

# FALCON FAMILY NEWS

April 2015



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Android

Do you have an iTunes or Android enabled device? Scan the QR codes above with your barcode scanner to download the new Air Force Academy App. Get the latest Academy news, photos, videos, and more.

You can also access free photos on USAFA WEBSITE:

<http://www.usafa.edu/cadetFocus/cadetPhotos/index.cfm> Just select your cadet's class year!

**USAFA'S PUBLIC CALENDER Link: (Managed by the Association of Graduates.)**

<http://www.usafa.org/Calendar/Events>

**Parent Information link:**

<http://www.usafa.edu/superintendent/cma/parentsclub.cfm?catname=Class%20of%202014>

**CLASS STATISTICS (as of 31 Mar 15)**

Class Year	Men	Women	Total
2015	674	188	862
2016	649	187	836
2017	810	246	1056
2018	863	237	1100
<b>WING</b>	<b>2996</b>	<b>858</b>	<b>3854</b>

❖ These numbers include international students.

## **UPCOMING DATES 2015/2016:**

11-15 May 15	Finals
18 May 15	Prep School Parade
18 – 21 May 15	First Class Household Goods, Baggage Processing and Shipment
19 May 15	Prep School Graduation
22 May 15	2016 Ring Dance Dinner (Mitchell Hall 1730 – 2000)
22 May 15	2016 Ring Dance (Arnold Hall 2000 – 2100)
28 May 15	2015 Graduation
30 May 15	1 <sup>st</sup> Summer Session Begins
20 Jun 15	1 <sup>st</sup> Summer Session Ends
20 Jun 15	2 <sup>nd</sup> Summer Session Begins
25 Jun 15	Class of 2019 In-Processes
26 Jun 15	Class of 2019 Swearing In Ceremony (0830) at Chapel Wall
10 Jun 15	Field Day (viewing only...no cadet access)
11 Jul 15	2 <sup>nd</sup> Summer Session Ends
11 Jul 15	Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo (0730 No parent access)
11 Jul 15	3 <sup>rd</sup> Summer Session Begins
12 Jul 15	<u>Prep School</u> – Prior Service report (in-processing)
18 Jul 15	Doolie Day Out (Sponsors pick up approx. 0800-1900) (Cadets can have cell phones today)
15 Jul 15	<u>Prep School</u> - Direct Entry report (in-processing)
20 Jul 15	March out to Jacks Valley (0800)
30 Jul 15	March back from Jacks Valley (0730)
4 Aug 15 (tentative)	Acceptance Parade (0900)
5 Aug 15	2017 Class Commitment Dinner (time TDB)
1 Aug 15	3 <sup>rd</sup> Summer Session Ends
1 Aug 15	Cadet Wing Returns by 7:00pm
TBD	Laptops Issued
TBD	Freshman E-mail should be up on e-mail
6 Aug 15	New Semester Classes Start
TBD	USAFA/FMF will accept Scholarship Checks
4-7 Sep 15	Parents' Weekend 2015 <a href="http://www.usafa.edu/superintendent/parentsweekend/?catname=Parents%27%20">http://www.usafa.edu/superintendent/parentsweekend/?catname=Parents%27%20</a> Weekend
24 – 29 Nov 15	Cadet Thanksgiving Break
19 Dec 15 – 5 Jan 16	Cadet Winter Break (Cadet Wing returns 7:00 pm on 5 Jan 16)
18 – 27 Mar 16	Cadet Wing Spring Break (Cadet Wing returns 7:00 pm on 27 Mar 16)

**2015 GRADUATION PREPARATION:** The Graduation schedule of events isn't approved yet, but hopefully soon. The webpage will be updated soon. It is highly suggested you register for Graduation. Information was sent in years past through the mail. You will now receive any changes or updates to your e-mail. Registration is open. Keep checking the Graduation Webpage at the following link:

<http://www.usafa.edu/superintendent/graduation/index.cfm?catname=graduation> for updates.

**2015 GRADUATION STREAMING AT ARNOLD HALL:** Graduation will be streamed into the Arnold Hall Theater so if you have elderly grandparents or handicapped guests they can see the ceremony in the theater if that is easier for your family.

**CADET MEDIA INFORMATION:** CADET WING MEDIA HAS A NEW WEBPAGE! Check us out at <http://www.usafasupport.com/cadet-media.html> <<http://www.usafasupport.com/cadet-media.html>> and see your 2015 graduation information.

**See attachment to this newsletter for Graduation products ordering information and form!**

Cadet Wing Media offers a variety of products to memorialize the achievements of the US Air Force Academy graduating class of 2015.

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### **Complete 2015 Experience**

Includes Class of 2015's: Polaris Yearbook Graduation DVD BCT Yearbook  
BCT DVD

\$185 Value for \$175

### **2015 Event Combo Pack**

Class of 2015's: Polaris Yearbook AND Graduation DVD

\$125 value for \$115

Class of 2015's: BCT Yearbook and BCT DVD

\$60 value for \$50\*

### **Product Availability Dates**

The BCT video and yearbook\* are shipped upon receipt

The Graduation video will be shipped end of July 2015

The Polaris will be shipped in September 2015

Please complete order form (**attached to this newsletter in the back**) and submit via email, fax or mail:

[cwmedia@usafa.edu](mailto:cwmedia@usafa.edu)

FAX: (719)333-6376

Cadet Wing Media

PO Box 6066, USAFA 80841-606

Contact Cadet Wing Media if you have any questions or would like to purchase a yearbook or DVD by calling (719) 333-4644, sending an email to [cwmedia@usafa.edu](mailto:cwmedia@usafa.edu) <<mailto:cwmedia@usafa.edu>> or writing to 10 FSS/FSLAM, P.O. Box 6066, USAFA CO 80841-6066.

Visit our web page for ordering information at <http://www.usafasupport.com/cadet-media.html>  
<<http://www.usafasupport.com/cadet-media.html>>

**USAFA Graduation Week 2015 (21–28 May 2015). Don't forget to look for our professional photographers! (See below for photo opportunities)**

GRADUATION CEREMONY

Thursday, 28 May 15

Falcon Stadium

\*Professional portrait photographers are present on graduation day. All cadets are photographed, no need to sign up, no obligation to purchase, photos will be online and proofs mailed to graduates home of record.

#### GRADUATION BALL

Wednesday, 27 May, 8:00–11:00 p.m.  
Arnold Hall Ballroom

\*Professional portrait photographers are available at Arnold Hall for formal cadet and family portraits. No appointment necessary.

#### RING DINING-OUT (FOR SECOND-CLASS CADETS AND GUESTS ONLY)

Friday, 22 May, 5:30–7:45 p.m. (Note: Dinner goes until 8:00 pm)  
Mitchell Hall

\*Professional portrait photographers are available in Mitchell Hall for formal portraits of cadets, couples, group photos with Ring Dance Cake. No appointment necessary.

#### RING DANCE (FOR SECOND-CLASS CADETS AND GUESTS ONLY)

Friday, 22 May, 8:00 –11:00 p.m.  
Arnold Hall Ballroom

\*Professional portrait photographers are available in Arnold Hall for professional portraits of cadets, couples, group photos. No appointment necessary.

**SERVICEMAN'S GROUP LIFE INSURANCE (SGLI):** Your cadet will be signed up for the SGLI automatically for \$400,000. If your cadet wishes to lower the coverage then they will need to stop by Cadet Personnel in Vandenberg hall. The Cadet Personnel Office at 2360 Vandenberg Dr Suite 3C24 (above the "C" store) to complete this transaction. Please see the below website we use to assist with myths and rumors about SGLI to include how SGLI works.

SGLI Web Site:

<http://www.benefits.va.gov/insurance/sgli.asp>

#### **ACADEMY COMPETES IN NSA EXERCISE, PLANS CYBER CENTER**

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. – The Air Force Academy Cadet Cyber Team will compete against other service academies and the National Security Agency, as part of the NSA's 15th Annual Cyber Defense Exercise, April 13-16. The entire exercise will be conducted on virtual private networks.

Cadets and midshipmen from the U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, U.S. Military Academy, U.S. Naval Academy, and U.S. Merchant Marine Academy will pit their cyber security skills, tenacity, and ingenuity against the National Security Agency's top information assurance professionals.

Network specialists who help to secure the U.S. government's most sensitive communication systems will challenge the ability of service academy teams to defend computer networks that the cadets and midshipmen have designed, built, and configured at their respective schools. Another group of specialists will grade each team's ability to effectively maintain network services while detecting, responding to and recovering from security intrusions or compromises.

Participating academies are assessed on their ability to maintain network services while detecting and responding to network intrusions and compromises.

Cadets are graded on their ability to maintain an exchange server, chat server, web server, and domain controller. They also must submit timely and accurate incident reports as they detect activity.

For the Air Force Academy, exercises such as this NSA cyber event offer opportunities for cadets to test and build their cyber skills, while also bolstering the Air Force Academy's cyber prowess, as the Academy prepares to launch a new Cyber Innovation Center.

The Air Force Academy is positioned to directly combat growing cyber vulnerabilities and cyber-attacks from adversaries, thanks to the breadth of expertise and its extensive network of industry and government partners. The Academy plans to leverage those assets to establish the Air Force Cyber Innovation Center at the Air Force Academy.

The purpose of the cyber innovation center is to equip cadets to meet Air Force mission requirements and to develop unparalleled cyber acumen in future Air Force leaders, through cutting-edge education, collaborative research and realistic training. The Academy plans to engage federal agencies, industry leaders and academia in the effort, to develop state-of-the-art technology and modern capabilities in the cyber innovation center, which would benefit the private and government sectors. The private sector benefits through access to cadet ingenuity and Air Force requirements, allowing them to create jobs and invest in a robust cyber economy. The government benefits by immersing future leaders in cyber education and gaining access to disruptive technologies that will aid in the fight against its cyber adversaries.

#### **ACADEMY CADET LEADS ON, OFF THE FIELD**

<http://www.usafa.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123438491>

Throughout the four years cadets spend at the Academy, the Center for Character and Leadership Development works to coordinate events, speakers and leadership opportunities to mold cadets into principled leaders. Despite that, it's ultimately the cadet's decision whether or not they commit to being a leader of character, and for Cadet 1st Class Broam Hart, the choice was obvious.

"Helping people is something that has become a priority in my life," said Hart, who plays Division-I football with the Falcons and is active in the Cadet-Athletes against Sexual Violence program.

While balancing his time as a cadet, an athlete and a volunteer can be difficult, Hart said devoting time to help others is important to him.

"Everyone can find the time to do something - everyone can find the time to do their hobbies, so I can sacrifice a couple hours to do something for someone else," he said. "Time management is a huge thing I've learned through all of this - always do the job first and then worry about yourself whenever you have time. I can better enjoy myself when I've already accomplished my tasks for the day."

In addition to teaching Sunday school at Pikes Peak Church in Colorado Springs, Hart was active in helping with flood-prevention efforts following the Waldo Canyon fire in 2013. He also volunteered at Marian House, a soup kitchen in downtown Colorado Springs.

Hart received the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl Humanitarian Award at the Boise Centre Dec. 18, in Boise, Idaho. He was also a nominee for the 2014 Allstate American Football Coaches Association Good Works Team, which recognizes leadership in football players and volunteer work in their communities.

While Hart played 38 career games for the Falcons - the most career games played by any current offensive player - he was also instrumental in helping film the Cadet-Athletes against Sexual Violence video, and used his

role as a member of the Air Force football leadership council to accelerate a training program against sexual violence for his teammates.

"I think sexual assault is a problem in our country and it's something we need to recognize," he said. "With my background and my faith I know it is wrong to sexually assault somebody. Nobody deserves to be treated that way."

Lt. Col. Eddie Wagner, Hart's air officer commanding for the 2013-2014 academic year, said Hart was a pleasure to have in his squadron.

"He did an exceptional job balancing all of his requirements in the squadron, in the classroom, on the football field and in the local community," Wagner said. "Cadet Hart was extremely supportive of his classmates and took a vested interest in developing others. He never carried himself like he was above other cadets because he played Division-I football, and that really resonated with others in the squadron. This explains why he is so well liked by everyone, and why my two boys run around the backyard pretending to be him. I have no doubt that he is going to be an outstanding officer because he honestly cares more about others than his own interests."

Hart cites Falcons head coach Troy Calhoun for inspiring him on and off the field.

"He's really good about showing us how to become men instead of little boys," Hart said. "He wants us to be men of character. He definitely encourages us to develop as leaders through volunteer work."

Hart is slated to enter the Acquisition career field upon graduation, but prior to heading to training he will spend a year as a military training officer at the Preparatory School here. He will spend the year mentoring and training cadet candidates who hope to receive an appointment at the Academy.

"I'll be excited to get involved with the Prep School," he said. "And when I'm done for the day at the Prep School, I hope to get out in the community and work with a small peewee football team. I learned to become a leader through athletics: I became a leader on the field, and that helped me become a leader off the field."

### **BOXING EQUIPS CADETS WITH COURAGE, RESILIENCY TO FINISH THE FIGHT**

<http://www.usafa.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123438782>

When cadets step into the boxing ring here, they don't senselessly knock each other around; they hone their defense drills, their guard position and footwork, so when they think they can't go the distance, they find a way to survive and win.

Lt. Col. Matthew Glover, interim head boxing coach here, said the skills cadets learn from boxing and combatives courses at the Academy are relevant for the modern warfighter.

"Courage under fire and grace under pressure translates directly from the boxing ring to combat," he said. "It's better to start here, where there are no real bullets. Some cadets have never been in a fight or had to take a punch. This course familiarizes them with physical stress in a controlled environment, with the best safety equipment available."

At the U.S. Military Academy, U.S. Naval Academy and U.S. Air Force Academy, all male cadets are required to take boxing during their freshman year, Glover said.

"A (West Point) study concluded, 'without real or perceived danger, courage cannot be measured,'" he said. "Boxing is a great way to provide some amount of 'danger' in a controlled environment, to give future officers an experience of being under duress before they experience combat."

Female cadets here take Introduction to Combatives, PE 114, and male cadets take Boxing, PE 110. In boxing, cadets must complete 10 hours, eight lessons and two graded reviews to pass the course.

"Cadets need to know how to defend themselves and others, and boxing class is an excellent baseline for this," said Academy boxer Cadet 2nd Class Peter Coote. "While some of us may never get into another fight the rest of our lives, as (future officers), we need to have the basic knowledge to defend ourselves in case it comes down to a physical altercation."

Glover said boxing injuries are generally minor and not common at the Academy, despite the sport's hard-hitting nature.

"The most common boxing injuries across the sport are bloody noses, strained wrists, elbows and shoulders, sore jaws and the chance of sustaining a mild concussion," he said.

Ed Weichers, who coached boxing here for 38 years, said during his time at the Academy, no cadet ever lost their medical qualification to become a pilot or commission into the Air Force due to a boxing injury.

"The Academy has the best equipment, providing cadets with form-fitted mouth pieces, gloves, head gear and groin protectors," he said.

Weichers said coaches closely monitor the cadets in the ring and make sure the boxers face properly-sized opponents.

"Size is critical to keep cadets safe - you don't have the smallest cadet box against the tallest," he said.

To be on the Academy's official boxing team, cadet athletes must complete the course and enter the Wing Open Tournament, held here annually. From there, cadets are selected by coaches to compete at the intercollegiate level. There are 24 spots on the team's roster; the Academy has won 19 team championships since 1980.

"The winners of the Wing Open typically go on to represent the Academy at regional and National Collegiate Boxing Association competitions," said Glover, a Class of '94 Academy graduate, who won the 172-pound division at the 1994 NCBA Team Championships.

"The voluntary recreational cadet club shares training facilities and equipment with the men in the cadet gym," Glover said. "Right now there about a dozen female cadets in the women's boxing club. It's an exciting change."

Weichers said there's more to boxing than its stereotypes.

"People confuse amateur college boxing with professional boxing such as Mixed Martial Arts fighting," he said. "I think people get infatuated with the sensationalism of professional boxing. At the Academy, it's a strategic sport and a way to learn to protect yourself. Boxing teaches self-confidence, self-esteem and humility."

Academy boxer Cadet 3rd Class Brett Hagen said boxing requires technique and confidence.

"In a match, you need to focus on head movement, footwork, precise combinations, defense, and many other things, instead of just running at your opponent with no game plan," he said. "Nothing is better than getting your hand raised after winning a bout because it's just you in the ring. No one can take it away from you and you know you earned it."

He said boxing is about the small details.

"Whether rotating your hip on a punch, keeping your hands up when you're exhausted, or properly maintaining the weight requirements for each weight class, boxing requires a high-level of discipline," Hagen said. "Handling the nervousness, the crowd and executing the things you've practiced for months in the ring against another cadet requires great mental toughness."

Having to fight through fatigue and pain in a boxing fight is unlike any other sport, Hagen said.

"Many cadets push themselves physically and mentally to levels they've never reached before," he said. "I guarantee this class will prepare cadets a little bit more for any challenge they have ahead of them."

**NO SUMMER BUS TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED:** Summer Commercial Bus Transportation will **NOT** be provided. Cadets/parents can make arrangements for transportation to and from Denver International and Colorado Springs Airports by contacting the following: (you can also check online for other companies)

1. Colorado Springs Shuttle, LLC, 719-687-3456/1-877-587-3456, <http://www.coloradoshuttle.com/index.php>;
2. Front Range Shuttle (direct to airports): <http://www.frontrangeshuttle.com/> <<http://www.frontrangeshuttle.com/>> , (719) 237-2646;
3. A Ride in Luxury: <http://arideinluxury.com/colorado-airport-transportation/> <<http://arideinluxury.com/colorado-airport-transportation/>> , 1-800-813-9916, (719) 243-3365
4. A & B Limo Towncar: <http://www.cartotheairportdenver.com/colorado-springs-to-dia/> <<http://www.cartotheairportdenver.com/colorado-springs-to-dia/>> , (303) 578-4802.

**CABS ALLOWED ACCESS TO USAFA BEFORE AND AFTER VISITING HOURS:** There are two cab companies that have been approved by Security Forces to be allowed on to the base before and after visiting hours. Their contact information is below.

1. Yellow Cab, (719) 777-7777, <http://www.yccos.com/community.html> <<http://www.yccos.com/community.html>> has approval access to the base. Other cab companies would have to have a driver that already has a military Identification (retired military) to gain access the installation after visiting hours (0900- 1700 hours every day)
2. Springs Cab, (719) 444-8686.

**AOG INFORMATION:**

**WEBGUY:** In addition to the academic year coverage from Webguy, here are the upcoming major events Webguy will be covering:

- Polaris Warrior
- Recognition
- Ring Dance
- Prep TX
- Prep Graduation

To view the coverage, log on to Webguy at <http://www.usafawebguy.com/>

Please let Webguy know of any appointee send-offs and if your cadet is participating in any USAFA Clubs. Webguy may be able to provide additional coverage.

### Helpful Websites/POCs:

**Cadet Academic Calendar website: (2014/2015 calendar)**

<http://www.usafa.af.mil/academics/calendar.asp>

**Cadet Curriculum Handbook** (which also outlines what summer programs are available for cadets in what year):

<http://www.usafa.edu/df/data/CHB2012-2013.pdf>

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

<http://www.usafa.edu/cadetFocus/cadetClubs/>

**Admissions:** (parents can help us recruit future cadets):

<http://www.academyadmissions.com/>

**Sports Schedules:**

<http://www.goairforcefalcons.com/calendar/events/>

**Association of Graduates and USAFA Endowment:**

<http://www.usafa.org/>

**Life Touch photos:** POC: Maria Turner, Prestige Portrait by Lifetouch, 800-426-9533 x 241

**Cadet Wing Media:** (719) 333-4644

**Base Cadet Treats (Flower Shop)** 719-472-8589, [petalsnblooms.com](http://petalsnblooms.com)

### **PREP SCHOOL INFORMATION:**

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

Dawn Ellis, (719) 333-2583. [dawn.ellis@usafa.edu](mailto:dawn.ellis@usafa.edu)

<http://www.usafa.edu> Look under Prep School link at top right (7th tab)

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

**Marie**

ROSE MARIE NIKOVITS

Parents' Liaison

U.S. Air Force Academy, CO

(719) 333-3828 Toll Free 877-268-3383

Fax (719) 333-1433

e-mail: [rose.nikovits@usafa.edu](mailto:rose.nikovits@usafa.edu)

# Celebrate Your Achievement

*Honor Your Graduation with Commencement Portraits*

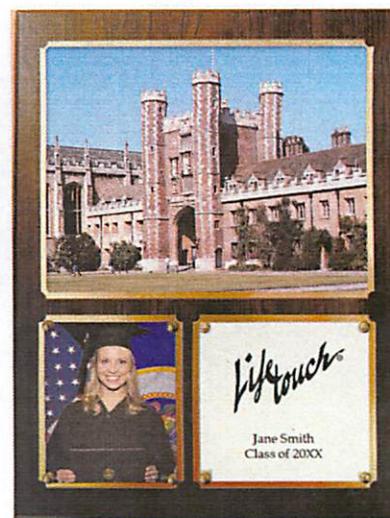
## Here's what you need to know:

- All cadets will be photographed, no need to sign up
- Photos will be online one week after the ceremony
- Complimentary proofs mailed to Graduates
- No obligation to purchase
- Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery

*Smile! You've made it!*



Remember your achievement  
with a personalized keepsake



Order at:

[events.lifetouch.com/usairforceacademycoloradospringsco](http://events.lifetouch.com/usairforceacademycoloradospringsco)



# Class of 2015 Graduation Product Order Form

Cadet Wing Media offers a variety of products to memorialize the achievements of the US Air Force Academy graduating class of 2015.

Cadet Wing Media  
PO Box 6066  
USAF Academy, CO 80841  
(719) 333-4644  
(719) 333-6376 Fax  
cwmedia@usafa.edu  
www.usafasupport.com/cadet-media.html

## Products

### POLARIS Yearbook

Highlighting the final year at the Air Force Academy for the Class of 2015, the POLARIS yearbook provides a comprehensive, creative collection of academic, athletic, and cadet life events for the Cadet Wing 2015-2016 academic year.

\$95



### Graduation DVD

Cadet Wing Media offers a professionally produced DVD. Included are highlights from graduation week events and ceremony. Each cadet is filmed as they cross the stage to receive their diploma.



The Cadet Wing Media Graduation Video is the only product of its type sanctioned and endorsed by the US Air Force Academy.

It is also a great way to share the experience with those loved ones who could not attend the ceremony!

\$30

### Basic Training Yearbook

Basic Cadet Training is captured in pictures, stories, and interviews in the Basic Cadet Training yearbook. Each flight is highlighted in the group photo section.

\$30

\*While supplies Last

### Basic Training DVD

The BCT DVD is a comprehensive look at the intense training cadets receive upon arrival at the Air Force Academy. Each flight is highlighted performing one of the many training activities. It is a wonderful way to remember the way their journey to Air Force 2nd Lieutenants began.

\$30



## Congratulatory Messages

Friends, Family and Supporters of cadets are provided an opportunity to congratulate your graduate and include a personal message in the 2015 Polaris Yearbook to mark the momentous milestone. Please visit [www.afaphotos.com](http://www.afaphotos.com) or [www.usafasupport.com/Cadet-media.html](http://www.usafasupport.com/Cadet-media.html) and select 2015 Congratulatory Messages along the right-hand sidebar to place your ad today!

### Package Options

Please complete order form on back and submit via email, fax or mail:  
cwmedia@usafa.edu  
FAX: (719)333-6376  
Cadet Wing Media  
PO Box 6066, USAFA 80841-6066

### Complete 2015 Experience

Includes Class of 2015's:  
Polaris Yearbook  
Graduation DVD  
BCT Yearbook  
BCT DVD

\$185 Value for \$175

### 2015 Event Combo Pack

Class of 2015's:  
Polaris Yearbook AND  
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Class of 2015's: BCT Yearbook  
and BCT DVD  
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