

DECEMBER 2019

SENTINEL

A MONTHLY SOUTHERN PREP NEWSLETTER



THE ONLY HIGH SCHOOL AVIATION PROGRAM OF ITS KIND.

CADET DANIEL TAMPA IS ON HIS WAY TO EARNING HIS PRIVATE PILOT'S LICENSE, AND HE'S ONLY 18 YEARS OLD.

MEET THE ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT

MARK MORGAN ACADEMIC DEAN



I am originally from Collinston, Louisiana, and I attended Northeast Louisiana University, where I earned a B.S. in Construction Management. I was also commissioned in the US Army as an Ordinance Officer. Later on, I earned a Masters of Arts degree from American Military University, with a focus on Land Warfare. I've served 5 years active duty and 5 years in the Pennsylvania National

Guard. I have two daughters, Brook and Emily, with my wife, Nichol. Aside from working with students, I enjoy reading and golfing.

I worked as a faculty member and administrator for 24 years at Carson Long Military Academy. I worked many jobs there, including: building officer, teacher, coach, head of the Middle School, Vice President of Administration and Finance, Interim President, and Academic Dean/Headmaster. I taught multiple subjects including middle school math, physical science, algebra, business, and multiple military history classes.

Once Carson-Long closed, I was hoping to find a position similar to what I had been doing for the past 24 years, and that's when my sister saw the Academic Dean job posting for Southern Prep. I got the job in July 2018, and have loved it ever since. This job reminds me a lot of my old school and allows me to continue doing what I love, changing students' lives by showing them how to live up to their potential.

When I arrived at Southern Prep, we were in an accreditation year, so I made it my goal to complete this successfully. My goal was achieved and we passed our accreditation with above-average scores so we can continue our mission in educating young men. My current goal is continuing to separate Southern Prep from other boarding schools by adding more Virtual Reality courses and continuing our partnership with the Edward Bell Career Technical Center. I look forward to seeing what other great opportunities we can provide for the cadets to help them succeed not only at Southern Prep, but beyond.

SENIOR CADET TAKES FLIGHT

COVER STORY
BECCA NELSON

Flight training is one of the many unique opportunities available at Southern Prep through our signature programs. Several students, here in particular senior Cadet Daniel Tampa, have taken an interest in flight training. The academy has partnered with Brown Aero Flight School of Alex City, AL, to provide our aviation students with an individualized lesson plan designed to get them in the air and operating a plane at their own speed. Our aviation course includes classroom ground curriculum, one on one flight training, FAA written test prep, simulator training scenarios and an introduction to the aviation industry spectrum.

Cadet Tampa started ground school less than 4 months ago, at the start of his senior year. Tampa gives credit to his flight instructors for being able to advance so quickly in the program. His father also encouraged him to get involved with Southern Prep's aviation program. "I will be able to fly myself in the future," says Tampa, who has big plans to attend Cornell

University next fall to study hospitality management. Cadet Tampa also has his eyes on Auburn University. In the end, he wants to take over his father's company, and believes earning his pilot's license while still in high school will set him apart from the rest when it comes to college applications.

Sgt. Jake Norotsky, Aviation Director at Southern Prep, says his students will be ahead of everyone else when it comes to college flight programs. "These guys will be a couple years ahead of everyone else. They will be able to get in commercial pilot seats a lot faster."

Tampa has had a few more solo flights since his first on December 4th. He also completed his first cross country flight on December 16th, a 2-hour round trip to Tuskegee, Alabama.



CADET TAMPA WITH HIS FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR.

SOME QUOTES HAVE BEEN PULLED FROM [THE OUTLOOK](#).
PLEASE READ THEIR ARTICLE [HERE](#).

THE DIXON FOUNDATION

COLE LEONARD

Solon and Martha Dixon have made a significant impact at Southern Preparatory Academy over the last six decades. Solon Dixon, a 1922 graduate of the Southern Industrial Institute, and his wife, Martha, were strongly dedicated to the advancement of the academic and religious components of the academy.

After graduating from Auburn University, Solon Dixon became a pioneer in forestry industry. Mr. Dixon built various sawmills and other factories throughout the state of Alabama. In addition, he was passionate about educating young men and women about natural resources and wildlife. In 1980, Solon Dixon donated over 5000 acres in Andalusia, Alabama to Auburn University, which now serves as the Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center.

Solon Dixon was also an advocate for aviation. He assisted Auburn University in creating the aviation program, which is unique due to it being the only program of its kind throughout the region. Through the Solon and Martha Dixon Foundation, Auburn University and Southern Prep have been working together to acquire a flight simulator, worth over a quarter million dollars, for cadets enrolled in the aviation program.

Over the years, the Solon and Martha Dixon Foundation have funded repairs to Tallapoosa Hall, the construction of both the Martha Dixon Library and the Dixon All Faith Chapel; and various academic programming, such as the online dual enrollment and virtual reality classes. Although Solon and Martha Dixon have passed away, their legacy continues to live on here at Southern Prep.



RANGERS HELP LOCAL FAMILIES

CADET TALIB DIALLO

In this season of giving, Southern Prep cadets stepped up to help distribute holiday care baskets to local families in Camp Hill. All of the items in the baskets were donated by Southern Prep families and staff.

The cadets distributed the baskets after the Camp Hill Christmas Parade, and those who participated were ecstatic to be a part of what we hope will become a Southern Prep tradition. To everyone who helped us out: Thank You for helping us make the lives of others a little bit better this holiday season!



TOYS FOR TOTS

CADET KYLE HOLTON

Toys for Tots, a program conducted by the United States Marine Corps Reserves, collects new, unwrapped toys for less fortunate children. Toys for Tots started in 1947 when retired Marine Major Bill Hendricks and his wife Diane started collecting and making toys for kids in the Los Angeles area (www.marinescorp.gov).

The Marine currently heading up the Montgomery area Toys for Tots campaign is Marine Sgt. Overholtz. Sgt. Overholtz has been in the Marine Corps for 7 years and over Toys for Tots for three years. He says they hope to help at least 10,000 families this year and have already collected 20,000 toys. On December 5th, 10 cadets from Southern Prep had the opportunity to lend the Marines a helping hand in this community project by distributing toys to 200 individuals. The cadets were kept busy helping find toys for children of various ages as well as taking toys to vehicles, where they helped with loading. A couple of cadets even became babysitters for the day by keeping an eye on younger children who accompanied parents and grandparents!

All the cadets had a great time helping and can't wait to continue this Ranger tradition by participating again next year!! The local Toys for Tots program had already distributed toys to almost 3,000 people this holiday season.

STAR STUDENT

CADET STUART HAUER

CHARLIE COMPANY



Cadet Stuart Hauer is a sophomore and is in his first year at Southern Prep. Hauer is a legacy, as his father, Mr. Stu Hauer (pictured below), attended Lyman Ward in 1988. During his time here, Cadet Hauer has earned his way to the President's List, meaning he has at least a 90 in all of his classes, and was recently promoted to Cadet Private First Class (E-3). In addition to his success in both the academic and military departments, Cadet Hauer spends his time volunteering to help out wherever he can at the academy. He accompanied

the football team to the NHSA Tournament where he did much of the behind-the-scenes work. He was also pivotal in the creation and delivery of the Camp Hill Holiday Care Baskets.

“HE IS AN A+ STUDENT AND IS A MEMBER OF THE HONORABLE COLOR GUARD

SGT DAVID FULLER
TAC OFFICER



IMPORTANT DATES

JANUARY

- 4** RETURNING CADET CHECK-IN 3PM
- 5** NEW STUDENT CHECK-IN 10AM-12PM
- 24** SCRUB GRADUATION

FEBRUARY

- 14** VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE
- 15-17** PRESIDENT'S DAY WEEKEND
- 25** ACT TESTING ON CAMPUS

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

Our academy could not run without the tireless efforts of our volunteers.
Special Thanks To...

All of our parents and supporters who donated items for the Camp Hill Christmas Care Basket Drive.

The Matt & Aunie Show on Talk 99.5 for allowing us a special segment (find it [here](#)).

The Bear O'Brian Show on Kissin' 99.3 for allowing us a special segment.

Brown Aero Flight School & their instructors for the countless hours spent training our cadets to fly.

LWMA REUNION

On October 5th, a small reunion was held in Destin, FL, with a few graduates from the classes of 1967 and 1968. The friendships made here at the academy are for LIFE!



Class of 1967

Bill Nail
Billy Mays
Bobby Baker
Bob McGough
Steve Lester
Michael Bill



Class of 1968

Ray Blackburn
Jimmy Brittain
Hogan Marshall
Tommy Tucker
Dee Weeks
Shawn Ingram



GIVE THE GIFT OF SUMMER CAMP THIS CHRISTMAS

Does your son have everything and need nothing? Rather than material items this year, consider gifting an experience your son will remember and cherish for a lifetime!

Our 300-acre campus offers the chance to get outside, disconnect from electronics, and be active! We offer two 14 day sessions full of activities designed to challenge young men and allow them to build friendships and learn about service to others.

Boating
Paintball
Rifle Safety
Rockets

Aviation
Battlefield Visits
Lake Days
AND MORE!

JUNE 14-27 & JULY 5-18

Purchase your son's passport to adventure by December 24th and receive a 10% discount!* Register online TODAY!

Southern
PREPARATORY ACADEMY

**Must register and deposit \$300 to receive discount*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JUNIOR SCHOOL

SHERRY ARWOOD

6th/7th grade parents: please be sure to sign and return the permission slip allowing your cadet to volunteer at the Lake Martin Animal Shelter. We are also taking donations for the shelter as well, so if you have any old towels or blankets or if you would like to donate a bag of pet food, please send it back with your cadet after the Christmas break.

ADMISSIONS

JENIFER ISBELL

It's never too late to be a part of something great!

We take pride in our open enrollment! Don't keep us a secret, if you know of a family who could benefit from the structure provided at Southern Prep, send me their name and contact info and I will take it from there.

Refer a family and get REWARDED!

Southern Prep is offering a tuition discount of \$1,000 (\$500/semester) for each new enrolled boarding student who a current family refers, providing the referring family stays in good standing with the school.

Reach out to family and friends, share your experience, encourage your prospect to contact me and fill out an application.

For program information, please call me at 256-675-6260 or visit the **Financial Assistance page**.

DEVELOPMENT

COLE LEONARD

When Dr. Lyman Ward founded Southern Prep in 1898, he had an original mission of "preparing young men for the work of life." Nowadays, cadets from across the world attend Southern Prep so their own potential can be transformed in a way to make each person a leader in society. The "Power of Potential" Scholarship Drive is used to support these cadets as they are pursuing their own opportunities to make an impact on the world. Donations to the scholarship drive can be made online through the Go Fund Me Platform, which can be found **here**. Donations like yours continue to allow Southern Prep to be the best value boarding school education in the country. We hope you will consider supporting the academy and will also share the information with friends, family members, and members in your local community. There is Strength in Southern Prep and we all have a role to play.

**MARK YOUR
CALENDARS!
MILITARY DAY IS
APRIL 25**

It's the season of giving!

When you #StartWithaSmile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to Southern Prep Academy. Bookmark the link <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/63-0302177> and support us every time you shop.

SEE YOU NEXT MONTH!



**THE
SENTINEL**