

October changes (as of 10/4)	
C FUND	+ 1.16 percent
I FUND	+ 1.24 percent
S FUND	+ 0.64 percent



Grad returns to earth

Astronaut U.S. Army Col. Jeffrey N. Williams, USMA 1980, is assisted by Russian search and recovery personnel after landing in Kazakhstan Monday. Williams, who was in space for six months, was the primary flight engineer and NASA science officer aboard the International Space Station.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NASA

'97 grad earns award for valor

Story and photo by
Eric S. Bartelt
Sports Editor

The Association of Graduates awarded Maj. Ryan L. Worthan the inaugural Alexander E. Nininger Award for Valor at Arms Sept. 27 at Washington Hall here.

The Nininger Award is named after 2nd Lt. Nininger, a 1941 U.S. Military Academy graduate, who was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously for his actions in the Philippines during World War II. According to AOG officials, they view the award as something directed to the Corps of Cadets and younger officers more so than the Thayer or the Distinguished Graduate Awards.

Worthan, a 1997 West Point graduate, received a Silver Star for demonstrating conspicuous valor and gallantry in action against many dozens of al-Qaeda and Taliban guerrillas on the evening of Sept. 29, 2003, at Shkin Firebase in Afghanistan, which is two miles



Maj. Ryan L. Worthan from the Pakistan border.

The firebase served as a choking point of enemy fighters coming out of the mountainous terrain between the borders of Afghanistan and Pakistan. That Sept. 29 evening turned into a fierce 12-hour battle that tested the men of A Company, 1st Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, 10th Mountain Division under Worthan's command.

Worthan earned the Silver Star
See NININGER on page 3

Congress sets '07 military pay at 2.2 percent, civilian raise likely to match

By Rick Maze and
Tim Kauffman
Federal Times

Congress has set the Jan. 1 military pay raise at 2.2 percent. And that means it's all but certain that federal civilian employees will get the same.

A 2.2 percent average increase would be the smallest raise for civilian employees since 1988 and

the smallest military pay increase since 1994. While it would keep pace with inflation -- which is projected to climb 2.2 percent in 2007 -- it would do nothing to close the lingering gap between government and private-sector pay. Civilian employees on average are paid about 13 percent below private-sector workers, while the military pay gap is about 4.5 percent.

The 2.2 percent raise is what the Bush administration asked for in its budget blueprint in February, and in the end, Congress decided it could not afford to do more for service members.

The House earlier this year endorsed a 2.7 percent military raise proposed by the House Armed Services military personnel panel. But that proposal never had a chance of winning full congressional

approval, according to sources involved in negotiations to write the final 2007 Defense budget.

While the full House and the Senate Appropriations Committee both back a 2.7 percent pay hike for civilian workers, it's highly unlikely Congress would approve a higher raise for federal workers than for service members. The bill that contains the civilian pay raise -- the Transportation, Treasury,

Housing and Urban Development and Judiciary spending bill -- has cleared the House, but likely won't be taken up by the full Senate until Congress returns for a lame-duck session following the November election.

Appropriations act funds on terror, Soldier support signed

By Sgt. Sara Wood
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) -- President Bush signed into law H.R. 5631, the "Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2007," which appropriates the funds needed to fight the war on

terror, advance other U.S. interests abroad and support the armed forces Saturday.

The bill includes an additional \$70 billion in emergency funds to pay for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan through early next year, including nearly \$24 billion for the Army and Marine Corps

to repair and replace worn-out equipment. The new funding brings to \$507 billion the total amount authorized by Congress for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and other anti-terrorism efforts.

The bill provides \$378 billion for core Pentagon programs, about a five percent increase, though

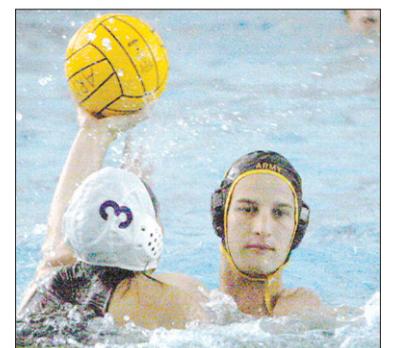
slightly less than Bush sought.

Some highlights of the act include:

- increasing the 2007 active-duty end strength by 30,000 to 512,400 and the Army National Guard end strength by more than 17,000 to 350,000

See FUNDS on page 3

INSIDE



Water Polo, see page 14

Commentary: The Art of Reflection

Commentary by Chaplain
Cynthia Lindemeyer

We are busy people. We know that. Yet, we also know that if we continue traveling on the West Point autobahn, we'll miss something—the proverbial, “If you don't stop, you don't see anything.” That is not to say that we neglect thinking on our experiences (no matter how much our pedal is to the metal), if only at a purely subliminal level.

I ask you to stop a few minutes and join me at a rest stop that overlooks the panoramic scene capturing the week of Sept. 25. Three concurrent events come into view: a funeral, a court-martial, and the Detainee Bill.

On Tuesday, tragedy was re-awakened as our global war on terror section of the West Point cemetery severed yet another young graduate from our lives. Tragedy may be the first response to 2nd Lt. Emily Perez's death, but there is

joy as well. Joy from a theological viewpoint which embraces that Emily, who very much embraced Christianity, is no longer among us (that is the tragedy), but that she is very much alive in an eternal place Christians identify as the Kingdom of God (that is the joy). Therefore, a Christian would process her death much differently than one who believes that once we die, end of story.

On Thursday, the guilty verdict in the historic court-martial encompassed two sets of responses on the emotional spectrum. For the two women, they experienced justice. For the convicted young man, he experienced a realization that the potential within that brought him to West Point would be relocated to prison. That alone is enough scenery to reflect on without even thinking about the affects of the verdict upon family members, friends and the military judicial process.

At about the same time the court-martial ended, the Congressional attempt to legalize military commissions and clarify interrogative techniques appeared. Maybe this info came into focus as a 30-second sound bite on the Thursday evening news. Before we could process the information, the kids needed help with homework, dinner preparations preceded reflection or the newscaster moved on to the next sound bite. At first glance, maybe the legislation has nothing to do with us. But, it does, because of the delicate thread of relationships we are a part of. Think about how the Detainee Bill affects your friends who send you Christmas letter updates or the

cadet you sponsor who one day may be assigned to Guantanamo Bay (or whatever the future area of interest affected by this legislation may be).

Reflection may seem like a wasteful luxurious art, trivial to the important mission that drives your everyday purpose. But what if the art of reflection is like life insurance -- something we can't afford NOT to invest in? What if the West Point autobahn leads us to our intended destination, but along the way we are oblivious to the landscape?

We are socialized to maintain a fast pace - could we end up driving ourselves to a point of exhaustion so that we never even reach our destination? Then the journey

was/is in vain.

I reflected from a scenic overlook, aware of the rational pressure to get back on the autobahn. We all have a constellation of daily experiences from which we confer meaning and significance. Some experiences are “breaking news” events, others are shooting stars that come and go, oftentimes undetected.

As the horizon swallowed the sunset, so too did my vantage point. I returned to my journey, aware that Yom Kippur was beginning the next week. But that contemplation awaits another rest stop....

SARP INFO

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

Community members can e-mail McMahon at Jeanette.McMahon@usma.edu for advice or to offer any recommendations on the program here.

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

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

Weekly Sudoku by Chris Okasaki, D/EECS

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

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

Difficulty: Easy

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

See Solution on Page 11

POINTER VIEW®

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Local and National News

NININGER, cont. from page 1

because his leadership averted a number of Soldier casualties. Only one unit member was killed by an enemy sniper. He provided effective control of the situation by ordering several Apache attack helicopters and an A-10 Warthog gunship to the area leading to an estimated 20-plus al-Qaeda and Taliban guerrillas killed.

However, as Worthan accepted the Nininger Award, he couldn't take full honors without honoring all of his classmates who have been deeply involved in the Global War on Terrorism.

"I'm honored beyond words to represent West Point and to represent my classmates," Worthan said. "I have a ton of classmates who I could name who have received Valor awards and have fought many more battles and, in my opinion, many tougher battles than I.

"But, I'm honored to be selected and I'm honored to come here and try to connect with the Corps and give them any lessons that I can," added Worthan, who was also part of a Junior Leader Panel held Sept. 28, "and hopefully those lessons will carry them through whatever they're about to face in the future."

As Worthan addressed the cadets, he gave thanks to Doug Kenna, a 1945 USMA graduate, who endowed the Nininger Award.

"(Kenna's) thoughts on why we should have this award are very forward thinking," Worthan explained. "He thought we needed an award to show current cadets that this is how they can be as leaders. His vision was for this to be a long-term award for cadets to identify with junior leaders, that in the future may be received by lieutenants who the cadets will know, allowing them to identify with the awardees."

Presently, Worthan is the company commander at the 6th Ranger Training Battalion in charge of 30 cadre. He goes out every month to help train the student Rangers in the swamps of Florida and grades them on their leadership.

"(The Ranger students) will probably get two-to-three hours of sleep a day, if they're lucky," Worthan stated. "We assess how well they do and train them on what right is. When they go to

the (Ranger) force they will have another level of confidence.

"Even though they may not have much experience, they can walk in with a level of confidence that they didn't have before they started school," he added.

Worthan credits West Point as a place that taught him great fundamentals for leadership and confidence, but also remembers how playing rugby at West Point helped sustain him through the harsh times in the Army.

"In my speech (to the Corps), I picked a sport I knew something about and equated rugby to combat. However, as a cadet I couldn't (equate) it even though officers told me it did apply," Worthan said. "The game, like any contact sport, will teach you how to be tough. It teaches you that sometimes you have to finesse a situation to get an advantage and sometimes you have to ram it down somebody's throat.

"There are times to go after an opponent, and there are times to go around them," he added. "You have to deal with pain and fatigue while trying to think clearly the whole time. I think where I've seen leaders make their worst mistakes is when they're tired and fatigued, and they don't recognize they need more sleep."

Worthan continued, "Rugby taught me the importance of getting rest when you can and then going 110 percent when you need to ... you never know how long you need to sprint for, but you know you have to do it as long as you can -- don't quit until your job is over."

Worthan's words of encouragement were heartfelt by one cadet who fills the same shoes now that Worthan did nine years ago. Cadet 1st Class Andrew Locke is team co-captain of Army Rugby, just like Worthan was his senior year, and he was privileged to meet him.

"It was special to have Maj. Worthan awarded the Nininger Award for Valor," Locke said. "It reminds us of the identity of an officer as a warrior and highlights what we are truly here preparing for ... I think cadets can relate to Maj. Worthan due to his age and proximity to what we will be doing in the near future more so than some of the other awards (given here) which reflect on decades of work."

Panel finds cadet guilty

WEST POINT, N.Y. -- A court-martial panel found Lonnie A. Story guilty Sept. 29 of rape and attempted rape for separate incidents in 2005 that took place away from the academy grounds.

The two women involved are former cadets who left the academy before the incidents occurred. After two days and more than 10

hours of deliberation, the panel sentenced Story to eight years confinement, dismissal from the U.S. Army and forfeiture of all pay and allowances.

Story was formally charged with two violations of Article 120 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (Rape).

"Cadet Story has been found

guilty. His behavior was inconsistent with the values of the military academy and the U.S. Army. After considering all of the evidence, the panel determined his conduct violated the Uniform Code of Military Justice and the standards expected of all Soldiers," said West Point Director of Public Affairs Lt. Col. Kent Cassella.

FUNDS, cont. from page 1

■ increasing Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance premiums for Soldiers in combat zones from \$150,000 to \$400,000

■ repairing and replacing worn-out equipment

■ placing surveillance aircraft along roads where IED activity has been the greatest and

■ expanding post-traumatic stress disorder studies.

Before signing the bill into law, Bush said, "I applaud Congress for passing legislation that will provide our men and women in uniform with the necessary resources to protect our country and win the war on terror.

As our troops risk their lives to fight terrorism, this bill will ensure they are

prepared to defeat today's enemies and address tomorrow's threats."

Delivery problems?

FOR PV HOME DELIVERY PROBLEMS CONTACT VALERIE MULLANE AT THE POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL AT (845) 437-4730 OR BY E-MAIL AT VMULLANE@POUGHKEE.GANNETT.COM.

MWR to host Army Family Action Plan symposium Nov. 14-16

By Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

The Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation will host the Army Family Action Plan symposium Nov. 14 to 16 at the West Point Club here from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

"The Army Family Action Plan

is the perfect venue for members of the community to create change in their community," said Army Community Service Administrative Assistant Megan Calero. "This is a perfect way to bring up issues that are a concern for Soldiers and community members. In the past, AFAP has successfully solved issues such as expanded child care

hours at the Child Development Center, more teen activities and providing child care hours at the fitness center."

The AFAP program grew out of the voluntary efforts of Army spouses who met to identify and document the concerns of Soldiers and family members. This gives Soldiers and their families a say in

their communities.

The two-day event is considered a place of duty and child care will be provided.

"Volunteers are needed to fill various positions including facilitators, recorders, delegates, issue support and operations center," said Calero. "Training will be provided for all of these positions."

Boxes are located at the PX, Commissary, CDC, MWR Fitness Center and throughout the post for community members to submit issues and participant registration forms.

"Forms can be submitted to Army Community Service at Bldg 622, Swift Rd., or e-mailed to Christine.Knight@usma.edu. Call 938-4621 for more information.

West Point Army Family Action Plan issue update

Submitted by Christine Knight
USMA Army Volunteer Corps
Coordinator

Below is an update on AFAP issues and events for both the installation-level at West Point and the Department of the Army level. If you would like to know the status of any AFAP issue (local or DA-level), please contact the USMA AFAP Coordinator at (845) 938-3655 or via e-mail at christine.knight@usma.edu.

Highlights of Local AFAP issues:

USMA AFAP Issue #504 CONUS COLA Implementation at West Point. The recommendation involved resurveying West Point for COLA using Westchester County where BAH is calculated, re-examining the rules of how COLA is calculated and providing a clear resolution on the COLA issue to the community.

DMPO here requested assistance from the Army G-1 in explaining why West Point is not eligible for CONUS COLA.

CONUS COLA is a complex calculation that is based in law.

All of the military services must agree to any changes in the law. Westchester County cannot be used in determining COLA for West Point because COLA is based on where the Soldier is stationed.

Additionally, an installation must have an index of 108 (8% over the national cost of living average) to be eligible for CONUS COLA and West Point is presently at 105.

A private contractor established the standard city value for 2005.

Many factors go into this, including transportation and sales tax. The figure is based on

average, not individual, purchasing patterns.

An AFAP issue regarding the expansion of CONUS COLA to more installations was worked at the Department of Army level.

To be successful, all of the services should support the change.

The DAAFAP issue was deemed unattainable at the May 2005 General Officer Steering Committee meeting. It was recommended for closure as unattainable by the March 2006 Commander's AFAP Steering Committee.

Final approval for closure was received from the USMA Superintendent.

USMA AFAP Issue #0506 Self-Serve Car Wash on Installation. The recommendation was to install a self-serve car wash as part of an AAFES facility here.

This would be a \$500,000 project.

AAFES studied financial feasibility of the issue and found that there would be a negative Return on Investment.

The issue was actually brought to the attention of the AAFES Commander. Per his guidance, West Point would need to contribute appropriated funds in order to pursue this project. Past car wash ideas (private-public venture) had been stalled due to local politics.

There is a local car wash available to West Point residents.

This issue was recommended for closure by the March 2006 Commander's AFAP Steering Committee.

Final approval for closure was received from the Superintendent.

USMA AFAP Issue #0417 Opportunity for West Point Youth to Participate in Paintball.

The recommendations were to organize paintball teams through Youth Services, to dedicate an area specifically for paintball activities, to establish a place to buy and rent paintball supplies and to organize a committee of interested teens to help establish the paintball

program.

DMWR has briefed this project to the Planning Board and should have the money by Summer 2007. The proposed location would be at Cragston Landfill (near Morgan Farm) and it would primarily be used by teens and cadets from the Close Combat Team.

This issue remains active.

Highlights of DA AFAP issues:

DA Issue #563 Availability of Refractive Eye Surgery. The recommendation was for the Army to increase the number of surgeries performed at the Warfighter Refractive Eye Surgery Program Centers and to increase the number of WRESP Centers.

There has been a 500 percent increase in the capacity/number of surgeries at all WRESP Centers since start-up.

Additionally, there has been a 60 percent increase in the number of Army WRESP sites since the issue was raised.

Refractive eye surgery is currently available at eight sites (primarily at Army Medical Centers).

The Army Surgeon General has endorsed a solid plan to continue increases in numbers of refractive surgeries/WRESP Centers in high troop areas and is monitoring implementation of the refractive eye surgery program.

This issue was declared completed at the June 2006 General Officer Steering Committee Meeting.

DA Issue #439 Teen Program Standardization.

The recommendations involved benchmarking successful teen programs to develop a model for all installations and establishing standard guidelines for installation commanders on teen programs in areas like workforce preparation, teen councils, volunteer opportunities, mentorship and alternatives for at-risk behaviors.

It was also recommended that progress on this issue be reported

to the Army Teen Panel and Teen Discovery.

So far, Army teen programs have been benchmarked against Boys and Girls Clubs/4-H Clubs/national "best practices."

A vision and plan were developed with input from the Army Teen Panel members. The plan covers actions to establish an Army Youth Program infrastructure and involves policy and operational guidance, a program framework for predictable programming, dedicated space in Youth Centers and accountability measures.

Reporting will be accomplished via annual teen updates through the Army Teen Panel and Regional Youth Forums.

Funding is a consideration in implementing program

standardization.

This issue remains active per the decision of the June 2006 General Officer Steering Committee Meeting.

DA AFAP Conference.

This year's DA AFAP Conference will be held in Washington D.C. from Nov. 13-17.

USMA is allotted one delegate slot. Spc. Jason Reese, a Soldier from the Military Police Company, is the West Point representative.

Teen AFAP symposium

The West Point Teen AFAP symposium is Nov. 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Youth Center, Bldg. 500.

Negotiators agree to cap interest rates for loans to military

By Bill Swindell
Congress Daily

Conferees on the fiscal 2007 defense authorization bill agreed to include an amendment that would cap annual interest rates on loans to U.S. military personnel at 36 percent, despite strong lobbying by banking lobbyists.

Sen. Jim Talent, R-Mo., who originally proposed the language, complained that unscrupulous payday lenders were targeting uniformed personnel, which in effect threatened the country's military readiness.

Some troops were paying as much as an 800 percent annual rate on loans.

The banking industry sought language that would carve out federally insured depository institutions from the proposed requirement, arguing they are already regulated by entities such as the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency and National Credit

Union Administration.

But, according to a Senate aide, lawmakers only changed the language so the Defense Department would have to consult with banking regulators in devising a rule to execute the legislation.

"The measure will prevent any lender from trying to make a quick buck at the expense of the livelihood and future of those defending our freedom by charging a triple-digit interest rate," Talent said Sept. 29. "For years, our strong coalition of supporters has been steadfast in seeing this measure get this far."

Now that the conference has agreed to these new protections for our troops and their families, I'm confident that they will become law."

The provision gives Talent a populist issue to tout in his reelection bid against Democratic challenger Claire McCaskill, the Missouri auditor.

WP AFAP

Nov. 14 -16
West Point Club
7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
sign up now

Fire Prevention Week begins Sunday: "Stand by your pan"

By Fire Prevention
Inspector Mark McKeon
DES

How often has the doorbell rung or a child interrupted you while you were cooking, causing you to forget about the chicken you left sizzling on the stove -- until smoke filled the house?

If this scenario or a similar one doesn't sound familiar to you, you may want to think about it a little more, because it's likely that you, a friend or family member has run the risk of having a dangerous fire. We at the West Point Fire Department often talk to people about the ways they can stay safe in their homes. Too often, we have that talk after they've suffered a damaging fire.

It is our hope that people reading this article won't have to learn the hard way. If we could give just one kitchen safety warning, we'd say "stand by your pan!"

Why? Because cooking is the leading cause of home fires, according to the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association. The latest statistics from NFPA say that one out of every three home fires started in the kitchen and more than 100,000 fires a year were related to cooking.

We're joining forces with

NFPA and thousands of other fire departments across North America to commemorate Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 8-14, "Prevent Cooking Fires -- Watch What You Heat." This theme reminds us that leaving items cooking unattended and other unsafe kitchen practices are a recipe for disaster.

Often when we're called to a cooking-related fire, the residents tell us they only left the kitchen for a few minutes. Sadly, that's all it takes for a dangerous fire to start. The bottom line is that there's really no safe period of time for the cook to step away from a hot stove. A few key points to remember:

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, broiling or boiling food. If you must leave the room, even for a short time, turn off the stove.

- When you are simmering, baking or roasting food, check it regularly, stay in the home and use a timer to remind you.

- Keep cooking areas clean and clear of combustibles (e.g. potholders, towels, rags, drapes and food packaging).

- Keep children away from cooking areas by enforcing a "kid-free zone" of three feet around the stove.

- If you have a fire in your

microwave, turn it off immediately and keep the door closed. Never open the door until the fire is completely out. If in doubt, get out of the home and call the fire department.

- Always keep an oven mitt and a lid nearby. If a small grease fire starts in a pan, smother the flames by carefully sliding the lid over the pan (make sure you are wearing the oven mitt). Turn off the

burner and slide the pan off it (don't pour the contents into the sink). To keep the fire from restarting, do not remove the lid until it is completely cool. Never pour water on a grease fire. If the fire does not go out, get out of the home and call the fire department.

- If an oven fire starts, turn off the heat and keep the door closed to prevent flames from burning you or your clothing. If the fire does not

go out, get out of the home and call the fire department.

During Fire Prevention Week, we will visit the Post Elementary School. Children will have the opportunity to meet their firefighters, have some fun and learn age appropriate fire safety lessons. If you ever have any fire safety questions, please contact the Fire Prevention Office at: (845) 938-7483/7484/ 6132.



Community Features and Photos

EWRI makes an environmental impact at Wirt Robinson memorial

Story and photos by
Maj. Mindy Kimball
G&EnE

On Sept. 29, five cadets from the cadet chapter of Environmental and Water Resources Institute practiced environmental stewardship at its finest. These cadets spent their afternoon free time pulling weeds and cleaning up the Wirt Robinson Memorial.

Cadet 1st Class Travis Boltz, the cadet-in-charge of EWRI, arranged the event with the help of the OIC, Maj. Mindy Kimball and West Point Agronomist Bob Jones.

The Wirt Robinson Memorial is a fountain and reflecting pool located on the hillside northwest of Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center and downhill from the Jewish Chapel. Many cadets and community members do not realize the monument is there. According to an old copy of the Bugle Notes, the memorial was constructed in the 1930s to honor a beloved professor and a true naturalist.

Wirt Robinson has a rich history at USMA, and at various times he was involved with teaching cadets drawing, art, chemistry, geology and electrical engineering. The monument was dedicated in the 1930s by the head of the Cartography department (a predecessor to the current department of Geography and Environmental Engineering).

The cadets of EWRI wanted to do something useful to help out the community and make a difference in our local environment, and this monument gave them the perfect opportunity. Environmental stewardship is all about taking an interest in the environment. The aim is to try to preserve and/or enhance the health and well-being of the environment and the organisms that live in that environment. Stewardship must be done responsibly, though, so EWRI asked Jones for help in determining what could be done around the monument.

At this stage, the most the cadets could do was pull weeds. More involved stages will come later as the monument cleanup progresses. Jones said that many of the plants around the memorial were not originally planted there and are considered invasive species. Bush plants like Asian Honeysuckle and Japanese Barberry are growing very well all over post because, in the case of Barberry, the branches have thorns that prevent the deer from eating the berries, which eventually

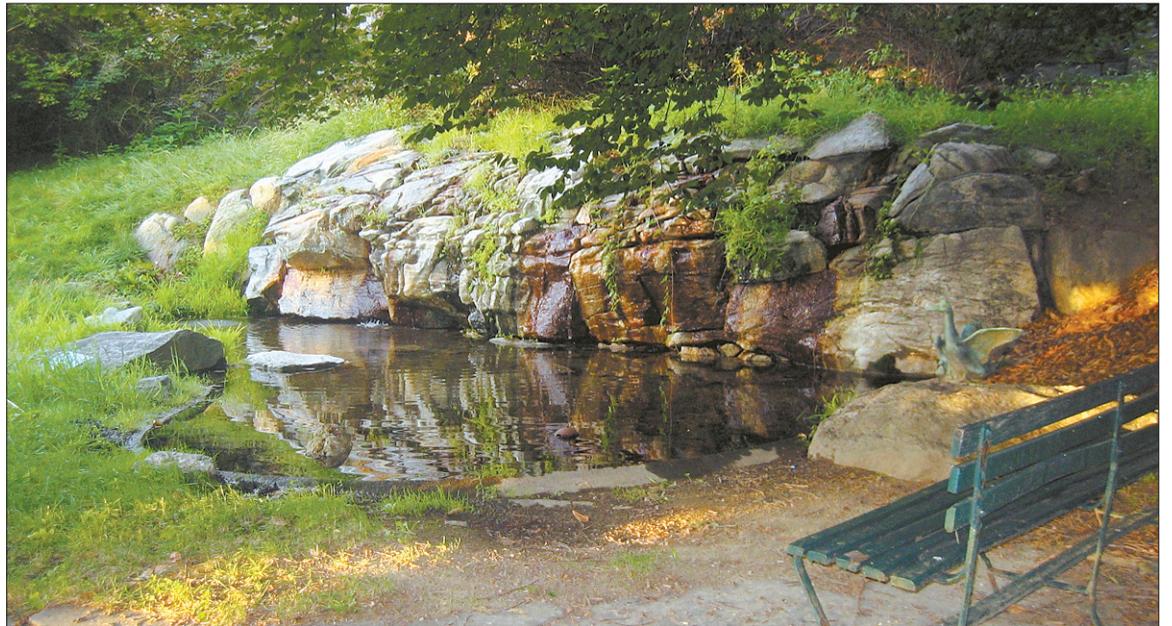
fall to the ground and seed more bushes. There are also many places where Oriental Bittersweet, a very persistent ivy plant, is growing wild.

At one point during the cleanup, Dirtman even showed up to help Cadets 1st Class Dan Sullivan, Boltz, Erick Martinez, Blake Hawkins and Robert Bender. When all was said and done the cadets had a wonderful afternoon and made a positive impact on their local environment. The cadets plan to come back to the monument on several other occasions to do some more work, but even now it is a beautiful spot to sit on a bench, read a book and enjoy the nature around you. This is just as Wirt Robinson would have liked it.

As a final note, the cadets of EWRI would like to invite the West Point community to attend a special movie screening Tuesday.

The movie is a documentary about a man who swam the entire length of the Hudson River, stopping along the way to highlight environmental issues that directly involve the Hudson River.

The filmmaker will attend the screening to host a question/answer period after the film. Please join us in Washington Hall, Room 5006, at



(Top): The Wirt Robinson Memorial before cadets from the West Point chapter of the Environmental and Water Resources Institute began work to clean it up.
(Right): Two EWRI cadets clear weeds between stones on the walkway in front of the Robinson Memorial.

7 p.m. For more information, call Kimball at (845) 938-4265.



Scuba Club certifies cadets as NAUI basic open water scuba divers

By Maj. David Eaton
OIC, USMA Scuba Club

The U.S. Military Academy Scuba Club completed another successful open water scuba certification trip to Dutch Springs, Pa., Sept. 24, certifying 14 cadets as National Association of Underwater Instructors' basic open water scuba divers.

The Directorate of Cadet Activities supported SCUBA Club was organized for the enjoyment of scuba diving and is run by 12 cadet cadre known as the USMA Scuba Team.

The dozen permanent team members are chosen through a tough selection process that begins during their plebe year. Only four plebes are chosen to fill the team ranks each academic year.

Once selected, each team member trains through the NAUI leadership positions. Each year, the team generates and maintains four cadets as NAUI Dive Masters and four as NAUI Instructors. Cows are the Dive Masters and firsties are Scuba Instructors.

Additionally, the team equips and maintains two cadets as Divers Alert Network-recognized Diving Emergency Specialists for medical support on any dive-related medical issues.

The club's goals are to support the USMA in underwater gear recovery and personnel rescue during Sandhurst and other USCC training opportunities, be self-supporting financially and through instructor certifications, support the DPE Scuba curriculum and certify 100 Cadets per AY in various scuba-related skills.

The USMA Scuba team was recognized within the diving and USMA communities as a 2005 NAUI Training Center of Excellence and 2005 NAUI Platinum rated organization.

The Scuba Club usually offers two open water certifications and one advanced open water certification per semester. It also offers Nitrox and dry suit certifications.

For those cadets who are certified by Spring Break, the USMA Club travels as a group to



USMA Scuba Team member Cadet 3rd Class Conor McNamara, (left), a Divers Alert Network and Diving Emergency Specialist works with Open Water 1 student Cadet 4th Class William Smith during a Sept. 2006 Open Water Certification pool session at Crandall pool.

PHOTO BY CADET 1ST CLASS ADAM CUCCHIARA

exotic dive locations places such as Nassau, Belize and Cozumel.

Anyone interested in this opportunity can contact Cadet 1st Class James Platky, for details and to sign up.



United States Military Academy cadet scuba instructors Cadets 1st Class Adam Cucchiara, Anthony Kivlehan, James Platky and Sean Godfrey.

PHOTO BY CADET 3RD CLASS THOMAS BAZEMORE

Dive Deep, Fin Hard, USMA Scuba

Anyone interested in joining the USMA Scuba Club should contact Cadet 1st Class James Platky by phone at 515-1683 or by e-mail at James.Platky@usma.edu.



Cell phones, driving and you.

The use of cell phones without a hands free device while operating a vehicle is unauthorized IAW New York Vehicle and Traffic Law 1225-C and Army Regulation 190-5 Chapter 4-2, Sub-Para (3).

Violators are subject to a citation and monetary fine.



U.S. Military Academy Prep School visits West Point

Story and photo by
Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

Two hundred twenty-four cadet candidates from the U.S. Military Academy Prep School at Fort Monmouth, N.J., made their annual visit to West Point Sept. 27 to Sunday. The prep school prepares candidates who need focused academic, military and physical instruction to help prepare and motivate them for the rigorous USMA admission standards.

"We firmly believe that leaders in our country need to be educated," said Dean of the Academic Board, Brig. Gen. Patrick Finnegan as he spoke to the cadet candidates. "We can't teach you the answers. We don't know most of the questions. Your job will be to identify issues and solve problems."

The prep school follows the curriculum of West Point with a focus on math, English and time management. The curriculum also includes three weeks of basic training and military training.

"By the time the cadet candidates get to Reception Day, they know what is expected of them and often guide other new cadets," said USMAPS Commandant Col. Tyge Rugenstein.

Of the 224 cadet candidates, 34 are female, 45 are football recruits, 13 have combat experience

and 41 have military experience, including Reserve and National Guard Soldiers.

"I think this is really fun and I'm enjoying it a lot," said one cadet candidate football recruit. "Now that I am meeting and talking with West Point cadets, I'm pleased with my decision to go to USMAPS first. I don't think I'll have a problem (attending West Point). The football team looks out for everyone so I can ask for help if I need it."

During the visit, cadet candidates attended classes with their cadet escorts, drilled and attended the home football game against Rice Saturday.

"We have some real good football players and they are doing a great job," said USMAPS head football coach, Bryan Cook. "The West Point staff spent a lot of time and effort recruiting them and I think they will be a great addition to Army football."

Rugenstein said he has a lot of faith in this year's cadet candidates and believes they will establish a solid foundation for the USMA Class of 2011.

"I'm very proud of the USMAPS class of 2007," Rugenstein said. "They come from all over the nation and from very diverse backgrounds. However, they are all committed to achieving their goal of attending the U.S. Military Academy."



Dean of the Academic Board Brig. Gen. Patrick Finnegan briefs the Prepsters Sept. 28.

Halloween safety guide 2006

Submitted by the USMA Safety Office

All of our community members want to share a safe and happy Halloween. How do you manage the risk and accomplish that objective?

The following common sense

tips and ideas should assist in making the most of your Halloween season:

- Plan costumes that are bright and reflective. Make sure that shoes fit well and that costumes are short enough to prevent tripping/entanglement.

- Consider adding reflective

tape or striping to costumes and Trick-or-Treat bags for greater visibility.

- Because masks can limit or block eyesight, consider non-toxic makeup and decorative hats as safer alternatives.

- When shopping for costumes, wigs and accessories, look for and purchase only those with a label clearly indicating they are flame resistant.

- Obtain flashlights with fresh batteries for all children and their escorts.

- Plan ahead to use only battery powered lanterns or chemical light sticks in place of candles in decorations and costumes.

- Take extra effort and eliminate tripping hazards on your porch and walkway. Check around your property for low tree limbs, support wires or garden hoses that may

prove hazardous to young children rushing from house to house.

- Consider fire safety when decorating. Do not overload electrical outlets with holiday lighting or special effects.

- Plan and review the route with your children. Discuss behavior which is acceptable to you. Agree on a specific time when children must return home.

- A parent or responsible adult should always accompany young children on their neighborhood rounds.

Remind Trick-Or-Treaters to:

- Stay in a group and communicate where they will be going.

- Only go to homes with a porch light on.

- Remain on well-lit streets and always use the sidewalk.

- Never enter a stranger's

home or car for a treat.

- Always walk. Never run across a street.

- Only cross the street as a group in established crosswalks.

- Be cautious of animals and strangers.

- Don't assume the right of way. Just because one car stops, doesn't mean they all will.

- Never consume food items or drinks that may be offered.

- Have a grown-up inspect your treats before eating. And don't eat candy if the package is already opened. Small, hard pieces of candy are a choking hazard for young children.

Be careful, be safe, do the right thing and manage the risks inherent at Halloween within our community.

If you have any questions, please contact us at 938-3717.

DUSA helps support the USMA community

Submitted by DUSA

The Daughters of the United States Army began in 1926 at Ft. Benning, Ga. A group of eight young women and wives whose fathers were officers in the Army met for tea. The object of this gathering was to organize and establish the Daughters of the United States Army. Their purpose was to honor their fathers and not lose their identities once they married or moved away from the Army.

In 1948, the West Point Chapter met for the first time at Quarters 88 in the Lusk housing area. In 1955, the Adjutant General officially recognized the chapter as an approved organization at West Point. DUSA began as a social group that performed charitable works for the community.

Last year, the West Point Chapter donated more than \$100,000 to the West Point

Community and the surrounding area to many worthy causes.

Its membership consists of national members who are daughters or granddaughters of active or retired Army officers and associate members who are daughters or granddaughters of sister service officers or wives of any West Point Soldier.

Members are invited to participate in all DUSA activities, including: the annual DUSA/SUSA party in January, the Bride's Coffee in May, the Spring Egg Hunt and DUSA discount day.

Members will also receive a 20 percent discount at the DUSA Museum Gift Shop on all of their purchases.

For more information about DUSA, or to get an application, please contact Shelly Abram, membership chairperson, at 446-2101 or e-mail her at shelly.abram@us.army.mil.



OCTOBER MWR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Visit MWR online at www.usma.edu/mwr

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
<p>ACS, bldg. 622 w 938-4621 AEC, bldg. 683 w 938-3762 Arts & Crafts, bldg. 648 w 938-4812 Auto Crafts, bldg. 648 w 938-2074 BSP/BOSS, bldg. 628 w 938-6497 Bowling Ctr., bldg. 622 w 938-2140 CDC, bldg. 1207 w 938-4798/4523 CDS, bldg. 1207 w 938-2092/2035 Community Rec Div w 938-2401 Delafield Pond w 938-5139/5158 Fitness Center, bldg. 683 w 938-6490 Golf Course w 938-2435/2327 Holleder Center w 938-4236</p>		<p>ITR, bldg. 695 w 938-3601/2401 AVC, bldg. 2104 w 938-3655 Morgan Farm, bldg. 2036 w 938-3926 Outdoor Rec w 938-2503 Post Library, bldg. 622 w 938-2974 Round Pond w 938-2503/3860 School Age Services, bldg. 1207 w 938-8530 West Point Club, bldg. 603 w 938-5120, 446-5506 Ski Lodge w 938-3726/3727 Youth Center, bldg. 500 w 938-3727 Veterinary Clinic, bldg. 630 w 938-3817 PLEASE NOTE: For more information, contact the office listed for each activity.</p>				<p>6 The Bowling Center will be temporarily closed for renovations. We look forward to providing you an improved facility in the near future.</p>	<p>7 Norman Rockwell Museum, 0800-1600, ITR Army vs VMI, Auto, Crafts, MWR Fitness Center and Post Library closed all day on home football games Golf Course Closed for Outside event </p>
<p>8 Golf Course Closed for Outside event Staff & Faculty Ice Hockey, Tate Rink, 2045-2215 </p>	<p>9 Columbus Day Holiday All MWR activities closed except for Round Pond, Morgan Farm & Golf COLUMBUS DAY</p>	<p>10 Volunteer Advisory Council Meeting, 1300-1400, ACS </p>	<p>11 Financial Readiness for 1st Term Soldiers, 0830, Parent Discussion Group, 1130, ACS Backyard Baseball October Classic, 1400, YC (grades 6-12)</p>	<p>12 Quarterback Luncheon, 1130, WP Club Initial PCS, 1330, Checking Accounts, 1445, ACS Theater Van to Broadway, 1700-2330, ITR </p>	<p>13 Plebe Parent Weekend Lunch, Tickets Required, 1100-1400, WP Club, Plebe Parent Weekend Dinner, No Tickets Required, 1700-2130, WP Club</p>	<p>14 Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island, 0900-1600, ITR Defensive Driving Class, 0800-1500, Register at ITR Stained Glass Mosaic Panel, 1000-1200, MWR Crafts, (2 day class, Oct 14 & 21) </p>	
<p>15 Plebe Parent Sunday Brunch, No Tickets Required, Seatings at 1000 & 1200, WP Club Staff & Faculty Ice Hockey, Tate Rink, 2045-2215 </p>	<p>16 Wee Ones Play Group, 0930-1100, ACS, Multi Purpose Room </p>	<p>17 Fall Story Hour, 1000 & 1330, (ages 3-5) Post Library Preseparation Briefing, 1400-1500, ACS</p>	<p>18 Cardio Sculpt, 0900, Spinning, 1700, Cardio Kickboxing, 1730, Belly Dancing Beginner, 1900, MWR Fitness Center </p>	<p>19 Quarterback Luncheon, 1130, WP Club Stained Glass Pewter Birds, 1800-2000, MWR Crafts (3 day class, Oct 19, 26 & Nov 2) Open House, CDC, Bldg 1207, 1800-1900</p>	<p>20 Friday Night in NYC, 1700-2300, ITR Open House, CDC, Bldg 1207, 1800-1900 Typing Tutorial Challenge, 1400, YC</p>	<p>21 Army vs TCU, Auto, Crafts, MWR Fitness Center and Post Library closed all day on home football games Halloween Costume Party, 1800-2000 (grades 3-5) SAS</p>	

MWR Blurbs

MWR Swim at Crandall Pool

The MWR indoor swim hours at Crandall Pool are cancelled for today due to cadet swim functions.

Subway delivery

Subway now has lunch delivery. Their normal delivery hours are Monday through Friday from 2 to 8 p.m. anywhere on post.

Lunch delivery hours are Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to noon.

All lunch delivery orders must be called in between 9 and 11 a.m.

No deliveries will take place during the lunch rush from noon until 2 p.m.

Delivery will resume at 2 p.m. For more info., call Subway at 446-2096.

Child care during home football games

The West Point Child Development Center will be offering child care for Army home football games.

Game	Deadline
Oct. 21	Wed.
Nov. 3	Oct. 25

Ski locker lottery

Applications for the seasonal ski locker rental lottery begin Tuesday. Applications are available online only at: www.usma.edu/mwr (keyword: ski).

Winners will be posted on the MWR ski Web site by Nov. 13.

Morgan Farm

The cadet Equestrian Team will offer free pony rides to families of deployed Soldiers Wed., Oct. 25, Nov. 1 and 8 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

For more info., call 938-3926.

West Point Golf Course

West Point Golf Course is hosting a garrison golf scramble Oct. 20.

The event is open to all active duty, retired and DOD civilian employees at West Point.

The shotgun start time is noon. Food and beverages will be available from the snack bar.

For more info., call 938-2435.

2006 Soldier Show

The 2006 Soldier Show comes to West Point Oct. 22 at 7 p.m. in Eisenhower Hall.

The high-energy, live musical review showcases the talents of active duty Soldiers and offers something for the whole family.

For more information, call Connie Woodley at 938-6497.

Now through Oct. 13 stop by ITR and enter to win four front row seats.

Teen Halloween Jam

The Youth Center Teen Halloween Jam at the Victor Constant Ski Lodge is Oct. 31 from 8 to 10 p.m.

This free event is open to all O'Neill High School students in 9th to 12th grade.

Activities will include a DJ and bonfire.

Sign up at the YC, Bldg. 500, or OHS by 2 p.m. Oct. 31.

Photo ID will be required.

Call Jodi at 938-8899 for more info.

2007 Soldier Show sign ups

Applications are now being accepted for the 2007 Soldier Show. Nominations are open for vocalists, dancers, musicians and speciality acts.

Applicants must be on active duty and deployable worldwide.

All application materials are due to West Point MWR Special Events Coordinator Connie Woodley by Dec. 11.

Selected performers will be notified in January 2007.

For more information on application guidelines, call 938-6497.

AFAP Symposium

The next USMA Army Family Action Plan Symposium is Nov. 14-15 from 7:45 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

The Teen AFAP Symposium will be Nov. 4 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the Youth Center.

Volunteers are needed to serve on the planning committee, as delegates, facilitators, recorders, issue support personnel and in the operation center.

Contact the AFAP coordinator at (845) 938-3655 for more information or to sign up.

CVSG

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

The group meets on the third Thurs. of each month at the ACS, Bldg. 622, from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

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

Thanksgiving dinner

Enjoy a sumptuous Thanksgiving dinner and leave the cooking to the

West Point Club.

Tickets go on sale Monday for the Thanksgiving Day feast.

Call 938-5120 or 446-5504 for more information.

Thanksgiving Day parade

Join ITR for a trip to New York City to see the world famous Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade Nov. 23. For more information, call ITR at 938-3601.

Keller Corner

KACH closure

All outpatient clinics, laboratory, pharmacy and radiology will be closed Monday in observance of Columbus Day. The emergency room will remain open.

Patient representative

The patient representative is the liaison between patients, their families and the clinic staff. Maintaining communication is very important in the treatment of a patient and for the emotional well-being of family members. The primary job is to work out problems and concerns while protecting the rights of patients and maintaining their privacy and dignity.

The patient representative's

office is located on the first floor of KACH next to the Internal Medicine Clinic.

It is open Mon., Tues., Wed., and Fri. from 7:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. and on Thurs. from 7:30 a.m. until noon.

If you would like to schedule an appointment with the patient representative, contact Linda DiSalvo at (845) 938-5874.

All complaints must be submitted in writing and may be dropped off at the patient representative's office or mailed to:

Keller Army Community Hospital,
Attn: Linda DiSalvo, Patient Representative,
Building 900
West Point, NY, 10996.

Command Channel 8/23

Oct. 9 - Oct. 13

Monday
Columbus Day
No programming

Oct. 10-13	8 a.m.	Be the Miracle, 2006 CFC
	10 a.m.	Be the Miracle, 2006 CFC
	Noon	Be the Miracle, 2006 CFC
	2 p.m.	Be the Miracle, 2006 CFC
	4 p.m.	Be the Miracle, 2006 CFC

NOW SHOWING

in the movie theater at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

- Fri. -- World Trade Center, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.
- Sat. -- How to Eat Fried Worms, PG, 7:30 p.m.
- Sat. -- Descent, R, 9:30 p.m.
- Oct. 13 -- Invincible, PG, 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 14 -- The Wicker Man, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 14 -- World Trade Center, PG-13, 9:30 p.m.
- Oct. 20 -- Hollywoodland, R, 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 21 -- Invincible, PG, 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 21 -- Crank, R, 9:30 p.m.

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

Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

What's Happening

Hispanic Heritage Month Festival

The Simon Center for the Professional Military Ethic, West Point EO office and the Spanish Club will host an Hispanic Heritage Month Festival tonight from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the area outside Nininger Hall.

The event will feature the New York City Latin band "Grupo Latino Vibe," an Argentine tango demonstration, a salsa dancing contest and free food. The event is free and open to the West Point community.

Washington Gate closed at night beginning Sunday

Effective Sunday Washington Gate will be closed to inbound and outbound traffic daily from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m.

Access will be granted for emergency vehicles.

For more information, call the Director of Emergency Services, Lt. Col. Bob Brown, at 938-2609/8131.

YOM Winners for September

Old English:

Col. Bedey Family, 118-B Washington Road

Stony II:

Maj. Rheny Family, 3106-C Paterson Loop
Sgt. 1st Class Persaud Family, 3160-B Heath Loop

Stony I:

Sgt. 1st Class Hancock Family, 3015-C Kosciuszko Place
Capt. Schmucker Family, 3029-B, Machin Place #B

Gray Ghost:

Lt. Col. Shannon Family, 305-A Wilby Place

Lusk:

Col. Manous Family, 68-B Schofield Place

Band:

Staff Sgt. Morrison Family, 421-F Bailey Loop

Lee:

Doubles: Col. Miller Family, 237-A Banard Loop
Quints/Trips: Maj. Lyle Family, 155 Gardiner Road #D

Old Brick:

Sgt. Montgomery Family, 401-B Merritt Road #B

Highland Falls Library book signing

West Point Middle School teacher Ronnie Coffey will be signing copies of her book about the history of the Town of Highlands, "Images of America: Highlands" Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Highland Falls Library.

Privately Owned Weapons Ranges

Range Control will hold Privately Owned Weapon ranges at Range 5 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday and Oct. 14 and on Nov. 3 and 9.

Book signing

Ralph Peters, author of "Beyond Terror" and "Beyond Baghdad" will be signing his new book "Never Quit the Fight" at the U.S. Military Academy bookstore, located on the fourth floor in Thayer Hall, Oct. 13 from 9 to 11:30 a.m.

West Point Women's Club

The WPWC Gift Shop, located next to the MWR Fitness Center, is open on the Web at www.shopthepoint.com and is open every Wed. from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the shop location.

For more information call 446-2950.

WPWC has table decorations and other party items to rent.

Call 446-2974 for a complete listing of rental items.

The WPWC and Galloping Horse Productions presents "Dinner Is Served" an evening of one acts featuring players from the Women's Club.

The event is Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the West Point Club's Hudson Room.

For more info., call Lori Tuite at 446-4053 or e-mail her at wpwcreserve@hotmail.com by today.

The WPWC is putting together a cookbook and is looking for favorite recipes.

They are also looking for one paragraph stories of some of the events we are highlighting in the new cookbook: R-Day, Camp Buckner, Marchback, Ring Weekend, Football/Reunions, Thayer Award, Plebe-Parent Weekend, Branch Night, Army/Navy, 500th Night, 100th Night, Yearling Winter Weekend, spring break, crest unveiling and graduation.

If you have a story you would like to share, we would love to hear it.

Mail recipes and/or stories by Wed. to:

West Point Women's Club
P.O. Box 44
West Point, N.Y., 10996

DPTMS closed Oct. 17

The Directorate of Plans,

Training, Mobilization and Security, to include Range Control and the Installation Security Office, will be closed Oct. 17 from 8:30 to 11 a.m. for mandatory training.

Area Coordinators meeting

The next Area Coordinators meeting is Oct. 19 in the Jewish Chapel at 4 p.m.

The alternate date is Nov. 7 at the same location and time.

All area coordinators are required to attend.

Building Commandant's training

Building Commandant's training is scheduled for Oct. 24 from 1 to 4 p.m. in Thayer Hall, Room 144.

All building commandant's are required to attend this training, even if they have attended this training before.

DUSA

Applications for the Daughters of the U.S. Army Continuing Education grants for the fall will be accepted until Oct. 15. Call Heidi Robbins at 446-2615.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes is hosting a prayer breakfast at the West Point Club Oct. 20 from 6 to 7:20 a.m.

The speaker is former NHL player Adam Burt.

The West Point community is invited to this free event.

Upcoming Red Cross classes

The American Red Cross Life Guard certification course will be offered Nov. 5, 12, 19 and Dec. 3.

The ARC Water Safety instructor course is available Sunday, Oct. 15, 22 and 29.

The ARC babysitter course is Oct. 14, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

To register for any of the classes listed above call 1-800-514-5103.

The ARC CPR/First Aid/AED instructor training is Sunday, Oct. 15. Call (845) 938-4100 to register.

Zilinski memorial run

First Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski II was killed Nov. 19, 2005, in Iraq where he was serving in the U. S. Army.

Zilinski was a 2004 graduate of the U. S. Military Academy.

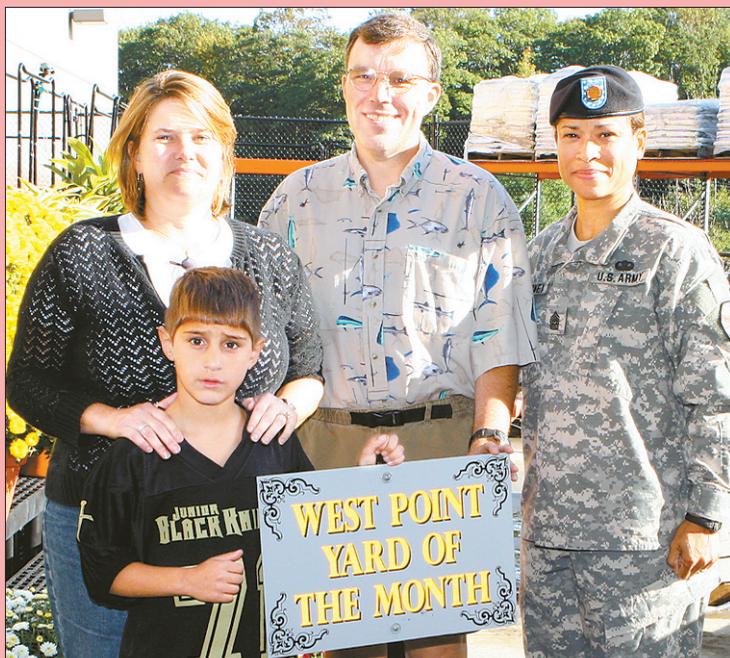
As a tribute to him, the Zilinski family and many of his friends will be conducting the Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski II Memorial Run and Walk, Nov. 12, 2006, at the PNC Arts Center in Holmdel, N.J.

Everyone in the West Point family is invited to join either as a participant or volunteer.

Proceeds from this event will be used to establish a scholarship in Zilinski's honor.

For more information e-mail RunWithDennis@yahoo.com, or mail: Lt. Dennis Z, Memorial Run, PO Box 35, Holmdel, N.J., 07733, or visit the web site: RunWithDennis.org.

Yard of the Month Winners



The Yard of the Month winner and runner up for the month of September were, left, representing the winning Col. Kent Miller family of 237-A Banard Loop, wife Susan and son Dennis. Runner-up Col. Dave Bedey, of 118-B Washington Road is also shown, along with Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Violet C. McNeirney.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

Army and Community Sports

Army Black Knights set sights on VMI Keydets

Story and photos by
Eric S. Bartelt
Sports Editor

Buffalo Bills starting quarterback J.P. Losman was the last quarterback to sling five touchdown passes at Michie Stadium back on Sept. 20, 2003, when he played for Tulane University. That was before last Saturday when Rice's sophomore signal caller Chase Clement winged five of his own to help defeat Army 48-14.

Losman and Clement are at different stages of their football lives, but for Army it still leaves the same sting today as it did four seasons ago. Although Army head coach Bobby Ross wasn't too happy with his team's performance, he did give praise to the youthful Clement.

"Give Rice some credit. I knew they were a much better football team, particularly with (Clement) at quarterback," Ross said. "They led Houston, 30-14, at halftime and he did some of the same things to them that he did to us. I knew what kind of quarterback (Clement) was, and he did a great job."

Army (2-3) must now regroup to take on Division I-AA foe VMI (1-4), which is Ross' alma mater. He wants the Black Knights, especially his quarterback, to get back on track.

"(Junior quarterback David Pevoto) took a step back (last week)," Ross explained. "We can't

be throwing the ball into the ground five and six yards short (of our receivers).

"He's going to have to pick it up. I'm not going to put up with that kind of stuff," Ross added. "There has to be a higher level of consistency. And, that's the big thing that we're addressing with our quarterback and with every position on our football team."

Pevoto has had a rollercoaster ride of a season that includes a respectable 55 percent completion percentage. However, the trouble area in his game is the two touchdown passes versus eight interceptions.

After Saturday's embarrassment, Pevoto wants to get the team going in the right direction again on the goals that were set prior to the season.

"All the goals we've set are still attainable," Pevoto said. "We knew, going into the season that there were going to be some hardships along the way. This is our chance to respond and show what our team is made of after a tough loss ... and show the integrity of our team and how hard we can fight."

Army's leading wide receiver, junior Jeremy Trimble, who caught a 32-yard touchdown pass in the Rice game, had a tough day Saturday, then a tough day again on Monday as he watched the game film knowing the team is capable of so much more.

"The loss was somewhat of a



Army junior quarterback David Pevoto drags Rice defender Vernon James Saturday during Army's 48-14 loss to the Owls at Michie Stadium. Army head football coach Bobby Ross said Pevoto's play must be more consistent for Army to improve.

wakeup call," Trimble explained. "Hopefully we can get right back on track ... and play the way we should every game."

VMI enters the game with its own struggles after losing to James Madison, ranked #15 in Division I-AA, 45-7. But, VMI does offer

a little preview to what Army will face versus Air Force and Navy -- the wishbone.

"They are a little mix of Navy and Air Force, which we've had problems with in the past," said senior linebacker Cason Shrode. "I think if everyone carries out their responsibilities on defense we'll be okay."

"We've been practicing against the option every week since camp started," Shrode added. "Seeing it at game speed will help us a lot in the future. The big thing for us right now is to go out there and beat VMI and not worry about the other teams we're going to play."

Ross had counted 25 missed tackles from the Rice game for a total of 188 extra yards gained and with that emphasis in mind, the defense is working hard to correct their mistakes.

"After missing 25 tackles last

week, it will be very important to fix that this week," said junior defensive tackle Tony Fusco. "(Ross) told us that he was going to be very demanding in practice as to how well we perform our tackling."

Army will need a strong performance this week, because not only is it their homecoming game, and also to reach an even record of 3-3 before they face Connecticut (2-2) and TCU (3-1) in the following two weeks. Those are two clubs Army has not fared well against in recent years.

Saturday's game will start at 1:05 p.m. on ESPN Classic and will be announced by Dave Ryan and Bill Curry. The game can also be heard on the radio through Army Sports Network on WABC (770-AM, New York), WBNR (1260-AM, Beacon, N.Y.) and WLNA (1420-AM, Peekskill, N.Y.).



Army senior middle linebacker Cason Shrode, above pursuing Rice sophomore quarterback Chase Clement, said VMI's wishbone offense is a combination of Navy and Air Force's.

Army Game Day times

- West Point parking lots open at 8 a.m.
- Shuttle Buses begin running at 8:30 a.m.
- Cadet Review on the Plain starts at 10 a.m.
- Black Knights Alley opens at 10 a.m.
- Michie Stadium gates open at 11 a.m.
- Black Knight Walk occurs at 10:45 a.m.

Water polo sweeps regional

Story and photos by
Eric S. Bartelt
Sports Editor

Army Water Polo hosted a combined regional Saturday and Sunday in the New York Division of the Collegiate Water Polo Association.

Ten teams, five each from the Western and Eastern regions, participated. The U.S. Military Academy's club team splashed away the competition as it took all four games during the weekend.

Army beat Cornell University (15-5), Binghamton University (24-0), Syracuse University (15-2) and completed their undefeated two days with a win against SUNY Geneseo (21-9).

Last weekend's tournament encompassed the first games of the year that counted toward the team's overall record, because they were games played against competitive clubs within their division.

USMA played in a non-league tournament invitational at the Villanova University the weekend before, finishing 1-2. They beat Pennsylvania and lost to Villanova and Penn State.

Army is looking to advance to the nationals this year since they were stopped short of their goal last season, losing in the semi-finals at the Division Championships.

"This year," said Army senior "point" man Mark Hogan, "I think we're pretty strong. Everyone's so fast and shoots so well that anyone can play any position (in the pool)."

As the point man, Hogan directs the attack on offense and on defense would defend the opposing team's center forward. But, Army's players are so versatile that each of them can move around the perimeter among the six (center forward, two wings, two drivers and the point man) positions without missing a beat.

Part of the versatility of the team is the experience that they all have, since 13 of the team's 20 members are from California, the state where water polo is most

popular.

"I started playing when I was in sixth grade because club water polo in California is really big," Hogan said. "At my high school, water polo was bigger than football, although it's such an obscure sport. It's funny because people don't know what it is."

Hogan said water polo can best be described as a combination of wrestling, basketball and soccer with the way the goals are set up plus a touch of baseball in the way the shots and passes are made. The hardest part of the game is having the endurance to swim during an entire game, which is four eight-minute periods.

"It's a very physical game and a lot of my friends who come to watch (at West Point) are always amazed that I can swim for so long," explained Hogan, who used to play goalie and credits that for helping strengthen his legs. "By half way through the second quarter, you're smoked. The rest of the game is about who has the most endurance."

According to Hogan, the team practices five days a week and swims about 2,000 -- to -- 2,500 yards when the season begins. However, as the season moves along there is less swimming and more water polo skills that are practiced.

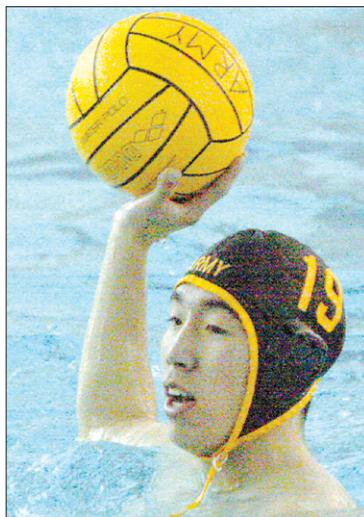
Junior Will Theisner, an Air Force exchange cadet, believes one of the most important skills of the game is hand-eye coordination.

"You can't catch the ball with two hands, so that's one major thing," said Theisner, who uses his distance swimming background as an advantage. "Another thing is the 'counter', which is after the ball gets turned over to you and you're on offense and must swim down the pool ... it's a lot of swimming, but it's the organization of the counter."

The team will play another tournament this weekend at Colgate University in an Eastern Regional matchup. With these tournaments coming back-to-back, it's important to have a deep team. Hogan believes this is the deepest the Army team has been since he's been here.

"The plebes we picked up this year are all very strong, so we have a very deep bench," Hogan explained. "We're in and out of the pool all the time and that's a part of our endurance this year."

Hogan said the team has a strong veteran presence with seniors Pete Sunwoo, Warren Lally and Sam Greulich and junior Ted Boeddiker. Sunwoo and Greulich give the team

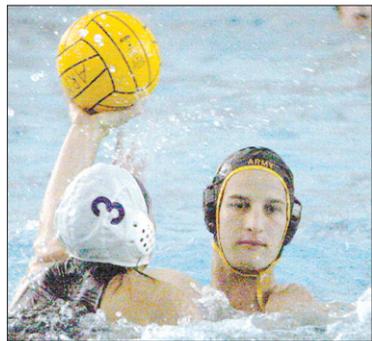


Freshman driver Soo Ho Park looks for an open teammate.

an added edge because they are left-handed shooters.

"It's a huge advantage," Hogan stated, "The left side of the goal is the weak side because the right-handed shooters have all the angle shooting from there, so you have to be very talented to get it around the goalie ... but a left-handed shooter whose face is open to the cage has a huge advantage. And, we have two of them."

Army will play for the New York Division Championship at Columbia University Oct. 28 and 29, which could be their first step toward bigger and better things.



Senior point man Samuel Lyon looks to pass.