

FALCON FAMILY NEWS

AUGUST 2009

CLASS STATISTICS (as of 31 July 2009)

| | Men | Women | Total |
|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| 2010 | 840 | 188 | 1028 |
| 2011 | 869 | 216 | 1085 |
| 2012 | 951 | 269 | 1220 |
| 2013 | 1057 | 261 | 1318 |
| WING | 3717 | 934 | 4651 |

ACADEMY RANKED AMONG NATION'S BEST COLLEGES

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo., -- The U.S. Air Force Academy's professors are among the most accessible in the nation, according to *The Best 371 Colleges* guide, released July 28 by Princeton Review.

Faculty availability is an expectation at a military service academy, and the Air Force Academy ranks fourth in the nation in professor availability. At the 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.

Several academic departments here also staff Extra Instruction laboratories throughout the academic day, with at least one professor available each class period to help cadets tackle questions arising from their latest lessons.

The Academy also came out in several other top-20 rankings in the nation, including:

- #4 Don't Inhale
- #6 Stone-Cold Sober Schools
- #8 Future Rotarians and Daughters of the American Revolution
- #11 Most Conservative Students
- #11 Everyone Plays Intramural Sports
- #19 Scotch and Soda, Hold The Scotch

The Princeton Review features the Air Force Academy and other local colleges in *The Best 371 Colleges*, the new 2010 edition of its annual "best colleges" guide. The guide utilizes online student surveys in 62 categories to assess the academic, administrative, quality of life, social, extracurricular and other aspects of life at American colleges.

The Air Force Academy's fall semester begins Aug. 6.

FORBES RANKS ACADEMY 7th-BEST IN NATION

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo., -- As cadets begin their fall semester today, they do 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. This follows the Princeton Review's recent best colleges rankings, which put the Academy as #4 in professor availability.

For more information on the full list of rankings by Forbes, visit:
http://www.forbes.com/2009/08/02/best-colleges-ratings-opinions-ranking-2009_land.html

US NEWS & WORLD REPORT: AFA 'BEST IN THE WEST'

The U.S. Air Force Academy was named the best baccalaureate college in the west for the third year in a row, and received high rankings in engineering in the U.S. News & World Report's America's Best Colleges 2010 rankings.

U.S. News evaluated universities which offer only undergraduate degrees, and ranked the colleges in four geographic regions: west, north, midwest and south.

In the western region, the Academy was the #1 best baccalaureate college. This region includes Texas, Oklahoma, and every state directly north, south and west of Colorado, including Alaska and Hawaii.

The ranking was based on a wide range of criteria, including student-faculty ratio, percentage of full-time faculty, acceptance rate, class size and freshman retention rates.

“We are very proud of the rankings that we have received. These national public rankings are indeed a source of pride,” said Brig. Gen. Dana Born, USAFA’s dean of the faculty. “The rankings validate the many achievements of our cadets and faculty, including top-flight senior capstone design programs, many nationally-competitive scholarships, awards at student research and writing competitions, and relevant, sponsored research for the Department of Defense.”

The Academy also received top rankings in undergraduate engineering. The Academy ranked #2 in the nation in aeronautical and astronautical engineering for the ninth consecutive year, behind only Embry Riddle Aeronautical University’s main campus. The Academy also ranked #2 in the country in electrical, electronic and communications engineering, behind only Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

USAFA also fared well in mechanical engineering, according to U.S. News, placing #2 in the nation, with Rose-Hulman being #1. Overall, the Academy tied for #6 in the country for having the best undergraduate engineering program.

The Academy also finished #1 among schools of business with undergraduate degrees only and #12 in the country among schools of business where a doctorate is not offered.

The Academy tied for #74 with eight other schools for the best undergraduate business program in the nation.

The U.S. News & World Report ranking is just one of the accolades the Academy has garnered recently. Earlier this month, Forbes ranked USAFA as the seventh best undergraduate institution in America.

“While we will continue to keep an eye on the national public rankings, it is my hope that all of us (graduates, educators, administrators, prospective students, parents and taxpayers at large), will ask even more questions about the quality of student learning and development,” General Born said. “When you drill down into what goes on every day, you see that we invest in our cadets, because tomorrow they become our wingmen with whom we will fly, fight, and win in air, space and cyberspace.”

The U.S. Air Force Academy is a four-year bachelor of science degree university. USAFA’s mission is to educate, train and inspire men and women to become officers of character motivated to lead the U.S. Air Force in service to our nation. All graduates are commissioned as second lieutenants in the U.S. Air Force. For more information on the Academy, visit www.usafa.af.mil.

PARENTS’ CLUBS AND FUNDRAISER SOLICITATION

We have been advised by the Legal Department that the government email system cannot be used to send commercial advertisements. This means that parents’ club fundraiser information can no longer be sent through the USAFA email system. Parents’ clubs will have to send this information via their own computers.

THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS BREAKS

Thanksgiving Break - cadets can depart a little earlier than anticipated for Thanksgiving Break. Leave begins after LMD (noon) on 24 November. Cadets should plan their flight departures **no earlier than 2:30 pm from Colorado Springs and 3:30 pm from Denver**. For planning purposes on the return, if arriving in Denver, they need to arrive NLT 1530... and if in COS, they need to arrive NLT 1630. This allows for adequate transit time in the event we experience inclement weather in the local area.

Winter break begins 18 Dec but the cadets are allowed to leave after their last final. Finals take place on 12, 14, 15, 16 and 17 Dec and your cadet will not know his finals schedule until Sep or early Oct. If you absolutely need to make reservations now you should make them for the 18th, though. Cadets departing on the 18th should sign out no later than 10:00 a.m. (Keep in mind the last final could be on any of those dates and your cadet could “possibly” leave earlier than the 18th.) Cadets must sign back in by 7:00 pm on Sunday, 3 Jan. Again, for planning purposes on the return, if arriving in Denver, they need to arrive NLT 1530... and if in COS, they need to arrive NLT 1630. This allows for adequate transit time in the event we experience inclement weather in the local area.

SABRE PURCHASE FROM CADET ISSUE

Firsties are allowed to purchase three sabres during their senior year but should not wait until graduation time to do it as Cadet Issue may run out. The sooner the better! Firsties should call before going to Cadet Issue at 719-333-3218. The cost of a sabre as of July 2009 was \$194.34.

CADET WING MEDIA INFORMATION

Graduation 2009 Video (in DVD format only) can still be purchased; order forms are available at <http://www.usafaservices.com/cadetmedia.htm> or by contacting Cadet Wing Media, 719-333-4644 and cwmedia@usafa.edu.

The **2009 Graduation Video** includes the graduation day ceremony with the entire cadet wing receiving his or her diploma and first salute. Also included are the Individual Award Ceremony and excerpts from family reception, organizational and graduation parades plus much, much more!

Individual Parent Clubs can purchase ad space in **POLARIS yearbooks** yearly by contacting CWMedia@usafa.edu. Next available opportunity will be the **2010 POLARIS** yearbook.

CLASS OF 2013 PARENTS

The **Basic Cadet Training Video** may be purchased at the Information Fair, Arnold Hall ballroom, 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on 4 Sept 09 (Parents Weekend).

*Limited Edition: Preorders are encouraged and order forms are available at <http://www.usafaservices.com/cadetmedia.htm>.

**Preorders are mailed, last minute purchase opportunity only!

Portrait opportunity for Cadets and their families during Information Fair, Arnold Hall ballroom, 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on 4 Sept 09 (Parents Weekend).

**Basics who missed BCT portrait photo - this is the only make-up opportunity until annual year portraits in the Fall semester.

Tune in daily on the web with **KAFA 97.7 FM** at <http://www.usafa.org/KAFA.aspx> . This is your Academy radio station and you can listen in while visiting the Academy for weather, traffic and up-to-date Parents Weekend information.

Look for photo updates www.afaphotos.printroom.com of BCT training and the entire Academy experience.

DENTAL TRAUMA- WHEN TEETH GET IN HARMS WAY

By Col (Dr.) Ann M. Blake

We all know that the life of an Air Force cadet involves much more than a demanding academic course load. From the first day of Cadet Basic Training to the day of graduation, the cadet is required to participate in physical activities that are tremendously demanding. Intercollegiate athletics, intramural competitions, physical training, military indoctrination, recreational activities enjoyed during cadet down time...any one of these could result in an accidental blow to the head or face resulting in trauma to the teeth. Here at the USAFA Dental Clinic it is our goal to minimize preventable trauma, but when accidents do occur, we are always on-call to provide the finest professional care for those in need.

PREVENTION

There are a number of simple precautions that can be taken to avoid accident and injury to the teeth. One way to reduce the chances of damage to the teeth, lips, cheek and tongue is to wear a mouthguard when participating in sports or recreational activities that may pose a risk. Mouth guards prevent an estimated 20,000 oral injuries in the U.S. each year. While most people assume that collision sports (football, ice hockey) pose the highest risks for dental trauma, data shows that soccer players now have the greatest risk of orofacial injuries, suffering them at three times the rate of football players, while basketball players have double the risk of football and ice hockey players.

This being the case, each and every cadet during Basic inprocessing, is provided with a mouth-formed “boil and bite” mouthguard. Cadets are encouraged to wear the mouthguards during all physical activities including military/combat training and intramural sports and competitions. Regardless of the activity...sports, recreation or training, there is no doubt the most effective means of preventing injury is actually wearing the mouthguard.

TREATMENT

Even with proper mouth and face protection, teeth can still sustain trauma. The impact can result in fractured, loosened, or completely knocked out (avulsed) teeth. With quick and proper action, many avulsed teeth can be successfully replanted to last for years. The key is to act quickly and follow these five simple steps to save the tooth:

1. Pick up the tooth by the crown (chewing surface), not the root. Handle the tooth carefully to help minimize injury to the root.
2. If the tooth is dirty, gently rinse it with a spray of water. Take care not to handle the root surface. Do not use soap or chemicals, scrub or dry the tooth, or wrap it in a tissue or cloth.

FOLLOW THE FALCONS THROUGH SOCIAL NETWORKING

Air Force athletics on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube,

Aug. 12, 2009

Fans of Air Force athletics now have another way to keep up with the Falcons through the development of the nation's fastest growing on-line social network, Twitter, as well as YouTube and Facebook. The official Air Force athletics web site, www.GoAirForceFalcons.com, has created these social networking sites as part of its continuous efforts to "Follow your Air Force Falcons" and further engage and communicate with its fan base. The social media sites work in conjunction with www.GoAirForceFalcons.com, the official online source for Falcon athletics. Falcon fans can now stay connected with all 27 varsity athletics programs on campus, as well as receive other up-to-the-second breaking news and daily updates on other pertinent topics in the world of Falcon athletics.

By becoming a fan of Air Force Athletics on Facebook, followers of Falcon athletics will have the opportunity to receive score updates, event recaps and notices, video features, special announcements, news on promotions and special ticket offers and much more. The Facebook page is available by searching for "GoAirForceFalcons" under "Pages" on the site or the link provided below. Air Force Athletics on Facebook will provide users the opportunity to connect with the athletics program through social networking, while providing a source for public dialogue on topics that are current and relevant.

Twitter, one of the fastest growing phenomena on the internet, provides fans a means to receive a steady flow of information on all facets of Air Force athletics program through instant messaging.

YouTube will also allow Air Force fans the opportunity to view special uploaded Air Force Athletics video features, highlights and interviews.

On-line social-networking utilities, growing increasingly popular worldwide, allow users to connect and communicate information with others like friends, family and coworkers, immediately and unobtrusively. Facebook, with over 150 million users worldwide, and Twitter, boasting an increase of more than 1400 percent in number of visits since 2008, YouTube's ability to share video to millions within a few minutes, enables Air Force Athletics to post statistics, achievements, and updates about players, coaches and 27 sports teams.



News Release

U.S. Air Force Academy

Athletic Communications Office
2169 Field House Dr.
USAF Academy, CO 80840
719.333.3333

Wednesday, July 29, 2009

Charles on AFCA Good Works Team nominee list

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. – Air Force senior offensive lineman Nick Charles has been named a nominee for the Allstate/American Football Coaches Association Good Works Team. Charles 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, Charles 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.

Charles 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. Charles 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.

The following players have been nominated for consideration to be included among the 2009 Allstate/AFCA Good Works team from the Football Bowl Subdivision. To view the official release and names of all 106 nominees, please click the following link.

[http://news.prnewswire.com/DisplayReleaseContent.aspx?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/07-22-2009/0005064222&EDATE=.](http://news.prnewswire.com/DisplayReleaseContent.aspx?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/07-22-2009/0005064222&EDATE=)

Prep School News

Parents,

On Saturday, 5 September directly after the parade, the Prep School will host a Tailgate breakfast, as indicated on the schedule of events, at the Milazzo Center for both parents and cadet candidates. Breakfast reservations must be pre-purchased by your cadet candidate. Breakfast reservations are \$6.50 per person. Please inform your cadet candidate of the number of breakfast reservations your family will require. Each squadron has a selected day and time to purchase breakfast reservations. No tickets will be sold the morning of the event.

Mail Procedures

While at the Preparatory School cadet candidates are issued a PO Box. All first class mail, which includes letters, cards and magazines are sent to the PO box. Also sent to the PO Box are packages that are delivered by the United States Postal System (USPS). The mailing address is as follows:

C/C Joe Jones
PO Box 1111
5136 Eagle Dr
USAF Academy CO 80840

While boxes sent and delivered by USPS are sent to the PO box, packages sent and delivered by UPS or FEDEX are not. These companies require a signature upon delivery and the post office will not sign for packages. Packages sent and delivered by these methods are sent to the Director, Student Services address. Student Services will receive and sign for the package. Upon receiving the package an email is sent to the addressee to pick up their package in Student Services. The address for UPS and FEDEX delivered packages is as follows:

C/C Joe Jones
5216 Cedar Dr., Ste 204
USAF Academy CO 80840

If you have questions concerning Parents Weekend events or mail procedures or anything at the Prep School please contact Ms. Cleo Griffith, Director, Student Services at 719-333-3075 or cleo.griffith@usafa.edu

Coming Next Month.....Prep School Airport Bus Schedule for Thanksgiving and Winter Break.