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Dean of the Faculty shares snapshot of year ahead. 

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Undefeated team drops one, but still claims championship. 

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By Academy Public Affairs Staff

A leader during one of the most dynamic times in U.S. Air Force Academy history is moving on. Commandant of Cadets Brig. Gen. Susan Y. Desjardins will depart the Academy in October to become the Deputy Director, Strategic Plans, Requirements and Programs, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

“Moving on is bittersweet. I am excited about the challenges of serving at AMC, the “home office” of air mobility,” General Desjardins said. “At the same time, being at the Academy has been an amazing opportunity and experience. Nothing can compare with being part of shaping and molding our Air Force’s future leaders.”

General Desjardins has served as the Commandant of Cadets since December 2005, commanding the 4,400-member Cadet Wing and more than 300 permanent party Air Force and civilian personnel. She is responsible for all aspects of military training for the Cadet Wing, including leadership training, operational skills training and professional military education, character development, cadet discipline, and administering the Honor System.

“As the Air Force flexed to meet the demands of winning the Global War on Terrorism, General Desjardins played a key role in reshaping Academy military training to better prepare cadets for the challenges facing them in the operational, expeditionary Air Force,” said General Regni, our Superintendent.

“General Regni, our Superintendent, had a vision for bringing the ‘military’ back to our military academy,” she said, “and he gave me the charter and great support to implement significant changes to follow that vector.

“We have eliminated training that had only a tenuous connection to preparing cadets for active duty,” she said. “And we re instituted daily mandatory formations to emphasize accountability as members of an Air Force unit.

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Annual picnic offers many opportunities

By Ken Carter
Editor

Every notice how some of the sweetest opportunities in life are uncovered while socializing with co-workers and friends? If one is lucky enough for this to happen during normal duty hours, away from his or her duty section, and leading into a weekend, all the better.

The Academy’s annual base picnic is set for Aug. 1 and, as always, a lot of hard work is going into making it a success.

Each year the picnic affords members of our community the chance to see some old friends as well as make some new ones while at the same time breaking away from the office to enjoy the great outdoors.

Live music, food and plenty of sports activities are on tap for the event which is likely to draw several thousand. There are other tricks up the planners’ sleeves as well.

Event coordinators say Pine Valley youth fields is the place to be to enjoy food and music, as well as a kids park, car show, poker run, bike race, door prizes, horse rides, sporting competition, including an early morning fishing derby and a whole lot more.

The picnic is from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. with events starting as early as 6:30 a.m.

For those who see a day without sports to be like a day without sunshine, their future is also bright.

The Academy Fitness Center will also host four sporting events that morning where the Commander’s Cup will be up for grabs. They include: pitch softball beginning at 8:30 a.m. and 3 on 3 basketball at 9 a.m. (both at the youth fields close to Child Development Center and fire station); 3-on-3 sand volleyball at 10 a.m. and doubles horse-shoe competition at 11 a.m. (both at the fitness center). Anyone wishing to officiate or keep score for any of the one pitch SB games or help with the Top 3, Rising 6 or Chiefs and Eagles, and/or coordinate the tournament brackets for softball, basketball, volleyball and horse-shoes should call Dave Castilla at 333-4078.

Picnic participants are encouraged to park at Air Academy High School where a shuttle will be provided to and from the picnic area. The event is open to all Academy personnel and their families and, again, tickets are just $3.

Let the socializing, family fun and networking begin ...

For more information on specific events, call:
333-4475 – Bike race
333-4579 – Car show
333-4522 – Sporting events
333-3733 – 5K run
333-2928 – Colossal Cookie Challenge
For further details on all the above and more, visit www.uafaservices.com.

character matters
The Class of 2012 is here!
Young men and women from all over America, and some from foreign nations, have arrived to begin the four-year process of shaping them into officers of character. Let us always remember that they watch everything we do. Whether cadet, officer, enlisted, or civilian, we are all their examples.

Character and honor instruction for the basic cadets is in full swing—but teaching the basics is only part of our responsibility. Showing them how to act honorably and with character is just as important. We cannot expect our new cadets to follow an example that we do not set every day. Leadership starts from the top—they look to us. Always remember the importance of walking the walk and not just talking the talk.

“Example is not the main thing in influencing others, it is the only thing.”
- Albert Schweitzer

What is your favorite movie of all time and why?

“Caddyshack! Golf tends to be a very serious game. The movie comedy provides a good, fun twist to the game.”
Phil Trujillo
Junior Golf Director

“Bourne Ultimatum. It’s suspenseful and thrilling and Matt Damon does a great job.”
Kali Oda
Sales clerk, Pro Shop

“Fight Club. I’ve found it so interesting. I’ve watched it over and over. The book is also very good.”
Tarin Burgess
Cashier, golf snack bar

“Forrest Gump. It shows history filled with the struggles of personal conflicts—while also revealing innocence and happiness.”
Tech Sgt. Krista Stuphen
10th Dental Squadron

To responsibly inform and educate the Academy community and the public about the Air Force Academy
Lt. Gen. John R. B新型冠, Academy Superintendent
Maj. Brett Ashworth —
Director of Public Affairs
Capt. Christiana H. England —
Chief Internal Information
Ken Carter —
Editor

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The Academy Spirit is printed and provided by the U.S. Air Force Academy Directorate of Public Affairs. The editor reserves the right to edit articles to conform to Air Force policy and Associated Press style. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise noted.

Submissions
Send submissions to: HQ USAFA/PAI, 2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 1300, U.S. Air Force Academy, CO 80840-1615 or deliver to Suite 3100 in Hansen Hall.
Deadline for free classified ads on a space-available basis is noon every Tuesday for that week’s publication date. Paid classified advertising is accepted by the publisher at 329-5236. The number to call for display advertising is 634-5905.
Deadline for all stories is noon Monday, one week prior to the desired publication date. Refer questions to the Academy Spirit editor at 333-0823.

The Academy Spirit also accepts submissions by fax at 333-4994 or by e-mail: pa.news@usafa.af.mil.
Commandant

From Page 1

and personal accountability for upholding standards.

“...also have stressed accountability in our char-
acter and leadership development efforts, in bringing back the Cadet Discipline System, and in making the Honor Code the Number-One priority in cadet life,” she said. “The intent was for our cadets to feel ownership and hence play a bigger role in enforcing standards both in honor and discipline.”

During General Desjardins’ tenure, there has been a 58 percent decrease in cadet alcohol related incidents, and a nationally recognized sexual assault response program has been significantly strengthened.

Basic Cadet Training was revamped to better prepare basic cadets physically, mentally, and militarily for their Academy experience. This included increasing BCT physical training from seven sessions to 27 sessions, which resulted in better fitness, morale, and overall performance by basic cadets.

General Desjardins was tasked with instituting Combat Survival Training at the Academy, one of the first Air Force locations to implement this newly empha-
sized requirement.

“Air Force personnel are increasingly taking on roles that could leave them vulnerable on the battlefield,” the general said. “Airmen are outside the wire daily performing jobs that had been assigned to soldiers and Marines. CST teaches our cadets critical skills that may save their lives in today’s expeditionary environment.”

General Desjardins also focused on enhancing the professional development of her permanent party Air Officers Commanding, who command the cadet squadrons, and the Academy Military Trainers, the non-commissioned officers who help lead each cadet squadron.

Finally, working with the Dean of the Faculty, Brig. Gen. Dana H. Born, and the Athletic Director, Brig. Gen. (Dr.) Hans I. Mueh, General Desjardins attacked the “Terrazzo Gap” that sometimes exists between the academic and military components of Academy life and between the intercollegiate athletes and their fellow cadets.

“It has been an incredibly busy and rewarding almost-three years,” General Desjardins said. “Whatever successes the Commandant’s organization has achieved are due to the amazingly talented AOCs, AMTs, staff and civilian personnel who make up our team, to the support from General Regni and the other mission elements, and to the enthusiasm and commitment of our cadets.”

General Desjardins earned her commission in 1980 in the first class of women at the Academy and is the first female commandant. Being an Academy graduate, she relates to the challenges and triumphs the cadets face daily.

“Being a cadet is not an easy road, but it is worth every bit of the effort,” she said. “Our nation requires intelligent, well-rounded young men and women of character to lead our military. Every day there are cadets who demonstrate they are up to the challenges ahead, and you know that the future of our Air Force and our nation will be in good hands.”

The general has held staff positions at the major command, joint Staff, and Headquarters U.S. Air Force levels, including deputy military assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force. Her commands include an air refu-
eling squadron, a mobility operations group, and the 437th Airlift Wing at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C. She is a command pilot with more than 3,800 flying hours in the KC-10, C-17, C-5, KC-135R, KC-135A, and T-37.

The incoming commandant is Col. Samuel D. Cox who is currently serving at the Pentagon as the Director of Air Force General Officer Management for the Deputy Chief of Staff, Manpower, Personnel and Services. Colonel Cox, a 1984 Academy graduate, has been selected for promotion to brigadier general.
Cadets soon to be back hitting the books

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

It’s back to the battle of the brains Aug. 7 when Fairchild Hall will officially welcome faculty, returning cadets and basics for the fall semester.

“This is a big year,” Dean of the Faculty Brig. Gen. Dana Born said of the upcoming fall and spring semesters.

Two major accreditations sit on the horizon, one from the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology in November and the 10-year accreditation from the North Central Association of Colleges and Universities in April.

“It’s an exciting time to share where we’re going,” General Born said. “We welcome both of these opportunities to showcase our Academy and the great things we are doing here.”

The new 146 faculty members include three international professors and three from sister services.

She said civilian additions will bring accomplished levels of research and scholarship and military instructors will bring the bonus of current, in-depth, knowledge of the operational Air Force.

The USAFA Outcomes, or 19 different knowledge sets, skills and responsibilities will be fully integrated into the core curriculum this year.

“Cadets will really start to see how the learning experiences in their classes, and the assessments by which they are evaluated, are aligned to those outcomes,” General Born said.

Academic departments are also feeling the rush of a new year with new offerings.

The Department of Military Strategic Studies will provide the first in a new sequence of regional strategy courses, affording cadets the opportunity to analyze threats and emerging issues within the area of responsibility for the six Air Force U.S. joint geographic commands.

The Falcon Satellite program will see construction of a flight model for FalconSAT5, set for launch from Kodiak, Alaska, via a Minotaur IV rocket in December 2009.

Cadets in Engineering 101 will be incorporating the industry-standard computer-aided design software into course work and tutorials, thus allowing them to become familiar with design platforms in the high-tech Air Force.

The Department of English and Fine Arts will pair with the Academy’s Institute for Information Technology Applications in the establishment of a pilot-study classroom to employ digital video and classroom response systems for Advanced Composition and Speech.

Cadets in Physics 110 will be using a “worked example” learning approach, for which, research indicates, should enhance comprehension and critical thinking.

The Department of Foreign Languages will continue to expand, especially in the strategic languages of Arabic, Russian, Japanese and Chinese.

“Across the faculty, we continue to strive to enhance cadet learning and to better prepare our cadets for careers of service to the Air Force and nation,” General Born said. “That is what we have been working hard on all summer.”

She is impressed with the incoming Class of 2012.

“Twenty-twelve! Never falter! Never fail!,” she said. “This is a determined class.”

On the hike to Jacks Valley for Basic Cadet Training, normally a subdued march with an occasional Jodie, led by General Born and Commandant of Cadets Brig. Gen. Susan Desjardins, the Class of 2012 broke into song.

“They sang the entire way,” General Born said.

The class also quickly zeroed in on its motto.

“After less than a week, we already could hear them chanting their tagline, ‘Twenty-twelve! Never falter! Never fail!’” she said.

From reports she has heard, she said class members are relaxed, confident and professional, and they regard and respect cadet cadre as teachers from whom they can learn.

“Overall, they seem to be adjusting very well,” General Born said.
New preppies arrive with hope and enthusiasm

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

With paper work done, good-byes said and sweating in over, the Preparatory School Class of 2009 took their first steps as cadet candidates July 16.

"This is where it begins," Cadet 2nd Class Andrew Riddle told one of the small groups of new preppies he escorted on the walk from the club to the Prep School campus.

Cadet Candidate Nigel Brown had one thing on his mind while standing in line to in-process.

"Graduation," he said with a smile.

He has been preparing for entering by running, doing push-ups and going to the gym.

The member of an Army family has wanted to come here since the seventh grade.

"Ever since I got over the Power Rangers," he added. "It's great the day is finally here."

The new class numbers 243 members, with 19 percent female and 49 percent minorities. With the Prep School staff of 57, staff-to-student ratio is just more than four cadet candidates per staff member.

Prep School staff members and cadet cadre were all around and made the new class feel welcome and comfortable.

"I am totally excited," said Lt. Col. Alma Widden, commander of military training. "I've waited for this all summer."

Prep School commander Col. Todd Zachary said 12 new cadet candidates and their friends and family members were waiting in line before the doors to the Milazzo Club opened at 8 a.m.

"So far, so good," he said of the class. "We're ready, as ready as we can be."

He pointed out scores for the Scholastic Aptitude Test and American College Testing are higher than last year's entering class, and numbers are up from 85 to 100 for athletes this year, with more diverse skills in such sports as water polo, fencing and baseball in addition to football, basketball and soccer.

In his presentation to family and friends of the new cadet candidates, Colonel Zachary thanked them all.

"You are trusting the Preparatory School with your most valuable asset, your son or daughter," he said. "Thank you for supporting their decision."

Colonel Zachary stressed the school is an opportunity to earn an appointment to the Academy, an opportunity that may be hard.

"It's going to be tough some days. That's when we'll need your support the most," he told family members.

The new class moved from station to station in the Milazzo Club while clearing paperwork for mailboxes, identification cards, medical and dental records, meeting chaplains and staff members, becoming acquainted with 10th Services Squadron services and, alas, bidding adieu to high school haircuts.

Female cadets were given the opportunity for a new, shorter "do" as well. Representatives from the Locks for Love organization were on hand to accept hair donations, which help young cancer patients.

After the walk to the campus, the new preppies received uniforms and dorm assignments.

Cadet Candidate Logan Burch has his eye on becoming a medical doctor.

"I want to continue to learn, take all the hard classes I can and be as best prepared as I can," the Colorado Springs resident said.

Saying good-bye to her son was in no way easy for mom Eva Burch. She and her husband Rob are also moving to Florida.

"It's a double whammy, she said but added, "We are excited and very proud of him."

Saying good-bye to her son was in no way easy for mom Eva Burch. She and her husband Rob are also moving to Florida.

"I'm anxious to see what the training is going to be like," she said and noted she was interested in coming here for the "very prestigious academics and good faculty."

Cadet Riddle, a member of the Preparatory School Class of 2006, is enjoying the opportunity, which he requested, to work with the new preppies.

"It's great to be back," he said.

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WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Air Force officials recently approved the purchase of pallets that will provide work and rest areas for senior leaders traveling aboard mobility aircraft.

The service is purchasing two types of removable mobile command workspaces for use by military and senior civilian leaders who are required to use military aircraft for travel. One is the Senior Leaders In-transit Conference Capsule, or SLICC, and the other is the SLIP, or Senior Leaders In-transit Pallet.

"Having these pallets on airlift and refueling aircraft provides an office in the air and will allow senior leaders and dignitaries to perform their duties while traveling," said Air Force Director of Maintenance Maj. Gen. Robert McMahon.

The new equipment also expands the Air Force's ability to provide airlift support by using cargo and refueling aircraft in addition to the limited VIP transport fleet. It leverages the investment the Air Force has already made in its 500-plus fleet of airlift and refueling aircraft, General McMahon said.

In addition, because the pallets are on aircraft already equipped with defensive systems, and the fact that the planes don't look like they're carrying VIPs, travel will be safer into high-risk regions of the world, the general added.

"Commercial flights aren't a viable option for flying our leaders into combat or sensitive security areas," General McMahon said. "Also, commercial air providers can't adapt to the fluid scheduling requirements dictated by frequent, short-notice travel."

The SLIP is a lighted conference table with reclining chairs and is already in use with plans to purchase three more. It's designed to be used in the C-17 Globemaster III, KC-10 Extender and the KC-135 Stratotanker.

The SLICC is an enclosed pod with work and rest areas that can be equipped with a secure communication capability. It fits inside C-130 Hercules aircraft as well as C-17s and KC-10s. The first SLICC is expected to be completed before the end of the year, General McMahon said.

Because the work areas are palletized, unused space will be available for cargo or other passengers, General McMahon said.

The initial SLICC will cost $2.7 million, while two planned additional SLICCs will cost approximately $1.9 million apiece. The four SLIPs cost $290,000 each, General McMahon said.

Air Force officials are purchasing removable mobile command workspaces for use by military and senior civilian leaders who must use military aircraft for travel. Shown here is an illustration of the Senior Leaders In-transit Conference Capsule that will fit in C-130s as well as C-17s and KC-10s.
Oldest, largest exchange service marks 113 years

DALLAS – As the Army & Air Force Exchange Service readies to mark 113 years of service and support to America’s military, the command’s mission remains basically the same: provide quality goods and services at comparatively low prices and generate earnings to support Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs.

Established July 25, 1895, when the War Department issued General Order number 46 directing post commanders to establish an exchange at every post where practicable, AAFES continues to deliver a comprehensive and customer-focused benefit to troops and their families at installations throughout America, Europe, the Pacific and Middle East.

In addition to its flagship main base and post exchange facilities, modern AAFES operations now include convenience stores, car care centers, military clothing sales stores, fast food restaurants, retail concession services such as flower shops and gift stores, vending, telecommunications support and a wide variety of personal services through more than 3,100 facilities in 30 countries, five U.S. territories and 49 states. The scope of current operations goes well beyond the conventional offerings the War Department might have envisioned in the late 1800’s as AAFES even operates bakeries, water bottling activities and provides 24,000 meals a day to troops’ sons and daughters at 92 Department of Defense Schools in nine countries.

Just like the merchants who supplied provisions to America’s troops in the late 19th century, AAFES associates continue to live and work alongside those they serve. In fact, more than 350 associates are currently deployed to Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom, actively delivering a slice of America to troops through 45 BX/PX operations, 75 phone centers and 197 fast food restaurants scattered throughout the Middle East.

Closer to home, the largest and most senior exchange service is focused on energizing outreach efforts to communicate the value, benefit and capabilities it brings to the military community. Recognizing the pivotal role National Guard and Reserve troops are playing as they transition from a strategic force to an operational force, AAFES is specifically reaching out to “Citizen Soldiers” to ensure they understand the value of their exchange benefit not only downrange, but also on the installation, online or over the phone.

"AAFES’ commitment to America’s troops has never been stronger," said AAFES Senior Enlisted Advisor Chief Master Sgt. Bryan Eaton. "Whether at their home station, deployed overseas, providing support in the wake of a natural disaster, or even in the hospital, AAFES is there.”

Keeping in the spirit of service and support, BXs and PXs and the Exchange Online Store are inviting authorized customers to “celebrate the savings” beginning today. Exchange shoppers who stop by CONUS exchanges on AAFES’ 113th birthday can score a $100 AAFES gift card with purchase of a Sharp 37” LCD HDTV or pick up a Zvue “Spirit” MP3 player, preloaded with 15 patriotic themed songs, for the special buy price of $31.13. Additionally, AAFES exchanges across the globe will feature a variety of local special incentives such as opportunities to win gift bags, coupons or gift cards.

Since its establishment in 1895, AAFES has been involved in 14 major contingencies (to include the Spanish-American War, WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, the Balkans and Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom) and several dozen humanitarian and disaster relief contingencies.

AAFES is a joint command of the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force, and is directed by a board of directors who is responsible to the secretaries of the Army and the Air Force through the service chiefs of staff. AAFES has the dual mission of providing authorized patrons with articles of merchandise and services and of generating non-appropriated fund earnings as a supplemental source of funding for military Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs.

You are invited to First Baptist Church of Peaceful Valley

First Baptist Church of Peaceful Valley

We are located at the corner of Fontaine and Powers

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10th CES commander lauded for leadership

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Fair. Caring. Grab ‘em by the horns. Consistent and clear. Just a few of the ways those under her command describe Lt. Col. Deborah McMurtrey, 10th Civil Engineer Squadron commander.

“She is my very favorite commander ever,” said Master Sgt. Brian Archuleta, a 19-year Air Force fire fighting veteran.

Professionally, he described her as “superb” by the ways she enforces standards and outlines what she expects at the beginning.

“She sets us up for success,” Sergeant Archuleta said.

Col. Deborah McMurtrey talks with fire fighters during a recent visit to the station.

Keith Butala, 10th CE deputy chief, called Colonel McMurtrey a “fireball” with a strong will and personality.

“She is a very good first commander to have,” said firefighter Will Bannister and added she speaks her mind but is very fair. Staff Sgt. Bryan Tarantino agreed.

“She’s hard but fair,” he said. “She expects a lot but rewards a lot.”

He pointed out she has seen to it firefighters have the equipment and training to do their jobs, including the addition of a new pumper truck and a new brush truck.

Only a little more than a year into her command, Colonel McMurtrey has also arranged for the addition of a mobile aircraft trainer and a flashover trainer, which helps firefighters better their knowledge of explosive fire behavior. The flashover trainer is only one of four or five in the Air Force.

“She’s always pleasant,” said fire inspector Brian Pille. “That’s half the battle. She has great people skills and lets us know she appreciates us.”

Sergeant Tarantino said her caring for others doesn’t stop with the military, civilians and contractors she oversees.

“I’ve never had a commander who cares so much about the family,” the 10-year firefighting veteran, husband and father said.

He added, “She comes out and plays with us.”

Squadron members have enjoyed, among other events, volleyball, dodge ball, roller skating, a pig roast after the Unit Compliance Inspection and a bowling outing, for which Colonel McMurtrey footed the bill for Senior Airmen and below. A steak cookout is also in the works. Her home-baked goods and small prizes for orderly dorm rooms are also very popular.

“She is wholly immersed in this organization and has done a great job balancing her family, her duties as the commander, and she still has time to mentor young troops,” said Academy Fire Chief Ernst Piercy.

“Because of the operations tempo, we have to be a family—one team, one family,” Colonel McMurtrey said.

She said she always feels the need to be open and honest upfront.

“I have no agenda but the troops. I believe in my people and their capabilities.”

The mother of two children said the recreational events give her staff some fun and a chance to get to know and mentor each other.

“I feel very humbled and honored,” Colonel McMurtrey said of the comments made about her. “I’m not a politician. I’m there to take care of them.”

She added there needs to be a balance between the mission needs and taking care of people but the mission “can’t be sustained if we don’t take care of our own.”

The 10th CES has about 120 employees, including 75 in the Academy Fire Department. The unit shops also include environmental, housing, emergency management, squadron operations and planning/programming.

Before coming to the Academy last year, Colonel McMurtrey served as commander for the 737th Civil Engineer Squadron at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. Her Army husband is stationed at the Pentagon.

“I love my job and being able to take care of the CE team,” she concluded. “Each day is a new challenge.”

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Proud Partner of the Military
By Ann Patton  
Academy Spirit staff

Movers bust up your cherry coffee table? Break your DVD player? Smash a Hummel during packing? That’s the bad news.

The good news is the Air Force has streamlined the claims process by making it available online.

More good news. Airmen now automatically receive full replacement value protection on damage during moves in the continental U.S. or overseas.

The Web site https://claims.jag.af.mil walks claimants through questions and allows them to file the pink form DD Form 1840R. The electronic submissions are then processed by the Air Force Claims Service in Dayton, Ohio. The Form 1840R must be filed within 70 days from the date of delivery.

Once the pink form has been transmitted, claimants will receive confirmation the form has been dispatched to the carrier.

Filing the Form 1840R is not filing a claim. It only puts the carrier on notice the Air Force member has detected additional loss or damage since delivery. The Airmen still needs to file a claim with the carrier within nine months.

The nine-month time limit applies for claims against the carrier for full replacement value or two years if the claimant wants to file against the Air Force for depreciated value.

After the carrier receives a complete, substantiated claim, the carrier will pay, deny or make an offer within 60 days. If the claimant agrees with the way a carrier handles an item, a legal release is required for those items to receive payment, due within 30 days of receipt of notice the Airman has accepted a full or partial settlement.

For items on which a claimant disagrees with the carrier’s officer, claimants may file with the AFCS, which will pay appropriate repair or depreciated value and try to collect the full replacement value from the carrier.

If the center collects more money from the carrier than the claimant receives, the extra money goes to the claimant.

"Filing online is the preferred method," said Tech. Sgt. Jeri Goff, claims specialist with the Academy legal office. "It’s step-by-step and very user friendly."

However, she stressed, claimants may still also file by mail, FAX or turn forms into the legal office.

The AFSC maintains a 24/7 toll-free support line at 1-877-754-1212.

Sergeant Goff and the entire staff stand by to help face-to-face as well.

“We will never turn anyone away,” she said and added the Academy legal office assists members of different military branches.

For in-person assistance and for the convenience of the legal staff and the claimant, Sergeant Goff recommends calling ahead for an appointment at 333-3645.
Basics get first taste of Jacks

By Staff Sgt. Tim Jenkins
Public Affairs

Early morning July 15 in Jacks Valley, wet and muddy sets of Airman Battle Uniforms were hung to dry throughout rows of tents. The sound of brooms sweeping away dust and rocks was overshadowed by the echoes of percussion grenades and the rumblings of passing humveos.

Nearby, Cadet 2nd Class Christopher Allen, group training non-commissioned officer, was spending some quality time with a group of basic cadets. "Weakness is not an option at Jacks Valley," he said loudly to a small group of basic cadets from Barbarians squadron. "Let's sound off – let's show some motivation!"

"There seems to be no lack of motivation from basic cadets," Allen said. "The basics were pretty worn out by the end of their first day," said Cadet 2nd Class Mark Bishop, a flight commander with Barbarians. "They are doing amazing," said Cadet 1st Class Daniel Walker, group staff standards and evaluation. "Basics will always be confused their first few weeks here, but this place is full of outstanding Americans with a lot of potential."

Cadet Andreason agreed. "The physical aspect of Jacks Valley is pretty challenging," he said. "All the wear and tear definitely takes a toll."

Jacks Valley has no shortage of physical challenges, to include the assault, leadership reaction and confidence courses. These are mixed in with weapons and flight drill, character development, first aid training, physical fitness activities, inspections and more to develop physical abilities, teamwork and leadership potential.

"Midway through, you hurt pretty bad. But then you get a second wind, and think to yourself, 'This is something the folks back home will never do, and you push through it. But I think that my squad mates agree that once that adrenaline stops pumping, you're pretty tired.'"

"It was really hard," the Merrill, Wis., native said. "Midway through, you hurt pretty bad. But then you get a second wind, and think to yourself, 'This is something the folks back home will never do, and you push through it. But I think that my squad mates agree that once that adrenaline stops pumping, you're pretty tired.'"

"I think the biggest challenge is instilling confidence in the basics," he said. "Most of the basics were honor students or leaders in their schools or communities before coming here, but when they get here it seems like they can't even answer simple questions because they lack confidence. We need to make them understand that they can overcome these challenges and that one day they will be leaders. It's a very exciting and interesting challenge."

The Class of 2012’s time at Jacks Valley culminates Saturday with the Valley Sweepstakes and Big Bad Basic competitions.

Photo by Dave Ahlschwede

A Basic Cadet keeps his weapon dry on the Assault Course.

Basic Cadet Tenpas brings up the rear on the Assault Course.

Basic Cadet Kody O’Connell digs deep crossing the low-crawl obstacle on the assault course during field training.
Eighty-three laborers, clerks and food service workers are at work this year as Academy summer hires.

“The summer-hire program at the Academy has been a unique operation,” said Civilian Personnel Office clerical worker Mr. Myron Funchess. “In my short time working with the civilian personnel staff, I have gained valuable work experience and learned much about the inner workings of office and civil service work.”

According to Mr. Funchess the summer hire program itself provides many opportunities by preparing high school and college students for professional work, placing them in direct contact with people who make these jobs their professions.

Salaries for summer hires range from $9.22 to $11.32 an hour and funding is covered by each organization.

Candidates must be at least 16 years of age at the time of hire; currently enrolled on at least a half-time basis in an accredited high school, technical or vocational school or be enrolled in a two or four year college or university.

Undergraduate summer hires must be enrolled in an academic, vocational or technical program leading to a degree, diploma, or certificate; and have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better on a 4.0 scale.
Hockey team welcomes six newcomers

Greg Burgdoerfer, F (Setauket, N.Y.) - Played 55 games for the Des Moines Buccaneers of the USHL … Five goals and 11 assists for 16 points last season … Led the team with 120 penalty minutes … Sixth on the team with 105 shots … Third on the team in scoring for a defenseman with 43 points (6-37-43) … Ranked fifth on the team in scoring by all players … Third in the league in points by a defenseman … Played in the NAHL All-Star Game and the Top Prospect Tournament … Team captain … Also played 50 games for the Express in 2006-07 and had 16 points (5-10-15). 

Paul Weisgarber, F (Paragon, N.D.) – Played in 60 games for the Waterloo Black Hawks of the USHL … Team captain … Had 27 points (10-17-27) in 60 games in 2007-08 … Helped lead team to the USHL Clark Cup playoff finals … Played in 43 games in 2006-07 and had 15 points (5-10-15).

Mark Williams, D (Potsdam, N.Y.) – Played two seasons with the Cornwall Colts of the CJHL … Played 59 games in 2007-08 and was second on the team in points by a defenseman with 24 points (10-14-24) … CJHL all-star and third team all-league … Third in the league in points by a defenseman … Played in the NAHL All-Star Game and the Top Prospect Tournament … Team captain … Also played 50 games for the Express in 2006-07 and had 16 points (5-10-15).

Stephen Caple, G (Rice Lake, Wis.) – Played two seasons for the Southern Minnesota Express of the NAHL … Played in 56 games last season and was the team’s top scoring defenseman with 43 points (6-37-43) … Ranked fifth on the team in scoring by all players … Second in the league in points by a goalie … Played in the NAHL All-Star Game and the Top Prospect Tournament … Team captain … Also played 50 games for the Express in 2006-07 and had 11 points (3-8-11).

Scott Mathis, D (Crystal Lake, Ill.) – Played two seasons for the Cedar Rapids Roughriders of the USHL … In 2007-08, played in all 60 games and was third on the team in scoring for a defenseman with 25 points (7-18-25) … Team captain … Played in 46 games in 2006-07 and had seven points (2-5-7).

Tim Kirby, D (Austin, Minn.) – Played two seasons for the Southern Minnesota Express of the NAHL … Played in 50 games in 2007-08 and was second on the team in points by a defenseman … Second in the league in points by a defenseman … Played in the NAHL All-Star Game and the Top Prospect Tournament … Team captain … Also played 50 games for the Express in 2006-07 and had 21 points (8-13-21).

MARK1 player, Bryan Kinder, slides safely into home as Micah Ebersol of the Retirees waits on the throw during the softball championship game.

On an overcast, gloomy and windy night the Retirees, the six-time defending softball champions, came back in the

If “needed” game and defeated the Medics 20-18. This was needed after the Retirees lost the first championship game 17-4 to MDG1. The Retirees who went thru the regular season undefeated with a 19-0 record shook off the 13-run loss and started quickly as they normally do, scoring four first- inning runs, which was faced by a Scott Koenig two-run homer. Hospital #1 feeling good they finally put a blemish on the Retirees record, did one better as they scored five runs. A grand slam over the right field fence by Kevin Ciesla was key.

The Retirees put on a hitting performance in the second inning scoring 12 runs on 11 hits. Another two-run blast by Koenig, solo homeruns by Tim Neuman and Joe Fuhrman, and a two-run single by Karvin Vega. Mark Fowler from the Retirees hit a two-run single in the top of the fifth inning to make the score 18-11.

Hospital made one last effort to get back in the game, scoring seven runs to tie it up. Robert Harasimowicz, or H-12 as his teammates call him, singled in two runs, and a two-run triple by Brian Vidrine helped cap the sixth inning rally. Tied 18-18 going to the top of the seventh, Scott Koenig blasted his third homerun of the night over the right field scoreboard. His two-run shot is what eventually won the game for the Retirees.

Coach Dolbey said this was an up and down night. “I had to take myself out as pitcher and put in Quiroz in the fourth inning of the first game because the Medics were hitting everything I put in the zone. Another Medics two-homeruns, a double and six RBIs.”

Mark Hartman from the Retirees, said Jesse Contreras, the Medics pitcher was keeping them off balance with well delivered pitches and that was the main reason they lost the first championship game.

Kevin Ciesla, the Medics coach, was proud of his ball players and said, “They played extremely hard, but we just came up a little short.”

Up next, many of the players from both teams will represent the Academy at Peterson Air Force Base for the Rocky Mountain Military Softball Championship which will be held in late August or early September.

The Class of 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Pos.</th>
<th>Ht.</th>
<th>Wt.</th>
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<td>37</td>
<td>Stephen Caple</td>
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<td>Tim Kirby</td>
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<td>6-1</td>
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<td>Scott Mathis</td>
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<td>Paul Weisgarber</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mark Williams</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>5-11</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
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The Falcon Football 2008 Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 30</td>
<td>Southern Utah</td>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 11</td>
<td>@San Diego St.</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 15</td>
<td>New Mexico</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 21</td>
<td>Southern Utah</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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By Dave Toller
Athletic Communications Officer
IAPPRECIATION DAY

Contact Chaplain Yelton or Diane

music, crafts, snacks, games, and surprises,

rotating between five exciting stations:

grade classes), TNL Kids: Grades 1-5,

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resumes and sealed bids should be

submitted to Mike Slocum, 333-6081, no

later than Monday.

Meet and Greet

Air Force Falcon Football Head

coach Troy Calhoun and members of

his coaching staff will host a meet and
greet for fans to discuss the upcoming

2008 football season from 5 to 7 p.m.
today in the Elbo Room at The Ritz Grill,

15 S. Tejon Street in downtown Colorado

Springs. Appetizers and a cash bar will

be available. Posters, schedule cards,
magnets and booster club information

will be available. Coach Calhoun will
	take questions from fans at 6 p.m. For

more information, call 333-2626 or e-

mail FalconPride@usafaathletics.com.

2nd Annual 1/2 Marathon

Sign up for the Base Fitness and

Sports Center’s 2nd Annual 1/2 marathon

is open. The free 13.1-mile race is Aug.

2, 6:30 a.m. The race begins and ends at

the Santa Fe Trail at the south entrance

to the Academy. Eligible participants

include valid military ID card holders

including active duty, retirees, civilian

employees and family members 18 and

older. Registration forms are available at

the fitness center or Health and Wellness

Center. Return or fax the form by today.

For more information, call 333-4522 or

333-9133

Volunteers Sought

The Academy’s Base Honor Guard needs

volunteers. Join an elite group and gain

valuable leadership skills while having

fun and advancing your career. Training

is held periodically. All ranks are eligible.

For more information, call 333-5684.

Volunteer Recognition Golf

The Volunteer Recognition Golf

Fundraiser is scheduled for Aug. 7 at 1:30
p.m. on the Eisenhower Golf Club Silver
Course. Entry fee is $30 for airman

through staff sergeant and first and second
lieutenant, and $40 for all others. Entry

fee includes lunch, golf cart, green fees,

range balls, post round drinks and rental

clubs if needed. Additionally, the

Professional Golfers Association staff will

conduct a clinic from noon to 1:15 p.m.
All proceeds from the fundraiser will

benefit the Academy Volunteer

Recognition Program. Prizes will be

awarded to the first-place team, and men’s

and women’s longest drive and closest to

the pin. For more information, call Tim

Neuman at 333-2137 or Jeannie Lopez at

333-3444.

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Help a “wounded warrior” stay in the game by supporting the 1st Annual ThanksTroops Golf Tournament. Proceeds put SoloRiders modified golf carts at courses throughout Southern Colorado for use by soldiers who have lost strength and stamina from traumatic injury or amputation. Other recreational equipment and activities for wounded vets are funded, too.

- Participation and support packages are available from $100 to $10,000
- Sign up to play as part of a foursome ($500 per Foursome) including vets and celebrities, Includes breakfast (Egg and I), lunch (Chipotle), dinner (Outback), team competition, silent auction throughout the day and live auction after dinner
- Participate as a sponsor, or make a donation of any size.

For more information or to sign-up, call 719-243-6400, email Scott@ThanksTroops.com or visit www.ThanksTroopsGolf.com.