



### Happy holidays



The Public Affairs Office staff wishes the Fort Carson community a safe and happy holiday season. This is the last issue of the

### Holiday hours

See what's open. Check out the extensive listing of holiday hours and events for Christmas and New Year's, including listings for Army and Air Force Exchange Service and Directorate of Community Activities.

### Happenings



Still have people to shop for? Try the specialty shops in Old Colorado City or the outlet mall in Castle Rock.

Page B1

### Severe weather hotline

Fort Carson community members can check reporting times and post closure status by calling the severe

Commander's Corner	Page 2
Community	Page 5
Military	Page
17	
Sports	Page
27	
Out & About	Page
31	



Photo by Nel Lampe

### It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

Above: Michaela Hatfield, 6, assisted Maj. Gen. John M. Riggs, commanding general, in the tree-lighting ceremony Dec. 11. Michaela flipped the switch, lighting the two trees in front of the headquarters building. She is the daughter of Sgt. Greg Hatfield, U.S. Army Garrison. Left: A family watches the tree-lighting ceremony along with a crowd of several hundred gathered for the retreat ceremony and tree lighting. Christmas carols were sung by Harmony in Motion and the Carson Middle School Choir. Below: Santa arrived on a fire engine and visited with children inside the headquarters building as parents enjoyed refreshments.



Photo by Spc. Bryan Beach



Photo by Spc. Bryan Beach

## Commanders



Riggs

**“Plan for enough time to arrive at your destination by allowing for possible weather delays.”**

The holiday season is a time for family gatherings. Many people try to get “home” for the holidays — whether that is where they went to high school, where their parents retired or perhaps where their in-laws live. In any case, “home” is a special place.

Some of us who’ve been in the military awhile consider home to be where the Army sends us.

Some of us celebrate the season in a religious way — with either Christmas or Hanukkah celebrations. Others celebrate the spirit of peace and giving which seems to transcend all cultures this time

### Road conditions numbers

Colorado (303) 639-1111  
 Arizona (602) 252-1010 (ext. 7623)  
 Kansas (913) 291-3000  
 Nebraska (402) 471-4533  
 New Mexico (505) 827-9126  
 Oklahoma (405) 425-2385  
 Utah (800) 492-2400  
 Wyoming (303) 742-8981  
 Texas (806) 848-4491  
 Texas (northwest of Amarillo) (806) 359-6300

### Letters to the editor

*Editor’s note: Sgt. Stephan Masson of 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, was in a serious car accident Dec. 4 which left him in a coma for six days.*

I wish to convey my deepest appreciation and gratitude to the soldiers at my son Stephan Masson’s unit, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, for the love and support they showed me during the week following his accident.

I will never forget the attention you paid to every little detail (plane reservations, transportation, food and Christmas presents) making my travel and stay with you as comfortable as possible under the circumstances.

Thanks to that, I was able to concentrate solely on Stephan. Your actions truly embody the Christmas spirit. Again my heartfelt thanks for all you have done.

Sincerely,  
**Cathy Masson**

of year.

Even countries at war usually take a “break” during the yuletide season.

Here at the Mountain Post, we observe a “decreased work schedule.” Reduced manning in duty sections is observed, with soldiers getting some extra time off to spend with their families during the holiday season.

Many soldiers and civilian workers will take leave over the holiday period. I want to urge you to use caution when driving long distances.

This time of year, the weather can be unpredictable, a storm can arrive with very little prior warning and roads can become snow-covered and impassable.

Let me urge you to use common sense in traveling. Plan for enough time to arrive at your destination by allowing for possible weather delays. Give yourself plenty of time to get back to Fort Carson before your leave ends. In the event of a blizzard, don’t take unnecessary chances just to make it back on time. Take chain of command phone numbers with you so you can call if the need arises. Nobody wants you to put your life on the line just to be back on time. Chain of command should know soldiers’ leave addresses and phone numbers so that if an emergency message (Red Cross) comes in, the soldier can be contacted in a timely manner.

Call for a leave extension if you need it, or better yet, come home a day or two early.

Some phone numbers for winter road conditions in nearby states are listed in a box on this page. You might want to clip it and take it along with you.

For those of you who are staying in the local area, there are plenty of things to keep you in the

holiday spirit.

You may want to attend a Salvation Army holiday service. How about inviting a soldier to Christmas day at your home? Services at the new chapel, mass on Christmas Eve at a community church, or a person you know or love. Call your parents or friends.

See Page 11 of this issue for a day hours of post activities open on December 18.

Unfortunately, accidents with the holiday season. Limit alcoholic beverages. It’s a good idea to have workers and friends. Probably more parties in December through March than in any other month of the year.

Common sense. Don’t drink and drive. Take a taxi home. Be safe if you’re hosting a party. Limit alcohol with the drink.

Finally, the holidays are a time for most people — a time to be away from home. Being alone on the holidays can have a negative effect. If you know someone who is down, be sensitive and offer support at the wellness center.

It’s the season to be kind. Proud to serve!

Recently, my family was faced with our worst nightmare. My husband and best friend, Sgt. Stephan Masson, was injured in a car accident and went into a coma. This accident killed us, and brought our world to a crashing halt. The good news is he’s getting better, and will soon be back to his wonderfully stubborn self.

From all my heart and soul, I would like to thank everyone for their love, compassion, courage, support, strength and prayers. I would especially like to thank 1st Battalion,

8th Infantry, Army Section. I even know that though Stephan is still in the hospital, thank you and help him get back to his hard training. Thanks

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# News

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## 5,000 soldiers to deploy to Gulf

by Sgt. 1st Class Kevin L.  
Robinson

Army News Service

More than 5,000 soldiers are expected to deploy to Southwest Asia in support of Operation Desert Fox, Army officials said Thursday.

Ground troops alerted for deployment include: a brigade of almost 4,000 soldiers from Fort Stewart, Ga.; 700-800 soldiers from three Patriot Missile batteries at Fort Bliss, Texas; a light infantry battalion of about 400 troops from Fort Drum, N.Y.; a Patriot Missile battery from Fort Bragg, N.C.; and a biological detection unit from Fort McClellan, Ala.

Army officials said the soldiers are in various stages of alert, awaiting operational orders for movement to the Middle East. The force was alerted in lieu of the aircraft and missile bombardment unleashed by U.S. and British forces against Iraq Wednesday.

At Fort Bliss, soldiers from the 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command, the 11th Air Defense Artillery Brigade and the 108th Air Defense Artillery Brigade are awaiting deployment orders, said Jean Offutt, the post public affairs officer.

This is the same contingent of troops that was prepared and partially deployed to the Middle East in November. "They stood down [after that crisis with Iraq was resolved], but they stayed in a preparation mode," she said. "We are now preparing last-minute details before they move again."

Fort Bliss already has 400-500 soldiers in Southwest Asia from the 108th Brigade as part of a five- to six-month rotation that left in October, Offutt said. Since the Persian Gulf War in 1991, deployments to the Middle East have become commonplace for Patriot Missile soldiers, moving to the region about a dozen times over the past seven or eight years.

At Fort Stewart, the post is also awaiting official deployment orders, said Richard Olson, the deputy public affairs officer. The 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) at Stewart is already part of an ongoing 120-day rotation of troops to Southwest Asia with Fort Hood's 1st Cavalry Division. And, for six months of the year, Fort Stewart maintains a brigade on a 72-hour status for deployment, he said.

## Fort Carson Holiday

Garrison Commander

We are well into the holiday season and part of our celebration as we decorate our home. However, in an effort to balance our individual responsibility to be good stewards, the policy letter below is provided. Your cooperation is requested and the Field Officer of the Day, day and night, to identify and inform those out of support, and happy holidays.

1. Fort Carson's energy management effort of wasteful consumption of all forms of energy through the elimination of waste remain here in the life projects.

2. The following policies are established in the areas for the 1998 holiday season:

a. Exterior lighting will only be authorized in the post headquarters building, family housing and electrical decorations are not authorized.

b. With the recognition that we are using money to pay these extra utilities costs, an effort to avoid excessive use of exterior lights.

c. Exterior electrical decorations will be taken down at dusk and off not later than 11 p.m., except on Dec. 24 to 25 and Dec. 31 to Jan. 1.) where they are used.

d. All holiday decorations will be taken down by Dec. 24.

3. Your understanding and cooperation during this season is appreciated.

4. This policy supercedes that detailed in the previous year. Have a safe and happy holiday season.

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**32** MOUNTAINEER  
December 18, 1998

**CLASSIFIED**

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**34** MOUNTAINEER  
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**32** MOUNTAINEER

## Holiday Messages

During this holiday season, we often hear "peace on earth" in songs and see these words printed on greeting cards. Those of you in America's Army know the high cost of peace. Throughout our long and proud 223-year history, our soldiers have been asked to pay that price so that others may enjoy the benefits of peace. Our Army's determination, our readiness and our unique ability to go where we are needed, when we are needed are the best guarantees of peace that exist in the world today.

Whether you serve our nation on active duty, in the Army Reserve, in the Army National Guard or as a civilian, you are a vital part of the total force. You are a continuing source for freedom-loving people around the globe and have helped bring peace throughout the world. At this time, more than 20,000 of you are deployed in over 80 countries, including more than 7,000 in Bosnia, where you are helping to keep peace in that troubled region.

You personify the Army core values, which are the defining characteristics of the

American soldier: Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless-Service, Honor, Integrity and Personal Courage. Values are your credentials, just as you are the nation's credentials, both at home and around the globe. To those of you serving the nation far from home this holiday season, as well as to you serving within our country's borders, we say "thank you" for your contributions and sacrifices.

Our nation is blessed with a tradition of religious freedom and tolerance, reflected today in our acceptance of and respect for the wide diversity of religions and cultures in our nation. May each of you enjoy a meaningful and joyous holiday season according to the tradition that you and your family hold dear. We wish all of you and your families a happy, safe, healthy and peaceful New Year in 1999, as we begin the countdown to the new millennium.

**Louis Caldera**  
*Secretary of the Army and*  
**General Dennis J. Reimer**  
*Army Chief of Staff*

Thanks to all of you — soldiers — for the many sacrifices you made in defense this year. As we celebrate the New Year, let us remember those who have given their lives for our country. To the Forces Command troops in Southwest Asia, Central America and around the world, may you know those of us in the Continental United States are praying for your service, and that of FORSCOM soldiers, for our Nation's strong security and stability.

Throughout 1998, FORSCOM supported military missions in 29 countries and responded to international emergencies including Florida wildfires and Hurricanes Iniki and Mitch. Our presence worldwide continues to support a humane international environment.

I personally wish each of you a safe holiday season and a prosperous and peaceful New Year. We look forward to the last year in the 20th century. We anticipate the wonders to come in the 21st century. Your personal safety, coupled with that of your family, is your number one priority during this season. Thank you throughout all your holiday activities.

# Seasonal parties require discipline, common sense

by Russell Jordan

Alcohol and Drug Control Office

December is National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month, and Fort Carson is part of a nationwide effort trying to reduce impaired driving this holiday season. Impaired driving is a big reason that December is one of the deadliest times of the year on our nation's highways.

"3D Prevention Month" efforts call attention to this problem and involve our community in activities to try to prevent deaths and injuries due to impaired driving, and call for stronger policies and programs to deter impaired driving. Major Gen. John M. Riggs, commanding general, recently signed a proclamation declaring December as 3D

need for every part of the community to play a role in the fight against impaired driving.

Fort Carson joins groups in every state for Lights on for Life Day today, asking motorists to drive with headlights on to remind people of the impaired driving problem and to remember those killed by impaired drivers. Law enforcement agencies across the nation will increase enforcement efforts against impaired drivers, speeders, aggressive drivers and others who make the roads especially dangerous at this time of year.

Driving while ability is impaired and driving under the influence convictions result in loss of rank, loss of pay, loss of freedom, loss of integrity, loss of family and loss of career. DWAI/DUIs

Prevention Month and National Drug and Alcohol Control

### Keys to

- Don't drink and drive
- Never serve alcohol to anyone under the age of 21.
- If you drink, always designate a nondrinking driver.
- Be a responsible driver.
- Serve non-alcoholic beverages.
- Serve high-proof beverages responsibly.
- Control the amount of alcohol served — no open bar.
- Ask alcohol-impaired

# Community

## CFC spokesman gets a new start through CFC agency

by Nel Lampe  
Mountaineer staff

We can help to solve the problems of the world help make the world a better place, said National Combined Federal Campaign Spokesman Terry Morris. Morris was keynote speaker at the 1998 CFC region-wide awards luncheon Dec. 4, at Elkhorn Conference Center.

Morris knows a little about CFC agencies and the good that can be done. He learned the hard way at age 14.

Morris said he was an abused child, and was abandoned in Mississippi when he was 14 years old. He ate out of garbage cans and lived on the street until someone reported him to social services. He was taken to Alpha House, which was operated by a CFC agency. It was his first

chance to go back to school, to have discipline and to have respect for myself, Morris said.

He excelled in school, and while he was in high school, he was contacted by NASA he still doesn't know who told NASA about him to participate in a cooperative education program. The cooperative program involved going to college part time and working part time. Morris said it took about five years to get his electrical engineering degree from the University of Mississippi, then he went to work full time for NASA. He presently is at the Langley Research Center, in Hampton, Va. This year, he was named national spokesman for CFC. As such, he has spoken at the White House, before Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen and Secretary



Photo by Nel Lampe

**National Combined Federal Campaign Spokesman Terry Morris talks with Col. Randy Tieszen, Fort Carson chief of staff, center, and Col. Bill Caffall, vice commander of 21st Space Wing at Peterson Air Force Base, prior to the CFC Regionwide Awards Luncheon.**

of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala.

Quite a long way for an abandoned teenager who survived on garbage, to come.

It's all about survival, Morris said, and people reaching out and saying we care.

I know what it's like ... to have problems that are not your fault. I can help someone (like I

was helped), he said. It's a chain reaction. There's despair and hopelessness. They need helping hands, Morris said.

Helping hands, such as CFC agencies.

The luncheon honored federal agencies in the region who participated in CFC. Plaques were awarded to Fort Carson, Schriever and Peterson Air Force

## 'AFTB Day' celebrated

Fort Carson Public Affairs Office Chief of Staff Gen. Dennis J. Reimer and Sergeant Major of the Army Robert E. Hall proclaimed Dec. 16 Army Family Team Building Day, celebrating four years of success and the achievements of thousands of volunteers.

The concept for AFTB originated in 1992 with senior leaders and spouses who saw a need to educate family members as a result of lessons learned following the Gulf War.

Since the inception of Army Family Team Building in 1994, the program has significantly contributed to the independence and self-

reliance of Army families. AFTB is a family training and readiness program that provides participants with an understanding of Army culture and the skills and resources they need to become self-reliant, self-sufficient members of the military community.

We couldn't do the program without the spouses who volunteer, said Renee Hillman, outreach social assistant, Army Community Services.

AFTB enhances retention because families learn what benefits and resources the Army offers, what to expect from the Army culture, and how to network so they become part of the larger Army family, have a sense of belonging and have a positive influence on

the soldier's decision to reenlist.

Currently more than 200,000 soldiers, family members and Department of the Army civilians have attended classes taught by more than 2,250 master trainers all of them spouses and all of them volunteers. The program costs an average of \$2.5 million a year to administer and operate.

There is direct correlation between Army Family Team Building and its positive impact on soldier and family readiness.

As the program moves into its fifth year, command teams, soldiers and family members are encouraged to celebrate Army Family Team Building's success.

We have strong command support for

# FSGs, Red Cross offer assistance

*Family members have places to turn to for support during deployments or field exercises*

by Pfc. Socorro A. Spooner  
Mountaineer staff

With the holiday season here, many family members are not only fighting the holiday crowds, but they may also be fighting the holiday blues due to the deployments. For these family members who don't know how or where to get support through these difficult times the answers are just a phone call away. Spouses who find themselves in these situations can call their Family Support Groups, unit chaplains or the Red Cross for emergencies.

Family support groups are utilized as fellowships for family members whose spouses have left on deployments or who have gone to the field, said Renee Hillman, outreach social assistant, Army Community Service.

The groups are in place so family members can support each other, said Hillman.

Dana Zoekler, family member, has experienced both good and bad FSGs in her six years as a family member in the U.S. Army. Some units FSGs are used to assist family members through hard times whether it be

by helping them get through a deployment or by just hearing a spouse who may be having a bad day while their spouse is out on a deployment or who have gone to the field, she said. Although some FSGs don't provide the support some family members may need which in the end, leaves family members left with nowhere to turn for help during a deployment or field problem.

FSGs are good if utilized correctly, said Zoekler.

Some spouses who can't find the support they need in their FSGs find it easy to try and use the Red Cross so that they may talk to their spouses to help them deal with the stresses of home, said Zoekler. The Red Cross is able to screen out most of these calls, because its system verifies every call before passing it on to military authorities, said Jason Zuboy, assistant station manager Fort Carson Red Cross. This is why the Red Cross has an eight-hour time limit to act on each call received. During this time, the Red Cross verifies the emergency through doctors, hospitals and funeral homes, he said.

This is to ensure that military commanders can be certain the information being passed is true and accurate so they can take appropriate action, said Zuboy.

Although a small amount of false (emergencies) do get through, there is never any delay on our part to get the message out to a unit, said Zuboy.

Once the unit receives the message and gets the message to the soldier, it becomes the unit's responsibility to get the message to the soldier, he said. This is why we try to ask the unit to give us a call once the soldier has received the message, said Zuboy. Some important information which will assist the Red Cross in getting messages to soldiers:

Soldier's Full Name  
Rank  
Social Security Number  
Branch of Service  
Where Deployed (address if possible)  
Home Unit  
If you live in Colorado Springs or on Fort Carson, you should contact the Fort Carson

# Red Cross

# 526-2311



Photo by Pfc. Socorro A. Spooner

## SMC ready for reopening

Michael Ferguson, Trinity Furniture Manufacturing installer, finishes installing pews at Soldiers' Memorial Chapel Tuesday. The chapel is undergoing its final preparations for the ribbon-cutting ceremony Monday. The ceremony begins at 9 a.m. Both Maj. Gen. John M. Riggs, commanding general, and Brig. Gen. Gaylord Gunhs, deputy chief of Chaplains, will speak at the opening.

## Cub reporters

Jason Campell, Gowdy Printcraft, center, explains how the Mountaineer is printed to members of Cub Scout Pack 558. The pack's den chief, Travis Kulbeth, is pictured at left. The Cub Scouts visited the post newspaper's printer as they were learning about communication. Cub Scout Pack 558 is sponsored



Photo by Nel Lampe

## Recycling program undergoes changes

The Fort Carson Recycle Program is undergoing changes in operating hours and services effective Jan. 4. The following are the changes planned:

Current recycling staff will be reduced

and operating hours changed to Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. for material processing.

There will no longer be weekly office pickups. Exceptions to this change will be addressed on a case-by-case basis with only activities that have no government transportation considered.

Major cardboard generating activities

will continue to be serviced.

The central drop-off point located adjacent to McMahon Auditorium will still be available and serviced on a daily basis.

Additionally, the drop-off point at the Recycle Center for all recycle material will be maintained.

The Troop Recycling Incentive Program will be discontinued effective Dec. 31.

# Holiday

## Fort Carson Commissary

Dec. 24, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Closed Dec. 25  
Extended hours Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Closed Wednesday.  
The Fort Carson Commissary will have a visit from Santa Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m. Beginning Jan. 4 the commissary will have 99 cent sales through Jan. 17.

## Army and Air Force Exchange Service holiday hours

Service Station:  
Closed Dec. 25  
B Street Shoppette:  
Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Dec. 25, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Dec. 31, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.  
Jan. 1, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Burger King:  
Thursday, 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Closed Dec. 25  
Dec. 26 and 27, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Dec. 31, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Closed Jan. 1  
Jan. 2, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Ivy Troop Shoppette:  
Dec. 21 to Jan. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Closed Dec. 25 and 26  
Closed Jan. 1 and 2  
Butts Field Shoppette:  
Closed Dec. 20 to Jan. 3  
Housing Shoppette:  
Thursday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Closed Dec. 25  
Dec. 31 and Jan. 1, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Class Six:  
Thursday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1  
Class Six Annex:  
Thursday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1  
Main Post Exchange:  
Monday, extended hours begin: Saturday 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.  
Thursday, 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Closed Dec. 25  
Dec. 26, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Dec. 31, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Jan. 1, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Military Clothing Sales Store:  
Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Closed Dec. 25 and 26  
Dec. 31, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Closed Jan. 1  
Burger King (building 900):  
Thursday, 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Closed Dec. 25  
Dec. 26, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Jan. 1, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## AAFES holiday events

Wednesday, Grandparents Night to Shop sale

## DCA hours, Fort Crson community events

American Red Cross:  
Closed Dec. 25  
Alcohol and Drug Control Office:  
Closed Thursday to Dec. 25 and Jan. 1  
Army Community Service:  
Closed Thursday and Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 and 4  
Child and Youth Services:  
Closed Thursday, Dec. 25 and 31 and Jan. 1  
Community Recreation Division (AutoCraft Center, Multi-Craft Center, WoodCraft Center, Sporting Goods Store, Outdoor Recreation Rental Center and Outdoor Recreation Complex):  
Closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1  
Normal holiday hours Dec. 31  
Information, Tour and Travel:  
Closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1  
Dec. 31, normal holiday hours  
Turkey Creek Recreation Area:  
Closed Dec. 25  
Dec. 31, normal holiday hours  
Jan. 1, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Little House of the Rockies:  
Monday through Dec. 25

### Facilities:

Bowling Center:  
Thursday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Closed Dec. 25  
Dec. 31, 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Jan. 1  
Jan. 1, 11 a.m. to midnight  
Christopher s:  
Closed Thursday and Dec. 25 and Jan. 1  
Closed Dec. 31, no lunch, Barber Shop open 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Elkhorn Conference Center:  
Closed Thursday and Dec. 25  
Pueblo Deli Closed Dec. 31 and Jan. 1  
Neon Sports Saloon:  
Thursday, noon to 10 p.m.  
Dec. 25, noon to midnight  
Dec. 31, opens at 7 p.m.  
Jan. 1, opens at 6 p.m.  
Jan. 2, opens at 5 p.m.  
Fatz Pool&Darts:  
Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Dec. 31, 6 p.m. to 2 a.m.  
Golf Course:  
Closed Thursday and Dec. 25  
Divots Grill:  
Closed Thursday through Dec. 31  
Grant Library:  
Closed Thursday and Dec. 25, Jan. 1  
3rd Cavalry Museum:  
Closed Thursday and Dec. 25, Jan. 1

### Physical Fitness Centers:

Forrest Fitness Center:

## Open for the holi-days:

### Christmas Eve:

B Street Shoppette, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Bowling Center, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Neon Sports Saloon, noon to 10 p.m.  
Fatz Pool & Darts, 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Christmas Day:

B Street Shoppette, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Neon Sports Saloon, noon to midnight  
W aller Fitness Center, noon to 9 p.m.

### New Year's Eve:

B Street Shoppette, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.  
Bowling Center, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Neon Sports Saloon, opens at 7 p.m.  
Fatz Pool & Darts, 6 p.m. to 2 a.m.

### New Year's Day:

B Street Shoppette, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Bowling Center, 11 a.m. to midnight

Closed on all holidays

Garcia Physical Fitness Center:

Jan. 1, noon to 9 p.m.

Closed all other holidays

McKibben Physical Fitness Center:

Closed all other holidays

Mountain Post Physical Fitness Center:

Closed on all holidays

Post Physical Fitness Center:

Closed on all holidays

W aller Fitness Center:

Dec. 25, noon to 9 a.m.

Closed all other holidays

Indoor Swimming Pool:

Closed Sunday through Jan. 1 for repairs.  
10 a.m. to 6 p.m. all other days

Youth Services Annual Christmas Tree Sales run through Wednesday. Christmas trees can be purchased at the Main Post Exchange garden shop. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday noon to 7 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call 526-2680 or 526-3546.

Directorate of Community Activities Christmas party, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday.

Ribbon cutting ceremony for Soldiers Memorial Chapel 9 a.m. Monday at Soldiers Memorial Chapel. A Christmas service is scheduled for Dec. 25 at SMC.

## Local school closures

Christmas and New Year s  
District 2: No school Monday through Jan. 3  
District 3: No school Monday through Jan. 3  
Districts 8 and 12: No school Monday through Jan. 3  
District 11: No school Monday through Jan. 3

## 4th Personnel Services Battalion

4th Personnel Services Battalion s cus-tomer service section will be closed Christmas Eve, Christmas and New Year s Eve.

## Evans Army Community Hospital

Thursday and Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, phar-macy and clinics closed; wards and emer-gency room remain open.

### Emergency phone numbers

Military police emergency: 526-2333  
Fire emergency: 911  
Evans Army Community Hospital: 526-7111  
Severe Weather Hotline: 526-0096  
Colorado road conditions: (303) 639-1111 or 630-1111 (enter ROAD)  
Red Cross: 526-2311  
Emergency Operations Center: 526-5914

## Christmas services

Thursday a Catholic children's Christmas liturgy at Soldiers Memorial Chapel starting at 5 p.m.

Thursday a Protestant Candlelight service at Provider starting at 6 p.m.

Thursday a 10th Special Forces Christmas Eve service at Veterans starting at 7 p.m.

Thursday a Protestant candlelight service at SMC, Prussman and Healer starting at 7 p.m.

Thursday a Catholic midnight mass at SMC (traditional carols begin at 11:30 p.m.)

Dec. 25 a Catholic mass at SMC starting at 9:30 p.m.

Dec. 31 a Catholic New Year's Eve Mass at SMC starting at 6 p.m.

Jan. 1 a Catholic New Year's Eve Day Mass at SMC starting at 9:30 a.m.

## Chapel Schedule

### ROMAN CATHOLIC

Chapel	Service	Day	Time	Location	Contact Person
Healer	Mass	Sunday	11 a.m.	Evans Army Hospital	Fr. Gagliardo/526-7386
Healer	Mass	M-W-F	11:45 a.m.	Evans Army Hospital	Fr. Gagliardo/526-7386
Provider	Mass	Sunday	12:15 p.m.	Barkeley & Ellis	Chap. Cavanaugh/526-5769
Soldiers	CCD	Sunday	10:45 a.m.	Nelson & Martinez	Ms. Feldman/526-0478
McMahon	Mass	Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Building 1517	Chap. Cavanaugh/526-5769
Veterans	Mass	Sunday	8 a.m.	Magrath & Titus	Chap. Cavanaugh/526-5769

### LITURGICAL

Provider	Liturgical	Sunday	10:30 a.m.	Barkeley & Ellis	Chap. Brock/526-147
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### PROTESTANT

Healer	Protestant	Sunday	9 a.m.	Evans Army Hospital	Chap. Tarvin/526-7387
Prussman	SS/Samoan	Sunday	8 a.m.	Barkeley & Ellis	Chap. Gibson/526-5803
Prussman	Prot/Samoan	Sunday	9 a.m.	Barkeley & Ellis	Chap. Gibson/526-5803
Provider	Sun. School	Sunday	10:15 a.m.	Barkeley & Ellis	Chap. Duvall/526-4416
Provider	Protestant	Sunday	9 a.m.	Barkeley & Ellis	Chap. Stephen/526-4416
Prussman	Sun. School	Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Barkeley & Prussman	Chap. Giles/526-4206
Prussman	Prot/Gospel	Sunday	11 a.m.	Barkeley & Prussman	Chap. Giles/526-4206
Soldiers	Sun. School	Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Nelson & Martinez	Dr. Scheck/526-5626
McMahon	Protestant	Sunday	11 a.m.	Building 1517	Chap. Cooper/526-8011
Veterans	Protestant	Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Magrath & Titus	Chap. J. Hartranft/524-1822
Veterans	Protestant	Sunday	11 a.m.	Magrath & Titus	Chap. Simo/526-8890

For additional information, contact the Installation Chaplains Office, building 6227, at 526-5209. For information and a schedule of Jewish Sabbath services, call the U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet Chapel at 333-2636. Normally, free child care is available for infants and preschool age children during on-post worship services. Some worship services offer a children's church for ages 6 to 12.

## Daily Bible Readings

In order to assist in regular scripture reading, the following scriptures are recommended. These are part of the common daily lectionary which is designed to present the entire

Bible over a three-year cycle.

Saturday, Psalms 18 & Isaiah 31-33  
 Sunday, Psalms 5 & Isaiah 34-36  
 Monday, Psalms 6 & Isaiah 37-39  
 Tuesday, Psalms 7 & Isaiah 40-42  
 Wednesday, Psalms 8 & Isaiah 43-45  
 Thursday, Psalms 9 & Isaiah 62: 10-12

Dec. 25, Luke 2: 1-20 - Christmas Day  
 Dec. 26, Psalm 24-25 & Isaiah 46-54  
 Dec. 27, Psalm 26 & Isaiah 55-57  
 Dec. 28, Psalm 27 & Isaiah 58-60  
 Dec. 29, Psalm 28 & Isaiah 61-63  
 Dec. 30, Psalm 29 & Isaiah 64-66  
 Dec. 31, Luke 1: 46-55 & Mark 1

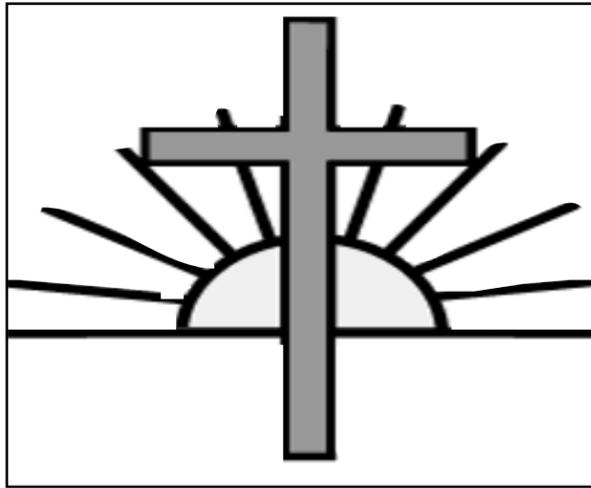
## Chaplain's Corner

Commentary by  
Chap. (Capt.) Matthew L. Gibson  
4th Personnel Services Battalion

Christmas, holy day or holiday? That is something that each of us must ask ourselves this season. What does it mean to you? Is it a time to reflect upon the goodness of God or to remember all that we have done?

Christmas should be special to all of us. It should be the time when we reflect on the year's achievements and accomplishments. Too often, we regress into a state of self-defeatism concerning our inability to achieve our perceived level of success.

The teachings of Jesus instruct us that it is better to give than to receive. If we could embrace this concept, then we could understand the difference between Christmas as a holy day and Christmas as a holiday. Let's give something back. Give something of value, something that will endure the test of time. Give something that will be of universal importance to each other and to your children.



Let's examine the meaning of Christmas together. It is the timeless story of a God who loved us enough to give you and I his only son; to redeem us from the curse of sin. The scriptures teach us that the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life. In other words, Jesus died in our place in order that we might have life, and have it more abundantly.

We deserved death because of our forebearers' sin (Adam and Eve) disobeying God. It is because of Jesus and his willingness to be our substitute on the cross of Calvary. He was born. He lived a sinless life. He died as the Lamb of God to redeem us from the curse of sin. Christmas is not just a day to give gifts to one another. It reminds us of the tremendous sacrifice that was made for your salvation and mine.

Let's put the Christ back in Christmas. If you really want to celebrate the season this holy day, allow yourself to rediscover the joy of knowing Jesus as the Christ. Attend a religious service of your choice, according to your faith tradition.

This Christmas, make it a point to separate Christmas from all the other holidays. It is meant to be a time when we see the Christ as the savior of the world and recognize him as king of kings and lord of lords. He is the reason for the season. Without him, we would be nothing, and apart from him, we can do nothing.

Pet of the

Black cat

This 1-and- a-half year-old male domestic short-haired cat, is currently available for adoption at the Fort Carson Veterinary Treatment Facility. Pets up for adoption are vaccinated and neutered. The treatment facility provides routine preventive medicine and minor sick call services to pets owned by active duty and retired military members. Normal hours of operation for the clinic are Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Clinics are held every Monday, Wednesday and Friday with animals being seen by appointment only. To reduce the risk of child injury in exam rooms and to increase the attentiveness of pet owners during the examination process, the facility discourages pet owners from bringing along children under 10 years of age. People interested in adopting a pet can call 526-4354. For an appointment, call 526-3803.



Photo by Pfc. Socorro A. Spooner

## Where and When

**Directorate of Community Activities facilities**Physical fitness centers/swimming pools

- **Garcia PFC** ph: 526-3944 or 526-5785  
M-F 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m./weekends and holidays 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
- **McKibben PFC** ph: 526-2597  
M-F 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m./weekends and holidays 6 a.m.-1 p.m.
- **Waller PFC** ph: 526-2742  
M-F 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m./weekends and holidays 3-10 p.m.
- **Mountain Post PFC** ph: 526-2411  
M, T, W, F 6:30-9:30 a.m. (Open for after-PT showers only)
- **Forrest FC** ph: 526-2706  
M-F 5:30 a.m.-10 p.m./weekends and holidays closed
- **Post PFC** ph: 526-1023 or 526-1024  
M-F 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m./weekends and holidays closed
- **Indoor Swimming Pool** ph: 526-3107  
M-F 6:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. (lap swimming from 6:30-8:30 a.m./open swimming from noon-10 p.m.)/weekends and holidays, closed
- **Outdoor Swimming Pool** closed

Miscellaneous

- **Post Commissary**, building 1525, ph: 526-5505  
M, T, Thur, and Fri from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sat from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Sun from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Wednesdays.
- **Grant Library**, building 1528, ph: 526-2350  
M-Th 11 a.m.-8 p.m./Fri 11 a.m.-4 p.m./Sat and Sun 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
- **Multi-Craft/AutoCraft/WoodCraft Centers**  
W, Th and Fri 1-8:30 p.m./weekends and holidays 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m./Mon and Tues closed, ph: 526-0950
- **Community Thrift Shop**, building 1008, ph: 526-5966  
T, W, Th 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m./ Fri through Mon. closed
- **Turkey Creek Recreation Area**, ph: 526-3905  
W-F 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m./Sat and Sun 10:30 a.m.- 4 p.m./office hours:  
W-Sun 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- **Information Tour & Travel**, building 1532, ph: 526-5366  
M-F 9 a.m.-6 p.m./Sat 9 a.m.-1 p.m./closed Sun and holidays
- **Carlson Wagonlit Travel**, building 1532, ph: 576-5404  
M, W, Th, F 9 a.m.-6 p.m./Tues 9 a.m.-5 p.m./weekends and holidays closed
- **Outdoor Recreation Complex**, building 2429, ph: 526-2083  
M-Sun 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m./holidays 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **Pueblo Deli** (Elkhorn), building 7300, ph: 576-6646  
M-F 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m./closed weekends and holidays
- **Fatz Pool and Darts**, building 1129, ph: 526-4693  
T-Th 11:30a.m.-midnight/F-Sat 11 a.m.-2 a.m./Sun 1 p.m.-midnight/Mon closed
- **The Bowling Center**, building 1511, ph: 526-5542  
Sun -Th 11 a.m.-11 p.m./Fri & Sat 11 a.m.-1 a.m.
- **Cheyenne Shadows Golf Course**, ph: 526-4122  
M-Sun 6 a.m.-7:30 p.m.
- **Youth Center**, ph: 526-2680  
M-Th 3-8 p.m./Fri 3-9 p.m./Sat 1-9 p.m. closed Sun & holidays

**Army and Air Force Exchange Service facilities**Barber/Beauty Shops

- **Ivy Troop Store Barber Shop**, building 2355  
M-F 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m./weekends and holidays, closed
- **Prussman Troop Store Barber Shop**  
M-F 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m./weekends and holidays, closed
- **Barber Shop**, building 1161  
M-F 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m./weekends and holidays closed



Program Schedule for Fort Carson cable channel 10, Saturday to Dec. 25:

**Mountain Post Magazine:** includes stories about Fort Carson and the Colorado Springs area. Airls at 7 a.m., noon, 7 p.m. and midnight.

**Army Newswatch:** includes stories on top dollars 98, F-22 testing and Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Service. Airls at 7:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 12:30 a.m.

**Air Force News:** includes stories on medical operations in Central America, Army

- **Evans Beauty Shop**, building 7500 ph: 540-0462  
M-F 9 a.m.-5 p.m./weekends and holidays, closed
- **Post HQ Barber Shop**, building 1430  
Mon only 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. (closed holidays but open next business day)
- **Welcome Center Barber Shop**, building 1218  
Mon and Th only 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **Main Store Mall Barber and Beauty Shops**, building 6110, ph: 576-6459  
M-Sat 9 a.m.-7 p.m./Sun and holidays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
- **Mini Mall Barber Shop**, building 1510, ph: 576-8013  
M-F 7 a.m.-6 p.m./Sat 8 a.m.-6 p.m./Sun 10 a.m.-5 p.m. closed holidays

Shoppettes/service stations

- **"B Street" Shopette**, building 900  
M-F 5 a.m.-midnight/weekends 6 a.m.-midnight
- **Service Station**, building 1515  
M-F 6 a.m.-7 p.m./Sat 8 a.m.-6 p.m./Sun 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Alterations

- **Military Clothing Sales Store**, building 307, ph: 576-4516  
M-F 9 a.m.-6 p.m./Sat 9 a.m.-3 p.m./closed Sun and holidays
- **Mini-Mall**, building 1510, ph: 576-4304  
M-Sat 9 a.m.-6 p.m./Sun 10 a.m.-5 p.m./closed holidays

Miscellaneous

- **Burger King** (Specker), building 1520  
M-F 6 a.m.-9 p.m.(drive thru until 10 p.m.)/Sat 7 a.m.-9 p.m. (drive thru until 10 p.m.)/Sun 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

astronaut helps build, the international space station and the Boy Scout Jamboree. Airls at 8 a.m., 1 p.m., 8 p.m. and 1 a.m.

**Navy/Marine Corps News:** includes stories on liberty call on St. Maarten, a Group Sail in the Caribbean and a preview of a USO documentary. Airls at 8:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 8:30 p.m. and 1:30 a.m.

Community Calendar airts between program showing times.

Channel 9 daily broadcasts SCOLA, foreign language news broadcasts

If you have comments on Channel 10 programming or wish to coordinate a broadcast on channels 9 or 10, please contact Douglas Rule at 526-1241 or via email at RuleDo@carson-exchl.army.mil. Call Kim Tisor at 526-1253 if you have ideas for Mountain Post Magazine. Contact the Regional Training Support Center for showing of training videotapes only on channels 9 or 10 at 526-5111. Submit typewritten requests for additions to the Community

- **Kentucky Fried Chicken**, building 1533, ph: 579-8237  
M-Sun 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m.
- **Class Six**, building 1524  
M-Sat 9 a.m.-9 p.m./Sun 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
- **Class Six Annex**, building 3572  
M-Sat 10 a.m.-7 p.m./closed Sun
- **Laundromat**, building 6089  
M-Sun 7 a.m.-10 p.m.
- **Car rental**, building 980, ph: 527-4744  
M-F 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m./Sat 9 a.m.-2 p.m./closed Sun
- **TV Repair/U-Haul**, building 1008, ph: 579-9344  
M-F 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m./Sat 8 a.m.-noon/ closed Sun and holidays
- **Sprint Office**, ph: 579-7463  
M-F 9 a.m.-6 p.m./Sat 10 a.m.-2 p.m./closed Sun and holidays
- **Main Store Mall**, building 6110  
M-Sat 9 a.m.-9 p.m./Sun and holidays 10 a.m.-7 p.m. (Flower Shop, Vitamin Expo, Optical Shop and AT&T Kiosk)
- **Main Store Mall Espresso Cart**  
M-F 8 a.m.-3 p.m./Sat and Sun 8 a.m.-4 p.m./closed holidays
- **Mini Mall**, building 1510  
M-Sat 9 a.m.-11 p.m./Sun 10a.m.-5 p.m. and holidays (Shoe Repair and Engraving Shop)
- **Mini Mall Laundry**, building 1510  
M-Sat 9 a.m.-6 p.m./Sun 10 a.m.-5 p.m./closed holidays

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# Military

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## 5th Brigade trains guard

by Capt. Christopher Vaughn  
2nd Armor Training Support Battalion

It is early November; the air is crisp as a slow wind blows east off the Cascade Range over the High Desert Training Area, an Army National Guard training area just a few miles outside of Redmond, Ore.

The soldiers of the 2nd Armor Training Support Battalion are preparing to train and evaluate the troops of F Troop, 82nd Cavalry, Oregon Army National Guard. These troops execute a training mission that has been in the planning phase since mid-August.

The platoon operation orders are given and a quick rehearsal is all that remains before the units execute their line of departure. The training has been planned by D Troop, 2nd Armor Training Support Battalion, 5th Armored Brigade, 5th United States Army.

The 5th Armored Brigade, headquartered at Fort Carson under the command of Col. Jon Greer, trains Army National Guard Reserve units throughout the western United States. D Troop, commanded by Capt. Christopher Vaughn, is part of the 2nd AR TSB observer controller package, whose mission is to assist the guardsmen with planning, synchronizing and evaluating its training activities. The armor battalion's primary goal

is to improve the combat readiness of the National Guard.

Since its first 500 volunteers in 1847, the Oregon Army National Guard has been training soldiers for both peace and wartime missions.

Today, F Troop, under the command of Capt. David Chauvin, is conducting a rear area security mission as part of its train-up for a June 1999 rotation to the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La.

F Troop, a Light Separate Cavalry Troop, is attached to the 29th Infantry Brigade (Separate), Hawaii Army National Guard for its wartime mission.

The training event takes place in the Central Oregon High Desert Training Area, 33,000 acres of leased land from the Oregon Bureau of Land Management. It is a rocky piece of land covered by age-old trees that bear the markings of the great wagon trains which made their way west in the mid-1800s.

The training area supports both limited track and light vehicle maneuver. It provides training for armor, infantry, engineer and support units throughout the year.

Today's exercise mirrors the JRTC fictional scenario of an island nation fighting to maintain its independence from insurgent forces. F Troop

will have to cope with... as well as with med... accomplish its train...

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aspects of its troop... The 2nd AR TS... teach and mentor th... mission and then cl... after-action review... receives a troop lev... take-home package...

The end result... was a National Gua... train at JRTC, and... combat.

The motivated... were up to the chal... mission. D Troop's... tributed significant... increased readiness...

# 'Wet and wild'

Story and photos by  
Spc. Bryan Beach  
Mountaineer staff

Strong winds have carried you off target. You're supposed to parachute onto a nice and dry landing site, however, as the earth below quickly appears larger and larger, you realize the grass is a funny blue color. Wait a minute, that's not grass, that's water. What are you going to do?

Soldiers from the Company B, 2nd Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), know what to do. They performed a water landing survival exercise Monday at the indoor pool on Fort Carson.

"There are many dangers to landing in water," said Capt. Jeffery Bailey, a team leader in Co. B. "The soldier is going to be weighted down. Landing in water is not preferred. The soldiers have to deal with the harness before it soaks up water and drags them down. There (are) also the suspension lines and the chute itself to deal with. Once the chute gets wet, it becomes very heavy and presents a hazard."

The soldiers had to jump into the pool, remove the parachute harness and swim under the parachute to the

center and breathe at the center bridal loop of the chute, where a small pocket of air forms, then continue swimming clear of the chute, said Bailey.

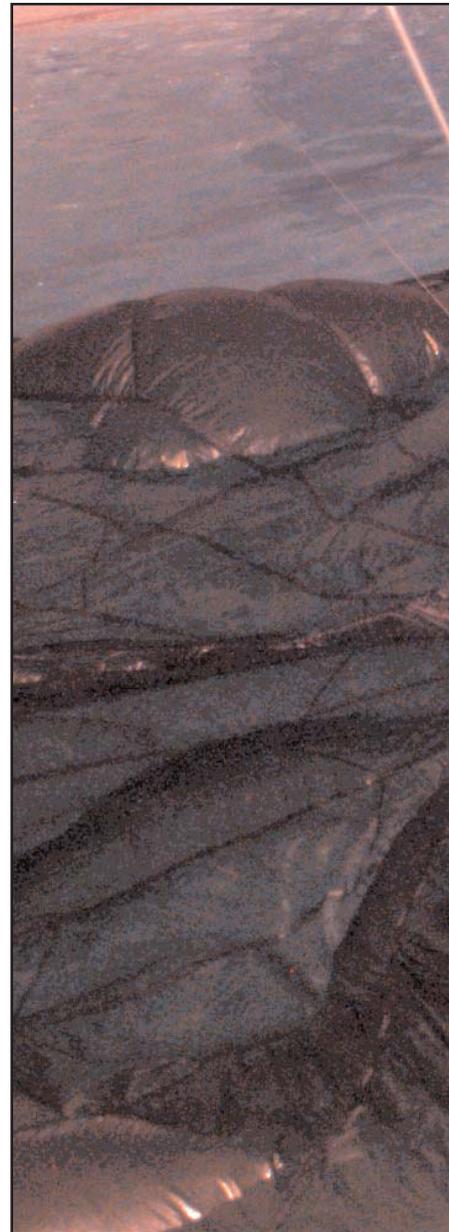
"This was the first time we've actually gone through the physical motions of landing in water," said Sgt. 1st Class David McWhirt. "Some people aren't as confident in the water, and it builds your confidence by actually doing it."

"We go through (water training) verbally all the time," said Sgt. Greg Kibbee. "But now we have actually done it, and, anytime you do any type of training, its going to be beneficial."

"(The training) was very realistic and pertinent for real-world training," said Sgt. 1st Class Alfredo S. Rojas. "I think it should be an annual event."

"People tend to forget, under stress, things that have only been told to them," said Staff Sgt. Christopher K. Barton. "If you've actually done the training, it's easier to remember."

"If doing this training saves one life," said Sgt. Maj. Kevin W. Kotowski, "then the training was worth it."

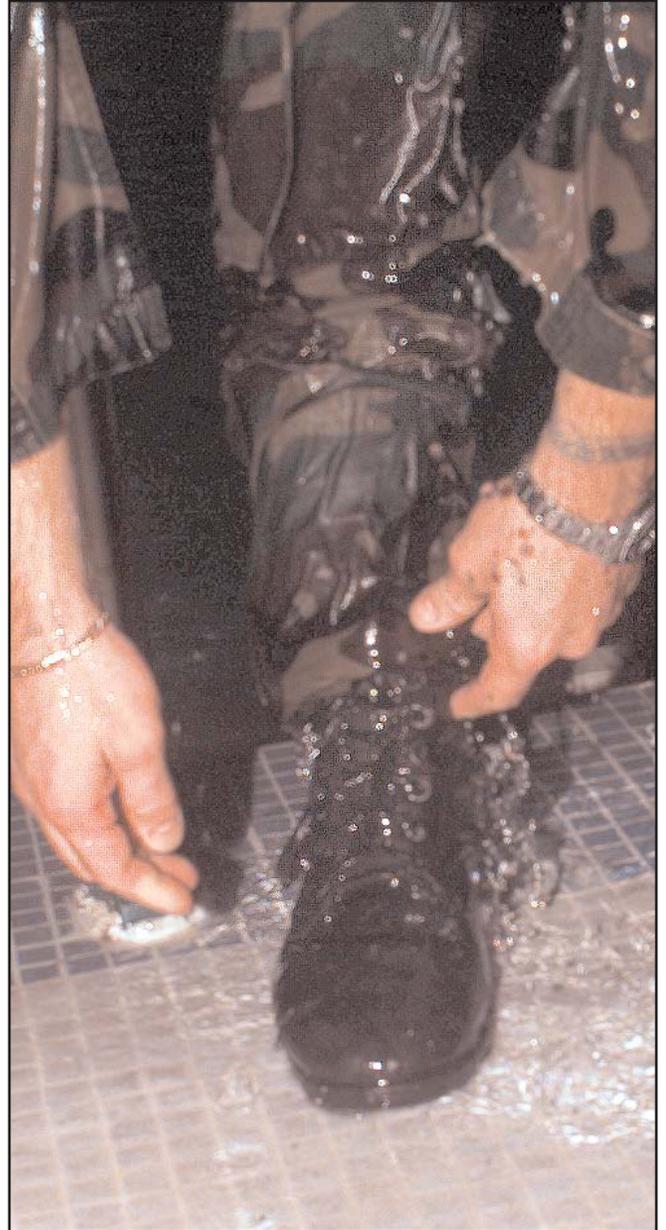


Soldiers had to swim clear of the canopy to avoid being weighed down. They waited under the canopy to assess the situation.





Other soldiers in scuba gear were submerged below water and parachute lines.



Boots and pants quickly fill with water and weigh soldiers down, making it hard to swim.



# Carson soldier offers children hope

**U.S. Support Group — Haiti  
Public Affairs Office**

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — As many people run through the malls these last days of the holidays, frantically trying to find that perfect gift, a soldier from Fort Carson is helping bring the holiday spirit to reality.

Captain James Smith, deployed from Fort Carson with the United States Support Group — Haiti, helped organize a project to renovate a school for 350 children. During the “Starfish” program, support group volunteers donate their time and hard work to restore school and equipment to attempt to improve the quality of life for children in Haiti.

As the story behind the word “Starfish” goes, according to legend, a man was walking along a seashore when he noticed hundreds of starfish high and dry on the sand. Knowing they would all die unless they were put back in the water, he began tossing them into the sea. As he was doing so, another man came along and asked him what he was doing. The first man explained to him that although he wouldn’t be able to save all the starfish, the least he could do was to save what he could. The same type of story helps describe Haiti.

Haiti has the highest percentage of people living in extreme poverty in the world at a rate of 66 percent of the population (according to World Bank). Smith has been able to see that number in reality every day. Driving down the road means avoiding hitting hundreds of people who are out of work and starving for both money and food to

survive. Volunteering at “Starfish” shows support group personnel children go to school with little or no desks, in a 10-foot by 10-foot cubicle. Many times there are no chalkboards to write on and not enough supplies to go around.

Soldiers, airmen, sailors and Marines are continuing participation in the U.S. Support Group — Haiti, a 500-member joint command. The support group is continuing its mission to conduct civil military operations here, which help the Haitian government in its efforts to forge a lasting democracy while providing exceptional training to attached military units.

Under the control of the U.S. Southern Command, the support group has been in its current existence since March 1996. In that time, the support group has conducted more than 620 medical humanitarian assistance missions helping more than 85,900 Haitians. In addition, 93 schools have been partially or completely rebuilt or renovated by military engineering units and visiting Coast Guard and Navy crewmembers as well as support group personnel.

Other support group achievements have included nine miles of road repair, 34 water well construction projects, distribution of more than 191,500 pounds of donated items and emergency action operations.

This holiday season, while many people are sitting inside a comfortable home, looking at the holiday decorations and gifts with family and friends, Smith, along with the other service members with the support group in Haiti, will truly appreciate how lucky they are.

## Holiday reduce

by C  
Fort C

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# DeCA holds first retiree council

## Defense Commissary Agency

Retirees talked about their commissary shopping needs and building common ground with active duty shoppers at the first meeting of the Defense Commissary Agency Retiree Council last week at the Agency's headquarters.

"Retirees are underwriting the DoD (Department of Defense) resale system, and I appreciate their business," said Richard Beale, director of the DeCA. Beale and his principal staff members were present for the day-long session in his renewed emphasis to improve customer relations.

Council members want to make sure that commissaries reflect retirees' needs, lifestyles and shopping habits.

"In this changing world, operating the commissaries with everyone's best interest in mind isn't easy, but it can happen," said retired Army Maj. Gen.

William Gourley. The Monterey, Calif., resident is one of several council members.

Beale outlined the overall challenges of running a grocery store under rules designed for government, while trying to adjust to changing customer needs.

Appropriated funding underwrites the benefit and allows DeCA to sell groceries at cost. But it also tends to lock DeCA into a lot of government procedures that add no value to selling groceries.

"The rules don't always allow for rapid changes, but commissary patrons don't want to hear that," Beale said.

There is a limit to DeCA's money as appropriated by Congress.

"There's only so much money to spread for operating hours and manpower; unlike the exchange system, we don't make a profit, so there's no additional money to use even when

we increase sales," said Beale.

The agency's senior officials talked about customer comments from the active duty enlisted population, DeCA's construction program, fixing the credit/debit card problems, cooperative efforts between the exchanges and DeCA and the use of demographics in buying strategies.

Regardless of the topic being discussed, a clear challenge emerged: the need for a unified "vision" of the commissary benefit from active duty personnel, retirees and DeCA.

"We must find a way to attract and retain the young active duty shopper and their families who, for one reason or another, do not make the commissary their primary supermarket of choice, while simultaneously honoring our retiree shoppers with the benefit they've earned," said Tim Ford, DeCA's director of Public Affairs.

Alan Jones, from DeCA's

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# ROTH IRA offers nontaxable savin

by Capt. Eric Feustel  
Fort Carson Tax Center

As the 1998 tax year comes to a close investors with a traditional individual retirement arrangement should consider the possible benefits of converting to a Roth IRA. As many investors know, an IRA is a tax-sheltered retirement fund. When a taxpayer puts money into the IRA it is called a contribution; when a taxpayer withdraws money from an IRA, it is called a distribution.

With a traditional IRA, many of the contributions, subject to certain income level thresholds, are deductible from gross income and the majority of distributions are fully taxable. Conversely, with a Roth IRA, contributions are never deductible; however, qualifying distributions from a Roth IRA are nontaxable.

Given the two forms of IRAs, the investor is left with a choice; traditional or Roth IRA. Since

1997, a taxpayer may convert an existing traditional IRA to a Roth IRA as long as he does not use the married filing separate status and his modified adjusted gross income is not more than \$100,000. This transaction is called a rollover. If the taxpayer determines that a Roth IRA is a better investment, it is a good idea to complete the rollover before the end of this tax year.

Why convert in 1998? Under the current tax law, a rollover into a Roth IRA that occurs after 1998 is fully taxable in the year of the rollover. However, Roth IRA rollovers in 1998 will be included in income in equal amounts over a four-year period.

This special treatment of 1998 rollovers may result in a tax savings.

Example one: In 1998, Staff Sgt. Smith, a single taxpayer with adjusted gross income of \$35,000, rolls \$16,000 from his traditional IRA into

a new Roth IRA. Sta  
additional \$4,000 in  
1999, 2000 and 200

Example two: In  
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## Report on China's military

by Jim Garamone  
American Forces Press Service

The military will play an important role in the People's Republic of China reaching its goals of being a great world power and the pre-eminent one in Asia.

This is the conclusion of a Department of Defense report submitted to Congress by Defense Secretary William S. Cohen. The report covers the future military capabilities and strategy of the People's Republic of China.

The ultimate goal of the most populous country on the globe is "parity in economic, political and military strength with the world's leading powers by the middle of the next century," the report says.

China has no major external security threats and the Chinese are taking advantage of this to reorganize and modernize their army. The People's Liberation Army will still be the largest on Earth even after it finishes a cut of 500,000 soldiers. Officials are equipping the army with more modern weaponry and developing a more educated officer and enlisted corps.

China's goal, the report says, is to field forces that can deploy rapidly and win a future regional war along its periphery under high-technology conditions. For China to become the pre-eminent Asian power will "require the weakening of U.S. political influence in the region," the report says, adding China will not directly confront the United States.

## Reserve and Guard shopping days at commissary

### Defense Commissary Agency

Forgot that loaf of bread and gallon of milk? Afraid you don't have enough visits left at the commissary to stop for a few items? Think again.

Reserve and National Guard members can now enjoy 12 additional commissary shopping visits during the last days of 1998. The best news is the additional commissary visits come just in time for the holidays.

In October, Congress passed the 1999 Defense Authorization Act, which grants 24 commissary visits annually for reservists and guardsmen. The new law also gives reservists 12 commissary visits in 1998 in addition to the 12 they already had.

"Gray-area" reservists who have retired from the Reserve, but who have not yet reached age 60, also get the 12 additional commissary shopping visits in 1998.

Reservists who are called to active

duty enjoy full commissary privileges.

"Unused commissary visits can be carried over to the next year. Unused visits from one calendar year can be used in the next. Kaye Fanning, a reservist and military advocate at the Defense Commissary Agency in Falls Church, Va.

"We definitely encourage women of the Reserve to use their commissary visits during the last days of the year. The new law allows reservists to use their commissary visits during the last days of the year. The new law also gives reservists 12 commissary visits in 1998 in addition to the 12 they already had. Commissary visits are a great benefit and should be used when the time, as needed.

"With the new law, reservists with a family can use their commissary visits per year to buy their groceries. Kaye Fanning.

## Show me the money



**Stamm**

**by Sgt. 1st Class Terri Stamm**  
**10th Combat Support Hospital**  
 Pinon Canyon, National  
 Training Center, Honduras,  
 Bosnia, Kuwait ... the list goes on.  
 Soldiers are deployed daily from  
 numerous posts to countless desti-

nations. Many soldiers have fami-

lies and obligations left behind.

We hear horror stories of families left unprepared for separation. The rear detachment noncommissioned officer is expected to solve many problems that could have been prevented with simple pre-deployment counseling.

Counseling is important to ensure the spouse can handle any details normally managed by the deploying spouse.

For instance, during counseling, a list of critical names, numbers and financial information will be compiled for the spouse.

This information includes such things as checking and savings account numbers, Automated Teller

Machine Personal Identification Numbers, the rear detachment noncommissioned officer in charge and officer in charge names and phone numbers, all insurance policies, agent's name and address and where all important documents, such as wills, powers of attorney, and medical information is located.

Pre-deployment check lists should be done. Checks should include servicing the heater, air-conditioner, water heater, automobiles and all appliances.

Other items that should be seen to include winterizing the sprinkler system and car, or leaving instructions and time it should be done. Make sure that a filing system for tax return documents is established and a family member knows who to contact to assist with tax returns. If there are young children in day care, the facility needs to be informed. Also, contact your insurance agents, landlord and church in person.

Your home should be checked for fire, electrical, water, gas and burglar-proof safety. Talk with children extensively and ensure they are prepared.

The deploying soldier should submit a letter to rear detachment noncommissioned officer in charge and officer in charge names and phone numbers, all insurance policies, agent's name and address and where all important documents, such as wills, powers of attorney, and medical information is located.

Support is critical. The rear detachment noncommissioned officer in charge and officer in charge names and phone numbers, all insurance policies, agent's name and address and where all important documents, such as wills, powers of attorney, and medical information is located.

Before deployment, the rear detachment noncommissioned officer in charge and officer in charge names and phone numbers, all insurance policies, agent's name and address and where all important documents, such as wills, powers of attorney, and medical information is located.

Many companies require a support contract. Also, the rear detachment noncommissioned officer in charge and officer in charge names and phone numbers, all insurance policies, agent's name and address and where all important documents, such as wills, powers of attorney, and medical information is located.

Remember, you should be "too prepared." If you are not, pre-deployment counseling is mandatory. Financial NCO

# Dining Schedule

Weeks of Saturday to Dec. 25

and Dec. 26 to Jan. 1

## Weekday Dining Facilities

43rd ASG Cheyenne Mtn. Inn (building 1040)  
3rd BCT Iron Brigade (building 2061)  
3rd ACR Cav. House (building 2461)

## Standard Meal Hours

Mon., Tue., Wed. and Fri.	Thurs.
Breakfast 7:30 to 9 a.m.	5:30 to 7 a.m.
Lunch 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Dinner 5 to 6:30 p.m.	4 to 5:30 p.m.

## Weekend Dining

3rd ACR Cav. House  
43rd ASG Cheyenne Mountain Inn  
3rd BCT Iron Brigade

New Year's

Standard

**Brunch** 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.  
**Supper** 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Family member meals.

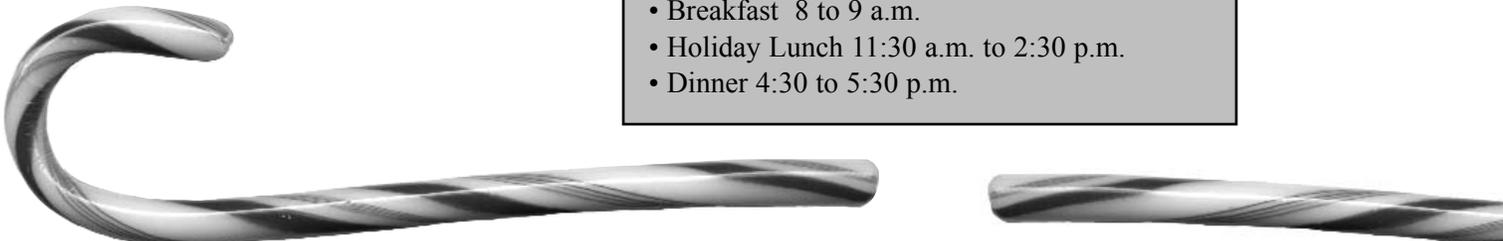
## Exceptions

The following dining facilities are closed Dec. 19 through Jan. 3:

- Patton House (building 2161)
- Mountaineer Inn (building 1369)
- 10th SFG(A) (building 7481)
- Butts Army Airfield (building 9612)

## Christmas Day Hours

- 3rd ACR Cav. House (building 2461)
- 3rd BCT Iron Bde. (building 2061)
- 43rd ASG Cheyenne Mountain Inn
- Breakfast 8 to 9 a.m.
- Holiday Lunch 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- Dinner 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.



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# Sports & Leisure

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## Mountaineer men's basketball team wins trip

by Walt Johnson  
Mountaineer staff

The Fort Carson Mountaineers men's basketball team won three games Dec. 10, 11 and Saturday against Peterson Air Force Base, the Air Force Academy and F. E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo., respectively.

On Dec. 10, the post team met the Peterson Sabers at the Post Physical Fitness Center and the post team ended up overpowering the Sabers on the backboard and using its team speed to run by its opponents.

The game started out with each team trading baskets for the first four minutes. After the game was tied at eight, the Mountaineers took complete control of the affair, outscoring the Air Force team 14-5 to take a commanding 22-13 lead.

Although the Air Force team would mount mini-comebacks, it could never get any closer than four points the rest of the half.

At half-time the Mountaineers had a 42-37 lead and any hope the Peterson had for a comeback in the second half was dashed quickly when Joe Beamer picked up his fourth foul less than a minute into the half. Beamer's absence meant the Mountaineers would have free reign

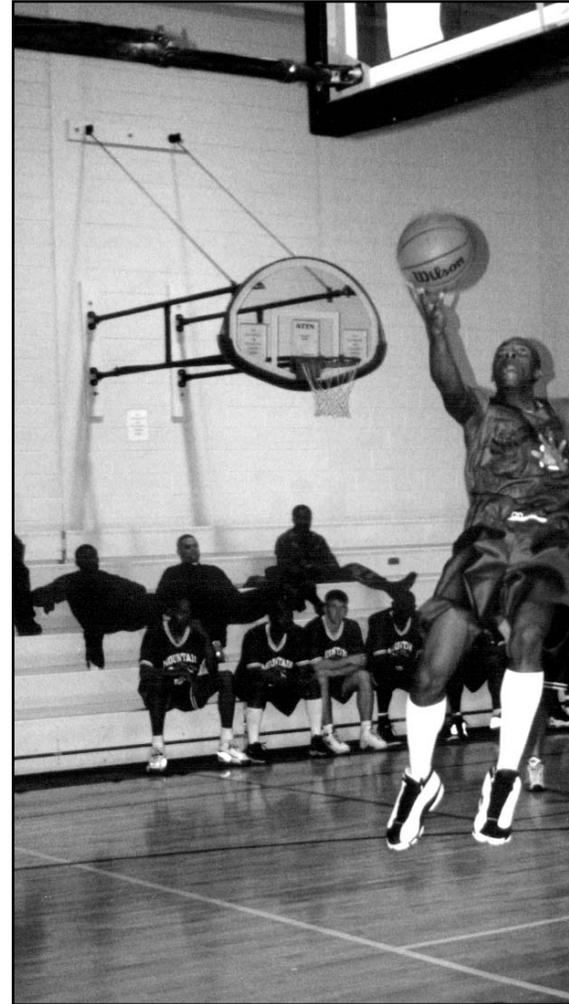
on the backboards, as the Sabers could only counter their huge height advantage with 6-foot-eight-inch Mike Herndon.

After Beamer's presence was gone from the Sabers' middle defense, the Mountaineers' Dontonio Hampton, Wilfredo Martell, and others went wild — dominating the backboards and scoring in close at will.

Hampton was especially brutal on the Sabers team as he scored a game-high 27 points on an assortment of interior moves and short jump shots. The Mountaineers were so dominant in this game that the Sabers got no closer than 11 points the rest of the second half.

The Mountaineers were just quicker, stronger and faster than the Peterson team and when the dust from their running settled, they had earned a 91-79 victory over the Air Force team.

The next night the Mountaineers met the Air Force Academy, and as easy as their victory over Peterson AFB was, this victory was as difficult to get. In fact, the Mountaineers were just one shot away from overtime at



A Mountaineer guard drives to the basket as defenders look on.

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See Men Page 29

# Lady Mountaineers beat the Lady Sabers

by Walt Johnson  
Mountaineer staff

The Fort Carson Lady Mountaineers rode the hot-shooting hand of Katina Miles and the inside game of Vinicky Beamer, Cassie Salt and Icyrene Clarke to a 46-41 victory over Peterson Air Force Base at Garcia Physical Fitness Center Dec. 10.

The Lady Mountaineers started the evening looking like they would have a hard time scoring points as the defensive effort of the Lady Sabers forced them into tough shots which were not falling.

The problem the Lady Mountaineers had was the Lady Sabers were making some shots early and built an 11-4 lead on the home team after the first five minutes of play. The Mountaineers not only weren't hitting their shots, they seemed to be outplayed by a quicker Peterson team that was playing a step faster than them.

A three-point basket got the Mountaineers within three points but Peterson held on to the lead over the next couple of minutes. Sensing her team needed a lift, Lady Mountaineer Coach Marcia Oliveira sent in her sixth-man supreme, Vinicky Beamer, to turn the tide in the game.

Beamer's emergence didn't have an immediate impact on the game as the Sabers maintained at least a three-point lead over the next five minutes of the game. But, Beamer's intensity and hustle started to rub off on the

rest of the Lady Mountaineers. After not having a lead the whole game, the Lady Mountaineers pulled even with the Sabers at 17 points apiece at the seven-and-a-half-minute point and finally got their first lead minutes later when Kathy Cade put them ahead at 19-17.

The teams traded baskets over the next minute until the Lady Mountaineers gained control of the game by running off eight straight points to take a 29-21 advantage. Eight of those points were scored by Beamer who was beginning to establish herself as a dominating force on the inside.

Sensing it was time to tighten up the ship, the Lady Sabers had a five-point run of their own to pull within four points with a minute and 17 seconds left in the half. That would be the last points the Lady Sabers would score in the half though, and after the Lady Mountaineers tacked on a free throw at the 17-second point, the Lady Mountaineers took a halftime lead at 30-26.

The second half started out much like the first half ended for the Lady Mountaineers as they maintained a three to five point lead over the first five minutes of the half. It looked like the game was settling down and the Lady Mountaineers were taking control. But the Lady Sabers weren't through just yet and they mounted a rally, aided by a technical foul call on Miles, and found themselves within one point of the Lady Mountaineers,



**Lady Mountaineer forward Stephanie Du**  
**the outstretched arm of Peterson AFB d**  
**ing action at Garcial Physical Fitness C**

at 44-43, with just over 10 minutes left in the game.

Again the Lady Mountaineers sought to put distance between themselves and the Peterson team and they

did tha  
tive po  
No

## Men

From Page 27

the end of the game.

The game with the AFA was played at Waller Physical Fitness Center and it was an extremely tight affair throughout the night, with the teams always staying within a basket or two of the other all during the first half.

The difference in this game over the affair on Dec. 10 was that AFA was just as quick as the Mountaineers, just as physical as the Mountaineers and just as determined to win as the Mountaineers.

Each time the Mountaineers thought they would pull away from the AFA, as they did with Peterson the night before, the Academy came right back at them. The difference in this game was the Academy team was quick to the ball and played suffocating defense, denying the Mountaineers their usual and dominating style of fast breaking. Slowing the game down to a half-court game worked to the Academy's favor as they were within four points with a little more than a minute to play. But the Mountaineers got the lead up to eight points at 47-39 at halftime.

In the second half, the Mountaineers managed to keep their lead at five points for the first 10 minutes, and then they managed to put some distance between themselves and the AFA, getting their lead up to as much as eight points. Just when the Mountaineers thought they would run and hide from the AFA, the Academy came back strong

With a little over three minutes left in the game the Academy came within one point of the Mountaineers at 81-80 and it was definitely anyone's game at this point.

Again the teams traded baskets for the next two minutes, 20 seconds with the Mountaineers clinging to a 87-84 lead with 40 seconds remaining in the game.

The Academy had the ball and a chance to tie the game but they missed a wide-open shot and the Mountaineers rebounded the miss. The Academy team was forced to foul the Mountaineers and they went to the line and sank two free throws to take a commanding 89-84 lead.

Three more times down the floor the Academy team would shoot and miss and the Mountaineers would be fouled and make their free throws, giving them their final margin of victory at 94-87.

Saturday, the Mountaineers again met an Air Force team, this time from Wyoming, and it was a game of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde for both teams. At the beginning of the game it looked like the Air Force team from Wyoming would face the same fate as Peterson did on Dec. 10, getting run out of the gym.

The post team had their way with the Wranglers for most of the first half. As the second half began the Mountaineers maintained an eight to 11 point lead on the Wranglers but something just didn't feel right about the way the game was being played.

You never got the feeling watching the game that the Mountaineers were in command of the game, even as they built their biggest lead of the day 70-59, with just over nine minutes left in the game.

At that point it seemed like the Wranglers put their game in another gear and came within one point of the post team at 76-75 with five minutes left to play. The Mountaineers would hold on to



Mountaineer center Dontonio Hampton (13) shoots over defenders during the Mountaineers' victory Dec. 10 at Waller Physical Fitness Center.



# Game

From Page 28

come back and they did, playing tight defense and getting within two points of the Lady Mountaineers at 50-48. At this point, Lady Mountaineer Coach Oliveira called a time out and switched the defensive look her team gave the Sabers.

Oliveira decided to apply three-quarter court pressure on the Peterson team, and it had mixed results. The Peterson team was able to defeat the press and score baskets to stay close to the Lady Mountaineers, but it was obvious the defensive pressure was taking a toll on the Peterson team. The Peterson team started to get a step slower and the fresher Lady Mountaineer team began to stretch a small advantage to a large one.

Over the next six minutes of the game the Lady Mountaineers' press allowed them to extend a 56-53 lead to 65-55 and it appeared the game would be out of reach for the Lady Sabers.

However, like a fighter who catches a second wind after taking a punishing blow, the Lady Sabers came charging back at the Lady Mountaineers with just

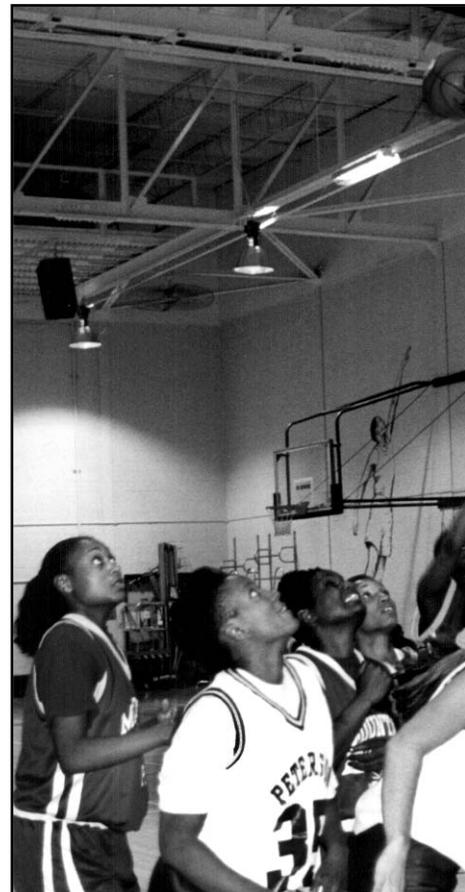
over two minutes remaining in the game.

The Peterson rally started when Hires made a layup and that was followed by three free throws from Lisa Whitfield who was fouled prior to a technical foul on Lady Mountaineer Coach Oliveira who called a time out but did not have any left. Whitfield made three of the four free throws to bring Peterson within five points at 65-60.

After another Peterson field goal pulled them within three points at 65-62, Peterson Coach Randall Hunt called time out to set his defense.

The move paid off as his team forced a traveling violation on the Lady Mountaineers. But, the Lady Sabers gave the ball right back when the Lady Mountaineer defense played so well they forced a five-second violation.

With 31 seconds remaining in the game, the Lady Mountaineers in-bounded the ball and expected Peterson to immediately foul them. But the Lady Sabers let 20 seconds run off the clock before fouling Miles with 11.2 seconds remaining in the game. Miles went to the line and sank both free throws to give the Lady Mountaineers their final margin of victory.



The action was fast and furious as the Lady Mountaineers and Lady Sabers battled for the win.

## Specialty shops or outlet stores offer solutions for final purchases



Photos by Nel Lampe

Shops in Old Colorado City are decorated for the holiday season in small clear lights, evergreen branches and bows.

## Finishing the last-minute gift list

### Shops with atmosphere

by Nel Lampe

Mountaineer staff till looking for that special gift for someone on your holiday shopping list?

Combine specialty shop hopping with a festive, get-in-the-spirit atmosphere, and do your last-minute

shopping in Old Colorado City.

Old Colorado City is a 10-block area centered on West Colorado Avenue starting about the 2200 block.

Colorado City was a small town which existed before Colorado Springs founder even visited the Pikes Peak area.

The town, founded in Colorado's early gold-rush days, was the typical western wild and woolly town, such as that portrayed in old western movies, with a saloon on nearly every corner and two or three more in between. A four-block area of the town had 21 saloons.

In the mid-1970s, restoration was undertaken, as citizens sought to preserve the town's heritage. Victorian-era stores, residences and churches were restored. Ornate light fixtures and benches were placed along the sidewalks.

And this time of year, it's a most festive place to visit. Tiny clear lights decorate the trees along Colorado Avenue. Old-fashioned street lights are decorated, and shop fronts and windows are trimmed in greenery, bows and tiny lights.

Out-of-the-ordinary shops line Old Colorado City's streets, which just might be the ticket for that hard-to-please person on your list. Take a look in the Simpich Doll Factory, where Victorian traditional carolers right out of a Dickens book set the scene for an old-fashioned holiday. Take a few minutes to go upstairs and watch as workers make and dress dolls.

Other shops carry porcelain dolls, dried flower arrangements, unique antiques, and boots and

See Shop, Page B2



Touches of snow on brick sidewalks add to the holiday ambiance in Old Colorado City.



Dolls set a Dickens-like scene right out of a story book or a Christmas card at the Simpich Character Dolls store.

# Final Minutes



A pull-out section for the Fort Carson community  
December 18, 1998

# Happenings



Photos by Pfc. Socorro Spooner

The outdoor-type mall has more than 100 brand name outlet stores.

Prime outlet stores are decorated for the holiday season.

## Shop

From Page B1

moccasins.

There is a book store which specializes in mystery books and games, several boutiques, art galleries featuring southwestern art, pottery and jewelry.

A shop filled with music boxes is next to a candle shop. There is Dulce's Sweets and Treats for gifts or desserts.

For diversion, stop in the Michael Gaman Gallery to see Magic Town. There is a nominal fee to enter the animat-

ed miniature city which has talking holograms. While there, check out the small sculptures depicting the Old West, soldiers and various other occupational statuettes.

Kris Kringle's has a large selection of doll house accessories, miniatures, Christmas ornaments and other Christmas gifts. Chrystina's shop has a selection of European gifts, such as English and Russian china, Holland's Delft pieces, Scandinavian red horses and other unique selections.

Other shops carry Mexican pots and pottery, garden statuary, natural foods, gourmet foods, quilt supplies, Victorian gifts and arts and crafts. There is a military surplus store; and a couple of thrift stores all within a 10-block stretch.

And in the meantime, ready for a little rest and refreshments? Try French onion soup, coffee, croissants, French pastries or baguettes at La Baguette; Colorado mountain pizza pie at Beau Jo's; hamburgers and funky decor at Meadow Muffins; rich ice cream at Colorado Creamery; fudge at Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory (another place to gift-shop); Mexican food at Henri's; Jake and Telly's for Greek food; and standard American fare at Bon Ton Caf .

There is also Yakitori restaurant and Arleen's World of Chocolate for desserts and espresso and Gertrude's for gourmet dining.

Most of the shops and eateries are closely located within a few blocks. In addition to the on-street parking, there are several free-parking areas in the neighborhood. Watch for the brown signs designating free parking.

This isn't a mall or Walmart, so the hours are more traditional even during the holidays. Stores are usually open from 9:30 or 10 a.m. until 5:30 or 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday. During the holidays, some stores are open on Friday and Saturdays until 8 p.m. Sunday hours begin at noon.

Even if that elusive gift idea doesn't turn up in Old Colorado City, the spirit of the season probably will. It's a festive place to set a merry mood for the holidays.

### Factory Outlet Shops

by Pfc. Socorro A. Spooner  
Mountaineer staff

Outlet stores are ideal for one-stop shopping for everyone on a Christmas budget or for those who just want to get good deals on department store items.

Not far from Colorado Springs, shoppers can get all of this and more at the Prime Outlets (formerly the Factory Outlets) in Castle Rock. The more than 100 outlet stores offer a variety of name brand clothes, shoes, accessories and specialty stores like Guess, Carter's, Reebok and Mikasa.

All of the stores' items are discounted anywhere from 10 to 75 percent off retail prices which make for some great deals. Many of the shoe and clothing stores offer deals like buy one get the second half-off and buy one get one free.

These types of sales go on throughout the year, but are really helpful during the holiday season to help stretch those holiday dollars.

The outlet stores are about the size of a small department store and the entire outlet facility is about like that of a one floor large indoor mall.

Remember to wear comfortable shoes and bring strollers for the children who don't care too much for walking or are too young to walk.

The facility also offers a train for the children to ride for a small price. This also gives them a form of entertainment as well as a break from shopping. The train goes around the track a couple of times and seats up to 10 children at a time.

Father Christmas and Mrs. Claus visit the outlets on weekends from noon until 4 p.m.

Directly next door to the children's train is the outlet's food court.

The food court houses more than six fast food establishments like Taco Bell, Subway and Burger King to get you through the shopping day. There are places to eat inside the food court as well as seats outside of the court for those who like to eat outdoors.

After eating at the court, a shopper may also buy dessert from the Rocky



A large Christmas tree towers over the train ride for children.

## Community EVENTS ACS

**The Army Community Service Loan Closet is in need of cookware and various items for the holiday season.** Items needed are: cookie sheets, large baking pans, large casserole dishes, roasting pans, mixing bowls, muffin pans, measuring cups, serving platters, potato mashers and turkey basters. All donations are greatly appreciated and help better serve families relocating to Fort Carson.

There are two drop-off points: the Fort Carson welcome center, building 1218 and Army Community Service, building 1526. For more information, call 526-0349.

**Army Community Service is looking for volunteers for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program.** Volunteers would work under the direction of the Legal Assistance Center at the Staff Judge Advocate Office and must attend one week of Internal Revenue Service training in January. A competency examination must be passed in order to volunteer as an income tax preparer. Assistance is also needed in the reception center to screen clients and verify documents. For more information, call 526-4590.

**The Financial Readiness Program offers a class on financial planning for first-term soldiers today and a check book management class Jan. 5 from 9 to 11:30 a.m.** Both classes are held in the Army Community Service building. For more information, call 526-4590.

**School of the Arts offers dance classes in Beacon Primary School's dance room Tuesdays.** Beginning Ballet and Tap (ages 3 to 6) is held from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Intermediate/Advanced Ballet, Tap and Jazz (ages 6 and over) is held from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. School of the Arts also holds gymnastics and tae kwon do classes.

For more information, to register or inquire about other programs, call 526-3677 or 526-1100.

## Youth

**The Fort Carson Red Cross is offering a community Cardionpulmonary resuscitation and**

**The Directorate of Contracting closes today at 11 a.m. for its Christmas party.** For more information, call 476-7429.

**The Fort Carson Officers' Wives' Charitable Association sells the Fort Carson tapestry afghan for \$48.** All proceeds from the afghan go back to the community. To order by mail write: Fort Carson Officers' Wives' Club Charitable Association c/o Ruth Hale 460 Dix Circle, Colorado Springs, CO 80911 or call 391-2873.

**The Fort Carson Thrift Shop grand opening ribbon-cutting ceremony is Jan. 6 at 10 a.m.** There will be refreshments and door prizes throughout the grand opening day. The shop is located in building 1008 on Wetzel Avenue. The shop is closed today to Jan. 4 for the holidays. Any request for charitable funds are to be turned in by Jan. 15. For more information, call 526-5966.

**The Fort Carson Martin Luther King Jr./Black History month celebration committee meets every Thursday at 1 p.m. at the Post Physical Fitness conference room.** For more information, call 526-3385.

**Fort Carson's Grant Library offers many books on topics such as Christmas history and folklore, holiday decoration, cooking and crafts.** For more information, call 526-2350.

**Road and parking lot construction is underway at the intersection of Specker Avenue and Prussman Boulevard and also at Manhart Field.** Construction will be complete within a few weeks, weather permitting. For more information, call 526-9235.

**The Fort Carson Community Food Locker, located in the Little House in the Rockies, has Santa suits for rent.** The suits are \$15 with a refundable cleaning deposit of \$5. All proceeds from the rentals aid in stocking the food locker for the holidays. The house is open Tuesday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call 526-2303.

**Christopher's restaurant presents Steve Frazier in concert Saturday beginning at 7 p.m.** The concert costs \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door. For more information, call 636-3115 or 635-5693.

**The Fort Carson Commissary is currently in the process of marking shopping lanes to ease the congestion and consolidating promotion displays to reduce the appearance of clutter**

Association. Tickets  
tion, call 391-0608.

**The Salvation A  
run and candleligh  
5 p.m.** For more inf

**The Adoption C  
cations for families  
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licensed, nonprofit c  
more information, c**

**The Columbin  
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Auction Jan. 12 at  
International Cent  
tures more than 20  
chefs and restaurant  
advance and \$40 at  
call 473-9981.**

**The Salvation A  
for the holiday seas  
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tion, call Star Atchis  
3891 ext. 21.**

**The Salvation A  
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The Central Odd Fe  
Blvd., The West Od  
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Bijou St. and The F  
5745 Southmoor Dr  
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**The Children's  
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volunteer for two ho  
must be 16 years of  
tation for tutors Jan.  
Deaf & Blind, 33 N  
school sites, call 47**

## Military Briefs

### The Fort Carson Safety Office conducts the following safety courses:

- Motorcycle Safety Course, building 1117, room 309A; Jan. 12, Feb. 9, March 9 and 23.
- Three-day Safety Officer Training Course, building 1117, room 223, Jan. 11 to 13 and March 15 to 17.
- Hazard Communication Train-the-Trainer, building 1550, classroom A, Feb. 9 and 23.
- Local Radiation Protection Officer Course, building 1550, classroom B, Feb. 23.

Attendees are required to bring a copy of their respective duty appointment memorandum to the three-day Safety Officer and Hazard Communication Courses. The following items are required for attending the Motorcycle Safety Course: motorcycle, driver's license, vehicle insurance, registration, closed finger gloves, leather boots, reflective vest and motorcycle helmet.

For more information, call Curtis Faulk at 526-8044.

**The Public Affairs Office is seeking a soldier with web site maintenance experience.** The soldier should be in a position to be released from his or her unit for duty at the Public Affairs Office. For more information, call Maj. Greg Julian at 526-1269.

### The following are upcoming classes offered by the Directorate of Logistics:

- Forklift Safety Training, Jan. 6 and Feb. 9.
- Bus Driver Course, Jan. 25 and Feb. 1.

See your unit training noncommissioned officer to schedule classes with Individual Military Training.

**The 3rd Cavalry Association is now recruiting volunteers to work in the museum gift shop.** Shifts are no more than two hours. For more information, call 526-1368.

**A board for Officer Candidate School is to be conducted at Personnel Command, Alexandria, Va., March 22 to 26, 1999.** The local board is Jan. 19 through 22. All applicants are required to attend and must wear Class As. Applicants should be prepared to appear before the board members at 10 a.m., Jan. 19. All packets must be received by the 4th Personnel Services Battalion, Personnel Actions Branch, building 1118, room 317, by Jan. 4. For more information, call Spc. Ivan E. Vila at 526-4039 or 526-1906.

**Effective Jan. 1, all federal payments are made via electronic funds transfer.** This rule is a result of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 and affects Army vendors, all soldiers and Department of the Army civilians.

**The Abandoned Vehicle Sales and Salvage Lot, building 3660, will close today at 11:30 a.m. for its Christmas party.**

**Nominations are now being accepted for the Fort Carson Safety Officer and the Fort Carson Safety Noncommissioned Officer of the Year awards.** Commanders or directors should nominate brigade, battalion, directorate or company level additional duty safety officers and safety NCOs for consideration. Nominating criteria includes: six months in position, an innovative safety program implemented within the activity, timely submission of accident reports, other achievements relating to the enhancement of safety on Fort Carson, reduction of unit accident rates and positive Standard Army Safety Occupational Health Inspection results. The Safety Awards Board selects proposed winners for the commander's approval. Winners are awarded a Certificate of Merit for Safety, signed by the commanding general, and a gift.

**An Army ROTC Green to Gold brief is scheduled every Tuesday at the education center, in room 203C, at 11:30 a.m.**

For more information, call 262-3611.

**The Colorado Army National Guard Aviation Command is currently recruiting 20 warrant officer pilots and 10 lieutenants or**

**junior captains.** The UH-1H Huey or UH-60 Black Hawk are for traditional requirements for the month, two weeks of additional flight training. Interested should contact Aviation Command,

**Smith Woodcraft families, retirees and civilians the opportunity to buy their own furniture.** floor-mounted machines, hand power tools. Available every Wednesday. mandatory to use the class is \$1.50. The class includes use of glue. For more information,

**Accident Avoidance conducted Jan. 12 in the** The training session. Doors will open at 7 a.m. sign the attendance register/directorate/activity and bring

### Fraud, waste and abuse

#### The Fort Carson

Command has been

**Fraud, Waste and Abuse**

allows members of the Directorate of Logistics to report suspected fraud, waste and abuse.

To report suspected fraud, waste and abuse, call 526-1269.

the government, call 526-1269.

Callers can remain anonymous.

tion is confidential.

enough information to conduct a

low-up investigation.

## Sports & Leisure

### Athletics

Mixed Doubles. There will be awards for first and second places.

**Tickets for the Colorado Gold Kings professional hockey team and the Colorado College Tigers hockey team are currently on sale at the Information, Tour and Travel office.**

class for intermediate level. The next trip slated for February. For more information, call 526-2083.

**The Information Directorate is currently recruiting a number of overnighters for the next year.**

# Get Out!

## Winter Festival

Enjoy a day of outdoor sports and activities at Farish Jan. 17, the Air Force Academy's outdoor recreation area, which is open to all military, Department of Defense employees and retirees. Winter activities include hot cocoa and cider, ice skating and broomball, an ice fishing derby and demonstrations on cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Farish is near Woodland Park on Highway 24. As you enter the town, turn north on Rampart Range Road — call 687-9098 before heading out.

## German Christmas service

A Christmas service, conducted entirely in German is at the Christian Church of Security, 626 Aspen Drive, Sunday at 3 and 6 p.m. The service includes hymns and readings, followed by cookies and coffee.

## Holiday concert

The Pueblo Youth Symphony presents a holiday concert Sunday at 4 p.m. in Hoag Recital Hall, on the University of Southern Colorado campus. The performance is free. USC is at the north end of Pueblo, just off I-25, about 40 miles south of Fort Carson.

## Christmas Carol

Theatreworks presents Charles Dickens' "Christmas Carol," through Dec. 24. Monday through Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m., and Sundays at 4 p.m. Adult tickets are \$15 and student tickets are \$5 with ID. Call the box office at 262-3232.



## Community holiday dinners

Colorado Springs citizens may attend the community holiday dinners held Dec. 25. Dinners are scheduled at Central Odd Fellows Hall, 575 S. Union Blvd.; West Odd Fellows Hall, 2228 W. Pikes Peak Ave.; Marian House Soup Kitchen, 14 W. Bijou St.; and Fountain Valley Senior Center, 5745 Southmoor Drive. Donations are accepted, but not necessary.

## Fruitcake toss

Didn't care for that gift of fruitcake? Save it for the 4th annual Great Fruitcake Toss in Manitou Springs Jan. 2. Registration is at 10 a.m. that day, with fruitcake toss competitions beginning at 11 a.m. There is no entry fee if you bring your own fruitcake or you can "rent" a fruitcake for 25 cents. For complete rules and more information about competitive events, call 685-5089.

## Holiday music and lights

The third annual "Sights and Sounds of the Season" is tomorrow at 2 and 7 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m., at the City Auditorium, 221 E. Kiowa St. Organists Tom O'Boyle and Bob Lillie play holiday songs on the auditorium's Mighty Wurlitzer Theater Pipe Organ, accompanied by spectacular graphics and dancing laser beams. Santa will also be there. Admission is \$4 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. Bring a canned food donation and receive a \$1 discount.

## Singing auditions

Like to sing? Colorado Springs Chorale Society has auditions by appointment only Jan. 5 and 6. Auditions are in Packard Hall on The Colorado College campus. Make an appointment by calling 634-3737. Singers are asked to sing scales, repeat

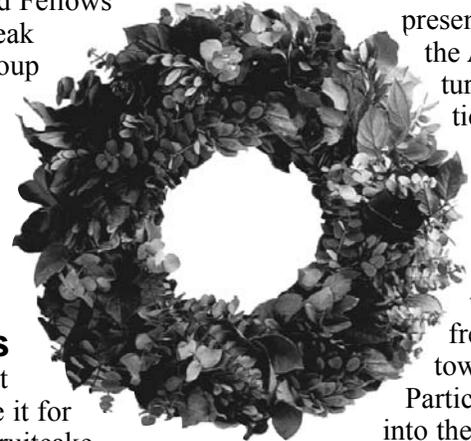
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## W orth Hearing

Ratings:

★★★★★

5 = a must buy

4 = pitch in with a friend

3 = see if a friend bought

it

2 = wait for radio release

Artist: Various

Title: Hipsters, Zoots and

W ingtips

Label: Hip-O Records

Rating: ★★★★★

by Adam Curry  
Mountaineer columnist

Be careful, folks! If you have no love for swing, jazz, and the kind of music that'll make your bobby socks roll, please disregard the previous rating. You might want to get an earful anyway, this compilation could make you a convert!

Friends, I am just as guilty as the rest of 'em. I yearn for a healthy dose of angst. I love hearing someone lambaste the world with a distorted Les Paul and a three-pack-a-day set of vocal chords. But honestly, I'm just not that ticked at the world most of the time. Do you ever wonder what happened to the music that just made you get up and dance (with a smile on your face that you can't even chisel off)?

Well, it's still around, and Hip-O Records brought together for groovin' cats like you! In about time that music took a twist for the... We're in an age when noone seems to be... you're going to ride someone's coattails, the synthesizers have recreated, overmodulated, and even most pop music straight over the

I say...

BRING ON THE HORNS!!! Hallelujah! Track one features the band at the headw... craze. "Hey Pachuco" is a crooning wailer. No messin' around here kids. Diana Krall... "Jive Jack". This tune is a tutorial for good... (a real looker, too). The Blues Jumpers' "C... funny — 'nuff said. Hey, if you can't finis... Track 15 takes you down at the hands of E... fame) and man can he still wail! I tell you... your gal, whatever'll do it on the dance flo... he was talkin' about...

"It don't mean a thing, if it ain't got th

Listen hard, listen loud, and listen ofte