

President Obama announces Afghanistan strategy



President Obama speaks

By Linda Mastin
Web & Print Chief

President Obama made a prime-time speech to officially announce his strategy for Afghanistan to the nation Tuesday night in Eisenhower Hall Theatre, with the Corps of Cadets present or watching from remote locations.

While waiting for the arrival of the Commander-in-Chief, the cadets and dignitaries in the audience participated in the invocation by U.S. Military Academy Chaplain (Col.) Michael Durham and the singing of the national anthem by Sgt. 1st Class Mary Kay Messenger.

Department of History assistant professor Col. James Seidule then delivered a welcome and a brief history of Presidential visits to West Point throughout its more than 200-year history.

Superintendent Lt. Gen. Buster Hagenbeck then took the stage, commenting that while the President would not discuss amnesty for cadets in his remarks, he had

authorized Hagenbeck to grant it to the members of the Corps for minor disciplinary actions. This, of course, brought a loud cheer from the cadets. He left the lectern with a rousing "Beat Navy."

After a few minutes of final preparation, to include placing the presidential seal on the lectern, Obama began his approximately 34-minute address to the nation.

"I want to speak to you tonight about our effort in Afghanistan—the nature of our commitment there, the scope of our interests, and the strategy that my administration will pursue to bring this war to a successful conclusion," Obama said. "It is an honor for me to do so here—at West Point—where so many men and women have prepared to stand up for our security and to represent what is finest about our country."

He spoke about why Americans are fighting in Afghanistan—referring to Sept. 11, 2001, the Taliban and al-Qaida extremists and the need to respond to these attacks.

He then outlined his basic strategy, which starts with a 30,000-troop increase to begin in early 2010 and an acceleration of the training of Afghan military and security forces to allow them to better secure their country against the al-Qaida and Taliban insurgents, so that control can be handed back to them.

"As cadets, you volunteered for service during this time of danger. Some of you have fought in Afghanistan. Many will deploy there. As your Commander-in-Chief, I owe you a mission that is clearly defined, and worthy of your service. That is why, after the



Photo opportunities galore were available for cadets and media alike after President Obama's 34-minute address to the nation about his strategy for Afghanistan Tuesday in Eisenhower Hall Theatre. The approximately 4,200 cadets and other guests listened intently to Obama's remarks, as much of what he presented will affect many of these future officers. PHOTOS BY TOMMY GILLIGAN/PV

Afghan voting was completed, I insisted on a thorough review of our strategy," he said.

Additionally, this plan has a timetable for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from both Iraq and Afghanistan before the end of his first term as President, as well as an increase in NATO and other allied nations' military presence.

He has been talking with many of these leaders to encourage them to increase the number of troops they are deploying.

The President took time after the speech to shake hands with cadets and other guests.

He posed for photos with many of the cadets, who had their digital cameras at the ready, before heading

back to Marine 1 to fly back to Stewart Air National Guard Base and then back to Washington.

(Editor's Note: For a complete transcript of the President's speech, go to <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/remarks-president-address-nation-way-forward-afghanistan-and-pakistan>.)

Betterbed, Rosenberg are 89th and 90th Rhodes recipients

Compiled by Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer



Firstie Elizabeth Betterbed

will be going to England in 2010 after graduating from West Point to pursue a graduate degree at the University of Oxford on a Rhodes Scholarship.

Betterbed, who is second in her class academically, and Firstie Alexandra Rosenberg are the two cadets who became West Point's 89th and 90th Rhodes Scholarship recipients

Nov. 23. West Point remains fourth in the country in Rhodes Scholarships. Rosenberg, from New York City, is a sociology major and first in her class academically.

Betterbed will continue her studies in engineering. She won awards in mechanical engineering and is a member of a cadet team that is designing and building a prosthetic foot to help wounded Soldiers walk and run easier.

Betterbed conducted research for the Pentagon's Quadrennial Defense Review and was an exchange student in Mexico. She plans on studying for a Masters of Philosophy in geography and the environment at Oxford.

"It (the scholarship) will be an opportunity to explore others' perspectives and hopefully come back with a better understanding of some

of the challenges faced when implementing technology in developing communities," Betterbed said.

Along with studying engineering, she also wants to study why countries don't fully exploit technology in the developing world, which she says is a subject with clear applications for the Army.

"I expect to take what I will learn in grad school and apply it directly overseas as an engineer officer," she said.

Rosenberg, also a Truman Scholar, has won awards at West Point for physical and military excellence and prizes in chemistry, psychology and history. She worked as an assistant physician in Gambia.

Rosenberg, who plans to go to medical school and become an Army physician, expects to complete a Masters of Science in

global health science and comparative social policy at Oxford.

"I believe that a better understanding of global health and social policy will enable me to become a very effective Army doctor, capable of practicing and improving the Army health care system," Rosenberg said.

Rosenberg and Betterbed are two of 32 American recipients of this year's Rhodes Scholarships.

The recipients are selected according to scholastic talent, leadership ability, ethics, selflessness and physical prowess.



Firstie Alexandra Rosenberg

Make plans for pets in case of emergencies

Commentary by Christine Guerriero
Directorate of Plans, Training,
Mobilization and Security

Being prepared for everyday emergencies helps you to be ready if a large disaster should ever happen. This includes having a preparedness plan for your pets.

The roads are icy, traffic is a mess and you decide to stay with a friend instead of risking the drive home from school or work. Who will check on your pets and feed them?

Now imagine a propane truck overturned on the street near your neighborhood and you are not allowed to go home or are told to evacuate. Do you have a contingency plan to evacuate your pets if something happens when you are at work or have to evacuate your home?

The Humane Society of the United States recommends the following to make sure your pets are cared for during an emergency:

- Find a neighbor who is comfortable and familiar with your pets and give them a key to your house;
- Ensure they know your pets' habits so as not to waste precious time trying to find or catch them;
- Ensure they are willing to take your pets and have access to appropriate carriers and leashes if an emergency involves

evacuation;

• Plan a meeting location.
 You should put together a pet disaster kit that includes:

- Non-perishable food and water for at least five days for each pet, bowls and a manual can opener (if you are packing canned pet food);
- Sturdy leashes, harnesses and carriers to transport pets safely. Carriers should be large enough for the animal to stand comfortably, turn around and lie down;
- Pet beds and toys, if you can easily take them, to reduce stress;
- Medications and medical records in a waterproof container and a first aid kit. A pet first aid book is also good to include;
- Current photos and descriptions of your pets to help others identify them in case you become separated;
- Information about your pets' feeding schedules, medical conditions, behavior problems and veterinarian information in case you have to board your pets or place them in foster care;
- Cat litter box, litter, garbage bags to collect all pets' waste and litter scoop;
- Other useful items include newspapers, paper towels, plastic trash bags, grooming items and household bleach.

The most important thing you can do to

protect your pets is to take them with you when you evacuate.

Your pet should wear-up-to-date identification at all times. Animals left behind in a disaster can easily be injured, lost or killed.

Evacuation shelters generally don't accept pets, except for service animals, so you must plan ahead to make certain your pets will have a safe place to stay. Contact hotels, motels, boarding facilities and veterinary offices outside your immediate area about their emergency policies.

Make a list of animal-friendly places and keep it handy. Check with friends, relatives or others to see if they would be able to shelter you or your pets or just your animals, if necessary.

If your Family and pets must wait out a storm or other disaster at home, identify a safe area of your home where you can all stay together.

Be sure to close your windows and doors, stay inside and follow instructions from emergency management officials. You should have your Family and pet emergency supply kits in the "safe room."

If you have no alternative but to leave your pet at home, there are some precautions you must take:

- Never leave your pet chained outside;
- Leave them loose inside your home with food and plenty of water;
- Remove the toilet tank lid, raise the seat and brace the bathroom door so they can drink;

• Place a notice outside in a visible area, advising what pets are in the house and where they are located;

• Provide a phone number where you or a contact can be reached as well as the name and number of your vet.

After a disaster the behavior of your pets may change. Normally quiet and friendly pets may become aggressive or defensive. While you assess the damage, keep dogs on leashes and keep cats in carriers inside the house or in the yard. Be patient with your pets, try to get them back into their normal routines as soon as possible, and be ready for the behavioral problems that may result from the stress of the situation.

For additional information, contact the Veterinary Officer at 938-3817 or your local animal shelter, kennel or Humane Society office.

For more information on emergency preparedness planning, visit these sites:

- Department of Homeland Security—www.Ready.gov;
- Federal Emergency Management Agency—www.fema.gov;
- Centers for Disease Control—www.cdc.gov;
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—www.noaa.gov;
- N.Y. State Emergency Office—www.semo.state.ny.us;
- Orange County Division of Emergency Management—www.co.orange.ny.us;
- West Point Red Cross—www.nyredcross.org.

This holiday season if you catch a buzz, catch a ride

Commentary submitted by
The Community Awareness Campaign Committee

The holiday season between Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve is one of the busiest on the nation's roadways and also one of the most dangerous, due to a high incidence of alcohol-related traffic accidents.

That's why the Community Awareness Campaign Committee is joining with other national, state and local highway safety and law enforcement officials to remind everyone to always designate a sober driver before each holiday party or event involving alcohol this holiday season.

The holiday season is supposed to be a time for Family, friends and festive celebrations, but it is unfortunately also a time when there is a tragic jump in the number of alcohol-related highway fatalities. That's why the CACC is out early reminding everyone this holiday season, if you catch a buzz, catch a ride.

DSN access code has changed

West Point changed the DSN access code from 98 to 94 Tuesday to comply with an Army requirement to standardize the dialing code for DSN access.

Personnel must dial 94 and then the seven digit DSN number (e.g. —94-688-7000) to make a DSN call.

As a reminder, Army policy mandates the use of DSN numbers in lieu of commercial numbers when calling locations with DSN access.

If you have any questions, call the Network Enterprise Center—West Point Telecommunications Branch at 938-7719/5898.

Want to read the Pointer View on crisp paper rather than online? To get a yearly subscription (48 issues) of the Pointer View, contact Theresa Gervasi at the Times Herald-Record at 800-295-2187.

Weekly Sudoku by Chris Okasaki, D/EECS

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

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: Easy

See SOLUTION, page 9

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 Ortland (Dean). Community members can e-mail Burger at 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.

POINTER VIEW

Lt. Gen. Buster Hagenbeck
 Superintendent

Lt. Col. Brian Tribus
 Director of Communications

Linda L. Mastin
 Chief, Web & Print
 Publications Branch
 938-8366

Eric S. Bartelt
 Editor, 938-2015
Tommy Gilligan
 Asst. Editor, 938-8825
Kathy Eastwood
 Staff Writer, 938-3684
Vacant
 Staff Writer

The Army civilian enterprise newspaper, the Pointer View, is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of the Pointer View are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of the Army or West Point.

The Pointer View © is an unofficial publication authorized by AR 360-1. The editorial content of the Pointer View is the responsibility of the West Point Directorate of Communications, Bldg. 600, West Point, New York 10996, (845) 938-2015.

The Pointer View is printed weekly by the Times Herald-Record, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive contract with West Point. The Times Herald-Record is responsible for all commercial advertising.

West Point
 The United States Military Academy

Printed weekly by the
TIMES HERALD-RECORD

40 Mulberry Street
 Middletown, NY 10940

recordonline.com

For information, call
(845) 341-1100

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement of the products or services advertised by the U.S. Army or the Times Herald-Record.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user, or patron.

A confirmed violation or rejection of this policy of equal opportunity by an advertiser will result in the refusal to print advertising from that source.

110th Army-Navy week is full of activities

Compiled by Linda Mastin
Web & Print Chief

Sunday through Dec. 12 is Army-Navy Week at West Point, and various activities and force protection measures are ongoing.

- Sunday (First Captain's briefing)—Traffic along Washington Road in front of the Superintendent's quarters and Ruger Road,

from the traffic dummy to the Washington and Jefferson Road intersection, will be blocked for approximately 20 minutes beginning at 7 p.m. to support formations moving to Eisenhower Hall;

- Monday-Tuesday (March-on Rehearsal)—Traffic along Washington Road in front of the Superintendent's quarters and along Ruger Road leading to Shea Stadium

will be blocked to support the movement of formations marching to the stadium. Traffic will be blocked throughout the rehearsal—from 4-6:30 p.m.

- Work force members who park in the Eisenhower Hall parking lots and around Bldg. 667A may be delayed by marching units from approximately 4-4:30 p.m. and from 6:30-7 p.m.;

- Wednesday (Goat-Engineer Games/Cadet Barbecue)—The Goat-Engineer football games are at Michie Stadium. The women's game starts at 5 p.m. and the men's at 6:15 p.m.

There is a road closure at Mills Road in front of Michie Stadium from the intersection with Stony Lonesome Road to the Howze Place intersection from 3 p.m. until the games are over at about 7:30 p.m. Fenton Road will remain open.

Off-post personnel attending the games should enter through Stony Lonesome gate and park in A, AAA and C lots for parking. Gate 3 will be open to access Michie Stadium;

- Dec. 10 (Bonfire/Army Team Send-Off)—The U.S. Corps of Cadets invites the whole community to join them in sending off the West Point Football Team on their journey to 'Beat Navy' at 6:30 p.m. at Daly Field. Hear from the coaches and team captains, witness the burning of a boat in the traditional bonfire, see the marathon team start their run to Philadelphia with the game ball and join in supporting the team. Activities and concessions are provided by the Directorate of Cadet Activities.

Parking will be allowed in Clinton and Doubleday Lots during the bonfire, but the spots closest to Daly Field will be blocked off beginning Wednesday evening.

Vehicles exiting Clinton and Doubleday Lots during the events must turn right onto Cullum Road toward the West Point Club.

Blocking positions will begin at 5:45 p.m., denying vehicle access to the Trophy Point area, on Cullum Road and at the Qtrs. 101 intersection (Commandant's quarters) and in

the vicinity of Jefferson Hall.

Parking is available on Thayer Hall Roof. Personnel going TDY or on leave are reminded to not park in Clinton Lot.

In support of Army-Navy Week activities here, West Point residents can expect tactical vehicle movements and other military spirit operations taking place in the area of the Plain throughout the week.

If anyone notices any suspicious activities during any of these events, contact the Military Police Desk at 938-3333.

For questions about parking or traffic information, contact Joe Senger at 938-8859. For questions about the bonfire/send-off, contact Maj. Stephen Hall at 938-3307.

For those going to Philadelphia for the game, spirit activities on Dec. 11 include:

- Patriot Games, Event # 1 Rocky Relay at 8 a.m. at the Philadelphia Museum of Art;
- Army/Navy Pep Rally and Patriot Games, Event # 2 Hole-in-One Challenge at noon at The Shops at Liberty Place.

For those going to the game, activities at Lincoln Financial Field begin before the 2:40 p.m. kickoff:

- Army march-on at 11:45 a.m. and Navy at 12:15 p.m.;
- Patriot Games, Event # 4 Football Finale—Field Goal Kick at the stadium at 12:45 p.m.;
- The "prisoner" cadet-midshipmen exchange is at 2:15 p.m.;
- Golden Knights/Leapfrogs parachute teams jump into the stadium at 2:20 p.m.;
- The Colors are presented and the national anthem plays at 2:30 p.m.;
- Coin toss and cordons form at 2:34 p.m.;
- Navy takes the field with a flyover at 2:36 p.m.;
- Army takes the field with a flyover at 2:37 p.m.

(Note: The above times are approximate and may change during the actual event.)

For information about other activities in Philadelphia before the game, go to www.phillylovesarmynavy.com/.



New commandant

Brigadier Gen. William E. Rapp, who assumed his new duties as commandant of the Corps of Cadets in a ceremony Nov. 23 at Eisenhower Hall, spoke to the Corps on the steps of Washington Hall during his first address to them Nov. 24. After his speech to the Corps, the Class of 1984 graduate led the Corps in a "Rocket." Rapp, an engineer officer, is the 72nd commandant at the U.S. Military Academy.

TOMMY GILLIGAN/PV

Prep school construction begins

By Martha Hinote
Directorate of Public Works

Construction of the new U.S. Military Academy Preparatory School begins this month and should be completed in January 2012 at the current site of the Transportation Motor Pool near Washington Gate.

USMAPS is relocating to West Point from Ft. Monmouth, N.J., as a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure decision.

The new USMAPS facility will include new barracks, a dining facility, academic and administrative facilities and sports fields.

Construction vehicles accessing the site will enter via Washington Gate and proceed directly to the construction site. To ease traffic flow at the gate, a second, temporary guard station is being constructed.

Construction includes closure of an



This rendering depicts the final look of the U.S. Military Academy Preparatory School by its completion in January 2012.

ARTWORK PROVIDED

existing landfill at the TMP site, which will require dewatering and compaction of the area.

With the extensive pumping operations involved in dewatering the site, there will be numerous trucks entering and exiting the area during this process.

After dewatering is completed, the landfill will then be compacted by a process known as deep dynamic compaction with cranes dropping heavy weights onto the landfill mass.

Dewatering and compaction of the site are expected to occur from now through February.

Every effort will be made to minimize construction noise in the surrounding communities.

The current TMP maintenance facilities will continue to be operated by the Directorate of Logistics until May, when DOL will relocate their maintenance operation to the new facility being constructed in Training Area V.

Access to the Pipeline Trail for Directorate Public Works maintenance operations will remain.

There will be notices in the Pointer View and other communication venues when high construction traffic is expected.

There may be utility outages for nearby facilities during the project period, but the affected community members will be notified at least three days in advance to give them time to prepare.

Corps shows Mess Hall staff its appreciation

By Firstie Jason Sexton

The scratch of chairs echoed in the Mess Hall Nov. 19 when the cadets stood and applauded the mess hall staff for their work and dedication for the Corps of Cadets. Mess Hall Appreciation Day was planned to thank the Mess Hall staff members for their services.

It was fitting that the Corps recognized the staff on the same day they had prepared their Thanksgiving Dinner.

The Respect Committee, in conjunction with the Mess Hall management staff, selected five mess hall workers to receive a special award.

The award winners—Gary Taroc, Edson Eloge, Florestella Rosales, Dominick Pedino and Larry Williams—were selected by their managerial staff in recognition of their hard work, performance and dedication to their craft.

First Captain Tyler Gordy and his four regimental commanders all personally set the table for the five award winners and presented them with certificates of appreciation for their hard work over the years.

“It was nice to recognize a group of individuals that is dedicated to helping us and it was an honor to serve them today and recognize their service,” Gordy said.

In addition to the five individuals recognized, Respect Captain Firstie Andrew Branch also presented a certificate of appreciation to John G. Fitzsimmons, the



Firstie Andrew Branch (center), Respect Captain, poses with members of the Mess Hall staff who were recognized by the Corps of Cadets with certificates of appreciation. From left to right are Larry Williams, Mess Storeroom material handler, Dominick Pedino, Mess bakery supervisor; and Wait Staff members Edson Eloge, Florestella Rosales and Gary Taroc, who were selected by their overall supervisor, John Fitzsimmons, to be recognized on behalf of all the mess hall workers. Other workers were recognized individually by cadets at their tables with cards and thanks.

MAJ. CASEY MOES/SCPME

Food Service officer, as a thank you for the entire Mess Hall staff.

Companies throughout the Corps gave thanks to their servers as well by presenting them with cards and words of appreciation.

One of the awardees, Dominick Pedino, the bakery supervisor, has been working at

the academy for 34 years and could not recall ever receiving a formal thank you from the Corps.

A few of the awardees mentioned that it felt strange to be eating amongst the cadets, but they felt honored to do so.

Many expressed that they felt honored to

serve those who serve their country.

These individuals and all of the Mess Hall staff have provided great service to the cadets for many years and their service generally goes unnoticed as with many of the services provided to the cadets here at the academy.

Mess Hall Appreciation Day was the first of many salutations that the cadets would like to extend to all who work at the academy.

The Corps thanks all of those who give their selfless service to help the academy run.

“Showing the Corps’ appreciation of the Mess Hall staff is very important to me because often times, I presume, they feel we are ungrateful or their service to us is overlooked. I wanted to do something small, but with a powerful impact, to let them know that we do, in fact, appreciate the time and effort they put into serving us every day,” Branch, who organized the day, said.

Native American Heritage Month celebrated with dancing, food and crafts

Story and photo by Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

The Native American Cadet Club, Equal Opportunity Office, the Simon Center for the Professional Military Ethic and the Cultural Arts Forum from the Dept. of English and Philosophy hosted a celebration in honor of Native American Heritage Month at the West Point Club Nov. 20. More than 250 cadets and community members participated in the event.

Cow Peter Brainerd was the cadet-in-charge of the event and master of ceremonies.

“This event is a chance for people to get into the Native American culture,” Brainerd said. “As a member of the Native American Cadet Club, we try to go to local POW WOW’s, Indian taco nights (where the cadets go someplace and hang out, cook and talk about Native American culture) and taking trips to Washington D.C. to attend committees (on Native American issues).”

The event included Valerie Weygant, from the cadet barbershop, displaying her collection of beadwork, tools, arrowheads, baskets and jewelry she has collected since childhood. Cadet brother and sister, Plebe Khirsten Corbins and Yearling Phillip Corbins, showed children how to make beaded necklaces and bracelets, and the Red Hawk Dance Troupe from Manhattan entertained the audience with traditional native dances in traditional costumes.

Cliff Matias, a dancer, educator and member of the Red Hawk Dancers, explained the dances to the audience as well as explaining Native American traditions.

“The drum is a way for the dancers to keep the beat along with the traditional native chants,” Matias said. “Many of the dancers wear real Eagle feathers, which is sacred to the Native Americans. Eagles are on the endangered list, but Native Americans are the only ones allowed to collect Eagle feathers.”

Red Hawk dancer Larry Ahenakew danced the grass dance, telling the story of a young man wounded in battle. He is in high grass so his people couldn’t see him to rescue him. The young man lies down and hears crickets. Soon after, the grass dances and becomes flattened so the young man is seen and rescued.

Other traditional dances included the fancy shawl dance, men’s traditional dance and the smoke dance. Food samplings were also available to participants.



Donna Amidi, one of seven members of the Red Hawk Dance Troupe at the event, performs the fancy shawl dance at the celebration of Native American Month. The troupe performed a number of different dances for the audience, explaining their significances, as each dance tells a story. The evening also included food samplings, beadcraft demonstrations by two cadets and a collection of Native American artifacts that entertained and educated the audience about the Native American culture.

Contact Theresa Gervasi at the Times Herald-Record at 800-295-2181 or via e-mail at tgervasi@th-record.com for delivery problems.

2009 AFAP conference delegates reviewed many issues

Submitted by Army Family Action Plan office



The annual West Point Army Family Action Plan conference, held Nov. 17-18 at the West Point Club, had 64 delegates—Soldiers, Family members, civilians and retirees—representing the West Point community participating in the conference.

While the 124 issues submitted during the past year were divided into five workgroups for review—Force Support; Child, Youth and Education; Housing, Relocation and Public Works; Family Support, Consumer and Medical/Dental and Single Soldier. Delegates determined which issues were most important to the well-being of the West Point community and those on which the leadership should focus.

Recommendations for the resolution of each issue or concern were developed.

Workgroups prioritized 14 issues for adoption into the AFAP process and delegates briefed the following results to U.S. Military Academy Chief of Staff Col. Michael Yarmie, and Garrison Commander Col. Dan Bruno at the conference's closing session:

- Army Air Force Exchange Services "Limited Privileges for Department of Defense Civilians at West Point:" Currently, DOD civilians cannot use the on-post PX. Recommendation is to extend this privilege to them;

- Permanent Change of Station/Temporary Duty Option for Military School Attendance: Servicemembers are required to PCS to attend mandatory schools that are greater than 180 days but less than 365 days, creating hardship to Family members. Recommendation is to accommodate a PCS/TDY option at the Soldier's discretion while attending these schools;

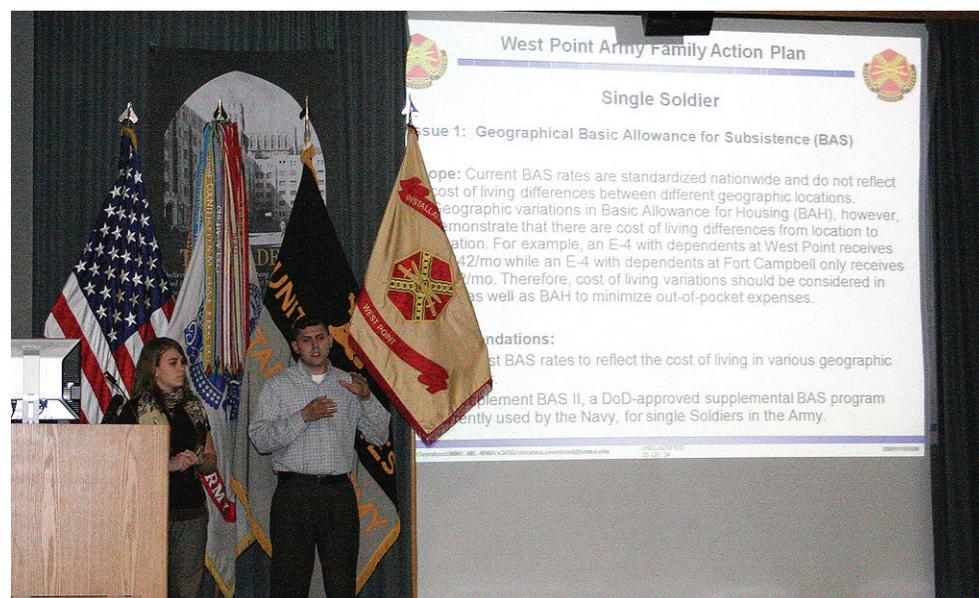
- Standardized On-going Financial Management Training: The majority of enlisted Soldiers and Family members are experiencing financial difficulty, but there is no formal standardized program beyond the First-Termers Financial Readiness Course. Recommendation is to implement standardized financial management training opportunities at the unit level;

- Religious Support Facility at West Point: Religious support programs lack adequate meeting space and Family members are being turned away from programs. Recommendation is to establish an interfaith facility that accommodates religious support programs and childcare.

- Short Notice Childcare Reservations: Hourly childcare reservations are very limited on short notice, adversely affecting those who need childcare for short-notice medical appointments. Recommendation is to reserve 10 percent of daily hourly childcare for this purpose;

- Indoor Play Area at West Point: There are limited choices for indoor play during winter months at West Point. Recommendation is to use a current facility for designated age-appropriate child play areas;

- Parking in Residential Areas: There



Jeremy Shankey (right) and Cristin Brown from the Single Soldier Workgroup talk about issues affecting single Soldiers Nov. 18 at the AFAP briefing held at Thayer Hall.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

is inadequate parking in housing areas causing street congestion and safety hazards. Recommendations are to amend the current policy to allow for two assigned parking spaces and one visitor space and develop additional off-street parking in and around residential areas;

- Balfour Beatty Communities clearing policy: Outprocessing clearing procedures lack consistency, quality control, clear standards and consumer protection creating financial and emotional stress during a time-constrained PCS move. Recommendations are to create an independent community council to work with BBC and the service member to establish a detailed standardized list that applies to both residents and contractors for cleaning standards, amend outprocessing standards to establish quality control and identify renovation and preventative maintenance projects prior to move-out so that cleaning requirements can be modified;

- Quality Control of Maintenance Standards of Family Housing: Potential safety and health hazards are not being identified due to unclear and/or insufficient inspection standards in Family housing. Recommendations are to create a team of qualified home inspectors to conduct preventative maintenance checks and home inspections on a scheduled basis, expand Residential Communities Initiative duties to include advocate responsibilities and provide access to maintenance, work order and inspection records of residential properties;

- Suicide Prevention Family Training: Current suicide prevention training programs are not effectively reaching Family members. Recommendations include the implementation of suicide prevention/awareness in Army Family Team Building and improve marketing of resources and age appropriate materials for children;

- Exceptional Family Member and First Duty Assignment: Family members are not enrolled in EFMP prior to their first duty assignment. Recommendation is to notify Families of EFMP enrollment as part of initial inprocessing and to follow-up with EFMP evaluation prior to first duty assignment;

- Geographical Basic Allowance for Subsistence: BAS rates are standardized nationwide and do not take into account cost of living differences. Recommendations are to adjust BAS rates to reflect the cost of living in various geographic locations and implement BAS II for single Soldiers in the Army;

- Functional Academic Skills Training Class: There is no longer an in-class option for the FAST that may inhibit Soldiers' abilities to improve their Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery score. Recommendation is to re-establish the classroom option of the FAST class;

- Class B/ASU Uniform Issue at West Point: Staff and faculty are required to wear Class Bs/ASUs rather than the ACU standard throughout most other Army installations. Recommendation is to issue two sets of Class Bs/ASUs to newly assigned staff and faculty upon arrival at West Point.

A teen workgroup of 10 teens from grades 7-11 met Nov. 7 to identify issues affecting their well-being, including:

- Music Store: There is no location on West Point to purchase music equipment. Recommendation is to establish a permanent music store that mirrors "Sam Ash" inventory and services;

- New Kids Sponsor Program: When children move to a new military community, they do not know where to meet other kids. Recommendation is to establish an Army-wide NKSP pairing new children with a volunteer from their grade for one week to introduce them to their new community;

- Movie Theatre Enhancement: Currently, the West Point theater does not allow food and drink and movies are no longer current. Recommendations are to allow food and drink in the current location or consider a new location, accommodate additional hours for school breaks, holidays and matinees and keep movie selection current.

The 17 new AFAP issues start the AFAP process at the next quarterly West Point AFAP Steering Committee meeting scheduled for Feb. 9.

Issues that can be worked at the local level will be tasked to local agencies for resolution.

Issues that require action and/or approval by the Department of the Army or DOD will be forwarded to the next level for resolution. The remaining 110 issues also will be reviewed and addressed by West Point leadership and resolved where possible.

For additional information about AFAP, including the status of previous AFAP issues and updates about new issues, go to the Website at www.westpointmwr.com/afap.htm or contact the AFAP Program Manager, Christina Overstreet at 938-3655 or christina.overstreet@usma.edu.

A Spouse's Point of View

"Wii" Are Neighbors

By Janine Boldrin

An acquaintance of mine was walking a few streets down from her military housing when she yelled out for her child. As she did, a woman came running out of a nearby house.

"Oh my gosh!" the woman said, "I can't believe it's you. I've been hearing your voice over my baby monitor for the past few months and I was trying figure out who you were ..."

Baby monitor tales are part of the folklore of military living—almost everyone has heard one of these stories. They are a common illustration of the close quarters of post living where thin walls can be a source of irritation and shared backyards become an old-fashioned form of Facebook.

Our small backyard consists of a steep slope that gives us just enough room for several pieces of large, obtrusive pieces of plastic for our kids to play on.

Thankfully, my backyard neighbor and I have the same philosophy—share the yards and the toys and keep an eye out for any child who gets it into their mind that they should put a 3-year-old on the top of the Cozy Coupe for a death-defying ride down the hill into her vegetable garden.

But what one set of neighbors may find an acceptable living arrangement may not apply to another set of neighbors.

When we lived in Georgia, there was a little boy who would walk into houses whenever he caught the scent of baked goods. At the time, we were a young couple with a newborn.

After letting himself into a house, the 4-year-old would stay for a while—a long while—after he helped himself to a brownie or cookie. For me, the situation was out of my comfort zone. For another neighbor, it was endearing. Of course, it was her child.

So how do you address neighbor issues to solve what you view as a problem?

This summer, I woke up to the sound of construction equipment roaring up our street. This was the beginning of a long project and when mommy doesn't get her sleep, no one has a good time.

So I threw on a pair of fuzzy slippers and put on some sweatpants for a walk over to the construction foreman who was standing on the road.

"Hey, before I complain about this, are you going to be starting this early every morning?" I asked. "Because I'm thinking 7

a.m. might be a little more respectable."

From that point on, construction began at 7 a.m. My little chat probably had nothing to do with it, but my fuzzy-slippered-self spoke up and things changed. Either way, the problem was solved.

However, it seems easier to discuss uncomfortable issues with people you don't have to see everyday.

Once an Army wife told me she would never share a wall with a good friend. "It's the easiest way to ruin a friendship," she said.

Let's face it—you may really get along with someone when your kids are playing nicely, but hearing Guitar Hero until three in the morning is enough to put a dent in the best of friendships.

If you go over and politely ask for the television to be turned down so you don't have to hear the "bum-bum" of Law and Order while you're trying to sleep, it may seem like a commentary on your neighbor's television viewing habits instead of just a comment on you wanting to sleep. And, trust me—trying to turn off a television telepathically does not work.

But, to be fair, there are literally two sides to every story—and wall.

Let's start with the facts.

When you live in post housing you probably share a wall, a driveway or a small backyard with someone. When you share a small space with someone, there are bound to be some issues. Sometimes, you may even get a little irritated about the situation.

In addition, so might your neighbor when your child is stomping up the stairs, or you're on the 12th hour of an animated Wii championship game or your mover decided to park right in front of their driveway without asking.

There are things that can be controlled and things that cannot.

Chances are that when you live in military housing, you share a wall or a yard with someone ... and a school and a commissary ... and, hopefully, a willingness to work things out so everyone can live without earplugs most of the time.

And, if not, don't worry. You'll eventually move. But, in the meantime, be sure to turn off your baby monitor if you plan on doing any complaining about it.

(Editor's note: Janine Boldrin is a writer, a mother and an Army spouse. If you would like to share your experiences as a spouse at West Point, Janine can be reached at janineboldrin@gmail.com.)

Keller Corner

Childbirth preparation classes

The four-week series classes are now held each month from 6-8 p.m., KACH second floor classroom.

The next series is Tuesday and Dec. 15 and Jan. 5 and 12.

Call OBU at 938-3210 to register.

Keller dining facility patrons

Beginning this month, due to increased issues with outside parking and seating in our dining room, and to enhance our patient access and customer/staff satisfaction, our dining room seating area will be open only to individuals in the following categories during lunch hours 11 a.m.–1 p.m.:

- Hospital Employees (government, military and contractors with valid hospital badge);
- Hospital inpatients / outpatients;
- Contractors with specific duties in the hospital must have a valid hospital badge;
- Guests of hospitalized patients.

We invite all other individuals to purchase meals to go, but we will no longer be able accommodate them in our dining room.

We appreciate your consideration in this matter.

For questions or comments, contact the Nutrition Care Division at Keller Army Community Hospital.

KACH outpatient clinic closures

All outpatient clinics, laboratory, pharmacy and radiology will be closed Dec. 18 (closing at noon), Dec. 24 (training holiday), Dec. 25 (Christmas), Dec. 31 (training holiday) and Jan. 1 (New Year's Day).

The emergency room will remain open.

Blood Drive kickoff campaign

There will be a kickoff campaign meeting from 2-3:30 p.m. Dec. 18 in the Army Education Center Bldg. 683, Training Room #10 to prepare for the upcoming Armed Forces Blood Program's Jan. 11-14 Blood Drive.

Key personnel from each activity should attend this meeting.

Provide the names of those attending to Mary Mandia at 938-2583 (BLUD) or via e-mail at MARY.MANDIA@AMEDD.ARMY.MIL on or before Dec. 18.

NOW SHOWING

in the movie theater at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

Friday—Where The Wild Things Are, PG, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday—Cirque Du Freak: Vampire's Asst., PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday—The Stepfather, PG-13, 9:30 p.m.

Dec. 11—Astro Boy, PG, 7:30 p.m.

THE THEATER SCHEDULE ALSO CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.AAFES.COM.

BBC LifeWorks events

Help decorate our Mitten Tree

Bring any new mittens, hats, gloves and scarves to help decorate our holiday tree. Make the holidays special for someone in need and feel good by doing it.

The Mitten Tree will be in the housing office for our residents to help out needy children. Collections continue through Dec. 19.

Holiday craft and seasonal treats

Stop by 132 Bartlett Loop from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Wednesday where each child can choose the crafts they will make and take home.

There will be seasonal treats for all participants. Register by today for the craft event.

Celebrate the holidays

Residents are invited to join us at the West Point Bowling Center from noon-2 p.m. Dec. 29 for bowling and pizza.

If you plan to attend, RSVP by Dec. 23.

All events are free and open to West Point residents. Contact Jodi Gellman, LifeWorks coordinator, at 446-6407 or e-mail her at jgellman@bbcgrp.com to RSVP or for more information on any event.

What's Happening

Military Council of Catholic Women Christmas party

The MCCW will host a Christmas party at Most Holy Trinity with a gift exchange and baby shower for Jesus starting at 7 p.m. tonight.

Bring a gift for a friend (under \$10) and a gift for "Baby Jesus." Items needed are clothing for 0-12 months, diapers, wipes and monetary donations to benefit the Maternity Services Program of the Catholic Guardian Society and Home Bureau.

Come enjoy a holiday celebration with your friends from MCCW.

For more information, contact Deanna Grande at 446-5140.

West Point Strings winter concert

The West Point Cadet String Ensemble, under the direction of Ellen Gartner-Phillips, will present its first winter concert at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Alexander M. Haig Room in the Jefferson Hall Library.

The Haig Room is at the top floor of the new library.

The program will include Archangelo Corelli's popular Concerto Grosso in G minor Op. 6, No. 8, more commonly known as his Christmas Concerto and Antonio Vivaldi's the Winter (from the Four Seasons) featuring Yearling Byron Zajdel playing the violin solo.

The remainder of the program includes traditional holiday carols and songs of the season.

A reception will follow immediately after the performance for the audience and cadets to mingle and get into the holiday spirit.

For more information about the West Point Strings, call the club's officers-in-charge—Lt. Col. Tom Timmes at 938-4658 or Col. Rod Sturdivant at 938-3322 or visit the Web site at www.usma.edu/uscc/dca/clubs/astg/usma_strings-new/index.html.

Messiah Concert

Handel's Messiah concert takes place at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Cadet Chapel. Come enjoy the Cadet Chapel Choir sing.

For more information, call Craig Williams at 938-7352.

G&EnE Lecture

Dr. Richard Cincotta, Fellow, National Intelligence Council, Arlington, Va., will present a lecture titled "Quantitative Research into Demographic-Based Instability" to cadets enrolled in EV480, Honors Seminar in Geography, from 9:50-10:45 a.m. Monday in

Washington Hall, Room 6004.

The lecture is open to the West Point community.

For more information, contact Col. Laurie Hummel at 938-3161.

Christmas Cards to our Heroes

You can send letters and Christmas cards to Soldiers recovering from injuries or currently deployed around the world this holiday season.

Letters going to Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom should be addressed as follows:

Any OEF or OIF Soldier
Holiday Mail for Heroes
P.O. Box 5456
Capitol Heights, MD 20791-5456

Letters going to Walter Reed Army Medical Center should be addressed as follows:

Any Recovering Soldier WRAMC
Holiday Mail for Heroes
P.O. Box 5456
Capitol Heights, MD 20791-5456

Due to security restrictions, Walter Reed cannot accept generic mail addressed to "A Recovering Soldier" or "Any Soldier."

In past years, thousands of cards were returned to senders because of generic addresses, many sent in response to misleading e-mails. However, the Red Cross can accept, screen and deliver holiday cards and letters sent to encourage our wounded heroes recovering at Walter Reed at the address shown above.

Do not enclose gift cards or money. Letters should be postmarked no later than Monday at Walter Reed.

Retirement Ceremony

Everyone is invited to attend the retirement ceremony for garrison employees at 3:30 p.m. Dec. 10 at Crest Hall in Eisenhower Hall.

Candy Cane Drive

The West Point Firefighters Union will have its 2nd annual Candy Cane drive starting at 10 a.m. Dec. 12 in Stony II and continuing throughout post until all the housing areas have been covered.

The fire department drives Santa who will be giving out candy canes, cookies and a fire prevention information flyer for the parents.

For more information, call Paul Cheski at 938-7484.

WPAOG Army-Navy Tailgate

The West Point Association of Graduates

and the West Point Society of Philadelphia have teamed up again for the 2009 Army-Navy Tailgate beginning at 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Dec. 12 at the Wachovia Center in Philadelphia.

Army-Navy game kickoff is at 2:30 p.m. at Lincoln Financial Field. All are welcome to attend and rally for the Army Team.

The menu includes Philly cheesesteaks, grilled hot dogs, salads, fresh baked cookies, soft drinks, beer, wine and specialty drinks.

For more information on costs and to register, go to www.westpointaog.org/NetCommunity/SSLPage.aspx?pid=3727.

Advanced registration is required and will close on or about Tuesday.

Chanukah events

The Jewish Chapel is hosting two Chanukah events. The Chanukah Party Extravaganza starts at 6 p.m. Tuesday and the Jewish Chapel Menorah Lighting Ceremony is scheduled for 6 p.m. Dec. 13.

If you have any questions or need more information, call 938-2710 or e-mail the chaplain at shmuel.feltzenberg@usma.edu.

American Society of Military Comptrollers Luncheon

Please join us for our December Luncheon/Christmas Party from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Dec. 16 at the West Point Club Gray Room.

It is a pay-as-you-go lunch followed by the annual ASMC Christmas Auction.

Please bring an item to be donated for the auction to raise money for some worthy causes at West Point—the more donations, the more opportunities to win and have more fun.

For more information, call Carol Spisso at 938-8831 or e-mail her at Carol.Spisso@usma.edu.

Post Chapel 801 Worship Service

The West Point Community is invited to attend a contemporary worship service at Post Chapel at 8:01 a.m. Sundays.

The service features a Cadet Praise Band, a time for prayer and reflection and relevant preaching for practical Christian living. Watch-care is provided for preschool-age children.

A fellowship—including coffee, juice, pastries and sausage biscuits to be served—follows the service.

Mine Torne Road closure

Mine Torne Road is closed from 6 a.m.-5 p.m., Mon.-Sat. from Route 293 to the Stilwell Pump House through the entire month of

December.

The closure is necessary to install water pipes under the road for the new Transportation Motor Pool being constructed in Training Area V.

Emergency vehicles will be able to pass, if needed. Flagmen will be on-site full-time and they can pull the heavy equipment off the road to allow passage in an emergency.

Army-Navy shirts available

The 2009 Army-Navy shirts are available at the USMA Bookstore or can be ordered online at www.usma.edu/uscc/dca/stores/2009ArmyNavy.pdfgame.

Sizes range from small to 2XL. The shirts are black with long sleeves. The Bookstore is located in Thayer Hall, fourth floor.

Annual Candlelight House Tour

The Historical Society of Newburgh Bay and the Highlands will hold its annual Candlelight Tour of Homes from noon-5 p.m. Wednesday.

The tour begins at the Captain David Crawford House, 189 Montgomery St. in Newburgh. This 1830s home will be decorated as it would have been in 1840.

For information about costs or to order tickets, call (845) 561-258, e-mail historicalsocietynb@yahoo.com or visit the Web site at www.newburghhistoricalsociety.com.

Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

TSP TICKER

NOVEMBER share prices (as of 11/30)

C Fund	—	—	0.15	(12.9659)
S Fund	—	—	0.51	(15.4454)
I Fund	—	—	0.60	(18.2750)

FMWR Blurbs

Breakfast with Santa

The West Point Club is hosting Breakfast with Santa from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday.

Take your picture with Santa and receive a free gift from 10 a.m.-noon.

There is a pay-as-you-go Sunday breakfast menu and a free child's meal with each paying adult.

For more information, call 938-5120.

West Point's annual holiday tree lighting ceremony

The West Point annual holiday tree lighting ceremony will be held at 6 p.m. Monday at Daly Field (parking at Clinton Lot).

It's a new tree and location. An 18-foot spruce tree was planted near Daly Field.

Activities include holiday caroling, a special guest appearance by Santa Claus, performances by the Protestant Chapel Cadet Choir and the Regimental Brass Quartet of the West Point Band.

Refreshments will follow at the West Point Club.

For more information, call 938-6497.

Dining Chairs with Arms cash-and-carry sale

The Dining Chairs with Arms cash-and-carry sale starts at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday-Dec. 10. The Dec. 10 date is open to the general public.

Items will be located for viewing at the West Point Club, Bldg. 603.

For more information, call 938-5120.

Santa Paws Photo Shoot

Photos with Santa and your pet will take place from 3-6 p.m. Dec. 10 at the West Point Vet Clinic, Bldg. 630.

Digital photos will be e-mailed to owners and printed photos will be available for pick

up the following week.

All pets will receive a special treat from Santa. All pets must be leashed or in a carrier. There is a minimal fee for the photos.

For more information, call 938-3817.

Family Spaghetti Night

A Family Spaghetti Night will be held from 5-9 p.m. Dec. 10 at the West Point Club's Pierce Dining Room.

There will be fun for the whole Family including face painting, pin the tail on the donkey, ring toss, sack races and Macaroni the Clown.

For more information, call 938-5120.

Coping with Deployment

A course about Coping with Deployment sponsored by the American Red Cross will be held from 1-5:30 p.m. Dec. 12, at the Child Development Center, Bldg. 1207A.

This course provides hands-on tools to help Families cope with deployments and teaches adults how to support children as a result of changes they may experience due to a deployment of a Family member.

There are a limited number of slots for free on-site childcare available.

Children must either be registered with CYSS or you must provide a copy of your children's current immunization records prior to the event. Dinner will be provided.

For more information or to register, call 938-5654.

West Point Community Project Angel Tree

Project Angel Tree runs through Dec. 14 at the West Point PX.

Please pick a decoration with the age and gender of a West Point child and purchase an age appropriate gift.

Put the gift and the decoration from the tree in the box and make a child's Christmas morning special.

Thank you for your generosity.

For more information, call 938-6497.

LTS has moved

Leisure Travel Services (formerly known as ITR) has temporarily moved to the Buffalo Soldier Pavilion, Bldg. 628. No BSP programs or reservations will be affected.

The LTS phone number will remain the same—938-3601.

Thank you and sorry for any inconvenience.

Army Family Team Building

Army Family Team Building is designed to educate and empower members of the military community to develop skills and encourage behaviors that strengthen self-reliance, promote retention and enhance readiness.

Are you an AFTB Master Trainer or would you like to become a Master Trainer?

For more information, call Army Community Service at 938-5654.

Fall story hour

The West Point Post Library has its fall preschool story hour at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. every Tuesday, open to all West Point community children, ages 3-5.

Pre-registration is required on a weekly basis. Call 938-2974 or stop by the library in Bldg. 622 for details.

Adult indoor tennis lessons

Tennis lessons start in November at the Lichenberg Tennis Center.

Classes are available for beginner, intermediate and advanced players.

Registration is from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday at LTS, Bldg. 695.

For lesson days and times and more information, call 938-3066.

2009 AFAP out brief issue slides

The 2009 AFAP out brief issue slides are now available online at westpointmwr.com/afap.htm.

Radio City Christmas Spectacular

LTS has tickets on sale now for Radio City's Christmas Spectacular. Tickets are limited, so don't delay.

Call 938-3601 for dates and times of show tickets available.

Instructors needed

Certified Kickboxing, Step, Pilates and Body Pump instructors are needed at the FMWR Fitness Center.

If you are interested, contact the FMWR Fitness Center at 938-6490 or Rita Tenuta at 446-3630.

NFL Sunday Ticket available

Love football, but your team's game isn't available here? No problem.

The West Point Club has NFL Sunday Ticket each Sunday.

Enjoy all of the games on the club's flat screen TVs.

The West Point Club opens at 11:30 a.m., so come early and spend the day watching your favorite teams.

For more information, call 938-5120.

Adult Hockey Program

The Adult Hockey Program is now underway, and runs from 7-8:30 p.m. Sundays and 9-10:30 p.m. Wednesdays at Tate Rink.

All participants must be 18 years of age or older, and must purchase a season hockey pass at the Buffalo Soldier Pavilion, Bldg. 628.

The program continues through March 10.

Participants must provide their own hockey gear and skates.

For more information, call Jim Liney at 938-3066.

EDGE! Fitness and Nutrition classes

EDGE! Fitness and Nutrition classes are available for children in grades 3 and up that are registered in the CYSS program.

Classes run January 19 through February 11.

Register at the Youth Center, Bldg. 500. For more information, call 938-0829.

ACS Employment Readiness seminars and workshops

Why not make your New Year's Resolution something that will pay you back for years to come.

Sign up for an "Employment Makeover" after the holidays. All workshops take place in the ACS Training Room in Bldg. 622.

- Jan. 19, 10-11:30 a.m., Resume Success: Building Accomplishment Statements;

- Jan. 20, 1:30-3 p.m., Interview and Dress for Success;

- Jan. 21, Occupations Inc. interviews and Family empowerment. Call Employment Readiness to schedule an appointment;

- Jan. 22, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Medical Transcription Information Session;

- Jan. 26, 10-11:30 a.m., Business Etiquette 101;

- Jan. 27, 1:30-3 p.m., Career Plan Development.

For more information, call 938-5658 to sign up for a class or to schedule a one-on-one session.

West Point Band
Since 1817

Music at West Point

Hudson Valley Holiday!

Featuring vocalist Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Cramer, the Mid-Hudson Ballet Company, and the Fairfield County Children's Choir



Saturday, December 5, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, December 6, 3:00 p.m.
Eisenhower Hall, West Point, NY

Free & Open to the Public

845-938-2617

www.westpoint.edu/band

Command Channel

8/23

Dec. 3-10

Army Newswatch (broadcast times)
Thursday-Friday, Monday-Wednesday
and Dec. 10

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

Anthony takes leadership role as team finds consistency

Story and photos by
Eric S. Bartelt
Editor

Consistency is going to be the most used cliché word for a young Army women's basketball team this season. The irony is consistency has been the team's trademark for the past four years, going 81-41 during that span while winning the Patriot League championship in 2006.

Consistency is now a contradiction, a conflict to what was expected in years past and is now unknown in the hands of a fledgling 2009-10 squad trying to find its own mark.

Left with no firsties to guide them, the cow class has the burden of leading a predominantly underclassmen—11 of 16 players are yearlings or plebes—team. The player in charge of leading a group in search of its own identity is Cow forward Erin Anthony.

Anthony is Army's most consistent and talented player. Through seven games, she leads the team with an 18.6 points and a 10.3 rebounds per game average.

While Anthony continues to be the team's offensive stalwart, which included tying her career high in points (27) Nov. 13 versus Wagner in the season opener, she is embracing her new role as team leader—a role that is coming one game and one practice at a time.

"We had really strong senior classes both basketball and leadership wise the last two years," Anthony said. "We were able to rely on them for good games and keeping us focused, so it's a big jump for (my class) to go from

being under such great leadership to all of a sudden, boom, it's our turn (to lead).

"Coach (Dave Magarity) thought it made sense for me to move into the captain's role this year because of my (playing) experience," she added. "It also means a lot to me (to have my teammates' vote of confidence). They trust me to get things done on the cadet side of things, which is important to me that they can come to me for that sort of stuff."

Anthony's goal is to average a double-double this season while she deals with double teams and continues to find her comfort zone in the low-post area. If Anthony continues on her current path, which is something Magarity believes she will, she may eventually pass a couple of her former teammates, Cara Enright (second, 1,719 points) and Alex McGuire (third, 1,467 points), on Army's all-time scoring list.

"I think (Anthony) is a special player and is committed to the academy," Magarity said. "She had an exceptional freshman year where I thought she was a strong candidate for (league) rookie of the year. Her sophomore year, there was a stretch I thought she probably deserved to be on the first-team all-Patriot League team, especially being named Patriot League Player of the Week three times.

"This year, she's the leading scorer and rebounder in the league so far, and she was named preseason first-team all league," he added. "I think she's deserving of it."

What makes the Allentown, Pa., native more special in Magarity's



Cow point guard Nalini Hawkins is helping take pressure off leading scorer Erin Anthony by scoring 10.4 points per game.

eyes is not only her ability to be the best player and team leader, but it's also her ability to tackle school and everything he throws her way.

"She's the reigning Patriot League Scholar-Athlete of the Year and every time I've challenged her with something, she's responded incredibly to every challenge I've presented," Magarity explained. "It shows she's an amazing young

lady, as she takes on so much responsibility with this team. That along with her performance and expectations night in and night out that she's been a responsible team captain."

The complement to Anthony is classmate point guard Nalini Hawkins. While Anthony towers in the low post at 6-foot-2-inches, the 5-foot-3-inch Hawkins takes the pressure off of Anthony with her ball handling skills around the perimeter.

"I love playing with Nalini because she can run in transition easily and she can run the half court offense really well," Anthony said. "It's great to have her on the court because she's someone who can make something happen. She can beat people one-on-one, make great drives (to the basket) and great passes, and I think we all feed off of that."

Hawkins, who averages 10.4 points and 5.4 rebounds a game, got plenty of experience working with the likes of McGuire and Enright the past two seasons.

However, it's her show on the court now and Magarity hopes she can be more of a leader.

"My biggest hope is for Hawkins to emerge as a leader to take more pressure off of Anthony," Magarity said. "She's got the natural expectation as a point guard to be the floor leader every time we're out on the floor.

"Sometimes, Nalini needs to be a little more assertive and aggressive," he added. "She's very talented, but this is a big year for her and we really need her to assert herself and be more consistent in

her role."

For the team to become more consistent from their 4-3 start is to cultivate more depth.

It's been a trouble spot early in the season because not enough of the young players have been performing well. Some players have shown glimpses of strong performances as games from Plebe forward Alison Grapevine versus Delaware State (10 points) and Cow guard Laura Baranek against Air Force (24 points) attest, but it's about taking it to the next level and making a game-by-game constant effort that Magarity is looking for in his young squad.

"Laura Baranek has struggled in the early going and she hasn't been playing anywhere near as well as she did last year," Magarity said before Baranek's 24-point game against Air Force Nov. 25. "However, I'm confident she'll get her game going and we just have to hang in there with her.

"We just need people to come in and give us a lift," Magarity added. "I see the potential for some depth, but right now we don't quite have it. We're a team that needs to get to the foul line more because we don't have that physical player down low like we had in Megan Evans (who graduated last year).

"Grapevine could be that kid under the basket, but, more importantly, our perimeter players are too soft, they're not taking the ball to the hole or getting to the rim enough," he concluded. "They're not driving it and finishing at the rim and that's disturbing. The only one who does it is Hawkins and because

See ANTHONY, page 12



Team captain Cow forward Erin Anthony leads the team through seven games with an 18.6 points and 10.3 rebounds per game average.

Volleyball faces Penn in NCAA first round

By Tracy Nelson
Athletic Communications

After capturing the 2009 Patriot League title Nov. 22 with a three-set victory over American, the Army volleyball team had to wait a week to learn of its NCAA Tournament fate. The wait was well worth it as the Black Knights drew the University of Pennsylvania, the Ivy League champions, in the opening round.

First overall seed Penn State, which will host the first and second rounds in University Park, Pa., and America East champion Binghamton join Army and Penn in the regional bracket.

"The team couldn't be more thrilled about drawing Penn in the first round," 2009 Patriot League Coach of the Year Alma Kovaci said. "I kept saying that I wanted to avoid playing Penn State right off the bat because I want the team to have an unbelievable experience. Penn is a team that we are familiar with and they play a very similar style to ours."

"I am grateful to the selection committee for showing Army the respect that we have earned with some quality wins this season," she added.

Army and Penn will square-off in Friday's first match at 5 p.m. Penn State and Binghamton will follow at 7:30 p.m. The winners of both matches will clash at 7:30 p.m. Saturday. All matches will be played at Penn State's Rec Hall.

"With such a rich and storied tradition and one of the strongest fan bases in the country, we are very excited to

play at Penn State," Kovaci said. "It will undoubtedly be a great atmosphere to play in and it's not too far from West Point. Hopefully that means that we will get a lot of support from our fans and the West Point community. We are just thrilled to be a part of this tournament."

Army (26-5) won the Patriot League's automatic bid when the Black Knights dethroned eight-time Patriot League champion American in a stunning sweep in the title match.

Army will be making its first appearance in the NCAA Division I Tournament Friday.

Penn (22-5) will be making its first trip to the NCAA Tournament since 2003 after defeating Princeton 3-1 in the Ivy League Championship match Nov. 25 in Philadelphia.

Army swept Princeton at the Delaware Invitational earlier this year, while the Black Knights also collected a victory



Army women's volleyball celebrates their 2009 Patriot League title after they defeated American in three sets Nov. 22 to earn a spot in the NCAA Tournament.

COURTESY PHOTO

over Penn during spring tournament play.

Army and Penn met during the regular season in 2007 when the Quakers swept the Black Knights in the second match of the American Volleyball Tournament in Washington, D.C.

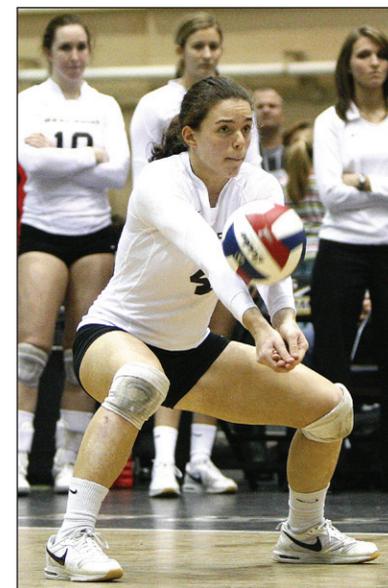
Army and Penn have met six times in program history.

The Quakers own a 5-1 advantage in the all-time series, which dates back to 1982.

The Black Knights won the initial meeting 2-0 at the Princeton Invitational and have lost five-straight matches in the series since.

Details on how to follow all of the action will be posted as they become available.

Check www.goARMYsports.com for the up-to-date information.



Plebe outside hitter Ariana Mankus earned Patriot League All-Tournament honors.

ERIC S. BARTELT/PV

ANTHONY, cont'd from Page 11

of her size, she's not getting fouled—people don't have to foul her, they just change her shot (angle)."

The hope with the two victories against Delaware State, where the team came back from 13 points down, and Air Force, an academy rival, is those type of victories will help the team gain some momentum as they progress through the season.

"Last year's Air Force game drove us for the rest of our non-league schedule," Anthony said. "It'll be important because we have seven freshmen and getting a win against a service academy showed the young players how exciting it can be and can get the motivation going in them."

"Last year's win turned our season around because we were 1-4 going into that game," she added, "and then after that game we won eight of our next nine games. We only lost a total of eight games the rest of the year after losing four of our first five games. It's something I think can happen again this season."



Army Rugby sinks Navy

Team captain lock Kevin Kerr sprinted 30 meters for a try in the second half of the Army-Navy Rugby matchup Nov. 21 at the Anderson Rugby Complex. Second-ranked Army defeated third-ranked Navy 40-14 as Army rugger Cow 8-man Peter Belden, who scored a try, earned the Man of the Match honors. Army completed their fall schedule with a record of 7-0-1.

ERIC S. BARTELT/PV

Men's basketball earns fifth straight victory

By Brian Gunning
Athletic Communications

The Army men's basketball team won its fifth in a row, coming from behind to defeat the Bryant Bulldogs 64-58 at Christl Arena Monday. The win put the Black Knights at 5-1 on the season, while the Bulldogs dropped to 0-6.

Army has won five of its first six games for the first time since the 1978-79 season when the Mike Krzyzewski-led Cadets began the campaign 6-1. It is Army's first five-game winning streak since a six-game run in 2006-07.

The Black Knights trailed by as many as eight in the first half and were down one at halftime, but outscored the Bulldogs 31-24 in the second half to take the victory.

Firstie forward Cleveland Richard led the Black Knights with 18 points and six rebounds, including a season-high three three-pointers. Richard also led the defensive charge with five steals and did not commit a turnover.

Plebe forward Ella Ellis had his first career double-digit scoring game with 10 points in 12 minutes off the bench. Firstie guard Josh Miller dished out a team-high five assists.

The Bulldogs jumped out to an early 5-0 lead, but Richard broke Army's early scoring drought with a three-pointer at the 18:24 mark. Bryant made their first four shots, including three three-pointers to lead 11-4 with 17:15 left in the first half.

Army scored the next five points to pull within two, but the Bulldogs continued their torrid start with their fourth three in their first five attempts to reclaim a five-point advantage with 15:04 to go.

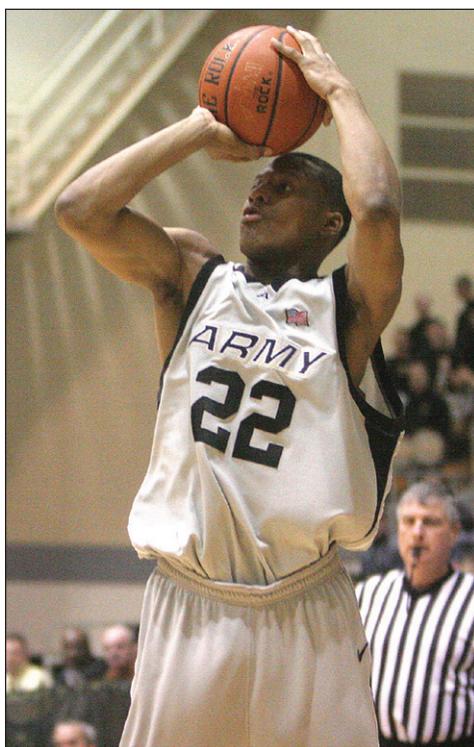
Back-to-back baskets by Firstie forward Eric Zastoupil pulled Army within one and Cow forward Jeremy Hence tied the game at 14-14 with one of two free throws at the 12:48 mark.

Bryant broke the tie with a 10-2 run to take a 24-16 lead with 7:39 remaining in the first half. Army countered with a 12-2 spurt of its own.

Miller hit a three-pointer to tie the score with 6:11 left, and the Black Knights took their first lead at 28-26 on a runner by Richard with 4:21 left.

Bryant scored the next five points, including their seventh triple of the half. Again, Army mustered a comeback with six consecutive points to lead 32-31 with under a minute to go.

A Bulldog three-pointershooter pushed them back in front by two with nine seconds left. Miller



Yearling guard Julian Simmons scored nine points to help Army to its fifth straight win. It's the Black Knights best start since the 1978-79 season.

ERIC S. BARTELT/PV

was fouled on his last-second desperation shot, but made just one of the two free throws to send Army into the locker room down 34-33.

Army vaulted to a 57-48 lead in the second half, but the Bulldogs charged back with five straight points with 2:20 left.

Bryant had the ball with just over a minute to go and a chance to cut further into the lead, but Richard poked the ball away, dove on it and called timeout to give the Black Knights possession.

The Bulldogs were forced to foul Yearling guard Julian Simmons, who drained both ends of a one-and-one for a 59-53 lead with 57 seconds left.

But Army was able to keep Bryant at an arm's reach during the last minute to come away with a 64-58 win. Army now has won its last five home games and nine of its last 10 appearances at Christl Arena.

The Black Knights begin a three-game road stretch starting Thursday when they travel to the University at Buffalo in Amherst, N.Y.

The Bulls are 2-2 on the season and return four starters from last year's team that won 24 games and advanced to the title game of the MAC Tournament.



TACs earn Turkey Bowl victory 22-6

Major Cochran Pruett, H-3's tactical officer, tries to elude the tackle of two noncommissioned officers after catching a pass from Col. Mark McKearn during the first half of the annual Turkey Bowl Nov. 24. The officers won for the third straight year with a 22-6 win under the lights at Shea Stadium.

TOMMY GILLIGAN/PV

Corps

FRIDAY—HOCKEY VS. SACRED HEART, 7:05 P.M. AT TATE RINK.

SATURDAY—HOCKEY VS. SACRED HEART, 7:05 P.M. AT TATE RINK.

SUNDAY—RIFLE VS. COAST GUARD, 10 A.M. AT TRONS RUE MARKSMANSHIP CENTER.

TUESDAY—WOMEN'S BASKETBALL VS. MANHATTAN, 7 P.M. AT CHRISTL ARENA.

DEC. 10—WRESTLING VS. RIDER, 7:30 P.M. AT GILLIS

Sports calendar

Dec. 3-30

FIELD HOUSE.

DEC. 10—WOMEN'S BASKETBALL VS. OKLAHOMA, 8:30 P.M. AT CHRISTL ARENA.

DEC. 12—FOOTBALL VS. NAVY AT PHILADELPHIA (LINCOLN FINANCIAL FIELD), 2:30 P.M. (TELEVISION: CBS.)

DEC. 19—MEN'S BASKETBALL VS. MOUNT ST. VINCENT, 4 P.M. AT CHRISTL ARENA.

DEC. 22—MEN'S BASKETBALL VS. NEW HAMPSHIRE, 2 P.M. AT CHRISTL ARENA.

DEC. 30—WOMEN'S BASKETBALL VS. RAMAPO, 5 P.M. AT CHRISTL ARENA

Club

SATURDAY—JUDO TEAM, WEST POINT JUDO TOURNAMENT, 8 A.M. (ALL DAY) AT EISENHOWER HALL.

SATURDAY—HANDBALL TEAM, MEN'S NORTHEAST LEAGUE GAMES VS. NEW ENGLAND FREEZE, NYC THC AND N.Y. ATHLETIC CLUB, NOON AT ARVIN GYM.