

First Year Tips:

IN-PROCESSING:

If you can, bring your cadet to in-processing. Here are some tips to help you and your cadet get the most of this great experience. Bring binoculars.

Thursday: In-processing:

You can stay with your cadet for as long as you'd like outside Doolittle. After they go up the stairs, you cannot talk to them again. Go to the parking lot where the buses are and stand near the trees. You can watch for your basic cadet as they view the wall and then cross the bridge. You can then go to the area where the buses are and enjoy your basic cadet one more time.

After dropping your cadet off at Doolittle Hall and watching them take the bus, you can go back to the Chapel wall and look for your basic cadet. Look to the opposite end of the Terrazo from the Chapel wall and to the left. That is the ramp they will march up, line-up and then march to Fairchild for the completion of in-processing.

Have your basic cadet wear a bright color, such as an orange t-shirt. This will help you look for them as they go through the in-processing procedure.

Friday: Swearing-In:

You can be there Friday morning to watch them being sworn-in at the Chapel Wall. That is an awesome experience.

Tips for the Swearing-In ceremony.

- 1). Get there early, say 8am. You'll get a great spot.
- 2). You can bring a sign of some sort to hold up or to tape to the wall.
- 3). The basics will line-up in their 10 squadron, tallest in front & shortest in back. They will all look the same with hair-cuts and hats.
- 4). If you stand at the wall your basic cadet will be able to see you, but they won't be able to communicate with you.

ACCEPTANCE PARADE:

There are two special times for your basic cadet; the Acceptance Parade in August and then Recognition in March. You will not be able to share in the Recognition experience but you can the Acceptance Parade. The parade is on Weds., August 4, 2010 on Stillman Field. This is when the Basics are accepted into their first year squadron. After the parade, you can go to the parade field and watch their Shoulder Boards being put on their shirts. Then they are dismissed and you can have a picnic lunch with them and any of their fellow basic cadets that you want to feed. Last year the parents organized Squadron picnics and tried to feed them all. It was truly inspiring to see the way the parents took care of all the cadets they could.

NOTE: The basics spend one year in their first Squadron and then after Recognition in March are assigned to another Squadron for their remaining 3 years. Spend your money wisely your first year on Squadron items.