

71st Commandant of Cadets takes command

Story and photo by
Eric S. Bartelt

Brigadier Gen. Michael S. Linnington officially became the 71st Commandant of Cadets of the U.S. Military Academy Tuesday during a change of command ceremony held at Trophy Point.

He replaces Maj. Gen. Robert L. Caslen Jr., who departs West Point to assume command of the 25th Infantry Division (Light Infantry) at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, May 21.

With the incredible responsibility that is involved with the oversight of 4,400 cadets and everything that encompasses the job, Superintendent Lt. Gen. Buster Hagenbeck gave an ideal send off to a man he's served with on four separate occasions.

"(Caslen) has shown a very deft hand in being able to do this (job)," Hagenbeck said. "He has skillful leadership and he's excelled at everything he's done here. He's well prepared to take on the next responsibilities he's about to encounter."

Now, the Corps of Cadets will look to the future with their new leader who received glowing praises

from both Hagenbeck and Caslen.

"I watched Mike when he came to Afghanistan, I watched him in combat and he was phenomenal," Caslen said. "He is a great leader and will be a tremendous commandant for the Corps of Cadets. He's a tremendous role model and he will get down and dirty to do the job."

Hagenbeck added, "(Linnington) brings extraordinary combat experience and strategic leadership to the institution. West Point is fortunate to have two such qualified senior commanders to serve back-to-back as our commandant."

Linnington graduated from West Point in 1980 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the infantry. He has served in the past at West Point when he was an instructor and executive officer in the Department of Mathematical Sciences.

He is honored to come back to his alma mater to lead the next generation of cadets into their officer careers at a time when the nation is demanding leaders during a time of war.

"(It is) a privilege and a responsibility that I take seriously," Linnington said. "For a nation at war ... leader and character development



Brigadier Gen. Michael S. Linnington accepts the U.S. Corps of Cadets flag from Lt. Gen. Buster Hagenbeck during the USCC change of command ceremony Tuesday at Trophy Point.

at West Point is crucial to success on the battlefield and that is my focus."

Linnington has been greatly

involved in the Global War on Terrorism. In May 2002 he assumed command of the 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) in

Kandahar, Afghanistan. From June 2002 through June 2004, Linnington commanded the 3rd Brigade in both
See LINNINGTON, page 5

Pearson, Class of 2001, killed by IED in Iraq

Compiled by Eric S. Bartelt

Captain Andrew R. Pearson, USMA Class of 2001, died April 30 in Baghdad, Iraq, from wounds suffered when his vehicle hit an improvised explosive device.

He died with Spc. Ronald J. Tucker, 21, of Fountain, Colo., while supporting an Operation Iraqi Freedom mission with the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

The 32-year-old Infantry officer originally enlisted in the Army and served at Fort Lewis, Wash., before he received endorsements from his base commander and

Montana senator and was given an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy.

An avid hunting, fishing and bike-riding enthusiast, Pearson was in the midst of his third overseas tour, having served in Afghanistan once and Iraq twice. His third tour had begun in March and his job as company commander with the infantry regiment was to train and support the Iraqi forces.

His dad, Ron, was very supportive of his son's decision to join the military and couldn't have been prouder of his service to the nation, and knew that Andrew felt strongly about it.

"We were all happy for Andrew when he made it to West Point," he

said. "(Andrew) was pretty proud of what he was doing in the Army and worked really hard.

"He believed in what he was doing and gave his all for America," he added. "He was very



Capt. Andrew R. Pearson

resolute in what he was doing."

Pearson, who was from Billings, Mont., is survived by his wife, Jon Marie, and their four children of Fort Hood; his father Ronald Pearson of Billings; his mother Sue Scott of Boise, Idaho; and two sisters and two brothers.

There will be memorial services for Pearson Saturday at 3 p.m. at the War Memorial in Billings and Thursday at Fort Hood. He will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va., at a date yet to be determined.

(Editor's note: This story is a compilation from news sources to include the *Great Falls Tribute's* story and obituary section and the Department of Defense.)

INSIDE



See SANDHURST, pages 8-9

Community Point-of-View

Reducing the stigma of mental health assistance

Policy implementation for Question #21 on SF 86

May 01, 2008

Today, the Department of Defense announced a positive step in the continuing effort to reduce the stigma often associated with seeking professional mental health assistance. The Army requested and the Secretary of Defense won approval for revision of Question 21 on the National Security Positions Questionnaire (Standard Form 86). The revision now excludes counseling related to marital, Family and grief issues. (The DOD policy is located at: www.army.mil/sf86q21)

This decision should lessen concerns that psychological or behavioral health counseling may jeopardize security clearance or adversely impact careers. This change allows issues to be identified and addressed earlier -- before psychological stress escalates to a more serious condition that may further impact the individual, the unit, Families and the Army's overall readiness.

Helping to maintain physical and mental well-being of Soldiers and Army Civilians will ensure we remain Army Strong!

//signed//

George W. Casey, Jr.
General, United States Army

What is this?

The Department of Defense revised Question 21 on the Office of Personnel Management's Questionnaire for National Security Positions (SF-86) about mental and emotional health. These changes will help to reduce the stigma associated with Soldiers and civilians seeking psychiatric health care as it relates to obtaining or maintaining security clearances.

What has the Army done?

In 2007, Army commanders and Army inspectors general reported the negative impact Mental Health Question 21 was having on the willingness of many Soldiers to seek needed mental health treatment. In May 2007, the secretary of the Army requested the secretary of defense's personal support to eliminate the mental health question addressing Soldier perceptions that seeking mental health counseling could put their careers and service at risk.

Question 21 asked: "In the last 7 years, have you consulted with a mental health professional or consulted with another health care provider about a mental health condition?" Soldiers perceived that if they answered "Yes" to Question 21, they could jeopardize their ability to obtain or retain a security clearance needed for job performance or continued Army service.

The Army Central Clearance Facility reported that very few clearances were denied or revoked solely on mental health issues. Less

than one-quarter of one percent of denied or revoked security clearances over the last two years were based on psychological issues -- an average of four per year.

Self-disclosure of mental health treatment was not the deciding factor in clearance revocations and denials. In almost all cases there were unrelated concerns stemming from the clearance investigation process, which guided their judgment in rendering the adjudication denial/revocation determination.

What can Soldiers expect from the change? All Army security managers have been advised of the change. Until OPM publishes the updated SF-86, security managers will advise Army personnel to use the revised language below when answering Question #21:

- *Mental health counseling in and of itself is not a reason to revoke or deny a clearance.*

- *In the last 7 years, have you consulted with a health care professional regarding an emotional or mental health condition or were you hospitalized for such a condition?*

- *Answer "No" if the counseling was for any of the following reasons and was not court-ordered:*

- 1) *strictly marital, family, grief not related to violence by you; or*
- 2) *strictly related to adjustments from service in a military combat environment.*

- *If you answered "Yes," indicate who conducted the treatment*

and/or counseling, provide the following information, and sign the Authorization for Release of Medical Information Pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

Why is this important to the Army? Our profession is exposed to traumatic and tragic events with psychological and physical impacts at a greater velocity than most other environments. Life and death decisions are made daily. Army Soldiers and civilians are the "strength of the nation," and their mental and physical readiness is essential to fulfilling the Army's mission. We must protect and preserve the readiness of our leaders and Soldiers.

SAPR-P

The members of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program are Col. Jeanette McMahon, Shelley Ariosto (Garrison), Dan Toohey (Victim Advocate), Maj. Maria Burger (USCC), Maj. Kim Kawamoto (ODIA) and Lt. Col. Tasha Williams (Dean).

Community members can e-mail McMahon at Jeanette.McMahon@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

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

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

Difficulty: Medium

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

POINTER VIEW

Lt. Gen.
Buster Hagenbeck,
Superintendent

Col. **Bryan Hilferty**,
Director of Communications

Linda L. Mastin
Acting Chief,
Command Info.

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Local and National News

Firsties meet 17th chairman of the Joint Chiefs

Story and photo by
Eric S. Bartelt

Listen, Learn, Lead -- those are three words that the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff told cadets from the Class of 2008 to live by during a visit to the U.S. Military Academy May 2.

Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, the 17th chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and a 1968 U.S. Naval Academy graduate, spoke to the Firstie class about being geared up to join the Army that has been at war for more than six-and-a-half years now.

"Of all the things you do ... it is important to push yourself to lead and lead first," Mullen said. "You are joining a military that is more diverse, more representative of our country than any military we've ever had.

"There is great strength in that, great benefits," Mullen added. "And we are a military that must represent our country ... (against an) enemy that is going to be out there for decades."

Mullen told the cadets that great leadership can make an immense difference in how the Global War on Terrorism plays out over the course of the next few years. He told the cadets that they should hone their skills and take risks to become much better officers as their careers progress.

He talked about America having to defend itself and to ensure the

country is protected as the military fights both a counterinsurgency and conventional warfare through the next 20 years.

"You'll be at the leading edge of change," Mullen remarked. "You'll hold in the palm of your hands the future of (our) young Soldiers. You'll lead at a time that is more critical than any time (in history)."

Staying at the leading edge of change is the key to the future because the cadets of today and the lieutenants of tomorrow are technically and tactically proficient heading into their officer careers. However, Mullen reiterated that they must stay ahead of the game because, "A lot has changed in the last seven years, but we're going to change a lot in the next seven years (as well)."

Mullen spoke to the cadets about the joint operations that exist in Afghanistan and Iraq, and how all the services work together hand-in-hand to keep things moving in the right direction. One cadet asked him about what the Navy and Air Force's roles are in those two countries as it seems the Army is getting taxed with multiple deployments.

"You will find that we can't do much without strong logistics support," Mullen explained. "You will find that we can't do much without tactical and strategic lift.

"You will find we can't do much medically out there and the

miracles which have occurred over the last seven years (may not have happened) without Navy and Air Force personnel who have saved so many lives on the battlefield," he added.

Another one of Mullen's great concerns is bringing the National Guard and reserve forces into the fold and meshing them seamlessly into the active component's operations. He encouraged today's cadets to help bring all the components together to work as one

for the good of the effort.

"We need to have a debate on what we need to invest in for our military (with all of our components)," Mullen said. "It is very important with the dangerous times we're living in."

The cadets absorbed everything that Mullen said and Mullen told the class that entered West Point in 2004, during a time of war, that he was appreciative of their service and that they will play a major role in helping maintain current

and emerging democracies around the world.

"You made a conscious decision to serve. It's an important decision for you individually, but also for the country," Mullen said. "You are at the point where through your service you are writing history, even here you are writing history.

"You will look very quickly at the future," he added. "That future holds combat for many of you, it holds leadership positions for every one of you and it holds a dedication and a duty and an honor that is incredibly special because of who you are and what we expect of you."

Mandatory Town Hall Meeting for all Spiral 2.1 NSPS employees and raters

There will be two identical sessions of the town hall meeting to discuss findings of the Mock Pay Pool and publicize the business rules which have been established for the final Pay Pool to be held in November 2008 in Thayer 144 Thursday at Noon and May 16 at 8:40 a.m.

Attendance at a meeting is mandatory. Rosters will be used to confirm attendance.

TSP TICKER

MAY changes (as of 05/08)

| | |
|--------|---------------|
| C FUND | +0.57 percent |
| I FUND | +0.13 percent |
| S FUND | +0.69 percent |



Firsties Alan Colvin (center) and Cal Walters (right) receive a coin from and chat with Adm. Mike Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, after his address to the first class May 2.

Firsties take first at RIT IEEE Student Design Contest

By Maj. Christopher Korpela
EECS

Firsties Patrick Bryan, Joe Krick, Scott Lobdell and Ben Smith competed and won first place at the Rochester Institute of Technology's eighth annual IEEE Student Design Competition held May 3 in Rochester, N.Y., for their innovative system for device-independent control of robots through the Internet.

Team WebBot, consisting of electrical engineering and computer science majors, competed against 13 other teams from schools to include RIT, Syracuse University, RMC and the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth.

Safety -- for both robots and people around them -- turned

out to be the hard part of the problem. Everyone knows Internet connections can suffer delays and cut-outs. The trick for the WebBot team was to proof their system to prevent robots from falling down stairs, running into walls or bumping into people during such an Internet glitch. The team's faculty advisors were Maj. Christopher Korpela and Benjamin Ring.

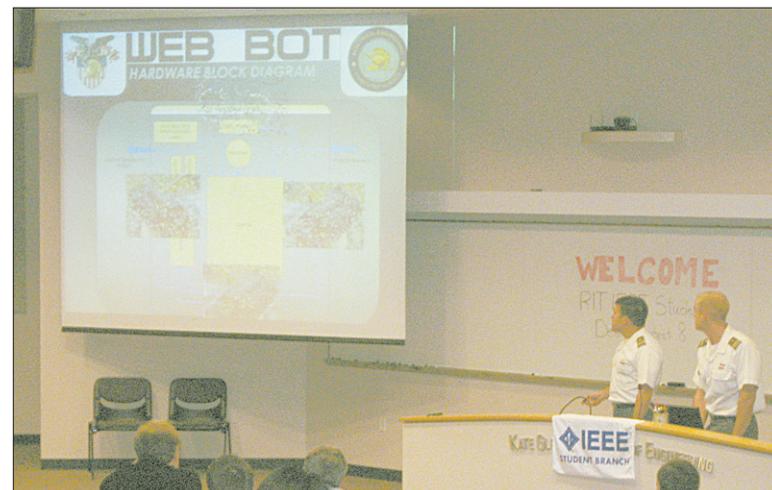
An honorable mention award for most marketable project went to Firstie Mike Kranch and Cow Roy Ragsdale of Team HAL-Xen. They devised a clever way to monitor any activity of a client computer with absolutely no detectable trace of the eavesdropper.

In addition to revealing a rather scary information security "back door" that assurance professionals

will need to watch, the technique has obvious applications for system configuration analysis and management. Lt. Col. Ronaald Dodge was the faculty advisor for this project.

The RIT IEEE annual Student Design Contest invites students in accredited engineering schools to showcase their senior level, undergraduate design projects. Projects are evaluated by judges experienced in the field of engineering and six awards are given based on specific criteria.

The student design contest is a great way to obtain feedback from industry professionals as well as gain promotion of design projects and connectivity to other engineers.



Firsties Patrick Bryan (left) and Scott Lobdell present their first place project, Web Bot, at the Rochester Institute of Technology's 8th annual IEEE Student Design Competition held May 3 in Rochester, N.Y.

COL. GRANT JACOBY/EECS

Special Olympics here Saturday

Approximately 550 athletes will compete in the Hudson Valley Regional Special Olympics Games hosted by Special Olympics New York Saturday at West Point.

Opening ceremonies are at 10:15 a.m. at Shea Stadium and will include a torch run, a parade of the athletes, a performance from the West Point Band and a demonstration by the U.S. Military Academy Parachute Team.

The track and field events will begin at 11:15 a.m. at Shea, while the swimming events will be at the intramural pool in Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center starting at 11:30 a.m.

Throughout the day, snacks and refreshments will be available for purchase at the concession stand located at Shea. The Cadet Rabble Rousers, Spirit Band and mascots will be present throughout the event.

Activities will conclude at approximately 2 p.m. This annual event is sponsored by the West Point Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Honor Society. Some 650 cadet volunteers and 250 community volunteers will be participating in making the event a success. For more information, contact Linda Efraimsen at 845-878-9722 or lefraimsen@nyso.org.

RCI UPDATES

GMH Military Housing is now Balfour Beatty Communities

GMH Military Housing was acquired by Balfour Beatty PLC, a United Kingdom-based engineering, construction, investment and services group.

For West Point, the change is in name only.

Rich Wagner and Shari Roosa will continue to lead the Balfour Beatty Communities team preparing for the privatization of West Point's housing.

Instead of GMH, we will be referring to Balfour Beatty in our written and oral communications.

RCI/BALFOUR BEATTY TOWN HALL MEETING

RCI/Balfour Beatty will hold a Town Hall Meeting May 21 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the West Point Club Ballroom. All West Point residents are encouraged to attend or watch it on the Command Channel and call in your questions.

www.westpointhousing.com

Days of Remembrance

By Elaine McConnell
Event Chair and
USMA Library

The West Point Community came together May 2 in Thayer 144 for the annual Holocaust *Days of Remembrance* observance, established by the U.S. Congress and sponsored by the Equal Opportunity Office and the West Point Hillel Chapter.

Guest Speaker David Frey, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Department of History, discussed memory and provided insights into reading memoirs of Holocaust victims, perpetrators and bystanders as a way of considering the complicated issue of genocide.

By studying primary accounts from a variety of sources cadets and those too young to remember the Holocaust can come to a better understanding of that terrible chapter in the history of

the world.

In addition to Dr. Frey's talk, members of the audience were treated to the Jewish Chapel choir's renditions of two pieces with a meaningful tie to these events.

The first was *Eli Eli* written by Hannah Senesh, a Hungarian Jew, who joined the British military as the first woman paratrooper and a freedom fighter who lost her life in World War II.

The second song was *Oseh Shalom*, which is a passage commonly found as a concluding sentence in many places in Jewish liturgy, but also translates to a universal message: "He who makes peace in His heights may He make peace upon us and upon all Israel; and let us say, Amen."

Need Voting Assistance?

Call the West Point Voting Assistance NCOIC, Sgt. 1st Class John Castillo at 938-8450.

West Point Board of Visitors to meet in D.C.

WEST POINT, N.Y. -- The Board of Visitors of the U.S. Military Academy will meet Wednesday at 1 p.m., in the Senate Russell Office Building (Room 483), Washington D.C.

The Board will review and receive updates on the academic, physical, military programs, physical equipment and fiscal affairs. The Board of Visitors is appointed under the provision of Section 4355 of Title 10, United States Code.

It is the duty of the Board to inquire about the academy's morale and discipline, curriculum, instructions, physical equipment, fiscal affairs and academic methods. The board consists of presidential appointees and members of Congress.

Presidential appointees are Honorable Samuel Lessey Jr., Dr. Charles Younger, Mr. John Rainey, Mr. William Strong, Mr. Blake Hall and Mrs. Karen Hughes. The senators are Honorable Jack Reed, Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison,

Honorable Susan Collins and Honorable Mary Landrieu. Representatives are Honorable John McHugh, Honorable Maurice Hinchey, Honorable Todd Tiaht, Honorable Jim Marshall and Honorable John Hall.



Sports Museum of America opening

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg (left) and tennis hall of fame Billie Jean King (right) watch as the cadet color guard presents the colors as a part of the grand opening ceremony of the Sports Museum of America in lower Manhattan Tuesday. The color guard, Rabble Rousers and Blackjack participated along with more than 30 Hall of Fame athletes and mascots from more than 20 colleges and professional sports teams in the festivities to commemorate the opening of the museum which features an Army/Navy display as part of its greatest rivalries exhibit.

MAJ. TOM BRYANT/PAO

LINNINGTON, cont. from page 1

Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In his most recent assignments, Linnington served as the assistant commandant/deputy commanding general at the U.S. Army Infantry Center at Fort Benning, Ga. He also served as a special assistant to the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army.

He has earned many awards and decorations to include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star with Valor and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

He has also earned several infantry-type distinctions to include the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Expert Infantryman's Badge, Airborne and Air Assault wings, Ranger Tab and a Pathfinders Badge.

As a man of vast experience,

Linnington looks to guide the cadets on the same path that his predecessor has taken them.

"(Caslen) left big shoes to fill, no doubt about that," Linnington explained. "(He) left a legacy at West Point that will last for many, many years. I pledge to do my best to continue that azimuth that (he) and Lt. Gen. Hagenbeck have set for the Corps of Cadets."

Linnington, a Cape May, N.J., native is married to the former Brenda Zachary of Salinas, Calif., who is also a USMA graduate (Class of 1981).

They have two children -- 1st Lt. Michael Jr., who is a 2005 USMA graduate and currently a Kiowa pilot assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division, and Tracy, who just graduated from James Madison University this month.

Community Features and Photos

Civil disturbance exercise a success

By Christopher Hennen
DPTMS

Pretending to be a faction of the fictitious People's Animal Liberation Movement, Putnam County Civil Air Patrol members carried protest signs and chanted "Animal slavery is abuse; entertainment is no excuse," in a mock protest at Thayer Gate April 24.

Calling for the release of the Army mules, the protestors served as a test for the civil disturbance response effectiveness of West Point's emergency services.

Military police and Thayer Gate security personnel from the Directorate of Emergency Services contained the "agitators" stirred up by Joe Colombo from the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, while West Point Fire Department and Keller Army Community Hospital professionals reinforced the incident scene with fire suppression, rescue and emergency medical treatment services.

Military police personnel practiced securing the scene and apprehending and processing trespassers, the Quick Reaction Force was deployed to thwart a large-scale intrusion and a KACH ambulance was dispatched to the scene to treat a protestor feigning a heart attack.

Fred Brennan, The News of the Highlands editor emeritus, said the exercise was "very realistic."

"The security forces are clearly well-trained and disciplined in handling the protestors," said one observer. "I don't know that I could have been that composed in such a situation."

West Point emergency responders worked on the exercise in partnership with the New York State Emergency Management Office, the Orange County Sheriff's Office and the Highland Falls Police Department.

As part of the performance objectives, an Incident Command Post established near the scene and the West Point Emergency Operations Center in Building 621 were activated and assessed on their ability to maintain command, control and communications throughout the crisis.

The readiness exercise -- as part of West Point's continuing

emergency preparedness efforts -- proved to be a valuable learning tool and an excellent training experience for all involved.

At the after-action review, all the participating organizations appeared satisfied with the scope of the exercise and its outcomes.

Gene Lucchese, a NYS Emergency Management Office official who served as an evaluator, noted, "This training exercise was a great way to determine what works and what doesn't work, so when an actual protest does occur, West Point will be prepared, and the response will be effective."

Law Day at WPMS

Major Richard Meyer, assistant professor in the Dept. of Law, speaks to West Point Middle School students for 'Law Day' May 1 as part of the school's seminar program. The bi-monthly lecture series is presented by USMA faculty and other experts and the students attend voluntarily based on their interests, according to Middle School teacher Mary Coffey.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV



Healthwatch: Rabies have been found here - Be Aware

By Capt. Kerry S. Garth
Preventive Medicine Health Nurse

Recently there was a raccoon trapped on the West Point Military Reservation that tested positive for the rabies virus. Rabies is a very old public health concern that continues to be an issue for all of us today.

Below is information to explain how we as a community can minimize the risk of rabies for ourselves, our Families and our community at large.

What is Rabies?

Rabies is a virus that attacks the nerves and brain tissue of most animals; however, birds and reptiles do not get rabies. When an animal has rabies, the virus is spread by saliva, when the virus-laden saliva gets into a wound or mucous membrane, usually through a bite. Most rabies is found in wild animals, such as skunks, bats and raccoons and pets get rabies from wildlife. Dogs and cats pose the greatest risk in spreading the disease from wildlife to people.

There is still no cure for rabies once symptoms develop, but the disease can be stopped in people

if a series of rabies immunizations are given soon after exposure to the virus. Untreated, rabies is almost always fatal in both humans and animals.

It is important to remember that most animals are not rabid. Animals with rabies may show strange behavior -- they can be aggressive, attacking for no reason, but they can also act very tame (especially wild animals); stagger, fall over or become paralyzed; have wounds from fighting with other animals (often on the face and front legs); not be able to eat, drink or swallow; and sometimes they may drool (because they can't swallow their saliva). Wild animals with rabies lose their fear of people. Often night animals may be seen roaming during the day.

To protect yourself and your family please take the following precautions:

Do not feed, touch or adopt wild animals, and be cautious of stray dogs or cats that exhibit signs of rabies. Instruct children to leave wildlife alone. Be sure your children know to tell you if they were bitten or scratched by an animal. Have your veterinarian vaccinate all your dogs and cats

against rabies, and keep them up to date.

Tightly cap garbage cans. Do not attract wild and stray animals to your home or yard.

Feed pets indoors and never leave them outdoors unattended.

What should you do if bitten by an animal?

Immediately wash the wound with lots of soap and running water. Call to have the animal captured, if possible, so it can be checked for rabies. Take care to prevent additional bites (do not risk further bites to capture the animal, call for help instead).

If the animal has an owner, obtain the pet owner's name, address and telephone number. Find out if the animal has a current rabies vaccination and get the rabies tag and license number. When dealing with a dead animal, wear gloves or use a shovel to move the animal. Put the animal's body in a heavy-duty plastic bag and place it in a protected area away from people and other animals.

Do not delay in seeking medical advice.

Go to your doctor or the nearest emergency room or call your county or city health department

right away. Have this information ready -- type and description of the animal including any distinguishing features or marks; if it was a pet, whether it wore a collar, has tags and where it lives; how the bite occurred; whether the animal has been seen in the area before and what direction it was traveling.

If you see a wild animal, especially a raccoon, bat, skunk or fox, stay away and keep your children away. Keep pets indoors. Let the animal go away on its own.

If the animal is threatening people or pets, call the appropriate local authority. At West Point, it is the MP station -- 938-3333/3312.

Off post numbers are listed also. It may be the police, wildlife officer, animal control officer, humane society or a nuisance trapper. If your pet has been attacked by a wild animal, if possible, maintain visual contact with the wild animal if you can safely do so, thus allowing the appropriate personnel to capture the animal for rabies testing.

Call the veterinarian office. Vaccinated pets will need a rabies booster shot within five days of the attack.

Contact information:

Please call 911 for any medical or public safety emergencies for non emergency information and reporting please call one of the services below:

USA MEDDAC West Point Emergency Room -- 938-4004/40055/4006.

USA Veterinary Detachment West Point -- 938-3817/3010.

USA MEDDAC West Point Preventive Medicine -- 938-2676/5834.

West Point Military Police -- 938-3333/3312.

If off post:

Orange County Health Department -- (845) 291-2331 or after hours -- (845) 291-2331).

Other information:

New York State Department of Health Rabies Web site -- <http://www.health.state.ny.us/diseases/communicable/zoonoses/rabies/>.

New York State Rabies fact sheet -- http://www.health.state.ny.us/diseases/communicable/rabies/fact_sheet.htm.

New York State Rabies Case Map -- <http://www.wadsworth.org/rabies/monthly/mar08nmb.pdf>10761932.



The Cadet Fine Arts Forum's O'Donnell and Pinnell Awards of Excellence in Creative Arts were presented April 25 in Cullum Hall. First Place winners are (from left to right) for poetry Cow Abigail Carter, for prose Plebe Andrew Swick, for painting/drawing Yearling Amy Tang and for photography Firstie Rebekah Vaughan. Both Carter and Vaughan placed first and honorable mention in their respective categories.

MAJ. DAVINA HUNT/ENGLISH

Delivery problems?

FOR PV HOME DELIVERY PROBLEMS CONTACT CHARLENE MARTIN AT THE POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL AT (845) 437-4730 OR BY E-MAIL AT CMMARTIN@POUGHKEE.GANNETT.COM.

New Sandhurst course bloodies, but doesn't beat cadets



Company G-4 cadets were straining to get their poncho raft out of the water during the Water Crossing site. They finished up with 35 out of 75 points at the site; however, it didn't keep them from producing a 10th place finish, a total of 670 points out of a 1,000, during the Sandhurst competition Saturday at West Point.

Story and photos by
Eric S. Bartelt

The 42nd annual Sandhurst competition provided a curveball this year to its usual ultra competitive, challenging pace. Forty-two teams ran the nearly nine-mile route Saturday in a "fly-by-the-seat-of-their-combat-uniforms" mode.

Britain's Royal Military Academy Sandhurst Red team took the top honors earning the Reginald E. Johnson Memorial Plaque with a 913-point total out of 1,000 maximum points. RMAS Red's victory ended Canada's Royal Military College's three-year reign at the top of Sandhurst.

This year's competition had 11 sites and with the exception of the Ranger Wall and the Commandant's Challenge, all the other sites changed. However, while the competitive aspects such as the boat movement and marksmanship didn't change, their locations did to Lusk Reservoir and Tronsrue Marksmanship Center, respectively.

What added to making Sandhurst even more challenging this year were the land navigation between sites and the Water Crossing/Poncho Raft site at Delafield Pond.

Each team, after they completed their task at one site, had to determine on an eight-digit grid where they had to go for the next site, making the task of the squad leader that much tougher.

"I think it was more demanding, especially as a squad leader, because there was a lot more decision-making and leadership direction to be made out there," said Firstie Daniel Konopa, Company B-4 squad leader. "Land navigation was key and it really tested us in different ways other than just in a physical sense."

For the fourth consecutive year, Company B-4 came away with the best score (737) of all the 32 USMA company teams. Konopa has been a member of all of those Sandhurst teams and continues to be proud of his company mates' drive to excel at the rigorous course.

"It's awesome to do it four years in a row," Konopa explained. "Our squad's attitude and the teamwork we put into it and working together as one unit was key to our success. The company as a whole supported



Company H-1 Plebe Matthew Francis receives medical attention from Sgt. Ronald Mallette after getting a gash to the head during the Water Crossing/Poncho Raft site.

us well, and I don't think there is anybody louder or has more people or parents out there -- it is definitely key to our success."

Four of the top five finishing companies came from Fourth Regiment, which for the fifth straight year took the Sandhurst Sword with the highest aggregate of company scores.

"All the Fourth Regiment teams really pull together and we all have that goal (to win the sword)," said Firstie Jonathan Meier, Company F-4 squad leader. "That's the most important thing -- that at the end of the day it's all about the regiment winning the trophy."

The changes this year did bring harsh conditions to the course, especially at the Water Crossing/Poncho Raft site, which changed from the River Crossing in past years.

"I felt the biggest challenge we had was probably the swim because a lot of people were cramping up after the swim," said Firstie Jack Mularkey, Company B-2 Sandhurst member. "I think it was the most physically challenging site because it was so different and after you were in that cold water your muscles cramped up bad."

"We worked well as a team trying to pull people out of the water," added Mularkey about pulling his company mates out of the 51-to-57 degree (throughout the day) water, "instead of trying to let them climb the rope all by themselves."

Cadets saw the Commandant's Challenge as its usual five-minute physical smoker, which involved a HMMWV push, bar pull ups, tire flips and a litter carry of a combination of ammo canisters and water containers that had to be maneuvered above and below PT stands.

After all was said and done, cadets took an average of about three-and-a-half hours to complete the course and their exhausted expressions after finishing the course told the story of the course difficulty.

"It was extremely taxing on the body," said Firstie Kell Anderson, Company F-2 assistant squad leader. "It was mentally draining because you didn't know where you were going. We thought from the medical site that we were going to run on the road and have an easy rolling run going over a couple of hills to the Ranger Wall."

"Instead, we had a couple of points that took us over a mountain, practically, so it was a lot tougher that way both mentally and physically," Anderson added.

Cadets who were involved were thrilled to get in the thick of the action because a lot of what they used at Sandhurst Saturday will be beneficial in the years ahead in the military.

"This is the military academy and to do something military-focused like this and to have the opportunity to do it," Konopa remarked, "and be successful at it is an amazing feeling."

Anderson added, "To get through this is very satisfying. It's a military skills-oriented competition and by doing this we're getting more proficient at these skills."



Company H-3 cadets try to negotiate the Leader Reaction Course, which involved cadets using a long wooden board and rope to try to cross the obstacles without touching the ground. They received 45 out of 75 points at the site as they finished it under the required 12-minute course time limit.

With great team cohesion and a lot of physical exertion, you can see the results right here and how it all comes together."

The final results on the day included RMAS-red taking the top spot with RMAS-blue finishing second overall with 904 points, the Air Force Academy finishing third with 841 points, Company B-4 fourth with 737 points and RMC rounding out the top five team finishers with 728 points. RMAS-red earned the marksmanship award by earning 126 out 150 points.

Company E-4 ran the fastest time at the Commandant's Challenge with a time of 5:04 and at the Indoor Obstacle Course at a time of 2:02.

Earning Brigade streamers with the highest scores in their regiments were companies D-1, F-2, H-3 and B-4. Earning patches for the top cadet teams were B-4, E-4, F-4, F-2 and G-4. The top ROTC team of the four teams that competed was Brigham Young University, who finished 14th overall with 651 points.



Cadets from Company C-3 work together to get over the Ranger Wall during Saturday's 42nd annual Sandhurst competition. Thirty-eight of the 42 teams that competed in Sandhurst received the maximum points at the Ranger Wall.



Company H-2 Cadet Daniel McGrath finds the strength to complete his pull ups during the Commandant's Challenge Saturday during the Sandhurst competition.

FMWR Blurbs

Kids' Fishing Derby

The Kids' Fishing Derby will be at Round Pond Rec Area May 17, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

To register, call 938-2503.

Mother's Day at West Point Club

Celebrate Mother's Day Brunch at the West Point Club Sunday.

There are two seatings -- 11 a.m. in the Pierce Dining Room and 1 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom.

For more info, call 938-5120.

Albany Tulip Festival

Join ITR for a trip to the Albany Tulip Festival Saturday.

The trip will leave West Point at 10 a.m. and return from Albany at 6 p.m.

Call 938-3601 for info.

PTSD Guest Speaker

The Soldier and Family Assistance Center is hosting a discussion on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Monday at Buffalo Soldier Pavilion from 9 to 11 a.m.

The guest speaker is author Edward Tick, Ph.D. Tick has been helping people cope with PTSD since the Vietnam War and offers a more holistic approach.

This event is free and open to all. For more info, call 938-0232.

Army Arts and Crafts

Contest

Submit original artwork to the FMWR Craft Shop from May 21-June 30 to enter the 2008 contest. There are 11 categories and it is open to all experience levels.

For full contest details, go to westpointmwr.com or call 938-4812.

Army Ten-Miler sponsorship

The Army Ten-Miler Race is in Washington D.C., Oct. 5.

FMWR is sponsoring four active duty runners to represent West Point.

Qualification requirements and application are online at westpointmwr.com. The application deadline is July 15. For info, call 938-6497.

AFAP Steering Committee

The Army Family Action Plan Commander's Steering Committee meeting will be held May 20 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the Jewish Chapel Social Hall. Members of the West Point Community are welcome to attend. For info, call 938-3655.

Veterans Discussion Forum

The WTU Combat Veterans Discussion Forum will be Thursday from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in the ACS Training Room, Bldg 622.

The group is a support group for

servicemembers who are veterans of Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom.

It will focus on deployment experiences, redeployment issues and coping skills.

Everything shared in the group will remain confidential.

For more info, call Alex Elizondo at 938-0271 or Jose Cancela 938-0232.

Sealed Bid Sale

MWR Services Division Sealed Bid Sale for yard equipment is Monday through Thursday. Call 938-4632 or 938-2503 for info.

Strength and Fitness Classes

Youth Strength and Fitness Classes for ages 12-18 will be held: Wednesday and May 21 at 6 p.m.

For more information contact Brian Szeli at 938-3550.

CDC part-day preschool enrollment for 2008-09

CDC part-day preschool

enrollment for the 2008-09 academic year will be held on the following dates at 8 a.m. at the CDC:

Deployed Soldiers and Warriors in Transition: Monday - May 16
Military Families: May 19-23
DOD Civilians: May 27-30
For more info, call 938-3921.

Kids Craft Classes

There will be kids craft classes at the Craft Shop every Saturday in May, 10 a.m. to noon.

Registration is required.

Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

Good Citizens



James "Chase" Wessels, a Family member, and retired Command Sgt. Maj. Peter Markow, a volunteer firefighter for Highland Falls, were recognized for their acts of unselfishness and good citizenship by Garrison Commander Col. Dan Bruno and Command Sgt. Maj. Violet McNeirney with a Certificate of Appreciation and coin at the April 28 Community Advisory Council meeting.

SGT. 1ST CLASS CAROL OBERWAGER/KACH

NOW SHOWING

in the movie theater at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

Friday -- Penelope, PG, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday -- Superhero, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.
Leatherheads, PG-13, 9:30 p.m.
May 16 -- 21, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.
May 17 -- Nim's Island, PG, 7:30 p.m.
Stop Loss, R, 9:30 p.m.

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

Keller Corner

Referral and Appointment Center Hours

Starting May 19, Keller's referral clerks will be available at 938-5373 from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Appointment Center clerks will be available at 938-7992 from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Appointment services are also available 24/7 at www.tricareonline.com.

KACH Closure

All Outpatient Clinics, Laboratory, Pharmacy and Radiology will be closed May 26. The Emergency Room will remain open.

Command Channel 8/23

May 9-16

8:30 a.m. Army Newswatch
1 p.m. Army Newswatch
6 p.m. Army Newswatch

U.S. Military Academy Band West Point, New York

THE HELLCATS

Percussion Recital

Saturday

May 10 - 3:00 p.m.

3rd Floor Rehearsal Hall of USMA Band Building 685 Hardee Place, West Point, NY 10996



Hellcats May 10th in Recital

Free and Open to the Public

www.usma.edu/band
or call 845-938-2617

What's Happening

Staff and Faculty Locker Rooms in Hayes

Due to new air handlers being installed on Hayes Gym roof, the 3rd floor track and the Staff and Faculty Locker Rooms in Hayes basement will be closed May 20.

Locker occupants will not be allowed access to the locker rooms and should remove required personnel items prior to this. For more information, contact Roger Miller at 938-6406/5125/4700.

Child Safety Seat Inspections

Child safety seat inspections will be Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Stony Lonesome Road Fire Station and is open to active duty military stationed at West Point and DOD civilians employed at West Point.

Certified child passenger safety technicians from the Rockland County Sheriff's Department will conduct the inspections.

Seats will be inspected, checked for proper installation and use, and checked against a list of recalled seats and are on a first-come, first-served basis.

Please have your child with you if possible and bring your ID card. Follow the signs and enter the fire station by using the Commissary/PX delivery road just inside Stony Lonesome Gate.

Contact the West Point Safety Office at 938-3717 if you have any questions.

Book Signing

The photographer and author of a new book, *West Point: An Inside Look at The Long Gray Line*, will be signing their book May 16 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The book features cadets from 2006 and 2007 in the photographs.

Come by The USMA Bookstore located in Thayer Hall on the 4th Floor.

Army Education Center

Functional Academic Skills Training will be June 4-24 from 12:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sign-up by May 21.

The classes will help you strengthen skills to raise General Technical score on Armed Forces Classification Test.

A free class, *MTHR-1170, Preparing Efficiency Reports*, for NCOs, Corporal and above, will be June 16-20 from 5 to 8:30 p.m.

Students completing the class

earn one semester hour of college credit with Central Texas College.

Contact Nancy Judd at 938-3464 at the Army Education Center, 683 Buckner Loop, to schedule the Test of Adult Basic Education and to obtain a commander memo for the FAST training and to register for the MTHR-1170 course.

Scheduling Harborcraft for Non-official Functions

Personnel (active duty, Family members, DOD Civilians) assigned to West Point are authorized to schedule Harborcraft for non-official functions on a space available basis.

A lottery is held for each operational period, with any remaining dates available on a first-come, first-served basis. The lottery for the May-July operational period already took place and reservations are being accepted for the few remaining dates.

The lottery for August-October will take place in June and sign-ups will be accepted June 1-21.

For information on eligibility, availability, vessels, cost and the lottery, please contact the Harbormaster at 938-3011 or at yr9594@usma.edu.

The scheduling of official functions for 2008 will be accepted at any time.

New Indian Wars exhibit opened

Submitted by West Point Museum

A special exhibition on the *Indian Wars of the Northern Great Plains* opened April 26 and will remain open through August at the West Point Museum.

American Indian Wars were fought between Euro-Americans and Native Americans for several hundred years. The Northern Plains Indian War, when the Sioux Wars were at their apex from 1876-1886, is the focus of a new exhibition.

The selected artifacts interpret the Indian War and provide visual evidence of materials that came

from that time to include various weapons, paintings, lithographs and uniform items.

The Battle of the Little Big Horn in 1861, Montana Territory, one of the most remembered events of the period, is dramatized in a painting by Harold von Schmidt, depicting the peak of the battle where Lt. Col. George A. Custer (USMA Class of 1861) was wiped out by Lakota (Sioux) and Northern Cheyenne forces under Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse and Chief Gall.

Much of the artwork in the exhibition was created by artists such as Frederic Remington who not only illustrated but also often

wrote his own articles from 1882 to 1909.

A New York resident, he was a first-hand witness of the Indian Wars during his travels to the West, using his art and writing skills to interpret the wars between the Indian and Cavalry forces.

The bronze sculpture, *The Last Drop*, by Charles Schreyvogel, is an accurate portrayal of the privations experienced by the Soldiers serving in the Great Plains during the latter part of the 1800s.

The West Point Museum is open at no charge to the public, seven days a week, from 10:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.



Black & Gold awardees

The Black and Gold awardees for the month of May were honored May 2. They are -- first row: Lisa McCrea, Lisa Adams, Sang Hui Molin, Valerie Duttut, Sallie Jo Evers, Robin Meyer and Deanna Grande. Second row: Linda Frey, KC Lynch, Cheryl Platt and Brandi Stokes. Third row: Col. Dan Bruno, Sheila Farrell, Gaye Cook, Cindy Patenaude, Vaughan Rios, Maj. Chris Springer, Trish Whitney and Michelle Packard. Molin was named the Volunteer of the Month.

ANTHONY BATTISTA/DOIM

Army and Community Sports

Harmeling, McVan earn Coach K award

Story and photos by
Eric S. Bartelt

For nearly three years, the U.S. Military Academy's Department of Physical Education has been blazing a path with its nationally recognized initiative in their competitive sports program called the Champions of Character Program.

The program was first adopted by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics in 2000, and the program is used to reinforce the Army values, promote fair play and sportsmanship, instill the 'will-to-win,' teach team-building skills and provide training to sport educators.

Ralph Pim, Ph.D., the division chief of DPE competitive sports, established the program here and then had the vision to recognize cadets and coaches who made significant contributions in character development throughout the academic year.

Firstie Jonathan Harmeling and director of aquatic instruction John McVan were chosen as this year's recipients of the 2nd annual Mike Krzyzewski Teaching Character Through Sport Award May 1 at a ceremony held at Washington Hall.

The Duke University men's basketball coach and 1969 USMA graduate handed out the awards and spoke to the Corps about the

importance of character in sport.

His most important thought to the crowd was the importance of being a good teammate through thick and thin and those words were reiterated by Harmeling.

"We have a strong group of Firsties and strong cohesion on the team. It is unbelievable," said Harmeling of his fellow team handball teammates. "I believe the strong cohesion lead to our strong performance and that our success has been represented by that.

"Our season was very successful, but I certainly have to give credit to the team," he added. "We had guys who stepped up and, fortunately, being captain of the team I do get a little more credit for some of those successes we've had. But, I definitely want to point (the success) back to (my teammates)."

Harmeling was men's team handball captain this season and led the squad to its third consecutive national championship. Winning the championship again was special to Harmeling, and for as much pride as wells up in him when he sees the previous national championships recognized by a sign in front of Stony Lonesome gate, it is spending time with his teammates that means just as much, if not more, to him.

"It's a special honor to be teamed with these guys," Harmeling



Firstie Jonathan Harmeling (far left) and John McVan (far right), director of aquatic instruction here, earned the 2nd annual Mike Krzyzewski Teaching Character Through Sport Award May 1. The recipients stand with Coach K and Superintendent Lt. Gen. Buster Hagenbeck after the ceremony at Washington Hall.

explained. "I love playing the sport, but about 90 percent of my joy is going out there everyday with my friends and winning together, suffering together, bleeding together or whatever the case may be. It has truly been an honor and joy to play with those guys and I will miss it (after I graduate)."

While extremely humbled to be named for his character through the Coach K award, McVan felt that his service as company athletics officer-in-charge and basketball overseer and the award he received for it could have gone to anyone in the DPE department.

"Our department as a whole, the line between somebody receiving an award like this and not receiving it is just so fine because everybody does a phenomenal job in our department," McVan said. "Certainly, I'm blessed to walk up here tonight and shake hands with Coach K and receive this prestigious award, but believe me when I tell you it's interchangeable with any member of our department on what we do on any given day."

McVan feels he's fortunate to work with the exceptionally talented individuals who go to the U.S. Military Academy and to be able to help guide them through their years here through sports.

"What we do here on a continual basis is we don't try to build character as much as we reveal it, mentor it and shape it through sports," McVan remarked. "I think it's the way we live, the way we role model, the way we act and I'm just fortunate to work with the exceptional young men and women here at West Point."

Both Harmeling and McVan were greatly surprised to be chosen for the award, and they were both honored.

"This is about Coach K's name on the award. We all know his legacy and we know how he represents the Long Gray Line and its spirit," Harmeling said. "That's an honor in itself to be associated with a man who has obviously represented the Long Gray Line pretty well."

Also nominated this year for

the Mike Krzyzewski Teaching Character Through Sport Award were coaches and OIC's Maj. Dan Lorenzen (company Football and Grappling), Col. Thomas Kastner (competitive club -- Marathon), Robert Grieser (competitive club -- Fencing), Capt. Kafi Joseph (competitive club -- Women's Rugby) and Maj. Benjamin Ring (competitive club -- Judo).

Other cadets nominated for the Coach K award were company athletic cadets Firsties Chris Tarney (Soccer) and Jack Cooperman (Basketball), and Cows Thomas Etchechury and Darius Holloway (both ultimate Frisbee); and competitive club cadets nominated were Firsties Cortlandt Armstrong (Fencing), Christine Kawoczka (Triathlon), Kate Schaeffer (Women's Lacrosse), Kyle Stilwell (Orienteering), Cows Kyle Davis (Water Polo) and Paul Knudsen (Marathon), Yearlings Ian McBride (Crew), Marie Timm (Women's Rugby), John Gilmore (Alpine Skiing) and Plebe Nicholas Hochertz (Judo).



Firstie Cory Kastl, boxer and last year's recipient of the Coach K award, spoke briefly with Mike Krzyzewski before the award ceremony May 1.

White reaches academy records in sweep

By Bob Beretta
Athletic Communications

WEST POINT, N.Y. -- Pitchers Firstie Drew Clothier and Plebe Ben Koenigsfeld combined on a three-hitter in the first game and Firstie rightfielder Cole White homered in both contests en route to tying U.S. Military Academy career records for home runs and total bases as the Black Knights tuned up for this weekend's Patriot League Tournament by sweeping NJIT, Sunday on Senior Day at Doubleday Field.

Army (23-22) recorded its sixth shutout in the opener, winning 9-0, then piled up a double digit run total for the 12th time this season during a 13-4 victory in the nightcap. With the doubleheader sweep, the Black Knights moved their overall record back above the .500 mark and inched closer to a fifth consecutive 25-win season.

"First, I'd like to congratulate the seniors, not only on a great day, but on great careers," said Army head coach Joe Sottolano. "We certainly understand that they have a lot of baseball left to play at the academy, but we want them to know how much we appreciate all they have done and all they will do for our program."

White staked Clothier to an early 1-0 lead in the first game, launching an opposite-field, solo home run over the fence in right

field in the bottom of the first inning. The Black Knights added two runs off Highlander starter Bobby Wyrwa (1-8) in the second as Cow centerfielder Andy Ernesto drew a one-out walk, White singled to left and Cow third baseman J.P. Polchinski scored both runners with a double to the gap in right-centerfield.

That was more than enough support for Clothier, who yielded just three hits in six strong innings of work. The Firstie left-hander allowed just two base runners to advance into scoring position after stranding runners at second and third in the first inning. He retired nine of the last 10 batters he faced, struck out eight and walked two in leveling his record at 5-5 on the season.

Koenigsfeld, meanwhile, was nearly perfect during his three-inning stint, permitting only a one-out walk in the ninth inning. He retired nine of the 10 batters he faced to earn his first collegiate save.

Firstie catcher Chris Simmons wasted little time placing his stamp on the nightcap, blasting his second grand slam of the season, a monster blast over the fence in centerfield, in the bottom of the first inning. Army had loaded the bases against NJIT starter P.J. Saporito (1-11) on a leadoff single by Plebe shortstop Clint Moore and a pair of hit batsmen.



Firstie rightfielder Cole White tied the academy home run record (26) and broke the total bases record versus NJIT Sunday at Doubleday Field.

ERIC S. BARTELT/PV

Army chased Saporito in the second inning, placing the first four batters on base against the Highlander southpaw. Firstie leftfielder Kyle Stramara ripped a leadoff double to right-centerfield, Cow second baseman Tony Capozzi reached on a bunt single and Moore

was hit by a pitch to fill the bases. Ernesto then lined an opposite-field double down the leftfield line, clearing the bases and putting an end to Saporito's day.

White greeted NJIT reliever Cory Kuzmik with a line-drive, RBI double to left-centerfield

and Plebe first baseman Kevin McKague singled up the middle to score White. Polchinski followed with an infield single as seven straight Army batters reached base to begin the inning.

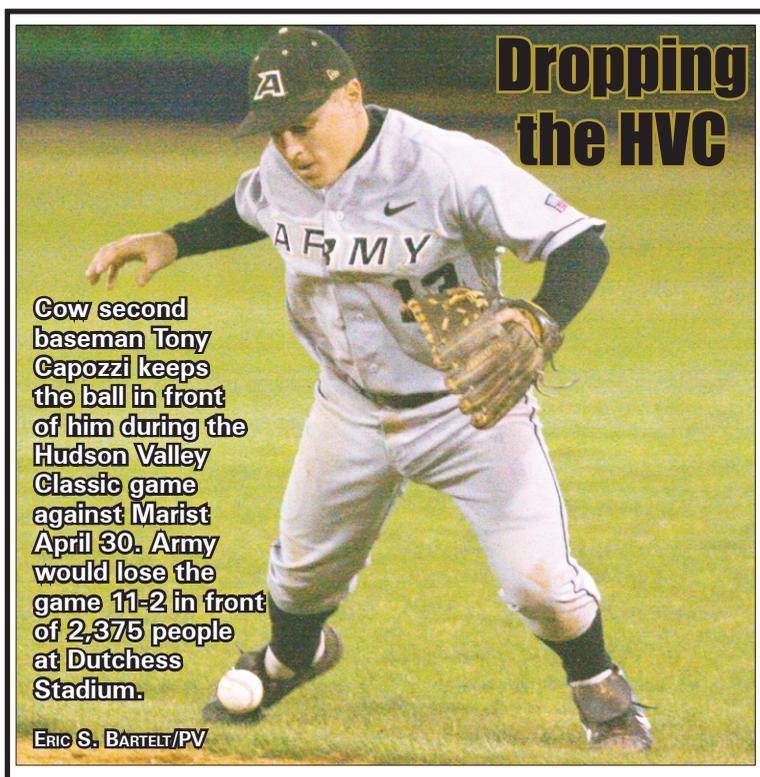
McKague scored on a passed ball and Polchinski scored on a wild pitch as the Black Knights pushed across seven runs on seven hits, one hit batter, one wild pitch and a passed ball to open a comfortable 11-0 cushion.

NJIT (3-41) snapped Army's scoreless streak at 11.2 innings in the top of the third, plating its first run of the day on a two-out, RBI double down the leftfield line by Don Hayes.

Army got the run back in the bottom of the frame as White hammered his record-tying home run well over the rightfield fence. The round-tripper marked White's second homer of the day, his sixth of the season and the 26th of his West Point career, equaling the school standard, originally set by Mike Scioletti from 1995 to 1998.

White also tied the Academy's career total bases record with the historic blast. That record of 363 was first established by former teammate Milan Dinga from 2004

See WHITE on page 15



Dropping the HVC
Cow second baseman Tony Capozzi keeps the ball in front of him during the Hudson Valley Classic game against Marist April 30. Army would lose the game 11-2 in front of 2,375 people at Dutchess Stadium.

ERIC S. BARTELT/PV

Women's Track earns first PL Title since 1998

By Jon Holtz
Athletic Communications

ANNAPOLIS, Md. -- The Army women's track and field team won the 2008 Patriot League Championship in thrilling fashion Saturday at the U.S. Naval Academy.

The Black Knights entered the final event of the meet with just a half of a point advantage over second-place Bucknell and three points over third-place Lafayette. The 4x400-meter relay team won the event in convincing fashion to secure Army's first women's title since 1998.

The Black Knights closed the meet with 148 points, just edging Bucknell in second at 145 points. Lafayette finished third with 137 points. The 11-point margin between first and third was the smallest margin in Patriot League history.

Head coach Jerry Quiller, coaching his final Patriot League meet before he retires this summer, was named the women's Coach of the Year.

Yearling Ebony Thomas was unanimously named the Track Athlete of the Meet after a dominating weekend in the sprints. Thomas won the 100- and 200-meter dashes, setting Patriot League Championship records in each. She also ran the anchor leg of the championship 4x100-meter relay team and the third leg of the championship 4x400-meter relay team.

Thomas posted a time of 11.90 seconds in the 100-meter finals and a time of 24.31 seconds in the 200-meter finals. Her mark of 11.80 in the preliminary round of the 100m was a Patriot League record and the second-best in Army history while her 200m preliminary round performance of 24.15 seconds was a Patriot League and Army record.

The 4x400-meter relay team of Thomas, Yearling Lesa Boyd, Plebe Carissa Hauck and Firstie Katelin Grant left no doubt in the final event of the meet, posting a time of 3:47.65. That time is the second-fastest in Army history.

The Black Knights also picked up the 4x100-meter relay championship. The foursome of Thomas, Boyd, Plebe Hallie Huggins and Firstie Heather Owney posted the 10th best time in Army history with an ECAC qualifier of 47.22 seconds.

Firstie Janelle Jones had a career day in the triple jump. Jones had never leaped 12.00 meters entering competition on Saturday, but posted five jumps over the 12.00 meter mark. Her winning

effort of 12.23 meters is the fourth-best in Army history. She was joined by Yearling Angela Jenkins, who placed third with a season-best of 11.87 meters, qualifying her for the ECAC Championships.

Firstie Kim Maxwell had an outstanding meet, competing in the heptathlon and the high jump. She placed second in the heptathlon with a score of 4,378 points and then placed third in the high jump with a clearance of 1.60 meters.

Fellow Firstie Katelin Grant led two scorers in the 400-meter hurdles, placing second in a season-best time of 1:02.65. She was joined by Hauck, who placed fifth in 1:05.68.

Firstie Megan Howell rounded out the Army scorers with a fourth-place finish in the steeplechase. Her time of 11:24.72 was a personal best and ranks sixth all-time at Army.

Army will continue its post-season May 16 and 17 when it travels to Princeton, N.J., for the ECAC Championships. The NCAA Regional Championships will be held in Tallahassee, Fla., during the last weekend in May.

Sports calendar

May 9 - May 11

Corps

FRIDAY -- WTEN, NCAA
REGIONALS VS. CALIFORNIA @
BERKLEY, CALIF., 11 A.M.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY --
BASEBALL, PATRIOT LEAGUE
TOURNAMENT
VS. #4 BUCKNELL, NOON
(10TH) & 1 P.M. (11TH)

CLUB RESULTS

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

-- Army women's lacrosse easily defeated Air Force and the Coast Guard Saturday at Daly Field. Army led both games from wire-to-wire and everybody on the team played in both games.

Army beat Air Force 12-8 and then blasted the Coast Guard 16-7.

In the Coast Guard game, Army had eight different players score. All in all, a very satisfying way to end the regular season.

WHITE,
cont. from page 13

to 2007.

“I’d like to congratulate Cole White,” Sottolano added. “Anyone who has followed our program over the last four years certainly knows what he has meant to us. Any and all awards and records he may have achieved are very well deserved. We are all proud of him.”

Yearling pitcher Matt Fouch (5-2) allowed one run on four hits over five innings to notch the victory for the Black Knights.

As the number one seed in this weekend’s Patriot League Tournament, Army earned the right to serve as host throughout the conference playoffs.

Army will face fourth-seeded Bucknell in one of two Patriot League Tournament best-of-three series at Doubleday Field May 10-11. The winner of that matchup will advance to the Patriot League Championship Series the following weekend (May 17-18) against either No. 2 seed Navy or No. 3 seed Holy Cross.

The winner of the best-of-three Patriot League Championship Series will earn the conference’s automatic berth in the NCAA Regionals.