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Vol. 43, Issue 3

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

January 25, 2019

Weather

| | |
|---|--|
| Friday  Partly Cloudy High 43°F Low 28°F | Saturday  Mostly Cloudy w/chc Rain High 51°F Low 28°F |
| Sunday  Partly Cloudy High 53°F Low 33°F | Monday  Partly Cloudy High 38°F Low 35°F |

Forecast provided by the 14th OSS Weather Flight

News Briefs

Wing Newcomers Orientation

All new active-duty service members are required to attend the Wing Newcomers Orientation starting at 8 a.m. Jan. 29 in the Columbus Club. The Wing Newcomers brief is a great way to learn all the different organizations on base and get a feel for how Columbus operates. Spouses are also encouraged to attend.

Wing Quarterly Awards/Enlisted Promotions

The 14th Flying Training Wing Quarterly Awards Ceremony followed by Enlisted Promotions will begin at 3 p.m. Jan 31 in the Columbus Club. Join our fellow Team BLAZE members in celebrating their accomplishment.

SUPT Class 19-06 Assignment Night

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 19-06 will have assignment night 5:30 p.m. Feb. 1 at the Columbus Club.

Inside



Feature 8

SUPT Classes 19-04/05 graduate today at 10 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium.



U.S. Air Force photo by Sharon Ybarra

Columbus Air Force Base honorary commanders take a group photo at an Honorary Commander Induction ceremony Jan. 22, 2019, on Columbus AFB, Mississippi. Fifteen members of the local community were selected to be honorary commanders for their commitment to improve the community.

15 new Team BLAZE honorary commanders recognized

Senior Airman Beaux Hebert

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Fifteen new honorary commanders were inducted during a ceremony Jan. 22 at the Columbus Club on Columbus Air

Force Base, Mississippi.

The Honorary Commander program is a civic outreach initiative connecting local community leaders to the Columbus

See HONORARY, Page 3

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

| PHASE II | | PHASE III | | IFF | | WING SORTIE BOARD | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|---------------|------------|-------------------|----------|-------|--------|
| Squadron | Track Select | Squadron | Graduation | Squadron | Graduation | Aircraft | Required | Flown | Annual |
| 37th (19-20) | Feb. 7 | 48th (19-06) | Feb. 15 | 49th (19-DBC) | Jan. 31 | T-6 | 1,650 | 1,590 | 7,880 |
| 41st (19-21) | Feb. 22 | 50th (19-06) | Feb. 15 | | | T-1 | 647 | 605 | 2,795 |
| | | | | | | T-38 | 736 | 658 | 3,178 |
| | | | | | | IFF | 245 | 296 | 1,257 |

Lt. Col Kevin Walsh, commander and leader for the U.S. Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron, the Thunderbirds, at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, will be the guest speaker for Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 19-04/05's graduation at 10 a.m. Jan. 25, 2019, in the Kaye Auditorium.

* Mission numbers provided by 14 FTW Wing Scheduling.


Finance Customer Service Closure

The Finance Customer Service counter will close at 2 p.m. Jan. 29 for an official function.

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 38 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.



Commander's Action Line 434-1414


In an effort to stay Connected, the Commander's Action Line is your direct link to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB better.

Although the Commander's Action Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain-of-command. The Commander's Action Line can be reached at 434-1414. Leave your name and phone number or email if you would like to receive an answer. All names will be kept confidential.

If you would like to remain anonymous, please submit your inquiries through our base application in the 'Our Wing' then 'Contact the CC' tab or you can submit through the webpage at www.columbus.af.mil. Click "Contact Us" at the top left of the page and select "Commander's Action Line" in the Recipient drop down menu.

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat/Sun | Long Range Events |
|-----|---|-----|--|---|---------|--|
| 28 | 29 Wing New-comers, 8 a.m. @ Columbus Club Oxford Police School Tour, 9 a.m.-noon | 30 | 31 Quarterly Awards/Enlisted Promotions, 3 p.m. @ Columbus Club Hearts Apart, 5-7 p.m. @ A&FRC | 1 SUPT Class 19-06 Assignment Night, 5:30 p.m. @ Columbus Club | 2/3 | Feb. 14: Valentine's Day Feb. 14: Daedalians Feb. 15: SUPT Class 19-06 Graduation Feb. 18: Presidents' Day Feb. 25: ALS Begins Feb. 26: Wing Newcomers Feb. 28: Hearts Apart Mar. 1: Employee Appreciation Day Mar. 1: SUPT Class 19-07 Assignment Night |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Annual Awards Banquet, 6 p.m. @ Columbus Club | 9/10 | |

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- Air Force Families Forever
- Employment Assistance
- Relocation Assistance
- Financial Readiness

Silver Wings

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Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week's SILVER WINGS is noon Monday. Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

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NEWS AROUND TOWN

Panic! At the Disco

Panic! At the Disco, an American pop-rock group, will be performing at 7 p.m. Feb. 6 at the FedEx Forum in Memphis, Tennessee. Tickets for sale online.

Monster Jam

Monster Jam will Feb. 8 at the Bancorp South Arena in Tupelo, Mississippi. Tickets for sale online.

Smithsonian Exhibit at the Tenn-Tom Waterway Museum

Join the Mississippi Humanities Council Jan. 22-March 8, 2019 for the Smithsonian's Water/Ways Exhibit at the Tenn-Tom Waterway Museum! The Water/Ways Exhibit is a Museum on Main Street exhibition and brought to you by the Mississippi Humanities Council. For additional information on this or any other Columbus events, contact Nancy Carpenter, CEO, Columbus Convention and Visitors Bureau, (662) 329-1191 or (800) 327-2686, or nancy@visitcolumbusms.org.

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Pastor: Bro. Mel Howton

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Sunday School (all ages) - 9:15 am

SUNDAY EVENING

Youth Drama & AWANA - 4pm
Discipleship Training - 5pm
Evening Worship - 6pm

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US Air Force Thunderbirds set to perform Super Bowl LIII flyover

NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE, Nev. — The United States Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron Thunderbirds are scheduled to conduct a flyover during the national anthem performance at Super Bowl LIII, Feb. 3, over Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta.

“Supporting this event is a tremendous honor for the team and the U.S. Air Force,” said Lt. Col. John Caldwell, Thunderbirds commander and leader. “We look forward to showcasing the pride, precision and professionalism of our nation’s 660,000 Total Force Airmen to football fans around the world.”

The Thunderbirds’ flyover, its first public event in 2019, will feature six F-16 Fighting Falcons, soaring over the Mercedes-Benz Stadium at the moment the final notes of The Star Spangled Banner are sung. They will take off for the Super Bowl LIII flyover from Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Marietta, Georgia.

The Thunderbirds last flew over the Super Bowl in 2017 at the NRG Stadium, Houston.

The Thunderbirds’ team is composed of eight pilots, four support officers, 120 enlisted Airmen and three civilians serving in 28 Air Force job specialties. In 2019, the Thunderbirds are scheduled to perform at 65 air shows in 33 different locations all over the world.

Since the unit’s inception in 1953, more than 300 million people in all 50 states and 60 countries have witnessed the distinctive red, white and blue jets in thousands of official aerial demonstrations.

For more information on the Thunderbirds, please check out afthunderbirds.com or follow @afthunderbirds on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Note to Editors and Assignment Desks:
The Thunderbirds demonstration pilots and



The United States Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron Thunderbirds are scheduled to conduct a flyover during the national anthem performance at Super Bowl LIII, Feb. 3, over Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta.

aircraft will arrive at Dobbins ARB on February 1 at 3p.m. The pilots will be available for plane-

side interviews at 3:30 p.m. Media desiring an interview with the pilots upon arrival should con-

tact 94th Airlift Wing Public Affairs at (678) 655-5055 or via e-mail at: 94aw.pa@us.af.mil



U.S. Air Force photo by Sharon Ybarra
Airman 1st Class Joshua Hobbs, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, shows Dr. Cheri Labat, 14th Mission Support Group honorary commander, tools that he uses to put out fire Jan. 18, 2019, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Honorary commanders are inducted into their respective command position, forming an essential partnership between the base and local community.

HONORARY

(Continued from page 1)

AFB mission by working and socializing alongside military commanders. Honorary commanders are inducted into their respective command position, forming an essential partnership between the base and local community.

During their time as an honorary commander, Columbus AFB leadership will show their counterparts how the base is working to Cultivate Airmen, Create Pilots and Connect with each other and the community.

The ceremony began with a speech from Mike Hainsey, executive director at the Golden Triangle Airport and a Columbus AFB wingman, about his experience with the local community and being an honorary commander.

“There are three things about being an honorary commander that will stand out,” Hainsey said. “You get to learn the mission and how your assigned unit fits into that mission; you get to see the amazing equipment like the T-38 Talon, but the most amazing part is meeting the people that are proud and hard working.”

Hainsey shifted his focus to the commanders, telling them that this partnership is a two-lane road and to use their civil counterparts to continue the strong bonds between the base and community.

Honorary commanders are comprised of all kinds of people from the community in various professions. For example,



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Beaux Hebert
Col. Samantha Weeks, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, Chief Master Sgt. Raul Villarreal, Jr., 14th FTW command chief, recognize Barbara Bigelow, as a new 14th FTW honorary commander Jan. 22, 2019, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Bigelow is the director of Main Street, Columbus, Mississippi, and her husband, Chuck, is a Columbus AFB Wingman.

“There are three things about being an honorary commander that will stand out,” Hainsey said. “You get to learn the mission and how your assigned unit fits into that mission; you get to see the amazing equipment like the T-38 Talon, but the most amazing part is meeting the people that are proud and hard working.”

the 14th Flying Training Wing honorary commanders are Dr. Germain McConnell, the executive director of the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science, and Barbara Bigelow, director of Main Street Columbus. Both are dedicated to the betterment of the community and eager to work with the base.

“I’m honored to be selected and I think it’s important, in my position, to get to know more about the base because it is such a vital part of the community,” McConnell said. “I’m looking forward to continuing the great relationship the base has had with the City of Columbus and making those who are

new to the base feel welcome.”

After Hainsey’s speech, Col. Samantha Weeks, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, took the stage and expressed why it’s vital to connect with the local community.

“Mutual trust and supportive partnerships between our military families and the communities we operate in are essential to a strong military structure,” Weeks said. “Our installation is a critical part of our national defense and has been for the last 77 years, because of the outstanding support from the men and women like you.”

Among the other 15 honorary commanders who were inducted was Dr. Cheri Labat, Columbus Municipal School District superintendent and 14th Mission Support Group’s honorary commander. Labat was given the opportunity to tour the base earlier in the week and seemed impressed with what she saw.

“I’m looking forward to connecting Airmen and their families with the community and enriching my students with the experiences here.” Labat said.

During the ceremony, Labat and the other commanders were told about the importance of unit guidons. Then, the new honorary commanders were handed their military counterpart’s guidon and inducted.

Following the formal ceremony and socializing, Weeks thanked the honorary commanders for all the help and support they give and also to continue cultivating the strong bond between the base and community.



U.S. Air Force photos by Airman Hannah Bean

Capt. Alisha Foster, 14th Flying Training Wing Equal Opportunity director, sings the national anthem while the Columbus Air Force Base Honor Guard presents the colors during the MLK Commemoration Breakfast Jan. 21, 2019, at the Trotter Convention Center in Columbus, Mississippi. The MLK Commemoration Breakfast is an annual community collaboration to honor Martin Luther King Jr. as a national day of service.



Dr. Rita Felton, retired command chief master sergeant of the 14th Flying Training Wing, speaks during the MLK Commemoration Breakfast Jan. 21, 2019, at the Trotter Convention Center in Columbus, Mississippi. Felton spoke about the legacy and influence Martin Luther King Jr. left behind years later after his devotion in the civil rights movement.

Columbus AFB, local community honors MLK

Airman Hannah Bean

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Members of the local community and Columbus Air Force Base attended a Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration Breakfast at the Trotter Convention Center in Columbus, Mississippi, Jan. 21.

To kick off the commemoration breakfast the Columbus AFB Honor Guard presented the colors as Capt. Alisha Foster, 14th Flying Training Wing Equal Opportunity director, sang the national anthem.

During the breakfast, the focus was a national day of service. Dr. Rita Felton, retired command chief master sergeant of the 14th Flying Training Wing and keynote speaker, highlighted the importance of giving back during MLK Day.

“Martin Luther King Jr. Day is a day of service, a day on, not a day off,” Felton said. “It is intended to empower individuals, strengthen communities, bridge barriers and create solutions to social problems. More importantly, it’s to move us closer to Dr. King’s vision of a great community.”

Felton spoke about the legacy and influence Martin Luther King Jr. left behind years later after his devotion in the civil rights movement.

“Today is a day of inspiration as we remember the young, dynamic, educated civil rights leader who put aside a promising career as a middle class pastor to instead pursue a movement of civil rights,” Felton said. “Dr. King had no reason to expect that his leadership would bring nothing but trouble and discomfort to him and his family and to those that were closest to him. ... No expectation that years later our nation

“Today is a day of inspiration as we remember the young, dynamic, educated civil rights leader who put aside a promising career as a middle class pastor to instead pursue a movement of civil rights,” Felton said. “Dr. King had no reason to expect that his leadership would bring nothing but trouble and discomfort to him and his family and to those that were closest to him. ... No expectation that years later our nation would set aside a day for his birthday, a day of service, ‘a day on, not a day off’.”

would set aside a day for his birthday, a day of service, ‘a day on, not a day off’.”

Felton went on to emphasize on leadership and being a good leader all around, even in times of crisis.

“A good leader is not made in crisis, good leaders are revealed,” Felton said. “If you squeeze an orange, you get orange juice. If you squeeze a lemon, you get lemon juice. If you squeeze a person in times of crisis, you’re going to see what they’re made of.”

Felton noted that leaders don’t always know the answers but should show the pathway they must use to move forward.

“Leaders can afford to be uncertain, but they can’t be unclear because people don’t want fuzzy leadership,” she said.

She said leaders won’t always have the answers, however, they need to have confidence and clarity of vision.

After her speech, Felton gave various opportunities available to the community to participate in honor of MLK as a way to give back to the community. One of them being a project led by United Way called “Tools for Schools.”

The project consisted of collecting donations from the local community to support over 700 teachers in the Columbus and Lowndes County area. The teachers registered for the event to drive down to the Columbus Soccer Field Complex and pick up the supplies donated.

“Dr. King did a lot to help African Americans during the civil rights movement and it’s as a tribute to him that we try to do something to improve the community and help others in the community as well,” said Capt. Alisha Foster, 14th Flying Training Wing Equal Opportunity director. “It’s really important to nail the theme of ‘It’s a day on, not a day off’.”

Dr. King’s life and legacy showcases so many examples of connection and leadership. He is one of many examples that anyone, Airmen included, can utilize to professionally develop great leadership skills.

Goldfein gets up close view of new T-X trainer

Charles Pope

Senior Writer, Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

ARLINGTON, Va. — After his first up-close view Jan. 15 of a ready-to-fly T-X, the Air Force’s training aircraft of the future, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein could have been expected to marvel at the technical sophistication of a state-of-the-art plane designed and manufactured not only with future pilots in mind but with maintainers and software specialists as well.

He could have mentioned that the new plane’s single engine generates nearly three-times more thrust than the dual engines of the plane it is replacing as the primary trainer for all future Air Force pilots – the legendary but aging T-38C Talon.

He could have noted that the T-X has twin tails, slats, and big leading-edge root extensions that provide deft handling at low speeds allowing it fly in a way that better approximates real world demands and that it is specifically designed to prepare pilots for fifth-generation aircraft.

But after climbing out of the cockpit during the visit to the St. Louis factory where Boeing builds the T-X, Goldfein, a former instructor-pilot, pointed to a seemingly mundane but critical difference – sight lines.

“The level of instructional capacity is impressive,” he said, noting that the new trainer will go into service in 2024 and reach full operational capability by 2034.

“I’d love to be an instructor again,” a smiling Goldfein said after a detailed briefing by senior Boeing officials and a close inspection of a plane on the factory floor that included time in both cockpit seats. “The visibility is exceptional. I can see what the student is doing, what displays he is calling up; which challenges she’s calling up.”

To be sure, Goldfein took note of the technical sophistication of the plane and what that modern technology brings to the future of the Air Force. During a briefing with Boeing executives and engineers, for example, he asked pointed questions about not only the plane’s performance but also how reliable – and fast – software is upgraded.

He asked about the way maintainers are



Boeing photo

Boeing test pilot Steve Schmidt explains features of the new T-X trainer to Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein as Goldfein sits in the plane’s elevated instructor’s seat. Goldfein inspected the plane during a visit Jan. 15 to Boeing’s St. Louis production facility.

blended into the training program. The answer is that the plane is designed with easy-to-reach and open panels and that virtual reality can be used to train maintainers.

Goldfein acknowledged the point. “We sink or swim on sustainment,” he said.

Impressive and important as all of that is, Goldfein’s history as an instructor caused him to highlight something else.

Unlike in the 57-year-old T-38, the instructor’s position in the T-X is elevated, meaning he or she can see things that were not easily possible before – body position and hand movements, which display is activated and when, and the kind of information that training pilot receives and requests during flight.

That difference, along with the updated technology and capabilities of the plane itself, along with better simulators and the ability to update software faster and more seamlessly, convinced Goldfein that the plane has the potential to deliver what future pilots and warfighters need.

“The level of instructional capacity is impressive,” he said, noting that the new trainer will go into service in 2024 and reach full operational capability by 2034. Having a fleet of these trainers, he said, will allow pilots to train for fourth and fifth-generation aircraft.

Goldfein was careful to couch the change in a way that both saluted the service of the trainer he flew on his way to becoming a fighter pilot – the T-38 – and herald the arrival of a new tool that will teach generations of new pilots so that the interests and security of the United States are preserved.

“The distance between the T-38 and an F-35 (Lightning II) is night and day,” he said, referring to the capabilities of the two aircraft. “But with this plane the distance is much, much smaller. And that’s important because it means the pilots trained on it will be that much better, that much faster at a time when we must be able to train to the speed of the threat.”

The contract for the T-X was awarded in September after a vigorous competition. The \$9.2 billion contract awarded to Boeing calls for 351 T-X aircraft, 46 simulators, and associated ground equipment to be delivered and installed.

The first T-X aircraft and simulators are scheduled to arrive at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph in 2023. All undergraduate pilot training bases will eventually transition from the T-38 to the T-X. Those bases include Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi; Laughlin AFB, Texas; Sheppard AFB, Texas; and Vance AFB, Oklahoma.



Boeing photo

After his first up-close view Jan. 15 of a ready-to-fly T-X, the Air Force’s training aircraft of the future, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein could have been expected to marvel at the technical sophistication of a state-of-the-art plane designed and manufactured not only with future pilots in mind but with maintainers and software specialists as well.

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

Get Connected with Your New Base App!
As a way to connect people together, Columbus Air Force Base launched a new app to connect Airmen and families to the mission and community! The app is available on all app stores and can be found by searching ‘Columbus Air Force Base’.

Winter Reading Program
Register at the Library and enjoy a winter of stories, activities and tons of fun! For more information, contact 434-2934.

Lunch Buffets at the Overrun
Enjoy daily lunch buffets Tuesday – Friday at the Columbus Club. Daily buffets include: Tuesday – Taco and Nacho \$9, Wednesday – Chicken Wings and Pasta \$10, Thursday – Southern Style \$10 and Friday – Fried Catfish \$10. Club Members receive a \$2 discount. For more information, contact 434-2489.

Free Breakfast for Club Members
Start your morning off at the Overrun with free breakfast for club members and \$8 for non-members from 6:30–9 a.m. Jan. 29. Become a club member and save! For more information, contact 434-2489.

The Big Game Watch Party
Join us at 4:00 p.m. Feb. 3 for the biggest night in football, more details coming soon.

Wood Shop is OPEN!
The Wood Shop is back in business! They are open Mon-Thurs. from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m.-4 p.m., call 434-7836 for more information.

Exclusive Military Vacation Packages
Did you know that you can book exclusive military vacation packages at ITT? Packages include Universal Studios and Disney destinations. To book your vacation, visit or contact your ITT office at (662) 434-7861.

Storytime Schedule
The Base Library is offering Storytime on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. for ages 3-6 years and Fridays at 10 a.m. for children up to 2 years old. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Force Support Squadron Gift Cards
Make your shopping easier! Purchase or redeem your Force Support Squadron Gift Card at the following locations: Arts



and Crafts, Bowling Center, Café at Whispering Pines, Child Development Center, Columbus Club, Information Tickets and Travel, Outdoor Recreation or the Youth Center. For more information, stop by any of these locations.

Game Night at the Library
The Base Library is offering a free game night at 5 p.m. the second Thursday of each month. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Horse Boarding Available
The Columbus AFB Riding Stables usually has stall space available. For pricing and more information, contact Outdoor Recreation at 434-2505.

Laser Bowling
The Strike Zone offers laser bowling every Friday and Saturday night starting at 5 p.m., stop in for a great time! Call 434-3426 for more information.

Free Mango Languages
Learn a new language today! Free Mango Languages available at the Base Library; real-life conversations in over 70 languages. For more information, contact 434-2934.

Play Paintball
Outdoor Recreation offers paintball for groups or individuals. You must book twenty-four hours in advance; 17 years

old and under must be accompanied by an adult. The cost is \$15 per person for party of 10 or more; \$20 per person for party of nine or less. You must purchase paint balls at Outdoor Recreation for \$50 per case of 2,000. For more information, contact 434-2505.

The Overrun Open Friday Nights
The Overrun is open Fridays 4:30 p.m. until midnight. For more information, contact 434-2419.

Lawn Mower and Bicycle Repair
Outdoor Recreation is now offering lawn mower repair and self-help bicycle repair. For more information, contact 434-2507.

Hobby and Craft Instructors Needed
Do you have a hobby or craft project you can share with others? Arts & Crafts is looking for craft instructors. 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.

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.

Instructors Needed
The Youth Center is seeking instructors for tumbling classes, dance classes, piano and guitar lessons. For more information, contact the Youth Center.

Fitness on Request
The Fitness Center offers a truly comprehensive group fitness platform that is available all day and completely customizable to meet your needs with 119 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
Information Tickets and Travel offers a shuttle service to the airport of your choice. For more information, contact 434-7861.

Transportation for Assignment Nights
Reserve the bus of van through Information Ticket and Travel for assignment nights. Reservation must be made in person, the cost is \$30 per hour with a four hour minimum. Price includes Columbus and local areas. For more information, contact 434-7861.

Cultivate, Create, CONNECT

Iraq Defense Attaché visit to Columbus AFB helps strengthen international relations

Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Iraq Staff Brig. Gen. Mustafa Al Bayati, Iraq Defense Attaché, spoke with instructor pilots, Airmen and senior leaders Jan. 18 on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi.

Bayati said there were three essential reasons for his visit; he wanted to see the Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Program, to meet with the Iraq student pilots, and to strengthen both American and Iraqi militaries by building a stronger relationship.

The Iraqi general began at the 14th Operations Group and spoke to 14th OG leadership about pilot training. He then went to the T-6 Texan II training squadrons and 50th Flying Training Squadron to speak with instructor pilots and Iraqi student pilots about their training. He was briefed on the SUPT program in its current state and saw the training techniques used to create world-class military aviators.

“I’m very happy to see the young pilots,” Bayati said. “The

“I’m very happy to see the young pilots,” Bayati said. “The training they are going through here is advanced and we are happy to have students here. We have to be consistently integrating with other countries because it allows us to learn from one another.”

training they are going through here is advanced and we are happy to have students here. We have to be consistently integrating with other countries because it allows us to learn from one another.”

Bayati had lunch with the student pilots and asked about

their experience in pilot training. He said by having his pilots in the SUPT program, the Iraqi training can continue to improve by building a parallel training program.

“When we train their students they get a taste of the U.S. and bring back that knowledge,” said Col. Stuart, 14th Operations Group commander. “The relationship building is really important, especially because one day they may be the leaders of their military.”

Stuart thanked Bayati for visiting and noted the general was pleased with the training we put Iraq student pilots through.

Bayati personally thanked the U.S. and 14th FTW leadership for letting him visit stating he appreciated the time given to him and believes the partnership they currently have is very important.

Bayati left Columbus AFB with a few more words of thanks and asked for continuing support of Iraq and their pilots.

“Two nations working together is stronger than a nation fighting alone,” he said.

Airman on the Street



Rank/Name: Senior Airman Miranda Fisher
Unit/Duty Title: 14th Operations Support Squadron, air traffic controller

What’s your favorite Super Bowl memory?
My birthday is usually on the same day as the Super Bowl so I get to celebrate my favorite day on the Super Bowl.

Who do you pick to win this year?
I want the Rams to win but I think the Patriots will end up winning.



Rank/Name: 2nd Lt. Carson Kennedy
Unit/Duty Title: 14th OSS Airfield Operations director of operations

What’s your favorite Super Bowl memory?
In the 2006 Super Bowl, Devin Hester scored a touchdown on the opening kick-off. I was the only Bears fan around like 20 Colts fans and I ran around the house yelling.

Who do you pick to win this year?
I’m going for the Rams, I thinking their defense is pretty solid.



Rank/Name: Master Sgt. Daniel Merlin
Unit/Duty Title: 14th OSS Tower chief controller

What’s your favorite Super Bowl memory?
In the 2009 Super Bowl, Terry Porter intercepted Peyton Manning and at the moment I knew the Saints would win.

Who do you pick to win this year?
I’m picking the Patriots because Tom Brady won last time.



Rank/Name: Capt. Patrick Flynn
Unit/Duty Title: 14th OSS Airfield Operations flight commander

What’s your favorite Super Bowl memory?
My favorite memory is the Eagles winning the Super Bowl for the first time last year.

Who do you pick to win this year?
I’m going with the Patriots because I grew up in New England.

Retired pilot, Columbus native climbs back into T-38 sim one more time

Airman Hannah Bean
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Retired Lt. Col. James Cole, former T-38 Talon pilot and Columbus, Mississippi, native, was able to climb back into a T-38 simulator one more time during a visit to Columbus Air Force Base Jan. 16.

Cole, now 85, met members of the 14th Operations Group and reminisced about his time as a pilot. He flew a variety of aircraft during his military career, but the T-38 is one in which he was also an instructor pilot for. After 23 years of service in the military, he retired and went on to work with American Airlines and the Federal Aviation Administration.

“So much water has passed under the bridge with so many other airplanes, I was amazed I could remember final approach speed, some of the acro speeds, and so forth,” Cole said. “Other than that, there’s not a lot of difference.”

Capt. Matthew Rice, 50th Flying Training Squadron instructor pilot, aided Cole in the T-38 simulator while gaining an opportunity to learn new things from an experienced pilot.

“I was shocked at the amount of aircraft that he’d flown, the different organizations he’d worked for to include the Air Force and then the FAA, but overall by his candor considering the immense experience he had in aviation,” Rice said. “I wasn’t at all surprised that he was quickly able to land the jet perfectly after just a couple ‘practice runs’ which was obviously a testament to his immense capabilities as a pilot, even at 85.”

Although he’s retired, Rice said Cole’s passion for flying is

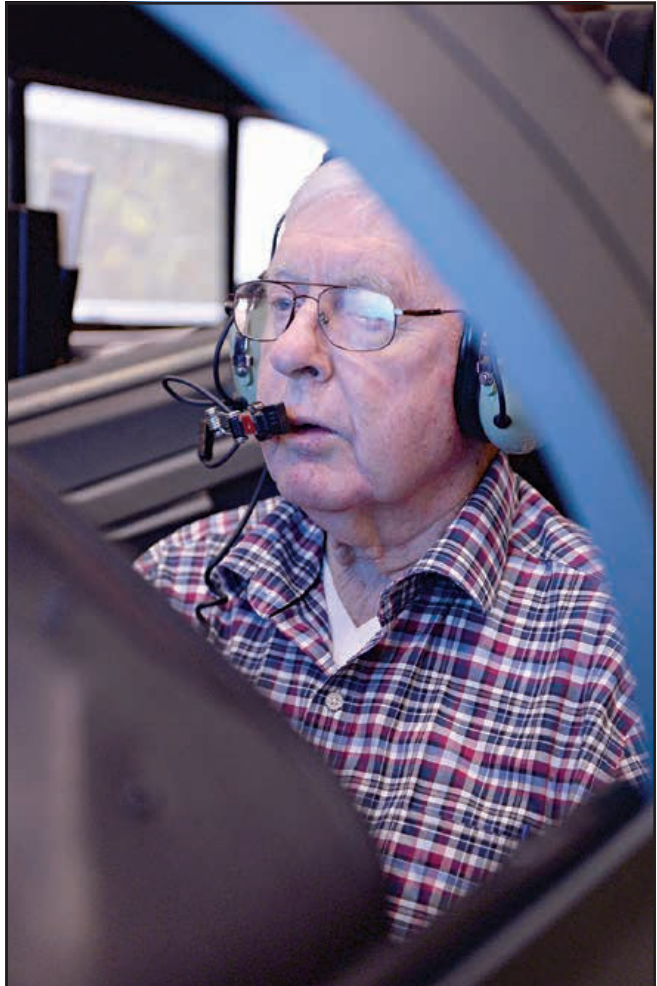
“He’s easily flown more hours than most IPs combined and yet, he was probably one of the most down to earth and seemingly selfless aviators I’ve met,” Rice said.

still evident and it was a humbling experience to hear about how much Cole was involved with during his time in the Air Force.

“He’s easily flown more hours than most IPs combined and yet, he was probably one of the most down to earth and seemingly selfless aviators I’ve met,” Rice said. “It was an honor to get to do the sim with him and draw even the slightest bit of instructor knowledge from him.”

During Cole’s visit, members of the 14th OG were given the opportunity to show their appreciation to a fellow pilot with over 50 years of experience as an aviator. Connecting two different generations of aviators is one part of being in a rich military aviation heritage.

RIGHT: Retired Lt. Col. James Cole, former T-38 Talon pilot and Columbus, Mississippi, native, operates a T-38 Talon simulator Jan. 16, 2019, at the 14th Operations Group on Columbus Air Force Base. Cole flew a variety of aircraft during his 23-year military career, including the T-38.



U.S. Air Force photos by Airman Hannah Bean



Capt. Matthew Rice, 50th Flying Training Squadron instructor pilot aids retired Lt. Col. James Cole, former T-38 Talon pilot and Columbus, Mississippi native, in a T-38 simulator Jan. 16, 2019, at the 14th Operations Group on Columbus Air Force Base. After 23 years of service in the military, Cole retired and went on to work with American Airlines and the Federal Aviation Administration.



Retired Lt. Col. James Cole, former T-38 Talon pilot and Columbus, Mississippi native, operates a T-38 Talon simulator Jan. 16, 2019, at the 14th Operations Group on Columbus Air Force Base. Although retired, Cole still has a passion for flying and aviation.

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.)

Wing Newcomers Orientation

The next Wing Newcomers Orientation is from 8 a.m.-noon Jan. 29. This event is mandatory for all newly arrived active-duty and civilian personnel, and spouses are encouraged to attend. The orientation is held at the Columbus Club. To register or for more information, please call the A&FRC Relocation Manager at (662) 434-2701/2790.

Airman & Family Readiness Center Open House

Please visit A&FRC Jan. 30, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. for an open house to learn about all the services available to you and your family. Refreshments and door prizes will be provided. This event is open to anyone with access to the A&FRC.

Heart Link

The next Heart Link is from 8:30 a.m.-noon Jan. 31 in the A&FRC. This half-day program is open to all spouses of active-duty military members assigned to Columbus AFB. Attendees will receive information about life in the Air Force, in the local area and at Columbus AFB from local subject matter experts including spouse leaders. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Hearts Apart

The next Hearts Apart is from 5-7 p.m. Jan 31 at the Base Chapel. This monthly social event is for family members whose sponsor is deployed, on a remote tour or TDY for more than 30 days. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Air Force Recovery Coordination Program

A Recovery Care Coordinator (RCC) will be providing assistance from noon-5 p.m. Feb. 6, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 7, and 8 a.m.-noon Feb. 8 at the A&FRC. The Recovery Coordination Program (RCP) streamlines and improves the way care and support is delivered to wounded, ill, and injured Airmen and their families. The RCP provides the support of a RCC 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 A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Bundles of Joy

The next Bundles of Joy workshop is from 1-3:30 p.m. Feb. 21 in the A&FRC. This pro-

National Day of Service on MLK Day



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Hannah Bean

Volunteers put boxes of school supplies in teachers’ vehicles at the Columbus Soccer Field Complex Jan. 21, 2019, during MLK Jr. Day in Columbus, Mississippi. The volunteers are able to give back to over 700 teachers in the Columbus and Lowndes County area as a part of a national day of service on MLK Day.

gram is designed for active-duty Airmen members and/or their spouses who are pregnant or have a child 4 months old or less. Attendees will learn about finances, labor and delivery, and infant care. A \$50 gift card sponsored by the Air Force Aid Society will be provided for each qualifying child. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Transition Assistance Program GPS (Goals, Plans, Success) Workshop

The next Transition Assistance Program (TAP) workshop is from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. March 4-8 and includes seminars on: Transition, Military Occupational Code Crosswalk, Financial Planning, Health Benefits, Mississippi Department of Employment Security, Department of Veterans Affairs, Disabled TAP and Department of Labor. Preseparation counseling is required before attending, and recommended attendance is 12-24 months prior to separation/retirement. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. To register or for more information, please call the TAP Manager at (662) 434-2631/2790.

Career Exploration & Planning Track Workshop

The next Career Exploration & Planning Track workshop is from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. March 11- 12 in the A&FRC. This workshop helps members identify skills, increase awareness of training and credentialing programs, and develop an action plan to achieve career goals. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Federal USA Jobs Workshop

The next Federal USA Jobs workshop is from 9-10:30 a.m. March 13. This is a workshop on writing resumes, applications, and job search using the USAJobs website. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

Entrepreneurship Track Transition Workshop

The next Entrepreneurship Track Transition workshop is from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. May 9-10. This workshop is conducted by the Small Business Administration for veterans and all base personnel interested starting up and operating their own business. To register or for more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

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 (SBP). As with all good decision-making, you need to know the facts before you can make a sound decision. Always get the true facts about SBP before making up your mind. Additional details are available by calling your SBP Counselor Mary Chambers at (662) 434-2720/2790.

Discovery Resource Center

The Columbus A&FRC has 12 computers with internet access available for job searches, assessments, resumes, cover letters, state and federal applications and companies’ employment information. A printer and fax machine

is available. A lending library of books, DVDs and periodicals on transition and EFMP topics are available for check out. These resources are available on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Pre- and Post-Deployment Tour Briefing

These briefings are mandatory 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 at (662) 434-2794/2790 for more information.

Pre-Separation Counseling

This counseling is a mandatory briefing for personnel separating or retiring, and is to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation. It may be completed up to 12 months prior to separation or 24 months prior to retirement. Counseling is held daily at 8:30 a.m., and it takes approximately 60 minutes. Please contact A&FRC at (662) 434-2790 for more information.

Employment Workshop

An employment workshop on local and base employment opportunities is held every Wednesday, 1 - 2 p.m. This program provides military families and DoD civilian members individual assessment and career counseling to assist with local employment, preparation for future endeavors via education, job search, or self-owned business objectives in the local area. For more information, please call A&FRC at (662) 434-2790.

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:
3:30 p.m. – Religious Education, grades K-9 (Start in Fall)
4 p.m. – Choir Practice
4 p.m. – Confession (or by appointment)
5 p.m. – Mass
1st and 3rd Sunday - Fellowship Meal following Mass
Tuesdays:
11:30 a.m. – Daily Mass (Phillips Auditorium)
Wednesdays:
11:30 a.m. – Adoration (Phillips Auditorium)
2nd Saturday of each month - Faith Ablaze

Protestant Community

Sundays:
9 a.m. – Adult Sunday School
10:45 a.m. – Community Worship Service (Donut Fellowship following)
3rd Sunday of Each Month - Protestant Faith Ablaze
Wednesdays:
6 p.m. - AWANA: Begins September 26th (Open to all denominations)
Thursdays:
5:30 p.m. – Student Pilot Bible Study (Open to all denominations)



Medical Corner



Making sleep a priority in 2019

It's that time of year again ... the time when we make a promise to ourselves that we'll finally hit the gym, lose weight, or spend more time with friends and family. Although those are good goals, it is surprising that "improving sleep" does not show up on more New Year's resolution lists. Sleep, along with diet and exercise, are part of the three "pillars of health."

Sleep is essential to maintaining your physical and mental health and wellbeing. However, less and less of us are getting an adequate amount of sleep (a third of us get by on as little as five to six hours a night).


While around seven to eight hours of sleep per night is considered the norm, it is not a fixed rule. Yes it's important to ensure you get enough, but it's also about the quality of sleep you get. Some of us function perfectly fine with six or six and a half hours a night whereas those who get eight still feel sleepy and want more!

The start of a new year is an ideal time to assess your sleep quality and change any old habits that hamper your zzzs.

- ✓ Try going to bed and getting up at roughly the same time, all the time –you'll be amazed at how your body will love you for it.
- ✓ Try new ideas in the bedroom – think curtains, lighting etc – to make it the ideal sleeping environment.
- ✓ Seek out ways to improve your lifestyle. Overhaul your diet, caffeine consumption and exercise regime. Small changes can have a huge impact on your sleep quality and quantity.
- ✓ Think about the hours before bed. Experiment with new ways to relax, like warm baths with calming scents, quiet soothing music, reading, gentle stretching and yoga.
- ✓ Keep a sleep diary. If you find dropping off hard, it may be interesting to see what you've been doing, what you've eaten and where you've slept on the days you sleep well to compare with the days you don't sleep well. It could help in finding the answers to some of your questions.

Prioritizing Sleep in 2015 and Beyond. Retrieved from <https://www.sleep.org/articles/good-nights-makegreat-days-prioritizing-sleep-2015-beyond/>

Make Getting Better Sleep Your New Year's Resolution. Retrieved from <https://sleepcouncil.org.uk/makegetting-better-sleep-your-new-years-resolution/>



Top 5 resolutions to help fix many of the biggest reasons we don't get enough rest.

Less screen time. Turn off the screens an hour before bedtime. Light emitted from screens like televisions, smart-phones, tablets, and computers can confuse your brain into thinking it's time to wake up.

Cut back on caffeine and alcohol. Caffeine obviously wakes you up, but if it enters your system in the afternoon, its impact may reach well into the evening, keeping you awake when you need to settle down for bed. Alcohol, meanwhile, may initially make you sleepy, but once those effects wear off it can keep you awake in the middle of the night.

Stick to your schedule. Your body simply can't get into a rhythm and know when it's time to sleep when you change the schedule frequently. Even on the weekends, try to go to bed and get up within an hour of your weekday schedule.

See your doctor. Individuals who have sleep problems should discuss their questions face-to-face with a doctor.

Review your sleep environment. Everything in your bedroom can be considered a sleep tool, and you should never use tools that are worn out. If your pillow is more than a year or so old, throw it out and get a quality replacement. If your bed is uncomfortable, consider buying a new one or getting a quality mattress topper.

5 New Year's Sleep Resolutions for 2018. Retrieved from <https://sleepbetter.org/five-2018-new-yearssleep-resolutions/>

A personal message from your health promotion Health Myth Busting Team



Dear Health Myth Busters,
It's that time of year again and I've been thinking about what healthy New Year's resolutions to set. I've been told that adding sleep to my list of resolutions can make it easier to reach some of the other health-related goals on my list. Is this true?

Sincerely,
New Year, New Resolutions

Dear New Year, New Resolutions,
New Year resolutions take commitment and sleep is a key component that is sometimes neglected when striving to make improvements. This may not be intentional but, when you have poor or low-quality sleep, it may hinder some common health resolutions. When you're well rested, it's easier to choose healthier foods and feel more energized to exercise.

If you've set a goal to eat healthier, first look at your sleeping habits. If you're a night owl, you are more likely to snack in the evening, and people who aren't getting enough sleep are more apt to make poor meal choices during the day. Try to develop a routine in which you go to bed and wake up at the same time every day. You can reach this goal by trying to go to bed 30 minutes earlier than your usual time, and increase that time as needed. To reach your goal of eating healthier, focus on real food. Emphasize fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean meat, fish, and dairy products. The fewer the ingredients, the better.

Another common resolution is wanting to exercise more. If you're exhausted, do you feel like hitting the gym? The less sleep you get, the shorter your exercise duration the next day is going to be. Research has found that adequate sleep improves speed, strength and endurance in athletes. Improve your sleep quality by keeping your bedroom as dark as possible. Install blackout blinds or curtains to block any light pollution that can suppress the production of melatonin. To reach your goal of exercising more start by moving more throughout the day. Making time in your day to be active improves mood and decreases stress. Try simple things like taking the stairs and walking outdoors.

Make sleep a priority this year and you may see results in other health-related goals!

Sincerely,
Health Myth Busters

BLAZE Hangar Tails: T-38C Talon

Mission

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


Features

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

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

Background

Air Education and Training Command uses the



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Keith Holcomb

Two T-38 Talons land during the turkey shoot event Oct. 26, 2017, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Two aircraft were graded and averaged together for the T-38 event because it was considered a formation flight.

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

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

AETC began receiving T-38C models in 2001 as part of the Avionics Upgrade Program. T-38C models will also undergo a propulsion modernization program which replaces major engine components to enhance reliability and maintainability, and an engine inlet/injector modification to increase available takeoff thrust. These upgrades and modifications, with the Pacer Classic program, should extend the service life of T-38s to 2020.

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

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


Pilots from most North Atlantic Treaty Organiza-

tion countries train in the T-38 at Sheppard AFB, Texas, through the Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training Program.

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

General Characteristics

Primary Function: Advanced jet pilot trainer
Builder: Northrop Corp.
Power Plant: Two General Electric J85-GE-5 turbojet engines with afterburners
Thrust: 2,050 pounds dry thrust; 2,900 with afterburners
Thrust (with PMP): 2,200 pounds dry thrust; 3,300 with afterburners
Length: 46 feet, 4 inches (14 meters)
Height: 12 feet, 10 inches (3.8 meters)
Wingspan: 25 feet, 3 inches (7.6 meters)
Speed: 812 mph (Mach 1.08 at sea level)
Ceiling: Above 55,000 feet (16,764 meters)
Maximum Takeoff Weight: 12,093 pounds (5,485 kilograms)
Range: 1,093 miles
Armament: T-38A/C: none; AT-38B: provisions for practice bomb dispenser
Unit Cost: \$756,000 (1961 constant dollars)
Crew: Two, student and instructor
Date Deployed: March 1961
Inventory: Active force, 546; ANG, 0; Reserve 0



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Hannah Bear

Eric Griggs, a Vertex T-38C Talon serviceman, aids 1st Lt. Tyler Hansen, 49th Fighter Training Squadron student pilot, and Capt. Cole Stegeman, 49th FTS upgrading instructor pilot, prepare to fly a training sortie Oct. 30, 2018, on Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Pilots and servicemen dedicate a great deal of time and effort to ensure the aircraft is fully prepared for flight and soundly running.

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



T-1A Jayhawk

SUPT Class 19-04/05 earns silver wings



T-38C Talon



2nd Lt. Nicholas Accardi
Rocky Point, New York
HC-130



2nd Lt. Amelia Ahner
South Lake, Texas
C-17



2nd Lt. Keenan Allen
Montgomery, Alabama
A-10C



2nd Lt. Nick Bailey
Parker, Colorado
T-38C

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

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Classes 19-04/05 graduate at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium. Lt. Col Kevin Walsh, commander and leader for the U.S. Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron, the Thunderbirds, Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada 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. Derek Kinamon, T-38C Talon, and 2nd Lt. Joseph Clack, T-1A Jayhawk, 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 2nd Lt. Connor Watson, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Travis Park, T-1A. 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.

Kinamon, 2nd Lt. Hunter Lawton, T-1A, 2nd Lt. Garret McSpadden, T-1A, and Clark were named the distinguished graduates of SUPT Class 19-04/05.

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 19-04/05 pilot partners are Baptist, JTS and Co., Buffalo Wild Wings and Zachary's.



2nd Lt. Joseph Carl
Lodi, California
C-17



2nd Lt. Lauren Casulli
Ardmore, Pennsylvania
C-130



2nd Lt. Joseph Clack
Jackson, Mississippi
CV-22



2nd Lt. William Cook
Billerica, Massachusetts
CV-22



2nd Lt. Aubrey Crawley
Diamondhead, Mississippi
KC-135



2nd Lt. Dominic Kelley
Houston, Texas
KC-10



2nd Lt. Derek Kinamon
Peachtree City, Georgia
MC-130



2nd Lt. Patrick King
Irvine, California
T-1A



2nd Lt. Hunter Lawton
Asheville, North Carolina
KC-10



2nd Lt. Andrew Lichtsinn
Tucson, Arizona
C-17



2nd Lt. Patrick Mayo
Plant City, Florida
T-6A



2nd Lt. Garrett McSpadden
San Marcos, Texas
C-130H3



2nd Lt. Travis Park
Seoul, South Korea
C-5M



2nd Lt. Michael Sauter
El Paso, Texas
CV-22



2nd Lt. Jared Smithson
Phoenix, Arizona
KC-135



2nd Lt. John Testerman
Davis, California
F-16



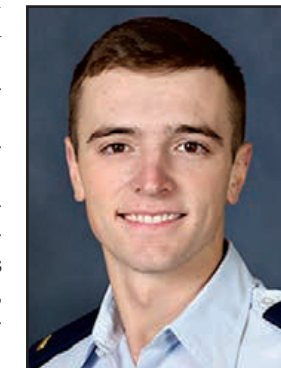
2nd Lt. Lance Torres
Culpeper, Virginia
C-5M



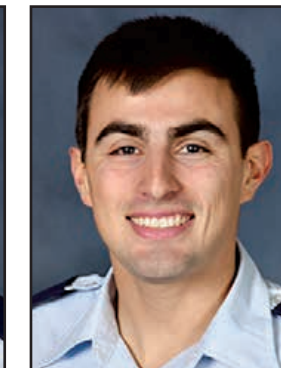
2nd Lt. Connor Watson
Waterloo, Indiana
F-16



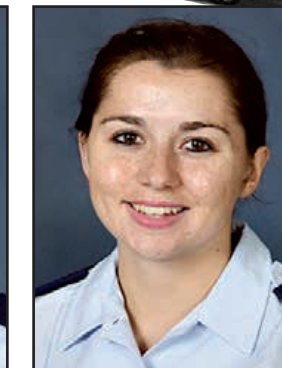
2nd Lt. Eric Zielen-Ersing
West Falls, New York
C-130



2nd Lt. Jason Bentley
Cumberland, Rhode Island
C-130J



2nd Lt. Alexander Bollwitt
Bradley, Illinois
C-130



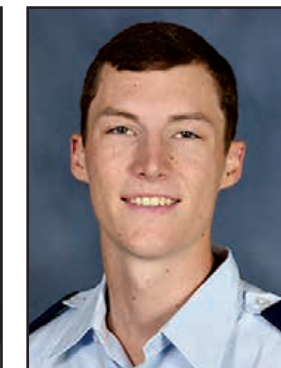
2nd Lt. Kathryn Brown
Mosca, Colorado
C-17



2nd Lt. Nathan Buxton
Wilmington, Delaware
C-130



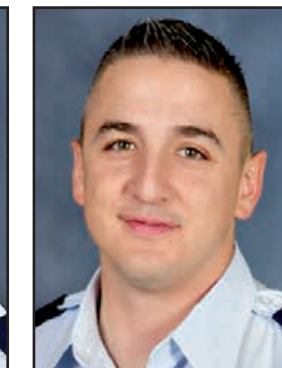
2nd Lt. Alexander Elwers
San Diego, California
KC-10



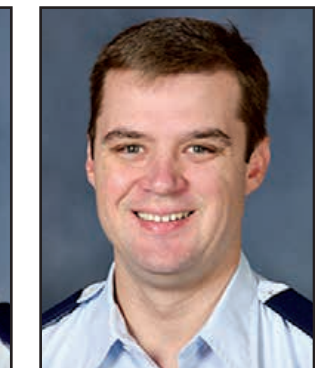
2nd Lt. Robert Etherington
Little Rock, Arkansas
E-3



2nd Lt. Michael Graham
Memphis, Tennessee
C-17



2nd Lt. Jonathan Guagenti
Bloomington, New York
C-17



2nd Lt. David Hust
Jackson, Mississippi
KC-135