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SILVERWINGS

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"Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight"

Vol. 39, Issue 36 Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. September 11, 2015

PATRIOT DAY 2015 NEVER FORGET SEPTEMBER II, 2001 SILVER WINGS
Sept. 11, 2015

NEWS

Weather



News Briefs

Air Force Birthday Ball

Columbus Air Force Base is hosting the Air Force Birthday Ball Sept. 18 at the Trotter Center in Columbus. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. until dinner, which begins at 7 p.m. Guest speaker is Maj. Gen. Richard Clark, 8th Air Force Commander.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

A Wing Newcomers Orientation is scheduled for 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Sept. 22 in the Kaye Auditorium for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel.

Retiree Appreciation Day

Retirees are invited to attend Retiree Appreciation Day 8 a.m. Sept. 26 at the Columbus Air Force Base fire station.

Staff sergeant selects

Congratulations to Columbus Air Force Base's newest staff sergeant selectees from the supplemental release:

David Dulin, 14th Operations Support Squadron Dawn Edwards, 14th Medical Operations Squadron Nathaniel Farinas, 14th MDOS Daniel Koelling, 14th Security Forces Squadron Tyler Macoubrie, 14th Medical Support Squadron Chase Montgomery, 14th OSS Ariel Morgan, 14th OSS Nickolaus Phifer, 14th Wing Staff Agency Command Post

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED



As of press time, 39 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

				1	1	
<u>Mon</u>	<u>Tue</u>	<u>Wed</u>	<u>Thur</u>	<u>Fri</u>	<u>Sat/Sun</u>	<u>Long Range</u> <u>Events</u>
SAPR Large Group, 1 p.m. @ Kaye	15	16 International Spouses Meet and Greet, 11 a.m. @ Landings	@ Kaye	POW/MIA Remembrance Day Air Force Birthday Ball, 6 p.m. @ Trotter Center	19/20	Sept. 28: Anheuser-Busch safety presentation Sept. 28: 14th FTW dissimilar photo Sept. 30: Wing Down Day —Wing photo — Wing picnic — Enlisted Promotions Oct. 2: SUPT Class 15-15 Graduation Oct. 3-4: Autocross Oct. 12: Columbus Day Holiday Oct. 20: Newcomers Orientation Brief Oct. 23: SUPT Class 16-01 graduation Oct. 30: Enlisted Promotions Oct. 30: Third Quarterly Awards Ceremony Oct. 30: Costume Dorm Dinner Oct. 31: Zombie Run Oct. 31: Halloween Trick or Treat
21 IFF 15-LBC Graduation, 4:49 p.m. @ 49 FTS	Wing Newcomers Orientation, 8 a.m. @ Kaye	23	24	25 First Sergeant Steak Burn, @ Fire Station	26/27 26th-Retiree Appreciation Day, 8 a.m. @ Fire Station	

Silver Wings

How to reach us

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Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week's SILVER WINGS is noon Monday.

Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

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

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

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

R&B stars including Anthony Hamilton, Fantasia, Johnny Gill and Avery*Sunshine starting at 7:30 p.m. at Landers Center 4560 Venture Drive, Southaven, Mississippi. Ticket prices range from \$57+ depending on seats. For more information, visit online at landerscenter.com.

Sept. 12

homes is scheduled to begin in downtown Columbus. For For more information, visit online at bcsarena.com. The Classic Music Festival is scheduled to host a bevy of more information call 328-5413 or visit online at muw.edu/ Sept. 17

performance starting at 5 p.m. at the Bancorp South Arena The Tennessee Williams Tribute and tour of Victorian Ticket prices range from \$18 to \$100+ depending on seats. tion, visit online at bcsarena.com.

The Price is Right gameshow is scheduled for a live performance starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Bancorp South Arena World Wrestling Entertainment is scheduled for a live 375 East Main Street in Tupelo, Mississippi. The live event is the hit interactive stage show that gives eligible individuals 375 East Main Street in Tupelo, Mississippi. The WWE event the chance to "Come On Down" to win. Prizes may include will feature Randy Orton, Mr. Money in the Bank Sheamus, appliances, vacations and possibly a new car. Ticket prices Big Show, Intercontinental Champion Ryback, and Neville. range from \$33.50 + depending on seats. For more informa-

BARGAIN LINE

is noon Monday before the desired publication date. Ads turned in after the deadline will run 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 motorcycle, 4,500 miles. Comes with bumper pull large tip-out, two TVs, DDR3 Memory, plus numerous other on content, space and frequency of two medium-size helmets and a medi-dishes, and cooking pots and pans. Rerequests. Advertisements for private um-size riding jacket. \$4,500 or best duced price of \$7,500. For more information call 327-1205. businesses or services providing a continuous source of income may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may nowever, be purchased through The Commercial Dispatch, 328-2424.

Transportation

offer. For more information, call 497- mation, please call 251-7286.

For Sale: 2001 Toyota Corolla LE, 130,000+ miles, \$2,500 or best offer. For more information, please call

Miscellaneous

For Sale: ACER ASPIRE 15.6 inch Laptop Computer in excellent condition with Windows 10, Norton Inter-For Sale: 2005 Honda CBR 600 Camper for sale: 31 ft., comes with net Security, 500 GB Hard Drive, 4GB

features and programs for \$195. For

For Sale: Dr Dre Beatbox Speaker new in Box, \$220 or best offer. For more information call 425-9290.

Visit us online! www.columbus.af.mi



Track Select

Capt. Daniel Petrella	T-1
1st Lt. John Nickerson	T-1
2nd Lt. Daniel Bailey	T-1
2nd Lt. Steven Bretscher	T-1
2nd Lt. Christopher Champion	T-1
2nd Lt. Michael Craig	T-3
2nd Lt. Matthew Croghan	T-3
2nd Lt. Benjamin Dewar	T-1
2nd Lt. Chad Douglas	T-1
2nd Lt. Matthew Gabreski	T-1
2nd Lt. Timothy Holm	Не
2nd Lt. Austin Hornsby	T-3
2nd Lt. William Jones	T-1
2nd Lt. Connor King	T-3
2nd Lt. Andrew Kmiec	T-1
2nd Lt. Zachary Mangers	T-1
2nd Lt. Nichole McCarthy	T-1
2nd Lt. Dennis Parker	T-1
2nd Lt. Ben Scott	T-3
2nd Lt. Mark Skurdahl	T-1
2nd Lt. Kevin Tanous	T-1
2nd Lt. Michael Thomas	T-1

Leverette Award

2nd Lt. Austin Hornsby

Top Guns

Contact: 2nd Lt. Michael Craig

Instrument:

2nd Lt. Michael Thomas

Formation:

2nd Lt. Austin Hornsby

16-07





SILVER WINGS 9 Sept. 11, 2015 3

Col. John Nichols, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Rita Felton, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief, stand with 16 senior airmen who graduated from Airman Leadership School Sept. 3 at Lion Hills in Columbus, Mississippi. The fiveweek-long professional military education course armed the senior airmen with the skills and knowledge needed to perform their duties as front-line supervisors in the Air Force.

Columbus AFB advanced Airmen to become tomorrow's leaders

Airman 1st Class Daniel Lile 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Sixteen Team BLAZE Airmen graduated from Airman Leadership School during a banquet ceremony Sept. 3 at Lion Hills in Columbus, Mississippi

The five-week-long professional military education course armed the senior airmen with the skills and knowledge needed to perform their duties as front-line supervisors in the Air Force, as well as prepared them to become future NCOs.

The graduates are:

Senior Airman Johnathan Almaraz Senior Airman Charles Basset Senior Airman Calvin Blakeney Senior Airman Calvin Criger

Senior Airman Kwadwo Dankvi Senior Airman Dillon Freeman Senior Airman Bridget Holling Senior Airman Daniel Koelling

Senior Airman Omari Slaughter Senior Airman Darin Smith Senior Airman Christopher Tarantino Senior Airman Ryan Werner

Senior Airman Anthony Parsons

Senior Airman Beret Proctor Senior Airman Larry Roy

Senior Airman Deshaun Williams While the whole class worked together to overcome challenges and learn all they could, some Airmen outperformed others and were awarded for their hard work. The

award winners are: John L. Levitow award: Senior Airman Beret Proctor

Commandant award: Senior Airman Calvin Blakenev

Academic Achievement award: Senior Airman Bridget Holling

Distinguished Graduate award: Senior Airman Calvin Blakeney

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE III IFF WING SORTIE BOARD PHASE II Graduation Graduation Oct. 2 49th (15-LBC) -1.57 days 0.68 days -3.18 days -1.68 days -0.51 days 0.52 days 14,727 50th (15-15) -1.49 days 1.00 days 103 The graduation speaker is Retired Col. Scott Manning, former Commander of Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corp Detachment 009 at Yale University.

Team BLAZE members show camaraderie during Team Cohesion Challenge



More than 30 Team BLAZE members participated in the Team Cohesion Challenge Sept. 2 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The athletes ran between 7 and 10 miles and completed numerous exercises and teamwork events over the span of five hours. The challenge was sponsored by the Air Force Association



Team BLAZE members participate in the Team Cohesion Challenge Sept. 2 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The athletes ran between 7 and 10 miles and completed numerous exercises and teamwork events over the span of five hours.



Participants in the Team Cohesion Challenge do pushups while being doused by a fire hydrant Sept. 2 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. More than 30 Team BLAZE members participated in the Team Cohesion

Retiree Affairs: Did you know...?

Retirees, did you know under the Affordable Care Act, all Americans including all military mempers and their eligible family members must have health care coverage that meets a minimum standard called minimum essential coverage or pay a fee. Your TRICARE coverage meets the minimum essential coverage requirement under the ACA. For more information contact Capt. Carmella Essien at 🧛 434-2380 or your Retiree Activities Office at 434-3120.



14th MDG Corner: Have medical questions? Call **TRICARE Nurse Advice Line**

Capt. Michelle Lempke

14th Medical Operations Squadron Health Care Integrator

Sometimes it is difficult to know when to seek medcal help for acute health problems, so having access to professional advice at a moment's notice is invaluable.

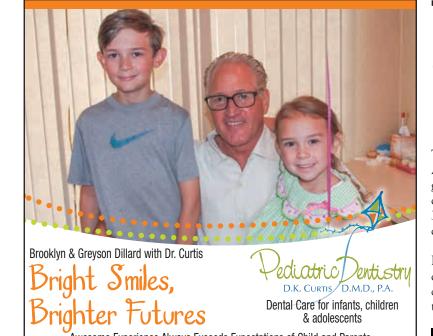
The Military Health System's new Nurse Advice Line for TRICARE beneficiaries does just that. Since late April 2014, TRICARE beneficiaries in the continental United States, Alaska and Hawaii can call the NAL toll-free, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The NAL is a team of registered nurses who are available to answer a variety of urgent healthcare questions. They can help you decide whether self-care is the best option or if it is better to see a healthcare provider. There will always be a live person on the line to address patient concerns.

When calling the NAL, a customer service repreentative will verify the beneficiary's eligibility through the Defense Enrollment and Eligibility Reporting System. Beneficiaries with an acute health care concern will be connected with a registered nurse who will ask series of standard questions to determine the best

The NAL offers a variety of solutions for all TRI CARE beneficiaries. For pediatric issues, the NAL will route the beneficiary to a pediatric nurse. If follow-up is necessary or requested, the NAL will call the beneficiary back to check the child's status a few hours later. The NAL will make same-day appointments or nextday appointments, if appropriate, with the beneficiary's primary care manager for TRICARE Prime beneficiaries who are enrolled to Military Treatment Facilities. If a same-day appointment is not available, the NAL will direct the beneficiary to the closest urgent care center and inform the PCM of the referral to avoid point-ofservice bills. All other TRICARE beneficiaries who are not enrolled to a MTF will receive professional health advice about their urgent health concern.

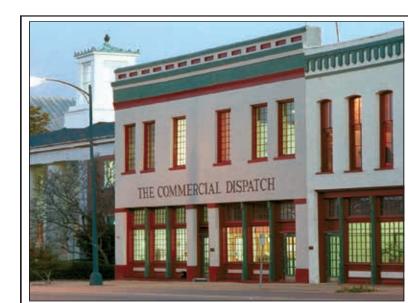
Beneficiaries can still call their PCM or clinic, but the NAL is another option for beneficiaries to access the care they need and want in a timely fashion. To access the NAL, dial 434-2273, option 2 then option 1, or 1-800-TRICARE (1-800-874-2273), Option 1 if you are traveling out of the area.



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Total force MSgt, MSgt-select evaluations close out Sept. 30

Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

IOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH. Texas — Regular Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve master sergeant and master sergeant-select enlisted performance reports will now close out annually on Sept. 30. In addition, as of June 3, 2015, master sergeants and selects will no longer receive change-of-reporting-official EPRs.

Enlisted Evaluation System and Weighted Airman Promotion System changes initiated in July 2014, including EPR static closeout dates for each grade, focus on ensuring job performance is the most important factor when evaluating Airmen.

Master sergeants and selects whose EPRs closed out before June 3 will get another EPR that closes out Sept. 30 covering performance during the months between their most recent EPR and Sept. 30.

Master sergeants and selects whose EPRs would

have closed out between June 3 and Sept. 30 will not get an EPR until the Sept. 30 closeout date. Additional enlisted evaluation and promotion sys-

tem changes will be announced as they are approved for implementation.

For more information about Air Force personnel programs go to the myPers website. Individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one by following these instructions on the Air Force Retirees Ser-



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• 20' x 20' - \$110

• 10' x 10' - \$45

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Contact our office at: 516 Main Street, Columbus

662-327-4236 friendlycitymini.com 12 SILVER WINGS Sept. 11, 2015 Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

Travis AFB welcomes hero home

By Senior Airman Nicole Leidholm 60th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — Airman 1st Class Spencer Stone, the Airman who helped foil a terrorist attack on a train in France Aug. 21, arrived at Travis Air Force Base Sept. 3, with his mother and brother by

"We're thrilled to welcome A1C Spencer Stone back to America," said Col. Joel Jackson, the 60th Air Mobility Wing commander. "He's here at Travis Air Force Base for continued medical care and rest and recuperation with his family in the local area. We ask that everyone please respect the Stone family's privacy as he continues to heal."

"We're thrilled to welcome A1C Spencer Stone back to America," said Col. Joel Jackson, the 60th Air Mobility Wing commander.

Stone returned home on a KC-10 Extender from Germany with 25 redeployers from Southwest Asia and was greeted by about 300 Airmen and their families from the base.

"We're extremely proud of A1C Stone; it takes tremendous courage and selflessness to place others' safety above your own — he put into action our core value of 'service before self'," said Chief Master Sgt. Alan Boling, the 60th AMW command chief. "Again, we are extremely proud of these men for their willingness to take action and stop what could have been a terrible tragedy."

Stone was previously assigned to the 60th Medical Operations Squadron pediatrics flight as an aerospace medical services tech-

"A1C Stone is an energetic medical technician and I'm sure he was hoping for more 'action' than he found in the pediatric clinic as his first duty section," said Master Sgt. Tanya Hubbard, the 60th MDOS family Air Force and personal, that guided him that medicine residency and pediatric clinics su- day."



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. James Hodgman Airman 1st Class Spencer Stone, the Airman who helped foil a terrorist attack on a train in France Aug. 21, arrives at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., Sept. 3, 2015. Stone was greeted by hundreds of Airmen including Col. Joel Jackson, the 60th Air Mobility Wing commander, and Chief Master Sqt. Alan Boling, the 60th AMW command chief. He will receive continued medical treatment for his iniuries at David Grant USAF Medical Center

perintendent. "However, he fit into our team seamlessly and always had a great attitude. He is a hard worker and I was happy he was part of our team.'

Hubbard added that Stone's Air Force college student, were on vacation when an training influenced how the events in France armed gunman entered their train carrying played out.

"I think his awareness training helped him to be sensitive to potential dangers and kept him on his toes as he toured throughout Europe," Hubbard said. "I'm sure that when it came down to the moment, he was able to act on impulse due to those protection skills. In the end I believe it was the core values,

Stone's life forever changed two weeks ago when he and his childhood friends, Oregon National Guard Spc. Aleksander Skarlatos and Anthony Sadler, a Sacramento State an assault rifle, a handgun and a box cutter. The three friends, with the help of a British passenger, subdued the gunman after his rifle

constant change, we learn to adapt quickly and take action; fortunately, Stone's experience and training allowed him to put these

thought was right and stopped a dangerous attack and for that we thank them. We wish Stone and the others who were injured a speedy recovery."

Stone is currently an ambulance service technician with the 65th MDOS stationed at Lajes Field, Azores. The Sacramento, California, native will be reassigned to Travis AFB in October.

"We are all very proud of A1C Stone," "Our Airmen live in an environment of Hubbard said. "He is humble and will tell you that he doesn't deserve all of the fuss, but that's what makes him special. He acted on survival instincts, but he is naturally a prolessons into action onboard the train," Bol- tector and we're thankful that he was in that ing said. "Stone and his friends did what they place at that time."

this event. Early Registration is required due to limited space **Guest Speaker** Mr. John F. Merkle l'uscaloosa, Ala, VA Medical Center September is Suicide Prevention Month Know Your Wingmen 24/7/365 and STAY ENGAGED! www.AirForceMedicine.AF.MIL/SuicidePrevention www.WingmanOnline.org

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Retiree

Appreciation Day

Saturday, September 26, 2015

Call the Retiree Affairs Office Now at 434-3120 to RSVP for

BLAZE Hangar Tails: T-38 Talon

The T-38 Talon is a twin-engine, high-altitude, supersonic jet trainer used in a variety of roles because of its design, economy of operations, ease of maintenance, high performance and exceptional safety record. Air Education and Training Command is the primary user of the T-38 for joint specialized undergraduate pilot training. Air Combat Command, Air Force Materiel Command and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration also use the T-38A in various roles.

Features

The T-38 has swept wings, a streamlined fuselage and tricycle landing gear with a steerable nose wheel. Two independent hydraulic systems power the ailerons, rudder and other flight control surfaces. Critical aircraft components are waist high and can be easily reached by maintenance crews.

The T-38C incorporates a "glass cockpit" with integrated avionics displays, head-up display and an electronic "no drop bomb" scoring system. The AT-38B has a gun sight and practice bomb dispenser. The T-38 needs as little as 2,300 feet (695.2 meters) of runway to take off and can climb from sea level to nearly 30,000 feet (9,068 meters) in one minute. T-38s modified by the propulsion modernization program have approximately 19 percent more thrust, reducing takeoff distance by 9 percent.

Backaround

Air Education and Training Command uses the T-38C to prepare pilots for front-line fighter and bomber aircraft such as the F-15E Strike Eagle, F-15C Eagle, F-16 Fighting Falcon, B-1B Lancer, A-10 Thunderbolt and F-22 Raptor.

The Talon first flew in 1959. More than 1,100 were delivered to the Air Force between 1961 and 1972 when production ended. As the T-38 fleet has aged, specific airframe, engine and system components have been modified or replaced. Pacer Classic is the name given to a sustainment program that integrates essential modifications, and includes major structural replacements into one process.

AETC began receiving T-38C models in 2001 as part of the Avionics Upgrade Program. T-38C models will also undergo a propulsion modernization program which replaces major engine components to enhance reliability and main-



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Daniel Lile Four Columbus Air Force Base T-38s fly in formation Sept. 22, 2014, near Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The T-38 Talon is a twin-engine, high-altitude, supersonic jet trainer used in a variety of roles because of its design, economy of operations, ease of maintenance, high performance and exceptional safety record.



and Airman 1st Class Daniel Lile

SILVER WINGS Sept. 11, 2015

A 49th Fighter Training Squadron T-38 Talon rests on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, after a day of flying. Air Education and Training Command is the primary user of the T-38 for joint specialized undergraduate pilot training.

tainability, and an engine inlet/injector modification to increase available takeoff thrust. These upgrades and modifications, with the Pacer Classic program, should extend the service life of T-38s to 2020.

Advanced JSUPT students fly the T-38C in aerobatics. formation, night, instrument and cross-country navigation

Test pilots and flight test engineers are trained in T-38s at the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif. Air Force Materiel Command uses the T-38 to test experimental equipment such as electrical and weapon

Pilots from most North Atlantic Treaty Organization countries train in the T-38 at Sheppard AFB, Texas, through the Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training Program.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration uses T-38 aircraft as trainers for astronauts and as observers and chase planes on programs such as the space shuttle.

General Characteristics

Primary Function: Advanced jet pilot trainer

Builder: Northrop Corp. Power Plant: Two General Electric J85-GE-5 turbojet en-

Thrust: 2,050 pounds dry thrust; 2,900 with afterburners

Thrust (with PMP): 2,200 pounds dry thrust; 3,300 with

Length: 46 feet, 4 inches (14 meters)

Height: 12 feet, 10 inches (3.8 meters)

Wingspan: 25 feet, 3 inches (7.6 meters)

Speed: 812 mph (Mach 1.08 at sea level)

Ceiling: Above 55,000 feet (16,764 meters) Maximum Takeoff Weight: 12,093 pounds (5,485 kilo-

Range: 1,093 miles

Armament: T-38A/C: none; AT-38B: provisions for prac-

Unit Cost: \$756,000 (1961 constant dollars) Crew: Two, student and instructor

Date Deployed: March 1961

Inventory: Active force, 546; ANG, 0; Reserve 0

Columbus AFB is great place to serve

43rd Flyina Trainina Sauadron Commander

As a reservist in the 43rd Fly ing Training Squadron, I have had 💹 the privilege of serving at Columbus Air Force Base for the last 13 🎽

While the concept of remaining at one location for such an extended period of time may sound foreign to a lot of you, this is not uncommon for many reservists and guardsmen.

Prior to joining the reserves, I served on active duty in the Air Force for 11 years and like many of you was stationed at various

other locations throughout the United States. I would like to provide you with a "seasoned" perspective of why I think Columbus AFB is a great place to serve.

First, we are wholeheartedly supported by the local comby many Team BLAZE Airmen. munity. This is not always the case, especially for a base that quality of life of Airmen outside the front gates.

and I could not agree more as their support for our base seems in just a matter of months once leaving Columbus AFB.

Columbus has adopted the motto of "The friendly city" and I could not agree more as their support for our base seems personal and sincere. As one of the main economic contributors to the area, local leaders, businesses, and citizens truly like us being here and that does make a difference.

personal and sincere. As one of the main economic contributors to the area, local leaders, businesses, and citizens truly like us being here and that does make a difference. I cannot tell you how many times I have been in uniform off base and have been approached by local citizens thanking me for my service. I am sure this is a common occurrence experienced

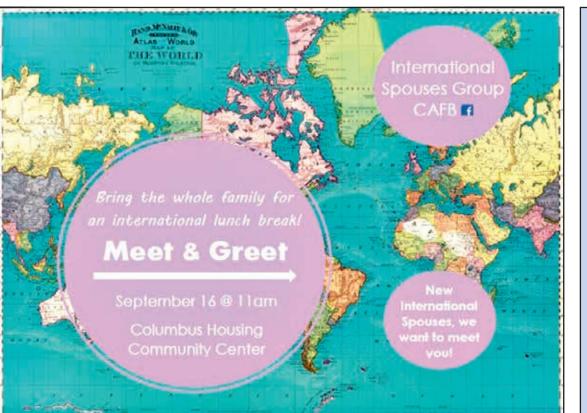
Second, Columbus AFB has a mission we all can be exflies as many sorties as we do. Our positive relationship with tremely proud of which is vital to the defense of our great the Columbus community is critical as it certainly affects the nation. Did you know Columbus AFB produces almost one third of all new Air Force pilots every year? Many of those Columbus has adopted the motto of "The friendly city" pilots begin flying operational missions throughout the world

The foundations forged here will remain with those young pilots throughout their Air Force careers, and every member of Team BLAZE plays a significant part in that evolution. This is a huge responsibility which I believe the base welcomes and performs in an outstanding manner. This base also contributes in ways other than just training pilots. At any given time, numerous Columbus AFB Airmen are deployed worldwide "Feeding the Fight" for a variety of Department of

Third, Columbus AFB is located in a region which is rapidly growing, has a low cost of living, and is centrally located to many areas of interest in the south. Over the last several years, we have seen remarkable business growth in the area.

With several new hotels, many more nationally known restaurants and additional commercial shopping establishments, Columbus is offering more now than ever before. The beach is just over four hours to the south, Atlanta is four hours to the east, and Memphis is three hours to the north. For you college football fans out there, we are in the heart of SEC country. Of course, you will have to decide if that is a positive or negative.

In conclusion, serving at Columbus AFB can be a rewarding and enjoyable experience for you just as it has been for me. There is no such thing as the perfect assignment. However, if you stay positive, remain proud of the mission we do here and take advantage of all Columbus and the surrounding area has to offer, maybe in the end you will agree Columbus AFB is indeed a great place to serve.



Commander's **Action Line** 434-1414

The Commander's Action Line is your di rect 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-com-

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

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



First operational F-35As arrive at Hill AFB

Micah Garbarino

75th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah — The Air Force ushered in a new era of combat air power today as Hill Air Force Base received the service's first two operational F-35As.

Hill's active duty 388th Fighter Wing and Reserve 419th Fighter Wing will be the first combat-coded units to fly and maintain the Air Force's newest fifth-generation fighter aircraft.

"Make no mistake, we're built for this. We will deliver the combat capability that our nation so desperately needs to meet tomorrow's threats,' 388th Fighter Wing commander, Col. David B. Lyons, told the crowd of Airmen and community members.

Lyons, who flew one of the F-35s to Hill from Lockheed Martin's production facility in Fort Worth, Texas, highlighted the jets stealth ability, advanced technology, avionics and sensor fusion, which allow pilots the flexibility to operate in "contested environments" and strike "tough to reach" targets.

Hill has been called the "ideal home" for the F-35 because of its proximity to the Utah Test and Training Range and Hill's Ogden Air Logistics Complex, which performs F-35 depot maintenance and modifications. The integration of the active duty and reserve fighter wings provides increased flexibility and combat surge capability.

"This is a great day in the history of Hill Air Force Base. We have to have these aircraft to achieve air dominance in the future for the United States," said Col. Bryan Radliff, 419th Fighter Wing commander. "We are extremely proud to be a part of this association.'

Since the basing announcement in 2013, Hill has spent more than \$120 million and completed numerous renovation and construction projects to prepare for F-35 operations.

because of our Airmen, civilians, con-miliarize themselves with the aircraft, the F-35 in mid-October.



U.S. Air Force photo/Alex R. Lloyd

The first two operational F-35A Lightning II aircraft arrive at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, Sept. 2, 2015. The jets were piloted by Col. David Lyons, 388th Fighter Wing commander, and Lt. Col. Yosef Morris, 34th Fighter Squadron director of operations. Hill will receive up to 70 additional combat-coded F-35s on a staggered basis through 2019. The jets will be flown and maintained by Hill Airmen assigned to the active-duty 388th Fighter Wing and its Reserve component 419th Fighter Wing.

tractors and outstanding community who stood behind us 100 percent," said Col. Ron Iolly, 75th Air Base Wing commander. "We know the capabilities of this aircraft. We are on the cutting edge and we're very proud to be a part of that cutting edge.

The 388th and 419th Fighter wings were also the first units in the Air Force to fly combat-coded F-16s when they entered the fleet.

F-35s per month until 72 aircraft have

hands on the new jet said Lt. Col. Darrin Dronoff, chief of the F-35 program integration office for the 388th FW.

Both the 388th and 419th have pilots and maintainers currently in an F-35."

receive parts and begin tracking the aircraft in a maintenance database.

"The plan is to start flying after Labor Day. We'll start by flying twice a week, but that will slowly progress as we receive more aircraft and training progresses," said Dronoff.

While flying won't start for a week, training for maintainers starts immediately - including the Airmen who will be towing the first aircraft from The wings will receive one to two the ramp to the hangar, Dronoff said.

"Everyone touching the aircraft is a formally trained F-35 Airman Airmen at Hill are eager to get their hand-selected crews from pilots to maintainers to back-shop people," said Dronoff. "But, we're also training Airmen brand new to the F-35. We're taking advantage of every training optrained F-35 pilots ready to begin fly- portunity because this is the first time ing the new jets, and there are more many of them have had their hands on

The base will hold a formal cere-"The reason we're here today is The wings will take a week to famony to commemorate the arrival of



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sqt. Ryan Crane

An F-22 Raptor takes off from Amari Air Base, Estonia Sept. 4, 2015. The F-22s have previously deployed to both the Pacific and Southwest Asia for Airmen to train in a realistic environment while testing partner nations ability to host advanced aircraft like the F-22. The F-22s are deployed from the 95th Fighter Squadron at Tyndal

F-22s arrive in Estonia

U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa Public Affairs

ÄMARI AIR BASE, Estonia — Two F-22 Raptors and a KC-135 Stratotanker arrived at Ämari Air Base, Estonia

The F-22s and approximately 20 supporting Airmen are from the 95th Fighter Squadron at Tyndall Air Force Base Florida. The KC-135 is from the 100th Air Refueling Wing at Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England.

This forward deployment of the Raptors is part of the inaugural F-22 training deployment to Europe and is funded by the European Reassurance Initiative, which provides support to bolster the security of NATO allies and partners in Europe while demonstrating the U.S. commitment to regional and global security. The F-22s will remain at Ämari AB for a brief period of time before returning to Spangdahlem AB, Germany, to continue their training deployment.

The F-22 deployments to Spangdahlem AB, Łask AB Poland, and now Amari AB prove that European bases and other NATO installations can host fifth-generation fighters while also affording the chance for familiarization flight training within the European theater.

This F-22 forward deployment is conducted in coordination with our Estonian allies and is a demonstration of the continued commitment to the collective security of NATC and dedication to the enduring peace and stability of the re-

FSS Services SILVER WINGS Sept. 11, 2015

NIGHT

FOOTBALL

CATCH THE ACTION AT THE BOWLING CENTER & WIN BIG

September Schedule

For More Information, 434-1583

The Fitness Center is offering a 125 and 300 Bench Press

event at 6 p.m. Oct. 5. Each participant receives three attempts

to achieve a clean bench press. Each successful participant will

receive a 300 Club t-shirt and picture on the 300 Club wall. For

more information, contact Brandy Richardson (662) 434-2772 or

3:45-5 p.m. Oct. 7 for ages 5-18. Explore the physics of motion

and distracted driving. Limited space available; first come basis.

The Youth Center is offering a trip to the Mississippi State

The Youth Center is offering Lights on After School from

4-5 p.m. Oct. 22 for ages 5-18. Learn about programs, safety,

and the benefit of after school community care. For more informa-

Youth Center Open House and Membership

Fair in Jackson Oct. 17. Free transportation; must purchase ticket

upon arrival. Register no later than Oct. 14. For more informa-

Felix Montes (347) 693-3262.

National Science Day

Mississippi State Fair Trip

Lights On After School

tion, contact 434-2504.

tion, contact 434-2504.

For more information, contact 434-2504.

third place prizes. For more information, contact 434-7932.

You could win a \$50 FSS Gift Card at each

Denver Broncos v. Kansas City Chiefs

Nickelodeon Worldwide Day of Play

The Youth Center is offering free games and fun activities to celebrate Nickelodeon's Worldwide Day of Play. Youth ages 5 – 18 are invited from 4 - 5 p.m. Sept. 17 to the Youth Center's parking lot (weather permitting). For more information, call 434-2504.

Boys and Girls Club Day for Kids

The Youth Center is offering a free club day from 4 - 5 p.m. Sept. 17 at the Youth Center's parking lot (weather permitting). All ages welcome. For more information, call 434-2504.

Thursday Night Football Frenzy

Catch all the action at the Bowling Center and win big. You could win a \$50 gift card at each game and enter to win tickets to a regular season NFL game of your choice. Watch Denver Broncos v. Kansas City Chiefs Sept. 17 and Washington Redskins v. New York Giants Sept. 24. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact 434-1583.

Fall Soccer Registration

The Youth Center is offering fall soccer registration Aug. 17 – Sept. 18. The cost is \$35 per child ages 3 – 4 and \$40 per child ages 5 – 18. All games played on base. Physicals required at registration. Volunteer coaches needed. For more information, contact 434-2504.

Superintendent's One Person Scramble

Whispering Pines Golf Course is offering a one person/two ball scramble Sept. 19. Shotgun start at 1 p.m. The cost is only \$40 per golf member and \$50 per non-member. Cost includes green fees, cart, prize fund, lunch and door prizes. Each participant receives a **Bench Press Club** sleeve of golf balls and a glove. Scramble flighted based on number of entries. Prizes awarded for longest drive and closest to the pin. For more information, contact 434-7932.

White Wine Pairing

Whispering Pines Golf Course is offering a White Wine Pairing at 6 p.m. Sept. 24. The cost is only \$25 per person. The menu includes fruit and cheese paired with Reisling, shrimp pinwheels and oven fried mushrooms paired with Pinot Grigio, chicken wings paired with Sauvignon Blanc, and grilled salmon paired with Chardonnay. Space limited to 30 participants. Sign up by Sept. 10. For more information, contact 434-7932.

End of Season Pool Party

Join Independence Pool for an End of Season Pool Party Sept. 26. This free event includes: music from 5-7 p.m., food available for purchase from 5 – 8 p.m. (burger, chips and drink \$5), jumpers from 5 - 7:30 p.m., and a movie at 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact 434-2505.

New Pool Hours

The pool is open noon – 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday until Sept. 27. For more information, contact 434-2505.

Whispering Pines Base Championship

The Golf Course is offering a base championship to all base golfers Oct. 3 and 4; 1 p.m. shotgun start each day. The cost is \$20 plus \$15 for cart for golf course members; \$40 plus \$15 for cart **Drive** for nonmembers. Entry includes green fees, prize fund, sleeve of

more about base youth programs and becoming a Youth Center member. Free refreshments provided. For more information, con-

3rd Annual 5K Zombie Run

The Fitness Center is offering the third Annual 5K Zombie Run Oct. 31 at the graveyard on Independence Avenue. Check in at 9 a.m.; run 10 a.m. All paid participants receive a medal, T-shirt and food. The cost is \$20 for single airmen, and \$25 for active-duty military and DoD employees. Registration required by Oct. 2. The cost to the public is \$35 per person or \$25 each for teams of four or more; register at active.com. For rates for kids or more information, contact 434-2772.

Referees Needed

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

GoPro Rental

Capture the moment by renting a GoPro Hero 3 from Outdoor Recreation. Cost is only \$10 for a 2-day rental. Single Airmen may receive a 2-day rental at no charge during Single Airman programming events. For more information, contact 434-2505.

Play Paintball

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

Volunteers Needed

The Fitness Center is offering the third Annual Zombie Run Oct. 31. We want you to serve on the Zombie Run Planning golf balls, golf glove and lunch both days. Prizes awarded for Base Committee. Available opportunities include: check-in, set-up ob-Champion, Club Champion, and Handicap Champion. Prizes stacles, zombie makeup artist, zombies, water stations, tear down awarded for Senior Division and Women Division (must have six obstacles; oversee adult run or kids run, and more. To volunteer or or more entries to award). Each Flight awarded first, second and for more information, contact 434-2772.

Free Pool Passes and FootGolf

Independence Pool Passes and FootGolf is included with Whispering Pines Golf Membership. . If you have an individual golf membership, you receive an individual pool pass and Foot-Golf membership and if you have a family golf membership, you receive a family pool pass and FootGolf membership. Visit Outdoor Recreation for your free pool pass today. For more information, contact 434-2505.

The Youth Center is offering 4-H National Science Day from

The Base Library is offering Story Time each Friday at 10:30 a.m. for all ages. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Class

Free classes are scheduled every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 6 p.m. The benefits include huge gains in confidence, functional strength, flexibility, discipline, and overall physical conditioning. Mandatory equipment: BJJ Kimono (Gi); for ages 13 and up. For more information, contact 434-2772.

Wood Shop Self Help

Do you need to complete a wood project? The base wood shop is open Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. for only \$4 per hour. For more information, contact 434-7836.

RV Storage Lot

Don't clutter your home space, park with us. Outdoor Recreation offers a great place to store your RV year around. You will have 24-hour access and can pay monthly or yearly. For more in-Stop by the Youth Center between 4 – 5 p.m. Oct. 22 and learn formation, call 434-2505.

Air Force Readiness Programs

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

Career Technical Training

This transition event is held from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sept.14 – 15. The Workshop explores technical careers for post military personnel using VA Educational benefits. It is conducted by CALIBRE, private company contracted by DVA. Prior registration is required, company requires 10 days notification and must have minimum of eight participates, to register or for more information call 434-2790.

First Term Officer's PFR

The First Term Officers' Personal Financial Readiness Workshop is required by AFI for all newly assigned officers to their first station. The event will be from 9 - 10 a.m. Sept. 15. Call 434-2790 to sign up.

Federal USAJobs Workshop

This workshop is from 9 - 10:30 a.m. Sept. 16. This is a workshop on writing resumes, applications, and job search, using USAJobs, Call 434-2790 to register.

Troops To Teachers

This workshop is from 10:30 a.m. - noon Sept. 16. It is an informational workshop for members pursing or interested in a teaching career after the military. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Capstone

This class is scheduled for 8 a.m. - noon Sept. 17. The Capstone is required for all separating/retiring personnel and should occur no later than 90 days prior to anticipated separation/ retirement; however, if a member has less than 90 days left in the military, the member should attend as soon as possible within their remaining period of service. It verifies if service members have/have not met their Career Readiness Standards/Individual Transition Plan Checklist, DD Form 2958. The checklist, in conjunction with the ITP, will be used by the A&FRC to verify status of CRS completion. Call 434-2790 for more information.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief will be from 8 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Sept. 22. It is manadatory for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. The orientation is held at the Kaye Auditorium, for more information call 434-2839.

Military Life Cycle

workshop allows the VA contractors to explain or returning from deployment or a remote tour to service members; whether first term, separat- The briefings are held daily at the A&FRC. Volunteer Opportunities ing, retiring or a veteran, what services the VA Pre-deployment is at 9:30 a.m., and post-deploy-

Team BLAZE members compete in intramural volleyball

Community



U.S. Air force photo/Airman 1st Class Daniel Lile

The 37th Flying Training Squadron competes against the 14th Medical Group and Security Forces Squadron in a game of intramural volleyball Sept. 9 at the fitness center on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Volleyball is just one of the intramural sporting activities the fitness center offers to Team BLAZE members.

ply for benefits. To register and more information please call 434-2790.

Heart Link For Spouses

This event is from 8:30 a.m. - noon Sept. 23, it is for Spouses new to Columbus Air Force Base or the military lifestyle. The event is held at the Golf Course. It is a fun-filled spouse orientation program with info on protocol, finance, benefits, helping agencies, local conditions and prizes. It is a great way to meet others new to Columbus AFB. For more information, please call 434-2790.

Pre-separation Counseling

This counseling is a mandatory briefing for **Program** personnel separating or retiring, to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation. It may be completed up to 12 months prior to separation or retirement. The counseling is held daily at more information.

Pre, Post Deployment Tour Brief

These briefings are mandatory briefings for The Military Life Cycle, 1 - 2 p.m. Sept. 22, active-duty personnel who are either deploying

offers and what they are able to provide through- ment is at 1:30 p.m. Please contact A&FRC out the member's military career and how to ap- 434-2839/434-2790 for more information.

Survivor-Benefit Plan

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

Military and Family Life Consultant

The MFLC counselors provide non-medical counseling to help Airmen (both single and married), their spouses and other family members to cope with stressful situations created by deploy-8:30 a.m. It takes approximately 60 minutes. ments, reintegration, and life challenges such as Please contact A&FRC, 434-2839/434-2790 for martial issues, parenting, career stress and anger. All consultants are licensed mental health providers. Counselors can meet either on or off base. There is no charge for services and appointments can usually be made within one to two days. To contact the MFLC, call 662-364-0504.

If you are interested in volunteering please 4 p.m. - Music Rehearsal

Store, the Retiree Activities office and many others. For more information please call A&-FRC at 434-2790. Air Force Recovery Coordination

contact the Airman & Family Readiness Cen-

ter. We have volunteer opportunities located

throughout the base for a one-time event, special

events, or on a continual basis. Volunteers are

needed on base at the Youth Center, Child De-

velopment Center, Library, Golf Course, Medical Clinic, the Chapel, Airman Attic, Thrift

SILVER WINGS Sept. 11, 2015

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

Base News

Learn How to Read Your LES

Having a hard time understanding your Leave and Earning Statement? Need a refresher so that you can mentor your subordinates on their entitlements? Finance has you covered. It you would like for Finance to come to your next CC call or Professional Organization event, you can contact Master Sgt. Sabrina Spriggs at DSN 742-3068 or Senior Airman Julianna White at

Chapel Schedule

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

Catholic Community

3:15 p.m. – Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (Chapel Annex) 3:45 p.m. - Religious Education, grades K-9

(Chapel Annex) 4 p.m. – Choir Practice (Chapel Sanctuary)

p.m. – Confession (or by appointment)

5 p.m. – Mass w/Children's Church

Tuesday:

11:30 a.m. – Daily Mass

Protestant Community

9 a.m. - Adult Sunday School (Chapel Library) 10:45 a.m. – Traditional Worship Service

5 p.m. – Student Pilot Bible Study (Chapel Li-



SUPT Class 15-14 earns silver wings





Capt. Miguel Santibanez Miami Beach, Fla. KC-135, Seymour AFB, N.C.

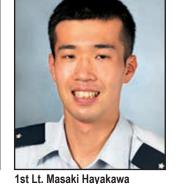


1st Lt. Caden Ho Singapore Singapore

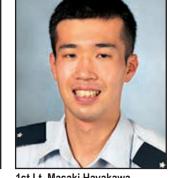
2nd Lt. Daniel Aceti

MQ-9, Cannon AFB, N.M.

New Hartford, N.Y.



Kobe Japan, Hyogo UH-60J, Japan





2nd Lt. Evan Aldinger St. Simons. Ga. HC-130J, Moody AFB, Ga.

2nd Lt. Hamzah Al Zahrani Saudi Arabia

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

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 15-14 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium. Retired Col. Scott Manning, former Commander of Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corp Detachment 009 at Yale University, is the graduation guest speaker.

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

1st Lt. Caden Ho, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Paul Kenter, T-1, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented to 1st Lt. Caden Ho, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Matthew Miller, 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.

1st Lt. Caden Ho, T-38, 2nd Lt. Paul Kenter, T-1, and 2nd Lt. Travis Tate, T-1, were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 15-14.

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

emergency procedures, takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and

formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country naviga-

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 mil-

itary version of a multi-place Beech Jet 400 business jet. Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 53.6 hours in the

flight simulator and 76.4 hours in the T-1A. Each class is partnered with business or civic organizations during their year of training.

This program is designed to foster closer ties between the community and Columbus AFB. Today, each student will be given a set of pilot wings with their names engraved on the back as a token of good

luck from their partners. SUPT Class 15-14 pilot partners are 2nd Lt. Jackie Barrett Callaway Orthodonics and 4-County Electric Power.



1st Lt. Samuel Olson Spanish Fork, Utah KC-135, Fairchild AFB, Wash.



1st Lt. Nnanna Peter Onicha, Ebonyi F-7, Nigeria



1st Lt. Daryl Pung Singapore Singapore



KC-135, Key Field, Miss.



2nd Lt. Dane Christensen Elk Grove Village, III. KC-135, Milwaukee ANG, Wis.



2nd Lt. Jonathan Daniels Smithfield, N.C. C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Darina Deneva Plovdiv, Bulgaria Mi-17, Bulgaria



Sabattus, Maine

E-3, Kaden AB, Japan

2nd Lt. Gregory Fratantaro Warminster, Pa. KC-10, McGuire, N.J.



2nd Lt. Paul Kenter Effingham, III. CV-22, Hurlburt Field, Fla.



SCUTO AUT "

2nd Lt. Matthew Miller Albany, N.Y. MQ-9, Syracuse ANG, N.Y.



2nd Lt. John Scott Crystal Lake, III. F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Taylor Smith Niceville, Fla. MQ-9, Cannon AFB, N.M.





2nd Lt. Travis Tate Atlanta, Ga. C-130, Dobbins AFB, Ga.



2nd Lt. Sean Zarsky T-1, Columbus AFB, Miss.