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## March 29, 2007- Cadets fly high in Civil Air Patrol

By Noel Stack, City editor

Civil Air Patrol cadets got a bird's eye view of El Dorado County as they took to the skies with certified pilots Saturday.

Thirty-three cadets, ages 12-18, went on orientation flights, taking off from Placerville Airport on the sunny day in four-seaters.

“They're going to allow the cadets to fly the plan a little Š do some maneuvers,” said Aaron Yanagihara, public affairs officer with the Eugene L. Carnahan Cadet Squadron 85 based out of Placerville. “It's good practice for them.



FLYING HIGH — A Civil Air Patrol plane takes off from the Placerville Airport Saturday morning. See story “Cadets ...”  
*Democrat photo by Dan Burkhart*

The Civil Air Patrol is an auxiliary branch of the United States Air Force that provides cadet programs and aerospace education to young people throughout the country. It also provides emergency services like search and rescue. When the Boy Scout went missing in North Carolina, Yanagihara said, the Civil Air Patrol's planes went up in the air.

For many, the Civil Air Patrol is a stepping stone into the military, according to Yanagihara.

That's the plan for Placerville teen John Barb. The 15-year-old went on his first flight Saturday to learn the basics of flight, a passion he intends to follow.

“I want to be a fighter pilot in the Air Force, John said. “I've always liked the F-16s and the F-18s since I was a little kid.”

John said his love for military aircraft was fueled by trips to air shows when he was younger and he joined the Civil Air Patrol in December 2006.

The Civil Air Patrol education includes learning the customs and courtesies of the U.S. military, Yanagihara said. So cadets who join the armed forces as adults are more prepared, he explained, and many join up with higher ranks because they've moved up through the Civil Air Patrol.

