

# SILVERWINGS

"Year of the Air Force Family"

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

Vol. 34, Issue 16

April 23, 2010

## Weather



**Today**

High: 89, Low: 64  
Partly Cloudy



**Saturday**

High: 76, Low: 60  
T-storms



**Sunday**

High: 81, Low: 54  
Mostly Sunny



**Monday**

High: 77, Low: 51  
Mostly Sunny

## News Briefs

### Class 10-11 Track Select

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 10-11 will hold their Track Select ceremony April 23 at 5 p.m. at the Columbus Club.

### Daedalians Golf Tournament

There will be a Daedalians Golf Tournament tomorrow, Saturday at the Whispering Pines Golf Course starting at 7:30 a.m. For more information, please call 434-2859.

### Enlisted Promotions

Enlisted Promotions will be held at 4 p.m. April 29 at the Columbus Club.

## Inside



### Feature 8

The Mississippi Urban Forestry Council recently certified the SAC Lake Timberlane Nature Trails as an arboretum.



Col. Roger Watkins, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, speaks at the 14th FTW Commander's Call April 15 at the Kaye Auditorium.

U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jacob Corbin

## 14th FTW/CC holds commanders call

### Senior Airman Jacob Corbin

14th Flying Training Wing  
Public Affairs

The commander of the 14th Flying Training Wing held a commander's call April 15 at the Kaye Auditorium.

Col. Roger Watkins, 14th FTW commander, spoke to BLAZE Team members about a variety of topics including the upcoming air show, the current force man-

agement program, the spring safety program, the unit compliance inspection set for next year and the proper procedures during an active shooter scenario.

The colonel said it is expected everyone will work one day of the two-day air show scheduled for May 15 and 16. It is the wing's first two-day air show and will feature the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds and the Army Golden Knights Parachute Team. In addition, there will be a base

wide air show party May 14 at 6 p.m. and a wing FOD walk on the following Monday.

One of the "hot" topics during the commander's call is the current AF Force Management Program that is going to affect both officers and enlisted members.

"Our Air Force is doing an outstanding job retaining outstanding people - too good," Colonel Watkins said. "The Air

See CALL, 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 (11-02)	7.02 days	5.31 days	May 13	48th (10-08)	4.87 days	0.07 days	Apr. 30	49th (10-GB)	2.00 days	2.29 days	May 11	T-6	2,116	2,396	19,295
41st (11-01)	2.00 days	1.25 days	Apr. 23	50th (10-09)	5.54 days	2.63 days	May 21					T-1	691	759	6,087
												T-38	732	867	5,970
												IFF	144	182	1,265

The graduation speaker is Maj. Gen. Robert Kane, commandant, Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

# Columbus Air Force Base Timberlane Nature Trails Receives First AF Arboretum Certification

By Frank Lockhart  
Conservation Program Manager

The Mississippi Urban Forestry Council recently certified the SAC Lake Timberlane Nature Trails as an "arboretum." What exactly is an "arboretum?" As defined by Merriam-Webster, an arboretum is "a place where trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants are cultivated for scientific or educational purposes." According to Donna Yowell, executive director of the Mississippi Urban Forest Council, "Columbus Air Force Base has been an active Tree City USA for years and this newest certification indicates the quality progressive work towards ensuring a more environmental sound base for all." Columbus is the first Air Force base to receive an arboretum certification.

The SAC Lake Timberlane Nature Trails were created in 1991 to promote enhanced opportunities to experience wildlife, encourage learning about the natural environment, and to build active public support for wildlife conservation and management. Numerous varieties of trees and plants were identified and marked on the 5-miles of trail. In 2007, two plant taxonomists from Mississippi State University reevaluated the trails and identified 69 different plant and tree species. A new Timberlane Natural Trail Guide was developed from this effort. The trail guide includes detailed information about each tree species, to include its scientific and common names, and can be used as part of a self-guided tour of the natural trails. Trail guides are available in the mail box near the trail entrance and at the base library.

You can learn more about the Urban Forest and Arboretum certification program by visiting the MUFC web site at [www.msurbanforest.com](http://www.msurbanforest.com). For additional information about the natural trails, please contact the base Conservation Manager at 434-7958.

All photos by Senior Airman Jacob Corbin.



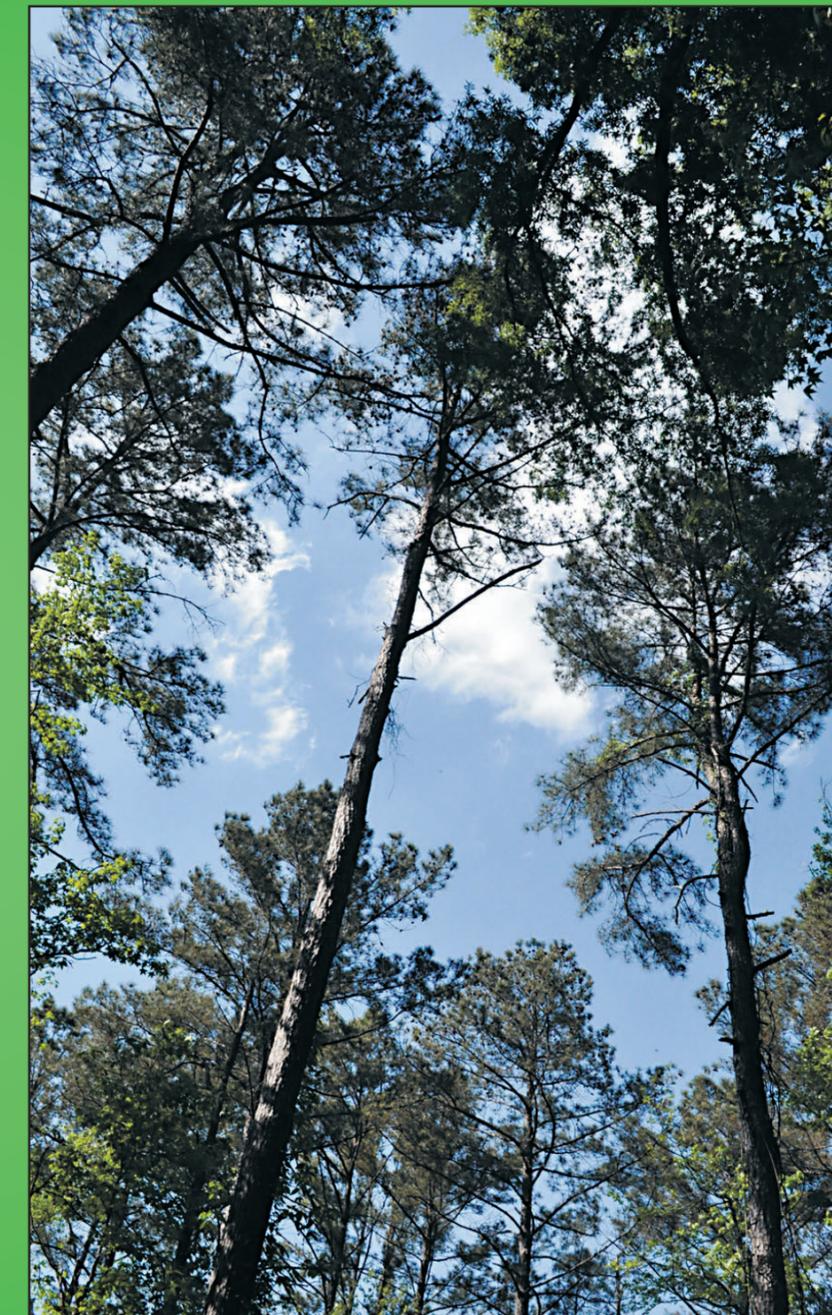
Signs throughout the trails include detailed information about each tree species, to include its scientific and common names, and can be used as part of a self-guided tour of the natural trails



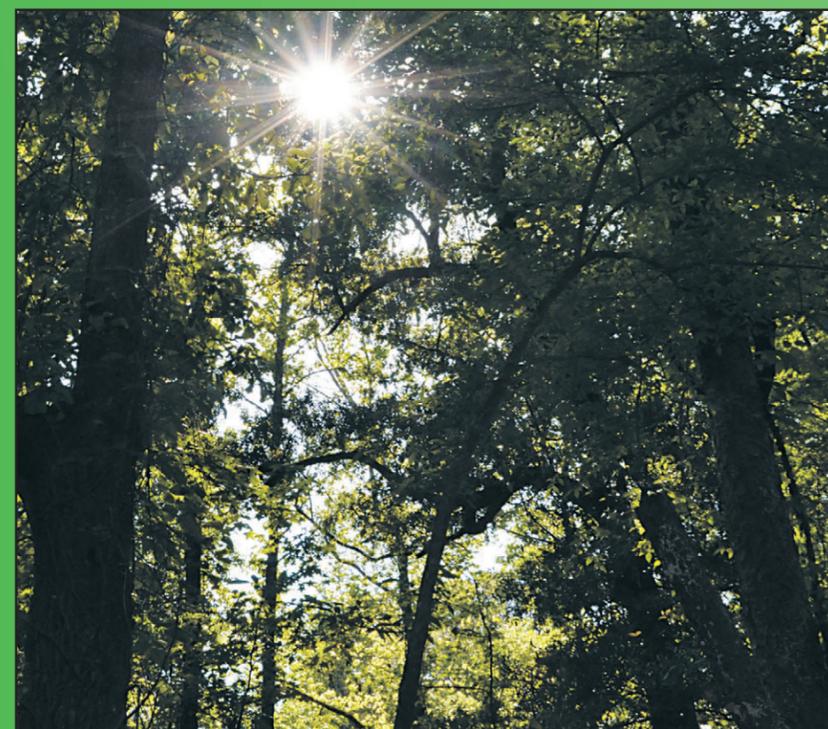
All of the trails start at SAC Lake, signage and instructions are available on the shore. For more information call Outdoor Recreation.



Trail guides are available that include detailed information about each tree species, to include its scientific and common names, and can be used as part of a self-guided tour of the natural trails. Trail guides are available in the mail box near the trail entrance and at the base library.



The SAC Lake Timberlane Nature Trails were created in 1991 to promote enhanced opportunities to experience wildlife, encourage learning about the natural environment, and to build active public support for wildlife conservation and management.



The nature trails offer views of a variety of trees, plants and wildlife.

# Base families offered a variety of activities

## Track Closure

The Outdoor Track adjacent to the Fitness Center is getting a brand new, competition grade surface! Starting May 17 the outdoor track and Freedom Park will be off limits due to construction and will re-open in 2-3 weeks depending upon how weather affects installation.

Alternate running sites for Fitness tests will be the out-and-back route by the old SAC alert entrance to the flight line and the dirt track surrounding the flag football field adjacent to the 49th FTS.

## Karaoke's Best

The Columbus Club is hosting this ten-week contest every Thursday from 7 to 11 p.m. until June 10. Contestants will be judged by audience response and guest judges. First second and third place winners will be decided each night. Winners will receive \$25, \$20 and \$5 plus a \$5 Indy's coupon, respectively. First place winners each week will automatically compete in the finale June 25. Second and third place winners may continue to compete throughout the ten-week run. Grand prize for first place winner at the finale will be \$300, second place is \$100 and third place is \$50. For more information, call 434-2490.

## Craft Fair and Sidewalk Sale

The Arts and Crafts Center is offering an inventory liquidation sale from 8 a.m. to noon May 7 on raw molding, frames, T-shirts, plaques, craft samples and more. Up to 90 percent off on selected merchandise. For more information, call 434-7836.

## Outdoor family adventure

Outdoor Recreation is offering a canoe trip down the Chunky River near Meridian, Miss. This is an easy paddle and a great trip for families and children. Cost is \$29 for ages 14 and over and children, ages 6-to 13, are free. Due to the safety factor, children 5 and under are not recommended for this trip. There is limited space available. Register no later than April 30. Tour will depart at 7 a.m. and return from river around 5 p.m. For more information, call 434-2507.

## America's Kids Run

Register on line at [www.afamericaskidsrun.org](http://www.afamericaskidsrun.org) or at the Youth Center for this family run from starting at 8 a.m. May 8 at the youth center. Refreshments will be served.

## Mother's Day Champagne Brunch

Make your reservations by 4 p.m. May 5 for this special brunch scheduled for May 9 from 10:30 to 2 p.m. No walk-ins will be available.

Cost is \$18.95 Club Members \$19.95 Non-Members \$21.95; Member's children 7-11 \$8.95 Non-Member's Children 7-11 \$10.95, Children 6 and under are free. Free carnations to all moms! Breakfast Buffet: Scrambled Eggs, Cream Cheese Blintzes, Bacon, Sausage, Biscuits & Gravy Lunch Buffet: Slow Roasted Turkey Breast, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Stuffing, Chef's Vegetables Seafood Station: Peel & Eat Shrimp, Steamed Crab Legs, Steamed Crawfish Dessert Station: Assorted Cakes and Pies, Cheesecakes with fruit toppings, Chocolate Fountain with assorted dippers. Also: Carving station with prime rib au jus, horseradish sauce and rolls; Omelet and waffle stations, deluxe salad bar with fresh fruits and cheese trays, beverage station featuring champagne, orange juice, teas, and coffee. For more information, call 434-2490.

## Youth Center mini-seminars

There will be several mini education seminars to educate our youth. Children under the age of 9 must be supervised by an adult, if attending. Seminars are: April 27 at 4:30 p.m. Job Ready Seminar and April 29 at 3:45 p.m. - Coping with Stress. For more information, call the Youth Center at 434-2504.

## Spring Challenge Perimeter Run

April 23 – free to all base personnel – this 10 plus mile run around Perimeter Road involves individual and team relay competition. For more information, contact the Fitness Center at 434-2772.

## Month of the Military Child bowling special

The bowling center offers a free game to youth who bowl with a paying adult from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. April 23. For more information, call 434-3426.

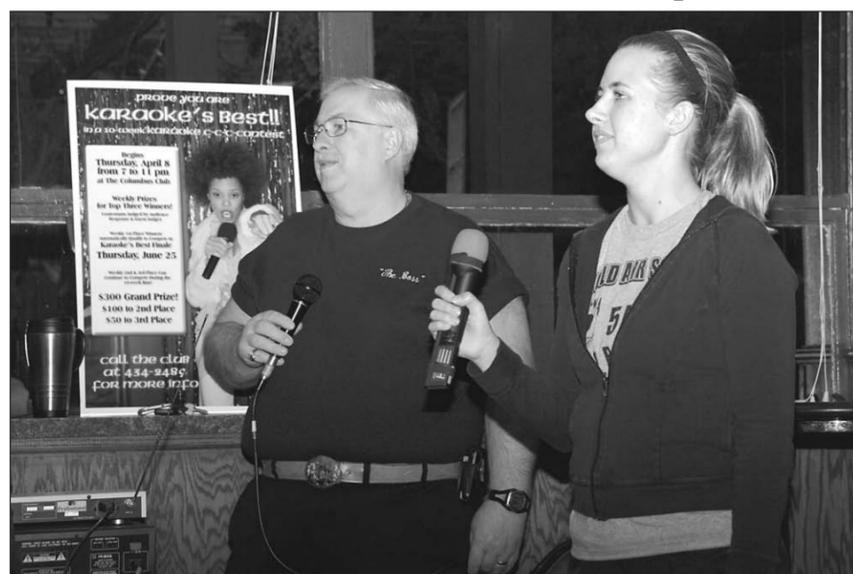
## No tap bowling tournament

This fun tournament is at 7 p.m. April 30. Entry is \$10 per person and includes 3 games of bowling and prize fund. Register by 6:30 p.m. the day of the event. For more information, call 434-3426.

## Youth Summer Day Camp Registration

The youth center is accepted registrations for the summer day camp program until all slots are filled. A \$10 nonrefundable deposit is required for each week to hold a space. Cost is based on total family income. All meals, educational entrance fees, supply costs, etc. are included in cost. For more information, call 434-2504.

## Karaoke Thursdays



John Dove and 2nd Lt. Sarah Greco, both from the 14th Mission Support Group, sing a song during the Karaoke Thursday nights in Indy's at the Columbus Club. Karaoke begins at 7 p.m. For more information, call 434-2490.

U.S. Air Force Photo

## Family child care homes needed

Ever dreamed of owning your own business? Are you willing to work out of your own home? Do you enjoy working with children? Then family child care might be for you. Please contact Kat Savage, Airman and Family Services at 434-3602 for more information.

## DePLOYment Tag Passes

DePLOYment Tag Passes are at the Airman and Family Readiness Center until the program's end in July 2010. Air Force active duty members with children and/or spouse are eligible for the tag pass that have been deployed in support of an active operation anytime after July 2009. Deployment is described as TDY for 30 days or more; or 365-PCS in support of an active Operation and documented on official orders. Family members must bring in a copy of their sponsor's orders and register for their tag passes for such items as free instruction classes, youth sports, youth events or hourly child care.

## T-ball, baseball and girls softball registration

The youth center begins registration for these programs starting until April 9. Cost is \$35 for

ages 5 to 18 and \$25 for ages 3-4 in the start smart program. Physicals are required. For more information, call the 434-2504.

## Zumba fitness classes

The fitness center now offers these classes Sundays from 3 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$3 per person per class but the first class is free. For more information, call 434-2772.

## Lunch and Bowl

The Bowling Center offers two free games of bowling with the purchase of an adult lunch combo, Monday thru Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and all day Sunday. For more information, call 434-3426.

## Cosmic Bowling Special

Every Wednesday from 6 to 9 p.m. - \$5 per person unlimited bowling and that includes shoe rental. For more information, call 434-3426.

## Mommie and me crafts classes

Stop by the Arts and Crafts Center to check out the display of upcoming projects during March for both youth and adult. Classes are held Thursdays at 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. For more information, call 434-7836.

## Chaplain (Maj.) A.C. Chouest 14th Flying Training Wing Chaplain

Wow, hard to believe it's already Spring, and Summer is just around the corner. I don't know about you, but Spring Time is perhaps one of my favorite seasons of the year. As I look around and see the leaves on trees beginning to come back, flowers are blooming, warriors are washing their cars more often, taking walks, etc. Spring Time usually gives us the opportunity to experience things never done or haven't done in a long time. That reminds me of a story I once read (this chaplain can't go long without telling some type of story).

The old story is about a little frog that was born at the bottom of a small, circular well; similar to those you might see at a typical rural farm. He and his family lived there, and he was content to play in the water, swimming all around that little well. He thought, Life doesn't get any better than this. I have all that I need. But one day, he looked up and noticed the light at the top of the well. The little frog became serious, wondering what was up there. He slowly climbed up the side of the

well. When he got to the top, he cautiously peered out over the edge. Lo and behold, the first thing he saw was a pond.

He couldn't believe it. It was a thousand times bigger than the well. He ventured farther and discovered a huge lake. He stood there gazing in amazement. Eventually, the little frog hopped even further and came to the ocean, where everywhere he looked, all he could see was water. He was shocked beyond measure. He began to realize how limited his thinking had been. He thought he had it all back in the well, but all he really had was a drop in the bucket compared to what God wanted him to enjoy.

You know, I really believe that I (we) often don't venture out and experience new things because of limited thinking. Perhaps it's fear of the unknown, the busyness of work, being content with the status quo. There are so many things God wants you and I to experience this spring. Within the Lowndes County and Golden Triangle area there is so much to see and do. I know you're probably saying; "you've got to be kidding me Chaplain AC." But no, it's so easy to be content at the bottom of the well, when God sent you to a special base to live life to

its fullest.

The opportunities to enjoy God's Beauty are endless. Just take the time and go watch your son or daughter play soccer; after the duty day, head to the Columbus Club and have a soda with friends; go hiking with the entire family and include the dog; attend chapel (that slipped in); go on a date with your spouse or partner or for that matter, son or daughter; enjoy the beauty and history of the Golden Triangle by touring local homes and the list could go on and on. Bottom line: God has so much in store for each of us and all we really need to do is look around. Here's one of my favorite passages of Holy Scripture: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (from the Book of Jeremiah 29:11).

On a more personal note, it's been a real honor and privilege to serve alongside each BLAZE TEAM member and be your Wing Chaplain. If ever you are passing through F.E. Warren Air Force Base in Wyoming, please stop by for a visit...I'll keep the light on. God Bless!

# Lorenz on Leadership — Motivation

## Gen. Stephen R. Lorenz Commander, Air Education and Training Command

After all, we want our Airmen to invest themselves in our service and our mission.

So, how can a leader attack such challenges and create sustainable excellence? We all know that it isn't easy to do. It will take dedication and objectivity ... and a lot of patience and perseverance. Along the way, tough decisions will be required and each will call for a tailored approach. In other words, leaders must adapt differently to each situation. Situational leadership is how we keep our organizations motivated and headed in the best direction.

We all have unique leadership styles. Some of us probably smile a little too much while others not quite enough. We all fit somewhere along a leadership continuum, where the ends are defined by the extremes. Although you may feel most comfortable in one region of that continuum, realize that every leader will have to utilize approaches from the full range of the continuum in response to different challenges. A career brings many leadership challenges and leaders must adapt to meet each

one.

After all, some challenges will require leaders to soften their approaches. For example, someone in the organization may be directly affected by our end strength reductions. Maybe the unit will suffer the loss of one of its members. Other situations will require a stern approach. This may be necessary when accountability and disciplinary challenges confront the organization or some of its personnel. Effective leaders must be able to approach difficult decisions or situations with the entire continuum at their disposal.

In the end, a leader must approach a challenge with an eye toward crafting a solution to meet their organizational needs. They should consciously select a leadership style or customized approach in order to create a certain effect. For most situations, mission accomplishment will be the effect, the end goal. However, before one can achieve such an effect, situational leadership must be used to motivate others toward success. After all, a motivated force can move mountains.

Motivation is an interesting concept. In some situations, motivation is more spontaneous and flows from the heart. In others, motivation is far from intrinsic and needs a little added emphasis from the top. I call it "added emphasis" because sometimes your organization won't be too thrilled with the changes after they're announced. It may feel like you are marching your team uphill and into the wind.

A leader must look at each challenge, develop a plan and push for success. As part of their plan, leaders must develop the motivation necessary to assist their organizations through the challenges. In the end, people don't quit their jobs (despite all the challenges we face each and every day) - they quit their bosses. The art of motivating organizations through challenges is one of the keys to any leaders' success.

Today, more than ever before, we need leaders of intellect who value the power of thought and innovative approaches. After all, having leaders who think, assess challenges objectively, and motivate their teams to succeed is what makes us the formidable fighting force we are today.



Visit [www.columbus.af.mil](http://www.columbus.af.mil) to learn about Columbus AFB agencies and other important information.



## Base News

### Eco-Friendly Car Wash

The 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Department and Environmental Section will be holding an Eco-Friendly Car Wash today from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the base fire department.

### Military personnel

Whenever you move your residence (including from one base residence to another), it is important to update your new address as well as your Virtual Record of Emergency Data (vRED) in Virtual Military Personnel Flight (vMPF). It is vital that your dependent's emergency contact information always remain current in vRED.

vMPF may be accessed via the Air Force Portal or the AFPC Secure Applications website. To update one's address in vMPF, select Self-Service Actions, Personal Data, Record Review/Update, Individual, and then click on the blue links to update your data. To update one's vRED, there is a link at the bottom left of the vMPF main page. If you have any questions, please contact the AFPC Total Force Center at DSN 665-5000.

### MPS Training dates require appointments

The Military Personnel Section (MPS) in building 730 will hold in-house training on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons during Night Flying Weeks. They will utilize appointments-only on these days to accommodate this necessary training. If you have any questions, contact the MPS Supt, Master Sgt. Heng, at 434-2611.

### Notice and Consent General Notice:

The Air Force uses information technology such as telephones, cellular phones, radios, facsimile, information systems, networks, and other wired or wireless electronic devices to conduct day-to-day official business. All DoD telecommunications systems and information systems are subject to monitoring for authorized purposes as prescribed by DoDI 8560.01. The Air Force, as mandated by DoD policy, must provide authorized users of telecommunications systems and devices general notice that monitoring is conducted and that use of the system or device constitutes consent to monitoring.

1.) Notice and Consent Banners must be displayed (at Login) on all Govt. Network Computer Systems, including Stand-Alone computers.

2.) DD Form 2056s (red stickers) must be on all Govt. Telephones/Fax Machines.

The AF Notice and Consent program is covered in AFI 33-219. For questions/concerns please contact your Unit's IAO or Wing Information Assurance (IA) Office at 434-3194.

### DeDeployment Tag Pass Pack

Families of deployed members are eligible for our special DeDeployment Tag Pass Pack. Provide a copy of deployment orders, and simply pick up your Deployment Tag Pass Pack at the Air Force Family Readiness Center, then log onto the [www.myairforcelife.com](http://www.myairforcelife.com) website to register. Once registered, you may use your tag-pass for discounts and free programs identified by the installation. For more information on benefits and how to use contact AFRC 434-2790.

### Base Thrift Shop

The Base Thrift Shop is open on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Consignments till 12 p.m.. Please visit the Thrift Shop for more information on consignments. Donations are accepted and very much appreciated. They can be dropped off anytime in the donation shed. The Thrift Shop is non-profit and all proceeds benefit CAFB Community. It is located in Bldg/ 345, Imes Street (next to Youth Center), Phone: 434-2954

### School Liaison Officer

The Columbus Air Force Base School Liaison Officer works with local school districts, schools, parents and students on issues related to elementary and secondary education for the children of ALL personnel (civilian, military and contractor) assigned to the installation. As parents of school age children are aware, there are many unique issues our children face as they transition to new schools. The role of the School Liaison Officer is to assist families ensure their children receive the best possible education regardless of where they attend school. For assistance, please contact the School Liaison Officer at 434-2792 or via email at [slo@columbus.af.mil](mailto:slo@columbus.af.mil).

### Retiree Activities Office

The 14th Flying Training Wing Commander is soliciting applicants to lead the Retiree Activities Office on Columbus Air Force Base. The Retiree Activities Office Director supports the commander and is the liaison with our retiree community to include retirees, spouses, widows and widowers. The Director publishes local retiree newsletters, coordinates staff for volunteer efforts, maintains pertinent information for our retiree community, and works with the Wing to plan and execute an annual retiree appreciation day. If you are interested in applying to be the Retiree Activities Office Director, please contact Capt Terry Wagner at 434-2616 for additional information.

### Library Story Time

The base library will hold Story Time on Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Story Time will continue to be held each week.

### Saint Leo U. Military Spouse Discount

Military spouses seeking a degree at Saint Leo U. can enroll in two classes and take a third class for FREE. Contact Dew White at 434-8844 or stop by the Saint Leo U. office in the Personnel Bldg., Room 120.

### Education Counseling Hours

Education counseling (CCAF, Bachelor's/Master's programs, Tuition Assistance, etc.) is now available Mondays and Wednesdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only. Please contact Edward Hodge at 434-2562 to schedule.

### Attention All Deployers

The 14th Communications Squadron has a new system which allows you to place "free" telephone calls back home from your deployed location via DSN. You can call every day or once a week; whichever you prefer (allotted time is 3.5 hours a week). Pin numbers are required and can be picked up along with instructions from the Telephone Systems office located in Building 900, Room 9. Please call 434-2020 for additional information.

### DRMO as a source of supply

Authorized personnel may retrieve property that is marked for DRMO Facilities only if they are still physically located in Base Supply. For more information, call the Inspection Section at extension 434-7233 to review the property, Stock Control at 434-7198 to check for authorization and Customer Support at 434-7178 to order the property. All other DRMO processing is done via the Web at: [www.drms.dla.mil](http://www.drms.dla.mil).

### Do you have a supply problem?

Do you need status on an item you ordered? Did you receive the wrong part? The Customer Support section is the single point of contact when requiring assistance on supply related matters. For assistance, you may contact Customer Support at 434-7178.

### Zero overpricing program-incentive awards

Overpricing is an issue everyone should be working. All personnel are encouraged to participate, and will be rewarded for any tangible savings resulting from their price challenge. Monetary awards will be given in accordance with AFI 38-401, The Air Force Innovative Development Employee Awareness (IDEA) Program. Advice and guidance are available by calling the Customer Support section of Base Supply, located in Building 158, at 434-7178.

### ATTENTION SUPPLY CUSTOMER

If you are looking for that special piece of equipment or furniture for your office, your point

of contact is the Inspection Section of Base Supply. Inspection maintains the Last Look Area, which has used equipment and furniture turned in from other organizations that no longer have a need for the items. All items in the Last Look Area are available without charge to your organization. For more information, you can contact the Inspection Section at extension 7233 or 7234.

## Airman and Family Readiness Center

*(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 or email [afrc@columbus.af.mil](mailto:afrc@columbus.af.mil).)*

### May Computer Classes

The AFRC will hold computer classes at no cost for BLAZE Team members and retirees. The classes will meet on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from May 10-19.

Intro to Computers: 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
MS Outlook 2007: 4:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.  
Please call the AFRC at 434-2790 to reserve a set or for more information.

### Pre-Separation Counseling (DD Form-2648)

Mandatory briefing for personnel separating or retiring. Briefing should be completed at least 90 days prior to separation and may be completed up to 12 months prior to separation or retirement. Counseling held daily at 8:30 a.m. and takes approximately 30 minutes.

### Pre and Post Deployment Tour Brief

Mandatory briefings for active duty personnel who are deploying or returning from deployment or a remote tour. Briefings are held daily at the AFRC; Pre-deployment at 9:30 a.m. and post-deployment at 1:30 p.m., 434-2790.

## Chapel Schedule

### Pioneer Club

The CAFB Chapel has begun registration for the children's program Pioneer Club. The program will be held each Wednesday evening 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. This program is open to children ages three years thru seventh grade. This is an ecumenical religious program geared to teach children about Christ in every aspect of life. A pot luck dinner will be served each week at 5 p.m. parents must join their children at dinner.

See the rest of the Chapel schedule on page 14.

## Mullen reaches out to local communities on behalf of veterans

**Army Sgt. 1st Class Michael J. Carden**  
American Forces Press Service

NEW YORK — Investing in America's military veterans through education and employment opportunities will benefit local communities greatly, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Navy Adm. Mike Mullen said during the World Leader's Forum at Columbia University here April 18.

Columbia University is the first of many "conversations with the country" Admiral Mullen intends to make in an endeavor to help local communities understand the value of their military veterans.

"This is the beginning of an effort to connect with communities throughout the country about the challenges (the military and veterans) face to connect with America," he said to an audience of students, student veterans and faculty here. "I believe that investment on the part of America and Columbia (University) will be paid back tenfold over the course of the next decade."

The admiral said he's reaching out to colleges and universities because they are community-based and tied to community leadership. He said he is looking to local leaders and influencers to help "repay that debt" of service he feels is owed to Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans.

"We have tens of thousands who've gone off and done what our country wanted them to do and faced perils of war, seeing things they never thought they would see," Admiral Mullen said. "Their lives have changed forever, in ways they don't even know yet. They have sacrificed enormously, and in over 5,400 cases, they've paid the ultimate sacrifice."

The results of war also are evident in the families. Spouses and children have been affected "in ways that none of us imagined just a few years ago," he added.

Veterans want the opportunity for education, employment and to take care of their families, he said. And although Defense Department and Department of Veterans Affairs officials are actively seeking new initiatives to help this cause, it's not enough, he said.

Getting America's communities and small towns involved is the only way to effectively reach out to those veterans and their families, he said.

"The only way this can scale to effectively reach all of those who've given so much is to have all three of us work together, but the scalable capabilities lie in the community," he said.

With similar visits throughout the next year, Admiral Mullen is hopeful that communities will accept his challenge and spread a "sea of goodwill" to military veterans, he said.

Admiral Mullen explained the reason for this initiative by reflecting on his past five decades of military service.

## Wounded warrior to compete at Warrior Games

**Deborah Silliman Wolfe**  
502nd Air Base Wing Operating Location-B  
Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Tech. Sgt. Israel Del Toro Jr. laid in a hospital bed at Brooks Army Medical Center in San Antonio after an improvised explosive device left 80 percent of his body covered in third-degree burns in December 2005.

He was missing fingers from both hands and had severe inhalation burns when doctors told his wife, Carmen, three times that they didn't expect him live. But she knew better.

"Every time they told me he wouldn't make it, I would say, 'Yes, he can!'" Mrs. Del Toro said. "I know him. I knew he could pull through. He is so strong."

And pull through he did.

Sergeant Del Toro, a 342nd Training Squadron tactical air control party instructor and recruiter, defied the doctors' expectations and not only returned to his career field, but also will be competing in the Warrior Games to be held May 10 through 14 in Colorado Springs, Colo.

"It is pretty cool to be participating in the games," he said. "I'm going to go out there and give it as much as I can. I will keep pushing. Even if I am last, I will finish. I always finish. It doesn't matter if I am last, first, second or third."

An estimated 200 athletes from the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard who have been injured, wounded or are ill will be competing at the inaugural Warrior Games.

The games have been a joint effort between the Department of Defense and the U.S. Olympic Committee and are part of an effort to inspire recovery, capitalize on physical fitness and promote new opportunities for growth and achievement.

Events at the games will include shooting, swimming, archery, sitting volleyball, cycling, track, wheelchair basketball, discus and shot put. There will also be an Ultimate Warrior competition that Sergeant Del Toro is looking forward to competing in.

"From my understanding, the Ultimate Warrior includes biking 10 miles, a 1,500-meter run, a rifle shooting event, shot put and a 50-meter swim," Sergeant Del Toro said. "I am good with everything, but I am not sure about the swim. I am going to get with a swim coach this week since I haven't swum since I was



U.S. Air Force photo/Deborah Silliman Wolfe  
**Tech. Sgt. Israel Del Toro is one of the 200 athletes scheduled to compete in the Warrior Games May 10 through 14 in Colorado Springs, Colo. Sergeant Del Toro is a tactical air control party instructor and recruiter at the 342nd Training Squadron at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.**

injured. I don't know how I'll do, but you know it's only a lap there and back freestyle. I am going to see how I do."

Sergeant Del Toro has been running in 5Ks and biking what has been a major part of his rehabilitation. But no matter how he places in any of the events he competes in, he said his positive attitude is more important than any trophy.

"When I speak to other Airmen I tell them, if you already have it in your head you aren't going to make it before you try, you have already quit," Sergeant Del Toro said. "I never had that mentality. I wanted to get out of the hospital and see my little boy. I wanted to give him an example like my dad did for me. No matter what, take care of your family, and never quit. I never wanted my son to grow up and wonder, 'Why is dad sitting in a chair, staring out a window hating life?' I am not teaching my son anything doing that. I want to show him that no matter what obstacles are in front of you, you are not going to give-up; you are going to pull forward."

## Chief of staff kicks off Caring for People Forum

**Master Sgt. Russell P. Petcoff**  
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

ARLINGTON, Va. — As Airmen from throughout the Air Force gathered here April 20 through 22 for the 2010 Caring for People Forum, the chief of staff of the Air Force underscored the importance of their participation.

Approximately 250 active-duty, Guard and Reserve Airmen and civilians gathered for the second annual forum to address

areas of concern for Airmen.

Topics to be addressed include deployments, schools, housing, health and wellness and spouse communication as well as the unique challenges for families with special needs, single Airmen and Guard and Reserve members.

Participants are from a variety of backgrounds including family advocates, chaplains, housing specialists and medical service providers.

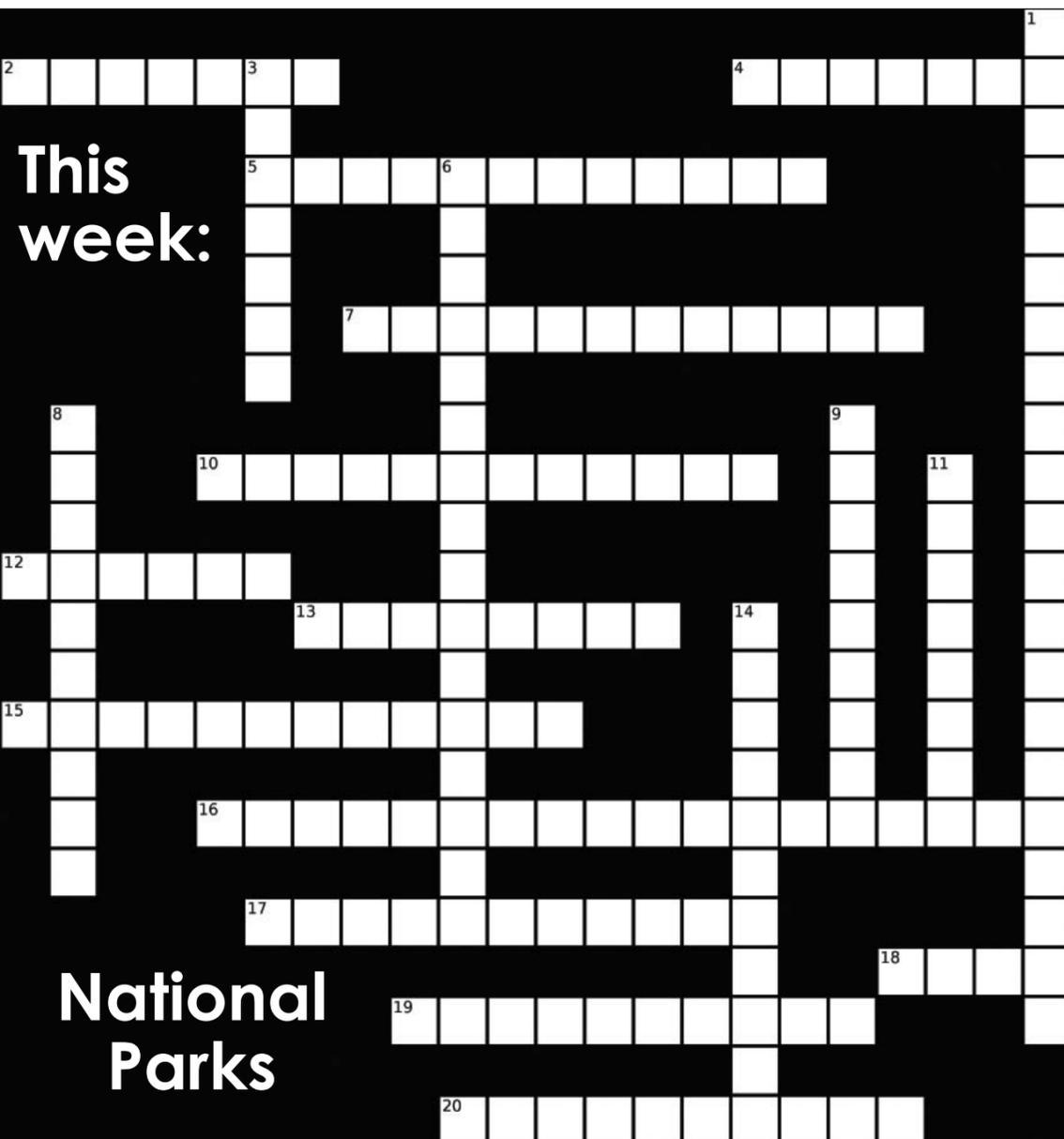
The Air Force's top uniformed officer said their collective skills and efforts

"enhance the effectiveness of our support programs at all levels and across our great Air Force."

"As the Year of the Air Force Family draws to a conclusion this summer, we must ensure that the vision that led to its genesis outlasts the official designation and that our hard-earned progress continues," General Schwartz said.

"No passé banner or expired label will ever permit us to abdicate our responsibility to care for our people," he said.

## This week:



## National Parks

- Across
- This Arizona park is famous for the species of cactus from which the park gets its name.
  - This Montana park is part of the Waterton Glacier International Peace Park.
  - This park is in the hottest, lowest, and driest location in the United States.
  - The largest and most famous feature of this park was carved out by the Colorado River which still flows through it.
  - The most prominent peak in the Cascades shares its name with this Washington park.
  - This park has over 2,000 naturally formed sandstone arches.
  - The world's richest fossil bed from the Oligocene Period is located in this South Dakota park.
  - The longest cave system in the world is located in this Kentucky park.
  - This North Dakota park is named for the founder of the national park system.
  - This park is the smallest national park and also the only one in an urban area.
  - This Utah park is geologically unique with colorful sandstone canyons, high plateaus, rock towers, natural arches, and exposed formations of the Colorado Plateau.
  - The Skyline Drive and the Appalachian Trail run the entire length of this narrow Virginia Park.
  - An Ancestral Pueblo dwelling called Cliff Palace is located in this park that is known for its "green tables."

- Down
- This southern park is known for its beautiful scenery and hiking opportunities including the Appalachian Trail.
  - Almost half of all remaining Coastal Redwood trees are protected in this park.
  - Kilauea and Mauna Loa are prominent geographic features protected in this park.
  - This southern park is known for its wildlife including the alligator, the Florida panther, and the West Indian manatee.
  - This park is home to the world's densest cave system.
  - The tallest waterfall in North America is located in this California park.
  - Most of this western park lies within the caldera of the world's largest volcano.

Visit  
[www.columbus.af.mil](http://www.columbus.af.mil)  
today!

## Spouses learn English – and more

**Sonic Johnson**  
14th Flying Training Wing  
Public Affairs chief

Two Columbus Air Force Base spouses began taking English language courses and ended up as Hostesses at Rosewood for the 2010 Pilgrimage.

Kamila Jedrzejczak, wife of Polish air force student pilot Capt. Krzysztof Jedrzejczak is from Poland where she was a dentist. He husband is at Columbus AFB in T-38 training and will go on to fly F-16s with the Polish air force.

Seonkyoung Longest, spouse of Tech. Sgt. Jacob Longest, 14th Medical Operations Squadron, signed up for free English class at the Greater Columbus Learning Center to help the Korean native improve her English.

As part of the course, they took several field trips in the local area, and one of them was to Rosewood antebellum home, owned by DeWitt and Gracie Hicks. After the tour, Mrs. Hicks invited the ladies to participate as hostesses during the Columbus Spring Pilgrimage, an opportunity to meet many new people and practice their conversational English.

During the Pilgrimage, not only did Jedrzejczak get to practice her English, but a group from Poland toured the Rosewood and where quite surprised to find a hostess that could converse in their native language.

The Greater Columbus Learning Center is home for English for Speakers of Other Languages and provides English proficiency instruction for students from other countries and the general public. GCLC is the only local program serving ESOL free



Courtesy Photo  
**Seonkyoung Longest, spouse of Tech. Sgt. Jacob Longest, 14th Medical Operations Squadron, Kamila Jedrzejczak, wife of Polish air force student pilot Capt. Krzysztof Jedrzejczak, Rosewood owner Gracie Hicks and Marichu Casmus spouse of TRONOX relief foreman and Navy veteran Joseph Casmus, pose at Rosewood during their Hostess duties for the Columbus Spring Pilgrimage April 10. The three are classmates at the Greater Columbus Learning Center's English for Speakers of Other Languages class. Hicks is the spouse of veteran Air Force pilot DeWitt Hicks and are owners of Rosewood.**

of charge and may be contacted at 329-7691.

"These ladies are really enjoying the whole experience," said Linda Bounds ESOL instructor. "Not only do the learn

English, a little local culture, but can also prepare and take the Test for English Language as a Foreign Language exam." Passing the exam allows a student to enroll in higher education institutions.

## Eligible to re-enlist? If so, re-up with the Thunderbirds!

When: Friday, May 15

Where: Show Center with Aircraft number one

For more information contact Master Sgt. Brian Bailey, Columbus AFB Career Assistance Advisor, 434-7004.

## CHAPEL SCHEDULE

(Continued from Page 12)

### Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Study

The CAFB Chapel will be holding a variety of Adult Bible Studies from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. A Pot Luck dinner will be served at 5 p.m., please bring a side dish or dessert to share if you are able. Please call the Chapel at 434-2500 for a list of studies.

### RefresHer

Please join us at the Base Chapel for RefresHer at 6 p.m.:  
April 29 – TBA

### Protestant Worship Service

Sunday:  
9 a.m. — Adult Sunday School  
10:45 a.m. — Traditional Worship Service (Children's Church)  
All are invited to a fellowship luncheon following the 10:45 a.m. service the fourth Sunday of each month.

### Catholic Services

Tuesday  
6:30 p.m. — Choir Practice  
Sunday:  
3:30 p.m. — Religious Education, grades K-9  
3:45 p.m. — Choir Practice  
4:30 p.m. — Confession  
5:00 p.m. — Mass  
6:00 p.m. — RCIA

## Former military munitions areas identified on Columbus AFB

**Shane Reed**  
14th Civil Engineer Squadron  
Environmental Element

Three former military munitions areas were recently identified on Columbus AFB. These sites are part of the Air Force Military Munitions Response Program. The MMRP evaluates sites affected by spent military munitions at closed ranges, to include Morale Welfare and Recreation Trap and Skeet Ranges.

Historical maps, records and personal interviews concluded that there are three sites that require evaluation. Two of the sites, a 37 acre MWR Trap and Skeet Range and a 15 acre 1000-inch firing range were once located in a section of what is now Magnolia Village Housing Area.

The former Trap and Skeet Range was used for MWR purposes in the late 1940s and early 1950s. The former 1000-inch firing range was used by AT-9, AT-10 and B-25 trainers during the early days of pilot training at Columbus Army Flying School. By the mid-1950s, both the Trap and Skeet Range and the 1,000-inch firing range were closed and the area was developed into Military Family Housing.

The third site is another former MWR skeet range identified in the northeastern portion of the airfield. This range was closed in the late 1970s due to the construction and close proximity of the outside runway Live Oak, routinely used by T-38 and T-1 aircraft.

Based on the activities conducted at these former ranges, the main environmental concern is lead and hydrocarbons in the soil. Lead is contained in the bullets and shotgun pellets and hydrocarbons are contained in clay targets typically used at the skeet ranges.

As part of the MMRP, soil testing at all three former ranges will begin this summer. Every yard, park and common area affected will be methodically tested. Housing residents will be notified at least 45 days prior to sampling. Results from this sampling will determine if there is a need for additional action, such as soil remediation.

"We want to ensure former munitions areas are safe for their current and future uses," said Lt. Col. Mike Harner, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron commander. "Our number one priority is the health and well-being of our airman and their families."

Please contact the 14th Civil Engineer Environmental Office at 434-7973 if you have questions or concerns.

# Columbus OSC awards scholarships



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jacob Corbin

Cody Toms, Kristen Shreiner, Callie Scott and Perla Hopkins were all presented with a \$1,000 scholarship on behalf of the Columbus AFB Officer Spouses Club at a banquet April 13. Recipients of the scholarship not pictured were Lauren Croft-Mahajan and Sara Choate.

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### Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week's SILVER WINGS is noon Monday. Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

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*Submit all advertising to the Columbus, Miss., Commercial Dispatch advertising department one week prior to desired publication date. The advertising department can be reached at (662) 328-2427.*

## Tag, you're out!



U.S. Air Force photo/Elizabeth Owens

(Right) Airman 1st Class Brandon Stevick, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Protection Flight, tags out a member of the NCO Softball Team at the NCO vs. Airman Softball game April 16. The NCOs defeated the Airman.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun
26	27	28	29	30	1/2
			Enlisted Promotions, 4 p.m. @ Club	Class 10-08 Graduation, 10 a.m. @ Kaye	May 1/2: Autocross
3	4	5	6	7	8/9
May 3-8: Night Flying Week			National Day of Prayer	Class 10-09 Assignment Night, 5 p.m. @ Club	

### Long Range Events

- May 11: IFF Grad
- May 11: OSC Social
- May 13: Asian Pacific American Heritage Food Tasting
- May 13: Class 11-02 Track Select
- May 14: OG Career Day
- May 14: Fun Run

- May 15-16: Air Show
- May 18: Hearts Apart
- May 20: Dorm Dinner
- May 21: Class 10-09 Graduation
- May 26: Asian Pacific American Heritage Luncheon
- May 27: Promotion Party
- May 28: Enlisted Promotions
- May 28: Class 10-10 Assignment Night

## 2010 Columbus' Biggest Loser Competition standings

Tech. Sgt. Ryian Caviness  
14th Medical Operations Squadron

The Biggest Loser Competition is a comprehensive weight-loss program that promotes healthy lifestyles through good nutrition and exercise habits. Participation points are awarded based on the number of classes attended, food logs submitted, and monthly exercise activities completed. There are 18 teams vying for the title of "Columbus' Biggest Loser." Here are the point standings as of April 19:

1. PHAT-A-Licious 4
2. Southsiders
3. The Most Known Unknowns
4. The Waist Watchers
5. Chunky Monkey
6. Fit To Be Fine
7. Shantel's Team
8. Supersize This
9. Too Hungry To Be Happy
10. Muffins B Gone

## Last week's answer: European Capitals

