

May changes [as of 5/9]	
C FUND	+ 2.12 percent
I FUND	+ 1.87 percent
S FUND	+ 2.45 percent

West Point takes 1st in Cyber Defense Exercise



Electrical Engineering and Computer Science cadets stand with their third cyber defense award for acing the Cyber Defense Exercise held April 16-20. Richard Schaeffer, Information Assurance Director for the National Security Agency [left front] announced the award at the Cadet Mess Hall Wednesday. West Point received the award in 2001, the first year of the CDX, and again in 2002.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

WEST POINT, N.Y. -- The National Security Agency announced May 2 that U.S. Military Academy cadets topped the four other service academies and the Air Force Institute of Technology to win their third Cyber Defense Exercise. The exercise, held April 16 to 20, is designed to teach students how to protect and defend the nation's information systems.

The CDX was established in 2001 by West Point in collaboration with, and support from, the National Security Agency. The exercise challenges each team to design, build and configure a real-world computer network and simulates a deployed joint service command. A network attack team, comprised of NSA and Department of Defense personnel, identifies the vulnerabilities and launches attacks on each network over a five-day period.

"Cadets are exposed to Information Assurance concepts throughout their academic experience at USMA. The Cyber

Defense Exercise allows them to apply their knowledge and experience in a competitive environment," said Maj. Damon Becknel, an Information Warfare Professor and the CDX coach here.

Cadets actively defend their networks against the NSA in an effort to keep systems on-line and available. Each team is evaluated on their ability to maintain services, prevent and recover from security breaches and provide forensic analysis of compromised systems.

The growing success of the service academies CDX has received interest from others in the academic community. A steering group of information security experts recently met to establish the framework for a national Cyber Defense Exercise, which will incorporate qualified state universities throughout the country.

The first prototype of these university competitions took place this spring.

INSIDE

Pentagon rolls out performance based pay

By Brittany R. Ballenstedt
Govexec.com

WASHINGTON -- Ninety-seven percent of employees working under the first round of conversion to the Pentagon's new personnel system will receive performance-based payouts this year, according to an online notice posted May 2.

The 11,000 employees working under the National Security Personnel System's Spiral 1.1 conversion were given a performance rating on a scale from one to five. The bulk of those employees -- 64 percent -- received a rating of three, defining them as "valued performers," according to the notice.

Employees were awarded "shares" based on the average of their performance ratings in several categories. An average rating of five earned five to six shares, a four rating earned three to four shares, a three rating earned one to two shares and a two or one rating did not earn any.

To calculate payouts under the new system, the department multiplies employees' base salaries by their ratings and adds the results to arrive at a "Total Salary Share Product." The pay pool available is divided by the Total Salary Share Product to calculate the value of a single share. Shares are thus worth different amounts depending on

See PAY on page 3



SPECIAL OLYMPICS,
pages 10-11

1981 graduate killed

FORT LEAVENWORTH, Kan. -- Col. James W. Harrison Jr., 47, of Missouri died Sunday in Afghanistan of wounds suffered from small arms fire.

Harrison was killed while serving as a detention policy expert with the Combined Forces Command Afghanistan.

Prior to his deployment in December 2006, Harrison was assigned to Fort Leavenworth as director of the School for Command Preparation at the Command and General Staff College; and prior to that he was commandant of the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks from June 2004 until June 2006.

Harrison graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1981.

He served in a variety of command and staff positions as a military police officer, he also served as an inspector general at

Fort Belvoir, Va., and a strategy and policy officer at Joint Forces Command in Norfolk, Va.

There will be a Memorial Service Monday at 10 a.m. in the Main Post Chapel at Fort Leavenworth.

A Mass of Christian Burial at the Main Post Chapel with interment in the Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery will be later that afternoon.

The Harrison family expressed their deepest appreciation and sincere thanks to the many friends

See GRAD
on page 3



Colonel James
W. Harrison Jr.

Wednesday is motor vehicle safety day -- wear your seatbelt

Commentary by Bob Cohen
Safety Office

Wednesday is motor vehicle safety day at West Point. Various activities have been planned on the installation to help raise awareness and promote safety behind the wheel.

Some of the events include:

- Child safety seat inspections will be conducted at the Stony Lonesome Fire Station from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event is on a first come, first served basis.

- A motorcycle mentorship program information table and membership sign-up drive will be

in the PX from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All on-post riders are encouraged to stop by and learn about this new program.

- Riders will be able to learn about on-post motorcycle training opportunities and sign-up for training in the PX from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Copies of the NYS Motorcycle Manual will be available for those who plan to apply for a motorcycle license.

- The Alcohol and Drug Control Office will have an alcohol awareness display in the PX from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- A motor vehicle safety poster contest for the West Point Middle

School is ongoing and will run through May 18. Students wishing to participate should speak to their art teacher for more details.

- The Directorate of Emergency Services will also support this event and be actively promoting vehicle safety.

COMMENTARY

The *Pointer View*® asked our office to submit a commentary on vehicle safety that would relate to the event. My first thought was to accumulate facts and figures that would reiterate the significance of this topic, but I think everyone has had enough numbers thrown at them and we can all come up with

reasons why it's important.

New Jersey Governor Jon S. Corzine certainly knows how important vehicle safety is. On April 12 of this year he was almost killed in an accident. The large SUV he was riding in and its air bags were not enough to prevent serious injury.

Anyone in law enforcement or the emergency medical response business knows how important vehicle safety is. They witness first hand the carnage that takes place on our roads daily.

NASCAR fans know how important vehicle safety is. Although cars race at speeds up to

200 mph and when wrecks occur, they are often catastrophic, more times than not the driver walks away without serious injury.

My wife, a high school English teacher, knows how important it is. Every year or two I accompany her to the funeral of a student who's been killed in an automobile accident. Take it from me, there are few sadder events than attending the funeral of a teenager.

There is one thing that everyone can do to make a major, if not the greatest, contribution to your safety and continued good health. It doesn't cost any money or take time out of your busy schedule. The worst thing I've heard is that it tends to wrinkle clothes.

Wear your seatbelt.

May is National Mental Health Awareness Month

Commentary by Anne Ashley
Employee Assistance
Program Manager
ADCO

For more than 50 years, Mental Health Awareness Month has served to enhance the health and lives of millions, by promoting educational materials that discuss the benefits of caring for the mind as well as the body. The results increased productivity, improved health and overall happiness/life satisfaction.

The Employee Assistance Program would like to bring some attention to military veterans and

Family members this month.

The March 12, 2007, Archives of Internal Medicine reports that high rates of mental health disorders are being diagnosed among U.S. military personnel who served in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Researchers from the University of California and the San Francisco Veterans Administration Hospital estimate that out of the 103,788 returning veterans they studied, 25 percent had a mental health diagnosis and more than half of these patients had two or more distinct conditions.

Additionally, researchers also

found that those most at risk were the youngest Soldiers and those with the most combat exposure.

The youngest group of active duty veterans, ages 18 to 24 years old, had a significantly higher risk of receiving one or more mental health diagnoses and post-traumatic stress disorder [PTSD] as compared to active duty veterans 40 years of age or older.

Civilian and military leaders must be ready. We will all be faced with many subtle and blatant manifestations of the war's 'after effects', impacting veterans, their Family members and associated workplaces, schools and communities.

We will all be impacted and must first take good care of ourselves so that we can be depended upon

to carry out early detection and intervention responsibilities in assisting and supporting the readjustment and adaptation efforts and processes of our Heroes.

Contact the Employee Assistance Program for further information on ways to enhance your own mental health and become better prepared to assist others to that end.

ADCO, 606 Thayer Rd. [845] 938-5847, is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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.

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

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

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

Difficulty: Medium

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

See Solution on Page 14

POINTER VIEW®

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Local and National News

PEO Soldier to unveil new Army combat shirt

By Debi Dawson

FORT BELVOIR, Va. (Army News Service)-- The Army Program Executive Office Soldier will soon provide an improved Army combat shirt to Soldiers deploying to Iraq and Afghanistan.

The flame-resistant long-sleeved shirt, which retains the moisture-wicking capability, breathability and durability of other components in the ACU, also has many of its other features, including cargo pockets, infrared identification tabs and hook-and-loop fasteners for the

American flag.

The new shirt has a foliage green torso and sleeves in the universal camouflage pattern, and sports seamless shoulders and side panels for comfort, along with integrated anti-abrasion elbow pads, and a small Army Strong logo centered on the chest.

The high performance shirt, designed to be a base layer, can be worn directly under the Interceptor Body Armor, according to Maj. Clay Williamson, assistant product manager for clothing and individual equipment.

The ACS is made of an anti-microbial cotton and rayon blend fabric treated with a new process that penetrates to the fiber level. It provides fire-resistance for the life of the garment. "It is completely safe, non-toxic and allows us to treat fibers that were once not treatable," Williamson said.

The shirt integrates with other flame-resistant components, such as the Army combat pants, to provide head-to-toe protection against burns. The Army combat pants are the same as the ACU pants, except they are made of a flame-resistant material, according to Williamson. Soldiers' hands are protected by flame-resistant gloves that have been a part of the Army's Rapid Fielding Initiative.

This ensemble further complements the Army's system-of-systems approach to force protection, which integrates layers

of protection for Soldiers on the battlefield.

"I want to assure the American public, the Soldiers and their Families that they have the best equipment when and where they need it. If there were something better, we would buy it; and we're always looking for something better," said Brig. Gen. R. Mark Brown, Program Executive Officer Soldier.

[**Editor's Note:** Dawson serves with the Program Executive Office Soldier Strategic Communications Office.]



PAY, cont. from page 1

how the rest of the employees in a pay pool performed.

The largest portion of employees in the first round -- 41.7 percent - received two shares, while only 3.7 percent received either five or six shares.

Additionally, employees with performance ratings of two and higher received the equivalent of the January 2007 General Schedule pay adjustment of 2.2 percent. But employees receiving an "unacceptable" rating of one did not receive the annual adjustment.

One Spiral 1.1 employee, who spoke under condition of anonymity, said there appeared to be pressure from upper management to ensure that the vast majority of employees received a rating of three, adding that a rating of five was rare. "In our office, we have the [organization's] engineer of the year, yet we didn't have any fives," the employee said.

The employee also said there was an approximate 50/50 split on the payouts, awarding half of the payout as a bonus and the other half as a salary increase. "The problem is everyone wants a raise instead of a bonus because a raise affects your retirement," the employee said. "These payouts will neither motivate nor de-motivate my future performance."

Still, NSPS Program Executive Officer Mary Lacey found that senior leaders of Spiral 1.1 organizations have provided positive feedback, the notice said.

Thus far, they have said that employees and supervisors have benefited from NSPS training and aligned job objectives with

organizational missions, the notice said, adding that supervisors have made meaningful and fair distinctions regarding employees' job performance.

"As the implementation of NSPS proceeds, the [program executive officer] will work closely with components to ensure that the system meets organizational needs and improvements are incorporated," the notice stated.

According to NSPS spokeswoman Joyce Frank, the appraisal cycle for employees working under Spiral 1.2 and 1.3 will end Sept. 30. Those employees can expect to receive their ratings and payouts resulting from those appraisals in early January 2008, she said.

Frank added that the department is also in the process of identifying the organizations that will be a part of Spiral 2, which is set to begin in October.

GRAD, cont. from page 1

and loved ones for their prayers and support during this difficult time.

The family requests, in lieu of flowers and cards, that donations be made to the Fisher House Foundation, 1401 Rockville Pike, Suite 600, Rockville MD 20852; www.fisherhouse.org.

He is survived by his wife and three sons.

Call the Comm

Tuesday
7 to 9 p.m.

Brig. Gen. Caslen
will be LIVE on WKDT

Teaching Character Through Sport awards given to cadets, coach

Story and photos by
Eric S. Bartelt
Sports Editor

Sports can be a way to develop positive character attributes in people, but if not developed properly it can also have a debilitating affect on how people respond to winning, losing or playing fairly during sporting events.

In September 2005, the U.S. Military Academy's Department of Physical Education implemented a nationally recognized initiative into their competitive sports program called the Champions of Character Program.

First adopted by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics in 2000, the program's purpose is to reinforce the Army values, promote fair play and sportsmanship, instill the 'will-to-win,' teach team-building skills and provide training to sport educators.

Ralph Pim, Ph.D., and the division chief of DPE competitive sports here, was the driving force behind getting this program established at West Point. He was on the national board for the NAIA's Champions of Character and felt this program was a perfect fit for West Point.

"Our mission at the academy is to develop leaders of character and we feel our piece in the physical education program, specifically in DPE competitive sports, is to do that on the 'fields of friendly strife,'" Pim said. "The Champions of Character's five core values parallel the seven Army values, so we looked at it and said this is a perfect fit for us."

The national program is at more than 300 universities and is also

taking root at the youth programs level as well.

"The vision is to change the culture of sport," Pim explained. "The feeling is in order to do that it must start at the ground level, which would be youth sports."

Pim feels it's important to develop the Warrior Ethos and that 'will-to-win' on the playing fields while at the same time developing the team-building aspect that is very important to the Army's success.

"Think about all the different teams that we're part of -- our family is a team, our unit is a team, this [DPE] department is a team, you have athletic teams. I think with these cadets as future leaders, learning how to build successful teams is such a critical piece in the whole educational process," Pim stated. "We're looking at these elements of the program that complement [the Army values] and what we think is the total education for our cadets."

Pim believes it's a critical time in society. Athletics on all levels need emphasis on fair play, sportsmanship, respect and integrity. It's a critical aspect in the cadets' 47-month development experience. Just as important is the coaching aspect, as the coaches and DPE sport educators have just as much influence on the cadets as the cadets have on their own actions.

"There's a saying that 'sport teaches character' and that's not necessarily true. It's coaches that

teach character," Pim said. "Just participating in a sport doesn't necessarily mean that good character traits are being developed. I could give hundreds of examples where that's not the case.

"Our point with our cadets, coaches and sport educators in DPE is what makes great teams is positive peer pressure when people buy into [the Champions of Character] core values," Pim added. "If you aren't living up to that value as a teammate, you could be holding the team back a bit if you don't raise your standard."

The next level of the Champions of Character vision is to recognize cadets and coaches for their positive energy and significant contributions in the character development they exude throughout the year with their teams. That was the genesis of the Teaching Character Through Sport Award, which was presented in an inaugural ceremony May 2 at the Cadet Mess Hall.

Duke University men's basketball coach and 1969 USMA graduate Mike Krzyzewski was here May 2 to give out the initial awards. The award is named after Krzyzewski, according to Pim, because he is a tremendous role model. As a cadet, an officer and a coach at West Point and with his great success at Duke, his mark of good character knows no bounds and that 'tradition never graduates.'

"He strongly endorsed the award," Pim said. "It's an honor to have him here. It's a tribute to the type of human being that Mike Krzyzewski is, that he wants to be here and believes in what we're trying to do, in doing the right thing in sports."

The award is offered to any cadet or coach who is involved in either club or company sports. Krzyzewski made it a point to have, one-by-one, the club, company and then the Corps squad sports athletes stand during his speech, because in the end all the cadets were standing. This showed how important it is, no matter who the cadets' play for, that it's essential to play with character.

Krzyzewski, much like today's cadets and coaches, feels his character foundation was built

through what he learned during his time at West Point.

"I do believe that you develop character through sport ... [West Point] is about challenging your limits. You're going to go through tough times, but I wake up every day of my life proud to be a West Point graduate," Krzyzewski said. "The opportunity to coach here for five years as a head coach, which served as a foundation for being the coach that I am today, makes me incredibly lucky.

"Nine years of my life was spent at the academy ... I couldn't have a better foundation to do what I have done or for anyone in any profession," he added. "That's what makes this place such a wonderful place."

The inaugural winners of the Mike Krzyzewski Teaching Character Through Sport Award were Cadet 1st Class Joe Imbriaco, the team captain of the Army Triathlon team; Cadet 2nd Class Cory Kastl, member of the Army Boxing team; and Marie Johnson, Ph.D., head coach of Army Women's Lacrosse and Professor of Geology in the Geography and Environmental Engineering Department here.

Each of them felt winning the award was a great honor and each expressed the true meaning of competing or coaching 'the right way.'

"Winning the right way is essential and I believe that a big part of that is acting and winning as a team rather than a group of individuals," Imbriaco said. "There was a strong bond among [my] teammates and the team as a whole supports and develops every member of the team. On the Triathlon team this year, we took fifth in the nation not because we had the most talent, but we excelled because we worked as a team and developed each other. That's what it's all about."

Kastl added, "My coaches have been teaching me since Day One on the [boxing] team [to be] humble in victory and be cordial in defeat. As one of the veterans on the team, I'm responsible for setting the example for some of the younger guys and I'm just happy that I have been able



G&EnE's Marie Johnson, Army women's lacrosse coach, with Coach K.

to do that."

Johnson stated that Krzyzewski is a hero of hers and she loves his book, *Leading with your Heart*, and believes, like Krzyzewski, that integrity in sport is the only way to go.

"Winning at all costs is hollow," Johnson said. "You don't take wins with you in life. You take the lessons you learn while striving to win.

"That's why character and striving to win with class are so important. These are the leadership skills you will reach back to time and time again," she added. "They reflect who you are as a person and who you are as a team."

The three winners' names will be placed on a plaque that is surrounded by the Mike Krzyzewski Teaching Character Through Sport Award mural in the Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center on the first floor, on the opposite side of the Class of '62 Room. The mural is quite impressive and is the beginning of what will one day be the competitive sports hallway at the ACPDC.

"Seeing the mural, I was just taken aback," Krzyzewski said. "But, West Point is the reason for that. It builds character when you do things that just don't come easy for you.

"The academy makes you do things you're capable of doing, and then all of a sudden you feel like, 'hey, maybe I can do more,' and that's what character is about," he added. "That's what persistence is about and the courage to try to do things and not be afraid of looking back."



Duke men's basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski [center] with Teaching Character Through Sport cadet winners Cadet 2nd Class Cory Kastl [left] and Cadet 1st Class Joe Imbriaco.



Projects Day 2007 displays USMA's intellectual capital

Story and photos by
Eric S. Bartelt
Sports Editor

It's a day that marks intellectual enormity throughout West Point, a day where cadet seniors present a year's worth of work to the masses and the culmination of their capstone experience -- the day is Projects Day.

The U.S. Military Academy presented the 8th annual Projects Day May 3 at various locations within the academic area. More than 200 presentations were on display from students at West Point and other colleges to include Bard College, George Mason University, the U.S. Air Force Academy, the University of Arkansas and the University of Virginia.

With 11 USMA departments involved, cadets presented various projects from understanding the situation in Darfur to the economic effect of oil disruption in the United States [think high gas prices] to various systems that can help today's Army.

One of those designed to help today's Army is the SleeperCell, which is an integrated beacon device.

Cadets 1st Class Matthew Sherburne, Kyle Fichtner and David Irvine worked on the automatic downed pilot rescue beacon system for their Electrical Engineering capstone project. Along the way, they received high praise for their project as they took second place at an MIT Design Competition.

According to Sherburne, the SleeperCell is a beacon designed for downed pilots in environments where remaining hidden from

enemy forces is critical to pilot survivability.

"Right now, we can transmit a homing beacon pulse on 120 MHz to find the location of a downed pilot," Sherburne said. "However, the enemy can do the same thing. So in trying to improve upon the process, we decided to make a device which stays passive and will not transmit initially and use a unmanned aerial vehicle or several UAVs to interrogate the area with a signal that the SleeperCell looks for and periodically awakens to start transmitting identification and GPS position data."

Sherburne designed the patch antenna that was used to increase the system's range. The greatest advantage to the system is it conserves energy while only transmitting to a UAV and not to enemy forces.

The three cadets on the project worked well to put together a complicated project and their teamwork was essential to the success it has received.

"You can't do this alone, because this project was so complicated and demanded so many different specialties that it takes everybody's efforts," Sherburne said. "We came together every week. We talked about where we were at, where we were headed and what we were trying to do. Everyone communicated with each other very well."

Sherburne said the project is a continued work in progress, as most Projects Day projects are, although this is the first year that this design has taken place.

"Our engineering logs will serve to help the team next year and

the teams for years to come who are able to experiment with these devices," Sherburne said. "It was a very difficult project, especially since these devices in themselves are new -- only about seven or eight years old -- and more and more colleges are getting on board with trying to experiment with them for all kinds of different uses.

"We only had one or two faculty members who had a familiarity with them. It's an environment where everybody's learning. It's great because we can go with it wherever we want to. It gives us an opportunity to explore and research."

Sherburne enjoyed working with his crew knowing they were improving a relatively new technology.

"I'm very proud to have worked with David Irvine and Kyle Fichtner," Sherburne explained. "We worked together and sort of pioneered this new technology to the academy and [it] gave us the opportunity to show the country and MIT what West Point has to offer in terms of young undergraduate electrical engineering majors and what we can design in just a year."

Then there was Cadet 1st Class Thomas Yi who spent his Advanced Individual Academic Development last summer at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and detailed it as his capstone project. For three weeks, he got to work with different departments and different specialties in the medical field.

He got to scrub in and help out with procedures that included neurosurgery, orthopedic surgery and a colonoscopy. He got to hold down clamps during surgeries that helped Soldiers injured in IED blasts in Iraq and then pitched in during physical therapy to help amputees learn how to use their prosthetics.

"It was intense because I was with a different department each day," Yi said. "So each day I would try to absorb as much as I could."

The future engineer officer, who one day hopes to be a doctor after serving in the engineer field for a few years, found the experience to be very beneficial to him. He felt it would be helpful to all who may be looking at the medical field as something they want to do.

"Anyone who has an interest in being a doctor should go through an experience like this because you get to see all different types of

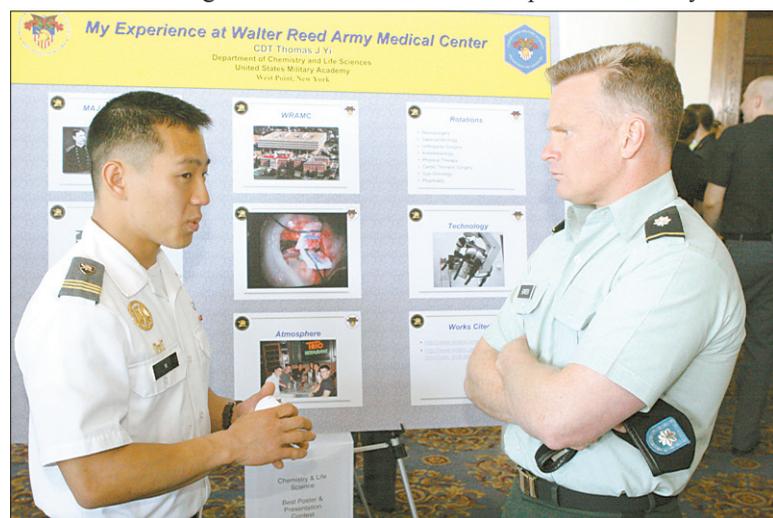
things," Yi stated. "You get to see the environment and climate where you would be working as an Army doctor."



Cadet 1st Class Bobby Oakwood explains his project to Maj. Paul Stanton, an instructor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences. Nine cadets were involved in the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle project that was designed, built and employed against a target.



Cadet 1st Class Matthew Sherburne talks to judges about his project, SleeperCell, which is an integrated beacon device for downed pilots.



Cadet 1st Class Thomas Yi talks about his Advanced Individual Academic Development experience with Lt. Col. Robert Bowden, an assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry and Life Sciences.

Community Features and Photos

Project Healing Waters pairs cadets with wounded veterans while fishing

By Cadet 1st Class
Jeffrey A. Killian
Cadet Fly Fishing Club

The Cadet Fly Fishing Club hosted a group of veterans under the auspices of Project Healing Waters for a guided tour of West Point and a fishing trip to Long Island April 28-29.

Project Healing Waters, according to their Web site [<http://projecthealingwaters.org/Index.htm>], is a non-profit organization that “offers wounded personnel from Walter Reed Army Medical Center and Bethesda Naval Medical Center opportunities to learn, or enhance, fly fishing and fly tying skills, and to use and enjoy those skills on fishing outings.” The Cadet Fly Fishing Club became involved with the group because a former OIC was involved with them while stationed in Washington, D.C., and linked the two. This is the second time the organizations have met.

Five wounded veterans from Walter Reed toured West Point, April 28, guided by Fishing Club cadets and officers. The veterans watched several events at the Sandhurst military competition and said they were impressed by the cadet teams’ abilities to negotiate through the military obstacles easily.

At the marksmanship range, Capt. Elvind Forseth, one of the veterans, commented that the shooting stations were “realistic” and were similar to positions used in combat.

The group also observed the final event, the Commandant’s

Challenge. All five of the veterans agreed that carrying dead weight when you are exhausted will serve you well when and if you have to do a similar task in combat.

Following the Sandhurst competition, the group headed to the West Point Museum to see the unique displays. The author viewed the small arms weapons display with Staff Sgt. J.R. Salzman, an infantryman wounded by an IED in Iraq. When he saw a display containing an RPG, Salzman stated “you will see plenty of these in Iraq. They were everywhere.”

This statement puts the tour into perspective, as you always learn a great deal from these veterans because they possess so much real world Army knowledge.

The next day turned out to be one that will be remembered forever by all in attendance.

Eighteen cadets formed up at 7 a.m. April 29 to go fly fishing, some for the first time in their lives. With the generous support of the Orvis Corporation, everyone on the trip was outfitted with the best equipment on the market.

The cadets met another large contingent of officers and family members and began the drive to Long Island, a place not usually known for excellent fly fishing.

However, Connetquot River State Park is not a normal state park. Not only does it have handicap accessible fly fishing points, but, under the watchful eye of Gil Bergen, the park operates a fish hatchery that stocks the cold beautiful stream with thousands of new trout every year. With the



Cader 1st Class Jeffrey Killian [left] spots fish for Vietnam veteran Bill Johnston.

PHOTO BY GREG KILLIAN

abundance of fish, no individual line of the 40 participants remained fishless for more than a few seconds.

Although the fishing was the best that almost everyone had experienced, it was only one of the many experiences taken away from the trip. Each cadet who had the privilege of fishing with one

of the veterans learned more than just fishing.

“It’s a great experience,” said Cadet 2nd Class Matt Heid. “We learned a lot from them and their stories and [also] that it’s good to give back to those who have given so much for us.”

Because most of the cadets expect to deploy overseas shortly

after graduating, the members of Project Healing Waters did more than just provide excellent fishing partners. They served as mentors and sources of information that the cadets can use in their future Army careers. This trip also provided a way for the Cadet Fly Fishing Club to give back to the heroes returning from overseas.



The 40 participants for the trip to Connetquot River State Park included 18 cadets, five wounded veterans, USMA faculty members, friends of the club and members of cadet families.

PHOTO BY DEBRA KILLIAN

Community celebrates Asian-Pacific Islander culture

Story and photos by
Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

Chinese, Indian, Korean and Philippine food was on hand at the annual Asian-Pacific Month celebration May 4 here at Trophy Point, along with various types of entertainment including demonstrations in martial arts from the Cadet Martial Arts team.

"This event is a great way to get people to become aware of differences in cultures," said Cadet 2nd Class Daniel Asis, cadet-in-charge of the event. "People get to sample cultural food, dance and [see culturally specific] entertainment."

The lines leading up to the food court were long while people waited to taste such foods as rice cakes and other Asian delights before they took their seats, either on the grass or on benches, to watch the events unfold.

The Asian-Pacific Club has been

in existence for nine years, according to Col. Bryan Goda, officer-in-charge and accreditation director in the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department here.

"I've been involved with it since 2001 when it was me and one or two other cadets," Goda said. "Now we have 120 cadets involved in the club. I help coordinate food mostly, but the cadets do most of the planning. It gets bigger and bigger every year."

Cadets and one civilian employee entertained the audience with hula dances. Alex Laidlaw, secretary at the Department of Military Instruction here, teaches the cadets the dances.

"We don't specifically have a club," she said. "We just like to get together from time to time to learn the different dances."

The Cadet Martial Arts team also provided the audience with demonstrations of Kendo, or sword fighting, Samoan stick fighting and Judo.



Two members of the Cadet Martial Arts team performed a Kendo demonstration at the Asian-Pacific Heritage Month Celebration at Trophy Point here May 4.



Cadets and friends sit on the grassy slopes of Trophy Point to enjoy Asian food and cultural entertainment.



Cadet 3rd Class Oh Shane Carlos [foreground] demonstrates Samoan stick fighting with another member of the Cadet Martial Arts Team in one of several martial arts events at the Asian-Pacific festival at Trophy Point.



Valerie Dutdut, [left] archives technician at the Library and the only civilian member of an otherwise all cadet hula dancer group, leads the dancers in a Tahitian Hula dance. Solo hulas were also performed by Cadet 3rd Class Tisha Brown [second from right] and Cadet 2nd Class Victoria Gallardo [center].

West Point hosts Scoutmasters Council Camporee



John Field, [left] vice president of the American Casting Association, teaches Boy Scout Kirk Borland of Troop 118 at Fort Belvoir, Va., fly fishing at the 45th annual USMA Scoutmasters Council Camporee at Lake Frederick May 4-6.

Story and photos by Kathy Eastwood Staff Writer

Nineteen states and the District of Columbia sent 2,700 Boy and Girl Scouts to the 45th annual Scoutmasters Council Camporee May 4-6 at Lake Frederick here.

The purpose of the Camporee is to introduce scouts to each other and to practice the skills scouts require, such as pioneering, where scouts use basic lashings to make field chariots or stretchers, knot tying, canoe racing and learning drills.

Ryan Young of Troop 50 from Mahwah, N.J., became an Eagle Scout in April.

"My project was painting fire hydrants," Young said. "I painted 321 fire hydrants. It feels great achieving the rank of Eagle Scout because it gives me a chance to set an example for other scouts."

Assistant Scout Master Tim Malone of Troop 50 said it was the first time in 17 years they have been at the Camporee.

"I think this is great for the scouts," Malone said. "We did the Bull Run Hike for three and a half



Shoran Tamura, [left] Nick Hallock and Jack Boyle of Troop 55 from Irvington, N.Y., paddled the canoe race at Lake Frederick in 2:28. The canoe race is based on how fast the scouts can paddle their canoe to a set point and run it back to the start point on shore.

miles. It was exhilarating."

The Bull Run Hike is an event where more than 30 Boy and Girl Scouts, called 'Lightfighters,' left their vehicles at Camp Natural Bridge and hiked to the camporee site through the woods, including up the infamous Bull Hill.

"The troops are rewarded upon their arrival at Lake Frederick with a special tab to be worn above the camporee patch," said Cadet 2nd Class Ted Halinski, Personnel Officer for the Scoutmasters Council. "They also get bragging rights, since they completed half of the USMA Cadet Basic Training graduation ruckmarch."

More than 200 cadet volunteers helped the scouts with drilling, supervising the canoe race, showing the scouts how to fire weapons, demonstrating weapons with live fire exercises and teaching the scouts some of the physical training that cadets go through while at the U.S. Military Academy.

Roughly 40 percent of the cadets have been or are scouts, according to Lt. Col. John Graham, Club officer-in-charge and an Assistant Professor in the Behavioral Sciences and Leadership Department here. Cadets donate their time to organize, plan and execute the event. The camporee allows the cadets to serve as role models to up-and-coming scouts and leaders of character as the USMA shares the same values of Duty, Honor and Country as the scouts.

Troop 29 from Newtown, Pa., earned the cadet saber as top Troop. Second place [a cadet tar bucket] went to Troop 8 from East Hampton, Conn., and third place

[a plaque] went to Troop 50, of Mahwah, N.J.



A Boy Scout Troop marches back from their tests in pioneering, litter carrying and first aid to break for lunch at Lake Frederick during the Scoutmasters Council Camporee. There were 106 Boy Scout Troops, five Girl Scout Troops and six Venture Crews attending the event, for a total of 2,700 attendees at the camporee.



Alex Masters of Troop 380 in Boalsburg, Pa., tries his hand at firing an M249, Squad Automatic Weapon, at the Camporee under the watchful eyes of his father.

Medical School Option Program cadets visit vets at WRAMC

By Sgt. 1st Class
Roger Jones
PAO NCOIC

Cadet 2nd Class Steve Hole, a linebacker on the Army football team and a member of the Medical School Option Program, came to West Point because he wanted to match the challenge of his output to the academy's great demand and intensity.

"I feel quite confident in my abilities to meet the challenge of those demands," Hole said. "I also feel that most things in life, while challenging, can be achieved."

He still feels that way. However, some of his opinions changed when he, along with approximately 40 other members of the MSOP, took a trip to the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., to visit with wounded combat veterans, April 20-21.

"The most surprising part of this trip was how upbeat the wounded Soldiers were," Hole said.

"They were so willing to talk about their combat experiences as well as their injury occurrences," Hole said. "As a cadet who wants to become a doctor, there are no other people I would want to work

harder for than the Soldiers I met this weekend."

For the past five years, the Medical School Option program members have spent at least a weekend in Washington, D.C., according to Dr. Fred Pugh, assistant dean for counseling here.

"The reason I escort the cadets down to D.C. is because I believe in the [Medical School Option] program and these young cadets are the future of our [medical] corps," Pugh explained.

"Additionally, I wanted them to get a first-hand look at wounds they could conceivably have to face and, more importantly, the faces of the Soldiers who are enduring the wounds," Pugh said.

Pugh, whose day-to-day mission is to support the cadets, said that his ultimate goal is to get deserving cadets into medical school.

"I work at trying to get them shadow time, which involves the process of following around physicians and observing their actions with patients. Shadowing goes a long way toward getting them [the cadets] accepted to

medical school," he added.

Though cadets must endure an academically and physically demanding curriculum, it appeared less significant to Cadet 2nd Class Zach Booms of Grand Rapids, Mich.

"This place demands all of your effort all of the time," Booms said.

"As cadets, we get so involved in our everyday lives that we sometimes overlook things going on outside West Point," Booms added. "Our trip to D.C. really helped to adjust our focus."

Although Booms admits that he's experienced a number of challenging occurrences here, the dinner with the wounded veterans in D.C. was something altogether different.

"The single most humbling experience I've had at the academy was visiting with wounded Soldiers at the Wounded Warrior Dinner," he said. "I was talking to one Soldier who had his carotid artery severed during an IED blast. As a result, he had severe scarring. To him, what he faced during that IED

blast was nothing more than just a normal NCO who has heart, doing a normal job. However, to us he was nothing short of inspiring. We think we are stressed out here at the academy, but our 'problems' pale in comparison to these guys."

While touring Walter Reed would have probably been an eye-opening experience for most, the MSOP members have greater interest.

"Visiting with the Wounded Warriors program reminded me of why I wanted to become a doctor -- to help heroes like the Soldiers we met in D.C.," said Cadet 2nd Class David Tennent, a member of the Army soccer team, from Red Hook, Texas.

For Tennent, just attending the dinner was an incredible experience, but it didn't stop there. He was approached by a wounded warrior who wanted to provide him with a small piece of advice.

"Remember this," the veteran began, "you must always place the mission first, but you must also remember that you will never have a mission without a Soldier. Take care of your Soldiers and they will take care of you."

According to Tennent, the Soldier's advice put everything in

perspective for him.

"Visiting the Wounded Warriors was a humbling experience for me," Tennent said. "It kind of took my mind off of cadet life. If I had it to do all over again, not only would I, but I would want to stay a bit longer."

While the average West Point cadet endures four years of mentally and physically challenging demands, the members of the medical club take it a step further.

"These cadets have to navigate through an extremely difficult medical school application process here," explained Pugh, who is also the Secretary of the Medical Selection Committee for USMA. "We expect a great deal from them and this is in addition to their normal course work and physical fitness demands. We scrutinize their records to specifically include the Medical College Admissions Test.

"The life of a cadet is difficult. However, the life of a cadet seeking to become a doctor is almost impossible with the added demands of preparing for the rigorous MCAT and demands of medical school," Pugh added. "We are lucky here, because we have the type of cadets who are used to turning the impossible into the possible."

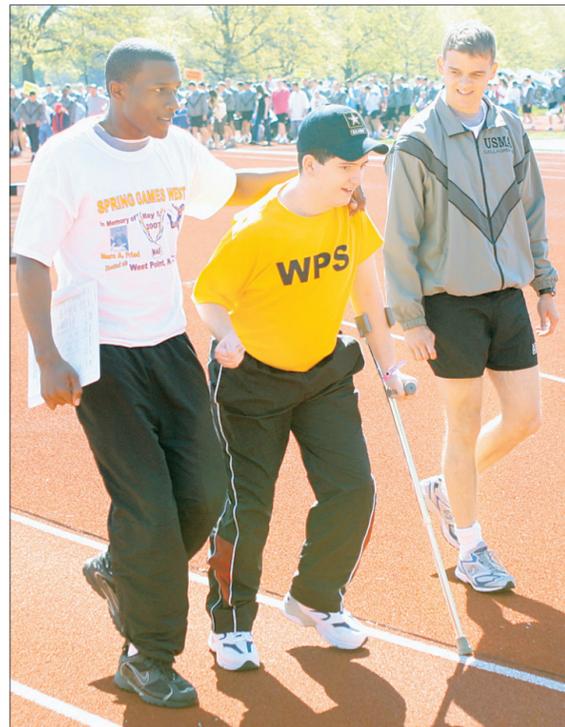




The West Point Special Olympic athletes and their coaches from the West Point School gather before the start of the Special Olympics Saturday at Shea Stadium.



Abby Manous takes a leap during the long jump competition. The long jump is part of the Pentathlon, which she also finished in first place in the girl's event. Her brother Andrew won the boy's Pentathlon. The Pentathlon consists of five events: the 100-meter dash, 400-meter run, shot put, high jump and long jump.



Cadet 4th Class Donnubari Gbaanador [left] and Cadet 2nd Class James Gallagher walk with 16-year-old Special Olympian R.J. Lacey during the parade that kicked off the Special Olympics Saturday at West Point. Lacey was awarded the inaugural Andrew R. Houghton Award, which was presented to an athlete who best exemplified the qualities of Houghton. Houghton, who was the assistant cadet-in-charge of the Special Olympics in 2000 and then the CIC in 2001, died from wounds suffered during an RPG attack while serving in Iraq in 2004.



Twelve-year-old Rebecca Glen tosses a softball during the softball throw event at North Athletic Field. She finished third in the event and would also finish second in the 100-meter dash and first in the 50-meter dash. She was one of six athletes from West Point to participate in the Special Olympics, which marked the 23rd consecutive year that the academy hosted the games for the Orange County/Hudson Valley region.



Col. Dan Ragsdale, Vice Dean for Education here, awards Andrew Manous a first-place medal for winning the boy's Pentathlon.



Chloe Kelly [left] and Kelsey Waters [right] carry Rebecca Glen to the medal stand after winning the 50-meter dash.

A 'golden' day for West Point's Special Olympics athletes

Story and photos by Eric S. Bartelt Sports Editor

A picturesque blue sky with a light, warm breeze off the Hudson River welcomed the more than 500 participants of the 33rd annual Orange County/Hudson Valley Region Special Olympics Saturday at Shea Stadium, Crandall Pool, North Athletic Field and Gillis Field House here.

Six athletes from West Point took part in the Special Olympics, which marked the 23rd consecutive year that West Point hosted the games in this area.

It was a day to celebrate the hard work of these special athletes who have overcome their disabilities to perform in a variety of events in track and field and aquatics.

This year was also special because the inaugural Capt. Andrew R. Houghton Memorial Award was presented to an athlete who best exemplified the qualities of Houghton and the words, 'Let Me Be Brave in the Attempt.'

Houghton was the assistant cadet-in-charge in 2000 and then the CIC in 2001 of the Special Olympics held at West Point. He was serving in Samarra, Iraq in July 2004 when he was hit by an RPG rocket. Although he survived initially, he died three weeks later due to his injuries.

In honor of a man with high principles and character, the award -- as chosen by the student coaches at the West Point School -- was bestowed upon 16-year-old R.J. Lacey.

Lacey was diagnosed with autism at age two. But a serious bicycle accident where he fell 20

feet off a cliff in 2000 left him with permanent paralysis on his right side. He just recently spoke his first word in the seven years since the accident due to the serious head injury.

"R.J. has been through a tremendous amount of challenges in his life," said George Houghton, Andrew's father. "His courage of fighting back from his accident and his attitude have been tremendous. Due to his family, he's been able to have somewhat of a normal life and is a real inspiration to his family and to a lot of other folks."

The elder Houghton used the Soldier's General Life Insurance money he received after his son's death to set up a foundation in Andrew's honor. They support several organizations that Andrew was involved in including the West Point Combat Weapons Team, the West Point Cavalry Scouts Club and a Christian Summer Camp that sends 30 underprivileged kids to the camp.

Of course, one of the biggest activities that Andrew believed in was the Special Olympics. It was an honor for George to be there Saturday to present the award.

"It's a blessing for me to be here," Houghton explained. "It is a great event and to also see the West Point cadets give of themselves and organize a fine event is very special. It's a blessing to be back here to watch, observe and participate a little bit in something that my son believed in so much."

The event went off without a hitch due to the many volunteers including more than 600 cadets and 20 West Point School students

who helped the athletes through their events.

Cadet 2nd Class James Gallagher helped Lacey through his events throughout the day and he was cognizant of all the great things that were going on around him.

"Everywhere you walk you see people of all ages smiling, laughing, jumping around and it brightens the day," Gallagher said. "It makes it even brighter than the sun could ever make it knowing you're making a difference in someone else's life. You actually see it happening as these athletes are competing in their events... you can see the difference it's having on them by the amount of fun they're having doing this."

The West Point athletes have been practicing their events since the beginning of February as Joanne Woodworth, who runs the West Point School Physical Education Department, had the kids meet every Tuesday and Thursday after school for an hour.

The environment of training and the actual games themselves are ways to help the special needs children forget their problems for a little while.

"It's wonderful to be in an environment where you're not worried about what people are thinking... they're out there encouraging him, he loves it and I know he feels normal in this situation," said Wendy Lacey, R.J.'s mother. "He comes home with a great attitude from it and it's one of the few things that we say, 'R.J., we've got to go to Special Olympics training, and there's never a 'no' I don't want to go, it's always 'yes,' and he's out the door."

The Lacey family is very appreciative to everyone that has helped their son in his participation in the Special Olympics and helped him feel accepted. However, the family also believes it's a great way for everyone to give a little of themselves during their hectic lives.

"Having a special needs son, sometimes you think the focus is only on the special needs kid, but there are a lot of benefits for everyone. One of the great benefits is the cadets get a chance to give back to their community," said Col. Ray Lacey, R.J.'s father and a former Regimental Tactical Officer for 1st Regiment who is currently attending the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pa. "It really gives the cadets and the younger kids, the little coaches from our West Point School, a chance to interact with the special needs kids and to shine in a different arena -- I think they're better people for it."

Each West Point athlete participated in at least three events and five of them finished in first at least one event. Joey Fiaschetti didn't finish in first, but finished second in all three events he participated in, while Lacey got first place in the 50-meter dash, Rebecca Glen took first in the 50-meter dash, Abby and Andrew Manous both took first in the Pentathlon and Kolby Young achieved first in both the standing long jump and the 50-meter dash.

"It feels great [to have won two events]," Young said. "I feel like I improved from last year. This year I have three ribbons, last year I only got two."

Cadets help mentor Tuesday's Children

Story and photo by
Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

Tuesday's Children, a non-profit family-service organization funded by the family and friends of September 11 victims, was founded in 2002.

"There was a lot of outpouring of support for the victims of 9/11, but no long-term support for members of the immediate family," said Terry Sears, executive director of Tuesday's Children in Manhasset, N.Y. "We found that there was a need for this type of support, so we started this program to fulfill that need."

She said that 110 children were born into families that suffered a loss right after 9/11.

Sears said Tuesday's Children offers a number of different types of programs.

"It's a great way for the 9/11 kids to get together and support each other," Sears said. "They may go to a baseball game, hang



Two of Tuesday's Children, Eric, 20, and Richard, 7, play computer games that simulate flying a helicopter at the DMI War Center here Sunday.

out with cadets at a movie or play games."

The West Point chapter of Tuesday's Children began in 2005. Children from the tri-state area generally come to West Point twice a month for various fun types of programs such as bowling or playing computer games. A few

of them were at the Department of Military Instruction War Center at Cullum Hall Sunday playing computer games that simulated flying a helicopter and weapons practice games.

Major Trent Mills, an English instructor here, is the officer in charge of the West Point mentorship

program.

"The club links cadet mentors with children who are a part of Tuesday's Children," said Sara Wingerath, mentor coordinator for Tuesday's Children. "We have matched 12 cadets with 12 children at West Point."

The group currently has community-based programs in Manhattan, Long Island, Staten Island, the Hudson Valley, West Point and New Jersey.

Many of the families of 9/11 have expressed a need for

supportive, positive adult role models for children who have lost a parent or parents in the 9/11 tragedy. The mentoring programs support, encourage and promote mutually beneficial, long-standing friendships between positive, adult role models and children, according to the www.tuesdayschildren.org Web site.

For more information on the Tuesday's Children mentoring program: e-mail Sara Wingerath at Sara@Tuesdayschildren.org or call [212] 319-3988.

Healthwatch: Don't become a target for Lyme disease

Submitted
by Maj.
Richard Cichy
Public
Health Nurse



A h h h h , spring is here, the sun is shining and the temps are soaring. As you venture outside wearing those newly unpacked shorts, tank top and sandals, be aware there are ticks that have also been patiently waiting for the warm weather.

When you brush up against these little creatures, they immediately latch onto your skin and prepare to dine. They may even leave you an unwanted tip because some of the ticks at West Point and in surrounding areas are infected with microorganisms that can cause Lyme disease, Human Ehrlichiosis, and Babesiosis.

The most common tick-borne disease in the United States is Lyme disease. Human cases have

been reported in 48 states with Connecticut having the highest rate of reported infections, followed by New York. Cases are reported yearly in Orange and surrounding counties as well as West Point.

Lyme disease can have serious complications if not treated early. The most noticeable sign of infection is a rash resembling a bull's-eye or solid patch that usually develops between three and 32 days after the bite. The

rash often expands over time and can last for several weeks. Sometimes, no rash appears, while in other cases, there are multiple rashes. Victims report the rash is not normally itchy or painful. Other symptoms include fever, fatigue, headache, stiff neck, muscle aches and joint pain. If you notice these signs or symptoms, consult a health

care provider immediately.

Ehrlichiosis is transmitted by deer ticks and infects white blood cells and can feature symptoms ranging from very mild to severe. The symptoms include fever, chills, headache, aches and pains in the joints and muscles, loss of appetite, eye pain, nausea and vomiting. They appear within seven to 14 days after exposure and there is usually no rash involved.

Babesiosis is passed on mainly during the summer months by a deer tick in the nymph stage. Symptoms may include

fever, chills, muscle aches, fatigue and yellowish skin caused by the breakdown of the cells. They appear anywhere from one to eight weeks after exposure, although some individuals may have no symptoms.

The tick-borne diseases discussed above cannot be transmitted from person-to-person. They are diagnosed with blood tests specific for each disease. Further, they are all curable with the use of antibiotics.

Although not all ticks carry disease, you cannot tell just by

looking at a tick whether it is infected. Routine checks and prompt removal are your best protection against infection.

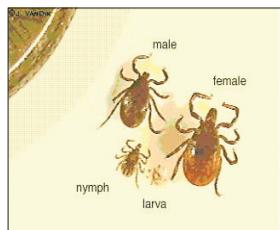
Although these diseases rarely lead to death, all of them can cause considerable pain and discomfort if left untreated. If you have spent time outdoors and you develop any of the symptoms mentioned above, especially during the period from May through early fall, see your healthcare provider immediately.

For more information on preventing tick-borne diseases, go to www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/lyme or http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/envirom/lyme/be_tick_free.htm.

[ny.us/nysdoh/envirom/lyme/be_tick_free.htm](http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/envirom/lyme/be_tick_free.htm).



Bull's Eye rash. CDC PHOTOS



Four stages of a tick's lifecycle.

PREVENTION TECHNIQUES

LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

- Create a "tick-safe zone" around the perimeter of your lawn. A three-foot swath of wood chips works well.
- Clear low brush, vines and leaves yearly. Thin out tree branches that hang over the lawn.
- Cut the grass frequently. Ticks can't survive in sunny, well-clipped lawns.
- Locate mailboxes, sheds, picnic tables, swing sets and other things used by the family in the sun away from the woods.
- To reduce rodent habitats, seal cracks in foundations, screen areas under porches, place woodpiles and bird feeders far from the house and maintain stone walls.
- To inhibit deer from entering your yard, don't plant flowers and shrubs that deer like to eat.
- Never put feed out for wildlife.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE MEASURES

- Avoid tick-infested areas where feasible.
- In tick-infested areas, wear light-colored clothing so ticks are easier to see.
- Use an approved insect or tick repellent containing DEET and treat clothing with permethrin. Always follow the package directions and cautions before using, especially when applying to children.
- Wear long pants tucked into shoes, long-sleeved shirts tucked into pants.
- Remove clothes after leaving tick infested areas, wash and dry to eliminate ticks
- Always wear enclosed shoes.
- Carefully check for ticks anytime you have been outdoors. Parents should examine their children's skin carefully. Spot check frequently throughout the day.
- Routinely check pets for ticks.
- As soon as possible, remove ticks that have attached to the skin.

LYME DISEASE ALERT

DO A THOROUGH BODY CHECK FOR TICKS AFTER BEING OUTDOORS.

Deer tick size (left to right)
larva, nymph, adult

How To Remove A Tick

- Using tweezers, grasp tick near the mouth parts, as close to skin as possible.
- Pull tick in a steady, upward motion away from skin.
- DO NOT use kerosene, matches, or petroleum jelly to remove tick.
- Disinfect site with soap and water, rubbing alcohol or hydrogen peroxide.
- Record date and location of tick bite. If rash or flu-like symptoms appear contact your health care provider immediately.

DISEASE RISK IS REDUCED IF TICK IS REMOVED WITHIN 36 HOURS.

New York State Department of Health

LYME SYMPTOMS:

Bull's Eye Rash
Fever
Fatigue
Headache
Stiff neck
Muscle aches
Joint Pain

If you develop these symptoms, especially after a tick bite, consult a health care provider immediately.

What's Happening

Thank you

Operation Wounded Heroes, a fund drive to help our wounded Soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, was a great success. During the last two weekends in April, donations collected at the Commissary and the Post Exchange totaled more than \$3,400 in cash plus a number of backpacks and calling cards.

Village of Highland Falls Mayor Joe D'Onofrio, the American Legion, the VFW, the West Point-Highland Falls Rotary and Diane Brzywczy would like to take this opportunity to give a heart felt "thank you" to everyone who made donations to this effort.

Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed to help with the Superintendent's Regimental Receptions in the garden of Quarters 100 during Graduation Week.

Volunteers are needed from 1 to 2:30 p.m. May 23 [for 3rd Reg.] and from 3 to 4:30 p.m. May 23 [4th Reg.].

Volunteers are also needed May 24 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. [1st Reg.] and from 3 to 4:30 p.m. [2nd Reg.].

Interested parties should contact the U.S. Military Academy Protocol Office by May 11 by calling Shannon Purdy at 938-8816/4315 or by e-mailing her at Shannon.Purdy@usma.edu.

U.S. Army Heritage Day

Army Heritage Day will be celebrated May 19 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Carlisle Barracks, Pa.

The event is free and open to the public.

For more info., go to their Web site at www.usahec.org.

Harry Potter reservations

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

Come by the USMA Bookstore at Thayer Hall to put in your reservation for the newest Harry Potter book "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" by J.K. Rowling. The book is due out July 21.

Anyone interested should complete a form at the cashier's booth.

The USMA bookstore, located in Thayer Hall on the fourth floor, is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Vacation Bible School

West Point Vacation Bible School this year is June 25-29, from 9 a.m. to noon daily.

VBS needs volunteers in all areas: crafts, games, drama, kitchen, crew leaders, set up/clean up, decorating and registration.

Call Jen Lyle to volunteer at 446-5542.

Registration runs until June 22 and forms are available at any church on post or at the Post Chapel Annex.

Call 938-2003 for more info.



Cadet awarded ARCOM for Valor

Cadet 1st Class Nicholas Dason received his second Army Commendation Medal for Valor Monday from USMA Commandant, Brig. Gen. Robert Caslen, for "exceptionally valorous conduct" while serving as a reconnaissance platoon scout observer with the 101st Airborne Division in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Dason, who will graduate in Dec. 2007, participated in the Army Mentorship Program beginning in 2005 for 18 months and returned to the Corps of Cadets in January. Individuals enrolled in the AMP go to Active Duty units to further mature and develop their leadership skills.

PHOTO BY MAJ. CHARLES CHALFONT/USCC

Cadet Toy Drive

Cadets from Company H-4 are collecting new or gently used elementary school age toys, sporting equipment and school supplies to send to units in Iraq and Afghanistan to give to local children.

There will be drop-off boxes in the various academic department areas and outside the Cadet Bookstore, Thayer Hall, 4th Floor until May 18.

Red Cross classes

CPR/AED Adult

May 19, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

June 5, 5 to 10 p.m.

Standard First Aid Training with the American Red Cross

Thursday, from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Babysitter's Training

Are you 11 years old and want

to learn basic child care?

Learn the skills every parent looks for in a responsible babysitter. June 9, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Standard First Aid/ Adult CPR & AED

June 10, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

CPR/FA Instructor Training

TWO DAYS of classes: May 20 & 27 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WSI/Lifeguard training

The training is a multiple class format [covering five weekends], beginning May 19

Go to www.nyredcross.org or call [800] 514-5103 to register.

Command Channel 8/23

May 11 - 18

Friday

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

Monday - May 18

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

Memorial Day speakers needed

Volunteers are needed to speak to Veterans' Groups on Memorial Day. Contact the Public Affairs Office's Dave Brzywczy at 938-3614 or e-mail him at Dave.Brzywczy@usma.edu.

Eisenhower Hall Theatre

Friday, May 11, 7 p.m. Jerry Seinfeld [SOLD OUT]
Saturday, May 19, 8 p.m. Ethel Merman's Broadway

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

NOW SHOWING

in the movie theater at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

Friday -- Meet the Robinsons, PG, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday -- Meet the Robinsons, PG, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday -- Shooter, R, 9:30 p.m.

May 18 -- Are We Done Yet?, PG, 7:30 p.m.

May 19 -- Firehouse Dog, PG, 7:30 p.m.

May 19 -- The Reaping, R, 9:30 p.m.

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

MWR Blurbs

Mother's Day Brunch at WPC

Treat Mom to Mother's Day Brunch at the West Point Club Sunday.

There will be two seatings -- 11 a.m. in the Pierce Dining Room and 1 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom.

For information and reservations, call 938-5120.

Morgan Farm Open House

Don't miss the Morgan Farm Open House Wednesday from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

There will be free pony rides for the kids plus information on summer riding camps and kennel

services.

The event is open to the general public.

For more information, call 938-3926.

Kids Fishing Derby

The Kids Fishing Derby takes place May 19, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., rain or shine.

Bring the kids to Round Pond Recreation Area for a fun day of fishing clinics, refreshments and prizes. The event is open to all West Point, Highland Falls and Stewart AFB children and children of DOD

employees.

Cost is \$3 per child [includes lunch]. Pre-registration is recommended, call 938-2503.

Round Pond

Bloodworms are now on sale at Round Pond. Eels will be available early this month, just in time for Stripers.

Call 938-2503 for more information.

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>.

Financial readiness classes

Army Community Services is now offering a variety of financial readiness classes. Call Joyce Harris at 938-5653 for more information.

DPW Notes

Lane Restriction on Cullum Road Tuesday

The contractor constructing Jefferson Hall needs to cordon off the northbound lane of Cullum Road in the vicinity of the West Point Club and Thayer Roof entrance in order to install telecommunications cable under Cullum Road.

We anticipate that this project will require one-lane traffic for the entire day Tuesday beginning at 7 a.m. until approximately 5 p.m.

The contractor will provide flag persons to direct traffic during the work. The execution of this scheduled work is weather permitting. Drivers should expect traffic delays during that day.



Top Nurses honored during Nurses Week

Colonel Dorothy Cox [left], Keller Army Community Hospital Deputy Commander for Health Services; Christine Polao, Public Health Nurse, Dept of Preventive Medicine - RN of the Year; Spc. Trisha Northover, Certified Nurse Assistant of the Year, Dept. of General Surgery; Sgt. Melissa Holliman, LPN of the year, Medical Surgical Unit, were honored Monday as part of Nurses Week at KACH.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY KACH

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.

West Point School Board Elections

West Point School Board Elections will take place Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Middle School Conference Room, Building 705.

Parents of students attending WPS are eligible to vote.

The candidates are David Fiaschetti, Marc J. Franciszkowicz and Russell P. LaChance who are running for the three vacancies.

Please come out and vote.

Army and Community Sports

Hill leads a trio of Army All-Patriot Leaguers

WEST POINT, N.Y. -- It's become an annual rite of spring. The Patriot League announces its all-league teams and senior pitcher Nick Hill takes his familiar spot among the first-team honorees.

It happened for the fourth straight time Tuesday as Hill became the first player in conference history to garner four first-team All-Patriot League awards.

The native of Bluff City, Tenn., was one of three Black Knights chosen to one of the Patriot League's two all-star teams, with junior outfielder/pitcher Cole White being cited at two positions for the third straight season and sophomore shortstop Tony Capozzi earning a

second-team recognition.

White, the Patriot League's batting leader, was selected to the Patriot League's first-team all-star squad in right field and second-team as a starting pitcher.

The Midland, Texas, native has been recognized at three different positions by the Patriot League during the course of his career. In addition to this year's citations, he earned second-team plaudits in the outfield in 2004 and first-team recognition at first base last spring.

White has garnered all-league status on the pitcher's mound during each of his three seasons in the Black, Gold and Gray, earning

first-team laurels in 2004 and second-team honors each of the past two seasons.

A two-time All-America selection, Hill has returned to his normal dominant form this spring, posting a 6-3 record with a 1.78 earned run average. He has allowed just 59 hits across 76.0 innings of work, striking out 87 and walking only 18, while limiting opponents to a .219 batting average. Hill ranks among Patriot League leaders in wins [4th], strikeouts [2nd], opponent batting average [4th], innings pitched [3rd], starts [2nd], and earned run average [2nd]. Projected to be a top 10-round pick in Major League Baseball's

First-Year Player Draft next month, Hill has yielded two or fewer runs in eight of his 12 starts this season and has not allowed more than three runs in any of his dozen outings.

A two-time Patriot League Pitcher of the Week choice this spring, he has been cited for the conference's top weekly honor a record eight times during his West Point tenure. In all, he owns 35 Army and Patriot League records on game, season and career levels.

With his most recent honors, White also made a bit of Patriot League history Tuesday, becoming the first player since the conference's inception in 1991 to earn multiple citations in the same season for three

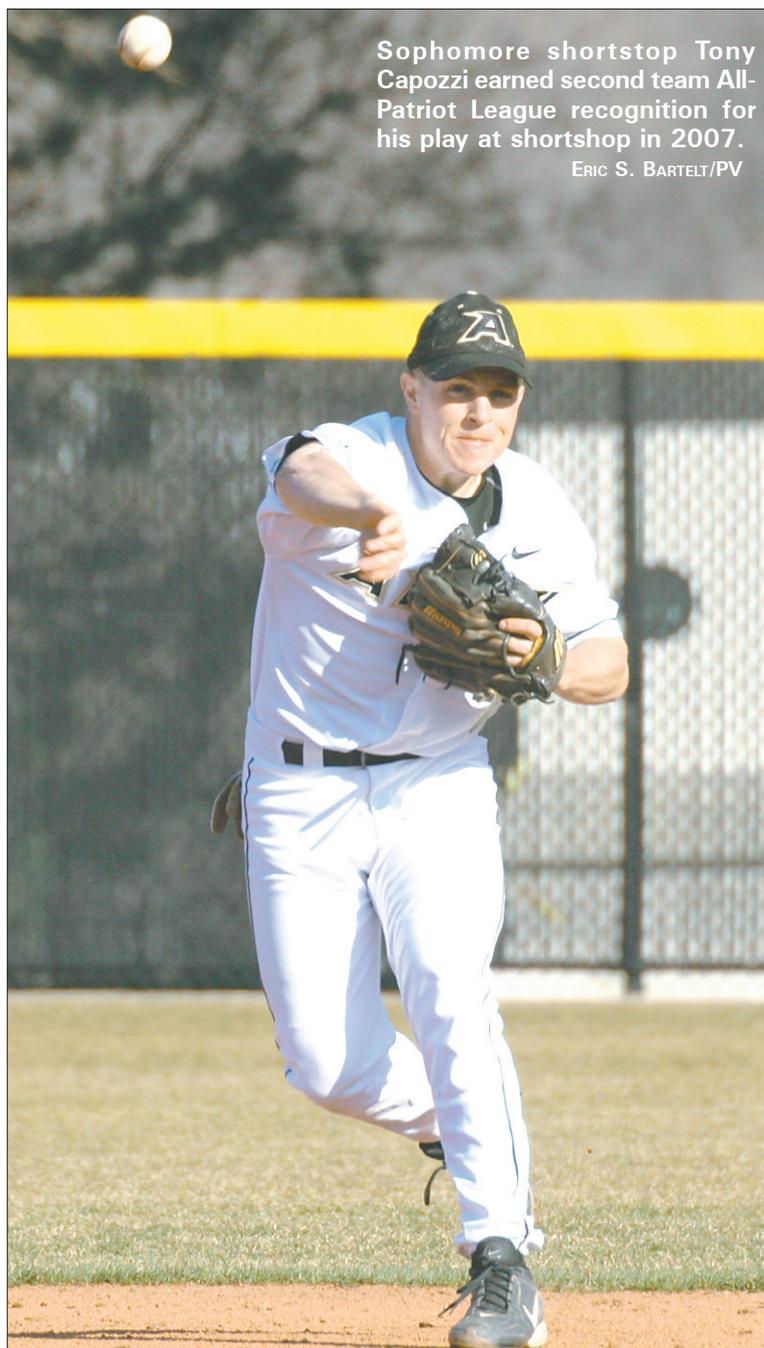
straight years.

The Patriot League's leading batter throughout the season, White has developed into one of the conference's most-feared offensive performers, carrying a .401 batting average with 12 doubles, three triples, three home runs, 25 runs scored and 25 runs batted in into Wednesday's regular-season final against New York Tech. He tops the Patriot League in base hits [65], total bases [92] and slugging percentage [.568], while ranking second in on-base percentage [.479], third in doubles and fourth in stolen bases [15].

Capozzi stands as the final **See BASEBALL on page 19**

Sophomore shortstop Tony Capozzi earned second team All-Patriot League recognition for his play at shortstop in 2007.

ERIC S. BARTELT/PV



Men's handball takes national championship

Army defeats three-time defending champ North Carolina, 20-15, in final

By Maj. Chris Springer
Army Handball Coach

Army Men's Team Handball embarked on a journey to close out the most successful year in the program's storied history.

The University of North Carolina was looking for a fourth straight national college team handball championship. Army was determined to stop the streak.

The West Point team did just that by beating the Tar Heels 20-15 in the final Sunday at the Von Braun Center South Hall in Huntsville, Ala.

Aside from winning numerous medals and awards this season and traveling across the world to play against professional handball teams, there was one goal left for the men of Army.

Almost four years had passed since Army brought back the National Collegiate crown to West Point.

Army's rival, the University of North Carolina, reeled off three consecutive title defenses against Army in 2004 through 2006. The team trained all year for their chance to redeem themselves and for the firsties to go out on top.

The Army Black team graduates five seniors this year that have been an integral part of the programs resurgence.

The team was led by team

captain Alex Mullin, who started at right wing; Trevor Williams, the starting circle; Louis Hare, who started at left wing; Javier Sanjuan, a right back and Jamie Sanjuan, a right wing.

Army moved quickly through pool play and gained a berth in the championship game as the #2 seed against North Carolina. The match began fast and furious early Sunday. North Carolina jumped out to a two-goal lead that they held for the majority of the first half.

Army junior goalkeeper, Keith Fine, played his finest game of the

season blocking three penalty shots to keep Army in the game. The Army team never let down and, right before the half, was able to go on a 2-0 run and tied the game at 9-9.

Coming out for the second half, Army put on a display of athleticism and endurance that truly showed how much all of the sprints and extra practices that the men held during the year ended up paying off in the end. West Point was relentless on offense and defense, running the court and putting North Carolina behind by

five goals in the first 10 minutes. Army's trademark brute defense was too much for North Carolina as they were never able to close the gap for the rest of the game.

Sophomore Brian Walsh and junior Connor Lewis were both named to the National All-Tournament team. Fine was named National Most Valuable Goalkeeper for the second year in a row.

The final standings for the tournament were: first, West Point Black [4-1]; second, North Carolina [4-1]; third, Air Force-B [3-2]; fourth, Air Force-A [1-4]; and fifth,

West Point Gold [0-4].

Game results included: West Point Black 36, West Point Gold 18; North Carolina 19, Air Force-B 18; Air Force-A 33, West Point Gold 23; West Point Black 28, Air Force-B 19; North Carolina 28, West Point Gold 15; North Carolina 29, Air Force-A 20; Air Force-B 33, West Point Gold 21; West Point Black 34, Air Force-A 23; Air Force-B 45, Air Force-A 33; North Carolina 19, West Point Black 18; Air Force-B 34, Air Force-A 24; and West Point Black 20, North Carolina 15.

Sports Notes

■ **2007 SUMMER SOFTBALL SIGNUPS.** This year league games will be held at the new Softball Complex at "H" Lot near the PX and Commissary.

The season will begin June 4 and will continue through the beginning of August. Game times will be at 5, 6 and 7 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

Teams interested in joining must contact James McGuinness via e-mail or call him at 938-3066.

■ **2007 Armed Forces Men's and Women's Volleyball Tournament** continues through Saturday at Gillis Field House.

Both Army teams, men's and women's, have graduates from West Point.

Army Grappling/Combatives team takes down Navy

By Cadet 1st Class
Justin Lynch
Grappling team PAO

The road for the Army Grappling/Combatives team's April victory against Navy came with bumps and bruises -- literally. Grappling/Combatives is defined as the art of fighting an aggressor hand-to-hand and subduing them by painful, debilitating, non-lethal tactics. Combatives techniques draw upon many diverse disciplines such as jujitsu, judo, boxing and wrestling.

A few months prior, the Naval Jujitsu team contacted Junior Joe Halter, the team's cadet-in-charge, and issued a challenge to come to Annapolis, Md. At the time, it was daunting, said team officer-in-charge Capt. Ammon Campbell, "as a hobby club we have no authos [training exemptions], a budget of only \$100 and no uniforms. It seemed like David vs. Goliath."

But the team came together and decided that they could not let such a challenge go unanswered. They worked concessions at other sports games to earn money for the trip and to buy uniforms, they trained on limited free time evenings and weekends, and they took Navy's challenge serious.

The atmosphere was charged as the Army Grappling team walked into the gym to compete with

Navy's Grappling club. The crowd was expecting a strong win from the more experienced Navy team, but they would be disappointed.

Army got the victory 17-8, winning nine out of twelve matches. Campbell said he hopes this year will be the start of an annual competition.

The Grappling team has competed twice this academic year. The first was in November in a North American Grappling Association competition where seven out of nine cadets won third place or higher.

Halter, who plans to attend more competitions next year, said "Next year I'd like to have Army represented in more tournaments, so everyone knows we are a team to be reckoned with."

There is a great deal of potential in the future of the relatively young Grappling team. Eight of the twelve cadets competing against Navy were plebes with little grappling experience. With three more years of experience in their future, they could go on to even more impressive victories.

Coach John Shireman has high hopes for the future of his team. Currently, the team practices only twice a week at night after company athletics or drill is over and has very little of the equipment needed to train fully.

He believes that with practices



The Army Grappling/Combatives team celebrates with a group photo after their victory against Navy in Annapolis, Md., last month.

PHOTO PROVIDED

every day and more resources for equipment and trips, Army could have title holders in most weight classes.

Shireman believes that the benefits to West Point and the Army go far beyond holding titles and winning though. The primary benefit has been for the cadets personally.

"Very few activities encourage independence and the warrior

spirit to develop like grappling," Shireman said.

The team also helps the academy's athletic programs. Cadets on the Grappling team coach four company athletic teams and participate in several others, adding a level of familiarity with techniques that teams probably would not have otherwise. Several cadets have also taken advanced combatives classes.

Shireman believes they help improve those classes as well.

"They show the cadets what a trained fighter can do, which motivates them," Shireman said.

Campbell added, "I was so proud of the professional look and demeanor of our team, not to mention that we won 17-8 in the first ever Army vs. Navy challenge. Go Army Beat Navy!"

Softball heads to Bethlehem for PL Tournament

WEST POINT, N.Y. – Army's softball team is among the top four teams in the Patriot League heading to Bethlehem, Pa., for the three-day 2007 championship, starting Thursday and running through Saturday with an NCAA Tournament bid at stake the final day.

The fourth-seeded Black Knights [15-34, 9-11 PL] face top seed and three-time defending champion Lehigh [33-16-1, 17-1 PL] in the opening game of the double-elimination tournament Thursday at 2 p.m.

The second game is between No. 2 seed Colgate [22-22, 12-5 PL] and third-seeded Lafayette [20-23, 10-10 PL] at 4 p.m.

The winners from the two opening rounds of the double-elimination tournament meet today for Game 3 at 11 a.m. followed by the losers' game [No. 4] at

1:30 p.m.

The final game today pits the loser of game three and the winner of game four at 4 p.m. to decide who advances to Saturday's championship round.

The two remaining teams play Saturday for the league's automatic NCAA berth. The first game is at 12 p.m. with the second scheduled for 2:30 p.m., if needed.

Coverage of Army's progression through the Patriot League Tournament will be available for fans through the Knight Vision subscription package as the Army Athletic Association will be offering live audio coverage on the Internet. Fans can access the audio broadcast coverage via Knight Vision, the multi-media subscription service at www.goARMYsports.com.

Though the Black Knights are the lowest seed in the tournament,

they are the lone team to defeat Lehigh during the league's regular-season slate. Senior hurler Chris Stauffer scattered four hits over 6.2 innings and junior Veronica

Barth recorded the save as Army rallied for a 2-1 upset win over the preseason favorite Mountain Hawks in the league's series debut.

The Black Knights, who have reached the championship finals the last five years, will be looking to challenge for its fifth league crown and first since 2002.

BASEBALL, cont. from page 16

Army player to be honored by the Patriot League this spring, selected to the second team all-star unit at shortstop. After spending his freshman campaign as the Black Knights' starting second baseman, Capozzi shifted over to shortstop this spring.

The scrappy sophomore responded to the challenge admirably, batting .279 with one double, one triple, 18 runs scored and 13 runs batted in.

One of three Army players to start all 45 contests this season, Capozzi posted a .286 batting average in 19 league tilts, tying for the team lead with 10 runs scored.

Following Wednesday's date with New York Tech, Army heads to Easton, Pa., for the Patriot League Tournament over the weekend.

The Black Knights will face arch-rival Navy in the Patriot League Tournament Elimination Game Saturday at noon at the Class of 1978 Stadium.

The winner of that contest will advance to face regular-season champion and host Lafayette in the best-of-three Patriot League Championship Series. It will mark Army's third PL Tournament appearance in four years.