

2 AGADEMY SPIRIT WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2012

Class of 2012: Your future starts today

By Lt. Gen. Mike Gould Air Force Academy Superintendent

To the United States Air Force Academy Class of 2012—congratulations! You've earned the right to celebrate! You'll remember May 23, 2012 for the rest of your lives. You've spent the last four to five years learning, training, preparing and giving of yourself to be here with your classmates to finally celebrate this momentous day together.

Today, your persistence and selfless dedication has profound meaning. Today, you've earned the right to say, "I'm a second lieutenant in the United States Air Force." Welcome to the Long Blue Line!

Paula and I are honored to share this experience with you. We've watched with pride and admiration as you've overcome the challenges of cadet life. We've celebrated your successes and shared tears over your setbacks. And today, as you toss your hats in the air over Falcon Stadium, we'll rejoice with you and your families. It's been fun to watch the way you've learned about the history and traditions of the Air Force, just as you've also learned about yourselves — your strengths, your weaknesses, your commitment, your endurance. You have learned what it takes to be an officer of character.

As we look back and recognize everything you have achieved, we also optimistically look toward the future and all that you will accomplish in the coming years. You already know we are a nation at war, engaged in a global ideological conflict against some of the most dangerous and unpredictable enemies the United States has ever faced. I know you are all ready.

Now, more than ever, the United States needs men and women willing to voluntarily raise their hands and say, "Send me." Each of you, selflessly, did exactly that four years ago when you entered the Cadet Wing as fourth-class cadets, and thankfully, you do it again today.

We have immersed you in a culture that taught you to dare to be different. You have separated yourselves from your peers across the country and you have prepared yourselves to be leaders of character to lead Airmen. Now, it's time to showcase your talents. From today forward, you Today, you've earned the right to say, "I'm a second lieutenant in the United States Air Force."



Lt. Gen. Mike Gould

will proudly carry out the unique responsibilities with which you are charged, and you will demonstrate why the world relies on the judgment and integrity of the United States military's officer corps.

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

When you leave Colorado Springs, remember the people of this community who hosted you and supported you from the day you stepped off the bus. Please remember the sponsor families who loved you like their own children ... the fans who cheered you on at sporting events ... the strangers who shook your hand and thanked you for your service when you were around town in uniform. The wonderful people of this town welcomed you with open arms on inprocessing day, and they celebrate with you now as you graduate.

We expect great things from you in the years ahead. The well-being of our nation is in your hands. Today, you take on the extraordinary responsibility of supporting and defending the Constitution of the United States and the American people. We urge you to drive out of Colorado Springs with all the pride and confidence in the world, knowing you're ready for the challenges that lie ahead. Our nation is in good hands — yours. Congratulations, Class of 2012! Forever cherish your fanatical pride in this institution — The United States Air Force Academy!

AGADEMY SPIRIT

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

Lt. Gen. Mike Gould —
Academy Superintendent
Lt. Col. John Bryan —
Director of Public Affairs
Gino Mattorano —
Editor

Don Branum— Staff Writer Amber Baillie— Staff Writer Carol Lawrence — Graphic Designer

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

AOG: Welcome to the Long Blue Line

By Gino Mattorano Academy Spirit editor

As the class of 2012 graduates today, they'll join a legacy that began 53 years ago.

The Association of Graduates is the Academy's alumni association, and serves as a liaison between the Academy and graduates.

William "T" Thompson, the AOG president and chief executive officer, extended his congratulations on behalf of the association.

"Welcome to a tradition that goes back to the Class of 1959," Thompson said. "Welcome to the greatest Air Force in the history of mankind."

Thompson, who is a 1973 graduate, congratulated the graduates on completing the rigorous schedule here.

"Forbes magazine ranked us in the top 10 of all schools in the nation," Thompson said. "Congratulations on getting through one of the toughest programs in the country."

The AOG president challenged graduates to maintain a positive connection to the Academy.

"You not only have a responsibility, but an obligation to make sure that the cadets who follow you have not only the same opportunities, but even greater opportunities," Thompson said. "The AOG is the conduit and the vehicle by which you can stay connected to the institution and provide long-term support to the Academy."

Whether you serve to retirement or choose to separate after your commitment is up, we expect you to not only be leaders of character for the Air Force but for the nation."



acter for the Air William Thompson

Because tax dollars can't be used to fund alumni activities, the AOG provides that service on behalf of the Academy. For that, they need the support of its 44,000 graduates.

Class reunions and Checkpoints magazine, the alumni publication, are examples of AOG products funded, in part, by membership dues, according to Thompson.

"We need your help to be able to support the Academy and the graduate community," Thompson said. "It's our job to keep our graduates connected to the institution, and to be a vehicle for them to give back, not just in terms of financial support, but also staying connected by staying involved with the institution."

As the graduates leave the Academy and begin their Air Force careers,

Thompson encourages them to rely on the training they received at the Academy to succeed in their new careers.

"Continue to do your best," he said.
"Continue to lead. Reflect on what you've learned here at the Air Force Academy and use that as your guide. And in the long term, you have been prepared to be leaders of character for the nation, in everything you do."

Thompson used 1973 graduate Chesley Burnett "Sully" Sullenberger III as an example of a graduate who represents the Academy proudly. Sullenberger was the commercial pilot who made an emergency landing in the Hudson River when the aircraft he was flying hit a flock of birds on takeoff that disabled both engines

"The training he received here at the Academy, not only as a pilot but as a leader, helped prepare him to bring that plane down in the Hudson River," Thompson said. "And he was the last guy off that airplane. He was making sure that the passengers and his crew were safe before he left the aircraft. That speaks not only to the flying foundation he learned here at the Academy, but the leadership training he received here, as well."

"Whether you serve to retirement or choose to separate after your commitment is up, we expect you to not only be leaders of character for the Air Force but for the nation. Welcome to the Long Blue Line."



COVER PHOTO:

Cadet 1st Class Zachary Crippen reflects on graduating from the Air Force Academy and the responsibilities of an Air Force officer.

PHOTO: DON BRANUM

WHITE HOUSE PHOTO/PETE SOUZA

President to deliver 2012 commencement

President Barack Obama, seen here during the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy presentation April 23, will deliver the commencement address to the Academy's Class of 2012 today in Falcon Stadium.

Class Ring Elements

Academy Spirit staff

The class crest is one of the most treasured representations of class unity and class pride. Until graduation, cadets wear the ring with the class crest facing inward, closest to their hearts. After graduation, lieutenants turn the ring so that the Academy crest is closest.

Graduation Year: Clearly displayed at the top of the crest, championing the crest as 2012's.

Five Stars: Indicative of the rank achieved by class exemplar Gen. of the Air Force Henry "Hap" Arnold. The five stars illustrate 2012 as a unique class bound for unparalleled greatness.

Class Motto: "Numquam Hesitabimus, Numquam Deficiemus" — Latin for "Never Falter, Never Fail."

Saber: The Air Force Academy saber is showcased at the symmetric center of the crest and reminds all 2012 graduates of their connection to the Long Blue Line. The initials "H.A." within the saber recognize the class exemplar.

Cadet Chapel: The most recognizable feature at the Academy reminds graduates of the Academy's pristine surroundings and the fanatical pride of every graduate in being a Falcon.

Planes: The three aircraft at the center of the crest are an A-10 Thunderbolt II flanked by two F-22 Raptors. The three planes added together represent the 54th graduating class.

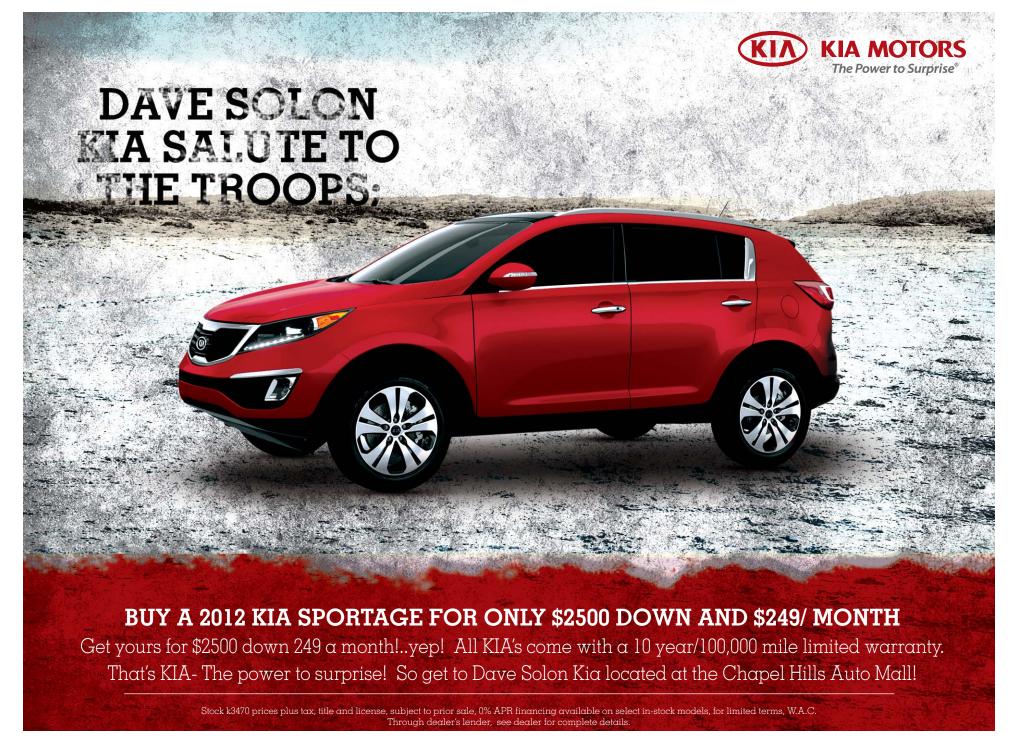
NUMQUAM NUMQUAM INESTABINUS DEFICIENTUS

Eagle: The eagle, remarkable for its strength, size, graceful figure, keenness of vision and extraordinary flight, is depicted in the center of the crest. As the proud symbol of our nation, the eagle is the centerpiece.

Polaris: The North Star lies within the heart of the eagle. It signifies that when times are tough, graduates' moral compasses will not lead them astray

Class Number: The Roman numerals LIV represent the 54th class to graduate from the Air Force Academy.

Prop and Wings: These represent the hard work, discipline and mental fortitude required to be recognized by the greatest military academy in the world.



WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2012

Hayhurst selected as top 2012 grad

Freeport, Fla. native will pursue a degree in astronautical and aeronautical engineering

By Don Branum Academy Spirit staff writer

A native of Freeport, Fla., assigned to Cadet Squadron 06 was named by the Air Force Academy Board on Friday as the Academy's top graduate.

Cadet 1st Class Dustin Hayhurst was also named the Air Force's top cadet in a ceremony at the Pentagon May 10.

"You are at the top of the heap, and that is a very, very prestigious place to be," said Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Mike Gould. "You are going to represent your class extremely well."

Maj. Jeremiah Stahr, the air officer commanding for CS 06, accompanied Hayhurst to the superintendent's conference room Friday morning. Gould warmly welcomed Hayhurst into a meeting already in progress, offered his congratulations and gave Hayhurst the floor.

"Do you want to practice the speech that you'll deliver next to the president?" Gould said, laughing. Hayhurst took a moment to thank the assembled Board members.

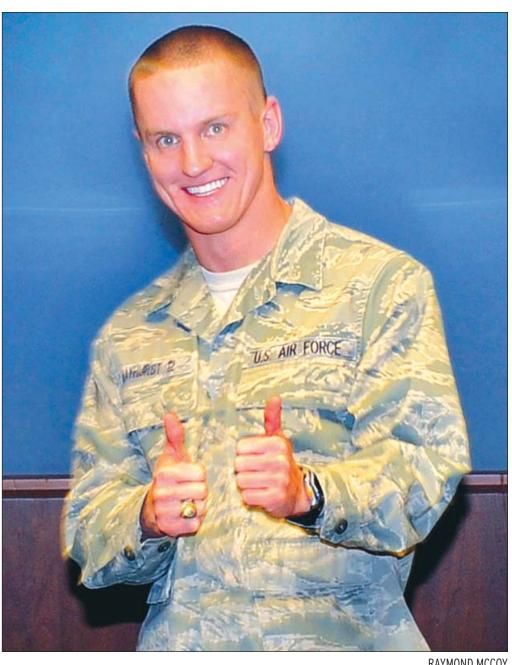
"Thank you all," he said. "Thank you to everybody that put effort and time into this."

Hayhurst said that the experience of being part of a squadron and part of the Cadet Wing staff was meaningful to him -- "Everything from talking with friends to the first shirt, first snow tradition," he added. "All the day-to-day stuff."

Hayhurst took part in the Academy's FalconSAT program, which designs, builds, tests and launches satellite systems each year. He also participated in the Academy's triathlon team and the engineering and national aerospace honor societies.

He will attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology after graduation to study for a master's degree in astronautical and aeronautical engineering. Once he finishes his master's degree, he will attend the Europe-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training program at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.

The top graduate, chosen annually based on academic, military and athletic performance averages, is the first to receive his diploma after the commencement address.



Cadet 1st Class Dustin Hayhurst was presented with the 2011 U.S. Air Force Cadet of the Year Award in the Pentagon May 10. Hayhurst earned the award by demonstrating excellence in military skills, academics and athletics in an Air Force commissioning program.

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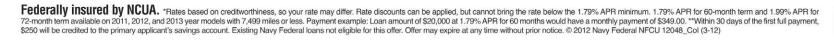
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Academy names 2012 outstanding grads

By Don Branum Academy Spirit staff writer

The Academy named the outstanding graduates from the Class of 2012 on Monday based on their academic, military and athletic accomplishments.

Among those recognized for their achievements are:

Cadet 1st Class William Thimmel (Cadet Squadron 21): Cadet who best exemplifies the highest ideals of loyalty, integrity and courage.

Cadet 1st Class Zachary Crippen (CS 12): Outstanding military performance.

Cadet 1st Class Frederick Feigel (CS 01): Outstanding academic performance.

Cadet 1st Class Austin Wallerstein (CS 21): Outstanding scholar-athlete.

Cadet 1st Class Brandon Roberts (CS 05): Outstanding cadet for character.

Cadet 1st Class Julian Gluck (CS 09): Outstanding cadet for citizenship.

Cadet 1st Class Paulo Dutra (CS 01): The prior-enlisted cadet graduating with the highest class honors and the outstanding cadet for legal studies.

Cadet 1st Class Michelle Kiyota (CS 37): Outstanding Academy Preparatory School graduate.

Cadet 1st Class Peter Mersino (CS 12):

Outstanding cadet for airmanship and soaring.

Cadet 1st Class Benjamin Barringer (CS 38): Outstanding cadet for parachuting.

Cadet 1st Class Daniel Barina (CS 37): Outstanding cadet for powered flight.



William Thimmel

Cadets 1st Class Daniel Rule (CS 06) and Bradley Sapper (CS 03): Outstanding cadets for unmanned aerial systems.

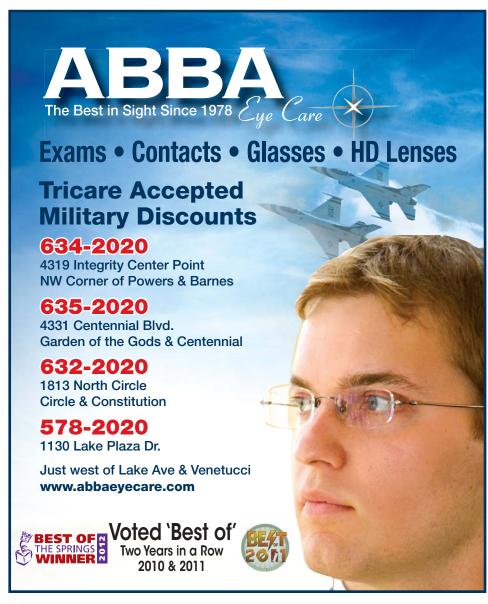
Cadet Wing leaders included the summer, fall and spring Cadet Wing commanders: Cadets 1st Class Kevin Loudermilk (CS 10), Samantha Reep (CS 05) and Benjamin Barringer (CS 38). The Cadet Honor Chairperson was Cadet 1st Class Sean Knowles (CS 10).

Other outstanding Cadet Wing leaders included the outstanding cadet group commander, Cadet 1st Class Michael Oakley (CS 30); the outstanding cadet squadron commander, Cadet 1st Class Bryan McCarthy (CS 07), and the outstanding cadet flight commander, Cadet 1st Class Krystin Shanklin (CS 40).

Outstanding Cadets — Academics

Airmanship Parachuting Powered Flight Soaring Character Basic Sciences Engineering Humanities Social Sciences Aeronautical Eng. Astronautical Eng. Behavioral Sci. Biology Chemistry Civil Engineering Communications Computer Eng. Computer Sci. Eastern Language Minor Economics Electrical Eng. English Environmental Eng. Foreign Area Studies **Geospatial Science** History Legal Studies Management Mathematics Mechanical Eng. Meteorology Military History Military Strategic Studies National Security Studies Operations Research Philosophy **Physics** Political Science Space Operations Systems Engineering Systems Eng. Mgmt. Western Language Minor

Peter Mersino, CS 12 Benjamin Barringer, CS 38 Daniel Barina, CS Peter Mersino, CS 12 Brandon Roberts, CS 5 Casey Horgan, CS 9 Philip Knodel, CS 19 Andrew Eslinger, CS 11 Nathan Betcher, CS 25 Ryan Kolesar, CS 9 Caleb Whitlock, CS 28 Jeremy Kurz, CS 27 Matthew Ward, CS30 Travis Myers, CS 33 Bryan Ashton, CS 29 Kaitlyn Bogan, CS 10 Tristan Latchu, CS 6 Louis Bloom, CS 32 Kyle Mefford, CS 40 David Hein, CS 2 David Adams, CS 34 Bridgett Murphy, CS 4 Joseph Matejcik, CS 7 Michael O'Kelley, CS 29 Paul Wilson, CS 12 Aaron Foster, CS 36 Paulo Dutra, CS 1 Michael Ceci, CS 27 Casey Horgan, CS 9 Philip Knodel, CS 19 Joshua Linsell, CS 25 Aaron Foster, CS 36 Carmella Burruss, CS 15 Frederick Feigel, CS 1 Mark Williams, CS 22 Paul Sikkema, CS 15 Robert Raynor, CS 7 John Nickerson, CS 31 Leanna Hoffmann, CS 39 Evan Abrecht, CS 21 John Lydiard, IV, CS 26 Casey Horgan, CS 09









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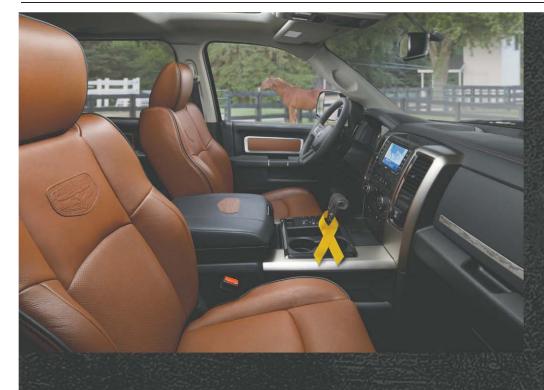
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Raptors remain number one

Cadet Squadron 22 named top squadron for second consecutive year

By Amber Baillie Academy Spirit writer

Cadet Squadron 22's Raptors have continued to soar at the Academy. They were named Outstanding Squadron of the Year for a second year, as they received the honor in 2010-2011 for their outstanding accomplishments in the academic, physical and military realm.

This year the squadron ranked number one in academic and physical achievements and took fifth place in the military category. In the fall the squadron earned the top ranking out of 40 squadrons and has occupied the spot ever since.

"They are extremely competitive and take pride in their accomplishments," said Lt. Col. Brande Walton, CS 22's air officer commanding. "They go about breeding excellence and becoming number one in the best way."

The squadron ranked number one when Walton took over the squadron this past year. She said the squadron breeds excellence through teamwork.

"I take a very hands-off approach," Walton said. "The culture of the squadron makes sure no one falls be-

hind and the upperclassmen teach the underclassmen the standards of the squadron."

Walton said her goal has been to maintain the culture and empower cadets to be leaders.

"I think they've done well because they a keep positive attitude and work hard," Walton said.

The squadron received a plaque and top privileges for the award. Squadron members attended a reception at Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen.

Mike Gould's home and will sit on stage at this year's graduation.

"Fifty cadets from the squadron will sit next to the President,"
Walton said. "It's a neat opportunity and I'm extremely proud of our squadron's accomplishments."

There have been notable individual achievements within the squadron.
The group's squadron commander in the fall, Aus-

tin Davis, received this year's Group Squadron Commander of the Year award and Cadet 3rd Class Ty Perich received the Cadet Wing's Outstanding First Shirt award this spring. The squadron also received five out of ten of the Cadet Wing's 2011-2012 Organization Awards.

"We've had a lot of achievements within our squadron and we are proud to receive the Outstanding Squadron of the Year honor another year," Walton said

Academy recognizes more outstanding squadron performances



Outstanding Squadron

Academic Achievement



Outstanding Squadron

Leadership and Scholarship



Outstanding Squadron

Drill and Ceremonies



Outstanding Squadron

> Military Proficiency



Outstanding Squadron

Intercollegiate Athletics



Outstanding Squadron

> Core Values



Outstanding Squadron

Intramural Athletics



Outstanding Squadron

> Athletic Excellence

Outstanding Group - Cadet Group 3









10 Academy Spirit WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2012

Cadets select Heiser winners

Drs. LeLoup and Carlisle picked by Class of 2012

Dr. Jean LeLoup from the Department of Foreign Languages and Dr. Martin Carlisle from the Department of Computer Sciences won the Academy's 2012 Heiser Awards. The awards were presented to the winners by Cadet Wing Commander Ben Barringer and Wing Academic NCO Joshua Harnisch at a dean's call May 1.

First-class cadets selected the two instructors from more than 190 eligible senior professors. Cadets voted for the instructor who contributed the most to their personal and intellectual development by inspiring them to work harder. In addition, seniors were asked to consider the extent to which instructors continually demonstrated and promoted the Air Force's Core Values: integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do.

Dr. LeLoup earned her PhD in second language acquisition and foreign language education from Ohio State University. Her research interests include the incorporation of culture and the use of technology in the foreign language curriculum. In addition, she is a nationally recognized proponent of target language immersion in the classroom. Dr. LeLoup is the co-founder and co-moderator of FLTEACH, an online discussion forum for foreign language professionals with over 5500 members from the United States and over 80 other countries.

She served as Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Foreign Languages Department from 1995-96 and 2007-09 before retiring as professor emerita of Spanish from SUNY





Dr. Martin Carlisle Dr. Jean LeLoup

Cortland, where she received the Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Teaching and in Faculty Service.

Dr. Carlisle earned a PhD in Computer Science from Princeton University. His research interests include computer security, programming languages and computer science education. He is currently the Deputy for Academics in the Computer Science department. In addition to teaching core and majors' computer science courses, he also coaches the USAFA Cyber Competition Team, which won the 2012 NSA inter-service cyber defense exercise and won 2nd place at the National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition. In the fall, he will take over as director of the Academy Center for Cyberspace Research.

The Heiser Award, named after Professor Emeritus Dr. William H. Heiser, is the only award selected by the graduating class. In 2010 Dr. Heiser was elected honorary fellow for the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics alongside former Secretary of the Air Force Dr. Sheila Widnall.



Air show starts after hat toss

The Thunderbirds Air Force Aerial Demonstration Squadron will begin its air show approximately 30 minutes after the hat toss at the end of graduation, weather permitting. Everyone attending graduation must remain in Falcon Stadium until after the air show has ended.





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Class of 2012 Graduates



Squadron 01 Blaize Edward Angelet Robert Francis Belz Bethany Paige Blackburn Michael Jacob Brown Spencer Houston Buck Allan Eugene Cameron V Christopher Lee Carte Chia-Hsien Chao David Austin Cleveland-Hadley Michael David Cousins Ryan Burke Critchfield James Matthew Dunlop Paulo Marques Dutra Frederick William Feigel Michael David Hauser Jeremiah Luke Haynes Lindsey McKenna Heath Catherine Marcella Kiyota Victoria Marie Martinez Michael James McKinley Rachel Marie Reeder Christopher Rowland Remsing Aaron Jacob Schuetze Alexander Arthur Schultheiss Kyle Edward Schwochow Janai Nicole Singletary Ryan Steven Taylor Kaila Marie Weber Kaitlin Ann Werling Anthony Adam Wright Jr. Zheng Zhong



Squadron 02

Simone Ellyse Barrette Joseph Patrick Boyle Scott Andrew Brooks Michael Anthony Butler Casey Robert Cardwell Meredith Ashleigh Dilley Jon Paul Escamilla Ryan James Gardner David Christopher Hein Stephen Douglas Keck John Frederic Melcher IV Kenneth Andrew Neal

Kody Lee O'Connell

Eric Price Phillips

Austin Daniel Pershke

Jared Courtney Powell Raymond Yoshiki Revell Lauren Nicole Shetley David Shigeo Takahashi Tranay LaShawn Tanner Meagan Anne Wyngarden



Squadron 03 Mason Thomas Armstrong Bryce Thomas Bergman Jonathan David Broadbent Lauren Michelle Carter Sheldon Crosby Clary Caleb Scott Cole Thomas Casey Davis Jr. Derek James Ecklebe Corey Andrew Eddy Michael Reed Fleming Cody Jerome Gentry Jorge Gonzalez Jr. Caitlin Monique Gregory Matthew James Ibarra Shelley Rebekah Johnson Samantha Christine Jones Patrick Howard Joseph Jonathan Frederick Kimball Jamie Ruth Levesque David Anthony Lucas II Henry Fred Niemeyer III Mengyuan Qiu Sheila Renee Sherman Dennis Trent Smith Ryan Scott Sol Michael Sean Wojdan



Calvin James Woodard

Squadron 04 Cody Wade Ables Amanda Porntip Atitya Linden Bradley Ballen Jason Edward Besecky Matthew Ryan Bleckman Corbin John Boyles Hannah Ashley Campbell Daniel James Castro Anthony David Demma Shawn Thomas Emery David Anthony Granato Harrison Michael Green Andrew John Haus

Matthew Warren Hendrickson Brett James McKinnon Timothy Allen Miller Bridgett McCabe Murphy Michael Edward O'Donnell Ashley Diane Olson Joanna Kristen Dytuco Pattugalan Alexa Allyn Ramsier Timothy Alan Reid Samuel Patrick Rinaldi Nathaniel Woodruff Roesler Joseph Donald Shields Daniel Young Won **Enoch Tin Wong**



Squadron 05 Zachary L Bennett Madison Marie Chilton Brack William Duvall Andrew John Ferris Eli Alan Garduno Daniel Thomas Harold Fumiko Eleanor Hedlund Matthew James Lee Ryan Christopher Lutz Hanna Bri Marlette Sean Patrick McGee Kenneth Arthur Natelli Jonathan Casey Newman Aadit Amil Patel Samantha Blythe Reep Benjamin Luke Rinaldi Brandon Louis Roberts Jamela Dominique Sharrie Satterfield Michael Arun Sattes David Paul Shadoin



Ryan Christopher Trudelle

Vicente Nicolas Vasquez

Tyler Daniel Weissinger

Weston Emerson Woldt

James Carson Ure

Bryan Yong Watson

Squadron 06 Russell Tyler Ahrens David George Baccash Christopher James Brown Vincent James Capra

Colby Dawn Chaput Morgan Elizabeth England Harrison Collins Gebs Dustin Luke Hayhurst Timothy Jefferson Jr. Henry Harold Kehs Aaron Jonathan Koveleskie Tristan Alexander Latchu William Joseph Lawrence Daniel Alexander Nelson Anthony Gerard Pompa Sarah Justine Radakovich Paulina Kim Rudolph Daniel Keith Rule Benjamin David Sowers Andrew James Spalla Bryan Gregory Stigall Nicole Marie Torres Susan Rachel Vanden Dries John David Chase Welch Jeffre Kenneth Wood



Squadron 07 Aaron Taylor Ashley Michael Patrick Beaulieu Diana Nicole Bennett Matthew Carldon Blessing Patrick Kenneth Burke Joshua James Burton Stephen Dennis Caple Caroline Lilyann Dluzen Christina Danielle England Patrick Joseph Everson Colton Paul Flynn Maurice Joseph Grosso Philip Jeffrey Leppo Joseph Peter Matejcik Bryan Patrick McCarthy Karl Franklin Oeser Allison Kay Paddock Jamaal Atiba Newton Paul Robert Acheson Raynor Colton J. Reid Kevin Restrepo Michael Anthony Alexander Rubanka Jr. Amber Kay Sikora Joseph William Springfield James Lewis Walmsley Jeremy Corey Webb



Paul Anthony Weisgarber

Squadron 08

Charles George Douglas Bowyer Christopher David Cassidy Nicholas Rosario Cataldo Matthew Evan Clinard Ryan Joseph Cooney Christopher Seth Dyer Wyatt Nelson Dyer William Thomas Friedl Timothy Michael Hartford Steve Barry Jones Jr. Logan Chase Lastovica Samantha Elizabeth Latch Nicholas Ambrose Manning Erika Louise Martin Jennifer Lee Millis Jared Lloyd Morris Cassandra Maria Pederzani

Nathaniel Dixon Raymond Nicholas Kimball Reed Theodore Henry Reicks Ryan Russell Siebert Warren Cole Smith Jr. John Wesley Stribling Jefferson Robert Sweet Shaina Grace Thompson Philip Nicholas Valenzo Jordan Kala Waiwaiole Melvin Nicholas White



Squadron 09 Nicholas Bud Barrett Kirsten Anne Rebecca Buslinger Andrew Wayne Franklin William Marshall Giguere Julian Rico Gluck Joshton Gregory Hall David Thomas Heitstuman Kathleen Sarah Hitt Rachael Lorraine Holderle Casey VI Horgan Shayne Paul Hulce Shawn Gregory Johnson Ryan Scott Kolesar Russell Isaac Long Justin Anthony Lukso Kyle Larry Joe Phillips Thomas Jacob Pitcher Steele Anderson Rackley Joshua Michael Rodriquez Zachary Daniel Schumann Taylor Hargrove Swope Daniel Jay Tenpas John Harper Walitsch Eric Carr Wilson Michael David Rogale Woolfolk



Squadron 10 Wesley Shane Baker Jared Scott Barkemeyer David Creighton Behr Zachary Tillman Blasdel Grant Alan Boehme Kaitlyn Joelle Bogan Stormi Lynne Brewer Christopher Karl Chua Robert Daniel Cilla Benjamin Samuel Crider Erin Rose Dannemeyer Daniel Probadora Dwyer IV Landon R. Grover Ashley Elizabeth Hand Daniel Patrick Hayes Daniel Robison Hughes Kyle Matthew Johnson Sean Knowles John Walter Krzyminski Kevin Andrew Loudermilk Tess Anne O'Neill Brittany Sarah Rucker Erik Benjamin Ruiz Colton Dain Serilli Nathan Alexander Wells Kelvin John Winter Lance Fung Wu

Class of 2012 - By the Numbers

All Graduates to Date:

40,430 4,562

Male Graduates (All Years) Female Graduates (All Years)

Class of 2012:

1,074 Graduates

Commissioned into Air Force 1,051

Graduating Men 854 237 **Graduating Women**

African-Americans 56 91 Hispanics

85 Asian-American/Pacific Islanders

5 **Native Americans** 15 International Students Rated Officers:

529 Total rated graduates

490 **Pilots**

8 **Combat Systems Operators** Air Battle Managers 2

29 Unmanned Aerial System Pilots

Other Statistics:

Grads who attained general officer rank 566

Second-generation graduates 57 60 Second-child graduates

Third-child graduates 4

Fourth-child graduates 2 3

Sets of twins graduating

12 WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2012



Squadron 11 Chad Earnest Aukerman Lindsey Ada Barber James Lance Beissner Richard Gerlow Boyle Kurt David Brill Christina Mary Cassabaum Alison Marie Ceranski Layne Nathaniel Clawson Steven Gregory Eberl Chelsea Dawn Esenwein Andrew Clarke Eslinger Joshua Hagan Freeman Phaelen Ann French David Mark Friday Stephen Andrew Gillespie Morgan Julia Grohol Shawn Joseph Hempsey Ryan Wingard Henderson Sean Michael Herbison Eric Yoo Tae Hwang Matthew Charles Keith Benjamin Gary Kopacka Bethany Anne Marley Kristopher David Morehouse Christina Elizabeth Salley Wesley Dakota Stowe Tyler Charles Untrauer Joshua Chung White



Squadron 12 Amy Michelle Abraham Michael Dale Audiss Jonathan Seth Bopp Ryan David Brady Zachary Alan Crippen Nickolas Gregory Ernandes James David Evans Jr. Philicia Fahrenbruch Stephen Christopher Groff Robert Titan Guidry David Edward Herman Kevin Joseph Jablonsky Carlee Michelle Koutnik Christopher Patrick Lorenz Peter Jacob Mersino Ryan Charles Misare Benjamin James Misra Richard Anthony Noble Stephanie Frances Puzak John Alphonse Quadrino Zachary Michael Schneider Linwood Lee Steiner Andrew Greenlief Street Robert Anthony Vasquez Paul Samuel Wilson Joshua Christian Yeaste



Squadron 13 Carolyn Michelle Batie Adam Charles Berheide James Robert Cole Kathleen Briana Deiters Robert John-Thomas Drye Ryan Christo Fantasia Stephen Andrew Fitzwater Francis Edmund Genco Jr. Luke Alexander Gillis Rachel Layne Harris Kainoa Jason Perez Ho Alyssa Marie Hughey Ian William Eugene Maier Mark Robert Mataczynski Miguel Angel Millares Chavez Joshua Michael Moore Patrick Michael Murphy Adam Jacob Resch Daniel Joseph Scully Nathaniel Taylor Shanks Christopher Michael Smith Malcolm Lewis Strong Tvler Lvnn Todd Jeremy Paul Warfield



Squadron 14 Brianna Noel Adams James Kyle Takeo Arita Jessamy Irene Barton Stewart Cobb Brandon Jr. Adam Jon Campbell Travis Link Deckert Joshua Collin Drapes Okezie Ochioso Ezekannagha Coy Case Fischer Thomas Dean Hainline Paige Elizabeth Hawkins Cody Lynn Johnson Frederick James Johnson Jr. Brent Alan Maggard Stephen James Mellinger Grant William Meyer Samuel Gary Mitchel Alan DeLynn Moore III Joel William Noble Matthew Coleman Richardson Ryan Michael Roulette Tahlia Collette Smoke Martin Span III Rachel Kristine Stanley Brian Michael Walford Johnathan Gustav Westland



Squadron 15 Emilio Becerra Carmella Cynthia Burruss Katherine Louise Carroll Andrew Ross Chinlund Jacob Wayne Andrew Dockery Emili Jenai Grabill Mark Anthony Griffin II Bryan Edward Johnston Andrew Hanaro Kim Daniel Robert Kunkle Jr. Peter Spears Lind Jacqueline May Littlefield Michael Vincent MacAndrew Kyle Nelson MacDonald Evan Dean McCroskey Mark Allen Mendez Stephanie Ann Michael Robert Daniel Neal Gabriel John Paterson Christopher Andrew Perkins Bryan Joseph Rivera Nathan Wendell Seibt Paul David Sikkema Cole Robert Stegeman Jordyn Chelsea Stoddard Christina Leigh Thompson Paul Gregory Weatheroy Jr.



Squadron 16 Michael Angel Alvarez Brady Alan Amack Nathan Charles Christian Steven George Conradi James Fenimore Cooper Sydney Arden Croxton Nathan Thomas Curl Jacob Alexander Daniels Alyssa Michelle Deiters James Justin Swift Franklin Lauren Elizabeth Fuchs Dayton Miles Gilbreath Jonathan Moung Han Justin William Harris Victor Pasquale Iacobbo Daniel Johnson Lacroix Gordon Lang John Lawton Lovvorn John Patrick Murtha III David Edward Neville Jacob Louis Petter Eric Gregory Poland Imed Eddine Rebhi Jordan Douglas Rozsa Sarah Suzanne Sauter

Derek Francis Schumacher Brian Jonathan Smith Marissa Elise Strauss Alicia Kim Wallace Ryan Joseph Williams



Squadron 17 Anthony Ted Alt Danielle Leigh Atkins Lauren Nancy Bailey Daniel Albert Brand Jacob Blase Byorth Richard Cavanaugh Cassleman Johnathan Ryan Cox Jillann Andrea Daniels Lauren Marie Delaney LeRoi Gilbert Edwards Ryan Michael French Estrella Ching Ham Jacob Delyn Houder Andrew Michael Jacobs Eric Russell Johnson Lance Palmer Larsen Bryant Mateus Ndeye Fatou Diouma Ndour Mark Geoffrey Olme **Taylor Matthew Roberts** Emily Lauren Ryals Christopher Michael Shields Keegan Darius Vaira Brandon Joseph Wilde



Squadron 18 Joseph Edward Achenbach Paul Ikeme Adeji-Paul Jr. Jacob Joseph Allen Benjamin John Arneberg Dale Michael Becker Kelly Ann Bieber Willis Ryan Brown Troy Miguel Danno Kurt Andrew DeRussy Douglas Joseph Foss Rocque Serrano Gartland Michael Jeffrey Hester Kyle David Kenerley Rocco Francis LiBrandi Kristi Jo Miner Richard Stuart Mundy Randall Taylor Ott Michael Adam Paranka Kelliann Seaman Joel David Short

Bradford Livingston Smith Craig G ünther Spranger Grant Tyler Swanson Aaron David Volk Jonathan Phillip Warzeka Caitlin Morgan Williams Coryn Marie Wilson Richard Paul Yeilding III Eric David Kalani Zane



Squadron 19 Robert Harris Blank Anthony Joseph Carillo Jonathan Alexander Davis Meagan Elizabeth Eissele Amanda Michelle Ellis Colton James Floyd James Andrew French Eric Matthew Gilpatrick Caitlin Elizabeth Glitz Chad Morrison Hennig Benjamin Kristopher Hoff Ethan James Hunter Alexander James William George Hutcheson Philip Clinton Knodel Blake James Liddle Maxwell William Lutton Kenneth Dwight Moak Jr. Tate Nicholas Montgomery Zachary James Rasmussen Sedra F Razafinimanana Andriama-Dakota Michael Risner

Robert Michael Stephenson Bennett Doron Stuppy Allison Joy Swaney **Grace Margaret Trolinger Emily Claire Ubbens** Hector Jose Valladares Mary Katherine Vasta James Michael VonAhnen Heather Catherine Watts **Dustin Charles Woodside**



Squadron 20 Evelyn Anne Abbate Michael Ray Alfred Katherine Emily Boyle Jana Lynn Bradshaw William Patrick Coley Aaron Thomas Daggit Michael Arenas Estacion Christopher David Ganczewski Irvin Arthur George Jr. Ariana Michelle Green





RACHEL BOETTCHER

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2012

Karl Harvey Grosselin Noah Hanks lankel Yehoshua Hernandez Lemus Steven David Jacob Thomas William Kashul Jr. Delaney Rose Kiernan Benjamin Keith Liptak Katelyn Clare Maffei Michael Phillip Mason Justin Dean Merrick Mitchell Richard Dean Metzler Darrin Scott Nottingham II Christopher Min Paek Geoffrey David Pamerleau Taque Goodwin Patino Trevor David Spiro Jonathan Garret Tack Amanda Elizabeth Terry



Squadron 21 Evan Derric Abrecht Matthew Heinz Akaydin Benjamin Lee Brown Rainer Edgardo Caparas Elvira Nancy Chiccarelli Christopher Ryan Chorney Steven Robert Collins Austin Michael Duran Alicia H Fleshman Benjamin Scott Galloway Fallynne Janet Henderson Jennifer Rae Horn Trent Joseph Kern Anne Yvonne Koons **Bradley Stewart Kusel** Katherine Brooke Lyons Martin Stanley Madsen J. Charles Mintzmyer Roman Calvin Owens Charles William Bauknecht Paul Jeremy Scott Robben Anthony Michael Robinson Clayton James Schmitt William David Thimmel Kalyn Alisha Tung Erik Robert Von Husen Austin Jonathan Wallerstein Catherine Marie Wilson



Squadron 22 Donald Joseph Adkins Jr. Mary Catherine Anderson Thomas Jeffrey Browning Jr.

Garret Langley Bryant Austin Todd Davis Blaze William Dunn Christopher Leabres Ela David William Fox Raymond Vincent Gutierrez Jacob Ray Harrison Kaylee Jean Hay Alexander Michael Kingsley Stephanie Michelle Konvalin Dane Michael Lannon Scott Simon Mathis Kyle McAlpin Michael Robins Moore II Kyle Joseph Nunez Steven Vincent James Parker Michael Kohlhaas Seery Hermes Yanuel Silva Kyle Joshua Stockamp Lane Clayton Thaut Kelly Ann Michiko Wert Mark John Williams Ronald Lewis Windham Jr.



Squadron 23 Mark William Boyer Kevin Louis Brady Jacob Phillip Bruder Austin James Buscher Sarah Elizabeth Dugan Adam Brian Dunne Kevin Manuel Escobedo Andrew Craig Finley Nathan Paul Foltz Matthew Vance Fryer David Edward Gillette Adam Michael Hill Nicole Lauren Johnson Matthew David Keough Kelly Jean Laurent **David James Leeds** Patrick Alan Mayfield Lindsay Morse Erin Mackay Nyre Richard Austin Ollis Daniel Louis Pickett Jacob Charles Ringrose Trenten David Rodriguez Jeffrey Michael Sasaki Jacob Lincoln Wiseman



Squadron 24 Jason Elliot Black Monica Rose Clements



RAYMOND MCCOY

Christopher Lee Danielson Ryan Alexander Del Grosso Jane Marie Demkowicz Kevin Raymond Doolittle Caleb Jonas Egli Ross William Fleming Paola Maria Gavilanes Albert Keith Hatchett Jr. Jennifer Don Kagarise Blair William Kessler J Richard Tyrus Korecki Allison Marie Laning Bryan John Maynard Daniel Arron McGinnis-Welsh Michael Raymond McLain Jacob Michael Naumann Zachary Alexander Peters Chelsea Jordan Ragland Zachary Michael Ratkovich Laith Kasem Samarah John Demarest Saydah Cory Cameron Taylor Williams Joshua Edwin Zambrano



Squadron 25 Paul Matthew Archambault Zachary Lucas Barrington Nathan Richard Betcher Rachel Sophia Burk Derek Adam Burns Allison Rachel Chermel John Thomas DeBonis Sarah Elizabeth Evans Joseph Alphonso Gramling Jonathan Robert Griffin Kyle Steven Hansen James Ross Jensen Andrew Stephen Kleman Daniel Chuson Lee Joshua David Linsell Christopher Andrew Miller David Lee Riegleman Kimberly Jill Shealy Joshua David Stanley Rachel Elizabeth Thomas Evan Michael Twohig Aaron Thomas Vincent Ji Hwan Yoo



Benjamin Ray Aiken Alexander Curtiss Arredondo Sara Michelle Bangert Jeffrey Allen Benson David Harold Beranek Daniel Patrick Bergstresser Jessica Elizabeth Bickford Dylan Lenn Brock Tyler Andrew Brown Phillip Xiao-Guang Choy Katharine Elizabeth Ernst Jose Ricardo Gastiaburu Herrera Andrew Greig Glover Dayna Anne Mary Grant Michael James Kazakoff John Morton Lydiard IV David Skyler Marston Jacqueline Marie Mozingo Meghan Kathleen Prinkey David Hopkins Rice Derek Jordan Schillaci Matthew Dean Selby Manuel Smith James Jordan Snider Yunior Gregorio Soto Travis William Thornton Skyler Mark-Edmund Torres Katherine Lvn Waddel Samantha Lynn Wright



Squadron 27
Steven Robert Alsen
Robert Joseph Brazil III
Richard John Brennan
Jeffory Allen Brenner
Michael Vincent Ceci
Brian Patrick Davis Jr.
Kirby Amelia Forssell
Ross Alexander Gourlay
Brian Paul Higgins
Parker Ewan Jamieson

Erik Nuri Kastmiler Kristen Lane Kennedy Timothy John Kirby Jeremy Robert Kurz Riley Allan Livermore Andrew Stephen Marchi Joseph Daniel Martin Timothy James Miller Austin Taylor Moore Katelynn Gayle Morgan Erik James Aristede Red Matthew Barry Sanders Fanita Hildegarde Schmidt Nicholas Andrew Smith Bill Sangmin Song **Kevin Thomas Whitt**



Squadron 28 John Daniel Atkinson IV Catrina Zarife Begansky Kelsey Elise Bristol Paul Mason Carpenter II Stuart Dean Coston Andrew Donald Durkee Adam Bradley Evenson Alexander Gregory Fogassy Brittany Jenna Gerard Chelsea Renee Hagar David Gordon Ince Jr. Lucas Samuel Johnson Jonathan Woojin Kim Moses Alexander Krehbiel Steven James Lambe Samuel Arthur-Ross Macheak Kristopher Carl Martin Hannah Ashleigh Morehouse Joshua Michael Nelson Ryan Michael Patrick Gilbert Everett Rayhill John Michael Red Bryan Michael Rhoades Daniel Joseph Ronning Milos Risto Seovac Kaitlin Marie Shetley William Andrew Thompson Caleb Wade Whitlock Stephen Kaname Yoshimura



Squadron 29 Brvan Todd Ashton Samantha Fiddler Berthiaume Peter Bradley Broughton Anthony Michael Caliva Aarol Tameru Clinton Johnathan Michael Cody Benjamin Bryan DeWilde Alexandra Paige Gegen Hilary Rae Gibson Julie Katherine Grabarek Chase Charles Guarnaccio Brian Alan Harris James Daniel Hill Ryan Daniel James Andrew Ray Kirk Alexis Alayne Laleman Caleb William Leestma John Thomas Limpert Donald Christopher Lodge-Maragh Kelly Ann McGuire Richard Allen Newberry Michael Glenn O'Kelley Meghan Alysse O'Neill Phillip Chukwudi Ofili Jonathon Hunter Powell Andrew Quinn Risse



MIKE KAPLAN

Jasmine Sunaye Sapp Thomas James Taylor Edward Wong Wei Zheng William Randell Manuel Young



Squadron 30 Jacob Hyam Blasbalg Edward Daniel Camacho Joshua Christopher Cerimele Emily Kay Cotharn Ryan Matthew Dowden Josiah William Depp Eubank Rachel Kay Gebauer Vincent Matthew Gillmore Benjamin Carlton Gomez James Marvin Hamilton Zachary Tyler Helton Maciej Krakowian Michael Allen Oakley Michael Charles Piazza Jonathan Mulloy Quirarte Julie Lee Sung Megumi Joslin Voight David Ray Walcher Matthew Louis Ward Jordan Roy Wittman



Jay Robert Zeigler

Squadron 31 David Joseph Anderson Kristian Anne Barber Michael Andrew Broch Jonathan Maxx Chung Patrick James Day Robert Charles DeMarsh Auriele Nelle Fain Jennifer Ashley Flynn Jeremiah Jordan Gray Anson John Harvey Anthony Robert Jadick Mathew Josef Jerrell Vincent Thomas Jovene III Cranston Miles Kline Nicholas Alexander Konishi Raymond Francis Leinenbach Tyler Scott Levy John Walter Nickerson Russell Blair Roberts Victor Rodriguez Matthew Thomas Rogers David Philip Shrift Brian Robert Stenger Sarah Boyes Thomas Francis Michael Usher Jason Philip Whitehead Justin David Wilson Alexander John Wright



Keith Abraham Wyman

Squadron 32
Levi Dean Almond
Louis Seth Bloom
Rodney Everett Brooks II
David William Brumbaugh
Devon Joseph Dettloff
Timothy Paul Dominice
Lee Brennan Embry

Christa Elaine Ewasko Casey Patrick Habluetzel Yagie Janisch William Bradford Johnson Paul Stephen Ochs Zachary Taul Payne Jared Henry Penner Michael Richard Quezada Gabrielle Ashleigh Quirao Leo Marcus Ricciotti Edward Matutino Rubio Ana Cecilia Ruiz Martin Alexander Schaeuble Lee Michael Schatsiek Daniel Lee Christion Starr Beau Jacob Stegemann Ariel Larneil Waiters Margaret Elizabeth Weingart Shannon Rae Young



Squadron 33 Joshua Lee Bergman Carl Martin Chandler Matthew Christopher Cignoli Drew William Clasen Kristen Elizabeth Connell Andrew William Davenport Thomas Charles Erlinger David Douglas Floren Jonathan Edward Garcia Colleen Elizabeth Haggerty Christopher Louis Hassa Laura Anne Henderson Matthew Steven Hensley Mister Jonathan Eugene Branden Jackson III Zachary Joseph Kauth Jeffrey Douglas Keating Rachel Sharon Mamroth Travis Ray Myers Charles Will Norton Alexandra Debra Petit Andrej Eugene Pulver Samuel Wilde Roller Jeremy James Sarno Colin Scott Swanson Christine Jeanine Sydney William Kyle Tanner



David Christopher Adams James Hamilton Beilby Andrew Michael Bolden Thomas Justin Carter Benjamin Kenneth Chavez Jim Holley Daniels III Cody Owen Deacon Drew Powers Dela Cruz Katherine Lee Dials Michael Patrick Fournier Dustin Lynn Gooden Daniel Hunter Henning Kelcie Rey Irvan Tawny Renae Lambuth Joshua Minsoo Park Olga Pearse Andrew Kyle Petry Jon Marcus Richardson Juan Jose Rodriguez Ryan Patrick Callahan Smith Gordon Maxwell Spahr Michael Lammert Stacks Chloe Michelle Swan Brendan Alexander Taylor Megumi Take VanderWaal Kevin Wayne Weaver Jr.

Ryan Timothy Weldon Kody Alan Wilson Aaron Matthew Zadalis



Squadron 35 Andrew Steven Beckman Cody William Boswell Austin Seth Bracy Ann Patricia Dally Eric Anthony Dziokonski Ryan Patrick Erickson William Mark Evans Cassie Marie Fletcher Denise Meghan Garcia Jason Richard Groose Saskia Rose Hicks Sean Michael Lanham Jami Lynn Larson Charlie Joseph Meier Christopher Hans Moede Jason Michael Ponce Jonathan Arthur Primeaux James-Darrell Vallo Racca Jeffrey Ambrose Schaefer Cody Porter Settle Annalisa Marie Sims Kelsey Anne Smith Anthony Francisco Trevino Colin Steven Vining Jackson Louis Wehmeyer Patrick JaCoby Williams Kelly Elizabeth Wyatt



Squadron 36 Patrick Michael Bodnar Amanda Darlene Bolton Joshua Dean Butler Daniel Mark Carlson Gregory Robert Carte Justin Michael D'Olimpio Aaron Edward Foster Allana Lin Gallant Ian William Hall Allanna Stevi Jones Jacob James Krasnov Austin En-Chung Lan Perri Ann Leake John Christopher Lerch Hector Hugo Lopez Jr. Cody Clinton Main Harrison Clay McWilliams Alexander John Nelson Benjamin John Piehl Christopher Daniel Richardson Tyler Anthony Schultz John Travis Seaver Matthew Carson Thompson Nathan Seth Timsuren Michael Richard Tope Gabriel Antonio Valle Stephen Daniel Wakefield

Angela Jean Zeqollari



Squadron 37 Daniel Kenneth Barina Michael Ley Brecht John William Cowen Steven Zed Davies Ryan Paul Fountain Cody Samuel Freeborn Jacob Paul Fulton Nicholas Richard Jernigan Jordan Thomas Johnson Christina Jurang Jung Jordan Scott Keefer Joshua James Kim Michelle Hanae Kiyota Arif Syazwi bin Mohammad Idris Casey Behrend Mott James Dakota Newton Marie Faith Paquin Payton Eric Pearson III Courtney Danielle Pinkerton **Taylor Hunter Stewart** Matthew Ryan Street Kathryn Lynn Stuard Scott Elliott Stucky Jan Toby Tan Teope Derek John Winkler Mitchell Edward Young



Squadron 38 Sharon Lynn Aradine Benjamin Joseph Barringer Gina Louise Bosworth Matthew Ryan Buford Casey Mark Cox Kira Alexandra Gonzalez Curtis Ned Hansen Jordan Paul Hauschild Joshua Michael Huckabee Kristopher Scot Hull Linda Ga-Kei Lam Michael Charles Lester Ryan Christopher Martinson Devin Alexander Menefee Andrew Joseph Nemethy Robyn Elizabeth Pack Clifford Alexander Peterson Stephen Leon Pineo Kevin Christopher Rosen Ryan Russomanno Michael Brian Smith James Garrett Tewaheftewa Jared Cort Jon Tomaszewski Kebin Peace Oluwaseyi Umodu Matthew Thomas Woods Matija Zupancic



Squadron 39 Jonathan James Atkins Robert Andrew Bell Cory Francis Benson Corydon Baylor Butler III Matthew Edwin Cain Shauna Lynn Casey Ellis Rayfield Claggett II Kyle Alexander Cressy Jenna Leigh Dolata Andrew Colin Gibler Robert William Gulla II Leanna Nancy Hoffmann Danny Kim Brady Arlen Knutson Christopher George Luke Alex Joseph Malm Nancy Lynn Maloch Joshua Martin Palmer Christopher Brandon Poje Travis Shell Potthoff Christina Michelle Salinas Brandon Carl Schoenfeldt Stephanie Sue Sexton Matthew Joseph Siverio Lance Aaron Wach Joshua Earl Wilson Ryan David Young Kyle Kenneth Ziegler



Squadron 40 Claire Eileen Brown James Thomas Colvin III Seth Thomas Danielson Brent Andrew Drabek Anna Melissa Gault Sean William Gent Charles Adam Gross Zachary Ryan Hamby Kenneth Patrick Hertzler Trevor Drew Ibarra Katherine Elizabeth Jacobs Amanda Marie Johnson John Robert Lohr Jr. Brendan James Maestas Kevin Raymond McMullen Kyle Brian Mefford Rachel Lynn Mittelman John Jacob Ottusch V Dmytro Pichkur Robert Joseph Poisson III Christopher Alan Reith Krystin Marie Shanklin John Austin Sidwell Daniel Warren Taubenslag Austin Emilio Trevino



Seniors' star study offers down-to-Earth lessons

By Don Branum Academy Spirit staff writer

A lot of college students spend late nights in dimly lit spaces searching for celestial bodies. However, for two Academy seniors, the celestial bodies in question are worlds the size of Jupiter that orbit stars hundreds of light-years away.

Cadets 1st Class Samantha Latch and Gordon Spahr spent their spring semester collecting information about an extra-solar planet known as Wasp-12b and presented their findings at the Colorado Springs Undergraduate Research Forum at Colorado College in April.

The seniors, from Cadet Squadrons 08 and 34, respectively, had two goals: First, they would try to determine why Wasp-12b's orbit appeared to be speeding up. Second, Latch said, they would try to provide high-quality observational data to the larger scientific community.

Wasp-12b is named after the Super Wide Angle Search for Planets organization, which discovered it April 1, 2008, according to the organization's website. Its parent star, Wasp-12, sits about 870 light-years away in the constellation Auriga, meaning that light traveling from the star takes 870 years to reach observers on Earth.

The planet, which is one and a half

times more massive than Jupiter, orbits its star once every 26 hours. Because it lies so close to its parent star — a mere 2.1 million miles — midday temperatures top 4,000 degrees.

Another side effect of the planet's proximity is tidal forces from the star, which pull the planet into an egg-like shape and tear matter away from the planet at the rate of 193 quadrillion tons per year — or about 175 Death Stars per year if Lehigh University students' math is correct.

A few characteristics make Wasp-12b an ideal candidate for observation. Its parent star lies in the constellation Auriga, which is easily observable from the Academy. And then there was the matter of Wasp-12b's shrinking orbit.

"The variance in transit time usually indicates the presence of a third body in the system," said Latch, a native of Phelps, N.Y. "But Wasp-12b is supposed to be alone."

The Maciejewski paper didn't offer any explanation for the transit time variances, so Latch and Spahr put their own hypothesis together: The planet's orbit was speeding up because it was losing mass.

The cadets, who both began their freshman years in Cadet Squadron 23, burned a lot of midnight oil, staying up until 1 or 2 a.m. Dr. Devin Della-Rose, an associate professor with the



SARAH CHAMBERS

Cadets 1st Class Samantha Latch and Gordon Spahr discuss observation data on Wasp-12b, an extra-solar planet more than 870 light-years away, during research here April 12.

Physics Department here, stayed up late with them, Latch said.

"He's really dedicated himself but geared toward letting us lead the charge," added Spahr, a native of Lafayette, Calif.

The reasons behind Wasp-12b's decaying orbit remain a mystery, Latch said. But she and Spahr both felt good about the quality of their data.

"The error margin was ... out there on the same level as professional teams," Latch said. "Seeing that we're running with the pack was really encouraging."

More impressive is that the cadets accomplished a good margin of error with a 50-year-old telescope, Della-Rose said.

"We're down to a 10-percent error in

any of the magnitudes that we measure," he said. "One of the professors who used to teach here, Raymond Bloomer, came out a couple of years ago with two of his undergraduate students. Learning from him was really invaluable in helping us cut down our error bars."

The lessons they've learned can also benefit the Air Force in the future, Della-Rose said. The scientific method used to conduct the research is universal, while the tools and techniques for studying exoplanets are the same ones used to study satellites.

Latch is slated to attend undergraduate pilot training at Sheppard AFB, Texas, after graduation, while Spahr will attend the Air Force Institute of Technology.

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Rugby on the radar

Seniors on women's rugby team zone in on sport's rewards

By Amber BaillieAcademy Spirit staff writer

Although it's brutal, intense and often bone-breaking, the seniors on the Falcons women's rugby team said it's the physical and psychological challenges of the sport that catapulted their confidence and friendships at the Academy.

The team's six lieutenants-to-be have something new to tackle — their respective careers in the Air Force — but they won't forget what the toughskinned, hardheaded sport has taught them about teamwork, resilience and leadership.

"The sport itself is a blast and the people I was able to play with over my four years were amazing," said Cadet 1st Class Ann Dally, the team captain. "We became like a family and being a part of the team with such amazing girls helped me get through the Academy."

The spring team ranged from 25-35 players and competed in the Pacific Mountain Rugby Conference. The team finished fourth in the region.

"In previous years, we were ranked among the top five in the nation," Dally said. "This year we lost three and won one as far as league matches go. The scores were very close, and I think with some more experience on the team, it will continue to grow and we can win another two back-to-back national titles again."

The team won national titles in 1995, 2002 and 2003 and last qualified for the Rugby Sweet 16 Playoffs in 2006.

"I see the team moving back to one of the top teams in the nation," said Dustin George, a 15-year rugby coach who came to the Academy in 2010. "The Academy has a great facility and gives the team the support they need."

Rugby is a style of football where the ball can be kicked, carried or passed from hand to hand. It's typically played by two teams of 15 with two 40-minute halves, and it involves full-contact tackling. Players attempt to get the ball into their oppo-

nents' goal without blocking opponents or passing the ball forward.

"The beauty of rugby is that you use so many different skill sets in the game," George said. "All of the positions are different and offer an opportunity for every type of athlete."

George coached rugby at the University of Northern Colorado and Colorado State. He said there's more to rugby than just its stereotypes.

"The game has depth and allows players to really get involved," George said. "Rugby is for a competitive spirit who has the capacity to learn and work hard."

Dally said rugby injuries aren't as common as one might think, despite the sport's hard-hitting nature.

"Physically, anyone can play, but you have to have the right attitude. You can't be afraid of being tackled or of tackling," Dally said. "Injuries happen, but there are ways to be safe about playing, and our team in particular has a big emphasis on safety. In our 30-year history as a club, nobody has ever lost their player qualification because of a rugby incident."

Women's rugby developed at the Academy in the late '80s and is offered in the fall and spring.

Dally said rugby is a great opportunity for women to be a part of a team, stay fit and test themselves.

"When you're on the field and there are 15 other women who want to physically hit you, repeatedly, your adrenaline starts pumping," Dally said. "You have to think through the fear and adrenaline, and make good decisions."

The team traveled to Boulder, New Mexico and Navy this season. They will head to Salt Lake City to play BYU in the fall.

"I enjoy the friendships you build during the sport," said Cadet 1st Class Shaina Thompson, who played on the team for two years. "We all have to rely on one another for moral and physical support. There will always be shining stars (who) play their position better than anyone else on the team,



THERESA CAMERON

Above, Academy's Second Row Theresa Cameron (left) battles an opposing jumper for the ball off of a lineout during the Navy match.

but the dynamics of how the ball is moved on the field forces everyone to work together."

Dally said she's seen a transformation in herself and teammates through rugby.

"Some of the girls I have played with off the field are shy and quiet and wouldn't hurt a fly," Dally said. "On the field, they become strong, confident, aggressive players."

Thompson said the game is a great stress outlet.

"Rugby is awesome, brutal, and I can be as intense as I want," Thompson said. "Rugby is tough, and if you aren't willing to put in the work, you'll just get worked."

The senior ruggers who bid farewell to the team are Chelsea Ragland, Emily Ryals, Rachael Holderle, Dally, Delaney Kiernan and Thompson.









MARK J. BENTELE, DDS, MS, PC (Col, USAF, Ret)

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Athletics recognizes 2011-12 outstanding student athletes

By Athletic Communications

Air Force Athletics recognized outstanding cadet-athletes at the end of the 2011-12 sports season during the Academy's annual awards ceremony.

Scholar-athlete award: A.J. Wallerstein is a two-time all-conference

selection on the field and has been equally impressive in the classroom. Wallerstein is a double major in physics and mathematics and has twice been named to the College Sports Information Directors of



A.J. Wallerstein

America academic all-district team. Athletic leadership award: Senior Paul Weisgarber earned the Athletic Leadership Award. A senior winger from Fargo, N.D., Weisgarber was a two-year team captain who helped lead the Falcons to three Atlantic Hockey Association tournament

championships and three NCAA appearances in four years. Weisgarber was a finalist for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award, recognizing excellence on the ice, in the class room and in the community. Weis-



Paul Weisgarber

garber was the first player in school history to win six of the team's postseason awards in his career. On the ice, Weisgarber never missed a game in his four years, setting a new school record with 155 consecutive games played. He concluded his career with 31 goals, 42 assists and 73 points.

Athletic Excellence: Jim Walmsley had a stellar senior year as a member of the Academy's cross country and trackand-field team, claiming four Mountain West Conference track titles and earning all-conference and all-region honors

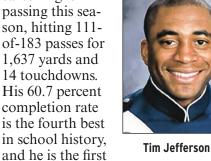


Jim Walmsley

in cross country. During the fall, Walmsley was a two-time Mountain West Runner of the Week, claiming both honors after winning performances at the Rust Buster Invitational (meet record) and the Woody Greeno Invitational. He earned all-conference honors following a fifth-place finish at the MWC Championships and collected all-region honors behind a 21st-place finish at the NCAA Regional Championships.

Outstanding athletic achievement: Senior Tim Jefferson became the winningest quarterback in school history this season, posting a career record of 28-16. Jefferson's 28 wins ranked him sixth nationally. He recorded

career highs in passing this season, hitting 111of-183 passes for 1,637 yards and 14 touchdowns. His 60.7 percent completion rate is the fourth best in school history.



quarterback in Air Force history with consecutive seasons of 10-plus touchdown passes.

Jefferson closed his career third all-time in school history in passing yards with 4,599, tied for second in touchdown passes with 34, and second in quarterback efficiency with a mark of 146.12.

Female most-valuable athlete: Senior Bridgett Murphy earned All-MWC for the fourth-consecutive season, earning First Team honors in women's soccer for the first time as a senior. Murphy led the team with five assists and ranked second with four goals and 13 points. Murphy also

earned All-Region honors in the Pacific Region by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. She is the first all-region player at the Academy since 2001 and just the second in the Mountain



Bridgett Murphy

West era. Murphy is also a standout in the classroom, earning Academic All-Region three times and Academic All-Conference four times.

Male most valuable athlete: Air Force senior defenseman Tim Kirby was one of 10 finalists for the prestigious Hobey Baker Award, given annually to the top collegiate hockey player in the nation. He was named to all three major

All-America teams, garnering second-team honors by the coaches (American Hockey Coaches Association East) and by USCHO. com. He was a third-team Inside



Tim Kirby

College Hockey All-America selection. Kirby was the Atlantic Hockey Association Player of the Year (unanimous), Defenseman of the Year and a first-team all-league and all-tournament team selection.

Kirby tied for third in the nation in goals by a defenseman with 12 and was 19th in the nation in points by a defenseman with 28 (0.72 per game) (12-16-28). The Austin, Minn., native scored in 22 of the 39 games, tied as the most on the team. Kirby played in every game in his career, breaking the Air Force Academy record with 155 consecutive games played. He ranks ninth in school history for points by a defenseman (26-62-88).





gazette.com/dealoftheday

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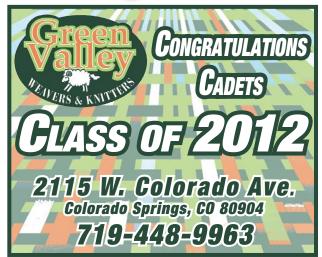


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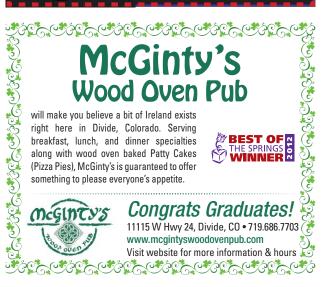














20
AGADEMY SPIRIT
WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2012

Athletes earn 2012 'most valuable' honors

By Athletic Communications

Men's Cross Country: All-conference and all-region honoree Jim Walmsley had a stellar senior year. A two-time Mountain West Runner of the Week, Walmsley earned a pair of first-place finishes. With a meet record 6K time of 18:30.72, Walmsley won the season-opening Rust Buster Invitational, finishing 15 ahead of the rest of the 134-runner field. The team captain also took first in the 305-runner Woody Greeno Invitational, successfully defending his title with the sixth-fastest 8K time ever at Nebraska's Pioneer Park (24:15.3). He became the first Air Force runner to earn the conference's athlete of the week award in back-to-back weeks since 2008, while becoming only the fifth Falcon to claim multiple awards in a career.

Women's Cross Country: Melissa Fuerst became just the second female runner in Air Force history to finish within the top-10 at the Mountain West Championships (ninth) and just the fifth to earn all-conference accolades during an impressive junior sea-



Jim Walmsley

son. She paced the Falcons during five of six races, including the conference (ninth) and regional championships (32nd). Fuerst earned MW Runner of the Week honors after placing second among 283 runners at the Woody Greeno Invitational. Improving her personal time at the 6K distance by nearly one minute (21:25.7) at that event, Fuerst clocked the seventh-fastest time since 2002 at Nebraska's Pioneer Park.

Football: Senior safety Jon Davis was named first-team all-conference while ranking among the league leaders in several categories. Davis tied for second in the MW in interceptions with a team-best four and was 10th in tackles with 94, a 7.2 per-game average. He was fourth in the conference among defensive backs in tackles. Davis earned Walter Camp Football Foundation National Defensive Player of the Week honors for his efforts against Army in the team's 24-14 victory.

Men's Soccer: Junior Kevin Durr, a midfielder from Garmisch, Germany, led the team in scoring this season with 22 points. He scored six goals and dished out a team-high 10 assists. His 10 assists ranked second in the MPSF and seventh nationally

and were the most by a Falcon in one season since Marcus Sagastume had 13 in 2003.



Bridgett Murphy

Women's Soccer: Senior Bridgett Murphy is Air Force women's soccer team MVP for the second straight season. Murphy earned All-Mountain West Conference for the fourth-consecutive season, earning First-Team honors for the first time. Murphy led the team with five assists and ranked second with four goals and 13 points. Murphy also earned all-regional and academic all-district honors.

Water Polo: Senior Danny Harold was named the Air Force water polo MVP for the 2011 season. Harold, who was named a second-team All-Western Water Polo Association Tournament selection, finished the season with 205 saves as the Falcons' starting goalkeeper.

Volleyball: : Maiya Perich, the eldest member of one of the nation's youngest teams, had a strong junior, setting two of the program's Division I single-season records. Perich became the program's Division I leader in single-season digs on Nov. 10, as she broke Tracy Wilkerson's 1999 standard of 355. Perich concluded the season with 400 digs to shatter the previous mark by 45. She also became the first Division I player to tally at least 4.0 digs-per-set, as she tallied a program-best 4.17 average in digs, and set a Division I record for digs in a single match with 36 stops against Denver on Sept. 1. Men's Basketball: Junior Michael Lyons earned the Bob Beckel Most Valuable Player award for the 2012-12 campaign. Lyons, who missed six games during the middle of the season with a high ankle sprain, led the team and finished third in the Mountain West in scoring, averaging 15.5 points per game. He was named the most valuable player of the seasonopening All-Military Classic and became the first Falcon since 1998 to score at least 20 points in three consecutive games.

Women's Basketball: Junior Dymond James was named the Air Force women's basketball MVP for the 2011-12 season. James was named an honorable mention All-Mountain West selection, becoming just the ninth player in program history to garner All-Mountain West accolades. She finished the season with 12.4 points per game, including a team-best 13.1

points per contest in conference play, while averaging a team-leading 6.3 rebounds per contest.

Men's Fencing: Senior Phillip Choy (men's foil) qualified to the NCAA Men's and Women's Fencing Championships. Choy was the individual men's foil runner up with a 6-2 bout record. At the NCAA Fencing Championships, Choy finished 23rd and helped the Falcons' to a 15th-place team finish. On Jan. 7, 2012, Choy finished 14-4 at the Western Invitational and added to the foil team's five victories against some of the nation's top collegiates.

Women's Fencing: Senior Christina Jung served as the 2012 women's fencing team captain. Throughout here Academy career, Jung helped to mentor the women fencers on and off the strip. At the 2012 Duke Meet in February, Jung helped to lead the women's foil team to an 8-1 victory versus the foils from North Carolina, giving the Academy's foil squad their only outright victory of the day. Men's Gymnastics: Corbin Palmer had a strong freshman campaign, as one of only two Falcons to earn multiple USAG All-America certificates (floor exercise, parallel bars) in 2012. Palmer recorded the squad's second-highest scores on the floor exercise (14.500) and high bar (14.400), while tallying the third-best marks on the vault (14.400) and parallel bars (14.350).

Women's **Gymnastics:** Linnaea Hance had a strong sophomore campaign, representing the Falcons at the NCAA Regional Championships and posting the program's best finish (14th) since 2005. In addition to posting the team's top marks on the uneven bars (9.850) and all-around (38.775), Hance also recorded the second-best scores on the vault (9.650), balance beam (9.825) and floor exercise (9.775). Hance, who was named the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Gymnast of the Week on March 6, claimed a team-best three all-conference accolades (vault, uneven bars, balance beam).



Christina Jung

Hockey: Air Force senior defenseman Tim Kirby was one of 10 finalists for the prestigious Hobey Baker Award, given annually to the top collegiate hockey player in the nation. He was named to all three major All-America teams, garnering secondteam honors by the coaches (AHCA-East) and by USCHO.com. He was a third-team Inside College Hockey All-America selection. Kirby was the

Atlantic Hockey Association Player of the Year (unanimous), Defenseman of the Year and a first-team all-league and all-tournament team selection. He tied for third in the nation in goals by a defenseman with 12 and was 19th in the nation in points by a defenseman with 28 (0.72 per game) (12-16-28).

Rifle: Senior Patrick Everson concluded his Academy career breaking several of his own individual records. In December at the 2012 Olympic Air Gun Trials (Part 1); Everson advanced to the final round with a 590 and fired a 101.3 to advance to the final round. He was the only collegiate shooter at the tryouts to advance to the final round on Day 1. On day 2 of the trials, he shot a 578 and finished in 12th place overall with a career record 1269.9 aggregate score.

Boxing: At 175 pounds, Mike McLain became just the 12th Air Force boxer to capture four consecutive Wing Open titles. The senior team captain earned NCBA All-America honors for the fourth straight year, after finishing second at the NCBA Championships. He also claimed the NCBA West Regional title at 175 pounds for the third straight year.



Mike McLain

Men's Swimming: Senior Corydon Butler is Air Force men's swimming anddiving team MVP. Butler capped off a stellar four-year career by earning All-Mountain Pacific Sports Federation in a team-leading three events. Butler was AFA's lone first-team all-conference recipient, earning the honor in the 500 yard freestyle, where he was the MPSF runner-up.

Women's Swimming: Freshman Kim Davis is Air Force women's swimming and diving team MVP. Davis had a standout freshman year that saw her break three school records and qualify for the U.S. Olympic Trials. The Brentwood, Tenn., native set school records in the 200 yard individual medley (2:02.45), 400 IM (4:22.79) and 200 Breaststroke (2:16.78). In addition, Davis became Air Force's first female swimmer to qualify for the Olympic Swimming trials, doing so in the 200 meter breast. Davis will compete in the 2012 USA Olympic Trials this June.

Wrestling: Junior Cole VonOhlen was chosen as the 2011-12 Air Force wrestling team MVP. The Falcons' Most Outstanding Wrestler for the second-straight season, VonOhlen closed out the regular season with a 35-2 record, earning his third-consecutive NCAA bid. VonOhlen, who was ranked as high as third nationally in his weight class, claimed his second-straight West Regional title before turning in his best-ever showing at the NCAA Championships, reaching the round of 12 and finishing just one win short of All-America status.

Baseball: Senior right-hand pitcher Evan Abrecht was named Air Force baseball team MVP. Abrecht led the Falcons with a 4-5 overall record and his 4.81 earned run average was the second-lowest at the Academy in the last 10 years. The Farmington, Ark., native also led the Falcons with 95.1 innings pitched and was second with 65 strikeouts. The senior pitched into the sixth inning in all 13 of his starts this year.



Evan Abrecht

Lacrosse: Senior Dayton Gilbreath was named the Air Force lacrosse MVP for the 2012 season. The team captain, a two-time defensive MVP for the Falcons, was a first-team All-ECAC selection on defense this sea-

son, making him just the third player in program history to be named a four-time all-conference honoree. A four-year starter, Gilbreath has been responsible for shutting down the opponents' top scorer throughout his

Golf: Sophomore Kyle Westmoreland posted the first win of his career when he captured the individual title at the 2011 Service Academy Classic. He won the tournament by five strokes. Westmoreland led the team with a 73.7 average per round and shot a career-best 67 twice this season. In addition to his victory at the SAC, he posted three other top 10 finishes, including tying for seventh at the William Tucker Invitational in Albuquerque, N.M., and the Rice Intercollegiate in Houston, Texas.

Men's Tennis: Junior Lance Wilhelm earned his third consecutive Most Valuable Player award this season. Wilhelm, one of only seven players to win the MVP award at least three straight seasons, led the Falcons with 22 overall singles wins, including a 15-8 record at the No. 1 spot. In the fall, he won the "A" singles flight at the UNM Balloon Fiesta Classic. Wilhelm went 5-5 against regionallyranked opponents and became the first Falcon since 2007 to earn allconference honors in singles.

Women's Tennis: Senior Tahlia Smoke earned her first all-Mountain West selection this season, earning it for doubles with Melissa Cecil. The duo went 23-13 overall and 13-9 at the No. 1 spot. They also became the first Air Force doubles team to advance to the semifinals of the ITA Mountain Region tournament. In singles,

Smoke posted a 21-14 overall record and was 15-7 in dual matches, including a 9-4 mark at the No. 4 spot.

Men's Track and Field: Jim Walmsley collected four conference titles for the Falcons during his senior season. The MVP of the cross country team, Walmsley swept the titles of the two longest races at the Mountain West Indoor Championships (3000-meter run, 5000-meter run), while taking first in the 3000-meter steeplechase and 5000-meter run at the MW Outdoor Championships.

Women's Indoor Track and Field: (as of 16 May) Paige Blackburn is in the midst of a stellar senior season, that saw her set an Academy record in the hammer throw, win the Mountain West javelin title and score for Air Force in all six throwing events (indoor and outdoor). She placed fourth in the shot put and fifth in the hammer throw at the indoor conference championship meet, while finishing first in the javelin, second in the discus, seventh in the shot put and eighth in the hammer throw at the outdoor championship meet.

Men's Track and Field Outstanding **Competitor:** Cale Simmons set Academy records in both the indoor and outdoor pole vault, while sweeping the Mountain West titles in that event and earning All-America status at the NCAA Indoor Championships. Selected as the USTFCCCA Mountain Region Male Field Athlete of the Year, Simmons cleared an Academy-record 18'11'4" during the indoor season to take over the NCAA lead among 2012 pole vaulters. He won the pole vault during four of seven indoor competitions, including the



Tahlia Smoke

Mountain West Championships, while finishing fifth at the NCAA Indoor Championships to earn All-America first-team honors.

Women's Track and Field Outstanding Competitor: Kimber Shealy set the Academy record in the outdoor pole vault during a winning clearance of 13'13/4" at the Front Range Classic. In addition to setting a new FRC Meet record, Shealy became the first athlete since 2002 to impact a Stadium Record at the Cadet Outdoor Track and Field Complex. Shealy claimed five first-place finishes on the year (three indoor, two outdoor), while scoring for the Falcons in both the indoor and outdoor conference championships.



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Solution on page 17

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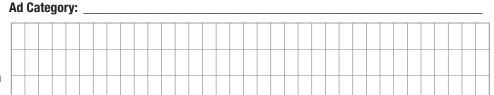
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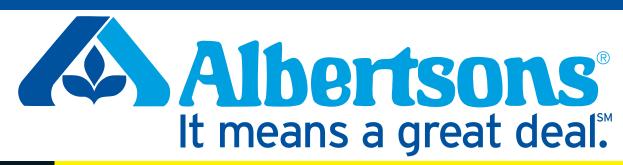
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