

As of March 29:	
C FUND	+ 1.87 percent
I FUND	+ 2.79 percent
S FUND	+ 3.61 percent

Cadets named Truman scholars

By Jim Fox
Editor

Cadets 2nd Class Charlie Eadie and Todd Mainwaring were named Truman scholars Tuesday by the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation.

They are two of 75 students from 63 U.S. colleges and universities selected from 598 candidates. Eadie and Mainwaring are the 25th and 26th cadets to be named Truman



Cadet 2nd Class Charlie Eadie

scholars since the U.S. Military Academy began competing in 1992.

Eadie, a 24-year-old Economics major from Santa Cruz, Calif., was amazed to have found out he had been selected.

"I was ecstatic," the future infantry officer said. "I am really excited and glad that the hard work has paid off."

The cadet sport parachute team member plans to use his scholarship to pursue a master's of Public Administration and International

Development from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

Eadie currently serves as his regiment's operations non-commissioned officer. This summer he is slated to serve as the Regimental Command Sgt. Major for Cadet Field Training II.

Mainwaring, 20, hails from Dothan, Ala. The civil engineering major plans to branch Engineers.

The club officer in the cadet Civil Engineering Club plans on studying Technology and Policy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Mainwaring was stunned when he first found out he has been selected.

"I didn't know what to think," he said. "I had been preparing for this scholarship for months and finally it all ended with one word. Gladly that word was 'Congratulations' and not 'Sorry.'"

The Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation, set up in 1975 and first awarded in 1977,

See TRUMAN, cont. on 3



Cadet 2nd Class Todd Mainwaring



Black and Gold Volunteer awardees

Monthly Black and Gold volunteer awardees were honored Tuesday in the Thayer Award room by Superintendent Lt. Gen. William Lennox Jr. and his wife Anne. They were (left to right): Lt. Col. Todd Messitt, Mary Ann Fiashetti, Janeen Acosta, Betsy Pugh, the Lennoxes, Amy Yates, Alexina deKoster, Tammy Hrinko, Sgt. Maj. Cal Christensen, Lt. Col. Brian and Kellie Mennes.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

Get your Combat Action Badge now

By Spc. Benjamin Gruver
Staff Writer

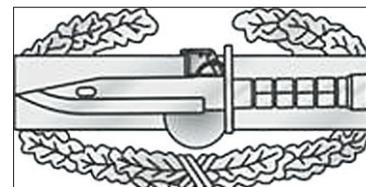
Now is the time for anyone who qualifies for the new Combat Action Badge to put in their request before the approval authority is no longer held at the major general level.

On Jun. 28, 2005 the acting assistant secretary of the Army delegated the approval authority of the CAB to all Army major generals and heads of principle Department of the Army Headquarter agencies with award approval authority because of the potential thousands

of Soldiers who qualified. That authority is scheduled to terminate June 29, 2006, sending the approval authority to the commanding general of the U.S. Army Human Resources Command.

"Right now it takes about a month-and-a-half," said Annette Taylor, the West Point awards clerk, on how long it currently takes to process the CAB. "It might even be less than that depending on what's on the Supes plate."

One can expect the approval for the award to take up to four to six months once the approval authority is moved up to the Department of



the Army level, explained Taylor, who added that it is a potentially long time to wait if there is a need for it right away.

"It would be better to submit the Soldier's application on the CAB now than wait," Taylor said, "because the longer the Soldier

See BADGE on page 3

Int'l community united on Iran policy

By Sgt. Sara Wood
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON -- The international community agrees that Iran cannot have nuclear capabilities that could lead to the development of a nuclear weapon, and the U.S. is working with other countries to make sure that doesn't happen, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said on Sunday

morning talk shows.

"Everybody takes very seriously Iran's intransigence and Iran's unwillingness to do what the international community has determined it should do," Rice said on NBC's "Meet the Press." "Iran cannot be allowed to develop a nuclear weapon; that is the view of the international community, not just the U.S."

The U.S. and its partners are

doing everything they can to send a strong signal to Iran that if it wishes to be part of the international community, it must give up its nuclear ambitions, Rice said. If the international community stays united, Iran will not be able to stand the kind of isolation that North Korea has faced, she said.

"The Iranians are defying the world's will, and the international

See IRAN on page 3

INSIDE



MEDIA PANEL, see page 4

No need for new Medicare Part D drug program for seniors

Commentary
by Karen Rutzick
Govexec.com

Civil servants are pretty much set when it comes to health insurance and prescription drug coverage. Premiums get costlier each year, but the coverage itself is sound and even older employees with more medical needs have the luxury of ignoring the horror stories surrounding enrollment in President Bush's new drug program for seniors, known as Medicare Part D. Right?

Probably -- at least according to the Office of Personnel Management, which administers the health insurance program for federal employees.

"OPM has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by plans participating in the [Federal Employees Health Benefits Program] is, on average, comparable to Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage," the agency said in a November letter

to benefits coordinators. "Thus, you do not need to enroll in Medicare Part D and pay extra for prescription drug benefits."

Still, participants should compare their prescription drug coverage under FEHBP to what's available through local Medicare prescription drug plans to be sure, OPM said. Check out the brochure [www.opm.gov/insure/06/planinfo.asp] that providers in the FEHBP publish; there is a section detailing prescription coverage for each. Medicare's Web site [www.medicare.gov] also offers a comparison of coverage options.

If employees find themselves the exception to OPM's rule, then they can enroll in Part D at a later date without paying a fee, as long as they retain FEHBP coverage, too.

It is possible to have both plans, and OPM encourages employees to keep FEHBP coverage if they enroll in Medicare. The two plans coordinate benefits, in some cases covering each other's gaps.

As Blue Cross Blue Shield,

one of the largest providers in the federal employee program, noted, "It is almost always to your advantage to keep your FEHBP coverage."

Why? For one thing, retirees who stop FEHBP coverage are not allowed to re-enroll in the program.

There's a price to pay on the Medicare side as well. Employees who drop FEHBP coverage and fail to enroll in Part D for 63 days or longer will have to pay premiums that are higher by 1 percent for each month they did not have equivalent prescription drug coverage.

For example, according to

OPM, "If you go 19 months without Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage, your premium will always be at least 19 percent higher than what most other people pay. You may also have to wait until the next open enrollment period to enroll in Medicare Part D."

Some employee groups were concerned when Bush and Congress were formulating the Part D plan that it would chip away at FEHBP drug coverage, but OPM's edict may put those worries to rest.

As the Web site of the New York chapter of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association [www.federalink.com/part_d_comparability.htm] states, "Federal retirees who are awaiting receipt of a letter from their FEHBP health plan carrier concerning the 'comparability' of Medicare Part D should not hold their breath ... as they say in New York ... fuhgeddaboutit!"

SARP INFO

The members of the Sexual Assault Response and Prevention Team are Col. Jeanette McMahon, Shelley Ariosto (Garrison), Maj. Samantha Breton (USCC), Maj. Kim Kawamoto (ODIA) and Catherine Ruvolo (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

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

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: Very Hard

See Solution on Page 11

POINTER VIEW®



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Common access card Cryptographic Logon coming by mid-May

By Eric S. Bartelt
Assistant Editor

Acronyms litter the military vernacular. CCL will become letters that are synonymous with security and computers at West Point and throughout the Department of Defense.

Between April 15 and May 15, CAC Cryptographic Logon will be enabled on all Windows-based platforms connecting to the "West Point network."

The implementation of CCL will require all personnel to have an up-to-date Common Access Card and a work station that is equipped with the required hardware and software which will make CCL capable.

With a properly working CAC card and an established six-figure PIN, the goal of CCL is to increase the protection of work stations, networks and other physical assets of the Army.

"(It's a two-factor authentication) in which you use something that you have, your CAC card, with something that you only know, your PIN, so that it's more secure than your user ID and password logon," said Paul Scullion, Directorate of

Information Management director. "This new logon eliminates someone calling you on the phone saying they're a DOIM system administrator and gaining access to your e-mail account and network. But even if they knew my PIN (with the new system), they wouldn't have my card and couldn't gain access into the network."

The Homeland Security directive in the long-term plan will be used to access Web-based enabled applications such as AKO, MyPay, footprints [the DOIM work order system] and the Defense Travel System.

"The whole reason for this project is to improve security on Army networks because with the war going on there's a whole bunch of folks trying to tap into government networks to see what's going on," Scullion said. "We don't handle much sensitive information here, but there is budget information and other things that you wouldn't want the average user to read or see."

Within the last two weeks, DOIM has established the CCL capability at West Point and the plan is to do the testing at DOIM to figure out the deployment scheme to make it easier for the average user.

According to Scullion, every user will need to perform a couple of steps beforehand which includes allowing DOIM to take a numeric number off their card (Automated Name Provisioning Tool) that will identify the user and will be

associated with his or her account. What will ultimately happen is everyone will receive an e-mail that will say to put his or her CAC card into a CAC reader and then click on the link in the e-mail and it will automatically run the process to put the software on his or her computer.

"(DOIM) is currently working on the mechanics of how to do this easiest for everyone to CAC enable," Scullion explained. "But we have the capability and functionality here now and we're working on a plan to roll it out to the different activities."

"There's a timeline for Windows-based machines and May 15 is our target and we're on track to do that without much difficulty," he added.

The U.S. Military Academy Chief of Staff (Col. Michael Colpo) signed a memo in preparation for the next phase that by at least (Sat.) everyone should make sure their CAC reader works and have a valid ID card that doesn't expire soon.

All civilian employees whose CAC Card will be expiring in 2006

can renew their cards no earlier than two weeks prior to the card's expiration date. Issue will be on a first-come, first-served basis, according to Earl Vass, chief, personnel services branch. Cards can be renewed at building 622 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. Contact Vass at 938-8474/3746 for more info.

"What folks can do now to prepare is make sure they have a valid CAC card and know their expiration date and make sure they know their PIN number, a lot of people don't remember their PIN number when they went and got it initially," Scullion said. "There is a fix to that, they can go back to AG where they have a PIN reset station which will allow them to reset to their PIN number (six number code), but if they get it wrong (three times) while logging in they'll have to go back to AG (to change the PIN again)."

West Point is the first place to use the system the way it is intended by the Army by using DOD certificates.

"The certificates are little pieces

of information on the chip that identifies who you are," Scullion said. "It uses three different certificates: signing, encrypting and logon from the ID certificate and our folks will work with each activity to implement this capability on all machines at West Point."

"Putting a CAC card and a PIN number in is pretty simple, but it's the technology and getting the system activated that takes a bit of work," Scullion added.

DOIM is also working on issues that include non-Windows-based machines and people who are working in remote sites and who need access to connect back to West Point. And in the end, this new security system is to help protect everyone at West Point.

"This is another part of that protection mechanism that prevents someone from getting your user ID and password and logging on to do malicious activities on the network," Scullion said. "It prevents people from getting your ID and password and giving them the keys to the kingdom."

TRUMAN, **cont. from page 1**

provides merit-based scholarships to students who plan to continue careers in government or public service and who wish to attend graduate or professional school.

BADGE, cont. from page 1

waits, the longer it will be to reflect on their records, especially if they are going to any board like a promotions board."

"It would also give the Soldiers a sense of knowing that their applications are being taken care of first hand," added Taylor, "knowing that it can be done in-house and approved locally."

The CAB, approved by the Army on May 2, 2005, was created to recognize Soldiers who personally

engaged or were engaged in combat by the enemy and are not eligible for the Combat Infantryman Badge or the Combat Medical Badge. The CAB was made retroactive for qualifying servicemembers after Sept. 18, 2001, to encompass all serving a part of the "Global War on Terrorism."

All eligible servicemembers still looking to apply for the CAB can contact Taylor at 938-8488.

IRAN, cont. from page 1

community needs to speak, and speak with one voice," Rice said on "Fox News Sunday."

The U.S. has had some tactical differences with Russia about the best way to stop Iran's defiant actions, but they are working to develop the best approach, Rice said. The International Atomic Energy Agency must continue

to work with Iran, because it has technical expertise, but the U. N. Security Council can lend weight to the proceedings, she said.

"We really do have a chance to solve this diplomatically," she told "Meet the Press." "But I would be the first to say that we can't afford to waste time."

Media Panel discusses 'Media on the Battlefield' with Class of 2006

Story and photos
by Spc. Benjamin Gruver
Staff Writer

As the wheels of tanks, humvees and trucks plowed across the sands of Iraq at the start of the second gulf war in March, 2003, television viewers were given the sense that they were riding along with them because of the embedded journalists filming the invasion, evidence that the roles of the military and journalists are becoming more intertwined.

First class cadets got a chance to hear from four journalists, who put themselves on the battlefield, discuss how those roles are being played out and what they should expect from the media in the field during a panel discussion March 23 in Robinson Auditorium.

Titled "Media on the Battlefield," The Department of Military Instruction sponsored event brought in Jane Arraf, former CNN Baghdad bureau chief and senior Baghdad correspondent; Josh Rushing, a host for Al Jazeera International; Greg Palkot, a foreign correspondent for Fox News Channel based in London; and Kevin Sites, a renowned war correspondent who is currently the first news correspondent for Yahoo! News, to engage in conversation with cadets on what they do.

"I felt that this was such a great opportunity to talk to young military leaders, second lieutenants just about to be commissioned, that are going to have a huge impact on how things are covered," Sites said. "In fact, I thought at some point I am probably going to be embedding with one of these platoons that these young officers are going to be leading, so I wanted



Jane Arraf explains her video presentation to the cadets.

them to be as aware as possible on what my role was going to be in working with them."

For Sites, who has covered global war all across the world for several national networks, he found this opportunity incredibly important, realizing that the military and media had reached a crossroads.

"We don't understand each other very well," Sites said. "The military has done a very good job in instructing us at what they do and who they are, but we have not done a good job in teaching you who we are and what our role in society is."

Right now, according to Sites, there is a lot of misunderstanding, skepticism and distrust between the media and military.

"Some of that skepticism is healthy," Sites said, realizing that some people do their jobs well and others don't. "So until you prove yourself to me as an officer and until I prove myself to you as a good reporter we should have some healthy skepticism, but even before that we've got to get past the misunderstanding of what our roles are."

While it is the military's role to carry out the mission and policies the government asks of them, explained Sites, it is the role of

the journalist to report not only on how they are doing it, but to serve as a sort of watch dog, making sure that the war or mission is being prosecuted within the legal boundaries the military is required to do it in.

"I think in times of war people do the most incredible things and the most horrific things," Sites said. "It is the job of the journalist to be there to make sure that this society that sent you to war takes full responsibility of what they are asking you to do."

"Although you bear this burden on a personal level, it is society's responsibility because we sent you there, and in sending you there we have to make sure that it is not just the heroic things, but it is the things that are going to give you nightmares that this society needs to understand. It is not good enough for them to say to you when you come back, 'Good job! Thanks for protecting us and fighting for freedom,' when they don't have the details, when they don't know what you had to do both good and bad, and I think that is a critical role for us."

After an hour of discussion and asking questions to Sites, Arraf, Rushing and Palkot, some cadets still had feelings of skepticism.

"It just confirmed my suspicions," said Cadet 1st Class James Blackburn, who was aghast that even though the reporters know of the good things going on they choose deliberately to show more of the negative aspects of war.

"It is a paradox that you have one reporter that knows we are doing the good things, the rebuilding and all that, yet the American people for the most part have no idea," Blackburn said. "...it is all about money and I guess bombs going off are what makes money instead of rebuilding schools."

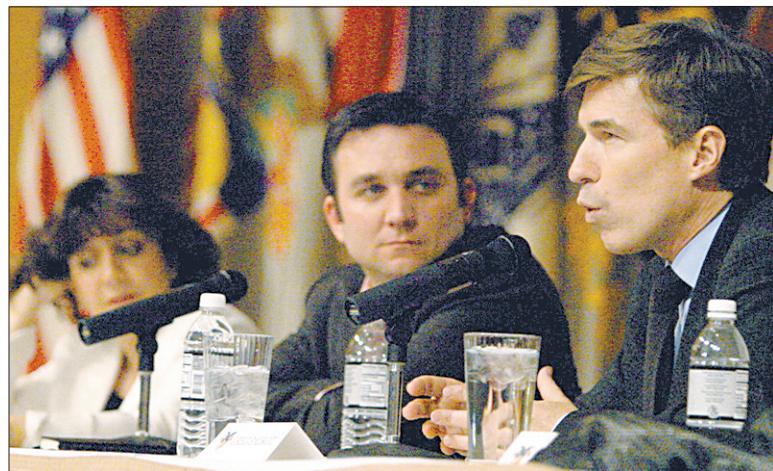
Other cadets came away with a more positive response to the media panel.

"I think it is good that they came here," said Cadet 1st Class Amanda King. "I think it is important for us to actually talk to the media and to hear from their perspective of things before we get over there because they are not going away and it is important for us to interact with them in a good manner."

King realized that while she might not always agree with the choices of the editors and those in the higher levels of corporate media, that what she sometimes finds to be biased or partisan in media is not necessarily because of the reporters.



Kevin Sites, (right), talks to cadets in Grant Hall.



Panelists Jane Arraf and John Rushing listen to Greg Palkot.

"I think they really do mean it when they say they are just trying to objectively report the truth and are just trying to do a job and that they think what they are doing is supporting the war efforts in the same way that we are," King said. "It really struck me that they were more genuine than what I thought they were going to be."

The purpose of the media panel, explained Sites, is not to teach officers to do their job better, but, in a sense, train them to be democratic Soldiers who do not operate in a vacuum.

"So I am not an annoyance. I am

an integral part of the institutions that make up your country," Sites said. "You may not like the specific corporations that fund them, you may not like the material that comes out of them, but the concept of a free press, the concept of a democracy that can't survive without an independent press is sacrosanct. It is the same thing as if I might not like every general that I meet or every colonel that I meet, but with the institution of the military you respect the overall goal of what they are there to do. That same kind of respect has to be acknowledged."



John Rushing talks to cadets and officers.



Greg Palkot listens to a cadet question at Grant Hall.

Bush team may drop labor part of civil service overhaul

By Karen Rutzick
Govexec.com

Bush administration officials may shed the labor relations portion of their plan to spread personnel reforms already in progress at the Defense and Homeland Security departments to the rest of government, a top official told lawmakers Tuesday.

The Office of Personnel Management is considering removing the labor relations provisions from its draft legislative proposal to implement pay for

performance in domestic agencies, said Linda Springer, director of the personnel agency, at a hearing held by the House Government Reform Subcommittee on the Federal Workforce and Agency Organization.

Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton, D-D.C., asked Springer how recent rulings from two federal judges rendering the labor portion of personnel overhauls at the Defense and Homeland Security departments illegal might affect the proposed Working for America Act. Those two departments house more

than half the federal workforce.

Springer replied that her agency is examining an idea "to focus on the pay parts rather than on the labor management parts" of the bill.

The answer marks a shift from the OPM director's earlier attitude toward splitting the bill. When Comptroller General David M. Walker proposed the idea in an October hearing before the same subcommittee, Springer was lukewarm about the option.

"I think we have drafted the bill with the thought that the two pieces do go together," the OPM director said at the time. "We think they both could be accommodated in a much, much reduced way from DHS."

Walker, head of the Government Accountability Office, said in October that the government does not have enough experience with labor reforms to move ahead with

a new scheme.

"I would divide this bill into two parts," Walker told the committee. "We believe that it may be prudent for the Congress to consider what happens with DHS and DOD before we move forward on [the labor relations] part."

A federal judge overturned the Defense Department's labor relations overhaul in February, drawing heavily on an August ruling against that aspect of DHS reforms. The government continues to fight for the labor changes in those departments, however, and has oral arguments in front of an appeals court April 6 for the DHS case. Government lawyers have not yet filed an appeal in the Defense case, though officials have made it clear that they will push forward.

The Working for America Act proposal never sought a change in labor rules as dramatic

as the ones Defense and DHS are pushing. The proposal did include changes, however, such as lifting requirements for agencies to bargain with unions during emergency situations. "Emergency" was undefined, which concerned some union leaders.

Also, while the draft did not adopt DHS' and Defense's stringent standards for appealing disciplinary actions by management to the Merit Systems Protection Board, which required the board to find an employee's penalty to be "wholly without justification" in order to mitigate it, it did fine-tune MSPB rules.

Under the proposal, MSPB could "mitigate [the] penalty, but must give impact on agency mission primary consideration."

Springer was testifying about her agency's fiscal 2007 budget plan when she made the comments.

IRR overhaul endorsed

By Army News Service

The Secretary of the Army has endorsed an integrated and systemic approach to reset and reinvigorate the Individual Ready Reserve. The Army's strategy focuses on transforming the IRR into the Army's leading 'prior service talent bank' through several programmed initiatives as it builds the future force.

According to Secretary of the Army Francis J. Harvey, "Senior Army leadership is committed to providing the necessary funding required to shape the Individual Warrior initiative into a viable pool of individuals who are trained and

employable to meet the needs of the Army."

The Army plans to immediately develop an identity with increased esprit de corps for members of the IRR by creating a special category within the IRR for its ready and qualified IRR Soldiers. This special category will be called the Individual Warrior Category.

Soldiers in the IW Category will be required to maintain a higher state of readiness by participating in virtual musters, attending annual readiness processing and, through managed training opportunities, maintaining proficiency in their military occupational specialty.

Community Features and Photos

Cadet travels to Moscow for 'Winter Academy'

Submitted by DFL

This year, Cadet 1st Class Robert Baughn had the unique opportunity to travel to Russia for eight days in late February to participate in an event known as the Winter Academy.

Baughn was selected for the trip because he is not only a member of the Department of Foreign Languages, but also a student of the Department of Social Sciences. DFL's Maj. John Pendergast coordinated the trip in concert with Social Sciences Asst. Prof. Thom Sherlock.

Baughn's skill in speaking Russian and knowledge of international affairs were critical to participation in this event.

The program is hosted by the Russian Academy of Sciences and run by Tatiana Parkhalina, Director of the Russian Center for European Security and Vice President of the Association of Euro-Atlantic Cooperation. During this event, students, diplomats and government officials had the opportunity to discuss European and Russian security issues with officials and leading specialists in the field. This year's theme was "NATO-Russian Cooperation."

The program consisted of several meetings a day at the Moscow University for Social Science and History. Topics covered during the event included European security, NATO's role in future stability operations around the world, the European Union's role in stability operations around the world, NATO-Russian cooperation and security issues in Central Asia, which included drug trafficking and international terrorism. The program's culminating event

was a role-playing security and cooperation exercise, led by retired Russian Lt. Col. Andrei Demurenko.

Seminars included discussions led by professors and journalists in the field of international relations and security, general officers and civilian officials from SHAPE and NATO headquarters, members of the government of the Russian Federation, and ambassadors from various nations.

"This was an incredible opportunity to personally meet ambassadors, officials and generals who are making great strides in cooperation between NATO and Russia," Baughn said. "Nowhere else could an undergraduate student have access to such people and have the ability to put questions to them pertaining to our security."

The cultural immersion helped him hone his foreign languages skills

"I learned a great deal of Russian in a short time, firming up my listening skills and ability to speak the language," he added. "But everyday interaction with friends and colleagues at the Winter Academy exposed areas in my Russian vocabulary that need improving."



Cadet 1st Class Robert Baughn with German Gen. Rainey Schewurth.

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY DFL

"Everyone there was always kind and welcoming toward me," he continued. "The coordinators of the event want everyone to know that cadets from West Point are always welcome back."

During the seminars, Baughn personally met the Ambassadors to the Russian Federation from the United States, Denmark, the EU, Great Britain, Greece and Italy. Additionally, he was able to meet the Head of the NATO Military Liaison Mission to Moscow, German Air Force Gen. Kurt Herrmann, and the Deputy Supreme Allied Commander for Operations German Gen. Rainer Schewurth.



Harlem Globetrotters

The Harlem Globetrotters' "Unstoppable Tour" made its stop at Christl Arena March 23, treating families from West Point and surrounding communities to an evening of spectacular skill. The event was brought to the community through the combined efforts of Morale, Welfare and Recreation and Army Athletics.

PHOTO BY LIZ HARRINGTON/MWR

Domestic Affairs Forum visits Windy City

**By Cadet 2nd Class
Andrew Moore
Domestic Affairs Forum**

The Domestic Affairs Forum is a U.S. Military Academy Department of Social Sciences sponsored cadet club that aspires “to excite and inspire cadets to leadership and public service.” The events in which DAF participates are designed to prepare cadets not only to assume roles as officers in the U.S. Army, but also to lead and shape public policy throughout America and the world.

From February 26-28, DAF traveled to Chicago with 13 cadets representing all four classes and two officers for a survey of city government. Highlights from the trip included a trip to the Chicago Bears corporate headquarters and training facility; meetings with Congressional Representative Mark Kirk (R-Ill.), Alderman Edward M. Burke, Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley, and retired Maj. Gen. David E. Grange, USA of the McCormick Tribune Foundation.

In Chicago, cadets were afforded the opportunity to learn about city issues, politics and leadership from those in the highest echelons of city government. While DAF traditionally focuses on Domestic Affairs, cadets were struck by the amount of focus that international politics received on the municipal level. Cadet 1st Class Pete Crawford found the scope of agendas to be far reaching and noted that, “China was a recurring theme with every public official.”

The quality of guest speakers and exciting venues has remained high since the inception of the club. Its current officer in charge, who participated in DAF as a cadet, remembers visiting Bob Dole as a Senator from Kansas and Sandra Day O’Connor as a young Supreme Court justice. Major Ken Robbins now experiences the club from a new perspective and added that DAF “lets cadets see how there are many different avenues for public service.”

This spring, DAF will study national government on its annual trip to Washington D.C.

Cadets requesting further information about DAF should consult its Web site at: <http://www.dean.usma.edu/sosh/Activities/DAF>.

Yearling class given a tour through history at cemetery

Story and photos
by Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

U.S Military Academy yearling cadets have added something new to their training; a guided tour through the historic West Point cemetery. The Simon Center for the Professional Military Ethic introduced the tour for the second-year students Monday and Tuesday.

“The two-day tour is to awaken, in the cadets, a sense of obligation to uphold the standards and reputation of West Point,” said Richard Swain, SCPME professor of officership, “which is owed to the nation’s representatives who have appointed them as cadets and owed to those who have preceded them here.”

Swain conceived the idea of creating a cemetery tour for third class cadets and plans to make it an annual event.

Major Eileen Granfield, SCPME operations officer, said the tour is

run as a circuit with cadet guides taking each company through. The tour lasts roughly 50 minutes.

“At specific graves, there are officers, old grads, or cadets discussing specific personnel buried in the cemetery,” Granfield said.

Mo Faber and ‘Stretch’ Dunn were on hand to speak to the cadets about their classmate Thomas Hayes, III, class of 1966. Hayes was killed in action in Vietnam in 1968 at the age of 24.

“I am telling the cadets that they can lead even after death by the legacy they leave behind,” Dunn said. “Hayes has a gym, a street in San Francisco and a Boy Scout camp in Nebraska named after him, this is how everyone felt about him. This is his legacy.”

The remains of American Revolutionary War Soldiers and early West Point inhabitants that were buried in small plots scattered around post, and found during excavations, were moved to the West Point cemetery after it was



Cadet 1st Class Noah Truax (left) talks about Class of 2001 member, Andrew Ryan Houghton, to the group of 3rd class cadets touring the West Point cemetery Monday.

designated a military cemetery in 1817.

Tour guide Cadet 1st Class Anna Walls thinks the tour through

the cemetery is a great idea.

“It will give the cadets a sense of history as well as honoring those who went before us,” she said.

“This is really a neat place because of all those who are buried here from the Revolutionary War to Iraq and Afghanistan.”



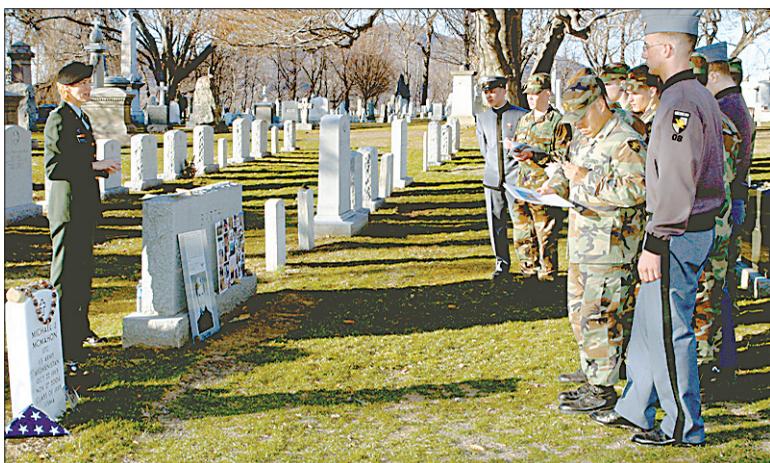
Cadet 1st Class Anna Walls

“The two-day tour is to awaken, in the cadets, a sense of obligation to uphold the standards and reputation of West Point, which is owed to the nation’s representatives who have appointed them as cadets and owed to those who have preceded them here,”

Richard Swain
Simon Center for the Professional Military Ethic, professor of officership



‘Stretch’ Dunn (left) and Mo Faber remember their 1966 classmate Thomas Hayes III. Hayes was killed in Vietnam in 1968 at the age of 24. Dunn told the cadets that one can still lead after death by the legacy they leave behind.



Colonel Jeanette McMahon, (left), special assistant to the Superintendent, talks about her husband, Lt. Col. Mike McMahon, who died while commanding cavalry forces in Afghanistan in 2004. McMahon made the event a little more personal for the cadets by handing them his dog tags, school ring and photos.

Trout fishing season opens Saturday

Submitted by DPW Natural Resources Branch

Trout fishing season opens Saturday and West Point anglers will get the opportunity to wet a line after a long, cold winter. Some anglers may even catch some trout. The DPW Natural Resources Branch has stocked thousands of trout prior to Opening Day.

"The mild winter has left no ice on the lakes we normally stock at West Point," said Jim Beemer, Chief of West Point's Natural Resources Branch, DPW -- the activity responsible for fish and wildlife management. "We were able to get most of the fish stocked before opening day. We have one more shipment that will arrive in mid-April."

West Point will stock approximately 6,000 trout in 2006. The waters that will receive stockings are Bull Pond, Round Pond, Lusk Reservoir, Popolopen Brook, Queensboro Brook and Highland Brook. Fish stocked will be brook and brown trout (9-inch average size) and trophy-sized (14-16 inches long, 1.5 lb. each) brook (400) and rainbow trout (600). The trophy-size brook trout were stocked in Bull Pond (300), Round Pond (50) and Lusk

Reservoir (50). Additionally, wild trout are available strictly for catch-and-release fishing in Mineral Springs Brook and Trout Brook, which are both located in Training Area L on the western edge of the reservation.

Holdover trout (those stocked in past years) can be found in Bull Pond, Round Pond, Lusk Reservoir, Queensboro Brook and Highland Brook. Holdover trout can be quite large. The West Point record brown trout was caught in 1994 from Bull Pond. That fish weighed 10 pounds and was 28 inches long. The second-largest rainbow trout was caught in 1992 in Bull Pond and weighed 4 lb-12 oz. Large trout can be found in Round Pond and Lusk Reservoir, but there are not as many present. The volume of cold, well-oxygenated water in these two bodies of water is less than what is present in Bull Pond.

All West Point anglers age 16 and older must have both a N.Y. fishing license and a West Point fishing permit (available from MWR) to fish West Point waters. West Point personnel wanting to bring a guest fishing need a daily guest pass, also available from either ITR or at the Round Pond Recreation Area office. The guest must also have a N.Y. fishing

license, which is available from any town clerk's office, from ITR or the Round Pond Recreation Area Office.

Anglers are reminded that all fish that are kept must be reported in accordance with USMA Regulation 215-5. There are several methods to comply with this regulation. Reporting slips are located in boxes found at all West Point waters. The catch can be phoned in to the West Point Natural Resources office 24 hours/day (938-3857). The catch can be e-mailed to the West Point Fish and Wildlife Biologist at james.beemer@usma.army.mil or through the USMA fishing Web site on the USMA Home Page (www.usma.edu/mwr/activity/outdoor/angler.html). Finally, anglers can participate in the West Point Angler Diary Program.

Beemer stressed the importance of West Point anglers reporting fish they keep.

"Every year funds are disbursed to provide West Point anglers with the opportunity to catch some quality trout," said Beemer. "However, many anglers do not report catching any fish.

"Are the trout all being caught and kept? Are West Point waters unable to support the trout for any length of time? What is the health



Lloyd Neville, a town of Cornwall volunteer, helps stock some of the 670 Brown Trout into Bull Pond Tuesday.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

of the fish populations in West Point waters? These are all questions that need accurate harvest data in order to answer them so that West Point anglers can continue to have a quality fishing experience," he added.

All West Point anglers should consult the USMA fishing information sheet (available from the Round Pond Recreation Area Office or ITR) for information on season dates, size restrictions, bag

limits and what fish are present in what waters. It is also available at the above Web site.

Questions regarding the Angler Diary Program, stocking or fish management should be directed to the Natural Resources Branch at 938-3857.

Questions regarding West Point fishing permits and regulations should be directed to either Round Pond at 938-2503 or CRD at 938-2401.

Community member wins NYS Blue Ribbon for photography

By Maj. D. Christopher Kingston
DPE

photography. This print qualifies as a 'merited' print and counts

towards a PPA sanctioned Masters of Photography degree.

Photography is a lifelong passion for Stephanie and she has been producing photographic art for the West Point Community for

the past three years.

Her work can be viewed at www.kingstonphotography.com.

Stephanie B. Kingston of West Point earned her first Blue Ribbon at the Professional Photographer's Society of New York State Convention in Ellenville, N.Y. March 18-22.

After only two years of state level print competition, Stephanie has joined the ranks of New York's veteran photographers with her award winning photograph. Her Blue Ribbon entry will automatically be entered at the national level and receive consideration for the Professional Photographers of America Loan Collection.

Her print received laudatory comments from fellow professionals as judged by the 12 elements of



Stephanie B. Kingston



MARCH/APRIL MWR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Visit MWR online at www.usma.edu/mwr

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY			
<p>ACS, bldg. 622 • 938-4621 AEC, bldg. 683 • 938-3762 Arts & Crafts, bldg. 648 • 938-4812 Auto Crafts, bldg. 648 • 938-2074 BSP/BOSS, bldg. 628 • 938-6497 Bowling Ctr., bldg. 622 • 938-2140 CDC, bldg. 1207 • 938-4798/4523 CDS, bldg. 1207 • 938-2092/2035 Community Rec Div • 938-2401 Delafield Pond • 938-5139/5158 Fitness Center, bldg. 683 • 938-6490 Golf Course • 938-2435/2327 Holleder Center • 938-4236</p>			<p>ITR, bldg. 695 • 938-3601/2401 AVC, bldg. 2104 • 938-3655 Morgan Farm, bldg. 2036 • 938-3926 Outdoor Rec • 938-2503 Post Library, bldg. 622 • 938-2974 Round Pond • 938-2503/3860 School-Age Services, bldg. 1207 • 938-8530 West Point Club, bldg. 603 • 938-5120, 446-5506 Ski Lodge • 938-3726/3727 Youth Services, bldg. 500 • 938-3727 Veterinary Clinic, bldg. 630 • 938-3817 PLEASE NOTE: For more information, contact the office listed for each activity.</p>				<p>West Point Bowling Center</p> <p>Open Bowling: Sun.-1300-1800 Mon. 1600-2100 Tue. Closed Wed. & Thur. 1130-1900 Fri. 1130-2300 Sat. 0900-2300</p> <p>Galactic Bowling: Every Fri. & Sat. 1700-2300</p> <p>Home of Lil' Skeeters BBQ</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Mongolian BBQ, WP Club, 1700-2100</p>	<p>APRIL 1</p> <p>Round Pond Opens for the Season, 0800-1700</p> <p>Trout Season Begins Golf Course Opens, Weather Permitting</p>
<p>2</p> <p>Open Bowling, WP Bowl, 1200-1800</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Golf Course Closed, Dawn till Noon, Mondays in April Wee Ones Play Group, ACS, 0930-1100</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Spring Story Hour, Post Library, 1000 & 1300</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Executive Tap (Apr. 5 & 6, 0830-1630, Apr. 7, 0800-1300) Newcomers Welcome Brief, 0930, Re-Entry Workshop, 1000, ACS</p> <p>Bowling Center Open House, 1600-1900</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Budget/Debt Liquidation, 0830, Insurance, 0945, STOMP Workshop at the Jewish Chapel, (Apr. 6 & 7) 0830-1600, ACS</p> <p>Theater Van to Broadway, ITR, 1700</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Firearm Hunter Safety Course Day 1, Register @ R. Pond, 1800-2200</p> <p>YS Team Job Shop & Pizza Party, Filling out Applications, 1800-1900</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Firearm Hunter Safety Course Day 2, Register @ R. Pond, 0900-1600</p>			
<p>9</p> <p>Open Bowling, WP Bowl, 1200-1800</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Video Teleconference w/ Your Deployed Soldier, ACS, 0800-1630</p> <p>Wee Ones Play Group, ACS, 0930-1100</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Volunteer Advisory Council Mtg., 1300, Impact of Volunteer Involvement Training, 1130, AVC</p> <p>International Food Shopping Tour, ITR, 0900</p> <p>Spring Story Hour, Post Library, 1000 & 1300</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Financial Readiness for 1st Term Soldiers, 0830, Spouse's Guide to Employment, 0830, ACS</p>	<p>13</p> <p>CYS Parent Advisory Meeting, CDC, 1200</p>	<p>14</p> <p>YS Team Job Shop & Galactic Bowling, Resume Writing, 1800-1900</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Bull Pond Lottery, Bonneville Cabin @ Round Pond, 0900 (Active Duty Military Only)</p> <p>NY International Car Show, ITR, 1000-1700</p>			

WPS Book Fair

West Point Middle and Elementary Schools will host a Scholastic Book Fair Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m.

The Book Fair will be in the New Gym Lobby.

There will be a community event Wed. from 6 to 8 p.m.

West Point Yard Sale April 8

The West Point Post Wide Spring Yard Sale is April 8 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. The rain date is May 13.

Many housing areas will have one-way traffic flow. Do not affix advertisements to trees or street signs. All signage must be removed within 24 hours of the yard sale. Sale items and set up can not impede vehicular or pedestrian traffic.

The local VFW is asking families to donate shoes, games and books to those in need. The collection point will be near the Red Cross Center. Call Bob Maher at (845) 268-7262 for more info.

DPW Notes

Closure of Cragston landfill

Beginning Monday until roughly mid-December 2006, an environmental contractor will be re-grading and permanently capping the Cragston Landfill. This process will formally and in an environmentally-friendly manner permanently close the six-acre landfill located behind, but not on, O'Neill High School property in Highland Falls. Community members should avoid accessing the area during the duration of the work and be aware of increased truck and construction vehicle traffic in the area.

For info., contact the DPW Environmental Division, 938-8000.

Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

NOW SHOWING

in the movie theater at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

Friday -- When a Stranger Calls, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday -- The Pink Panther, PG, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday -- Final Destination 3, R, 9:30 p.m.

April 7 -- 8 Below, PG, 7:30 p.m.

April 8 -- Curious George, G, 7:30 p.m.

April 8 -- Firewall, PG-13, 9:30 p.m.

April 14 -- Date Movie, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

April 15 -- Maeda's Family Reunion, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

April 21 -- Aquamarine, PG, 7:30 p.m.,

April 22 -- The Shaggy Dog, PG, 7:30 p.m.

The theater schedule can also be found at www.aafes.com.

Public Building occupants

Construction activities will resume after a winter break to install security protection to the Parade Field on or about Monday.

Work is expected to continue until mid-May 2006. The work will consist of excavation and installation of cannon bollards in the following locations: Jefferson Road (in front of the Comms quarters); two areas in the vicinity of the Beat Navy tunnel; in back of the Supe's Review Stand; in the vicinity of Johnson Stadium/Plain Area.

The contractor will be closing sidewalks in the above listed areas (Jefferson Road sidewalks will be closed on both sides of the road.) No road closures are anticipated at this time, but construction vehicles will be in the area which could slow down traffic.

What's Happening

DUSA employment opportunities

Seeking full-time (35-40 hours/week) business manager for two non-profit gift shops. Responsible for all merchandise decisions, inventory and store employees. Retail experience necessary.

Mail resume to: DUSA, c/o Melissa Rowse, 3154E Heath Loop, West Point, NY 10996

For more info. call, (845) 446-0331.

DUSA is also looking for a part-time sales clerk to work in their Museum Gift Shop Thurs. and Fri. from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Call 446-0566 for more information.

WPWC

The WPWC Shoppe is open every Wed. from 10 a.m. until noon during March.

For more information, call 446-8798.

WPWC has a party tent, table decorations and other party items to rent for your next event.

Call 446-1187 for a complete list of rental items.

The "Kick Up Your Heels West Point Women's Conference", hosted by DUSA and WPWC is Saturday at Thayer Hall.

Sign in and packet pickup is from 8 to 8:30 a.m.

For info and registration call 446-1290/3555.

Free Fish Fry

The Knights of Columbus Fellowship will host a free Fish Dinner tonight from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Sacred Heart School Gym

Reservations are requested. Call 446-4609.

Cadet photo exhibit

A photography exhibition of the work of cadets Sean Flachs, Justin Haug, Matt Bebo and Trent Burgess will open tonight with a reception from 7 to 9 p.m. in Eisenhower Hall's 1929 Gallery on the 5th floor.

K of C FT contest

The West Point Knights of Columbus Council is hosting the New York State Finals of the Knights of Columbus Free Throw contest Sat. at Christl Arena here from noon to 3 p.m.

Youths of any age may compete.

Call Cadet 2nd Class Aaron McKenney at (845) 515-4314 for more info.

WPES cutoff date change

Revised cutoff date for West Point Elementary School Preschool

and kindergarten students.

The cutoff date for children entering WPES's preschool or kindergarten in school year 2006-2007 is: students entering preschool must be four by Oct. 31, 2006 and entering kindergarteners must be 5 by Oct. 31, 2006.

For more info. call Phyllis Caputo at 938-3827/2313.

"In the Mood" spectacular

The Hear the Music Foundation will hold a Broadway musical review of music from the WWII era called the "In the Mood" spectacular April 5 in the Newburgh Free Academy Auditorium at 7 p.m.

Doors open at 6 p.m. Call Gary VanVoorhis for more info at (845) 565-7333.

Diversity Leadership Conf.

The Association of Graduates is hosting a Diversity Leadership Conference April 6 to 8 at Thayer Hall for civilians, active duty military and cadets.

Call 446-1512 for more info.

Christian Fellowship Revival

The 2006 West Point Christian Fellowship Spring Revival with Kenneth and Gloria Copeland will be April 7-8 in Thayer Hall's Robinson Auditorium.

Call Chaplain Downing at (845) 938-3412 for more info.

Courtesy transportation will be provided from BSF.

Pancake Breakfast

The Highland Falls Fire Dept. is hosting a buffet style pancake breakfast April 9 from 7:30 a.m. until noon.

For more info., call 446-2040.

BS&L Diversity lecture

The Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership is hosting a Diversity lecture on Islamic-American relations April 11 from 12:45 to 1:40 p.m. at Robinson Auditorium.

The guest speaker will be Ahmad Al-Ahkas, the president of the Ohio Council on American-Islamic Relations.

The event, which is mandatory for the Class of 2009 is free and open to the public.

Red Cross seminar

The American Red Cross is holding a "Disaster Volunteer" recruitment seminar April 12 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Bldg. 622.

The West Point community is invited. Pre-registration is required.

Call (845) 938-4100 or (914) 382-3881.

Living Last Supper

Before there was the DaVinci Code, there was the Living Last Supper. Please join us for a powerful communion service April 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Cadet Chapel when the Class of 2006 presents the Living Last Supper.

Families are highly encouraged to attend to experience how each of the disciples react to the words Jesus speaks before the Last Supper, "one of you will betray me."

DUSA Easter Egg Hunt

2006 DUSA sponsored Easter Egg Hunt April 15 at 2 p.m. at Trophy Point, in front of the amphitheater.

For children 10 and younger. Bring your own basket or bag. No rain date. Call Jessica Kirby, 446-1385 for more info.

Philosophy lecture

The Dept. of English will host a lecture by Naom Chomsky on "Just War Theory and the Responsibility to Protect" April 20 at 7:45 p.m. in Robinson Auditorium.

The lecture is mandatory for all cadets enrolled in PY201, (Introduction to Philosophy), but is open to anyone in the West Point community.

There will be a small reception afterwards where attendees can ask questions.

Refractive Surgery Seminar

Keller Army Community Hospital's Dept. of Ophthalmology is holding a refractive surgery seminar April 27 at 7 p.m. in the KACH, 2nd floor classroom for active duty Soldiers only.

Call Staff Sgt. Anthony Gore at 938-3769 for more info.

Dinner Dance fundraiser

The Highland Falls Fire Dept. is holding a Spring Dinner Dance fundraiser May 6 from 6 to 11 p.m. at the HF FD.

Tables can be reserved. The evening will include a buffet dinner, dessert, beer, wine and soda.

Call 446-9481 for more info.



Remember to set your clocks forward one hour at 2 a.m. Sunday.

Keller Corner

Pharmacy construction

The pharmacy will be under construction from April 28 to May 2 and from May 9 to 12.

Please plan on the possibility of extended wait times during the construction.

TRICARE Service Center

The Highland Falls TRICARE Service Center will undergo extensive renovations from April 7 to 14. Disruption of services will be minimal, however the TSC will have to close at 12:30 p.m. on April 7 and 14.

A TSC representative will be available in the Keller front lobby from 10 a.m. to noon and again from 1 to 3 p.m.

TRICARE Prime

TRICARE Prime enrollees are guaranteed certain standards for care.

- For emergency care, our emergency room is open 24 hours every day.

- For urgent care, you should be seen within 24 hours of your call.

- For routine care, your appointment should be within seven days.

- For wellness visits, you should be seen within four weeks

Do you have other health insurance?

If you receive medical services at KACH, you may have received a mailing or been asked about any other health insurance you may have. This may seem strange since you are entitled to care at no charge because of your own or your sponsor's military service. Over 10 years ago, Congress enacted Public Law 191-510 directing military treatment facilities to bill private insurance companies for the cost of care provided in the MTF.

Under the Third Party Collection Program, Keller's Business Office will bill your OHI for the inpatient and outpatient care as well as pharmacy, radiology and lab services you receive here. It is very important for you to understand that by providing your OHI information, KACH can help you satisfy your annual deductible with no out of pocket expense to you.

The much broader benefit is that KACH uses OHI collections to purchase state-of-the-art medical equipment and services.

In fact, many of the recent upgrades to KACH were paid for with money collected through this

program.

Updating your OHI helps the next GI.

For more info. call the Hospital Business Office at 938-3306.

Correct information

Do we have your correct address and telephone number? In order to better serve you, report any address changes, or new telephone numbers to the A&D office located on the first floor in the Patient Service Center.

Clinical breast study

Women ages 30 to 45 with military benefits are invited to participate in an ongoing clinical breast study.

The study is intended to test a new non-invasive scanning device to identify women at risk for breast cancer.

Contact Joyce Epstein-Ross for more information at 938-8387.

To schedule an appointment, call 938-7992.

You may participate once or on a yearly basis.

Her office is located on the KACH second floor in the OB/GYN clinic.

MWR Blurbs

West Point Golf Course

The West Point Golf Course officially open, weather permitting, Saturday.

For tee times and reservations, call 938-2435.

Youth Services

Does your teen need to learn more about the employment process and money management? West Point Youth Services is now offering a Teen Job Shop on Friday evenings from 6 to 7 p.m. for 8th to 12th graders.

Teens will learn the basics of job application, resume writing, budgeting, stocks and more.

A scholarship opportunity will be available to participants 16- to 18-years old.

Call Youth Services at 938-3727 for more info.

WP Bowling Center

The West Point Bowling Center is holding an Open House Wed. from 4 to 8 p.m.

Lanes will be open to test your cosmic bowling skills under our brand new lighting and sound system.

For more info., call 938-2140.

Garden plot sign ups

Garden plot sign ups in Lee Housing area will begin Sat. and run through April 15 for last year occupants. April 15 to May 1 for all others and after May 1 for those who wish to have a second plot, if available.

Call 938-2503 for info.

Hunter education classes

Hunter education classes will be held April 7 from 6 to 10 p.m. and April 8 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Bonneville cabin at Round Pond. Attendees must attend both days for certification.

Easter Brunch at WPC

Tickets are now on sale for Easter Sunday Brunch at the West Point Club April 16.

Seatings will be at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

A cash bar will be available and children 6 and under eat free.

There will be Easter Egg hunts at 12:30 and 2:30 p.m.

Call 938-5120 or 446-5504 for info and to make a reservation.

Thayer gate delays April 7

West Point Security Training exercise

Due to West Point security training April 7 near Thayer gate, traffic will be delayed between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m.

The community is advised to use other gates due to congestion and periodic traffic stoppages for both inbound and outbound traffic throughout the duration of the exercise.

Spring Cleanup April 1-30

Spring clean up runs from April 1 to 30. The date for housing area and family quarters clean up is April 20 with a rain date of April 27. Do not plan your clean up during these times.

Directorate of Public Works Roads and Grounds assistance can be requested to pick up large volumes of leaves or bundles of cut branches and limbs by calling Steve Morgan at 938-4522/4074 or Leon Grable at 938-3318/8479.

To request a dump truck from Solid Waste and Recycling call 938-4074.

Command Channel 8/23

March 31 - April 7

FRIDAY

9 a.m. Army Newswatch
6 p.m. Army Newswatch

MONDAY

9 a.m. Army Newswatch
6 p.m. Army Newswatch

TUESDAY

9 a.m. Army Newswatch
6 p.m. Army Newswatch

WEDNESDAY

9 a.m. Army Newswatch
6 p.m. Army Newswatch

THURSDAY

9 a.m. Army Newswatch
6 p.m. Army Newswatch

APRIL 7

9 a.m. Army Newswatch
6 p.m. Army Newswatch

Army and Community Sports

White, Simmons take on vital roles

Story and photos by
Eric S. Bartelt
Assistant Editor

Expectations can be extraordinarily high for a team that went to the NCAA Regionals the past two seasons despite the loss of numerous seniors who played a key role in that success. However, Army baseball has the talent to compete for its third straight Patriot League title this spring, while proving that the baseball talent at West Point runs very deep.

The Black Knights (11-9) have been picking up the pace recently after a slow start as some positional players are starting to get used to their new vital roles in the field.

Sophomores, catcher Chris Simmons and first baseman/pitcher Cole White are two players that have the biggest cleats to fill as they take over for graduates Schuyler Williamson and Walker Gorham, respectively, who lifted Army baseball to another level during their four years here.

Simmons replaces Williamson behind the plate and Gorham in the clean-up spot in the batting order, but the coaching staff has helped him make a seamless transition in both areas.

"Schuyler's shoes are big ones to fill, but the coaches have worked hard with me and I feel pretty confident taking his spot," said Simmons, who was backup catcher and designated hitter last year.

"Getting a lot more reps helps me out. Coach (Fritz) Hamburg tells me what I need to do to get ready and Schuyler helped me to get prepared ... taking over the starting spot is a big transition and I'm starting to feel comfortable in that position."

Behind the plate, Simmons has been helped by a strong pitching staff that is very competitive as they want to take the bull by the horns every time out on the mound.

"It's nice to have guys like (juniors) Nick Hill and Milan Dinga on the mound and who are pumped up and want to compete like that," Simmons explained. "Having guys who are that good helps me as a catcher because they know what they're doing, they know what they need to do to get outs and I'm back there for the ride."

Head coach Joe Sottolano has noticed a change in Simmons as he's removing the kinks from his game.

"Chris in the fall and Chris in the spring, I'm not going to say they're two different people, but the strides he's made from fall to spring has been absolutely tremendous," Sottolano said. "It's been a constant progression in him, he's given us offense and his defense and leadership has come a long way. His controlling of the pitching staff is getting better every day."

"We recruited him with the idea that he was going to replace Schuyler and he's stepping into the

position now," Sottolano added. "He's doing what we've asked him to do and what we've expected him to do."

With Simmons settling in where Williamson once was, the replacement of White into Gorham's old perch at first is nearing completion as well.

White, without a doubt, is the most versatile player, outside of Dinga, on the Black Knight roster. Besides the fact that he's a pitcher and first baseman is that he has successfully made the move from outfield to first base this year.

"I grew up playing shortstop throughout high school and my senior year I moved to first base," White said. "Then last year, I found my way into right field, although I had never played outfield before. It was a great experience, but moving back into the infield where I grew up playing is much better."

"I'm still working out some kinks on ground balls, but other than that it's a smooth transition," White added.

White was the second Black Knight named Patriot League "Rookie of the Year" last season following Dinga in 2004 with amazing statistics that included 10 home runs, an Army plebe HR record, and a .331 batting average and a 7-1 record on the mound with a 3.07 earn run average.

White has taken to his classmate Simmons' transition to starting catcher and batting fifth, one spot behind his good friend.

"Schuyler Williamson is one of the best catcher's I've ever had and he really controlled the game and kept me on track as a freshman when I got nervous out there," White explained. "Having Chris back there now, knowing him the way I know him adds that much more confidence because we're always on the same page."

"It helps that he's one of my classmates and I've enjoyed throwing to him and I haven't seen much of a difference between him and Schuyler in controlling a game and keeping me focused," White added.

White bats behind Dinga (.387, 2 HR, 19 RBI) and Simmons (.319, 3, 12) and has produced 16 runs batted in and two home runs early in the season.

"Milan's come along these past couple of weeks and having him and Chris in front of me produces a lot and they get on base and all I have to do is poke something out



Sophomore first baseman/pitcher Cole White, who was 2005 Patriot League "Rookie of the Year," has avoided an early season sophomore slump with a .304 batting average and 16 runs batted in offensively and three pitching wins.

there and let them come in," White said. "It's comforting to know that if I'm not getting the job done that those guys in front of me or the guys behind me are able to get the job done."

As the team heads into Patriot League play this weekend versus Lafayette, they will try to find a

suitable replacement to graduate Justin Kashner in the four-man starting rotation behind Hill, White and junior Ben Mayhew.

According to Sottolano, the final starting spot can be had from among freshmen Tyler Andereg, Tyler Stohr and sophomore Drew

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Sophomore catcher Chris Simmons has transitioned well into the starting catcher's role that was occupied by Schuyler Williamson the past four years.

VITAL ROLES, continued from page 14

Clothier and explains that, "We're grateful that they all have quality arms."

Despite only having one starting positional player (third baseman Jeremy Stache) who is a senior, the team is finding many sources of leadership to help the team's four seniors lead the squad.

"I don't think I could put one person into that role, however, Milan Dinga has done a phenomenal job in terms of leading and getting people excited, positive and all those things," Sottolano said.

"I would like to think a lot of them have done the same thing like Jeremy Stache and (junior shortstop) Kyle Scogin and I think we have a team approach where everyone is focused on doing the right thing and on any given day anyone can stand up."

With a great source of talent and upcoming youngsters, Sottolano is excited about what this group can do this season.

"It's a very hard working, close-knit group, filled with great young men and very good

athletes," Sottolano said. "They give their hearts and bust their humps everyday and when this team really gels they're going to play some exciting baseball.

"When the game slows down for some of the freshmen and they start to get things, it'll be a fun team to watch because they can do some neat things," he added.

Army begins its defense of their Patriot League title Saturday with a doubleheader against Lafayette at 12 p.m. at Johnson Stadium at Doubleday Field.

Army racquetball ninth at regionals

**By Capt. Ken Braeger
Army Racquetball Team**

The U.S. Military Academy Racquetball Team traveled to Albany Feb. 24 - 26 to compete in the Eastern Collegiate Racquetball Conference Regional Championships.

Events included singles, doubles and mixed doubles with most cadets competing in at least two of the events. Preliminary results had the Army Men's and Women's Racquetball team placing ninth in the combined tournament draw out of 22 teams.

Some schools in attendance were from Penn State, Ohio State, Bryant College, Clarkston University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Providence College, Binghamton University and Nichols College.

Army had a strong showing in both doubles and singles.

In doubles, sophomore Clint Ott and freshman Daren Hidalgo took runner up in the Men's 1 Red Division and freshman Allyson McKay took runner up in the Women's 1 Red Division, partnering with Berenice Baez from Stony Brook University.

In singles, six cadets placed in the top three in the red, blue, and white brackets. This included freshman Brent Nolan, who won the Men's 3 division red bracket and freshman Brad Vass, who won the men's 4 division white bracket. All of the Army players contributed points in their respective brackets to the team score.

Army last competed in the ECRC prior to the re-construction of Arvin Gymnasium.

The team had been dormant

until last August when a number of cadets expressed interest in restarting the team.

Further research found a certified racquetball professional, Tim Blake, residing on post.

Coach Blake offered to volunteer his time teaching and coaching the Army Racquetball Team at regular practices. The team has also received coaching help from a number of officers and NCOs who work in the West Point community.

The ECRC regional tournament is a requirement for the team to compete in the Collegiate National Championships held in April at Arizona State University in Tempe, Ariz.

Army does not plan to compete

at the National Championships, even though they did qualify at Albany.

The Army Racquetball Team is currently made up of young members primarily consisting of freshman and sophomores. As the team continues to rebuild and regain competitive club status again, they will try to compete in a full season next year. They also plan to attend next years College Regional and National Level Championships at locations yet to be determined.

The Army Racquetball Team was welcomed back to competition by the ECRC director Shane Wood. He gave them special recognition during the tournament banquet for the team's sportsmanship and competitiveness.