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## NEWS RELEASE

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HUGH MCCONNELL SELECTED FIRST CAPTAIN – Aug. 4, 2016

WEST POINT, N.Y. – Cadet Hugh McConnell of Newton, Kansas, has been selected First Captain of the U.S. Military Academy's Corps of Cadets for the 2016-2017 academic year, achieving the highest position in the cadet chain of command. He will assume his duties on Monday.

As First Captain, McConnell an Environmental Science major, is responsible for the overall performance of the approximately 4,400-member Corps of Cadets. He follows in the footsteps of other notable First Captains such as Douglas MacArthur, William Westmoreland, Pete Dawkins and Kristin Baker.

The First Captain, a senior who is also called the brigade commander, is similar to a student body president. His duties include implementing a class agenda and acting as a liaison between the Corps and the administration. In addition, McConnell is at the top of a pyramid of cadet commanders who make up the chain-of-command for the Corps of Cadets at West Point.

McConnell graduated from Newton High School in 2013.

### About West Point

The U. S. Military Academy at West Point is a four-year, co-educational, federal, liberal arts college located 50 miles north of New York City. It was founded in 1802 as America's first college of engineering and continues today as the world's premier leader-development institution, consistently ranked among top colleges in the country. Its mission remains constant—to educate, train, and inspire the Corps of Cadets so that each graduate is a commissioned leader of character committed to the values of Duty, Honor, Country and prepared for a career of professional excellence and service to the nation as an officer in the U. S. Army. For more information, go to [www.westpoint.edu](http://www.westpoint.edu).