

DECEMBER 2016

ON FINAL

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE 507TH AIR REFUELING WING

AIRCRAFT RESPONSE AND EGRESS TRAINING





COVER PHOTO

AIRCRAFT FIRE TRAINING

Fire fighters from the 507th Civil Engineer Squadron lower a ladder from the wing of a KC-135 Dec. 1, 2016, at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. The 507th CES fire fighters train as often as possible to keep their skills sharp and ready to protect our Reservists.

COVER PHOTO : U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Lauren Gleason

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WING COMMANDER
Col. Douglas E. Gullion

VICE WING COMMANDER
Col. Dana N. Nelson

WING COMMAND CHIEF
Chief Master Sgt. Stephen A. Brown

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CHIEF, PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Maj. Jon Quinlan

SUPERINTENDENT
Master Sgt. Grady Epperly

PHOTOJOURNALISTS
Tech. Sgt. Lauren Gleason
Tech. Sgt. Charles Taylor

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LAYOUT BY TECH. SGT. LAUREN GLEASON

507 ARW PUBLIC AFFAIRS
7435 Reserve Rd, Suite 114
Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. 73145
Phone: (405)-734-3078
Email: 507ARW.PA2@US.AF.MIL
URL: WWW.507ARW.AFRC.AF.MIL

SETTING GOALS



Maj. Patrick Mitchell, 507th Force Support Squadron commander, administers the Oath of Enlistment to six new Citizen Airmen before tip-off at the Oklahoma State University basketball game at the Gallagher Iba Arena in Stillwater, Oklahoma Nov. 14, 2016. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Lauren Gleason)

Reserve RECRUITERS



Senior Master Sgt.
Donald Cantrell
Flight Chief
Tinker AFB, OK
Office (405) 734-5331
Cell (405) 409-4784



Master Sgt.
Derrick Mills
In-Service Recruiter
Tinker AFB, OK
Cell (405) 409-5170



Tech. Sgt.
Nickette Parrish
Line Recruiter
Moore, OK
Cell (405) 409-6311



Tech. Sgt.
Keith Hassell
Line Recruiter
Midwest City, OK
Cell (405) 409-5811



Master Sgt.
Adrian Randles
Line Recruiter
Tulsa
Cell (918) 271-1677



Master Sgt.
Armil Rucker
Line Recruiter
Tinker AFB, OK
Cell (719) 243-6709

For information on opportunities in the AF Reserve, give one of our team members a call today or click the Get 1 Now logo

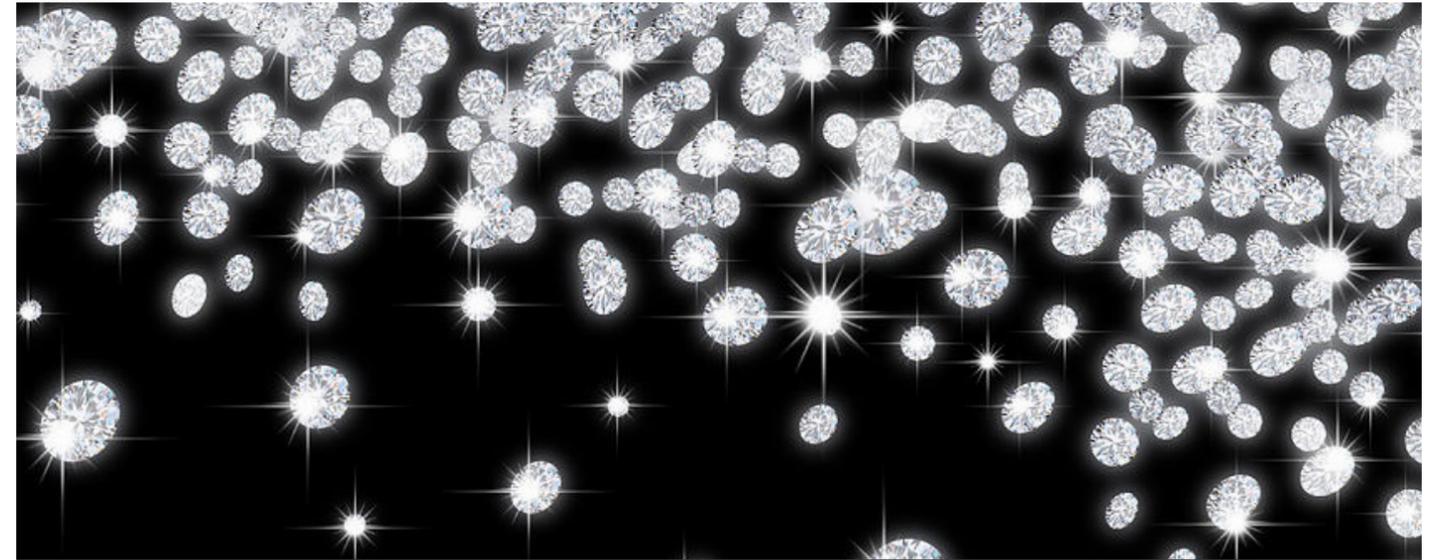


JD Falkner enlists into the Air Force Reserve Nov. 29, 2016, and will be joining the 507th Maintenance Group after basic and technical training. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Lauren Gleason)





<p>MARK YOUR CALENDAR WITH THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:</p>	<p>SUPER UTA FEBRUARY UTA FEB. 2-5</p>
<p>DECEMBER UTA DEC. 3-4</p> <p>COMMANDER'S CALL @ 1500, BASE THEATER DEC. 4</p> <p>CIVILIAN CALL @ 1000 , 970TH AUDITORIUM DEC. 14</p>	<p>ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET @ 1830 TINKER CLUB BALLROOM FEB. 4</p>
<p>JANUARY UTA JAN. 7-8</p> <p>5TH QUARTERLY AWARDS DUE NLT 1600 JAN. 7</p> <p>ANNUAL AWARD PACKAGES DUE NLT 1600 JAN. 12</p>	<p>MARCH UTA MARCH 25-26</p> <p>NORI MARCH 22-29</p> <p>UCI MARCH 30- APRIL 5</p>
	<p>APRIL UTA APRIL 1-2</p>
	<p>MAY UTA MAY 6-7</p>
	<p>VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR THE LATEST UPDATES</p>



THE 507th AIR REFUELING WING PRESENTS
2016 ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

FEBRUARY 4, 2017

SOCIAL HOUR BEGINS AT 6:30 P.M.
DINNER AT 7:00 P.M.

TINKER CLUB BALLROOM
6120 ARNOLD STREET
TINKER AFB, OK 73145

E1 - E5 \$20
E6 - E8 \$30
E9 AND OFFICERS \$40

PLEASE [CLICK HERE](#) TO PAY VIA CREDIT/DEBIT CARD
REGISTER BY DEC. 30, 2016
MILITARY DRESS CODE: ABU / FLIGHT SUIT
CIVILIAN: BUSINESS CASUAL

Exercise Global Thunder 17 concludes at Tinker

By Maj. Jon Quinlan

Exercise Global Thunder 17, an annual command post and field training exercise, concluded Oct. 31 with elements of the 507th Air Refueling Wing taking part.

U.S. Strategic Command, in coordination with U.S. and partner nation government agencies, conducted the exercise, which began Oct. 24, to train USSTRATCOM forces and assess joint operational readiness across all of the command's Unified Command Plan-assigned mission areas.

The Citizen Airmen in the 507th ARW provided alert KC-135R Stratotanker air refueling support during the exercise. Participating enabled the

wing inspection team to observe and evaluate the wing's response actions.

"This exercise is our dress rehearsal for our upcoming Nuclear Operational Readiness Inspection," said Col. Douglas Gullion, 507th ARW commander. "I'm proud of the work our team accomplished this week."

Global Thunder emphasizes the 507th ARW's contribution to the strategic deterrence mission, which has Citizen Airmen on alert 24-hours-a-day in support of USSTRATCOM.

The strategic deterrence mission is a wing priority according to the Inspector General office. The wing inspection team, made up of about 30 inspectors, participated in this exercise evaluating



Citizen Airmen from the 507th Air Refueling Wing Command Post at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., test communication equipment during Exercise Global Thunder 17. Exercise Global Thunder provides training opportunities for USSTRATCOM components, task forces, units and command posts to deter and, if necessary, defeat a military attack against the United States and to employ forces as directed by the President. (U.S. Air Force photo illustration/Maj. Jon Quinlan)



A row of KC-135 Stratotankers sit on the Reserve Ramp at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma, Nov. 6, 2016. Citizen Airmen in the 507th Air Refueling Wing prepared these jets for alert air refueling support during exercise Global Thunder 17. Exercise Global Thunder provides training opportunities for USSTRATCOM components, task forces, units and command posts to deter and, if necessary, defeat a military attack against the United States and to employ forces as directed by the President. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Charles Taylor)

hundreds of requirements for the commander.

"The wing participates in Global Thunder every year so this was an opportunity to refine our procedures in an already planned exercise," said Senior Master Sgt. Jamison Horn, 507th ARW Director of Exercises. "This exercise tested the unit and we are able to observe that and give recommendations to the commander on what can be improved on."

U.S. Strategic Command forces across the United States, to include Airmen in the 507th, participated in Global Thunder 17 to train and assess joint operational readiness.

"The scenario afforded USSTRATCOM's headquarters staff, component commands and partners opportunities to validate existing operational

plans and procedures while developing and testing innovative approaches for addressing complex and uncertain global security challenges," said Maj. Gen. Heidi V. Brown, USSTRATCOM director of global operations. "Global Thunder 17 also provided us a chance to increase our interoperability between each of the combatant commands involved as well as our interagency partners and allies."

Here at Tinker, Horn stressed that this exercise was more robust than many the wing has experienced in the last few years.

"Global Thunder 17 was almost double the size of our last exercise," said Horn. "The exercise players, WIT and everyone else involved deserve kudos for the work they accomplished."



Master Sgt. Bradley Showalter

**507TH AIR REFUELING WING
COMMAND POST SUPERINTENDENT**

Master Sgt. Bradley Showalter poses for a photo Dec. 1, 2016, at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Lauren Gleason)



WHAT IS A LITTLE KNOWN FACT ABOUT YOU?

I've only been in the Air Force for a little over 3 years. No, really, I spent the last 10 years in the U.S. Navy as an operations specialist onboard destroyers.

WHAT IS YOUR CAREER GOAL?

I'm content in my career now, but if an opportunity presents itself I won't shy away from it.

WHAT DO YOU DO FOR FUN?

I'm an avid adventurer. I enjoy anything outdoors: 4x4s, camping, hunting, and riding motorcycles.

AS A KID, WHAT WAS YOUR DREAM JOB?

I never really had any dream jobs. Everyone wants to be rich; I just want to be successful.

WHAT IS THE BEST PART OF YOUR JOB?

I enjoy the responsibility that we have in the Command Post of Nuclear Command and Control.

WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE CHARACTER?

I usually favor the villains.

WHEN DID YOU JOIN THE MILITARY?

In 2003, a few years out of high school. Oddly enough, I joined the Navy because the Air Force recruiter who shared the same office had left for the day.

WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST PET PEEVE?

Oklahoma drivers, and pretty much any other drivers on the road at the same time as me.



Showalter and his father pose for a photo with their dune buggies over the Thanksgiving holiday at Little Sahara State Park in Waynoka, Okla.

December PROMOTIONS



ILEANA VAZQUEZ, 507 LRS
MASTER SERGEANT

CHANDRA C. CADDELL, 507 LRS
SEAN CARTER, 507 MXS
VICTOR L. FOSTER, 507 AMXS
JUANITA F. GILLIAM, 507 MXS

TECHNICAL SERGEANT



ADRIAN L. CONDIT, 507 AMXS
DENZEL L. HULL, 507 CES
CHRISTOPHER R. KUGLER, 507 CES
BREYDEN W. MILLER, 507 LRS
THURMAN W. MOORE, 513 AMXS
MATTHEW P. OLSON, 513 MXS
RACHEL M. PARKER, 507 AMXS
CHRISTOPHER C. RITTER, 513 MXS



STAFF SERGEANT

HUGO D. GARCIACERON, 507 CES
KENNEDY HUMPHREY, 507 MDS

AIRMAN FIRST CLASS



Angel Tree 2016



Three ways to contribute to our local Veterans:

DONATE

Please contact your POC to contribute a monetary donation to be used to purchase Christmas gifts for our Veterans at the center in Norman.

Deadline: December 19th



BUY GIFTS

Pick up a wish list of one of the Veterans and make their holiday wishes come true, and then drop off *unwrapped* gifts to your POC. For a wish list, email Lauren.Gleason.2@us.af.mil or call 734-3078

Deadline: December 19th



ATTEND THE PARTY

All are welcome to celebrate the season and visit with the Veterans at the party at 9:30 a.m. at the Norman Veteran's Center, located at 1776 East Robinson St. in Norman.

Party: December 22, 9:30 a.m.



Find your POC:

Wing Staff- TSgt Lauren Gleason, Public Affairs
 507 MSG-1st Lt. Aaron Wolfe, Executive Officer
 507 OG- Mrs. Trina Walter, Command Section
 507 MXG- TSgt Herbert Briscoe and Master Sgt. Angela Vereb

507 MDS- SSgt Matthew Loar
 513 ACG- Lt. Col. Gia Wilson-Mackey
 1 ASF- MSgt April Hampton
 --If your POC is not listed, please contact TSgt.Gleason in PA--

DESERVING AIRMAN COMMISSIONING PROGRAM

WHAT?

The Air Force Reserve's Deserving Airman Commissioning Program (DACP) is used by commanders to commission enlisted personnel who exhibit qualities and potential for officer status. The program is designed to commission deserving Airmen to fill valid non-rated and line-officer unit vacancies. Traditional Reserve openings within the 507 ARW may include Support, Maintenance, Executive and Non-Flying Operations positions. After selection, the candidate will attend Officer Training School (OTS) and upon graduation be commissioned as a second

lieutenant. There is no minimum rank or time in the Reserve to apply, however, the candidate agrees to remain for three years after commissioning (approx. one year for OTS, AFSC School, STP). How many Airmen can get a commission through the program is reliant on position vacancies and the number of Airmen who can meet the eligibility rules. There is no guarantee that a position will come available, however each candidate will be kept on the list for one year.

HOW?

Airmen who elect to go through the DACP process will meet in full service dress uni-

ply. There is no minimum rank or time in the Reserve to apply, however, the candidate agrees to remain for three years after commissioning (approx. one year for OTS, AFSC School, STP). How many Airmen can get a commission through the program is reliant on position vacancies and the number of Airmen who can meet the eligibility rules. There is no guarantee that a position will come available, however each candidate will be kept on the list for one year.

WHEN?

The DACP Board will meet and interview qualified candidates during the February 2017 SUTA. Completed packages must be submitted no later than 20 January 2017. Incomplete packages will be returned and late submissions will not be considered.

I'M INTERESTED, NOW WHAT?

To be scheduled with the Board, submit a preliminary package consisting of the following to 507 FSS POC MSgt Villarino at 739-4292:

- Official transcript reflecting a baccalaureate degree (or transcript and a letter reflecting anticipated graduation by 12/17)

- AFOQT scores (contact the Education Office for more information and to schedule)

- Letter of recommendation from current unit commander

- Up to three additional letters of recommendation (military or civilian)

- Resume (military and civilian experience and goals)

- Copy of your last physical (Contact 507 AMDS)

- Last three EPRs

- Copy of your fitness scores
- One-page typed composition addressing "Why I desire to become an officer"

- Additional Questions:

If you have questions and/or concerns about the program that you cannot find in other guidance, you are more than welcome to contact the Commissioning Board Chair: Lt. Col. Gregg Russell, 507 MSG/CD (817-475-3841).



lieutenant.

WHO?

Any 507 ARW Reserve Airmen of high moral character and personal qualifications who are at least 18 but under 35 years of age by the time they are commissioned, and are a United States citizen may ap-

form with the Wing selection board, which then nominates the best candidate(s) for commissioning, while recognizing all interested and qualified individuals. Candidates must possess at least a baccalaureate degree in addition to a passing score on the Air Force Officer

OPERATION HOLIDAY SPIRIT: HELPING OUR OWN

By Staff Sgt. Giovanna LaMaestra, 513th Air Control Group Public Affairs

Operation Holiday Spirit's 18th annual celebration took place Nov. 5, with attendees enjoying a traditional steak dinner--cooked and served by our own 1st Sgts.--before jumping into the excitement of fundraising bidding wars and raffle prize selections.

OHS is an auction that raises funds for Reservists within the 507th Air Refueling Wing who may need a little extra financial support during the holiday season.

First time attendee, Staff Sgt. Karen Zuest, 507th Force Support Squadron knowledge operations manager, was impressed with the event.

"The meal and the company were good, and it's a good cause to support every year," said Zuest. "All night we got to mingle with friends and meet people for the first time, so it was a great networking and morale-building opportunity made even better because we're all there for the same reason."

Since 1999, the joint effort of the 513th Air Control Group, along with the 507th ARW and Oklahoma Air National Guard 137th Special Operations Wing, has attracted an overall total of 3,452 attend-



Members of the 507th Air Refueling Wing, 513th Air Control Group and Oklahoma Air National Guard, 137th Special Operations Wing participate in this year's Operation Holiday Spirit, Nov. 5, 2016. The Operation Holiday Spirit dinner is expected to reach over \$35,000 to support guard and Reserve Airmen in need this year. (U.S. Air Force photo/Maj. Jon Quinlan)



A member of the Oklahoma Air National Guard, 137th Special Operations Wing, tells a personal story about the impact of Operation Hoilday Spirit on her life Nov. 5, 2016, at the VFW in Del City, Okla. Operation Holiday Spirit is expected to reach over \$35,000 to support guard and Reserve Airmen in need this year. (U.S. Air Force photo/Maj. Jon Quinlan)

ees and raised an impressive dollar amount in donations.

"Not counting this year, donations total more than \$285,000 and have helped more than 402 families in the past 18 years," said Lt. Col. Ralph Hawkins, 513th Air Control Group executive officer and lead organizer of OHS. "We're still waiting on a total dollar number for donations, but we anticipate to collect more than \$35,000 for our fellow Reservists this holiday season."

In addition to the auction donations, Zuest enjoyed building new relationships.

"It was really cool to see the Reserve and Guard come together and work to make a positive differ-

ence in people's lives," said Zuest. "I think I'll go every year if I can. I loved it, and I'll encourage anyone I meet to go."

Like many others, Zuest knows someone who has been helped during a time of need by donations from OHS.

"I actually have a friend that benefitted from this," said Zuest. "Her son was really sick, and she couldn't afford the doctor bills on top of trying to pay regular bills--let alone trying to buy gifts for her son. The event organizers really came through with the holiday spirit in a donation that saved her. It's an awesome thing and to have known someone who has benefitted from it made it even more cool."

RESERVIST FINDS NICHE, ONE BRUSHSTROKE A TIME

By Tech. Sgt. Charles Taylor

Across time, a hobby can transform into a passion. For one creative Citizen Airman here at Tinker, his hobby of painting has taken him on a journey across the globe, gaining him notoriety along the way.

Senior Master Sgt. Darby Perrin, in-flight refueling technician with the 465th Air Refueling Squadron here, said he always enjoyed drawing and sketching, but branched out into painting in 1981 when his uncle first bought him supplies.

“What I do preserves the history aspect and raises awareness about the Air Force Reserve.”

Perrin’s paintings have appeared in all corners of the world throughout his 29 years in the Air Force, the most recent of which was unveiled Oct. 28 in Nashville during the 48th annual Air Mobility Command and Airlift/Tanker Association Symposium.

The painting was donated to the Air Force Art Program, and it is significant because it depicts the role of the 910th Airlift Wing, based out of Youngstown, Ohio, and their cleanup efforts following the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill in 2010.

“What I do preserves the history aspect and raises awareness about the Air Force Reserve,” Perrin said. “This highlights a unique job, and it’s something many outside of the Air



Senior Master Sgt. Darby Perrin, an Air Force artist from the 465th Air Refueling Squadron, Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma, sign lithographs of Perrin’s artwork at the National Museum of the United States Air Force in Ohio, Oct. 1, 2016. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Joel McCullough)

Force Reserve are not aware of.”

“Deepwater Horizon” is the second painting Perrin has contributed to the program. The first was “The Last Ace,” a painting that depicts 1st Lt. Charles d’Olive’s victory over three German fighter planes during World War I. Susan Mozena, d’Olive’s daughter, and her family were in attendance Oct. 1 at the 2016 World War I Dawn Patrol Rendezvous, held at the National Museum of the United States Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Perrin’s artwork is on display across the country: In California at the San Diego Air and Space Museum; In Nebraska at the Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum; and in Georgia at the Museum of Aviation as well as the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force. His work can also be seen on the

noses of KC-135R Stratotankers at the 507th Air Refueling Wing here.

In addition to donated works, his customers place orders from Canada, Denmark, England, Germany, Japan, Turkey, and Australia.

When Perrin joined the military in 1986, he put the brush down -- but only for a short time.

“I would take a photo of something, and then paint it,” said Perrin. “After painting, someone would see it and encourage me to do more, and it snowballed from there.”

Perrin said he gets inspiration from his surroundings, especially aircraft. He won’t always be in the military, but he hopes the Air Force will always be a part of him and his work.

“I’ve been doing this a long time, and eventually, I’m going to retire,” he said. “I would like to be able to do this when I separate.”





DOING THE MOST GOODSM

STOCKINGS

& SOCK/COAT DRIVE

To benefit Children & Seniors

ALL ITEMS DUE BY COB DECEMBER UTA

Fill a stocking for a local child and/or help someone keep warm and dry with a pair of socks or a warm coat!

Fill a stocking for a child.

Bring in a package or pair of new socks for any age.

Bring a new or slightly used warm coat for any age.

Someone will be so happy for the warmth and comfort you have provided them with this donation!






CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



By Ch. (Capt.) John Weston

Grief in the midst of celebration

During the holidays, it can seem like the whole world is lit up and happy. Sometimes marketing and advertising can convince us everyone is having a good time but us! But on occasion, we can have those feelings validated. It could be a recent, or even long ago loss. It could be fractured relationships that once were whole. At times around Christmas and New Year's, we can feel like the only person not having a good time.

But the truth is, this simply isn't true. Other people have felt, and are feeling the way you do. Ten years ago, I faced the death of my grandmother and my father in short order. Christmas Day was the day I always spent with them, and they were both gone. In a cruel twist, since I had always been with them that day through the years, everyone else I knew, including family, had other plans, leaving Christmas Day alone and without companions. On that day I knew what I needed to do. I called my friends in town. To my surprise, two of my friends from high school left their plans and drove around



(Courtesy graphic/Oursideofsuicide.com)

with me. We went looking for something open – anything. Like something out of “A Christmas Story,” we ate at a Chinese restaurant. I’d love to tell you the day was a good one, and that we had a great time. But the truth is, I was miserable. But I was miserable with people who loved and cared for me, and did the very best they could to help me.

In difficult situations during the holidays, what the grieving need

are not limitless optimists who can somehow “cheer” them out of their “funk,” but people who care enough to share in the difficulty with them. If you are the one grieving or know someone who is, the best medicine is to come alongside that person, to share the burden with them, not to pretend it doesn't exist. Make the load a little lighter by sharing it, not ignoring it. People who are hurt want acknowledgment of that hurt –

that it's real and it is and has happened. You can be there for someone hurting by just allowing them to feel what they feel, especially in the midst of a seemingly non-stop celebration. It's not your job to “fix” things, but to be present. Don't underestimate the healing power of helping someone not to be alone. It does far more than you think.

Big 12 gets lucky



(Courtesy graphic/Big12sports.com)

By Tech. Sgt. Charles Taylor
Sports Reporter Extraordinaire

Out of all of the Power Five conferences in college football, the Big 12 is the only one that does not have a conference championship game to decide who wins the crown.

This wasn't always the case, as the Big 12 actually had 12 teams once upon a time. Therefore, the conference was split into two divisions, and the winner of those would meet to decide the winner.

Now there are only ten teams, and the present has produced mixed results. It's true there isn't a championship game, but every team now has to play one another. Another good thing that has come out of this is the annual “Bedlam” game between Oklahoma and Oklahoma State is a winner-take all game for the second straight season.

In other words, “Bedlam” is the de facto conference championship game, playing this edition on the Oklahoma University campus. These two teams met last season to decide the crown in Stillwater, Oklahoma, a game that saw the Sooners win 58-23. Not only did Okla-

homa win the conference, they also clinched a berth in the College Football Playoff.

This year, the winner is seen as having an outside chance of getting into the playoff. Most projections say a lot of help is needed from teams ranked above the Sooners and Cowboys, as in losses, for them to get into postseason play.

But in terms of what “Bedlam” means to the conference, the people at the top can say the schedule worked out exactly how they thought it would, and they can have championship games without actually having an official one.

Let's be honest with ourselves. Things just happened to work out that way. Nobody could have predicted one of the nation's most heated rivalries would be a practical playoff game, and the football fans in the state of Oklahoma are the biggest winners.

So the Big 12 gets lucky for another year, and after this season, it won't have to come down to luck. The conference will welcome back a championship game next year, to played at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas. The next step for the conference, finding a way to actually have 12 teams again.

Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Terry, structural technician with the 507th Civil Engineer Squadron, and Tech. Sgt. Spencer Shaw, operations management technician, add finishing touches to the gingerbread house built by five members of CES. Terry and Shaw, along with Master Sgt. Jo DeLorenzi, Tech. Sgt. Stefanie Greer, and Staff Sgt. Lisa Sanchez, spent more than 8 hours over the course of three days building the house, and were awarded first place and a prize of \$300 for their efforts during the base Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony Nov. 30, 2016, at the Tinker Club. (Courtesy photo)

