

# Former Student News FROM THE FRONT

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USAF Maj. **Christie Barton '97** was recently selected as the speechwriter to Adm. Michael Mullen, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. After graduating from A&M, Barton received a Doctor of Optometry degree in 2001 from the University of Houston. She then joined the Air Force and was stationed in Colorado and Germany with deployments to Panama, Ecuador, Africa and elsewhere before her transition to Washington, D.C., where she has been in the Office of the Air Force Surgeon General, a military White House Social Aide, and now speechwriter to the admiral. If you want to say howdy, e-mail her at [clbarton@hotmail.com](mailto:clbarton@hotmail.com).



**First Lt. Bob Tuttle '07** (left) and **1st Lt. Alex Holladay '07** are in Iraq with the 2nd Battalion 1st Special Forces Group out of Fort Lewis, Wash., and the 4th Squadron 9th Cavalry Regiment out of Fort Hood, respectively. Tuttle, son of **Phil Tuttle '74**, graduated with a degree in marketing and was in Corps of Cadets Company A-1 while at A&M. Holladay was in Corps of Cadets Company I-1.



Both Navy **Lt. Blake Wright '01** (left) and Air Force **Capt. Ernie Garcia '01** are stationed at Kandahar Airfield in Afghanistan.



**Joe Gonzales '06** (left) and **Matthews Metyko '07** were photographed at Forward Operating Base Gardez in Afghanistan. Gonzales earned his bachelor's degree in history. Metyko earned his bachelor's degree in political science.



**First Lt. Josh Bobbitt '07** is an infantry platoon leader with 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry, serving in southern Afghanistan. He graduated from A&M in May 2007 with a finance degree. He completed basic training, officer candidate school, the Infantry Officer Leadership Course, Ranger training and Airborne school while at Fort Benning, Ga.