

# USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO ACADEMY SPIRIT

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Photo by Dennis Rogers

## Accepted

Members of the Class of 2013 pinned on their first military ranks Wednesday after the Acceptance Parade on Stillman Field. The parade marked the acceptance of 1,306, of the original 1,387, basic cadet trainees, who in-processed June 25, officially into the cadet wing as fourth-class cadets. The new "doolies" began their academic semester Thursday. Aside from their military training, athletic competitions and character development activities, each new cadet will take 15 fall-semester hours.

# Inaugural UAS class pins on wings

By Ann Patton  
Academy Spirit staff

Members of the first class of the Academy's Unmanned Aerial System and Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance Education Program received their UAV wings during a ceremony Tuesday in the conference room of the dean of the faculty in Fairchild Hall.

"You are pioneers," Dean of the Faculty Brig. Gen. Dana Born told the graduates. "You are going to set the sky as the limit—and beyond."

The class included four hand-picked cadre, all two-degrees, with the remainder three-degrees. More than 80 cadets originally volunteered for the program, the first of its kind in U.S. service academies.

Training included classroom instruc-

tion and flight training on two Viking 300 unmanned aerial vehicles at Fort Carson's Camp Red Devil. The training is contracted through Bosh Global Services and L3 Communications.

Flight training will resume in September.

General Born shared her vision of the program's future when larger spaces will be needed for future UAS graduations.

"This room won't hold future classes," she emphasized. "It will grow in numbers and impact for the Air Force and the nation."

She added, "This is truly a great day."

Program director Lt. Col. Dean Bushey anticipates the UAS program, under the academic courses Airmanship 200 and 201, will eventually include about 300 cadets.

The impetus to the initiative is the

growing need for UAS in support of world-wide operations. Primary goals of the courses are to motivate cadets toward UAV training and introduce key skills cadets will use in their Air Force careers.

The program has a large potential for interdisciplinary work and research on the Academy. The Air Force envisions building larger UAV's with cargo and bomber capability, tiny UAVs for surveillance inside a room and the potential of "swarms" of the drones.

Colonel Bushey thanked both cadets and trainers for their long hours and encouraged cadets to recruit other good students to the program. He also emphasized the cadets now have a major ownership of it.

"It is no longer our program," he said of the Academy senior leadership. "It is now your program. Spread the good word."

Cadets 3rd Class Jonathan Broadbent and Anthony Alt both expressed their enthusiasm at being involved.

"The biggest surprise was how much we learned," Cadet Broadbent said and praised their trainers.

"We worked with some really professional people."

Cadet Alt looked toward his future Air Force career and the prospect of being in harm's way.

"It's good knowing the capability of the support of what's around me," he said.

He is looking forward to the future of the program when new the curriculum expands, especially in research projects.

Cadet Broadbent also appreciates the unique leadership opportunities.

"We get to set the tone for the other classes," he said.

**WEEKEND WEATHER**

**FRIDAY**  
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ISOLATED PM T-STORMS

**SATURDAY**  
86 51  
ISOLATED PM T-STORMS

**SUNDAY**  
85 50  
ISOLATED PM T-STORMS

## Class of 2013

Best to be Seen ... Big, bad and mean

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## Downrange

"I always say that you can't just let things happen, sometimes you have to go out and do it yourself."

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## 3 Sister

"The main reason I looked forward to coming to the Academy was both my sisters were here."

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# Surviving your 1st year: If I knew then what I know now

By 2nd Lt. Meredith Kirchoff  
Academy Public Affairs  
Class of 2009 grad

The transition from basic training to the rigor of academics is one of conformity to responsibility.

As basic cadets, the teamwork mindset is drilled relentlessly; you rely on your classmates to walk anywhere, greet upperclassmen, and even use the restroom. Taking orders from cadre is second nature, and the thought of making a decision on your own becomes foreign. However, on the first day of class, newly ordained fourth-class cadets will venture out onto the strips with books in hand, alone.

I remember my first day of classes at the Academy—I was more nervous than I had been for inprocessing day, and for good reason. I had just entered a world of homework, graded reviews, training sessions, knowledge tests, intercollegiate practices, late nights and early mornings. It was up to me to survive this gamut of Academy challenges and I wasn't sure if I was cut out for the job title of cadet 4th class.

After some trial and error, and a few failures, I began to realize the things that were truly important to surviving and making the most of fourth class year.

Follow these tips and your life as a C4C will be much easier.

## Use your planner!

Write down everything because even if you think you will remember, you won't. I am an advocate of the week sheet; each Sunday, I outlined what I had to do for each day and taped the schedule to my desk. When it's all laid

out in front of you it's easier to prioritize.

## Do homework first, and study for knowledge tests second.

Small intervals are best for knowledge—while you're waiting between classes, 15 minutes before bed, or while you're biking at the gym.

## Get to know your instructors.

We have the best faculty at USAFA and they want to help you. Schedule extra instruction early in the semester and be proactive about getting help. If you show the desire to learn and improve, it will pay off tremendously when you might really need it.

## Respect your roommate.

Make an effort to really get to know him or her; you will probably depend on that person a lot. Be kind to your roommate. Everyone is tired and stressed, but remember, you never really know what someone else is going through, or why something might be hard for them when it's not hard for you.

## Never turn on the overhead light when your roommate is sleeping!

On that note, sleep! This is your first line of defense against stress, poor grades, and poor performance. It is, unfortunately, the thing you will feel is always lacking most. Make goals about when you are going to hit the lights and try to stay focused during homework in order to reach that goal.

## Be a wingman, and help



Photo by Dave Ahlschwede

## others when you can.

Some people are chemistry whizzes and others can shine shoes. I like proof-reading papers and I was really good at memorizing knowledge, so I let others know they could come to me when they needed help. Find out who you can lean on when you are struggling.

## Learn your classmate's first names.

Last names are for basic training.

## Don't fall behind on your squadron duties; most of them don't take very long.

Taking out the trash or updating the lunch menu won't seem like the most crucial tasks in your day, but your classmate will appreciate it when he's not picking up your slack.

## Lastly, take time for you.

Whether you play a sport, an instrument, like to draw or lift weights, take time to do those things. You will get caught in the hectic schedule of the day to day and you will need this time to relax and refocus.

These are just a few things I wish I would have done from day one. So, take the opportunity to learn from my mistakes. You have already begun a difficult, but rewarding, endeavor at the Academy and, sometimes, it's just about surviving.



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

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## Submissions

Send submissions to: HQ USAFA/PAI, 2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 3100, U.S. Air Force Academy, CO 80840-5016 or deliver to Suite 3100 in Harmon Hall.

**Deadline for free classified ads on a space-available basis is noon every Tuesday for that week's publication date.** Paid classified advertising is accepted by the publisher at 329-5236. The number to call for display advertising is 634-5905.

**Deadline for all stories is noon Friday, one week prior to the desired publication date.** Refer questions to the *Academy Spirit* editor at 333-8823.

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



## Character Corner Be Courageous

By Capt. Nate Renes  
Center for Character Development

According to Webster, courage is a mental or moral strength to venture, persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty.

At the Air Force Academy, courage is one of our Tier II Outcomes and we focus on three aspects of courage: moral courage, physical courage, and mental courage.

We have all displayed moments of courage in our lives—whether it was during basic

training, jumping out of an airplane, soloing in a glider or an airplane, working in a deployed environment or any other event in our life that required each of us to have courage. You are courageous.

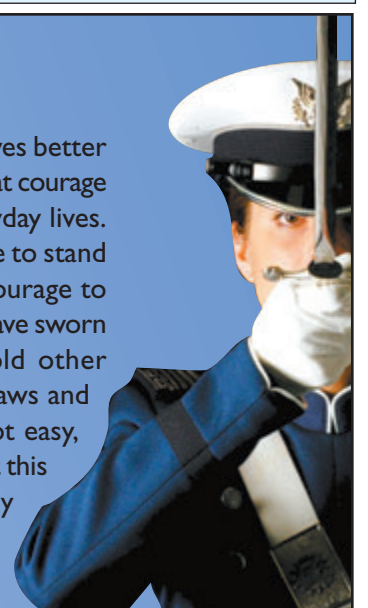
Although most people see courage in the defining moments of our lives, I offer an alternate view of courage. Let us view courage as a way of life.

Students who follow their dreams demonstrate courage. People who raise a family alone demonstrate courage. Children with no hope

who work every day to make their lives better demonstrate courage. I would hope that courage could be demonstrated in our everyday lives.

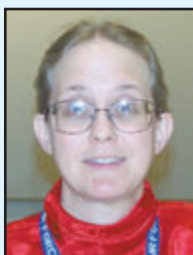
We must have the moral courage to stand up for what we know is right, the courage to abide by the laws and policies we all have sworn to uphold, and the courage to hold other people accountable to those same laws and policies. This everyday courage is not easy, nor is it without fear, but if we live out this everyday courage, we will be truly courageous people.

Tune into KAFA, 97.7 FM for *Character Matters*, starting Aug. 13 at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Also on iTunes or [www.usafa.org](http://www.usafa.org).



"I attended a new faculty development session. I practiced lessons, did labs and demos for class and checked class rooms. I prepared lesson plans and updated some slides."

Ms. Rebecca Lickiss  
Physics instructor



"I have been buying books and meeting with people that are taking the same classes in order to have study groups. I took a summer class, so you could say I've been hitting the books before the academic year starts."

Cadet 1st Class  
Jaffet Ferrer-Torres  
Cadet Squadron 17



"I did lots of reading to get caught-up on the current issues related to our course learning objectives."

Army Lt. Col.  
David Christensen,  
Military Strategic  
Studies instructor



"I've been modernizing my curriculum to incorporate the use of a newly acquired rotating water tank into my Meteorology 431 Atmospheric Dynamics II class."

Lt. Col. Mike Gauthier  
Deputy Physics  
Department Head





# 2013 Best to be Seen ...

## Incredible Talent, Potential and Diversity

By Tammie Adams  
Academy Admissions

The Air Force Academy Class of 2013 completed BCT last week and started classes this week. Shortly after in-processing earlier this summer, they began chanting, "2013 Best to be Seen ... big, bad and mean," while marching and transitioning from activities; following a tradition to choose a class-specific motivational motto. And in many ways, at least to date, they are the best class the Academy has seen.

"We appoint the best and the brightest young people, not only from across the nation, but also from around the world," said Col. Chevalier Cleaves, Air Force Academy director of admissions. "Once a new class arrives, our focus is on maximizing their potential while helping them develop into officers of character motivated to lead the United States Air Force in service to our nation."

Before this new class entered, USAFA Admissions knew they would be extremely competitive statistically because of their outstanding GPAs, standardized test scores, as well as their exceptional character and leadership composites. According to data compiled by Air Force Academy Plans and Programs, the Class of 2013 has the highest average SAT composite and tied for the highest average ACT composite in USAFA history. Their average weighted high school grade point

average was 3.86, and 76 percent of them were in the top fifth of their graduating high school class. In addition to record academic scores, their character and leadership indices were both the highest on record since Admissions began using the current holistic review process. Finally, the pool of applicants was larger than it has been in the past five years realizing an 11 percent increase over the previous year, while the number of qualified candidates also experienced the highest one year increase on record.

Additional historical numbers from Academy Plans and Programs show that the Class of 2013 is by far one of the most structurally diverse classes ever to enter USAFA. Academy Admissions received the highest number of African American, Hispanic and Asian Pacific Islander applications in history and the third highest number of female applications in history. This class yielded the highest number of qualified Hispanic candidates and the third highest number of qualified female candidates ever. Hispanic candidates accepted the highest number of appointments in USAFA history, while minorities overall, as well as females, accepted the second highest number of appointments ever. The Class of 2013 also produced the highest number of qualified African American candidates and African American appointments offered, while tying the highest number of African American appoint-

ments accepted, all in the last 17 years.

Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Mike Gould states in the June 2009 USAFA Diversity Plan, "The Academy's premise is to increase its graduate population across the definition of diversity not only to enrich the USAFA educational and training experience but to leverage the known benefits of diversity that can enhance Air Force capabilities and warfighting skills. Our graduates will serve as leaders of an Air Force already composed of people from widely diverse backgrounds and experiences and projected to become even more diverse."

Oftentimes, this diversity is thought to comprise only race, ethnicity and gender. However, the USAFA Diversity Plan broadly defines diversity as a composite of individual characteristics that includes personal life experiences, geographic background, socioeconomic background, cultural knowledge, educational background, work background, language abilities, physical abilities, philosophical/spiritual perspectives, age, as well as race, ethnicity and gender.

In addition to exemplary scores, historical data and records in diversity, there are some things numbers can't describe: noble displays of character, inspirational leadership, commitment to community and service, and overcoming extremes in adversity. Although stories exemplifying these qualities in our new cadets are rarely told outside of the

Admissions Directorate, the Air Force Academy treasures the quality such additions make to enhance the cadet wing, and later the officer corps. The following are just a few examples which highlight the depth of character, will, perseverance and leadership that we see in the latest class to join the Long Blue Line.

One four-degree, who is the child of a disabled single parent, maintained a job as a waitress, among other extracurricular activities, while operating as the caregiver for her little brother. Her Admissions Liaison Officer said her "personal character and maturity are beyond her peer group." In terms of diversity, she will offer her classmates personal life experience, socioeconomic background, gender and work background.

One cadet and his family immigrated to the United States from Nigeria. After high school, he enlisted in the Air Force as a medic, and later went to the Air Force Academy Preparatory School. He will add language abilities, cultural knowledge, work experience, race and ethnicity to the cadet wing.

One young man lived in Germany and attended German Primary schools from first through eighth grade and played for the Bayern Munich professional soccer club, the U.S. national soccer team and was a member of the U.S. Olympic development program in Europe. **See 2013 BEST TO BE SEEN, Page 11**

## Forbes ranks Academy 7th-best in nation

By Academy Spirit staff

As cadets began their fall semester on Thursday, they did so at the #7 undergraduate institution in the nation, according to Forbes.

Forbes released its second annual America's Best Colleges rankings Wednesday.

The rankings are compiled by Forbes and the Center for College Affordability

and Productivity, which evaluated 600 undergrad colleges. The rankings are based on a several weighted factors, which are: student evaluations, alumni listed in Who's Who in America, amount of student debt at graduation, percentage of students and instructors who receive nationally competitive awards (Rhodes Scholarships or Nobel Prizes), and the percentage of students who graduate in four years

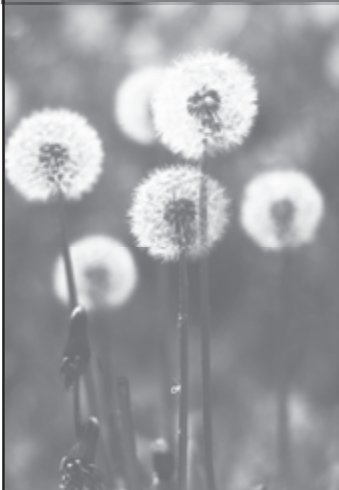
These rankings put service academies in the same tier as Ivy League colleges. The Air Force Academy placed at #16 in 2008, moving up to #7 this year, while the U.S. Naval Academy moved from #36 to #30 over the same period. The U.S. Military Academy was ranked #1 in the nation, after placing sixth in 2008.

According to Forbes, the move illustrates strong performances on the part of all the service academies.

At the U.S. Air Force Academy, the student-faculty ratio is 9:1, average class size is 20, 100 percent of the faculty is full-time and zero classes are taught by teaching assistants.

Forbes also ranked the Air Force Academy as the #4 on its list of America's Best College Buys. For more information on the full rankings, visit: [www.forbes.com/2009/08/02/best-colleges-ratings-opinions-ranking-2009\\_land.html](http://www.forbes.com/2009/08/02/best-colleges-ratings-opinions-ranking-2009_land.html)

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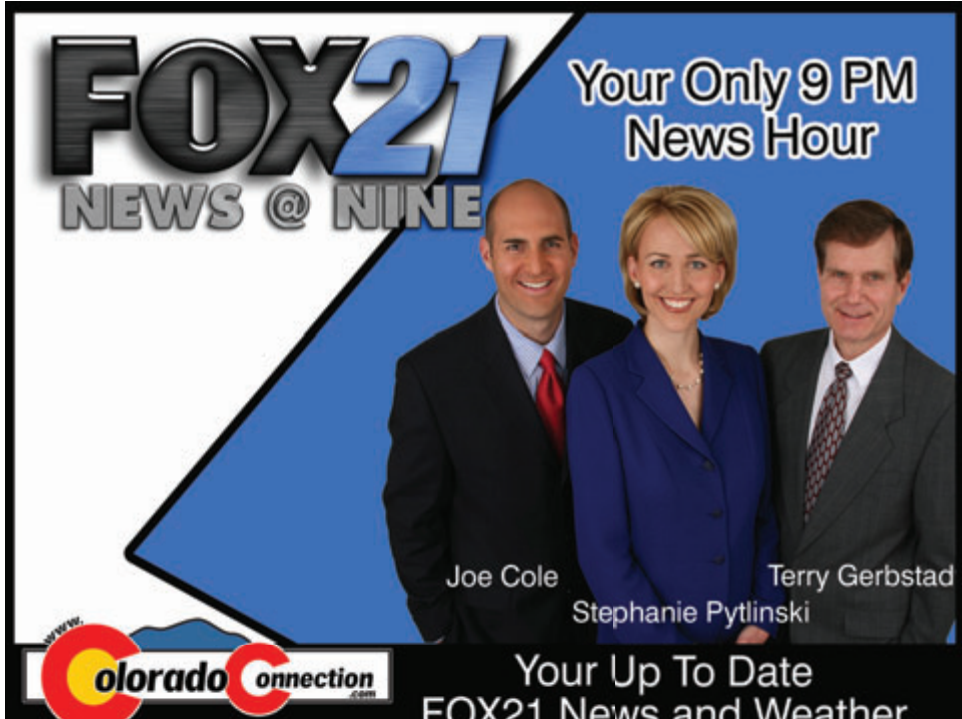
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# Obama: Health care reform won't affect VA, Tricare

By Donna Miles  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — In ongoing discussions about health-care reform, President Barack Obama offered assurance Tuesday to those receiving medical care through Tricare or the Department of Veterans Affairs: Your benefits are safe.

Eligibility for health care under VA or Tricare “will not be affected by our efforts at broader health-care reform,” President Obama told military reporters at the White House.

President Obama said he also made

that point clear after meeting with Dave Rehbein, the American Legion's national commander, and Peter Gaytan, the executive director.

“I want to make sure that message gets out to our veterans,” the president said. “I think it's very important to get the message out: If you are in the VA system and are happy with your care, great. We have no intention of changing your eligibility.”

While a new, national program won't force anyone to change health-care systems, President Obama said it could offer benefits or geographic convenience that might make some veterans elect to join it. A national program “will actually

give them more choices, more flexibility.”

President Obama cited problems in U.S. health-care delivery systems, which he said cost more than other countries' programs and too often deliver less.

The VA “has probably made more progress than most systems out there in increasing quality” during the past 25 years, and could help shed light on better ways of delivering health care, he said.

But the cost of delivering that care is high even at VA, and Tricare consumes a big piece of the Defense Department's budget, he said.

With the fiscal 2010 budget reflecting the largest VA funding increase in 30

years, President Obama told American Legion leaders he is committed to ensuring that VA provides America's veterans the highest-quality health care possible.

Meanwhile, he told reporters the VA will increase its outreach to more veterans to make sure they're aware of their medical benefits and other entitlements.

“We are working really hard to make sure that every single veteran — not just our active force, but also National Guard and reservists — are aware of the benefits that are available to them,” the president said. “Guiding them through that process, we think, is extraordinarily important.”

# Pentagon officials weigh social networking benefits, vulnerabilities

By John J. Kruzal  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Defense Department officials here are weighing the benefits of social networking and other Web 2.0 platforms against potential security vulnerabilities they create.

In a memo issued in late July, Deputy Defense Secretary William J. Lynn III directed a study of social media sites like Twitter, Facebook and YouTube in hopes of establishing a policy by October, Pentagon Spokesman Bryan Whitman told reporters Tuesday.

“We're addressing the challenges from a security standpoint, but also the impact

and the value that they have to the department to be able to communicate in a 21st century environment,” Mr. Whitman said.

Per his deputy's memo, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates is slated to receive a report on the threats and benefits of Web 2.0 tools before the end of the month. Both Secretary Gates and Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, have embraced the new technologies.

The Pentagon's chief information officer is taking the lead on the review, which was catalyzed by concerns raised at U.S. Strategic Command, Mr. Whitman said. STRATCOM is responsible for overseeing the use of the “dot-mil” network.

In the meantime, there are no department-wide orders banning the use of social networking and other Web 2.0 applications, Mr. Whitman said, adding that standard local restrictions to such sites may occur due to bandwidth or security concerns.

“But as a department, we recognize the importance of taking a look at this issue because there are legitimate security concerns,” he said.

In an interview with a blog site yesterday, Price Floyd, the principal deputy assistant secretary of defense for public affairs, emphasized the importance of maintaining operational security, or Opsec, in an era of Web-based social networking.

“Opsec is paramount. We will have

procedures in place to deal with that,” Mr. Floyd told Wired's “Danger Room.” “The [Defense Department] is, in that sense, no different than any big company in America. What we can't do is let security concerns trump doing business. We have to do business. Companies in the private sector that have policies like us don't dare shut down their Web sites. They have to sell their products and ideas — and this is how it's done. “Opsec needs to catch up with this stuff. This is the modern equivalent of sending a letter home from the front lines,” he added. “Opsec needs to be considered on this stuff, but the more our troops do this stuff, the better off we are.”



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# CDC students visit Academy Band

By Senior Master Sgt. Larry Hill  
Academy Band

Twelve energetic pre-school students from the Peterson Child Development Center recently experienced live music compliments of the U.S. Air Force Academy Band.

Master Sgt. Cheryl Sizer, NCOIC of the concert band, led the 4- and 5-year old students in a tour of all band facilities, introduced them to several musicians, and let them see many of the band's missions in action.

The students listened and danced while visiting a Falconaires Jazz Ensemble rehearsal. Sergeant Sizer then led the kids in to the band's recording control room where Master Sgt. Dan Kenemore

explained the process of editing music for upcoming television shows.

The students then visited the equipment warehouse, library, and command section. At every stop, they were able to hear, touch, and experience the instruments and equipment the band uses to bring the Air Force message to audiences throughout the world.

Each of the four pre-school classes at the Peterson CDC go on a weekly field trip during the summer.

Photo by Larry Hulst

**Master Sgt. Cheryl Sizer engages with the children at the Peterson AFB Child Development Center for fun with live music. Among the children in attendance was Sergeant Sizer's daughter, Sophia, to her immediate left.**



# DoD personal property program seeks input

By Air Force news Service

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — Have you ever had your household goods moved and at the end of the process, thought, "That was the best move I've had. I hope my next move is that good." Or conversely, "That move was horrible. I hope no one else has to use movers like these."

Well, you now have a say in which moving companies the Department of Defense uses more or less frequently.

Unfortunately, on average, servicemembers are only taking advantage of their opportunity to have a voice in the process around 20 percent of the time.

Officials from the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command along with the U.S. Transportation Command and the services are imple-

menting a new program for moving your household goods. It's called the Defense Personal Property Program, or DP3.

The backbone of DP3 is a customer evaluation of the move process. This evaluation is called the customer satisfaction survey. The customer satisfaction survey is not your typical survey that gets collected and may impact you at some future date, or worse yet, a survey where no appreciable outcome is ever apparent. On the contrary, the customer satisfaction survey that servicemembers fill out following their move is actually used six times over a 12-month period to help determine which carriers get more moves during the relevant performance period.

The customer satisfaction survey is designed to be completed quickly. It is a simple, 12-question evaluation that

has two direct impacts on all future DOD household good shipments.

First, it is used as the cornerstone of a program designed to move away from the historical "low cost" system for selecting movers, toward a best value acquisition of moving companies based on your customer satisfaction survey input, the rates a company files, and the speed and satisfaction with which the moving company handles any claim the member submits. Without your support for completing the survey, the program essentially reverts to the traditional low cost methodology, and the servicemember satisfaction element goes away because of no input from customers.

Second, this information is used to improve government services pertaining to household goods shipments.

Whether the servicemember experiences a good or bad move, the customer satisfaction survey is a vital component of DP3 and is the best way of improving future moves for servicemembers, DoD civilians, and their families. Completing a customer satisfaction survey has an immediate impact on improving future household goods moves.

Instructions and the link to the customer satisfaction survey are e-mailed to the member once a household goods shipment has been delivered. To ensure this happens, members should provide an e-mail address to their personal property counselor that can be accessed 24/7 at the destination.

For more information on the customer satisfaction survey and DP3, please visit [www.move.mil](http://www.move.mil) and click on "DoD Customer."

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# Airman experiences life-changing moments



By Butch Wehry  
Academy Spirit staff

An Academy medical technician with two years in the Air Force has found herself supporting U.S. Special Forces in Afghanistan's western Uruzgan and North Helmand provinces.

"I volunteered for this deployment," said 10th Medical Group Airman 1st Class Sabrina Hibbens. "I always say that you can't just let things happen, sometimes you have to go out and do it yourself and make it happen, if you don't you won't experience as much as if you just ask."

"Every day there is always something that changes someone's life," she said.

One life-changing moment in particular was when a husband brought in his wife because she had an allergic reaction to a medicine given at the local downtown clinic," said the medical technician from Bass Lake, Calif. "He was a very religious man and was hesitant about bringing his wife to the Americans. We relieved the pressure from the reaction and he came shook my hand to thank me. That was a very eye-opening action to see a man come and shake the hand of a female."

She lives, works and eats in a hardened-structure building, and notices things about the world around her.

"The biggest surprise is the culture," she said. "Afghans work just to put bread on the table when



Courtesy Photo

Airman 1st Class Sabrina Hibbens makes friends with a pair of Afghanistan youth. Airman Hibbens volunteered for a deployment in support of the U.S. special forces.

most Americans work to get the newest and hottest toys. The culture here is something that no one will forget. It makes me appreciate everything I have and that I am proud to be an American Citizen."

She stays in touch with her family in the United States by e-mail and Morale Welfare and Recreation telephone calls.

The deployment has its challenges, she added. "Like being away from my family and working

with an interpreter," said Airman Hibbens. "It's also a challenge to understand Afghanistan's culture and how they are appreciative for anything and everything we give them."

Observing the surrounding culture has made quite an impact on the medical technician.

"Seeing how little some people have yet their spirits are never lessened, and seeing children, ages 5 to 10, working to support their families has changed my life."



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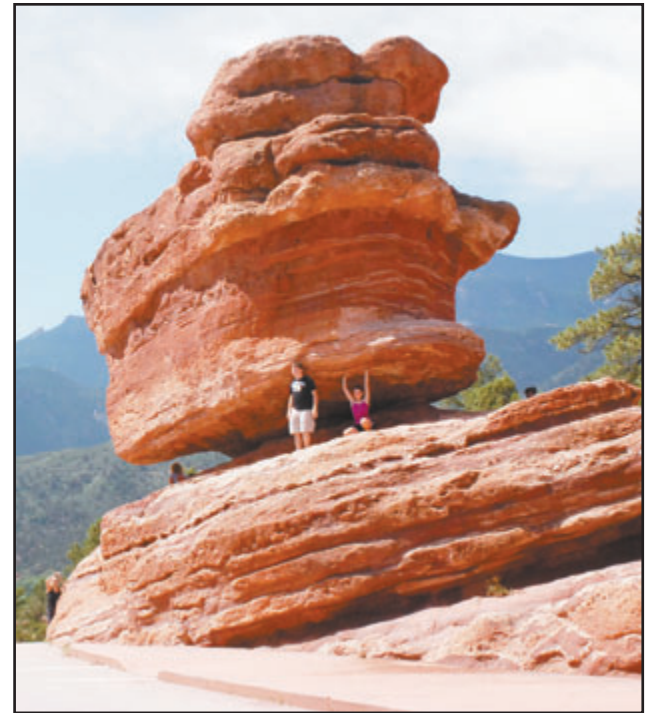
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Photos by Ann Patton

# Garden of the Gods a mix of geology, biology and culture

By Ann Patton  
Academy Spirit

In 1859, two Colorado surveyors set out to locate the site for a new town to be named Colorado City. During their scouting ventures, the two came upon an astounding area of sandstone formations.

One surveyor suggested it would be a “capital place for a beer garden.”

The other replied, “Beer garden? Why, this is a fit place for the gods to assemble. We’ll call it ‘Garden of the Gods.’”

The name remained, and this year Garden of the Gods park is celebrating its centennial. More than 1.7 million visitors have been estimated to make it a destination every year.

The Colorado Springs city-owned park and its adjacent Rock Ledge Ranch historic site offer visitors a chance to hike in the path of the Sun Mountain People of the Ute nation, bicycle, ride horseback, picnic, photograph the park’s formations, wildlife and foliage or take advantage of the park’s many public education programs.

“It’s a crossroads of biology, geology, culture and history,” said park program coordinator, and naturalist, Bret Tennis. “I listen to many languages spoken here and get a real sense of that crossroads.”

The archeological discovery of hearths in 1993 is suggestive the Garden of the Gods was inhabited by humans more than 3,000 years ago.

Mr. Tennis said names of miners passing through the site during the Gold Rush have also been sighted carved into the park’s rocks, along with the dates of their visit.

Visitors shouldn’t be surprised to encounter a range of wildlife, including bighorn sheep, wild turkeys, mule deer, cottontails, other small mammals and an abundance of bird species. Spotted less often but nonetheless inhabiting the park are big cats, bear, skunks and snakes.

“For our proximity to urban areas, this provides outstanding wildlife viewing opportunities,” Mr. Tennis said, but warned rattlesnakes also call the park home and visitors need to be careful.

“Stay on the trails,” he said.

Admission to the park is free, as are permits for rock climbing. However, climbers must display proper equipment and never climb alone.

For residents of the Pikes Peak region and tourists alike, Garden of the Gods offers an abundance of free nature presentations. This month, for example, presentations are scheduled to cover such topics as history of the park, the Gold Rush and geology. There are also wildlife touch tables scheduled, plus daily nature walks at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. just outside the main parking lot. Park walks cover such interests as bats, wildflowers, geology, birds and photography. Youngsters can sign up to become Junior Rangers. New this year is the park’s Segway tour. For a small charge, less hearty visitors can enjoy a bus tour.

Some activities require pre-registration, and there are winter programs as well.

The free Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center is a must-see for first-time visitors to pick up a map, learn about the park’s features or have breakfast or lunch and do some shopping. For a small admission charge, visitors at the Center can find out

Balanced Rock is a popular photo spot for visitors.

“How Did Those Red Rocks Get There,” through a high definition movie.

Rock Ledge Ranch within the park has been offering visitors a glimpse into living history through four time spans—from the 1700s to the early 20th century. At the American Indian area visitors can see tipis and hear stories of American Indian culture. The Galloway Homestead depicts the hard life on the frontier, and the 1880s Chambers working farm demonstration features the family dwelling/boarding house and farming activities.

Visitors can also enjoy the craftsmanship of a 19th century blacksmith, gifts or souvenirs from the Heritage Shop and view heirloom breeds of farm animals on the site.

Rock Ledge Ranch, which requires an admission fee, also features special festivals and presentations. Coming up is the popular annual Holly Berry House Folk Art Festival Sept. 18 – 20 with handcrafted folk art, antiques, music and living history interpretations.

“It’s worth it just to see Patches the cow,” Mr. Tennis said with a smile of the ranch. “She’s very friendly and likes to lick visitors.”

As per safety, besides staying on the trails, Mr. Tennis urges visitors to never leave valuables in the open, and keep Fido on a leash at all times, except in the dog park area where he can mingle leash-free with canine friends.

The park, off W. 30th St., is open from 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily Memorial Day through Labor Day and 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. the rest of the year. No camping is allowed.

The park always welcomes volunteers.

“We have lots of opportunities,” he said, including trail restoration projects.

For more information on the park or activities, visit [www.gardenofgods.com](http://www.gardenofgods.com) or call 219-0108.

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# Academy's new First Family takes to the skies

By Ken Carter  
Editor

The Air Force Academy's superintendent and his spouse got an even deeper perspective of the USAFA mission last week as they both performed tandem jumps and she added a sailplane ride to the mix.

Lt. Gen. Mike Gould and wife Paula, a retired Air Force colonel and pilot herself, mingled with permanent party staff and cadets alike in getting an up-close and more personal understanding of cadet programs. The tandem jumps were conducted by 98th Flying Training Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Aldru Aaron and Lt. Col. Alexander Cos also representing the 98th FTS.

The objective: For General and Mrs. Gould to be able to offer totally engaged and informed perspectives when they share the Air Force Academy story to our external audience. The couple will use their first-hand experiential knowledge to only further enhance their abilities to tell the Academy story to many whose paths they'll cross during the 18th superintendent's tenure.

One key player in acclimating Mrs. Gould to the cadet way of life was a 21-year-old Cadet 2nd Class from Lexington, N.C.

Instructor Pilot C2C Thomas Dowell, one of only nine currently qualified cadets, flew Mrs. Gould in the TG-15A, a cross country sailplane. "Usually, first-class cadets fly with VIP's, but all on the team are currently TDY, so as a 2-degree it was a real privilege for me to fly with Mrs. Gould," he said.

During the course of their one-hour flight, Mrs. Gould remarked that it was very peaceful to fly without an engine, and that it was very different than her experience as a pilot, Cadet Dowell said.

With approximately 200 flights to his credit, Cadet Dowell maneuvered the aircraft above the Academy over the prep school, the cadet area, the golf course, and Douglass Valley before heading south. "We then flew over Garden of the Gods before releasing



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Christopher Dewitt

**Lt. Col. Alexander Cos describes the aircraft exit strategy to Lt. Gen Mike Gould they'll use to get safely clear of the UV-18 during their tandem jump.**

from the tow plane at 12,500 feet, and I demonstrated to Mrs. Gould the maneuvers that we teach our students and instructors-in-training," he said.

"Mrs. Gould flew for a portion of the flight and performed a couple of maneuvers."

With a captive audience, Cadet Dowell had opportunity to share lots of information that will benefit Mrs. Gould when she addresses audiences in the future with the added value of offering a first-hand account of the cadet soaring program. "We

discussed the soaring program, the advanced programs (aerobatics and cross country), and techniques used for cross country flying in the gliders," he said. "It was my pleasure and an honor to fly with Mrs. Gould."



Photo by Dave Ahlschwede

**Lt. Col. Stephen Moyes, 94th Flying Training Squadron, familiarizes Paula Gould with the TG-15A forward instrument panel prior to Mrs. Gould's flight. Instructor pilot Cadet 2nd Class Thomas Dowell, left, flew with Mrs. Gould maneuvering the sailplane over the Colorado Springs area.**

## 2013 Best to be seen

From Page 3

He will offer the Academy excellence and diversity in terms of language abilities, cultural knowledge and physical abilities.

Another cadet and his younger brothers came from a challenging home life and moved from family to family beginning when he was four years old. As early as first grade, he fixed breakfast for his brothers, walked them to the babysitter's house and then walked himself to school. For seven years he lived in a drug and violence laden neighborhood. This young man brings added perspective from his personal life experiences, ability to overcome significant adversity, race as well as geographic and socioeconomic background.

The next cadet lived in Germany due to her father's military service and is fluent in German. Six years ago,

after her sister died in a car accident and her mother was permanently brain damaged, she helped raise her youngest sibling. She will offer her peers cultural knowledge, language abilities, personal life experiences and the ability to overcome significant adversity.

The collective strength and potential of the class of 2013 is represented by all of the characteristics and accomplishments chronicled above: record high standardized test scores, extraordinary evidence of prior commitment to our core values and tremendous diversity.

As stated in the USAFA Diversity Plan, "The Air Force Academy is a leadership laboratory where cadets develop leadership abilities through demonstrated performance. Cadets are organized in a structure similar to the Air Force itself and progress through cadet ranks and positions that allow them to exercise leadership skills

at progressively more challenging levels. This provides exceptional opportunities to learn, and these opportunities are best realized when the cadet cadre itself is widely diverse. Correspondingly, we conclude that recruiting, retaining, developing and graduating a diverse cadet corps is as important for Air Force leadership training as it is for the quality of academic education."

"We have extremely high expectations for the Class of 2013, as we do for all of our cadets," Colonel Cleaves said. "Every person on the Admissions staff has worked tirelessly day in and day out to bring such high caliber students, and well rounded people, to the Academy. I have no doubt that this class will continue to impress all of us while striving to live up to their motto of "Best to be Seen ... big, bad and mean" in all areas of cadet life and into their officer careers."



# Sisters bring unique talents to Academy

By Ann Patton  
Academy Spirit

Three daughters.  
Three sisters.  
Three in the Academy long blue line.

Second Lt. Amanda Tamosuinas, Class of 2008, joined sister Cadet 2nd Class Alexis Tamosuinas Wednesday to welcome their sister Cadet 4th Class Ava Tamosuinas into the Cadet Wing during Acceptance ceremonies on Stillman Field.

The more senior Tamosuinas sisters installed the fourth-degree shoulder boards on their sibling.

"The main reason I looked forward to coming to the Academy was because both my sisters were here," Ava said, now of Squadron 19, the Wolverines.

One factor in influencing Alexis' decision to attend the Academy was seeing video tracks from sister Amanda's Basic Cadet Training.

Ava said she received little or no coaching from her sisters before embarking on her own BCT adventure.

"It was different," she said of The Beast. "I don't think I knew what to expect."

Roughly 20 percent of the Class of 2013 are women.

Dad, Darrell Tamosuinas, was generous in praise of all of his daughters for their accomplishments. He described Amanda as "inde-



Photo by Ann Patton

**Second Lt. Amanda Tamosuinas (left) and Cadet 2nd Class Alexis Tamosuinas present sister Cadet 4th Class Ava Tamosuinas with her shoulder boards following the Acceptance Parade.**

pendent, a trail blazer and an adventurer."

Alexis, he said, is "very precise, compassionate, and rigorous academically and physically."

Daughter Ava has many of the same traits as her sisters but is uniquely contemplative and reserved.

"She has a lot to look up to," Mr. Tamosuinas said of his third daughter.

Mom, Linda Tamosuinas, recognizes having three daughters as Academy cadets is very definitely unusual.

"It was a unique experience for all of us," she said.

Amanda, who majored in biology and minored in Chinese, is now stationed at Cannon Air Force Base, N.M. Alexis is leaning toward a humanities focus, and Ava business and management.

Growing up in Medina, Minn., outside the Twin Cities, the sisters shared many of the same activities, like student council, National Honor Society, dance and sports—basketball, soccer and track.

"We were pretty close," Alexis said and noted they played on the same teams and as youngsters used to make up and present plays. "We always got along."

Squabbles were pretty much limited to small things, like clothes. "We're all the same size," Alexis said.

Also as the girls were growing up, sister loyalty extended beyond the family ties.

"We were always sticking up for each other," Amanda said.

Following the Acceptance parade, Alexis presented a custom-made bracelet to Ava with her initials and the year 2009 engraved on it to signify completion of BCT.

The sisters give their parents high marks for helping them on the way to the Academy.

"They gave me a good foundation for morals and values, or I wouldn't have been as interested in the Academy," Alexis said.

Ava stressed their parents gave them a great deal of motivation to always do their best and try different things.

"They gave us the drive to never give up and finish things once we start them," Amanda said.

The sisters are the Tamosuinas' only children. Saying good-bye to each at the Association of Graduates during in-processing became increasingly tough for Mrs. Tamosuinas.

"It got harder because now I have no children at home," she said.

There may no longer be children full-time, but undoubtedly the Tamosuinas' household will fill-up from time to time with talk of hopes, dreams and Air Force blue skies.

## Guard officer model for new AF career field

By Master Sgt. Mike R. Smith  
National Guard Bureau

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS) — Can an Airman who never flew a combat sortie give expert advice to an Army commander on the use of airpower in battle?

That question has been the focus of study and debate for nearly two decades in the Air Force. But Lt. Col. William Wheeler and nine others in the Air National Guard showed it could work, and a change has followed.

Now Airmen will have the opportunity to serve their military careers as air liaison officers.

The Illinois Air National Guard officer recently participated in a corporate study to investigate the possibility of training non-rated officers — those not in flying careers — to become ALOs. The result was the recent establishment of the ALO career field, or Air Force specialty code 13L.

Colonel Wheeler, the 168th Air Support Operations Squadron commander at Peoria Air National Guard Base, Ill., served as a nonrated ALO for nearly two decades; therefore, he said, he was a good candidate for the study.

Air liaison officers are the Air Force's representatives to Army commanders in the field, from corps to battalion. They draw upon their knowledge of the tactical use of Air Force weapon systems to best support ground forces in a battle space. They help plan battles, and they work with forward air controllers to coordinate and control aerospace operations.

"He is the face of the Air Force that also has a certain number of joint terminal attack controllers that

go out with the Army into the field," Colonel Wheeler said.

Years ago, Colonel Wheeler said you had to be an aviator with a tactical background to serve as an ALO.

The Air Force filled its ALO billets by landing its rated officers on tours with tactical air support groups. But when those groups went away in the late 1980s, it left the Air Guard without that resource to support its Army battalions, he said.

The Air Guard was a leading proponent in adding the other-than-aviators authorization, he said. Its test program at Peoria — started in 1989 — did it by commissioning and training a select group of enlisted Airmen.

Colonel Wheeler walked off the flightline where he was working as an enlisted F-4 Phantom crew chief. He received his commission and joined a group of nine new officers who wanted to be ALOs.

"I went out with the Army to all of their field training exercises ... as many as I could," he said.

After his training, Colonel Wheeler served as an ALO in Bosnia and there again as an air support operations center director. Since Sept. 11, 2001, he further proved his position by serving three tours in Afghanistan and one tour in Iraq, exclusively with active-duty Army units.

He said his group, and the nonrated Air Guard ALOs who followed, proved over the years that they do the job just as well as their rated counterparts and fill a valuable shortfall.

Today, Colonel Wheeler is the last of that original ALO group that stepped forward for the "betterment of battlefield Airmen."

"So it kind of makes sense that they looked to me

as part of their study on developing the nonrated ALO in the Air Force," he said.

"This is an Air National Guard initiative that has an impact Air Force-wide," said Colonel Wheeler about the "Guard-championed" program.

The ALOs serve at ASOSs, of which 18 are in the Air Guard. These squadrons include tactical air control party members, who are the close-air-support coordinators for destroying enemy targets on a battlefield.

The squadrons need more ALOs, Colonel Wheeler said. The new AFSC will open up doors, not only for enlisted tactical air control party members, who want to work in the career field as commissioned officers, he said, "but it will allow us to recruit to it too, which was long overdue.

"But in order to be successful you have to have an A-type personality, because that's what you are going to be dealing with," he said. "You must be able to think three-dimensionally, and you have to want to be there."

This month, Colonel Wheeler is slated to be awarded the ceremonial first ALO AFSC. It seems fitting he should lead the way, once again.

Those who follow in his footsteps may find themselves in the middle of the nation's battles with a new and changing military career.

"It's not all about close air support anymore," Colonel Wheeler said. Because of an increase in intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance aircraft engagements overseas, "you have that broad range of systems that the Air Force brings to today's fight, but make no mistake, the primary focus remains close air support."

It's that constant monitoring and adjusting of those air assets to help that Army commander that makes an ALO career field so critical, he said.



# Medical #1 takes intramural softball championship home

By **Dave Castilla**  
Intramural Sports Director

Talk about déjà vu, the two teams that battled for softball supremacy in last year's championship were at it again. Except, this time it ended with different results as Med #1 upended, their nemesis from last year, the Retirees 28-20 winning the championship game.

The top two teams in the regular season were now facing each other to determine the base championship.

The retirees started the scoring in bottom of the first inning with five runs. Joe Fuhrman drove in Rex Mitchell off a base hit. Wade Dolbow closed the scoring for the retirees with an RBI single.

Medical counter punched with six runs in the bottom of the first inning. With the bases loaded the retirees' shortstop threw an errant ball past the second baseman and all three base runners scored. Later, Casey Berry double off the fence scoring Karvin Vega, and Mark McKenzie drove in the final run with a single.

In the top of the second Fuhrman hit a two-run homerun over the left field fence regaining the lead for the retirees.

In the bottom of the second the medics put up an additional seven runs. The medics highlighted the inning with doubles by Heller and Fred Walker. The Heller and Walker doubles drove in three of the seven medic runs.

Hospital's lead was 13-8 after the first two innings of play and they would never lose the lead.

The retirees plated 5 more runs in the third as Richard Chavez doubled off the fence scoring

Ebersole who had doubled and Fuhrman capped the inning with another two-run shot.

The medics would not give in as they put six runs on the board in the bottom of the third.

The medics only managed three runs in bottom of the fourth. Home runs by James Heller and Walker made the score 22-16.

In the top of the fifth the retirees flexed their muscle as they hit two home runs; Ebersole hit a 3-run shot to right center and a Chavez solo shot closed the gap to 22-20.

The medics scored 6 runs and put on a hitting clinic with Bryan Kinder's two-run triple the big hit of the inning.

Each hit ran the clock farther and farther down and the retirees couldn't get the third out and the medics who had won the championship for six years in a row before getting dethroned finally had the victory.

Medics Coach McKenzie said his team kept the pressure on, "We tried to score as many runs as possible because we know all the power they possess."

Many of the players that participated in the championship game will be headed to Peterson AFB Sept. 12 for the Rocky Mountain Softball championship, which was won last year by USAFA.

**Tech Sgt. James Heller hits a grounder for Med Group #1 during the Intramural Softball Championship against the Retirees.**



Photos by Rachel Boettcher

**The Retirees Tevita Mafi tries to tag Med Group #1's Fred Walker out at home plate during the Intramural Softball Championship.**



## 2009 volleyball preview: Team sets sights high

By **Valerie Perkin**  
Athletic communications

The Air Force volleyball team enters the 2009 season, looking to improve on its five-win total from one year earlier. Backed by the strong leadership of the returning Falcons, and the impressive talent of the incoming class, Air Force plans on having a strong showing.

The Falcons will have just one senior on this year's roster. Michelle Harrington is the last remaining member of the original class of 13 that joined the program in 2006. Serving as the team captain, the 2008 Most Valuable Player brings a wealth of knowledge to the Falcons' locker room.

Joining Harrington on the front line is Nichole Stilwell. Stilwell is another offensive and defensive threat for the Falcons. In addition to tallying a 1.95 kills per set average (the most of any returning Falcon), Stilwell also accounted for 44 total blocks, including nine solo stops, during her stellar sophomore season.

Air Force returns a pair of junior setters, who saw significant action as freshmen and then split time at the position last year.

Starting 17 matches as a sophomore, Jessica Hellmann accounted for a team-high 491 assists. She averaged helpers at a 5.99 per-set clip, while also cracking the 100-dig plateau.

Joining Hellmann in the rotation of the setter position will be classmate Stephanie Stanford. Stanford started the remaining 12 matches as a sophomore, collecting 349 assists at a pace of 5.06 per set.

Caroline Kurtz brings a talented power back to the Air Force rotation. Although her totals were down from her stellar freshman campaign, Kurtz collected 105 kills and 124 digs. Her average of 1.49 digs per set is the second-highest of any returning member.

Posting the most digs of any of the returning Falcons is junior Kelly Spencer. As a defensive specialist, Spencer averaged 1.62 digs per-set (147 total) during her sophomore season. Since she spent much of her freshman year

as the Falcons' libero, Spencer has the experience needed to help the club fill the void left by Martinez's departure.

Juniors Emily Frick and Julia Hansen played sparingly throughout their first two seasons, but bring a wealth of knowledge to the program. Frick saw action in 11 sets last season, collecting her first collegiate kill and dig. The junior rounded out her stat line with five total kills and eight digs. Like Frick, Hansen has performed well when given extra playing time. Tallying three kills and four digs in 20 sets as a sophomore, Hansen recorded her first collegiate solo block against Colorado State in Fort Collins. In fact, her solo stop was the only unassisted block by either team during that match.

Also returning to this year's lineup is junior Jackie Norton, who has yet to see collegiate match action after being plagued by injuries during each of her first two years. The squad's lone sophomore is Jennifer Kagarise. Although she only saw action in one set as a freshman, Kagarise was an important part of the team's daily practices.

Air Force added eight talented newcomers.

### Charles nominee for Good Works Team

Air Force offensive lineman Nick Charles has been named a nominee for the Allstate/American Football Coaches Association Good Works Team. He is one of 106 nominees up for the 11-player Good Works Team which will

be announced during the 2009 college football season.

Charles, who was recently named a preseason first-team all-Mountain West Conference selection, was a second-team all-conference selection in 2008. A two-year starter, he has anchored an offensive line that has helped the Falcons to the conference rushing title

and a top 10 national rushing ranking each of the last two years. Charles led the Falcons in knockdown blocks last season, averaging 16.4 per game.

The lineman is active in his squadron as the point of contact for the Cadet for a Day program. He was also the cadet in charge of the Sunrise Senior

Living Center Valentine's Ball and an Academy representative for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. He is a two-time academic all-conference selection and a member of the dean's list at the Academy.

The Allstate/AFCA Good Works team honors college football players who make

outstanding contributions in the areas of volunteerism and civic involvement. With their acts, AFCA Good Works team members distinguish themselves among the more than 50,000 student-athletes participating in the sport at all four-year collegiate institutions through off-the-field accomplishments.





**Open house**

The Air Force Academy's Annual Fire Department Open House is set for 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at Fire Station

#1, 6202 Pine Drive. The goal is to bring the most comprehensive Fire Prevention Education Program to Academy residents and the surrounding community. There will be fire truck displays from the local community, an auto extrication demonstration, a fire safety puppet show for the kids, Flight for Life helicopter, and the 1929 REO Speedwagon antique fire truck on display. Last year more than 800 attended the event and the staff hopes for this to be another great turn-out. For more information, call 333-2051.

the proper machine functions, and the overall basics to an effective exercise routine. Call 333-3733 or 333-4522 for more information.

**Academy Flea Market**

By popular demand the Academy Flea Market will be held twice during August. The dates are: Aug. 15 and 22. The event runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parking lot between the Academy Exchange and the commissary. Set-up time is 8 a.m. Spaces are \$10 each; \$15 for front-to-back space with auto and table rental is \$5. Call 333-2928 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays for more information or to reserve a space.

**Spaced out?**

There's space available at the Milazzo Center and Community Activities Center downstairs for functions. Rooms are available for military functions, retirements, promotions, dining in/out, off sites, meetings and training sessions, etc. Call 333-2928 to make an appointment to visit facilities.

**A&FRC offerings**

The Airman and Family Readiness Center will be hosting the following classes.

Contact the A&FRC @ 333-3444 for any questions and/or registration.

**Group Pre-Separation Counseling**

Held every Monday (except during TAP week); 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Separating or retiring from the Air Force in a year or less? This mandatory briefing assists you in identifying benefits and services associated with your transition and beyond.

**Veterans Affairs Benefits Briefing**

Monday 8 a.m. to noon.

This briefing provides a comprehensive overview of VA benefits for separating/retiring military personnel. Topics discussed include: VA Medical Care, Disability Compensation, Education programs, Vocational Training, Veteran Preference, Small Business Loans, Home Loan Guarantees, and more.

**Smooth Move**

Tuesday 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. and Aug. 13; 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Being prepared certainly lessens the stress of an upcoming move. Learn innovative and proven ways to make your move a smooth one. This is a mandatory

class for individuals departing USAFA.

**Sponsorship Training**

Tuesday; 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.

This class is for those who have been assigned to sponsor a newcomer to the area.

Contact your unit sponsorship monitor for details.

**Disabled American Veterans Medical Records Review**

Monday Aug. 31; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Individuals within 180 days of retirement or separation can have the DAV review their medical records.

**Mock Interviewing**

Wednesday; 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Preparing for your next career move? Feeling a little rusty or insecure about your interviewing skills? Sign up for the next best thing to the real thing! Mock interviewing with real HR reps!

**Civil Service Class**

Thursday; 9 a.m. to noon.

Learn how to submit a federal resume, search for internal/external vacant positions, and apply for Air Force Federal Civil Service employment.

**Career Tracks**

Aug. 18 & 19; 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This comprehensive 2 day course assists military spouses with assessing and evaluating skills, values, and interests; building an effective 'toolkit' through a career plan, education, and volunteerism; conducting an efficient job search through research, networking, career fairs, interviewing, and resume writing; employer feedback on what organizations specifically look for in a candidate (local employer panel).

Must be registered to attend.

**Newcomer's Orientation & Information Fair**

Aug. 20 and 27 (if needed); 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Mandatory orientation for all newly assigned USAFA personnel. Spouses are welcome to attend. Event is held at the Milazzo Center.

**Newcomers Red Carpet Base Tour**

Aug. 28; 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

This informative, fun-filled base tour gives insight into the Academy's mission and reveals most of the events/activities to see and do while stationed here. Stops include: USAFA Stables, Cadet Chapel, Arnold Hall, Services Arts & Crafts Center, Outdoor Recreation, and much more.

**SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP**

**CADET CHAPEL**

**Catholic Masses:**

**Sunday**  
Sacrament of Penance - 9:15-9:45 a.m.  
Mass - 10 a.m.

**Wednesday**  
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 5:30-6:20 p.m.  
Sacrament of Penance - 5:30-6:15 p.m.  
Mass - 6:30 p.m.

**Weekday**  
Mass - Mon., Tues. and Thurs. - 6:40 a.m.

**Protestant Services:**

**Sunday**  
Traditional - 9:00 a.m.  
Liturgical (Music Room) - 10:30 a.m.  
Contemporary - 11:00 a.m.

**Jewish Services**

Friday - 7:00 p.m.

**Buddhist Worship**

Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.

**Muslim Prayer**

Friday Prayer - 12:15 p.m.

**Paganism/Earth-centered Spirituality:**

Contact Tech. Sgt. Longcrier at 333-6178 or Robert.Longcrier@usafa.edu

Call 333-2636 for more information

**COMMUNITY CENTER CHAPEL**

**Catholic Masses:**

**Saturday**  
Reconciliation - 3:30 p.m.  
Mass - 4 p.m.

**Sunday**  
Mass - 9 a.m.  
Religious Formation - 10:15 a.m. (September - May)

**Tuesday-Friday**  
Mass - 11:30 a.m.

**Protestant Services:**

**Wednesday**  
Wednesday Night Live - 6 p.m.  
Dinner followed by Religious Education (September - May).

**Sunday**  
Evangelical - 10:15 a.m.  
Gospel - 11:30 a.m.

**Back-to-school party**

A back-to-school party will be held at the Falcon Club from 5 to 7 p.m., Aug. 19. There'll be a pasta bar, games, prizes and fun for the whole family. One lucky Club member will win a \$50 gift card and another member will win a \$25 gift card. Nonmembers are welcome for \$5 per person and club members are free. Sign up for membership at the event and get three months free dues and start benefiting that night.

**Broncos tickets**

Denver Broncos tickets will go on sale 7 a.m. Saturday, at the Academy Outdoor Recreation Center. Pairs of single-game tickets are available for preseason games against Chicago and Arizona and regular season games against Cleveland, Dallas, New England, Pittsburgh, San Diego, NY Giants, Oakland and Kansas City. Camping out in line will not increase your chance of purchasing tickets. A lottery system will be used. At 7 a.m. customers will pull a number for purchase order priority. Customers can purchase up to four seats for one game. Call 333-4475 for more information.

**Strength training**

Many activities continue at the Academy Health and Wellness Center including a new strength training class called, "Basics to Strength Training." If you're intimidated by strength training machines, and techniques, then this class is for you. Every Friday at 8 a.m., Sharon Hawkes, fitness program manager, and assistant Victoria Green will teach. The goal is to ensure attendees learn to create a more efficient, productive, and healthy exercise routine. The staff will help demonstrate correct lifting technique,



Photo by Mike Kaplan

**Historical jackpot**

Under the arch of a late afternoon rainbow at the U.S. Air Force Academy, is B-52D "Diamond Lil." She's one of two B-52D's credited with a confirmed MiG kill during the Vietnam conflict. Flying out of U-Tapao Royal Thai Naval Airfield in southern Thailand, the crew of "Diamond Lil" shot down a MiG northeast of Hanoi during Operation LINEBACKER II on Christmas eve, 1972.



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