January brought an increase in the number of Classified Material Incidents. It is important users continue to be vigilant. If workers suspect someone may be involved in a CMI, initiate the procedures on the Peterson Air Force Base Visual Aid 33-3 Virus and Incident Checklist. One of these checklists should be found on each computer on Peterson. For information, call the 21st SW Information Assurance Office at 556-4253.
Feb. 6, 1959 – The U.S. Air Force successfully launches the first Titan I ICBM. With a range of 5,500 nautical miles, the two-stage liquid-fueled missile will be deployed in underground silos but has to be raised to the surface before launch.

Feb. 6, 1967 – The North American Aerospace Defense Command’s Space Defense Center moves into Cheyenne Mountain, Colo., completing the movement of all units into the hardened, underground facility.


“When you have as many superstar warriors as we have it makes the competition extremely close.”
– Chief Master Sgt. James Moody

Members of Peterson Air Force Base would like to congratulate the following military and civilian annual award winners for their selection as ‘Best of the Best’ for 2004. Award members were recognized at the 2004 Annual Awards Banquet Feb. 2 at the Peterson Enlisted Club here.


Guest speaker retired Chief Master Sgt. Kenneth Van Holbeck, former command chief for United States Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command, addresses the audience before the award presentations.

Company Grade Officer of the Year
Capt. David Anderson, 21st Operations Group

Category II – Civilian of the Year
Robert Schwaeble, 21st OG

Category III – Civilian of the Year
David Ward, 21st OG

A Moment in Time

Feb. 6, 1959 – The U.S. Air Force successfully launches the first Titan I ICBM. With a range of 5,500 nautical miles, the two-stage liquid-fueled missile will be deployed in underground silos but has to be raised to the surface before launch.

Feb. 6, 1967 – The North American Aerospace Defense Command’s Space Defense Center moves into Cheyenne Mountain, Colo., completing the movement of all units into the hardened, underground facility.


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Chief of Internal
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Kara Magana
ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS

Category I – Civilian of the Year
Kale Gomillion, 21st OG

Senior NCO of the Year
Senior Master Sgt. Tyler Foster, 21st Space Wing Public Affairs

NCO of the Year
Staff Sgt. Marvin Beck, 721st Mission Support Group

First Sergeant of the Year
Master Sgt. Charles Meyer, 21st Medical Group

Airman of the Year
Senior Airman Jamee Dean, 21st OG

High Frontier Honor Guard Airman of the Year
Senior Airman Valerie Castillo, 21st Aeromedical Dental Squadron
Wing, GSU straighten out drug reduction program

By Airman Mandy Weightman
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Inspectors discovered write-ups at one of the 21st Space Wing’s geographically separated units during the Operational Readiness Inspection in October.

The 821st Air Base Group’s drug reduction program at Thule AB, Greenland, was found lacking in several areas.

“I find these areas of non-compliance is the first step in making positive change,” said Col. Jay Santee, 21st Space Wing vice commander. “I like to think this substantiates the need for inspections and provides us the opportunity to improve and excel.”

The discrepancies prompted the geographically separated unit— and the wing— to get together and make major changes to better their program.

Some of the write-ups concerned the proper safeguard of secure materials; the 21st SW drug-testing oversight committee’s support to Thule’s drug testing program; the 21st SW Judge Advocate’s assessments of drug testing; and inadequate training for observers during drug testing,” said Capt. Cory Baker, Thule Drug Demand Reduction Program Manager.

“There it’s about fixing those problems,” Captain Baker said. “As a team we’ve come up with solutions which are already being implemented.”

When the base opened a new hospital in November, the issue of safeguarding secure materials was answered. The hospital provided a secure storage area for drug-testing supplies, improved urine collection facilities and secure office space for files and completion of administrative tasks.

Other responses to write-ups include additions such as incorporating Thule’s DDRP manager in all Cross-Functional Oversight Committee teleconferences with the 21st SW drug testing team. The 21st SW/JA is also planning to conduct quarterly inspections via telephone and during their annual visits. The Drug Testing Program Administrative Manager now provides oral briefings in addition to providing hardcopy lists of observer responsibilities before observing.

“As a 21st Space Wing GSU, the wing is responsible for Thule,” said John Moore Sr., Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station DDRP manager. “We provided the Thule DDR program managers with appropriate checklists not only for selecting members for drug testing, but also for collecting, packaging and shipping specimens, along with hand-on training on the use of drug-testing products.”

The 21st SW sent a representative from the 21st SW/JA and Mr. Moore on a trip to Thule AB in January, to conduct a staff-assistance visit. Their mission was to provide advice and assistance on improving training programs and specimen packaging procedures.

“All of the changes I observed were positive,” Mr. Moore said.

According to Air Force Instruction 44-120, Drug Abuse Testing Program Sweeps and Gate Inspections, drug testing must be conducted no fewer than eight days per month.

“Colonel John Haven, 821st commander, has requested that we exceed this standard,” Captain Baker said. “We tested for 10 days in both December and January. On top of those random tests, we conducted a base sweep in January.”

Resolving the DDR program issues required a team effort, and the 21st SW pulled together with the 821st ABW to make it happen.

“The DDR program managers at Thule perform drug testing as an additional duty— which is a real challenge,” Mr. Moore said. “They now have the tools they need to get the job done and we have established a line of communication to benefit both Thule and the 21st Space Wing in the future.”

Though the 21st SW was rated an “excellent” overall, inspections are created to not only acknowledge benchmarks and great processes, but they are also created for just such a situation— “to find areas where we can improve and continue our reputation as a leading space wing in today’s Air Force,” said Colonel Santee.
Members of the 21st Space Wing Geo Integration Office recently acquired new land surveying equipment for use in mapping the base infrastructure and facilities.

“The Survey Grade” equipment will increase surveying capabilities with accuracies down to millimeters.

“This kind of accuracy is critical in developing the GeoBase Common Installation Picture, or CIP,” said Tech. Sgt. Joel Mendez, a GIO Analyst from the 21st Civil Engineer Squadron.

The GIO team purchased the TRIMBLE 5700 Global Positioning System with end-of-year wing funds.

“This survey equipment is capable of 0.5-centimeter accuracy when measuring specific points around the base,” Sergeant Mendez said.

The points are downloaded to computer aided drafting and design computers, allowing draftsmen to assemble the points into shapes, lines and points which represent things like streets, fire hydrants, manholes and light poles. From these individual pieces of data, the draftsmen can make a picture of the entire installation.

Geographic Information System specialists assemble the data into layers that are represented by the CIP. Finally, to make the whole map make sense, the GIS technicians integrate aerial color photos of the base with the GPS drawings.

“The end result is a highly accurate, digital representation of the base, including roads, buildings, utilities, boundaries, etc.” said Carol Poor, technical services drafting manager, 21st CES.

The GeoBase Office houses the data in the CIP and serves the end product up on a base network Web page.

“The neat thing about this is that it allows authorized organizations and personnel to ‘point and click’ to see any point on base with extremely detailed accuracy,” said Tech. Sgt. Wes Huntsman, 21st CES technical services NCO in charge.

Additional information from each unit will be developed to show mission-critical information each unit needs to do business. These additional layers are called mission data sets and, in most cases, are comprised of the information each unit is already tracking.

The Geo Integration Office sponsors the GeoBase working group, which is comprised of technical representatives from each unit and tenant unit on base. The GIO holds these meetings regularly to educate the base populace on GeoBase and the role of their unit. For the next meeting time, or information, call the Geo Integration Office at 556-1426.

**Safety Office reports mishaps**

Editor’s note: The following is a report courtesy of the 21st Space Wing Safety Office of the fiscal 2005 safety mishaps to date:

- **Nov. 11**
  - **Who:** an airman first class from the 21st Space Communications Squadron
  - **What:** cut his wrist washing dishes while off-duty
  - **Amount incident cost the Air Force:** $7,125

- **Nov. 22**
  - **Who:** a civilian from the 13th Space Warning Squadron
  - **What:** slipped on ice and hurt his back while on-duty
  - **Amount incident cost the Air Force:** $700

- **Nov. 27**
  - **Who:** an airman first class from the 21st SCS
  - **What:** tripped over dog on the stairs and sprained his knee while off-duty
  - **Amount incident cost the Air Force:** $750

- **Dec. 6**
  - **Who:** a staff sergeant from the 6th SWS
  - **What:** was rear-ended while driving a government vehicle on-duty and strained his back
  - **Amount incident cost the Air Force:** $3,693

- **Dec. 15**
  - **Who:** a senior airman from the 721st Security Forces Squadron
  - **What:** dislocated his knee playing basketball while off-duty
  - **Amount incident cost the Air Force:** $375

- **Dec. 29**
  - **Who:** a Fort Carson Army Reservist
  - **What:** a pallet dropped on his foot during loading operations while on-duty
  - **Amount incident cost:** undetermined

There are four incidents not listed, three of which are still under investigation. In sum, there were three on-duty incidents, six off-duty and 42 workdays lost so far in the fiscal 2005. The monetary loss is currently at $20,132. The 21st SW Safety Office staff reminds everyone to use operational risk management whether they are on or off duty.
Constructions underway on sidewalk

The 21st Civil Engineer Squadron has contracted construction on a sidewalk to repair the storm water drainage just south of the parking areas for buildings 1, 2, and 3. Two large sections of sidewalk leading from Military Family Housing to the command buildings just east of the Peterson Shopette have been removed. This was to facilitate the removal of the drainage pipes underneath the sidewalks. Backfiling and sidewalk replacement should be complete within the next two weeks weather permitting. The construction is currently underway and is expected to be completed by Monday, weather permitting. The civil engineer team recommends that anyone in the area use caution when going around the site.

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. Our vigilant security forces team treat each incident seriously and according to the rules and regulations.

POV VS. POV IN BX BANG UP – DEC. 27

A vehicle accident in the Base Exchange parking lot was reported to Security Forces. A patrol was dispatched to evaluate the damage caused. Apparently two vehicles collided and both of the vehicles received damage to their rear bumpers. Hmmm, if both people weren’t driving in reverse at the same time and were checking their six, then this wouldn’t have happened, right? One of the vehicle operators received an Armed Forces Traffic Ticket for Failure to Yield.

NOT SO SWEET 16! – DEC. 27

An AAFES store detective reported that he had detained a teenager for shoplifting. The teenage pilferer snagged some black licorice, a pinwheel, licorice flavored lip gloss and a makeup compact. The Colorado Springs Police Department came out and issued the licorice-lifting lassie a summons for shoplifting. The teenager was also issued a Notice of Temporary Suspension of Base Exchange Privileges Letter; which just means that she won’t be able to shop at an AAFES establishment for a while.

* Anyone with information on a crime or any of these blotter entries should report it to the 21st Security Forces team at 556-4000.
PERSONNEL CENTER OFFERS
OFFICER PROMOTIONS BRIEFING

Air Force officers interested in how the officer promotion process works have the opportunity to attend a briefing by a member of the Board Secretariat from Air Force Personnel Center. The officer promotions briefing will be at 1:30 p.m. Feb. 17 in the Enlisted Club ballroom. For information, contact Capt. Kelly Calle at 556-4819.

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER OFFERS
KEY SPOUSE TRAINING

Orientation training for 21st Space Wing appointed Key Spouses, unit commanders, first sergeants and spouses of unit commanders will be held from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Feb. 17 and from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Feb. 24 at the Enlisted Club. For information, contact the Family Support Center at 556-6141.

HEART LINK PROGRAM LINKS NEW SPOUSES TO AIR FORCE LIFESTYLE

Heart Link is an orientation workshop for spouses and fiancés of active duty Air Force members who would like to learn more about the Air Force mission, customs, traditions, protocol and support resources and services available to them. Heart Link is an all-day workshop. The next Heart Link workshop is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 16.

MILITARY PERSONNEL FLIGHT
OFFERS GUIDANCE ON PT UNIFORM

The official physical training uniform should be available at Air Force military clothing sales stores no later than March. Individuals should read the wear policy before wearing the uniform. Effective Oct. 1, the enlisted annual clothing allowance was increased to cover the cost of the uniform. All personnel will be required to purchase the uniform directly from the military clothing sales store and must have it by the mandatory wear-by date, which will be determined later based on inventory availability.

Did you know it is often up to 10 degrees colder than Colorado Springs up at Cheyenne Mountain?
If you are headed up there to work or visit, ensure you wear cold weather gear and give yourself enough time to arrive in the likely event you get stuck behind the snow plow! For the most up-to-date information, call ahead to the mountain's snow call line 474-3333.

Are you a talented writer or have you always wanted to be published?
Are you stationed at one of the 21st Space Wing’s geographically separated units and have a story to share?
The Space Observer is currently seeking hidden talent among our worldwide readers to try their hand at writing a story or two for the paper. Call the editor today to get an assignment or to talk about your story idea: 556-4351. Civilians, retirees, military and family members welcome!
National Prayer Luncheon offers inspiration

By 1st Lt. Tracy Giles
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Servicemembers are invited to attend a National Prayer Luncheon hosted by the Peterson chapel at 11:30 a.m. Feb. 22 at the Peterson Air Force Base Enlisted Club.

“It is a great opportunity for people of all faith traditions to gather for fellowship and to celebrate the gift of prayer by praying for our world, nation and its people,” said Chaplain (Capt.) Kristoffer Cox, 21st Space Wing chaplain.


Chaplain Cox said the event will also have unsurpassed music provided by both The U.S. Air Force Academy Band Rampart Winds Ensemble and a member of the Flying W Wranglers.

“I’d like to encourage everyone to come to this special event,” said Col. Jay Santee, 21st Space Wing vice commander. “It’s a great chance to bring Team Pete members together for an inspirational message accompanied by a quality meal and fine music.”

A choice of beef burgundy over rice or chef salad will be offered for $5. The cost is $3 for those in the ranks of E-4 and below.

People can purchase tickets through unit first sergeants. Attire will be uniform of the day. For information, call the chapel staff at 556-4442.

Peterson deployed members help clinch ACC award

By Maj. Bernadette Dozier
379th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

Two deployed members from Peterson Air Force Base were part of an 11-member team who earned Air Combat Command’s Special Acts and Services Award for “turning dollars and desires into war-fighting capability” at the end of fiscal 2004 in a forward deployed location.

The 21st Space Wing finance and contracting professionals, Capt. Becky Bridgewater and Tech. Sgt. Greg Jensen both of the 21st Space Wing contracting office, represented the space arena while earning their ACC award.

The team, made up of members from the 379th Expeditionary Comptroller and Contracting squadrons, delivered the cleanest close-out yet in the Central Command area of responsibility – despite a 93 percent turnover of people in the middle of September.

For 28 days straight, the finance and contracting team, affectionately known as FINCON, worked around the clock and delivered phenomenal results impacting units across the AOR, according to Maj. David Peeler, 379 ECPTS command officer. They freed up $41.4 million for other CENTAF mission requirements by verifying and balancing 2,685 accounts worth $172.2 million in fiscal 2004 funds.

“Freeing up the money lessened the burden on ACC to fund these requirements,” Maj. Peeler said.

Since there’s no set budget for the wing, close-out can be more challenging than at a state side base, said Master Sg t. Tony Watson, an ECONS flight chief.

“(Close-out) isn’t an easy thing to do especially with the type of money we have here,” Sergeant Watson said. “This is the first close-out where we were able to see what we spent in the fiscal year.”

Another challenge was fixing old processes and opening lines of communication between the two squadrons.

“We teamed up with finance and created a new era of cooperation. This allowed people to work together for the greater good of the close-out. People set side unit differences and worked for something greater than themselves,” said Maj. Wayne Register, 379 ECONS command officer. “Synergy resulted from that … I’m very proud of the FINCON team.”

Sergeant Watson said he agreed with the importance of teamwork.

“Without finance we can’t get our jobs done,” he said. “We work so closely together – sometimes it’s like we’re one squadron.”

For Major Peeler, this team award is more important than any individual recognition.

“Leading a group of folks and having them win is super,” the major said. “Receiving recognition for their hard work means a lot; and I know each individual on the team earned and appreciated the win.”

Part of the Air Force Financial Management and Comptroller annual awards program, the special acts and services award criteria is based on unusual or extraordinary accomplishments, the circumstances that make an act or service special, and the tangible and intangible benefits to financial management and the Air Force.

“They’ll now compete for the Air Force-level award.

Team members:

Maj. David Peeler
Finance
permanent party

Capt. Becky Bridgewater
Contracting
permanent party

Tech. Sgt. Greg Jensen
Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.
Finance

Master Sgt. Christina Hame l
Finance
McConnell Air Force Base, Kan.

Master Sgt. Donnette Linker
Finance
McGuire Air Force Base, N.J.

Master Sgt. Mike Gilbert
Contracting
Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash.

Maj. Wayne Register
Contracting
permanent party

Tech. Sgt. Greg Jensen
Contracting
Peterson AFB

Tech. Sgt. Shawna Lukkes
Finance
Charleston Air Force Base, S.C.

Staff Sgt. Angie Tanner
Finance
Charleston AFB

Earned an award? Been promoted?
Completed training or earned a degree?
Fill out a Hometown News Release!

The Hometown News Release program is your chance to tell your Air Force story in your hometown, and it couldn’t be easier! Just go online to www.peterson.af.mil/21SW, click the “Fill out an online Hometown News Release” link, and you’re on your way! You can also fill out a DD Form 2266 and send it to 21st Space Wing Public Affairs, via fax at 556-7848, e-mail at 21swpoa.msp@peterson.af.mil, or in person to Building 845, room 219.
**ARAGON DINING FACILITY MENU**

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<th>Today</th>
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<th>Saturday</th>
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<td>Orange-Spiced Chops</td>
<td>Beef and Corn Pie</td>
<td>Savory Baked Chicken</td>
<td>Stir Fry Beef with Broccoli</td>
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<td>Liver with Onions</td>
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<td>Swedish Meatballs</td>
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<td>Glazed Carrots</td>
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**Hours of Operation:** 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.

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**Officers’ Club throws Valentine’s Day shindig**

By Margie Arnold
21st Services Squadron

That’s right, Valentine’s Day is almost here. Did forgetfulness take over?

In a last-minute attempt, one could rush to a florist. But, at this late date, they’re overwhelmed with orders placed in advance. With this holiday coming so soon after the winter holidays, the box of fancy chocolates might not work if that special someone is on a diet.

A good option would be to plan a special evening out — an evening that will show thoughtfulness and offer the chance to spend time together. Reservations are still available at the Officers’ Club for a romantic dinner and dancing on Saturday.

“It’s going to be an elegant dinner with very special foods and the live music will add to the romantic atmosphere,” said Curtis Clayton, Officers’ Club Manager.

“The chef has created a lovely dinner menu featuring stuffed beef tenderloin with apple dressing, bacon-wrapped braised sea scallops, tri-color roasted potatoes, asparagus spears, spinach salad supreme and amaretto spumoni cheesecake garnished with chocolate covered strawberries,” Mr. Clayton said. “I think folks are going to love it.”

When planning out the meal, Mr. Clayton said having even a few bites of a rich cheesecake dessert is the perfect way to end the meal. “It’s the finishing touch on a nice romantic dinner out.”

The evening’s program includes social hour at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. and live music and dancing from 7 to 11 p.m. Music will be by “Spectrum.” The evening is $45 per member couple and $50 per non-member couple. For reservations, 574-4100.

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**Luncheon celebrates Black Heritage Month**

The 21st Space Wing will host a Black Heritage Month Luncheon at 11 a.m. Feb. 24 at the Officers’ Club. The Honorable Rodney Coleman, former Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower, Reserve Affairs, Installations and Environment, will be the guest speaker at the event. To R.S.V.P., call 556-7676.
By Airman Mandy Weightman
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

From skiers and snowboarders, to diners and dancers, 4,000 military members and their families flooded SnoFest!!! in Keystone, Colo. Friday through Sunday.

SnoFest!!! is an annual winter event held for all military members and their families in the Colorado region.

"This was the largest turnout at SnoFest!!! yet," said Kay Grant, 10th Services Division director of marketing who was in charge of marketing for SnoFest!!! "It just gets bigger every year."

Some events SnoFest!!! participants enjoyed included skiing, snowboarding, two major races, a cardboard derby, dinner banquets and a hospitality tent.

The cardboard derby had 51 team entries, Ms. Grant said. Friday and Saturday concluded with dinner banquets at the Keystone Conference Center where a total of 2,600 people showed up for dinner and dancing.

Hospitality tent workers provided free snacks and drinks to 2,800 participants Friday and 3,300 people Saturday, she said. More than 3,500 SnoFest!!! participants took advantage of the lodging available at Keystone.

"SnoFest!!! is a really great family environment," Ms. Grant said. "It was great to see how many families took advantage of the opportunity to spend time together through the event."

Relaxation was another motivator for the people who joined in the SnoFest!!! festivities, said Master Sgt. Roy Sloan, North American Aerospace Defense Command-U.S. Northern Command senior enlisted aide to the commander.

"Getting away, relaxing with the family and watching my kids have fun were the best parts of the weekend," Sergeant Sloan said. "We also really enjoyed the banquet and the hospitality of the Keystone Resort staff."

Some SnoFest!!! participants who are already frequent visitors at Keystone said they saw the event as an opportunity to take advantage of lower prices and new events.

"My daughters and I really enjoy skiing and love spending time up here [at Keystone]," said Tech. Sgt. Rich Young, Peterson First Term Airmen Center NCO In Charge. "It’s such a beautiful area and SnoFest!!! is a great, family-oriented event."

Ski tickets and equipment can be purchased or rented through local Outdoor Recreation offices. For information on winter sports and leisure activities in the local area, call the Peterson Outdoor Recreation office at 556-4867.

"Getting away, relaxing with the family and watching my kids have fun were the best parts of the weekend."

– Master Sgt. Roy Sloan

Photo by Airman Mandy Weightman

Technical Sgt. Rich Young, Peterson First Term Airmen Course NCO In Charge, prepares to jump from a rail slide in the terrain park Saturday at Keystone, Colo. Sergeant Young, joined by his two daughters, stayed at the Keystone Resort for the SnoFest!!! weekend.

Photo by Airman Mandy Weightman

Alex Young, 11, daughter of Tech. Sgt. Rich Young, Peterson First Term Airmen Center NCO In Charge, prepares for a launch on the bungee jump Saturday.

Photo by Airman Mandy Weightman

Master Sgt. Roy Sloan and his daughter Brittany Bryant swing dance to music provided by The Air Force Academy Band Friday at the SnoFest!!! dinner banquet. Sergeant Sloan is the North American Aerospace Defense Command-U.S. Northern Command senior enlisted aide to the commander.

ABOVE: Some of the 4,000 military attendees enjoy winter sports at the SnoFest!!! festival Friday through Sunday. Events included skiing and snowboarding during the day and family parties and fireworks in the evenings.

LEFT: Children watch the fireworks display Saturday in Keystone, Colo. The resort presents a firework display every Saturday evening.
Super Bowl commercial spotlights appreciation, SMC engineer

LOS ANGELES AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. – A month ago, Jeff McGowan would have laughed at the very idea that his face would be used to market thanks and gratitude on national television in front of 100 million viewers. But it is amazing what a few weeks and an opportunity of a lifetime can make.

His opportunity arose from a combination of profession and location. The profession is that of first lieutenant in the United States Air Force, and the location is the center of the television universe here in Los Angeles.

Those two things combined lanced the lead engineer at Space and Missile Systems Center Launch Programs at Los Angeles International Airport filming a commercial that was aired Sunday during Super Bowl XXXIX.

The premise of the 30-second spot, sponsored by Anheuser Busch, is not a typical plug for their products, but instead a show of support for America’s armed forces.

The commercial, based on an urban legend story circulated on the Internet, is about servicemembers who disembarked an aircraft and were welcomed with an eruption of applause.

During Sunday’s airing, McGowan was featured prominently in the commercial. His part, along with 10 other servicemembers from local Reserve bases, was to walk from one end of the terminal to the other dressed in desert battle dress uniform. Their roles embodied that of Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. The other actors in the commercial, approximately 200 of them, played the role of ordinary citizens filling the terminal.

According to Col. Beverly Lee, acting director, Secretary of the Air Force Los Angeles Entertainment Liaison Office, the military men and women selected for the commercial are outstanding representatives of those serving in uniform. This commercial captures the fact that a simple thank you is deeply appreciated by anyone serving this nation.

The commercial’s director, Joe Pytka, hopes that same feeling of appreciation was felt when his commercial aired. As a director of some of America’s most memorable commercials such as Ray Charles “Uh-huh” for Pepsi, the “This is your brain on drugs” public service announcement and the Bartles and James “Thank you for your support” campaign, Mr. Pytka is well-versed in making his point to the viewer.

Colonel Lee said Mr. Pytka expressed how honored he was to work with the troops and how it reaffirmed his view of the professionalism of our military forces.

Although the cast and crew were impressed with the military actors, Lieutenant McGowan said he learned a lot about the filming process and from the cast as well.

“The most interesting process of filming the commercial to me was the attention to detail. Everything from the set, the reaction of the actors to the sense of admiration was painstakingly after all,” he said. “It was really amazing how much time and money goes into something that won’t last more than 30 seconds, yet will leave a life-long impression in many minds.”

As the final product finished editing in preparation for Sunday’s airing, Lieutenant McGowan said he hopes the commercial will have an impact on those watching the game.

“I feel proud and honored to have been chosen to repre- sent my brethren in uniform on national TV,” he said. “I wish they (servicemembers) all could be congratulated in person. Few things touch a military member more simplistically than a fellow American saying thank you.”

Monster Garage: Take II

By 1st Lt. Lucas Ritter
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. – A monster of a car arrived here recently to test its speed and performance on the Air Force’s second longest runway. What started out as a drop tank from an F-4 Phantom became a low-slung bullet car draped in chrome.

Famed chopper hound Jesse James and five others built the car, the Belly Tank Lakester, in five days for the TV show “Monster Garage,” which takes ordinary cars and items and turns them into “monsters.”

“The people I race with are going to be jealous that I get to drive a car down this runway,” Mr. James said. “This is a perfect place for the Lakester’s test runs. I’m excited to be here.”

There was a flurry of activity when Mr. James and the car arrived at base operations. Cameras swarmed the car and Mr. James from every angle, safety officials prepped the vehicle and briefed the star while the production crew hustled about completing last minute tasks.

After they got a good feel for the runway, the car was taken to the starting line. This is where the real action began. In true Hollywood style, the flurry continued, complete with a helicopter and a cameraman inside that made multiple passes of the starting line.

When the cameramen were done, it was time for Mr. James to don his all-black driving suit and wiggle his way into the cramped cockpit. With only his helmet and hands visible, he pushed some buttons and brought the car to life.

The goal was to drive the car as fast as it would go and try to reach 200 mph, Mr. James said. To those close enough to see, the car literally looked like a large silver bullet shooting down the runway. A private timing company was brought in to set up a 1.3-mile course and capture the car’s true speed.

After a couple of runs, Mr. James met fans, had his picture taken and signed autographs.

The show is scheduled to be aired on the Discovery Channel in February.

HELP WANTED: Seeking 6,000+ people with Eagle Eyes living and working on Peterson to help Security Forces identify suspicious packages and activity. Opportunity begins immediately, must be willing to assist 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Contractors, Civilians, Guard, Reserve, dependents and active duty from all services welcome!

With Eagle Eyes, any community member can report suspicious activities 24 hours a day by calling the law enforcement desk at 556-4000.
Editor’s note: The celebration of “50 Years of Space and Missiles” in 2004 made it clear that Air Force Space Command and its components have a rich and significant heritage. Major Gen. Michael Hamel, 14th Air Force commander, has emphasized that it is important to continue to expand knowledge of the history of the 14th Air Force and all its units. Numerous articles will be shared with all base papers in the 14th Air Force to promote a better understanding of the history and heritage of all parts of this numbered air force. The articles will appear as a series throughout the year. The following is the first of the series.

Did you ever wonder why everyone calls the Fourteenth Air Force the “Flying Tigers?” During the dark days of World War II, the Imperial Japanese air force destroyed Chinese cities with little opposition. The Chinese military had no anti-aircraft guns or planes, which left them defenseless against modern weapons. In fact, Japanese airplanes attacked so often by moonlight during this period that a full moon in China was referred to as a “bombers’ moon.”

President Franklin D. Roosevelt became convinced that he had to do something to keep the Chinese from surrendering and signed a secret executive order on April 15, 1941. This executive order allowed officers and enlisted men to resign from the armed forces and join a volunteer air force to “defend the Burma Road.” Soon, men from all over the United States arrived in Burma and formed the American Volunteer Group under General Claire Chennault.

During their initial training in Burma, AVG members wanted something distinctive to enhance esprit de corps. They searched for symbols to place on their P-40 airplanes to tell them apart from the others. They saw Royal Air Force and German Luftwaffe Messerschmitt 210 airplanes decorated with sharks’ teeth.

AVG members learned that the Japanese feared the shark as a symbol of evil. They decided to take their brushes and convert the P-40 airplanes into the grinning mouths of tiger sharks, complete with a bloody tongue and evil eye of red and white just aft of the propeller and forward of the exhaust stacks.

They also learned that the Chinese looked upon the saber-toothed tiger as a national symbol, so they painted a winged Bengal tiger on their airplanes. In early 1942, Walt Disney Studios designed the original “Flying Tigers” patch for the AVG, a Bengal tiger with wings soaring out of a “V” for victory.

The first magazine article that referred to the AVG as the “Flying Tigers” appeared in China At War, edited and published by the Ministry of Information in Chungking, China. The article stated that the American Airmen were so good that they were “virtually fei-hu”—“Flying Tigers.” In 1942, an Associated Press correspondent used the expression and the name stuck.

When the 14th Air Force stood up on March 10, 1943, they inherited the “Flying Tigers” nickname from the AVG, which had inactivated in 1942. They also used shark and tiger designs on their airplanes.

In August 1943, Sergeant Howard Arnegard designed the official 14th Air Force emblem. The emblem featured a winged Bengal tiger on a disc, with a blue background. The tiger was golden orange with black and white markings beneath a white star with a red disc. The emblem is still in use today by the modern-day “Flying Tigers” of the 14th Air Force.

Date: March 30

Do you have something you can donate to help support Peterson’s competitors going to Guardian Challenge, Air Force Space Command’s premier annual space and missile competition? TEAM 21 Association is hosting the fourth annual Guardian Challenge auction to help defray the costs associated with Guardian Challenge 2005, and to raise enthusiasm on-base and in the local community to help support our team.

The preview of merchandise, cash bar and buffet will be from 5:45 - 7 p.m. The Auction will last from 7 - 9 p.m. Come see a professional auctioneer perform this exciting event! Minimum value of the donated items should be $50. Call Staff Sgt. Karolyn Allen at 474-3277 or e-mail her at karolyn.allen@afspc.af.mil for the entry form. The item can be serious or humorous as well as imaginative and creative, always keeping in mind our purpose … to raise money for our GC Team! The deadline for submitting the items is 21 Mar 05.
Defending champions gear up for stretch run

By Walt Johnson
Sports Writer

In Over-30 intramural basketball play, the U.S. Northern Command team edged closer to a second consecutive championship by beating the 21st Space Communications Squadron team 75-45 at the Peterson Sports and Fitness Center Feb. 3.

First-half play offered no indication of the imminent rout. A sluggish NORTHCOM team did just enough to stay a few hoops up on the Comm team. By the half, NORTHCOM held a slim 34-28 lead.

According to player-coach Anthony Little, the catalyst for the title run last year, the slow start for his team was nothing to be concerned about. He said there were two very good reasons the Comm team was playing so evenly with the champs.

“We started a little slow today but we weren’t that concerned about it because we have a bunch of old guys and it takes us a while to get loose,” Little said with a smile. “But give them (the communications team) some credit too, they played very well in the first half and we admired the way they came at us and played us so tough.”

The second half was an entirely different story as NORTHCOM unleashed its quick-strike offense and a devastating defense.

A loose and confident NORTHCOM team turned up the jets on offense, scoring fast-break points in bunches, outscoring the Comm team 40-17 in the second half. The key to the second half run for the NORTHCOM team was the same thing that has kept them on top of the intramural league for the past two years — teamwork.

Little said it’s easy to see if his team had a good game if there is one thing on the stat sheet that jumps out at you — assists.

“We have a bunch of unselfish players who take more pride in passing out an assist than scoring a basket. We usually will get close to 20 assists or more per game. That is why you see our guys moving so much. They know if they get open they are going to get the ball,” Little said.

One thing you will not associate this team with is overconfidence, even if they are the defending intramural champions. Any thought of them being better than the other top teams in the league is quickly put to rest by Little. He points out that his team has already lost one game to the Civil Engineers, the team he thinks is the team to beat this year, and if it doesn’t show up to play every game they can easily be beat by other teams.

“The one thing we know about our league is that every team has a chance to beat you. The Over-30 league has some of the best competition on base. We never take anything for granted because we know that all that does it set you up for failure,” Little said.

“Winning the title last year was tough and winning it this year would be even tougher. I think the Civil Engineers are actually the team to beat. They are young, talented and play extremely well together. This should be one interesting playoffs this year,” Little said.

Intramural Basketball Standings

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Intramural Racquetball Standings

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Find this edition and past editions of the Space Observer at www.csmng.com

Peterson Commissary open 7 days a week!

The commissary will be open every day for a six-month trial period.

Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Sat. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sun. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The commissary is also open 30 minutes prior to posted hours to accommodate handicapped customers.
President’s Day

Answers to puzzle on Page 16

ACROSS
1. Spring competitor
2. 30th President Coolidge
3. 2nd President
4. Pact
5. Eye shadow
6. Terminate
7. Formerly known
8. Gamble
9. 40th President
10. Italian money, once
11. Something to write on
12. Fashion magazine
13. 5th President
14. Wise
15. Unfortunately
16. California time, in short
17. Swiss mount
18. Copyright
19. Mona ____
20. Equal
21. 28th President
22. Mistake
23. Equal
24. Opposite of 45 DOWN
25. Former USSR spy org.
26. Beatty and others
27. Draw
28. Spoke
29. Stick
30. ___ Bridges
31. Cell occupant
32. Actor Stephen
33. Morgue status, in brief
34. Beatty and others
35. Beatty and others
36. Beatty and others
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69. Beatty and others
70. Beatty and others
71. Beatty and others
72. Beatty and others
73. Doctors’ workplaces, in short

DOWN
1. Conform
2. 10th President
3. Plains Indian house
4. Guitar need
5. Morgue status, in brief
6. Picnic pest
7. Mil. meal
8. Offspring
9. Lanky
10. Animate
11. Chasm
12. Class cutter
13. Grind down
14. Barbecue pit
15. Vista
16. Summer drink
17. Desire
18. Newspaper part
19. Dem. opponent
20. Golfer Ernie
21. Model Carol
22. Model Carol
23. ___ Vista
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(Courtesy of Alaskan Command Public Affairs)
**Family Advocacy center announces play group**

The Peterson Family Advocacy Center is hosting a Play Group from 10:30 a.m. to noon today at the Peterson Youth Center. For information, call the center at 556-8943.

**Team 21 association offers Gun Guard challenge collectibles**

The Team 21 Association is selling items to raise money for the 21st Space Wing 2005 Guardian Challenge competition. The group is offering the following 2005 Guardian Challenge items for sale: coins for $5 each; pins for $3 each; and patches for $4 each. The following 2004 Guardian Challenge items are also available: coins for $4 each and pins for $3 each. There are a limited number of 2003 GC coins available. Package deals are available, too. To purchase items, contact 1st Lt. John Delashmit at 556-4570 or visit him in the 21st Maintenance Group, building 865.

**Child care facilities host second ‘parents’ night out’**

The Child Development Center and Youth Center will host the second Parents’ Night Out from 7 to 11 p.m. Feb. 25. Anyone eligible to use these facilities is eligible to take advantage of this offer. Parents may make reservations up to 30 days prior and must pay in advance. For information, call the CDC at 554-9592 or the Youth Center at 556-7220.

**Federal women’s program hosts seminar**

“Women and Finances,” sponsored by Morgan Stanley, will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesday in the civilian personnel office conference room, Building 350. Lee Cross will be speaking about how to invest, save and more. This is an official function and does not require participants to take leave. It is open to all Team Peterson members. There is no sign up. For information, call Master Sgt. Aaron Korza at 554-4629, Staff Sgt. Eden Machnes at 556-0432 or Dolly Daniels at 556-7039.

**Missile squadrons hosts reunion**

The 12th Missile Squadron will host the 2005 Red Dawg Reunion March 2 through 5. All former members of the 12th MS are invited back to Great Falls and Malmstrom AFB, Montana, for the event. Activities will include an icebreaker, base and missile complex tours, and the reunion dinner featuring guest speaker Brig. Gen. Ronald Haackel, the 27th Commander of the 12th MS. For information and registration, contact 1st Lt. Todd Young at (406) 761-2784 or via e-mail, todd.young@malstrom.af.mil. Up-to-date information can be found at the reunion website, www.reddawg.usf.org.

**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.

**Public affairs seeks tour guides**

The 21st Space Wing Public Affairs office is currently seeking officers and enlisted E-4 and above who have been on Peterson for at least one year to interview for positions in the base tour guide program. Each year, Peterson is host to more than 1,000 base tour visitors. This is an opportunity to share Air Force experiences with potential recruits of all ages coming on base from local schools, ROTC units nationwide, scouts and community organizations. Tours typically last 4 hours and are hosted Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Interviewees must have their supervisors’ permission to become part of this elite team. Tour dates will be emailed each week as far as 3 months out so that members can sign up to escort the tours. For information, call 556-6208.

**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 Active Guard and 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, contact the Family Support Center at 556-6141 or visit the Air Force Aid Society’s web site at www.afas.org.

**Enlisted Corps eligible for Scholarship opportunity**

The Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association is accepting applications for enlisted people 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 and 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.

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**Answers to the puzzle on Page 15.**

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ATT  ADAMS  TAB
DYE  MONROE  ALAS
ALP  PATENT  LISA
PEER  CALVIN  TREATY
TOLLY  KOHL  END
NEE  BET
REAGAN  LIRA  PAD
ELLE  FAT  SAGE
PST  NCS  WILSON
ERR  ARE
KGB  NEDS  SKETCH
ORATED  POLE
NASH  INMATE  REA
ANTI  TRUMAN  MAR
TEN  AGERS  ERS
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