



**PHOTO ACCESS FOR PARENTS -**

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Prep School Access:

- <https://twitter.com/USAFAPrepSchool>
- [www.facebook.com/AFPrepSchool](http://www.facebook.com/AFPrepSchool)
- <https://www.instagram.com/usafaprepofficial/>

We also want your Academy photos. Upload them to Instagram using #YourAcademy and #YourUSAFAPrep for the Prep School. You might see it on Facebook and Twitter. If you have any questions, please call the Public Affairs office at (719) 333-7731.



**Cadet Class Statistics (as of 31 Mar 19)**

Class Year	Men	Women	Total
2018	3	0	3
2019	751	261	1012
2020	717	292	1009
2021	801	306	1107
2022	846	285	1131
<b>WING</b>	<b>3118</b>	<b>1144</b>	<b>4262</b>

53 International Cadets are counted in the Cadet Wing Strength, but do not count in the Fiscal year Strength.

**Prep School Class Statistics (as of 19 Mar 19)**

Class year	Men	Women	Total
2018-2019	140	57	197



(U.S. Air Force photo/Trevor Cokley)

*Story by Ray Bowden, April 12, 2019*  
**U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo.** — The Air Force Academy’s top officer hosted his State of the U.S. Air Force Academy briefing in Polaris Hall, April 12.

Lieutenant Gen. Jay Silveria, the Academy’s superintendent, said the annual briefings are among the many ways the Academy communicates with its community and encouraged the audience and those viewing the event online to stay in touch.

“It’s certainly a pleasure for me to talk about my alma mater,” he said.

Among other topics, Silveria announced the Air Force had postponed repairs to the Cadet Chapel.

“The preservation of the Cadet Chapel is a construction priority at the Academy, but we also recognize overall readiness is a priority for the Air Force,” he said.

The Air Force deferred funding to refurbish the chapel as leaders look for ways to secure supplemental funding to repair Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida, and Offutt AFB, Nebraska, in the wake of natural disasters — two of 61 large-scale projects Air Force officials are trying to address.

The general said this and more to an audience of Airmen and civic leaders, and also announced to applause that the Academy’s airfield will be renamed in honor of Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., Tuskegee Airman, World War II fighter pilot, and commander of the African-American “Red Tails.”

“We’re incredibly proud our airfield will now bear the name of an Airman, a warrior, and an exemplar without peer,” he said.

Silveria discussed the scheduled changes this year among the school’s top-level officials.

“The search is on,” he said, for a new dean to replace Brig. Gen. Andrew Armacost who is scheduled to retire from the Air Force this summer.

Also, Brig. Gen. Michele Edmondson will replace Brig. Gen. Kristin Goodwin as commandant of cadets; Col. Brian Hartless will replace Col. Shawn Campbell as the 10th Air Base Wing commander; and Chief Master Sgt. Sarah Sparks will replace Chief Master Sgt. Rob Boyer, who is scheduled to retire from the Air Force in October.

“I’d like to thank every last one of them for their tireless efforts,” Silveria said.

After Silveria’s presentation, civic leader Stan Vanderwerf of the El Paso County Board of Commissioners said the Academy’s update is more than just an annual get-together.

“It represents the value we place in each other and in our shared communities,” he said.

### **‘It’s unacceptable’**

Silveria discussed a challenge all service academies are grappling with: sexual assault. The Defense Department released its Sexual Harassment and Violence Report Jan. 31. Silveria told the group he was not pleased by the results, which indicate sexual harassment and violence remains prevalent at the academies. He called the account “a stark example of the need for leadership vigilance.”

“I’ll be very direct here,” he said. “I was disgusted by the report. It’s unacceptable.”

Early in February, Silveria and the other service academy leaders testified in front of Congress.

“We shared with Congress what we’re doing to confront these issues, such as the upcoming Pathways to Prevention summit,” he said.

Last year, the Academy held its first Pathways to Thriving Summit where senior leaders and sexual assault prevention and response experts took comments from current and past cadets, survivors of sexual assault and community leaders.

“The overall intent for the summit was not only to facilitate conversation but also to include sexual assault survivors in the discussion on where the Academy has been on this issue and how to move forward productively,” Silveria said.

The Academy will host its second summit, Pathways to Prevention, after the start of the academic year to discuss specific issues that may affect the prevalence of sexual assault and harassment.

“The bottom line is that we have to do better,” he said.

### **Cadets**

Silveria also talked about the accomplishments of cadets.

“I’ve spent countless hours interacting with cadets,” he said. “Without fail, I’ll learn about some of the

remarkable research they're doing, or some far-flung locale they visited to learn a language, do an internship, or participate in any number of the amazing programs or opportunities that were not available when I was a cadet."

Specifically, Silveria discussed Cadets 1st Class James Brahm, Kyle Haak and Madison Tung.

Haak is a physics major with a minor in nuclear weapons and strategy. He was named Cadet of the Year of 2018, the most outstanding cadet among all commissioning courses in the Air Force during the Academic year.

Brahm is a computer science major pursuing minors in Chinese and nuclear weapons and strategy, and Tung is a mathematics and humanities major pursuing a minor in Chinese. Both earned Rhodes scholarships.

"James and Madison were among the 32 of our nation's top students to be chosen as Rhodes scholars and will begin their graduate studies at Oxford University this fall," Silveria said.

Haak, Brahm and Tung also received the Stamps scholarship, funded by the Air Force Academy Endowment to promote summer research internships and cultural immersion.

"I can tell you, I'm constantly amazed by our cadets and I'm confident you will be too," Silveria said. "I encourage you to take the opportunity to talk to [cadets] whenever you might get the chance. You won't be disappointed."



(U.S. Air Force photo/Darci Ibidapo)

*By Jennifer Spradlin, April 15*

**U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo.**  
— Clyde Hoffman loves planes.

The Colorado Springs sixth grader researches planes, aircraft safety, and airports in his free time, and flies model planes with his dad on the weekends. Thanks to a partnership between the Make-A-Wish Foundation and the Air Force Academy, he was the newest Cadet for a Day at the Air Force Academy, April 12.

"It's been a blast to host Clyde and his family," said Cadet 2nd Class James Barney. "Before we became cadets, the community gave back to us, and now that we are afforded this amazing opportunities it's important to give back to them — plus we get to make a kid smile."

Clyde was born with Alagille syndrome, a rare genetic disorder that can affect the liver, heart, skeleton, eyes and kidneys. The specific symptoms and severity of Alagille syndrome vary greatly. For Clyde, the disorder severely degrades his liver function.

Clyde endured a liver transplant from a live donor in 2018. He will take anti-rejection medicine for the rest of his life while dealing with other affects from his disease.

"He is so used to doctor appointments, getting poked for labs, and being different than his peers — just being part of a different scene is healing for us," said Clyde's mother, Melissa Hoffman. "And having a special day for Clyde doing things that he loves will be uplifting for us as his parents, too."

Clyde and his family were hosted by cadets from Cadet Squadron 8, who led them on interactive tours of the airfield, fire station, and virtual reality lab before a meet and greet with Ziva, an Academy falcon. Clyde marched with the cadets during their noon meal formation and finished off the afternoon with by learning about the Academy's unmanned aerial vehicle program.

The Academy hosts two Cadets for a Day each semester.



(U.S. Air Force photo/Joshua Armstrong)

*Story by Ray Bowden, March 21, 2019*

**U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo.** — General Norman Schwarzkopf once said, “The more you sweat in peace, the less you bleed in war.”

Cadets at the Air Force Academy took the former Gulf War leader at his word when they helped the Air Force and one of the Academy’s research partners, a public firm specializing in biology and applied physics, test a prototype of a human-behavior sensor designed to check their perspiration, March 12.

The sensors, designed by GE Global Research, one of many Defense Department research partners, were attached to the cadets’ backs on a belt above their waist.

“That part of the back is one of the sweatiest areas. It’s like a pool back there,” said Lt. Col. Chad Tossell, director of the Academy’s warfighting effectiveness research center in the school’s behavioral sciences department. Tossell watched the eight cadets sweep through the Military Operations-Urban Training village in Jacks Valley while carrying 45-pound backpacks and training rifles.

The day-long testing activities also took the cadets, all members of the Academy’s combat shooting team, through a series of warm-up exercises, two 1.5 mile ruck marches, and various briefings.

“These sensors are designed to passively and noninvasively assess properties and function of human sweat in real-time,” Dr. Adam Strang, director of the signature tracking for optimized nutrition and training laboratory at the Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. “We use this

information to index the physiological process, such as hydration and stress levels, known to critically impact human performance.”

The data from the test will develop what Strang calls personalized augmentation strategies, “such as a sports drink with an electrolyte and sugar composition, designed specifically for ‘you’ to maintain, optimize and enhance Airman performance in training and mission settings.”

“This is about cadets and capability,” he said.

When cadets perspire, the sensor records potassium and sodium levels in their perspiration and sends the data to a cellphone app or computer, said Cadet 1st Class Dave Culver, one of four systems engineering students who organized the logistics for the day’s activities.

“Each cadet testing a sensor today has the app with them,” he said.

Tossell said the Academy is known across the DOD and in the research and development realm as an optimal setting site to try-out burgeoning technology.

“It’s attractive because we have a controlled environment and we’re doing real-world testing,” he said. “The tests are sponsored by the AFRL at Wright-Patterson.”

Cadet 3rd Class Isaac Perkins participated in the March 12 test.

“Testing new technology is an excellent opportunity for cadets to get involved and exposed to real technologies the Air Force is using,” he said. “If there’s one way to get cadets excited, it’s giving them exposure to the special operations community.”

The sensor patch’s first generation was lab-tested with simulated sweat by GE Global Research. Additional physiological performance testing occurred at the signature tracking for optimized nutrition and training laboratory under Strang, according to a 2018 news report from Wright Patterson.

“These tests allow me to develop and validate next-generation sensor technology with a representative

population — cadets training to enter special operations career fields,” Strang said.

Strang said the Academy is a boon to the AFRL and the DOD due to its opportune testing environment.

“I can evaluate the state of these sensors, identify tech gaps and decide how the AFRL needs to meet those gaps, either through internal research and development or funding commercial performers to reach our goal: a robust set of sensors to assess performance states,” he said.

Perkins appreciates the influence research at the Academy has for the DOD on a global scale.

“It was super encouraging to see the amount of research and focus that’s going into human performance technology here,” he said. “It would be great to know that our participation contributed to technology my teammates and I may have to use one day.”

Due to weather conditions March 14, testing of a similar product designed by Northwestern University researchers was cancelled.

“It has been rescheduled for Tech Warrior at the AFRL,” Tossell said. “We’ll bring in next year’s capstone cadets.”

Tech Warrior is an annual AFRL exercise taking place in the fall. The event is designed to provide scientists and engineers the opportunity to participate in an intense battlefield immersion training exercise with Airmen they create new technologies for.



Two cadets wear a prototype of a human-behavior sensor designed to check their perspiration, March 12, 2019 in Jacks Valley. The device is the result of an ongoing collaboration between the signature tracking for optimized nutrition and training laboratory at the Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, and GE Global Research. (U.S. Air Force photo/Joshua Armstrong)



(Courtesy photo)

*Story by Jennifer Spradlin*

**U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo.** — Air Force Academy graduate Tracy La Tourrette is Colorado’s first female fighter pilot and one of the first women in the world to fly fighter aircraft.

She grew up in Evergreen, Colorado, an hour and half northwest of the Academy.

“You could feel it was different,” she said, of her first visit to the Academy at age 10. “I felt like I needed to walk a little taller, to hold my head a little higher. Even at that age, I knew the people who had graced those halls were warriors who made our nation free, and I wanted to be a part of it.”

LaTourrette attended the Academy from 1988-1992. It was a different time in the Air Force. Her graduating class was 88 percent male; female pilots weren’t authorized to fly in combat.

She began her Air Force career as a weapons director aboard the Airborne Warning and Control System. For five years, she was deployed more than 200 days a year to Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and South America. It was an

opportunity to see the world, and she loved it, but inside she was nurturing a desire to fly.

She decided to transition into the National Guard and applied to flying positions throughout the country. Ultimately, she opted to fly the F-16 Fighting Falcon for her home state.

“The only barrier I was trying to break was the sound barrier,” she said. The fact that she was a woman doing what few other women had done was not something she let distract her.

“Everyone experiences barriers in their life,” she said. “Barriers serve a real purpose: they either divert you onto a new path, which means that goal wasn’t that important to you; or they drive you to fight. You choose which barriers to break – if you’re passionate about it, press. Your performance will always speak louder than your words.”

LaTourrette deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003 and flew presidential protection missions with the Colorado National Guard. She retired as a lieutenant colonel after 22 years of service in 2014.

“There were a lot of people before me who worked hard to open doors,” she said. “I got to walk through some of those doors. I was one of the lucky ones – so I owe it to the next generation to continue that effort.”

LaTourrette, now a public speaker based in Colorado, recently headlined the Wings Over the Rockies Women in Aviation Showcase where she said belief in your own abilities is key to success. Before she spoke, she met one-on-one with current Academy cadets.

“It’s always cool to talk to graduates but to meet her and learn a bit about her experiences – she’s definitely a role model of mine now,” said Cadet 4th Class Francesca Verville.

Verville and the other cadets extended an invitation to LaTourrette to speak at the Schulte Assembly, an Academy club dedicated to mentorship and the open discussion of challenges facing female service members.

“Choosing the Academy, the Air Force, are the best decisions that I could have made for myself,” LaTourrette said. “The relationships I have made and

the caliber of people I have had the opportunity to work with has been incredible.”

## PREP SCHOOL INFORMATION

**Below is the Point of Contact for questions for our Preparatory School Candidate parents.**

Central Email for Prep School Questions:  
[PrepInfo@usafa.edu](mailto:PrepInfo@usafa.edu), or phone (719) 333-2583

Website: <https://www.usafa.edu/prep-school/>

FACEBOOK:  
<https://www.facebook.com/USAFAPrepSchool/>

Mail: HQ USAFA/PL  
5229 Cedar Drive, Suite 117  
USAF Academy, CO 80840-3100

**Prep School 2017-2018 Academic Calendar:**  
[https://www.usafa.edu/app/uploads/PL\\_Calendar\\_12Jul2017.pdf](https://www.usafa.edu/app/uploads/PL_Calendar_12Jul2017.pdf)

## HELPFUL WEBSITES and POCs -

**Parent Information Link:**  
<https://www.usafa.edu/parents/>

**Graduation Information Link:**  
<https://www.usafa.edu/about/traditions/graduation/>

**USAFA’s Public Calendar Link:**  
(Managed by the Association of Graduates)  
[www.usafa.org/Calendar/Events](http://www.usafa.org/Calendar/Events)

**2016 - 2017 Cadet Academic Calendar Link:**  
<https://www.usafa.edu/app/uploads/AY-2016-2017-Calendar-Approved-12-Jul-16-1.pdf>

**2017 - 2018 Cadet Academic Calendar Link:**  
The Academic Calendar for 2017-2018 has been approved and you can find it at the following link:  
<https://www.usafa.edu/app/uploads/AY2017-2018Calendar.pdf>

**Curriculum Handbook:**

(also outlines summer programs available for cadets in what year):

<https://www.usafa.edu/app/uploads/CHB.pdf>

**Cadet Major listing:**

<https://www.usafa.edu/academics/majors-minors/>

**Cadet Clubs:**

(just a listing of clubs and POCs, not a schedule of where they may be):

<https://www.usafa.edu/cadet-life/clubs/>

**Cadet Survival Guide:** Go to

[www.usafasupport.com](http://www.usafasupport.com) and click Arnold Hall or go to the below link:

<http://nebula.wsimg.com/0c9d0bf12f8b6a1ca725ae69871b531b?AccessKeyId=C7760A2EE485D3702028&disposition=0&alloworigin=1>

**Cadet Media:**

[www.usafasupport.com/cadet-activities/cadet-media](http://www.usafasupport.com/cadet-activities/cadet-media)

**Admissions:**

(parents can help us recruit future cadets):

[www.academyadmissions.com/](http://www.academyadmissions.com/)

**Sports Schedules:**

[www.goairforcefalcons.com/calendar/events/](http://www.goairforcefalcons.com/calendar/events/)

**Base Cadet Treats (Flower Shop):**

(719) 472-8589

[petalsnblooms.com](http://petalsnblooms.com)

**Gift Cards order phone numbers:**

Cadet Store (Base Exchange) (719) 472-1953

10 FSS: (719) 472-7930

**Hometown News Release (must have CAC card):**

<https://jhns.release.dma.mil/public>

**Life Touch photos:**

POC: Sherri Peloso <http://lifetouch.com/>

1 (800) 426-9533 extension 128 or 241

## UPCOMING DATES:

22 – 31 Mar 18	Cadet Spring Break - Return by 7pm on 31 Mar 19
22 – 31 Mar 19	Prep School Spring Break – Release LMD. Return by 7pm on 31 Mar 19
1 – 3 May 19	Prep School Finals
11 – 12 May 19	Cadet Dean’s Weekend
13 – 17 May 19	Cadet Spring Finals
19 May 19	Prep School Baccalaureate
20 May 19	Prep School Graduation Parade (9:10 – 10:00 am)/Award Ceremony (2:00 – 3:30 pm)
20 May 19	Prep School Reception (4:00 – 5:30 pm)
27 May 19	Memorial Day Holiday – No Classes
24 May 19	Ring Dance, 5-8 pm (Class of 2020)
24 -30 May 19	2019 Graduation Week
30 May 19	2019 Graduation
1 Jun 19	1 <sup>st</sup> Summer Session Begins
22 Jun 19	1 <sup>st</sup> Session Ends/2 <sup>nd</sup> Session Begins
27 Jun 19	2023 Class In-Processes
28 Jun 19	2023 Swearing In Ceremony, 8:30 – 9:30 am, Parent Field
12 Jul 19	Field Day (2023 Class) (no parent contact, but parents can watch)
13 Jul 19	Rodeo (no parent contact)
14 Jul 19	2 <sup>nd</sup> Session Ends/3 <sup>rd</sup> Session Begins
14 Jul 19	Prep School Prior Enlisted In-Process
17 Jul 19	Prep School In- Processing (non-priors)
20 Jul 19	DDO (Doolie Day Out) Cadets can call home and will have cell phones
21 Jul 19	March out to Jack’s Valley (Parents can come to cheer C4Cs)
31 Jul 19	March back from Jack’s Valley (Parents can come to cheer C4Cs)
1 Aug 19	2023 Class should get laptops
2 Aug 19	2023 BCT Graduation (not for parents) Cadet Wing only
3 Aug 19	3 <sup>rd</sup> Session Ends/ BCT ends/Cadet Wing Returns by 7pm
6 Aug 19	Acceptance Day Parade, 9:00am, parade field
6 Aug 19	Prep School Classes Begin
8 Aug 19	Cadet Classes Begin
30 Aug – 2 Sep 19	2019 Parents Weekend <a href="https://www.usafa.edu/about/traditions/parents-weekend/">https://www.usafa.edu/about/traditions/parents-weekend/</a>
5 Oct 19	Football Game against NAVY (away)
14 Oct 19	Columbus Day Holiday (no classes)
2 Nov 19	Football Game against ARMY (Home)
11 Nov 19	Veterans Day Holiday (no classes)
26 Nov – 1 Dec 19	Thanksgiving Break Leave after LMD; return by 7 pm on 1 Dec 19
9 – 13 Dec 19	Cadet Finals
16 Dec 19 – 5 Jan 20	Cadet Winter Break; Return by 7:00pm on 5 Jan 20
20 Jan 20	Martin Luther King Holiday (no classes)
17 Feb 20	Presidents Day Holiday (no classes)
19 – 21 Feb 20	National Character and Leadership Symposium (NCLS)
12 – 14 Mar 20	2023 Recognition
20 – 29 Mar 20	Cadet Spring Break, released LMD, Return by 7:00pm on 29 Mar 20
11 – 15 May 20	Cadet Finals
28 May 20	2020 Class Graduates

30 May 20	1st Summer Session Begins
20 Jun 20	1st Summer Session Ends/ 2nd Summer Session Begins
25 Jun 20	2024 Class In-Processes
26 Jun 20	2024 Swearing In Ceremony (time TBD)
4 Jul 20	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Holiday (2024 BCT training continues)
31 Jul 20	2024 BCT Graduation (not for parents) Cadet Wing only
1 Aug 20	3 <sup>rd</sup> Summer Session Ends/BCT Ends/Cadet Wing Returns by 7:00pm

**Parent Liaison Contact Info:**

MARIE NIKOVITS

Parents' Liaison

Phone: (719) 333-3828,

Toll Free: (877) 268-3383

Fax: (719) 333-1433

E-mail: [USAFA.ParentLiaison@usafa.edu](mailto:USAFA.ParentLiaison@usafa.edu)