Cadets, key workers lead CFC to beat 2011 goal

Cadets and more than 300 key workers led the Air Force Academy to surpass its fund-raising goal of approximately $595,000 for the 2011 Combined Federal Campaign, the Academy’s CFC project officer said Tuesday.

The total amount raised, about $610,000, is the second-largest amount the Academy has collected in a CFC drive, said Master Sgt. Robert Pemberton, an Academy military trainer who is superintendent for the Directorate of Strategic Plans and Programs, Requirements, Assessments and Analyses here.

Cadet 1st Class Jacqueline Alequin, the cadet in charge of the Cadet Wing’s CFC program, was named a regional CFC hero in a ceremony at Peterson Air Force Base Jan. 18. He will compete for the chance to meet the president at the White House later this year.

Pemberton also recognized two other cadets, Cadet 1st Class Jacqueline Alequin and Cadet 2nd Class Martinus Davis, for their contributions to the 2011 CFC.

Alequin, the project officer for Cadet Group 1, helped the group raise nearly 30 percent of the Cadet Wing’s $255,000 total.

Davis helped Cadet Squadron 19 reach an 85-percent participation rate and raise almost $14,000, the highest total among the cadet squadrons for 2011 and the third-highest amount raised by a cadet squadron since cadets began participating in the CFC in 2002.

“They did some things that were absolutely phenomenal,” Pemberton said. “If I could have nominated all three, I would have, without a doubt.”

Pemberton also credited more than 300 key workers who helped make sure everyone on base received an opportunity to donate, either by check or by payroll deduction.

“The key workers are the key to the campaign, really,” said Master Sgt. Amy Wilson, the alternate CFC project officer and superintendent of the Academy’s protocol office. “We really couldn’t do it without them.”

Wilson said she plans to take over the project officer responsibilities next year for Pemberton, who was project officer in 2010 and 2011.

“I’ve always been a CFC supporter,” said Wilson, superintendent of the Academy’s protocol office. “I’ve supported it ever since I’ve been in the military, because I’ve wanted to give back to all the charities that supported me and my family.”

Wilson says she hopes to lead the 2012 CFC to surpass its goals, both monetarily and in terms of participation.

“I see it as a good thing, because even if people don’t donate, they at least know what their options are.”

By Don Braun
Academy Spirit staff writer

Cadet wrestlers win dual meets

Air Force sophomore Greg Rinker breaks out of a hold by a New Mexico Highlands wrestler during a dual meet between the Falcons and the Broncos at the Air Force Academy’s Clune Arena Saturday. Rinker, a native of Northampton, Pa., won his bout in the 125-pound match by a major decision. The Falcons are back in action today and Saturday as they visit conference foes North Dakota State and South Dakota State, respectively. For complete wrestling coverage see Page 10.

By LIZ COPAN
Academy Spirit staff writer

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Admissions NCO: Keep an eye out for ‘skimming’

By Tech. Sgt. Scott Gentle
Academy Admissions

I don’t know if you guys have ever heard about skim- ming debit cards, but if you haven’t you need to read this and if you have read the story.

THE STORY
While I was home on emergency leave, my wife was called about some transactions that didn’t make any sense to Wells Fargo. It appeared to be some sort of fraud.

At first, I didn’t think anything about it because I was in Michigan and she was here. I took a look into our account online and saw there was one transaction that was taken out of our account back in then and out and back in. It looked like nothing was taken out of the account. I really didn’t think anything about it until Tuesday morn- ing. I went to work and decided to check the account one more time. I then noticed a $200.42 deduction for a hotel room in Vegas and a $35 deduction for a cell phone. I notified Wells Fargo about this as soon as possible and luckily got the money back. They told me someone from their fraud department would call me once they had com- pleted their investigation.

I decided I would do my own investigation and found the hotel in Vegas and called them up. The knockheads were still in the room, so the hotel called 911, and the guys were arrested.

SKIMMING
After my wife dropped me off at Denver International Airport the morning of Jan. 19, she stopped to get gas at a convenience store in Castle Rock. She handed her credit card at the pump, but it gave her a hard time; once it worked, it then asked her if she had a supermarket loyalty card. She had to scan that card, but the reader would not accept it and would not cancel the transac- tion. Our kids were in the car, so she didn’t want to go inside, so she just entered the information and pressed

LESSON LEARNED
Check often to make sure there are no unauthorized transactions on your accounts. The faster you find it, the better off you will be.

By Chief Master Sgt. Matt Priorett
Air Force Public Affairs Agency

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas — The Best Air Force boss I’ve ever had was a Navy brat who never served a day in uniform.

Tracey Schwarze was my civilian supervisor in a reserve airlift wing from 1989 to 1991 when she was in her late 20s. I was five years younger and respected her immediately because she was bright, hardworking and serious about her business – public affairs.

Her job was to make sure members of our wing knew what was going on in the unit and to communicate to the local civilian community and news media the role we played in national defense. She did it well by shaping a ramshackle group of part-timers into a professional staff of communicators.

Tracey had already completed a master’s degree and worked in two Defense Department jobs by the time she came into our lives. She was slight and bookish, but commanded respect by how she conducted herself and even by the way she walked around our headquarters building. She seemed as if she was always heading some- place to do something important.

“Even as a girl, she wanted people to know who she was,” Tracey’s mother, Ence, told me after her daughter’s me- morial service last fall. “She wanted to be noticed.”

Our staff worked in one big room together, with our desks in a semicircle around Tracey so she was aware of what was going on at all times. She faced the door to keep an eye on who was visiting us. Though she was a real Southern lady who enjoyed people and loved to host dinner parties, she was aloof on who was visiting us. Though she was a real Southern lady who enjoyed people and loved to host dinner parties, she was aloof.

Looking back, it is obvious that we had grown to love her.

“... She was our wingman before I’d even heard that term. She had our backs and we absolutely had hers. Looking back, it is obvious that we had grown to love her.”

Running a small military public affairs office was never going to be enough for Tracey Schwarze. She completed her doctorate by age 31 and started to lecture about Eng- lish at universities near her then-husband’s follow-on assign- ments. When he drew an assignment to Langley AFB, Va., near her hometown of Norfolk, she joined the staff at Christopher Newport University as a professor and vice provost.

Tracey, whose doctoral dissertation was published as a textbook, could have been an author, but teaching came first for her. Many of her students posted comments about her on web sites where college learners can rate their in- structors. They describe the friend I knew - tough, but fair. If you were willing to work, she was an ally, maybe even a fan. If you were lazy or a whiner, you just might get the lowest grade of your academic life.

One constant theme in her students’ remarks is that she helped them accomplish more than they thought they could. Those sentiments are reflected by the Airmen who had the great fortune to work with her.

“She pushed me well beyond my comfort zone to achieve- ments I never thought possible,” said retired Chief Master Sgt. Holly Vogel.

Jand. Andra Higgs, who worked for Tracey as an enlisted man, remembers that she ensured everyone’s voice was heard when it came to decision-making.

“I found her approach evolutionary encouraging and empowering. Her management style continues to influ- ence the way I handle my personal and personal day-to-day practices,” said Higgs, chief of Public Affairs for Fourth Air Force at March Air Reserve Base, Calif.

That passion really recently came to mind about our beloved boss and mark the year that had already passed since Tracey, 48, died of cancer. We haven’t worked for her in two decades but her fingerprints are all over our personal and professional lives.
WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Airmen will play an important role in the joint team's effort to achieve the priorities laid out in the new defense strategic guidance, according to the Air Force's top uniformed officer.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz spoke to members of the World Affairs Council of Wilmington here Jan. 19, where he discussed the capabilities the Air Force contributes to the new Department of Defense strategy.

The strategy, which was announced by defense officials Jan. 5, lays out a way forward for the military to defend the United States and its national interests while reducing military spending in a responsible, balanced manner.

Schwartz said he sees the Air Force contributing to the new strategy through the service's four core contributions to the nation's joint military portfolio: domain control; intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; air mobility; and global strike.

These four contributions, which are enhanced by the Air Force's superior command and control networks, “have a proven track record of sustaining our Nation's military advantage in the face of emerging threats,” he said.

“The nation has come to rely on the strategic flexibility the Air Force provides to create desired, timely and precise effects at times and places of our choosing, and your Air Force is committed to providing it, even as current combat operations wind down,” Schwartz said.

While the United States will maintain its focus on the Middle East, the defense strategic guidance also calls for a rebalance toward the Asia-Pacific theater, he said.

The Air Force will continue to strengthen its long-standing partnerships in that region, such as those with Australia, South Korea, Japan, Thailand and the Philippines, and continue developing burgeoning relationships with others like India, Indonesia and Thailand, the general said.

“Through these air force partnerships, we will work to leverage the unique characteristics of airpower to support our nation’s, and mutual, strategic interests,” Schwartz said.

The new defense strategy also affirms that the United States will maintain its commitments and advance its long-standing alliances in Europe, the general said.

“Working with our European allies, as well as with other global partners, we will seek to develop an enhanced, ‘smart defense’ approach that capitalizes on our ability to specialize, share and pool capabilities toward collective effects,” Schwartz said.

In addition to strengthening interoperability with selected key global partners, Schwartz said the U.S. military will continue to increase joint interdependence, as seen in ongoing efforts on the Air-Sea Battle concept.

“As potential adversaries are pursuing strategies and investments in technical capabilities that are designed specifically to challenge our access to, and ability to maneuver in, areas where we have national interests, our nation’s advantage in establishing and maintaining air superiority, sea control, and access to forward bases is being threatened,” the general said.

Air-Sea Battle will help to maintain U.S. freedom of action across the full range of missions, including non-military; enhance power projection capability in defense of U.S. and partner-nation interests; and preserve access to the global commons, Schwartz said.

Leading and pursuing all of these efforts to ensure the U.S. military’s readiness in the years ahead is a dedicated team of joint service members supported by their remarkable families, he said.

“I am grateful for your support of our brave men and women in uniform, as well as of their families,” Schwartz told the audience. “They have served our country nobly, and continue to serve with great distinction.”
Increasing awareness

Anne Munch, an attorney who is an expert on victim and offender issues in criminal justice and military systems, speaks to cadets in Fairchild Hall Jan. 20. The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response office invited Munch to speak to cadets as part of a program to increase awareness about sexual assault prevention issues. The SAPR office invites subject matter experts to speak to each cadet class during the spring semester focusing on their specific class year role under the Officer Development System.

SARAH CHAMBERS

Sather Memorial finds rest at JB San Antonio

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO, Texas (AFNS) — A memorial honoring the U.S. Air Force’s first combat casualty during Operation Iraqi Freedom was unveiled Jan. 20 at Medina Annex, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

Staff Sgt. Scott D. Sather, a combat controller, was killed in Iraq on April 8, 2003.

Sather, who died at 29 years old, was originally from Michigan. He was last assigned to the 24th Special Tactics Squadron at Pope Air Force Base, N.C.

(Courtesy of Air Force Special Operations Command Public Affairs.)

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Fascination to teach

Political science instructor will travel to Mongolia as recipient of Fulbright award

By David Edwards
Academy Spirit staff writer

An Air Force Academy political science professor will soon be calling the land of Genghis Khan home.

Dr. Fran Pilch, a prominent instructor known for her classes on war crimes, genocide and human rights, leaves for Mongolia in February as part of the Fulbright Program.

Pilch received a Fulbright Teaching Award and will work at the School of Foreign Service in the Mongolian capital, Ulanbataar. She will teach courses in international law, international relations and American foreign policy.

“I selected Mongolia from a rather extensive list of available countries because I have always been fascinated by Mongolia’s history and culture and its efforts to become a thriving, independent democracy between the two superpowers of Russia and China,” Pilch said. “I also didn’t want something easy or luxurious; I wanted a challenge. I wanted to go someplace where my services would be needed and valuable.”

The composition of the classes should ensure that her wish is fulfilled. Each class will consist of 35 students, all of whom are aspiring diplomats or interested in some other international career.

Pilch will also attend a conference on regional security issues. Held at the University of Mongolia’s Mongolian Academy of Sciences, the conference is one of the largest in Asia.

“I am told the Mongolians love Americans and I am extremely hospitable,” Pilch said. “They never say no and they don’t reject offers.”

Mongolia is insignificant compared with the international stage of competition, Pilch said, “but it is the harsh climate. Last week, the temperature was -36 degrees Fahrenheit. Pilch said the worst-case scenario would be that her fingers get so numb that she can’t type.

While there, she will live in a ninth-floor apartment. Power in the building is spotty, however, and sometimes the elevator doesn’t work.

Despite the lack of creature comforts, Pilch is undaunted and says that having to rough it in Mongolia is insignificant compared with the incredible opportunity she’s been given.

“I am told the Mongolians love Americans and I am extremely hospitable,” Pilch said. “If her impact on them is anything like it’s been on Academy cadets in her classes, then the world will soon know Mongolia for more than just good old Genghis and his thundering hordes.”
Old satellite teaching new lessons

by Scott Prater
50th Space Wing Public Affairs

SCHRIEVER AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. (AFNS) — Since Jan. 13, the 2nd Space Operations Squadron here has been busy disposing of an old and trusted satellite. 

Squadron members could soon refer to the vehicle, known as SVN-30, as the satellite that keeps on giving. As SVN-30 continues to provide valuable information concerning how GPS Block IIAs satellites behave as they degrade.

“We still have 12 GPS Block IIA vehicles on orbit,” said Lt. Col. Dean Holthaus, the 2nd SOPS director of operations. “In addition to the normal end-of-life test and disposal procedures, we’re conducting some tests (that) will help characterize how the other Block IIAs will behave with regard to their sensors, attitude control, etc., during future disposal operations.”

The Air Force launched SVN-30 in September 1996 and the vehicle began providing position, navigation and timing data for GPS users worldwide the very next month. Designers placed four atomic frequency standards, or clocks, on the satellite during construction and it took nearly 16 years for all four to degrade beyond their usefulness. Operations crews began noticing that SVN-30’s final contact with earth is planned for May 2011, so 2nd SOPS crews resurrected a residual satellite, SVN-35, to replace it in the GPS constellation.

“That’s when the satellite that keeps on giving leapt back into service. “We’ve known for some time that SVN-30 was going to present itself as the perfect test bed,” said Capt. Jayson Andersen, the 2nd SOPS assistant flight commander, GPS Mission Analysis. “Its navigation payload has degraded to the point where it can’t support position, navigation and timing missions anymore, but its bus components are still operating on the primary side and there is plenty of fuel onboard. We have an incredible opportunity to gain some understanding and knowledge about how Block IIAs behave at the end of their operational lives.”

More than 50 personnel, including 2nd SOPS and 19th Space Operations Squadron operators and orbital analysts, will coordinate with Boeing and Aerospace contractors to test the vehicle to fire its thrusters, push it out and up to a higher orbit, and then assign flight commander, GPS Mission Analysis. “Its navigation payload has degraded to the point where it can’t support position, navigation and timing missions anymore, but its bus components are still operating on the primary side and there is plenty of fuel onboard. We have an incredible opportunity to gain some understanding and knowledge about how Block IIAs behave at the end of their operational lives.”

The major benefit for us is that the information we gain from testing will drive down risk in future disposal operations,” Holthaus said. “We know if anything falls outside the norm during future operations, we’ll have quantifiable data from SVN-30’s disposal for use in a scenario where we can’t dispose of a vehicle in the standard fashion.”

Andersen contends that the 2nd SOPS is showing forward thinking by trying to protect high-value GPS slots, which could be compromised if a satellite were to become inoperable in place.

“We may not dispose of another vehicle for several years,” he said. “But, when we are forced to dispose of it, we want to go into it with high confidence so that we have the lowest-risk disposal possible. We want to be able to vacate that slot and bring in a new vehicle.”

Final shutdown of SVN-30 will occur at the later stages of the operation, when crews will command the vehicle to fire its thrusters, push it out and up to a higher orbit, deplete the vehicle of its remaining fuel, discharge all batteries and open all valves. Telemetry shutdown and final contact with earth is planned for today.

In addition to taking safety precautions to ensure a mishap-free transition, the 2nd SOPS will also coordinate with external organizations, such as the Joint Space Operations Center, to provide predicted burn vectors and post-burn vectors so crews can conduct collision avoidance operations with other vehicles on orbit.

I am proud of our team for their innovation and forward thinking in this regard,” said Lt. Col. Jennifer Grant, the 2nd SOPS commander. “We are constantly trying to find ways to utilize every satellite on orbit to the best of our ability. This end-of-life testing will pay dividends in planning for future disposal, or contingency operations for future disposal operations.”
The inspiring beauty of the Air Force Academy

Whether you live in the area or are visiting, use this guide for an easy change of scenery.

The U.S. Air Force Academy is the youngest of the five service academies and is the nation’s premier institution for producing leaders of character. Its mission is to educate, train, and inspire men and women to become officers of character motivated to lead the United States Air Force in service to our nation.

The Academy is open to visitors from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. The Visitor Center is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day except Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day. All visitors must enter through the North Gate entrance, accessed from Exit 156B on Interstate 25.

DISABLED ACCESS

As a courtesy to visitors, wheelchairs are provided for use within the Visitor Center, however, they cannot be taken out of the facility. The paved nature trail is a strenuous walk with a variety of grades in some areas. People with limited mobility should bring a wheelchair to help them get to and from the Visitor Center.

On Mondays and Fridays during the academic year, visitors may observe the Cadet Wing marching to lunch in the noon meal formation. In August and September, the Air Force Academy Band provides music, accompanying. Noon meal formations are subject to cancellation without notice. Visitors may view the formation from the Honor Court wall or the wall surrounding the Cadet Chapel that overlooks the Terrazzo.

The Athletic Field and Falcon Athletic Center sit a short drive away from the Visitor Center. The field house has an indoor athletic field, ice rink, the Clune Arena basketball court and a snack bar. The Athletic Hall of Excellence allows visitors to purchase tickets to any of the Division I intercollegiate home events and the Athletic Hall of Excellence.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 719-333-2636 or visit the website at www.goairforcefalcons.com.

Self-guided tour maps and information on the academy are available at the information desk. As a courtesy to visitors, wheelchairs are provided for use within the Visitor Center, however, they cannot be taken out of the facility.

The paved nature trail is a strenuous walk with a variety of grades in some areas. People with limited mobility should bring a wheelchair to help them get to and from the Chapel.

The U.S. Air Force Academy Visitor Center serves as the gateway to the Academy, providing information on its history and cadet life. With exhibits totaling $6.5 million, visitors can view the formation from the Honor Court wall or the wall surrounding the Cadet Chapel that overlooks the Terrazzo.

The honor court is located next to the field house, and holds the Athletic Ticket Office where visitors can purchase tickets to any of the Division I intercollegiate home events and the Athletic Hall of Excellence.

The Academy is open to visitors from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. The Visitor Center is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day except Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day. All visitors must enter through the North Gate entrance, accessed from Exit 156B on Interstate 25.

The Air Force Academy Band

Master Sgt. Steven M. Mazurek

Today’s economy, coupled with post-holiday bills, may limit opportunities for those on a fixed budget, but the Air Force Academy attracts thousands of tourists from around the world year-round, but we often overlook it because it is in our own backyard. Best of all, this attraction offers a variety of activities suitable for the whole family and the admission is free.

The U.S. Air Force Academy is the youngest of the five service academies and is the nation’s premier institution for producing leaders of character. Its mission is to educate, train, and inspire men and women to become officers of character motivated to lead the United States Air Force in service to our nation.

Even if you have already visited the Academy, a return trip offers the opportunity to view the many wonders it offers. Recent testimonials posted by patrons on travel websites:

- “One of America’s Gems. The campus of the U.S. Air Force Academy is unbelievable; the views are incredible.”
- “At 7,500 feet, the air is crisp and clean, and the deepest blue skies anywhere. The architecture is spectacular. The history and beauty make the hair on the back of my neck stand up and makes me proud to be an American. I applaud our brave men and women of the U.S. Air Force Academy.”
- “Awe-inspiring! The U.S. Air Force Academy should be on the top 10 list of ‘must visits.’ It’s touching to see our young men and women on this campus—so earnest. The chapel is beautiful, as is the hike up to the Visitor Center.”
- “This is a place that I could visit over and over again and still could not get tired of being there.”
- “The Academy is open to visitors from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. The Visitor Center is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day except Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year’s Day, New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day. All visitors must enter through the North Gate entrance, accessed from Exit 156B on Interstate 25.”

The facility, which opened its doors in June 1986, has 31,600 square feet of exhibits, a snack bar and a gift shop. The exhibit area features displays on history and cadet life with specially-designed exhibits to explain the Academy’s Four Pillars of Excellence: character development, and academic, athletic and military training.

Also featured at the Visitor Center is a 13-minute movie that highlights the Academy experience and is shown throughout the day. A one-third-mile paved nature trail east of the facility allows visitors to walk to the Cadet Chapel.

The Cadet Chapel’s unique architecture has made it the most photographed building in the state of Colorado. The roof of the chapel is a striking 150 feet into the sky. Visitors can tour the Protestant, Catholic, Jewish and Buddhist worship areas within the chapel or visit the Earth-Centered worship area atop the hill overlooking the Cadet Chapel. Check out the Cadet Chapel webpage for services and tour information at www.usafachapel.org or call 719-333-2636.

Ardon Hall contains several military and Academy exhibits, a small food court and an auditorium for special events or official functions.

The Honor Court is located between the Chapel and Arnold Hall and contains bronze statues and aircraft memorials from various groups.

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Air Force tops Cal Poly, N.M. Highlands

By Melissa McKeeon
Athletic Communications

The Air Force wrestling team wrapped up a strong week of home competition on Saturday, winning a pair of dual meets versus Cal Poly and New Mexico Highlands.

The Falcons won seven of 10 bouts against Cal Poly, which is ranked 19th by InterMatWrestle.com, to earn a 30-15 victory over the Mustangs, and swept New Mexico Highlands, rolling to a 44-0 victory over the Cowboys.

Air Force (6-3) got out to a strong start against Cal Poly, as sophomore Greg Rinker and freshman Dylan Hyder each recorded a major decision at 125 and 133 pounds, respectively. The Mustangs earned their first win of the match at 141 pounds, as fourth-ranked Boris Novachkov earned a fall to bring the team score to 8-6.

A technical fall by third-ranked junior Cole VonOhlen in the 149-pound match pushed the Falcons' lead to 13-6. Meanwhile, sophomores Josh Kreimier and Colby Kluesner each posted major decisions in their respective weight classes, giving Kreimier and Colby Kluesner each posted major decisions at 149 and 157 pounds, respectively. The Mustangs earned another victory at 197 pounds, as 18th-ranked Ryan Smith recorded a fall, while junior Jared Erickson took a win by injury default in the heavyweight bout to close out the dual.

“We wrestled well today,” said Air Force head coach Joel Sharratt. “Anytime we give up pins, it’s obviously something we have to work on, but Cal Poly is a quality team, and this puts us in a good position with two conference duals coming up next week.”

Following the win over Cal Poly, Air Force returned to the mat to take on New Mexico Highlands. The Falcons posted their second shutout of the season, winning all 10 duals against the Cowboys.

Junior Kyle VonOhlen applies a hold to a New Mexico Highlands wrestler during Saturday’s meet at Clune Arena Saturday. VonOhlen won in the 149-pound category.

Fun By The Numbers

Rinker, VonOhlen and Kreimier all earned falls for Air Force, while Gable added a technical fall. Freshman Carter McElhany, Kluesner and Erickson each scored extra team points by winning major decisions in their respective weight classes, while Hyder, Isley and junior Josh Mohr each registered decisions.

VonOhlen, who registered his team-leading eighth fall of the season, also reached an historic milestone in his match against New Mexico Highlands, recording his 100th career victory. VonOhlen became the first Falcon to reach the 100-win plateau since the 2001-02 season.

Meanwhile, with their three dual victories this week, the Falcons are undefeated at home this season, with a match-up against nationally ranked conference rival Wyoming looming Thursday.

“We’re feeling well in Clune right now,” stated Sharratt. “It’s a great wrestling venue, it’s awesome having the support from the Academy’s senior leadership. It means a lot to our guys to have them in attendance.”

At the conclusion of the Falcons’ varsity duals on Saturday evening, the Air Force Silver Team took on New Mexico Highlands, earning a 34-10 victory. The Cowboys won the first two bouts, but the Falcons regrouped with eight straight wins, including a fall by sophomore Chris Morales at 174 pounds. Sophomore Dan Baucke also scored a technical fall at 165 pounds, while sophomore Daniel Baucke and freshman Alec Williams earned major decisions at 149 and 157 pounds, respectively.

Also posting wins for the Silver team were sophomores Devin Hightower, Evan Gross and Brook Gosch, who each recorded decisions for the Falcons.

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Air Force swimmers fall to 8-8

The Air Force men's swimming and diving team dropped a 153-90 dual meet to Denver Saturday afternoon at the Cadet Natatorium, falling to 8-8 on the season.

Denver won the first nine events to start the meet and coasted to the win.

Air Force won three of 13 events on the day.

Air Force was led by seniors Corydon Butler and Cody Deacon. Butler won the 500-meter freestyle with a time of 4:40.04. Deacon took the 50m breaststroke with a time of 26.14 seconds.

The Falcons also capped the meet by winning the 200m freestyle relay. The group of Tim Martinelli, Cole Smith, Butler and Ryan Dunne swam a winning time of 1:24.31.

Junior Brent White was Air Force's top diver, taking second place in both the 1m and 3m dives.

Aztecs overpower Falcons, 75-62

Junior Dymond James registered her third double-double of the year, but the Air Force women's basketball team came up short in their upset bid against league-leading San Diego State, falling 75-62 to the Aztecs Saturday afternoon in Clune Arena.

James finished the game with 19 points and 11 rebounds to lead the Falcons, while sophomore Megan O’Neil also scored in double figures with a career-best 18 points.

Courtney Clements registered 21 points and 10 rebounds to lead the Aztecs to their 10th-straight victory.

Air Force (5-14, 0-4) got out to a strong start against San Diego State, shooting better than 59 percent from the field in the first half against the top defensive team in the Mountain West. Although the Falcons were hampered by too many turnovers in the opening period, committing 16 miscues in the first 20 minutes, Air Force still managed to take a 32-30 advantage into the intermission.

The Falcons led by as many as four points early in the second half, but San Diego State (14-4, 4-0) came back to regain the advantage. With 10:41 remaining in the contest, the score was tied at 41-41, but Air Force was hampered by foul trouble in the end, as the Aztecs scored 18 of their last 23 points at the charity stripe.

For the game, Air Force shot a season-best 51.1 percent but committed 23 turnovers compared to just 10 for the Aztecs. In addition, San Diego State had a slight edge on the boards, outrebounding the Falcons 40-36.

“I’m extremely proud of our team and the way we bounced back today (after a tough road loss on Wednesday),” said Air Force head coach Andrea Williams. “We came out and competed. Now we just need to focus and reload, and put it together for our game against TCU at home.”

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Intramural basketball notes and highlights

Over-30 League

The top two teams in the over-30 basketball league squared off Jan. 18 at the fitness center with Med Group defeating the Dean of Facilit- y, 68-59, to hold on to first place. The first half was close the ma- jority of the way, but Tim Heller heaved a ball from more than half court and banked in a three point basket, giving the medics the half- time lead at 31-25.

The Medics galloped off to an early lead in the second half to push their lead to 12. However, DF came roaring back with five minutes to go, bringing the score to 56-54, but the Med Group poured it on in the final minutes to secure the win.

In the final game the Prep School led from start to finish defeating the Cadet Wing 49-38. Prep School’s win puts them in third place.

The preps had a 20-10 first-half lead thanks to some early baskets from Joe Trechter and Eric Moore.

In the second stanza, the cadet wing tried but could never get the point spread under eight. The preps had balanced scoring from Joe Trechter, 15 points, and teammates Nate Allen, Raimene Beck, and Eric Moore all had nine points apiece. The Cadet Wing’s top scorers were Bill Reif, with nine points, and Adam McNeill and Oliver Johns with eight points apiece.

Intramural League

The medical teams squared off in Tuesday night action with Hospital No. 2 defeating the first place team, Hospital No. 1, 66-57. Hospital No.1 got out to a quick 9-2 lead, but after that, medic team No. 2 dominated inside and outside. Hospital No. 2 took an 11 point lead at the half to bring the score to 32-21 and never looked back.

Hospital No. 2 was led by balanced scoring from Paul Vernon, with 17 points, Aaron Dawkins with 15 and Rod Turner had 13 points. Hospital No. 1’s leading scorers were Ma- lik Perry with 18 points and Ryan Hampton with 17 points.

CES defeated DRU 52-51 in a nail biter. CES had the lead from the beginning when Tanner Derosier tipped the opening jump to Roy Dal- ton who fired a bullet to Steve Rous- seau for the opening bucket. Derosi- er controlled the boards throughout the game and Dalton ran the CES offense with precision. CES had an eight-point lead at the half, but with five minutes left in the game, DRU’s Hwang Ho scored two three-point- ers to give DRU a one-point lead.

Derosier won the game with two free throws. Derosier had a team high 14 points, and Dan Garcia added 11 more. DRU was led in scoring by Nathan Trach and 17 points.

No. 1’s leading scorers were Ma- lik Perry with 18 points and Ryan Hampton with 17 points.

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Free tax preparation available

The Academy tax center will offer free tax preparation starting Feb. 3. Taxes will be done by appointment only. Appointments will be available 8 a.m.-11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. Mondays and Fridays.

The gross income limit for eligibility is $50,000 for either an individual or joint tax return. The program is open to cadets, Academy service members and dependents of Academy service members.

The tax center is in Arnold Hall, and it will begin taking appointments this month. For more info, call 333-3905.

Entry decal discontinued

Fort Carson has eliminated the use of the Department of Defense vehi-icle decals (DD Form 2220) for access to the installation. The vehicle decal is no longer available at the Academy’s Pass and Reg-istration Center. The PRC will now issue Cadet Area stickers weekdays, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Any questions can be referred to Brad Wilson at 333-8420.

Community center activities

Lunchtime table tennis - Monday through Friday starting at 11 a.m. in the Milazzo Center. Sponsored by the 10th Medical Group. Call beforehand to sign up, 333-2928.

Dance classes - Line dance classes are taught in six-week increments. Ballroom dancing consists of four lesson blocks, one hour per block. Classes for both take place Mondays in the Milazzo Center ballroom. Line dance classes start at 5 p.m., ballroom dancing classes start at 6 p.m.

Double-feature movie night - Today at the auditorium. The first movie will be “Johnny English Reborn,” rated PG. The second movie, “Tower Heist,” is rated PG-13. Start times are the same as Friday’s.

Assortment of skating options

The Outdoor Recreation Office has ski passes available for purchase. The list of options is as follows: Monarch, Loveland, Patriot Pass (unlimited Copper Mountain and Winter Park), Patriot Pass Plus (unlimited Copper Mountain and Winter Park and six days at Steamboat), and A Unlimited Pass for Keystone and Arapahoe Basin. Call 333-4475 for more info.

Dispose of your recyclables

The 10th Civil Engineer Squadron is holding its annual electronics recycling event through January. Each Wednesday and Thursday, electronic items can be taken to the Civil Engineers’ Complex (Building 8125) from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. for recycling. Recycling is free.

For more information, call Derek Damien at 333-3224.

Area military adoption fair

The Academy, Peterson and Schriev-er Air Force bases and Fort Carson will host a military adoption fair from 9 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Feb. 10 at the Southeast YMCA.

This fair will consist of adoption in-formation specific to military families, an adoption agency service panel in-cluding information on infant, local, foster, interstate, and international adoptions.

There will also be a resource panel, an adoptive parent forum and infor-mation fair.

For more information or to register, call the Airman and Family Read-iness Center at 333-3444. Attendees must register for event.

Fishing regulation changes

The Academy no longer requires fishermen to have a Colorado fishing license. However, a $21 annual base permit or $7.25 one-day permit is re-quired.

Fishermen who would like to use two rods also have a new option of purchasing a second-rod permit that is valid only for Academy and Farish Recreation Area lakes. An annual fishing permit purchased in 2011 will be valid through March 31 during a phase-in of the new cal-endar year (Jan. 1-Dec. 31) permit. Academy fishing and second-rod permits are sold only at the Outdoor Recreation Center, Farish Recreation Area, and the Peregrine Pines Fam-Camp.

If you have questions about the fish-ing program, see USAFA132-7001 or call Natural Resources at 333-3308.

Family advocacy classes

Stress Management Class - At-tend this class to find out about the symptoms of stress, practical ways to manage stress and how to relax. Two-session class held from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Tuesday and Feb. 7.

1-2-3 Magic Parenting Class - For parents with children ages 2-12. Of-fers easy-to-follow steps for disciplin-ing children without arguing, yelling or spanking. Two-session course from 9-10 a.m. Wednesday and Feb. 8.

Dads 101 Class - This class is taught for dads by dads. Topics include preg-nancy, labor and delivery, communicat-ing with your spouse and caring for in infant. Two-session class is from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Feb. 13-14.

A Couples Enrichment Workshop is from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Feb. 10. Want more from your marriage or relationship? This workshop will help you learn how to talk to each other more effectively, to listen so your partner feels heard and under-stood, to solve problems like you’re on the same team and to remem-ber how to have fun together again.

Academy Lanes offerings

Breakfast at Ten Pin Grill: Monday-Friday, 7-11 a.m. Hot breakfasts fea-turing eggs, hash browns, bacon or sausage, biscuits and gravy, and more! $20 per person.

New England Seafood Dinner - 5 p.m. Feb. 9. Clams, chowder, shrimp and sausage for just $20 per person.

Steak Night - 5 p.m. Feb. 16. Two great steak choices with delicious sides. $25 per person or $40 per cou-ple.

Tiestle Ball Fitting and Product Info Caffee - February 23, 5 p.m. Appetiz-ers and cash bar, $10 per person.

For more information contact the golf course at 333-2606.
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Free ads in accordance with military regulations must be non-commercial and for personal property
offered by active-duty and retired military personnel and their families working, living or relocating to the
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