

FALCON FAMILY NEWS

AUGUST 2010

CLASS STATISTICS (as of 31 July 2010)

	Men	Women	Total
2011	840	209	1049
2012	900	245	1145
2013	960	245	1205
2014	972	284	1256
WING	3672	983	4655

FORBES RANKS AIR FORCE ACADEMY #11 IN NATION

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo., -- Forbes Magazine has ranked the Air Force Academy #11 in the nation on its 2010 America's Best Colleges List. Forbes released its third annual America's Best Colleges rankings recently. The rankings are compiled by Forbes and the Center for College Affordability and Productivity, which evaluated more than 600 undergraduate programs.

According to Forbes, the rankings are based on a several weighted factors, which include: Graduate surveys, average salaries of graduates, student evaluations of classes, number of alumni listed as corporate officers on Forbes listing, number of alumni listed in *Who's Who in America*, amount of student debt at graduation, freshman-to-sophomore retention rates, 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, #7 in 2009 and #11 this year. For the 2010 rankings, the United States Military Academy (West Point) ranked #4 on the list, while the U.S. Naval Academy came in at #29, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy ranked #105 and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy earned the #165 ranking.

For more information on the recent Forbes rankings, visit: <http://www.forbes.com/education/> and for more information on the Princeton Review rankings, visit: <http://www.princetonreview.com/college-rankings.aspx>.

ACADEMY RANKED AMONG NATION'S BEST COLLEGES

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo., -- The Air Force Academy's professors are among the most accessible in the nation, according to *The Best 373 Colleges* text, released today by Princeton Review.

Faculty availability is an expectation at a military service academy, and the U.S. Air Force Academy ranks first in the nation, again, in professor availability. 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. 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.

"This is the Air Force Academy's fifth ' #1 most accessible faculty ranking ' in the past six years and validates our outstanding faculty's dedication and commitment to developing officers of character for our Air Force and our nation," said Brig Gen Dana Born, Dean of the Faculty. "This national ranking is great validation that our cadets once again voted the Air Force Academy as #1 for most accessible professors. That's an indisputable fact and speaks volumes about our cadets' report on our faculty's commitment to their learning and development, year after year!"

The Princeton Review ranked the Air Force Academy number one in professor availability in its 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009 Best Colleges editions, and number four in the same category for its 2010 best colleges edition.

"It is a wonderful reflection of our dedicated faculty that, once again, they have been recognized by the Princeton Review as being the #1: Most Accessible Faculty," added General Born. "This recognition speaks volumes to our wonderful instructors and validates their dedication and commitment to developing officers of character for our Air Force Academy and our nation. Most of us remember that particular high school or college teacher who made a difference in our lives by demonstrating how much they cared. The Air Force Academy is full of such instructors. I am proud to be part of a cadre of this caliber and character, each of whom is a major ingredient in achieving our goal of developing lifelong learners and leaders of character for our Air Force and our nation."

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

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

The Princeton Review features the Air Force Academy and other local colleges in *The Best 373 Colleges*, the new 2011 edition of its annual "best colleges" guide. The guide utilizes

online student surveys in 62 categories to assess the academic, administrative, social, extracurricular and quality of life aspects of life at American colleges.

PARENTS' WEEKEND PACKETS

The parent information packets were mailed to 4th class cadet parents on Monday, 16 Aug. If any 4th class cadet parents do not receive the packet their cadets may pick up extra packets from Sue Christensen's office between 0730-1600, Mon-Fri. She is located on the 3rd floor, Harmon Hall, north end, Suite 3800. Cadets should also be able to pick up extra parking passes starting on Monday, 23 Aug. These will be placed at the group offices for pickup.

Also, the Parents' Weekend registration page is now operational at [http://www.usafa.edu/superintendent/parentsweekend/pwRegistration.cfm?catname=Parents' Weekend](http://www.usafa.edu/superintendent/parentsweekend/pwRegistration.cfm?catname=Parents'Weekend). Parents may register and will receive an email containing all the information products that were mailed to the 4th class parents. Anyone can register and receive the information, such as guests of upper class cadets.

BASIC CADET TRAINING (BCT) PRODUCTS AT PARENTS WEEKEND INFORMATION FAIR:

BCT FFS (Family, Friends and Supporter) MESSAGES: Honor your cadet with a lifetime memory; place a congratulatory message in the Class of 2014 Basic Cadet Training Yearbook. Enter your message on-line at <http://www.wpccolorado.com/bct.htm>.

- Choose text only message or text message with photo
 - *Each Fourth Class Cadet receive their own copy of BCT yearbook during Fall distribution i.e., normally December yearly

BCT YEARBOOK: Preorder your own keepsake a "Class of 2014 Basic Cadet Training" yearbook; order forms available at <http://www.usafaservices.com/cadet-activities/cadet-media>.

BCT DVD: See first-hand your cadet's entire basic training experience in this HI DEF professionally produced USAFA sanctioned video. Available for purchase (OR preorder pickup) on Friday at Parents' Weekend Information Fair, Arnold Hall Ballroom at the Cadet Wing Media booth, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Reserve your copy now, (limited edition) order forms available at <http://www.usafaservices.com/cadet-activities/cadet-media>

- Filming began Day 1-In processing day, through 1st and 2nd Beast; concluded with Acceptance Parade and shoulder-board pin-on.
- Every squadron highlighted.

BCT WARRIOR PORTRAIT: Packages available for purchase on Friday at Parents' Weekend Information Fair, Arnold Hall Ballroom, next to Cadet Wing Media booth.

FAMILY PORTRAITS: Your opportunity to get portraits taken with cadets in uniform on Friday at Parents Weekend Information Fair, Arnold Hall Ballroom, next to Cadet Wing Media booth. Portrait sittings are at no charge.

Questions? Contact Cadet Wing Media at (719) 333-4644 or email: cwmedia@usafa.edu.

BACKGROUND PAPER ON CLASS OF 2014 CADET COMPUTER ISSUE

Issue Date: Monday, 2 August 2008

Specifications:

- Fujitsu model T730 tablet computer
- Intel® Core™ i5-520M Processor (2.4 GHz, 3 MB L3 cache)
- Mobile Intel® QM57 Express
- 4GB memory (DDR3 1066 SDRAM)
- 160GB Hard Drive
- 12.1" XGA 1280x800 LCD with active digitizer
- DVD+/-RW
- Port replicator with 2nd power charger
- Smart Card Reader
- Second drive-bay battery
- Integrated 10/100/1000 Ethernet
- Wireless 802.11a/g/n
- External Mouse and Keyboard
- 4 years parts-only warranty (includes batteries)

Costs:

- \$1,825.36 For all the above via CDWG contract with AAFES
- \$ 123.30 Accessories (bag, lock, network cable, power strip)
- \$1,988.00 Total with 2% AAFES fee

Software Pre-Loaded:

- Windows 7 Enterprise
- Office 2010, Symantec Endpoint Anti-Virus
- USAFA licensed software for classes (e.g. SolidWorks, VBrick, Raptor, etc.)
- Software costs approximately \$140/cadet and is charged in Sep

Items Not Included:

- Personal printer (inkjet or laser with USB 2.0 cable) – \$60 - \$200
- 19"-24" flat panel for their rooms (analog or digital-DVI) - \$200 - \$400
- These items make good gifts for parents or grandparents to buy them over Parents' Weekend.

Email Address: C14first.last@usafa.edu (14 is class year)

There are some exceptions for long names, e.g. Christopher shortened to Chris.

Common Issues and Questions:

- Why tablet computers? – The selection committee decided the pedagogical reasons for tablets out-weighed the increased cost and weight. The tablet can be used for taking hand-written notes in class, including math formulas, drawings, diagrams, etc.
- Who were the other competitors? Dell, Lenovo, HP-NMJ, Fujitsu-CDWG
- Can upperclass cadets buy the same computer? Yes, they had to email Larry Bryant before 20 July, so one could be delivered on 2 Aug for them. CDWG-Fujitsu will also make a web site for staff personal purchases.
- Printers are not included in the computer purchase for several reasons:
 - It is a “personal preference” item – some want cheap black and white, while others want high-quality photo printers.
 - They are not necessary, since we provide squadron printers.
 - They make good gifts for parents and grandparents.
- We teach “computer ethics” in Comp Sci 110 to convince cadets that certain common practices done in high school (e.g. illegally copying music or movies) are no longer acceptable and are punishable.

Questions should be referred to Mr. Larry Bryant at 719-333-3994 or email larry.bryant@usafa.edu

FROM THE USAFA FLORIST:

Petals & Blooms is a full service Flower Shop serving the USAFA community here on the Academy. We run monthly specials on everything from flowers, stuffed animals, balloons, candy and gift baskets and deliver 6 days a week. Please call us any time at 719-244-7455 or email @denyse_dce@yahoo.com for updated discounts and promotions.

Month of August -- FREE DELIVERY!!

Thank you for your consideration, Denise White, Owner, Petals & Blooms

FOOTBALL SCHEDULE 2010

Date	Time	Opponent (TV)
Sept. 4	12 PM	Northwestern State
Sept. 11	2 PM	BYU* (VERSUS)
Sept. 18	2:30 PM	at Oklahoma (FSN)
Sept. 25	12 PM	at Wyoming* (Mtn.)
Oct. 2	12:30 PM	Navy (VERSUS)
Oct. 9	12 PM	Colorado State* (Mtn.)
Oct. 16	5 PM	at San Diego State* (CBS C)
Oct. 23	7 PM	at TCU* (CBS C)
Oct. 30	5:30 PM	Utah* (CBS C)
Nov. 6	12 PM	at Army (CBS C)
Nov. 13	4 PM	New Mexico* (Mtn.)
Nov. 18	7 PM	at UNLV* (CBS C)

*Mountain West Conference Games. All times local to site.

(Mtn.) - Mountain West Sports Network;

(CBS C) - CBS College Sports Network

(FSN) - Fox Sports Network

INFLUENZA SEASON IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

What is influenza?

Influenza (the flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by [influenza viruses](#). It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. Some people, such as older people, young children, and people with [certain health conditions](#), are at high risk for serious flu complications. In 2009-2010, a new and very different flu virus (called [2009 H1N1](#)) spread worldwide causing the first flu pandemic in more than 40 years. CDC expects the 2009 H1N1 virus to cause illness again this upcoming season along with other seasonal flu viruses. Flu season can begin as early as September and last as late as May.

What are flu symptoms?

People who have the flu often feel some or all of these symptoms:

- fever or feeling feverish/chills
- cough
- sore throat
- runny or stuffy nose
- muscle or body aches
- headaches
- fatigue (very tired)

- Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults

How does influenza spread?

Most experts believe that flu viruses spread mainly by droplets made when people with flu cough, sneeze or talk. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby. Less often, a person might also get flu by touching a surface or object that has flu virus on it and then touching their own mouth, eyes or nose.

You may be able to pass on the flu to someone else before you know you are sick as well as while you are sick. Most healthy adults may be able to infect others beginning 1 day **before** symptoms develop and up to 5-7 days **after** becoming sick.

How can you protect yourself?

The single best way to prevent the flu is to get a flu vaccine each season! All active duty and cadets at USAFA will receive the nasal spray flu vaccine unless contradictory health conditions exist. The seasonal flu vaccine protects against the three influenza viruses that research suggests will be most common. The [2010-2011 flu vaccine](#) will protect against 2009 H1N1 and two other influenza viruses (an H3N2 virus and an influenza B virus).

Public Health flight members are dedicated to ensuring your cadet has the most current preventive health information available. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or cadet public health concerns - Capt Brigitte French at 719-333-5186.