

POINTER VIEW®

Army Baseball
at the NCAA
Regionals Friday in
Charlottesville, Va.

Vol. 69, No. 21

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

MAY 31, 2012



Graduates rejoice

A group of new second lieutenants celebrate after the completion of the Graduation and Commissioning Ceremony May 26 at Michie Stadium. Nearly 1,000 cadets from the Class of 2012, approximately 75 percent of the cadets who entered West Point almost four years ago, graduated. Vice President of the United States Joe Biden delivered the commencement address. See pages 3-6, 8-9 and 13 for related graduation stories and photos. PHOTOS BY ERIC S. BARTELT/PV





First Regiment thankful for Hellcats support throughout year



On May 23, the First Regiment presented the U.S. Military Academy Band Hellcats a certificate of appreciation for their continuous support of the regiment throughout the year. The Hellcats, under the direction of Sgt. Maj. Eric Sheffler, provided musical support to the First Regiment cadets almost daily as they marched to meals in the Mess Hall. The Hellcats enabled the regiment to truly live up to its motto of "First and Proud." (Left) Sgt. Maj. Eric Sheffler accepts the certificate of appreciation from Regimental Commander cadet Joseph Amoroso and Regimental Executive Tactical Officer Maj. Denis Fajardo. The regiment was honored to have their support this academic year. In addition to the certificate of appreciation, each member of the Hellcats was given a First Regiment T-shirt by Cadet Regimental Executive Officer Michael Rocha. (Above) The U.S. Military Academy Band and its field music group, the Hellcats, were present on the Plain to support the Corps of Cadets at the Class of 2012 Graduation Parade May 25.

ABOVE PHOTO BY MIKE STRASSER/PV AND COURTESY PHOTO TO THE LEFT

Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

See SUDOKU PUZZLE, Page 12

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The newly-commissioned officers of the U.S. Military Academy's Class of 2012 celebrate their graduation and commissioning with the traditional hat toss at Michie Stadium May 26.

PHOTO BY MIKE STRASSER/PV

GRADUATION NOTES

- West Point's 972 graduates from the Class of 2012 represent approximately 75 percent of those who entered West Point on Reception Day, June 30, 2008.

- All but two graduates were commissioned as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army. The Class of 2012 had two cadets entering the U.S. Marine Corps.

- This is the U.S. Military Academy's 214th graduating class and the 33rd class to graduate women.

- The graduating class included 12 foreign cadets representing Colombia, El Salvador, Georgia, Taiwan, Jordan, Azerbaijan, Lithuania, Romania, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia and South Korea.

- There were 139 female graduates, 47 African-Americans, 59 Asian/Pacific Islanders, 77 Hispanics and three Native Americans who graduated. The class also had 22 combat veterans.

- The Class of 2012 had graduates from all 50 states.

Class of 2012 joins West Point's Long Gray Line

Graduation, commissioning ceremony marks academy's 214th graduating class

By Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

Thousands gathered at Michie Stadium May 26 to spend part of their Memorial Day weekend at West Point celebrating the graduation and commissioning of 972 members from the Class of 2012.

In his commencement address, Vice President Joe Biden noted the celebration is very much a family affair at the U.S. Military Academy, with 75 members of the Class of 2012 being either the son or daughter of West Point graduates.

"No one is prouder, of course, than your families, and deservedly so," Biden said. "Military service is, by its very nature, as anyone who has ever worn the uniform knows, a family endeavor."

Biden mentioned Cadet Adam Scott, of Lorton, Va., who followed in the footsteps of his two grandfathers, his father, two sisters and a brother—all West Point graduates.

"The same goes for Cadets Brian and Larry LoRusso, two lacrosse stars from Rocky Point, N.Y., who are celebrating with

us today as is their brother, 1st Lt. Kevin LoRusso, Class of 2009, and another brother Capt. Nick LoRusso, Class of 2007, who is watching as I speak all the way from Bagram Air Force Base in Afghanistan," he said.

Many cadets took the time between arriving at Michie Stadium and gathering at the Foley Athletic Center an hour before walking on stage to calm their nerves and reflect on their lives at West Point and their future as Army officers.

"I'm very excited," Cadet Pamela Baker from Rochester, Minn., said. "I've been waiting four years for this. I plan on going into the legal program. But first, I'm getting married after graduation to a 2010 graduate and both of us will be going to Hawaii. My fiancée is already stationed there and that will be my first duty station."

Baker said she enjoyed her time here, has made many friends and will miss having her meals cooked for her. Cadet Robert Gryfinski from Saint Charles, Ill., was a little anxious before graduation.

"I am very nervous and excited, but I'll get through it," Gryfinski said. "My first duty station is at Fort Carson, but I am in

engineering so I will first go to Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., to engineering school."

Gryfinski said he is the first one in his family to go into the military.

"I'm not sure if I will make the military a career, but I'm keeping my options open," he said. "I've made great friends and they are the people who help you through the years. It's also the professors, TAC officers and instructors who make West Point."

Parents, friends and relatives attending the graduation were anxious to catch a glimpse of their graduates as they walked to Foley so they could get just one more photo, but the primary emotion shown was pride.

"We are so excited and proud," said Aunt Velma and Uncle Pete Whitlock, who watched their nephew James Lewis from Harrington, Va., graduate.

"He has shown us around West Point," Velma added. "It is so very impressive and beautiful, but the walking is killing me."

Mike Knippel, Class of 1981, was supporting a family friend, the son of a classmate, Hayden Devreill.

"Hayden's father Shane and I have known each other for a long time," Knippel said. "We

went to the same basic training and were in the same company of cadets. Hayden comes from a long line of West Point graduates. His grandfather Art Devreill, Class of 1952, graduated on the same day, May 26, 60 years ago.

"We saw Hayden as a plebe," Knippel added. "It was great coming back to West Point and realize how special this place is—and it brings back memories to our graduation when President Ronald Reagan was the speaker."



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West Point grad earns Mason Award, headed to Yale



Story and photo by Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

Class of 2012 Cadet Anna Stein, surrounded by her family, received the Richard M. Mason Memorial Award May 22 at Keller Army Community Hospital. The Mason Award is given annually to a cadet with the highest grade point average who will be entering medical school.

“We are all very proud of her,” her mom Barbara said. “She is a very hard worker.”

Stein’s hard work paid off during her high school years at the Episcopal Academy in Newton Square, Pa., where she was an Honorary National Merit Scholar, a member of the Cum Laude Society and received the Alumni prize for highest standing in English and in French.

Stein chose just two colleges while in high school, Stanford University in California and West Point.

“My grandfather, Ted Frum, is a Class of 1945 graduate and he influenced me to come to West Point,” Stein said. “He also encouraged me to think about a military career.”

Stein said she was always good in languages and hoped that would help her during her undergraduate years at West Point.

“When I first came to West Point, I wanted to major in Arabic,” Stein said. “I thought it would help in working on an international level. I decided during my plebe year that I wanted to go into medicine although I really can’t pinpoint what it was that helped me make that decision.”

It is a decision she does not regret as she heads to medical school in August at Yale University—on her way to becoming an Army physician.

“I’m in for a long time,” she said. “At this point, I want to specialize in infectious diseases. I went to Africa and learned about the Army’s research in malaria, HIV and gastro-enteric diseases.”

Stein said she will be open to other options because she was told that her interests may change while shadowing physicians in the various medical disciplines. However, it was the shadowing that got her interested in infectious diseases. Her Projects Day research was on malaria growth and inhibition.

“I followed Army physicians when I went to Kenya,” she said. “It was really neat because I got to learn what Africa is doing about malaria.”

While in Kenya, Stein worked at the Global Emerging Infections Surveillance Laboratory, Viral Hemorrhagic Fever Laboratory and the Malaria Drug Resistance Laboratory.

Stein also shadowed physicians at the Army’s premier medical facility, Walter Reed Army Medical Center. While there, she observed cardiology, infectious disease, general surgery, internal medicine and pediatrics.

Stein worked hard at West Point to attain a 4.112 grade point average. She served as a regimental academic officer in 2011, a platoon sergeant accountable for a platoon of approximately 40 cadets, administrative noncommissioned officer and an instructor for the Soldier First Responder course. She is a secretary of the Phi Delta Epsilon Medical Fraternity, an Emergency Medical Technician and was involved in the West Point Crew and Sailing teams, having been recruited during her plebe year to compete as a varsity coxswain.

Class of 2012 Cadet Anna Stein received the Richard M. Mason Memorial Award May 22 at Keller Army Community Hospital, after achieving the highest grade point average among cadets who will enter medical school after graduating from West Point. The newly-commissioned second lieutenant will be attending Yale University in August.

Last of the LoRusso brothers graduate West Point

Story and photo by Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

Larry Sr. and Elizabeth LoRusso from Long Island watched as the last of their four sons graduated from West Point May 26 and

proudly pinned second lieutenant bars on Brian and Larry LoRusso at the Firstie Club, surrounded by the West Point Lacrosse team, family and friends.

All four were lacrosse players while at West Point, a tradition started when their

Aunt Margaret presented all four with lacrosse sticks as holy communion gifts.

“We were always a sporty family,” Elizabeth said. “The children played soccer, T-Ball, basketball, went into wrestling and football, but lacrosse became their favorite sport.”

Brian and Larry LoRusso graduated with the Class of 2012 and celebrated commissioning with their two older brothers there—more or less.

Class of 2009 graduate 1st Lt. Kevin

LoRusso was able to fly from Germany to support his younger brothers and Capt. Nick LoRusso, Class of 2007 graduate, was there via video teleconference from Afghanistan for their oath.

“I knew it was in the works to have my brother Nick here with the VTC,” Brian said. “This is huge and so great to have all of my brothers here for our bar pinning and to have my family here. They are like my best friends.”

See **LORUSSO BROTHERS**, Page 6



Larry and Elizabeth LoRusso (far left and right) celebrate with their sons, 2nd Lts. Larry and Brian LoRusso, at the Firstie Club May 26. Also in the photo are 1st Lt. Kevin LoRusso (second from the right), who flew in from Germany to be with his brothers, and Capt. Nick LoRusso (on screen) who administered the commissioning oath to his brothers from Afghanistan via video teleconference.

The Mentor Down the Road ...

World War II veteran renders proud salute to '12 graduate

Story and photo by Mike Strasser
Assistant Editor

There are three things 2nd Lt. Kevin Rutherford inherited from his father that mean the world to him.

There's the pair of Airborne wings Jan Rutherford once wore and pinned on his son's uniform upon completion of jump school, which Kevin completed nearly 30 years to the day after his father had earned them.

The second is the lieutenant bars his father had worn and presented to Kevin after graduating from West Point May 26 as a newly-commissioned officer.

But long before that Jan introduced Kevin to George Callahan, his former neighbor and mentor.

George is a retired Army officer and war veteran who became a lifetime friend of the Rutherfords. George had often provided sage advice to Jan, and years later Kevin would inherit his father's mentor.

George served under many West Point officers in his 30-year career from a young private to a seasoned chief warrant officer. Accompanied by his wife Trudy and daughter Kathy, this was George's first visit to the academy. He said the first officer he saluted following basic training on June 26, 1940, was Col. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. However, the salute rendered to Kevin following Saturday's ceremony, he said, would be the most meaningful.

"It's the highlight of my Army career to see Kevin graduate from West Point. Kevin is like a grandson to me," George, 90, said.

George had previously attended Kevin's high school graduation and they kept in touch during the cadet's 47-month stay at West Point.

"He's become a great mentor to me," Kevin said. "We

managed to stay in touch while I was here. He has an incredible life story. He has given me a lot of good advice—the same he had shared with my dad when he was my age."

George's advice is practical, and both Kevin and Jan have said they've benefitted by its simple wisdom: learn to work with everybody, but don't expect to be everybody's friend, so choose your friends carefully. Also, when times are bad, take it day-by-day, then hour-by-hour and even moment-by-moment.

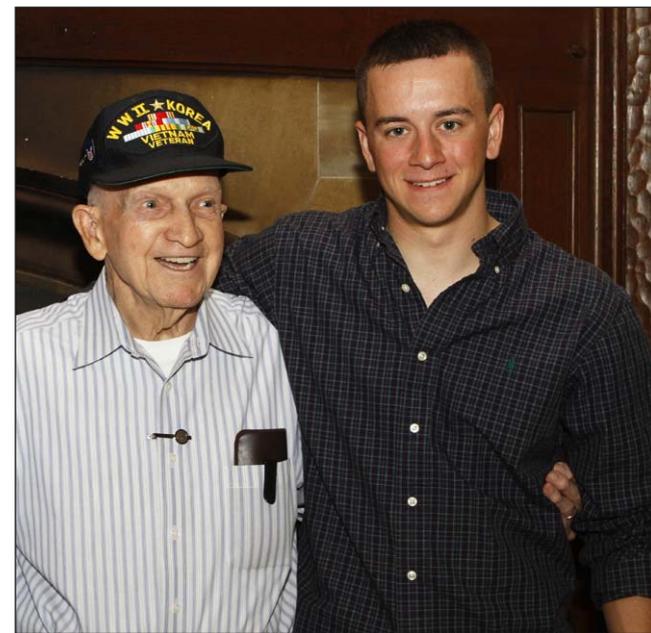
The latter Kevin had put to practice almost from the beginning at West Point. During that crucial transition phase from civilian to cadet called Beast Barracks, Kevin quickly learned how important it was not to only work with other new cadets, but to endure every challenge one day at a time.

"You just try to get through each day the best you can," Kevin said. "Eventually, it seems the weeks go by really quickly, but the days are long."

Kevin also applied the lessons of mentorship and leadership as a three-year member of the West Point Cycling Team.

"It was a great experience being able to develop myself as an athlete, and developing myself as a leader among peers," Kevin said. "You learn how to endure a lot of suffering from all the races and the conditions during those races were not always fun."

See NEIGHBOR/MENTOR, Page 6



George Callahan made his first visit to West Point to attend the graduation and commissioning of 2nd Lt. Kevin Rutherford from the Class of 2012.

NEIGHBOR/MENTOR, cont'd from Page 5

This year, Kevin assembled a Cyclocross team to compete in Nationals and placed third. The course is all off-road and the conditions are rough enough where there are often several crashes in the mud.

“For a team that had never competed in that style of racing before, I was really happy with the results,” Kevin said. “It was a great experience.”

It’s hard to imagine a 5-year-old already committed to military service, but the story among the Rutherfords is that Kevin was influenced at that age by a documentary he saw on television about military academies. Jan said every Halloween Kevin would dress as a soldier. But his admiration of the military wasn’t only about the uniform. When he was in third grade, Kevin began an annual bake sale to raise funds for the World War II Memorial and later the Special Operations Warrior Foundation.

It also came as no surprise to the Rutherfords when Kevin chose to study military history at West Point.

“Kevin has been a history prodigy since he was a little kid,” Jan said. “I was attracted to the Army because of the concepts of self-reliance. Kevin is attracted to the Army because of the history—he gets the context beyond his years.”

As a history buff, it was only natural for Kevin to want to learn from George’s experience.

“Kevin’s experience with George has been nearly identical with mine, but Kevin can appreciate George’s service even more because Kevin knows—really knows—the history,” Jan said.

A MENTOR’S HISTORY

George was an 18 year-old high school graduate, stood 5-feet, seven inches tall, weighed 115 pounds and needed a filling

in his tooth. It was 1940 and he decided to enlist in the Army—but not until he got that tooth fixed, the recruiter told him. It was competitive before the war and recruiters were very selective, George said.

George enlisted as a private in the Signal Corps at a time when no one believed the U.S. would be entering the war in Europe. As the nation was still recovering from the depression, it was apparent to him during basic training the Army was suffering from a lack of funding and supplies. During marksmanship training, George said Soldiers would go downrange and pick out the lead from the ground to recycle.

He was the first of four brothers to enlist and the others followed after the war started. On Dec. 7, 1941, George remembers being in The Strand Theatre when the movie was interrupted and all servicemembers were told to report back to their units.

“I went to the Holland Tunnel (in New York City), talked to the policeman on duty and asked him to check with people going toward Fort Monmouth (N.J.)—we looked for an M on the license plates (Monmouth County) and he stopped a car for me. I went to Fort Monmouth and was a drill sergeant and supply sergeant there. I had two jobs—each company would train its own men at that time, so you would have extra duties. Later, that system was outgrown, so there were bigger training camps like Fort Dix. When the draft started, they needed people to train the incoming troops, which is how I got to be a drill sergeant.”

From there, George would report to Camp Crowder, Mo., to stand up the new 821st Signal Wire Operations Service Company. He was stationed there for two years.

“I figured I wanted to ship out of there to go with the overseas units, so I took a

reduction in rank (from Tech Sgt. to Staff Sgt.) and I shipped out for the South Pacific,” George said. “I got my rank back in Hawaii when they formed up a new company. We didn’t know at the time exactly why they were there, but President (Franklin D.) Roosevelt, Gen. (Douglas) MacArthur and Adm. (Chester) Nimitz reviewed the troops.”

George was in charge of battalion supply in the Pacific and served as one of the youngest master sergeants at the age of 23 when he received the promotion in Saipan.

“We were getting ready to go for the invasion of Japan when the bomb was dropped,” George said.

At the end of the war, George had enough points to rotate back to the States, but he volunteered instead to stay in Europe. In 1946, while stationed in Germany, he met his future wife on a blind date.

He told her that he was a “30-year man,” and if she wasn’t interested in a career Soldier, the relationship wouldn’t last. They married in August 1948 and will soon celebrate their 64th anniversary.

In March 1951, George became a warrant officer and was in Korea by year’s end.

“When we got on the train from Pusan to Seoul, there was no heat and broken windows,” George said. “I had two canteens and they both froze. I went to the east central front. We had Signal units spread around in different positions. One of them was to direct Navy gunfire.”

Eventually, George would re-branch from Signal to Infantry and served with the 2nd Infantry Division, 37th Field Artillery. Among his career accolades, George completed Airborne School at the age of 42.

“I went through jump school with my entire battalion; it was the 187th Infantry,”

George said. “The Army started the 11th Air Assault test division at Fort Benning. This was a brand new concept and had never been tried before. Gen. John J. Hennessey was our battalion commander. We went to jumpmaster school together and were partners for our night jump. As soon as the unit proved this was a practical form of warfare, we put on our 1st Cav/Airborne patch and were sent to Vietnam in 1965. I served in the Central Highlands, An Khe and Pleiku. The 1st Cav was the first full-size division sent to the Central Highlands.”

It was only a few years after his retirement when Chief Warrant Officer 4 George Callahan met 17-year-old Jan Rutherford. Jan’s short, thin stature did little to diminish his determination to enlist, go to jump school and take the Special Forces Qualification Course, as he would later account in his book, “The Littlest Green Beret.”

Jan was barely 19 years old when he earned his green beret and said George’s encouragement was instrumental throughout his career.

“George was extremely positive and motivating and I found myself saying that I wanted to be like him,” Jan said. “I still do.”

George subscribed to the caveats of “Lead by example” and “Lead from the front.” This meant never asking of a subordinate to do what he couldn’t also do himself.

Even in the most stressful conditions, George said a leader should never ask a Soldier to advance into harm’s way unless that leader is willing to take the same step forward. This is the advice he provided to Jan and later to Kevin, who will attend the Infantry Basic Officer Leader Course at Fort Benning, Ga., this summer, and has his sights set on Ranger School soon after.

LORUSSO BROTHERS, cont'd from Page 4

Grandfather John LoRusso said he has been to all his grandsons’ graduations and has supported them on their deployments.

“I recently sent a 42-pound and a 23-pound package to Nick,” John said. “My dad sent salami to me once in World War II in bread cut lengthwise. It’s the least I can do for my grandsons.”

The video conference came about after Larry Sr. attempted to find out if his oldest son could come home for the graduation and commissioning.

“I wasn’t aware that Nick attempted to do the same thing,” John said. “It wasn’t possible as Nick hadn’t been in Afghanistan for very long, but we were able to get the

video conference set up.”

Kevin is stationed in Germany and will be leaving shortly for Fort Sill in Lawton, Okla., but was very happy he could get leave to support his brothers.

“This is an awesome experience,” Kevin said. “It’s great being back and I’m just glad I could get back for this.”

Brian and Larry seemed to take this all in stride, receiving hugs and kisses from all family members in attendance.

“My brothers shed the light of West Point and I fell in love with it once I was here,” Brian said. “It was tough, but when I saw my first graduation, I knew it would all be worth it.”

—GRADUATION DAY QUOTABLES—

West Point Class of 2012

SMILES



Vice President Joe Biden and Superintendent Lt. Gen. David H. Huntoon Jr. at the Class of 2012 Graduation Ceremony May 26.

PHOTO BY TOMMY GILLIGAN/USMA PAO

In his final address to the Class of 2012 as cadets, Superintendent Lt. Gen. David H. Huntoon Jr. took them back to the beginning—Reception Day, June 30, 2008—when they took their initial oath of service to the Constitution of the United States and began their 47-month journey through West Point.

"Since then, you have met every challenge to become the leaders of character that our Army and our nation must have in these perilous times," Huntoon said to the graduating class. "On this day you will assume the mantle of commissioned officer leadership. You will accept the responsibility and the privilege of leading Soldiers."

The education and training at West Point has prepared the Class of 2012 for the challenges ahead, Huntoon assured all in attendance at Michie Stadium.

"In your service you may encounter mortal danger, disappointment, and tough ethical challenges. But you will deal with all of those challenges in the same way that the United States Military Academy graduates have done since 1802—with a steadfast commitment to the values of West Point, all in accordance with the enduring leadership values of our United States Army."

"We could not be prouder of your past success or more confident of your bright future."

Vice President Joe Biden, in delivering the commencement address, spoke of highly of the motto adopted by the Class of 2012: "For More than Ourselves."

"Just imagine what this world would be if it adopted that same notion. You have."

The statement that made instant headlines was in reference to this generation of leaders:

"Every cadet passing through these halls; every hapless plebe rubbing General Sedgwick's spurs for good luck; every firstie forged through this crucible called West Point; everyone who ever touched the George C. Marshall plaque in the stadium and thought, when the time comes, I'll be ready for that mission, whatever it might be; every single generation that has preceded you at West Point has faced daunting challenges upon receiving its commissions, especially in times of war. But your generation, the 9/11 Generation, is more than worthy of the proud legacy that you will inherit today."



Cadets form a line in front of the dais before receiving their diplomas from Vice President Joe Biden and other presenters at Michie Stadium. This year, 972 cadets received their diplomas and commissioned as second lieutenants.



The Class of 2012 remove their covers, raise their right hands and recite the commissioning oath administered by the Commandant of Cadets Brig. Gen. Theodore Martin following the graduation ceremony May 26.



(Left) Cadet Andrew Rodriguez leads cadets into Michie Stadium during the March On at the beginning of the Class of 2012 graduation ceremony. Rodriguez, from Alexandria, Va., was among the top 10 honor graduates this year and also a recipient of the Army Athletic Association Trophy, the General Creighton W. Abrams Memorial Award, the Brigadier General Clifton Carter Memorial Award and the Lieutenant General Garrison H. Davidson Award. The former member of the Army Football Team was also a 2012 recipient of the Mike Krzyzewski Teaching Character Through Sport Award. (Right) Members of the Class of 2012 wore their cadet uniforms for the last time at the graduation ceremony at Michie Stadium. Afterward, they donned their Army service uniforms and joined their families, friends and invited guests throughout West Point for bar-pinning ceremonies. There, the commissioning oath was administered by tactical officers or military family members to the newly-commissioned second lieutenants.

Photos courtesy of the U.S. Military Academy Public Affairs Office. View our Class of 2012 graduation gallery on Flickr at www.flickr.com/photos/west_point/.



Often, our cameras capture cadets at moments when they are focused entirely on the task at hand—whether that be academics, military training or athletic endeavors. We don't see the lighter side of cadet life much, so the Class of 2012 graduation provided the perfect opportunity to show them celebrating with a smiles.

— The Pointer View Staff



FMWR Blurbs

Wee Ones Play Group

The Wee Ones Play Group has new summer hours from 10:30-11:30 a.m. starting Monday. The group will meet every Monday through the summer.

Wee Ones is open to parents with children birth-4 years old and meets at the Lee Area CDC at Buckner Loop.

For more information, call Shelley Ariosto at 938-3369.

Part-time ACS contracted position open

The Relocation Readiness Program is accepting resumés of persons interested in a seven-week (Monday-July 20) part-time position.

The successful applicant will assist with the West Point Community Fair.

Interested applicants are encouraged to send their resumé to Monica Orecchio at monica.orecchio@usma.edu.

AFTB Indoor Wacky Olympics

The Indoor Wacky Olympics is a fun-filled family event that is presented by ACS' Army Family Team Building from 4:30-6:30 p.m. June 8.

Free indoor style Olympics games, crafts, hot dogs, popcorn and a make-your-own ice-cream sundae station will be available at the event.

Registration is required.

For more information, call Amy-Jo Johnson at 938-5654.

FMWR Outdoor Recreation swim season opening soon

The FMWR Outdoor Recreation swim season opens soon. Delafield Pond opens for the season June 8. The hours of operation are 11 a.m.-6 p.m. daily.

Round Pond Beach will be open from noon-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday.

Round Pond opens for the full season starting June 8. The hours of operation are 11 a.m.-5 p.m. daily.

For more information, call 938-5158.

Army Birthday Celebration

Join ACS from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. June 14 at Buffalo Soldier Field for a fun-filled Army Birthday-style picnic.

There will be free food and activities for the children.

RSVP by June 8 to 938-5653 with family name and number of people attending.

Flag Day 5K

The FMWR Fitness Center is conducting a Flag Day 5K June 16 at the West Point Commissary with registration at 7 a.m. and shotgun start at 8 a.m.

Pre-registration begins Wednesday at the FMWR Fitness Center.

Cost of the race is one FMWR Fitness Center coupon. Cadets can register for free, but must register.

The first 90 people to pre-register receive a free T-shirt. Awards will be given to the most patriotic costume.

For more information, call 938-6490.

Father's Day Brunch at the West Point Club

Enjoy the West Point Club's traditional Father's Day Brunch from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. June 17 in the Pierce Dining Room.

Members receive a 10 percent discount.

Spouses of deployed military members and their children receive a special discount too.

To make reservations, call 938-5120.

Post Library Summer Reading Program

This summer's theme for the West Point Library Summer Reading Program is "Reading is so Delicious."

The program runs from June 18-July 27.

It is open to all West Point community children ages 3-12.

Registration runs June 6-15.

To register your child, stop by the library at Bldg. 622 or call 938-2974.

TRICARE questions

Got questions? We have answers. Come to the West Point Education Center for an open TRICARE Question and Answer session.

All sessions begin at 3:30 p.m. The sessions are scheduled for June 21, July 11 and Aug. 23.

TRICARE Health Benefits Advisors provide individual service and can answer your questions and assist you with TRICARE issues.

For more information, call 845-938-4838.

Round Pond reservations

The Round Pond Recreation Area is now open for the season. Round Pond's hours of operation are 8 a.m.-6 p.m., seven days a week.

To make reservations or for more information, call 845-938-2503.

West Point Auto now offering NYS motorcycle safety inspections

West Point Auto is excited to offer New York State motorcycle safety inspections starting Tuesday.

Call 938-2074 to schedule an appointment.

A message from FMWR Outdoor Recreation

FMWR Outdoor Recreation is currently taking a hard look at all its options for this upcoming season when it comes to boats being placed on area lakes.

Currently, it's looking at data from previous years on usage for every lake that had numerous boats docked at them.

Outdoor Recreation is trying to come up with some reasonable solutions that work for everyone that would allow for a reduction of

boats, but would still allow usage at various lakes.

The biggest obstacles are that FMWR has lost personnel and funding to maintain these boats on nine different lakes throughout West Point proper.

Check back with FMWR periodically for possible changes by calling 938-2503.

NEW INFO

TaylorMade Demo Day

Go to the West Point Golf Course range from 4-7 p.m. today to try the latest TaylorMade products and receive 10 percent off all TaylorMade/Adidas products.

Enter to win a TaylorMade Putter, show up and your name goes in the bucket. Purchase TaylorMade/Adidas products and receive additional ticket entries.

The drawing will be held at the end of the demo day and you do not need to be present to win.

For more information, call 938-2435.

Father's Day sale at the West Point Arts and Crafts Shop

The West Point Arts and Crafts Shop is honoring all fathers with 30 days of savings at the Arts and Crafts Center between Friday-June 30.

There will be 30 percent off framing classes, 30 percent off custom framing, 15 percent off ceramic painting and 70 percent off selected moulding in stock.

For more information, call 938-4812.

Army Family Team Building online challenge

Complete the Army Family Team Building's Level I, II and III online training between June 8-Aug. 8 and receive a free AFTB Polo shirt and coffee mug (while supplies last).

To collect your prize, bring in your certificates to ACS, Bldg. 622, before Aug. 9.

The challenge kickoff will be held from 4:30-6:30 p.m. June 8 at ACS.

To get started with the online training, visit myarmyonesource.com. To get more information, call 938-5654/4621.

Coping with Deployment Course

The ACS Mobilization and Deployment program presents its Coping with Deployment Course from 8 a.m.-noon July 25 at ACS, Bldg. 622.

This course provides hands-on tools to help families cope with deployments and teaches adults how to support children as a result of changes they may experience due to a deployment of a family member.

For more information or to register, call 938-3487.

Reconnecting with Children

The ACS Mobilization and Deployment program presents its Reconnecting with

Children event from 2-4 p.m. July 25 at ACS, Bldg. 622.

This workshop offers an opportunity to help the participants build on their personal strengths and increase their ability to address the issues of children's adjustment to the return of a military family member following a deployment.

For more information or to register for this class, call 938-3487.

Summer trips with Leisure Travel Services

Join Leisure Travel Services this summer for local trips and leave the driving to us. Here are some upcoming summer events:

- Experience the 34th annual NYC Museum Mile Festival, June 12. Leave West Point at 4 p.m. and return at 10 p.m.;

- Coney Island Mermaid Parade, June 23. Leave West Point at 10:30 a.m. and return at 5 p.m.;

- The Crayola Factory in Easton, Pa., July 10. Leave West Point at 9 a.m. and return at 3 p.m.;

- New York Philharmonic Orchestra on the Great Lawn, July 12. Leave West Point at 5 p.m. and return at 11 p.m.;

- N.Y. Aquarium and Coney Island Brooklyn trip, July 24. Leave West Point at 8 a.m. and return at 4 p.m.

All trips include transportation only.

For more information, call 938-3601.

Command Channel 8/23

May 31-June 7

Army Newswatch
Today, Friday and Monday through
June 7

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

POINTER VIEW

If you have a story idea to share or a story and photos you want considered for publication in the *Pointer View*, contact Managing Editor Eric S. Bartelt at 938-2015 or email at eric.bartelt@usma.edu.

What's Happening

HMS Bounty at Newburgh Landing

The HMS Bounty arrives at Newburgh Landing from Friday-Sunday. Tours are scheduled from 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. each day for a small fee.

The HMS Bounty sailed in the movie "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest" as the Edinburgh Trader ship.

The West Point Steel Band will perform at the Newburgh Waterfront from 5-6:30 p.m. Saturday.

There will also be films showing at the Downing Film Center (19 Front Street) that relate to the HMS Bounty.

For more information, visit www.cityofnewburgh-ny.gov.

RiverFest 2012

The Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson will host its 15th annual RiverFest from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday at Donahue Park.

RiverFest 2012 will feature a full day of music and entertainment, children's activities and a large craft and food fair. The day's events also include live bands, river activities, food stands and non-profit groups and contributors. There is no charge for RiverFest.

For the latest information on RiverFest, visit www.riverfest.com.

Man's Ruin Roller Derby

Man's Ruin Roller Derby is Orange County's only roller derby league. On Sunday, it is hosting a game against the Freedom Belles at The Castle in Chester.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the game starts at 6 p.m.

Children 2 and under are free and there is a 10 percent discount for anyone with a military ID.

Every game there is money raised for a charity through a halftime Tomato Toss game.

At this event, the league wants to honor the military and the money raised will be donated to the West Point Soldier and Family Assistance Center.

For more information, call Samantha Hoffman at 845-548-1977.

Also, anyone who brings this announcement to the merchandise table at the game will receive a free raffle ticket for a chance to win a Man's Ruin Roller Derby gift set.

West Point ACAP office closed

The West Point Army Career and Alumni Program office will be closed June 13-15 and will reopen June 18.

Any ACAP questions can be directed to Rachel Coleman, Army Career and Alumni Program counselor, at 938-0634.

Sail on the Tall Ship Unicorn

Girls ages 13-18 can sail the Hudson on the 110-foot tall ship Unicorn with Sisters Under Sail June 16.

For more information, contact Dawn Santamaria at 908-713-1808 or email dawn@sistersundersail.org.

To learn more about Sisters Under Sail, visit www.sistersundersail.org.

Children's Day at the New Windsor Cantonment

A fun-filled day of family entertainment is scheduled for Father's Day from 1-4 p.m. June 17 at the New Windsor Cantonment.

A Children's Day will feature a Two by Two petting zoo, 18th century games and magician Mr. Bayly, who performs at 1:30 and 3:15 p.m.

Admission is free. For more information, call 845-561-1765, ext. 22. The New Windsor Cantonment is located on Route 300 (374 Temple Hill Road) in the Town of New

Windsor, four miles east of Stewart Airport.

Town of Highlands Farmer's Market

The Town of Highlands Farmer's Market opens June 24 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., and continues through October in the municipal parking lot on Main Street across from Sacred Heart Church. The market will feature vegetables, fruit and plants grown by local farmers, as well as locally made breads, cheese, jams, jellies and craft products.

For more information, suggestions and comments, contact Olga Anderson at 917-509-1200 or westpointfarmersmarket@yahoo.com.

Volunteers needed as host families

The Directorate of Admissions is searching for volunteer families for Class of 2016 international candidates from June 27-July 2.

For more information, contact Maj. Mark McClellan, international admissions officer, at 938-5717 or email mark.mcclellan@usma.edu.

Club activities for middle and high school students

Calling all middle and high school students at West Point, come enjoy the best week of your life at a YoungLife camp this summer.

The middle school camp takes place July 7-11 at North Bay Adventure Camp, Md. The high school camp is scheduled for July 22-28 at Saranac Lake, N.Y. Both camps come with a cost.

Contact Bekah Siau, Interim Club Beyond Director, for more information on camp and weekly Club Beyond events at BSiau@clubbeyond.com.

Visit YoungLife.org for more information on Young Life Club Beyond.

Free Computer Training

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

The courses include Microsoft Office 2007 software such as Outlook, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access and SharePoint 2010. Other courses offered are Computer Hardware and Software Orientation and a Keyboard Typing Skills Lab.

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

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

For more information, call Thomas Gorman at 938-1186 or send an email to Thomas.Gorman@usma.edu. For course dates, go to the IETD Course Calendar at <http://usma-portal/dean/staff/ietd/training/Pages/default.aspx>.

Second Infantry Division Reunion

The Second (Indianhead) Division Association is searching for anyone who has ever served in the 2nd Infantry Division at any time.

For information about the national association and its annual reunion in Reno, Nev., from Aug. 23-27, visit www.2ida.org or contact the association's secretary-treasurer, Bob Haynes, at 2idahq@comcast.net or call 224-225-1202.

West Point Community Diving Club

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

All ages and experience levels are welcome.

The ability to swim is a prerequisite.

Lessons are offered from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday,

Wednesday and Friday and from 11 a.m.-noon Saturday. There are also noon-1 p.m. and 1-2 p.m. Saturday lessons when available.

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

2012 Army Summer Sports Camps

This summer the following sports camps will be held at West Point: boys and girls basketball, track and field, distance/cross country, co-ed diving, hockey, boys lacrosse, boys and girls soccer, softball, sprint football team camp, co-ed swimming, co-ed tennis, co-ed volleyball and boys wrestling.

For more information or to register, call 845-446-5007, ext. 119, or visit www.goarmysports.com for more camp specific information.

NEW INFO

James I. O'Neill High School Class of 2012 Senior Bash

James I. O'Neill seniors, sign up now for the Senior Bash.

The bash is a celebration immediately following the June 21 graduation ceremony.

The event includes a 2 1/2-hour river cruise, then on to JIOHS for food, games, raffles and a Grand Prize drawing.

Registration forms are available in the JIOHS main office and on the JIOHS website/Class of 2012 link. There is a cost; however, it is cheaper if you sign up by June 15.

For more information, call Lisa Lachance at 845-857-4910 or email lachance6@earthlink.net.

Wings of Hope: The Berlin Airlift concert

The Wings of Hope: The Berlin Airlift concert is scheduled for 7 p.m. June 16 and 4 p.m. June 17 at the Andy Murphy Neighborhood Center, 467 Broadway, in Kingston.

Concert performers include Ars Choralis, Big Blue Big Band, Narrator Jim Ulrich and Chester and Linda Freeman from Got2Lindy Studio.

The concert tells the story of the first humanitarian effort carried out by air, a story of a city rescued from starvation and restored to dignity and of hatred turned to respect and admiration.

It is told in words and music; the words of the people who lived it and the music that carried the country through the World War II years and beyond. It is a story that resonates with Hurley, N.Y., resident Richard Clark, who served as a communications mechanic in the Airlift and will be in attendance at the concert.

His experiences will be included in the concert dialogue along with those of commanding officers, pilots, ground crews, wives who were left on the home front and people living in Berlin.

For more information, contact Barbara Pickhardt at barbara@bennedum.org or 845-679-8172.

Free admission to Boscobel House and Gardens

Active duty military and their families can enjoy free admission at the Boscobel House and Gardens, located on 9D in Garrison, N.Y., plus more than 1,500 other museums nationwide from Memorial Day until Labor Day 2012 through the Blue Star Museums program.

Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment of the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense and museums across America.

For a complete list of participating museums, visit www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums. For more information, visit Boscobel.org or call 845-265-3638.

Keller Corner

Beat the summer rush—get your child’s school and sports physical now

Starting Monday, the Primary Care Department will begin offering school and sports physicals.

Call 845-938-7992 or 800-552-2907 to request an appointment for a school or sports physical and save the summer for vacation fun.

Third Party Collection Program: May I see your yellow card please?

Have you ever wondered why you have to show your yellow card so many times when you come to KACH for an appointment?

All patients are required to disclose other health insurance by completing DD Form 2569 annually, or whenever there is a

change in insurance status. Patients receive an OHI disclosure (yellow) card in exchange for completing the DD Form 2569.

Patients coming for care at Keller should expect to be asked to present their DOD Identification and Privileges Card and OHI disclosure card whenever they check in to receive medical services in all reception areas, clinics, laboratory, radiology and pharmacy.

The Third Party Collection Program was legislated by Congress under Title 10 U.S. Code 1095 in 1986. It obligates Department of Defense Military Treatment Facilities to bill private health insurance carriers for the cost of medical care furnished to retirees and all family members covered by their own private health insurance policies.

We understand your frustration and apologize for any inconvenience you may experience.

However, we would like to thank you for your cooperation with our efforts to increase revenue recovery under the Third Party Collection Program.

All proceeds collected from insurance payments under the Third Party Collection Program are directly reinvested to increase and enhance the healthcare services delivered to all of KACH beneficiaries.

Join the Keller Healthy Thursday Challenge

This week’s challenge: Out with the old and in with the new. Check the expiration dates on your medications and replace any expired ones this week.

If you are like a lot of people, you probably have medicines stuffed in your medicine cabinet that you’ve forgotten about.

Medications begin losing their effectiveness after their expiration date and could cause you more harm than good if taken after their expiration date.

Ensure your future health and wellness by looking through your medications and replacing the expired ones.

Be sure to properly dispose of the old medication.

Look online or ask your pharmacist if you’re not sure how to dispose of your medication.

NOW SHOWING

in the movie theater at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

Friday—Wrath of the Titans, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday—Pirates: Band of Misfits, PG, 7:30 p.m.

THE THEATER SCHEDULE ALSO CAN BE FOUND AT

WWW.SHOPMYEXCHANGE.COM

Weekly Sudoku by Chris Okasaki, D/EECS

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

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

See SUDOKU SOLUTION, Page 2

Difficulty: Medium

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



CAR SEAT CHECK



Being a great parent could save your child’s life!

Have your child safety seats checked by Child Passenger Safety Technicians

Wednesday, June 6
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Fire Station 2
1203 Stony Lonesome Rd

Sponsored by the West Point Fire Department, the Orange County Traffic Safety Program & New York State Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee

SHARP

Response Team

24/7 Sexual Assault Response Coordinators

- Shelley Ariosto, Garrison: 914-382-8041;
- Maj. Missy Rosol, USCC: 845-401-3476;
- Lt. Col. Linda Emerson, Diversity Officer: 845-590-1249;
- Dr. Stephanie Marsh, USMAPS: 845-938-1950.

Support or More Information

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

24/7 Victim Advocacy

- Dan Toohey, Installation: 914-382-8180;
- Dr. Donna Wiener-Levy, Center for Personal Development: 845-591-7215;
- On-call Behavioral Health: 845-938-4004;
- Duty Chaplain: 845-401-8171.

PL championship and graduation ends whirlwind week

Story and photos by
Eric S. Bartelt
Managing Editor

The now second lieutenant members of the Army baseball team may never have another week quite like the one they just lived. Graduating from one of the premier institutions in the country is a great feat on its own, but add winning the Patriot League championship within the same time period—that's putting the proverbial cherry on top of the 'week that was' for them.

Reflecting on the beginning of the week, from Sunday through Tuesday (May 20-22), the seven seniors who were playing regularly (nine total graduated) participated in an evenly contested best-of-three game series versus Holy Cross.

After splitting the first two games, the third game took two days to play because of rain that suspended it May 21. However, when play resumed May 22 in the top of the seventh inning, Army broke a 4-4 tie with a four-run bottom half of the seventh inning capped by senior catcher J.T. Watkins' three-run homer to seal the victory.

From the celebration that ensued with their win to the joyous moments following the words "Class dismissed," at the Graduation

and Commissioning Ceremony May 26 at Michie Stadium, it was a great week for this group of young men who are ready to join the Army's officer ranks.

At the bar-pinning ceremony after graduation, Watkins, Zach Price, Kevin McKague, Logan Lee, Manny Fernandez, Cody Murtle, Matthew Carter and Ryan Davis (who didn't play because of injury) put on the rank of second lieutenant for the first time. After the ceremony, it was a moment of reflection for each of them, emotional for some, but all were appreciative of the men they spent most of their waking hours with and the experiences they had at the U.S. Military Academy.

"It was a special feeling (receiving my diploma)," Watkins said. "I was looking back and it is crazy to think that it seems like yesterday I got here for R-Day. It really does fly by... (as teammates) we talked about it all the time, making sure we don't take it for granted and make sure we appreciate the little things.

"I don't have any regrets," Watkins added. "I've enjoyed my experience here and I'm looking forward to playing in the NCAA Regionals."

As the team prepares for its next venture at the NCAA Regionals

in Charlottesville, Va., Friday with a chance to improve upon its two victories from its last NCAA appearance in 2009, Price said he's up for the opportunity to get one last shot in his collegiate baseball career.

"We kind of joked around a little bit about three-quarters of the way through the season that we wanted to be able to still play and travel in our service uniforms, especially since it meant that we would have made the regionals," Price, who earned the PL Tournament Most Valuable Player award with seven hits and six stolen bases, said. "We made that small goal, but it is certainly awesome and we certainly want to play as long as we can. Especially as seniors, we're always worried about that last game and it's going to end at some point, but just being able to play a little bit more with these guys and this program is special—I'm looking forward to it."

Then there is one player in the senior class that really is grateful for every moment he gets to spend on the baseball diamond—Kevin McKague.

McKague is one of the most talented, if not the best, players to ever don the Army baseball uniform.

As a first baseman and relief pitcher, he has populated the Army record books both at the plate and on the mound as the career leader in hits (282), doubles (55) and saves (27), while he is in the top five or closing in on the top five in runs batted in (182), home runs (24), runs scored (159) and career batting average (.358).

However, with all those records in mind, he had to overcome a serious back injury that forced him to end his senior season last year at 12 games.

Two back surgeries later, months of intense rehab and after the NCAA granted him an injury exemption to play a fifth season, McKague returned to be the linchpin in the team's run to its sixth Patriot League Tournament title since 1997. And, on graduation day, he was ecstatic to finally get his day in the sun after the circumstances of a year ago and graduate with this group.

"It's obviously not what I planned on, but sometimes life throws you a curveball and you have to adjust to it," McKague said. "(Graduating with this group)... not only are they tremendous baseball



2nd Lt. Kevin McKague, first baseman and relief pitcher on the 2012 Patriot League champion team, receives his second lieutenant bars (shoulder boards) from his mother Melanie and father Robert during a bar-pinning ceremony May 26 at Doubleday Field.

players, but they are the best people I've met my whole entire life.

"I would let them babysit my (future) children forever and they're great leaders and people in general," he added. "I know I would do anything for them."

McKague, who was drafted by the Atlanta Braves in the 50th round last year and should be drafted within the top 10 rounds this year like he was expected to be prior to his injury, is excited by the chance to get his name called again at the Major League Baseball draft.

"It has always been my dream as it is for anyone who has played Division I baseball," McKague, who was commissioned as an ordnance officer, said. "However, I came here knowing that I have an obligation to the Army, but then I also wanted to do anything I could to achieve my dream of playing professional ball—a dream that I've had since I was a little boy."

While professional baseball is on his mind, his mind was also on something he waited a year to do—winning the PL Championship for his 2011 classmates. McKague sat and watched Navy win in three games during last year's PL Championship, so for him to win this year was a great relief to him and his former classmates.

"They still consider me one of their own," McKague, who also was a part of the 2009 championship team, said. "I felt like we had unfinished business coming into the Holy Cross series and we finished it for them. Their efforts last year were not lost on us; their legacy is

as much a part of this championship.

"That group last year helped us recruit and bring in these guys on recruiting trips who are now performing as freshmen," he added. "It is a legacy and they are a big part of it."

But now the 2012 team, which achieved the best record to date in academy history at 41-13, is nearing the end of its season, and the seniors are nearing the end of their collegiate careers.

For Price and Watkins, team co-captains who were both commissioned as field artillery officers, their experience at West Point was not solely about their two championships and the degrees they earned, but about the group of guys they experienced everything with.

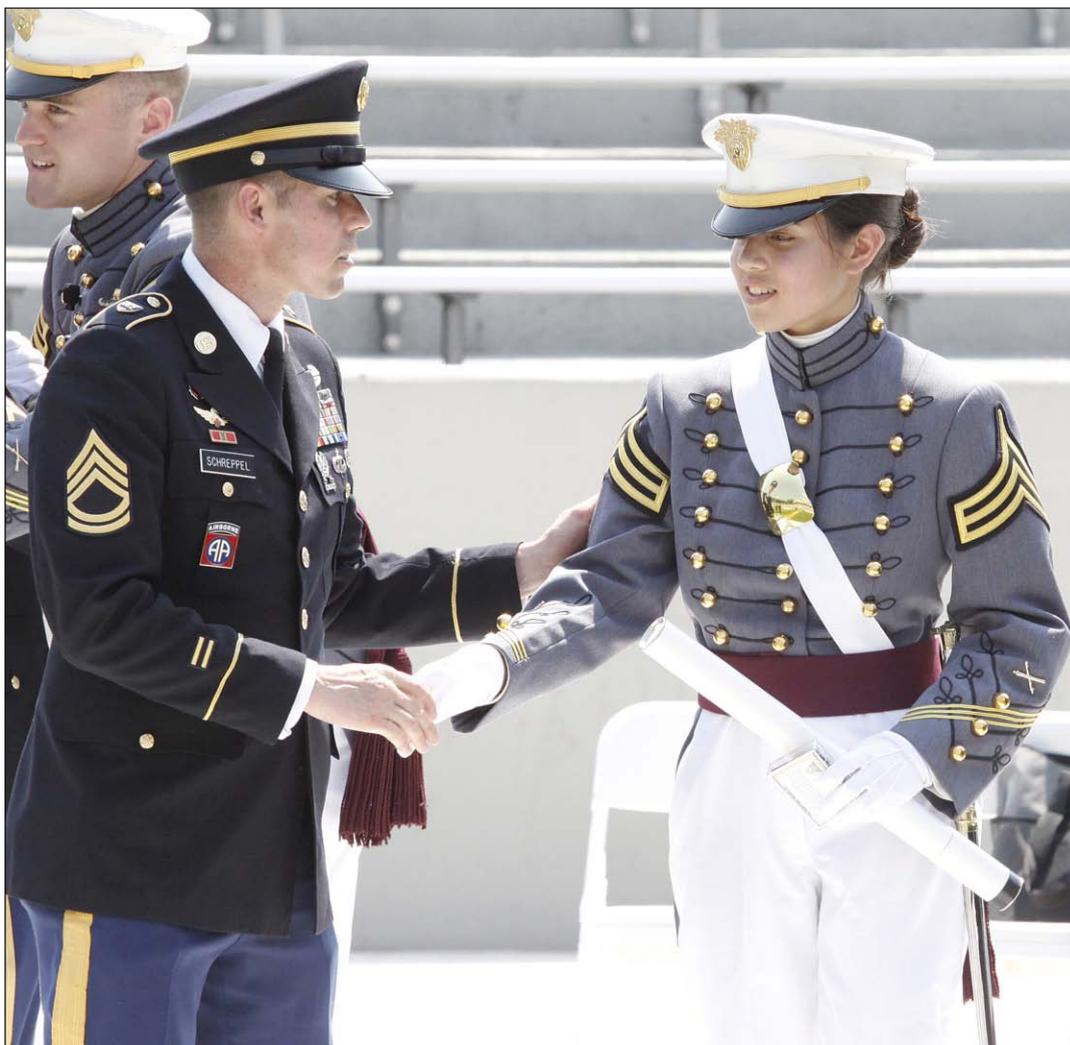
"It's kind of crazy, because at West Point, it's like you're on a team of teams," Watkins said. "You're always on some sort of team, whether it be within your platoon, company or on the field, but I think we have a very special team with a special group of individuals who work very well together. I'm just humbled to be a part of it."

Price added about his classmates, "They mean everything to me. They're the principal reason why I stayed and graduated from here just because it's a close-knit group and we all shared the same sweat, the same successes and the same failures from everything on the baseball field as well as off the field.

"Without a doubt, they are the biggest reason I stayed," he concluded.



2nd Lts. Zach Price and J.T. Watkins, co-captains of the Patriot League champion Army baseball team, pose in front of individual pennants of their likenesses during a bar-pinning ceremony May 26 at Doubleday Field. Each senior member of the team received a pennant, including all seven active members: Price, Watkins, Kevin McKague, Logan Lee, Manny Fernandez, Cody Murtle and Matthew Carter. Price and Watkins, with the rest of the Army baseball team, are getting ready for the NCAA Regionals in Charlottesville, Va., that start Friday.



AAA Trophy winners

Class of 2012 Cadet and now 2nd Lt. Kelly Buck (left) shakes hands with her Company G-3 tactical noncommissioned officer, Sgt. 1st Class Justin Schreppel, after receiving her diploma May 26 at Michie Stadium. Class of 2012 Cadet and now 2nd Lt. Andrew Rodriguez (above) leads the cadets into the stadium. Both Buck (rifle, female) and Rodriguez (football, male) earned the Army Athletic Association Trophy, the award for most valuable service to athletics during a cadet career.

PHOTOS BY ERIC S. BARTELT/PV

Carroll's victory lifted a year's worth of weight off shoulders

Story and photo by Eric S. Bartelt
Managing Editor

When senior catcher J.T. Watkins threw sophomore pitcher Gunnar Carroll over his right shoulder after the final out of Army's 8-4 victory over Holy Cross in the third and deciding game of the Patriot League Championship series May 22, Carroll's primal scream to the heavens lifted the burden he had been carrying for a full year.

Last season, Army missed its chance at the PL championship after losing 5-3 to Navy in the deciding game of a three-game series. On that day, Carroll was pegged with the loss and it was a loss that he could not let go for quite some time.

"To be completely honest, I literally lost sleep for a month after that game," Carroll said. "It meant so much to me to go out there in that situation and try to get it done for the team, but I didn't quite do it.

"That was the driving force behind everything I did all off season," he added. "That's why I worked so hard because I didn't want that opportunity to pass me by again. I'm thankful that I got the opportunity again this year and got it done this time for the guys."

Carroll came in with the score tied at 4-4 in the top of the seventh inning and pitched

three scoreless innings giving up no hits and striking out one batter while allowing only two base runners, both on walks.

The win was his second of the season, which was an exclamation point on a great season of relief pitching, where he is now 2-0 with a 2.45 earned run average and eight saves in 51 1/3 innings pitched. He is one of the big reasons Army is 41-13 with the most wins in academy baseball history, won its sixth Patriot League Tournament title since 1997 and now is heading to the NCAA Regionals Friday in Charlottesville, Va.

After his loss last year, head coach Joe Sottolano knew Carroll was one of those guys who could overcome such a disheartened moment and thrive when the opportunity presented itself once again.

"Gunnar is one of our highest character kids that we have and we have many of them, but Gunnar is at another level," Sottolano said. "Gunnar is a very special individual. He's one of the hardest working individuals on the club, one of the most dedicated and loyal.

"He has a presence about him that makes others around him better—his work ethic is contagious," he added. "Gunnar is one of our strongest leaders and he's only a sophomore."

Watkins, who capped Army's four-run

seventh inning with a three-run homer and one of the team's co-captains, said it succinctly about Carroll's outing, "Without (his performance), we don't win."

Carroll said he was chomping at the bit to get out on the mound and prove he could do it in a high pressure situation and put the team over the hump.

When it was asked of him if winning the game was his "redemption" from last year's loss, he said, "I would be hard pressed to find a better word for it."

However, Carroll didn't want to put the spoils of the victory all on him, he felt his teammates, especially the trio of seniors—Watkins, second baseman Zach Price (who earned the PL Tournament Most Valuable Player award) and first baseman Kevin McKague, had as much to do with them winning as anything he did.

"They are our leaders," Carroll said. "They lead us on the field, off the field and you expect them to show up every day and they do—they bring it.

"We expected a lot out of them this year and they gave us even more than we could have ever asked for," he added. "They were our calming influence on the team and we knew they were going to get it done—and they did."



Sophomore pitcher Gunnar Carroll pitched three scoreless innings to earn the victory in Army's Patriot League title win over Holy Cross May 22.