regulations, the government is required to become as performance-based as possible. Simply stated, this means you must structure the description of the services you want around what is required, placing the responsibility of accomplishing the requirement on the contractor. Those of you who are not in the contracting arena are probably saying, "This makes sense."

By moving to perform-

ance-based contract specifications, we are allowing industry to perform the service as though they were providing the service to someone in the private sector. This generates a cost savings to the contractor because he does not have to alter his processes to meet the government's needs. This in turn reduces the cost to the government for the service. However, if you have ever had a disagreement with a mechanic or other commercial entity over a service purchase, you know that communication is an important key for success.

Communication is a technique for expressing ideas effectively. If you do not know what you want and cannot express your requirement

clearly, then how do you know what you received was correct? If you cannot put into words the results you expect to see, you may get flowers but instead of the roses you envisioned, you may get tulips.

The basis for all contracts are, first, a clearly expressed statement of requirement and secondly, clearly expressed and measurable expectations. The 21st Contracting Squadron team will work with you at the onset to do the required market research to find out how industry and others write their contracts. The team will also work with you to ensure your requirement is as clearly and succinctly stated as we can make it.

The contractor becomes

a party to all communications once the contract is awarded. Meetings following award will allow all parties to discuss expectations, strengths, weaknesses, concerns, etc. The Contracting officer is there to assist you in obtaining the results you need.

Your relationship with the contractor should be as a team member vital to the mission. You should be able to rely on them and they on you. The whole relationship is built on communication from the very beginning. From putting down on paper your initial requirement to the completion of the contract. Your communication with the contracting office and the contractor is vital to the successful completion of the DoD mission.



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A Moment in Time



- **September 12, 1918** – Lt. Frank Luke shot down his first enemy balloon.
- **September 15, 1956** – The 701st Tactical Missile Wing, scheduled to be equipped with the Matador cruise missile, activates under 12th Air Force at Hahn Air Base, Germany. This is the first U.S. Air Force tactical missile wing.
- **September 17, 1947** – The new National Military Establishment, including the Office of Secretary of Defense and the Departments of the Army, Navy and Air Force, came into being as the new secretary of defense James Forrestal was sworn in.



Team Pete, Air Force close out 101 days

By Maj. Daniel Dant
21st Space Wing Safety Office

It seems there is a never-ending list of “101 Ways” to do just about anything you can imagine. A quick Google search revealed some enlightened approaches to everyday life.

I found “101 Ways to Annoy People.” My



Photo by Airman Mandy Weightman

Crash Test Dummy Larry bids safe wishes to travelers at the Peterson AFB North Gate Sept. 2 as Team Pete members closed out the 101 Critical Days of Summer. The 21st Space Wing had three times the number of off-duty incidents as on-duty incidents.

favorite was No. 16, “Reply to everything someone says with, ‘That’s what YOU think.’” I also found “101 Ways to Save the Internet.” They offered some interesting methods to stop spammers. “One hundred and one Ways to Cope With Stress” was quite a useful web site. I won’t even go in to all the “101-Ways” books that Amazon offers.

Where am I going with this? The United States Air Force, Air Force Space Command and 21st Space Wing recently closed out the 101 Critical Days of Summer Campaign. As you might expect, there are well more than 101 different ways to hurt or kill yourself. Unfortunately, as uniformed and civilian Air Force members, we continue to make the same mistakes.

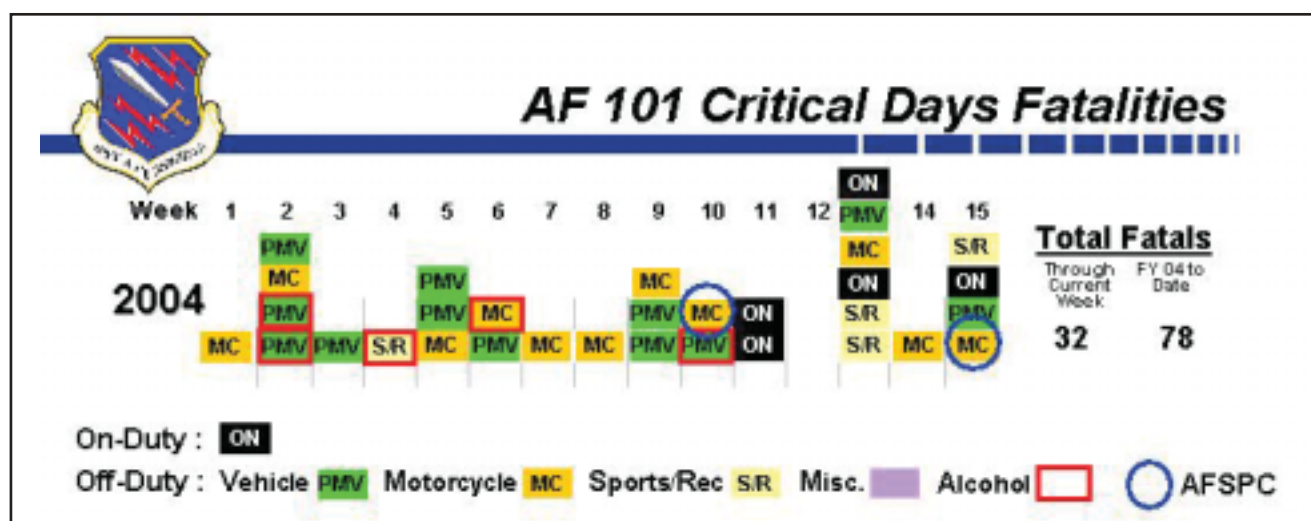
As this graphic depicts, the majority of Air Force mishaps during the 101 Critical Days of Summer saw several recurring themes collide to produce fatalities. You know what I’m going to say – driving a vehicle too fast, drunk, or without a seat-belt. Motorcycle fatalities continue to be a major factor as well. We had two motorcycle fatalities in Air Force Space Command alone. I’m a biker myself, so I’m not picking on my fellow riders, but we have to be careful out there. Fortunately, the 21st Space Wing suffered no fatalities during the summer. But we still got injured.

The 21st Space Wing had 13 reportable mishaps: nine off-duty and three on-duty, as well as one instance of government property damage during

the 101 Critical Days. What are the wing’s trends for the 101 Critical Days? Sports and recreational activities: sporting events, riding ATVs, camping, etc. We want you to be fit and we want you to have fun off duty – you’ve earned it. But all of us must practice sound risk management. We have to know what the associated risks are with our activities, plan for those risks and take measures to mitigate them. With every activity you can imagine, you can mitigate risk to yourself, your family and others. That’s what Operational Risk Management is all about.

In the final analysis, we did OK. Though we led the command in reportable mishaps, no one in the 21st Space Wing was killed on or off-duty. Others weren’t so lucky. It’s easy to believe it can never happen to you and risk management is a waste of time. Well, “that’s what you think” – risk management may save your life.

So, as we transition from the 101 Critical Days of Summer, we need to think about the risks ahead. Remember those Air Force trends: vehicles, motorcycles, speed and alcohol – well, now we can add poor driving conditions to the equation. It’s going to get cold, the roads are going to be bad and we are going to be in hurry. Think about it. How are the tires on your vehicle? Is it ready for fall and winter? Does it need maintenance? Are you taking any holiday road trips? How are you going to get home from an overly festive holiday party? Mitigate those risks and make safety a priority at all times.



Peak Performer

Name: Staff Sgt. Aaron C. Rutland, 21st Contracting Squadron
Duty Title: Contract Administrator
Time in service: Nine years
Hometown: Graniteville, S.C.
Off-Duty interests: Spending time with family, golfing and motorcycles
Why did you join the Air Force? To serve my country and uphold a family tradition. I also wanted to complete my education.
What inspires you to do what you do? Knowing that even though it’s often hard to see, everything I do affects the overall mission of the Air Force and contributes to the success of that mission.
Favorite part of your job: Interacting with commercial contractors, administering contracts.
What goals have you set? Complete an undergraduate program and pursue a graduate degree. Make Chief Master Sergeant.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Denise Johnson

Voters count down begins

Master Sgt. Donald Powers (left), 21st Medical Operations Flight, and his wife, Dena, discuss voter registration with Master Sgt. Doug Peacock, C-4 GSU Operations Manager and alternate voting representative for the 21st Space Wing. Their daughter, Nichole, 9, looks on. Master Sgt. Peacock pulled the afternoon shift for the voter’s registration booth at the Peterson Medical Facility Friday.

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.



MEDICAL GROUP MAKES ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Peterson Clinic will close from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sept. 23 and Oct. 28.

Members of the Health Consumers Advisory Council remind everyone of the 21st Space Wing policy that children, 8 years old or less, may not be left unsupervised on base at any time. This also applies to visits to the 21st Medical Group. The Medical Group has no capability to supervise children. Parents must plan appropriately, or reschedule visits, when they are unable to supervise their children.

ASSOCIATION SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The Noncommissioned Officer Association needs volunteers to help sell 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 william.gardner@peterson.af.mil.

SECURITY FORCES, CSPD CRACKDOWN

During peak traffic hours in the morning, there are vehicles coming off of Platte Avenue onto the Peterson Boulevard ramp to enter the North Gate. Some vehicle operators are making an illegal right-hand turn at the intersection of Space Village Road and Peterson Boulevard. This is a Class A traffic law infraction. At this intersection people are only allowed to go straight or left as the sign signifies. The 21st Security Forces Squadron has teamed up with Colorado Springs Police Department to cite violators. People will be cited for failure to obey traffic control devices. The fine is \$60.

INSTITUTE HOSTS VOLUNTEER WEEKEND

People can enjoy free camping or rock climbing while working on trail construction at the Shelf Road Climbing Area near Canyon City Sept. 25 and 26. The Rocky Mountain Field Institute is hosting the 12th Annual Volunteer Weekend at Shelf Road in celebration of National Public Lands Day and as part of the Access Fund's Adopt-A-Crag program. Call 471-7736 or email rmfibox@qwest.net to register.

HONOR GUARD SEEKS APPLICANTS

The Peterson Honor Guard has an opening and is looking for a new member. The applicant must be a technical or master sergeant. To apply, members must submit a resume or biography, a copy of their past five enlisted performance reports and an 8-inch by

10-inch official photograph. For more information, call 556-8029.

AIR WAR COLLEGE CHANGES FORMAT

There has been a change in format this year for Air War College. There is no formal seminar as in the past. If those who have signed up for AWC seminar would like to meet to form study groups, the Education Center has made Room 102 available at 3 p.m. Mondays. The study material will be sent directly to the students' home address.

ASSOCIATION ACCEPTS APPLICATIONS

The Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association will accept applications from enlisted corps in the Colorado military community to assist with college education costs. Enlisted members do not have to be a member of AFCEA to apply. Applicants must be enlisted military members in the Rocky Mountain Chapter area, which includes Buckley AFB, Peterson AFB, U.S. Air Force Academy, Fort Carson and Schriever AFB. They must also have education expenses greater than the total of tuition assistance, G.I. Bill benefits and all other grants or scholarships received for their classes taken. There are degree specifications and other requirements. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Mark A. Everson at 554-8570.

UCCS OFFERS PROGRAM ON HOMELAND SECURITY

The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, through the Network Information and Space Security Center, has developed a set of graduate courses leading to a Certificate in Homeland Security. The courses were developed in consultation with officials as U.S. Northern Command. After completion of the four courses, students will receive a Graduate Certificate from UCCS. For more information, e-mail Warren Lotzbire at wlotzbir@uccs.edu.

PIKES PEAK COMMUNITY COLLEGE OFFERS ACCELERATED COURSES

The Pikes Peak Community College Military Programs Weekend classes have taken on a new format. The classes are now required to meet for the full 45 contact hours in the classroom. They will meet Fridays and Saturdays for four consecutive weekends with the exception of weekends containing holidays. For more information, call Ron Shields in the Base Education Center at 574-1169.

LOCAL SCOUTS MEET ON PETERSON

Girl Scout Troop 422 meets at 6 p.m., Mondays at

the Peterson Chapel. This troop is for girls ages 11 to 17 years old. There are units developing for younger girls, and they will also meet on Mondays. For more information, call Laura Pitcher at 392-1102. Cub Scout Pack 99 meets at 6:30 p.m., Thursdays at the Peterson Chapel, starting tonight. Cub Scout Packs are for boys ages 7 through 10. For more information, call Wendy Jendrick, the Cubmaster, at 637-0397. Cub Scout Pack 99 is sponsored by the Peterson Fire Department.

Boy Scout Troop 199 meets at 7 p.m., Wednesdays at the Enlisted Club. Boy Scout Troops are open to boys ages 11 to 17 years old and no prior scouting experience is needed. For more information, call Alex Welton, Scoutmaster, at 574-8970. Boy Scout Troop 199 is sponsored by the Colorado Springs Area Chiefs' Group.

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER OFFERS CLASSES

The following classes are held in the Family Support Center classroom at 135 Dover Street, Bldg. 350, Room 1016, unless otherwise specified. Registration is required for all classes. To register, please call the Family Support Center at 556-6141 or stop by the FSC.

■ **CAREER MARKETING** – From 8 a.m. to noon today, a workshop on conducting an effective job search, writing a competitive resume and interviewing effectively for a job. This workshop is offered once a month.

■ **ESTATE PLANNING** – From 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Oct. 21, learn how to estimate estate value and plan for future business, personal and health-care needs. This seminar provides an estate planning sampler, as well as information on disability planning, powers of attorney, living will, long-term care and death taxes. This seminar is offered every other month.

■ **READINESS BRIEFING** – From 11 a.m. to noon Tuesdays. This is a mandatory briefing for those who are being deployed or going on a remote tour. This briefing educates members on the three phases involved with separation and the programs available for families left behind. Spouses are welcome. This briefing is offered once a week.

■ **PRE-SEPARATION BRIEFING** – From 3 to 4 p.m. Wednesday. This is a mandatory briefing for people who are retiring or separating from the military. Anyone retiring or separating must have this briefing no later than 90 days prior. This briefing, offered every other week, covers veterans' benefits and the services of the Transition Assistance Program. Times for this briefing are subject to change. Call for verification.

Augmentees serve seamless support

By Airman Mandy Weightman

21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Some people don't realize there are Air Force reservists and Air National guardsmen in their units and offices. They are Individual Mobilization Augmentees.

IMA's are trained during peacetime to support their active duty counterparts.


"Our goal is to be so seamlessly integrated that you can't tell we aren't active duty," said Col. Liz Anderson, IMA to the 21st Space Wing commander.

Colonel Anderson is helping the 21st SW commander expand the wing's IMA program.

"Space is a growth industry," Colonel Anderson said. "In the future, I expect to see the number of Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve units as well as individual reservists and guardsmen increase." The IMA program is beneficial to the participants for many reasons. "I like being an IMA because it gives me the flexibility to take care of my family," said Staff Sgt. Jennifer L. Thibault, a 21st Space Wing Public Affairs IMA. "I also get to stay current with my active duty counterparts through my training with them."

The IMA program allows more flexibility and a little more control over where and when the Airmen work.

If, for any reason, an Airman were to leave active duty, but still wanted to serve their country, the Air Force Reserve or the Air National Guard is a viable option. The IMA program gives Airmen more choices in the ways they can continue to serve other than active duty.

"Having served active duty for seven years, and one year with the unit reserve program, I wasn't ready to throw that all away just because the unit program didn't work out for me," said Sergeant Thibault. "Through the IMA program, I'm able to continue my service and support the best Air Force in the world." 

Inspector General stresses ORI prep

Commentary by
Maj. Robert McIntyre
AFSPC/IGIO

While practice does make perfect, a number of other things can be done to help your unit successfully complete an ORI.

The Air Force Space Command Inspector General Web site, <https://halfway.peterson.af.mil/afspcig/>, contains a wealth of information to help your unit prepare for its next ORI. You will find previous inspection reports, best practices and publications. Although the site has other areas, these merit the most attention:

Inspection reports

Why look at previous inspection reports? For one thing, you never want a repeat write-up! Nothing makes a unit look worse than having the same problem found on a subsequent inspection.

Look at your unit's past inspection reports and at your sister units' inspection reports. If your unit is a missile squadron, you can pretty well bet that other missile squadrons conduct their business in much the same manner as your squadron. The same goes for spacelift squadrons, satellite



operations squadrons or any other AFSPC squadron. While studying your sister units' inspection reports, take a close look at the errors they were assessed – not to laugh at them, but to ensure your unit is not committing the same errors. The IG posts inspection reports for units to read and heed, so take advantage!

Best practices

When the IG team inspects a unit, they look at unit readiness and compliance with directives, as well as the good things you're doing. A best practice is a good thing, a superior method or innovative practice that contributes to improved performance of processes. Air Force Instruction 90-201, *Inspector General Complaints*, tasks the IG to record observed best prac-


tices as an unclassified addendum to all inspection reports. Units are encouraged to look at these best practices and apply the processes, if they apply. A best practice is yet another tool for your use.

Publications

Last, but certainly not least, are the publications – particularly the inspection checklists – on the Web site. When the IG team inspects your unit, the inspection is conducted with your major command's inspection checklists.

The checklists are derived directly from the instructions. So, if you comply with the checklists, odds are you are also in compliance with the instructions!

Units that conduct self-inspections, using the inspection checklists, can self-identify deficiencies and correct them, or document the existence of the deficiency if it is not correctable. In either case, ensure your unit takes proactive steps to correct the deficiency.

Units that aggressively perform self-inspections typically do quite well on IG inspections. Take time to perform self-inspections before the IG shows up, and both of our jobs will be easier! 



Exercise Planners: *failure now could mean success later in real life*

By Merrie Schilter-Lowe

NORAD and U.S. Northern Command Public Affairs

No one wants to fail. But sometimes, failure in the present can lead to success in the future. At least that's how Marine Col. Gene Pino said he sees it.

As director of the North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command training and exercise division, Pino and his staff build failure into portions of homeland defense and civil support exercise scenarios. Not to make anyone look bad but to give first responders and military members a chance to work out problems they may face in the real world.

"Our exercises are not ever designed to give the American people the idea that we can't defend this country or prevent terrorists from executing events," said Pino. But, he said, "In our world we have to practice both the defense against an attack and then allow (events) to happen so we can practice mitigating the effects."

Following the recent multi-level, multi-state disaster preparedness exercise, "Amalgam Virgo" and "Determined Promise '04," Pino explained the reason for designing scenarios resulting in the simulated death of thousands of people and millions of dollars in property losses.

"To maximize training for all participants, there has to be exercise artificiality that says, 'some of this happened' so we can train on the other end," said Pino. It would be "extremely short-

sighted on our part" not to train that way, he said.

In AV/DP04, Department of Defense and non-DoD agencies had to gather and share information, not only to intercept the terrorists, but also to prevent them from doing more harm.

Exercise scenarios included the release of sarin, mustard and chlorine gases; tunnel and bridge explosions; the launch of unmanned aerial vehicles; detonation of a "dirty bomb;" multiple hijackings of airliners; and the derailment of a chemical-laden train.

While simulating the deaths of some 10,000 people may give the impression that "we're not good," Pino said playing out such scenarios was "an important element of the exercise." After all, the disaster preparedness exercise was also designed to stretch the resources of local, state and federal agencies from Virginia to California and from Florida to Canada, said Pino.

He explained the exercises are built on "a strong intelligence platform" to ensure agencies "are poised to engage (a real-life) threat." More than 60 agencies participated in the recent exercise, which command officials deemed "an extraordinary success."

Pino said he even briefed Department of Homeland Security agencies before the exercise so those agencies could "fully" participate. "The goal of these disaster exercises is always to save lives and mitigate the problems of the people who are going to be living with the events for awhile."

Participants walked through the exact steps necessary in a real-world situation, said Pino. While much of the exercise was simulated, some scenarios involved "live" action, including "aircraft physically interacting with rogue aircraft and rogue ships," Pino said.

"We had firefighters, police officers and FBI agents doing what they needed to do at that first layer on the ground. We also had people role-playing victims, terrorists, the works."

USNORTHCOM deployed a joint task force to the Commonwealth of Virginia during the simulated explosion at a speedway, Pino said. But what impressed Pino most and what made him "feel good about where USNORTHCOM is," was the "involvement by the leaders of this country."

He said California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and Virginia Governor Mark Warner provided real-time responses.

"Governor Schwarzenegger actually went into his emergency operations center," Pino said state authorities relayed it was the first time a governor had done that for an exercise. "They said he got his operations center personnel together and gave them a pep talk and told them how important this was."

In Virginia, Warner conducted on-camera interviews with the command's "synthetic CNN-type network," Pino said. Warner talked about how his state was handling the disasters and what they were doing to calm people's fears.

There were some challenges dur-

ing the exercise, Pino said. "We learned some things that we need to focus on, work on and do better."

For instance, he said, "we learned that, when the temperature is 94 degrees and people are wearing protective equipment, you need to rotate people faster." Participants also experienced some of the "psychological affects of dealing with the dead," said Pino. "You need to have counselors and family assistance programs available."

According to the colonel, there will probably never come a time when exercise participants receive a perfect grade because there will always be new people on staff, new concepts of operations and new procedures and tactics.

"I don't think there will ever be a time when you conduct an exercise where every one is synchronized and knows exactly what they are doing. But from an institutional level, we are definitely getting better, not only as a result of this exercise but also because the Department of Homeland Security has a strong exercise program, too."

"In fact, we are partnering with DHS next year in a national exercise program for homeland security. It will be a team effort between DHS, DoD, Health and Human Services, the Department of Energy and all the federal partners so we can be synchronized in all of our training. And, if we're synchronized in our training, I think we will be synchronized in our support when something happens," Pino said.



Personnel Corner

BASE NEEDS CRISIS SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS

The Peterson AFB Crisis Support Team is recruiting new members who are willing to assist victims and family members in crisis situations by providing community referrals and initiating healthy crisis management. For more information, call Susan Golden or Kathy Latzke at The Family Support Center, 556-6141.

PROGRAM ASSISTS SPOUSES WITH SELF EMPLOYMENT

The objective of this training is to assist military spouses who are interested in becoming self-employed. The class offers home-based administrative support services such as web site design, competitive research, marketing support, graphic design, accounting and more. Training will be offered Monday through Wednesday in the Family Support Center FSC, Building 350. Classes are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, and from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday. For information, call the FSC at 556-6141.

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT TRAINING PROGRAM ACCEPTS APPLICATIONS

Applications for the Physician Assistant Training Program for classes beginning in January 2006, April 2006 and August 2006 are being accepted from Oct. 1, through Jan. 28, 2005. Applicants must be on active duty in grades E-3 through E-8 with minimum of two years and maximum of 14 years active military service as of Aug. 30, 2005. For more information, call Ray Whitehurst at (210) 565-2775 or DSN at 665-2775.

CENTER OFFERS COMPUTER BASED TRAINING

Computer Based Training is offered through the

Family Support Center from funding provided by Air Force Aid AFA and the Combined Federal Campaign CFC. There are more than 224 software and graphic on-line, tutorial programs to choose from. Certificates are provided upon course completion. For more information, call the FSC at 556-6141.

BOARD ADDS ASSIGNMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps 2005 candidate board has been moved from September to November. Additionally, AETC has made five more universities available for colonels and colonel selects to compete for as an AFROTC Detachment Commanders in 2005. The additional 2005 AFROTC requirements are: University of South Florida, University of Saint Thomas, North Dakota State University, Wright State University and Oklahoma State University. For a list of all schools and more information, please call (210) 652-4180, or DSN 487-4180.

BASE HOLDS BLUE TO GREEN BRIEFING

There will be a Blue to Green briefing at 10 a.m. Tuesday in the 21st Mission Support Group Large Conference Room, Building 350. Blue to Green is a program for sailors and Airmen to "Go Army" under a new Defense Department program intended to rebalance the size of the military. The program provides opportunities for continued service and career advancement for those willing to transfer into the Army from other services.

OFFICIAL HOLDS TOWN HALL

Michael L. Dominguez, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, will conduct a Town Hall Meeting on the National Security Personnel System at 1 p.m. Sept. 30. This meeting will be conducted in the base auditorium. The meeting is open to all interested parties serviced by the Peterson Civilian Personnel Flight in addition to all

other Department of Defense personnel located at Peterson Air Force Base. The National Security Personnel System is a new civilian personnel system signed into law as part of the 2004 National Defense Authorization Act. The Department of Defense and the Office of Personnel Management are developing details of the program, which will include pay banding, pay-for-performance and expedited hiring. The National Security Personnel System is also expected to change the Department of Defense labor relations program and establish new appeal and grievance processes.

SURVEYS SPUR INFORMATION BROCHURE

Feedback from numerous tour groups and comments received in the customer satisfaction survey on the Air Force Personnel Center indicate there are many people who still don't know about the Contact Center and the services its members provide. Copies of the brochure are located at the Military Personnel Flight Customer Service Section or downloaded at: <https://webcolab.afpc.randolph.af.mil/rnt/rnw/img/enduser/Contact%20Center%20Brochure.doc>

TEAM PETE COLLECTS TEDDY BEARS

Teddy Bears For Kids is a program that elicits donations of teddy bears in order to give them to children 12 and under in Colorado Springs area hospitals in December. This is the second year for this program at the Centralized Integrated Support Facility. This is the first year the program is being expanded to include all of Team Pete. Donations will be accepted through Dec. 17 at the CISF and Mission Support Group Buildings. Teddy bears must be new and are preferred to be 12 inches in height. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Thomas Moore at 556-2475.



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.*

THIS LANE IS MY LANE - Sept. 3

Security forces responded to the intersection of Peterson Boulevard and Selfridge Street where two vehicles collided after jockeying for position during a turn. Both vehicles sustained minor

damages. Security forces issued a citation for careless driving.

GOING MY WAY? - Sept. 3

A female driver contacted security forces about a man who got into her vehicle after she stopped to ask for directions. The uninvited guest seemed very confused and was asked to get out of her vehicle. A patrol found the dazed hitcher and escorted him back to his residence on base. Fire department responded and diagnosed the man as being a possible diabetic. The individual was transported to Memorial Hospital for further testing.

TOO FAST, TOO FURIOUS - Sept. 3

Security forces stopped a motorcyclist at the west gate for reckless driving and placed the bullet bike blazer under apprehension. He was then cited for reckless driving and excessive speed. His driving privileges were temporarily suspended.

POOCH HOME ALONE - Sept. 5

Security forces responded to a base housing residence where neighbors reported that two canines had been left unattended with no food

and water. Security forces determined the residence to be an unhealthy environment and took the canines. The next day the owner came to claim her pooches.

FIVE FINGER DISCOUNT - Sept. 5

Security forces responded to a shoplifting incident at the Base Exchange where a man apparently swiped a magazine. Upon questioning the thief revealed that he also had small amounts of marijuana. He was cited for shoplifting and released.

UNDERAGE IMBIBERS BUSTED - Sept. 6

Security forces stopped a vehicle on the corner of Powers Boulevard and Airport Road for failure to render a proper turn signal. Upon talking to the three occupants, the officer noticed the smell of alcohol coming from the vehicle. A breathalyzer was conducted on all three. The drive was issued a summons for driving a vehicle while impaired and for underage drinking.

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

Everyone matters in Combined Federal Campaign 2005

By Staff Sgt.
Catherine C. Lammon
50th Space Wing

"Every One Matters" is our motto for this year's Combined Federal Campaign. In this campaign, we see a symbolic No. 1 sign with a soldier and family above the Pikes Peak Region. This is a great theme for the 2004 campaign since our country has been through so much in the past year – especially for our region since Fort Carson and the surrounding bases have seen a lot of deployments.

Those individuals doing their job everyday are the reason I'm proud to serve in the military for the greatest nation in the world. I'm not a hero. I'm just a person who cares about people. God has put me here for a reason – to help whenever I am needed.

As a key worker, I have a passion to help individuals locally, nationally and internationally. The CFC helps people in so many ways. Just a small donation goes a long way to help so many charities. It brings tears of joy to

my eyes knowing of all the people we help through CFC.

My motivation comes from within, from the inspiration of my father, who spent 20 years in the Army. In 1971, I was sitting in the back seat of my dad's Ford LTD. As we were driving along a road outside of Fond du Lac, Wisc., a Vietnam Veteran was returning home from the war carrying a duffel bag. He gave the soldier a ride home and some money.

Seeing this act of kindness set the tone for the rest of my life. I looked up to my father a lot while I was growing up. He was always volunteering, doing something in our community. If it wasn't Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts, it was fixing a hot meal for the elderly in our church.

I grew up knowing there were people less fortunate in life than I was. There's a passion inside of me that drives me to help others and do volunteer work. Even if only a dollar is given, it helps someone somewhere. My husband and I share this philosophy.

Twelve years ago, when I was a

reservist, CFC was there for me. My son, who was three at the time, was diagnosed with autism. I looked in the brochure for CFC and the National Autism Society was listed there. The National Autism Society sent me all the information I needed. If it were not for CFC, I would have not known where to look for information on his diagnoses. He is now 15 years old and in a regular classroom and on the honor roll. Thanks to you and your contributions, it has helped me personally.

The first time I volunteered as a key worker was two years ago. I was closing down the 11th Space Warning Squadron, and our first sergeant was walking down the hall and said, "I need you and Staff Sgt. Powers in my office now."

We thought we were in trouble. The first sergeant sat down with us and asked if we would like to be key workers. I said, "I'd love to work with my best friend on CFC." Together, even through our unit was closing, we raised a lot of contributions. Working together, it was a team effort.

When you go out to look for a key worker, please look for someone in your area who has a passion for helping others. Find someone who wants to help with CFC, with an outgoing personality. Find your hero!

Because:

- Today and tomorrow, someone will take a step they couldn't before,
- Someone will walk through the forest instead of strip mall,
- Someone will find a cure for an illness and thousands will be healed,
- Someone will find hope when all felt lost,
- Someone will be liberated instead of downtrodden,
- Someone will eat a meal and have shelter for the night,
- Someone will learn, someone will benefit.

That someone thanks you, because it is your generosity, support and dedication that make it possible.

Your key worker and your contribution will help the people in our community, our country and around the world.

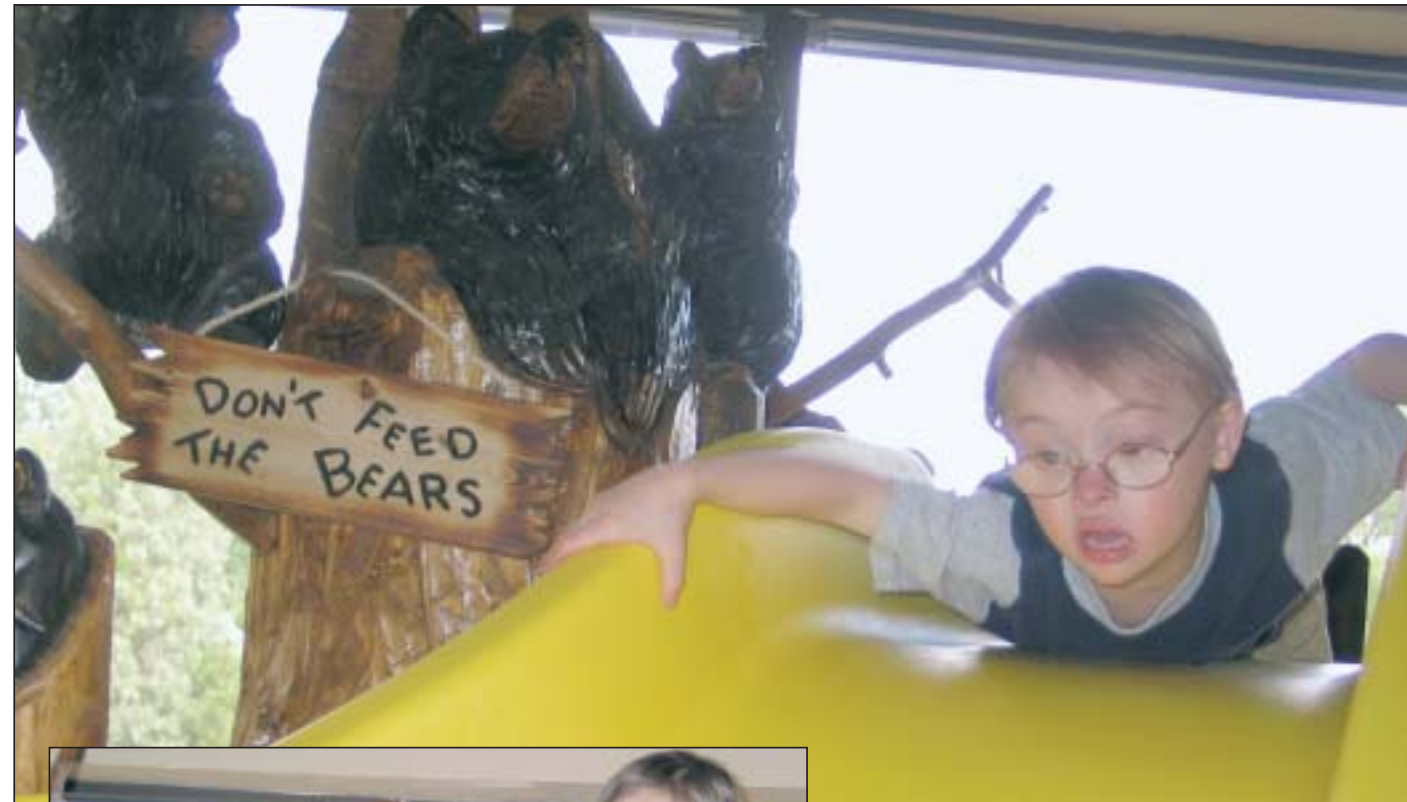
Sunset in the Park

The Peterson Air Museum will celebrate with a performance by The U.S. Air Force Academy Band and free hot dogs, hamburgers, chips and bottled water.

Don't forget your lawn chairs and blankets for the celebration, Sept. 25 from 4:30 - 7 p.m.



RIGHT: Base Fire Chief, Chief Master Sgt. Rod Coleman, lifts his son, Cody, 7, to give him a better view of a wall mural at The Hideout at Cody's Camp.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Denise Johnson

ABOVE: Cody Coleman, 7, goes headfirst down the slide during the grand opening of The Hideout at Cody's Camp Sunday. Cody, who suffers from a depressed immune system due to chemotherapy treatments, inspired his parents to create this health-friendly indoor playground.

Cody's Camp opens its doors

By Staff Sgt. Denise Johnson
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Team Pete and Air Force Academy members joined civilians and organizations from the local area to celebrate the grand opening of The Hideout at Cody's Camp Sunday.

The Hideout at Cody's Camp is an indoor playground where children with depressed immune systems from chemotherapy can play without the health risks associated with outdoor public playgrounds.

The playground, the first of its kind in the United States, was funded by donations from two Peterson AFB organizations and money raised by U.S. Air Force Academy cadets in their Wing Open Boxing Tournament. Peterson AFB volunteers have contributed hundreds of hours of labor to help build

the playground.

Jon Karroll, KRDO TV anchor, was the master of ceremonies for the grand opening. Brigadier General Richard E. Webber, 21st Space Wing commander, joined members of the Academy's boxing team, along with various other military and civilian attendees for the event. The grand opening included guided tours of the playground, refreshments and family-friendly entertainment.

Cindy Coleman, a Peterson AFB family member, conceived the idea for Cody's Camp in 2002 when her son, Cody, now 7, was struggling through daily chemotherapy treatments. She said the need was there, not just for Cody, but for others as well. "These kids are amazing," Mrs. Coleman said.

There are more than 30 children of military members with depressed immune systems from cancer in the Colorado Springs area. Children suf-

fering from illnesses such as these are tracked in a national database, allowing doctors and families to share and learn from one another's successes and failures. "I wish they would do the same for adults," Mrs. Coleman said. "That'll be the next thing I'll tackle."

For now, the mother of two said she is content to have the first step completed. "This has been a tremendous coordinated effort. The rewards, however, are far greater than can ever be acknowledged."

Between everyone, The Hideout at Cody's Camp has now officially opened its doors for families who have immune-depressed children providing a safe and healthy environment and bringing the outdoors in, according to Jan Streets, designer of Cody's Camp.

Now we need to see these programs become nationwide, Mrs. Coleman said. ✂️



ABOVE: Cody's brother, Shane Coleman, 10, searches for Cody's missing shoe from atop the slide.



ABOVE: Shane and Cody go for a drive in the "camper." The camper is part of a playroom made solely for the siblings of the immune-depressed children. Shane has spent most of his weekends working hard and pitching in to finish Cody's Camp.
LEFT: Jan Streets, designer of the hideout, shows a wall of sunflowers to a guest during a tour Sunday. The designer said the theme was "to bring the outdoors in" for the children who are not often allowed to play outside.



ABOVE: Chief Coleman and his wife, Cindy, peruse the Thank-You Tree. Two trees were decorated with ornaments, one for each person or organization who donated time or funds to Cody's Camp. The Air Force Academy's Boxing Team and two Peterson AFB organizations are named on the ornaments.
LEFT: Cody attempts to taste a fake ear of corn in the sibling playroom.



Team Pete's noteworthy events

To submit information for the base calendar, email space.observer@peterson.af.mil

Thursday, Sept. 16

- Team Pete celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month through Oct. 15.
- Second day of Armed Forces Women's Softball tournament begins 9 a.m. here at the Patriot Park Softball Complex Fields 1 and 2, runs through Friday
- Second day of Intramural Bowling

Thursday, Sept. 17

- POW/MIA 5k run 11:30 a.m. at the Fitness and Sports Center
- SILVER SPRUCE GOLF COURSE - 556-7414
Private lessons are scheduled by appointment. The Can-Am is this Fri., Sept. 17, with an 8 a.m. shotgun start. The 50th Aero Club Anniversary Tournament is Saturday, Sept. 25, with a start between noon and 1:30 p.m. Nine holes only.

Saturday, Sept. 18



- Air Force Birthday
- OUTDOOR RECREATION - 556-4867

An outdoor beginner rock climbing class is held every weekend in September. A \$20 fee includes needed gear and all instruction for top roping and some advanced sport-climbing technique. Minimum age is 12.

Tuesday, Sept. 21

- AUTO SKILLS - 556-4481
Save \$2 off tire rotation in September, Tuesdays through Thursdays by appointment only. Call 556-4481. The used car lot is located at the entrance of the Auto Skills Center. Shop orientation is available any day of the week. Auto Skills can perform the state emission test for base decal and/or state license plate.

Wednesday, Sept. 22

- Wednesday - Get 10 percent off ice cream bowling center



Saturday Sept. 25

- Base-wide historic aviation day with various activities, static displays of vintage aircraft and vendors selling food and souvenirs.
- "Sunset in the Park" - at Airpark Museum. For more information see the ad on Page 9.

Team Pete's noteworthy events

HAPPENINGS

Guard member wins ATWIND

The 21st Space Wing Services Squadron announces the ATWIND Destination 3 prize winner, Staff Sgt. Jeff Granger. The Colorado Army National Guard member won \$1,750 cash. The ATWIND season officially ended Aug. 31.

AERO CLUB - 556-4310

Sunday - \$5/hour Cessnas discount
Sept. 25 - Aero Club 50th anniversary from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Sept. 27 - Save \$5/hour on Arrows
Sept. 28 - Save \$5/hour on Cessnas
Sept. 29 - No safety meeting
Sept. 30 - Save \$5/hour on aircraft

AQUATICS CENTER - 556-4608

Call the center to rent the pool for parties. The swim team practices Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 6 to 8 p.m. The pool will be closed Oct. 8 through 11 for pool liner repairs.

BOWLING CENTER - 556-4607

Saturday - The Air Force's birthday. All Air Force personnel bowl for half price all day.

Sept. 25 - Free coffee for ladies.
Sept. 29 - Ladies bowl three games for the price of two.

FITNESS CENTER - 556-4462

Back to Basics Circuit Course, 15 simple exercises and self-paced cardio. Classes are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 11 a.m. The class is free and open to everyone.

Friday - POW/MIA 5K/10K Run, free. Starts at 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday through Thursday - Ultimate Frizbee Tournament, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on soccer field
Sept. 25 - A 35-mile bike ride begins at 10 a.m. at the center.

at your SERVICE

Association hosts luncheon today

The Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association is hosting a luncheon today. Colonel Dave Kovach, commander of the Air Force Communications Agency is scheduled to speak. The luncheon is being held at the Peterson Enlisted Club and is \$13. For reservations, call Judy Arnold 277-4028. For more information on chapter membership, contact Bill Gaumer at 554-5352 or Capt. Becky Olson at 554-3706.

Spouses Club holds Information Fair today

The Pikes Peak Combined Spouses' Club will hold its annual Information Fair today, 6:30 pm at the Peterson AFB Officers' Club. Meet club members, sign up for monthly activities and learn more about the many services the Peterson Complex offers. The fair is free to new members and \$5 for returning members. For more information, contact Liz Walker at 310-1946 or LizW1025@aol.com.



Photo by Walt Johnson

Fit to Fight and eat

Sherrie Wyatt, server at the Peterson Fitness and Sports Center's Nutrition Bar, assists a customer Tuesday. The Nutrition Bar provides healthy alternatives for lunch and snacks, catering to a more health-conscious clientele. The Nutrition Bar is also set up to allow a more convenient lunch stop for those who are spending lunch and dinner stops at the center. For information and hours of operation, call 556-0912.

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 w/mush sauce
Glazed Cornish Hen
Potato halves
Orange rice
Carrots
Simmered pinto beans
Corn combo

Friday

Lunch:

Mexican baked chicken
Swiss steak
Stuffed green pepper
Macaroni and cheese
Steamed rice
Corn on the cob
Spanish-style beans
Peas and carrots

Dinner:

Lasagna
Spaghetti w/meat sauce
Italian sweet sausage
Mashed potatoes
Broccoli Polonaise
Cauliflower
Italian-style beans

Saturday

Brunch:

Crispy baked chicken
Cajun meatloaf
Grilled steak
Baked potatoes
Mashed potatoes
Broccoli
French-style peas
Glazed carrots

Sunday

Brunch:

Tuna and noodles
Sauerbraten
Chicken breast parm
Au Gratin potato
Steamed rice
Cauliflower combo
Peas
Fried cabbage

Monday

Lunch:

Swiss steak
Baked chicken
Hot Italian sausage
Peppers and onions
Steamed rice
Mashed potatoes
Broccoli Polonaise

Dinner:

Roast turkey
Baked canned ham
Raisin sauce
Fish and fries
Mashed potatoes
Succotash
Tempura vegetable
Herbed green

Tuesday

Lunch:

Onion-lemon baked fish
Pork schnitzel, steak
Yakisoba, beef and spaghetti
Baked potato
Mashed potato
Pinto beans

Dinner:

Paprika beef
BBQ beef cubes
Chicken fajitas
O'Brien potatoes
Steamed rice
Cauliflower
Corn on the cob
Lima beans

Wednesday

Lunch:

Fried catfish
BBQ spare ribs
Oven-fried chicken
Red beans and rice
Mac and cheese
Collard greens
Black-eyed peas
Sweet potatoes
Corn bread

Dinner:

Pita pizzas
Country-style steak
Fried chicken
Oven-brown potatoes
Mashed potatoes
Fried cauliflower
Bean combo
Cabbage

The Aragon Dining Facility announces new hours of operation, effective Oct. 1 Weekdays/Weekends: Breakfast 5:30 - 8 a.m.; Lunch 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Dinner 4 - 6 p.m.; Holidays/Down days: Brunch 6 - 10 a.m.; Supper 11 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; All carry out times 7 - 9 p.m.

Top 3 council meeting set

The Pikes Peak Top 3 will meet 11:30 a.m. Sept. 23 at 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 3 member are also welcome to join as associate members. Pikes Peak Top 3 members actively support enlisted causes and professional development through a variety of activities. For more information call Master Sgt. Leyda Pendergrass at 556-9022.

Team Pete members win at 14th Air Force

The following individuals were named the 14th Air Force Quarterly Award winners for the second quarter, April through June.

Senior noncommissioned officer – Master Sgt. Kevin Wagner, 21st Maintenance Group

Civilian Category II – Vanessa Calica, 721st Communications Squadron



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Ty Foster

TOP RIGHT: Master Sgt. Kevin P. Wagner, 21st Maintenance Operations Flight chief of aircraft maintenance, reviews a quality assurance checklist following maintenance on a transient aircraft here. Fourteenth Air Force officials recently recognized Sergeant Wagner as the Senior NCO of the Quarter for April through June. During that period, he assisted Secret Service agents with a room-by-room bomb sweep for President George Bush's visit and stepped up as a Fit to Fight physical training leader after scoring a 92 on his fitness evaluation.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Vanessa L. Calica, 721st Communications Squadron A-76 quality assurance evaluator, evaluates contract compliance. Fourteenth Air Force officials recently recognized Ms. Calica as the Category Two Civilian of the Quarter for April through June. During that period, she developed guidance to document sub-par performance on a \$1.5 billion operations/maintenance contract and designed 25 scenarios to measure the squadron's readiness during wing exercises.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jonathan Taylor



Tailgaters cook up fun for Falcon football

By Senior Master Sgt. Ty Foster

21st Space Wing Public Affairs

With Air Force Academy football rushing ahead at full speed, many people at Team Pete have their calendars marked for food, fun and football.

This year, the Rocky Mountain Company Grade Officers' Council is carrying the ball for organizing the combined 21st Space Wing and 50th Space Wing pre-game tailgate football parties, said 2nd Lt. Ed Kozlowski, RMCOC tailgate party chairman for the 21st SW. The parties are held before each home game at Falcon Stadium, Lot 4, Space 2.

Lieutenant Kozlowski said about 100 people visited the first tailgate Sept. 4 when the Falcons faced No. 13 cede California.

A mid-morning kickoff meant Lieutenant Kozlowski's starting lineup of tailgaters had to get moving at the crack of dawn in order to have the free doughnuts, bagels, hot dogs, hamburgers, chips and beverages ready in time for their guests.

"About 100 people stopped by," the lieutenant said. "All the food was gone and the truck was packed up by 9:55 a.m. – just in time to make our way into the stadium to see the game."

Despite the early start and 56-14 Falcon loss, Lieutenant Kozlowski chalked one up in the win col-

umn for the tailgate series.

Each week, a different group or organization ponies up some manpower to work the tailgate party with folks from Schriever Air Force Base.

Last week, the 21st Medical Group's starters took up spatula and tongs to grill up the goods before Saturday's game against Eastern Washington, said Senior Master Sgt. Alfonso Rosado Jr., organizer for the 21st Medical Group contingent of tailgate volunteers.

The med group turned up the heat for 350 to 400 guests rated the Med Group tailgate as "a huge success" to match up with the Falcon's 42-20 victory, Sergeant Rosado said.

Praising his team, Chief Master Sgt. Vic Geary, 21st MDG superintendent, said some guests were heard saying "it was the largest turnout and the 'best' to date."

Usually, the tailgate team has free Falcon football tickets for some guests who need them, said Lieutenant Kozlowski. During the California game, they gave out 150 tickets and 45 went unused. Free tickets won't be available for the Sept. 30 game against Navy, he said.

The Schriever Challengers and Team 21 Association, non-profit organizations that support the units' Guardian Challenge and other competition teams, fund the tailgate parties.

"It's a great way to come out, enjoy some good food before the game, and support Air Force Academy football," the lieutenant said.

The wing tailgate parties usually kick off a couple of hours before the game starts. The next tailgate party is slated for Sept. 30 and will start at 3:30 p.m. for the Air Force vs. Navy game, which kicks off at 5:45 p.m.

Air Force women's softball schedule

Today	Home	Visitor	Friday	home team determined by coin toss
8 a.m.	ARMY vs.	USN; USMC vs.	AF	8 a.m. USMC vs. AF; USN vs. ARMY
1 p.m.	ARMY vs.	USMC; AF vs.	USN	1 p.m. AF vs. USN; ARMY vs. USMC
6 p.m.	AF vs.	ARMY; USN vs.	USMC	6 p.m. USMC vs. USN; AF vs. ARMY

Closing ceremonies and selection of Armed Forces Team immediately follow last game