

ACADEMY SPIRIT

52nd GRADUATING CLASS OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

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Class of 2010: America is in your hands now

By Lt. Gen. Mike Gould
Academy Superintendent

To the Academy Class of 2010... Congratulations! This is your day.

This is a day you will remember for the rest of your lives. Each one of you has spent the last four, some of you five, years learning, training, preparing and giving everything you've got and more to be here with your classmates to finally celebrate this day together. Today your persistence and selfless dedication over the years has meaning, because on this day you can say, "I am a second lieutenant in the United States Air Force." This is the day you join the long blue line as a military officer.

You are the 52nd class to graduate, and it's a special honor for Paula and me to share this experience with you. Over the years, you have learned about the Air Force — its history, traditions, great personalities, evolution and our future. But, just as importantly, you learned about yourselves ... about your strength ... your commitment ... your

endurance ... about what it takes to be a leader of character!

As we look back and recognize all you have achieved, we should also look forward to the future — to recognize all you will accomplish in the coming years.

I'm not going to guarantee an easy future. We are a nation at war. We are engaged in a global ideological struggle against some of the most dangerous and unpredictable enemies this nation has ever faced. This is not the Cold War into which I was commissioned. But someone has to raise their hand and say, "Send me." And each one of you has selflessly done that today.

At the Air Force Academy you ate, slept and breathed what it takes and what it means to be a leader of character. Now it's time to live it. From today forward, you will demonstrate the unique responsibilities you are now charged with and demonstrate how and why the world relies on the judgment and integrity of the U.S. military's officer corps.

Most importantly, as you depart the Academy, I encourage you to remember the love and pride you feel around you today from family and friends, classmates and teammates, from the faculty and staff who supported you — and from me, Paula and the entire senior staff. We are, indeed, proud of each and every one of you!

Now, as you leave Colorado Springs, and look in your rearview mirror, I encourage you to remember the people of this community who hosted you and supported you from day one. They are your sponsor families, the fans who cheered you on at sporting events and the strangers who gave you a pat on the back when you were around town in uniform. The wonderful people of Colorado Springs welcomed you with open arms on in-processing day and they celebrate with you now as you graduate.

We expect great things from you in the years to come. The well-being of our nation is in your hands. For today, you take on the extraordinary respon-



sibility of protecting and defending the Constitution of the United States and the American people. From what I've witnessed with this special class, I am confident the American people are in good hands. Congratulations, 2010!

AOG congratulates Class of 2010

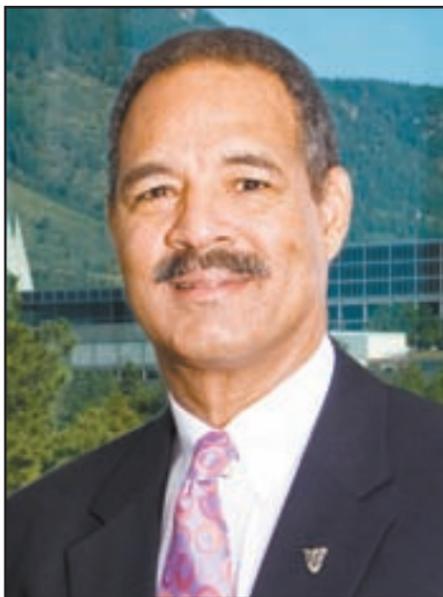
By William "T." Thompson, Esq. '73
President and CEO,
Association of Graduates

To the Class of 2010, I want to extend my enthusiastic congratulations on behalf of the Association of Graduates and welcome you as members of the Long Blue Line. You are the 52nd class to graduate and we are proud to have you take your place among the 42,000 graduates who have gone before you. We know that it has taken four demanding years of your life, but you are now well-equipped to serve your country with great distinction.

Those graduates who have gone before you have created a noble and illustrious heritage of which you should be rightly proud. Most impressively, this legacy has been achieved in a short 56 years. In a relatively brief period of time, the Academy has become one of our country's premier institutions and you are about to become a part of that rich tradition.

Let me share with you some of the attributes of the graduate community you are about to join. We have graduated more than 42,000 officers who have become leaders of character all over our great country. More than 535 have become general officers, including 30 four-star generals and three Air Force chiefs of staff.

Our graduates are true war heroes who have won Medals of Honor and numerous Distinguished Flying Crosses and Silver Stars. We are proud that two of the three Air Force aces in Vietnam were Academy graduates, and we respect and admire the 36 graduates who were prisoners



of war. Finally, we honor the 174 graduates who have made the ultimate sacrifice and have their names inscribed on the War Memorial.

Our graduates have gone on to achieve great heights — literally! In fact, 39 graduates have become astronauts and one, until very recently, held the record for the longest walk in space. We have won numerous post-graduate academic awards, including Marshall, Fulbright and Rhodes scholarships.

Academy graduates are doctors, lawyers, business leaders and entrepreneurs. They are members of the clergy, teachers, college presidents, and aviation professionals. Our graduates have served as political leaders at all levels in the country, including Congress. And they have served in the highest appointed positions of our national government.

Yes, Air Force Academy graduates are in leadership positions throughout our great nation — all subscribing to the core values of

Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence in All We Do. You will now take your place as a member of this impressive group.

The world into which you are graduating is a challenging one. The country is in two wars, and we are besieged by the threat of terrorism. Yet, the leadership training you have received and the values you have accepted gives our country the highest confidence in your abilities to protect and persevere.

Let me recognize your vision and commitment to stay involved and connected to the institution through your Project Twenty Ten initiative. You are setting a standard of support to the Academy that will be historic and sustained for years to come. Thank you for joining with the Association of Graduates to support the many cadet programs that you have had an opportunity to experience: the leadership and character programs, the conferences and symposiums, intramurals and cadet clubs and the foreign travel and language immersion programs, to mention just a few. You have clearly understood and taken on the responsibility to reach back by giving back to the cadets that will follow you. You are helping to ensure that they enjoy a better opportunity than you have enjoyed, just as prior grads have ensured that you have had opportunities that didn't exist when we were cadets.

The AOG is proud to welcome you as members of the Long Blue Line and we stand ready to assist you in any way we can. Contact us at www.usafa.org whenever we can be of service.



To responsibly inform and educate the Academy community and the public about the Air Force Academy

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The *Academy Spirit* also accepts story submissions by fax at 333-4094 or by e-mail: pa.newspaper@usafa.af.mil.



Cover Photo by Staff Sgt. Don Branum
2009-2010 academic year wing commanders
Nathan Dial, left and Andrew VanTimmeren

Joint Chiefs chairman to give commencement

Academy Public Affairs

The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is scheduled to give the commencement speech for this year's graduation ceremony.

Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, a 1968 U.S. Naval Academy graduate, was sworn in as the 17th Joint Chiefs chairman Oct. 1, 2007. In that role, he is the highest-ranking officer in the U.S. Armed Forces and the President's principal military adviser.



Admiral Mike Mullen

This event marks the first time the Academy will host the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff as the graduation speaker.

"Within the ranks of (our) young officers lies the future of our military and the future of our security,

and how we raise them and reward their creativity is the key to our success," Admiral Mullen said in a 2009 address at the National Defense University. "What do they want? And you probably already know this: They want responsibility. They want the chance to make good and to do good. They want you to care not for them, but about them."

Prior to becoming the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Mullen served as the 28th Chief of Naval Operations, the Navy's top uniformed leader and representative to the Joint Chiefs, from 2003 to 2004.

His Navy career started aboard the destroyer U.S.S. Collett for duty as anti-submarine officer, where then-Ensign Mullen deployed to the Western Pacific and participated in combat operations off the coast of Vietnam. He served aboard six other warships, three as the commanding officer; and as an admiral, he commanded the U.S.S. George Washington Strike Group and the U.S. Second Fleet. His tours ashore have been focused in the areas of resourcing and personnel and included duty with the Bureau of Personnel, the

Navy staff and the staff of the secretary of defense.

Admiral Mullen obtained a Master of Science degree in Operations Research from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif., and also graduated from the Advanced Management Program at the Harvard Business School.

During the first half of 2005, he served as commander of NATO's Joint Force Command Naples and commander of U.S. Naval Forces Europe, leading the Alliance's peacekeeping operations in the Balkans and its training mission in Iraq.

Since taking office as Joint Chief's chairman in October 2007, Admiral Mullen has focused his efforts on three main priorities: defending vital national interests in the Middle East; resetting, revitalizing and reconstituting the Armed Forces; and properly balancing global risk. He has placed significant emphasis on the expansion of counterinsurgency warfare training and resources and was an early advocate for a greater focus on operations in Afghanistan. He now considers that war to be the U.S. military's "main effort."



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The Wolverines take top squadron honors

By Staff Sgt. Don Branum
Academy Public Affairs

Cadet Squadron 19 won the Outstanding Squadron of the Year award Friday for the 2009-2010 Academic year.

The squadron took first place in military and academic performance and ended up in fourth place overall for athletics to earn the award.

"That was our goal the whole time," said Cadet 1st Class Emma Przybyslawski, cadet squadron commander for CS 19 and a native of San Antonio.

The outstanding squadron award encompasses military performance in areas such as marching and inspections, academic performance through grade point averages and athletic performance through intramural competition and physical and aerobic fitness tests, said Maj. Dave Pike, CS 19's air officer commanding.

Cadet Przybyslawski credited Cadet 1st Class Brent Whiteman of Scottsdale, Ariz., and Cadet 2nd Class Dave Cook of Hastings, Neb., with helping the squadron achieve the award but added that everyone in the squadron played a role. She also thanked Major Pike for



his role in helping CS 19 achieve top squadron honors.

"Major Pike is on top of every thing, which is nice because he made sure everyone got recognition," she said.

"We got really lucky to win this," Cadet Cook said. "We're lucky that Emma and (Cadet 1st Class) Jason Fung were our squadron commanders, and we're lucky that we had great senior leadership the entire year."

Major Pike has been the AOC for CS 19 for approximately two years. He will pin on lieutenant colonel Thursday, the same day that he relinquishes command of the squadron in a change-of-command ceremony.

Academy recognizes more outstanding squadron performances



Outstanding Squadron Academic Achievement



Outstanding Squadron Leadership and Scholarship



Outstanding Squadron Drill & Ceremonies Comp



Outstanding Squadron Military Proficiency



Outstanding Squadron Intercollegiate



Outstanding Squadron Core Values



Outstanding Squadron Intramural



Outstanding Squadron Athletic Excellence

Outstanding Group- 2nd Group

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Top graduates honored for accomplishments

By Academy Spirit Staff

The Class of 2010's top graduates were honored for their achievements at the Individual Awards Ceremony Monday in Clune Arena.

Cadet 1st Class Bradford Waldie is this year's overall top graduate, earning a 3.348 physical performance average, a 3.404 military performance average, and a 3.97 cumulative grade point average.

Cadet 1st Class Austin McKinney earned best academic performance with a cumulative GPA of 3.98 and a major GPA of 4.0. Cadet McKinney majored in Management, with a minor in Spanish.

Cadet 1st Class Timothy Mergen is this year's top military performer earning a military performance average of 3.446, and Cadet 1st Class Brittany Morreale earned the scholar athlete of the year award with a physical performance average of 3.106.

Qualifications for the top awards are scored on a four-point system similar to grade point averages.

Other individual awards this year went to these Cadets 1st Class:

Outstanding Cadet in Aeronautical Engineering

Nicholas Carter

Outstanding Cadet in Airmanship

Brandon Burfeind

Outstanding Cadet in Astronautical Engineering

Thomas Sukut

Outstanding Cadet in Basic Sciences

Daniel Fulcoly

Outstanding Cadet in Behavioral Sciences and Leadership

Alicia Bouges

Outstanding Cadet in Biology

Jonathan Wieninger

Outstanding Cadet in Chemistry

Matthew Haugseth

Outstanding Cadet in Civil Engineering

Rachel Crawford

Outstanding Cadet in Communications

Matthew Ross

Outstanding Cadet in Computer Engineering

Robert Rivera

Outstanding Cadet in Computer Science

Gregory Masters, Jr.

Outstanding Cadet in Eastern Language Minor

Bradford Waldie

Outstanding Cadet in Economics

Michael Albert

Outstanding Cadet in Engineering

Jonathan Tellefsen

Outstanding Cadet in Electrical Engineering

Shane Fink

Outstanding Cadet in English

Katherine Heflin

Outstanding Cadet in Environmental Engineering

Corey Lohmiller

Outstanding Cadet in Foreign Area Studies

Bradford Waldie

Outstanding Cadet in Geosciences

Kyle Schemenaur

Outstanding Cadet in History

Franklin Nesselhuf

Outstanding Cadet in Humanities

Bradford Waldie

Outstanding Cadet in Intercollegiate Speech Comp

Brandon Paquette

Outstanding Cadet in Legal Studies

Benjamin Joelson

Outstanding Cadet in Management

Austin McKinney

Outstanding Cadet in Mathematics

Millie Mays

Outstanding Cadet in Mechanical Engineering

Erinn Scott

Outstanding Cadet in Meteorology

Cameron Rochelle

Outstanding Cadet in Military History

Franklin Nesselhuf

Outstanding Cadet in Military Strategic Studies

William Kirk, III

Outstanding Cadet in National Security Studies

Timothy Mergen

Outstanding Cadet in Operations Research

Matthew Bradwick

Outstanding Cadet in Parachuting

Joseph Valdez, Jr.

Outstanding Cadet in Philosophy

Jarrold Huffman

Outstanding Cadet in Physics

Daniel O'Keefe

Outstanding Cadet in Political Science

Austin Krohn

Outstanding Cadet in Powered Flight

Sean Foote

Outstanding Cadet in Soaring

Peter Sohm

Outstanding Cadet in Social Sciences

Rexford Pearce

Outstanding Cadet in Space Operations

William Percoski

Outstanding Cadet in Systems Engineering

Anthony Mitchell

Outstanding Cadet in Systems Engineering Management

Ivando Arroyo

Outstanding Cadet in Western Language Minor

Austin McKinney

Outstanding Cadet in Character

Gregory Cappuzzo

Outstanding Cadet Citizenship

Shawn Killpack

Outstanding Cadet Summer Wing Commander

Kevin Van Hook II

Outstanding Cadet Fall Wing Commander

Nathan Dial

Outstanding Cadet Spring Wing Commander

Andrew VanTimmermen

Outstanding Cadet Group Commander

Madison Burgess

Outstanding Cadet Honor Committee Chairperson

Tyler Keener

Outstanding Cadet Squadron Commander

Emma Przybyslawski

Outstanding Cadet Flight Commander

John Avvett II

Outstanding Cadet Element Leader

Robert Lystrup

Outstanding Cadet Who Best Exemplifies the Highest Ideals of Loyalty, Integrity and Courage

John Oliphint IV

Outstanding Cadet, United States Air Force Academy Preparatory School Graduate

Anthony Mitchell

Outstanding Former Regular Enlisted Cadet Graduating with Highest Class Honors

Jonathan Weininger

Outstanding Cadet in Physical Education

David Miller



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Ring symbolizes class values

Graduation Year

Our graduation year is boldly placed at the top of our crest, clearly identifying this crest as 2010's.

Eagle

The eagle, the proud symbol of our nation, is posed aggressively on our crest, clenching the saber. Just as the eagle is ready to strike, so must we be prepared to respond to our nation's call at a moment's notice.

Sabre

The eagle's grasping of the sabre links our crest to the crest of our legacy class, 1970, and our desire to follow their example of selflessly defending our nation.

Class motto

"Vires Intra" is Latin for our class motto, "Strength Within". Our motto captures the incredible bravery shown by our class exemplar, 2nd Lt Frank Luke Jr, whose bold actions in the face of capture and death helped shape the victory of the allied forces during WWI.

Chapel

Serves as a reminder of the beautiful place we live in now and the beauty we will fight to protect in the future.

Flag

The 10 visible stars and 10 visible stripes of the flag remind our class of the people who have gone before us and those who will go after us in defense of our great nation-and most importantly, our freedom.

Aircraft

The B-52 is the plane that flew over at our Acceptance Parade at the end of Basic Training. That parade symbolized our completion of Beast and our acceptance into the cadet wing. This plane holds a special meaning to the members of 2010, and also represents our class, the 52nd class to graduate.

Polaris

This symbol serves as a guiding light for all those who came before us and will undoubtedly be the same for all those who follow long after we are gone.

Class Year

LII, Roman Numerals representing the 52nd class to graduate from the Air Force Academy.



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96 cadets bound for grad school

By Academy Public Affairs

Oxford University of London, Pardee RAND Graduate School, MIT, Harvard, Purdue and Rice are just a few of the post-graduation destinations for 96 members of the Academy's Class of 2010.

Brittney Morreale was one of only 32 U.S. students awarded a 2010 Rhodes Scholar and will begin her studies in England at Oxford University in the fall. Cadet 1st Class Bradford Waldie earned the Truman Scholarship and the Holaday Scholarship, and is also bound for Oxford University. Cadet 1st Class Austin McKinney is bound for the University of London in the United Kingdom after winning a Marshall Scholarship. Cadet McKinney is one of only 40 students in the United States awarded the Marshall Scholarship.

Several nationally competitive and endowed scholarships are sending graduating firsties off to schools in Europe and around the United States, including Gerhart Scholarship recipient John Rice to La Sorbonne University, France; Lawson Scholarship recipient Matthew Ross to the Naval Postgraduate School; Nutter Scholarship recipient Daniel O'Keffe to Purdue University; and Wolfe Scholarship recipient Franklin Nesselhuf to University of Northern Texas.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology awaits eleven graduates: Jay Beesemyer, Matthew Bradwick, Nicholas Carter, Thomas Chiasson, Jane Evans, Shane Fink, Daniel Fulcoly, Alexander Horrell, Matthew Knutson, Michael O'Conner and Benjamin Saunders.

Harvard University is the next stop for five graduates who have received scholarships to the John F. Kennedy School of Government: Michael Albert, Nathan Dial, Andrew Werner, Brent Whiteman and Aaron Widener, who received the Bradley Scholarship.

Three others earned the Superintendent's RAND Ph.D. Scholarship at the Pardee RAND Graduate School in Santa Monica, Calif., for a doctoral degree in policy analysis: M. Tyler Haugseth, Jonathan Klenk and Haralambos "Bobby" Theologis.

The Class of 2010 was awarded two Fulbright Scholarships, the flagship international scholarship program sponsored by the U.S. government. David Corpman will begin studies in China, while Jarrod Huffman travels to India.



Photo by Johnny Wilson

Cadet 1st Class Christopher Horn examines an ionic liquid in a chemistry laboratory at the Academy March 15, 2010. Cadet Horn is one of 12 cadets selected to attend medical school after graduation.

Rice University has seven engineering majors slated for grad school. They are Matthew Guertin, Eric Herbort, Millie Mays, Darren Montes, Anthony Puntel, Kathleen Schjodt and Thomas Sukut. Cadets Herbert and Mays are Draper Fellows and will conduct research at Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas.

Additionally, 15 cadets were selected to begin general graduate work at the Air Force Institute of Technology in the Graduate School Program to study a wide range of technical fields, ultimately preparing them to become future faculty members at the Academy. These cadets are Ryan Forystek, Ryan Gaunt, Michael Koslow, Matthew Lipscomb, Matthew Ludwig, Gregory Masters, Lucille McMinn, Andrew McPherson, Jonathan Miller, Trevor Miller, Anthony Mitchell, Istvan Prilezsky, Jason Shank, Robert Steigerwald and Katherine Wallace.

Through the Acquisition Accession Program, several cadets majoring in everything from biochemistry to engineering to behavioral sciences are bound for graduate school. This program sends graduating cadets to the Air Force Institute of Technology and select civilian universities. These cadets are Chloe Angello, John Avrett II, Samuel Barbaro, Andrew Beauchamp, Margaret Blackstun,

Harris Butler, Aaron Canciani, John Cox, Berkley Davis, Simon Ferrel, Kevin Finster, Jack Fitzgerald, Austin Fritzke, Christopher Giacomo, Sara Juback, Christopher Killion, Shawn Killpack, Andrew Klausner, Jessica Schafer, William Shackelford, Danielle Snider, Jonathan Tellefsen and Wilson Tucker.

Five graduating cadets will continue their education right here along the Front Range. Wayne Black IV, Ryan Kerns, Mark Poppler, Gabriel Staples and Joseph Ulisse will begin their graduate studies at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.

Four graduating cadets have received the University of Maryland Scholarship at University of Maryland's School of Public Policy. An important selection criterion is a continuing interest in public policy and service in the public sector and this program awards a master's in public policy. Those cadets are Blake Duffy, Andrea Fantacone, Austin Krohn and Sean Peters.

Michah Paul and Trenton West will put their aeronautical engineering and research skills to work at the University of Washington, a top 25 engineering university, via the university's aeronautical engineering fellowship.

Several of the graduating cadets have been tapped for medical school at institutions across the United States. They are Benjamin Fox, James Gullo, Charlers Haller, Theodore Hart, Christopher Horn, Daniel Hurtt, Kyle Maier, Christopher Ng, Alexander Paladino, Andrew Pan and Rexford Pearce. Additionally, Kelsey Yip's post-graduation assignment is the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

As we remain engaged in two wars, we cannot lose our focus on the need to develop our future leaders. Army Gen. David Petraeus, current Commander of the U.S. Central Command and previous commanding general of Multi-National Force-Iraq, frequently points to his graduate educational opportunities as the most formative in his professional maturation. The deliberate development of the next general officers must focus on education and the 96 cadets mentioned above are continuing down a leadership growth path that prepares them for success in both the Air Force and joint environments. We must continually develop our intellectual capital if we expect to maintain our standing as the world's best air, space and cyberspace force.

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2.27

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1.77

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Not Forgotten: In memory of Lindsay Brown

By 2nd Lt. Meredith Kirchoff
Academy Public Affairs

On Dec. 21, 2007, Cadet 3rd Class Lindsay Brown was killed in a car accident while on leave in her hometown. To this day, her memory is alive and her influence powerful in the lives of those she touched.

Lindsay would have graduated today as a member of the Class of 2010. A native of Rockledge, Fla., she grew up on the pool deck swimming competitively for most of her life. At the Academy, she was a member of Cadet Squadron 05 and the women's swimming and diving team. She is remembered by classmates, teammates, coaches and instructors for her infectious enthusiasm and eternal optimism.

"She was always smiling. Regardless of whether or not she was upset about something she was never angry. It was always, 'Ok, we've got to fix this,'" said Cadet 1st Class Solange Eddy, a friend, classmate and teammate



of Lindsay's. "She was one of those people who never gave up on a situation or a person. There was always a solution."

The 100 butterfly was Lindsay's specialty in the pool, but her desire for the team to be a tight knit group was undoubtedly her greatest contribution said Casey Converse, Air Force head swimming coach.

"The difference between when she was alive on the team and after she passed away was that we really came together," said Cadet 1st Class Meghan Wildner, a close friend of Lindsay's who will go on to be a communications officer following graduation. "She always wanted to have a really close team, and we really pushed for that because we know that's what she would have wanted."

"Casey thinks our class was so pivotal, but I realize that it was really because Lindsay brought us together even though she wasn't there," echoed Cadet Eddy, who will go on to pilot training at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

Facebook pages don't go away when someone dies. Lindsay Brown's page is littered with memories and encouragement in the messages written to her from the time she passed away, and the messages haven't stopped yet.

"I saw the sun coming up on my way to work this morning and for some reason thought of you and how you could light up a room ... missing you," a friend wrote on her Facebook wall just a few days ago.

In light of graduation, a 2009 Academy graduate and squadronmate wrote, "Your picture keeps popping up, miss you tons. You'd be graduating soon and would have made a great officer."

Lindsay's life is commemorated in numerous ways at the Academy. The annual Lindsay Brown memorial triathlon is a hosted by the Academy's triathlon team every fall in memory of Lindsay's drive and dedication, according to the team's website. The swimming and diving team's most inspirational award is now called the Lindsay Brown award in honor of Lindsay's influence on the team.

"The swimmers vote for someone in each class that they think contributes towards great team unity," Coach Converse said. "This person is more about what kind of team we have rather than who is the fastest swimmer — it is more about their contributions to the team."

Relayed by many of her friends is Lindsay's motto, something that showcases and summarizes her attitude on life, "When you put your pants on, put your smile on, and everyone will have a great day."

Judo fighter faces uncertain future with courage

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Cadet 1st Class Joshua Lopez started practicing judo in the fifth grade. While in high school, at Saint Mary's, he coached area youth in the Colorado Springs Parks and Recreation Department and the Police Athletic League and gave a taste of the sport to students at the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind in addition to competing.

At the Academy Preparatory School, he was a member of the wrestling team, and at the Academy proper, he wrestled and helped revive the cadet Judo Club, which now numbers well over 30.

Cadet Lopez set the Academy as his goal at a young age.



"I wanted to come here since the second grade," he said. "I kind of grew up with it in my backyard."

As a two-degree, he focused on qualifying for the World Class Athlete program for the Air Force. He trained regularly at the U.S. Olympic Training Center and arranged for judo team members to practice and work out there as well. His father, Colorado Springs Police Detective Ron Lopez, served as one of several judo coaches both on and off the Academy.

"He pretty much got it started from scratch," said Cadet 1st Class Steve Mudrinich, Cadet Lopez's teammate and roommate. "He made it happen."

Cadet Mudrinich said his roommate certainly was Olympic Judo material.

"A year or more of training and he would have been at that level," he said.

However, after a knee operation that went wrong, Cadet Lopez's future is no longer certain. His future is on hold as he awaits a decision that may disqualify him from receiving a commission once he graduates.

"It would be the hardest thing for me to accept," he said.

Nonetheless, he remains positive about his time

as a cadet, and optimistic about what may come his way after he joins the Long Blue Line.

"I loved coaching," he said. "Teaching a move and seeing teammates win the match is more fulfilling than winning myself."

Teammate Cadet 1st Class Nolan Brock said he benefited from Cadet Lopez's expertise.

"He was always willing to help out to make the team better and keep the team really fresh," he said.

Cadet Lopez said he wants the club to continue to grow. He also carries no small amount of enthusiasm for management, both his major and desired career field.

"I love working with people. The key is to work with their specialties," he said.

Cadet Lopez continues to keep a notebook of ideas for entrepreneurial ideas and said his dream would be to start his own business and earn a Master of Business Administration degree.

"All I can do is focus and move forward. The Academy has set me up to be successful in anything I do," he said. "It's been an amazing experience, and I wouldn't trade it for the world."



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Kan. native spreads musical wings

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Cadet 1st Class Jill Larson hesitated about coming to the Academy in 2007, unsure whether she would have the opportunity to sing, but the Dodge City, Kan., native and Academy Preparatory School graduate was happy to be proven wrong.

Music has given the Falcons and Kansas Jayhawks fan an outlet from the rigors of cadet responsibilities. Even in Basic Cadet Training she would recall singer and songwriter Josh Groban's "Don't Give Up."

Cadet Larson, a member of Cadet Squadron 39, is winding up four years with the Cadet Chorale as this year's president and is also a board member of the Blue Bards theater group. In addition, she sang with the Academy Singers for three years.

While growing up, the daughter of a clergyman had 12 years of both piano and ballet training. In high school she performed in such musicals as "Grease," "Hello, Dolly" and "Guys and Dolls." As a Blue Bard she performed in "Kiss Me Kate" and "Arsenic and Old Lace" and played the lead role in "The Fantastics." She also soloed for Handel's "Messiah" for the last two years in the Cadet Chapel's annual holiday performance.

The Chorale and Academy Singers kept her on the move outside of the Academy as well, with appearances in New York City's Macy's Parade and at

Carnegie Hall and St. Patrick's Cathedral. She and her fellow cadet singers also performed for the Fiesta Bowl and Disney World and audiences in Fort Worth, Texas and for a hometown audience in Kansas.

Cadet Larson, the Chorale's first soprano, fondly recalled traveling to Egypt and Morocco in 2009. While there, she sang "Amazing Grace" for an orphanage. Even though the children could not understand the words, they sat very still.

"It was pretty awesome," she said.

Cadet Larson credits her hometown church congregation and her personal faith for much of her inspiration.

"The congregation helped me grow spiritually and musically," she said. "As for faith, I can't have one without the other."

She has one brother in high school, and her sister, Jami, is in the Academy Class of 2012.

The humanities major loves all kinds of music and learning new pieces and styles. Groban is one of her favorite musicians for his ability to use his voice without electronic tampering. She also enjoys Celine Dion and Canadian singer-songwriter and actor Michael Bublé as well as classical artists such as Mozart, Schubert, Chopin and Franz List.

"They're all incredible," she said.

Outside of the Chorale and Singers practices and performances, she also finds opportunities to sing, namely to songs on her car radio and in the shower.

"The acoustics are so good in there,"

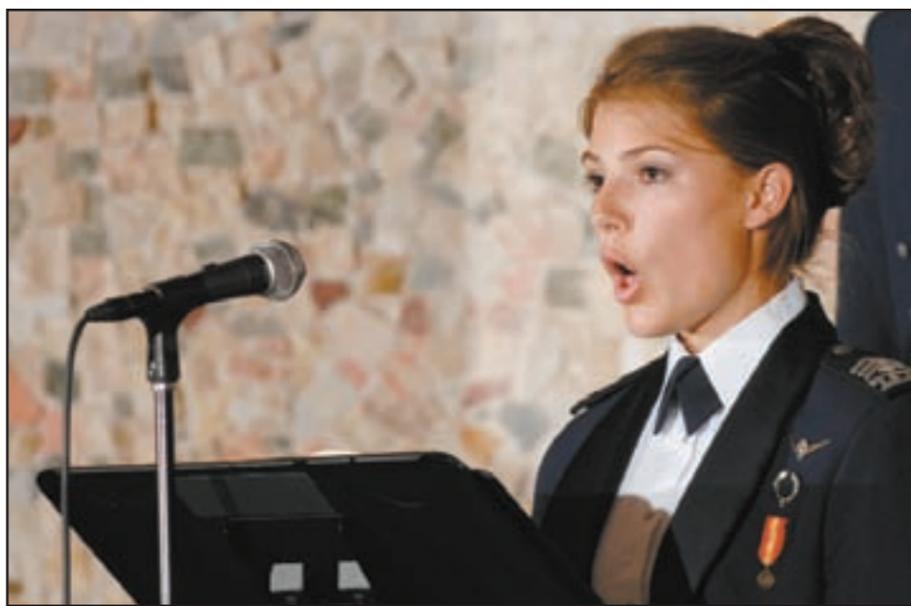


Photo by Cadet 3rd Class Jami Larson

First soprano and Cadet 1st Class Jill Larson takes center stage as soloist during the Cadet Chorale's annual rendition of Handel's "Messiah" in December 2009. Cadet Larson, a native of Dodge City, Kan., will attend intelligence officer school after graduation.

she said with a laugh.

She also enjoys classical literature, acting, shopping and golfing.

Academy Chorale director and music specialist Dr. Joseph Galema praised Cadet Larson for her voice and her contributions.

"Jill has one of the most beautiful soprano voices I've ever experienced," he said. "The lyrical quality is well-suited to Broadway as well as classical music."

He called her leadership of the Chorale "exemplary."

"She truly cares for everyone in the organization and makes sure that all are focused yet have fun," he said.

After graduation, the newly

commissioned 2nd Lt. Larson will head to training as an intelligence officer, her first career choice.

"It is an important career field because troops need to be as safe as possible out there. I want to contribute to that safety and letting them know what they will be up against in the fight," she said.

In the meantime, Cadet Larson remains thankful for her years on the Hill and the friendships she has formed. She also wants to continue with music while in the Air Force.

"This was the best decision I ever made. I have been blessed with all kinds of opportunities," she said.

Graduating Eagle Scouts leave legacy of service

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Scoutmaster Lt. Col. Chris Brooks was putting some Boy Scouts from his troop through basic life-saving techniques in the diving end of the cadet pool when Cadet 1st Class David Arlington, an Eagle Scout, spotted the Scoutmaster's uniform. That chance encounter sparked what is now the Eagles Club, chartered in October 2008.

Cadet Arlington and squadmate Cadet 1st Class Chris Kopp, of Cadet Squadron 39, started the process of forming the club, which last year contributed 14,000 hours of service to area Scouts and non-Scouts in the local community.

"We thought 'Wow, Look at the huge resource we have,'" Cadet Kopp said about his first meeting with Cadet Arlington.

The Eagles Club started out with a core group of 10 cadets. They contacted other cadets by word of mouth and e-mail. About 100 former Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and non-Scout cadets attended the first club meeting.

Club members volunteer with swimming lessons, guest speaking, camp-outs, merit badge counseling, participation in Scout expos and tours and as rangers at Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, N.M. Members also brought the Cub Scouts' Winterspree and Boy Scouts' Freez-o-Ree campouts — events that had been suspended after Sept. 11, 2001 — back to the Academy this year. Each outreach event drew more than 500 area Scouts.

"It is amazing how Colorado Springs jumped at



David Arlington

Chris Kopp

it," Cadet Kopp said of the community's response. "We're swamped."

Cadets Arlington and Kopp started out their Scouting careers as Cub Scouts, Cadet Arlington in Alaska and Cadet Kopp in Georgia. Both became Eagle Scouts.

"I started in third grade and stuck with it ever since," Cadet Kopp said. "It gave me a sense of self. It sounded fun, and I made lots of friends."

Cadet Arlington remembers being in Pack 219 in elementary school and Webelos Troop 230. He, too, credits Scouting for building his leadership skills.

"It was really just fun," Cadet Arlington said but pointed out it also requires a lot of dedication. Before Scouts become Eagles, they are in a receiving mode. After their Eagle awards, they are expected to give back.

Colonel Brooks, the Eagles Club adviser, said the cadets' dedication is readily apparent to others both on and off base.

"These are two of the most selfless cadets I've known in my seven years at the Academy," he said. "Their labors were labors of love. They were having a great time thinking and executing what they wanted to for the club and for scouts in the local area."

He added the Boy Scouts of America Council for the Pikes Peak Region is fully aware of the potential to help area children who see the glass and steel of the Academy but have little or no way to connect with cadets.

"When the local boys and girls see these bright young men and women cadets in the club wanting to give them a day in the snow or have fun with them around a bonfire, they start to develop feelings that this is 'their' Academy, too, and the cadets are 'their' cadets," Colonel Brooks said. He feels the focus, self-confidence and insight into new solutions to old problems learned through Scouting is good preparation for military life.

"These are traits that make good officers, so there's no getting around that the Scout-cadet mix is good and healthy," he said.

Cadet Kopp, a behavioral sciences major, will attend pilot training after graduation, and Cadet Arlington, a social sciences major, will go to intelligence officer training.

"I never dreamed of making the club as impactful as it was. It served the squadron well," Cadet Kopp said.

"The opportunity was definitely something to be proud of," Cadet Arlington said.

2010 cadets take alternative energy to battlefield



By John Van Winkle
Academy Public Affairs

Alternative energy goes mobile to the battlefield with a research project cadets are working on for the U.S. Army.

Cadets 1st Class John Arvett, Nick Bassett, Robert Hayward and Matt Ludwig, who are electrical engineering majors, teamed with Cadet 1st Class Alex Frank, a mechanical engineering major, and Cadet 1st Class Carrie Moore, a systems engineering major, on the green energy capstone project to design, build and test a Humvee-mounted wind turbine for use in the field.

“Basically, this is a vehicle mounted wind turbine, and the purpose of it is to augment the vehicle’s batteries so that when you’re running all the communications equipment that’s actually in a Humvee, you don’t have to idle the engine,” Cadet Arvett said. “As it stands now, when the Humvee is parked, and you’re running this equipment, you have to idle the engine, which burns fuel.”

This cadet research project, a wind turbine bolted to the Humvee’s bumper, aims to stretch the vehicle’s fuel capacity.

The six cadets took the idea from theory to a working product over the course of a semester with a budget of \$5,000. They made most of the components themselves and even took a few creative design turns along the way, including cannibalizing mountain bike remnants for their battlefield alternative energy project.

“I’m an avid mountain biker, and I’ve accrued a fair amount of spare parts over the years on a few broken bikes, so I had some old brakes lying around,” Cadet Arvett said. “We used the same principle that they use on mountain bikes with the calipers and disc rotor and mounted that to a stationary rotor that is actually on the turbine.”

The braking force is about 1,200 pounds, which

exceeded expectations and is far more robust than needed — although this was a requirement never quantified by the user.

“It gives us an ample factor of safety to guarantee that we can stop it in high winds,” said Cadet Arvett.

The cadets, who graduate today, successfully tested their lift-based turbine in one of the Department of Aeronautics’ wind tunnels. Another group of cadets will continue the project in the Fall 2010 semester. Their next steps will address greater compactibility, durability and gear ratios, Cadet Ludwig said.

“The first step is to add a gear ratio to the turbine for the generators,” he said. “You’ll increase the torque demands on the turbine, but you’ll also increase the (revolutions per minute) range at the generator.”

Currently, the wind turbine yields a maximum of about 100 rpms. To increase the output, a 2-1 or 3-1 gear ratio will need to be added to get the turbine up a more robust capacity of 180-200 rpms and greater energy output. After these modifications are in place, cadets will focus on making the turbine easier to break down and better able to handle extreme weather condition ranging from desert to arctic environments, Cadet Ludwig said.

The Green Energy Capstone Team cadets successfully tested the wind turbine and showcased their research at the 2010 Gen. Donald R. Keith Memorial Cadet Capstone Conference April 29 at the U.S. Military Academy. The Air Force Academy cadets’ wind turbine design was submitted in the reengineering system track and won first place in competition among Air Force and West Point cadets and students from civilian institutions.

This project may be something the cadets continue when graduate school comes calling.

“Because the research on this project is so bare bones, there’s not very much out there,” Cadet Arvett said. “You could write a master’s thesis on this.”

Photo by Cadet 1st Class John Arvett II

Cadets 1st Class Matt Ludwig, Robert Haward, Nick Bassett and Alex Frank conduct a system integration test of a wind turbine power system on a Humvee at the Air Force Academy April 28.

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Jason Gallimore
Rebecca Gleason
Ryan Gonzales
Joel Holley
Jonathan Klenk
Andrew Laushine
Hannah Marcelo
Zachary McCarter
Lucille McMinn
Nathan Moeller
Kyle Novac
Grant Parker
Sean Peters
John Rice
David Skelly
Kari Thomas
Kenneth Welborn
Austin Westbrook
Joshua Whiteheart
Nathan Wills



Squadron 2

William Adorno
Kristen Barra
Thomas Bernard
Mohamed Boumezzrag
Christopher Chang
John Dombroski
Kurtis Droppa
Mark Favinger
Jase Garcia
Stephen Grace
Matthew Greenwood
Kimberly Hammernik
Daniel Hill
Roland Kern
Gina Koenigsberger
Jacob Malcolm
Carrie Moore
Mallory Morgan
Christopher Piascik
Christopher Prochnow
Spencer Shibler

Andrew Smith
Peter Sohm
Daniel Wabinga
Katherine Wallace
Travis Whitt



Squadron 3

Cameron Beckett
Karl Bohn
Meghan Booze
Aaron Brockman
Berkley Davis
Catherine Haycraft
Aaron Hines
Chen-Yu Hsu
Winston Jean-Pierre
Rebekah Kepple
Paul Kim
Robert Mashburn
Gregory Masters
Kevin McGuinness
Michael Menna
Edward-Larry Ramirez
Joshua Rhynard
Erlyn Rudico
John Sorce
Jonathan Tellefsen
Joshua Thomson
Richard Tippitt
Matthew Weakley
Michael Winn
Quentin Yip



Squadron 4

Benjamin Ausburn
Bailey Ball
Elizabeth Blair
Jamey Boyd
Nolan Brock
Benjamin Bruckman
Nicholas Charles
James Curran
Benjamin Fox
James Gullo
Shannon Hindley
Brett King
Brent Lavey
Michael Masiello
Kevin McCarthy

Fakhri Mokni
Amanda Peterson
Daniel Puhek
William Reed
Chris Reichelt
Nicholas Sahagun
Eric Straub
Joshua Tempel
Katherine Thompson
Lucia White
Bradley Wolff
Andrew Yaszemski



Squadron 5

Richard Barnes
David Bennett
Joseph Brundidge
Brandon Carter
Jeff Choi
Alexander Clift
Andrew Greenhill
Peter Grooms
Charles Haller
Brian Humphreys
Juliana Jacobellis
William Katz
Joy Lomheim
Anthony Lorenzini
Peter Lusk
Kyle Maier
Zachary McClelland
Andrew McFee
Rebecca Rasweiler-Richter
Nathan Rings
Juan Rojas Camacho
Masha Scheglov
Jesse Swanson
Matthew Zimmer



Squadron 6

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Christopher Bordenave
Logan Clark
Taylor Coffey
Jonathan Cordell
Bryant Davis
Solange Eddy
Amanda Essary
Matthew Fair

Jeffrey Faulkner
Ryan Forystek
Timothy Genda
Arthur Grijalva
Skylor Helm
Stephen Heptig
Kayla Kincade
Christopher Ladehoff
Timothy Mergen
Adam Mikulis
Juan Nolasco
Brett Nylander
Ashley Rivard
Zechariah Roloff
Colin Shumate
William Stainback
Neal Terpstra



Squadron 7

Johnson Anderson
Caleb Becker
Bradley Breedlove
William Crowder
Albert Espinoza
Susan Finch
Christopher Flaute
Paige Grant
Bryan Holtz
Tyler Keener
Erika Kreiner
Alex Larson
Daniel Montplaisir
Daniel O'Keefe
David Ostrom
India Overbey
Andrew Pan
Eric Poole
Evan Roth
Morgan Sayes
Jonathan Stephenson
Aaron Traver
Joseph Valdez



Squadron 8

Kyle Bell
Wayne Black
Joseph Buckingham
Charlton Coats
Brendan de Brun
Mackin Delgado
Laura Dempster
Blake Duffy
Thien Duong
Shane Fink
Todd Gamiles
Benjamin Garoutte
Joseph Hamilton
Jeffrey Hutchins
Scott Levin
Jonathan Lewczyk
Rachel Lovelady
Philip Morrone
Carol Quirindongo-Crespo
James Quon
Jeffrey Reddout
Joshua Schiffer
Kelly Schuetz
Alec Schwartz
Frank Vicari
Bradford Waldie
Vanessa Warwick

Robert Willet



Squadron 9

Metin Alaybeyoglu
Austin Baker
Adam Bartczak
Patrick Bergstresser
Harris Butler
Nicholas Carter
Curtis Dewey
Michele Ernest
Adam Giegler
Blake Horrell
Jacob Jeffcoat
Matthew Lipscomb
Kathryn Lynn
Joshua McFarland
Ryan Nissim
Aaron Price
Christopher Rice
Andrew Riddle
Carl Scott
Sarah Skogsberg
Danielle Snider
Karl Wallskog



Squadron 10

Brianna Baker
Nathan Dial
Lauren Franks
Arthur Gibbons
Justin Goodin
Ralph Hale
Samuel Han
Matthew Haugseth
Benjamin Joelson
Nicholas King
Jessica Laco
Corey Loomis
Joshua Lopez
Millie Mays
Michael McLain
Richard Meldrum
Steven Mudrinich
Samuel Peplin
Spencer Schardein
Benjamin Schimelfening
Justin Shadrix
John ShalekBriski
Calvin Singh
Sara Suniga
Justin Warner
Thomas Whitney



Squadron 11

Felix Abeyta
Stephan Azab
William Boyd
Thomas Chiasson
Andrea Fantacone
Matthew Fullerton
Eric Goral
Colleen Graska
William Hay
Eric Herbort

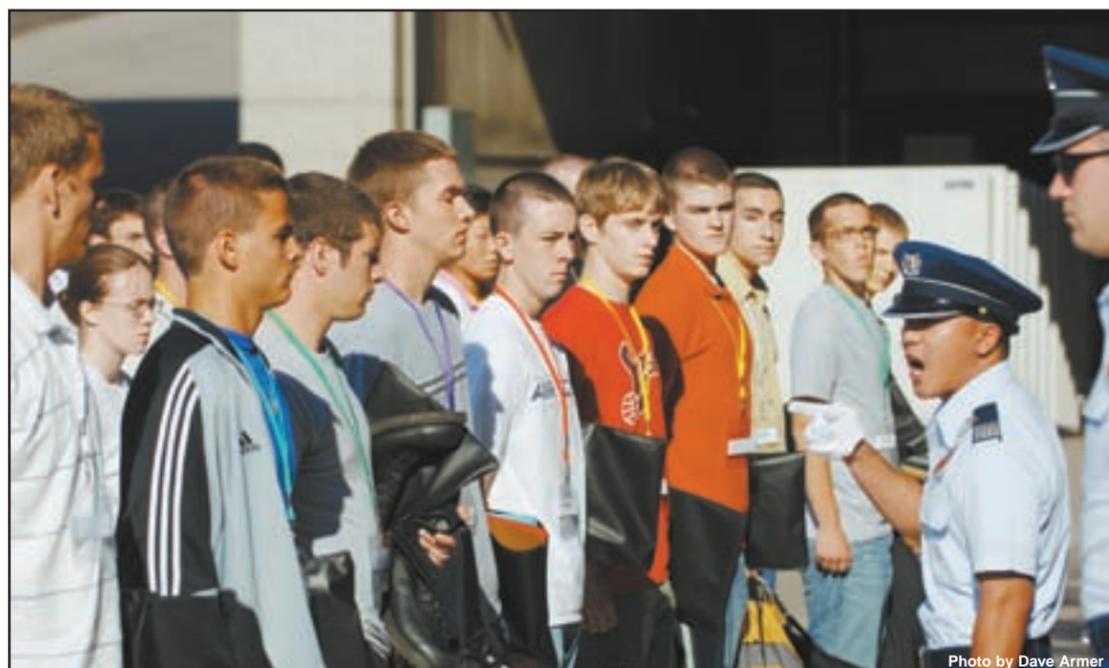


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Christopher Johnson
Sarah McDowell
Broderick Morris
David Musielewicz
Brian Scheller
Michael Skidmore
Joshua Smith
Robert Tentler
Chelsea Tompkins
Timothy Truong
Wilson Tucker
Bradley Wheeler
Jonathan Wieninger
Carrie Wong K

**Squadron 12**

Ivando Arroyo
Jonathan Brateng
Juan Castaneda Velarde
Stephen Donaldson
Sean Foote
Tate Grogan
Madeleine Hanson
Jason Hope
Shelby Judd
Richard Kabanuck
Andrew Kim
Lance Marchesseault
Tyler McBride
Justin Moore
Brittany Morreale
Caroline Ojerio
William Pleasanton
Sean Purio
Benjamin Shoptaugh
William Smith
Shea Speer
Andrew VanTimmeren
Danielle Ward
Trenton West
Gary Whiteman
Reese Williams

**Squadron 13**

Domingo Astiasaran
Scott Ball
Margaret Blackstun
Whitney Bouchard
Clinton Brdlik
David Corpman
Joseph Dilts
Katherine Heflin
Thomas Hopkins
Jarrod Huffman
Joseph Hunt

Akili Joseph
Kevin Kim
Ryan Koerber
Cohan Lammerding
Brandon Lassiter
Craig McGreal
Conor Murphy
Keith O'Brien
Kathryn Parsons
Mark Price
John Rebolledo
Timothy Ryan
Julie Song
Brent Spencer
Dominick Totino
Taylor Verett
Laura Weber
Nathanael Witmyer
Daniel Workman
Mike Youn

**Squadron 14**

Christopher Ahn
Nicholas Batey
Jacob Belka
Haley Brewton
Thomas deCiutiis
Daniel Dreier
Jaclyn Fleming
Adam Gorzkowski
Jeffrey Hajner
Sarah Hoh
Zachary Huppert
Bryan Johnson
William Kirk
Michael Koslow
Brandon Krupa
Steve Lee
Joshua McCormick
Christopher Morin
Megan Peterson
Peter Pfau
Matthew Rice
Bryan Sanchez
Matthew Scott
Richard Wheeler
Helen Wildner
Brett Workman

**Squadron 15**

Kayla Beach
Jocelyn Booker
Clayton Bryant
Rebecca Burditt
Gregory Cappuzzo

Carsen Chun
Jonathan Coffey
Jeffrey Edson
Connor Flynt
David Greer
Dorald Hartenstein
Sara Juback
Alexander Konowka
Trevor Mendenhall
Megan Moulton
Talon Pope
Ashley Reinig
Jordan Roberts
Benjamin Saunders
Victor Shealy
Kelly Snyder
Tyler Swanson
Aaron Widener
Zachary Zimmerman

**Squadron 16**

Patrick Arkwright
Michael Bates
Kirk Bingaman
Thomas Braxton
Alexander Chung
John Cox
James Cruz
Richard Davies
Danielle DePaolis
John Dolan
Nicole Elliott
Aaron Eshkenazi
Jaffet Ferrer-Torres
David Hickle
Jacob Jensen
Christine Kistler
Jacob Lair
Trevor Miller
Michael O'Connor
Micah Paul
Catherine Robertson
Alexander Roosma
Zachary Stroman
Nathanael Thalhoffer
Brian Thorn

**Squadron 17**

Christopher Allen
Stephen Bintz
Shane Crowe
Corey Curtis
James Cushing
Jamie Daugherty
Grant Fleming

Austin Francis
Alexander Horrell
Patrick Houghton
Shawn Killpack
Zayn Knaub
Kyle Knight
Meagan Kuchan
Eric May
Avery Merriex
Samuel Pang
Brandon Paquette
Kyle Rowland
Kathleen Schjodt
David Thompson
Jeremy Van Driessche
Indya Vernon

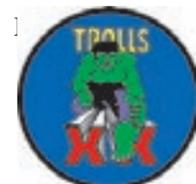
**Squadron 18**

Bruce Bain
Spencer Bell
Matthew Bottorff
Matthew Bradwick
Eric Darwin
Michelle Denise
Christopher Edlund
Ryan Gauntt
Brandon Geyer
Nicholas Goirigolzarri
Theodore Hart
Brandon Johnson
Andrew Layman
Robert Lee
Sondra Lesser
Benjamin Naumann
Thomas Posey
Kamaljit Randhawa
Cristina Richter
Brett Rodgers
Benjamin Schmidt
Erinn Scott
Andrew Waddel

**Squadron 19**

Samuel Barbaro
Kenneth Bidmead

Aaron Canciani
William DiMaio
Jane Evans
Austin Fritzsche
Jason Fung
Ross Gioiosa
Matthew Guertin
Michael Hampton
Christopher Jaglowicz
Scott Jennie
Agnes Kang
John Kuconis
John Lockwood
Jamie McDowall
Andrew Novak
Emma Przybyslawski
Tahichi Richardson
Cameron Rochelle
Michael Rogers
Sean-Michael W Royer
Ruby Tamariz

**Squadron 20**

Samory Abdul-Raheem
Matthew Alexander
Elsa Bohlender
Lucas Catalano
Saj-Uddin El-Amin
Deanna Franzen
Michael Gies
Cameron Henrion
Lauren Kerdavid
Randall Kindle
Anthony Lannigan
Cynthia Lete
Jesse Lind
Frank Martinez
Ashleen McCarthy
John McDonald
Michael Nettis
Thomas Powell
Ryan Schleiden
Jason Shank
Jonathan Slater
Thomas Sukut
Caitlin Suttie
Daniel Tillier
James Walker
Joseph Walton
Mark Watkins
Chelsea Welsh



Photo by Joel Strayer

Class of 2010 Stats

Graduates from the Class of 2009 who enter pilot training incur an active duty service commitment of ten years after earning their wings. For combat systems operators, the service commitment is six years after successful completion of training. All remaining graduates incur a five-year active duty service commitment.

Graduation Class size: 1001 (814 men, 187 women)

Minorities: 240

International students: 15 — one each from Colombia, Algeria, Guatemala, Thailand, Taiwan, Trinidad, Republic of Korea, Romania, Tunisia, Madagascar, Sri Lanka, Bolivia, Singapore, Kenya and Belize

Total number of international graduates since 1959: 281

Sets of twins: 2

Fourth-child graduates: 1

Third-child graduates: 1

Second-child graduates: 45

Second generation graduates: 60

Attending pilot training: 520

Attending navigators training: 24

Attending air battle manager training: 14

Total graduates since 1959:

Male: 38,741 **Female:** 4,123 **Total:** 42,864

Have attained the rank of general: 520
(396 active duty, 316 retired, 8 deceased)



Squadron 21
Edison Abeyta
Lauren Baas
Nicholas Clark
Adam Feliz
Thomas Gorry
Susan Guinane
Anthony Hemphill
Daniel Hickox
William Jones
Matthew Knutson
David Leibrand
Stephen Makuka
Diana McVay
Ashton Miller
Erik Nelson
Franklin Nesselhuf
Theodore Ornelas
Rexford Pearce
Timothy Phillips
Michael Roseburg
Brent Stevens
James Tomlin
Lauren Twitty
Andrew Volkening
Zachary Walker
Zachary White
Timothy Williams
Zachary Ziegler



Squadron 22
Corey Apodaca
John Avrett
Troy Baggs
Joshua Cousins
Jirasak Daochern
Eric de Gruchy
Sean Donnelly
Tyler Gross
Seth Gunn
Michelle Harrington
Calvin Hunter
Myung Kim
Myles McDowell
Austin McKinney
Myles Morales
Sara Neubauer
Jennifer Nolta
Matthew Plourde
Julie Waren
Andrew Werner
Robert Winchester



Squadron 23
Aftan Boudreaux
Daniel Fulcoly
Kevin Gross
Kristin Henry
Kevin Jerde
Althea Johnston
Randy Jones
Ryan Kerns
Jung-Han Kim
Alex Kimber
Andrew Kwon
Dwayne Lyons
David Miller
Jacob Mueller
Brogan O'Toole
Cristina Pawlica
Jonathan Pryor
John Pulli
Robert Rivera
Tamiko Toyama
Gavin Unverfehrt
Kevin Van Hook
Darren Ward
Katie Weber
Justin Wohlford
Albert Yu



Squadron 24
Joseph Andersen
Andrea Brichacek
Andrew Bryant
Jacob Carvalho
Alexander Churnside
Allen Dunn
Ann Hansen
James Hardin
Stephen Harrington
Brittany Hopkins
Andrew Klausner
Ian Lee
Ryan Martelly
Ryan McCoy
Marcus Mosher
Christopher Ng
Ryan Pitts
Jessica Pray
Mbinintsoa Ramarolahy
Matthew Richards
Brett Santana
Clarke Sumerel
Candice Vickroy

Erin Wilson
Nicolas Wright



Squadron 25
Zachary Bartsch
Tyler Beal
John Bowman
Madison Burgess
Christopher Campbell
Scott Hatter
Jeffrey Haub
Erin Keane
David Keller
Oliver Kotelnicki
Frank Mercurio
Darren Montes
Steven Noller
Ryan Norris
Eric Olsen
Istvan Prileszky
Holly Rettig
Evan Robertson
Colin Shepherd
Tiffany Sollmann
Alex Steele
Roy Surita
Cheng Tay
Zane Taylor
Douglas Zschoche



Squadron 26
Michael Bennett
Janna Blardony
Adam Brunderman
Karras Clark
Thomas Cooper
Rachel Crawford
Larry Fairchild
John Falgout
Kevin Finster
Rachel Hall
Anthony Hill
Jack Hines
Mark Jordy
Cale Lamoreux
Jacques Maniguet
Patrick Mobley
Sean O'Keefe
Michael Pak
Joshua Rehder
Evan Rodts
Alison Romanko
Travis Root

Elliott Sahli
Gabriel Staples
Steven Suhrie
Mathew Thomas
Daniel Tortuga
Loyd Truesdale
Vincent Walker



Squadron 27
Joshua Bruder
William Cuchens
Stephanie Davison
Ridge Flick
David Garcia
Benjamin Garland
Daniel Hurtt
Thiago Huxley
Josef Kallevig
Victoria Lalich
Anthony Lavy
Matthew Ludwig
Anthony Mascaro
Randall Mitchner
John Moore
Angela Mornese
Harold Parker
Ross Perry
Jordan Pierson
Stephen Renner
Sara Schmitt
Brenda Song
Robert Steigerwald



Squadron 28
Ryan Albrecht
Thomas Bowen
Michael Bruton
Mark Douglass
Jason Epperly
Evangeline Fleischaker
Nicholas Frawley
Jared Gomez
Jared Goss
Blaine Hainebach
Sean Harte
Adrian Haywas
Jacob Johnston
Steven Meyer
Ikechukwu Nwaelele
Mark Poppler
Anthony Puntel
Taylor Ragland
Ric Rebulanan

Daniel Richardson
Benjamin Schmidt
Melissa Sidwell
Joshua Slocum



Squadron 29
Michael Albert
Jonathan Benson
Anthony Blankenberger
Aaron Brugman
Keane Carpenter
Frederick Diederich
Stacey Fenton
Paul Gannett
Ryan Gipson
Christopher Hartman
William Jensen
Corey Lohmiller
Nicole Mancos
Gordon Randall
Scott Robinson
Wayne Salls
Jessica Schafer
Jason Sewell
Kristen Smith
Morgan Trevarthen
Joseph Walz



Squadron 30
Mychol Alexander
Andrew Anderson
Stephen Cruickshank
Chad Everett
Ryan Fortney
Ryan Hess
Carsten Hobbs
Casey Hong
Jenna Lindquist
Matthew Lundquist
Danielle McCarty
Andrew McPherson
Tyler Melzer
William Miller
Joel Nolan
Steven Riedl
Samuel Sheppard
William Sims
Joram Smith
Chi Sun
Courtney Swaney
Anthony Tipton
Bryan Watson
Marshall Wills



Photo by Joel Strayer

**Squadron 31**

Marcus Alvidrez
Jorge Ballesteros
Katie Batchelder
Brenton Byrd-Fulbright
Natalie Doede
Gregory Edmonds
Peter French
Mason Gordon
James Greener
Jennifer Haden
Richard Heiden
Chamberlain Herndon
Nathan Jolls
Kenneth Kaczmarek
Calvin Kress
Robert Louder
Justin Miller
Adam Page
James Pfeiffer
Zachary Ritter
Dylan Smith
Haralambos Theologis
Joseph Ulisse
Frank Von Heiland
Michael Zeleski

**Squadron 32**

Megan Biles
Joshua Bouquio
Christopher Clawson
Daniel Cohoon
Nora El Oueslati
Braden Gross
Nicole Hartig
Peter Kaszynski
Christopher Killion
Jae Kim
Matthew McPhail
Eric Meyer
Abigail Nickels
Justin North
Patrick O'Neill
David Pool
Sean Quintana
William Ray
Tiffanie Richardson
Alexander Shin
Gary Smith
Ian Talbot
Benjamin Thomas
Amanda Warren
Benjamin Williams

Christopher Wolford
Alexander Yee

**Squadron 33**

Charles Arden
Seung-Min Baik
Andrew Bolint
Alicia Bouges
Blake Brooks
Austin Cardenas
Arlon Carroll
John Doeseckle
Lewis Dummermuth-Boss
Mark Hammond
Michael Harencak
Lauren Hettich
Christopher Hunter
Luke Hyder
Walter Lange
Andrei Macarescu
Samuel Mansen
Jessica Mapes
Matthew McCandless
Brian O'Connor
Melissa Perkins
Jack Raine
Cary Reeves
David Rodriguez
Matthew Ross
Autumne Wells
Michael Wojciechowicz
Diana Wong
Christopher Yuen

**Squadron 34**

Christopher Bean
Samuel Boone
Lindsey Briggs
Michael Brown
Matthew Cook
Matthew Durham
Simon Ferrel
Alexander Frank
Katelyn Hunter
Clifford Jones
Derrick Kline
Sarah Littlefield
Michael McDonald
Marcellus McKinley
Steven Pollock
Alicia Quaco
Radhika Ranaweera
Christopher Smith

Brendan Sullivan
Andrea Wise
Cody Yenter

**Squadron 35**

Leanne Caballer
Robert Capparelli
Sara Chapman
Anthony Christian
Tarasita Davis
Michael Erickson
Daniel Everett
Jacque Harrier
Robert Hayward
Dane Jansson
Adam Johnson
Brittany Keiper
Austin Krohn
Kile Kuzma
Isaac Metroka
Akira Nervik
Zachary Nordahl
Neil Pfau
Matthew Roland
Todd Smith
Kyle Spitzer
Kurt Spranger
Robert Tonio
Benjamin Zumstein

**Squadron 36**

Cody Armstrong
Taylor Baughn
Benjamin Brice
James Cornell
Jordan Craft
Quinton Croff
Harry Dale
Austin Fallin
Justin Fisk
Stephanie Frick
Daniel Hann
Christopher Hanson
Daniel Hill
Carolyn Koval
Michael Langley
Christopher Molstad
Ashley Myers
John Oliphint
Alexander Paladino
David Peck
Richard Ross
Emma Rush

Christopher Thomas
Cory Tintzman
Gilbert Valdes
Andrew Ward
Kelsey Yip

**Squadron 37**

Chloe Angello
Jay Beesemyer
Cameron Bowsky
Jonathan Bucey
Brandon Burfeind
Ajay Dua
Gregory Fromknecht
Ambrose Garcia
Addison Gentry
Philip Husk
Ashley Langston
Stephen Larson
Kevin LeRoux
Jonathan Miller
Anthony Mitchell
Michael Moroz
Jason Perry
Derek Potter
Selena Rodts
Kyle Schemenaur
Brett Troutman
David Urban
Kyle Van Valkenburg
Adam Wickley

**Squadron 38**

David Anderson
Franklin Baker
Andrew Beauchamp
Morgan Bennett
Matthew Buscemi
Justus Carey
Matthew Deming
Jennifer Ebert
Quinn Evans
Jack FitzGerald
Tyler French
Christopher Giacomo
Gabriel Guzman
Joseph Ignatowski
Brennan Jones
Caitlin Lynch
Aaron Nelson-Kelley
Charles Reynolds
Kevin Rosser
Claudia Santos

Jared Wagner

**Squadron 39**

David Arlington
Garrett Canter
Reed Elsbernd
Erin Ferderer
Joshua Gelsomino
Sean Guerrero
Matthew Harmon
Joseph Henn
Derek Jelinek
Jack Jessop
Christopher Kopp
Zachary Landecker
Joshua Lapso
Jill Larson
Sean Long
Joseph Lopez
Whitney Martin
Jonathan Ruiz
Tyler Russon
Scott Schweitzer
Ryne Seeto
William Shackelford
Cristofer Shumaker
Linea Stuckey
Edmund Ward

**Squadron 40**

Katherine Anderson
William Baker
Christopher Carillo
Michael Dobransky
Devon Ford
Brittney Garrett
James Godfrey
Peter Guzowski
Christopher Horn
Brock Logan
Christopher Lovas
Maxine Lucas
Lauren McKinnon
Houston Nelson
William Percoski
Cameron Ross
Chad Rubin
Daniel Shea
Samuel Smith
Patrick Solheid
Christie Taylor
Ronald Todd
Daniel Walker
William Weindel



Photo by John Van Winkle

Class of 2010 Career Fields

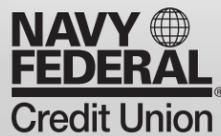
Pilot 520	Air Battle Manager 14
Intelligence 52	Finance 13
Comm 49	Cost Analysis 7
Acquisitions 47	Missile Maintenance 7
Developmental Engineer 42	Weather 7
Space & Missile Ops 40	OSI 6
Scientist 29	Public Affairs 5
Logistics 26	Airfield Ops 5
Force Support 25	Medical Service Corps 4
Navigator 24	Comm-Info Engineer 3
Aircraft Maintenance 23	Combat Rescue Officer 3
Civil Engineering 19	Special Tactics Officer 3
Contracting 18	ALO 1
Security Forces 17	



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Athletic department recognizes 2010 outstanding student athletes

By Athletic Communications

Air Force athletics recognized several cadet-athletes as the end of the 2009-10 sports season is approaching. Senior hockey player Andrew Volkening and senior track and field athlete Sara Neubauer were named male and female athletes of the year, respectively. Senior football player Nick Charles won the athletic leadership award, while senior track and field standout Nick Frawley won the athletic excellence award. Senior cross country athlete Brittany Morreale won the scholar-athlete award and senior fencer Peter French was awarded the athletic achievement award.

Male Most Valuable Athlete:

Senior goaltender Andrew Volkening earned the Chuck Delich Award as the hockey team's MVP. This award, voted on by the team, is named after the Falcons' all-time leading scorer and program's third head coach. Volkening is only the second player in school history to earn the MVP award three straight years (goaltender Kim Newman in 1969, 1970 and 1971 is the other). This season, Volkening led an inexperienced Falcon team to its fourth straight winning season and a third-place finish in the Atlantic Hockey Association. He holds nearly every goaltending record at the Air Force Academy, including season and career wins, season and career saves percentage, season and career goals-against average and season and career shutouts. A second-team all-conference selection this season, he was among the league leaders with a 2.44 goals-against average and a .918 saves percentage. Volkening became the fourth Falcon in as many years to compete in the NCAA Frozen Four Skills Challenge. As one of two male goaltenders on the West Team, Volkening did not allow a goal in two separate events as the West team was victorious over the East.

Female Most Valuable Athlete:

Sara Neubauer saved her best for last, setting four Academy records, winning

two Mountain West Conference titles and pacing the women's team to its first-ever Military Championship team title. During the indoor season, Neubauer improved her own Academy standard in the shot put during six of 10 meets, while breaking the program standard in the weight throw and upping that mark on four more occasions. With conference championships in the shot put and weight throw, Neubauer became the first MWC athlete to sweep the throwing titles since 2006. Neubauer capped off her indoor season with a 15th-place finish in the shot put at the NCAA Championships. Neubauer's success continued into the outdoor season, as she increased her own Academy records in the shot put and hammer throw. Highlighted by three meet records, the senior won all four throwing titles at the Military Championships to lead the Falcons to their first-ever team title.

Scholar Athlete Award:

Brittany Morreale, a member of the Air Force cross country and track teams, became the 11th cadet-athlete to ever receive a Rhodes Scholarship. Earning a major in physics and a minor in Japanese, Morreale is a member of the Academy's Scholars Program. Morreale spent four years as a member of the Falcons' cross country team, including serving one year as captain and earning the MVP award in 2008. She also spent three years on the track and field team, setting the freshman and sophomore class records in the 5000-meter run. As a senior, Morreale competed in five cross country meets, including a team-leading performance at the Colorado State Open.

Athletic Leadership Award:

Senior offensive lineman Nick Charles earned second-team all-Mountain West Conference honors for the third straight season. But it was his leadership that was key to the Falcons earning their third straight bowl appearance and first bowl win since 2000. A team captain for the 2009 Armed Forces Bowl, Charles was on the Outland Trophy Watch List, an



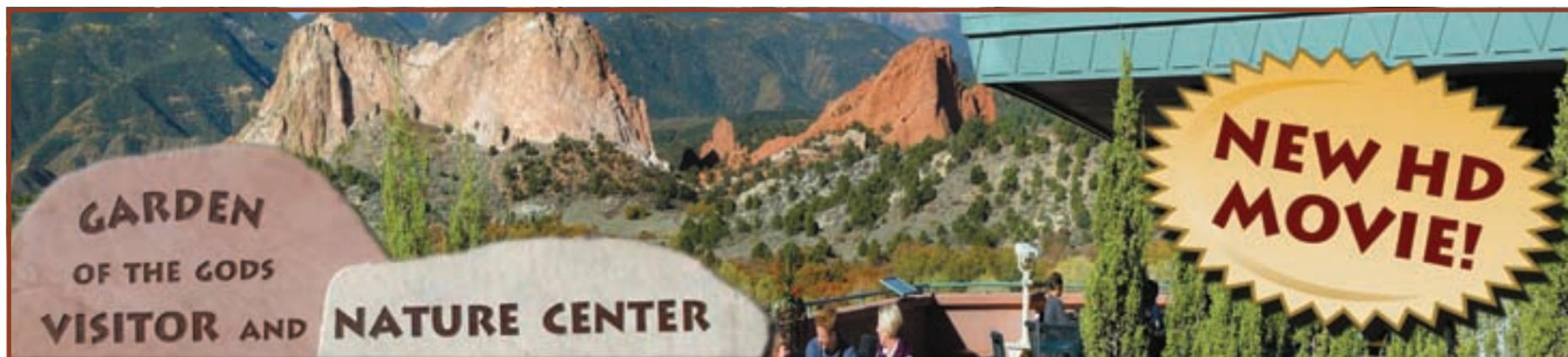
award given to college football's top interior lineman, and the Lombardi Watch List, given to the top lineman in the nation. A nominee for the Allstate/AFCA Good Works Team, Charles anchored an offensive line that paved the way for the team to lead the conference and rank third in the nation with 273.6 yards per game.

Athletic Excellence:

Nick Frawley won his second indoor pole vault title in February, leading the Falcons to the top two places at the annual conference meet. NCAA provisional qualifier, Frawley set a season-best, team-leading clearance of 17'7¾" at the Don Barrett Duals. During the indoor season, Frawley was a two-time Mountain West Conference Athlete of the Week, while winning the pole vault outright in three meets and finishing as the top collegiate vaulter in two others. During the outdoor season, Frawley placed first at the Military Championships with a meet record clearance. Despite being hampered by injury, the senior leads the Falcons – and is currently ranked second in the conference – with a season-best clearance of 17'4½".

Outstanding Athletic Achievement:

Senior Peter French has been one of the fencing program's most successful athletes. During his four-year career, French, a native of Austin, Texas, brought sportsmanship recognition to the Academy and to the program as the 2007-08 MWC Hal Rothman Sportsmanship Award and NCAA Sportsmanship Award recipient. French is the program's highest ranked fencer in the U.S. Fencing Association point standings (fifth). He is a three-time NCAA Men's Epee All-American and earned honors as NCAA All-West Region selection three times. While at the Academy, he amassed a 182-57 collegiate record. At the 2010 NCAA Men's and Women's Fencing Championships, he won the silver medal in men's epee and helped lead the five-member squad to a 12th-place finish, the team's highest finish in seven years. He was the Falcons' top competitor in over half of the men's epee competitions from 2006-2009. French has become a world class athlete throughout his career competing in both the Junior and Senior World Cups in Slovakia, Germany, Hungary, Switzerland and Spain.



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Athletes earn 2010 'most valuable' honors

By Athletic Communications

Men's Cross Country: Junior Justin Tyner had a standout season for the Falcons, earning all-conference and all-region honors, as well as a berth at the NCAA Cross Country Championships. The junior picked up the program's best finish at the national meet since 2004, as he placed 71st among 250 of the nation's top runners. Tyner was the top-finishing Air Force runner in four meets. Pacing Air Force at both the 8K and 10K distances, Tyner was an all-conference (third-place) and all-region (fifth-place) selection. In addition, he recorded strong finishes at the Pre-Nationals (21st) and Roy Griak (fifth) Invitational, while earning MWC Athlete of the Week honors.

Women's Cross Country: Senior Ally Romanko was the Falcons' top finisher in every meet she competed in this season, including the Pre-Nationals Meet and NCAA Regional Championships. Her Pre-Nationals time of 22:24.1 was the fastest 6K time on the team in 2009, while she also accounted for the fastest 4K time (15:29.02) at the season-opening UCCS Rust Buster Invitational. Romanko finished fourth at the Rust Buster to guide the women to a first-place finish in the team standings.

Football Overall MVP: Senior Ben Garland was named second-team all-MWC while leading the team in sacks with 4.5 and tackles for loss with 10.5. He ranked ninth in the MWC in tackles for loss with .81 per game and had at least one TFL in nine of 13 games this season. Garland also blocked two kicks (FGs vs. New Mexico and BYU) to lead the team.



Photo by John Van Winkle

Ben Garland

Football Most Valuable Offensive Player: Senior Peter Lusk was a second-team all-MWC selection while leading an offensive line that was one of the strengths of the team. Air Force won its 26th conference rushing title in 2009, while finishing third nationally in rushing with an average of 283.5 yards per game.

Football Most Valuable Defensive Player: Senior Chris Thomas helped lead one of the top defenses in school history. An honorable mention all-MWC selection, Thomas recorded a team and season-high 12 tackles, a tackle for loss and two interceptions vs. Houston in the Armed Forces Bowl. He was second on the team in interceptions with five and closed his career with 18 career turnovers (8 INT, 3 FF, 7 FR).

Football Most Valuable Lineman/Special Teams Player: Senior punter Brandon Geyer was an honorable mention



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Brandon Geyer

all-MWC selection. He finished fourth in the MWC and 24th nationally in punting with a 43.0 yard per game average. He led the conference and was sixth nationally in net punting with a 39.5 average. Geyer earned MWC player of the week honors vs. Army while averaging 48.2 yards on six punts, including a 46.7 net average. Men's Soccer: Kevin Rosser, a senior from San Jose, Calif., started all 15 games he played in during the 2009 season. He finished second on the team in scoring with 11 points on three goals and five assists. His five assists tied for the team lead. Rosser had one game-winning goal, a penalty kick in a 1-0 victory over New Mexico. He was second on the team in total shots with 33 and tied for second with 10 shots on goal. Rosser earned first-team all-MPSF honors in 2009.

Women's Soccer: Sophomore defender Cassie Wilson was named Air Force women's soccer team MVP. Wilson, a native of Spring, Texas, was one of four Falcons to start all 18 games on the season. Wilson was Air Force's lead defender, assigned the role of guarding the opponent's top scorer.

Water Polo: Senior Alex Churnside was named the Air Force water polo MVP for the 2009 season. Churnside, named an honorable mention All-American during his final campaign, finished the year ranked second on the team with 86 points, including a team-best 49 assists. He ended his career as the fifth-leading scorer in school history with 276 career points. In addition, he ranks second all-time at the Academy with 131 career assists and is third in career steals with 198. A first-team All-WWPA honoree, Churnside was also the winner of the team's Most Inspirational Award.

Volleyball: Junior Nichole Stilwell, who played in every set this year for the Falcons, led the squad in hitting percentage (.236) and ranked second kills per set (2.57), solo blocks (10), assisted blocks (49), total blocks (59) and points (284.50). She became the first Air Force player since 2003 to earn the Mountain West Conference Athlete of the Week award after a stellar weekend (3.57 kills, 1.00 blocks, .455 hitting percentage) at the Sugar Bear Classic. She was a two-time all-tournament team selection, claiming the honors at the Sugar Bear Classic and LaSalle Tournaments.

Men's Basketball: Grant Parker, a senior forward from Aurora, Colo., led the team by averaging 12.7 points per game and finished second on the squad with 4.4

rebounds per game. He missed 10 games this season due to an injury, but scored in double figures in 10 of his 14 games since returning to the team. He notched a career-high 26 points in the season opener against Western State, the most points by an Air Force player in a season-opening game since 1997. He had the first double-double of his career with 25 points and 11 rebounds against Charleston Southern and also had a double-double at Missouri State with 15 points and 10 boards.

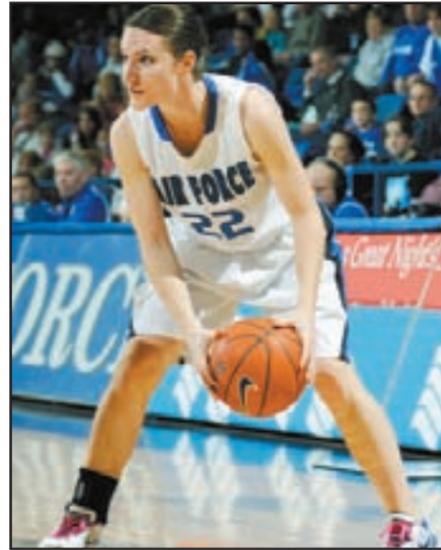


Photo by J. Rachel Spencer

Raimee Beck

Women's Basketball: Junior guard Raimee Beck, a native of Blackfoot, Idaho, led Air Force in scoring and rebounding, averaging 13.5 points and 6.4 rebounds per game. Beck, who earned All-Mountain West Conference Honorable Mention honors, set an Air Force Division I era record with 405 points on the season. She also led the team in three-point baskets, free-throws made, attempted and percentage, and minutes per game. Beck also tied the all-time school record with 173 career three-point baskets. She became the 12th player in school history to reach the 1,000 career point mark. Beck is the first junior to reach the mark in the Div. I era.

Men's Fencing: Michael O'Connor was the Falcons' men's saber senior team leader. While at the Academy, he earned all-region honors four times and amassed a 105-89 collegiate record. He is a four-time MWC Scholar Athlete in astronautical engineering (2006-2009). He has received the team's outstanding academic performance award four times. He was a seven-time men's saber open champion and a 2007 NCAA qualifier (24th). He has made the dean's list and commandant's all seven semesters, athletics and superintendent's five times each. He was the 2009 and 2010 men's team captain.

Women's Fencing: Senior Jennifer Nolta of Reston, Va. was the 2010 women's team captain. She took the women's epee team to a combined 57 wins at both the Brandeis and Duke meets. She concluded her Academy career with five top-10 finishes at the Nick Toth Open, the Falcon Open, the New Mexico Open and the Amarillo Open.

Men's Gymnastics: Nash Mills completed his remarkable comeback from a season-ending injury as a freshman to become a two-time USAG champion as a junior. Mills claimed USAG national titles in the all-around and on the parallel bars to lead the Falcons to their first-ever USAG team title. Mills set the Academy record on

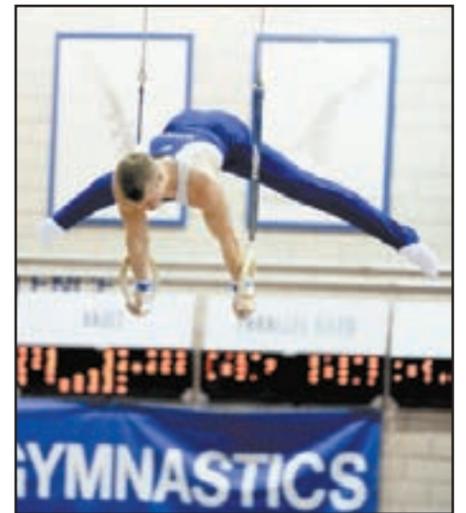


Photo by Johnny Wilson

Nash Mills

the parallel bars, while holding the program's vault record for part of the season. The team leader on the parallel bars, high bar and all-around, Mills was a two-time Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Gymnast of the Week, while claiming a pair of national honors from the College Gymnastics Association.

Women's Gymnastics: Jenna Dudley had a stellar sophomore season, en route to becoming the youngest Falcon to earn the team's top honor since 2000. She earned career-best marks on the vault (9.800, twice), balance beam (9.750, twice), floor exercise (9.825) and all-around (38.850), while recording a season-best 9.700 on the uneven bars. Dudley claimed a pair of USAG All-America honors (all-around, uneven bars), while becoming the first Air Force athlete to earn the vault title at the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Championships. She was a two-time MPSF Gymnast of the Week, a three-time all-conference selection and a participant at the NCAA Regional Championships.

Hockey: Senior goaltender Andrew Volkening earned the Chuck Delich Award



Photo by Mike Kaplano

Andrew Volkening

as the hockey team's MVP. This award, voted on by the team, is named after the Falcons' all-time leading scorer and program's third head coach. Volkening is only the second player in school history to earn the MVP award three straight years (goaltender Kim Newman in 1969, 1970 and 1971 is the other). This season, Volkening led an inexperienced Falcon team to its fourth straight winning season and a third-place finish in the Atlantic Hockey Association. He holds nearly every goaltending record at the Air Force Academy, including season and career wins, season and career saves percentage, season and career goals-against average and season and career shutouts. A second-team all-conference selection this season,

he was among the league leaders with a 2.44 goals-against average and a .918 saves percentage. Volkening became the fourth Falcon in as many years to compete in the NCAA Frozen Four Skills Challenge. As one of two male goaltenders on the West Team, Volkening did not allow a goal in two separate events as the West team was victorious over the East.



Tom Chandler

File Photo

Rifle: Senior Thomas Chandler finished the season with a 2558.6 aggregate in the fall, winter and spring air gun championships and finished 13th at the 2009 Winter Air Gun Championships in December 2009. He went on to a ninth-place finish at the World Air Gun Team tryouts. AFA's top shooter in the 2010 NCAA Qualifier match against TCU (588/600 air rifle; 580 in smallbore) and had the team's highest scores in both guns versus The Citadel with a 588 in air rifle and 581 in smallbore. Chandler also broke two school team records during the President's Trophy Match at West Point and had the highest aggregate air rifle score for an AFA shooter with a 592/600 and the highest overall score of the match. He also had the highest total aggregate of 1,178, previously set in 2006.

Boxing: Senior Cory Tintzman capped off an impressive Air Force career with his first National Collegiate Boxing Association (NCBA) national title. Competing in the 195-pound weight class, Tintzman posted a perfect 9-0 record on the season. Highlighting his undefeated year was his third Wing Open title, his third NCBA regional title and his third NCBA All-America selection. Tintzman, who served as the team captain during both the regular season and championship season, collected eight wins against NCBA opponents and was selected as the Academy's Boxer of the Week on four occasions.

Men's Swimming: Junior Benjamin Gunn was named the Air Force men's swimming MVP for the second straight season. For the second-consecutive year, Gunn garnered all conference honors in three individual events. He defended his Mountain West Conference title in the 200 IM with a school and conference-record time of 1:47.22. In addition, Gunn, a two-time All-MWC performer in the butterfly events, competed in the backstroke events this season, finishing as the conference runner-up in both the 100 and 200 back. His mark of 48.64 in the 100 backstroke was a school record, while his time of 1:46.28 in the 200 back was just one one-hundredth off the Air Force record. Gunn, who now owns four school records, posted NCAA 'B' marks in all three of his individual events at the MWC Championships. He also earned all-conference honors on three relays (200 medley, 400 medley and 400

free), recording NCAA provisional times in each of those events as well.

Women's Swimming: Sophomore Katharine Ernst was named the Air Force women's swimming MVP for the 2009-10 season. Ernst earned a pair of all-conference accolades in her first year as an All-MWC performer, placing fourth in the 100 butterfly and seventh in the 200 fly. Her time of 56.10 in the 100 fly ranks as the third-fastest in Academy history. Meanwhile, she clocked a time of 2:03.54 in the 200 fly, which is nearly one second faster than the previous school record, and now ranks third on the Air Force top-10 list.

Wrestling: Freshman Cole VonOhlen, the Falcons' starter at 141 pounds, was chosen as the 2009-10 Air Force wrestling team MVP. The lone Air Force representative at the NCAA Championships this season, VonOhlen finished his rookie campaign with a 31-9 overall record. Ranked 18th in the nation at 141 pounds, at the conclusion of the regular season, VonOhlen brought home a second-place finish at the 2010 NCAA West Regional to earn second-team All-WWC honors. He was also the unanimous choice at WWC Freshman of the Year, as voted on by the league's coaches. In addition, VonOhlen was the recipient of the team's Most Falls Award, winning 12 matches by fall this season.

Baseball: Senior first baseman Addison Gentry was named Air Force baseball team MVP. Heading into the final weekend of baseball action, Gentry led the Falcons with 11 home runs, .339 batting average, .643 slugging percentage and 30 walks in 43 games played. He also leads the team by batting .338 in Mountain West Conference play, hitting six homers and posting 23 RBIs. He ranks among the MWC top 10 in eight categories. The left-hander ranks in the Air Force top 10 all-time in games played, doubles, hits, RBIs and walks.



Photo by Bill Evans

Ridge Flick

Lacrosse: Senior Ridge Flick, a starting attackman for the past two seasons, was chosen as the 2010 Air Force lacrosse team MVP. One of the Falcons' team captains, Flick ranked second on the team in points (27) and assists (12) for the 2010 season. Present on the field nearly every minute of every game, Flick was a leader off the field as well, holding the team's highest GPA as an aeronautical engineering major, while also being named one of 10 finalists for the prestigious Lowe's Senior CLASS Award.

Golf: Senior Tom Whitney was selected as the 2009-10 Air Force golf team MVP. A two-time All-Mountain West Conference selection, Whitney ended the regular season with a school-record 71.41 season stroke average. In addition to winning the Triumph at Pauma Valley in March, Whitney posted five top-three

finishes, seven top-five finishes and 10 top-10 finishes on the season. Whitney, one of the top 100 collegiate golfers in the nation, was also named one of six finalists for the prestigious Byron Nelson Award. For the second-straight season, Whitney was also selected to compete in an NCAA Regional.

Men's Tennis: Lance Wilhelm, a freshman from Gig Harbor, Wash., led the Falcons with 20 overall singles wins and 13 dual match wins in 2009-10. All of his 13 dual match wins were at the No. 1 position, the most at that spot by a Falcon since Shannon Buck had 18 in 2006. Wilhelm opened the season with a 6-3, 6-4 triumph over Yannick Weihs of Denver, the Mountain Region's second-ranked player, and posted AFA's first singles victory over BYU since 2006 with a 6-1, 3-6, 7-6(2) victory over Evan Urbina in his first career MWC match.

Women's Tennis: Christen Monreal, a junior from San Antonio, Texas, played the majority of the 2009-10 season at No. 1 singles. She tied for fourth on the team with two singles victories against MWC opponents, winning the No. 1 match against New Mexico and Colorado State. She posted 18 overall singles wins and won 10 matches at the No. 1 position. She was also second on the team with 20 doubles wins.

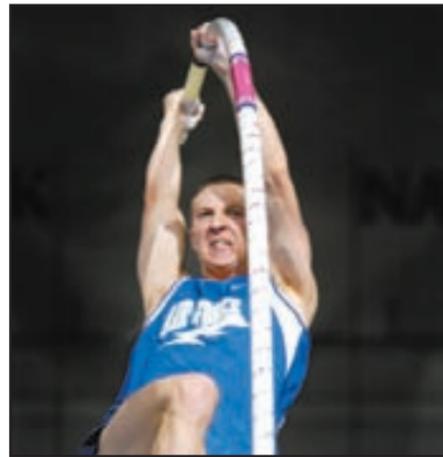


Photo by Mike Kaplan

Nick Frawley

Men's Track and Field: Senior Nick Frawley won his second indoor pole vault title in February, leading the Falcons to the top two places at the annual conference meet. An NCAA provisional qualifier, Frawley set a season-best, team-leading clearance of 17'7¾" at the Don Barrett Duals. During the indoor season, Frawley was a two-time Mountain West Conference Athlete of the Week, while winning the pole vault outright in three meets and finishing as the top collegiate vaulter in two others. During the outdoor season, Frawley placed first at the Military Championships with a meet record clearance. Despite being hampered by injury, the senior leads the Falcons, and is currently ranked second in the conference, with a season-best clearance of 17'4½". He claimed all-conference honors in at the outdoor conference championships, behind a third-place finish.

Women's Indoor Track and Field: Senior Sara Neubauer saved her best for last, setting four Academy records, winning four Mountain West Conference titles and pacing the women's team to its first-ever Military Championship team title. During the indoor season, Neubauer improved her own Academy standard in the shot put during six of 10 meets, while breaking the program standard in the weight throw and upping that mark on four more occasions. With conference championships in the shot put and weight throw, Neubauer became the first MWC athlete to sweep the



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Sara Neubauer

throwing titles since 2006.

Neubauer capped off her indoor season with a 15th-place finish in the shot put at the NCAA Championships. Neubauer's success continued into the outdoor season, as she increased her own Academy records in the shot put and hammer throw. Highlighted by three meet records, the senior won all four throwing titles at the Military Championships to lead the Falcons to their first-ever team title. Neubauer went on to win two outdoor conference titles, taking first in the shot put and discus throw. A team captain, Neubauer also finished third in the hammer throw and javelin throw at the conference meet, becoming the first MWC athlete ever (male or female) to earn all-conference honors in all four throwing events.

Men's Track and Field Outstanding Competitor: Junior Justin Tyner, who earlier this year was named the MVP of the cross country team, continued his breakout season on the track. Tyner claimed All-America status at the NCAA Indoor Championships, as he finished third in the 5000-meter run. In addition to finishing as the top American runner in that event, Tyner posted the Falcons' best finish in a track event at the national championships since 1984. Tyner became a MWC champion during the indoor season, as he won the 3000-meter run with the third fastest time in conference history. Tyner also claimed indoor all-conference honors in the 5000-meter run, with a second-place finish in that race. He set Academy records in the indoor 5000-meter run, the outdoor 1500-meter run and the outdoor 5000-meter run, while posting the second fastest time in program history in the 3000-meter steeplechase. An all-conference honoree at the 5000-meter distance at the outdoor meet, Tyner is ranked among the nation's elite in all three of his races.

Women's Track and Field Outstanding Competitor: Senior Ally Romanko, the most valuable runner of the 2010 women's cross country team, made several impacts on the track and field record books this year. Romanko set the Academy record in the 800-meter run during the indoor season, while recording the second-fastest time ever at that distance during the outdoor season and moving into fifth in the 1500-meter run. She also ran a leg of the third-fastest 4x400-meter relay team in Academy history. She won the 800- and 1500-meter races at the Military Track and Field Championships, helping Air Force to win its first-ever team title. She also scored for the Falcons in the 800-meter run at the MWC Championships, placing fifth at the indoor meet and eighth at the outdoor meet.

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