

POINTER VIEW®

Happy Holidays!!
There will be no
Pointer View issues
the next two weeks.
Next issue is Jan. 5.

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

DECEMBER 15, 2011



Happy Holidays

The Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation hosted West Point's annual tree lighting ceremony Dec. 5 behind Maj. Gen. John Sedgwick's statue along Washington Road. The West Point Band played Christmas carols with cub scouts, the Cadet Chapel Community Choir and other attendees singing along. Santa arrived on a firetruck and quickly greeted the children on his way to the West Point Club to hear Christmas wishes. See pages 2-3 for more holiday related stories and photos.

KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

Tense moment leads to breaking bread with DFAS

By Sharisse Tracey Smith-Owens

I don't even remember opening the door to room 112 in Bldg. 626, the Defense Finance and Accounting Services office. All I remember is the blur of a vending machine, the sight of camouflage and the sound of my own voice, "I have an 11 a.m. appointment with Jim."

The red clipboard located on the top of the reception desk with four names listed didn't matter to me, because as I mentioned, I had an appointment.

"Jim's with someone," the mild-mannered lady standing at the reception desk said. "He's in processing and will probably be at least 15 minutes."

I exhaled as loud as I could. "I just got off the phone with him. I literally dropped what I was doing to get down here for an 11 a.m. appointment. How is that possible? And look he told me to bring this."

As if giving her something could change what was happening. She took my piece of paper from the brown signature Coach padfolio I had it in. It was the Power of Attorney that allowed me to handle affairs on my husband's behalf since he's deployed.

"I'll be right back," she said.

I knew from her look and the others waiting that I was slightly overreacting, but I had already taken it that far, and as I said, I had an appointment.

A man, who I assumed was Jim stepped out, "Mrs. Owens, I know I gave you an appointment, but it's not like we're sitting around here waiting for people to show up. A Soldier came in and I started to help him. I am sorry," he said.

Now why did he have to say it like that?

"I know you're not sitting around here waiting for people to show up," I said, "but I told you the kind of morning I had, and I dropped what I was doing to get down here. The least I should expect is to be seen at my appointment time. It doesn't have anything to do with the fact that someone came in and you choose to see them. What's the point in my having an appointment?"

The three Soldiers sitting in the waiting area all looked at me. I think they gave me a nonverbal high five. Well, at least that's what I took the look to mean.

I don't know whether or not they had appointments, but I'm sure most people have had this experience at least once. A manager appeared from the back. Why do they always appear from the back?

Anyway, shortly after they all disappeared, certain to be

in a cubicle calling me names I can't type here, I was called in. The clock read 11:10 a.m.

The meeting with Jim could have been awkward, I expected it to be, but instead turned into one of the most pleasant experiences I've had here at West Point.

Jim and his supervisor Eileen went above and beyond to assist me in resolving my husband's pay issues.

He remembered from earlier conversations that I attend a graduate program in the evening, and that one of my children had special needs.

My lack of patience and frustration shown in the lobby was more about me than him and the DFAS staff. Not only did they show me extreme courtesy, they also allowed me to join them in their staff potluck that day.

I sat and watched them participate in Secret Santa, discuss

their holiday likes and dislikes, and I like to think I helped contribute to their office decoration theme.

I thought to myself, these are just people like everyone else, just people. Often when you're on the receiving end of a problem you forget that, or at least I had.

This made the gesture by Jim seem even more thoughtful. It brought tears to my eyes and it was something I wanted to share.

I don't know how often the DFAS employees get recognized, and not yelled at, but since I did the one I thought I should do the other.

(Editor's note: Sharisse Tracey Smith-Owens is a mother, Army wife, writer, counselor and displaced Californian. She can be reached at sharissetraceysmith@yahoo.com on thoughts about her commentary.)

Force protection message during holidays

By Matthew Cassidy

Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security

The holiday season gives us the opportunity to spend time with family and friends, reflect on the past year and look forward to future opportunities. As always, situational awareness is paramount and we encourage everyone to remain observant and aware of their surroundings wherever their travels may take them.

To ensure we continue to stay proactive in Force Protection and Crime Prevention measures, the following items should be incorporated into pre-holiday procedures for all West Point organizations.

- Before going on leave, take time to institute a "clean desk" and "clean work space" policy. This policy will ensure that anything out of place is easily spotted. Upon your return to work, take a minute to survey your workplace. Is everything the way you left it? If not, say something. Incorporating this policy into your office's standard operating procedures, not only during the holiday season but throughout the year, reinforces the installation's antiterrorism program and ensures West Point remains safe and crime free.

- Ensure that all papers, correspondence, digital media or other documents are properly stored or shredded in

accordance with your office standard procedures.

For more information on operations security procedures, contact the West Point Installation Security Office at 938-2717.

- Remove all passwords from under your keyboards or desk calendar. This practice should be done not only during the holiday season, but at all times.

- Remove name rosters, manning boards or out of office signs on doors during leave time. This includes the dry erase boards annotating leave dates that are popular in offices, especially those that are posted in public areas where they are visible to visitors, delivery people and others who do not have a need to know.

- Inspect and secure all unused rooms or storage areas not in regular use. Lock all external windows that may also provide access to a room or storage area. Upon return, check these areas again to ensure nothing is out of place.

Building commandants and organizational managers must have a good understanding of their respective buildings, not only the office space, but public access and parking areas as well.

- Ensure that you properly log off your computer and take your CAC card with you.

- For military, civilian government employees and cadets, if you have not completed your annual Antiterrorism

See FORCE PROTECTION, Page 3

Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

See SUDOKU PUZZLE, Page 16

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Season's Greetings **Spreading the holiday cheer during the season of giving**



(Above left) Class of 2012 Cadet Kristina Keltner helps Marine Cpl. Daniel Spencer with gifts the Corps of Cadets donated to the Marine Corps "Toys for Tots" drive Dec. 8. (Right) Class of 2012 Cadets Daniel Titterington and Joseph Carothers (front) and Class of 2014 Cadets Emily Woods and Mary Swan load the Corps of Cadets donations of gifts into a van. The event was coordinated by Marine Capt. Dan MacSay, Department of Military Instruction instructor, and Col. Thomas Hiebert, instructor in the Behavioral Sciences and Leadership Department.

PHOTOS BY KATHY EASTWOOD/PV



(Left to right) Military policemen Spc. Matthew Wesley, Sgt. Maj. Jonathan Carpenter, Spc. Curtis Taylor, Staff Sgt. Chad Carlson, Spc. Brandie Schneider, administration clerk Ella Rogers and Sgt. Christopher Mansour show off some of the toys community members donated to the West Point Toy Drive Dec. 8. Community members can continue to bring new, unwrapped toys to the Military Police station, Bldg. 616, through Friday. See "What's Happening" on page 15 for more details.

FORCE PROTECTION, cont'd from Page 2

Level I training, it is strongly recommended that you do so before the holidays. If you have, revisit the training and incorporate the procedures into your leave plans.

While this is not an all inclusive list, these are just a few measures to remember as you prepare for the holidays with friends and family.

Developing personal habits and practices, like those noted on the previous page, can frustrate criminals and go hand-in-hand with combating terrorism. Incorporating these measures will help reduce the criminal's advantage more effectively.

As a reminder, residents can send reports of suspicious activities or observations by using the iWATCH link on www.usma.edu/.

Our force protection program relies largely on the support of our residents and workforce. Everyone plays a key role in force protection—even a minute detail being reported can stop an incident from happening.

Vigilance and awareness are the key words to remember during this holiday season. Please remember to promptly report suspicious persons, vehicles and crimes to the local law enforcement agency if you are away from West Point.

For suspicious behavior or activity on the installation, report it to the West Point Military Police Desk at 938-3333.

For additional information or assistance, contact the DPTMS AT/FP Office at 938-8859/3650.

Remember, if you see something, say something and have a happy and safe holidays.

Wreaths Across America makes its way to West Point

By Mike Strasser
Assistant Editor

The national Wreaths Across America campaign made two stops at West Point, first laying about 1,750 wreaths on headstones throughout the cemetery and later at a special ceremony inside the Old Cadet Chapel.

On Dec. 3, more than 100 participants, from across New York and Pennsylvania, gathered at the West Point Cemetery to distribute the holiday wreaths. Members of the West Point Track team were among the academy volunteers. On Dec. 6, a ceremony was held at the Old Cadet Chapel including the Wreaths Across America Caravan, Gold Star Mothers and Wives, West Point leadership and other guests.

The Wreaths Across America program began in 1992 when founder Morrill Worcester, a wreath company owner, joined a dozen others in honoring the nation's veterans by placing 5,000 wreaths on headstones at Arlington National Cemetery. Twenty years later, the wreath-laying effort continues across the country at veterans' cemeteries and monuments.

Morrill's wife and WAA executive director, Karen Worcester, spoke at the ceremony inside the Old Cadet Chapel where a wreath was placed at the altar by West Point Superintendent Lt. Gen. David H. Huntoon Jr. and Command Sgt. Maj. Todd Burnett.

"It's truly humbling to be here, and I'm a little overwhelmed," Worcester said.

Huntoon thanked Worcester for her efforts in recognizing the nation's military heroes

and educating people about their service. He said while serving as the 3rd Infantry Regiment commander in 1995, he witnessed the impact of the wreath-laying program at Arlington National Cemetery.

"Today we acknowledge not only their visit to this historic cemetery but your contribution to over 200 cemeteries around the United States and 24 veteran cemeteries around the world," Huntoon said. "Morrill Worcester had said, 'I made it my business never to forget' and here at West Point we believe the same thing."

West Point contributed to the program last year when about a half-dozen participants placed more than 100 wreaths at the West Point Cemetery.

Dr. Todd Crowder, an associate professor in the Department of Physical Education, learned about the program through a mother whose son he coached on the West Point Track team.

Inspired by the mission of the nonprofit organization, they established West Point as a registered cemetery.

"After reading about Morrill Worcester and his commitment, passion and mission concerning his goal of 'Remember, Honor, Teach,' I believed West Point and Wreaths Across America was a synergistic fit," Crowder said.

Crowder was grateful for the cadets who contributed their time to volunteer at the WAA event.

"These cadets volunteered their time to come out and pay tribute to members of the West Point community buried at the cemetery,



On Dec. 3, more than 100 participants from across New York and Pennsylvania, including dozens of volunteers from the Corps of Cadets, helped make this year's Wreaths Across America campaign a success.

TOMMY GILLIGAN/WEST POINT PAO

further demonstrating the link of 'Duty, Honor, Country' and 'Remember, Honor, Teach,'" Crowder said.

Seeing the wreaths grow here from triple to quadruple digits, says a lot about the giving nature of so many people, Crowder said.

"It really is a tribute to the spirit of so many wonderful people who have on their own, organized groups, schools and individuals, to purchase wreaths that can then be presented and ceremonially placed at West

Point for our ceremony," he said.

Prior to the Army-Navy football game Dec. 10, 16 West Point cadets and 16 midshipmen from the U.S. Naval Academy placed wreaths at Arlington National Cemetery. Thousands of volunteers participated that day in laying the red-bowed wreaths at the gravesites of about 90,000 veterans.

To learn more about the program and how to participate in future events, visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org/.

Revisit the 2011 Army Football team in 'A GAME OF HONOR'

The documentary, featuring the Army Black Knights at West Point and the Navy Midshipmen at the U.S. Naval Academy premieres at 10 p.m. Dec. 21 on Showtime. The prelude is still available online at www.youtube.com/watch?v=H0q4jczadLQ.

'Slug-Copter' soars above competition

Co. F-3 entry earns top prize in Corps of Cadets' first recycling sculpture competition

Story and photo by Mike Strasser
Assistant Editor

There was an unusual amount of trash inside the Cadet Mess Hall last week, but no one dared throw it away.

A sizeable incentive was at stake for one company's activities fund as the winner of the Corps of Cadets' first recycling sculpture competition.

So, piles of boxes, newspaper, cans and bottles were transformed into interesting works of art and presented Dec. 7 at the Cadet Mess. Several of the entries took on the likeness of company mascots like the Company B-1 Barbarian or the D-1 Duck.

One sculpture in particular dwarfed the competition. A towering horse, designed by the cadets of Company I-1, was a tribute to their company mascot, the Ironhorse. The enterprising recyclers assembled 14 newspaper-covered boxes using a step ladder to reach the head of the 10-foot tall sculpture.

The mane and tail were fashioned from plastic containers of the two-liter and 20-fluid ounce variety, and the eyes were made from crushed aluminum cans and peanut butter caps.

Also among the 10 entries, Company I-2 offered a moose and Company G-1 cadets designed a piece titled "Zeus versus Navy Squid."

The winning entry was announced at the Army-Navy Spirit Dinner Dec. 7 and Co. F-3 earned \$500 courtesy of the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation and the Directorate of Cadet Activities. Class of 2012 Cadet Chester Hander created the "Slug-Copter" using clothes hangers to form the helicopter frame and 10 energy drink cans to form side panels and rotor blades. The windshield was made from a clear plastic bottle.

"My inspiration to build a helicopter came from the Parachute Team," Hander said. "We fly in a Lakota helicopter and jump out of it every day. It's the most amazing experience West Point has given me."

Binder worked alone on the design but said he received help through the encouragement of friends and company mates.

"My company does a great job at recycling, which was why I was able to obtain so many cans to use for my chopper," he said.

Binder was confident he had a competitive entry despite some of the larger offerings from his colleagues.

"I was a little intimidated at seeing a massive horse made of boxes from across the mess hall, but I was confident in my chopper," Binder said. "I put hard work into it and was proud of it."

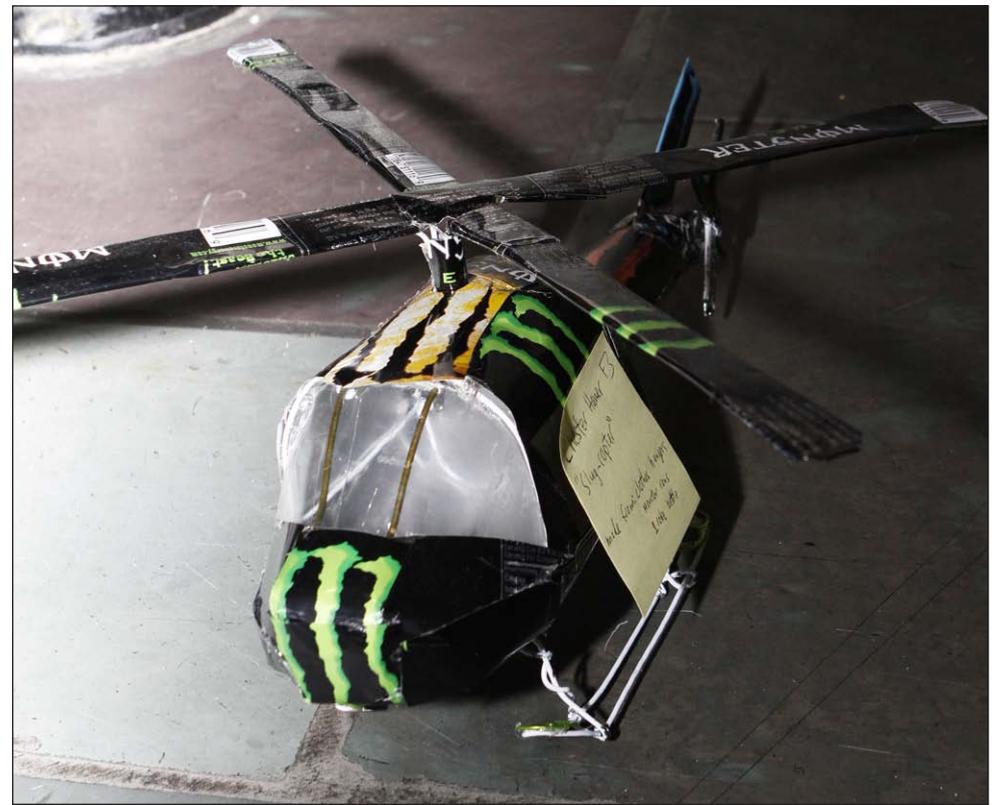
Maj. Andrew Pfluger, executive officer and instructor in the Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering, participated in the judging. He said the criteria required the sculpture to be made completely of recyclables.

Even though the end state is to recycle the materials used in the sculpture, the winning entry is probably too good to throw away, he said.

"The F-3 entry was much more intricate, and honestly, was something of such quality that you want to keep it afterward," Pfluger said. "I guess it was quality over quantity in the end."

Class of 2012 Cadet Brian Meese, the brigade energy and environmental officer, said the competition was a good way to keep recycling on the minds of all the cadets, especially as the semester nears its end.

"The intent is to raise awareness and get people thinking about recycling," Meese said. "While cadets were actively recycling and separating their recyclables, they were able to pick out items for their sculptures."



The "Slug-Copter" was designed and built by Class of 2012 Cadet Chester Hander, earning the incentive award for Company F-3 in the Corps of Cadets' first recycling sculpture competition.

While judging the entries, Meese said he could see the effort put into all the sculptures.

"It's good to see the effort because that means they were getting energized about the competition," Meese said. "There are no entries that appear too spur-of-the-moment, last night's last minute work."

Meese said the recycling program in the Corps of Cadets is operating well after the system received some additional analysis and reconfiguring this semester.

"I think we're all on the same page and working well together," Meese said. "It's

awesome to see cadets get into it, and it makes the whole system a lot more sustainable."

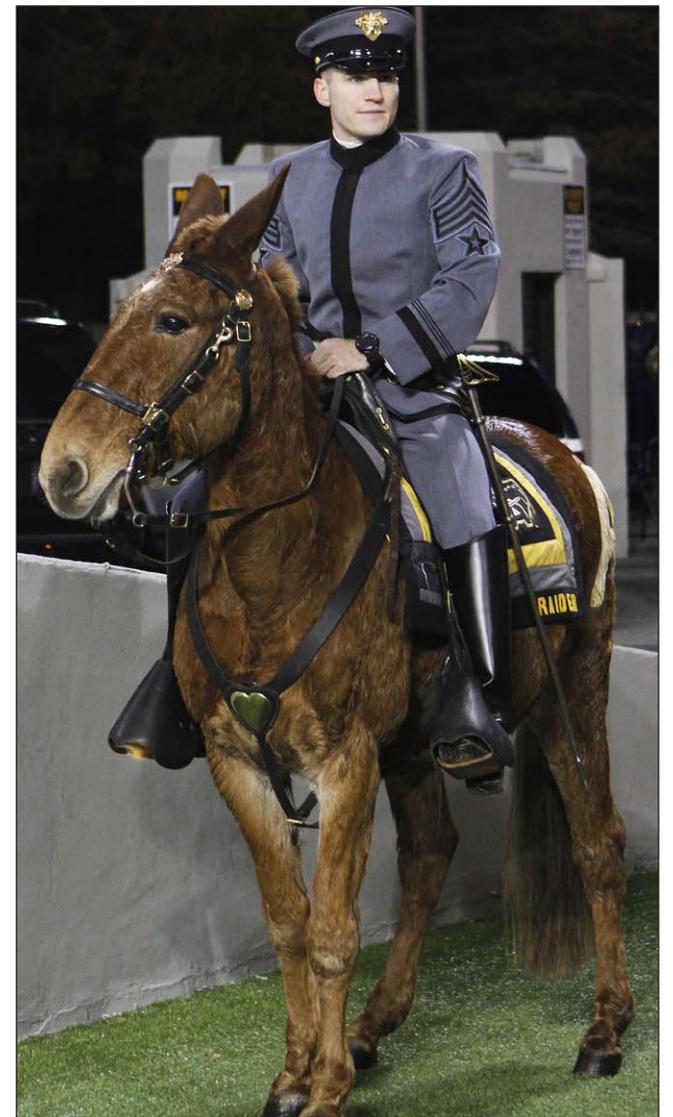
Meese said next semester, the energy and environmental team will get the Corps of Cadets active in the annual collegiate Recyclemania competition.

Last February, West Point placed 27th in the Per Capita Classic division out of a pool of 363 colleges and universities.

"We did well last time, but we'll do even better this time," Meese said. "Recycling has slowly become more integrated into cadet life, and that's a huge part of it."



(Above) Ranger III and Stryker took over the duties of Raider, Ranger II and General Scott on Dec. 8 as they were officially designated as the new Army Mule Mascots during a ceremony at Michie Stadium. Brothers, both mules were foaled in 2004, and trained by Maj. Anne Hessinger, an Army veterinarian who served at West Point in 2003-06. (Right) Raider's last official appearance as mascot was at the Army-Navy game Dec. 10.



Welcoming Ranger III, Stryker to West Point

Story and photos by Mike Strasser
Assistant Editor

Ranger III and Stryker made their public debut at West Point during a ceremony Dec. 8 before the annual Goat-Engineer football games for Army-Navy Spirit Week. The two new Army Mule Mascots were welcomed by the Corps of Cadets and other guests, while Raider and Ranger II were officially retired from service.

Their arrival was long-awaited, as they have spent nearly four years being conditioned for their new assignment at the U.S. Military Academy. They've already been exposed to the military environment at Fort Bragg, N.C., where Maj. Anne Hessinger works as an Army veterinarian.

She previously owned the two mules and has gotten them familiar with firecrackers, gun shots, tarps, balloons, umbrellas and flowers—any peculiar elements and environments they may come across during their time as Army Mule Mascots. They'll also be able to handle the occasional cannon fire when the football team scores touchdowns at Michie Stadium.

"As long as the riders stay quiet on them, the mules won't mind," Hessinger said. "They'll hear it the first time and be like—'what's that?'—and then the second time they'll ignore it. That's how adaptable they can be."

She said Ranger III and Stryker will have no problem leading teams onto the field, carrying flags and interacting with fans.

"They can be more than just statues standing on the

sidelines," she said.

In years past, some mascots were able to perform extended gaits and a few trick moves, but Hessinger said the new mules were formerly conditioned more for pulling wagons and hauling logs than showboating.

"They're broke to drive as a team, so there's the potential—down the road—to getting a harness for them and buying a wagon and being able to drive them that way. They've worked as a pair and that's why they're so much alike."

They're also brothers, perhaps from the same father, Hessinger believes.

"It makes a difference that they're brothers in the fact that they've been together their whole lives, so they feed off each other like the Army's battle buddy system. They've always been each others' battle buddy and the more things they do together the better they'll be."

Hessinger said if one appears more nervous than the other, the calmness of one can reassure the other.

"They can be that support system for each other," she said. "But it's funny because they also love to fight. They work hard and they play hard."

Having trained them the past two and a half years, Hessinger is sad to see them go.

"It's hard for me because they're a part of my family now; they're my kids," she said. "Leaving them behind is a little hard, but I hope to get them back eventually."

It will also give her a reason to visit West Point again.

Class of 2013 Cadet Nels Estvold and the other cadet mule

riders enjoyed a 30-minute session with the new mules upon their arrival to West Point. Estvold described Ranger III and Stryker as steady and stable successors.

"We were all pretty excited to finally have them here," Estvold said. "We basically been waiting an entire year for their arrival, so once the saddles were on, it was great to finally ride them."

At least two riders will work with Ranger III and Stryker every day, which means Estvold will have a chance to ride the new mules two or three times each week. The departure of their former colleagues was bittersweet as the cadets led them off the field.

Estvold was partial to Raider and partnered with him the most. But all mule riders eventually come to know each mule by their individual personalities and traits.

"They've been around ever since we've been here, so in a way, they're part of our family here," Estvold said.

Steve Townes, a former Army officer with the 75th Ranger Regiment, was proud that Ranger III will carry on an Army tradition at West Point.

"My only stipulation as the permanent mule donor in perpetuity is that one of the Army mules will always be named Ranger in honor of all Rangers, living and dead," Townes said.

Townes, a Class of 1975 graduate and former mule rider, met with the current group of cadet riders.

"I told them this is a 113-year tradition and is part of the permanent brand image of West Point," he said. "I told them to take good care of the mules and have fun."



Class of 2012 Cadets Phil Ludlow and Lincoln Stein check the remote controlled vehicle they were testing for a course project Dec. 8. Eight cadets brought their vehicles out from the lab and onto the Plain for a test run from Washington Statue in front of Washington Hall to Thayer Statue. This was a Civil and Mechanical Engineering course project that required the cadets to build and operate a remote control vehicle. The cadets spent last semester studying how to program microcontrollers. A total of 18 cadets worked on nine remote control vehicles. The hardest part in completing the project was the programming, according to the cadets.

Cadets test their mechatronic skills outside the lab

Story and photo by Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

Civil and Mechanical Engineering majors from the Class of 2012 completed a course project Dec. 8 after navigating remote control vehicles autonomously from Washington Statue to the Thayer Statue.

“We’ve spent the last semester studying how to program microcontrollers or small computers,” Maj. Robert McVay, CME instructor said. “The vehicles have motors attached to the wheels and we’ve installed additional sensors on the chassis capable of determining where the earth’s magnetic north is.

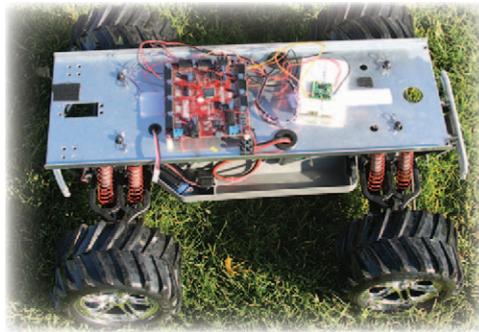
“The cadets measured the magnetic azimuth from Washington Statue to Thayer Statue and programmed their microcontrollers to direct the car along the azimuth (angles measured clockwise from any meridian or horizontal plane reference),” McVay added.

If the vehicles veer off azimuth, the microcontroller should guide the wheels back to where they are supposed to be.

McVay said he was teaching mechatronics, a course similar to the robotics he taught last semester.

“The course has firsties from both the mechanical and electrical engineering majoring programs working on this project,” McVay said.

The cadet teams consisted of 18 cadets working on nine vehicles. The first team of eight cadets tested their vehicles Dec. 8 and the rest tested theirs before dawn Dec. 9.



“We’ve been working on this project for about three weeks,” Class of 2012 cadet Mike Herrick said. “The programming was the most difficult part.”

Each team had three tries and most made it—eventually. Many of the vehicles needed frequent battery changes and some minor adjustments.

“The vehicles are tested in the lab where it’s warm,” McVay said. “The biggest problem is the vehicles are very temperature sensitive. It being cold outside has a lot to do with the functioning of the vehicles.”

Working on the project, cadets learned how to program microcontrollers, studied electric motors, practical electronics and how to model physical systems mathematically.

“This project is the culmination of four laboratory exercises in which the cadets had to get a bunch of small parts and subsystems to work together with their microcontroller. The microcontroller is capable of controlling what happens with what we call closed-loop feedback control. This has been a very hands-on course for the cadets,” McVay said.



Class of 2012 Cadets Eduardo Mendoza (on laptop) and Jacob Peek check out the wiring on the remote controlled car they were testing Dec. 8. The car ran from Washington Statue in front of Washington Hall to the Thayer Statue.



Capt. Christopher Miorin, a West Point Class of 2007 graduate from Harrisburg, Pa., and commander of the U.S. Army Drill Team, met Queen Elizabeth II Dec. 2 while in London for the British Military Tournament. Part of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) stationed at Fort Myer, Va., the U.S. Army Drill Team is a precision drill platoon whose primary mission is to showcase the U.S. Army both nationally and internationally through routines with bayonet-tipped 1903 Springfield rifles.

JOHN STILLWELL/PA WIRE PRESS ASSOCIATION

U.S. Army Drill Team performs in London

By Staff Sgt. Matt Coffee

The U.S. Army Drill Team participated in the British Military Tournament 2011 which helps tell the story of the special relationship between the United Kingdom and United States, recreating dramatic episodes in history from the American War of Independence to modern day operations in Afghanistan.

The British Military Tournament featured more than 700 participants, including active combat servicemen and women plus musicians from the Royal Navy, Army, Royal Air Force and the U.S. Army.

It was presented by ABF The Soldiers' Charity in association with The Royal Navy & Royal Marines Charity and The Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund. ABF The Soldiers' Charity supports Soldiers, former Soldiers and their families in times of need.

"It's quite fantastic to have them (U.S. Army Drill Team) here. We don't have

anything like it in our military," Maj. Tim Carpenter, tournament back stage military coordinator, said. "It really displays that special relationship we have with the United States."

The 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard), U.S. Army Drill Team, is a precision drill platoon with the primary mission of showcasing the U.S. Army both nationally and internationally through routines with bayonet-tipped 1903 Springfield rifles. The U.S. Army Drill Team performs for military, government, non-profit and civilian organizations.

"There are few places in the Army where you can have an experience like this one and the drill team is one of them," Sgt. Evan Williams, 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard), U.S. Army Drill Team, said.

The Drill Team has performed overseas before, most notably Military Tattoos in Bermuda, Norway and Scotland.



PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. CHRISSEY CLARK

Celebrating the holidays

(Left) The West Point Band spent last weekend bringing in the holidays at its annual "Hudson Valley Holiday" concert. Special guests Jay Montgomery, Ernest Williams and the James I. O'Neill High School Chamber Choir, together with the West Point Band and its vocalists, Master Sgt. MaryKay Messenger and Staff Sgt. Alexis Cole, delighted audiences at both performances. Highlights from the concert, such as The Hellcats' Field Music Christmas Classics, Winter Games, featuring Master Sgt. Scott Arcangel, and an appearance by Santa Claus made this an event to remember. (Below) On Dec. 5, the West Point Brass and the Cadet Chapel Community Choir performed holiday favorites before the annual holiday tree lighting event.



West Point Negotiation Project trains SF Group

Submitted by the West Point Negotiation Project

"We are here today because the number one thing we need to do better down range is negotiation," the company commander told team leaders and team sergeants of the First Special Forces Group.

The group of Special Forces Soldiers from the Second Battalion of the First Special Forces Group recently gathered for negotiation training taught by members of the West Point Negotiation Project.

The WPNP conducted its sixth Mobile Training Team since the MTT was first established three years ago. The project has conducted MTTs for the 25th Infantry Division, 4th Infantry Division, the 10th Mountain Division, 173rd Airborne and the Navy SEALs.

This was the WPNP's first MTT with an Army Special Forces unit. Most of the team leaders are captains with varying numbers of deployments, while the team sergeants are senior noncommissioned officers and have been deployed numerous times with some having more than 10 deployments.

"Formal negotiation training provided an excellent baseline for all future key leader engagements, which are the bread and butter of Army SF missions," one team leader said.

Most members of the unit had no formal negotiation training despite continually finding themselves in situations where their mission depended on successful negotiations with local foreign indigenous defense forces, adjacent units or even their own chain of

command.

The MTT team consisted of WPNP Co-Director, Maj. Zach Mundell, who led most of the instructional and debrief sessions.

He was assisted by Class of 2012 Cadet Jonathan Stevens and Class of 2013 Cadets Christian Zarnke and Luke Hutchison, who led the preparation for, and participated in, each of the negotiation practical exercises.

"Overall, I was very pleased with how the MTT turned out," Mundell said. "We received very positive feedback as well as ideas to improve our training in the future as we continue to grow the MTT program."

The cadets were equally pleased with the overall experience.

"It isn't every day that we have the chance to rub elbows with people in the special operations community," Stevens said. "Having the chance to meet SF operators and learn about the real challenges they face has been an amazing opportunity."

Hutchison and Zarnke were pleased to see that the negotiation concepts they had worked so hard to master and communicate were received with such enthusiasm.

Within days of returning to West Point, WPNP received another request to train an infantry unit at Joint Base Lewis-McCord in February. Three officers from the unit had been present for the training with 1SFG and want the training for their junior leaders. In March the project expects to travel to Europe for the first time, conducting MTTs for units in Germany.

WPNP was founded in 2009 to enhance the ability of military leaders to conduct



Members of the West Point Negotiation Project, like Class of 2013 Cadet Christian Zarnke (above), trains a group of Special Forces Soldiers during a recent Mobile Training Team event. This was the first time the WPNP conducted a MTT with an Army Special Forces unit. To learn more about the WPNP, visit www.wpnpp.org.

negotiation in the complex and challenging situations they face in both combat and peacetime.

The project sponsors an annual conference attended by cadets and military officers from

across North America, consults on a variety of projects across the Army and conducts MTTs for deploying units.

For more information, visit www.wpnpp.org.



Talking about mentorship

The Department of English and Philosophy hosted education advocate and bestselling author Wes Moore Nov. 29 in Robinson Auditorium. Moore addressed a group of more than 1,100 plebes from the EN101 Composition course. He discussed the role of mentors in his life and the need for young leaders to take action in their communities and organizations. More than 400 cadets took the time to meet Moore personally after the event.

COURTESY PHOTO



Jewish Chapel Choir performs for first family

Thirty-four members of the West Point Jewish Chapel Cadet Choir performed at the White House Hanukkah Celebration Dec. 8. While, as President Barack Obama noted, Hanukkah starts at sunset Dec. 20 and runs through sunset Dec. 28, he and the First Lady decided to kick off the holiday season a little early. The cadets sang for more than 500 guests throughout the celebration. At the official photo session with President and Mrs. Obama, not only did the commander-in-chief shake hands with all the cadets, but he requested the Choir to perform a song. Since this was done in the Diplomatic Reception Room, where official photos are taken with visitors, his staff was somewhat surprised, as it appeared to be the first time he has ever made such a request during a photo shoot. After the song, West Point Jewish Chaplain Maj. Shmuel Felzenberg said the prayer for meeting a head of state and gave the first family West Point Jewish Chapel coins. A Cadet Choir yarmulka was presented to the president on behalf of the entire choir by Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Assistant Professor Susan Schwartz, choir officer-in-charge. The president said he had several yarmulkahs, but none like the one presented. He also authorized his intern to present everyone in the group with a presidential coin. While the group sang for some 90 minutes throughout the event, they also were given a tour of the White House prior to performing and were allowed to go to the State Dining Room floor during the celebration to partake of the buffet of kosher hors d'oeuvres and desserts. The Jewish Choir last performed at the White House Hanukkah Celebration of President and Mrs. George W. Bush on Dec. 6, 2005.

OFFICIAL WHITE HOUSE PHOTO BY PETE SOUZA

West Point community supports Trees for Troops

By Christina Overstreet
Army Community Service

As part of the Trees for Troops program, 70 live Christmas trees were recently delivered to West Point.

This is the seventh year that Christmas tree growers and retailers have donated real Christmas trees to military families through the program, and the second year that West Point has been a recipient.

On Nov. 29, a Federal Express truck filled with trees arrived, along with a pick-up truck from Bell's Christmas Tree Farm carrying additional trees. Volunteers and staff from Army Community Service unloaded the trees at the field located beside the Shopette/Class VI.

Later that afternoon, West Point Soldiers and family members picked up their trees. Santa Jim, a volunteer from Santa America, was on hand and posed for pictures with Soldiers and family members. Volunteers assisted with loading trees into vehicles.

Recipients of the trees were determined in one of two ways—first, the unit leadership was given the opportunity to identify Soldiers to receive trees on a needs-basis and then military-ID card holders in the community were invited to enter a lottery to receive a tree.

Col. Michael Tarsa, garrison commander, presented representatives from two local tree farms, Hahn Farm and Farmside Acres, with certificates of appreciation for their efforts.

The program was a success, bringing joy to several dozen West Point Families.

Photos from this event are available at www.flickr.com/photos/westpointmwr.

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.

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

Class schedules are subject to change.

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

For more information, call 938-4812.

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. Friday 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.

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. Friday at ACS, Bldg. 622.

To register, call 938-5654.

Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center holiday schedule

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

- Saturday-Dec. 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:

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

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

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 Monday.

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.

Wee Ones Play Group holiday schedule

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

It will start again Jan. 9.

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

Gift certificates available at Arts & Crafts Shop

Visit the West Point Arts & Crafts Shop to purchase a gift certificate for the perfect holiday gift.

The Craft Shop is located at Bldg. 648.

Hours of operation are noon-8 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday; Wednesday and Friday by appointment; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; and closed Sunday and Monday.

For more information, call 938-4812.

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.

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.

Bingo at the West Point Bowling Center

Bingo is now at the West Point Bowling Center.

For more information, call 938-2140.

AFAP delegates wanted

Do you want to serve as an AFAP delegate? As a delegate, you will review issues submitted for the Army Family Action Plan Conference Feb. 22-24.

The conference is open to Soldiers, retirees, their family members, DOD civilians and youth. Applications must be submitted by Jan. 13.

For more information, call 938-3655 or go to westpointmwr.com/afap.

NEW INFO

SKIES feedback survey

Please help West Point Child, Youth and School Services with feedback regarding the SKIES Program at www.surveymonkey.com/s/ZCWVHW9.

December skate hours

The FMWR Community Skate Program takes place at Tate Rink.

The skating holiday hours of operation during December are:

- Sunday, 3:30-5 p.m.;
- Dec. 27, noon-2 p.m.;
- Dec. 28, noon-1 p.m.;
- Dec. 29, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.;
- Dec. 30, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.;
- Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, closed.

For updates or changes to the schedule, call the information tape at 938-2991.

Beat the holiday blues with Master Resiliency Training

Join ACS from noon-12:50 p.m. Dec. 22 and Dec. 30 at ACS Bldg. 622 for Master Resiliency Training.

This training is geared toward helping Soldiers, families and DOD civilians learn how to celebrate adversity and "hunt the good stuff."

Resilient people learn from life's challenges and are able to bounce back faster when faced with crisis. Registration is required.

For more information, call 938-5654.

Holiday gift certificates available at the FMWR Fitness Center

Wellness Springs Massage gift certificates are now available at the FMWR Fitness Center front desk.

Certificates can be picked up during the Fitness Center's regular hours of operation.

For more information, call 938-6490.

What's Happening

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. today 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.

West Point Toy Drive

The West Point Military Police station located at Bldg. 616, Swift Road (adjacent to Thayer Gate), will serve as the drop off site for the annual West Point "Toy Drive."

The toys will benefit local needy families, the Angel Tree program and Toys for Tots. Drop off a new, unwrapped toy before Friday.

For more information, call Sgt. Maj. Jonathan Carpenter at 938-8552.

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. Saturday. 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.

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

Christmas service

There will be a Christmas service at 10:30 a.m. Sunday 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.

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.

Vehicle Registration Office closure

The Vehicle Registration Office, located at the Military Police Station, Bldg. 616, will be closed Dec. 23, 26, 30 and Jan. 2 in observance of the holidays.

The office will maintain normal operating hours for the remainder of the holiday schedule.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Micky Brooks at 938-0436.

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.

Twelve Days of Christmas special pricing

In the spirit of giving, Boscobel House & Gardens wishes to extend the following special offers to its valued visitors this holiday season.

Currently, during the traditional 12 days of Christmas, Boscobel's regular admission fee for mansion tours and the grounds will be reduced by \$4.

In addition, the gift shop at Boscobel will offer its shoppers a 12 percent discount on all purchases during the 12-day period.

This year, the rooms of Boscobel Mansion have been specially decorated for a Federal-style Christmas in an "1800s Ball" theme. Its acclaimed docent-led tours have been adapted to include holiday stories of period entertaining, including customs of the early 19th century.

Hours in December are 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

For more information, visit Boscobel.org or call 265-3638.

DUSA grants

Daughters of the U.S. Army Community Welfare Grant applications are now available at the West Point Museum Gift Shop. Applications must be postmarked by Feb. 15.

For more information, contact DUSAgrants@gmail.com.

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

Volkssport Club

Join the Volkssport Club of West Point and head down to New York City to enjoy the holiday decorations.

This is a 10 km trail, rated 1+ and goes through Greenwich Village, Chinatown, Little Italy and Washington Square.

Walkers will meet at 10:45 a.m. Saturday at the Asics Super Runners Shop at 51 West 42nd Street across from Bryant Park.

After registration, walkers will proceed by the subway to the start point.

The walk qualifies for AVA special programs, American Gardens, Artistic Heritage and Firehouses.

For more information, go to www.AVA.org/clubs/WestPoint or call Nancy Patrick at 446-4709.

O'Neill High School Chorus concert

The James I. O'Neill High School Chorus will sing a candlelight carol concert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at the Cadet Chapel. The concert is free.

Viva Las Vegas

The West Point Women's Club's annual fundraiser, Viva Las Vegas, is scheduled for 6-11 p.m. Feb. 24 at the Thayer Hotel. Presale tickets are now available. There is an entrance fee for the poker tournament.

The presale comes with an opportunity ticket for a two-night stay with airfare to Las Vegas, a complimentary champagne toast and a light appetizer bar. Tickets the night of the event costs a little more and come without a raffle ticket. Tickets are available for purchase on westpointwomensclub@shutterfly.com.

For more information, email westpointwomensclub@gmail.com.

Recycled Holiday Decoration challenge

The deadline for entries in the 2nd annual West Point Recycled Holiday Decoration challenge is 4:30 p.m. Friday.

The challenge is open to all West Point children in grades K-8.

For more information, call Chris Remillard, Community Service Supervisor, at 938-8229 or Martha Hinote, DPW Customer Relations at 938-0300/4407.

BBC Foundation encourages residents to apply for scholarships

By Balfour Beatty Communities

Recognizing the importance of education and its continuing rising costs, the Balfour Beatty Communities Foundation is once again offering scholarships for the 2012-13 academic year to high school and undergraduate students of military members residing in family housing.

"We encourage our family housing residents with high school and undergraduate students to apply for Balfour Beatty Communities Foundation scholarships," Chris Williams, president of BBC Foundation, said. "It's a difficult economy out there and every bit helps."

Scholarships are valued up to \$2,500 with the possibility of being larger for exceptional submissions.

The application details and requirements can be found at www.bbcommunitiesfoundation.org. The application deadline is April 15, 2012.

The Foundation notes that the requirements for scholarships

has changed slightly from years past with new essay questions and the reduction of the number of recommendations students must submit.

Balfour Beatty Communities, responsible for the privatized family housing at West Point, formed the Balfour Beatty Communities Foundation, a non-profit organization committed to honoring military personnel—active, disabled and fallen—and their families, in 2009.

One of the primary goals of the Foundation is to promote the pursuit of education and a commitment to community leadership through educational scholarships to the children of active duty military members who reside in family housing.

"Balfour Beatty Communities is committed to providing a quality living environment that supports the diverse interests and needs of our military families," Williams said. "Through Balfour Beatty Communities Foundation, we say thank you for the work that military members do and the sacrifices their families make."

Keller Corner

Blood Drive Kickoff Campaign meeting

There will be a Blood Drive Kickoff Campaign meeting from 9:30-11 a.m. Friday in the Army Education Center, Bldg. 683, Training Room #10, in preparation for the upcoming Armed Services Blood Program Jan. 9-12 Blood Drive.

It is requested that appointed key personnel from each activity attend this meeting. Provide the names of those attending to Mary Mandia at 938-2583 or via email at [Mary.Mandia@amedd.army.mil](mailto:Mandia@amedd.army.mil) by Friday.

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, call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency room.

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.

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.

Active duty out of country care: Active duty servicemembers and their families have an added benefit via TRICARE International SOS. In an emergency, go to a hospital emergency room and contact ISOS as soon as possible. For urgent care, contact International SOS to find a provider and arrange transportation if necessary. The number for TRICARE International SOS is (215) 942-8393 or 1-877-451-8659 or go to www.tricare-overseas.com.

Pharmacy hours of operation for December and January

- Friday—Open from 8 a.m.-noon, closed from noon-3 p.m. and then will reopen from 3-5 p.m.;
- Dec. 23—Closed, training holiday;
- Dec. 24—Closed;
- Dec. 26—Closed;
- Dec. 30—Closed, training holiday;
- Dec. 31—Closed;
- Jan. 2—Closed.

KACH outpatient clinics hours of operation for December and January

All outpatient clinics, laboratory and radiology will be closed:

- Friday—Closing at noon;
- Dec. 23—Training holiday;
- Dec. 26—Holiday;
- Dec. 30—Training holiday;
- Jan. 2—Holiday.

Combined Federal Campaign

The West Point/Orange/Rockland/Sullivan 2011-12 Combined Federal Campaign was held Oct. 3-Nov. 11.

This year's goal was \$200,000 and USMA exceeded its goal with a pledge total of \$252,303. Thank you to all who participated to make this year's campaign a success.

NOW SHOWING

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

Friday—Tower Heist, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday—Puss in Boots, PG, 7:30 p.m.

THE THEATER SCHEDULE ALSO CAN BE FOUND AT

WWW.AAFES.COM.

Command Channel 8/23

Dec. 15-22

(Broadcast times)

Army Newswatch

Today, Friday and Monday through Dec. 22

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

The Point

Today, Friday and Monday through Dec. 22

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

Life Works at Balfour Beatty Communities

• **Family Bowling Time:** Tis' the season to bring out the family for fun times from noon-2 p.m. Dec. 29 at the West Point Bowling Center. LifeWorks will supply the shoes, two games, pizza and soda.

Call Jodi Gellman at 446-6407 to register by Dec. 27.

All events are free and open to current Balfour Beatty Communities residents.

Weekly Sudoku by Chris Okasaki, D/EECS

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

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

See SUDOKU SOLUTION, Page 2

Difficulty: Hard

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

Rodriguez claims premier scholar-athlete award

By the National Football Foundation

United States Military Academy linebacker Andrew Rodriguez was named the 22nd recipient of the William V. Campbell Trophy at the 54th National Football Foundation Annual Awards Dinner Dec. 6 in New York City.

"We are thrilled to honor Andrew as the nation's top scholar-athlete," NFF President and CEO Steven J. Hatchell said. "The 2011 NFF National Scholar-Athlete class was perhaps the best ever, and for Andrew to stand above them all really says a lot about his accomplishments. Given his considerable commitments to the U.S. military and his outstanding performance in the classroom while accomplishing everything he has as a football player makes him the clear choice as the best scholar-athlete in college football."

The Campbell Trophy is one of college football's most sought after and competitive awards, recognizing an individual as the absolute best in the country for his combined academic success, football performance and exemplary community leadership. The award comes with a 24-inch, 25-pound bronze trophy and a \$25,000 postgraduate scholarship.

"Andrew Rodriguez and the 2011 National Scholar-Athlete Class represent

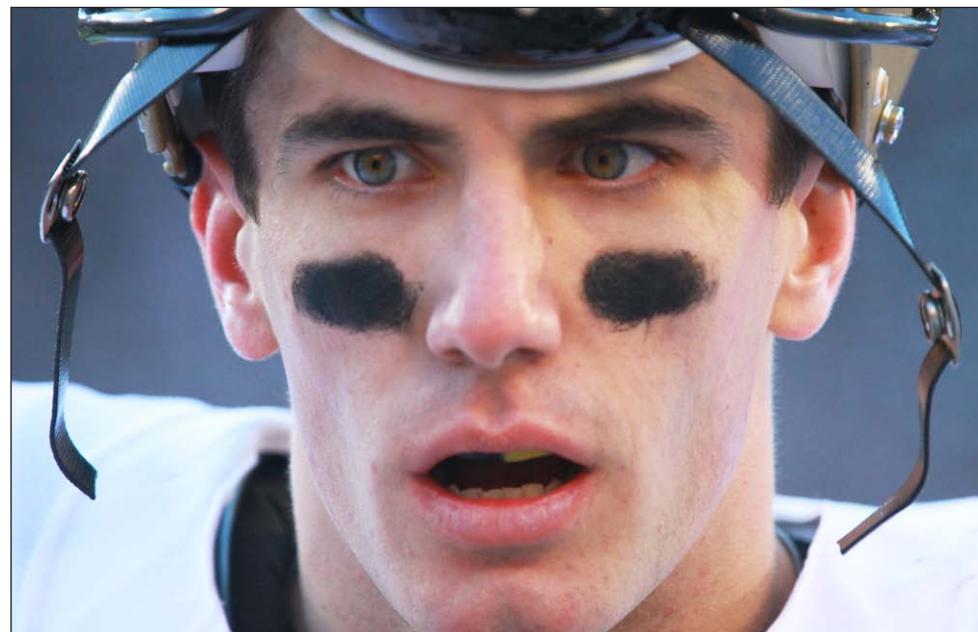
all that is right about college football," NFF Chairman Archie Manning, whose sons Peyton (Campbell winner) and Eli were NFF National Scholar-Athletes in 1997 and 2003, respectively, said. "This class embodies the perfect snapshot of what it means to be a student-athlete, and each member will surely become leaders in whatever field they choose."

Carrying a 4.14 GPA as a mechanical engineering major, Rodriguez ranks third in a class of 1,052 cadets. He has posted 21 A-plus grades and recorded six terms with a GPA of 4.0 or higher. He is a two-time CoSIDA Academic All-District honoree and has qualified for the Dean's List five times.

On the field, Rodriguez claims 144 career tackles in 24 career games. As a sophomore in 2009, Rodriguez stepped into the starting lineup at linebacker and led the Black Knights with 85 tackles while also registering two interceptions, three pass breakups, two forced fumbles, two fumble recoveries, 1 1/2 tackles for loss and a 1/2 sack.

He recorded a career-best 15 tackles versus archrival Navy and also posted 14 stops against rival Air Force that season.

Rodriguez missed the entire 2010 season due to what was originally thought to be a career-ending back injury, but returned as a team captain in 2011 and appeared in all 12



Army senior linebacker Andrew Rodriguez was named the 22nd recipient of the William V. Campbell Trophy, as the nation's top scholar-athlete, Dec. 6 in New York City. Rodriguez carries a 4.14 GPA as a mechanical engineering major and ranks third in a class of 1,052 cadets.

TOMMY GILLIGAN/WEST POINT PAO

contests.

He ranked fifth on the squad with 59 tackles, claimed one interception and 1 1/2 tackles for loss.

A native of Alexandria, Va., he is the son

of commanding general of the U.S. Army Forces Command Gen. David Rodriguez. His sister, Amy, graduated from West Point in 2006 and recently completed a tour of duty in Iraq.

Rodriguez is Army's first Campbell Trophy winner and the school's 14th NFF National Scholar-Athlete.

Rodriguez was named a NFF National High School Scholar-Athlete in 2008, representing the NFF National Capital (Va.) Chapter.

He joins 1990 Campbell Trophy winner Chris Howard (Air Force) as the only winners representing a service academy.

Launched in 1959, the NFF scholar-athlete program became the first initiative in history to award post graduate scholarships based on both a player's academic and athletic accomplishments, and the program has awarded \$9.8 million to 756 top athletes since its inception.

Candidates must be a senior or graduate student in their final year of eligibility, have a grade point average of at least 3.2 on a 4.0 scale, have outstanding football ability as a first team player and have demonstrated strong leadership and citizenship.

The centerpiece to the NFF's scholar-athlete program, the Campbell Trophy was first awarded in 1990.

It is named in honor of Bill Campbell, the chairman of Intuit, former player and head coach at Columbia University and the 2004 recipient of the NFF's Gold Medal.

Some past recipients of the William V. Campbell Trophy include Danny Wuerffel (Florida, 1996), Peyton Manning (Tennessee, 1997), Chad Pennington (Marshall, 1999), Kyle Vanden Bosch (Nebraska, 2000) and Tim Tebow (Florida, 2009).

So close

Army junior quarterback Trent Steelman leaves Navy defenders in his dust on his way to 62 yards rushing and a touchdown, but the Midshipmen prevailed in a close battle, 27-21, Dec. 10 at FedEx Field in Landover, Md. Steelman also completed four passes on six attempts for 77 yards and a 25-yard touchdown pass to junior running back Malcolm Brown that tied the game at 21 in the third quarter. Brown scored two touchdowns for Army while gaining 82 yards on the ground, tied with sophomore running back Raymond Maples for the team-high, and 25 yards receiving. The loss was Army's 10th straight to Navy, the longest in the rivalry's history.

TOMMY GILLIGAN/WEST POINT PAO

