

July changes (as of 7/12)	
C FUND	-- 0.79 percent
I FUND	-- 1.03 percent
S FUND	-- 2.32 percent

## Gas station renovations delayed until spring '07

By Eric S. Bartelt  
Assistant Editor

The July renovation to the AAFES Shoppette gas station has been delayed until next spring.

The estimated \$1 million project has been slowed down to get everything coordinated properly, said acting AAFES general manager Armond DiPoalo Jr.

Col. Brian Crawford, West Point's Garrison Commander and DiPoalo are looking into a September-to-November timeframe to renovate the gas station, but thought the timing would be risky due to weather factors that could delay the project's completion until the spring.

"Anything could go wrong [with the weather] and then we might not have fuel until next spring," DiPoalo said.

"We don't want to inconvenience (our customers) more than we have to. Personally, I would rather do it now because it will only get worse during the winter," he added, alluding to the fact that the old gas dispensers break down more during the cold weather.

Members of the Directorate of Public Works here are at 95 percent design on the project and still in the process of working toward awarding a contract for the renovations.

Once everything is set in stone, DiPoalo explained, the company has a renovation time period of eight weeks during which no gas will be dispensed at the Shoppette. The actual work time, such as building new overhead canopies, can make the project longer, but there will only be eight weeks without gas.

DiPoalo said he will lose an estimated 500,000 gallons worth of gas sales during that eight-week period, but the community can still expect to shop at the Shoppette during its regular hours throughout construction.

Signs will be placed along Stony Lonesome Road during the renovation, he added, to alert the West Point community to the closing of the gas pumps and remind them of the continued operation of the Shoppette.

### Army establishes new civilian corps

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- (Army News Service) As the nation observed 230 years of independence July 4, America's Army civilians celebrated the establishment of the new Army Civilian Corps.

The new name unifies civilians serving the Army, and "embodies the commitment of these dedicated individuals who serve as an integral part of our Army team," according to a June 19 memo jointly signed by

**CIVILIAN CORPS, cont. on 3**



### Combined Arms

West Point 2003 graduate, Capt. Derrick Draper, maintains radio contact with an Apache attack helicopter during a mission near Tal Afar, Iraq. Draper is a member of the 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team.

PHOTO BY AIR FORCE STAFF SGT. JACOB N. BAILEY

## INSIDE



CADET SUMMER TRAINING, see pages 8-9

## Late night teen activities a concern

By Kathy Eastwood  
Staff Writer

Concerned neighbors across West Point are reporting to the military police that young adults are roaming the neighborhoods here late at night.

"Many of the neighbors have witnessed teens initiating pranks such as ringing doorbells and running away, loud talking and playing basketball late at night, generally after midnight," said Lt. Col Bob Brown, director of emergency services here. "We have also found evidence of alcohol and some drug paraphernalia in remote wooded areas."

West Point military police have also received information on off-post gang activity coupled with increased criminal activity.

"We want to ensure we are monitoring unnecessary activity after midnight," he said. "This doesn't apply only to juveniles, but to anyone found in questionable areas."

Questionable areas are those areas not expected to be occupied based on the time of day, week or area activities.

"For example, anyone sitting on a porch at someone's residence may not be approached by an MP unless the MP deems something suspicious, such as no name on the quarters or other indicators that the quarters have been vacant," Brown said. "Another example is if people are observed in a parked car at the end of Trophy Point at 2:30 a.m."

Brown said there is no curfew at West Point because it is West Point's policy that parents are primarily responsible for their

children and guests.

"The MP's conduct mobile and walking patrols as part of our community policing initiative," Brown said. "People will be approached and, if suspicious, will be asked for identification."

The MPs will then fill out a field interview card.

The card contains information about the individual and the circumstances and will be kept at the MP desk for comparison with any future activity.

The Department of Defense requires each installation to develop a child supervision policy that offers guidelines for parents and the community to aid in this task. These guidelines are given to newcomers to the West Point community in the form of a handbook.

For more info., call 938-3369.

# Summer safety swimming, diving tips

Commentary by the West Point Safety Office

Schools out, the swim areas are open and community members are looking for fun ways to cool down as temperatures start to rise.

If you are heading for a recreational water source, please

consider the following hazards on and under the water.

It is a hot one, what do you do with the kids? A pool might not be the answer. The second leading cause for unintentional death for children 14 and under is drowning. Most of these occur in residential swimming pools.

However, children are at risk in wading pools, bathtubs, buckets and hot tubs.

Typically, the drowning occurs when there is a lapse in supervision. Children lose consciousness in two minutes following submersion. Don't think that it could not happen to you!

What to do:

- Never leave a child unattended in and around water. A child can drown in as little as one inch of water in the same time it takes to answer the doorbell or phone.

- Never leave a children unsupervised in or around

swimming pools.

- Play floatation devices are not a substitute for a certified life jacket.

- Life jackets are designed to keep a person's head above water and in a proper breathing position. It is critical they fit properly and are used correctly.

- Consider using collared life jackets for children who fear the water.

- Lifejackets do not take the place of proper supervision

- Life jackets need to be fastened snugly. When lifted at the shoulders, the jacket should not

give more than three inches. If it does, it is too big.

CPR training is recommended for all pool owners.

If your plans include diving:

- Check the depth of the water and look for any underwater obstructions before diving.

- Never dive in water less than five feet deep and never in above-ground pools.

- Keep dives simple and have a buddy nearby.

- Only dive from the end of a diving board.

- When using a slide, never enter the water head first.

Have fun, but manage the risk. For more information, call the West Point Safety Office ay (845) 938-3717.

## SARP INFO

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

Community members can e-mail McMahan at [Jeanette.McMahan@usma.edu](mailto:Jeanette.McMahan@usma.edu) for advice or to offer any recommendations on the program here.

Cadets can also call the sexual assault support helpline at (845) 591-7215.

West Point Soldiers and civilians needing assistance can call (845) 938-3369.

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

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

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

Difficulty: Medium

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

See Solution on Page 11

## POINTER VIEW®

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## Military Police Summer Safety Stop program

Story and photo by  
Spc. Benjamin Gruver  
Staff Writer

If you see Military Police stopping vehicles at check points this summer don't be alarmed, just make sure you are following the rules of driving.

The Summer Safety Stop Program was put into effect in May and will continue throughout the summer as a way for MPs to check that motorists are following the rules of the road. For those who are not, citations will be given out.

"What we are attempting to do is to reduce those critical safety infractions that typically reoccur this time of year," said Lt. Col. Bob Brown, Director of Emergency Services.

Those infractions include not wearing seatbelts, speeding and using cell phones without a hands

### NSPS Spiral 1.2 coming in Oct.

By Irene Brown  
Chief, Command Information

Department of Defense officials announced Wednesday that a second wave of federal employees will enter its new National Security Personnel System in October.

The group, known as Spiral 1.2, contains 66,558 non-bargaining unit employees who will go from the old General Schedule system into NSPS. The moves will take place on a staggered schedule from October to January. DOD moved 11,000 employees to NSPS in April as part of the first group, Spiral 1.1.

"NSPS is critical to the department's transformation to a results-oriented, mission-focused culture," said Michael Dominguez, principal deputy under secretary of defense for personnel and readiness. "The performance-based system will create an environment where our employees will be focused on outcomes that support our national security mission and they will be rewarded for results."

Civilian employees from organizations throughout DOD,

free device, Brown said. The stops also give MPs an opportunity to ensure drivers have proper licenses and registrations and are not driving under the influence.

Stops are also conducted frequently with a goal of several check points every shift, every day and every week of the summer.

Brown also warns drivers that MPs are not giving out verbal warnings at these check points, and that violators will be cited.

"People are aware that we are out there writing speeding tickets," said MP Spc. Christopher A. Gleason, "but they don't know that we are out there also checking for seatbelt use."

Since the start of the program the statistics show an improvement with motorist's compliance. According to Provost Marshal Maj. Michael Gorreck citations peaked earlier this summer at a high of

including overseas, are part of this group. Each component considered mission, organization and operations, wholeness of units and readiness to implement.

"Organizations have the discretion to convert their workforce at anytime during the four-month period," said Mary Lacey, NSPS program executive officer.

Lacey said training is critical to the successful transition to NSPS.

"We want to give organizations sufficient time to train employees, do it right and implement when they are ready," she explained.

The performance appraisal cycle for members of the new group will begin when they enter the system and end on Sept. 30, 2007. Employees will receive their first performance-based raises in January 2008. The full list of organizations included in Spiral 1.2 is on the Web site at <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/>.

Lacey said all employees will be given performance plans clearly linked to their organization's mission and strategic goals. They will also be converted to pay bands

**NSPS cont. on 11**

61 per week. The most recent low was 12 citations and they are now averaging fewer than 30 a week.

It is the enforcement of the policy, explained Gorreck, which makes a difference.

"We could send e-mails, we could set up posters and tell people what is right, but ultimately it is these guys checking vehicles and having somebody drive through," Gorreck said.

"I think (drivers) are taking notice that we are out there enforcing the laws and are starting to follow them a lot more," Gleason added.

Motorcycle safety is another concern of MPs on the West Point roadways and will soon be incorporated into the Summer Safety Stop Program, Gorreck said.

Motorcyclists not wearing proper gear such as helmets, goggles, full length clothing and reflective belts or equivalents will soon be cited for violations.

"This is not about tickets," said Brown. "We are not doing this in an



Military Policeman Spc. Antonio M. Colon, (foreground), waves a vehicle through a Summer Safety Stop check point while MP Spc. Christopher A. Gleason talks to a driver pulled over on Swift Road Monday.

effort to fulfill any quotas. We do not acquire money out of this for our budget."

Many people often think an increase in tickets, Brown said, is due to a dry budget and is a way to increase revenue.

"We don't get a cent from this and neither does the installation,"

he explained. "Our effort is to try and work with the community to instill a sense of driving responsibly and it is our intent that people slow down, have their restraint systems properly fastened and are not distracted by the use of cell phones instead of concentrating on these busy streets."

### CIVILIAN CORPS, cont. from page 1

Francis J. Harvey, Army Secretary, and Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker, Army Chief of Staff.

"Army civilians serve in all three theaters, and are deployed worldwide supporting the Army mission and the Global War on Terrorism," Harvey and Schoomaker

said. "As the Army's missions have become more complex, so have the roles of Army civilians."

More information on the Army Civilian Corps can be viewed by visiting the following web address [http://acpol.army.mil/employment/about\\_civcorp.htm](http://acpol.army.mil/employment/about_civcorp.htm).

# Coots assumes command of Keller Army Community Hospital

Story and photo by  
Spc. Benjamin Gruver  
Staff Writer

Colonel Norvell V. Coots took command of West Point's Keller Army Community Hospital July 7 in a ceremony at Trophy Point.

Coots replaced Col. Peter G. Torok who retired after 24 years of active duty service. Torok will be settling with his family in Tennessee where he has accepted a position at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Mountain Home, Tenn.

Maj. Gen. Kenneth L. Farmer, Jr., the commanding general of the North Atlantic Regional Medical Command, was on hand to preside over the passing of the guidon to Coots and bid farewell to Torok.

"I recognize the magnitude of my mission and the fact that I have big shoes to fill with following such a great commander as Pete Torok," said Coots in his speech. "I can certainly thank Col. Torok for making the transition smooth and painless.

"I look forward to serving you,

the staff of this organization, as commander, and to serving with you as a fellow healthcare provider," Coots added, "and leading you in continued provision of the highest quality healthcare to all of our beneficiaries."

Coots, born in Oklahoma, was raised in Virginia and graduated from the Benedictine High School Military Institute in Richmond, Va. He then began his military career as a medical logistician and later received his Bachelor of Science degree from the State University of New York in Albany. Coots then went on to study medicine in Oklahoma City at the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine. After graduating and serving a two-year tour in Korea, Coots completed a dermatology residency at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio.

KACH's new commander recently arrived here from Fort Myers, Va. where he served as the commander of the Andrew Rader U.S. Army Health Clinic. Throughout his career the colonel has served in places such as



**Col. Norvell V. Coots passes the MEDDAC guidon of Keller Army Community Hospital back to Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Bookman, KACH command sergeant major, July 7.**

Germany, Korea and Honduras.

Beyond his service to the nation, Coots has also made time in his life to serve the orphans of other nations. As a Knight of the

Order of the White Greyhound, a benevolent order of chivalry based in France, the dermatologist began a service project with the orphans of the Republic of Moldova where

he has been recognized with an induction into the Order of the Bessarabian Nobility.

He has also been recognized for the development of a healthcare program for the Amerasian orphans in Korea by the Pearl S. Buck Society.

Coots is married to the former Claudia Gomez of Pamplona, Colombia.

# West Point begins McGruff House program

By Kathy Eastwood  
Staff Writer

The West Point community began the McGruff House program July 6 participating in an effort to help protect children who find themselves in frightening or dangerous situations. The program is sponsored by the National Crime Prevention Council.

"McGruff House is a community program designed to partner with the police, community and civic agencies to provide a safe environment for children in need," said Lt. Col. Bob Brown, director of emergency services here. "McGruff volunteers can facilitate calling a parent or the MPs for assistance."

Children are told they can go to specially marked McGruff Houses any time they sense danger as they go to and from school or are playing in the neighborhood. Studies show these are the times that children are most at risk, according the NCPC.

"Volunteers will have their backgrounds checked by the MPs," Brown said. "Once passed, they will be issued a placard, which they will post in their quarters window where children can see them and feel safe to approach the quarters and request assistance."

McGruff House volunteers can call authorities if a child is lost or has a medical emergency, reassure

the child if frightened and report crimes and suspicious activities. What they can't do is provide first aid except in life-threatening situations, administer medications, supervise the neighborhood or enforce laws.

"The Directorate of Emergency Services here is partnering with all community mayors and with the West Point Boy Scouts Troop 23," Brown said. "The Boy Scouts will be involved as a civic project for those seeking Eagle

Scout or want to participate in a civic project."

McGruff the crime dog, a registered trademark of the NCPC, is a familiar character here as he appears at community events and speaks to children about how to identify suspicious behavior and to protect themselves from potential crime.

For information on the program, call Staff Sgt. Peter Thens at 938-5207 or Col. John Smith, scoutmaster, at 938-2231.

## TRICARE web site sports new look

WASHINGTON (Military Report) -- For the first time since its debut in 1999, the Tricare Web site, [www.tricare.osd.mil](http://www.tricare.osd.mil), has a new look.

The revamped "Press Room" Section of the site features better graphics and a more streamlined look for easier browsing.

The site's new "Resources" tab takes readers to a collection of military medical statistics, a glossary of Tricare terms,

an organizational chart for the Pentagon's medical divisions, biographies of key medical players at the Department of Defense and photo galleries.

The "Press Kits" portion of the new site provides extensive information, links and downloadable documents on any Tricare-related service, ranging from the assorted plans to dental and prescription information.

# Healthwatch: Foot health is more than comfy shoes

By Preventive  
Medicine &  
Wellness  
Keller Army  
Community  
Hospital



Many of us stuff our feet into shoes that are too small, or hold onto a favorite pair long after they should have been discarded. Wearing ill-fitting or worn-out footwear is a habit that can lead to poor foot health.

Foot pain is so common that it is taken for granted. If you have ever seen women take off their shoes to dance at a wedding and haven't blinked an eye, you know what I mean.

Because your feet are complex and bear tremendous pressure every day, they are more likely to be injured than any other part of your body. More than 75 percent of Americans experience serious foot problems at some point in their lives.

To help keep your feet healthy, you should be familiar with the following common foot ailments:

**Athlete's foot** -- a skin disease caused by a fungus. It usually starts between the toes or on the soles of the feet. It can spread to other body parts. You can help avoid athlete's foot by washing and drying your feet daily.

**Blisters** -- caused by skin friction. Never pop a blister. Cover it with an adhesive bandage until it falls off naturally. Keep your feet dry and wear socks for cushioning.

**Bunions** -- big toe joints that do not line up correctly and become painful. The tendency to get bunions runs in families. They are made worse by shoes that are too narrow in the forefoot and toe. Surgery is often suggested.

**Corns and calluses** -- protective layers of dead skin. They are caused by friction and may be painful. Use padding to lessen pain. Never cut them.

**Foot odor** -- caused by excessive perspiration. Change shoes daily, socks more frequently. Use foot powders and antiperspirants.

**Hammertoe** -- toes are bent in a claw-like position. Hammertoe is sometimes caused by muscle imbalance. It is made worse by poor fitting shoes or socks. Surgery may be needed.

**Heel pain** -- Among the many possible causes of heel

pain are poorly made shoes, the foot's structure, arthritis, gout or circulatory problems.

**Heel spurs** -- growths of bone on the underside of the heel bone. Like heel pain, heel spurs are often associated with an inflammation of connective tissue running from the heel to the ball of your foot. Treatments vary.

**Ingrown toe nails** -- nails whose corners or sides dig into the skin, often causing infection. Trim nails straight across.

**Neuromas** -- enlarged, benign growths of nerves, caused by bones or other tissue rubbing the nerves. The pain of neuromas is also caused

by pressure from poorly fitting shoes.

**Warts** -- caused by a virus that enters the skin through small cuts. Most are harmless. Warts can be removed by a doctor.

Follow these tips for good foot health:

- Avoid wearing high heels. Women have four times as many foot problems as men. High heels are often to blame. If you have to wear heels, vary the height and limit the time you wear them. Alternate with athletic shoes or flats for part of the day.

- Pay attention to foot pain. If it is severe or constant, see a foot

doctor.

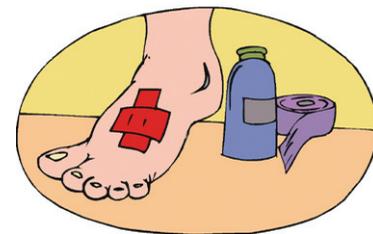
- Regularly inspect your feet for injury, infection or other problems. Any peeling, scaling or growth on the foot is not normal.

- Thoroughly wash and dry your feet daily.

- To avoid ingrown nails, trim or file your nails straight across.

- Wear shoes that fit properly. Because feet swell during the day, buy new shoes late in the afternoon when your feet are largest. Have your feet measured while you are standing. Buy shoes that feel comfortable in the store and don't need to be "broken in."

- Don't wear the same pair of shoes every day and quickly replace worn-out footwear.



- Avoid walking barefoot in a public place where you may be exposed to athlete's foot virus.

- If you are a person with diabetes, take extra care of your feet.

See a foot doctor every year and follow his or her foot-care recommendations.

For more information contact your healthcare provider.



Sgt. Daniel Reyna



Spc. Hilda Caridad  
Fernandez

## NCO/Soldier of the Qtr.

MEDDAC's Sgt. Daniel Reyna and Spc. Hilda Caridad Fernandez were named the NCO and Soldier of the Quarter July 6.

SPC. BENJAMIN GRUVER/PV

# 2nd Aviation Detachment's CW5 Hitchcock takes last flight

By Kathy Eastwood  
Staff Writer

Twenty-six-year Army veteran, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Thomas Jay Hitchcock took his last flight July 7 as head of the 2nd Aviation Detachment, the 'Wings of West Point,' at Stewart Airport.

"Hitchcock has been here for the past four years and there will be a change of command today here," said Operations Sergeant, Staff Sgt. James Borchurt. "His official retirement isn't until October, but he is leaving today so we had a party for him.

"In keeping with tradition, he got sprayed with a fire hose when he landed," Borchurt added.

Spraying with water is a tradition done after the first solo

flight and after the last flight.

"I expected it," said Hitchcock. "After the first solo flight, the aviator has a bucket of water dumped on him or her and after the last flight; you 'graduate' to a fire hose."

Hitchcock is retiring from the Army, but he won't quit flying.

"I'll be moving to Columbia, Mo., and will be taking a position as a medical helicopter pilot," he said. "My family is about two hours from there and my wife's family is nearly five hours, but its close enough to be able to see them often."

Hitchcock said he was offered a position in this area from the same company, but because his family is in Missouri, he decided to return. But he reminisced about

his years here and his years in the Army while he took his last flight at Stewart.

"I actually was on a recon

mission over Camp Buckner, but after that I just took a little time flying over West Point," Hitchcock said. "It didn't hit me until I looked

down and hovered there for awhile that I started to get misty-eyed and you can't get misty-eyed while flying."

## Club offers weekly condos to DOD

By Luke Elliott  
Special to the Pointer View

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) -- Department of Defense ID cardholders are eligible for weekly condominium rentals at 3,500 resorts in 80 countries worldwide.

Provided by Morale, Welfare and Recreation and sponsored by Resort Condominium International, the Armed Forces Vacation Club offers space-available condominiums for \$299 a week.

The program gives Soldiers and other DOD workers affordable accommodations in condominiums that would otherwise go empty, according to Verlin Abbott, RCI director of AFVC.

While the program provides low-cost accommodations to vacation resorts across the globe, Abbott stressed that the condos are "space available" only.

"Don't expect to go to Virginia Beach on the Fourth of July. Go about this with the same approach as a Space-A Hop (flight)," Abbott said, adding that the best time to search for a condo is 45-55 days out.

For such high-demand areas as Hawaii, Las Vegas and Key West, users rarely see openings until a couple of weeks out, especially during peak seasons.

For each reservation booked using a post identification number, the installation MWR program receives \$25 from the club.

"This money helps add to welfare and recreation programs for Soldiers," said Elvira Franco, manager of the Information, Ticketing and Registration Office at Fort Bliss, Texas.

"I'm often asked, 'What are the dues?'" Abbott said. "If you're wearing a uniform, you've already paid your dues. We hope all Soldiers get a chance to take advantage of the program – they deserve it."

The AFVC is available to active-duty and reserve members, adult military dependents, retired service members and their families, Department of Defense civilians, non-appropriated civilians, retired DOD civilians, and some others.

For more information visit the Armed Forces Vacation Club Web site at [www.afvclub.com](http://www.afvclub.com).

**Editor's note:** Elliott writes for *The Monitor* at Fort Bliss, Texas.

# ENGINEER SITE BRINGS CADETS ONE STEP C

Story and photos by  
Spc. Benjamin Gruver  
Staff writer

Kaboom! The barrel of an M-16 peers around the corner just before a four-man team charges through a breached door to clear a room. This scene, commonly found in Iraq, is now also part of cadet summer training.

There are many things cadets can be found doing this summer that are not much different than their Soldier counterparts in Iraq and Afghanistan. That is because the U.S. Military Academy's Department of Military Instruction is focused on making cadet summer training relevant to the current Global War on Terrorism fight. One place that it is most evident is at the Engineer Site for Cadet Field Training.

The contribution of the Engineer Site to summer training has evolved over the past couple of years into learning about improvised explosive devices and urban breaching.

"Typically the engineer role has always been breaching complex obstacles and large armor formations, breaching mine fields, tank ditches and wire obstacles," said Capt. Kevin Carlson, DMI's engineer branch representative. "That is not the threat that we are facing these days. We are facing an insurgency and an urban environment, so our regiment has shifted its focus from the old style of breaching to more urban breaching."

A big part of the day cadets spent at Area W was focused on the different ways to knock open a door. Engineer Soldiers from the 4th Brigade Combat Team of the 82nd Airborne Division out of Fort Bragg, N.C., were there to demonstrate three ways urban breaching is done with the use of

tools, explosives and ballistics.

Cadets got to work with tools such as the "Mighty Might," the "Hooligan Tool," a Mosberg 500 Combat Shotgun and a C-charge made out of detonating cord to get past their metal door obstacles.

"It is not something that we have just developed," Carlson explained. "Urban breaching [is a skill] the engineers have always had. It just now has come to the forefront with this new threat."

While the breaching technique is emphasized at the Engineer Site, cadets also get a chance to learn how to enter and clear a room, normally an infantry function. The purpose, according to Carlson, is a familiarization with the technique for when they get to second detail and participate in the cordon and search portion of their training.

Another big part of the training offered is learning about IEDs, a prevalent subject in today's fight. Cadets are taught how to look for IEDs and some of the ways they are made by insurgents.

"We are trying to give the cadets a baseline understanding of how IEDs are built, how they are initiated and then how to react to them," Carlson said.

According to Carlson it would be easy to confuse the cadets with endless possibilities of how one may need to deal with an IED, so during first detail they get a basic understanding and build on that in the second detail. Then they continue to build on it during their military science courses throughout the school year.

"Really what the IED fight comes down to is basic Soldier skills," Carlson said. "There is no silver bullet that is going to defeat IEDs."

If there was a silver bullet, one might consider the new armored vehicle called the Buffalo to be one. The behemoth-sized truck developed by Force Protection Industries was on display at the Engineer Site throughout training.

The anti-mine vehicle, used to detect IEDs and explosive devices, is part technology and part brute force, explained Michael M. Aldrich, a 1972 USMA graduate and vice president of Force Protection Industries. So far the Buffalo and its smaller counter part, known as the Cougar, have absorbed the blasts of more than 1,000 IEDs and land mine detonations with zero fatalities since it began its service in Iraq and Afghanistan three years ago.

Aldrich said he gets calls all



the time from deploying units wanting training on the vehicles because they realize they are an important part of their mission.

"It is not a tough stretch to realize cadets are in the same boat and need to be exposed to this early on in their thinking as they develop as leaders," Aldrich said.

Just a few feet away one of the Army robots was also on display. Explosive Ordnance Disposal Soldiers with the 760th EOD Company out of Fort Dix, N.J., were there to show what the 50-pound PackBot can do, usually intended to diffuse IEDs.

"There is X amount of miles of main supply routes in Iraq that the engineers have got to go clear everyday so it is safe for other people to go down the road," Carlson said, "and the (Buffalo and PackBot) are good examples of new technology that is coming on board to help protect Soldiers and make that easier to do."



An IED demo kit.



# CLOSER TO THE FIGHT



Cadets 3rd Class Karl Skidmore, Ben Haas, Kari Vahle and Sarah Johnson work together as a four-person team to breach a metal door and practice clearing a room June 27 at the Engineer Site. There were a variety of mechanical tools cadets learned to use including the Mighty Might (seen above) as well as a Hooligan Tool.



Two sophomore cadets (above) from Cadet Field Training's 4th Company stand by as a C-charge explodes in the attempt to breach a metal door at Area W June 27. The Engineer Site has molded its cadet training to be relevant to the current GWOT fight by teaching about IEDs and urban breaching. Many modern tools used to combat the threats in Iraq and Afghanistan were on display, including a mine detecting vehicle called the Buffalo (left). With only three years in service to the U.S. military, the armored vehicle has yet to have a fatality. The gigantic machine includes a large arm with a camera to be able to uncover improvised explosive devices.



Soldiers of the 760th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company out of Fort Dix, N.J., show off a PackBot in a demonstration for cadets. The PackBot is one of three types of robots used by the EOD company to diffuse IEDs and other explosives.



## JULY MWR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Visit MWR online at [www.usma.edu/mwr](http://www.usma.edu/mwr)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>ACS, bldg. 622 • 938-4621                      AEC, bldg. 683 • 938-3762                      Arts &amp; 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  <b>PLEASE NOTE:</b> For more information, contact the office listed for each activity.</p>		<p><b>West Point Bowling Center</b>                      Open Bowling:                      Sun.-1300-1800                      Mon. 1600-2100                      Tue. Closed                      Wed. &amp; Thur. 1130-1900                      Fri. 1130-2300                      Sat. 0900-2300                      Galactic Bowling:                      Every Fri. &amp; Sat. 1700-2300                      Home of Lil' Skeeters BBQ &amp; Primo's Pizza</p>	<p><b>14</b>                        Dinner in Little Italy/ Chinatown, 1700-2300, ITR                      BBQ at YS, 1600 (grades 6-12)</p>	<p><b>15</b>                      Creative Movement, 0900, Jazz &amp; Tap Combo, 1000, Ballet, 1115, YS                      Annual Two Person Team Championship, 0630-1300, WP Golf (day 1)  </p>	
<p><b>16</b>                      Annual Two Person Team Championship, 0630-1300, WP Golf (day 2)                      Tour NYC, 0900-1700, ITR  </p>	<p><b>17</b>                      Golf Course Closed for Outside Event                      Western Riding Camp, 0900-1500, M Farm, Jul 17-21                        YS Swim Lessons, 1000-1145, session 2 (Jul 17-21)</p>	<p><b>18</b>                        NY Philharmonic in Central Park, 1700-2300, ITR                      Middle School Night, 1800-2100, YS (grades 6-8)</p>	<p><b>19</b>                      Teen Night, 1800-2100, YS (grades 9-12)  </p>	<p><b>20</b>                      Coney Island/NY Aquarium, 0900-1600, ITR                        School Age Night, 1800-2000, YS (grades 3-5)</p>	<p><b>21</b>                      Palisades Mall Teen Trip, 1800 (grades 9-12)                      BOSS Poker Tournament, 1900  </p>	<p><b>22</b>                      Golf Course Closed for Outside Event                        Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island, 0900-1600, ITR                      Bosu &amp; Core, 0900, Spinning, 1000, MWR Fitness Center</p>
<p><b>23</b>                      Bosu Strength, 1600, Butts &amp; Guts, 1700, MWR Fitness Center  </p>	<p><b>24</b>                        Beginner English Riding Camp, 0900-1500, M Farm, Jul 24-28</p>	<p><b>25</b>                        Defensive Driving Class, 1800-2100, Register at ITR (Jul 25 &amp; 26)                      Waiting Families Support Group, 1900-2000, ACS                      Middle School Night, 1800-2100, YS (grades 6-8)</p>	<p><b>26</b>                      Overseas Briefing, Korea, 1330, Germany, 1500, ACS                        Teen Night, 1800-2100, YS (grades 9-12)</p>	<p><b>27</b>                        Theater Van to Broadway, 1700-2330, ITR                      School Age Night, 1800-2000, YS (grades 3-5)</p>	<p><b>28</b>                      Mongolian BBQ, 1700-2100, WP Club                      Teen Trip, Gasho/Woodbury Commons, 1800 (grades 9-12)  </p>	<p><b>29</b>                      Creative Movement, 0900, Jazz &amp; Tap Combo, 1000, Ballet, 1115, YS                        BOSS Aloha Cruise, 1600-1900                      Bosu &amp; Core, 0900, Spinning, 1000, MWR Fitness Center</p>

## MWR Blurbs

### BOSS Poker Tournament

BOSS is sponsoring a poker tournament July 21 at the Buffalo Soldier Pavilion.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and play begins at 7 p.m. Contact Staff Sgt. Jermaine Malone at 938-8063 to pre-register.

### USMA 5K/10K, Kids Fun Run

Advance registration for the annual USMA 5K/10K and Kid's 1-mile Fun Run, Aug. 26, has begun on the Web at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com). (Keyword: USMA or West Point.)

### Community Fair

Representatives from many community services and agencies offer information during West Point's annual Community Fair Aug. 3, 6-9 p.m., at the Eisenhower Hall Ballroom.

Register for free child care and youth services during those hours by July 25.

Call Megan Calero at 938-3487 for more information on the fair.

### Bowling Center

Sign up for a '101 Days of Summer' game card at the Bowling Center and your child will receive one free game for every paid game, all summer long until Sept. 4.

### Arts & Crafts classes

West Point Arts & Crafts offers two new classes for the summer.

Stepping Stones: July 22, 29 and Aug. 5 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 3D Stars will be offered Aug. 8, 15 and 22 from 6 to 9 p.m.

Materials are included in the cost for both classes.

Call 938-4812 for more

information and prices.

### 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 eighth to 12th graders.

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

Call Youth Services at 938-3727 for more information.

### CVSG

ACS hosts the Combat Veterans Support Group for all service members at West Point who are veterans of Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom.

The group meets on the third

Thurs. each month at the ACS, Bldg. 622, from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

For more info. call Sgt. 1st Class Raymond Persaud at 938-4114 or Capt. Bobby Sidell at 938-3441.

### Youth Services Boat Party

Youth Services will host a boat ride party on the superintendent's boat July 27.

It is open to all students who just completed 8th grade at West Point, Highland Falls and Garrison middle schools and Sacred Heart.

Call 938-8897 for more info.

### Army 10-Miler

Morale, Welfare and Recreation will be sponsoring four runners to represent West Point for the 22nd Annual Army 10-Miler Oct. 8 in Washington, D.C.

The runners must be active duty military.

Categories include: one male and one female in the open division and one male and one female in the master's division.

All runners will be funded through official TDY orders, from Oct. 7 to 9, including transportation and lodging.

Interested runners need to submit three finishing times from 10K races completed over the past 12 months to be eligible.

Selections will be based upon average times of all three races.

The deadline for submission is Aug. 8 at noon.

Submit information to Connie Woodley, MWR Special Events Coordinator, Bldg. 681, 2nd floor.

For more information go to [www.armytenmiler.com](http://www.armytenmiler.com).

## E-mail outage

WEST POINT, N.Y. -- (DOIM) The West Point e-mail system will be taken offline for a significant upgrade starting today at 7 p.m. and continuing all weekend until Monday at 5 a.m.

All e-mail related services to include web mail, calendars and public folders will be unavailable during this timeframe.

It is critically important that some older key components are replaced, software is upgraded and the system is thoroughly tested before bringing it back online.

This upgrade will improve the reliability and dependability of our e-mail system.

## NSPS, cont. from page 3

but, Lacey said, no one would lose pay by going to NSPS.

"Most will receive an initial adjustment in pay to account for time already earned toward their next within grade increase," she explained.

Full NSPS implementation has been delayed because of a successful legal challenge by federal employee unions. DOD hopes the system will eventually contain roughly 650,000 civilian employees.

"We are already assessing implementation for the first group of employees," Lacey said. "We are pleased with what we are seeing thus far, at least with the technical aspects of conversion."

# What's Happening

### Summer playground fun

The Protestant Women of the Chapel will host weekly summer playground fun Wednesday from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the Stony I playground.

Call 859-4182/446-5307 for more information.

### Garrison CSM ceremony

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Violet C. McNeirney will assume

command July 21 at 10 a.m. at Trophy Point, adjacent to the Great Chain.

### DENTAC COC

DENTAC Change of Command ceremony for Col. Linda Smith will be held July 28, 10 a.m., at Trophy Point.

The inclement weather site is the Crest Room at Eisenhower Hall.

### Vacation Bible School

A Vacation Bible School with the theme "Fiesta" will take place from July 31 through Aug. 4.

Register at the Post Chapel or call 938-2003.

All children are welcome and there is no cost.

### WPWC Gift Shop

The WPWC Gift Shop is open

by appointment during the summer. For more information call 446-8798 or 446-1099.

WPWC has table decorations and other party items to rent. Call 446-2974 for a complete listing of rental items.

WPWC is looking for community organizations, local and home-based businesses to participate in the WPWC's Super Sign-Up Sept. 18. Call Heidi at 446-2615 if you are interested in having a table.

### New Cadet Visitation Day

The U.S. Corps of Cadets will conduct New Cadet Visitation Day Sunday from 1 to 5:30 p.m.

Sign-ups for staff and faculty sponsors are on the USCC Web page at [www-internal.uscc.usma.edu](http://www-internal.uscc.usma.edu).

Sponsors should report to the bleachers on the Plain no later than 1 p.m. and should look for seating

in the sections according to their last names.

Call 938-8804/8145 for more information.

### Bike Rodeo volunteers

Volunteers are needed to help at the annual West Point Bike Rodeo Aug. 5.

Contact the USMA Army Volunteer Corps Coordinator, Christine Knight, at 938-3655 for more information.

### Military Idol

Do you love to sing? You could be the next Military Idol. Initial competitions are being held at Fort Hamilton, N.Y., with a time and date still to be determined.

Registration ends July 24.

You must be active duty to participate. This is a vocal talent competition only. For more info., call 938-6497.



## Pet of the Week

The U.S. Military Academy's Veterinarian Clinic is offering Zack, a seven-year-old golden retriever, for adoption. Zack is looking for a home with another dog or someone who can be home most of the time. He's playful and great with kids.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

## NOW SHOWING

in the movie theater at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

Friday -- **The Break Up**, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday -- **Over the Hedge**, PG, 7:30 p.m.

July 21 -- **The Fast and the Furious:**

**Tokyo Drift**, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

July 22 -- **Cars**, G, 7:30 p.m.

July 28 -- **Garfield: A Tail Of Two Kitties**, PG, 7:30 p.m.

July 29 -- **Nacho Libre**, PG, 7:30 p.m.

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

## Command Channel 8/23

July 14 - July 21

FRIDAY

9 a.m. Army Newswatch

6 p.m. Army Newswatch

MONDAY - JULY 21

9 a.m. Army Newswatch

6 p.m. Army Newswatch

### Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

## Keller Corner

### Sponsoring an incoming family?

If you are sponsoring an incoming family, please ensure that they are informed about TRICARE Prime if they intend to use Keller as their primary source of medical care.

You can also refer them to the TRICARE Service Center in Highland Falls so they can fully understand their options for health care.

A Healthnet customer service representative is also available at the Keller Hospital front lobby on Tuesday and Friday from 10 a.m. until noon to assist with enrollment or other TRICARE questions.

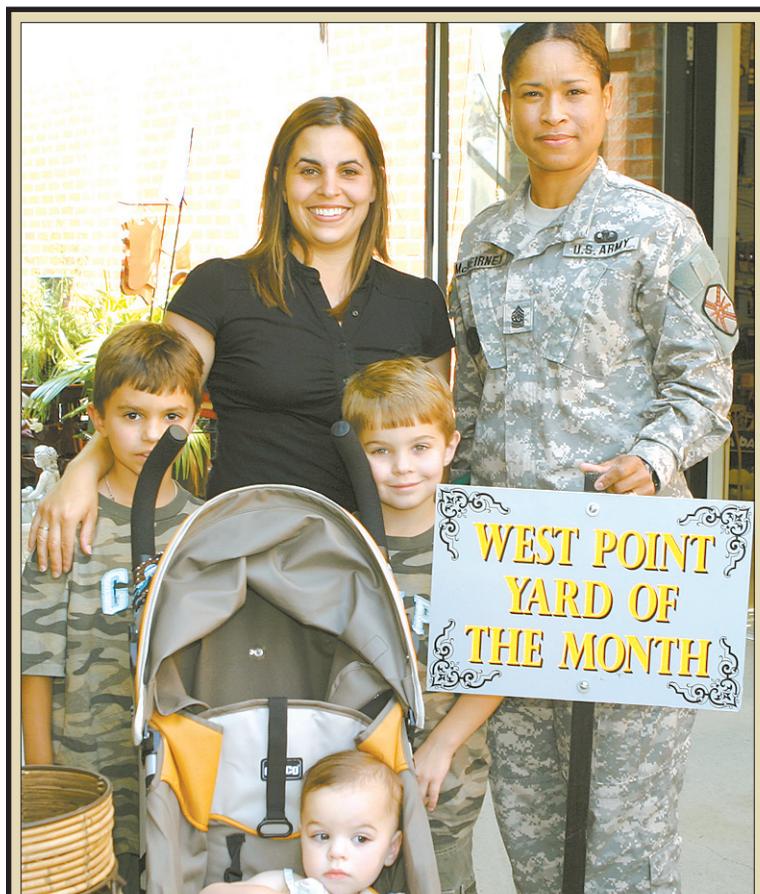
This is the only way to guarantee that they will have a primary doctor at Keller and to guarantee that they will be seen for routine medical care.

### Soccer!

Want to play soccer! Lt. Col. Rob Rizza is trying to coordinate noon hour, for fun, "pick up" soccer game(s). Details will depend on the feedback he receives from you. The basic plan is to play soccer at noon at one of several locations and play two to three times a week. The location and days would be based on your feedback.

Everyone high school age or older is welcome. No previous experience is necessary.

If you are interested e-mail Rizza at [robert.rizza@us.army.mil](mailto:robert.rizza@us.army.mil). Let him know what days are best for you and what field you prefer. Once he gets your feedback, he will send out an e-mail with more info.



## Yard of the Month

Susan Bagley, who resides at 3120C Radiere Loop, poses with her sons William (left), Andrew and baby Anne as the winners of the Yard of the Month for June. New garrison command sergeant major, Command Sgt. Maj. Violet McNeirney, presented the Bagley's with a certificate and the PX presented them with a gift card.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

# Army and Community Sports

## WPGC offers inexpensive golf experience

Story and photos by  
Eric S. Bartelt  
Assistant Editor

Nestled beneath the mountains along routes 218 and 9W, the West Point Golf Course has been a place of scenic views and golfing fun since 1948.

The Hudson Valley region and areas outside of metropolitan New York offer many golf courses, but none as affordable as the West Point Golf Course.

"There are courses that don't even touch the conditions that we offer here at West Point that are charging a lot more money than we charge in this area," said Dan Cardinale, WPGC manager and head golf professional. "We charge the general public \$70 with a cart or \$58 to walk on the weekends, but area courses will charge people \$120 on the weekends.

"We offer a great private feel. It's a great place to play and the conditions we offer here have been amazing," Cardinale added. He attributes the course's condition to the work of course superintendent Steve Whipple.

From April through November, nearly 25,000 rounds of golf are played annually on the West Point greens. A driving range with mock greens at 100, 150 and 200 yards is offered as well as golf lessons for those who are new to the game.



New York attorney Warren Murray enjoys a round of golf at the West Point Golf Course.

"We have PGA professionals and assistants who give lessons at \$35 per half-hour or a four-lesson series at \$120," Cardinale explained. "It's great for beginners. I work with (Shawn Kapusinsky) who does the lessons and has been doing them for years. He's running our junior clinics now."

Cardinale said that there will be three, one-week junior golf clinics this summer at the golf course with the first starting July 24 and then the other clinics beginning July 31 and August 14.

Through October the golf course offers many tournaments and scrambles to its participants to enjoy.

With ongoing renovations and the lengthening of the course, the hope is to one day host bigger golf events at West Point.

"We'll be able to lengthen the course in stages with one hole (completed per year)," he said. "It will take years to get to where we could hold metropolitan PGA events and bigger college tournaments, but that is our goal for the future."

Currently, the fifth hole is undergoing some renovation to upgrade it to meet USGA standards. It has been designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr., whose father was the architect of the 11 holes along 9W and 218.

"The fifth green has shrunk

since it was built in 1948, and it is almost half the size of what it originally was," Cardinale said. "It was a two-tier green and now it is an one-level green, but it is the number two handicap hole and the second hardest hole on the golf course. It will be the same distance, but it will be two tiers with a collection area."

One of the bigger problems over the years was the drainage system on the course, which now works incredibly well with the hard work and up-to-date installation from Whipple.

"We wouldn't have been able to get back on any of these greens for a day or two if it wasn't for that drainage," Cardinale said. "You can see after a hard rain where the water pools on top of the green. The (new drainage system) is going to make the course much better in the long run and it's going to be a lasting improvement."

After going through the third rainiest month on record for the area in June, it will be a welcome sight to get everyone back on the golf course for a full day's worth of golf. And, for those who are novices to the game and don't own any equipment there are plenty of good rentals available.

"I just got new rentals this year with all graphite shafts," Cardinale explained. "We also have tour rental sets that we first demoed for people looking to buy clubs, but now we're finding that we can have a good set so I have a set of Pings, Nikes and Titleists that we rent out for \$25.

"I found that at a lot of class reunion outings that all three sets will be out from people who don't want to travel with their clubs," he added.

One of the big things that Cardinale wants is a good course that people will want to keep coming back to and many former graduates have noticed the change.

"We've had a couple of reunion outings this year where guys who were on the golf team when they were here and have also been to previous alumni outings said that this is the best they've ever seen the golf course," Cardinale said. "It is certainly the best since I've been here."

Those who live here at West Point and also play on the greens regularly conclude that the grounds have improved immensely over the past few years



The West Point Golf Course offers great views throughout the course such as the seventh hole with the water fountain and picturesque mountain background.

"I think the thing that most golfers would notice are the putting greens," said Lt. Col. William Suchan, director of the Core Information Technology Program in the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science department. "In some cases, drainage has been added so that the greens don't flood and in other places trees have been trimmed to allow for more sunlight on the greens.

"The result is that the putting surfaces roll very true," Suchan added. "The improvements over the last few years have really stepped the course up in class."

Improvements over the past couple of years have included a new state-of-the-art maintenance facility and a new golf cart facility to keep the carts from the elements. The big hope down the line is to

build a bigger clubhouse.

"We're trying to secure funding for a new clubhouse," Cardinale said. "Hopefully through regular channels through the capital construction from the Army or by getting multiple alumni donations that we can build a bigger clubhouse with more storage area and a bigger kitchen.

"We would like to support weddings or banquets or other things besides just golf outings," he added. "We want to generate more revenue around here so we keep our prices down for the Soldiers and cadets."

For more information on what's available at the golf course, daily golf fees or to get tee time reservations, go to [www.usma.edu/mwr/ACTIVITY/GOLF/Golf.htm](http://www.usma.edu/mwr/ACTIVITY/GOLF/Golf.htm).

## Four Black Knights play summer baseball

WEST POINT, N.Y. -- Few cadet-athletes have the opportunity to continue their respective careers during their summer leave. However, four senior Army baseball players, Milan Dinga, Nick Hill, Ben Mayhew and Kyle Scogin, are competing at the highest level of collegiate summer baseball. Upon completion of their mandatory summer training periods, these players began their second season.

For Dinga and Scogin that meant a trip to sun-soaked Cape Cod to play in the premiere Cape Cod Baseball League with some of the top talent in the country.

Hill, who earned a spot on Team USA earlier in the summer, is engrossed on a whirlwind trip around the country. Mayhew elected to return home to his native Wisconsin and pitch in the Northwoods League comprised of teams from Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Dinga has excelled for the Hyannis Mets (9-10-2) this summer as a dual position standout. He has established himself as one of the top relievers on the team, appearing in six games and posting a 1.86 ERA, third lowest on the team. His lone win came in a 5-4 decision over the Falmouth Commodores, pitching two effective innings in that stint. At the plate, Dinga has seen limited action as a designated hitter, rightfielder and pinch hitter. He has had only 20 at bats in 13 games thus far.

Scogin has been enjoying his time on "The Cape" as the starting shortstop for the Orleans Cardinals, the defending Cape Cod League Champions. Scogin has started 14 games at short and three at second base, leading the Cardinals to a league-best 14-8 record.

His .323 on base percentage is currently second on the team among every-day players.

Hill's success at the Team USA tryout earned him a spot on the coveted 22-man roster. Playing alongside some of the best amateurs in the nation, Hill has solidified himself as one of the premiere pitchers in the game. In his lone appearance thus far, Hill pitched three innings of relief, allowing one hit while striking out four. His solid effort came in a 3-0 win over Taiwan as Team USA is now 5-0.

Mayhew saw his career take off this year for Army, settling into his weekend starting role nicely. Hurling for the La Crosse



**Senior shortstop Kyle Scogin is second on his team in on base percentage for the defending Cape Cod League champions.** ERIC S. BARTELT/PV

Loggers (19-18) of the Northwoods League, Mayhew has been handed a different role this summer.

The right-hander has become a dominating relief man in a league known for its offensive prowess. Mayhew has posted a 2.77 ERA, second among relievers, in nine appearances, which ranks third on the team. He currently sits with a 1-1 record on the summer.

Schedules, scores, stats and more can be found at [www.capecodleague.org](http://www.capecodleague.org), [www.northwoodsleague.com](http://www.northwoodsleague.com), and [www.usabaseball.com](http://www.usabaseball.com).