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Vol. 40, Issue 40

October 7, 2016

Weather

Friday Cloudy High 89°F Low 59°F	Saturday Cloudy High 82°F Low 53°F
Sunday Sunny High 83°F Low 51°F	Monday Sunny High 85°F Low 55°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight

News Briefs

Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention week events begin Oct. 8 with a parade through the housing areas starting at 9 a.m. An open house is also scheduled from 10 a.m. – noon at the Fire Station. For more information call 434-2262 or 434-2287.

Columbus Day Holiday

Most base organizations are closed Oct. 10 in observance of the Columbus Day Holiday.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

Wing Newcomers Orientation is scheduled for 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Oct. 18 at the Columbus Club for newly arrived active duty and civilian personnel.

Inside



Feature 8

CREATE “Imagine the Possibilities” is highlighted in this week’s feature.



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kaleb Snay

Lt. Col. Teresa Roberts, Profession of Arms Center of Excellence Operations Division Chief, speaks to attendees during a PACE brief Sept. 30 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The five-hour course covers several different modules separated with some group activities. The modules included connecting values to mission, professionalism, thinking about thinking, human behavior, communication, personal bias and more.

PACE brings out leadership in Team BLAZE

Senior Airman Kaleb Snay

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

More than 450 Team BLAZE Airmen, civilians and spouses received the chance to enhance their professionalism and leadership during the Profession of Arms Center of Excellence briefing Sept. 30 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

The five-hour course, led by Lt. Col. Teresa Roberts, PACE Operations Division Chief, covered several different modules separated with some group activities. The modules included connecting values to mission, professionalism, thinking about thinking, human behavior, communication, personal

See PACE, Page 2

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE II				PHASE III				IFF				WING SORTIE BOARD			
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
37th (17-08)	-3.06 days	0.10 days	Nov. 17	48th (17-01)	71.68 days	28.46 days	Oct. 28	49th (17-ABC)	-2.73 days	-1.32 days	Oct. 21	T-6	399	466	466
41st (17-09)	0.16 days	1.02 days	Oct. 21	50th (17-01)	0.17 days	-0.11 days	Oct. 28					T-1	90	104	104
												T-38	144	164	164
												IFF	48	72	72

* Mission numbers provided by 14 FTW Wing Scheduling.

The graduation speaker is Maj. Gen. James Barkley, Mobilization Assistant to the Commander, Air Education and Training Command.

PACE

(Continued from page 1)

bias and more.

During the event, individuals were encouraged to become better leaders by becoming better people. Roberts intent was for attendees to use what they learn to improve themselves to become successful.

"The hard work is up to the individuals," Roberts said. "If folks make something of this, then they are the success, not the program."

The PACE program and courses were originally designed for commanders, but word of mouth spread positive reports on the course allowing them to speak to thousands of members in service to the military. The course is designed to help Airmen, civilians and family to think outside the box to become a better leader.

"We all need to practice what we preach if we want everyone around us to be better," Roberts said. "We need to be willing to put forth the effort for us to be better too."

The PACE program is a voluntary, highly-encouraged Air Force course offered to all motivated individuals wanting to become their best self although some members were weary at first glance but found themselves enjoying the course more than expected.

"I didn't really have a whole lot of initial opinions of the briefing, but I thought a lot of generally good things were said," said 2nd Lt. Matthew Van Velzer, 14th Student Squadron. "It was interesting to see the basic psychology trends being used. I really like that it was targeted to Airmen of all levels."

"I was really intimidated by how long the session was going to be," Senior Airman Anna Oberlander, 14th Flying Training

The PACE program and courses were originally designed for commanders, but word of mouth spread positive reports on the course allowing them to speak to thousands of members in service to the military. The course is designed to help Airmen, civilians and family to think outside the box to become a better leader.

Wing Judge Advocate office. "Five hours is a lot of time for what I thought was a typical briefing, but I'm really glad that I came actually. I found myself agreeing with a lot of things being said."

Roberts said during an interview that many attendees seem to hunger for betterment.

"There is a desire to do right by others and ourselves," Roberts said. "I think that's really admirable... Once or twice, someone was in a bad place and they said this really gave them hope. I've had folks that said they were ready to quit on the Air Force and it helped to re-blue them. It's just absolutely humbling to hear that we can influence folks like that."

For more information about the PACE program or how you can receive information about the class, go to airman.af.mil.

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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Evening Worship - 6pm

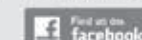
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Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
10 Fire Prevention Week	11 Columbus Day Holiday	12	13 Astronaut Kevin Ford briefings, 1 p.m. @ Kaye; 3 p.m. @ Phillips	14 Youth Firefighter Camp and Lock In, 6 p.m. @ Fire Station	15/16	Oct. 28: SUPT Class 17-01 Graduation Oct. 29: Base Halloween Trick or Treat Oct. 31: Third Quarterly Awards Oct. 31: Enlisted Promotions Nov. 4: Chief Master Sgt. Thomas retirement Nov. 11: Veteran's Day Holiday Nov. 12: Veteran's Day Parade and Ceremony Nov. 12-13: Autocross Nov. 15: Wing Newcomers Orientation Nov. 17: Dormsgiving Nov. 17: Wingman Day Nov. 18: SUPT Class 17-02 Graduation Nov. 24: Thanksgiving Holiday Nov. 25: AETC Family Day
17	18 Wing Newcomers Orientation, 8 a.m. @ Club	19	20 Gen Hecker visit	21	22/23	22nd: Columbus Spouse Club Fall Fest, @ Club

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**14TH FLYING
TRAINING
WING
DEPLOYED**

As of press time, 9 TEAM BLAZE members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.

*Deployment numbers provided by the
Installation Personnel Readiness Office.*

Eight enlisted Airmen promoted at ceremony

**14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs**

Eight of Team BLAZE's enlisted Airmen were promoted during the enlisted promotion ceremony Sept. 29 at the Columbus Club.

Promoted during the month of September were:

Senior Airman Brittani Amavizca-Waddington, 14th Medical Operations Squadron

Senior Airman Sheila Minnie, 14th MDOS

Senior Airman Ryan Offerman, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron

Senior Airman Anna Oberlander, 14th Wing Staff Agency

Senior Airman Tyler Wise, 14th Security Forces Squadron

Staff Sgt. Michael Smith, 50th Flying Training Squadron

Staff Sgt. Lashona Carroll, 14th SFS

Staff Sgt. Ramon Curtis, 14th Operations Support Squadron



U.S. Air Force photo/Melissa Doublin
Eight of Team BLAZE's enlisted Airmen were promoted during the enlisted promotions ceremony Sept. 29 at the Columbus Club.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK 2016



Daily activities Oct. 11 - 14

6:45 a.m. - Firefighter themed Unit PT at the Fire Station

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Fire Safety Display at the Exchange

4:30 to 8:30 p.m. - In-home Fire Evac Planning

6:30 to 8:30 p.m. - Boy Scout Firemanship merit badge

Oct. 8: 9 a.m. - Parade through Housing
10 a.m. to 1 p.m - Open House at Fire Station
Demo's, Bouncy Castles, Give aways

Oct. 9: 6:30 to 9 p.m. - Community Campfire
S'mores, Bonfire, Movie in the Park

Oct. 10: 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. - Sparky's Birthday party

Oct. 11: CDC and Youth Center visit

Oct. 12: Caledonia school visit

Oct. 13: 10 a.m and 4 p.m Community fire extinguisher training at Hunt Housing building

Oct. 14-15: 6 p.m. to 9 a.m. Youth Center lock in at the Fire Station

For more information, contact Wil O'Meara at 434-2262/2287 or via e-mail william.omeara.11@us.af.mil

**Columbus Day
Holiday hours**

Airman & Family Readiness Center	Closed Oct. 10
Arts & Crafts	Closed Oct. 10
Back Gate	Closed Oct. 10
Bowling Center	Closed Oct. 10
Child Development Center	Closed Oct. 10
Columbus Club	Closed Oct. 10
Commissary	Closed Oct. 10 - 11
Exchange	Open Oct. 10, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Fitness Center	Open 24/7 (register at front desk)
Golf Course	Open Oct. 10, 8 a.m. – dusk
Medical Group	Closed Oct. 10
Military Personnel and Finance	Closed Oct. 10
Multimedia	Closed Oct. 10
Outdoor Recreation	Closed Oct. 10; Open 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Oct. 11
Shoppette	Open Oct. 10, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Visitor's Center	Closed Oct. 10
Youth Center	Closed Oct. 10



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kaleb Snay
Col. Sam Milam, Air Education and Training Command Deputy A2/3/10, spoke to Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 16-15 during their graduation Sept. 30 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. During his speech, Milam highly recommended the graduates to thank their IP's mechanics and families for keeping them safe and guiding them through the challenges of training.

Milam reminds graduates to say 'thank you'

Senior Airman Kaleb Snay
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Col. Sam Milam, Air Education and Training Command Deputy A2/3/10, spoke to Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 16-15 during their graduation Sept. 30 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Milam thanked everyone for allowing him to share his thoughts before starting his speech with lighthearted information.

Milam joked about young couples in the 80's and 90's were the cause of the newest pilots.

"I joke a little, but you all should be commended for what you did to develop these young officers before us today," Milam said. "No one is born a patriot or a pilot. No one is born loving our country so much they devote a significant part of their life to its service. Those feelings and dedication came from you. Thank you all, you honor us with your presence today."

Milam mentioned that the ceremony marked his 25th anniversary from his graduation from pilot training at Columbus AFB. Milam moved onto a brief history of major

events in U.S. history and how those event have raised the intensity of the training. He also mentioned that it's not for everyone and that those who make it through are now "cool."

"You have accomplished a great thing, you are part of an elite force of your country's Airmen," Milam said. "So by all means, for the next few days, bask in the moment. Let others work on their tan in the presence of your radiant awesomeness. You deserve it. Then do us a favor and get over yourself as your work has just begun."

Milam brought up an event in his past where one of his instructor pilots helped save his life in a deployment. Milam became disoriented during a mission and heard a voice that reminded him what to do in the situation. Milam said he survived because of what that IP instilled in him during his training.

"That little voice may be the difference between a challenging mission, and a disaster," Milam said.

Milam ended his speech by reminding the class to say "thank you" to their IPs, mechanics and loved ones for all their help and unmatched guidance.

Mississippi senator aides receive orientation flights



U.S. Air Force photo by Richard Johnson
Ty Mabry and Anne Hall Brashier, Military Legislative Aides for Sen. Thad Cochran of Mississippi, pause for a photo with Col. Doug Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, after their T-6 Texan II orientation flights Oct. 6 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The staffers, who were able to experience Air Force aviation for the first time, called it "the highlight of the year."



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Oct. 11

The Waverley Mansion is hosting an Antiques Market from 2 - 5p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments are available for purchase. Anyone may set-up a booth or table with items that are at least 100 years old. Ten percent of the selling price for each item will go towards the upkeep of Waverley Mansion. Waverley is located on the Tenn-Tom Waterway at 1854 Waverley Mansion Road, West Point, Mississippi. For more information contact Waverley Mansion at 494-1399 or Bob Raymond at boobois@yahoo.com.

Oct. 14 - 15

Caledonia Days 2016 festival kicks off 6 p.m. with a free concert, food vendors and a large area for children and continues on Saturday with plenty of food vendors, arts and crafts vendors, an antique car and tractor show, pet parade, and children's area. The event is located in Lowndes County, about 6 miles east of Columbus. To learn more about the annual festival held the third weekend in October, visit www.caledoniams.org

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Bargain Line advertisement

The Bargain Line is free for all military members (including guard and reserve members), DOD civilians, military retirees, family members and contract employees.

Bargain Line advertisements must be turned in to the Silver Wings office in the 14th Flying Training Wing headquarters building by noon Monday to be included in the following week's issue. Late ads will be held over for the next issue.

Reruns must be phoned in to the Silver Wings office, 434-7068, by noon Monday for inclusion in the next week's issue. Please do not re-submit ads for rerun on this form. Advertisements should contain a home phone number, home address or both. Duty phone numbers will not appear in the ads.

Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income, such as baby-sitting or rental property, may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through the Silver Wings publisher, 328-2424. Please fill out this form completely. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit ads as necessary.

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If you would like to give any other suggestions, please e-mail us at silverwings@us.af.mil.

The deadline for submitting ads 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@us.af.mil or faxed to 434-7009. Calling Ext. 7068 by noon Monday can extend the run date of ads already submitted. Silver Wings reserves the right to limit ads based on content, space and frequency of requests. Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through The Commercial Dispatch, 328-2424.

Miscellaneous

For Sale: Dining room table Cherry, \$25; Brown three piece Living room set, \$50. For more information call 549-1214, if there is no answer, please leave a message.

For Sale: Three-ton Auto-Zone automotive jack, large jack pad for sale. One year old and used very little. Valued at \$115 new, selling for \$50. For more information call 356-4511.

For Sale: Two like new speedlights for canon dslr camera, asking \$140 for both; brand new photography studio lighting set containing three lights with stands, three umbrellas with stands, three 10x10 backdrops, backdrop stand, asking \$140; Casio wk-3800 musical keyboard, 76 full keys, 800 tones, auto rhythms, on-board sequencer, and more, asking \$245; 2000 Dodge Neon, good condition, automatic, asking \$2100 or best offer. For more information, contact 386-6981.

For Sale: Giant Full Suspension Mountain Bike for sale. Comes with Hayes hydraulic disk brakes, Shimano Deore derailleur system, Hutchinson Tubeless Tire System, SID Hydra Air Rock Shocks, Prodigy Raceface Cranks, Cane Creek Handlebar System, Raceface Seat Stem, WTB Seat, CatEye Computer, Nitehawk HID Dual headlights with Battery packs, CatEye Taillight, Topeak Handlebar System, and Magellan GPS; \$1000 or best offer. For more information, call 951-427-0755

Transportation

For Sale: 1978 Triumph Spitfire with extra parts and hard top for sale, \$3000. Fore more information, call Danny at 549-5188 or 434-7317.



DOD announces new hire probationary period

Terri Moon Cronk
DoD News, Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — The probationary period for many new civilian employees hired by the Defense Department on or after Nov. 26, 2015, has changed from one year to two years, the acting deputy assistant secretary of defense for civilian personnel policy said.

Julie Blanks confirmed the change to the statute governing the probationary period in a memorandum to human resources directors Sept. 27.

The new law took effect Nov. 26, 2015, as part of the fiscal year 2016 National Defense Authorization Act, said DOD spokesman Eric Pahon.

Who's affected, who's not

The new probationary period affects employees who are appointed to permanent positions in the competitive service, and anyone who received career DOD appointments in the Senior Executive Service on or after Nov. 26, 2015, Blanks' memo noted.

The change doesn't apply to employees appointed prior to that date or those appointed in excepted service, the spokesman said.

"DOD appointees serving a probationary period who were appointed before Nov. 26, 2015, are not affected by the new law and will continue to complete a one-year probationary period," Pahon said. "The (one-year) supervisory probationary period ... is not affected by the new two-year probationary period. However, those employees who are newly appointed to a supervisory position who are required to serve both a su-

"DOD appointees serving a probationary period who were appointed before Nov. 26, 2015, are not affected by the new law and will continue to complete a one-year probationary period," Pahon said.

pervisory probationary period and a probationary period ... will serve (both) concurrently."

The law also allows DOD and its military departments to "exercise their discretion to extend a covered employee's probationary period past the new two-year requirement," Blanks' memo read, and added DOD policy for that provision is being developed.

Transferring to DOD

Probationary terms can vary when an employee is appointed to a new position outside his or her current agency, officials said. These include:

- An employee transferring from another agency who has already completed a probationary period under an initial appointment in the competitive service, having attained full appeal rights to the Merit Systems Protection Board, does not have to serve another probationary period under this authority.

- An employee transferring from another agency who receives a career appointment in the SES in the DOD on or after Nov. 26, 2015, must serve a two-year probationary period.
- An employee transferring from another agency who has not completed a probationary period and is appointed to a position in DOD may be required to complete a new probationary period. Credit for prior federal civilian service toward completion of a probationary period may apply in accordance with applicable federal regulation.

Why the law changed

The reason for the change in the law stems from the increasingly complex nature of much of the work performed by DOD employees, Pahon explained. One year often does not allow sufficient time for a supervisor to form conclusions regarding the performance of a new employee, he pointed out.

For example, supervisors might not have adequate time to observe employees if the new hires must spend much of the first year in training before beginning work, often rotate through various offices within the first year of employment, or because occupations are project-based and new employees don't have an opportunity to demonstrate all the skills associated with their positions, he said.

"Regardless of the reason, the longer probationary period offers employees a greater opportunity to showcase their talents and for supervisors to properly assess their capabilities," Pahon added.

Affected employees are encouraged to speak with their supervisors or human resources contact, he said.

REMAINS
(Continued from page 11)

conducted a dignified transfer upon arrival at the base, which was attended by Gilbert's family, base officials and senior Air Force leaders, to include the Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James, Goldfein, Rand, and Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James Cody.

AFMES confirmed Oct. 4 through dental examination and DNA testing that all remains received were those of Maj. Gilbert. His lost remains had been recovered and fully repatriated.

"First and foremost I want say God is forever faithful," Gilbert Ravella said. "He was good whether this recovery ever happened or not. But we praise Him, in His infinite mercies, for granting us this miracle after almost 10 years of waiting, hoping and praying.

"Second, I want to thank not only the brave Special Operations Forces that ultimately found Troy's body but also each and every single Airman, Soldier, Sailor and Marine who searched or supported the recov-

"We are grateful to all those within the U.S. military, the U.S. government and beyond who never gave up and worked so hard to help return this American hero home to his final resting place," James said.

ery mission during these last 10 years," she said. "As each of them put on the uniform and gave their best efforts, not fully knowing if they made a difference, I can assure them that they laid the stepping stones which led to this final victory. Justice was served."

James also praised the unwavering commitment of those who endeavored to bring the fallen fighter pilot back to U.S. soil.

"We are grateful to all those within the U.S. military, the U.S. government and beyond who never gave up and worked so hard to help return this American hero home to his final resting place," James said. "As an Air Force, we are absolutely committed to leaving no Airman behind and to honoring the memory of warriors like Maj. Gilbert who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to

our nation."

Goldfein echoed James' sentiments saying Gilbert represented the best ideals of America's Airmen.

"As an Air Force officer, husband and father, Troy Gilbert truly represented what being an Airman is all about," Goldfein said. "He was committed to serving his country, his team and his family in everything he did. On the day he died, he characteristically put service before self when he answered the short-notice call to support coalition ground forces who had come under attack. He put his own safety aside and saved many lives that day."

Now, finally, a decade later, Gilbert has returned to the country he so valiantly served. At the request of his family, his remains will

be interred at Arlington National Cemetery in the coming months along with the remains originally recovered in 2006 and 2012.

"The memory of my five children watching their father's flag-draped transfer case being unloaded from the cargo hold and carried by his brothers-in-arms back to American soil renews my hope for all mankind," said Gilbert Ravella. "Attending the dignified transfer at Dover Monday night was the closest we have been to Troy in 10 years. That was bittersweet.

"However, the memory of his sacrificial selflessness, his passionate love for Jesus Christ, his devotion to his family and to his beloved country echoed in their footsteps long after the transport vehicle drove him away," she said. "From the bottom of my heart I want everyone to know how grateful the kids and I have been for your years of prayers. There is no doubt they reached the very ears of God."

"As our military promised, no one was left behind on the field of battle," Gilbert Ravella said. "Troy is home."

BLAZE Hangar Tails: SR-71 Blackbird

Background

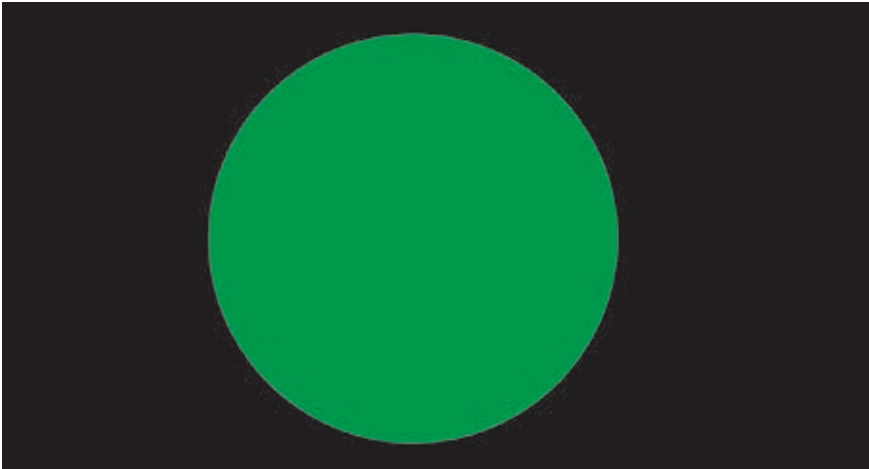
The Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird is a long-range, Mach 3+ strategic reconnaissance aircraft that was operated by the United States Air Force. It was developed as a black project from the Lockheed A-12 reconnaissance aircraft in the 1960s by Lockheed and its Skunk Works division. Renowned American aerospace engineer Clarence "Kelly" Johnson was responsible for many of the design's innovative concepts.

During aerial reconnaissance missions, the SR-71 operated at high speeds and altitudes to allow it to outrace threats. If a surface-to-air missile launch was detected, the standard evasive action was simply to accelerate and outfly the missile. The SR-71 was designed to have basic stealth characteristics and served as a precursor to future stealth aircraft.



Courtesy photo

The SR-71 was known for being the fastest plane in history. If a surface-to-air missile launch was detected, the standard evasive action was simply to accelerate and outfly the missile.



Courtesy photo

Reconnaissance Systems Officer George Morgan stands in front of a Cold War-era U.S. Air Force SR-71 spy plane. Nearly 40 years later, the SR-71 still holds many flight records for speed.

Loaded weight: 152,000 lbs.
Maximum takeoff weight: 172,000 lbs.
Powerplant: 2 × Pratt & Whitney J58-1 continuous-bleed afterburning turbojets
Wheel track: 16 ft. 8 in.
Wheelbase: 37 ft. 10 in.
Aspect ratio: 1.7

Performance

Maximum speed: Mach 3.3 at 80,000 ft.
Range: 2,900 nmi
Ferry range: 3,200 nmi
Service ceiling: 85,000 ft.
Rate of climb: 11,820 ft./m
Wing loading: 84 lbs./ft.²
Thrust/weight: 0.44

UPT 84-1 reunion

More than 30 members of Undergraduate Pilot Training class 84-01 are joining together to celebrate their 33rd graduation anniversary Oct. 12 - 16.



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.)

Medical Terminology/ Coding

The Medical Terminology and Coding workshop is 6 - 9 p.m. Oct. 11 - Nov. 17. The Workshop acquaints students with medical terminology and coding to enhance employment opportunities in the medical environment. Three hours classes, two nights a week for six weeks, for total of 36 hours. Taught by EMCC Work Force Development. Only 12 text books available. Advance registration required by calling 434-2790.

Wing Newcomers Orientation

This brief is 8 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Oct. 18 and is mandatory for newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel. Spouses are encouraged to attend. The orientation is held at the Columbus Club. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Marketing Yourself For a Job Fair

Learn how to market yourself for a job fair 9 - 10:30 a.m. Oct. 12. The workshop provides Information on preparing for the upcoming job fair, how to interview, and using marketing techniques. For more information, call 434-2790 to register.

Entrepreneurship Track Transition Workshop

This workshop is held 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Oct. 13-14. The Entrepreneurship workshop is conducted by the Small Business Administration for veterans and all base personnel interested starting up and operating their own business. To register and for more information, call 434-2790.

Military Life Cycle

The Military Life Cycle workshop from 1-2 p.m. Oct. 18 allows the VA contractors to explain to service members, whether first term, separating, retiring or a veteran, what services the VA offers and what they are able to provide throughout the member's military career and how to apply for benefits. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Golden Triangle Employment Expo

The Golden Triangle Employment Expo is 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Oct. 19 at the American Legion Building, Columbus. Go to jobfairs.ms.gov/ for list of participating vendors. 40 plus employers will be offering jobs. For more information call 434-2790.

Pre-separation Counseling

This counseling is a mandatory briefing for 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

Felton treats Team BLAZE with ice cream



U.S. Air Force photo by Elizabeth Owens

Team BLAZE members are treated to an ice cream social with Chief Master Sgt. Rita Felton, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief, before her retirement Oct. 3 at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Felton served for 30 years before retiring from the military.

or retirement. The counseling is held daily at 8:30 a.m. It takes approximately 60 minutes. Please contact A&FRC, 434-2839/434-2790 for more information.

Pre, Post Deployment Tour Brief

These briefings are mandatory briefings for active-duty personnel who are either deploying or returning from deployment or a remote tour. The briefings are held daily at the A&FRC. Pre-deployment is at 9:30 a.m., and post-deployment is at 1:30 p.m. Please contact A&FRC, 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 Program

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 deployments, reintegration, and life challenges such as 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.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering please contact the Airman & Family Readiness Center. 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 Development Center, Library, Golf Course, Medical Clinic, Chapel, Airman Attic, Thrift Store, the Retiree Activities office and many others. For more information please call A&FRC at 434-2790.

Air Force Recovery Coordination Program

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 recovery. 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 AFB RCC at DSN: 493-3399, Office: 334-953-3399 or tim.griggs.1.ctr@us.af.mil.

Personal Financial Readiness

Make the most of your money. Contact Dolores Sherman, Personal Financial Counselor, for an appointment at 426-2527, or 434-2790. She can help manage finances, resolve financial problems, and reach long-term goals such as getting an education, buying a home and planning for retirement.

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. If 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 DSN 742-2715.

DRMO

Recycle first by using the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office as your facility's source of supply. Authorized personnel may retrieve property free of charge if the property is still physically located here in Base Supply and marked at DRMO facilities. Other DRMO processing is available via the web at www.drmo.dla.mil. Cost of shipping will apply. Please call Inspection at 434-7231 to review DRMO property or Stock Control at 434-7197 with questions or concerns you may have. Parking and assistance is available in the back of building 158.

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

Sundays:
3:45 p.m. - Religious Education, grades K-9 (Chapel Annex)
4 p.m. - Choir Practice (Chapel Sanctuary)
4 p.m. - Confession (or by appointment)
5 p.m. - Mass w/Children's Church
Tuesdays:
11:30 a.m. - Daily Mass
Wednesdays:
11:30-12:30 p.m. - Adoration

Protestant Community

Sundays:
9 a.m. - Adult Sunday School (Chapel Library)
10:45 a.m. - Traditional Worship Service
Tuesdays:
5 p.m. - Student Pilot Bible Study (Chapel Library)
Wednesdays:
4 p.m. - Music Rehearsal

Ecumenical services

Wednesdays:
6 p.m. - AWANA, a religious education program for children ages three years old to 6th grade
6 p.m. - Adult Bible study on the Gospel of John
6 p.m. - Youth Group

Remains of fighter pilot hero return home after 10 years

Mike Martin

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — This week, nearly 10 years after he was killed in combat operations in Iraq, U.S. forces brought home the remains of F-16 pilot Maj. Troy Gilbert, who died saving the lives of U.S. service members and coalition allies.

On Nov. 27, 2006, Gilbert and his wingman were flying back to base when they got the call that an AH-6 Little Bird helicopter had been shot down. Enemy insurgents had the crew, along with the coalition forces called in to support, outnumbered and pinned down.

With little fuel left, the two F-16 pilots changed course and headed to the hotly contested warzone just outside of Taji, Iraq. Due to fuel limitations, the pilots were forced to take turns refueling and providing air support to the troops under fire. By the time Gilbert was able to make his first approach, the calls for support had grown more urgent. Insurgents attacked with truck-mounted heavy machine guns, rocket-propelled grenades, small arms fire and mortars.

Gilbert, a friendly Texas Tech graduate dubbed "Trojan" by his fellow aviators, acted quickly and aggressively. To avoid causing civilian casualties by dropping the bombs he carried under his wings, he opted for low-altitude strafing passes using his 20-milimeter Gatling gun. Gilbert made his first pass, destroying one truck and dispersing the others which were almost upon the friendly forces 20 miles northwest of Baghdad. Keeping his eye on the enemy targets moving at high speed, he conducted a second pass from an even lower altitude.

He continued firing on the enemy forces during a dynamic and difficult flight profile, impacting the ground at high speed on the second pass. Reports say the crash killed him instantly. However, Al Qaeda insurgents took Gilbert's body before U.S. forces were able to get to the scene, leading to 10 long years of a family waiting for their husband, father, son and brother to come home.

He was survived by his wife Ginger Gilbert Ravella, sons Boston and Greyson, and daughters Isabella, Aspen and Analise.

In a letter to Gilbert's wife from the Army element commander whose troops the F-16 pilot was supporting that day, the commander wrote that Gilbert saved his unit from "almost certain disaster" as insurgents prepared to attack their position with mortars.

"With no ability to protect ourselves on the desert floor, we most certainly would have sustained heavy casualties," he wrote. "Troy, however, stopped that from happening. His amazing display of bravery and tenacity immediately broke up the enemy formation and caused them to flee in panic. My men and I will never forget the ultimate sacrifice your husband made for me and my men on Nov. 27th, and we will always be in his debt."

"Major Gilbert's motivation to succeed saved the lives of the helicopter crew and other coalition ground forces," then-president of the accident investigation board and current Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Dave Goldfein said in his safety report. Goldfein saluted as Gilbert's remains were solemnly carried from the C-17 that brought him home this week.



U.S. Air Force Photo by Senior Airman Aaron J. Jenner

An Air Force carry team carries the remains of Maj. Troy Gilbert Oct. 3, 2016, at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware. Gilbert was killed Nov. 27, 2006, when his F-16C Fighting Falcon crashed 20 miles northwest of Baghdad. U.S. forces were able to return the F-16 pilot's remains approximately 10 years after he was killed in combat operations saving the lives of U.S. service members and coalition allies.

Also on hand was Gen. Robin Rand, Air Force Global Strike Command commander. Rand regarded Gilbert as a friend, first meeting him when he was an F-16 pilot at Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, and eventually crossing paths again when Gilbert became his executive officer at Luke. The relationship continued when Gilbert served under Rand's command in the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing at Balad Air Base, Iraq in 2006.

"Troy fought like a tiger in battle that day," Rand said. "No doubt, his actions on Nov. 27, 2006 illustrate greatness, but those actions that day aren't what made him great. What made him great was his commitment to adhere in every facet of his life to our three treasured core values of integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do."

Rand recalled how Gilbert spent much of his off-duty time at Balad volunteering in the base hospital or supporting the unit chapel. He said base medics were so overcome by Gilbert's death that they came to see him, asking if they could name a wing of the hospital after him, and enlisted groups petitioned to have the Balad Air Base chapel annex renamed "Troy's Place."

Following the accident, U.S. forces recovered DNA which provided enough information to positively identify Gilbert.

His funeral, with full military honors, followed Dec. 11, 2006 at Arlington National Cemetery. In September 2012, some additional, but very limited, remains were recovered and interred during a second service Dec. 11, 2013.

Then, on Aug. 28, an Iraqi tribal leader approached a U.S. military advisor near al Taqaddam, Iraq, and produced what he claimed to be evidence of the remains of a U.S. military pilot who had crashed in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Iraqi said he was a representative of his tribe, which had the remains and the flight gear the pilot was wearing when he went down.

The tribal leader turned over the evidence to the U.S. advisor who immediately provided it to U.S. experts for testing at the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware. AFMES confirmed the evidence Sept. 7 through DNA testing.

With this verification, U.S. military advisors in Iraq re-engaged the tribal leader who subsequently turned over the remains, including a U.S. flight suit, flight jacket and parachute harness.

Gilbert's remains, promptly prepared for return to the U.S. for testing, arrived Oct. 3 at Dover AFB. Airmen at Dover See REMAINS, Page 12

Air Force releases 2016 promotion statistics by AFSC

Kat Bailey
Air Force Personnel Center
Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — Air Force officials have released the 16E5, 16E6 and 16E7 promotion statistics broken down by Air Force Specialty Code and promotion recommendation.

In an effort to provide transparency to Airmen, the data has been posted to the myPers website by five-letter AFSC. AFSCs in which all eligible Airmen received the same promotion recommendation, and were selected for promotion, were not included so that the personal identity and promotion recommendation about selectees cannot be gleaned from the report. Additionally, to protect the privacy interests of Airmen, data for AFSCs with subpopulations have been rolled up and incorporated into the five-letter AFSCs.

Beginning in 2014, the enlisted evaluation system underwent significant changes with the focus on making duty performance the driving factor in performance evalua-

tions. In the new system, commanders allocate promotion recommendations (do not promote, not ready now, promote, must promote and promote now) to promotion-eligible senior airmen, staff sergeants and technical sergeants.

The released data encompasses the first round of promotions since the EES overhaul took place. With only one year's worth of data, the Air Force has a limited ability to analyze any trends thus far in the new program. As the Air Force progresses through the second and third forced distribution cycles, analysis will identify any trends and determine if any changes are required.

The AFSC lists can be found on myPers from any component's enlisted promotions landing page. Under Promotion cycle Information, click Promotion Selects and Statistics and select the CY16 links.

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 Services website.



U.S. Air Force graphic/Staff Sgt. Alexx Pons

Promotion recommendation breakouts by Air Force Specialty Codes for the 16E5, 16E6, 16E7 promotion cycles are now available on myPers. The released data encompasses the first round of promotions since the enlisted evaluation system overhaul took place starting in 2014.

AF launches yearlong 'Cyber Secure' campaign

Mike Martin
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — The Air Force message is clear — October may be National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, but with the continuous advancement of technology and evolving cyber threats, one month of cybersecurity awareness is no longer enough.

In a memorandum sent to Air Force personnel, Lt. Gen. William J. Bender, the Air Force's chief information officer, said he was establishing the Chief Information Security Office (CISO) and beginning a yearlong Cyber Secure campaign in October to address cybersecurity throughout the service.

"We must position cyber at the forefront of our thinking, planning, and operations," Bender said. "Cybersecurity depends on every Airman, regardless of rank or job description. Every time you log onto a system, click on a link, download a file, or plug one device into another, we risk exposing our systems to exploitation."

In other words, when it comes to cyberspace, everything is connected.

"Every Airman who plugs an unauthorized device into a network or circumvents a security control on a maintenance loader needs to understand that he or she is creating vulnerabilities for our enemies to exploit," Bender said.

Maj. Gen. Cedric D. George, the Air Force deputy chief of staff for logistics, said it's important to emphasize at every



echelon of command that data and information are primary reasons we must take cybersecurity seriously.

"Data remains a strategic, operational and tactical asset," George said. "It's as important to logisticians as fuel. No Jet

Propellant 8, no airpower; no secure and synthesized log data,

no airpower — period. We need every Airman to understand that cybersecurity awareness and the mission systems we connect to are inextricably linked, and we must be cyber secure."

Air Force leadership also emphasized that the cyber domain is much more than the internet.

"While the internet is part of cyberspace, it is not all of cyberspace," Bender said. "Any computer system capable of communicating with other computer systems in some way is part of cyberspace. A desktop computer, an avionics computer on an aircraft, a smart phone, an industrial controller, and the processors on a modern car are all part of cyberspace, although only some of them are routinely connected to the Internet. Most modern military equipment — from a humble truck to a B-2 (Raider) bomber — has some form of processor and is thus reliant upon and a part of cyberspace."

Bender called on Airmen across the total force to start considering cybersecurity as part of their normal routine in the same way they're accustomed to thinking about physical safety.

"It is not just the cyberspace warriors who need to adapt; operators and support personnel who focus on the physical domains also need to practice operating effectively in an environment of constant change where not everything works as expected," he said. "Everyone in the total force must learn to think of cyberspace as a war-fighting domain. Mission assurance is not something created by technical experts alone."

Columbus Air Force Base Information and Events

Join our Facebook page at Columbus AFB Living, Twitter at @columbusafbiving, MyAirForceLife App on any smart phone or visit our website at columbusafbiving.com to keep up to date with all the great events happening around base. Check out the calendar on the website for important Airman and Family Readiness Center events. For more information, contact 434-2337.

Pearl River Resort Casino Trip

Outdoor Recreation is offering a monthly casino trip to Pearl River Resort. Upcoming dates are Oct. 22, Nov. 19, and Dec. 17. The cost is only \$25 per person; includes \$20 in play credit at casino and transportation. Outdoor Recreation bus departs Exchange/Shoppette parking lot at 1:30 p.m. Any party of 10 or more may book transportation to casino anytime for \$25 per person. For more information, contact 434-2505.

It's football season, Thursday NFL Football

Come out to the Club on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. There will be food specials and prize giveaway. The complete game schedule is available at the Columbus Club. Call 434-2489 for more information.

The Overrun Open Friday Nights

The Overrun is open Fridays 4:30 p.m. until midnight. Bar menu includes chicken wing basket, chicken tender basket, club wrap, or buffalo chicken wrap. For more information, contact 434-2419.

Discount Bowling on Monday

Bowling is \$.25 every Monday in October, 4 – 8 p.m. except on Oct. 10.

Legos at the Library

Spark creativity with Legos 2 p.m. Oct. 9 at the library. Please call 434-2934 for more information.

Columbus Club Lunch Buffet Specials

The Columbus Club is offering a lunch buffet Tuesday - Friday 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Taco Tuesday includes tacos and nachos for only \$5 per club member and \$6 per non-member; Wednesday has pizza and wings, Thursday is southern, and Friday is catfish and spaghetti. Cost of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday buffet is only \$7.95 for club members and \$8.95 for non-members. For more information, contact 434-2419.

Story Time and Circle Time at the Library

The Base Library is offering Story Time every Friday at 11 a.m. for all ages. Circle Time is offered each Wednesday at 11 a.m. for ages up to 4 years old. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Bowling Center Party Specials

The Bowling Center is offering two options for all your party needs. Option 1 includes 2 hours of unlimited bowling



and shoe rental for only \$8.50 per person. Option 2 includes 2 hours of unlimited bowling, shoe rental, and a child meal for only \$11.50 per person. Choice of meal includes chicken tenders, hot dog, corn dog, or grilled cheese served with fries and drink. You may bring in a cake, cupcakes, and ice cream. No other outside food and drinks allowed. For more information, contact 434-3426.

Cosmic Bowling Special

The Bowling Center is offering Cosmic Bowling for only \$12 per person every Friday and Saturday night from 5 – 8 p.m. You also may purchase individual games for \$3 per game with purchase of \$1.50 shoe rental. For more information, contact 434-3426.

Take & Bake Pizzas at the Bowling Center

Large and medium grab and go ready pizzas for you to take home and bake yourself available at the bowling center. Save \$2 per pizza.

Hobby and Craft Instructors Needed

Do you have a hobby or craft project you can share with others? For more information, contact 434-7836.

Referees Needed

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

Lawn Mower Repair

Lawn mower repair is now available at Outdoor Recreation. The cost is only \$40 per hour plus parts; pickup and delivery available. Self-help bicycle repair is also available. For more information, contact 434-2507.

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 nine or less. You must purchase paint at Outdoor Recreation for \$45 per case of 2,000. For more information, contact 434-2505.

Make Your Shopping Easier

Force Support Squadron gift cards are available in increments of \$5 to fit any budget. They can be used at most Force Support Squadron facilities at Air Force installations worldwide and they never go out of style. Purchase your gift card at one of the following locations: Bowling Center, Golf Course or Youth Center. For more information, contact 434-3426.

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 information, call 434-2505.

Green Plate Special

Whispering Pines Golf Course offers a special for lunch Monday through Friday. For more information, call 434-7932 or check us out on Facebook at Columbus AFB Living or Twitter @CAFBLiving!

Instructional Classes at Youth Center

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

Fitness on Request

CAFB Fitness and Sports offers a truly comprehensive group fitness platform that is available all day and completely customizable to meet your needs with over 30 different classes on the Fitness on Request system. For more information, call 434-2772.

Space A Lodging

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

Ride in Style

If you don't want to leave your car at the airport over a vacation, we can help you out. Outdoor Recreation offers a shuttle service to the airport of your choice. Call 434-2505 for more information.

Visit www.columbus.af.mil to learn about Columbus AFB agencies and other important information.



U.S. Air Force photos by Elizabeth Owens
More than 7,000 eighth grade students participate during the Create Foundation career exposition Oct. 4 at the BancorpSouth Arena and Conference Center in Tupelo, Mississippi.



Students practice medical techniques with training equipment during the Create Foundation career exposition Oct. 5 at the BancorpSouth Arena and Conference Center in Tupelo, Mississippi. More than 60 companies and organizations represented their respective career fields with hands-on and interactive exposition.

Team BLAZE helps students “Imagine the Possibilities”

Senior Airman Kaleb Snay
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

More than 50 Team BLAZE members supported over 7,000 eighth grade students during Create Foundation’s “Imagine the Possibilities” Career Exposition Oct 4 - 6 at the BancorpSouth Arena and Conference Center in Tupelo, Mississippi.

Students from seventeen northeast Mississippi counties attended the event giving them the opportunity to take the first look at their future. More than 60 companies and organizations represented their respective career fields with hands-on and interactive demonstrations.

Their [the students] understanding of what the military does may be limited to fighting and guns,” said Col. James Fisher, 14th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander. “We want to show them there are multiple career paths within the Air Force.”

Seven career paths were available to include aerospace; law, public safety, corrections, and security; health science; government and public admin; information technology; engineering; and transportation, distribution, and logistics. Columbus Air Force Base Airmen represented several Air Force organizations for students to explore including aerospace physiology, civil engineering, communications, firefighting, logistics, maintenance, medical, piloting, public affairs, recruiting and security forces.

Some demonstrations garnered a lot of attention such as the Barany Chair from Aerospace and Operational Physiology, the T-38 cockpit for pilots, Fire Department

mobile fire prevention trailer, Medical and dental equipment setups, and the hourly Military Working Dog demonstrations. With the extra attention, members had many chances to interact with the students to help them better understand their career fields.

“Anytime we can interact with the public and educate them on the working dogs and their capabilities is great for us,” said Staff Sgt. Matthew Price, 14th Security Forces Squadron Military Working Dog Handler. “Being at CREATE has been a great experience and we want to show the kids that they can accomplish anything.”

Some Airmen were given the chance to talk about their personal career path that led them to their current position.

“CREATE has been a great experience because I get to share with the students my life story,” said Senior Airman Morris Worship, 14th Communications Squadron. “Some kids don’t know where they want to go and a lot of people think about the military as fight, fight, fight, but I explain to them that you can have the same job in the military as you can have on the outside.”

Capt. Adam King, 48th Flying Training Squadron, felt it was his way to give back after he went to something similar in high school that put him on the path to become a pilot.

“Events like these can really make a difference, because it made the difference for me,” King said. “From personal experience, there were [Air Force] Academy recruiters and pilots at the event and that helped me make the decision to be a pilot.”

For more information on the Create Foundation career exposition, go online at createfoundation.com/career-expo.



Senior Airman Nickolas Candiano, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron, shows students their common equipment during the Create Foundation career exposition Oct. 4 at the BancorpSouth Arena and Conference Center in Tupelo, Mississippi. Students from seventeen northeast Mississippi counties attended the event giving them the opportunity to take the first look at their future.



Students learn about firefighters and their duties during the Create Foundation career exposition Oct. 4 at the BancorpSouth Arena and Conference Center in Tupelo, Mississippi. Columbus Air Force Base Airmen represented several Air Force organizations for students to explore including aerospace physiology, civil engineering, communications, firefighting, logistics, maintenance, medical, piloting, public affairs, recruiting and security forces.