

SILVERWINGS

"Year of the Air Force Family"

Vol. 34, Issue 26

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

July 1, 2010

JULY 4, 2010

234 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

AN AMERICAN AIRMAN.
WARRIOR.
NATION'S CALL.
AN.
WIN.

I DEFEND

I AM AN AMERICAN
WINGMAN, LEADER, WARRIOR.
I WILL NEVER LEAVE AN AIRMAN BEHIND,
I WILL NEVER FALTER
AND I WILL NOT FAIL.

Weather

Today High: 91, Low: 71 Mostly Sunny	Saturday High: 88, Low: 71 Mostly Sunny
Sunday High: 91, Low: 70 Mostly Sunny	Monday High: 93, Low: 70 Mostly Sunny

News Briefs

Base services closed on holiday weekend

The commissary will be closed Sunday, July 4 for the holiday. It will resume regularly scheduled hours at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 6. The BX will be open Friday and Monday, but will be closed Sunday. The Medical Clinic will be closed Friday through Monday, and will reopen Tuesday.

Blaze 56 Membership Drive

The Blaze 56 is having a membership drive July 15 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Columbus Club. There will be free food and time to socialize with your fellow staff sergeants and tech. sergeants on Columbus Air Force Base.

Year of the AF Family Picnic

The 14th FTW will host a Year of the AF Family Picnic July 27 at 4:30 p.m., behind the Services Activity Complex (Bldg. 510). It is open to all base personnel and their families. Tickets are \$3 and are available from squadron POCs. Purchase tickets before July 22.

On Cover

Graphic commemorates the 234th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence with traditional 4th of July images of the American flag and fireworks. Under the backdrop of the Airmen's Creed, the four aircraft currently flown by the 14th Flying Training Wing prepare to soar to unlimited heights. (U.S. Air Force graphic/Tammi Baudoin).

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 72 BLAZE TEAM members are de-deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun
5	6	7	8	9	10/11
July 5: July 4th Holiday Observed, most CAFB closed	14th MDSS Change of command, 2 p.m. @ Club	14th CS Change of command, 10 a.m. @ Club	AETC Special Duty Team Briefing, 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. @ Kaye	41st FTS Change of command, 8:40 a.m. @ BLAZE Hanger Class 10-12 Assignment Night, 5 p.m. @ Club	
12	13	14	15	16	17/18
July 12-16: Night Flying Week	IFF Graduation, 4:49 p.m., @ 49th FTS	Quarterly Awards Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. @ Club	Dorm Dinner, 5 p.m., @ Chapel Annex	AF Dining Out Drawdown, 4:30 p.m. @ Club	

Long Range Events

July 22: Class 11-05 Track Select

July 23: Class 10-12 Graduation

July 26: Wing Retreat

July 27: Year of the AF Family Picnic

July 28: 14th FTW Change of command

July 30: Enlisted Promotions

July 30: Class 10-13 Assignment Night

Aug 2: 14th MDOS Change of command

Aug 4: Columbus City Schools first day

Aug 6: Base Community Council Luncheon

SILVER WINGS

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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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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office of Columbus AFB, Miss.

The SILVER WINGS staff reserves the right to edit or rewrite all copy submitted when necessary. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise stated.

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.

New AF Fitness Program begins today

Airman 1st Class Chase Hedrick
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Starting today, the Air Force will be switching to the new fitness program under Air Force Instruction 36-2905.

The fitness program changes cover many areas of fitness assessments; changing the points associated with some portions of the tests, biannual testing, and having trained civilian contractors conduct the assessments.

While the changes may seem significant to some, Carmine Muscarella, the director of Columbus Air Force Base's fitness center said the system wouldn't really be much different from the old.

"The changes are not as huge as most people are afraid of," he said.

In fact, Mr. Muscarella predicts that a lot of airmen are in fact going to get better scores under the new system. He said that with 10 more points available in the running portion, and less on body composition, airmen who are more fit than lean should find themselves with higher scores. Mr. Muscarella also said that the change from five year age groups to ten year ones may also positively impact scores.

The switch of responsibility for administering fitness assessments from physical training leaders to fitness assessment technicians is one of the largest changes to the Air Force's fitness program, but Mr. Muscarella says that PTLs still have an important job to do in preparing their units for testing.

Mr. Muscarella suggested that PTLs should emphasize correct form during squadron physical training times.

"Doing 10 correct pushups is better than doing 25 incorrect ones, because when you get to the test, those incorrect ones aren't going to count" he said.

Amber Hass, one of two fitness assessment technicians at Columbus Air Force Base's fitness center said she has noticed a lot of anxiety about the tests. Mr. Muscarella

noted that the fitness center's staff can help answer questions and assist in preparing airmen for their tests. He also said that to help keep airmen informed the fitness assessment cell is looking at having its procedures for testing on SharePoint sometime this July.

Several incentives have been confirmed for those who score 90 points or above on their fitness assessments, also known as an excellent score in the new categories. Airmen in the excellent category will only be required to test once per year under the new system, unless the airman was medically exempt from one or more sections of the assessment. Another confirmed incentive is patches that may be worn on the right shoulder of PT uniforms by airmen with excellent physical assessment scores. The patches have not been released yet, but they are expected to be released late this summer.

Know your pace, practice correct pushups, and be careful of what you eat is the advice Mr. Muscarella wanted to give the wing.

"Anybody who trains and cares what they put in their body can pass this test" he said.

Airmen who are looking for more information on the new fitness program can speak to their PTL, the fitness center's staff or go online to <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/affitnessprogram>.

Col. Roger Watkins, Commander, 14th Flying Training Wing said, "Our Airmen are expected to maintain themselves such that they are ready to deploy at all times, which includes being physically fit. This new system does not significantly increase the requirements to meet the minimum standards, but does require Airmen to meet the standard in all categories in order to pass. If Airmen meet the excellent criterion (which is our 3rd core value), they will only be required to test once a year, so there's additional incentive to excel."



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Jacob Corbin
First Lt. Basil Aboul-Enein, 14th Medical Operations Squadron, runs outside of the medical group April 27. The new AF Fitness System will take effect July 1, one of the changes in the system is a larger emphasis on the running portion of the test.

2010 Columbus' Biggest Loser Competition—Final Results

Tech. Sgt. Ryan Caviness
14th Medical Operations Squadron

Individual With Most Body Fat Percentage Lost
Staff Sgt. Ashley Gross – 6.8 percent

Top Three Teams With Most Body Fat Percentage Lost

1. The Klumps – 11.7 percent
2. Fat Cats – 9.7 percent
3. The Perfect Strangers – 5.9

Team With Most Participation Points
PHAT-A-Licious 4 – 1340

Congratulations to all of our winners and Biggest Loser contestants!

Congratulations ladies figure competitors

Carmine Muscarella
Columbus AFB Fitness and Sports Center manager

Deb Sprouse, Jen Hale and Capt. Camber Governski, Class Flight Commander, T-1 Instructor Pilot 14th Operations Support Squadron, represented Columbus AFB amongst 187 athletes at the 27th Annual Southern Classic Bodybuilding, Fitness, Figure and Bikini competition in Jackson MS on June 5.

All three ladies competed in the Figure division. Jen and Camber were both competing for the first time, while Deb was a returning competitor who place fifth in the Master's Division.

Bodybuilding, Fitness and Figure is not a "sport" in the classical sense. It's a lifestyle. It requires dedication to your event 24hrs a day. Every calorie of every meal, every repetition of every exercise and every minute of every night's sleep counts.

Six months ago, the Columbus team had a roster of fifteen competitors. These ladies are the only three who followed through with their contest preparation all the way to the stage.

Congratulations Deb, Jen and Camber! We should all strive to follow the example of dedication, fitness and health that you have set.

AETC Special Duty Team visit

Have you ever considered taking on the challenge of replenishing the ranks of the Air Force as an Air Force recruiter? Molding civilians into highly motivated airman as an Air Force Military Training Instructor? Mentoring and guiding young airman as they transition from BMT as a Military Training Leader? The AETC Special Duty Team can answer any questions you may have concerning these challenging and rewarding careers. The team will brief on all aspects of the previously mentioned special duty opportunities July 8 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium. Spouses of the potential applicants are highly encouraged to attend. AIC's with at least 24 months Time in Service through Technical Sergeants with less than 17 years Total Active Federal Military Service are invited to attend the briefing. Master Sergeants are hired on a case-by-case basis and are encouraged to attend. To obtain more information on the AETC Special Duty Team briefing, contact the Wing Career Assistance Advisor, Master Sgt. Brian Bailey at 434-7004.

Notice of Accreditation Survey for the 14th Medical Group

The Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc. (AAAHC/Accreditation Association) will conduct an accreditation survey of the 14th Medical Group from July 20-23.

The survey will be used to evaluate the organization's compliance with AAAHC standards for ambulatory health care and to determine if accreditation should be awarded to, or retained by, the organization.

Through an emphasis on education and consultation, the ultimate purpose of the accreditation process is to improve the quality of health care delivered by this organization.

The above named organization has voluntarily requested this survey as a means of having a review of the entire organization to build upon strengths or identify opportunities to improve the delivery of quality health care.

Members of the general public, patients, and individuals on the staff of this organization, believing that they have pertinent and valid information about this organization's provision of health care or compliance with AAAHC standards, may request an information presentation with AAAHC surveyors at the time of the survey for the purpose of presenting such information, or may communicate such information in writing or by telephone to the AAAHC. All information received from identified individuals at or prior to the survey will be considered in making the accreditation decision. The information presented will not be debated with the reporting individual.

Requests for presentation must be received at least two weeks prior to the survey in order to allow sufficient time to schedule the presentations.

This Notice of Accreditation Survey is posted in accordance with AAAHC requirements, and may not be removed until after the survey.

June 1, 2010, Col. Diane L. Fletcher, Commander, 14th Medical Group

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Track Select

2nd Lt. Roberts Andrejevs	T-6	ALP
1st Lt. Michael Apei	T-6	ALP
2nd Lt. Andrea Berger	T-1	
2nd Lt. Jared Bowen	T-1	
2nd Lt. Daniel Buchanan	T-1	
2nd Lt. Lisa Bush	T-44	
2nd Lt. Nicholas Charbonneau	T-1	
2nd Lt. Stefanie Culp	T-1	
2nd Lt. Matthew Evans	T-1	ANG
2nd Lt. John Floro	T-1	
1st Lt. Baskaran Hariharan	T-6	ALP
2nd Lt. Matthew Jensen	T-1	
2nd Lt. Nikolaus Krause	T-38	
2nd Lt. John Lee	T-1	
2nd Lt. Daniel Montilla	T-1	
2nd Lt. Aaron Nelson	T-38	
2nd Lt. Ian Noel	T-1	
2nd Lt. David Operchal	Helo	
2nd Lt. Bryan Rocco	T-38	
2nd Lt. James Sarver	T-38	
2nd Lt. Joshua Sinkler	T-38	
2nd Lt. Eric Sullivan	T-1	
2nd Lt. Cody Sweatt	T-1	
2nd Lt. Cameron Unterberger	T-38	
1st Lt. Tariq Zahid	T-6	ALP
2nd Lt. David Zeigler	T-1	

T-6 Top Guns

Contact: 2nd Lt. David Operchal
Instrument: 2nd Lt. Matthew Evans
Formation: 2nd Lt. Joshua Sinkler

Leverette Award

2nd Lt. Matthew Evans

11-04

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 (11-04)	0.00 days	-1.59 days	Jun. 30	48th (10-11)	1.00 days	-0.16 days	Jul. 1	49th (10-1B)	1.26 days	1.59 days	Jul. 1	T-6	3,185	2,999	25,469
41st (11-05)	0.93 days	-4.19 days	Jul. 22	50th (10-11)	1.00 days	-2.44 days	Jul. 1					T-1	656	1,121	8,559
												T-38	544	1,065	8,405
												IFF	164	210	1,759

Graduation speaker: Retired Maj. Gen. Harold Cross, former Adjutant General of Mississippi.

Base News

Manpower Openings

There are currently openings for qualified non-commissioned officers in the manpower career field. If you have excellent mathematic and communication skills, you may qualify for a career opportunity in this exciting career field. Interested? Call Ms Linda Kessler extension 434-2341 at the Installation Manpower and Organization Office.

Personnel Property Challenges this summer

The Joint Personal Property Shipment Offices and Traffic Management Facilities are experiencing unprecedented challenges this summer season regarding the movement of household goods, mostly due to carrier capacity through an increased demand in both the DOD and commercial markets. This saturated market is making it difficult for JPPSO San Antonio to book shipments. In addition, some Transportation Service Providers that previously accepted shipments are now canceling them a few days before the move, resulting in JPPSO-SAT having to rebook the shipment. The QA section is taking corrective action as necessary against the TSPs, but it doesn't resolve the problem. JPPSO-SAT is working overtime and weekends to make sure all shipments are booked in a timely manner. In the meantime, we ask that our customers have alternate pack/pickup dates, be flexible and consider performing a full PPM (DITY) move. There is no easy fix, but TMF Columbus is here to assist. The Air Staff and Surface Deployment and Distribution Command (SDDC) are working hard to find a solution and SDDC will be providing the JPPSOs and TMFs some additional guidance through an upcoming advisory.

IDEA Program

The Air Force Innovative Development through Employee Awareness is looking for submissions of individual, group, or team ideas about how the Air Force can accomplish something more efficiently. Cash rewards for ideas are possible. Visit <https://ipds.randolph.af.mil> or call Tech. Sgt. Angela Coleman at 434-2388.

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:

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.

AETC Civilian Tuition Assistance

To be eligible for Civilian TA, the civilian employee must be an appropriated fund, permanent AETC employee or in a term position with more than one year before the "not to exceed" date. Temporary employees will be considered on a case-by-case basis. AETC civilians can use up to \$4,500 per fiscal year. Civilians are restricted to ONE course per term, and the per semester hour tuition cap is \$250. Courses must be Air Force mission-related. Call the Education Center at 434-2562/2563 or send an email to edward.hodge@columbus.af.mil for more information.

Base Thrift Shop

The Base Thrift Shop is open on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 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.

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.

Magic Show

Free Magic Tuesday July 6 at 6:30 p.m. with award winning ventriloquist and magician Zocchi at Kaye Auditorium.

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.

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.

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.

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.)

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 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

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.

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

Reserve program to grow by 400 by September

Capt. Kimberly Champagne
Readiness Management Group
Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — With 400 new funded billets and recent attrition rates in fiscal 2010, Air Force Reserve Individual Mobilization Augmentee Program officials are expecting to hire 1,600 people by September.

"We're hiring and that is terrific news on several fronts," said Col. Nancy Zbyszinski, the Readiness Management Group commander.

Readiness Management Group officials oversee the Air Force's 8,700 individual mobilization augmentees and 1,500 participating individual ready reservists.

"The IMA program offers a unique opportunity to serve in Reserve status for those who are not located near a traditional Air Guard or Reserve unit, for anyone who cannot commit to one weekend every month, or for anyone who wants to participate in new Air Force missions," she said.

The hiring initiative gives members of the PIRR the chance to come back to the program and get paid for their annual duty. Air Guard or Reserve members who need more flexibility in location, duty dates or types of missions, will find what they're looking for in the IMA program.

Reserve members can refer potential IMAs using the Air Force Reserve Command Recruiting Service's bold rewards program, "Get 1 Now."

For more information on becoming an IMA, visit www.afreserve.com.

Class of 2014 joins long blue line

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

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — Approximately 1,300 basic cadet trainees started their inprocessing and entered Basic Cadet Training here June 24.

The diversity of the U.S. Air Force Academy's class of 2014 is unprecedented, said Col. Carolyn Benyshek, the Academy's director of admissions.

Minority applications rose to 4,064, nearly 1,105 more than last year, Colonel Benyshek said. Of the 1,274 appointees, the newest class includes 291 women, 22.8 percent of the class, and 350 minorities, making up 27.4 percent of the class. Of the minorities, 7.9 percent are black, 8.9 percent Hispanic, 1 percent Native American and 9.8 percent Pacific Islander.

The cadet cadre intends to instill pride in attending the best service academy in the nation and creating Airmen out of high school graduates, said Cadet 1st Class Thomas Buenger, the cadet commander of Basic Cadet Training.

"Our goal is 100-percent accountability, get everybody through and everybody rolling so they can continue with basic cadet training," Cadet Buenger said.

June 25 marks the first full day of Basic Cadet Training, which began

with reville at 4:30 a.m., followed by physical fitness activities.

The first half of basic cadet training includes physical fitness activities, inspections, Honor Code and core values lessons, language and advanced placement testing, the opportunity to be up well before sunrise, and their recommended daily allowance of marching.

The basics will form up for the traditional march to Jacks Valley July 11. The transition to Jacks Valley marks the start of 2nd BCT, which is more affectionately known as "Second Beast." Once in Jacks Valley, the basics will set up their squadron areas and begin two weeks of field training and living in a tent city. Included in these two weeks will be running the assault course, confidence course, self-aid and buddy care, weapons drills, leadership reaction course, honor lessons, and still more drill and marching.

The Class of 2014 will leave Jacks Valley July 24 and march back to the cadet area. Basic Cadet Training concludes July 31, after which the Class of 2014 will transition to their freshman-year squadrons.

The cadets will swear or affirm to abide by the Academy's Honor Code Aug. 6, at their acceptance parade. "We will not lie, cheat, steal, nor tolerate any among us who does."

After the parade, they will pin on their first rank of Cadet 4th Class. All cadets will begin the Academy's fall semester Aug. 7.

National Guard battles flood waters in four states

Spc. Heidi Kroll
National Guard Bureau

ARLINGTON, Va. — This week almost 300 National Guard members from four states are helping to prepare for future floods and recover from past flood damage.

Task Force Northwest is commanded by Air Force Col. Mike Pankau of the 139th Airlift Wing, based in St. Joseph, Mo.

"Soldiers and Airmen are conducting a variety of missions supporting civil authorities, including manning traffic control points and monitoring levees," said Army 2nd Lt. John Quin, a public affairs officer for the Missouri Guard. "Guardsmen are also serving as liaison officers with local emergency operations centers and civil authorities."

In South Dakota, 130 Soldiers from the 200th Engineer Company and the 153rd

Engineer Battalion are helping to fill sandbags in Huron, Woonsocket and Bonilla.

The mission is to place about 20,000 sandbags in Woonsocket to channel water through the town.

Emergency management personnel will decide June 26 if additional sandbags are needed, Army Maj. Brendan Murphy, the public affairs officer for the South Dakota Guard. About 3,000 sandbags have been staged in Bonilla.

More than 30 Soldiers responded to the request of Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon's request for vehicle support to remove debris from the northwest counties of Mingo, Logan, Wyoming and McDowell.

Dams in the Dakotas are full and the Army Corps of Engineers plans to let out water to release pressure on them, which will increase

the water flow in the Missouri River, guard officials said.

North Dakota Guard officials have a UH-60 Black Hawk and a 10-man crew on stand-by to respond to evacuate residents who can't use the roads in the Devils Lake area.

"The crew should be relieved today as Devils Lake (officials) take over the evacuation mission with a high-lifted ambulance," said Army Lt. Col. Rick Smith, the public affairs officer for the North Dakota National Guard.

Almost 100 guardsmembers cleaning up debris in West Virginia that residents found in their homes in Wyoming County, said Lt. Col. Mike Cadle, the public affairs officer for the West Virginia Guard.

About 55 counties in the state have been affected by rain and rapid snow melt since the spring.

Remember to turn off lights and computer monitors when you are done for the day!

Congratulations to June enlisted promotees



U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Duncan

Congratulations to the 14th Flying Training Wing's newest promoted enlisted members. The promotees are as follows: (front row) Staff Sgt. Jacob Corbin, 14th Flying Training Wing; Master Sgt. Chin Keomanila, 14th Medical Operations Squadron; Senior Airman Alyssa Smith, 14th Operations Support Squadron; Senior Airman Justin Lane, 14th MDOS; Senior Airman Brentley Abilez, 14th OSS; Master Sgt. Patrick Lombardo Jr., 14th Security Forces Squadron; (back row) Senior Airman Phillip Sneed-Johnson, 14th Medical Support Group; Senior Airman Chase Ribble, 14th OSS; Senior Airman Arlington Terry, 14th OSS; Senior Airman Christopher Keith, 14th SFS; Senior Airman Travis Frame, 14th FTW; Senior Airman Norris Depriest, 14th MDOS.

Online program helps military families vote absentee

Lisa Daniel

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Defense Department officials launched an Internet-based program June 28 to help servicemembers and other Americans living overseas vote more easily in November's elections.

The new online voting assistant at www.fvap.gov will make the registration and absentee ballot application process "quick, easy, seamless and intuitive," said Bob Carey, a federal voting assistance program director.

Americans living abroad previously had to research a 290-page manual to find their state requirements for absentee voting, including where and how to send their

applications, Mr. Carey said.

"One of the things we found from the 2008 elections was that voters found the process very complex, very laborious and not very intuitive," he said. "With this, a voter doesn't have to have a master's in election law to figure out the process."

The site asks prospective voters to identify themselves either as a servicemember, family member or other citizen living outside the U.S., then answer fewer than 10 questions, including voting residence and how a ballot should be sent to them, Mr. Carey said. The process takes between two and 10 minutes.

The program automatically determines the voter's election jurisdiction, and the proper questions to ask to meet specific state

and local registration and absentee ballot requirements, Mr. Carey said. Once the questions are answered, the voter prints off a form in PDF format, signs it and submits it by mail, fax or e-mail, depending on state requirements.

The online assistant does not store the information after the form is complete, and the information is purged from the server, he said.

The program is expected to increase the number of ballots counted for servicemembers, who are known to vote at a higher rate than the general public, Mr. Carey said. In 2008, it is believed that roughly 5,000 servicemembers' ballots couldn't be counted because forms were inadequate, incomplete or mailed to the wrong jurisdiction.

BLAZE Team enters world of social media

Staff Sgt. Jacob Corbin

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The BLAZE Team joined the realm social media June 17 with the launch of its Facebook and Twitter pages.

Both pages will be used to help keep BLAZE Team members, the community, family members and others informed about what's going on at Columbus Air Force Base.

The Facebook site may be reached by going to <http://www.facebook.com/ColumbusAFB> and the Twitter feed can be found at http://twitter.com/Columbus_AFB. Members must be logged into both sites to access the pages.

BLAZE Team members are welcome to, and in fact encouraged, to become a fan of the Facebook page and follow the base's Twitter feed. Information is planned to be updated on a regular basis.

The BLAZE Team's entrance into the realm of social media coincides with the May 15 change in policy in Air Education and Training Command that allows members to access 85 social media sites from their work computers.

Personnel are responsible for using this access in a professional manner, and are reminded that they are accountable for anything they post — whether on or off duty.

"Social networking sites and internet-based capabilities open up a new avenue to improve our processes and continue to better educate and train the best Airmen in the world," said Gen. Stephen Lorenz, AETC commander, in a memorandum to all AETC personnel April 28. "Let's ensure we do it responsibly."

Some general guidelines for using social media (whether on or off-duty) are:

- * Don't post classified information or materials
- * Stay in your lane
- * Don't lie
- * Give your opinion, but identify it as such
- * Stay safe
- * Be aware of the image you present
- * Use common sense
- * Remember: The enemy is engaged too

Units and organizations on Columbus AFB are welcome to create a site for themselves, but are required to contact the PA office before creating one. If you've already created a unit site prior to this release, or plan to, please contact us to register the site and get some additional guidance.

Base families offered a variety of activities

Invitational Softball Tournament

Register at the fitness center for this double elimination tournament July 10. Entry is \$150 per team. Limited to the first 20 teams registered. For more information, call 434-2772.

Youth center camps

The youth center is offering various camps throughout July. Skateboard camp is July 7-9 from 5:30-7 p.m. open to ages 6 to adult. Cost is \$10 per person. Register by July 1 at the youth center. The hands-on science camp is July 12-16 from 1-4 p.m. for ages 6 to 12. Cost is \$10 per person. A maximum of 30 will be taken for this camp. Register by July 6 at the youth center. Cheerleading camp is July 12 to 16 from 9-11 a.m. It is free for ages 5 to 14. Register at the youth center. For more information about these camps, call 434-2504.

Missoula Children's Theater

Register at the youth center for this week-long camp starting July 26. Open to youth from Kindergarten to 12th grade. Practices daily from 10 a.m. to noon with a final performance on Saturday at 3 p.m. July 31. For more information, call the youth center at 434-2504.

Cruise in 2011

The Information, Ticket and Travel Office has book two group cruises in 2011. Register by Aug. 1 for the five-day cruise starting Feb. 12 to Cozumel and Progreso. Register by Sept. 1 for the four-day cruise starting Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 24 and going to Cozumel. Cost for two people for the February trip is as low as \$682 with a \$75 shipboard credit. Cost for two people for the November trip is as low as \$816 with a \$50 ship board credit. For more information, call 434-2507 or 7861.

NFL tickets

The ITT office has home game tickets for the New Orleans Saints and the Dallas Cowboys –For more information about the tickets and group trips, call 434-7861. Limited seating/tickets available.

Vegan menu available

The bowling center now offers a vegan menu. To place an order, call 434-3426.

Six Flags Over Georgia trip

The youth center offers this trip July 15 to 16. The bus leaves at 5 a.m. July 15. Price for two is \$250, for 3 is \$300 and for four is \$350. Price includes transportation, lodging, admission and one meal at the park. Final payment

must be made by July 8. For more information, call the Youth center at 434-2504.

Youth trip to McWane Hands-on Science Center

The youth center offers this trip for ages 9 to 18 July 21 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Can only take a maximum of 15 on this free trip. Register by July 16 at the youth center. For more information, call 434-2504.

Family canoe trip

Register at the youth center for this trip July 13 from 8 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$18 per person and includes lunch. Limited to the first 12 to register. Register by July 7 at the youth center.

Canoe trip down the Luxapalila River

Outdoor Recreation is offering this trip July 24. Cost is \$15 per person and includes transportation, rentals and lunch. Register no later than July 16 at outdoor recreation. For more information, call 434-2507.

27-Hole Golf Challenge

Whispering Pines Golf Course offers a 27-hole golf challenge July 17 with a 8 a.m. shotgun start – Entry is \$20 for golf course members and \$40 for nonmembers – entry does not include cart. For more information, call 434-7932.

Golf 4 Kids

This week-long golf clinic, July 19-23, is \$25 per person and includes 4 days of instruction and a mini 3-hole tournament with snacks on Friday, July 23. Ages 6-9 meet at 8 a.m. and ages 10-13 meet at 9:15 a.m. Register by July 14 at the golf course pro shop. Participants receive a \$15 discount on a set of in-stock youth clubs, which regularly sell for \$75 per set. For more information, call 434-7932.

Tops in Blue

Four positions are available with this special group with auditions open now for trumpet, bass, video technicians and technician support stat. The deadline for audition packages for the 2011 worldwide talent search is Nov. 5, 2010. The competition will be held Dec. 5 to 13 at Lackland AFB. Go to www.topsinblue.com to begin the application process.

Club scholarship program

Write a 500-word or less essay on “What does it mean to be part of the Air Force Family? Open to current Air Force club members and

their family members. Entries are due by July 1 to the FSS commander. Twenty-five \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded throughout the Air Force. For more information, go to www.afclubs.net.

Family child care homes needed

Ever dreamed of owning your own business? Are you willing to work out of your on base 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 who 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.

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 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.

Squadron DUI-Free Bowling Party

The bowling center is offering a free

squadron bowling party from 1 to 4 p.m. Monday thru Friday for those squadrons who have been without a DUI for three months. Shoe rental, food and beverage charges still apply. For more information or to reserve the center, call the Bowling Center at 434-3426.

Join FitFamily

Air Force Services family fitness and wellness initiative, FitFamily is an integral component of the Year of the Air Force Family. Families can register as a team at www.USAFitFamily.com to earn points and achieve levels for participation in Family Fun activities, family sports and fitness and family nutrition. Recognition is provided at each level to encourage families to continue on the path of wellness. The FitFamily program encourages Air Force families to make healthy lifestyle choices and provides resources and tips in an effort to promote overall family fitness. For more information, contact the Youth Center at 434-2504.

Space A lodging

The Magnolia Inn usually has openings for Space A family and single units. Contact the lodging desk at 434-2548.

Tickets available

The information, ticket and travel office has discounted tickets for Disney World, Universal Studios, Dollywood, Sea World, Busch Gardens, Six Flags Over Georgia, the Memphis Zoo, Alabama Adventure, the Dixie Stampede, Geyser Falls, and more. Call 434-2507 for more information.

Youth Center sponsorship program

Moving is hard, but it is also a time to meet new friends, find new hangout spots, get involved in fun and different things and go on trips to interesting places. The Youth Sponsorship Program at Columbus was created by and just for youth. To help make your transition from your old base on to your new base, contact the Youth Center and join in the fun of the youth sponsorship program. For more information, call 434-2504.

Casino trip

Register at outdoor recreation for this monthly trip the first Friday of every month to the Silver Star and Golden Moon casinos. Cost is \$25 and includes transportation and \$25 in player money. Bus leaves at 5:30 p.m. from the BX parking lot and returns at 1 a.m. For more information, call 434-2507.

Think..act...be safe this holiday weekend

Maj. Frank Cooper

14th Flying Training Wing Safety

As we take the time this Fourth of July weekend to celebrate the founding of our great nation, we need to keep in mind the safety of our BLAZE team members, family, and friends. Ensuring each and every one makes it to the end of the celebration should be our number one goal. Failing in this will tarnish any of the celebration of the holiday weekend.

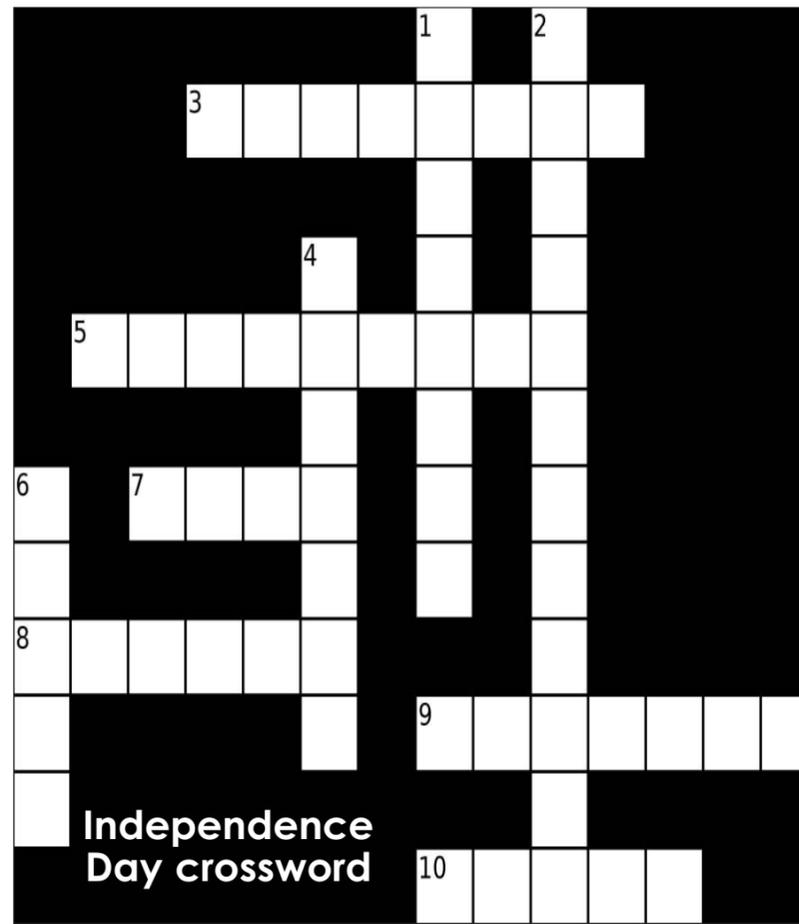
As you head out this weekend, remember that millions of others will also be on the roads, in the air, on the lakes and rivers, and in the parks. Plan ahead for these crowds and additional hazards; allow a little extra time for the congestion. Air Education and Training Command has given us this Friday as a family day to provide a well earned safe start to the weekend. Using this day to start our travel will provide each of us a little extra time and an additional safety margin as we head out onto the crowded roads. However, some of us will be tempted to start traveling Thursday night after work. By doing this, any of the safety advantages garnered from the

additional day are negated.

Just as millions of Americans will be filling the roads and recreational areas, our schedules will also be jammed with activities. Busy schedules will lead to many holiday activities that present hazards. When presented with only one of these activities we often acknowledge and mitigate the danger. However, as we combine a number of activities together, one can lose sight of the increased risks presented by multiple dangers. Often one activity will distract from the attention we should give another activity.

We must use care as we are out celebrating. Think...Act...Be Smart! Conduct a little real-time risk management to keep ourselves from doing things we would not normally accept as safe.

If we keep the safety of our family and friends as our number one goal, the biggest family celebration of the year will remain a time of celebration. When the holiday is over, we want to say we contributed to the success of The Year of the Air Force Family for all the BLAZE team.



Across
 3 The 13 stripes on the US flag represent the original 13
 5 Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of _____
 7 US national flower
 8 The loud sound from a firework exploding
 9 The largest signature on the US Declaration of Independence
 10 John _____ originally predicted Independence Day would be celebrated on July 2

Down
 1 Samuel Wilson, a meat packer from Troy, New York in 1812 is thought to be the original inspiration for the US persona _____
 2 The state the Liberty Bell is held in
 4 The Statue of Liberty stands on _____ Island
 6 Number of shiploads of tea destroyed in the Boston Tea Party

What have you done for your country today?

Senior Master Sgt. Jim Albini

314th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark. — Sitting in my spare bedroom Tuesday morning, I was looking at a career laid out before my eyes. I saw awards dating back to my days as an airman and goodbye gifts from many of my bases.

I started to reflect on the role models I've had and one name stuck out. Chief Master Sgt. Tim Omdal was the security forces manager at Aviano Air Base, Italy, when I was the plans and programs NCO. I learned a great many things about life and the military through the chief and his family. Often, a lesson was initiated by one simple question, "Jim, what have you done for your country today?"

In its context, many might interpret the question as, "What have you done to earn your paycheck today?" Perhaps the question was his way of asking "Summarize what you did in the office" or "Did you give the boss your best effort?"

In my early days with Chief Omdal, that's how I answered the question. I only thought about it as it related to my primary duties. Though I was proud of my response, his expression always seemed as if I was missing something. To this day, I am not sure if it was intentional, but I learned to take a deeper look at the question.

As I grew in my career, I started thinking about my responses and how they related to other aspects of my job. I may have been a pretty good plans NCO, but what kind of supervisor was I? Did I do anything to help mentor a future leader? Did I leave my organization and base a better place? Did I foster esprit-de-corps through a private organization, making new friends and being a better NCO along the way?

Sometimes we get hung so up on our jobs that we forget the bigger picture. Our responsibilities go beyond the task at hand to one of mentorship and leadership. Are we setting the right examples and truly training our replacements? As an NCO or officer, have you gone beyond the role of your primary duty to be a Chief Omdal to someone? Are you listening to his or her response and encouraging them to look beyond the obvious?

I challenge you to ponder this question from another direction. What have you done for your community today? When you think about your country, think about your community. What are you doing to make it a better place?

Why was I sitting in my spare room, looking at memorabilia and thinking about my mentors? After eight bases in 25 years; a career as a security forces member, inspector general and first sergeant, I must face reality and see that time is winding down. As I sat on that lonely chair, the words of Chief Omdal rang in my head, "Jim, what have you done for your country?"

My answer is this: Chief, over a drink I hope to fill you in. I don't believe you will be disappointed in my answer.



T-1A Jayhawk

SUPT Class 10-11 earns silver wings



T-38C Talon

Twenty-nine officers have prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to be an Air Force pilot.

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 10-11 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium.

The graduation speaker for the class is Maj. Gen. Harold Cross, currently retired and formerly the Adjutant General of Mississippi. The Adjutant General is charged with the responsibility to organize train and equip the more than 13,000 citizen soldiers and airmen of the Mississippi National Guard to perform its federal and state missions in addition to the supervision of an additional 3,000 state and federal employees.

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

Second Lt. Kris Elmstedt, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Donald Hilton, 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. Nathanael Smith, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Daniel Payne, 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.

Lieutenant Elmstedt, Lieutenant Hilton and 2nd Lt. Brian Tapp were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 10-11.

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 land-

ing 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, 43 hours in the flight simulator and 104 hours in the T-1A.

Each class is partnered with two business or civic organizations during their year of training. This program is designed to foster closer ties between the community and Columbus Air Force Base. 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 10-11's pilot partners are Allegra Brigham, Mississippi University for Women; and Bobby Berry, WCBI-TV.



1st Lt. J. Neal Simpson
Gallinburg, Tenn.
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



1st Lt. Jason deAraujo
Bedford, Mass.
C-130, Youngstown, Ohio



1st Lt. Mohammed Ghale
Al-Kut, Iraq
T-6, Tikrit AB, Iraq



1st Lt. William Pringle
Eudora, Kan.
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Travis Cord
Georgetown, Ky.
KC-135, Scott AFB, Ill.



2nd Lt. Christopher DarConte
Merrick, N.Y.
RPA, Cannon AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Nathaniel Delaney
Ithaca, N.Y.
KC-135, McConnell AFB, Kan.



2nd Lt. Matthew Dougherty
O'Fallon, Ill.
RPA, Cannon AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Kris Elmstedt
Colorado Springs, Colo.
A-10, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Justin George
Tyler, Texas
B-52, Barksdale AFB, La.



2nd Lt. Saad Aldawsari
Alkhjr, Saudi Arabia
F-15C, King Khalid AB, KSA



2nd Lt. Patrick Godfrey
Philomont, Va.
KC-135, Fairchild AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Donald Hilton
Pittsfield, Mass.
C-17, Hickam AFB, Hawaii



2nd Lt. Charles Hoover
Casa Grande, Ariz.
KC-135, Sky Harbor, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Jonathan Kay
Richmond, Va.
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Kimberly Kilpatrick
Green Brook, N.J.
C-5, Stewart ANGB, N.Y.



2nd Lt. Jacob Ludwig
Las Vegas, Nev.
KC-135, Seymour Johnson AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Dan Payne
Lombard, Ill.
KC-135, Birmingham IAP, Ala.



2nd Lt. Stephen Roberts
Milford, N.J.
T-6, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Nathanael Smith
Manassas, Va.
U-28, Hurlburt Field, Fla.



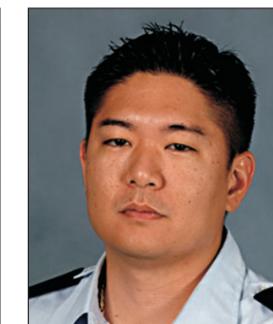
2nd Lt. Daniel Stein
Brookfield, Wis.
C-17, Travis AFB, Calif.



2nd Lt. Brian Tapp
Stanton, Tenn.
T-1, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Michael Thornbury
Collierville, Tenn.
C-17, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska



2nd Lt. Ladd Torigoe
Waipahu, Hawaii
C-17, Hickam AFB, Hawaii



2nd Lt. Herbert Williams
Franklin, Va.
RPA, Creech AFB, Nev.