

“Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight”

Vol. 36, Issue 8

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

February 24, 2012

Weather



Today

High: 59, Low: 32
Partly Cloudy



Saturday

High: 58, Low: 33
Mostly Sunny



Sunday

High: 61, Low: 40
Sunny



Monday

High: 66, Low: 49
Few Showers

News Briefs

Enlisted Promotions

The next enlisted promotions ceremony will take place Feb. 29, 4:00 p.m. at the Columbus Club.

Medical Group Closure

The 14th Medical Group will close at 3 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 27 for a commander's call.

Black History Month Luncheon

The Black History Month Luncheon will be held Monday, Feb. 27 at 11:30 a.m. in the Columbus Club. This year's speaker at the luncheon is Master Sgt. Norma Chism, 14th Operations Group First Sergeant.



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Chase Hedrick

Cutline: Staff Sgt. Derek Speights, a Tops in Blue 2011 performer impersonates Ray Charles at the Mississippi University for Women Rent Auditorium on Feb. 27. This year's theme for the tour was “Rhythm Nation” featuring music from the early 1900's through the top hits of today.

Inside



Feature 8

International Military Students are highlighted in this week's feature.

Rhythm Nation comes to Columbus

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

The Tops in Blue World Tour 2011 performed for Columbus Air Force Base and the surrounding community Feb. 27 at the Mississippi University for Women

Rent Auditorium.

This year's theme for the tour was “Rhythm Nation” featuring music from the early 1900's through the top hits of today. Bringing major genres from all over America the 2011 Tops in Blue team made up of thirty-six of the Air Force's most talented vocalists, musicians,

dancers and technicians put up a show to remember.

“I am completely and totally overwhelmed. I'm overwhelmed by the talent and the level of excellence, I mean, it doesn't get better,” said John Almond, 14th Flying Training Wing honorary com-

See **TOPS IN BLUE**, Page 2

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE II

Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select
37th (12-15)	1.36 days	1.82 days	Apr. 2
41st (12-14)	2.99 days	1.69 days	Mar. 8

PHASE III

Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation
48th (12-06)	2.96 days	3.21 days	Mar. 16
50th (12-06)	0.41 days	-2.28 days	Mar. 16

IFF

Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation
49th (12-EB)	0.37 days	2.98 days	Mar. 2

WING SORTIE BOARD

Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
T-6	1,807	2,016	11,436
T-1	713	698	3,745
T-38	794	842	4,300
IFF	207	225	1,163

The graduation speaker is Brigadier General William B. Binger, Commander, 10th Air Force, Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base, Texas.

Red Tails Traveling Exhibit



The Commemorative Air Force Red Tail Squadron's new *Rise Above Traveling Exhibit* will visit downtown Columbus in the Hitching Lot Farmers Market parking lot Feb. 29 through March 3 and reserved for Columbus Air Force Base March 3 from 8 a.m. to noon. The travelling exhibit is a customized 53' trailer with expandable sides that houses a 160-degree curved movie screen and seating for 30 in climate-controlled comfort. A 14-minute original movie called "Rise Above" focuses on what the Tuskegee Airmen - pilots and their support personnel - had to overcome to be allowed to fly and fight for their country during World War II. It also features some great flying footage - in the Mustang - that is enhanced by the long curved screen. Sponsored by the Texas Flying Legends Museum, admission to the Rise Above movie is free. For more information, or to reserve seating for a group, contact 329-1191

TOPS IN BLUE

(Continued from Page 1)

mand chief. "This is world class talent!"

The excited crowd in the auditorium waved their hands and clapped to the beat throughout the performance, spurring the team to give it their all.

"The energy was really intense," said Airman 1st Class Maxwell Hulett, the band's drummer. "Performing for bases like this where the community and the base have such a close knit relationship really affects the band. It was a great crowd tonight. The energy from the crowd was fantastic and the band reacted off that really well."

With only two more locations left to visit out of the nearly 140 performances during their 10 month long tour the performers and technicians were able to give their impressions of how the support given by Columbus AFB and the community stacked up against the other bases they've visited across 20 countries.

"It was fantastic," said Hulett. "The food that was provided was fantastic. Everything that a base could do, in my opinion as an average joe on the team, was everything we could want a base to do."

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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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.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun
27 Black History Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. @ Club	28 14 FTW 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
5 Night Flying Week	6	7	8 Class 12-14 Track Select, 5 p.m. @ Club	9 70th Anniversary Dining Out, 6 p.m. @ BLAZE Hangar Happy Fund Golf Tournament, 1 p.m. @ Golf Course	10/11 OG Career Day (10th) Daylight Savings Time Begins (11th)

Long Range Events
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
March 26: Night Flying Week
March 26: Sports Banquet
March 26: Spring Pilgrimage
March 26: AFAF Campaign

AETC: Building a Culture of Cost Consciousness

Dianne Moffett

Air Education and Training Command public affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — The Air Force will support a smaller, leaner and lethal capable force and encourage a more disciplined use of defense dollars, according to senior leaders, who unveiled the Fiscal Year 2013 budget on Feb. 13. The Air Force is requesting \$154.3 billion for fiscal year 2013, five percent less than the FY12 budget.

Despite having to make some hard choices to rebalance the force, a clear priority for Air Force senior leaders is continuing to take care of its most important resource — the Airmen and their families.

In a speech at the 2012 Air Education and Training Command Symposium on Jan. 11, Gen. Edward A. Rice Jr., AETC commander, explained that now, more than ever, is a time for a culture of cost consciousness.

“Every AETC Airman should constantly consider the cost implications of our actions, our inactions and our decisions. It is about being good stewards of America’s resources. It is more than just achieving greater efficiency; it really is about a mindset that makes cost considerations a part of everything we do,” General Rice said.

Col. Charles Fiquett, AETC comptroller, said AETC will maintain the right number of Airmen on the jobsite to complete the mission. He said that, while the command will be smaller, the Air Force will help Airmen do their jobs smarter and more efficiently through new technology and more streamlined programs. Airmen are also scheduled to receive a 1.7 percent pay increase in 2013.

“Even though the overall budget is becoming more constrained, the Air Force and AETC is committed to the quality of life of its Airmen and families and will sustain through cost-effective services and programs,” Fiquett said.

“AETC will continue to offer Airmen essential quality of life programs such as the Health and Wellness Center, the Child Development Center and Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs.”

Fiquett also said the Air Force implemented the Financial Improvement and Audit Readiness plan to reach audit readiness goals.

“Congress and the Secretary of Defense mandated the Department of Defense to achieve auditable financial statements, beginning with the Statement of Budgetary Resources in FY14. An independent auditor will come in, look at our books and provide an opinion on how well we allocate, spend and track dollars.

“This is an important first step for the DOD, particularly in light of the broader economic challenges facing the American people and our charge to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars.

AETC continues to look for innovative ways to promote new ideas to deliver its mission as we embark on and embrace a culture of cost consciousness.

“We believe this period of resource constraints is not a time for hand-wringing and slowly dismantling the recruiting, education and training structure we have had in the past, but an opportunity to build a fundamentally different construct and structure for the future,” Gen. Rice said. “If we do it right, it will require less resources and be more effective.”

70th Anniversary raffle winner



Tech Sgt. Charles Ball, 14th Medical Support Squadron presents Christopher L. Nelson, 14th Student Squadron the winning iPad raffled off as a fundraiser by the 70th Anniversary Committee. The fundraiser raised \$1,878 for 70th Anniversary of Columbus Air Force Base events.

Courtesy photo

TrailBLAZE'r

Name: Capt. Andrew Lammy

Unit: 14th Medical Operations Squadron

Job title: Clinical Psychologist.

Time at Columbus AFB: Eighteen months.

Time in Service: Three years.

Hometown: Columbia, Mo.

Career goals: Neuropsychology AFIT fellowship, Clinical Psychology Consultant to the Surgeon General.

Family members: Wife Devin and daughter Caroline.

Favorite musician: Ben Folds.

Favorite movie: The Big Lebowski.

Biggest pet peeve: Talking a lot without saying anything.

Favorite book: Recently “The Year that Changed the



World: The Untold Story Behind the Fall of the Berlin Wall” by Michael Meyer

Inspirations: My father.

Personal motto: Being loud is not the same as being right.

Senior enlisted leaders cite troops' top concerns

C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The senior enlisted advisors for the four military services met on Capitol Hill Feb. 16 to discuss with lawmakers the top issues on service members' minds.

It turns out that for many, it's the same as what's on lawmakers' minds: the budget.

"I was asked questions, beginning in April, all the way to September — 'What do you mean the Army can't pay me?'" said Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond F. Chandler III, relaying the words of Soldiers who had been concerned about the "continuing resolution" last year. Without an approved Defense Appropriations Act, some Soldiers mistakenly believed that they might not get paid.

Chandler joined Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Roy, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Rick D. West and Sgt. Maj. Of the Marine Corps Micheal P. Barrett at a hearing of the House Appropriations Committee's subcommittee on military construction, veterans affairs and related agencies.

Service members also are concerned about their retirements, with rumors of changes being considered as part of budget-trimming efforts. The senior enlisted advisors said retirement is not something that should be on the minds of a young people in uniform.

"It is a distractor," Roy said. "We have young Airmen focused on retirement. I don't need young Airmen focused on retirement. I need young Airmen focused on upgrade training. I need young Airmen focused on mission. I don't need them to be worried on their retirement and compensation.

"That is the No. 1 thing I hear from Airmen and from families," he added. "There is uncertainty out there and we are trying to keep focus on the mission."

Across the world's oceans, America's Sailors are worried about their futures in the military as well, West said.

"They're talking about the retirements. They are talking about the future of the force, with the budget cuts, with all the personnel," he said. "We've had to make some tough choices. With our folks, it's no different. The budget cuts as of late — some folks will tell you, personnel didn't join the Navy for the retirement. Maybe they didn't initially. But once they get in and see the contributions they make to the nation, they start think-

The senior enlisted advisors said retirement is not something that should be on the minds of a young people in uniform.

ing about some of that."

Budget concerns still weigh on service members' minds as lawmakers try to find a way to balance the federal budget. Lawmakers who were part of the "super committee" last year were looking to find \$1.2 trillion in savings within the budget, and were unable to reach a compromise. Now, as much as half of that amount could automatically be cut from the Defense Department through "sequestration," and service members are concerned what that will mean for them.

"It's a very eye-opening experience," Chandler said. "I think the concerns raised in media about the impact of the election year and whether or not there will be an appropriations and authorization bill signed, is on people's minds. The last thing we want to have is for some Soldier, Airman or Marine deployed in harm's way, being concerned about whether or not they are going to be paid. That's something we don't need these young people to be concerned about."

Barrett said that when he had talked to Marines about the effects of a continuing resolution, some of those Marines had considered visiting "the snakes" to make ends meet — a term Barrett said they use to refer to the "predatory loan industry" prominent outside military installations.

"They are still finding a way to put 400 percent on top of a loan for you to pay it back," he said.

Impact on retention

Service members who want to stay in uniform also are going to find it harder to do so. The Army and the Marine Corps, for instance, are cutting personnel. That means, for both services, fewer fresh faces coming in the front door, older service members possibly retiring before they expected to retire, and service members in the middle of their careers finding it tougher to meet the standards to re-enlist.

"They want to know who we are going to go fight next," Barrett said. "They want to know about advancements in full-spectrum battle equipment, (and) they want to know what they need to do to stay in the corps."

To the last question, Barrett answers, "You'd better bring your 'A game' every single day."

Retention, Barrett said, is going well — the service is meeting its goals. But, he said, now "the best get to stay. We get to be choosey — very choosey."

The Marine Corps is operating on a "tiered rating" system, he explained, with tier I through tier IV.

"We're only keeping tier I and tier II," and that, he said, means having the best fitness scores, performing well in the martial arts program, having education in order and shooting well on the range.

Inside the larger of the two ground forces, the Army, "the privilege to serve will become more difficult," Chandler noted. Standards will increase, he said. And to draw down the force, the Army will use multiple tools, including fewer new recruits, tougher retentions standards and early retirements.

For those who will leave, he said, the Army will "have an orderly transition plan starting a year before they leave the service." That, the sergeant major said, will make sure both Soldiers and their families are ready, and are able to leave the Army "with dignity and respect."

Civilian life

What a service member will do after military life is also a concern. Chandler said there are "tremendous concerns" among Soldiers leaving the service given the state of the economy and the job market. The Army and its sister services are working to make the transition smooth for service members.

"That is a major focus for me personally and the rest of the Army this year is to really refine our transition assistance program with the help of (the Veterans Affairs and Labor departments), and to put our kids in the best place we can to make sure they have a dignified transition out of the service and back into the rest of American society," Chandler said.

The Marine Corps is developing a program where Marines, from the moment they enter the corps, are prepared for an eventual return to civilian life as either college students, vocational students, entrepreneurs or an employee at a job.

"You're going to be kind of taught along the way, well, which path do you want to take when it comes time for you to leave," Barrett said. "So from the second you join to the time you want to leave, you're being educated on what pathway that you want to take, so when it comes time to leave you are better prepared."

Tuskegee Airman broke color barriers through civil disobedience

Amaani Lyle
Defense Media Activity

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md. — Not only was Oliver Goodall an accomplished Tuskegee Airman, but the World War II B-25 pilot is said to have helped lead the rally cry during the Freeman Field Mutiny, a 1945 incident considered a first step toward the official desegregation of all U.S. forces worldwide in June 1949.

Goodall was among 160 officers who were arrested when they violated orders and entered the Officer's Club, an establishment

that at the time was reserved for white officers. The Field Mutiny occurred as a result of a white commanding officer's orders prohibiting black officers from even talking to white officers, much less sharing a club with them.

"It was unconstitutional, and I wasn't going to take it," Goodall said. "We decided to walk into the officers club, and 162 of us were put under house arrest. When the war ended, they wanted to get rid of us, and they started with the troublemakers, which included me."

Freeman Army Airfield, an Army Air Corps base near Seymour, Ind., was home to the 477th Bombardment Group in which

Goodall was a member. He and his colleagues were ordered to use a separate facility for black officers and each were required to sign a command stating they would not enter the white Officer's Club. Goodall and others boldly refused and were placed under house arrest.

Despite Army Regulation 210-10, Paragraph 19, prohibiting any public building on a military installation from being used "for the accommodation of any self-constituted special or exclusive group," the club at Selfridge was closed to black officers, which culminated in an official reprimand being issued to Col. William Boyd, the Selfridge air-

field commander at that time.

By 1995, the Air Force officially vindicated the actions of the black officers, dismissed the single court-martial conviction and removed letters of reprimand from the permanent files of the black officers. In addition to civil rights historians largely considering the mutiny an important step toward full integration of the armed forces, the actions of Goodall and the other brave officers are generally thought to be successful examples of civil disobedience that would later further efforts to integrate public facilities.

Goodall died on Oct. 30, 2010 at age 88.

Military Personnel Tidbit: Career Job Reservation Program

Have you ever wondered what the Career Job Reservation Program is all about? The CJR program's objective is to prevent surpluses and shortages in the enlisted career force.

All First Term Airmen, regardless of AFSC, must have a CJR in order to reenlist.

FTA must compete for a limited number of re-enlistment slots. FTA are automatically considered for a CJR when they enter their respective windows. However, if an Airman doesn't receive one of these limited slots, they must either separate from the Air Force at the end of their current enlistment period, or agree to re-train into a different AFSC.

Otherwise, the only FTA who must

request a CJR are those who are requesting a CJR in their secondary AFSC.

Now you ask, what is the CJR consideration window? The window for a four-year enlistee is the first day the member completes 35 months Total Active Federal Military Service until the last day of 43 months of TAFMSD. The window for a six-year enlistee is the first day they complete 59 months Total Active Federal Military Service until the last day they complete 67 months of TAFMSD.

Airmen may read more about CJRs on the AF Personnel Services page on the Air Force Portal.

Commander's Action Line

434-7058

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

The Commander's Action Line phone number is 434-7058. Callers should leave their name and phone number to receive an answer. All names will be kept confidential. Message may be answered in the Silver Wings without names.

Written questions may also be brought to the PA office in the MSG building, Bldg. 730, suite 186. Questions and answers may be edited for



Security and policy review

Did you know that as a military member you must coordinate all information relating to speeches, presentations, Academic papers, multimedia visual information materials and information proposed for release to a publicly accessible Worldwide Website with exception of Air Force publications through the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office? For more information contact the 14th FTW/PA at 434-7068.

Columbus offers lifesaving gifts



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Chase Hedrick
Senior Airman Jeremy Moore, 14th Communication Squadron gives blood during the blood and bone marrow drive at the fitness center on Feb. 18. In total 32 signed up for the bone marrow registry and 51 units of blood were collected. The units will make 140 blood products, 35 of which will be held for military use.

Mentorship fundamentals

Shirley Ross
Force Development Talent
Management

WASHINGTON — I have studied, designed, launched, repaired and been a part of many mentoring programs during my 25-year-plus career in talent management. To be frank, at this point I have some pretty strong biases about how to design and execute mentoring programs because I have seen so many fail. They almost never yield what is hoped for, but there are some exceptions.

My own philosophy about how to construct mentoring programs is rooted in these exceptional successes.

What do you talk about?

Topics worked on in the mentoring relationship typically include areas such as strengths and weaknesses of leadership style, modifying damaging behavioral patterns, addressing gaps in leadership and management skills, or making a leap to the next level of responsibility.

Mentoring can be accomplished with a mentor either internal or external to the organization. An internal mentor, however, can offer significant advantages if well chosen. A senior executive will have a broader view of the internal working of the organization than the mentee, as well as a successful track record of negotiating success in that organization. Mentors should be chosen on several criteria, but one of the most important is their knowledge of how to make important and valuable things happen in that organization.

Mentors can also help with the landmines: where they are and how to avoid them, and how to recover from missteps. Yes, this is about politics, but politics are found in virtually every organization with people. If engaging in politics seems distasteful, then think instead in terms of influence, sensitivity to cultural norms, dealing with difficult people and knowledge of human nature — because these are elements of politics. Political savvy and emotional intelligence significantly overlap.

Why mentoring fails

Lack of chemistry is the most common reason that mentoring relationships fail. Either the mentor or mentee just can't relate to the other or make a meaningful connection. When this happens, mentees can experience the meetings as too uncomfortable or just not productive, and mentors may consistently dodge their obligations to the mentee by being "too busy." If the pair does not work out, it is vital that changes be made quickly.

If negotiated properly with the mentoring program lead, these changes don't have to be uncomfortable or seen as a failure.

What works in mentoring programs

Whether mentors are internal or external, I prefer to have mentorships reside in the framework of a formal program rather than relying on ad hoc arrangements. The successful mentoring programs that I've designed or experienced in industry have incorporated a great deal of structure. The structural components typically include:

1. A specified period of time for the program, say, for example, nine months. This way, both parties feel on point to accomplish their objectives, and there are established start and stop points so the relationship doesn't just fizz out or uncomfortably fade away at some point.

2. Formal guidelines and training for both mentors and mentees. Expectations and commitments are clarified and both parties have a set of formal and firm guidelines to steer them through the process. This training can be accomplished on one session, but it is important and mentors can't be given a "pass."

3. A provision to quickly address pairs that are not working out or have failed to make a connection as I've mentioned above.

One successful example

One unusual program I participated in as a mentor really changed my outlook about what success looks like. Sponsored and structured by an outside third party, this program used the team approach: two mentors paired with four mentees. The mentees just loved it.

I had quite a different leadership style from the other mentor, and we approached problems very differently. Those differences were a favorite feature of the mentees. Our group sessions were remarkably dynamic, and the mentees reported it helpful to see that different approaches could work equally well. They could choose for themselves which approach in which situation played to their strengths.

The second advantage of this team concept, one I wouldn't have anticipated, was that the mentees felt less awkward calling on us between meetings if they had a problem. Because they could call one or the other of us, they felt the burden they imposed was less onerous.

The mentees spoke with great feeling about how we had helped each one of them through difficult decisions and missteps that year, all with positive outcomes. When a mentoring program does work, it can indeed be powerful.

Turning change into opportunity to build new CE enterprise

Maj. Gen. Timothy Byers
The Civil Engineer

WASHINGTON — Today, our nation faces a number of challenges that affect all branches of our government. As a consequence, our Air Force is operating in a resource constrained environment that is driving cost-cutting measures and manpower reductions across the service. Despite these reductions, we must continue our focus on accomplishing key capabilities, priorities and missions, and strive to accomplish them more efficiently and effectively.

Air Force civil engineers take pride in our "can-do, will-do" attitude, and have a reputation for building ready engineers, great leaders and sustainable installations. However, resource constraints are forcing us to rethink how we provide installation and expeditionary combat support. We must maintain our commitment to managing our installations: the Air Force's three-dimensional weapons systems.

The civil engineer community will rise to this challenge by accelerating transformation efforts we initiated in 2007. These efforts, which align with Air Force transformation initiatives, reexamine our processes and capabilities, and centralize, standardize and streamline our core activities, services and products. This will ensure we continue managing our installations while preparing for and executing our expeditionary responsibilities.

This initiative changes the way we conduct business at our bases. Civil engineers will take a more focused and centralized approach to installation management that prioritizes requirements across the service, puts our scarce resources towards the Air Force's highest priorities, and minimizes the risks to Airmen and the mission. Ultimately, this will lead to a more efficient and effective way of managing our resources.

Going forward, civil engineer squadrons will become more selective when it comes to facility management. Base engineers will focus on sustaining our facilities to support the mission and quality-of-life. Maintenance will be conducted based on the condition of each facility instead of the scheduled approach we use today. However, if there is an emergency requirement that impacts a base's quality-of-life or mission, we will address that need. Civil engineer firefighters, emergency managers and explosive ordnance disposal personnel will continue to provide emergency response capabilities during times of crisis.

This refined installation management approach requires organizational change throughout the civil engineer community. Squadrons will see their capabilities streamlined based on

processes and product delivery, resulting in smaller, leaner, more technologically-advanced units. Many duties, such as planning, execution, and environmental compliance and restoration, will be leaner at base-level with overall program management and technical support shifted to a centralized Civil Engineer Field Operating Agency. The new FOA will provide full-spectrum engineering services to Air Force installations and major commands. It will be formed by combining the unique capabilities of three existing agencies — the Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency, the Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment, and the Air Force Real Property Agency — and strive to become a worldwide center of excellence for centralized installation support. The new organization will operate from the offices and operating locations currently occupied by our FOAs. Additionally, MAJCOM CE staffs will transform to focus on prioritizing and advocating for their installations' requirements, while the Office of the Civil Engineer at Headquarters Air Force will provide policy, oversight and resourcing for the community.

The new FOA plays a key role in our transformation effort. The reduction of manpower and resources at civil engineer squadrons and MAJCOMs requires us to shift many responsibilities to the FOA for central management and execution. This will enable civil engineer squadrons to focus on their core mission of installation support and expeditionary combat support preparation.

We recognize that we have a difficult road ahead. Transformation will involve organizational realignment and personnel reductions throughout the community, as well as impact the levels of service we are capable of providing to our installations. We are committed to working with our stakeholders to address these challenges and will be candid and transparent regarding our initiatives. At our installations, base civil engineers are informing their wing commanders of the impacts of our transformation efforts. They are also actively working with civil engineer personnel affected by manpower reductions. Likewise, FOA leaders are keeping their staffs informed of organizational changes and addressing problems that arise.

Every day, civil engineers do amazing things at home station and around the world. We proudly serve our Air Force and our nation with the skills, expertise and "can-do, will-do" attitude that has earned us our stellar reputation. We will continue being resilient throughout our transformation, and will work to turn change into an opportunity to develop a civil engineer enterprise that is "Built to Last."

New IAAFA airfield facility consolidates aviation training

Mike Joseph
Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland
Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas — Senior Air Force and Inter-American Air Forces Academy leaders, along with representatives from six Latin America partner nations, opened the new IAAFA Airfield Training Complex here in a ceremony Feb. 9.

The new \$19-million training complex combines all IAAFA aviation maintenance courses in one location.

"More than a new home for the 318th Training Squadron, this facility serves as another milestone in the Inter-American Air Forces Academy's 68-year legacy of enriching the global community of airmen," said Lt. Gen. Robin Rand, the 12th Air Force commander and Air Forces Southern commander out of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

"It is vivid evidence of the United States Air Force's commitment to building and nurturing international partnerships," Rand said. "It is important to emphasize that this new facility provides more than 21st century technical training. It also brings us together and helps build lasting partnerships based on our common pursuit of freedom and democratic principles."

The project was funded by the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure law that closed Kelly Field, where IAAFA training courses and aircraft were housed in seven different buildings.

In addition to Rand, retired Peruvian Air Force Maj. Gen. Fernando Melgar, a former Air Defense commander and air attaché to the United States and Canada, was another guest speaker at the ceremony. Melgar's grandfather, Gen. Fernando Melgar Conde, was a key principal member in the formation of IAAFA.

"Since I first came to the United States (in 1965), I've had a great admiration for the organization and effectiveness of its Air Force," Melgar said. "I clearly understand the idea my grandfather had in 1943 when he proposed the creation of an inter-American school that would contribute to the technical training of its members."

"Today this is reflected in our Air Forces as they share the same philosophy and knowledge," he added. "It allows a better mutual understanding and (the ability) to effectively fulfill our respective missions."

IAAFA welcomed its first students from partner nations to the 85,000-square-foot training complex Feb. 13. The facility was eight years in



Courtesy illustration
Illustration of the new IAAFA Airfield Training Complex at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, which was officially opened in a ceremony Feb. 9, 2012.

the making, design through construction, and includes leadership in energy and environmental design features.

The result is a state-of-the-art training facility that creates cost and man-hour savings, efficiencies and synergies, said Col. Marc Stratton, the IAAFA commandant.

"We'll have financial and man-hour savings because we no longer have to transport students and instructors to and from Kelly every day or have extended hours at the dining facility to accommodate those early-morning bus rides," Stratton said. "The training is all consolidated. Our two squadrons (the 837th and 318th Training Squadrons) are now together, and we're already starting to see the crossflow that is possible."

Stratton said IAAFA's NCOs played a key role in the building's design. The layout facilitates student instruction and enhances learning capabilities in the 18 courses taught to students from 21 Latin American countries.

Housed in the new facility are 21 SMART Board classrooms, 42 administrative areas, 13 hands-on training laboratories, 11 aircraft, a 14-by 24-foot paint booth and mixing room, a C-130 Hercules two/parking ramp, an aircraft wash rack and eight aircraft hangars.

"Students can go from classroom to laboratory to aircraft," Stratton said. "There's a natural progression."

Following a tour after the ceremony, Melgar stood in the center of a hangar, reflecting on the occasion.

"For me, it's emotional," Melgar said. "My grandfather was futuristic; he had a vision for the future. It was 68 years ago he helped create this academy, but I don't think he thought there would be a facility like this."

Air Force Medical Service turns to secure messaging

Gary Pomeroy and Jon Stock
Air Force Surgeon General
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Patients at Air Force-wide medical treatment facilities will soon be able to communicate securely and privately with their health care teams anywhere and anytime thanks to the expansion of secure messaging.

Secure messaging will be available to patients through what is known as the MiCare portal. The MiCare portal is built to facilitate secure, online communications between patients and their healthcare team.

The goal of MiCare is to improve the quality of healthcare that patients receive and provide a mechanism for patients to have better access to their own health information at whatever time is most convenient to them, Air Force Medical Service officials said. MiCare will streamline communication and access to information between office visits, reducing the frequency of office visits for some patients. It will also reduce reliance on telephone calls, providing more convenience for the patients.

"MiCare will make routine health care more convenient for our patients, while reducing unnecessary visits to the MTF, thus freeing up our providers to see more acute patients," said Lt. Gen. (Dr.) Charles B. Green, the Air Force Surgeon General. "This is an important goal in Air Force Patient-Centered Medical Home."

Benefits from MiCare's secure messaging tool include patient access anytime, anywhere to:

- Communicate privately with their healthcare team online without waiting in phone trees or playing phone tag;
- Ask their healthcare team for

advice about non-urgent symptoms;

- Receive medical test and lab results;
- Request medication renewals;
- Request a copy of immunization records; and

- Access physician-approved health resource links at their convenience.

The healthcare team will be able to contact patients via MiCare to provide:

- Appointment reminders;
- Follow up on a condition without requiring a trip to the MTF;
- Medication alerts/refill information;
- Medical test and referral results; and

- Notifications regarding Flu vaccinations, school and sports physicals, MTF closure dates, etc.

In addition, according to AFMS officials, in the near future, MiCare will offer patients secure access to their personal health record. The PHR feature will allow patients to capture medical information in a central, online location. Officials emphasized that this has not been an option for patients in the past, making it difficult for them to keep track of health information coming from different doctors, treatment locations, emergency providers and overseas stations.

Since MiCare is a patient-driven service, the beneficiary must register with their MTF to have an active account. MiCare deployment to Air Force hospitals and clinics is underway and will progress through the remainder of 2012. In the coming months, more information will be coming directly from the MTF regarding when MiCare will become available at each base and what to expect when MiCare arrives.

To find out more, please visit www.sg.af.mil/MiCare, or ask your local MTF when it will be available to you.

Base families offered a variety of activities

Fashion and Flare Tonight at the Club

Don't miss BLAZE the Runway Fashion Show and After Party at the Club on tonight. 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. Tickets at the door are \$5 for members and \$7 for nonmembers. This event, a joint venture between the Columbus Club and the Base Entertainment Committee, 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. For more information, stop by or call the Club at 434-2489.

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, AL, 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 best-sellers 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 worldwide...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.

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 Aeronautical University

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

Saint Leo University

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

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 infor-

mation 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 MilitaryINSTALLATIONS 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.

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

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.

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.

Wednesday:

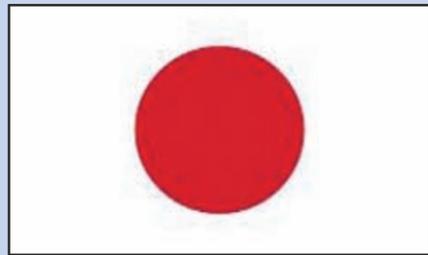
4:30 p.m. – Choir Practice
5 p.m. – Dinner
6 p.m. – Religious Education: Adults, Children (Pioneer Clubs—ages 3-12)

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.



Students from Japan in training at Columbus AFB: Six



Students from Italy in training at Columbus AFB: Two



Students from Saudi Arabia in training at Columbus AFB: Seven



Students from Kuwait in training at Columbus AFB: One



Students from Nigeria in training at Columbus AFB: Five



Students from Poland in training at Columbus AFB: Two



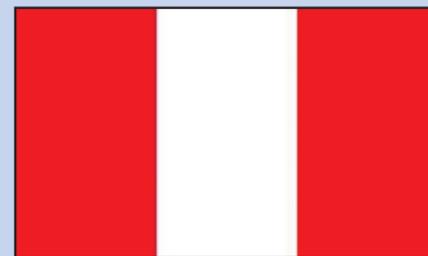
Students from Afghanistan in training at Columbus AFB: Two



Students from Honduras in training at Columbus AFB: One



Students from Panama in training at Columbus AFB: One



Students from Peru in training at Columbus AFB: One



Students from Lithuania in training at Columbus AFB: One



Students from Thailand in training at Columbus AFB: One



Students from Mexico in training at Columbus AFB: One



Students from Croatia in training at Columbus AFB: One



Students from India in training at Columbus AFB: One

That uniform looks different

International Military Student Officer office

Have you ever seen a Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training student wearing an unusual hat or grade insignia? If you have, do not be alarmed and certainly do not run over and point out their violation of uniform standards. Chances are this student is one of the many international students attending training here at Columbus. In addition to the over 300 U.S. students we train each year, we also graduate roughly 20 foreign students as well. In fact, on average, about 35 international students from over 15 countries are on base at any given time.

Needless to say, learning to fly in the United States Air Force is a demanding challenge, but imagine having to do it with English as your second language. Prior to entering flight training, international students attend the Defense Language Institute at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. The time spent at DLI varies since students have differ-

ent levels of exposure to English in their home countries. The typical stay at DLI is about six months but may be as short as two or in excess of eighteen. Regardless of the length of time spent learning English, all students must reach a minimum proficiency level to graduate DLI. Also, lower than average language proficiency is accounted for in the training syllabus by allowing ten extra flight hours for all international students.

International students attend SUPT under two different programs, Foreign Military Sales and the Aviation Leadership Program. FMS is a very large, broad-reaching program that covers everything from purchasing weapons systems to training operations and maintenance personnel to use them. Flight training only represents a small part of the program. As the name implies, for students to attend training under this program, their country must purchase a training quota and for the most part, fund their students while they are here.

Generally, FMS students will follow the same syllabus as United States students and will fly the T-6 followed by either the T-1 or the T-38. Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals can be included in the training plan as well. We also have a small number of FMS students who participate in an abbreviated program designed to get them ready for follow on fighter training. These students are pilots in their home country and are usually being prepared to transition to F-16s.

The ALP program is essentially an aviation scholarship funded by the Secretary of the Air Force and currently unique to the 14th Flying Training Wing. As you'd expect, the ALP program's purpose is multifaceted. Not only are we training pilots, but also future foreign air force leaders. We're building coalition relationships throughout the world that will likely pay future dividends. ALP students only fly the T-6 aircraft but train using a more extensive syllabus. They will spend

roughly twice the amount of time in T-6s as a US student and upon completion will receive their pilot rating. The countries utilizing this program vary but include partners from virtually every portion of the world. As of this date, we have ALP students from 11 different countries.

Although aviation training is the primary reason international students are here, they also participate in a Field Studies Program. The purpose of Field Studies is to help them obtain a solid understanding of the US and help increase their awareness of basic human issues involving internationally recognized human rights. This program consists of local and off-station trips to various locations to help increase understanding of US expectations regarding basic human rights.

So next time you see a student that looks a little out of uniform, take the time to say hello and make them feel welcome. You are most likely addressing a future leader of a foreign air force.



Students from Pakistan in training at Columbus AFB: One



Students from Dominican Republic in training at Columbus AFB: One