



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

55th Wing Public Affairs
109 Washington Sq., Ste. 221
Offutt AFB, NE 68113
Voice: (402) 294-3663
Media relations: (402) 212-5958
Fax: (402) 294-7172

**Air Force Week Topic:
Air Force Week Begins**

Aug 7, 2008

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Air Force Week Opening Ceremony

OFFUTT AIR FORCE BASE, Neb. – The opening ceremony for Air Force Week in the Heartland 2008 will begin at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 9 at Rosenblatt Stadium in Omaha, Neb.

The opening ceremony isn't to be confused with the Defenders of Freedom Annual Open House and Air Show which rounds out Air Force Week in the Heartland Aug. 16 and 17.

The free opening ceremony is open to the public and gates will open at 6:00 p.m.

Evening events include an official proclamation by Nebraska governor the Honorable Dave Heineman, (<http://www.gov.state.ne.us/>) remarks by Omaha Mayor Mike Fahey, Bellevue Mayor Ed Babbitt and Gen. Kevin P. Chilton, (<http://www.af.mil/bios/bio.asp?bioID=4997>) commander, U.S. Strategic Command. The event also includes a free concert by country music singer Jessica Andrews (<http://www.jessicaandrews.com/>), the swearing-in of new recruits, demonstrations by the U.S. Air Force Academy's Wings of Blue Jump Team, video presentations and aircraft flyovers. The evening will conclude with fireworks.

Air Force Week in the Heartland 2008 is a week-long celebration Aug. 9-17 showcasing the U.S. Air Force, its people and their mission. Air Force Week also allows local Nebraska and Iowa communities to meet and interact with Air Force active duty, Reserve and Air National Guard servicemembers to increase public awareness and build new and lasting relationships.

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For more Air Force Week in the Heartland 2008 information, visit www.airforceweek.com.

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MEDIA

A number of media outlets already have made arrangements to go live from the Air Force Week opening ceremonies or have provided us with their requirements to cover it. If you have not yet contacted the Public Affairs office and plan to cover the event, please do so immediately at (402) 294-3663 to reserve your space. All press releases are posted at www.airforceweek.com.