

“Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight”

Vol. 36, Issue 7

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

February 17, 2012

Weather



Today

High: 64, Low: 41
Mostly Sunny



Saturday

High: 57, Low: 37
Showers



Sunday

High: 56, Low: 31
Partly Cloudy



Monday

High: 61, Low: 45
Mostly Sunny

News Briefs

Presidents Day

Most Columbus AFB offices will be closed Jan. 20 in observance of Presidents Day. The Commissary will be open the following day.

14th FTW Prayer Breakfast

The 2012 Columbus AFB Prayer Breakfast is planned for Feb. 28 at the Columbus Club from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. The guest speaker for this event is Chaplain, Col. Gerald McManus, Air Force Global Strike Command, Command Chaplain. Tickets may be purchased for \$3 from the Base Chapel Administrative Office or from your first sergeant until Feb. 21 or tickets are sold out.

Tops in Blue

The Air Force's premier entertainment showcase, Tops In Blue 2012, "Rhythm Nation" is slated to perform on Saturday, Feb. 18 at the Mississippi University for Women Rent Auditorium. Doors open to military card holders at 5 p.m.

Inside



Feature 8

SUPT Class 12-05 graduates today at 10 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium.

Annual banquet awards CAFB's finest

Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Every year the Airmen of Columbus Air Force Base strive to participate in the prestigious Annual Awards Banquet which awards Airmen for their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

This year's banquet was visited by guest speaker Maj. Gen. Mark Solo, commander of the 19th Air Force.

Solo spoke to the crowd about the fact that not everyone could win the awards that they were nominated for, but that they still achieved a great feat.

"To have come this far, as far as I'm concerned, you're all winners," said Maj. Gen. Solo.

He also communicated the fact that it was only through the combined excellence of all of the Airmen on base that the 14th Flying Training Wing's mission could be completed.

"One Airman alone cannot accomplish the things that your wing has done. Everyone has a part to play regardless of your rank or Air Force Specialty Code," said Solo. "When individual Airmen pool their time and talents incredible things happen. Each of you gave your time and efforts to make Columbus and the 14th Flying Training Wing stronger, and that's the work of a true winner, a true leader and a true champion."

Solo also talked about the organizations that work with and on Columbus AFB and how they contribute to achieving the Wing mission to Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen and Feed the Fight.

"It's important to note that your out-



U.S. Air Force photo

Maj. Gen. Mark Solo, 19th Air Force commander was the guest speaker for the 2011 Annual Awards Banquet on Jan. 9 at the Columbus Club. Solo emphasized that the combined excellence of all 14th Flying Training Wing Airmen is what makes the 14th FTW mission happen.

See AWARDS, Page 3

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 (12-15)	1.39 days	1.55 days	Apr. 2	48th (12-06)	3.92 days	4.07 days	Mar. 16	49th (12-EB)	0.73 days	3.30 days	Mar. 2	T-6	1,439	1,542	10,962
41st (12-14)	2.53 days	1.52 days	Mar. 8	50th (12-06)	0.80 days	-1.99 days	Mar. 16					T-1	540	512	3,559
												T-38	580	603	4,061
												IFF	155	161	1,099

The graduation speaker is Col. Jeff "Flash" Gordon, USAF retired.

IFF 12-DBC graduates

49th Fighter Training Squadron

The 49th Fighter Training Squadron graduated Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals Class 12-DBC on Feb. 3. Eight members graduated this phase of their training on their way to becoming fighter pilots in the Combat Air Forces.

The 49th FTS is responsible for Active Duty, Guard, Reserve, and International flying training in the T-38C/IFF aircraft. The 49th FTS provides training to fighter pilots and weapon system officers entering Air Force major fighter weapons systems, which include the F16, F15C, F15E, and A10C.

The nine-week course begins with tactical formation flights and then introduces pilots to basic fighter maneu-



Capt. Dennis Simerly
F-16



Capt. Adam Spring
F-15C



1st Lt. Stewart Cornett
A-10C



1st Lt. Thomas Daniels
F-16



1st Lt. Theodore Ellis
F-15E



1st Lt. Andrew Griffin
F-15E



2nd Lt. Ryan Mendenhall
F-16



2nd Lt. Ryan Neely
F-16

vers and air-to-air employment in offensive, defensive, and high aspect fight scenarios. Students bound for aircraft with an air-to-ground attack capability then move

on to surface attack and low-altitude tactical navigation phases learning to employ ordnance against ground targets. The skills learned during IFF directly translate to the

fighters these students will soon fly in their follow-on training and one day employ in combat.

Congratulations to our newest fighter wingmen!

<u>Mon</u>	<u>Tue</u>	<u>Wed</u>	<u>Thur</u>	<u>Fri</u>	<u>Sat/Sun</u>
20 President's Day, Most CAFB offices closed	21 CSC Wine Tasting, 6 p.m. @ Club	22 Ash Wednesday	23 Heart Link, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. @ Club	24	25/26
27 Black History Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. @ Club	28 CAFB Prayer Breakfast, 7:30 a.m. @ Club	29 Leap Day Enlisted Promotions, 4 p.m. @ Club Red Tails Exhibit in Columbus	1 Women's History Month	2 IFF Graduation, 4:49 p.m. @ 49th FTS Class 12-06 Assignment Night, 5 p.m. @ Club	3/4

Long Range Events

March 5: Night Flying Week
March 6: Newcomers
March 8: Class 12-14 Track Select
March 9: 70th Anniversary Banquet
March 9: Happy Fund Golf Tournament
March 10: OG Career Day
March 11: Daylight Savings Time Begins
March 15: Dorm Dinner
March 15: Daedalians
March 16: Class 12-06 SUPT Graduation
March 22: ALS Graduation
March 23: Class 12-07 Assignment Night

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.

Published by the Commercial Dispatch Publishing Company, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 14th Flying Training Wing.

This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

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The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the DOD, the Department of the Air Force or Service Publications, Inc., of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

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.

AWARDS

(Continued from Page 1)

standing efforts did not come to fruition through the work of just one person or squadron," said Solo. "No, the success of the program depends on the cooperation of many partners."

While Airmen have been holding things down on the home-front, many Airmen have been working abroad during the past year to help fuel their mission in multiple other countries.

"Last year 134 Airmen from the 14th

Flying Training Wing directly contributed to the fight, deploying to 14 different countries," said Solo.

Col. Barre Seguin, commander of the 14th Flying Training Wing, gave a speech to the Airmen in attendance to close the banquet for the night.

"There's a million moving parts and pieces every day that result in 300 sorties and 400 hours being flown here in Columbus on a daily basis, and we can't do it without your focus on the mission, your dedication to the mission and your dedication to innovation," said Seguin.



Master Sgt. Andre Gaskin, 14th Medical Group
Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year



Senior Airman Alexandra Nevsky, 14th MDG
Honor Guard Member of the Year



Senior Airman Christina Ortiz, 14th Operations Group
Airmen of the Year



Tech. Sgt. Zachary Townsend, 14th Mission Support Group
Noncommissioned Officer of the Year



Maj. Carl Miller, 14th OG
Field Grade Officer of the Year



Capt. Benjamin Staats, 41st Flying Training Squadron
Instructor Pilot of the Year



Capt. Joseph Stallings, 14th OG
Flight Commander of the Year



Kristofer Havens, 14th MSG
Category I Civilian of the Year



Randy Putnam, 14th Wing Staff Agencies
Category II Civilian of the Year
Accepted by Lt. Col. Brian Murphy, 14th WSA Director of Staff



Modesto Cedano, 14th OG
Category III Civilian of the Year
Accepted by Lt. Col. Robert Mozeleski, 14th OG Deputy Commander



Anthony Duty, 14th MSG
Flight Chief of the Year



Jimmy Helton, 14th MDG
Volunteer of the year

How To Get A Ticket

2nd Lt. Catlin See
14th Security Forces
Squadron

Being brand new to CAFB and the military itself can be daunting when trying to learn and understand the military's way of conducting business, let alone the bases' traffic laws. Even our senior enlisted and officers occasionally experience momentary lapses when it comes to some traffic laws, so it's not just the "New Guys." That said, your local Defenders would like to take this time to inform you about three traffic laws that we will be focusing our enforcement efforts on in the months to come. Our goal is to raise awareness and hopefully reduce infractions.

In the past two months Defenders have issued 121 citations, with three infractions standing out above the rest. First, if you live in or you are visiting base housing, parking is prohibited on

the side of the road with a sidewalk, except along State Loop. Next, regardless of location or time, when driving in the proximity of PT formations, joggers, or children the speed limit is 10 mph. Lastly, motorists are prohibited from using a cell phone while driving on CAFB except with the use of an approved hands-free device. Placing your cell phone on speaker phone and holding it in your hand does not constitute hands-free. The entire traffic supervision publication can be found in Air Force Instruction 31-204, Columbus AFB Supplement 1.

"Our Defenders are not out to ruin your day," said Maj. Joseph Ringer, 14th Security Forces Squadron commander. "Like you, we are a part of the Columbus AFB community, and are merely ensuring it remains a safe, secure and compliant installation for all of us." If you have any questions about



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens

Tech. Sgt. Charleston Calhoun, 14th Security Forces Squadron, writes a ticket for an illegally parked car. In most areas around Columbus Air Force Base it is illegal to park on the side of the road.

CAFB traffic rules and regulations, please feel free to stop by Building 208 and inquire.

Diversity and recognition

Chief Master Sgt. Richard Bullock
14th Medical Group
Superintendent

The United States Military provides outstanding support to personnel from every racial background, every religious sect, showing the upmost respect and dignity to the warriors and wingmen in the areas of diversity. Col. Barre Seguin, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, supports and ensures recognition of this vital morale building process, throughout the year, while leading a diverse military organization.

Within the United States Air Force and the Department of Defense, a multitude of races join together for a common cause; protecting and defending the United States of America. Throughout, history African Americans have served and played a pivotal role in the success of defending our great nation. They have impacted military combat missions, led successful campaigns, and some have received our nation's highest honor the Congressional Medal of Honor, while others have made the ultimate sacrifice. In this article, we pay homage to those African American women who have served, had an impact, and paved the way for future generations of women, not only ensuring African American women, but women of many diverse backgrounds would be able to achieve success.

African American women play a key part in the daily operations of the 14th Flying Training Wing. Dr. Doris Crusoe, the 14th Flying Training Wing Historian, Maj. Alice Turner, 14th Mental Health Flight commander and Airman 1st Class Lillian Martinez, 14th Force Support Squadron in addition to many others play a crucial role daily in ensuring we Produce Pilots, Advance Airman, and Feed the Fight, here at Columbus Air Force Base. There are many more African American women supporting our mission and people daily

to you we owe a great deal of gratitude and we salute you.

As we celebrate Black history Month, we look back and celebrate the legacy of the many African American women who paved the way for this generation of female leaders to lead from the front. Army Maj. Gen. Marcia Anderson is the first African American woman to be selected as a Two-Star General in the U.S. Army. Coast Guard Lt. j.g. La'Shanda Holmes serves as the first African American Female Helicopter Pilot while, assigned to Coast Guard Air Station Los Angeles. Elizabeth "Bessie" Coleman set the tone for success as she became the first aviator of African American descent earning, her pilots license in June 1921. Essie Bryant Woods served in the first all black battalion 6888, Central Postal Battalion, during World War Two and was the first black military woman commissioned to the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC), one of six thousand to serve during the war. Army Brig. Gen. Hazel Johnson served as the first African American female General Officer in the US Army in 1979. 1993 saw the selection of Gen. Irene Trawell-Harris, as the first African American female General Officer in the Air National Guard. Army 1st Lt. Nancy LeFenant served as one of the Army Nurse Corps first African American nurses, and finally Margaret Bailey, became the first African American Nurse promoted to lieutenant colonel in the Army Nurse Corp in 1964.

African American women have served, supported and defended the Constitution of the United States, honorably. As we celebrate the diversity of our military and African American contributions to our military history, let us take time to recognize those African American women past and present who pursued their right to serve and protect our great nation.

Airmen try tasty side of culture



U.S. Air Force Photo/Airman 1st Class Charles Dickens

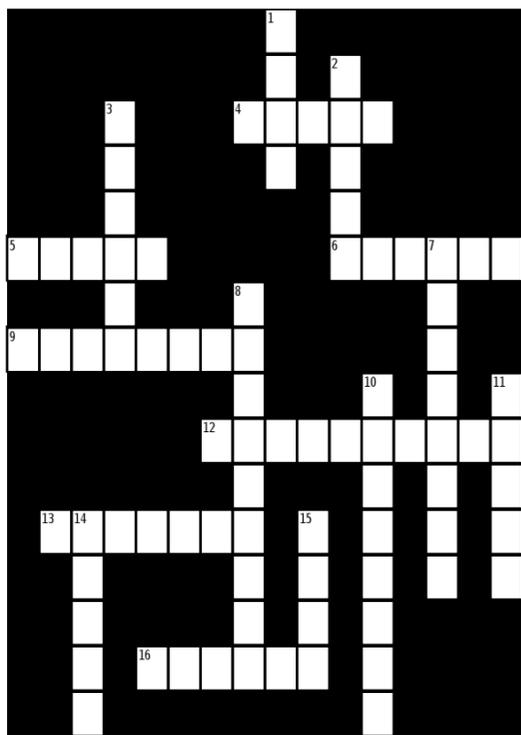
2nd Lt. William See and Tech. Sgt. James Pender, 14th Security Forces Squadron, enjoy portions of a spread of soul foods at the Soul Food Sampling on Feb. 15 in the Chapel Annex. The Soul Food Sampling is a Black History Month event held to help promote culture through food.

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 67 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.



Streets Names Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.



- Across
- Street was named to recognize a Colonel and Mississippi native. He joined the US Army Reserve and received his pilot rating in May 1941. He was commander of the 2nd Fighter Squadron, when he was shot down in an F-6D over Burma and held as a POW for two months. He was credited with five kills and three probables. Road connecting the Main gate and US Hwy 45 named this year in honor of George " _____ " Irby.
 - Boulevard was named for the former commander of Air Training Command from August 1970 until his death in September 1972 when he was killed in a T-38 jet trainer mishap at Randolph AFB, Texas.
 - Road in front of T-6 squadrons; named for the computer generated measurement marking a student's progress through pilot training
 - Slang term for Air Traffic Controllers, also street RAPCON is located
 - Street was named to remember a Colonel who flew a B-17 in World War II and was a POW in Barth, Germany. As a Columbus resident, he served as a member of the Mississippi State Legislature and House of Representatives from 1972-1980.
 - _____ was named to honor a retired Colonel who was an F-105 pilot and Vietnam POW for more than seven years. He perfected and spread a tap code that became the gold standard for communication between prisoners during the Vietnam War.
- Down
- Street was named to honor a Staff Sergeant who grew up in Columbus as a small child. He enlisted in the US Army Air Corps and became a B-17 tail gunner with the 8th Air Force. He was shot down over Germany on his sixth mission, captured and held as a prisoner of war. After he was liberated, he returned to Columbus.
 - Street was named in honor of a Major who graduated from Columbus in Class 89-07. During his career, he flew the B-52, C-130, MC-130, and OV-10. He served in Operations

- DESERT STORM, DESERT SHIELD, ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM. He was assisting the newly established Iraqi Air Force, when his aircraft went down near the Iranian border on Memorial Day, 2005.
- Alva _____ Road was named to honor a Lieutenant Colonel born in Alabama, who lived in Columbus from 1962 until his death in 2004. He joined the Army Air Corps and completed pilot training at Tuskegee Army Air Field in Alabama. He graduated in Class 43-G and was commissioned as a second lieutenant. He was one of the first African-Americans to train as a military pilot. He flew 120 combat missions over Italy, Southern Europe, Southern France and the Balkans.
- _____ Street was named after a 1971 UPT graduate from Columbus. He died in 1972 during a B-52 mission in Vietnam when his aircraft was hit by a surface-to-air missile. He was MIA until August 1989 when his remains were identified and repatriated.
- Longest road on Columbus AFB, well known to base equestrians.
- Airmen Drive was named to honor the first African Americans to be trained as World War II military pilots in the Army Air Corps.
- _____ was named in honor of a former OV-10, F-111A and EF-111 pilot. He posthumously received the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Purple Heart for combat actions during Operation DESERT STORM.
- Boulevard runs perpendicular to the front of the wing headquarters building. It is named after a Major General who was the wing commander from July 1978 to July 1980. He was killed in an F-16 accident near Madrid, Spain, in 1988.
- Street was named after a Mississippi native who became the principal owner and editor-in-chief of the Commercial Dispatch after the owner's death. In 1940 he became the Chairman of the Columbus Air Base Commission, working to secure land for a pilot training field. After the base was placed on inactive status after World War II, he worked with US Senate and Congressional delegations to reopen the base permanently in the 1950s.

BARGAIN LINE

The deadline for submitting ads is noon Monday before the desired publication date. Ads turned in after the deadline will run in the following week. Ads can be mailed to or dropped off at the public affairs office in the 14th Flying Training Wing Headquarters building, e-mailed to silverwings@columbus.af.mil or faxed to 434-7009. Calling Ext. 7068 by noon Monday can extend the run date of ads already submitted. Silver Wings reserves the right to limit ads based on content, space and frequency of requests. Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through the Commercial Dispatch, 328-2424.

house on two acres of land. Three bedroom and two bathroom, hardwood and tile floors, vaulted living room ceiling, tray master bedroom ceiling, walk-in closets. Caledonia school district. 10 minutes from Columbus Air Force Base. Outside storage building stays with house. \$182,500. Call 574-2452. For lease: 3,600 sq. ft. home on more than five-and-a-half acres of land. Four bedrooms and three-and-a-half bathrooms, private lake, two-car garage, large recreation room, bar with pool table. Pet friendly. Located on 17th Fairway at the CCC. \$1,500 per month. Call 549-7712.

Pets

For sale: Continental Kennel Club registered Cocker Spaniels. Variety of colors, health guaranteed. \$125.

Caledonia. Call 356-6957.

Transportation

For sale: White 2003 Chevy Venture van LT. Tan interior, heat and air-conditioning, 3.4 liter V6 engine, front-wheel drive, power windows and power locks, luggage rack. 121,760 miles. \$5,300. Call 240-1243.

Miscellaneous

For sale: Saddle, all leather, 16" seat, Circle M, model #1535T, new and still wrapped. Cost \$600 new, asking \$450. Call 356-6957.
For sale: Gray Herculliner paint-on truck bed liner, \$50. Call 889-3974.
For sale: Kincaid cherry wood 3-piece entertainment center, pocket doors, \$350. Call 889-3974.
For sale: Great Outdoors TG560N

Grill. Natural gas, 560 sq. inches, five stainless burners at 60,000 BTU's, 12,000 BTU side burner and rotisserie, \$100. Call 889-3974
For sale: Fifty six-piece set of Pfaltzgraff Village stoneware in excellent condition. Complete eight-place setting. Also includes pitcher, gravy server, round butter server, creamer, sugar bowl, bread tray, large oval platter, three-piece mixing bowl set, chip and dip set, four-piece condiment server with spoon, oval serving bowl, oval casserole dish, and a square casserole baking dish. Extra dinner plate, dessert plate and cup, \$295.00. Call 327-1205
For sale: Prom Dresses: Blue with sequins, long, spaghetti strap, size large, \$75; White, sweetheart neckline, strapless with maroon waistline bow in back, multi-colored dots, size 12 altered to 8/10, \$100. Call 549-1381 for more info or pictures.

For sale: Queen-sized bedroom set with lighted and mirrored headboard, five-drawer chest-of-drawers and a dresser with mirror and light, \$500 or best offer. Call 425-6751.
For sale: .50 caliber Hawken-style percussion muzzleloader. Good condition, many tools, powder and ammo, \$399. Ruger Vaquero 45 Colt single-action revolver. Wood grips, excellent condition, includes old-style leather holster, \$499. 12 gauge Remington Rem Choke skeet chokes. New-in-package, \$15 each. Assorted muzzleloader accessories, powder, caps, balls, bullets, quick loaders, measure, bullet starter, etc. Call 434-8544.

Visit us online!

Tops in Blue in town Saturday only

Jana Hall
14th Force Support Squadron

Tops in Blue

When: Sat., Feb. 18
Where: Mississippi University for Women's Rent Auditorium
Time: 6 p.m.

Tops in Blue, the premier entertainment showcase of the U.S. Air Force, will perform a free, family-friendly show tomorrow, 6 p.m., at Mississippi University for Women's Rent Auditorium.

Doors open at 5 p.m. for Military ID holders and at 5:30 p.m. for the general public. There are no tickets for this event, so come early as seating is limited and cannot be reserved.

The Columbus Convention and Visitors Bureau is providing its double-decker bus for shuttle service from several downtown parking areas to university's front gate to ease the traffic congestion and walking distance to the venue. The bus will pick up show-goers at the Tennessee Williams Welcome Center, 300 Main Street, at 4 and 4:30 p.m., servicing the surrounding parking lots in the downtown region. It also will swing by for a second pickup at the corner of College Drive and 7th

Street at 4:10 and 4:40 p.m., servicing the parking lots around First United Methodist Church, Regions Bank and the fire department. Return shuttle services following the show are tentatively set for 7:40 and 8 p.m., depending on the show's end time.

Columbus is the last stop for the cast and crew as they wrap up their 2011 tour entitled "Rhythm Nation" which brings to life the music of America from the early 1900s through today, providing glimpses of a century of popular music and its evolution through new rhythms and technology.

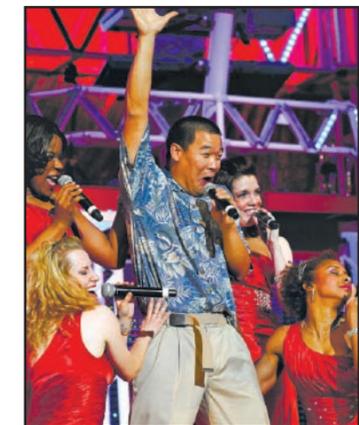
During this last show of the year-long tour, one

of the talented cast members, Staff Sgt. Mark Lindquist, will be reunited with his cousin here at Columbus Air Force Base. Lt. Col. Kevin "Hobo" Sutton, Chief, Wing Plans and Programs, and Lindquist grew up together in Ortonville, Minn., a small farming community on the South Dakota border.

Lindquist also is receiving a surprise visit from his parents, Gordon and Diane Lindquist, who have traveled to Columbus from Minnesota for a small family reunion with their son, nephew and his family (the Suttons). Lindquist's home station is home base is Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Local sponsors who make this and other events possible are Mississippi University for Women, WCBI, Hank's #1 BBQ, Chick-Fil-A, Brown's Farm and Garden Supply and Studdard Law Firm. Coca-Cola is the national sponsor of this tour. No federal endorsement of sponsors is intended.

For more information, visit us on Facebook at CAFB FSS Rocks or go online to www.cafbss-rocks.com.



Courtesy photo
Staff Sgt. Mark Lindquist, pictured center, will be reunited with his cousin Lt. Col. Kevin "Hobo" Sutton, Chief, Wing Plans and Programs, here at Columbus Air Force Base during the last show of the season on Feb. 18. Sutton and Lindquist grew up together in Ortonville, Minn., a small farming community on the South Dakota border.

Two graduate from ALS



Courtesy photo
Senior Airman Ashley Corpron, 14th Security Forces Squadron and Senior Airman Willie Lopez, 14th Communications Squadron, graduated from Airman Leadership School on Feb. 10 at Maxwell Air Force Base. Lopez was also chosen to receive the Commandant's Award for his leadership characteristics.

TrailBLAZE'r



Name: Dan Brown
Unit: 14th Flying Training Wing Maintenance Authority
Job Title: Quality Assurance Evaluator Aircraft Maintenance
Time at Columbus: Twenty-three years
Time in Service: Fourteen years
Hometown: Northport, Ala.
Career Goals: Finish my Bachelors degree.

Family members: Demeta, wife.
Favorite musician: Third Day.
Favorite movie: The Shawshank Redemption.
Biggest Pet Peeve: Carelessness.
Favorite Book: The Bible first and "Twice Adopted" by Michael Reagan
Inspirations: Seeing the underdog succeed.
Personal motto: Do it right the first time.

Maj. Gen. Solo praises Columbus innovation

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

The 19th Air Force commander toured Columbus Air Force Base during his visit on Jan. 9, seeing firsthand how the 14th Flying Training Wing is finding ways to operate at a lower cost.

"Tough times will present challenges to us, but those challenges also present opportunities," said Maj. Gen. Mark Solo. "It gives us the opportunities to change how we do business."

Teaching an old dog new tricks is hard when the old way still works said Solo, but when challenges force change, the new Air Force can be forged.

One new trick discovered by Airmen on Columbus AFB is the use of modified pegboard to save costs on a paint barn airflow project.

"To see them come up with a way to use \$500 worth of pegboard when the estimate they got to do that project was three million dollars, that's ingenuity in action right there," said Solo. "It's inspiring to see that."

Solo also said he was wowed by a central-

ized scheduling system innovation for T-38 Talons that increased Instructor Pilot availability, filling more planes and directly impacting the 14th FTW mission.

"You know the capability is there, so when we finally grasp it and finally get our heads around it and implement it and then to see it produce, and what I mean by produces I mean we no longer have lines on the schedule that go unfilled because of IP unavailability, now all the planes are full and we're actually doing it with fewer IP's. The efficiency there is just huge," he said. "It will allow us to continue to produce pilots at the rate we're required to

produce them; on track and on time and with fewer resources."

The strong support from local communities at bases across Air Education and Training Command and especially the 19th Air Force also open up opportunities to increase mission efficiency.

"The support that we get from the communities is hugely important to us," he said. "Especially as we draw down our budgets and consolidate and look for efficiencies. I think when we team with our local community there's some opportunities for us there to share resources and partner."

Bio: Kathleen I. Ferguson

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations



Ms. Kathleen I. Ferguson, a member of the Senior Executive Service, is the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Logistics, Washington, D.C. She is responsible for the management, policy and oversight of the \$6 billion annual Air Force installation and facility programs. These include facility management, base closures, military construction, family housing, acquisition, maintenance, operation, repair and disposal of real property.

Ms. Ferguson began her career as a design civil engineer at Plattsburgh AFB, N.Y., in 1981. She transferred to Langley AFB, Va. in 1983, and held a variety of positions with the 1st Fighter Wing, Headquarters Tactical Air Command and Headquarters Air Combat Command until 1993. In 1994 she moved to the Pentagon where she worked with environmental and civil engineering programs.

Ms. Ferguson became Chief of the Installation Support Panel with the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Installations and Logistics when the Air Force corporate structure stood up in 1995. From 1997 to 1999 she served on the headquarters staff for the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Command at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. She returned to the Pentagon and the IL office as Chief of the Installation Support Panel with the Office of the Civil Engineer. From 2000 to 2002, she worked for IL as the Combat Support Division Chief for the Directorate of Supply. Prior to assuming her current position, she was the Deputy Air Force Civil Engineer. Ms. Ferguson is a registered professional engineer in Virginia.

Bio: Sarah Young

Majority, Professional Staff Member



Professional experience:

2011-Present: Professional Staff Member, HAC Military Construction-VA
2008-2010: Professional Staff Member, HAC-Defense Subcommittee
2006-2007: Professional Staff Member, HAC Interior and Environment
2005-2006: Professional Staff Member, HAC Military Construction-VA
2002-2005: Professional Staff Member, HAC Defense Subcommittee
2001-2002: Staff Associate, HAC Defense Subcommittee
1998-2001: Legislative Director, ETA, Inc.

HEART Initiative kicked off



The 14th Force Support Squadron, along with Col. Scott Frickenstein, commander, 14th Mission Support Group, kicked off a new "HEART" customer service initiative on Feb. 14 to tie in with its ongoing Interactive Customer Evaluation program. This initiative stems from Frickenstein's commentary in the Dec. 16 edition of the Silver Wings wherein he states, "H-E-A-R-T captures what each member of the 14th Mission Support Group aims to provide each of our customers: a Helpful attitude, Eye contact and an Audible welcome when you come into our facilities, Respect, and Thanks for being our guest." Patrons of 14th Force Support Squadron offices and activities are encouraged to visit www.cafbfsrocks.com and click on the ICE logo to share your input on customer service experiences. Lodging customers need to fill out a comment card available at the front desk or complete the questionnaire which is emailed to each guest.

Visit us online!

Web page: www.columbus.af.mil
Facebook: www.facebook.com/ColumbusAFB
Twitter: www.twitter.com/Columbus_AFB

Base News

The Base Thrift Shop

The Base Thrift Shop is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Consignments until noon. The Thrift Shop is non-profit and all proceeds benefit CAFB Community. It is located in building 530. Phone: 434-2954.

Contraceptive Counseling Class

There are currently many safe and effective options for preventing or delaying pregnancy. The staff of the 14th Medical Group, wants to make sure you have the information you need to make your best choice. The Family Health Clinic is now offering a Birth Control Counseling Class covering topics ranging from natural family planning to tubal ligation. The class is offered once a month and taught by a Women's Health Provider and a Registered Nurse. Classes will be held at the Koritz Clinic, the last Friday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30. Please call the clinic appointment line at 662-434-2273 to reserve your spot in the next Birth Control Counseling Class.

CLEP Testing Discontinued

Dec. 31, 2011 is the last day that the Columbus Education Office will be allowed to offer CLEP exams. Computerized CLEP testing will be available at the Mississippi State Univ. Assessment and Testing Center (<http://www.ats.msstate.edu/testing/>). Military members will only be charged a \$23 service fee for the first-time administration of any CLEP exam at MSU. DANTES paper-based exams will continue to be administered in the CAFB Ed Office. Please call 434-2562 or 434-2563 for more information or to schedule an exam.

Motorcycle PPE at Exchange

Air Force compliant personal protection equipment for motorcycle riders is now carried at the base Exchange.

vMPF Post 9/11 GI Bill Transfer of Benefits

Members can now access the vMPF and click DoD TEB website to transfer Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits. The vMPF application will verify the Airman's eligibility to transfer benefits, provide timely notice regarding eligibility issues and allow Airmen to complete, sign, and forward the required statement of understanding to the Automated Records Management System. You can link to the vMPF through the AF Portal at <https://www.my.af.mil/afpc2ww3/vmpf/Hub/Pages/Hub.asp>.

ACT/SAT Testing

Information on ACT and SAT tests are now available on their respective websites (<http://www.act.org> and <http://www.collegeboard.com>). Answers about registration as well as quick tips regarding both of these important tests for aspiring college students can be found here. The tests are provided throughout the year, with advanced registration required.

Embry-Riddle University Aeronautical

The ERAU office is open Monday Wednesday Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is located in Building 926, suite 124. ERAU is offering Master of Aeronautical Science and Master of Science in Management degrees. For more information contact the ERAU office at 434-8262 or Memphis.center@erau.edu

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.)

Self-paced Tutorials

Available on MS Office 2007 Suites; Access, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, Word and Windows Vista. Set your own learning pace at your AFRC.

Relocation assistance

Weekly workshop on programs, services and resources available through the Airman and Family Readiness Center held every Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Topics of discussion include preparing for a move, environment/cultural issues or needs, adaptation and community awareness.

Employment Workshop

Workshop on local and base employment opportunities, held every Wednesday at 1 p.m.

Spouse welcome

For new personnel assigned to CAFB held every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Magnolia Inn lobby. Local information is presented.

Sponsorship training

An electronic version of sponsorship training called eSponsorship Application and Training (eSAT) is now available. It can be found on the Military INSTALLATIONS homepage <http://www.militaryinstallations.dod.mil>, under "Are You a Sponsor?"

Survivor-Benefit Plan

One of the best feelings about retiring from the military Service is to know you are guaranteed a lifetime income as the result of a successful career. What about your spouse or dependent children? If you die, what guarantees do they have? Enrolling in the SBP prior to retiring will ensure they will have guaranteed income after your death. Additional details are available by calling your SBP Counselor Jamey Coleman at 434-2720.

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.

Bundles of Joy with Military Saves

Feb. 21, 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., For active duty military or spouses assigned to Columbus Air Force Base who are pregnant or have a child up to four months of age. Info speakers on finances, labor and delivery, and infant care.

An Air Force Aid Society program.

Heart Link, with Military Saves, For Spouses

Feb. 23, 8:45 a.m. to 2 p.m., new to CAFB or military lifestyle. Fun-filled spouse orientation program filled with info protocol, finance, benefits, helping agencies, local conditions and prizes. Great way to meet other new Columbus AFB spouses.

TAP WORKSHOP

A Transition Assistance Program workshop will be held March 6-8 starting at 7:30 a.m. Seminars on March 6: 7:45 a.m. Health Benefits; 8:45 a.m. Miss. Dept. of Employment Security; 9:30 a.m. Dept. of Veterans Affairs; 12:30 p.m. Disabled TAP; 2 p.m. Dept. of Labor TAP portion. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor.

Hearts Apart Social

March 6 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., social gathering for families of deployed (over 30 days) or remote personnel, information, refreshments, and activities. Please RSVP when invitations are received. Headcount of attendance prior to event is critical for planning and preparation. Advance registration required, call 434-2790.

Using the Internet for Job Search and Transition

March 14 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Using the internet to enhance your job search. Tips, websites and how to succeed.

Chapel Schedule

Catholic Community

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

Thursday:
4:15 p.m. – Choir Practice

Protestant Community

Sunday:
9 a.m. – Adult Bible Study
10:45 a.m. – Traditional Worship Service
Noon – Monthly Potluck Lunch Fellowship (4th Sun)
6:30 p.m. – Youth Study (Grades 6-12)

Tuesday:
9:00 a.m. – Ladies Bible Study—David: Seeking A Heart Like His by Beth Moore,

begins Feb. 14

5 p.m. – Lieutenants Bible Study
Wednesday:
4:30 p.m. – Choir Practice
5 p.m. – Dinner
6 p.m. – Religious Education: Adults, Children (Pioneer Clubs—ages 3-12)
Saturday:
7 a.m. – Men's Monthly Breakfast and Study—12 Ordinary Men (2nd Sat)

Columbus Prayer Breakfast

The 2012 Columbus Prayer Breakfast is planned for Feb. 28 at the Columbus Club from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. The guest speaker for this event is Chaplain, Col. Gerald McManus, Air Force Global Strike Command, Command Chaplain. Tickets may be purchased for \$3 from the Base Chapel Administrative Office or from your first sergeant until Feb. 21 or tickets are sold out.

Please call the Base Chapel at 434-2500 to volunteer or for more information.

Base families offered a variety of activities

Taxi into a Great

TimeThe Columbus Club is hosting a BLAZE the Runway Fashion Show and After Party at the Club on Fri., Feb. 24. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. with hors d'oeuvres and drink specials. The fashion show, featuring volunteer models from across the base, begins at 7 p.m. The After Party, open to ages 18 and up, will last until midnight. Advanced tickets are \$3 for members, \$5 for nonmembers and on the day of the show \$5 for members and \$7 for nonmembers. This event is sponsored by Belk, Hunt Columbus Military Housing, JC Penney (no federal endorsement of sponsors intended). Don't forget to shop your local Base Exchange first. Tickets are available at the Club or from one of the many models you might run into. For more information, stop by or call the Club at 434-2489.

Family Basketball Trip

Travel to Starkville with your family and Youth Programs on Sat., Mar. 3, to see Mississippi State University take on Arkansas. Register no later than Feb. 21. For more information and prices, contact the Youth Center at 434-2504.

Youth Awards Celebration

Youth Programs will award its members for best attendance, best participation and other outstanding achievements and service in Youth activities on Feb. 28, 4:15 p.m., at the Youth Center. Parents are invited to attend. Contact the Youth Center at 434-2504 for more information.

Sign Up for Air Force Youth Camps

Applications are now being accepted for the coveted scholarship spots to the Air Force's elite teen camps this summer. Teen Aviation Camp is in Colorado Springs, Co., June 2-7, and is open to teens entering their sophomore or junior year next fall. Space Camp will be at the U.S. Rocket and Space Center in Huntsville, Ala., July 22-27, and is open to ages 12-18. Teen Leadership Camp is set for July 9-13 at University of Texas at San Antonio and is open to teens which have completed their freshmen school year at the time of camp. Application submissions for all three camps are due no later than Mar. 8. All applicants must be interviewed before their application will be submitted. For more information about the application process or for applications, please call the Youth Center at 434-2504.

FSS Celebrates Black History

In celebration of Black History Month, many events and programs are scheduled throughout the 14th Force Support Squadron activities including a display at your Base Library free for all to view throughout the month of February.

For more information, contact the Library at 434-2934.

Blue or Green Plate Specials?

Yes, that's right! You can get either a blue or green plate special for lunch during the week right here on base. Both offer great food choices at fantastic prices. The Columbus Club offers a daily blue plate special Mon.-Thur., 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., for just \$6.95 for nonmembers and \$5.95 for members. Whispering Pines Golf Course offers a green plate special Tue.-Fri., 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., for just \$6.95. Drinks are included in prices. For more information, contact the Club at 434-2419 or the Pro Shop at 434-7932.

3-4-1 Rentals at Outdoor Recreation

Rent on Friday and return on Monday for a one-day rental fee Feb. 1 – Mar. 30. Offer excludes boat and camper rentals but includes many other great get-away items such as canoes, kayaks, jumpers, tents, trailers, etc. For more information, drop by or call Outdoor Rec at 434-2505.

Spring Soccer Registration

Sign up your youth, ages 3-18, for Spring Soccer until Feb. 17. The cost is \$35 for ages 3-4 and \$45 for ages 5-18. Practices are set to begin in early March with consideration of Spring Break schedules. VOLUNTEER COACHES are NEEDED! For more information, contact Youth Programs at 434-2504.

Lifeguards and Swim Instructors Needed

Outdoor Recreation is looking for certified lifeguards and certified swim instructors for the upcoming summer pool season. For more information on how to apply, call Steven Bocek at 434-2507.

Daily Fitness Classes Available

Columbus AFB Fitness and Sports offers a variety of heart-pumping, sweat-inducing classes throughout the week including weekday spin classes, Mon., 11 a.m., Wed., 11 a.m. and 5 p.m., Tues. and Thurs., 5 p.m. There's a Stroller Fitness Class, Tues., 9 a.m., beginning at Freedom Park. Come check out Zumba every Tues. and Thurs., 11:30 a.m., and circuit training classes on Tues. and Thurs., 5:30 p.m. For more information, call 434-2772 or go online to www.cafbssrocks.com and click on the link to the Fitness page.

Framing and Engraving at Great Prices

Don't forget to "Shop CAFB First" when you are looking for the perfect gift! Arts and Crafts custom frames and engraves just about anything for prices much lower than you'll get in town. For more information, stop by or call 434-7936.

Check Out the New Books!

The Columbus AFB Library is now receiving a steady flow of new books to include adult bestsellers and children's new favorites. Also, soon

to arrive are new teen books and updates to the non-fiction collection. Stop by your Base Library today to see what's arrived so far!

Car Maintenance on Base

Don't forget you can get your general automotive maintenance and repairs at the Auto Hobby Shop right here on base and even while you work. If you are a do-it-yourselfer or shade-tree mechanic, Auto Hobby offers a wide array of where you can also get general auto maintenance and repairs. For more information and pricing, drop by Auto Hobby or call 434-7842.

Hot and Easy to Use - FSS Gift Cards

These gift cards are available in increments of \$5 to fit any budget. They can be used at most FSS facilities (golf, bowling center snack bars, clubs) at Air Force installations WORLD-WIDE...and they never go out of style. FSS gift cards can be purchased at Whispering Pines Golf Course, Strike Zone Lanes or at the Youth Center.

Instructional Classes at Youth Center

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

Get off the Couch and Play!

Columbus AFB has an 18-hole disc golf course across the street from the Fitness Center. The course's layout includes par threes, fours and fives plus lots of trees making it great for beginners or pros alike. So grab your friends or family and a disc and have some fun! Disc sets are available for check out at the Fitness Center. Call 434-2772 for more information.

It's Like FREE Money!

Single airmen returning from deployment and families of deployed members can receive up to \$500 in special discounts and rewards through participating FSS facilities and programs. Get discounted trips at Information Tickets and Travel, rent equipment from Outdoor Recreation, play a round of golf, participate in a golf clinic, or go bowling with a friend. These are just some of the offerings through the PLAYpass program. To find out if you are eligible for a PLAYpass card, visit www.MyAirForceLife.com or call the AFRC at 434-2790.

Share Your Knowledge

Volunteer tutors are needed for all subjects and all grades. Tutoring will take place at the Youth Center between the hours of 2:30 and 6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri. For more information, contact Ms. Terri Graves at 434-2504.

Ride the resiliency slopes

Capt. Cary Tolman
Air Force District of Washington Judge Advocate

WASHINGTON — Life is like a ski slope. Life has smooth parts, bumps, turns, and sometimes even icy patches. Every person on that hill needs to find a way down, no matter what his or her experience level is in negotiating the terrain. Some people are better equipped to tackle the large bumps while others are content to try to avoid them. Some people are not at all equipped to handle the terrain and prefer to take their skis off and slide down the hill. No matter the ability level, every person on that mountain needs to get down the hill.

Like the ski hill, we all have obstacles in our daily lives. It's part of life. Like the ski slope, those obstacles can range from a difficult boss, an accident on the beltway that makes us late for work, or an argument with our spouse. These are the ordinary day-to-day stressors that we all deal with as part of our everyday lives. At times, those day-to-day stressors give way to more significant, sometimes traumatic events that can have devastating and long-lasting effects on us, such as the death of a loved one, a serious illness or the stresses associated with combat.

The mechanism we use to deal with the more distressing events that life throws at us is called resilience. Resilience is the ability to work within the face of adversity and come out stronger on the other side. It is the ability to bounce back from difficult or traumatic experiences. Resiliency is a skill set developed during the course of life that includes thoughts, behaviors and attitudes employed when dealing with stressful situations.

Not everyone reacts to trauma in the same way. According to the American Psychological Association, the most important factor in resilience is having caring and supportive relationships both inside and outside the family. Additional factors associated with resilience include the capacity to make realistic plans and carry them out; having a positive view of yourself and confidence in your strengths and abilities; possessing communication and problem-solving skills; and the capacity to manage strong feelings and impulses.

In its pamphlet, "The Road to Resilience" (<http://www.apa.org/helpcenter/road-resilience.aspx>), the APA recommends 10 ways that we can build resilience. Here are a few of those skills and how we can relate them to our everyday lives.

1. Accept that change is a part of living. There are events and circumstances in life that

are beyond our control, no matter how hard we try to make it otherwise. By accepting that changes in our lives must occur as a result of an event or circumstance outside of our control, it frees us to concentrate on those objectives and goals that are within our control. Additionally, it encourages us to set new goals for ourselves to keep in line with the change.

2. Keep things in perspective. It is important to try to keep stressful or traumatic events from being blown out of proportion, even when we feel that the pain or stress is never going to end. By employing a long-term view to situations and putting them into the context of a bigger picture, it can provide a greater perspective on the situation. As the old sayings go, "time heals all wounds" and "this too shall pass."

3. Maintain a hopeful outlook. By being optimistic about your future, you become empowered to believe that the best is yet to come. One way to achieve this is to try and visualize what you want your future to look like and then set reasonable, attainable goals toward that future. Even when it's hard to visualize an end to the pain of the event, maintaining a positive, healthy outlook is a small step toward helping to ease the burden.

4. Take care of yourself. Participate in activities that you enjoy doing, whether it's going to the gym, taking a walk in the woods or getting a massage. Taking care of yourself physically and emotionally is another way to help keep your mind and body healthy so that you are prepared to cope when adversity strikes. Exercising is a great way to ease stress, as is taking a walk through nature or doing something nice to treat yourself. Good physical health lends itself to good mental and overall health.

5. Resilience also requires flexibility and balance in life as you deal with the emotional rollercoaster that comes along with stressful and traumatic events. There are many resources available to help us fill our boxes with tools to ease the pain of traumatic situations. These resources include the chaplain, support groups, books, on-line resources and mental health providers. There are even resiliency applications for smart phones available both for purchase and for free. Each of these resources offers varying degrees of support along with varying degrees of professional expertise and help in building our resiliency tools.

Whether you face the slopes of life head on or you slide down the hill, the point is to reach the bottom of the hill. With the right resources and approach, even the sliders can someday become the triple black diamond skiers, bumps and all.

Lack of a Mission Support Group

Chief Master Sgt. Leo Thibodeaux
14th Flying Training Wing Superintendent

Every member of the BLAZE team is integral to the Wing's first aspect of the mission, Producing Pilots. Last year was an incredibly busy year for Team BLAZE. This Wing graduated 377 pilots from Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training, Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals and Weapon System Officer training; flew 58, 441 sorties in 82, 615 hours with 249, 245 air traffic activities. Amazing!

I want to give you a closer look at one part of the BLAZE team and show you the importance this group played in producing the numbers above. Like every other unit on the base, this part of the team played a key role in every graduation, sortie flown, flying hour and air traffic activity. We'll set the scene with a quote from Benjamin Franklin,.

"A little neglect may breed mischief. For lack of a horseshoe nail, the shoe was lost; for lack of a shoe, the horse was lost; for lack of a horse, the rider was lost; for lack of a rider, the message was lost; for lack of a message, the battle was lost...and all because of one horseshoe nail."

Like a horseshoe nail, every part of Team BLAZE is critical to the mission. I'm going to use Col. Scott Frickenstein, 14th Mission Support Group Commander's version, given during his "Commander's Welcome" for incoming SUPT students, along with a few more details and take Franklin's quote a bit farther.

Because of a Civil Engineer ... 964 heating and ventilation, 1,239 Plumbing, 175 Exterior Electric and 769 Interior Electric work orders were accomplished; 34 million kilowatts-hour of electrical energy, 100 million gallons of water and 60 billion cubic feet of natural gas was managed. 15 ground emergencies, five mutual aid responses and 230 In Flight Emergencies were responded to by your Firefighters.

Because of a Communications Squadron member ... an antiquated Instrument Landing System was moved, repaired and upgraded. 240 Columbus publications were reviewed and a six year backlog was cleared. 18,000 pounds of base staging records were restructured and 3,000 documents were scanned and loaded into Electronic Records Management.

Because of a Contracting Squadron member ... 352 contract transactions occurred totaling \$57.8 million.

Because of a Force Support Squadron member ... 175 children enrolled in the Child Development Center, 660 youth visited the Youth Center, and 6,543 customers stayed in lodging. In the Airmen and Family Readiness Center 28,220 customers received formal in informal consultations. There were over 4,000 personnel transactions in the Military Personnel Section.

Because of a Logistics Readiness Division member ... 11.8 million gallons of JP-8 jet fuel was distributed. 16,955 supply items were issued, 12,169 supply items were received, and 1,450 supply items were shipped. Along with 149,487 pilots provided flight line shuttle service.

Because of a Security Forces member ... you can live, drive and have your children play in a more secure and safe environment. Oh and because of a military working dog ... the semis that came on base were free of drugs and explosives ... and you were lovingly coached about your rolling stop, talking on your cell phone, speeding and not stopping at a stop sign.

Because of the hard working, dedicated, committed and proud members of the 14th Mission Support Group 377 pilots graduated from SUPT, IFF and WSO training; 8,441 sorties were flown in 82,615 hours with 249,245 air traffic activities. We are proud to be a part of Team BLAZE and our goal is to provide the support need to produce the world's greatest pilots. Who you wanna be? MSG!

SUPT Class 12-05 earns silver wings



T-1A Jayhawk



T-38C Talon



Capt. John Noah
Anaheim, Calif.
C-21/C-27, Battle Creek ANGB, Mich.



2nd Lt. Kari Benson
Fleming Island, Fla.
KC-135, McConnell AFB, Kan.



2nd Lt. Samuel Boone
Allentown, Pa.
MC-12/C-5M, Dover AFB, Del.

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

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 12-05 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium.

The graduation speaker for the class is Col. (Ret) Jeff "Flash" Gordon, a former Air Force Command Pilot who has logged over 2,500 hours in fighter and trainer aircraft. His final active duty assignment was in the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Joint Operations Division, Pentagon, where he interacted with senior military and civilian leaders concerning CENTCOM region operations. Colonel Gordon was medically retired in 1999 to settle a bout with Leukemia, from which he is a 13-year survivor.

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

2nd Lt. Michael Panasuk, T-1, and 2nd Lt. Stephen Grace, T-38, 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 Lieutenant Grace and 2nd Lt. Andrew Bryant, 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 Grace, Lieutenant Panasuk and 2nd Lt. Kenzi Pridgeon, T-1, were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 12-05.

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

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

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

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

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

Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38C Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet. T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation.

Training takes approximately 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground training, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 hours in the T-38C aircraft.

The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place Beech Jet 400 business jet. Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 43 hours in the flight simulator and 104 hours in the T-1A.

Each class is partnered with several 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 12-05's pilot partners are Baptist Memorial Hospital and Heritage Academy.



2nd Lt. Stephen Grace
Cincinnati, Ohio
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Katherine Heflin
Fall City, Wash.
C-17, McCord AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Steve Lee
Morganville, N.J.
KC-135, McConnell AFB, Kan.



2nd Lt. Kenzi Pridgeon
Schoolcraft, Mich.
C-21/C-27, Battle Creek ANGB, Mich.



2nd Lt. Richard Rogers
Hutchinson, Kan.
MC-12/C-5M, Dover AFB, Del.



2nd Lt. Joshua Thomson
Cincinnati, Ohio
MC-12, Beale AFB, Calif.



2nd Lt. Jeremy Van Driessche
Simi Valley, Calif.
T-1A, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Jared Wahleithner
Orangevale, Calif.
KC-10, Travis AFB, Calif.



2nd Lt. Nathanael Witmyer
Bakersfield, Calif.
RC-135, Offutt AFB, Neb.



2nd Lt. Bradley Wolff
Pittsburgh, Pa.
MC-12/C-17, McCord AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Daniel Workman
Chapel Hill, N.C.
C-21/C-27, Andrews AFB, Md.



2nd Lt. Andrew Bryant
Huntsville, Ala.
MC-130H, Hurlburt Field, Fla.



2nd Lt. William Cuchens
Madison, Miss.
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Mason Gordon
Cumming, Ga.
RC-135, Offutt AFB, Neb.



2nd Lt. Jennifer Nolte
Reston, Va.
C-5M, Dover AFB, Del.



2nd Lt. Michael Panasuk
Collierville, Tenn.
C-130J, Keesler AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Kathryn Parsons
Knoxville, Tenn.
RPA, Creech AFB, Nev.