

# POINTER VIEW<sup>®</sup>

Win 2 season tickets to Army home football games. See page 13.

Vol. 66, No. 32

SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WEST POINT, THE U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY

AUGUST 20, 2009

## New cadets no more – 1,248 accepted into Corps



After surviving six weeks of Cadet Basic Training and the final, exhausting steps of Marchback, 1,248 new cadets from the Class of 2013 became members of the Corps of Cadets Aug. 15 during the Acceptance Day parade on the Plain. The 1,248 plebes faced their next obstacle as classes began for the 2009-10 academic year Monday.

JOHN PELLINO/DPTMS VID

## INSIDE Prevent the spread of influenza, H1N1 update

By Lt. Col. Alden Weg  
Chief of Preventive Medicine

The H1N1 influenza virus continues to circulate throughout the United States. It is the predominant influenza virus in nearly all regions in the southern hemisphere where it is currently flu season. Many experts anticipate that the United States H1N1 cases will increase later this fall and winter, and may be more severe than the first wave seen earlier this year.

In contrast, the West Point installation has seen relatively few cases of the H1N1 virus to this point.

Since May 25, there have been 268 people—cadets, staff and visitors—at West Point tested for H1N1 through Aug. 6, and 43 have come up positive with Type A influenza.

Until two weeks ago, when a cadet was found to be positive with Type A influenza, there hadn't been a positive cadet case since July 10.

However, with the return of the entire Corps of Cadets, the beginning of classes at all West Point schools and the increase in visitors for events such as Acceptance Day and the Army fall sports schedule, it is likely West Point could see an increase in H1N1 cases.

Additionally, seasonal influenza is rapidly approaching. Each year, 36,000 people in this country die from complications due to the influenza virus.

While there is no way to completely eliminate the risk of acquiring influenza, there are things that everyone can do to lower the risk and prevent the spread of influenza in the West Point community.

The best way to reduce risk is to receive influenza immunization shots.

This year's seasonal influenza vaccination will be available much earlier than in previous years—probably early September.

Immunizations will begin immediately upon arrival of the vaccine, and additional information will be published when the vaccine arrives.

West Point will have more than 14,000 seasonal influenza doses available for its beneficiaries.

It is important to know that the annual seasonal vaccines will not cover the circulating H1N1 virus.

A separate vaccine for H1N1 is anticipated to be available in mid-October or early November.

See H1N1 UPDATE, page 2



See HOG WILD PARTY, page 5

# Ring Weekend FP provided by DPTMS

By Joe Senger  
Directorate of Plans, Training,  
Mobilization and Security

In support of the Class of 2009 Ring Weekend events Friday and Saturday, the following parking, traffic and force protection measures are in effect:

## Friday, Ring Ceremony

Starting at 4:35 p.m., traffic in the vicinity of the Trophy Point area will be blocked at the intersection of Washington and Stony Lonesome roads, the intersection of Howard and Ruger roads, the intersection of Brewerton and Parke roads (Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center area) and by the entrance to Clinton Lot.

Traffic in the area will remain blocked until the completion of the Ring Ceremony.

Vehicles parked in the Clinton, Doubleday and surrounding lots will be allowed to depart by exiting south on Cullum Road past Jefferson Hall.

There will be no vehicles authorized on Jefferson Road and the Thayer Road extension at Trophy Point after 4 p.m.

Vehicles parked on these roads are subject to towing.

Bus transportation will be available from Buffalo Soldier Field parking lot to Trophy Point from 3-6:30 p.m.

## Saturday, Banquet and Formal Dance

The Washington Road area in front of the Commandant's quarters is subject to brief closures after 7:45 p.m. to support pedestrians crossing at that intersection.

There is no parking on Jefferson Road.

Bus transportation will be available from Buffalo Soldier Field to the cadet barracks area from 4:30-7 p.m.

A shuttle bus will be available to return participants from Eisenhower Hall to Buffalo Soldier Field once the dance concludes.

For questions about parking, traffic and force protection, call DPTMS at 938-8859.

## August is Immunization Awareness Month

Submitted by Keller Army Community Hospital Preventive Medicine Clinic

It's getting close to back-to-school time and that means it's time to start thinking "are my shots up-to-date?"

Parents are preparing for the start of school, students are leaving for college and health care workers are preparing for the upcoming flu season. August is the perfect time to remind Family, friends, co-workers and those in the community to catch up on their vaccinations.

August is Immunization Awareness Month. It is a time when parents and students can protect themselves from serious, life-threatening diseases by staying up-to-date with recommended vaccines.

Recommended vaccinations begin soon after birth and continue throughout life. It's important to get the right vaccines in the right doses at the right time.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the benefits of immunization for people of all ages are among the most significant public health achievements of our time.

Vaccines have significantly reduced the number of cases of measles, diphtheria, rubella, pertussis and other diseases.

Parents are encouraged to be mindful of their children's immunization schedules, and to also make sure their own immunizations are current. Getting immunized is a lifelong, life-protecting effort regardless of age, sex, race, ethnic background or country of origin.

When traveling outside the United States, it is doubly important to ensure that proper immunizations are received against certain diseases that may be encountered during travel.

Keller Army Community Hospital wants everyone to be up-to-date with vaccinations. Call the KACH Appointment Center at 938-7992 or (800) 552-2907 and make an appointment with your health care provider.

## Fourth Class Sponsorship Program

The Fourth Class Sponsorship Program sign-up is now available at <http://www-internal.uscc.usma.edu/> on the West Point internal Web site through Friday. Click on Fourth Class Sponsorship Program sign-up, which then goes to the Academy Management System (AMS). Common access cards are required.

If you are unable to access this site, contact Capt. Randy Overstreet at 938-6148 or 2nd Lt. Tamara Abraham at 938-5322.

The program assists in the development and continuance of professional social relationships between the new cadets and the staff and faculty and members of the West Point community.

To ensure desired sponsor/cadet matches, sponsors should sign up as soon as possible and request specific interest, hobbies and sports. It is also possible to request specific cadets by name, although matches are not guaranteed.

Sponsors will receive a confirmation e-mail of their assigned cadets by Aug. 28.

## H1N1 UPDATE, cont'd from page 1

Individuals will need to get two separate doses of this vaccine for it to be fully effective.

West Point is working with the Department of Defense as well as state and county health departments to ensure there will be an adequate supply of the vaccine.

While no shortage of the vaccine is anticipated, initially there may be limited supplies.

Other simple measures that can help prevent the spread of flu are:

- Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze. Cough or sneeze into a tissue if available, and if a tissue is not available, cough into the angle of your elbow instead of your hands;
- Practice good hand hygiene. Wash your hands frequently, especially if you are sick;
- When you are sick, stay home. If you have a fever along with body aches, sore throat or other flu-like symptoms do not go

to work or school.

Remain home for at least 24 hours after the fever subsides (without the use of fever reducing medicine);

- If you get sick while at work or school, go home immediately—don't try to tough it out, you are only increasing the chances of spreading your illness to someone else;

- Clean surfaces and items that are more likely to have frequent hand contact such as doorknobs, keyboards and desks.

## SHARP

The members of the Sexual Harrassment/ Assault Response and Prevention program are Maj. Maria Burger (USMA/USCC), Shelley Ariosto (Garrison), Dan Toohey (Victim Advocate), Lt. Col. Kim Kawamoto (ODIA) and Bernadette Orland (Dean).

Community members can e-mail Burger at [Maria.Burger@usma.edu](mailto:Maria.Burger@usma.edu) for advice or to offer any recommendations on the program here.

Cadets also can 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

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

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# Blood Drive at Eisenhower Hall Mon.-Aug. 27

Submitted by the New York Blood Center

Every two seconds, someone in the United States needs blood. From Monday-Aug. 27, West Point welcomes the New York Blood Center to the installation for a four-day blood drive, which is expected to result in more than 1,200 donations, to help quell the recent shortage in blood supply.

Blood from this drive will support Keller Army Community Hospital and Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington D.C. The New York Blood Center is proud to partner with KACH to supply all of its blood and blood products.

“Our annual partnership with West Point is the highlight of the year for our staff,” Debbi Kleinman, business development manager for NYBC’s Hudson Valley region, said. “West Point donors play a crucial role in maintaining an adequate and healthy blood supply for thousands of patients throughout the New York area.”

Help is needed to bring lifesaving donations to patients. There is an urgent need for blood from everyone qualified to donate.

About 2,000 units of blood and blood products (platelets, plasma) are required each day to meet local patient needs.

In December 2008 and January 2009, the New York Blood Center sent platelet products to Walter Reed when the national inventory was extremely critical.

Blood donations are most commonly used by cancer patients (undergoing chemotherapy) and newborn babies who are less than 48 hours old who require Type O-negative blood.

A single trauma or burn victim will often use hundreds of pints of blood in the recovery process.

The blood supply begins to diminish during the spring and summer months and blood drives, such as the one being held at West Point, are critical to the community’s health.

Whole blood donation, bone marrow testing and apheresis donations will take place on the fourth floor of Eisenhower Hall from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Aug. 27.

To schedule a whole blood donation appointment, contact Mary Mandia at (914) 938-BLUD.

To make an appointment to donate platelets, call Louisa Duffy at (914) 760-3177 or e-mail [lduffy@nybloodcenter.org](mailto:lduffy@nybloodcenter.org).



The New York Blood Center hopes the upcoming blood drive will result in more than 1,200 donations.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV



## Gathering school supplies

Plebes are issued their computer equipment for the academic year a day after completing Cadet Basic Training Aug. 11. The computer equipment was issued by the Directorate of Information Management, to help ensure the plebes were ready for classes, which began Monday.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

FOR PV HOME DELIVERY PROBLEMS CONTACT MATT O’SULLIVAN AT THE TIMES HERALD-RECORD AT (845) 346-3214 OR BY E-MAIL AT [MOSULLIVAN@TH-RECORD.COM](mailto:MOSULLIVAN@TH-RECORD.COM).

# A Day in the life of the West Point Band

By Staff Sgt.  
Mark Tonelli  
West Point Band  
Publicity



Army home football games, reviews on the Plain, meal formations and hops have a couple of things in common. Cadets is the obvious first answer but also, the efforts of the West Point Band.

All cadet events needing music involve support from West Point's professional Army band-in-residence, which has been an integral part of academy life since 1817.

The band's duties in the early days involved drilling cadets, which is an unbroken tradition that continues today as the 13-member Hellcats march cadets to their meals in the mess hall every weekday.

Along with the Hellcats, the West Point Band is completed by two more musical components, the 49-member Concert Band and the 18-member Jazz Knights.

Each component performs a distinct repertoire and rehearses regularly to prepare for performances at West Point, the surrounding Hudson Valley region and at prestigious music venues across the nation.

What goes into making all the moving parts work in mounting hundreds of performances at West Point and throughout the country each year? What is it like to work in one of the Army's premier bands?

To provide an insider's look at life in the band are Master Sgt. Susan Davidson, support staff operations chief; Sgt. 1st Class Shawn Herndon, Concert Band clarinetist; Staff Sgt. Andrew Porter, Hellcats drummer; and Staff Sgt. John Castleman, Jazz Knights trumpeter.

Before a single note can be played, the band needs a place to perform, and that is Davidson's job.

As the operations chief, she forms a critical link between requests and band performances.

Davidson comes to operations from the Concert Band, where she spent 10 years as a French horn player.

"It's as much being proactive as it is responding to the large number of requests we get for the band to perform," Davidson, who negotiates requests from both on- and off-post as well as initiatives driven from within the band, said.

All requests must be considered against existing commitments the band has to achieve a delicate balance between performances and rehearsals, Davidson said.

"It can be difficult to quantify the duties of my job," Davidson said. "Each day is unpredictable, and I may get some curve balls thrown at me."

Every day of the year, a West Point Band performance is

happening somewhere or the band's musical components rehearse to prepare for their next performance.

Music is often chosen in support of a concert theme. It may be selected by a guest artist who is featured with the band.

The music may be received months in advance, or it may arrive very close to the performance date. It takes a seasoned professional to learn complex music on a moment's notice and make it sound polished. Porter enjoys this aspect of his job in the band.

"Performing with the level of musicians we have in the West Point Band teaches me something every day," Porter said. "We have some of the best performers in the world in our ensembles."

The high caliber of musicians is often what attracts people to audition for the band, but a steady paycheck in an uncertain economy is equally attractive.

Porter observed that "there is a lot of competition at auditions. Job security for orchestras is nowhere close to what it used to be."

Before his job in the West Point Band, Porter was a civilian freelance musician, often logging a 70-hour work week as a performer and music teacher.

"As a performing musician, you very often have to balance freelance jobs, private lessons and other sources of income to make ends meet," Porter said. "The West Point Band presented the perfect opportunity—a full-time job as a performer. Very few musicians have the stability and peace of mind provided to us."

Castleman, the lead trumpet player in the Jazz Knights, agrees with Porter about the job security.

"Full-time jobs for musicians are dwindling," Castleman, who came to the West Point Band in 2008 after seven years in the Air Force, said. "The best part of my job is sitting back and listening to the great players we have in the band. I really enjoy listening to the improvised solos in the Jazz Knights."

Herndon has been a clarinetist in the Concert Band since 1998. After receiving a master's degree in clarinet performance in 1995, he joined the Army as a bandsperson and was stationed with the 296th Army Band at Camp Zama in Japan.

A year-and-a-half later he auditioned for the West Point Band, based on a recommendation from his undergraduate clarinet professor, a West Point Band alumnus.

Herndon, like many members of the band, was attracted to the West Point Band's "stabilized" assignment.



**Name:** MSG Susan Davidson  
**Component:** Support Staff  
**Position:** Operations Chief  
**Years at West Point:** 12  
**Instrument:** French horn  
**Education:** BM, performance and education, Ball State; MM, performance, Ithaca College



**Name:** SSG John Castleman  
**Component:** Jazz Knights  
**Years at West Point:** 2  
**Position:** Trumpeter  
**Extra Duties:** JK Librarian  
**Education:** BM, wind performance, Central Washington University; MM, theory and composition, Norfolk State



**Name:** SSG Andrew Porter  
**Component:** Hellcats  
**Position:** Drummer  
**Years at West Point:** 4  
**Extra Duties:** Unit Resource Manager  
**Education:** BM, Western Kentucky University; MM, percussion performance, LSU



**Name:** SFC Shawn Herndon  
**Component:** Concert Band  
**Position:** Clarinetist  
**Years at West Point:** 11  
**Extra Duties:** CB Operations; Guest Artist Coordinator  
**Education:** BM, performance, Southern Methodist University; MM performance, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory

The West Point Band is made up of three musical components—the Hellcats, the Concert band and the Jazz Knights. Four members of the band (above graphic) are a part of the continuing effort that has made the West Point Band an integral part of academy life since 1817.

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF THE WEST POINT BAND

"It's a great gig for a musician and unique in the Army with our permanent duty status here at West Point," Herndon said. "I get extreme enjoyment in playing clarinet for a living. There is an incredible amount of talent throughout the band, and it motivates me to continue to try to improve my skills."

Those skills can often be non-musical, as the band is a self-sustaining organization.

"I was hired to play clarinet," Herndon explained, "and, at the time, I had not given much thought to the new skills the band would help me develop during my career."

"I have been able to grow as a leader while being a part of the football production staff for eight years," he added. "Now, I work in the operations section and as the guest artist coordinator for the Concert Band. These are things I would have never thought of doing when I first got hired."

Porter concurs with Herndon's sentiment.

"I work in resource management,"

Porter said. "I've learned a lot about budgeting and procurement. That's a skill that I probably would have never invested the time and money in to learn outside of the Army."

Notwithstanding the importance of secondary duties, musical excellence remains paramount and the band members are serious about continuously improving their musical skills with individual professional development.

"It's a difficult task to keep each area working smoothly, but time management helps," Herndon said. "I continue to further develop my musical skills, and try to move onto the next plateau through practice and professional studies."

Porter added, "There must be a good balance between what you are hired to do as a musician and extra duties. It can take over and make you feel burned out. However, it's good to have a variety of challenges, but you also have to know when to step away and leave it for another day."

Castleman notes that the goal is

to merge the musician mindset with a military lifestyle.

"As musicians, we're right-brained people thrust into a left-brained environment," Castleman said. "The challenge is to collectively find a balance between the different types of personalities in the band."

Ultimately, it is the opportunity to be part of a world-class musical organization that makes a job in the West Point Band special.

"I have gotten enjoyment from the varied type of performances we do, whether it's as a soloist with the Concert Band, in a review for the alumni or in a shared performance with the New York Philharmonic," Herndon said.

Davidson added, "I enjoy being able to observe the growth of the band. The enlisted personnel assume a great responsibility for the band's direction, and it's rewarding to be a part of that as it moves forward."

For more information about the band, go to [www.westpoint.edu/band](http://www.westpoint.edu/band). Also, look for the new frequently asked questions page.

# Third annual Hog Wild Party was bunches of fun

Story and photos by  
Kathy Eastwood  
Staff Writer

The Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation sponsored the third annual Hog Wild Party Aug 15 at Round Pond. Although it was very hot and humid and the event appeared not to be as popular as last year, participants still had fun as they sampled culinary pleasures such as roasted pig, hamburgers and corn-on-the-cob and enjoyed the music offerings of the Brian Tice Band.

"We sold 165 tickets," Sheryl Miller, Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers/Special events coordinator, said. "We did have a lot of people stop and ask us about the new paintball mega arena. This is new this year and will be up Aug. 28 for the (Military) Appreciation Day event. We had 11 people participate in the paintball games."

Included in the festivities were blind rowboat races, in which the rower wears a blindfold and another person acts as navigator, and the ever-popular mechanical bull ride.

"This is a lot of fun," 10-year-old Brian Iveson said of the bull ride. This was the first time Iveson was on a bull, mechanical or otherwise.

Other activities included the popular BOSS Texas Hold 'em tournament, swimming and volleyball.

All proceeds from the event are given back to FMWR for future events.



Jasmine Bowley, 9, tries her best to keep on the mechanical bull at the third annual Hog Wild Party sponsored by FMWR at Round Pond Aug 15.



A Texas Hold 'em tournament was one of the festivities at the FMWR sponsored third annual Hog Wild Party held at Round Pond Aug 15. Other festivities included paintball, blind rowboat races, moon bounce for children, swimming, pig roast and the mechanical bull ride.

# Space travel like an old hat for USMA graduate

By Kathy Eastwood  
Staff Writer

Retired Col. Patrick Forrester, Class of 1979, is making his third trip to the International Space Station Tuesday with six other astronauts aboard the space shuttle Discovery as a mission specialist.

The 13-day mission will deliver the Leonardo Multi-Purpose Logistics Module, a pressurized moving van, to the ISS along with science and storage racks, a sleeping compartment and the (Stephen) Colbert treadmill, according to [www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov).

The mission includes dropping off astronaut Nicole Stott—her first space flight—to the ISS and picking up flight engineer Col. Tim Kopra, Class of 1985, who has been on the ISS since July 15.

After being dropped off, Stott will stay at the ISS until November when the next shuttle mission is due to fly to the space station.

Forrester, who has accumulated 13 hours and 37 minutes of Extra Vehicular Activity or spacewalk time in two missions, will not take any spacewalks this trip.

"I will be sitting on the flight deck and assisting the three astronauts who are replacing experiments outside the space station," Forrester said during a phone interview Aug. 13. "I will also operate the robotic arms and assist with re-entry (into Earth's atmosphere)."

The remarkable thing about Forrester's third trip into space is that he wasn't even thinking about becoming an astronaut while he was a cadet.

During his cadet years, he was more interested in the military training than academics.

"I was a captain before I got the bug to become an astronaut," Forrester said. "I was influenced by Bob Stewart (the first Army astronaut and one of two astronauts who walked in space untethered in February 1984), but realized I needed to go to graduate school."

Forrester said he always wanted a military career, but didn't think about academics before deciding to become an astronaut.

He received a Master of Science degree in mechanical and aerospace engineering from the University of Virginia in 1989 and was assigned to NASA at the Johnson Space Center as an aerospace engineer in July 1993.

Forrester said he enjoys the spacewalks because it's such an incredible view.

"When you are outside, you get the sense of velocity because you are viewing such a panorama of space," he said. "Some astronauts get the feeling of falling, but I feel that I'm in my own little space craft with the suit, and the view is spectacular."

**"I think what I got out of the military in (the form of) discipline and leadership was helpful in becoming an astronaut ..."**

**— Retired Col. Patrick Forrester, who is making his third space trip.**

Forrester enjoys what he does for a living and feels his military career as an Army aviator, instructor pilot, platoon leader and assault helicopter battalion operations officer helped prepare him to become an astronaut.

"I think what I got out of the military in (the form of) discipline and leadership was helpful in becoming an astronaut," he said. "As an astronaut, (we are disciplined) and we are always training in simulations for flights—it's the same thing."

After graduation from West Point, Forrester entered the U.S. Army Aviation School at Fort Rucker, Ala., in 1979 and was designated an Army aviator in 1980.

He graduated from the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School and became an experimental test pilot in 1992.

As a Master Army Aviator, Forrester has logged more than 4,000 hours in more than 50 different aircraft, according to [www.space.com](http://www.space.com).

Forrester has received many distinguished awards to include the Jack Northrop Award from the Society of Experimental Test Pilots



**Retired Col. Patrick Forrester, Class of 1979, is set to make his third trip to the International Space Station Tuesday aboard the space shuttle Discovery.**

NASA PHOTO

Symposium, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center Certificate of Commendation, NASA Space Flight Medal and the Order of St. Michael.

# Cadets and staff take EMT-Basic course

Story and photos by  
Sgt. Vincent Fusco  
Directorate of Communications

Three weeks ago, about 45 cadets and at least one active duty Soldier began learning how to save lives on the battlefield beyond combat lifesaver and Soldier first responder techniques during an Emergency Medical Technician–Basic certification class.

This class was the second held this year, and the fifth to date working with the Hudson Valley Regional Emergency Medical Services Council, Master Sgt. Edwin Gargas, S-3 operations non-commissioned officer and military coordinator for the EMT-Basic training, said.

The course usually runs for about four-to-six months, but those who took the certification process at West Point completed it over 17 10-hour days. Just about every day covered a different module of EMT lifesaving skills, and nearly every day contained a practical skills evaluation.

“It’s a pretty fast-paced course,” Yearling David Johnston said. “It covers a lot of the same stuff you do in Army first aid and CLS, but it goes a lot deeper on some of the stuff. We also got exposed to much of the advanced life-support stuff throughout the course.”

Four class lecturers and 10 laboratory instructors taught the students while another 20 instructors evaluated their skills on the final practical exam, Nelson Machado, quality improvement coordinator for the EMS Council, said. State-certified instructors pushed the students fiercely in helping them learn the correct lifesaving process in each module.

“There’s a very defined order to do things to make sure you get everything (correct),” Johnston said. “The way that they (teach us), it’s (done that way) so you don’t miss anything and you remember all those little details as you’re practicing it. You basically know right away without having to think about it.”

The students are taught seven modules that include how to check for vital signs, care for trauma patients and basic pharmacology in addition to performing cardiopulmonary



**Second Lt. Andrew Lee, an operations officer in the West Point G-3 office, assesses and calms a patient at the site of a vehicular accident during his Emergency Medical Technician–Basic training ride-along.**

resuscitation.

Setting up the certifications at West Point was a long process for the council, as it had to coordinate with a training subcommittee to receive authorization to run the program and ask committee members to provide the trainers, which made the training a region-wide endeavor.

“It was something our office had to coordinate with other entities in order to satisfy the requirements of the military academy,” Machado said, “(and) also the requirements that the New York State Department of Health has for an EMS program.”

Before taking the final exam, each student spent one 12-hour shift working with a team of EMTs and paramedics in the Hudson Valley to observe and practice their knowledge during real medical emergencies.

While controlled practical exercises in the classroom have no lives at stake, the calls in the field put the students in the middle of a precarious decision-making process.

Each situation requires a different approach based on what they learned in the classroom.

For 2nd Lt. Andrew Lee, a recent West Point graduate currently working as an operations officer in the G-3 office, the fast pace of the compressed classroom instruction was the preparation he needed to achieve a level of confidence in the field.

“I think (that amount of pressure) actually got me ready for this,” Lee said. “It’s easy to read the book and go through the motions, but with the pressure in the classroom and labs, it helped me and (improved) my potential.”

One of the calls Lee’s team responded to was a vehicular accident with two trauma patients. Lee responded quickly and took their vital signs, checked their airway, breathing and circulation, and performed a rapid trauma assessment to look for life-threatening injuries.

“I took my assessment using what I learned in class and (helped) transport them rapidly to the hospital,” Lee said. “I used my trauma assessment skills I learned from both the textbook and the laboratory.”

Lieutenant Richard Greer, of Medic Station 5 in West Nyack, worked with many of the students on their ride-alongs, and he said that the students were of great assistance and did very well with their patient assessments and field training.

“They’re very fast learners,” Greer said. “They’re a great asset to have with us, between the patient assessment and helping get the patients out of their homes to the ambulances, and I think they’re learning a lot by having the patient contact in the field instead of just the classroom experience.”

The greatest benefit from the class is the knowledge base the students gain when they become certified EMTs.

Lee, who is expecting to deploy with a Fort Bragg, N.C., unit next year, wanted to know these skills when he and his Soldiers will need them the most.

“I wanted to make sure that I was a competent leader and could take care of my troops, and didn’t always (have to) rely on my medic or combat lifesaver,” Lee said. “Leading by example is what I learned at West Point, and that’s what I want to do.”

Upon passing their exams, the students receive a CPR certification card, as well as a National Registry certificate and a New York State Department of Health certificate. Their New York state EMT certification will be valid for three years and their national certification will be valid for two years.

Gargas is looking forward to working with the council again to hold two more EMT-Basic certification classes next year.

The goal is to train more Soldiers and cadets as EMTs, Gargas said, who could potentially save lives on the battlefield.



**Second Lt. Andrew Lee, an operations officer in the West Point G-3 office, assists in transporting a patient from the scene of a vehicular accident.**

# Cadet Sport Parachute team trains new members

Submitted by the  
Cadet Sport Parachute team

This summer the West Point Sport Parachute team trained its newest members in preparation for their next three years as Black Knight jumpers.

The student training program, newly designed this year, combined necessary accelerated free fall training for the new members

and an experience of "in extremis leadership" for the team's firsties.

Over the course of three weeks, each of the 12 yearlings completed an average of 45 free-fall jumps and met all of the requirements for their United States Parachute Association "A" (skydiving) license.

The coaching and instruction from noncommissioned officer coaches, officer representatives and 10 firsties helped the yearlings obtain their licenses.

In some cases, the NCOs and officers had to get additional certifications to conduct the training.

The team conducted operations on four different drop zones, jumping the first time in Geneseo with the support of the New York National Guard (Det. 1, Co. B, 3-126th Aviation) who provided lift capability with a CH-47 Chinook.

The team also received extensive support from the 2nd Aviation Detachment, skydiving instructors from the Special Operations Command, from MacDill Air



**A firstie coach jumps out of a CH-47 Chinook with a yearling student over Geneseo Airport.**

Force Base and the Silver Wings Parachute Demonstration Team, from Ft. Benning, Ga.

After collectively making more

than 1,300 jumps during summer training, the Black Knights will continue to perform parachute demonstrations at cadet reviews

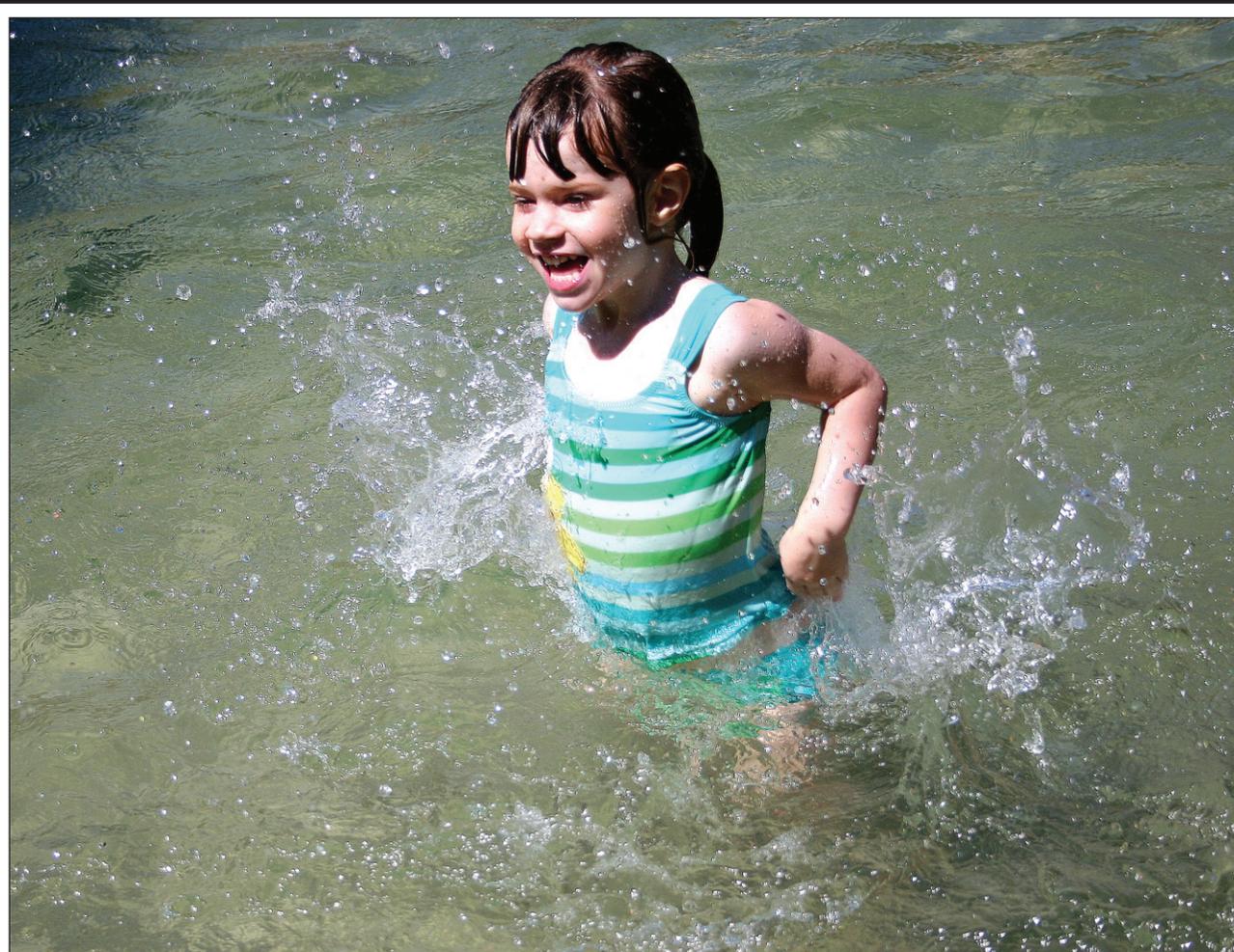
and Army football games during the 2009-10 academic year.

The team looks forward to a very successful jumping season.



**A yearling student makes a diving exit out of the CH-47 Chinook over Geneseo Airport.**

PHOTOS BY FIRSTIE ARTHUR MURPHY



## Splish, splash summer fun

Three-year-old Ashley Bodenhamer enjoys a nice splash around at Delafield Pond Aug 14. The children don't have much more time to play in the pond. School started Monday and Delafield, which opened for the season June 12, is closing on Labor Day, signaling the end of the summer season.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV



# Black and Gold awardees

The Black and Gold Volunteer Awards Ceremony was held Aug. 12 at the Army Community Service building. This month's recipients standing next to Garrison Commander Col. Dan Bruno are (from left to right) Maj. Chad DeBos, Ann Buchanan, Command Sgt. Maj. Cal Christensen, Joy Chalmers, Deanna Grande, Patti McCarthy, Melissa Prosperie, Donna Nadola, Col. Fred Meyer and Robert Rasmussen. The volunteer of the month was Ann Buchanan for her service with the West Point Women's Club as parliamentarian and service projects coordinator.

VINNIE GUARIGLIA/DPTMS VID

# ACS providing respite care

Submitted by  
Army Community Service

Respite Care is a program set up to provide a temporary rest period for Family members who are responsible for the regular care of an exceptional Family member. Eligibility is based on Exceptional Family Member Program enrollment and the exceptional Family member's medical or educational condition.

This is an opportunity for Families at West Point to indulge in a much needed break, a reprieve from the continuous and stressful demands of caring for an exceptional Family member.

Enrollment in the EFMP is mandatory if a Family has a special needs Family member. The EFMP was not established to deter a Soldier's career, but rather as an aid to support Soldiers and their Families while meeting the Army's mission to fulfill assignments.

Sharon Fields, Respite Care Program Manager of the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Center here, announced that the Respite Care Program has received \$8.2 million in supplemental funds.

"Our primary goal is to ensure consistency and continuity of our respite care program, regardless of where our Soldiers and Families are located," Fields said.

The Army Community Service staff is required to use the Family Services Needs Matrix to determine the number of allowable respite care hours and cost per month.

The matrix is updated annually or when a disabled Family member's condition changes, whichever comes first.

For qualified Families, ACS will subsidize up to 40 hours of care per month for each eligible Family member. Families are free to choose their own respite care provider as long as the providers meet the requirements set forth by the Army.

If a Family does not have a provider in mind, care can be provided from ACS' central contractor, Align Staffing Respite Care Network. Families may choose whether care is provided in the EFM's home or in another setting such as special needs camps and enrichment programs. The paramount concern is the Families comfort and peace of mind.

Brig. Gen. Al Aycock, deputy commanding general of Installation Management Command, said that it is important to ensure that the Army's EFMP Respite Care Program is well run as part of the Army Family Covenant and that the Army gets the word out to Families who need it.

Caring for a child or adult with special needs is a full-time commitment and duty. The Army values the tremendous efforts put forth by Soldiers and Families.

West Point's Respite Program is a chance to enrich the quality of life for our EFMP Families. Therefore, ACS is firmly committed to providing all eligible Families access to fundamental, flexible respite care.

For more information about the program, call Josephine Toohey at 938-5655.

# Annual customer service assessment begins Monday

Submitted by Customer Management Services

Beginning Monday, community members are asked to provide feedback about the services and programs provided on the West Point installation.

All Soldiers, Family members, civilian workers, contractors, retirees, veterans and community leaders are invited and encouraged to take a brief online survey at [www.myarmyvoice.org](http://www.myarmyvoice.org) sometime between Monday-Sept. 18.

The survey asks customers to rate service or program performance on a scale of 1 (very poor) to 5 (excellent) and importance on a

scale of 1 (not important) to 5 (very important).

Customers will also be asked to provide comments to explain their ratings. Responses to demographic information at the beginning of the survey will direct respondents to the services that are relevant to them.

"This is a great opportunity for community members to directly impact how services are provided at West Point," Christina Overstreet, West Point Customer Service Officer, said. "The information we collect will be used to improve services, and will ultimately impact quality of life for the

West Point community."

Overstreet oversees the installation's Customer Management Services program, which was designed to capture the "Voice of the Customer."

The Installation Management Command's CMS program conducts the annual survey, which was carried out for the first time last fall, and more than 20,000 Soldiers, Family members, retirees, veterans,

civilians and contractors provided input.

All are encouraged to get their voices heard by completing the survey.

"We need a large segment of the West Point community to provide feedback in order for us to consider the information accurate and useful," Overstreet said.

Last year, only 441 West Point community members took the

survey. Overstreet said it "limited our confidence that the information collected was accurate, particularly when we tried to examine results by constituency."

Results from the survey will be shared with the community and published later this year.

For more information, contact Christina Overstreet at 938-0627 or e-mail her at [christina.overstreet@usma.edu](mailto:christina.overstreet@usma.edu).

## NOW SHOWING

in the movie theater at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

**Friday -- Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.**

**Saturday -- Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs, PG, 7:30 p.m.**

**Saturday -- Public Enemies, R, 9:30 p.m.**

**Aug. 28 -- G-Force, PG, 7:30 p.m.**

**Aug. 29 -- Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince, PG, 7:30 p.m.**

THE THEATER SCHEDULE ALSO CAN BE FOUND AT [WWW.AAFES.COM](http://WWW.AAFES.COM).

## Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

## Command Channel 8/23

Aug. 20-27

Army Newswatch  
(broadcast times)

Thursday-Friday, Monday-Wednesday  
and Aug. 27

8:30 a.m., 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

# What's Happening

## PWOC Open House

The Protestant Women of the Chapel welcomes all women from West Point and the surrounding communities to come learn about opportunities for Bible study and spiritual ministry at the annual PWOC Open House from 7-9 p.m. today at the Post Chapel on Biddle Loop.

## New CDC groundbreaking

Members of the West Point community are invited to the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Child Development Center at 3:30 p.m. Monday at the grass field behind the FMWR Fitness Center.

Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the ceremony.

## Sales associate needed

The Daughters of the United States Army Gift Shop has a vacancy for a sales associate.

Applications are available at the gift shop, which is located inside the West Point Museum.

## Manhole rehabilitation

Rehabilitation work on 55 sanitary sewer manholes by a Directorate of Public Works contractor is ongoing. The majority of the work is within the manhole and in the area immediately around it.

No excavations and minimal impact to the community are expected. Any traffic flow restrictions caused by the equipment used will be addressed by flag people in the area.

The planned work schedule is:

- Through Friday—Cadet area;

- Monday-Aug. 28—Housing areas.

For more information, contact Bob Cadiz at 938-5049.

## Summer Sunset Cruise

Join the West Point Women's Club for a Sunset Cruise from 6-8 p.m. Monday. Newcomers and current members are all welcome.

The Superintendent's Boat will leave South Dock at 6 p.m. and return at 8 p.m.

Potential new and current members are welcome. Light refreshments and wine will be served.

Space is limited, so please RSVP to [wpwcreserve@hotmail.com](mailto:wpwcreserve@hotmail.com).

## PWOC Kickoff

Join the Protestant Women of the Chapel's 2009-10 kickoff from 8:45-11 a.m. Wednesday at the Post Chapel on Biddle Loop.

The theme for this year is "Arise for the Lord Extends His Scepter."

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Child care is provided, but space is limited. To register children, contact Teki Snel at 446-5920

If you have any questions, contact Maureen Batchelder at 446-6581.

Regular Bible studies begin at 8:45-11 a.m. Sept. 2 and 7-9 p.m. Sept. 3.

## MCCW welcome program

The Military Council Catholic Women welcome program takes place at 7 p.m. Sept. 3 at the Most Holy Trinity Rectory.

Come meet other Catholic women of the parish and greet the new pastor, Monsignor Brian Donahue.

Learn more about MCCW's programs and apostolates for 2009-10.

For more information, call 446-5140.

## Wounded Warrior Fall Family Retreat

The second annual Wounded Warrior Fall Family Camping Retreat is planned for Sept. 18-20 at Moreau Lake State Park hosted by STRIDE Adaptive Sports, which piloted

the program last year.

STRIDE is searching for locally-based Wounded Warriors who would be interested in participating this year.

To learn more about this event, e-mail Katie at [kmoshier@stride.org](mailto:kmoshier@stride.org) or contact the STRIDE office at 518-598-1279.

## Volunteer facilitators needed

The Professional Military Ethic Education program of the Simon Center for the Professional Military Ethic is looking for volunteer facilitators.

Lesson plans and resources are provided for each class, and preparatory sessions for facilitators are conducted one week before each class.

Classes take place one-to-three times per month during the Commandant's Hour, 12:50-1:45 p.m.

For more information, contact Maj. Chad DeBos at 938-3028 or [chad.debos@usma.edu](mailto:chad.debos@usma.edu).

## Religious education

The West Point community is invited to attend religious education classes at the Catholic Chapel. Classes are for 4-year-olds through adults and begin Sept. 13.

Most classes will be held 9-10:30 a.m. Sundays on the third floor of Thayer Hall.

The pre-K class will meet 9-10 a.m. Sundays in the chapel's Cloister Room.

Registration is underway at the Religious Education Office in the Cloister Room. Catechists are still needed.

For more information, contact Cindy Ragsdale at 938-8761 or [cynthia.ragsdale@usma.edu](mailto:cynthia.ragsdale@usma.edu).

## Protestant Religious Education

All are welcome to attend Sunday morning religious education, starting Sept. 13 at Thayer Hall (3rd Floor, River Side).

Children's classes (nursery through high school) are taught by a select group of highly-motivated cadets. Adult classes are also available. The group is also looking for a new officer-in-charge this year.

Contact Eric Bryan at 938-4369/3412 or [eric.bryan@usma.edu](mailto:eric.bryan@usma.edu) for more information and to register.

## FAST class

A Functional Academic Skills Training class will be held from 12:30-4:30 p.m. Sept. 14-30 at the Army Education Center.

This class strengthens skills needed to improve the General Technical score on the

Armed Forces Classification Test.

For more information, contact Neil at 938-5389 or Nancy at 938-3464.

## Military Community Youth Ministries (Young Life) Adult Committee

Join our group of adults who gather to pray and plan for our chapel's ministry to junior high/high school teenagers and local staff.

Contact Eric Bryan for more information at 938-4369/3412 or [eric.bryan@usma.edu](mailto:eric.bryan@usma.edu).

## Eagle Scout project

An Eagle Scout project is underway to salvage landscaping materials from Stony Lonesome I housing area after current residents move out.

West Point residents who would like landscaping timbers, fencing, patio pavers or plants or who would like to help with the project can contact Dax Gerber at [eagledax1@hotmail.com](mailto:eagledax1@hotmail.com).

## Legal education program

The Office of The Judge Advocate General is accepting applications for the Army's Funded Legal Education Program.

The Army projects sending up to 25 active duty officers to law school, at government expense, if funding permits. Selected officers will attend law school beginning in the fall of 2010 and will remain on active duty while attending law school.

Interested officers should review Chapter 14, AR 27-1 (The Judge Advocate General's Funded Legal Education Program) to determine their eligibility.

This program is open to second lieutenants through captains. Applicants must have at least two but not more than six years of total active Federal service at the time training begins.

Those interested in applying should immediately register for the earliest offering of the Law School Admission Test.

Applicants must send their request through command channels, to include the officer's branch manager at Human Resources Command, with a copy furnished to the Office of The Judge Advocate General, ATTN: DAJA-PT (Yvonne Caron-10th Floor), 1777 North Kent Street, Rosslyn, VA 22209-2194.

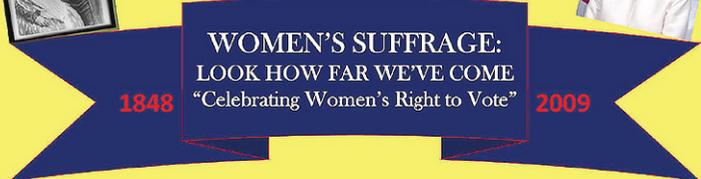
The application copy should be received before Nov. 1. Submission of the application well in advance of the deadline is advised.

Interested should contact the USMA Office of the Staff Judge Advocate for further information at 938-3205.



## WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

### 26 AUGUST 2009



**WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE:**  
LOOK HOW FAR WE'VE COME  
"Celebrating Women's Right to Vote"

**Guest Speaker: Ms. Debra Zedalis, Director, Pacific Region**

<p><b>Who:</b> All West Point Civilian and Military Personnel</p> <p><b>What:</b> Women's Equality Day Luncheon and Observance</p> <p><b>When:</b> 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Aug. 26, West Point Club Grand Ball Room (program begins at 11:45)</p>	<p><b>** Call one of the below for ticket prices **</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•MAJ Burger (USCC) x5966</li> <li>•CPT McSwain (D/HIS) x7348</li> <li>•MSG Goldsmith (SCPME) x8456</li> <li>•Ms. Jollota (DCA) x4681</li> <li>•Ms. Parker (Bldg 695) x4147</li> <li>•EO/EEO Office (Bldg 667A) x2621/4478/8193</li> </ul> <p>Cadets may sign up at the USCC homepage.</p>
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# FMWR Blurbs

## Quarterback Luncheon

Quarterback Luncheon tickets are on sale now at the West Point Club.

For more information, call 938-5120.

## Family Child Care Program

The Family Child Care Program is offering care for children ages 6 weeks to 12 years. Many childcare options are available.

For more information, call Elizabeth Peralta at 938-6170.

## ACS Employment Readiness Summer Class Schedule

There is a Medical Transcription information session at 10-11:30 a.m. Friday.

All classes will be held at ACS, Bldg. 622.

To register, call 938-5658.

## FMWR Fitness Center Sampler Day

The FMWR Fitness Center Sampler Day starts at 8 a.m. Saturday. Come and try all or any of the group fitness classes.

Each class is 15 minutes long and is free. For more information, call 938-6490.

## Sunday Breakfast

The West Point Club Sunday breakfast is back from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. every Sunday.

There is an all-new breakfast menu.

For more information, call 938-5120.

## ACS Relocation Program

The ACS Relocation Program will host a Newcomer's Orientation and Welcome briefing and West Point tour from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday.

Newly arrived Soldiers and Families are invited to attend this event, which provides a variety of information and includes the following:

- Tuesday—visit to Constitution Island and boat ride;

- Wednesday—learn how to use the train to get to New York City and navigate the subway system.

Advanced registration is required.

For more information, call 938-3487/4621.

## Child care for home football games

The West Point Child Development Center is offering child care for Army home football games (fees apply).

Reservations are required 10 days before game day. The first home game is Sept. 12.

For more information, call 938-3921.

## West Point Military Appreciation Day

West Point Military Appreciation Day takes place from 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Aug. 28 at Round Pond.

Enjoy a barbeque from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. and other activities including basketball, volleyball and a paintball (reball) tournament.

For more information, call 938-6497.

## Samuel Adams tasting

There is a Samuel Adams beer tasting at the West Point Club's Pierce Dining Room, 6-9 p.m. Aug. 28.

Enjoy an evening of light snacks and sample a fine assortment of Sam Adams beers.

A dinner menu is available at an additional charge.

For more information, call 938-5120.

## West Point Golf Course Club Championship

The West Point Golf Course Championship takes place Sept. 5-7.

The championship is open to everyone. Register now through Sept. 3.

For more information, call 938-2435.

## West Point Golf Course specials

The West Point Golf Course is offering late summer/early fall specials.

- There is a 15 percent discount on green fees between 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday;

- A Lunch and Drive Special Tuesday-Thursday where if you spend \$5 or more on lunch at the Golf Course, you receive a free small bucket of balls;

- Veterans receive preferential guest rates at a savings both weekdays and weekends;

- Buy a 10-Play general public punch-pass for the price of eight.

For more information, especially about pricing, call the West Point Golf Course at 938-2435.

## Bid sale

The FMWR Services Division is holding a sealed bid sale of a 1995 Astro Van (51,000 miles), sold in "as is" condition.

The sale period is from Tuesday-Aug. 28. The vehicle is available for viewing at West Point Auto Shop (Bldg. 648).

For more information, call 938-3926.

## ACS Respite Care Program

ACS subsidizes up to 40 hours of respite care per month for each eligible Family member.

The program is designed to provide a break for Families who are responsible for the regular care of an exceptional Family member.

Eligibility is based on Exceptional Family Member Program enrollment and the exceptional Family member's medical or educational condition.

Families are free to choose their own respite care provider as long as they meet the requirements set forth by the Army.

If you do not have a provider in mind, you can select one from ACS' central contractor, Align Staffing Respite Care Network.

Care may be provided in the EFM's home or in another setting such as special needs camps and enrichment programs.

For more information, call Josephine Toohey at 938-5655 or e-mail [josephine.toohey@us.army.mil](mailto:josephine.toohey@us.army.mil).

## Auto Safety Training

Auto Safety Training is mandatory for all self-help patrons at the West Point Auto Shop.

Training sessions are held Wednesday through Saturday 30 minutes after opening.

This training is free and will cover lift safety, shop safety and proper disposal of fluids and includes a tour of the shop and overview of shop rules.

For more information, call 938-2074.

## Discount oil change

Oil changes are available while you wait that include up to five quarts of conventional 5W/30 or 10W/30 motor oil and most standard filters.

Special oils and filters are available at an

additional cost.

Call the Auto Shop for details and pricing at 938-2074.

## Crisis line

Soldiers and their Families can receive up to 12 free, face-to-face, short-term counseling sessions through the Military One Source Crisis Line.

For more information, call 800-342-9647. A Spanish line is available at 877-888-0727.

For more information, visit [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com).

## Running group

The six-week fall session begins 9 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays through Sept. 25 and starts at South Dock.

Begin with one minute or one mile. Bring your running shoes, water bottle and the will to improve your run. Strollers are welcome.

The class is lead by Group Certified Fitness Instructor Kristine Hays.

For more information and to sign up call 859-4965.

## EFMP Expo

The Exceptional Family Member Program Expo and information conference to help support EFMP Families' needs is Sept. 15.

Topics include basic education rights and responsibilities, transitioning with special needs, a Tricare/Echo brief, and wills, guardianships and special needs trusts.

Lunch and childcare will be provided.

Advance registration is required. Log on to [www.westpointmwr.com](http://www.westpointmwr.com), click on the Army Community Service drop-down menu and select the EFMP Web page link.

For more information, call Josephine Toohey at 938-5655 or email [josephine.toohey@us.army.mil](mailto:josephine.toohey@us.army.mil).

## Ballroom dancing

Ballroom dance classes are being offered from 6:30-7:30 p.m. starting Sept. 15.

The classes run every Tuesday for six weeks through Oct. 20. Couples and singles are welcome.

To register, call ITR at 938-2401 with a credit card on hand, or stop by ITR at 695 Buckner Loop.

For questions concerning the class content, call the instructor at (914) 489-1444.

## Babysitting class

A babysitting class will be offered for adolescents ages 12 and up from noon-6 p.m. Sept. 20 and 4-8 p.m. Sept. 28-29.

Teens must attend all classes to receive certification.

Contact Kim Tague at 938-3921 to register.

## Triathlon training group

A women's triathlon training group meets through Aug. 30 to prepare for the Diamond Girl New York All-Women's Sprint Triathlon at Harriman State Park/Lake Sebago.

The group is led by Certified Personal Trainer Dana White.

For more information, including fee to participate, e-mail [teamwhitefitness@gmail.com](mailto:teamwhitefitness@gmail.com) or call the FMWR Fitness Center at 938-6490.

## Instructors needed

Certified Spinning and Body Pump instructors are needed at the FMWR Fitness Center. Hours are flexible.

Contact Rita Tenuta 845-446-3630 or [tenuta06@yahoo.com](mailto:tenuta06@yahoo.com).

## BBC LifeWorks events

### Tour of Fort Putnam

Balfour Beatty Communities invites students to visit Fort Putnam from 10:30 a.m.-noon Friday. It's an educational tour of Fort Putnam where you can see most of West Point and the surrounding Hudson River Valley. Refreshments will be provided. RSVP by Monday.

### Back-to-School Essay Contest

Calling all children and parents to submit their First Day of School stories and pictures. It can be about your first day starting school, your first time in a new school or pictures of being reunited with your classmates. All age groups are welcome to enter. There will be two winners who will receive a backpack full of school supplies. Enter by Aug. 28.

For more information on all BBC LifeWorks events, call Jodi Gellman at 446-6407.

## Keller Corner

### Blood Drive

Hudson Valley Blood Services will be conducting a blood drive from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Aug. 27 at Eisenhower Hall, fourth floor ballroom.

Walk-ins are always welcome. However, appointments to donate whole blood, for convenience purposes, can be made by calling Mary Mandia at 938-2583.

### Refractive Surgery Seminar

The Keller Army Community Hospital ophthalmology service is conducting a Refractive Surgery Seminar from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Sept. 1 in Robinson Auditorium.

This seminar is open to cadets (firsties and coveys) and active duty Army personnel interested in obtaining laser vision correction.

Find out how laser surgery works, the pros and cons of surgery and how to get treated here. For more information, call the ophthalmology clinic at 938-2207.

### Suicide prevention is everyone's business

To find a Behavioral Health provider:

- North Region: 877-747-9579;

- West Region: 866-651-4970;

- South Region: 877-298-3514.

24-hour crisis/suicide assistance line:

- North Region: 800-273-Talk (8255);

- West Region: 866-284-3743;

- South Region: 904-254-2313.

The Veteran's Administration and national suicide prevention life line is 800-273-8255.

Military One Source suicide prevention life line is 800-342-9647.

## TSP TICKER

### AUGUST share prices (as of 8/17)

C Fund	—	-0.34	(11.5220)
S Fund	—	-0.62	(14.2513)
I Fund	—	-0.35	(16.4839)

# Coaching, leadership ready to take Army to next level

Story and photos by  
Eric S. Bartelt  
Editor

*(Editor's note: This is the first of a three-part series on the 2009 Army football team leading up to the team's season opener Sept. 5 at Eastern Michigan. This week's feature focuses on the new coach and team leadership.)*

## 2009 Army Football Season Preview — Part I

At an institution that prides itself on producing leaders of character, strong individuals who can endure many obstacles and pressures at the same time and nearly 1,000 new officers a year to help win on the battlefield, it's hard for West Point's throng to swallow that same pride while enduring 12-straight losing seasons on the gridiron.

Football is not the be all, end all of West Point's existence, but certainly a win on a fall Saturday afternoon changes the attitude of many and makes the feel of a crisp, chilly Monday morning around the small military community nestled along the banks of the Hudson a better day.

The search for a change in attitude on the football field, a change in plan that could alter the course of a floundering former

football power lands at the feet of a highly-energetic, passionate, veteran coach—Rich Ellerson.

Ellerson, who has been coaching since his graduate assistant days at the University of Hawaii in 1977, is now in charge of overhauling a football team going through its longest losing stretch in its 120-year history.

To bring Army back to prominence along the college football landscape, Ellerson is bringing the ingredients that made him successful as a head coach at Cal Poly from 2001-08 and defensive coordinator/defensive line coach at the University of Arizona from 1992-95, 1997-2000.

The triple-option offense and the double-eagle flex defense will become a popular part of the West Point vernacular during the next few years under Ellerson's guidance.

The current challenge facing the players is digesting the new terminology and seamlessly turning it into success on the field.

The double-eagle flex is an aggressive, ball-hawking system that values speed and athleticism and plays favorably to the speedy, undersized Army athletes.

The team is transitioning on both sides of the ball while undertaking an unprecedented change in position moves.

However, Ellerson has viewed



Army football team captains Firstie Victor Ugenyi (left), Cow Stephen Anderson and Firstie Ali Villanueva are hoping to lead Army to its first winning season since 1996.

their transition in a positive light, especially Firsties defensive tackle Victor Ugenyi and wide receiver Ali Villanueva.

"They have made some great gains during the spring and they've continued to evolve physically into the summer," Ellerson said. "Victor (Ugenyi) is a slight move (from defensive end to defensive tackle) because he hasn't moved that far, but, frankly, we're taking advantage of things he's done in the past.

"He's not experiencing a whole lot of newness, although it's a slightly different place in the lineup, but we're asking him to do a lot of the same things he has done—nothing like what Ali (Villanueva) has gone through," Ellerson added.

Villanueva's exploits have been well-chronicled over the past five months since his change from offensive tackle to wide receiver. He already had the tallest offensive lineman moniker in college football last year, but now he takes it to new heights by being the tallest and heaviest—a svelte 280 pounds—receiver in the NCAA.

"What Ali is doing is kind of unheard of and that may have happened once in my lifetime where you take an offensive tackle and make him a wide receiver," Ellerson said. "But, I'm encouraged, it's an experiment but I'm encouraged and think it has a chance to have a great impact."

Villanueva may become the face of the new triple-option offense while the team searches for its starting quarterback among Cow Chip Bowden, Firstie Carson Williams, Plebe Trent Steelman and Yearling Max Jenkins.

While Villanueva and Ugenyi get used to their new positions on the field, they are also getting used to being leaders on the team. They, along with Cow linebacker Stephen Anderson, were chosen as the 2009 captains for the team. Their leadership is critical at a time as important as any other in school history. They are critical components for pulling the team up by the helmet straps and leading them to the next level—a winning season.

"It's a great honor to be chosen captain by my teammates," Villanueva said. "I want to live up to all the Army football expectations and standards, and take this team to the next level. I love Army football and it's always going to be a huge part of my life."

Anderson received the nod as captain as a junior even though he missed spring ball because of a hamstring injury. As a yearling, he finished second on the team in tackles with 82, but he's planning to make a bigger impact both on and off the field.

"I'm thankful for the opportunity to not only captain this football team but to represent this academy," Anderson said. "I owe it to my teammates because they respected me enough to name me captain, even though I missed spring ball, so I'm going to do my best to not let them down and get this program turned around and let people know we're a winning team again."

As Anderson spoke about the respect he received from his teammates, the team, as a whole, talked about the respect they have for Ellerson and how the new

coaching staff can lead the team back to a winning record.

"Since day one, I've admired Coach Ellerson," Cow running back Patrick Mealy said. "He's got all of our respect and I think that's a big thing when you come in as a new coach. The team takes in everything he says and we've bought into the system. I'm excited about the season."

Anderson added, "He demands a lot. All his coaches demand a lot from us, especially giving 100 percent. One hundred percent perfect effort is one of our keys to victory. If we give perfect effort and happen to do something wrong, as long as we go 100 percent at full speed, the coaches will get us back to the right place."

Ellerson is highly anticipating the season and sees the schedule as demanding, but reasonable.

As the Sept. 5 season opener approaches, Ellerson is enjoying every moment of the summer practices, knowing that each moment is a building block to a brighter future for his football team.

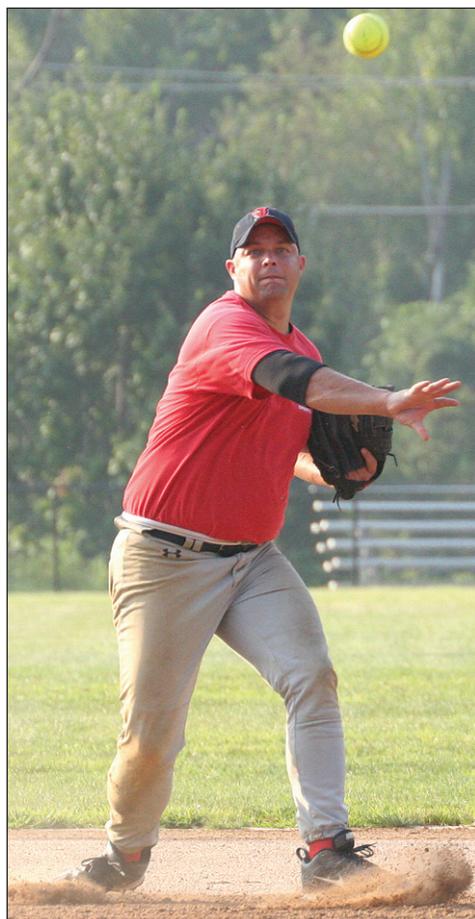
"I love every day. This is another chapter (in our season)," Ellerson said. "This is the first chapter and there is an awful lot of work that has to be done before we can move forward."

"However, if we are who I think we are, if we become who I believe we have a chance to become," he added, "and if we can stay in the moment and take advantage of every opportunity throughout the year, we'll be competitive week in and week out and that's all you can ask for ... if we give ourselves a chance—look out."



Army head football coach Rich Ellerson (right) is in charge of leading the Black Knights back to a winning record after 12 straight losing seasons.

# Top seed MEDDAC earns North title, lower seeds vie for South



MEDDAC shortstop Larry Mack guns out a runner at first base during MEDDAC's 6-2 North Division semifinal Game 1 victory over the Stewart Marines. Mack hit a three-run homer in the first inning of Game 2 to help his team cruise to victory.

PHOTOS BY ERIC S. BARTELT/PV



Stewart Marines left-center fielder Dave DeWitt hit a solo home run in the bottom of the third inning in Game 2 of the North Division semifinal series. The Stewart Marines were eliminated from the playoffs. MEDDAC went on to face the Directorate of Public Works and earned the North Division championship.



MEDDAC pitcher John Gerber held the Stewart Marines' bats in check Monday during MEDDAC's two-game North Division semifinal sweep of the Marines. Gerber gave up only five runs in MEDDAC's 6-2 and 19-4 victories. Gerber also provided a spark at the plate as his two-run single in the bottom of the fifth inning in Game 1 gave MEDDAC a 5-1 cushion, and his leadoff double in Game 2 kicked started MEDDAC to their win.

## Intramural Softball Standings

*\*Playoff results through Tuesday*

**Semifinals in South Division:** #5 CLS/PHYS defeated #1 SOC/HISTORY 2 games to 1, #3 ENGINEERS defeated #2 MATH 1 2 games to 0.

**South Finals:** Wednesday—#3 ENGINEERS vs. #5 CLS/PHYS.

**Semifinals in North Division:** #1 MEDDAC defeated #5 STEWART MARINES 2 games to 0, #3 DPW defeated #7 WTU 2 games to 0,

**North Finals:** #1 MEDDAC defeated #3 DPW 2 games to 0. MEDDAC takes North championship.

## Seven free sports clinics take place this fall

By Tracy Nelson  
Athletic Communications

Seven Army sports teams will host free youth clinics this fall. Open to the public, the Army men's soccer, women's soccer, baseball, hockey, softball, women's basketball and volleyball teams make up a seven-clinic schedule that spans August through October.

Children in eighth grade or younger are invited to attend all clinics, which vary to accommodate skill levels and the size of the clinic.

Detailed information regarding each individual clinic will be announced closer to the event date.

Go to [www.goARMYsports.com](http://www.goARMYsports.com) for clinic updates.

For questions or to register for a clinic, call the Army Marketing Office at 938-0390.

To receive an e-mail with detailed information when it becomes available, call or send an e-mail including your name, e-mail, phone number and sport to Director of Marketing, Elle Nichols, at [ellen.nichols@usma.edu](mailto:ellen.nichols@usma.edu).

Upcoming clinics are (by sport, time, date and location):

- Men's Soccer—5:30-6:30 p.m. Aug. 28 at Clinton Field;
- Women's Soccer—5:30-6:30 p.m. Sept. 8 at Clinton Field;
- Baseball—10-11 a.m. Sept. 20 at Doubleday Field;

- Hockey—8:15-11:45 a.m. Sept. 26 at Tate Rink;
- Softball—9-11 a.m. Sept. 27 at the Army Softball Complex;
- Women's Basketball (Coaches Clinic)—11 a.m.-noon Oct. 17 at Christl Arena;
- Women's Basketball (Kids Clinic)—Noon-1:15 p.m. Oct. 17 at Christl Arena;
- Volleyball—1-2 p.m. Oct. 24 at Gillis Field House.

## Flag Football sign ups

The Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation office is organizing the 2009 Staff and Faculty Flag Football League.

The league is open to all USMA departments and units.

Teams that want to enter should contact James McGuinness at 938-3066 or e-mail him at [Jim.McGuinness@usma.edu](mailto:Jim.McGuinness@usma.edu).

League play starts Sept. 2, so the deadline for team entries is Aug. 28.

Games will be played at Shea Stadium.

## \$99 Season Ticket Contest

**9 weeks, 9 winners ...**

**\$99 Army Football Season Tickets**

**Contest:**

Every Thursday for nine weeks a question will be posted here in the sports section of the Pointer View.

It will also be on the command channels and the Army Black Knights Official Facebook page.

To enter, contestants must send an e-mail to [ticketcontest@usma.edu](mailto:ticketcontest@usma.edu) that includes their name, address and phone number, plus the correct answer to the week's question.

Entries will be accepted until midnight on the Monday of the following week. Every contestant that answers correctly will be entered in the drawing for that week.

Each week, one winner will be drawn to receive one pair of \$99 season tickets for the 2009 Army Football home season.

The winner and new question will be posted in the Pointer View the next week. Limit one entry per person, per week.

Answers to all questions can be found on [www.goARMYsports.com](http://www.goARMYsports.com). If you have any questions regarding the contest, call the Army Athletics Marketing Office at 845-938-0390.

**Week 7 Question ... What movie will be shown at "Michie Movie Night with the Army Football Team?"**

**Week 6 Answer: Men's Soccer, Aug. 28.**

**Week 6 winner is:**

**Dianne DiCola from Stony Point, N.Y.**