

FALCONIAN



FALL 2004



**FAA to go
Co-Ed for
2005-2006!**
See page 3

**Visit FAA's New Website!
www.flair.com**



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FALL 2004



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On the Cover

Doesn't the FAA Drum and Bugle Corps look sharp in their new uniforms!



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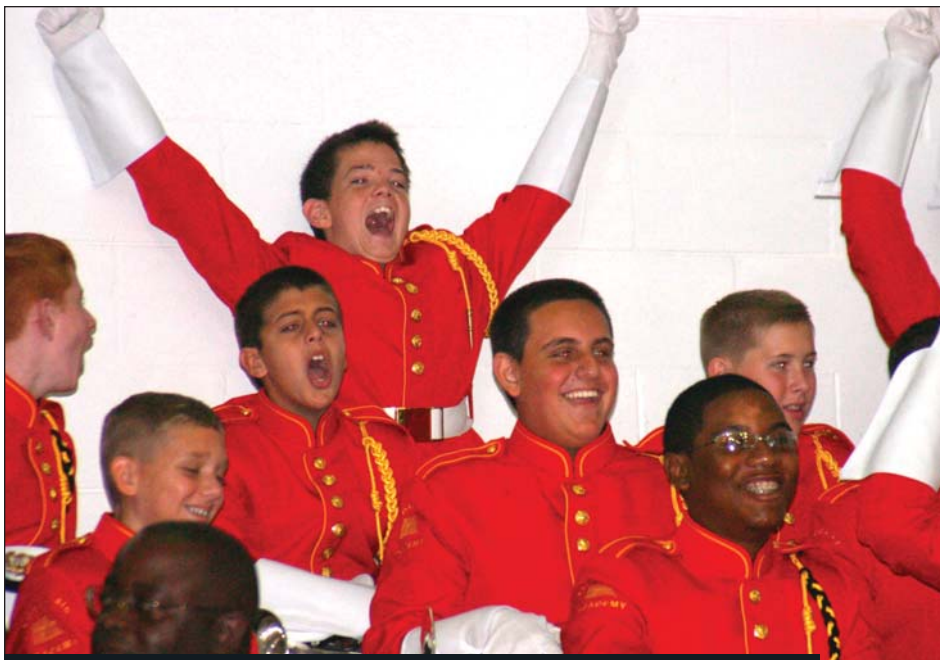
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Fall Family Weekend guest VIP Gen. Kathy Thomas with the first 8 girls who have been accepted for the 2005-2006 school year at F.A.A.



Florida Air Academy

TO GO CO-ED FOR 2005-2006 SCHOOL YEAR!!!



Cadets in the Drum and Bugle Corps cheer the "BIG" news.

The announcement on October 16 that FAA will become co-educational for the 2005-'06 school year signals a 43-year tradition coming to an end. But a new tradition will be beginning!

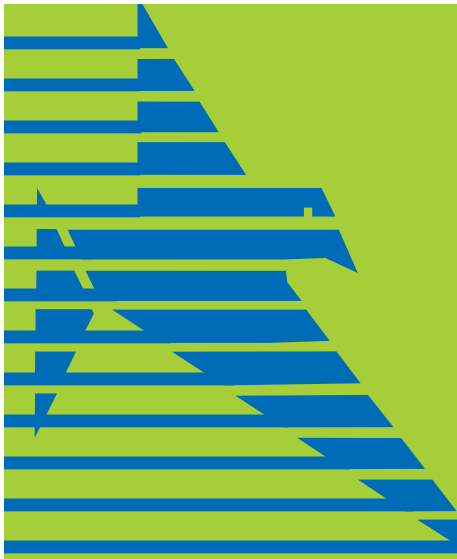
The historic decision to admit girls was announced during the Fall Family Weekend Assembly, in front of cadets, family, staff and a stage-full of VIPS, including Brevard County women business leaders and a female two-star general.

For more information on FAA going co-ed, watch for the "winter" issue of the Falconian! ■

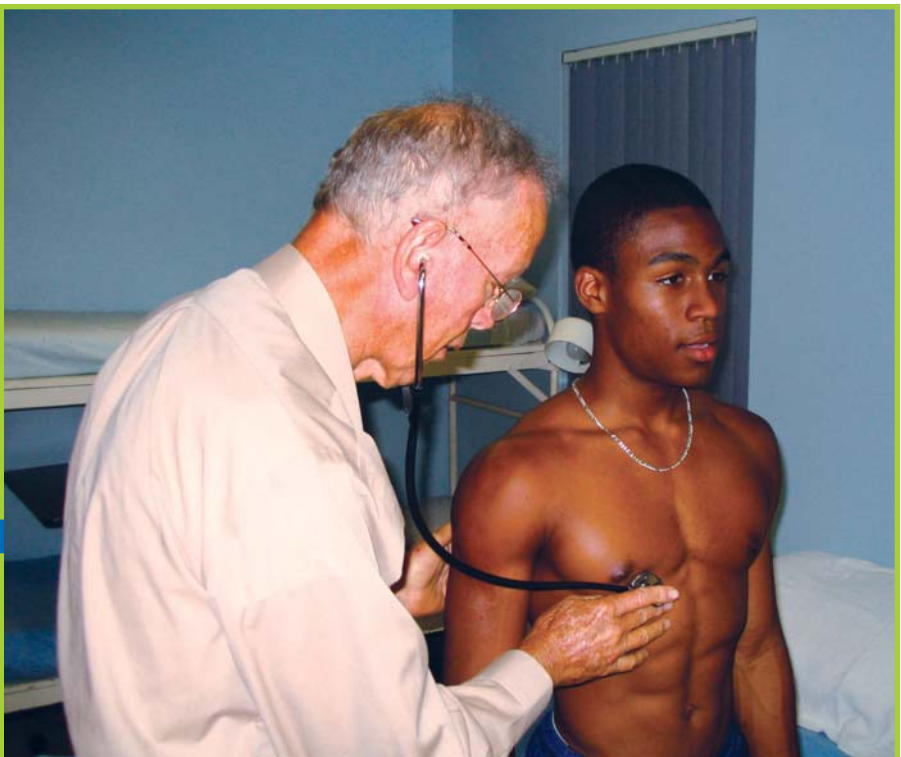
F.A.A. Highlights



Fall 2004 Squadron Commanders announce Promotions (in their new uniforms) during Fall Family Weekend Assembly.



Shortly before his retirement, Dr. Herbert Allen performs a physical on Cadet Lance Labossiere. Dr. Allen was the school's physician for 43 years!



NEW WEBSITE?

In the works for almost a year, FAA recently unveiled a completely-redesigned website. The website, a collaboration between FAA staff and Oz Design Group, is state-of-the-art and contains many elements not seen on any other military academy sites. For example, "Cool Cadet," who is found on the "Student Life with Cool Cadet," is a truly amazing creation! This "digi-host" responds personally to questions that are emailed to him. answering from a cadet's point of view. His first two questions deal with life at a military school. Be sure to check him out at www.flair.com!!!

As a new site, we are still working out some of the "bugs" thanks to all parents and others who have pointed out typos and non-functioning areas we are making progress!! Let us know what you like and don't like about the site, and what you would like to see in the future! Email us at websiteneeds@flair.com



Two Hurricanes!



Major Joe "Hurricane Hero" Mauro

Hurricanes in Florida are fortunately a rare occurrence, but not in September 2004. Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne both visited Brevard County, bringing with them heavy winds and rain. For Frances, which was forecast as a Category 4 storm (but arrived as only a 2), cadets were evacuated to the West Coast of Florida, where they waited out the storm's passing with good humor and patience. Only two weeks later Hurricane Jeanne arrived. This time cadets hunkered down in the solidly-built main building of FAA., which sustained very little damage from either storm.

Faculty, staff and cadets alike weathered the disruptions from the storms very well, which were unprecedented in Florida history. Besides stalling the new technology system on campus and delaying parent access to on-line grades, the inconveniences and difficulties were overcome. To help make up for the lost days, FAA President James Dwight lengthened the school year by a week next spring. (NOTE: this does not affect the senior class' schedule, who will graduate as planned on May 22, 2005.)

There were many "Hurricane Heroes" on campus, those individuals who went above and beyond in dealing with the storm's challenges. The "Hurricane Hero" award though must go to Maj. Joe Mauro, who stayed behind during Frances to make sure the entire school campus was safe. He spearheaded a contingent of several other staff members, including Barb and Dennis Kilfoy, Mike and Laurie Finnegan, Pat Gilbert, Dutch Ruocco and Greg Sanders, who also left their homes to come stay at FAA through Frances to ensure its safety. Then a few weeks later during Hurricane Jeanne Maj. Mauro performed the same feat, only this time the school had many more staff and faculty on campus, as well as over 150 cadets!

Thanks to all of the "Hurricane Heroes" and also to the faculty, staff and cadets for displaying tremendous patience and flexibility during this difficult period. FAA will never forget "Frances" and "Jeanne"! ■



KYLE POWERS

Valedictory Address

Florida Air Academy. I spent elementary school going to FAA athletic events and parades and looking forward to the day I would be a cadet too. I remember the first time I put on the uniform... I felt really proud of myself. Now today is probably the last time I and the other seniors will wear this uniform.

There are so many experiences I wish I could share, but there just isn't time. There are some things we will never forget. Mass drills in 95 degree heat, following the FAA basketball team all the way to State Championships, having the whole school evacuated to St. Petersburg when Hurricane Floyd threatened, and Pep rallies at Halloween that I could describe, but you wouldn't believe me. And, ahhh, how could I forget when we accidentally shattered the thirty gallon fish tank in Mrs. Maceyunas' room with a large ball of Play Doh. May God have mercy on those poor fish. Today is the last time we will ever be all together, but the experiences we've had here can never be replaced.

Of course, it wasn't all fun and games. We did do some learning. The high quality of the academic program is one of the best things about FAA, and I had some pretty exceptional teachers along the way. Thank you to all of you who put up with me over the years. You know who you are! There is one teacher who was lucky enough to have my group for two years in Junior High Science, then in 10th grade Biology, and this year in AP Biology. She deserves a Purple Heart for that. Especially this year, when we were

seniors and of course knew more than she did. Thank you Mrs. Donna Crum.

What really makes the Florida Air experience unique is the students who are enrolled here. I don't think I will ever meet such a diverse group of people again in my life! How many students have the opportunity to sit in class next to a Japanese or play basketball with a Russian? Getting to know people from other cultures really opens up your eyes. I wonder if we all have appreciated this kind of opportunity as much as we should have. The friendships we have made here at FAA are one of the highlights of our school years, whether it's been with students from other countries, or with fellow day students.

Having relatives who work at FAA has made campus life that much more interesting. The president of FAA, Col. James Dwight, was known to me as "Uncle Fun" when I was a child. Let's just say I've seen him in a different light here in his role at FAA. And everybody is always asking me what it's like to have your mom be the Vice President here. Well, as with anything, it has its pros and cons. The first thing that pops into my mind was being paged to Blatt Hall on several occasions, having absolutely no idea what I had done. It's always scary when your mom knows every detail, and you don't even know yet what you did! This experience has definitely helped me become a more honest person, and while I may not have liked it at the time, this lesson is just as valuable as any learned in a classroom. The advice, direction, and motivation that I received from my mom, and my

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen, family and friends, faculty and staff. I would like to open my speech with the same words my father used at his graduation in 1975: "I feel like a mosquito at a nudist colony: I have no idea where to begin."

That pretty much sums up how I'm feeling right now. This is quite a momentous occasion for me and for all the seniors sitting behind me. It has taken six long years for us to reach this point. Six years ago, I, like many of my other classmates, was a lot different. Shorter, chubbier, dorkier. Photos can conveniently be found in the yearbook and my mom will be happy to show you hers. But today, May 22, we the class of 2004 are strong, confident, and most importantly, prepared, and we will be leaving this auditorium today ready to make a difference in our world.

I grew up hearing about Florida Air Academy as my grandparents Col. Jonathan Dwight and Mrs. Emmy Moses, founded it in 1961. My two uncles James and Tim were FAA cadets. When I was six my family moved back to Florida so my mom could work at

uncle, can never be repaid. I can only hope one day to be as successful as they are.

I know I speak for all the seniors when I say that we would not be here today without the support of our families. Thank you Mom, and Dan, for all you've done for me. And thanks also to the entire FAA community for supporting me for six years, in big ways and small ways, for the smiles and words of encouragement, for the understanding and patience when I fell short. I wouldn't be standing here today without you. I'm sure I speak for all the seniors when I say this is a very caring and supportive group of people at this school.

Starting today, the real test begins. When Mr. Franklin dismisses us, and we throw our hats and yell "hurray," a new chapter in our lives begins. And the only thing you can do is cross your fingers and say a prayer. I know my parents are. After tonight, many of us may never see each other again. Unfortunately our interests and careers will take us along separate paths through life. So, fellow seniors, look around you, remember the face sitting next to you. Remember this moment, and, most importantly, remember how you got here.

You're supposed to end a speech with an inspiring quote, something to remember that will help us take this huge step in our lives.

I like this one, from Mark Twain: "Years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."

Thank you very much! ■



Class of '04 exults in the traditional "hat toss".

A Historic Graduation

Graduation May 2004 will never be forgotten in the annals of FAA history, for many reasons. It was easily the most emotional ever for the faculty and staff, as five FAA seniors who graduated had parents who work at FAA. Another remarkable occurrence was the graduation of the grandson of the school's founders, Col. Jonathan Dwight and Mrs. Emmy Dwight Moses. Kyle Dwight Powers, also the class Valedictorian, is the son of FAA Vice President Deborah Dwight, and nephew of school President James Dwight. The class Salutatorian, Christopher Bird, is the son of Col. Reggie Bird, the school's Guidance Director and FAA employee for 25 years. Other seniors with FAA parents were Brian Lucas, son of teacher Donna Lucas, Sean Griffith, son of teacher Gail Griffith, and Chase Morrison, son of TAC officer Bob Morrison. All Graduation ceremonies are bittersweet, but this one topped the cake!

FAA school physician Dr. Herbert Allen received the school's Community Service Award for his many years of dedication not only to FAA but to the Melbourne community. We wish Dr. Allen well with his future plans as he recently announced his plans to retire this year. Another highlight was the Commencement Address, which was delivered by Brigadier General Gregory Pavlovich, Commander of Patrick Air Force Base. Gen. Pavlovich's remarks and commendations to the class of 2004 set an inspiring tone to the afternoon's festivities. Good luck to this exceptional class! All of us here at the Academy will miss you! ■



CHRISTOPHER BIRD'S **Salutatorian Speech**

Good afternoon family, friends, faculty, and fellow members of the graduating class of 2004. How long have we waited to walk across this stage, get our diploma, and start our summer as high-school graduates? It seems like it has been a lifetime at Florida Air Academy, giving, in the average school year, a total of 12 hours in assembly, 18 hours in formation, 27 hours in mass drill, and 1080 hours in class. So what did Florida Air Academy give us in return?

In eighth grade, I made a lasting impression on my English teacher, formerly Ms. Grant, by saying:

“Nobody ever learned anything from reading a book.”

Although some may have considered this statement facetious at the time, I think what I was getting at in my youthful, metaphorical wisdom was that there are more avenues for education than books alone. What we have gone through in

our stay at Florida Air Academy has provided us with many beneficial experiences that will be useful to us in the future.

As a boarding school, we have come in contact with cadets from many foreign cultures, most of whom begin with little ability to speak English. However, they learned from listening to us, just as we have learned about the world around us by listening to them. They have taught us about their countries, their culture, their families, and their way of life, just as we have taught them about ours, even though we may not necessarily start with the most important or appropriate aspects. The importance of ushering foreign cadets into our unique culture is immeasurable, as it has taught us patience and compassion, as well as creating some of the strongest friendships we will ever have in our lives. Florida Air Academy gave us those opportunities and motivation to pursue those charitable endeavors, to allow all parties involved to benefit immensely.

Within the first eleven or twelve years of our lives, everything we do helps us to build a foundation that will support us for the rest of our existence. Once the teenage years roll-in, not only do we stop listening to our parents and start thinking we know everything, but we also begin to build the structure that others will perceive to be a representation of our true selves. The most important element in this structure is discipline. With its stability, versatility, and strength, we may grow to rise high above our surroundings. Without it, we may never reach our potential, leaving us to get lost amongst the

rubble. Fortunately for us, we had a place to experience discipline and its benefits first hand and were more able to concentrate on the virtues being instilled in us.

Finally, and most importantly, I would like to thank my parents and my brother for their continued support. Without them behind me, I wouldn't have been able to accomplish what I have and wouldn't have had the resources or motivation to excel. Thank you for everything.

For most, it has been only a couple of short years at the academy. For others, it has been six fulfilling ones. We all have memories we will never forget. The one thing I will remember the most is fifth squadron. It was like another immediate family, everyone with the same ambitious mentality. I was apprehensive when we were integrated with the boarding students, but have come to know them and consider them my close relatives. On the other hand, there are some who didn't think they'd be sitting here, scanning over the crowd for those who mean a lot to them, and wondering how much longer this ceremony is going to last. But, one way or another, we made it here. The road has come to an end, only to begin again, one brief summer from now. Florida Air Academy has guided us along the way, helped us grow to be the young men we are, and given us unforgettable experiences. Finally we're sitting on this stage, waiting to get our diploma, ready to start our long-awaited summer as graduates of the class of 2004. ■

PHILIP BUNKER'S Jonathan Dwight Award Speech

— 8TH GRADE GRADUATION, MAY 2004

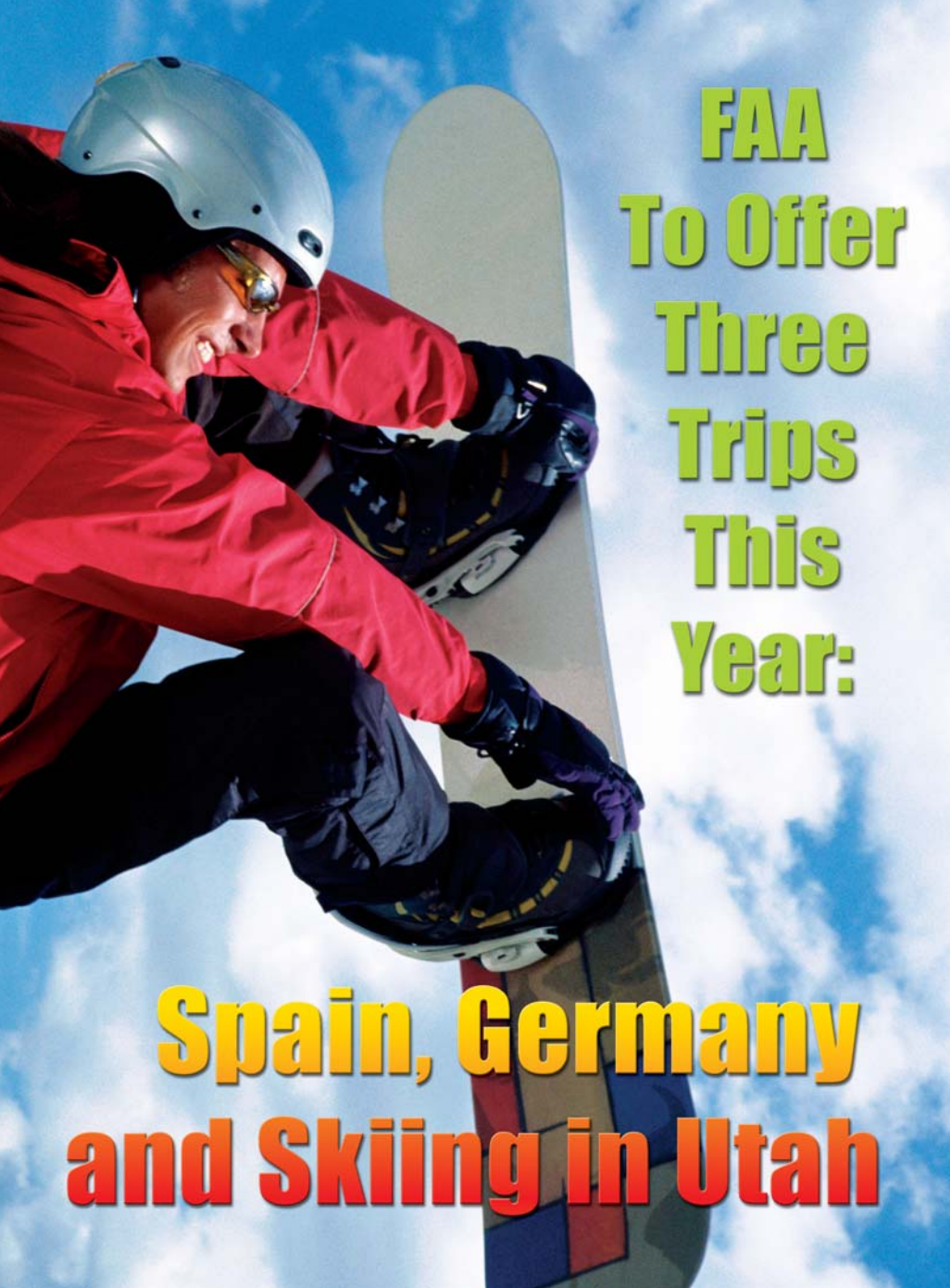
When I first stepped on to this campus about this time of year, two years ago, I was on a tour with my father. One of the first classrooms we entered was the art room. Inside sat eleven students working on their projects...eleven students...at the school I was going to if the principal walked into any classroom and there were only eleven students in the class he would probably flip out thinking there was a virus going around. Well, as we stood watching the class at work (building houses I believe it was), the teacher walked from table to table... person to person. Whether it was to give advice, answer any questions the students might have, or just to see how the students were progressing, the teacher was involved. She wasn't sitting at her desk checking her E-mail or

playing solitaire as I had seen many teachers do. She was involved in her class, and you could see the concentration on the students' faces. And how the involvement inspired masterpieces to appear on the tables in front of them. About that time I realized that this school wasn't like other schools. This school was different. As we walked over toward the next classroom we would enter, the guide spoke of R.O.T.C. and foreign language classes I would have to take and how they would provide so many opportunities for me through life. But I simply found myself thinking, "I can't do all this. I can't do all that. I can't learn Spanish. I cannot march like that in parades. This is too hard." The next thing I knew we were swinging open the door to the next classroom, a history class, where the teacher spoke with enthusiasm like I have never heard

before. He was reading about a battlefield in the civil war. He spoke in a way that you could almost smell the gunpowder, and hear the cries of the wounded in the air. Then again I thought of the teacher in the previous class and how she also exceeded the standards of any teacher I had seen before, and once again I found myself thinking, this school is different. We left the class and walked from hallway to hallway. Past every room our guide told us of the benefits I would receive in life as a result of an FAA education. Our final stop was the Hall of Flags. I had never seen anything like it. From the stack of trophies that lined every wall, to the flags of every country I could think of, this school was different. We picked up pamphlet after pamphlet at the desk and we headed for the car. On the way out my father asked me if this was this the school I wanted to go to, and honestly I wasn't sure. I still didn't think I could do it. I didn't think I could march like that or learn the foreign languages. It was just so overwhelming. Well when I got home I looked in the mirror. I no longer saw the snot-nose cocky kid I had always had seen. I saw myself two years later in uniform wearing the rank of 2nd lieutenant, and a ribbon rack the size of Montana on my chest, but most importantly of all I saw myself learning foreign languages and marching in the parades. I saw myself doing it. Myself succeeding. And at that moment I realized that this school would change me, and that Florida Air Academy was truly different. ■



Dwight Award winner Philip Bunker (right) with two of his fellow nominees, Steven Schechter (left) and Aqib Rashid (center).



FAA To Offer Three Trips This Year:

Spain, Germany and Skiing in Utah

For the first time ever, FAA is sending students all over the world on three exciting trips this year.

First up is a ski/snowboard trip, tentatively set for Park City, Utah for President's Day weekend, February 18th through 22nd. The site of the most recent Winter Olympics, the hotel is located just minutes from the ski lift. Last year a group of FAA cadets felt the wind in their face and the snow down the back of their snowsuit in some

terrific conditions, and there is no reason to believe this year's trip cannot be bigger and better. Although we cannot guarantee a firm quote on a price until we get parental permission, this all-inclusive trip is scheduled to cost \$1,250 for air fare, rental cars, hotel, food, lift tickets, equipment rental...the whole nine yards!

The annual spring break cultural experience this year offers two times the options: one to Spain and one to Germany. Both trips are for

March 25th through April 3rd and cadets are required to have a valid passport (we can help with visas). The Spain trip is being sponsored by one of the Spanish teachers, Ms. Victoria Leon, as well as computer teacher Vicki Harvin. Barcelona, Madrid, and the Moorish portion of southern Spain will be highlighted.

The other trip will travel to Germany again, this time going straight to the southern part of the country and spending more time doing activities and less time on the train. Garmisch is the destination, and day trips to Munich and the castles of King Ludwig are on the itinerary, but most of the time will be spent in and around this charming town nestled up against the base of the German Alps. The highest point in Germany, the Zugspitze, is a cable car away, and activities can include ice skating, bicycling, swimming and diving, hiking up to the gorge in the mountain, and the possibility of a day of skiing (depending on ability and weather conditions). We have had the most fun at this location and think this is the place to stay: however, we do take recommendations from parents and cadets if some location or activity is on someone's "must do" list. Major John Hudacek and his German wife, Susanne, will chaperone this trip.

Both Europe trips are for \$2,250 and are again all-inclusive: air fare, hotels, rail travel, entertainment, food, and entrance fees to any attractions. If the exchange rate is in our favor, maybe a little souvenir money can be pulled for each cadet. The chaperones control the money and the passports while out of the country, and all ages are welcome.

Any questions for these trips can be directed to John Hudacek at jhudacek@flair.com. ■

Col. Reggie Bird is honored for 25 years at FAA!



Florida Air Academy

— HONORS DEDICATED EMPLOYEES



Cadets congratulate Mrs. Katherine "Dutch" Ruocco.

During the Fall Family Weekend Assembly, Col. James Dwight honored two employees for a remarkable accomplishment: over 45 years of combined service to the school.

Col. Reggie Bird was honored for his 25 years in such departments as Teaching, Coaching, Admissions and Guidance. He is currently the Director of Guidance. His two sons both graduated from FAA, Adam as Valedictorian in 2000, and Christopher as Salutatorian this past year. Also honored was Mrs. Katherine Ruocco, Director of the Infirmary, for her 20 years of dedication. Mrs. Ruocco's concern for the safety of cadets at the Academy as well as her maternal demeanor has made her one of the most popular employees ever at FAA! Congratulations to these two stellar individuals who have positively impacted the lives of so many FAA cadets! ■



"Leadership School" 2004 cadets at Clearwater Coast Guard Air Station

F.A.A. Leadership 2004

— BY COMMANDANT AND AFJROTC DEPARTMENT



Cadet Doug Ford checks out the controls of a C-130 Hercules.

This past August Florida Air Academy conducted their annual Leadership School. This school is comprised of cadets that have been invited to participate, based on their past performance at FAA. In the School they learn additional aspects of leadership, and have an opportunity for practical application of their skills. They are simultaneously being observed by the Commandant's Department and AFJROTC for selection to leadership positions for the 2004/2005 school year.

Two schools actually run simultaneously. Incoming freshman and sophomores comprise the Junior Leadership School, and incoming seniors and juniors comprise the Senior Leadership School. This allows the younger cadets to have a chance to apply their leadership skills without having to be

in the shadow of the older, more advanced cadets.

Both school are composed of 3 phases: **1. inspiration and motivation, 2. instruction on leadership, 3. practical application / teambuilding / testing.**

Inspiration and Motivation

The Senior school traveled to MacDill Airforce Base and interacted personally with some pretty amazing people and equipment. They were briefed by Special Forces personnel, Coast Guard rescue personnel, as well as had hands on opportunity to climb through their aircraft and other high tech equipment.

The Junior school traveled to Patrick Air Force Base and experienced similar interaction with the personnel and equipment of the Air Force Rescue Parajumpers (PJ's), the command decision center, US Customs, JSTARS (the Joint Services Command and Control platform) and others. They also went to the Kennedy Space Center for an up close and personal look at the NASA Space Program.

This phase is designed to inspire and motivate cadets by having them interact with people who do things that the cadets have seen only in movies! Cadet Jose Minaya reports that he "especially enjoyed talking directly with a Coast Guard pilot, with a rescue swimmer, and looking at both the helicopter and the airplanes used by these men."

Instruction On Leadership

Classroom instruction was given by a myriad of highly qualified instructors, including Police Departments, AFJROTC, Medical Professional, and of course Florida

Air Academy's own professionals, from PhD's, Military pilots, to Marine Drill Instructors, and some wearing medals on their uniform with the coveted 'V' for valor in combat.

In addition FAA Vice President Deborah Dwight taught the cadets a workshop on "Who Moved My Cheese", a best-selling motivational book that emphasizes the importance of flexibility and areacting positively to change.

Practical Application

Organized in teams called 'Flights', the cadets competed in a variety of teambuilding exercises, including a day at a mountain climbing facility. Don't worry, all cadets were harnessed at all times they were off the ground and the program is conducted by professionals, but it is a tremendous teambuilding and confidence building event. The TV show "Fear Factor" had nothing on us!! Cadets also competed physically and academically in this phase, and had ample opportunity to exercise their leadership skills in sports, drill team, written tests, and intellectual competitions modeled after the 'Who Wants To Be A Millionaire' show.

The school culminated in an awards dinner that began with words from our President, and also included the announcement of who has been selected to the top leadership positions of our Cadet Corps for the 2004/2005 school year. This school has become very popular in recent years and it continues to improve every year. FAA's access to such a wide variety of Department Of Defense facilities and people is envied by other military prep schools around the country. ■

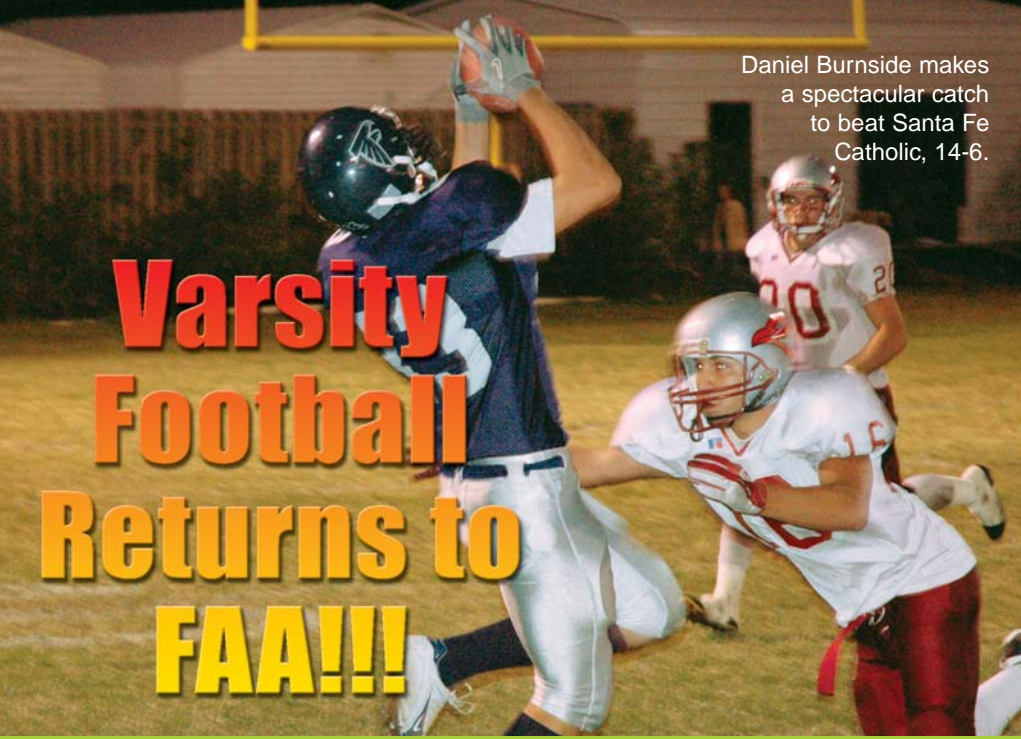


It was an eventful summer at FAA and many improvements were implemented.

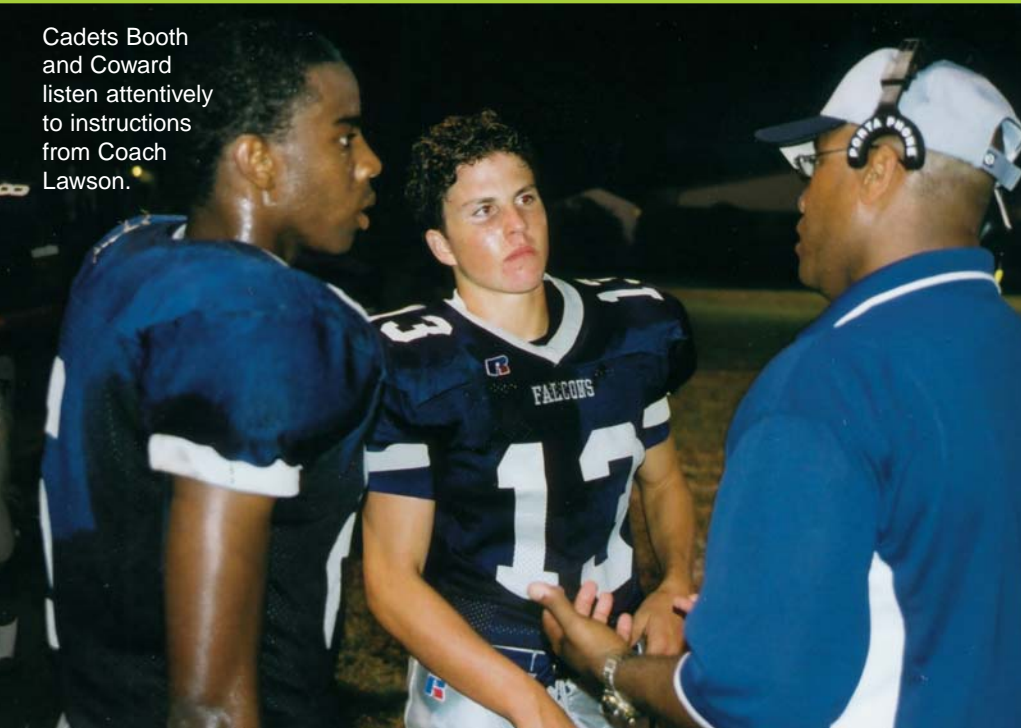
Anyone who has not yet seen the renovation to the dining hall should definitely stop by A new ceramic tile floor, mahogany trim and period-style wall sconces have made the room look twice as large and much more modern. Other major projects were the renovation of Haerle Hall, which has a new electrical system, new soundproofing insulation, paneling etc. A complete face-lift on the exterior of the building was completed also. Across campus in Adeline Hall former offices have been remodeled into three new classrooms. And joining the new lights on Falcon Field are new goal posts and a new football locker facility! It was a busy summer! ■

Daniel Burnside makes a spectacular catch to beat Santa Fe Catholic, 14-6.

Varsity Football Returns to FAA!!!



Cadets Booth and Coward listen attentively to instructions from Coach Lawson.



Trumaine Gibson



Mascot Freddie Falcon



The varsity football team returned to the gridiron again in 2004 with a bang. The mighty Falcons kicked off their return with a 40-0 win over Zion Christian under the brand-new lights at Falcon Field. As we go to press the season is half-way through, and the Falcons' record is 4 wins, 2 losses. The wins were against West Oaks 36-0, and Potter's House Christian in a thrilling, down-to-the-wire 21-20. FAA also beat Santa Fe Catholic in another exciting game 14-6 as Andrew Wojcik caught 3 interceptions.

Early stars of the football team include tailback Chase Fernander who rushed for two touchdowns in the opener. Matt Joyce has emerged as a very talented quarterback. He threw a touchdown pass to Temiko Wilson as well as ran one in himself against West Oaks. Meko Major had a huge play on defense to secure the Falcon's win against Potter's House Christian. Meko picked up a fumble and returned it 28 yards for the touchdown. Those 7 points proved to be the game winning points.

Having home football games on Friday night has drawn quite a crowd on campus. All of the home games have packed the bleachers and created a great atmosphere for the players as well as a fun activity for the cadets on campus for the weekend. Coach Roderick Lawson and his staff have worked extremely hard with his student-athletes and the boys have dedicated themselves to our program. Coach Lawson's philosophy has been to build the football program around the qualities of Teamwork, Loyalty, and Character, and that each player must develop these qualities. The result has been a squad comprised of players with good attitudes, high motivation, and self-discipline. Good luck Falcons on the rest of the season! ■

VARSITY SWIMMING



Florida Air Academy's 2004 Swim Team

This year's swim team had a very successful year. Head Coach Cristina O'Malley and her assistants, Marlena Tankersley and Dan Ford had the challenge of moving into a much tougher district with many year-round programs. The Falcons still managed to finish seventh in the district out of fifteen teams. David vanderWaag finished ninth in the district in the 50 freestyle just one-tenth of a second away from qualifying for regionals. The 200-medley relay team also was one place away from qualifying for regionals. John Nussbaum set the school record in the 500 freestyle. David vanderWaag set the school record in the 50 freestyle and the 100 freestyle. The 200 freestyle relay team consisting of Claudius Burrows, John Nussbaum, Doug Ford, and David vanderWaag also set the school record, and advanced to the regional competition!

Four seniors finished up their careers as high school swimmers including John Nussbaum, Claudius Burrows, Eric Bertram, and Hideo An. Nussbaum and Burrows have been with the swim team for all four years of its existence. Dustin Hand and Clayton Barrett are two of the young newcomers that will team up with vanderWaag, Ford, Jesse Jordan, Michael Pinkley, and Matthew Guglielmo to form a solid nucleus for next year's team. ■



This year the cross-country season took a strange twist with the interruptions from Mother Nature. When the boys finally were able to run they did it with great success. For the second consecutive year Coach Chris Kulac led the cross-country team to regionals. Paul Sperli and Joe Gallagher led the way for the Falcons. The Zingariello brothers along with Aqib Rashid provided the experience to go along with newcomers Ivan Jerome, Andrew Kiragu, Kevin LeRoux, and Frederick Snoy. The Falcons took first place at the Saint Edwards Invitational this year with Joe Gallagher winning the race overall. The team headed to regionals with their aim on qualifying for states. Congratulations on a successful season! ■

FLORIDA AIR ACADEMY

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VARSITY GOLF

The varsity golf team stepped it up a notch this year. We played our home matches at the beautiful Majors Golf Club in Palm Bay. Former PGA professional Steve Lamontagne worked with our golfers on a weekly basis. This was a great benefit for our students to receive lessons from a golfing great like Mr. Lamontagne.

This year our team was young but managed to play a few of the top local teams very tough. The Falcons brought home four victories this year and improved over last year's team. Barrett Goulding shot a season's best 40 towards the end of the year. Barrett's younger brother Bryce had a tremendous season and he is only a sixth grader. Bryce had the top score on our team during one match. Tyler Lascala finished the season strong, as did Joe Bittman. These five underclassmen along with freshman Hunter Gaylor and Craig Pearce should make a tough team next year. We look forward to great things from the Falcon golf team next year.

A special thanks goes out to our two new coaches this year. The golf team was coached by Kirk Campaignha and Saul Hornung. These two gentlemen did a great job on and off the course with our student-athletes. ■

