

# AFROTC DETACHMENT 465

Home of 2023 #1 Small Detachment in the Nation



**November/December 2025**

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# Cadre's Corner

Written By: TSgt Ashley DeWolf

My name is TSgt Ashley DeWolf, and I have the privilege of serving as an Officer Accessions Instructor here at Detachment 465. With ten years of Active Duty experience, a background in intelligence, and a passion for developing future leaders, my goal is to help each cadet grow into the best version of themselves, professionally, personally, and as future officers in the United States Air Force. It has been an honor to mentor and guide the incredible cadets of this detachment, and I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to their journey.

Detachment 465 wrapped up November with strong momentum as cadets concluded a semester filled with growth, teamwork, and dedication. Across every AS level, cadets demonstrated significant progress—AS100s built foundational knowledge and confidence, AS200s advanced toward POC readiness, AS300s stepped into supervisory leadership roles, and AS400s continued preparing for commissioning with professionalism and focus. Through PT, LLABs, volunteer efforts, and campus involvement, cadets consistently embodied the Air Force Core Values and strengthened the culture of excellence within the detachment.

We closed the month with Holiday Havoc, a festive, cadre-run LLAB designed to test the cadets' knowledge of semester concepts through teamwork challenges, critical-thinking exercises, and rapid-fire decision-making—all mixed with holiday-themed fun. The event showcased how much the cadets have learned and highlighted their ability to work together, perform under pressure, and maintain high spirits even in a competitive environment.

As we enter the holiday season, it feels fitting to pause and express gratitude. To our cadets—thank you for your resilience, commitment, and the energy you bring to Detachment 465 every day. Serving here and watching your growth has been a privilege. Take time over winter break to rest and recharge, and return next semester ready to build on the strong foundation you've created this semester.





# Advancing Alumni

Written By: Lt. Hunter Bode

Hello! I am Lt. Hunter Bode. For those who don't know me I am an alum to Detachment 465, participating in the program from fall of 2019 before commissioning in December 2023 after receiving my degree in Mechanical Engineering with a minor in Mathematics.

Currently I am stationed at Sheppard AFB in Wichita Falls, TX assigned to the 80th Flying Training Wing. Seven months prior to my commissioning I was selected for Euro-Nato Joint Jet Training Program (ENJJTP), which ties directly into my AFSC as an ENJJPT pilot training trainee (92T0E). My job is unique in that although I am an officer, I do not have any personnel under my command, and my primary responsibility is to learn and practice to become a pilot. My days as a student pilot are usually quite long (~12 hours) and consist of daily sims, flights, emergency procedure “stand-ups”, flight classes, and flight room duties. I'm currently training in the T-38 Talon and completed T-6 Texan II training 2 months ago. A typical pilot training student at ENJJPT will reach ~100 hours in a T-6 and ~80 in the T-38.



When it comes to why I wanted to become a pilot in the Air Force, there were many factors. I grew up as an Air Force brat so I was used to moving often and the family life that came with it, and I had many family members who I looked up to in the military. I was always fascinated with aircraft and the engineering behind them, which led me down the pilot pipeline. In addition, the Air Force offers so many different opportunities that civilian flying does not, such as the type of flying and cooler aircraft. Long story short, my past experiences, my family, and my interests have led me to wanting to become a pilot. For those cadets wanting to become a pilot, the advice I'd give is to do everything you can to be physically fit, get a good GPA, and be involved in the Detachment. Doing those things will refine your skills and build the habit pattern of always striving to better yourself and learn more.



In addition, research what life is like as a pilot in various airframes, because your entire life is heavily dependent on what aircraft you fly. Many people I've witnessed in Undergraduate Pilot Training (UPT) did not realize how much of a daily and career commitment it is. With that being said, it is one of the most rewarding and unique jobs you could ever have. It makes all the hard work worth it!

# Award Ceremony

Written By: C/Lt. Col Hartley

My name is C/Col Josephine Hartley, Deputy Cadet Wing Commander. I am a senior and my major is Construction Management. The awards ceremony is when we take time at the end of the semester to recognize the hard work and achievements of cadets within the wing. It includes awards for academics, fitness, and various other accomplishments from cadets. The cadets who are crossing within RSOs are also recognized. Beyond this our Detachment Commander, Lt Col Garito, usually shares some wise words that summarize lessons learned this semester and give cadets the opportunity to reflect and learn.

Another cool part about the awards ceremony is it is when we perform the Change of Command. C/Col Burgwald relinquishes command of the wing and C/Col Leslie steps into his new role as the Cadet Wing Commander. It was especially exciting for me because I have worked very closely with both of them all semester and I know how much work they have both already put in this year. Getting to hold the guidon and see the ceremony up close was very memorable for me. I received the POC of the semester award and the NCO stripes award. The overall atmosphere is excitement and pride, but also a little bit of exhaustion. We had a very long, busy, and challenging semester. Part of the ROTC program is learning to build resiliency. Many cadets are tired after all the work they have put in this year, and they are also beginning to focus on their finals. Part of the awards ceremony is to remind people why they are tired, and that it's a good thing to feel sometimes.



The importance of the awards ceremony is to recognize the hard work of cadets. It is impossible to recognize and thank everyone for everything they have done all semester but it's still important to try. Awards can also be used as a motivator. For cadets who get certain awards it can give them a goal to keep putting in that extra effort. For cadets who may not have received an award, it's important for them to see what goals they can set for themselves. Whether it's grades, fitness, recruitment, or just overall achievement, it's important that we take time to reflect on the hard work people have done and create a culture of recognition within the wing.



# Dining Out

Written By: C/Lt. Col Pozzi

My name is Maddison Pozzi, and I am a fifth-year senior studying Mechanical Engineering at UNL. I currently hold the position of Chief of Manpower, Personnel, and Communications within the Cadet wing. This semester, I had the unique opportunity to plan and execute the detachment's annual Dining Out.



On November 8, 2025, 187 cadets and guest gathered at the AKRS Champions Club for Dining Out, an event where cadets are able to share with their friends and family a bit of what we do in Air Force ROTC, while also enjoying a delicious meal. Ceremonies like the posting of the colors and the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action ceremony occurred. There was also a part of the event where Lt Col Garito presented all of the new cadets, primarily AS100s and AS250s, each with a Commander's Challenge Coin - a symbol of welcoming them to the detachment. From there, the night transitioned into the more informal events, including roasts, dinner, and dessert. To close out the night, our special guest and the Commander of Air Force Personnel Center, Major General Jefferson O'Donnell, shared some remarks. Graduating seniors also surprised cadre with flowers and the departing cadre members with gifts.

The planning for the event started toward the end of the 2025 spring semester with reserving the event space. More intricate planning took place over the summer and into the fall semester, and I took over as the main planner and point of contact at the beginning of September. With how much went into the event, I am very grateful for the help I had with planning. Cadet Stuedemann was a big help with the script, and Cadet Cronbaugh assisted with most of the logistics and decor. Cadet's Fortin and Hartley (as Vice and Versa) put a lot of work into their roasts, as did Cadet Burgwald (as Madam President) with her welcome speech. Many other cadets volunteered their time to assist with other parts like audio/video, set-up, tear down, greeting guests, serving dessert, and proposing toasts. Planning and executing Dining Out was truly a team effort and added to the overall success.



# Army/Navy/Air Force Football

Written By: C/Ricley

Each year, cadets and midshipmen from the Army, Navy, and Air Force ROTC programs come together for a fun tradition: the annual inter-service flag football games. These matchups are more than just friendly competition, they're a celebration of camaraderie, physical fitness, and the pride for their branch. To make the experience even more memorable, the games are played, weather permitting, in Memorial Stadium, making stadium cleanup almost worth it.

This year, the Flying Huskers took the field twice: against Navy on 24 November and against Army on 25 November. It was raining the 24<sup>th</sup> so the game was moved to the Cook Pavillion, but the weather was perfect on the 25<sup>th</sup> to play in Memorial Stadium.

On offense, freshman quarterback, Cadet Hartman, rose to the challenge with a standout performance. Despite being new to the program, he showed impressive composure and threw some amazing passes that kept Air Force moving down the field. Cadet Maynard contributed heavily as well, making key runs throughout both games and keeping the momentum alive when Air Force needed it most.

Special teams play also brought some electric moments. After a blocked field goal attempt, courtesy of Cadet Blazek and rugby players Cadet Landers and Cadet Humm, Navy stopped kicking altogether. Even cadets who weren't on the roster made a meaningful impact. Many showed up to cheer on the team, adding energy from the sidelines and creating a supportive atmosphere that made the games feel like true detachment events. To elevate the fun even more, they incorporated exercises tied to specific plays—a spirited way to stay warm in the stadium and build some team fitness along the way.

To boost morale further, Cadet Stevens and Cadet Ward brought handmade signs to the Army vs. Air Force game, giving cadets something to hold up in support of their teammates. There was plenty of laughing, chanting, and good-natured rivalry as each play unfolded on the field.

Although Air Force ultimately fell short on the scoreboard in both matchups, the results didn't reflect the heart, determination, or teamwork displayed by the Flying Huskers. The grit shown by players on both sides of the ball highlighted exactly what makes these annual games so special. Win or lose, the detachment showed resilience, pride, and the strong sense of community that defines Air Force ROTC.





# Zombie Run

Written By: Major Sebey

The Zombie Tag Run Workout was a Halloween-themed fitness event where survivors sprinted across the field while avoiding zombies. If tagged, survivors became zombies, increasing the challenge each round as zombies gained more mobility and territory. I drew inspiration from similar activities I've participated in and decided to host this event on Halloween since it's my favorite holiday. I started with a general concept and then developed the details and rules as I refined the plan. The biggest challenge was anticipating how the plan would hold up once cadets started playing. They're competitive and tend to bend the rules, which I couldn't fully predict. Staying flexible and communicating clearly allowed me to adapt quickly and keep the event running smoothly. There were a lot of exercises: For the zombies: Round progression: lunges → walking → jogging → running/sprinting. Penalty: 5 burpees if no survivors were tagged. For the Survivors: At each end of the field: push-ups, sprinter sit-ups, lunges, walking push-ups, jump squats, plank hold, plank shoulder taps, squat hold lateral walk, bicycle crunches, and bear plank crawls. If tagged: plank pops and squats before joining the zombie team.



# The Twelve Days of PT

Written By: C/Major Shelby Stevens

For our first PT of December our Cadet Wing Commander C/Burgwald and Deputy C/Hartley created a festive workout named “The Twelve Days of PT”.

The morning started out with everyone singing Christmas carols in formation, getting everyone into the Christmas spirit. Then, for the workout, similar to the 12 Days of Christmas song, cadets would do an exercise for each “day” and working down through the exercises for the twelve “days”. The workout in theory sounded easy but by the twelfth day, the exercises were getting difficult. To add to the festivities, Lt Col Garito handed out a 20lb present that cadets would pass around each exercise with the one condition that it didn’t touch the ground. Cadets had to get very creative, especially for the burpees and the plank. To finish, the Wing did a wall sit for as long as it took to pass the present from one end of the line and back.

I thought this workout was such a fun way to wrap up the semester. Dressing up, having some fun, and still getting in a tough workout made the whole morning way more enjoyable. The creativity and thought that went into this themed workout was awesome. It was a great morale boost and honestly was the perfect way to end the semester. BIG thanks to Burgwald, Hartley, and everyone involved in making this happen!

## 12 Days of PT workout:

Day 1: One 40yd down and back

Day 2: Two burpees

Day 3: Three squats

Day 4: Four lunges

Day 5: Five-zero (50) second plank

Day 6: Six pushups

Day 7: Seven crunches

Day 8: Eight jumping jacks

Day 9: Nine mountain climbers

Day 10: Ten reverse lunges

Day 11: Eleven freedom twists

Day 12: Twelve-zero (120) sec cherry pickers





# Good Life Halfsey

Written By: C/Cronbaugh

On November 9th, more than 9,000 runners took part in the Good Life Halfsy - Nebraska's largest race - including 8 of our own dedicated AFROTC cadets. Cadets Blazek, Burgwald, Cronbaugh, Hughes, Leslie, Richmond, Rowe, and Ward represented Detachment 465 in the half marathon. The day started with true Nebraska fall conditions: an 8°F wind chill and steady 20 mph headwinds for most of the course. Despite the tough weather, every cadet persevered and crossed the finish line. C/Kaia Richmond delivered an especially impressive performance, placing 3rd in the 20-24 age group with a time of 1:24:32.99. Detachment 465 also celebrated two individuals who finished sub-two hours - C/Hon Rowe (1:44:43.08) and C/Joshua Blazek (1:51:57.80) - with C/Abby Hughes close behind at 2:04:30.47. Cadets Ward (2:31:49.42), Burgwald (2:38:54.33), Leslie (2:48:38.29), and Cronbaugh (2:49:46.84) all finished the race out strong as well. From a personal perspective, the most challenging part about preparing for this half marathon race was finding time to train while balancing academics, work, and ROTC. The half marathon tested me both physically and mentally in the months leading up to it and all the way through race day. My peers would likely agree with me that these were the harshest conditions we've ever run in, but the sense of accomplishment afterwards made every mile worth it. Knowing you completed 13.1 miles in sub-20°F is incredibly rewarding. Hopefully, even more cadets will take on the Halfsy in the coming years because it's a fantastic experience and an even better workout!



## Detachment 465 5k

Written By: C/Major Thompson

On November 16<sup>th</sup>, a group of cadets and friends set off on a morale 5k run. While running is the last thing most people think of when they think of fun, this event included 15 participants, along with 5 volunteers to help everything “run” smoothly. Everything went off without a hitch and the top performers for the girls in order were C/Ricley in first, C/Hughes in second, and C/ Hartley in third. When it came to the boys the top 3 performers were C/ Bradford in first, C/ Maynard in second, and C/ Blazek in third. Part of the reason that the race went so well was due to the planning ahead of time. One of the most difficult things with planning the 5k was determining the route. Trying to find a path that crossed no open intersections took a decent amount of research, which involved taking inspiration from the Lincoln Half Marathon and through the use of google maps. To give a little more incentive, after the completion of the race, participants were rewarded with a special treat, pancakes made by Lt Col Garito.



# AFROTC Lingo

Written By: Cadet Madison Pozzi

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.
- Basic Cadet (BC) - Formerly IMT. Cadets in their first year of training who are not scheduled to attend Field Training; Usually freshmen.
- Basic Cadet Leader (BCL) - Formerly FTP. Cadets training to attend Field Training during the upcoming summer; Usually sophomores.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

