

POINTER VIEW

West Point
Oktoberfest, 4-9 p.m.
Friday and noon-8
p.m. Saturday at the
Victor Constant Ski
Slope.

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SEPTEMBER 20, 2012



Running wild

Sophomore running back Larry Dixon busted through the Northern Illinois defense for 136 yards and three touchdowns during a 41-40 loss to the Huskies Sept. 15 at Michie Stadium. Dixon, along with junior running back Raymond Maples (159 yards, one touchdown) and senior quarterback Trent Steelman (116 yards, two touchdowns), helped compile a team total of 486 yards on the ground and six touchdowns. See page 13 for game story and photos. TOMMY GILLIGAN/USMA PAO

Army-Wake Forest viewing party at Michie

By Brian Gunning
Army Athletic Communications

Army football fans who are unable to make the trip to North Carolina for this Saturday's game at Wake Forest will have the opportunity to watch all the action live on the Knight Vision video board at Michie Stadium.

The Army Athletic Association will host a viewing party for Saturday afternoon's tilt. The event is free and open to the public. The Michie Stadium gates will open at noon, with kickoff scheduled for 12:29 p.m.

In case of inclement weather, check www.goarmysports.com

for updates.

Fans are welcome to watch the game from the field or the stands; however, chairs will not be allowed on the Michie Stadium turf. Concessions will be available, but no food or drink will be permitted on the field.

All fans 16 and older must have photo identification to enter West Point.

Army returns home Sept. 29 to open a three-game homestand. Season tickets, mini-plans and individual game tickets are on sale at www.goarmysports.com, 1-877-TIX-ARMY or the Army Athletics Box Office located near Gate 3 of Michie Stadium.

Sprint Football plays Post in the Allegiance Bowl

The Army Sprint Football team faces Post University in the eighth annual Adirondack Trust Allegiance Bowl at 1 p.m. Saturday in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

The Black Knights (1-0), coming off a season-opening 42-0 victory, and the Eagles will play each other for only the second time. Last year, Army defeated Post in an offensive battle, 57-43, in their inaugural game.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.allegiancebowl.com.

Even at your darkest hour, stay resilient

By **Wayne Johnson**
Army Substance Abuse Program
Manager

I am a retired Marine, but, nevertheless, a Marine and I will be laid to rest, eventually, as a Marine with a full military burial. I am tough, I am strong and I am a winner—this is what I really believe. It was ingrained in me from the day I entered the Corps.

I had buddies, guys I could depend on to have my back, especially if I got into a fight. My friends were there and we were a team and with them I could not fail. But one day I did fail.

I came to a crossroads in my life that caused me to question everything I believed and trusted in, including my wife, friends, family and spirituality. I questioned my right to live and told myself winners do not fail. The thing that was driving me crazy was my job. I had run into a situation that I felt was unfair, but I also felt that my command had deserted me without justification.

The latter part, the desertion in particular, was extremely difficult because I told myself I had been loyal to my leadership, I had been a company man and dedicated myself to the mission and everything the leadership wanted from me.

I felt I was the worst person alive, especially since my leadership appeared to be literally throwing me under the bus. I felt I had fooled myself about who I really was in my mind and heart. As I lay in bed at night, unable to sleep, unable to find the answers to “why,” the night sweats started and the horrible dreams came—one after the other. I found a way to justify a reason to end my miserable life—it was clear and simple to me. I would take my life and relieve myself and all the people who I felt had deserted me with the satisfaction of not having to live with a failure—someone whose persona was a lie all along.

On one Friday night after tossing and turning for what seemed to be hours, I got out of bed and thought I would write a note to say all the things I felt were necessary, but I knew it really didn't matter.

I am Catholic, so I knew I was going to hell anyway for this sin, so why apologize? I went to the kitchen and took a knife from the cabinet and sat on the couch. I told myself “you are not going to drink while doing this” because I was not going to die drunk and give someone the satisfaction of saying I had to drink to kill myself.

I took the blade of the knife and placed it right above my right palm, on the vein running toward my thumb and it seemed that, even in the dark, things were so easy to see. There was no question in my head about it—that this was right. No question of what my wife was going to say when she saw me in a pool of blood. I just thought I would not have to deal with this anymore and my family would be relieved of not having to live with a loser.

Slowly, I started to push down on my skin and I could feel the sting of the blade as it started to part the surface. I saw blood begin to form on the side of the blade and then I heard a sound I have not heard before and realized I was crying. I looked at the table for something to dry my eyes, because I didn't want anyone to believe I had gone soft, and, as I looked down, there was my dog, Sophie.

Sophie had a strange look in her eyes and, maybe it was my imagination, but I thought I'd seen tears running down her eyes as she kept looking at me as if she was trying to say something but could not find the words—so she cried.

I found it amazing that last year the Army Suicide Prevention Program theme was “Resilience.” The ability to recover readily from illness, depression and adversity. This is one of the definitions for resiliency.

Sophie was my wake up call. She was the

force that night that helped me realize that my resilience is strong. She made me realize in her way that I was needed—I did matter. I am lucky today to believe as I did then that my spirituality made me accept that everything in our lives does matter and there is someone or something that has the answer, but only if we listen.

I know now that spirituality alone does not mend a wounded mind. The next day, I worked up the courage to walk into the emergency room. As I entered the emergency room, I noticed all the people there had physical illnesses and it struck me that I had gone to the ER many times for physical injuries and I never hesitated to ask for help. However, when it came to my mental health, I felt there was no one to ask for help. I sincerely believed it would have been a sign of weakness.

I realize now that I was wrong and to be resilient you must be mentally strong as well. There are times you must ask for help—it is OK to do that. I now fully understand that concept.

I know now there are times when the stresses of life start to drown my way of living, and, when that happens I need to get help so my mind can stay strong.

I know now that if I am suffering, the people in my life whom I work with and my family and friends are also suffering with me. I would not want to bring anymore pain onto them.

So if you have some anguish in your life, reach out, speak up and ask for help. Give family and friends a chance to speak and let them help you get the right medical attention. No matter how strong or how much of a winner you are, you need help sometimes.

Force protection message for fall yard sale

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

The West Point Fall Yard Sale is scheduled from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. The annual fall yard sale will take place rain or shine without a makeup date.

Due to the increased amount of vehicle and foot traffic, there will be an increase of Military Police patrols throughout the installation and, in particular, the housing areas.

Residents and guests are reminded to remain cautious while driving in the housing areas and ensure strict compliance with all posted West Point traffic restrictions.

In accordance with force protection directives, all vehicles entering the installation without proper identification will be stopped and searched. Be aware

that the general public attending the yard sale will be allowed to enter through all three gates.

Residents are reminded to remain vigilant and contact the Military Police Desk at 938-3333 if they observe any suspicious individuals or acts such as persons taking atypical photographs or asking abnormal questions about the installation. Housing residents should report any suspicious vehicles that remain in the housing areas after the conclusion of the yard sale and into Sunday.

Note: If calling 911 while on West Point, you must tell the operator that you're on West Point. The operator will divert your call to the West Point Military Police.

For more information, the DPTMS point of contact is Matt Cassidy at 938-3650/8859. Remember, if you see something, hear something, say something.

Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

See SUDOKU PUZZLE, Page 12

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Tangen, '08 grad, honored as Nininger Award recipient

Story by Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

The Corps of Cadets and command staff attended the 7th annual Association of Graduates presentation of the Alexander R. Nininger Award for Valor at Arms to Capt. Stephen Tangen, Class of 2008, at Washington Hall Sept. 12.

U.S. Military Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. David H. Huntoon Jr. introduced Tangen, a Silver Star recipient, telling cadets to “listen to the captain, his remarks will be a guide for you.”

“Tangen, after two short years after graduation, was a first lieutenant conducting a combat mission while serving as a platoon leader in the 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division in Afghanistan in 2010,” Huntoon said. “You have a rare opportunity to hear from a leader who did all the right things—value is supported by the men the Soldiers lead.”

A passage from the award synopsis states that Tangen placed himself in the line of Taliban fire multiple times, as he maneuvered his platoon to spearhead an assault.

With no regard for his personal safety, he fully and repeatedly exposed himself to enemy fire.

It also cites his personal courage, tactical expertise and professional competence were directly responsible for his platoon’s overall success and survival.

Addressing the Corps of Cadets in attendance, Tangen spoke about two individuals he led in combat who best exemplified what it means to be a Soldier in the U.S. Army—Spc. Christopher Shaffer

(now Sergeant) and Staff Sgt. Eric Shaw.

“For me, the valor of these great Americans illustrates the character of our nation’s Soldiers,” Tangen said. “You will lead many like them in the years ahead. When you do, draw strength from them. But also know that you are prepared. Together, you and your soldiers will persevere. You will overcome adversity. And, together, you will do what might seem impossible.”

He also told a story about when he took the lead of a rifle platoon from another West Point graduate, 1st Lt. Nick Eslinger, from the Class of 2007—who had also received the Nininger Award in 2009.

The noncommissioned officers told their new platoon leader he had big shoes to fill.

“In fact, during the 12 months of training leading up to our deployment, my battle-hardened Soldiers, who had served with Nick, took special delight in needling me, saying ‘No pressure, PL’ or ‘Whatcha gonna do now, PL?’ One of my purposes in telling you this story is to suggest that you all have some choice in creating your future,” Tangen said.

“However, there will be surprises and there will be turns in the path that will be beyond your control. I have learned that how you respond to those turns—how you keep your focus on accomplishing the mission while taking care of your Soldiers—is a good measure of your character, shaped here at West Point.”

The Nininger award is named in recognition of the heroic actions of 2nd Lt. Alexander R. Nininger, Class of 1941, and is presented to a West Point graduate who exemplifies heroic action in battle and



Capt. Stephen Tangen, Class of 2008 graduate, spoke to the Corps of Cadets and distinguished guests after receiving the Association of Graduates Alexander R. Nininger Award for Valor at Arms, Sept. 12 in the Cadet Mess Hall. Tangen was selected as the seventh recipient of the Nininger award. JOHN PELLINO/DPTMS VID

heroically leads Soldiers.

Also in attendance was the first recipient of the Nininger Award, Maj. Ryan Worthan,

a Class of 1997 graduate and Systems Engineering instructor, who received the award in 2006.

Army, NFL report to Congress on brain-injury initiatives

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

The Army has made more progress in studying traumatic brain injury in the last 10 years than it made in the previous 50, said the service’s vice chief.

On Capitol Hill, Sept. 12, Vice Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III appeared alongside the commissioner of the NFL, Roger Goodell, to discuss the initiatives being shared by the two organizations in regard to traumatic brain injuries, known as TBIs.

Austin and Goodell met with lawmakers from both the Congressional Brain Injury Task Force and the Military Veterans Caucus to let them know about the work that both the Army and the NFL are doing to learn more about TBI, and to share what has been learned about TBI prevention and diagnosis.

Austin said the Army has made “significant progress in recent years” in Afghanistan in regard to TBI. Protocols in theater now prescribe what has to be done when a Soldier experiences such an injury, for instance.

There are nine concussion care centers in Afghanistan. About 7,000 Soldiers are deployed to theater now with sensors

in their helmets to record concussive events.

Additional units are preparing to deploy with those sensors in their helmets.

The Army is also working on tests that can detect biomarkers in the blood that will indicate more accurately if a Soldier has suffered injury to the brain as a result of a concussion.

“We are doing a lot in this area,” Austin said. “We can never do enough. We are going to continue to push the envelope. Our goal is to achieve more, to do it sooner, and to create greater effect.

“TBI affects a significant portion of our population, and not just within our military ranks or among professional athletes, but across society as a whole,” Austin added.

There have been about 244,000 cases of TBI over the last 11 years in the DOD. In the United States, there are about 1.7 million diagnosed cases of TBI each year, and it’s expected there’s an additional 1 million cases that go undiagnosed. Both Soldiers and athletes, such as those in the NFL, are suffering from TBI.

During a ceremony in August at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Ray Odierno and Goodell both signed a letter outlining initiatives

to be taken by the Army and NFL in regard to TBI.

Included in the initiative is a promise to share medical research and information about TBI between the two organizations.

The Army’s focus on TBI is directed at protecting Soldiers in combat, while the NFL wants to protect its players. The NFL is also an influencer, nationwide, in promoting TBI awareness among youth football teams.

The league, for instance, is involved in an effort to get newer, more modern football helmets into youth football programs.

The league also supports the Zackery Lystedt law, legislation designed to protect young athletes who’ve suffered a concussion from returning to play before it is safe.

The Army and the NFL have both launched websites dedicated to their shared initiative, the Army at www.army.mil/tbi, and the NFL at www.nfl.com/military.

Both organizations will also bring together pro football players and Soldiers at forums around the country to highlight the importance of seeking treatment for TBI.

“All of us are working cooperatively to make a difference to address this issue, to make it safer for not only our troops but for sports in general and society in general,” Goodell said.

Memorial Stair Climb honors sacrifice of 9/11 firefighters

Staff Reports

The 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb was conducted at Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center Sept. 14 to remember and honor the 343 firefighters who died on Sept 11, 2001.

“The reason we remember the fallen firefighters with this type of event is because on that tragic day, when everyone else was running out of the World Trade Center Towers, the firefighters were running up the stairs,” Class of 2013 Cadet Bryan Jake Robbins said. “We had over 60 people participate in the Stair Climb and we raised over \$1,100 in donations for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation.”

Robbins, the event organizer, said the goal was for each participant to climb a total of 1,980 stairs—equivalent of 110 stories which was the height of the World Trade Center towers. Several firefighters from the West Point Fire Department participated in the event.

“I have done 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb events in the past,” Robbins said. “They are held throughout the country around 9/11 every year. However, due to school requirements, I was not able to make the one that was being held for New

York. So after talking about it with a few of my company mates, they suggested that I just do one here at West Point. So that’s what I started to do.”

It began with an invitation for a few cadets to participate but the news spread within the Corps and dozens more asked to contribute.

“On the actual day of the Climb, I was really surprised how large of a turnout the event drew,” Robbins said. “Several of my fellow cadets in my company volunteered to pass out water and Gatorade, work the donations table and help out with running the event.”

Robbins said many of the climbers carried extra firefighters equipment, rucksacks or just random weights from the gym so they could get even more of a sense of the physical challenge that firefighters endured when they started their climb up the World Trade Center Towers.

West Point Firefighter Mike Cronin and Robbins completed all 1,980 steps in full firefighter protective gear with equipment and air packs.

“The event was a huge success and I hope that West Point will be able to hold a Memorial Stair Climb event again next year,” Robbins said.



More than 60 participants were at Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center Sept. 14 for the 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb. Cadets raised more than \$1,000 for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation.

PHOTO BY CLASS OF 2016 CADET SAMANTHA VERDUZCO

Visiting speakers address cadets, faculty on energy security

By Maj. John Bacon
Department of Mathematical Sciences

Faculty in the freshman core courses, per guidance from the dean of the academic board, have incorporated energy security into the curriculum with the intent of it becoming more interdisciplinary in the core program.

As part of the effort to expose cadets and faculty to the importance of energy security for the Army and the nation, the academy welcomed Mark D. Roche and Capt. Jeffrey Swinford, F/2-34 AR commander, on Aug. 30-31.

Roche is the deputy assistant secretary (Strategic Integration), in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations, Energy & Environment). Swinford recently redeployed from a tour in Afghanistan as the company commander of a forward support battalion. Both spoke to West Point cadets and faculty during three separate engagements.

Roche discussed the Army’s strategic challenges and its objectives regarding energy security with the cadets.

Swinford focused on the tactical aspect by providing his first-hand experience of managing the logistical complexities of day-to-day operations at Forward Operating Bases in Iraq and Afghanistan, and how this

burden is compounded when energy security measures are not established or followed.

During an evening lecture, both speakers introduced Class of 2015 cadets to the strategic and tactical aspects of energy security. They also emphasized the importance in the academic setting, specifically learning how to solve complex problems demanding interdisciplinary solutions.

Roche said energy security should be a priority to cadets because “energy is recognized as both a force multiplier and as a vulnerability which can be exploited.”

He said “in 2011, there were more than 3,000 power outages in the U.S., affecting nearly 42 million people.”

The visitors spoke to the Class of 2016 as part of a combined course lecture in Robinson Auditorium. It was here they also sought to inform freshmen on energy security issues as well as its importance in the academy’s course curriculum.

This was of significant importance because, beginning with the Class of 2016, cadets will be exposed to problems pertaining to energy security that will require interdisciplinary thinking and study which will include approximately 15 core courses.

In all, approximately 2,000 cadets from the Classes of 2015 and 2016 received

information about a vast array of energy security issues and challenges. Roche and Swinford were able to articulate the importance of energy security to the cadets so that it will have a lasting effect on them and set the stage for their future endeavors at the academy and careers in the Army.

They rounded out their speaking engagements with a discussion with faculty focused on informing them of energy security relations.

With a smaller assembly of educators

present at this brief, questions and discussion were incorporated, which focused the faculty on the importance and relevance of the energy studies they will adopt as part of this interdisciplinary effort.

Overall, cadets and faculty gained valuable insight into the issues that arise with energy security and were left with a better understanding of the importance of these topics within their own classroom as well as the importance of applying this knowledge across department curriculum.

CADET ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Judo Team: West Point Judo athletes had the unique opportunity to receive instruction from and train with Kayla Harrison at Judo Tech in New Jersey Sept. 15.

Harrison, the first American Olympic Gold medalist in Judo, ran an outstanding event where the cadets practiced Olympic level gripping and transitions. Harrison also discussed topics about mental preparation, weight management and self-confidence.

Sailing Team: The West Point Sailing Team participated in the Spirit Rider Regatta, a competition held to honor the victims of 9/11. They competed against several schools, to include the U.S. Naval Academy. Army placed second in Division 1 and first in Division 3. Navy placed third in both divisions.



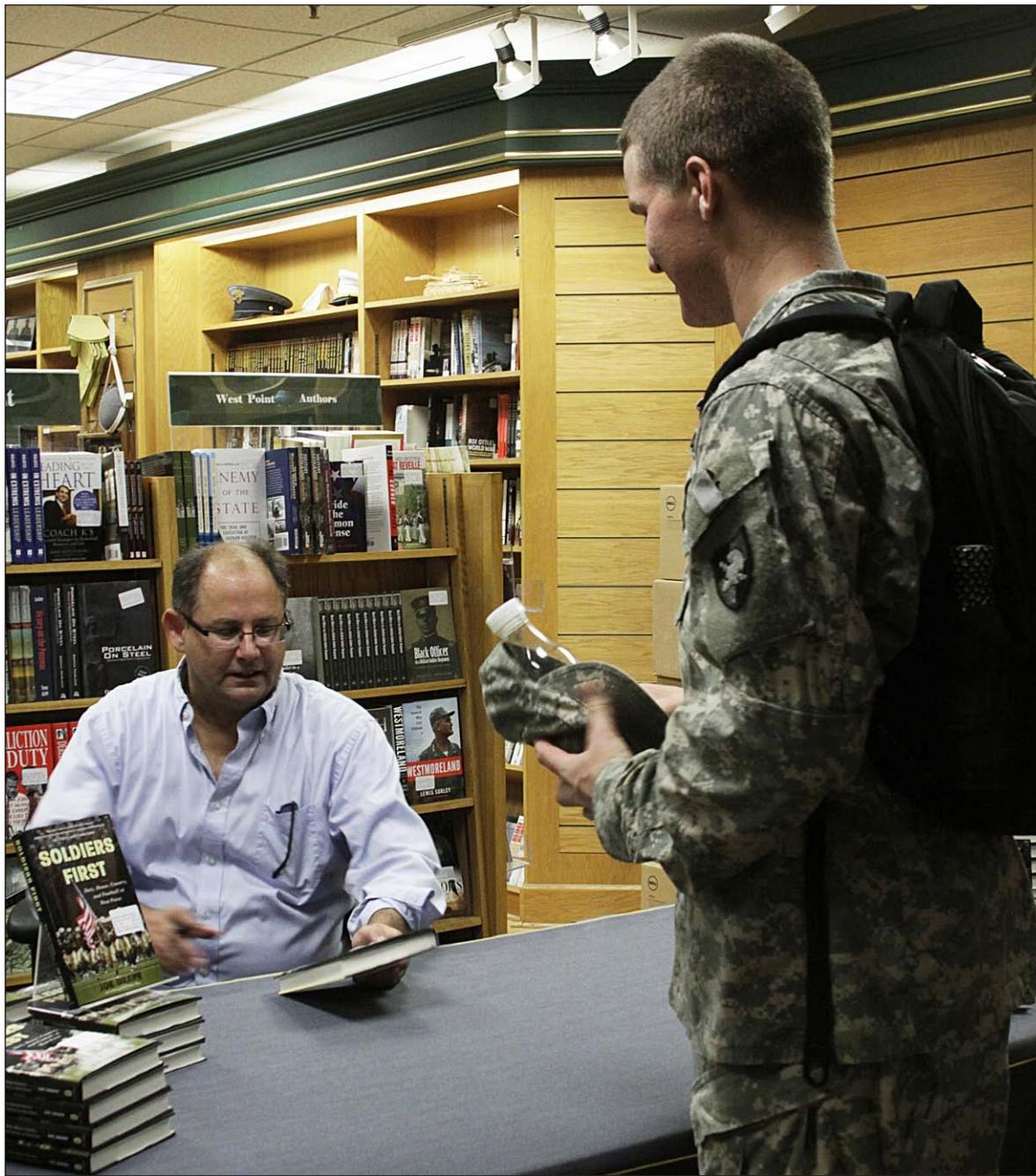
Glee Club: Cadets Andrea Young and John Asbach narrated a special 9/11 tribute concert performed by the West Point Band at the Trinity Church on Wall Street in New York City on Sept. 11.

German Language Club: Fifteen cadets from the German Language Club participated in the 55th annual German American Steuben Parade in Central Park. Cadets met with German American societies, visiting groups from Germany and other representatives.



West Point, Highland Falls commemorate 9/11

U.S. Military Academy Cadet Brigade Staff—Class of 2013 Cadets Ross Boston, Bill Owens, Brandon Whittington and Rachel Miller—attended a memorial ceremony in Highland Falls commemorating 9/11 and are photographed touching a piece of steel from the World Trade Center. PAUL RADER/NETWORK ENTERPRISE CENTER



Class of 2015 Cadet Spencer Carroll has the book “Soldiers First: Duty, Honor, Country and Football at West Point” signed by author Joe Drape at the Cadet Bookstore Sept. 14. Drape spent a year interviewing Army football players and coaches while attending games during the 2011 season. The book was inspired by his then 5-year-old son who became excited watching the Notre Dame-Army Game at Yankee Stadium in 2010 on television.

NYT writer talks Army football, signs books

Story and photo by Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

Joe Drape, a New York Times sports writer, made another visit to West Point Sept. 14 to sign his new book “Soldiers First: Duty, Honor, Country and Football at West Point.” Drape spent the better part of last year at West Point watching football games and talking to Army football players, coaches and other cadets—all due to his son Jack, who was five at the time.

“I never knew anything about Army football,” Drape said. “I was a Notre Dame fan. Then I was watching Notre Dame and Army on television when they played at Yankee Stadium in November 2010. When Jack saw the Corps of Cadets march on the field and Army parachute the game ball onto the field, he was hooked and watched the game with me.”

Drape said Jack wanted to go see the “good guys” and Drape knew what Jack meant because he enjoys playing with plastic military men and calls them the good guys.

“That got me hooked then too,” Drape said. “Jack got it immediately. I have covered many sports scandals as a sports writer so it was great to look for something uplifting. They may not be the biggest team, but they play hard and I wanted to write about some place where athletes are treated like all their other classmates and not given special perks. And there is Coach Richard Ellerson who is fairly new and has a different style of coaching.

“After watching them, the easiest thing they do is play football compared to what they do every day,” he added.

Drape enjoyed talking to the players and other cadets from the academy. He said Class of 2012 graduate 2nd Lt. Steve Erzinger will occasionally visit for dinner and other members of the team also stop by when they’re in the area.

While researching the book, Drape found the time to tour West Point and was impressed with what he saw.

“I remember seeing Reconciliation Walk and was very impressed,” he said. “Just think of all those who were at West Point, people like Ulysses S. Grant, Robert E. Lee and Washington. He was here first. West Point is pretty much a history of who we are.”

Drape said he began writing books after the New York Times assigned him to cover a horse race, which is a sport with a steep learning curve, he said.

“I’ve always enjoyed writing and I enjoy reading,” he said. “I was a news guy until 1993, and then got into sports. I like writing about sports because it’s a way of looking at our culture.”

Drape was able to get field passes for Saturday’s Army-Northern Illinois game so Jack could once again meet and watch the good guys play.



West Point kids enjoy day of fun

(Above) After several tries, Thomas Cook finally hits the target and soaks his sister Maria with a water balloon at the Pitch Burst game. (Right) Claire Fursman, 3, digs for treasure in sand at the Day for Kids event Sept. 14 at the Lee Child Development Center. The day was sponsored by the West Point Child, Youth and School Services and Boys and Girls Clubs of America. The event allowed parents and their children quality and fun time together while engaging in active play.

PHOTOS BY KATHY EASTWOOD/PV





A member of the 82nd Airborne All-American Freefall Team glides in during Army Football pre-game festivities on The Plain Sept. 15 before the Army-Northern Illinois game. TOMMY GILLIGAN/USMA PAO



Cadets check each others equipment prior to boarding the Lakota on The Plain during daily training session. ALL WEST POINT PARACHUTE TEAM PHOTOS BY MIKE STRASSER/PV

Support from above

By Mike Strasser
Assistant Editor

Cadets teamed up with paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne All-American Freefall Team Sept. 14 and conducted joint airborne training in preparation for Army Football pre-game festivities last weekend.

The West Point Parachute Team practiced with four noncommissioned officers from Fort Bragg, N.C., on The Plain and at Michie Stadium for the decades-old tradition of performing at the cadet review and delivering the game ball from thousands of feet above onto Blaik Field.

Class of 2013 Cadets Kurt Yeager, Skylar Mackay and Szymon Marcinow made the jump from 4,500 feet high to join the Corps of Cadets on The Plain in front of thousands of spectators before the game Sept. 15.

Three more senior demonstration jumpers, Class of 2013 Cadets Ben Garlick, Andrew Lopez and Christian Beckler would have performed the Michie Stadium jump at the home opener, but weather conditions prevented their demonstration.

All three Black Knights said during practice the jump is a milestone they worked hard for since joining the team as freshmen. Lopez would have jumped with the game ball into the stadium, fulfilling a longstanding goal.

"I remember being in the stands my plebe year watching them jump the ball in," Lopez said. "Now having that chance in front of all the fans and Corps—it's going to be an awesome feeling."

Lopez, who recorded his 395th jump Sept. 14, will have to wait a bit longer for that feeling as they will try again Sept. 29 when Army hosts Stony Brook.

"It can be a nerve-wracking experience. The first time I did it I had over 300 jumps already and it felt like I was jumping for the first time," Lopez said. "Your heart starts beating fast and there's so much adrenaline pumping through. It's almost a blur because you are so focused on what you're doing."

Garlick, the team captain, said whatever nervousness they might experience before the demonstration is immediately replaced by an intense focus once they jump.

"At that point you're so much in the zone you don't think about anything else," Garlick said. "Really, the best part is when you're about a thousand feet off the ground and you can hear the noise from the crowd. You're focused on the guys below and above you and then it's over in an instant. There's not a whole lot of time to contemplate."

Beckler had previously jumped into Michie Stadium for a lacrosse game, but looks forward to his first in support of Army Football.

"For me, it will be a culmination of all the training, time and money spent to get this far. It means a lot to all of us just because we give up a lot to be on the team and stay committed to it," Beckler said. "There have been semesters abroad and other training opportunities we'll miss so that we'll be dedicated to this and become the best jumpers we can be. So, to be able to go into the stadium for a demonstration, especially a football game, is huge for all of us."

To participate in the stadium demonstration, cadets must earn a restricted pro-rating license which requires a minimum of 250 jumps and 10 declared jumps within a 10-meter circle.



(Right) Cadets average three jumps each practice which lasts roughly three hours every day, weather permitting. (Below) Coach Tom Falzone and the noncommissioned officers of the 82nd Airborne All-American Freefall Team made the first jump onto The Plain Sept. 14 during team practice.



If the target is missed just once they have to start over. Coach Tom Falzone said when that happens, the feeling is more of frustration than failure. In addition, cadets must meet all other U.S. Parachutist Association D license requirements.

This was the second year the 82nd Airborne's freefall team jumped with the cadet team and Staff Sgt. Michael Calhoun, assistant team leader, said they were glad to be back.

"It's been great for our team to make this event a second year in a row," he said. "We get to see the progress made by the cadets we met here last year and it's an honor for us to train with the future leaders of the Army."

Joining Calhoun were Staff Sgts. Matthew Acord and Charles Poteet and Sgt 1st Class Derreck Fischer, team leader.

The cadet team trains often with Army and Air Force units, as well as with counterparts from the U.S. Air Force Academy. This year, a different active-duty parachute team will train and perform with cadets at each home game this season, a first for the academy's demonstration team, to include the Silver Wings, from Fort Benning, Ga., and the Black Daggers from Special Operations Command.

"It's a great experience for us and the first time we'll be doing combination demos like this," Lopez said. "It's not something we were expecting to do this year but it's definitely something that we're going to take as much away from as we can. It's great to get their perspective and connect with them, while connecting West Point with the Army."

The spectacle of seeing skydivers fall onto The Plain in the late afternoon is a daily treat for onlookers. More than a few stay to watch the training from the bleachers and applaud each successful landing.

The team trains roughly three hours nearly every day, weather permitting, and average three jumps per cadet.

To get everyone their share of jumps, the routine is smooth and repetitive. One group suits up, conducts pre-flight checks on each other, moves swiftly to the chopper, jumps and proceeds to pack their chute, while another group is ready to move out and the sequence repeats again and again.

Though the drills might seem monotonous, it's nothing of the sort for these cadets.

"We like that because it's safe and controlled," Garlick said. "Getting the same routine and falling on that same pattern every day gives us that. Above all else, the first thing is safety and then putting on a good show for the crowd."

Dr. William Saxton was among those observing the Sept. 14 practice, and he made the trip up from his Florida home to see his granddaughter who was



Cadets are trained and qualified to pack the main parachutes they jump with; however their reserve chutes are packed by Master Sgt. Felix Serra, the team's noncommissioned officer in charge, and Sgt. Sean O'Toole, senior rigger.

among the 10 new members to make the team this semester. He had to see for himself why she wanted to jump out of planes, though he was less surprised by the decision than his wife.

"We came up here last year before she made the team and watched the parachuters one day," he said. "I said to my wife that this is what Amy wanted to do. Sure enough, she went for it. Her goal is to be one of the cadets who get to jump into Michie Stadium when she's a firstie."

Watching the practice in its entirety, he felt assured she made the right choice. "Look how close they all are—I mean, this is a real team," he said. "I understand this is considered to be a real prestigious thing to do at West Point."

His granddaughter, Class of 2016 Cadet Amy Saxton, said in only a few short weeks the team has become a big part of her life.

"The team represents West Point on a daily basis for fans who attend our practices on the parade field and, of course, more formally at various athletic events and other demonstrations," Saxton said. "The team is truly a family, where each member looks out for one another."

(Editor's Note: An extended version of this story is available at www.usma.edu. Visit www.flickr.com/photos/west_point for photos from the Sept. 14 practice with the 82nd Airborne All-American Freefall Team.)



It is customary for the team to wave and cheer the departure of their air support after every practice. Some of the 2nd Aviation pilots who provide the continuous flights over The Plain every evening also instruct the cadet skydivers during the day as instructors at the U.S. Military Academy.

FMWR Blurbs

Arts & Crafts September classes

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

Enjoy our crop class with a ladies night out at Arts and Crafts from 4-7 p.m. tonight. Bring your own photos, adhesive, scissors and ruler. Registration and pre-payment are required for all classes.

Try a sewing class with Jana from 5-7 p.m. Tuesday. Bring an old T-shirt or material.

For more information, call 938-4812.

West Point Oktoberfest

Grab your lederhosen and join FMWR from 4-9 p.m. Friday and noon-8 p.m. Saturday 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. There will be a courtesy shuttle bus for people living on post who have had too much to drink.

For more information, call 938-4690.

SAC Night

School Age Children Night is scheduled from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Friday at the Lee Area CDC.

The theme is pajamas and movie night, but also includes activities.

There is a minimal fee per child for this event, which is open to children in grades 1-5.

For reservations and information, call the Lee Area CDC at 938-0942.

Saturday Youth USBC Bowling League

Starting Saturday from 9-11 a.m., 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.

Fall trips with Leisure Travel Services

Join Leisure Travel Services this fall for local trips and leave the driving to them. The fall trips include:

- San Gennaro Festival in New York, Saturday, leave West Point at 11 a.m., return at 5:30 p.m.;

- Hudson Valley Garlic Festival in Saugerties, N.Y., Sept. 30, leave West Point at 11 a.m., return at 5:30 p.m.;

- The Meat Packing District in New York and walk at Highline Park, Oct. 7, leave West Point at 10 a.m., return at 4:30 p.m.;

- Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Mass., Oct. 12, leave West Point at 8 a.m., return at 4 p.m.

There is a minimal transportation fee for these trips.

For more information, call LTS at 938-3601.

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. Tuesday-Sept. 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.

Enlisted Right Arm Night

Join BOSS at 4 p.m. Wednesday at the West Point Club for a Band of Brothers Enlisted Right Arm Night.

Active duty and retired service members from all branches are welcomed to enjoy free food and a live DJ.

For more information, call 938-6497.

CYSS parent education classes

CYSS is offering several parent education classes.

The classes include:

- Parenting Strategies for Young Children is scheduled for noon-1 p.m. Wednesday at Stony Area CDC and is geared toward families with children from birth to age 5.

Learn some basic skills for activities that can enhance and support positive parent/child communication.

- Parenting Strategies for Teens is scheduled for noon-1 p.m. Oct. 10 at Lee Area CDC and is geared toward families with children from 13-17 years old.

Considering adolescent development, learn some tips and techniques to increase positive communication are topics that will be covered.

- Re-Directing Your Child is geared toward families with children from birth to age 5.

Learn how to get out of saying "NO! Don't do that!" with a few simple steps. It takes place from noon-1 p.m. Nov. 7 at Stony CDC.

For more information or to register, contact Kim Tague at 938-3921.

ACS Hearts Apart Support Group

Please join Army Community Service and Hearts Apart for a monthly gathering to build resiliency, camaraderie and self-reliance.

Each event will begin with valuable education and training and follow up with optional crafting time with friends.

While you are gaining knowledge that will set you up for success, you can also finally get around to completing those scrapbooks like you always meant to.

Learn how to organize your scrapping into

manageable chunks and produce beautiful mementos you will be proud to share with family and friends.

Sessions will be held at ACS from 4:30-6:30 p.m., on the dates indicated below. Snacks and activities for kids will be provided.

- Tonight—Getting the Most Out of Volunteering;

- Oct. 11—MRT: Thinking Traps;

- Nov. 15—Crazy for Coupons;

- Dec. 13—Stress Management for the Holidays.

For more information, call 845-938-3487 to reserve your spot today. Space is limited.

Haunted House help wanted

Love Halloween? FMWR is looking for people to help put on our Haunted House with acting, set building, make-up and much more.

The Haunted House is scheduled for Oct. 25-26.

For more information, call 938-8185.

Hunter's Education Course

West Point Outdoor Recreation is hosting a New York State Hunter's Education Course from 6-10 p.m. Nov. 2 and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 3 at Bonneville Cabin, Round Pond.

You must attend both classes to receive credit.

To register for the course, call 938-2503.

Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade tickets

Join Leisure Travel Services for the traditional Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade Nov. 22. Tickets are on sale now at LTS.

Motor coach transportation leaves West Point at 6 a.m. and returns immediately following the parade.

For reservations and payment, call LTS at 938-3601.

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.

Preschool openings

Child, Youth and School Services has openings in their three-day, two-day and five-day preschool programs. The hours are from 9 a.m.-noon. Children 3 years and older are eligible to attend.

For more information, call Parent Central at 938-4458/0939 to signup.

Home Football Dinner Buffets

The West Point Club offers Thursday and Friday night dinner buffets from 5-9 p.m. in the Pierce Dining Room. Ask about its member discounts.

For more information, call 938-5120.

NEW INFO

Blue Star Museum kids art work contest

Blue Star Museums has an art contest for military children of active duty service members—ages 6-12 and 13-17.

There are two categories to choose from:

- Artwork or video short inspired by your visit to a Blue Star Museum;

- Artwork or video short that expresses thanks to the art community who made the program possible.

Prizes include an iPad, Nikon Cool Pix P100, Ultra HD Flip Camera or savings bonds. Deadline for entry is Sept. 30.

Entry forms and details are available at <http://www.bluestarfam.org/creativity-contest>.

For more information, contact Desiree Moore at museums@bluestarfam.org.

Operation Rising Star

Operation Rising Star will be holding competitions at the West Point Club Oct. 10.

If necessary, a second round of competition will be held Oct. 11. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the competition starts at 6:30 p.m.

Applications for the FMWR singing competition are due by Oct. 3 at the West Point Club. Audience members will receive a ballot to vote with the purchase of dinner at the club on the day of competition starting at 5 p.m.

For more information, call 938-6497.

Autumn Brunch Cruise on the Hudson

Join the West Point Club from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Oct. 14 for a relaxing scenic boat ride on the Hudson.

Afterward, return to the Club for an autumn style brunch in the Club's Hudson Room from 1-3 p.m. The boat sets sail promptly at 11 a.m. and boarding will begin at 10:45 a.m. Parking is available in the lot adjacent to the harbor master.

There is a minimal fee for this event. For reservations and information, call 938-5120.

What's Happening

A 5/50 Celebration Concert

There is a 5/50 Celebration Concert for Bishop Jeffrey C. Woody at 7:30 p.m. Friday at The Cathedral at the House on 131 Broadway in Newburgh. This is a celebration of Woody's five years as a Bishop and 50 years of his life.

The event's special guest is Lady Glenda Ancrum Adams.

To purchase tickets in advance for the concert, contact Loretta Woody at 938-4088 or mzladywoody@hotmail.com.

Motorcycle Training classes

The West Point Safety Office is offering Motorcycle Training classes over the next couple of months. There are classes available for the Basic Riders Course and the Experienced Riders Course.

The courses and dates available are:

- BRC (staff and faculty)—Oct. 17-18 and Nov. 7-8;
- BRC (cadets only)—Friday-Sunday, Oct. 19-21 and Nov. 9-11;
- ERC (staff and faculty)—Oct. 15 and Nov. 6.

BRC training for staff and faculty will be held at Bldg. 667A 3rd floor, Corps of Engineers Conference Room for classroom at 7:45 a.m. and the Range will be at the Motor Pool, for staff and faculty.

BRC training for cadets will be held at the Education Center. ERC training will be held at A Lot.

Cadets who are interested in signing up, contact Shannon Lindey at 938-8682 and staff and faculty members interested in either the BRC or ERC, contact Aubrey Posey at 938-6131.

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 date the range is open is 7 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Saturday.

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

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. Tuesday 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.

DUSA Continuing Education Grant applications available

Society of the Daughters of the U.S. Army Continuing Education Grant applications are now available at the DUSA Gift Shop located inside the West Point Museum.

Grant applications are available to 2012-13 DUSA members (must be a member by Sept. 30) and completed applications are due by Oct. 1.

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. The event is free.

This year's theme is strength through diversity.

There will be food samplings along with cultural/regional

displays, dancing and much more from across the globe. 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.

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.

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.

Holiday Craft Bazaar

The West Point Women's Club Holiday Craft Bazaar is scheduled for 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Nov. 10 and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Nov. 11. Admission is a suggested donation, and it is free for cadets and children 12 and younger.

If you would like to be a vendor at the event, email wpwcbazaar@gmail.com.

IETD Training Program

IETD is offering a training program course in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, "What's On My Computer?," SharePoint and a computer/typing skills lab.

The course runs from 1-4 p.m. every Tuesday-Thursday through Dec. 20 at Jefferson Hall, Room 414. For course schedules, visit <http://usma-portal/dean/staff/ietd/training/Pages/default.aspx>.

For more information, call Thomas Gorman at 938-1186 for details and registration or contact Thomas.Gorman@usma.edu.

Garrison Command's new Facebook page

The West Point Garrison Command is the new owner of a Facebook page.

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.

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.

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.

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

NEW INFO

Scout Day

All local Scouts are encouraged to participate in Scout Day Sept. 29. Area packs and troops will receive a guided tour through West Point as they interact with Cadet Club displays and watch a parade. Scouts finish the day with a football game at Michie Stadium.

For more information, visit www.goarmysports.com/promotions/scout-days.html.

Army Education Center

Effective Oct. 1, the Army Education Center will no longer be able to administer proctored examinations for Soldiers, family members or civilians enrolled in college courses in the distance learning format.

Academic testing will be the responsibility of the academic institution where the student is enrolled. Consider the implications of testing arrangements when enrolling in distance learning courses.

For more information, contact the Education Center at 938-3464/5389.

Combined Federal Campaign

The official start of the Hudson Valley Combined Federal Campaign is Oct. 9 and will end Nov. 16.

For further information, contact your agency keyworker or Joanne Nocton, AG, at 938-2331.

DUSA Gift Shop job openings

The DUSA Gift Shop is now hiring. The shop is seeking to fill both part-time and full-time sales associate positions.

Send resumés to dusamgr@yahoo.com, with the subject being 'Resumé for (your name here please).'

For inquiries, call 845-446-0566.

This Week in Army Football

Army head football coach Rich Ellerson's This Week in Army Football Radio Show takes place at 7 p.m. Thursdays at the Cadet First Class Club.

The show is open to cadets, civilians, staff and faculty.

POW/MIA Day Program

The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor will commemorate National POW/MIA day at 2 p.m. Friday. The program will include a presentation on the Purple Heart and Prisoners of War, featuring some of the Roll of Honor recipients who are Purple Heart recipients.

Admission is free, but seating is limited so reservations are strongly suggested. To make a reservation, call 845-561-1765.

The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is located at 374 Temple Hill Road (Route 300) New Windsor.

Diversity Leadership Conference participants needed

The 13th annual Diversity Leadership Conference is scheduled for Oct. 2-4 at West Point.

To sign up for the conference, visit www.westpoint.edu/diversity/SitePages/DLC%20Conference.aspx.

Keller Corner

Kick the habit now

Do you want to breathe better? Do you want to smell better? Do you want to look better? Do you want to feel better?

Let's face it, smoking tastes bad, smells bad, chokes the life out of you and could make you ill.

Come join Keller every first and third Friday of every month in the 4th floor classroom for the Tobacco Cessation Program.

For more information, call the Preventative Medicine Department at 938-2676.

World Rabies Day

A global health observance Sept. 28 seeks to raise

awareness about rabies and enhance prevention and control efforts.

After the death of a Soldier from rabies last year, Army public health officials are reminding Army personnel to be aware of the risk of rabies during travel or deployments to less developed countries.

All rabies threat should be taken seriously, for more information on vaccinations, contact the Preventative Medicine Department at 938-5833.

KACH Outpatient Clinic Closures

All outpatient clinics, laboratory, pharmacy and radiology will be closed Oct. 2 for Suicide Stand Down Day.

The Emergency Room will remain open.



Black and Gold volunteers

Army Community Service celebrated the Black and Gold Volunteer Award and Volunteer of the 4th Quarter ceremony Sept. 6 at ACS, Bldg. 622. Deputy Garrison Commander Wilfred Plumley (far left) and Command Sgt. Maj. Kevin Fauntleroy (far right) stand with awardees Spc. Tory Rogers (BOSS), Erin Kidd (SJA Tax Center), Rick Walls (ACS/SFAC) and Staff Sgt. Matthew Atchley (BOSS). The Volunteer of the 4th Quarter was Kidd.

VIN GUARIGLIA/DPTMS VID



The Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) is a web-based system that allows customers to give feedback to customer service managers via electronic comment cards. These submissions allow the garrison leadership to provide customer feedback on products or services received within the Garrison. ICE submissions can now be submitted by simply scanning a quick response (QR) code.

Please take a moment and "Let Us Know How Were Doing." Visit the West Point ICE website at <http://ice.disa.mil> or by simply scanning the displayed QR Code.

Your feedback will help us deliver the excellent as service you expect and deserve.

Have a comment? For more information, contact Christine Guerriero, ICE manager, at 845-938-4277 or email christine.guerriero@usma.edu.

Weekly Sudoku by Chris Okasaki, D/EECS

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

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

See SUDOKU SOLUTION, Page 2

DPW NOTES

A contractor is constructing a new guard booth on Thayer Road in the area just past the security barriers and the Mills Road intersection through Oct. 19.

This will require the closure of one lane of traffic for excavation and creation of concrete pad. This notice is primarily for community awareness as minimal impact to traffic flow is anticipated.

The project manager for this work is Mike Nielsen, and he can be contacted at 938-5334.

NOW SHOWING

Movies playing at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

Friday—Total Recall, PG-13, 9:30 p.m.

Saturday—Ice Age: Continental Drift, PG, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday—The Bourne Legacy, PG-13, 9:30 p.m.

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

Command Channel 8/23

Sept. 20-27

Army Newswatch

Today, Friday and Monday

through Sept. 27

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

Life Works at Balfour Beatty Communities

• **West Point Yard Sale**—The West Point Yard Sale is scheduled for 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, rain or shine, throughout post. Yard sales are a great way to make a little extra space and put some cash in your pocket.

Army amassed 486 yards rushing, but fall 41-40

By Brian Gunning
Army Athletic Communications

Three Army players rushed for more than 100 yards but Northern Illinois made a key defensive stand late in the game and held on to beat the Black Knights, 41-40, in front of a crowd of 30,176 at Michie Stadium Sept. 15.

Junior running back Raymond Maples ran for 159 yards, sophomore fullback Larry Dixon picked up 136 and senior quarterback Trent Steelman battled for 116 yards as Army racked up a 486-173 advantage in rushing yards.

However, Northern Illinois quarterback Jordan Lynch completed 18-of-27 passes for 342 yards and four scores and ran for another to spoil Army's home-opener.

Army, trailing by one, had the ball with less than five minutes left to play but Northern Illinois forced a turnover on downs near midfield to secure the victory.

The Black Knights, now 0-2, dominated time of possession, 42:33-17:27.

Maples carried 23 times and scored a touchdown while Dixon found the end zone on three of his 28 rushes. Steelman called his own number 27 times and scored twice. He completed one of his three passes.

Army won the coin toss, elected to receive and quickly led 7-0. Sophomore running back Terry Baggett picked up 28 yards midway through the drive, setting up Maples' first score, from 22 yards away. Freshman kicker Daniel Grochowski kicked the PAT five minutes into the game.

Northern Illinois answered with a two-yard scoring pass from Lynch to Tim Semisch.

The Huskies took their first lead of the game after an Army punt when Lynch scampered for an 88-yard scoring run and a 14-7 advantage.

Northern Illinois added to its advantage early in the second quarter when Tommylee Lewis rushed for a 21-yard score.

The Black Knights got back in the game on the next possession, going 73 yards in 10 plays, capped by a three-yard scoring run from Dixon. Dixon carried the final three times on the drive for 25 yards. Grochowski missed the PAT and Northern Illinois led 21-13.

Lynch went to the air on the second play of the next drive, connecting with Lewis for a 69-yard scoring strike and a 28-13 lead.

Army cut the deficit before halftime with a 77-yard,



Sophomore running back Terry Baggett raced for 28 yards during Army's opening drive that led to the first touchdown of the game. However, Baggett was limited to 38 yards on three carries after getting injured in the first quarter.

PHOTOS BY TOMMY GILLIGAN/USMA PAO

13-play drive. Steelman completed an 8-yard pass to junior wide receiver Scott Williams early on the possession, sophomore running back Stephen Fraser rushed for eight yards and Dixon capped the drive with a 13-yard scoring jaunt. Maples' two-point conversion run failed and it was 28-19 at intermission.

Army's defense forced a punt to open the second half and the Black Knights got within two points after a 68-yard drive. Maples picked up 13 yards on first down and later ran for nine, leading to Steelman's 25-yard touchdown. Grochowski's PAT

made it a 28-26 contest.

The Black Knights' defense came up with a huge stop on the next possession when they forced a touchback on a fumble into the end zone.

Army took its second lead of the game with a 12-play, 80-yard drive. Dixon collected 14 yards on the first three plays, Maples scampered for 13 and then later 16 yards for another first down. Steelman rushed for 11 yards and then Dixon hit paydirt with a four-yard burst. Steelman connected with junior wide receiver Patrick Laird for the two-point conversion and a 34-28 Army advantage.

Northern Illinois went back on top, 35-34, in the fourth quarter as Lynch hit Martel Moore with a 31-yard touchdown with 13:25 left to play.

Army punted on its next possession but senior linebacker Nate Combs forced a fumble and sophomore defensive lineman Mike Ugenyi recovered. On the first play after the turnover, Steelman scooted 15 yards for a 40-35 Black Knights' lead, after the conversion run failed.

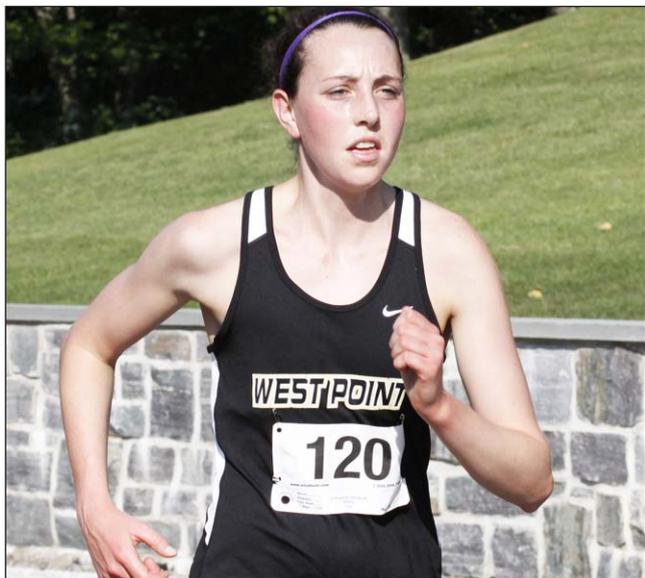
Northern Illinois, which had two scoring drives under a minute, used 4:19 to go 72 yards in 13 plays for the winning score. Lynch connected with Moore for a 27-yard first down and then later hit Jamison Wells for another 10-yard gain. Moore hauled in a 28-yard completion later in the drive and then caught an eight-yard scoring toss with 4:29 left in the game. The conversion run failed.

Army took over at its 25. Dixon ran for four yards, a pass interference penalty moved the chains and Dixon picked up two more. Steelman bruised his way for 10 yards for another first down. A rush for no gain and an illegal shift penalty were followed by a nine-yard run by Maples. Steelman picked up two but was dropped for a loss on fourth-and-four allowing Northern Illinois to run out the clock.

Sophomore defensive lineman Mike Ugenyi (right) dives to recover a fumble forced by senior linebacker Nate Combs. On the first play after the turnover, senior quarterback Trent Steelman blew past North Illinois' defensive line for a 15-yard touchdown to give Army a 40-35 lead. For the game, Ugenyi finished with a total of four tackles and a fumble recovery.



Army CC women capture team title at Iona Meet



By Pam Flenke
Army Athletic Communications

For the first time in program history, the Army women's cross country team captured the team title at the Iona Meet of Champions Sept. 15. Running at the historic course at Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx, N.Y., the Black Knight women were anchored by three top-10 times to clinch the trophy among the 12-team field with 112 runners.

Listed at 6,100 meters, the five Army scorers averaged a winning time of 23:13 led by sophomore standout Lisa Junta. Junta, who was the third scorer overall to complete the course, crossed the line in 22:23.10. Junior Liz O'Donnell followed in sixth place with her time of 22:56.84, while freshman Lindsay Gabow rounded out Army's top three in eighth place (23:05.51).

Junta has earned Army's top time in each of the first three meets, while O'Donnell and Gabow swapped positions after running the third and second-best team times, respectively, the past two weeks.

Overall, the Army women totaled 63 points to edge out runner-up Penn with 76 and third-place team Indiana (Pa.) which tallied 96. Prior to 2012, the Black Knights' best team

finish was in 1997 when they collected third place.

Unattached runner Kate Avery finished first overall (2:19.35), while Iona's Marion Joly-Testau was the top scorer to cross the line at 22:10.44.

On the men's side, Army totaled 122 points to place fifth in a field of 14. Brown won the team title with 44 points, while Kent State's Michael Heller won the individual belt with an 8K time of 25:22.26.

For the third consecutive week, junior Ricardo Galindo and senior James Hodgen finished 1-2 for the Black Knights. Galindo placed 15th overall in a field of 141, crossing the line in 26:02.25. Hodgen followed in 18th place (26:12.29), while Mark Castelli rounded out the top three with a 26th-place time of 26:22.73.

The Army men averaged a hilly 8K time of 26:20.

"For the women, that's a heck of a 1-2-3 punch," Army head coach Troy Engle said. "It was certainly a breakthrough meet for Liz O'Donnell—she ran a fantastic race. It was a good, solid performance for our women. For our men, most exciting for me was only 29 seconds separated our first (Galindo) and our fifth (Kevin Russell) runners. That's something we look for as coaches which shows that your team is a solid big-meet team."

Junior Liz O'Donnell finished sixth in a 6,100-meter course with a time of 22:56.84 to help Army win the team title at the Iona Meet Sept. 15. ERIC S. BARTELT/PV

Volleyball defeats Sacred Heart, finishes second at WP Challenge

By Tracy Nelson
Army Athletic Communications

In its final tune-up before Patriot League play begins next week, sophomore setter Mary Vaccaro put together a stellar all-around match to key the Army volleyball team in a 3-0 win over Sacred Heart in the final match of the West Point Challenge Sunday at Gillis Field House. The Black Knights cruised in a 25-16, 25-11, 25-14 win over the Pioneers en route to a second-place finish at their home tournament.

Army (8-5) finished with a 2-1 mark, while visiting VCU took home the title with an unblemished 3-0 record on the weekend. Juniors middle blocker Megan Wilton and outside hitter Margaux Jarka represented Army on the All-Tournament Team.

On Sunday, Vaccaro led all players in kills (8) and assists (18). The Orinda, Calif., native hit for a .727 percentage without a single error in 11 attempts. She added seven digs and three block assists.

Wilton and senior co-captain right side hitter Francine Vasquez chipped in with six kills apiece, while rookie setter Vanessa Edwards totaled 13 assists. Army hit .223 as a team, including a .290 effort in the second set.

Army's defense amassed 11 total blocks, matching its second-best effort of the season. Wilton totaled five block assists, while freshman middle Zoe Kreitenberg registered four total blocks (two solo, two assists).

Junior libero D.J. Phee continued put up big numbers again Sunday with a match-high 24 digs. Phee has reached the 20-dig plateau in four-straight matches. The Black Knights' defense held Sacred Heart to -.091 hitting on the day.

"I'm really proud of the way we grew this weekend," head coach Alma Kovaci said. "We were able to get a lot of players experience and became more confident in all of our options. That's the great part about all of it is we have options. We have the ability to adjust and are extremely comfortable in doing so. The team is ready to attack and has the right chemistry going into the Patriot League. It's been a tough preseason, but we did that on purpose. It was our goal to be ready, and I believe we are."



Sophomore setter Mary Vaccaro (#8) led all players with eight kills and 18 assists in Army's three-game sweep of Sacred Heart Sunday at Gillis Field House. With the victory, Army took second place at the West Point Challenge.

MIKE STRASSER/PV

With Phee at the service line, Army scored the first eight points of the opening set, which would end up being an indicator of things to come. The Black Knights did not trail in either of the first two sets, and their lone deficit of the day came facing a 1-0 hole to start the third set.

After securing a 25-16 first-set victory, Army scored 13 of the first 16 points of the second frame and led 13-3 on a

Sacred Heart error. The Pioneers would get no closer than nine points the rest of the way.

The teams traded points to start the third set, but Army wasted little time pulling away from Sacred Heart (2-11). Leading 4-3, Army took advantage of a Pioneer miscue and went on a decisive 12-5 run to put the match out of Sacred Heart's reach.