

April changes [as of 4/30]	
C FUND	+ 4.43 percent
I FUND	+ 3.76 percent
S FUND	+ 2.51 percent

## Pace passes torch to new generation of leaders



Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Marine Gen. Peter Pace addresses the Class of 2007.

ERIC S. BARTELT/PV

By Jim Garamone  
American Forces  
Press Service

WESTPOINT, N.Y. -- It seemed very much like the passing of the torch as Marine Gen. Peter Pace spoke to the U.S. Military Academy Class of 2007 here April 25.

Pace probably will be the last chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff with combat experience from Vietnam. He spoke to cadets who, by this time next year, may be leading troops in combat in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Pace graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy, in Annapolis, Md., in 1967. He arrived at Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, in Hue City, South Vietnam, in the middle of the Tet offensive of February 1968. The general spoke of that experience and 40 years of leadership at all levels with the soon-to-be second lieutenants.

Pace urged the cadets to listen to their platoon sergeants, and showed that a four-star general followed his own advice when he introduced Command Sgt. Maj. William J. Gainey, the senior enlisted advisor to the chairman.

Pace spoke with a voice about an octave lower than normal, the result of "crud" he picked up during a recent trip to Iraq and Afghanistan. Still, he managed to convey the importance of the relationship between a new second lieutenant and a platoon sergeant.

"Every time I've had a leadership responsibility in my 40 years of service, I've had an incredible, strong right arm in the sergeant, staff sergeant, first sergeant, sergeant major who have been my battle buddies," Pace said. "When I found out I was going to be chairman, the first thing that crossed my mind was who was going to be my sergeant major.

"There was absolutely no way I wanted to do this without having a very special, talented senior enlisted person whispering in my

ear and telling me when I was headed off on the wrong path and the other things I needed to know," the chairman said.

Pace spoke to the cadets about the lessons he learned in the fighting around Hue City -- some of the deadliest fighting of the Vietnam War. He told them to check their moral compass before getting to Iraq or Afghanistan.

"When you are in combat and you see your first Soldier wounded or killed, waves of emotion are going to come over you," he said. A moral anchor, he explained, will keep them from doing the wrong things.

"When I was a lieutenant in Vietnam and I was on patrol, the first Marine I lost in combat was a lance corporal named Guido Farinero of Bethpage, N.Y.," Pace said. "Guido was 19 years old and [was] killed by a sniper.

"I was infuriated," he continued. "I called in an artillery strike on the village from which this sniper fired. And my platoon sergeant -- Reed B. Zachary -- didn't say anything to me. He just looked at me and I knew by his look that I was about to do something really wrong."

Pace called off the artillery strike and ordered a sweep through the village. The only people the unit found were women and children.

"I don't know how I could have lived with myself if I had done what I almost did," he said. "I tell you this story because no matter how

See PACE VISITS on page 3

## Cadet pair named Fulbright scholars

By Jim Fox  
Assistant Editor

Cadets 1st Class Dan Vallone and Dan Lennox were named Fulbright scholars recently.

They are the sixth and seventh cadets to be chosen since West Point began competing in 2005.

Vallone and Lennox round out the academy's slate of national merit scholars for the 2006-2007 academic year at 15 or one more than last year.

Vallone, 22, also earned an East-West fellowship earlier this semester. He will decline the East-West to pursue his master's degree in Contemporary China at the Nanyang Technological University in Singapore as a Fulbright scholar.

The East Asian Studies major said he will attend the Basic Officer Leadership Course and his Officer Basic Course in the summer of

2008 after he completes his year of study abroad.

His decision to choose the Fulbright over the East-West pulled him in different directions. His E-W fellowship would have had him studying toward a masters of arts in East Asian Studies at the University of Hawaii in Manoa.

"I chose the Fulbright over the East-West because it will allow me to study China more intensely," the cadet company E-4 Sandhurst squad leader said. "It is more in line with my goals of furthering America's relations with countries of East Asia."

Vallone added that going to Singapore will also allow him



Cadet 1st Class  
Dan Vallone

to become immersed in a culture where "everyone speaks Chinese and English. So it is a perfect environment to learn."

The future Infantry officer said he was in disbelief when he found out he had earned a Fulbright.

"I am incredibly thankful to be given this opportunity," the Epping, N.H. native said.

Vallone said he hopes his year in graduate school helps him contribute toward greater military involvement and stronger relations between the U.S. Army and the militaries of Southeast and East Asia."

Lennox, 22, is a double major  
See FULBRIGHT on page 3



Cadet 1st Class  
Dan Lennox

## INSIDE



SANDHURST, pages 10-11

## Security is everyone's business

Commentary by Chris Shaw  
Security Officer, DES

Recently, all of us were bombarded by horrific images and have seen the chaos that one disturbed individual can cause on a college campus. Since that time, many questions have been asked, like how could one individual cause so much damage over such a short period of time?

We have heard many solutions, albeit after the fact, which range from making the institution a fenced-in controlled area, to allowing students and faculty to carry weapons. Some of the solutions have merit, while others are just not possible.

Since West Point is so unique [an institution within a military installation], certain requirements or measures have continually been highlighted. One important factor that needs to be addressed is retaining the quality of life for cadets, Family members, Soldiers, civilians and faculty, while also dealing with the huge influx of visitors each year.

Currently, based upon America's War on Terrorism, certain measures are in place to provide deterrence to prevent a terrorist/criminal act. One important measure that can be implemented by all of us is

observing and reporting unusual actions and conduct of individuals. Whether it's a co-worker, Family member, acquaintance or someone you observe wandering around post, if something strikes you as being suspicious, report it to the Military Police -- 938-3333, at a minimum.

Having situational awareness of normal day-to-day conduct provides a higher sense of recognition, when something unusual is seen, or behavior is abnormal. Examples of what might be considered "unusual" include: seeing a number of bright-colored backpacks just left in Thayer Hall over a weekend when no events are going on, seeing a person taking pictures of the power plant or seeing an unknown vehicle driving around in the housing area repeatedly to name a few. If it doesn't seem "right" to you, it very likely isn't and you should report it.

Ask yourself if you're willing to gamble that nothing will happen and everything will work itself out. As we've seen at Virginia Tech, there were many "trouble signs," that in retrospect, should have been reported. Had they been reported and the responding agencies had done their job, this horrible incident might never have happened. If it can happen at a quiet college like Virginia Tech, it can happen anywhere, including West Point.

## May is Mental Health Month

Commentary by  
Katherine L. Cruise  
Screening for  
Mental Health, Inc.

Have you been feeling stressed, anxious or depressed? Help could be just a click or phone call away. Free, anonymous mental health self-assessment is available at [www.MilitaryMentalHealth.org](http://www.MilitaryMentalHealth.org) and [877] 877-3647.

Have you been feeling consistently moody or sad? Can't relax or concentrate? Been alternating between highs and lows? Have you been troubled by unexplained aches and pains? Are you unable to eat or sleep? If so, you may be suffering from a mental health disorder.

May is Mental Health Month and the military is offering free

online and telephone mental health and alcohol self-assessments for a range of common emotional situations that often go undiagnosed and misunderstood.

If you've been feeling disconnected and unlike your usual self lately, this program can help you put the pieces back together. The self-assessment program offers self-tests for depression, bipolar disorder, alcohol problems, generalized anxiety disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder. Questions included on the online assessment are:

- Have you lost pleasure in things you used to enjoy?
- Do you have trouble sleeping or eating?
- Does your mood fluctuate between overly "high" to sad and hopeless?

■ Are you keyed up and anxious all the time?

■ Are you having nightmares about something that happened in the past?

■ Do you suffer from unexplained aches and pains?

Once the self-assessment is completed, you will be given information on where to turn for a full evaluation. The Mental Health Self-Assessment Program is a voluntary, anonymous mental health and alcohol self-assessment and referral program offered to military Families and service members affected by deployment. It is offered online and via the telephone 24/7, as well as through local in-person events. This program is offered without charge through the Department of Defense Office of Health Affairs.

### SAPR-P

The members of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program are Col. Jeanette McMahan, Shelley Ariosto [Garrison], Maj. Samantha Ross [USCC], Maj. Kim Kawamoto [ODIA] and Lt. Col. Robbie Williams [Dean]. Community members can e-mail McMahan at [Jeanette.McMahan@usma.edu](mailto:Jeanette.McMahan@usma.edu) for advice or to offer any recommendations on the program here. Cadets can also call the sexual assault support helpline at [845] 591-7215. West Point Soldiers and civilians needing assistance can call [845] 938-3369.

### Weekly Sudoku by Chris Okasaki, D/EECS

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

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

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

Difficulty: Easy

See Solution on Page 14

## POINTER VIEW®

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# Local and National News

## PACE VISITS, cont. from page 1

well-grounded you are, you need to know each day when you get up, who you want to be when you go to sleep that night -- especially in combat when those waves of emotion sweep over you."

He said the cadets should take the time now to examine their lives to figure out who they want to be at the end of their combat tours. "Because if you don't know your destination, you may find yourself in a place you never wanted to go," he said.

Vietnam also taught Pace to make decisions. He said that his platoon was on point for Golf Company outside Hue City. Each time the platoon came to a crossroads, he would call back to the company commander and ask which way to go.

"The third time I called back for guidance on whether to go left or right, he just chewed me out," Pace said. "If you take out the curse words, he didn't say anything at all. I handed the radio back and told my radio operator that if he calls, I'm not here, because I made the decision that I was going to start making decisions.

"And if I was going to get my butt chewed, which I have had frequently," he continued, "it was going to be for doing something and making decisions, and not for asking for guidance. It

is easier to get forgiveness than get permission."

When the cadets graduate May 26, they will have worked hard for four years and "absolutely earned the right to start at the bottom, and that ain't all bad," Pace said.

He told the cadets that the men and women they will lead are the best America offers. To be a second lieutenant leading a platoon is to have the best job in the military and general officers would gladly trade places with them to be able to do it again, Pace told the cadets.

"If you asked a senior vice president in IBM if they wanted to get back to their cubby, they'd laugh you out of the building," Pace said, contrasting working the corporate sector with serving in the military. Starting at the bottom in the armed forces isn't bad, he said, "because it's the best part of this organization."

Another benefit, he said, is that people expect lieutenants to make mistakes. "Don't feel bad about that," he said. "Just try not to make the same mistake twice."

He told the cadets to accept the jobs they are given and do the best they possibly can. "The best advice I can give you is to grow where you are planted," he said. "Your Soldiers, wherever you are assigned, deserve the best leadership that they can get."

Doing any job well will lead to other jobs, the chairman noted. "There are more good jobs than there are good people," he said.

Pace told the cadets that if they remember only one thing from his remarks, it should be "take care of your Soldiers." He said that if the Soldiers just know they care, it will help. "A unit that knows its leader cares about it, will always -- always -- freely give more than any leader can try to demand," he said.

Pace told the cadets that he and they have a lot in common. He said that when he graduated in 1967, the country was at war and he knew he was going to go fight in that war. The country is at war as the cadets of the Class of 2007 graduates and the cadets know they will be part of that war.

He said the cadets probably are asking themselves the same questions he asked himself 40 years ago. He told the cadets if they are wondering how they will do in

combat and they worry about it, "that's a healthy sign."

He said they have the best training in the world and they will join the best Soldiers in the world. "You will know fear," he said. "If you are in a unit and some Soldier on your left or right doesn't know fear, move away."

The general said the worst thing a second lieutenant can do in combat is get killed. "It is also the easiest [thing to do]," he said. "And I don't mean it's the easiest because you can pop your head up, or because you're on point and you might get whacked. I mean because as the lieutenant you've got to decide who is going to do the mission that looks impossible and will probably not survive."

Pace said the cadets will find they'll want to do those missions themselves rather than pick a Soldier. "But your Soldiers want to follow you," he said. "They want you to lead. They want you to be telling

them what to do. And they want you to be planning the next event. They do not want you to do their job for them. And if you take the easy way and get yourself killed, you have done an enormous disservice to every one of your Soldiers."

About 90 percent of what they will teach their Soldiers in combat will be by their examples, Pace told the cadets. He said as leaders, they have to carry themselves with confidence and remain calm. "And it is really tough to stay calm when folks are shooting at you, you're trying to work the radio and get things moving," he said.

The chairman promised the cadets that taking the commissioning oath on graduation day will be an event they'll keep with them for life. "I promise you that the instant you put your hand down having sworn that oath, you will never, ever, regret strapping on the leadership of the United States Army," he said.

## FULBRIGHT, cont. from page 1

in Comparative Politics and French who will study International Relations at the francophone Université de Yaoundé II in Cameroon.

The future Infantry officer hails from El Paso, Texas, but considers himself an "Army brat."

Lennox's studies will begin this fall with a month of research in Chad before he moves on to continue his research and studies in Cameroon where, he said, he will "focus on the positive role the U.S. Army, together with other government agencies, can play in the region."

The cadet company E-2 Sandhurst squad leader said he was surprised by his selection and was, at first, hesitant to accept it.

"I'm anxious to become a platoon leader," Lennox said. "However, I realized what a great once-in-a-lifetime opportunity this experience is, so I took it, knowing

that it will make me a better Army leader in the long run."

Lennox expounded on that line of thinking when he talked about how his studies would help him in his Army career.

"DOD is increasingly recognizing the strategic importance of Africa," he said. "[This is] shown by the recent creation of AFRICOM, a combatant command for the continent, which previously fell under European Command. Hopefully, my experiences in Africa will help inform the Army more about this increasingly important region.

"The experience will even help me as a platoon leader," he added, "because I'll know more about how to work effectively with local populations, non-governmental organizations and other government agencies. This is essential for leaders in our current combat environment."

# Civilian Education System to enhance professional development

By Rachael Tolliver

WASHINGTON [Army News Service] -- During the Army's transformation, civilians have been asked to perform increasingly more tasks previously done by military personnel. To do a good job and perform well, they need the training and education formerly reserved for Soldiers.

In February 2003, the Army Chief of Staff's Army Training and Leader Development Panel identified civilian training as a high priority and recommended implementing a centralized Army education system.

The Civilian Education System was the result of that recommendation and will slowly replace existing programs, according to Jennifer Brennan, marketing specialist and public affairs officer at the Army Management Staff College at Fort Belvoir, Va. She describes CES as a progressive and sequential civilian-leader development program.

"It provides enhanced leader development and education opportunities for Army civilians

throughout their careers," she explained. "As of right now, attending CES courses is not a mandatory requirement, but the proposal is being addressed by G-3.

"We are in a changing time in the Army and we need to grow our leaders. Our civilians need to be better equipped and educated so they can be ready to meet the needs of the Army. It's a testament to our dedication to warfighters and their Families."

Pam Hicks, who works at Fort Eustis, Va., recently graduated from the CES Intermediate Course and said she would recommend the course because of the understanding and perspective it gave her about her organization's mission and its relevance to the entire Army.

"Most of the concepts and ideas were not new to me, although [they were all] reinforced in positive

ways during the course," Hicks said.

Because she has been in government service for less than three years, Hicks said she gained from "the laboratory approach" to building commitment as an Army civilian leader in service to Soldiers and the nation.

"We all stood and took the Federal Employee Oath of Office on the first day," she explained. "We compared our personal leadership values to Army values and we read extensively from doctrine such as FM 1, 'The Army,' and FM 6-22 'Army Leadership.'"

Pamela Raymer, Ed.D, dean of academics at AMSC, said she has noticed over the last three to five years that military hiring officials are looking for more leadership training on applicants' resumes. The CES could eventually fulfill

continuing education requirements which some employees must earn as a part of their professional development, she said.

Col. Garland Williams, AMSC commandant, said the CES will also level the playing field for civilians who apply for higher level jobs.

"One of the problems of the civilian corps is that guys like me -- a colonel with almost 26 years in service -- I can retire tomorrow and get a pretty good GS-14 job, almost solely based on my education," he said. "What CES does is level that playing field so when there is competition for the same position, the person who comes through the civilian corps, without any prior military experience, is just as competitive as the military officer."

All new Army interns, team leaders, supervisors and managers employed after Sept. 30 are required to attend the basic CES course, according to Brennan. This "foundation" course teaches students Army values and customs, something that might be a new subject for people who have never been in the military, she said.

Other courses in the CES are under consideration as mandatory classes for employees, but there are questions about how that would happen.

"Right now ... that is one of the things that G-1 and G-3 are trying to figure out ... the mandatory pieces of it," Williams said. "What we have been trying to figure out is, do you need to have the course to be promoted, or once you are promoted how long do you have before you need to take the course?"

Because courses are centrally funded, lack of unit funds shouldn't keep qualified candidates from attending, according to Williams and Brennan.

"We are not eating up mission dollars to bring people to school. The only thing the command has to do is identify the right people that need to come -- and they should not be the most expendable, but be the right person," said Williams.

Information about the CES is available at [www.amsc.belvoir.army.mil/ces](http://www.amsc.belvoir.army.mil/ces).

[Editor's Note: Tolliver is editor of the Fort Knox "Turret."]



## Wounded Soldier Hotline resolves medical issues

By Heike Hasenauer

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) -- In the first 34 days since the launch of the Wounded Soldier and Family Hotline in March, 1,357 callers have dialed in to the U.S. Army Human Resources Command's call center in Alexandria, Va., where 120 operators staff the phones in shifts to support a 24-7 operation, said Col. Edward Mason, hotline director.

Of those calls, 590 were identified as "issues," Mason said. The remaining calls were for such information as a point of contact at

a military medical facility.

Of the issues, 308 were medical-related, Mason added. They ranged from requests for medical-board re-evaluations to "I need an appointment with someone at the Veterans Administration." Other calls pertained to finance, personnel, law and an "other" category.

"None of the phone calls have gone without an initial response to the caller beyond our three-business-day standard," Mason said.

The hotline was established primarily to provide operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi

Freedom veterans and their Family Members a way to resolve medical concerns by channeling those concerns directly to Army leaders, said Maj. Gen. Sean Byrne, HRC commander.

Veterans of Desert Storm, the Vietnam War and the Korean War have also used the hotline. Overall, 31 percent of the calls were deemed to be issues that concerned veterans, Mason said.

"We haven't turned away a single request for support," he added.

Family Members and friends call, too, said Col. Bob Clark, deputy director for hotline operations at the HRC. "One concerned friend

called in about a homeless veteran. Predominantly, it's Soldiers and spouses who call the hotline, followed by parents, relatives and friends."

The HRC hotline staff provides daily reports to the director of the Army staff, Mason said. Upon learning that 31 percent of issues dealt with veterans, "we drafted a letter that the secretary of the Army sent to the director of the Veterans Administration, requesting the VA's assistance in addressing and resolving veterans' concerns."

"Our primary purpose is to gather information to determine who can best assist the caller. Then commanders' staffs and representatives get involved," Mason said.

The success of the hotline can be measured by good-news stories, one of which involves a Soldier who was initially told that his inflammation of the lungs was not related to combat in Iraq. The Soldier called the hotline to request further review of his condition and status. Doctors have since determined that the Soldier's condition was, in fact, aggravated by inhalation of sulfur fumes, to which he was exposed in Iraq.

The findings will affect the Soldier for the rest of his life, as he can expect to receive financial compensation and continued medical care, Mason said.

To access the hotline, call [800] 984-8523.

[Editor's Note: Hasenauer is the senior editor of "Soldiers" magazine.]

**WOUNDED  
SOLDIER  
AND  
FAMILY  
HOTLINE**

**800-984-8523**

## Orange County Special Olympics Sat.

WEST POINT, N.Y. -- The U.S. Military Academy will host the 33rd annual Orange County Special Olympics Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. at Shea Stadium.

This year's Grand Marshal is Lt. Gen. Buster Hagenbeck superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy and a member of the Class of 1971.

Approximately 500 Special Olympians will compete in a variety of events that include track

and field and aquatics. Each year, hundreds of cadets and members of the community volunteer their time to assist and support this worthy event.

The various events will take place at Crandall Pool, North Athletic Field, Gillis Field House and Shea Stadium.

Members from the Brigade Spirit Team and Army Cheerleaders will participate in the day's events along with a demonstration jump by

the Army Black Knights skydiving team.

The event is sponsored by the Behavioral Science and Leadership Club and is open to the public. All attendees are subject to routine security checks and should enter West Point through Thayer or Stony Lonesome gates. Please bring photo identification.

In case of inclement weather, the games will be held inside Gillis Field House.

**Delivery  
problems?**

For PV home delivery problems contact Valerie Mullane at the Poughkeepsie Journal at (845) 437-4730 or by e-mail at [vmullane@poughkeee.gannett.com](mailto:vmullane@poughkeee.gannett.com).

# Community Features and Photos

By Lori Mezoff  
PR Director  
America's Army Game

Five years ago this month, Col. Casey Wardynski and his Army Game Project team were in the final stages of planning for their debut at the Electronic Entertainment Expo in Los Angeles. The Army surprised showgoers with a stealth launch of *America's Army*, the Army's foray into the multibillion-dollar computer and video game industry.

The show opened to Soldiers wielding real weapons and demonstrations of the most authentic Army game ever created. *America's Army* was the hit of the show and has been a top 10 video game ever since. It was then launched to the American public July 4.

Now five years later, the media and gamers are still talking about and playing *America's Army*. What began for Wardynski as a concept for communicating Army opportunities and values, has now become a brand known around the world.

By combining economic theory with cutting-edge interactive gaming technology, Wardynski created a new approach to help Army recruiting expand their target audiences' awareness of the tremendous opportunities available in the Army. He placed the Army front and center into pop culture through the game, which has become its most successful and cost effective means for communicating with young Americans about soldiering and has revolutionized the traditional recruiting model.

To date, *America's Army* boasts more than 8.3 million registered users, averaging over 100,000 hours per day. Players in more than 38 countries have invested more than 200 million hours exploring

**"Colonel Wardynski's innovative strategies and non-traditional thinking shaped America's Army into the premiere recruiting tool and training simulator for the total Army."**

**Legion of Merit award narrative**

the Army and the game continues to draw tens of thousands new users each month

As a result of its valuable infusion into pop culture, the *America's Army* game team launched the Real Heroes program in the game in September 2006, which tells the stories of Soldiers who have exhibited courage under fire in the War on Terrorism and have received awards for valor for their actions.

Most recently, Wardynski realized his vision of making *America's Army* the most significant tool for recruiters when he and the team launched the Virtual Army Experience in February 2007. The Virtual Army Experience is a high-tech, team-based experience designed to immerse visitors in the operational roles of Soldiers in the U.S. Army.

This 10,000 square-foot interactive exhibit brings the Army's exceptionally popular computer game, *America's Army: Special Forces [Overmatch]*, to a life-size networked world and provides visitors with a virtual test drive of soldiering. In the Virtual Army Experience, participants employ teamwork, leadership and high-tech equipment as they take part in a hands-on virtual mission to capture a terrorist leader.

The game's success is not limited to recruiting. *America's Army's* licensed technologies have been used for dozens of training simulations, mission rehearsal

and education as well, thereby reducing the costs of simulation for training by one to two orders of magnitude and significantly decreasing development time.

Teams have produced effective and engaging virtual learning for force protection, adaptive thinking and leadership and convoy survivability, as well as applications ranging from mission rehearsal to modeling advanced weapons systems and fire control systems, all using the *America's Army* Platform.

Over the next year, the team will be launching a number of applications including a Live Fire Targeting Program which will replace static or pop-up paper or metal targets with virtual targets for interactive live-fire training.

As a result of the program's success and his constant involvement, Wardynski was nominated for the Legion of Merit, which was presented Tuesday by USMA Superintendent Lt. Gen. Buster Hagenbeck. The LOM "is awarded to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States or a friendly foreign nation who has distinguished himself or herself by exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services and achievements" according to AR600-8-22. Achievement LOWs are rare, with



**United States Military Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Buster Hagenbeck (left) presents Col. Casey Wardynski with a Legion of Merit Tuesday for his development of the *America's Army* game project, which has helped Army recruiting.** ERIC S. BARTELT/PV

probably less than 10 awarded in the past decade at West Point, according to the Adjutant General's office here.

His narrative read in part, "Colonel Wardynski's innovative strategies and non-traditional thinking shaped *America's Army* into the premiere recruiting tool and training simulator for the total Army. His outstanding leadership, drive, team building and total dedication

contributed immeasurably to the Army and reflect great credit upon him, the United States Military Academy and the United States Army."

# West Point trio become Eagle Scouts

Story and photo by  
Kathy Eastwood  
Staff Writer

In the scouting world, becoming an Eagle Scout is the highest rank a Boy Scout can attain and it isn't easy. Roughly two percent of scouts actually become Eagle Scouts, according to West Point Scoutmaster Col. John Smith, an English professor here.

Kyle McConnell, Andrew Uhorchak and Brian Meese of West Point Boy Scout Troop 23 earned Eagle Scout status and were recognized at a ceremony at Cullum Hall here Sunday.

McConnell is the son of Elaine, a librarian, here and Ron McConnell. Meese is the son of Social Science Department Head, Col. Mike Meese and Ramona Meese, a test examiner for the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation. Uhorchak is the son of retired Col. John and Cindy Uhorchak. Uhorchak was the head of orthopedics at Keller Army Community Hospital prior to his retirement from the Army. Uhorchak will join his brother Nicholas and sister Jacqueline as a cadet in July.

"Achieving the rank of Eagle is

a tremendous accomplishment, not only for these young men, but for their families and the community as well," Smith said. "In addition to earning their merit badges, they must also demonstrate leadership and complete a major project that benefits the West Point-Highland Falls community in a significant way."

McConnell completed his Eagle project by refurbishing a cemetery.

"I found an old revolutionary war cemetery off of the Palisades Parkway," he said. "I dug out all the brush and cleaned it out and then got it recognized by the state by talking to the sheriff of the Parkway. After that was all done, I put up a plaque."

Meese organized and lead several volunteers to host the Constitution Island Association's Summer Programs and was Troop 23's senior patrol leader. Meese's grandfather, Edwin, the former U.S. Attorney General under President Ronald Reagan, applauded his grandson for following in his son Mike's footsteps by becoming an Eagle Scout.

Uhorchak participated in six summer camps at the Ten Mile River District, a 50-mile hike



Kyle McConnell [left center], Brian Meese and Andrew Uhorchak are welcomed into the Eagle Scout fold by current Eagle Scouts in attendance Sunday at Cullum Hall. Once a scout becomes an Eagle, he is one for the rest of his life.

and numerous other canoeing, rafting and climbing trips. His Eagle Project involved the proper retirement of American Flags and education on flag etiquette.

Uhorchak will also join the Class of 2011 on Reception Day.

"The good things Eagle Scouts have done over the past few years will become the basis for what I

hope will be continued service for the rest of their lives," Smith said. "Their future dealings with others will always be founded in the ethics of scouting."

## Historic site rejuvenated by Eagle Scout project

By Lt. Col. Grant Jacoby  
EE&CS

West Point Boy Scout Troop 23 supported by 50 volunteers from the community and cadets restored the neglected and rundown pavilions and surrounding picnic area along the hillside by Lee Gate April 21 as part of an ambitious Eagle Project. Life Scout Bryan Jacoby started panning this project during

the spring of 2006. During the extended time it took to determine the procedures, proper authorities and seeking permissions, it was decided that the best thing to do for the area was to tear it down to prevent its misuse.

However, during an inspection, the Directorate of Public Works historian, Travis Beckwith, determined that the location was of historical significance

because it was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the 1930s. Consequently, the project plan was changed from being one of destruction to one of restoration.

Completion of this Eagle Project took most of the day and was no small undertaking. Work had to safely and effectively restore and treat two pavilions by repairing damage to the roofs,

constructing new side-benches and cleaning and treating all the wood. Under Jacoby's direction, volunteers formed lines and groups to comb and pick-up trash in the surrounding area as well as refurbish the sides of walking paths. Other volunteers shoveled, transported and evenly distributed two truckloads (four tons) of gravel inside the newly defined paths, while others recondition all three of the fire grills.

Jacoby noted that the support offered by DPW, particularly a variety of tools provided by Robert Fisch at Self Help, and the large turn-out by cadets, Lee residents and Boy Scouts made the Eagle Project achievable. Together, the volunteers put in over 180 labor hours.

The refurbished pavilion area benefits the West Point community in meaningful ways. It restores a historic part of the community and provides a safe, functional and practical location for families, students and their guests to conduct

outdoor activities and picnics. Plus, it helps restore the natural beauty of the surrounding area as well as the pride of the community in it.



Life Scout Bryan Jacoby passes out assignments to his team of Troop 23 scouts, Lee area community volunteers and cadets to facilitate the renovation of the historic CCC-built picnic pavilion area located near Lee Gate here.

PHOTOS PROVIDED



Fifty Lee area community volunteers, West Point Scout Troop 23 members and cadets worked under the direction of Life Scout Bryan Jacoby to clear and delineate the path [left] and repair the roof and picnic table of the upper pavilion as part of his Eagle Project.

# Tips for how to deal with Black bears on West Point

By James A. Beemer  
West Point Natural Resources  
Manager

Every year, especially in the spring, West Point residents may get an unexpected opportunity to see the largest animal species found at West Point -- the black bear. Black bears are the only bear species found in the United States east of the Mississippi River.

Now wait -- aren't bears creatures of the wilderness that would rather be as far away from people as they can possibly go?

Well, in New York, as recently as the 1970s, that may have been the case. Black bears were primarily found in the Adirondacks, in the Central Catskills and in the Allegheny National Forest in western New York. Since the late 1970s, burgeoning bear populations in northern New Jersey



**A Black bear looks for food along Mine Torne Road.**

PHOTOS PROVIDED

and Pennsylvania have led to a large emigration of bears into the more densely populated areas of southeastern New York, including West Point.

There are two reasons this is happening. First, bear hunting was not allowed in New Jersey until 2003, so, the bruins there reproduced unchecked and did not develop any fear or respect for human beings [in a wrestling match with a black bear, a human would lose]. Second, people have made it easy for bears to survive by taking advantage of humans. Our garbage cans provide convenient and tasty sources of food as do the meals we feed our pets outside, our vegetable gardens, beehives, fields of sweet corn, bird feeders and, rarely, livestock. Greasy barbecues are also a strong bear attractor.

Black bears that are seen during the spring and summer at West Point are mostly two-year-old males that have been run off by their mothers and are out on their own for the first time. When the young bears venture into urban areas, they get confused and try to avoid humans. However, if a food source is present, a young bear will stay around until the food is gone.

To avoid problems with bears,

West Point residents can take several simple steps.

- Do not put out bird feeders from April through July [bears love birdseed and birds really don't need any help finding food at this time of year]. This is the No. 1 source of bear problems each spring in New York and New Jersey.

- Close the lids on all garbage cans and bins. Lock garbage cans in the garage until trash pick-up day. Spray them with ammonia [bears and other wild mammals do not like the smell]. Double bag particularly smelly garbage.

- If you have used your barbecue, do not leave the greasy grill out [bears love the aroma of grease].

- Do not leave pet food outside unless your pet is eating it.

- And, when out in the woods, make noises as you move about. This will alert a bear, which will then vacate the area, often without you knowing that the bear was even in the vicinity.

Black bears will never become as numerous as deer, because they need up to 60 square miles of habitat for food. Not every kind of bear food is available throughout the year. When one food source has been consumed, the bear must

move along or starve.

Some of a black bear's favorite wild foods are wild berries, along with beechnuts and acorns, which help a bruin fatten up for the winter. They also enjoy wild mushrooms, green plants, fish, insects, grubs, small animals, carrion [dead animals] and, of course, wild honey. All these wild foods help round out a bear's diet.

During the winter when food is scarce, black bears generally go into a den and sleep there until springtime. They are not true hibernators like woodchucks or bats. Bear's body temperatures only fall a few degrees during winter sleep and they can also quickly awaken, while a true hibernator needs several hours to awaken. A bear's winter den can be a cave, but it is more likely a hollow log, a brush pile or a hollow tree 20 feet up from the ground. Whatever shelter is dry and protected from the elements will do.

West Point personnel do not need to be afraid of the bears. Just treat them with respect and do not treat them like domestic animals. Do not try to approach or feed them. It is against the law for people to deliberately feed wild bears.

Black bears are usually not seen

by anyone just tramping through the woods. The bruins typically frequent thick swamps or cruise the ridge tops and usually move off whenever they hear people coming. If you should see a bruin at West Point, consider yourself lucky and enjoy the spectacle. Then, be sure to report the sighting to the Natural Resources Branch office, DPW at 938-3857 or by e-mail to *james.beemer@usma.edu*.

If you have any questions about black bears or other West Point wildlife, call or e-mail the same.



**This bruin brazenly climbs a backyard fence in Stony I to get at a bird feeder.**

# West Point fire department teaches fire safety

Story and photos by  
Kathy Eastwood  
Staff Writer

West Point Fire and Emergency Services visited the West Point elementary school April 23 and brought the Orange County Kids Fire Safety House with them to teach basic fire and burn prevention skills.

The Fire Safety House is a mocked down split-level version of a private home on a trailer, normally kept at the Orange County Fire Training Center in New Hampton, N.Y.

The house is riddled with dangerous fire hazards such as a fire place with a broken door, frayed electrical cords and electrical appliances near or in kitchen sinks, which the children, with some

prompting, were asked to identify.

"The safety house is a great teaching tool," said Mark McKeon, fire protection specialist here with the West Point Fire Dept. "We teach children the proper way of getting out of a building that is filling up with smoke by crawling under the smoke. We are reinforcing what was taught during Fire Prevention Week in October with real-life situations."

The kindergarteners first went into the living room and were asked to identify the difference between tools and toys. The children were also shown some of the dangerous fire hazards.

"What are you supposed to do when you see a dangerous situation in your house?" asked WPPD firefighter David Americo.

"Tell your parents," the children

announced in unison.

The children were led upstairs to a mock bedroom. Theatrical non-toxic smoke was released, which set off a smoke alarm.

"We teach the children to crawl backwards down the stairs to get out of the house," McKeon said. "The children are told to go to a designated central area and do a head count. We tap one child to stay behind in the house then ask the children in the central area which of their friends are missing."

The children are taught to inform fire personnel if anyone is missing as soon as possible as well as not to hide from firefighters or try to put the fire out by themselves. The children were presented with a fire safety sheet to take home, which included a home escape plan.

"Teaching fire safety is



West Point firefighter David Americo discusses fire safety with kindergartners in the Orange County fire safety house at the elementary school here.

important, especially with children," McKeon said. "It's great that the elementary school teachers and

the principal, Shawne Cryderman, are very supportive and pro-active about fire safety."

# Military tattoo draws tartans to Trophy Point

Story and photo by  
Kathy Eastwood  
Staff Writer

Braving clouds and a strong wind, 20 pipe and drum bands joined the Cadet Pipe and Drum Band at the Trophy Point Amphitheater here Sunday parading their tartans and playing bagpipes for the enjoyment of the large crowd assembled.

"We have nearly the whole tri-state area here today with the exception of Connecticut," said Chaplain Edson Wood, officer in charge of the cadet pipe and drum band.

Cadet 1st Class Bobbie Ragsdale is the cadet in charge of the CPDB and has been involved with the club since his plebe year.

"I enjoy this," he said. "It's a way to show off my Scottish roots and we get to parade at football games and other events. It's a sense of pride for me. It's a lot of fun."

One of the visiting bands hailed from Bucks County, Pa. Carl Cordova, the drum major for the McGregor pipe and drum band from eastern Pa., wore a leopard skin, a British tradition stemming from Africa.

"It's the base drummer who wears an animal skin," Wood said. "It can be a leopard or bear and sometimes the head and feet are worn as well."

The Peconic Warpipes from Long Island were led by George

Ronan, a Long Island detective.

"Many of our band members are law enforcement officers, but we also have a lot of civilians," he said. "We are also one of three American Legion bands in the country."



The McGregor pipe and drum band from Easton, Pa., in Bucks County, tries to stay ahead of the wind at the annual military tattoo at the Trophy Point Amphitheater Sunday. Twenty pipe and drum bands performed under a chilly, rain-threatening sky. They marched and played traditional Celtic and military tunes that thoroughly entertained the large crowd.



The Peconic Warpipes pipe and drum band from Long Island is led by George Ronan, a Long Island detective. The Warpipes band has played together for 10 years. They have also played at the Nassau Coliseum during half-time at a New York Saints game for the Long Island based lacrosse team -- among other places -- and have participated in the annual West Point Tattoo several times.

# Afghan Military Academy team competes in Sandhurst

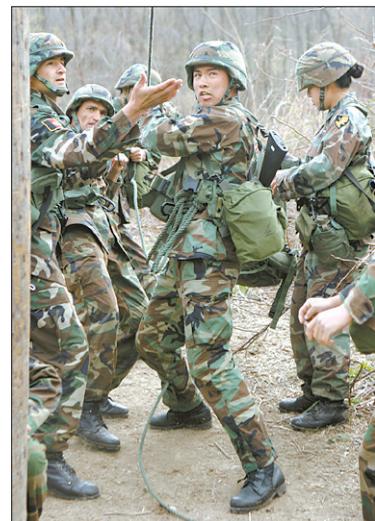
Story and photos by  
Eric S. Bartlett  
Sports Editor

Sandhurst is a daunting challenge for any cadet team that has practiced the course over and over again leading up to the annual event, which was held Saturday at West Point.

Now imagine practicing in harsh conditions at 7,000 feet above sea level, which closely relate to the hot and humid high mountain desert at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., except 3,000 feet higher. Or how about using concrete grenades or doing a one rope bridge to simulate the river crossing by tying one end of a rope to a pickup truck and the other end to an old concrete Russian telephone pole. Those were just 'some' of the issues that faced the 12 cadets from the National Military Academy of Afghanistan during their training to be a part of the 41st annual Sandhurst Military Skills Competition.

Now add that the team has only been practicing for the competition since early February. The team's officer-in-charge, U.S. Army Maj. Sid Hills, felt the Afghan team would be highly competitive despite the conditions under which they trained and their not having previous knowledge of the competition and how it is run.

"In the history of this competition, there will not be a team that could possibly be bigger underdogs given where they came from and how far they came with the limited training resources and the limited time they had on this course," Hills said. "You



Afghan cadets work to tighten a rope at the River Crossing site Saturday.

put everything together with the language barrier as well and they are definitely underdogs."

It was Hills, a 1996 U.S. Military Academy graduate, who thought it would be a great idea for the Afghan cadets to participate in the Sandhurst competition. He also felt that with all the bureaucratic and logistical difficulties that it took to get them here, once the Sandhurst competition started and they were involved that no matter where they finished it would be -- mission accomplished.

The 12 NMAA cadets were chosen by their academy's superintendent. They were candidates he chose off the top of his head, according to Hills, from talking to his tactical officers.

"At first, I didn't know what to think, but the good thing is I knew that four weren't going to compete so I had some leeway to choose the toughest of those 12," Hills said. "As it turned out, all 12 of them are as fully competitive as anybody in this competition."

The NMAA, which only started its third academic year in March, has 685 cadets at its academy. These 12 were chosen from among the 321 upperclassmen. NMAA cadet Ramin Moqbel, who is in his third year, is happy to be a part of the Sandhurst competition.

"I feel great to represent my academy and my country in participating in the international Sandhurst competition," said Moqbel through his interpreter. "It's something that is really great for us and I feel good about it."

Moqbel talked about how much easier it was to run at West Point than in his country due to the lower altitude. He also found it easy to participate with a female USMA cadet, who was added to the Afghan team since all teams in the competition must have at least one female cadet. Because there are no female cadets at the NMAA, USMA volunteers were sought.

"We were really glad to have a female participate on our team," Moqbel explained. "We don't have any females at our academy, but we really do appreciate [Cadet 2nd Class Kim Jung]. The interesting thing is in this country males and females work together at the academy toward a shared goal.

"Men and women do the same kind of job, so there's no difference," he added. "It's really good over here."



Afghan cadets paddle through the boat movement site with Cadet 2nd Class Kim Jung steering the boat in the far back [middle]. Because Afghanistan is a landlocked country, they practiced the boat movement at home at a lake resort in Kabul City that created a spectacle with five Afghan TV and radio stations doing a story on their training.

Hills was confident that the Afghan cadets would get along with Jung, especially since she, like many other West Point cadets, has a natural leadership, take charge, pro-active attitude.

"They were definitely more receptive and accepting of her than even I expected," Hills said. "However, they were in a position where they had no choice but to follow her lead because she was the only one that had participated on the course before. She was the only one that made sure they didn't get lost in the woods and they immediately saw that and had no problem with her.

"I'm proud to see how professional and respectful they've been toward her and other female cadets at West Point," Hills added.

Jung volunteered to be a part of the team and gave up her spot on the cadet B-1 Company team to join the Afghan team. She was chosen by Hills and the Department of Military Instruction and saw it as a great opportunity to be an ambassador between the two academies.

"This is one of the best ways to have a relationship between the two academies," Jung said. "I feel I'm working with the future leaders of Afghanistan and in a couple of years we may see each other again and that's very exciting to me. I'm

honored and excited to have been a part of this team."

The Afghan team, spurred on by a dozen or so cadets during their Sandhurst run, finished tied for 34th place with Company B-3 [502 points] out of 39 teams.

Moqbel felt strong after the finish and also thought the team did well at the river crossing and at the Ranger Wall, two sites they were having trouble with during their two practice runs. Jung was elated that her team did not get caught by the RMAS-Red team, who started behind them on the course.

"We had the Brits behind us and they didn't catch up to us, and did not pass us until the Commandant's Challenge," Jung stated. "That was pretty encouraging, because traditionally the Brits have been

known to pass West Point teams."

The Afghan team members, who left Wednesday after spending two weeks at West Point, got to tour New York City, eat at area restaurants and shop at the mall. But, mostly, they were happy to spend those two weeks at West Point and, specifically, with the cadets.

"We're very grateful and thankful to West Point," said NMAA cadet Mohammad Reza, who is in his third year. "We didn't expect to have such a good relationship with the cadets. We thought the cadets here would be too busy and not have enough time to chitchat with us.

"We thought we would be apart from them," Reza added, "but we spent a lot of time with them and



The Afghan Team poses for a photo after they finished 34th out of 39 teams during Sandhurst.

# Sandhurst

West Point's ultimate team test in challenging cadets on their professional military development



Cadet 3rd Class Andrew Cammack emerges from the 9W Culvert after finishing the River Crossing during the 41st Sandhurst Military Skills Competition Saturday at West Point. Cammack's company, E-1, finished the competition 23rd overall with 591 points.



Company A-4 Cadet 2nd Class Christopher Twomey [kneeling] protects Cadet 4th Class William Herbert as they perform a tactical movement exercise at the Grenade site. Company A-4 finished tied for 21st place with 594 points.

Story and photos by  
Eric S. Bartelt  
Sports Editor

For the third consecutive year, the Royal Military College of Canada took first place at the Sandhurst Military Skills Competition Saturday at West Point.

Since 1967, Sandhurst has been a way to challenge and reward cadets, while enhancing their professional military development and excellence.

This year 39 teams took part with 32 cadet company teams from West Point and seven other teams -- the National Military Academy of Afghanistan, the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst [two teams], the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, the U.S. Military Academy Preparatory School and RMC.

However, of the 39 teams only

one could take home the top prize, the Reginald E. Johnson Memorial Plaque -- RMC with a score of 763 out of a possible 1,000 points.

The sites this year included marksmanship, grenades, boat movement, medical proficiency, communications, a river crossing, the Ranger Wall and the Commandant's Challenge. Plus the Department of Military Instruction added a tomahawk throw at the end for points only [it wasn't a timed event]. However, as in previous years, the most challenging part was the Commandant's Challenge.

"The Commandant's Challenge is always difficult. It seems like there's always a couple of challenging things in it that you didn't see coming," said Cadet 1st Class Kyle Roeter, B-4 team leader. "It was very physical. We ground it out as a team."

The Commandant's Challenge involved transporting tents, water

jugs and ammunition canisters to a HMMVV and then pushing the loaded vehicle to where the cadet teams of nine [to include two alternates] would do pull ups and then litter carry their items above and below PT stands before finishing the course.

"Going over as well as under the PT stands [with everything we carried] added a new [degree of difficulty] to the competition," said Cadet 3rd Class Jason Wallace, H-1 team member, "but this year was a much better test of endurance."

Endurance was a key component because another mile was added by moving the starting point back. As Wallace explained, "It made it a little more difficult because the terrain was pretty rough between the start point and the grenade site at Range 11."

The top cadet company team this year was B-4, who compiled a total of 742 points, including the

top marksmanship score of 74 points and a fourth place finish at the Commandant's Challenge.

"We're very happy to have [finished second overall and best among company teams]," Roeter said. "We had a really solid team that has been working on Sandhurst since December. The team is deserving of it. They put a lot of effort into it and the results were seen here [Saturday]."

B-4 finished behind RMC, but they knew it was going to be tough to supplant them from the top spot although they still had high hopes.

"I give a lot of respect to RMC, they take the competition very seriously," Roeter said. "They have a team training the whole year [for Sandhurst]. Still, I thought we could beat them, but not this time -- hopefully next year B-4 will pull it out."

The other three teams in the top five overall after RMC and



Cadets 3rd Class Lon McBride [left] and Jason Wallace, who are participating with Company H-1, get set to finish off a litter carry at the end of the Commandant's Challenge. The Commandant's Challenge is the final leg of Sandhurst for the 39 teams that competed. Company H-1 finished 15th overall with 617 points.

B-4, who all received Sandhurst patches, were E-4 with 731 points, H-4 with 723 points and A-1 with 706 points.

The top overall regiment was 4th Regiment with 5,267 points, or 365 points better than 2nd Regiment earning them the Sandhurst Trophy, which is given to the regiment with the highest aggregate company team scores.

Sandhurst streamers were given

to the top company in each regiment and the top visiting academy.

The winners of the streamers were RMC, B-4, A-1, A-3 [698 points] and a tie in 2nd Regiment between F-2 and H-2 at 641 points.

Participation in Sandhurst is a great team building mechanism and for some cadets is the culmination of their West Point experience. Roeter, the B-4 team leader,

participated in Sandhurst all four years after not making the Army track team and found Sandhurst to be a great alternative to organized collegiate competition.

"Sandhurst has been a great thing for me," Roeter said. "Sandhurst is great for team bonding. The amount of time you spend with these guys is valuable and the relationships we formed are something I couldn't have gotten anywhere else."



Cadet 1st Class Daniel Lennox makes his way across the River Crossing during the Sandhurst competition. Lennox participated with Company E-2, who finished 14th overall with 626 points.

12 May 4, 2007

## Community Features and Photos

# West Point celebrates the Month of the Military Child

Story and photos by  
Kathy Eastwood  
Staff Writer

West Point held its annual Month of the Military Child celebration, which included a picnic and many child-oriented activities, at the Victor Constant Ski Lodge Saturday. The event was sponsored by the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation with the help of Tyson Food and the Hudson Valley Renegades.

Children and adults were delighted with the antics of Macaroni the Clown and his famous

miscues, while juggling bowling pins. There were games, face painting and creating T-shirt fashions as well as free hot dogs, hamburgers, snowcones and cotton candy.

A wildlife display was another crowd pleaser. Bill Robinson, a biology instructor for the State University of New York at New Paltz, brought various wildlife including a snapping turtle, turkey buzzard, a Red Tail Hawk, snakes and a Peregrine falcon.

Robinson's son Brian, a high school teacher at Saugerties [N.Y.] High School, was at the event last year with his private collection of wildlife.

"It's a little different showing the animals in this atmosphere," Bill Robinson said. "I usually have a stage or classroom. Here, there are a lot of things going on like the whirl of the cotton candy machine and other noises that the animals aren't used to. But, it's great to show these children what many of the animals look like up close because a lot of them have never seen many of the animals before."

The event received a lot of help from various community volunteers, six of whom were middle school children, according to Community Youth Service



Eleven-year-old Erin Hussey [left], Kaitlyn Hussey, 13, and Jacquylne Duval, 10, designed T-shirts at the Month of the Military Child celebration held Saturday.

Facility Director, Lisa Watson. One volunteer was manning the cotton candy machine.

"I try to volunteer as much as I can," said sixth-grader Kristen Hines. "I love to volunteer because I like to help kids."

Eighth graders, Adrienne Strom, who volunteered her services for face painting and Bailey Butler, an avid horseback rider, volunteered her services to the horseback riding event.

April was designated the month of the military child by Secretary of Defense Casper Weinberger in Feb. 1986 to recognize the important sacrifices military children make for the military Family. Often,

military children have to deal with the deployment of at least one of their parents and over time have to attend numerous schools, while

growing up, all the while being away from close family members such as grandparents and other friends.



Five-year old Ellis Gauthier holds a harmless snake very carefully.



Biology instructor at the State University of New York at New Paltz, Bill Robinson, displays a baby alligator, which received mixed reactions from his audience.



A frequent guest at the Military Month of the child celebration is Macaroni the Clown whose antics and juggling miscues delight the audience of kids and adults alike. Children were also able to enjoy cotton candy, have their faces painted and other activities through the event.



Sixth-grader Kristen Hines [left] staffed the cotton candy machine, while Raymona and son Isaiah Bledsoe wait patiently. Hines said she enjoys volunteering because she likes children.

# Days of Remembrance commemoration

By Maj. Ben Wallen  
Days of Remembrance  
Committee

The West Point community observed the Days of Remembrance April 19 in Thayer Hall, Room 144, sponsored by the Equal Opportunity Office here.

The U.S. Congress established *Days of Remembrance* as our nation's annual commemoration of victims of the Holocaust.

As attendees entered TH144 for the event, they were given a sandwich bag containing a piece of bread and a message reading, "Imagine if this were your allotted food for the day." This was done to make the attendees think how they would feel if they had been prisoners in a concentration camp, or possibly Jews in hiding, knowing that this was what they may have had to look forward to ... if they were lucky ... during some of the world's darkest days in the early 1940s during the Holocaust.

The day's events began with the Jewish Chapel Cadet Choir singing two songs 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 during WWII. 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



**Holocaust survivor Anita Stern was the guest speaker April 19 at West Point's Days of Remembrance commemoration.**

SUSAN SCHWARTZ/EE&CS

message: "He who makes peace in His heights may He make peace upon us and upon all Israel; and let us say, Amen."

After the cadet choir sang, they introduced the guest speaker, Anita Stern. Those in attendance were humbled by her story. Stern discussed her life as a young girl born in Germany who immigrated to France and her struggle to survive. Her heartrending depiction of being taken to and from concentration camps, seeking solace in a convent, hiding out in the mountains, plus her recollections of the various people who risked their lives to save hers along with those of her aunt and grandmother gave the audience a glimpse of what it was like to live

in Europe during that time.

Elaine McConnell, the Days of Remembrance Committee Chair, thanked Stern for her comments and for sharing her experiences. Stern and her husband, retired Lt. Col. Walter Stern, were also recognized for all they do to enhance the cadet experience at the Jewish Chapel

This annual ceremony is held

to help attendees revisit lessons learned from the past. As George Santayana, 19th century American philosopher, essayist, poet and novelist said "Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it."

After the event, attendees had the opportunity to talk with Stern on a one-on-one basis.

# What's Happening

## Asian-Pacific Festival

The Asian-Pacific Awareness Club invites the West Point community to the Asian-Pacific Heritage Month festival today from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Trophy Point Amphitheater.

The free event will feature entertainment, martial arts demonstrations and free food.

In the event of inclement weather the festival will be in Robinson Auditorium.

## Book signing and lecture

Brian Steidle will be signing his book "The Devil came on Horseback" Monday from 10 to 11:45 a.m. at the USMA Bookstore.

He will also give a lecture that evening at 7 p.m. in Thayer Hall room 144.

The lecture is free and open to the public.

## Orange County College Night

The 53rd annual Orange County College Night is Wednesday in Eisenhower Hall Ballroom and Crest Hall from 7 to 9 p.m.

Representatives from 235 colleges nationwide will meet with interested students from the surrounding communities.

Contact Newburgh Free Academy Guidance Counselor Tony Scully at [845] 563-5506 for more info.

## Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed to help with the Superintendent's Regimental Receptions in the garden of Quarters 100 during Graduation Week.

Volunteers are needed from 1 to 2:30 p.m. May 23 [for 3rd Reg.] and from 3 to 4:30 p.m. May 23 [4th Reg.].

Volunteers are also needed

May 24 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. [1st Reg.] and from 3 to 4:30 p.m. [2nd Reg.]

Interested parties should contact the U.S. Military Academy Protocol Office by May 11 by calling Shannon Purdy at 938-8816/4315 or by e-mailing her at [Shannon.Purdy@usma.edu](mailto:Shannon.Purdy@usma.edu).

## Clinical Breast Study

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

Contact Joyce Epstein-Ross

Family Nurse Practitioner, at [845] 938-8387.

Her office is located in Keller Army Community Hospital's second floor in the OB/GYN clinic.

## WPWC

The WPWC Gift Shoppe, located next to the MWR Fitness Center, is open on the Web at [www.shopthepoint.com](http://www.shopthepoint.com) and is open Wed. from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The Shoppe is always open by appointment by contacting Julie at 446-2950.

WPWC is forming a relay team for the Army Community Services Relay for Life June 1.

Contact Marilee Turner at 446-3698 or [turnerjamey@msn.com](mailto:turnerjamey@msn.com) for

more information.

## BOSS resale lot moved

Are you looking to sell your automobile, van, truck, motorcycle, boat, trailer, or small motor home? Are you an Active Duty service member, DOD civilian, retiree or a family member?

For \$20 a month, the BOSS Resale Lot has slots available for rent.

The BOSS Resale Lot is now located on the left side of the Commissary parking lot.

All vehicles, boats, trailers and motor homes must be less than 24 feet. For more info., call 938-6127/6497.

## Vacation Bible School

West Point Vacation Bible School this year is June 25-29, from 9 a.m. to noon daily.

VBS needs volunteers in all areas: crafts, games, drama, kitchen, crew leaders, set up/clean up, decorating and registration.

Call Jen Lyle to volunteer at 446-5542.

Registration runs until June 22 and forms are available at any church on post or at the Post Chapel Annex.

Call 938-2003 for more info.

## Command Channel 8/23

May 4 - 11

Friday

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

Monday - May 11

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

## Cadet Toy Drive

Cadets from Company H-4 are collecting new or gently used elementary school age toys, sporting equipment and school supplies to send to units in Iraq and Afghanistan to give to local children.

There will be drop-offs boxes in the various academic department areas and outside the Cadet Bookstore, Thayer Hall, 4th Floor until May 18.

## DUSA job opening

The Daughters of the U.S. Army have a job opening for a part-time sales associate at their Gift Shop.

Call Brandy at 446-0566 for more information.

## Red Cross classes

### CPR/AED Adult

May 19, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. or  
June 5, 5 to 10 p.m.

### Standard First Aid Training with the American Red Cross

May 17, from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.

## Babysitter's Training

Are you 11 years old and want to learn basic child care?

Learn the skills every parent looks for in a responsible babysitter. June 9, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Standard First Aid/ Adult CPR & AED

June 10, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## CPR/FA Instructor Training

TWO DAYS of classes: May 20 & 27 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## WSI/Lifeguard training

The training is a multiple class format [covering five weekends], beginning May 19

Go to [www.nyredcross.org](http://www.nyredcross.org) or call [800] 514-5103 to register.

## Child Safety Seat Inspections

Submitted by West Point Safety Office

Child safety seat inspections will be performed May 16 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Stony Lonesome Road Fire Station. Certified child passenger safety technicians from the Rockland County Sheriff's Department will be on hand to conduct the inspections.

Seats will be inspected, checked for proper installation and use and checked against a list of recalled seats. This event is open to active duty military stationed at West Point and DOD civilians employed at West Point.

Inspections will be on a first come, first serve basis -- no appointments.

Parents are encouraged to allot adequate time for inspections, have their child with them [if possible], and bring their ID card. Follow the signs and enter the fire station by using the Commissary/PX delivery road just inside Stony Lonesome Gate. Fire and Emergency Services will have equipment on display. Please contact the West Point Safety Office at 938-3717 if you intend to participate.

## Eisenhower Hall Theatre

**Sunday, May 6, 7 p.m. Montgomery Gentry**  
**Friday, May 11, 7 p.m. Jerry Seinfeld [SOLD OUT]**  
**Saturday, May 19, 8 p.m. Ethel Merman's Broadway**

For more info., go to [www.ikehall.com](http://www.ikehall.com).

## NOW SHOWING

in the movie theater  
at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

**Friday -- Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, PG, 7:30 p.m.**

**Saturday -- The Last Mimzy, PG, 7:30 p.m.**

**Saturday -- 300, R, 9:30 p.m.**

**May 11 -- Meet the Robinsons, PG, 7:30 p.m.**

**May 12 -- Meet the Robinsons, PG, 7:30 p.m.**

**May 18 -- Are We Done Yet?, PG, 7:30 p.m.**

**May 18 -- Firehouse Dog, PG, 7:30 p.m.**

**May 18 -- The Reaping, R, 9:30 p.m.**

The theater schedule can also be found at [www.aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com).

## Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

## DPW Notes

### Steam line replacement in Central Area

Contractor work to replace high and low pressure steam lines and condensate return lines in Central Area is expected to begin Monday weather permitting.

The work site will be in front of Lee Barracks, the south Lee Barracks ramp, the south side of Sherman Barracks and in front of Grant Hall.

The south Lee Barracks ramp will be closed beginning Monday with excavation and demolition work in the vicinity of Sherman Barracks and Building 606 beginning approximately at the same time.

Pedestrian traffic will be re-directed in the area as work progresses.

All personnel should obey construction signs and flag men during the work period.

For additional information on this project, please contact Ron Nelson, Contract COR, 938-6782.

### Williams Road repaving

Contractor repaving of Williams Road from the intersection with Thayer Road to the South Dock was expected to begin on or about April 25 and be completed approximately May 25.

The contractor will be milling the existing roadway, replacing sections of curbs and sidewalks and laying new asphalt during the work period.

The roadway will remain open during the work however all personnel should expect construction delays.

Flagpersons will direct traffic as required.

### Information tables at housing draw

Community organizations are invited to provide information tables at the USMA Annual Housing Draw, June 4 and 6, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in the lobby of Robinson Auditorium, Thayer Hall.

The information provided should focus on information new residents can use to smooth the transition into the USMA community. A representative should be available to answer any questions.

This service is for community organizations only, no businesses will be allowed.

For information, contact DPW Customer Relations, 938-4407.

### BOSS Event

Celebrate **Cinco de Mayo** with BOSS Saturday beginning at 9 p.m. at BSP. Get down to some hot Salsa with DJ Proutey. The event is open to the West Point community.

Spicy food and beverages will be provided by BOSS.

Call Sgt. Mitchem at 938-2206 for more info.

### Mother's Day Brunch at WPC

Treat Mom to Mother's Day Brunch at the West Point Club May 13.

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

For information and reservations, call 938-5120.

### Morgan Farm Open House

Don't miss the Morgan Farm Open House May 16 from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

There will be free pony rides for the kids plus information on summer riding camps and kennel services.

The event is open to the general public.

For more information, call 938-3926.

### U. S. Military Academy Band West Point, New York Experience the Music!!!



#### ARMY BANDS

#### MEET IN CONCERT

The U.S. Military Academy Concert Band and the New York Staff Band of the Salvation Army combine in concert on Friday, May 4th

7:30 p.m.



Eisenhower Hall Theatre

**Free and Open to the Public**

See schedule at  
[www.usma.edu/band](http://www.usma.edu/band)  
or call 845-938-2617

## At Your Leisure

# MWR Blurbs

### Round Pond

Bloodworms are now on sale at Round Pond. Eels will be available early this month, just in time for Stripers.

Call 938-2503 for more information.

The annual Kid's Fishing Derby returns to Round Pond May 19 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

There will be a kid's fishing clinic, lunch and prizes. The event will be held rain or shine.

For more information, call 938-2503.

### USA Scholarship Program

The Thanks USA Scholarship Program is now accepting applications for dependent children, ages 24 and under [as of the May 18 deadline] and all spouses of active duty U.S. military service personnel. Applicants must plan to enroll full time in an accredited two- or four-year college, university, vocational school to technical school and have at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average.

If selected as a recipient, the student will receive an award of \$1,000.

For more info., go to <http://www.ThanksUSA.org/main/scholarships.html>.

### Army 10-miler sponsorship

Calling all active duty military runners. Submit your application for sponsorship to run in the 2007 Army 10-Miler in Washington, D.C., Oct. 7.

Applications will be taken until May 21.

For more info., call 938-6217 or go to [www.armytenmiler.com](http://www.armytenmiler.com).

### WPGC now open

Book your tee time today and be one of the first to play on the course. The West Point Golf Course and Driving Range are open.

Hours of operation are 7 a.m. to dusk. Note that golf carts will only be permitted on the paths until the ground dries out.

To book your tee time, call 938-2435.

Sign ups are now open for the Garrison Golf Scramble May 11.

Registration ends Wednesday.

The event is open to all active duty military, retired military and DOD civilians on West Point.

For more information, call 938-2435.

### Financial readiness classes

Army Community Services is now offering a variety of financial readiness classes.

Call Joyce Harris at 938-5653 for more information.

### Summer Horse Camps

Morgan Farm will offer three- and five-day summer horse camps this summer in Beginner Western.

The three-day mini-camp is from July 30 to Aug. 1.

The five-day camps are from July 9-13, 16-20 and 23-27.

No intermediate or advanced camps are scheduled at this time. Camps will be added according to the level of demand.

Call 938-3926 or 446-5365 or go to [www.westpointmwr.com](http://www.westpointmwr.com) for more info.

### Army Teen Panel

Teens ... want to make new friends, travel and learn new things? We have just the opportunity for you. The Installation Management Command Northeast Region is now interviewing potential applications for Army Teen Panel.

We are looking for military teens between the ages of 13-17, who are interested in being a voice for other teens, traveling, making new friends, communicating new ideas, developing leadership skills and making a difference in the community.

To make a difference, contact Renee Podolec at [757] 788-5270 or [renee.podolec2@us.army.mil](mailto:renee.podolec2@us.army.mil).

## R-Day rehearsal volunteers needed June 29

Volunteers should be at Eisenhower Hall's Crest Hall no later than 9:45 a.m. June 29.

Parking is available at Eisenhower Hall, Gillis Field House and Buffalo Soldier Field.

The rehearsal starts promptly at 10 a.m. and concludes at approximately 1 p.m.

Lunch will not be provided; you are welcome to bring a snack and carry it in your bag along with a bottle of water if desired.

Volunteers must be between ages 14 - 55. It is guaranteed to be a fun-filled day you will enjoy for generations to come.

To register call [845] 938-2825/2826.

# Army and Community Sports

## WP Middle School fairs well in invitational

Story and photos by  
Kathy Eastwood  
Staff Writer

The West Point Middle School hosted 18 schools at Shea Stadium here April 27 for the 29th annual track and field invitational.

"We had a few more teams last year," said Patty Bastianelli, West Point Schools Booster Club President. "A lot of schools are on an austerity budget and were not able to participate this year."

This year's event also bade good-bye to Tom Robinson, who is retiring as a track coach from the West Point Middle School. Robinson is also the sixth grade teacher and the athletic director for the Middle School.

"I am going to join the blue coat officials [the New York State Track and Field Officials]," Robinson said.

The West Point track and field team ran once around the track in honor of their coach.

The top five winners for the boys' teams were Warwick, with 129 points; Pine Bush, 87; Monroe Woodbury, 68; Cornwall, 67 and

The West Point Middle School boy's and girl's track and field teams take a lap around Shea Stadium prior to the event to honor their retiring coach Tom Robinson [right].

West Point with 28.

The top five winners of the girls' teams were Monroe Woodbury with 78 and one-half; Cornwall, 70; Vernon, 66; West Point, 57 and Morristown, N.J., with 42 points.

Eighth grader Katja Rowell scored 26 of the 57 points scored by West Point. Rowell was second in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:37.5 and won the 1,500-meter run.

The West Point boys' sprint medley relay team set a school record with a 4:28.11 and took top honors. The team consisted of Clyde Wilson, Patrick Bastianelli, Danny Trainor and Connor Rowell.

The West Point girls' 400-meter relay team won with a 47.16. That team consisted of Chazree Jones, Lauren Keating, Kayla Hassey and Stoni Halstead. West Point's Christina Tenuta was second in the high jump.



West Point eighth grader David Jaye jumps during the 55-meter hurdles at the WP Middle School invitational.

# Women's Tennis takes PL title, faces Fresno State

BETHLEHEM, Pa. -- Sophomores Niki Flach and Brooke Jones were named co-"Most Valuable Players" after helping the Army women's tennis team continue its conference dominance with its third straight Patriot League Tournament title Monday afternoon after beating Bucknell, 4-0, at the Ulrich Varsity Tennis Courts in Bethlehem, Pa.

The Black Knights [15-10] have now won seven of the last nine tournament crowns and will be making the program's seventh NCAA Tournament appearance. It also marks the 10th consecutive season that head coach Paul Peck has led the team to 15 or more victories.

"I'm really proud of how this team stepped up this weekend,"

Peck said. "We are very young and this group showed a lot of maturity coming together to reach our goals. Niki [Flach] and Brooke [Jones] both had outstanding weekends and it was only appropriate they shared the MVP trophy."

As Peck always stresses "winning the doubles point is key" and his two freshmen, Kristin Beehler and Paige Ford, proved how they've grasped that statement with an 8-0 victory at No. 3 doubles over Caitlin Baffa and Camille Simonetti. The duo has been solid all season with a team best 20 victories this year.

The "Co-MVPs" clinched the doubles point moments later as Flach and Jones defeated Tania Varela and Paulina Gamboa at No. 1 doubles, 8-3, to stake Army to the

1-0 advantage heading into singles play. Flach and Jones have now captured 12 consecutive wins as a tandem, while Flach has 13 straight tying her with Amy Morgenstern and Marissa Limsiaco for the Academy record.

Youth was served in singles action as well as two sophomores and a freshman put the Black Knights in the NCAA Tournament for the third straight season.

Beehler quickly gave Army a 2-0 lead with her impressive victory at No. 4 singles. The Wichita, Kan., native beat Globerman in straight sets, 6-2, 6-0, for her team best 20th win this season.

Jones extended the cushion to 3-0 when she beat Paulina Gamboa, 7-5, 6-1, at No. 2 singles. The sophomore native of The Woodlands, Texas, collected an impressive 19 singles victories this spring after being limited to doubles last season and this past fall recovering due to an injury.

Flach, the 2006 Patriot League "Rookie of the Year", then sealed the victory at No. 1 singles. The Naples, Fla., native defeated Varela, this year's favorite for the award, in three sets, 6-3, 6-7, 6-3, to avenge a loss to her nearly two weeks ago.

"Three in a row is tough to do," Peck said. "The Patriot League continues to get better, but these girls work hard throughout the season to make sure we get a chance to go back to the NCAA Tournament. We were able to do it again this year and I couldn't be happier for them."

The Black Knights discovered Tuesday that they will play Fresno State in Fresno, Calif., May 12 at



Sophomore Nikki Flach [above] was named co-"MVP" with fellow sophomore Brooke Jones as the Army Women's Tennis team won the Patriot League Tournament title for the third straight year. Their defeat of Bucknell, 4-0, in the PL Championships earned them the right to face Fresno State in the opening round of the NCAA Tournament. ERIC S. BARTELT/PV 4 p.m.

The other participants in Army's first round bracket are Pepperdine and Long Beach State, and if Army

were to beat Fresno State, they would face the Pepperdine/Long Beach State winner May 13 at 4 p.m.

## WAR season ends at Sweet 16

By Cadet 4th Class  
Marissa Readinger  
WAR

The Women's Army Rugby took on Chico State [Calif.] and Penn State in the first and second rounds of the Women's Rugby Sweet 16 Tournament April 28-29.

WAR's A-side played a stellar game against Chico State April 28. Chico State, ranked second coming into the tournament, and Army, ranked third, met with fierce intensity and a vendetta from last year when Army knocked Chico out of the tournament.

Army scoring began when Army's No. 8, senior Becky

Bort, scored the first try with her signature low dive from two meters out, followed by two tries put in by Chico State. Army found themselves down two players [due to yellow cards] and one try at halftime, but no less confident and determined to take the win. Sure enough, Army quickly scored twice while down two players and a points kick by senior Mary Klavin for a final score of 20-10.

Penn State and the Army Warriors faced each other April 29. Coach Evan Wollen had showed his team video of Penn State the night before the game, discussing the necessary game-plan.

The game began with a kick

off to Penn State, who passed it forward on their 22. Army was not able to capitalize on this huge error by Penn State, and instead saw Penn's wing run it 60 meters for a try.

By the second half, with some defensive insight from assistant coach Mike Mahan, the Army women were able to prevent any more points for Penn State, but were simply not able to seize opportunities for added points. In the end, Army lost to Penn State 17-12, which was a heartbreaking loss, felt by all.

After an amazing season with an amazing group of talented

See WAR on page 19

# Four Army football players earn NHS recognition

DALLAS -- The National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame [NFF] announced the inaugural NFF National Honor Society April 25. The Society is comprised of college football players from all divisions of play who each maintained a 3.2 GPA or better. A total of 345 players from 195 schools earned recognition as part of the inaugural class.

Four Army football seniors center Pete Bier, wide receiver Mike Castelli, and kickers Austin Miller and Justin Koenig all earned recognition as a part of the NFF National Honor Society.

"The inaugural class of the Honor Society contains an outstanding group of young men who simply set the standard for excellence on and off the field, and we are proud to showcase their accomplishments as a powerful example of football's unique ability to produce the next generation of great leaders," said NFF President & CEO Steve Hatchell. "We anticipate that the program will grow dramatically in the coming years, and we project recognizing hundreds of more student-athletes each year as people learn about the qualifications for membership and submit additional nominations."

The National Honor Society capitalizes on the NFF's current National Scholar-Athlete program, and further strengthens the NFF's leadership role in encouraging

academic performance by the student-athletes who play football at the more than 700 college and universities with football programs.

"It's a privilege to be a part of this initiative," said Florida State President and NFF Honor Society National Advisory Committee Co-Chair Dr. T.K. Wetherell. "The NFF's efforts in promoting scholarship are unsurpassed in

athletics, and I know that the Honor Society will significantly increase academic performance as coaches use membership as a tool to tap the competitive spirit of their teams and inclusion becomes a point of pride among their players."

Qualifications for membership in the inaugural NFF National Honor Society include:

- Being a starter or a significant substitute in one's last year of

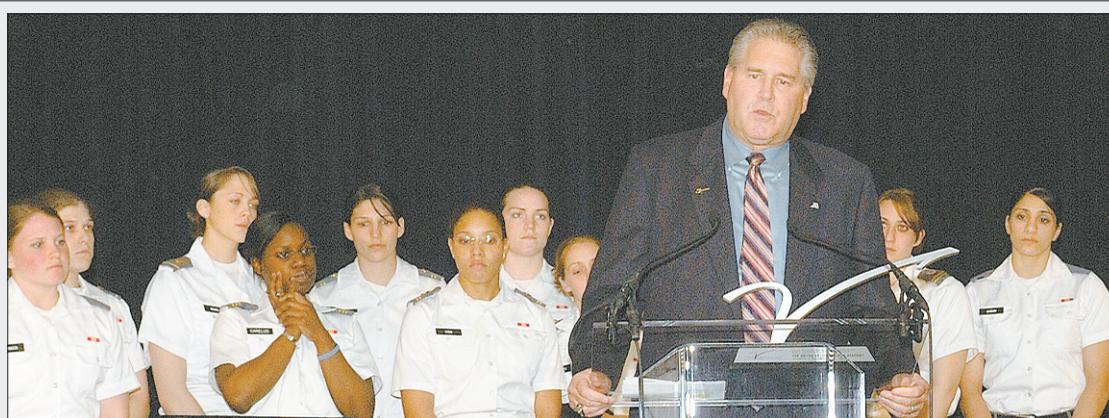
eligibility at an accredited NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision, Football Championship Subdivision, Division II, Division III or an NAIA college or university;

- Achieving a 3.2 cumulative grade point average throughout the entire course of undergraduate study; and

- Meeting all NCAA-mandated progress toward degree requirements.

The National Honor Society becomes the latest component of the organization's efforts to promote combined athletic and academic success.

As part of the launch, the NFF has established a national advisory committee, including representatives from the seven major conferences, a college president, a conference commissioner, an athletics director, and a Division I-A head football coach. Each one of these representatives provided comprehensive feedback in developing the Honor Society.



## Magarity accepts V award

The Army women's basketball team was presented with the 7th annual V Foundation Comeback Award April 25 at the Spirit of Jimmy V New York Gala in Manhattan. V Foundation CEO Nick Valvano bestowed Army head coach Dave Magarity and the Army women with the Comeback Award. "I am truly honored that our team was chosen as the 2007 recipient of the V Foundation Comeback Award," Magarity said. "I am so proud of how our team handled the tragic passing of Maggie with such class, grace and dignity. They honored Maggie's memory by playing outstanding basketball throughout the season. It was truly an honor to coach such a fine group of women. I had the privilege of coaching against Jim Valvano, and I considered him a friend," Magarity said. "To be associated with winning this award means a great deal to me on a personal level as well."

PHOTO PROVIDED BY JIMMY V FOUNDATION



Senior center Pete Bier, who will graduate in May, was one of four Army football players named to the inaugural National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame National Honor Society April 25.

ERIC S. BARTELT/PV

# Gerheim up for senior CLASS award, vote online

KANSAS CITY, Mo. -- Army senior softball player Lindsey Gerheim is among an elite group of student-athletes selected as one of the 10 finalists for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award in an announcement April 26. The award, which recognizes the outstanding senior student-athlete in six NCAA sports, is in its first year for softball.

This award will be presented annually to an NCAA Division I senior softball player who excels both on and off the field. Candidates were selected based on qualities that define a complete student-athlete. While the on-the-field performances during the student-athletes' collegiate softball careers are a factor in choosing candidates and the eventual winner, the personal character and off-the-field achievements in the classroom

and community are also major areas of focus.

"Lindsey has been a major contributor both on and off the field since her arrival at West Point some 46 months ago," commented Army head coach Jim Flowers. "She has played a major role in our successes and has been a leader both academically and militarily among the Corps of Cadets.

"This young lady truly represents the three pillars of the Academy's Leadership program – physical, military and academic. She will be a major contributor in the Army or anything else she may do in her life."

The word "CLASS" in the award title is used as an acronym for Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School. The initial concept of this special award for seniors was conceived by

CBS sportscaster Dick Enberg, who was inspired in 2001 by the story of Shane Battier, who turned down

offers from the NBA to return for his senior season at Duke despite the trend of college basketball

players leaving school early.

Since that time, the Lowe's  
See GERHEIM on page 19

**GERHEIM, cont. from page 18** —————

Senior CLASS Award has become recognized as the nation's premier tribute to college seniors.

After six successful years of honoring senior men's and women's basketball players, the award was expanded to four additional NCAA sports. The softball competition within NCAA colleges and universities around the country has been at a high level for years, and continues to escalate each season.

The 10 finalists for the award, representing seven different conferences, were chosen by a national media committee from an original list of 20 candidates. The 10 finalists will be placed on the

official ballot for a nationwide vote beginning April 26 and ending May 23. Fan balloting will be coupled with the votes from coaches, media members and sponsors to determine the recipient of the award.

The first-ever softball winner of the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award will be announced during the 2007 Women's College World Series in Oklahoma City, Okla.

Army fans can cast their vote for Gerheim by going to the awards' official web site: <http://softball.seniorclassaward.com/>.

Click "Vote" followed by "softball."

Fans can only vote once per day.

**2007 Armed Forces Men's and Women's Volleyball Tournament**

■ Opening ceremony is Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. at Gillis Field House. Men's and Women's teams from Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines will compete from Tuesday through May 12.

Games will be played at 8 a.m., 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday; noon and 6:30 p.m. Thursday and May 11; then 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. May 12.

Both Army teams, men's and women's, have graduates from West Point.

For more information on the tournament, go to [www.westpointmwr.com/armedforces/](http://www.westpointmwr.com/armedforces/).

**Sports Notes**

■ There will be orienteering instruction and a competition May 5 at Ringwood State Park in Ringwood, N.J. The Hudson Valley Orienteering Club is offering free beginner instruction starting at 10:30 a.m.

Course times for beginner and advance courses begin between 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, visit the HVOC Web site at [www.hvo.us.orianteering.org](http://www.hvo.us.orianteering.org).

**WAR, cont. from page 17** —————

old and new players, Women's Army Rugby says farewell to our amazing Firstie lineup. Becky Bort, Mary Klavin, Tanja Duester, Aimee Feliz, Devon Savoy, Dianna Le, Marjana Mair, Kelsey Riise, Magda Rodriguez, Ali Del Moral, Tracy Morel, and Meghan Starr. The character and talent their class brought to the team will be greatly missed and W.A.R. wishes you all the best in your Army careers.