

AFROTC DETACHMENT 465

Home of 2023 #1 Small Detachment in the Nation



This Issue

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COMMAND

DECEMBER
COMMISSIONING

CHARLES MCGEE
LEADERSHIP AWARD
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JANUARY 2024

Cadre Corner

Written By: Lieutenant Colonel Philip Garito



Flying Huskers, CONGRATULATIONS !!

Your conviction and dedication to service, excellence, and improvement has earned you National level recognition as the #1 Small Detachment in ROTC. Of the 48 small detachments in the '22-23 school year, you've proven to be the best. And these accolades and my gratitude extend to you and the supportive Alumni, University, and Community to whom we owe a great deal.

And while we take time to reflect and celebrate our achievements, we must not become complacent and comfortable. We all have more to do, more to improve, and more to provide. "There is Danger in the Comfort Zone" and that is one highway destination we must avoid to graduate, commission, and serve as great Air Force and Space Force leaders.¹

Fortunately, the spirit of improvement will soon force you into a more challenging environment as our Military & Naval Science Building will finally receive the functional upgrades it deserves. Over the next several years, the University and a team of dedicated workers led by an Army ROTC alum, will be installing larger windows, central heating and air conditioning, updated fire suppression, and an elevator so that the Military & Naval Science building of the future will be a more attractive, capable space for future generations of officers to hone their initial leadership skills.

Until then, we will adjust our operations for 2 to 3 years to fit into a building that is 67% smaller than what we're used to and share these close quarters with our Army, Navy, & Marine teammates. We will also be challenged to coordinate with new groups and find new locations to host lab and conduct academics. And you will grow even more for it as you adapt and learn. While change is often viewed as a threat, it can also be an opportunity that leads to positive innovation, transformation, and growth.² So, this semester I encourage you to embrace this change, these challenges, and navigate away from the danger zone of comfort as we begin defending our National Small Det Championship with a constant, patriot-esque pursuit of excellence.

"The only limit to the height of your achievements is the reach of your dreams and your willingness to work hard for them."³ GBR!

Note: Mrs. Obama did not say GBR, but I know she would have, understanding our shared values of working hard, honoring our word, and treating others with dignity & respect.

¹ Kathleen Peterson, "Complacency: Danger in the Comfort Zone." (Aug. 15, 2017)

² Evan Arnold, "Is Change an Opportunity or a Threat." (Jul. 27, 2023)

³ Michelle Obama, Transcript: Michelle Obama's Convention Speech. (Aug. 25, 2008)

Lt Col Garito

Change of Command

Greetings,

My name is Raen Lubben, and I am AFROTC Detachment 465's new Cadet Wing Commander. I am a junior at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln majoring in Forensic Science - Crime Scene Investigation with a minor in Chemistry. My aspiration is to commission as a Second Lieutenant in the world's best Air Force as a Security Forces Officer or Aircraft Maintenance Officer in the Spring of 2025.

It is an honor to serve in my new role and contribute to the program that has made my future goals possible. AFROTC has not only provided me with a home away from home, but it has prepared me for life after college. It has taught me how to lead in a variety of scenarios, how to critically think and, most importantly, how to be resilient. As Cadet Wing Commander, I am tasked with teaching these skills and an array of others while assisting in carrying out the Mission of the U.S. AFROTC alongside an impressive Cadet Wing Staff.



For this semester, the vision statement is, "Dedicated Empowered Team = Mission Success" (DET for short). Cadets need to be dedicated to the mission and focused on the learning cycle, empowered with the capabilities and confidence to succeed, and have a team mentality. When completed, we will have reached mission success by creating the highest quality future leaders who will go on to serve in the United States Air Force and Space Force.

I look forward to working with the skilled and talented cadets of Detachment 465 over the course of the semester. We will develop and grow alongside each other as we prepare for the next stages of ROTC or, for some, Commissioning!

December Commissioning Ceremony

On 16 December 2023, Second Lieutenant Hunter Bode and Second Lieutenant Kale Ensser commissioned into the United States Air Force. The ceremony took place in the Nebraska Capitol Rotunda. The highlight of the ceremony was when the commissionees took the oath of office. Both commissionees' fathers administered the oath and afterward their families came up and pinned on the gold bars. After this, both shared a Silver Dollar Salute with an enlisted member of the military. The Silver Dollar Salute is a military tradition where the new officer offers a silver dollar in exchange for their first salute. Following this, both Lieutenants received the ROTC Alumni and Military Affiliate Coin and the Airman's Coin and the Air and Space Training Ribbon.



Some of the people who helped make the ceremony possible were Second Lieutenant Bode and Second Lieutenant Ensser, who decided many of the details of the ceremony; the Protocol Officer Team, including Cadet Major Forcade, Cadet Hartley, Cadet Kurinec, and Cadet Rowe, who helped plan the event; Cadet Major Landkamer, the Master of Ceremonies; Cadet Leslie, the proffer; Cadet Captain Bowden and the Honor Guard, who presented the colors; as well as members of the cadre including Lieutenant Colonel Garito, who was the guest speaker; Major Mattheis, who helped with the planning; and Technical Sergeant Miller, who helped with the certification process and helped design the invitations.

Congratulations to 2d Lt Bode & 2d Lt Ensser!

Charles McGee Leadership Award (CMLA)

The Charles McGee Leadership Award (CMLA) is an in-college scholarship awarded to cadets who successfully earn an Enrollment Allocation (EA) if they are not recipients of the High School Scholarship Program (HSSP). The award is used to ensure all junior and senior cadets on scholarship. This scholarship, similar to a Type 2, covers up to \$18,000 per academic year in tuition at any public or private institution with an AFROTC detachment. This scholarship also provides the awardee with a monthly stipend and an annual book stipend. For cadets who may already be on scholarship, there is an option to convert the award to a \$10,000-per-academic-year room-only housing scholarship for on-campus housing.



“This scholarship has helped me tremendously,” says Cadet Madison Pozzi. “Having the next few years of my tuition paid off as well as receiving the stipend really takes a huge load off of my back. It allows me to focus on my academics and leadership development.”

“The CMLA scholarship has helped me succeed in my academics tremendously. It has taken the worry about paying out-of-state nursing school tuition and allows for me to stay focused on my academic career,” says Cadet Ethan VanEnkevort.

Cadet Taylor Ziepke says, “The CMLA scholarship has definitely taken the stress of paying tuition off myself and my family! I am extremely grateful for this scholarship, because it allows me to advance and thrive in my academics without the pressure and stress of paying for my classes and other tuition fees being in the back of my mind.”

Alumni Highlight

2d Lt Chaseton Tucker

Graduating Class: 2022

Major: Criminal Justice

Job: Undergraduate Combat Systems Officer

Rank: 2d Lt

About me: I'm currently stationed in Pensacola, Florida but I was born and raised here in Lincoln, Nebraska. It's also where I met my wife and where most of my family resides. I'm currently training in the T-6 during my intermediate phase of UCT at the moment. So far I'm enjoying everything the Air Force has offered to me and have made a lot of really cool memories.

Biggest impact left on the detachment: Starting work on the cadet lounge renovations/updates with [the Flying Husker Booster Club].



Special Agent Kathryn Kudrna

Class: Spring 2023

Major: Communication Studies

Job: Special Agent, Office of Special Investigations

Rank: 2d Lt

About me: ROTC was my first experience with the military. I received a high school scholarship and decided to try out if the Air Force was the right fit for me. After one year, I was passionate about the program and the person it was helping me become. I was also in a sorority and had a part-time job, but ROTC taught me more about my potential and leadership style than any of my other involvements. I was inspired by my teammates and the people I met along the way and am lucky to keep in touch with a lot of the contacts this program gave me.

Biggest impact I left on the detachment: The projects and programs I helped start. Recruiting, training, being a wingman. I tried to focus my energy on intentionally building up the people around me and the relationships in my life.



Air Force Officer Qualifying Test (AFOQT)



The Air Force Officer Qualifying Test (AFOQT) is a standardized test, similar to taking the SAT or ACT, that is required to take before entering a slot for Field Training over the summer of sophomore year. However, in this case, it's an Air Force version of it where the test not only measures the Math and English portions of it, but also examines other different portions relating to specific carrier fields that may interest one another.



With this, the AFOQT consists of 12 different subtests, but in the end, when calculating the scores, these subtests would be broken down into six areas entailing of Pilot, Combat System Officer (CSO), Air Battle Manger (ABM), Verbal, Quantitative (Math), and Academic Aptitude. Scoring the minimum in the specified areas would only qualify you in looking forward, but not competitively where it could move you forward to the next step. That being said, all test takers, regardless of what career field one may go into, must score a minimum of 15 in Verbal and 10 in Quantitative to be able to move to the next step.

In January, we provided four sessions of the AFOQT for around ten freshman and sophomore cadets. Many of these cadets have already received their scores and performed very well.

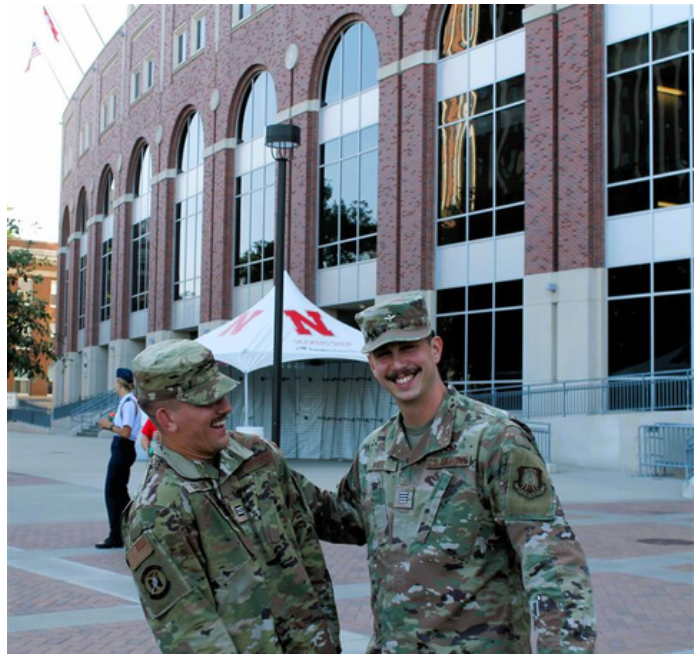
Cadet Matthew Johnson is among one of the freshmen that took this AFOQT this month. "My goal after commissioning is to become a pilot, so scoring high on the pilot section of the AFOQT is a big deal for me," he says. "I started studying for the AFOQT about one week before I took it, but the study book that I bought was not very similar to the actual test. Thankfully, I have been studying aviation knowledge intensely for months to earn my Private Pilot's License last semester, which was a huge help for getting the pilot score that I wanted on the AFOQT. Overall, I am happy with my scores but plan on taking the AFOQT again now that I have a better idea of what to expect and how to prepare."



Cadet Highlight - Cadet Vivier

My name is Wyatt Vivier and I am a 300-level cadet here at Detachment 465. I was born and raised here in the great city of Lincoln, Nebraska, but it has been a long and winding road that's brought me to this university.

I enlisted in the USAF in October of 2017 and served four years as a Weapons Director at Mountain Home Air Force Base, ID. I had no idea what I was getting myself into with this job, but it turned out to be the coolest job in the world. I connected with pilots and operations teams and controlled the air war via radio and other means of communication. The Air Force gave me fantastic opportunities to travel, meet lifelong friends, and grow into a leader. I separated from Active Duty in 2021 to pursue my lifelong dream to play college baseball, but after one season at Doane University I felt the need to be closer to home and to serve once again.



I couldn't be happier with my decision. The people at this university and detachment have reassured me that I am where I belong. This organization is one of the most close-knit teams I've ever been a part of. There is a strong reformation of culture underway and we are creating a place that is second-to-none when it comes to building leaders of character who will fight and win our nation's wars.

This semester I have the distinct privilege of being the Cadet Vice Wing Commander, meaning I'm "number two" for the spring. I get to work closely with the Cadet Wing Commander to carry out her mission and develop the standards we want to hold ourselves accountable to. I'm excited to step into this new role, I believe it is going to be a great semester! Go Big Red!

AFROTC Lingo

One of the hardest parts of Air Force Reserve officer Training, is learning all of the acronyms. Below is a cheat sheet of some of our common acronyms to help understand your cadet.

- Air Force Officer Qualifying Test (AFOQT) - A standardized test that measures a cadet's verbal, math, and academic aptitudes. The test is used to select applicants for commissioning, as well as specific jobs, including Pilot. This test takes approximately five hours, and is similar to other standardized testing
- Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) - An educational program that allows college students to receive officer training while also earning their degree, then commissioning into the Air Force as a Second Lieutenant (O-1) following graduation.
- Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC) - An alphanumeric code that is used by the U.S. Air Force to identify a specific job.
- AS100 - First-year cadets, usually freshmen.
- AS200 - Second-year cadets, usually sophomores.
- AS300 - Third-year cadets, usually juniors.
- AS400 - Fourth-year cadets, usually seniors.
- Cadre - Active-duty commissioned officers and enlisted that lead the AFROTC program. They also teach aerospace classes.
- Dress Blues - Dress uniform consisting of a short or long-sleeve blue shirt, navy blue slacks, belt, black shined low-quarters and flight cap.
- Enrollment Allocation (EA) - Earned by cadets their AS200 year; this provides the cadet with a spot in the Air Force, with their job to be determined later.
- Extended Cadet Leader (ECL) - Cadets that have completed Field Training as well as at least two years of LLAB, but still have one or two academic terms left; Usually fifth years.
- Field Training - Typically two weeks over the summer between AS200 and AS300. This is a leadership evaluation at Maxwell Air Force Base. Completing this allows a cadet to move into the POC.
- Field Training Preparation (FTP) - Cadets training to attend Field Training during the upcoming summer; Usually sophomores.
- Flight Time - An allotted time for a flight to complete extra training. This time is not mandatory and is held by the flight trainer.
- General Military Course (GMC) - The category of cadets that have not attended Field Training. This consists of IMTs and FTPs.
- Initial Military Training (IMT) - Cadets in their first year of training who are not scheduled to attend Field Training; Usually freshmen.
- Intermediate Cadet Leader (ICL) - Cadets returning from Field Training; Usually juniors.
- Leadership Laboratory (LLAB) - An allotted time period used for military training. For GMC cadets, this time is used to train, including, but not limited to, marching and drill, tactics, and procedures. POC cadets learn leadership skills by leading the GMC cadets.
- Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) - Enlisted officers that have not commissioned. In the U.S. Air Force staff sergeant (E-5) and technical sergeant (E-6) are considered NCOs.

- Operational Camouflage Pattern (OCP) - Camouflage uniform currently utilized by both the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Army.
- Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA) - A fitness test consisting of a minute of push-ups, a minute of sit-ups, and a mile and a half run. Each component has an associated number of points related to the number of repetitions completed.
- Physical Fitness Diagnostic (PFD) - Physical fitness assessment that is practice for the PFA. Used to see where the cadet is at with physical fitness.
- Physical Training (PT) - An allotted amount of time dedicated to performing physical activity.
- Physical Training Gear (PTG) - Uniform worn when completing PT.
- Professional Military Training (PMT) - An allotted time to complete training. This includes PT and LLAB.
- Professional Officer Course (POC) - The category of cadets that have completed Field Training. This consists of ICLs, SCLs, and ECLs.
- Senior Cadet Leader (SCL) - Cadets scheduled to commission in the upcoming year; Usually seniors.
- Service Dress - Long-sleeve dress blues with the navy-blue service coat. Service coat displays ribbons and, a silver name tag, if the cadet has completed Field Training.
- Uniform of Day (UOD) - The uniform that will be worn during the day.
- Warrior Knowledge - Specific statements that are to be learned verbatim by cadets. This includes but is not limited to the Air Force Song, the Chain of Command, and a series of quotes and mission statements.

