

As of March 1:	
C FUND	0.86 percent
I FUND	1.22 percent
S FUND	0.21 percent



Lt. Gen. Franklin L. Hagenbeck, Army G1, speaks at last year's AUSA annual meeting. DOD PHOTO

## President Bush names new superintendent

WEST POINT (PAO Release) -- Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld announced Feb. 27 that the President has nominated Lt. Gen. Franklin L. Hagenbeck for reappointment to the grade of lieutenant general and assignment as the 57th Superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy. Hagenbeck, who is presently serving as the Deputy Chief of Staff G-1, U.S. Army in Washington, D.C., said he is thrilled for the opportunity to take the helm at his alma mater.

"I look forward to returning to West Point and serving as superintendent," said the member of the USMA Class of 1971. "Academy graduates are making vital contributions in combating the Global War on Terrorism, and I

am excited about the opportunity to lead West Point at this critical time in our nation's history."

The outgoing superintendent, Lt. Gen. William J. Lennox, Jr., is retiring and will pass command to Hagenbeck in a ceremony scheduled for early June. Lennox said Hagenbeck is a great choice to lead the USMA.

"Buster Hagenbeck's selection is wonderful news for West Point," Lennox said. "He is an experienced strategic leader with a warrior's knowledge of what today's battlefield requires."

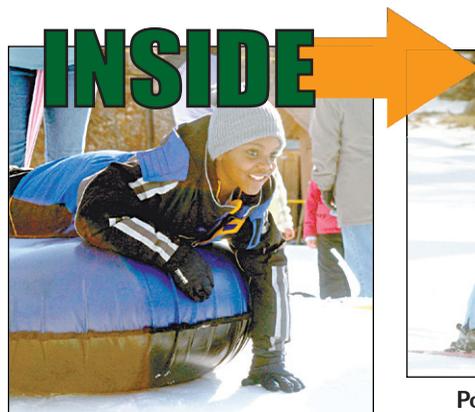
"He knows how best to prepare the cadets for the challenging world they face today and will face tomorrow," he added.

*Hagenbeck, cont. on page 2*



## They're here ...

U.S. Military Academy Cadet 1st Class Patrick Howlett (center) shows off his new Army Combat Uniform Feb. 24 in front of Grant Barracks here. The U.S. Military Academy's Class of 2006 will be the first graduating class to leave the academy with the new ACUs. SPC. BENJAMIN GRUVER/POINTER VIEW



Polarfest-ivities, pages 10-11

## TAKE THE TEST

The more of the following questions you answer YES, the more likely that you are in an abusive relationship:

- Are you afraid of your partner?
- Do you feel useless?
- Do you think you deserve this?
- Do you wonder if you are crazy?
- Have you considered murder?
- Are you afraid of being killed?
- Are you afraid you'll lose your children?
- Do you feel there is no help?
- Were you abused as a child?
- Has your partner threatened to kill you?
- Has your partner physically hurt you?
- Has your partner threatened to take your children?
- Has your partner forced you to have sex?
- Is your partner cruel to animals?
- Does your partner destroy your belongings?
- Is your partner pleasant between bouts of violence?
- Does your partner try to keep you from seeing friends?
- Are you embarrassed to invite people to your house?
- Has your partner limited your access to money, the telephone or the car?
- Does your partner try to stop you from going out?
- Has your partner accused you of having an affair?
- Does your partner verbally abuse you?
- Does your partner humiliate you in front of others?
- Does your partner blame you for the violence?

For more information, call Family Advocacy, 938-3369; Social Work Services, 938-3441 or to make a report, call the reporting point of contact (MP Desk), 938-3333.

# The hidden crime: Domestic violence

By Irene Brown  
Chief, Command Information

One out of every four women in this country will suffer some kind of violence at the hands of a husband or boyfriend.

Very few will tell anyone -- not a friend, relative, neighbor or even the police.

Experts broadly define domestic violence as violence within a home. It can vary in frequency and severity and range from non-physical psychological abuse to chronic, severe violence. Repeated abuse is commonly called "battering."

Victims of domestic violence come from all walks of life, cultures, income groups, ages and religions. They share feelings of helplessness, isolation, guilt, fear and shame. They all hope the abuse was just

an abnormality, a "one-time only" occurrence, but they're always wrong.

Domestic violence also happens in military families of all ranks and ages. The Department of Defense launched a national program Feb. 23 to increase domestic violence awareness among service members and their families. DOD and the National Domestic Violence Hotline joined forces for the campaign, which is themed "Take a stand against domestic violence."

Shelley J. Ariosto, West Point's Family Advocacy Program Manager, said DOD is determined to educate as many people as possible about domestic violence.

"DOD wants to get everyone focused on domestic violence issues," Ariosto explained. "They especially want to make sure victims of violence know how to get help."

When military authorities learn of domestic violence involving a military family, she explained, FAP assigns a caseworker to assess the victim's safety and develop a safety plan.

"A safety plan can include asking for a military protective order, finding the victim another place to stay and making arrangements for any children in the family," Ariosto explained. "Throughout the process we make sure the victim's medical, mental health and protection needs

are being met."

Ariosto said that during the campaign they will distribute educational materials around post and in public places in the surrounding civilian communities.

"We're hoping the campaign will persuade more victims to come forward and let us help them," she added. "Anyone uncomfortable about coming to a post agency can call the hotline for assistance."

The National Domestic Violence Hotline offers access to domestic violence programs in the U.S., Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The hotline provides crisis intervention, information and referral to victims of domestic violence and their friends and families 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, in more than 140 languages, with a teletypewriter line available for the disabled. The hotline's phone number is (800) 799-SAFE (7233), and the TTY line is (800) 787-3224.

For immediate assistance here, call the Reporting Point Of Contact (MP Desk) at 938-3333.



## Weekly Sudoku by Chris Okasaki, D/EECS

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

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

See Solution on Page 10  
Difficulty: Easy

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

## HAGENBECK, cont. from page 1

After graduating West Point, Hagenbeck went on to receive a Master of Science Degree in Exercise Physiology from Florida State University and a Master of Business Administration from Long Island University. His military education includes the Army War College, Army Command and General Staff College and the Infantry Advanced Course.

Hagenbeck served in the Department of Physical Education here from 1978-1981. He has commanded at every level, from company through division, including the 25th Infantry Division, 10th Mountain Division, 101st and 82nd Airborne Division and the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command. Most recently he served as commander, Coalition Joint Task Force Mountain, Operations Enduring Freedom /Anaconda and deputy commanding general, Combined Joint Task Force 180 in Afghanistan.

## SARP INFO

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

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

# POINTER VIEW®

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## Community members help rescue elderly woman

Story and photo  
by Spc. Benjamin Gruver  
Staff Writer

A walk in the park for two West Point community members turned out to be a godsend for one woman.

Maj. Alex Deraney, an instructor with the Department of Social Sciences here and retired Sgt. Maj. Pete Markow were on their weekly hike Feb. 11 when they stumbled on an elderly woman trapped in her car at the Bear Mountain State Park. The car was on a ledge roughly 120 feet below them, Deraney explained.

"We were walking along and saw a fresh tire mark," he said. "We looked over the side of the cliff and there was the car."

The 76-year-old woman had been trapped in the car for nearly 23 hours in frigid temperatures.

"I think we were pretty fortunate to have spotted her," Deraney said. "There was really nothing to attract anyone's attention, it was just absolute luck."

Part of that luck was Deraney and Markow choosing the Bear Mountain area for their hike. Usually, Markow said, they pick a local park, set a goal to reach and start hiking. Wherever they hike, they said, they always include an incentive for themselves.

"We don't tell a lot of people this, but part of our ritual is to pack a couple of German beers," Markow said. "Then, whatever our goal is, we stop for a break and drink our beers."

The goal on this occasion was to reach the Perkins Memorial Tower, he said. The two set out on one of the park's trails towards the tower. After crossing Seven Lakes Drive, Markow said, they decided to veer off the trail and go cross country. After 100 feet or so, he continued, it became evident it was too dangerous to continue on the steep, rocky terrain, so the two headed for the road. That's when, Markow said, he saw something that puzzled him.

"I was a cop for three years and when something doesn't look right it is not right," he said. "I saw this gap between the rocks and a tire mark. I thought, 'did somebody take a motorcycle up there?'"

At first Markow said he thought it might be a stolen car someone had driven over the edge. He immediately called the park police while Deraney found a way down to the vehicle.

"Deraney got to the car and said the airbag had deployed, but there was nobody there," Markow explained. "Then he said he saw blood on the airbag and we figured it wasn't a stolen car."

Deraney didn't see the victim at first because she was laying in the back seat.

"The closer I got to those windows the shakier I was about what I might see," Deraney said. "When I looked in and saw a little lump in the back seat, I knocked on the window."

The lady popped up and, to

Deraney's surprise, her first words were "how'd you find me?"

"She told us she was from Mahopac and that she had been there for 23 hours," Markow said. "She said she didn't think she could make it out of the car and up that steep hill, so she was just sitting in the back seat waiting for help."

"How she didn't die from hypothermia still blunders me because it was freezing cold that night," he added.

Markow and Deraney realized the temperatures were quickly dropping again, yet they couldn't move the woman because of the dangerous situation with her car and because they didn't know how badly hurt she was.

"Our biggest concern was the car falling off the rock," Markow said. "We also didn't want to move her just in case she did have injuries -- we didn't want to make them worse."

Markow and Deraney kept the woman calm and waited for help. Before long, the Palisades Interstate



Retired Sgt. Maj. Pete Markow and West Point social science instructor Maj. Alex Deraney discuss last week's rescue.

Park Police, the Stony Point Rescue Squad and Stony Point ambulance were on the scene. Yet, even with emergency personnel there, the two hikers continued to play an active role in the rescue, including carrying the victim up the steep hill to the waiting ambulance.

Once she was safely in the emergency vehicle, the two men continued their hike. After all, they said, there was still that incentive.

"We wanted to finish because we knew we couldn't have our fine German beers if we didn't make our goal," Markow said with a smile.

# Pentagon lawyers to review NSPS ruling

WASHINGTON (American Forces Press Service) -- Attorneys for the Department of Defense are currently reviewing a federal judge's decision to block a new civilian personnel system. Their findings will determine our next course of action, said Joyce Frank, the National Security Personnel System spokesperson.

U.S. District Judge Emmet G. Sullivan ruled Tuesday that provisions of the NSPS would fail to protect civilian employees' ability to bargain collectively.

These provisions pertain to labor relations, collective bargaining, independent third-party review, adverse actions and the National Security Labor Relations Board, DOD's proposed internal labor relations panel, the 77-page decision noted.

The American Federation of Government Employees and 12 other labor unions filed a lawsuit in February 2005 challenging the proposed system.

While the ruling was a major victory for the 13 unions, Gordon England, the deputy defense secretary, said the Pentagon "actually expected and anticipated" the court's ruling.

"We had worked out a process so we could quickly get to appeals," England said. "I frankly believe NSPS will be sustained and we will continue with the program in place."

Pentagon officials said they plan to proceed with the April rollout of the system for a small group of nonunion employees, despite the judge's ruling.

Mary Lacey, the Department of Defense's program executive overseeing the National Security Personnel System, said DOD plans to transfer two groups of employees to the new pay system this year. The first group of 11,000 employees is scheduled to move to NSPS on April 30 and the second group in the fall.

Lacey said they will continue to focus on rolling out the pay and performance aspects of the system.

"Until the court process runs its course we will rely on existing labor rules," she said.

NSPS is one of Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld's key initiatives designed to transform DOD operations to better meet 21st-century needs. It replaces a

50-year-old system that many feel rewards employees for length of service rather than performance.

The new program, in development since 2003, seeks to replace the current general-schedule personnel ranking system with broad pay bands.

The Defense Department and the Office of Personnel Management are partnering to establish the system, which eventually will affect more than 650,000 DOD civilian employees.

## Army expands eligibility for recruiting bonus

ARLINGTON, Va. (Army News Service) -- The Army has expanded the list of eligible Soldiers who can earn \$1,000 for referrals that lead to Army enlistment.

The Referral Bonus Pilot Program was expanded to include Soldiers performing duty in the Hometown Recruiter Assistance Program, Special Recruiter Assistance Program and the Additional Duty Special Work Program.

The referral bonus was authorized by the National Defense Authorization Act.

Soldiers may receive the \$1,000 bonuses for referring anyone except a member of their immediate family. The Army defines the immediate family as a spouse, parent (including step-parent), child (natural, adopted,

or step-child), brother or sister.

A lump-sum bonus will be paid to a referring Soldier once the referred applicant completes Basic and Advanced Individual Training, regardless of component. There are no retroactive provisions to this pilot program. Payments will be made directly to the referring Soldier's military pay account within 45 days of the referral completing AIT.

Those not eligible to receive a referral bonus include anyone who serves in a recruiting or retention assignment or who receives Special Duty Assignment Pay while in those capacities.

"Soldiers continue to play an important role in the recruiting process and with this program we are able to recognize their contributions," said Lt. Gen. Franklin L. Hagenbeck, deputy

chief of staff, Army G1 and just recently selected as the next superintendent here. "We thank Congress for their recent legislation to provide bonuses such as these."

Under this program, referrals will be made via the Sergeant Major of the Army Recruiting Team (SMART) process. The Soldier must submit the referral via the SMART link or through the USAREC 1-800 line dedicated to the program.

To receive a bonus, the sponsor (Soldier making the referral) must provide the name of the applicant prior to the applicant's interview with an Army recruiter.

For more information on the bonus, visit: <https://www.usarec.army.mil/smart/> or call 1-800-223-3735, ext. 6-0473.

# DOD to join re-review of ports deal

WASHINGTON (AFPS)—The Defense Department will participate in a re-review of a slated acquisition of shipping terminal operations at six major U.S. ports by a United Arab Emirates-owned firm, a senior Pentagon official said here today.

It's too early to say, DOD spokesman Bryan Whitman told Pentagon reporters, which department representatives would work with the re-review that's to be conducted by the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States. DOD elements were part of the first review also.

Dubai Ports World, owned by the United Arab Emirates government, bought British-owned ports operator Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Co., which managed port operations in New York, New Jersey, Baltimore, Miami, Philadelphia and New Orleans.

CFIUS, a U.S. Treasury-led panel that inspects sales of firms that could affect national security, had approved the transaction. But concerns over possible security ramifications caused some Capitol Hill legislators to ask for more time to examine the issue.

The new review "will go through the CFIUS process again," Whitman said.

On Feb. 26 Dubai Ports World requested an extended

U.S. government review of the transaction, which the White House accepted. The added review will include a 45-day investigation period.

The United Arab Emirates is a loyal ally of the United States, Deputy Defense Secretary Gordon England said at a Feb. 23 SASC hearing convened to discuss the matter.

"They are a friend and ally of the United States, and they do stand side by side with us in this war on terror," England said.

The deputy secretary also said DOD was among several U.S. government agencies, including the departments of State and Homeland Security, which took part in an in-depth and comprehensive review of the ports issue.

# Committee recommends big changes to military pay system

By Donna Miles  
Am. Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—A committee that's spent the past year studying the military compensation system is recommending sweeping changes that, if approved, would bring military compensation more on par with private-sector compensation.

The Defense Advisory Committee on Military Compensation released details of its recommendations today and is incorporating them in a final report expected to go to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld by late April, the committee chairman told the American Forces Press Service.

The proposed package includes two major ideas, retired Navy Adm. Donald Pilling, former vice chief of naval operations, explained. These include revamping the retirement system so servicemembers receive more pay throughout their careers

rather than at their completion, and basing pay on performance rather than longevity and other factors, he said.

Pilling emphasized that any proposed changes to the compensation package would be grandfathered in, so currently serving members would not be affected. The only exception could be in the case that current members are offered the opportunity to voluntarily "opt in" to the new system, he said.

In terms of retirement, the committee recommends:

- Vesting members at 10 rather than 20 years;

- Paying graduated retirement plans ranging from 25 percent of base pay at 10 years to 100 percent of base pay at 40 years;

- Establishing a Thrift Savings Plan with government contributions of 5 to 10 percent of base pay;

- Providing "gate pays" at specific service milestones, as determined by the individual

services; and

- Delaying payment of the retirement annuity until age 60.

In terms of pay for performance, the committee recommends:

- Revising the pay charts so pay is based on time in grade rather than years of service; and

- Eliminating the "with dependents" and "without dependents" provision of basic allowance for housing so all servicemembers in the same pay grade receive the same allowance, regardless of their family situation.

The proposed system would benefit servicemembers, giving them more upfront cash throughout their careers, Pilling said. He noted that most private-sector compensation packages give 80 percent of their cash up front, deferring just 20 percent for retirement. In contrast, the current military compensation package pays about one-half the total compensation up front and defers the rest.

The recommendations help update the current military retirement system that Pilling said was based on a 1940s-era model. At that time, most members served 30 years, retired in their 50s and typically lived into their 60s, he said. Today, it's typical for servicemembers to retire after 20 years of service to start second careers and to live longer lives.

Restructuring the compensation package will provide more options for servicemembers, Pilling said. Rather than offering no retirement benefit short of 20 years, the proposed system would offer a portable retirement system with reduced-level benefits after 10 years, he explained.

Revising pay tables to reward time in grade will ensure consistent benefits for servicemembers promoted ahead of their peers, Pilling said. And by paying equal housing allowances to all members of equal grade in equal locations, the proposed system will reward

people "for their performance, not their marital status," he said.

While bringing the military pay system more on par with systems in the private sector, Pilling said the proposal maintains sight that service in the military is unique. For example, while it calls for greater cost sharing among Tricare recipients, it continues to ensure full medical care after 20 years of service, he noted.

If Rumsfeld approves the plan, it will be subject to congressional review before being introduced, he said.

The secretary established the Defense Advisory Committee on Military Compensation to study the current pay system and come up with ways to bring it more in line with what servicemembers want and operational needs demand.

The seven-member committee spent a year reviewing the military pay package, holding public hearings and developing its recommendations.

## New treasury video educates consumers about identity theft

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) -- The Treasury Department launched a new DVD that advises consumers on how they can protect themselves should they fall victim to identity theft.

Among the experts who appeared on the video and were recognized at a Treasury ceremony Jan. 26 was Special Agent Howard Schmidt who serves with the CID Computer Crimes Investigative Unit located at Fort Belvoir, Va.

As a special agent, Schmidt investigates intrusions into Army computer networks and systems which lead to the apprehension of those engaged in cyber crime.

"As part of my duties last summer with the CCIU, I was asked by the Department of Treasury to assist in preparing this video aimed at identity theft, prevention and investigation," Schmidt said. "The experience of working with high-tech companies in the private

sector, along with the skills learned during my civilian career in the area of cyber-security, provided me with the level of expertise I needed to assist the Treasury Department."

Included on the DVD is a segment providing information specific to military personnel and helpful tips on preventing identity theft for service members who are often in unique situations.

"The Fair and Accurate Credit

Transactions Act of 2003 allows military members away from their home duty stations to place an 'active duty alert' on their credit reports to help minimize the risk of identity theft while deployed," Schmidt said. "When a business sees the alert, it must verify the identity of the Soldier before issuing credit."

Active duty alerts are effective for one year, Schmidt explained, unless a request is made to remove

it sooner. If a specific deployment lasts longer, a Soldier may place another alert.

The video is available online at <http://treas.gov/offices/domestic-finance/financial-institution/cip/identity-theft.shtml>

More Information about initiating alerts can be obtained from the Federal Trade Commission's Web site at <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/pubs/alerts/dutyalrt.htm>.

# Community Features and Photos

## Episode 2006: Revenge of the Comm

Story and photos  
by Spc. Benjamin Gruver  
Staff Writer

Two young cadets, a “tool bag” and a “slacker,” fought through the hardships of four years at the U.S. Military Academy and thwarted the evil doings of the brigade tactical officer and commandant who threatened all that was well with the Corps of Cadets during two, two-hour performances over the weekend.

Cadets from the Class of 2006 reenacted their four-year stint at the academy in the satirical 100th Night Show Feb. 24 and Saturday at Eisenhower Hall to mark the 100 nights that are left until their graduation May 27.

The show is a tradition at the academy with roots that date back to 1871 when the First Class presented a series of skits in the mess hall called the “Nineteenth Century Brevities.” The show has now evolved into a full scale theater production that is completely cadet organized and run, from the director

and actors to the lights, sound and stage crew.

This year’s show took on such themes as “Star Wars,” “Ace Ventura,” “Team America” and “Chicago,” but the story line remained generally the same as it does every year with two cadets uncovering an evil scheme plotted by the commandant during their four years at the academy.

“My favorite scene to do was the saber fight at the end of the show,” Cadet 1st Class Will Ivins said. “I have been waiting my whole life to speak lines from “Star Wars” to an audience and this was my chance.”

The show is filled with many idiosyncrasies and inside jokes of the Class of 2006, much that outsiders wouldn’t fully understand. Some of those jokes included poking fun at the first captain, a cadet named Pedro who went AWOL during a patrol for pizza and a shower and a newly instated door locking policy.

The show consumed the lives of the roughly 60 cadets for the

first part of this semester to ensure it came to fruition.

“Time was definitely the most difficult part of the show,” actor Cadet 1st Class Tyler Skeen said. “It takes a lot of time to put together a full-length show.”

For many of the cadets the time they spent on stage was treasured as

it is not a usual activity for them to engage in here at the academy.

**In the 100th Night Show Cadets 1st Class Jennifer Jantzi, Andrew Moncrief and Will Ivins, act out a scene where the characters are hanging out in the barracks talking about their yuk summer.**



The Comm, played by Cadet 1st Class Aaron Cross, conspires against the Corps of Cadets with the Officer-in-Charge played by Cadet 1st Class Brandy Butler. 100th Night was performed at Eisenhower Hall Feb. 24 and Saturday.

# Viva! Las Vegas Night raises nearly \$15,000

Story and photo  
by Kathy Eastwood  
Staff Writer

The West Point Women's Club annual fund raiser, Viva! Las Vegas Night was held Feb. 24 at the Thayer Hotel here and by all accounts, it was a great success.

"We printed 400 tickets and sold all of them," said Lyn Eagen, chair of the silent auction committee. "We had to copy more to accommodate people."

Nearly 200 community members volunteered for the event, including Highland Falls and Cornwall

businesses that helped donate baskets for the silent auction.

"The event is open to the public and I am seeing more and more people from the surrounding communities here every year," Eagen said.

Jeannette Scott, administrative assistant for the Army men's and women's tennis teams here said this was her first time at the event.

"I've lived in the community for years, but never attended this event before," Scott said. "I have to say I am very impressed."

Blackjack, craps, roulette and bingo were popular attractions.

The silent auction, with baskets of goodies made and donated by community volunteers and bid on by participants helped raise nearly \$15,000 this year, topping last year's proceeds of \$12,500.

The Viva! Las Vegas Night event is one of the major fund raising events the WPWC hosts each year, more money is raised than in previous years.

"All of the proceeds go back into the community in the form of scholarships and grants," said Karen Govern, chairperson of the Viva event.



Viva! Las Vegas Night participants look over the gift baskets donated for the silent auction Feb. 24. The event, the West Point Women's Club's annual fundraiser, raised nearly \$15,000 for community grants and scholarships.

## WPS helps celebrate Dental Health Month

By Kathy Eastwood  
Staff Writer

Captain Kevyn Wetzel, dentist at the Saunders Dental Clinic here, and Expanded Function Dental Systems Technicians Virginia Randazzo and Dee Rendleman spent all day Monday and Tuesday at the elementary and middle schools here explaining good dental health to children. The event was in recognition of the annual National Children's Dental Health Month, an awareness program informing children of the importance of good dental practices.

"It's important that children have contact with dentists and dental personnel to help them build awareness in the importance of keeping their teeth in good shape," Wetzel said.

This event began in 2003 at West Point and includes a dental poster contest. Dental personnel go into the schools here, equipped with a large tooth that comes apart revealing the different parts of the

tooth and what happens when teeth get cavities. Another educational tool is a toothy alligator and a large tooth brush to demonstrate proper

brushing techniques.

Winners of the poster contest are scheduled to be announced at the elementary school Tues.

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or call 845-938-2617



# Community members flying high

## POLAR FEST

Story and photos  
by Spc. Benjamin Gruver  
Staff Writer

On the final weekend of the Winter Olympics in Torino, Italy, members of the West Point community had an opportunity to try their own hand at competing in winter sports.

Polar Fest, in its second year, was held at the Victor Constant Ski Slope Saturday and featured winter activities for all ages.

"It brings everybody out for a chance to go skiing," said Michael McCormick, the ski area manager. "Some people want to visit the ski slope but they don't like to ski and there are no other activities here for them.

"If this event brings everyone together on a nice weekend so they can enjoy the winter activities -- that is the goal," he added.

Polarfest features three races that draw lots of competitors on snow boards and skis, McCormick said. The Buddy Race, NASTAR Snowboard Race and the NASTAR Ski Race all have athletes competing for the fastest time in their age groups.

However, racing wasn't the only event to attract attention. Community members lined up for Lift Darts, Snow Volleyball, Tube Bowling, Snow Painting and a photo exhibit.

A big attraction for competitors

and onlookers alike was the Big Air competition.

"For the little kids it really shows the kind of gumption they have to get out here and prove themselves," said Cadet 4th Class Austin Parker, the first place winner in the 19- to 29-year-old category. "I saw little kids who were only 4 or 5 try to go off the jumps.

"Little kids like that always get me stoked because they have no fear," he added.

For Parker, member of the Ski Team here, the Polar Fest was a good opportunity to have some fun and get out and ski.

"Anything that involves skiing and catching some air is always great with me," Parker said, who has been in terrain, park and mobile competitions since he was 15 and skiing since he was 8.

"I can't complain about the jumps today, the Big Air competition went off pretty well I think, but it is nothing compared to the west," the Utah native added.

The final event of the day was in the evening with the Battle of the Bands competition where five bands put their musical talent on the line at the West Point Ski Lodge.

This year's winner was Architect Fail and coming in second was Three Card Monte. The bands were judged on style of music, their ability to play and crowd's reaction. The winners received a gift certificate to Imperial Guitar and studio time at Dropface Studios.

Two kids play "Lift Darts" Saturday during Polar Fest. The event involved dropping tennis balls into a trash can during a ski lift ride to the top of West Point's Victor Constant Ski Slope.



West Point community member Alex Imbriale tries to get a little extra lift during Saturday's "Big Air" competition.

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Bookbinder serves up some during the "snow volleyball" event.



Chris Hulse spreads his skis as he comes off the jump during the Big Air competition. The annual Polar Fest event featured everything from downhill skiing to snow painting and culminated with a battle of the bands competition.



Anthony Hall gets a push from Child and Youth Services program assistant Melissa Pickering during the tube bowling event.



Sean D'Onofrio tucks in as he makes his way down Victor Constant Ski Slope.



## MARCH 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>  <b>Open Bowling:</b>                      Sun.-1300-1800                      Mon. 1600-2100                      Tue. Closed                      Wed. &amp; Thur. 1130-1900                      Fri. 1130-2300                      Sat. 0900-2300  <b>Galactic Bowling:</b>                      Every Fri. &amp; Sat. 1700-2300                      Home of Lil' Skeeters BBQ</p>	<p><b>3</b>                      Wine &amp; Cheese Tasting, WP Club, 1800-2100</p>	<p><b>4</b>  <b>Defensive Driving</b>, Held at AEC, Register at ITR, 0800-1500  <b>Staff &amp; Faculty Ice Hockey</b>, Tate Rink, 0615-0745  <b>Youth Bowling</b>, YS, 0900-1130</p>
<p><b>5</b>                      Open Skate, Tate Rink, 1530-1700</p>	<p><b>6</b>                       School Age Services  <b>SAS Summer Camp</b>                      Applications for all Patrons, 0630-1630, Bldg. 1207                      Philadelphia Flower Show, ITR, 0900-1900                      Monday Night League, WP Bowl, 1800-2130</p>	<p><b>7</b>                      Winter Story Hour, WP Library, 1000 &amp; 1330</p>	<p><b>8</b>  <b>Financial Readiness for First Term Soldiers</b>, ACS, 0830-1200  <b>Staff &amp; Faculty Ice Hockey</b>, Tate Rink, 2115-2245</p>	<p><b>9</b>  <b>Targeting Stress</b>, 1130, ACS  <b>Mixed League</b>, WP Bowl, 1830-2100</p>	<p><b>10</b>                      Spinning, 0530, Strength &amp; Sculpt, 0550, Step, 0900, Kickboxing, 1700, Spinning, 1730 (Every Friday at the MWR Fitness Center)</p>	<p><b>11</b>  <b>Bosu &amp; Core</b>, 0900, <b>Spinning</b>, 1000 (Every Saturday at the MWR Fitness Center)  <b>Staff &amp; Faculty Ice Hockey</b>, Tate Rink, 0615-0745  <b>Youth Bowling</b>, YS, 0900-1130</p>			
<p><b>12</b>                      Ski Area Closes for the Season                      Open Skate, Tate Rink, 1530-1700</p>	<p><b>13</b>  <b>MSMC &amp; STAC Registration Begins</b>, AEC, 1000-1600 (now thru March 24)  <b>Monday Night League</b>, WP Bowl, 1800-2130</p>	<p><b>14</b>                      Preseparation Briefing, ACS, 1400-1500</p> <p>Museums in NYC, ITR, 0900-1600                      Winter Story Hour, WP Library, 1000 &amp; 1330</p>	<p><b>15</b>  <b>Spouses Guide to Employment at WP</b>, 0830, Initial PCS Move, 1330, Checking Accounts Refresher, 1445, ACS  <b>Staff &amp; Faculty Ice Hockey</b>, Tate Rink, 2115-2245</p>	<p><b>16</b>                      Consumer Rights, 0830, Credit, 0945, Targeting Stress, 1130, ACS</p> <p><b>Theater Van to Broadway</b>, ITR, 1700  <b>Mixed League</b>, WP Bowl, 1830-2100</p>	<p><b>17</b>                      St. Patrick's Day Parade, ITR, 1000-1700                      St. Patrick's Day Dinner, WP Club, 1700-2100</p>	<p><b>18</b>  <b>Staff &amp; Faculty Ice Hockey</b>, Tate Rink, 0615-0745  <b>Youth Bowling</b>, YS, 0900-1130</p>			

## Women's History Month events for March

The West Point Equal Opportunity Office would like to announce the following events that will be part of the observance of Women's History Month in March.

■ The Women's History Month Committee and Margaret Corbin Forum will host a "Women in Combat" discussion panel Monday,

from 12:45 to 1:40 p.m. in Mahan Hall's Arnold Auditorium.

Panelists will include veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom: 1st Lt. Natasha Blickhahn (USMA '04), Capt. Laura Shiptel (USMA '02),

and Capt. Evangeline Rosel (USMA '97) as well as veterans of Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan): Capt. Krista Watts (USMA '96) and Capt. Heidi Brockman (USMA '01). The panel will be moderated by Maj.

Stephanie Ahern (USMA '95), who is a veteran of both Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

■ The Margaret Corbin Forum will host a "Marriage in the Military" discussion panel March 27 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. in Thayer Hall room 144. The event is open to members of the West Point Community. Refreshments will be served. R.S.V.P. is required. Please contact Michelle Nadeau-Shaff at 938-4288 or [Michelle.Nadeau-Shaff@usma.edu](mailto:Michelle.Nadeau-Shaff@usma.edu).

■ The West Point Garrison and the West Point EEO Office will host a Federal Women Employee Panel March 23 from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the West Point Club Hudson Room. Refreshments will be served. R.S.V.P. to Brenecia Watson at 938-8157 or [Brenecia.Watson@usma.edu](mailto:Brenecia.Watson@usma.edu).

■ USCC and DCA will host Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison at a signing of her new book "American Heroines: The Spirited Women Who Shaped Our Country." The signing will occur at the Cadet Book Store, 4th Floor, Thayer Hall, March 31. Details on this event will be forthcoming.

■ The Women's History Month Committee will be holding poster and essay contests for children in grades K - 8 in conjunction with the West Point Elementary School.

■ Displays of prominent and historically significant women and their contributions will be placed in Grant Hall, the 1-1 Inf. Dining Facility, the Jewish Chapel, and the Cadet Library, as well as academic buildings throughout post.

For more info, contact the POC's or the West Point Equal Opportunity Office at 938-2621.

**Solution to Weekly Sudoku**

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

### NOW SHOWING

Friday -- The Last Holiday, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday -- Glory Road, PG, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday -- Tristan & Isolde, PG-13, 9:30 p.m.

March 10 -- Big Momma's House 2, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

March 11 -- Hoodwinked, PG, 7:30 p.m.

March 17 -- Nanny McPhee, PG, 7:30 p.m.

March 18 -- Glory Road, PG, 7:30 p.m.

March 24 -- Annapolis, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

March 25 -- Big Momma's House 2, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

March 25 -- Underworld: Evolution, R, 9:30 p.m.

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

# MWR Blurbs

## Wine and Beer tasting

The West Point Club is hosting a wine and beer tasting in the Grand Ballroom today from 6 to 9 p.m.

The event is open to the West Point community and its civilian employees. Wine can only be purchased by eligible military ID card holders.

Reservations are needed. For more information, call 938-5120 or 446-3601.

## Philly flower trip

ITR is taking a trip to the 2006 Philadelphia Flower Show Monday.

The trip will leave West Point at 8:30 a.m. and leave Philly at 5 p.m.

For more information, call ITR at 938-3601.

## School Age Services

2006 SAS summer camp applications will be taken for current patrons until today and for all other users from Monday

## DPW Notes

### Thayer Moat closed during spring break

During Spring Break week, March 13-17, a Directorate of Public Works contractor will be cleaning the area under the Thayer Road Bridge superstructure to remove pigeon droppings from "roosting pigeons."

They will also be installing netting to prevent the bird's return.

The droppings have become a health issue and there is also the potential damage to cars parked in that area.

During the work there will be no parking or access to the moat area from behind Building 600, north toward the West Point Club, around Thayer Hall.

For more information contact DPW customer relations, 938-4407.

through March 17, from 6:30 a.m. until 5 p.m., at Building 1207.

For more info., call 938-4458.

## BOSS St. Patrick's Party

All members of the West Point community are invited to the BOSS St. Patrick's Day celebration at Buffalo Soldier Pavilion March 17 from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Bring your own music and beverages.

Call Staff Sgt. J. Malone at 938-2445 or Connie Woodley at 938-6497 for more information.

## Command Channel 8/23

### March 3 - March 10

#### FRIDAY

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

#### MONDAY

9 a.m. Army Newswatch  
9:30 a.m. Tricare Spring Break  
1:30 p.m. Tricare Spring Break  
6 p.m. Army Newswatch  
6:30 p.m. Tricare Spring Break

#### TUESDAY

9 a.m. Army Newswatch  
9:30 a.m. Tricare Spring Break  
1:30 p.m. Tricare Spring Break  
6 p.m. Army Newswatch  
6:30 p.m. Tricare Spring Break

#### WEDNESDAY

9 a.m. Army Newswatch  
9:30 a.m. Tricare Spring Break  
1:30 p.m. Tricare Spring Break  
6 p.m. Army Newswatch  
6:30 p.m. Tricare Spring Break

#### THURSDAY

9 a.m. Army Newswatch  
9:30 a.m. Tricare Spring Break  
1:30 p.m. Tricare Spring Break  
6 p.m. Army Newswatch  
6:30 p.m. Tricare Spring Break

#### March 10

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

## Free child care

MWR needs volunteer child care providers at the Fitness Center. The trade-off is free child care while you workout.

Training is Thursday from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Call 938-3921 for info.

The West Point Child and Youth Services program will be providing child care at the MWR Fitness Center on Tues. and Thurs. mornings from 8:45 to 11:45 a.m. for children of parents using the Fitness Center.

Reservations must be made five days prior to attending the Fitness Center by calling 938-4458.

For more information, call Kim Tague at 938-3921.

## Harlem Globetrotters

The Harlem Globetrotters are back March 23 at Christl Arena. Tickets are now on sale. Call 877-TIX-ARMY.

## Public skating returns to Tate Rink

Public ice skating has returned to Tate Rink.

Come enjoy free admission from 3:30 to 5 p.m. each Sunday through March 26.

Skate rentals will not be available.

# What's Happening

## Tag Sale

The O'Neill H.S. Select Chorus will hold a tag sale Sat. from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the OHS cafeteria.

Items will include antiques, collectibles and furniture.

## New WIC office in HF

The Greater Hudson Valley Family Center WIC Program has opened a new office in Highland Falls. They will be at the United Methodist Church of Highland at 341 Main Street every Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Call (845) 568-5473 for an appointment.

## DUSA employment opportunity

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

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

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

## CPR/First Aid class

The American Red Cross is offering CPR/First Aid classes

# Keller Corner

## Blood Drive

The American Red Cross will be conducting a Blood Drive Monday through Thursday at Eisenhower Hall's fourth floor ballroom from noon until 7 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Thursday.

To make an appointment call to donate whole blood call 938-2583.

Apheresis donors will be seen by appointment only, call 1-914-760-3177.

Registration for bone marrow donation will also be available.

Picture ID is needed for all donations.

## Patient Safety Awareness Week (March 5-11)

If a medical error occurs, it is often a result of a series of small failures that are individually not big enough to cause an accident, but combined can begin the process toward error. Patients can ensure a safer experience with the health care system by being involved and informed about their treatment. Improving patient safety requires continuous learning and constant communication between caregivers, organizations and

patients. Everyone has a role in patient safety and everyone will benefit from its successes.

## Retirement physicals mandatory

Schedule your exam well in advance of your retirement date. You can receive an exam up to four months before your retirement or up to four months before transition leave. Physicals will not be scheduled less than 30 days from retirement.

Physicals for active duty personnel are mandatory every five years starting at the age of 30.

## Correct information

Do we have your correct address and telephone number? In order to better serve you, report any address changes, or new telephone numbers to the A&D office located on the 1st floor in the Patient Service Center.

## Clinical breast study

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

The study is intended to test a new non-invasive scanning device to identify women at risk for breast cancer. Call 938-8387 for info.

Wednesday and Thursday from 4 to 8 p.m. Pre-registration is required, call 938-4100.

## Sacred Heart School Open House

Sacred Heart School will have

its Open House Wednesday with a special program for Pre-K and kindergarten from 9 to 10:30 a.m., and for all grades from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

For more info., call 446-2674.

# AER: "Soldiers helping fellow Soldiers"

## Submitted by Army Community Service

The annual Army Emergency Relief campaign at West Point will run during the month of March. This year's theme is "Soldiers Helping Fellow Soldiers."

During this time frame, active-duty personnel will be contacted and given the opportunity to contribute. Donations can be made in either cash, personal check or by allotment.

Last year, \$62,379.99 was generated by our community. Of this, \$45,000 was distributed to 40 individuals needing assistance here.

According to AER Officer Mary Ellen Olivia, assistance is available to Soldiers and their families, wherever they are located, at the time of valid emergency financial need.

"We can help Soldiers with food, rent, utilities and other personal needs when pay is delayed," she explained.

At USMA, most of our assistance is provided for emergency travel and for repairs to essential privately owned vehicles. We have assisted several Soldiers who have served in Iraq and are now on medical hold and are experiencing pay problems and also several families of deployed Soldiers.

Other types of situations that might qualify for AER support are medical/dental expenses, funeral expenses, receiving a no pay due, and security deposit expenses for off-post housing.

Assistance is provided as an interest-free loan; a grant, if repayment of the loan would cause undue hardship; or a loan/grant combination.

"Normally, loans are expected to be repaid in 12 months," Olivia explained. "But each situation is different and extensions can be granted."

Soldiers who want to apply for help should contact their first sergeant or commander first to

explain the emergency.

"They have the forms that we require to start the application process," said Olivia. The USMA version of the AER application can also be found on the [www.usma.edu](http://www.usma.edu) Web site under Army Community Service.

In addition to the completed application, applicant needs to provide substantiating documents such as a vehicle repair estimate, utility bill, etc.

In the event a Soldier is away from the installation when an emergency occurs, there is a toll free number, 1-877-272-7337, that can be used to reach the American Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Service Center. It is operational 24 hours per day 365 days per year.

Since January 1998, all financial assistance provided by the Red Cross to Soldiers has come from AER funds. The two now work hand-in-hand to meet the Army's emergency needs.

Service members from other branches need to know that help can be obtained through the other services. "Here at West Point we assist Navy, Marines, Coast Guard and Air Force personnel, both active duty and retired," Olivia explained.

Worldwide in 2005, more than \$39 million in AER assistance was provided to more than 43,000 Soldiers and their families. This means that every 12 minutes, somewhere in the world, a Soldier obtains AER assistance. Due to this large volume, AER relies on the annual fund raising campaign to assure the continuing availability of funds to meet the increasing assistance need for Soldiers.

As a secondary mission, AER provides scholarships to dependent children and spouses of Soldiers. In 2005, 3,325 scholarships were awarded. These scholarships totaled \$4.3 million. The AER HQs Web site, [www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org) provides a plethora of information on this topic.

Both Gen. Peter Schoomaker, chief of staff of the Army and Francis J. Harvey, secretary of

the army in a letter to the Soldiers and their families, asked that they continue to support AER in assisting

their comrades in their time of need. For more info. on AER, contact Olivia, at 938-5653/2519.

## WP civ., cadet ski patrol honored

Story and photo by West Point Cadet Ski Patrol Club

Civilian and cadet ski patrollers received Commandant Coins of Excellence from the U.S. Corps of Cadets Chief of Staff, Col. Alan Bourque, Tuesday at the Victor Constant Ski Slope.

Cadets and civilians from the Cadet Ski Patrol Club were recognized for their actions in responding to a chair lift malfunction at the Victor Constant Ski Slope Jan. 10.

The malfunction caused the chair to stop, stranding patrons on the chair lift. Victor Constant management sent an order to the Ski Patrol via radio to prepare for chair lift evacuation.

Cadet ski patrollers, candidate patrollers and contract civilian patrollers jumped into action. Cadet

patrollers had been pre-staged at the top of the mountain per the procedure for quick response to regular slope injuries and incidents.

Once alerted for the chair lift evacuation, the cadet patrollers proceeded to make their way down to the first occupied chair to brief the patrons on the situation while patrollers stationed at the bottom of the slope made their way up the hill to brief patrons.

Other cadet patrollers at the bottom of the hill gathered for a mission briefing. Cadet candidate patrollers were still in training, and had not performed a real-time chair lift evacuation.

Cadet Ski Patrollers Cadets 2nd Class Sam Perlik and Brandon Gilles quickly unpacked one of the equipment bags and gave an impromptu class in chair-lift

evacuation techniques. While the candidate patrollers were taking the class, the VC Ski Patrol Director, a contract civilian, Bobby DiBenedetto, went up hill to check on the stranded patrons.

Five minutes after management's call to prepare for chair-lift evacuation, the Ski Patrol had its members briefed, staged and ready to respond.

Within seven minutes of the command to execute lift-evacuation procedures, the first patron was evacuated. Within 20 minutes, four patrons were evacuated from the chair-lift.

While the ski patrol was in action, management found the source of the malfunction in the chairlift and was able to fix it, but not before four groups of patrollers had rigged evacuation equipment and/or successfully conducted evacuation procedures for four patrons.

The evacuation process involves throwing a tag line up and over the chairlift's cable, which is then used to pull a load-bearing climbing rope up and over the cable. Attached to the rope is a chair and belay setup that allows a patroller on the ground to safely lower patrons from the chair to the ground.

In his comments Bourque thanked and reinforced how important the Patrol's medical and technical skills are in maintaining a safe environment for the West Point Community. He also thanked the patrol for their professionalism and commitment to duty, not only as the USCC Chief of Staff, but as a parent.



Cadets 4th Class Jeff Caslen, Mike Mahowald and Jonathan Meyers, all WPCSP members, receive Commandant's coins from USCC Chief of Staff Col. Alan Bourque Tuesday.

## Black & Gold Volunteers



West Point community volunteers were presented Black and Gold Volunteer Awards Tuesday. They were: (Left to right) Ann Buchanan, Beth Flowers, Karen Govern, presenter Brig. Gen. Patrick Finnegan, Linda Kerin and Staff Sgt. Jermaine Malone.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

## Army Fencer takes Gold Black Knights receive top awards

By Col. Gary Tocchet  
Army Fencing

Junior Emily Hannenberg, the defending champion from 2005, again took first place in women's foil fencing at the National Intercollegiate Women's Fencing Association Championships (NIWFA) Feb. 25 at Tufts University in Massachusetts.

Hannenberg is the only Army fencer to win this foil championship in the 78 years of the competition. Hannenberg, who went undefeated the previous weekend against nationally ranked varsity squads from Stanford, Notre Dame, and the U.S. Air Force Academy, topped a field of 47 foil competitors from 17 teams at Tufts.

Her opposition included the highly rated NCAA Division I fencers from Temple University. Hannenberg was awarded the prestigious Julia Jones Foil Trophy, named after the U.S. National Champion who founded the NIWFA 78 years ago.

In the final gold medal bout, Hannenberg defeated Erica Galarza of Fairleigh Dickinson University 15-4 with a masterful combination of attacks, counter-attacks and parry-attack actions.

Hannenberg's impressive performance in the preliminary pool/team rounds before the individual championships was a critical factor in her foil squad's successful third place finish. Hannenberg combined her efforts with the winning ways of senior and women's team captain Sophia Obamiye, sophomore Amanda Molyneux, and freshman Susy Rim.

Army's club foil team came in behind only the varsity powerhouses of Temple and Tufts University.

Hannenberg and the Lady Knights will end their season at Clemson University, April 1-2, at the U.S. Collegiate Fencing Club Association's National Championships.

Army's women are the 2005 national club champions.

CENTER VALLEY, PA. - First-year Army women's basketball mentor Maggie Dixon was chosen Patriot League "Coach of the Year" in a vote by the league's head coaches it was announced Tuesday afternoon.

Sophomore Cara Enright was selected as the "Player of the Year," while Alex McGuire captured "Rookie of the Year" honors. It marks the first time in Patriot League history that an institution has captured all three major awards in the same season.

Dixon guided the Black Knights to a 17-10 overall record and 11-4 mark in the Patriot League, capturing the school's first regular-season Patriot League championship. It marks the first time in the 16 years since Army has been a member of the Patriot League that an Army head coach

has won a "Coach of the Year" citation.

Dixon leads the Black Knights into this week's Patriot League Tournament as the No. 1 seed for the first time in program history. The highest seed Army had previously reached was third, which happened last season and in 1991.

Enright, a 2005-06 preseason all-league selection, joins former standouts Lisa Russell and Katie Macfarlane as the only three Black Knights to be selected as the league's premier players.

After earning "Rookie of the Year" accolades last season, Enright has demonstrated brilliance and consistency again this year. The Norco, Calif., native has averaged an impressive 14.6 points and 4.6 rebounds over 55 games at West Point.

McGuire becomes the third Army player to win Patriot League "Rookie of the Year" honors, marking the second straight year the award has gone to a Black Knight. McGuire joins 1995 USMA graduate Lisa Russell (1991-92) and Enright as the only Army plebes to capture the honor. McGuire was also named to the conference's All-Rookie Team.

Heading into this week's Patriot League Tournament, McGuire has racked up 292 points, fifth-most all-time on Army's plebe scoring chart. She is second on the team in scoring, averaging 10.8 points per game.

If the Black Knights beat No. 8-seed Lafayette Thursday, they will face the No. 4 Navy/No. 5 Colgate winner Saturday in the semifinals. Tip-off for that contest is slated for 1 p.m. at Christl Arena.

### STAFF & FACULTY NOONTIME BASKETBALL PLAYOFFS

#### SOUTH DIVISION

Finals (Feb. 22)

Game 1 -- #1 Social Science  
20, #3 BS&L 9.

Game 2 -- S.S 32, BS&L 22.

SOCIAL SCIENCE WINS SOUTH DIVISION  
CHAMPIONSHIP 2-0.

#### CENTRAL DIVISION

GAME 1 -- #2 PHYSICS 32, #1  
SJA 25.

PHYSICS LEADS 1-0 IN SERIES.

### UNIT BASKETBALL PLAYOFFS

Semi-Finals (Wednesday)

1st seed MEDDAC 44, 4th  
seed USMC #1 42.

Semi-Finals

2nd seed USMC #2 2, 3rd  
seed W.P. Security 0.

FINALS (Wednesday)

1st seed MEDDAC 44, 2nd  
seed USMC #2 32.

**MEDDAC WINS 2006 UNIT**

INTRAMURAL CHAMPIONSHIP

# Iacob shines at 50th Brigade Boxing Open



Company F-1 sophomore Ovidiu Iacob took top boxer honors during the 50th annual U.S. Military Academy Brigade Open Boxing Finals by defeating B-3 senior Lucas Hanson.

Story and photos by  
Eric S. Bartelt  
Assistant Editor

The "Romanian Pain Train" powered his way past his opponent during the 50th annual U.S. Military Academy Brigade Open Boxing Finals Tuesday to take the top boxer honor of the evening.

Sophomore Ovidiu Iacob, of company F-1, hammered company B-3 senior Lucas Hanson to take the 175-pound brigade title for the second year in a row.

Iacob was happy with his accomplishment of being named

most outstanding boxer of the tournament and was especially hyped by the crowd in attendance.

"It was great to have all the support out there when I heard my company shout my name," Iacob said. "It's a great atmosphere because I'm not only fighting for myself, but I'm fighting for them too. Moments like this are unique and I enjoyed every second of it."

Senior boxing team captain Matt Pride, of company D-4, won his 165-pound bout over G-4 sophomore Leon Perry and was taken in by the moment that he will savor for a lifetime.



Company B-2 freshman Ben Dutka sneaks a right hand to the chin of H-1 senior Seth Lotts during the Heavyweight bout. Dutka was the only freshman to win a Brigade title this year.

"It was a special moment because this is my senior year and my third brigade championship," Pride said. "My mother and sister came out for the fight, it was an exciting moment ... To go out during the 50th annual brigade open on ESPN U, I can't begin to describe how that makes me

feel and for the most part I'm speechless."

The ESPN U viewers got a treat during the 185-pound match where the fight went back and forth between two solid boxers in company D-4 junior Reggie Smith and A-3 sophomore Cory Kastl. Kastl fought well to the point

where he was ready to steal the match from the more experienced Smith until the last 30 seconds of the match.

"I told my corner to tell me when there was 30 seconds left and I was going to finish with what I had left and gave it my all," said Smith,

**SEE BOXING ON PAGE 19**



Company B-2 sophomore Dan Asis takes a left uppercut from A-3 freshman Dan Hogan in the 132-pound fight. Both guys would battle back and forth during the bout, but Asis eventually would get his bearings and got the victory.

**BOXING CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19**

who gave an onslaught of head and body shots for the last 30 seconds of his three-round bout. "Cory and I are really good friends and we spar a lot in practice, so I knew coming into tonight it was going to be a war. I just hope he and I put on a good show for the crowd."

All 10 fights went the full two-minute, three rounds, which said a lot of the determination of each boxer Tuesday evening.

"It shows you the fighting spirit in the fighters," Pride explained. "My opponent came in knowing I won a national title and he fought me as if he were saying, 'How dare you have the audacity to flaunt that in my face and that he was going to show me that he's worth something also' ... There's a warrior ethos in each one of our boxers and that came out this evening."

Other winners on the evening included company E-3 junior Mike Benedosso over A-2 senior Scott Yeung at 119 pounds, D-4 sophomore David Volz defeated C-1 sophomore Branden Wong at 125 pounds, B-2 sophomore Dan Asis beat A-3 freshman Dan Hogan at 132 pounds, E-4 sophomore Russell Calloway pounded F-2

sophomore Thomas Morkes at 139 pounds, F-3 sophomore Jarod Taylor took the 147-pound title against E-1 sophomore Paul Lin, G-

4 sophomore Kevin Ramirez won a hard fought battle over H-2 senior Patrick Mitchell, F-3 sophomore Steve Solaja got a walkover win at

195 pounds due to an injury to G-3 senior Tom Payne and in the final bout of the evening Heavyweight B-2 freshman Ben Dutka produced

the only knock down of the evening as he generated a three-round victory over varsity football player, H-1, senior Seth Lotts.



Company D-4 mates junior Reggie Smith (left) and senior Matt Pride (bottom photo in Brown shirt) won their 185-pound and 165-pound bouts, respectively. Smith used a barrage of punches in the final 30 seconds of his fight to take the victory. Pride, who is also the boxing team captain, won his third Brigade Boxing Open Final after losing in the final his plebe year.

