



THE BEACON

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE 124TH FIGHTER WING

October 2019

COMBAT EXCELLENCE-ALWAYS ON MISSION

From the WING COMMANDER

124th Fighter Wing Commander
Col. Shannon Smith



Congratulations, YOU are deploying!

I'm curious if you have heard these words spoken to you. There is a good chance that in the last few months you have. As we transition fiscal years, we also transition our annual training plan focus. Fiscal Year 2020 is all about "Game Time." We will see over 400 of our Airmen deploy across the world. So ... Congratulations!

Despite however long you have served, your designated skill set and specific unit, or your length of tenure with the Idaho Air National Guard and 124th Fighter Wing, I am confident that you have heard "Congratulations!"

"I, Shannon D. Smith, do solemnly swear, that I WILL SUPPORT AND DEFEND the Constitution of the United States of America, against all enemies foreign and domestic; that I will bear truth faith and allegiance to the same ..."

Congratulations! You just joined a profession of arms.

The Airman's Creed:

I am an American Airman. I am a Warrior. I have answered my Nation's Call ... Congratulations!

Deploying is central to what we do. It is the essence of courage and sacrifice – of serving something bigger than ourselves. Deploying is most notably why the citizens of this great nation, thank you for your service. Because you – the "less than 1%" – are willing to stand and fight for freedom.

...A reminder of the organization that you've joined, the 124th Fighter Wing...

Our Vision

Combat Excellence – Nothing Less. Every Airman a mission ready, accountable, and innovative leader.

Our Mission

Always on Mission – Providing world class warfighters for the nation and guardians for our state.

Our Priorities for 2020 Mission, People, Forge the Future

Every day that you serve, I offer you my congratulations on deploying. The reality is that, we stand ready every day, to deploy at a moment's notice. It just becomes more evident in this upcoming year.

So upon being congratulated, how do you feel? Are you ready? Are you mentally, physically, and spiritually ready? Have we given you the training and equipment to be confident in your craft and the abilities of the brothers and sisters that surround you? Have we given you the knowledge of all the services and support that are and will be available to you and your loved ones throughout this journey of preparing, executing and recovering from a combat deployment?

If the answer is yes to all, then

Congratulations! If you're not quite there, then let me assure you. The 124th will get you there. We have the experience, the means, and most importantly the shared vision of combat excellence.

I encourage you to fully embrace the congratulations and more importantly, to look around you. You are not alone. To your left and right, is a fellow Airman, a wingman that is in this with you. As your wing commander, I could not be more honored to offer you my congratulations, and with that congratulations, my complete commitment to ensuring you and every airmen is ready to ATTACK!

Enjoy this latest edition of the Beacon! October's cover is no better reminder that you've joined a remarkable organization committed to providing you everything you need to face the enemy, regardless of its form. Thank you for your service!

Attack!
Col. Smith

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WING COMMANDER

Col. Shannon Smith

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Capt. Rebecca Solosabal

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SUPERINTENDENT

Senior Master Sgt. Joshua Allmaras

PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

Senior Airman Joseph Morgan

Senior Airman Mercedee Wilds

Airman 1st Class Taylor Walker

Mr. Ryan White* *October Beacon editor

ON THE COVER



Fire rolls over Gowen Field firefighters as Staff Sgt. Jack Simonds, a firefighter with the Gowen Field Fire Department, instructs a fellow Gowen Field firefighter on how to recognize the signs of flashover in a specialized mobile burn trailer, Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho, Sept. 13, 2019. The training provided an opportunity to see what flashover looks like and figure out how to deal with it, how to prevent it, and how to react and escape if encountered. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Ryan White)

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THE BEACON is the official magazine of the 124th Fighter Wing, Idaho Air National Guard. It is published monthly by the wing public affairs office. Views expressed may not be those of the U.S. Air Force, Air National Guard, Department of Defense or U.S. Government.

Schedule

Saturday - Oct. 5, 2019

Sunday - Oct. 6, 2019

0600 - Fitness Improvement Program (Food Preparation)

Bldg. 400, Basement Classroom

0730 - MOF/CC Call

Bldg. 148, Classroom 1

0730 - FWS/CC Call

Bldg. 400, Basement

0830 - Enlisted Promotion Board

Bldg. 600

0900 - Newcomer's Orientation

Bldg. 400, Basement

0900 - CIMB

Bldg. 400, Conference Room

0900 - SA & Suicide Prevention Training

Base Theater

0900 - Officer Promotion Board

Bldg. 600

0900 -1100 - Yellow Ribbon Registration

Bldg. 503, Classroom 132

1000 - R2WG Meeting

Bldg. 503, Breakroom

1230-1530 - Mental Health Assessment

Bldg. 1530 (Dr. Judy Hafner's Office)

1245 - CDC Testing

1300 -1500 - Yellow Ribbon Registration

Bldg. 148, Classroom 202

1300 - SA & Suicide Prevention Training

Bldg. 400, Conference Room

1400 - Promotion -

MSgt. Joshua Allmaras to SMSgt.

Bldg. 400, Foyer

1500 - Essential Six Council Meeting

Bldg. 400, Conference Room

1500 - Retirement -

CMSgt. Tish Larson

Bldg. 600, MG Brooks Auditorium

0600 - Fitness Improvement Program (Preparing for the FA)

Bldg. 400, Basement Classroom

0730 - MXS/CC Call

Base Theater

0730 - MSM Presentation - CMSgt. James Buongiovanni

Base Theater

0745 - PERSCO Training

Bldg. 400, Conference Room

0800-1200 - Mental Health Assessment

Bldg. 1530 (Dr. Judy Hafner's Office)

0815 - CDC Testing

0900 - SA & Suicide Prevention Training

Base Theater

0900-1100 - Yellow Ribbon Registration

Bldg. 148, Classroom 202

0900-1100 Running Clinic (pre-registration required)

ASOS Bldg./track

0915 - Newcomer's Orientation

Bldg. 400, Basement

1030 - MSM Presentation - CMSgt. Mark Lord

Bldg. 400, Foyer

1300 - SA & Suicide Prevention Training

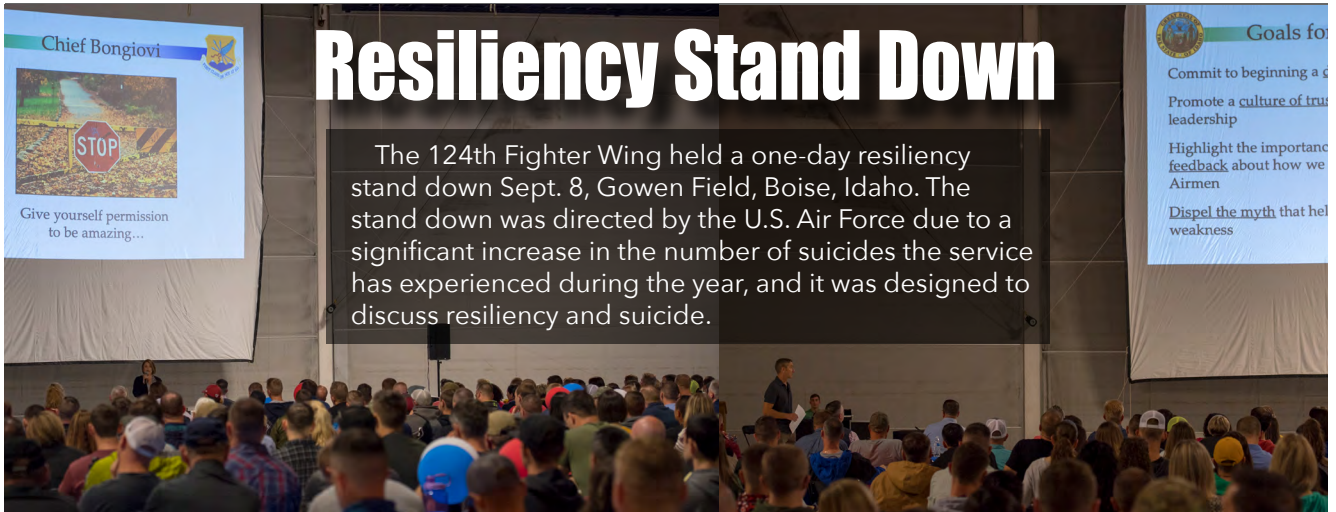
Bldg. 400, Basement Classroom

1500 - IG Out Brief

Bldg. 400, Conference Room

(Group CC's and Group Chiefs)

Saturday	Sunday
Main Line	Main Line
Chicken Parmesan Baked Fish with garlic butter Scalloped Potatoes Italian Baked Beans Capri Blend Vegetables French Green Beans Chicken Gravy Garlic Bread Italian Wedding Soup Chili Soup	Jagerschnitzel with mushroom gravy Yakisoba Wild Rice Mashed Potatoes Brown Gravy Carrots Peas Broccoli Cheddar Soup French Onion Soup Dinner Rolls
Short Order Line	Short Order Line
Chili Dog Mozzarella Sticks with marinara sauce Burgers/Cheeseburgers French Fries	Ruben Sandwich Polish Sausage with onions and peppers Burgers/Cheeseburgers Onion Rings
Desserts	Desserts
Variety Cheesecake Yellow Cake White frosting Peanut Butter Cookies Halloween Candy	White Cake Chocolate Frosting Oatmeal Raisin cookies Carrot Cake



Resiliency Stand Down

The 124th Fighter Wing held a one-day resiliency stand down Sept. 8, Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho. The stand down was directed by the U.S. Air Force due to a significant increase in the number of suicides the service has experienced during the year, and it was designed to discuss resiliency and suicide.



Photos by Senior Master Sgt. Joshua Allmaras

Family Day



Military families participated in the Idaho National Guard Joint Gowen Field Fun Day at Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho, Sept. 8. The event was a day for Idaho Air and Army National Guard families to gather, participate in activities and spend time together.

Photos by Senior Master Sgt. Joshua Allmaras, Senior Airman Joseph Morgan, Senior Airman Mercedee Wilds and Airman 1st Class Taylor Walker



Family Day



Near Certain Death

Gowen Field Firefighters Learn Firsthand About Flashover

Story and Photos by Mr. Ryan White

Firefighters from Gowen Field participated in a unique flashover-training course, Sept. 11-13, Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho.

The course allowed for nearly 30 firefighters from the Gowen Field Fire Department and four firefighters from the Orchard Combat Training Center to perform live fire training in a controlled environment. It

consisted of four hours of lecture and four hours in a specialized burn trailer.

"This is one of those training opportunities that every firefighter who goes through it remembers," said Staff Sgt. Reginald Pierce III, a firefighter with the Gowen Field Fire Department and primary instructor for the training.

Flashover happens when all contents in a room hit their combustion point and ignite at the same time in a flash. The training provided an opportunity to see what flashover looks like and figure out how to deal with it, how to prevent it, and how to react and escape if encountered.

"If a firefighter is in a structure fire and the room flashes, it's near certain death," said Pierce. "You have two seconds, as a firefighter in your full gear, to make it out of that situation before your gear fails. That's why this training is so important."

According to Pierce, the training helps build confidence in equipment, demonstrates what temperature ratings gear can handle and also teaches firefighters how to utilize water in this type of scenario.

"For some of these guys, it's the first time they are seeing real fire because fire school only uses





“If a firefighter is in a structure fire and the room flashes, it’s near certain death”

propane,” said Staff Sgt Jack Simonds, a firefighter with the Gowen Field Fire Department and assistant instructor for the training.

The live fire is done in a specialized mobile burn trailer. The upper part of the trailer is a burn chamber and the lower middle area is a classroom. A burn barrel filled with wood is lit in the center of the chamber and ignites the walls and roof, which are lined with oriented strand board. The off-gassing of the wood igniting then causes fire to rollover the firefighters’ heads as the room heats up to over 700 degrees.

“In fire school, you’re learning

strategy and techniques,” said Simonds. “Here, there’s nothing about strategy and technique. All we’re doing is studying the fire. We’re not trying to fight it. We’re trying to watch it and learn from it—see how it’s going to go up the ceiling and how the heat is going to come down the wall and light on fire.”

Now that they’ve had this training, Pierce believes the firefighters will be able to quickly see signs of a possible flashover and decide if they should fight a fire defensively from the outside. Knowing those signs can be the difference between near certain death and living to fight fire another day.





(Current as of: April 18, 2019)

TIMELINE

2019

1 APR

Expansion of in-store AAFES sales locations continues

2020

1 JUN

Coyote brown boots mandatory
Coyote brown T-Shirt mandatory
U.S. Flag spice brown color criteria mandatory
Spice brown officer rank mandatory
DLA green socks/coyote brown socks mandatory

2021

1 APR

OCP Utility Uniform mandatory
All AF patches must be converted to the spice brown color criteria

BENEFITS

- The OCP works in all climates and across the spectrum of missions we perform
- Over 100,000 Airmen have been issued and/or are already wearing OCPs. This includes AFGENT, AFSOC and our AFGSC Defenders
- The OCP will bring back Air Force heraldry with unit patches
- The OCP celebrates our joint warfighting excellence and close ties with the Army

AIR FORCE OCP UNIFORM GUIDANCE

Further official wear guidance will be available soon in AFI 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance

Congratulations Lt. Col. Sumner!

Congratulations to Lt. Col. Elizabeth Sumner on her new role as the commander of the 124th Mission Support Group. During an assumption of command ceremony Col. Shannon Smith, commander of the 124th Fighter Wing, passed the guidon to Sumner.



Photos by Senior Airman Mercedes Wilds

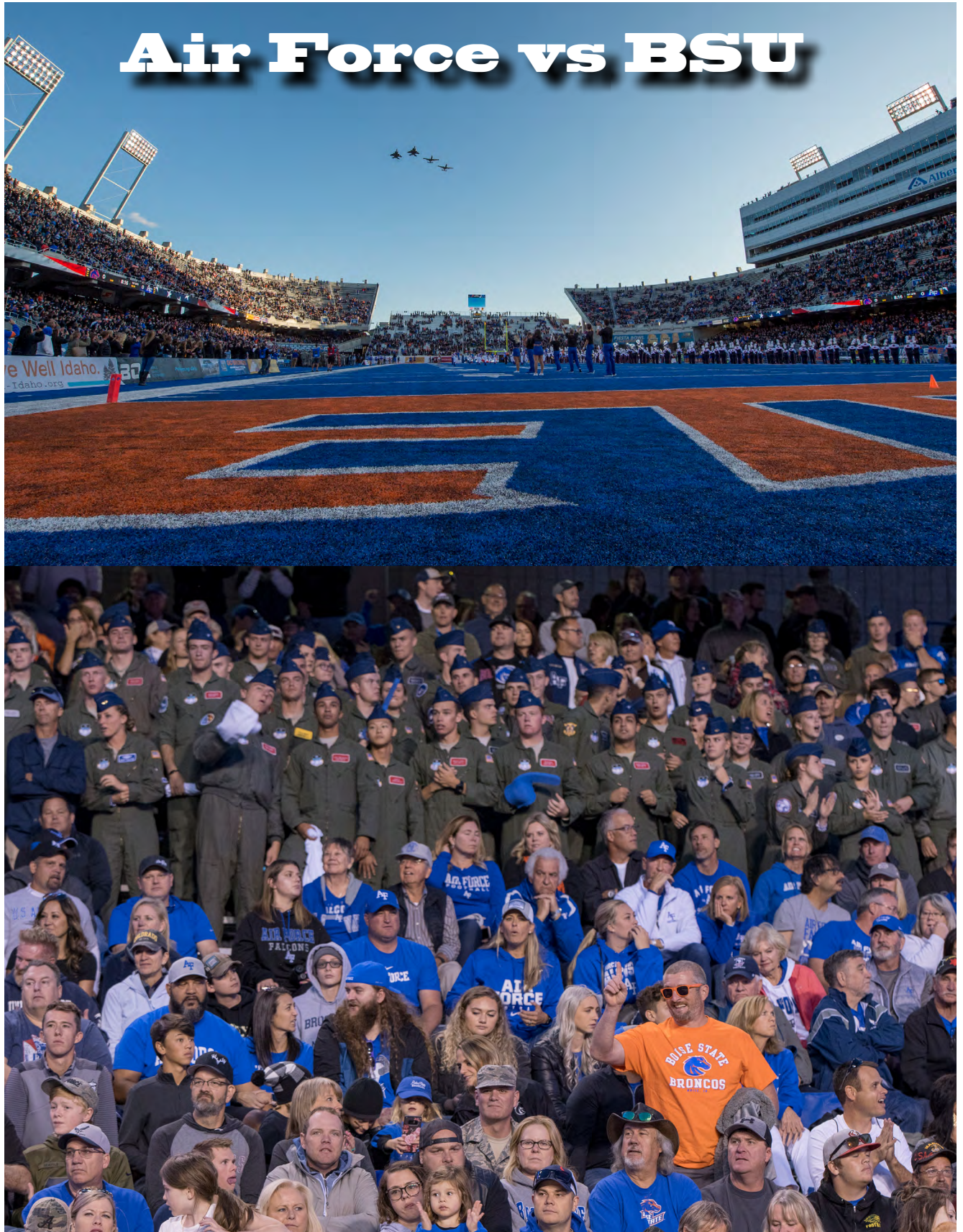
Air Force vs BSU



The United States Air Force Academy played the Boise State Broncos football team during a game, Sept. 20, Albertsons Stadium, Boise, Idaho. The 366th Fighter Wing and the 124th Fighter Wing performed a flyover during the game, and all past and present service members were recognized during the event.

Photos by Senior Master Sgt. Joshua Allmaras and Mr. Ryan White





**GOWEN FIELD IS UNDER CONSIDERATION AS AN
ALTERNATIVE SITE TO RECEIVE THE F-35A LIGHTNING II**



**Your input matters and
there is still time to submit
written comments**

Visit <http://www.angf35eis.com/Comments.aspx>

**PLEASE SUBMIT COMMENTS BY
NOVEMBER 1, 2019**

Courageous Kids

Members of the 124th Fighter Wing attended the Courageous Kids Climbing event at the YMCA, Boise, Idaho, Sept. 7. Courageous Kids Climbing was established in 2014 as a way for children and adults with developmental challenges to experience rock climbing while interacting with men and women in uniform.

Photos by Senior Airman Mercedee Wilds and Airman 1st Class Taylor Walker



OCTOBER

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



BOISE, IDAHO, UNITED STATES 09.08.2019

Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Joshua Allmaras 124th Fighter Wing

A young boy at the Idaho National Guard Joint Gowen Field Fun Day sits in the gunner seat of an UH-60 Black Hawk, Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho, Sep. 8. The event was a day for Idaho Air and Army National Guard families to gather, participate in activities and spend time together. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Joshua Allmaras)