



Carol, Ameer, and Richard Smedley

Smedley to become officer He will study communications

SSgt. Richard Smedley, the son of Dick Smedley of Marietta, was recently featured in a newspaper article after he was accepted for Air Force OTS (Officer Training School). He had applied twice and failed, but he kept trying and was finally admitted.

The article appeared in the October 20 issue of *Jet Scope*, an Air Force paper published in Panama City, Florida. Richard and his wife (the former Carol A. Greider, daughter of J. Robert Greider of RD1 Mount Joy), along with their three-year-old daughter Ameer, live there near the base where Richard works.

SSgt. Smedley works in the Environmental Engineering Section of Civil Engineering Center at the base, studying the behavior of gulls. He had a degree in biology when he entered the Air Force.

Richard's applications for Officer Training were rejected the first time he applied. After waiting the required six months, he reapplied and, this time, was accepted. The article quoted him:

"I was prepared to try again and again until either I exhausted my opportunities or the Air Force accepted my application for Officer's Training School. I wanted to be an officer and I knew I was qualified. I was not about to give up; so it became a matter of time."

He was accepted on May 1st. He will attend OTS and then go for 8

months of technical training in communications at Chanute AFB, Ill.

Richard considered several fields of study at OTS, such as biology/chemistry, meteorology, and physician's assistant. Another of his choices was communications, and he was assigned that. He is pleased with this, since it coincides with his plan to get a Master's in business administration at some later date.

His last application was submitted with many recommendations from high ranking officers, which is probably what made the difference this time.

"I figured somewhere along the line things had to go my way," he was quoted as saying. "I would have continued trying until my four-year enlistment expired."

SSgt. Smedley has prepared for OTS, even before he knew he would get in, by jogging and taking courses in the subjects he was considering.

His other activities include softball, soccer, and crossword puzzles. "I'm a crossword puzzle freak," he told Sgt. Ada Weimer, who wrote the feature article.

One of his co-workers said of him, "I am pleased that he was accepted. I think he will make a fine officer. He displays many leadership qualities and very importantly, he has a sense of humor. And believe me, that is important. When someone asks you what your job is and you reply bird watching..."

Nursery school kids reenact first Thanksgiving

The first Thanksgiving was reenacted by students and teachers at Zion Lutheran Nursery School in Marietta.

When the kids arrived at school on Monday they found their teachers (Mrs. Cheryl Ronan and Mrs. Jennifer Douglas) dressed as pilgrims. They in turn dressed as Indians, wearing headbands they had made earlier.

Activities for the day included reading a story about the first Thanksgiving and then acting out the story. A previously prepared feast was eaten on a table set with turkey placemats. The mats, and other decorations, were made by the students.

On the menu were popcorn majze, Indian pumpkin cookies, Plymouth Rock carrots, and pilgrim punch.



Indians and pilgrims at Zion nursery school

Seated around the candle-lit table, the children joined hands and told each other of what they were thankful for.

The kids in the 2 and 3 day classes were also entertained at Thanksgiving parties thrown by the room mothers.

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