



Claim JQS before new requirements

By Alexandra Hemmerly-Brown
Army News Service

Beginning Oct. 1, active-duty officers wanting to get self-nominated credit for serving in a joint-service environment will need to do it quickly—the Joint Qualification System is changing its requirements.

Under the current JQS, a validation system that documents officers' joint service in their official records, officers can file for joint credit dating back to Sept. 11, 2001. However, after Sept. 30, active-duty officers will only be able to file retroactively within 12 months from the date they completed their joint-experience assignment.

Having joint-service credit is important for officers because it portrays them as being well-rounded, and active-duty officers can't make the rank of general without it, Army Human Resource Command officials said.

"The cut-off date is a management mechanism to finally close out the old legacy retroactive joint-duty credit system ... which is a good thing," David Quimby, deputy chief of plans and operations for the officer directorate at Army Human Resources Command, said.

Quimby said that for years, services were requesting waivers for officers to receive this retroactive credit, and now that grace period has expired.

The Bottom line is if you want joint credit to count, don't wait.

"The global environment that the United States is in right now and the potential threats from any direction demands that we think, act, operate and train in a joint-service environment ... It's a must," Quimby said. "Putting emphasis on joint experience is critical because when you fast-forward to the younger generation today, when they are our generals and senators, and they don't understand how to operate in a joint environment, we will fail in our mission to defend the United States."

In 2007, Congress modified the Goldwater-Nichols Defense Reorganization Act of 1986 to allow officers to gain joint experience through two paths. Previously, joint credit was only given to those in an officially sanctioned joint-duty billet, considered the 'standard' path.

Now, officers can also self-nominate themselves to receive joint credit if they've served in a non-appointed joint position, such as on a deployment, or a combined joint task force for humanitarian relief. This is called the 'experience' path.

Using a point system, one point is awarded

A gripping experience

Combatives moves were demonstrated by Firstie John Perrine (on top) and Maj. Jonathan Belmont, Northeast Regional commander at the U.S. Military Academy Directorate of Admissions, during Military Day for the hundreds of high school juniors participating in the first session of the Summer Leaders Seminar at West Point June 3. For more on SLS, stories and photos are on pages 6-7.

MIKE STRASSER/PV

See JQS, Page 2

DPTMS force protection summer message

Submitted by the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security

The Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security has provided a few tips for West Point community member vacationers to help ensure a safe and pleasant summer.

As always, situational awareness is paramount and everyone is

encouraged to remain observant and aware.

Travel Safety

All West Point personnel traveling outside the U.S. should contact the West Point Installation Security Office's John Cronin at 938-2971 for guidance on all pre-travel requirements and to receive an area of responsibility brief in accordance with Army Regulation 525-13, Antiterrorism.

Revisit your Antiterrorism Level 1 training before taking a vacation. This will provide refresher training on Force Protection Conditions, air and ground travel security, rental car practices, hotel security and hostage survival procedures, among other important topics.

For additional precautions, check out the State Department Web site for country-specific and up-to-date travel information at

www.travel.state.gov/travel_1744.html.

Traveling into New York City: Subway Crime Prevention Tips

- Be careful not to display money in public;
- Hold on to your purse when using the shoulder strap;
- Keep your wallet out of sight and never put your wallet in your rear pocket;
- Be sure your necklaces and other jewelry are not visible;
- Do not doze or fall asleep on the train;
- Beware of loud arguments or noisy incidents. They could be staged to distract you in order to pick your pocket.

Every train station has an off-hours waiting area.

Off-hours waiting areas may be located near the station booth, on the middle level in a two-level station or on the platform. These well-lit areas are marked by yellow signs usually hanging from the ceiling.

If You See Something, Say Something!

These were the exact words used by the T-shirt salesman responsible for alerting the police after he noticed smoke coming from a parked SUV in Times Square on the evening of May 1.

This is also a reminder to remain alert, vigilant and aware, and to promptly report suspicious persons, vehicles and crimes to a local law enforcement agency.

Additional information on travel, safety and crime prevention and reporting can be obtained by visiting the following sites:

- <https://safety.army.mil> (U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center);
- www.ncpc.org (National Crime Prevention Council);
- <https://atlevel1.dtic.mil/at/> (Antiterrorism Level 1 Training System).

When in New York City, call 1-888-NYC SAFE (1-888-692-7233).

The senior leadership of the Army has proclaimed August 2010 as the Army's Antiterrorism Awareness Month.

The DPTMS AT/FP Office has begun planning efforts this month to ensure the widest possible dissemination of events in support of this proclamation with the kick-off at the 27th annual National Night Out event hosted by Balfour Beatty Communities Aug. 3.

For more information on how you can support Army AT Month, contact Joe Senger, DPTMS operations, at (845) 938-8859/3650.

JQS, cont'd from Page 1

for every 30 days served in a joint environment, and 'intensity factors' depending on what kind of assignment the service is fulfilled in, can add additional points.

The Army's goal is for all officers to have at least 36 points by the time they are eligible for brigadier general—achievable in one year for an officer in a combat zone, where the 'intensity factor' is three.

The JQS packets are then sent to the Joint Manpower Information System, and quarterly panels are convened to determine the validity of the points, and if the assignment meets the definition of 'joint matters.'

"To have this credit, it really distinguishes you and sets you apart from your peers," Lt. Col. Maria Quon, a public affairs officer with the Army's Human Resources Command in St. Louis, said.

The Army Reserve is implementing a similar deadline, but it is more relaxed because of the difficulty Reserve officers have accumulating JQS points, Maj. Mary Lepley, an Army Human Resources Command Reserve Career Manager, explained.

Reserve officers will have until 2013 to file for JQS dating back to 1986. The retroactive date goes further back for the Reserve because the 2007 Congressional modification to the Defense Reorganization Act was only for active duty.

Reserve officers can also get joint credit for attending joint military education courses under certain circumstances.

After 2013 though, just like their active-duty counterparts, Reserve officers will have a maximum of one year after completion of their joint-related assignment to submit their self-nomination application

into JQS.

The Army National Guard's new JQS deadline mirrors the Reserve's.

"It's human nature to procrastinate, until it's right at your doorstep," JQS manager Joe Palermo, who warned of putting off filing, said.

Palermo, however, made it clear that as long as officers file their paperwork by Sept. 30, they've met the deadline for applying for retroactive joint-service credit.

To self-nominate for JQS, go to www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/jmis/JQSindex.jsp, or call (703) 325-8192 for active duty, and (314) 592-0096 for Reserve.

Also, more information is available at the Web site of U.S. Army Human Resources Command at www.hrc.army.mil/site/protect/active/opdistjp/index.htm (AKO login required).

Think you can be this guy?

Can you meet the challenge of West Point? The U.S. Military Academy will conduct a Rehearsal Reception Day 10 a.m.-1 p.m. June 25 on the academy grounds. You can help by volunteering to be a cadet for a day. Members of the community are invited to assist the Corps of Cadets in preparation of the incoming Class of 2014. Participants will be given the opportunity to experience the initial transformation process from civilian to military life of a new cadet.

Those interested may sign up online at www.dean.usma.edu/r-day_volunteers/logon.cfm or call 938-3772.

Volunteers must be 12 and older, in good health and not be a candidate for the Class of 2014. Report to the Hollender Center no later than 9:45 a.m. Dress in seasonal attire and bring one suitcase or duffel bag. Feel free to bring a snack and bottle of water that can be carried in your bag. Transportation back to Hollender Center will be available after the event.



Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

See SUDOKU PUZZLE, Page 11

Jewish Shabbat Services

Throughout the summer, there will be regular Friday night Shabbat services at the West Point Jewish Chapel at 7 p.m. The services will be followed by light refreshments and fellowship. The Jewish Chapel staff can be reached at 938-2710 if there are any questions.

Want to read the Pointer View on crisp paper rather than online? To get a yearly subscription (48 issues) of the Pointer View, contact Milton Caban at the Times Herald-Record at 914-388-3880.

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West Point
The United States Military Academy

Medic warriors welcomed home

Story and photo by Mike Strasser
Assistant Editor/Copy

For their dedication and sacrifices made in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom, 13 warrior medic honorees and their families were recognized at a redeployment ceremony at the 49er Lodge June 3.

Keller Army Community Hospital hosted the event and Col. Michael Deaton, KACH commander, thanked the group, ranging from private to lieutenant colonel, for their service to the nation.

In giving thanks, he offered the young family members some advice about it.

Recalling his own adolescence in a time of war, he said that as Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen returned home from Vietnam, the nation neglected to thank them.

"I want you guys to remember this because you're the future of our country and I want you to never let this country make this mistake," Deaton said. "The first thing we forgot to do was to say 'thank you.'

"And you have to make sure that anytime we send Soldiers into war," he added, "when they come home, remember to pat them on the back and tell them you're glad to see

them home."

Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney Harris, the U.S. Corps of Cadets command sergeant major, said West Point has welcomed presidents, senators, foreign dignitaries and combat commanders, but none are more significant or more important than when returning servicemembers are welcomed home.

He commended the Soldiers for putting themselves in harm's way for the care and welfare of others, and said the medic patch they wear on their shoulder is a source of respect and reverence in the Army.

"I believe that because of this deployment, you will be better doctors, medics and Soldiers," Harris said.

Deaton presented the homecoming heroes with a campaign medal and commander's coin, while Soldiers' presented their spouses with a yellow rose. In recognition of their own sacrifices and support from the home front, each spouse received a certificate of appreciation from the Keller commander.

While welcoming one group of warriors home, the ceremony also paid tribute to the nine Soldiers assigned to KACH currently deployed in Afghanistan and Iraq.



Keller Army Community Hospital commander Col. Michael Deaton welcomes home Lt. Col. Juanita Gauss, 10th Combat Support Hospital, Fort Carson, Colo., from a recent deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. A redeployment ceremony was held at the 49er Lodge June 3 to welcome home 13 Soldiers from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Ellerson joins NCAA coaches for morale trip in SW Asia

By Spc. Naveed Ali Shah
13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)

National Collegiate Athletic Association football coaches visited Soldiers with the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) May 28 at Joint Base Balad, Iraq.

The coaches, visiting from various colleges across the United States, were University of Oregon head coach Chip Kelly, University of Illinois head coach Ron Zook, Harvard University head coach Tim Murphy and Army head coach Rich Ellerson.

The tour, sponsored by the United Service Organizations and Morale Entertainment, visited Ramstein Air Base, Germany, The Kingdom of Bahrain, the USS Eisenhower and several locations in the Iraq theater of operations.

Soldiers with the 13th ESC turned out in droves to get their memorabilia autographed by the coaches and gain insight into some of the minds that drive the popular sport through every season.

First Lt. Sean Devine, a mobility plans officer with the 13th ESC and a Geneva, Ill., native, prepared a list of football questions for each coach.

"This is a great opportunity to just get their thoughts on college football," Devine said. "It's a dream come true, just to meet these guys you see every Saturday on the sidelines."

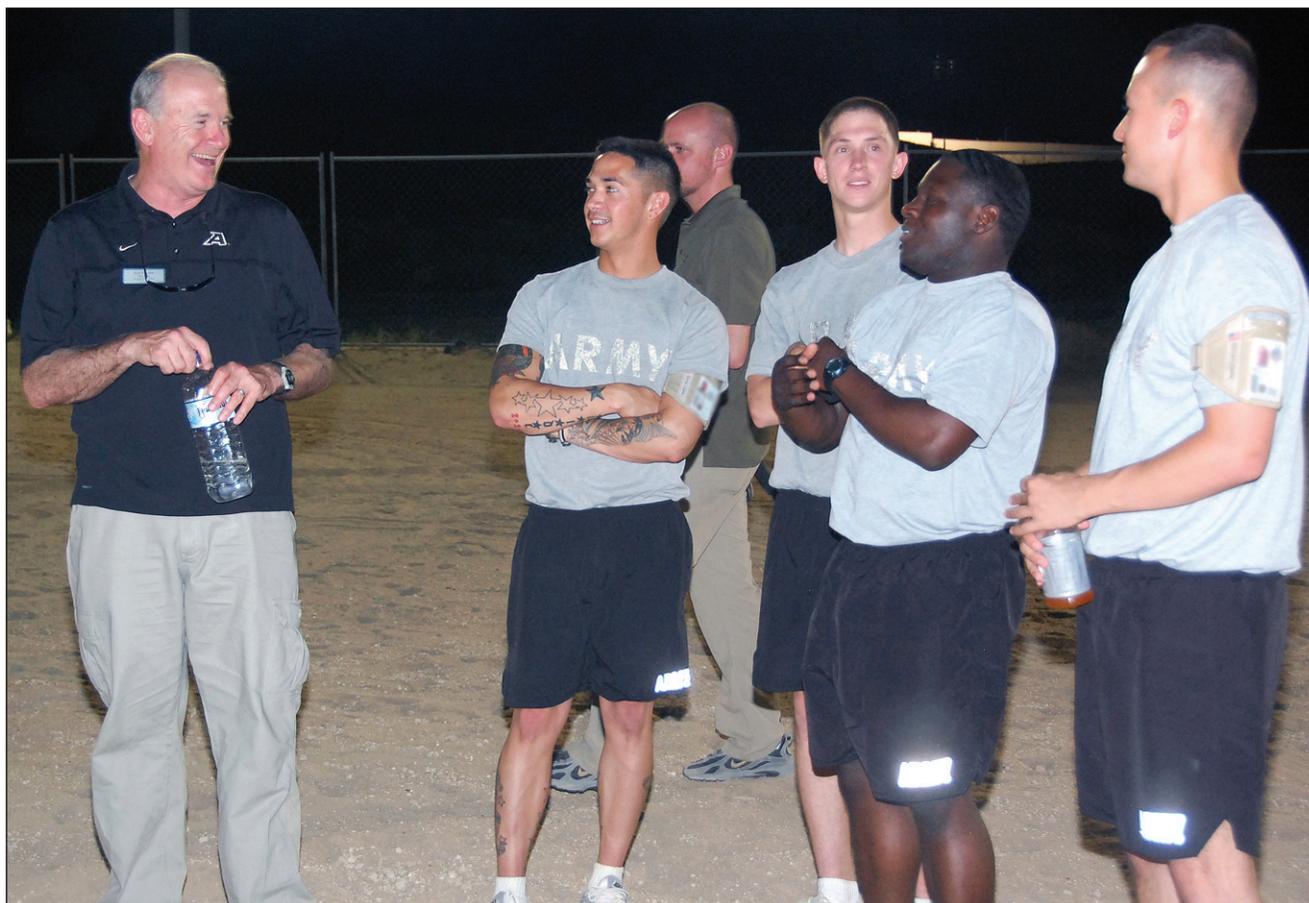
For many of the Soldiers, the chance to meet the Army football coach was about more than just football.

"It's so cool for them to come out here," 1st Lt. Beth Sutey, the theater backlog officer for the 14th Transportation Battalion, 13th ESC, and a 2007 West Point graduate, said. "When I was in school, I never missed a game."

"For the Army coach to come out here is huge," Sutey, a Fairfax, Va., native, added. "For the coach to see his players and cadets, and see where their careers took them is great."

For Ellerson, the visit held a special meaning.

"My situation is a little bit different as a football coach," he said. "I'm learning to tell this story. I have to articulate about the game, but also about the ultimate destination, which for most of my guys is here in Iraq or Afghanistan."



Army head football coach Rich Ellerson talks with Soldiers during a flag football game May 29 at an air base in Southwest Asia. Ellerson and three other college football coaches recently visited military members throughout the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. LINDSEY MAURICE

Macdonald reflects on WP origin

By Staff Sgt. Rachel Martinez
USAF, NTM-A

She once described her West Point experience like making the first footprints in the snow. Forging the way for women in the military, Army Brig. Gen. Anne Macdonald and 61 other women, were part of the first female class to graduate from the U.S. Military Academy 30 years ago.

With a grandfather and father in the military, Macdonald understood service to country. When the opportunity to attend West Point was presented her senior year in high school, Macdonald took a chance and applied.

"It was an opportunity to serve and a chance to do something challenging," Macdonald said.

West Point was indeed challenging on several points. Because the academy was building leaders, it needed to ensure those leaders, America's leaders, were the best physically, mentally and emotionally, Macdonald said.

In addition to those challenges faced by every cadet, Macdonald and her 61 sisters, as she calls them, faced the additional challenge of being unwelcome in that military culture.

"What made it particularly difficult was how we were treated," Macdonald said. "I don't know what I expected, but it wasn't that. I have a full appreciation for being an unwanted minority and how that feels."

On the first day of classes, Macdonald recalls the loads of media attention and how she and her classmates quickly learned they needed to stay out of the media.

"It was important to blend in and be part of the class; we were going to be singled out anyway," she said. "The best that we could do is blend in and be part of the team, and that really proved advantageous to us. Part of being able to survive was being able to do just that."

As challenging as her academy experience was, Macdonald did not let it deter her from making a career out of serving.

"When the Army was so accepting and had opportunities for leadership, I knew I could make a difference," Macdonald said. "It was just a wonderful opportunity, a wonderful 30 years. I look back and would never have dreamt that I would have had the opportunities I've had. I've met incredible people and done some wonderful things in service to our country."

Macdonald is now serving in Afghanistan with NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan as Assistant Commanding General-Police Development.

While her primary role is to oversee Ministry of Interior and police development, she has had the opportunity to watch Afghan women take the same steps she took in serving her country.

While attending a recent oath ceremony for the first female class at the Afghan National Army Officer Candidate School, Macdonald was taken back to her first day at West Point 34 years ago.

"It was absolutely a flood of memories," Macdonald said. "It was exactly like my first day. After a crazy day where you learn to salute and learn to march, you actually are marching on The Plain with all your other classmates and you take your oath. It was very similar to that. Here we are, 34 years later, in Afghanistan, and these women, these brave women, are doing exactly the same thing we did."

Regardless of whether its men or women, Macdonald said everyone has something to offer.

It's one of the leadership lessons she learned at West Point. Men and women are different from each other and a good leader knows how to take advantage of everyone's gift, she said.

During the women's ANA OCS ceremony, an Afghan general officer pointed to Macdonald as inspiration for the women beginning their service.

"For this male general to stand up and say to these 30 young women that 'you can do this, and this opportunity is available to you' is incredible. I'm not sure I heard that same message when I was coming up," she said.

When building leaders, whether it is new cadets or senior officers, Macdonald keys in on one important piece of advice—in order to lead well, you need to respect the people you lead.

This means taking care of your people and ensuring their basic necessities such as food, shelter and pay are met. It also means equipping and training them properly.

When leaders take care of their people, then their people will stand by them and take care of the mission. This is important in Afghanistan, particularly where the police mission is growing.

"The police represent the government," she explained. "When the police lead and represent themselves professionally, and they are not corrupt, then the people trust them. When the people have trust and confidence in the police, then the people have trust and confidence in the government. That's what we need to do in order to transition, so Afghanistan can take this on themselves. I have seen those changes happen."



Assessing the damage

Firstie Cadet Matthew Bowman describes to National Resource Damage Assessment representatives how to organize a bird database with information on the assessments of wildlife affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill May 28. Bowman is working as the Engineer Research and Development Center representative to the Department of Interior for the Deepwater Horizon oil spill response effort in the Gulf of Mexico, which is a part of his Academic Individual Advanced Development. Pictured above, Bowman is inside the Mobile Civic Center in the Incident Command Center.

COURTESY PHOTO

It's those changes and slow progress that motivate Macdonald.

"That's what makes this mission so incredibly rewarding and so incredibly special," she said. "We know we are making a

huge difference in this country and some day this country will be able to stand back on its own feet and be one of our strategic partners and be able to go this journey 'shohna ba shohna' (shoulder to shoulder)."

In Memoriam

Michael Billig, 81, of Milford, Pa., passed away on May 18 at St. Luke's Hospital in Cornwall. Billig worked as a tour guide at West Point for more than 10 years. Previously, he had been a salesman for Honeywell, in Berkley Heights, N.J., for 35 years. He was a Korean War Army veteran and an active member of the Mt. Laurel VFW Post 8612, in Milford, Pa.

He was a devoted Family man—husband, father of two sons (his son, Eric, is a West Point graduate) and grandfather of eight. He was an avid tennis player and still found time to serve his community as a member of the Pike County Planning Commission and member of the Board of Directors of the Pike County Historical Society.

Billig had a love for all things West Point, but he was especially devoted to Army sports and to the Jewish Chapel. He was a regular patron of Army football at Michie Stadium. He loved to guide visitors through the Jewish Chapel, share its beauty and traditions and proudly point to his son's name on the wall of graduates.

"We—the tour guide staff—knew him as a true gentleman with a personality and sense of humor that could light up a room. He had a real depth of knowledge about the history and traditions of West Point and a style of storytelling that would both entertain and inspire; yet he was always inquisitive and eager to learn more and share it with staff and visitors. When Mike fell ill May 18, he was here in Highland Falls waiting to go out to give a tour. We all take some comfort in the belief that he left us doing what he loved."

The day Billig passed away, West Point Tours received a letter from a woman who had been on a tour he had given last month to a visiting group of docents from Texas.

"Our entire group was enthralled—every place we visited unfolded a new depth of his knowledge of the academy and its traditions and it instilled in us a heightened respect for West Point," the letter said. "As a guide, I recognize excellence—this man was off the charts. I still recall that enlightening tour and wanted him to know how grateful I am for his willingness and desire to share his knowledge. I never did hear his name but he is not anonymous in my memory."

We know his name and will also very fondly remember our friend, Mike Billig.

—Compiled by the Staff of West Point Tours

Gail F. Burton Corbin, a 17-year employee with the West Point Directorate of Public Works' Custodial Branch, passed away May 24 at her residence in Newburgh.

Corbin, 60, began her West Point civil service career in April 1993 and was described by colleagues as courteous, dependable and always known for her giving and caring disposition.

The daughter of the late Reverend William D. Burton and Judy C. Brewington Burton, she was born June 27, 1949, in Hamilton, Bermuda.

Survivors include her loving and devoted daughters, Katrina Cotten, Arreda K. Cotten, and Quessie G. Corbin-Williams and husband, Supreme, all of Newburgh; sons, Charles E. Corbin, III and George A. Corbin, both of Newburgh; brother, William T. Burton of Chesapeake, Va.; sisters, Sylvia D. McGrew and husband, Larry, of Spring Valley and Ramona L. Burton and Rufus Williams of Newburgh; eight grandchildren, several nieces, nephews and many friends.

Burial services were held June 3, at Cedar Hill Cemetery, Middlehope, N.Y.

—Staff Reports



'See you soon'

Fond farewells and bittersweet departures marked the last day of school for both students and teachers June 4 at West Point Elementary School. Pictured above, fourth grade teacher Katie Hequembourg hugs student Mikayla Turner. By tradition, the school buses make two or three passes around the school so children can wave good-bye to school and hello for summer vacation.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

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Cadet cadre take charge of Summer Leaders Seminar

Story and photos by Mike Strasser
Assistant Editor/Copy

The morning air was thick with humidity, requiring very little activity to break a sweat. Yet hundreds of runners would soon thunder through South Dock, shouting cadence while slowing their pace to a quick-time march into formation. In a loud, bellowing command voice, a cadet platoon sergeant cried out, "1st Platoon ... drink water."

"Beat the heat, sergeant, beat the heat," responded the 1st Platoon candidates in unison, guzzling from their water bottles before a series of muscle endurance drills.

From the basic task of hydration to properly negotiating an obstacle course challenge, West Point cadets are responsible for providing guidance and leadership to more than 1,000 incoming high school seniors selected to experience life at the U.S. Military Academy. The weeklong Summer Leaders Seminar, which concludes its second and final installment Friday, has been used as an insider's look into the academy for many former and current cadets since its inception in 1976.

Helping to lead this charge of student candidates and a team of 54 cadets is SLS first sergeant, Cow Matthew Boyd.

Like many of the cadence-calling cadets who have fielded questions day and night from the inquisitive brood, Boyd's voice is hoarse.

"Candidates are full of questions, and we're full of answers," Boyd said. "They'll ask you things that maybe you've never thought of; they're very excited to learn and they understand we're here to share our knowledge. Usually anytime I sit down at the table for meals, I'll ask, 'So candidates, do you have any questions?' And, they'll ask so many I almost don't get to eat my meal. I'm excited to answer them."

Success, at the end of the day, he said, is measured in part by whether he has given these students sufficient answers to their queries.

"I feel every day is going to be a successful day, because even if something didn't go as planned, you can learn from it," Boyd said. "If every candidate goes to bed with questions answered, or they've had a good PT day and have learned something new, then that's a successful day."

Learning is a two-way street at SLS, as the cadets draw plenty of leadership experience for the first time in such large capacities.

"At West Point, you first crawl, then walk, then run," Boyd said. "So your first year here, you're in charge of yourself, and you may help out your roommate and your peers. Sophomore year, you're a team leader, so you may be in charge of one or two plebes per semester. I went from being in charge of one plebe to being in charge of 571 rising seniors in high school. It was a big leap for me, but I felt very prepared to do that. I felt like West Point has prepared me well for this, and I have a great cadre who are equally prepared to take on this task."

For Boyd, SLS has been about learning to see the big picture, and build contingency upon contingency when planning an event.

"With a leadership detail, you have to think ahead, think about every little thing about what could go wrong and how you can fix it before it even happens," Boyd said.

Percentage-wise, nearly half of the cadre participated in SLS as high schoolers. This helps, Boyd said, because they drew from the experience these cadets had as candidates and learned their likes and dislikes from that experience.

Last year, Cow Jennifer West went home to Fort Meyer, Fla., to speak with high schoolers in her community about West Point. This year, the students came to her as she



Cadet cadre were responsible for keeping the candidates motivated throughout the weeklong Summer Leaders Seminar, even during muscle-fatiguing exercise.

served as an SLS platoon sergeant.

"It's definitely been an eye-opening experience, getting to see all the work that goes behind the program," West said. "It's definitely a reminder of what I did when I came here for SLS, and gives me a chance to present West Point as it was presented to me and why I wanted to come here."

Like Boyd, West admits it was somewhat daunting being in charge of a large group for the first time.

"It's definitely a massive jump in leadership, and was a shock to the system, but everybody here learns fast," West said. "What these candidates don't really understand is the fact that we're learning just as much as they are during SLS. We are learning about how we want to lead and this is a great atmosphere to do that because the officers here let us take charge. You learn to work with your peers, recommending activities and making an impression on the candidates. They have so much motivation and are so excited to be here, which motivates us as well."

With the second SLS graduation just a day away, West, Boyd and the 52 other cadre members will have delivered the West Point experience

to just over 1,000 potential West Point candidates.

More than 50 percent of last year's SLS class were accepted into the Class of 2014.

"We all want the candidates to leave with a good impression of West Point," West said. "If they decide not to come here, at the very least, they can say, 'It wasn't for me, but that's a good school.'"



Cow Romy Murr teaches the cadet candidates on the time-honored tradition of trading select portions of a Meal Ready to Eat. The trades were part of Military Day June 3 for the hundreds of high school juniors participating in the first session of the Summer Leaders Seminar. Cadet candidates, led by a cadre of West Point cadets, spent the day at Camp Buckner learning about Army vehicles, equipment and technology at various static display stations.



Firstie Joseph Murray from Merritt Island, Fla., introduces the candidates to preliminary marksmanship instruction (PMI), guiding the candidates through loading and unloading the M16 and M4 automatic weapons. It's a condensed version of the instruction given prior to them going into weapons simulation training.



(Above) A cadet candidate experiences Reception Day much like a West Point plebe would, with Cows Matthew Boyd, Summer Leaders Seminar first sergeant, and Jennifer West, SLS platoon sergeant. (Left) Candidates learn hand positions during combatives instruction on Military Day. (Below) A candidate, perched high above an obstacle, gives a thumbs up, as platoons of candidates move through the confidence course. More than 1,000 rising high school seniors received an insider's look into cadet life at West Point during the weeklong boot camp.

Students get schooled on West Point



Story and photos by
ROTC Cadet Elizabeth Kraft
West Point PAO Intern

From a gaggle of black and khaki uniforms, the command “fall in” is heard over the chatter of excited soon-to-be graduates.

Within moments, five platoons appear in formation, dressed and covered. It is graduation day and parents and Family members are strolling around Central Area in anticipation of the ceremony.

Behind 54 Cow and Firstie West Point cadets are 571 rising high school seniors who have just completed the Summer Leaders Seminar, a weeklong intensive experience at the U.S. Military Academy from May 29-June 4.

SLS is designed to aid high school students while they begin their collegiate exploration, giving them an insider's look into the academy as an option.

Cows and Firsties serve as cadre to the

candidates on their seven-day stay, using their academy experiences to guide the participants and expose them to a healthy share of academics, military and physical training.

More than 50 percent of last year's SLS class were accepted into the Class of 2014.

The week begins with a Reception Day that is modeled after the one cadets face as they begin their 47-month journey.

“R-Day was scarier than I thought it would be,” Eric Dragland, of Orangevale, Calif., said. “I just tried to block out the stress.”

Many mornings began before sunrise with a rousing dose of physical training before the candidates donned a rendition of the Cadet Casual uniform and headed to their respective academic seminars.

With courses ranging from mathematics to history and ethics and military leadership, every student found a program to inspire his or her intellect. A Georgia native, Lauren Fairfax, enjoyed the hands-on aspects of her electrical engineering seminar.

“I loved all the hacking and the soldering!” she said.

Maxwell Weiner of New Jersey raved about the Leadership and Ethics workshop. He said the class focused on developing a “vision to form an ethical code.” Weiner explained how the class applied the cadet honor code to various vignettes, and how he is applying it to his own life.

He challenged a less than truthful source to approach for clarification, saying that “all members of a group need to have a moral compass before it can be ethical, efficient and effective.”

Candidates reached the pinnacle of their exhausting week of activity during Military Day, which required the participants to motivate themselves for yet another action-packed day.

Static displays, as well as a chance to try the Confidence Course, Leaders Reaction Course and the Bayonet Assault Course tested the candidates to keep their drive buoyant at each station.

The fatigue was all-consuming, yet most participants were able to drive on from sheer will. Others lagged behind, moving almost lifelessly, while others cried out in pain from muscle cramps and bruises.

Fortunately, the support and camaraderie of

their battle buddies gave them the motivation to continue.

Lisa Junta, who hopes to attend West Point and study environmental engineering with the Class of 2015, enjoyed Military Day more than any other activity.

She cited the military intensity of the confidence course as her favorite experience, especially the “Belly Buster” station—essentially a low crawl across an unstable log.

When the first iteration of candidates loaded the buses to leave Camp Buckner, smiles broke out on their tired, muddy faces—expressions that cried out, “We did it!”

After graduating SLS the following day, an exhausted Siobhan O'Brien looked back on her brief time at West Point and smiled again.

“I liked the challenge, and I liked the dirt. I was on the fence when I came, but I think I'll apply,” O'Brien said.



1st Sgt. Dave Pribble directs Sgt. 1st Class Keith Sekishiro, left, a tactical noncommissioned officer at Camp Smith, to begin his descent during his first 90-foot rappel from an UH-60 Black Hawk at Camp Smith.

Story and photos by
Tommy Gilligan
Assistant Editor/Photo

One hundred ninety-three prospective students gathered at Camp Smith, just across the Bear Mountain Bridge from West Point, to take on the extreme physical challenge of Air Assault School during the first of four sessions this summer.

The session was administered by the mobile training team from the 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Ky. The class consisted of 190 West Point cadets, two tactical noncommissioned officers and one ROTC cadet from Penn State.

Air Assault School is a 10 1/2-day course that teaches air assault techniques and procedures and qualifies Soldiers to wear the Air Assault Badge. The course is broken down into three phases after Day Zero.

The prospective AAS students stepped off the buses to meet Chief Instructor Staff Sgt. Brad Hart and his 10 cadre members on the first day of their journey.

"To even enter the school, all potential candidates must pass an inspection of the required equipment that is needed for the school," Hart said. "Then, they must complete an obstacle course that tests their physical strength and complete a two-mile run in under 18 minutes to even become an air assault student."

Once they become AA students, the training not only tests the students' physical capabilities, but also their mental capability to comprehend and endure the rugged training.

For three days during phase one,

the cadre instructed the students on combat assault.

The students learned the following AA procedures:

- Aircraft safety;
- Aircraft orientation, which includes familiarization of the characteristics and capabilities of Army aircraft;
- Aero Medical Evacuation, which includes the capabilities and request procedures for MEDEVAC aircraft;
- Pathfinder operations—helicopter landing zone (HLZ) selection, marking and operation for day and night missions involving multiple aircraft, to include sling loads;
- Hand-and-arm signals—students are taught 17 hand-and-arm signals used during sling load operations;
- Close combat attacks—use of attack aviation in a close air support role;

Combat assault operations, which include various factors encompassed in air assault operations including components of an air assault mission, the reverse-planning sequence, duties and responsibilities of platoon-level personnel during an air assault, static load training and a simulated combat assault on UH-60 Black Hawk aircraft were taught.

At the completion of the training, the students take two tests. The first is a 50-question multiple choice test which they must achieve a minimum of 70 percent to receive a 'go' to the next AA portion.

The second is a hands-on test on 10 of the 17 hand-arm-signals and correctly performing 7 of the 10 moves them on in the training.

"Being able to correctly perform the hand signal is extremely

important, especially while in a Black Hawk, because the ability to hear what people are saying is impossible," 1st Sgt. Dave Pribble, AA first sergeant, said.

Phase two, sling load operations, is three-day long process.

During the sling load phase, students receive instruction on various aspects of sling load operations. This instruction includes:

- Planning and preparation for sling load operations;
- Capabilities, characteristics and use of sling load equipment;
- Duties and responsibilities of sling load personnel;
- Familiarization with sling load theory and rigging of non-standard loads.

Students receive hands-on training on preparation, rigging and inspection of several certified or suitable external loads including:

- M1097 Humvee;
- M1097 Humvee, shotgun/side-by-side configuration;
- M119 105mm Howitzer;
- M149A2 Water Trailer;
- A-22 Cargo Bag;
- Fuel blivets (one, two, three, or four blivets configuration);
- 5,000-pound or 10,000-pound Cargo Net.

The students also conducted an actual hook-up of a load underneath a CH-47 Chinook or a UH-60 Black Hawk.

During phase three, Hart said, "The students have learned to trust the instructors, and prior to bringing them to the tower we show them we have support for them on the ramp."

Once on the tower, students must complete three rappels using the swiss seat—two without a combat load and one with a combat

Air Assault

161 receive a 'go' and earn the Air Assault Badge



1st Sgt. Dave Pribble directs four cadets prior to their first descent during the 90-foot rappel from an UH-60 Black Hawk at Camp Smith June 2 at Air Assault School.

load.

The combat load is with a rifle and a 30-pound ruck sack. After receiving a 'go' on all three, they complete two 90-foot rappels from an UH-60 Black Hawk, one without and one with the combat load.

While waiting to get into one of the aircrafts, the 169 students who made it to this point had emotions that were all over the spectrum. Some had great excitement while others were apprehensive with worried looks on their faces.

One by one, they rappelled 90 feet to the ground. While some were more graceful than others, each student touched the ground and began shouting "Air Assault, Air Assault, Air Assault," as they raced back to get ready for their second and final rappel.

As the cadre released the students for the day, there was still one final test to pass the next morning—the 12-mile foot march.

The students proceeded in full combat load at 3:30 a.m. having

three hours to finish the march.

"Even if they come in a second after the three-hour time limit, the students will not receive a 'go' for graduation," Hart said. "After the march, the students will go through one final inspection prior to being able to graduate."

Throughout the march, each candidate had to drink one quart of water by the completion of each four-mile lap and hold their canteen over their head to show they had finished as they crossed the check point.

One hundred and sixty-one students finished the march within the time limit, some with ease and smiles and others crossing the line nearly passing out as time expired.

The goal each AA student had on Day Zero became a reality for 84 percent of the original pack. One hundred and fifty-eight West Point cadets, two NCOs and one ROTC cadet accomplished something that will set them apart from their peers.



Yearling John Todd positioned himself on the edge of the Air Assault tower while waiting for instruction from Staff Sgt. Richard Weaver, an instructor at the Sabalauski Air Assault School in Fort Campbell, Ky., during Todd's rappel. At the end of the first session of Air Assault School, 161 students graduated and earned their Air Assault Badge.



Cow Karac M. Lindsey rappels from the UH-60 side of the tower at Camp Smith during the third phase of Air Assault School June 2. The Air Assault students needed to complete three rappels from the 40-foot tower prior to performing two 90-foot rappels from an actual UH-60 Black Hawk.

DPW Construction Update

1. Thayer Hall pedestrian bridge is closed to all pedestrians. Bridge will reopen June 25.
2. Cullum Road from Mahan Tunnel to Library Corner is closed to all traffic for Mahan tunnel parking deck repairs. Traffic detour remains in effect. Post-wide north-south through traffic should avoid the central area by using Stony Lonesome and Mills Road detour.
3. Repairs of Brewerton Road steam line are ongoing. One lane of traffic is allowed on Brewerton Road in front of Arvin Gym. Anticipate closure of Brewerton Road in front of Arvin Gym to Scott Place on or about July 1.
4. Repaving of Mine Torne Road (not on map) in the vicinity of new TMP construction along Route 293 is scheduled for Wednesday-June 22 to correct damage caused by recent utility excavations. Traffic on Mine Torne Road will be reduced to one lane with a flag person on the days listed above.

(Information as of Tuesday. Call 938-4407 with questions.)

Legend	
—	Thru Traffic
—	South Bound Reroute
—	North Bound Reroute
	Buildings



Wearing reflective belts

Effective immediately, when conducting physical training outdoors between the hours of 5:30-7 a.m. and during periods of limited visibility or inclement weather, the reflective belt must be worn around the waist. When wearing a jacket, sweatshirt or other outer garment, the reflective belt must be worn at reverse port arms (right shoulder to left hip). Pictured are Firstie Benton English and Cow Zak Lankford as they demonstrated the proper way to wear the reflective belts.

PHOTO BY ROTC CADET ELIZABETH KRAFT/WEST POINT PAO INTERN

BBC LifeWorks events

Prize for good report card

Bring a child's report card with a B or better to 132 Bartlett Loop for a prize coupon through Friday. Every student may receive one prize per report card.

NOW SHOWING

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

Friday—Date Night, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday—Oceans, G, 7:30 p.m.

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

Command Channel 8/23

June 10-17

Army Newswatch
(broadcast times)

Thursday, Friday and Monday through June 17

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

The Point

(broadcast times)

Thursday, Friday and Monday through June 17

8 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

2010 Youth Services Dance Recital—"Dancing through Time"

(broadcast times)

Thursday, 9 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Friday, 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Monday, 11 a.m.; and Tuesday, 4 p.m.

Mine Torne Road and lake closures

In support of Cadet Summer Training, Mine Torne Road and Stilwell Lake will be closed during the Fire Support (Range 2) portion of cadet training. Gates to these locations will be opened for access once firing is complete. Access to Mine Torne Road and Stilwell Lake is not authorized during the following days and times:

- June 28-July 3—6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.;
- July 5-6—6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.;

Popolopen Lake will be open during training this summer. However, there is restricted use of powerboats during the dates and times listed below to allow the Water Confidence Course to be in use. Recreational activities are restricted around the Water Confidence Course area at these times:

- Saturday—7 a.m.-6 p.m.;
- June 29—7 a.m.-7 p.m.;
- June 30—7 a.m.-2 p.m.;
- July 1—7 a.m.-6 p.m.;
- July 2—7 a.m.-2 p.m.;
- July 3—7 a.m.-6 p.m.;
- July 5—7 a.m.-2 p.m.

The above information is subject to change. Additional dates and times may be added. For more information, call Alec Lazore at 938-3007 or 938-3930.

FMWR Blurbs

Indoor Swimming

The FMWR Community Swim program summer session is ongoing through Sept. 3, operating from noon-1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday in Crandall Pool at the Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center.

The program is free of charge.

All participants must have a valid military or CAC card for entry into the facility.

For more information, call 938-2985.

Post Library Summer Reading Program

Join the West Point Post Library for their Summer Sea Odyssey reading program.

The program is open to all West Point Community children ages 3-12.

Registration runs through June 18.

The program takes place from June 21-July 30.

For more information, call 938-2974.

The Scion Battle of the Builds competition

What can you create? The Scion Battle of the Builds competition is a military design challenge giving participants the opportunity to construct their ideal Scion xB.

Entries must be received by Friday.

Go to BattleOfTheBuilds.com for an official copy of the rules and to enter your design.

For more information, call 938-4915.

Delafield and Round Pond swim passes on sale now

Delafield and Round Pond swim punch cards can be purchased at the FMWR Fitness Center and Round Pond.

Starting Friday, cards will be available for purchase at Delafield Pond.

Punch cards are valid for use at Round Pond and Delafield swim areas. Each punch card is good for 12 visits.

Daily swim passes are available at a minimal cost for cadets, children (ages 3-13) and adults.

Children under age 14 must pass an administered swim test to be allowed in the deep area of both ponds.

Children ages 13 and below must be accompanied by an adult.

Round Pond Beach hours of operation:

Open for the season Friday, regular hours are:

- Mon.-Sun., noon-6 p.m.

Delafield Pond Hours of Operation:

Open for the season Friday, regular hours are:

- Mon.-Sun., 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Army Family Team Building Super Sign-Up

Join ACS from 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Tuesday for its Army Family Team Building Super Sign-Up Family Celebration.

There will be games, prizes, hot dogs, popcorn and cotton candy.

To register, call 938-5654.

Military Spouse Career Open House

Join ACS' Employment Readiness Program for its Career Open House from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. June 17.

Topics will include interview skills, dress for success and professional attire, job search assistance, resumé review and much more.

This event will be held in the ACS common area in Bldg. 622.

Refreshments and on-site childcare will be provided.

For more information, call 938-5658.

CYSS Edge! June Photography Classes

There are Monday class sessions for CYSS Edge! Photography running from 3:15-4:14 p.m. through June 28.

Open to CYSS members in grades 3-5. A minimal fee will be charged for the classes.

Register at the Youth Center, Bldg. 500.

For more information, call 938-0829.

WFSG Hearts Apart Support Group

The WFSG Hearts Apart Support Group, presented by the ACS Mobilization and Deployment Program, is for Families of deployed Soldiers.

The next group meeting is from 5:30-7:30 p.m. June 19.

Dinner and special activities will be provided for the entire Family.

Group meetings take place at Youth Services, Bldg. 500.

For more information, call 938-5658.

Father's Day Brunch at the West Point Club

Enjoy the West Point Club's traditional Father's Day Brunch from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. June 20 in the Club's Grand Ballroom.

Spouses of deployed Soldiers eat for half price and children 5 years old and under eat for free.

To make reservations, call 938-5120.

Family Child Care Training

The Family Child Care program will be offering training for individuals interested in providing child care services from the comfort of their homes.

You can choose whether to work with children ages 6 weeks through 12 years, for hourly, full/part time and weekend/evening care.

Training is set to take place from July 7-16.

To sign up, or for more information, contact Elizabeth Peralta at 938-6170 or Elizabeth.Peralta@usma.edu.

FMWR Craft Shop

Do you have a graduation, retirement or promotion gift that you need framed or engraved?

The FMWR Craft Shop can do it for you. Most work is completed in about three weeks.

The Craft Shop is conveniently located in Bldg. 648 behind the Post Office.

For more information, call 938-4812.

CYSS Technology Camps

The CYSS Summer Technology Camps are coming.

Sign up now for four-day classes in Lego Robotics, Stop Motion Animation or Anime Studio.

Class dates are in July and August at the Youth Center, Bldg. 500. For more information, call 938-3727.

Horse Riding Camps

Register now for one of Morgan Farm's three- or five-day summer riding camps.

Dates are available

in June, July and August.

For more information, call 938-3926.

West Point Volunteers

If you were unable to attend the West Point Volunteer Recognition Ceremony and haven't received your certificate of appreciation from your organization, stop by the Army Volunteer Corps coordinator's office to pick up your certificate.

The office is located within Army Community Service in Bldg. 622.

For more information, call 938-3655 or 938-4621.

By this time, you should have heard of the Volunteer Management Information System. If you haven't already registered, now is the time to do so.

This is an Army-mandated system and West Point volunteers are required to use the system in order to be considered "registered."

Only registered volunteers are eligible for awards and recognition through the Army Volunteer Corps, including Black and Gold Awards and an invitation to next year's Volunteer Recognition Ceremony.

For more information about how to register, visit www.westpointmwr.com/ACTIVITY/IVC/index.HTM or e-mail christina.overstreet@usma.edu.

AFAP Issues

Got issues you would like to see resolved?

The Army Family Action Plan is your avenue for results.

If you have a suggestion for how the Army can improve quality of life at West Point, we want to hear about it.

For more information about AFAP or to submit an issue, visit www.westpointmwr.com/afap.htm or call 938-3655.

Army Volunteer Corps

Are you interested in volunteering at West Point?

There are many opportunities for you to get involved.

For more information, please visit www.westpointmwr.com/ACTIVITY/IVC/index.HTM or call 938-3655.

(New Info) The U.S. Army Soldier Show 2010 SHARP-FMWR Sweepstakes

This year, one of the proud sponsors of the 2010 U.S. Army Soldier Show is the Army's G-1, Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention Program, or SHARP.

The three main tenants of this program's prevention campaign are found in the letters "I," "A," "M": Intervene, Act, Motivate.

Just a reminder—when you come to the performance, take a look inside your Soldier Show Program. You'll find a tear-out card—containing a special Access Code—and information about the "SHARP-FMWR Sweepstakes."

The Grand Prize is a \$5,000 trip to the Shades of Green at the Walt Disney World Resort. Also, one lucky winner at each garrison will win a \$200 prepaid gift card.

Just come to the Soldier Show at 7 p.m. Nov. 2 at Eisenhower Hall, find the tear-out card and special Sweepstakes Access Code inside your program, and go to www.PreventSexualAssault.army.mil for complete details.

West Point Band

Since 1817

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A musical journey through the decades
Featuring the music of
Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Glenn Miller, Thad
Jones, Dizzy Gillespie, and more!

Sunday, June 13, 7:30 p.m.
Trophy Point Amphitheatre
Free and open to the public
845-938-2617
www.westpoint.edu/band

Weekly Sudoku by Chris Okasaki, D/EECS

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

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.

What's Happening

Bible Study

The Protestant Women of the Chapel continues its Bible study at 7 p.m. every Thursday in the chapel basement.

The study group will study "Get Out of the Pit" by Beth Moore.

For more information, contact Robin Meyer at 446-8798 or e-mail her at robinmeyer@hvc.rr.com, so she can deliver a book to you, or contact Crystal White at 839-0274 or e-mail at crystalwhite63@ccs.com.

Summer playground fun

Summer playground fun continues Wednesday at Stony II (Dragon Park). The following playground dates include:

- June 30 at New Brick;
- July 7 at Lee Road;
- July 14 at Five Star Inn;
- July 21 at WP Elementary School;
- July 28 at Grey Ghost;
- Aug. 4 at Post Chapel (Biddle Loop).

All playground times are 9:30-11 a.m.

Please bring water and sun block for the children.

For more information, contact Teki Snel at 446-5920 or e-mail her to twc8454465920@earthlink.net.

Cadet Chapel Centennial Commemoration ceremony

Members of the West Point community are invited to join in the Cadet Chapel Centennial Commemoration ceremony from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Friday.

The ceremony is outside Bartlett Hall and includes a band prelude with remarks by West Point leadership.

The march up to the chapel begins at 11 a.m. to recreate the march from the Old Cadet Chapel to the current one in 1910. For those unable to march, bus transportation is provided.

At the chapel, there will be organ music and hymns, the rededication reading and a prayer of rededication that will be followed by fellowship in the Fenton/1924 Room.

Before the fellowship, there will be

a presentation of a chapel cake by Buddy Valastro and his staff from the Learning Channel's "Cake Boss" show under the tent in the parking lot.

For more information, call Connie Wagner at 938-3316.

(New Info) Greekfest 2010

Go to Newburgh for Greekfest 2010 at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church from 5-10 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday and noon-8 p.m. Sunday.

Enjoy authentic Greek Food and pastries, a Greek coffee shop and a gift shop with souvenirs. Also, listen to Greek music.

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church is located on 19 Fullerton Ave. in Newburgh on the corner of Fullerton Ave. and Van Ness St.

For more information, call (845) 561-2556 mailbox #2.

(New Info) Army Birthday celebration

West Point will celebrate the 235th Army Birthday at the West Point Club Ballroom from 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Monday.

The event is open to the West Point community and includes a birthday streamer ceremony, cake cutting and singing of the Army song.

The uniform for the event is ACUs for all military participants.

The Great West Point Giveaway

The Great West Point Giveaway is a free 'swap' open to all West Point residents.

The Post Chapel basement will be open to allow you to give away or take useful goods from 9-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 7 and July 21.

All items leftover or not swapped by 11:30 a.m., must be picked up by the original owner.

For more information, e-mail teamfreds25@yahoo.com.

Harborcraft reservation lottery

The Harborcraft reservation lottery

required.

This is also the time to review your child's immunizations and to prepare additional documentation for the administration of medications during school hours or emergency instructions for children with known allergies.

Obtain the necessary forms from the appropriate school nurse and bring them to your child's appointment.

Call 938-7992 or 800-552-2907 to request an appointment for a school or sports physical and save the summer for vacation fun.

Traveling with TRICARE Prime

Emergency care while you're on the road does not need prior authorization.

If you think you will lose life, limb or eyesight if you are not treated immediately, go to the nearest hospital emergency room or call 911.

Urgent care requires authorization from Health Net Federal Services before receiving the care. Call 877-874-2273 for prior authorization.

If you are within 40 miles of West Point, you will be directed to make an appointment with your primary care manager.

process is underway.

Requests for nonofficial functions for Aug. 1-Oct. 24 will be accepted through the lottery. Remaining dates following the lottery will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Sign up for the lottery through June 21.

Sequence numbers will be released and available dates will be posted June 22.

Selections and reservations will be taken June 23-25. Any remaining dates will be made available June 28.

For more information or to sign up, call 938-3011/2137, fax 938-6855 or e-mail yr9549@usma.edu.

Vacation Bible School

Registration has begun for Vacation Bible School 2010. Forms may be picked up and dropped off at the Chapel Annex located across the street from the Post Chapel or in the Catholic Chapel.

The class runs from 9 a.m.-noon June 21-25 at the West Point Elementary School.

For more information, call Melissa Prosperie at 859-4351 or e-mail mprosperie@hvc.rr.com, or contact Cindy Ragsdale at 938-8761 or cynthia.ragsdale@usma.edu.

Garrison Awards Ceremony

The West Point community is invited to attend the Garrison Awards Ceremony at 3:30 p.m. June 23 at Crest Hall in Eisenhower Hall.

Honoring Purple Heart recipients

The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor will pay tribute to Purple Heart recipients in New Windsor at Anthony's Pier 9 from 1-4 p.m. June 25.

Gen. David Petraeus, U.S. Central Command commander and Class of 1974 graduate, will be the keynote speaker.

This event will honor Purple Heart recipients, recognize veterans who have served and recognize those men and women who are actively serving our country at home and around the world. Seating is limited.

Purple Heart recipients are invited free of charge.

RSVP at www.thepurpleheartinc.com/webpages/event.asp.

Boys Basketball Camp

Army Men's Basketball Head Coach Zach Spiker is directing the 2010 West Point Boys Basketball Camp July 5-9.

Boys ages 8-18 are welcome to participate. Early registration is suggested.

For more information, call 446-4996 ext. 119 or visit www.goarmysports.com.

Wrestling Camps

There are three wrestling camps offered this summer at West Point. The dates are:

- July 6-10, "Ranger Style" intensive camp;
- July 18-22, Competition/technique Camp;
- July 18-22, Kids Camp.

It is an intense training environment for ages 12-18 at the regular camps and for ages 9-12 at the Kids Camp.

Register online at www.goarmysports.com. For more information or to inquire about a brochure, call 938-7671 or e-mail ryan.wilman@usma.edu or rafael.vega@usma.edu.

Girls Basketball Camp

Army Women's Basketball will hold a positional series of clinics from 9 a.m.-4:30

p.m. Aug. 1-3. Girls must be ages 8-18 to participate.

Fine tune your game with West Point basketball coaches and increase your positional IQ.

Registration is required through the camp section of www.goarmysports.com.

Simon Center for the Professional Military Ethic recruiting

The mission of the SCPME is to educate, train and inspire the Corps of Cadets to be courageous leaders of character who profess the Army values, beliefs and standards. The mission also reaffirms their own identities as professionals committed to serving the nation as well as to hone their moral and ethical decision-making skills in the relative safety of a classroom.

Due to the summer PCS surge, SCPME needs experienced officers and NCOs who are willing to share valuable combat and non-combat experiences.

Civilians are also encouraged to volunteer as they bring continuity and consistency to the program and can offer a wealth of experience in a variety of topics.

Cadets receive approximately 72 hours of professional military ethic education, including honor and respect education, through a combination of facilitator-led, small group discussions and dynamic guest speakers who support and reinforce the program's goals and objectives.

These 72 hours begin during Cadet Basic Training and end at the completion of a cadet's Cow year. A typical term during the academic year includes 8-10 fully resourced SCPME lessons, which occur on 10 designated days during Commandant's Hours from 12:30-1:45 p.m.

For more information or to volunteer, call Maj. Chad DeBos at 938-3028 or e-mail him at chad.debos@usma.edu.

Sales Associates needed

Two part-time and two Special Events Sales Associates are needed at the Daughters of the U.S. Army Gift Shop.

If interested, pick up an application at the shop located inside the West Point Museum or contact Tanisha McInerney at 446-0566.

(New Info) Pentagon Federal Credit Union summer hours

The cadet branch of the Pentagon Federal Credit Union in Taylor Hall is observing summer hours through Aug. 6.

The branch is open from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesdays only. They are closed for lunch from 11:45 a.m.-12:24 p.m.

The Highland Falls office is open regular hours at 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

(New Info) West Point Summer Gymnastics Camp

There will be two sessions of the 2010 West Point Summer Gymnastics Camp from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. July 12-16 and 19-23 at the Lou Gross Sports Center.

These are developmental camps offering skills training for beginners through advanced levels on all gymnastics events.

Registration is based on a first come, first served basis. The day camps are offered to boys and girls ages 7 and up.

The camps are taught by Army gymnastics head coach Doug Van Everen and assistant coach Carmine Giglio.

For more information on fees and the camp, call 938-2880.

Keller Corner

Active duty out of country care

Active duty servicemembers and their Families have an added benefit via International SOS. In an emergency, go to a hospital emergency room and contact International SOS as soon as possible.

For urgent care, contact International SOS for assistance finding a provider and to arrange transportation if necessary.

The Web site address is tricarelon@InternationalSOS.com or call 011-44-20-86628133 (collect) or 00-49-6302-67-6314 (outside U.S.).

The U.S. toll free is 888-777-8343.

School and sports physicals

The Primary Care Department will begin offering school and sports physicals starting Tuesday. Beat the summer rush and get your child's school and sports physical now.

If you are moving this summer, it is recommended that you schedule the physical at your next duty station, as the criteria for the new school district may be different.

A physical exam must be within one calendar year to be acceptable.

If the physical expires prior to the beginning of another sport, a new exam is

Sylve overcomes hurdles, now competes at track and field's Mecca

By Eric S. Bartelt
Managing Editor

Rising Firstie Domonick Sylve had to leap over many hurdles to reach "Track Town, USA."

His will to compete and breathtaking performance at the NCAA Championships Eastern preliminary rounds May 28-29 landed him a spot to run in the footsteps of legends at Hayward Field at the University of Oregon Thursday-Saturday at the NCAA Track and Field Championships.

Sylve is one of 12 competitors from the East and 24 overall, including 12 from the West, who are vying for the national championship and eight All-America team spots in the 110-meter hurdles.

He earned his berth to the championships with an Army record-shattering 13.67-second run in the 110-meter hurdles, which was the third-best time in the field, May 29 at North Carolina A&T State's Irwin Belt Track. North Carolina's Johnny Dutch had the fastest time in the hurdles with a 13.53 set in the preliminary round finals.

How Sylve made it to legendary Hayward Field is an amazing feat, because he almost never made it to North Carolina in time for his initial preliminary race.

Sylve was scheduled to leave for North Carolina a couple of days before his May 28 race, but he stayed back at West Point to participate in one more summer school law class (the morning of May 27) prior to his departure. Unfortunately, problems developed and his flight out of Newark, N.J., was cancelled due to weather-related issues, but that was just the beginning of his trek.

"I got a phone call (from Sylve) saying all flights were cancelled in Newark because of thunderstorms, so they (he and Col. Bryan Goda, officer representative) took a cab and got to LaGuardia (airport), and he was supposed to get on a 7:30 p.m. flight," Army head track and field coach Troy Engle said. "They actually got on the plane and were out (on the tarmac) but for whatever reason they pulled back into the gate and said they weren't leaving

that night."

As it turned out, Sylve spent the night at the airport because there were no hotels available in the area because of a New York Yankees home series, so Sylve boarded the plane the next morning with a few hours of uncomfortable sleep to travel to North Carolina where he landed four hours before his first race.

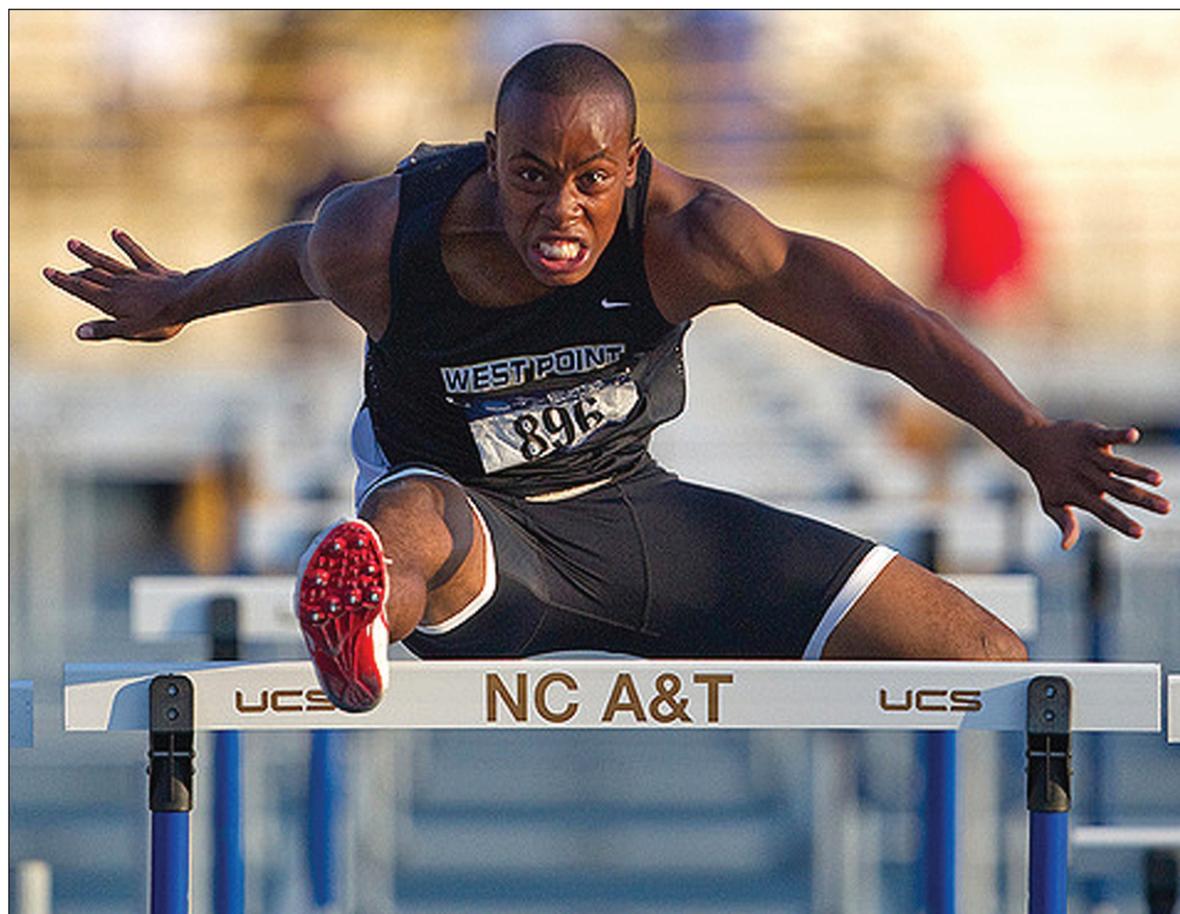
Sylve would gut out his first race with a time of 14.27 seconds to earn third in his heat, which advanced him to the national quarterfinal. That was before the performance of his lifetime that earned him much praise from his astonished head coach.

"I think Dom's performance at the regional meet was a breakthrough performance with the problems he had getting there," Engle said. "He really displayed grace under pressure despite getting thrown the curveball of his travel problems. He came off a couple of hours sleep, did what he had to do in the first round, which was live to fight another day and he did that.

"When you can run a lifetime best at the end of the season that shows he's well prepared. Joe Rogers, who coaches him in the hurdles, has done a great job technically getting him ready," he added. "But, that is not the biggest part. The biggest part are the things that Dom has control over and that's his focus, intensity and poise, which have allowed him to focus not just on getting to the big show, but performing well on that stage and we have great confidence that he will (do well)."

With everything involved going into the races, from coming off of graduation week to taking a summer law course to his travel issues, a lesser runner may have buckled under such pressure, especially any little change to a runner's preparation regimen, but Sylve kept his head about him to succeed when it looked very bleak.

"I think an inexperienced athlete or an athlete not as poised as Dom, with the huge stressors he faced, it literally could have destroyed his or her performance," Engle explained. "One of the beauties of being a West Point cadet is you learn to sleep



Rising Firstie Domonick Sylve heads to the Mecca of track and field, the University of Oregon, to compete in the 2010 NCAA Track and Field Championships Thursday-Saturday. He is one of 24 athletes vying for the eight All-America team spots.

PHOTOS BY TOM CONNELLY

anywhere at any time under any circumstances ... it's an acquired skill of the West Point experience to be able to sleep through a lot of turmoil.

"I think from a physiological standpoint, it probably took the edge off but I think the greater damage it could have had on an athlete who was in less control of his or her emotions would have been the stress factor of, 'Oh, my God, I'm late. I didn't get enough sleep. What is this going to do (to my performance)?" Engle added.

The Long Beach, Calif., native has had a year of years in the 2009-10 athletic calendar.

He earned both the Patriot League and IC4As 55-meter hurdles indoor and 110-meter hurdles outdoor titles while breaking the academy record in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 13.79 versus Navy April 10, surpassing T.J. Peterson's 13.89-second run in 1996.

Although he would later break his own record at the NCAA quarterfinals, it's been a breakthrough season time-and-time again, with Sylve dropping his 110-meter hurdles time from 14.07 to 13.67 in one calendar year.

"It's a pretty significant improvement," Engle said. "I think junior year is a year we anticipate and hope for good performances in our cadet athletes, but that type of performance—four-tenths of a second better—that's remarkable."

Engle spoke about Sylve's continued progress and how he has gotten much stronger and faster through his work on getting off the blocks faster (initial start of the

race) and adding powerlifting to his training regimen.

Sylve, who is also an important leg on the 4x100-meter relay team, now has a chance to concentrate solely on the 110-meter hurdles, which should benefit him in Thursday's semifinals race. The goal is to get near what he achieved two weeks ago and, if he does, he has a chance to make All-American status.

"The general rule is, if you can do what it took for you to get to nationals, you'll be fine," Engle said. "He's going into it in a very good place. I think if the stars align and he does well and runs what he has been, he should make the finals."

With his focus centered on the track and field championships, Sylve still has a lot to think about heading into and after the NCAA Championships.

He will be taking his law class final exam on the road, which will be administered by Col. Mark Toole, the track and field officer representative and academy law professor, and then a quick turnaround to head to his Advanced Individual Academic Development session overseas.

"After the finals Saturday, we've got (Sylve) on a red-eye flight back Saturday night because Sunday morning he flies out to South Africa for an AIAD, so he's got a hectic summer ahead of him," Engle said. "I'm not sure what he is doing, but it's going to be a great opportunity for him."

Sylve has accomplished so much in so little time breaking longstanding track and field academy records, and Engle said, "He's the

best that's ever come through here in the events he's in and T.J. Peterson was a great one."

T.J. Peterson almost made the 1996 Olympic Trials while at the academy, and Engle, who coached Peterson in the hurdles during that time, believes Sylve is establishing himself as a national class athlete.

Engle believes the even-keeled Sylve, a humble young man who keeps a sense of purpose with his academics and career as a cadet, has put himself in a category that few Army athletes will ever achieve.

Greatness seems to be just around the corner for Sylve, despite the fact he didn't start running track until he was a high school senior. Maybe being such a greenhorn at the sport is the reason he's so even-keeled heading into track and field's "Promised Land."

"If Dom were a little bit more of a track junkie, he would have a greater appreciation for it and probably be a little more nervous," Engle said of Sylve's trip to the University of Oregon. "He's relatively new to the sport, only running a year in high school, so he's kind of a neophyte."

"Some of our track guys who are numbers junkies would probably be out there and it would be hard to keep them focused during a trip to (track and field's) Mecca," he added. "When you're out there at Hayward Field, there's a lot of legacy and tradition there."

And, Thursday will be Sylve's chance to run in the footsteps of legends and possibly become a legend himself.

(Editor's note: With Sylve's practice and law class schedule, he was not available for interview.)

Men 110 Meter Hurdles			
NCAA	Heat: 3		+2.0 M/S
1	Sylve	ARMY	13.67
2	Nugent	LSU	13.67
3	McKenzie	TROY	13.69
4	Walker	LAT	13.74
5	Rolle	CLEM	13.82
6	Jones	CAMP	13.88

Rising Firstie Domonick Sylve earned his spot at the NCAA Track and Field Championships with a 13.67-second run in the 110-meter hurdles. Sylve broke his own Army 110-meter hurdles record of 13.79, which he achieved April 10 versus Navy. Before that, the Army record was held by T.J. Peterson (13.89) since 1996.

Intramural softball season begins

DPW sweeps MPs twice, Chem squad records two wins



DPW second baseman Rich Breault knocked a two-run homer, followed by a solo shot from Brad Brown in the top of the third inning, to give DPW a 20-3 advantage over the Military Police Company team Monday. DPW would continue their scoring spree onto a 24-5 win. The hits continued into the second game as DPW torched the MPs for a 18-1 win.

Craig Sheetz homered for the Chemistry/Physics & Nuclear Engineering team to tie the score 4-4 in the second game of a doubleheader against the Information and Educational Technology Division team. The C/P&NE team opened the season with a 15-5 win over IETD Monday. In two other doubleheaders Monday, the Stewart Marines swept the West Point Band 11-7 and 8-5, while the Mathematic's Department took both games from the Department of Physical Education 15-4 and 18-6.

PHOTOS BY MIKE STRASSER/PV



Despite a dismal scoring drought in the season-opener against the Directorate of Public Works, the MPs mustered a home run in the second inning to score two of their five runs in a 24-5 loss.



John Mandia (above) singled to load the bases in the second inning and Alton Lee drove in two runs to tie the score 2-2 in the second game of a doubleheader. The Information and Educational Technology Division team would add another pair of runs to end the inning with a 4-2 lead. However, IETD lost both games to Chemistry/Physics & Nuclear Engineering 15-5 and 17-7.