

POINTER VIEW

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

SEPTEMBER 1, 2011



Irene soaks West Point

An aerial view of South Dock near the Caufield Crew and Sailing Center where water from the Hudson River swept up into the road and onto the River Courts due to Tropical Storm Irene, which was downgraded from a hurricane before it hit West Point. According to the Emergency Operations Center, as of 3:43 p.m. Sunday, it had rained 8.3 inches at West Point.

STAFF SGT. MATTHEW LEARY/WEST POINT PUBLIC AFFAIRS



The Shea Stadium and Army Softball Complex area along the Hudson River came under siege by Tropical Storm Irene Sunday.

STAFF SGT. MATTHEW LEARY/WEST POINT PUBLIC AFFAIRS



The helpad at North Dock was submerged under the Hudson River's rising waters Sunday as Tropical Storm Irene made its way through West Point.

COURTESY PHOTO

September is Suicide Prevention Month Because We Care

To the entire West Point community:

Leaders continue to face the daunting challenge of reducing suicidal behavior across our Army. Across the force, Army-wide efforts continue to raise suicide awareness and facilitate assistance to those under duress.

In the past couple of years, the West Point community too has been forced to confront the overwhelming tragedy that comes with the loss of a colleague, classmate or community member from suicide.

September is National Suicide Prevention Month and the Army's theme is "Shoulder to Shoulder: Building Resilience in the Army Family."

I ask you to reflect on this theme as you consider the many ways we can combat the threat of suicide. First, let us address the misperceptions surrounding seeking help. For years, many people wrongly equated seeking help as an admission of failure, and too many suffered in silence.

It takes a stronger person to acknowledge a problem, face it head on, and take the necessary steps to appropriately sort it out among life's many challenges. Let's help each of us find the strength to rally from life's disappointments and setbacks.

I remind you of the enduring message of the "ACE" card—Ask, Care, Escort. If you suspect that someone in your life is in crisis, ask them about it. By asking directly you demonstrate that you care. Part of that continuing care is then escorting that person to a service or resource that can make a difference for the individual in peril.

Behavioral health care is as important as physical health care. At West Point, we are fortunate to have a wealth of services to address life's difficult issues.

Our counseling specialists include chaplains, behavioral health professionals, Army Community Service representatives, Army One Source (www.militaryonesource.com) and the Employee Assistance Program, to name a few.

In our combat theatres, we routinely enforce the Battle Buddy system. There, each of us needs someone we can lean on in times of difficulty, and the opportunity to assist another in their time of need. The Battle Buddy system is equally valuable to our garrison Generating Force.

Please avail yourselves of the many opportunities you will have this month to learn about suicide prevention.

There will be discussion in the cadet companies, information booths at AAFES and the Cadet Book Store, as well as helpful postings within the media and across the community.

The impact of stress upon our Soldiers, Family and civilian workers is real. Be vigilant and recognize when someone around you is in need of help. By caring for the person to your left or right, you might be that lifeline for someone in need.

Together, we can keep our community healthy and strong—Army Strong.

Col. Mike Tarsa

The GC

Garrison Commander



Do You know Mike Dodson?

Submitted by Linda Shoop
Community member

Mike Dodson is the fellow who loads groceries outside the Commissary and returns the shopping carts to the front of the store every day.

He works about 10 hours per day, every day the Commissary is open—in snow, rain or scorching sun. Mike is not a Commissary employee. The baggers inside the store give him a portion of their shared tips each day, but other than that, Mike relies on our tips for his income.

Mike is scrupulously honest. He has returned dozens of wallets and purses over the years—all containing whatever the owners had in them.

Having never had a drink or drug in his life, he is extremely reliable once he understands his mission. He has great pride in being strong enough to help others in spite of his handicap.

Mike's injury occurred when at age 6 his head was struck by a speeding taxi. Near death in a coma for six days, he remains largely paralyzed on his right side and his speech is slightly impaired.

His left eye does not contract in sunlight and he has become largely blind in that eye during the day.

His math ability is quite good, however, and he plays a very respectable game of chess.

The brother of a West Point graduate, he is a fiercely independent Southerner who will take no direct aid from his Family. He recently accepted Medicaid help for his health care, after refusing any help for more than 15 years.

Once you become one of Mike's customers, he will learn your face and look for you at each visit, especially if you are older or infirm.

Since he began his service to the West Point community in 1981, Mike has taken very few days off. He took off three times because of injuries. When his leg was broken in a moped accident in 1983 en route to the Commissary, he foolishly finished the day there, working in the snow before going to the hospital.

In 2007, Mike had surgery on his left hand and now has much better use of it.

In 2008, Mike had an accident with his then three-wheeled mode of transportation. He broke his arm and had to have surgery on it several times.

He has gone through physical therapy and has regained the ability to perform his job for us.

He has received numerous letters of appreciation and has been the subject of several articles in the *Pointer View*.

When new personnel learn his background through this letter, however, he says they become his customers more often.

He has grown proud of the reputation he has achieved through his hard work, which allows him to be useful.

And thus the reason for this letter—to introduce Mike to West Point newcomers.

Although others may help us when the sun is shining, it will be Mike outside with us when the snow is blowing.

He is always happy to assist you when you feel it is appropriate. Thank you.

Friends of
Mike Dodson

Friends of Mike Dodson

Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

See SUDOKU PUZZLE, Page 13

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Outside Thayer Gate, roadways throughout Highland Falls were flooded during the weekend visit from Tropical Storm Irene.

DEBRA DALTON/WEST POINT PARENTS CLUB

Irene storms through West Point

By Mike Strasser
Assistant Editor

Having already unleashed its worst upon Virginia, North Carolina and Maryland, Irene came through New York Sunday—downgraded from hurricane to tropical storm status.

As of 3:43 p.m. Sunday, the Emergency Operations Center reported 8.3 inches of rain had fallen on West Point since the beginning of the storm. There were reports of damage at the entry of Camp Buckner, along Mine Torne Road and a partial road collapse at the intersection of Bowman Loop and Lee Road on post. Outside of flooding, there was no major structural damage reported at West Point.

Class of 2012 Cadet Sam Wharton, the brigade's assistant public affairs officer, said cadets were busy Aug. 26 preparing for the storm.

"We filled sandbags and built barricades along all the entrances to the barracks to keep out water, but this ultimately proved unnecessary," Wharton said.

In addition, water buffaloes were stationed around the cadet area in case fresh water was needed. Fortunately, the tropical storm proved uneventful for the cadets hunkered down in the barracks.

"No rooms lost power and no serious damage was reported," Wharton said. "Minor flooding occurred at the River Courts and down near Shea Stadium, but I don't believe any property was seriously damaged."

Off post was a different story altogether. Cadets assisted in the community by helping the Highland Falls Fire Station establish a shelter in their facility for local residents who were flooded out of their homes Sunday. Class of 2012 Cadet Hannah Johnson, the brigade logistics officer, was among the dozen cadets on this mission.

"Once we got to the station, they requested cadets to come and set up the aid station and assist with the people who were there," Johnson said.

Most of the cadets were qualified as emergency medical technicians or were prior service medics.

"A few cadets even got to go out with some of the EMTs to pick up people who needed to be brought to the shelter," Johnson said. "West Point donated Gatorade packets and some food, so we delivered that as well." For several hours, cadets kept the dislocated community members company at the shelter as the storm raged on.

"For me, the most rewarding thing about the day was when I was talking with one lady and she said that just having us there made her feel so much less stressed about the whole situation," Johnson said. "All I was doing was talking with her about her two cats who were there with her, but it made a huge difference to her in a very stressful time."

Wilfred Plumley, deputy to the garrison commander, said the storm was a perfect example of the entire West Point community coming together as a team in preparation for an emergency situation.

"Personnel from numerous organizations



Cadets assigned to Company C, 4th Regiment, filled sand bags on the apron Friday in preparation for the storm. The bags were to be used to provide water barriers at selected flood prone areas.

TOMMY GILLIGAN/WEST POINT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

across the installation took actions that greatly aided in our efforts to reduce the impacts that Hurricane Irene could and did have on West Point," Plumley said. "The work that DPW and Balfour Beatty did, not only before the storm but during, greatly reduced the impact on our entire community. The responsiveness by BBC during the storm was the high quality that we all strive to achieve."

Plumley also applauded the work from personnel in the Directorate of Emergency Services, who were patrolling the installation throughout the entire storm.

"A big thanks also needs to go to our cadets and other West Point volunteers that

assisted not only on post, but also with our Highland Falls neighbors in establishment of their shelter center during their time of need," Plumley added.

Volunteering at the Highland Falls Fire Station were Class of 2012 Cadets Hannah Johnson, Joseph Griggs, Jeff Gorn, Thomas Crosby, Caitlin Adamowicz, Caleb Hughes, Patrick Gutierrez, Edwin Cruz and Chris Apsey; Class of 2013 Cadet Robert Barnett, Class of 2014 Cadet Amy Sanchez and Class of 2015 Cadet Thomas Wilson. Coordinating and supervising the efforts were Lt. Col. John Nawoichyk, brigade operations officer, and Maj. Thomas Kennedy, brigade executive officer.

West Point team trains SEAL personnel in negotiations

By the West Point Negotiation Project

The West Point Negotiation Project recently conducted a course on effective negotiation concepts and tools with Navy SEALs as part of the Naval Special Warfare Platoon Leaders Course at Norfolk Naval Station, Va.

The NSW PLC is held twice each year at Norfolk and Coronado, Calif., and course attendees consist primarily of SEAL personnel, but also include special operations support forces and Air Force para-rescue jumpers.

The training, led by Professor Jeff Weiss, Maj. Aram Donigian, Maj. Zachary Mundell, Maj. Neil Hollenbeck and Class of 2013 Cadet Duncan Aylor, was designed to further enhance naval special operations forces effectiveness overseas by helping them to better deal with both internal and external engagements.

In addition to substantial classroom lecturing on effective negotiation strategy, course attendees were challenged to apply the classroom material during hands-on, practical exercises involving different negotiation scenarios. The WPNP faculty provided coaching during these negotiations as well as during the preparation and review stages. The day ended with the SEALs negotiating scenarios involving an Afghan village elder, a CIA team leader and a Battalion S3—all situations that SEAL teams often encounter during a combat deployment.

"I am impressed with the ability of the West Point Negotiation Project to tailor and deliver a negotiation curriculum to our NSW personnel," Brad Voigt, director of Naval Special Warfare Professional Military Education, said. "Their willingness to openly share knowledge and best practices,

developed over several years, shows they are truly team players. Their excellent instruction and products will arm our SEAL leaders with the tools they need to successfully build lasting partnerships when deployed."

Wishing to remain anonymous for security reasons, a Naval chief with more than 10 years as a SEAL said, "With the Village Stability Operations we are doing now, this training is just as critical as some of the kinetic skills during our workup. I wish we could have had more than just one day."

Aylor was chosen to assist with this training opportunity because he was the top student in MG390 this past year.

"The opportunity to impact a high caliber and extremely relevant force such as the SEALs demonstrates the commitment and capability of the WPNP to go beyond West Point to have a far reaching impact on the military at large," he said.

Donigian said allowing cadets to work as teaching assistants is always a highlight of these events.

"It puts them on the other side and helps reinforce the material as they have to engage with it differently as instructors," Donigian said. "Cadet Aylor really added value to the day."

Over the past three years, the WPNP has taught similar courses to elements of the 25th Infantry Division, the 4th Infantry Division, the 10th Mountain Division and the 173rd Airborne. This was the first time that the WPNP provided a Mobile Training Team not only to naval forces but also to the special operations community.

"I was impressed with how these special warfare leaders seemed to take to the material even more so than the conventional units we've worked with previously," Donigian said. "They see the clear importance and



Maj. Aram Donigian is the co-founder of the West Point Negotiation Project, a group that recently traveled to Norfolk Naval Station in Virginia to train Navy SEALs on effective negotiation strategy.

WEST POINT NEGOTIATION PROJECT

application to the missions they are pulling in theater, not only with local leaders but with other government agencies and military leaders."

The West Point Negotiation Project, whose purpose is to enhance the ability of military leaders to conduct negotiations in the complex and challenging situations they face both in combat and peace, has grown rapidly since its founding in 2009.

A yearly conference is attended by cadets and military officers from across North America each spring. WPNP members consult on various projects for the Army, provide training to deploying forces, conduct research on negotiation training and application, and develop leaders of

character within the Corps of Cadets through the Fellows and Senior Members program, AIADs and guest lectures.

The SEAL training marked an important transition for the WPNP leadership as Donigian, co-founder, will deploy to Afghanistan, and Mundell will co-direct the WPNP with Weiss for the 2011-12 academic year.

The positive feedback from course attendees has further solidified plans for the WPNP to continue its relationship and training engagements with the SEALs. There are tentative plans to send a team to Coronado in early 2012.

To learn more about the WPNP, visit www.wpnp.org.

Labor Day Concert Message

Due to current security requirements and to preserve the beauty of the Trophy Point Amphitheatre area, those planning to attend the Labor Day concert are asked to refrain from staking out an area with rope, tape, tarps and/or blankets until after noon on Sunday or Monday (in case of inclement weather).

The Military Police are directed to remove all items mentioned above that are placed on the Trophy Point Amphitheatre grounds for the purpose of reserving a viewing spot prior to noon on Sunday or Monday (in case of inclement weather).

Reserved areas must have someone present at all times or will be considered abandoned.



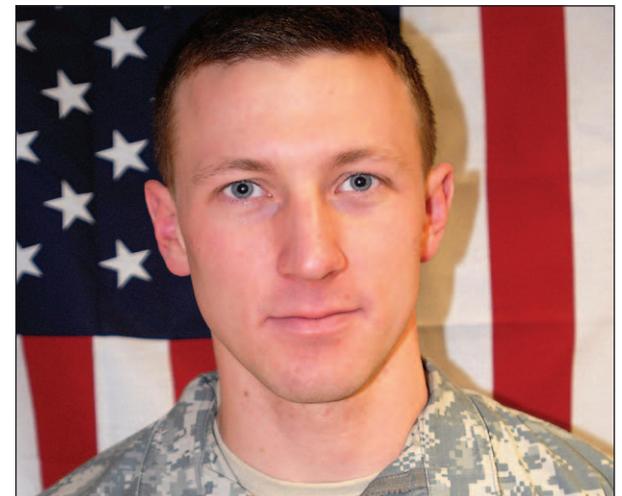


Dempsey returns to Alma Mater

Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, Chief of Staff of the Army, visited West Point Aug. 26 and dined with the Corps of Cadets at Washington Hall. After lunch, Dempsey spoke with more than 50 senior cadets during an open forum discussion and addressed the Army Football team at practice.

TOMMY GILLIGAN/WEST POINT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In Memoriam



1st Lt. Timothy J. Steele, 25, of Duxbury, Mass., died Aug. 23 in Kandahar province, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when insurgents attacked his unit using an improvised explosive device. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, N.Y.

Steele, a Class of 2009 graduate, was an all-star on his high school cross-country team, on the swim team and a regular on the school's honor roll. His awards and decorations included the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the NATO Medal, the Air Assault Medal, the Expert Infantryman's Badge, the Parachutists Badge and the Ranger Tab.

He is survived by his wife, daughter, parents and siblings.

A memorial service is scheduled at 10 a.m. Friday at Most Holy Trinity with burial to follow immediately at the West Point Cemetery.

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.

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.

Cadets, Middies build relationships in Uganda

Story and photo by
Mass Communication Spc. 2nd Class Timothy Wilson

Cadets from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and midshipmen from the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., participated in a weeklong leadership training workshop in August in cities throughout Uganda with the Ugandan People's Defense Force.

The first phase of the training consisted of classroom instruction with Tanzanian instructors, physical training and familiarization with Ugandan military tactics.

Tanzanian Army Maj. Paul Masinde, officer-in-charge of

training at the Junior Staff College at Jinja, said that the and instruction is crucial for those in leadership positions.

"The school instills methods to help junior officers perform," he said.

West Point Class of 2012 Cadet Mark Freeman said he was surprised to see that the military training disseminated in Uganda is similar to U.S. military training.

"I was impressed with the junior officers at Jinja and how much professionalism they showed," he said. "I will take that back to America to share with others in my career field."

The platoon course instruction ranged from understanding differing leadership styles, planning methods and execution,

and platoon formations and movements.

U.S. Naval Academy Midshipmen 1st Class Patrick Bagnick agreed that the training was important for his own military career.

"I learned how Ugandans learn," he said. "They were all junior officers and they were learning how to interact and work with their peers on the battlefield."

"It's the real deal for them," Bagnick said. "They will be going to battlefields in Somalia and the Democratic Republic of (the) Congo. This really hits home, for us and them."

Every morning and afternoon, the cadets and midshipmen participated in formation runs with their Ugandan counterparts in a team-building exercise.

The UPDF are very enthusiastic about physical training, Freeman said.

"It is a bonding experience for them," he said. "They are singing and smiling. The teamwork and morale is inspiring."

During the next phase of training, the cadets and midshipmen traveled to Entebbe to work with Ugandan soldiers training for selection into the UPDF Special Forces.

U.S. Army 1st Lt. Tim Wilkens, officer-in-charge for the Army training team working with the Soldiers participating in the Advanced Infantry Combat Course, said it is very important to understand the militaries U.S. servicemembers are partnering with to accomplish any mission.

"It's my hope to see how other nations train and what they go through," Wilkens said. "When other nations are viewed through the U.S. perspective, it may (seem) they are not up to our standards. In fact, (the UPDF) are close to those standards, so the cadets should be impressed by the level of training they have and the level of professionalism here today.

"It should open their eyes that the U.S. is not the only military out there and these guys train to a very high standard," he added.

Wilkens said Ugandan soldiers are similar to American Soldiers. They are open, kind and want to learn professional military tactics.



Cadets from the U.S. Military Academy and midshipmen from the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., run with members of the Ugandan People's Defense Force during a formation run at the Jinja Cadet School, Jinja, Uganda.

Cadets blogging the West Point Story



"Everyone wants to talk to a West Point cadet ..." one entry on the Army Strong Stories cadet blog begins.

The Corps of Cadets have the opportunity to share their stories with a huge audience and not only about their spring and summer academic trips.

To learn more about the Army's blog and how cadets are telling the West Point story, visit <http://armystrongstories.com/category/west-point-cadet/>.

Learning the basics behind BAH at West Point

By **Kathy Eastwood**
Staff Writer

One of the Army Family Action Plan issues during the West Point conference in February required an explanation of what the Basic Allowance for Housing covers for residents at West Point.

The housing delegates raised Issue 11-2, asking that residents be provided with a detailed monthly statement explaining what BAH covers for each specific set of quarters and compare rent, utilities and amenities to the fair market value in the local area for comparison. The delegates felt there was a lack of detailed information on what the BAH covers for on-post residents.

Residents do not currently have a document that explains or describes the breakdown of what BAH provides.

Michael Colacicco, Residential Communities Initiative assets manager, explained that the Army privatized housing project is based on the Army policy that rent is equal to full BAH. Until that policy changes, the housing project must operate in accordance with the current one. The project has obtained financing and operates under a complex financial model which is based on that policy.

“Rent for individual Soldiers is equal to their BAH regardless of the size of the house. This is an Army policy, not Balfour Beatty Communities’ policy,” Colacicco said. “For example, a colonel staying in Stony II housing pays the

same rent as those staying in Professors Row, which is three times the size of housing in Stony II.”

Housing delegates at the February conference asked for a breakdown of price per square foot by type of unit. The AFAP steering committee examined the issues in May and decided that a monthly breakdown is not practical or attainable. However, the command could elevate the issue if they want to pursue it.

“What people need to understand is that West Point Housing LLC is a partnership between the Army and Balfour Beatty Communities,” Colacicco explained. “BBC is the managing partner and is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the project. However, as a matter of practice, BBC makes no policy decisions without consulting with the Army partner. The garrison commander and the project director meet regularly to go over issues.”

Rents for housing under the Residential Communities Initiative program are based on the grade of the individual Soldier. That policy was established by the Department of the Army in April 2005, according to an information paper prepared by Colacicco. The basic allowance for housing includes rent, utilities and insurance.

There are six grade-band designations assigned to Soldiers at West Point.

- General Officer—O7-O9;
- Senior Officer—O6;
- Field Grade Officer—O4-O5, W4-W5;

- Company Grade Officer—O1-O3, W1-W3;
- Senior Noncommissioned Officer—E7-E9;
- Junior NCO/Junior Enlisted—E1-E6.

With the exception of general officers and enlisted Soldiers in grades E1-4, the BAH is different for each grade-band.

Generally, Soldiers live in housing areas designated for their grade, but many housing areas are designated for multiple grades, and Soldiers living in the same housing area may pay different rents for the same house.

“Lee Housing area is designated for field grade officers and command sergeants major, but as of Aug. 10, the grades of residents living in the Lee Old Doubles, which are four bedroom homes, are E9 and O4-O6,” Colacicco said. “Rents range from \$2,850 for E9 to \$3,324 for O6.”

Several housing areas at West Point are in the process of transitioning from one grade-band to another based on the approved Community Development and Management Plan, which describes in detail how the partnership will manage housing at West Point during the 50-year term of the ground lease.

“New Brick houses are approximately 1,400 square feet with three bedrooms and were designated for field grade officers before privatization,” Colacicco said. “The CDMP calls for New Brick to be re-designated for Company Grade Officers, affecting 52 homes, and Junior NCO/Junior Enlisted personnel, affecting the remaining 104 homes.”

See BAH, Page 10

Structures Projects Day

Civil Engineering cadets tackle three outdoor construction projects

Story and photos by Mike Strasser
Assistant Editor

Civil engineering majors built timber, steel and concrete masonry structures Aug. 23 in a daylong construction laboratory, which the Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering arranges for the firsties annually at the start of the fall semester.

“We wanted them outside getting their hands on building some of these things so that when we’re in the classroom teaching them how to design buildings out of timber and steel, they’ll understand what goes into actually constructing them,” Lt. Col. Craig Quadrato, CME instructor, said.

Split into small groups, 41 cadets rotated among the three stations throughout the day.

Project Wrench was a scaled down, two-story steel structural skeleton on Thayer Walk in between Jefferson Hall and the Honor Plaza.

The emphasis on this project was safety and communication, though building logically would be a close third.

“While they do make some mistakes, these are easily corrected and, most importantly, they learn from them here in an educational environment rather than after commissioning in the theater of operations,” Quadrato said.

Maj. Kevin Arnett, CME instructor, said the project provides cadets with the physical processes of construction along with site organizational skills.

“It takes some of the concepts we teach in class and brings it to a life-size learning model,” Arnett said.

Groups competed for the best time at this station, with 10 bonus points at stake for the winners. Safety violations detracted from the scores.

“The most valuable part of Structures Projects Day is the hand-on experience,” Class of 2012 Cadet Douglass Waggoman said. “We spend time in the classroom everyday learning and doing small scale exercises in the lab, but Structures Projects Day allowed us to get a full-size hands-on experience.”

Afterward, instructors briefed cadets on the gravity and lateral load systems—two concepts they would

learn later in the classroom, but could see from their work on these projects.

Project Trowel, outside Mahan Hall, allowed cadets to mix concrete to build a two-foot wall enclosure, measuring a little over 11 feet long. Ledlie Klosky, CME associate professor, said it’s important for students to get a feel for the trade crafts.

“A designer who doesn’t understand the trades is useless,” he said. “You have to get out of the classroom and into the field to do that. You need to feel the mortar. If you change the moisture content of the mortar, you’ll see a huge change in the way it performs. You’re not going to get that from reading it in the book. You might know about it, but you can’t experience the essence of it. Also, engineering is a real thing and without interaction—touching, seeing—the engineering is simply a notion or a concept.”

Of the three projects, Project Hammer—the timber structure—had a more lasting value since the completed product is a shed that will house the Spirit Tank.

Waggoman said for civil engineering majors this event is a great complement to the experience they get in labs and summer academic trips.

“We are very fortunate in that regard, but this allowed us to truly work and learn together through hands-on experience here at the academy,” Waggoman said. “It was an extremely valuable experience, and I hope that it is an event that is conducted for years to come.”

Earning the bonus points in the course for being the fastest team at Project Wrench were Cadets Alexander Carlton, Bruce Compton, John Fitzgerald, Jessica Gonzales, David Junta, Joseph Krusee, Nolan McKusick, Brad McPherson, Aaron Miley, Beverly Nordin, Kyle Quinzo, Daniel Richardson, Tyler Skomp, Josiah Vantland, Waggoman and Graham Warner.

“Our team was good for several reasons,” Waggoman said. “First, we had a great leader who took charge and had a plan. Through his plan, we had smaller groups and worked efficiently and effectively to complete the mission.”

Photos from Structures Projects Day are available at www.flickr.com/photos/west_point/sets/72157627376506415/.



(Above, left) On Thayer Walk, a group of 41 civil engineering majors rotate between a timber and steel design project. (Above, right) Class of 2012 Cadet Matthew Longar uses a level while smoothing out the concrete with a trowel outside Mahan Hall.



(Left) Cadets measure and cut boards using a circular saw which will be used to build a shed for the Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering’s Spirit Tank. (Above) Before starting Project Wrench, Maj. Kevin Arnett briefs the team on safety and timeliness—two factors that will determine which cadets will receive bonus points in the course.



Cadets working on the steel design project were graded on time and safety as they constructed the two-tier structure Aug. 23. Structures Projects Day got civil engineering majors out of Mahan Hall for the day to experience hands-on construction projects in steel, timber and concrete masonry.

West Point celebrates Women's Equality Day



Story and photo by Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

"Men, their rights and nothing more; women, their rights and nothing less." —Susan B. Anthony, 19th century suffrage leader.

Women's right to equality and the right to vote via the 19th Amendment ratified in 1920 was the subject of the annual West Point Equality Day celebration hosted by the West Point Equal Opportunity Office, Simon Center for the Professional Military Ethic, USCC Respect Staff and the Margaret Corbin Forum at the West Point Club Aug. 26.

The celebration included a women's suffrage tribute by Class of 2011 Cadet Tanya Gauthier about 19 and 20th century suffrage leaders to include Susan B. Anthony, Harriet Tubman and Carrie Chapman Catt. Guest Speaker Tiffany Dufu, associate director of development at the Seattle Girls' School and vice president of The White House Project, spoke about how far women have come; however, they still have not been able to achieve major leadership roles.

"The United States is currently ranked 72nd in the world in women's political leadership and only 2 percent of Fortune 500 companies are run by women," Dufu said. "So the people sitting around the most powerful tables in our country, making decisions that impact every single one of us are not very equal at all."

The White House Project is a national, non-profit organization that works to advance women's leadership in all communities and sectors.

Through multi-purpose platforms, the White House Project supports women and the issues that allow women to lead in their own lives and in the world. As the associate director of development for the Seattle Girls' School, Dufu helps give all girls the power to be innovative and confident critical thinkers.

"I'm honored to address the cadets, staff and faculty at West Point," Dufu said. "They are implementing strategies to strengthen an inclusive culture as they educate adaptive leaders who are able to meet global challenges. At West Point, you understand that women are not part of the equation—they are part of the solution."

Tiffany Dufu was the guest speaker at the annual West Point Women's Equality Luncheon Aug. 26.

Visitors Center introduces West Point to the world

Story by Rachel Money
HIRED! Program intern to the Pointer View

Situated just outside Thayer Gate, hundreds arrive daily at the West Point Visitors Center to learn more about the U.S. Military Academy before they take tours of the historic installation. The center, through its contractor, makes guided tours available for visitors and provides them with a better understanding of the importance of West Point along with information about cadet life, West Point history and what is expected of potential cadets.

The center averages 220,000 visitors yearly and between 700-1,800 daily, depending on the season. The "busy" times are from May-November.

Visitors come to West Point for various reasons.

"We've always wanted to see West Point—we've always wanted to come and learn about the area," a couple from Canada said. "The Visitor's Center was very enlightening and had many interesting exhibits."

Sharon Lodge, the Visitors Center manager, has worked at the center since 1980, before it was in its current location.

"During the summer we have the most visitors, both weekends and weekdays—then and during fall football

weekends. On average, we get 220,000 visitors annually from all over the world. Some come on their own and take the tours provided by our contractor, West Point Tours, and many come on charters arranged through other agencies and coordinated through West Point Tours," Lodge said.

The Visitors Center has displays depicting cadet life, including photos or mannequins wearing some of the many cadet uniforms. The center also provides information for visitors to learn about physical and academic expectations for prospective cadets.

A sample cadet room is on display helping to give visitors a better feel for cadet life. Parts of West Point's history, both as the oldest continuously-garrisoned military installation in North America and its contributions to the Revolutionary War, as well as displays about the academy's history can be viewed at the center. Some of this information is provided in displays and more in the various videos shown throughout the center. There are also many displays depicting the achievements of West Point graduates and their contributions to the United States.

The Visitors Center started out at what is now the post's Military Police station in the 1950s. MPs and others working there would give visitors brochures or maps and then they

would be on their way, touring the grounds on their own.

In 1970, guided tours were introduced and took place from March to November every year until 1979, when tours became available year round. In 1989, the Army purchased the Ladycliff College campus and the former library is now the Visitors Center's present location.

After 9/11, West Point, like most military installations, became a closed post, so the primary way for visitors to tour this national historic site was to take a tour through West Point Tours. While entry is a little less restricted now, most visitors still take tours so they can get explanations about what they are seeing and learn more about West Point's history.

The center is open daily from 9 a.m.-4:45 p.m.

If you are newly assigned to West Point and interested in its history, come to the Visitors Center to learn more or consider taking a tour.

Also consider a visit to the West Point Museum, one of the oldest and largest military museums in the U.S., located just behind the Visitors Center.

To contact the West Point Visitors Center, call (845) 938-2638 or visit www.westpoint.edu/Dcomm/vic.asp. Information about tours is available at <http://westpointtours.com/index.php>.

BAH, cont'd from Page 7

The Company Grade transition was completed in 2009; the Junior NCO/Junior Enlisted transition began in 2010 and is expected to be completed in 2013. As of Aug. 10, grades of residents living in New Brick ranged from E1-06 with rents equivalent to the BAH the individual Soldiers are receiving.

In May 2011, the Government Accountability Office released a report titled "Enhancements Needed to Housing Allowance Process and Information Sharing among Services." The report includes recommendations to enhance the transparency of BAH. The DOD has partially concurred with this recommendation, but has not determined how it will proceed.

To view the report, visit www.gao.gov/products/GAO-11-462. Many of the initiatives for more transparency are in the works at West Point; the issue is still active and will be revisited at the 3rd quarter FY 12 steering committee meeting.

FMWR Blurbs

Hired! Program

Teens ages 15-18 who are interested in working and meet the Hired! Program requirements can earn \$500 for working 15 hours a week for 12 consecutive weeks.

Hired! Workshops are offered for free at Youth Services Bldg. 500 from 3-5:30 p.m.

ACS will be offering workshops today, Oct. 6, Nov. 3 and Dec. 1.

Interested teens can contact Marion DeClemente at 938-8889 or email marion.declemente@usma.edu.

Art EDGE! for Middle School & Teens

Paint a wooden plaque, "Home is Where the Army Sends Us," and design your initial/monogram plaque during an Art EDGE! program.

Free to grades 6-12 at the Youth Center, from 3-4:30 p.m. every Wednesday through Sept. 28.

Enroll at Parent Central, Lee CDC (behind Subway Sandwich Shop), Bldg. 140, or call 938-4458/0939.

Class size is limited.

Fall ceramic classes

The West Point Arts & Crafts Shop is offering Family and Adult ceramic fall and Halloween painting classes from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Sept. 8 and 22.

Registration for these classes is required.

For more information, call 938-4812.

Inaugural ACS Family Symposium

The inaugural ACS Family Symposium takes place from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sept. 9 at the West Point Club.

Events include a Career Expo, Volunteer Stewardship Fair, Myers Briggs (MBTI) Workshop and EFMP Symposium.

In addition, numerous workshops will be offered from the various ACS programs to include AFTB, ID Theft and a school transition workshop for parents.

A coupon workshop is available during the symposium where you can discover ways to shop smarter, explore coupon websites and save money.

Volunteer organizations on and around West Point will have information tables where potential volunteers can learn about various opportunities.

Volunteering benefits our community, provides valuable work experience, opportunities for networking and skill-building.

Organizations scheduled to be present include Puppies Behind Bars, Habitat for Humanity, Big Brothers Big Sisters, CYSS, ACS and several more.

The Volunteer Fair will run from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

The ACS Family Symposium includes various other classes and workshops throughout the day.

To register for the ACS Family Symposium, visit www.westpointmwr.com.

com or call 938-4621/2519 or stop by ACS, Bldg. 622.

For more information, call 938-4621/2519.

CYSS 4-H Program

The first meeting of the 4-H West Point Crusaders is scheduled from 3-4:30 p.m. Sept. 9 at the Youth Center, Bldg. 500.

Interested teens in grades 6-12 who are registered through Parent Central are welcome.

The 4-H program provides learning opportunities for young people to develop a sense of belonging, master a skill through experience, demonstrate independence and learn the meaning of community service and generosity.

Participants will work on projects and learn how to run business meetings.

For more information, call 938-8889.

Art EDGE! for school-age children

Art EDGE! is offering classes to design ballerinas, planes or trains for children in grades 1-5 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Fridays from Sept. 9-30.

Classes are held at Lee CDC (behind Subway Sandwich Shop).

Enroll at CYSS Parent Central or call 938-4458/0939.

Patriot Brunch

Join the West Point Club for a patriot-themed brunch with all your favorite items.

The brunch will be held from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 11 in the Pierce Dining Room.

Discounts will be available for families of deployed Soldiers and club members.

For more information, call 938-5120.

Make a Difference Day

West Point's inaugural Make a Difference Day is scheduled Nov. 4. Inspired by National Make a Difference Day, FMWR encourages community members to volunteer their time and work together to positively impact our community.

FMWR is currently seeking ideas for projects.

These projects should involve a number of volunteers and, ideally, result in some kind of "visible" impact (clearing trash, painting, landscaping/gardening, repairing, constructing/building, coordinated activity for Families of deployed Soldiers.)

Contact Christina Overstreet at christina.overstreet@usma.edu by Sept. 15.

CYSS Day for Kids

CYSS and the Boys & Girls Club of America are hosting a Day for Kids from 4-7 p.m. Sept. 16 at Lee Area CDC.

Lots of fun events are scheduled, including a special guest appearance by Sesame Street's Grover.

This event is free and open to the entire West Point community.

For more information, call 938-3727.



Soldier Show

The U.S. Army Soldier Show returns to West Point with a live 90-minute performance at 7 p.m. Sept. 18 at Eisenhower Hall.

Don't miss this memorable night of music, dance and celebration. Admission is free.

For more information, call 938-6497.

Fit EDGE! Volleyball

Fit EDGE! Volleyball consists of six classes and is open to youth in grades 6-12.

The free classes take place on Mondays at the Youth Center (500 Washington Road) starting Sept. 19 through Oct. 31.

Enroll at CYSS Parent Central or call 938-4458/0939.

Family Style Italian Dining

Enjoy Family Style Italian Dining at the West Point Club from 6-10 p.m. Sept. 26. The event includes live music.

For more information, call 938-5120.

CYSS fall sports program registration

Child, Youth and School Services fall sports registration is ongoing for military family members and civilians.

For more information and to register, call 938-3550.

Youth sports coaches needed

CYSS Sports and Fitness is seeking volunteer coaches for youth soccer for the fall 2011 season.

If you are interested, call the Youth Sports Office at 938-8896.

NEW INFO

4-H West Point Crusaders interest meeting

A 4-H West Point Crusaders interest meeting will take place from 3-4:30 p.m. Sept. 9 at the Youth Center, Bldg. 500, for military or DOD dependents in grades 6-12.

Register with Parent Central at the Lee CDC. Potential projects will include wired for wind, claymation, tin punch, fine arts festival/Digital Arts, culinary, public presentation/public speaking, rocketry, stained glass, candy melt, poetry, picture frame kit, wood burning, business meetings, sugar maple tour, Month of the Military Child, community service, fair

well/rocket blast off, Orange County Fair and much more.

For more information, call Marion DeClemente at 938-8889 or email marion.declemente@usma.edu.

Hudson Valley Wine Tasting and Music

Join the West Point Club for an evening of fine wine sampling and relaxing music in the Pierce Dining Room.

The evening event will take place from 6-9 p.m. Sept. 20. An appetizer and beverage menu will be available as well.

There is a minimal fee for the wine tasting event.

For more information, call 938-5120.

West Point Oktoberfest

FMWR presents Oktoberfest from 4-9 p.m. Sept. 23 and from noon-8 p.m. Sept. 24 at the H-Lot Field.

Enjoy traditional German food, drink and music with American flair.

There will be live bands, a Kinder Korner (Sept. 24) and Orange Co. Cops & Rodders car show (Sept. 23), FitComp and Oktoberfest Olympics. The event is open to the public.

For more information, call 938-6497.

American Red Cross

In an effort to streamline and ensure quality service, the American Red Cross has consolidated service to the Armed Forces call intake, emergency verification and message delivery functions, as well as financial assistance, into a single call center environment.

All military members (including cadets) and their families can access these services through the use of one telephone number nationwide.

Call toll free at 877-272-7337.

West Point volunteer opportunities

Do you want to get involved at West Point? The perfect volunteer opportunity is waiting for you.

To find out more, including how to be added to the Army Community Service email list, go to westpointmwr.com and click on the ACS tab for Army Volunteer Corps or call 938-3655.

What's Happening

Protestant Women of the Chapel open house

The Protestant Women of the Chapel would like to invite all women for the kickoff of the new year for a time of worship, fellowship and Bible study from 9-11 a.m. Wednesday at the Post Chapel.

PWOC functions as an extension of the military chapels and specifically reaches out and ministers to women.

Childcare is provided. We look forward to meeting you.

For more information, contact ascgriffin@gmail.com.

Protestant Women of the Chapel evening study kickoff

The Protestant Women of the Chapel invites everyone to an evening study kickoff from 7-9 p.m. Sept. 8 at the Post Chapel basement. Childcare is not provided for the evening kickoff.

For more information, contact ascgriffin@gmail.com.

Sunday Mornings at Thayer Hall

USMA Prep schoolers, cadets, faculty, civilians, family members and retirees are all welcome to join this semester's inspiring classes sponsored by the Protestant Chapels.

The classes include Church Outside the Church Building with Tony Burgess, Marriage Built to Last-DVD series with Billy and Revita Page, Study the Book of Acts with David Hampton, Spiritual Body-Pump Strengthening—your Daily Christian Life with Mark Fairbrother, the Prodigal God with Marty Conkling and Walking in the Footsteps of Christ with Mark Stoneburner.

Shawn Hatch and Dwain Gregory teach cadet-specific classes on discipleship and Bible study.

For all youths, grades Pre-K-high school, the cadet Sunday School teachers will be teaching lessons. Classes start 9-10 a.m. Sept. 11.

Nursery is provided. To register, contact the Director of Religious Education Protestant Chapels Eric Bryan at 845-608-0547 or email eric.bryan@usma.edu.

Blast from the Past at New Windsor Cantonment

At 2 p.m. Sept. 24, Continental Army soldiers from the seventh Massachusetts Regiment will perform a military drill in front of the Temple Building at the New Windsor Cantonment.

Revolutionary War-era soldiers perform a military demonstration and fire a cannon. A gallery tour will follow the demonstration.

From 3:30-4:30 p.m., tour the nearby 1754 Ellison House, Knox's Headquarters.

The New Windsor Cantonment State Historic Site is co-located with the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor on Route 300, 374 Temple Hill Road, in New Windsor, just three miles south of the intersection of I-87 and I-84.

Knox's Headquarters is located at 289 Forge Hill Road in Vails Gate.

For more information, call (845) 561-1765, ext. 22.

Highland Falls Farmers Market

The Highland Falls Farmers Market is open from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. every Sunday through Oct. 30.

The market is located at the municipal parking lot across the street from the West Point Museum and Sacred Heart Church.

Cornwall Farmers Market

Looking for a convenient place to purchase fresh, local produce, flowers, baked goods, meats and other items? Then come to the Cornwall Farmers Market on the lawn at the Cornwall Town Hall from 11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. every Wednesday through October.

October Motorcycle Safety Courses

The West Point Safety Office is offering Motorcycle Safety Courses for staff and faculty who are active duty and reserve component military Oct. 19-20 and to cadets Oct. 20-23.

For more information, call the West Point Safety Office at 938-3717.

DUSA looking for a part-time bookkeeper

A part-time bookkeeper is needed for the Daughters of the United States Army gift shop located in the West Point Museum.

For more information, email wpdusapresident@gmail.com or mail a resumé to:

DUSA President

DUSA Gift Shop

P.O. Box 78

West Point, NY 10996

NEW INFO

Girl Scout Heart of the Hudson, Inc. looking for oldest Girl Scout alumni

Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson, Inc. will be celebrating Girl Scouting's 100th anniversary (officially March 12, 2012) with a yearlong series of events beginning this fall.

The search is out for the oldest living Girl Scout alumnae in each of the seven counties in its jurisdiction—Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester—and include them in the festivities.

Women who participated in Girl Scouting from Brownie age through high school and beyond are invited to contact the council and share their memories.

They can send an email to alumnae100@girlscoutshh.org or write to Girl Scout Alumnae, 2 Great Oak Lane, Pleasantville, NY 10570.

Guest lecturer presents petroleum hydrocarbon plumes

Pat Hughes, Senior Environmental Project Manager of Chevron Environmental Management Company, will present a lecture to cadets enrolled in EV394 (Hydrogeology), titled "Subsurface Petroleum Hydrocarbon Plumes."

The lecture will take place from 11-11:55 a.m. Sept. 8 in Washington Hall, Room 6004.

This event is open to the West Point community.

For more information, call Dr. Michael Butkus at 938-2820.

West Point Women's Club Super Sign-Up

Join the West Point Women's Club for its Super Sign-Up from 7-9 p.m. Sept. 15 at the West Point Club.

Membership, door prizes, hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, shopping, volunteer opportunities and community information are available.

Reservations are not required. The WPWC only requests that you grab your neighbors and join them for an evening of friendship and fun.

You will have the opportunity to become a member of the WPWC and participate in a year of fun-filled events and activities.

West Point Community Covenant Church AWANA Club Sign-up

The West Point Community Covenant Church AWANA Club begins Sept. 18. Sign up at the Post Chapel Annex.

For more information, call 938-2003.

West Point Diving Club

The West Point Diving Club will be offering learn-to-dive lessons this fall 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 (845) 938-4207.

Life Works at Balfour Beatty Communities

- **Backpack raffle**—Balfour Beatty Communities will be raffling off backpacks filled with school supplies for children in first-eighth grade.

Stop by the Community Management office, 132 Bartlett Loop, and fill out a "Back to School" raffle ticket. Several winners will be contacted by Friday.

- **National Grandparents Day**—Join BBC to make crafts in observance of Grandparents Day. Make special gifts from the heart, to show your grandparents how much you care.

We will be creating hand print sunflowers at 126 Washington Road from 3-4:30 p.m. Sept. 8.

To personalize your sunflower, bring a picture of you and your grandparents.

To register, email Jodi Gellman at jgellman@bbcgrp.com or call (845) 446-6407.



The West Point Band presents its annual 1812 Concert with Fireworks at 6 p.m. Sunday at Trophy Point Amphitheatre. This concert marks the conclusion of the Band's 2011 "Music Under the Stars" series.

PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. CHRISSEY CLARK/WEST POINT BAND

A summer blast off: 1812 Concert with fireworks

Submitted by the West Point Band

The West Point Band presents its annual 1812 Concert with fireworks at 6 p.m. Sunday at Trophy Point Amphitheatre.

This concert marks the conclusion of its 2011 "Music Under the Stars" series.

Come hear the band perform famous marches such as Fucik's "Entry of the Gladiators," highlights from the blockbuster "Harry Potter" series and crowd favorite Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture."

Members of the West Point Band will perform various bluegrass selections with special guests Chief Warrant Officer 5 Charles Vollherbst and Staff Sgts. Marlisa and Dean Woods from The U.S. Army Band in Washington, D.C.

The evening will conclude with a fireworks display over the Hudson River provided by West Point's Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

In the event of inclement weather, the concert will be held Monday.

Allow extra travel time for the 100 percent vehicle and photo I.D. inspection at Stony Lonesome and Thayer gates.

Due to changing security requirements at West Point, call the West Point Band's hotline at 938-2617 or check www.westpoint.edu/special before leaving for the concert.

For concert information, cancellations and updates, call 938-2617 or visit www.westpointband.com.

West Point Band news can also be found on Facebook, YouTube and Twitter.

Keller Corner

KACH outpatient clinic closures

All outpatient clinics, laboratory, pharmacy and radiology will be closed Friday (training holiday) and Monday (Labor Day).

The emergency room will remain open.

Free developmental/hearing screenings

Not all children develop the same way, some need extra help. If you have concerns with your child's communication skills, motor skills, self-help skills, learning, behavior, and/or social interactions, join us at our free developmental/hearing screenings.

The screenings will be conducted at the CDC in conjunction with Audiology, EDIS and West Point Schools for children from birth to 5 years old.

It will be held from 8:45 a.m.-2 p.m. Sept. 14. It is by appointment only.

To schedule an appointment, call 938-2698/6868.

Suicide Prevention is everyone's business

September is National Suicide Prevention Month and it's important to have phone numbers in hand for an emergency situation. To find a Behavioral Health provider, call:

- North Region: 877-747-9579;
 - West Region: 866-651-4970;
 - South Region: 877-298-3514.
- 24-hour crisis/suicide assistance line:
- North Region: 800-273-Talk (8255);
 - West Region: 866-284-3743;
 - South Region: 904-254-2313.
 - VA and National suicide prevention life line: 800-273-8255.
 - Military One Source suicide prevention life line: 800-342-9647.

Force protection, parking for Buffalo Soldier Ceremony Sun.

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

In support of the Buffalo Soldier Wreath Ceremony Sunday, the following force protection and parking measures are in effect:

From 12:10 p.m. to approximately 12:50 p.m., Mills Road will be blocked for the ceremony at the intersections of Thayer and Wilson Roads to all vehicles.

Vehicles parked behind quarters #25 through #34 must use the Kinsley Hill Road exit.

Vehicles traveling south on Mills Road must use Wilson Road to exit the installation.

Vehicles may still use the Buffalo Soldier Lot to exit the installation; however, all vehicles will be stopped during the playing of Taps.

For more information, contact Matt Cassidy at 938-3650.

NOW SHOWING

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

Friday—Zookeeper, PG, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday—Transformers: Dark of the Moon, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

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

Command Channel 8/23

Sept. 1-8

(Broadcast times)

Army Newswatch

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

The Point

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

Weekly Sudoku by Chris Okasaki, D/EECS

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

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: Hard

Volleyball wins Black Knight Invite, defeats Bryant

By Tracy Nelson
Army Athletic Communications

Army defeated Bryant, 3-1, at Gillis Field House Aug. 27 en route to claiming the Black Knights Invitational title and improving to 3-0 on the season. Freshman setter Mary Vaccaro was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player, while junior outside hitter Ariana Mankus garnered all-tournament plaudits.

The Black Knights were perfect on the weekend and capped the title run with a 25-20, 25-19, 17-25, 25-19 victory over the visiting Bulldogs. Eleven different players contributed to the win and three players made their season debuts. Junior middle blocker Maggie Glunt, who has been sidelined for two years due to injury, made her first career start against Bryant. Freshman Molly McDonald and sophomore Lauren Wood each played for the first time in 2011.

"Today was going to be a test of our depth," fifth-year head coach Alma Kovaci said. "Going into this season, I believe depth would be one of our biggest strengths. Today proved that we can play multiple people at all positions and not skip a beat.

"I thought Maggie Glunt did a wonderful job from the start. We also got another solid match out of Ariana (Mankus), Megan Wilton and Margaux Jarka," she added. "I also can't say enough about how well Mary Vaccaro played all weekend. She did not play like a freshman and showed great poise under pressure. The coaching staff and I look forward to her growth."

Mankus totaled a season-high 23 kills and hit for a .476 percentage to lead all players. She also recorded her second double-double of the year with 10 digs. Jarka finished with 10 kills and 12 digs, while Wilton and Glunt added nine and eight kills, respectively. Vaccaro bettered her career-high with 55 assists and sophomore libero D.J. Phee totaled a match-best 19 digs.

Army hit for a .238 average, including a blistering .556 showing in the opening set. The Black Knights out-blocked Bryant by a 9-4 margin. Jarka and Wilton each contributed three total blocks.

The Black Knights return to action Friday and Saturday when they travel to California for the Pacific Community Bankers Classic. Army joins the host Tigers, Duquesne and Mississippi State at the tournament.



Junior outside hitter Ariana Mankus garnered all-tournament plaudits by totaling a season-high 23 kills and a game-high .476 hitting percentage against Bryant Aug. 27.



Freshman setter Mary Vaccaro was named the Black Knights Invitational tournament MVP for her outstanding play throughout. Vaccaro finished with 55 assists in the title match to help Army go undefeated during the weekend.

PHOTOS BY MIKE STRASSER/PV

As the Army football team evolves, expectations grow

Spotlighting ... Rich Ellerson

Story and photo by Eric S. Bartelt
Managing Editor

The Army Black Knights begin their 122nd season of collegiate football at 7 p.m. Saturday as they travel to DeKalb, Ill., to face Northern Illinois. The Huskies finished 11-3 last season with a Humanitarian Bowl 40-17 victory over Fresno State. Army finished last season 7-6 and completed its first plus-.500 record in 14 years with an Armed Forces Bowl 16-14 win over SMU.

There are many changes to Army's lineup as it heads into the 2011 season. Head coach

Rich Ellerson summarized the season ahead as he answered questions from the *Pointer View* about replacing last year's starters and what the road ahead will lead to with this group of talented athletes.

PV: Did a winning season and bowl victory help create a different culture/atmosphere during offseason workouts and spring practice?

RE: "First of all, I think the season outcome and the bowl win last year was the outcome of a cultural evolution that had taken place. That speaks to the efforts of those first couple senior classes we had and that was a

great moment for us to step on to a big stage like the Armed Forces Bowl against a team like SMU and know what it takes to win a game like that.

"That creates an institutional memory. These guys know what it felt like, know what it looks like and we've been working on that—the next evolution—since January. We came out of spring ball with some things accomplished and some questions still to be answered, and I think the guys have gone to work on that.

"We've kept the arrow up (this summer) in terms of our strength and speed development, and (summer training camp) was very important to this football team because we found out, with respect to our offensive and defensive systems, how to leverage these particular personnel. We have some very gifted guys, we have some very gifted young guys and we have some strategically placed veterans, and I felt (all) those guys have transitioned into starting roles very well."

PV: On defense, with someone like Jarrett Mackey taking over for Josh McNary at the "quick" position, do you expect any drop off in production or do you expect Mackey's skill set to stand out where you won't see much of a change?

RE: "That rush end ("quick") position is a marquee position in this defense. That guy needs to be productive because if everybody comes away from the game wondering who was playing that position for us that probably means we didn't play very well, but we think Jarrett (Mackey) is the right guy. He was frankly the other guy at that position last year, but he was too good to be the other guy and we had to get him on the field, we had to get his athleticism and play making ability engaged, so he was really playing out of position (the "bandit") last year—so this will be fun to see where he is getting back into what we kind of always visualized for him.

"We expect that position to be productive. It'll be a little different with him playing it, but that doesn't mean he can't be just as productive."

PV: On offense, the offensive line will have four new starters, but in the backfield you'll have continuity with Jared Hassin, Malcolm Brown and Brian Cobbs while having Trent Steelman return at quarterback ... how important is it to have that continuity in the backfield?

RE: "We talk about being efficient with the football and getting everybody on the same page. I still think you're going to see some young guys step up and the offensive line stand up. Ray Maples, we think, is going to be a really good (slot) back, but I also think he's going to be looking over his shoulder at some really gifted young guys, and that's the same thing with Malcolm, Jared and Trent.

"I think the program is starting to mature in that respect. It's a bunch of experienced guys who played the game together and

have been around the block together, and I think their expectations are realistic. They know this is college football and there are going to be some tough quarters and series and everything is not going to go our way. I'm not going to concede the scoreboard one time, but along the journey, there is going to be some adversity that we're going to have to handle. The good news is we're going to handle it with people we've been around the block with before and know we can, and know we can overcome adversity when it happens."

PV: What do you foresee as being more difficult, getting that first winning season after 14 years or having to do it again?

RE: "We have higher expectations than just crossing that threshold (a winning season), and certainly that was a huge one to get across and was a great day in Army football, but that was just another step. These guys have the bar set a little higher in their minds, so the expectations and the challenges continue to grow. But, again, that's why these guys signed up for it, they couldn't be more excited about the fact that they've inherited some expectations based on the success of the past and that now resonates—and that feels good.

"Maybe there was a time when those expectations of our storied past were burdensome, maybe that was a heavy mantle, but it's not right now because these guys feel OK. We belong on that stage and we understand what that feels like to win and what it looks like and we can't wait for more."

PV: Do you see this year's team leaders having as big of voices in the locker room as the past two teams you coached at Army?

RE: "We talked about the leadership we have. We talked about those experienced guys who cover the positions on both sides of the ball who I know will have as good or better voice then we ever had in the locker room, on the sidelines and in the huddle. We understand what that voice should say and we're preparing ourselves for the rocky road that inevitably a football season will bring us.

"It's not going to be all roses. We understand there's going to be tough plays, tough moments, tough halves and we understand that and we're preparing for that—we know we can overcome it because we've been there before and we know what it feels like."

PV: The team has a tough schedule to start the season, what are your thoughts about that gauntlet in September?

RE: "There are people who would have told you that Northern Illinois was a good game to start with a few years ago, oops, but that's OK because there are some people who thought Army was a good game to start with, oops. Nobody is excited about playing us and we're not especially excited about the way the schedule starts this year, but, again, the good news is they're not excited about playing us either."

A player's perspective ... Jared Hassin

PV: A winning record and a bowl victory last year, but from your perspective, what is the team's potential going forward?

JH: "We look around and see such great potential in ourselves and we know we're being led by the right coaching staff and have all the support in the world. To say that we're satisfied with 7-6 and a bowl victory, we as players understand we have the ability to go forward and execute above and beyond that. A bowl victory is great, but we're not satisfied with our record of 7-6.

"I look forward to this season because I know our offense as a unit is going to be that much better. To be a part of it is an honor and I'm looking forward to the opportunity."

PV: What are your thoughts about the gauntlet schedule in September starting with Northern Illinois?

JH: "Northern Illinois is going to be a great challenge. It's a game that we open up on the road, which is a challenge in and of itself. We're very fortunate to have such a competitive schedule because it gives us the opportunity every week to have a challenge and that's something everybody on this team wants and that's why we're here—to challenge ourselves.

"All the games are going to be competitive and we just look forward to the opportunity to get off to a good start."

