

CADET MAGAZINE OF THE USAF ACADEMY APRIL 1974







# Talon



Vol. 19 No. 7 **APRIL 1974** 

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# FIRST CALL

#### Eighty-third Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

and held at the City of Washington on Wednesday, the sixth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-four

#### An Art

To provide for the establishment of a United States Air Force Academy, and for other purposes.

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Twenty years ago the Air Force Academy became a reality, at least on paper. On April 1, 1954, President Eisenhower signed the legislation authorizing the Academy and allocating funds for its construction.

But it wasn't as if someone in Congress just decided that 1954 was a good year to start an Academy. The idea began with the first uses of air power for military purposes. Billy Mitchell and others felt the need for air officers who had strong 'esprit de corps' and high ideals as well as military discipline and broad intellectual and technical backgrounds.

Early in 1919, the Air Service of the U.S. Army turned its attention towards the establishment of an air academy. In 1922, a resolution was offered in the Senate, but it too died. In 1933 a study by Captain E. J. House to create a U.S. Aviation Academy was shelved. In 1942, 1944, and 1945 it was the same story.

The problem wasn't agreeing on whether or not there should be an Academy, but rather on how and where it

In 1949, Lieutenant General Hubert R. Harmon was assigned as Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff for Air Academy Matters.

Five years later, the 83rd Congress passed the Air Force Academy Bill in the spring of 1954. On April 1, President Eisenhower approved Public Law 325, Chapter 127, which authorized \$126,000,000, for land acquisition, planning, design, and construction at the academy.

Speaker of the House of Repr

On April 6, 1954, in compliance with the Academy Act, Secretary of the Air Force Harold E. Talbott appointed a Site Selection Commission. On the same day the Department of Defense released to the press the criteria to be used in the selection of the site. These factors included acreage (a minimum of 15,000 acres), topography (scenic beauty to be stressed), community aspects, water supply (3,000,000 gallons per day), utilities, transportation, over all cost, and facilities for flight training.

On April 21, the final date for the submission of new sites, the Commission had before it 580 proposed locations. The Commission could not finally agree on a site, so it was left to the Secretary of the Air Force to make the final selection from a field of three: Alton, Illinois; Lake Geneva, Wisconsin; or Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The Air Force Academy was established officially on July 27, 1954. On August 14, General Harmon issued General Order No. 1 assuming command as the first Superinten-

On July 11, 1955, 306 Cadets entered the Air Force Academy at Lowry AFB in Denver.

So, as you can see, the next several months hold several anniversaries. Here at the TALON, we're just going to lump them all under the 20th Anniversary banner, and in this issue, look back at the early days of AFA.







General Harmon signs General Order Number One, on 14 August 1954, assuming command as first Superintendent of the United States Air Force Academy. Watching the Superintendent are: Lt. Colonel Gilbert Cooke, DCS/Personnel, Brig. General Don Z. Zimmerman, First Dean of Faculty, and Brig. General John T. Sprague, Commander, Lowry Air Force Base. (AF Photo)



The Air Force Academy Selection Commission is greeted by General Curtis LeMay at SAC Headquarters, Omaha, Nebraska. The members are: Dr. Virgil M. Hancher, Lt. General Hubert R. Harmon, Brig. General Charles A. Lindbergh, Mr. Merrill C. Meigs, and General Carl A. Spaatz. (AF Photo)

# THE SECRET LIFE OF WALDO F. DUMBSQUAT



Waldo F. Dumbsquat wasn't sure how he was going to get along with his new roommates. Mercifully, the winter make-list had terminated and Waldo found himself rooming with C/4C "Regs" Buch, C/4C "Wags" Hisazov, and the dormitory mouse (affectionately named Mickey) who was notoriously known for messing up AMI rooms with his personal distribution.

The three doolies had their new room in AMI order except for their security boxes.

"Our boxes won't fit the holes in these drawers," announced Wags, who was always quick with an obvious observation.

Waldo examined the situation. "We'll just have to get our old drawers."

"It's unauthorized to move drawers from room to room," stated Regs.

"Well, we have to fasten them down with masking tape," decided Waldo, "that'll do the job."

Later that night, under the glow of late lights, Waldo munched on some cotton candy his girlfriend had sent him in the mail. He was trying to study History and, typically, he had kissed off the assignment until the last night. Now Waldo prepared himself to read *The Rise and Fall of the Roman Empire*, write a twenty page book review, and

prepare a thirty minute (plus or minus five minutes) oral briefing complete with two flip charts, three viewgraphs, slides, and a series of excerpts from the movie "Cleopatra." It looked like it would be another all-nighter. Waldo wished he had started this project the day before, when it was assigned.

He finally fell asleep at his desk twenty minutes before reveille. The blare of bugles aroused Waldo F. Dumbsquat

from his slumber.

"Quick, get dressed, Waldo," urged Regs, "we're on Laundry Detail today."

Wags burst into the room, "I can't find any laundry racks! I've looked everywhere . . . the laundry room, mail room, the foosball room, and the Supt's office."

"We've got to get that laundry out of here before the CQ wakes up or we'll be in real trouble," said Regs in small

print.

Waldo racked his brains for a solution to the laundry crisis. An All-Right Inspection for laundry racks was out of the question — he didn't know how to write a subject-to letter. Then the answer came to him like a flash.

"The answer has come to me like a flash, guys," exclaimed Waldo. "We'll drop the laundry bags down the trash chute and pick it up at the bottom. That way we won't have to lug all of them down the stairs by hand."

Regs and Wags praised him for his brilliant idea and promised to write optionals on him the next time MOMs came out. It took only a few moments of labor to stuff the

five tons of laundry down the trash chute.

Unfortunately, Waldo had forgotten that today was the day that garbage was picked up. Regs ran to the window just in time to see a beat-up truck loading aboard the garbage, laundry bags and all.

For once, Wags was speechless. Regs managed to choke out: "Destruction of government property, espcially laundry

bags, is punishable by death by tours!"

Waldo knew something had to be done ASAP if not sooner. He ducked into a nearby latrine. There was a loud explosion and he emerged as Colonel Waldo F. Dumbsquat, a man for all reasons. His massive frame shook pieces of plaster from the wall as he scraped through the door of the latrine.

Regs called the squadron to attention.

"Carry on," roared the Colonel.

Colonel Dumbsquat found the squadron commander's room and banged on the door, nearly ripping it from its hinges.

The squadron commander bolted from his bed and snapped into a brace. The colonel indicated that he wished to see more than seven chins. Thirteen was all the cadet could muster.

"Mister, I've just condemned your laundry and had it thrown away," Colonel Dumbsquat informed the cadet lieutenant colonel.

"All of it, sir?"

"Every last bag. I inspected the whole pile and found it to be totally gross."

The colonel saluted and turned to leave. As he exited the room he said: "And fix your bulletin board; it's hanging crooked."

He strode into the latrine and once again assumed the deformed shape of C/4C Waldo F. Dumbsquat. He felt a sigh of relief well up within his puny chest. The crisis was over. He had saved the day. Then he started to cry.

Waldo had sent out all of his uniforms to the laundry.

## HERE'S HOW IT ALL BEGAN

Twenty years ago a visitor to the Air Force Academy would have seen Hereford and Angus instead of officers and cadets walking around the terrazzo. They would have seen a ranch in place of Arnold Hall, the remains of a town instead of the North Gate, and a country instead of a housing area.

In fact, there was quite a bit of life here before this area was selected as the site for the Academy twenty years ago. Some of the buildings still exist as do some of the old names. The Pine Valley housing area retains its name from the Pine Valley country club and airstrip. The club had spacious

lawns and a well kept nine hole golf course.

The Pine Valley airstrip was located exactly where today's airstrip is. The first military operation on the Academy was set up there during World War II. During the war, the Civil Air Patrol conducted search and rescue missions. After the war a great amount of activity continued until the land was purchased in 1954 for the Academy. At that time plans to make the strip an all weather airport emerged, but died in the ensuing years due to lack of funds.

The only thing left of the town of Husted, located near the North Gate, is a sign along the railroad tracks. Twenty years ago the Husted station was still standing, but the sawmill that marked the center of the once thriving lumbering

community was long gone.

There's not even a sign to mark Pring, Colorado, which was located near the north boundary of the Academy. Pring was the central cattle loading point for the area, but now has just a few ruins to mark its site. There are no traces of the town of Edgerton which was near the service and supply area.

The oldest building standing on the Academy site is a crude, one room log cabin. It was built by Leonard Capps in the late 1860's. About a quarter mile from the cabin, the two forlorn graves of the Capps' children symbolize the loneliness and desolation of the early settlers in this area.

To the southeast of the Academy was Jimmy's Camp, a trading post along the Cherokee Trail. The first inhabitants of the Monument Creek area were all covered wagon pioneers who made the trek across the Great Plains. Soon, this area became a logging and livestock raising area. The old Colorado City (now Colorado Springs) to Denver stage road ran along Monument Creek. Traces of the abandoned network of pioneer roads are still visible from the air.

During the 1864 Indian uprisings in Colorado, the sawmill near Husted was the scene of a murderous Indian foray. Conditions in El Paso County were so disturbed that no mail arrived by stage coach from Denver for three months.

Twenty years ago, this area held little resemblance to an academy. But shortly after the sight was chosen, the bulldozers made their way onto Lehman plateau and began shaping the cadet area.

The Academy as it appeared to the class of '59 would still look strange to cadets today. There was no chapel, no new dorm, and no field house. Those were to come later.

It took nature millions of years to build the Rocky Mountains. Since then no man or animal has made quite the impact the Academy has on this area, especially in such a short amount of time. It makes you wonder where the next 20, 80 or 200 years will take us.



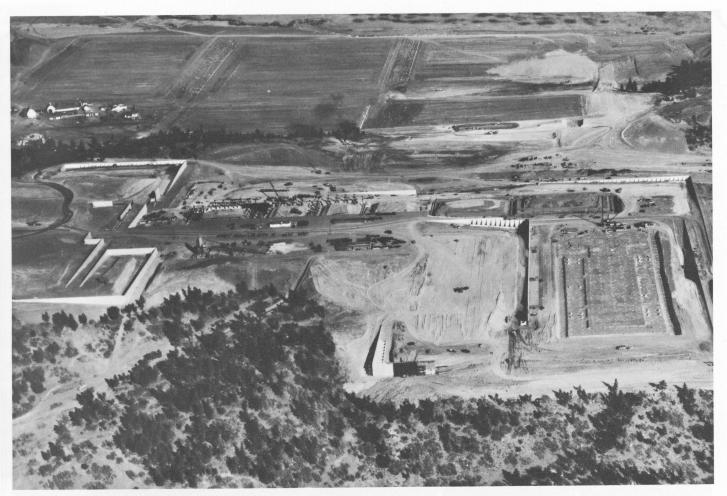
Herefords and Angus roamed the athletic fields before Intermurders began in 1958. This is a view of the Cathedral Rock Ranch looking northeast (toward the North Gate). This picture was taken in 1953. In addition to this ranch, there were also the Lehman ranch located where the heating plant is now, and the Douglass Ranch in Douglas Valley.



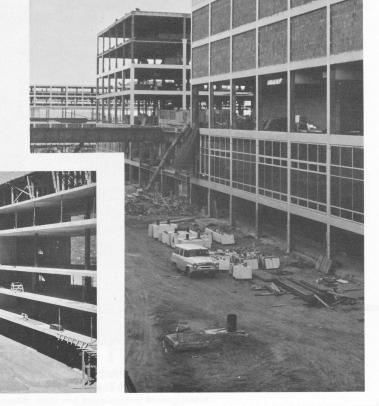
This log cabin was built before 1870 and is the oldest standing building on the Air Force Academy site. It was occupied by a pioneer family named Capps. The graves of two of the infants belonging to the Capps family have been discovered about a quarter of a mile from the cabin. The cabin will remain on the site. (AF photo)



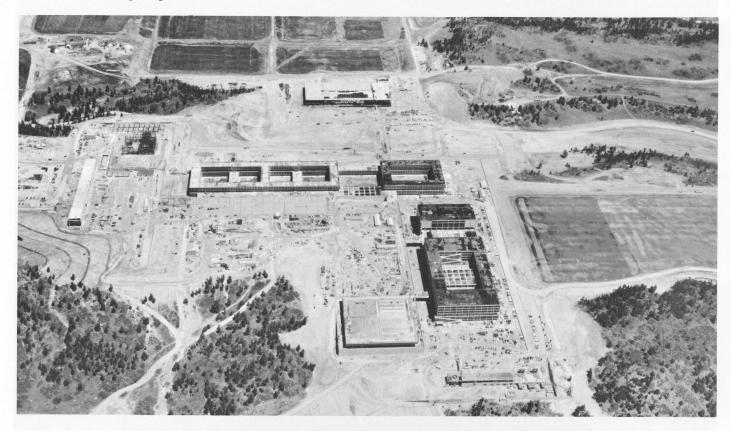
Old Husted Station on the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad. Note the sign over the doorway which reads "Denver 62 miles, Ogden, Utah, 720 miles." (Air Force photo)



Shortly after the site selection committee picked the site and the land deals were completed, construction began with top priority going to the completion of Vandenberg, Mitchell, and Fairchild Halls. In this view in the Spring of '56 looking north, you can still see the Cathedral Rock Ranch in the upper left corner.

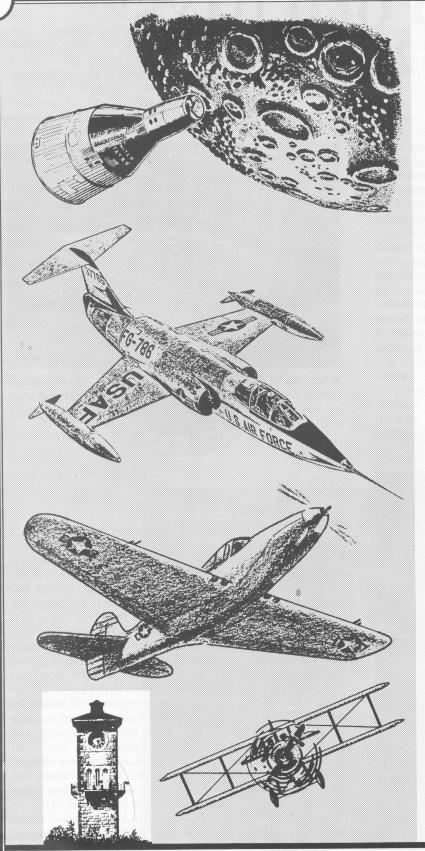


May 21, 1958, things began to look more like home.





The "finished" Academy in January of 1959. Note that the ranch is still visible in the upper left hand corner.



# WHAT DO WE DO FOR AN ENCORE?

That's a good question when you've completed the evolution from World War One's Spad to the Aircobra of World War II...through the jet transition to the miracle of space travel.

These were the years that saw the fledgling Army Air Corps grow to maturity, help to MAKE the 1945 peace, then evolve into a mighty AIR FORCE charged with KEEPING that peace against the would-be aggressors who have surfaced since the end of World War II.

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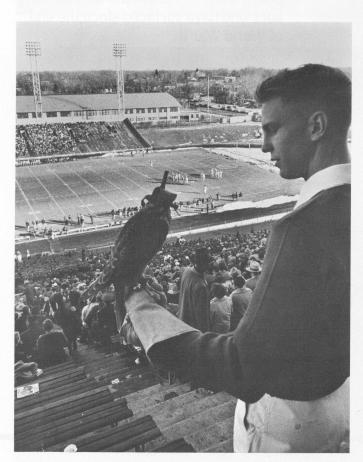
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# THE "GOOD OLD DAYS" AT LOWRY 2 by Major Gares Garber, Jr. '59

When I think about the early Academy and my cadet days, my thoughts go back to a group of buildings of World War II vintage on the east side of Lowry AFB known as Lowry 2. For four summers and three academic years that was home to many of us. When word reached us our First Class summer that we were to move to the permanent site in August 1958 for our final academic year, most of us were disappointed. Denver had opened its arms to us; our friends and girlfriends were there; and, besides, the facilities at the permanent site were far from complete. The choice was not ours, however, so reluctantly, we made the move. In retrospect, I'm glad we moved when we did despite the inconveniences of operating with incomplete facilities. On occasion, for example, chapel was held in a back corner of Mitchell Hall. By June Week 1959, most of the facilities were still incomplete.



This isn't an away game against Denver. It's actually a "home" game on USAFA's early home turf, the DU Stadium.



When the class of '59 arrived at USAFA, there was no "Bring Me Men" Ramp, just W.W. II barracks and a lot of screaming 1st Lieutenants. Lowry AFB was home until 1958.

Many things happened in those early days at Lowry 2 which had a lasting affect on our lives and on the Academy. I remember the first football game was played against Denver University freshmen in their stadium. DU took the kickoff and, on the first play from scrimmage, scored. But they failed the conversion and from then on it was our game. I believe the final score was 30-6, but that's not important. What is important is that our victory set the stage for a winning habit which would later develop into a winning tradition for Air Force Academy football and eventually spread to pursuits in other areas. Three seasons later our fledgling team tied Iowa, who went on that year to win the Rose Bowl. In the last game of the regular 1958 season we beat, by a score of 20-14, a Colorado team led by such greats as Boyd Dowler, Eddie Dove and John Wooten, and we went on to meet Texas Christian, the Southwest Conference Champs, in the Cotton Bowl. The final score of that New Year's Day game was tied, but the victory was ours — an undefeated season against some of the best teams in the country. AP and UPI ranked us 6th and 8th in the nation, and we had a consensus All-American - Brock Strom. In four short years we had "arrived" on the national collegiate athletic scene, and our student body was still less than 1200. More important than the victories was the fact that we — the Wing as well as the team — had cultivated the will to win, the need to sacrifice, and the desire to excel - attributes that will stay with us always no matter what our station in life.

The pride we felt in those early years was not limited to pride in our athletic teams. Pride, in fact, was one of the most universal and dominant characteristics of cadets in those days, and that's something I hope never changes in the Cadet Wing. I'm not referring to the abrasive, wear-it-onyour-sleeve type of pride, but rather the silent, inward pride that comes from knowing that what you are doing has meaning. We could sense it in everything we did — in the squadrons, on the parade ground, in the classroom, on the athletic fields, and in public. There were many growing pains associated with the Academy in those days, to be sure — many obstacles to overcome just as there are today. And we missed out on some of the niceties enjoyed at other schools and later at ours, but we learned a very important lesson — that complaining most often produces only adverse results.



In retrospect, many of the things we did at Lowry 2 were truly laying the groundwork for what were to become lasting traditions. In September 1955, for example, it had occurred that we needed a mascot, or at least a nickname, prior to that DU game I mentioned. Some of the Air Training Officers (Lieutenants who served as our upperclassmen) were graduates of the Aviation Cadet program whose slogan was "Every Man a Tiger." Naturally, they felt that the tiger would be an appropriate mascot for the Academy and tried to influence us accordingly. Late that same month, however, a falcon demonstration was presented to the Wing in an open field next to the academic buildings, and the debate was over. We voted overwhelmingly to accept the falcon as the Academy mascot.

Again, many activities were later to become traditions, but the one we cherished above all others was the Cadet Honor Code. We felt that we should make it our business to insure that only honorable men graduate from the Academy. The first Commandant, Brig. Gen. Robert M. Stillman, presented us with the framework of a Code which had been developed by a study group of educators and senior officers under the direction of Lt. Gen. Hubert R. Harmon, the first Superintendent. From that framework, we built our code and used it on a trial basis for one year. It was formally accepted in September of 1956. We wanted the Code to be viable, yet srong because we felt that in matters of personal honor there is no middle ground. I can say without hesitation that in looking back over the years, nothing has meant more to my development than my stewardship under the Code.



What's wrong with this photo? The plane and the name are familiar today, just as this Arnold Hall at Lowry was familiar to the first three USAFA classes.



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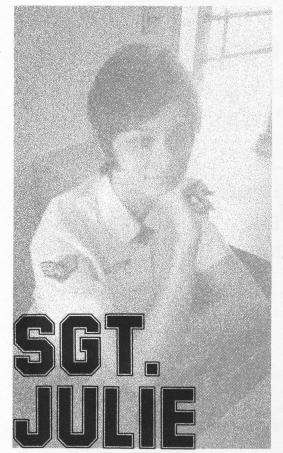
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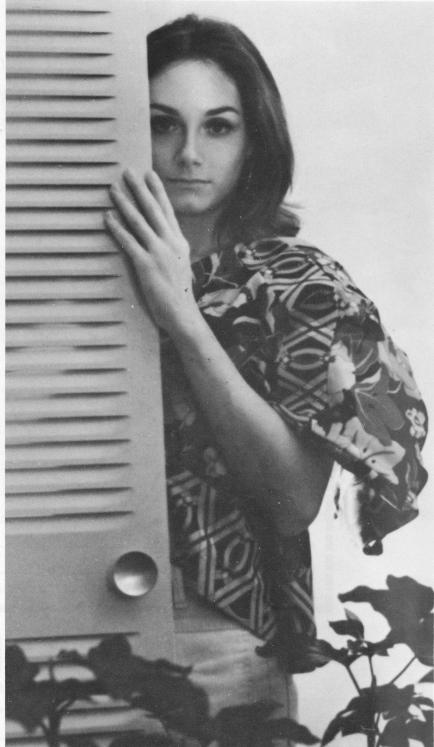
Many cadets now carry this coverage and some have already collected on loss or breakage of class rings and other indemnities. Above rate is for coverage which carries a deductible of \$50 for certain losses, although deductible DOES NOT apply to class ring or cash to \$100. Coverage which carries NO DEDUCTIBLE also is available, with initial annual rate of \$10 per \$1,000 coverage.

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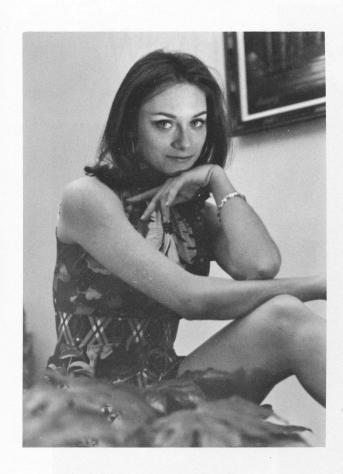
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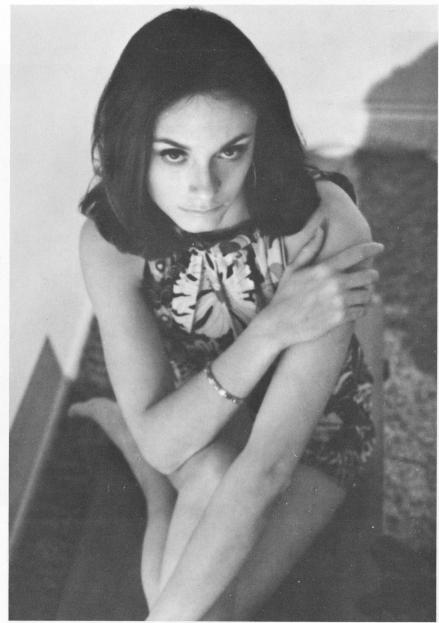


ROCIATION



If you recognize our April Girl of the Month, maybe you've seen her in the Career Control Section up in Harmon Hall. Maybe you've seen her before, but don't recognize her out of uniform. That's right, Julie is in reality the NCOIC of the Career Control Administration. Officially that makes her Sgt. Julie Diane Palmer, USAF. A native of Huntingdon, PA, Julie enjoys modeling, decorating, gymnastics and cooking.







## Why buy USAA auto insurance? Because of the USAA Thing.



It's hard to put into words of one syllable. The best we can do to describe the feeling USAA members have about USAA is "thing." This thing is a lot of little things. And it's hard to say which is the most important.

One of these things is claims service. That's what you buy auto insurance for. But sometimes ours is a little different. It's more than just making members happy with a cash settlement. Like the claims adjuster who stayed up all night helping arrange to haul a member's car from Spain back to Germany to get the transmission fixed. That's not in the policy. Another thing is policy service. At USAA it's more than just shotgunning out new policies and bills. It's a friendly voice on the phone saying it looks like you're underinsured—or stranger still, overinsured—in some area, and wondering if you'd like to get it in line. Of course price is one of the things. Usually our rates are lower than other companies'. This is because the idea behind USAA is to charge only what is needed to run the business, pay claims, and keep a reserve for emergencies.

Anything left over we pay back in dividends, a thing we can't guarantee but have been doing every year for 50 years. The reason we can do it is because our emergencies have never been all that big. Officers are good insurance risks. Which is still another thing.

And once you have USAA auto insurance, you're a member of USAA. This means you're eligible for USAA insurance for life, in the Service or out. You can apply for other kinds of USAA insurance and services as you need them—a whole bunch of things.

So-why buy USAA auto insurance?

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## PUOTO GLIPS



Stage coaches like this one passed along the Colorado City-Denver Stage Road. This old highway ran through the Air Force Academy property. The station shown here belonged to the Colorado Midland Railroad. (Courtesy, Pioneer Museum, Colorado Springs, Colorado)

Colorado Springs, a quiet little tourist town of about 50,000 population. That was, of course, prior to USAFA.





A view of the Teachout Ranch, which was located just beyond the southern boundary of the Air Force Academy site. (Courtesy, Pioneer Museum, Colorado Springs, Colorado)



**APRIL 1974** 

## ASSEMBLY



VIVE LA FRANCE

When our five cadets visited the French Air Academy (Ecole de L'Air) recently they found some things, like marching, quite routine, while other things, such as dancing with Princess Grace of Monaco, a once in a lifetime experience. In this case C1C Bruce McLane gets his chance during the formal dinner in which all five cadets were present.

When the Cadet Forensic team travels to Tucson, everyone thinks it's nothing but a boon-doggle. But as C2C Dave Kirschling will attest, things aren't always as they seem. During their recent trip to a debate tournament at the University of Arizona, in which the team took first place, it was all work and no time for the sun. The team now has collected 51 trophies in competition with colleges and universities.

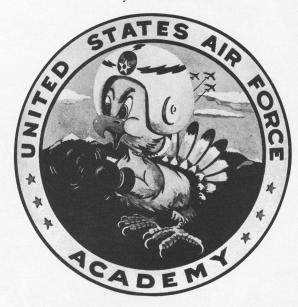




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## FALCON SPORTLIGHT

By MARTY LOFTON



With the sports seasons of the first year of the United States Air Force Academy past the finish line, perhaps now is the time for reminiscing. It would be well to take a short look at the job done on the various fields and try to determine just what each one has meant. It will remain for the writer of this column four years from now to evaluate the strength of these teams, for until USAFA has met the best from the nation it cannot be determined what the Falcon's national standing has been this year or will be in any year in the future. One year of almost solely area competition does not form a basis for determination.

(For a record by record account of sports action during the '55-'56 seasons, we refer the reader to Ed Montgomery's Sports Recap in this issue of the Talon.)

The seasons:

If one were looking for an outstanding characteristic of the Falcon football eleven he would find that the best answer would be that Col. Robert Whitlow's club was a small and unstable outfit. For example, the club which finished the season with less than thirty players was bothered with such events as quarterback Eddie Rosane's wrist injury before the season opened, and second quarterback George Klutinoty's academic troubles following the return of Rosane at mid-season.

If the trouble in the quarterback slot were not enough, the mid-season loss of 13 players due to academic deficiency was another hurting blow. We don't offer these events as excuse for a 4-4 season on the gridiron, for it was when the Falcons were probably the strongest manpower wise that the Colorado University frosh handed the Academy one of its roughest shellackings, 32-0. But these troubles sufficiently clouded the picture to the point where it is difficult to say just how strong the Falcon gridders were in this first season.

Playing the part of little brother to football as far as crowd attraction was concerned, the USAFA soccer team failed to duplicate the mediocre football record. The soccer men rocked the local area by defeating an assortment of teams and upturning the perenially strong Colorado School of Mines club at season end.

During the winter rifle, gymnastics and fencing were the sparkling stars. Rifle claimed the NRA championships in the freshman division, outdistancing West Point (2nd) and Anapolis (3rd). In fencing, USAFA claimed the Western Intercollegiate Association Tourney title, and gymnastics showed well against varsity competition all season, coming in third in the regional AAU meet behind winner Colorado State, the season's nemesis for the Falcons.

While the Falcon basketballers were compiling an 11-9 record behind the outstanding play of Bob Beckel, it was these winter sports that raised the Academy stock in the sports field. And the good showings during the winter months gave rise to much speculation as to the strength of these clubs in the future seasons.

A small but spirited group of footballers signalled the opening of the spring session. And coming on with the spring drills was one of the fine men of sports, "Buck" Shaw. But track and field grabbed the limelight with a fine showing against local varsities. While baseball was having a difficult time with its schedule, the tracksters were capping off a successful season with a win over the West Point plebes.

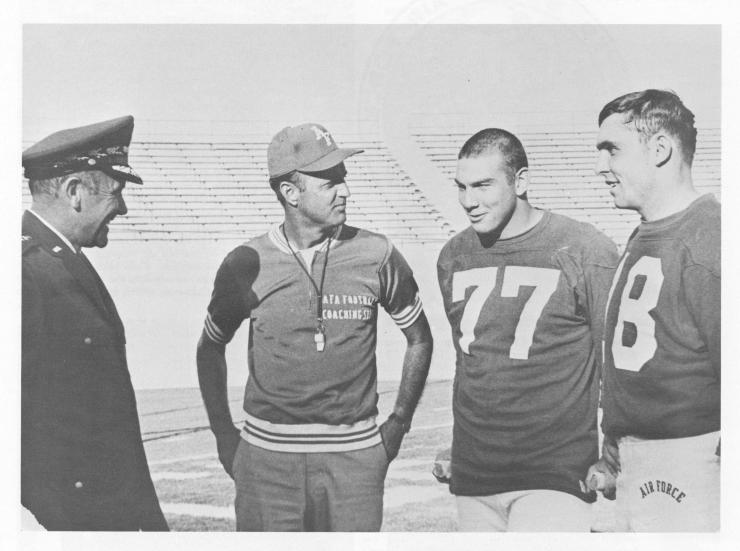
We would be interested in viewing what comment will appear in this spot twelve months hence. The schedule will toughen and no doubt the clubs will improve, but what will be printed on these pages beginning next fall remains very much a mystery.



The Falcon Fencing beam presents their trophies to General Harmon and General Stillman.

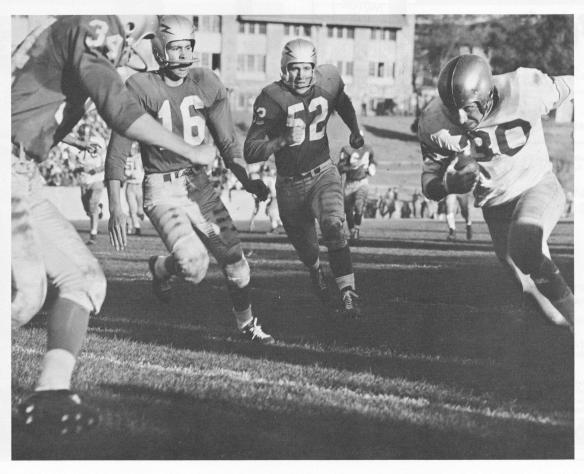
36 THE TALON, JUNE 1956

# THE FIRST YEAR . . . WHAT A JOB!



The first year of athletics must have been difficult with all new coaches, and, of course, only fourthclassmen. But, it was a good year as the *Talon* reported in its June 1956 issue. Charles "Marty" Lofton was the *Talon* sports editor back then and the following reprinted article gives his impressions of the first year of sports at USAFA.





**APRIL 1974** 











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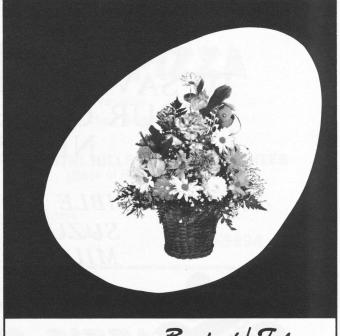
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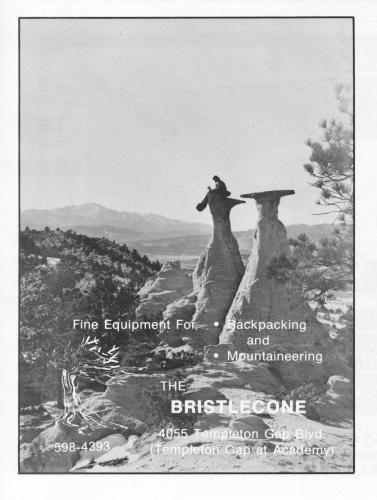
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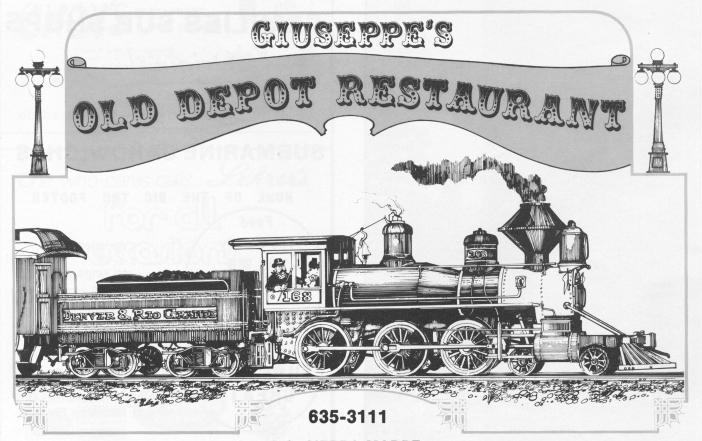
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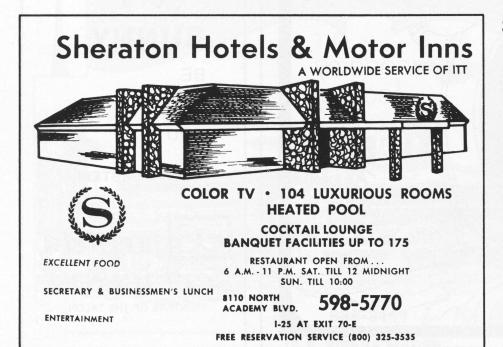
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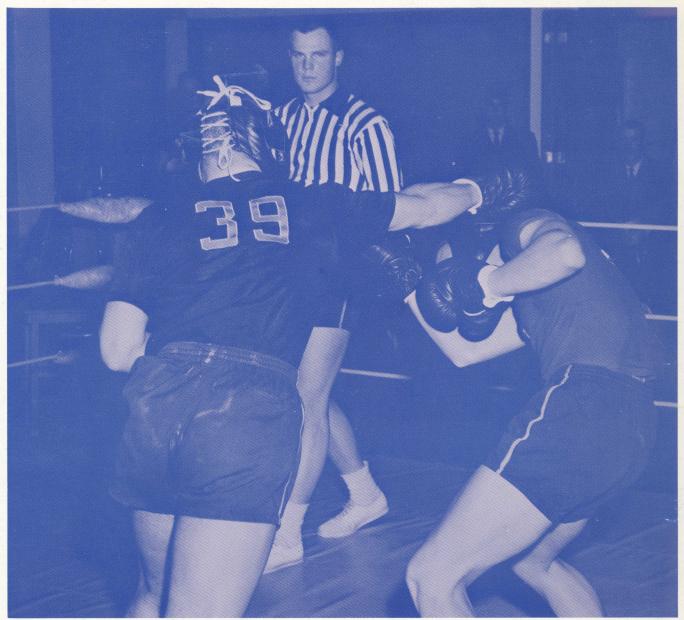
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