Cadets took flight Monday in the Academy’s newest powered-flight trainer, the T-53A, which is the military equivalent of the Cirrus SR-20.

“More than anything else, the sensation of flying is one of perfect peace mingled with an excitement that strains every nerve to the utmost — if you can conceive of such a combination.”

— Wilbur Wright (1867-1912)

Cadet killed in car accident

Cadet 3rd Class Peter T. Quick killed, one fellow cadet injured in drive home Sat.

An Air Force Academy cadet was killed in a motor vehicle accident shortly after midnight Saturday near Clifton, Colo. According to the Colorado State Patrol, Cadet 3rd Class Peter T. Quick, of Friendship, Tenn., was one of three cadets involved in a fatal accident between a sedan and a semi-truck while traveling on I-70B in Clifton, Colo. The cadet driver of the sedan was uninjured and another cadet passenger received non-life threatening injuries. The driver of the semi-truck was not injured.

“The Air Force Academy family is deeply saddened by the tragic loss one of our own,” said Commandant of Cadets Brig. Gen. Richard Clark. “Our thoughts and prayers are with Peter’s family, his loved ones and the Cadet Wing during this difficult time of grieving and healing.”

Quick studied computer engineering, and was also a member of the Academy’s show choir.

Prior to joining the Air Force Academy’s Class of 2014, Quick was an enlisted Airman stationed at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, where he worked as a technical application specialist and attained the rank of Airman First Class.

Academy personnel are coordinating funeral arrangements with the cadet’s family.
Leaders: Walk, talk instead of click, send

Commentary by Chief Master Sgt. Harold L. Hutchinson
78th Air Force

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea (AFNS) — Recently, I received and reviewed, with great concern, the alarmingly high Air Force suicide rates for fiscal 2012. As of March 27, we have had 30 suicides for the year compared to 23 at this same time last year.

You may be thinking, “Chief, why are you telling me this?” I would respond that I believe one of the many things we as leaders and Airmen can do to reverse this negative trend is employ increased face-to-face communication with your Airmen, to show we care.

Leaders need to get out from behind the desk to visit, mentor and socialize with our Airmen. Communicating in person has always been and still remains extremely important in today’s Air Force.

We have all been ingrained with the definition of leadership. After reading numerous professional military education articles, one could recite a phrase that would probably sound like, “Leadership is the art or the ability of an individual to influence and direct others to contribute toward the effectiveness and success of the organization and its mission.”

There are other ways to describe leadership. Ultimately, leadership is the ability of great leaders to effectively and efficiently lead Airmen to execute the wing’s mission, while making Airmen fully understand and feel their involvement is the key ingredient to maximizing the mission’s goals.

In my humble opinion, that exemplifies true leadership. Effective personal communication is no small task in the modern military. With units consistently deploying, workers performance and hence the mission.” With that said, we need to get out there and lead your Airmen from the front ... they deserve good leadership. Finally, “I believe cultivating our interpersonal skills is as simple as just taking the time to talk to your subordinates and get to know them, the things they like and the things they dislike or perhaps about his or her next deployment. Show them you genuinely care for them. A leader who knows his Airmen will be able to recognize when one of them is having problems, either in their personal life or with assigned tasks, and hopefully you will be able to take steps and actions to affect change in the situation. If a leader doesn’t know what normal behavior is from one of his or her Airmen... how will you know what abnormal is? As the Professional Development Guide states, “Leadership involves the key ingredient to maximizing worker performance and hence the mission.”

I believe cultivating our inter-personal skills is as simple as just taking the time to talk to your subordinates and get to know them, to show we care. I believe today, more than ever, we need to put more emphasis back on face-to-face communication. Gen. Ronald R. Fogelman, a former Air Force chief of staff, once said, “To become successful leaders, we must first learn that no matter how good the technology or how shiny the equipment, people-to-people relations get things done in our organizations. If you are to be a good leader, you have to cultivate your skills in the arena of personal relations.”

In a peacetime military atmosphere, relying on email to communicate is sufficient, but it has also hindered, to some degree, our communication process, but it has also hindered, to some degree, the ability and willingness of some of us to get out from behind the desk. It’s taken away from the time we spend with our Airmen because we spend so much time emailing. I’ve seen Airmen send emails to someone 10 feet away from them in the same office. Is this the way we want to communicate with each other in today’s stressful environment?

Communicating in person has always been and still remains extremely important in today’s Air Force.”

Chief Master Sgt. Harold L. Hutchinson
Applied ‘green’ research teaches cadets about ins, outs of renewable energy

A Defense Department-funded initiative in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department here offers cadets a chance to get their hands dirty by making the environment a little cleaner.

The program, which has received $270,000 since 2009 from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, is designed to teach cadets about renewable energy, including its benefits and limiting factors and how best to employ it in a field environment.

Last year’s capstone computer engineering project involved the installation of a mobile solar power system, which currently sits on the roof of Fairchild Hall.

“It was built as a prototype of a mobile system,” said Al Mundy, an electrical engineering instructor. “It’s not mobile at the moment. It’s lacking the wheels. But it could be moved if we wanted it to be.”

The solar panel formed part of this year’s capstone project, which involves a small, quiet all-terrain vehicle donated from the special operations community. Solar energy is a good alternative to a diesel generator for both noise and cost reasons, Mundy said.

“Diesel is noisy and very expensive in a deployed environment, and it requires a lot of maintenance,” said Lt. Col. Andrew Laffely, the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department’s director of plans and programs.

“Here, it’s a closed system,” Mundy said. “The only thing we have to maintain is keeping the brakes clean.”

The vehicle presents challenges of its own as well. The Academy received it in what one might call “well-loved” condition. Cadets had to familiarize themselves with the vehicle, even reverse engineering parts of it when they found the quality of existing engineering documents lacking, Mundy said.

“One of the things we teach is that good documentation is important,” he said. “Now the cadets are seeing what happens when that’s not the case.”

Renewable energy isn’t always available. The sun doesn’t shine 24 hours a day, and it’s not always windy enough to power a wind turbine, said Lt. Col. Margaret Weingart, of Cadet Squadron 32, connects wiring to a vehicle battery in the Academy’s Electrical and Computer Engineering Department April 3.

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The system’s energy input is small compared to Fairchild Hall’s overall needs — it’s the data that holds real value, said Mundy.

“All of that data is brought back into the lab,” he said. “Cadets can see what happens when it snows or when light is shining across panels.”

Yet the sun is the power source for the vehicle’s batteries, he said. “If we could have some good solar area or how big a wind turbine it would take to charge the vehicle’s batteries,” he said. “If we can do that on a standalone basis, that builds a microgrid.”

Microgrids allow electrical engineers to manage power on a small level. In this case, a single vehicle or a small fleet. A cadet-operated microgrid would need to balance the supply of renewable energy with demand from the vehicles or from other energy consumers on base.

The engineers can then network their microgrid with the base’s main power grids or with other microgrids on base to create a smart grid, which allows the smaller power networks to share energy.

“For a smart grid, you have to ask, ‘Can I plug it into the main power grid?’ It’s about the communication of energy data,” Mundy said.

At project’s end, Laffely said, cadets come away with more than just a better understanding of renewable energy.

“I was deployed last year, but the year before that, the capstone project was a wind turbine generator for a Humvee,” he said. “Now the cadets had a ball,” Laffely said. “Hands-on learning and experimentation is really valuable. Cadets this year have gotten their hands dirty and really taken ownership, and that’s what I want to see them do — get into the practice of being computer, electrical or system engineers.”

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"They were in a meeting, and an Australian special forces soldier came into the meeting and thanked them on his way home from a deployment because they saved his life."

-- Cadet 1st Class Amy Abraham
Cadet Squadron 12

By Don Branum
Academy Spirit staff writer

A remotely piloted aircraft takes off from the Air Force Academy’s Aardvark airfield Wednesday. The aircraft, part of a capstone research project by Cadets 1st Class Tristan Latchu, Danny Harold, Amy Abraham and Michael McClain, is designed to work in conjunction with an unmanned surface vehicle built by Naval Academy midshipmen and two unmanned ground vehicles built by U.S. Military Academy cadets.

Capstone project explores land, sea, air possibilities

"I hear reports of pilot's anxiety and dropped performance," said Dr. Daniel Pack, the director of the Academy’s Center for UAS Research. Cadets work closely with full-time researchers on their projects that are sponsored by the Defense Department using Defense Research and Engineering grants. The research ties into the DOD’s plans to increase its use of unmanned vehicles -- by as much as 45 percent between now and 2022, according to an April 10 report by Bloomberg. That means there’ll be no shortage of cadet-built remotely piloted aircraft looking to get off the ground anytime soon.

The project includes Abraham and three others: Cadets 1st Class Danny Harold from CS 05, Michael McClain from CS 06 and Tristan Latchu from CS 06. Its goal is to help the cadets become more familiar with unmanned aerial systems' capabilities.

By an airfield about a mile and a half north of the B-52 static display here, a much smaller aircraft takes flight from an asphalt landing strip called "Aardvark." The remote-controlled plane, measuring about 5 feet from nose to tail with a wingspan of about 8 feet, leaps off the ground, lurches dangerously downward and to the left, then straightens out and climbs at a steep 45-degree angle toward the cloud ceiling about 1,000 feet above. "Oh, my God, how did that happen?" asks a cadet on the plane's design team, either agape at the wind gust that nearly smacked the plane back onto the runway or incredulous that the plane actually made it into the air. But after the rough takeoff, it settles into a smooth orbit around a target on the ground, passing imagery and telemetry to a ground station in a nearby trailer.

The aircraft and its team of four cadets will travel to the U.S. Military Academy in early May. There, the Air Force Academy cadets will work with Naval Academy midshipmen and West Point cadets, who have designed unmanned surface vehicles (USVs) and unmanned ground vehicles (UGVs), to track and intercept a target.

"We’ll be looking for an enemy ship," explained Cadet 1st Class Amy Abraham, an electrical engineering major with Cadet Squadron 12. "Our (remotely piloted aircraft) will send data back to us, and we’ll give that data to the USV so it can intercept the target. Alternately, if the target docks and releases a runner, we can relay data to the UGVs so they can intercept the runner."

The team will focus on catching the ship before it docks, however.

"The runner’s too small for us to track at the moment," Abraham said.

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Cadet recognized by first lady

Cadet 3rd Class Moranda Hern honored for ‘Sisterhood of Traveling BDUs’ work

An Air Force Academy cadet who cofounded a program to help daughters of deployed military members visited the White House Wednesday to meet the First Lady. Cadet 3rd Class Moranda Hern was one of 40 individuals invited to The White House for the Joining Forces Anniversary.

“Jill and I are so proud of all of these finalists and the work that they have done for our military community,” said First Lady Michelle Obama. “Our military families demonstrate such strength, service, and sacrifice every single day, and we’re so grateful for everyone who is stepping up to give back to these families. The challenge winners are leading by example, and showing that all of us can find a way to serve those who serve us.”

Judging criteria included community building, innovation, inclusiveness, and how well the program could be transferred and replicated elsewhere in the country.

“As a military mom, I know firsthand the impact a small act of kindness can have on a military family,” said Dr. Jill Biden. “So the great work we have seen through the Joining Forces Community Challenge has been inspiring. I hope others can look to these incredible examples for ways to support service members and military families in their own communities.”

Speakers for the event included the First Lady, Dr. Biden, Tom Brokaw, and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey.

Before Hern joined the Air Force Academy Class of 2014, she was the co-founder of The Sisterhood of the Traveling BDUs, a nonprofit foundation for military girls by military girls. She and Kaylei Deakin were inspired to create the program after their fathers deployed to Afghanistan, when she felt a need for sisterly support in her life and saw the same needs in the lives of other military girls.

“Afier our fathers deployed, we felt a definite need for sisterly support in our lives and we see the same needs in the lives of others. Military girls go through so many unique challenges, especially during the tender ages of 13-18,” Hern said. “During deployments, many girls suffer from lack of self esteem and often feel completely alone. Some common reactions to deployment by young girls are failing school, dropping in self confidence, cutting, eating disorders, body identity issues, lack of interest and depression,” she added.

“Afier our fathers returned home from deployment, we then connected together through the California National Guard Child and Youth Program,” Hern said. “When we came together, we realized we were not alone in our challenges. After that ‘aha!’ moment, we were inspired to articulate our unique challenges and to create a program to empower military girls.

“After attending our Governor’s Women’s Conference in 2008, we decided to use our personal experience as military girls to create the Sisterhood of the Traveling BDUs,” Hern added. The Sisterhood has reached more than 160 girls at its first conference and has reached thousands of girls nationwide through media outlets. Currently, Hern is in her sophomore year at the Academy. She is an NCAA Division 1 diver and a Global Teen Leader. She plans to fly fighter jets in the Air Force after graduation.

This summer, Hern will travel to Madrid as an Ambassador of Inclusion for the Academy’s Diversity Office. The Joining Forces Community Challenge was launched in July 2011 by Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden to recognize the innovative ways Americans have stepped up to support and honor our military families.

For more information on the Joining Forces Challenge, go to: http://joiningforces.challenge.gov/ and for more information on the Sisterhood of the Traveling BDUs, go to http://www.sisterhoodbdus.org.
A different type of hawk

An HH-60G Pave Hawk from the 58th Special Operations Wing at Kirtland AFB, N.M., drops in on the noon meal formation here Monday. The aircrew had lunch with cadets and let them look at the aircraft up close and talk to the crew. This marked the first time many of the Academy’s 1,000 freshmen got to see the helicopter.

Trainers

From page 1

turned it into an Air Force technical order. Staff also spent many hours training and evaluating Academy attached instructors to make sure all T-53A pilots were prepared for cadets’ first takeoff into the wild blue yonder.

“Today marks the end of many months of work preparing for the first Academy cadet to fly the T-53A as part of the powered flight program,” said Lt. Col. Brad Oliver, the 557th FTS director of operations. “It also marks the beginning of a new era in cadet leadership training. The 557th FTS is excited to be a part of the character and leadership development of our services’ future leaders through this unique training program.”

The time these officer candidates spend at the 557th represents their initial introduction to an operational flying squadron.

Cadets interact with and draw on the flying and career experiences of rated officers.

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Cadets interact with and draw on the flying and career experiences of rated officers.

“This aircraft will allow us to offer the powered flight program to cadets headed to all Air Force specialties as well as help prepare the cadets headed to rated jobs for what they will face at pilot or navigator training,” said Capt. Jocelyn Smith, one of the initial cadre of T-53A instructors. Some cadets will go on to rated careers while others to non-rated, but all will take away experiences and knowledge that are vital to developing extraordinary officers.

The powered flight program focuses on developing officer, leadership and character for cadets and introduces them to operational flying.

This program brings the academic lessons they learn in class into the real-world experience of flying an aircraft. The robust training schedule includes approximately 36 hours of ground training and ten flights that cover aerodynamic principles and basic airmanship, among other lessons.

Cadets who apply themselves and can safely operate the T-53A may have the opportunity to solo on their 10th flight. The instructors do not take this privilege lightly. The instructors are serious about ensuring cadets are ready for the next step in their careers.

“Soloing a cadet is a very rewarding experience,” said Capt. Mike Terrell, a powered flight program instructor. “My signature represents the culmination of both flight and ground training and guarantees they have safely met all prerequisites to fly alone.”

Cadet 1st Class Trevor Ibarra of Cadet Squadron 40 was the first cadet to take off in the T-53A.

“Ibarra said. “The weather was perfect, the aircraft responsive, and I was able to fly knowing a world-class instructor was there to keep me safe.”

Their experience at the 557th will prepare cadets to be officers and future leaders in the U.S. Air Force.

Cadet Diamond Seminar April 18th AFA Cadet Hall

April 18th Luisa and company will be playing with diamonds at the Air Force Academy Cadet Hall. This is an opportunity for all Cadets to ask questions and interact with Luisa as she covers the important aspects of diamond buying.

5:45 pm on April 18th. Contact Cadet Activities in Arnold Hall for your reservation!

If you are not a Cadet or missed the Diamond Seminar, we invite you to attend our Geminar Spectacular at Luisa Graff Jewelers on May 10th at 5:45 pm. Limited space is available so call our store today at 719-260-0100 and reserve your spot!

Visit us at: 5901 North Nevada Avenue • Colorado Springs, CO 80918 • (719) 260-0100 • www.luisagraffjewelers.com
WASHINGTON (AFNS) — In a harrowing 10-hour battle amidst more than 100 insurgents, a special tactics officer kept the enemy at bay with a little help from above.

Cpt. Barry F. Crawford Jr. was awarded the Air Force Cross during a Pentagon ceremony Thursday for his heroic actions controlling the air space and calling in airstrikes during the 2010 battle in Afghanistan, which allowed his special operations team to get out of the kill zone and ultimately saved the lives of his American comrades.

While assigned to the 23rd Expeditionary Special Tactics Squadron, Crawford was the Joint Terminal Attack Controller for an Army special forces and Afghan commando team.

Crawford, a 2003 Academy graduate, called in multiple fixed and rotary wing air assets, allowing for the safe return of all U.S. forces, the evacuation of two Afghan commandos killed in action, and the rescue of three other wounded Afghan commandos.

“Captain Crawford repeatedly and conspicuously disregarded his own safety to assist his United States and Afghan teammates,” said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz shortly before presenting the captain the Air Force Cross during the ceremony. “It is not hard to be utterly impressed by his bravery and inspired by his selflessness.”

According to his citation, “Crawford braved effective enemy fire and consciously placed himself at grave risk on four occasions while controlling over 33 aircraft and more than 40 airstrikes on a well-trained and well-prepared enemy force. His selfless actions and expert airpower employment neutralized a numerically superior enemy force and enabled friendly elements to exfiltrate the area without massive casualties.”

The team of approximately 100 personnel flew into the steep mountains of Laghman Province early May 4, 2010. As soon as they were on the ground, they heard enemy chatter on the radios. Then, within 30 minutes, they found a substantial weapons cache inside the village. The enemy force was apparently dug in to defensive positions and just waiting for the sun to rise before beginning their assault on the Coalition Force.

“As soon as the sun came up, we started taking extremely heavy enemy fire,” Crawford said in an interview. “Our placement in the middle of the village, and the enemy’s superior fighting positions, required us to run the gauntlet of enemy fire no matter where we were in the valley.”

Enemy fighters were expertly using sniper and medium machine-gun fire to target the friendly force as insurgents were closing in on their location from all sides. As the force closed in, a high-volume of machine-gun and sniper fire initially wounded five comrades.

Recognizing that the wounded Afghan soldiers would die without evacuation to definitive care, Captain Crawford took decisive action and ran out into the open in an effort to guide the [medical evacuation] helicopter to the landing zone, according to the citation. “Once the pilot had eyes on his position, Crawford remained exposed, despite having one of his radio antennas shot off mere inches from his face. “Acting without hesitation, Crawford then bounded across open terrain, engaging enemy positions with his assault rifle and called in AH-64 strafes to defeat the ambush.”

When the weather cleared, the team moved along the steep terrain. To allow his team to freely move in the open and prevent further casualties, Crawford coordinated the delivery of danger-close AH-64 Apache Hellfire missiles, and 500- and 2,000-pound Joint Direct Attack Munition bombs from F-15E Strike Eagles.

“Everyone there was on task and wanted to crush the enemy,” Crawford said. “My teammates went above and beyond, and everyone’s efforts really reenergized the entire assault force’s morale.”

As the U.S. and Afghan commandos left the burned-out village, Crawford’s team once again came under attack. Stuck in an open, narrow valley with 300- to 500-foot sheer mountain cliffs around them, the team was forced to hold their position in poor weather conditions.

With the enemy merely 150 meters away, Crawford repeatedly called for danger-close 30 mm strafing, and rocket attacks from AH-64 Apaches overhead. To mark the enemy locations, Crawford ran into the open to direct Apache airstrikes.

“The Apaches were our lifeline,” Crawford said. “They were consistently engaging. It was a battle of survival for us, and they unleashed hell on the enemy.”

The original mission was to collect intelligence from a remote village sympathetic to the Taliban. However, the village had been burned prior to their arrival. Their mission quickly turned into a battle for survival, which was remarkably successful.

The SOF team suffered two Afghan Commando casualties, but more than 80 insurgents were killed during the engagement, including three high-ranking enemy commanders. Crawford is currently assigned to the 104th Fighter Squadron in the Maryland Air National Guard’s 175th Fighter Wing. He will soon attend pilot training to fly the A-10 Thunderbolt II.

The Air Force Cross is the service’s highest medal, and second only to the Medal of Honor.

The last Air Force Cross was awarded to an Air Force combat controller, Staff Sgt. Robert Gutierrez Jr., on Oct. 27, 2011 at Hurlburt Field, Fla. Previously another Air Force combat controller, Staff Sgt. Zachary J. Rhynen, was presented the medal on March 10, 2009, at Pope Air Force Base, N.C.
Academy celebrates 58 years of excellence

April 1 commemorates establishment of a U.S. Air Force Academy

By Steve Simon
Academy Development and Alumni Programs

April 1, 1954. On that momentous date 58 years ago, with distinguished Congressional and Air Force leaders looking on, President Dwight Eisenhower signed Public Law 325, 83rd Congress, 2nd Session, formally authorizing the establishment of the United States Air Force Academy. The official birthday of the Academy is now reverently enshrined in the pantheon of our national holidays. That milestone could not have been reached without the foresight of Congress, the support of the American public, the vision of Academy advocates, and the steadfastness of Academy leaders and cadets.

Stirring the pot...But who recognized the Academy on April 1 this year? The Academy and Association of Graduates have announced the winners of the Air Force Academy’s Distinguished Graduate Award for 2011. The award recognizes graduates whose contributions have set them apart from other graduates.

The Academy’s Distinguished Graduate Award was established in 1954. The first Distinguished Graduate Award winner was Maj. Gen. Herman A. Eger, class of 1936. The 2011 Distinguished Graduate Award winners are Maj. Gen. Ruben Cubero, class of 1956, and Richard D. McConn, class of 1966.

Careers and contributions of the 2011 Distinguished Graduate Award winners

Maj. Gen. Ruben Cubero

Cubero graduated from the Academy in 1956

Brig. Gen. Ruben Cubero has demonstrated a lifetime of service to the Academy and to the nation. He excelled as a cadet, serving as a violist in the cadet symphony and as a student body officer. He was named the Cadet of the Year his senior year, and he was a member of the Academy’s football team.

After completing pilot training, Cubero served as a pilot for the Air Force’s A-10 Thunderbolt, C-5 Galaxy, and F-15 Eagle. In 1994, he served as the Academy’s president for one year.

Cubero retired from the Air Force in 1998 and was selected as president of the Falcon Foundation in 2000. He has served in that position for 10 years. There, he guided the Foundation through two membership meetings each year, raised $2.5 billion, and established the Falcon Family Foundation.

Richard D. McConn

McConn graduated from the Academy in 1966

Following his graduation and intelligence officer training, McConn founded and built a multi-million dollar international logistics and support business known for its quality and ethical conduct.

Believing the motto “Learn, Earn and Return,” McConn has shared his accumulated wealth with the military, the Academy, and the Air Force. He helped launch the McConn Scholar program at Georgetown University, sponsoring and funding mid-career level Academy graduates for their master’s degrees in public policy.

McConn’s efforts to encourage and support Air Force Academy graduates for leadership positions in government, industry and politics as well as the military are well known and greatly appreciated by the graduate community.

The Academy and Association of Graduates have announced the winners of the Air Force Academy’s Distinguished Graduate Award for 2011. The award recognizes graduates whose contributions have set them apart from other graduates.

BRIG. GEN. RUBEN A. CUBERO, Class of 1956

Career Highlights: Brig. Gen. Ruben Cubero has demonstrated a lifetime of service to the Academy and to the nation. He excelled as a violist in the cadet symphony and as a student body officer. He was named the Cadet of the Year his senior year, and he was a member of the Academy’s football team.

After completing pilot training, Cubero served as a pilot for the Air Force’s A-10 Thunderbolt, C-5 Galaxy, and F-15 Eagle. In 1994, he served as the Academy’s president for one year.

Cubero retired from the Air Force in 1998 and was selected as president of the Falcon Foundation in 2000, a position he held for 10 years. There, he guided the Foundation through two membership meetings each year, raised $2.5 billion, and established the Falcon Family Foundation.

Richard D. McConn, Class of 1966

Career Highlights: Richard D. McConn has met many challenges in his distinguished and out of the military life. He contributed to the Academy, the Air Force, and the nation has never wavered.

Following graduate and intelligence officer training, McConn volunteered immediately for duty in Vietnam and became the primary liaison and analyst for the 77th Air Force. Following his combat tour, he helped plan the use of contractors in data collection and analysis for intelligence purposes. Successive “by name” assignments to serve in the offices of the vice chief of staff and secretary of defense and as a White House aide to the president affirmed the importance of his contributions.

After leaving active duty for the business world McConn remained in the Air Force Reserve, serving at the highest level of the Air Force staff to retirement. As a civic leader, he founded and built a multimillion dollar international logistics and support business that has its headquarters in Austin, Texas.

Believing the motto “Learn, Earn and Return,” McConn has shared his accumulated wealth with the military, the Academy, and the Air Force. He helped launch the McConn Scholar program at Georgetown University, sponsoring and funding mid-career level Academy graduates for their master’s degrees in public policy.

The Air Force Academy’s iconic chapel was completed in 1963 and dedicated on Sept. 22, 1963. The chapel cost $3.5 million in 1959 dollars and is now the most visited man-made attraction in Colorado.

The Academy has produced leaders of character for our service and nation since the first graduating class in 1955.
Air Force boxing wins 19th NCBA team title

Highlighted by four national champions, the Air Force boxing team picked up its 19th National Collegiate Boxing Association title Saturday at Clune Arena. The Falcons went 4-1 on the day, en route to their first NCBA championship since 2004.

Air Force scored 47 points to capture the 19th NCBA title in program history, defeating Navy by six points. Army, which had won the last four national titles, finished third with 21 points, while Nevada placed fourth with 19 points. Massachusetts and San Jose State rounded out the top five teams, as they tied for fifth with 10 points each.

Air Force entered the day in first, holding a narrow one-point lead over Navy, but quickly extended its lead as junior Drew Pineda defended his NCBA title at 112 pounds. After receiving a bye throughout the first two rounds of competition, Pineda stepped into the national ring and earned a victory over Navy’s Richard Gonong. Pineda applied immediate pressure to Gonong and forced the referee to call the bout in the third round.

The Falcons’ added another championship belt in the 132-pound weight class, as senior Casey Habluetzel claimed the 132-pound title and Navy’s Keon Briscoe won a unanimous decision over Lock Haven’s Nick Gounaris in the heavyweight division. Lawal immediately took charge of the ring, sending his opponent to the mat in the opening minute. He continued to keep Gounaris against the ropes during the bout to earn the vote of all five judges. Senior Mike McLain also competed in the championship round, but dropped his 175-pound bout with Army’s John Maddux by a 4-1 decision.

With his second-place finish, McLain concluded an impressive collegiate career with four consecutive NCBA All-America certificates.

In the other championship bouts, Navy’s Tom Payne won the 119-pound title with a 5-0 decision over Penn State’s Dave Martinez, Nevada’s Andrew Morales defeated (3-0) East Carolina’s Brandon Knox for the 125-pound championship. San Jose State’s Oscar Gomez won a 3-2 decision over Lock Haven’s Nick Gounaris for the 132-pound title and Navy’s Keon Briscoe claimed the 156-pound title with a 5-0 decision over Josh Surgeon of Coast Guard and Nevada’s Josue Gayton won a unanimous decision over Army’s Ryan Johnson. The remaining two bouts were won by walkover, as Josh Lopez of UMass won the 139-pound title and Navy’s Keon Briscoe claimed the 195-pound title.

Nevada’s Andrew Morales (125 pounds) was named the top Outstanding Boxer for the Lightweight Division, while Army’s John Maddux (175-pound) was named the top Outstanding Boxer for the Heavyweight Division. Army’s 195-pound boxer Andre Shinda received the NCBA Sportsmanship Award.

Air Force’s four gold medalists are the most for the program in an individual championship since the 2003 squad also earned four. The wins by Pineda, Starr, Habluetzel and Lawal bring the Falcons’ national champions total to 109 since 1976.
**FORT COLLINS, Colo. —** The Air Force Falcons Cycling Team had a strong showing in conferences races hosted by Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colo., Saturday and Sunday, with five racers finishing in the top five.

Overall, it was the season’s best race as a team,” said Lt Col Len Cabrera, cycling team coach. “The training is starting to pay off and the cadets are comfortable enough with each other that they’re starting to work together during the races.”

On Saturday, 10 cadets participated in circuit races which consisted of anywhere from 24 to 48 miles of roads surrounding the CSU agricultural center. Freshman Nathan Woodford, of Cadet Squadron 03, took third place overall in the Men’s C Division, and second in Division 2. Sophomore Stefan Zavislan, of Cadet Squadron 28 raced his way to a second place finish in the Division 2 race and third overall in Men’s B. In the women’s B race, freshman Sarah Godish, of Cadet Squadron 40 finished third in Division 2 and eighth overall.

The Sunday races consisted of criterium races on the CSU campus. Freshman Tucker Brown, of Cadet Squadron 35, finished third in Division 2 and took 5th overall in the Men’s C Division. Sophomore Stefan Zavislan, Cadet Squadron 28, took 5th overall (2nd in Division 2), C2C Evan Glowiak (CS-38) and C4C Karl Schroeder (CS-19) both took prems.

Two cadets raced in the Women’s B Division. Freshman Sarah Godish, of CS 40, took seventh overall, and first in Division 2. Freshman teammate MacKenzie Paul, also of CS 40, took ninth overall, and third place in Division 2. In the Open 4/5 division, Sophomore Stefan Zavislan, of CS 28, took second overall, while Junior Evan Glowiak, of CS 38, dominated the field, leading for almost 20 minutes of the race and took fifth overall. Despite what people think, bike racing is a team sport,” Cabrera said. “It’s very hard to win a race by yourself. Stefan Zavislan had the best finishes, but I was most impressed by Evan Glowiak. He jumped to the front of the pack in both criteriums and really showed some speed and endurance. He was the workhorse on the Men’s B team and was willing to lead out Stefan so he could try to upgrade before our race next weekend.”

The Falcon Cycling Team hosts the Front Range Cycling Classic Saturday and Sunday. Pre-registration is available at: www.usacycling.org.
Play ball!

Air Force presents flag at Rockies home opener

Forty Airmen from the Air Force Academy joined firefighters and law enforcement officers from Denver to unfurl a giant U.S. flag during the Colorado Rockies opening game at Coors Field in Denver Monday. In addition, a color guard and formation from each military branch posted the colors, while F-16 Fighting Falcons from the Colorado Air National Guard’s 140th Wing at Buckley Air Force Base performed a flyover.
Around Academy

Claims against Quick estate
All persons, firms or corporations having claims against the estate of Cadet 3rd Class T. Quick, deceased, must present them to Lt. Col Edward Haskell at least one or before April 27 and have them legally authenticated by the Academy’s Staff Judge Advocate office for pro-rata payment, or they will be forever barred, and this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons, firms or corporations indebted to this estate should make immediate payment to Haskell in care of the legal office. Any questions should contact Haskell at 333-3404.

Straight Talk Line
The Academy’s Straight Talk Line allows people to receive up-to-date information in the event of natural disasters or emergencies. The Straight Talk Line can be reached at 333-7876.

Interfaith council discussion
The Cadet Interfaith Council will hold a discussion titled “A Discipline of Generosity: Buddhist Approaches to Being Awake” in the Arnold Hall Banquet Room Monday at 6:30 p.m.

Optometry clinic
The Academy Optometry clinic is open to all Tricare Prime and Tricare for Life beneficiaries. No referral is needed to make an appointment for a routine eye exam.

Service members, veterans, active duty personnel, federal employees, and their dependents can call 524-CARE. For urgent care eye appointments please call 333-5144.

After-hours dental care
The Air Force Academy Dental Clinic allows cadets or Active Duty at the Academy or Peterson to contact their clinic after duty hours for dental emergencies.

If you are active duty and a dental emergency occurs while you’re away from your duty station, whether you’re TDY or on leave, you may seek treatment from a civilian dentist. Although you may seek treatment from any civilian dentist for dental emergency care, it is recommended that you use a United Concordia network dentist.

To reach a dentist after hours for an emergency call 524-262-4410. To find a dentist call the Active Duty Dental Program help line at 1-866-984-ADD P (2337) or visit www.addp-ucci.com.

Family Advocacy classes
The Family Advocacy Program offers classes for anger management, stress management and active parenting.

Classes are open to active duty service members, family members, Department civilians and retirees.

A stress management class is two sessions and will be held on Tuesdays May 1-May 8 from 11-12:30 p.m. The active parenting of teens class is four sessions and will be held on Thursdays April 26, May 3 and 17 from 8-10 a.m. Please call 333-5270 to sign up.

Library expands selection
The Community Center Library has created a new collection of existing materials in addition to Exceptional Family Member Program items on a variety of subjects, including development, diversity, resilience and titles currently on the Air Force chief of staff’s reading list.

Other subjects include autism, Tourette’s syndrome, hearing and visual impairment, physical and mental disabilities and others for both professionals and family members.

Materials will be available for check-out by patrons, and book lists will be on hand.

For more information, contact the library at 333-4665.

MyWingman app for Android
The 10th Mission Support Group’s “MyWingman” app has phone numbers for emergency responders, first sergeants, sexual assault prevention and response and links to social media pages.

To download the app, navigate to the Android Market and search for “MyWingman.” An iPhone version of the app will be available soon.

Walk 4 Life
The Fitness Center now offers “Walk 4 Life,” a low-impact exercise program designed to improve cardiovascular endurance, flexibility and strength.

The walking sessions are approximately one hour, starting at the Fitness Center. Days and times vary. To register or for more information visit the Health and Wellness Center.

Drinking water info
Through water samples taken in November and December, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment identified that the Air Force Academy drinking water did not meet a requirement “to maintain a detectable residual disinfectant in the distribution system.”

This situation did not pose an emergency nor a health risk. If it had, you would have been notified immediately.

Tests taken during this same period did not indicate the presence of bacteria in the water, just that chlorine disinfectant measurements were undetectable.

Corrections have been 100-percent effective as confirmed by samples taken in January and February.

For more information, including frequently asked questions, visit http://1.usa.gov/GMQcm9.

2012 Academy ESOC/HAMP audit
The Environmental, Safety, and Occupational Health Compliance Assessment and Management Program Audit will be conducted here April 23-27.

This year’s audit will be an external audit conducted by a team of military, civilian and contractor personnel and the audit will encompasses all organizations, tenants and contractor operations on the base and will evaluate the installation’s overall compliance with environmental, safety, and occupational health laws and regulations.

Once findings are distributed, each organization must complete all required closure actions according to the management action plan developed after the audit.

For questions, contact Jeanie Duncan at 333-0812.

Intramural soccer league
Defense Department members 18 years or older who would like to participate in a soccer program may contact Dave Castilla at 333-4078. Games will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

For the Intramural Softball League: the softball coach’s meeting will be April 12 at 3:30 p.m. in the back office of the fitness center.

Got an IDEA?
The Innovative Development through Employee Awareness, or IDEA, Program is designed to recognize and reward individuals whose suggestions improve the efficiency, economy, and effectiveness of Air Force, Department of Defense, and federal government operations.

Anyone can submit an idea, but only Air Force military members, Air Force federal civilian employees and Air Force Academy cadets who are paid from appropriated funds are eligible for cash awards. Monetary awards can be as high as $10,000 for each approved idea that results in validated tangible savings, and $200 for approved ideas resulting in intangible benefits.

To submit an idea go to: https://ipds.randolph.af.mil/ipsds/ (Common Access Card login required) or contact the IDLA office at 333-4332 (IDEA).
PLACE YOUR AD TODAY!
Call: 444-SELL
Fax: 719-636-0122
Email: Mheifner@gazette.com
Mail: Classifieds, 30 S. Prospect St.,
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
Deadline: Tuesdays at 5 p.m.
Rates vary contact us for details.

Classifieds
FREE ADS FOR ACTIVE DUTY OR RETIRED AIR FORCE ACADEMY PERSONNEL!

Name: ________________________________
Address: _______________________________
City: __________________ State: ______ Zip: _______________
Phone: ______________________ Grade: _________________ Unit:  _______________
Signature:  ___________________________________________________________

My signature certifies that this advertisement is for the purpose of selling my personal property as a convenience to me or my dependents. It is not part of a business enterprise, nor does it benefit anyone involved in a business enterprise. Any real estate advertised is made available without regard to race, color, creed, or national or ethnic origin.

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 seeking, living, or relocating to the Air Force Academy without regard to race, creed, color, age, sex or religious origin. FREE ADS are limited to one ad per household at 30 words max. The editor and publisher reserve the right to edit or refuse any advertisement based on the Publisher’s discretion.

Ad Category:  ____________________________

Ad Description:

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Please check your ad the first day it appears and notify the newsroom if any errors are noted. The Gazette is not liable for any errors made by Zap. We reserve the right to edit or refuse any advertisement based on the Publisher’s discretion.

Healthcare

CSPH's largest procurement effort, the Public Health Service Hospital Medical Equipment Program, has been awarded the 2012 National Procurement Excellence Award for the category of Medical Equipment.

Pharmacy

Healthcare

BILLY ROGERS, MH, Business Manager

New Today!

New Today!

New Today!

New Today!

New Today!

Services & Announcements

TANNER GUN SHOW
APRIL 20-21 & 22-23
380, 5th St. & 3rd St.
DRAFTER, SOON TO BE DEFENSE VETERAN

Healthcare

ACTIVITIES ASSISTANT/VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR
Life Care Center of Colorado Springs
In a 4-person Locum position, screening and interviewing candidates for activities director, providing and supervising daily activities, and quality control of all activities. For more information, please contact the clinic at 719-460-4000.

Discounts

For more information, please call 719-483-6700.

Services & Announcements

Maintenance Tech needed for Large Community in Pueblo, Exp a must. Must have strong skills in HVAC/Electrical/Plumbing. Salary plus.

Classifieds

FREE ADS FOR ACTIVE DUTY OR RETIRED AIR FORCE ACADEMY PERSONNEL!

Name: ________________________________
Address: _______________________________
City: __________________ State: ______ Zip: _______________
Phone: ______________________ Grade: _________________ Unit:  _______________
Signature:  ___________________________________________________________

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Life Care Center of Colorado Springs
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Maintenance Tech needed for Large Community in Pueblo, Exp a must. Must have strong skills in HVAC/Electrical/Plumbing. Salary plus.
FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 2012

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**COLUMNS ACROSS**

1. Adviser  
2. Natural security department  
3. The first state  
4. Fellow deer  
5. Flower over complexity  
6. He had a golden touch  
7. Blocks  
8. Muslim call to prayer  
9. A fashionable knot  
10. Greek god of war  
11. Rusted  
12. Boss (abbr.)  
13. Veil  
14. Common greeting  
15. Reduced to submission  
16. Equality  
17. Briefly hold back  
18. Woman (Frisbee)  
19. N’Djamena in the capital  
20. Not kind  
21. Three pence  
22. Bird of the family  
23. Crackers  
24. Metallic linear unit  
25. Empire State  
26. Ethiopia  
27. The man  
28. Ocean Training Corp  
29. Literature  
30. Sow  
31. Red  
32. North Carolina  
33. Equally  
34. Briefly hold back  
35. Yeddo  
36. Keeper of the peace  
37. N’Djamena in the capital  
38. Possessive —M.S.  
39. Common greeting  
40. Crayfish  
41. Japanese  
42. University in N. Carolina  
43. The quality of a given color  
44. W2S25 granite  
45. Licenses TV stations  
46. They  
47. The 17th Hebrew letter  

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**COLUMNS DOWN**

1. Protectant  
2. Coat with plastic  
3. Nodding birds  
4. Airs of Great Britain  
5. Before  
6. Communist color  
7. Partners with mama  
8. Arabian Gulf & oilfields  
9. Cloy  
10. Planter  
11. Make bigger  
12. Dress up gaily  
13. Gin with dry vermouth  
14. Opposite of LTM  
15. Feels ongoing dull pain  
16. Muslim call to prayer  
17. Opposite of LTM  
18. Gree  
19. Rended  
20. A major division of the geologic time  
21. Happy Hour 3-6 pm; & late night  
22. Alleluia  
23. Uncommonly to persuasion  
24. Narrow  
25. Playwright Henri  
26. Greeting  
27. Common greeting  
28. Reduced to  
29. Rented  
30. Princess  
31. God of war  
32. Funeral director  
33. Equally  
34. Briefly hold back  
35. N’Djamena in the capital  
36. Not kind  
37. Three pence  
38. Bird of the family  
39. Crackers  
40. Metallic linear unit  
41. Literature  
42. Sow  
43. Red  
44. North Carolina  
45. Equally  
46. Briefly hold back  
47. Literature  

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**SUDOKU**

Sudoku is a mathematical puzzle that has become extremely popular in recent years. It is a number-placement puzzle that has been described as being easy to understand but difficult to solve. The puzzle is a 9x9 grid divided into nine 3x3 boxes. The goal is to fill the grid with numbers 1 to 9 in such a way that each row, column, and box contains each number exactly once. The numbers are placed on the grid according to the following rules:

1. Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9 exactly once.  
2. Each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9 exactly once.  
3. Each 3x3 box must contain the numbers 1 to 9 exactly once.  

The puzzle is solved by using logic and reasoning, without any calculations. The solution to a Sudoku puzzle can be found by using a process of elimination and deduction.

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**FRACTIONS**

Fractions are numbers that represent parts of a whole. They consist of a numerator (the top number) and a denominator (the bottom number). For example, the fraction 1/2 represents one half of a whole. Fractions can be added, subtracted, multiplied, and divided like other numbers. Fractions are used in everyday life to represent parts of a whole, such as in cooking, measuring, and budgeting.

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**WORD PUZZLE**

Word puzzles are a form of entertainment that involve the use of words to complete a grid or task. Word puzzles can be divided into three main categories:

1. Crosswords  
2. Sudoku  
3. Word searches  

Crosswords are puzzles that consist of a grid of squares, each containing a clue that must be filled in with a word. Sudoku is a puzzle that consists of a 9x9 grid divided into nine 3x3 boxes, with the goal of filling each box with the numbers 1 to 9 exactly once. Word searches are puzzles that involve finding words hidden in a grid of letters.

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**PEAK DINING**

Peak Dining is a location for fine dining and entertainment. It offers a variety of dishes and options, including fine dining, barbecue, and entertainment. The website for Peak Dining is www.peakdining.com.

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**BILLIARDS**

Billiards is a sport that involves striking a cue ball with a cue to hit other balls into pockets. The game is played on a table with pockets, and the objective is to pocket as many balls as possible before the opponent.

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**CARIBBEAN**

Caribbean is a region located in the western hemisphere, with a culture that is a blend of African, European, and Indigenous influences. It is known for its tropical climate, beaches, and unique cuisine.

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**CHINESE**

Chinese is a language and culture that has a history that dates back thousands of years. It is spoken by over 1 billion people worldwide and is one of the most important languages in the world.

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**FINE DINING**

Fine dining is a type of restaurant that offers high-quality food and service in a sophisticated atmosphere. It is typically associated with fine wine and a longer dining experience. The website for Fine Dining is www.finedining.com.

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**STEAKHOUSE**

Steakhouse is a type of restaurant that specializes in serving high-quality steaks. It is typically associated with a sophisticated atmosphere and a longer dining experience. The website for Steakhouse is www.steakhouse.com.

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**ADVERTISING INFORMATION**

For advertising information, call 719-636-0130.