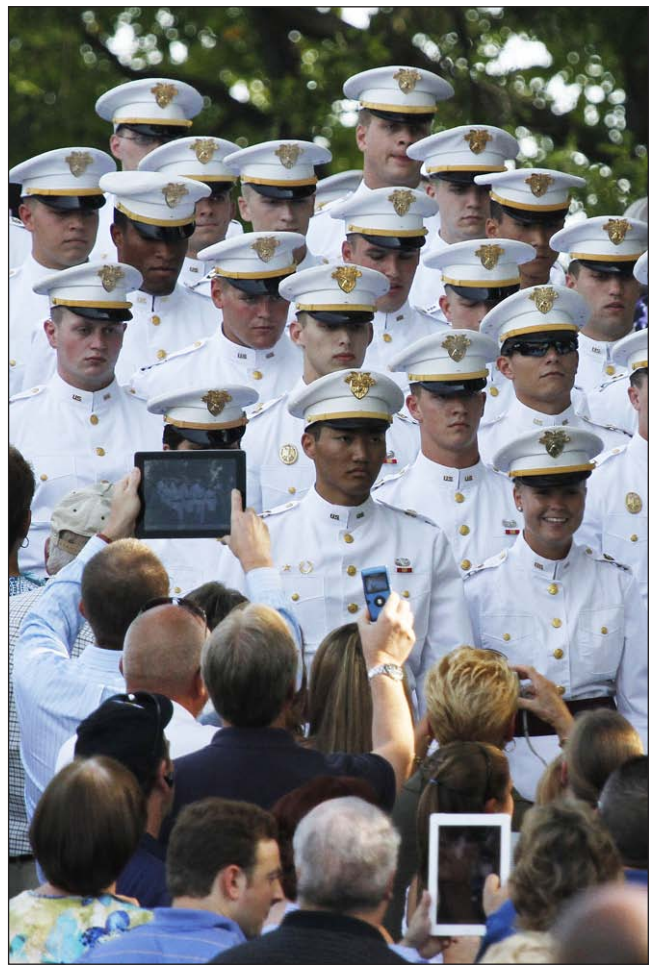
POINTER VIEW®

FRIDAY:
Army Cross Country Open, 4 p.m.; Women's Soccer vs. Stony Brook, 5 p.m.

VOL. 69, NO. 34 | SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WEST POINT, THE U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY | AUGUST 30, 2012

Class of 2013: "Don your rings!"

With those three words, Class of 2013 cadets snapped open the boxes and placed the new class rings on their fingers Aug. 24 during a ceremony at Trophy Point. The tradition of wearing a class ring originated at the U.S. Military Academy in 1835. This was the 12th West Point class to benefit from the West Point Association of Graduates' Ring Memorial program which combines the melted gold from donated rings of graduates into the current class rings. A Ring Melt was conducted last March, which added 42 rings into the crucible to bring the total to 238. (Below) The Class of 2013 cadets march down the steps of the Trophy Point Amphitheater while hundreds of parents, friends, graduates and guests use cameras, cell phones and tablets to capture all the moments of Ring Weekend. PHOTOS BY MIKE STRASSER/PV



West Point Band presents Labor Day concert with fireworks

Submitted by the West Point Band

The West Point Band will present its annual Labor Day concert at 6 p.m. Sunday at the Trophy Point Amphitheater. In the event of inclement weather, the concert will be held at 6 p.m. Monday.

In conjunction with the West Point Museum, there will be Civil War re-enactors, as well as fun activities for the entire family beginning at 1 p.m. at Trophy Point.

The Labor Day concert features The Hellcats, the Jazz Knights and the Concert Band, to include world premieres by composers Charles Strouse and Maj. Douglas Hedwig.

The evening will conclude with a spectacular fireworks display set to the music of the West Point Band. This concert is free and open to the public.

The Band's field music group, The Hellcats, begins the performance at 6 p.m. with a retreat ceremony.

The Jazz Knights follow at 6:30 p.m. with several Latin selections featuring Brazilian trumpeter Claudio Roditi.

The Concert Band portion, beginning at 8 p.m., will be conducted by the Band's commander, Lt. Col. Jim Keene.

The Concert Band will perform several selections commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

Highlighting the performance will be a pair of world premieres—Tone Poem on TAPS by Maj. Douglas Hedwig and selections from "The North and South," a new musical by Broadway legend Charles Strouse.

The music of Strouse will also be featured in "A Strouse Celebration," a medley of his most beloved songs, arranged by Sgt. Maj. Douglas Richard.

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.

Labor Day requirements for Trophy Point

Due to current security requirements and to preserve the beauty of the Trophy Point Amphitheater 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 Sunday (Monday in case of inclement weather).

The Military Police are directed to remove all items mentioned above that are placed on the Trophy Point Amphitheater grounds for the purpose of reserving a viewing spot prior to noon.

Reserved areas must have someone present at all times or it will be considered abandoned. Thank you for your support.

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West Point Band
The United States Military Academy

Labor Day Concert

Sunday, Sept. 2, 2012
Rain Date: Sept. 3
Trophy Point Amphitheater
West Point, New York

Schedule of Events:

1:00 p.m. West Point Museum display areas open & Trophy Point scavenger hunt begins
2:00 p.m. Cannon demonstration
3:00 p.m. Close order drill & rifle demonstration
4:00 p.m. Cannon demonstration
5:00 p.m. Close order drill & rifle demonstration
6:00 p.m. The Hellcats: "Retreat & Patriotic Showcase"
6:30 p.m. Jazz Knights: "Latin Night" featuring Claudio Roditi
8:00 p.m. Concert Band: "150th Anniversary of the Civil War"
9:15 p.m. Fireworks show

Information, cancellations, & updates **westpointband.com**
U.S.ARMY

Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

See SUDOKU PUZZLE, Page 12

POINTER VIEW®

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Lt. Col. Webster Wright
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Linda L. Mastin
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Eric S. Bartelt
Managing Editor, **938-2015**

Mike Strasser
Assistant Editor, **938-2015**

Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer, **938-2015**

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Commemorating Women's Equality Day

USCG Superintendent addressed attendees at West Point Club luncheon

Story and photo by Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

"And nearly a century after the battle for women's franchise was won, a new generation of young women stands ready to carry that spirit forward and bring us closer to a world where there are no limits on how big our children can dream or how high they can reach,"—President Barack Obama proclaiming Aug. 26 as Women's Equality Day.

The West Point Equal Opportunity Office, the Simon Center for the Professional Military Ethic, the U.S. Corps of Cadets Respect staff and the Margaret Corbin Forum hosted the annual Women's Equality Day luncheon at the West Point Club Aug. 24. The event began with a brief history of the women's suffrage movement by Class of 2013 Cadet Elizabeth Kim.

"We are here today to celebrate the 1920 passage of the 19th amendment giving women the right to vote," Kim said. "The women's suffrage movement began here in New York at Seneca Falls in 1837 with Susan B. Anthony, Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who fought for equal pay and the right to vote."

Anthony and Stanton devoted 50 years to the suffrage movement, but neither lived to see the passage of the 19th amendment.

Guest speaker Rear Admiral Sandra L. Stosz, U.S. Coast Guard Academy superintendent, spoke about the progress made due to the suffrage movement and the progress still to come.

Rear Admiral Sandra Stosz, U.S. Coast Guard Academy superintendent, was the guest speaker Aug. 24 at the annual Women's Equality Day luncheon at the West Point Club.

"We start with a look back at history, to evaluate where women are today, and to look ahead at what each of us can do in the future, especially the cadets in the audience. The future is yours," Stosz said. "Three generations ago, we saw World War I and the 19th amendment giving women the right to vote. Two generations ago was World War II and the (beginning) of women in the military with the women's auxiliary military services, the Women's Army Corps; Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service, or WAVES; Women's Air Force Service Pilots, or WASP; and the women in the Coast Guard were Semper Paratus Always Ready, or SPAR."

Women in the auxiliary military services were the forerunners of women's acceptance into the military and military academies to become Soldiers and officers, a subject Stosz spoke of by using the "glass half-filled" analogy in regards to equality.

"We started with an empty glass, but over the generations, that glass is filling. We all need to think of what we can do to continue to fill that glass," she said.

Stosz spoke of the early '60s and '70s when she first heard the names of Gloria Steinem and Billy Jean King and how they added a few drops to fill the glass of equality by stepping up and being heard.

"Then in 1976, the military academies began to accept women. I came in with the third class of women in the Coast Guard," she said. "But I was into sports and had to swim with the men's team. I wanted to break rules to get a women's swim team, but a critical mass of one isn't going to work. It took a few years and talking to the coach before the Coast Guard Academy began a women's swim team."

Stosz told the cadets in attendance that it took a generation for her to go from being a cadet to becoming the superintendent.

"Take your time; it comes one day at a time and one tour at a time," she said. "Take the tough jobs; get out of your comfort zone. You can't grow just by sitting in your comfort zone and not moving forward."

The cadets are too young to remember women's fight for equality back in the day, but they do have a point of view.

"I think we have come a long way since women were able to vote," Class of 2014 Cadet Jazlyn McCaw said. "We have women in the military, who are officers, but the female cadets who entered the academies in 1976 had a rough time, although we've come a long way since then. However, a woman is capable of doing what the military calls "high stress" jobs, such as the infantry. So we still have a way to go."

Class of 2015 Cadet Zachary Hall admitted he is too young to remember how far women have come.

"But I am glad to live in an integrated world with women as opposed to (some) other countries," Hall said.

After seeing a frown cross McCaw's face, Hall quickly added, "I do realize though that some glass ceilings still need to be broken."

Thirty-two academy cadets, midshipmen attend Stevens Conference

Story and photos by Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

Thirty-two top cadet leaders from service academies across the country including the U.S. Military, Naval, Air Force, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine Academies attended the annual Robert T. Stevens Service Academies Leaders' Conference that began Monday at Eisenhower Hall and spent four days attending seminars and workshops on leadership.

They attended seminars and form group discussions with their academy counterparts and discussed leadership styles, diversity, effective communications, learning the similarities as well as differences in leadership styles and the effectiveness of the various styles.

Class of 2013 Cadet Brenna Heisterman, 2nd Regiment commander, thinks the seminars will help her develop her leadership style.

"The seminars give us a chance to self-reflect and look at the way we want to approach leadership," Heisterman said. "I think that compassion, honor and integrity are the best qualities one can have as a leader."

In the first seminar, cadets went through a number of exercises to help them learn about themselves and each other. Five different psychological systems were used such as the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator test, which measures psychological preferences in the way individuals view the world and how they make their decisions.

The attendees also were asked to draw a coat of arms that represent who each was, such as indicating something no one knows about the individual or something they have done at their academy that they are proud of. After completing the task, they were asked to introduce themselves, talk about their drawing and discuss what key leadership challenges they are facing.

Midshipman Alexander Donaldson, Class of 2013 and second regimental leader at the Naval Academy, talked about his challenges.

"My key challenge is organization,"

See STEVENS CONFERENCE, Page 7

Barry Berglund (center) led the first seminar at the 31st annual Robert T. Stevens Service Academies Leaders' Conference Monday at Eisenhower Hall. West Point Class of 2013 Cadet Justen Anka is seated next to his classmate Class of 2013 Cadet Eileen Deegan and an Air Force Academy cadet, Coast Guard Academy cadet and a Naval Academy midshipman. The purpose of the seminars is to discuss leadership issues and challenges that cadets are facing at their respective academies as well as learning how to work with other people and how to deal with change.

Club Night showcases cadet activities at Crest Hall

Story and photo by Mike Strasser
Assistant Editor

It was mostly shoulder-to-shoulder at Crest Hall Aug. 20 as the plebes packed it in for Club Night.

Having finished their first day of the academic year, the annual event offered the newest members of the Corps of Cadets a chance to learn all about the extracurricular activities the academy offers through the Directorate of Cadet Activities. In one stop, cadets could match their interests with a variety of athletic, academic, military and spiritual clubs.

It also allowed current club members the opportunity to recruit and promote their activity, which often required ample volume to be heard in a roaring crowd.

Class of 2013 Cadet Nate Goodin and his crew had no issue there, with the backing of a powerful sound system to amplify their calling card as the "Voice of the Corps."

Goodin joined the cadet radio club, WKDT, as a plebe because it was familiar territory for the Palm Beach, Fla., native.

"Back home I have a studio from my father who was a DJ in college," Goodin said. "So when I came to West Point I didn't realize they had a club like this. But when I found out I was intimately interested."

Now as the club cadet-in-charge, Goodin hoped to sign about 30 new members and expected at least a dozen to dedicate themselves to club activities. Two mobile stations just outside Ike Hall allowed cadets to hear—and feel, thanks to some powerful subwoofers—the sounds produced by the cadet disc jockeys.

Along with operating the academy's only radio station, club members also provide DJ services and support nearly every major cadet event, as well as many FMWR events. Goodin said the club is looking to branch out even further with an online presence.

"We'll have programs that will go online hopefully this year so we can expand our reach to graduates, the community at large and the Corps of Cadets," Goodin said.

Time is a commodity for cadets at the U.S. Military Academy, and during Club Night they decide what activity will occupy this precious asset. Last year, Class of 2015 Cadet Pierce Willenbrock had a strong interest in paintball, but was also drawn to the Combat Weapons team during Club Night. Now a second-year member, he is happy with his choice.

"I knew the tryout would be tough, but I had to pick one or the other knowing there was no going back," he said. "I got on the team and it has been the most rewarding thing I've done at West Point so far."

He said the Combat Weapons Team focus is on individual marksmanship skills with the shotgun, pistol and rifle, which develops cadets to become better trainers—a useful skill in any Army career.

"We develop that through regular practice, maybe two or three times a week," he said. "After your first year on the team, we branch out from the three-weapon system and go more into foreign weapons."

Class of 2016 Cadet Theo Adama put his name down on paper more than once during Club Night.

"Boxing, Combatives, Jazz Forum, Glee Club, the radio station … a few things," Adama said. "Boxing is the club I really hope to get in; it's something I've always wanted to do in the Army."

Class of 2013 Cadet Matthew Berman and Class of 2014 Cadet Andrew Carlson promoted the Small Unit Tactics Club in full battle rattle and attracted the attention of cadets making their way into Ike Hall. Ski Patrol members also found it easier to corral cadets outside where the traffic was less congested. Their ski outfits drew less attention than the fact they wore fake mustaches, a strange custom they developed a couple years ago.

Most clubs are looking for dedication over experience from new members. Class of 2013 Cadet James Perry said he was recruited as a freshman from the former combatives club cadet-in-charge during Cadet Basic Training.

The offer was a free dinner for any new cadet who could beat him, which Perry managed to do once before the senior graduated.

Now as the club's cadet-in-charge, Perry wasn't able to recruit this summer; he was at Fort Hood, Texas, on a Cadet Troop Leader Training mission where he found time to train with the combatives team there.

"A lot of people watch mixed martial arts on TV, and it's actually becoming the fastest-growing sport right now," Perry said. "In my opinion, it's kind of a gut check and it's the ultimate form of competition."

A Class of 2016 cadet puts his name on the Fencing Team's sign-up roster during Club Night Aug. 20 at Crest Hall.

Class of 2013 Cadet Giovanna Camacho, one of the founding members of the Women's Boxing Team, was thrilled to watch her sport on the world stage for the first time in the London Olympics.

"It was a crazy, exciting feeling to know there are so many people supporting women's boxing and the passion for that sport is incredible," Camacho said.

Camacho said a number of cadets who watched the Olympics were surprised to see a team at West Point.

"The response has been great and we have at least 10 cadets signed up so far, as well as 12 returning team members," Camacho said. "We're going to come out strong and motivated, and we're going to make it to nationals this year."

Next Week in the PointerView

- Structures Projects Day
- Center for the Study of Civil-Military Operations lecture
- Cross Country Team results

Published weekly for the West Point community

New Flickr galleries include Class of 2013 Ring Ceremony, Army-Air Force Soccer, Women's Volleyball and Club Night at **www.flickr.com/photos/west_point**.

Two bands create an international partnership in music

Story by Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

East met West when the West Point Army Band invited the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force Central Band to join them for concert performances. The two bands performed together at concerts in Valley Stream, N.Y., Aug. 24 and "A Partnership in Music," the theme for the West Point Band's Music Under the Stars series performed Sunday at Trophy Point.

Col. Akira Takeda, the commander and conductor of the JGSDF Band, and four band members; warrant officer Kunihiro Taniguchi, French horn; Sgt. Maj. Yuji Noguchi, clarinet; Sgt. 1st Class Eiichi Mawatari, percussion; and Sgt. Akihiro Kuji, alto saxophone—arrived Aug. 20 to rehearse and tour West Point.

Lt. Col. Jim Keene, commander of the West Point Army Band, and Takeda each conducted music selections. Performances of the United States and Japanese national anthems were performed at the opening of both concerts. The music of John Williams was featured at the Trophy Point concert and a number of Japanese selections was prominent throughout the program.

Although this is Takeda's first trip to West Point, he has visited the U.S. before.

"Three years ago, I was a guest conductor for the United States Army Band Pershing's Own in Washington, D.C.," Takeda said through interpreter Staff Sgt. Mikki Skinner. "But this is my first time at West Point."

Takeda said he is enjoying his stay at West Point and rehearsing and performing with the West Point Band.

"The (West Point) band is very nice," he said. "They have a nice congruent sound."

Takeda said he doesn't have any favorite music, but does tend to enjoy marches.

"I am a member of the John Philip Sousa Society in Japan," he said. "Sousa wrote 137 marches and each member of the society must represent one of Sousa's marches. Mine is "Royal Welch Fusiliers March."

Takeda received the Colonel George S. Howard Citation of Musical Excellence for Military Concert Bands from the John Philip Sousa Society in 2009. The citation is a prestigious international award recognizing military concert bands.

The initiative to invite the JGSDF Band to perform with the West Point Band was due to the band attending the same Pershing's Own concert Oct. 25, 2009 in Washington, D.C. when Takeda was the guest conductor.

"We formed a friendship with the band," Keene said. "It was our intent to have them visit and perform with us ever since. Our section leader, Master Sgt. Shawn Herndon, assisted with the visit."

Herndon at the time was stationed near the D.C. area and performed at the event.

Takada studied trumpet in college and, after graduation, began his military career in the education division of the Central Band. He holds a Bachelor of Music Degree from the Musashino Academia Musicae in trumpet performance. Takada became the 13th conductor of the JGSDF Band in 2007.

"We perform about 30 concerts a year," Takada said. "We usually perform for the public and the community."

The JGSDF Band reports to the Japanese Minister of Defense and often takes part in welcoming guests, official visitors and national events. Recently, the band performed at the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the current Emperor of Japan Akihito's ascension to the throne.

The West Point Band rehearsed with musicians from the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force Central Band Aug. 21 in preparation for the joint concerts.

USMA Band Photo

Army retains three-event APFT pending futher study

By Stephanie Slater
U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command

The Army will retain the current three-event Army Physical Fitness Test, pending a study to determine the best method to measure baseline Soldier physical readiness.

U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command found that implementing changes to how the Army assesses physical fitness would be premature.

"We anticipate that the baseline Soldier physical readiness study, linked to Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills, may generate new information that affects how we develop and test physical fitness," TRADOC Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel A. Dailey said.

WHAT WAS PROPOSED?

In 2011, TRADOC implemented a physical fitness training philosophy that Soldiers are better prepared if they train how they would fight. This prompted the Army Physical Fitness School to re-evaluate a Solder's physical capabilities.

A five-event Army Physical Readiness Test, or APRT, was developed and proposed to replace the current three-event APFT. The proposed test eliminated situps and included the following: 60-yard shuttle run, one-minute rower, standing long jump, one-minute pushup and 1.5-mile run.

More than 10,000 Soldiers worldwide participated in pilot testing of the APRT. After reviewing the data, TRADOC commissioned an independent panel to validate the proposed five-event APRT.

WHY RETAIN THE THREE-EVENT APFT?

In separate reports, the panel of fitness experts from the Department of Physical Education at U.S. Military Academy, the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command and California State University-Fullerton recommended against moving forward with the proposed five-event APRT and that TRADOC further study the issue.

The panel of subject matter experts agreed that the five-event Army Physical Readiness Test has "face validity" only, meaning that although it appears to measure what it claims to measure, further study would be required to confirm.

Experts agreed that TRADOC should consider other events that may better predict baseline Soldier physical readiness. Soldier baseline physical readiness is the ability to meet the physical demands of combat and duty position, and accomplish the mission while conducting unified land operations. TRADOC has determined that baseline Soldier physical readiness would be most effectively measured if linked to Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills, known as WTBD—tasks and drills determined over the last decade of war to be critical while conducting unified land operations.

Cadets and Soldiers stationed at West Point will continue to be evaluated under the current three-event Army Physical Fitness Test, as the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command will continue to study baseline Soldier physical readiness. A five-event test had been developed and proposed with recommendations from the U.S. Military Academy's Department of Physical Education. MIKE STRASSER/PV

Given the independent study and the logic of linking fitness to WTBD, TRADOC will initiate a comprehensive study of Soldier fitness requirements to determine the best method to measure baseline Soldier physical readiness. The objective of the study is to select and recommend test events that have a functional connection to WTBD and accurately measure baseline fitness against valid performance standards.

Decisions to change long-standing and proven systems of physical fitness are not made lightly, or prematurely, said the TRADOC command sergeant major.

"Emerging factors and changing combat environments demand a thorough understanding before changes are implemented, and thus the decision to retain the current test," Dailey said. "Whatever the new test looks like, it must accurately evaluate fitness levels for all Soldiers to decisively win in combat."

WHAT'S NEXT?

TRADOC is preparing to re-establish the master fitness trainer program. Targeting noncommissioned officers, this program, discontinued in 2001, will eventually provide commanders at all levels certified fitness advisers. A pilot master fitness training course, or MFTC, began Monday, to ensure that the appropriate steps are taken to restore this previously successful physical fitness asset to all units.

"Bringing back MFTC will standardize unit physical training and increase unit readiness across the Army," Dailey said, referring to the doctrine in TC 3-22.20 Army Physical Readiness Training (Aug. 2010).

TC 3-22.20 focuses unit training on developing Soldier physical readiness required to perform WTBD. WTBD are the fundamental combat skills which all Soldiers, regardless of rank, age, gender or military occupational specialty, must perform to fight and win on the battlefield.

To strengthen the emphasis on implementing physical readiness training doctrine Armywide, TRADOC will also transition TC 3-22.20 Physical Readiness Training to Field Manual 7-22 Physical Readiness Training in fall 2012.

"It's time to break the culture of 'training to the test' and focus instead on preparing all Soldiers for the physical challenges of the current and future operating environment. Executing physical training in accordance with the doctrine [TC 3-22.20] will also reduce injuries and improve Soldier performance on the APFT," Dailey said.

STEVENS CONFERENCE, cont'd from Page 3

Donaldson said. "I could have a Ph.D. in procrastination and need to learn to balance time, but other than that, I would like to go into Navy Aviation after graduation."

Class of 2013 Coast Guard Academy Cadet Lydia Monks already has an idea of what her leadership style is.

"I think leadership is about setting an example," Monks said. "(A leader) should be down to earth and listen with empathy and always be honest. With honesty, those that you lead will learn to trust you and are more likely to follow."

Monks said she wants to go into law enforcement or possibly law school after graduation.

"The conference is the first time that the designated leaders from each academy meet in a quasi-official role," retired Lt. Col. Barry Berglund, who has led the Leaders' Conference for 19 years, said. "While some may have met as exchange cadets or at an athletic event, the Stevens Program affords an opportunity to both learn more about each other's leadership styles, but also as a venue to look at the challenges each of these leaders will face in leading their respective academy."

Although most attendees have had some level of self awareness development through study of their respective behavioral science and leadership curricula, the Stevens Program allows these new leadership teams an opportunity to understand the styles that each brings into their roles.

"It also allows the academy representatives an opportunity to learn from each other with regard to the uniqueness of their respective academy, but also those common themes," he said. "This becomes especially important for the USCGA and USMMA—smaller academies—with vital peace and wartime missions," Berglund said.

Class of 2013 Coast Guard Academy Cadet Rachel Rychtanek speaks at the 31st annual Robert T. Stevens Conference Monday at Eisenhower Hall during the first of several leadership seminars. Top senior cadets from each of the service academies were asked to draw a coat of arms that represents each of them. They then were asked to stand and introduce themselves and talk about what they drew and what challenges they face at their respective academies.

Ring Ceremony solidifies Class of 2013 link to the Long Gray Line

(Left) The Class of 2013 cadets receive their rings from the tactical officers and noncommissioned officers of the Corps of Cadets at the Class Ring Ceremony at Trophy Point Aug. 24. (Above) With the words, "Class of 2013, don your rings," the cadets open the boxes in near unison and place the rings on their fingers. Afterward, they are joined on the field by family and friends to celebrate the occasion which is followed by other Ring Weekend activities such as a formal banquet and hop.

Story and photos by Mike Strasser
Assistant Editor

The tradition of wearing a class ring originated at the U.S. Military Academy in 1835 and continued Aug. 24 at Trophy Point with the Class of 2013.

The ceremony—attended by hundreds of family members, friends, graduates and guests—is symbolic of the hard work and dedication cadets have invested over the past three years, said Class of 2013 Cadet Stephanie Wangeman, the Class Ring and Crest chairperson.

"Fellow members of the Class of 2013, June 2009 marked the beginning of our journey together here at West Point," Wangeman said. "During the last three years we have created great memories together. Our ring is a bright symbol that connects us to those who formed the Long Gray Line before us and those who will follow in the ranks behind us. Let us lead the Corps with strength, integrity and dignity."

This was also the 12th West Point class to participate in the Ring Memorial program, which combines the gold from graduates' rings into the crucible each year to create the current class rings. This year, 12 donors attended the Ring Melt with the cadet ring and crest committee to witness the melting of 42 rings, bringing the total to 258.

"Nothing more clearly links the Class of 2013 with the Long Gray Line than to be wearing the gold from rings of graduates who have sacrificed so much for their country and for this institution," Commandant of the Corps of Cadets Brig. Gen. Theodore Martin said. "Cadets, now it's your turn."

Included in this year's program were the rings of three general officers and two from the Class of 1963, the Class of 2013's 50-year affiliation class. Ten of this year's donors attended the Class Ring Ceremony.

"The hopes, dreams and accomplishments that your rings represented are now permanently tied to our hopes, dreams and potential, and we thank you for this generous gift," Wangeman said at the ceremony.

Class of 2013 Cadet William Webb is a third generation West Pointer who now wears a class ring which contains gold from four graduates of his grandfather's Class of 1947.

"I am humbled and honored to wear a ring that was forged with other distinguished graduates' rings, especially those who were classmates with my grandfather," Webb said. "It strengthens the bond that the Class of 2013 has with our predecessors and motivates us to make them proud, knowing that we will enter combat with the same gold that our alumni once carried to the Spanish American War, Battle of the Bulge, Korea and elsewhere."

A Class of 2013 cadet allows a group of plebes to get a glimpse, and even touch her new class ring, but only after they recite the "Ring Poop."

Webb said the ring represents a commitment to serve as a member of the Long Gray Line, like his brother, father and grandfather have before him.

Class of 2013 Cadet Joseph Valenzuela (pictured below) said the ceremony was special to him, and was happy to have his parents in attendance. His father, Col. Lorenzo Valenzuela, an Systems Engineering assistant professor, is a member of the 30-year affiliation class.

"You can see that my ring is very similar to his, so that means a lot to me," the firstie said.

The class has other significant milestones ahead—the next being Branch Night and then Post Night—two events which essentially tells them initially where and how they will serve as second lieutenants.

"Today is a pretty big event for all of us, but obviously the most important event here is graduating and becoming a commissioned officer," Valenzuela said. "I think the Ring Ceremony is important because it solidifies us with the Long Gray Line."

BY THE NUMBERS

42—Rings donated in this year's Ring Memorial Program

258—Total rings combined into Ring Melt

2002—First class to benefit from the Ring Memorial Program

1896—Class year of the oldest graduate ring donated to the program, worn by Col. Percy Kessler

(Above, left and right) The rings worn by Class of 2013 Cadet Joseph Valenzuela and his father, Col. Lorenzo Valenzuela, a Class of 1983 graduate and assistant professor in the Department of Systems Engineering. The firstie said he had his class ring fashioned similar to the one his father wears.

Compete, Celebrate, Compete

West Point Volleyball duo participates in class milestone during weekend home tournament

Class of 2013 Cadets Francine Vasquez and Ariana Mankus barely had the class rings on before they had to remove them for competition.

Wedged in between two matches Aug. 24, the two senior co-captains on the Army Women's Volleyball Team were able to join their classmates at Trophy Point and receive their class rings.

They even had time to celebrate the milestone afterward for a short spell with family and friends before dashing off to the barracks to change uniforms for the evening's contest against Indiana University.

"We were really worried about not having that moment with our class so we were happy to share that," Vasquez said. "The ring means so much to all of us. It's a big accomplishment, so we were grateful to share it with our classmates."

The ring itself signifies both the accomplishments and challenges over the past three years and even the ones still to come, Vasquez said.

"The ring is also a great symbol of the unity within the Long Gray Line and that connection we have with those who have gone before me," she said.

Mankus said in years past the team had this weekend off, but being able to participate in the ring ceremony while hosting and competing in a pre-season tournament was special.

"Not only did my family get to see me get my ring, but they got to see me play also," Mankus said.

While the ring only weighs a couple ounces, it is said the weight of responsibility that comes with it is much greater.

"It's a huge milestone in our cadet careers because it means that as seniors we are now leading the Corps of Cadets," Mankus said. "A lot of people might not know how significant a role this is, but as seniors, you are essentially leading the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. You are in charge and the ring kind of puts that in perspective for us."

The seniors competed again Saturday, but were able to enjoy the banquet with their families.

"It's a more formal event, but I'll have fun with my family there," Mankus said. "After that, I'll just relax, and honestly, I'm looking forward to that."

Read more on the USMA website at www.usma.edu, and see the Ring Ceremony photos at /www.flickr.com/photos/west_point/.

The two seniors on the Women's Volleyball team, Class of 2013 Cadets Ariana Mankus and Francine Vasquez, were able to celebrate the Class Ring Ceremony with their classmates, although they competed with their teammates in two contests before and after the class milestone event.

FMWR Blurbs

Custom Framing available

A special 40 percent off sale runs through today on selective custom moulding at the West Point Arts and Crafts shop.

For more information, call 938-4812.

Blue Moon Golf Tournament

The Blue Moon Golf Tournament is Saturday. Registration is from 4:30-5:30 p.m. and the start time is 5:45 p.m.

This is a four-person scramble with nine holes played in twilight and nine holes played in blue moon light.

Dinner will be served in between at the club house.

The pro shop will supply chemical lights to help you navigate the course, see the greens and the balls glow.

There is a minimal charge per person which includes green fee, cart, prizes, range balls, glow goodies to play golf and dinner between the nine holes.

Mulligans will be available for a price (optional).

To register, call the Pro Shop at 938-2435.

BOSS Zombie Cruise

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers is hosting its annual Hudson River Cruise Saturday. Boarding will begin at 5:30 p.m. at South Dock.

There will be games and prizes, so dress in your most terrifying zombie costume.

For more information, call 938-6497.

Bow Hunter Safety Course

Round Pond is hosting a two-day Bow Hunter Safety Course from 6-10:30 p.m. Tuesday and 6-10 p.m. Wednesday at the Bonneville Cabin.

To register, email Rick Powles at *rack101@optonline.net* or call 845-913-6566.

ACS Career Expo 2012

Join Army Community Service from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sept. 6 at the Thayer Hotel for the ACS Career Expo 2012.

This year's mission is to tap into America's most talented, diverse and experienced group of candidates.

For more information, call Randy Stephenson, ACS Employment Readiness program manager, at 938-5658.

Membership Appreciation Night

Join the West Point Club from 5-8 p.m. Sept. 7 in the Hudson Room for a free Membership Appreciation Night dinner and membership drive.

Not a member? No problem. Become a member and your dinner is free.

Bring a new member who joins and receive a free gift. Members dine for free and non-members pay a minimal price.

For more information, call 938-5120.

Remembrance 5K

Join the FMWR Fitness Center and West Point Club Sept. 8 for the Remembrance 5K run. This race will start and finish at the West Point Club.

Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. Pre-registration is available at the FMWR Fitness Center.

After the race, breakfast is available at the club.

For more information, call 938-6490.

Home Football Dinner Buffets

Starting Sept. 13, the West Point Club will begin its Thursday and Friday night dinner buffets from 5-9 p.m. in the Pierce Dining Room. Ask about our member discounts.

For more information, call 938-5120.

ACS Fall Expo and CYSS Day for Kids

ACS' Fall Expo and CYSS Day for Kids is a fun-filled combined family event that is scheduled Sept. 14 at the Lee Area CDC, Bldg. 140.

The Expo is scheduled from noon-3 p.m. and 4-6 p.m. for the Day for Kids.

Come see author and military columnist Jacey Eckhart and receive her free CD "I Married a Spartan."

Try one of ACS' workshops like the EFMP Symposium or the School Transition Workshop.

Bring the children to enjoy a unified theme: Pirates on Parade.

For more information, call 938-0628.

West Point Oktoberfest

Grab your lederhosen and join FMWR from 4-9 p.m. Sept. 21 and noon-8 p.m. Sept. 22 at the Victor Constant Ski Slope for traditional German food, drink and music with American flair.

There will be live bands, Oktoberfest Olympics, Mr. and Mrs. Oktoberfest Contest, Wiener Dog Race and Kinder Korner (Sept. 22 only).

The event is open to the public.

For more information, call 938-4690.

ACS Hope for the Warriors Above and Beyond Workshop

Join ACS and ACAP for a three-day Hope for the Warriors Above and Beyond Workshop preparing you for the executive workforce environment.

This workshop is scheduled for 8:30 a.m-4 p.m. Sept. 25-27 at the West Point Education Center.

Topics will include professional/personal goal setting with a career coach, resumé preparation and mock interview session.

For more information, call 938-0628.

Benny Haven Bar open three nights weekly

The West Point Club's Benny Haven Bar is now open three nights weekly with a bar menu available.

The new hours of operation are 4-10 p.m. Wednesdays, 4-11 p.m. Thursdays and 4-11 p.m. Fridays.

Come to the bar Fridays from 4-6 p.m. for Happy Hour while enjoying the bar menu.

All departments are welcomed.

For more information, call 938-5120.

CYSS offers child care during home football games

West Point Child, Youth and School Services will be providing child care during home football games this season.

Reservations can be made at the Stony or Lee Child Development Centers and need to be made by Wednesday, nine days prior, to the game day.

Child care will be provided from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. with a minimal cost per child.

For more information, contact Stony CDC at 938-4798 or Lee CDC at 938-0941.

NYS Motorcycle Safety Inspections

West Point Auto is now offering NYS Motorcycle Safety Inspections.

Call 938-2074 to schedule your appointment.

NEW INFO

Arts & Crafts September classes

The West Point Arts and Crafts Shop is offering classes throughout September.

Try a sewing class with Jana from 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 11, 18 and 25. Bring an old T-shirt or material.

Enjoy our crop class with a ladies night out at Arts and Crafts from 4-7 p.m. Sept. 6 and 20. Bring your own photos, adhesive, scissors and ruler.

Try one of our photography classes with Jana from 5-7 p.m. Sept. 13. This class will focus on portraits.

Registration and pre-payment are required for all classes.

For more information, call 938-4812.

Wee Ones Open Play Group Summer hours end

Starting Sept. 10, the Wee Ones Open Play Group will resume its regular hours from 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m. at the Lee Area CDC.

For more information, call 938-3369.

Saturday Youth USBC Bowling League

Every Saturday from 9-11 a.m. starting Sept. 22, join the West Point Bowling Center for a Youth League.

There will be no bowling on home Army football game Saturdays, but there will be bowling on the following Tuesday from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

For more information and to register, call 938-2140.

Command Channel 8/23

Aug. 30-Sept. 7

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

Persistent Threat
Today, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Noon
Tuesday, 9 a.m.
Sept. 6, 10 a.m.
Sept. 7, 7:30 p.m.

What's Happening

Preparing for retirement?

Representatives from MOAA will be at West Point to present, "Marketing Your Second Career" and "Financial Planning for Your Transition" for officers and senior enlisted personnel preparing for retirement.

The presentations will be held Wednesday at the Education Center. Seating is limited, so contact any of the following offices to register:

- ACAP at 938-0634;
- ACS Employment Readiness at 938-5658;
- ACS Financial Readiness at 938-5839.

West Point Hunt Club's 3D archery range is open

The West Point Hunt Club's 3D archery range, located on Patrick's Trail just past the ski lift, is now open.

Bring your bow and a friend and shoot at 14 targets ranging from deer and bear to turkeys. This is a walking course in all types of terrain. Wear proper foot wear.

The dates the range is open are:

- 7 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sept. 8;
- 7 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sept. 22.

There is a small fee to shoot at the 3D range.

USAG West Point community meeting

The U.S. Army Garrison-West Point community meeting, formerly known as the Community Action Council, is scheduled 6-7:30 p.m. Sept. 19 at the Jewish Chapel.

The garrison leadership and staff invites the whole community to join them to discuss their concerns and resolve issues in the West Point community.

During the forum, light refreshments will be served.

For more information, call garrison headquarters at 938-2022.

Garrison Command's new Facebook page

The West Point Garrison Command is the new owner of a Facebook page. The main goal is to put out updates on what's happening in the community, recent news and photos and interact with other West Point fans.

The primary purpose of this page is for the West Point Garrison leadership to communicate directly to the entire West Point military community while highlighting or emphasizing specific information, issues and activities that affect the community.

You can reach the page at **www.facebook.com/WestPointGarrison**.

Storm King Mountain Bike and Hike Program

The Storm King Mountain Bike and Hike Program is up and running for the season and will run through November this year.

The gates on Route 218 at Washington Gate and at Cornwall-on-Hudson are closed to motor vehicle traffic from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. every Sunday to allow pedestrians and bicyclists to enjoy this scenic road safely.

Volunteers are needed to help at the gates by providing information and directions.

More detailed information is posted on the Storm King Bike and Hike Facebook page at **www.facebook.com/pages/Storm-King-Bike-and-Hike/151899924947472** or call Olga Anderson at 917-509-1200.

8th annual Mike Purcell 5K Run/Walk

The 8th annual Mike Purcell 5K Run/Walk to benefit the Lustgarten Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research is scheduled for 10 a.m. Nov. 4 at Chadwick Lake Park, 1702 Route 300, Newburgh. There is also a Kids Fun Run while the race results are being tallied.

There is a registration fee. Sign up before Oct. 20 and be you are guaranteed a T-shirt. Race day registration begins at 9 a.m. Runners will start at 10 a.m. while walkers begin at 10:05 a.m.

For more information, call 845-629-8068 or email *purcell4@hvc.rr.com*.

ID Card Facility offers services by appointment

Appointments are now available at the West Point ID Card Facility. Make an appointment, visit **https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil**.

Appointments are currently available between 8:20 a.m.-3:40 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. You must bring your appointment confirmation sheet with you. The West Point ID Card Facility is located on 622 Swift Road.

For more information, call the ID Card Facility at 938-3746 or 938-4736.

NEW INFO

1st Lt. Tyrell Thompson Wake and Funeral information

A wake and viewing for Class of 2010 graduate, 1st Lt. Tyrell Thompson, former Army basketball player who passed away Aug. 22, will be held from 5-8 p.m. Tuesday at the William F. Hogan Funeral Home on Main Street in Highland Falls.

Funeral services are scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Old Cadet Chapel and burial will be at 2 p.m. Sept. 6 at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va.

Puppies Behind Bars training

Puppies Behind Bars will hold its fall training session for the West Point community from 1-5 p.m. Sept. 16 at the 49er Lodge.

The point of contact for community member sign-up is TaraRose Macuch at 212-680-9562 or *tara@puppiesbehindbars.com*.

West Point Schools Read-a-thon and picture day

The West Point Schools will have two upcoming events in the month of September.

A Read-a-thon will begin Sept. 17, so parents should look for information in children's folders. Also, the West Point Elementary and Middle School Picture Day is Sept. 18.

For more information, contact Christina Overstreet, 2012-13 WPS Publicity Chair, at *christina.m.overstreet@gmail.com*.

Book signing

There is a book signing of the new release "When Saturday Mattered Most: The Last Golden Season of Army Football," by author Mark Beech, a 1991 U.S. Military Academy graduate and an editor at Sports Illustrated, from 1-3:30 p.m. Sept. 18 at the Cadet Bookstore, fourth floor of Thayer Hall.

The book chronicles the end of an era, the last season before the surge of professional football began to lure the nation's best young student-athletes away from the military academies.

That fall, Army was the class of the nation and "When Saturday Mattered Most" tells the stirring story of the undefeated 1958 Army football team.

Hispanic Heritage Month Observance

The installation Equal Opportunity Office and the William E. Simon Center for the Professional Military Ethic will be hosting this year's Hispanic Heritage Month Observance from 5-8 p.m. Sept. 25 at the Eisenhower Hall Ballroom.

This year's theme is diversity united, building America's future today. There will be food samplings along with cultural displays, dancing and much more. The event is free.

Points of contact are Capt. Linda Wade, USCC respect officer, at 938-2494 and Master Sgt. Joe Willis, USMA EOA, at 938-7082.

International/Diversity Day Observance

The installation Equal Opportunity Office, Department of Foreign Languages and the William E. Simon Center for the Professional Military Ethic will be hosting this year's International/Diversity Day Observance from 6-9 p.m. Oct. 2 at the Eisenhower Hall Ballroom.

This year's theme is strength through diversity.

The International/Diversity Day Observance is an optional DoD special commemoration/ethnic observance that allows West Point's international cadets and others from across the community the opportunity to share some of their cultures with the Corps of Cadets and the community.

There will be food samplings along with cultural/regional displays, dancing and much more from across the globe. The event is free.

Points of contact are Capt. Linda Wade, USCC respect officer, at 938-2494; Master Sgt. Joe Willis, USMA EOA, at 938-7082; Lt. Col. Linda Emerson, USMA diversity officer, at 938-0508; and Erin Lunday at *erin.lunday1@us.army.mil*.

Keller Corner

TRICARE Prime Enrollment Fee Increase

On Oct. 1, TRICARE Prime enrollment fees will increase to $269.28 for individuals and $538.56 for families.

Increases are based on cost of living adjustments and apply to retired servicemembers and their eligible family members.

Survivors and medically retired servicemembers also pay a Prime enrollment fee.

However, their fees remain frozen at the rate in effect when they were classified as survivors or medically retired.

For more information, visit **www.tricare.mil/costs** or call the Keller health benefits advisors at 938-4838.

Hudson Valley Blood Services annual blood drive

The Hudson Valley Blood Services, in conjunction with Keller Army Community Hospital, will conduct their annual blood drive through today in Eisenhower Hall.

Blood collection hours are from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. today. Platelet collections will be at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. today.

There will also be a DoD bone marrow registration table located in the vicinity of the ballroom.

Products from donated units are used in the local area, throughout the United States, in response to worldwide disasters, and donated to military hospitals when required.

Third annual Baby Birthday Bash

If your little one was born at the hospital between the months of April and June, come join us for cake and punch at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the KACH dining facility.

Make sure to bring your little one and lots of stories. RSVP by calling 938-3210.

Help us help those in need

At Keller, we believe that all children should be protected from germs and bacteria. That is why we are hosting an infectious control donation drive for the Newburgh School District.

Through Wednesday, we will be collecting hand sanitizer, facial tissue, antibacterial soap and paper towels in the hospital's main lobby.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

For more information, call 845-938-6791.

Weekly Sudoku by Chris Okasaki, D/EECS

Rules: Fill in the empty cells with the digits 1–9 so that no digit appears twice in the same row, column, or 3-by-3 box.

Difficulty: Medium

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

See SUDOKU SOLUTION, Page 2

NOW SHOWING

Movies playing at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

Friday—The Amazing Spiderman, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday—The Dark Knight Rises, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 7—The Dark Knight Rises, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 8—Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days, PG, 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 8—Total Recall, PG-13, 9:30 p.m.

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

LifeWorks

at Balfour Beatty Communities

• **S'mores Day**—Stop by 126 Washington Road from 3-4:30 p.m. today to indulge in making S'mores from graham crackers, chocolate and marshmallow.

Come and enjoy with the rest of the West Point community.

• **Grandparents' Day crafts**—From 3-4:30 p.m. Sept. 6 at 126 Washington Road, BBC will be making crafts in observance of Grandparents' Day Sept. 9.

Make special gifts from the heart to show your grandparents how much you care.

Register to Jodi Gellman via email to *jgellman@bbcgrp.com* by Tuesday.

• **Day of Observances and Remembrance**—Join BBC from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Sept. 11 at Stony I Park to create patriotic crafts in remembrance of those lost on Sept. 11, 2001.

Register to Jodi Gellman via email to *jgellman@bbcgrp.com* by Sept. 7.

Religious Worship Service Schedule

Academic Year 2012-13

RELIGIOUS SERVICE	DAY	TIME	PLACE	POC/INFO
Assembly of God	Sun.	10 a.m.	134 Old State Rd, Highland Falls	Rev. Wallen/446-0441
Buddhist Meditation	Sun.	7:30 p.m.	Cadet Interfaith Center, Bldg. 147	MACU/938-3316
Church of Christ	Sun.	10:30 a.m.	Cadet Interfaith Center, Bldg. 147	Col. Crawford/938-4247
Bible Study	Tues.	7:15 p.m.	Cadet Interfaith Center, Bldg 147	Col. Crawford
Church of Jesus Christ (LDS)				
Sacrament	Sun.	10 a.m.	Thayer Hall, Room 144	Sgt. 1st Class Sparrow/446-2433
Sunday School/Primary	Sun.	11:20 a.m.	Thayer Hall, Room 444/442	Sgt. 1st Class Sparrow
Priesthood/RS	Sun.	12:10 p.m.	Thayer Hall, Room 444	Sgt. 1st Class Sparrow
Eastern Orthodox	Sun.	10:30 a.m.	St. Martin's Chapel (Cadet Chapel)	MACU/938-3316
Episcopal	Sat.	5 p.m.	Holy Innocents, Highland Falls	Rev. Ferguson/446-2197
	Sun.	10 a.m.	Holy Innocents, Highland Falls	Rev. Ferguson
Gospel Service	Sun.	10:30 a.m.	Robinson Aud, Thayer Hall	CH(Capt.) Eichelberger/938-5965
Jewish Service	Fri.	7 p.m.	Jewish Chapel	CH (Maj.) Soussan/938-2710
Lutheran	Sun.	10:30 a.m.	Old Cadet Chapel	Mrs. Colacicco /938-2226
Muslim	Fri.	noon	Cadet Interfaith Center, Bldg. 147	Prof. Rasheed Hosein, 938-5591
Protestant	Sun.	10:30 a.m.	Cadet Chapel	CH (Col.) Durham/938-3316
Children's Church	Sun.	10:30 a.m.	Cadet Chapel Basement	MACU/938-4106/3412
Genesis (cadet only)	Fri.	noon	USCC Prot Ch's Conf Rm, WH	CH (Capt.) Cheney/938-4246
Protestant	Sun.	10:30 a.m.	Post Chapel	CH (Maj.) Estes/938-2003/3875
Children's Church	Sun.	11 a.m.	Post Chapel Fellowship Hall	CH (Maj.) Estes
Nursery	Sun.	10:30 a.m.	Post Chapel Nursery	CH (Maj.) Estes
Prot Sun School (Nursery-HS &Adult)	Sun.	9-10 a.m.	Thayer Hall, 3rd Floor	CH (Maj.) Fischer/938-7986
Roman Catholic				
Saturday Vigil Mass	Sat.	5:15 p.m.	Most Holy Trinity	MHT/938-8760
Sunday Masses	Sun.	9 a.m./11 a.m.	Most Holy Trinity	MHT/938-8760
Weekday Mass	Mon.-Fri.	12:05 p.m.	Most Holy Trinity Chapel	MHT/938-8760
Confessions	Sat.	4:30 p.m.	Most Holy Trinity	MHT/938-8760
Rel. Ed Classes (Pre-K-Adult)	Sun.	9 a.m.	Thayer Hall, 3rd Floor	Arlene Webb/938-8761
RCIA	Tues.	7 p.m.	Rectory, Most Holy Trinity	Arlene Webb
Sacramental Preparation			Call for information	Arlene Webb
Roman Catholic Cadet Mass	Daily	6:30 a.m.	Washington Hall, Room 5300	Cath Cadet/938-2784
	Sun.	5:15 p.m.	Washington Hall, Room 5300	Cath Cadet/938-2784
Cadet Confirmation	Tues.	7 p.m.	Washington Hall, Room 5300	Arlene Webb

Volleyball finishes second at BK Invitational

By Tracy Nelson
Army Athletic Communications

Senior outside hitter Ariana Mankus' 18 kills, seven of which came in the final two sets, helped to carry Army in a thrilling 3-2 comeback victory over Stony Brook Aug. 25 at Gillis Field House. The win secured second place for the Black Knights at their own season-opening Black Knight Invitational tournament. Indiana took home the title with a 3-0 tournament record.

The teams traded sets throughout the 3-2 match (23-25, 25-21, 19-25, 25-18, 15-13) before the Black Knights rallied from an 8-4 deficit in the fifth frame. Army closed the match on an 11-5 run en route to its second win of the season.

Mankus and junior middle blocker Megan Wilton represented Army on the Black Knights Invitational All-Tournament Team.

"I am so proud of the team's effort and never-quit attitude today," sixth-year coach Alma Kovaci said. "We found ourselves looking at some pretty significant holes and never gave up. Ariana (Mankus) was brilliant in the fifth set, which is when we needed her most. Stony Brook is a tough team and showed it today. We'll build on this weekend and look forward to continuing to grow as we get deeper into non-conference play.

"A sincere congratulations to Indiana on taking home the title," she added. "They came all the way out here and it's nice to head back to Bloomington (Ind.) with some hardware. They are a tremendous team and have a bright future."

Mankus' 18 kills marked a season high and complemented 16 digs for her first double-double of the year. Wilton and junior right side hitter Margaux Jarka totaled 14 kills apiece, while Wilton's .321 hitting percentage was a team best mark.

Sophomore setter Mary Vaccaro finished the weekend with a trio of double-doubles, amassing 47 assists and 14 digs against Stong Brook. Junior libero D.J. Phee rounded out a group of three players to reach double-figure digs with 14.

Stony Brook freshman Melissa Rigo, who also earned All-Tournament Team plaudits, led all players with 22 kills.

In a match that featured 26 ties and 13 lead changes throughout, Stony Brook jumped out to a 1-0 lead with a 25-22 victory in the opening set. The teams played back-and-forth in the early going, but the Seawolves enjoyed an 18-14 lead midway through the action.

The Black Knights stormed back, as a Vaccaro second-hit kill tied the set at 20-20. Three more ties ensued before Stony Brook closed the set on a kill and an Army error.

With sophomore defensive specialist Kristen Smeland at the service line, the Black Knights jumped out to a 7-2 lead in the early stages of set two. Despite Stony Brook inching within three several times, Army maintained the lead throughout the second set and tied the match at 1-1 heading into the break.

Stony Brook collected its most lop-sided victory in the third set, scoring 10 of the final 13 points to win 25-19. A Mankus kill midway through gave the Black Knights a 15-14 lead, which they let slip away in the closing half.

Senior outside hitter Ariana Mankus, about to spike the ball, finished with 18 kills to help Army to a thrilling 3-2 comeback victory over Stony Brook Aug. 25 at Gillis Field House. Mankus was joined by junior middle blocker Megan Wilton on the Black Knights Invitational All-Tournament Team while Army finished 2-1 during the tournament. MIKE STRASSER/PV

The fourth set was all Army down the stretch, as the Black Knights broke a 12-12 tie with a 13-6 run to force a fifth set.

Mankus had a pair of kills during the decisive run, while Army took advantage of untimely Stony Brook errors along the way.

The Black Knights dug themselves into an 8-4 hole as the teams changed sides in the fifth set. Perhaps the change of scenery helped, as Army rattled off 11 of the final 16 points to take the match with a 15-13 fifth-set win. Two of the last three points of the match came thanks to Vaccaro finding Mankus for the kill.

Men's Soccer blanks Air Force 3-0, Boldt stops seven shots

By Christian Anderson
Army Athletic Communications

Sophomore goalkeeper Winston Boldt stopped all seven shots he faced and three Black Knights tallied first-half goals as the Army men's soccer team defeated service academy rival Air Force, 3-0, in the season opener for both teams Aug. 25 at Clinton Field.

More than 2,300 spectators were on hand to witness Army's first victory over the Falcons since posting a 1-0 double overtime decision in 2007.

It also marked the Black Knights' first season-opening win since beginning the 2009 campaign with a 2-1 triumph versus NJIT.

"I'm extremely proud of our guys," Army head coach Russell Payne said. "Their preparation was pretty sharp this week, and they were extremely focused and ready for this game. I thought we had some good moments where we executed, and we had some moments that weren't too pretty. Overall, I believe we showed a lot of maturity out there tonight.

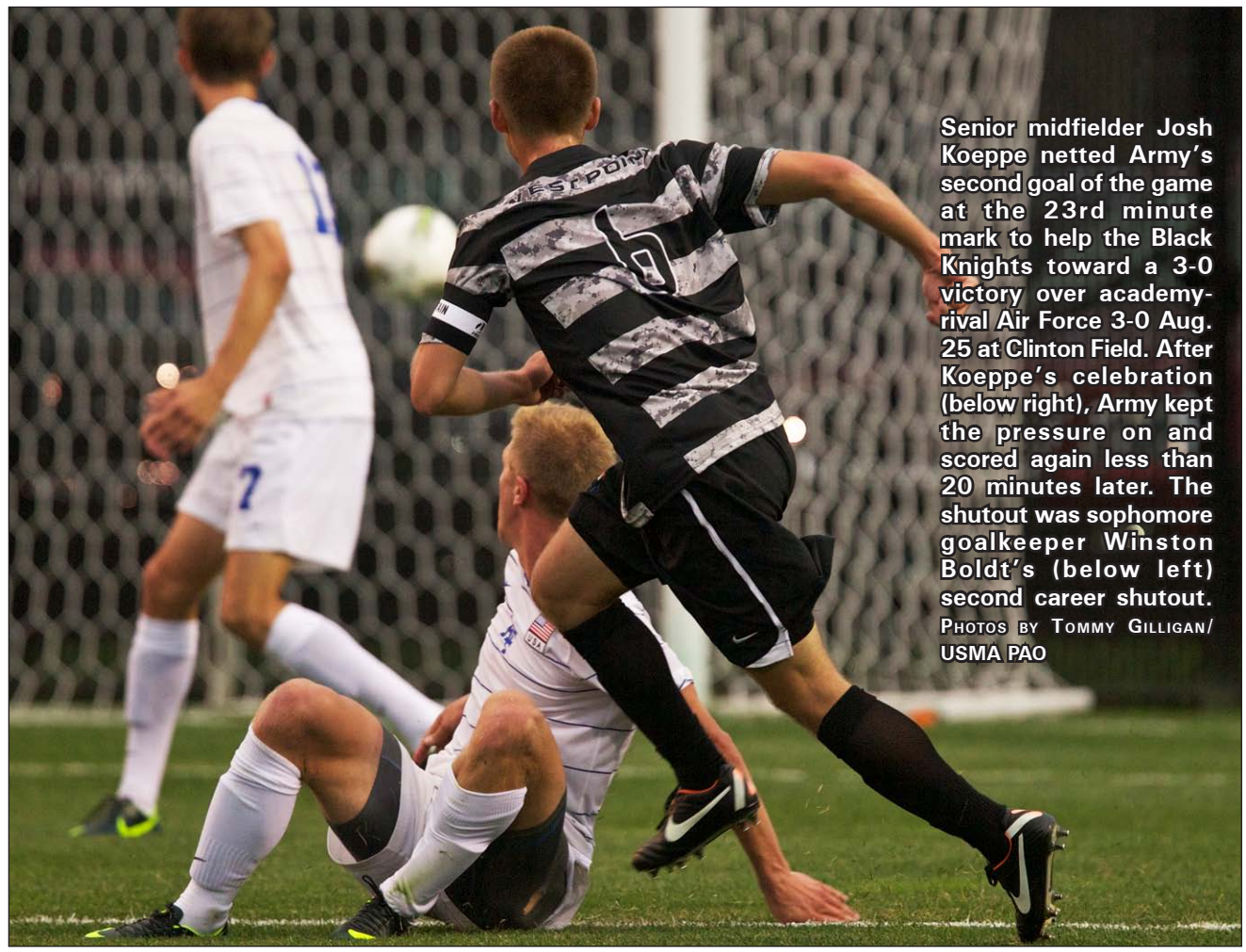
"Air Force is a very good team," Payne added. "They had a good season last year, and a lot of people are expecting big things out of them this year. For our young guys to match them in different parts of the field and grow a little bit as the game went on was good to see."

Air Force (0-1-0) actually carried the play over the first 10 minutes, registering three shots and four corner kicks in the opening 10:31.

The Falcons were unable to capitalize, however, and it was Army that broke on top and seized momentum over the remainder of the half and into the second stanza.

After withstanding Air Force's initial onslaught of offense, the Black Knights (1-0-0) jumped out to a 1-0 advantage when freshman midfielder Parker Dixon converted his first career goal at the 14:22 mark.

The goal materialized following a Falcons' foul on the Army half of the field.



Senior midfielder Josh Koeppe netted Army's second goal of the game at the 23rd minute mark to help the Black Knights toward a 3-0 victory over academy-rival Air Force 3-0 Aug. 25 at Clinton Field. After Koeppe's celebration (below right), Army kept the pressure on and scored again less than 20 minutes later. The shutout was sophomore goalkeeper Winston Boldt's (below left) second career shutout. Photos by Tommy Gilligan/USMA PAO

Sophomore defenseman Tommy Jaeger ignited the play when he lofted the ensuing direct kick from beyond midfield into the penalty area.

Senior forward Trent Brown then chested the ball down to Dixon, who drilled a rocket of a shot past Air Force goalkeeper Matt Underwood.

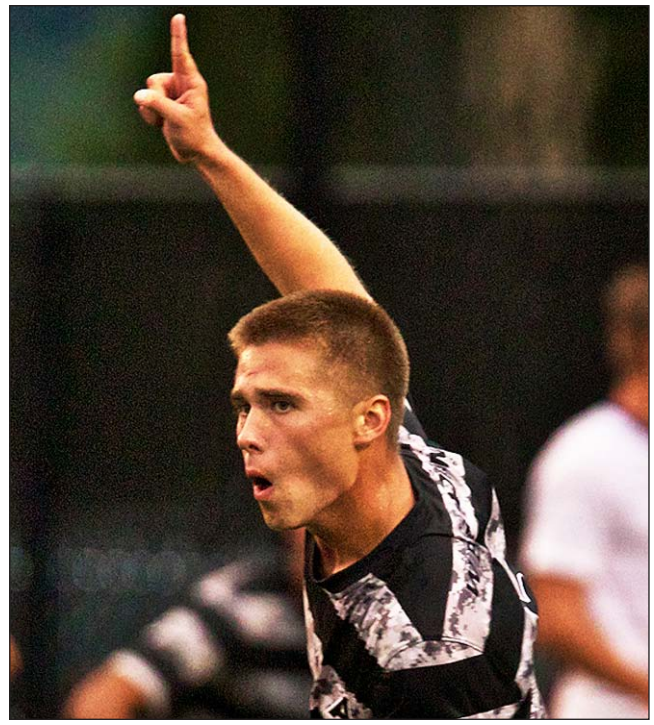
The Black Knights made it 2-0 in the 23rd minute when senior midfielder Josh Koeppe took a feed from classmate Michael Kim off a corner kick, dribbled unguarded near the 18-yard line and ripped a shot from the top of the box into the upper right-hand corner of the cage.

Senior Arnold Chun padded Army's lead just before halftime when he took a long pass from freshman Justin Kim and unleashed a bending shot from 30 yards out.

Underwood, who appeared to have been screened by one of his teammates on the play, was unable to get a hand on the shot, which curled away from the Falcons' keeper and found the back of the net.

The three-goal cushion was more than enough for Boldt, who was masterful throughout the shutout performance. The second-year keeper was forced to make several difficult saves in order to keep Air Force off the scoreboard.

"We came out with a lot of confidence, and those early goals just fed that confidence," Boldt, who recorded his second career shutout, said. "We controlled the pace of the game throughout, and it feels really good. To beat Air Force is special. We had a great crowd here cheering us on tonight, and it means the world to have all of that support. I can't even explain how good it feels right now."



Army outshot Air Force, 14-13, while the Falcons held a 7-1 advantage in corner kicks.