

JAY HAWK FLYER

NEWS PUBLICATION OF THE 184th INTELLIGENCE WING

Engineers train in Fargo

*Airmen assigned to the
184th Civil Engineer
Squadron get hands-on
experience and leadership
development training in
North Dakota. *page 4**



JAYHAWK FLYER

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Cover photo

Airman 1st Class Benjamin Rivera, heavy equipment operator, 184th Civil Engineer Squadron, learns to patch concrete using asphalt at the 119th Regional Training Site in Fargo, North Dakota, on May 2. The 184th CES spent four days in May at the 119th RTS getting familiar with tools and equipment that aren't available to them at their home station.

Photo illustration by
Senior Airman Lauren Penney,
184th Public Affairs



Photo by Senior Airman Lauren Penney, 184th Public Affairs

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World War I, Ernest Hemingway and the greatness of this wing

As we near the 100th anniversary of United States involvement in World War I, it is interesting to note the prominent roles Kansans played in the war and how these individuals and their accomplishments still touch our lives today, however unknown to us. Lt. Erwin Bleckley, a bank teller from Wichita, joined the Kansas National Guard and became an aerial observer—a forefather to both intelligence imagery and tactical air control. Bleckley was ultimately shot down and killed over France on a resupply mission of impoverished troops, an act for which he was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. Peggy Hull Duell, from tiny Bennington, became the first female war correspondent and followed famed General “Black Jack” Pershing into battle overseas. Her work inspired many and was no doubt, a genesis for both embedded reporting and also public affairs offices today as she captured the individual stories of the soldiers. Finally, there was a company grade officer who was a staffer of some of the greatest generals of all time, yet ridiculed by his peers for never actually seeing combat. As it turned out, Dwight Eisenhower was not set back by this slanderous attack and now serves as a study in perseverance for us all.

The direct involvement of American writers and athletes in armed conflict has always fascinated me. Ernest Hemingway actually spent formative time at the Kansas City Star, where he honed his unique writing style. He tried to enlist in the Army during World War I, however his poor vision disqualified him. Wanting to serve his country, Hemingway joined the American Red Cross and served heroically, earning the Italian Medal of Valor for dragging an Italian soldier to safety after being badly injured himself from a mortar attack. His renowned work “A Farewell to Arms” is influenced by his time overseas.

Hemingway was a classic tragic hero. Wrought with untreated mental illness and battling alcoholism most of his adult life, his often misunderstood brilliance now stands as the basis for leadership training in many different venues. His perspective of failed and successful leaders, observed in his own unique style, created an array of thought provoking discussion among Hemingway and his friends.

Hemingway once said, “The best way to know if you can trust someone is to trust them.” As we work through the new inspection process and continue to evolve as a Wing with a tremendously bright future, no words can ring a truer chord than Hemingway’s. The brilliance of your past performance in completing and supporting the mission leaves no doubt in my mind that the great majority of you do your best work and highest level of thinking when not micromanaged or beat down by anxiety-ridden leadership. The level of extra duties is high, data hits us all every day like a 50 mph south Kansas wind, and policies and directives from the national level curiously change often and are sometimes perplexing. Those are my concerns, in that they could affect your ability to do your job, and I will continue to work diligently to do anything I can to create certainty and clarity in your future. In the spirit of Hemingway, and until proven otherwise, my professional distress is not your performance, but what I can do to enable your special talent. Just like Bleckley, Duell and Eisenhower before you, a destiny is made when a person can draw on their own talent, drive and dedication, uninhibited by the insecurity of their leaders. As your leadership roles evolve, please don’t ever forget that. I trust that you won’t.

UTA information

July/August UTA: Jul. 17-20

September UTA: Sep. 12-13

October UTA: Oct. 3-4

Deadline for the October edition of the Jayhawk Flyer is September 15.

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Engineers train in Fargo

By 1st Lt. Matt Lucht, 184th Public Affairs

Airmen assigned to the 184th Civil Engineer Squadron get hands-on experience and leadership development training in North Dakota.

When Airmen need to train on weapons, they get on the firing line, but when 184th Civil Engineers need training on the newest equipment, they travel to North Dakota. That is why the 184th CES loaded a KC-135 and flew to the 119th Regional Training Site, Fargo, North Dakota, May 1-4.

“Training that you get here is training that you don’t get at the wing,” said Lt. Col. Brock Sissel, 184th CES commander. “All the equipment is prepositioned at several regional training sites across the United States and civil engineering squadrons come up and train on that equipment and they get the hands-on training that



Airmen assigned to the 184th Civil Engineer Squadron spent four days in May at the 119th Regional Training Site in Fargo, North Dakota, becoming familiar with tools and equipment that aren’t available to them at their home station. Photo by Senior Airman Lauren Penney, 184th Public Affairs

they need.”

The 119th RTS has the newest equipment and knowledgeable cadres for every career field of the engineering squadron. With more than 40 Airmen in level three and five upgrade training, leadership took the opportunity to get as much hands-on training as possible. This training enabled everyone to, at the very least, get familiar with equipment they may see on deployment.

“We are allowing them to skim the top,” said Chief

Master Sgt. Eric Montgomery, 184th CES. “When they skim the top and we say that we are ready to deploy and we get the call from our governor or our president and says, ‘We have a mission for you,’ we show up and we aren’t seeing the equipment for the first time.”

For Staff Sgt. Grant Simpson, HVAC technician, who was promoted while in Fargo, it not only gave him time to work on the equipment, he also honed his leadership skills.

“Learning how to be a leader instead of a follower, even though being a leader is being a follower, switching from student to teacher is something different for me,” said Simpson.

Hands-on training and leadership development were the main



Airman First Class Rene Guadarrama, structural technician, 184th CE Squadron, practices cutting sheet metal at the 119th Regional Training Site in Fargo, North Dakota, May 2.

Photo by 1st Lt. Matt Lucht, 184th Public Affairs



Senior Airman Colton McFerrin, 184th Civil Engineer Squadron, guides an equipment operator as he learns to patch concrete using asphalt at the 119th Regional Training Site in Fargo, North Dakota, on May 2. The 119th RTS has the newest equipment available for all civil engineering career fields, and the equipment is prepositioned throughout the site which provides more time for training. Photo by Senior Airman Lauren Penney, 184th Public Affairs

purposes for the training, but leadership knew that getting out in the field and preparing for a mission would have other positive effects.

“It brings the shops closer together. We are all getting together more now and we are all talking and having fun,” said Airman 1st

Class Benjamin Rivera, heavy equipment operator.

“When we come together as a group like this, we come together as a family,” said Montgomery. “We are all friends and we are family and we take care of each other, but you have to have those times that you can relax.”

The camaraderie can improve performance and allow them to tackle the missions they are tasked with.

“It is a great opportunity over a four-day training,” said Sissel. “Combine a couple of unit training assemblies and focus on that training and focus on the squadron and the things that they will need to do when they deploy.”



Tech. Sgt. John Gee teaches Senior Airman Blake Ballard, 184th Civil Engineer Squadron, skills required to operate construction machinery. The leaders within the squadron took the opportunity to provide as much hands-on training as possible. Photo by Senior Airman Lauren Penney, 184th Public Affairs

Changes to Civil Engineers - new but familiar

By 1st Lt. Matt Lucht, 184th Public Affairs

The 184th Civil Engineer Squadron brings on a new chief master sergeant and welcomes back a long-time officer as the commander.

A change of leadership in any organization is always accompanied by a period of transition. The Airmen of the 184th Civil Engineer Squadron are adjusting to a new commander and chief master sergeant. Lt. Col. Brock Sissel and Chief Master Sgt. Eric Montgomery were placed in the positions at approximately the same time, but neither are strangers to the squadron.

"I have grown up in the squadron from 2003 till now," said Sissel, "only left for a year to be the LRS (Logistics Readiness Squadron) commander, but I am back."

Montgomery came to the 184th Intelligence from the 190th Air Refueling Wing, but has been in the career field for over 20 years. With his experience, he is ready to share his knowledge and help prepare the CE Airman for success in their mission.

"This is the opportunity that I have wanted my whole life and I know that I will succeed," said



Lt. Col. Brock Sissel assumed command of the 184th Civil Engineer Squadron on February 8. With the exception of commanding the 184th Logistics Readiness Squadron for one year, he has been a member of the squadron since 2003. Photo by Master Sgt. Matt McCoy, 184th Public Affairs

Montgomery. "My short term goal is getting everyone trained. We have 40 people in 5-level upgrade training. We have a very young



Chief Master Sgt. Eric Montgomery transferred from the 190th Air Refueling Wing to accept the superintendent position within the 184th Civil Engineer Squadron. Photo by 1st Lt. Matt Lucht, 184th Public Affairs

squadron, but that allows Lieutenant Colonel Sissel and me the chance to mold that squadron and get them trained so we are an effective wartime tasking team."

With recent retirements and additions to the squadron, training is a top priority for the command team.

"There are a lot

of new faces that I don't specifically know," said Sissel. "So getting out to these regional training sites and the DFTs (deployments for training) and seeing them operate gives me an idea of who I am going to have as future leaders in the squadron."

Newly-promoted Staff Sgt. Grant Simpson, a HVAC technician, is looking forward to seeing the changes that the leadership wants to do.

"I love the direction that we are headed," said Simpson. "I think that our chief is all about the troops and he has definitely been a great improvement for our squadron. Same with Lieutenant Colonel Sissel. I knew him as a major and he was definitely the right fit as a commander of this squadron."

Jordan confident in wing's near, distant future

By Master Sgt. Matt McCoy, 184th Public Affairs

Col. Jordan delivers a positive outlook at a wing commander's call in June.

Col. J.J. Jordan, commander of the 184th Intelligence Wing, expressed his confidence in his unit's future during a wing wide commander's call on June 7. The upcoming events he mentioned were the unit effectiveness inspection, changes within the wing's structure, and deployments.

The unit effectiveness inspection, also called the "Capstone," is part of an on-going inspection program that's relatively new to the Air National Guard.

"What do you think my level of angst is on the Capstone?" Jordan asked. "It's pretty low. In fact I'm looking forward to it."



Col. J.J. Jordan, commander, 184th Intelligence Wing, encourages Airmen to show enthusiasm, be professional and courteous, and relax and be honest during an inspection scheduled for mid-July.

Photo by Master Sgt. Matt McCoy, 184th Public Affairs



Col. J.J. Jordan, commander, 184th Intelligence Wing, talks to Airmen about upcoming challenges and his confidence in their abilities to overcome obstacles during a wing-wide commander's call June 7 at McConnell Air Force Base. Photo by Master Sgt. Matt McCoy, 184th Public Affairs

The Capstone event occurs every four years and is designed to give commanders and other Air Force leaders an overview of a unit's programs. However, it's not the old-fashioned inspection system that simply gives a snapshot of a unit's work; rather it gives leaders a long-term view of what's working and what isn't.

"You've got to give me and your commanders and your chiefs good feedback on this so we know what to fix," said Jordan.

Jordan encouraged his audience to show enthusiasm, be professional and courteous, and to relax and be honest.

Jordan also announced changes that

are expected later in the year.

"Thanks to General Tafenneli and our congressional delegation, they worked very hard to get us a new mission following our losses," Jordan said. "The 127th will rise again and they will be a cyber squadron."

The formation of the new squadron will also result in a new Cyber Operations Group. The new group will encompass other cyber-centric missions that are currently assigned to the Regional Support Group.

While talking about upcoming deployments, Jordan expressed his pride and enthusiasm in how many part-time Guardsmen were preparing for active service.

"That's great. That's how it should be," Jordan said.

Jordan wrapped up his comments by thanking his Airmen.

"Be confident because I'm confident in you and what you guys do," said Jordan.

184th FSS home station readiness training

By Tech. Sgt. Maria Ruiz, 184th Public Affairs

The 184th Force Support Squadron completes contingency and skill-level training requirements for deployment readiness.

Airmen from the 184th Force Support Squadron practiced setting up a Single Palletized Expeditionary Kitchen; small shelter unit; Tent Extendable, Modular, Personnel; mortuary affairs; lodging; and recreation and fitness functions in a field environment during a four-day Home Station Readiness Training, June 4-7 at McConnell Air Force Base.

Force Support Squadron Air-



Airman 1st Class Gage Wells and Airman 1st Class Alma Garcia Valencia, 184th Force Support Squadron, services unit, roll out a Tent, Extendable, Modular, Personnel tarp during home station readiness training, June 5, at McConnell Air Force Base.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Maria Ruiz, 184th Public Affairs



Airmen assigned to the 184th FSS assemble the Single Palletized Expeditionary Kitchen, or SPEK, during a field training exercise at McConnell Air Force Base June 5. The SPEK was used in place of the dining facility and served 110 Airmen during the June unit training assembly.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Maria Ruiz, 184th Public Affairs

men are required to complete this training every 24 months. The classroom and practical training includes 12 lesson plans. The squadron split the training between two unit-training assemblies to complete the lessons.

The training allows Airmen to accomplish contingency and skill-level, hands-on training requirements for deployment readiness.

“This training really helps because you never know when you are going to deploy,” said Senior Airman Julie McFarland, fitness representative, 184th FSS. “You want that confidence since this team would be a part of setting up tents like those used during the training.”

Participants’ skill levels ranged

from novice student flight members to officers.

“Student flight members were asking a lot of questions, such as the SPEK in a deployed location, and the more experienced members were able to explain the relevance of the training equipment in those overseas operations,” said 1st Lt. James Gregg, services flight officer, 184th FSS. “It’s an awesome opportunity to get your feet on the ground and get to know the Airmen. I appreciate the senior enlisted working hard to set up and accomplish this great training.”

Airmen of the 184th Intelligence Wing were able to eat fruits of the squadron’s labor in the SPEK during June’s unit training assembly.

The SPEK can operate in nearly



Airmen from the 184th Force Support Squadron serve food to 184th Intelligence Wing members from the Single Palletized Expeditionary Kitchen during a unit training assembly June 6 McConnell Air Force Base.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Maria Ruiz, 184th Public Affairs

any climate and, once set up, is ready with its own power sources available. The unit has features such as a Tray Ration Heater and Field Sanitation Unit to keep pre-

cooked food rations warm and ready to serve in a clean environment.

Deployed commanders require fully-qualified team members

capable of accomplishing the wide variety of the FSS responsibilities. These Airmen continue to train and be ready for the time their services are needed.



1st Lt. James Gregg, services flight officer, 184th Force Support Squadron, pulls a Unitized Group Ration out of a Tray Ration Heater during a home station readiness training, June 6, McConnell Air Force Base.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Maria Ruiz, 184th Public Affairs



Senior Airman Randy Avila and Airman 1st Class Gage Wells, 184th Force Support Squadron, fill a hand washing station with water during a home station readiness training on June 6.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Maria Ruiz, 184th Public Affairs

Finance Airmen carry wing's reputation to New York, Alaska

By 1st Lt. Matt Lucht, 184th Public Affairs

Three Airmen assigned to the 184th Comptroller Flight accept temporary assignments in New York and Alaska.

The 184th Intelligence Wing members have a reputation among the Air National Guard for excellence and leaving places better than when they found them. So it shouldn't be any surprise that three Airmen from the 184th Comptroller Flight impressed two separate wings while gaining knowledge to improve their wing's processes.

Excelsior, Ever Upward

Tech. Sgt. Dawn Gudde and Staff Sgt. Matthieu Statler were sent on back-to-back temporary duty assignments to assist the New York Air National Guard's 106th Rescue Wing with their military pay and audit their financial records.

Gudde was the first to be sent on a three-week temporary duty assignment and spent time beforehand researching regulations that she might use while identifying issues for the 106th.

"I learned a lot about COLA (Cost of Living Allowance) and their special pay," said Gudde. "I didn't know any of the rates or any of the rules because we don't have it. We also worked closely with the HARM (Host Aviation Resource Management) office on flight pay, dive pay and jump pay and that was interesting because, again, we don't have a lot of that here."

"My responsibility for the month



Airman 1st Class Christina Love, finance technician, 184th Comptroller Flight, went to Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, to help the 168th Comptroller Flight clear their backlogged tasks despite being relatively new to the career field. Photo by Airman Alex Brun, 184th Public Affairs

that I was there was to audit the special duty assignment pay," said Statler. "I initially went back six years and looked at all their pay records and cross-referenced the hard copies they had and what was in the system. I think that I had approximately 400 findings with \$66,000 that were still owed to members and just over \$14,000 that members owed the government."

The 106th RW didn't need an expert in the area, but they needed a couple of dedicated individuals that wouldn't give up until they found solutions.

"They were short-handed and they didn't have time for anyone to be dedicated to finding the regula-

tions," said Gudde. "So that is what we offered to them, someone that would dig in, find the answers, get it done and that had enough experience to know where to go."

Working with numbers, spreadsheets and detailed regulations might sound boring to some, but Statler embraced the challenge.

"I enjoyed what I was doing," said Statler. "Just auditing documents, it was just fun for me. Being able to dig in and investigate this member is owed \$1,000 or this member was owed \$500 made me think 'What if that was me that found out that I was getting an unexpected bonus...that would be really nice.'"



Tech. Sgt. Dawn Gudde (left) and Staff Sgt. Matt Statler (right), 184th Comptroller Flight, served back-to-back assignments to help the 106th Rescue Wing, New York Air National Guard, with military pay and financial records. They dedicated their time by auditing and cross-referencing documents to ensure that members and the government were both paid accordingly. Photo by Master Sgt. Matt McCoy, 184th Public Affairs

Both Gudde and Statler appreciated the opportunity to represent the 184th IW and help out fellow Airmen.

“It made me feel good that our leadership had the confidence to send us up there and knowing that I wasn’t going to go wreck it all and give the wing a bad name,” said Gudde. “They even asked for me to go back. I did and they are still asking to see if I can come back.”

Head North to Alaska

While Gudde and Statler went to the East Coast, Airman 1st Class Christina Love, a 184th Comptroller Flight finance technician, traveled to a much colder climate to help the 168th Comptroller Flight at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska.

“Being TDY up there really

taught me how to be a technician for my job,” said Love. “I learned everything from processing short tours, long tours and promoting traditional guardsmen and AGRs. It was interesting because they were so far behind that I was actually able to help them out and get them ahead of their tasks instead of being backlogged.”

When the 168th Air Refueling Wing placed a national request for a finance technician, Love jumped at the chance. With only two weeks’ notice and around Christmas, she packed her bags and headed north.

“It was amazing,” said Love. “I was staying on base and I didn’t have a rental car, so I would walk to work and there would be nothing but snow. It actually was pretty awesome. There really isn’t any

wind and the snow stays fresh instead of wet like it is here in Kansas. It was beautiful.”

Love was new to her job and had just completed her 5-level upgrade training, but that didn’t stop her from getting the job done.

“My biggest take away was, as long as you stay determined, you can make a difference,” said Love. “I didn’t really know my job when I got up there. I had just come back from technical school that trained more for active duty. But just knowing that you are willing to help and willing to do whatever, you can actually affect an entire unit.”

Due to her determination and hard work, she was offered an opportunity to work full time as a military technician for the 168th ARW.

Wing fills pints for American Red Cross

By Master Sgt. Matt McCoy, 184th Public Affairs

The Honor Your Hero blood drive brings full-time and part-time Airmen to the Jayhawk Roost for a chance to support their community through donations.

Members of the 184th Intelligence Wing donated 86 pints of blood to the American Red Cross during a wingwide blood drive May 15 at the Jayhawk Roost, 184th IW dining facility, McConnell Air Force Base. The “Honor Your Hero” blood drive was part of a citywide event spanning the month of May, which included Wichita-area law enforcement agencies, emergency responders, fire departments and military organizations.

The Jayhawk Roost took on the atmosphere of a triage center with people bustling around, filling out



The 184th Intelligence Wing donate 86 pints of blood to the American Red Cross during a wingwide blood drive May 15 at the Jayhawk Roost, McConnell Air Force Base. The blood drive, labeled “Honor Your Hero,” is part of a city-wide event spanning the month of May that includes Wichita-area law enforcement agencies, emergency responders, fire departments and military organizations. Photo by Master Sgt. Matt McCoy, 184th Public Affairs

paperwork, answering health-related questions and, of course, pumping blood into bags. The event was organized with a check-in station,

a waiting area, screened questionnaire booths, six blood drawing stations and a snack/recovery area. Personnel were on hand to help Airmen who felt a little woozy during and after their donation.

The 184th Munitions Squadron was also strategically located behind the building to attract potential

blood donors with the aroma of grilling hamburgers and “ammo beans.” They also raised a \$150 donation for the Red Cross from the proceeds of their sales.

Joining the 184th IW in their efforts were the 22nd Air Refueling Wing and the 931st Air Refueling Wing, which are also located on McConnell Air Force Base. The American Red Cross began taking donations from Airmen May 13-15, which totaled 227 pints of blood.

“The ‘Honor Your Hero’ blood drives are extremely important to the Red Cross,” said Tricia Quinn, CEO of the Central Plains Blood Services Region. “We need the Wichita community to support these drives so we can be sure the community’s blood supply is ready for the long, hot summer months.”



Senior Master Sgt. Brad Caughron, operations superintendent, 161st Intelligence Squadron, gives blood during a wingwide blood drive May 15 at the Jayhawk Roost, McConnell Air Force Base.

Photo by Master Sgt. Matt McCoy, 184th Public Affairs

161st Intelligence Squadron helps local preschool

Article and photos by Master Sgt. Matt McCoy, 184th Public Affairs

Members of the 161st Intelligence Squadron helped the Discovery Place Preschool clean up and improve their playground during the afternoon on May 21. Fifteen volunteers from the squadron installed two brick sidewalks and filled in low spots with sand.

The project was organized by Capt. Amanda Gifford, flight commander, 161st IS.

“I sit on the board of directors and they mentioned needing some assistance doing some playground cleanup and rejuvenation,” said Gifford. “I then asked if anyone would want to do a work day volunteer event.”

The preschool provided the tools and materials required to complete the projects while the Air Guardsmen provided the manpower. Dene Nelson, the preschool’s director, also raked and swept with the Airmen.



1. Dene Nelson and Capt. Amanda Gifford
2. Airmen dig a trench to lay paver bricks for a sidewalk
3. Airman 1st Class Braden McLarty
4. Senior Master Sgt. Mark Wall
5. Capt. Dave Olds and Tech. Sgt. Anisa Shinkle

Staff. Sgt. Andrew Jundt

Fighting Jayhawk since 2009

Organization:

284th Air Support Operations Squadron

Military Job Title:

Joint Terminal Attack Controller



Photo courtesy 284th Air Support Operations Squadron

Above & Beyond:

- Associate's degree in information systems technology through the Community College of the Air Force
- Bachelor of Science in geography through Kansas State University
- Deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in 2012 as a tactical air control and communications specialist
- Two Army Commendation Medals
- Air Force Combat Action Medal
- Airmen of the Quarter in 2010
- Served as the point of contact for the Tactical Air Control Party Association 24 Hour Run in 2014 and 2015 raising \$5,000 for Airmen and families in need in the TACP community

My story:

I joined the Kansas Air National Guard in May 2009. I enlisted into the Tactical Air Control Party and completed basic training, technical school, and on-the-job training that culminated with my Combat Mission Readiness certification in July of 2010. In August of 2010, I began my college career at Kansas State University using the fantastic educational benefits that the Kansas Air National Guard provides to drill-status guardsmen. After a year of school, I took a one-year break for deployment spin-up training, a National Training Center rotation and a six-month deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Upon my return, I attended the Joint Terminal Attack Controller Qualification Course at Nellis Air Force Base prior to resuming life as a college student. From August 2012 to May 2015, I attended K-State and drilled as a traditional guardsman. I have been lucky to travel to some extraordinary places, training with some of the best pilots and forward air controllers the world has to offer. I hope to maintain a career with the Kansas Air National Guard and the 184th IW for as long as possible due to the tremendous wingmen I have the privilege to fly, fight and win with every step of the way.

184th IW Airman named KU's 18th Truman Scholar

By Tech. Sgt. Maria Ruiz, 184th Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Ashlie Koehn is the only student from Kansas to earn the highly competitive Truman Scholarship in 2015.

Staff Sgt. Ashlie Koehn, 177th Information Aggressor Squadron, was preparing horse and goat meat for a traditional Kyrgyz dinner, beshbarmak, with her Kyrgyzstan host family when a Skype call interrupted. The call was from Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little, University of Kansas, congratulating Koehn on being named a 2015 Harry S. Truman Scholar.

Koehn, KU junior, was studying in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. She is the 18th KU student to be named a Truman Scholar and the only 2015 recipient from Kansas.

"Ashlie's experience at KU epitomizes a quality undergraduate experience," Gray-Little said. "She challenged herself in her coursework, exposed herself to different research opportunities, studied abroad in Germany, Switzerland and Kyrgyzstan, and participated in both student government and community service projects."

The Truman Scholarship is a highly competitive, merit-based award offered to U.S. citizens and U.S. nationals from Pacific Islands who want to go to graduate school in preparation for a career in public service. The scholarship offers its recipients up to \$30,000 toward graduate study in the U.S. or abroad in a wide variety of fields,



Staff Sgt. Ashlie Koehn, 177th Information Aggressor Squadron, adds Kansas University's 2015 Truman Scholarship to her list of high achievements.

Photo by Master Sgt. Matt McCoy, 184th Public Affairs

recognition of leadership potential in public service and enhanced access to highly competitive graduate institutions.

Koehn, a member of KU's University Honors Program, is majoring in environmental studies, economics and international studies. Her goal after earning her KU degree is to pursue a master's degree in economics at either the London School of Economics or the University of Reading with a focus on the economics of climate change. In 2014, she received KU's Newman Civic Engagement Award for her work establishing the Coalition against Slavery and Trafficking.

"I was totally not prepared to be greeted by Chancellor Gray-Little, but it was an amazing surprise for sure," Koehn said. "As a first-

generation student, it took time to learn the collegiate system, but my parents taught me to be resourceful and independent from a young age. Kansas University and the Kansas Air National Guard have provided me with the opportunities to drive me into the future, both at graduate school and in my career. I plan to use the Truman Scholarship to pursue a career as an environmental economist, helping to shape future trade agreements and leverage action on important international environmental issues, particularly concerning climate change."

In addition to being named a 2015 Truman and Udall scholar, she was named a 2014 Boren Scholar and Gilman Scholar and in 2013 was named the Kansas Air National Guard Airman of the Year.

JAYHAWK FLYER

photo finish ► Fighting Jayhawks in action



Members of the 184th Intelligence Wing finish Wingman Day 2015 with a color run in which participants jog through a bombardment of colored chalk on the west side of McConnell Air Force Base on May 28. Due to the windy conditions, those throwing the chalk appear more colorful than the runners.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Maria Ruiz



U.S. Sen. Jerry Moran (left) visits the 184th Intelligence Wing at McConnell Air Force Base to hear updates concerning the unit's cyber missions on May 29. Moran and Col. J.J. Jordan, commander, 184th IW, were briefed by the 177th Information Aggressor Squadron and the 299th Network Operations Security Squadron on mission capabilities, challenges and future ambitions.

Photo by Master Sgt. Matt McCoy



Col. Jay Selanders, assistant adjutant general-Air, Kansas National Guard, is promoted to the rank of brigadier general during a ceremony May 3, at Nickell Armory, Topeka. Selanders joined the Kansas Air National Guard in 1984 and became commander of the Kansas Air National Guard Oct. 5, 2014.

Photo by Army Sgt. Zach Sheely,
Kansas Adjutant General's Public Affairs Office