Cold War vets recognized

By Academy Spirit staff

May 1 took on a special meaning for thousands of Colorado people like retired Chief Master Sgt. Earl Brewster. Colorado Governor Bill Owens issued a seven-paragraph proclamation declaring it Cold War Victory Day.

The Cold War was an arduous struggle for freedom between the forces of a freedom-loving nation, led by the United States, and the tyranny and brutality of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, it read.

The retired chief, now a professor and director of curriculum at the Academy’s 34th Training Wing, requested the proclamation in his capacity as the Colorado State Coordinator for the Cold War Veterans Association.

“A great number of folks on active duty at the Academy, as well as a number of retirees in the local area, are Cold War veterans,” said Dr. Brewster.

An association goal is to increase the number of states recognizing May 1 as Cold War Victory Day and work toward the establishment of a federal Cold War Victory Day to be declared in perpetuity.

CWVA hopes to expand recognition for every man and woman who served honorably in the armed forces during America’s longest war.

Their agenda includes having full veteran’s benefits for Cold War vets and continued growth of the association.

Other goals include achieving equitable tax treatment for veterans service organizations and building unity within and among all the nation’s and free world’s veteran service organizations.

Doctor Brewster said the group’s mission is to fight for the rights of Cold War veterans and educate people on why it was fought and won. CWVA’s position is that vigilance must be maintained.

“Another mission is to provide a fraternal community for men and women whose patriotism binds them together,” he said.

For more info, call 333-9547.

Prep School honors distinguished graduates

By Eddie Kovsky
Academy Spirit staff

The Academy’s Preparatory School inducted four distinguished graduates into its hall of fame May 5.

Washington, D.C., Mayor Anthony Williams, Lt. Gen. Daniel James, Air National Guard Director; Maj. Gen. Richard Spooner, Director of Command, Control, Communications and Computer Systems Division (J6) at the National Guard Bureau; and Maj. Gen. Anthony Przybyslawski, Air Force Personnel Center commander, were honored during a ceremony at the High Country Inn in the base community center.

Generals Spooner and Przybyslawski attended.

“The students we’ll teach and prepare in the next few years have grown up on homeland attacks, scandals in high offices and a global war against an enemy who disagrees at the very core with the principles of freedom and democracy,” said Col. Harvey Johnson, Prep School commander.

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ms. Gray remembered vividly the events that night. "It was the night of my birthday," she said. "There was all this noise... all this terrible noise." "The brown shirts," Nazi partisans, had caused massive destruction downtown. "They had destroyed every Jewish store, knocked the windows in, destroyed everything in the store... they destroyed Jewish people's homes and the synagogue," she said. "We had a beautiful synagogue and it was burned down.

"After that, we didn't see our doctor anymore. My father went in—(the doctor's) name was gone. The door was locked. Dr. Wiley wasn't there anymore. David didn't come anymore. Then, before you knew it, you didn't see the Jewish people on the street anymore," she said.

When Gen. Dwight Eisenhower liberated the Buchenwald concentration camp in Germany, he told his soldiers, "Make sure you record on film what you see here because someday there will be people who will deny this ever happened."

The denials started less than a generation later. Arthur Butz, an electrical engineer with an Illinois university, wrote a book in the early 1970s titled "The Hoax of the Twentieth Century: The Case of the Presumed Extermination of European Jewry," in which he asserted the Holocaust was a fiction used to justify the creation of Israel. In 1979, Willis Carto and Dave McCalden founded the Institute for Historical Review in California. Many Holocaust deniers and antisemites joined immediately after the institute was formed, Chaplain Davidson said. The Chaplain attended an IHR rally at the University of California, Los Angeles, in 1981.

"There was a small group of Jews who protested, as I did," Chaplain Davidson said. "It was shocking for me to hear (IHR) representatives get up and say the Holocaust never occurred. Ironically, at this gathering, there was even one Jewish teen—I'm sad to say—who was a featured speaker of the institute.

"One could ask, how could it be that with all the evidence of the beatings, the rapes, the gassings and the testimony of survivors at the Nuremberg Trials following World War II... that people can say the Holocaust never occurred? It seems to spit in the faces of those who died," Chaplain Davidson said.

Remembering takes courage, said Chaplain (Capt.) Chad Bellamy, 50th Space Wing Chaplain Service Team.

"We think of the evils of the past—of the innocent tortured, maimed and murdered—when we do, we are almost afraid to make ourselves remember," Chaplain Bellamy said. "But we are even more afraid to forget.

"We therefore ask for wisdom. May we remember and thus be able to mourn, and yet not be consumed by hatred; that we might remember and yet not lose hope.

"We do not remember in order to point accusatory fingers, rather, we do remember in order to give eternal life to those whose lives are snuffed out," she said. "Hope lives when we remember."
Unique Medal of Honor exhibit opens on hill

Medal of Honor recipients and local dignitaries attended the opening of the nation’s first traveling photographic exhibit honoring recipients of the Medal of Honor, the nation’s highest military decoration, in a ceremony Thursday at the Academy’s McDermott Library.

The exhibit, entitled “Visions of Valor” will remain in the McDermott Library through commencement week. It will then be moved to the Academy’s Visitor Center June 2, where it will be available for viewing by the general public.

The exhibit features many dramatic black and white portraits of Medal of Honor recipients and pays special tribute to Capt. Lance P. Sijan, the only Air Force Academy graduate to receive the Medal of Honor.

Seven Southern Colorado Medal of Honor recipients are also honored.

The exhibit is sponsored by TriWest Healthcare Alliance.

“TriWest Healthcare Alliance is proud to present these portraits, taken by photographer Nick Del Calzo, of our nation’s Medal of Honor recipients,” Tri-West President and CEO David J. McIntyre said. “We acquired this exhibit with the express purpose of honoring our nation’s greatest heroes and sharing their legacies with America.”

Visions of Valor is the first exhibit of its kind to honor the courage, commitment and character of Medal of Honor recipients, whose numbers are declining. Only 113 recipients are still living.

The Medal of Honor has been awarded to 3,460 recipients throughout the nation’s history.

Following its showing in Colorado, the exhibit goes to Washington and Texas.

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Buckholtz to be new Academy command chief

The Air Force has announced the official selection of Chief Master Sgt. Dale Buckholtz for the position of Academy Command Chief. Current Command Chief, Chief Master Sgt. Michael Eitnier will be retiring in June.

Chief Buckholtz is currently the Command Chief, 435th Air Base Wing, United States Air Forces in Europe, Ramstein Air Base, Germany. He oversees a wing composed of four groups, 22 squadrons and approximately 6,000 personnel—3,300 of which are enlisted men and women. The wing also supports seven associate units including Headquarters, United States Air Forces, Europe, 16th Air Force, and two additional wings.

A native of Miramar, Florida, Chief Buckholtz is a 23 year Air Force veteran whose background includes various duties in law enforcement, security, and special operations. He has served on four stateside assignments and five overseas assignments. He has also served on staffs at the group and major command levels.

After earning promotion to Chief Master Sergeant in 2002, he earned a B.S. in information systems management from the University of Maryland in 2004, and a M.A. in international relations from the University of Oklahoma in 2005. He was named the Outstanding Security Forces Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year in 1998, and the Special Operations Command Outstanding Airman of the Year in 2000.

Buckholtz to be new Academy command chief

Photo by Staff Sgt. Christina Rumsey

Chief Master Sgt. Dale Buckholtz, incoming Academy command chief, and his wife Raquel, select a ticket from the Angel Tree at the Ramstein Air Base, Germany Exchange to donate an AAFES gift certificate during the holiday season.

By Academy Public Affairs

Military Students
Did you know...
You may qualify for ERAU’s scholarship program?
Ask us about the EMBRY-RIDDLE EXCELLENCE AWARD Scholarship
Don’t Miss Out!!!
The hall of fame inductees had their photos added to the west wall of the High Country Inn. These four inductees will make a total of 20 hall of famers, out of about 6,000 Prep School graduates since the school began in 1961.

Col. Laurence Fariss, the former Prep School commander, also made remarks at the induction ceremony. Colonel Fariss started the hall of fame in November 2002, to recognize the accomplishments of graduates and to inspire cadet candidates. The exemplar and hall of fame list includes astronauts, fighter pilots, business leaders, doctors and generals.

"Prep school students were always proud to have graduated from here," said Colonel Fariss. "I wanted to find out how to motivate our students. The Army Prep School had a hall of fame. Students there said they looked at it frequently."

The ceremony made an impression on the Preps in attendance. "We get to see what people have achieved," said Cadet Candidate Calvin Hunter. "It inspires us to press on."

Unlike the Academy’s exemplar program, Prep exemplars have to be alive when they are inducted. Prep School Exemplars all agree to interact with students and serve as graduation speakers. During basic training, Preps memorize key facts of each exemplar’s life, so it’s a special honor for them to see exemplars in the flesh when they speak at the Prep School.

"They really came to life after memorizing facts at basic training," said Cadet Candidate Christopher Allen.
Academy Airmen earn CCAF degrees

By Academy Spirit staff

Forty-five Academy Airmen received associate degrees from the Community College of the Air Force during a graduation ceremony May 5 in the community center ballroom.

“CCAF, the largest community college in the world, offers courses that fit the needs of the military,” Mr. Greenwood explained. “Since you earn credits toward your CCAF degree by completing your on-the-job training and acquiring your five and seven skill levels, it makes it easier to get your degree.”

Upon completion of Basic Military training and assignment to a career field, enlisted members are automatically registered in CCAF for the degree program in their Air Force specialty.

“That’s the biggest advantage CCAF gives its students,” Mr. Greenwood added. “The technical nature of most Air Force courses compares with college study. The CCAF allows Airmen to receive college credits for these courses, plus credits for completing on-the-job training. These credits are combined with off-duty college courses to earn a CCAF degree.”

The Pitzenbarger Award, a $500 educational grant named in honor of A1C William H. Pitzenbarger, was awarded to 10th Medical Support Squadron graduates Staff Sgt. Terisa Filener and Staff Sgt. Kimmy Middleton.

“CCAF diploma recipients:

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<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Master Sgt.</td>
<td>Ray Alexander, Jr.</td>
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<td>Master Sgt.</td>
<td>Brian Archuleta</td>
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<td>Tech. Sgt.</td>
<td>Vickie Beaucamp</td>
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<td>Tech. Sgt.</td>
<td>Brian Boisvert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff Sgt.</td>
<td>Amy Bond</td>
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<td>Katie Brant</td>
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<td>Bret Bridgewater</td>
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<td>Allen Bryant</td>
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<td>Eric Burks</td>
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<td>Master Sgt.</td>
<td>Benjamin Delmar</td>
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<td>Jacques English</td>
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<td>Tech. Sgt.</td>
<td>James Escher</td>
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<td>Staff Sgt.</td>
<td>Terisa Filener</td>
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<td>Staff Sgt.</td>
<td>Christopher Frierson</td>
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<td>Master Sgt.</td>
<td>David Gobin</td>
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<td>Staff Sgt.</td>
<td>Jennifer Glass</td>
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<td>Tracey Habeck</td>
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<td>Tech. Sgt.</td>
<td>Teresa Hatch</td>
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<td>Rebecca Head</td>
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<td>Charles Jetton</td>
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<td>Cadet Candidate</td>
<td>Richard Kabanuck</td>
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<td>Gino Mattorano</td>
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<td>Master Sgt.</td>
<td>Robert McGill</td>
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<td>Kimmy Middleton</td>
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<td>Janet Paulus</td>
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<td>Staff Sgt.</td>
<td>Nicholas Young</td>
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<td>Master Sgt.</td>
<td>Spencer Zamy</td>
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“CCAF degree benefits recipients on active duty and after their Air Force careers are completed. Statistics show 92 percent of the senior master sergeant selectees and 99 percent of the chief master sergeant selectees had their CCAF degrees. Plus the civilian workforce recognizes the advantage of Air Force training and CCAF degrees in today’s job market.”

CCAF, the largest community college in the world, is a federally chartered, regionally accredited institution, which offers associate in applied science degrees related to the service member’s Air Force Specialty Code. Enlisted members earn credits through Air Force technical training and voluntary off-duty education programs.

“This is the great thing about CCAF,” Mr. Greenwood explained. “Since you earn credits toward your CCAF degree by completing your on-the-job training and acquiring your five and seven skill levels, it makes it easier to get your degree.”

“Academy Training Manager Warren Greenwood said.

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Eagle Eyes: Academy’s ‘neighborhood watch’

By Eddie Kovsky
Academy Spirit staff

The events of 9/11 left many people feeling helpless. Not only did the world seem to change overnight, but average citizens seemed to have little recourse to fight back against terrorism.

But there is a way for the Academy community to help protect against terrorist activities. It’s the program called Eagles Eyes. The Air Force Office of Special Investigations developed Eagle Eyes in April 2002 to prevent terrorism by teaching Airmen and citizens how to spot and report suspicious activity.

“If we’re truly going to win the global war on terrorism, it will take everyone’s support,” said Mr. Paul Ceciliani, Academy anti-terrorism officer. “We want to continue to reemphasize the program because people can get complacent when it comes to spotting suspicious activity. At the Academy with our visitor cordon, it’s even more important our awareness levels stay high. The Eagle Eyes program is a lot like a neighborhood watch program for the Air Force.”

OSI and Security Forces can’t be everywhere. Anti-terrorism officials rely on citizens to notice when things are out of place. Terrorist acts are not spontaneous activities that “just happen,”—they require careful planning.

There are seven categories of suspicious activities that warrant reporting:

- **Surveillance:** someone recording or monitoring activities. This may include the use of cameras (either still or video), note taking, drawing diagrams, annotating on maps or using binoculars or other vision-enhancing devices.
- **Elicitation:** people or organizations attempting to gain information about military operations, capabilities or people. Elicitation attempts may be made by mail, fax, telephone or in person.
- **Tests of security:** any attempts to measure reaction times to security breaches or to penetrate physical security barriers or procedures in order to assess strengths and weaknesses.
- **Acquiring supplies:** purchasing or stealing explosives, weapons, ammunition, etc. Also includes acquiring military uniforms, decals, flight manuals, passes or badges (or the equipment to manufacture such items) or any other controlled items.
- **Suspicious persons out of place:** people who don’t seem to belong in the workplace, neighborhood, business establishment or anywhere else. Includes suspicious border crossings and stowaways aboard ship or people jumping ship in port.
- **Dry run:** putting people into position and moving them around according to their plan without actually committing the terrorist act. This is especially true when planning a kidnapping, but it can also pertain to bombings. An element of this activity could also include mapping out routes and determining the timing of traffic lights and flow.
- **Deploying assets:** people and supplies getting into position to commit the act. This is a person’s last chance to alert authorities before the terrorist act occurs.

Suspicious activity should be reported immediately to the security forces desk, 333-2000, who will notify the OSI agent on call to investigate.

Parents’ ‘Spirit Mission’

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

“My son is the photo editor of the Polaris, and he still doesn’t know what’s coming,” wrote 2009 mom Mrs. Carol Bauer from Littleton, Colo., earlier this month. “And we hope to keep it that way.”

It was the “Spirit Mission” by cadet parents, intent on setting a new precedent and tradition.

Fifteen Colorado parents formed Tuesday for “Parent Spirit Mission” to unite their cadet class, themselves and the Academy community.

“The Spirit mission was about the 09 parents coming together to congratulate their cadets for finishing their first year at the Academy,” said Ms. Lori Tomkewitz.

“The best email for me was from one of our mom’s currently serving in Iraq. With everything going on in her world, it was important that she connect with her cadet through this mission,” she said.

That sparked an idea among 09 parents. A plan was hatched. Emails flirted across the globe soliciting small gifts to buy silver M&M candies bearing “09-Our Time” for the freshman class.

More than 1,200 tins of chocolate went to the Class of 2009 at a 12:30 p.m. briefing Tuesday, just in time for finals week.

Mrs. Lori Tomkewitz from San Antonio, Texas; Ms. Vivian Eicholt, Pueblo, Colo; Ms. Cornia Beene, Evans, Ga.; Ms. Jenny Gibbs, Baltimore, Md.; Ms. Monica Stikkier, Bakersfield, Calif., and Mrs. Bauer orchestrated an effort that would make military strategists blush.

It went well beyond a sweet treat for the freshmen.

“Place a special fund for emergency transportation to attend services if a classmate dies or must go home when a family faces crisis.”

So on Tuesday, more than $2,000 went to the Dennis P. Rando Cadet Humanitarian Fund in the name of the Class of 2009.

Kellenbences: All in the (Air Force) Family

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

One of three cadet brothers from a military family thinks the sons and daughters of military families are influenced to make the Air Force a career.

“When being raised in a military environment teaches you about the hardships, benefits and enjoyable aspects of life in the military,” said Cadet 3rd Class Nick Kellenbence, Cadet Squadron 32. “You know what you are getting into and there is no uncertainty factor keeping you back.”

One of three sons of retired Col. Wayne and MaryJane Kellenbence, both 1980 graduates, the cadet from Colorado Springs thinks growing up around aircraft had a huge impact in the decision to go Air Force.

Cadet 1st Class Christopher Kellenbence Cadet Squadron 32, graduates this month. Cadet 2nd Class James Kellenbence, is nearby at Cadet Squadron 33.

“When you are growing up and see those fighters or cargo planes every day, it gets you thinking at an early age of a goal to be a part of,” said the third year cadet.

“You also know you will always have a job, a place to live and friends you work with. It’s something that you begin to understand when you are growing up in a military family.”

Without that background, he said, he may have never considered an appointment to the Academy.

“I came because I knew about the benefits of being in the armed forces and as I thought about my childhood, I realized that I had a great time and would like to… ?”

Air Force Photo

C3C Nick Kellenbence is the youngest of three cadet brothers, give my family the same experiences that I had,” he said. “The cadet experience is exactly what I thought it was going to be. My brothers prepared me as much as they could for what I was going to face at the Academy. I had a full range of views on the Academy and was ready for anything to come.”

Certian bennies go with having kin at the Academy.

“I hang out with my family every weekend and for about an hour or so a day with my brothers,” said the operations research major from Colorado Springs.

“My brother and I are on the club soccer team so we are together a lot for that, and I go down to the gym with my other brother and my cousin every day. I make sure I get home every weekend to my house to spend some time away from the Academy with my family.”

His father, a former Academy director of staff and now the Association of Graduates director of alumni programs and special projects, said he and his wife used the same formula as the late Earl F. Bauer orchestrated an effort that would make military strategists blush.

“It’s something that you begin to understand when you are growing up in a military family.”

Without that background, he said, he may have never considered an appointment to the Academy.

“I came because I knew about the benefits of being in the armed forces and as I thought about my childhood, I realized that I had a great time and would like to… ?”

Air Force Photo

Col. Wayne Kellenbence, their father, retired in December, was at the Eiffel Tower on New Years 2000, earn their free-fall parachute wings and then go on to fly… ?”

Soon-to-graduate Cadet Christopher Kellenbence agrees with his younger brothers.

“More sons and daughters of military families are coming here because of the influence of their parents,” he said. “Meeting new people and going to exotic places overseas was the deal maker in deciding to make the military a career. Also, with my dad being a fighter pilot, I loved watching air shows and watching my dad land on his last flight in a squadron.”

“I was expecting the tough physical aspect of freshman year, but it ended up being a great experience,” said the senior cadet and math major. “I have thoroughly enjoyed my cadet experience.”

Academy Spirit
May 12, 2006

By Academy Spirit staff

A silk cachet envelope, with class crest and motto, will be available to cadets and attendees at the graduation of the Class of 2006, thanks to the Academy Post Office.

The innovative program came from the post office’s sales and service associate and cadet sponsor, Debra Pope, who realized that each graduating class has a unique crest and motto.

“It’s something that you begin to understand when you are growing up in a military family.”

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"I never, ever dreamed that I could one day be homeless." Shelly was a stay-at-home mom who homeschooled her 3 children. She had a lovely home with a white picket fence. She never imagined that one day she would find herself divorced, losing her home in foreclosure, and seriously in debt.

"They supported me in my darkest hour." Not only did they give Shelly and her girls a place to live; they also provided classes in life skills.

"They knew what we needed for self-respect and affirmation. The volunteers and staff at Partners in Housing tried hard to meet all our practical needs–they're people with their hearts in the right places."

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To learn more about our programs or to make a pledge, visit www.ppunitedway.org or call 719-632-1543
Visiting faculty program fosters diversity

By the Dean of the Faculty staff

The Dean of the Faculty, Brig. Gen. Dana Born, hosted a social at the Dean’s Quarters for visiting faculty members and endowed chair fellows, May 3.

The visiting faculty program, which began in 1975 with only two visiting professors, now employs at least one distinguished visiting faculty member per department annually. These guests can be from institutions of higher education, senior government personnel, nationally and internationally known scholars and renowned scientists. After spending one year at the Academy, most visiting faculty members return to their home institution.

The program plays an integral part of the overall academic landscape. Its importance in enriching education and research cannot be overstated. It’s an invaluable networking tool.

“These eminent civilian educators bring a vital expertise to the Air Force, and take back to their permanent institutions a broadened awareness of the Academy environment,” said Dr. John Sherfesee, director of civilian faculty programs. “They also provide cadets the opportunity to experience various teaching methodologies and to be exposed to a more diversified perspective of different academic disciplines.”

“Like the Academy, most of the quality academic institutions across the nation are continuously studying and implementing progressive ideas involving teaching methodology,” said Dr. David Jensen from Culver Academies. “Much of the knowledge I’ve gained wrestling with [various] ideas dovetails perfectly with the Academy’s current efforts to create a learning-focused academic culture.”

“In addition to bringing expertise in their particular disciplines to the Academy, visiting faculty can apprise their colleagues here of developments in the wider academic world,” said Dr. A. James Carey, from St. John’s College in Santa Fe. “It helps keep the institution from becoming intellectually isolated.”

Dr. David Marsh, from Angelo State University, will be returning with a new perspective on how he views his students. “The cadets have shown me the level of achievement, responsibility and performance to which this age group student is capable of performing. Much to the chagrin of my students upon returning to my home institution, I am going to “up” my expectations of them.”

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Visiting Faculty and Endowed Chairs for Academic Year 2005–06

Visiting faculty
Dr. James Baughn, aeronautics
Dr. C. Taylor Barnes, economics & geography
Dr. J. Lynn Caldwell, behavioral sciences & leadership
Dr. A. James Carey, philosophy
Mr. Michael Collins, computer science
Ms. Stephanie Dewing, foreign languages
Dr. Carla Engelhoff, engineering mechanics
Mr. Marshall Grayson, management
Ambassador Roger Harrison, political science
Dr. Peter Jenkins, engineering mechanics
Dr. David Jensen, mathematics
Dr. Andrew Keisler, astronautics
Dr. Frederick Kiley, English
Dr. Donald Kraft, computer science
Dr. David Marsh, biology
Dr. Kris Mattila, civil engineering
Mr. David Rodearmel, political science
Dr. Paul Vornsdam, chemistry

Endowed chairs
Dr. Jeremy Anderson, philosophy
Dr. Mamdouh El-Nady, foreign languages
Gen. (Ret.) James McCarthy, political science
Dr. Albert Ross, electrical & computer engineering
Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Erlind G. Roer, electrical & computer engineering
Mr. William Saylor, astronautics
Dr. Dennis Schweitzer, computer science
Mr. H. Wayne Sidebottom, economics & geography

Chairs for Academic Year 2005–06

Visiting Faculty
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Dr. Andrew Keisler, astronautics
Dr. David Jensen, mathematics
Dr. Peter Jenkins, engineering mechanics
Mr. Robert Reardon, management
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Airmen in court

Two Academy Airmen faced separate courts-martial this week on unrelated charges. Senior Airman Eli Stephens, 10th Medical Operations Squadron, went to court-martial Wednesday.

The accused was found guilty of attempted larceny of military property, false official statement, five specifications of larceny of military property and wrongful use of Percocet. The accused was sentenced to a Bad Conduct Discharge, reduction to the grade of E-1 and confinement for 2 months. Security forces took custody of the accused and transported him to the Douglas County Corrections Facility.

Airman 1st Class Chad Potzenke, of the Academy Preparatory School, went to court-martial Thursday.

He was charged with violation of Article 112a, wrongful use of cocaine.

Off-limits area


The establishment was deemed a detriment to the health and welfare of armed forces service members. This establishment remains off-limits until the next meeting of the Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board, scheduled for June 7. After the meeting, more information will be released regarding this action.

Housing survey underway

Family housing residents are receiving a resi-
dent satisfaction survey by mail. It includes a comment card, a self-addressed stamped envelope and the survey cutoff date.

It helps the Air Force and the Academy provide quality housing for Airmen and their families. Administered by CEL & Associates, the confidential survey takes approximately 10 minutes. The results are sent to the base housing office and staff, base civil engineers and the Air Force housing staff for evaluation and inclusion into the housing program.

Resident participation is essential in helping the Air Force design and operate family housing.

For more information, call the Academy Housing Office at 333-2247.

Memorial pavilion ceremony

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for a memorial pavilion at the Academy Cemetery is today at 3 p.m.

The pavilion will accommodate graveside funeral services with a shelter for grieving families and loved ones during inclement weather. It will also house niches for the ashes of deceased individuals. The $4 million pavilion is being built with private donations raised by the Academy’s Association of Graduates. Gerald H. Phipps General Contractors will construct the facility, scheduled for completion in April 2007.

Cadets on “Wheel”

Two Academy cadets squared off against college students from across the nation March 25 on the TV game show Wheel of Fortune, during the taped portion of its annual College Week competition.

Cadet 1st Class Doug Presley, Cadet Squadron 36, can be seen Monday at 6 p.m., on Colorado Springs’ CBS affiliate KTV.

Cadet 2nd Class Casey Probst, Cadet Squadron 2, will be on the air Thursday, same time, same station.

Re-up with the T-Birds

As part of Academy graduation week activities, Academy members eligible for reenlistment or who want to renew their Oath of Office or Oath of Enlistment, can do so with the Air Force Thunderbirds aerial demonstration team, May 27, at Peterson AFB Hangar 119 at 6 p.m. Interested Academy members must call the 10th Mission Support Squadron reenlistments section at 333-8743. Ten days are needed to process the paperwork. For more information and to sign up, call Academy Career Assistance Advisor Senior Master Sgt. Judy Bailly at 333-9389.

Academy plates now law

Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle signed into law recently a bill creating nine new special designations for that state’s military license plates, including the Academy.

Under the previous law, those who were eligible to register for a military license plate could select a military designation (decal) placed on the plate. The designation might read “World War II Veteran,” “Purple Heart Medal” or “Pershing Gulf War Veteran.” Those registering for the special plate pay an additional $15 plus the standard $55 registration fee. By law, the additional $15 goes to the Veterans Trust Fund.

The new law includes these group designations: Students and Alumni of the U.S. Military Academy, U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, members of the Civil Air Patrol, Iraq War Veterans, Afghanistan War Veterans and Noble Eagle Veterans.
Chief Murray reflects on 29-year career

By Carl Bergquist
42nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs

MAXWELL-GUNTER AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. (AFPN) — After 29 years of service, Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Gerald R. Murray said that his Air Force career has been rewarding, exciting and gone farther than he could have imagined.

“For a guy who joined the service because he needed a job to end up Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force was far more than I ever expected,” said Chief Murray, whose retirement ceremony is in June. “What I’m most proud of in my career was having the privilege and opportunity to lead and represent the more than 440,000 enlisted members of the service.”

After two years in college, he entered the Air Force in 1977 and has seen great change in the service. He said the enlisted force of today is “truly a better force” than it was then, and he attributes much of the change to efforts of those who came before him.

“To paraphrase President Truman, ‘We serve on the shoulders of giants,’ and that is why today’s Airmen are more efficient, better educated and the most qualified in the history of the Air Force,” Chief Murray said.

Before becoming chief master sergeant of the Air Force, Chief Murray said there were two great events in his life. The first was marrying his wife, Sherry, “Or should I say her decision to marry me, a college dropout,” and the second was joining the Air Force because the economy was bad and he needed work.

“(My wife) has been a great inspiration for me throughout my career,” Chief Murray said. “But, she can be as tough as a (military training instructor).”

He said that only four other members of his family chose the military as a career but his family accepted his decision.

“Other family members, specifically four uncles and three great uncles, had served during war time, going all the way back to World War I, so my family is patriotic and considered my choice as honorable,” the chief said.

Once in the Air Force, Chief Murray said he wanted to be in a front-line position and requested a fighter maintenance job. The Air Force gave him what he wanted and he worked with “three great fighter aircraft” — the F-4 Phantom, F-16 Fighting Falcon and A-10 Thunderbolt II. He had 11 maintenance assignments during that segment of his career.

At the height of the Cold War, Chief Murray served at a Victor Alert Pad in Turkey, then transitioned from that job to the A-10 aircraft. The transition led to his assignment to Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

“Desert Storm was a monumental time in my career because the Air Force gave me the opportunity to use my skills at a forward operating base,” he said. “The assignment also led to a Bronze Star, an Air Force General Lew Allen Trophy and my promotion to chief master sergeant.”

Chief Murray said he had set a goal for himself as a staff sergeant that if he stayed in the Air Force, he was going to make chief. Once he made chief, his next goal was to be superintendent of a fighter group and he also fulfilled that goal. He said he never wanted to be a command chief, or senior enlisted advisor as they were called at the time, and never entertained the idea of being chief master sergeant of the Air Force.

“Becoming a chief was a highlight of my career but I had a lot to learn,” he said. “I had become ‘stove-piped’ in maintenance and now found myself having to deal with all aspects of the Air Force.”

Chief Murray handled it well. He moved from the wing level to numbered Air Force to command chief of the Pacific Air Forces before being selected as the 14th chief master sergeant of the Air Force in 2002.

“One selected, I stepped forward to do the best job I could, to deal with challenges that came along and deal with what I didn’t know about the job,” he said. “One thing I didn’t know was that Gen. John P. Jumper, then chief of staff of the Air Force, was going to make my first priority his new ‘Fit to Fight’ fitness program and that was going to be a real challenge.”

Chief Murray said he has always tried to use every available tool, such as focusing on developing Airman capability, career job retraining and balancing the force, and he hopes that has led to an improved enlisted force.

“I took it upon myself that part of (my) job was to reshape the force,” he said. “When I arrived four years ago, I told the College of Enlisted Professional Military Education, ‘I can’t tell you how to do your job, but warrior ethos must be emphasized in PME.’ I’m pleased to see that Lt. Gen. Stephen Lorenz, Air University commander, has included that message in his mission briefs.”

Chief Murray said his career, “as with all things, has had highs and lows.” There have been challenges and sacrifices, and he said his wife and three children have sacrificed the most.

“As for what’s next in his life, Chief Murray said he really doesn’t have any hard plans for the future. He’s looking at several opportunities, to include continuing his education or possibly government service as a civilian. He also plans to build a house “with (his) own two hands” and hike the entire Appalachian Trail.

“One has to balance one’s life, and every life has seasons. The past four years have been a season of being away from home a lot and I owe my family a season of being around them,” he said. “One thing is for sure, though. Someday, I will retire to that home I built in the hills of North Carolina.”
Youth becomes ‘cadet for a day’

A 14-year-old from Denver became the Air Force Academy’s newest cadet when he arrived for “duty” May 5.

Cadets welcomed their newest Cadet for a Day participant to the Academy, 14-year-old Philip Ord of Denver, who was diagnosed with Muscular Dystrophy. Via the Make-A-Wish Foundation and the Academy’s Cadet for a Day program, Johnson donned a flight suit and flight cap to participate in a host of cadet activities.

They included a mission briefing and flight with the 557th Flying Training Squadron, a visit to the parachute training facilities of the 98th Flying Training Squadron and lunch with cadets.

After lunch, the youngster tried his hand in the Air Battle Laboratory’s flight simulators, then toured the biology department and Cadet Chapel, before resting and participating in a Halo computer gaming tournament with his sponsor squadron, Cadet Squadron 18, that evening.

The Cadet for a Day program started in 2000. Through the Make-A-Wish Foundation and cadet monetary donations, the program provides young people facing severe physical challenges the opportunity to experience life as a cadet.

For more information about the Make-A-Wish Foundation, call (303) 750-9474 or visit www.wishcolorado.org.

Photograph by James Roberts

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Little brother to big brother

By Butch Wehry

The little boy’s prospects were bleak on just his mother’s income, until he became a ‘Little Brother’.

The 1985 Academy graduate’s horizons in Tennessee took a positive turn with the Big Brothers-Big Sisters organization.

Lt. Col. Frank “Q” Williams, a mission director at the Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center went from being a ‘Little Brother,’ to the Academy, to being a ‘Big Brother.’

To this day, the 21-year- come officer is grateful to his mother who found him a mentor.

For years, Academy cadets have participated in the BBBS efforts to help “at risk” kids.

“I was born and raised in Chattanooga, the youngest of five children, two girls and three boys,” said Colonel Williams. “My mother and legal father were divorced when I was about three years old, so most of my childhood was spent in a single-parent home with my mother as the head of the household.”

His mother arranged for an older sibling to get a big brother from BBBS.

“He never had children of his own but was a good Christian involved with BBBS. The family ran a home day care for young children,” said Colonel Williams.

His mother saw a positive change in his older brother’s behavior at home and at school.

Thanks to his mother, the future colonel got a big brother of his own, named William.

“T’ll match him with William from nine to 18 years old,” said the mission director “He would take me out of our neighborhood and out camping, fishing, horseback riding and to see movies. We had lots of fun when we got together.”

The BBBS big brother also helped the youth with homework and even household chores to make sure he was done in time go somewhere.

In later years, it would be called character-building, perhaps dream-building.

“He always encouraged me and helped me with my school work,” Colonel Williams said. “BBBS empowered me with self confidence and a positive vision of the future.”

“He bought model airplanes, rockets and other aerospace-related puzzles and games that we built or aerospace-related puzzles and games that we built or played with together and this encouraged my interest in space. William did lots of things well above and beyond the BBBS requirements.”

The mentor took the youth to a military base in Alabama to make sure that he got the required physical to go to the Academy Preparatory School and, later, the cadet wing.

“BBBS made a huge difference in my life,” said Colonel Williams. “The success of the organization is directly tied to the character, and other qualities like work ethic, of the people in it. I definitely got a better start in life through BBBS.”

Colonel Williams and his wife, Renee, married 15 years ago at the Academy Protestant Cadet Chapel with a little brother and his family attending. Now the Williams’ have two children, Kristen, 5 years old, and Marcus, 2 years old.

His older BBBS brother has been a life-long friend to him and his family.

BBBS has a Falcon Club. As a cadet club, cadets pay dues to join but still have background checks before they can mentor.

“It’s really special because it provides cadets the opportunity to spend time doing community service,” the colonel said. “I’m proud of the great job that the BBBS staff, the officer in charge and cadets do. They even won a Presidential Community Service Award last year.”

He said he has already worked with the Academy’s new BBBS OIC, Capt. Candice Pipes, who was a mentor in the Falcon Club while she was a cadet. In April, she won the BBBS Falcon Club Program Volunteer Manager’s Choice Award.

He just recruited Academy professor Lt. Col. Freddie Rodriguez from the math department to be on a BBBS advisory board.

Colonel Williams is no longer actively mentoring as a big brother, but he has stayed involved with BBBS Pikes Peak as an Advisory Board Member. He was recently elected to serve as vice chairman of the local BBBS advisory board.

“Thankfully, the fundamental elements of BBBS in America have not changed in more than 100 years,” said the colonel. “It still matches youth, primarily from single parent homes, with a caring and screened adult mentor in the community on a ‘one-to-one’ match program. But I have seen innovations like the Academy Cadet Falcon Club, the Denver BBBS Sports Buddies Club and school-based mentoring really take off.”
Academy cadets go green at Sandhurst
A team of Academy cadets stood their ground against participants from other service academies in the Sandhurst Competition at the Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., April 29.

Forty-six teams competed, including cadet teams from the Naval Academy, Coast Guard Academy, West Point, Britain’s Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, Canada’s Royal Military College and ROTC programs from six universities. The Academy team took seventh place overall, finishing the course in two hours, 10 minutes.

Each team performed a series of military tasks while moving as rapidly as possible over a partly prescribed route approximately nine kilometers long. They accomplished various military tasks at checkpoints along the way, including an equipment check, boat movement, marksmanship, grenade throwing, river crossing and a wall obstacle. The course had to be completed in less than three hours. The competition scores were determined by the squad’s performance on each military task and on the total time required for the squad to negotiate the course.

Each competing team is a nine-member squad, with at least one female cadet. A squad is authorized two alternates, one of whom had to be female. A team had to have one first class cadet squad leader and at least one cadet from each of the lower three classes.

“It’s challenging for everyone because we needed people who have a wide variety of skills, not just fast runners, or people who are extremely strong,” said Cadet 1st Class Michael Graff. “The better runners had to carry 35 pounds of radio gear occasionally, plus the nearly 40 pounds of equipment every member carried.”

The competition was sponsored by the United States Military Academy’s department of military instruction, with oversight by the British Exchange Officer.

The Sandhurst competition was originally conceived as an intercompany competition for West Point cadets. In 1967, the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst presented West Point with a British officer’s sword. It was to be the prize for a competition, the aim of which was to promote military excellence among the Corps as a whole. The original purpose statement proclaimed: “To provide the Corps of Cadets with a challenging and rewarding regimental skills competition, which will enhance professional development and military excellence in selected soldier skills.”

This began the first Sandhurst competition, which has been conducted annually ever since.

Fifteen Academy cadets comprised this year’s team:

Cadets 1st Class Grant Bubb, Michael Graff, Robert Roby; Cadets 2nd Class Matthew Schlittler, Augustin Viani, Francis Hallada, Christopher Leonhardt; Cadets 3rd Class Phillip Polmonari, Ryan Weaver, Joshua Barlow, Kevin Epstein, William Glojek; and Cadets 4th Class Kedem Alon, Robyn Pack and Ty Payne.

Left: A team of Academy cadets row a Zodiac Boat to shore on the river course.

Below: The Academy team worked together to get every member across the rope bridge and through the nine kilometer course.

The team reaction to a chemical attack is evaluated. Points are deducted from the team score for each cadet who fails to get their mask on in less than nine seconds.

Right: Cadet 4th Class Robyn Pack takes aim on the Gettysburg Rifle Range. Each team member was evaluated for marksmanship and weapon handling.
New field debuts to rave reviews

Eagles beat Huskies 5-2 to open facility

By Wayne Amann
Academy Spirit Editor

It’s rare when an event is overshadowed by its venue. That was the case on a wet, foggy afternoon May 4 on what used to be Academy Field #2. The softball field that doubled as an 80-yard flag football field is history. In its place is a state-of-the-art multi-purpose 100-yard turf field capable of sporting flag football and soccer.

The latter sport inaugurated the new base facility as the Academy Eagles varsity team collared the Prep School Huskies, 5-2, in an exhibition game. Paul Fredsholm scored twice while Martin Vicente tallied the eventual game winner at the 42 minute mark to pace the Eagles attack.

Regardless of the score, both teams were winners thanks to the new turf field, similar to the surface that will be unveiled at Falcon Stadium when Air Force plays their home opener this fall.

“Now we’ll have perfect conditions all the time,” Academy Intramural Sports Director Dave Castilla said with a smile. “It’s softer, especially when people fall. In the fall we had to worry about the old field drying out because the water was turned off.”

Although the game was played in a steady drizzle, players were impressed with the turf field’s traction.

“It’s outstanding,” Academy Eagles coach Kristopher Dickson said. “I was worried how it was going to play wet. It’s playing a little faster than we’re used to dry, but not much. It skips a little but it’s beautiful. I’d give it an A minus.”

Graduating Prep School Husky Nick Villasona agrees.

“It’s great,” he said. “We get a true bounce, a true roll on the ball. It’s great for speed. We’re not sliding all over the place. It’s not muddy. It’s kind of nice.”

The turf field is literally made from ground-up tires. Specifically it’s made of cryogenic rubber which, according to the Fieldturf website, is rounded and does not attract air bubbles, which means it does not float or displace in high-use areas.

It’s designed to let cleats penetrate the fiber surface, twist and release. This allows athletes to dig and cut, but provides minimal motion-related injury exposure. According to the website, this surface does not contribute to leg fatigue, ankle injuries, knee injuries and other turf-related problems.

The multi-purpose field’s construction cost, which included a new press box plus four new and improved lighting standards, was approximately $750,000.

McChord Air Force Base, Wash., was the first Air Force installation to install the turf field system nearly six years ago.

The Academy’s turf field was part of a five-year construction plan.

“This was in the planning stages for a while,” Castilla said. “We weren’t using softball field #2 any more because our softball program had a reduction in teams. So, the plan had it converted to a multi-purpose field for soccer and flag football. With all these upgrades, people should be enthused about playing and watching.”

Prep School head soccer coach Erich Hoffmann says it’ll be a shot in the arm for their program, since this will be the Huskies new home field.

“It’ll be wonderful to have home games,” he said. “This year’s schedule will be much more home oriented, meaning a lot less traveling. This will attract more people to play. Thanks go to the base folks who made this possible.”

Let the games begin.

Photos by Dennis Rogers

A new era dawned for Academy intramural and Prep School sports with the debut of the multi-purpose field.

Academy Eagles Gregory Buckley-Lowe gets position on a Prep School Husky.

Prep School Husky Ashley Collins shields Academy Eagle Samuel Farris from the ball.

Academy Eagle Kelly Ramshur looks for dribbling room.
A numerologist (someone who studies the influence of numbers on life) would have had a field day at the Air Force-San Diego State three-game series, May 5 through Sunday at Falcon Field.

The bluesuiters were swept, extending their losing streak to 14 games, dropping them to 10-30 on the season and 1-15 in the Mountain West Conference.

In the series opener, the Aztecs set a school and MWC record for runs in a game as they crushed Air Force, 36-11. It was the most runs allowed in Falcon history, eclipsing the previous high of 32 scored by Utah on April 9, 2005.

Air Force trailed 5-4 in the fourth inning when San Diego State exploded for nine runs in the frame. They took on 11 more in the fifth plus another five in each of the sixth and seventh innings. A depleted Falcon pitching staff was victimized by 24 hits, six home runs, 12 walks and five hit batters in the game.

Prior to the series, six senior pitchers left the team.

“They felt things should have been done differently,” Air Force head coach Mike Hutcheon said. “We noticed the last couple of games some guys weren’t playing hard and doing the things we need to do. I asked them if they wanted to go, they needed to go. Six guys got up and left. We never got into why they left. Obviously, they’re disappointed. Maybe they wanted to concentrate on what’s next for them. We still have some hungry guys and that’s the key. Who wants to be here and represent this university and play the game the way it’s supposed to be played.”

The Falcons regrouped on Saturday behind the strong pitching of freshman Casey Allen. Despite taking a 7-5 loss, the right-hander from Portland, Texas checked SDSU’s potent bats for 6.2 innings, allowing six runs on nine hits and striking out five.

Six senior pitchers leave team

Falcons go 0-for San Diego (State)

By Wayne Amann
Academy Spirit Editor

The Air Force baseball program has not enjoyed a winning campaign since it went 29-25 in 1995. That streak will stay intact this season, since the Falcons are 10-30 with only a handful of games remaining.

No one likes to lose. But, in the overall scheme of things, how you play the game is still important. That’s why, despite its won-loss record, Air Force is a winner, says one of the game’s all-time greats.

Former San Diego Padre star outfielder, now San Diego State University head baseball coach Tony Gwynn, is 19-1 against the Falcons since taking the Aztecs’ helm in 2003. During that stretch, Gwynn has developed a healthy respect for the bluesuiter’s diamond program.

“When we play Air Force, regardless of their record, they go hard, run every ball out, they keep coming at you,” the future hall-of-famer said. “They’re not going to back down. They bring the best out of us.”

Falcon first baseman Karl Bolt reaches for a pickoff throw behind San Diego State runner Quintin Berry, as umpire Ray Leible checks the play. Berry was on base nine times in the three-game series.

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Air Force head coach Mike Hutcheon was disappointed. Maybe they wanted to concentrate on other things, but hopefully we’ll have the heart and desire to compete against guys who’ll be playing in the major leagues some day.”

Gwynn retired from the playing ranks after 19 years as one of baseball’s marquee names.

His career batting average of .338 is the 18th highest in history while his 3,141 career hits rank 17th all-time.

It’s an on-field reputation that carries a lot of weight in the baseball community.

“It means a lot when it comes from somebody like that,” Hutcheon said. “Everybody looks up to Tony Gwynn, a superstar, an all-star guy who’s been places everyone wants to be. He brings a lot of credibility to our conference. He’s done a great job at San Diego State. You’d always like to say you’ve beaten an all-star guy like that. Everybody respects him. It’s great for the MWC and for baseball for him to be back.”

In other words, when Tony Gwynn speaks, baseball people listen.
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– Leslie D. Michelson, Chief Executive Officer of the Prostate Cancer Foundation

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**Community**

**Drug awareness presentation**

Sgt. Terry Curry, El Paso County Sheriff’s Office, will present two briefings Wednesday on the use of methamphetamines and its effects on the community. The first presentation, at 3 p.m., is for commanders, 1st sergeants, AOC/AMTs and supervisors. Parents, teachers, and the general public are invited to the second presentation at 6 p.m. Both presentations will be held at the Academy Community Center Theater.

**Area Defense Counsel**

The Area Defense Counsel is an independent legal team for Academy service members. Anyone concerned about legal actions or allegations can contact the ADC office at 333-2481. The office is located in building 2413, behind the cadet clinic.

**School and sports physicals**

The family practice clinic is taking appointments now for pediatric physicals. Appointments are available Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and some Saturdays starting in June. Call 457-2273 to schedule.

**Fairchild construction**

Extensive renovation on Fairchild Hall begins today. The road and sidewalks between the Terrazzo wall and Fairchild Hall at the ground level will be closed to non-construction traffic. Work is expected to continue through September 2007.

**TV distribution services**

Effective immediately, direct requests for VBrick and FalconTV distribution services and DVD/VHS tape duplication services to presentations (A/V Help Desk, room 2J7, co-located at the 10CS Help Desk).

**Commissary lot sales**

The Academy Commissary holds case lot sales this month. The sales offer shoppers an opportunity to buy bulk quantities of products at savings of up to 50 percent.

**Elk hunting**

The Academy is offering guided cow elk hunting during the 2006-07 hunting season. Hunters must apply at the Academy’s Outdoor Recreation Center, bldg. 5136, during May. There’s a non-refundable $6 application fee. Chosen applicants, selected by a drawing, will be contacted by the natural resources office to schedule their hunt. Hunters must receive a mandatory safety briefing, pay a $25 access fee and purchase a state “additional” cow elk license. For more information, call Academy Natural Resources, 333-3308.

**Range off-limits**

The Academy Firing Range in Jacks Valley is an off-limits area at all times unless people are attending training with the 10th Security Forces Squadron Combat Arms, or on official business. The combat arms section is responsible for weapons qualification for all military units in the region, and several local and federal agencies. They employ a wide variety of weapons and fire every day around the clock. Due to safety concerns, this area is posted “For Official Use Only,” and security forces will detain anyone discovered in this area. There are posted warning signs at the entrance to the range and impact area. If you need access to the area or more information, call Tech. Sgt. Paul Smith, 333-4440, or the law enforcement desk, 333-2000.

**Fun walk**

The Glenaeagle Spit 5k Run/Walk for fun is May 20 at 8 a.m. at the Antelope Rails Elementary School. The course runs through the Glenaeagle neighborhood, between Northgate and Baptist roads. Registration is $23, and all proceeds go to local Boy Scout Troop 194. For more information, or to register, call Mark Rudolph at 492-3974.

**Armed Forces Luncheon**

The Armed Forces Awards Luncheon is Thursday at the Broadmoor International Center.

**Chorale auditions**

The Colorado Springs Chorale is holding auditions by appointment May 23 at 6:30 p.m. at the First Christian Church, 16 E. Platte Ave. Call the chorale office at 634-3737 to reserve a space.

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**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: 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.
NOW, TAKE $8 OFF OIL CHANGES ON ALL VEHICLES.*

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