

POINTER VIEW®

Holiday Tree Lighting,
6 p.m. Monday at
Daly Field. After lighting
event, refreshments
available at the
West Point Club.

VOL. 68, No. 46

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

DECEMBER 1, 2011



Celebrating Native Americans

Two members of the Redhawk Dance Group, Lilly (background) and Katy, demonstrate the Native American Fancy Shawl Dance during the Native American Month celebration Nov. 18 at the West Point Club. The festival included several Native American dances, bead jewelry crafts for children and demonstrations of authentic Native American clothing. Dream catchers made by the West Point Middle School children were also on display. See page 4 for story and photos.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

Force protection and parking measures during Army-Navy Week activities

By Matthew Cassidy
Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization
and Security

Army-Navy Week starts Sunday at West Point and the following discusses various activities, force protection and parking measures throughout the week.

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 roads intersection, will be blocked for approximately 20 minutes beginning at 7 p.m. to support cadet formations moving to Eisenhower Hall.

Monday and 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 in the vicinity of Shea Stadium throughout the rehearsal. The rehearsal period for both days

is from 4-6:30 p.m.

Members of the workforce who park in the Eisenhower Hall parking lots and near building 667A may be delayed by marching units from 4-4:30 p.m. and again from 6:30-7 p.m.

Wednesday—Bonfire: Parking will be allowed in Clinton and Doubleday lots during the bonfire. Vehicles exiting Clinton and Doubleday lots during the activities must turn right onto Cullum Road toward the West Point Club.

Blocking positions on Cullum Road at the Quarters 101 intersection and Doubleday Lot entrance will deny vehicle access to the Trophy Point area beginning around 7 p.m.

Parking will be available in the Thayer Hall roof parking lot. Personnel going TDY or on leave are reminded not to park in Clinton Lot.

Dec. 8—Goat-Engineer game/Team send off: The team send off will begin at approximately 4:15 p.m. in conjunction with the Goat-Engineer football game that will take place at Michie Stadium.

In support of the events, the following measures will be in effect—Stony Lonesome Road from the intersection of

Washington Road to the Delafield Road intersection will be closed to traffic from 3:30-4 p.m.

Mills Road intersection with Stony Lonesome Road along the east side of the stadium to Howze Place by Herbert Hall, will be closed until the activities are complete at about 7:30 p.m.

Off-post personnel attending the game are encouraged to enter the installation through the Stony Lonesome gate and use A, AAA and C lots for parking.

Stadium gates 1 and 3 will be open to access Michie Stadium. Fenton Road will remain open for movement during the games.

As always, we ask that everyone—Soldiers, civilian employees, family members and contractors—remain vigilant and aware of their surroundings and report any suspicious activities to the Military Police Desk at 938-3333.

As a reminder, residents can send suspicious behavior and activity reports by using the iWATCH website found at www.usma.edu/.

Remember ... If you see something, say something!

West Point volunteers make a difference

By Christina Overstreet
Installation Army Volunteer Corps Coordinator

More than six dozen volunteers worked together to better our community in early November. Members of the West Point community, as well as individuals from outside the gates, engaged in projects at the West Point Cemetery, Flirtation Walk, Warrior Transition Unit barracks and an event for Military Family Appreciation.

Volunteers included Soldiers, civilians and retirees, their family members and cadet candidates from the United States Military Academy Prep School. A large number of Girl Scouts and youth volunteers also were on hand.

Nov. 4 was dubbed West Point Make A Difference Day by the installation volunteer coordinator. The day was inspired by National Make a Difference Day, the 9/11 Day of Service and President Obama's call to service.

It was intended to encourage volunteerism by community members and to engage them in projects that are meaningful to the West Point community as a whole. Community members heeded the call, contributing more than 200 hours of service that day. Volunteers remarked that the projects were rewarding and some wished they could have stayed longer.

Four projects occurred that day. Thanks to the hard work of the volunteers, more than 800 headstones at the West Point Cemetery were cleaned.

Despite the chilly and windy day, volunteers worked hard for hours, scrubbing and rinsing the headstones, removing grass clippings and dead flowers and clearing tree branches that had fallen during the late October snowstorm. The transformation was significant and was immediately noticeable.

Volunteers picked up trash and debris that had washed up from the Hudson River along Flirtation Walk and Kosciuszko's Garden. Volunteers cleared Styrofoam, a tire, wood and other items from the path.

A group of volunteers also assisted Girl Scout Danielle Toohey with her Gold Project to renovate and update the fitness room in the WTU barracks. The room is looking much cleaner and more updated than it did a month ago, and it is already being used by the Soldiers who live there.

Volunteers were integral to the execution of a Military Family Appreciation Game Day event at Army Community Service, where more than 50 community members came out to enjoy an afternoon of games and fun.

Volunteerism has been proven to be beneficial to one's health and psyche.



A couple of volunteers, joining more than four dozen others, are photographed as they helped clean more than 800 headstones at the West Point Cemetery. Overall, more than six dozen volunteers participated in the West Point Make A Difference Day Nov. 4.

COURTESY PHOTO

The contributions that volunteers make are becoming increasingly important as funding and personnel cuts are becoming more prevalent.

If you are interested in finding out more about volunteering

or would like to receive information about current and future volunteer needs, contact the West Point Volunteer Corps coordinator, Christina Overstreet, at christina.overstreet@usma.edu.

Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

See SUDOKU PUZZLE, Page 19

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ARMY-NAVY WEEK ACTIVITIES

OPEN TO THE WEST POINT COMMUNITY, DECEMBER 3-10

As we head into Army-Navy Week, several activities throughout West Point will be open to the community to get that **BEAT NAVY** spirit charging through our veins.

Come out and support the Army football team as they get ready to go to FedEx Field Dec. 10 and **BEAT NAVY**.

Saturday

Army-Navy Intramurals—winners of respective Brigade Opens
 9 a.m.—Soccer, Daly Field
 10 a.m.—Flag Football, Daly Field
 11 a.m.—Ultimate Frisbee, Daly Field
 Noon—Team Handball, Arvin Gym, 2nd Floor, Bay 3
 Noon—Basketball, Arvin Gym, 2nd Floor Gym, Bay 1
 1 p.m.—Wreaths Across America, West Point Cemetery
 2 p.m.—Awards Ceremony, Arvin Gym

Tuesday

3:30-4:30 p.m.—Wreaths Across America, West Point Cemetery (formal ceremony)

Wednesday

6:30-9:30 p.m.—Pep Rally/Bonfire/Team, Daly Field
 Marathon Team departs for Ball Run

Thursday

Noon-1 p.m.—Spirit Luncheon, Eisenhower Hall
 4:15-4:30 p.m.—Team Departs; Cadet Cordon, Michie

Stadium

5:05-5:20 p.m.—Mule Retirement, Michie Stadium
 Commissioning Ceremony
 5:25-7:10 p.m.—Goat-Engineer football games, Michie Stadium

Dec. 10

2:30 p.m.—Army-Navy Game, FedEx Field, Landover, Md.(coverage on CBS TV)



FILE PHOTOS

MILCHEM lecture, displays will showcase scientific literacy

By Department of Chemistry and Life Science

The Department of Chemistry and Life Science will conduct its annual Military Chemistry (MILCHEM) lecture for cadets enrolled in General Chemistry and Advanced General Chemistry.

On Dec. 8-9, cadets will experience a lecture to promote scientific literacy and the relevance of chemistry to the profession of arms by exposing them to current and emerging technologies at the crossroads of chemistry and warfighting (see schedule, bottom right).

Maj. Erick Velasquez said cadets are not only presented with chemistry's relevance, but are also able to experience these applications through static displays, demonstrations and experts available to answer specific questions.

Topics and displays this year include emerging energy technology on the battlefield, NBCRV Stryker, the Hellfire missile system and the XM-25 Counter Defilade Target Engagement System.

The lecture is not simply a display of new gadgets as one might expect. "The MILCHEM presentation shows cadets that they have already learned a great deal," Maj. Nicholas Talbot said.

This lecture will show cadets they have the basic knowledge about the various technologies used by the Army today.

"Cadets have all of the foundational knowledge to understand the basic principles of many of the applications they will use daily in their career," Maj. Dereck Wilson said. "We are just demonstrating to them that they do."

Nationally, there is an increasing emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education.

"This is just one of the ways we are supporting not only our course educational goals, but those at the national level," Maj. John Schmitt, course director, said. "Scientific literacy and relevance is paramount to these cadets, not only as future warfighters but as citizens in an increasingly competitive technologically based global landscape."



Class of 2014 Cadet Anthony Mendez takes a look at the inside of the Nuclear Biological Chemical Reconnaissance Vehicle on Thayer Walkway in 2010 during the MILCHEM event.

FILE PHOTO

Department of Chemistry and Life Science MILCHEM schedule of events

DEMONSTRATION	LOCATION	DECEMBER 8	DECEMBER 9
XM-25A PUNISHER	Bartlett Hall 412 Kendrick Auditorium	11 a.m.-Noon 1-3 p.m.	9:50 a.m.-Noon
CIVIL SUPPORT TEAM and EQUIPMENT	Thayer Walk	11 a.m.-Noon 1-3 p.m.	9:50 a.m.-Noon
AGM-114N HELLFIRE JOINT ATTACK SYSTEMS	Bartlett Hall 4th Floor East Hallway	11 a.m.-Noon 1-3 p.m.	9:50 a.m.-Noon
NBCRV STRYKER	Thayer Walk	11 a.m.-Noon 1-3 p.m.	9:50 a.m.-Noon
NETT WARRIOR FUEL CELLS	Bartlett Hall 4th Floor, South Hall	11 a.m.-Noon 1-3 p.m.	9:50 a.m.-Noon

Native American history, heritage celebrated

Story and photos by Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

November was first proclaimed Native American Heritage Month in 1990 by President George H.W. Bush to honor and recognize the contributions of Native Americans.

The Native American Heritage Forum, Equal Opportunity Office and the Simon Center for the Professional Military Ethic, hosted a Native American Heritage Festival Nov. 18 at the West Point Club to celebrate the month.

The West Point celebration included demonstrations of Native American dances from the Redhawk Dance Troupe from New York, authentic food samplings and crafts.

“As a future officer, I’ll be working with people from a wide range of backgrounds,” Class of 2012 Cadet J.T. Wells, the cadet in charge of the festival, said. “The more I learn about the people in my unit, the better leader I will be.”

The festival included crafts for children who made bead jewelry, a display of dream catchers created by students at the

West Point Middle School and displays of authentic Native American clothing and artifacts.

The Redhawk dancers demonstrated Native American dances such as the “Fancy Shaw Dance” and the “Grass Dance.”

Cliff Matias, a dancer, educator and member of the troupe, explained the dances as they were going on and spoke to the audience about Native American traditions.

“All dances tell a story,” Matias said. “The Grass Dance tells of a wounded man who fell in tall grass and couldn’t be seen to be rescued. Soon the young man hears crickets and suddenly the grass around him begins to flatten so he can be seen and rescued.”

Matias also spoke about feeding the Pilgrims, which was not quite the Thanksgiving we celebrate today.

“The first Thanksgiving wasn’t about turkey,” he said. “It was about corn. The Native Americans provided crops to the Pilgrims and taught them how to plant. The Pilgrims were starving because they did not know how to live off the land.”



Members of the Redhawk Dance Team display some of the richly colored costumes worn for special times at the Native American Festival Nov. 18 at the West Point Club.



Selia McGowan, 7, admires the bead necklace she was making at the Native American Festival Nov. 18. The Native American Festival celebrates diversity and the accomplishments of Native Americans in the military and other areas. Children made feathers for their hair and bead jewelry. The children from the West Point Middle School displayed a group of dream catchers they made in class.

THE iWATCH PROGRAM

If you see something, say something!

The iWATCH program is a community awareness program created to educate the Army community about behaviors and activities that may have a connection to terrorism and criminal activity.

This Department of the Army mandated program is designed to be a partnership between the West Point community and the Directorate of Emergency Services.

The iWATCH program allows community members to report suspicious activities by calling the West Point Military Police Desk at 938-3333 or by filling out a suspicious activity report.

This site is not designed to report emergencies. For emergencies, dial 911.

For more information on iWATCH, antiterrorism and crime prevention training tips, call 938-2042/8859/3650 or click on the iWATCH icon on www.westpoint.com.

Skill-building courses offered through IETD

By Mike Strasser
Assistant Editor

Class of 2015 Cadet Matthew Olson came to West Point this summer much like any other plebe.

He had excelled academically and athletically as a student at Ponderosa High School in Shingle Springs, Calif. Olson was a three-year member of the California Scholarship Federation, earned two varsity letters in football, three more with the Alpine Race team and the rank of Eagle Scout. Within the community he was an Upper Room volunteer and youth group leader.

He had all the credentials to get into West Point, but once there, discovered there was one thing he never learned.

Typing.

Sure, he's capable of using all his digits at a decent speed with an acceptable margin of error. So in that sense, Olson can type. But sometime during this first semester at West Point, he discovered that wasn't good enough. The skill he lacked was touch typing—the ability to type without looking at the keys. What got him through course papers and exams up to this point he described as a very inefficient habit.

"I could type pretty fast but I had to look at the keyboard the entire time and that became my main issue here," Olson said. "I would have to slow down to read what I wanted to type, and then constantly stop and start typing."

His problematic style was noticeable in class, especially when it came time to type essays or quizzes. While racing the clock, he found himself constantly looking from book to keyboard to screen and back.

"A couple of my first quizzes were not very good because I wasn't efficient," Olson said. "I wasn't getting as much out of the time as I should have, even though I could type fast."

The key to mastering the touch typing skill is muscle memory; unlearning the bad habit of relying on sight and reprogramming the mind to allow the fingers to find the keys on their own. Olson's team leader recommended the free



Free computer courses are available to all USMA staff and faculty members, as well as USMA cadets and USMAPS cadet candidates. Participants must bring their CAC cards to access the computers. For schedules and details, call 938-1186 or email Thomas.Gorman@usma.edu and check for updates in the Pointer View.

Typing Skills program, taught by Thomas Gorman, the IETD information technology instructor at Jefferson Hall.

The program teaches finger placement for memorizing keys and typing exercises that test word count and accuracy. There are also a few games in the program that also help improve touch typing skills.

In practice, Olson has made significant improvements. Gorman said that after a month of training—about eight two-hour practice sessions—Olson has improved to 25 words per minute with 95 percent accuracy.

"From a scale of 1 to 10, I'd say I'm about a 6 or 7 at the moment," Olson said. "I have been able to implement these new skills and have become faster at typing while doing it. I'm able to get a lot more done now."

However, when the pressure mounts and he needs to finish his homework, implementing the new skill is not always the priority.

"I kind of revert back to the old ways," Olson admits.

That is obviously discouraged when trying to exercise a new muscle memory, but it's common, Gorman said.

"Reverting back to old keyboard skills slows down the development process but even though he slipped back a little his ability to complete assignments has increased as a result of the good keyboard skills he developed," Gorman said.

Even the most skilled will glance at the keyboard from time to time.

"In my experience with touch typing, a very proficient typist will look down at more difficult key strokes 5 percent of the time usually to find special characters," Gorman said. "The ideal to work toward is to not look down the majority of the time to promote continuity of typing which promotes more speed and accuracy in your work."

Olson would recommend this course to others struggling with their typing skills. As if a cadet needs one more class to attend, but he said this shouldn't be an issue.

"You get to set your own schedule basically within a certain timeframe," Olson said. "You pick the days you want to go."

Olson is currently on track to reach a goal of 35 to 40 words per minute with 95 to 100 percent accuracy. He said he actually wants to eventually reach 60 words per minute.

"The way Cadet Olson is progressing—his dedication and focus on practice—I feel he will reach that goal before the end of the fall term," Gorman said.

A former Army officer himself, Gorman said it bodes well for a cadet to seek assistance to correct deficiencies and it says a lot about that person's character.

"It sends a message to his unit members that he is accurate, literate, decisive and timely in his documentation. Those qualities will help set precedence in the way he manages his unit and the way his command and unit members perceive him as a leader," Gorman said.

To find out more about the Typing Skills class or any other free computer training programs offered by IETD at Jefferson Hall, call 938-1186.

SHARP Response Team

24/7 Sexual Assault Response Coordinators

- Shelley Ariosto, Garrison: 914-382-8041;
- Maj. Missy Rosol, USCC: 845-401-3476;
- Lt. Col. Linda Emerson, Diversity Officer: 845-590-1249;
- Dr. Stephanie Marsh, USMAPS: 845-938-1171.

Support or More Information

- DoD SafeHelpline: 877-995-5247;
- www.safehelpline.org.

24/7 Victim Advocacy

- Dan Toohey, Installation: 914-382-8180;
- Lt. Col. Ed Supplee, Center for Personal Development: 845-591-7215;
- On-call Behavioral Health: 845-938-4004;
- Duty Chaplain: 845-401-8171.

Engineering unique tastes at West Point

Cadets apply chemical engineering skills to chocolate and beer-making

Story and photos by Mike Strasser
Assistant Editor

Inside a small lab on the top floor of Bartlett Hall, the most amazing chocolate is being made by ... no, not chefs, bakers or anyone remotely connected with the culinary field.

They are West Point's chemical engineering cadets and members of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers Club. Chemical engineering is paramount to food manufacturing, and the work they do inside the lab—dubbed the West Point Chocolate Factory—explores the science behind making chocolate (See side bar on page 7).

Class of 2012 Cadet Rebecca Kratz was put in charge of the production this academic year and said it has been a work in progress.

"You're always trying to build upon what the last group of firsties did, and also we want to try new things too," Kratz said.

She has experimented with light and dark chocolates and only recently began exploring different flavors using mint and almond extracts.

"Eventually, I want to try making white chocolate," Kratz said. "It's not actually chocolate (it's a derivative of chocolate) because it doesn't contain cocoa. I'm actually thinking about doing

more food products using chocolate, like chocolate-covered strawberries. But for now I'll stay with the flavoring and see how that works out."

She also learned the hard way what happens when you burn chocolate.

"It became really solid and kind of crunchy," Kratz said. "I liked it and thought it tasted good even with that weird texture."

Class of 2012 Cadet Shaun Kelsey said flavor-wise, burning chocolate is like over roasting coffee; it just added a boldness to it. The most common mistake made with chocolate comes during the crystallization process when discoloration can appear on the surface. He said this can be displeasing for chocolate lovers who favor texture over taste.

"It's called blooming. There's nothing wrong with it, but there's actually too much crystallization and that creates this discoloration on the top," Kelsey said.

Club members traveled to Hershey, Pa., in late September to tour the Hershey Research and Development Center and the Reese's Peanut Butter Cup Facility. Members of the West Point Chocolate Factory brought along samples of their own product and learned about the manufacturing of chocolate.

See ENGINEERING, Page 7



Class of 2012 Cadets Rebecca Kratz and Shaun Kelsey demonstrate the chocolate-making process in their lab at Bartlett Hall.

ENGINEERING, cont'd from Page 6



The best thing about practicing chemical engineering through chocolate is that the cadets can eat their handiwork.

MIKE STRASSER/PV

“Their factories are just these giant pipelines of chocolate and all the raw ingredients to make their products on a large scale; I mean, they have vats of raw ingredients that measure thousands and thousands of gallons,” Kelsey said. “It was impressive because that’s chemical engineering in action—getting everything at the right temperature in the right mixture and measurements to make the final product exactly as it needs to be.”

The Bartlett Hall lab is also home of the West Point Kicking Mule Brewing Company. Since 2009, chemical engineering cadets have produced West Point’s official brand of beer which is sold exclusively at the Firstie Club. Early in September, Class of 2012 Cadets Cody Koffman and Stanley Benarick—the cadet brewmasters—delivered the first batch (a keg of Belgian White)

and celebrated the installment of the Kicking Mule tap handle.

The AIChE Club is basically divided by these two products. While they may attend the same conferences and club outings, display their research together at Projects Day and give samples at tailgates, but the cadets have never mixed products. Kelsey said last year an instructor suggested making a chocolate beer, but the cadets were steadfast in their disapproval. Chances are slim, he said, West Point will ever see chocolate-flavored beer or beer-flavored chocolate.

Membership in the AIChE Club is automatic for all chemical engineering students during their sophomore year, which is not to say it’s a very big club at all. Of the approximately 4,400 cadets at West Point, there are only 44 cadets studying chemical engineering.

Time to make the chocolate...

The process, as explained by Class of 2012 Cadets Rebecca Kratz and Shaun Kelsey, begins with roasting the cocoa beans in an oven for about 20 minutes to loosen the shells. Then a machine is used to further crack the shells for easier bean extraction. The cocoa nibs are pasted inside a blender. Refrigerated cocoa butter (which tastes like chocolate but has a somewhat unappealing smell) is heated and combined with a soy protein called lecithin—about a tablespoon will help combine and thicken all the ingredients. The mixture is then placed inside a pot for conching which grinds, kneads and massages it into a smooth chocolate, then milk powder and sugar is added. That process continues overnight so by the next day it is ready to be converted to chocolate bar status, which is mostly machine-driven. Not many people may

know that it actually takes chocolate to make chocolate. Seed chocolate, like a name brand bar or even the product cadets had previously made, is broken up and sprinkled over the chocolate being made to replicate the crystallization in the original product.

Kelsey describes it as adding a necessary impurity to the chocolate.

“Because in its current form, there is no defined structure to the chocolate,” he said. “It’s just liquid and the molecules are kind of just sliding around each other. What we need is some kind of solid impurity which will set off that chain reaction to crystallize the chocolate. It’s called seed chocolate because everything grows around that impurity outward. It adds structure to the chocolate.”

Finally, the chocolate is drawn through a syringe and squeezed into molds—bar-shaped, sometimes floral designs.

Watch The Point



Class of 2012 Cadets Rebecca Kratz and Shaun Kelsey recently demonstrated the chemical engineering process of chocolate-making for an upcoming episode of “The Point” available at www.youtube.com/user/TheWestPointChannel.

FoodPlay comes to West Point

Story and photos by Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

With obesity and diabetes in both children and adults becoming epidemic in the nation, it's no wonder many organizations are concerned and doing something about it.

One organization, FoodPlay, is playing a positive role—traveling around the country to get its message of how important good nutrition and exercise is across to children.

FoodPlay is an Emmy Award-winning nutrition media company that tours the nation's schools and provides special events using live theater, comedy and interaction with children to teach them about good nutrition and exercise.

FoodPlay came to the West Point Middle School Monday to inform and entertain elementary school children on what is good to eat and what is not.

Joseph Bromfield plays a juggling coach for the National Junior Juggling Team and Alexandra Moore plays his student

“Janie,” a junk food junky. She tries to show the coach how good she is at juggling but keeps yawning and dropping everything.

“When was the last time you ate?” Bromfield asks her.

“At dinner last night,” she said. “Fifteen hours ago.”

Not only did she not eat, but also when she does, she eats junk food.

The children enjoyed the actors going into the audience and asking them questions about food with the children yelling out the answers and laughing as Joseph takes Alexandra's cakes and cookies away and tries to juggle them.

“Soda and even diet soda is bad for you,” Bromfield said. “If you want to make soda, get some fizzy water (seltzer) and add it to fruit juice. That will have the added effect of reducing the natural sugar in fruit.”

Schools around the country team up with FoodPlay to promote healthy eating and exercise habits with a colorful cast of characters, and some great juggling.



Joseph Bromfield, an actor for FoodPlay, interacts with the elementary school children at West Point.



Joseph Bromfield and Alexandra Moore, actors for the touring theater FoodPlay, an Emmy Award-winning nutrition media company that tours the nation's schools provides special events using the live theater, comedy and interaction with children to teach good eating habits. FoodPlay came to the West Point Middle School Monday and entertained the elementary school children on how to eat right and exercise. Here, Bromfield takes Alexandra's "bad" food, such as cakes and cookies, away.

Cadets, faculty participate in French Robotics Colloquium

Submitted by the Network Science Center

Class of 2013 Cadets Nolan Miles and Stephen Rogacki, along with Col. Kevin Huggins, an academy professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, traveled to the Saint Cyr Military Academy in Guer, France, Nov. 9-11, to participate in the International Colloquium on Robots on the Battlefield.

The cadets presented the results of their research efforts over the past six months. They have been investigating robot swarms, which are groups of relatively simple robots that work as a team to accomplish complex tasks.

Miles has focused on developing a foraging algorithm that enables a robot swarm to search for a target in an unknown environment. Rogacki has been developing software for the Android phone that will allow a user to interact with and control a robotic swarm.

“Cadets Miles and Rogacki worked on this during their free time; it is not part of a course requirement. It’s a telling example of what happens when cadets become inspired—they take ownership of their education,” Huggins said.

Their work is part of the Flowing Valued Information Project—a network science research effort that seeks to enhance the distribution of information on the battlefield.

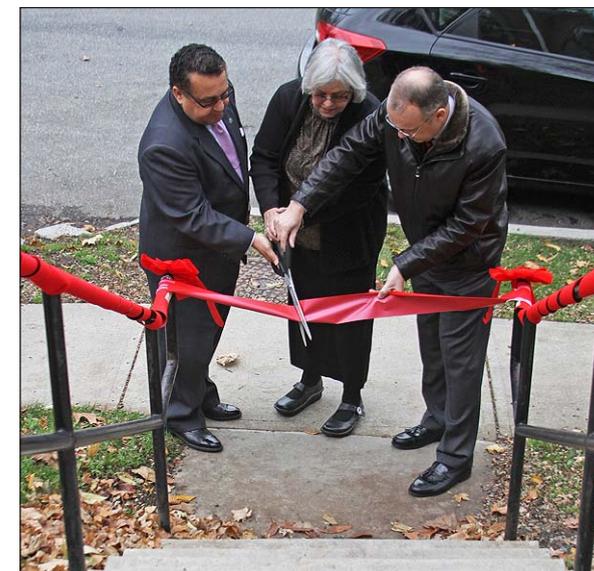
Huggins also gave a talk entitled “Bringing the Cloud to the Soldier: Challenges and Opportunities,” which detailed the results of his collaborative effort with a team from the Canadian Defense Research & Development in Quebec.

This joint effort is focused on developing a mobile, tactical cloud communications architecture implemented with a swarm of semi-autonomous robots. The trip proved not only technically fulfilling but also culturally enriching.

The cadets lodged with their French counterparts and were able to get a firsthand perspective of life as a cadet at Saint Cyr.



Class of 2013 Cadets Nolan Miles and Stephen Rogacki pose for a photograph with a cadet from the Saint Cyr Military Academy after discussing research collaboration opportunities. The two West Point cadets traveled to Guer, France, and attended the International Colloquium on Robots on the Battlefield Nov. 9-10. COURTESY PHOTO



ASAP relocation

Wayne Johnson, Army Substance Abuse Program manager, Helen de Prado, clinical director, and Wilfred Plumley, deputy garrison commander, cut the ribbon at the new Army Substance Abuse Program offices located in Bldg. 656 on Eichelberger Road behind the veterinarians' office. The ASAP office provides substance abuse screening; family and group counseling on an outpatient basis; referrals for inpatient treatment; medical care; employee assistance; suicide prevention and medication management for civilians, cadets and servicemembers. A transition is underway to move ASAP from Directorate of Human Resources to a special staff office under garrison command, similar to the EEO and Safety Offices.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

Army Lacrosse Team supports Regan Run

By Class of 2012 Cadet Matthew Hurley

Forty members of the Army Lacrosse team traveled to New York City Nov. 20 to participate in "A Run Down Hero Highway."

The memorial run is described on the Lead the Way Fund's website as "A fun-filled, patriotic event that pays tribute to a local hero and helps raise money for the families of Army Rangers who have been killed, disabled, or are currently serving in harm's way."

The event was created five years ago in honor of Sgt. James (Jimmy) Regan, a former lacrosse player at Duke University who played under current Army head coach, Joe Alberici. After graduating from Duke, Regan turned down lucrative Wall Street job offers to enlist in the Army. He was killed in action in 2007 while serving in the 75th Ranger Regiment in northern Iraq. The Army Lacrosse team looks forward to the event every year and comes away from the ceremony moved and proud to have been in the company of such dedicated public servants.

The 4.5-mile run took participants to Battery Park, past Ground Zero, with a constant view of the Statue of Liberty.

The Army Lacrosse team had players place 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 6th overall, in a race with more than 1,000 participants.

The post-race celebration and remembrance service included a color guard from the 75th Ranger Regiment, a speech by its deputy commander and the presentation of portraits to the families of two Rangers and one FDNY First Responder by Phil Taylor from The American Fallen Soldiers Project.

"The run serves as a reminder to all of us that everyday Soldiers are sacrificing their lives for our freedom and to honor them in such a fun environment creates a unique camaraderie and builds lifelong memories for our team," Class of 2012 Cadet Devin Lynch, the team captain, said.



West Point Scuba Team conducts certification dive

The West Point Scuba Team, led by Class of 2012 Cadet Caleb Hughes, recently completed its second certification dive of this academic year. Twenty cadets culminated their three-week Open Water certification course with a two-day dive trip in the chilly waters of Dutch Springs, Pa. After their final certification dive, students became card carrying Basic Open Water SCUBA divers, certified under the National Association of Underwater Instructors. This class was only one of several the 18-member Scuba Team provides for cadets, officers and noncommissioned officers. Cadets taking the team's certification classes come from a myriad of scuba backgrounds; some cadets have no experience and others seek to further their various levels of certification. Whatever the case might be, the team is always happy to accommodate. All training and certifications are facilitated by the cadets on the team. Team members are chosen as plebes by a rigorous selection process and increase their diving experience until they achieve their Scuba Instructor certification by their junior year. Many cadets also take advantage of the annual spring break trip that the team hosts to enjoy a week in the tropics and improve their experience as divers. This year, cadets will be exploring the warm waters of the Dominican Republic.

PHOTO AND INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY THE WEST POINT SCUBA TEAM

Combat Weapons Team inducts new members

West Point's newest shooters experience their first competition at Long Island event

Story and photo by Class of 2015 Daniel Rindone
Combat Weapons Team Assistant PAO

The Combat Weapons Team traveled to Long Island Nov. 20 to compete against local skilled civilian shooters. The event, sponsored by the Long Island Practical Shooters Association, was a perfect opportunity for the team's newest members to experience their first competition after a long and nerve-racking selection process.

"It was our first chance at shooting in a real competitive environment. It was fun, and allowed us to apply our tactical skills to a new set of combat problems," Class of 2015 Cadet Pierce Willenbrock said.

The team, after reinventing their standard operating procedures and general structure, was happy to see that these new methods were having a positive and effective impact on the "new guys" in a high-stress environment.

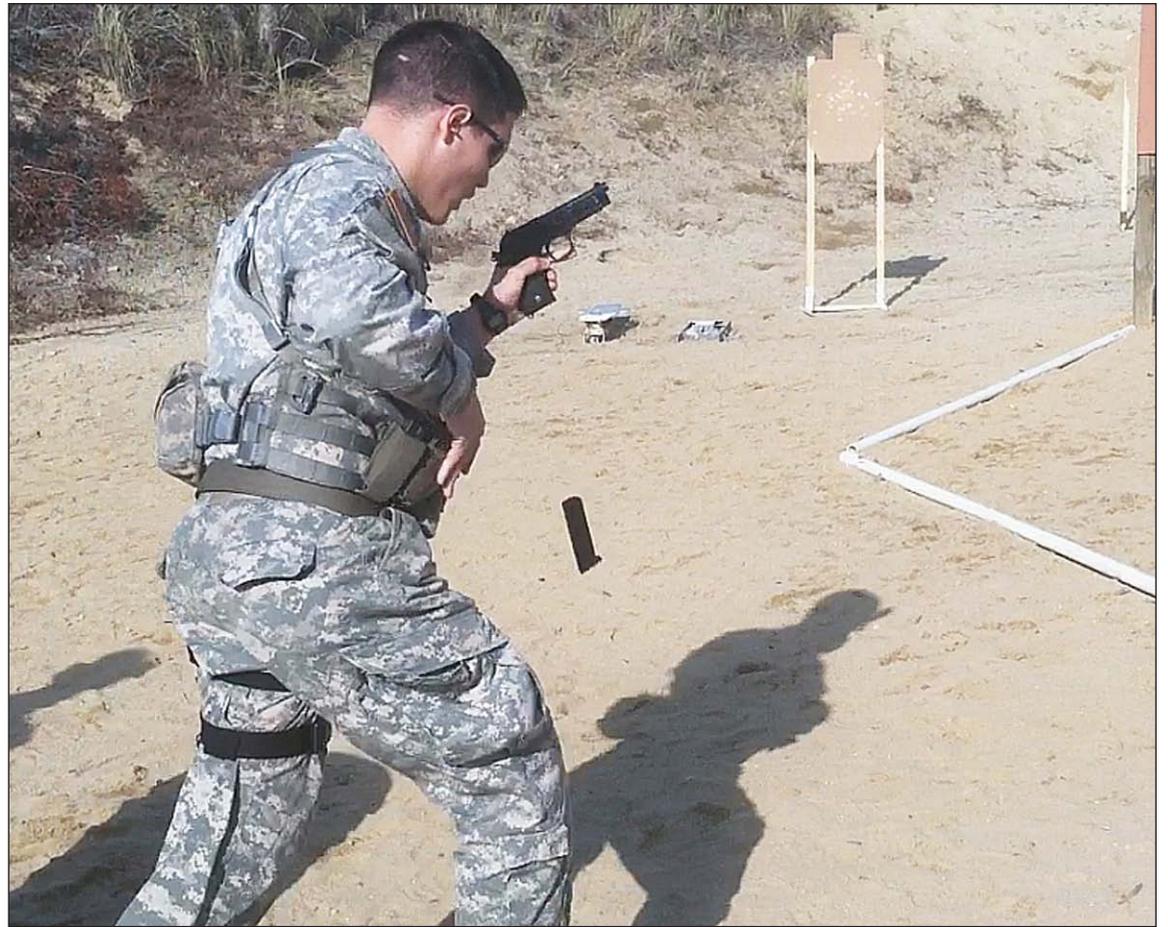
"With nearly a semester of team training under their belts, the 'new guys' far exceeded my expectations for this past weekend at Long Island ... I am very proud of their progression so far," Class of 2012 Cadet TJ Snukis, team captain, said. "It feels good to know that your training methods are solid and this weekend only served to reinforce the Combat Weapons Team's training philosophy."

The match consisted of seven uniquely designed stages made to test accuracy, speed, problem solving and many other critical values. Shooters were timed and had to complete these stages quickly, however, their hits on the targets were also graded and contributed to a portion of their score.

Those who could balance agility and precision excelled during the course of the match.

"It was a great opportunity to take the skills we learned at practice and apply them in different shooting stages," Class of 2015 Cadet Judd Ford said. "The shoot required almost all the aspects we were taught: visualization, focus, movement, accuracy, cadence and efficiency."

High scorer for the weekend went to Snukis, who ranked seventh of the 62 shooters that day. Other impressive performances were delivered by Class of 2014 Cadet Jim Fiser, who placed 22nd; and Class of 2015 Cadet Daniel Sayles, placing 25th.



Class of 2014 Cadet Andrew Zecha performs a reload on the move during a stage at the Long Island Practical Shooters Association event Nov. 20.

Black & Gold Forum molding leadership for the future

By Class of 2013 Cadet Jared Rinehart
Black & Gold Leadership Forum

Members of the Black & Gold Leadership Forum, consisting of two officers, 15 cadets and one midshipman, embarked on a leadership broadening experience to Washington, D.C., to meet with distinguished and influential leaders in both the military and government sectors.

The mission of the Black & Gold Leadership Forum is to build stronger leaders for the Army by providing cadets the opportunity to engage with prominent leaders and leadership thinkers from all walks of life.

The trip began with a round table discussion in the Central Intelligence Agency with West Point alumni. The Forum gained a better knowledge of the inner workings of the agency as well as the importance of shared intelligence between the agency and the military.

Next the group traveled to Capitol Hill and met with congressional liaison staff and several congressional fellows.

They provided a tour of the building and then held a round-table discussion to present the duties and purpose of the Congressional Liaison office and to answer questions about leadership.

Throughout the meeting, cadets gained a better understanding of an officer's career timeline and the unique opportunities that are available post-command. The importance of developing and fostering lasting relationships through networking was also discussed.

The Forum traveled to the Pentagon and met with Secretary of the Army, The Honorable John McHugh, and the U.S. Army G3/5/7, Lt. Gen. John Campbell.

The cadets met with the Secretary of the Army in his office, where he discussed the challenges that he faces as a civilian leader in charge of the Army as well as the future in an environment of constrained resources.

Campbell initially talked about his roles as the G3/5/7, and then discussed his "Top Ten" list of advice for second lieutenants. He then spoke about the importance of junior

leaders in the Army and the challenges they face in finding ways to keep Soldiers motivated as the Army returns to more of a peacetime focus.

After leaving the Pentagon, they moved to the Eisenhower Executive Office Building adjacent to the White House to talk with members of the National Security Council.

Among the panel members were retired Lt. Gen. Doug Lute, an assistant to the president, and deputy national security advisor for Iraq and Afghanistan; Col. Eric Wesley, the director for Afghanistan/ Pakistan Policy; Lt. Col. Steve Miska, the director for Iraq Policy; and Lt. Col. Steve Smith, the director for Defense Policy.

Each of the panel members discussed his role in the defense policy that President Obama creates for the nation and answered questions from our group.

The day ended with an informal dinner at the Army/Navy Club in downtown Washington, D.C., with Commanding General of Joint Forces and former West Point commandant, Maj. Gen. Michael Linnington.

Linnington discussed his duties as the Joint Forces commander and the attributes that every good leader should have. He discussed his three "T's" of leadership: Trust, Teamwork and Training.

He emphasized that leaders create trust within their units through mutual respect and personal competence.

The Forum observed the Veterans Day ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery and listened to President Obama address those in attendance—many of whom were veterans from World War II and onward.

The cadets who participated in the trip experienced a once-in-a-lifetime chance to sit down with proven leaders and discuss the importance of effective leadership in many different environments.

The members of the Forum returned to West Point acknowledging the importance of having educated and well-rounded officers to lead Soldiers in an Army that is coming out of a decade-long war.

Science Day amazes home-school students

Submitted by the Department of Chemistry
and Life Science

Instructors from the Department of Chemistry and Life Science held a Science Day for the West Point home-school children Nov. 19.

Maj. Jim Gifford, Maj. Andy Kick and Lt. Col Ric Schumacher used many of the General Chemistry demonstrations they show plebes in CH101 to amaze more than 50 children between the ages of 3 and 15.

The event focused on reinforcing the concepts of atoms, molecules and chemical reactions that many of these children have been learning about this year.

Students helped ignite balloons filled with hydrogen gas to illustrate how chemical reactions can release energy as heat and light. They also used the methanol cannon to illustrate how a car engine works, using the force produced from a chemical reaction to do work.

Kick, a CLS instructor, showed the children that while we might not be able to see the chemicals, they can still react to form bright colors through precipitation reactions of lead (II) nitrate and potassium iodide.

The children were given a real treat when Kick showed them how to shrink a balloon through the use of liquid

nitrogen and then have it expand back to normal size once it was removed. Just to dazzle them a little more, a banana was placed in the 2400F below zero liquid nitrogen to rapidly freeze it so it could be shattered like a piece of chalk.

Saving the best for last, the children were witnesses to the sacrificing of a gummy bear. This highly energetic reaction of the sugar in a gummy bear with oxygen from molten potassium chlorate is a favorite among children and cadets alike.

The chants for a repeat performance echoed from the crowd and a total of three gummy bears sacrifices occurred to the delight of the children and parents in attendance.

With all of the demonstrations complete, the children were then allowed to run their own reaction and produce a souvenir to take home. The children used a solution of sodium borate (Borax) to cross-link the polymer chains in polyvinyl alcohol to make slime.

Overall, the children enjoyed the event, especially since it reinforced many of the things they have recently learned but have not seen hands on.

The three instructors, who are also the fathers of some of the home-school children in attendance, enjoyed it as well.

"How can you not enjoy blowing up things in the name of science?" Gifford asked.

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Investment Club, Finance Forum visits NYSE

By Class of 2014 Cadet Jack Robertson

The West Point Investment Club and Finance Forum traveled to the heart of the financial world to visit the investment banks of Goldman Sachs and Credit Suisse, as well as the headquarters of the electronic stock exchange NASDAQOMX in New York City Nov. 4.

The Investment Club, under the leadership of Col. Stephen Gayton and Dr. Steven Bloom from the Department of Social Sciences seeks to educate its members on how finance impacts their lives from the micro- to the macro-level.

The club alternates between educational meetings to teach elements of personal finance (budgeting, saving, investing, insuring, etc.) to hearing from and visiting practitioners who bring together borrowers and lenders to help the economy function, grow and prosper. The trip to New York City offered the cadets a chance to see how investment banks are helping our economy navigate the current financial crisis and, from the vantage point of the exchange, the impact the banks are having on consumer confidence

as seen through market movements.

On the trip section, hosts from Goldman Sachs (led by Tim Alden, Class of 1996) and Credit Suisse (led by Dan Rodriguez, Class of 1987) granted cadets unprecedented access to the operations within their two investment banks.

Fellow alumni from the classes of 1983 to 2003 who are currently employed by the institutions, spoke candidly with the cadets about their military careers, jobs and the demands of life in the finance sector.

The “old” grads consistent message was, “be the best lieutenant in your unit” to prepare you for success in the Army or in your post-Army career. Most importantly, they consistently stressed how West Point and the Army helped shape them into successful, well-rounded individuals, by instilling in them lifelong lessons and character traits that they utilize every day.

These traits, echoed by each of the alumni, included discipline, organization, time management and confidence to take charge of difficult situations by providing leadership, instilling teamwork and, most importantly, demanding integrity.



The West Point Investment Club and Finance Forum recently traveled to New York City to learn firsthand about the financial hub of the nation. COURTESY PHOTO

To hear this first hand from the West Point alumni, a number of whom were combat veterans, had a profound effect on the cadets.

On the bus ride back to West Point, the consensus among the cadets was that it was an extremely worthwhile and educational trip.

Domestic Affairs Forum explores political scene in Boston

By Class of 2012 Cadet Peter Coppernoll and Class of 2013 Cadet James Long

The Domestic Affairs Forum’s Boston trip explored the inside of Beacon Hill, Harvard’s think tanks and the union halls that influence politics at the local, state and national levels of government.

The cadets met with numerous key leaders including scholars, congressmen, senators, members of the teachers’ unions, editors on The Boston Globe and the mayor, all of whom offered a glimpse into the inner workings of American politics by granting a holistic view of their agendas within the larger political framework.

The trip began with a visit to Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Harvard and West Point are strongly linked, with

multitudes of graduates receiving advanced degrees from the institution.

An informal meeting let old grads share professional experience and advice. All the cadets benefitted from this exchange, though it was especially welcomed by the firsties who are only several months from entering the service as second lieutenants.

Cadets met with two senators in the State Congress on Beacon Hill, during heated deliberations on gambling legalization and allocating subsequent tax revenue.

They were formally introduced in the Senate’s chambers during deliberations and, following this meeting, the group traveled to the mayor’s office to better understanding of the issues and responsibilities associated with running the city of Boston.

The cadets witnessed a growing Occupy Movement,

whose growing public activism was being felt. They also met with Mayor Thomas Menino.

Menino’s chief priorities include improving public education, increasing employment and the number of jobs in the city, improving availability of affordable housing and fighting the debt.

The visit concluded with the cadets meeting two prominent teachers’ unions, Representative Alice Hanlon Peisch and The Boston Globe.

The Boston Teachers Union and the Massachusetts Teachers Association representatives demonstrated tireless advocacy for education reform, resource allocation and improving the conditions of teachers and students alike.

The consensus was that the cadets left Boston intellectually exhausted but optimistic in the society that they will soon defend.



American Veterans' Conference

Three cadets from the Defense and Strategic Studies program and the first captain attended the 14th annual American Veterans' Conference in Washington, D.C., Nov. 4-6. Pictured are Class of 2014 Cadet Alex Canacci, retired Master Sgt. David A. Thatcher, U.S. Army Air Corps, Class of 2012 Cadet Charlie Phelps, Class of 2012 Cadet Michael Grdina and Class of 2013 Cadet Nikki Hernandez.

PHOTO BY MAJ. KELLI MOON-GILLER

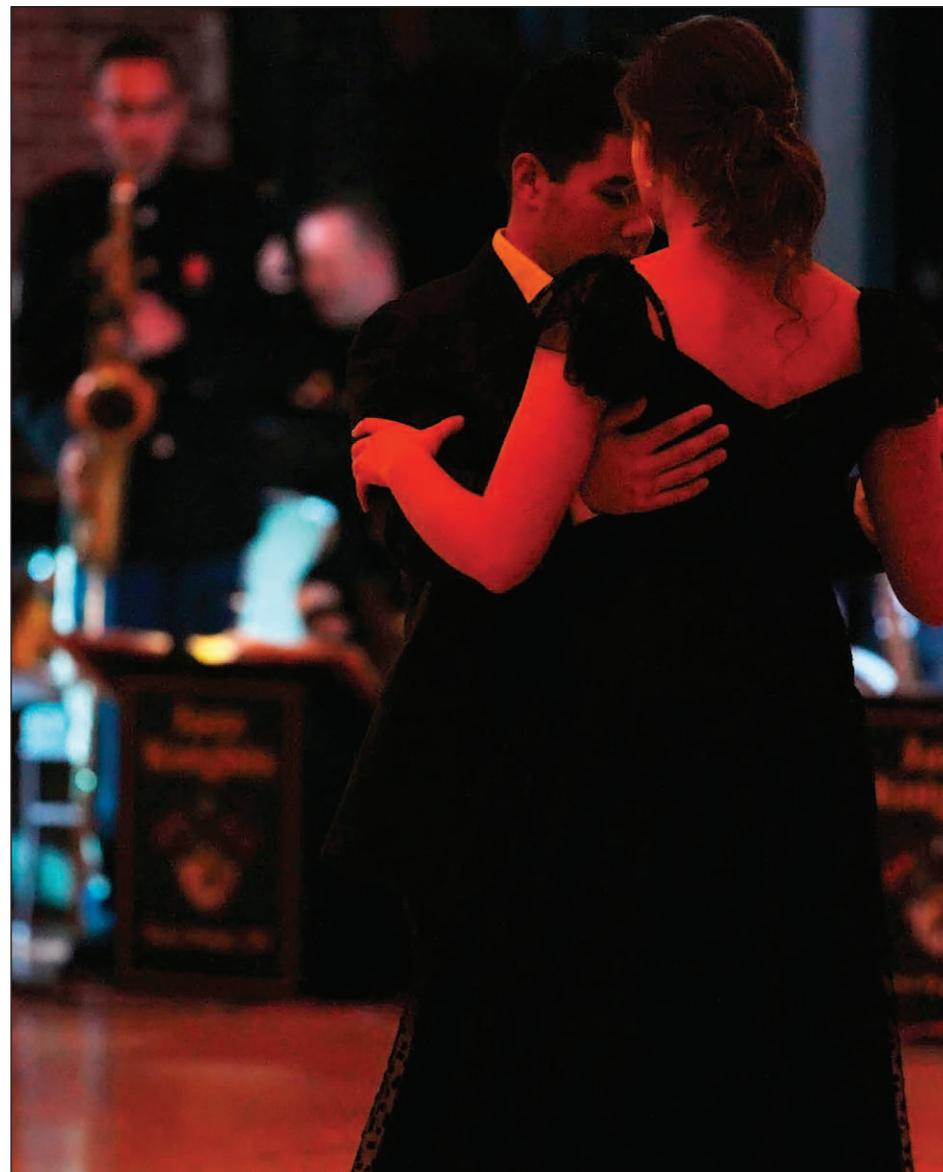
West Point Marathoners qualify for Boston Marathon

Submitted by West Point Marathon Team

The West Point Marathon team achieved great results over the Veterans Day weekend participating in the Richmond Marathon Nov. 12.

Of note, 15 of 17 members of the team earned qualifying times for the Boston Marathon with Class of 2013 Cadet Jill Busby running a fast 3:17 and finishing third in her age group. On the men's side, Class of 2013 Cadet Colin Chapman took first for the team with a time of 2:46 and Class of 2015 Cadet Danny Schlich was a close second with a time of 2:48 in his first marathon.

Six other cadets posted personal best times on a sunny, cool day in Richmond, Va. The West Point Parents Club hosted the team in their homes and provided much-appreciated hospitality.



Enchanting Evening

Staff Sgt. Xavier Perez from the West Point Band's Jazz Knights performs "The Days of Wine & Roses" while cadets, faculty and guests from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy enjoy an evening of traditional dance music. Cadet Hostess Sharyn Amoroso, along with the West Point Band, created the event in the hopes of revitalizing the tradition of ballroom dancing at the academy.

PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. ERIC MILLER/USMA BAND

See it on


Want to see more photos from a recent event? Missed last year's Army-Navy photos? Find them all in our Flickr sets.

Visit www.flickr.com/photos/westpoint_pao/



World's best FMWR employee works at West Point Five Star Inn

Described as a 'jack-of-all-trades,' Rose Tumacder has excelled in the hospitality industry for nearly two decades

Story and photo by Kathy Eastwood

With belt-tightening a way of life in this challenging economy affecting employees and employers, many are finding the need to do more with less—and that often means employees doing other jobs to cover positions eliminated due to cost-cutting measures.

This is the case with Rose Tumacder, administrative assistant at the Five Star Inn located near the Visitor's Center, who recently received the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation employee of the year worldwide.

"I've been working at the Five Star Inn for 10 years," Tumacder said. "Before that, I worked at the Thayer Hotel for nearly 10 years before they were privatized, and then two years after that."

Tumacder gained a lot of experience at the Thayer Hotel and to paraphrase one well known cliché, she said if you can make it at the Thayer, you can make it anywhere.

"The Thayer is where I got my customer service training," she said. "I was a reservation manager and we had quarterly training sessions."

For all of her hard work, Tumacder received the Employee of the Year for Army Lodging based on her last performance appraisal period from June 2009 to June 2010. The awards were somewhat delayed due to the wish to coordinate the award ceremony with the garrison quarterly time in service awards in October.

Tumacder received a glass trophy and \$2,000 for her selection.

"During a typical day, I do account receivables/payables," she said. "I also setup the daily schedules, troubleshoot the computer system for guests in the lobby, work closely with protocol when VIPs are looking for lodging and other departments including housing and JAG."

At one time, the Five Star Inn had a front desk manager, but the position was eliminated. Tumacder fills in at the front desk when an employee is absent no matter what shift it is as the inn is open 24/7. She also trains new front desk clerks—created a front desk training manual.

According to her lodging manager, Mark O'Leary, Tumacder is a jack-of-all-trades and goes beyond the call of duty.

"She has taken it upon herself to fabricate lists and maps to favorite spots in the local area," O'Leary said.

"She is often called upon to perform as the 'acting' lodging manager and does an outstanding job filling in as she is entrusted with the overall operation of the Five Star Inn and performs admirably. Her professionalism continues to shine on a daily basis and is a major part of what makes the Five Star Inn the location of choice for guests visiting the West Point area and why she was selected as Employee of the Month on three separate occasions over the past years."

Tumacder also is learning more about the hospitality industry by taking courses on financial management at Penn State and online courses.

"I think what I like the most about my job is the interaction with the people," she said. "I like a job that is fast-paced and feel good when I help someone."



Rose Tumacder, administrative assistant at the Five Star Inn, received the Employee of the Year for Army Lodging worldwide based on her last appraisal period, June 2009-June 2010.

FMWR Blurbs

Arts & Crafts Holiday Classes

A pottery class to create your holiday gift will be held from 5:30-7:30 p.m. tonight and Dec. 15.

Stained glass classes for flat snowflake or a 3-D Holiday tree tealight holder will be held from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Dec. 8.

Holiday ornament ceramic painting for children will be held from 10 a.m.-noon Saturday and Dec. 17.

Class schedules are subject to change.

Check out westpointmwr.com/art for the most current schedule.

For more information, call 938-4812.

Membership appreciation holiday party and membership drive

The West Point Club will be hosting its membership appreciation holiday party and membership drive from 6-10 p.m. tonight in the Grand Ballroom.

The party is free for members.

For more information, call 938-5120.

Breakfast with Santa at the Club

The West Point Club will be hosting its annual "Breakfast with Santa" from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday in the Grand Ballroom.

Enjoy a traditional breakfast buffet, visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus and have your photo taken, too.

To make reservations, call 938-5120.

West Point holiday tree lighting

The West Point community is invited to the annual holiday tree lighting ceremony at 6 p.m. Monday at Daly Field.

There will be holiday caroling and a special guest appearance by Santa Claus. Enjoy performances by the Protestant Cadet Chapel Choir and the Regimental Brass Quartet of the USMA Band.

Refreshments will follow the event at the West Point Club.

For more information, call 938-6497.

Project Angel Tree

The West Point Better Opportunities for

Single Soldiers, Army Community Service and The Exchange present Project Angel Tree at The Exchange.

The Project Angel Tree runs through Dec. 13. Make a West Point child's Christmas morning very special.

For more information, call 938-6497.

Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular—one more show

The Leisure Travel Services office has tickets for one more show of the 2011 Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular.

The show is 8 p.m. Dec. 15. Seating is in the Orchestra section. There is coach bus transportation to the city.

The bus leaves LTS at 4 p.m. and leaves NYC immediately following the show.

For more information, call 938-2401/3601.

Community holiday party for your department

Looking for a special place with a festive atmosphere for your holiday department party? Then look no further.

The West Point Club is open from 6-11 p.m. Dec. 16 in the Grand Ballroom for your holiday party.

A cocktail reception will be held from 6-7 p.m. and a holiday dinner buffet from 7-9 p.m. Enjoy holiday music all through the evening and a cash bar is available, too.

The more guests you bring, the bigger your discount. You can bring the decorations to personalize your table's center piece for your department or family.

To make reservations, call 938-5120.

West Point Golf Course Pro Shop holiday sale

Get ready for the next golf season during the West Point Golf Course's Pro Shop sale through Dec. 19.

Get the perfect gift for the golfer in your life.

Come see the great deals and purchase your 2012 golf passes at 2011 pricing.

For more information, call 938-2435.

FMWR Fitness Center renovation

The FMWR Fitness Center is currently undergoing a major renovation in the main entrance area. The approximate time frame for this project is 20-30 days through late December.

The temporary main entrance will be through the Crossfit room. The foyer area, front bathrooms and main desk area will be completely closed off to all patrons and staff during the construction.

Once the main entrance is complete, the Crossfit room will undergo a slight facelift.

The Crossfit Room will be moved next to the Spin Room.

If you have any questions, call 938-6490.

New Fitness Center and Post Library hours

FMWR budget reductions have impacted hours at the FMWR Fitness Center and Post Library.

As a result of significant budget cuts in the funding that supports these activities, FMWR has closed both facilities on Sundays, which was the least used day for both facilities.

The Class of '62 Room at the Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center remains open on Sundays.

Adaptive Ski and Snowboard Program

The West Point Ski Slope office is expanding the Adaptive Ski and Snowboard Program for those who require adaptive equipment and education.

The fee for this program includes a lift ticket, all equipment and four 1 1/2-hour lessons. Times are to be announced.

For more information, call 938-4637.

NEW INFO

Army Family Team Building presents holiday survival training

Army Family Team Building presents holiday survival training from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Monday at ACS, Bldg. 622.

Learn how to effectively manage time and

stress during this holiday season.

To register, call 938-5654.

ACS and BBC AFTB Birthday Party

Army Community Service and Balfour Beatty Communities present the Army Family Team Building Birthday Party from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Dec. 16 at ACS, Bldg. 622.

Families are invited to submit an art project to exhibit that reflects their cultural heritage.

Projects must be submitted by Dec. 12.

To register, call 938-5654.

Life EDGE! "A Little Class of Etiquette"

Be prepared for the upcoming CYSS Father and Daughter Dance. Life EDGE! offers etiquette classes for a fee for grades K-5 every Tuesday from Jan. 31-Feb. 21 at the Lee Area CDC.

For more information and to enroll, contact Parent Central at 938-4458/0939.

Wee Ones Play Group holiday schedule

Wee Ones will be taking a holiday break and will not meet Dec. 19, 26 or Jan. 2.

It will start again Jan. 9.

If you have any questions, call Shelley Ariosto at 938-3369.

Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center holiday schedule

From Dec. 17-Jan. 2, the Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center's holiday schedule is:

- Dec. 17-24 and Dec. 27-31—9 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Dec. 25-26 and Jan. 1-2.

The noontime lap swim hours during the holidays are:

- Dec. 17, 19-23 and 27-30—noon-1:30 p.m. at Crandall Pool.

For updates or changes to the holiday schedule, call 938-2985.

Bingo at the West Point Bowling Center

Bingo is now at the West Point Bowling Center.

For more information, call 938-2140.

What's Happening

"A Christmas Carol" performance

Actors from the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival will read Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" at 5 p.m. Sunday at the Herbert Alumni Center, 698 Mills Road.

Join the actors afterward for a festive gathering with a holiday buffet and drinks.

This holiday event is open to the West Point community. For more information and to buy tickets for the event, call Leslie Rose at 446-1582.

John Tesh tour

John Tesh, the six-time Emmy-winning composer, Grammy-nominated musician and nationally syndicated radio host, returns to the stage this holiday season, for the nationwide "John Tesh: Big Band Christmas" tour at 3 p.m. Dec. 11 at Eisenhower Hall Theatre.

The tour is a two-hour concert program featuring Tesh with his signature piano and vocals, performing holiday classics with all new big band arrangements, along with an 11-piece rhythm and horn section.

To buy tickets, go to www.ikehall.com, order by phone at 800-233-3123 or go to the Eisenhower Hall Theatre ticket office at 655 Pitcher Road.

For more information, call the Eisenhower Hall Theatre Box Office at 938-4159.

Federal Employee Health Benefits

The Federal Employee Health Benefits open season runs through Dec. 12.

During the open season period, any eligible employee who is not currently registered may enroll.

Also, any eligible enrollee may change from one plan or option to another.

All new enrollments or changes made during the open season will take effect Jan. 1, 2012.

For further assistance or any questions on benefits, call Karen Wood at 938-2253 or email her at Karen.wood@usma.edu.

West Point Diving Club

The West Point Diving Club is offering learn-to-dive lessons at Crandall Pool in the Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center.

All ages and experience levels are welcome. The ability to swim is a prerequisite.

Lessons are offered from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday and from 11 a.m.-noon Saturday. There are also noon-1 p.m. and 1-2 p.m. Saturday lessons when available.

For more information, contact diving coach Ron Kontura at ron.kontura@usma.edu or 938-4207.

SAMC meetings

Noncommissioned officers interested in becoming a member of the West Point Sgt. Audie Murphy Club are urged to join SAMC members for study groups at 5 p.m. Thursdays at Nininger Hall.

For those who are interested in joining the SAMC, meetings are on the first Wednesday of each month at 4 p.m. in the Red Reeder Room in Washington Hall.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Joseph Willis at 938-7082.

Free Computer Training

The Information, Education and Technology Division is offering free computer courses.

The courses include Microsoft Office 2007 software such

as Outlook, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access and SharePoint 2010.

Other courses offered are Computer Hardware and Software Orientation and a Keyboard Typing Skills Lab.

Courses are given in Jefferson Hall, fourth floor, Room 414 (IETD Classroom) through July 27, 2012.

Courses are open to cadets, USMAPS cadet candidates and computer users from any USMA activity.

For more information, call Thomas Gorman at 938-1186 or send an email to Thomas.Gorman@usma.edu.

For course dates, go to the IETD Course Calendar at <http://usma-portal/dean/staff/ietd/training/Pages/default.aspx>.

NEW INFO

Diversity awareness assembly and sports awards ceremony

James O'Neill High School will have a "Diversity Awareness Assembly" with Michael Fowlin at 11:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m. today.

Fowlin portrays seven different people (dealing with race, religion, sexual orientation and gender) in a riveting presentation.

Students will then disperse into classrooms for discussions about the various topics. Those discussions will be led by certain students who are trained to run these discussions.

This program fits in with the other programs O'Neill has done this year from teen depression and suicide to bullying.

Also, O'Neill's Fall Sports Awards ceremony will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the school auditorium.

West Point Cadet String Ensemble concert

The West Point Cadet String Ensemble, under the direction of the USMA Band commander, Lt. Col. Jim Keene, will perform its winter concert at 1 p.m. Sunday at the Haig Room in Jefferson Hall.

Join the celebration of the winter season with classic pieces by Mozart, Holst and Sibelius, as well as some holiday favorites. Light refreshments will follow the concert.

Book signings

Randy Roberts, author of the new book "A Team for America: The Army-Navy Game that Rallied a Nation," will be at the Cadet Bookstore, fourth floor in Thayer Hall, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Tuesday to sign his book.

The book tells one of the greatest stories in American sports history—how the 1944 Army football team beat Navy, captured a national championship and inspired a nation at war.

Also, Shannon Meehan, the author of "Beyond Duty," will sign books at 2-3:30 p.m. today at the Cadet Bookstore.

For more information, call Carol Fish, bookstore manager, at 938-5193.

Armorer training

The Directorate of Emergency Services is conducting unit armorer training from 1:30-3 p.m. Wednesday in Thayer Hall Room 144.

For more information, call Thomas Slater, physical security inspector, at 938-4585.

Holiday open house

The Army Community Service and the Soldier and Family Assistance Center invites the community to a holiday open house from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec. 15 at ACS, Bldg. 622.

There will be holiday crafts, light refreshments and pictures with Santa.

To RSVP, contact Louise Ennesser at 938-4621 or email Louise.Ennesser@usma.edu.

Santa Claus is coming to West Point

The West Point Fire Department will be bringing Santa Claus to the West Point housing areas starting at 10 a.m. Dec. 17. The route starts at Stony Lonesome I housing and ends in Lee Area housing.

All residents wishing to see Santa and to receive a candy cane must come to the designated route.

Check upcoming editions of the *Pointer View* to see the detailed map of the route.

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

Christmas service

There will be a Christmas service at 10:30 a.m. Dec. 18 at the Post Chapel.

For more information, call Pete Hommel at 938-3504.

Army Education Center

The Army Education Center is now accepting new students for the spring semester. The registration deadline is Dec. 22.

To contact the schools about what classes are available, email John Jay College Master of Public Administration at jjcwestpoint@yahoo.com, Long Island University New Masters Program in Education at marybeth.leggett@liu.edu, Mount Saint Mary College at sharon.seidule@msmc.edu and St. Thomas Aquinas College at rholmes@STAC.edu.

There is also an open house from 4-6 p.m. Wednesday at the AEC.

Letters to Santa

Highland Falls Mayor Joe D'Onofrio has been in touch with Santa and has announced that he will help get letters from local children to Santa in time for the holidays.

He'll make sure that all children who write receive an answer from the Jolly Old Guy.

Letters should be sent to:

Santa, c/o The Mayor
303 Main Street
Highland Falls, NY 10928

To ensure the letters get to Santa on time, and to get an answer, the letters need to be at Village Hall by Dec. 22.

Letters must include the child's name and address, preferably written legibly by a parent or guardian.

Highland Falls Santa's Toy Box

The Town of Highland Falls is sponsoring a toy collection drive to be collected in the lobby of Village Hall.

Community residents are asked to donate a new, unwrapped toy that will make its way to a child in the local community.

Gifts for children in the categories of tot, child and teen can be dropped off in the Village Hall lobby from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. daily through Dec. 22.

For more information, call 446-3400.

Best friends collection

Highland Falls wants to make sure that faithful "best friends" in the community have a good holiday, too.

There is a collection in Village Hall of dog and cat food, cat litter, blankets and towels, dog and cat grooming supplies and toys. This will help provide something to the needy animals in the community. All donations will be given to the 4-Paws Humane Society and the Highland Falls pet shelter to support strays and lost animals.

For more information, call 446-3400.

Keller Corner

Smoking Cessation Program

Want to kick the smoking habit? Let Keller Army Community Hospital help you. Classes are held from noon-1 p.m. every first and third Friday of the month at KACH's fourth floor classroom.

You will be required to only attend one class to be enrolled in the program. This class will help you to quit using tobacco products.

If you have any questions, call KACH Army Public Health Nursing at 938-2676.



Turkey Trot 5K

The FMWR Fitness Center hosted the Turkey Trot 5K Nov. 19. There were prizes for the top male, female, boy and girl. There was also a prize category for wackiest hair for one adult and child. The top male runners were Ludovic Funrock, Martin Tyce and Will Szymczack. The top female runners were Jennifer Derego, Maryann Nance and Melissa Steele.

COURTESY PHOTO

NOW SHOWING

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

Friday—Footloose, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday—The Three Musketeers 2, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

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

Command Channel 8/23

Dec. 1-8

(Broadcast times)

Army Newswatch

Today, Friday and Monday through Dec. 8
8:30 a.m., 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

The Point

Today, Friday and Monday through Dec. 8
8 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Life Works at Balfour Beatty Communities

• **Holiday Candy Guess:** Stop by 132 Bartlett Loop from Dec. 5-21 to take your guess as to how many candies you think are in the jar.

Take an educated guess and you could be the one who wins a Digital Video Player.

Weekly Sudoku by Chris Okasaki, D/EECS

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

See SUDOKU SOLUTION, Page 2

Difficulty: Easy

West Point Band

Since 1817

FREE CONCERT Hudson Valley Holiday

Friday, December 2 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 3 2:00 p.m.

Eisenhower Hall Theatre

Free tickets: westpointband.com

Army-Navy T-shirts available

The long sleeve Army-Navy T-shirts are on sale at the Cadet Bookstore on the fourth floor in Thayer Hall. All sizes are available. For more information, call Carol Fish, bookstore manager, at 938-5193.

Hockey earns a road tie against Robert Morris

By Ryan Yanoshak
Army Athletic Communications

Senior forward Danny Colvin had a goal and an assist and junior forward Andy Starczewski handed out a pair of assists as Army skated to a 3-3 overtime tie with Robert Morris Nov. 26 in an Atlantic Hockey Association contest at the Island Sports Center in Moon Township, Pa.

Freshmen defensemen Mac Lalor and Maurice Alvarez also scored goals for Army while junior defenseman Cody Ikkala and senior forward Mark Dube picked up assists.

Freshman goalie Rob Tadazak made 39 saves to earn his second tie in as many starts.

Army moved to 1-6-5 overall this season and is now 1-4-3 in conference games. Robert Morris is 5-6-1 and 3-2-1.

Tadazak, who made 53 saves against Brown in his last outing, was again solid, making 13 saves in the first period, nine in the second, 11 in the third and six in overtime.

The Black Knights killed off a Robert Morris power play in the final two minutes of overtime to preserve the tie.

Army jumped out to a 1-0 lead 90 seconds



Senior forward Danny Colvin scored a goal in a 3-3 tie against Robert Morris Nov. 26.

ERIC S. BARTELT/PV

into the game. Ikkala wrapped the puck around the net where Starczewski dug it out

and fed Colvin, who snuck the puck into the net for his first goal of the season.

Robert Morris knotted the game seven minutes later with a power play goal.

Army went back on top with a power play goal of its own as Lalor scored his second goal in as many nights.

The freshman unleashed a high slapshot from outside the faceoff circle to make it a 2-1 game with 4:11 left in the first period.

Robert Morris tied the game with 14.3

seconds left in the period as Scott Jacklin netted his third goal of the season.

The Black Knights took a brief 3-2 lead three minutes into the final period as Alvarez scored his third of the season.

Robert Morris answered minutes later on Cody Crichton's third goal of the season to knot the game at three.

Both teams had chances in the five-minute sudden victory overtime, but Tadazak made four huge saves to help Army earn the tie.

Wrestling slams Sacred Heart with three pins, 45-3

By Christian Anderson
Army Athletic Communications

Three Army wrestlers recorded pins as the Black Knights posted a dominant 45-3 victory over Sacred Heart Nov. 26 at the Northeast Duals inside the Edward F. McDonough Sports Complex in Troy, N.Y.

Freshman Scott Filbert, junior Daniel Young and sophomore Ryan Tompkins all notched pins to lead Army (3-3). Andrew Polidore picked up Sacred Heart's lone win as the Pioneers fell to 0-3 on the season.

Filbert, who went 3-0 on the day, helped Army jump on top, 3-0, as the 125-pounder pinned Joe Harris in one minute, 14 seconds.

Polidore followed with a 9-2 victory over sophomore David White in the 133-pound matchup to pull SHU to within 6-3.

Army then won the final eight bouts to cruise to the victory. Junior Connor Hanafee began the run of consecutive victories by taking an 8-5 decision from Justin Belanger in the 141-pound bout. Hanafee's three-point decision increased the Black Knights' edge to 9-3.

Young needed just 1:59 to pin Joe Evangelista at 149 pounds, extending Army's lead to 15-3.

The Black Knights cushion swelled to 27-3 as senior Jimmy Rafferty (157 pounds) and freshman Cole Gracey (165) were awarded wins by forfeit.



Junior Daniel Young notched a pin over Sacred Heart's Joe Evangelista in one minute, 59 seconds to do his part in Army's 45-3 win Nov. 26.

ERIC S. BARTELT/PV

Tompkins kept Army's momentum going in the 174-pound bout as he pinned John Rizzitello in 4:08.

Sophomore Wil Brown then took a 7-2 decision from Zachary Moran in the 184-pound bout and senior Michael Gorman doubled up Sam Morrison, 8-4, at 197 pounds.

Freshman Curtis Garner picked up a win by forfeit in the heavyweight bout to cap the scoring.

Army returns to action this weekend (Friday and Saturday) when the Black Knights travel to Las Vegas for the 30th annual Cliff Keen Invitational.