

April changes [as of 4/18]	
C FUND	+ 3.74 percent
I FUND	+ 4.54 percent
S FUND	+ 3.13 percent

Political e-mails cause Hatch Act complaint surge

By Jessica Brady
CongressDaily

A U.S. enforcement agency has seen a surge in the number of complaints about federal employees sending politically-oriented e-mails, a trend officials say could lead to a record number of Hatch Act violations this year.

“As people become more comfortable with e-mail use, we see a spike in Hatch Act complaints,” an attorney in the Hatch Act unit of the Office of Special Counsel told CongressDaily last week. “I expect to see a continued intersect between federal employees, the Internet and the Hatch Act.”

OSC recorded 299 complaints last year -- an all-time high for the independent investigative

agency charged with enforcing the Hatch Act. The law bars federal employees from engaging in any political activity during work hours, which includes circulating petitions and campaigning.

Sending a political e-mail, either on a personal or work account, is barred under the law.

Among the variety of recent e-mail cases brought to the agency’s attention was one involving a federal worker who e-mailed an invitation to a party supporting the re-election campaign of Rep. Tim Holden, D-Pa.

The invitation, which was “obviously ... directed toward the success of Mr. Holden’s re-election campaign,” was e-mailed to more than 300 individuals, according to the OSC. The worker received a 60-day suspension.

In a case involving action against a supporter of President Bush’s re-election, a federal employee had e-mailed a photo of the president in front of an American flag with the statement, “I Vote the Bible.”

While the agency said it does not have an official count on how many e-mail violations occurred last year, the OSC attorney said the Internet is a rising problem area for enforcement. The attorney was allowed to be interviewed on the condition of anonymity.

The agency reported receiving 248 Hatch Act-related complaints in 2004, a general election year. That number was nearly matched with 245 complaints in 2005, despite it being a non-election year, which presumably would mean a dip in the volume of political e-mail.

The rise of popular Web sites like YouTube, which features politically charged video clips, has added to the challenge of keeping partisan politics out of the workplace, the OSC attorney

See HATCH ACT on page 3



Class of 2010 unveils crest

Cadets 4th Class Matthew Carstensen [left] and Brandon Mulrine hoist the Class of 2010 crest at the Mess Hall here April 13. The class crest is a tradition that dates back to 1917 when the first class crest was unveiled. Since then, plebes design a crest for their class, which is incorporated into the class ring and present it at the Mess Hall for a night. The crest is then moved to Eisenhower Hall where it will hang along with other class crests representing another class link in the Long Gray Line. [See related story on Page 7.]

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

INSIDE



SPRING GAME, pages 13, 15

Anti-terrorism/Force Protection exercise May 3

West Point will conduct an Anti-terrorism/Force Protection exercise May 3.

Personnel should expect delays at the gates, as Force Protection Condition measures are elevated.

Everyone who usually parks in the Central Post area is encouraged to park in Clinton Lot, the old PX [K-lot] or Buffalo Soldier Field and use the post shuttle buses. Doubleday Lot will be reserved for handicapped

personnel only.

There will be no parking [from 10 p.m. May 2 to the end of the exercise, which should run until approximately 7 p.m. May 3] in the Cadet Central Area, including Brewerton Road and Scott Place, Lincoln Hall Lot, Clinton Place, Thayer Hall roof, Mahan Hall and Thayer moat parking lots or any other lots not previously mentioned that access Cullum Road or any parking area or lots that can be reached from Thayer

extension [e.g., the lower lot near Bldg. 606 and the spots on the road leading to the Grant turnaround].

The CPA Express shuttle will be augmented by one additional bus and will service BSF and K-lot parking areas during the hours of 5:45 to 9 a.m. and again from 3 to 6:30 p.m.

The POC for this information is the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security’s Joe Senger at 938-8859.

Gen. Casey speaks to the Army family

Commentary by
Army Chief of Staff
Gen. George W. Casey Jr.

Soldiers, civilians and families of the United States Army, I am extremely proud to be taking charge of an organization that is rightly regarded as the best in the world.

I have watched the men and women of our Army in action for the past several years in the most demanding combat environment. I am proud of the courage, competence and commitment of our Soldiers and civilians both to the ideals that made this country great and to making a difference in our world.



Gen. George W. Casey Jr.

You epitomize what is best about America. You and your families carry a heavy burden in today's war, with a hard road ahead. Your willingness to sacrifice to build a better future for others and to preserve our way of life is a great strength of our nation. In every generation, when faced with difficult challenges, Americans have risen to the occasion. Today, such heroes fill the Army's ranks. It is your efforts that will make victory possible.

We are locked in a war against a global extremist network that is fixed on defeating the United States and destroying our way of life. This foe will not go away nor will they give up easily, and the next decade will likely be one of persistent conflict. We are engaged in a long war.

At stake are the power of our values and our civilization, exemplified by the promise of America, to confront and defeat the menace of extremist terrorists. At stake is whether the authority of those who treasure the rights of free individuals will stand firm against the ruthless and pitiless men who wantonly slay the defenseless. At stake is whether the future will be framed by the individual freedoms we hold so dear or dominated by a

demented form of extremism. At stake is whether we will continue to expand freedom, opportunity and decency for those who thirst for it or let fall the darkness of extremism and terror.

We have been at war for over five years, fighting for our freedom, our security and our future as a nation. We have made hard sacrifices. There will be more. Faced with such a long and difficult struggle, it is useful to remind ourselves that the Army exists to field forces for victory. We are in

this war to win. We have fought this way since 1775. We always will.

As Soldiers, we will lead the nation to victory over this enemy. Our combat veterans know well the meaning of "Army Strong." They have been "baptized in fire and blood and they have come out as steel." That steel endures.

Our Warrior Ethos has it right:

■ I will always place the mission first.

■ I will never quit.

■ I will never accept defeat.

■ I will never leave a fallen

comrade.

Seldom in our history have Soldiers faced greater challenges. We serve at a time when the stakes for our nation and our way of life are high and the demands on our force significant. We will continue to reflect the very best of our nation by defeating the enemies of freedom and the proponents of terror, by defending our homeland and by assisting our nation to build a better future for coming generations.

I could not be more proud to be a Soldier today and to stand shoulder to shoulder with you and your families during this time of great danger and uncertainty. Together we are, and always will be, ARMY STRONG.

SAPR-P

The members of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program are Col. Jeanette McMahon, Shelley Ariosto [Garrison], Maj. Samantha Ross [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

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

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 10

POINTER VIEW®

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Local and National News

Record-setting month of trading activity concerns TSP officials

By Tim Kauffman
Federal Times

A recent surge in trading activity by Thrift Savings Plan participants has plan administrators worried.

Last month, TSP processed more than 268,000 transfers of assets from one fund to another, eclipsing the previous high of 247,500 in May [2006]. The large movement was precipitated by a downturn in the stock market at the end of February and beginning of March.

Moving investments from one fund to another based on daily fluctuations in the stock market isn't a sound way to save for retirement, say officials with the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, which oversees TSP.

"It's really the wrong thing

for a long-term retirement fund," board chairman Andrew Saul said at the board's monthly meeting Monday.

Nearly \$3.4 billion was traded in TSP's international stock fund last month, far surpassing the previous record of \$2 billion set in June. Participants shifted \$2 billion out of the I Fund in the first four days of March, putting most of the money into conservative securities and bonds, then spent the rest of the month returning most of the money they had withdrawn once the markets recovered.

The result of all that trading was a net loss for participants, since they pulled their money out of the fund after the market dipped and began reinvesting once the market was on the upswing.

Greg Long, executive director

of the board, said the board's senior staff members are looking at ways to communicate the risk that participants face by chasing market returns.

While last month's trading activity broke records, it's minimal when compared with what could occur if the stock market took a major hit due to a national or worldwide catastrophe, Saul said.

Heavier trading could jam the computer systems and TSP Web site and cause trading requests not to be processed timely, said Mark Hagerty, the board's chief information officer. Hagerty said TSP currently uses only about 60 percent of its mainframe capacity and would be able to tap into the unused portion quickly if market conditions warranted it.

Still, Saul said he's concerned that TSP's systems would be unable to handle the massive volume of trades that could follow a major

catastrophe.

"If you had a 10, 15 percent drawdown in the world market, you could have a major problem here," he said.

TSP hasn't been tested by

a major world event. When the Sept. 11 attacks occurred in 2001, TSP had yet to move to a new recordkeeping system that allows participants to make transactions on a daily basis.

BOV to meet in D.C. Wed.

WEST POINT, N.Y. -- The Board of Visitors of the U.S. Military Academy will meet Wednesday in Room B318, Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. The Board will review and receive updates on the academic, physical and military programs.

The Board of Visitors is appointed under the provision of Section 4355 of Title 10, United States Code. It is the duty of the board to inquire about the academy's morale and discipline, curriculum, instructions, physical

equipment, fiscal affairs and academic methods. The board consists of presidential appointees and members of Congress.

Presidential appointees are the Honorable Samuel Lessey Jr., Rebecca Contreras, Dr. Charles Younger, John S. Rainey, William H. Strong and Blake G. Hall.

The senators are Jack Reed, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Susan Collins and Mary Landrieu. Representatives include Maurice Hinchey, Todd Tiahrt, John McHugh and Jim Marshall.

HATCH ACT, cont. from page 1

said. Employees often pass along Web site links without knowing it violates the Hatch Act.

To educate workers and reiterate the law's extensive reach into prohibited political activities, the office issued an advisory last month highlighting decisions made by the Merit Systems Protection Board on cases of federal employees using their government e-mail address to circulate political messages.

The Hatch Act decisions "send a clear message to the federal community [that] no political activity means no political activity, regardless of the specific technology used," OSC Special Counsel Scott Bloch said in the advisory.

In one of the highlighted cases, an EPA employee was found in violation of the law for forwarding a letter from the Democratic National Committee to 31 agency co-workers that urged support for then-presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass.

The punishment decision for the employee is still pending, although the lightest sentence under the law is a 30-day suspension without pay.

Ward Morrow, assistant general counsel of the American Federation of Government Employees, the largest federal employee union, said such cases, where employees may not even be aware they are violating the law, "just aren't

warranted."

Morrow said the Hatch Act "was designed for serious violations of bringing partisanship into the workplace." He said the law was never intended to punish a more minor offense like forwarding a video clip or campaign Web site.

The minimum penalty of a 30-day suspension is also too harsh, Morrow said, adding that the law should be revised to include less stringent punishments.

"The law seems to be a very heavy-handed way of dealing with e-mail," he said. "Congress needs to take up Hatch Act reform."

House Oversight and Government Reform Federal Workforce Subcommittee Chairman Danny Davis, D-Ill., said his panel will hold a hearing later this year on the Hatch Act generally -- and the use of e-mails, in particular -- but that overhauling the law was unlikely.

"There is a lack of knowledge, of federal workers just not knowing the rules," Davis said, acknowledging the upswing in Hatch Act complaints.

Davis said rather than change components of the law, more needs to be done to educate workers on the rules.

"The average employee does not set out to violate the law," he said, reiterating OSC's view. "Awareness is all they need to keep them from being in violation."

Combat patches authorized at lower echelons

By J.D. Leipold

WASHINGTON [Army News Service] -- The Army has changed its policy on the wear of combat patches as a result of the way Soldiers and their units now deploy.

Since 1945, the intent behind the wear of the combat patch, known as the "shoulder sleeve insignia-former wartime service," was to recognize Soldiers' participation in

combat operations. However, this only applied to Soldiers who were serving with such large echelon deployed units as separate brigades, divisions, corps, Army commands or higher.

"Soldiers deploy differently now, at smaller echelon levels such as companies, battalions, combat brigade teams and as individual augmentees in support of larger echelon units," said Sgt.

Maj. Katrina Easley, branch chief for uniform policy at Army G-1. "At those levels they weren't authorized to wear their unit patch as a combat patch."

Once Soldiers report to their first units, they wear their command's patch on their left sleeves. When deployed to a designated combat zone, Soldiers may also wear the company-level or higher patch that they serve with on their right sleeves.

In the past, confusion resulted over which combat patch should be worn by Soldiers who were cross-leveled, assigned, attached or serving as augmentees to deployed units. This also affected Soldiers under temporary duty orders in a combat zone.

The new guidance states that when echelons below company level deploy, Soldiers in those units may now wear the combat patch

of the lowest-echelon command they deploy with, as long as it's at company level or higher.

The new implementing instructions to Army Regulation 670-1 became effective March 28 and are not retroactive.

As before, Soldiers who have earned multiple combat patches may choose which patch to wear. Soldiers may also elect not to wear a combat patch.

OMB to restrict user changes to computer desktop configs

By Daniel Friedman
Federal Times

Federal employees used to tweaking their computers' operating systems and officials responsible for information technology contracts will face changes under the Office of Management and Budget's requirement that agencies adopt a standard desktop configuration for Microsoft Windows.

The mandate means OMB will block users across the government from having administrative access to their desktops, senior IT officials said at an April 11 panel discussion. The policy will also

require that IT contracts, starting almost immediately, include language assuring that vendors' products work with the standard configuration, officials said.

In memos sent last month, OMB said agencies using or planning to use Microsoft Windows XP and Vista must implement standard security settings for all computers no later than Feb. 1. OMB asked agencies to submit implementation plans by May 1.

Agencies must meet real milestones, not submit "statements of what you plan to do," Karen Evans, OMB's administrator of e-government and information, told

event attendees.

The National Security Agency, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Homeland Security Department, the Defense Information Systems Agency and Microsoft created the standard configuration using a similar initiative at the Air Force as a model. Individual agencies can adjust the systems to their mission requirements, but must start with a common set-up.

The standard configuration will block most cyberattacks and allows faster installation of security patches. It will also help agencies to better manage networks and cut

costs, officials said.

But panel members said restricting operating system access to only required users, which is necessary to maintain standard security, will be hard. Many agencies allow users to adjust their operating systems, largely because vendors design the software that way, said Alan Paller, director of research at the SANS Institute, a cybersecurity education organization that hosted the event.

"It's no longer a personal computer. It's an administrative computer," said Air Force Assistant Chief Information Officer Kenneth Heitkamp. "That's a big culture shift."

Describing his experience overseeing the Air Force transition, Heitkamp said many agency components will resist change with arguments that their IT requirements are unique.

Evans stressed that all IT

contracts should include clauses requiring compatibility with the secure configuration. "Even when you're buying it off the shelf . . . it has to work in your environment," she said.

Evans said OMB is working with the General Services Administration, the National Security Agency and the National Institute of Standards and Technology on draft language and she has suggested that the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council add a clause to the FAR.

OMB will also issue a new policy memo with suggested contract language in coming weeks that would be used for all future computer procurements, she said. OMB wants agencies to update contract language by June 30.

But Paller said agencies should not wait. "Do it this afternoon," he said. "Don't let a contract out without it, because it will cost you a lot of money."

G.I. Bill eligibility expands for some Guard, Reserve members

By Gerry J. Gilmore

WASHINGTON [Army News Service] -- A recent Defense Department policy change widens the eligibility window for some reserve-component troops who want to use their Montgomery G.I. Bill education benefits, a senior DOD official said here Monday.

The DOD policy now aligns with Department of Veterans Affairs rules, which say National Guard members and Reservists are eligible to receive Montgomery G.I. Bill education benefits for the period covering the amount of time they served on active duty, plus four months, said Tom Bush, principal director for manpower and personnel within the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs.

After studying the matter over the past few months, DOD agreed to align its policy with the VA's, Bush said during a joint Pentagon Channel/American Forces Press Service interview. DOD's previous policy, he said, only recognized the amount of active-duty time as applied to the G.I. Bill coverage period for reserve-component

members but still required the member to continue to serve in the Selected Reserve.

"The change, from the DOD perspective, is that the benefit now can be used by somebody who leaves the Selected Reserve for the amount of time that they've served on active duty, plus four months," Bush said. Guard and Reserve members who attend regular drill training and meetings are considered part of the Selected Reserve.

The total amount of G.I. Bill coverage for reservists is still 36 months, Bush said. "So, if you've used part of that [G.I. Bill benefit] it may eat into that 36 months," he noted.

Bush said Reservists normally have 14 years to use their Montgomery G.I. Bill benefits. However, that time might also be extended, he noted, by the amount of time Guard or Reserve members serve on active duty, plus four months.

Senior Guard and Reserve officials, as well as demobilization sites, have been alerted to the policy change, Bush said.

About 370,000 Guard and

Reserve members on drill or active-duty status have signed up to use Montgomery G.I. Bill benefits since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States, Bush said.

The Reserve Education Assistance Program, established by the 2005 National Defense Authorization Act, is another DOD education initiative for members of the Guard and Reserve, Bush noted. To be eligible, servicemembers must have served at least 90 consecutive days of active service after Sept. 11, 2001, in response to a Presidential or Congressional call-up of military forces for wartime or other emergency service.

Guard and Reserve members who served for two continuous years on active duty in support of a contingency operation would qualify for both the Montgomery G.I. Bill and REAP and could select which program they want to use, Bush noted.

Servicemembers can determine if they qualify for the Montgomery G.I. Bill and REAP by contacting their local education office.

[Editor's Note: Gilmore writes for the American Forces Press Service.]

Community Features and Photos

Chronic fatigue syndrome: beyond 'tired'

By Kelly L. Forys,
Psychologist
U.S. Army Center for Health
Promotion & Preventive
Medicine

For Soldiers or their family members who suffer from chronic fatigue syndrome, being tired is a way of life.

CFS is not due to laziness, and it is more than just fatigue -- individuals with this disorder have endured six or more months of problems including difficulty with memory and concentration, sore throat, muscle pain, joint pain and headaches.

Suffering from CFS is similar to having a bad case of the flu that will not go away.

If someone you know or love experiences these symptoms, he or

she is not alone. More than a million Americans are also suffering. CFS affects both men and women, although women are four times more likely to be diagnosed with CFS than men are. CFS most commonly affects individuals in their 40s and 50s; however, teenagers are also vulnerable.

The symptoms listed above can be attributed to many normal daily activities such as job duties, stress related to work, caring for family members and not getting enough rest. Because it is easy to explain away the symptoms, most who experience this intense fatigue outside of heavy training or deployment do not seek treatment. Less than 20 percent of those who have the cluster of symptoms required to diagnose CFS have actually received a diagnosis from



their doctors. A specific test to diagnose CFS does not exist. Rather, CFS is often diagnosed after conditions with similar symptoms such as thyroid disorders, cancer, depression and mononucleosis have been ruled out.

Perhaps even more devastating

than the actual symptoms of CFS are the effects that the symptoms have on an individual's daily life. Those who feel tired and achy all of the time are less likely to socialize with friends and family, less likely to be productive at work and less likely to be happy with life.

In garrison, Soldiers with CFS might find that their fatigue makes it difficult to maintain the rigorous pace of training. During deployment, the physical symptoms and fatigue that Soldiers with CFS experience might prevent them from keeping up with the physical demands on the body that result from an increase in operational tempo.

This situation can be very frustrating to both Soldiers and their commanders.

Although scientists suggest

that a combination of genetic and environmental factors contribute to its development, the cause of CFS is not known. As a result, CFS cannot be readily prevented; however, maintaining a healthy lifestyle [including a diet rich in fruits, vegetables and lean protein; participating in daily exercise; and building supportive relationships] is always a good suggestion for achieving optimal health.

There is no known cure for CFS; however, medications and lifestyle changes can reduce pain and fatigue. Lifestyle changes that are recommended to improve symptoms of CFS include stress-reduction activities, gentle stretching, healthy foods, adequate sleep and moderate amounts of exercise [walking, biking, jogging, etc., for 30 minutes per day].

[Editor's Note: U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine release.]



Threats to teens' oral health

By Lt. Col. Georgia dela Cruz
and Jeannie Dalmás
U.S. Army Center for Health
Promotion & Preventive
Medicine

Tooth decay is common in teenagers and is mainly caused by sipping soda all day and eating sugary or starchy convenience snacks. The average teenage boy in the United States consumes 81 gallons of soft drinks each year.

Peer pressure is one reason teens drink too much soda. One dictionary definition of peer pressure states, "Peer Pressure [n.] Pressure from one's peers to behave in a manner similar or acceptable to them." Peer pressure overrides teens' and tweens' good health habits and causes them to make unhealthy choices just to fit in. If the 'in crowd' carries soda around all day and eats sugary snacks, that becomes the standard.

Peer pressure also causes many other threats to the oral health of teens and tweens. Oral and facial piercing, grills, smoking and purging are a few.

Oral piercing [tongue, lips, cheeks or uvula] can be dangerous if not done properly. The ornaments worn usually interfere with speaking, chewing and swallowing. Common complications of oral piercing are drooling, infection,

chipped or cracked teeth, injuries to the gums, damage to fillings, scar tissue and nerve damage.

Tongue studs are often accidentally bitten, causing chipped, cracked or broken teeth.

Grills are decorative covers that snap over teeth. Teens wear them to emulate celebrity icons. However, they tend to trap bacteria and food under them, causing bad breath and tooth decay. These grills have also been known to cause gum irritation, damage to the enamel of the teeth that bite against them, and even chipped teeth. Grills may be today's trend, but can cause permanent damage.

Teens and tweens also feel pressure to be physically perfect. Some even develop eating disorders such as purging, which is self-induced vomiting designed to undo the effects of binge eating. Purging can significantly impact dental health.

The stomach acid that digests our food comes up with the food when a person vomits. These stomach acids irritate the gum tissues and soften the hard outer layer of the tooth [enamel]. The enamel will gradually dissolve [erode] after repeated exposure to stomach acid. Over time, this erosion leaves the inner, yellow tooth structure, called dentin, exposed, and sensitive.

Dentin is very vulnerable to decay, and may develop multiple cavities and maybe lead to a root canal. A dentist can easily spot the signs of purging. When acid splashes up against the teeth, it leaves a distinct wear pattern in the enamel. Purging is a serious medical problem that needs immediate attention.

Teens may also feel peer pressure to begin using tobacco. There is no safe form of tobacco. Tobacco harms the mouth, as well as the rest of the body. Smokeless tobacco wears away gums and increases risk of tooth decay and gum disease. Smokeless tobacco

causes white leathery patches that can turn into mouth sores or oral cancer. Everyone knows that smoking causes yellow teeth, bad breath and wrinkles. Smoking can also cause gum disease, jaw-bone loss, tooth loss and oral cancer. Smokers also tend to have more tooth decay than nonsmokers do.

It is difficult for teens and tweens to resist peer pressure, but understanding what the consequences of poor oral health behaviors can be will help them do so. By avoiding threats to their oral health, their smiles can last a lifetime.

Cadets Third Class visit West Point cemetery

By Richard Swain
Professor of Officership,
SCPME

On April 3-4, members of the Class of 2009 participated in the second annual Simon Center for the Professional Military Ethic-sponsored visit with the Long Gray Line at the West Point Cemetery.

The afternoon guided tour is part of the Officership sequence of the Professional Military Education Program. "The Long Gray Line of us stretches..." from Lee Barracks to the West Point Cemetery. By introducing cadets to those who have gone before and those who built the reputation of West Point by the character of their service and their lives, it is intended that third class cadets will receive new and lasting inspiration for service and a sense of obligation to pass on the reputation of West Point unsullied by any action or omission for which they are responsible.

This year SCPME was pleased to have the participation of Tom Davidson, son of academy superintendent and football coach, Gen. Garrison Davidson. Davidson was a distinguished engineer, a military educator and a combat veteran of World War II and Korea. His period as superintendent was a period of renewal and reform, marked particularly by reform of the academic curriculum. Next to Davidson, Col. Jeanette McMahon, Special Assistant to the Superintendent, spoke to cadets about the service of her late husband, Lt. Col. Mike McMahon, who died serving as a cavalry squadron commander in Afghanistan.

At the other end of the cemetery, along the back hedge, recent graduates who fell in Iraq and Afghanistan, 1st Lts. Emily Perez and Laura Walker and Capt. Michael J. McKinnon, were remembered by friends and other cadets. Classmates Maj. Phil Nazarro and Jeff Van Antwerp spoke about Capt. Stephen W. Frank and Ralph J. Harting. Frank and Harting died together and now lie close by one another in the cemetery. Also remembered were Capt. Vincent Generosa and Maj. Charles M. Driscoll, both of whom died shortly after returning from Iraq.

Driscoll was a graduate who had left active service for the Army Reserve. He was recalled and served a year in Iraq. He died of a heart attack shortly afterward. Maj. Jeff Spear from the Department of Physics spoke for his classmate. Capt. Generosa was an artillery officer who died of cancer shortly after his return.

Midway between these sites, cadets visited the grave of Capt. Eric Paliwoda, greeted as last year, by Maj. Ken Braeger. Braeger, a tactical officer, and his wife, Maj. Dena Braeger, of the Dept. of Behavioral Sciences & Leadership, were Paliwoda's classmates. The three served together after graduation and spoke of returning to West Point together from Iraq. Shortly before they were due to return, Paliwoda was fatally wounded in a mortar attack.

In addition to losses in recent wars, cadets were introduced to veterans of other conflicts. Lt. Col. John Graham, also of BS&L,



Second Lt. Megan Vrabel talks to Third Class cadets about her former Army women's basketball coach Maggie Dixon.

PHOTOS BY BEVERLY COOPER/DOIM MMB

with other members of his family, talked about his father, Capt. John Graham, killed in Vietnam when Lt. Col. Graham was five years old. Cadet spokesmen talked about the Alexander Patch family, the Joseph Stilwells, Capt. Tom Hayes from the class of '66, and Gen. Hamilton Howze.

Lieutenant Col. Mike Kwinn, from Systems Engineering, reflected on the community support

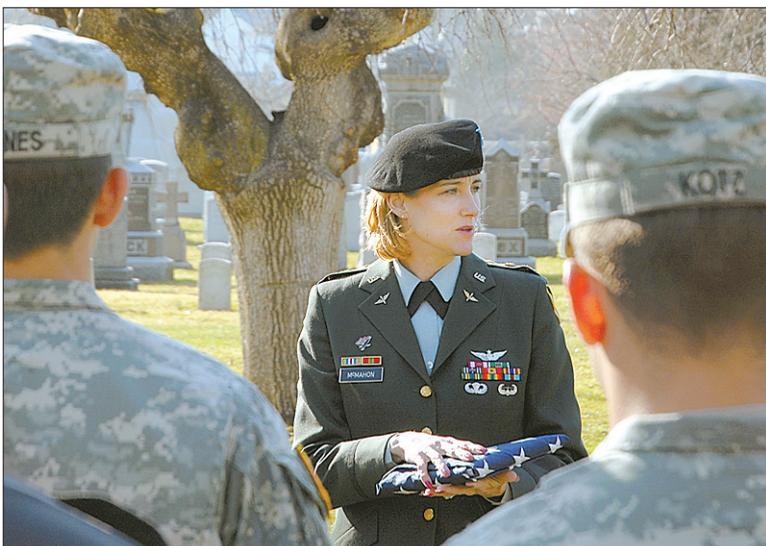
his family received when his son suffered his long fatal illness. Families are a large part of the cemetery visit.

Major Devon Blake and Larry Moores, both from SCPME, spoke to cadets about historical figures Robert Anderson, George Armstrong Custer, Winfield Scott, Sylvanus Thayer, John Buford, Alonzo Cushing and Emily Henry Terrill.

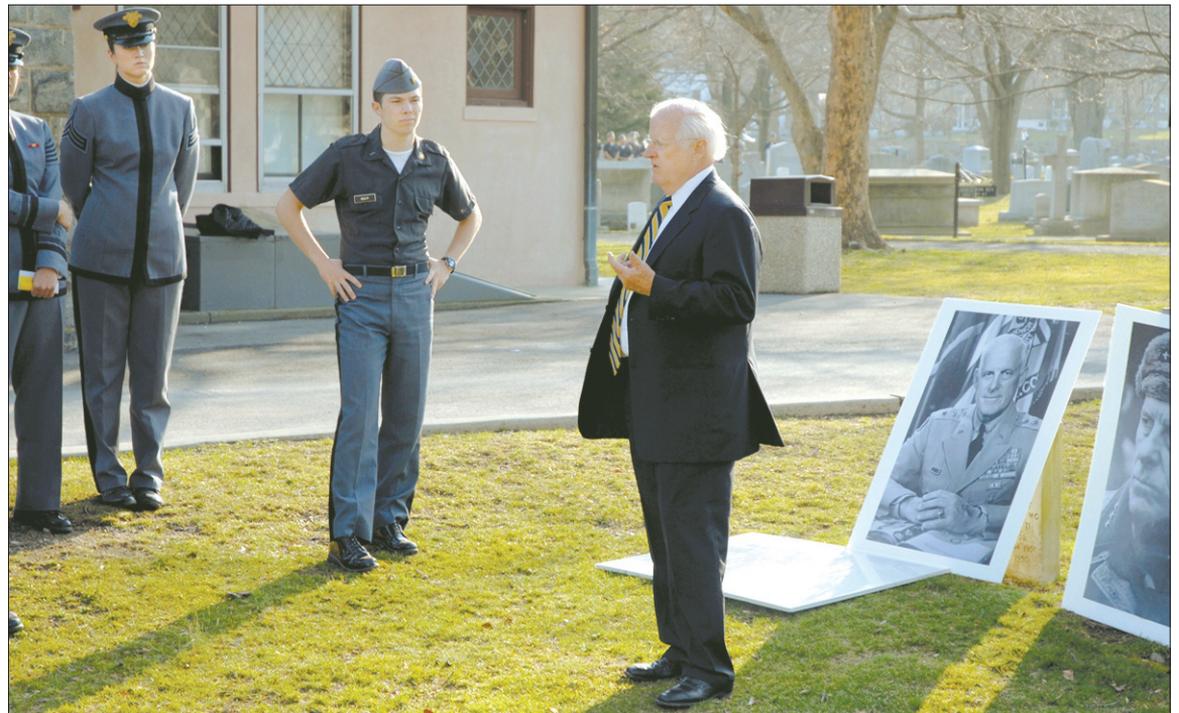
Finally, next to the Old Cadet

Chapel, the Simon Center was privileged to have 2nd Lt. Megan Vrabel, one of Maggie Dixon's basketball players, share her memories of Coach Dixon with cadets as they entered or departed.

The impresario for the cemetery tour, Maj. Eileen Granfield stated she hopes the tour continues to serve as an inspirational event for the class, as it truly honors those who have gone before us.



Colonel Jeanette McMahon spoke with cadets about her late husband, Lt. Col. Mike McMahon, USMA 1985.



Tom Davidson briefs cadets on his father, Gen. Garrison Davidson, USMA 1927, who was at different times Army head football coach [1933-37] and then later academy superintendent [1956-1960].

Plebes put their stamp on USMA history with crest

**Photo and story by
Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer**

In a tradition that began with the first class crest unveiling in 1917, the fourth class cadets left their mark on the history of the U.S. Military Academy by hanging their crest April 13 at the Cadet Mess Hall here.

“This is a culminating event for us as plebes,” said Cadet 4th Class Brandon Mulrine, ring chairman. “Now we feel like we belong to West Point because we have contributed our identity with the crest ... and have a stake in its future.”

The thinking process of the design of the crest began this year during Beast Barracks, according to Class President, Cadet 4th Class Matthew Carstensen.

“We decided to have ‘Loyal til the End’ as our class motto,” he said. “The design is compiled with cadet ideas, but there are certain symbols that must be on the crest. There must be a flag, the letters USMA, a bald eagle, cadet and officer’s sabers, an olive branch and arrows and of course the class motto and year of class graduation.”

The design of the crest is incorporated into the class ring, which bears the class crest on one side and the academy crest on the other.

“We need to keep the class ring in mind and not make the crest too intricate,” said Cadet

4th Class Michelle Cuellar, class historian. “We tried to make our crest a little unique, though. We changed the position of the year so we would have more room to work with, putting it on top of the crest. We have the cadet sabers pointing down to our nation, showing that we are ready to fight,

and incorporated the Army A logo into the USMA to show it’s a new era at West Point.”

The cadets make the design and choose the one they like best from the final design of three artists.

“We are always involved,” Carstensen said. “We look over their designs and can make changes,

etc., then we will pick the artist that we feel represents the design we want.”

Artist Warren Miller, who worked in Fabrications at the Directorate of Information Management here for 30 years before retiring in 1999, designed

this year’s crest and has made every crest at West Point since 1990.

“I like to think I have a history at West Point, too, as I have been doing this for a long time,” he said. “I also made the Coast Guard Academy and the Merchant Marine Academy crests.”



The Class of 2010 crest.

R-Day rehearsal volunteers needed June 29

Volunteers should be at Eisenhower Hall’s Crest Hall no later than 9:45 a.m. June 29.

Parking is available at Eisenhower Hall, Gillis Field House and Buffalo Soldier Field.

The rehearsal starts promptly at 10 a.m. and concludes at approximately 1 p.m.

Lunch will not be provided; you are welcome to bring a snack and carry it in your bag along with a bottle of water if desired.

Volunteers must be between ages 14 - 55. It is guaranteed to be a fun-filled day you will enjoy for generations to come.

To register call [845] 938-2825/2826.

Infantry Tactics Club goes Dutch

By Cadet 3rd Class Jay Brend

With a journey from the historic battlegrounds of Operation Market Garden in World War II to present-day doctrinal training using the latest weaponry, the West Point Infantry Tactics Club completed an eight-day trip through the Netherlands over Cadet Spring Break that combined allied military training and cultural

experiences in one of Europe's most diverse cities.

With support from the Dean's Cultural Immersion Program and the Department of Military Instruction, members of the club began their trip with a staff ride among the 82nd Airborne Division's drop zones used during Operation Market Garden, an allied offensive designed to seize bridges in the Nazi-occupied Netherlands



DMI instructor Maj. James Kleager (left), Cadets 4th Class Erik Filipek (on the gun) and Matthew Gurniak and Cadet 3rd Class Nicholas Runyon mount a Dutch Infantry Fighting Vehicle.

PHOTOS BY MAJ. SCOTT KNIGHT/DMI



The Infantry Tactics Club's Cadet 4th Class Dan Riggs learns how to operate a 'Panzerfaust', or Duth LAW during his trip to the Netherlands over Spring Break. Besides learning about Dutch equipment the cadets also toured the areas that encompassed WWII's Operation Market-Garden, the Allies failed attempt to seize a succession of bridges behind enemy lines in German occupied Holland during the fall of 1944.

using a combination of airborne and armored forces.

Sgt. Maj. Ron Macauley, the Exchange Noncommissioned Officer [attached to the Dutch Army's Airmobile Brigade] who led the cadets' tour of the battlefield, explained the strategic significance of the operation and the role of the Dutch resistance in the villages of Grave and Nijmegen.

After the staff ride, cadets participated in five days of training with the 13th Battalion of the Dutch Army 11th Airmobile Brigade. Cadets conducted familiarization training with Dutch Army vehicles, weapons and equipment while also discussing the similarities between U.S. and Dutch infantry tactics.

"They experienced firsthand the common threads among all Soldiers," said Maj. Scott Knight, Infantry Tactics Club Officer Representative and the DMI instructor at USMA who led the trip. "At the same time, they learned the importance of considering different perspectives when building a team and planning operations."

Cadets capped off the cultural experience with a visit to Amsterdam, including a tour of the Anne Frank house and an historical [lesson] of the Holocaust.

"The cultural exchange -- seeing that this is who they will operate with -- is clearly the most important aspect of this trip," Knight said.

Cadet MIADs, AIADs and other travels

Cadets explore Scandanavian culture

By Majors Jennifer Bower and Robert Meine, Behavioral Sciences and Leadership

"I look forward to applying the concepts that I've learned to my own research my Firstie year."

Feltner added, "The biggest insight that I gained from this course is the ability to analyze

a journal article and look at the logical framework to reduce the 'leaps of faith' and cause the reader to draw the same conclusions as the author. The course destroyed the stereotypes that I had about qualitative analysis...this type of research is just as valuable as hard science analytical thinking."

Outside the classroom the cadets were fully immersed in the local culture, including using the local modes of transportation. They used the bus and train systems, and rode bicycles to class each day, about a two-mile commute.

"I've never been out of North America before or had to rely so much on public transportation, such as busses and trains," Johnson said. "So for me this experience was really different. The Swedes are incredibly environmentally conscious. They bicycle everywhere instead of driving and recycle everything possible."

For all three cadets, this trip marked their first international travel. Besides the week in Sweden, they had the chance to also spend a few days in Copenhagen, Denmark.



Cadets 2nd Class James Keisler, David Feltner and Anna Johnson used public transportation or cycled while in Sweden.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY MAJ. JENNIFER BOWER/BS&L



Cadets visit the 'Land of Fire'

Cadet 3rd Class James Chaffin (left), Cadet 4th Class Tyler Hartmann, Cadet 2nd Class Andrew Shoman, Cadet 3rd Class Frederic Cline, Azeri guide "Chagri" and Cadet 1st Joshua Rodriguez climb "into the fire" at an oil extraction field on the Absheron peninsula that dates back to the 7th-6th centuries B.C. The cadets visited Azerbaijan during Spring Break. Azerbaijan is called the "Land of Fire" because of the strong fire-worshipping and Zoroastrianism that originated and spread from locations like the one shown. These flames have been burning for "as long as anyone can remember" according to one of the locals in the area.

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY CADET 1ST JOSHUA RODRIGUEZ



'Body surfing' in Death Valley

Cadets 2nd Class Cody John, Nick Cosmas and Brian Borkowski and Cadet 3rd Class Lon McBride body surfed the Death Valley, Calif., dune fields during their Spring Break trip to study geology and geomorphology courtesy of the Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering. They, along with four other cadets and two faculty members, went to Badwater, which is the point of lowest elevation in the Western Hemisphere and Yucca Mountain, where the nation may begin storing its nuclear waste. They also visited ghost towns, salt flats, alluvial fans, cinder cone volcanoes, fault features and desert waterfalls.

PHOTO BY MAJ. MINDY KIMBALL/GENE

Cadets attend Argentine Mountain Warfare School

By Cadet 1st Class Dora Quezada

Eight first class cadets had the opportunity this Spring Break to earn Military Development School credit by attending the Argentine Mountain Warfare School in the Patagonia Mountains.

Cadets 1st Class Scott Harris, Austin Miller, Jimmy Peck, Luke Pell, Sam Perlik, Dora Quezada, Seth Sanert and Robert Small each completed a 10-day mountaineering course which included familiarization with mountaineering gear, several days of rock climbing instruction, ice climbing, high altitude trekking and the use of mules for logistical support in terrain inaccessible to vehicles.

The cadets received instruction from an Argentine Army officer and non-commissioned officer team. The military skills portion of the course was an introduction to the various tactical and technical skills necessary for movement, survival and combat in high altitude mountainous areas.

The language emersion

opportunity, so essential to cultural training, was another fundamental purpose for attending the course in Argentina, since learning these military skills from the Argentine subject matter experts was only possible by engaging them in their

national language.

The technical instruction the cadets received was awesome and left many of them with a strong desire to continue to build upon their newly developed skills in various outdoor recreational venues.



Cadet 1st Class Luke Pell climbs the ice around Mount Tronador in Argentina during his Military Individual Advanced Development trip to the Argentine Mountain Warfare School in the Patagonia Mountains over Spring Break.



Cadet 1st Class Sam Perlik climbs one of the Mountain Warfare School routes.

PHOTOS BY CADET 1ST CLASS JIMMY PECK

Red Cross classes

To register for any of the classes



APRIL/MAY MWR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Visit MWR online at www.westpointmwr.com

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
<p>ACSD, bldg. 622, 938-4621 (Registration required for classes.) AEC, bldg. 683, 938-3762 Arts & Crafts, bldg. 648, 938-4812 Auto Crafts, bldg. 648, 938-2074 Bowling Center, bldg. 622, 938-2140 BOSS, BSP, bldg. 628, 938-6497 CDC, bldg. 1207, 938-4798/4523 Recreation Division, 938-2401 Delafield Pond, 938-5139/5158 Fitness Center, bldg. 683, 938-6490 (Class schedules subject to change without notice.)</p>		<p>Golf Course, 938-2435/2327 ITR, bldg. 695, 938-3601 AVC, bldg. 2104, 938-3655 Morgan Farm, bldg. 2026, 938-3926 Outdoor Recreation, 938-2503 Post Library, bldg. 622, 938-2974 Round Pond, 938-2503/3860 School Age Services, bldg. 1207, 938-3921 Ski Sales, 938-3726 Tate Rink, 938-2991 West Point Club, bldg. 603, 938-5120, 446-5506 Youth Center, bldg. 500, 938-3727</p>				<p>20</p> <p>Iron Core 1/2 hr., 9am, Spinning, 5pm, Fridays at the MWR Fitness Center WP Elem. & Middle Schools Closed</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Retiree Open House, 7am-3pm, Ike Hall Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island, 9am-4pm, ITR Defensive Driving, 8am-3pm, ACS (Register at ITR) Waiting Families Support Group, 5pm, YC</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Ballroom Dancing, 12-4pm, WP Club Dollar Night, 6-9pm, WP Bowl</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Wee Ones Play Group, 9:30-11am, ACS Parent & Me, 9:30-10:45am, YC Volunteer Services Volunteer Recognition Ceremony, 11:40am, WP Club Mixed Leagues, 6-10pm, WP Bowl</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Spring Story Hour, 10am & 1:30pm, Post Library</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Overseas Briefing, Korea, 1:30pm, Germany, 3pm, Employment Readiness Resources, 10am, ACS Administrative Professional Day Luncheon, 11:30am, WP Club </p>	<p>26</p> <p>Spinning, 5:40am, Cardio Blast, 5pm Thursdays at the MWR Fitness Center</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Dinner Little Italy/ Chinatown, 5-11pm, ITR</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Month of the Military Child Picnic, 11-2pm, Ski Lodge</p>	
<p>29</p> <p>Tour NYC, 9am-5pm, ITR Dollar Night, 6-9pm, WP Bowl </p>	<p>30</p> <p>Wee Ones Play Group, 9:30-11am, ACS Parent & Me, 9:30-10:45am, YC Part Day Preschool Registration, 7:30am-4:30pm, CDC (thru May 4) Mixed Leagues, 6-10pm, WP Bowl</p>	<p>MAY 1</p> <p>Defensive Driving, 8am-3pm, ACS (May 1 & 2, register at ITR) Staff & Faculty Volleyball, 11:50am-1pm, Arvin Gym (thru May 18)</p>		<p>2</p> <p>AFTB Level II, 5:30-7:30pm, ACS </p>	<p>3</p> <p>Learn Adobe Photoshop, 2:15pm, YC</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Department Night w/Pasta Bar, 6-9pm, WP Club Scout Jamboree, Lake Frederick (thru May 6) Galactic Bowling, 5-11pm, WP Bowl (Friday Nights) </p>	<p>5</p> <p>Registration for Spring Scramble Begins, Military Only, WP Golf Galactic Bowling, 5-11pm, WP Bowl (Saturday Nights)</p>

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

Friday -- Ghost Rider, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.
Friday -- Reno 911: Miami, R, 9:30 p.m.
Saturday -- Bridge to Terabithia, PG, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday -- Premonition, PG-13, 9:30 p.m.
April 27 -- Music and Lyrics, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.
April 27 -- 300, R, 9:30 p.m.
April 28 -- Wild Hogs, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.
April 28 -- Zodiac, R, 9:30 p.m.

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

Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

Command Channel 8/23

April 20 - 27

Friday
8:30 a.m. Army Newswatch
1 p.m. Army Newswatch
6 p.m. Army Newswatch

Monday - April 27
8:30 a.m. Army Newswatch
1 p.m. Army Newswatch
6 p.m. Army Newswatch

Meadows in the Mid-day

There is a new way to find out what's happening on and around West Point. Tune in to the Command Channel or WKDT 89.3, Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. until noon and listen to the mid-day show with your host Sgt. Chris Meadows. Listen to all your favorite music and get all the command information you can handle with Meadows in the Mid-day.

Eisenhower Hall Theatre

Friday, April 27, 8 p.m. 1964 -- The Tribute
Sunday, May 6, 7 p.m. Montgomery Gentry
Friday, May 11, 7 p.m. Jerry Seinfeld [SOLD OUT]
Saturday, May 19, 8 p.m. Ehel Merman's Broadway

For more info., go to www.ikehall.com.

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 Blurbs

BOSS Events

BOSS invites the West Point community to its monthly **poker tournament** at Buffalo Soldier Pavilion tonight beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Call Connie Woodley at 938-6127 to register and for more info.

BOSS invites the West Point community to its **Spring party** Saturday at the BSP beginning at 9 p.m.

The free event will be DJed by Staff Sgt. Patrick Proutey. Call Spc. Harvey Hatcher at 938-6675 for more info.

Celebrate **Cinco de Mayo** with BOSS May 5 beginning at 9 p.m. at BSP. Get down to some hot Salsa with DJ Proutey. The event is open to the West Point community.

Spicy food and beverages will be provided by BOSS.

Call Sgt. Mitchem at 938-2206 for more info.

Hunter Safety Course

Free New York State Hunter Safety Courses will be offered Sat. and Sun. Call 938-2503 for more info.

BOSS resale lot

Are you looking to sell your automobile, van, truck, motorcycle, boat, trailer, or small motor home?

Are you an Active Duty service member, DOD civilian, retiree or a family member?

For \$20 a month, the BOSS Resale Lot has slots available for rent.

The BOSS Resale Lot is located across from the AAFES Shoppette on the east end of the the PX parking lot near the softball complex.

All vehicles, boats, trailers and motor homes must be less than 24 feet.

For further questions about registering, call 938-6127/4290/7535.

Administrative Professionals Day Luncheon

Join us for our Administrative Professionals Day Luncheon Wed. from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Reservations are required.

For more information, call 938-5120.

MOMC picnic

April is the Month of the Military Child. MWR will host the MOMC picnic April 28 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Victor Constant Ski Lodge.

There will be horseback rides, face painting, a magician and more.

No charge for families with a deployed spouse.

Tickets are now on sale at the Child Development Center.

For more info., call 938-3921.

USA Scholarship Program

The Thanks USA Scholarship Program is now accepting applications for dependent children, ages 24 and under [as of the May 18 deadline] and all spouses of active duty U.S. military service personnel. Applicants must plan to enroll full time in an accredited two- or four-year college, university, vocational school to technical school and have at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average.

If selected as a recipient, the student will receive an award of \$1,000.

For more info., go to <http://www.ThanksUSA.org/main/scholarships.html>.

Army 10-miler sponsorship

Calling all active duty military runners. Submit your application for sponsorship to run in the 2007 Army 10-Miler in Washington, D.C., Oct. 7.

Applications will be taken until May 21.

For more info., call 938-6217 or go to www.armytenmiler.com.

WPGC now open

Book your tee time today and be one of the first to play on the course. The West Point Golf Course and Driving Range are open.

Hours of operation are 7 a.m. to dusk. Note that golf carts will only be permitted on the paths until the ground dries out.

To book your tee time, call 938-2435.

Sign ups are now open for the Garrison Golf Scramble May 11.

Registration ends May 9.

The event is open to all active duty military, retired military and DOD civilians on West Point.

For more information, call 938-2435.

Financial readiness classes

Army Community Services is now offering a variety of financial readiness classes.

Call Joyce Harris at 938-5653 for more information.

Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island tour

The Installation Ticketing and Registration Office is offering a tour of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island Sat. Transportation leaves West Point at 9 a.m. and leaves NYC at 4 p.m.

For more information, call 938-3601.

Ballroom dancing Sunday

There will be Ballroom Dancing in the West Point Club's Grand Ballroom Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. Come dance the afternoon away on our 20' by 30' dance floor overlooking the majestic Hudson River.

Luncheon bar and cash bar included.

For more info., and reservations call 938-5120.

Little Italy & Chinatown trip

ITR is offering a trip to Little Italy or Chinatown April 27.

Transportation leaves West Point at 5 p.m. and leaves NYC at 11 p.m.

Call 938-6127 for more information.

Summer Horse Camps

Morgan Farm will offer three- and five-day summer horse camps this summer in Beginner Western.

The three-day mini-camp is from July 30 to Aug. 1.

The five-day camps are from July 9-13, 16-20 and 23-27.

No intermediate or advanced camps are scheduled at this time. Camps will be added according to the level of demand.

Call 938-3926 or 446-5365 or go to www.westpointmwr.com for more info.

Army Teen Panel

Teens ... want to make new friends, travel and learn new things? We have just the opportunity for you. The Installation Management

What's Happening

Next CAC meeting

The next Community Action Council meeting will be Monday at 9:30 a.m. at the 49er Lodge.

Paper Clips Customer Appreciation Day

Come help Paper Clips celebrate their 10th anniversary Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Refreshments and food will be served all day.

Paperclips is located in Bldg. 667-A on Ruger Road.

Call Manager Cathy Orem at 446-2616/2643 for more information.

Book signing

Doonesbury creator Garry Trudeau will also be signing his books "The War Within" and "The Long Road Home" Thursday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the USMA Bookstore.

Sacred Heart play

Sacred Heart School in Highland Falls presents "Honk, Jr." April 27 and 28 at 7 p.m.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Advance tickets can be purchased at SHS or at the Church Rectory. Call 446-2674 for more information.

Staffing changes at ACPDC

The current resource constraints on the Army and USMA have compelled the Department of Physical Education to make some temporary changes in the operations and services of the Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center.

The recent loss of two staff members has resulted in the following temporary changes.

■ Noontime [11:50 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.] Staff & Faculty Lap Swim is suspended.

■ Friday Cadet open swim times [3 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m.] are suspended.

■ Sunday operating hours are modified to 1 to 9 p.m.

■ Sunday evening Cadet Open Swim times are 6 to 8 p.m.

The MWR Community Swim Program will not be affected and no other changes in the operation of the ACPDC are expected at this time. These measures will remain in effect until an adequate number of staff members can be hired and trained.

WPWC

The WPWC Gift Shoppe, located next to the MWR Fitness Center, is open on the Web at www.shp.com

and is open Wed. from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The Shop will also be open Saturday from noon to 4 p.m.

The Shoppe is always open by appointment by contacting Julie at 446-2950.

WPWC is forming a relay team for the Army Community Services Relay for Life June 1.

Contact Marilee Turner at 446-3698 or turnerjamey@msn.com for more information.

WP School Board Elections

We would like to encourage all interested community members to submit petitions to run for a position on the West Point School Board. There will be three vacancies on the School Board for the May 2007 election.

Each Department of Defense Elementary and Secondary School must have an elected School Board. The WPSB is comprised of five members elected by parents and guardians of students attending the school.

In order to be eligible to run for a seat on the Board, individuals must be residents of the West Point community. Petitions will be available by contacting Eileen Ellingsen, Office of the Superintendent, Bldg. 705, at 938-3506, or by e-mail at Eileen.Ellingsen@am.dodea.edu.

Petitions are due back in the office listed above by April 30.

Orange County College Night

The 53rd annual Orange County College Night will be May 9 in Eisenhower Hall Ballroom and Crest Hall from 7 to 9 p.m.

The Orange County Counselor's Association will promote diversified opportunities available through secondary education.

Representatives from 235 colleges nationwide will meet with interested students from the surrounding communities.

Contact Newburgh Free Academy Guidance Counselor Tony Scully at [845] 563-5506 for more info.

WP School PTO Board Nominations

Calling all elementary school and middle school parents and guardians! We need YOU!

WPS PTO is looking for volunteers to fill PTO Board positions for SY 07-08.

Positions are President, Vice-

At Your Leisure

President, Secretary, Treasurer and School Board Liaison.

Nomination forms are available in both school offices or by contacting Lisa at lachance6@earthlink.net or 446-2707. The nomination deadline is April 30.

Looking for a few committed mayors!

The Community Mayors Election will be held in April.

The Garrison Command is looking for individuals interested in volunteering for the Mayors Program. The goal of the program is to improve community relations, expedite the problem solving process and to generate interest, pride and satisfaction among residents.

Mayors serve as liaisons between their community and the

Garrison Command. As a mayor, you would be expected to assist in identifying, assessing and resolving community issues and concerns.

Duties of mayors include, but are not limited to: 75 percent attendance at monthly Community Action Council meetings, act as a focus of communications within the housing area and support residents in accomplishing housing area initiated projects.

If you would like to volunteer please contact Spc. Tanya Davila at 938-2319, or e-mail her at: tanya.davila@usma.edu or contact your current community mayors on how to get your name on the ballots.

Operation Wounded Heroes

Operation Wounded Heroes is collecting donated telephone calling cards and backpacks to

send to wounded veterans at Walter Reed Army Medical Center at the Village Hall in Highland Falls for the month of April. Additionally the Post Exchange and Commissary will have volunteers collecting donations Sat., Sun. and April 28-29 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. For more info., call 446-3400.

AER says thanks

Army Community Services Army Emergency Relief officer Joyce Harris thanks the entire West Point and retiree community for their contributions to the 2007 AER Campaign at USMA.

Due to your gracious donations in excess of \$93,000 surpassing our original goal of \$55,000.

Thank you for supporting the tradition of "The Army Taking Care of Its Own."

Army and Community Sports

Viti scores, defense takes finale

Story and photos by
Eric S. Bartelt
Sports Editor

Army's defense overwhelmed its offense by collecting seven sacks and five turnovers to earn a 59-18 victory at the annual Black-Gold Game Saturday at Michie Stadium to wrap up the 2007 spring football practice schedule.

The defense, coming off a rough outing the week before against the offense, took advantage of the scoring system that allowed the defensive side of the ball to accumulate points. They received points by forcing a turnover [six points], holding the offense to three and out [three points] or stopping an offensive series [one point].

A three and out series and a fumble recovery by senior defensive back Brandon White set the tone early and often for the defense as they cruised to a 39-13 halftime lead.

The offense's only touchdown in the first half, and the game, was

a one-yard play action pass from senior quarterback David Pevoto to senior fullback Mike Viti with six seconds left in the half. The drive capped a five play, 65-yard drive in a 1:16 span, which included a 29-yard pass play to senior wide receiver Jeremy Trimble.

Viti said the touchdown was "icing on the cake" for an inspiring spring of practice that leads Army into the Stan Brock coaching era at West Point.

"Stan Brock is a tough, no excuses type of guy who expects us to bring our hard hat and lunch pail everyday," Viti said. "I think everyone on the team would agree that they love to play for a man like that. On top of that he's got the validation of having 16 years in the [National Football] League.

"He brings a lot of energy," Viti added. "I think our practices have had the most energy I've seen throughout the entire spring since I've been here."

The 'new' enthusiasm also brought new difference makers



Sophomore quarterback Carson Williams finished the Black-Gold Game with nine completions on 17 attempts for 63 yards and an interception. Despite changes to the offense, Williams feels more relaxed than he did in the fall due to his maturity.

onto the stage throughout the spring, as guys with little previous playing experience are starting to step out of the shadows.

Three defensive players: sophomore defensive back Mario Hill [two interceptions], junior linebacker Frank Scappaticci [three tackles] and sophomore defensive tackle Ted Bentler [one sack] stood out on Saturday during the final scrimmage of the spring.

"[Scappaticci] stepped up and got the most improved player award on defense. He's played quite well," said senior linebacker Charlie Rockwood. "He has great vision and I think if he can hold down the [weak side position] and I can do my job on the [strong side position] with [senior] Brian Chmura holding down the middle that we will have a very solid linebacking unit."

Bentler, after sitting out a year as a transfer from the University of Iowa, earned the 'Sledgehammer Award' and was noticed by all his teammates throughout the spring, especially the linebackers.

"I can't wait for him to fill the gaps and do his job [during the season]," Rockwood said, "to make the linebacker play easier for us."

Another player who 'stood out' in the final spring game was sophomore defensive end Ali Villanueva as he recorded a sack

and batted down a ball at the line of scrimmage. The 6'9" hulk from Spain, who is very popular among the players with their razzing of his success on Saturday, has even caught the eye of his coach.

"Ali is very good," Brock said. "Coming from Spain, he has very little football experience, but he's very strong and he's playing well. He's really trying to understand where everyone is and how they line up ... his development has been excellent."

Offensively, Brock said they struggled with their execution and the quarterbacks made some wrong decisions throughout the afternoon. However, Brock explained, overall the quarterbacks' spring performance has been good. He believes the quarterbacks and the offense are "continuing to work on things and are headed in the right direction."

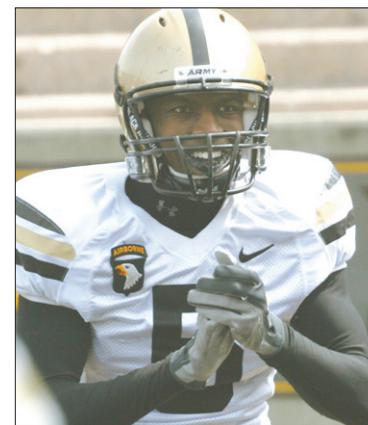
"It's a process. It's developing a football team," Brock said. "This is one day of 15 and we have a whole month of training camp coming up, so we will be ready to go when we get to Akron [Sept. 1]."

The quarterbacks combined for 22 completions on 44 attempts for 173 yards and a touchdown. Pevoto had the better day throwing for 90 yards and the only touchdown pass, but sophomore Carson Williams

looked at the final scrimmage as another building block toward the future.

"I felt a lot more relaxed than I did last year and from what I've heard, compared to last year, the offense has made more strides this year [during the spring], which is a good thing," Williams said. "There are a lot of times where we shoot ourselves in the foot ... but, I think when we iron out everything, when push comes to shove, we will be all right."

The receiving corps that
See FINALE on page 15



Sophomore defensive back Mario Hill had two interceptions in the Black-Gold Game helping lead the defense to a 59-18 win over the offense.



Senior fullback Mike Viti catches a one-yard touchdown pass from senior quarterback David Pevoto for the offense's only TD during the Black-Gold Game Saturday at Michie Stadium.

Army Powerlifting takes third at Collegiate Championships

By Cadet 2nd Class
Lindsey Champion
Army Powerlifting

Army Powerlifting took third place at the Collegiate Powerlifting Championships in Texas April 13-15, just placing behind Louisiana State University and Louisiana Tech.

Army came up strong, beating such notable powerhouses as Penn State, Texas A&M, Ohio State, Air Force and Navy along with many other schools.

The team achieved seven top three All-American finishers including two National Champions out of 20 athletes. This achievement was truly a team effort as each coach and athlete had a major part in the success.

The competition was fierce as it came down to the wire and a must lift for sophomore John Hackman, on a 633-pound deadlift.

Senior Lisa Dugan at 132 pounds capped off a brilliant collegiate career by winning her second National Championship and her third All-American ranking in



Senior Lisa Dugan earned her third All-American ranking and second National Championship at 132 pounds by squatting 264.6 pounds.

PHOTO PROVIDED

three years. She also earned a spot on Team USA, which is competing at the World Championships in France, later in the year.

Senior William Garner hit another giant bench by lifting 473 pounds at his weight of 198 for another American Record.

Head Coach Rick Scarpulla

and his son, Nick, and officers-in-charge, Maj. Kurt Roberts (Company H-4 Tactical Officer) and Maj. Paul Stanton (EECS department), contributed greatly to the team's overall success.

Army looks to be back next season with an even stronger team.

Women's lacrosse sweeps in RI

By Marie Johnson
Women's Lacrosse OIC

Army Women's Lacrosse went 3-0 last Saturday and Sunday at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston, R.I. These were all important division games, and the team's fine effort means it qualifies to compete in its league tournament

this weekend in Syracuse, N.Y.

In its first game Saturday, Army crushed Binghamton easily 15-6.

The women would then play Northeastern in the most exciting game of the season. Behind 3-0 early in the first half, Army closed the gap to 5-3 by halftime.

Army would then have a superb second half, coming from behind to

win the game 7-6. The winning goal was scored with 20 seconds on the clock. Sophomore center Rachel Neaschem led the way by scoring five goals, including the tying and game-winning markers.

Army completed its weekend sweep Sunday by defeating Syracuse 10-3. Army Women's Lacrosse is 5-1 for the season.

Benedosso earns boxing championship

Submitted by the
Boxing Team

Senior team co-captain Mike Benedosso won his first boxing national championship as Army Boxing participated in the 2007 NCBA National Championships from April 12-15 in Reno, Nev.

Army finished in third place in the team standings and Benedosso finished as Army's only individual national champion this year. Benedosso took the national championship gold medal by defeating his Air Force opponent, who was the two-time defending champion.

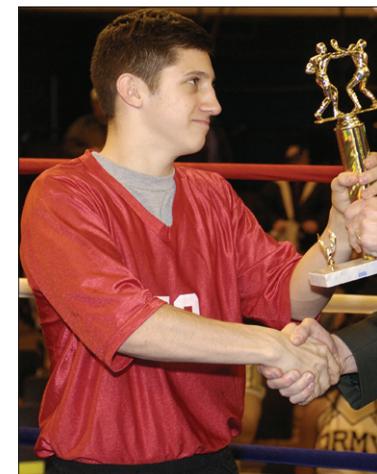
Overall, Army finished in a tie with the Air Force Academy for second place, but lost the tiebreaker [number of individual champions], therefore, Army officially finished third. Lock Haven University was the Team National Champion.

Army boxers earned one gold medal, three silver medals and five bronze medals for a total of nine All-Americans.

Other medalists included: freshman Matt Longo at 119 pounds - Silver Medalist; junior Alberto Marquez at 139 pounds - Bronze Medalist; junior Jarod Taylor at 147 pounds - Bronze Medalist; freshman Ryle Stous at 156 pounds - Bronze Medalist, which included a quarterfinal victory over the two-time defending champion.

Junior Cory Kastl at 165 pounds was the Bronze Medalist, but he had to withdraw from the semifinal bout due to broken hand.

Kastl fought two and a half



Senior team co-captain Mike Benedosso [shown above during this year's Brigade Boxing Open] defeated the two-time defending national collegiate champion at 112 pounds, who was from the Air Force Academy, to win the NCBA National Championship at Reno, Nev., from April 12-15.

JOHN PELLINO/DOIM MMB

rounds with the broken hand and still won his quarterfinal bout. He was voted by the other boxers as the Most Outstanding Sportsman of the tournament.

Junior Steve Solaja at 175 pounds - Silver Medalist; junior Ovidiu Iacob at 185 pounds - Silver Medalist; and senior team co-captain and former national champion in 2006 at 185 pounds Reggie Smith was the Bronze Medalist at 195 pounds to round out Army's medalists.



Junior Cory Kastl finished with a Bronze Medal, despite breaking his hand and withdrawing from the semifinal.

ERIC S. BARTELT/PV

FINALE, cont. from page 15

has a solid veteran in Trimble, who caught six passes during the Black-Gold Game, will add another solid threat in sophomore Damion Hunter.

“He’s got a lot of speed to the outside,” Viti said. “Hopefully, we can turn his speed loose on Saturdays [this fall].”

Injuries have continued to play a role in Army’s continuity, as the team’s top three running backs and top safety, senior Caleb Campbell, are recovering from injuries. But, one player who is happy to be back on the playing field after missing seven games a year ago due to shoulder and back injuries is senior defensive end Brandon

Thompson.

“Right now, this is the best I’ve felt since I’ve been here,” Thompson said. “My back problems are gone, my shoulder feels great and everything is good now.”

As the team will begin preparation in August for the season, a healthy Thompson and a revitalized Army team is planning to make some waves this year.

“I think we’re going to do good things,” Thompson said. “I think a lot of people are going to overlook us, and we’re going to go out there and surprise people. The offense is looking a lot better and the defense is strong as always -- we’re going to have a good season.”

Sports Notes

■ Junior Black Knights will hold their first of four pre-season strength, agility and conditioning clinics Saturday and Sunday.

The clinics will take place at the JBK practice field at Roe Park. The clinic times run from 4-6 p.m. Saturday and 2-4 p.m. Sunday.

■ There will be orienteering instruction and a competition May 5 at Ringwood State Park in Ringwood, N.J. The Hudson Valley Orienteering Club is offering free beginner instruction starting at 10:30 a.m.

Course times for beginner and advance courses begin between 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, visit the HVOC Web site at www.hvo.us.orienteering.org.

**Unit Volleyball
standings**

as of Monday

	PTS
1. STAFF & FACULTY	34
2. USMC	32
3. 1st/1st	22
4. MEDDAC	16
5. BAND	12
6. MPs #2	4

**Unit Intramural
Bowling Tournament**

April 12 results

	Total Pins
1. MEDDAC #1	2,243
2. BAND #2	1,679
3. 1st/1st #1	1,662
4. MEDDAC #2	1,660
5. BAND #1	1,654
6. MPs #1	1,553
7. 1st/1st	1,406
8. MPs #2	1,319

High Game: MEDDAC #1

Sp. Jason Ebaleroza [269]

High Series: MEDDAC #1

Sp. Jason Ebaleroza [703]