

FALCON FAMILY NEWS

FEBRUARY 2009

CLASS STATISTICS (as of 31 January 2009)

	Men	Women	Total
2009	892	173	1065
2010	852	190	1042
2011	897	221	1118
2012	986	273	1259
WING	3627	857	4484

USAFA SUPERINTENDENT'S RETIREMENT ANNOUNCED

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. – The Air Force announced today that Lt. Gen. John F. Regni, the Academy's 17th Superintendent, will retire from active duty later this year. The general entered the Air Force in June 1969 as a cadet at the Academy.

No retirement date has been announced, however, General Regni will preside over graduation for the Class of 2009 on May 27.

“This is a bittersweet day for me and my wife, Debby,” the general said. “We will miss the amazing people serving our nation's Air Force and Air Force Academy, as well as the terrific people of Colorado Springs. However, we know it is time for others to lead this great institution.”

General Regni has led the Academy since October 2005. His retirement will culminate a distinguished career that has included nine consecutive years as a general officer field commander. Prior to his current assignment, he commanded Air University and 2nd Air Force.

General Regni is a 1973 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy. His career has encompassed a wide range of personnel, training and command assignments, and he has served at base, numbered air force, major command, Air Staff and joint unified command levels.

“There is no more fitting, honorable way to end my career than at my alma mater, the U.S. Air Force Academy,” he said. “I am ending my career at the place it started 40 years ago.”

A biography of General Regni is available via the Air Force's general officer biography website, at: <http://www.af.mil/bios/bio.asp?bioID=6872>.

Maj. Gen. Michael C. Gould, Directory of Operations and Plans, U.S. Transportation Command, and a 1976 Academy graduate, has been nominated by President Barack Obama for promotion to Lt. Gen. and to become the Academy's 18th Superintendent.

RECOGNITION AND PROP AND WINGS

Recognition for the Class of 2012 will take place 12-14 March 2009. After the class has been recognized, the cadets are authorized to wear the standard chrome-plated prop and wings device on their flight caps. The gold prop and wings can be worn if the information below applies to the cadet.

According to AFCWMAN 36-3501 Cadet Sight Picture (2 Jan 2008) para 2.8 note 10 (page 36):

“Cadets who are direct descendants of members of the Army Air Corps, Women Air Force Service Pilots, have a parent with at least 20 years of military service, have a parent that participated in combat as a member of any U.S. military service, or a parent that died in the line of duty are authorized to wear the gold prop and wing device.”

Note: “direct descendant” means parents or grandparents.

If there are questions the cadet should check with the AOC or AMT for further verification.

APPOINTEE ORIENTATION – CLASS OF 2013

The sessions for 2009 are 13-14, 20-21 and 27-28 April. These orientations are a Monday-Tuesday program designed to provide the appointees with the opportunity to become acquainted with the mission, operation, facilities, and faculty of the Academy. They will have the occasion to talk to members of the staff as well as the cadets. Monday is a full day of briefings by the senior staff. Late Monday afternoon, each appointee will be assigned an upper class cadet and will sleep in the dorm. On Tuesday, each appointee will shadow his/her cadet, attending classes and eating at Mitchell Hall. This orientation is not mandatory, but does provide the appointees the benefit of learning “what’s ahead” and should help them make their decision whether or not to proceed.

On each Tuesday afternoon, a walking tour of the cadet area is available to the parents. These tours are conducted by USAFA staff members. Sign up for the tour can be done on line (Appointee Registration) or on Monday morning in Arnold Hall (where the briefings are held). This is a “walking” tour and not recommended for those who are physically challenged.

CADET AWARDS PROGRAM

The Cadet Awards Program offers incentives to cadets for higher achievements in academic, athletic, leadership, military training and related activities by public recognition at the Individual Awards Ceremony which takes place on Memorial Day (25 May 09) prior to

graduation. The awards foster unit and individual competition and enhance morale. There are currently several cadet awards available for sponsorship. Please contact Ms. Cathy Wedo, Chief of Cadet Awards, at (719) 333-4410, if your club is interested in sponsoring an award.

CADET SUBSISTENCE AND WASTE SUBSISTENCE FUND

Mitchell Hall is, as of Jan 2009, receiving \$10.31 a day per cadet to provide 3 meals a day, food and drinks for all training requirements, social events, weekend parties, box meals, MREs (meal, ready to eat), banquets and Cadet Unit Level (CUL) funds.

Until 1 Oct 2008, Mitchell Hall was only receiving \$6.95 a day to provide the same support. All three Service Academies petitioned to have the daily allowance increased to match the current daily food allowance rate.

Due to food cost increases and food surcharges, Mitchell Hall's monthly food purchases are approximately \$1.1M to \$1.3M during the school year and currently is receiving approximately \$1.3M per month in order to support. The Cadet Subsistence Fund can only be used to purchase food and beverages for cadet consumption. The surplus that might be gained each month will be used in accordance with the suggestions that have been received from the cadets; for example, this year's holiday meal which was prime rib, crab legs and pumpkin pie was \$65K. Mitchell Hall has been striving to improve food and reduce waste for the last 3 years. They host a monthly food focus group with the cadets to discuss concerns and suggestions for food improvement and waste reduction.

Challenges concerning food and drinks on tables from mandatory meals. Currently Mitchell Hall serves two mandatory meals a day Monday – Friday. When serving a mandatory meal they have to prepare for 10 cadets per table per lunch and they prepare for 7 cadets per table per breakfast. The change from 10 portions to 7 portions at breakfast was coordinated with the Cadet Wing, since a study showed that a majority of cadets only consumed items such as cereal, fruit and yogurt. The change from 10 to 7 servings per breakfast has reduced waste by \$60K per month. The challenge with lunch again is they serve 10 healthy portions per table and there are not always 10 cadets per table, causing waste. Mitchell Hall does complete a plate waste study, and management walks the floor daily and reviews waste. They gather the information and make appropriate changes to the portions being served.

They have also made changes on high waste items such as salads, tubs of fresh cut fruit, and grab and go desserts, and are working with the cadets to have these items placed in the aisle for those who would like them with their meal to grab instead of automatically placing 10 servings on each table. The change has reduced waste by \$23K per month.

Mitchell Hall also works with the cadets on removing items they do not want in order to reduce waste and improve selections on items they like and consume. One example would be the juice at lunch; they now serve Gatorade, V-8 Fusion and Twisters instead of Sinton Punch. The cadets normally walk out with any unused bottles.

Empty tables are a challenge. They work closely with the Athletic Department and Cadet Wing to identify requirements for tables that will not be used at a meal. If they are informed in advance, a table is dropped from the service for the day. If they are not notified, then the food has already been prepared and they try to serve the extras to another table. Mitchell Hall can only plan according to information provided by other elements.

Concerning the extras on the tables that are not consumed. Public Health requires Mitchell Hall to dispose of any open item after a meal. Cadets are encouraged to take unopened items with them. There isn't adequate staff to pick up these items – 20 years ago there were over 400 staff members, 10 years ago over 300 staff members and today about 200 staff members. This is why they work with the cadets to change some items from table placement to grabbing in the aisles.

If anyone has other concerns, please contact Lorna Fermanis at Lorna.fermanis@usafa.af.mil

OUTDOOR RECREATION NO LONGER OFFERING BUS TRANSPORTATION FOR SUMMER BREAKS OR UPON RETURN OF THE WING

Due to a lack of participation, the Outdoor Recreation will NO LONGER offer airport transportation during summer breaks or in August when the wing returns. The summer program has been in operation for several years and has proven not to be cost effective. Only 3-5 cadets required transportation at any one time, so other methods were being used (driving themselves, fellow cadets, sponsors, commercial transportation, etc). Outdoor Recreation will still provide transportation after graduation.

MERIT LIST INFORMATION

NOTE: Cadets on any probation (academic, honor, conduct, aptitude, or athletic) will neither be placed on nor remain on any merit lists (Dean's, Commandant's, Athletic Director's, or Superintendent's). Cadets will be removed from any merit list at the time they're placed on probation.

a. Dean's List. Cadets who earn a semester GPA of at least 3.0 in academic courses will be on the Dean's List. These cadets are authorized to wear the Dean's pin on their uniform for the next semester. Physical Education grades are not included in Dean's list calculations; therefore, it is possible for a cadet to have a semester GPA over 3.0 and still not be on the Dean's List if the Phy Ed grade raises the GPA over 3.0. Likewise, it is possible for a cadet to have a semester GPA slightly less than 3.0 and be on the Dean's List if the Phy Ed grades were low. Only the semester GPA determines who gets placed on the Dean's List—not Progress (mid semester) or cumulative GPA. Summer grades are not included in Dean's List calculations.

b. Athletic Director's List. Cadets who earn a semester Physical Education Average (PEA) of at least 3.0 will be on the Athletic Director's List. These cadets are authorized to wear the Athletic Director's pin on their uniform for the next semester. PEA is a weighted 4.00

grading scale (50% Physical Fitness Test + 35% Phy Ed course grades + 15% Aerobic Fitness Test).

c. Commandant's List. Cadets who earn a semester Military Performance Average (MPA) of at least 3.0 will be on the Commandant's List. These cadets are authorized to wear the Commandant's pin on their uniform for the next semester.

d. Superintendent's List. Cadets who earn simultaneous placement on the Dean's, Athletic Director's, and Commandant's Lists will be on the Superintendent's List. These cadets are authorized to wear the Superintendent's pin on their uniform for the next semester.

****ATHLETICS****

AFA's Peter French earns NCAA sportsmanship award for Division I athletics.

USAF Academy, Colo. – Air Force junior Peter French was named the Division I winner of the NCAA Sportsmanship Award today, according to an announcement from the organization. French is one of six national winners, one male and one female each coming from NCAA Division I, II and III.

French is also the Mountain West Conference Hal Rothman Sportsmanship Award recipient for 2007-08. The MWC, established in 2005-06 and re-named in honor of the former UNLV faculty athletics representative, is presented to the student-athlete who has distinguished him or herself through sportsmanship and ethical behavior. The student-athlete also must demonstrate good citizenship outside of the sports-competition setting and be in good academic standing. French is the first Air Force student-athlete to earn the MWC Hal Rothman Sportsmanship Award.

“If ever there was an example of a cadet at the Air Force Academy living our top core value, integrity first, it's Peter French's act of sportsmanship at the international fencing championships,” said Air Force Director of Athletics Dr. Hans Mueh. “In a perfect world, all athletes would exhibit that level of sportsmanship, but that's not reality. We're all very proud that Peter has ingrained such a high level of character that this act was spontaneous and natural for him. Our congratulations go out to him for an award well earned.”

A native of Austin, Texas, French has competed as a member of the Falcons' fencing team for two years. He routinely portrays the ideals of sportsmanship and competitive respect, and his character was never more evident than during a match at the 2008 Junior Men's Epee World Cup in Basel, Switzerland. During a bout to determine the top eight individuals and eventual selection to the world team, French struck the floor in a failed attempt for his opponent's foot. The scoring director did not observe the floor touch, and awarded a point to French. Immediately, French acknowledged the mistake and asked the director to remove a point from French's score - a gesture not usually exhibited in international competition. French's opponent thanked him for his sportsmanship and the bout continued. Several touches passed, and French's opponent accidentally hit the floor. He, too, acknowledged his mistake with

a mutual understanding he was returning the earlier favor. French emerged from the bout victorious and later finished third in the competition, leading to his selection to the world team.

In addition to his academic and athletic commitments, French maintains an active role in the fencing community, conducting weekly instruction classes with local youth to help them develop their fencing skills while instilling the ideals of sportsmanship, respect and integrity. He has been involved in house-building projects and sports camps in post-Katrina New Orleans and has also extended his community service role overseas, teaching English in a Latvian orphanage.

Air Force Quartet Named to Academic All-Conference Team

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – Four members of the Air Force volleyball team were named to the Mountain West Conference all-academic team, the league office announced this afternoon (Feb. 2). Sophomores Jessica Hellmann, Caroline Kurtz, Stephanie Stanford and Nichole Stilwell represented the Academy on the volleyball list.

The four academic all-conference selections by the Falcons are tied for the second-most in the program's Division I history, falling one shy of the record five chosen in 2007. Air Force also recorded four honorees in 1999, 2000 and 2004.

Hellmann, Kurtz and Stilwell are making their second straight appearance on the academic all-conference list, while Stanford is making her first. Kurtz leads the Air Force selections with a 3.86 GPA in systems engineering (human systems). Stilwell, a 2008 CoSIDA Academic All-District honoree, holds a 3.66 GPA in mathematics. Hellmann (3.66, English) and Stanford (3.17, computer science) round out the selections.

A total of 384 student-athletes were named to the fall 2008 Academic All-MWC team, including 35 from the Academy. Fall sports include men's and women's cross country, football, women's soccer and women's volleyball. To be eligible for selection, student-athletes must have completed at least one academic term at the member institution while maintaining a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better, and be a starter or significant contributor on their athletic team.

Air Force Places 15 on Academic All-Conference List

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – The Air Force cross country team placed 15 of its members on the Mountain West Conference All-Academic Team, the league office announced this afternoon (Feb. 2). The 10 men and five women were some of the 35 Falcons named to the academic all-conference list.

With a 3.59 grade-point-average in behavioral sciences, senior Matt Williams became just the third member of the men's team to earn academic all-conference honors in four consecutive seasons, joining Brian Carpenter (Class of 2003) and Nick Wilson (Class of 2006).

Classmates Daniel Castle and Justin Mason are making their second appearance on the academic all-conference list. Castle holds a 3.70 GPA in English, while Mason accumulated a 3.72 mark in aeronautical engineering. Junior Zach Nordahl is also making his second consecutive appearance to the academic all-MWC team, with a 3.61 GPA in civil engineering.

Junior Andy Schweitzer (3.04, management) and sophomore Tyler Small (3.65, physics) received their first academic all-conference nod, joining freshmen Ryan Del Grosso (3.65), Jacob Fulton (3.33), Chase Welch (3.19) and Alex Zubey (3.05), who are currently undeclared on their major.

The women's team features five first-time selections. Junior Becca Burditt, who joined the team prior to the 2008 season, holds a 3.05 GPA in behavioral sciences. Undeclared freshmen Meghan Prinkey (3.82), Katherine Carroll (3.41), Alexa Ramsier (3.32) and Elyse Willard (3.30) round out the Falcons' selections to the academic all-conference list.

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Women's Soccer players honored for academics by MWC

The Air Force women's soccer team placed nine student-athletes on the Mountain West Conference Academic All-Conference Team. Senior Roni Yadlin led the way with her fourth Academic All-Conference honor.

Sophomore Lyndsey Horn earned her second honor. Senior Erin Wallace and sophomore Shannon Nail also garnered their first academic all-conference honor.

In addition, five freshmen made the list. Kelly Laurent, a 4.00 student-athlete, was joined by Sharon Aradine, Bridgett Murphy, Krystin Shanklin and Kalyn Tung.

Name, class, GPA, major, *(Times earned award)
Erin Wallace, senior, 3.09, Behavioral Science*
Roni Yadlin, senior, 3.82, Aeronautical Engineering****
Lyndsey Horn, sophomore, 3.19, Foreign Area Studies**
Shannon Nail, sophomore, 3.14, Management*
Sharon Aradine, freshman, 3.36, Undeclared*
Kelly Laurent, freshman, 4.00, Undeclared*
Bridgett Murphy, freshman, 3.42, Undeclared*
Krystin Shanklin, freshman, 3.30, Undeclared*
Kalyn Tung, freshman, 3.55, Undeclared*