

New York fireworks to dance to Air Force band music

by 2nd Lt. Leslie Brown



Band of Mid-America commander and conductor Lt. Col. Steven Grimo (left) confers with Bill Schermerhorn, vice president and creative director for Macy's, during a session at the Sound Kitchen recording studio in Nashville, Tenn. The band recorded the musical backdrop for the Macy's 28th Annual Fourth of July Spectacular in New York City.

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — When the fireworks blaze in the night sky during the nation's largest Independence Day celebration, they'll dance, shimmer and boom to music from the Air Force Band of Mid-America.

The organizers of Macy's 28th Annual Fourth of July Fireworks Spectacular in New York City asked the band to record original music for the show. So in March, the concert band visited the Sound Kitchen, a state-of-the-art recording studio in Nashville, Tenn., to "lay down" the tracks and bring Macy's commissioned composer **Doug Katsaros'** work to life.

According to Macy's, the 30-minute fusion of fireworks and music will be viewed live by more than

2.5 million people, and another 25 million people will view the nationally televised display.

"This is a great way to get national attention for the Air Force," said Lt. Col. **Steven Grimo**, Band of Mid-America commander and conductor.

According to the colonel, the original music will be incorpo-

rated in a new compact disc called "Celebrate America," which will be released near Memorial Day. The tracks might also be available as audio downloads on the band's Web site at www.bandofmid-america.com.

— 2nd Lt. Leslie Brown
Band of Mid-America Public Affairs

Postal Service honors Air Force Academy

AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — The Air Force Academy received two honors in April during a ceremony commemorating its 50th anniversary.

The U.S. Postal Service unveiled a commemorative 37-cent stamp, and the Department of the Interior bestowed the National Historic Landmark honor.

The stamp, which features a photo of the cadet chapel, honors the academy's years of service to the nation. **William Johnstone**, secretary of the Postal Service board of governors, said the image will go into the homes of America, symbolizing the values of the nation.

Following the stamp unveiling, **Craig Manson**, assistant secretary of the interior for fish, wild-

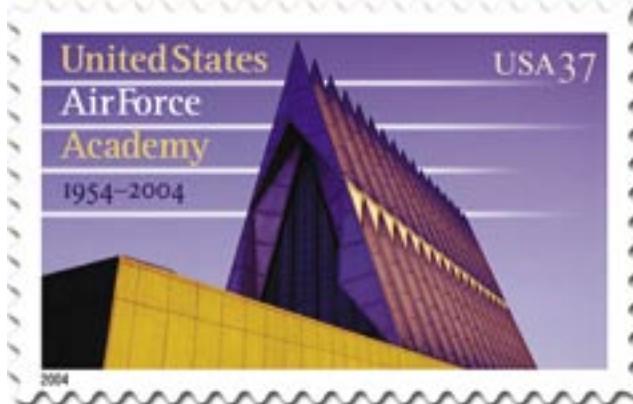
life and parks, signed the formal documentation declaring National Historic Landmark status for the academy's cadet area because of its unique resources, which include

Arnold Hall, Harmon Hall, Fairchild Hall, Vandenberg Hall, the aerospace laboratory, planetarium, physical education building, cadet chapel, Terrazzo, court of honor and

the parade grounds. All the buildings were constructed between 1958 and 1968.

— courtesy Air Force Academy
Public Affairs office

courtesy graphic



U.S. Postal Service officials unveiled a 37-cent stamp in April honoring the Air Force Academy's 50 years of service to the nation.