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BILL EVANS

Class of 2018 cadets celebrate their Run to the Rock during Recognition Saturday. At the end of the event, the freshmen were welcomed into the ranks of upper-class cadets.

Freshmen are 'Recognized'

By Amber Baillie
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Fourth class cadets pushed through strenuous exercises March 12-14 to prove they've got what it takes to be leaders here during this year's Recognition training.

The Class of 2018 trained for two and a half days at the gym, practice fields, tennis courts and dormitories to challenge their knowledge, discipline and physical fitness for Recognition 2015, earning them entry into the cadet wing and upperclassmen roles.

Freshman cadets gave their all during the

assault course, leadership reaction course, chutes and ladder course and other activities organized by the Cadet Wing. Exercises included pushups, crunches, lunges, sprints, low and high crawling, squats and knowledge-based drills.

"It's a difficult time but you realize the significant bonds you form as a four degree," said Cadet 1st Class Robert Larson, Ca-

"It's a difficult time but you realize the significant bonds you form as a four degree. You realize those friends won't let you down when times are really tough. You also gain a greater appreciation for your squadron and what every cadet at the Academy has gone through."

Cadet 1st Class Robert Larson

det Squadron 21 commander. "You realize those friends won't let you down when times are really tough. You also gain a greater appreciation for your squadron and what every cadet at the Academy has gone through."

See **RECOGNITION** Page 8

USAFA headquarters focuses on mission readiness

By Airman 1st Class Rachel Hammes
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

The Air Force Academy has been steady, over time, in its preparations for the upcoming Inspector General inspection. It's not just in time — it's on purpose. "I think people in the Air Force are used to having to prepare

for something," said Col. David Kuenzli, Academy inspector general. "It's a bit of a culture shift. Everyone wants to get up for the big game. However, you can't be prepared for the big game overnight. It takes a lot of work, practice and training ahead of time to be ready. But if you're mission-ready, you are inspection-ready."

This is not about preparing once a year or once every two years, said Col. Kevin Lamberth, the Academy's vice superintendent.

"This is about being excellent every single day," he said.

Lamberth said the AFIS empowers commanders to look into their organizations through two meth-

ods which complement each other.

First, Airmen use the Management Internal Control Toolkit to self-identify issues. MICT is an online system that holds checklists for each unit. To fulfill the mission appropriately, units must evaluate their progress based on those checklists.

See **INSPECTION** Page 14

What's my role at the Academy?

By Col. David Kuenzli
U.S. Air Force Academy inspector general

Working at the Air Force Academy is extremely rewarding. Every year, one of the most exciting events is watching the graduating class throw their hats into the air as they celebrate their accomplishments of the last four years.

But, it takes a tremendous team effort by everyone at the Academy to position those new second lieutenants so they are ready to accept the incredible responsibility of being a commissioned officer. Every person assigned to the Academy has a role in the process. Do you know your role in accomplishing our mission?

The mission of the Academy is to educate, train and inspire men and women to become officers of character motivated to lead the Air Force in service to our nation. We use several methods to fulfill this mission including:

- Modeling character traits and leadership skills
- Providing an interdisciplinary education that balances STEM — science, technology, engineering, mathematics — and liberal arts
- Integrating the Air Force mission in air, space and cyberspace throughout the cadet experience
- Demonstrating the Air Force ethos — Airmen



Col. David Kuenzli

solve problems differently

- An immersion in the Air Force professional culture
- Providing competitive experiences to build resilience, grit and teamwork
- Maintaining an exemplary installation that supports our mission and models the Air Force to one million visitors each year

At the end of four demanding years, we want all our graduates to possess the mental agility and inclusive perspective to solve the dynamic, interconnected problems they'll face as leaders. We want our second lieutenants to embrace a culture of commitment to country, service, unit and their fellow Airmen. We want them to embody character-based leadership with a respect for all.

During the Management Inspection and the Unit Effectiveness Inspection, inspectors will conduct Airmen-to-Inspector General interview sessions with both individuals as well as groups of 10-15 people. These interviews will be your opportunity to discuss how you contribute to the Academy's mission and whether or not you think we're being effective and efficient. You may be scheduled for the interview by name; your responses and the content of the interviews are private. The inspectors will protect your confidentiality.

Thank you for all you do in making the Academy the Air Force's premier institution for developing leaders of character.

March is Brain Injury Awareness Month

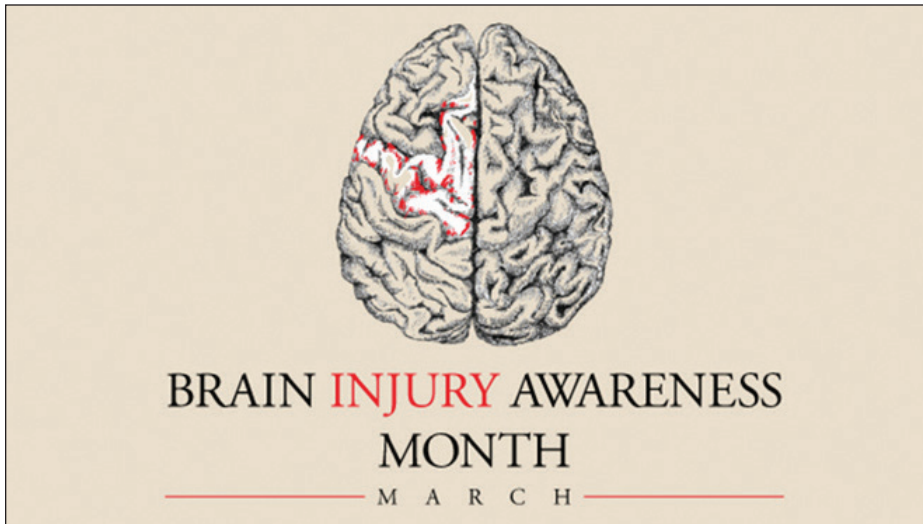
By Dr. Karen Guice
Defense Secretary Health Affairs Office

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Often called one of the invisible wounds of war, traumatic brain injury is the result of a blow or jolt to the head that disrupts the normal function of the brain. Anyone can suffer a TBI; it can happen on the sports field, in your home or on the job.

In March, the Military Health System is focusing its talent on TBI. We will provide tools and resources to educate service members, their families, retirees and Defense Department civilians about the prevention and treatment of TBI, while highlighting ongoing MHS research.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, each year 1.7 million people are diagnosed with a brain injury. The most common form of TBI, even for the military, is mild TBI (concussion) and the vast majority of TBIs occur at home. The Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center reported from 2000-2014 that more than 313,000 service members were diagnosed with TBI. Most were mild.

MHS research has produced several breakthroughs improving the lives of patients, beneficiaries and Americans who sustain TBIs. Our work is even taking us



The Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center reported from 2000-2014, more than 313,000 service members were diagnosed with TBI. Most were mild.

back to college to examine the impact of TBIs on athletes. The

NCAA and DOD are sponsoring the Mind Matters Challenge, a initiative to enhance the safety of student-athletes and service members. The partnership is the most comprehensive study of concussion and head impact exposure conducted.

For TBI patients, TRI-CARE covers rehabilitative services provided by physicians, psychologists, physical therapists, occupational therapists and speech-language pathologists.

The DOD offers a variety of products such as clinical recommendations, tool kits, and mobile applications to assist health care providers in the diagnosis,

evaluation and treatment of patients with mild TBI.

One of the most important steps in TBI treatment is rest, which allows the brain to physically and mentally recover, and removes the risk of suffering another concussion while the brain is healing.

Early diagnosis of TBI, evaluation, and treatment can shorten return-to-duty time and lead to the best outcome for those en-

trusted to our care. Along with our partnerships and cutting-edge research, MHS is making progress in improving and prolonging the quality of life for those living with TBI.

ACADEMY SPIRIT

To responsibly inform and educate the Academy community and the public about the Air Force Academy

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Lt. Col. Brus E. Vidal — Director of Public Affairs
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Defense Secretary: Cyber domain presents challenges

By Claudette Roulo
Defense Department News

WASHINGTON — Ash Carter gave his first domestic talk as defense secretary to cyber experts assigned to U.S. Cyber Command Friday at Fort Meade, Md.

“With all that’s going on in the world, from Iraq to Ukraine, to the Asia-Pacific, the domain that you protect — cyberspace — is presenting us with some of the most profound challenges, both from a security perspective and from an economic perspective,” he said.

The Defense Department must be open to sources of good people and new technology to better position itself to defend the nation in cyberspace, Carter said.

The development of the cyber workforce can be a model for the DOD, he said.

“The freshness of approach, the constant effort to stay up (and) reinvent that your field demands is actually something we can use everywhere in the department,” Carter said.

The cyber skillset and professional orientation doesn’t have a good analog in the traditional armed services, he said.

“We have to figure out how to get it to fit in, so that you all have a full opportunity to bring to bear

on your careers the expertise that you gained here and that sense of mission that you felt here,” Carter said.

Challenges always accompany doing something new and exciting and the defense secretary is determined to create a place where cyber warriors fit, he said.

The relationship between Cyber Command and the National Security Agency is a work in progress, Carter said.

“My view is that we’re doing the right thing in having the leadership of those two organizations in the same place,” he said.

“One way of thinking about that is that we just don’t have enough good people like you to spread around, and we need to cluster our hits.”

Ensuring cyber experts have the training, equipment and resources they need is a high priority for the DOD, Carter said.

“If you read about sequester, which is a terrible, stupid thing we are doing to ourselves — I have



Defense Secretary Ash Carter speaks at U.S. Cyber Command Friday at Fort Meade, Md.

DOD

nothing good to say about it,” he said, referring to the across-the-board government spending cuts the Budget Control Act of 2011 is set to impose in October. “But I think that even in the era of sequester, we understand that this mission area is one we cannot afford not to keep investing in.”

The cyber mission force repre-

sents American ideals in cyberspace and keeping cyberspace open and free for everyone is its central focus, Carter said.

“We’re the ones who stand with those who create and innovate against those who would steal and destroy,” he said. “That’s the kind of country we are and that’s the kind of cyber force we are.”

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10th ABW commander's call: Leadership critical for success of inspection

By Ray Bowden
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Aligning the 10th Air Base Wing with the Superintendent's goals and priorities was the focus of the commander's call hosted by Col. Stacey Hawkins, the 10th ABW commander, at the Falcon Club Friday.

Hawkins told the crowd of total force Airmen that this April's Unit Effectiveness Inspection capstone event will provide each person an opportunity to tell the story of how he or she supports the Air Force Academy mission.

The capstone event will focus on four major graded areas: executing the mission, managing resources, improving the unit and leading people, Hawkins said.

"Over the next few weeks, we'll continue to infuse the Air Force Inspection System culture into our organization, a culture of detecting noncompliance and seeking ways to continuously improve our mission operations and lead our people towards building a climate of respect and world-class professionalism," he said.

The IG inspections assess Air Force units' readiness and efficiency.



TODD RYAN

Col. Stacey Hawkins, the 10th Air Base Wing commander, speaks at a commander's call he hosted for the wing's total force Airmen at the Academy Falcon Club Friday.

Hawkins said the inspection has great implications for the 10th ABW.

"We're a force-multiplier for the Air Force because of the outstanding support every 10th ABW team member provides the Academy in fulfilling its mission of developing leaders of character," he said. "We continue to aspire toward being an example of a world-class wing so when cadets get to their first assignment as new lieutenants they'll already understand how a wing can and should work."

Hawkins also said leadership at all levels cannot be undervalued when it comes to preparing for a major installation inspection.

"Regardless of their rank or position, everyone should strive to model the highest levels of professionalism each day," he said. "We need to continually assess how well we develop and prepare our people to assume increasing levels of responsibility within a dynamically changing mission environment. All 10th ABW leaders are accountable for enforcing professional standards, as well as providing the best possible installation support

and customer service — that's our focus."

Hawkins said while the ongoing government sequestration has posed some level of challenge for the wing, the cutbacks have given 10th ABW Airmen a prime opportunity to learn how to best use and apply the wing's available resources.

"It's a learning opportunity for all of us during sequestration to find ways to become more efficient and to discover innovative ways to meet the Superintendent's intent," he said.

Hawkins told the audience the event was most likely his last official commander's call here. He's slated to depart for Scott Air Force Base, Ill., in May, where he will serve as the director of logistics for Air Mobility Command.

Recognition

Hawkins recognized several 10th ABW total force Airmen with a commander's coin for their career development achievements, the services they provide to Academy families and cadets and their work in preparing for the 10th ABW Annual Awards Ceremony Jan. 30.

Brandon Eubanks and Airman 1st Class Ronnie Nunes of the 10th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Department scored 95 percent on their Career Development Courses.

Tenth Force Support Squadron employees Chuck Alfultis, Bill Coble, Carrie Grovers and Jill Stevens were coined for their marketing efforts for SnoFest in January and other Academy events. Tom Jones, a food service supervisor at the Cadet Wing, also received a commander's coin.

Airman 1st Class Anthony Isadore and Master Sgts. Gary Larsen, Casey Muccio and Dawn Nettles, were recognized for their efforts in preparing for the awards ceremony.

Attorneys expand on witness' role in 2012 court-martial

By Don Branum
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Attorneys representing the government and former cadet Stephan Claxton met here March 12-13 for an evidentiary hearing to more thoroughly establish the trial of record in the case of United States v. Stephan Claxton and the role of former cadet Eric Thomas, one of 12 witnesses who testified at Claxton's court-martial in 2012.

Thomas's status as an informant at the time of the court-martial, and the government's failure to disclose his status, was at the center of this fact-finding proceeding, known as a DuBay hearing, ordered by the Court of Appeals of the Armed Forces in September.

Thomas provided testimony about incidents in March and November 2011 in which Claxton had been accused of sexual assault. Thomas accumulated more than 200 demerits related to those two incidents, which led to his own disenrollment in April 2013.

Thomas testified that his first contact with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations took place shortly after a party in Divide, Colo., in December 2010. He said Special Agent Michael Munson, who worked at AFOSI Detachment 808 here, pitched the idea of becoming a confidential informant to him.

"Having this opportunity felt like I'd be doing the right thing,"

Thomas said. "If I could make a change, if I could do the right thing, of course I would."

Thomas testified that he signed a declaration of agreement with Munson, and he believed his confidential employment work began prior to the incidents involving Claxton in March and November 2011.

But former Special Agent Brandon Enos, who was Thomas's handler at the Air Force Office of Special Investigations Detachment 808 here, said that while Munson had Thomas fill out some paperwork, he was never officially recruited as a confidential informant and never tasked him as a confidential source.

Thomas said in testimony March 12 that he was not afraid of being disenrolled. However, testimony by Enos said fear of disciplinary action for the two incidents was a factor behind Thomas' decision to make an in-depth statement to OSI in December 2011.

"He knows some big hits are coming down the road before he started working with you," defense attorney Frank Spinner asked Enos during cross-examination.

"That's correct," Enos said. Thomas was pending a scrub, which is a hearing with commis-

sioned officers in the Cadet Wing and cadet leaders to discuss a cadet's misconduct.

"So the motivation for him to work with you was his misconduct," Spinner asserted. "On one hand, he's holding out an image of wanting to do the right thing, but he's bringing a lot of baggage with him, and it's all related to what he was doing with Claxton."

Thomas completed a written statement after the November 2011 incident by order of his air officer commanding. That statement led to an interview with OSI,

"(Thomas's) work as an informant wasn't focused on Claxton. We could have him testify as Cadet Thomas at the court-martial and essentially not blow his cover."

Former Special Agent Tyler Rube

wherein Thomas said he self-admitted the incident in March.

However, Enos said that OSI was already aware of the March incident because of the statement from the victim in the November incident.

Thomas' December 2011 statement was a gold mine for OSI, Enos said.

"I could never have imagined in my wildest dreams so much information coming from one statement," he said. "We had a lot of

work to do after that."

"He came back with way more information than we would have thought possible," Enos said. "We had to be sure of the information, so we ordered a polygraph examination, and he passed."

Thomas's statement kicked off an investigation into drug use and distribution among cadet athletes known as Operation Gridiron. About half of the cadets investigated were cleared, but several faced non-judicial punishment and were disenrolled.

However, Operation Gridiron didn't kick off until January 2012, and Claxton was not a target.

"(Thomas's) work as an informant wasn't focused on Claxton," said former Special Agent Tyler Rube, who also worked at OSI Detachment 808. "We could have him testify as Cadet Thomas at the court-martial and essentially not blow his cover."

"We had victims' testimony, the failed polygraph and statements by Claxton," he added. "By December (2011), we felt we had enough evidence to move forward."

In closing arguments, Spinner argued that the prosecution's failure to disclose Thomas' involvement with OSI compromised Claxton's due process.

"The confidential source (Thomas) is motivated to work with OSI due to his high number of demerits," Spinner said, citing

See WITNESS Page 14

Desktop icon to provide easy access to helping agencies

U.S. Air Force Academy
Public Affairs

A new desktop icon installed on desktop computers here Friday provides easy access to helping agencies such as the Airman and Family Readiness Center, mental health and Military One Source.

The desktop icon links to a website that lists what helping agencies are available for cadets, cadet candidates, active-duty Airmen and civilian personnel, Academy Vice Superintendent Col. Kevin Lamberth said.

"Caring for one another is a fundamental part of how we do business at the Air Force Academy," Lamberth said. "As simple as it is, this helping agencies icon is meant to help us do just that."

Lamberth said he hopes the icon will help raise visibility of the agencies available to Air Force Academy cadets and employees.

"This is about the wellbeing of our cadets, our Airmen and our families," he said. "This icon will aid our situational awareness and help us make sure our team members have access to the right resources at the right time."

The icon consists of a hand



reaching out to help another with a blue cross in the background. Surrounding that imagery is a red ring in which the words "mental," "social," "spiritual" and "physical" appear,

representing the pillars of the Air Force's Comprehensive Airman Fitness program.

"It will be an invaluable Comprehensive Airman Fitness tool for our Air Force Academy family," 10th Air Base Wing Commander Col. Stacey Hawkins said. "This will help all Airmen know where to get the help they need for a variety of situations related to their wellbeing."

Users who double click the icon will be prompted to select a category that best identifies their status: active-duty Airman, cadet, cadet candidate, and so on, said Scott Andrews, director of the Academy's Community Action Information Board. After they select a category, the application will present them with a brief description of local helping agencies they can access as well as other Defense Department resources available to them.

Users will also receive information on how to display this icon on their mobile devices, Andrews said.

Academy safety office to hold motorcycle briefing Monday

By Don Branum
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

The Air Force Academy Safety Office will hold a motorcycle safety event at the Community Center Monday starting at 9:30 a.m.

The event is mandatory for all military personnel who own or operate a motorcycle and highly encouraged for civilians who wish to ride, said Col. Kenneth Lamberth, the Academy's vice superintendent.

Riding is inherently more risky than driving an automobile due to the lack of protection surrounding the rider. Riders must be fully aware of the risks they are assuming and take robust measures to counter those risks, said Clifford Tebbe, the Academy Safety Office deputy director. Those measures include training and personal protective equipment such as helmets, reflective vests, long-sleeve shirts or jackets, long trousers, full-fingered gloves and over-the-ankle footwear.

Mentorship also helps reduce motorcycle accidents, but Tebbe said that measure can be elusive.

"Activities such as membership in a club, group rides or finding a seasoned, responsible rider are key," Tebbe said. "Veteran riders should find a protégé to mentor. Impart the importance of lifelong learning, responsible riding and critical skills like crash avoidance and conspicuity."

Lamberth reinforced the need for veteran riders to mentor less experienced riders.

"There are inherent risks in riding in a

motorcycle. Responsible riders adhere to good risk-management principles, which are critical," he said. "I consider it a leadership imperative to engage with all of our riders to ensure that we are reinforcing our safety culture and fostering a risk-management mindset. That rider-leader relationship is key to our motorcycle safety program."

Motorcycle fatalities Air Force wide have outnumbered automobile fatalities for three of the last five years, with an average of 15 motorcycle fatalities each year since 2010, according to Air Force Safety Office statistics. An additional seven motorcycle fatalities between October 2014 and March have put the Air Force on pace for its worst year on record.

However, the Academy has not reported any motorcycle accidents involving its personnel so far in Fiscal Year 2015. The Academy Safety Office has been recognized in previous years for its proactive risk-management efforts, receiving the Secretary of the Air Force Safety Award in 2010 due in part to its motorcycle safety program.

Attendees should meet in the Community Center parking lot's northwest corner at 9:30. The event will begin with a briefing in the Community Center Theater, followed by a burger burn, motorcycle safety inspection and personal protective equipment check at 11 a.m.

The Pikes Peak Region Green Knights Military Motorcycle Club will hold an optional 93-mile group ride at or about 1 p.m.

In the event of inclement weather, the motorcycle safety event will be held March 30.

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The dean of the Air Force Academy's Preparatory School, Lt. Col. Alicia Matteson (second from left), poses with her Combat Stress Control team members in Basra, Iraq, in 2010. The Airmen are (from left to right) then-Staff Sgt. Nekisha Liverpool, then-Tech. Sgt. Kimberley Rivera and then-Staff Sgt. Anissa Miracle

COURTESY PHOTO

Turning pain into power

USAFPA Prep School dean shares passion on veteran care, combat experiences

By Amber Baillie
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

When the current Air Force Academy Preparatory School dean graduated from the Academy in 1995, she never imagined that as an Air Force psychologist, she'd one day be dodging mortars and sweeping for improvised explosive devices while deployed.

After serving nearly 20 years, Lt. Col. Alicia Matteson said she knows the effects of war and believes it's a national imperative to take care of combat veterans and their families.

"We need to encourage veterans to seek treatment and stay in the fight," she said. "For every veteran struggling with post-traumatic stress disorder, hundreds are affected whether family members, friends or co-workers. It's key for veterans to continue to engage in life and find purpose in their experiences to heal."

In February, Matteson served as a volunteer psychologist at a Boulder Crest women's retreat in Bluemont, Va. Six female combat veterans attended, ranging from 23-57 years old.

"These women all served in a combat zone," she said. "They all had varying levels of PTSD, depression, and one had a traumatic brain injury and shrapnel in her ankle and foot," she said.

A common theme among the women was not having their combat experiences believed by others, Matteson said.

"One woman said I was the first to validate her experience, which is so sad to me," she said. "She had sought mental health treatment in the military before. We still have so far to go to really understand how to help our veterans."

It's common for those struggling with depression and PTSD to numb themselves to survive, Matteson said.

"We literally don't pay attention to our own bodies and don't reflect inside ourselves," she

said. "At the retreat, the women did activities such as yoga, meditation and hiking to pay better attention to their breathing and how they were feeling."

Matteson said what she observed during the six days at the retreat was meaningful.

"They created a sisterhood they'd never experienced before, even in the military," she said. "It was a free space without competition and worry about what anyone thought of them."

In 2010, Matteson deployed to Basra, Iraq, for six months, serving as a psychologist on the Combat Stress Control team. She said it was a joint-deployment with Army infantry units.

"We would go on missions to build rapport and trust and patrol out to different units," she said. "I told my troops that I wouldn't send them anywhere I wouldn't go. We were often mortared and would patrol for IEDs on foot."

Matteson said although she was frightened, she knew she had to stay focused on taking care of those around her.

"I had a medic bleed out and die after being hit

by a mortar," she said. "Combat is a very complex, cultural experience. I saw what it did to our troops and Iraqi people in the area."

She said it was ironic trying to treat soldiers for disorders and injuries in an environment causing them.

"I remember meeting with a service member who had spent more days in Iraq than in the U.S. within the last eight years," she said. "He wanted to talk to me about some of his earlier experiences in combat. During the session, we had to stop and drop to the ground because of a mortar that hit close to us."

Throughout Matteson's career, she's been an aircraft maintenance officer, taught classes at the

Academy, counseled cadets, run sexual assault services here and treated patients at the 10th Medical Group. She is also a certified Survival, Evasion, Rescue and Escape psychologist.

"I think a reason I've been able to build a rapport with a variety of people is because of my combat and Academy experiences," she said. "For me, it's always been about developing others and helping people connect to their potential. That's what I've done as a psychologist, when I was leading maintenance troops and absolutely what I do at the Prep School."

Col. Gerald Szybist, the Prep School's commander, said the Prep School cadet candidates are Matteson's number one priority.

"She is a huge advocate of building our cadet candidates' ability to handle stress and she is looking for ways to fully institutionalize resiliency into all of our programs," he said.

Whether veterans are dealing with a mental illness, sleep issues, guilt, anger, etc., it's important for them to connect with others and know they're not alone, Matteson said.

"Combat calls upon us to hurt other people," she said. "There is something in us as human beings that revolts against close-contact killing of another person. Veterans want to know they served for a higher purpose and good."

Matteson said combat veterans can turn their pain into power.

"I think my experiences have built a bridge of rapport and credibility with other combat veterans," she said. "I think there are a lot of wounded healers out there, people who have been wounded and cope by doing good for others. I've also come to really admire the human spirit and our natural ability to heal."

Before her departure to Aviano Air Base, Italy, as a medical operations squadron commander in May, Matteson plans to speak to cadet candidates about combat and resiliency.

"I want to be realistic so they understand what they're signing up for," she said. "I went into a career field that's not known for being 'boots on the ground' in combat. They need to know that combat is real no matter their specialty and is the reason why they're wearing the uniform."

"We need to encourage veterans to seek treatment and stay in the fight. For every veteran struggling with post-traumatic stress disorder, hundreds are affected whether family members, friends or co-workers. It's key for veterans to continue to engage in life and find purpose in their experiences to heal."

Lt. Col. Alicia Matteson

Cadets show 'girls in the middle' pathways to STEM fields

By Don Branum
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

A group of about 50 cadets traveled to Otero Junior College in La Junta, Colo., March 8, to show middle school girls some of the career options that await them in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields as part of the 17th-annual Girls in the Middle Conference.

Cadet 2nd Class Laina McCroskey oversaw recruiting, organization and execution of the event, which included hands-on demonstrations for about 200 female middle school students, said Cadet 3rd Class Mary Simonton, the cadet assigned to publicize the event.

Simonton, who graduated from Northgate High School in Newnan, Ga., before coming to the Air Force Academy, said she became involved based on an email from a mentor.

Dr. Kimberly de La Harpe, an assistant professor of physics with the Academy's Quantitative Reasoning Center and the faculty organizer for the Academy's Girls in the Middle efforts, said the event is about mentoring.

"Cadets are mentoring middle school-age girls, and faculty are mentoring the cadets," she said. "Cadets organized the workshops and in some cases received supplies from their instructors, and the worked with instructors on what they wanted to present."

"I just organized transportation and brought pizza," she quipped.

Cadets worked one-on-one with the middle school girls, set up demonstrations focused on physics, astronomy, chemistry and robotics, and conducted the afternoon activity in which all the attendees participated. The event's goal is to help counteract the perception that technical fields



COURTESY PHOTO
Cadet 1st Class Lillian Warner, a computer science major at the Academy, shows a robot to middle school girls at Otero Junior College March 8.

aren't for women.

"We're helping to break that barrier," Simonton said. "We do that through interactive experiments, not just telling them that science is cool."

Simonton, who is majoring in political science, said the event also helps girls figure out what they want to do.

"We're encouraging them at an age where they don't know what they want to do so they'll consider STEM fields," she said. "We want to encourage them to stay in any sciences they're interested in — to stay nerdy."

The Air Force Academy has participated in Girls in the Middle conferences since 2005, with cadets acting as team leaders and STEM workshop presenters. This year's theme was "Sunny with Every Chance of Success." KRDO Channel 13 meteorologist Rachel Plath was the keynote speaker.

USFSA professor wins international award

U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs



Dr. Russell Cummings

An aeronautics professor at the Air Force Academy will receive a high-level science award May 6 in Washington D.C.

Dr. Russell Cummings will receive the 2015 International Co-operation Award from the Ameri-

can Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics for his work at the German Aerospace Center.

Cummings, an AIAA associate fellow, will share the award with Dr. Andreas Schuette, a senior AIAA member and research engineer at the Institute of Aerodynamics and

Flow Technology, attached to the Deutschen Zentrums für Luft, in Germany.

Their research, sponsored by the NATO's research and technology applied vehicle technology panel, was the largest NATO program of its kind.

Cummings and Schuette led a multinational team of 46 NATO researchers to improve stability and control of military air and sea craft.

The AIAA also recognized Cummings' support for international

students at the Academy.

Cummings won the 2009 Frank J. Seiler Research Award from the Academy, an AIAA 2004 Sustained Service Award, the 2002 U.S. Air Force Science and Engineering Award and the 1994 AIAA National Faculty Advisor Award, among several other honors.

Cumming and Schuette are the recipients of the 2012 NATO RTO Scientific Achievement Award, the highest NATO group research award.

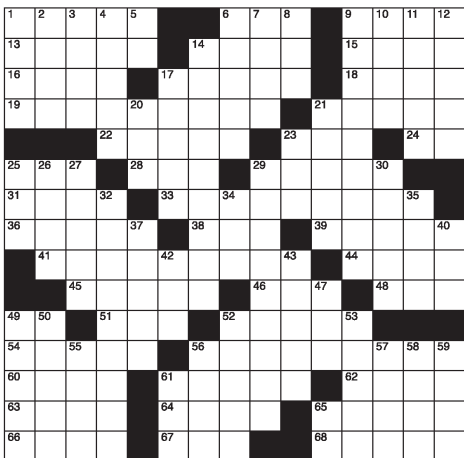
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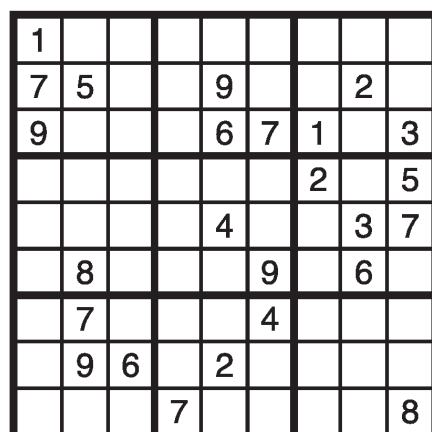
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- Midway between N and NE
- Capital of Ghana
- Indian term of respect
- Impart knowledge
- 4th Hindu month
- Strong air current
- Hunting device
- One who is wise
- Amounts of time
- Soft-finned fishes
- Beats per minute
- Carrier's invention

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Level: Advanced

Solution on page 11

3-20-15



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TOP: Cadre watch to make sure freshman cadets keep blocks above their heads.

ABOVE: A fourth class cadet holds her weapon despite an injury during Recognition.



PHOTOS BY LIZ COPAN AND BILL EVANS
Cadet 2nd Class Paul Jin Yang encourages Cadet 4th Class Josh Gallaher to do more pushups during Recognition.



The physical strength of fourth class cadets is tested before they take on upperclass roles.

“ Recognition has been mentally and physically tough but it’s my classmates who are getting me through it. ”

Cadet 4th Class Anthony Willis



Class of '18 cadets use teamwork to walk in unison on wooden planks during Recognition exercises here Saturday.

Recognition

Class of '18 earns Cadet Wing 'acceptance'

From Page 1

Squadrons rotated through exercises in a stressful but safe environment to allow freshmen to prove what they're capable of.

Larson said his Recognition experience three years ago reshaped him.

"It changed my attitude, maturity and professionalism for the better," he said. "All of those are needed of an officer in the Air Force."

The event is a culmination of hard work, individually and as a team, Larson said.

"After Recognition, cadets can say, 'I'm proud of myself and everyone around me,'" he said. "They can say, 'As a class, we made it through this difficult time and year surrounding academics, athlet-

ics and four-degree training.'"

We finish together and strong, said Cadet 4th Class Anthony Willis after completing the leadership reaction course.

"Recognition has been mentally and physically tough but it's my classmates who are getting me through it," he said.

Not all from the Class of 2018 participated in Recognition last weekend, Larson said.

"Freshmen must have the right aptitude to participate," he said. "Some are sitting out and will need to make it up later. It gives them a weekend to take into account why they're not participating with their classmates and to reflect on, 'Who do I want to be? Why did I come to the Academy? What kind of future cadet and officer do I want to be?'"

Recognition is a rite of passage, Willis said. "We must earn our right to be upperclassmen here," he said. "Just like cadets before us, this event tests our mental fortitude, physical ability and warrior spirit."

Recognition also featured the traditional Run to the Rock Saturday. The senior and freshman classes run to Cathedral Rock while sophomore and juniors prepare the squadrons for the Prop and Wings ceremony.

At this ceremony, cadets receive their Prop and Wings, which signifies their full recognition into the Cadet Wing.

Finding mentorship: An Academy cadet speaks out

By Airman 1st Class Rachel Hammes
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Editor's note: Cadet 1st Class Jake Sortor is a former Cadet Wing commander here. As a cadet, he's played on both the football and the baseball teams, as well as participated in Wings of Green and Wings of Blue, cadet jump programs. Public Affairs staff writer Airman 1st Class Rachel Hammes recently interviewed Sortor on the importance of mentorship. After graduating this spring, Sortor will start pilot training at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.

What is the climate in the Air Force toward female cadets?

I think it's been evolving. Personally, I haven't seen any difference between the male and female cadets. When I look at a female cadet, I just see them as a classmate and a peer. I know in the past the military hasn't always included women. Now, though, I don't see a difference in the culture or climate toward female cadets. And I don't think there should be.

Did you have difficulty finding mentorship here?

Maybe, but that was because of how I approached it. When I came here, I was pretty independent and confident in my abilities. I still am, but I quickly realized I couldn't do it all on my own, and I'd need help and mentorship in some areas. Whether it's athletics, military or academics, the Academy really finds something you're not the best at, and it makes you work. I've had to give up some of that mindset, and really try to learn from anyone I could.

Would you say your mentors have been primarily male or female?

My mentors have been both male and female. I could think of so many different opportunities and people I've learned from, and they've been created by both men and women. I was raised by a single mom and I talked to her a lot. I think that's part of why I look to women as mentors — I already had that experience.

Do you think male and female mentors are equally common in the military?

Just by virtue of the nature of the military, and always having to look forward to maintain the superiority of our Air Force, we have to have mentors. In terms of the culture and our jobs, I think everyone is a mentor. It really comes down to our force makeup of males and females. There are more males in the Air Force than females, so obviously there are going to be more male mentors. I don't think that's necessarily a culture issue rather than a numbers issue.

Do you think it is harder for women to find mentorship than men?

It comes down to human nature. If you're looking up to someone else, it's human nature to look for someone you want to be like. So for women, I think they might be more likely to try to find female mentors — again, because of the numbers. I also think it's a two-way street. I think sometimes mentors may look for people who remind them of themselves when they were at that point.

I think we don't have as many women in high leadership roles because women weren't always allowed to take those roles. But more and more women are starting to reach them now. For example, Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Michelle D. Johnson was the first female Cadet Wing commander here. Last semester, when I was the Cadet Wing commander, I got to learn a lot from her. If I entered the Academy sooner, there wouldn't have been a female mentor

in her position. She mentored me not only as a female leader, but as a former Cadet Wing commander. And that's the whole basis of what I'm saying — the job and the mission are so critical that gender should be an afterthought, or shouldn't be a thought at all.

How would your time as a cadet be different without mentorship?

I think I would have been a lot less successful. Not to say I've been overly successful, but all the success I have had has been entirely the result of learning from upper class cadets, officers — just the whole Air Force mindset. I came from Seattle, and I didn't come from a military environment. So when I came here, I had to learn everything. I definitely had to be open to mentorship to learn that.

How do you approach mentorship now?

I look for areas I can help and opportunities. Experience is really the best teacher, and I've been lucky to experience the Academy from a lot of different perspectives — coming here as a Prep School cadet who didn't get in the first time. Then when I came in as a cadet, and I was able to walk on to the football and baseball teams. So then I got to see the Academy from the intercollegiate athlete perspective. Then I got injured, and I got to see the Academy from an airfield perspective, as part of Wings of Blue. I've seen the Academy from a lot of different perspectives, and I understand a lot of the intricacies of each viewpoint a cadet can see from. When I look back through all of those experiences, I can see the way younger cadets see, and I can try to provide them with those perspectives. I think mentorship can be really natural, but when it's forced it can turn people off.

What kind of issues do you bring to a mentor now, and how do they differ from the issues you had at the beginning of your time as a cadet?

I think I've figured out how to be a cadet pretty well. I'm definitely a little wide-eyed and apprehensive about the future — becoming a lieutenant and hopefully a pilot. When you



Cadet 1st Class Jake Sortor (left and below) is a former Cadet Wing commander.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOS

come to the Academy, you're really just trying to figure out how to do well. I feel pretty confident about graduation now. But then it's real life, in the real Air Force. The need for mentorship for me is still there, it's just focused on a different area.

Do you mentor others now? Are they primarily male or female? What issues do you help them with?

I help a lot with the Wings of Green jump team, which is the group of second class cadets learning how to skydive and how to become jumpmasters. I've been really involved with their upgrade process and giving them advice. They put the students in a really stressful environment for a year where you have to learn how to skydive, but also how to teach it. I remember it being the toughest year here, but also the most rewarding because I learned so much. I've been really involved with trying to help them out through that tough time.

At the airfield, it's really both males and females. I think that's kind of the thing with mentorship in the Air Force — the military operations is so mission-oriented and results-based, so mentorship is key to maintaining that. We are the most advanced Air Force in the world, but in order to maintain that we constantly have to be mentoring, so when we leave that excellence continues. So I don't think there should be any discrepancies between male and female — if we're not employing our best assets because of gender, then I think we're kind of foolish. If there are issues, it's definitely good to bring it up so we can deal with it. But the mission is so important that gender shouldn't affect it.

Do you have tips for others hoping to find mentors?

I'd mostly say be open to learning. I started to find success when I realized I couldn't do it all on my own and realized I needed to learn as much as I possibly could. I think upper leadership really wants to be there to help you out. You just have to be open to accepting the help, because I think it's there.



Women's History Month: 1st Air Force female general paves way for military women

U.S. Air Force Public Affairs

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md. (AFNS) — Jeanne M. Holm was the first woman in the armed forces to be promoted to the rank of major general in 1973, and is credited as the single driving force in achieving parity for military women and making them a viable part of the mainstream military.

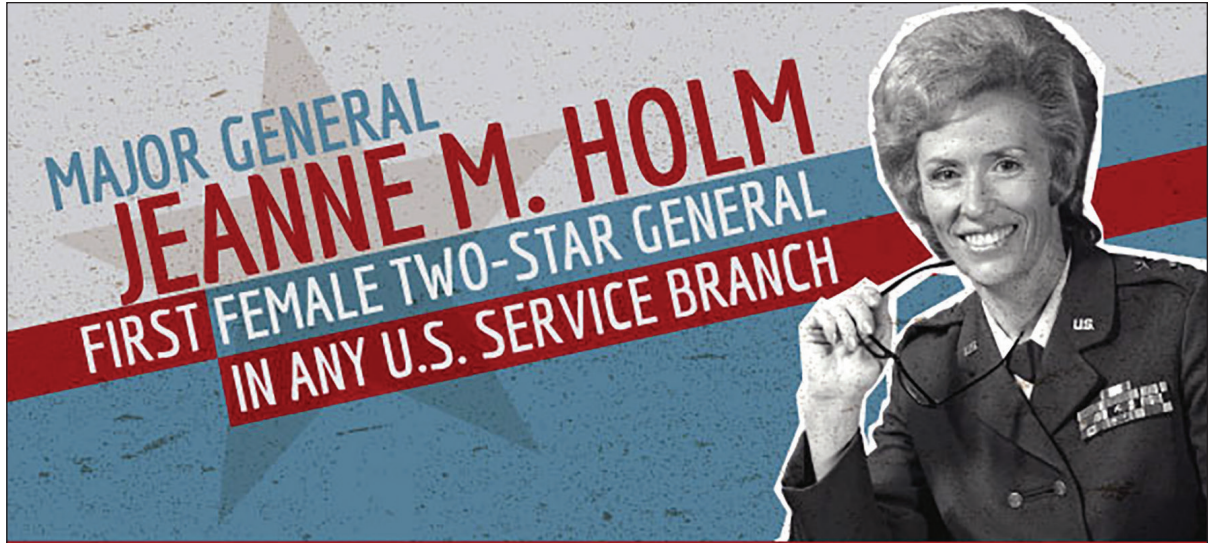
Holm was born in 1921, in Portland, Ore., and enlisted in the Army in July 1942, soon after the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps was established by Congress. She attended Officer Candidate School at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, and in January 1943 received a commission as a third officer, the WAAC equivalent to second lieutenant.

During World War II, Holm was assigned to the Women's Army Corps Training Center at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., where she first commanded a basic training company and then a training regiment.

At the end of the war, she commanded the 106th WAC Hospital Company at Newton D. Baker General Hospital, W.V. She then left active military duty in 1946 and attended Lewis and Clark College for two years, returning in 1956 for her Bachelor of Arts degree.

In October 1948 during the Berlin crisis, she was recalled to active duty with the Army and went to Camp Lee, Va., as a company commander. The following year she transferred to the Air Force, when a new law integrated women in the regular armed forces, and was sent to Erding Air Depot, Germany.

Holm served in a variety of personnel assignments, including Director of Women in the Air Force from 1965-1973. She played a significant



role in eliminating restrictions on numbers of women serving in all ranks, expanding job and duty station assignments for women, opening ROTC and service academies to women, and changing the policies on the status of women in the armed forces. For her exceptionally meritorious service in this assignment; she was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal.

On March 1, 1973, Holm was appointed director of the Secretary of the Air Force Personnel Council.

She was promoted to the grade of brigadier general July 16, 1971, the first woman to be appointed in this grade in the Air Force. She was promoted to the grade of major general effective June 1, 1973, with date of rank July 1, 1970.

The general retired in 1975. She served three presidential administrations: special assistant on women for President Gerald Ford, policy

consultant for President James Carter and first chairperson of the Veterans Administration's Committee on Women Veterans for President Ronald Reagan.

In recognition of General Holm's pioneering career, Air Force officials renamed the Air Force Officer Accession and Training Schools at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., the Jeanne M. Holm Officer Accession and Citizen Development Center in June 2008. Its mission is Air Force officer recruitment and training within the Air University.

Holm authored two books about women in the military. "Women in the Military: An Unfinished Revolution" came out in 1982 and was updated in 1994. Four years later she wrote "In Defense of a Nation: Servicewomen in World War II."

Holm died Feb. 15, 2010.

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MEN'S BOXING

Falcons claim 4 NCBA regional titles

By Valerie Perkin
Athletic Communications

RENO, Nev. — Four regional titles highlighted the Air Force boxing team's run at the National Collegiate Boxing Association Western Regional Championships Saturday in Reno, Nev.

The Falcons posted a 4-5 record on the final night of competition, while senior Roy Taylor was named the tournament's outstanding boxer.

Taylor claimed the third regional title of his career after earning the judges' decision over San Jose State's Ryan Ruelan in the 125-pound championship bout. Taylor, who won the 119-pound title as a freshman, has earned two regional titles in the 125-pound weight division.

Sophomore Adam Sumait earned a 119-pound decision over reigning champion



PHOTOS BY LIZ COPAN

Senior Roy Taylor (left and below) was named outstanding boxer at Western Regional Championships Saturday in Reno, Nev. He is shown here boxing at the Wing Open here in February.

Ariel Guevara of UNLV for the first regional title of career. Junior heavyweight Yohance Salimu picked up his first regional championship with a referee-stopped victory over Washington's Bryan Houghton, while classmate Mateus Arcano earned his first title after going unopposed at 112 pounds.

Five additional Falcons took to the ring at the El Dorado Hotel and Casino on Saturday night.

Competing in their first regional finals, junior Jamal Johnson and sophomore Landon Tomcho dropped tough, three-round decisions to the defending regional champions from Nevada. Johnson lost the 132-pound final to Jared Santos, while Tom-



cho suffered a 139-pound loss to JJ Mariano.

Junior Scott Wawrzyniak, also competing in his first regional bout, suffered a 195-pound decision to Washington's Edgar Cortes, while classmate Gytenis Borusas lost a referee-stopped bout with the Huskies' Richard Vansiclen at 175 pounds.

Sophomore Johnny Wells also competed on the final night — his third 165-pound bout in as many nights — but dropped an at-large contest to Washington's Albert Ta.

Washington claimed its first regional title, as scoring this year combined men's and women's finishes.

The Falcons return to action next month, when nine boxers travel to Fort Lauderdale, Fla., for the NCBA National Championships April 10 through April 12.

FALCON FOOTBALL

Spring football practice concludes



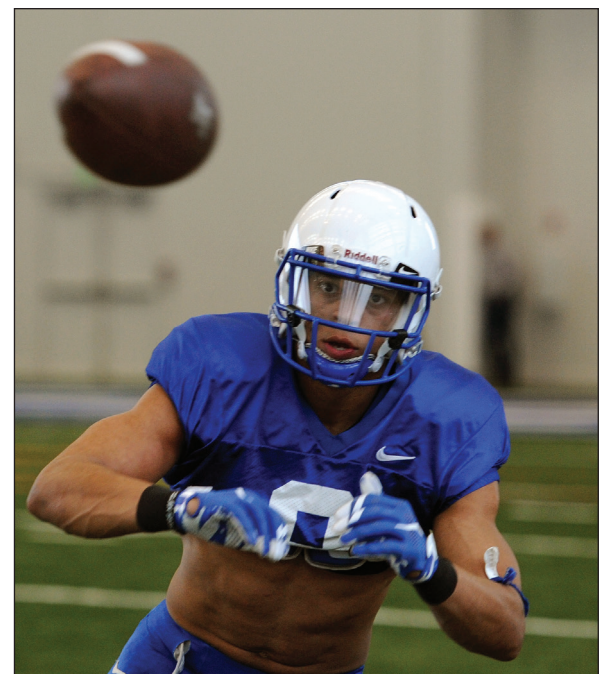
PHOTOS BY JOHN VAN WINKLE

CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE:

Linebackers and brothers Patrick Healy, (left) and Connor Healy, (right) close in on a ball carrier during practice here Wednesday.

Running backs coach Ben Miller hands off to a running back during an agility drill.

Wide receiver Jalen Robinette concentrates on the ball during a receiving drill. Robinette led the Falcons' receiving corps during the 2014 regular season with 41 catches for 763 yards, the ninth-best single-season effort in Academy history.



GOLF

Falcons take 13th at Jackrabbit Invite

Athletic Communications

PRIMM, Nev. — Junior Michael Fan shot a season-low 67 on the final 18 holes to lead Air Force during the final round of play Tuesday at the Jackrabbit Invitational in Primm, Nev.

The Falcons recorded a three-round score of 880 (287-296-297, 16 over par) to finish 13th in the two-day tournament.

Fan carded a five-under par score of 67 during the final round to finish in a tie for 22nd with a 54-hole total of 215 (73-75-67). He is the third Academy golfer this season to tally a single-round score of 67, joining senior Blake Edwards and fresh-

man Sutton Farmer, who recorded that mark at Price's Give 'Em Five Invitational last fall.

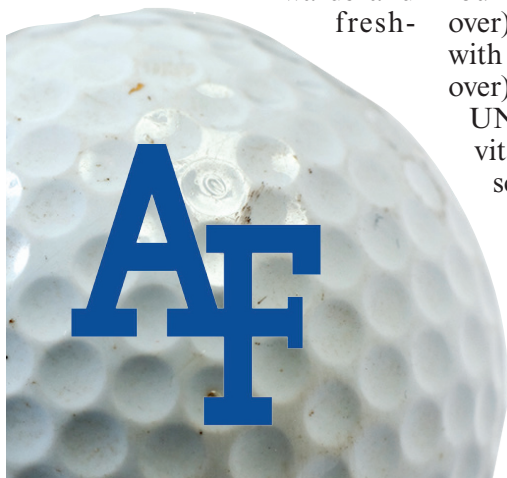
With a one-over par score of 73 on the final round, freshman J.D. Kiesewetter captured the Falcons' best overall tournament finish, as he combined for a total of 214 (70-71-73) to finish tied for 19th in the 87-golfer field.

Sophomore Brenden Bone shot a 79 on the final day to tie for 51st with a combined score of 224 (69-75-79, seven over), while freshman Dane Hankamer and Edwards recorded respective scores of 81 and 78 on the final 18.

Hankamer concluded the tournament tied for 81st with a three-round score of 231 (75-75-81, 15 over) and Edwards finished 85th with a 236 total (79-79-78, 20 over) over 54 holes.

UNLV won the Jackrabbit Invitational with a 60-under par score of 804, while the Rebels' Kurt Kitayama claimed medalist honors after recording a three-round score of 197 (-19).

The Falcons return to action Sunday through Tuesday at the Middleburg Bank Invitational in Williamsburg, Va.



WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

Falcons head to Alaska for MPSF Championships

Athletic Communications

Air Force women's gymnastics travels to Anchorage, Alaska, for Sunday's 2015 Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Championships.

The event, hosted by Alaska for the first time in conference history, will feature six teams, including Air Force, Alaska-Anchorage, UC Davis, Sacramento State, San Jose State and Seattle Pacific.

San Jose State leads the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation with a Regional Qualifying Score of 194.845.

Less than .400 separate the top three teams, as UC Davis and Sacramento State are listed second (194.795) and third (104.505), respectively.

Seattle Pacific is ranked fourth with a RQS of 192.610, while Air Force (fifth, 192.595) and Alaska-Anchorage (sixth, 192.175) round out the field.

Sacramento State is the defending conference champion, as it picked up its fourth title in 2014. UC Davis has claimed a league-best five titles, while Seattle Pacific (two), Alaska-Anchorage (one) and San Jose State (one) round out the conference's 13-

year history.

Air Force's Jessica Wallander is ranked among the top-10 on the vault (sixth, 9.815) and uneven bars (ninth, 9.755), while Alexandra Stych (floor exercise, 13th, 9.775) and Jamie Lewis (vault, 15th, 9.750) are listed among the top 15.

As a team, the Falcons are ranked fourth on the floor exercise (48.595), fifth on the vault (48.240) and sixth on the uneven bars (48.000) and balance beam (47.810).

Falcons Fall to ASU in Regular Season Finale

Jessica Wallander and Kara Witgen picked up top-three finishes to pace the Falcons, as Air Force closed out the regular season with a 195.175-191.050 loss to Arizona State Friday.

Wallander scored 9.775 to finish second on the vault, while Witgen tallied a season-best 9.825 to place third on the floor exercise.

Wallander added a top-five finish on the floor, as she and Alexandra Stych tied for fourth with matching scores of 9.800.

Select Falcons will compete at the NCAA Regional Championships April 7.

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Inspection

From Page 1

Second, commanders use their inspector general to validate these self-assessments as well as assess the effectiveness of installation units and programs.

These two methods used together give commanders a sense of their unit's health, identifies possible blind spots and weak points and empowers Airmen to fix them.

"It gets back to having visibility and having conversations every day versus a mad dash to get prepared for inspections right before the inspectors arrive," Lamberth said. "The old system mandated various inspections periodically, usually every two years. Often times, units would start ramping up six months prior. When the inspectors left, there might be a propensity to exhale and those programs to atrophy. Under the new system, mission ready really means being inspection ready and every day is an opportunity for excellence."

Kuenzli said AFIS allows the Air Force to save time and resources while still maintaining high standards. Rather than planning long trips to bases for inspections, in-

spectors can use MICT and inspect the base at any time prior to arriving. Once there, they only need to validate what they've already seen.

"Air Force senior leaders want to make informed decisions about where they allocate resources," he said. "The AFIS allows them to do that. It's an attitude shift and it's absolutely appropriate. I think commanders wanted this inspection system 25 years ago, but we didn't have the tools to be able to execute it."

Lamberth said a key aspect of the new system is there's no longer motivation to hide mistakes or discrepancies to avoid censure.

"This is not to impress the inspectors," he said. "The inspectors can look into the system from wherever they are, just like we can. We've self-identified things we need to improve upon, and we're not hiding that from the inspectors. We're working on improving those things and it's that continuous process improvement that they care about."

Lamberth said the best thing Academy personnel can do for

the inspection is to know the part they play in the Academy's mission.

"The mission of the Academy is to develop leaders of character to lead the Air Force in service to our nation," he said. "If you know how you contribute to that, you can make a difference. When the inspectors come, be proud of your program. If you know how you fit in the big scheme of things and can articulate that, you can make a difference. It

doesn't matter your occupational specialty, you are an important part of this mission and you need to know that."

Kuenzli said he's confident the inspectors will be impressed with our people and mission readiness.

"I'm very happy about the way this base and the leadership have embraced this inspection system," he said. "Lt. Gen. Michelle D. Johnson, the Academy superintendent, implemented the new inspec-

"This is not to impress the inspectors. The inspectors can look into the system from wherever they are, just like we can. We've self-identified things we need to improve upon, and we're not hiding that from the inspectors. We're working on improving those things and it's that continuous process improvement that they care about."

Col. Kevin Lamberth,
Academy vice superintendent.

tion system 18 months ago, and she has used it very effectively. One of her intents is to work toward continual improvement, and I feel like we've all been a part of that."

The inspection team is slated to be here April 6 through April 15.

Editor's note: This is part two in a two-part series showcasing the effort of Academy Airmen to prepare for a U.S. Air Force Inspector General inspection slated for April.



The Air Force Academy Air Garden is shown here. A U.S. Air Force Inspector General team is slated to visit the Academy April 6-15.

U.S. AIR FORCE

Witness

From Page 4

a piece of evidence offered during the hearing. "He will do anything he can to remain at the Air Force Academy." The importance of having that information for the defense should be obvious. There's one individual who was involved in every specification and every allegation other than my client, Cadet Claxton, and it's Eric Thomas."

Spinner intimated that Thomas's belief that he was working for Munson as an informant in 2011, before he was officially enrolled into the confidential source program, may have led him to "set up" Claxton. But Capt. Richard Schrider, representing the government, didn't buy it.

"There's not a speck of evidence," Schrider said, "that suggests Thomas made Claxton do it."

Whether Thomas thought he was a confidential informant was irrelevant, Schrider said.

"This is a discovery issue. It's the government's

responsibility to provide information the government has control over," he said.

And Schrider reinforced Rube's statement that the government's case was sound even without Thomas's witness testimony.

"A number of additional witnesses corroborated all of the important points" regarding Thomas' testimony as well as the testimony of sexual assault victims in the March and November 2011 incidents, Schrider said. Additional evidence in the government's case included text messages Claxton sent illustrating his guilty conscience and statements from Claxton that Schrider called "extremely damaging."

"And to put a bow on it," he said, "Thomas was not a confidential informant until Decem-

ber 2011."

"The unavoidable conclusion is that even if there was a discovery error, it was harmless beyond a reasonable doubt," Schrider concluded.

A DuBay hearing is a procedure ordered by a military appellate court, in this case the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, to make ad-

"The unavoidable conclusion is that even if there was a discovery error, it was harmless beyond a reasonable doubt."

Capt. Richard Schrider

ditional findings of fact and conclusions of law related to a specific issue not covered in the original trial. Richardson's findings of fact and conclusions of law are due to the Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals by March 31.



No-tap bowling tournament

The Academy Lanes Bowling Center and the Academy Sexual Assault Response and Prevention Office will host a no-tap bowling tournament 1-3 p.m. April 3.

The cost to enter is \$5 per person or \$20 per team. The fee includes two games and shoe rental.

Prizes will be given to the tournament's first, second, and third-place teams.

Call 333-3598 for more information.

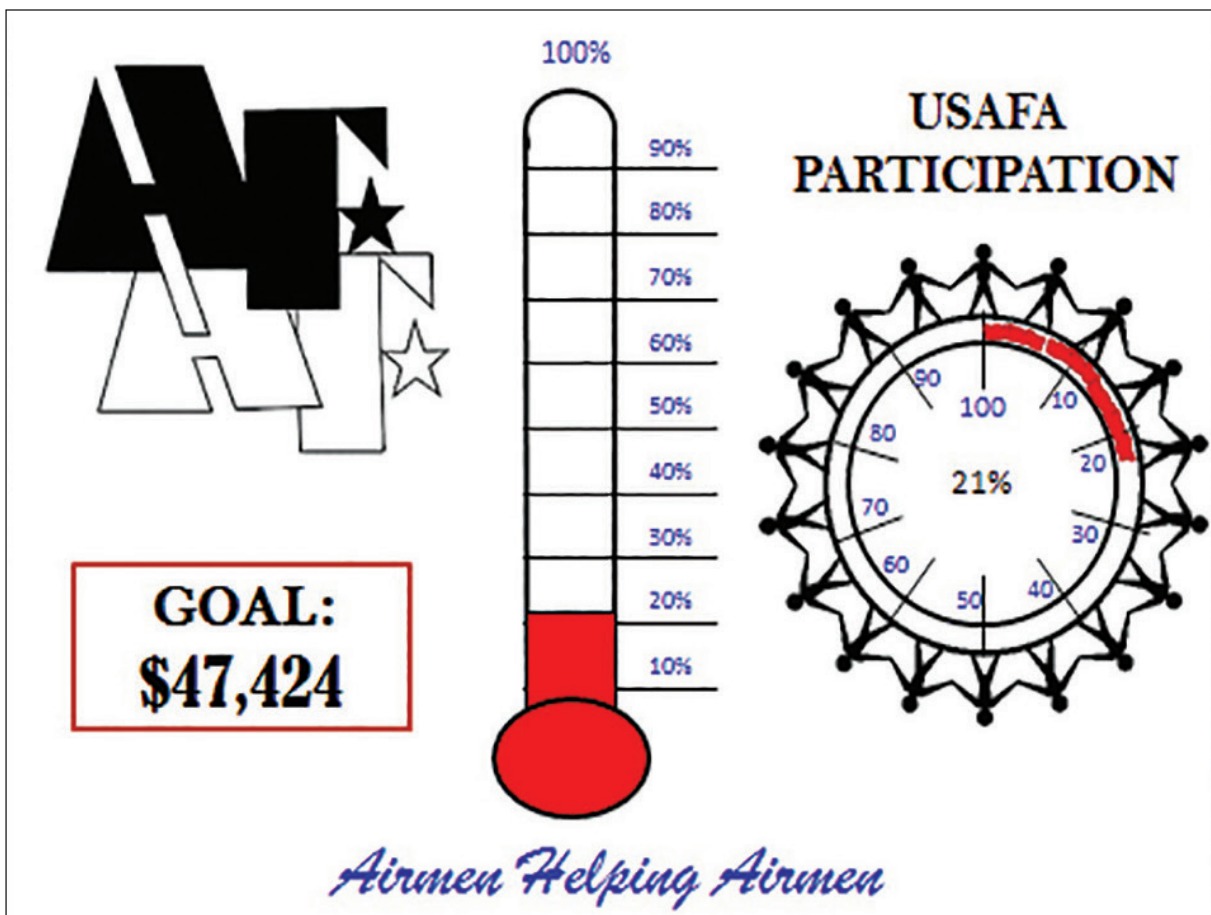
Military retiree lunch

The Military Retiree Activities office has scheduled a lunch noon April 9 at the Peterson Air Force Base Club. Lunch will be followed by the monthly council meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Call 573-4078 for more information.

USAFA Tax Center hours

The USAFA Tax Center is open until April 15. Tax returns are prepared by appointment 8-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m., Mon.-Fri. This free service is available to enlisted service members and captains and below, their dependents, cadets and retirees, if space is available. The Tax Center will process returns if your gross income is less than \$100,000, or if you do not have more than one



rental property and do not own a business. Clients need to bring their military or dependent ID cards; copy of their 2014 tax return; W-2s, 1099s, and 1098s; Social Security cards for the service member and dependents; birth dates for the service member and all dependents; copies of court orders for divorce, child custody, and child support and Form 8332, if post-2008 divorce; and a blank or cancelled check.

Call 333-3920 to make an appointment.

10th Force Support Squadron events

Final Friday: March 27, 4 p.m. Free for members and one bona fide guest. Second bona fide guest pays \$10. A bona fide guest is someone not eligible to be a member. New members get six months free dues and a \$600 coupon book. Call 333-8192 for more information. **Free Steamboat Snowmobiling:** March 28. \$185 for a single sled, \$235 for a tandem sled. Call 333-4475 for more information.

Eisenhower Golf Course Opening Day: March 28, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Kick off the season with contests, Pro Shop sales and great food. Call 333-2606 to sign up for the Opening Day

Divot Derby.

Intramural Soccer Meeting: March 30, 3:30 p.m. at the Fitness Center. Call 333-4078 for more information.

Paint a Pig Contest: Pick up a ceramic pig for \$10. Paint and return it by March 31 for a chance to win a Famous Dave's BBQ gift. Call 333-4579 for more information.

Lift Tickets: April 10-12. Lodging starts at \$95. Ski-in-ski-out lodging starts at \$130. Call 333-7367 for more information

Easter Brunch at the Falcon Club: Reservations required. Members can make reservations now. All other may start making reservations Monday. Regular price is \$29.95. Primary club members receive \$5 off. Call 333-8192 for more information. Tickets are expected to sell-out quickly.

Air Force Teen Camps

Teens interested in applying for Teen Aviation, Teen Leadership or Space Camp must complete a summer camp nomination-registration form and submit it electronically to the Academy's Youth Programs by April 3.

Call 333-4169 for more information.



Cadet Chapel

BUDDHIST

Service: Sunday, 10 a.m.

Meditation: Thursday, 6:20 p.m.

PROTESTANT

Traditional, Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Contemporary, Sunday, 11 a.m.

CATHOLIC

Mass: Sunday, 10 a.m.

Daily Mass: Mon. - Thurs., 5:30 p.m.

Confession: Sunday, 9 a.m.

Adoration Confession, Wednesday, 4:30-5:20 p.m.

JEWISH

Shabbat, 7 pm., Kiddush dinner, 7:45 p.m.

MUSLIM

Jumah Prayers, Friday, 12:30 p.m.

Community Center Chapel

CATHOLIC WORSHIP

Mass: Saturday, 4 p.m., Sunday, 9 a.m. Tuesday - Friday, 11:30 a.m.

Reconciliation: Saturday, 3 p.m.

Formation Classes: For students in grades K-8. Sunday, 10:15-11:30 a.m., September-May.

PROTESTANT WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

Religious Education: Sunday, 9 a.m., pre-school through adults.

Instagram

photo of the week



@ALEKSWARRIOR

User @alekswarrior shared this Instagram and posted: "Recognition finally done! Proud to be a cobra!" We look forward to highlighting your Instagram photos in upcoming editions of the *Academy Spirit*. If you would like to have a photo published, upload it to Instagram using #YourAcademy.

