

AFROTC DETACHMENT 465

Home of 2023 #1 Small Detachment in the Nation

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MARCH 2024

Cadre Corner

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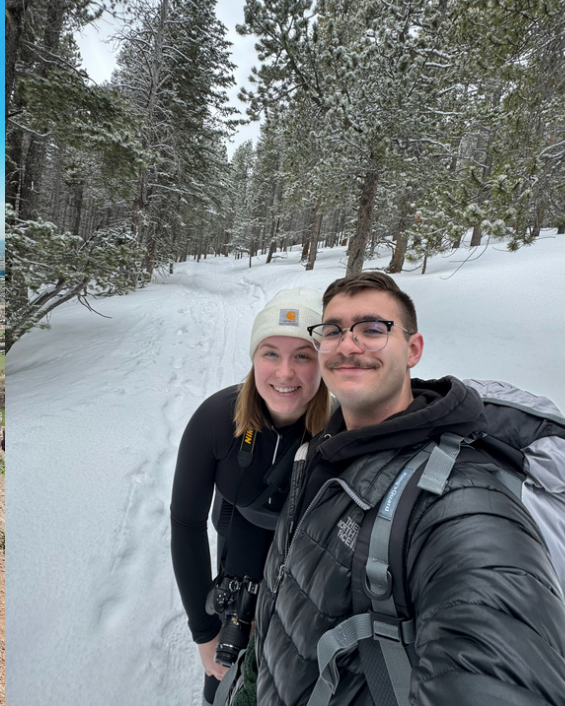


Congratulations to our cadets for completing their midterm exams. Our students continue to show dedication to academic excellence and discipline towards their studies. We know that each semester demands a certain level of energy and commitment. With that being said, Spring Break is now behind us and our students have hopefully caught up on some lost sleep, enjoyed some time with their friends or family, and are recharged and ready to complete the remainder of the semester.

Our recent Shadow Day 2024 was a resounding success! We had the pleasure of welcoming aspiring leaders to visit our facilities and provided them with an immersive experience that showcased the ample opportunities and experiences available through ROTC. A special thank you to our Recruiting Squadron led by Cadet Ethan VanEnkevort for his dedication and commitment in making this event worthwhile for our guests.

As we enter the final approach of the semester, it is important to remember the reasons and purpose behind the things all students work so hard for. Understand that everything we do here is for the deliberate development and growth of every individual so that they can reach new heights and be better prepared for their future. All our students are currently working towards accomplishing incredible things and I am beyond humbled to be a part of this significant growth period in their lives. A lot of us could learn much from these hungry and determined young leaders. I look forward to crossing the finish line with each one of them here in a few short months. Giddy up!

Spring Break!



First Friday

Spring 2024's first "First Friday" occurred on Friday, 1 March. Cadet Tucker hosted the event for the wing.

First Friday is an AFROTC event that Detachment 465 holds on the first Friday of every month. For the duration of First Friday, cadets are addressed by their given callsign or as "Lil Red (Cadet's last name)". The MC or host of First Friday is addressed as "Sheriff" throughout the night.

Cadets begin each segment/story by giving a toast "To The Flyin' Huskers" and end it in the same. These segments consist of "Shacks," "Don't Taze Me Bro," and "Wouldn't it be Nice".

"Shacks" is a time where cadets can give praise to things that are going well within the detachment and props to cadets who are going above and beyond.

"Don't Taze Me Bro" is a segment where cadets have an opportunity to poke fun at cadets who may have thrown them under the bus.

Lastly, the "Wouldn't it be Nice" segment is for lighthearted jabs between cadets like "Wouldn't it be nice if Cadet Tucker would stop turning the ball over at our basketball games."

Battle For Nebraska

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Detachment 465 cadets competed with the University of Nebraska-Omaha Detachment 470 cadets in the first annual Battle For Nebraska (BFN) competition on 29 February 2024. This competition was made up of seven events that tested speed, coordination, strength, and teamwork. BFN was a great opportunity for the sister detachments to build camaraderie, increase morale, and most importantly get to know one another with some friendly, but fierce, competition. The cadets raced, planked, threw, and cheered on each other with all their might. We are proud to say that the traveling trophy will be residing with Det 465 for the next year as our cadets won 6-3! After the competition, cadets from both detachments gathered for some pancakes, orange juice, and fellowship before heading to class for the day.

The event was planned and officiated by the Cadet Physical Fitness Officers (PFOs) from each detachment. The pair worked together to plan and design the competition which they hope will become a lasting tradition for Det 465 and Det 470. Cadet Choat, the Det 465 PFO, commented “It’s great to see the interactions between UNL and UNO cadets. Everyone competed with great sportsmanship and professionalism and you can tell that there are a lot of great officers in training at the Nebraska AFROTC (Air Force ROTC) detachments. I’m glad UNO was able to come to Lincoln and compete with us and I hope we can do it again next year. Go Big Red.” Thank you to all the Detachment 470 cadets for making the event so enjoyable and congrats to Detachment 465 for bringing home the hardware!



Physical Fitness Diagnostic (PFD)

On 7 March 2024, the cadets at Detachment 465 took their second Physical Fitness Diagnostic (PFD) of the semester. A PFD is an unofficial Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA), which is the health assessment used by the Air Force to test cardiovascular and muscular fitness. Det 465 will take three PFDs and one PFA this semester. The PFD helps cadets see where they are with their physical health so they can adjust their daily workout routine and diet to ensure they are meeting Air Force standards. The goal of the Cadet Wing this spring is to have each cadet increase their PT score by 5% from the beginning of the semester to the end of the semester. From the first PFD to the second PFD of this semester, the wing increased the average PT score by 11 points! This is a huge increase and a testament to the hard work of each individual cadet. We are excited to see how much more cadets will improve and have confidence that each cadet will be able to hit the 5% goal.



Offutt AFB - Logistics Readiness Squadron Visit

On 1 March 2024, cadets from Detachment 465, joined with cadets from Detachment 470, had the opportunity to visit the 55th Logistics Readiness Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base. The tour was led by Second Lieutenant Welch and Master Sergeant Horner. Second Lieutenant Welch is an alumna of Detachment 465 who commissioned in 2022. She was able to give the cadets valuable information on Logistics Readiness Officers and what the job can be like. She shared some of her favorite parts about her job which included all the amazing people she gets to work with daily.

On the tour, the cadets first visited the main office where they got to meet Chief Master Sergeant Serrell. He shared with the group about the 55th Logistics Readiness Squadron's mission at Offutt. The 55th Logistics Readiness Squadron is made up of five flights that each play a critical role in supporting the Air Force mission. After hearing from Chief Master Sergeant Serrell, the group visited several of the sections that make up these flights and got to hear about what they do. The first stop was at Vehicle Maintenance, where the cadets got to see some of the Security Forces, fire, and snow removal vehicles that are used at Offutt Air Force Base and meet some of the personnel who work on these vehicles. The cadets then got to meet some of the Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs) who work in Ground Transportation and hear them speak about the unique parts of their job at the base. The group got to visit several parts of the Material Management Flight and the Deployment and Distribution Flight. At Asset Management, the cadets got to see several of the protective equipment pieces distributed for deployment and exercises including gas masks and protective vests. At the Traffic Management Office, the cadets learned about how this section oversees all inbound cargo which can be anything from small screws to aircraft wings. The final stop was at the Fuels Management Flight where the cadets learned about the quality assurance and testing done on fuel ensuring that it is good to use.

The visit was a valuable opportunity for the cadets to see and learn about a variety of different career fields connected to logistics.



United States Space Command Legal Conference

From 5 – 7 March 2024, the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate of United States Space Command (USSPACECOM) hosted its fourth annual legal conference at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO. During the first two days, over three hundred (300) in-person and online attendees heard from distinguished military and civilian leaders and experts on topics under the conference theme of “Space Futures: The Legal Implications of Space Operations in [Geostationary Orbit] and Beyond.” The third and final day of the conference was reserved for classified briefings on topics under the same theme.

Among the panelists and attendees were nearly thirty (30) University of Nebraska College of Law students, alumni, and faculty, reflecting UNL’s international leadership in space law and military space operations through its renowned Space, Cyber, and National Security Law Program. The Program funded travel and lodging for six (6) current Nebraska Law students, including three (3) current Air Force and Army judge advocate attorneys currently pursuing advanced legal education at UNL and Detachment 465’s own C/Capt Grant Jones. C/Capt Jones will commission in May and become a judge advocate attorney upon completion of the Bar Exam and legal licensing requirements.

Over the conference’s two unclassified days, panelists from government agencies, academia, business, and non-governmental organizations discussed the importance of advancing development of non-binding international norms in space to complement the existing, binding international legal structure currently in place through agreements such as the Outer Space Treaty. Notably, the Woomera Manual on the International Law of Military Activities and Operations—an international project led by the University of Nebraska and the University of Adelaide (Australia) dedicated to synthesizing the current state of binding international law in this area—served as a focal point for a panel conversation on the future of normative law in space. Additional keynote speakers included the Honorable Caroline D. Krass, general counsel of the Department of Defense, and General Stephen Whiting, USSPACECOM commander.

Interested individuals can view the unclassified keynotes and panels on the “LTWRC USAFA” YouTube channel.



Nebraska Law students, alumni, and faculty at the USSPACECOM Legal Conference
(photo credit: Elsbeth Magilton)



General Stephen Whiting, USSPACECOM commander, delivers the closing keynote address at the USSPACECOM Legal Conference
(photo credit: U.S. Space Command)

Where Are They Now? - 1st Lt Caitlin Farber

Graduating Class: Spring 2021

Major: Nursing

Job: 46N3 (Clinical Nurse)

I am in San Antonio, TX at the Brooke Army Medical Center. I work at 2W. 2W is a surgical trauma floor.

At BAMC we see a lot of civilians. In my time there I recall treating more civilians than the activity duty, dependents and veterans other Air Force military facilities see. The surrounding facilities are at more times than not on diversion so we take in their traumas.

I manage gunshot wounds, stab wounds, assaults, motor vehicle accidents, motorcycle crashes, falls from any type of height (standing or from roof etc.), traumatic brain injuries and any other manageable condition our medical surgical floor can take when the hospital gets full.

Going to school in Nebraska was a blessing. But I was shocked at the culture change and the difference in size. I was definitely very sheltered. It was a steep learning curve learning how to manage taking care of trauma patients and a different population than I saw in Nebraska. After two years I am extremely confident in my clinical skills and more excited than scared to be going to work and caring for these patients.

Detachment 465 taught me an extreme amount of discipline and time management. Going to nursing school and balancing their requirements with the requirements of the detachment got to be a lot. The detachment has also taught me communication skills. It got difficult when our requirements overlapped and being able to compromise with cadre and my nursing professors became really important.

I hope that me and the others before me have shown the gamble it takes to be present in both to the fullest and that it is possible. When you give both your all you meet the most amazing people and people you learn to rely on. The relationships you build will be one of the most important things you do. Encourage each other, build each other up and keep up the discipline while still having fun in everything you do. Ya'lls future is going to be really bright!



Shadow Day 2024

On March 21, 2024, Detachment 465 held its first annual Shadow Day where they welcomed 21 high school students from across Nebraska and neighboring states to better understand Air Force ROTC operations and observe how the program contributes to a cadet's development. During their visit, students met with current cadre members and cadets to receive a briefing of the training environment and objectives, commissioning timelines, scholarship details, and comprehensive job descriptions. Participants later engaged in the great experience of Leadership Laboratory (LLAB), which is aimed to challenge cadets to real-world critical thinking and decision-making exercises. Shadow Day attendees were also able to hear first hand from a current Cyber Officer and how her role in the Air Force contributes to the security of our nation.



Our goal is to bring into perspective for these students that at Detachment 465, we can get them to their future, whether they want to fly, practice medicine, become a lawyer, or work with innovative technology, Detachment 465 delivers 100% job placement post-graduation. Prospective cadets were able to serve as witnesses to the impact Detachment 465 has on shaping the future officers of the United States Air and Space Force. We are Flying Huskers! Build your Legacy.

Cadet Highlight - Cadet Rokes

My name is Jillian Rokes and I am an AS400 cadet at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL). I was born and raised in Omaha, Nebraska and attended Skutt Catholic High School. I decided to come to UNL because of the great ROTC programs and to stay close to home. Here at UNL, I am involved in my sorority, Delta Delta Delta, the Women's Club Soccer team, and am an employee for the UNL Athletic Department at Memorial Stadium.

My freshman year of college I decided to rush Greek life and pledge Delta Delta Delta. Being in a sorority has given me a community as well as other leadership opportunities on campus. Since sophomore year, I have been a team member of the Women's Club Soccer team. This has given me the chance to continue playing the sport I love as well as travel around the Midwest and compete against other schools. I am very passionate about sports and am an avid fan of Nebraska athletics, which led me to working for the Athletic Department.

After I commission in May, I will be headed to Offutt Air Force Base to be the Gold Bar Recruiter for the region for one year. This means I will be traveling around Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, North Dakota, Wisconsin, and Minnesota to recruit high schoolers to apply for the AFROTC High School Scholarship Program (HSSP). I am looking forward to this special duty assignment as I am passionate about the Air Force and want to encourage others to experience similar opportunities I had.



Tips for Future Cadets: Take advantage of the opportunities presented to you! Detachment 465 offers some pretty awesome and unique opportunities for cadets to get involved in, such as doing the color guard in front of 90k people at Memorial Stadium, flying in a C-17, and even going on a base visit to Tinker AFB in Oklahoma on a KC-135.

Favorite memory from ROTC: Attending the Flyin' Irish Notre Dame Basketball tournament each year.

My biggest impact on the Det so far: Putting together intramural teams for everyone to participate on. This is a great way for cadets to bond together outside of ROTC events and build morale.

Cadet Shout Outs

Pershing Rifles NATCON

Cadets C. Conley, Ward, Richmond, and Christensen all traveled to NATCON in Nashville, Tennessee earlier this month to represent the A-2 Company! C/Conley placed second in individual, and both C/Conley and C/Ward received the Silver Achievement Medal. Congratulations!

Arnold Air NATCON

Cadets K. Conley, Morrisette, and Anderson will be traveling to San Diego, California at the end of the month to represent the Joyce-Johnson Squadron at San DCON!

USAFA Cadet Exchange Program

Cadet Blazek was chosen for the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) Cadet Exchange Program! This program allows AFROTC cadets to experience a semester at USAFA and for Academy cadets to spend a semester at a civilian university. Congratulations C/Blazek!



New Student Orientation

Looking to join AFROTC this fall? Use the QR code (pictured right) or the following link to register for Det 465's New Student Orientation (NSO): afrotc.unl.edu/NSO24

NSO is scheduled for Friday, August 23rd, 2024.



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.

