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100 years of African-American heritage
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Academy SPIRIT

**PRACTICE
MAKES
PERFECT**

FALCONS FOOTBALL
PAGES 8-9



Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody speaks to Air Force Academy cadets during the opening presentation of the Academy's National Character and Leadership Symposium Thursday. NCLS is an annual two-day conference that brings together distinguished scholars, leaders in the armed forces and others to explore character and leadership with cadets and students from other colleges.



JASON GUTIERREZ

CMSAF Cody kicks off NCLS

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

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Cody kicked off the Air Force Academy's 2015 National Character and Leadership Symposium by showcasing the enlisted Airmen cadets will lead as officers once they graduate, and reminding

them of the importance of leadership in the profession of arms. Cody, the 17th Airman to hold the Air Force's highest NCO position, said cadets must be prepared to lead an enlisted corps that will look to them for guidance and inspiration. "When you graduate, you are going to be leaders among leaders,"

Cody said. "The nearly 400,000 enlisted men and women of our Air Force will look to you as their leaders, and they expect you to lead them." The chief said officers cannot afford to make leadership about themselves. "When you go out there and lead those Airmen, it no longer has

anything to do with you," he said. "If you make it about you, you're going to turn around one day and realize that the only one you're leading is yourself. It's not about your accomplishments; it's about how you motivate your team and inspire them to produce combat effects for the nation."

See NCLS Page 14

'A comprehensive approach': 10th ABW preps for upcoming IG inspection

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

The 10th Air Base Wing here is gearing up for an Inspector General evaluation April 7-15. The evaluation, called the Unit Effectiveness Inspection, will focus on four major graded areas: executing the mission, leading people, managing resources and improving the unit. "During previous inspections, the team would come, take a snapshot of our organization and leave," said Col. Stacey Hawkins, 10th ABW commander. "If that

snapshot was good, we passed. If it was bad, we failed. Right now, the 10th ABW is being assessed and the data collected is building a photo album of mission performance rather than a snapshot. Civilian and military Airmen across the installation are inputting data into the Management Internal Control Toolkit, which documents our compliance across the spectrum of inspectable areas. The team of inspectors has already been analyzing that data, and when the inspectors come here, they're going to validate whether we've been doing the proper things in accordance with Air

See INSPECTION Page 14



U.S. AIR FORCE

The Air Garden at the Air Force Academy.

Just American: A century of Black life

By Daisy Jones-Brown
4th Flying Training Wing SAPR coordinator

COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. (AFNS) — Black History Month, or National African American History Month, is an annual celebration of achievements by black Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of African-Americans in U.S. history.

The event grew out of “Negro History Week,” the brainchild of noted historian Carter Woodson. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month.

Other countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, devote a month to celebrating black history. In 1976, President Gerald Ford, called upon the public to “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.”

Since then, every American president has labeled February as Black History Month and endorsed a specific theme. The 2015 theme, “A Century of Black Life, History, and Culture,” marks a century of officially celebrating black life.

Black life and history itself began in Africa. Slaves brought history with them to the U.S. and adopted the culture of the new land, creating a unique culture known as black culture. Over time, this culture transformed many times before becoming what it is today. So when you experience the celebration of black history month, it is an eclectic experience of food, art, music and more.

Over the last century, African-American life, history and culture became major forces in the U.S. and the world. In the beginning, few could have imagined African-American music, art and literature would become appreciated by the global community. Fewer still could have predicted the prominence achieved by African-Americans, as well as other people of African descent, in shaping world politics, war and diplomacy. Indeed, it was nearly universally believed Africans and people of African descent played no role in the



Prof. Maria Hohn, professor of German History at Vassar College, New York, speaks at the Black History Month luncheon here Feb. 13.

MIKE KAPLAN

unfolding of history and were a threat to American civilization. A century later, few can deny the centrality of African-Americans in the making of American history.

This transformation is the result of effort, not chance. Confident their struggles mattered in human history, black scholars, artists, athletes and leaders self-consciously used their talents to change how the world viewed African-Americans. The “New Negro” of the post-World War I era made modernity their own and gave the world a cornucopia of cultural gifts, including jazz, poetry based on the black dialect and an appreciation of African art. African-American athletes dominated individual and team sports, transforming baseball, track-and-field, football, boxing and basketball. In a wave of social movements, African-American activism transformed race relations, challenged American foreign policy and became the American conscience on human rights. While the spotlight often shines on individuals, this movement is the product of organization, institutions and institution-builders who gave direction to effort.

African-American history is rich in culture, full of struggle and triumph. Even with continued social struggles, each African-American is proud when they hear the National Anthem, they participate in a democratic society, and defend this country and its freedom.

Don't underestimate importance of sacrifice

By Chief Master Sgt. Matthew Lusson
6th Air Mobility Wing command chief

MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. (AFNS) — As I was reviewing enlisted performance reports and decorations, I started contemplating a huge event in my life that occurred almost 20 years ago.

In April of 1995, I asked my then girlfriend Tiffani, a fellow Airman at the time, to be my wife, for better or worse. We married later that year and along our journey, we have seen many places, been blessed with two children and made many friends.

What really got me thinking were the numerous sacrifices my family has made.

Throughout the journey, my kids have changed schools six times, each time giving up old friends to make new ones. Some transitions were easy but some have been difficult. The resiliency they have shown each and every time inspires

me. In some instances, they have actually been the ones itching to move, long before I ever was. My wife has been asked to give up two jobs along the way, not really getting the opportunity to start a career. My family dealt with me missing birthdays, anniversaries and etc., due to my temporary duties and deployments.

We, as Airmen, raise our right hand and swear to defend the U.S. against all enemies foreign and domestic. We signed on the dotted line vowing to give our lives in its defense if needed, but nowhere on that contract does it say our families should do the same.

Whether you have a wife, husband, partner, children or simply family back in your home town, we all have someone, somewhere along the journey with us, who didn't sign that contract. They endure the ups and downs, the uncertainties of deployments and the joy of reuniting after those separations.

My family sacrificed so much over these years to allow me to do what I love — taking care of Airmen. I cannot say thank you enough or rewind time to make up for those missed birthdays and anniversaries. I don't think any of us would change a thing, but I simply wanted to let them know how much they are loved and appreciated and that I understand the sacrifices they have made.

Do not underestimate how much the support and sacrifice of our family means to our success. Thank those you love, give them a call if they are not with you or a big hug if they are.

I can think of nothing greater than serving in the world's greatest Air Force alongside the world's greatest Airmen, but without my family and their support and sacrifices, none of it would have been possible. We look forward to seeing where the journey continues to take us.

ACADEMY SPIRIT

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

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Secretary of Defense: ISIL must be dealt 'Lasting Defeat'

By Nick Simeone
Defense Department News

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Ash Carter told U.S. troops in Kuwait Monday the international coalition battling the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant will deliver lasting defeat to the terrorist group.

Carter visited Camp Arifjan and met with ambassadors and senior U.S. and regional military leaders to assess the campaign against ISIL.

The secretary said Operation Inherent Resolve, the campaign against ISIL, requires building up local forces to eventually take the lead in battle. To meet this goal, U.S. military advisors are training Iraqi forces, and coalition forces plan to train and equip moderate Syrian rebels.

“We need to be convinced that any use of our forces is necessary,” Carter said. “I want to make sure we’ve thought everything through and that we have a plan that leads to success.



DOD/GLENN FAWCETT
U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter speaks at a troop event at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Monday.

Carter called ISIL a threat to the region beyond Syria and Iraq.

“If we’re to have a defeat of ISIL, which we must and will, it needs to be a lasting defeat,” he said.

The secretary’s comments come days after a U.S. Central Command official told reporters an Iraqi-led assault to recapture the country’s second-largest city, Mosul, from ISIL terrorists could begin in April.

Airstrikes continue against ISIL in Syria, Iraq

Combined Joint Task Force

SOUTHWEST ASIA — U.S. and coalition forces attacked the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant in Syria and Iraq Sunday and Monday with airstrikes, the Defense Department reported.

The airstrikes are part of Operation Inherent Resolve to eliminate ISIL and the threat the terrorist group poses to Iraq, Syria and the international community, according to DOD reports.

Syria

Eleven airstrikes struck 10 ISIL tactical units and destroyed two ISIL vehicles, an ISIL bunker and an ISIL fighting position.

Near Dayr az Zawr, an airstrike struck an ISIL crude oil collection point.

Near Kobani, six airstrikes struck an ISIL large tactical unit, four ISIL tactical units, five ISIL fighting positions and destroyed four ISIL fighting positions.

Iraq

Three airstrikes near Asad struck two ISIL tactical units, an ISIL fighting position, and destroyed an ISIL checkpoint and an ISIL fighting position.

Near Rutbah, an airstrike destroyed an ISIL vehicle; near Kirkuk, an airstrike struck an ISIL tactical unit; near Mosul, an airstrike struck an ISIL checkpoint; and near Tal Afar, an airstrike destroyed four ISIL armored vehicles.

Coalition nations conducting airstrikes in Syria include the U.S., Bahrain, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Coalition nations conducting airstrikes in Iraq include the U.S., Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, the Netherlands and the UK.

Attack, fighter, bomber and remotely piloted aircraft were used in the strikes.

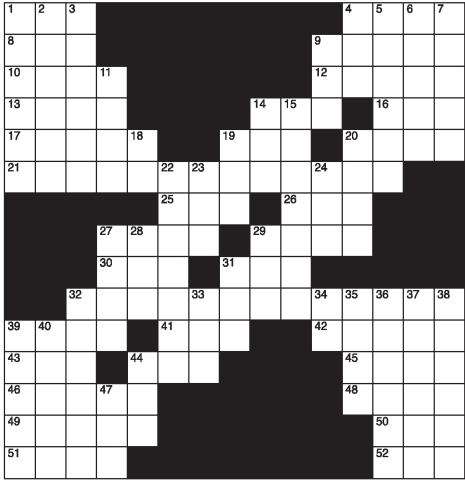
CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Centralized mailing compartment
- 4. Small argument
- 8. Latin for “hail”
- 9. Semicircular headress
- 10. Hole plug
- 12. Primp
- 13. A spontaneous motivation
- 14. Don’t know when yet
- 16. Portable computer screen material
- 17. Conform

- 19. Yoruba
- 20. Wings
- 21. Tar Hill State
- 25. Hard, durable wood
- 26. Pallid
- 27. Pabir language

- 29. Not crazy
- 30. Word element meaning ear
- 31. Hill (Celtic)
- 32. “Dangerous Liaisons” actor

- 39. Space between 2 points
- 41. Arbitrageur
- 42. 3rd or 4th Islamic month
- 43. Assistance
- 44. Manuscripts (abbr.)
- 45. In a way, soaks
- 46. Synovial knee syndrome
- 48. 2nd cervical vertebra
- 49. State of sudden fright
- 50. Snake-like fish
- 51. Each of 4 Hindu ages
- 52. Point midway between S and SE



CLUES DOWN

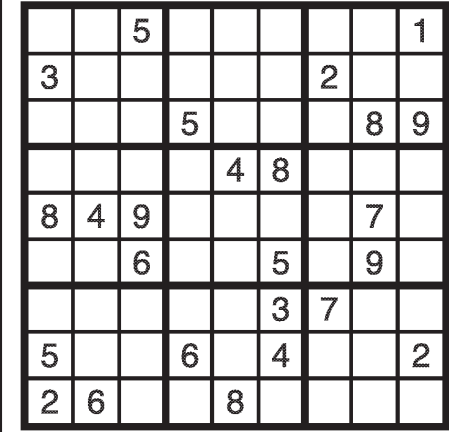
- 1. Relating to New Guinea
- 2. Carry to excess
- 3. Alms solicitor
- 4. Title of respect
- 5. Spanish saffron dish
- 6. Betel palm genus
- 7. Petter ____, Nordic combined skier
- 9. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
- 11. Clan division
- 14. Referee declares
- 15. Rampart

- 18. “Big” actor’s initials
- 19. Noah’s boat
- 20. Diarist __ Frank
- 22. Luminous celestial ring

- 23. Famous motor club
- 24. 007’s creator
- 27. A timely blessing
- 28. UTHealth (abbr.)
- 29. Roman Helios
- 31. Check

- 32. Making of a worn-out vicious horse
- 33. Wife
- 34. An alternative
- 35. Spanish unit of length
- 36. Wild goats
- 37. Municipalities
- 38. Bother or harass
- 39. Excessively sentimental
- 40. Middle Eastern dish
- 44. Waterproof raincoat
- 47. Former OSS

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Solution on page 11

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TECH. SGT. FRANCES SLOAT

Michelle Edwards and Seth Allen, members of the Roxy Dee Jazz Trio, perform at the African-American Heritage Month Jazz and Poetry Festival here Saturday. About 150 U.S. Air Force Academy staff members and their families attended the event highlighting the cultural contributions of African-Americans.

Assistant professor to receive leadership award

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

An assistant professor who teaches Portuguese and Spanish for the Foreign Languages Department here is scheduled to receive the Lynn Sandstedt Program Leadership Award from the Colorado Congress of Foreign Language Teachers this evening in Denver.

Dr. Ismenia Sales de Souza found out from Spanish instructor Lt. Col. John Garza in January that she had been named the award winner.

“I feel so honored,” de Souza said. “Sandstedt did so much for foreign languages. He was a pioneer for foreign languages in the state of Colorado and nationally. It’s such a great privilege to get this award.”

De Souza, who serves as an adviser for the Academy’s Portuguese Student Association and Portuguese club, said working with the Academy’s cadets is “a teacher’s dream.”

“I enjoy working with my cadets,” she said. “They’re smart, well-motivated, disciplined and very focused. They love the language, and they love the culture.”

Spanish professor Dr. Jean LeLoup wrote in a recommendation letter to the CCFLT that de Souza has made myriad and far-reaching contributions. De Souza founded the Second Language Acquisition Circle, which allows language instructors to share highlights of their research projects and teaching techniques. In addition, de Souza set

up a National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society here, a first for any of the military service academies.

“She is most deserving of this award that honors one of the truly great giants in the foreign language field,” LeLoup wrote.

The Lynn Sandstedt award, previously called the Program Leadership Award, is presented to a foreign language educator who, according to the CCFLT.org website, has provided exceptional leadership and innovation in programs beyond the classroom level. Previous recipients include Bethany Brown, a teacher with the Poudre, Colo., School District, and Paola Malpezzi-Price, a professor of Italian and French at Colorado State University.

The award is named after Dr. Lynn Sandstedt, a Fulbright scholar who founded the CCFLT and several other foreign language teaching organizations. Sandstedt died Oct. 30, 2014, at age 82.

Dr. Ismenia Sales de Souza will receive the Lynn Sandstedt Program Leadership Award from the Colorado Congress of Foreign Language Teachers.



Scouts ‘plug in’ to learning at CS 17 event

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

Cadets in Cadet Squadron 17 held a workshop Feb. 7 to help about three dozen Boy Scouts earn merit badges for electricity.

Cadet 3rd Class Christopher Beck coordinated the event, with help from other cadets within the squadron and faculty members from the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department.

Scouts who attended the workshop learned how to build basic circuits, how to build a switch and electromagnet and how the electricity they use is created, Beck said.

“Capt. Matt Booth gave up his Saturday to come and give some fun demonstrations in the department labs, including some lightning demonstrations,” Beck said. “It was static electricity, but the scouts liked ‘lightning’ better.”

Approximately 120 cadet hours went into organizing and carrying out the workshop,

Beck said.

In addition to the activities in the workshop, Boy Scouts who wish to earn an electricity merit badge must conduct an electrical safety inspection of their homes, explain the difference between direct and alternating current, make a floor plan wiring diagram of lights, switches and outlets for a room in their home and be able to explain electrical terms, according to the Boy Scouts website, www.scouting.org.



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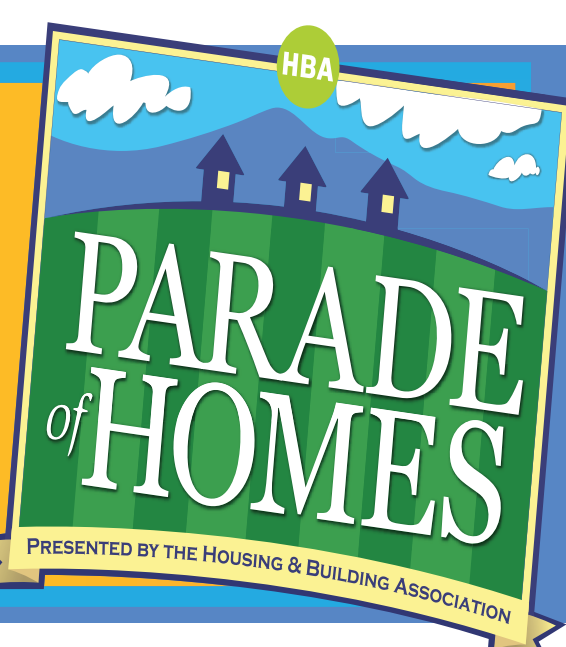
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Breaking boundaries

New boxing club allows female cadets to excel in the ring

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

Since the fall, female Falcons here have been practicing their fighting skills six days a week to increase their confidence, stamina and dominate competition.

For the first time in Academy history, a female boxing club created in August allows women to compete in the male-dominated sport. About 20 cadets attend practice regularly and seven became the first women to compete in the Academy's annual Wing Open Boxing Championship Feb. 19.

"The ladies who fought in the championship all did really well and I am extremely proud of them," said Cadet 1st Class Hope Stremcha, the club's team captain and a Wing Open competitor. "Three walked away as Wing Open champions and three as runner-ups."

Stremcha began boxing in 2013 on a semester exchange at the U.S. Military Academy. While there, she practiced with the women's team and wanted to start a team here. She and the club's head coach, Master Sgt. Debra Sheppard, formed the team.

"It's important because there are females at the Academy who want to box, and have great potential in the sport — why shouldn't they be able to?" Stremcha said. "Females benefit in the same ways males do from the sport, especially as future military officers. Boxing instills courage, builds confidence and self-esteem, and tests how you react physically and mentally under pressure. These are all

skills we will benefit from for the rest of our lives."

Sheppard boxed on the Air Force team and competed as a USA amateur fighter for seven years; her last competition was in 2012. She said sister academies such as the Military Academy and the Naval Academy established women's physical education classes and boxing clubs, and it was time for the Academy to follow.

"We're very thankful for the opportunity," she said. "It would have not been possible without the support of Lt. Col. Matthew Glover (interim men's boxing head coach), the Athletic Department and our Academy leadership. The club is recreational and open to any female cadets. The opportunity helps boost the girls' confidence, self-defense techniques and teaches them to rely on their training, which is instrumental to military success. As National Collegiate Boxing Association boxers, they attend the same meets as the male team and practice at the same gym."

At the Wing Open, Cadet 4th Class Aubrey Lowe won the Outstanding Boxer award for the women's category and placed first in the 150-pound competition.

She said having the courage to step in the ring is a challenge in itself.

"Specifically for female cadets, I



Cadet 2nd Class Kassie Prusko throws a right jab at Cadet 1st Class Hope Stremcha Feb. 19 during the Wing Open at Clune Arena. Both women compete on the female boxing club here created in August.

PHOTOS BY LIZ COPAN

"We're very thankful for the opportunity. It would have not been possible without the support of Lt. Col. Matthew Glover, the Athletic Department and our Academy leadership."

Master Sgt. Debra Sheppard

your opponent. That's when your training, your skills and your conditioning are tested. You have to work hard during practice to show off your talent and win a bout."

Boxing presents new challenges every day, Stremcha said.

"Learning how to take a punch is challenging for some but for others it's more mental," she said. "You have to finish the fight by yourself. No matter what you faced that day, when you get in the ring to fight, it's the only thing you can be focused on."

Three cadets in the club will compete at the NCBA Regionals March 13-15 and three will compete at the Military Academy's Women's Invitational Saturday.

"It will be their first opportunity to compete outside of the Academy," Sheppard said.

Hurtado said she hopes the club becomes an intercollegiate sport here.

"Having a women's intercollegiate team would really allow the time to train and compete in legitimate competitions around the U.S.," she said. "Those opportunities would be amazing."



The first females to compete in the Academy's annual boxing competition at the Wing Open, left to right: Master Sgt. Sarah Allen (women's boxing club assistant coach), Cadet 4th Class Victoria Rodriguez, Cadet 4th Class Aubrey Lowe, Cadet 1st Class Hope Stremcha, Cadet 2nd Class Kassie Prusko, Cadet 2nd Class Sarennia Ortiz, Cadet 3rd Class Bridgett Wall, Cadet 3rd Class Heather Parcasio and Master Sgt. Debra Sheppard (women's boxing club head coach).

Sophomore cadet takes on senior-level research

By Amy Gillentine
Office of Research

Cadet 3rd Class Young Wu isn't like other sophomores. Not only has he maintained a 4.0 GPA while majoring in aeronautics and mathematics, he conducts independent research normally reserved for firsties.

Wu's mentor, Aeronautics Department professor Lt. Col. Kurt Rouser, said he's rarely seen Wu's brand of enthusiasm, dedication and intellect that makes the sophomore cadet stand out.

"We had to get a waiver from Aeronautics Department head Col. Neal Barlow for Cadet Wu to take the 499 course," Rouser said. "Sophomores don't normally do this type of independent research but Wu is the brightest cadet I've worked with."

Wu approached Rouser in the second semester of his first year. He thought he might major in aeronautics and wanted to see wind tunnels and research projects in action.

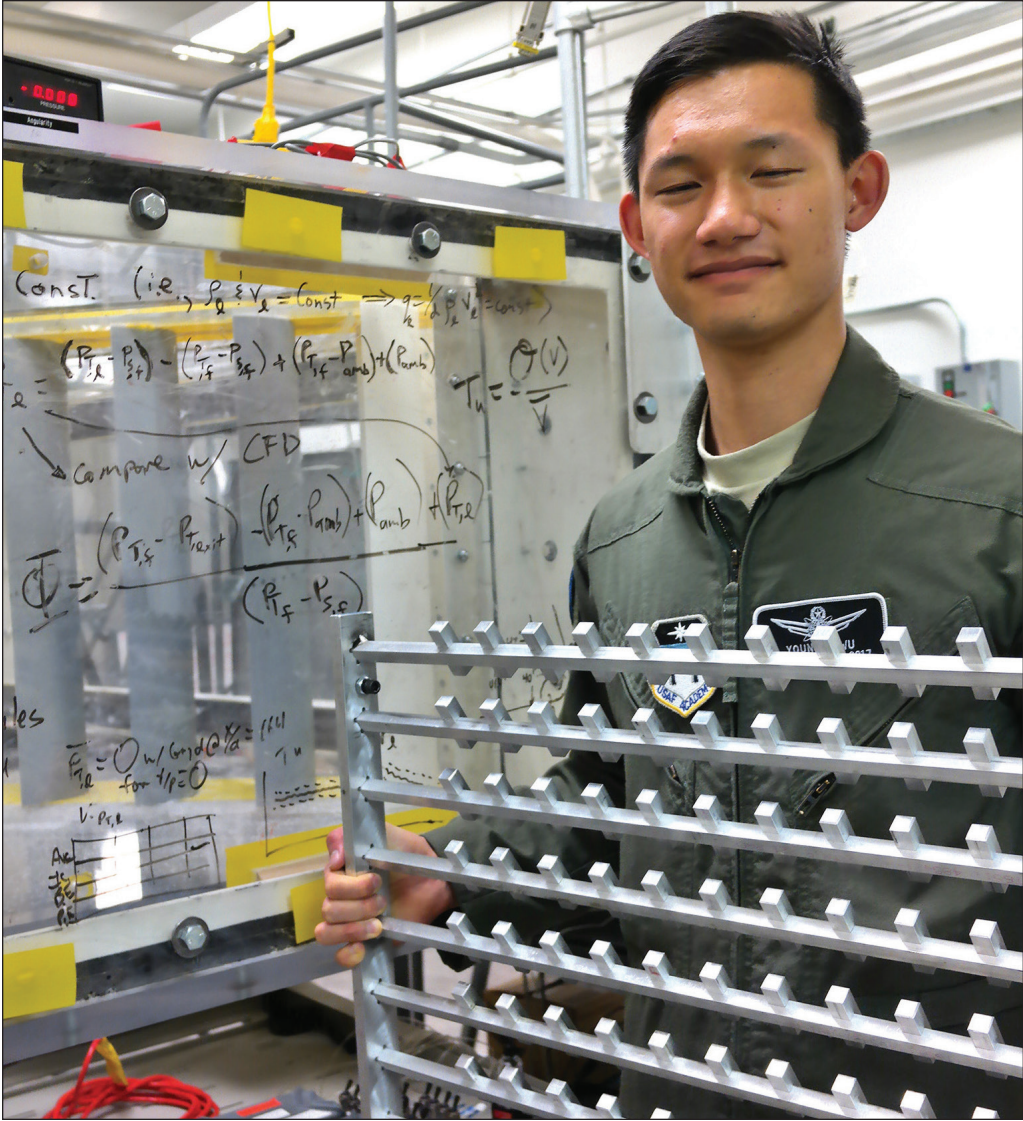
"We had him shadow the seniors for a while," Rouser said. "Soon he was operating by himself."

Wu's project is in the Cascade Wind Tunnel here, working to make jet engine turbines more efficient. Unlike other research wind tunnels at the Academy, the cascade tunnel deals with engines, not aircraft. Because engines can't fit in wind tunnels the same way aircraft models can, Wu can only test parts of engines.

Wu is focusing on the turbine blades and working to perfect the turbulence simulation process for the turbines. The research is sponsored by the Air Force Research Laboratory with counterparts at Baylor University and the U.S. Naval Academy.

"There aren't many cascade tunnels around," Rouser said. "But they're important for testing the engines and the flow through the turbines."

The experiment uses a turbulence grid of Rouser's own design. The patent-pending process creates an even distribution of turbulence across the engine blades, more closely mimicking the airflow in a full-size engine.



OFFICE OF RESEARCH
Cadet 3rd Class Young Wu is researching how to make jet engines more efficient, focusing on turbine blades. The experiment involves a turbulence grid that mimics airflow in an engine.

See RESEARCH Page 14

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PHOTOS BY JOHN VAN WINKLE

By John Van Winkle
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Spring football is underway at the U.S. Air Force Academy, with new names on the coaching roster and a team hungry to repeat its 2014 success. Graduation opens up several starting positions including quarterback, three offensive line positions, two defensive line slots, two linebackers, two defensive backs, punter, kicker and longsnapper.

With a strong sophomore and freshman presence, competition for spots on the two-deep roster is expected to be heavy at many positions until the Sept. 5 season opener.

Meanwhile, coaching changes bring two new faces to the Academy's coaching ranks and a shift in duties for others. Falcon Football head coach Troy Calhoun announced the addition of Steed Lobotzke and Derek Lewis as offensive assistant coaches Feb. 18.

Longtime assistant coach Mike Thiessen, Academy Class of '01, who served as the 2014 offensive coordinator and wide receiver coach, moved to quarterbacks coach, a position he played as a cadet.

Lewis will be the new wide receiver coach and Lobotzke will handle the tight end cadre. The talkative and animated Lewis brings his passion to the wide receiver corps, concentrating on a tough-love approach with a Super Bowl ring and NFL experience to back it up.

Lewis is a 1988 graduate of the University of Texas. After a four-year college career as a receiving tight end, he spent two seasons on the St. Louis Rams roster and played on the Super Bowl XXXIV championship team.

After his pro career, Lewis served as a graduate assistant at Texas, defensive ends coach at North Texas and tight ends and assistant special teams coach at Minnesota. Most recently, he was the tight ends coach at the Uni-

versity of Florida, with one of his protégés becoming a third-round pick by the Washington Redskins in 2013.

Lobotzke, Academy Class of '92, brings a depth of offensive knowledge to his alma mater.

The collegiate offensive lineman served as a graduate assistant at the Academy for a year, fulfilled his active duty obligation and rejoined the collegiate coaching ranks. He joined the Ohio University staff as an assistant coach, moved to Wake Forest as an assistant coach for two years, and spent a decade as that school's offensive coordinator.

Lobotzke was most recently at Winston-Salem state as the offensive coordinator, helping the Rams to the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association Championship. He spearheaded the Rams offense, recording eight-straight 400-plus yard games. Winston-Salem State ended the year with a number 10 national ranking.

Lobotzke, Lewis, and the rest of the Falcons coaching staff are shaping the foundation of their 2015 team.

Remaining practices are scheduled Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, March 7, 9, 11, 17 and 18. These dates are subject to change.

No announcement has been made on the final practice's location or format. In past years, the team held a blue and silver scrimmage sometimes at downtown high school stadiums. That final practice is scheduled March 18, which will allow the Falcons to wrap up spring football before spring break.

Falcons Football resumes practice in August.

The Falcons Football home opener is here Sept. 5 against the Morgan State Bears. The Falcons head to East Lansing, Mich., to take on the Michigan State Spartans Sept. 19 before going to Navy Oct. 3 to defend the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy. The team finishes their trophy defense against Army here Nov. 7.

The Mountain West portion of the Falcons' schedule will be announced later this year.

Barring in a change in the MW schedule between the conference's Mountain and the West division teams, the Falcons are slated to host games against Fresno State, San Jose State, Utah and Wyoming, and play away games at Boise State, Colorado State, Hawaii and New Mexico.



FAR LEFT: Falcons wide receiver Nelson Onwuzu gets ready to catch a football thrown during spring football here Feb. 18.

LEFT: Upper right: Derek Lewis, the Falcons newest wide receiver coach, leads a spring football drill.

ABOVE: Falcons kicker Andrew Oehrle lines up for the kick.

LEFT: Falcons assistant coach Mike Thiessen sprints with Falcons Football quarterbacks during spring football.

Taylor claims 4th Wing Open title

Senior cadet is 14th boxer in Academy history to win 4 straight titles

Athletic Communications

Senior Roy Taylor picked up his fourth consecutive title as Air Force boxing wrapped up competition at the 57th-annual Wing Open Championships here February 19.

The senior was one of five Falcons to repeat as champions, while the women made their Wing Open debut.

Taylor claimed his fourth consecutive Wing Open title quickly, forcing the referee to call his bout with freshman Osama Farqualeet 32 seconds before the bell sounded to end the opening round.

With the victory, Taylor became the 14th boxer in Academy history to win four consecutive Wing Open titles (125 pounds in 2012, 125 pounds in 2013, 132 pounds in 2014).

The first three bouts of the men's card saw boxers successfully return to the champions' board of the Wing Open Tournament.

Junior Mateus Arcano repeated as the 112-pound champion after earning a decision over sophomore Timothy Tyson.

In the night's only rematch from last year, Arcano came out strong, forcing the first standing-eight count just 20 seconds into the contest.

Sophomore Adam Sumait used a strong start in his 119-pound bout, en route to a unanimous decision over classmate Nick Fernandez.

Senior Brandon Pitts, the 2014 champion at 175 pounds, added the 165-pound title to his collection after taking a decision from sophomore Darnell Jones.

Junior Gytenis Borusas, who claimed his title last year at 185 pounds, became the 175-pound champion after earning a referee-stopped victory over freshman William McCollum.

Borusas connected on several hard shots early in the match, forcing the referee to call the bout with 1:22 left in the first.

The victories by Taylor and Borusas were two of four contests called early by the referee, with all four ending in the first round.

Junior Yohance Salimu claimed the fastest victory of the night, as the official called his heavyweight bout with freshman Dan Neghina

1:03 into the match.

Sophomore Brett Hagen earned a referee-stopped victory, as the official halted his 147-pound bout with freshman Shane Garcia at the 1:10 mark.

The judges decided the final five men's bouts, with junior Scott Wawrzyniak earning a unanimous decision in his 195-pound bout with classmate Sean Richards.

Junior Josh Key received the majority decision in his 139-pound bout with sophomore Landon Tomcho, as they connected on several key, hard hits.

After a back-and-forth six-minute span, junior Jamal Johnson earned a split decision victory in his 132-pound bout with classmate Peter Coote, while fellow junior Chad Turney claimed a split victory over classmate Max Zendali at 185 pounds.

Sophomore Samuel Sheikh earned a split decision in his 156-pound bout with classmate Johnny Wells.

Coming out of the deepest division, Sheikh recorded enough scoring shots in the opening round to overcome a flurry of punches from Wells in the third.

In the first women's bout contested at the Wing Open Championships, junior Kassie Prusko earned a decision over senior Hope Stremcha in a hard-hitting 119-pound bout that saw both contenders connect on punches.

Freshman Aubrey Lowe claimed the Wing Open title at 150 pounds, after receiving the judges' decision over junior Sarena Ortiz, and freshman Victoria Rodriguez tallied a split decision win over classmate Bridgett Wall.

Sophomore Heather Parcasio claimed her first Wing Open title, earning the 128-pound title via walkover.

At the conclusion of the match, Hagen was named the Men's Outstanding Boxer, while Lowe was



Roy Taylor wins his bout against Osama Farqualeet at the Wing Open Feb. 19.

PHOTOS BY
LIZ COPAN



Kassie Prusko (left) fights Hope Stremcha. Prusko won in an unanimous decision.

awarded the first Women's Outstanding Boxer award.

The winners from the bout form the core of the Air Force squad that will represent the Academy at the regional and national champi-

onship meets.

The Falcons return to action on March 12-14 at the National Collegiate Boxing Association Western Regional Championships in Reno., Nev.



Sophomore Adam Sumait (left) en route to a unanimous decision over classmate Nick Fernandez.

Results

112-pounds: Mateus Arcano dec. Timothy Tyson
119-pounds: Kassie Prusko dec. Hope Stremcha
119-pounds: Adam Sumait dec. Nick Fernandez
125-pounds: Roy Taylor rsc-1 (1:28) Osama Farqualeet
128-pounds: Heather Parcasio unopposed
132-pounds: Jamal Johnson dec. Peter Coote
139-pounds: Josh Key dec. Landon Tomcho
145-pounds: Brett Hagen rsc-1 (1:10) Shane Garcia
150-pounds: Aubrey Lowe dec. Sarena Ortiz
156-pounds: Samuel Sheikh dec. Johnny Wells
165-pounds: Victoria Rodriguez dec. Bridgett Wall
165-pounds: Brandon Pitts dec. Darnell Jones
175-pounds: Gytenis Borusas rsc-1 William McCollum
185-pounds: Chad Turney dec. Max Zendali
195-pounds: Scott Wawrzyniak dec. Sean Richards
Heavyweight: Yohance Salimu rsc-1 (1:03) Dan Neghina
Men's Outstanding Boxer: Brett Hagen
Women's Outstanding Boxer: Aubrey Lowe

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Air Force falls to Colorado State

Athletic Communications

Air Force women's basketball (2-24, 1-14 Mountain West) dropped a 85-49 contest to Colorado State (20-6, 12-3 MW) in Mountain West action Saturday at Clune Arena.

Freshman Cortney Porter led the Falcons with 18 points.

Colorado State, tied for first-place in the conference, hit 10 three-point baskets and had four players reach double figures in scoring. Guard A.J. Newton led the Rams with 18 points.

Porter made four three-point baskets for the Falcons, adding five rebounds, playing a game-high 37 minutes. Senior Lindsey Lewis and junior Madeleine Philpot added nine points each.

Freshman Dee Bennett pulled down a career-high 12 rebounds to go with four points and three assists.

The Falcons struggled with their shooting, hitting just 26 percent of their shots on the day. Colorado State, meanwhile, was 47.8 percent from the field.

Colorado State led 37-28 at the half before rolling to score 48 in the second half to Air Force's 21.

Senior Angela Johnson takes the ball down the court Saturday against Colorado State.



Falcon freshman Cortney Porter (left) and CSU's Keyora Wharry vie for the ball in Saturday's game at Clune Arena. Porter led the Falcons with 18 points, made four three-point baskets and added five rebounds,

PHOTOS BY
LIZ COPAN

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INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL



Justin Anderson, Hospital Number 2, defends the ball during the Intramural Basketball Championship here Feb. 12. Hospital No. 1 beat Hospital No. 2 72-65.

Championship roundup

By Dave Castilla
10th Force Support Squadron

The Hospital's Over-30 Basketball Team won the base championship by beating last year's champions, Direct Reporting Unit-10th Force Support Squadron, 68-34 here Feb. 18.

The Hospital controlled the regular Over-30 Basketball season with a 12-0 record, but struggled out of the gate when DRU/FSS took to the court with only five players to grab an early 8-2 lead, thanks to Miguel Rojas' four points.

A bucket from Will Lassiter gave DRU/FSS their largest lead, 12-4, but Hospital's Kenneth Mears scored 10 straight points to tie the game 14-14.

Dan Heller's three-pointer gave DRU/FSS their last lead at 23-22 with about 2 minutes left in the first half.

Justin Anderson and George Harmes scored the last seven points, taking Hospital's halftime lead to 29-23.

Hospital was hot in the second half, going on a 12-5 run as Mears scored eight points on three baskets and two free throws, stretching the lead to 41-28.

Hospital went on 10-2 run as Torrence Bishop scored back-to-back buckets, increasing the score 51-30.

Anderson, Mears and Ray Hardson scored the team's final 17 points to give Hospital the championship.

Mears paced Hospital's scoring with 29 points, followed by Anderson's 11 points. Miguel Rojas lead DRU/FSS in scoring with 18 points and Dan Heller chipped in with eight points.

"Hospital has been in the finals the past three years and we always got beat," said coach Ken Rojas. "This year, we finally are the champions."

Intramural Championship

Hospital Number 1 took their second straight intramural basketball championship by defeating Hospital No. 2 72-65 here Feb. 12.

The two 10th Medical Group teams dominated the regular intramural basketball season, with Hospital No. 1 finishing 12-3 and Hospital No. 2 finishing 13-2.

Hospital No. 2 took an early 6-4 lead when Steven Savage scored on three layups.

Later in the first half, Kenneth Mears' two free throws and a three pointer by Justin Anderson increased Hospital No. 2's lead to 16-11.

Hospital No. 2 increased their lead to 24-14 when Mears scored seven of the next eight points on two baskets and a three-point play.

Hospital No. 1 went on a 12-4 run with two three-point baskets from Duane Gandy and Robert Davis, closing out the first half with Hospital No. 2 leading 28-26.

Mears got Hospital No. 2 off to a fast start in the second half when he scored seven out of nine points on two free throws, a basket and a three-point-play, taking the score to 37-31.

Hospital No. 1 came back on an 8-2 run as Jaren Miller scored four points, George Harmes made a basket inside and Duane Gandy tied the game 39-39.

Hospital No. 1 stretched the lead to 51-46 as Gandy hit another three-pointer and Miller scored two buckets. Hospital No. 2 closed the gap to 53-50 when Mears hit a basket and made two free throws.

Hospital No.1 increased its lead to 66-57 with less than three minutes left on the clock when Miller scored seven points on two three-pointers and a free throw.

Dylan Sisneros scored four points with a bucket and two free throws. Miller's bucket gave Hospital No. 1 the biggest lead of the game at 70-59. Justin Anderson and Mears each made three point baskets but time ran out, giving Hospital No. 1 the championship.

"It's great to have a second championship in a row," Hospital No. 1 coach Eric Speight said. "It was a team effort; we moved the ball around, found the open man and capitalized on some mismatches."

Hospital No. 1 led in scoring by Miller (23 points), Gandy (18 points), Sisneros (13 points) and Harmes (10 points). Mears scored a game high of 33 points followed by Savage (11 points) and Anderson (8 points).



PHOTOS BY BILL EVANS

Kenneth Mears, Hospital Number 2, goes for a basket during the Intramural Basketball Championship game here Feb. 12.



Jaren Miller, Hospital Number 1, aims for the basket during the Intramural Basketball Championship game here Feb. 12.

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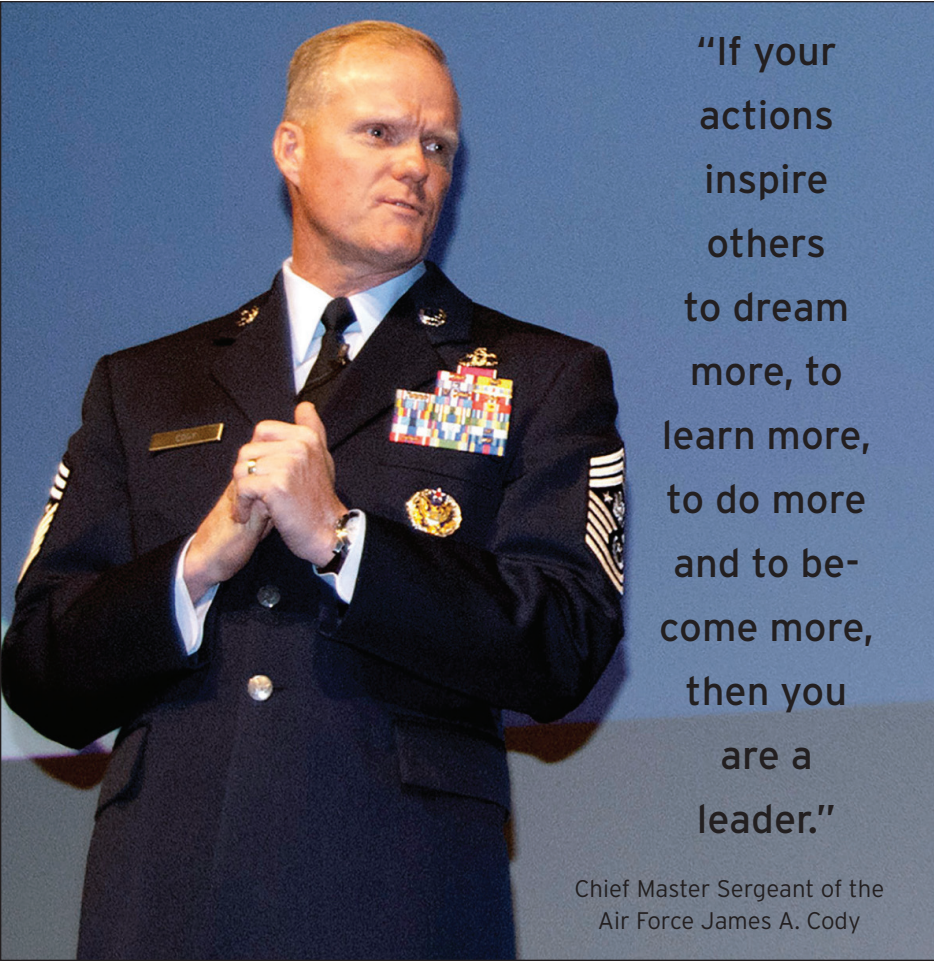
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NCLS



From Page 1
Cody said the Air Force core values — Integrity First, Service Before Self, Excellence in All We Do — must guide cadets as they prepare for Air Force careers. The Academy developed the core values in 1994, and the Air Force adopted them service wide in 1995.
“There is no greater commitment than that made by those who serve our country,” he said. “The core values must be part of the fabric of who we are, because if they are not, then we are destined to fail.”
Cody said he knows the cadets who graduate from the Air Force Academy will be ready to lead once they graduate.
“There is no question in this Airman’s eyes or in the eyes of any of our senior leaders, that you will be prepared,” he said. “I cannot wait for the day I will salute each of you as officers in the world’s greatest Air Force, but do not forget it is a privilege to lead.”
The chief closed with a reference to a quote from John Quin-

cy Adams, the sixth president of the U.S.
“If your actions inspire others to dream more, to learn more, to do more and to become more, then you are a leader,” he said.
NCLS is an annual two-day conference that brings together distinguished scholars, leaders in the armed forces and others to explore character and leadership with cadets and students from other colleges. This year’s theme is “Serving Our Nation: Our Calling, Core Values and Commitments.”
In introducing Cody as the first speaker for NCLS, Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Michelle D. Johnson said she hoped cadets and other visitors would reflect on what they learned during and after the event.
“Listen to people who have fought their way through challenging issues,” she said. “What is the meaning of our calling? What do the oaths and commitments we take really mean? Take on board that which means something to you, and continue the dialog after the event ends.”

Inspection

From Page 1
Force Instruction 90-201 (Inspector General Activities). They’ll also reach out to our Airmen to get their personal perspective on how we’re accomplishing our mission.”
This is the first year the Academy is being evaluated based on the UEI system.
“It’s a comprehensive approach, and it’s the first time in my Air Force career I’ve seen the Air Force focused on the whole mission performance picture,” Hawkins said. “It’s not just how well you’re filling out a checklist, it’s not just a moment in time — it’s focusing on really improving activities at the process level. What it really does is test how well we can integrate our customers — which in the Academy’s case are our mission elements — and to what extent we are communicating effectively to understand those customers’ requirements, so we can plan and program resources to meet those requirements.”
An integral part of the new evaluation system is that preparation must be continuous, said Ross Ryan, 10th Force Support Squadron director.
“The traditional mindset when an IG inspection comes around is to prepare for it,” he said. “But the Air Force Inspection Agency has the ability to reach into MICT and look at the

checklists at any time. Within FSS, I have 179 checklists, which hold 6,800 individual questions. So we’re not going to prepare for the inspection. We’re preparing to be excellent every day. The inspectors should be able to come at any time and be satisfied.”
Part of the excellence Ryan is encouraging involves going above and beyond the listed checklist regulations.
“We’re aware of the fact that not every checklist captures every requirement in all of our regulations at the 10th FSS,” he said. “As we’ve been reading cross-feeds from other bases that have already gone through their capstone, it’s kind of a common theme. A couple years ago, my predecessor had us go through all of our regulations and find every instruction that said ‘The commander must’ or ‘The squadron should,’ and we ended up with a 640 question checklist, which we’ve since scrubbed down to around 500 questions. By having this checklist in addition to the other ones, we’ve ensured we won’t miss anything.”
Hawkins said the new system will depersonalize the success of any one commander or leader, because everyone will be integrated.
“From year to year, or MICT input to MICT input, this photo album of data we’re collecting will live on in perpetuity,” he said. “When peo-

ple look back, they won’t be able to say, ‘When Colonel Hawkins was here the wing did well, and the wing did a little bit better when the next guy came.’ Instead, our Airmen will hopefully see the wing projecting a culture of continuous improvement. That’s the thing to remember; this data isn’t just going to be collected and labeled good or bad, it’s going to inform programming and resource decisions at the highest levels of the Air Force.”
Hawkins said evaluations like this are part of why the Air Force is a powerful force.
“We’re the world’s greatest Air Force, and no one else is even close,” he said. “I think we’ve gotten that way because we’re willing to continually improve the execution of our mission, efficiently manage resources, and effectively lead our people. We talk about our Air Force as being innovative, and constantly finding new ways to go above and beyond the mission. It’s through this inspection process that we’re able to bring everybody along, and to have those baseline standards of professionalism and mission effectiveness that keeps us as the world’s greatest air force.”
Editor’s note: This is part one in a two-part series showcasing the effort of Academy Airmen to prepare for a U.S. Air Force Inspector General inspection slated for April.

Research

From Page 7
“For aircraft flying at high altitude and low speeds, the engines experience flow separation in the turbines,” Rouser said. “We don’t want that. We want the flow to stay attached; otherwise it reduces the range and endurance of the aircraft.”
The key, Wu said, is to investigate the blade angles and turbulence intensity to evaluate methods for suppressing flow separation when airplanes, such as unmanned aerial vehicles, fly slow and high.
“We’re comparing our results to Baylor’s and to the Naval Academy,” he said.
Wu frequently comes in on weekends and after hours, and his ef-

forts are paying off. His data will be added to research performed by firsties last fall. He’ll publish a research paper this year as part of the American Institute for Aeronautics and Astronautics student paper competition.
“We won last year, so you can see this is a great opportunity for him, being published, having data included in a paper,” Rouser said. “That’s a big deal for a sophomore.”
Wu, a native of San Jose, Calif., downplays Rouser’s praise.
“You have so much opportunity open to you at the Academy,” he said. “It’s opportunity available to all the cadets. And where else can

an undergraduate do this kind of work? Research like this is reserved for graduate students in other colleges.”
Academic rigor is just one reason Wu chose the Academy.
“I’d like to fly,” he said. “That’s the main goal. It’s why I wanted to major in aeronautics.”
Wu said he choose Rouser’s cascade project because it’s more hands on.
“In the other wind tunnels, lab technicians set up the experiment and start up the tunnel. You’re just standing by to collect data. Here, I get to operate it myself.”
But not without Rouser’s help. As a sophomore, Wu doesn’t have ac-

cess to the labs normally reserved for juniors and seniors.
“I have to unlock it for him,” Rouser says. “But he does everything else himself. It’s a complicated process to get it up and running; there are a lot of moving parts, a lot of things to check.”
The practical experience helps Wu understand his academic classes.
“I can see the practical that comes from the theoretical concepts,” he said. “It’s not just problems in a text book. If I see something happen in the wind tunnel, it helps me understand the problems in the book. I can reconcile the explanation in the book with practical experience.”



Help Desk to close for event

The 10th Communications Squadron IT Service Desk will close 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. today for an official function. On-call personnel can be reached at 333-4357.

Claims against estate

Any person, firm or corporation with claims against the estate of deceased Cadet 4th Class John E. Lindsey must submit their claim to the Academy Staff Judge Advocate Office by today.

National Prayer Luncheon

The 2015 National Prayer luncheon is 11:30-1 p.m. Tuesday at the Falcon Club. Retired Gen. Stephen Lorenz is the guest speaker. The cost is \$5 for senior airmen and below and their civilian equivalent; \$7 for all others. Call 333-3300 for reservations.

Academy Drive construction project

Academy Drive will close Monday - March 23 for utility line installation under the road. Academy staff will be able to access the Falcon Club and the U.S. Air Force Academy Association of Graduates building, but not the

10th Communications Squadron, Building 4199; Fire Station 2, Building 4198; or the 10th Medical Group Clinic, Building 4102.

Access to these facilities will be via detour on Pine Drive, Parade Loop and North Gate Boulevard to Academy Drive. Traffic reaching the road from the east will be able to turn around in the AOG parking lot. Access to the Clinic will be via Community Center Drive or Pine Drive. Traffic reaching the road from the west will be able to turn around at the Interior Drive intersection

USAF Tax Center open until April 15

The USAFA Tax Center is open until April 15. Tax returns are prepared by appointment 8-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

This free service is available to enlisted service members and captains and below, their dependents, cadets and retirees, if space is available). The Tax Center will process returns if your gross income is less than \$100,000, or if you do not have more than one rental property and do not own a business. Service members and families exceeding the eligibility limits, or otherwise unable to visit the Tax Center, are encouraged to visit their local Base Exchange for free or discounted services, or use the free Military OneSource online tax preparation service at www.militaryonesourceeap.org. Clients need to bring their military or dependent ID cards; copy of their 2014 tax return; W-2s, 1099s, and 1098s; Social Security cards for the

service member and dependents; birth dates for the service member and all dependents; copies of court orders for divorce, child custody, and child support and Form 8332, if post-2008 divorce; and a blank or cancelled check. Call 333-3920 to make an appointment.

Hoops for Troops

Service members and cadets can receive a discounted ticket price for the Denver Nuggets vs. Utah Jazz game March 27. Upper-level tickets are \$12 and lower and club level tickets are \$42. Call 303-405-1196 for more information. Visit www.nuggetstix.com/hoopsfortroops15 to purchase tickets.

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Cadet Chapel

BUDDHIST
Service: Sunday, 10 a.m.
Meditation: Thursday, 6:20 p.m.

PROTESTANT
Traditional, Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
Contemporary, Sunday, 11 a.m.

CATHOLIC
Mass: Sunday, 10 a.m.
Daily Mass: Mon. - Thurs., 5:30 p.m.
Confession: Sunday, 9 a.m.
Adoration Confession, Wednesday, 4:30-5:20 p.m.

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

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

Community Center Chapel

CATHOLIC WORSHIP
Mass: Saturday, 4 p.m., Sunday, 9 a.m. Tuesday - Friday, 11:30 a.m.
Reconciliation: Saturday, 3 p.m.
Formation Classes: For students in grades K-8. Sunday, 10:15-11:30 a.m., September-May.

PROTESTANT WORSHIP SERVICE
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.
Religious Education: Sunday, 9 a.m., pre-school through adults.

Instagram photo of the week



User @usafacclid shared this Instagram and posted: "America's Navy is well represented at #NCLS2015 with ADM Michelle Howard and RDML Brian Losey scheduled to speak." We look forward to highlighting your Instagram photos in upcoming editions of the *Academy Spirit*. If you would like to have a photo published, upload it to Instagram using #YourAcademy.

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