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Vol. 41, Issue 19

May 19, 2017

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Weather

Friday Partly Cloudy High 92°F Low 66°F	Saturday Partly Cloudy High 93°F Low 69°F
Sunday Thunderstorms High 82°F Low 63°F	Monday A.M. Rain High 81°F Low 58°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight

News Briefs

SUPT Class 17-09 Graduation
Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-09 graduates at 10 a.m. today, May 19 at Kaye Auditorium.

37th FTS Change of Command
The 37th Flying Training Squadron is hosting a Change of Command ceremony at 9:37 a.m. May 25 at the fire station.

Memorial Day Retreat
The 14th Flying Training Wing is hosting a formal Memorial Day Retreat Ceremony at 4 p.m. May 25 at Gene Smith Plaza. All are invited to attend.

Inside



Feature 8
SUPT Class 17-09 graduates at 10 a.m. today at Kaye Auditorium.



U.S. Air Force photo by Elizabeth Owens
Tech. Sgt. Dustin Weeks, 14th Security Forces Squadron Electronic Security Systems and Resource Advisor, and Senior Airman Kyle Jacob, 14th SFS Military Working Dog Handler, congratulate MWD Rex on his retirement May 17, 2017, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Rex spent five years as a drug detection dog and also helped Team BLAZE with MWD demonstrations in the local community.

Columbus bids farewell to MWD Rex

Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs
After five years, or 37 dog years of Active Duty military service, Military Working Dog Rex retired May 17, 2017, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

The ceremony began with the singing of the national anthem and a prayer by Chaplain (Maj.) Bradley Kimble, who before becoming a minister was a canine officer.
Maj. Shawn Redmond, 14th Security Force Squadron Com-

See REX, Page 2

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE II				PHASE III			IFF			WING SORTIE BOARD					
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
37th (18-03)	1.17 days	1.39 days	June 7	48th (17-09)	2.94 days	0.71 days	May 19	49th (17-HBC)	-6.86 days	-2.88 days	May 25	T-6	1,813	1,794	20,100
41st (18-04)	2.42 days	1.99 days	June 17	50th (17-09)	2.52 days	-0.58 days	May 19	* Mission numbers provided by 14 FTW Wing Scheduling.			T-1	572	460	5,205	
												T-38	633	570	6,878
												IFF	275	273	2,962

Professional Organization Corner

Top 3:
Monthly meeting, 3 p.m. May 19 @ Club

5/6:
Monthly meeting, noon May 31 @ Club

CGOC:
Monthly meeting, 11 a.m. June 2 @ Club

MENTAL
PHYSICAL
SOCIAL
SPIRITUAL

RU FIT

REX
(Continued from page 1)

mander, officiated the ceremony and took the time to recognize all the commanders and chiefs in attendance as well as Rex's friends and wingmen.

Redmond talked on how anytime the local community needed dog support Rex was there. "Rex was a great advocate for Team BLAZE," Redmond said. "How great was Rex at his job? Better than I am at mine."

He then told the room on how Rex's last recertification went. A MWD has to be retested to ensure that they can still complete the mission. Rex's last recertification involved sniffing out a bag of marijuana in a warehouse. Not only did he find where the drugs were stashed, he opened the desk drawer, stuck his nose in it and pulled out the bag.

Redmond recognized the rest of the squadron's MWDs and handlers and explained how important their job is. He gave an example of

Tech. Sgt. Stefanowicz, 14th SFS and MWD Nnora who, while deployed, cleared an area in an undisclosed location for Secretary of Defense James Mattis.

After Redmond's speech, Staff Sgts. Derek Mortensen and Jimmy Juarez Andrade, 14th SFS MWD handlers, read "Guardians of the Night", a poem about MWDs and their handlers.

Following the poem, Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, was asked to give Rex his last bone as a MWD.

"This is a great honor to present Rex with his last bone," said Gosney. "This will be a career highlight for me."

Rex has been adopted by his last handler Senior Airman Kyle Jacob, 14th SFS MWD handler. Although Rex is retired, Jacob said that he still tests him by hiding his chew toy around the house and challenging him to find it. Jacob also said that Rex has a few health problems but he plans on making sure that Rex enjoys his retirement.

Silver Wings

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Mrs. Tina Perry
Layout Designer

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED



As of press time, 15 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
22 Green Dot Team Visit	23 Wing Commander All Calls, 8 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m. @ Kaye	24	25 37th FTS Change of Command, 9:37 a.m. @ Fire Station Memorial Day Retreat Ceremony, 4 p.m. @ Gene Smith Plaza	26 AETC Family Day Independence Pool opens with Luau Party	27/28	June 8: 14th CPTS Change of Command June 9: SUPT Class 17-10 Graduation June 15: Enlisted Dorm Dinner June 16: 49th FTS CoC June 16: Pilot for a Day June 16: Assignment Night June 20: Wing Newcomers Orientation June 24: Columbus AFB Color Run June 29: 14th FSS CoC June 30: Enlisted Promotions July 1: Fireworks on the Water July 3-4: Family Day plus Holiday
29 Memorial Day Holiday	30 Wing Newcomers Orientation, 8 a.m. @ Club	31 Enlisted Promotions, 3 p.m. @ Club Hearts Apart, 5 p.m. @ AFRC	1	2	3/4 3rd: Columbus AFB Triathlon, 7 a.m. @ Pool	

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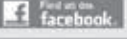
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COURSES

(Continued from page 12)

to the EHC modules, Airmen will be introduced to scenarios as part of the "What Now Airman?" series and will be guided through discussions on how to approach the potential ethical dilemmas.

While new curriculum is being introduced into the FTAC, many core topics currently taught will still be covered and the course length will remain at five duty days.

"We need to focus on developing the next generation of enlisted leaders," said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Kaleth O. Wright. "This starts in basic training, but has to be deliberate and continuous throughout an Airman's career. These courses are the next step in the evolution of professional development for our enlisted force."

To prepare CAAs for this new curriculum, PACE has added four days to the current six-day CAA training course. Additionally, four CAA training courses were held from January through March 2017 and an FTAC beta course covering the new material was held from December 2016 through May 2017.

For more information regarding Airmanship 300, please contact the Profession of Arms Center of Excellence at AETC.PACE.ProjectMgtWorkflow@us.af.mil.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

May 26
Honeyboy and Boots will hold a concert for their new CD release at 7 p.m. May 26 at the Rosenzweig Arts Center. Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door.

BARGAIN LINE

Bargain Line advertisement
The Bargain Line is free for all military members (including guard and reserve members), DOD civilians, military retirees, family members and contract employees.
Bargain Line advertisements must be turned in to the Silver Wings office in the 14th Flying Training Wing headquarters building by noon Monday to be included in the following week's issue. Late ads will be held over for the next issue.
Reruns must be phoned in to the Silver Wings office, 434-7068, by noon Monday for inclusion in the next week's issue. Please do not re-submit ads for rerun on this form. Advertisements should contain a home phone number, home address or both. Duty phone numbers will not appear in the ads.
Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income, such as baby-sitting or rental property, may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through the Silver Wings publisher, 328-2424. Please fill out this form completely. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit ads as necessary.

Type of advertisement (circle one) Home Transportation Miscellaneous Yard sales Pets

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(in case we need more information)

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Base Thrift Shop

The Base Thrift Shop is open from
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Consignments are welcome until noon. Donations are accepted and very much appreciated. Donations can now be dropped off on the loading dock and inside the front doors 24/7. If they are left anywhere else we do not receive them.



It is located in building 530.
Call 434-2954.



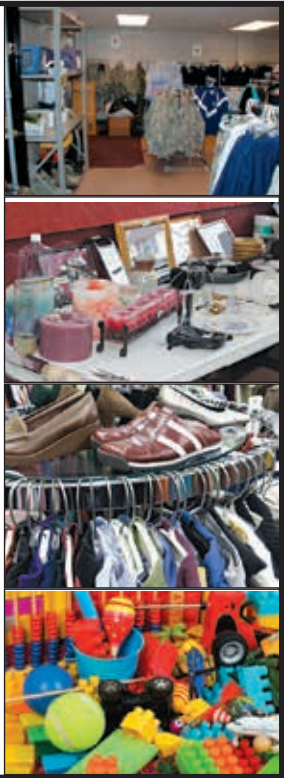
The shop is a non-profit and all proceeds benefit Columbus Air Force Base Community.

Airman's Attic

The Airman's Attic is open
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays,
and 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturdays.

The Attic serves junior enlisted members (E-1 through E-5) with uniforms and basic household items at no cost. Donations of uniforms, household goods, family clothing, maternity, infant care items and furniture are welcomed. Officers are now able to get uniform items from the Airman's Attic. All ranks can partake every Saturday. Please coordinate furniture or other large donations with the staff during business hours.

The Attic is located in building 530, across from the Thrift Shop.



Hunt Housing tip of the week



As stated in your signed Lease Agreement, a written 30-day notice is required prior to vacating housing. The penalty for not providing sufficient notice is the equivalent to one month's rent. There will be no penalty for a short notice given in compliance with military orders. Upon receiving orders, please arrange TMO dates prior to coming in to give notice. Final move dates are not able to be scheduled without confirmed TMO information.

AFAF goal reached

The results from the Air Force Assistance Fund are in and Columbus Air Force Base has exceeded the goal amount! The 14th Flying Training Wing's goal was \$27,653 and \$30,559 was the total amount raised, equaling \$2,906 over the goal. Congratulations Team BLAZE!



Help prevent storm water pollution

Tim Turner
14th Civil Engineer Squadron
Water Quality Manager

Storm water flow is the leading source of water pollution in the U.S. As storm runoff flows over our roads, parking lots and yards, the rain water picks up and carries away debris, chemicals, dirt and other pollutants through the storm drains to lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands.

Storm water pollution is defined as anything other than water that is carried to a storm drain or surface body of water. Polluted storm water threatens our natural resources, economy and recreation. As a steward of the land, Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi is committed to protecting the water quality of our lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands that we all use and enjoy.

Traditionally, our water infrastructure, such as storm drains and culverts, has been treated as something to dispose of rather than something to protect. Development has fundamentally altered the way water moves through our landscape.

Take a moment to consider all the litter along our roadways and where it goes. Mississippi has a serious litter problem, 30 percent higher than all other states, with a high percentage of the litter being washed into our streams, rivers, and lakes or gradually covered by soil buildup or vegetation, no longer visible but not actually gone either.

We all need water and we all pay in one way or another when our water is polluted. Everyone plays a role in creating the pollution in storm water runoff, so we all have a responsibility in cleaning it up.

Unfortunately, most of us are unaware of how we impact water quality. The simple act of cutting grass ads nutrients to rainwater and those nutrients cause algae blooms in the Tombigbee River. Washing the car in the driveway puts soap, oil, and grit in the drains that flow to nearby streams. None of this is good for the

fish in these waterways.

It's important to remember that any type of surface water runoff, not just rainfall, can carry pollutants into our waterways. Preventing pollution from entering our waters is much more affordable than treating polluted water. Educating the community on how to protect and prevent pollution from entering our waterways is one of the best tools we can use to preserve these natural resources.

Below is a list of things you can do to help our waters.

- Only rain belongs down the drain! Dirty water needs to be put in the sink so it can be treated to make it clean again.
 - Dispose of used motor oil and household waste properly.
 - Wash your car at a commercial car wash.
 - Keep your vehicles well maintained.
 - Look for oil spots where you park and have them fixed.
 - Use lawn or household chemicals as directed. Excess chemicals just waste money and wind up in the water.
 - Check the weather forecast before you mow your lawn. Allow the clippings to dry at least a day before it rains to reduce nutrient runoff.
 - Plant native, low maintenance plants and grasses.
 - Always clean up pet waste. The nutrients contribute to algae growth and fecal coliform in the water.
 - Keep your septic system well-maintained to prevent leaks and overflows.
 - Plant a rain garden to naturally clean up rain water.
 - Keep Mississippi beautiful. Do not litter!
- The public health and environmental implications are tremendous. The investments we make today are ones we will live with tomorrow and possibly decades to come. Every step counts to ensuring the health and well-being of our children and grandchildren for the future.

Columbus observes Police Week

Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, observed the 2017 Police Week, May 14-20, 2017, to honor Security Forces, the Defenders, who work 24 hours a day, seven days a week, rain or shine to keep the base safe and secure from all threats.

National Police Week is a time to honor the men and women who have sacrificed their lives to uphold justice and tranquility.

The defenders put on many different events for the Team BLAZE community to show the many different things that they do to protect the base.

The first event was the 24-hour Security Forces March at 7 a.m. May 15, at the Wing Headquarters Building. A minimum of two defenders at any given time marched around the base carrying the 14th Security Forces Squadron guidon. A few of them wore body armor and heavy backpacks to symbolize the weight that defenders carry on their shoulders.

“The march signifies that we, as Security Forces, are always on duty,” said Staff Sgt. Janessa Ebbert, Noncommissioned Officer in Charge of Integrated Defense.

On May 16, the defenders put on two displays for the community. The first display was the Military Working Dog demonstration. The demonstration consisted of different scenarios that a MWD and its handler will see in the field. The dogs are well trained and are capable of many tasks such as apprehending and guarding a suspect until their handler can detain them.

The second display was the Shoot, Move, Communicate drill. During the drill, four defenders work their way through an obstacle course designed to hone their weapons and tactical skills. Defenders do this drill to ensure that they are ready to protect the Air Force’s assets.

On May 18, there was a Fallen Defender/OSI Presentation honoring all of the men and women who gave their lives to protect Airmen and their families. The presentation started at 9 a.m. at the Columbus Club.

On May 19, there will be a Retreat Ceremony at 5 p.m. in front of the Wing Headquarters. Team BLAZE members are encouraged to come and support the defenders.



U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Beaux Hebert

The 14th Security Forces Squadron participates in the 2017 Special Olympics Torch Run May 16, 2017, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The Defenders ran two miles through the base and then passed the torch to the Columbus Police Department who then ran the torch through the city of Columbus.

The final event will be on May 20, at State and Magnolia Housing. The defenders will parade through housing, giving out candy and displaying some of their equipment. The parade starts at 10 a.m. and parents with children are encouraged to attend.

Many people will only see Security Forces when they are in trouble or in a bad situation. Police Week has given the Defenders a chance to show Team BLAZE what they do in order to keep the Airmen, their families, and the base safe and secure.

“Some days you can get into the rut of ‘I’m just checking ID’s’ or ‘I’m just a glorified security guard,’” Ebbert said. “But this base couldn’t be here without us. Even though most the time people only see bad side of us, we are the first people they call when they need something and that’s what I focus on.”



Staff Sgt. Derek Mortensen, 14th Security Forces Squadron Military Working Dog Handler, releases MWD Dito to attack a perpetrator, Senior Airman Zachary Kunkler, 14th SFS MWD Handler, during a demonstration May 16, 2017, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The demonstration was in honor of Police Week and raising awareness for the many different jobs that Defenders do in order to keep Air Force bases and assets safe.

USAF Special Tactics trains to lead, build partnership in Jordan

Senior Airman Ryan Conroy
24th Special Operations Wing Public Affairs

AMMAN, THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN — Explosions reverberate throughout the city, and rapid gunfire echoes off the stucco buildings as a joint nation special operations force fast-ropes onto a three-story building to infiltrate the hostile city.

Air Force Special Tactics teams, Jordanian Armed Forces Special Task Force and Italy’s 17th Stormo Incursori special operations forces secure each building in the compound — searching for a missing U.S. service member and rendering aid to casualties along the way.

This wasn’t a real-world mission; it was personnel recovery training at Eager Lion 2017, an annual U.S. Central Command exercise in Jordan designed to strengthen military-to-military relationships between the U.S., Jordan and more than 20 different international partners.

“This is a combined fight just about everywhere you go,” said Lt. Col. Rodger Jennrich, the 23rd Special Tactics Squadron and Special Operations Task Force CEDAR commander during this exercise. “We have to learn to work with our partners in training-- so that when we go into real combat scenarios, it’s not the first time we’ve seen it.”

Behind the scenes of these complex military operations is the Air Force’s ground special operations forces, Special Tactics — training to command and control joint coalition forces in a SOTF.

“Future conflicts and crises will continue to require interdependence between air and ground forces, and it’s in Special Tactics’ DNA to integrate those two,” said Col. Michael Martin, the 24th Special Operations Wing commander, who leads the Air Force’s only Special Tactics wing. “This nation relies upon special operations forces to accomplish high-stakes, no-fail missions. We train so our Airmen can solve some of the enemy-centric problems — from a unique leadership perspective and air/ground capabilities.”

SOTFs are headquarters that command and control ground units to accomplish special operations missions—constructs that Special Tactics Airmen haven’t often led in the past, but are this year as SOTF CEDAR.

Special Tactics forces have work towards leading a joint SOTF in both air and ground-focused exercises in the U.S. In December, during Air Combat Command’s Weapons School Integration exercise, and in March, during Exercise Emerald Warrior, a U.S. Special Operations Command directed irregular warfare exercise.

“Special Tactics must continue to train to contribute at this level of responsibility,” Jennrich said. “During Emerald Warrior, the 22nd Special Tactics Squadron stood up a SOTF, and we took the lessons learned from that operation and built off of it.”

Primarily, SOTF CEDAR’s special operations teams com-



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Ryan Conroy

An Air Force Special Tactics Airman with the 24th Special Operations Wing rappels into the Al Biadia Cave Complex during a personnel rescue mission for Eager Lion May 13, 2017, in Mafraq Province, Jordan. Special Tactics teams have the ability to conduct personnel recovery missions, from rapid mission planning to technical rescue, treatment and exfiltration. With in-depth medical and rescue expertise, along with their deployment capabilities, ST Airmen are able to perform rescue missions in the world’s most remote areas.

pleted global access, precision strike, direct action and personnel recovery operations — missions that Special Tactics Airmen specifically train for.

Joint nation partners are integrated into every phase of the operations, from mission planning to briefing to executing the training mission. In fact, Italians and Greek SOF were injected into the SOTF to help run operations and build partnership capacity.

“Eager Lion is like a deployment — but expedited,” said a Special Tactics officer with the 23rd STS, who is working within SOTF CEDAR alongside his Jordanian counterparts. “We’re trying to do as much as possible in a very compressed timeframe — and we are leading these missions, so we own the responsibility to execute them successfully.”

Special Tactics’ exercises in command and control comes

as the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, Gen. David L. Goldfein, has called for the Air Force to develop joint leadership, and revitalize squadrons as a unit of action.

“The CSAF is empowering us to train leaders to be more joint minded,” said Jennrich. “Working inside the SOTF, under the Combined Joint SOTF, means we are constantly working with our Army, Navy, Marine and combined counterparts. This creates combined joint leaders, and our Special Tactics Airmen can take the lessons learned from this further into their career.”

For Special Tactics, the training won’t stop with Eager Lion, but repetitions like this exercise are essential for developing best practices, Jennrich believes-- until it becomes second nature for Airmen to contribute to the joint fight as they lead and execute ground missions.

To advertise in Silver Wings, call 328-2424

Mattis welcomes new SecAF home

Master Sgt. Bryan Franks
Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Jim Mattis ceremoniously swore in Heather Wilson as the 24th Secretary of the Air Force at the Pentagon May 16, 2017.

“If we wanted to do one thing to Webster’s Unbridged Dictionary to define a Patriot with no words, we could put up Heather Wilson’s picture right next to the word, and we would explain what a patriot truly is,” Mattis said. “On behalf of the entire Air Force community, on the behalf of the Department of Defense — welcome home.”

Wilson, who was administratively sworn in as secretary May 12, 2017, has more than 35 years of professional experience in a range of leadership and management roles in the military, higher education, government and private industry.

Mattis called Wilson well suited to lead the Air Force and said he needs her ideas and wisdom as the Air Force begins a new chapter.

Mattis said he, Wilson and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein are committed to restoring the readiness of the force, modernizing and advancing new capabilities to meet future threats, and devel-



U.S. Air Force photo by Wayne A. Clark

Newly sworn Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson thanks family, friends and colleagues during her ceremonial oath of office as the 24th Air Force secretary, at the Pentagon event, May 16, 2017.

oping exceptional leaders to command the finest combat force in the world.

“History is not predetermined or static. History hangs on a hinge. Air supremacy

is not America’s ordained right and there are other hands pushing on history’s door,”

Mattis said. “By Secretary Wilson’s leadership, by the superior service of America’s

Airmen ... they push in vain ... the U.S. Air Force must be better than anyone else.”

Goldfein and Wilson first served together as cadets at the U.S. Air Force Academy where they both took the oath of office for the first time as members of the same class.

“Here we stand together again as you repeat these same sacred words. What a journey it has been, and what a journey it will be,” Goldfein said. “We follow in the footsteps of service secretaries and chiefs of the past who have put their heart and their soul into building the most combat capable and lethal Air Force the world has ever known.”

From the start, Wilson said she is focused on not taking air and space power for granted.

“We have got a lot of work to do under the guidance of Secretary Defense Mattis and with the support of the United States Congress we will restore the readiness of the force so that we can win any fight, anytime, anywhere,” Wilson said. “We’re going to cost effectively modernize the force and drive innovation to bring new capabilities to the service of liberty, and underpinning it all will be a commitment to people. Thank you to the Airmen who protect the freedom we enjoy. You and your families represent the best of what it means to be an American.”

First Term Airmen Courses receive curriculum overhaul

Profession of Arms Center of Excellence

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — The Air Force has rolled out a new First Term Airmen Course dedicated to developing Airmen as next-generation leaders.

Airmen straight out of technical training will be taking the next step in their professional development when they attend the newly revamped FTAC at their assigned installation. The first installation to teach the course is Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland and all other installations will launch the new course by June 2017.

Headquarters Air Force Manpower, Personnel and Services, the Air Force Personnel Center, and the Profession of Arms Center of Excellence, or PACE, partnered to revitalize the FTAC, taking it from an in-processing focused program to a standard curriculum across the Air Force.

The courses were designed to provide a structured program to transition Airmen from a training environment to a mission-oriented environment. However, most are currently focused on base in-processing. The new course is a continuation of the training Airmen received at Basic Military Training and in technical training, building upon the skills they’ve already been introduced to.

A comprehensive review of FTAC was completed over the course of three months at the direction of the former Air Force chief of staff. The FTAC will now incorporate new lessons, known as “Airmanship 300,” as part of the continuum of training. Airmanship 100, commonly referred to as Airmen’s Week, is taught immediately following BMT, and Airmanship 200 is taught at technical training. The evolution of professional development includes Airmanship 300 in FTAC, with Airmanship 400 and 500 projected to be developed for the NCO and Senior NCO Professional Enhancement Courses. The courses are designed to ensure Airmen receive deliberate development at every milestone in their careers.

According to Senior Master Sgt. Tonya Joyce, the career field manager for career assistance advisors at AFPC, “We have an opportunity to create a continuum of professional development by introducing Airmanship into the courses delivered by our installation career assistance advisors.”

The new course includes modules from the existing Enhancing Human Capital course that many senior Air Force leaders are currently attending. These modules include discussions about trust, loyalty and commitment, in-group behavioral psychology and a team-building exercise. In addition

See COURSES, Page 14



U.S. Air Force photo by Melissa Peterson

Staff Sgt. Mitchell Gorham, the First Term Airmen Course team lead at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, participates in a Career Assistance Advisor training course, November 30, 2016, for the newly redesigned First Term Airmen Course. The course revamped FTAC from an in-processing focused program to a standard curriculum focused on developing Airmen.

Columbus AFB Top 3 spotlight



Date: May 15, 2017
Category: Airman/NCO
Nominee Name/Grade: Senior Airman Nicholas Bahr
Unit: 14th OSS

Information:

- 1. Home Town:** Geneva, Alabama
- 2. Time in the Air Force:** 4 years, 5 months
- 3. Career Short Term Goals:** Become a proficient Radar Technician since our Air Force Career fields merged.
- 4. Career Long Term Goals:** Make E-6 at my first time testing.
- 5. Nominated by:** Master Sgt. Juan Diaz
- 6. Nomination reason:** For Senior Airman Bahr’s leadership and achievements.

Security Forces: Did you know?



Did you know, it is against regulations to leave your vehicle running and unattended without first stopping the engine and removing the key?

Reference located within Columbus Air Force Base traffic code AFMAN31-116 CAFB Sup Attachment 2/A2.7.

Please direct any questions and concerns to the Security Forces Operations section at 434-3154.

Bat survey

Frank Lockhart
14th Civil Engineer
Squadron

In 2015, an endangered species of Indiana bat was found in Northeast Mississippi. The range of the bat would include an area extending to Hwy. 82 and includes Columbus Air Force Base.

During the 2015 annual review of the Columbus AFB Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan, the US Fish and Wildlife Ecological Services Division said the base is within the range of the bat that a survey will be necessary to show its presence or absence.

There are two survey methods. One places mist nets to capture and identify the bat. The method records bat sounds and analyzes the high frequency bat sounds which are specific for each species.

The survey is being conducted by the University of Montana utilizing acoustical survey technology. The high frequency sounds emitted by bats is identifiable for each bat species.

Five acoustical receivers were placed around the base May 2, 2017, and will record the bat high frequency sound waves for three months after which the recordings will be analyzed and each bat will be identified.

Contact Frank Lockhart at 434-7958 if any damage is noted with the sensor equipment or if you have any questions.



U.S. Air Force photo by Sharon Ybarra

Frank Lockhart, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Conservation Manager, and Tech. Sgt. Andrew McAnally, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Non-commissioned Officer in Charge of Construction Management, uses an acoustical receiver to conduct a bat survey May 4, 2017, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Five acoustical receivers were placed around the base and will record the bat high frequency sound waves for three months after which the recordings will be analyzed and each bat will be identified.

Controlled burn at Shuqualak

Frank Lockhart
14th Civil Engineer Squadron

The pine tree stands surrounding the auxiliary airfield at Shuqualak were burned April 1, 2017.

This was a controlled burn conducted by the US Forest Service through the Air Force Wildland Fire Center. Controlled burning is any fire intentionally ignited to meet specific land management objectives.

When used properly, controlled burning will help land stewards manage forests and rangelands for multiple uses. The base’s management goals were to reduce flammable fuels, restore ecosystem health and recycle nutrients to help produce a healthier timber stand. To manage the impacts

from smoke, the burning was scheduled during favorable weather conditions and the amount of fuel and acreage burned was controlled.

Controlled burns also help manage against the threat of potential wildfires.

Wildfires usually occur during dry weather and are started by lighting or camp fires. These unplanned and often uncontrolled fires can pose serious threats to firefighters, public health and safety, as well as to air quality. The extended periods of smoke associated with uncontrolled fires can also cause serious health problems and significantly decrease visibility.

The controlled burn was a success and improvements to the surrounding habitat and environment can already be observed.

Drive Smart, Save Lives – Don’t text while driving

BLAZE Hangar Tails: RQ-4 Global Hawk Unmanned Aerial Vehicle

Mission

The RQ-4 Global Hawk is a high-altitude, long-endurance, remotely piloted aircraft with an integrated sensor suite that provides global all-weather, day or night intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capability. Global Hawk's mission is to provide a broad spectrum of ISR collection capability to support joint combatant forces in worldwide peacetime, contingency and wartime operations. The Global Hawk provides persistent near-real-time coverage using imagery intelligence, signals intelligence and moving target indicator sensors.

Features

Global Hawk is currently fielded in three distinct blocks and is flown by a Launch and Recovery Element and a Mission Control Element. The LRE is located at the aircraft base and functions to launch and recover the aircraft while en route to and from the target area. The MCE controls the Global Hawk for the bulk of the ISR mission. Like the LRE, the MCE is manned by one pilot, but adds a sensor operator to the crew.

Command and control data links enable complete dynamic control of the aircraft. The pilot workstations in the MCE and LRE are the control and display interface providing aircraft health and status, sensors status and a means to alter

the navigational track of the aircraft. From this station, the pilot also communicates with outside entities to coordinate the mission such as air traffic control, airborne controllers, ground controllers, and other ISR assets.

The sensor operator workstation provides capability to task the sensor, dynamically update the collection plan in real time, initiate sensor calibration and monitor sensor status. The sensor operator also assists the exploitation node with image quality control, target deck prioritization and scene tracking to ensure fluid operations.

Background

Global Hawk began as an Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration in 1995. The system was determined to have military utility and provide warfighters with an evolutionary high-altitude, long-endurance ISR capability. The Global Hawk has been deployed operationally to support overseas contingency operations since November 2001.

In the RQ-4 name, the "R" is the Department of Defense designation for reconnaissance and "Q" means unmanned aircraft system. The "4" refers to the series of purpose-built remotely piloted aircraft systems. The "E" in EQ-4 delineates the communication configuration of the BACN equipped aircraft.

General Characteristics

Primary function: high-altitude, long-endurance ISR
Contractor: Northrop Grumman (Prime), Raytheon, L3 Comm
Power Plant: Rolls Royce-North American F137-RR-100 turbofan engine
Thrust: 7,600 pounds
Wingspan: 130.9 feet (39.8 meters)
Length: 47.6 feet (14.5 meters)
Height: 15.3 feet (4.7 meters)
Weight: 14,950 pounds (6,781 kilograms)
Maximum takeoff weight: 32,250 pounds (14,628 kilograms)
Fuel Capacity: 17,300 pounds (7,847 kilograms)
Payload: 3,000 pounds (1,360 kilograms)
Speed: 310 knots (357 mph)
Range: 12,300 nautical miles
Endurance: more than 34 hours
Ceiling: 60,000 feet (18,288 meters)
Armament: None
Crew (remote): three (LRE pilot, MCE pilot, and sensor operator)
Initial operating capability: 2011 (Block 30); 2015 (Block 40)
Inventory: active force, 33 (three more Block 30s purchased, to be fielded in 2017)



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Nichelle Anderson/released

A U.S. Air Force RQ-4 Global Hawk Unmanned Aerial Vehicle flies over Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. The Global Hawk's mission is to provide a broad spectrum of intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance collection capability to support joint combatant forces in worldwide peacetime, contingency and wartime operations.



U.S. Air Force photo

A U.S. Air Force RQ-4 Global Hawk Unmanned Aerial Vehicle waits for its takeoff time before its first launch from an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia, Nov. 27, 2010. The RQ-4 carries the Battlefield Airborne Communications Node which acts as a persistent gateway, bridging diverse tactical data links and voice communications to improve battlefield communications.

Air Force Readiness Programs

(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the Airman & Family Readiness Center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call 434-2790.)

Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief is 8 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. May 30 and is mandatory for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. The orientation is held at the Columbus Club. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Military Life Cycle

The Military Life Cycle workshop from 1-2 p.m. May 30 allows the VA contractors to explain to service members, whether first term, separating, retiring or a veteran, what services the VA offers and what they are able to provide throughout the member's military career and how to apply for benefits. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Hearts Apart

The Hearts Apart Social program from 5-7 p.m. May 31 is a monthly event to provide community bonding, fun and appreciation for the families of active-duty personnel who are deployed, remote, or on an extended TDY. Food and activities are provided. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Smooth Move

The Smooth Move class takes place 10-11:30 a.m. June 6. The class provides relocating members/families with valuable information about moving. You learn what to expect from TMO, Housing, Military Pay, Legal, Billing, Tri-Care, Medical Records, and A&FRC. Please call 434-2790 to register.

Resume and Cover Letter

The Resume and Cover letter workshop starts 9 – 10:30 a.m. June 7. The workshop helps with preparing and writing an effective civilian resume and cover letter. To sign up, call 434-2839/2790.

Pre-separation Counseling

This counseling is a mandatory briefing for personnel separating or retiring, to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation. It may be completed up to 12 months prior to separation or retirement. The counseling is held daily at 8:30 a.m. It takes approximately 60 minutes. Please contact A&FRC, 434-2839/434-2790 for more information.

Pre, Post Deployment Tour Brief

These briefings are mandatory briefings for active-duty personnel who are either deploying or returning from deployment or a remote tour. The briefings are held daily at the A&FRC. Pre-deployment is at 9:30 a.m., and post-deployment is at 1:30 p.m. Please contact A&FRC, 434-2839/434-2790 for more information.

Honor Guard spends time with elderly



U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. Savannah Stephens

Senior Airman Jeremiah Necaie, Senior Airman Johnathan Rosales, Airman 1st Class Camren Smith, Tech. Sgt. Damon Snead, Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guard members and The Honorable Robert Smith, Mayor of Columbus and Columbus AFB Wingman, pose for a photo May 15, 2017, at the Windsor Retirement home in Columbus, Mississippi. The Honor Guard performed a flag folding ceremony for the retirees to witness.

Survivor-Benefit Plan

Are you nearing military retirement? The one decision you will need to make before you retire involves participation in the Survivor Benefit Plan. As with all good decision-making, you need to know the facts before you can make a sound decision, and be wary of anyone telling you they can offer you a better deal. Always get the true facts about the SBP before making up your mind. Additional details are available by calling (662) 434-2720.

Military and Family Life Consultant Program

The MFLC counselors provide non-medical counseling to help Airmen (both single and married), their spouses and other family members to cope with stressful situations created by deployments, reintegration, and life challenges such as martial issues, parenting, career stress and anger. All consultants are licensed mental health providers. Counselors can meet either on or off base. There is no charge for services and appointments can usually be made within one to two days. To contact the MFLC, call 662-364-0504.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering please contact the Airman & Family Readiness Center. We have volunteer opportunities located throughout the base for a one-time event, special events, or on a continual basis. Volunteers are needed on base at the Youth Center, Child Development Center, Library, Golf Course, Medical Clinic, Chapel, Airman Attic, Thrift Store,

the Retiree Activities office and many others. For more information please call A&FRC at 434-2790.

Air Force Recovery Coordination Program

The Recovery Coordination Program streamlines and improves the way care and support are delivered to wounded, ill, and injured Airmen and their families. The RCP provides the support of a Recovery Care Coordinator who guides the Airman and family along their road to recovery. Those eligible include wounded, ill and injured Airmen who: (1) have a serious illness or injury (2) are unlikely to return to duty within a specified amount of time (3) may be medically separated from the military. Additional details are available by contacting the Columbus AFB RCC at DSN: 493-3399, Office: 334-953-3399 or tim.griggs.1.ctr@us.af.mil.

Personal Financial Readiness

Make the most of your money. Contact DeLores Sherman, Personal Financial Counselor, for an appointment at 426-2527, or 434-2790. She can help manage finances, resolve financial problems, and reach long-term goals such as getting an education, buying a home and planning for retirement.

Learn How to Read Your LES

Having a hard time understanding your Leave and Earning Statement? Need a refresher so that you can mentor your subordinates on their entitlements? Finance has you covered.

If you would like for Finance to come to your next CC call or Professional Organization event, you can contact Master Sgt. Sabrina Spriggs at DSN 742-3068 or Staff Sgt. Julianna White at DSN 742-2715.

DRMO

Recycle first by using the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office as your facility's source of supply. Authorized personnel may retrieve property free of charge if the property is still physically located here in Base Supply and marked at DRMO facilities. Other DRMO processing is available via the web at www.drmo.dla.mil. Cost of shipping will apply. Please call Inspection at 434-7231 to review DRMO property or Stock Control at 434-7197 with questions or concerns you may have. Parking and assistance is available in the back of building 158.

Saint Leo University

SLU offers on-base classes in psychology, criminal justice, and business administration. Online and CD-ROM classes are also available. Call Saint Leo at 434-8844 (dial 99 on-base) or stop by room 120 in building 926 (old Personnel building).

Chapel Schedule

Whether you are new to Columbus Air Force Base or have been around for a while, our parish communities welcome you to join us as we worship, fellowship, and encourage one another. For more information, please call 434-2500.

Catholic Community

Sundays:
 3:45 p.m. – Religious Education, grades K-9 (Chapel Annex)
 4 p.m. – Choir Practice (Chapel Sanctuary)
 4 p.m. – Confession (or by appointment)
 5 p.m. – Mass w/Children's Church Fellowship Dinner after Mass on 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month
Tuesdays:
 11:30 a.m. – Daily Mass
Wednesdays:
 11:30-12:30 p.m. – Adoration

Protestant Community

Sundays:
 9 a.m. – Adult Sunday School (Chapel Library)
 10:45 a.m. – Traditional Worship Service
Tuesdays:
 5 p.m. – Student Pilot Bible Study (Chapel Library)
Wednesdays:
 4 p.m. - Music Rehearsal

Ecumenical services

Wednesdays:
 6 p.m. – AWANA, a religious education program for children ages three years old to 6th grade
 6 p.m. – Adult Bible study on the Gospel of John
 6 p.m. – Youth Group

Columbus Air Force Base Information and Events

Join our Facebook page at Columbus AFB Living, Twitter @columbusafbliving, Instagram at columbus_afb_living, or visit our website at columbusafbliving.com to keep up to date with all the great events happening around base. Check out the calendar on the website for important Airman and Family Readiness Center events. For more information, contact 434-2337.

9 Pin No Tap Bowling Tournament

The Bowling Center will host a 9 Pin No Tap Bowling Tournament at 2 p.m. May 20. Prizes will be awarded to the top three winners. Call 434-3426 for more information.

Intramural Bowling League

Letter of intent for intramural bowling is due to the Fitness Center by May 25. League play will start at 6 p.m. June 12. Call 434-3426 or 434-2772 for more information.

Pool Luau Party

Independence Pool will open this year with a Luau Party at 4 p.m. May 26. The buffet will serve smoked pork, chicken, pineapple rice and more. Prices for this day will be \$14 Club members and \$16 nonmembers. Call 4343-2489 for information.

Funnel Cakes

Celebrate National Donut Day June 2 with funnel cakes at the Bowling Center for \$5 each while supplies last. For more information, call 434-3426.

Base Triathlon

Columbus AFB will hold a Swim, Bike & Run Triathlon June 3. Check-in is 6 – 6:45 a.m. and the first heat starts at 7 a.m. This event is free to participate. Prices are as follows: \$15 for a T-shirt and medal, \$9 for a T-shirt, \$6 for a medal. All ages are welcome including children. Call the Fitness Center at 434-2772 for more information.

Ladies Bowling League

The Bowling Center is offering a ladies bowling league starting at 10 a.m. June 8. The 8-week league will occur every Thursday. The first league meeting will be June 1. Call 434-3426 for more information.

Penny-A-Pin Bowling

Enjoy penny per pin bowling at the Bowling Center June 12 - 16. Only pay for the pins you knock down. For example, if you play 3 games and score a 364, then you only pay \$3.64. Excludes shoe rental. For more information, call 434-3426.

Dads Bowl Free

All fathers bowl free at the Bowling Center June 17 in honor of Father's Day. Call 434-3426 for more information.

Color Run

The 5th Annual Columbus AFB 5K Color Run will take place at 8:30 a.m. June 24. Only \$10 per person. Register by June 19. Call 434-2504 for more information.

Coffee House on 5th now open at the BLAZE Commons

The Blaze Commons Coffee House on 5th is open from 6 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday – Friday and serves coffee items, smoothies, breakfast and lunch items. Drive-thru service available as well as call ahead. 434-CAFE (2233). The commons also houses the Library, an ITT and ODR kiosk, a computer lab, and FedEx drop-off point.

Columbus AFB Cinema

Enjoy free movies on select dates through May and June. Pick up a movie guide with movie schedule, times and locations at any FSS facility or check it out on Facebook at ColumbusAFB Living.

Fitness/Time Out Child Care

The Child Development Center offers child care from 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. The cost is only \$4 per hour. Sign up one week in advance at the CDC or call 434-2479 for more information.

The Overrun Open Friday Nights

The Overrun is open Fridays from 4:30 p.m. - midnight. Bar menu includes chicken wing basket, chicken tender basket, club wrap, or buffalo chicken wrap. For more information, call 434-2419.

Story Time and Circle Time

The Base Library offers Story Time every Friday at 11 a.m. for all ages. Circle Time is offered each Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. for ages up to 4 years old. For more information, call 434-2934.

Laser Bowling Special

The Bowling Center offers Laser Bowling for only \$12 per person every Friday and Saturday night from 5 – 8 p.m. You also may purchase individual games for \$3 per game with purchase of \$1.50 shoe rental. For more information, call 434-3426.

Free Wood at the Golf Course

Wood is available at the Golf Course on Sundays from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Contact the Golf Course Monday-Friday to arrange pick-up. Call 434-7932 for more information.

Wood Shop

The wood shop is now open Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Lawn Mower and Bicycle Repair

Lawn mower repair is now available at Outdoor Recreation. The cost is only \$40 per hour plus parts; pickup and delivery available. Self-help bicycle repair is also available. For more information, call 434-2507.

Hobby and Craft Instructors Needed

Do you have a hobby or craft project you can share with others? For more information, call 434-7836.

Referees Needed

Referees needed for various sports at the Fitness Center. For more information or to sign up, call 434-2772.

Skeet & Trap

Skeet and trap is available at Outdoor Recreation. Call 434-2507 for more information.

Play Paintball

Book your next paintball event at Outdoor Recreation. The cost is \$15 per person for a party of 10 or more; \$20 per person for party of 9 or less. You must purchase paint at Outdoor Recreation for \$45 per case of 2,000. For more information, call 434-2505.

Make Your Shopping Easier

Force Support Squadron gift cards are available in increments of \$5 to fit any budget. They can be used at most Force Support Squadron facilities at Air Force installations worldwide and they never go out of style. Purchase your gift card at one of the following locations: Bowling Center, Golf Course or Youth Center. For more information, call 434-3426.

Take & Bake Pizzas at the Bowling Center

Grab-and-go ready pizzas for you to take home and bake yourself are available at the bowling center. Save \$2 per pizza. Large and medium pizzas only.

Hobby and Craft Instructors Needed

Do you have a hobby or craft project you can share with others? For more information, contact 434-7836.

Interested in Sponsoring with Columbus AFB?

Want your business to reach the 18,000 active-duty military, family members, civilian employees and retirees living and working at Columbus AFB? If you are interested in event sponsorship or donations, please contact our sponsorship coordinator at 434-2337.

Free Fitness Classes

Free classes are available at the fitness center. Classes range from P90X, Hot Fusion, Jiu Jitsu and Floor Core & More. For more information on class schedules, call the Fitness Center at 434-2772.

RV Storage Lot

Don't clutter your home space, park with us. Outdoor Recreation offers a great place to store your RV year around. You will have 24-hour access and can pay monthly or yearly. For more information, call 434-2505.

Instructional Classes at Youth Center

Youth Programs is offering piano lessons, guitar lessons, tumbling classes, dance classes, and martial arts instruction. Times and ages vary for all classes. Call 434-2504 or stop by the Youth Center for more information.

Remembering those who gave all

Col. James Fisher

14th Flying Training Wing
Vice Commander

As we approach the first major holiday of 2017, Memorial Day is a day to remember those who have given their all for our country.

Over the course of my career, I've seen many people confuse Memorial Day for Veteran's Day or for Independence Day. Those are significant holidays in their own right, but Memorial Day is set aside as a singular day to pay tribute and honor to those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Many people help observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials to those who have died in conflict. While serving in San Antonio, our family along with many other families who had Boy Scouts participated in an annual event placing small American Flags on each of the over 120,000 graves at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery there.

Columbus also has a significant connection to the Memorial Day Holiday. It is well documented that even before the Civil War was over, Southern women maintained, cleaned and decorated the graves of soldiers who had passed during the conflict. One of the stories of the origin of the first Memorial Day reports that a women's memorial association organized here in Columbus put flowers on the graves of both Confederate and Union soldiers in 1866, an act which is said to have inspired the poem "The Blue and the Grey".

Another tradition associates the wearing of red

"Poppy" flowers on Memorial Day. The poem "In Flanders Fields" which commemorated the fallen from World War 1, was used as a reminder and visible object to honor our honored dead.

Memorial Day will forever have a special meaning for me and my family. On April 27, 2011, one of my assigned troops from the 99th Flying Training Squadron was killed while serving as an Air Advisor in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Maj. Jeff Ausborn was serving as a C-27 Instructor Pilot teaching the fledgling Afghan air force pilots to employ this newly acquired system. He had volunteered for a one-year remote deployment and had been part of the Air Advisor mission in Afghanistan for several months when an insider attack occurred and took the life of Ausborn and eight other members of the 438th Air Expeditionary Wing in Kabul. It was a dark day for our Air Force where nine of our fellow Airmen gave all for their country.

We all serve knowing that our oath may require us to pay the ultimate price for our country, but the cost is never as real as when that bill comes due and one of our close friends and teammates is taken from us. I know that I will always be thankful on Memorial Day for the over one million Americans who have died while serving their country during service in war time.

We all owe them our ultimate respect and I would ask you to please develop your own tradition during the start of your summer season to find a small way to honor those who have given all for our country. I'll be thinking of Jeff and his family this Memorial Day.

Commander's Action Line

434-1414

The Commander's Action Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB a better place. Although the Commander's Action Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain-of-command.

The Commander's Action Line phone number is 434-1414. Callers should leave their name and phone number to receive an answer. All names will be kept confidential. Message may be answered in the Silver Wings without names.

Written questions may also be brought to the PA office in the Wing Headquarters building, BLDG. 724, suite 210. Questions and answers may be edited for brevity and style.



The Airman's Creed

I am an American Airman.
I am a Warrior.
I have answered my nation's call.

Guardian of freedom and justice,
My nation's sword and shield,
Its sentry and avenger.

I am an American Airman.
My mission is to fly, fight, and win.
I am faithful to a proud heritage.
A tradition of honor,
And a legacy of valor.

I defend my country with my life.
I am an American Airman.
Wingman, leader, warrior.
I will never leave an Airman behind.
I will never falter,
And I will not fail.

I am an American Airman.



T-1A Jayhawk

SUPT Class 17-09 earns silver wings



T-38C Talon



Capt. Rylan Kabanuck
Max, N.D.
C-130H, Reno-Tahoe IAP, Nev.



1st Lt. James Strohmeier
Phoenix, Ariz.
C-12, JB Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska



1st Lt. Luke Webb
Delta, Colo.
KC-135R, McConnell AFB, Kan.

Twenty-one officers have prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to become Air Force pilots.

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-09 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium. Col. Gregory Roberts, Chief, Standardization and Evaluation Division, A2/3/10 Directorate for Intelligence, Operations, and Nuclear Integration, Air Education and Training Command, Joint Base San Antonio - Randolph, Texas, is the graduation guest speaker.

Students will receive their silver pilot's wings at the ceremony, and students who excelled in their respective training tracks are recognized.

2nd Lt. Justin Dant, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Christopher Burge, T-1, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented to 2nd Lt. Paul Zalar, T-38, and 1st Lt. James Strohmeier, T-1. The award is presented to a graduate in each flight who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association; promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

2nd Lt. Justin Dant, T-38, 2nd Lt. Christopher Burge, T-1, and 1st Lt. James Strohmeier, T-1, were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 17-09.

The 52-week pilot training program begins with a six-week preflight phase of academics and physiological training to prepare students for flight. The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the single-engine, turboprop T-6A Texan II at Columbus AFB, Miss. Students learn aircraft flight characteristics,

emergency procedures, takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country navigation flying.

Primary training takes approximately 23 weeks and includes 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 hours in the T-6A aircraft.

After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

Both tracks are designed to best train pilots for successful transition to their follow-on aircraft and mission.

Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38C Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet. T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation. Training takes approximately 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground training, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 hours in the T-38C aircraft.

The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place Beech Jet 400 business jet. Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 53.6 hours in the flight simulator and 76.4 hours in the T-1A.

Each class is partnered with business or civic organizations during their year of training. This program is designed to foster closer ties

between the community and Columbus AFB. Today, each student will be given a set of pilot wings with their names engraved on the back as a token of good luck from their partners. SUPT Class 17-09 pilot partners are The Commercial Dispatch and Papa John's.



2nd Lt. Justin Dant
Winston-Salem, N.C.
F-15E, Seymour-Johnson AFB, N.C.



2nd Lt. Drew Griffiths
Newburgh, N.Y.
C-17, Steward ANGB, N.Y.



2nd Lt. Rafael Hoyos
Lima, Peru
TBD



2nd Lt. Patrick Madden
Gulfport, Miss.
EC-130H, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Joshua Mayfield
Phoenix, Ariz.
RC-135, Offut AFB, Neb.



2nd Lt. Bianca Santos
Colorado Springs, Colo.
KC-135R, MacDill AFB, Fla.



2nd Lt. Devin Scott
Glendale, Ariz.
HC-130J, Moody AFB, Ga.



2nd Lt. Taylor Skrobot
Ormond Beach, Fla.
T-38C, Columbus, Miss.



2nd Lt. Joshua Wilson
Boulder, Colo.
C-17, JB Lewis-McChord, Wash.



2nd Lt. Paul Zalar
Toledo, Ohio
A-10, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Trevor Anhder
Colorado Springs, Colo.
E-3, Tinker AFB, Okla.



2nd Lt. Manuel Bordenave
O'Fallon, Ill.
T-1, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Christopher Burge
Round Rock, Texas
RC-26, Ellington Field, Texas



2nd Lt. Kelsey Kelley
West Jordan, Utah
C-17, JB Lewis-McChord, Wash.



2nd Lt. Kenneth Koonz
Middlesex, Vt.
C-130J, Dyess AFB, Texas



2nd Lt. John Labuhn
Ellendale, N.D.
C-17, JB Charleston, S.C.