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Vol. 41, Issue 5

February 10, 2017

Weather

Friday Sunny High 49°F Low 36°F	Saturday Partly Cloudy High 58°F Low 47°F
Sunday P.M. Thunderstorms High 61°F Low 40°F	Monday Cloudy High 67°F Low 53°F

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight

News Briefs

Military Auxiliary Bishop Neal Buckon visit
The Most Reverend Bishop Neal Buckon, Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese for the Military, is scheduled to visit Team BLAZE Feb. 13 – 15.

Taste of Soul Lunch
A Taste of Soul “come and go” lunch is available starting at 11 a.m. Feb. 16 at the Chapel Annex.

Washington's Birthday Holiday
Most base organizations are closed Feb. 20 in observance of the George Washington Birthday Holiday.

Exchange store closure
The Exchange store is scheduled to be closed for infrastructure upgrades Feb. 18 - 20. The facilities affected include the Barber shop, Subway, Taco Bell, Optical, ATM, and GNC. The Commissary and Express will be unaffected by these upgrades.

Inside



Feature 8

SUPT Class 17-05 graduates today at 10 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium.



U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. Savannah Stephens
Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th Flying Training Wing Commander, hands Stennis Miller, 14th FTW “Pilot for a Day,” a plaque of his hero shot and coin commemorating his time on base Feb. 3, 2017, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. In partnership with the Columbus-Lowndes Chamber of Commerce, children with life-long illnesses get a chance to experience a day with the Air Force custom-tailored to their desires and capabilities.

14th FTW hosts Pilot for a Day

2nd Lt. Savannah Stephens
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Stennis Miller, a nine-year-old from Starkville, Mississippi, and his family visited the base Feb. 3 as part of the “Pilot for a Day” program. In partnership with the Columbus-Lowndes Chamber of

Commerce, children with life-long illnesses get a chance to experience a day with the Air Force custom-tailored to their desires and capabilities. After arriving at Columbus Air Force Base, Miller was greeted at the 48th Flying Training Squadron with roaring

See PILOT FOR A DAY, 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 (17-14)	1.27 days	2.35 days	Mar. 8	48th (17-06)	-1.36 days	2.18 days	Feb. 24	49th (17-EBC)	-6.73 days	-3.78 days	Mar. 2	T-6	832	573	10,598
41st (17-15)	4.76 days	3.21 days	Mar. 31	50th (17-06)	3.02 days	-3.74 days	Feb. 24					T-1	222	190	2,74
												T-38	250	305	3,653
												IFF	144	102	1,532

* Mission numbers provided by 14 FTW Wing Scheduling.

The graduation speaker is Maj. Gen. Brett Williams, U.S. Air Force retired.



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14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 37 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.

PILOT FOR A DAY

(Continued from page 1)

applause and cheers from students and instructor pilots. Col. Stan Lawrie, 14th Operations Group Commander, and Lt. Col. Charles Gilliam, 48th FTS Commander, presented Miller his very own flight suit and squadron patches to wear during his visit.

Miller and his family enjoyed many aspects of Columbus AFB such as displays of all three 14th FTW training aircraft, as well as an F-16 Falcon visiting from Nellis AFB, Nevada, a personalized tour of the fire department, time in the T-1 flight simulator, and lunch in the 48 FTS heritage room. Col. Douglas Gosney, 14th FTW Commander, presented him with a plaque of his hero shot and coin commemorating his time as the “Pilot for a Day.”

“Leading and organizing Pilot for a Day has been one of the most rewarding endeavors I’ve been a part of,” said 1st Lt. Ricardo Torres, the 14th FTW “Pilot for a Day” coordinator. “Sharing a small portion of the incredible opportunity we have each and every day, and imparting it with a child in need of hope makes you all the more grateful for what we do.”

If you know of a potential candidate for this program, contact Torres at 434-7642.

2017 Tax Center Hours

The Columbus Air Force Base Tax Center is open for active duty, retiree, or dependent members with a combined family income under \$58,000. This service is executed by trained volunteers who will prepare your tax returns through April 8 free of charge by appointment only. The Tax Center is located on the first floor of the old Personnel Center, bldg. 926, room 105.

The hours of operation are Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. – noon. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, please call the Columbus AFB Legal Office at 434-7030.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun	Long Range Events
13 Military archbishop visit	14 St. Valentine's Day lunch, noon @ Chapel Annex	15	16 Taste of Soul Lunch, 11 a.m. @ Chapel Annex	17	18/19 Feb. 18-20: Exchange store closed for infrastructure upgrades	Feb. 28: Enlisted Promotions Mar. 7: Wing Newcomers Orientation Mar. 10: SUPT Class 17-06 Graduation Mar. 13-17: Local School Spring Break Mar. 23: Enlisted Dorm Dinner Mar. 24: Happy Irby Golf Tournament Mar. 27 - May 5: AFAF Mar. 28: Wing Newcomers Mar. 30 - Apr. 8: Spring Pilgrimage Mar. 31: Ryan Daniels Concert Apr. 6: BCC Luncheon Apr. 7: SUPT Class 17-07 Graduation Apr. 18: Wing Newcomers
20 Washington's Birthday Holiday	21	22 Senate Arms Service Comm. Staffers Visit	23 Black History Month Display, 11 a.m. @ Club	24	25/26	

Silver Wings

How to reach us

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs
555 Seventh Street, Suite 210,
Columbus AFB, MS, 39710
Commercial: (662) 434-7068
DSN: 742-7068
Fax: (662) 434-7009
E-mail: silverwings@us.af.mil

Editorial Staff

Col. Douglas Gosney
14th Flying Training Wing Commander

Mr. Sonic Johnson
Chief of Public Affairs

2nd Lt. Savannah Stephens
Master Sgt. Amanda Savannah
Quality Assurance

Senior Airman Kaleb Snay
Editor

Senior Airman John Day
Staff Writer

Mrs. Tina Perry
Layout Designer

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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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.

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Evening Worship - 6pm

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AF in search of 2017 USO Service Member of the Year nominees

Staff Sgt. Alexx Pons
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — Air Force officials are accepting nominations for the 2017 United Service Organizations Service Member of the Year Award. The award is sponsored by the USO and recognizes specific acts of heroism by E-5s or below from every military service branch. Organizations and base-level personnel should contact their major command, field operating agency, direct reporting unit or major command equivalent for details regarding suspense dates and nomination procedures. Each MAJCOM/COCOM/FOA/DRU may submit only one nomination, and nominations are due to the Air Force Personnel Center by April 4. For more information about Air Force personnel programs, go to myPers. Individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one by following the instructions on the Air Force Personnel Center website.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

- Feb. 10**

Sway to the sounds of Gill Harris and The Big Band Theory with Denise Reid and Roger Burlingame and All Pro Big Band in the Trotter Convention Center Main Floor. The concert and dance begins at 8 p.m. Dress as you please. Soft drinks, ice, set-ups will be available at a cash bar. Seats at a table are \$45 at the door. Concert tickets are available at the Columbus Arts Council. For more information, call 662-328-2787.
- Feb. 11**

“Simply Streisand,” The Music of Barbra Streisand performed by tribute artist Carla DelVillaggio, starts at 8 p.m. in Whitfield Hall on The Mississippi University for Women campus. For additional information or to reserve a free ticket, please call the Office of Development and Alumni at 329-7148.
- Feb. 16**

Mississippi University for Women faculty present a New Music Recital at 7:30 p.m. in Poindexter Hall, Connie Sills Kossen Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public. For more information visit online at [visitcolumbusms.org](#).
- Feb. 18**

Celebrate the season of love through oil painting while enjoying drinks and desserts at 4 p.m. at the Rosenzweig Arts Center. Price is \$40 for ages 21 and older. Registration Deadline is Feb. 18. Visit [columbus-arts.org/events](#) for more info.
- Feb. 24-25**

The Columbus Arts Council is hosting an Indoor Yard Sale 5 – 7 p.m. Feb. 24 and 7 a.m. – noon Feb. 25. Call 328-2787 or visit [columbus-arts.org/events/](#) for more info.

BARGAIN LINE

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: Two-drawer black file cabinet, \$20; like new 20 inch small rotary push-mower, \$40; 12ov plasma cutter, \$200; 3x21 Craftsman Belt Sander, \$10. For more information, call 889-8203.

Transportation

For Sale: 1978 Triumph Spitfire with extra parts and hard top for sale, \$3,000. For more information call Danny at 549-5188 or 434-7317.

Homes

For Sale: Three bedroom, two and a half bathroom house for sale, \$194,900. Address is 176 Donna Lane, Columbus Mississippi. For more information, call 328-7500.

BOARD
(Continued from page 13)

ables the Air Force to meet mission requirements as the intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance mission grows, while providing an opportunity to our highly skilled enlisted force,” said Chief Master Sgt. Eric Rigby, the enlisted aircrew assignments chief at AFPC.

AFPC has played an integral role in executing the new policies, running the selection board and planning for the career management of the new enlisted pilots.

“Expanding opportunities in the RPA program is one of many ways the Air Force is tapping into the talent of our skilled, diverse and

innovative enlisted force,” Rigby said.

The enlisted RPA selection board mirrors that of the undergraduate flying training program as closely as possible and will look at each applicant’s entire military personnel record.

“This ‘whole person’ concept provides the measure of an applicant’s aptitude for success in RPA pilot training,” he said.

AFPC will release the board results at the end of February.

For more information about Air Force personnel programs, go to myPers. Individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one by following the instructions.

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Promotion selects announced

Congratulations to Team BLAZE’s newest promotion selects:

Lt. Col. Todd Tilford, 14th Wing Staff Agency

Col. Jeffery Allison, 14th Operations Group
Col. Jenny Christian, 14th Mission Support Group

LET'S TALK RELATIONS



A HEART TO HEART
Tuesday, Feb. 14 noon-1 p.m.
Base Chapel Annex
Free lunch will be served

49th FTS dedicates rooms to 49th heroes



U.S. Air Force photo by Richard Johnson

Lt. Col. David Bickerstaff, 49th Fighter Training Squadron Commander, hangs a plaque at the entrance of the 49th Fighter Training Squadron Heritage Room, re-naming it to Tracer's Tavern Feb. 3, 2017, at Columbus Air Force base, Mississippi. The room was dedicated in honor and memory of Maj. Rick “Tracer” Shafer, a 49th FTS instructor pilot who lost his life during a general aviation accident on Aug. 31, 2014. The 49th FTS was joined by Ashley Shafer, Maj. Shafer’s widow, and their children. Additionally, the main briefing room at the 49th FTS was renamed in honor of Capt. Frank Mullinax Jr., 49th Fighter Interceptor Squadron World War II pilot who downed two German aircraft before being shot down, captured, spent nine months as a POW, escaped, spent nine months evading, was repatriated when the Allies took Italy and finally returned to U.S. soil July 4, 1944.

Cash back option returns to Columbus Air Force Base Exchange

Army & Air Force Exchange Service Public Affairs

Columbus Air Force Base Exchange shoppers can once again take advantage of the cash back option at Exchange checkout counters. Shoppers can receive cash back in amounts up to \$50 at the Columbus main store and amounts up to \$20 at the Express store.

“Following a worldwide system update, the cash back option at Army & Air Force Exchange Service stores is now fully operational,” said Gregory Templeton, AAFES General Manager. “The Exchange couldn’t be happier to bring this convenience back to our shoppers at Columbus.”

For more information, shoppers can contact the Columbus Exchange at 434-8484.

14th MDOS celebrates National Children’s Dental Health Month

Staff Sgt. Brandis Dixon
14th Medical Operations Squadron
Dental Technician

National Children’s Dental Health Month is a national observance held annually in February.

During this time, many educators and professionals such as dentists, hygienists, dental technicians, and other healthcare specialists promote oral health and proper dental hygiene for children.

This year’s NCDHM campaign slogan, by the American Dental Association, is “Choose Tap Water for a Sparkling Smile.” Members of the Dental Flight will visit the Child Development Center and Youth Center to stress the importance of proper brushing and flossing techniques, good nutrition habits, and use of fluoridated water during these visits. What children eat and when they eat it may affect not only their general health but also their oral health. They will be informing youth and adults about how choosing tap water can guard against tooth decay.

Fluoridated water helps prevent tooth decay in children and adults. Studies prove water fluoridation continues to be effective in reducing tooth decay by at least 25 percent in children and adults, even in the of era widespread availability of fluoride from other sources, such as fluoride toothpaste.



By drinking tap water, people can benefit from fluoridation’s cavity protection whether they are at home, work, or school.

Communities fluoridate their water supply because it is a cost-effective public health method that helps prevent cavities. The average cost per year for U.S. communities to fluoridate the water ranges from \$.50 per person for large communities to \$3 per person for small communities. Studies show communities of more than 20,000 people where it costs

about \$.50 per person to fluoridate the water, every one dollar invested in this preventive measure yields approximately \$38 savings in dental treatment costs. Researchers estimated in 2003 one state saved nearly \$149 million in unnecessary treatment costs by fluoridating public water supplies. Needless to say, fluoridation in water on base is a great asset to increase the prevention of cavities among the base community.

Here are some ways to reduce your children’s risk of tooth decay:

- Sugary foods and drinks should be consumed with meals. Saliva production increases during meals to help neutralize acid produced by bacterial plaque and rinse food particles from the mouth.
- Monitor beverage consumption. Instead of soft drinks all day, children should also choose water and low-fat milk.
- Limit between-meal snacks. If kids crave a snack, offer them nutritious foods, such as fruit, vegetables, cheese, smoothies made with natural ingredients, etc.
- If your kids chew gum, make it sugarless. Chewing sugarless gum after eating can increase saliva flow and help wash out food and decay-producing acid.
- Help your children develop good brushing and flossing habits.
- Schedule regular dental visits.

MPS receives 2016 fourth quarter Diamond Sharp Award



The 14th Force Support Squadron Military Personnel Flight receives the 2016 fourth Quarter Diamond Sharp Award Feb. 2, 2017, for their outstanding performance at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The Diamond Sharp Award is a recognition program run by the Columbus AFB first sergeants recognizing Airmen on a quarterly basis. The criteria for being nominated can be for outstanding service, selfless acts, or leadership traits that make an individual or team stand out amongst their peers. During the 4th quarter the MPS team consistently showed exceptional customer service, great follow up with leadership, and qualifies of a High Performance Organization.

U.S. Air Force photo by Melissa Doublin

Produce Pilots, Advance Airmen, Feed the Fight

AF releases new guidance on civilian hiring freeze

Richard Salomon
Air Force Personnel Center
Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — The Air Force has released additional guidance in regard to the federal civilian hiring freeze implemented Jan. 23.

According to the official memorandum, the hiring freeze applies to all executive departments and agencies regardless of their operation and program funding. Military personnel are excluded. Some exemptions are permitted to meet national security mission and public safety responsibilities or to prevent essential services from interruption.

The Air Force recently released additional implementation procedures in support of a follow-on Feb. 1 memorandum outlining the implementation of the freeze. According to the guidance, all requests for personnel action received by the Air Force Personnel Center by Feb 7, 2017, will continue to be announced, and referral certificates will continue to be issued.

If tentative job offers were given to selectees before Jan. 22, but with entry dates after Feb. 22, they will be notified of their pending status. Also, as of Feb. 7, AFPC will not be accept-

ing recruit/fill actions without an approved hiring freeze exemption signed by the Secretary of the Air Force.

Official guidance also calls for the implementation of a long-term plan to reduce the size of the federal workforce through attrition. The Office of Management and Budget, in coordination with the Office of Personnel Management, has been tasked to submit a plan by early May.

“The Air Force is dependent on a strong civilian workforce to carry out its global mission,” said Christine Armstrong, the Civilian Sustainment and Transition Programs Division chief. “We will continue to work closely with Air Staff to ensure the entire Air Force team receives up-to-date guidance as it becomes available.”

For information concerning non-appropriated fund positions, contact: afpc.svurf.humanresources@us.af.mil

Local civilian personnel offices can also provide additional information. Search “Hiring Freeze” on myPers for more information about the freeze and how organizations can submit exemption requests. Individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one by following the instructions on the Air Force Retiree Services website.

185 Airmen to meet first enlisted RPA pilot selection board

Kat Bailey
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — The first enlisted remotely piloted aircraft pilot selection board meets at the Air Force Personnel Center Feb. 6-9, 2017 to identify the next enlisted group to attend RPA pilot training as part of the deliberate approach to enhance the Air Force’s intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance mission.

AFPC has received complete application packages from 185 Airmen who are setting a historic precedence within the RPA community.

“Integrating enlisted pilots into the RQ-4 (Global Hawk) community en-

See BOARD, Page 14



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Peter Thompson

U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Scott Gunn, 33rd Operations Support Squadron commander, right, discusses the weapons bay of an F-35A Lightning II with COL Samuel Saine, 4th Battlefield Coordination Detachment commander, left, and Sgt. Maj. Miguel Quiros, 4 BCD sergeant major, center, Jan. 26, 2017, at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. Saine and Quiros visited the 33rd Fighter Wing while conducting a battlefield circulation analysis to engage with and evaluate Ground Liaison Officers embedded in the unit.

Little known but much needed

Staff Sgt. Peter Thompson
33rd Fighter Wing

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — U.S. Army COL Samuel Saine, 4th Battlefield Coordination Detachment commander, visited the 33rd Fighter Wing while conducting a battlefield circulation analysis to engage with and evaluate Ground Liaison Officers at Eglin Air Force Base, Jan. 25-26, 2017.

The Ground Liaison Officers or GLO, embedded within the 33 FW are a little known yet vital asset to the growth of the F-35 Lightning II enterprise. They act as a conduit for communication between Air Force and Army personnel, and mutually beneficial training opportunities.

“Our GLOs are here to create interoperability between the Army and the Air Force, which allows us to understand how we can integrate capabilities with one another, as is the case here with the F-35,” Saine said. “We also help educate and train the Air Force as a whole so it can more effectively provide close air support (CAS) to ground forces.”

Because of the flying operations of the F-35’s multiple variants are distributed between the Air Force, Navy and Marines, the Army’s role was minimal. As the program was aptly named, Joint Strike Fighter, the Army’s role is flourishing after the Air Force variant reached Initial Operations Capability (IOC).

“We are the F-35’s biggest customer,” said CPT Jesus Urrutia, 4 BCD Ground Liaison Officer. “The F-35 has so many upgrades that enable it to be a CAS platform while also providing additional situational awareness support to ground elements. It’s

critical because this is the next generation of aircraft that will be providing our soldiers with CAS during any future conflicts.”

Since April 2016, the 33 FW and 4 BCD have generated training for more than 180 CAS sorties and 23 CAS events spanning multiple days.

According to Saine, increasing opportunities like these are vital to the growth of the aircraft’s CAS capabilities and the infantry personnel’s confidence in it.

“Every time they work with our GLO or a ground unit, they are educating those Army personnel on this aircraft,” Saine said. “Every time these planes fly or execute a CAS mission it is raising the level of understanding for both the aircraft and paving the way for the future.”

The relationship between these two organizations allow for unique training opportunities that lay the foundation for future CAS operations.

“As more information permeates throughout the Army about the F-35, I believe there will be more excitement especially when you consider all the capabilities and new functions this aircraft has,” Urrutia said.

Before departing, Saine lauded the success of the relationship between the GLOs and the 33rd Operations Support Squadron it calls home.

“The level of integration that is already occurring between our GLO and the squadron allows them to provide the highest level of training for aircrew and ground forces that are employing these aircraft,” Saine continued. “The communication and success between our organizations here is impressive and truly a model for other locations to follow.”

U-2 breaks 30,000-hour barrier in fight against ISIL

Senior Airman Tyler Woodward
380th Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

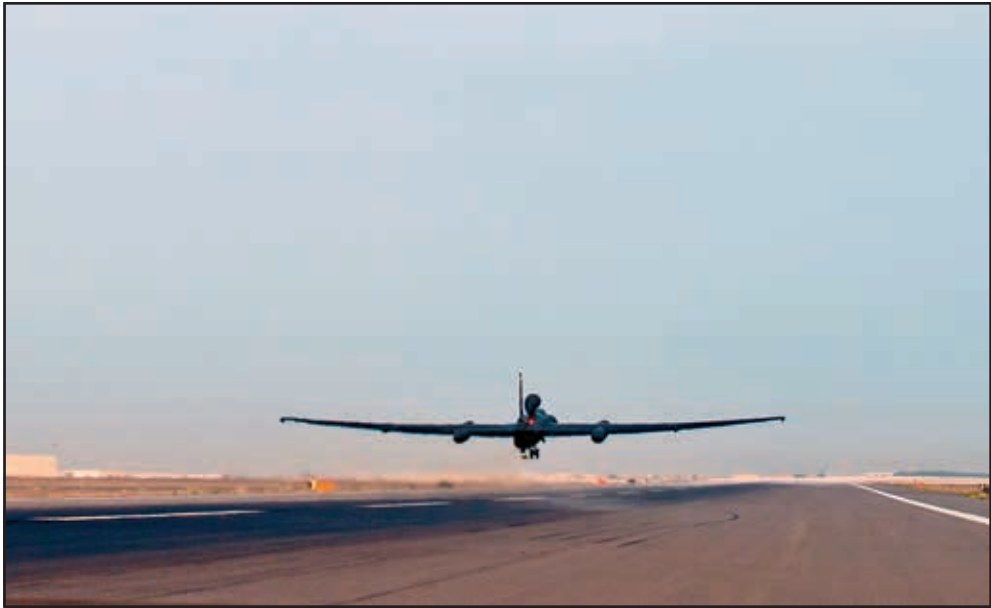
SOUTHWEST ASIA — A U-2 Dragon Lady, serving in the U.S. Air Force Central Command, reached 30,000 hours of flight time, Feb. 2, while supporting theater operations in an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia.

The high-altitude intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance aircraft launched from the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing and successfully completed the milestone at 4:26 a.m. EST while collecting critical, real-time information to give commanders the decisional advantage.

Maj. Ryan, a 99th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron U-2 pilot, flew the aircraft during the achievement.

“It takes a lot of people to launch and recover a jet and to keep this going,” Ryan said. “It’s always been my dream to be an Air Force pilot, so to be a part of something like this is just baffling to me. Today we hit 30,000 hours. I hope it gets 30,000 more.”

Capt. Lacey, the 380th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron assistant maintenance operations officer, shared the importance of this achievement.



A U-2 Dragon Lady launches from a flight line on a sortie in support of Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia, Feb. 2, 2017. During this flight the airframe reached 30,000 flight hours. This is the second U-2 to reach this milestone out of the Air Force’s fleet. However, this achievement was the first while serving in the U.S. Air Force Central Command in an expeditionary environment.

“The mere fact alone that we’re able to continue flying this aircraft to this day is an achievement in itself, let alone fly 30,000 hours on one aircraft,” Lacey said. “Maintain-

ing the U-2 is often a difficult task requiring maintainers from many specialties. It takes an entire team of skill and dedication to do what these Airmen do every day. They’re so good at what they do; they make it look a lot easier than it actually is. These types of milestones are what make us the best Air Force in the world.”

The daily sorties flown by the U-2 have directly impacted the fight against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant by gathering information used to disrupt revenue streams and create organizational dysfunction. To date, coalition-backed Iraqi forces have liberated more than 50 percent of their territory from ISIL.

“The accomplishment of the U-2 flying 30,000 hours is extraordinary because the airframe itself is 48 years old and it is flying with the most technologically advanced ISR systems available today,” said Senior Master Sgt. Duane, the 380th EAMXS U-2 maintenance superintendent. “Our maintainers are proud to be part of such a unique history and magnificent aircraft.”

In 2016, a U-2 with the 5th Reconnaissance Squadron at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, completed 30,000 flight hours to become the first ever U-2 airframe to surpass the milestone in the U.S. fleet.

New course focuses on sortie production at tactical level

Col. Curtis R. Hafer
Air Combat Command Maintenance Division

JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS, Va. — Air Force readiness is often a topic of discussion. As recently as March 2016, during testimony to Congress, former Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James stated, “less than half our combat forces are ready for a high-end fight.” Then, she added, “The Air Force is the smallest, oldest and least ready ... across the full spectrum of operations in our history.”

However, today, the Air Force is one step closer to alleviating readiness impacts due to sortie production.

The Advanced Sortie Production Course is the first advanced course specifically focusing on the art and science of sortie production at the tactical level. The new course will take place at the Air Force’s Advanced Maintenance and Munitions Operations School at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada.

ASPC is a 13-week course, providing students with in-depth instruction on how to use assigned people, processes and resources to maximize mission execution and increase sortie production capabilities. Students also receive academic instruction and gain insight into problem solving using personal experiences from several senior leaders.

“As a career ‘sortie producer,’ I’m envious of the knowl-

“We have a critical readiness gap in our ability to project airpower around the globe,” said Gen. Hawk Carlisle, the ACC commander.

edge you now have and I’m confident in the Air Force of the future, because you’re serving,” Brig Gen. Carl A. Buhler told the students during his visit. Buhler is the director of logistics, engineering and force protection for Air Combat Command.

Throughout the course, cadre and senior mentors provide students with plans, ideas and proven solutions for many of the current challenges seen across the Air Force. The goal of this course is for graduates to become the wing commander’s “go-to” leader who works closely with their operations group counterparts to solve complex sortie production problems.

“We have a critical readiness gap in our ability to project airpower around the globe,” said Gen. Hawk Carlisle, the ACC commander. “The talented patch wearers graduating from ASPC will work side by side with their ops-patch wearers to fill this gap.”

Graduates are expected to fill the tough sortie production jobs and focus on tasks across the aircraft maintenance, munitions, and materiel management areas, as well as mentor fellow officers and enlisted members on what they learned at the course to help work through sortie production issues.

The inaugural class of ASPC students graduated Dec. 7, 2016, and the second class began Jan. 23. There are two additional classes scheduled for 2017.

Testimonials received from students in the first class demonstrated how important the course is for the logistics community at large.

Comments ranged from students looking forward to returning home and applying the new tools in shaping and producing combat capability, to praise of the intensity of the new program full of courses with actionable tactics, techniques, and procedures geared toward sortie production.

Captains and majors in the 21A, 21M, and 21R career fields are eligible for the course, but must be nominated by their wing commander to attend. Upon receiving the nominations, ACC/A4 hosts a selection board consisting of colonels from the major command staffs to select the students. Expect to see the call for nomination message for class 17B to be released mid-February 2017.

For more information contact ACC/A4MT at DSN 575-2577.

How to save, conserve energy throughout year

Brian Windle
14th Civil Engineer Squadron Housing Technician

If bills are starting to get pricey and you need to look for ways to cut back, there are several ways to accomplish this every day.

First, adjust the thermostat based on season and occupancy. At Columbus Air Force Base, all occupied buildings are kept at a 68-degree set point in the winter and a 76-degree set point in the summer. These points are lowered in the winter and raised in the summer when the buildings are unoccupied.

This same principle can be applied at home by raising the thermostat setting a few degrees in the summer and lowering it a few degrees in the winter. Try turning it up or down an additional 10 degrees before leaving for the day or for an extended period of time. There are several models of program-

mable thermostats that can do this automatically as well.

Monitoring and adjusting the thermostat in this manner can significantly reduce usage and electric bills. For example, for every one degree raised or lowered, depending on the season, could save about three percent on an electric bill.

Take advantage of Mother Nature. Open the blinds or curtains on sunny days to allow the sunshine to heat your home. Open windows in the front and back of the house or upstairs and downstairs in two story homes and turn on the ceiling fans to create a draft to help cool homes on more mild days. The less use the heater and air conditioning, the more money saved on utility bills.

Pay attention to equipment. An air conditioner and heater should be serviced before the start of each season. If either is not working properly or at optimum efficiency, it can be a huge drain on energy usage. For those with gas heat, regular

maintenance is not only beneficial to reduce energy usage, but is imperative to maintain the safety of a household. Both electric and gas water heaters can be a significant drain on energy usage.

Consider lowering the temperature setting on water heaters as low as possible. In addition, wrapping an insulated jacket around water heaters can help the tank stay warmer longer. Keep in mind, anything that has to heat up, uses a lot of energy, so pay attention to how long appliances are running and try to reduce this time if possible.

Do a complete walkthrough of your home before leaving and turn off any lights, appliances, TVs, fans, or any other appliances that do not have to remain on.

A majority of these tips will not cost anything extra, but all have the potential to save money in the long run. The less energy you use, the more money it will save you.

Air Force in-service recruiter visit

Master Sgt. Ballingham, Air Force Reserve In-Service Recruiter, will be visiting Columbus Air Force Base Feb. 15 - 17. During his visit he will be giving briefings in the First Term Airman Center classroom of the BLAZE Commons. If you are interested in Palace Chase or Palace Front or have any questions about going reserve, briefings are scheduled 2:30 p.m. Feb. 15, and 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Feb. 16. Walk-in appointments welcome.

Hunt Housing tip of the week



Parking is only permitted on paved surfaces in designated parking areas. Parking on non-paved areas must be approved, in writing, by Columbus Family Housing. Parking on lawns, planted areas, patios, and on the sidewalk-side of the street is strictly prohibited.

The 14th MDG will now be completely **CLOSED** the 3rd Thursday of every month for training starting March 16, 2017. The ancillary services including pharmacy, radiology and lab will no longer be open until noon. We apologize for any inconvenience.

February is Heart Health Month

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BLAZE Hangar Tails: B-1B Lancer

Mission

Carrying the largest payload of both guided and unguided weapons in the Air Force inventory, the multi-mission B-1B Lancer is the backbone of America's long-range bomber force. It can rapidly deliver massive quantities of precision and non-precision weapons against any adversary, anywhere in the world, at any time.

Features

The B-1B's blended wing/body configuration, variable-geometry wings and turbofan afterburning engines, combine to provide long range, maneuverability and high speed while enhancing survivability. Forward wing settings are used for takeoff, landings, air refueling and in some high-altitude weapons employment scenarios. Aft wing sweep settings - the main combat configuration -- are typically used during high subsonic and supersonic flight, enhancing the B-1B's maneuverability in the low- and high-altitude regimes. The B-1B's speed and superior handling characteristics allow it to seamlessly integrate in mixed force packages. These capabilities, when combined with its substantial payload, excellent radar targeting system, long loiter time and survivability, make the B-1B a key element of any joint/composite strike force.

Background

The first production B-1 flew in October 1984, and the first B-1B was delivered to Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, in

June 1985. Initial operational capability was achieved on Oct. 1, 1986. The final B-1B was delivered May 2, 1988.

The B-1B holds almost 50 world records for speed, payload, range, and time of climb in its class. The National Aeronautic Association recognized the B-1B for completing one of the 10 most memorable record flights for 1994. The most recent records were made official in 2004.

The B-1B was first used in combat in support of operations against Iraq during Operation Desert Fox in December 1998. In 1999, six B-1s were used in Operation Allied Force, delivering more than 20 percent of the total ordnance while flying less than 2 percent of the combat sorties.

During the first six months of Operation Enduring Freedom, eight B-1s dropped nearly 40 percent of the total tonnage delivered by coalition air forces. This included nearly 3,900 JDAMs, or 67 percent of the total. In Operation Iraqi Freedom, the aircraft has flown less 1 percent of the combat missions while delivering 43 percent of the JDAMs used. The B-1 continues to be deployed today, flying missions daily in support of continuing operations.

General Characteristics

Primary Function: Long-range, multi-role, heavy bomber
Contractor: Boeing, North America (formerly Rockwell International, North American Aircraft); Offensive avionics, Boeing Military Airplane; defensive avionics, EDO Corporation
Power plant: Four General Electric F101-GE-102 turbo-

fan engine with afterburner

Thrust: 30,000-plus pounds with afterburner, per engine
Wingspan: 137 feet (41.8 meters) extended forward, 79 feet (24.1 meters) swept aft
Length: 146 feet (44.5 meters)
Height: 34 feet (10.4 meters)
Weight: approximately 190,000 pounds (86,183 kilograms)
Maximum Takeoff Weight: 477,000 pounds (216,634 kilograms)
Fuel Capacity: 265,274 pounds (120,326 kilograms)
Payload: 75,000 pounds (34,019 kilograms)
Speed: 900-plus mph (Mach 1.2 at sea level)
Range: Intercontinental
Ceiling: More than 30,000 feet (9,144 meters)
Armament: 84 500-pound Mk-82 or 24 2,000-pound Mk-84 general purpose bombs; up to 84 500-pound Mk-62 or 8 2,000-pound Mk-65 Quick Strike naval mines; 30 cluster munitions (CBU-87, -89, -97) or 30 Wind-Corrected Munitions Dispensers (CBU-103, -104, -105); up to 24 2,000-pound GBU-31 or 15 500-pound GBU-38 Joint Direct Attack Munitions; up to 24 AGM-158A Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missiles; GBU-54 Laser Joint Direct Attack Munition
Crew: Four (aircraft commander, copilot, and two weapon systems officers)
Unit Cost: \$283.1 million (fiscal 98 constant dollars)
Initial operating capability: October 1986
Inventory: Active force, 66 (test, 2); ANG, 0; Reserve, 0



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman John Day
A replica B-1B Lancer aircraft sits in front of the wing dissimilar formation mural Feb. 8, 2017, at the wing headquarters on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Carrying the largest payload of both guided and unguided weapons in the Air Force inventory, the multi-mission B-1 is the backbone of America's long-range bomber force.



U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Andy Dunaway/Released
A U.S. Air Force B-1B Lancer aircraft banks away after receiving fuel from a KC-135R Stratotanker aircraft, not shown, during a mission over Afghanistan May 27, 2008. The Lancer was deployed from Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota.

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.)

Linked-In Workshop

The Linked-In workshop is 2 - 5 p.m. Feb. 13 - 14. You can learn how to establish and use a Linked-In account. To register and for more information, please call 434-2790.

Smooth Move

The Smooth Move class is 10-11:30 a.m. Feb. 14. The class provides relocating members/families with valuable information about moving. You learn what to expect from TMO, Housing, Military Pay, Legal, Billeting, Tri-Care, Medical Records, and A&FRC. Please call 434-2790 to register.

Hearts Apart

The Hearts Apart Social program, from 5- 7 p.m. Feb. 23, is a monthly event to provide community bonding, fun and appreciation for the families of active-duty personnel who are deployed, remote, or on an extended TDY. Food and activities are provided. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Transition Assistance Program GPS Workshop

This workshop is held 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. March 6 - 10. The Transition Assistance Program Workshop has seminars on: Transition, Military Occupational Code Crosswalk, Financial Planning, Health Benefits, Mississippi Dept. of Employment Security, Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Disabled TAP, Dept. of Labor TAP portion. Preseparation counseling is required before attending. Recommend attendance is 8 - 12 months prior to separation/retirement. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. For more information or to register call 434-2790.

Career Technical Training

This transition event is held 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. March 13 - 14 and 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 participants. For more information or to register 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 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.

SUPT students learn about F-16 aircraft during visit



U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. Savannah Stephens
Maj. David Jones, F-16 Fighting Falcon Pilot, Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, speaks to Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training students about the F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft Feb. 3, 2017, at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. The aircraft was here during the Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals dedication to garner interest for the aircraft.

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 Delores 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
Fellowship Dinner after Mass on 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month
Feb. 14:
5:30 p.m. - Mass with Bishop Neil Buckon, Parish Dinner to follow
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

Columbus Air Force Base Information and Events
Join our Facebook page at Columbus AFB Living, Twitter @columbusafbliving, Instagram at columbus_afb_living, or visit our website at columbusafbliving.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.

Battle of the Bulge
The Fitness Center is running the Battle of the Bulge now - March 3. Contact Health and Promotion for more information and to sign-up at 434-1688.

Give Parents a Break
Give Parents a Break is from 6 – 10 p.m. Feb. 11 at the Youth Center. Call 434-2504 for more information.

Brewery Tour and Casino Stay
Visit southern Alabama and Mississippi with our casino stay and brewery tours Feb. 18 - 20. Visit 5 breweries and stay at Hollywood Gulf Casino for \$195 per person. Includes a two-night stay, tours and transportation. Attendees must be 18 years old to visit breweries. Sign up by Feb. 8. Call 434-2505 for more information.

Texas Hold’Em
The Columbus club will host a Texas Hold’em series event at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 23. Prices are \$5 for club members and \$10 for non-club member buy-ins. Member must be 18 or older to join. For more information call 434-2489.

Fitness/Time Out Child Care
The Child Development Center offers child care from 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. The cost is only \$4 per hour. Sign up one week in advance at the CDC or contact 434-2479 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.

Story Time and Circle Time
The Base Library offers Story Time every Friday at 11 a.m. for all ages. Circle Time is offered each Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. for ages up to 4 years old. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Cosmic Bowling Special
The Bowling Center offers 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.



Free Wood at the Golf Course
Wood is available at the Golf Course on Sundays from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Contact the Golf Course Monday-Friday to arrange pick-up. Call 434-7932 for more information.

Lawn Mower and Bicycle 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.

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.

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.

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.

Take & Bake Pizzas at the Bowling Center
Grab-and-go ready pizzas for you to take home and bake yourself are available at the bowling center. Save \$2 per pizza. Large and medium pizzas only.

Interested in Sponsoring with Columbus AFB?
Want your business to reach the 18,000 active-duty military, family members, civilian employees and retirees living and working at Columbus AFB? If you are interested in event sponsorship or donations, please contact our sponsorship coordinator at 434-2337.

Free Fitness Classes
Free classes are available at the fitness center. Classes range from P90X, Hot Fusion, Jiu Jitsu and Floor Core & More. For more information on class schedules, contact the Fitness Center at 434-2772.

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.

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.

MyMC2 app
Welcome to the My Military Communities information page. MyMC2 is the mobile application that centralizes all of your installation’s community events, organizations and services right in your pocket.



How do I get MyMC2 for my phone?
You can access this app by navigating to the native app store or market on your device and search for “MyMC2”, or you can scan this QR code and it will take you directly to the download page in your phone.



iPhone
QR code

Android
QR code

If you have any questions or need support please visit www.facebook.com/mymc2support.

Why should you donate blood?

Capt. Yolanda McKelvey
14th Medical Support Squadron
Laboratory Services Flight Commander

There is no substitute for human blood, nor can human blood be manufactured. Blood products cannot be stored indefinitely, therefore a constant need for donations is necessary. Columbus Air Force Base schedules blood drives once a quarter. Average donations are at least 40 units per drive. Also, for every five units of whole blood collected, Columbus AFB receives one credit to obtain blood, blood products or blood bank related services within Mississippi Health Services, Department of Veteran Affairs, or otherwise used as the Air Force Blood Program Office deems appropriate.

Through the generous donors of Columbus AFB, at least 80-120 members of the local community and possibly our fellow brother and sister branches can benefit. Red cells, platelets, plasma and cryoprecipitate are the four types of products derived from blood. Type O negative red cells is the Universal Donor, meaning individuals with this blood type are compatible with people of all blood types. Whereas, an AB negative individual has the capability to donate their plasma to anyone.

The important point is, to donate you must be at least the age of 18, or have parental permission for individuals 16 and 17. Donors must also be at least 110 pounds. A healthy donor is capable of donating red cells every 56 days and platelets can be donated as few as seven days apart, but a maximum of 24 times a year.

For more information please contact Capt. Yolanda McKelvey at 434-1588/2124.



The Airman’s Creed

I am an American Airman.
I am a Warrior.
I have answered my nation’s call.

I am an American Airman.
My mission is to fly, fight, and win.
I am faithful to a proud heritage.
A tradition of honor,
And a legacy of valor.

I am an American Airman.

Guardian of freedom and justice,
My nation’s sword and shield,
Its sentry and avenger.

I defend my country with my life.

I am an American Airman.
Wingman, leader, warrior.
I will never leave an Airman behind.
I will never falter,
And I will not fail.

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



T-1A Jayhawk

SUPT Class 17-05 earns silver wings



T-38C Talon



Capt. Roy Calilung
Virginia Beach, Va.
U-28A, Hurlburt Field, Fla.



1st Lt. Trevor Cutler
Mission Viejo, Calif.
C-130J, Little Rock AFB, Ariz.



1st Lt. Shane Dunn
Kansas City, Mo.
KC-135R, Forbes Field ANGB, Kan.

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

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 17-05 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium. Maj. Gen. Brett Williams, U.S. Air Force retired, 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.

2nd Lt. Troy Timmerman, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Matthew Spretnjak, 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. Jordan Wiggins, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Brian Jones, 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.

2nd Lt. Troy Timmerman, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Matthew Spretnjak, T-1, were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 17-05.

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 navigation flying.

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

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

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

Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38C Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet. T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation. Training takes approximately 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground training, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 hours in the T-38C aircraft.

The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place Beech Jet 400 business jet. Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 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 17-05 pilot partners are Visit Columbus and The City of Columbus.



2nd Lt. Salman AlZahrani
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Eurofighter, Saudi Arabia



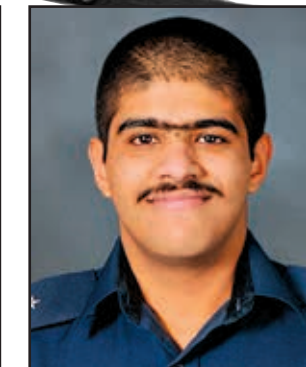
2nd Lt. Ryan Combelic
Hood River, Ore.
EC-130H, Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz.



1st Lt. Jordan Wiggins
Murfreesboro, Tenn.
A-10, Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz.



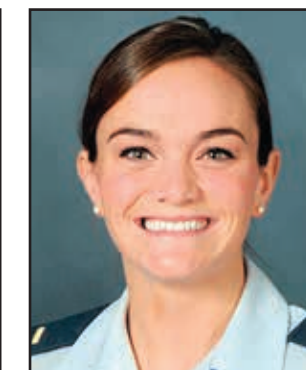
2nd Lt. Abdullah AlGhamdi
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
F-15S, Saudi Arabia



2nd Lt. Raken AlDawsari
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Eurofighter, Saudi Arabia



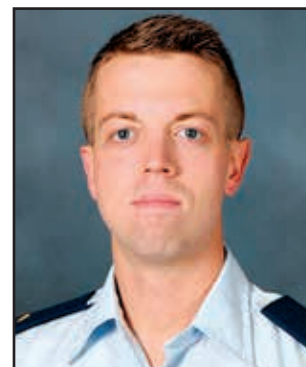
2nd Lt. Mitchell Dobson
Granger, Ind.
T-6A, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Molly Gilroy
Princeville, Ill.
KC-135R, MacDill AFB, Fla.



2nd Lt. Gregory Gutkin
Troy, Mich.
KC-10, McGuire AFB, N.J.



2nd Lt. Brian Jones
Charleston, S.C.
C-17A, Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Alexander Kenney
Winchester, Va.
C-17A, Shepherd Field ANGB, W.Va.



2nd Lt. Justin Linder
Springfield, Ill.
T-38C, Columbus AFB, Miss.



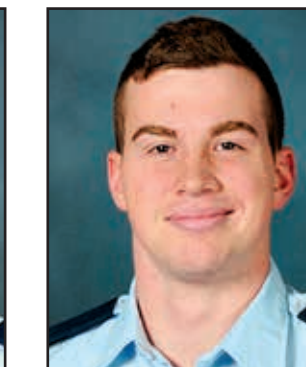
2nd Lt. Joseph Lolli
Lawrenceville, Ga.
C-130J, Quonset Point ANG Station, R.I.



2nd Lt. Benjamin Pagano
Erie, Pa.
F-16, Holloman AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Zachary Rutledge
Chattanooga, Tenn.
F-16, Holloman AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Matthew Spretnjak
Highland, Ind.
C-17A, Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Troy Timmerman
Florence, Ky.
F-15E, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.



2nd Lt. Sean Williams
Yorktown, Va.
F-16, Holloman AFB, N.M.