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## NEWS RELEASE

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### Perry High Student Wins Outstanding JROTC of the Year Award



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – **Perry High** School senior **Jesse Yeomans** was named the *2009 Outstanding JROTC Cadet of the Year* by the Air Force Association (AFA) Carl Vinson Memorial Chapter. The award will be presented by Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer and Col. Tim Callahan, USAF Ret., at the AFA annual awards luncheon held in May at Robins Air Force Base.

Cadet of the Year displays: characteristics contributing to leadership and indicative of future value in positions of responsibility; a positive attitude toward training and all areas of school life; pride in personal appearance and wear of the uniform; personal initiative, judgment, and self-confidence; courtesy, promptness, obedience, and respect for customs; growth potential, capacity for responsibility, high productivity, adaptability to change, the highest personal and ethical standards, and strong personal convictions; and ranked in the upper five percent of his Aerospace Education class.

Senior Aerospace Science Instructor Col. Craig Lightfoot remarked, "Cadet Yeomans, overall, is the finest young man ever to graduate from Perry High School's AFJROTC program. Jesse's military career goals have not waivered since he was a freshman. He wants to attend a major university on an AFJROTC scholarship, major in aeronautical engineering, attend pilot training, and eventually fly F-22 fighters. He has the mettle, aptitude, fortitude, and physical conditioning to accomplish his goal. It is refreshing to have a young man care so much about his country and willing to make a career out of defending its freedoms. God bless Jesse!"

Recent past winners of AFA awards are listed below.

**2009:** Perry High School English Department Chairperson Ms. Angela Heath was named Teacher of the Year; Northside High Senior Cadet J. Greg Floyd was named Air Force JROTC Cadet of the Year.

MORE

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## **Perry High Student Wins Outstanding JROTC of the Year Award / page 2 of 2**

**2008:** Warner Robins High School Senior Master Sgt. (Ret.) Antoine Jackson was named Teacher of the Year; Warner Robins High Senior Cadet Col. Thomas Byrd was named Outstanding Air Force JROTC Cadet of the Year.

**2007:** Warner Robins High Master Sgt (Ret.) Ron Vaughan was named Teacher of the Year; Warner Robins High Cadet Col. James Robinson and Houston County High Cadet 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Nicholas Quenga tied for AFA Cadet of the year.

**2006:** Feagin Mill Middle School Tammy Strickland was named Teacher of the Year.

**2005:** Northside High Chief Master Sgt. Marvin James was named Teacher of the Year; Northside High Cadet Major Robert Anzalone was named Cadet of the Year.

The mission of the AFA is three fold:

1. Educate the public about the need for aerospace power and its role in a strong national defense.
2. Advocate aerospace power and a strong national defense.
3. Support the United States Air Force and the Air Force Family.

Perry High School is located at 1307 North Avenue in Perry. Dr. Darryl Albritton serves as principal. For more information about Cadet Yeomans or the Perry High AFJROTC program, contact Col. Lightfoot at (478) 988-6318, extension 21565, or [Craig.Lightfoot@hcbe.net](mailto:Craig.Lightfoot@hcbe.net). For more information about the award or AFA, visit <http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/awards.asp>.

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