



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY
USAF ACADEMY COLORADO

SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Cadet Parents

Greetings from your United States Air Force Academy family!

As the newest members of the Air Force Academy team, Paula and I are excited to be here and to join you on this journey. The Academy is an institution with nationally recognized academics whose mission is to create leaders of character ready to lead our nation. We look forward to the opportunity to take our Air Force Academy to the next level of excellence and achievement.

The Class of 2013—1,368 students strong—entered the Academy in June and has completed Basic Cadet Training (BCT), an intensive program designed to enhance their mental and physical abilities as they adapt to Academy life. The class officially joined the Cadet Wing during the Acceptance Parade on 5 August, having achieved the first of many major successes during their Academy career. For our new cadets, character development activities, the academic year and the continuation of military and physical training require them to maintain the same high level of effort characteristic of BCT. Here is where you can help. Throughout the year, parental interest, encouragement and involvement are key elements in every cadet's desire and ability to succeed.



As proud parents of two USAFA grads ('04 and '07), we never missed a Parents' Weekend with our boys. Paula joins me in inviting you to join us over the Labor Day weekend for Parents' Weekend '09. Events begin on Friday, 4 September, and continue through Monday, 7 September. The Parents' Weekend website, www.usafa.edu, is up and running and has innumerable resources to help you plan your weekend with your cadet. Friday is the main event day, beginning with an opportunity to attend classes with your cadet and ending with an open house where you will see where your cadet lives, works and grows. Come out to Stillman Parade Field at 9:30 a.m. for aerial demonstrations and a Cadet Wing Parade, and then join your cadet for lunch at Mitchell Hall. On Saturday we invite you to join us in cheering for our Falcon football team as we open our season against Nicholls State at 12:00 p.m. at Falcon Stadium. Following the game, you will have the opportunity to participate in various open houses and a tour of Jacks Valley, and your cadet may sign out of the Academy and join you for the remainder of the long weekend.

We are confident you will find Parents' Weekend a valuable and interesting experience as well as a great way to learn about your cadet's life at the Academy. We look forward to visiting with you!

Sincerely

MIKE GOULD, Lt Gen, USAF

3 Attachments:

1. Parents' Weekend 2009 Brochure
2. Schedule of Events
3. Base Passes (2)

Developing Leaders of Character