



AIR FORCE MEN'S GYMNASTICS

Men's Gymnastics Contact: Valerie Perkin | Email: valerie.perkin@usafa.edu | Phone: (719) 333-8286 | Website: GoAirForceFalcons.com

2012 GYMNASTICS SCHEDULE

Jan. 14	Rocky Mountain Open	2nd of 5 (333.300)
	vs. No. 1 Oklahoma	L, 333.300-343.700
	vs. No. 9 Nebraska	W, 333.300-331.300
	vs. Arizona State*	W, 333.300-314.100
	vs. Washington*	W, 333.300-248.100
Jan. 22	at No. 9 Nebraska	L, 331.750-336.550
Jan. 28	No. 8 Minnesota	L, 337.700-345.400
Feb. 18	at All-Academy Championships	1st of 3 (327.800)
	vs. No. 13 Navy	W, 327.800-325.650
	vs. No. 12 Army	W, 327.800-317.600
Feb. 24	at No. 15 Army	W, 334.000-326.500
Feb. 26	at Temple Tri-Meet	2nd of 3 (334.800)
	at No. 10 Temple	L, 334.800-336.300
	vs. Brockport*	W, 334.800-257.600
Mar. 2	No. 14 Illinois-Chicago	W, 338.900-329.500
Mar. 4	No. 14 Illinois-Chicago	W, 337.300-332.400
Mar. 9	at No. 17 Arizona State*	W, 335.600-321.600
Mar. 17	at Oklahoma Tri-Meet	3rd of 3 (327.950)
	at No. 1 Oklahoma	L, 327.950-352.400
	vs. No. 9 Nebraska	L, 327.950-341.550
Mar. 30	USAG Championships-Team	1st of 4 (341.050)
	No. 14 William & Mary	W, 341.050-331.850
	No. 16 Navy	W, 341.050-326.900
	No. 17 Springfield	W, 341.050-324.350
Mar. 31	USAG Championships-Event	No Team Scores
Apr. 7	MPSF Championships	4th of 4 (335.950)
	No. 2 Oklahoma	L, 335.950-352.100
	No. 3 Stanford	L, 335.950-345.950
	No. 7 California	L, 335.950-335.950
Apr. 19	at NCAA National Qualifier	Norman, Okla.
Apr. 20	at NCAA Championships-Team	Norman, Okla.
Apr. 21	at NCAA Championships Event	Norman, Okla.

Home meets in **bold** will be at Cadet West Gym.

* Meets against club teams do not count in overall record.



NCAA MEN'S GYMNASTICS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

National Qualifying Session 2 | Thursday, April 21, 2012 | 7 p.m. (CDT)

#1 Oklahoma, #4 Illinois, #5 Minnesota, # 8 California, # 9 Temple, #12 Air Force Norman, Oklahoma | Lloyd Noble Center

The 12th-ranked Air Force men's gymnastics team will travel to Norman, Okla., to conclude the 2012 season at the NCAA Gymnastics Championships on April 19-21. The Falcons, who are making their second straight team appearance at the NCAA competition, will open the weekend in the second session of the National Qualifier at 7 p.m. (CDT) on Thursday, April 19.

MEET INFORMATION

The 2012 NCAA Men's Gymnastics National Championships will be held at the Lloyd Noble Center on Oklahoma's campus. All-session tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for youth aged 3-18. Single-session tickets will be available at the door prior to the start of each day's competition. Live scoring and webcasts will be available throughout the weekend at www.SoonerSports.com.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

1 p.m.: National Qualifying Session 1

7 p.m.: National Qualifying Session 2

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

7 p.m.: Team Finals

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

7 p.m.: Event Finals

LET'S MEET THE TEAMS

The first session of the NCAA Qualifier will feature No. 2 Penn State, defending national champion and No. 3 Stanford, No. 6 Michigan, No. 7 Ohio State, No. 10 Nebraska and No. 11 Iowa. The evening session is backed by host and top-ranked Oklahoma, No. 4 Illinois, No. 5 Minnesota, No. 8 California, No. 9 Temple and No. 12 Air Force. In addition, both sessions will feature individual competitors from Army, Illinois-Chicago, Navy, Springfield and William & Mary.

HOW THIS WORKS

The national qualifier, which consists of two sessions, will be held on Thursday, April 19. From each session, the top three teams, the top three all-around competitors not on an advancing team and the top three individuals on each event that are not on an advancing team or qualified as an advancing all-around competitor, will move onto the NCAA national championship meet, which will take place on April 20 (team finals) and April 21 (event finals).

HISTORY 101

Prior to last season, Air Force hadn't sent a full squad to a level of the NCAA Championships since 1998, when it qualified for the NCAA West Regional Championships (the current national qualifier replaced the regional meets following the 1999 season). The Falcons have made eight appearances in the NCAA Championship (Team Finals) during their history (1961-62-63-64-70-72-73), with their best finish (sixth) coming at the 1972 meet.

HISTORY 201

Eight Falcons have claimed All-America status at the NCAA Championships, including Greg Stine, who became the first Air Force gymnast to claim multiple certificates in a single meet (2008 still rings, all-around). Jim Weaver (1962 trampoline), Doug Reynolds (1964 tumbling), Terry Higgins (1966 parallel bars), Bill Ritter (1972 floor), John Tomich (1973 vault), Joel Miller (1992 rings) and Tim Hess (1993 floor) have also earned All-America honors for the Falcons.

DID YOU KNOW?

Devin Menefee will be making his fourth straight appearance at the national championship meet this weekend. The senior team captain represented the Falcons as an individual competitor during his freshman (vault) and sophomore (still rings, vault) years, before competing with the team as a junior. In addition, James Okamoto will be making his third straight appearance, having competed as an individual (pommel horse) in 2010 and with the team in 2011.



2012 GYMNASTICS ROSTER

Table with columns: NAME, YR, HT, HOMETOWN, HIGH SCHOOL, CLUB, PRONUNCIATION. Lists gymnasts and their details.

Head Coach: Kip Simons | Assistant Coach: Jeff Robinson | Assistant Coach: Chuck Schweiss | Volunteer Coach: Dave Mickelson | Athletic Trainer: Mark Peters

ACADEMY QUICK FACTS

AIR FORCE ACADEMY

Location.....USAF Academy, Colo.
Founded1954
Enrollment.....4,000
Colors Blue and Silver
NicknameFalcons
Affiliation NCAA Division I
Conference Mountain Pacific Sports Federation
Gymnasium Cadet West Gym
Superintendent..... Lt Gen Michael Gould
Director of Athletics Dr. Hans Mueh

TEAM INFORMATION

Head Coach Kip Simons
Season at Air ForceSeventh
Alma MaterOhio State (1994)
Assistant Coach Jeff Robinson
Season at Air Force Second
Alma Mater Auburn (1982)
Assistant CoachChuck Schweiss
Season at Air Force Fourth
Alma Mater Air Force (1982)
Volunteer CoachDave Mickelson
Athletic Trainer Mark Peters
Team Captain..... Devin Menefee
Home Facility.....Cadet West Gym

2011 RECAP

All-Academy FinishFirst (1st)
MPSF FinishFifth (5th)
USAG FinishFirst (1st)
NCAA Final Ranking 12th
Letterwinners R/L 11/6
USAG All-Americans R/L 3/3

GYMINFO RANKINGS

9 April (by National Qualifying Average)

Table with columns: RK, TEAM, NQA. Lists ranking of teams.

USAG CHAMPIONSHIPS RECAP

USAG National Champions

Josh Ramos.....Parallel Bars
Mac Ritchie.....High Bar
Ben Zaiser Vault

USAG All-Americans

Gared Chapman..... Still Rings
Greg ChaputPommel Horse
Nick Gaudlip Floor Exercise
Devin Menefee Still Rings
James Okamoto Pommel Horse, High Bar
Corbin Palmer.....Floor Exercise, Parallel Bars
Josh Ramos.....Parallel Bars
Mac Ritchie.....High Bar
Ben Zaiser Vault

USAG Coaching Awards

Jeff RobinsonAssistant Coach of the Year
Chuck Schweiss.....Assistant Coach of the Year
Kip SimonsHead Coach of the Year



TOP INDIVIDUAL MARKS

Table with columns: Floor Exercise, Pommel Horse, Still Rings, Vault, Parallel Bars, High Bar, All-Around. Each row lists a score, gymnast name, and date.

WEEKLY AWARD WINNERS

- Devin Menefee: CGA Gymnast of the Week
James Okamoto: MPSF Gymnast of the Week, CGA Gymnast of the Week, CollegeSports360 Primetime Performer, MPSF Gymnast of the Week
Josh Ramos: CGA Gymnast of the Week
Mac Ritchie: Air Force Athlete of the Week, MPSF Gymnast of the Week

FALCONS FINISH FOURTH AT MPSF

Air Force amassed a score of 335.950 to finish fourth at the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Championships on April 7. Devin Menefee earned the Falcons' best finish of the night, as he placed sixth on the still rings (14.900) in his final home competition.

RITCHIE EARNS WEEKLY HONORS

Mac Ritchie was named the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Gymnast of the Week and the Air Force Athlete of the Week award after claiming his first USAG high bar title. The sophomore tied the Academy record of 14.900 to win his first career USAG national title by a 0.650 margin on March 31.

AIR FORCE COACHES EARN USAG AWARDS

Kip Simons was named the USAG Varsity Coach of the Year at the conclusion of the USAG Championships, while Jeff Robinson and Chuck Schweiss shared the USAG Varsity Assistant Coach of the Year award.

FALCONS SET PROGRAM RECORD IN USAG HONORS

A program-best nine Falcons claimed USAG All-America status, based on their top-six finishes in the event finals of the USAG Championships. Corbin Palmer (floor exercise, parallel), James Okamoto (pommel horse, high bar), Nick Gaudlip (floor exercise), Greg Chaput (pommel horse), Gared Chapman (still rings), Devin Menefee (still rings), Ben Zaiser (vault), Josh Ramos (parallel bars) and Mac Ritchie (high bar) earned USAG All-American honors.

AIR FORCE TRIO EARNS USAG TITLES

Three Falcons claimed USAG national titles during the event finals on March 31. Ben Zaiser (vault), Josh Ramos (parallel bars) and Mac Ritchie (high bar) each claimed their first USAG national title.

FALCONS WIN THIRD STRAIGHT USAG TITLE

Backed by a season-high score of 341.050, Air Force successfully defended its USAG team title on March 30. It is the third straight year that the Falcons have claimed the USAG title, defeating William and Mary (331.850), Navy (326.900) and Springfield (324.350).

HIGH FLYING HIGH BAR

Air Force opened the USAG Championships on the high bar, recording five of the six top scores and the fourth-best team score in Academy history (56.950). Mac Ritchie (14.650), James Okamoto (14.150), Tory Brown (14.100), Josh Ramos (14.050) and Corbin Palmer (14.000) helped Air Force dominate the top of the leaderboard on that event.

MORE NEWS FROM THE USAG CHAMPIONSHIPS

Backed by matching 15.100 marks from Devin Menefee and Gared Chapman, the Falcons set an Academy record team score of 59.450 on the still rings during the team finals on March 30. Menefee, Chapman, Tyler Huebner (14.900, fifth) and Ben Zaiser (14.350, seventh) all finished within the top 10 of that event.

AIR FORCE FINISHES THIRD AT OKLAHOMA

James Okamoto and Gared Chapman finished fifth on the pommel horse and still rings, respectively, to lead the Falcons (327.950) at a tri-meet against Oklahoma (352.400) and Nebraska (341.550) on March 17.

FALCONS EARN EASY WIN AT ARIZONA STATE

Backed by five of the six event titles, Air Force defeated Arizona State by a 14-point margin (335.600-321.600) on March 9. The Falcons' 335.700 is their highest road total of the season. In addition, five Falcons set or matched career-best marks at ASU.

TAKING FIVE OF SIX

Air Force claimed five of the six event titles at Arizona State, including a sweep of the first three events. Josh Ramos and Patrick Duffy shared the top spot on the floor exercise (14.400), while James Okamoto won the pommel horse (13.800) and Tyler Huebner took first on the still rings with a score of 14.500.

FALCONS SWEEP UIC DURING HOME STAND

Air Force successfully defended its home floor over the March 2-4 weekend, sweeping Illinois-Chicago by 338.900-329.500 (March 2) and 337.300-332.400 (March 4) margins. The Falcons finished the regular season with a 3-2 home record against Division I programs (5-2 overall).



TOP TEAM MARKS

Floor Exercise	Meet (Date)
58.200.....	at Army (Feb. 24)
57.700.....	vs. Minnesota (Jan. 28)
56.800.....	at Arizona State (Mar. 9)
Pommel Horse	Meet (Date)
55.900.....	vs. Illinois-Chicago (Mar. 2)
55.500.....	at Temple Tri-Meet (Feb. 26)
55.300.....	vs. USAG Championships (Mar. 30)
Still Rings	Meet (Date)
59.450.....	vs. USAG Championships (Mar. 30)
59.200.....	vs. Rocky Mountain Open (Jan. 14)
58.700.....	vs. Illinois-Chicago (Mar. 2)
Vault	Meet (Date)
57.550.....	at Nebraska (Jan. 22)
57.400.....	vs. Illinois-Chicago (Mar. 4)
57.000.....	vs. USAG Championships (Mar. 30)
Parallel Bars	Meet (Date)
56.600.....	at Army (Feb. 24)
56.600.....	vs. Rocky Mountain Open (Jan. 14)
56.400.....	vs. Minnesota (Jan. 28)
56.000.....	at Temple Tri-Meet (Feb. 26)
High Bar	Meet (Date)
57.100.....	at Nebraska (Jan. 22)
56.950.....	vs. USAG Championships (Mar. 30)
56.000.....	vs. Illinois-Chicago (Mar. 4)
Team Total	Meet (Date)
341.050.....	vs. USAG Championships (Mar. 30)
338.900.....	vs. Illinois-Chicago (Mar. 2)
337.700.....	vs. Minnesota (Jan. 28)

HIGH FLYING HIGH BAR

Air Force claimed the top five scores on the high bar during the March 4 meet. Tory Brown scored a 14.200 to win the event, while Josh Ramos and Mac Ritchie tied for second with matching marks of 14.000. Corbin Palmer finished fourth with a score of 13.800 and James Okamoto tied for fifth with a 13.600.

DOUBLING IT UP

Devin Menefee collected titles on the rings (14.600) and vault (14.700) during the March 4 meet with UIC.

MORE WINS FROM THE FALCONS

In addition to the titles from Tory Brown (high bar) and Devin Menefee (rings, vault), Josh Ramos won the p-bars (14.200) and James Okamoto took first on the horse during the March 4 competition. The victories came two nights after Mac Ritchie (high bar), Menefee (rings), Ben Zaiser (vault) and Ramos (p-bars) claimed first-place finishes at the March 2 meet.

MOVING ON UP

Mac Ritchie recorded the sixth-best high bar score in Academy history (14.500) to win that event during the March 2 meet with UIC. As a team, the Falcons posted their highest team score of the season (338.900). The Falcons improved their team score by over one point to better the mark of 337.700 that they set at the Academy against Minnesota on Jan. 28.

FALCONS CLAIM WEEKLY AWARDS

Josh Ramos was named the CGA Gymnast of the Week (Feb. 29) and James Okamoto earned his second straight MPSF Gymnast of the Week award (Feb. 28). Ramos claimed three event titles during the Falcons' East Coast swing, while Okamoto earned two titles and set the Academy pommel horse record.

DID YOU KNOW?

It is the second straight week that the Falcons have claimed Gymnast of the Week awards from the MPSF and CGA. James Okamoto earned both titles on Feb. 22, while he and Josh Ramos split the titles this week.

THE RAMOS ROUND-UP

Josh Ramos won the floor exercise (14.700) and parallel bars (14.900) against Army, while placing first on the parallel bars (15.000) at the Temple Tri-Meet. He became just the second Falcon to reach the 15-point mark on the parallel bars, easily winning the event by a 0.900 margin and moving into second on the program's all-time list. He also claimed top-five finishes on the vault and high bar against the Black Knights, while tying for third on the floor exercise at Temple.

WHAT DID YOU DO THIS WEEKEND?

James Okamoto broke the Academy record on the pommel horse, scoring a career-best 14.900 to win the event at the Temple Tri-Meet on Feb. 26, while winning the high bar title at Army on Feb. 24. The junior easily won the pommel horse title at Temple, improving his overall score by 0.300, while tying for third on the floor exercise (13.800) and fourth on the high bar (13.700). Against Army, Okamoto won the high bar with a 14.000 – a mark just 0.100 off of his career-best – while placing second on the horse.

FALCONS NET STRONG SCORE AT TEMPLE

Air Force tallied its second-highest score of the season (334.800) to finish second at Temple on Feb. 26. James Okamoto (pommel horse), Josh Ramos (parallel bars) and Devin Menefee (still rings) won their respective event titles, while the Falcons collected four of the top five placements on the rings. In addition to Menefee's tie for first (14.600), Tyler Huebner tied for third (14.200) and Jon Spiro and Gared Chapman finished fourth (14.100) and fifth (14.000), respectively.

AIR FORCE EARNS EASY WIN OVER ARMY

Taking four of the six event titles, Air Force defeated Army by nearly eight points (334.000-326.500) on Feb. 24. Josh Ramos (floor, parallel bars), Corbin Palmer (vault) and James Okamoto (high bar) combined for four event titles as the Falcons bettered the Black Knights for the second straight week. Nick Gaudlip (floor), Okamoto (pommel horse) and Gared Chapman (rings) also claimed runner-up spots.

DID YOU KNOW?

Air Force has won the last five duals against its service academy counterpart from West Point, as well as the past two All-Academy Championship titles.

OKAMOTO CLAIMS WEEKLY AWARDS

James Okamoto was named Gymnast of the Week by the MPSF and CGA after winning the pommel and high bar at the All-Academy Championships. He matched his career-best score on the pommel (14.600), while tallying a 14.000 on the high bar. He was also honored as a CollegeSports360.com "Primetime Performer".

FALCONS RETAIN ALL-ACADEMY TITLE

Claiming four of the six event titles, Air Force claimed its second straight team title at the All-Academy Championships on Feb. 18. The Falcons scored a team total of 327.800 to defeat service academy rivals from Navy (325.650) and Army (317.600).

TAKING DOWN THE COMPETITION

Air Force claimed four individual event titles at the All-Academy Championships, including two from James Okamoto, who won the pommel horse (14.600) and high bar (14.000). Josh Ramos and Devin Menefee won the floor exercise (14.600) and still rings (14.800), respectively.

MORE NOTES FROM THE AAC

Josh Ramos matched his career best of 14.600 to easily win the floor exercise, bettering the field by nearly one point. Ben Zaiser and Corbin Palmer each picked up three top-five finishes, including a tie for third on the vault (14.200). Zaiser tied for second on the rings (14.100) and finished fourth on the floor (13.650), while Palmer finished fifth on the floor (13.600) and tied for the same placement on the high bar (13.300).

DID YOU KNOW?

Injury forced both Air Force competitors out of the lineup at the Winter Cup Challenge, but Tory Brown became the first Falcon to ever earn three straight invitations to the prestigious national meet. In addition, James Okamoto became just the third to claim two selections to the Winter Cup Challenge.



FIRST-PLACE FINISHES

Tory Brown

Mar. 4, vs. Illinois-Chicago High Bar
Mar. 9, at Arizona State High Bar

Greg Chaput

Jan. 22, at Nebraska Parallel Bars
Mar. 30, vs. USAG Prelims Pommel Horse

Patrick Duffy

Mar. 9, at Arizona State Floor Exercise

Tyler Huebner

Mar. 9, at Arizona State Still Rings

Devin Menefee

Jan. 22, at Nebraska Still Rings
Jan. 28, vs. Minnesota Still Rings
Feb. 18, at All-Academy Still Rings
Feb. 26, at Temple Still Rings
Mar. 2, vs. Illinois-Chicago Still Rings
Mar. 4, vs. Illinois-Chicago Vault, Still Rings

James Okamoto

Feb. 18, at All-Academy Pommel Horse, High Bar
Feb. 24, at Army High Bar
Feb. 26, at Temple Pommel Horse
Mar. 2, vs. Illinois-Chicago Pommel Horse
Mar. 9, at Arizona State Pommel Horse

Corbin Palmer

Feb. 24, at Army Vault

Josh Ramos

Feb. 18, at All-Academy Floor Exercise
Feb. 24, at Army Floor Exercise, Parallel Bars
Feb. 25, at Temple Parallel Bars
Mar. 2, vs. Illinois-Chicago Parallel Bars
Mar. 4, vs. Illinois-Chicago Parallel Bars
Mar. 9, at Arizona State Floor Exercise
Mar. 30, vs. USAG Prelims Parallel Bars
Mar. 31, vs. USAG Finals Parallel Bars

Mac Ritchie

Jan. 28, vs. Minnesota High Bar
Mar. 2, vs. Illinois-Chicago High Bar
Mar. 30, vs. USAG Prelims High Bar
Mar. 31, vs. USAG Finals High Bar

Ben Zaiser

Mar. 2, vs. Illinois-Chicago Vault
Mar. 9, at Arizona State Vault
Mar. 31, vs. USAG Finals Vault

FALCONS NET SEASON-HIGH AGAINST MINNESOTA

Devin Menefee won the still rings and Mac Ritchie tied for first on the high bar, as the Falcons recorded a season-high team score of 337.700 during a dual meet with Minnesota (345.400) on Jan. 28. Menefee scored a 15.000 to easily win the still rings rings, while Ritchie matched his career-high mark of 14.400 to tie for the top spot on the high bar.

THE YOUNG WILL LEAD

Freshmen paced the Falcons in two events in the Jan. 28 meet. Nick Gaudlip and Josh Ramos tied for second on the floor with matching marks of 14.600, while Skyler Awisus tied for third on the parallel bars with a 14.400. With his score on the parallel bars, Awisus moved into ninth on the program's all-time list, while the 14.600 marks by Gaudlip and Ramos on the floor exercise are tied for 13th.

SPLITTING THE SEASON

Air Force split the regular season with Nebraska, following a 336.550-331.750 loss to the Huskers on Jan. 22. The Falcons defeated Nebraska 333.300-331.300 at the Rocky Mountain Open on Jan. 14 for the program's first victory over the Huskers since 1969.

AIR FORCE PAIR TAKES FIRST AT NEBRASKA

Devin Menefee and Greg Chaput claimed event titles for the Falcons during their competition at Nebraska on Jan. 22, as Menefee won the still rings (14.600) and Chaput took first on the parallel bars (14.350). Menefee, who bettered the field by .450 points, led Air Force to three of the top five spots on the rings, as Ben Zaiser and Gared Chapman finished fourth and fifth, respectively. Chaput also paced the Falcons to three top-five finishes, with Jacob Houder and Josh Ramos finishing third and fifth, respectively.

HIGH BAR HIGHS

Air Force collected four of the top-six places on the high bar at Nebraska. Corbin Palmer improved his score to 14.400 to finish second, while Jacob Houder used a career-best 14.350 to place third. Tory Brown tied for fourth with a season-high 14.250, while James Okamoto placed sixth with a career-high 14.100.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Falcons' No. 9 placement on Jan. 16 was the second-highest ranking in Academy history.

FALCONS TAKE SECOND AT ROCKY MOUNTAIN OPEN

Air Force opened the 2012 season with a second-place finish at the annual Rocky Mountain Open, behind a combined score of 333.300 – its best season-opening score ever. Josh Ramos (floor) and Greg Chaput (parallel bars) finished second in their respective events to pace the Falcons, while Devin Menefee tied for third on the rings with a career-best 15.400.

BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE

As a team, Air Force scored a 59.200 on the still rings at the Rocky Mountain Open ... the third-highest event score in Academy history. The Falcons also recorded the fifth-best parallel bars score (56.600) in program history at that meet.

MOVING ON UP

Just one meet into the season and several Falcons have already placed themselves in the Academy record book. With a 15.400 on the still rings, Devin Menefee recorded the eighth-best score in program history on that event. Greg Chaput, Skyler Awisus and Josh Ramos all impacted the top-20 of the parallel bars, highlighted by a top-10 addition from Chaput (14.400, ninth). Awisus recorded the 13th-highest score (14.200), while Ramos debuted in 15th (14.100). Ramos also moved into the program's all-time list on the high bar, with a 13.900 (17th). Corbin Palmer's career-opening score 13.800 is ranked 19th.

HOME SWEET HOME

Air Force will compete at home on six occasions during the 2012 season. Following the season-opening Rocky Mountain Open on Jan. 14 and the Minnesota dual meet on Jan. 28, Air Force returns to the Academy in March to host Illinois-Chicago (Mar. 2, Mar. 4) and USAG Championships (March 30-31). The Falcons will close out the home schedule on Apr. 7, when they host the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Championships for the second straight year.

FALCONS MATCH BEST PRESEASON RANKING

Air Force recorded its highest preseason ranking ever, when it was tabbed 11th in the College Gymnastics Association Preseason Coaches' Poll. It is the fourth straight year that the Falcons were listed among the nation's top teams, as well as receiving the highest ranking among the three service academies.

WELCOME TO THE SHOW

Air Force added eight talented freshmen to its roster with the addition of Skyler Awisus, Gared Chapman, Greg Chaput, Nick Gaudlip, Corbin Palmer, Josh Ramos, Niko Schwab and Jon Spiro.

ON THE SIDELINES

Kip Simons is entering his seventh season as head coach of the Air Force men's gymnastics team. He will be joined in 2012 by fourth-year assistant Chuck Schweiss and second-year coach Jeff Robinson.

LEADING THE WAY

Senior Devin Menefee will serve as the captain for the 2012 Falcons. It is just the third time since 2003 – that one gymnast has served as team captain.