Cadets embrace ‘courage in the face of adversity’

Annual three-day symposium brings in renowned speakers, visiting students

**Cadet 1st Class Russell Cleeton and Maj. Jeff Sandrock**

USAF Academy Center for Character Development

**The 2006 National Character and Leadership Symposium launches Feb. 23, with nationally recognized leadership and motivational speakers visiting the cadets with their life experiences.**

The three-day symposium brings people from all walks of life who have one common trait: they have faced adversity and met the challenge.

Speakers are a former Air Force Chief of Staff, two astronauts, two Olympians, two former NFL coaches, Miss America 1995, a holocaust survivor, an aircraft hijacking survivor, an intercollegiate wrestler who is also a congenital amputee, a survivor of the 1979 Iran hostage crisis and the man who took the first blind climber to the summit of Mt. Everest, among others.

**“NCLS is a really amazing program because we have speakers you may see once in a lifetime — it’s a unique opportunity,” said Cadet 1st Class Alicia Tompkins, the cadet-in-charge of the symposium.**

**“It’s an opportunity for cadets to be exposed to people at the very highest levels of their profession — people who overcame difficult challenges and achieved amazing things,” said Col. Joe Mazzola, director of the center for character development.**

The military speakers in the symposium displayed their courage in a variety of ways.

**“We have the former Chief of Staff of the Air Force, (Ret.) Gen. Ron Fogleman; the senior military hostage held for 444 days during the 1979 Iran hostage crisis, Col. Tom Schaefer; and world-record holder for the longest spacewalk (8 hours, 56 minutes), Col. Susan Helms joining us,” said Maj. Tina Erzen, the symposium director.**

**“Also with us is Joe Galloway, best known as co-author of *We were Soldiers Once... and Young* and the only civilian to earn the Bronze Star with Valor device for gallantry in Vietnam,” Major Erzen added.**

Sports icons also make up a strong contingent of the NCLS group of speakers.

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**Sports icons also make up a strong contingent of the NCLS group of speakers.**

**“We’ve got Coach Dick Vermeil, who just retired as head coach of the Kansas City Chiefs; we’ve got former national champion Alabama Crimson Tide coach Gene Stallings, and Dr. Rick Rigsby of the coaching staff from Texas.**

See BOV, Page 4

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**BOV meets in D.C.**

By Academy Spirit Staff

The Academy’s Board of Visitors met Thursday at the Rayburn Building in Washington, D.C. They discussed a variety of issues including the Academy’s report on sexual assault for 2005, results from the Defense Manpower Data Center survey of cadet life, the new Superintendent’s vision for the Academy, revised guidelines regarding religious respect and the Association of Graduate’s fundraising campaign.

The purpose of the board is to inquire into the morale, discipline, curriculum, physical instruction, fiscal affairs, academic methods and other matters relating to the Academy.

The board will submit a semi-annual, written report of its actions, views and recommendations for the Academy to the Secretary of the Air Force, the Secretary of Defense and the Chairmen of the House and Senate Armed Services Committees. The BOV last met here in July.

The accomplishments and contributions of African-Americans to our society, to our culture and to our identity as a nation are numerous and varied. We’d be hard pressed to find any facet of American life that has not been shaped and immeasurably enriched by their experiences.

In literature, you’ll find Ralph Ellison’s Invisible Man and James Baldwin’s Go Tell It on the Mountain on the modern library’s list of the best novels in the English language. Toni Morrison’s Beloved or The Bluest Eye will come to mind when one thinks of powerful performances by African-Americans. The 2006 Grammy Awards last year. African-Americans have been awarded the Nobel Prize as one “who gives life to an idea.”

In 1926, he launched the first Black History Week. This segment of the American population. African-American history is America’s history, shared by and affecting all citizens of our great country regardless of background or individual experiences.

You must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into something that he will die for… If a man has not discovered some-thing that he will die for, he isn’t fit to live."

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We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into something that he will die for… If a man has not discovered something that he will die for, he isn’t fit to live."

I think the example of Benjamin O. Davis Jr.’s experience at West Point in the 1930s illustrates this point beautifully. Davis was the only African-American cadet in his class. He entered the academy mindful that no other African-American had graduated since Charles Young, nearly 50 years earlier. From the outset, Davis’ classmates actively shunned him. Yet he remained resolute in his determination and did not falter.

He ultimately graduated in the top 15 percent of his West Point class; was commissioned a second lieutenant in the infantry; became the first African-American officer to wear an Air Force star; commanded the famous Tuskegee Airmen who, flying fighters in the European Theater during World War II, never lost an American bomber to an enemy aircraft in more than 200 escort missions; and became the first African-American to wear an Air Force star. His life and service so powerfully demonstrate that whatever challenge we may personally or professionally confront, we can achieve truly magnificent things if we maintain our dignity and discipline.

Dr. King also talked about how every job was important, and everyone should do his or her particular job to the absolute best of their ability. He said, “Whatever your life’s work is, do it well.”

His point speaks directly to us in the profession of arms: Everyone’s contribution is vitally important to the success of the mission. No job is any more or less important than any other job in our outfit. No matter what your assigned task, you should do it as if someone else’s life or welfare depended on it — because it probably does!}

Cadet Sight Picture

#6 – Cadet Limits

• Cadet limits - the boundaries a cadet must remain within unless otherwise authorized. (Reference AFCWM 36-3501, page 8-9, paragraph 8.5.2)

• Day passes authorize a cadet to depart the Academy reservation for one day, in the “Colorado Springs local area” defined as North – Monument Hill, South – Security-Widefield, East – Markshelde Road, and West – Manitou Springs.

• Night passes allow “extended limits” beyond the local area but within the 150-mile radius of USAFA. Cadets may use an AFCW Form 97 to request AOC approval to exceed limits. (Reference page 8-2, paragraph 8.3.1 for other limit guidance)

The Cadet Sight Picture (Cadet Wing Manual 36-3501) provides an insight into the day-to-day requirements for cadets.
Cadet-built rocket ready for launch

By Eddie Kovsky
Academy Spirit staff

First-class cadets successfully test-fired a rocket engine Tuesday in Jacks Valley. The static test fire was conducted to validate the design cadets had been working on for the previous semester.

The ignition fired without incident, and the rocket withstood the heat and pressure generated by the test fire. It will take at least a week to analyze all the data collected during the six seconds the rocket was ignited.

“It’s a chance to put everything into practice,” said Cadet 1st Class Chris Roks, a systems engineering management major. “For the astro people, it’s a chance to dive in instead of studying textbooks.”

The test firing was the last milestone before preparing this year’s rocket for launch. Later this year, cadets will launch the rocket from Port Magu Naval Air Station, on the California coast. Unlike previous years, this year’s rocket couldn’t be launched locally because it is traveling so high into the atmosphere.

“The Navy has different procedures and terms, but they have been helpful,” said Cadet Nogueras. “The Navy is working to help us have as safe an operation as possible.”

Cadets designed the rocket as part of the Falcon Launch program. The course is a capstone research course, which is one of several opportunities for senior cadets to research, design and build a project related to their academic major.

The Falcon Launch program has been part of the department of astronautical engineering’s curriculum since the fall 2000 semester. Over the course of two semesters cadets design, build, troubleshoot and launch a rocket.

The rocket is designed to propel itself to an altitude of 150,000 feet—the highest any Falcon Launch rocket has gone. Each capstone team builds on the work of the previous year’s program, which has an end goal of providing the Air Force and Department of Defense with a rocket capable of delivering scientific payloads to an altitude of 330,000 feet.

An initial static test at the beginning of the semester was cancelled because the rocket fuel was not prepared. The liquid propellant takes about six weeks to cure in the hollow center of the rocket, and has to be poured into the rocket by an outside contractor, which resulted in a delay of the static test. The Feb. 10 test was postponed again due to snow and wind.
Adversity

From Page 1

A&M University, who’s a dynamite speaker,” said Colonel Mazzola.

Other speakers earned America’s respect by defeating the greatest challenges life threw at them.

“Heather Whitestone-McCallum, Miss America 1995, overcame her partial hearing loss to become the first Miss America with a disability,” said Major Erzen. “Jackie Pflug was shot, execution-style, when an Egypt Air flight she was on was hijacked. She was thrown from the plane onto the tarmac and left for dead. She survived.”

The symposium’s lineup of world-class speakers draws cadets and midshipmen from the other service academies, as well as students and faculty from civilian universities across the U.S., Japan and Canada.

“It’s good to have other military and non-military [students] because they have a different perspective on leadership and character... we can learn from each other,” said Cadet Tompkins.

“The cadets, as well as the other student leaders who will visit the Academy, inevitably will deal with adversity as they go through life. As future leaders, they’re going to deal with some difficult challenges,” said Colonel Mazzola. “So the take-away from NCLS is: when adversity strikes, they’ll be better prepared to step forward and do the right thing.”

Cadet Tompkins said participation is the key for Academy staff and cadets who wish to get the most out of the program.

“They need to come. Cadets will get a lot more out of it when they make the personal choice to see a speaker they find interesting,” said Cadet Tompkins.

Colonel Mazzola indicated the combined efforts of senior leadership, center staff, the Association of Graduates and the Academy Class of 1973 makes the annual symposium possible.

“I’d like to acknowledge the senior Academy leadership, including the Superintendent, the Commandant, the Dean of the Faculty, and the Athletic Director. They will be involved in NCLS start to finish.”

As far as staff members go, “Chaplain (Maj.) Jim Glass, Major Erzen, and Senior Master Sgt. Danielle Brines have just been fantastic, along with Cadet Alicia Tompkins and her cadre of cadets and everyone else in the center,” Colonel Mazzola added.

“NCLS would not be possible without the Association of Graduates, and our flagship sponsor, the Class of 1973, in particular Mr. John Muse, who is one of the primary donors in support of NCLS,” Colonel Mazzola said.

Recognizing the contributions of the graduate community, Cadet Tompkins observed, “they’re absolutely necessary for the program. We do NCLS with style, passion and grace — we put the Academy’s best foot forward. It’s a wonderful, positive note to wind up my 32 years in the United States Air Force. I’m really looking forward to it.” said Colonel Mazzola who retires a week after NCLS.

More information on next week’s symposium can be found at the NCLS Web site, www.usafa.af.mil/ncls.

BOV

From Page 1

member, Salt Lake County Council, Utah.

Also attending were Dr. Ron Sega, Under Secretary of the Air Force; General John Corley, Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force; Lt. Gen. Roger Brady, Deputy Chief of Staff, Manpower and Personnel; the Academy’s Superintendent, Lt. Gen. John Regni; the Academy’s commandant of Cadets, Brig. Gen. Susan Desjardins; and other members of the Academy’s senior staff.

The Board is comprised of 15 members. The President, Vice President and select members of Congress can appoint BOV members. A fact sheet about BOV members can be found at: www.usafa.af.mil/superintendent/pa/factsheets/bov.htm.
New personnel system presents opportunity

By Samantha L. Quigley
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The Defense Department’s new National Security Personnel System, or NSPS, is on track for initial implementation, the system’s program executive officer said Feb. 9.

“We’re still on track to deploy folks into Spiral 1.1 in April,” Mary Lacey said. “We’ve got over 11,000 (non-union) employees that are going in.”

The NSPS program executive office designed the system for a staggered implementation based on a spiral model, she said. The approach has led to delays, she said, but this has given the office a chance to tweak the program as it builds it.

The purpose of the spiral model to introduce NSPS was to build a little, test a little and learn a lot, Ms. Lacey said.

The most recent implementation delay was caused by a need to take another look at the system’s evaluation system. Ms. Lacey said it was robust but hard to understand and to put into operation.

“Transactions are interesting, but they’re not necessarily something that compel us to action or the only thing that helps us achieve our (objective),” she said.

Supervisors also should set and level expectations for employees, Ms. Lacey said. Employees need to realize not everyone is a star performer every year.

“When supervisors are giving their people feedback throughout the year, you need to talk in NSPS terms,” she said. “A ‘3’ is not a bad evaluation. That’s a great, solid evaluation.”

One hundred percent of those cases required assistance from security forces or OSI,” said the employee from Buckingham, Va. “Other agencies were called in to assist with 10 percent of the cases reported.”

VW AP can also extend to retirees, dependents and military people living off-base if the crime or subject of the investigation system. Ms. Lacey said it was robust but hard to understand and to put into operation.

The system seems to work in favor of the accused, the fact sheet reads. Victims and witnesses of crime are often left feeling helpless.

Do victims and witnesses have any say in punishment?

Yes, said an Academy Judge Advocate official. The Victim and Witness Assistance Program ensures those who suffer physical, emotional or traumatic trauma get the help and protection they are entitled to.

“Last year, JA assisted 60 cases that were reported,” said Ms. Sandie Miles, paralegal specialist and Academy Victim Witness Assistance Program coordinator.

Some of these cases involved Academy medical, security forces, family support and the office of special investigations help.

Victim and Witness Assistance Program ensures those left feeling helpless.

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Evaluation ratings are based on a scale of 1 to 5, with the former number being an unsuccessful evaluation and the latter a “role model” assessment.

Under the system, evaluations will determine an employee’s compensation. The system’s three pay bands allow flexibility to adjust salaries and compensation to be competitive with the civilian sector, Ms. Lacey said.

“It’s an important flexibility that we think we need to have in the department,” Ms. Lacey said. “But we need to watch it. It needs to be fair (and) we need to make sure that in the process of being fair we don’t … price ourselves out of business.”

Also important is that employees feel the system is being applied fairly, she said. That feeling will come from continuous conversations with supervisors so that employees know what’s expected. These conversations and the formal evaluations need to be conducted with a measure of sensitivity, she said.

“People’s feelings are important in this,” Ms. Lacey said. “The people are the appreciating assets in the Department of Defense.”

Crime victims, witnesses not helpless

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

Some who will be affected have expressed hesitation over changes it will bring, even if the changes are good for them, Ms. Lacey said. She said that communication and training will help ease these fears.

“Conversations need to happen very, very frequently. Employees will be demanding more of supervisors’ time. They’ll be demanding more thoughtful conversations,” she said. “If you find the time, while it’s painful the first year, you will get paybacks forever.”

One thing supervisors should be communicating to their employees is results.

“We’re not just going to measure transactions,” she said. “Transactions are interesting, but they’re not necessarily something that compel us to action or the only thing that helps us achieve our (objective).”

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The proposed changes would apply only to eligible military retirees under age 65 and their families, officials said. There would be no change for active-duty military or their families, or military retirees age 65 or older and their families.

When the Tricare health care program for active-duty and retired servicemembers and their families was established in 1995, retirees then were contributing about 27 percent of the cost of their benefit, said Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., the assistant secretary of defense for health affairs. However, military health care costs nearly doubled from $19 billion in 2001 to more than $37 billion in the 2006 defense budget, Dr. Winkenwerder said. Today’s average military retiree contribution for health care coverage has dropped to about 10 to 12 percent.

Their contribution did not change, while the value of the benefit continued to rise,” Dr. Winkenwerder said. If approved by Congress and signed off by the president, the proposed Tricare rate hikes for retirees under age 65 would be phased in over fiscal years 2007 and 2008. That should bring up younger retirees’ share of Tricare costs closer to the 1995 level, he said.

By comparison, Dr. Winkenwerder said, civilians under private plans generally pay between 35 and 40 percent of their health care costs. According to DoD documents, the current Tricare Prime annual enrollment fee for retirees is $230 for individuals and $460 for families for both enlisted and commissioned military retirees. The proposed changes would increase Tricare Prime enrollment fees for junior enlisted retirees at pay grades E-6 and below to $325 per individual and $650 for families by October 2008. Enlisted retirees at pay grades E-7 and above would pay $475 for individuals and $950 for families by October 2008 under the proposed changes. Retired officers of all ranks would pay $700 per individual and $1,400 per family. After that, the share of health care costs paid by military retirees would be indexed to the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program that covers federal workers and retirees.

If nothing is done now, then DoD could be paying $64 billion for military health care in 2015, Marine Gen. Peter Pace, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said today during his testimony before the House Armed Services Committee.

The general said another reason for increased DoD health care costs is that many younger military retirees are using their Tricare health care benefits at the behest of their civilian employers, rather than access company health plans.

Finding ways to manage increased military health care costs “is something we just have to face up to, because it’s an enormous amount of money,” Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said to committee members at the same House hearing.

The alternative to not raising rates, Dr. Winkenwerder said, would be to degrade a first-class benefit for retired military members and their families.

“You can see our benefit is a much better benefit, and we want to keep it that way,” Dr. Winkenwerder said.
Academy Annual Awards Banquet

The 2005 Academy Annual Awards banquet is scheduled for March 15, in the Academy’s Officers Club. A social begins at 6 p.m., and dinner call is at 6:30. The cost is $20.50 for club members and $22.50 for nonmembers. For tickets, contact a first sergeant.


Input wanted for Distinguished Service Award nominations

The Academy is seeking nominations for the 2006 Air Force Academy Distinguished Service Award.

“The DSA was established in February 1999, and is presented annually by the Superintendent to a military person, civilian, or group, whose contributions, not as part of their official duties, have had a distinct impact on the Academy through the generous donation of time, resources or influence is eligible.

Any individual or group who has contributed significantly and directly to the morale or well-being of the Academy may be nominated. Nominations must be submitted no later than April 1 to: HQ, USAFA/CMA, 2304 Cadet Dr., Suite 351, USAF Academy CO 80840-5002. All packages should have a single page with biographical data like name, rank, organization or company, telephone number and mailing address. The package must have a typed narrative justification, not to exceed one page, describing the nominee’s accomplishments. For more information, please contact Mr. Simon at 333-8827.

Harmon Hall repairs near completion

Renovations of Harmon Hall are nearly complete. Officials at the 10th Civil Engineer Squadron estimate that the more than 250 staff members currently working off-site will move back this summer.

During the repairs, significant corrosion was discovered on the steel columns where they meet the concrete, near the Honor Court overlooking the Terrazoo. Additional time was needed to repair the columns, prevent further corrosion and remove more asbestos discovered during construction.

The remodeling of the Academy’s headquarters building began December 2004. All new heating and air conditioning systems, windows, walls, ceilings, floor coverings, lighting fixtures and furniture are currently being added.

Tax center offers drop-off program

The Academy Tax Center’s Form 1040EZ drop-off program allows clients with simple returns to drop off their paperwork at the tax center where the return is prepared. The tax center then calls the client to come back, review and sign the return. Clients may use this program only if their filing status is “single” or “married filing jointly,” if they do not claim any dependents, if their taxable income is $100,000 or less, and if their taxable interest was $1,500 or less. Other restrictions apply.

The Academy Tax Center assists in the preparation of personal federal and state tax returns for military ID card holders.

The center is open Mondays, noon to 4 p.m.; Tuesdays through Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Fridays, 8 a.m. to noon. For an appointment, call 333-3905. Clients are reminded to bring their military ID cards, social security cards for themselves and family members, and all relevant tax information. The center cannot file business returns.

The tax center is in the Arnold Hall Food Court next to Subway.

For more information on the Form 1040EZ drop-off program or the tax center, visit the Academy Judge Advocate’s Web site on the Intraweb, intraweb.usafa.af.mil or Internet, www.usafa.af.mil.

MEO gives retraining option

Motivated staff sergeant selects and higher, looking to change careers, should contact the military equal opportunity office.

Some of the qualifications one must meet to re-train into the career field are an ability to speak distinctly; communicate well with others; have enlusted performance report ratings of 5; no record of disciplinary actions to include an unfavorable information file; no record of financial irresponsibility; good writing skills and a positive attitude.

The ability to communicate effectively with people at various levels within organizations is an essential attribute you must possess. As with any other career field, you must be able to prioritize multiple tasks and accomplish tasks in a timely manner.

Other prerequisites for entering the career field are Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test scores of ADMIN-41 or GENERAL-44 as a minimum. If scores do not meet this criterion, retaking the ASVAB test is an option.

All interested personnel must also be able to fulfill a 20-day observation period per Air Force Instruction 36-2706, Military Equal Opportunity and Treatment Program.

See MORE BRIEFS Page 9
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Dealer retains any or all factory incentives or rebates if applicable. Photos for illustration purposes. Subject to prior sale. Supplies limited. Offer ends 2/28/06. Lessee responsible for insurance. Additional charges may apply at lease end. Dealer sets actual prices. *Eligible customers are defined as current owners, (excluding companies, businesses and dealerships) of any Volkswagen models or their immediate family members residing at the same address.
The period allows an individual to gain valuable insight on what technicians do on a day-to-day basis and ensure related tasks are indeed, what you would like to do for the Air Force. Additionally, the period affords the local MEO office an opportunity to access a member’s abilities within the career field.

The MEO office not only handles complaints, but more importantly, they educate members on how to be equal opportunity advocates and articulate diversity initiatives. They also assist organizations in developing their most valuable resources — people.

For more information, call the Academy Military Personnel Flight at 333-8750, e-mail the Academy MEO office at 10abw/me@usafa.af.mil or contact Master Sgt. Sherley Jones to get first-hand information.

Former Chief Master Sgts. of the Air Force meet

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The 14th Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force, Gerald R. Murray, hosted a conference for former chief master sergeants who have held the Air Force’s highest enlisted position. Eight of the nine living former CMSAFs attended the conference, held at the Pentagon Monday through Thursday.

The first Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force, Paul Airey, attended the conference. He entered the Army Air Corps in 1942 and became part of the Air Force when it became its own service in 1947. He served most of his career as a first sergeant, but during World War II, was an aerial gunner on B-24 bombers. After bailing out of a damaged aircraft, he was a prisoner of war from July 1944 to May 1945. He continued to serve and was selected as the first Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force in 1967.

Chief Airey and the other CMSAFs remain engaged with the Air Force, and especially the enlisted force, after retirement. They are regular speakers at ceremonies and sit on panels at various professional military education centers.

The theme of the conference was “Heritage to Horizons,” a vision that Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley established as a vector for the Air Force. The attendees received briefings and gave input on topics that included the Quadrennial Defense Review, base realignment and closure, and a personnel update. They also met with several enlisted Airmen for lunch and a question and answer session.

First piece of Air Force memorial placed

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFPN) — Construction crews raised the first piece of the Air Force Memorial here on top of a hill overlooking Arlington National Cemetery.

The 40-foot long piece of stainless steel, which weighs more than 20,000 tons, is the first of 15 pieces to be placed. When completed, the memorial will be 270 feet tall.

“The design is a take-off on the Air Force (jet aircraft) doing the bomb burst maneuver,” said retired Maj. Gen. Ed Grillo, Air Force Memorial Foundation president.

Three upward spires represent the Air Force’s core values — integrity, service before self and excellence in all we do.

“We thought that was very emblematic of representing today’s Air Force,” he said.

The memorial is scheduled to open Oct. 13 in conjunction with the Air Force’s 60th anniversary.

The memorial will also include a bronze honor guard, inscription walls and a glass chamber of contemplation to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

“There have been a total, including our predecessor organizations, of over 54,000 people that have been killed in action. We need a tribute and it’s long overdue to the United States Air Force,” General Grillo said.

To find out more about the memorial, visit the Web site at www.airforcememorial.org.

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To educate, train, and inspire men and women to become officers of character motivated to lead the United States Air Force in service to our nation.

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Who ya gonna call?

By Ms. Ilona Vogt
10th Mission Support Group Logistics

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Who ya gonna call?

At the Academy, it’s the 10th Mission Support Group’s all-civilian Logistics Readiness Division.

Last year, LGR deployed more than 200 servicemen and women, including cadets; logged more than 1.2 million accident-free miles; and readied the incoming class of cadets with uniforms and equipment. They oversee the base supply contractor; calibrated the Academy’s sensitive test equipment; safely managed fuels, aircraft and vehicles used by base organizations; and stored and managed munitions for the Academy, Peterson AFB, 302nd Airlift Wing, Cheyenne Mountain, Schriever AFB and the 310th Security Forces Squadron.

That’s just for starters.

LGR chief Mr. Charles Dye calls his crew “unsung heroes.”

“We play vital roles in the success of the whole Academy team,” Mr. Dye said. “We’re the Academy’s own Johnny-on-the-spot for logistics solutions.”

LGR’s bragging rights are indisputable.

Just ask Larry Moore, chief of the Logistics Operations Branch.

Academy Transportation has the Department of Defense’s largest coach fleet with 17 buses and 394 other vehicles, including cars, vans, distinguished visitor sedans, maintenance vehicles, forklifts and water buffalo.

Mr. Dye has a hunch Academy people have a hundred questions on the new Defense Travel System. “Everything is brand new. A lot of folks aren’t familiar enough with the system to do travel orders or plan their PCS.”

Who ya gonna call?

Call LGR Passenger Service Office, 333-4429.

“They’ll be happy to advise you on your entitlements in accordance with the Joint Travel Regulations” the LGR chief said.

Tagged by the commander as the unit deployment manager? A quick call to Mr. Michael Kaiser and the LGR Readiness Branch at 3-3032 can help meet training needs and deployment requirements.

Have an oscilloscope on the blink or a pressure transducer that’s just not measuring up? The LGR Precision Measurement Equipment Laboratory awaits calls at 333-4047.

“Cadets know, if you need a new uniform you head down to cadet issue, or you go by the cadet replacement store, 333-3218, in the Mitchell Hall Annex,” said the less-than-modest logistics chief.

Need to know more about how equipment is funded on the Academy or how equipment accountability is tracked?

Directed to submit a report of survey for a piece of lost equipment?

“Ham Buell and his folks manage material like it will never go out of style,” said Mr. Dye. “They’re at 333-3428.”

Soon to be part of the team is the uniform flight and the cadet tailor shop. which will fall under the inherent branch managed by Mr. Eddie Bustos. Uniform flight provides quality assurance for the $5 million cadet tailor shop contract.

“The tailor shop employees alter more than 30,000 pieces of clothing a year,” Mr. Dye said. “So, if you’re a cadet with a question concerning clothing charges or an air officer commanding with concerns about operational procedures in the cadet supply area, who ya gonna call? LGR Inherent people are inherently (no pun intended) customer-service oriented and you can reach them at 333-1646.”

Perhaps this is why it’s hard for LGR to be humble.

“LGR is present in everything we do here at the Academy from CORONA, to graduation, in-processing, the Commandant’s Challenge, cadet summer programs, academic programs and everything in between,” said the base logistics chief. “Logistics readiness is at your service! Please give us a call.”

Two cadets shop at the Cadet Uniform Replacement Store.
Cadet-made murals grace ‘Bulldawgs’ halls

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

Four innovative members of Cadet Squadron 13 have left their mark on the unit’s walls.

One of the surprisingly eye-catching murals is entitled “Freedom Isn’t Free” and depicts hands holding an American flag.

“The group of us that painted them came up with the ideas,” said Cadet 4th Class Brent McAuliff, CS-13. “We also had some input from the rest of the four-degrees in our squadron.”

The first creation was the unit’s traditional Bulldawg patch behind the squadron’s charge-of-quarters desk.

Next was the large yellow sign in the stairwell declaring “Beware of the Dawgs,” with the silhouette of a bulldog.

“Freedom Isn’t Free” followed with two pairs of hands, one civilian, the other with an honor guard white glove presenting a flag at the death of a military member, Albert Pine’s quote, “What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world, remains and is immortal” is displayed.

Finally, the image of the Air Force’s famed F-16 Thunderbirds demonstration team was added.

Each mural was done in a few hours, with the exception of “Freedom Isn’t Free,” which took the four painters a few hours each day over a weekend.

It was the cadets’ first attempt to rival Picasso.

“None of us are very artistically inclined, but working together, we’ve been able to create nice looking murals,” said Cadet McAuliff.

“They instill a bit of squadron pride among the people that see the murals regularly,” said the Tulsa, Okla. native who hopes to major in behavioral sciences.

“The ‘Freedom Isn’t Free’ mural is a constant reminder to all who pass by that our line of work is not necessarily safe, but supports a much greater cause than ourselves,” he said.

It’s not over until it’s over.

Unit members are now painting a B-2 Bomber with two F-117s and an open sky in the background.

The Thunderbirds (top) and “Freedom Isn’t Free” (above) are newly painted murals in the halls of Cadet Squadron 13. The artwork was done entirely by members of CS-13.

Photos by Cadet 4th Class Brett McAuliff

The four cadets who painted the “Beware of Dawgs” mural at Cadet Squadron 13 celebrate with a root beer.

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OUR NEW LOWER INSURANCE RATES WON’T WEIGH HIM DOWN EITHER.

USAA HAS NEW LOWER RATES.
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1Rate reduction is based on average of liability, comprehensive and collision rates in effect 11/15/2005 through 3/15/2006, in OR, CO, TX, GA, NY, SC, AR, AZ, KS, UT and VA, compared to rates in effect 11/1/2005 for policies underwritten by United Services Automobile Association, and its affiliates. Rate decreases vary by location and company. Existing members may not have received a rate decrease if they had changes in covered vehicles, persons or driving records.

Automobile insurance is provided by United Services Automobile Association, USAA Casualty Insurance Company, USAA General Indemnity Company, Garrison Property and Casualty Insurance Company, and USAA County Mutual Insurance Company. Not all products are available to all applicants in all locations. Applicants must meet P&C group membership eligibility requirements and are subject to underwriting. © USAA 2006. All rights reserved. 1635:12995
TriCare Prime offers off-base routine eye examination benefit!

No out-of-pocket cost for an eye exam for glasses!

• Active-duty personnel and their dependents are eligible once per year.
• Retirees and their dependents are eligible once every two years.

The doctors next to LensCrafters are contracted Tricare Prime Providers. They offer three convenient Colorado Springs locations for eye examinations with appointments Monday through Saturday. No more waiting for an appointment on base.

To learn more about our programs or to make an appointment, visit www.tricare.gov or call 719-632-1543.
Captain Charles B. Hall became one of 200 Americans who flew in France in World War I.

As a young high school teacher and later a social worker, Wilie Brown left her talents being wasted. She earned her private pilot’s license in 1939, helped form the National Airmen’s Association of America in 1939; and lobbied the government for integration of black pilots into the Army Air Corps and the federal Civilian Pilot Training Program. Ms. Brown eventually became the first black woman to hold a female officer in the Civil Air Patrol Program. She earned her private pilot’s license in 1939; helped form the federal Civilian Pilot Training Program for integration of black Americans into the Civil Air Patrol Program. She eventually became the first black woman to hold a female officer in the Civil Air Patrol Program. Ms. Brown eventually became the first African-American female officer in the Civil Air Patrol Program.

Colonel Guion S. Bluford, Jr. has the distinction of being the first African-American in space. Colonel Bluford’s first mission was STS-8 (Challenger), which launched from Kennedy Space Center on August 30, 1983. STS-8 was the first shuttle to be launched and land during the night. Bluford also served as mission specialist aboard STS-61A (Challenger) in 1985 and STS-59 (Discovery) in 1991.

General Daniel "Chappie" James, Jr. was the first African-American promoted to the rank of Air Force four-star general. He was another of the great Tuskegee Airmen, but didn’t see action until the Korean War. His career spanned three wars and 30 years, and he was a recognized civil rights pioneer. He was an eloquent speaker for the Air Force, known for his thoughts on Americanism and patriotism.

Corporal Eugene Jacques Bullard, the first African-American combat pilot, was one of 200 Americans who flew for France in World War I.

A veteran of three shuttle missions, Frederick D. Gregory became the first African-American shuttle commander when he flew on STS-33 (Discovery) in 1989. Gregory was commander of STS-54 (Atlantis) in 1991. His first mission was as pilot of STS-58 (Challenger) in 1986. He graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy with a science degree and went on to earn an M.S. in Information Systems from George Washington University.

Mayor Robert Henry Lawrence, Jr., was the first African-American chosen by NASA to be an astronaut in June 1987. He was a senior Air Force pilot who accumulated more than 2,500 flight hours—2,000 of which was in jets. Major Lawrence never made the journey into space, as he was killed on Dec. 6, in an F-104 crash at Edwards AFB, Calif.

Tuskegee Airmen leave strong legacy

RAMITELLI, Italy — (From left) Lt. Dempsey W. Morgan, Lt. Carroll S. Woods, Lt. Robert H. Nelson Jr., Capt. Andrew D. Turner and Lt. Clarence D. Lester were pilots with the 332nd Fighter Group. The Airmen with the elite, all-black fighter group were better known as Tuskegee Airmen.

He was one of the first African-Americans to graduate from the Academy in 1963, and the retired colonel said anything he contributed to Black History came for working hard at every job he was assigned. Even then, when Cadet Ike Payne arrived from Portland, Ore., in 1959, he did not recognize any different treatment for white classmates. “This is a very important point, and one which I’m very proud to publicize,” said the 65-year-old retiree who now lives in Albuquerque, N.M. “I had the expectation that I would get the chance to do exciting things.”

After retiring in 1987, the colonel was an engineer for a small high-tech firm in Albuquerque and did numerous volunteer activities. “I think that Academy appointment and graduation are still worthy goals, and are achievable with encouragement, preparation, motivation and application,” he said.

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

As a young high school teacher and later a social worker, Wilie Brown left her talents being wasted. She earned her private pilot’s license in 1939, helped form the National Airmen’s Association of America in 1939; and lobbied the government for integration of black pilots into the Army Air Corps and the federal Civilian Pilot Training Program. Ms. Brown eventually became the first black woman to hold a female officer in the Civil Air Patrol Program. She earned her private pilot’s license in 1939; helped form the federal Civilian Pilot Training Program for integration of black Americans into the Civil Air Patrol Program. She eventually became the first black woman to hold a female officer in the Civil Air Patrol Program.

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After graduating, he was assigned to Williams AFB, Ariz., for pilot training. He went on to Castle AFB, Calif., for B-52 upgrading, then to Grifflas AFB, N.Y., as a B-52G co-pilot, then served as an 0-1 forward air controller pilot in Vietnam from December 1967 to 1968.

In his career, he was a test pilot, B-52 control configured vehicle tests project pilot and director of the B-52 Air Launch Cruise Missile development flight test. He said the Air Force gave a young African-American a legacy. “I had excellent opportunities for personal development and contribution,” said the retiree. After retiring in 1987, the colonel was an engineer for a small high-tech firm in Albuquerque and did numerous volunteer activities. Class reunions, the last one in 2003, still drew him back to the Academy.

In retrospect, he voiced no regrets with his Academy education. “It provided me the opportunity to get a good start on an Air Force career through rigorous academics, exacting military training, team orientation, personal accountability and lots of travel,” he said. “It has undoubtedly improved its product over the years. I always believed that the Academy’s training was characterized by, among other things, equal opportunity.”

Colonel Payne expects that competition for Academy appointments is as keen today as it was for a young African-American more than 40 years ago. “I think that Academy appointment and graduation are still worthy goals, and are achievable with encouragement, preparation, motivation and application,” he said.

As a young high school teacher and later a social worker, Wilie Brown left her talents being wasted. She earned her private pilot’s license in 1939, helped form the National Airmen’s Association of America in 1939; and lobbied the government for integration of black pilots into the Army Air Corps and the federal Civilian Pilot Training Program. Ms. Brown eventually became the first black woman to hold a female officer in the Civil Air Patrol Program.
Anderson, Burtschi combo correled Cowboys

By Wayne Amann
Academy Spirit staff

The game was tied. Air Force had the ball, 93 feet away from its basket with just 1.8 seconds left. Overtime loomed. Someone forgot to tell the Falcons.

Reserve guard Tim Anderson’s length-of-the-court pass miraculously found Jacob Burtschi open along the baseline. He went strong to the hole, but was fouled hard by Wyoming’s Justin Williams. Burtschi calmly sank the go-ahead free throw with 4 seconds left. He just as coolly missed the second toss on purpose, caught his own rebound and ran out the clock.

Air Force’s improbable 62-61 Mountain West Conference men’s basketball win sent Saturday’s sellout crowd of 8,384 at Clune Arena into a frenzy. Many fans stormed the court, lifting Burtschi on their shoulders in celebration.

“Tim threw a strike,” Air Force head coach Jeff Bzdelik said of Anderson’s electrifying pin-point pass. “We have only two or three guys who can do that. Some literally can’t.”

Burtschi confirmed he was told to miss the second free throw.

“I had two coaches telling me yes,” Burtschi explained. “I figured it was best to throw it off the rim.”

The final score was indicative of how close the game was throughout. The lead changed hands 14 times and the score was tied 15 more.

Wyoming’s largest lead was six, while the Falcons biggest bulge was two, thanks to guard Matt McCraw’s lone three-pointer at the end of regulation.

Two free throws by the Cowboys’ Steve Leven knotted matters at 60, with .32 left. McCraw was fouled with 14 ticks left and hit one of two free throws. On Wyoming’s next possession, Williams missed a lay up with 3.9 seconds remaining, but sank one of two free throws, setting the stage for Air Force’s storybook ending.

“Everybody is desperate this time of year because every game is so critical,” Bzdelik said.

How big? It improved the Falcons to 19-4 overall, the second most wins in one season in program history. The 2003-04 team finished 22-7. It upped Air Force’s MWC record to 7-4.

The win avenged a 55-50 loss to Wyoming on Jan. 11 in Laramie. Despite yielding 61 points to the Cowboys (12-12, 5-6 MWC), Air Force still leads the country in scoring defense. The Falcons are allowing 54.3 points per game.

Offensively, forward Dan Nwaelele paced the bluesuiters with 15 points, including three-for-four from beyond the 3-point arc. Burtschi added 13 points while John Frye had 11 points, seven rebounds, four assists and a career-high four blocked shots.

“It was very close to being the best game of his career,” Bzdelik said of Frye’s overall performance. “We wanted and needed him to be aggressive, and he was.”

The win avenged a 55-50 loss to Wyoming on Jan. 11 in Laramie.

“Coach (Bzdelik) stressed getting our swagger back,” McCraw explained. “We got it back with this victory. We walked a little cacky, but not too cocky. We can play with anyone in the country. When you think that way and execute, it carries over and you win.”

A confident Air Force squad played TCU Wednesday in Fort Worth. Antoine Hood and Burtschi combined for 39 points to lead the Falcons past the Horned Frogs 63-45.

Falcons center John Frye and Wyoming pivot man Derek Wabbington play above the rim Saturday, as Air Force guard Tim Anderson looks on.

Chris Mooney last season.
Growing pains plague Falcons in loss to TCU

By Wayne Amann
Academy Spirit

The Air Force women's basketball team is learning to crawl before it can walk.

With each Mountain West Conference game the Falcons play, the reality of what separates winning from losing is becoming painfully clear. The latest lesson was administered by TCU Wednesday night at Clune Arena.

The Falcons are 12-11 in conference play, having lost seven of their last nine games, while TCU is 17-6 in the MW. The Horned Frogs scored 28 points off 24 Air Force turnovers. TCU shot 57 percent, on 29 of 51, from the field, got 50 points from its bench and shot a blistering 57 percent, on 29 of 51, from the field. Yes, they beat the Falcons, 84-79, but the game could have gone the Bluesuiters' way.

"We've got to find out what kind of stuff a quarter of the time, so you heard you only have your good game, McInelly said. "Then we would miss a shot, couldn't get over the hump, for a variety of reasons."

"A couple times we were right there," McInelly said. "Then we would miss a shot, give us an offensive rebound, an easy shot, or a couple 'and ones' at the other end. Those things turn a game around quickly. They keep us from winning."

McInelly viewed the loss as a missed opportunity to bounce back from an offensive drought, Feb. 11, at Wyoming, a 59-33 loss. Air Force had 38 points at halftime against TCU, but still trailed by nine.

Five Falcons scored in double figures and two were on the verge. Sophomore guard Jamie Davis led Air Force's balanced attack with 14 points. Forward Pam Findlay and Alecia Steele each netted 12 points, while center Ellen Jaeschke and reserve guard Brooke Cultra tallied 10 apiece. Backup center Kim Novak and Letricia Castillo chipped in with nine and eight respectively.

"We had very good ball distribution," McInelly said. "We executed a lot better. Our shot selection and decision making were a lot better. We played pretty damn well offensively.""The night, belonged to TCU guard Natasha Lacy. The El Paso product came off the bench to pour in a game-high 31 points, 17 above her per-game average. She shot a torrid 10 of 15 from the field, including 3-for-5 from three-point land and 8-of-10 from the free throw line. The 5-foot, 10-inch junior grabbed a game-high six rebounds, dished out four assists, had two steals and blocked a shot.

"She's the most talented player in our conference," McInelly emphasized. "She can do a lot of everything. She has really good court vision. We needed to do a better job on her."

When Lacy wasn't lighting up the Air Force defense, Adrienne Ross was scoring 15 points or Lena Hosh was hitting for 14.

The loss dropped the Falcons to 12-11 overall and 3-9 in the MWC. TCU improved to 13-9 and 7-4.

How sweep it is! Air Force starts 4-1

By Wayne Amann
Academy Spirit

What a difference a year is making. Coming off a thoroughly forgettable 9-44 season in 2005, the Air Force baseball team is off to its best start in recent memory.

The Falcons coupled dominant pitching, solid defense and timely hitting Sunday, en route to a 2-1, 4-3 doubleheader sweep over the York (Neb.) College Panthers at Runyon Field in Pueblo, Colo.

The twin wins improved Air Force's record to 4-1. The Falcons didn't win their fourth game last season until March 4.

"This is a definite confidence boost," third year Air Force head coach Mike Hutchison said. "Our guys needed to experience winning, which this program hasn't been doing a lot lately. It's disappoint- ing we haven't broken out of our little hitting slump right now, but we're concentrating on pitching and defense."

In the opener, junior right hander Mitch Brown (2-0), who is emerging as the ace of the pitching staff, turned in his second straight 11-strikeout performance. He struck out the side to open the game and repeated the feat in the fifth inning after the Panthers pulled within 2-1. He scattered four hits and walked one, in six innings of work, before yielding to senior closer Paul Vignola, who threw a scoreless seventh for his third save of the season.

"I didn't have my good stuff today," admitted Brown who threw 89 pitches, 60 for strikes. "I had a cramp about the second inning that lasted the rest of the game. I heard you only have your good stuff a quarter of the time, so you have to find out what kind of pitcher you are the other three quarters."

Brown got all the runs he needed early. Falcon leadoff man Chay Derbigny got hit by an Adam Pounds pitch in the elbow in the first inning and promptly stole second base. Two batters later, second baseman Dustin Smith blooped a double down the right field line scoring Derbigny. In the third, Derbigny took a pitch in the shoulder, stole second again and scampered home on a line-drive double to right center field scoring Derbigny. In the game's on the line," said Vignola who kept the game alive. "It feels good knowing coach (Hutchison) trusts me in those situations."

In the bottom of the ninth, designated hitter Josh Meents stroked a bases-loaded RBI single to right, chasing Smith home with the game-winner.

"We have a tough group of guys that stuck with it," Meents said. "We kept attacking it. Got us a couple more situations, which finally paid off.""The Falcons are on the road today and Saturday against Illinois-Chicago and Creighton at HoJoKam Park in Mesa, Ariz., the spring training home of the Chicago Cubs.
Morehead triggered an early run fueled to-back lay ups by Joe Flores and it was the only time they trailed. Back-the Cops the first point in the title game. Morehead said. “We’re proud we played hard and got for,” Hospital forward Cordney Morehead said Sheppard, who scored a game-high 16 points in the first game but was held to six in the second. “I let the game come to me, then I penetrated for some easy buckets or dished off.” Hospital #1 rode the momentum of a 12-3 regular season into the double-elimination playoffs as the top seed. The Medics opened the post-season of reach. Hospital #1 swept the two-game title round. of a slow Medics’ start with a 20-8 run. The Cops appeared comfortably ahead at halftime, 28-17. But, a patented second-half Hospital rally tied matters at 44 with :40 left. SFS went to its leading scorer, Torrey Phillips, who sank a jumper from the wing with :20 left for the eventual game winner, forcing the extra game. Phillips finished with a team-high 13 points for the game and led all scorers with 31 for the championship round. Hospital #1 swept the two-game regular season series from SFS. “I think beating them before gave us a psychological advantage,” Morehead said. “They played hard and never gave up. They’re strong competitors in all intramural sports. We’re good friends, but on the court it’s nothing but a rivalry.”

By Wayne Amann
Academy Spirit staff

Their philosophy was simple — it’s not how you start, but how you finish that counts.

And when it counted the most, Hospital #1 was at its best.

Luke Hopstad’s 11 points led a balanced attack that carried Hospital #1 to a convincing 46-34 victory over the 10th Security Forces Squadron in the title game of the Academy Intramural Championship Basketball Tournament, Wednesday, at the Fitness and Sports Center Preparatory School gym.

The game was the second of the night between the longtime base rivals. SFS beat the Hospital 47-44, in the opener, forcing the “if necessary” game.

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Emcees needed
The Annual Awards Banquet Committee is searching for emcees for the 2005 Annual Awards Banquet. The banquet has a history dating back 46 years and spotlights the best of the Academy’s personnel. Try-outs are 8-10 a.m., Tuesday and 3:45-3:30 p.m., Feb. 22 in the community center's professional development center, room 106 or by appointment if needed. They are open to all Academy officers, enlisted and civilians. The banquet is scheduled for 6 p.m., March 15. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Judy Bailly at 333-9339 or e-mail judy.bailly@usafa.af.mil for a sample script and to sign up.

Chiropractic therapy available
Chiropractic therapy is available to all active duty, including cadets. The chiropractic office is in the community center near physical therapy. The service is provided on base only and referrals are not needed.

For more information or to make an appointment, call 333-5582.

CADET CHAPEL
Catholic Masses:
Sunday, 10 a.m.
Mon., Tues., Thurs., 6:15 a.m.; Wed., 7 p.m.
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Wed., 6 p.m.

Protestant Services:
Sunday, 9 a.m. (Traditional)
Sunday, 10:30 a.m. (Contemporary)
Sunday, 11 a.m. (Liturgical-Multi-purpose Room)
Sunday, Noon (Inspirational)

Orthodox:
Sunday, 9:30 a.m

Jewish Shabbat Services
Friday, 7 p.m.

Buddhist
Sunday, 9 a.m

Muslim
Friday, Noon (Basement Bride's room)

COMMUNITY CENTER CHAPEL
Catholic Masses:
Saturday, 5 p.m.
Sunday, 8 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.
Religious Formation - 9:30-10:45 a.m.

Protestant Services:
Sunday, 9:15 a.m. (Gospel Service, Base Auditorium)
Sunday, 9-45 a.m. (Traditional Service)
Religious Ed - 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Today
Winter night sky for beginners
Make a star chart and learn the patterns and locations of stars and other night-sky objects during an indoor presentation from 7-8:30 p.m., tonight, at the Bear Creek Nature Center. Afterwards, go outside to locate constellations visible in the winter sky. Bring a small flashlight and dress warmly. The cost is $3. For more information and reservations, call 520-6745.

“Kids only” night out
Children, ages 6 and older, can enjoy outdoor adventures, followed by indoor games, crafts, puppet shows, popcorn and a movie on the big screen from 6-9 p.m., tonight, at the Bear Creek Nature Center. The cost is $20. For more information and reservations, call 520-6387.

Sat
Fox Run winter walk-about
Come and see what Fox Run Park has to offer from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, on a naturalist-led hike through the pine of the Black Forest. Search for Crossbills, three kinds of Nuthatches and other animals and their signs. Meet at the Pine Meadows picnic area. The cost is $2. For more information and reservations, call 520-6745.

Hands-on science for kids II
Children, ages 6 and older, are invited to return for more hands-on science fun from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, at the Bear Creek Nature Center. They can conduct indoor and outdoor experiments to learn about fire, water, camouflage, sound waves and chemical reactions. The cost is $5. For more information and reservations, call 520-6387.

Upcoming
Event: Plain Air Painters of Estes Park 2006 Exhibition & Sale
Time: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday, starts Feb. 24
Location: Cultural Arts Council Fine Art Gallery, 304 E. Elkhorn Ave.
Cost: Free
Description: Through April 21, the juried invitationals includes works of art by 30 artist members of this organization dedicated to the promotion and art of plein air painting. For more information call 970-586-9203 or visit www.estecarts.com.

Event: The Israeli Festival
Time: All day event, Feb. 24
Location: Temple Shalom, 1523 East Monument
Cost: Free admission
Description: Dr. Zohar Raviv of Hebrew University in Jerusalem will be the Temple Shalom Scholar-in-Residence guest speaker. Dr. Raviv’s talk is titled, “The Ten Commandments and the American Declaration of Independence, a Discussion on the Separation of Church and State.” For more information, visit www.templeshalom.com/index.asp.

Event: The Ten-Tallest of the Tall
Time: 6 p.m., Feb. 25
Location: Art Center of Estes Park, 517 Big Thompson Avenue
Cost: Free
Description: A look at today’s skyscrapers, and the innovative and dynamic architecture that is used in their construction. Presented by Chuck Benson. For more information, call 970-586-5882 or visit www.artcenterofestes.com.

Event: Country-Western Dance Party
Time: 7-9 p.m., Feb. 25
Location: The Carriage Stop: 2700 W. Robinson Street
Cost: $5 at the door
Description: Dance easy lines, Texas 2-step, cotton-eyed joe, mixers, country waltz, cowboy cha-cha, easy squares, etc. Learn as you dance with licensed instructors. No partner or experience required. No smoking or alcohol. For more information, call 598-8624, e-mail coloradokiti@hotmail.com or visit www.roncounts.com.

Call the Action Line to resolve issues! 333-3900
The Action Line, 333-3900, is a forum to resolve unanswered complaints. Call, write or send an e-mail to action.line@usafa.af.mil. Items may also be faxed to 333-4094, or mailed to:
Directorate of Public Affairs/ACTION LINE
2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 312
USAF Academy, CO 80840-5016.
Provide your name and telephone number. Requests for anonymity will be respected. Before contacting the ACTION LINE, be sure to use the proper chain of command.

The Annual Awards Banquet Committee is searching for emcees for the 2005 Annual Awards Banquet. The banquet has a history dating back 46 years and spotlights the best of the Academy’s personnel. Try-outs are 8-10 a.m., Tuesday and 3:45-3:30 p.m., Feb. 22 in the community center’s professional development center, room 106 or by appointment if needed. They are open to all Academy officers, enlisted and civilians. The banquet is scheduled for 6 p.m., March 15. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Judy Bailly at 333-9339 or e-mail judy.bailly@usafa.af.mil for a sample script and to sign up.

Chiropractic therapy available
Chiropractic therapy is available to all active duty, including cadets. The chiropractic office is in the community center near physical therapy. The service is provided on base only and referrals are not needed.

For more information or to make an appointment, call 333-5582.

CADET CHAPEL
Catholic Masses:
Sunday, 10 a.m.
Mon., Tues., Thurs., 6:15 a.m.; Wed., 7 p.m.
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Wed., 6 p.m.

Protestant Services:
Sunday, 9 a.m. (Traditional)
Sunday, 10:30 a.m. (Contemporary)
Sunday, 11 a.m. (Liturgical-Multi-purpose Room)
Sunday, Noon (Inspirational)

Orthodox:
Sunday, 9:30 a.m

Jewish Shabbat Services
Friday, 7 p.m.

Buddhist
Sunday, 9 a.m

Muslim
Friday, Noon (Basement Bride’s room)

COMMUNITY CENTER CHAPEL
Catholic Masses:
Saturday, 5 p.m.
Sunday, 8 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.
Religious Formation - 9:30-10:45 a.m.

Protestant Services:
Sunday, 9:15 a.m. (Gospel Service, Base Auditorium)
Sunday, 9-45 a.m. (Traditional Service)
Religious Ed - 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Today
Winter night sky for beginners
Make a star chart and learn the patterns and locations of stars and other night-sky objects during an indoor presentation from 7-8:30 p.m., tonight, at the Bear Creek Nature Center. Afterwards, go outside to locate constellations visible in the winter sky. Bring a small flashlight and dress warmly. The cost is $3. For more information and reservations, call 520-6745.

“Kids only” night out
Children, ages 6 and older, can enjoy outdoor adventures, followed by indoor games, crafts, puppet shows, popcorn and a movie on the big screen from 6-9 p.m., tonight, at the Bear Creek Nature Center. The cost is $20. For more information and reservations, call 520-6387.

Sat
Fox Run winter walk-about
Come and see what Fox Run Park has to offer from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, on a naturalist-led hike through the pines of the Black Forest. Search for Crossbills, three kinds of Nuthatches and other animals and their signs. Meet at the Pine Meadows picnic area. The cost is $2. For more information and reservations, call 520-6745.

Hands-on science for kids II
Children, ages 6 and older, are invited to return for more hands-on science fun from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, at the Bear Creek Nature Center. They can conduct indoor and outdoor experiments to learn about fire, water, camouflage, sound waves and chemical reactions. The cost is $5. For more information and reservations, call 520-6387.

Upcoming
Event: Plain Air Painters of Estes Park 2006 Exhibition & Sale
Time: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday, starts Feb. 24
Location: Cultural Arts Council Fine Art Gallery, 304 E. Elkhorn Ave.
Cost: Free
Description: Through April 21, the juried invitationals includes works of art by 30 artist members of this organization dedicated to the promotion and art of plein air painting. For more information call 970-586-9203 or visit www.estecarts.com.

Event: The Israeli Festival
Time: All day event, Feb. 24
Location: Temple Shalom, 1523 East Monument
Cost: Free admission
Description: Dr. Zohar Raviv of Hebrew University in Jerusalem will be the Temple Shalom Scholar-in-Residence guest speaker. Dr. Raviv’s talk is titled, “The Ten Commandments and the American Declaration of Independence, a Discussion on the Separation of Church and State.” For more information, visit www.templeshalom.com/index.asp.

Event: The Ten-Tallest of the Tall
Time: 6 p.m., Feb. 25
Location: Art Center of Estes Park, 517 Big Thompson Avenue
Cost: Free
Description: A look at today’s skyscrapers, and the innovative and dynamic architecture that is used in their construction. Presented by Chuck Benson. For more information, call 970-586-5882 or visit www.artcenterofestes.com.

Event: Country-Western Dance Party
Time: 7-9 p.m., Feb. 25
Location: The Carriage Stop: 2700 W. Robinson Street
Cost: $5 at the door
Description: Dance easy lines, Texas 2-step, cotton-eyed joe, mixers, country waltz, cowboy cha-cha, easy squares, etc. Learn as you dance with licensed instructors. No partner or experience required. No smoking or alcohol. For more information, call 598-8624, e-mail coloradokiti@hotmail.com or visit www.roncounts.com.
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