

2011

## DET 030 ThunderHawgs, 2010-2011

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Air Force ROTC

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# DET 030

**Thunderhaws**



## University of Arkansas

Fayetteville, Arkansas

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Provost Sharon Gaber

FROM: AFROTC DET 30/CC

DATE: 24 October 2011

SUBJECT: Air Force ROTC Annual Report (1 July 2010-30 June 2011)

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**1. Overall Assessment:** The Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) program at the University of Arkansas Detachment 30 continues to prepare and commission some of the most highly qualified new lieutenants in the United States Air Force. In addition, our cadets who return from their four-week field training encampments continue to express a high level of appreciation for the great morale and thorough instruction they experience at the University of Arkansas. We fully plan to continue our excellent service to the University of Arkansas, our community and our nation in 2011-2012. It is noteworthy to mention Det 30 had a 75% field training selection rate compared to other detachments across the nation who averaged a 50% selection rate. This is a tribute to the quality of training and preparation that goes into sending a quality officer candidate to field training.

**2. Enrollment Information (2010-2011 academic year):** Enrollment increased by 15% over the past year, with incoming freshman numbers staying the same but sophomore enrollment accounting for most of the increase. We expect an upward trend in enrollment over the next few years based on the Bureau Labor of Statistics (<http://www.bls.gov/cps/>) unemployment labor market recession trends. The Air Force's demands for new officers are focused specifically on technical degrees and the selection process continues to become more competitive nationally. We continue working to aggressively recruit and retain eligible University of Arkansas students as we believe our students rival the best anywhere.

Academic Year	2010/11	2009/10
Total Cadets	<b>82</b>	<b>71</b>
Freshmen	38	38
Sophomores	26	17
Juniors	8	8
Seniors	8	8
Fifth-year seniors (completed cadets)	1	0

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Commissioned in 2010 - 2011	7	Summer '11 Field Training attendees	11
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### 2010-2011

Contracted, not on scholarship	1
On scholarship	16
Total Contracted	17

**3. Personnel Information:** Our detachment staff has experienced one turnover this summer. Going into the Fall 2011 semester, our cadre members will be:

- a. Lt Col Mark Clark, who completed his second year as Commander of AFROTC Detachment 30, and will also serve as instructor of the senior-level cadets.
- b. Captain Michelle Hawk, who completed her second year, will teach the freshman and sophomore-level classes and serves as the Recruiting Flight Commander.
- c. Captain Jody Hawk, who completed his second year, will teach our junior-level class and serves as the Operations Flight Commander in charge of Leadership Lab.
- d. Technical Sergeant Therese Soliz-Crittenden, who completed her sixth year as our Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) for Knowledge Management, has been reassigned.
- e. Technical Sergeant Timothy Klinedinst completed his first year as our Personnel NCO.
- f. Ms Kim Killion, our secretary, will complete her third year with the department this November.
- g. Major James Bench, who supported the Det 30 AFROTC program for over four years, retired after serving in the US Air Force for over 20 years.

**4. Professional Development and Training Highlights:**

- a. Commissioning: This year (July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011) we were privileged to commission a total of 7 new lieutenants.
- b. Pilot / Navigator / Air Battle Manager selection: This year's class had two volunteers for pilot training who were both selected to participate in advanced medical screening to determine if they qualify.
- c. Field training preparation: Our junior and senior-level cadets again did an outstanding job planning and implementing creative training activities for those slated to attend field training this summer. During the summer of 2010 we had 8 cadets attend field training. Five cadets ranked in the top third and two ranked in the middle third. One cadet was recognized as a distinguished graduate and one was named a superior performer. One cadet did not complete training due to medical issues. For summer 2011, 11 cadets will attend field training.
- d. Other cadet educational travel: This summer four cadets are scheduled to participate in professional development trips. Two cadets will participate in the

AFROTC Project GO program designed to give cadets an opportunity to study a language abroad. One cadet will travel to Tianjin, China and study Mandarin Chinese for eight weeks. The other Project GO cadet will travel to the University of San Diego and study Russian for eight weeks. One of our rising seniors has been selected to perform Combatives Training with cadets at Field Training for two weeks. Finally, one cadet was competitively selected to attend a two week training session at the Air Force's Special Tactics Officer School.

- e. Base Visit: Capt J.T. Hawk took 12 cadets to Little Rock Air Force Base (LRAFB), Arkansas, on a 4-day visit. This year cadets made that trip on Tuesday, January 11, and returned late Friday, January 14. The 19<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing hosted the cadets and provided valuable exposure to active duty operations. The cadets were able to tour the Civil Engineer (CE) squadron to include the fire station, Explosive Ordnance Disposal capabilities, and were taken to the CE projects office for some exposure to how on-base construction was handled. Cadets were provided a C-130 mission briefing and participated in a 90 minute training flight. A Security Forces officer provided a mission briefing, fielded questions, and gave a tour of the armory, corrections facilities, and the Military Working Dog (MWD) kennels. Cadets were also given the opportunity to put on a bite wrap and "catch" an MWD as part of a training exercise. Cadets interested in pilot training were put through the Altitude Chamber and exposed to G-forces in a centrifuge. The 19<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing commander took time from his busy schedule and spoke with the cadets about professional career choices. The last event was a barbecue meal sponsored by some of LRAFB's Company Grade Officers (CGOs). After the meal, the CGOs discussed their career fields and gave the cadets their perspective on active duty. Air Force Specialty Codes represented included; Instructor Pilot, Civil Engineer, Contracting, Logistics Readiness, Office of Special Investigations, Security Forces Officer, Public Affairs and Maintenance Officers. In previous years the base visit was funded by AFROTC however, this year cadets who volunteered to attend were required to pay out of pocket for this experience. Costs were mitigated by staying on base at the installations deployed environment training facility and using Army ROTC vans for transportation at no cost, and eating at the installation's dining facility for a nominal cost.
- f. Cadet-organized large-scale functions: One of our biggest practice tools for cadet leadership development is to have them organize major events. This year included numerous cadet-planned events.
  - i. In September, cadets coordinated and executed a POW/MIA 24 hour vigil at the Fulbright Peace Fountain. Forty-one cadets stood vigil for a total of 48 man-hours for this event. An article with photo was featured in the Arkansas Traveler as well as a live feed from the Fulbright Peace Fountain webcam featured on the university website.
  - ii. In October, the cadets planned a Combat Dining-Out held at the Arkansas National Guard Armory. Cadets donned "warrior battle rattle" and participated in esprit de corps activities which was well received by all attendees.

- iii. The cadets held two social events designed to improve team building and morale within the cadet corps. They put on a Super Bowl gathering in February which included watching the game and conducting a chili cook off. A spring social was also held at the University Alumni House on Friday, April 1. The event went well both as a cadet learning tool and as a social highlight.
- iv. Cadets hosted the Air Force Junior ROTC (AFJROTC) from Greenwood High School for the second year in a row. High school AFJROTC cadets participated in Leadership Lab where they observed drill and ceremonies training and other military decorum training. They also participated in a game of ultimate Frisbee against cadets from AFROTC Detachment 30. Cadets from the detachment were able to speak to the high school students about the ROTC program at the U of A which served as a great recruiting tool.
- v. Annually, the Army and Air Force ROTC cadets organize an inter-service physical fitness competition know as the Joint Warrior Day. Cadets compete in athletic events such as volleyball, golf, basketball, dodge-ball, pushup & sit-up contests, and running events. Air Force made a valiant attempt to take home the trophy for the third straight year but fell short, giving Army ROTC the victory.
- g. Flyovers: Cadre and cadets coordinated two flyovers this year. The first was in October during the Veteran's Appreciation Day game between U of A and Ole Miss. Four A-10's from the 188<sup>th</sup> Air National Guard Base out of Fort Smith, AR performed the flyover to kick off the game. We also hosted four active duty Airmen who recently returned from deployment. The second flyover, in November, was during the U of A vs. UTEP game. Two F-15s from the 122<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Squadron flew over pregame tailgating activities since kick off was scheduled after sunset. This continues to be a powerful public relations tool for the University and the Air Force.
- h. Paintball: Each year we include one to two paintball events into our leadership training to allow another opportunity to build camaraderie and retention. This year's event was no different. Over 50 cadets attended the event and learned how to function and communicate in small teams.

## **5. Community Service Highlights:**

- a. Frisco Festival: Cadets volunteered 35 man-hours supporting this event. They supported the Kendrick Fincher Memorial Foundation by passing out water and hydration information to hundreds of runners.
- b. VA Hospital: Cadets performed the POW/MIA table ceremony for ~100 veterans, community members and VA employees. There was a picture in the 18 Sep edition of the Arkansas Democrat Gazette.

- c. American Legion: Cadets volunteered 15 man-hours to help register campers, bus tables and pick up trash during the City of Fayetteville's Bikes-Blues & BBQ Festival.
- d. NCAA Track & Field: Cadets volunteered ~160 man-hours with the U of A Athletic department during four NCAA Track and Field events to include the John McDonnell Invitational. They escorted athletes on the track, performed data collection, crowd control and ground crew duties.
- e. Fayetteville National Cemetery: Cadets volunteered 50 man-hours to assist with the annual 5K run. They led registration, distributed race numbers and directed parking. The cadet corps also ran in the race. All proceeds from this event were used for the acquisition and clearing of land to expand this National Cemetery.
- f. Valentines for Vets: The week of February 14, cadets and cadre, along with university and city officials, visited with VA patients and handed out Valentine greetings from local elementary school students.
- g. Multiple Sclerosis Walk: Cadets volunteered 36 man-hours coordinating this event which resulted in proceeds of \$30K to be used for medical research.
- h. Race for the Cure: Cadets volunteered 24 man-hours assisting with security and crowd control. They also helped with course set up and maintenance. This event had over 16,000 people in attendance.
- i. Color Guard: This year our color guard posted the colors at all university home football games, basketball games and gymnastics meets. Det 030's color guard members remain great ambassadors for the University of Arkansas and the Air Force.
- j. U of A Campus: Cadre and cadet presence was at numerous university events throughout the year to include: all new student orientations, Ready Razorback, Honors College Convocation, College Project Talent Search, the Engineering College Engineering Expo and Engineering Highlights, Nursing School orientations and graduations, Constitution Day, Veteran's Resource Fair and Multicultural Center events such as American Indian Impact, Black History Month, and Hispanic Heritage Month.

**6. Request for support:** Our only request is to continue the great support you've provided over the year. We feel extremely fortunate to have such a supportive university family.