

November changes [as of 11/14]	
C FUND	- 4.94 percent
I FUND	- 4.79 percent
S FUND	- 5.32 percent



'Scouting for Food'

Five-year-old Tulio Huggins is one of the Cub Scout Pack 23 and Boy Scout Troop 23 that picked up food from the community as part of the West Point Holiday Share Program here Sunday. The program combines the efforts of community scouts, Soldiers and Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers to provide food for needy families during the holidays. More than one ton of food was collected. [See related story on page 8.]

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

More West Point employees transition to new pay system

By Irene Brown
Chief, Command Information

Approximately 120 U.S. Military Academy non-bargaining unit mission employees transitioned Sunday into the National Security Personnel System under Spiral 2.1.

NSPS is the Department of Defense's new, performance-based civilian personnel system. It is being implemented in phases, or spirals, that began in April 2006 with Spiral 1.1.

"NSPS makes it easier for us to reward our top-performing civilians," said Col. Michael Colpo, West Point Chief of Staff.

Colpo, West Point's pay pool manager and the person who will preside over the pay pool process, said the training employees and managers received, along with lessons learned from previous spirals, should make the whole process run smoothly.

"We are excited to be able to give something back to our civilian

workforce, especially those who go above and beyond expectations every day," Colpo explained. "We feel NSPS gives us the right avenue to evaluate employee performance and contribution, not just to the mission of West Point, but to the mission of the Army and the Department of Defense."

Managers should start planning now on completing performance objectives for the employees they rate, said Carol McQuinn, West Point's Civilian Personnel Director and Spiral 2 transition team manager.

"Under the rules of NSPS, managers have approximately 30 days to complete the online rating system documentation of their employees," McQuinn said. "From now until the end of the rating period it is crucial for employees to have updated, accurate job descriptions and for them to carefully document any extraordinary efforts."

Training and communication, especially between supervisors

and employees, are important tools under NSPS to help ensure the system stays fair and rewarding for all, McQuinn said.

"Performance objectives are broader and more mission-focused under NSPS," she explained. "Under the old system, anything less than the top rating was considered a failure. Under NSPS, most people will achieve a middle-of-the-road or 'valued employee' rating."

The valued employee rating has a numerical value of three out of five possible rating levels, McQuinn explained, and managers and supervisors might be tempted to boost the ratings of their best employees. However, she added, under NSPS they have to be able to back up the higher rating.

"A panel of senior managers and supervisors will review the evaluations to ensure the same method is used to rate all workers in an agency," she explained. "They will want a clear, concise, written

See NSPS on page 2

Two West Point grads killed in separate actions

Compiled by Jim Fox
Assistant Editor

Captain Benjamin D. Tiffner, a U.S. Military Academy at West Point 2000 graduate, died Nov. 7 in Baghdad, Iraq of wounds suffered when he was struck by an improvised explosive device while conducting a ground convoy. The West Virginia native was 31.

Tiffner was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 5th Special Forces Group [Airborne], Fort Campbell, Ky.

"I knew Ben when we were cadets," said classmate Capt. Jared P. Wilson of the Department of Military Instruction here. "I hadn't seen or heard from him since we were in the Infantry Officer Basic Course in the summer of 2000, but I had heard about him going to 5th



Capt. Benjamin D. Tiffner
Group a few years ago.

"Ben Tiffner was a caring and fun loving friend," Wilson said. "He could always be counted on to put a smile on your face. He had a great sense of humor and an energetic spirit.

"Ben was extremely well liked

by his classmates and was a true patriot in his embodiment of Duty, Honor, Country; the Army Values; and the Warrior Spirit," he added.

Tiffner, a Special Forces Operational Detachment Alpha team leader, is survived by his parents Timothy and Judith Tiffner, of Soldotna, Alaska, and four siblings.

Funeral arrangements for Tiffner are scheduled for a later date at Arlington National Cemetery.

USMA Class of 2005 graduate, Captain Matthew C. Ferrara, died Nov. 9, of wounds sustained when his patrol was attacked by direct fire from enemy forces in Aranus, Afghanistan. The Torrance, Calif., native was 24 years old.

Ferrara was a platoon leader in Company C, 2nd Battalion,

503rd Airborne Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, Vicenza, Italy. He received a posthumous promotion to captain.

One of Ferrara's West Point classmates and a fellow member

See GRAD DEATHS on page 2



Capt. Matthew C. Ferrara

INSIDE



RUGBY WINS, page 17



Judy and I wish you all a safe and bountiful Thanksgiving holiday weekend and extend our best wishes to you and your Families.

Please enjoy this festive time together, eating, socializing, watching football, getting those shopping bargains and generally just being together.

As you sit down to your holiday feasts, please also keep our deployed Soldiers and their Families who can not be with loved ones in your thoughts.

As our West Point Family, we also ask that you remember

that this is the busiest travel weekend of the year and, if you are leaving the West Point area, you keep safety upper-most in your mind.

Enjoy the long weekend and comeback rejuvenated and ready to finish the academic year teaching our fine young future officers.

BEAT NAVY!
The Supe

Lt. Gen. Buster Hagenbeck

GRAD DEATHS, cont. from page 1

of the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team remembered him fondly.

"It was always nice to see Matt around post in Vicenza, or downtown," said 1st Lt. Ramona Fastow. "We often spent time in the same circle of friends. I got to Italy before he did, because he had to get through Ranger School. One of the first times I saw him was at the pool at the Ederle Inn, laying out in the sun and reading a book on conversational Italian. He jumped

right into his new environment and seemed so comfortable in his surroundings. We always joked about how he had to make sure he visited the region of Ferrara in Italy, because that was his last name. I don't know if he ever made it down there.

"Matt has clearly touched the lives of many of his West Point classmates and friends in the 173rd," she added.

Ferrara is survived by his parents Mario Concetto and Linda Elaine

Ferrara of Torrance, Calif., and four siblings, including brothers Marcus, a USMA 1997 graduate and Andy, a member of the USMA Class of 2010.

There will be a memorial service for Ferrara Saturday at Camp Blessing in Afghanistan and a memorial in Vicenza at a time and date yet to be determined.

At press time, the date and time of the funeral were not available, but the service is expected to be held in California.

NSPS, cont. from page 1

explanation when managers rate one employee higher than others."

That process, Colpo said, is why training is so critical for managers and employees. The majority of transitioning employees have already completed NSPS training, he added, but for those who did not, some classes are scheduled for this month.

"NSPS is a fairly complicated system, unlike anything most career federal employees have known, and training is crucial, Colpo said. "Without training, supervisors will not be able to write the critical performance objectives, which is detrimental to the reward process at the end of the rating cycle.

"Training in things like managing pay pools or writing SMART performance objectives is critical to making the system work," he said. "Managers must know how to communicate in writing

precisely what they expect from their employees and employees must thoroughly understand their role in the process.

"This training teaches those fundamental and necessary steps to making NSPS work for everyone," he added. "I ask anyone who has yet to complete the training to call and schedule a class now."

McQuinn said the majority of employees have already completed their NSPS training and more classes are being scheduled.

"We have been conducting classes since early October," she explained. "We plan to schedule additional classes for those who still need this valuable training."

McQuinn said there will be classes during November and December, although the dates have yet to be determined. For more information on NSPS or NSPS training, call 938-3943.

There will be no Pointer View published Nov. 23. The next issue is Nov. 30, the Army-Navy Preview.

Weekly Sudoku by Chris Okasaki, D/EECS

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

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.

See Solution on Page 15

POINTER VIEW

Lt. Gen.
Buster Hagenbeck,
Superintendent

Lt. Col. **Bryan Hilferty**,
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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. Robbie 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.

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Engineering management program grabs top honors

By Irene Brown
Chief, Command Information

The U.S. Military Academy at West Point was honored recently for having the best undergraduate engineering management program in the nation. This is the third year the academy has grabbed top honors.

The American Society for Engineering Management awarded USMA the "Founders Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Engineering Management Education for 2007" last week during the group's annual meeting

in Chattanooga, Tenn.

"Colonel Tim Trainor and his team in the Department of Systems Engineering have built a program without peer. We couldn't be more proud of Engineering Management's intellectually engaged students, dedicated faculty and visionary leaders," said Brig. Gen. Patrick Finnegan, USMA Dean of the Academic Board. "The continued recognition of this particular discipline reflects the vibrance and excellence of our entire academic program and the overall value and quality of the West Point experience."

Engineering Management examines the engineering relationships between the management tasks of staffing, organizing, planning and financing, and the human element involved in production, research, and service, said Lt.Col. Donna Korycinski, Program Manager for Engineering Management in the Systems Engineering Department.

"EM teaches the concepts and principles of engineering to manage the fundamentals of organizational leadership, personnel management, fiscal management and systems understanding," she explained.

"EM is a highly relevant program which builds on the traditional roles of systems analysis and basic and applied sciences by emphasizing management functions in a technical setting."

It is especially important for the Army leaders today and of the future, Korycinski added.

"Army officers are often responsible for making decisions and solving problems that involve people, equipment, funding, resources and information," she said. "Engineering Management prepares them to use the techniques, skills and engineering

tools necessary for service as an officer."

ASEM officials said they changed their ranking procedures last year and now honor only the top three schools rather than the top five.

In making its selections for the rankings, they said, they consider not only the specifics of the program, but also recommendations from program graduates and current students.

"This is simply more great national recognition for our engineering management program," Finnegan said.

Lawmakers look at FERS sick leave-retirement policy

By Brittany R. Ballenstedt
Govexec.com

Two lawmakers are gearing up to reward certain federal employees for staying healthy and honest.

When employees covered by the Federal Employees Retirement System leave service, they do not receive the same benefit as their Civil Service Retirement System counterparts -- the ability to turn unused sick leave into a pension benefit.

That may explain why FERS employees use substantially more

sick leave than those in CSRS, the Congressional Research Service reported this summer and in 2004. One possible interpretation is that FERS employees calling in sick may not truly have the sniffles.

But now, in an attempt to provide an incentive for FERS employees to accumulate sick leave, Reps. James Moran, D-Va., and Frank Wolf, R-Va., are preparing legislation that would provide FERS retirees with a one-time payment, based on a formula that would take salary and total hours of sick leave into account.

A spokesman for Moran said Nov. 6 that the lawmakers are drafting the legislation with plans to unveil it this month or in early December. Staffers are working with the Office of Personnel Management, management groups and federal labor unions to establish the optimal formula for figuring the cash payment.

Jessica Klement, government

affairs director for the Federal Managers Association -- one of the groups working with Moran on the draft -- said the potential formula is still undecided. But, she added, one potential option would pay 10 percent of the hourly rate of a retiree's high-three salary for any sick leave balance over 500 hours.

Federal employees in both

retirement systems receive 13 days of sick leave annually and may carry over unlimited amounts of leave from year to year. It's only in retirement that the differences between the two systems come to light.

But Klement said the issue is hampering the federal workforce even before employees depart

See SICK LEAVE on page 5

DOD, VA simplifying transition for Wounded Warriors

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) -- To provide better care and simplify life for wounded and seriously-ill servicemembers, the Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs signed two agreements last week to develop one physical examination system and to provide "federal recovery coordinators" to ensure servicemembers and veterans receive their benefits.

The two programs follow recommendations from the President's Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors, co-chaired by former Sen. Robert Dole and former Health and

Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala.

"This agreement commits VA and DOD to develop a single process to assess the medical conditions of wounded, injured or ill servicemembers," said Acting Secretary of Veterans Affairs Gordon H. Mansfield of the pilot examination system. "We will make it easier for these heroes to go back to their homes, with the key questions about their eligibility for VA compensation already decided."

Signed Nov. 6 by Mansfield and Dr. David S. C. Chu, under secretary of Defense for Personnel

and Readiness, the agreement calls for a pilot program to evaluate a single physical examination that DOD can use to determine the medical fitness of injured personnel to remain in uniform and VA can also use for awarding disability compensation.

The agreement notes that physicals could take place in VA medical centers, military installations, VA-contracted examination centers or other facilities.

The pilot, which begins late this month, involves VA and DOD facilities in Washington, D.C. Servicemembers from Walter

Reed Army Medical Center, the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., and the Air Force's Malcolm Grow Medical Center at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., will participate.

On Oct. 31, VA also agreed to provide "federal recovery coordinators" to selected military treatment facilities, including Walter Reed and Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. The new personnel will coordinate services between DOD and VA and state, private and voluntary organizations. They will also serve as the life-long resource for wounded, ill and injured

servicemembers and veterans who may have concerns about federal services or benefits.

"This agreement will help ensure our nation's wounded warriors and their families receive the care they need and deserve at the right time, right place and by the right person across the continuum from recovery through to their reintegration into their communities," said Michael L. Dominguez, principal deputy under secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

[Editor's Note: DOD and VA press releases contributed to this article.]

Tricare now covers shingles vaccine

WASHINGTON (Military Report) -- Tricare now covers Zostavax, the vaccine designed to prevent shingles in older people, Defense Department health officials announced Tuesday.

The decision to cover the vaccine under the military's health insurance program follows a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendation on Oct. 19.

Shingles is a painful viral disease that affects more than 1 million Americans every year, more than half of them age 60 or older. It's caused by the varicella-zoster virus, the same virus that causes chickenpox in children. It remains in the body for decades, sleeping in nerve cells along the spinal column. A shingles rash usually appears on one side of the face or body and lasts between two and four weeks. It is painful and can be accompanied by fever, headache, chills and upset stomach.

The CDC recommends a single dose of shingles vaccine for everyone age 60 and older.

In a shingles prevention study done by the Veterans Administration Cooperative Trial, run by Dr. Michael Oxman of the University of California, San Diego, Zostavax was more than 50 percent effective in reducing the incidence of shingles and more than 60 percent effective in reducing some of its associated symptoms. Even in people who suffer from the disease, most of those who were vaccinated experienced less pain.

"Offering this vaccine to our beneficiaries is further evidence of Tricare's commitment to provide first-rate health care to service members and their families," said Army Maj. Gen. Elder Granger, deputy director of the Tricare Management Activity. "We cover all immunizations recommended by the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices and formally endorsed and adopted by the CDC."

Beneficiaries who receive the shingles vaccine after October 19

must have vaccinations administered in a provider's office. Zostavax is covered under the Tricare medical benefit and is not reimbursable under the pharmacy benefit.

Beneficiaries with coverage or claims questions should contact the Tricare claims processor for their region, which can be found on their beneficiary Explanation of Benefits notice.

More information on shingles and the vaccine is available on the Center for Disease Control Web site, www.cdc.gov.

Army officials announce a later release date for monthly NCO promotions

WASHINGTON (Military Report) -- The Army will be posting enlisted promotion cutoff scores, senior NCO sequence numbers and monthly promotion lists one week later to accommodate changes to the promotion system.

The scheduling change will be launched in late November for Dec. 1 promotions.

Under the new system, NCO promotion data will be released by Human Resources Command on days 21 to 25 of each month. Up until this month, the data was released on days 15 to 19 of each month.

Promotion officials said they will strive to release the data on the 21st of the month, just as the 15th has been the target date in the past.

Sgt. Maj. Thomas S. Gills, chief of HRC's enlisted promotions

branch, said the change is related to the fielding of an online worksheet that allows active component specialists, corporals and sergeants to review and update portions of their promotion file.

The worksheet, officially the Soldier Self-Service Automated DA Form 3355, can be accessed at <https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/Active/select/Enlisted.htm>.

Soldiers must use their Army Knowledge Online ID and password to open the worksheet.

In an unprecedented change in procedures, soldiers can enter promotion points on their worksheets as soon as they earn them. The Army has eliminated the requirement to accumulate at least 20 points before soldiers start the process of having their scores updated.

SICK LEAVE, cont. from page 3

for retirement. She pointed to a CRS study that found FERS employees eligible to retire using almost 35 percent more sick leave than their CSRS counterparts. FMA members, she said, also have expressed concerns that FERS employees tend to take more sick leave when they are nearing retirement.

"To us, this is a management and productivity issue," Klement said. "If you're not in the office, you're not getting your work done. And if you're near retirement, it means you're not training the person who will take your place."

The FERS sick leave issue also could have adverse implications for younger workers. With no incentive to conserve sick leave, for example, younger employees could use it liberally and be out of luck in the event of a major health problem, Klement said.

"No one plans on getting cancer or liver disease," Klement said. "If that should unfortunately happen, employees may not have the sick leave they need to deal with a catastrophic health problem."

In April 2006, FMA officials, along with four other management groups formed a coalition, placing the FERS sick leave issue as one of its top agenda items. The coalition

proposed a solution modeled on a New York state public employees program that places funds calculated from unused sick leave into an account to help pay health insurance premiums in retirement years.

But Klement said the coalition scrapped the New York solution, largely because of its complexity and tax implications that would have required additional approval by the Ways and Means committees in the House and Senate. "We prefer the switch," Klement said. "The coalition has full support for any sort of credit for unused sick leave."

Last week, the National Treasury Employees Union sent a letter to Moran and Wolf, expressing support for any legislation that could potentially correct the discrepancy between the two retirement systems. NTEU President Colleen Kelley questioned "the inequitable treatment of this unused sick leave for FERS employees who often work side-by-side with their CSRS colleagues."

Both groups, Kelley said, "work diligently as dedicated public servants in agencies throughout the country, and both groups deserve to have their sick leave counted."

Delivery problems?

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No, it's not a tank

Cadet 3rd Class Jared Lewis [left] and Cadet 1st Class Trey Williams check out a Paladin 155MM self-propelled howitzer from Picatinny Arsenal in Dover, N.J., Nov. 9, in Central Area here. The howitzer was part of several static displays supporting Army spirit on the day of the Rutgers football home game.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

REMINDER!

HEALTH BENEFITS FAIR

TUESDAY, 9 A.M. TO 3 P.M. AT EISENHOWER HALL

FLU SHOTS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR ALL CIVILIANS EMPLOYEES

Community Features and Photos

Dave Matthews Band comes to West Point

Special to the Pointer View
By Cadets 2nd Class Garrison Haning and Roderic O'Connor

The U.S. Military Academy at West Point was rocking Wednesday and Thursday nights as cadets, faculty and other local community members packed Eisenhower Hall for two nights of free concerts by the Dave Matthews Band.

The concerts, billed as “The World’s Loudest Pep Rally,” were the result of a competition by colleges and universities across the country. AT&T sponsored the contest, which encouraged students from participating schools to each send up to 50 online invitations per day, via a Web site, asking Dave and the band to perform at their school.

But for a service academy with a student body of just over 4,000, competing with powerhouses like Iowa State University, the University of Maryland, the University of Nebraska and countless others seemed nearly impossible. Luckily for USMA, the contest was based on the number of votes submitted relative to student population and, characteristic of the academy, the student population was up to the challenge.

The initial voting began with only a few cadets. Cadet 2nd Class Jeff Caslen, a ‘Dave’ fan who found the contest, recruited his classmate Luke Gebhart to start sending text messages and set out to spread the word through the Corps of Cadets.

During the second week of the contest, Caslen and Gebhart approached the Director of Cadet Activities, Lt. Col. Craig Flowers, about what would happen if USCC was successful in winning the contest. Once DCA was on board, the rest of the Corps got heavily involved. DCA and the USCC Chief of Staff’s office began sending e-mails out to the brigade reminding everyone to vote and West Point jumped from 12th place to 2nd place overnight.

“I think we were pumped to win this competition because West Point isn’t a big college like the other ones,” Caslen said. “We’ve gotten looked over on things before, and this fired the Corps up even more.”

Thanks to the sheer tenacity and

“... the reason we’re coming is because it was the cadets who made it happen,”

Dave Matthews

competitive nature of the cadets and the Long Gray Line, West Point was in first place within two days of the first brigade-wide e-mail.

When the other service academies saw Army’s success, they jumped on the bandwagon. The Air Force Academy even managed to edge into first place for three days, mid-contest. But by the close of voting Oct. 15, West Point was solidly in first place and Air Force and Navy were 2nd and 3rd, respectively. And while the cadets are excited about their victory, they aren’t the only ones with high hopes for the “World’s Loudest Pep Rally.”

“To be invited by a school in this sort of way is unusual, and I think all of us are just really excited about it,” Matthews said during an exclusive interview. “I think it was the cadets who are the ones who brought us here and the reason we’re coming is because it was the cadets who made it happen.”

“When the audience is responsible for you being there, it’s different than just having tickets available,” he added. “Everyone shares the same humility and awe and eagerness to put on a hell of a [show], well, as good a show as we can.”

In 2003, Matthews gave an acoustic performance at West Point, but this will be his first Ike Hall performance with the entire band.

“The whole experience last time, from top to bottom [was great]. [I was so impressed with] just how gracious everyone was,” Matthews said. “It was just unusual how respectfully we were treated.”

“It was really inspiring to us,” he added.

“As a kid, I grew up and spent some of my life upstate -- in Ossining, which isn’t too far from you guys,” Matthews explained. “So we used to come up and visit West Point, me and my family, because it’s just so cool.”

“Being up here the last time reminded me of when I was younger,” he added.

Performing on college campuses across the United States is nothing

new for Matthews, but with his appearance at the academy twice in five years, one can’t help but wonder if Matthews intends to become another tradition of the Long Gray Line.

“I’m not sure... I don’t know how long I’m going to live!” he said. “I don’t know if I’d fall into the category of tradition, but it’s a beautiful place and it’s attended by exceptional minds and just to entertain that demographic is a great honor. If it became anything of a tradition, I don’t know, but I certainly won’t turn down the opportunity to do it again,” Matthews added.

“This concert was incredible. I’ve been listening to DMB all

week getting ready for it,” said Cadet 2nd Class Michael Weidel.



Cadet 2nd Class Garrison Haning [right] asks Dave Matthews a question to “flesh out” his story during the meet-and-greet held before the Wednesday night concert held at Eisenhower Hall here. Cadet 2nd Class and co-author Roderic O’Connor listens.

ERIC BARTELT/PV

West Point big-game season opens Saturday

By James Beemer
West Point Natural Resources
Manager

Saturday is the opening day of the 2007 New York State regular big-game hunting season [often referred to as the "gun season"], which includes white-tailed deer and black bear.

West Point hunters will be hunting deer and bear until Dec. 9.

Late bow-and-arrow season concurrent with a late muzzleloader season starts Dec. 10 through Dec. 18. Most of the hunting activity will occur in the training areas west of Route 9W. One area east of Rte. 9W will be used by shotgun hunters [see map].

Shotgun hunting in Area J3 for deer has been open to USMA hunters for the last 24 years to reduce deer concentrations on the main post.

Several measures are implemented by the Directorates of Public Works and Morale Welfare and Recreation and Range Control each year to prevent conflicts between hunters and non-hunters in the J3 Shotgun area including:

- Marking the boundary with signs and fluorescent orange flagging

- Establishing a wooded buffer zone around the area

- Thoroughly publicizing the program

- Only permitting access to USMA hunters familiar with the area (either USMA residents or civilian employees and their immediate family members)

- Limiting the number of hunters to seven

- Prohibiting access to the area by non-hunters from Nov. 15 through Dec. 18

- Only permitting hunters to use shotguns and muzzleloaders, which have a short effective firing range [no high-power rifles are allowed].

Jogging, walking, walking your dog and cycling and all other non-hunting activities along Goethals and Patrick Trails and across the ski slope are **prohibited** during this time period in accordance with USMA Regulation 215-5.

Hunters using the J3 Area or any other authorized USMA Hunting Area must sign out and in daily at the West Point Hunt Control Center located at Camp Buckner.

West Point deer hunters are also required to wear at least 400 square inches of fluorescent orange clothing and distinctive

identification issued by the Hunt Control Center. Shooting hours are between legal sunrise and legal sunset. No bow or gun may be discharged within 500 feet of an occupied building.

Hunting in Areas J2, J4 and J5 is with bow-and-arrow only. Area J1 and Area G2 are closed to all hunting.

West Point deer hunters can look forward to a successful season. Many large, healthy bucks and does have been seen, an excellent indicator that the herd has been brought into line with the land's

ability to support the populations we have.

Deer weights are up 10-15 percent this year and antler sizes are also larger than last year.

West Point hunters are encouraged to try and fill their antlerless tags in J3 or any one of the bow-only hunting areas on the Main Post (Areas J2, J4, and J5).

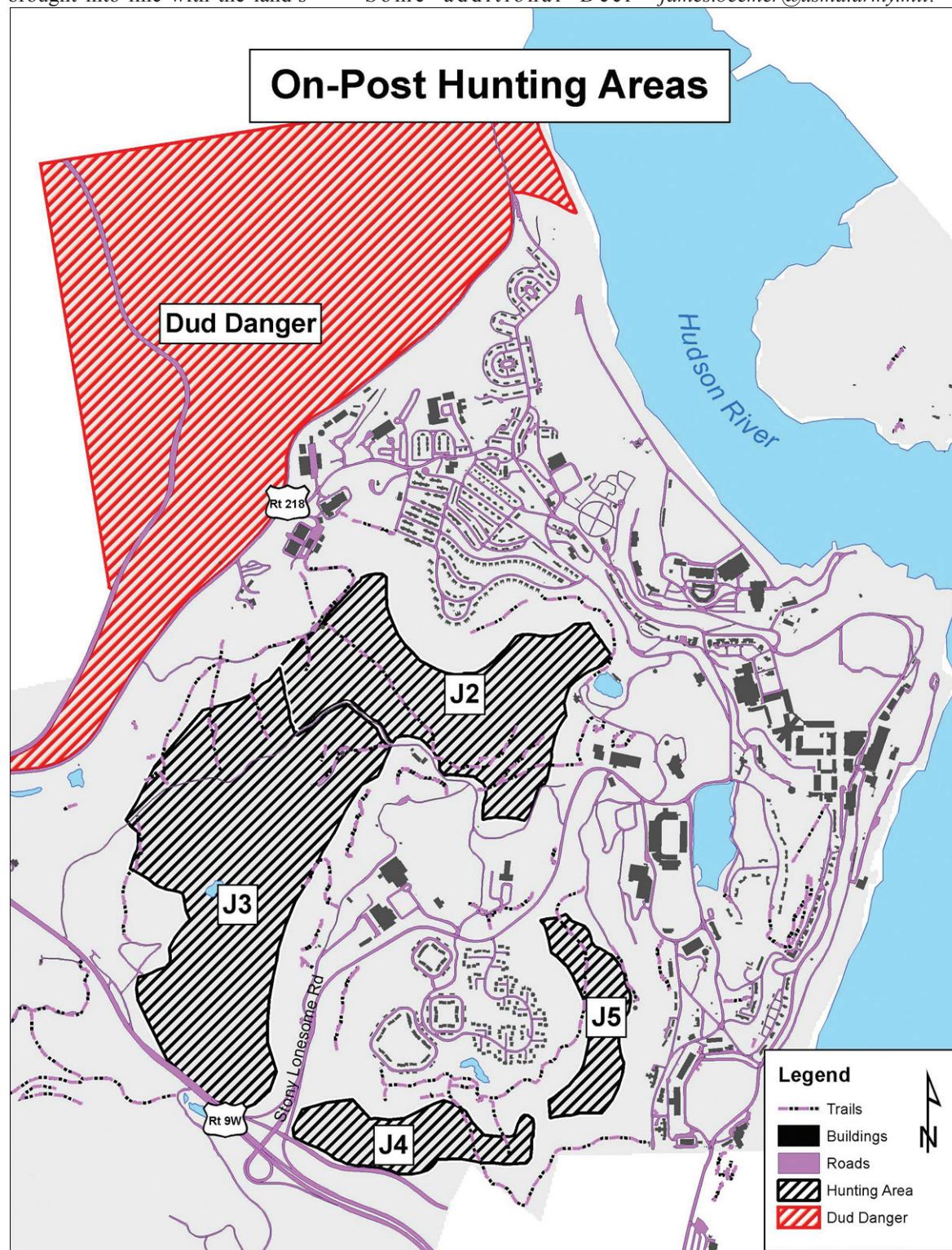
This will help reduce the problems caused by deer over-browsing gardens, hedges and shrubs as well as reducing potential deer-car collisions.

Some additional Deer

Management Assistance Permits are also available from the West Point Natural Resources Manager, which allows a hunter to take additional antlerless deer from the Main Post hunting areas.

The big-game hunting program at West Point is one element of the USMA wildlife management plan and one more MWR morale support activity for USMA personnel.

Questions regarding J3 shotgun hunting [and hunting in general] may be directed to the Wildlife Biologist at 938-3857 or e-mail james.beemer@usma.army.mil.



Army-Navy week activities, force protection Nov. 25-29

Compiled by Jim Fox
Assistant Editor

The U.S. Military Academy at West Point is gearing up for its annual Army-Navy activities and the force protection challenges that accompany them.

Sunday, Nov. 25

Traffic along Washington Road in front of the Superintendent's quarters and Ruger Road from the traffic dummy to the Washington and Jefferson Road intersection will be blocked while the Corps of Cadets marches to Eisenhower Hall (approximately 7 p.m.)

Monday, Nov. 26

At Noon on Army Aviation flyover (Plain)

4 to 6:30 p.m. -- March-on Rehearsal

4 to 4:45 p.m. -- Corps movement to Shea Stadium for march-on rehearsal (traffic blocked at Jefferson / Washington intersection, along Ruger Road to Townsley Road, Townsley to Tower, cadets will enter athletic field on north side of Tower)

6 to 6:30 p.m. -- Corps movement from Shea to cadet area (same route in reverse)

Traffic along Washington Road in front of the Superintendent's quarters and along Ruger Road leading to Shea Stadium will be blocked while cadet formations march to the stadium. Vehicular

traffic will be blocked in the vicinity of Shea throughout the rehearsal. The rehearsal period for both days is from 4 to 6:30 p.m.

Members of the work force who park in the Eisenhower parking lots and around Bldg. 667A may be delayed by marching units from approximately 4 to 4:30 p.m. and again from 6:30 to 7 p.m. In support of Army-Navy week activities West Point residents can expect increased air operations, tactical vehicle movement and other military spirit operations taking place in the Plain area.

Tuesday, Nov. 27

4 to 6:30 p.m. -- March-on Rehearsal

4 to 4:45 p.m. -- Corps movement to Shea for march-on rehearsal (traffic blocked at Jefferson / Washington intersection, along Ruger Road to Townsley Road, Townsley to Tower, cadets will enter athletic field on north side of Tower)

6 to 6:30 p.m. -- Corps movement from Shea to cadet area (same route in reverse).

Traffic along Washington Road in front of the Superintendent's quarters and along Ruger Road leading to Shea Stadium will be blocked while cadet formations march to the stadium. Vehicular traffic will be blocked in the vicinity of Shea throughout the rehearsal. The rehearsal period for both days is from 4 to 6:30 p.m.

Members of the work force who park in the Eisenhower parking lots and around Bldg. 667A may be delayed by marching units from approximately 4 to 4:30 p.m. and again from 6:30 to 7 p.m. In support of Army-Navy week activities West Point residents can expect increased air operations, tactical vehicle movement and other military spirit operations taking place in the Plain area.

Wednesday, Nov. 28

6:30 to 6:40 p.m. -- Cordon forms from Cadet Mess to stage adjacent to bonfire on Daly Field

6:40 to 7:40 p.m. -- Bonfire (Daly Field) -- team walks through cordon, senior football players introduced, team captains speak, Commandant speaks and lights fire, marathon team departs for Baltimore.

Parking will be allowed in Clinton and Doubleday lots during the bonfire. Those using Clinton parking lot should expect the first row of parking spots closest to Daly Field to be blocked off. This year, the events begin with the Marathon Team send-off beginning at 6:30 p.m. The bonfire begins at 6:40 p.m.

Blocking positions on Cullum Road in front of the Commandant's quarters and in the vicinity of the cadet library will deny vehicle access to the Trophy Point area beginning around 6:30 p.m. Parking will be available on Thayer Hall

roof parking lot.

Thursday, Nov. 29

3:30 p.m. -- Mills Road blocked from intersection with Stony Lonesome to Buffalo Soldier Field

3:30 to 4 p.m. -- Sendoff (Mills Road through Thayer Gate) -- Corps of Cadets will line Mills Road from Michie Stadium to post office, after buses pass through they will form on Mills Road in unit formations

4:30 to 5 p.m. -- March-on practice (Michie)

5 to 7:30 p.m. -- Women's and Men's Goat vs. Engineer Games (Michie) -- U.S. Army parachute team Golden Knights will jump into Michie between games; all events open to the public; those coming from off-post are encouraged to enter through Stony Gate and park in A Lot or B Lot

This year the Army Team

send off, Goat-Engineer, and Women's games will take place at Michie Stadium. Mills Road will be closed from the Stony Lonesome intersection south to the Washington Road intersection from approximately 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. in support of the event.

After the send off, Mills Road will stay closed from the Stony Lonesome Road intersection to the Howze Place intersection until approximately 8 p.m.

Fenton Place will remain open for vehicle traffic during the event. Off-post personnel attending the games are encouraged to enter the installation through the Stony Lonesome gate and utilize A, AAA and C lots for parking. Stadium Gates 1 and 3 will be open to access Michie Stadium.

For more information on force protection measures, call Joe Senger at 938-8859.

Army- Navy Events in Baltimore

Nov. 30

10 a.m. to 6 p.m. -- Inner Harbor static displays
Noon -- Army-Navy Pep Rally at Inner Harbor

Dec. 1

9 a.m. to 6 p.m. -- Inner Harbor static displays
9 a.m. -- March over to M&T Stadium
Noon -- Football game kickoff

For more information about events in Baltimore go to www.baltimore.org/army/navy or call 1-877-BALTIMORE

West Point's annual Holiday Share program a success for community

Story and photo by
Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

Members of the West Point Boy Scout Troop 23, Cub Scout Pack 23 and volunteer drivers canvassed the housing areas Nov. 4 delivering bags for residents to fill with non-perishable food as part of their annual "Scouting for Food" program.

The Scouts returned to the housing areas Sunday to pick up the bags of food and deliver them to the Buffalo Soldier Pavilion. Once all the food is sorted and stacked, selected community members come in and 'shop,' said Connie Woodley, special event coordinator for Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers.

"A committee which includes USMA Command Sgt. Maj. Michael

Bergman, Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Violet McNeirney and Jill O'Brien, Chief of Army Community Service, among others, determines which community members will participate," Woodley explained.

Thanks to the West Point community it looks like there will be more than enough food for any who need it, said Scoutmaster Col. John Smith, a professor in the English Department here. "The actual weight was 2,045 lbs."

This year's project was run by Alex Smith, 16, a West Point community member who is working on becoming an Eagle Scout.

"I just got everybody together to put out flyers to let people know about the event, getting people out to give the bags to people and putting out directories," Alex said. "I've done this for a couple of years, but this is the first time I have

organized it."

Last year, roughly 200 families were the beneficiaries of the share program, Smith said.

O'Brien said the program is geared towards Soldiers, but includes civilians as well, especially those with children.

"This year there are 50 needy families eligible to receive the food and gift certificates," she said.

Any food that is left over is donated to churches and organizations such as soup kitchens, O'Brien added.

"Although this is the time of year when many organizations begin asking for donations of all sorts for the holidays, the West Point community never fails to support us in this project," Scoutmaster Smith said. "It's obvious, from not only the quantity, but also the quality of the food we collected, that these

donations are coming from the heart.

The Scouting for Food and Holiday Share programs mesh perfectly. It is a tremendous

opportunity for the Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and the Soldiers of the BOSS program to work together to support Army families in the area," he added.



West Point Boy Scouts from Troop 23 organize food at the Buffalo Soldier Pavilion Sunday after collecting more than a ton of non-perishable food from the West Point community.

New Rochelle Rowing Club donates ferry boat for A-N bonfire

By Eric S. Bartelt
Sports Editor

The 108th annual Army-Navy game will take place Dec. 1 in Baltimore, but before both rival academies battle it out on the gridiron there's plenty of tradition and pageantry leading up to the game.

One of the great traditions of the Army-Navy game is the "Beat Navy" bonfire rally the night before [Nov. 28] the players are sent off to the game, where traditionally a boat is part of the fire.

To make the bonfire a success, West Point must first find a boat to burn at the event. This year's boat was donated courtesy of the New Rochelle Rowing Club, just north of New York City, which has been providing services to its members since 1880 in the Long Island Sound waters.

The 40-foot boat, named "Pine Island #3," served the rowing club for more than 40 years ferrying club members back-and-forth from the club to Pine Island, which is off the coast of New Rochelle.

The ferry boat became available after a storm hit the area Labor Day 2006 and left it dry docked.

"When Tropical Storm Ernesto came through, it put the boat up off its mooring and onto the beach," said Richard Bauer Jr., vice president of NRRC. "We were trying to figure out what we should do with the boat. For every five people who said fix it, there were five people who said throw it out."

"We were going to cut it up and burn it ourselves or sell it, but then the harbor master in New Rochelle came along and said, 'why don't you donate it to West Point because they're always looking for boats to burn,'" he added.

Captain Salvatore Gugliara, who runs the municipal marina in New Rochelle, brought a boat up for last year's bonfire and gave Bauer the heads up on what to do with his club's boat.

Master Sgt. Edwin Gargas, U.S. Corps of Cadets S-3 [Operations] noncommissioned officer in charge, started his search in early September to try to find a boat for the bonfire and found the "Pine Island #3" within a week.

"Last year, they finally got a boat the day prior to the bonfire," said Gargas, who was in charge of finding a boat for the first time. "I was given a couple of months to

get it, and I said I would have it in a week. I had the boat within a week."

The boat will arrive at West Point the morning of Nov. 28, and, according to Gargas, it will be painted gray to represent the look of a Navy boat. The bonfire will take place during the evening of the 28th as a part of the evening's festivities that will include a spirit dinner at the Cadet Mess Hall with comments by Superintendent Lt. Gen. Buster Hagenbeck and Army head football coach Stan Brock.

After the senior football players are introduced and the team captains speak to the crowd, the Commandant, Brig. Gen. Robert Caslen, Jr., will ignite the bonfire at approximately 7 p.m.

Gargas credits everyone in his operations section for having a hand in getting the boat and he is excited to have a small hand in helping the cadets enjoy this experience.

"I love working with cadets," Gargas said. "The bonfire is historical for this place and I think it was fun to just be able to have a part in getting the boat, getting supplies [for the cadets] to paint the boat and having a small part in the overall Army/Navy [celebration]."

Veteran of Foreign War members of the rowing club, approximately 20-to-25 members, Bauer and his father, Richard Bauer Sr., the president of NRRC, will be in attendance at the bonfire.

For their group, it's a chance to say farewell to an 'old friend' that serviced their club for four decades and for the veteran members, it's a chance to be a part of the Army-

Navy experience.

While Gugliara helped arrange getting the boat to West Point, Bauer made the final touches to the boat to get it ready for its final voyage.

"We just stripped the boat and got it ready for [the U.S. Military Academy]," Bauer said. "We're happy it's going out in a blaze of glory."



The Pine Island #3 was donated by the New Rochelle Rowing Club as the boat to be sacrificed during the "Beat Navy" bonfire.
PHOTO PROVIDED BY NRRC

Safety tips for the Thanksgiving holiday

Compiled by Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

There is nothing like sharing a holiday meal with family and friends and it is an important part of the holiday season.

Don't spoil it by inviting food poisoning due to using careless food preparation practices. With a little care and some thought, the holiday meal can be safe and fun.

Travel

■ The first thing to remember is the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and the Sunday after are traditionally the busiest travel days of the year, according to the New York Thruway Authority. Plan ahead by making sure all vehicle fluids are full, check the battery, windshield wipers, defroster, oil levels and lights. Check the tires to make sure they are inflated properly. Always wear seat belts and follow

the speed limit. If traveling a long distance, make frequent rest stops and be sure to get plenty of sleep the night before the trip.

Cooking

■ The turkey should be thawed completely before cooking. Thawing in the refrigerator is the best way to thaw, but plan to allow five hours per pound.

If there is no time to thaw it in the refrigerator, place the turkey in cold water with its original wrapper and allow 30 minutes per pound. Change the water every 30

minutes.

■ After removing the giblets from the turkey, wash inside and outside in cold water and drain well. Make sure to wash hands, utensils, counter tops and any other items that have been exposed to raw turkey.

Do not roast a turkey overnight. Slow cooking is not safe.

■ Use a meat thermometer. Estimated time for roasting a turkey is about 15 to 18 minutes per pound for an unstuffed turkey and 18 to 24 minutes for a stuffed turkey. The meat thermometer should register

180 F in the dark meat and the stuffing should reach 165 F. The turkey is done when the juices run clear. Set the oven temperature no lower than 325 F.

If the turkey is stuffed, remove the stuffing and place in a warm holding container. Let the turkey stand a few minutes before carving. Never partially cook or brown a turkey to be used later unless it is in a microwave and only if it will be transferred to the stove or grill to be cooked through.

■ Dressing should be made the day before and kept separately in the refrigerator. For example, breadcrumbs and crumbled cornbread in one container, sautéed onions and celery in another. Combine all ingredients with eggs, seasonings and broth the next day. Bake and serve immediately.

■ If serving buffet style, make

sure to keep the food warm by using a chafing dish or warming tray. Cold foods should be kept on ice.

■ Cover and refrigerate leftovers. Do not leave the food on the counter. Generally, food should be stored in the refrigerator within two hours of serving.

■ Leftovers should be used quickly, usually within one to three days.

Remember to wash sink, hands, counter, or anything else that comes in contact with the raw turkey, with hot soapy water. Do not cross-contaminate by mixing cold foods such as salads with the turkey or stuffing.

For more information on holiday food safety, call the USDA meat and poultry hotline at 1-888-674-6854 or e-mail Mpholine.fsis@usda.gov. The USDA Web site is www.fsis.usda.gov.

There are a plethora of Internet sites and hotlines available for your use.

If the cookbook or grandmother can't answer questions, surf the net or dial the phone to ensure a happy and safe holiday.



Changes in the 'hoods'

GMH ready to take over West Point's family housing operations

Submitted by GMH
West Point RCI Partner

GMH Military Housing officials said Monday they will take over the operations of West Point's family housing in early July 2008.

"With West Point, the Department of the Army and Congress behind us, we are ready to make West Point's family housing a place the residents will be proud to call home," said Rich Wagner, GMH's project director.

Along with their partners Niles Bolton Associates [architect and engineering], John Culinane Associates [historic architect] and Balfour Beatty Construction, Wagner said they plan to continue the current housing efforts at West Point.

"We will also build exciting new housing units and strive to provide unparalleled maintenance operations so all West Point families will want to live here," Wagner added.

The planning is already well underway. A team effort between West Point's Residential Communities Initiative team and the GMH team resulted in the housing areas being divided into four geographic areas: North, Central, South and West. [See maps on page 11].

"The maps show the approved grade designation for each home and the names of the existing housing areas have not been changed," Wagner explained.

The full plan, he said, involves new construction, historical renovations and community upgrades.

"We will renovate roughly

380 existing historical homes and construct 158 new state-of-the-art homes," Wagner said.

Wagner explained that of the remaining housing units, they will perform minor work on roughly 380 newer homes and demolish 196 non-historic homes. The main mission for all of us, said Michael Colacicco, West Point's RCI Director, is to provide the best housing possible for West Point residents while maintaining the integrity of West Point.

"The historical nature and beauty of the housing at West Point is well understood and appreciated by the GMH team," Colacicco said. "They will restore and preserve the historical integrity of those homes while at the same time make them more comfortable, efficient and functional."

However, building new homes and renovating existing homes to current standards is only the first step in transforming family housing at West Point, said Shari Roosa, GMH Community Manager.

"GMH believes adding the right mixes of neighborhood amenities and community centers are a critical second step," she added.

The plan calls for a Community Center of approximately 2,500 square feet in Stony Lonesome and another in the old hospital, building 126. Some of the community center amenities include meeting rooms, a business center, lounges, exercise rooms, restrooms, vending machine areas, a swimming pool, spray ground, sports courts, trail system and play and tot lots, Roosa explained.

GMH will make immediate improvements to the existing West



Rich Wagner, GMH's project director for West Point, said the company plans to build housing areas that community members will want to live in. Photo by Eric Bartelt, Pointer View.

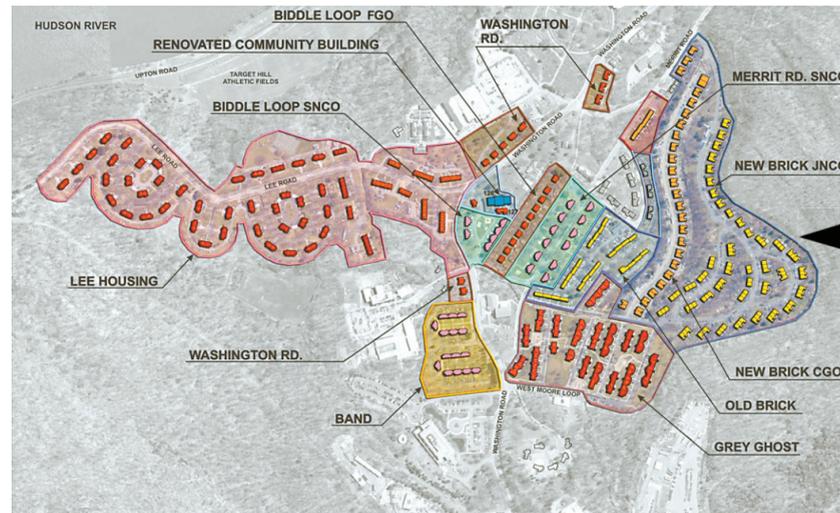
Point homes, she said.

"The exterior of many homes will be pressure-washed, we will caulk windows and doors, scrape paint, re-nail siding and gutters and clean and repair downspouts," Roosa said.

The plan also calls for trimming trees, pruning shrubbery, creating flowerbeds at designated common areas, planting surface edges, cleaning up debris, planting ground cover and seeding, she added.

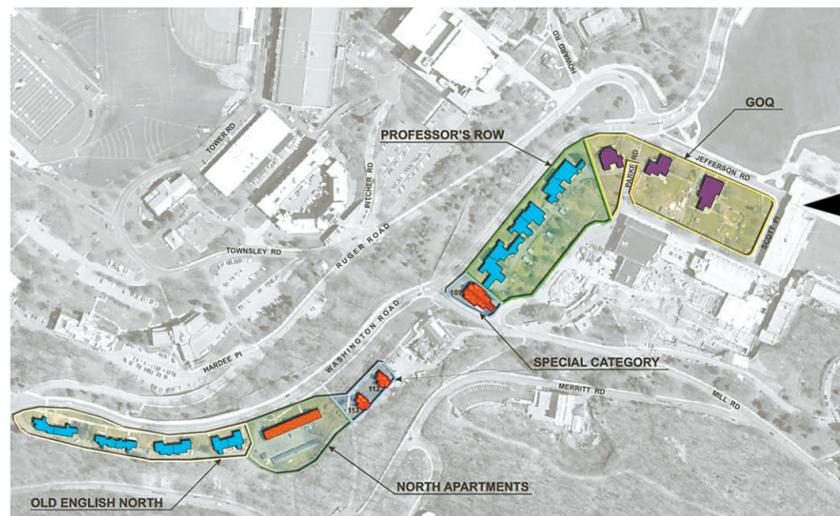
"We will also mow all the common areas to ensure all grass surfaces are maintained and reflect a clean, consistent look throughout the community," Roosa said.

For more information about the RCI program at West Point, call the GMH Community Management Office at 845-446-6407.



NORTH HOUSING AREA

GMH Military Housing plans to take over family housing operations here in early July 2008. These maps show the approved grade designation for each home. According to GMH officials, the full plan involves new construction, historical renovations and community upgrades.



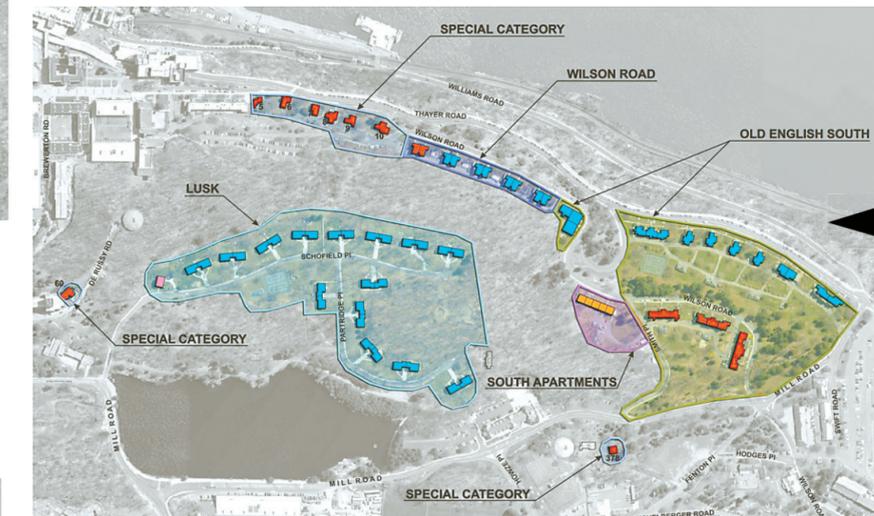
CENTRAL HOUSING AREA



RANK LEGEND

- E1-E6 - JNCO
- E7-E9 - SNCO
- W1-O3 - CGO
- W4-O5 - FGO
- DEMOLISH

SOUTH HOUSING AREA



RANK LEGEND

- E7-E9 - SNCO
- W1-O3 - CGO
- W4-O5 - FGO
- O6 - SGOQ

WEST HOUSING AREA

RANK LEGEND

- W1-O3 - CGO
- W4-O5 - FGO
- O6 - SGOQ
- O7+ - GOQ



RANK LEGEND

- E1-E6 - JNCO
- E7-E9 - SNCO
- W1-O3 - CGO
- W4-O5 - FGO

Got questions? They got answers!
Go to www.westpointfamilyhousing.com



MWR Blurbs

Ski, skate and hockey swap

The ski, skate and hockey swap will be at the Victor Constant Ski Lodge, Sunday and Monday, from noon to 8 p.m.

Buy early and save money - discounted season ski passes, rental equipment, wide selection of merchandise.

Call 938-3726 for more information.

Ski Lodge reservations

Applications for the ski lodge reservations lottery are now being accepted through Monday at 4:30 p.m.

Applications must be submitted online only, to <http://www.westpointmwr.com>, keyword ski.

Winning applicants will be posted on the Web site by Nov. 27. For more info, call 938-4637.

Thanksgiving Feast at WPC

There will be a Thanksgiving Day Feast at the West Point Club Thursday.

There will be two seatings -- at noon in the Pierce Dining Room and at 2:30 p.m., Grand Ballroom.

For reservations and tickets, call 938-5120.

Pet boarding for Army-Navy

Morgan Farm is offering an Army-Navy Game Weekend Special [Nov. 30-Dec. 3].

Board your cat or dog three nights for the price of two.

The kennel is also accepting holiday reservations.

Call 938-3926 for more information.

Crandall Pool closed

Crandall Pool will be closed

during MWR swim time Wed., Nov. 23 and from Dec. 17 until Jan. 11.

West Point Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony

December 3 at Buffalo Soldier Field

Indoor Reception to follow at The Hotel Thayer at 6:30 p.m.

For more info., 938-6127.

CYS basketball sign ups

West Point Child and Youth Services Youth basketball registration is now open.

Call 938-3550 for more information.

Army Photo Contest

The 2007 Army Photography Contest is back and is now accepting digital entries through Nov. 30.

Enter your favorite digital images to compete against the best photographers in the Army.

Categories: people, place, object, military life, experimental and Army values.

For info on how to apply, go to www.westpointmwr.com and select "Special Events and Attractions."

Bowling Center special

Dollar Night every Sunday from 6 to 9 p.m., at the Bowling Center.

Shoes, games, pizza and soda are all discounted.

Call 938-2140 for more information.

Songwriting contest

Songs from the Soul of Service songwriting contest is now granting interviews exclusively to military personnel.

Participants may submit an original song or songs on behalf of an immediate family member, fallen comrade, or a fallen comrade's immediate family member.

The submission period ends December 31, 2007.

To setup an interview, contact Barbara McMillen, Dallas Songwriters Association, [214] 750-0916, or e-mail her at: info@dallasongwriters.org.

Winning songs will be announced in Spring 2008 and will be recognized with prize awards, a concert and inclusion on a compilation CD.

Radio City Christmas show

ITR has a limited number of tickets available for the Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular.

Tickets include show and transportation and are not sold separately.

To purchase tickets, call 938-3601.

Holiday party planning

Book your holiday party with the West Point Club. The Club is hosting Christmas at the 49er Lodge Dec. 7 from 7 to 11 p.m.

Cocktail hour, dinner and dancing, cash bar all night.

View menu online at www.westpointmwr.com.

For pricing and reservations, call 446-5504.

MWR Fitness Center

Les Mills Body Pump Launch, Saturday, Dec. 8, 9 a.m.

Free to all eligible patrons.

Body Pump certification

rescheduled for the following dates:

Dec. 14 Noon to 9 p.m.

Dec. 15 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Dec. 16 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Body Pump Informational Meeting Dec. 4 at 10 a.m. and also Dec. 5 at 5 p.m.

For more info., call 938-6490.

2008 Soldier Show

The 2008 Soldier Show is looking for performers and technicians.

It is open to all active duty Soldiers. Applications are due Dec. 28. For more info., go to www.westpointmwr.com or call 938-6127.

Transition Workshop

Are you an active duty Officer or Senior NCO thinking about retiring

or separating in the next year or two? Then the ACS Executive Transition Workshop is just for you.

The next ACSEXTAP workshop is being held Jan. 8 to 11, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the West Point Ed Center.

Advance registration required.

The workshop addresses: Managing Life Transitions, Job Search, Selling Yourself, Interviewing Pre-work and Techniques, Salary and Benefit Negotiations, Building a Professional Wardrobe, and Networking.

For info., call [845] 248-4719.

Arts & Crafts

Classes are ongoing at the West Point Arts & Crafts Shop.

Call for more info., 938-4812.

For the latest MWR intel ...

Go to westpointmwr.com to find information for all your West Point MWR activities and events here on post.

Keller Corner

KACH closure

All outpatient clinics, laboratory, pharmacy and radiology will be closed Thursday and Nov. 23.

The emergency room will remain open.

Blood Drive

There will be a Kick-Off Campaign Meeting Dec. 7 from 2 to 4:30 p.m. in Keller Army Hospital, Second Floor Classroom in preparation for the up-coming

Armed Forces Blood Program's January 14-17, 2008 Blood Drive. Request that appointed Key Personnel from each activity attend this meeting.

Please provide the names of those attending to Mary Mandia at 938-2583 [BLUD] or via e-mail at MARY.MANDIA@NA.AMEDD. ARMY.MIL or Capt. Gerald Keller at 938-6804 or via e-mail at GERALD.KELLAR@AMEDD. ARMY.MIL on or before Dec. 6.

What's Happening

Winter Coat Drive

The Student Athlete Advisory Council in conjunction with the American Red Cross-West Point will conduct a coat drive Sat. at the Army-Tulsa football game.

There will be representatives at gates 1, 3, 6A, and 7 from 10 a.m. until the end of the first quarter.

Please donate new and gently used coats for all ages.

If you are unable to attend the game and still want to donate coats, you may drop off coats Mon. through Fri. from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the Red Cross Building at Pershing Center.

Please visit the American Red Cross-West Point Web site www.nyredcross.org/westpoint for more information.

Points of contact for this are: Michelle Strom [845] 938-4100 [American Red Cross-West Point], ODIA's Maj. Kim Kawamoto [845] 938-5145 and Stephanie Strowbridge [845] 938-2294.

WPWC book signing

The West Point Women's Club Gift Shoppe will be open Saturday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. for a book signing by Maureen DuRant and Peter Carroll for their book *West Point -- Postcard History Series*.

Commissary Thanksgiving

Command Channel 8/23

Nov. 16- Nov. 30

FRIDAY

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

MONDAY - NOV. 27

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

Nov. 28 - Nov. 29

8:30 A.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH
9 A.M. SPIRIT VIDEOS
1 P.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH
2 P.M. SPIRIT VIDEOS
6 P.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH
7 P.M. SPIRIT VIDEOS

Nov. 30

SPIRIT VIDEOS ON THE HOUR FROM
9 A.M. THROUGH 4 P.M.

week hours

Monday -- 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Tuesday -- 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Wednesday -- 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Thursday -- CLOSED
Nov. 23 -- 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Nov. 24 -- 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

ACPDC Thanksgiving week hours

Wed. -- 5:30 a.m. until 4 p.m.
Thursday -- CLOSED
Nov. 23 and 24 -- 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Nov. 25 -- 1 to 9 p.m.

No Friday Night services

The Jewish Chapel will not have Friday night service Nov. 23, Dec. 28 or Jan. 4.

Special Chapel Service for Thanksgiving week

Jewish Warrior Weekend: Jewish cadets from other academies and universities are invited to attend religious services and activities today through **Sunday** at the Jewish Chapel.

There will be a Thanksgiving Meal **Sunday** at 6 p.m. at the Gospel Service at the post chapel.

Tuesday there will be a combined Protestant Thanksgiving Service at 7:30 p.m. at the Cadet Chapel.

Tuesday at Most Holy Trinity there will be at 7:30 p.m. -- the Thanksgiving Leave Mass, followed by the Thanksgiving Pie Social at 8:30 p.m.

Nov. 24 there will be a Thanksgiving Mass at MHT at 9 a.m.

Quilters

Quilters, interested in making baby quilts for spouses of deployed Soldiers?

Contact Roberta Cerniglia, 313 Sepasco Lake Dr., Rhinebeck, NY 12572, e-mail: sepascobay@aol.com.

FAST class begins Nov. 26

The West Point Army Education Center will be offering a FAST class for qualified Soldiers from Nov. 26 through Dec. 13.

The class meets Monday through Friday, from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

FAST [Functional Academic Skills Training] provides Soldiers with on-duty instruction in reading, math and language.

The goal is to improve job performance, prepare Soldiers for more advanced schooling, increase re-enlistment options and enhance trainability.

To be eligible for the training a Soldier must have a GT score below 110 and have taken a TABE test.

Soldiers interested in FAST should call 938-3464 or go to the Education Center and speak with a counselor.

Book signing

Lars Anderson, the author and a staff writer for *Sports Illustrated*, will be signing his new book

"Carlisle vs. Army" Nov. 30 from 1:30 to 4:15 p.m., at the Cadet Bookstore located on Thayer Hall's fourth floor.

Santa Suits for rent

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers will be renting out four complete Santa Suits beginning Dec. 1 for \$25 a piece as part of a fundraising event for BOSS.

Contact Connie Woodley at 938-6127 for more information.

Holiday Bazaar

Sacred Heart of Jesus School in Highland Falls will host a Holiday Bazaar Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m., at the school.

More vendors are needed. We will also feature a children's craft table where they can create and purchase gifts for loved ones.

Our Christmas in the Basket Raffle has just begun, featuring over \$300 in gift certificates to area merchants and a Christmas tree for the Grand Prize. There are also three other great prizes, including Dinner for two at the Hotel Thayer, an iPod Shuffle, and Dinner for two at Loughran's Restaurant in Salisbury Mills.

Please send an inquiry by e-mail to sacredheartfundraising@gmail.com for more information on any of these events.

PWOC

Ladies, mark your calendars now for this upcoming powerful PWOC program.

It will be held Dec. 5, from 8:45 to 11 a.m., at the Post Chapel.

Come and hear powerful personal testimonies of how the gospel of Jesus Christ is changing women's lives at the Walter Hoving Home.

These ladies will also sing and dance. There will be a brunch afterward and opportunities for fellowship with the ladies from the Walter Hoving Home.

WPWC

Applications are now available for scholarships and community grants offered by the West Point Women's Club.

Pick up copies at the WPWC shop, ACS, or visit the Web site: www.shopthepoint.com.

Applications are due Feb. 29, 2008.

AER scholarship program

The Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Program is for dependent children of active, retired and deceased Soldiers.

The program offers scholarships based on financial need, academics and leadership/achievement.

Applications for the 2008-2009 scholarship and the Stateside Spouse Education Assistance Program are available on the AER Web site www.aerhq.org through March 1, 2008.

To be eligible, applicants must maintain a cumulative GPA of a 2.0 on a 4.0 grading scale and be full-time students.

AFAP highlights from local commander's Steering Committee

Below are highlights of local AFAP Issues from the Commander's AFAP Steering Committee.

USMA AFAP Issue #0601: Child Development Center Not Growing with Community Needs:

The CDC has increased the number of hourly care spaces. Additionally, the School Age Services building has reopened.

The CYS Wait List Policy changed to allow the Garrison Commander flexibility to reassign childcare slots.

Plans are underway to build a new multi-purpose center in FY08 to accommodate the SKIES [Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills] program.

This issue remains active.

USMA AFAP Issue #0605: Lack of Availability and Quality of Products at the Commissary:

DeCA reported receiving results of their Customer Satisfaction Survey scoring 4.95 out of 5.

Additionally, the commissary is holding focus groups to provide a forum for the community for additional input and recommendations for improvements.

This issue remains active.

USMA AFAP Issue #0609: Equal Housing Opportunity

for the U.S. Military Academy Soldiers: Further research will be conducted to determine how the AR 210-50 [Army Housing Management] applies with RCI.

This issue remains active.

USMA AFAP Issue #0611: Priority of In/Out PCS Reservations for the Five Star Inn:

The Standard Operating Procedure was changed from 30 days to 15 days during the period of April 1 to Sept. 30.

In addition, three rooms are reserved daily for PCS needs. Metrics have been provided by the Five Star Inn report that this policy has slightly lowered the number of Statements of Non-availability for PCSers from 138 to 114 during this time frame. This issue will remain active.

U S M A AFAP Issue # 0 6 1 3 : Community U n i t y Carnival:

This recommendation centered on an annual fair at Buffalo Soldier Field with rides.

BSF cannot be used for this type of event. MWR has conducted more special events such as the Hog Wild Fest event this summer and the Haunted Hayride in October.

MWR is looking into expanding other existing events to incorporate the desires of the teens.

The MWR Recreation Delivery System Committee will meet with the teens to gain their input on how to include this recommendation with existing events.

This issue will remain active.

USMA AFAP Issue 0614: Extreme Sport Complex:

MWR is working with RCI to assess the feasibility of accommodating an in-line skating/skate park in the housing area.

Mountain bike rentals are available at Round Pond. MWR has also considered offering Extreme Mountain biking down the ski slope during the off-season.

MWR is conducting a survey to determine the feasibility of opening an unsupervised skate park. The survey will appear on the back of the next MWR Community 90-day calendar arriving in the West Point homes in mid-December. Community members are encouraged to respond to this survey.

This issue remains active.

USMA AFAP Issue #0615: Coffee, Internet & International

Calling Café:

This issue originated from the teen work group. MWR reports that Round Pond will offer WIFI when it reopens April 1, 2008.

The Ski Lodge will have WIFI accessibility prior to this season and currently offer Starbucks products.

MWR is exploring options for funding for lap top computers for use as a cyber lab to supplement the existing wired computer lab in the Youth Center.

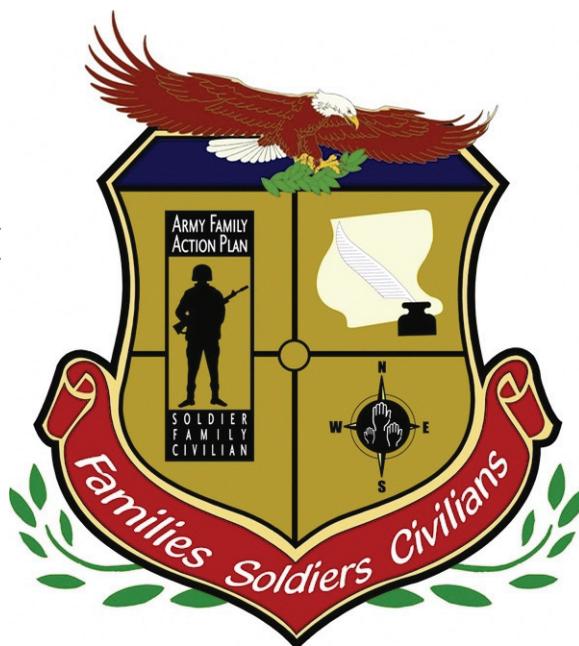
This issue remains active.

USMA AFAP Issue #0417: Opportunity for WP Youth to Participate in Paintball:

MWR is conducting a return on investment on this issue which will be completed by Nov. 30.

MWR is exploring funding options for this recommendation.

Contact Jen Pagio, the USMA AFAP Coordinator at [845] 938-3655 with any questions.



Black & Gold volunteers for November

The Black and Gold volunteer awardees were honored by U.S. Army Garrison, West Point commander Col. Dan Bruno Nov. 9. They are [left to right] Bruno, Chris Ake, Angela Fenske, Van Bert, Beth Fagerquist, Liz Bushman, Christina Galgano, Doreen Coughlin, Margaret Moten, Stephanie Harvie, Lt. Col. John Nelson, Diana Hill, Robert Partridge, Meg Olsen and Eunoh Lee. The Volunteer of the Month for November was Stephanie Harvie [PWOC].

PHOTO BY BEV COOPER/DOIM MMB

DPW Notes

Check your ovens now

If you are a West Point resident and you do not use your oven on a routine basis, please check to see if it is operating properly as soon as possible.

As a reminder, the repair of appliances is done by a contractor and a non-working oven ONLY, [with the stove top burners functioning] is not an "emergency" requiring a quick response by the contractor.

You can save your Thanksgiving and other holiday feasts and lower your stress level by checking the oven's operation as soon as possible and reporting any problems.

True emergencies -- when both the oven and stove top are not working -- will continue to be responded to rapidly.

Requests for appliance repairs should be made to the DPW Service Desk, 938-2316.

If you have any questions on the appliance repair contract responsiveness and replacement of appliances, contact DPW Property Book, 938-2949.

2007 Resident handbook

The new edition of the Resident Handbook is now available on the Family Housing Web site.

You may access it at www.usma.edu, Agencies, Directorate of Public Works, Family Housing, Resident Handout

Holiday recycle/trash collection schedule

There will be no Army Family Housing trash collection on Thanksgiving Day.

AFH trash which is normally collected on Thursdays will be collected Nov. 23.

Trash which is normally collected on Fridays will be collected Nov. 24.

For information, contact Solid Waste Management Branch, 938-4074.

Are you leaving your quarters for the holiday?

As you prepare to leave the West Point area for the Thanksgiving Holiday, please remember to prepare your quarters for vacancy during cold weather.

- Protect your home by doing the following:

- Insure that all storm windows and doors are installed and closed.

- Turn your heat down, but no lower than 60 F.

- Open cabinets that contain water pipes to allow heat to circulate around them. Leave one faucet

slightly dripping to keep the water moving so it is less likely to freeze. Disconnect all garden hoses.

- Have a trusted neighbor periodically enter your quarters to insure all is OK.

Disposal of fallen leaves

Residents have two options to dispose of leaves this fall.

1] They may be raked to the curb, but not into the street or storm drains for pick up by leaf vacuum truck, as resources allow.

2] Residents may place leaves in BROWN PAPER BAGS ONLY [the bags are available at the Self Help Center] and left at your solid waste collection point.

Yard waste is collected by the contractor on Wednesdays.

To dispose of small branches and twigs they must be cut into no more than 4' lengths and bundled with string/twine and placed as Solid Waste Collection Point for the Wednesday Yard Waste Pick up.

Self help center holiday schedule

The DPW Self Help Center [Bldg 695] will be closed Thursday, Nov. 23 and Nov. 24 in celebration of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

The Center is normally closed to customers on Sunday and Mondays. The Center will reopen to the community Nov. 27.

Family housing exterior lighting policy

Resident installed exterior holiday and decorative lighting must comply with the following policy provisions:

[1] Electric lights, both exterior

and interior, that are viewed from the outside, may only be operated during evening hours of darkness [approximately 4:30 p.m.] and must be turned off by midnight each day. This applies to porch lights as well as any holiday display lighting.

Lights must only be used when the occupant is home, unless they are controlled using an automatic timer set using the time constraints outlined above.

The operation hours listed above do not apply for Dec. 24 and Dec. 25 only.

[2] Exterior lighting and displays for the Christmas/Hanukkah/Kawanza season may not be installed earlier than Nov. 15 and must be removed no later than Jan. 15.

[3] Flood and spot light landscape lighting are limited to no more than a total energy expenditure of 125 watts.

The lighting may be made up of any number of lamps as long as the total wattage used does not exceed the 125 watt limitation.

All landscape lights MUST illuminate only your quarters or grounds.

[4] Small exterior lights, displayed in patio / porch areas for use during darkness hours are allowed under the Exterior Lighting Policy.

Such lights are allowed provided they are neatly "strung" on patio umbrellas, porches, trees, fences, etc.

Also, they may not be secured to trees, fences, sheds, porch walls, etc by nails / tacks that would compromise the integrity of the structure.

NOW SHOWING

in the movie theater at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

FRIDAY -- 3:10 TO YUMA, R, 7:30 P.M.

SATURDAY -- THE GAME PLAN, PG, 7:30 P.M.

SATURDAY -- WE OWN THE NIGHT, R, 9:30 P.M.

NOV. 23 -- ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE, PG-13, 7:30 P.M.

NOV. 24 -- WHY DID I GET MARRIED, PG-13, 7:30 P.M.

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

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to our brave military men and women

Text "8-9-2-7-9"

www.AmericaSupportsYou.mil

Warrior Transition Unit contact info.

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

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

Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

Army and Community Sports

BREAKING THE STREAK: Seniors hope to finish on high note with win against Tulsa

Story and photos by
Eric S. Bartelt
Sports Editor

Army heads into its contest against Tulsa Saturday on a four-game losing streak and another big challenge ahead with a steamrolling Golden Hurricane squad.

The Black Knights [3-7] face the Golden Hurricane [7-3], who just defeated Conference USA rival Houston 56-7 last Saturday.

Tulsa's offense is led by senior quarterback Paul Smith, who with two regular season games left has already tied a 43-year Golden Hurricane touchdown passing record of 32 in one season.

Army head football coach Stan Brock looks at Tulsa's offense and sees the likes of freshmen wide receiver Trae Johnson and fullback Charles Clay and knows they have great talent to support Smith.

"He has a lot of people he can throw the ball to and has some great running backs he can hand the ball off to," Brock said. "It's going to be a challenge for us to be disciplined and know where we go and know

where we fit."

It's been a tough four weeks with injuries mounting on both sides of the ball and losses in games, but one player stepped up against

Rutgers with an outstanding play. Junior cornerback Josh Mitchell returned a 65-yard interception for a score off of Mike Teel, as Mitchell started in place of the



Junior cornerback Josh Mitchell returned a 65-yard interception for a touchdown in his first game replacing senior John Laird, who is out for the season with an injury.

injured John Laird.

"From that standpoint [of scoring the only points of the game for Army], he has done a good job," Brock said. "He is a cover guy who has speed. I think he is an asset. It's too bad we don't have John Laird because depth is something we don't have a lot of... Josh has done a good job and it is exactly what we expected of him."

Saturday will be a big day for the seniors as they play their last game at Michie Stadium. It's a day that they reflect on especially with the reality of how fast their football careers have gone by.

"It's crazy that it's finally here

[my final home game]," said senior safety Caleb Campbell. "I've been playing for four years now and I wouldn't even think this day would ever come and it's finally here. It's the last time I'm going out there, so I'm just going to be aggressive."

Senior fullback Mike Viti added, "I'm just trying to take everything in with this last game. To me, I just can't believe it went by this quick because I can almost feel like it was last week when I was playing my freshman or sophomore years."

With all the positive energy that will be taken to the field Saturday, the team is looking

See STREAK on page 18

Men's Rugby takes NERFU title, faces Navy

By Men's Army Rugby

Men's Army Rugby heads into its rival match with Navy Saturday at 5:30 p.m. at the Anderson Rugby Complex coming off of another New England Rugby Football Union championship.

The Black Knights produced a weekend sweep to achieve their NERFU championship goals as they beat the University of Buffalo 38-15 Saturday and then defeated Dartmouth 16-3 Sunday to earn a spot in the USA Sweet 16.

In the championship match, Army defeated Dartmouth for the second time this season to add another Army NERFU Championship title to the records. Before the match, Army men's

head rugby coach Richard Pohlidal reminded the team that it was Veterans Day and to never forget who the team represents. After that symbolic moment, emotions were at an extreme high for the team.

Army, led by senior team captain Trey Colantonio, took the field prepared for a tough fight. The match began as expected with both sides testing each other in space, but neither side controlled the ball more than the other.

At the 28-minute mark, Dartmouth scored the first points of the game by converting a penalty kick right under the posts. Army answered late in the first half to convert its own penalty kick by junior winger Mike Fleming. Many opportunities arose to put points

on the board, but neither Army nor Dartmouth managed to score a try in the first half. The half ended at a 3-3 deadlock.

In the second half, Army came out determined to win and scored the first try of the match when senior 8 man Austin McNaul scored on a back row attack slotting the try after Army's pack dominated Dartmouth on a 5-meter scrum.

Not more than five minutes later, Army had a line break by junior #10 Dimitri DelCastillio, which was set up by sophomore reserve flanker Mark Wilson. Fleming then converted on another penalty kick to seal the 16-3 win over Dartmouth.

Throughout the tough match, Army's dominance at forward

and its will to win propelled the Brothers to a hard earned victory.

Junior lock Steve Dwyer was named most valuable player of the match for his strong play in the lineout and all over the pitch.

Pohlidal gave credit to the heart and character of the team. He mentioned that while the team can celebrate the victory, everything the team does from now until Saturday must be filtered with focus and preparation for Navy.

Along similar lines, Colantonio spoke of the great pride he had for the heart with which the team played, and of how important the Navy match is.

"Only two people in this room have ever stepped on the pitch with Navy," Colantonio said. "This

match means everything to us firsties."



Men's Rugby. ERIC S. BARTELT/PV

JBK D2, D3 seasons end

By Ben Liotta
Junior Black Knights

The 2007 Junior Black Knights Youth Football season is over and, even though two of the leagues four teams played into November and the second round of the playoffs, the feeling among coaches and players is that the season ended one week too soon.

The Division 2 [ages 10 and 11] and Division 3 [ages 12 and 13] teams both had semifinal games Sunday, with the winners advancing to the Orange County Youth Football League championship. Both D2 and D3 came up short in their quest to play in the OCYFL Super Bowl.

The Division 2 game was a hard fought battle that ended with JBK losing to the Wallkill Panthers 38-22. D2 [8-2] fell behind early to the Panthers, but displayed their trademark 'never quit, never give up' attitude to fight back all game, refusing to go home without a fight.

With Wallkill up 22-0, Kyle Kilner put JBK on the board in

the 2nd quarter. Tommy Rounds kick made the score 20-8. Other offensive stars for JBK Sunday were Jonathan Mundell with 75 yards rushing and a touchdown and Sam Brockington, who also added a TD. On defense, the relentless fight by JBK saw 12 different players making tackles.

Advancing this far into the playoffs is a major accomplishment for the players and the youth football program.

The Division 3 playoff game saw JBK [5-5] lose to Middletown, but it was not the loss that was upsetting; it was the poor sportsmanship on behalf of the Middletown coaches, players and fans that was most disappointing.

Middletown, clearly the best team in D3, was the better team on this day. But they chose to tarnish their efforts by reprehensible behavior from the team and its fans.

The JBK coaches took the team off the field in the second half, handing Middletown a win by forfeit. However, the JBK players should remember the season they had in advancing to the final four.

STREAK, cont. from page 16

to halt a losing streak that has emotionally drained them to the point of beyond frustration. Some of the guys, notably the captains, are going to try to get the most out of the team.

"I have faith [in this team]. Players say they're embarrassed [by losing], but it's our fault. Players play and coach's coach, and the players must go out there to win the game," Campbell said. "It kind of aggravates me that [our] players were embarrassed because of themselves. It's because of us as players that we did this.

"It's totally up to us as players if we want to change our direction and start playing better on the field," he added. "It starts with practice -- we have to have a good week at practice and I think we're going to go out there and do that ... I'm kind of excited to see how we turn our streak around. I've got a lot of emotions [just like everyone else] ... it's frustrating."

Senior Jeremy Trimble wants to go out with a bang with a victory at home and as a captain wants to rally the troops to the win.

"It's tough losing," Trimble said. "Everybody is happy when you're winning, everybody is

down when you're losing. So it's our jobs as captains to rally them, bring them together and remind them what we came together for and that's to win games. The past is behind us and we're looking at Tulsa [for a win]."

Saturday's game will be aired on ESPN Classic [Channel 171 at West Point] starting at noon and the game will be broadcast by Eric Collins and Jim Hofher. The Army game can also be heard on the Army Sports Network through WABC 770-AM New York and Sirius Satellite Radio on Channel 143 beginning at noon, 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 10 a.m., with pre-game coverage starting at 11:30 p.m., on the Army Sports Network stations.

Game Day notes: West Point Parking Lots will open for game day parking at 6 a.m., and Michie Stadium gates will open at 10 a.m. The Cadet Review on the Plain begins at 9 a.m., while America's Tailgate at Black Knight Alley opens at 9 a.m.

Sports calendar

Nov. 16 - Nov. 25

Corps Squad

FRIDAY -- MBB vs. LIU,
CHRISTL ARENA, 7 P.M.

FRIDAY -- HOCKEY vs. BENTLEY,
TATE RINK, 7:05 P.M.

SATURDAY -- FOOTBALL vs. TULSA,
MICHIE STADIUM, NOON
[ESPN CLASSIC]

SATURDAY -- HOCKEY vs. BENTLEY,
TATE RINK, 7:05 P.M.

SUNDAY -- WBB vs.
ST. FRANCIS [N.Y.],
CHRISTL ARENA, 3 P.M.

SUNDAY -- RIFLE vs. NEBRASKA
& N.C. ST., TRONSRUE, 9 A.M.

TUESDAY -- WBB vs. DREXEL,
CHRISTL ARENA, 7 P.M.

TUESDAY -- WRESTLING vs.
BUCKNELL, GILLIS FIELD HOUSE,
7:30 P.M.

Nov. 23 -- WBB vs. AIR FORCE,
CHRISTL ARENA, 7 P.M.

Nov. 24 -- MBB vs.
PRESBYTERIAN, CHRISTL ARENA,
1 P.M.

Club

SATURDAY -- MEN'S RUGBY
vs. NAVY, ANDERSON RUGBY
COMPLEX, 5:30 P.M.