

## New deputy GC brings experience

Story and photo by  
Eric S. Bartlett  
Sports Editor

Colonel Dan Bruno, West Point garrison commander, has a new right hand man -- Wilfred Plumley Jr., who is the new deputy garrison commander.

Plumley arrived Nov. 15 from Daegu, South Korea, where he was the Director of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security at U.S. Army Garrison Daegu. Prior to that job, he also served as the installation manager at Camp Carroll in Korea. Both of these jobs prepared him well for his current job at West Point.

"At Camp Carroll, I functioned as a civilian camp commander, if you want to call it that, with about 3,000 people at the installation," Plumley said. "It was the first time I was in charge of the operations of all the different BASOPS commodities such as MWR, DPW, DPTMS, safety, personnel and DOL, so that was a great experience for me on a small scale."

Plumley has served as a civilian since he retired as a Lt. Col. in the Army May 31, 2004, after 22 years of service as an Ordnance Corps officer. His career was highlighted by numerous tours at

Fort Campbell, Ky., and Korea.

"I enjoyed being a part of the 101st Airborne Division because of the esprit de corps of the unit, especially being an air assault unit, because I'm an air assault Soldier," Plumley explained. "I worked with a lot of great officers and senior NCOs there. There was a lot of great training. It was a nice community and to be a part of the 101st was an honor for me."

One of the many reasons Bruno and Plumley have clicked so well is they both served with the 101st. Another reason is that they are both ROTC graduates, with Plumley graduating from Marshall University in 1983.

These two 101st, ROTC guys have been seeing things eye-to-eye on many issues as they get used to one another.

"We both have the same views on a lot of issues such as we're both in concurrence that the reason we're here is to take care of the cadets, their safety and give them the support they need to accomplish what they're here to do," Plumley said. "We're also focused on taking care of the civilians and the community. He and I have already established a great rapport, and I'm looking forward to the next few years of working together."

Plumley chose West Point because, number one, he wanted to be a deputy garrison commander, but more importantly, he wanted to feel the pride of working at a place like West Point.

"I think it's an honor and very prestigious to work here at West Point and to be associated with the U.S. Military Academy," he stated. "Whether you're a part of the academy or garrison, the military academy is the only reason that the garrison exists, so I'm excited to be here to help the mission and help the 4,000-plus cadets get

See DEPUTY GC, page 4



Deputy Garrison Commander Wilfred Plumley arrived from Korea Nov. 15.



## Busy Blood Drive

Cadet 1st Class Palmer Batt is prepared to donate blood by technician Vivian Fields of Fort Gordon, Ga., at the Armed Services Blood Program blood drive at Eisenhower Hall here, which ran Monday through Thursday. The blood drive included apheresis (platelet) donations and registration for the Bone Marrow Registry in addition to regular blood donations. Blood from this drive goes directly to members of the military community.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

## West Point Tax Center opens Feb. 4 in Bldg. 626

By Kathy Eastwood  
Staff Writer

The holiday season is behind us, but the nail-biting tax season is still ahead. That became more evident with the receipt of W-2s this week by many.

The West Point tax center opening Feb. 4 will help keep some of the headaches at bay for authorized military users and their dependents.

"We will be opening the tax center at Bldg. 626 near Buffalo Soldier Field on the 2nd floor in the room that was the CPAC training room," said Officer-in-Charge Capt. Nathan Jacoby. The hours

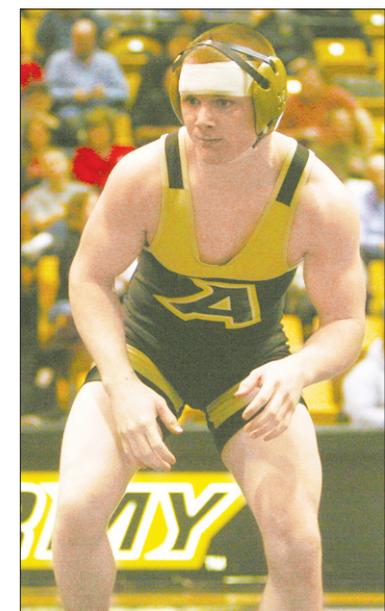
will be 8:30 a.m.-11:45 and 1:30 to 4 p.m. Mon. through Fri. Personnel will be available to active duty, retirees and their family members to help with tax preparation," Jacoby said.

National Guard and Reserve Soldiers on active status for more than 30 days also can request legal assistance. Cadets will be able to get their taxes done by dropping off paperwork at Bldg. 606, fourth floor, and their taxes will be prepared and returned to them.

"We have three volunteers and three temporary civilians that



## INSIDE



See WRESTLING, pages 12-13

## American Soldier Remains Nation's Ultimate Weapon

By Lt. Col. Christopher Vanek for Army News Service

RIYADH, Iraq -- Now in its seventh year, the Global War on Terrorism is producing a new generation of American Soldier.

These Soldiers are the first in

two generations to know nothing but continuous conflict. They face alternating tours of combat operations against vicious, elusive foes, and hectic periods of refit and training to prepare for the next deployment.

Events in the rural farming

district surrounding the city of Hawijah in northern Iraq are typical of the environment these Soldiers are molded by. The norm here has been characterized by daily attacks against Coalition Forces, Iraqi Security Forces, Government of Iraq employees and any citizen that stands in the way of an Islamic State of Iraq. In a district riddled with violence, another generation of American Soldier is proving its ability to adapt and succeed.

Capt. Jon Anderson is among the vanguard of this new generation of American Soldier. He began his training in the Army's Reserve Officer Training Corps. Upon commissioning in the spring of 2003, Anderson completed a series of infantry training courses, culminating with the rigorous U.S. Army Ranger School.

Now entering his fifth year of active service, Anderson finds himself on a second combat deployment of over a year. On this tour, he commands 100 young men of Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 87th Infantry, and has responsibility

for security across 300 square miles of towns, farms, open desert and mountains.

It is in this obscure place that Anderson has epitomized the best attributes of his peers. His psyche impressed by the loss of his own commander, Capt. Joel Cahill, in an IED attack in 2005, one could understand if Anderson focused his efforts completely on lethal destruction of the insurgency in his area of responsibility. Instead, he has balanced his efforts between combating insurgents and restoring hope to the civilian population. Recently, he devoted his personal efforts to help the mayor of Riyadh - the largest town in his area of operations -- to get a prosthesis for a leg lost years ago to an improvised explosive device. This humanitarian act was a clear contrast with those of the insurgents who had attempted to assassinate the mayor. It is this ever-changing blend of charity toward the innocent and toughness in the face of the enemies that hide among them that Anderson has mastered.

While the formative professional experiences of Anderson and his peers differ from the previous generation of serving officers, there remains a strong thread of continuity with the Army's oldest traditions. Foremost among those is a determination to never accept defeat on the battlefield. This is coupled with the magnanimity that has allowed this nation to turn bitter conflict into a sustainable and just peace before. These qualities are what will continue to make American Soldiers the ultimate instrument of their nation's power to sustain its own cherished values and extend its benefits to others.

**(Editor's Note:** Vanek commands the 1st Battalion, 87th Regiment of the 1st Brigade, 10th Mountain Division.)

### 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.

## 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. Tasha Williams [Dean].

Community members can e-mail McMahon at [Jeanette.McMahon@usma.edu](mailto: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

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

Difficulty: Medium

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

See Solution on Page 9

## POINTER VIEW

Lt. Gen. **Buster Hagenbeck**, Superintendent

Lt. Col. **Bryan Hilferty**, Director of Communications

**Irene D. Brown**, Chief, Command Info.

**Linda Mastin**, Editor, 938-2015

**Jim Fox**, Asst. Editor, 938-8365

**Eric S. Bartelt**, Sports Editor, 938-3883

**Kathy Eastwood**, Staff Writer, 938-3684



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# Local and National News

## TAX CENTER, cont. from page 1

will be working at the tax center,” Jacoby said.

“All receive IRS training for one week on how to run a tax program, entering data and tax preparation. One of the volunteers is a Certified Public Accountant and the other is an Army spouse.”

Jacoby said it is best to call 938-5920 for an appointment once the tax center is set up. The center allows roughly an hour for each

person to go over the paperwork.

“Federal and state taxes will be filed electronically,” Jacoby said. “The refunds are returned quickly, usually within two weeks when electronically filed.”

To take advantage of the tax center, make sure you bring all the necessary paperwork.

“ADODW-2 form doesn’t mean you will have all the paperwork needed to complete your taxes,”

Jacoby said. “If there is an interest statement from the bank, which sometimes comes late in the tax season or if there was a stock sale or dividends paid, this paperwork needs to be with the tax payer.”

Before heading off to the tax center, ensure that you have the right paperwork including:

- 1099 divs for dividends paid

- 1099-B for sale of stock
- 1099 int for interest paid
- Form 2848 if filing on someone else’s behalf

- A cancelled check with bank account number and routing number for direct deposit

- Personal identification, which should include dependent names, social security numbers and any document relating to name change, births or marriages

- HUD-1 or 1099-S if you recently bought a home

Jacoby warns users to be leery of outside commercial tax preparers that offer ‘Refund Anticipation Loans,’ as the high service charges they require may not be worth it.

“The West Point tax center will save servicemen/women money, which could be up to \$200 on a return per person,” Jacoby said. “Some RAL interest rates can be as high as 400 percent.”

For more tax information, go to the IRS Website at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).



## TSP TICKER

January changes [as of 1/16]	
C FUND	- 6.40 percent
I FUND	- 8.20 percent
S FUND	- 8.84 percent

### West Point AOG e-mail switches addresses in mid-January

Beginning in mid-Jan., the West Point Association of Graduates will switch to new e-mail addresses. The new addresses can be used now, however.

The current e-mail addresses will be active until Feb. 1.

Old e-mail address --  
xy1234@usma.edu

(until Feb. 1)

New e-mail address --  
john.doe@wpaog.org

## Beat Air Force! Write a limerick and enter to win tickets to the Army-Air Force Hockey Game

Write a tasteful limerick about Army-Air Force hockey, help boost Army spirit and win a prize.

Army plays Air Force in Hockey Jan. 25 and 27. Since these games are usually sellouts, the *Pointer View*® is sponsoring a limerick contest and the winner gets two tickets to the Sunday, Jan. 27 game at 4 p.m. Second prize is a \$20 Grant Hall gift certificate and third prize is a \$10 Grant Hall gift certificate.

E-mail entries to PV Asst. Editor Jim Fox at [jim.fox@usma.edu](mailto:jim.fox@usma.edu) by noon Wed., Jan. 23.

The *Pointer View*® staff will send the 10 best to the judges -- the West Point “Hockey Brothers” who will choose the top three limericks.

The *Pointer View*® will announce and publish the winners in the Jan. 25 issue.

A limerick has five lines, with three metrical feet in the first, second and fifth lines and two metrical feet in the third and fourth lines. A variety of types of metrical feet can be used, but the most typical are the amphibrach (a stressed syllable between two unstressed syllables) and the anapaest (two unstressed syllables followed by a stressed syllable).

The rhyme scheme is usually AABBA.

Here is a sample:

*A hockey playing cadet from West Point  
Did not the supe want to disappoint  
So he scored on the Air Force  
Who responded rather coarse  
You’ve really got my nose out of joint*

# Army destroys half of chemical stockpile

By U.S. Army Chemical Materiel Agency  
Army News Service

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. -- As of Dec. 10, the Army has safely destroyed 50 percent of the United States' chemical-agent stockpile since beginning to comply with the Chemical Weapons Convention April 29, 1997.

Officially the "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling, and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction," the CWC is a treaty among more than 170 nations to ban the development and use of chemical weapons and to destroy existing stockpiles and production facilities in countries that have ratified it.

"Entry into force" is the term used to describe when the signatory nations began complying with CWC provisions. At that point,

almost 11 years ago, the U.S. stockpile contained approximately 30,000 tons of chemical nerve and blister agents.

The nation's first chemical demilitarization facility, located 800 miles southwest of Hawaii on Johnston Atoll, completed its mission in 2000. The Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility in Aberdeen, Md., destroyed another 5 percent of the stockpile in 2006. Both facilities have since closed.

"Reaching the 50 percent agent destruction mark shows that the Army's chemical weapon demilitarization program has truly hit its stride in destroying chemical agents safely and efficiently," said Dale Ormond, acting director of the U.S. Army Chemical Materiel Agency.

The five remaining CMA chemical destruction facilities are currently operating and are scheduled to destroy more than 78 percent of the U.S. stockpile by

2017. That, added to the chemical agents destroyed at Johnston Atoll and Aberdeen, will bring the total amount of agents destroyed by CMA to 90 percent.

The final 10 percent of the U.S. stockpile will be destroyed by disposal facilities presently under construction in Pueblo, Colo., and near Richmond, Ky., under a separate Department of Defense program.

"The United States has established technological leadership by implementing both incineration and neutralization agent destruction systems, providing the rest of the CWC member nations with a model of safe disposal -- safe for the workers, the public and the environment," said Col. Robert Billington, CMA's project manager for chemical stockpile elimination.

"As we share our technologies and lessons learned with other

nations, we look forward to a world without chemical weapons."



An employee guides a bulk container, commonly called a ton container, into the demilitarization process. Once placed on the conveyor racks behind the employee, the container will be moved along conveyors to a drain station where it will be punched and drained of its liquid contents. The liquid will then be destroyed in the liquid incinerator while the metal body will be sent to the metal-parts furnace where the residual agent will be destroyed and the ton container thermally treated for discharge.

U.S. ARMY PHOTO

## DEPUTY GC, cont. from page 1

their degrees and their commissions as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army."

"A lot of what I do will be in the area of civilian and personnel management, as the senior civilian in the command and dealing with issues such as NSPS, which will be one of my big babies," Plumley stated. "Helping take care of the U.S. Army garrison civilian workforce will be a big focus of mine."

"We're very much involved with Lean Six sigma issues, the Army's adoptive program that helps cut costs, saves money and improves services," he added. "We have also got RCI coming on board here soon, so I'll be very much involved with that ... it's an excellent program from what I've seen at other installations and it's going to provide a great service for the community for those who live on base, especially as it progresses and increases the quality of on-post housing."

His number one goal is to work hard with the commander and the command sergeant major to do everything possible to provide the absolute best support and care for, "all the cadets, Soldiers, civilians and Family members here on post, so this is the best place to live, work, train and play in the

Army."

Plumley has been a part of IMCOM since the day it started as the Installation Management Agency when he was the deputy garrison commander in Korea, which was his last assignment as an Army officer at the 20th Area Support Group in Daegu. He believes IMCOM is great for the Army.

"I think IMCOM is a step forward because now we have a command who's sole focus in life is to run garrisons and to support the personnel on those garrisons with housing, personnel, MWR, logistics, communications, security, and with critical programs such as the Warriors in Transition program," Plumley said.

"Having IMCOM allows us to make sure we get the dollars we need so that housing, repairs on facilities, programs for Soldiers and their families are taken care of and I think IMCOM has been a success in that area. I've been happy with the direction IMCOM's headed, especially with the recent increase from a two-star command to a three-star command," he added, "because that shows from an Army standpoint the importance of IMCOM."

One of the big reasons Plumley became a DOD civilian employee

once he retired as a 'green suitor' is he, "still wanted a position where I'm working with Soldiers and am able to have an impact. That's important to me. With this job, I'll be able to have an impact."

One of the areas he's looking to work on is the civilian education system at West Point, so that supervisors and junior personnel all receive the maximum amount of training possible.

"We need to provide our civilian workforce with the tools needed so they can excel at their jobs and be given the opportunities to advance in their careers," he said. "Partly a measure of my success is how they are able to progress in their careers."

Plumley is leaving today to go back to Korea to spend time with his family and celebrate his older daughter's, Christina, 16th birthday. His wife, Suk-Hyon, who is from South Korea, and his other daughter, Bridget, are still in Daegu until the girls finish the school year.

However, his wife, who visited West Point once about 15 years ago with her husband when he was stationed in Albany, N.Y., as a young captain at Watervliet Arsenal, and his daughters are excited to be moving to the West Point area.

"I have told them numerous times how awesome it is with the beautiful campus and all they'll be able to do with football games,

basketball games, baseball games, the shows and those kinds of things," Plumley said. "A lot is offered here and they're excited about it."

# All active services meet December recruiting goals

By Donna Miles  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON -- All four services met or surpassed their monthly active-duty recruiting goals for December, and five of the six reserve components showed similar success, Defense Department officials announced Jan. 10.

The Army recruited 789 active-duty Soldiers last month, 105 percent of its December goal. On the reserve-component

side, the Army National Guard recruited 4,985 members, 120 percent of its goal, and the Army Reserve, 3,280 Soldiers, 107 percent of its goal.

The Marine Corps recruited 1,992 active-duty Marines, 115 percent of its goal, and met its goal of recruiting 410 Marine Corps reservists.

The Air Force met its December goal of recruiting 1,772 active-duty airmen and 561 Air Force Reserve members. The Air National Guard achieved 96

percent of its goal, recruiting 624 members.

The Navy met its goals of recruiting 1,891 active-duty sailors and 682 Navy reservists.

Army Secretary Pete Geren conceded Jan. 10 that the Army has faced a "tough recruiting market for awhile," but said he's confident the Army will continue to meet its recruiting goals. He noted that last year alone, the Army recruited 175,000 people -- the size of the entire Marine Corps -- into its active force and

the National Guard and Army Reserve.

"This will be a tough year; last year was a tough year," he said. "We are confident we will meet our goals this year, but I am also confident it won't come without a lot of work by a lot of folks."

Army Lt. Gen. Clyde Vaughn, director of the Army National Guard, expressed even more confidence Jan. 10 in the Guard's ability to maintain the current momentum. "I'm on record right now that all I've got to do is get

out of bed every morning and have a cup of coffee, and we are going to be over strength this year," he said. "That's the kind of machine that's running right now and it has a lot to do with pride in the force."

Ultimately, the Army's recruiting successes boil down to Americans' willingness to serve, Geren said. "At the end of the day, what makes the difference is there are young men and women out there that, despite the challenges, are willing to step up and join the Army," he said.

## U.S. Army recruiting companies need commanders

By Pearl Ingram  
USAREC Public Affairs  
for Army News Service

FORT KNOX, Ky. -- The U.S. Army Recruiting Command wants more officers in the rank of captain to consider serving as company commanders.

Assignments offer those who would like to serve in or near their hometowns a chance to work closely with community leaders and educators and to tell their Army story.

When Capt. Ronald Johnson took on his second company command assignment in 1981, though, he chose not to serve in his home state of New York. Instead he opted for serving in the Atlanta recruiting company. Now he realizes that if he had not chosen Atlanta, he would not have attended Georgia Tech for graduate school.

"I didn't go into it (recruiting) with any attitude other than, 'OK, the Army wants me to go do this, so I'll go do it,'" said now deputy chief of Engineers Maj. Gen. Johnson.

Much like Johnson, Lt. Gen. Carter Ham, director of Operations, J3, The Joint Staff, served as a company commander in Lima, Ohio, from 1982 to 1984.

Prior to his recruiting assignment, then Capt. Ham said he had not thought, "not even a little bit," about serving as a recruiting company commander. "Having spent my first years in the tactical Army, I will tell you that I went out with a little fear and uncertainty on my part," Ham said.

However, it was not long into the new assignment that Ham realized the importance of his duties -- that he represented the Army in the eyes of many Americans who

had no connection with the Army other than their connection with the local recruiting force.

During the first month of his assignment, Lima Company did not achieve the mission. However, he found that under good leadership and with support at the battalion and brigade levels, he learned, his company became successful. For him, the widespread myth that failing to meet a mission could end an officer's career came to an end.

"I would say that I am living proof that that is not necessarily the case," Ham said.

Johnson said that serving as a recruiting company commander was different from serving as commander of Company A, 9th Engineer Battalion, U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army, Germany.

"I spent almost no time dealing with the personal problems that you would have with a younger, less-experienced group of team members -- people writing bad checks, doing that sort of stuff," Johnson said.

Instead, he spent time with station commanders, who were sergeants first class and recruiters who were mostly staff sergeants. In addition he spent time with community leaders, civic groups, school principals, school guidance counselors and college administrators -- doing his part in representing the Army.

Representing the Army is what Capt. Richard Frank, the current commander of the Lewisville, Texas, company, loves to do. His

assignment is his first command assignment, unlike most USAREC company commanders who are on their second assignment. Frank sees himself as an ambassador for the Army.

"You see a lot of news stories, unfortunately, sometimes they are negative," Frank said. "It is nice to be out here and be able to tell all the positive stories."

Frank served with the 4th Infantry Division in Iraq for 13 months and has plenty of stories about what it means to establish a democracy. He says that in his recruiting job he faces a diversity of challenges and a day-to-day competition to complete his mission. He has extended for a third year of company command time and says he loves it.

"If you love sports, you will fall in love with recruiting," Frank said. "You compete on everything from college contacts to contracts. It's almost like a sports obsession when you are always trying to do better."

Frank admits that recruiting is an awesome mission that the Army cannot lose, no more than the military can lose in Iraq. He admits there are some drawbacks to the job, which for him are the long hours. He spends a good deal of time meeting with centers of influence, high school teachers, and attending Friday night high school football games, which he thoroughly enjoys.

"I am a real big-time sports junkie. I love sports and have always been competitive and probably that has been one of the greatest satisfactions."

He loves building relationships in the community and feels he is preparing himself for future leadership challenges and a



*"You see a lot of news stories, unfortunately, sometimes they are negative. It is nice to be out here and be able to tell all the positive stories."*

**CAPT. RICHARD FRANK  
RECRUITING  
COMPANY COMMANDER  
LEWISVILLE, TEXAS**

opportunity to serve in or near their hometowns.

Along with Ham and Johnson, the current XVIII Airborne Corps commander, Lt. Gen. Lloyd Austin, served as a recruiting company commander. Each of the three general officers served a command tour in their specialty before coming to recruiting, which is also the case for most of today's commanders.

Even though Ham admits he wasn't thrilled when he received the call from his assignments officer in 1982, he now says, "If you measure by promotion, then I think we are doing OK."

successful career.

"I think the biggest reward is making sure we tell that Army story. You see these kids come back and they are changed," Frank said. "The parents are so proud of what they are doing. I have enjoyed it."

Since Ham and Johnson served in Recruiting Command in the early 1980s, a great deal has changed, but the necessity of staffing the All-Volunteer Army remains the same.

Today's modern recruiting force uses laptop computers with recruiting-specific software installed that is designed to track missions. All commanders and recruiters have cellular phones to keep in touch with geographically dispersed stations and battalion leadership. Each company consists of six to eight stations, and travel out of the office is necessary several days each week. Two hundred forty companies make up the Recruiting Command with changes of command in nearly half of the locations yearly.

Recruiting company commanders serve in a stabilized tour for two years and can extend the tour for an additional year. One benefit officers receive when choosing to serve a Recruiting Command tour is getting the

# Community Features and Photos

## Crime prevention needed, even at West Point

By Eric S. Bartelt  
Sports Editor

Vigilance is important to not being a victim of a crime. It is also important for everyone to recognize that just because you're standing within the grounds of the U.S. Military Academy doesn't mean you are not susceptible to thefts.

At a Jan. 3 high school hockey game at Tate Rink within the Holleder Center, a spectator remarked that the team his son was playing had their locker room violated with more than \$600, watches and cell phones stolen from them.

Blame from the spectator was placed on the Holleder Center management, MWR and, basically, the academy itself for not holding up to Duty, Honor, Country values. However, it was not mentioned that apparently none of the team's belongings were locked up, but rather were just sitting around in a locker room that could be accessed by just about anyone at the rink.

The problem here is, where should the blame be placed? While there is a sense of being violated, there's still a need for people going to the Holleder Center, Arvin Gym and other such public places on post to be aware that crimes happen, no matter who the culprits are, and everyone should safeguard themselves from being victims.

"I believe, for a certainty, that people on the installation have a false sense of security," said Thomas Slater, Physical Security Officer, Directorate of Emergency Services. "They think because they're on a military installation that crime shouldn't happen and that everybody is honest. It's almost like they're living in a dream world so to speak, but that's not the case at all."

Slater explained that West Point gets about two and half million visitors a year and that, "given the opportunity, crimes are still going to occur regardless of the steps we take to correct the situation."

Lieutenant Col. Robert Brown, Director of Emergency Services and Provost Marshal here also reiterated this.

"Certainly I don't condone thefts and would love to cite every thief. However, the reality is, each time we've looked into this type



of theft, we've found that the property was left unsecured. Imagine going to a professional sports game and leaving your IPOD, wallet or camera in the bathroom. What happens? It gets stolen by someone who desires to have that item, but does not want to pay for it," Brown said. "Theft is a crime of opportunity. Most people don't leave their homes to steal an IPOD or a camera or other items easy to pilfer. But, if given an opportunity and motive, then it may very well happen.

"So what am I saying? Although not morally or ethically right, theft is a reality and a certainty if given the right circumstances (primarily opportunity). To avoid theft, items easy to steal must be locked up," he summarized.

Petty crimes have been problematic over the years at the Holleder Center, Arvin Gym, Thayer Hall and other places where the opportunity to steal things without being seen is present.

Chris Shaw, DES Security Officer, said there were 33 larcenies committed on West Point during FY 2007, excluding shoplifting.

If something is stolen, it's important to contact the MPs (938-3333) as soon as possible.

"If by chance something was stolen moments earlier, the MPs

have a good chance of finding out who it was that was responsible for the theft," Slater stated. "Once you do that, you also should notify the building manager or whoever is responsible for the building. By notifying the military police and building management there just might be something going on behind the scenes that the victim or victims may not be aware of and could help the situation."

Slater mentioned that crime isn't at epidemic proportions here, but, even though it's sporadic, people need to know it happens.

"It seems to go in cycles; you might go several months without hearing about a theft and then all of a sudden it's like one after the other," Slater said. "Historically, we've had problems in trunk rooms in the cadet barracks and even in the cadet rooms.

"Thayer Hall has always been a problem because cadets have their book bags hanging in the hall with their laptops in them and people walk off with them," he added. "In Arvin Gym, the locker rooms are a hot spot where people are not securing the lockers and wallets, laptops and everything else is being taken out of there and the Holleder Center is pretty much the same way.

"They are provided an area to

*"To reduce the chance of theft,  
eliminate the opportunity to steal,"*

Lt. Col. Robert Brown, Director of Emergency Services

secure their equipment," Slater continued, "but they just aren't doing it and that's what it boils down to."

Again, vigilance is key to not being a victim. Members of the Physical Security Office do many things to help the community prevent crime including inspections, surveys and crime prevention classes that cover structural security and proactive measures.

The Physical Security Office at West Point is responsible for electronic security systems, the camera and alarm systems, and the contract oversight for the gate guards and the K-9s. Slater said one of the things he does each year is inspect all 32 cadet companies and brief them on physical security standards.

"I'll explain to them there's an honor code in place and, for the most part, the overwhelming majority of the cadets follow that, but there are a few that we get each year who steal," Slater said. "Also, you have a certain amount of civilian traffic going through the barracks and the honor code doesn't apply to them, so give anybody the opportunity and they'll take it."

Slater pushed for a program in the past with Arvin Gym to have locks issued, but he said that they didn't have the manpower with which to do that, so they are trying to spread the word to make sure people lock up their valuables when leaving them in an unsecured area.

"We've been trying to get

the word out to visiting teams and anyone else that utilizes the public facilities to bring locks with them, because the lockers are provided, but the locks are their responsibility," Slater explained. "If they choose not to bring a lock with them, they are taking a chance. If you visit another school off the installation, lockers are provided but (visitors) are expected to bring their own locking mechanisms. It's no different at West Point."

A couple of areas on post that have been relatively unscathed by burglaries are the Five Star Inn and the housing areas.

Sgt. Ron Patenaude, Physical Security NCOIC, said that housing break-ins are non-existent and that has a lot to do with the MP presence in the housing areas.

"We have a requirement to walk around the housing areas frequently, so that tends to deter a lot of issues," Patenaude explained. "We have issues at the Holleder Center with visitors coming in for Pee Wee games or other things like that, not necessarily anything that has to do with the military. Visitors do have a false sense of security because they think it's a military base and it's well guarded, but stuff happens."

Slater added, "The bottom line is never assume anything. Come prepared and always bring a lock with you when you go to the gym or any other public areas. Don't be relying on them (the venue) to provide you the security."

# Youth Services Fine Art Exhibit puts local artistic talent on display

Story and photos by  
Kathy Eastwood  
Staff Writer

Roughly 95 youths submitted more than 180 pieces of art work for the fourth annual West Point Child and Youth Services Fine Arts Exhibit, sponsored by the Boys and Girls Club of America for 2008 at the Youth Services here Jan. 11.

Volunteers from the English department, instructors Maj. Stefanie Bounds and Air Force Capt. Tammy Gant, and assistant professor Terri Sabatos acted as judges for the local area. The winning artwork then will be submitted for judging in the regional and national competitions.

"I look for how the younger participants use color and how they capture the scene," Gant said. "With the older participants I look for how well they deal with shadow and light."

The judges used a score sheet to determine how the youths used their imagination, creativity, skill level and artistic sensibility.

Sabatos says she looks for the use of color along with artistic skill and composition.

"I think these youths are doing great work," she said. "This is my first year of judging and I am impressed with their work."

A still life of a bowl of fruit by 12-year-old Kristin Houston drew a lot of attention.

"I like drawing," Houston said. "I drew this still life with a pastel stick and transferred it to pastel paper."

Many youths submitted more than one piece of art. Tiffany Merkel said she entered five in different categories. Merkel was one of three regional winners last year.

An estimated 4,000 pieces of artwork were submitted to the region this year by the 110 BGCA across the region, according to West Point Child and Youth Services Youth Education and Support Services Director Jodi Cabrera.

"I submitted one water color, two monochromic drawing of shoes and two multicolor drawings," she said.

Her friend Connor Van Everen said he didn't submit any artwork, but was helping to serve food.

The YS and BGCA fine arts exhibit is a year-round program that encourages artistic expression among club members ages 6-18 through drawing, painting, print making, collages, mixed media and sculpture that is displayed in local and regional exhibits. The artists are divided into three age groups, ages 6-9, ages 10-12 and ages 13-15.



**Eleven-year-old Noah Vanetta points to his entry in the Youth Services Fine Arts exhibition. Nineteen of the local competitors will go on to compete in the Northeast Regional competition in February.**



**Thirteen-year-olds Connor Van Everen (left) and Tiffany Merkel stop to discuss still life paintings submitted for exhibit and judging at the Youth Services and Boys and Girls Club of America Fine Arts exhibit at the Youth Services building here Jan. 11.**



# Re-orgy Week gets Corps ready for the Spring semester

Cadets 1st Class, Andrew Collins, B-4, Jonathon Harmeling, H-4, and Camilla Nusbaum of B-2 wait in line to add/drop classes during Reorganization Week January 7-11. More than 4,000 cadets returned from winter break by Jan. 7 to prepare for their upcoming semester.

PHOTOS BY SGT. 1ST CLASS ROGER JONES/PAO NCOIC



Cadets 2nd Class Kelley Harvey, B-1, and Christina Gomez, B-1, discuss changes to their schedules while waiting in line at the registrar's office. Cadets have approximately two weeks to resolve scheduling issues. However, most of them choose to resolve their scheduling conflicts during Re-orgy Week, which affords them additional time to address other issues.



Cadet 4th Class Gregory Dempsey, B-4, has his fingerprints taken by Jeanette Alicea, U.S. Corps of Cadets S-1 office, as part of his clearance packet, which all cadets need to complete prior to being commissioned.



Department of Foreign Languages Academy Professor Lt. Col. Thomas Johnson (right), advises second class cadets returning from a semester abroad in China, on how to prepare their travel vouchers during Reorganization Week.



The H-3 Hurricanes run through the Thayer Gate checkpoint led by their tropical bird mascot during a U.S. Corps of Cadets Brigade run Saturday.

# Community Leisure

## What's Happening

### Book signing

Author Sean Flynn will sign his book "The Fighting 69th", "One Remarkable National Guard Unit's Journey from Ground Zero to Baghdad," at the USMA Bookstore Wed. from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

### Family Bingo Night

Sacred Heart School in Highland Falls invites the community to attend "Family Bingo Night," Jan. 25. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and calling begins at 7 p.m.

Adults can win cash and children can win their choice from our prize table. Pizza, drinks and snacks will be available for purchase. Call 446-2674 for more information.

### Protestant Sunday School

The West Point Protestant Sunday School program is a community-wide chapel program that is a well-established ministry to our community.

The cadets lead the Sunday School classes ranging from Pre-K to senior high. We also offer three adult/cadet classes.

All classes take place on the third floor of Thayer Hall (Hudson River side) from 9 to 10 a.m. beginning Jan. 27.

For more info., contact Chaplain Paige K. Heard, 938-3412, [paige.heard@usma.edu](mailto:paige.heard@usma.edu).

### CAC meeting Jan. 28

The next Community Action Council meeting is Jan. 28 at 9:30 a.m., at the Jewish Chapel.

The West Point community is invited to attend.

### Mandatory civilian training

Jan. 25 -- EEO/POSH (Prevention of Sexual Harassment), 10 to 11:30 a.m., Robinson Aud.

Feb. 4 -- Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Training, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Eisenhower Hall.

### Dinner Dance

The Maj. Gen. Irene Trowell-Harris Chapter Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. with support of the men and women of the 105th Airlift Wing will present the 10th annual Tuition Assistance Dinner Dance Feb. 2 at Anthony's Pier 9 in New Windsor, N.Y. For ticket info., e-mail [TALNY@hotmail.com](mailto:TALNY@hotmail.com) or call (845) 838-7848.

### DUSA grant applications

The West Point Chapter of the Daughters of the United States Army is pleased to announce that the 2008 Community Welfare Grant Season will run until Feb. 15.

Any organization wishing to apply for a grant must complete a 2008 Community Grant Application and return it postmarked by Feb. 15, 2008.

Applications are available at the DUSA Gift shop located in the West Point Museum.

### AER scholarship program

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

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

Applications for the 2008-2009 scholarship and the Stateside Spouse Education Assistance Program are available on the AER Web site [www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org) through March 1, 2008.

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

### WPWC

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

Pick up copies at the WPWC shop, ACS, or visit the Web site: [www.shopthepoint.com](http://www.shopthepoint.com).

Applications are due Feb. 29, 2008.

### FAST classes in Feb.

The Army Education Center is offering a Functional Academic Skills Training (FAST) from Feb. 4 to 25 from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m., at the Education Center.

The course is designed to help Soldiers raise their General Technical score on the Armed Forces Classification Test (AFCT).

The class needs a minimum enrollment of eight Soldiers.

### VII Corps Reunion

The 17th Annual Memorial Ceremony and Reunion Dinner for the VII Corps Desert Storm Veterans Association will be held Feb. 23 at the Fort Myer Officers' Club, Fort Myer, Va.

R.S.V.P. by Feb. 18 to Hoa McNabb at (703) 562-4163 or [VIICorpsDSVA@aol.com](mailto:VIICorpsDSVA@aol.com).

### MCCW

Nationally renowned speaker Christopher West is coming to West Point Feb. 26 to discuss "Theology of the Body."

Adults, teens and cadets are invited. Join us at 7 p.m., in Robinson Auditorium.

### Supe's semi-annual briefing

The Superintendent's Annual Command Interest Briefing is scheduled for Feb. 28, from 12:50 to 1:50 p.m., in Thayer Hall, Robinson Auditorium.

This briefing is mandatory for all officers, all non-commissioned officers (SFC and above) and civilian employees (GS-9 and above).

Others who wish to attend should coordinate with their activities. All personnel must be seated by 12:45 p.m. The Command Interest Brief will be broadcast live on the Command Channel for the West

Point Community to view.

In addition, it will be rebroadcast March 3, at 1 p.m., and March 4 at 9 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

### West Point Museum

Looking for something to do on those cold winter days?

Why not stop by the West Point Museum. Stroll through six very distinctive galleries, covering Ancient and Medieval warfare to modern warfare.

### Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

## Command Channel

### 8/23

Jan. 18 - Jan. 25

FRIDAY

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

MONDAY -- THURSDAY

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

JAN. 25

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

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

**FRIDAY -- AUGUST RUSH, PG, 7:30 P.M.**

**SATURDAY -- THE GOLDEN COMPASS, PG-13, 7:30 P.M.**

**JAN. 25 -- I AM LEGEND, PG-13, 7:30 P.M.**

**JAN. 26 -- ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS, PG, 7:30 P.M.**

**JAN. 26 -- CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR, R, 9:30 P.M.**

THE THEATER SCHEDULE CAN ALSO BE FOUND AT

[WWW.AAFES.COM](http://WWW.AAFES.COM).

# MWR Blurbs

## Family Night Buffet

Family Night Buffet with Macaroni the Clown at the West Point Club today. No charge for Families with a deployed Spouse.

For more info, please call 938-5120.

## Defensive Driving Class

The next Defensive Driving Class will be held Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., in Building 622 (ACS), Register at ITR by calling 938-2401/3601.

## WPC Advisory Council meeting

The entire West Point community is invited to attend the West Point Club Advisory Council

Meeting, Wed., at 4 p.m., at the WPC.

For more information, call 938-5120.

## Right Arm Night

Spread a little social charm, extend your right arm for Right Arm Night -- every last Thursday of the month, 4:30 p.m., at the West Point Club's Benny Haven's Lounge.

This after duty hours social is open to all departments and directorates.

## NYC food tour

Join ITR Feb. 2 for an International Food Tour of four different boroughs of New York City.

The tour leaves West Point at 10 a.m., and returns from NYC at 5 p.m. For more information, call 938-3601.

## FCC needs child-care providers

Family Child Care is looking for high quality child-care providers to provide child care in their government quarters for authorized family members of children from four weeks to 12 years of age.

Call 938-3921 for more information and to begin training.

## 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](http://www.westpointmwr.com), fill out the application and return it to Elizabeth Harrington, Bldg. 681, room 202.

For more information, call 938-8186.

## Ballroom Dancing lessons

Another round of ballroom dancing classes begins soon. Beginners start Jan. 28 and previous students begin Jan. 29.

All classes are held at Cullum Hall from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Lessons meet once a week for six weeks.

The instructor will be Joe Maraday of Strictly Ballroom Dancing.

Class size is limited, register today at ITR (Bldg. 695).

For more information, call 938-2401.

## Upcoming ACS classes

The ACS Employment

Readiness Program has two classes coming in February. "How to put together a Federal Resume," Feb. 6 from 2 to 3 p.m., and "Interviewing Tips & Dress for Success," Feb. 7 from 2 to 3 p.m., in the ACS Training Room. Registration required by Feb. 1, by calling 845-248-4719.

## BOSS Super Bowl party

BOSS (Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers) is hosting a Superbowl Party at newly renovated Buffalo Soldier Pavilion Feb. 3.

Watch the big game on two 62" TVs. The party will begin at 4 p.m. until late.

For info., call 938-2445.

## Belly dancing classes

Belly dancing classes start Thursdays in February at the MWR Fitness Center from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. Call 938-6490 for more information.

# Viva! Las Vegas coming Feb. 22

## Submitted by the WPWC

The West Point Women's Club will host their annual fund raiser, Viva! Las Vegas Night, Feb. 22 from 7 p.m. until midnight at the Thayer Hotel.

Come out for an evening of casino-type games, a poker tournament, a live floor show and a silent auction. Try your luck at the roulette table, bingo, black jack or craps.

This year introduces an exciting addition, horse racing.

There are spectacular prizes to bid on: travel vouchers, entertainment tickets and hotel accommodations just to begin with. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

All proceeds from the evening's fundraiser go back to the West Point community for grants and scholarships.

In preparing for the event the West Point Women's Club needs your donations. Come shop at the Golden Nugget Gift Shop and Casino Chance. We need gently used items, like new books, toys, home decor, housewares, jewelry and picture frames.

Please no clothing, VHS or cassette tapes.

Never used items such as duplicate gifts and handicrafts are great.

Please ensure that items are in good shape and in need of a new home. Collections will be made through Feb. 15.

You can bring items to the WPWC Shoppe Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., or contact Gwen

Wallace at [dgoeswall@aol.com](mailto:dgoeswall@aol.com) or call (845) 446-5708.

Volunteers are requested to work at Viva! Volunteers receive a reduced entry fee.

For more information about volunteering, contact Gael James at 446-0660 or [gaeljames@atglobal.net](mailto:gaeljames@atglobal.net).

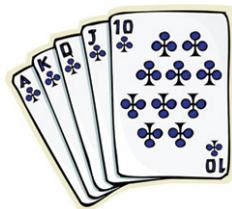
There will be a No Limit Texas Hold'em poker tournament with over \$1,000 in prizes. The top prizes will be awarded in Visa Gift card form.

There will be a \$50 buy in and limited seating.

To sign up, contact either Ken or Jennifer Gilliam at 446-6530 or [jkgilliam@hvc.rr.com](mailto:jkgilliam@hvc.rr.com).

Other contacts include: Contributions -- Cathy Bridges, 859-4424, [cathy.bridges1@us.army.mil](mailto:cathy.bridges1@us.army.mil) and Petra Alberici, 446-2423, [palberici@sheratonrtp.com](mailto:palberici@sheratonrtp.com).

Silent Auction: Patty Bastianelli, 446-6684, [pbastianelli@hvc.rr.com](mailto:pbastianelli@hvc.rr.com) and Janet Suchan, 446-6878, [suchan4@earthlink.net](mailto:suchan4@earthlink.net).



## DeCA Scholarships for Military Children application deadline is Feb. 20

By Caroline Williams  
DECA

FORT LEE, Va. -- Are you digging under the sofa cushions for misplaced change and rolling coins from your money jar to help pay for college tuition? Given the soaring costs of higher education, you certainly aren't alone. Perhaps a \$1,500 scholarship could help?

Applications for the 2008 Scholarships for Military Children Program must be turned in to a commissary by close of business Feb. 20. They are available in commissaries worldwide or online through a link at [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com) and directly at [www.militaryscholar.org](http://www.militaryscholar.org), where they can be filled out on the

computer and printed, or printed and filled out by hand. At least one scholarship will be awarded at every commissary location with qualified applicants.

The scholarship program kicked off in 2001 and, according to agency officials, has awarded more than \$5.5 million dollars in scholarships to 3,532 of the best and brightest children of military families.

The scholarship program is open to unmarried children under the age of 21 (23 if enrolled in school) of active duty, Reserve, Guard and retired military personnel. Eligibility will be determined using the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database.



Applicants should ensure that they, as well as their sponsor, are currently enrolled in the DEERS database and that they have a current ID card. All applicants must be U.S. citizens.

The applicant must be planning to attend, or already attending, an accredited college or university full-time in the fall term of 2008.

Students at community or junior colleges must be enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

"Applications must be in the store by close of business Feb. 20," said Edna Hoogewind, DeCA's

scholarship program liaison, "either by hand or mail." If you are not hand-delivering your application, Hoogewind recommends using a delivery method that supplies a return receipt. From April 15 through July 1, applicants can go online and verify receipt of their application in the "Verification of Receipt" section.

Hoogewind also advises students to check all their materials carefully for simple things, like making sure the application is signed or that they are using the 2008 application, not one from previous years.

Everything applicants need to know about the program can be found in the Frequently Asked Questions section of the military

scholar Web page.

The Scholarships for Military Children program is funded through donations by the general public and by product manufacturers and brokers that sell groceries in commissaries. Fisher House Foundation, a nonprofit organization best known for building comfort homes near military medical facilities, administers the Scholarships for Military Children program. Fisher House Foundation uses the services of Scholarship Managers, a professional firm that has handled more than 400 programs, to screen applicants and award scholarships.

Neither Fisher House nor DeCA are involved in the decision process.

## AAFES hosting online "It's My Benefit" video contest through Feb. 15

Submitted by AAFES

DALLAS --The Army & Air Force Exchange Service is giving military shoppers a chance to show off their video making skills (and maybe even win one of three possible shopping sprees) with the "It's My Benefit" video contest.

From Dec. 15, 2007 through Feb. 15, 2008, authorized AAFES shoppers are invited to produce a

30- to 60-second commercial about their military exchange and Morale, Welfare and Recreation benefits. The Internet audience as well as AAFES leadership will judge

submissions.

The winner of the "It's My Benefit" contest will have the choice of an Apple G5 Computer with software or a \$2,000 online

shopping spree. Runner-up contestants will receive a \$1,000 and \$500 online shopping spree.

"I can't wait to see the entries," said AAFES' Chief Marketing Officer Richard Sheff. "As this is our first ever user-generated online contest, I think it's going to be fun and engaging for both participants and judges."

A complete description of the "It's My Benefit" contest rules can be found online at [AAFES.com](http://AAFES.com). The contest is open to all authorized shoppers of the military exchange.

Entries must be received by

Feb. 15, 2008. No purchase is necessary to win.

## AAFES encourages shoppers to 'Get Fit' with TIMEX sweepstakes

Submitted by AAFES

DALLAS -- The Army & Air Force Exchange Service and C. Lloyd Johnson Co., a leader in military resale, are encouraging shoppers to get in shape during the TIMEX "Get Fit" Sweepstakes.

Authorized shoppers can participate in the TIMEX sweepstakes at BX/PX locations worldwide beginning today and continuing throughout the month of January, with the drawing taking place in March.

No purchase is necessary to enter and participants do not have to be present to win.

Worldwide, five lucky military shoppers (three in CONUS, one in Pacific and one in Europe) will ultimately win a TIMEX Trail Runner Body Link, a high-tech watch that caters to trail runners by capturing location and altitude information in addition to tracking heart rate, speed and distance.

"What an exciting way to help those New Year fitness resolutions come to fruition," said AAFES Chief Marketing Officer Richard Sheff. "For shoppers who enjoy more than just running, great deals on fitness equipment and accessories are always available at the exchange."

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

### A Night of Gershwin

January 25 - 7:30 p.m.

Eisenhower Hall Theatre

On the program

**Strike Up the Band**  
**Oh, Lady Be Good!**  
**Selections from Porgy and Bess and more...**

Featuring Sgt. 1st Class Alvy Powell, one of the world's best-known interpreters of the role of Porgy, and his wife, Gina Watson Powell.



SFC Alvy Powell



Gina Watson Powell

Free and Open to the Public

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

## Keller Corner

**KACH closure**

All outpatient clinics, laboratory, pharmacy and radiology will be closed Jan. 21 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.

The emergency room will remain open.

**Pneumonia Vaccine**

Attention patients, The Allergy/

Immunization clinic reminds you to protect yourself from Pneumonia.

If you are 65 or older and have not received the pneumococcal vaccine, please stop by the KACH Immunization Clinic to receive your vaccine.

For more information, call the clinic at 938-8476.

## Veterinary services return to normal

January appointments are now available at the Vet Clinic and are back to normal.

Call 938-3817 to set up an appointment.

# Army and Community Sports

## Martinez leads youthful group of Army wrestlers

Story and photos by  
Eric S. Bartelt  
Sports Editor

Hard work combined with chance and impeccable timing has a way of working out for an athlete sometimes. Army senior wrestler Fernando Martinez was a backup at 125 pounds for about two-and-a-half years before his chance would come to supplant starter Whitt Dunning due to an illness.

Dunning, now a junior, currently starts at 133 pounds.

As luck would have it, Martinez rose to the occasion that eventually lead him to a 29-12 record last year and a place in the NCAA Tournament after defeating Lehigh's Matt Fisk 9-7 in overtime at the Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Championships.

Martinez reflected on to that victory against Fisk as being his best moment on the wrestling mat at Army and a moment that has elevated him to a 21-3 record so far in 2007-08.

"(Fisk) had beaten me twice during the season," Martinez said. "I started off the (EIWA) match down 5-0, so winning was probably one of the most satisfying feelings I've ever had."

His meteoric rise wasn't just due to talent. Martinez, who earned the team "Mr. Intensity" Award last year, made his mark due to his dedication to bettering himself as

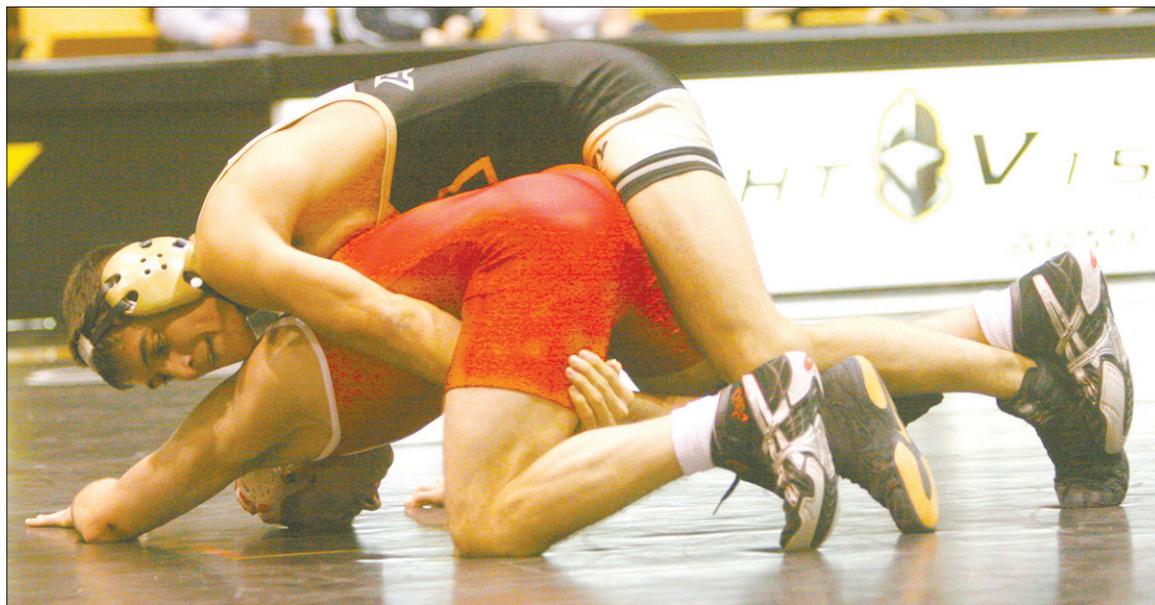
a wrestler through a strong work ethic.

"He's a classic case of someone who paid his dues," said Army wrestling head coach Chuck Barbee. "He was a good high school wrestler who came here and found the transition to college to be pretty challenging both mentally and physically. I think about a year and a half ago it just clicked and he finally realized he has all the tools to do it, but he just had to cut it loose mentally.

"He's very calm, cool and collected in a bout," Barbee added. "Guys watch him wrestle and they see he's focused, intense and doesn't get rattled or distracted. He's the smallest guy in the room, but he gives his share of whippings to guys bigger than him everyday (at practice) and you gain a lot of respect as a 125-pounder who is wrestling 133, 141 and even 149 pounders and is holding his own and winning a lot."

Martinez, who is individually ranked 16th in the USA Today/Intermat national pool and 18th in the Amateur Wrestling News national poll at 125 pounds, credits putting in the extra time to his development on the mat, which in turn has helped him become a staple in the Army wrestling starting lineup.

"I will do stuff after practice and get into a routine where no matter what we do in practice I will



Senior captain Fernando Martinez heads into the N.Y. State Collegiate Championships this weekend with a 21-3 match record for the season. Since the beginning of the 2006-07 season, Martinez has compiled 50 wins and a berth in the NCAA Tournament.

always grab a dummy (a weighted person-like figure) and do some extra dummy throws, about 20 of them," Martinez explained, "or I will do 20 sprints after practice or three to five sets of pull ups every day. For me, putting in all this extra work built my confidence."

Getting named "Mr. Intensity" was an honor for Martinez because he was proud that, "I had been working really hard. It was nice to get the recognition for busting my butt out there," he added. From his hard work, his teammates also gave him the ultimate prize that someone

can receive from one's peers -- being named team captain.

"We do a team vote, although the coaches have the ultimate final say, but it's nice to know that my teammates chose me for the job," Martinez stated. "It goes back to working hard and knowing people see that I work hard. I'm honored that my teammates have put that trust in me to have that responsibility in my hands."

The Highland, Ind., native, who will be branching aviation, became interested in the academy through his cousin, Tristan Martinez, who is a captain and pilot in the Marines.

"He got me interested and I started looking it up. Luckily, around the same time the coaches from West Point started calling me so it was a nice coincidence," said Martinez, who is interested in flying Kiowas.

This weekend Martinez will lead his teammates into Buffalo, N.Y., for the two-day N.Y. State Collegiate Championships. Army finished second at the tournament out of 17 teams last year and the team is confident that they will produce well again this year.

"We have a great shot at winning," said Martinez, who finished first last year at the NYSCC. "I plan on definitely winning it and I know there are a handful of other guys on our team who can win at their weight classes.

"Coming off a really good

weekend last weekend," added Martinez about Army's dual wins against Rutgers and Kings Point, "it will be good for us confidence-wise going into this weekend."

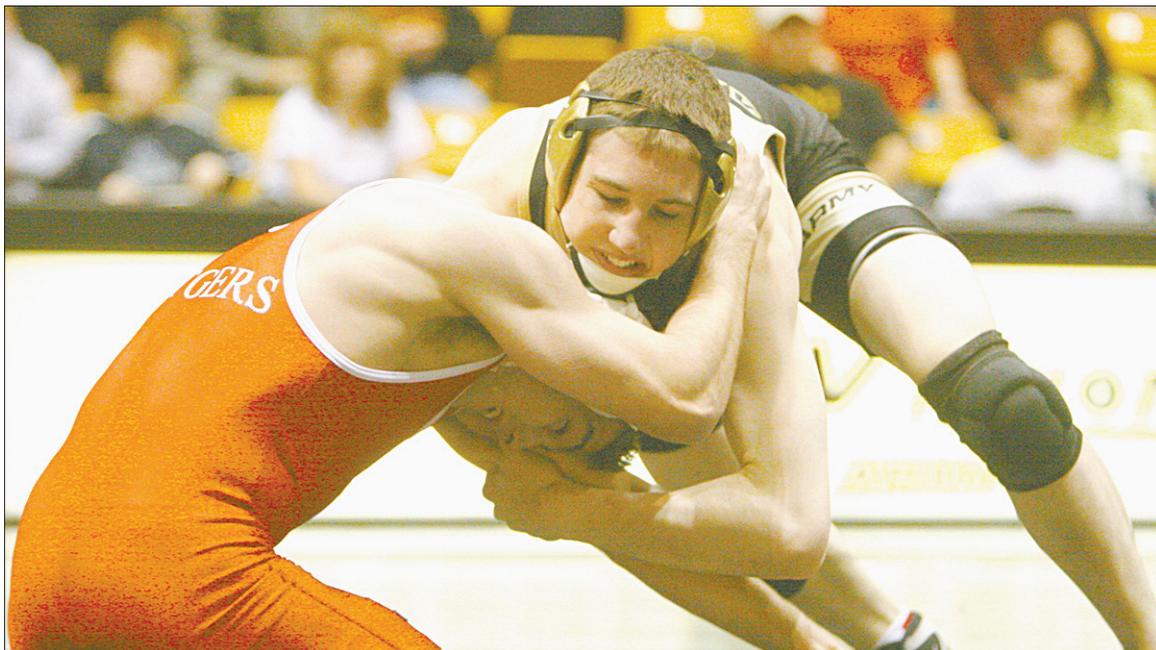
Barbee is confident in the team right now as it has compiled a 7-4 dual meet record and has lost close meets to strong clubs like Maryland, Arizona State and Pennsylvania.

"We're a team on the brink of turning the corner and getting some national recognition," Barbee said. "We have five or six sophomores and freshmen in the lineup and their development is going to be crucial and it seems to be on track.

"We've just got to keep expecting a lot out of them," Barbee added. "I think we're set up to make a good run in the last third of the season."

The team's three main wrestlers -- Martinez, sophomore 141-pounder Matt Kyler and senior 285-pounder Nathan Thobaben, all have surpassed 20-plus match victories thus far. Other grapplers have also stepped up in the lineup to help the team's progress toward the EIWA Championships.

Strong freshmen records by 149-pounder Casey Thome (18-6 match record) and 174-pounder Dean Gaier (12-10) and a breakout sophomore performance by 184-pounder Richard Starks (17-5)



Sophomore Matt Kyler, who led Army with 31 match wins last year as a freshman, leads Army again this year with 23 wins.

See WRESTLING on page 13



## Perez receives Valor Award

Daniel Perez, father of 2005 USMA graduate Second Lt. Emily Perez, displays the Award of Valor that was posthumously presented to her during the 2008 NCAA Honors Celebration Sunday in Nashville, Tenn. Perez, a member of the track and field team at the U.S. Military Academy, died Sept. 12, 2006 in Al Kift, Iraq, from injuries sustained when an IED detonated near her HMMWV during combat operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

PHOTO BY BRETT WILHELM/NCAA PHOTOS

## WRESTLING, cont. from page 12

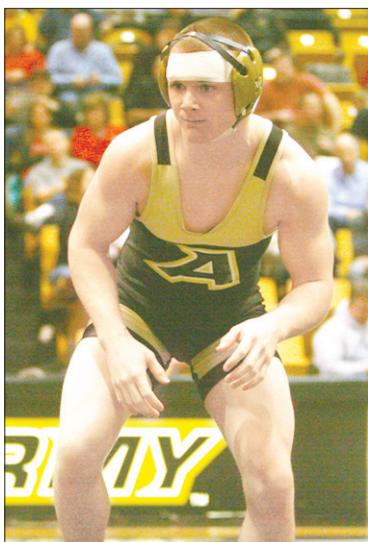
have helped the team find depth throughout the lineup.

"If things hold true we've got some very good years ahead of us with these young guys. So as a coach you still can be excited about the future, but still you tend to be focused on right now," Barbee said. "But, we're just expecting these guys to step it up."

Barbee has been coach at Army for eight years now, and he feels the program has made substantial gains in the past few years.

"Our conference is extremely tough because we placed eighth in the EIWA Championships a year ago, but we still had eight guys place, which is as many as we've had in about 15 years," Barbee explained. "We sent three guys to the NCAA Tournament last year and four the year before that and we hadn't sent four since 1987 with the EIWA championship team, so I feel good that we're making some progress."

"In the end, we want to continue to work to beat Navy and put NCAA All-Americans up on the podium, with Phillip Simpson (USMA '05) being our last one," he added. "Right now, our goal is to get into the top three position in our conference because to do that you are probably top 15 in the country out of 100 teams."



**Freshman Casey Thome is tied for fourth on the team with wins at 18 and leads all freshmen in victories. Thome has been a solid contributor at 149 pounds, which has helped the overall lineup.**

"We were ranked fourth in the last EIWA poll, but we've been hovering anywhere between fourth and seventh," he continued. "So we want to break into the top three and then challenge for the top spot. We certainly can do it, but our immediate goal is the top three followed by a championship and I think in the next couple of years it will be realistic."

## Sports calendar

Jan. 18 - Jan. 27

FRIDAY -- MTEN HOSTS ARMY INVITE, LITC, 5 P.M.

FRIDAY -- GYMNASTICS HOSTS WEST POINT OPEN, CHRISTL ARENA, 7 P.M.

FRIDAY -- HOCKEY VS. CANISIUS, TATE RINK, 7:05 P.M.

SATURDAY -- GYMNASTICS HOSTS WEST POINT OPEN, CHRISTL ARENA, 7 P.M.

SATURDAY -- HOCKEY VS. CANISIUS, TATE RINK, 7:05 P.M.

SATURDAY -- MTEN HOSTS ARMY INVITE, LITC, 9 A.M.

SATURDAY -- SWIM & DIVE VS. BUCKNELL, CRANDALL POOL, 1 P.M.

SUNDAY -- MTEN HOSTS ARMY INVITE, LITC, 9 A.M.

SUNDAY -- SWIM & DIVE VS. LEHIGH, CRANDALL POOL, NOON.

SUNDAY -- MBB VS. LEHIGH, CHRISTL ARENA, 3 P.M.

JAN. 22 -- RIFLE VS. ALASKA-FAIRBANKS, TRONSRUE MC, 3 P.M.

JAN. 23 -- MBB VS. AMERICAN, CHRISTL ARENA, 7 P.M.

JAN. 23 -- WRESTLING VS. SACRED HEART, GILLIS FIELD HOUSE, 7:30 P.M.

JAN. 25 -- M&W INDOOR TRACK HOSTS OPEN, HEP./PENT., GFH, NOON.



JAN. 25 -- HOCKEY VS. AIR FORCE, TATE RINK, 8 P.M. (CSTV)

JAN. 26 -- M&W INDOOR TRACK HOSTS OPEN, HEP./PENT., GFH, 9 A.M., OTHER EVENTS BEGIN AT 11 A.M.

JAN. 26 -- WTEN HOSTS ARMY INVITE, LITC, NOON

JAN. 27 -- MBB AT NAVY, ANNAPOLIS, MD., NOON, (ESPNU)

JAN. 27 -- WBB AT NAVY, ANNAPOLIS, MD., 2:30 P.M., (ESPNU TAPE DELAY AT 6:30 P.M.)

JAN. 27 -- HOCKEY VS. AIR FORCE, TATE RINK, 4 P.M. (ESPNU)

JAN. 27 -- WTEN HOSTS ARMY INVITE, LITC, 10 A.M.

## Club

FRIDAY -- MEN'S TEAM HANDBALL HOSTS WEST POINT INVITE, 5 P.M., ACPDC, 2ND AND 4TH FLOORS.

SUNDAY -- M&W FENCING HOSTS CO-ED INVITATIONAL FENCING MEET, EISENHOWER HALL BALLROOM, 10 A.M.

JANUARY 25 -- PISTOL VS. MIT, TRONSRUE MARKSMANSHIP CENTER, 4:30 P.M.

JANUARY 26 -- PISTOL VS. MIT, TRONSRUE, 9 A.M.

# ARMY GYMNASTICS SEEKS W.P. OPEN TITLE

By Mady Salvani  
Athletic Communications

WEST POINT, N.Y. -- Army's gymnastic team, fresh off a solid performance against defending NCAA champion Penn State, makes its home debut this weekend as the host school for the annual West Point Open at Christl Arena.

Five-time national champion Blaine Wilson will be present at the competition, which gets underway Friday at 7 p.m. with the individual finals (top eight in six events) to be held Saturday evening at 7 p.m.

This event, billed as the largest on the East Coast, was introduced to the Hudson Valley by Army gymnastics head coach Doug Van Everen the winter of 1992. It made an immediate impact and continues to draw the nation's top athletes as the premier tune-up for the Winter National Championships in February.

Defending 10-time champion Penn State will not be participating this year. While the Nittany Lions' presence will be missed, it opens the door for the Black Knights to vie for the title as they take on

collegiate teams Temple, Navy, Springfield and MIT along with club team Arizona State and select Eastern club teams for the crown.

Defending Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference (ECAC) champion Temple finished runner-up to Penn State in the collegiate scoring at last year's West Point Open followed by Army, Navy, Springfield and MIT.

While the Black Knights, Midshipmen, the Engineers and the Pride will be vying for their first title in the 17-year history of the event, Temple will be looking to secure its third crown after winning titles in 1992 and 1995. The Black Knights, whose highest finish is second, and the Owls qualified as a team for last year's NAAs.

Temple is ranked No. 11 in the GymInfo coach's preseason poll, with Army next at 12th followed by No. 15 Navy, while MIT and Springfield list among the top 20.

While the rest of the field will be making their season debut, the Black Knights have an advantage after competing last weekend against No. 2 Penn State, where they fell 358.50-333.60.



A trio of seniors, from left to right, Tim Burns, Tyler Ho and Mike Assenmacher lead the way as the Army Gymnastics team hosts its annual West Point Open this weekend at Christl Arena. The two-day event will begin at 7 p.m. both evenings and concludes with the individual finals Saturday.

PHOTOS BY JON MALINOWSKI/G&E

Senior Tim Burns turned in Army's best showing, finishing runner-up on the high bar and classmate Mike Assenmacher was second in the all-around scoring as both trailed Penn State's Casey Sandy, a Canadian National Team member.

Burns was close to Sandy on high bar in posting a 14.0 to his 14.9 score as the lone two gymnasts to hit the 14-point mark in that event. Assenmacher, who compiled an 82.25 to Sandy's 90.75 in all-around, led the Black Knights with a fifth on floor exercise (14.75), sixth on parallel bars (14.1) and seventh on pommel horse (13.5).

Senior team captain Tyler Ho turned in Army's highest score of the night, compiling a 15.45 on vault that earned him sixth place, while sophomore Davis Ellis led the Black Knights on still rings (14.0), tying with Penn State's Allen Harris for sixth place.

Ho turned in Army's second best mark on rings (13.8) and Ellis did likewise on vault (15.25), while junior Kevin Mead finished just behind Assenmacher on pommel horse with a 13.35.

Army's highest team score of the meet was recorded on floor exercise, where the Black Knights compiled a 56.7, while Penn State's closest win over its guest was a 1.95

victory on high bar.

At last year's West Point Open, Burns medaled in his signature event, placing fifth on high bar, while Assenmacher qualified for the finals on floor exercise after placing third in the prelims, and just missing advancing on vault.

Here is a quick look at the competition this weekend.

**Temple:** The defending ECAC champions also suffered similar losses as Army with graduation claiming seven seniors. Luke Vexler will be looking to recapture the all-around title at the West Point Open after winning it in 2006, but faces a tough challenge from teammate Sterling Kramer.

Kramer finished runner-up at the ECACs last year in all-around after capturing the title the previous season. Head coach Fred Turoff will also look for top performances from Eastern vault champion John Vogtman and pommel horse finalist Andy Corp.

**Navy:** Don't be fooled by Navy's 9-11 record last year, as the Mids shined in the postseason. Navy placed second at the USAG Collegiate Division Championship and followed with a fourth-place showing in the ECAC Championship. Eight Navy gymnasts earned a total of 12 USAG Collegiate Division All-

America honors and four Mids captured a medal at the ECAC Championship. Two weeks later at the NCAA Qualifying Meet, Navy sent seven of its own and nearly advanced to the NCAA Championship.

Building off that momentum at the end of the year, the Midshipmen return nearly their entire squad from a season ago and welcome seven qualified gymnasts to help create depth and competition at each event that has developed with a successful training regimen this past fall.

**Springfield:** A strong recruiting year could help take the sting out of losing All-American Andrew Malaby (still rings, vault) to graduation. Last year the Pride finished third at the USAG Collegiate National Championships and qualified four gymnasts (three returning in Aric Hines, Matt Davis and J.J. Ferreira) for the NCAA Regional Championships.

That trio, along with All-American team captain Donny Eckhart (parallel bars), will anchor the squad this season.

**MIT:** Junior all-arounder Boris Rasin placed seventh in his session in the all-around scoring last year at the NCAA Championships. He finished among the top 30 in two

See W.P. OPEN on page 15



Army gymnastics opened its season last weekend against defending NCAA champion Penn State. Senior Mike Assenmacher finished second in all-around scoring.

# Intramural Basketball Standings

## Staff & Faculty "Noon time" Intramurals

Through Wednesday's games

NORTH DIVISION	W - L	CENTRAL DIVISION	W - L
1. CME/DSE	10 - 3	1. DLAW/SJA	8 - 4
2. DMI	7 - 5	2. SOC. SCI.	7 - 4
2. NSSB/DEAN	7 - 5	3. MATH 1	7 - 5
4. DAD/ODIA	6 - 6	4. PHYS/CHEM	5 - 6
5. MEDDAC	4 - 9	5. DPE	5 - 8
6. DPW	3 - 9	6. ENGLISH	4 - 9

SOUTH DIVISION	W - L
1. USSC/BTD	9 - 2
2. USMA BAND	8 - 3
3. MATH 2	5 - 5
4. DFL/GENE	4 - 7
5. HISTORY	1 - 10

## Unit "Night time" Intramurals

TEAMS	W - L
1. MEDDAC	11 - 2
2. STEWART MARINES	10 - 3
3. STAFF & FACULTY	10 - 3
4. 105TH ANG	5 - 8
5. MPs	0 - 20

## W.P. OPEN, cont. from page 14

of his events (pommel horse and still rings), while finishing no lower than 42nd in the remaining four events -- high bar, floor exercise, parallel bars and vault.

**Team Gattaca:** They boast 2005 NCAA still rings champion Jamie Henderson of Oklahoma, Kerry Adderly, a member of Ohio State's NCAA championship team and Romanian Olympic Team member Viorel Popescu. Last year Team Gattaca finished second to Penn State at the West Point Open.

**Arizona State (Club team):** The program celebrates its 50th year of gymnastics in 2008. The Sun Devils' gymnastics team initially started as a club program under the direction of coach Norris Steverson. Don Robinson took over the reigns in 1969 and coached for 25 years until May of 1993 when the team left NCAA ranks for club status under the Recreation Department.

A near-capacity crowd is expected for the two-day event at Christl Arena as 800 collegians and club gymnasts perform. The team competition will be held at 7 p.m., Friday with the top eight performers in each of the six individual events advancing to the finals on Saturday.

Tickets may be purchased by calling the Army Ticket Office

1-877 TIX-ARMY or ordering on line at [www.goARMYsports.com](http://www.goARMYsports.com). Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for senior citizens and children.