

“2003 AFSPC Best Large Wing PA Office”

Thursday, Dec. 2, 2004

Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado

Vol. 48 No. 47



Photo by Robb Bussard



Photo by Rob Lingley



Photo by Dennis Plummer



Fit to fight – fit for life

All members of 21st Space Wing must take fitness tests no later than Dec. 30

By Cindy White
Health and Wellness Center

“Fit for life!” That’s what the Air Force Fitness program is all about. It is not “passing” a test. It is not exercising one month prior to testing. It is about life-style improvement and cultural changes to improve the quality of life and mission readiness of the Air Force.

Fit to Fight is more than a test. It is a stepping-stone to be fit for life.

Cardiovascular health, abdominal girth and muscular endurance identify major potential risk factors for developing cardiovascular disease. Exercise may save your life. Cardiovascular disease is the number one killer for both men and women in America today. It kills 1 million Americans every year.

Fit to fight is prevention. You can’t change age, gender or family history. Focus on risk factors that are controllable. These include hypertension, diabetes, cholesterol, nutrition, obesity, tobacco, alcohol and exercise. The Fit to Fight composite score is a baseline score to help establish goals and change behavior. The Team Pete goal is to have all members get moving, improve scores and ultimately decrease risk of heart disease. The Health and Wellness Center is here to help. The HAWC offers classes that provide hands-on; take-action plans to help improve health and fitness. A newly offered class includes the running clinic/gait analysis workshop offered 1 p.m. Wednesday.

Did you know that after the age of 25 your body loses one-half pound of muscle per year if weight training is not a daily routine? The consequence: decreased metabolism and obesity. Push-ups and sit-ups help with muscle maintenance, the 1.5-mile run assists in cardiovascular improvement and the abdominal girth alerts people to rid a few pounds if necessary. Visceral fat (abdominal area) has been found to be a risk factor for CVD more so than any other place on the body. The Air Force is looking out for the best interest of its members; ignorance is not bliss.

The starting point? Get tested, people should find their risks and where they are at physically. All active-duty members are required to test prior to Jan. 7. There are 1,200 people who need to test in the next six weeks. Find your baseline and set goals.

Exercise benefits are more than just physical. It helps with decreasing weight, blood pressure and cholesterol. Exercise also has been found to increase quality of sleep, act as an anti-depressant and reduce stress. It’s not a matter of taking an annual test; it’s about fighting CVD and being Fit for Life.

For information, contact the HAWC at 556-4292.

Wing hosts summer-theme holiday party

6:30 p.m. Dec. 3
at the Enlisted Club

Featuring:

- Live music by the U.S. Air Force Academy Galaxy Brass
- Friendly competition
- Charity event

Cost: E-1 to E-6, GS-1 to GS-7

\$10 (club members)

\$12 (nonmembers)

E-7 and above, GS-8 and above

\$16 (members)

\$18 (nonmembers)

Tickets are now on sale

For information call one of the following liaisons:

21st Operations Group:

Lt. Col. Mike Reddoch at 556-4237 or

1st Lt. Jenn Berger at 556-7820; 21st Maintenance Group: Capt. Marcus Neal at 556-1582 or 1st Lt. John Delashmidt at 556-4570; 21st Mission Support Group:

Vicki Peterson at 556-7412 or

A1C Aaron Roybal at 556-9045

Action Line

Submitting Action Lines

The Action Line is a direct link to the 21st Space Wing commander. It should be used when other avenues have failed. Concerns should be addressed at the lowest possible level in the chain of command and elevated as necessary.

Though not required, Action-Line users should leave point-of-contact information when submitting an Action Line. This will allow those who are addressing the concern to clarify the

information and respond, if necessary. Not all responses are printed, however, if information allows, a response will be rendered in another format.

If satisfactory results have not been attained by addressing the chain of command, call the Action Line at 556-7777 or fax 556-7848.

Wondering about waffles

Question: Why doesn’t the Youth Center have enough food to serve all the children breakfast? When I brought my child in for breakfast the

other morning, they said they didn’t have any more waffles. If you know you have so many children who eat waffles in the morning, why not make enough? They should provide enough food for all the children.

Answer: We, too, recognize the importance of getting our children’s day started off with a good meal. The Youth Center staff order and prepare enough food to provide all enrolled children with an initial serving of each item on the menu as well as second helpings.

Children who are at the center from 6:30 to 7:10 a.m. on school days have the opportunity to eat breakfast. If a child arrives after 7:10 a.m., there may not be enough food available for that child to eat breakfast as the other children will have had the opportunity to eat additional helpings of leftover food items. When parents are running late, they are encouraged to call the Youth Center at 556-7220 to ask the staff to save a plate of food. If you have further questions, call Toni Hansen at 556-4883.



Published by Colorado Springs Military Newspapers Group, 31 E. Platte Avenue, Suite 300, Colorado Springs, 80903, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 21st Space Wing. This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 21st Space Wing Public Affairs Office, 775 Loring Ave., Suite 218, Peterson AFB, Colo., 80914-1294, (719) 556-4351 or DSN 834-4351, fax (719) 556-7848 or DSN 834-7848. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

The Space Observer is published every Thursday. For advertising inquiries, call Colorado Springs Military Newspapers, (719) 634-3223 Ext. 207. Employees of Peterson Air Force Base who want to place a free classified advertisement should call 556-5241.

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

21st Space Wing

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A Moment in Time



■ **Dec. 1, 1941** – The Civil Air Patrol is created.

■ **Dec. 1, 1961** – The first Minuteman Missile Squadron, the 10th Strategic Missile Squadron, is activated at Malmstrom AFB, Mont.

■ **Dec. 1, 1984** – The C-5A Galaxy enters service with the U.S. Air Force Reserve at Kelly AFB, Texas.

■ **Dec. 3, 1945** – The P-80 became the U.S. Army Air Force’s first jet fighter.

AFSA holds holiday card photo contest

The Air Force Sergeants Association is looking for remarkable military images or family-oriented photographs of enlisted Air Force members from past to present, at work or at play, depicting a winter or holiday theme. The Air Force Sergeants Association's 2005 Holiday Card Photo Contest is open to people 18 years of age or over. Black and white or color images will be accepted and must be the submitter's original and unpublished photographs. These photographs can be of aircraft (on a runway or in flight) and/or enlisted members in uniform at work or while enjoying leisure activities with family and friends, at indoor or outdoor settings or during holiday get-togethers. The deadline to

enter is Feb. 28. Digital photographs should be taken at the highest resolution possible. Hard copies sent in the mail will not be returned, so printing doubles is suggested. One entry form must accompany each photograph submitted. All submissions become the property of AFSA. If published, acknowledgement will be given to the photographer.

All entrants will be judged for impact, composition, lighting, subject matter, technique and creativity. The top selections will be highlighted in the May/June issue of SERGEANTS magazine for AFSA members to send in their votes. The photograph with the most votes will win the grand prize of \$500 cash. Other honorable

mentions may also be awarded at the discretion of AFSA, depending on the number of entrants and quality of photos submitted. Winners will be announced by Aug. 15. All decisions and awards are final.

The winning entry will be included in the 2005 AFSA Holiday Card Program as the 2005 Veteran's Card. Members can sign the veteran's card and forward it to an injured veteran who is hospitalized during the holidays or to someone who resides in a veteran's home to show the veteran he or she is being thought of, especially during the holiday season. For information, visit <http://www.afsahq.org/ads/card-contest.html>.

Combined Federal Campaign

The Combined Federal Campaign wrapped up with the 21st Space Wing raising a total of \$243,679.25. This surpassed the wing's goal of \$236,000. For the amount of money raised, the wing received a Bronze Award. Among the groups surpassing their goals were the 21st Medical Group and the 721st Security Forces Squadron. Congratulations Team Pete!

Volunteers make 2004 Harvest of Love success

By Airman Mandy Weightman

21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Volunteers for the 2004 Harvest of Love collected 140,437 pounds of food and \$28,625.55 during the week-long food drive Nov. 15 through 19. The Team Pete volunteers then went above and beyond Nov. 22, when they continued to give of their time past the designated volunteer times, to help bring the total to 224,395 pounds of food and \$80,246.20 collected.

The Colorado Springs-based Care and Share Food Bank hosted the Harvest of Love and successfully set two records during this year's activities. One record was for the most pounds, 71,672, of food collected in a 24-hour period Nov. 19. The other was a Care and Share personal record that same day: a grand total of 107,922 pounds of food was collected when adding the 2,645 donated turkeys.

"The folks from Peterson, Cheyenne Mountain, Schriever and the detachments seemed really excited to get involved and donate their time – military and civilians alike," said Master Sgt. Trina Davis who coordinated the volunteer effort for the 2004 Harvest of Love event for Team Pete. "Especially with the short work week prior to the Harvest of Love, I was very impressed with the quick response from people wanting to volunteer."

Team Pete provided nearly 500 volunteers, Sergeant Davis added.

The food they collected will go to needy families in 31 counties of Southern Colorado through 400 partner agencies of Care and Share, said Rachel Gollhofer, development assistant at the Care and Share Food Bank.

"I've never worked with such a dependable and hard-working group of people," Ms. Gollhofer said. "We, here at Care and Share, are very lucky to have Peterson volunteers every year."

Sergeant Davis reiterated Ms. Gollhofer's comments by saying, "It was absolutely amazing and inspiring to see people from all of the different bases come together as one team to help with such a worthy cause – to see them all jump in and give of their time unselfishly was exactly what I expected from our Air Force Family."

Harvest of Love is not the only time the Care and Share Food Bank can use the hard work of such volunteers. The need to help those less fortunate doesn't stop after the holiday season; it lasts year-round. Those who would like information on volunteer opportunities with the food bank can call 528-1247 or email cora@careandshare.org.

Do you know what falls under the subject of an IG complaint?

Here are some matters not appropriate for the IG complaint system:

- Administrative separations – refer to Military Personnel Flight
- Claims against the government – refer to Staff Judge Advocate
- Appeals of OPRs/EPRs/PRFs – refer to Secretary of the Air Force MIBR
- Support of dependents – refer to commander
- LOC/LOR/Article 15 – refer to commander or Area Defense Council
- UCMJ punishments – refer to ADC
- Medical treatment – refer to Support Group
- Unprofessional relationships – refer to commander
- Contracting issues – refer to issuing contract unit



Photo by Budd Butcher

When all else fails ...

Nancy Bishop, Wing Plans and Programs chief, discusses the IG complaint process with Lt. Col. LJ Van Belkum, 21st Space Wing deputy Inspector General, Monday in the IG office.



Deployed members go 'above and beyond'

1st Lt. Jamie Humphries

CENTAF-FWD Public Affairs

The operators stand watch in front of eight strategically placed computer terminals. Emitting a multitude of colors, it's obvious these computer systems are the lifeline of an operation so important most of the information needed to complete this article is classified.

Like the sound of an answering machine with three new messages, the computer begins its warning. After the ominous beeps, an automated voice and visual indicators on the monitor inform the operator that a ballistic missile attack is underway.

Phones start ringing and the call signs start flying as the two operators begin immediate threat assessments and warning procedures. Just as the operators successfully complete their warning notifications to air bases across the United States Central Command area of responsibility, the computer notifies listeners of yet another launch and the process starts over.

The situation described above is only an exercise, but had it been real, there's no doubt the operators of the U.S. Central Air Forces Combined Air Operations Center Combat Operations Division Space Cell are ready to react at a moment's notice.

We practice our response procedures exactly as we would execute them in a real world situation, said Maj. Lorinda Frederick, space duty officer,

who's deployed from Air Force Space Command Headquarters, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

Located deep in the heart of the CAOC, the space cell, which prefers to remain virtually anonymous, is responsible for many things contributing directly to the Global War on Terrorism.

"One of our main mission areas here is theater missile defense," Major Frederick said. "Time is of the essence in obtaining data and making voice contact to forces engaged in Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom, as well as operations in the Horn of Africa."

In the event of a missile launch, Air Force defense support program satellites detect infrared energy. Organizations then process the infrared data to determine if there's a launch.

Two of these organizations are the Army's Joint Tactical Ground Station and the 2nd Space Warning Squadron. JTAGS is a deployable unit and one squadron is stationed in the AOR, while the 2nd SWS operates from Buckley AFB, Colo.

When the satellites that show a missile launch detect infrared energy, they immediately send information to places like Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station's Missile Warning Center in Colorado Springs, Colo., and key missile warning nodes in the affected areas. Upon receipt of ballistic missile launch indications, the space cell issues warnings to bases in the AOR.

"Our job is to quickly warn forces in the AOR, so air bases at risk know when they're in danger from an inbound missile and have time to respond and take appropriate actions," the major said. "This is important because ballistic missile flight times tend to be short."

Although the scud missile threat from Iraq is no longer as high as it was during the height of OIF operations, other nations in the AOR still have theater ballistic missile capability and continue to develop weapons.

Another responsibility of people working in the space cell is battle space characterization.

"We provide tip-offs to theater forces based on infrared data we receive," said Master Sgt. Gary Washington, space duty NCO, who's deployed from the 21st Space Wing, Peterson AFB, Colo. "For battle space characterization, it's all about heat. For example, our DSP satellites use infrared technology to detect heat from missiles and booster plumes against the earth's background. DSP satellites are designed to detect missile launches, but they can also detect other major sources of heat, such as large explosions.

"With this information, we're able to notify intelligence people and units elsewhere as to the estimated location of the heat source," Sergeant Washington said. "Agencies can cross-reference the infrared data from the space cell with information to determine damage."

Given the ability to aid in battle-space characterization, space cell operators also contribute to another critical mission, combat search and rescue.

During rescue missions, the space cell teams with the joint search and rescue center to provide information about people in distress.

The information can help locate a crash site because an aircraft hitting the ground can yield significant infrared energy. The information can be used to help locate downed aircrew. Other space system tools can be used to narrow the search area for people whose locations are unknown.

"We get most of the data real time," Major Frederick said. "We can then provide the information to the people who need that information the most to save lives."

Another mission the space cell works with is global positioning system support to operations.

The GPS signal used in military systems from aircraft navigation systems to GPS-aided bombs is very accurate. However, problems can occur. The space cell can help determine the cause of the problem and provide guidance to stateside agencies if more analysis is required.

While the space cell in the combat operations division has the majority of the space operators in the CAOC, other space operators can be found throughout the CAOC.

– See Deployed, Page 16

Personnel Corner

AIRMAN LEADERSHIP SCHOOL LOOKS FOR NEW INSTRUCTOR

The Peterson Airman Leadership School is looking for a new professional to join their instructor team. Applicants must be a staff sergeant or staff sergeant select. To apply, members must submit a formal application package along with a 5-inch by 7-inch official photograph. For more information, call Master Sgt. Ron Luvisi at 556-7737.

FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT PROGRAM BEGINS OPEN SEASON

This program offers two types of flexible spending accounts: a health care flexible spending account and a dependent care flexible spending account. Employees may enroll in either one or both types of accounts. The open season will be held through Dec. 13. These are the same dates as the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program open season.

This will be the only time Federal employees may enroll in the Flexible Spending Account program for 2005, outside of a qualified status change. Employees previously enrolled who wish to continue in the Flexible Spending Account program for 2005 must make a posi-

tive enrollment during open season. For information visit the web site at www.FSAFEDS.com or contact a benefits counselor at (877) 372-3337 or (800) 952-0450.

PERSONNEL FLIGHT OFFERS UPDATE ON PHYSICAL TRAINING UNIFORM

The Chief of Staff of the Air Force has approved the policy for wear of the official Physical Training uniform. The intent of the policy is for wear of the physical training uniform at all organized physical training functions. Mandatory wear date will be established at a later date.

Any combination of physical training uniform items may be worn together, jacket with T-shirt, T-shirt with shorts and or pants; physical training uniform items will not be worn with any civilian clothing. New PT uniforms are not expected to be available at Peterson Clothing Sales until next year.

EVALUATORS CAN ONLY STRATIFY PERSONNEL WITHIN RATING CHAIN

Evaluators can only stratify personnel within the confines of the direct rating chain and/or scope. For example, functional members on a base cannot compare and stratify administrative personnel in the squadron against all administrative members assigned to other base units. Similarly, functional communities at higher headquarters cannot compare their staff officers with members outside the immediate staff or across the Air Force.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM OPENS SEASON

The annual Federal Employees' Health Benefits open season will be open through Dec. 13. During this time civilian employees may enroll, change health plans or options, or cancel enrollment. Air Force-serviced civilian employees will make their Open Season election or change electronically via the web-based Employee Benefits Information System or the automated phone system. Changes made during the open season will become effective Jan. 9. For information on the Federal Employees' Health Benefits program, health plans, comparisons or enrollment procedures, visit the OPM's website at www.opm.gov/insure/04/index.asp or contact the automated phone line at (800) 540-4047 or www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/best/Newsletters/BEST_Newsletter_Oct_04.pdf.

RATERS CAN'T PUT FITNESS SCORES IN PERFORMANCE REPORTS

Raters can't put fitness scores in a member's Officer Performance Report or Enlisted Performance Reports. The exclusion of a score does not prevent a commander from issuing a referral report when a member continues to display poor fitness or has not demonstrated fitness improvement. In those cases, referral comments should focus on the reasons or behavior resulting in poor fitness, in lieu of the numerical score itself.

Museum staff challenges members to riddle: Do you know me?

By Ed Cates

[Peterson Air and Space Museum](#)

Some consider me the Queen of the Park. In my time, I tracked the Bear and warned my fighters of bogies. I flew the "Gap," experienced Thule's winter and Vietnam's heat. It took 100 people to get me ready for my mission. More than 30 people used me to perform their mission and keep me in the air.

I could hold enough gas to cover 5,000 miles. If conditions were right I could reach an altitude of 18,000 feet. I flew for as long as 15 hours at a

time. With numerous makeovers from Lockheed Aircraft, the McClellan Air Force Base Depot and other entities, I became the test platform for new technologies that fly today on the E-3A and E-10.

There may be some out there who served with me, flew me or worked on me at places like Otis AFB, Maine; Keflavik, Iceland; McClellan AFB, CA, or Homestead AFB, Fla. Maybe my crew vectored you when we were flying out over the South China Sea at 50 feet over the water. Did I help you find "Ivan" trying to get through the Greenland Gap

during the cold war? Maybe you were given headings to check out an unidentified target coming out of Cuban air space. One thing we probably both have in common is we are all retired now.

My career started in 1952 and ended in November of 1978 when my crew was diverted on what was to be my last flight. Instead of delivering me to the "Bone Yard" at Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz., I received a reprieve that ordered my crew to land at Peterson AFB, Colo. Headquarters Air Defense Command had decided I would go on display, intact, at the

ADC Visitor's Center on Peterson AFB. There I slowly deteriorated – the victim of sun, snow, wind and rain. And Birds! Thousand of Birds! Millions of Birds! In every nook and cranny! I thought I was doomed to be nothing but one big birdhouse.

Fortunately, I was rescued and started getting the care I deserved in 2002, when the staff and volunteers of the Peterson Air and Space Museum started restoring me back to my former glory. My interior is nearly back to 100 percent of its new, original, appearance and is now lighted.

My exterior is shiny and clean. New paint is being added all of the time. Their efforts have resulted in my being the only aircraft of my type that is open for public entry.

If you still don't know who I am, my nickname was "Warning Star," my serial number is 52-3425 and I reside at the east side of the Peterson Air Park with my nose pointed toward Pikes Peak. People can find out more about me at www.petemuseum.org or by stopping by the Peterson AFB Air and Space Museum. For my picture, see Page 16. Do you know me?

Blotter

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

***Editor's note: Although the Space Observer staff may make light of blotter entries, the intent is to call attention to our security and law enforcement concerns. However, our vigilant security forces team treat each incident seriously and according to the rules and regulations.*

CHILD'S PLAY - OCT. 27

A fire alarm in the 21st Civil Engineering Maintenance Shop was pulled and the Fire Department responded with extreme urgency to find out the cause. The Fire Department asked Security Forces personnel to respond in case there was a need for crowd control. The experienced Fire Department team swept the building and found no reason for alarm. It turned out that a little tyke decided that pulling the alarm was a good idea. The Fire Department team doesn't appreciate responding to false alarms, but hopefully the child got the message and won't be pulling any more alarms.

ALARMING TRENDS - OCT. 28

Now this is a story that happens all the time. A person goes to enter a secured building with his/her Entry Control Card. After trying to get in with their badge after numerous attempts they are granted entry. Unknowingly, this individual has put himself/herself under what the Security Forces call an 'access denied duress.'

So while this person is going to his/her office, Security Forces patrols are closing in on his/her location ready to make sure everything is in order. No matter if everything is in order or not, when the Security Forces patrolman finds you, you are going to fill out a statement on why they had to respond. This takes any-

where from a couple of minutes to about 20 minutes. So, in the future if you are having a hard time entering a building, please wait for just one second and think to yourself, "Do I want to cause an unneeded response by Security Forces?"

GHOSTS CORRAL AT THE OLD CREDIT UNION - OCT. 28

Security Forces received a motion alarm from Ent Federal Credit Union and responded in force. A K-9 unit did a sweep for any individuals around the building and came up empty. When the building manager arrived Security Forces cleared the building with negative findings. Guess the reason for alarm were some ghosts that needed some more cash for the afterlife. The patrolman resecured the building with the building manager and returned to service with no answers for the reason of the alarm.

DIRTY BUS REEKS REVENGE - OCT. 29

A contractor in transportation was going about her duties cleaning a government bus when the bus decided that it didn't really want to get washed. The bus got rowdy and chomped its hood on this poor contractor's arm pinning her appendage between the hood and fender of the bus.

The Fire Department, Security Forces, and AMR all responded. The contractor still went to the hospital to make sure everything was in working order. Security Forces members charged the bus with assault and contacted its First Sergeant. Hopefully that fixes matters and this will never happen again.

FOOTBALL FOUL-UP - OCT. 29

Fire Department members were notified that an unlucky individual had sustained a neck injury while playing football. Fortunately, AMR arrived. After their inspection of the injured player, they announced his neck was not broken. Under these circumstances things could have turned out extremely bad for the victim, but this football player lived to see another day and play another football game - a little more safely.

A PARKING PERSON'S POLE PROBLEM - OCT. 29

Screeeeech! "Doh!" Better call Security Forces. A commissary consumer parked too close to a parking lot sign. While trying to delicately maneuver his vehicle out of his parking spot, his vehicle and the signpost tried to occupy the same area at the same time with damaging results. The signpost left a nice little scrape down the side of his vehicle while suffering minor scuffmarks itself. The signpost was still serviceable as well as the driver's vehicle. A Security Forces patrol took pictures of the damage and dodged all commissary signposts on their way back to normal service.

UH, SORRY WE WASTED YOUR TIME - OCT. 30

An astute and observant Security Forces patrolman detained an airman for possibly driving under the influence at the West Gate. The patrolman administered Field Sobriety Maneuvers on the motorist, of which he failed two out of three. Not a very good score. A Security Forces team transported the apparent drunkard back to the Cop Shop for a breath alcohol test.

Even though the airman couldn't pass Field Sobriety Maneuvers, he passed the breath test with an outstanding BrAC score of .000. Conclusion: no alcohol is present. The airman was released on his own recognizance. The patrolman was mistaken this time, but there is always a reason why someone is pulled over. You could get pulled over for possible driving under the influence because a Security Forces member thinks you maybe a danger to yourself or others while behind the wheel of a vehicle. Security Forces would rather check and process 100 sober suspects than have one person wreck and hurt himself/herself or others by being drunk. So, better safe than sorry on this one.

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





Peterson police pups bring home bacon

By Senior Master Sgt. Ty Foster

21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Two 21st Security Forces Squadron military working dogs won awards during K-9 Trials held in Tucson, Ariz., Nov. 12 through 14.

Spike, a 2-year-old male Belgian Malinois, took fifth place in the Top Dog, or overall, category during the 16th Annual Tucson Area Police K-9 Trials.

Chaky, a 4-year-old male Belgian Malinois, brought home fourth place in tactical obedience and fifth place in handler protection.

"Their efforts won second place Best Agency for the 21st SFS and the 21st Space Wing," said Master Sgt. Richard D. VanWinkle, 21st SFS kennel master.

Staff Sgt. Kevin Floyd has been partnered with Chaky for eight months. Staff Sgt. Joseph B. Villalobos has been Spike's handler for three months.

Sergeant Villalobos was pleasantly surprised by his four-legged partner's success.

"I didn't really know what to expect from Spike going into the competition [with him] being a brand new MWD," Sergeant Villalobos said. Spike had only been wearing Air Force blue for four months before the event.

The fifth place Top Dog award left Sergeant Villalobos with "an uncontrollable smile," he said.

The competition is hosted by the Tucson Police Department and nearby Davis Monthan Air Force Base.

"This is the fourth time in five years we have attended – with wins each year," Sergeant VanWinkle said. Sixty-five military and civilian police K-9 teams competed in six categories: agility, handler protection, drug/explosive detection, tactical obedience, building search and open area search.

The kennel master said Spike's and Chaky's training was the distinguishing factor.

After three to six months of intense training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, the MWDs head to their duty station where they train with their assigned handlers, Sergeant VanWinkle said.

"We conduct training scenarios, as realistic as possible, including the use of booby traps and tripwire devices designed specifically for teaching the handlers survival techniques," he said. Additionally, his teams train with many civilian and Department of Defense agencies.

"These two factors lead to better trained and equipped teams to perform the local and global missions presented to us," Sergeant VanWinkle said.

The 21st SFS kennel supports Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station as well as Peterson and Schriever Air Force bases. With 15 dogs assigned and 16 authorized, it is the second largest MWD kennel in the continental United States, he said. Two of Team Pete's MWD teams are currently deployed to Southwest Asia.

"This is the hardest working MWD section I have ever seen," said Maj. Paul D. Cairney, 21st SFS commander. "It is amazing the workload they take on and still succeed. I am thrilled to see their hard work validated by these awards."

Wings honor deactivated Colorado Army National Guardsmen

By 1st Lt. Jennifer Whitaker

21st Space Wing Public Affairs

The 21st Space Wing, 50th SW and 721st Mission Support Group honored 42 security forces augmentee Colorado Army National Guardsmen in a ceremony here Nov. 22.

Brigadier General Richard E. Webber, 21st SW commander, presided over the ceremony. Colonel David Zelenok, 50th SW director of staff at Schriever AFB, and Col. Dave Adams, 721st MSG commander at Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station, recognized the contributions the guardsmen made.

Several Guardsmen received Air Force Commendation and Air Force Achievement medals for their outstand-

ing service to the bases and the Air Force. The Guardsmen were also returned to the administrative control of the Colorado ARNG during the ceremony. They were mobilized following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks to augment security forces at Air Force installations nationwide. The Guardsmen who served at Peterson, Schriever and Cheyenne Mountain are from the same Colorado Springs-based Guard unit, the 2nd-157th Field Artillery Battalion. They have served together for years.

"The service of the ANG has been absolutely indispensable," said Maj. Paul Cairney, 21st SFS commander. "They were able to effectively fill in the gaps where our manpower couldn't, and helped us to sustain a very intense ops

tempo over the last two years."

The Guardsmen performed numerous duties, including entry control, response force teams, patrols, random antiterrorism measures and vehicle searches, said Maj. Bill Cannon, 721st SFS commander. They also met Air Force and Army training requirements.

"Their efforts were instrumental in the unit's "Outstanding" rating during the 2003 Air Force Space Command Inspector General's Compliance Inspection, the wing's "Excellent" rating during the 2004 AFSPC/IG Operational Readiness Inspection, and the unit's selection as the AFSPC "Outstanding Small SF Unit" for 2003," he said.

Major Cairney said the Guardsmen integrated into the 21st SFS very

well. "Each one assumed the duties required of our security forces Airmen seamlessly," Major Cairney said. "There were no 'Air Force troops' or 'Army troops' – they were all security forces members. We're sad to see them go."

The 21st SFS and 721st SFS awarded the security forces basic function badge to the Guardsmen for performance, training and professionalism.

"It was an honor and a privilege to work with these outstanding men and women. Their departure will definitely leave a void," Major Cannon said.

In conjunction with the pending departure of the Army Guard security forces, the units have received additional Air Force security forces personnel to cover the soldiers' departure.



Photos by Rob Lingley

Airmen dine on shirts' time

ABOVE: The 21st Space Wing Commander, Brig. Gen. Richard E. Webber, stops by the Peterson Air Force Base dormitory to wish attendees a happy Thanksgiving Nov. 21.

RIGHT: Airman 1st Class Ronisha Carter, Air Force Space Command, tops off her plate at the Thanksgiving Feast hosted by the Combined First Sergeants Club.



Personnel flight announces testing-cycle updates

The technical sergeant and master sergeant testing cycle is from Feb. 15 through March 31. In order to provide some relief to eligible staff and technical sergeants who will test, those deploying on lengthy temporary duty assignments and other lengthy nonavailability windows, will have the opportunity to

test earlier than the 10-day window outlined in Air Force Instruction 36-2605, Air Force Military Personnel Testing Program.

Military testing offices are expected to receive the test booklets in January.

Eligible staff and technical sergeants may request, in writing, to test as

soon as the booklets arrive. The military testing offices will make every effort to accommodate the requests.

The purpose of this provision is to provide maximum flexibility to eligible staff and technical sergeants and enhance the ability to provide timely promotion consideration.

Those eligible not testing during the normal cycle will be supplementally considered after test answer sheets are received.

For information, call the Military Personnel Flight at 556-1716.

(Information courtesy of the Military Personnel Flight)

Chapel Schedule

Protestant Worship Services:

Traditional Worship Service, 11 a.m. Sunday
 Sunday School 9:35 a.m.
 Sunday Inspirational Service, 12:30 p.m. Sunday
 Contemporary Service, 5 p.m. Sunday

Catholic:

Weekday Mass, 11:35 a.m. (except Monday)
 Saturdays, 5 p.m.
 Sundays, 9:30 a.m.
 Reconciliation Saturdays, 4 p.m.

Chapel Holiday Schedule

Catholic Services:

Anticipatory Mass, 5 p.m. Dec. 7
 Immaculate Conception, 11:35 a.m. Dec. 8
 Family Mass, 5 p.m. Dec. 24
 Music Prelude, 11:30 p.m. Dec. 24
 Midnight Mass, midnight Dec. 24
 Mary, Mother of God Mass, 5 p.m. Dec. 31

Protestant Services

Candlelight Service, 7 p.m. Dec. 24

* The Chapel will be closed Dec. 30-31
 except during services.
 For emergencies, call 556-4555.

*For more information -
 call the chapel at 556-4442 for available chapel programs.



Photo by Dennis Plummer

Team Pete salutes families

The Base Chapel staff, with the help of other agencies, served a Thanksgiving feast at the Salute to Families Nov. 22 at the Chapel. The event was held to say "thank you" to the families of deployed members for their hard work and commitment. There were prizes given to the families and music by the Air Force Academy Band.

Chapel Briefs

CHAPEL SEEKS CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Members of the Peterson Chapel are searching for qualified applicants to bid on a non-personal services agreement open now. The Christian Education Coordinator position involves oversight for the Christian education program of the Peterson Air Force Base Protestant community. The position requires knowledge of Christian education and Protestantism. The specific statement of work is available at the Peterson Chapel. Bids for this position will

be accepted until 4:30 p.m. Friday. For more information call 556-4442 or visit <https://halfway.peterson.af.mil/chapel/>.

UPCOMING RETREATS

Information and photos on previous retreats can be found on the chapel's website. Young adults and singles retreats are open to all Front Range active-duty Air Force personnel. The chapel is offering a skiing and snowboarding retreat for young adults and singles Dec. 10 through 12. For more information, email lbossert@flash.net or call the chapel.

ARAGON DINING FACILITY MENU

Today

Lunch:

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

Dinner:

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

Friday

Supper:

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

Saturday

Lunch:

Savory Baked Chicken
 Swedish Meatballs
 Creole Shrimp
 Baked Potatoes
 Steamed Rice
 Cream Corn
 Asparagus

Dinner:

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

Sunday

Lunch:

Oven Fried Fish
 Cantonese Spareribs
 Grilled Mustard Chicken Breast
 Baked Macaroni and Cheese
 Boiled Egg Noodles
 Peas

Dinner:

Stir Fry Beef with Broccoli
 Turkey Nuggets
 Loin Strip Steak
 Mushroom and Onion Sauce
 Baked Potatoes
 Rice Pilaf
 Corn on the Cob

Monday

Lunch:

Pot Roast
 Baked Stuff Fish
 Roast Loin of Pork
 Oven Brown Potatoes
 Steamed Rice
 Cauliflower
 Combination Succotash

Dinner:

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

Tuesday

Lunch:

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

Dinner:

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

Wednesday

Lunch:

Barbecue Ham Steak
 Turkey and Noodles
 Beef Ball Stroganoff
 Boiled Egg Noodles
 Mashed Potatoes
 Calico Corn
 Spinach
 Lima Beans

Dinner:

Beef Sukiyaki
 Szechwan Chicken
 Sweet and Sour Pork
 Steamed Rice
 Pork Fried Rice
 Fried Cabbage
 Glazed Carrots
 Vegetable Stir Fry

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



Photos by Robb Bussard

Elvira Spencer-Sweetwater provides part of the entertainment as a traditional American Indian dancer. A member of the Pine Tribe, Mrs. Sweetwater, is one of the four family members who make up the Sweetwater Plains Indian Dancers who perform at the Manitou Cliff Dwellings in Colo.



John Emhoolah provides a traditional American Indian prayer during the tribute to the National American Indian Heritage Month. He worked on World War II B-47 and B-52 aircraft through Boeing Aircraft as a draftsman.



John Emhoolah, guest speaker, watches as Lt. Col. Liz Anderson, 21st Space Wing CR unfurls a U.S. Air Force blanket prior to presenting it to the Kiowa and Arapaho elder. The elder, originally from the Kiowa Nation Tribe of Ano Darko, Okla., is a cultural advisor to the Tesoro Foundation of Morrison, Colo. Colonel Anderson also presented Mr. Emhoolah with a wing coin.



Committee Co-chair, Tech. Sgt. Melaine Wilson, addresses the attendees and visitors at the American Indian Heritage luncheon Nov. 19 at the Peterson Enlisted Club. Traditional American Indian cuisine was served.

Airmen celebrate American Indian Heritage

By 1st Lt. Jennifer Whitaker
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Peterson members celebrated National American Indian Heritage Month with their first-ever American Indian Heritage Luncheon Nov. 19.

The luncheon honored the accomplishments and culture of American Indians and Alaska Natives and their contributions to Peterson Air Force Base, the Colorado Springs community and the Air Force.

"Team Pete is proud to host the first-ever National American Indian Heritage Luncheon to honor the long tradition of service our American Indians and Alaska Natives have given to our country," said Capt. Tim Bos, the 21st Space Wing's point of contact for National American Indian Heritage Month. "We welcome this opportunity to help educate not only our base populace, but also the community, on the important roles our Native Americans have filled, and continue to fill, in the United States military."

The lunch menu featured traditional Native American foods such as buffalo burgers, frybread and wojapi pudding. John Emhoolah, originally from the Kiowa Indian Nation of Ana Darko, Okla., was the guest speaker, and the Sweetwater Plains Indian Dancers performed traditional social and exhibition dances from a variety of tribes.

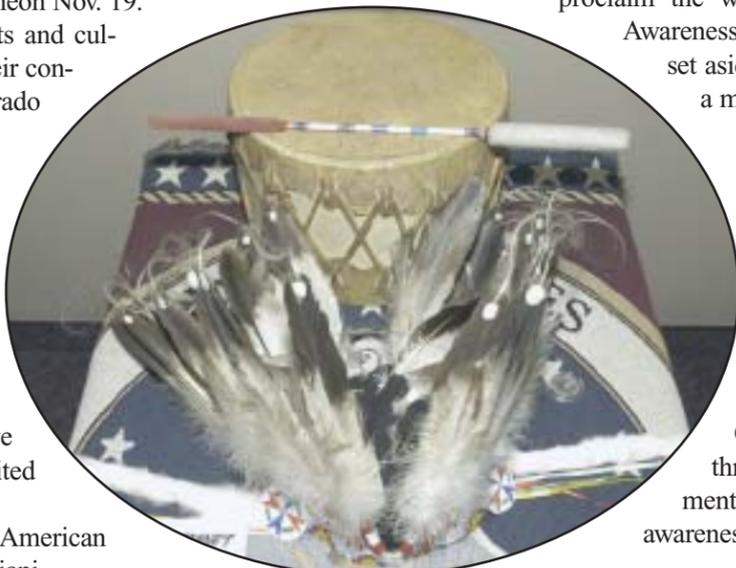
It took more than 80 years for the nation to

establish a National American Indian Heritage Month. The Boy Scouts set aside a day for the "First Americans" in the early 1900s. In 1915, the Congress of the American Indian Association declared the second Saturday of each May as American Indian Day. In 1976, Congress passed a joint resolution authorizing the president to proclaim the week of Oct. 10 through 16 as "Native-American Awareness Week." Days and weeks of different months were set aside to honor the first Americans until they were given a month in 1990.

Observances are held annually in support of Joint Congressional Resolution, Presidential proclamation, and achievements of all groups that comprise the society of the United States. Since 1968, the Department of Defense has supported observances through the development of local programs for recognition and other diverse activities.

The Peterson National Observance Committee, led by the Military Equal Opportunity Office, is responsible for promoting celebrations throughout the year to recognize the continuous achievements of all Americans to American culture and to increase awareness, mutual respect, and understanding.

The observances are designed to enhance awareness and promote harmony among all military members, their families, and the civilian work force, extend equal opportunity education and training, recognize the achievements and contributions made by members of specific groups in our society, and encourage interaction among the groups.



Traditional American Indian artifacts and replicas, such as these instruments and clothing accessories, were on display at the American Indian Heritage luncheon. Members of the Sweetwater Plains Indian Dancers performed traditional American Indian dances for the attendees.





Photo by Tech. Sgt. Lawrence Holmes

Rodeo brings more than entertainment

Chief Master Sgt. Wayne Barron, then-acting Command Chief Master Sergeant for the 21st Space Wing stands beside Col. Jay Santee, as Bill Tutt, Chief Executive Officer for the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo, hands the 21st SW vice commander a check for the final proceeds from the 64th annual Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo Nov. 10. Hal Littrel, Board of Trustees Member, Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo, stands to the right of Mr. Tutt at the Penrose House in Colorado Springs.

The final proceeds will be donated to military charities. Close to \$30,000 will be divided up between the United Service Organizations, Disabled American Veterans, and the local Marines Charity. Over 500 volunteers, both civilian and military, spent over 2,800 hours of volunteer work bringing this year's military charity donation program to \$10,000 larger than last year.



Courtesy photo

Commander visits GSUs

Brigadier Gen. Richard E. Webber, 21st Space Wing commander, and Jim Finley, Northrop Grumman site manager, present a plaque to Capt. Samuel Lowrance Nov. 8 for the millionth sighting completed under his leadership at Socorro, Minn. The presentation was part of a "round-robin" trip to some of the wing's Geographically Separated Units by General Webber and Chief Master Sgt. James E. Moody, 21st SW Command Chief, from Nov. 8 to Nov. 10.

Peterson salutes award winners, FTAC graduates

Team Pete offers congratulations to the following Peterson Air Force Base quarterly awards winners and First Term Airmen Course graduates.

Quarterly award winners

21st Space Wing:

Airman:

Senior Airman Alecia K. A. Thomas, 21st Mission Support Group

Noncommissioned officer:

Tech. Sgt. Keith A. Turney, 821st Air Base Group

Senior NCO:

Senior Master Sgt. Brad W. Shirley, 21st Operations Group

Company Grade Officer:

Capt. Darron A. Haughn, 21st Space Wing Safety

Civilian Category I:

Steven J. Noon, 21st Medical Group

CIV CAT II:

Luis J. Harris, 21st Space Wing Safety

CIV CAT III:

Carroll E. Thompkins, 21st MSG

Team Pete:

Airman:

Senior Airman Alecia K. A. Thomas, 21st MSG

NCO:

Staff Sgt. Joel-Robert B. Orzal, 21st Maintenance Group

SNCO:

Senior Master Sgt. Paul M. Langford, Detachment 4, Air Force Operation Test and Evaluation Center

CGO:

Capt. Shawn S. Beauchamp, Space and Missile Systems Center Logistics Support Squadron

CIV CAT I:

Steven J. Noon, 21st MDG

CIV CAT II:

Luis J. Harris, 21st SW/SE

CIV CAT III:

Carroll E. Thompkins, 21st MSG

FTAC graduates:

Airman Basic Kathryn A. Lamountain, 21st Civil Engineer Squadron; Airman Michael W. Wood, 21st CES; Airmen 1st Class David A. McDonald, 21st Security Forces Squadron; Tyler J. Relph, 21st Aeromedical Dental Squadron; David M. Stewart, 21st SFS; and Ramon J. Tabaquero, 21st CES

AFSA Chapter 1181 has changed meeting days

The meetings will be the first Thursday of each month at 4 p.m. in the NCO Club's Reception room.

The next meeting is today at 4 p.m.

For information, call Senior Master Sgt. Charles Turner at 556-6253.



Seven teams vie for base intramural football title

By **Walt Johnson**
Sports Writer

Editor's note: The Peterson intramural flag football playoffs will kick off at 5:30 p.m. today behind the base fitness center. At press time the game match ups were still in doubt pending the results of Tuesday night's games.

All the preliminary events leading up to the big game have finished and now its time for the top seven teams in the Peterson intramural flag football league to decide who the next champions will be.

This year's field will include the defending champions from the 21st Civil Engineers; Team Colorado; 21st Space communications Squadron;

21st Medical Group; 1st Space Communications Squadron; 721st Security Forces Squadron; and 21st Security Forces Squadron.

No team will go into the tournament undefeated – or for that matter, the favorite – since the defending champions from the 21st CES lost a recent game due to a forfeit when the team got its game time wrong. That loss proved costly to the champions, as they had to battle Team Colorado Tuesday night for the right to get the first round bye in the playoffs. To make matters worse for the defending champions, its top player, quarterback Jason Linta, is out for the remainder of the season after tearing his medial collateral ligament in his knee three weeks ago.

One thing that is clear, is this is as even a tournament as it could be with any one of the top four teams, 21st CES, Team Colorado, the 21st Space Communications Squadron and the 21st Medical Group able to make a legitimate claim to being the best team on base. In an anonymous poll of some of the playoff coaches no one could make up their mind who would be the champ should their team not win, but each of the top four teams received votes as the team to beat.

The playoff schedule will be as follows: games will be played at 5:30, 6:30 and 7:30 today, Monday and Tuesday. One game will be played 5:30 p.m. Wednesday and one game 5:30 p.m. Thursday. The championship

game will be played at 5:30 p.m. Dec. 10 with a game scheduled for 6:30 p.m. if necessary.

The league standings as of Monday are:

1. 21 CES	11	1
2. Team Colorado	11	1
3. 21 SCS	11	2
4. 21 MDG	11	2
5. 1 SPCS	10	4
6. 721 SFS	7	6
6. 21 SFS	7	6
8. AFOTEC DET4	5	8
9. 721 MSG	4	7
10. US NORTHCOM	4	8
11. 21 CONS	3	8
12. AFSPC CSS	2	10
13. ARSTART	1	10
14. 21 CPTS/DS	1	11

Pigskin Picks

College \ NFL

Rick Prescott
SMDC/ARSTRAT

Edward Rodriguez III
SO LES/LEF

Gary Swain
544th IOG

You

Army at Navy	Navy	Army	Navy
Tennessee at Auburn	Auburn	Auburn	Auburn
USC at UCLA	USC	USC	USC
Virginia Tech at Miami	Miami	Miami	Virginia Tech
Oklahoma at Colorado	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma
Minnesota at Chicago	Chicago	Minnesota	Minnesota
Denver at San Diego	San Diego	San Diego	San Diego
Tennessee at Indianapolis	Indianapolis	Indianapolis	Indianapolis
Buffalo at Miami	Buffalo	Miami	Buffalo
Carolina at New Orleans	Carolina	Carolina	Carolina
Houston at N.Y. Jets	N.Y. Jets	Houston	N.Y. Jets
Atlanta at Tampa Bay	Atlanta	Atlanta	Atlanta
Kansas City at Oakland	Kansas City	Kansas City	Kansas City
Green Bay at Philadelphia	Philadelphia	Philadelphia	Philadelphia
Pittsburgh at Jacksonville	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh
Dallas at Seattle	Seattle	Dallas	Seattle

Sports Briefs

FITNESS CENTER HOSTS DOUBLES RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT

The Peterson AFB Sports and Fitness Center will host a doubles racquetball tournament Tuesday through Thursday from 5 to 9 p.m. each day. The tournament will have four divisions, A, B, C, and D. The A and B divisions will be for competitive athletes while the C and D divisions will be for recreation athletes. Teams can consist of two men, two women or a man and a woman. People interested in competing in the event need to sign up at the fitness center no later than Sunday. There will be no cost to enter the tournament. For information contact Tammy Davis at 556-151.

FITNESS CENTER HOSTS

CHRISTMAS FUN RUN

The Peterson Sports and Fitness Center will host a 10- and 5-kilometer Christmas fun run 11:30 a.m.

Dec. 17 at the fitness center. There will be no cost for the event and a drawing will be held to award prizes at the conclusion of the race. People interested in running in the event can sign up until the time of the event at the fitness center. For information contact Tammy Davis at 556-151.

FITNESS CENTER TO HOST

ALL-DAY AEROBIC ACTIVITY

The Peterson Sports and Fitness Center will host an all-day aerob-a-thon Dec. 10. Classes will begin each hour beginning at 6 a.m. and run through 6 p.m. The cost for the class will be a wrapped gift donation, labeled for a girl or boy. The classes will run for 50-to-55 minutes. The schedule for the classes is:

- 6 a.m. – Super Step with Lilly Adams;
- 7 a.m. – Get Fit with Adams
- 8 a.m. – Pilates with Cheryl Kraft
- 9 a.m. – Step with Denise Garrett
- 10 a.m. – Power Yoga with Ellis Conoley
- 11 a.m. – Power Yoga with Conoley
- 12 a.m. – Turbo kick with Lisa Edmonds

- 1 p.m. – Toning with Edmonds
- 2 p.m. – Super Step with Justine Simpson
- 3 p.m. – Step with Simpson
- 4 p.m. – Step with Garrett
- 5 p.m. – Super Step with Frankie Mae Terry
- 6 p.m. – Back to basic with Terry

FITNESS CENTER OFFERS

CHALLENGING CIRCUIT COURSE

The Peterson Sports and Fitness Center hosts a back-to-basics circuit course Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Monday classes are held at 11 a.m.; Tuesday classes are held at 5:10 p.m.; Wednesday classes are held at 6 and 11 a.m. and Friday classes are held at 11 a.m. and 6:15 p.m. The 45-minute workout is designed to work both strength and cardio and according to Tammy Davis, fitness center coordinator “is a very good workout that is a lot of fun in addition to helping a person get in better physical condition.” The class consists of 15 simple exercises and a self-paced cardio regimen. For information contact the fitness center staff at 556-1515.



TRICARE policy change reduces newborn enrollment time

Under current policy, the newborn/adoptee is deemed enrolled for the first 120 days from date of birth and/or adoption. Effective Jan. 1, the TRICARE deemed enrolled period will be reduced from 120 days to 60 days from the date of birth and/or the official date of adoption. If the child and/or adoptee is not enrolled within the 60 days, on the 61st day the child and/or adoptee will become TRICARE Standard.

A certificate of live birth (issued by the birthing facility) and a sponsor-signed Department of Defense Form 1172 are required to enroll a newborn in

DEERS. The sponsor's signature on the DD Form 1172 must be notarized if a sponsor is unable to be present when a newborn and/or adoptee is registered in DEERS. Present these documents at the nearest Identification card facility or unit personnel office.

During this deemed enrolled period, claims for any civilian health care received are paid under TRICARE Prime rules without required referrals and authorizations. This minimizes family out-of-pocket costs for any civilian health care received for newborns and/or adoptees during this period. It also ensures priority access to military treatment facilities

while sponsors establish the required eligibility in DEERS and decide whether to enroll the new child and/or adoptee in TRICARE Prime or choose TRICARE Extra/Standard.

TRICARE regional directors and deputy directors of each TRICARE Area Office may extend the deemed enrollment period up to 120 days on a case-by-case or regional basis for unique issues. For information, stop by a TRICARE Service Center or contact the 21st Medical Group Beneficiary Counselor and Assistance Coordinator at 556-1016. *(Courtesy of the 21st Space Wing Medical Group)*

– Deployed, from Page 4

For Major Frederick and Sergeant Washington, the opportunity to work at the CAOC is very different compared to their stateside assignments, but one they've trained and are prepared for. Both operators have missile warning backgrounds and attended specialized training courses prior to deployment.

Major Frederick leads a program at Peterson fielding communications systems in ICBM launch control centers. She also leads an environmental control system replacement program for ICBM LCCs and launch facilities.

At Peterson, Sergeant Washington provides weapons and tactics policy and guidance to ten 21st Space Wing geographically separated units. The focus is to educate units on how to best use their existing capabilities to counter emerging threats.

Although not always in the spotlight, the space operators take great satisfaction in their job. "Bottom line, we want to keep AOR personnel out of harm's way when possible and put space capabilities to work in improving mission accomplishment," Sergeant Washington said.



Courtesy photo

Who am I? The Lockheed EC-121

The Lockheed EC-121, also known as the "Warning Star," entered the Air Force as a transportation aircraft. In the early 1950s, the Air Force started converting the C-121 into an Airborne Early Warning and Control System aircraft. Redesignated, the EC-121 carried 6 tons of electronic gear and was used as an aerial extension of the Distant Early Warning line of NORAD.

GOVERNMENT E-MAIL FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Air Force employees may use government-provided e-mail for official use only. Use of government e-mail is consent to monitoring. E-mail should be used in support of the Air Force mission, including morale uses during deployments. Users should be professional and careful in their correspondence and always consider operational security. Users should not put classified material in unclassified e-mail, distribute copyrighted materials without owner consent, use for commercial or financial gain, degrade network performance by overloading the network with chain letters, jokes and broadcast messages, use someone else's identity or use unprofessional language.

MOAA HOSTS LUNCHEON

The Military Officers Association of America is hosting their monthly event today at the Officers Club. The members will make a presentation to NORAD TRACKS SANTA. The social begins at 11:30 a.m. with lunch following at noon. For information, call Irene Merrill at 633-8878.

ENLISTED CORPS ELIGIBLE FOR SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

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

AIR FORCE AID SOCIETY OFFERS EDUCATION GRANTS

The Air Force Aid Society's General H. Arnold Education Grant Program awards \$1,500 in grants to sons and daughters of active duty, Title 10 AGR/Reservists on extended active duty, Title 32 AGR performing full-time active duty, retired reservists with 20 or more years of qualifying service and deceased Air Force members. Active-duty spouses residing stateside, spouses of Title 10 AGR/Reservists on extended active duty and surviving spouses of deceased members are also eligible candidates. For information or an application, call the Family Support Center at 556-6141 or visit the Air Force Aid Society's web site at www.afas.org.

HONOR GUARD SEEKS APPLICANTS

Members of the Peterson Honor Guard is looking for new members. Applicants must be a technical or master sergeant. To apply, members must submit a resume or biography, a copy of their past five enlisted performance reports and an 8-inch by 10-inch official photograph. For information, call 556-8029.

UNIVERSITY OFFERS PROGRAM ON HOMELAND SECURITY

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

PIKES PEAK COMMUNITY COLLEGE OFFERS ACCELERATED COURSES

The Pikes Peak Community College Military Programs weekend classes have taken on a new format. The classes are now required to meet for the full

45 contact hours in the classroom. Students will meet Fridays and Saturdays for four consecutive weekends, with the exception of weekends containing holidays. For more information, call Ron Shields at the Base Education Center at 574-1169.

EDUCATION CENTER OFFERS COMMISSIONING BRIEFINGS

Enlisted members interested in learning about commissioning opportunities may attend one of the monthly commissioning briefings offered at the Education Center. Interested members can find out more about Officer Training School and Reserve Officer Training Corps programs such as: Airmen Education and Commissioning Program and the Professional Officers Course Early Release Program.

– See News Briefs, Page 18



Team Pete around the globe

The 21st Space Wing operates 15 weapon systems, comprises 44 units in 26 locations in four countries and encompasses nine time zones throughout the world. Team Pete also has 166 deployed members supporting various areas of operations across the globe.



Online holiday greetings

Family members and friends can send online holiday greetings to Airmen deployed to Iraq this holiday season through the Iraq Newslink Web site. The greetings are free. Postings began Nov. 15. Greetings should be text-only (no photos or graphics), 50 words or less. For information on the site's online holiday greeting program, visit the Iraq Newslink home page at www.afnews.af.mil/iraq/ and select the "Send a holiday greeting" button on the right side of the page. To see posted greetings, go to www.afnews.af.mil/greetings.htm.

Teddy Bears for kids

There are only two weeks left to donate a teddy bear and brighten up the holidays for sick children. The 2004 Teddy Bears for Kids campaign is currently at 60 percent of their goal and are in need of donations. This campaign is set up by members of Team Pete. For information, email Staff Sgt. Thom Moore at thomas.moore@cisf.af.mil.

- News Briefs, from Page 17

Information on eligibility requirements, opportunities and application procedures will be discussed. Upcoming briefing dates are Tuesday and Dec. 29. Call 556-4064 to register for a briefing.

LOCAL SCOUTS MEET ON PETERSON

Girl Scout Troop 422 meets at 6 p.m., Mondays at the Peterson Chapel. This troop is for girls ages 11 to 17. Units are developing for younger girls which will also meet on Mondays. For information, call Laura Pitcher at 392-1102.

Cub Scout Pack 99 meets at 6:30 p.m., Thursdays at the Peterson Chapel. Cub Scout Packs are for boys ages 7 through 10. For information, call Wendy Jendrick, cubmaster, at 637-0397.

Boy Scout Troop 199 meets at 7 p.m.,

Wednesdays at the Enlisted Club. Boy Scout Troops are open to boys ages 11 to 17. For information, call Alex Welton, scoutmaster, at 574-8970.

LOCALS COLLECT GIFTS FOR WOUNDED SOLDIERS

Local Colorado Springs residents are joining American Airlines employees in collecting Christmas presents for wounded American Soldiers in a German hospital. Since the Soldiers will not be home for the holidays, American Airlines/Airline Ambassadors would like to bring the holidays to them by hand delivering the gifts. The drive will be held through today. Donations include: sweat suits, caps, T-shirts and sweatshirts (all sizes), hygiene items, games, playing cards, game boys, international calling cards, stationery and envelopes, disc players and compact disc music. For information, call 233-3714 or email Dennis@CommonSenseLoans.com.

New veterans ID cards battle identity theft

Department of Veterans Affairs officials have designed a new identity card for veterans that will safeguard confidential information while combating identity theft.

"The new identification card ensures veterans' personal information is protected," Anthony J. Principi, Veterans Affairs Secretary, said. "It also helps prevent the theft of important benefits and services veterans earned by their service to our country."

The card, formally known as the Veterans Identity Card, will have the veteran's photo on the front and identify him or her as an enrollee in the VA's health-care system.

The veteran's social security number, birth date and a control number will be encrypted on a magnetic tape on the back of the card. The magnetic strip also records whether the veteran has a service-connected disability.

Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in the nation, officials said. The Federal Trade Commission listed identity theft as the No. 1 fraud reported by consumers in 2003.

Requests from veterans and their congressional representatives were instrumental in bringing about these latest changes, officials said.

"The new [card] ensures the security of veterans' personal infor-

mation as well as ensuring only eligible veterans receive the benefits and services they've earned," said Kristin Cunningham of the VA health-care system's business office.

Veterans can request the new card at their local medical center. Processing will take five to seven days once eligibility is verified. Existing cards will remain valid until veterans receive their new cards.

People can check with prepaid legal services for information on how to protect oneself in the event their identity is stolen.

(Courtesy of American Forces Press Service)