

POINTER VIEW

TSP TICKER

September changes [as of 9/19]	
C FUND	+ 3.82 percent
I FUND	+ 2.34 percent
S FUND	+ 3.07 percent

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SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF THE U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT

SEPTEMBER 21, 2007

GMH to explain new family housing at town hall meeting

By Dianne Borges
GMH Military Housing

GMH Military Housing will hold a Resident Town Hall Meeting, Oct. 2, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., in the Grand Ballroom at the West Point Club. GMH officials said this meeting is the first step in moving ahead with plans to develop, renovate, manage and maintain West Point family housing for the next 50 years.

"We want to make West Point a magnificent place for residents to call home by providing servicemembers and their Families attractive, adequately sized, well-maintained and landscaped homes," they said.

GMH will use the town hall meeting to explain issues and talk about concerns with residents.

"We know that changes are worrisome and stressful, especially when they involve the home and

we want the residents to feel comfortable with the plans for their new community," said Charles L'Hommedieu, GMH Military Housing area community manager. "We encourage them to attend the meeting, ask questions and gain an understanding of all the fantastic plans in store for them.

"We want to help alleviate any anxiety from the very beginning," he added.

GMH Military Housing is not a newcomer to the privatized military housing industry. They provide similar services for the Army installations of Fort Stewart/Hunter AAF, Ga., Fort Carson, Colo., Fort Detrick, Md., Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Wash., D.C., Fort Hamilton, N.Y., Fort Eustis, Va., Fort Story, Va., Fort Gordon, Ga., Fort Bliss, Texas, and White Sands Missile Range, N.M., along with 19 bases for the Navy and four Air Force bases.

NSPS Spiral 1 feds will not receive full '08 pay raise

Compiled by Irene Brown
Chief, Command Information

The roughly 110,000 federal employees who transitioned to the National Security Personnel System in Spiral 1 will not receive the January 2008 across-the-board pay increase.

This week, according to Pentagon officials, Defense

INSIDE



MSOC knocks off Air Force, page 17

Secretary Robert Gates made managers aware of a new policy that will change the way some employees receive the annual pay and cost-of-living increase, which they expect to be 3.5 percent for general schedule workers.

"The employees working under the NSPS Spiral 1 conversion will receive half of the 2008 pay increase as an adjustment to their base salary, provided they earn an acceptable performance rating," said NSPS spokeswoman Joyce Frank. "The other half of the pay increase will be added to performance pay pools and distributed based on performance."

Increases in local market supplements will be the same as the government-wide increases for locality pay.

"The department leadership has decided to take the next step toward

See PAY RAISE on page 3



Prussian Guards on the march

A Prussian militia re-enactment group from Potsdam, Germany arrives at West Point Monday to show off the battle drills of the Prussian guards under King Fredrick the First in 1726. The group displayed their skills at Daly Field here and were sponsored by the Department of Foreign Languages [German] and the History Department. Two members of the guard spoke in German and English, explaining the history of the guards.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

Captains now eligible for \$25K retention bonus

By Lt. Col. Maura Gillen

WASHINGTON [Army News Service] -- A critical skills-retention bonus of \$25,000 or more is available to more than 16,000 regular-Army captains who agree to remain on active duty beyond their initial active-duty service obligations.

The bonus is part of a "menu of incentives" targeting officers willing to remain on active duty an additional three years. The other incentives include graduate school, military schooling, branch or functional area transfer or post of choice.

"The incentives are aimed at retaining the incredible experience resident in the Army's company-grade officers. This program recognizes how important their

skills are as the Army strives to fill increased requirements in key grades and branches," said Col. Paul Aswell, officer division chief in the Directorate of Military Personnel Management, Army G-1.

Requirements for captains and majors have increased by nearly 6,000 since 2004, but the officer shortage is not the result of higher attrition, according to Aswell. In fact, company-grade officer retention now is at virtually the same level it was before Sept. 11, 2001.

He explained that the Army is growing to increase capabilities and reduce long-term stress and needs more mid-grade officers.

"It takes the Army 10 years to 'grow' a major," Aswell said. "To 'grow' the active officer force, we

must keep officers who in the past have left active service."

An earlier version of the plan unveiled in May was reviewed by senior leaders. The final plan increases the number of officers eligible for the bonus [up from 7,000], and includes a higher basic bonus [up from \$20,000] and targeted higher amounts for officers in critical branches.

The bonus is available to captains with dates of rank as of April 1, 2002 or later, based on the original accession branches listed below.

■ The basic \$25,000 bonus is available to officers who were originally commissioned in air defense, engineer, finance, signal, quartermaster, nurse corps and

See BONUS on page 3

Spouses need battle buddies, too

Commentary by Chelsea Iliff
Fort Huachuca Scout

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz. [Army News Service] -- Alone in a foreign country, in a new apartment, with no vehicle and no household goods, I was forced to make friends when my husband deployed to Iraq for the first time in October 2003.

We were stationed in Germany and he had been there a month before I was allowed to come. He deployed a little over 48 hours after I arrived and I didn't see my husband again for 10 months.

I believe good friends are critical in sustaining throughout a deployment. Just like our Soldiers, these friends become our battle buddies, our confidantes, our family.

While one can tell you where you'll find your closest friends or how to build your spouse network, it doesn't hurt to have a cookout with neighbors, attend family readiness group meetings, have coffee with co-workers or volunteer for a local organization.

A battle buddy is someone who truly experiences the difficulties of a deployment with you. This could be a family member or an old friend, but I've found the best

battle buddies are other spouses who live through the pain of war and separation alongside you.

I met my battle buddy while working for the education center on post. We conducted briefings back to back for weeks and finally met for coffee. Our husbands were friends and roommates in Iraq and this allowed us to experience the separation as a collective team.

Here are a few ways you and your battle buddies can get through a deployment together:

- Go out and travel! If you have kids, take them along. Because we were in Europe, my girlfriends and I experienced Christmas markets in Germany, pottery shopping in Poland, theatre-hopping in London and road-tripping through France and Switzerland. We had equal amounts of fun traveling in and around our small community. We went to the market and museums and theatres. There's a lot to do right around your doorstep.

- Volunteer for the local community club or other organizations. The [West Point Women's] Club hosts monthly luncheons and other fun events and is open to everyone in the community. You'll discover that this is a great way to build your spouse network.

- Grab a few friends and start a dinner group. Rotate hosting duties and enjoy weekly or monthly meetings. After dinner, let each person talk uninterrupted for 15 minutes. I got this idea when I attended the American Women's Activities in Germany annual conference in 2006. It's a very basic idea, but it allows you to share your feelings with your friends and in

turn, become a better listener.

- Exercise together. I'm not one who loves to hit the gym, but I do enjoy going for walks. Play tennis, play basketball, be creative. My battle buddy and I used to walk from our apartment downtown. We do a little shopping in the market and have breakfast. It was a great way to spend a day.

- Start a poker group or a bunco

group. Again, rotate houses and refreshments and get together for some fun. You will be surprised at how other spouses will jump at the opportunity to be involved with a group.

You don't need to do anything fancy or expensive to build your spouse network. Sometimes watching American Idol together or going to the movies may be all you and your battle buddy need to help each other through these long separations.

Find yourself a battle buddy and find yourself a friend for life.

SAPR-P

The members of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program are Col. Jeanette McMahan, Shelley Ariosto [Garrison], Maj. Maria Burger [USCC], Maj. Kim Kawamoto [ODIA] and Lt. Col. Robbie Williams [Dean]. Community members can e-mail McMahan at Jeanette.McMahan@usma.edu for advice or to offer any recommendations on the program here.

Cadets can also call the sexual assault support helpline at [845] 591-7215.

West Point Soldiers and civilians needing assistance can call [845] 938-3369.

Weekly Sudoku by Chris Okasaki, D/EECS

	6	4					9	2
				7	3		6	1
	3				1			
		5				2		
			6				4	
8	4		9	2				
9	5					3	7	

Rules: Fill in the empty cells with the digits 1-9 so that no

Difficulty: Hard

digit appears twice in the same row, column, or 3-by-3 box.

POINTER VIEW®

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Local and National News

Warrior Transition Unit headquarters open

By Sgt. 1st Class
Roger Jones
PAO NCOIC

The Warrior Transition Unit, West Point, officially opened its doors to Wounded Warriors and their family members during a ceremony held on the second floor of Bldg. 626 Wednesday.

The mission of the unit, according to company commander Capt. Nicholas Trerotola, is to provide command and control, primary care and case management to establish conditions for wounded Soldiers for healing and to promote the timely return to the force or transition to civilian life.

"On June 15, 2007, Warrior

PAY RAISE, cont. from page 1

a more robust pay-for-performance system," Frank said. "These decisions reinforce the department's commitment to the NSPS pay-for-performance system, which rewards and compensates employees based on performance."

The 90,000 employees transitioning into Spiral 2 will get the 2008 government-wide pay increase, since they will not have received an NSPS performance evaluation, Frank added.

Another change is expected in 2009, when the full government-wide increase will be allocated to the performance pay pools and distributed based on performance, Frank continued.

This year, all Spiral 1.1 employees with an acceptable performance rating received the full across-the-board pay increase of 2.2

BONUS, cont. from page 1

select medical service medical functional areas.

■ Officers commissioned in adjutant general, armor, chemical, military police and ordnance are eligible for a \$30,000 critical skills-retention bonus.

■ Officers commissioned in aviation, transportation, infantry, field artillery and military intelligence are eligible for a \$35,000 CSRB.

Aswell said he is confident that the new incentives will increase active-duty, company-grade officer-retention rates to historic levels.

"We've done a number of

Transition Units were established along with the triad of support consisting of a primary care manager, nurse case manager and squad leader," Trerotola said. "Our Soldiers became Warriors in Transition with a clear and distinct mission: 'I am a Warrior in Transition. My job is to heal as I transition back to duty or continue serving the nation as a veteran in my community.'"

According to Trerotola, if Warrior Transition Units appear to emerge with little or no difficulty, it's because of the hard work and dedication of places like Keller Army Community Hospital.

"Already serving as the destination of choice for military

percent. Employees with acceptable ratings were also awarded shares based on the average of their performance marks in several categories.

To calculate payouts under the new system, the department multiplies employees' base salaries by their ratings and adds the results to arrive at a "Total Salary Share Product." The pay pool is divided by the Total Salary Share Product to calculate the value of a single share. Shares are thus worth different amounts depending on how the rest of the employees in a pay pool performed.

The department plans to add an additional 90,000 non-bargaining unit employees to the personnel system in fiscal 2008. Eventually, the system is slated to encompass 700,000 civilian employees.

studies, including a very specific study on the value of a bonus to active-duty officers," he said. "We're confident that the incentives we're offering will make a difference to those junior officers we really want to keep on active duty."

Additional CSRB information can be found in Military Personnel message 07-237, available through an Army Knowledge online portal at U.S. Army Human Resources Command.

[Editor's Note: Gillen works for the Army Human Resources Command.]

medical care in the Northeast region, as well as housing the Army Medical Department's premiere Orthopedic Sports Medicine Center of Excellence, Keller assumed the regional command and control responsibility for managing Warriors in Transition throughout New York, New Jersey and New England," Trerotola said. "Soldiers from Keller have been reassigned and civilian staff hired to form the cadre of the WTU, which is now actively engaged in taking care of our Warriors in Transition."

Although the hospital played a key role in getting the organization up and running, there were other organizations/units that assisted as well, Trerotola added.

"The West Point garrison command staff has provided exceptional support in standing up the WTU," he said. "We have them to thank for this beautiful



Col. Norvell Coots [left], KACH CO; Col. Dan Bruno, WP GC; Brig. Gen. Michael Tucker, deputy commander of NARMC and Capt. Nicholas Trerotola, WTU CO.

JOHN PELLINO/
DOIM MMB

headquarters building we are opening today. From planning, designing and renovating the space, to ensuring automation connectivity, barracks renovations and establishing a Soldier-Family Assistance Center, the garrison has risen to the challenge.

"We wouldn't be where we are today without West Point assistance," Trerotola said.

Warrior Transition Unit contact info.

Bldg. 626, Swift Road, 2nd Floor West Point, N.Y.

[845] 938-0264
[Fax] [845] 938-0286

Federal health premiums to rise slightly in 2008

WASHINGTON [Govexec.com] -- Premiums for the federal employee health plan will rise by an average of 2.1 percent overall in 2008, a minimal increase from last year.

The portion of that overall premium paid by the government will rise 1.7 percent while the part contributed by enrollees will grow 2.9 percent. For individual enrollees in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, this will translate to paying an extra \$1.58 every two weeks for a total of \$59.69. Those with family plans will pay an additional \$4.11 for a total of \$135.13, on average.

Under FEHBP, enrollees choose from among 283 separate providers, so the actual premium increase will depend on the provider. Office of Personnel Management Director Linda Springer said in a news conference Sept. 13 that 32 percent of enrollees will experience an increase of less than 5 percent, and 91 percent of enrollees will get an increase of less than 10 percent.

"Obviously, 2.1 is an average," Springer said. "There are some that are higher, some that are lower. But overall, people will see single digit increases, by and large, in their premiums."

One of the reasons for the relatively small increase this year was the use of reserve funds, which are taken from participants' premiums each year and saved to cover unexpected medical costs.

But Springer indicated that the reserve funds were not used as liberally as last year to keep costs down.

Despite the low average increase in premiums, the National Treasury Employees Union noted that the Blue Cross Blue Shield plan will go up by 8.5 percent. Nearly 60 percent of FEHBP enrollees are in Blue Cross Blue Shield.

"With more than four million people in the Blue Cross plan, this is a rate hike of staggering impact," said NTEU President Colleen M. Kelley.

The average premium increase for vision in the federal employee program for 2008 will be 0.7 percent, Springer said. But the average premium increase for dental benefits will rise by 6.1 percent, largely because MetLife's offering increased by 9 percent, putting it more in line with the other plans, she said.

FEHBP also will offer 32 high-deductible choices next year, an increase from the 29 available in 2007. HDHPs include health savings accounts and feature lower monthly premiums than traditional plans, in exchange for higher annual deductibles. Thus far, enrollment in such plans is low, with more than 9,000 enrolled in HDHPs and about 19,000 enrolled in consumer-driven health plans.

But enrollment in HDHPs next year may creep up under a pilot project being launched by

Blue Cross Blue Shield. Under the carrier's basic plan, HDHPs will be available in Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota, Ohio and Tennessee in 2008. Employee groups have lobbied against the offering of HDHPs, arguing that such plans could result in higher premiums and reduced benefits for employees and retirees enrolled in more comprehensive, traditional offerings.

Meanwhile, some new benefits will be added to the federal program next year, including an offering by some plans to provide hearing benefits for children up to age 22. Many plans also are providing preventive care benefits, such as screenings and immunizations, OPM said.

Nancy Kichak, associate

director for strategic human resources policy at OPM, said 14 plans dropped out of the federal employee program for 2008, which will require more than 29,000 employees to enroll in a new plan. Thirteen new plans have entered the program, she said.

The average increase in 2007 for premiums in the federal employee program was significantly lower than the industry average, according to a new survey by the Kaiser Family Foundation and Health Research and Educational Trust.

The average increase in premiums for industry-sponsored plans stood at 6.1 percent in 2007, the survey found. In contrast, the reported average increase for FEHBP premiums was 1.6 percent, according to OPM. About

63 percent of enrollees in the federal program had no increase in premiums for 2007, and another 15 percent got increases of less than 5 percent.

"We don't know what 2008 will be," Springer said, "but if history is any kind of indicator, we expect that we will continue to compare favorably and federal employees will continue to experience a smaller percent increase in their premiums than what their counterparts outside the federal plan will experience."

Federal employees and retirees can change their health insurance plans during the open season, which will run from Nov. 12 to Dec. 10. Employees wishing to continue use of a flexible spending account will need to re-enroll.

Traffic, parking message for Downing rehearsals, funeral

Submitted by DPTMS
Force Protection Office

The following parking and traffic measures will be in effect for the rehearsals for the funeral of retired Gen. Wayne Downing Tuesday and Wednesday and the actual funeral Thursday.

Tuesday and Wednesday -- Full Dress Rehearsals

Military Police Traffic Control Points will be in place from 2:30 p.m. until approximately 4 p.m., at the following locations:

Mills Road and Stony Lonesome Road intersection -- all traffic going down Stony Lonesome Road must use Delafield Road or Mills Road.

Schofield and Stony Lonesome intersection -- all traffic exiting Schofield must turn left.

Washington Road at the Ruger Road intersection [vicinity of Qtrs. 102] -- all traffic moving toward Washington Gate will be diverted down Ruger Road.

Vehicles traveling east on Merritt Road must turn up Delafield Road as Merritt will be closed from Delafield Road to Stony Lonesome Road.

All traffic leaving the Clinton and Doubleday Lots must turn right and use Thayer Gate if leaving the installation.

Thursday: Funeral

TCPs will be in place from 2:30 p.m. until approximately 4 p.m., at the following locations:

Mills Road and Stony Lonesome

Road intersection -- all traffic traveling down Stony Lonesome Road must use Delafield Road or Mills Road.

Schofield and Stony Lonesome intersection -- all traffic exiting Schofield must turn left.

Washington Road at the Ruger Road intersection [vicinity of Qtrs. 102] -- all traffic moving toward Washington Gate will be diverted down Ruger Road.

Vehicles traveling east on Merritt Road must turn up Delafield Road as Merritt will be closed from Delafield Road to Stony Lonesome Road.

All traffic leaving the Clinton and Doubleday Lots must turn right and use Thayer Gate if leaving the installation.

Ruger Road will be closed at the intersection of Hardee Place -- all traffic exiting buildings 681, 685 and 687 must turn left onto Ruger Road and use Thayer Gate if leaving the installation.

Washington Road will be closed from the Barry Road intersection

[vicinity West Point Elementary School] to the Stony Lonesome intersection. Traffic moving from the east toward the central area must use Buckner Hill Road to Merritt Road.

Once the procession has arrived at the cemetery, Stony Lonesome Road will be open for traffic.

Parking:

Beginning at 10 p.m., Wednesday night, the following areas will be reserved for ceremony parking:

■ Seventy-five slots in the Fitness Center Lot [K Lot]

■ All slots on DeRussy Road in front of the Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center

■ The entire Band and Uniform Factory parking lots [Buildings 685 and 687].

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AT VMULLANE@POUGHKEE.GANNETT.COM.

Defense holds off rolling out controversial new NSPS rules

WASHINGTON [Fed Times] -- The Defense Department says it will not roll out new rules for handling disciplinary actions and labor-management disputes, as had been planned under the new National Security Personnel System [NSPS] -- at least for now.

Union leaders have been worried that the department would push forward with the new rules, which were upheld in an appeals

court ruling but continue to face stiff opposition from unions and an uncertain future in Congress.

In a Sept. 11 update to its Web site, the department said it has "no plans to implement the adverse actions, appeals and labor relations portions of NSPS at this time."

Richard Brown, president of the National Federation of Federal Employees, said the Pentagon likely is holding off until Congress

completes its work on the fiscal 2008 Defense authorization bill. The House version of the bill would prevent the department from curbing employees' collective bargaining rights or overhauling the process used to appeal adverse or disciplinary actions.

"I believe they are doing the right thing in holding off implementation for a while," Brown said in a statement. "It

would be unfair to make collective bargaining agreements null and void when restoration of bargaining rights is very likely to be restored by Congress in coming months. Waiting to see how the legislation pans out is the responsible thing to do."

The House measure would not prevent the Pentagon from transferring employees from the General Schedule to a performance-

based pay system, although the Pentagon first would have to negotiate terms of such a move with unions.

The Pentagon said it has no plans to move any union employees into NSPS in 2008. The department plans to move 90,000 non-union employees into the system next year, however, which would bring the total number of employees under the new pay rules to 200,000. Ultimately, the system could cover roughly 650,000 employees.

New blood donor regs redefine who can give

By **Gerry Gilmore**
American Forces
Press Service

The Defense Department is changing its military blood-donation regulations to allow for a wider spectrum of civilian donors.

Current department rules only permit blood donations from service members, Defense Department civilians, retirees and their family members, Navy Cmdr. Michael Libby, the director of the Armed Services Blood Program Office, told American Forces Press Service and Pentagon Channel reporters.

The new policy will enable non-Defense Department-affiliated civilians to donate blood through the Armed Services Blood Program at collection points located on DOD or other federal property, Libby explained.

The policy change, slated to become effective later this month, will address concerns of veterans who aren't military retirees, but nonetheless want to donate blood for the troops, Libby said. The change also should facilitate the collection of rare type AB blood plasma, a blood type that's

possessed by about 3 to 4 percent of the U.S. population.

The Armed Services Blood Program Office purchases more than 100 units, or pints, of AB blood plasma each week, Libby said. The policy change, he added, should also result in the military having increased availability of blood products derived from the rare AB blood type.

Commentary that appeared in Ohio and North Carolina publications had criticized the military's current blood-collection policy, noting it was overly restrictive toward many civilians wanting to give blood.

After the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States, Walter Reed Army Medical Center established several off-campus blood-collection sites, including one at the Pentagon, said Lt. Col. Francisco Rentas, the chief of Walter Reed's blood services department.

The military also maintains several other large blood-collection sites across the United States, Rentas said.

"If you're eligible to donate to the Armed Services Blood Program, we can always use you," Rentas said.

There is plenty of blood available for overseas-deployed service members in Afghanistan and Iraq, said Navy Cmdr. Brian Williamson, the director of the Navy's blood program, who also served a tour of duty as the joint blood program officer in Qatar.

Military units deployed in the thick of fighting have to travel light and just carry a modest inventory of blood that's used for treating service members injured on the

battlefield, Williamson said. That's why some injured service members receive on-the-spot blood donations from their "battle buddies," he explained.

Williamson said he knows of cases where some battlefield-wounded troops received as much as 30 pints of blood from their comrades.

Quick-coagulating blood platelets that can slow the rate of bleeding are now being provided to smaller, forward-deployed units, Williamson said.

WP Yard Sale force protection

Submitted by **DPTMS**

West Point will initiate the following measures Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., in support of the West Point Yard Sale:

West Point residents and guests can expect increased traffic flow throughout the installation during the yard sale and are reminded to remain cautious while driving in the housing areas due to the increased amount of vehicle and foot traffic.

There will be an increase in Military Police patrols in the housing areas.

In accordance with Force Protection directives, all vehicles entering post without the proper identification will be searched. Drivers with DOD stickers and either the CAC or military ID card may want to enter through Washington Gate to avoid possible lines during the morning rush of shoppers.

Residents are reminded to remain vigilant and report any

suspicious individuals or acts observed such as persons taking atypical photographs or asking abnormal questions about the installation Military Police Desk [938-3333] immediately.

The point of contact for the above information is Joe Senger at 938-8859.

Community Features and Photos

Cadet Hostess is 'Miss Manners' to cadets

By Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

Members of the U.S. Corps of Cadets experience a grueling academic and physical schedule during their four-year career learning how to be leaders. They also undergo a different kind of training with the Cadet Hostess -- social development training that includes etiquette and military protocol training.

Jane Jollota, the Directorate of Cadet Activities' new Cadet Hostess, said cadets come to West Point from all walks of life and from different countries. Since there are many diverse backgrounds and not everyone knows the rules of Army etiquette, her job is to make cadets feel comfortable and become confident in any social situation.

"Cadets are involved in a number of different events and social functions, from traveling to a foreign country to going to dinner at their sponsor's house and they need to know the proper etiquette and protocol associated with these events," Jollota said. "Since our society has become so casual, we sometimes forget the importance of doing things more formally.

"It's more common for families to open the pizza box around the television than to sit down and eat dinner together," she added.

Jollota said she strives to make her class interesting to the Corps.

"It's not the most exciting subject to teach, so I try to make it fun," she added. "It is something that every future officer will need to know."

Jollota has help in the teaching of the genteel arts. Lt. Col. James Flowers, Director of Cadet Activities and a former military attaché, also brings his expertise to the "table," assisting in some of the etiquette training. He has also worked under the auspices of USMA Dean, Brig. Gen. Patrick

Finnegan, to prepare potential scholarship recipients in the areas of social development that will aid them when they attend scholarship selection boards. The Finnegan's open their home to these cadets, putting this training into a true social environment.

Working closely with the cadet class reps to help make a major event happen Jollota said she believes the positive response she receives from the cadets is proof they are eager to learn. She schools them in their roles of escorting dignitaries and guests and ensures that an event runs smoothly, often working closely with Cadet Programs, another section in DCA.

Jollota, a USMA '83 grad, is a retired aviator who brings a wealth of military experience to her job. Her co-worker, Kathy Keirse, whose husband and two sons are also USMA grads, brings her extensive knowledge to the Hostess Office, too.

One program Jollota is working to grow is cadet ballroom dance lessons. Because of the Corps' make-up, she sometimes needs volunteers to act as partners for the cadets and is compiling a list of interested people from the community on whom she may call, should the need arise.

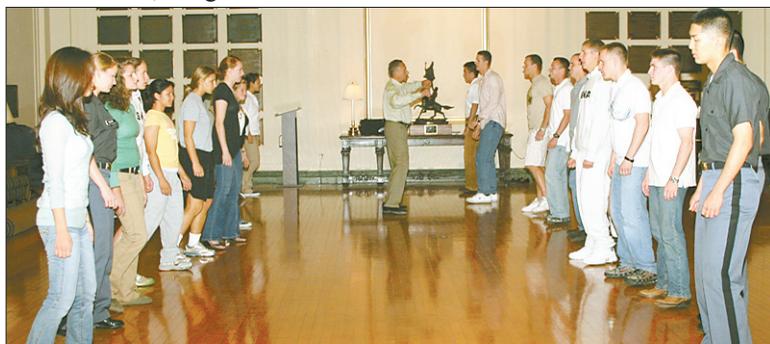
One-hour long ballroom dancing lessons, some American ballroom and some salsa, are held at Cullum Hall on Mondays and Tuesdays beginning at both 7:30 and 8:30 p.m. The first classes started this week and will continue for six weeks followed by another six-week session starting in late October.

If you are interested in volunteering, call 938-4681/3104. If you have any questions about the Cadet Hostess Office, call or go to their DCA Web site at www.usma.edu/dca/hostess.



Fourth class cadets Caroline Spencer [left] and Vinhkhang Do were among 20 cadets taking their first American ballroom dance class Tuesday. The Mon. and Tues. beginner classes will learn the fox trot, rumba, cha-cha and swing during the six-week course.

PHOTOS BY LINDA MASTIN/PV

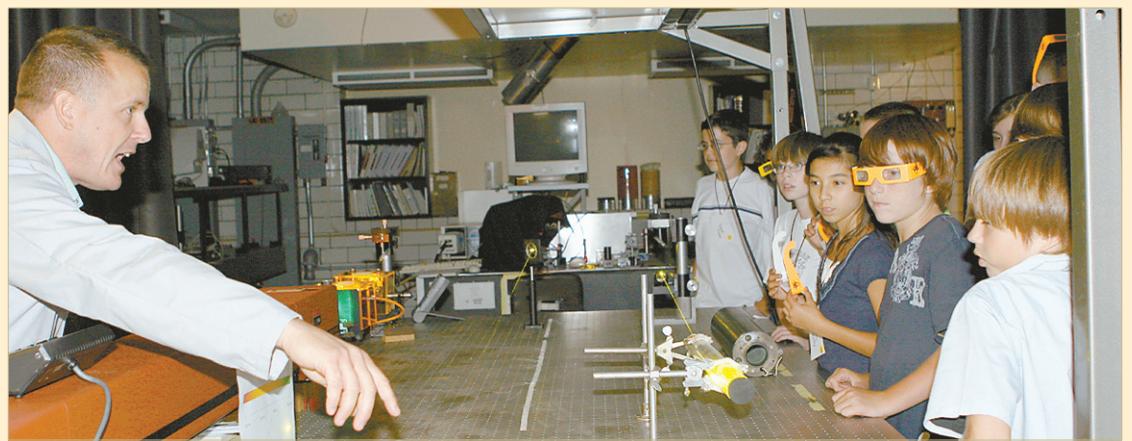


The beginner ballroom dancing class learns fox trot basics.



Cadets lead Von Steuben parade

The Cadet German Club led the procession of 250 German-American cultural groups down 5th Avenue during the 50th annual Baron Frederick Wilhelm Von Steuben parade in New York City Saturday. PHOTO BY CADET 3RD CLASS BENJAMIN BACKSMEIER



WPMS students visit Physics Dept.

Lieutenant Colonel John Ingram, an Asst. Professor in the Chemistry department, explains the different colored lasers to West Point Middle School children Sept. 12 in Bartlett Hall's Photonics Research Center. Ingram demonstrated the strength of a laser that could burn through paper within a few seconds. The children also toured Photonics, were given lessons on optical science and offered a series of demonstrations designed to excite their interest in physics and science. KATHY EASTWOOD/PV



Spc. Harvey Hatcher



Staff Sgt. Jermaine Malone

BOSS Awards

West Point Garrison Commander, Col. Dan Bruno, awarded the Presidential Volunteer Silver Service Award, Sept. 12, to the West Point Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers chapter. He also presented Achievement Awards for Outstanding Services to the Honor Guard's Spc. Harvey Hatcher and the Band's Staff Sgt. Jermaine Malone. U.S. Military Academy Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Bergman presented coins to the BOSS volunteers of the month for August: Spc. Shedeem Stephens, DENTAC; Spc. Darrell Harris, DENTAC; Sgt. Daniel Pickering, SJA; Spc. Christopher Self, Chaplain; Spc. Rachael Cassidy, Chaplain; Malone, Hatcher and Spc. Tanya Davila, Garrison HQ.

PHOTOS BY VINNIE GUARIGLIA/DOIM MMB AND JIM FOX/PV

Antiterrorism whirlwind

Story and photos by Eric S. Bartelt Sports Editor

A submerged vehicle at Lake Frederick, a gunshot victim at Camp Shea and a hostage situation at West Point Middle School were all part of a comprehensive Antiterrorism/Force Protection Exercise Sept. 14-15 here.

Interagency operability is important to successfully standing down possible terrorist or hostage threats, and U.S. Military Academy personnel were joined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation – New York Division, the New York State Police and local police departments to manage the two-day crisis scenario.

Unlike years past, the U.S. Military Academy was not the lead player in the exercise. The FBI put together a complex series of situations that helped all facets of their operations and their partners from the state, local and Department of Defense.

“This is the single most ambitious field training exercise ever performed by a field office of the FBI,” said Mark Mershon, Assistant Director in Charge of the FBI N.Y. Division, one of 56 FBI field divisions across the country. “We are tasked to the limit to employ our crisis management

team and all of our component resources.”

Mershon oversees 2,000 FBI personnel and 500 task force officers -- to include federal, state and local officers affiliated with them -- in the FBI's flagship operation.

Approximately 350 FBI employees participated in FTX Spartan Response and they were joined by 250 personnel from the state, local and DOD.

The ambitious scenarios included many components of the FBI such as SWAT, Evidence Response Team, Underwater Search Evidence Response Team, Crisis Negotiation Team, Special Agent Bomb Technicians and the Rapid Deployment Team.

West Point was the perfect location for the FBI to do its exercise because it offered many different training opportunities and also for the simple fact that West Point is a federal installation.

“West Point is a great place to do this because the FBI would have purview over a major incident,” said James Gagliano, Crisis Management Coordinator and Supervisory Special Agent. “However, we also recognize that we're not going to be the Calvary that's going to get here in the first 10-to-15 minutes, or the ‘Golden Hours’ as we call it in crisis management, it's going to



A member of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Underwater Search Evidence Response Team watches a car get pulled from Lake Frederick as part of evidence gathering during FTX Spartan Response. This is the first Antiterrorism/Force Protection Exercise led by the FBI at West Point.

be the folks here that will have to initiate first contact.

“It's a good opportunity to work and exchange some trade secrets for best practice and there isn't a better place, from my perspective, to do something that has this kind of venue support,” he added. “Down in New York City, I can't replicate two separate lakes [Lake Frederick and Lake Popolopen], I can't do air operations and I wouldn't have the entire infrastructure that I needed to do it.”

Gagliano, who is a 1987 USMA graduate, said these wide-ranging scenarios greatly help each of their components that have been involved in many real world situations, both foreign and domestic, to include the recent bridge collapse in Minneapolis, the bombing of the USS Cole and 9/11.

“Some of our folks were out in Minneapolis working with the

Navy, which again is another important relationship between the military and the FBI,” Gagliano explained. “[Our evidence teams] are trained in preserving evidence whether it's post blast, whether it's an explosion of a boat and there's evidence underwater that needs to be recovered safely.

“We obviously don't want to lose any lives while going down to do one of these recoveries,” Gagliano added, “but we also must preserve the evidence so we can make cases against the people who do these things.”

The first day of the exercise primarily was FBI driven, but the second day involved West Point personnel in the West Point Middle School hostage scenario.

With school shootings at Columbine and Virginia Tech still fresh in everyone's memories, a Military Police Special Reaction

Team -- which exercises about 5-to-6 times a year, according to Department of Emergency Services Director Lt. Col. Robert Brown -- got to practice their skills with the FBI in a hostage scenario at the school.

Colonel Dan Bruno, West Point Garrison Commander, feels it's a critically important venture and the partnership with the outside agencies, including the FBI, and these complicated scenarios help the Military Police and other West Point personnel prepare for any possible real-world situation.

“The ability to make a split-second decision, to know when to go in, when to fire [your weapon], when to alter fire ... those are things that are most complicated,” Bruno said.

There are critical moments in any hostage situation, especially those first 15 ‘golden’ minutes, and Bruno believes the MPs are well prepared, especially with their experiences in the field.

“They're exceptionally well prepared and they have to be because they are the first responders,” Bruno said. “It will take a while for any assistance to get here and they are going to be the ones that will make a difference, make or break that situation.

“I look at the number of combat veterans we have and the experience that we had [Sept. 15] during the operations,” he added, “and I'm confident that these young men and women can handle any situation that would happen.”

Mershon, who is very appreciative of the Superintendent for allowing the use of academy grounds and the active partnership of academy personnel and the New York State Police was quite pleased with his office's performance after assessing how the exercise went.

“Given the fact that this is the first most ambitious effort ever undertaken, I'm very pleasantly surprised to see how disciplined, practiced and schooled we are,” Mershon stated. “We are on time, injury free and things proceeded with the highest expectations realized.”

single most ambitious effort ever undertaken, I'm very pleasantly surprised to see how disciplined, practiced and schooled we are,” Mershon stated. “We are on time, injury free and things proceeded with the highest expectations realized.”



Members of the FBI's Underwater Search Evidence Response Team work to pull a car out of Lake Frederick.



West Point Military Police, FBI SWAT and New York State Police Mobile Response Team head into the West Point Middle School to handle a hostage situation during FTX Spartan Response.



A member of the FBI Evidence Response Team [right] rappels down a cliff to get to a dead body at Camp Shea.

Antiterrorism/Force Protection training exercise first of many

Submitted by DPTMS

The Antiterrorism/Force Protection Training Exercise conducted Sept. 14 and 15 focused on improving our response and outside agency assistance to an on-post crisis situation. This training is intended to improve West Point's Force Protection and emergency readiness.

In support of the AT/FP exercise, FPCON measures were

raised during the evening of Sept. 14.

The measures focused on Installation Access Control Points [Thayer, Stony and Washington Gates] to assess the ability of the Contract Security Guards to execute their tasks, as well as to vary our security routines.

West Point personnel are reminded that in the future FPCON measures will be implemented not only at the Installation Access

Control Points but across the installation as we continue to be proactive in the Global War on Terrorism.

Remember that you are the first line of defense against terrorism, be aware of your surroundings and report any suspicious individuals or acts either on post or in close proximity immediately to the Military Police Desk at 938-3333.

Keller Corner

Free Developmental Screening

Not all children develop the same way. If you have any questions regarding child development or are concerned that your child may show some signs of a developmental delay [speech, motor, behavior, problem solving or social skills] please join us for our free developmental screening at the CDC.

The screening will be held Oct. 18 from 8:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m., in conjunction with audiology, EDIS, and West Point School for children birth to 5 years old who live at West Point or attend the CDC.

By appointment only -- call to schedule at 938-6868/2698.

KACH Closure

All Outpatient Clinics, Laboratory, Pharmacy and Radiology will be closed Oct. 8.

The emergency room will remain open.

Immunizations

Please be advised that there continues to be a nationwide shortage of both Hepatitis A and the Varicella [Chicken-pox] vaccines.

Please call the Immunizations Clinic prior to coming in for these immunizations to ensure they are available.

For further information, contact the Immunization Clinic at 938-8476.

Wheelies a No Go

For your safety wheeled sneakers are prohibited in Keller Army Community Hospital.

TRICARE Enrollment

When you arrive at West Point don't forget to visit the Highland Falls TRICARE Office at 273 Main St. and enroll yourself and family beneficiaries into TRICARE

Prime at Keller Army Community Hospital. A TRICARE Customer Service Representative is also available on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. until noon at the KACH front desk in the lobby area.

All Active Duty Personnel need to complete the necessary paperwork to be assigned a Primary Care Provider.

Childbirth preparation classes

[Four-week series] Tuesdays 6 to 8 p.m., starting Oct. 30 in KACH's second floor classroom.

Call OBU at 938-3210 to register.

Clinical Breast Study

Women ages 30 to 45 with military benefits are invited to participate in an ongoing clinical breast study, to test a new non-invasive scanning device for its ability to identify young women who may be at risk for breast cancer.

Contact Joyce Epstein-Ross,

FNP, at [845] 938-8387.

Her office is located at the second floor OB/GYN clinic at KACH.

Referral Assistance

Need help or have questions about a referral? Call 938-5373 for

referral help.

Appointments

If you are unable to make a scheduled appointment, please inform the clinic immediately so that the appointment can be offered to another beneficiary.



Interactive Customer Evaluation

ANSWERS

Thanks to all of you for your comments and concerns about the services that you receive at West Point.

ISSUE: Where can community members find AAFES and the Commissary services on the ICE Web site?

RESPONSE: These services can be found by clicking on the Shopping and Services category. Also, services offered by AAFES such as the Barber Shop, Beauty Salon, etc., can be found by using the AAFES Ice comment card and selecting the appropriate service you are evaluating.

If you have issues finding information or have any questions about the ICE Web site, call Bryan McDowell at 938-4277 or send in a Site comment through the ICE Web site at <http://ice.disa.mil> [remember to leave your contact information]. You will receive a response within 24-48 hours.

<http://ice.disa.mil/>.

RCI questions?

Go to www.westpointfamilyhousing.com

Take the resident survey.
Visit the Q&A section.

Town Hall meeting

Oct. 2, 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Grand Ballroom,
West Point Club

Solution to Weekly Sudoku

3	6	4	5	1	8	7	9	2
5	2	9	4	7	3	8	6	1
1	8	7	2	9	6	5	3	4
2	3	6	8	4	1	9	5	7
4	1	5	7	3	9	2	8	6
7	9	8	6	5	2	1	4	3
6	7	1	3	8	5	4	2	9
8	4	3	9	2	7	6	1	5
9	5	2	1	6	4	3	7	8

What's Happening

Privately owned weapons ranges

In preparation for the big game season, West Point Range Control will host Privately Owned Weapons Ranges for military, military retirees, USMA staff and faculty, DOD employees and their Family members at Range 5 across from Round Pond on N.Y. Route 293 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. today, Oct. 5, Oct. 19, Nov. 2 and Nov. 9.

All personnel must have appropriate identification.

Personnel under 18 years old must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Participants are reminded they must provide their own targets and are responsible for removing brass and debris from the range complex.

Higher Ground

The Higher Ground men's ministry is hosting its 2007 camping retreat today beginning at 4 p.m. and ending Saturday at 4 p.m., at Round Pond Rec. area.

Call Rod Roederer at 938-4753 or Tony Johnson at 938-8137 for more info.

Hispanic Heritage Festival

The West Point community is invited to the annual Hispanic Heritage Festival tonight from 5 to 9 p.m., at Eisenhower Hall's Riverside Cafe.

There will be free food, Latin music, dancing, live performances and more.

Call 938-2621/8456 for more info.

Fall Yard Sale

The West Point Fall post Yard Sale is Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be no pick up of donated items after the event as in years past.

The rain date is Oct. 20.

CAC meeting Monday

The next Community Action Council meeting is Monday at 9:30 a.m., in the Jewish Chapel Conference room.

The event is open to the public.

MS4 briefing Monday

The Municipal Separate Storm Water Sewer System [MS4], will be presenting its status and upcoming events at the Community Action Council's monthly meeting Monday.

We encourage the West Point community to come out and provide any input they have about the program.

Cannon practice

The Military Police Honor Guard will hold cannon firing practice at North Dock Tuesday, beginning at 9:30 a.m., for 30 minutes.

The practices are in preparation for Gen. Wayne Downing's funeral here Thursday.

Book signing

The USMA Bookstore will host a book signing by author Denzil Garrison's of his book "Honor Restored" Sept. 28 from 9:30 to

11:45 a.m.

Ski/snow board instructors needed

Ski and snow board instructors are needed for Victor Constant Ski Slope. Training and benefits are available.

Call or e-mail Bob Ryan before Oct. 1 at 938-7817 or 446-3908.

Moms and Tots

Moms and Tots are hosting "Apples" storytime with crafts and lots of fun Sept. 28 from 9:30 to 11 a.m., at Youth Services, Bldg. 500.

Call Allyson Houston, 859-4221 for more information.

Arvin CPDC locker renewal

Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center is conducting their annual renewal of the staff and faculty lockers through the end of the month.

A yellow locker renewal slip will be placed inside each assigned locker. Occupants need to fill out the yellow slip and return it to the front desk no later than Sept. 30.

Failure to comply by this date will result in the loss of your assigned locker.

Red Cross tailgate

The American Red Cross in

Greater New York - Putnam/West Point will host a tailgate Sept. 29 prior to the Army-Temple football game.

The event will run from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., in front of the ARC/GNY-Putnam/West Point area office, Bldg. 2104, near the Visitor's Center in Highland Falls.

Call [845] 938-4100 for ticket information.

Anthony Severo 5K Run/Walk

The 2nd Annual Cadet Anthony Severo 5K Run/Walk will be held Sept. 30 at the Parkland High School Cross Country Course in Allentown, Pa.

For more info., contact Larry Severo [610] 398-3296 or e-mail severoel@aol.com.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. and the race begins at 11 a.m.

All proceeds will benefit Students Against Destructive Decisions and the Parkland Wrestling Scholar Athlete scholarship fund.

PWOC

The Protestant Women of the Chapel present the program "How to do everything quicker, easier, cheaper, better and smarter" Oct. 10 from 8:45 to 11 a.m., and Oct. 11 from 7 to 9 p.m.

Call 446-3283 for more info.



Black and Gold awardees

Black and Gold awardees for the month of September were Cathy Bridges [left], Eileen Carver, Lynn Halterman, Julie Horton and Marilee Turner. Horton was named the Volunteer of the month for September.

BEV COOPER/DOIM MMB

NOW SHOWING

in the movie theater at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

FRIDAY -- THE SIMPSONS MOVIE, PG-13, 7:30 P.M.

SATURDAY -- RUSH HOUR 3, PG-13, 7:30 P.M.

SATURDAY -- I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU CHUCK & LARRY, PG-13, 9:30 P.M.

SEPT. 28 -- THE SIMPSONS MOVIE, PG-13, 7:30 P.M.

SEPT. 29 -- THE INVASION, PG-13, 7:30 P.M.

SEPT. 29 -- WAR, R, 9:30 P.M.

THE THEATER SCHEDULE CAN ALSO BE FOUND AT WWW.AAFES.COM.

MWR Blurbs

AFAP Steering Committee

The Commander's AFAP Steering Committee meeting will be held today from 1 to 4 p.m., in the Jewish Chapel Social Hall.

The AFAP Steering Committee reviews select AFAP issues, monitors the progress of issues and provides guidance through issue resolution.

This meeting is open to the public.

The Annual AFAP Conference will be held Oct. 23-24 at the West Point Club.

Issues can be submitted anonymously on the Web site: www.westpointmwr.com.

Contact Jen Pagio, ACS, at

[845] 938-3655 for more info., or if you are interested in participating as a delegate, facilitator or recorder.

DOD Stewardship

The West Point Recycle Program and MWR are hosting a DOD Land Stewardship Day at Round Pond Rec Area Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The event will focus on the beautification of the Nature Trail and surrounding area. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, adults and children of all ages are invited to volunteer.

Join us for a cookout at noon. Volunteers should bring a side dish of their choice.

For more details and to register, call 938-2503.

Discover the scenic trails at Round Pond. Relax at Bonneville Cabin with an Oktoberfest-style cookout. Browse local food, jewelry and craft vendors.

For more info., call 938-2503.

AFAP issue submission boxes

Help improve the Army's future and quality of life -- make plans to attend the Army Family Action Plan Conference, Oct. 23-24 at the West Point Club.

The Teen Conference is Oct. 20 at the Youth Center.

Submit issues online at www.westpointmwr.com or via issue boxes at the following locations: PX, Commissary, Shopette, Grant Hall, West Point Library, Fitness Center, Child Development Center,

Youth Center, Five Star Inn and Keller Army Hospital.

Issues must be received by Oct. 1. Volunteers are needed.

For more info., or to volunteer, call 938-3655.

MWR Fitness Center classes

Boot Camp -- Wed., 5 p.m. and Oct. 3, 9 a.m.

Intro. to Strength Training for Women -- Four one-hour classes [Oct. 2, 4, 9, 11].

Register at the Fitness Center or call 938-6490.

ITR

Tickets are now on sale at ITR [Bldg. 695] for the Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular, Dec. 3, 4 and 11. For more info.,

please call 938-3601.

BOSS Poker tournament

There will be a BOSS Poker Tournament, Sept. 28, from 6:30 to 11 p.m., at the Buffalo Soldier Pavilion. The event is free and open to the West Point Community. Prizes for 1st and 2nd place winners.

For more info., call 938-3812.

Pre-school story hour

The West Point Post Library will begin the fall pre-school story hour Oct. 16. The sessions are held every Tuesday at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., and are open to all community children ages 3-5. Pre-registration will be required on a weekly basis. Call 938-2974, or stop by the library in Bldg. 622 for details.

Command Channel 8/23

Sept. 21 - Sept. 28

FRIDAY

8:30 A.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH
1 P.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH
6 P.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY

8:30 A.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH
9 A.M. CFC 2007 VIDEO
1 P.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH
1:30 P.M. CFC 2007 VIDEO
6 P.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH
6:30 P.M. CFC 2007 VIDEO

THURSDAY

8:30 A.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH
9 A.M. CFC 2007 VIDEO
1 P.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH
1:30 P.M. CFC 2007 VIDEO
2 P.M. GEN. DOWNING SERVICE
6 P.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH
6:30 P.M. CFC 2007 VIDEO

SEPT. 28

8 A.M. CFC 2007 VIDEO
8:30 A.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH
NOON CFC 2007 VIDEO
1 P.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH
3 P.M. CFC 2007 VIDEO
6 P.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH
7 P.M. CFC 2007 VIDEO

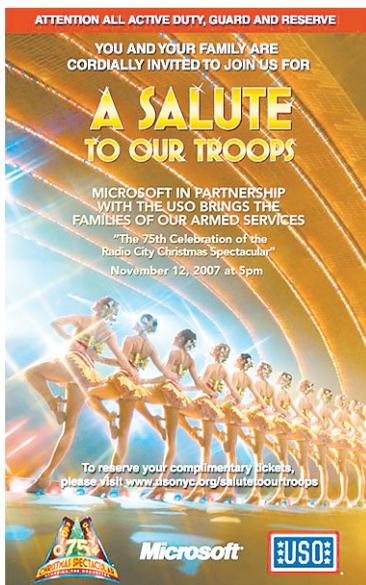
Combined Arms Tailgate

The entire West Point Community is invited to attend the Combined Arms Tailgate Sept. 29 at Howze Field, immediately following the home football game. Pay at the door. Admission includes food and drink. For more info., contact your branch rep or call 938-4307.

Round Pond

There will be a Fall Festival and Volksmarch, Sept. 30 at the Bonneville Cabin at Round Pond Rec Area.

Registration is 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Volksmarch ends at 6 p.m.



EISENHOWER HALL THEATRE

SEPT. 23 -- LA BOHÈME, WASHINGTON NATIONAL OPERA SIMULCAST [FREE ADMISSION!]

SEPT. 30 -- THE GREAT CHINA ACROBATS

NOV. 3 -- AL JARREAU

FOR MORE INFO., GO TO WWW.IKEHALL.COM.

Army and Community Sports

Army looks to tame BC offensive juggernaut

By Eric S. Bartelt
Sports Editor

Army [1-2] heads to Chestnut Hill, Mass., Saturday to face #12 ranked [*USA Today*] Boston College, who are 3-0 to start off the 2007 season.

The Black Knights will face their most formidable opponent of the year as the Eagles come off a 24-10 win over #15-ranked [last week's *USA Today* ranking] Georgia Tech. The Eagles also defeated Wake Forest in their opener and then downed North Carolina State.

Senior quarterback Matt Ryan leads the Boston College attack and has completed 59.2 percent of his passes for 985 yards and seven touchdowns in three games. He torched the Yellow Jackets last

weekend for 434 yards passing and a touchdown.

Army head football coach Stan Brock said this will be quite a challenge for his team and it will be hard to contain Ryan and the Eagles' running backs because of the protection along the offensive line.

"[Ryan] stays in the pocket because of the huge offensive line in front of him," Brock said. "I have watched teams try to blitz him, but their offensive line is very much in sync.

"The key for us will be our reads, our pass-run read," he added. "We have to honor the run because they are so good. They also have a great quarterback who can throw the ball and really hurt you. They are a very sound, very complete football team."

The Eagles running game is led by senior halfback Andre Callender, who has 261 yards on 49 carries and two touchdowns including a 69-yard TD run.

Army will try to bounce back after a 21-10 loss to Wake Forest despite gaining more yardage offensively than the Demon Deacons and creating three turnovers.

"Our defense gave us an opportunity to win [against Wake Forest]," Brock said. "It was very disappointing to come away with a loss. Offensively, we are getting better, but at the same time we have to make plays when they are presented to us."

For the second time this season, Army lost a game where they allowed only one touchdown on defense, but allowed touchdowns on special teams and offense. Now, it's looking at the game films and trying to adjust and pick up problematic tendencies.

"I had one slip up [interception return for a touchdown] that changed the tempo and the momentum of the game, but there are a few things that we've adjusted on film and that I've changed," said sophomore quarterback Carson Williams, who passed for 165 yards last week. "If the offense, in general, can make a few adjustments then we should be able to compete and do really well."

The question again this week will be -- is it senior quarterback David Pevoto or Williams starting? Williams said it's up to the coach and respects that decision and will be behind Pevoto if he's chosen. However, it's likely that Williams will be gaining more experience this week.

"I'm not sure where David's health is now and how far he has come," Brock said Tuesday. "I saw him Sunday and he has been in for treatments, but to play quarterback you have to see him move around. We'll get a peek at him at practice, but probably right now, Carson is our quarterback."

Defensively, Army has been stellar through the first three weeks, only allowing one touchdown in each game.

Last week's game against Wake Forest gave the squad confidence as they held the Demon Deacons to less than 300 yards in total offense, but now they face a juggernaut in



Sophomore nose tackle Ted Bentler recorded his second sack of the season on Wake Forest sophomore quarterback Brett Hodges Sept. 14. Bentler and the Army defense have registered eight sacks through the first three games. PHOTOS BY JIM FOX/PV

the Eagles.

"It's really going to determine what kind of defense we are," said senior safety Caleb Campbell. "We had a good game against Wake Forest, but we definitely have not arrived yet.

"[Boston College's] offensive scheme is a little more intricate and I think [they're] a lot better than Wake Forest," he added. "So it's really going to test our defense."

Campbell and the rest of the team are now trying to find a focus that can put them at the next level, especially after losing a close game to a good opponent.

"Losses like the Wake Forest game hurt our team because we worked so hard. We should have won that game," Campbell said. "We didn't [win] so we just want

to make sure the team doesn't hang their heads and we come to work this week, because our goals are still attainable."

Saturday's game will be aired on ESPN Classic at 1 p.m., [Channel 171 on West Point] and will be broadcast by Eric Collins and Bill Curry. The Army game can also be heard on the Army Sports Network through WABC 770-AM New York and Sirius Satellite Radio on Channel 140 beginning at 1 p.m., with John Minko and Dean Darling as the play-by-play man and color analyst, respectively.

The 90-minute "Army Football Tailgate Show," hosted by Rich DeMarco and Bob Outer begins at 11 a.m., with pre-game coverage starting at noon also on Army Sports Network.



Junior running back Carlo Sandiego scampers threw the Wake Forest defense during his 17-yard catch and run in the second quarter Saturday.



Senior fullback Mike Viti bulled his way into the endzone versus Wake Forest to get his second touchdown this year.

Men's Soccer takes down AF, now 5-1

By Tim Volkmann
Athletic Communications

WEST POINT, N.Y. -- Army senior midfielder Chris Conklin scored the double-overtime game-winner to lead the Black Knights to a 1-0 victory over Air Force in the second round of the Army Fall Classic at Clinton Field Sunday afternoon.

After 110 minutes of scoreless play, Conklin drove home his third game-winning goal of the season 35 seconds into the second overtime after senior forward John Kubeika's shot from 20 yards out deflected off the crossbar.

Conklin collected the rebound and drove the match's only goal into the bottom right corner of the net from five yards out.

"It's a dream come true to score a goal like that, especially against Air Force" Conklin said. "I felt bad for John [Kubeika] because that should have been his goal. But we are all one team and we all have one goal."

Army [5-1] outshot the Falcons [2-4] by a 19-8 margin, including a 10-2 advantage in shots on goal. Air Force keeper Brian Guyette was credited with nine saves on the day

to earn all-tournament honors along with teammate Andy Nigro.

"We were there all day," Conklin continued. "There were a lot of crucial plays in the box that we could have taken advantage of and we missed a bunch of opportunities that we should have converted. We just needed to finish the game and in the end, we did."

It was the second-straight double-overtime game for the Black Knights after falling to Quinnipiac, 3-2, in the 103rd minute of Friday's first-round match.

"While we held the advantage for most of the match, one little slip up and it's a different story," said Army head men's soccer coach Kurt Swanbeck. "You never know with this game. [Air Force] was down in our end a lot and all it would have taken was one bad bounce. We need to finish our chances a little bit earlier in games and get teams chasing us instead of playing it so tight."

Black Knight Notes: Seniors Doug Jones, Chase Spruill and Daniel Newell were voted to the 11-member Army Fall Classic All-Tournament Team ... Army improved its record in overtime in the last five years to 4-3-12 ... Army



Senior midfielder Chris Conklin kicks in the winning goal, his third winner of the season, to defeat Air Force 1-0 in double overtime Sunday.

JOHN PELLINO/DOIM MMB

last played consecutive overtime games in 2004, tying Siena [0-0] and falling at Albany [1-0] ... the Black Knights played three-straight

overtime matches during the 2003 season ... Army's 5-1 start is their best since the 1997 squad started 5-1 ... Sunday marked the final

match of a five-game homestand for Army, which hits the road for five-consecutive road games, starting with Saint Francis [N.Y.] today.

NAVY, RMC FALL TO WEST POINT SAILORS

By Maj. Justin Platt and
Cadet 1st Class Mark Seelen
Sailing OR and G-2

The Army Sailing Team competes in two distinct specialties -- dinghy racing [14-foot 2-man boats] and yacht racing. Over the past two weekends, the team has raced in both styles of boats with great success, culminating in the team defeating Navy for the first-time ever in offshore yachting and beating the Royal Military College in dinghy racing.

The Team sailed in a one-day ocean yacht race off Long Beach, N.Y., Sept. 8. The "Spirit Rider" regatta is run by the O'Keefe Foundation, in honor of Firefighter Patrick J. O'Keefe, FDNY Rescue Company One. This is America's only memorial regatta in honor of the sacrifices many made during the 9/11 attacks.

The race, which consisted of 26 boats split into three divisions, saw West Point race in Division 3, with the six other college teams -- the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, the U.S. Naval Academy, the State University of N.Y. Maritime, Fordham and Georgetown.

Sailing aboard the yacht "Exuberance," a Ranger 33 owned by Jeff Ohstrom [USMA '79], the Army team crossed the starting line in 2nd position and sailed consistently in this spot for the entire six-nautical-mile race.

They brought home the overall second place trophy for the Collegiate Division, beating five of six schools to include Navy, who they led the entire race, finishing more than two minutes ahead of them. This is the first time in [known] West Point history that Army sailing has defeated Navy in PHRF yacht racing.

Cadet 4th Class Christina West was selected the MVP of the regatta by her coach and crew. As a new member of the team, West noted the importance of teamwork and the concentration required to win, especially with a novice crew.

"I believe that the inexperience of our team actually played a major role in our success, because each person focused all their energy into learning as much as they could and doing that job perfectly," she said. "I personally couldn't tell you what actually was happening with other boats during the race, but I could

give you a story about every shift and puff of wind."

Army Sailing's focus on teamwork and concentration extends to sailing small boats as well. Saturday and Sunday, the team competed in dinghy racing at the SUNY Maritime Fall Open. It competed in an eight-race series in the East River at the foot of the Throgs Neck Bridge.

An inexperienced group of Army sailors -- three freshmen, a sophomore and a junior -- did very well against a very good fleet of boats, finishing 13th out of 20 different colleges and beating notable sailing schools like RMC, Webb Institute, Skidmore and Rutgers.

This regatta was a very good experience for these mostly new sailors, since they competed against the top teams in the Middle Atlantic Intercollegiate Sailing Association.

Cadet 4th Class Alex Lovo had an excellent weekend for his first college regatta as a novice skipper, finishing fifth out of 20 in a few of the individual races and also several mid-fleet finishes.

The team pulled together to



The Army Sailing Team defeated Navy and RMC the past two weekends in sailing competitions.

PHOTO BY MAJ. JUSTIN PLATT

sail consistently and beat RMC, placing ahead of them in both A and B division races despite this being the first college regatta for most members.

Cadet 4th Class Patrick Bowers believes that despite less than three weeks of working together at practice, the team is poised for more successes like the last two weekends.

"The best thing about Army

sailing is the camaraderie between team members and the way we interact with each other," he said. "The team, as a whole, is very close and it contributes a large part to our success."

Though this is a re-building year, the team seems to be on the rise and hasn't missed a beat. New talent and teamwork have all come together so far this fall to help the team beat Navy and RMC.

Army Cycling wins 2007 Track Championships

Submitted by the
Army Cycling Team

Sixteen West Point Cadets and cycling coach Col. Italo Bastianelli went to San Diego this past weekend to compete in the U.S. National Collegiate Track Cycling Championships winning the Division 2 National Team Championship.

The Cadets traveled to San Diego in "White over Gray" and traveled back to West Point in civilian shorts and their new "Stars and Stipes" National Title Cycling Jerseys.

These jerseys are highly sought after in the cycling world. More than 50 colleges and universities had riders participate in at least one event. Army was by far the largest team competing.

Track Cycling, also known as "olympic cycling," is raced in



Army Cycling Team, sporting their "Stars and Stripes" National Title Cycling Jerseys, won the Division 2 National Team Championships at the U.S. National Collegiate Cycling Championships this past weekend in San Diego.

JIM FOX/PV

a velodrome. There are a limited number of velodrome's in the U.S. making practice difficult.

The cadets trained either in Pennsylvania at the Trexler velodrome or in Queens, at the Casitas velodrome.

Training time started after everyone completed their summer assignments and got back to West

Point for re-organization week.

The Team rode through West Point Tuesday on a Victory lap -- wearing their National Championship Jerseys.

Bastianelli is a very experienced track cyclist and recently won the National Masters 200 Meter Sprint.

In San Diego, Bastianelli rode

in an exhibition race among the coaches and won.

Pittsburgh Penguins & Florida Panthers to practice here

The Pittsburgh Penguins will have an open practice at Tate Rink Wednesday from 9:30 to 11 a.m. The Florida Panthers will have an open practice Oct. 3 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Both practices are free to all community members.

Junior Black Knights Split

By Ben Liotta
JBK

The Junior Black Knights Youth Football teams continued play in week three of their season, with D3 and the Mighty Mites picking up victories. D3 [2-0] played Saturday in Minisink Valley and won a 12-6 overtime thriller.

With the teams tied at 6-6 in overtime, the JBK defense stopped Minisink on their OT possession and then punched in a touchdown for the deciding score. Chris Olave ran the ball well for JBK, and coaches credited all the players on both sides of the ball for an excellent game.

The Mighty Mites [2-0-1] traveled to Valley Central to play the Vikings, and posted their third straight shutout defeating VC 2-0. The dominating Mites defense set the tone for this game, and on offense Benny Storms completed the Mighty Mites first pass of the season.

Division 1 [1-2] traveled to Wallkill to play the Panthers and ran up against a very difficult Panther team.

With starting quarterback JC Berrios out with a knee injury, Jatterius Johnson was the workhorse for D1 gaining 52 yards. Jake

Harvey, filling in at QB and also playing cornerback on defense, scored the only touchdown for JBK on a 40-yard sweep.

Division 2 was in Minisink Valley Sunday and lost 33-13 to the Warriors.

Youth basketball clinic

The Army men's basketball team is hosting a free youth basketball clinic Saturday from 9 to 11 a.m., at Christl Arena for boys and girls ages 7 to 13 years old.

Participants must bring their own basketball shoes. A water bottle is optional.

The event is open to the public.

Contact assistant men's basketball coach Chris Hollender at [845] 938-2419 or e-mail him at Chris.Hollender@usma.edu to sign up.

USMAPS football

The U.S. Military Academy Preparatory School football team plays Milford Academy Sept. 28 at 5 p.m. at Michie Stadium.

The event is free and open to the public.

Sports calendar

Corps Squad

SATURDAY -- SPRINT FOOTBALL, VS. NAVY, ALLEGIANCE BOWL, SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y., NOON.
SUNDAY -- WSOC vs UMBC, CLINTON Fd., 1 P.M.
SUNDAY -- VB vs. NAVY, GFH, 3 P.M., [ESPNU]
SEPT. 29 -- GOLF vs. NAVY, ANNAPOLIS, MD., 9 A.M.
SEPT. 29 -- FOOTBALL vs. TEMPLE, MICHIE STADIUM, NOON, [ESPNU]
SEPT. 30 -- GOLF vs. NAVY, ANNAPOLIS, MD., 9 A.M.
SEPT. 30 -- WSOC vs. BROWN, CLINTON FIELD, 1 P.M.

Club

SATURDAY -- JUDO TEAM, USMA CLINIC, BLDG. 673, 9 A.M.
SATURDAY -- MEN'S RUGBY vs. DARTMOUTH, ANDERSON RUGBY COMPLEX, 2 P.M.
SUNDAY -- MARATHON TEAM, GUNKS 10-MILE RACE, WAPPINGERS FALLS, N.Y., MOHONK PRESERVE, 9 A.M.
SUNDAY -- MEN'S RUGBY vs. SETON HALL, ANDERSON, 1 P.M.
SUNDAY -- SKEET & TRAP vs. CONN., RANGE 10, 10 A.M.
SEPT. 30 -- SKEET & TRAP vs. WESTON GUN CLUB, RANGE 10, 10 A.M.