

POINTER VIEW

TSP TICKER

December changes [as of 12/5]	
C FUND	- 4.94 percent
I FUND	- 3.76 percent
S FUND	- 6.22 percent

VOL. 64, NO. 47

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

DECEMBER 7, 2007

'Tis the season for Santa, tree lightings, holiday wishes



More than 200 West Point community members attended the West Point Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony on Monday at Buffalo Soldier Field (left). Megan and Josh Hanson share a laugh with Santa at the Hotel Thayer, where they joined many others in visiting with the Jolly Ol' Elf and having refreshments - all part of the festivities.

ERIC BARTELT/PV

INSIDE

Army prepares for potential funding shortfall

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The Army announced Nov. 28 that it has taken initial steps to plan for reduced operations at all Army bases while the congressional review continues on funding for operations in Afghanistan, Iraq, and requirements associated with the Global War on Terror.

With no funds provided for GWOT requirements since the beginning of the fiscal year, the Army has had to use Operation and Maintenance Account dollars budgeted to organize, train, equip, and field forces, as well to sustain Soldiers and their Families, to fund war related activities.

General Richard A. Cody, vice chief of staff of the Army, directed

all Army commanders and agency directors in a Nov. 26 memorandum to begin planning for reduced Army-wide operations.

The memo instructs Army leaders to review all operations, and to make plans to minimize OMA-funded activities not required to protect the life, health and safety of occupants of Army installations, or required to maintain assets vital to the national defense.

Detailed reports of this review and planning effort by installation commanders were due back to Cody by Tuesday.

The Army expects to exhaust all operation and maintenance funds by Feb. 23, even after considering a request by DOD to move over \$4

billion from Navy and Air Force personnel accounts and the Army's working capital fund.

Cody directed Army Commanders to be prepared to: "warm base" all Army installations and commands to minimal essential levels; furlough Army Civilians after mid-February; curtail or suspend contract expenditures; and discontinue all routine operations funded by OMA dollars.

"We are only in the prudent planning phase," Cody emphasized Nov. 28.

"We have been told by DOD to plan for and be prepared to execute these necessary actions. It is an imperative of the senior Army leadership that our Army, especially

while at war, understands the budget process, the decisions being made and any potential impacts on the total Army Family."

For example, Cody noted, per current labor agreements and to provide some predictability to the civilian workforce, supervisors would have to begin notifying Army Civilians of any impending February furloughs by mid-December.

"These in extremis planning actions are absolutely necessary given the uncertain Global War on Terror funding," Cody said.

"We will do everything we can to minimize the turbulence for our Soldiers, Civilians and their Families."



See STRYKER, page 4

Holiday Tree Fire Safety Information

Submitted by the West Point Fire Department

To help ensure everyone has a happy, healthy holiday season, the West Point Fire Department encourages all members of the West Point Community, whether you live on or off post, to review the following tree safety information.

On the average, 400 Christmas tree fires occur every year during the holiday season, causing 10 deaths, more than 100 serious injuries and more than \$15 million in damages.

Fires are declining every year because of the increased awareness of fire prevention techniques and



an increased use of artificial trees. Fire-resistant artificial trees are highly recommended.

If you get a real tree, please remember the following:

- It should not lose its needles when tapped on the ground.

- Cut 1" off the trunk then place it in water immediately to help the tree absorb water.

- A six-foot tree will use one gallon of water every two days.

- Check the water level daily.

- Keep the tree away from floor heaters, fire places or other heat sources.

- Use only UL-approved lights, and no more than three strands linked together.

- Wash your hands after handling lights and decorations. Lead dust is found on most imported decorations. Ensure tinsel or artificial icicles are of non-lead material, as lead-based materials are hazardous if eaten by children

or pets.

- Use miniature lights which have cool-burning bulbs.

- Turn off the Christmas lights when you go to sleep or leave your home.

- Never use real candles on or near any tree.

- Keep tree trimmings that are small or have removable parts out of the reach of small children and avoid decorations that tend to break easily or have sharp edges. These pieces may be swallowed.

- Do not let the water for the tree dry up. A dry tree can easily catch fire.

- Dispose of the tree properly. Never burn your tree in the

fireplace.

Always report fires immediately to your local Fire Department -- call 911 or 938-3333 (from your cell phone, if at West Point).

The West Point Fire Department is available 24/7 -- even Christmas.

(Note: Please remember that live Christmas trees are not allowed on West Point except in family housing per USMA Regulation 420-3.

Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month

Submitted by the West Point Alcohol and Drug Control Office

December is a time when we gather with friends and family -- a time to re-kindle our beliefs and the love we have for one another. It is a time of giving and caring, a time to reminisce about the past year, a time for making New Year resolutions and a time to think about change.

There is a New Year ahead of us and we hope for new blessings.

December is also 3D Month --

National Drunk, Drugged, Driving Prevention Month.

The purpose of this designation is to remind us to celebrate with care and caution.

Think about the following to



help make it a safer and happier holiday season:

- Designate a driver.

- Give the Gift of a Lift.

- Celebrate your accomplishments and toast your future.

- Alcohol and driving is a

deadly mixture, use with care.

- Remember *buzzed driving is drunk driving.*

From all of us in the Alcohol and Drug Control Office, have a very Happy Holiday and a Wonderful New Year!

SAPR-P

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

Community members can e-mail McMahon at Jeanette.McMahon@usma.edu for advice or to offer any recommendations on the program here.

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

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

Weekly Sudoku by Chris Okasaki, D/EECS

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.

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

Difficulty: Easy

See Solution on Page 9

POINTER VIEW®

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The Pointer View® is printed by the Poughkeepsie Journal, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive contract with USMA. The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the USMA or the Army.

The Pointer View® is published weekly by the USMA Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 600, West Point, N.Y. 10996 (845) 938-2015

Printed weekly by the
Poughkeepsie Journal
85 Civic Center Plaza
PO Box 1231,
Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12602
POUGHKEEPSIEJOURNAL.COM

For information, call
(845) 437-4789

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Local and National News

Department of Defense and VA test new disability eval system

By Fred W. Baker III
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON -- The departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs have teamed to test a pilot disability evaluation program that officials hope will streamline the confusing and often frustrating process for servicemembers and their families.

For the next year, officials will test the new system at military hospitals in the national capital region, officials announced Nov. 29.

Officials will then decide if or when to expand the system.

Vet Clinic services cut temporarily

Submitted by the West Point Veterinary Clinic

Due to personnel changes, there will be a reduction in available veterinary services for approximately three months starting immediately.

Based on the availability of other Vets from the Northeast District Command, we expect to have a visiting Vet on site only two days a month until a full-time replacement arrives.

What does this mean to you?

Some services will continue as always, including over-the-counter product sales and micro-chipping (required for all pets living on West Point).

However, prescriptions requiring a Vet's approval can not be dispensed or refilled without that approval and signature in the

In contrast to the current system, the pilot program will be based on only one medical examination and a single-sourced disability rating, instead of examinations and ratings from both departments separately.

The hope is to transition servicemembers more smoothly to veteran benefits and compensation, officials said.

"The objectives of the pilot are to improve the timeliness, effectiveness and transparency by integrating DOD and VA processes, eliminating duplication and improving information provided to servicemembers and their families," according to a Defense Department news release.

pet's records.

The same is true for vaccinations, which require that a Vet be on site when they are administered.

It may be necessary for some pet owners to use civilian Vets or to be willing to travel to one of the other Army Veterinary Treatment Facilities for these services to ensure that their pets' care remains current. The West Point VTF maintains a list of veterinarians in the area.

Scheduling appointments during the next three months will be challenging for the West Point staff. They will have to work with Vets who will be coming here for one day at a time as their own mission requirements permit.

Your patience and understanding is appreciated.

The VTF staff will do its best to accommodate all West Point clinic clients -- active duty and retired.

The scope of the pilot program includes all nonclinical care and administrative activities, such as case management and counseling requirements, from the time the

servicemember is referred to the board until veterans benefits are provided.

The test program is based on recommendations from

reports including the President's Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors and the Commission on Veterans' Disability Benefits.

New Log-in notice on DOD computers

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON -- Defense Department employees soon will see a new notice on their government computer screens informing them that their e-mails are subject to monitoring and that use of the computer means they recognize and consent to that monitoring.

The revised language will appear throughout the department within the next week, an official from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Networks and Information said.

"The banner notifies users that their systems may be monitored for "penetration testing, COMSEC (communications security) monitoring, network defense, quality control, and employee misconduct, law enforcement and counterintelligence investigations," the official said.

It also includes a paragraph clarifying that passwords, access cards, encryption and biometric access controls are used to provide security for the benefit of the government -- not to provide personal privacy to employees.

The notice also will appear on government BlackBerry devices and other personal digital assistants

and personal electronic devices, although the wording will be shorter than on computers.

The revised banner will ensure all users of government computer systems understand that there is no right of privacy in e-mails, officials said.

Defense Department officials said monitoring is critical in ensuring government systems aren't compromised by viruses or hackers, and to identify threats as early as possible.

"In order to protect DOD information systems, DOD needs to be able to monitor all traffic flowing through and across DoD systems," an official said.

Community Features and Photos

Stryker, ALS vehicles support MILCHEM lectures

Story and photos by
Kathy Eastwood
Staff writer

To demonstrate that what cadets are learning at West Point is applicable to real-world military activities, a Stryker Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Reconnaissance Vehicle and an Analytical Laboratory System were stationed in front of Bartlett Hall on Thayer Walk Nov. 29 and 30 to support the Chemistry and Life Sciences department's Military Chemistry lecture series.

"The concept of these displays is to (allow cadets to become aware that) learning general chemistry in the classroom can be translated into the battalions in combat and on domestic missions, such as Homeland Security," said Maj. Andy Novitske, a Chemistry and Life Sciences instructor here.

The core of the Stryker NBCRV is its onboard integrated NBC sensor suite and integrated meteorological system.

"We have the Stryker NBCRV, which detects nuclear, biological and chemical contamination, go into the battlefield to check for

these (types of) contamination (that could come from weapons of mass destruction)," said Maj. Mike Dunne from the Program Management office, Stryker brigade combat team in Warren, Mich. "We have three Stryker brigades deployed in Iraq. Our mission is to find NBC contamination on the battlefield to protect our troops."

The ALS, a mobile lab, was also on display.

"The ALS is fielded only to the National Guard to support the Civil Support Team," said Capt. Andy Parsons, National Guard 1st Civil Support Team of Wellesley, Mass.

"The ALS does not go into combat. We work with the local hazardous material offices and public health in an effort to protect on a domestic level such as Homeland Security. Every state has a National Guard Civil Support Team."

The 1st Civil Support Team wore HAZMAT suits to demonstrate the discussion on the instrumentation that is inside the Stryker during MILCHEM lectures in Bartlett Hall.

"The team explained how the Stryker instrumentation used basic



The Stryker NBCRV was parked outside of Bartlett Hall Nov. 29 and 30 in support of the MILCHEM lectures on basic chemistry. The Stryker is deployed to battlefields in search of contamination of toxic substances to protect Soldiers and civilians on the battlefield. There are three Stryker brigades deployed in Iraq.

chemistry principles and concepts the cadets have seen throughout the semester," Novitske said.

The ALS's stated mission is to 'provide the capability of the National Guard Civil Support

Teams to conduct presumptive analysis of unknown or potential agents at an incident site and transmit that information electronically to the Unified Command Suite in support of the First Support

Incident Commander,' according to the Joint Program Executive Office of Chemical and Biological Defense at http://www.jpeocbd.osd.mil/page_manager.asp?pg=2&sub=19.



The 1st Civil Support Team Stryker personnel out of Massachusetts don HAZMAT suits to demonstrate how the instrumentation on the Stryker uses the basic chemistry principles and concepts that have been taught throughout the semester to the plebe class.

Army Employment Readiness Program ready to help

By Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

The military isn't just about Soldiers. It's also about the Families of those Soldiers who often deal with children, jobs and Family life without at least one loved one there as he or she may be in another country in harm's way fighting the war against terror.

Families are also fighting a war. They are fighting a war of finding employment, settling children into new schools, living within new schedules and learning to make new friends every few years. Plus, many of them find that when seeking employment, employers generally look for people who have experience and have staying power. Since military Families relocate every few years, applying for employment as a military spouse can be challenging.

This was one of the issues that was discussed by the Military/Civilian Workforce group at the Army Family Action Plan Conference held here Oct. 23-24.

The specific issues was 'Employment information services are not adequately communicated throughout the Department of Defense. Government employees and Family members are adversely affected when quality of life (financial security) is compromised.'

The Army realizes that the health and well-being of the Soldiers' Families are just as important as those of the Soldiers. This is where the Employment Readiness Program, a division of the Army Community Service of the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation, comes in.

"At West Point, I assist spouses, Family members, Soldiers and civilians with the challenges associated with job searches and preparation," said Jan Meert, ACS Employment Readiness Program Manager.

Meert said ERP assistance is provided in many forms -- career counseling, job coaching, teaching interview techniques, resume writing and personality testing. The personality testing instruments include the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, a personality inventory that can help in choosing the type of work environment in which one might want to work, and the Strong Inventory assessment, that can assist with career field

recommendations.

"We also offer Bi-annual Executive Transition Workshops for retiring or separating officers, senior NCOs and civilians," she said. "We offer information on the Army Career and Alumni Program and the Transition Assistance Program, interview preparation and various employment-related workshops and seminars throughout the year."

The ACAP helps members of the Army and their Families be more successful in their transition from federal service to the civilian/private sector.

Department of the Army civilians can also receive assistance in applying for other federal positions.

"I offer a resume writing workshop that addresses the process of applying for federal positions," Meert said.

The latest workshop, held Nov. 29 at ACS, included information on the different types of resume writing, whether one is applying for jobs in the private sector or completing a resume through the Resumix system (a Web-based federal resume system).

"Federal employers, just like other employers, are looking for specific job qualifications, so it is important that people check what the duties and qualifications are for the position and specifically gear their resume toward that job description," Meert said.

"Search the duties and qualifications of the job you are applying for and target your description to experience on current or previous jobs that applies. You can also search the Internet for a good key word description of a

position. To help translate military experience to civilian experience, military personnel can use online resources. A good Web site for this 'translation' information is <http://online.onetcenter.org>," she added.

Meert also advises that one should compose a resume in Microsoft Word (or other word processing program) prior to posting it in the Resumix system. This will allow the use of a spell check program, which Resumix does not have. She cautioned that one still needs to proof the document, as spell check will only check spelling, not usage. A word may be spelled correctly, but it may be the wrong word as far as usage, such as 'to, too and two.'

"It's important that the resume has no typographical, grammatical or spelling errors," Meert said. "Always take the time to proofread the resume and have someone else look it over. It is very difficult to accurately proof your own work and having a fresh set of eyes review it will catch a small error that can be glaring to a prospective employer," she continued.

The Civilian Personnel Web site (<http://cpol.army.mil/library/employment/jobkit/>) is a helpful resource during the government job application process and also to just glean general personnel information.

"The job kit tells applicants how to create a resume on Resumix and how to complete the supplemental data, etc.," Meert said.

Another helpful Web site, which has training courses and guidebooks on a variety of personnel areas, is the Human Resources Command site -- <http://www.chra.army>.



Jan Meert (right), Employment Readiness Program Manager here, teaches a class in resume writing at the Army Community Service Bldg. 622, Nov. 29. The class included the different types of resume formats such as chronological and targeted. Meert assists spouses, Family members, Soldiers and civilians with job searches and preparations.

mil.

If you have questions or need specific information, call the

Employment Resource Center at (845)248-4719 or e-mail Meert at jan.meert1@us.army.mil.

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

**A Hudson
Valley Holiday
Concert Event**

December 15 ~ 7:30 p.m.

December 16 ~ 2:00 p.m.

Eisenhower Hall Theatre



Kevin McKelvy



Jay Montgomery



Mid-Hudson Ballet Company

Free and Open to the Public
www.usma.edu/band
or call 845-938-2617



Cadet Strings Club

The Army Cadet Strings Club played for staff and faculty in Bldg. 600, Monday. The group performs weekly at small functions around post. They are (from left) Cadet 4th Class Hans Kobor, on violin, Cadet 2nd Class Amanda Raulerson, on viola, Cadet 3rd Class Jessica Howell, on viola, and Cadets 4th Class Barrett Halgas, on violin, Josephine Kim, on violin and Hannah McCarty on cello.

JIM FOX/PV

BE A PART OF WEST POINT HISTORY...

Winner will also receive FREE transportation for 2 people on any ITR trip!

Design West Point's Next Garrison Coin!



Submission deadline: January 15

Guidelines:

- All art media accepted. Artwork should be submitted in color and must incorporate the USMA crest, IMCOM crest, Colonel rank & CSM rank.
- Coin can be any shape. Keep in mind that artwork reproduction will be reduced to standard coin size.
- Artwork design becomes property of the US Army Garrison upon submission.
- Submit electronic files in **jpeg** or **pdf** format to: **elizabeth.harrington@usma.edu**
Submit original artwork to: **Elizabeth Harrington, 681 Hardee Place, Room 202**



visit us on the web:
www.westpointmwr.com



Holy Myrrbearers Women's Choir

The Holy Myrrbearers Women's Choir performed at the Cadet Chapel Nov. 16 as part of the Department of Foreign Language's Performing Arts Series. This group performed chants sung in a cappella style and in the Slavonic language of old Russia. A formal gala reception was held afterward. The DFL Performing Arts Series brings classical concert artists of international reputation to perform for the cadets and the West Point community -- bringing back concert music at its best to West Point and to the Hudson River valley. PHOTO BY RAJAA CHOUAIRI/DFL

Delivery problems?

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

Community Leisure

MWR Blurbs

Holiday party planning

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

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

View menu online at www.westpointmwr.com.

For pricing and reservations, call 446-5504.

MWR Fitness Center

Les Mills Body Pump Launch, Saturday, Sat., 9 a.m.

Free to all eligible patrons.

Body Pump certification rescheduled for the following dates:

Dec. 14 Noon to 9 p.m.

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

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

For more info., call 938-6490.

Santa Paws

Santa Paws Photo Shoot: Have your pet's picture taken with Santa Paws.

West Point Vet Clinic, Bldg. 630 Hodges Place, Wed., from 5 to 7 p.m.

All pets receive a special treat

from Santa. Pets must be on a leash or in a carrier.

For more info., call 938-3817.

Mystery Shopper

Become a Mystery Shopper and receive free services at various MWR activities -- it's fun and easy.

To apply, go to www.westpointmwr.com, fill out the application and return to Elizabeth Harrington, Bldg. 681, room 202

For more info., call 938-8186.

Santa Suits for rent

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers is renting out four complete Santa Suits for \$25 a piece as part of a fundraising event for BOSS.

Contact Connie Woodley at 938-6127 for more information.

WPGC end of season sale

The West Point Golf Course end of season sale continues until Dec. 21. The WPGC Pro Shop is open Mon. through Sat. from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Save on equipment, apparel and more.

For more info., call 938-2435.

Angel Tree

Sponsor an angel in the West Point community through Operation Angel Tree -- select an ornament from the tree in the AAFES lobby to guide you in purchasing a gift.

Gifts may be unwrapped and put back under the tree by Dec. 14. For more info., call 938-6497.

Help design the new GC coin

Be a part of West Point history -- design West Point's next Garrison coin. Submission deadline is Jan. 11.

Submit original artwork to Elizabeth Harrington, 681 Hardee Place, Room 202.

For contest guidelines, go to www.westpointmwr.com and select "special events and attractions."

Sealed bid date change

Please note change of date for MWR Service Division's Sealed Bid Sale on a selection of vehicles. Sale dates are now Wed. through Dec. 14 on all items.

These items can be viewed at West Point Auto Shop (Bldg. 648), Dec. 12-14, from 1 to 3 p.m..

Bids may be submitted no later

than 3 p.m., Dec. 14.

For more info., call 938-2074.

Ski and snowboard lessons

Learn to ski and snowboard. Take lessons at Victor Constant Ski Slope.

Sign-ups are ongoing. For more info., call 938-3726.

2008 Soldier Show

The 2008 Soldier Show is looking for performers and technicians.

It is open to all active duty Soldiers. Applications are due Dec. 28.

For more info., go to www.westpointmwr.com or call 938-6127.

Ski tuning & repair Shop

Have you tried the Tuning & Repair Shop at West Point Ski Slope?

For more info., call 938-3726.

Transition Workshop

Are you an active duty Officer or Senior NCO thinking about retiring or separating in the next year or two? Then the ACS Executive Transition Workshop is

just for you.

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

Advance registration required.

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

For info., call (845) 248-4719.

Songwriting contest

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

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

The submission period ends December 31, 2007.

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

Keller Corner

KACH closure

All outpatient clinics, laboratory, pharmacy and radiology will be closing at noon Dec. 21 and will also be closed Dec. 24, 25, 31 and Jan. 1.

The emergency room will remain open.

Childbirth Preparation Classes

Four Class Series - Jan. 2, 3, 9 and 10, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., KACH 2nd floor classroom.

Call OBU at 938-3210 to register.

If your due date is January, February or early March, this class is for you.

Keller Army Community Hospital Offers Weight Loss Surgery

Bariatric surgery corrects obesity.

Are you considered obese? Have you been actively dieting and exercising without losing weight and without maintaining that weight loss?

There are several procedures that can be done to help a patient lose weight and to keep that weight off. The most successful of these procedures is called "Gastric Bypass."

In this procedure the stomach is made small to limit the amount of food intake and part of the intestine is bypassed to limit caloric absorption. This procedure has shown to be very effective in weight loss.

Obesity is the most costly and common nutritional problem in the United States. It is close to smoking

as a frequent cause of early death.

Obesity is quantified by calculating your body mass index or BMI.

To calculate your BMI, take your weight in pounds divided by your height in inches squared, then multiply by 703.

Being overweight is classified as a BMI greater than 25. Obesity is defined as a BMI over 30.

In 2000, the cost of medical problems associated with obesity was more than \$117 billion. Obese people are at increased risk of diabetes, hypertension,

hypercholesterolemia, arthritis, coronary artery disease, sleep apnea and venous stasis.

These patients are also at an increased risk of cancer of the breast, colon and endometrium.

Weight loss can help decrease the risk of medical disease and death.

If you answered yes to the questions at the top, please make an appointment with your Primary Care Manager to see if you qualify for an evaluation for surgical treatment.

Beneficiary Web Enrollment

TRICARE Prime and Prime Remote beneficiaries can log on to <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/bwe/> to enroll, disenroll, choose primary care managers (PCM), transfer regions, update personal information, add other health care information and request enrollment cards.

Beneficiary Web Enrollment (BWE) allows Standard beneficiaries to update personal information, add other health care information and enroll in Prime.

The holidays are coming -- Think Green

By Martha Hinote
DPW Customer Relations

That's right -- think "green" as well as "white." The upcoming holidays are an ideal time to give the Earth a break. Celebrate the holiday with our environment in mind.

That's the word from Jennifer

Butkus, Chief, Environmental Management Division, Directorate of PublicWorks. "It is important that each individual community member is involved in preserving and protecting our environment. Therefore, we seek every opportunity to educate and inform the USMA community about environmental issues," Butkus

said. "With that in mind, we encourage community members to recycle, recycle, recycle this holiday season."

Recycle your natural Christmas tree. Make sure you remove all decorations, tinsel and garland and place it adjacent to your solid waste collection point for pick up.

"Our solid waste contractor will pick them up on three assigned days and transport them to our organic waste storage site at the West Point Transfer Station," said John Dopler, USMA Recycling Coordinator. The scheduled days for pick up will be Jan. 2, 9 and 16, 2008.

"Trees put out before those days will most likely remain there until the scheduled pick up dates," he added.

Residents are reminded that all trees must be out by Jan. 16.

"Even though the contractor will pick up the trees using an "everyday" refuse truck, they will be recycled and not placed into the landfill," Dopler emphasized.

All organic waste collected at West Point is shredded to make mulch for later use on post.

Other "hints" to make your holiday "green" are listed below:

- Recycle used ribbons, bows, and decorative wrappings.

- Reuse old cards as gift tags or as decorations.

- Find alternatives to store-bought wrapping paper. Leftover fabric or lightweight wallpaper work as well as expensive wrapping paper. Wrap home-baked goodies in

a Christmas dishtowel and use the Sunday comics to wrap a child's gift. Consider using the *Pointer View®* to wrap a gift for your favorite cadet.

- Be creative in your gift giving. Give gifts that "keep on giving" such as a membership to a museum, season tickets to Army sporting events, tickets to Eisenhower Hall, a house plant, homemade confections and baked goods, a set of biodegradable, no-phosphate cleaners or free babysitting.

In the midst of your holiday celebrations we encourage you to consider the gift of the Earth and do your part to conserve our natural resources. Give a healthy and green Earth to your children and grandchildren!

DPW Notes

Disconnect your garden hoses

Residents should disconnect and safely store all garden hoses for the winter season.

Leaving them attached to exterior faucets can cause damage to the piping for the faucet and other interior plumbing features.

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

Holiday solid waste / recycling collection schedule

Recycling co-mingle that is usually collected on Tues. will be

collected Dec. 26. Likewise, the recycling co-mingle that would normally be collected Jan. 1, 2008 will be collected Jan. 2, 2008.

Christmas tree recycling

The DPW Solid Waste Contractor will pick up "used" Christmas Trees for recycling on the following dates, weather permitting: Jan. 2, 9 and 16, 2008.

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

NOW SHOWING in the movie theater at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

FRIDAY -- AMERICAN GANGSTER, R, 7:30 P.M.

SATURDAY -- DAN IN REAL LIFE, PG, 7:30 P.M.

SATURDAY -- THE HEARTBREAK KIDS, R, 9:30 P.M.

DEC. 14 -- FRED CLAUS, PG, 7:30 P.M.

DEC. 15 -- BEE MOVIE, PG, 7:30 P.M.

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

What's Happening

Book signing

Today there will be a book signing at the Cadet Bookstore by author Barry Wilner from 9:15 a.m. to noon for his new book "Football Feuds, The Greatest College Football Rivalries."

The book features the top 25 greatest rivalries. Chapter one deals with Army vs. Navy.

The Cadet Bookstore will be open Sat. from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. for their Holiday Open House.

Cadet Store one-day sale Sat.

The Cadet Store will be open Sat. from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. with sales on all departments. This is a one-day only sale.

The Cadet Store is open to all Staff and Faculty.

Christmas tree sale

The Fort Montgomery Volunteer

Fire Department is having its annual Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale/Fundraiser.

The times are weekends 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and weekdays 3 to 9 p.m.

The location is Route 9W, Fort Montgomery, N.Y., at the Fort Montgomery Firehouse Parking Lot, three miles south of West Point.

For more information, call (845) 446-3542.

Sacred Heart programs

Sacred Heart School in Highland Falls invites the West Point Community to attend the MCCW Advent program is Tues., from 9:15 to 10:45 a.m., in the Post Chapel Basement.

Please join us as we prepare for Christ's birth.

Highland Falls holiday events

Monetary donations for food and supplies are being accepted

in the Village of Highland Falls Mayor's office to support the Christmas Day dinner at the Sacred Heart Cafeteria.

Make checks payable to "The Community Christmas Dinner" and mail to Sacred Heart Church, 353 Main Street, Highland Falls, NY, 10928.

The Mayor will also have a "Toy Box" in the lobby of Village Hall until Dec. 21.

Gifts for children in the categories of "tot," "child," and "teen" can be dropped off Mon. through Fri. from 1 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 9 to 11 a.m. on Sat.

A collection for area pets is also ongoing.

Call the Mayor at (845) 446-3400 for more info.

The Mayor is also in touch with

Santa again this year and will help send mail to the jolly old elf c/o The Mayor, 303 Main Street, Highland Falls, NY 10928.

In order to get them to St. Nick in time, the letters need to be at Village Hall by Dec. 21. To ensure a response, the letters must include the child's name, address and written legibly, preferably by a parent or guardian.

Post Exchange holiday hours

Today -- 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Sat. -- 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Sun. -- 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Mon. to Wed. --

9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Thurs. -- 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Dec. 14 -- 6 a.m. to midnight

Dec. 15 -- 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Dec. 16 -- 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Command Channel
8/23

Dec. 7 - Dec. 14

FRIDAY

8:30 A.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH

1 P.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH

6 P.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH

MONDAY - DEC. 14

8:30 A.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH

1 P.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH

6 P.M. ARMY NEWSWATCH

Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

Army and Community Sports

Army football has many questions, many answers

Story and photos by
Eric S. Bartelt
Sports Editor

The Army football team is already planning for next year. Some key positions have experienced players returning, while some still have question marks.

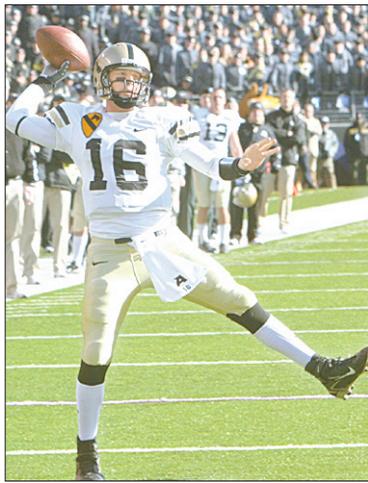
Some of the questions include, who replaces all-time receiving record holder senior Jeremy Trimble?

Who replaces solid, athletic starters who are graduating like Caleb Campbell?

Who will step up at running back?

Questions will keep mounting as the off season progresses, but Army may have had a glimpse into how to help the running game.

Junior running back Tony Dace rushed for 104 yards on 28 carries



Sophomore quarterback Carson Williams finished the season with 11 touchdown passes and a 52.6 completion percentage.

to lead the Army offensive attack.

He was the first Army back to gain more than 100 yards in a game since Carlton Jones in November 2005 versus Arkansas State.

However, Dace didn't want to seem too confident in his stats because the team didn't score a touchdown.

"I didn't do enough to win the (Navy) game," Dace said. "I definitely need to step my game up for next season, so we can come out and win some games and beat Navy in my senior year."

Army will have to look for some new blood next season. Only nine of the starters from the Army-Navy game are returning next year, but, in the end is that a good or bad thing as getting over the hump has been troublesome for the Black Knights in recent years.

"Right now, we have a recruiting class that's coming in that we're excited about," said Army head football coach Stan Brock. "I think our future is very bright. We have great support from our leadership to include (Lt.) Gen. (Buster) Hagenbeck, our superintendent, and our athletic director (Kevin Anderson). I think we have the coaching staff in place that will make us better.

"The players will need to get better and we'll work through that during the winter and through next spring," he added. "Hopefully, we'll bring in some better players as well."

Losing 38-3 to Navy was devastating to many of the players, but Brock is optimistic about what he saw from his players as well.

"I know the players are there,

the heart is there and the desire is there," Brock explained. "As long as it is not a lack of effort, I think we'll be alright."

While the defense showed another solid outing for the second straight year against Navy, Brock said, it's the offense that will need to pick up its all around game.

"We have to learn how to finish drives and put points on the board," Brock said. "Offensively and special teams, we need to get better. I think it is an attitude.

"Winning and all the things that come with it," he added, "breeds within itself. It is a process that we have to work through."

The biggest returning starter on either side of the ball will be sophomore quarterback Carson Williams. He finished his second straight year as a starter with 11 touchdowns and a 52.6 completion percentage.

Williams spoke about the Army offense's confidence and how it was sky high after the Tulsa game and then completely different against Navy. Not converting on an opening drive touchdown and then the subsequent missed field goal is something they weren't able to brush off throughout the day.

"I've been saying it all year," Williams said. "If we can do what we're capable of doing without shooting ourselves in the foot, then it's a different game, and it would have been the entire year."

Army will have two returning starters along the offensive line from the Army-Navy game in junior tackles Brandon Cox and Mike Lemming, although Williams felt the pass blocking needed to



Junior running back Tony Dace ran for 104 yards Saturday against Navy. He was the first Army back to gain more than 100 yards in a game since Carlton Jones in November 2005.

improve over the off season.

Williams also felt the overall consistency of the offense needed an upgrade and he didn't hide from his fair share of the blame.

"I need to be more patient, which is probably my biggest flaw right now," Williams said. "I just have to learn to take what they give me, even if it's 3-and-10 and doing a simple check down."

Senior Jordan Murray, who led the team in tackles with 103 in 2007, is proud of the defense that will return -- four starters including junior Frank Scappaticci,

who finished third in tackles with 89, and sophomore defensive linemen Ted Bentler and Nicholas Emmons.

However, Murray knows it will take a change in attitude for the team to succeed in the future.

"We've been losing for I don't know how many years now," Murray said. "It's tough. It's all about attitude. I mean, this year we kept inching closer and closer, but couldn't put it all together.

Williams has been learning the importance of what these losses

See QUESTIONS on page 11

QUESTIONS, cont. from page 10

means to everyone, especially the seniors who have never beat Navy and he wants to stop the losing streak in its place.

“It just emphasizes the fact that (the Army-Navy game) is that much more important to the seniors,” Williams stated. “It’s the second year that I’ve had this feeling (of losing to Navy), and I would prefer not to have to do it again.”

Sports calendar

Dec. 7 - Dec. 16

Corps Squad

SATURDAY -- WBB vs. RUTGERS,
IN THE MAGGIE DIXON CLASSIC,
(@MSG, NEW YORK CITY),
2 P.M.

SUNDAY -- MBB vs. QUINNIPIAC,
CHRISTL ARENA, 1 P.M.

THURSDAY -- MBB vs. FLORIDA
GULF COAST, CHRISTL ARENA,
7 P.M.

Club
NONE.