

As of May 17:	
C FUND	- 2.94 percent
I FUND	- 3.02 percent
S FUND	- 4.02 percent

## NSPS launches Spiral 1.1

By Irene Brown  
Chief, Command Information

The Department of Defense launched the first phase of the new National Security Personnel System April 30. "Spiral 1.1" includes 11,000 DOD civilian employees nationwide, including several from the U.S. Military Academy. Mary E. Lacey, the NSPS program executive officer, said the most important message she can send future NSPS participants is that they were ready.

"Employees were trained, supervisors were trained and leaders are leaning forward," she said. "We expect the second wave to go even smoother."

Lacey said that Spiral 1.1 employees "worked on performance standards that are outcome-based and measurable so they know what performance is expected of them."

Most preparation for the program's implementation has dealt with training employees and supervisors, she added.

"Both groups have had extensive Web-based and classroom instruction on the ins and outs of the new program," Lacey said.

West Point Civilian Personnel Advisory Center employees were

included in the first wave of NSPS participants. Mary Colbert, a personnel specialist at CPAC, said they did get classroom training before the start date and had access to online training.

"We received three days on site training a couple of weeks before we implemented," she explained. "In addition, there has been online training -- NSPS 101 as well as fact sheets and information on the transition."

Lacey said installation officials are telling her that the "enthusiasm and excitement of the workforce is very high," but added that many employees are concerned about their supervisors' ability to fairly evaluate performance.

"This is not unexpected," she explained. "Most of the department has been effectively on a pass-fail system for quite a while, so this is new."

"That's one of the reasons we've spent so much time training employees and supervisors on performance management," she added.

Colbert said she thinks supervisors will be able to adequately rate employees with the amount of information available online.

"The NSPS Web site offers loads of information about classification,

NSPS cont. on 3

## Power outage along Route 293



Directorate of Public Works high voltage branch supervisor Kim Meints checks the damage Tuesday morning to an Orange & Rockland Power transformer located along Route 293 between Camps Natural Bridge and Buckner. The transformer malfunctioned due to age causing localized power outages on the military reservation along Route 293. Power was restored later that afternoon and the transformer was replaced that night.

PHOTO BY ORANGE & ROCKLAND POWER

## INSIDE



GRADUATION WEEK SCHEDULES, see page 10-11

## Incentive program expands educational opportunities for grads

By Eric S. Bartelt  
Assistant Editor

A proverbial home run was hit with a new program that offers cadets the choice of graduate school, branch or post options in exchange for three more years of active duty service. West Point officials said the results of the Officer Career Satisfaction Incentive Program have been nothing short of remarkable.

Three hundred and fifty-two USMA cadets signed up for one of the career incentive programs; 257 of those cadets chose to further their schooling by taking the graduate school option.

"It's been a tremendous success

that exceeded our expectations," said Maj. David Lyle, the deputy director of the Office of Economic Manpower and Analysis. "Our office developed the research behind this program," he said. "We estimated that about 150 cadets would be willing to participate in this program."

"The Army gave USMA 300 graduate school slots and our initial response was, 'Wow, 300 is a lot of slots for a first-year program.' So to see West Point fill nearly all of these slots with 257 cadets signing up is a tremendously positive response," he added.

"By providing these incentives, the Army is supporting the superintendent's recent change to

the mission statement calling for a career of professional excellence and service to the Nation," he explained. "It is a lot easier for officers to think about staying in the Army when they know they will be able to update their skill set halfway through their career to keep pace with their civilian counterparts. Most cadets graduate with the intention of serving as a company commander," Lyle said. "This takes them out to 7 or 8 years of service. So the cost of signing up for this program is next to nothing for these cadets."

"Moreover, when they sign up for graduate school before they are commissioned, they have much greater certainty about their

chances of getting graduate school in the future," he added.

With the continuing nature of the Global War on Terrorism, Lyle said the Army requires the type of high-potential and high-performing officers West Point produces.

"These officers have a lot of opportunities in the civilian sector and the Army now has incentives that are competitive with what civilian firms offer," Lyle said. "Graduate education is important to this generation. It is more important to them than money and it is also worth more to the Army in terms of professional development than comparable monetary incentives."

INCENTIVE cont. on 4

# Taxing duty: bill introduced to make civilians tax-exempt

Commentary by  
**Karen Rutzick**  
Special to the Pointer View

Civilian federal employees, just like the Soldiers they work alongside in Iraq, are granted generous additional pay -- up to 50 percent of base salary -- for working in danger zones and living under strenuous conditions.

But a variance in the law still leaves civil servants, such as Navy aircraft inspector Jerry Bennett, behind military personnel in compensation. Bennett spent about 90 days, from March to June of 2005, running an aircraft repair facility at Al Asad Airbase, about

180 kilometers west of Baghdad. In those months, Al Asad was hit by rocket and mortar attacks roughly every other night, Bennett said. Luckily, none of them hit too close to him.

He escaped death or injury, but upon arriving home, discovered what he had not avoided: taxes. Civilian government employees working in combat zones are not treated to tax-free status the way members of the military are.

A bill introduced in the House by Rep. Joel Hefley, R-Colo., would change that. Now sitting in the House Ways and Means Committee, H.R. 294 would grant Defense Department civilian

employees the same tax-free status as their military counterparts.

Hefley has introduced this legislation three times before, his spokeswoman said.

The Federal Managers Association has put the measure on its legislative agenda and would even like to expand it to apply to all federal employees working in combat zones, said Thomas Richards, government affairs representative for the group.

"Certainly we don't want to say that civilians are on the front lines in Iraq actually shooting weapons and going out for operations in Baghdad," Richards said. "But there are civilian employees that are

working right alongside military members, and we believe they should receive tax benefits."

At Al Asad, civilian and military personnel were equal, Bennett said.

"We berthed in the same areas they berthed," Bennett said. "We lived in the same areas as the military, we ate at their chow halls, we worked the same hours they worked, we got rocketed and mortared ... We are exposed to everything they are exposed to."

Also, not every member of the military is a Soldier fighting on the ground.

"Let's take a cook in the military," said Donald McCall,

national vice president of FMA. "A cook goes outside and cooks in a tent, he stays on the base and he draws a tax-free exemption."

Bennett said about a third of his paycheck from Iraq went to taxes; the problem can be worsened because the extra pay can push civil servants into a higher tax bracket.

But he said even if the bill does not get anywhere, he would not hesitate to repeat his time in Iraq.

"I would have still went over there, tax exempt or not," Bennett said. "We have a job to do also. Everybody's been volunteers and we all knew this going into it. I'd go back tomorrow if I could."

**Editor's note:** Rutzick is a journalist for Government Executive Magazine and her commentary appeared online May 11 at [govexec.com](http://govexec.com).

## Updates from the Installation Security Office

Commentary by  
**Colette A. Drouin**  
Chief, Installation  
Security Office

Instead of a column dedicated to a specific subject, I would like to take this time and space to update the West Point Community on recent changes.

The Installation Security Office belongs to the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security. This is a new organization under the Garrison.

The 1st Battalion, 1st Infantry is still active, and we (the DPTMS and 1-1 INF) are all located in the same building, 621.

The DPTMS organization has

been allocated three chiefs. The first chief hired was Joseph Colombo, formerly of Protocol, now the Chief of Plans. Chawyer Jones was just selected as the Chief of Training. Training includes Range Control, where Jones is known as one of the primary driving forces.

I was recently promoted to serve as the first Chief of the Installation Security Office. Within the ISC, we will be made up of one chief, two security specialists and one security assistant. We are hoping to be at full strength by this Christmas.

The ISC mission remains what it has always been: personnel, information, industrial security and security education, training and awareness.

We continue to process security clearances and background investigations for civilians and contractors. We continue to assist in protecting classified materials and with classified briefings.

We support customers requiring use of the SIPRnet (classified computer system) and secure telecommunications. We provide country-specific briefings for all personnel traveling OCONUS. We transfer clearance verification memorandums for all personnel visiting places where classified materials are to be used.

We have recently taken on the mission of processing the background investigations of all newly hired civilians. On the days when new civilians are in processing, and once they finish in CPAC, they come to our office for a review of their questionnaires and fingerprints. This also allows us to grant waivers to personnel who

need access to computers.

DOIM requires all personnel who need access to computers to submit form, FH-25-29-R-E, User Access Request and Responsibility Statement. Part III, Security Access Verification is completed by the ISC.

We affirm that a National Agency Check or Entrance National Agency Check has been completed (or initiated for a waiver to be granted), or if the subject has secret or top secret clearance already. We will initiate a records check for summer hires and interns and, if clean, grant a waiver.

We will continue to be alert to all threats, both inside and outside. We hope our customers understand that we will do all in our power to work any issues to get them access to whatever programs they need to complete their missions.

Please direct any questions or comments to 938-2717.

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

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

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

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

Difficulty: Hard

See Solution on Page 12

## POINTER VIEW®

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## 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.

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## Coalition addresses needs of military students

By Kathy Eastwood  
Staff Writer

The Military Child Education Coalition and the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation

### NSPS, cont. from page 1

qualifications and ratings," she said. "Most supervisors will be able to fairly rate their employees with the amount of training provided."

Colbert was placed in one of the professional and administrative pay bands which was, she added, fair and equitable.

"I am in pay band YA2 which includes professional and administrative positions," she explained. "That's more than comparable to my old civil service position."

Given some time, NSPS should benefit the civilian workforce, she added.

"We have just entered the system, so it's too early to evaluate all the ways it could help civil service, but it should eventually result in a more flexible workplace in terms of pay setting and hiring," Colbert said.

Program officials explained that they originally planned to include about 60,000 employees in Spiral 1.1, but several factors, including ongoing litigation over collective-bargaining rules, contributed to the need to curtail that number.

Lacey said officials restructured the group so it included only non-bargaining-unit employees.

"Once we got the judge's decision, we only had a limited amount of time and it was a through out issue on the training," Lacey explained. "We didn't want to shortchange any of the training."

A few pay-related aspects of the program employees may not be aware of are the initial within-grade buy-in and the local market supplement.

Employees being transitioned into NSPS will receive the next step increase due to them in the old GS system prorated for the amount of time that is left until they would be due the pay increase, Lacey explained.

What is called locality pay in the existing personnel pay system will now be called "local market supplement" under NSPS. This is a percentage over base pay based on geography, she added. Lacey said the system will use the same scales the rest of government uses for now, but this may change to a system based on specific jobs if

hosted two-days of transition counselor institutes training May 10 to 11 at the Victor Constant Ski Lodge.

"TCI training is offered through the MCEC to train educators, parents

officials feel they need help with recruiting and retaining hard-to-fill specialties.

Deputy Defense Secretary Gordon England, who signed the directive April 28 that implemented the new system, said it was a great achievement.

"Today is a milestone event," England said during the Pentagon ceremony. "After two and a half years of very hard work, the Department of Defense is initiating the human resources phase of the National Security Personnel System."

England said the old civilian personnel system, which has been in place for 50 years, is not capable of keeping pace with the department's needs.

"As our military forces are reoriented to better address a changing landscape, the civilian workforce too needs to become more agile, adaptable and fully integrated with the efforts of our military forces," he said.

DOD officials said they are paying close attention to employee concerns about NSPS, especially the pay bands. In response, they released the NSPS pay tables May 5. The pay tables show that NSPS' pay-for-performance element will clearly specify between pay ranks in job types. PDFs of the tables are available at [http://www.cpms.osd.mil/wage/wage\\_sched\\_suppl.html](http://www.cpms.osd.mil/wage/wage_sched_suppl.html).

The Web site has pay tables for four career groups: science and engineering; investigative and protective services; medicine; and an overall standard scale. Within each career group there are job classes based on tasks, such as managers or technicians, each with three pay bands with a wide range of pay. The pay scales are comparable to current General Schedule pay, but with a higher ceiling. Managerial and professional/analytical salaries can reach up to \$124,904.

DOD officials said they plan to launch Spiral 1.2 on Oct. 1 and Spiral 1.3 in January 2007. Employees wanting more information about NSPS can visit their Web site at <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/>.

and counselors to understand the needs of the mobile military student and to develop skills to assist in the transition from school-to-school and other educational issues," said Mary Keller, executive director of MCEC from Harker Heights, Texas.

Keller said TCI conducts a series of professional development institutes for counselors and educators serving in schools that support military installations.

"We travel to the military locations nationally and internationally," Keller said. "I've just come back from Okinawa, Japan."

TCI trainers are educators with experience in the secondary schools, high school counselors, transition specialists and military parents and follow a curriculum that is kept up to date by MCEC, Keller explained.

"MCEC began with a community of people interested in working with issues of school transition, but grew to work with child development," Keller said. "We serve children

from birth to college."

Major Jeffrey Bergmann, instructor in the Behavioral Sciences and Leadership department here, is working on a research project on the psychological impact on families during deployment or loss.

"The study consists of a survey that families fill out to answer questions of behavior issues prior to and after deployment," Bergmann said. "The same survey will also be filled out by teachers."

The training is in three phases; the first is awareness, processes and networks, which includes

exploring proven practices and procedures and sharing and building the professional network. The second phase is to deepen the understanding of the social emotional needs and the military culture and the last phase is to provide expert partnership with installations.

"We try to find those tools to show children how to be resilient and to encourage the courage of the child," Keller said. "We have children involved too who are reaching out to other children, such as the Army Teen Panel."

# AOG names seven distinguished graduates

Compiled by Eric S. Bartelt  
Assistant Editor

The Association of Graduates of the U.S. Military Academy will honor seven of its members as "distinguished grads" Tuesday during the alumni exercise and review ceremony starting at 10:30 a.m. on the Plain.

First awarded in 1992, the AOG selection committee picks the awardees from nominations filed by presidents of West Point societies and classes.

**Arthur E. Dewey** -- A West Point Class of 1956 graduate, retired Col. Arthur E. Dewey served 25 years in the Army where he deployed to Vietnam for two tours. After earning his master's degree from Princeton, he participated in the first-ever self-deployment of an Army Aviation unit to an overseas destination.

After his military service in 1981, he accepted a civilian appointment from President Reagan as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Refugee Programs. He was a major player in responding to the horrific effects of war and famine in Africa as he succeeded in getting UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar to create the UN Organization for Emergency Operations in Africa in 1984.

For years he helped humanitarian

efforts in the former Soviet Union and Rwanda which culminated in his appointment by President Bush to the Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees and Migration. From Jan. 2002 until his retirement in June 2005, Dewey helped shape the return of more than four million refugees to Afghanistan.

**Wayne A. Downing** -- Retired Gen. Wayne A. Downing, a member of the Class of 1962, commissioned into the infantry and embarked on a 34-year military career.

In Nov. 1989, he was appointed commanding general of Joint Special Operations Command, U.S. Special Operations Command, based at Fort Bragg, N.C.

He commanded the swift liberation of Panama during Operation Just Cause and then a year later, during Operation Desert Storm, Gen. Downing commanded a joint task force of 1,200 American special operations forces who conducted highly effective attacks on the Iraqi SCUD missile infrastructure.

In 1993, he was appointed the Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Special Operations Command, where he trained, equipped and deployed 47,000 special operators from the Army, Navy and Air Force in worldwide deployments.

After his retirement in 1996,

he returned on several occasions to help on the terrorism front from the Khobar Towers attack and three years later was appointed to the National Commission on Terrorism.

After 9/11, he was appointed by President Bush the National Director and Deputy National Security Advisor for Combating Terrorism. He often returns to West Point, where he has served as the Distinguished Chair of the Combating Terrorism Center since 2003.

**Thomas B. Dyer** -- A 1967 West Point graduate, Dyer was commissioned in field artillery. After receiving honor graduate in his Ranger School class and commanding a battery, Dyer served in Vietnam from 1969 to 1970.

He left active duty in 1971 to enter the business world. Dyer became a partner in a startup company called Techsonic Industries and he served as President and CEO.

He used his great professional skills to give back to West Point as he was elected to the AOG Board of Trustees in 1990. In 1996, he assumed the Chairmanship of the West Point Fund Committee, during which he guided the Bicentennial Campaign and exceeded the goal of \$150 million by \$75 million.

Elected as the Chairman and CEO of AOG in 2002, Dyer was directly involved with every aspect of the 43,000 person association until 2005.

**Nicholas S. Krawciw** -- Born in the Ukraine, this Class of 1959 USMA graduate was one of the first members of his class to go to Vietnam where he was severely wounded in an ambush.

After he recuperated, Capt. Krawciw commanded a cavalry troop at Fort Hood where he co-invented an advanced armor system for ground vehicles, a composite similar to that later was incorporated into tank design.

He would later, as a major general, assume command of the 3rd Infantry Division in 1987.

The retired general would spend years after his retirement from the Army in 1990 establishing political freedom and a marketplace economy in the newly independent Ukraine.

**Herbert S. Lichtenberg** -- He served three years in the U.S. Air Force after his graduation from the U.S. Military Academy in 1955. Upon his completion of his service obligation, Lichtenberg joined his father's firm, S. Lichtenberg and

Sons, in New York City.

Lichtenberg is renowned for his philanthropy to West Point. His support of religious programs and activities at West Point began in 1965 when he joined a group dedicated to erecting the West Point Jewish Cadet Chapel and by 1984 the Jewish Chapel was completed.

He has been a visible supporter of Army athletics as he responded to a superintendent's wish of having an indoor tennis facility as a part of the Bicentennial Campaign. Lichtenberg and the Class of 1955 jointly funded the Lichtenberg Tennis Center as the Class of 1955's 50th Reunion gift to the academy.

Lichtenberg, along with good friend Lou Gross, helped fund and construct the Lou Gross Olympic Center, which opened in 2001 for gymnastics.

**Howard T. Prince II** -- Retired Brig. Gen. Howard T. Prince II graduated from the academy in 1962 in the top five percent of his class en route to a 28-year Army career.

After several assignments and being selected for the Olmstead Scholar Program at the University of Bonn in Germany, he was assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division where he was twice wounded during combat.

Prince would complete his doctorate in Clinical Psychology at the University of Texas at Austin in 1975. He would return to West Point after his studies to the Office of Military Leadership as the Director of the Cadet Counseling Center.

He oversaw the reorganization of the Office of Military Leadership, which became the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership. He was the first professor and Head of BS&L.

**Richard G. Trefry** -- Retired Lt. Gen. Richard G. Trefry served for 33 years in the Army after his graduation from West Point in 1950. He began his military career as an enlisted Soldier during World War II before coming to the academy.

His distinguished service included stints in Vietnam and in Laos. In 1973, while concurrently commanding the Joint U.S. Military Assistance Advisory Group to Laos, he contributed to the defeat of a coup d'etat by the Laotian Air Force officers in exile in Thailand against the Royal Lao government.

As the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel in 1976, he strongly supported the report of the Borman Commission and ensured that the suggested recommendations for change were supported by Army leadership during the cheating scandal at West Point. The successful implementation of the Hoffman Plan was a direct result of his commitment and dedication to Duty, Honor, Country.

From 1977 to 1983, his capstone military assignment was as the Army Inspector General. He would later serve as a Military Assistant to the President of the United States, and during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm he served as a military advisor to President Bush.

**Editor's Note:** The above article includes information from the Association of Graduates of USMA.

## INCENTIVE, cont. from page 1

Class of 2006 cadets said they are happy that they can continue their education at universities like Harvard, Stanford, MIT or Princeton and still serve in the Army.

"Education is very important to me [and] during those three years of service prior to graduate school I should have the opportunity to take a command," said Cadet 1st Class Brandon Archuleta, who took the graduate school option and would like to pursue a Master's in Public Administration at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. "Having [company command] makes me very marketable in the private sector," Archuleta added.

Some cadets see adding three years of active duty service in exchange for graduate school as a good deal.

"It's more than a fair trade off. The three years of extra active duty service are years I would have spent on inactive ready

reserves or in the Reserves, so it is a small price to pay," said program enrollee Cadet 1st Class Michael Wisser, who hopes to go to Duke or the University of Pennsylvania. "After that, I pay three months (of active duty service) for a month of school -- that is a great deal."

One question that may enter some cadets' minds is the uncertain future of more deployments to far off lands in exchange for the promise of an even higher education.

"Right now, cadets know they're going to get combat experience and that they will be doing something noble," Lyle said. "More and more cadets are coming here, not for themselves, but to do something bigger for the Army. I don't know if it's 9/11, but they really seem to be in tune with doing something important for the Nation."

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problems?**

For Pointer View home delivery problems contact Valerie Mullane at the Poughkeepsie Journal at (845) 437-4730 or by e-mail at [vmullane@poughkeepsiejournal.com](mailto:vmullane@poughkeepsiejournal.com).

# Force protection measures for graduation week

Submitted by the  
Force Protection Office

The following graduation week activities could potentially restrict traffic on post. Community members are urged to plan trips accordingly and permit more time for arrivals and travel around the post.

## TUESDAY, May 23

The following parking and force protection measures will be in effect Tuesday in support of the Alumni wreath laying ceremony and Alumni Review:

The workforce will be allowed to park in the central post area to include Clinton parking lot throughout the day. Fifteen parking slots in Clinton lot will be blocked to facilitate bus movement and provide handicap parking. All of Doubleday lot will be reserved for

the ceremony.

The Military Police will establish blocking positions on Cullum Road near the entrance to the Clinton parking lot and at the intersection of Washington and Ruger roads (near the Commandant's quarters) beginning at 9:40 a.m. They will stop traffic from entering the Thayer Statue area beginning around 10:20 a.m. until completion of the wreath-laying ceremony.

Following the ceremony, the MPs will move the blocking position near the entrance to Clinton lot to the vicinity of the Thayer roof entrance. They will stop traffic at the blocking positions from around 10:50 a.m. until the completion of the review. Cars parked in Clinton lot will be able to depart south toward the cadet library during the ceremony.

## THURSDAY, May 25

The following parking and force protection measures will be in effect in support of the graduation rehearsal exercise:

Stony Lonesome road will be closed to traffic from the intersection with Washington Road in the vicinity of the Catholic Chapel, to the intersection with Delafield Road near Michie Stadium from 7:30 a.m. until approximately 8 a.m. After 8 a.m., Stony Lonesome Road will open only from the intersection with Washington Road to the intersection with Schofield Place (entrance to Lusk housing area) until the completion of the graduation rehearsal exercise (approximately 9:30 a.m.). Mills Road will also be closed from the intersection with Stony Lonesome to the intersection with Fenton Road next to Herbert Hall during that time period as well.

The following parking and force

protection measures will be in effect in support of the Superintendent's Awards Review:

Parking for the workforce will be allowed in the central post area to include Clinton parking lot throughout the day. However, 75 parking slots in Clinton lot will be designated for handicap parking only.

The MPs will establish blocking positions on Cullum Road near the entrance to Thayer roof parking lot and at the intersection of Washington and Ruger roads (near the Commandant's quarters) beginning at 10:30 a.m.

They will stop traffic from entering the Trophy Point area at these blocking positions beginning at 10:50 a.m. until the completion of the review. Cars parked in Clinton lot will be able to depart south toward the cadet library during the ceremony.

## FRIDAY, May 28

The following parking and force protection measures will be in effect May 28, in support of the Graduation Parade:

Parking for the workforce will be allowed in the central post area; however all of Clinton lot will be designated for handicap parking only.

The MPs will establish blocking positions on Cullum Road near the entrance to Thayer roof parking lot and at the intersection of Washington and Ruger roads (near the Commandant's quarters) beginning at 9:50 a.m. They will stop traffic from entering the Trophy Point area at these blocking positions beginning at 10:20 a.m. until the completion of the review.

Cars parked in Clinton lot will be able to depart south toward the cadet library during the ceremony.

For more info., call Charles Peddy at 938-8845.

# 82nd Airborne's 2-508 tabbed as summer task force

By Spc. Benjamin Gruver  
Staff Writer

The 2nd Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment from the 82nd Airborne's 4th Brigade will be rolling out of Fort Bragg, N.C., this month and up to West Point to serve as the task force for cadet summer training.

The 2-508, also known as the 'Fury from the Sky,' will be settling into their new summer home at Camp Natural Bridge around the time senior cadets pin on their gold bars and head out of West Point and into their new careers in the real Army.

But, before the rest of the U.S. Corps of Cadets gets to the end of the 47-month experience here, they will get the opportunity to learn Soldier skills from the combat veterans of the 2-508 and the 15 other units that make up the summer task force.

"What the task force provides every summer is kind of an azimuth check for the cadets that this is the real Army," said Col. Peter Curry, director for the Department of Military Instruction. "Here is an active duty infantry battalion from the task force that is here to help train (cadets) and that attachment and being able to see and talk to Soldiers who they are going to be leading is probably the most positive aspect of having the task force here."

The experience is positive for the Soldiers who get to come here too, explained Capt. Mark Garner, the 2-508's battalion personnel

officer. The training not only will allow the paratroopers and NCOs an idea of how their officers are trained, but allow them, as subject matter experts, to impart their knowledge to their future leaders.

"I think it will make the training for the cadets more realistic, having people teaching it that have done it," Garner said, a 2002 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy.

The unit's most recent history includes time spent in Iraq twice. They were first there during the initial push into Iraq in 2003 where they spent most of their time responsible for a southwestern section of Baghdad. The unit's second tour was in 2005 back in Baghdad in support of the Iraqi elections.

During that time, according to Garner, the unit was actually the 3rd Battalion, 325th Airborne Regiment, but since then was reflagged to the 2-508 PIR.

Most recently the Fort Bragg unit was sitting on the Division's Ready Force One ready to be pulled into action at a moments notice when they were tabbed to come to West Point for cadet summer training.

The paratroopers haven't sat still though, explained Garner, continuing their training through the first week of May. Most recently they finished a Joint Force Entry Exercise.

"We did an airborne assault on a drop zone and we moved to an urban city set up on Fort Bragg," Garner said.

The simulated town they took over, explained Garner, was filled with Arabic speakers, mostly Afghani and Iraqi Americans who worked for the Army as role players.

"That was a pretty cool mission," Garner said.

The paratroopers will be able to bring those recent training experiences and deployments with them as they come here to train cadets who will be going through summer training that the Department of Military Instruction has spent the last several months tweaking to be more relevant to the current fight.

"I truly believe that what we are trying to do is really improve on what we have," Curry said, explaining that while last summer's training went really well, he feels it is his job to make sure the training continues to evolve and adjust based on the contemporary operating environment.

Some of the major noticeable changes to summer training are during the second detail of cadet field training, namely Operation Highland Warrior. The cadets will treat Camp Buckner as a forward operating base guarding access control points and participating as a quick reaction force. They will also be taken through a convoy reaction lane and conduct cordon and searches.

"Last year was the first year we did weapons emersion where cadets were issued a rifle and that rifle became his or her property throughout the entire summer,"

Curry said. "That is what our Soldiers are evolving to over there in (Operation Iraqi Freedom) and (Operation Enduring Freedom) and so it was a natural progression that we continue by operating as a forward operating base because that is the contemporary operating environment that our Soldiers are deploying to in OIF and OEF."

Another major change DMI made to OHW is who cadet company commanders will get their orders from as they conduct missions throughout the final portion of the summer. Previously, according to Curry, the cadets were receiving commands from the officers in charge of the specific sites rather than the cadet regimental staff, not capitalizing on some leadership opportunities.

"I was looking at that and I was like 'how come the cadet company commanders aren't getting their orders, instructions and FRAGOs from the cadet regimental staff because that is really who they work for,'" Curry said. "That

is probably the most significant adjustment that we made to this years OHW is that the cadet regimental staff is actually going to play a tactical role in providing guidance and orders to the eight company commands that are out there."

The change gives the cadet regimental staff another opportunity to understand what it is like to plan, coordinate and execute a tactical plan.

"The bottom line to all we are trying to do," said Curry, "is at the end of 47 months we are trying to crank out a little bit better small unit leader that has the basic foundation of the Soldiers leader skills and can go out there and truly understand how to think through the process that we have given to them (to become the) flexible and adaptable leader that we say we want to produce."



# KACH awards annual Mason Award to top Medical cadet

Story and photo by  
Kathy Eastwood  
Staff Writer

Keller Army Community Hospital presented Cadet 1st Class James Q. Nguyen with the

annual Mason Award May 12 in recognition of his being the top ranking cadet branching into the medical corps.

Nguyen, born and raised near Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minn. graduated from Benilde-St.

Margaret's High School in 2002 and will be graduating at the top of his class May 27 here with a degree in Chemistry.

Nguyen said he has been accepted at the University of Michigan Medical School in Ann

Arbor, Mich. and will attend in the fall.

"I'm still not sure yet what I want to go into, but have narrowed my medical specialty to either Internal Medicine or Psychiatry," he said.

Nguyen has maintained a 4.2 average within his major throughout his four years at the U.S. Military Academy.

"I've pulled a lot of all night study sessions," he said.

Nguyen received an engraved pewter plaque, certificate of achievement and the KACH Commander's Coin.

The Mason award is named for 1968 graduate Richard Mason who became a decorated Soldier serving several tours in Vietnam. Mason entered medical school after Vietnam and served his residency and internship at Letterman Army

Hospital in San Francisco. Mason died in 1977 at the age of 30 of cancer.

His parent's established the Mason Award in his honor and is given to the

highest ranking cadet to branch into the medical corps. There are currently 14 cadets who are branching into the medical corps after graduation.



Cadet 1st  
Class James Q.  
Nguyen

## Security clearances still backlogged

WASHINGTON (*govexec.com*) -- Despite assurances nearly two weeks ago from the Office of Personnel Management that the Defense Security Service was days away from restarting the processing of security clearance applications, the program has not gotten back off the ground.

Meanwhile, as applications continue to pile up, government contractors are concerned that the growing value of already-cleared job applicants will make hiring burdensome.

"When you have an event like this occur, it creates a psychological impression that [the] stock [of already-cleared job applicants] is more valuable," said Richard Piske, vice president and general manager of Kelly FedSecure, which recruits people with varying levels of security clearance. Piske said in some instances, applicants' belief that their value has spiked makes them "very difficult to negotiate with."

But at the online employment site "Clearance Jobs," where having a security clearance is required even to respond to a help wanted ad, the growing backlog at DSS has coincided with hundreds more

advertisements being posted.

"There are more jobs than candidates to fill them," said Evan Lesser, director of Clearance Jobs. Nearly 3,000 job vacancies are currently posted at Lesser's site. That's more than twice as many as last month and Lesser predicts the number will continue to grow.

The federal government is taking cues from the private sector now, Lesser said and is working on a deal with Clearance Jobs to start using the site for recruiting. He said he expects hundreds more ads to be generated that way and predicted Clearance Jobs will be carrying nearly twice as many openings in 2007 as it does now, thanks in part to a pact being completed with the Homeland Security Department and various intelligence agencies.

A DHS spokesman did not respond May 12 to a request for comment on the deal.

A DSS spokeswoman May 12 said she did not know when the agency would resume processing clearances and could not confirm how many more applications have been added to the backlog since May 1, when 3,000 applications stacked up because the agency ran out of

funds. OPM took over the task of conducting background checks last February, but DSS still has to cover the cost of processing applications, which can be thousands of dollars each, depending on the level of clearance needed.

"There's been no change" since DSS' late-April move to stop handling applications, said spokeswoman Karen McGovern.

After the unexpected announcement of DSS' freeze on advancing clearance applications, House lawmakers rushed an amendment into the fiscal 2007 National Defense Authorization Act preventing already cleared contractors from losing their clearance if it expires while renewal applications are stalled. In addition, the House Government Reform Committee were scheduled to have a hearing Wednesday on the situation.

Piske said contractors in the clearance renewal process are not made less vulnerable by the House amendment.

"If a clearance holder is in the middle [of the renewal process], the employer is reluctant to hire," he said, because of the possibility of rejection.

## House approves 2.7 percent military raise

WASHINGTON (*govexec.com*) -- The House approved a bill May 11 containing a 2.7 percent pay raise for military personnel in 2007, setting the stage for a civilian-military pay parity battle.

The pay hike was included in the fiscal 2007 National Defense Authorization Act, which passed by a vote of 396-31. President Bush's budget sought a 2.2 percent raise for both civilian employees and military personnel, marking the first time he proposed an equal pay hike for both groups.

But the House Armed Services Committee approved an increase in the military raise. Federal employee advocates immediately began the call for parity for civilians. Among them was House Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer of Maryland.

"As in past years, I will lead the effort this year to ensure pay parity for federal civilian employees,"

Hoyer said in a statement. "The Appropriations Committee will begin their work next month and I will use my position on that committee to work with its members to provide a fair pay adjustment for federal employees in recognition of their contributions to our country."

National Treasury Employees Union president Colleen Kelley called for pay parity following the vote.

"The 2.2 percent raise proposed in the president's budget falls far short of the rate of inflation and minimizes the contributions of those who serve the public, whether as members of the military or as part of the federal civilian workforce," Kelley said in a statement. "The military clearly deserves a larger increase, as [does] government's civilian workforce."

In a policy statement published

May 11, the White House reiterated its case for a 2.2 percent raise and said it strongly opposes the 0.5 percent bump for the military.

# Community Features and Photos

## Healthwatch: May is Stroke Awareness Month

Submitted  
by Maj.  
Jane Ralph  
Army Public  
Health Nurse



Every 45 seconds, an American suffers a stroke. Strokes are the third leading cause of death in New York State and the leading cause of long-term disability.

A stroke is a medical emergency. Just like a heart attack, it requires a prompt response to save the victim's life and prevent long-term disability.

During a heart attack, the victim's heart muscle is in danger of dying. During a stroke, the victim's brain is threatened. If you

think someone is having a stroke, call 911 immediately. Never wait to see if the symptoms go away.

It is very important for you to practice healthy behaviors to prevent a stroke. You can prevent strokes by being aware of the known risk factors, getting regular checkups, making healthy food choices, controlling your weight and blood pressure and participating in moderate physical activity on all or most days of the week.

A stroke is a disease of the body's heart and blood vessels -- its circulation system. This condition is caused by a lack of blood to the brain -- either from a clot or by a broken blood vessel. Because part of the brain cannot receive oxygen

and nutrients from blood, it starts to die and brain function is suddenly impaired.

Receiving treatment within three hours of the onset of any symptom can greatly reduce the risk of permanent damage. Unlike a heart attack, the symptoms of a stroke are often uncomfortable, but not terribly painful.

May is Stroke Awareness Month, a good time to learn about stroke's risk factors and warning signs, and teach them to others as well.

### You are at greater risk of having a stroke if you:

- are 55 or older;
- have a family history of stroke;
- have high blood pressure;

- smoke;
- have diabetes; or
- have heart or vascular disease.

### Warning Signs of a Stroke:

- sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body;

- sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding;
- sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes;
- sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination; or
- sudden, severe headache with no known cause.

### Stroke information

For more information about stroke, its warning signs, prevention and treatment, see your primary care provider or visit:

- the American Stroke Association Web site at <http://www.strokeassociation.org>,
- or the New York State Department of Health Web site at [www.nyhealth.gov](http://www.nyhealth.gov).

# Cadets build bridge near elementary school

Story and photo submitted by the Dept. of Civil and Mechanical Engineering

Students at West Point Elementary School will have a safer walk to school, thanks to the efforts of two hard-working cadets. Earlier this month, Cadets 1st Class Chris Blackburn and Tyler Scheidt completed a two-semester project involving the design and construction of a pedestrian bridge spanning the small stream that runs between the U.S. Military Academy Band quarters and the West Point Elementary School parking lot.

The cadets, both senior civil engineering majors, volunteered to do the project as an independent study course. The completed bridge replaces an old steel truss structure that had become unsafe due to extensive rust.

The project was suggested by Alan Bjornsen of the USMA Directorate of Public Works in September 2005.

After noticing the deterioration

of the old steel truss, Bjornsen recognized that designing and building a new bridge would be an excellent educational experience for cadet engineering majors. The project would be challenging, yet well within their technical capabilities. And because the new bridge would be placed onto the existing concrete abutments, it could be done at a reasonable cost, with minimal adverse environmental impact.

Guided by their faculty advisor, Col. Steve Ressler, the cadets spent most of the fall semester developing their structural design. They chose a unique "tied arch" configuration, with the wooden bridge deck suspended from a pair of heavy glue-laminated timber arches.

This configuration would normally be used for spans of considerably greater length, but the cadets chose it for its visual appeal and for the significant design challenge it represented. After many hours of discussion, research and engineering computations,

Blackburn and Scheidt submitted their design to the West Point DPW for approval in December.

After careful reviews of the structural design, materials estimates and environmental impact, the DPW approved the project and ordered the materials in February. Of particular importance were the custom made wooden arches, which were fabricated to the cadets' specifications by a company in upstate New York.

As soon as the arches and other

construction materials arrived at West Point in March, the cadets rolled up their sleeves and got to work, prefabricating structural components and pre-assembling them in Mahan Hall.

The DPW removed the old steel bridge May 2, performed repairs on the concrete abutments and then assisted the cadets with emplacement of the wooden arches May 8. Since then, Blackburn, Scheidt and several of their friends have spent roughly 100 man-hours

installing the remaining structural components, the deck and the railings, with the objective of completing the project by the end of the semester.

That they succeeded is a testament to their dedication and their desire to make a lasting contribution to the West Point community. The new bridge will be formally dedicated during Graduation Week, with the cadets' parents and friends on hand to honor them for their achievement.



Cadets 1st Class Tyler Scheidt and Chris Blackburn designed and helped construct a pedestrian bridge that crosses the stream behind Band housing and links with the West Point Elementary School parking lot. Here, with the main timbers in place, installation moves forward earlier this month.

# DOL's Thompson wins TRADOC ammo award

Story and photo by  
Spc. Benjamin Gruver  
Staff Writer

West Point's ammunition manager recently earned the installation the honor of being the most efficient training facility in the Army.

Bill Thompson's 97 percent efficiency rating as West Point's ammunition supply point manager garnered him the Training Ammunition Manager of the Year for 2005 by the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command.

"[It is important] because of the war and the shortage of ammunition," Thompson said. "If you don't state what your requirements are and you don't use what you request, you are taking that ammo out of the hands of combat troops."

The retired sergeant major spent 23 years of service in the Army working with ammunition and said he has always been ranked one of the top ammo managers throughout his career.

"It is self satisfying to be recognized as the best of the best," he said. Thompson, came to West Point from Fort Knox, Ky., eight years ago to take over a poorly managed ASP with an ammo usage rating less than 40 percent.

"The first year I was here I got us up to 95 percent," said Thompson. "We went from the bottom installation all the way to

*"We have a record of utilizing our ammo well,"*

**William Barriage**  
deputy director DOL

the top in the first year.

Since then he has kept West Point as one of the top two installations in ammo efficiency seven out of the eight years he has been here. This is his second time at the top.

A big part of what Thompson's job entails is forecasting how much ammunition is going to be needed and then requesting it from TRADOC and the Department of the Army. That request includes briefing general officers and being able to justify the use of the ammo.

"What I end up doing as the ammo manager is going up to DA G3 and G4 briefing general officers on why we need the ammunition and why we need it more than other units," said Thompson. "Also the ammo manager needs to know the difference in ammo because there might be a primary and alternate item, so he has got to know if there is something else that we can use."

Aside from making sure there is enough ammo for the training, Thompson is also responsible for the safety and maintenance of the ammunition, which is normally done by someone else.

"Because I've done everything in ammo, I am able to manage

my time to do the ASP side of the house and the safety, surveillance side," he explained. Thompson said he has worked in every facet of ammunition in his 36 years of experience.

Thompson, in his time here, has shown that he is of tremendous value to the U.S. Military Academy as the ammo manager, said William Barriage, the deputy director of the Directorate of Logistics.

"The bottom line is that by his managing those resources so well, we maintain an excellent reputation for going after future scarce resources," said Barriage. "We have a record of utilizing our ammo well."

"It says that he takes a lot of pride in supporting the requirements of USMA and West Point and that he is a critical enabler of the U.S. Corps of Cadets achieving their training objectives," Barriage added.



**Ammunition Supply Point Manager Bill Thompson, of the Directorate of Logistics, works at his desk where he manages West Point's ammunition resources. Thompson earned the TRADOC Training Ammunition Manager of the Year award.**

# Graduation Week Schedule

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
<b>SUNDAY</b>		
Noon-5 p.m.	Alumni Headquarters Open	Herbert Hall
Noon-5 p.m.	Alumni Class Registrations	Class Hotels
6 p.m.	Alumni Social Activities	Class sites
<b>MONDAY</b>		
8 a.m.-4 p.m.	Alumni Headquarters Open	Herbert Hall
11 a.m.-1 p.m.	Alumni Luncheons and Meetings	Various Locations
10:30-11:30 a.m.	Superintendent Speaks to Alumni	Eisenhower Hall Theater
3:30-4:30 p.m.	Alumni Organ Recital	Cadet Chapel
<b>TUESDAY</b>		
8 a.m.-4 p.m.	Alumni Headquarters Open	Herbert Hall
9 a.m.	Alumni Mass	Most Holy Trinity Chapel
10:05 a.m.	Assembly for Alumni Exercises	Thayer Walk
10:20 a.m.	Alumni March to Thayer Statue	Diagonal Walk
10:35 a.m.	Alumni Exercises	Thayer Statue
11 a.m.	Alumni Review & Distinguished Graduate Award Presentation	The Plain
12:15 p.m.	Alumni Luncheon & Superintendent's Address	Cadet Mess
2:30-3:30 p.m.	Commandant's Award Ceremony	Crest Hall, Eisenhower Hall
6 p.m.	Alumni Dinners or Picnics	Class Sites
7:30 p.m.	Cadet Glee Club Concert	Eisenhower Hall Theater
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>		
8 a.m.-4 p.m.	1st Div/Nininger Hall Open	Building 747
8 a.m.-Noon	Alumni Headquarters Open	Herbert Hall
1-5 p.m.	Tour Superintendent's Home	Qtrs. 100
1-6 p.m.	Cadet Club Open Houses	Various Locations
1-2:30 p.m.	Superintendent's Reception	Eisenhower Hall
	1st Regiment	
3-4:30 p.m.	Superintendent's Reception	Eisenhower Hall
	2nd Regiment	

<b>THURSDAY</b>	
8 a.m.-4 p.m.	1st Div/Nininger Hall
10:50-11:00 a.m.	Cadet Drill Team Parade
11 a.m.	Superintendent's Awards
Following Review	Cadet Parachute Team
1-2:30 p.m.	Superintendent's Reception
	3rd Regiment
1-4 p.m.	Academic Awards Convocation
1-5 p.m.	Tour Superintendent's Home
3-4:30 p.m.	Superintendent's Reception
	4th Regiment
7 p.m.	Catholic Baccalaureate
	Protestant Baccalaureate
	Jewish Baccalaureate
	Eastern Orthodox Service
<b>FRIDAY</b>	
8 a.m.-4 p.m.	1st Div/Nininger Hall
10:30 a.m.	Graduation Parade
2 p.m.	Awards Convocation
7-8:30 p.m.	Graduation Banquet
8:30 p.m.-1 a.m.	Graduation Hop
<b>SATURDAY</b>	
6 a.m.	Shuttle buses begin running
7 a.m.	Gates Open to public
8:40 a.m.	Entrance of the Class
9 a.m.	Graduation Exercises
11 a.m.-3 p.m.	Bar Pinning Ceremony

**PLACES OF INTEREST:**  
**Visitors Center and Gift Shop:**  
 Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.  
 Sat., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
**West Point Museum:**  
 Mon.-Wed., 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.  
 Thurs. - Sat., 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
**AOG Gift Shop:**  
 Mon.-Sun., 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
**Fort Putnam:**  
 Sun. -Thurs., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
 Fri. 9 a.m. - Noon.  
 Sat. 1 to 4 p.m.  
**Constitution Island:**  
 Wed. -Thur., 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

## SECURITY ISSUES:

West Point is operating under a heightened security posture. All visitors must enter through Thayer Gate or Stony Lonesome Gate only and should expect minor delays. Visitors should use the shuttle buses from A-F Lots throughout the week. Everyone over age 16 must have valid photo ID in their possession at all times.

## GRADUATION DAY:

Everyone must pass through metal detectors. The following items are not allowed: large bags, backpacks, coolers, umbrellas, glass and can containers. Those working graduation should arrive before 6 or after 7 a.m. Stadium will be closed for security sweep between 6 and 7 a.m. Arrive early to avoid delays at the gates.

- Parking is in designated lots only and is subject to change.
- Cadets are limited to four guests in their vehicles. A video link will be available in the West Point Museum.
- The Graduation Exercise will be conducted regardless of severe weather. The severe weather situation will be monitored.
- A guided tour of the Superintendent's Home will be held on Wednesday and Thursday. Self-guided garden tours will be available between Eisenhower Hall and the Superintendent's Home.
- Reserved seating for the Graduation Banquet will be available to members of the Class of 2006. Tickets will be available at Michie Stadium from 7 to 9 a.m. May 19.
- Bar pinning shuttles start immediately after the graduation exercises. Follow the signs to the Blue Bus Route area and then back to the parking area.

**ALUMNI REVIEW and DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE AWARDS**

# Schedules and Events

all Open	Building 747
performance	The Plain
wards Review	The Plain
am demo	The Plain
reception	Eisenhower Hall
eremonies	Various locations
t's Home	Qtrs. 100
reception	Eisenhower Hall
reate Mass	Most Holy Trinity Chapel
reate Service	Cadet Chapel
te Service	Jewish Chapel
ervice	St. Martin's Chapel
all Open	Building 747
	The Plain
n	Eisenhower Hall Theater
t	Cadet Mess
	Eisenhower Hall
aning to Stadium	Parking lots
ic	Michie Stadium
ss of 2006	Michie Stadium
es	Michie Stadium
onies	Check with your cadet

and shuttle bus service is available. The Cadet Mess. Limited overflow seating with West Point Club and the Thayer Hotel. Conducted in Michie Stadium except in the case of Reception is Eisenhower Hall. Reception's home is available to all guests of the West Point Club. Seating will be available from 1 to 5 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday. Seating is available all day. Transportation is provided to the Superintendent's quarters. Reception Ceremony is available by ticket only through the Superintendent's quarters. Seating for General Public Seating can be obtained at the Superintendent's quarters. There is no cost for tickets. Seating is available only after Graduation and run until 4:30 p.m. These shuttles will travel to the Central Post Office and return afterward.

**AWARD PRESENTATION, TUESDAY, 10:30 A.M., THE PLAIN**

## GRAD WEEK SHUTTLE SERVICE

A special Graduation Week shuttle service will provide transportation between lettered lots and all major West Point areas. This service will augment the daily shuttles and run Tues., Wed., Thurs., 8 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday, 8 a.m. to 1:30 a.m.

### Minutes After the Hour

Visitor's Center/ Pershing Center	0	30
Buffalo Soldier Field	2	32
Mills/Thayer intersection	3	33
Mahan Hall	5	35
West Point Club	6	36
Trophy Point	7	37
North Dock/Ike Hall tunnel	9	39
Old PX (K Lot)	12	42
H-Lot (Comm, PX)	22	52
Holleder Center	25	55
Herbert Hall	26	56
Buffalo Soldier Field	27	57
Visitor's Center/ Pershing Center	30	60

*Note: Additional stops will be added Thursday evening to support the Baccalaureate Chapel Services.*

**SUPERINTENDENT'S RECEPTION** -- A special shuttle will run between the lettered lots and Ike Hall, Wed. and Thurs., noon to 6 p.m. A separate shuttle will run from Ike Hall tunnel and the Supe's house from 1 to 5 p.m.

**GRADUATION PARADE** -- A special shuttle will provide direct service Friday, starting at 8:30 a.m., between the lettered lots and the parade.

**GRADUATION BANQUET** -- A special shuttle starting at 5:30 p.m., Friday, will run between the lettered lots and the Graduation Banquet/Hop.

**GRADUATION DAY** -- A special shuttle will provide direct service between the parking areas and the stadium, Sat., 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**CONSTITUTION ISLAND** -- A special shuttle between Ike Hall and South Dock will run Wed. and Thur. between 12:30 and 6 p.m. to South Dock for boat service to Constitution Island and return.

## GRAD WEEK PARKING

EVENT	GENERAL	HANDICAPPED
<b>TUESDAY</b>		
Alumni events	A-F Lots	Clinton Lot
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>		
Reception	A-F Lots	Ike Hall
1st and 2nd Reg.		
<b>THURSDAY</b>		
Supe's Award Review	A-F Lots	Clinton Lot
Reception	A-F Lots	Ike Hall
3rd and 4th Reg.		
<b>BACCALAUREATE</b>		
Most Holy Trinity	A-F Lots	Chapel Lot
Jewish Chapel	A-F Lots	Chapel Lot
Cadet Chapel	A-F Lots	Chapel Lot
<b>FRIDAY</b>		
Awards Convocation	A-F Lots	Ike Hall
Graduation Parade	A-F Lots	Clinton
Graduation Banquet	A-F Lots	North Courtyard
<b>SATURDAY</b>		
Graduation	D, E, F and H Lots/BSF	H Lot

## SHUTTLE BUS SCHEDULES

### NORTHBOUND SHUTTLE

First bus-6:15 a.m., Last at 4:45 p.m.  
Pickup Area Min. After Hour

Pershing Center/Spellman	15	45
Thayer Hotel(exit ramp)	17	47
Mills/Thayer Road	18	48
Thayer/Cullum Road	19	49
Mahan Hall Tunnel	20	50
Library Corner	21	51
Thayer Statue	22	52
Bldg. 667A	23	53
Bldg. 681	24	54
Washington/Buckner	26	56
Keller Hospital	28	58
Post Laundry	29	59
Motor Pool	30	01
Child Development Center	45	15

### SOUTHBOUND SHUTTLE

First bus-6:15 a.m., Last at 4:45 p.m.  
Pickup Area Min. After Hour

Child Development Center	15	45
Motor Pool/Rest Stop	29	59
Post Laundry	30	60
Keller Hospital	31	01
Washington/Buckner	34	04
Bldg. 681	35	05
Bldg. 667A	36	06
Thayer Statue	37	07
Library Corner	38	08
Mahan Hall Tunnel	39	09
Thayer/Cullum Road	40	10
Buffalo Soldier Field	41	11
Bldg. 622/626	42	12
Pershing Center/Spellman	45	15

**PLEASE NOTE: BUS DRIVERS WILL STOP TO PICK-UP AND DISCHARGE RIDERS AT OTHER SAFE LOCATIONS WHEN SIGNALLED.**



## MAY 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 Hollender 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 <b>Home of Lil' Skeeters BBQ &amp; Primo's Pizza</b></p>	<p><b>19</b> Bull Pond Opens for the Season, 1400 Mongolian BBQ, WP Club, 1700-2100</p>	<p><b>20</b>  <b>Annual West Point Spring Scramble</b>, WP Golf, 0800-1300 <b>Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island</b>, ITR, 0900-1600 <b>Kids Fishing Derby</b>, Round Pond, 0900-1300 <b>Dance Recital at Robinson Aud.</b>, YS, 1400-1600</p>	
<p><b>21</b> Tour NYC, ITR, 0900-1700</p>	<p><b>22</b> Golf Course Closed for Outside Event Wee Ones Play Group, ACS, 0930-1100 Swim Registration Begins, YS 1000-1400</p>	<p><b>23</b> Preseparation Briefing, ACS, 1400-1500 Black &amp; Gold Volunteer Award Ceremony, AVC, 0945-1000</p>	<p><b>24</b>  Spinning, 0540, Strength &amp; Sculpt, 0550, Pump Up the Volume, 0900, Spinning, 1700, ABSolutions, 1730, Steprageous, 1800, Yogalates, 1845 Every Wednesday in May at the MWR Fitness Center</p>	<p><b>25</b> Theater Van to Broadway, ITR, 1700-2330</p>	<p><b>26</b> WP Club Closes after Lunch to support Graduation Banquet Imax Theater, Enrolled SAS Children, 1300-1500</p>	<p><b>27</b>  <b>USMA Class of 2006 Graduation</b></p>
<p><b>28</b> WP Club Closed, Memorial Day Holiday</p>	<p><b>29</b> <b>Memorial Day Holiday</b> All MWR Activities Closed Except for Round Pond, Bowling, Morgan Farm &amp; Golf</p>	<p><b>30</b> Auto &amp; Crafts Closed For Monday Holiday Family Readiness Group Information Session, ACS, 1900-2000</p>	<p><b>31</b> Overseas Briefing, Germany, 1500, Korea, 1330, ACS</p>	<p><b>JUNE 1</b>  <b>5K/10K Race Registration Begins</b>, on the web @ Active.com <b>Soldier Appreciation Day</b>, Camp Buckner, 0930 <b>Targeting Stress</b>, ACS, 1130-1300</p>	<p><b>2</b> Budgeting/Debt Liquidation, 0830, Insurance, 0945, ACS Pony Softball Tournaments, MWR Sports, 0700-Dusk</p>	<p><b>3</b> Golf Course Closed, Dawn till 1400 Shawangunk Wine Trail, ITR, 1000-1800</p>

**Solution to Weekly Sudoku**

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

### YS grants

The Department of Education has announced two new grants for the 2006-2007 school year. The Academic Competitiveness and National SMART grants will provide high performing college students with up to \$4,000 a year for maintaining a 3.0 or better GPA. For more info., call 938-8899.

### Command Channel 8/23

May 19 - 27

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

**MONDAY - THURSDAY**  
9 a.m. Army Newswatch  
6 p.m. Army Newswatch

**MAY 26**  
9 a.m. Army Newswatch  
6 p.m. 2006 Graduation Banquet (Live)

**MAY 27**  
9 a.m. Class of 2006 Graduation (Live)

### Memorial Day ceremony

There will be a Memorial Day commemoration ceremony to honor the nation's war dead and those still missing in action at Trophy Point's Battle Monument May 29 at noon.

11:45 a.m. until approximately 12:30 p.m.  
West Point's Garrison Commander Col. Brian Crawford will be the speaker.  
Crawford and Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Murriel will place the wreath at Battle Monument.

Cullum Road, from the Thayer extension to the 101 intersection will be closed from

### NOW SHOWING

in the movie theater at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

Friday -- Ice Age 2: The Meltdown, PG, 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday -- Take the Lead, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday -- Lucky Number Slevin, R, 9:30 p.m.  
May 26 -- Benchwarmers, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.  
May 27 -- Ice Age 2: The Meltdown, PG, 7:30 p.m.  
The theater schedule can also be found at [www.aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com).

# MWR Blurbs

## WPC May discounts

The West Point Club is offering special rates for the families of deployed individuals for the month of May.

Call 938-5120 or go to the WPC Web site at <http://www.usma.edu/mwr/ACTIVITY/WPC/Wpc.htm>.

## BOSS Poker Tournament

BOSS is hosting a Poker Tournament tonight at Buffalo Soldier Pavilion. The event is free and open to the entire West Point community. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., with play beginning at 7 p.m.

Pre-register by calling 938-8063/6497.

## Kids Fishing Derby

MWR and the West Point Bass Club will host the annual Kids Fishing Derby Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Round Pond.

The event is open to all young anglers ages 5 to 15 who are residents of West Point, Stewart, the Town of Highlands and West Point employees.

Pre-registration is recommended by calling 938-2503.

## MWR Fitness Center

Beginning May 30 the MWR Fitness Center will expand its hours to Mon. - Fri. 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sat. 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Sun. 1 to 6 p.m.

For more info. call 938-6490.

The weigh-in for the "Burnin' Up for Summer" fitness challenge has started and runs through

Saturday. Get in shape for summer while earning points at various MWR Fitness Center activities and qualify to win prizes.

For more info. go to <http://www.usma.edu/mwr/ACTIVITY/Fitness/Fitness.htm> or call 938-6490.

## All-Army Ironman Team

You could qualify to compete on the All-Army Ironman Team for the Hawaii Ironman Championship.

Apply online at <https://armysports.cfsc.army.mil> using your AKO e-mail address by June 1. For more info. call the Sports Office at 938-3066.

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

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

## Shades of Green

Now through June 4, book a 5-night, 6-day Disney vacation between Aug. 13 and Sept. 30 and receive the Disney Dining Plan free.

Now all Shades of Green Resort vacations can be booked through the ITR Office. To plan your next get away call 938-2401.

## 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 from May 27 to Sept. 4.

## Conner Road closure

Connor Road between Benedict and Sladen roads will be closed to traffic until approximately June 3 to allow the New Brick Renovation Contractor to repave the road.

Access to Benedict Road will be restricted to the eastern end of the road during this time period. In addition, the contractor has requested and received permission to work within the confines of the Phase III construction zone during Graduation Week, Mon. through Thurs.

They will not be working May 26. Residents of Benedict Road who expect large trucks either delivering or picking up household goods during the period should contact their area coordinator, if they have not already made their

need known.

## 2006 Housing Draw info tables

Community groups and organizations are invited to set up and "man" an information table at the 2006 Housing Draw.

The draw will be held June 5 and June 7 in Robinson Auditorium, Thayer Hall, Building 601.

The draw will begin at 10:30 a.m. and is expected to conclude no later than 12:30 p.m.

Inbound officer families will be attending the draw and will be encouraged to visit the tables to learn about community services and activities.

Interested organizations should contact Martha Hinote, 938-4407, or by e-mail indicating your interest. At that time, all of the "rules" you

need to know to have a table at the draw will be presented.

All organizations must call ahead for a reservation by June 1.

# West Point Tours curtailed for May 23-27

WEST POINT, N.Y. -- The U.S. Military Academy will not provide tours of the academy grounds Tuesday through Saturday. The Visitors Center information desk and the West Point Museum will be open to the Public.

On Memorial Day, May 29, tours will start at 9:45 a.m., but will be curtailed during Memorial Day activities at noon. The last tour will leave the visitors center at 3:30 p.m.

Photographic identification is required for all adults wishing to take the guided tour of the academy.

## U.S. Military Academy Band West Point, New York Upcoming Concerts

### CELEBRATING AMERICA'S HEROS

Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 3:00 p.m.

Eisenhower Hall Theatre

Concert Band

#### Selections:

Light Cavalry Overture  
Armed Forces Medley  
Steadfast Leadership

### CELEBRATING THE ARMY'S BIRTHDAY

Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.

Trophy Point Amphitheatre

Concert Band

**Free and Open to the Public**

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

# What's Happening

## Farmer's Museum

The Orange County Farmer's Museum on Route 17K in Montgomery, N.Y. is holding its opening day events Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Admission and parking are free both days.

Two of the opening weekend's highlights will be the garden tractor pulls Sat. and the antique tractor pulls Sun.

Antique farm machinery will be on display, along with Civil War re-enactors, a petting zoo and craft activities for the kids.

Call (845)541-6784 for more info.

## Awana awards ceremony

The Awana awards ceremony and end of year celebration is Sunday at 6 p.m. at the West Point Middle School Auditorium.

Dinner and dessert will follow.

Call 446-8860 for more information.

## WPWC

The WPWC Shoppe is open Wednesday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., but will be closed Wednesday.

The Shop will close for the summer after May 31.

For more info., call 446-8798.

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

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

## American Red Cross classes

CPR/First Aid classes will be held Wed. and Thurs. from 4 to 8 p.m.

Pre-register by calling 938-4100.

## Summer playground fun

The Protestant Women of the Chapel will host weekly summer playground fun beginning May 31 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the Post Chapel playground. Call 859-4182/446-5307 for more info.

## WPES Field Day, June 1

The West Point Elementary School will hold its annual Field Day June 1 from 9 a.m. to noon at Shea Stadium.

Team information will be sent home May 31. Please wear a shirt with your team's color.

Parents are welcome to come and cheer. The inclement weather site is Gillis Field House.

## Quarters 100 tours

The Superintendent's Quarters will be available for tours Wed. from 1 to 5 p.m.; and also Thursday from 1 to 5 p.m.

Shuttle transportation will be available between Quarters 100 and Eisenhower Hall where the graduation receptions are.

## WP School Board meeting

The next meeting of the West Point School Board is June 7 at 4:30 p.m. in the West Point Middle School conference room. The meeting is open to the public.

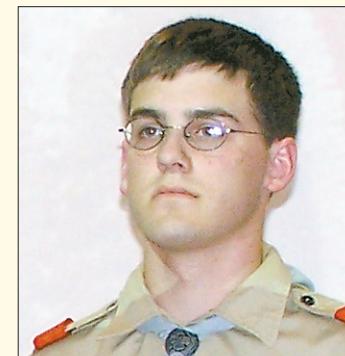


## Graffiti

The Military Police ask that anyone with information about the graffiti at Lee Gate and the West Point school, (above), recently, call them at (845) 938-3333.

PHOTO BY PMO

## Eagle Scouts



In a joint ceremony held May 5, at Thayer Hall, Steven Nelson, (left) son of Col. and Mrs. Ray Nelson, and Warren Hitchcock, son of Chief Warrant Officer 5 and Mrs. Jay Hitchcock, each received their Eagle Scout Badge. Nelson's project was to clean out the stream behind the elementary school on West Point of trash and construction debris. Hitchcock's project was to restore a trail to a camping site located at Camp Buckner.

PHOTOS BY CW5 JAY HITCHCOCK

# Troop 23 takes part in 'CSI:West Point'

Story and photo by  
Col. John Smith  
Scoutmaster, Troop 23

West Point's Scout Hut was the last place in the world a burglar should have attempted a break-in May 10, as Lt. Col. Bob Brown, the Director of Emergency Services, taught 34 Boy Scouts from local Troop 23 how to collect fingerprints and other crime scene evidence.

Assisted by Military Police Investigators Christopher Hennigan and Billy MacNair, Brown taught the eager Scouts how fingerprints were used as signatures in ancient China and Babylonia, and that they were used for prisoner identification for the first time by New York State's prison system in 1903.

The Scouts also learned the main components of fingerprint patterns and how law enforcement investigators gather fingerprints at crime scenes. As expected, the Scouts asked questions about the uniqueness of prints and the folklore surrounding criminals' attempts to hide and even remove their prints.

What they learned was that technology has advanced so that evidence -- including prints, DNA and fiber samples -- can be collected by many techniques and even in very small quantities. The real fun came when the Scouts themselves took fingerprints from their friends

and they in turn were fingerprinted. This training gave the Scouts a glimpse into law enforcement as a career option and allowed them to complete the requirements for the Fingerprinting Merit Badge.

Troop 23 will continue its law enforcement theme as Scouts will begin working on the Crime Prevention Merit Badge during the last weeks of May.



Lt. Col. Bob Brown, West Point's Director of Emergency Services, instructs members of Boy Scout Troop 23 in fingerprinting techniques.

# Army and Community Sports

## Army boxers outstanding at NCBA Championships

By Capt. John Kiel  
Army Boxing Team coach

The Army Boxing team completed another outstanding year at the National Collegiate Boxing Association's (NCBA) Championships in Reno, Nev., in early April.

Army walked away with the bronze trophy after being narrowly defeated by UNLV (first place) and Air Force (second place). In fact, only one point separated the three teams in the closest finish in NCBA history.

The Army team sent nine boxers to compete in the national championship, all of whom had earned a berth by qualifying at the Eastern Regional tournament earlier this spring.

Of the nine boxers who went to

Reno, seven were named collegiate boxing All-Americans.

Junior Reggie Smith was awarded a gold medal and became the best 185-pound collegiate boxer in the country, when the referee mercifully stopped his finals bout with his opponent from UNLV in the third round. Smith, who finished second in the country last year, was the odds on favorite to win the gold. A crowd favorite due to his aggressive style and heavy hands, Smith was selected as the boxing team's other co-captain for the next season. Smith will be the "boxer to beat" at next year's Nationals in the 185-pound weight class.

Sophomore Ovi Iacob, an exchange student from Romania, became a first team All-American by clobbering his opponent from Navy in the finals. Iacob used his

jab, tremendous right, a powerful left hook, flawless movement and outstanding ring generalship to be selected as the tournament's most outstanding boxer.

For Iacob, that was his third such award, as he was selected as the most outstanding boxer at the 50th Brigade Boxing Open as well as the Eastern Regional tournament. No doubt, Iacob will be the "class" of the 175-pound weight class for the next two seasons.

Senior team captains, Scottie Yeung and Matt Pride, each garnered second-team All-American honors in the 119 and the 165-pound weight classes, respectively. Pride, who won the national championship last year in the 156-pound weight class, is being heavily recruited by the World Class Athlete and All-Army boxing programs.

Sophomore and first-year boxer, Steve Solaja, boxed brilliantly in the 195-pound weight class and was named a second team All-American, losing a close bout to a much more experienced boxer.

Look for Solaja to come back even better and more determined next year. Junior Mike Benedosso, one of next year's team co-captains, lost an extremely close decision to the ultimate NCBA champion in the 112-pound weight class. Benedosso is an exceptionally dedicated boxer,

who is the odds on favorite to win the 112-pound weight class next year.

Heavyweight sophomore Greg Maduro went the distance in his semi-final match before coming up on the short end of another close decision. Maduro finished the year as a third team All-American.

With five All-Americans, two national champions and a plethora of young Warriors coming back, Army boxing is going strong and the future looks bright.



Jason Shanahan (front left to right), Daniel Pickering, Peter Thens (top left to right), Vince Lindenmeyer and George Wetzl won the "A" Championship Series Volleyball title for 1st Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment against Social Science #1 at the Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center Monday.

PHOTO BY JIM MCGUINNESS

### STAFF & FACULTY NOONTIME VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

**"A" League Championships**  
Soc. Sci. #1 25, 1/1 16  
1/1 25, Soc. Sci. #1 23  
1/1 15, Soc. Sci. #1 12  
1/1 wins series 2-1.

**"B" League Championships**  
History 25, D/Law 10  
D/Law 25, History 12  
D/Law 15, History 11  
D/LAW wins series 2-1.

### Intramural summer softball change

The West Point intramural summer softball league is cancelled due to upcoming construction at Buffalo Soldier Field.

Before construction begins, though, there will be a double-elimination intramural softball tournament beginning May 30 and running until June 24.

To sign up call Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Jim McGuinness at (845) 938-3066 or e-mail him at *Jim.McGuinness@usma.edu* by May 26.



Junior Reggie Smith (left) and sophomore Ovi Iacob took home NCBA titles at the championships in Reno, Nev., in early April.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY ARMY BOXING TEAM

## Crew has strong showing at Dad Vail

By Cadet 1st Class  
Marc Esposito

During the course of two days in Philadelphia, the men and women of Army Crew participated in the largest collegiate regatta in the United States.

The Dad Vail National Championships held from May 5-6 pitted Army against some of the toughest competition throughout the United States.

Over the course of the competition, Army presented a strong showing as the Men's Novice Four and Eight, the Women's Novice Four and Eight, and the Women's Varsity Eight all reached the semi-finals.

The Men's Junior Varsity Eight pulled up to the awards dock in front of thousands of cheering fans as they took home the bronze barely trailing behind Temple and St. Joseph's.

The Men's Varsity Eight also raced in the finals and can claim

that they are the sixth fastest crew in the nation.

The Dad Vail National Regatta signals an end to the racing season, but the season could not have happened without the hard work from all of the coaches, crews and staff.

For some cadets this is their last time participating in a collegiate level event and we would like to take the time to recognize them for their hard work and dedication over their four years at West Point. They are Commodore Pete Mathews; Men's Captain Daniel Mahoney; Coxswain Nick Shaw; Rowers Sam Brown and Jonathon Florence; Coach Phil Moffatt; and Staff Members Saddle Colon and Marc Esposito. All of us at Army Crew wish them the best of luck in their futures and in their careers as officers.

If you would like to know more about Army Crew please visit our Web site at <http://www.usma.edu/uscc/dca/clubs/crew/index.html>.

## Men's Tennis falls to Virginia at NCAAs

By Eric Melanson  
Athletic Communications

The Army men's tennis team's season came to an end Saturday as it fell to eighth-seeded Virginia (22-8), 4-0, in the first round of the 2006 NCAA Tournament at Snyder Tennis Center in Charlottesville, Va.

"Virginia is a great team, maybe the best we've played since I've been here, they have a legitimate chance to win it all," claimed head coach Jim Poling. "We fought hard and I couldn't be prouder. This is another step for our program and don't worry we'll be back."

The Black Knights conclude the season with a 12-16 record.

Virginia started the match by taking two doubles matches. At No. 2 doubles, the Virginia's Somdev Devvarman and Treat Huey defeated junior Michael Good and sophomore Eddie Kang, 8-2. Darrin Cohen and Doug Stewart wrapped up the point for the Cavaliers by beating junior Kevin Harris and freshman Sean Harris, 8-1, at No. 3 doubles.

In singles action, the Cavalier's Rylan Rizza, who also carries a No. 54 singles ranking, held off

junior John Houghton at No. 2 singles, 6-4, 6-0, opening the lead to 2-0.

At No. 3 singles, Stewart defeated freshman Phil Muhawi, 6-2, 6-2. Huey sealed the Black Knights fate with his victory over Good at No. 4 singles, 6-0, 6-4.

## Hudson Valley Orienteering Sunday at Fahnestock State Park

There will be orienteering instruction and a competition May 21 on the Moneyhole map from the Taconic Outdoor Education Center in Fahnestock State Park.

The Hudson Valley Orienteering Club will set both beginner and advanced courses. Free instruction will begin at 10:45 a.m. and the orienteering starts at 11 a.m. and

will run to 1 p.m.

For orienteering, youth groups must have signed parent permission forms, which are available on the HVO Web page. The events will be held rain or shine.

The Taconic Outdoor Education Center is also having its annual Outdoor Recreation Festival from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with activities to

include bird banding, kayaking, canoeing, hiking, a bird walk, a high ropes course and a demonstration of live birds of prey.

For directions, call the HVO information line at 973-625-0499; or log onto the HVO Web page at [www.hvo.us.orienteering.org](http://www.hvo.us.orienteering.org) for details and other scheduled events.

## Volkssmarch Club of WP walk

Volkssport Club of West Point welcomes everyone to a non-competitive walk at Mills-Norrie State Park May 21.

The 10km and 5km trails are on paved roads and some gravel roads within the Park.

There are beautiful views of the Hudson River, the Esopus Meadows Lighthouse and Mills Mansion.

Trail rating is "2" due to hills.

Pets on a leash are permitted.

Registration for the walk will be at the Mills-Norrie State Park Marina between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

All walkers must finish by 4 p.m. IVV distance and event credit is \$3. Participation without credit is free.

Parking, restrooms and water are available at the start-finish area. The event will be held

regardless of weather conditions.

To reach the Mills-Norrie State Park take Route 9 North to Staatsburgh, approximately three miles north of the Vanderbilt Historic Site in Hyde Park.

Turn left onto Old Post Road and follow signs to the Park on the left and signs in the Park to the marina.

For more information call 845-462-6845.

## Junior Black Knights Football Signups

The Town of Highlands/West Point Youth Football Association is holding registration for the 2006 season this Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Highland Falls Middle School.

The Junior Black Knights (formerly the Falcons from last season) have four teams at four different age levels.

The league is open to boys and girls ages 5-14. The teams play throughout Orange County, and their home games are to be played at Michie and Shea Stadiums.

With the exciting name change this season, players will be wearing the colors and similar uniforms of the Army Football team.

The cost to play is \$85, plus a \$50 refundable equipment deposit.

This is the final registration before equipment issue day in July.

For more information, please contact Ben Liotta at 446-5363 or on the team's Web site at [www.jrblackknights.com](http://www.jrblackknights.com).