

February changes [as of 2/14]	
C FUND	+ 1.32 percent
I FUND	+ 2.67 percent
S FUND	+ 1.86 percent

## Army draws up \$11B wish list

By Megan Scully  
CongressDaily

The Army will send a roughly \$11 billion funding wish list for fiscal 2008 to Capitol Hill. It includes a desire for additional money for new vehicles and other gear, Army Chief of Staff Peter Schoomaker told the House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee Feb. 9.

Testifying at a budget hearing that turned bitterly partisan, Schoomaker outlined a list of so-called unfunded requirements -- items that did not make the cut for inclusion in the Army's fiscal 2008 wartime and base budgets -- that is substantially higher than similar requests in fiscal 2007 and fiscal 2006, which together totaled \$12.2 billion.

The list includes additional funds for the Mine Resistant Anti-Ambush Protected Vehicle, an Army-Marine Corps program whose V-shaped hull will offer better protection from roadside bombs, Schoomaker said. It also includes more funding for aircraft survivability equipment for Army planes and helicopters not deployed

to Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as more money to buy night-vision devices and fix the service's truck fleet, he said. It also includes \$2 billion to make up shortfalls in fiscal 2007 base closure accounts.

During the hearing, the four-star general called the Army's past statements that it will need supplemental funding two years after the end of the Iraq conflict a "conservative" estimate.

The service actually will continue to need billions of dollars for at least three years after the conflict to repair and replace

equipment lost or damaged during operations, he disclosed.

Meanwhile, both Army Secretary Francis Harvey and Schoomaker told lawmakers about continued readiness shortfalls in nondeployed forces, stating the service will not be fully equipped until 2013.

For "next-to-deploy [units], we're scrambling," Harvey said. "But we're catching up a bit."

The Army leaders stressed that deployed units have adequate training and equipment to handle their missions.

## Measure seeks to permanently correct military pay inequity

By Brittany R. Ballenstedt  
Govexec.com

A bill introduced last week in the Senate would allow Soldiers to treat combat pay, which is not taxed, as income eligible for valuable tax credits.

"When it comes to tax relief, our Soldiers do not deserve to be penalized," said Sen. Mark Pryor, D-Ark.

The bill (S. 516) is a response to a Government Accountability Office report [GAO-04-721R] on military compensation and its tax treatment. Pryor, along with Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont. and Senate Finance Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, requested the report in 2003.

GAO's analysis found that some military personnel at the lower end of the pay scale, many of whom had served in Iraq and Afghanistan, suffered significant income losses because combat tax exclusions decreased their taxable incomes enough to exclude them from receiving other tax advantages, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit for low-income workers and the Child Tax Credit.

The analysis found that service members suffering from the net loss in tax benefits tend to be lower-grade enlisted or junior officers who spent seven months or more in combat zones during the tax year, are married with children and have little or no other income. Pryor said the tax glitch affects as many as 10,000 combat-zone soldiers, with penalties as high as \$4,500 for officers and \$3,200 for enlisted members.

GAO characterized the result as an "unintended consequence," penalizing Soldiers serving in combat zones and consequently benefiting higher-earning military members who become eligible for a tax credit that is normally targeted to low-income workers.

In 2004, Congress passed the Tax Relief for Americans in Combat Act, which enabled combat-serving military personnel to continue receiving their combat pay exclusions while having the ability to take full advantage of other tax credits. That legislation, however, only applied permanently to the child tax credit.

The earned income tax credit provision was set to expire in December 2006 but was extended for one more year. Pryor's new

See PAY INEQUITY on page 3



## Viva! Las Vegas Night Feb. 23

Karen Govern [left] and Gwenn Wallace help assemble the baskets for the silent auction for Viva! Las Vegas Night Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. at the Hotel Thayer. [See story on page 6.]

SUZANNE SULLIVAN/WPWC

## INSIDE



WOMEN'S TENNIS READY FOR AIR FORCE, page 10

## Contract guard change

Submitted by the Directorate of Emergency Services



While many of the faces remain the same, you may have noticed a different patch on the uniforms of the security officers performing duties at West Point's installation access control points.

On Feb. 1, Chenega Integrated Systems, LLC of Jacksonville, Fla., partnering with TW & Company, Inc. of Silver Spring, Md., assumed responsibility for providing security officers to West Point. There may be a few new faces but the majority of personnel performing duties have been here from the start.

The change of service providers was a result of the Department of the Army's re-solicitation of contract guard contracts across the continental United States.

Retaining the majority of the personnel who were employed as security officers maintains a highly stable guard force. Chris Shaw, Security Officer for the Directorate of Emergency Services, is the contracting officer/technical representative and is responsible for the oversight and performance of the contract guards.

The Physical Security Section of the DES also provides assistance to the COTR with oversight and quality control of the guards. Individuals with guard related

See GUARD on page 3

## Recognizing depression and suicide prevention

**Commentary**  
submitted by ADCO

Each of us can help prevent suicide by educating ourselves and others about the symptoms of depression and the warning signs of suicide. People suffering from depression often do not show all symptoms or have them to the same degree. If one has four or more symptoms for more than two weeks, consulting a medical doctor or psychiatrist is recommended. Remember that only a medical doctor can diagnose depression.

Any talk of suicide should be taken seriously and help should be sought immediately. College student suicide is a national problem. It is the third leading cause of death among college-age students and is the 11th leading cause of death among Americans.

**Symptoms of Depression**

- Persistent sadness

- Feeling hopeless, helpless, worthless, pessimistic and/or guilty

- Substance abuse
- Fatigue or loss of interest in ordinary activities, including sex
- Disturbances in eating and sleeping patterns

- Irritability, increased crying, anxiety or panic attacks

- Difficulty concentrating, remembering or making decisions

- Thoughts of suicide, suicide plans or attempts

- Persistent physical symptoms or pains that do not respond to treatment

**Warning Signs of Suicide**

- Talking about suicide

- Statements about hopelessness, helplessness or worthlessness

- Preoccupation with death

- Suddenly happier, calmer

- Loss of interest in things one cares about

- Visiting or calling people one cares about

- Making arrangements; setting one's affairs in order.

- Giving things away

**Fast Facts**

- More people die from suicide than from homicide.

- Suicide rates among the elderly are highest for those who are divorced or widowed.

- For young people 15-24 years old, suicide is the third leading cause of death.

- 80 percent of people that seek treatment for depression are treated successfully.

**Common Misconceptions**

The following are common misconceptions about suicide.

*"People who talk about suicide won't really do it."* **Not True**

Almost everyone who commits or attempts suicide has given some clue or warning. Do not ignore

suicide threats. Statements like "you'll be sorry when I'm dead," "I can't see any way out," -- no matter how casually or jokingly said may indicate serious suicidal feelings.

*"Anyone who tries to kill him/herself must be crazy."* **Not True**

Most suicidal people are not psychotic or insane. They may be upset, grief-stricken, depressed or despairing, but extreme distress and emotional pain are not necessarily signs of mental illness.

*"If a person is determined to kill him/herself, nothing is going to stop him/her."* **Not True**

Even the most severely depressed person has mixed feelings about death, wavering until the very last moment between wanting to live and wanting to die. Most suicidal people do not want death; they want the pain to stop. The impulse to end it all, however overpowering, does not

last forever.

*"People who commit suicide are people who were unwilling to seek help."* **Not True**

Studies of suicide victims have shown that more than half had sought medical help within six months before their deaths.

*"Talking about suicide may give someone the idea."* **Not True**

You don't give a suicidal person morbid ideas by talking about suicide. The opposite is true -- bringing up the subject of suicide and discussing it openly is one of the most helpful things you can do.

For more info., contact Community Mental Health Services, 938-3441; Center for Personal Development -- [Corps of Cadets POC], 938-3022 or KACH ER, 938-4004/4005/4006.

[Adapted from [www.save.org](http://www.save.org)]

### SARP INFO

The members of the Sexual Assault Response and Prevention Team are Col. Jeanette McMahon, Shelley Ariosto (Garrison), Maj. Samantha Breton (USCC), Maj. Kim Kawamoto (ODIA) and Lt. Col. Robbie Williams (Dean). Community members can e-mail McMahon at [Jeanette.McMahon@usma.edu](mailto:Jeanette.McMahon@usma.edu) for advice or to offer any recommendations on the program here. Cadets can also call the sexual assault support helpline at (845) 591-7215. West Point Soldiers and civilians needing assistance can call (845) 938-3369.

### Weekly Sudoku by Chris Okasaki, D/EECS

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

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

Difficulty: Hard

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

See Solution on Page 7

## POINTER VIEW®

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# Local and National News

## West Point Tax Center entering busy tax season

By **Kathy Eastwood**  
Staff Writer

The West Point Tax Center, located in building 626 on the second floor here, is entering the busiest time of the season, according to Capt. John Fusco, West Point Tax Center officer-in-charge.

"We have sent out more than 170 returns since we started Jan. 29," he said. "We are right on pace with what we did last year at this time. Late February and March generally are the busiest times of the year for us."

The Tax Center is staffed with volunteers from the installation and spouses of Soldiers and officers who volunteer their time to help others with their tax returns. They have provided the community with

\$30,000 in services so far.

Fusco said if people here had to go out to H&R Block or other tax services, they would be paying for the services.

Here it is provided for free, thanks to our volunteers.

"We have an experienced staff here trained on personal taxes," said Fusco. "They all have been trained by the Internal Revenue Service and had to pass three exams on basic, intermediate and military tax returns."

Although the Tax Center deals mostly with personal and uncomplicated taxes, there are volunteer tax attorneys and Certified Public Accountant's here that can help those with more complicated tax returns.

Cadets can also receive tax help at the legal assistance office

located in Building 606 on the fourth floor.

"Cadets generally are not included as a dependent on anyone else's return and need to file tax returns," he said. "Cadets pay taxes on the interest on cadet accounts or returns on any investments they may have" he said.

According to Fusco, Anne Stocking, the lead tax preparer at the West Point Tax Center, will screen and interview cadets to make sure they have all the paperwork necessary to file a return.

"Some cadets assume that because they have their W-2 Forms, they are all set to go," he said. "That isn't true. Sometimes an investment statement from a bank may not come until the end of February and they will need that statement in order to file."

The Tax Center e-files federal returns and, for those states that allow it, will e-file state returns as well.

"Tax refunds are generally

quickest this way because the tax payer provides his or her bank account number and the routing number for the bank, which allows refunds to be directly deposited into an account," he said. "They generally receive their refunds within two weeks."

The Tax Center is open for appointments from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for active duty, retirees and their family members.

Reserve and National Guard on active status for more than 30 days

also qualify for assistance.

"We do accept walk-ins, but because the tax season will be getting busier from now on, we advise people to call for an appointment at 938-6165," Fusco said.

Individual appointments are generally one-half hour to one-hour in length.

The Tax Center will be open until 'Tax Day', April 17.

An extension was given this year because the usual tax day of

### **PAY INEQUITY, cont. from page 1**

bill aims to make the provision permanent.

"This is make-or-break money for our Soldiers and their families," Pryor said. "If we allowed this tax benefit to expire, we would have shortchanged the men and women serving heroically in combat who are not making much money, have families to provide for and have little or no savings."

Meanwhile, a separate 2004 measure addresses another problem associated with military members in filing their taxes. The Military Family Tax Relief Act gives

military members serving outside the United States and Puerto Rico an extended deadline for filing. Those serving in a combat zone can postpone filing their taxes 180 days after their last day of combat service, under the law.

### **GUARD, cont. from page 1**

issues are encouraged to contact Shaw or the Physical Security section at the Provost Marshal's Office at 938-2042.

# Community Features and Photos

## African-Americans continue tradition of distinguished service

By Gerry J. Gilmore

[Editor's Note: This is Part II of a two-part story on the tradition of African-American distinguished service.]

America was again engaged in a global war after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, Dec. 7, 1941. African-American serviceman Navy Ship's Cook 3rd Class Dorie Miller distinguished himself during the Pearl Harbor attack and won the Navy Cross. Miller voluntarily manned an anti-aircraft gun and shot down four Japanese planes, despite his lack of gunnery training.

During World War II, more than 1 million African-Americans answered the nation's call, despite the continuance of segregated units and discrimination. Civil rights leaders of that time saw military service as a way for African-Americans to achieve long-denied rights and respect.

African-Americans served with distinction in units such as the 761st Tank Battalion, the 555th Infantry Parachute Battalion, the 99th Pursuit Squadron, and the 332nd Fighter Group. The Third Army's march across Europe under Gen. George S. Patton after D-Day was facilitated by African-American quartermaster troops who drove supply trucks for the "Red Ball Express."

Benjamin O. Davis Sr. became the first African-American general officer in the regular Army and the U.S. armed forces when he was promoted to brigadier general Aug. 1, 1941. Davis was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for his work as inspector of African-American troop units during the war. In 1954, Davis's son, Benjamin O. Davis Jr., would become the first African-American general in the U.S. Air Force.

Yet, at first, there were no African-American Medal of Honor recipients from World War II. After an Army study, that oversight was rectified Jan. 13, 1997, when President Bill Clinton presented Medals of Honor to families of seven World War II-era African-American servicemen. One, Army 1st Lt. Vernon Baker, was the only recipient still living and present to receive his award. The other six Soldiers received their medals posthumously.

Near the end of World War II, an Army survey conducted in May and June of 1945 asked white



**Davis, the first African-American to graduate from West Point in the 20th century, commanded the Tuskegee Airmen, an all-black flying unit in WWII.** PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

officers and noncommissioned officers about the performance of about 2,500 African-American troops who had volunteered for combat duty in the European theater of operations. More than 80 percent of leaders interviewed said that African-American Soldiers had performed very well in combat. And, 69 percent of officers and 83 percent of the NCOs queried said they saw no reason why African-American infantrymen should not perform as well as white Soldiers if both had the same training and experience.

A majority of officers in the survey also approved of integrating African-American platoons within white company units. However, many senior military leaders at that time remained reluctant to move toward total integration.

Other surveys conducted by the U.S. government after the war cited the unfairness and inefficiency of having segregated military units. President Harry S. Truman's Committee on Civil Rights' landmark report, titled, "To Secure These Rights," condemned racial segregation wherever it existed and specifically criticized the practice of segregation in the U.S. armed forces. The report, issued Oct. 29, 1947, recommended legislation and administrative action "to end immediately all discrimination and segregation based on race, color, creed or national origin" in all branches of the U.S. military.

Truman decided to end segregation in the armed forces and the civil service by administrative action through an executive order, rather than by legislation. On July

26, 1948, he signed Executive Order 9981. It states: "It is hereby declared to be the policy of the president that there shall be equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed services without regard to race, color, religion, or national origin." The order also established a presidential committee on equality of treatment and opportunity in the armed services.

The Korean War erupted in June 1950 and somewhat slowed the implementation of Truman's order. However, more than 600,000 African-Americans served in the armed forces during the war. Two African-American Army sergeants, Cornelius H. Charlton and William Thompson, earned the Medal of Honor during the conflict, which ended in 1953.

"Project Clear" conducted by Johns Hopkins University and released in 1954, studied the effects of segregation and integration in the Army both in the United States and in Korea. The report concluded that racially segregated units negatively affected Army efficiency, while integration enhanced military readiness. By the end of 1954, the last all-African-American unit had been disbanded, while African-American enlistment in the military grew.

In June 1961, the Defense Department issued a directive designed to eliminate off-post discrimination. By 1963, commanders were made responsible to ensure that their troops were treated fairly by off-post landlords.

During the Vietnam War (1962-

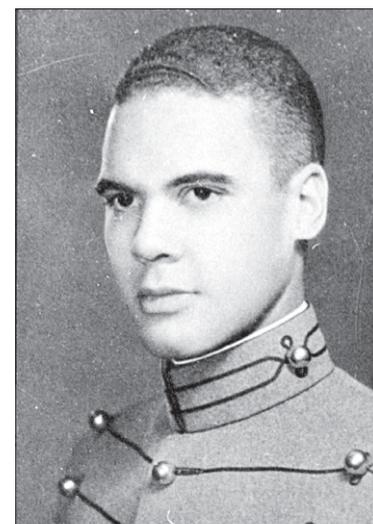
75) African-Americans continued to join the armed forces in large numbers. Many volunteered to join the prestigious and high-risk airborne and air mobile helicopter combat units.

Future Air Force Gen. Daniel "Chappie" James Jr., a graduate of the African-American pilot training program conducted at then-Tuskegee College, later Tuskegee University, Ala., during World War II, flew 78 combat missions into North Vietnam. James later became the first four-star African-American general in the U.S. armed forces. There were 20 African-American Medal of Honor recipients during the Vietnam War.

African-American enlistment into the U.S. military jumped with the advent of the all-volunteer force in 1973. African-Americans made up about 17 percent of the military's enlisted force when the draft ended in 1973. By the early 1980s, African-Americans made up nearly 24 percent of the enlisted force.

And when the United States and its allies pushed Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein's forces out of Kuwait in 1991, the most-senior officer in the U.S. military was an African-American, Army Gen. Colin L. Powell, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Powell later served as Secretary of State in President George W. Bush's administration.

And today, African-Americans continue to answer duty's call as members of the U.S. armed forces during the war against global terrorism. During a recent



**Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. [USMA 1936].** PHOTO COURTESY OF THE USMA LIBRARY ARCHIVES

Army commemoration of the work and birthday of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., guest speaker Andrew J. Young Jr. remarked that the U.S. military fulfills King's dream of equality and social justice for all by its practice of promoting people based on individual merit, rather than by ethnic makeup.

Servicemembers "appreciate the diversity of this nation, and you fight to defend the freedoms and opportunities of all of our citizens," Young said at the observance. "And that is what makes the military a leader in our society."

[Editor's Note: Gilmore writes for the American Forces Press Service. Information for this article was compiled from U.S. military documents, U.S. National Archives and Records Administration material and other sources.]

# Cadets visit Inter-American Defense College

Story and photo by MC2 [AW]  
Cassandra Thompson  
U.S. Navy

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- U.S. Military Academy cadets got a chance to mingle with Latin-American dignitaries Feb. 9-10 at the Inter-American Defense College in Washington.

For the second year in a row, Firsties engaged in the capstone linguistics project applied their West Point training to real-world situations presented by senior-level military and civilian leaders at IADC.

The 46 cadets were divided into 10 country groups. Students and advisors from the IADC presented country orientations and highlighted issues facing their countries entirely in Spanish or Portuguese, giving the cadets the opportunity to discuss and debate solutions to those problems.

"The objective is that the students and advisors of the IADC will share their knowledge with the cadets in an academic environment," said IADC director, Maj. Gen. Keith Huber. "Our guests also have the opportunity to practice their language skills, which they have been studying at the academy, with people who are fluent in these languages."

Major Shane Baker, a Portuguese instructor at West Point, highlighted other benefits of the trip. He said this experience would teach the cadets to present ideas to senior officers, not only from the U.S., but from other countries as well.

"It also strengthens relationships between our armies," Baker, from Portola, Calif., said. "Some of these cadets will form friendships with IADC students that will last throughout their careers."

Cadet 1st Class Mary Boyle, who had studied Spanish for five years and is now a Chinese major at West Point, said this year's topic, immigration, led to lively discussions between the cadets and the defense college's students and advisors.

"Our panel is made up of students not only from Nicaragua, but also from neighboring countries such as Ecuador, Honduras and Guatemala," Boyle, from Fairfax, Va., said. "I think it helped keep the discussion open and honest, and revealed cultural and political trends in the region."

Baker said at the end of the project, each student writes a paper that will be nested in a group thesis. Huber, and other general officers

from the Inter-American Defense Board, the technical arm of the Organization of American States, and parent command of the IADC, will travel to West Point in May, he said, to hear presentations and recommendations for the future from the cadets.

"The language and cultural immersion is a phenomenal opportunity for them," Baker said. "It's like going to another country without making the trip."

The Inter-American Defense College, located on Fort Lesley J. McNair, is one of the foremost institutes of learning for senior-level officials with an interest in the political, economic and military issues facing Latin America today. Driven by a



Coronels Jefferson Wanderley [left] and Fernando S. Nunes of Brazil debate issues facing their country with U.S. Military Academy cadets and faculty Feb. 9.

grant from the Organization of American States, IADC is able to offer approximately 60 students a

year an unparalleled educational and research experience. Many former scholars have returned to

their parent countries to become presidents, senators, leaders and policy makers.

# Jewish Chapel Cadet Choir performs at the 17th Annual Jewish Collegiate Festival

Story and photo by  
Susan Schwartz  
EECS/OIC,  
Jewish Chapel Choir

The Jewish Chapel Cadet Choir, led by Cadet 3rd Class Zachary Ciccolo as student conductor and musical director, performed Sunday at the 17th Annual Jewish Collegiate Festival of the Performing Arts at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City.

The festival is an annual opportunity for Jewish performance groups to get together and share their passion for Jewish song and dance. The singing is all a cappella.

The cadets opened both shows

with a march-on, cadence and singing the National Anthem and Hatikvah [the National Anthem of Israel]. They also performed in the second show singing "Jerusalem of Gold", "This is My Land" and the West Point Alma Mater.

The choir has performed in the festival for many years. This year, the performances were recorded by Shalom TV, a premium digital cable television network celebrating Jewish culture, for a possible future broadcast.

Cadet 1st Class Daniel Harrison, Cadet-in-Charge for the weekend, noted that this was going to be the last choir trip of his cadet career and that "it was great to go out with a bang!"

In addition to the West Point



Members of the Jewish Chapel Cadet Choir perform a little "schtick" to *This is My Country* during a performance at the 17th Annual Jewish Collegiate Festival of the Performing Arts Sunday. This amused the audience as their performance until then had been so formal.

cadets, the participants this year included groups from Brandeis University, University of Michigan, Columbia University, Barnard College, Jewish Theological Seminary, Cornell University, Johns Hopkins University, Boston University, Tufts University, University of Maryland, The Ohio State University, Binghamton University, New York University, Bryn Mawr College, Haverford College, Swarthmore College, Queens College and University of Pennsylvania.

The Choir also performed for three Jewish Heritage clubs in the Boynton Beach, Fla., area the end of January, reaching over 1,100 audience members.

## Viva! Las Vegas Night

Submitted by the WPWC

The West Point Women's Club will host their annual fundraiser, *Viva! Las Vegas, Casino Night and Silent Auction* Feb. 23 from 7 p.m. until midnight at the Thayer Hotel.

Groups all around West Point are putting together exciting baskets and prizes for the Silent Auction.

"We have a great variety of baskets this year that will appeal to a wide range of tastes," said Karen Govern, one of the silent auction coordinators. "There are some very creative ideas out there, including sports-themed baskets, luxurious spa baskets, family vacation baskets and more."

Baskets come in many shapes and sizes including a large dice ottoman filled with games and a wheelbarrow filled with everything needed to go to a West Point football tailgate

party. Guests attending *Viva! Las Vegas* will have the opportunity to look over the prizes and place silent bids for items they would like to buy.

*Viva! Las Vegas* is a fundraiser for the WPWC and supports various clubs and activities around post. Schools, clubs, organizations and even families of deployed Soldiers benefit from the funds raised at *Viva! Las Vegas*.

The evening also includes casino-type games and live entertainment, as well as the silent auction. This year the WPWC has introduced an exciting addition -- a high stakes poker tournament.

Reservations are still being taken for the tournament. E-mail [wpwcpoker@yahoo.com](mailto:wpwcpoker@yahoo.com) or call 446-2534.

Tickets can be purchased at the door and attendees with funny money to use at the event.

To volunteer, e-mail [vivavolunteers@yahoo.com](mailto:vivavolunteers@yahoo.com).

# Community Leisure



## FEBRUARY/MARCH MWR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Visit MWR online at [www.usma.edu/mwr](http://www.usma.edu/mwr)

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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Offer does not apply to do-it-yourself framing jobs.

Limit 1 per person Expires 3/24/07.

16



Museums in NYC, 9am-5pm, ITR

Soul Food Celebration for Black History Month, 3pm, SAS (grades1-5)

17

Waiting Families Support Group, 5-7pm, ACS, Held @ Bldg. 500



18



Mite Hockey Tournament, 6am, YC (Feb 18, 19 & 20)  
Lunar New Year Celebration in Chinatown, 10am-5pm, ITR  
Staff & Faculty Hockey Program, 8:15-10:45pm, Tate Rink

19

President's Day Holiday



All MWR Activities Closed Except for Ski and Morgan Farm

20

Parent & Me, 9:30-10:45 (ages 18 mos-4) YC  
Spring Story Hour, WP Library, 10am & 1:30pm  
Round Pond Tent/RV Site Reservations Begin (all eligible) 938-8811



21



Cardio Sculpt, 9am, Spinning, 5pm, Every Wednesday at the MWR Fitness Center

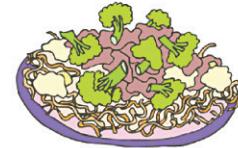
22

NY Philharmonic Open Rehearsal, 8am-3pm, ITR



Family Night Buffet w/ Macaroni the Clown, 5-7pm, WP Club

23



BGCA Graphic Design, 2:15, YC

Hail & Farewell B-Day Celebration, 3:30-5pm YC  
Mongolian BBQ, 5-9pm, WP Club

24



Polar Fest, 12pm-9pm, WP Ski, Registration going on now!

25



Brides Champagne Brunch, 12-3pm, WP Club  
Open Skate, 3:30-5pm, Tate Rink  
Staff & Faculty Hockey Program, 8:15-10:45pm, Tate Rink

26

Wee Ones Play Group, 9:30-11am, ACS  
Parent & Me, 9:30-10:45 (18 mos-4 yrs) YC



27



Spring Story Hour, WP Library, 10am & 1:30pm  
Spinning, 5:40am, Group Pump, 9am, Cardio Blast, 5pm Every Tuesday at the MWR Fitness Center

28

Overseas Briefing, Korea, 1:30pm, Germany, 3pm, ATBF Training Level I, 5:30-7:30pm, ACS



March 1

Spinning, 5:40am, Cardio Blast, Ab Lab, 9am, Every Thursday at the MWR Fitness Center

Theater Van to Broadway, 7-11:30pm, ITR



2



Cardio Kickboxing, 9am, Every Friday at the MWR Fitness Center

3



Defensive Driving, 8am-3pm, ACS, Register at ITR  
JR Ski Race, 9am-12pm, WP Ski  
Theater Van to Broadway, 7-11:30pm, ITR

### Solution to Weekly Sudoku

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

# What's Happening

## Supes' semi-annual command brief

The Superintendent's semi-annual command interest briefing is scheduled for Feb. 23 from 12:45 to 1:45 p.m., in Thayer Hall's Robinson Auditorium.

IAW USMA Reg. 600-1, this briefing is mandatory for all officers, all non-commissioned officers [E-7 and above] and civilian employees [GS-9 and above].

Others who wish to attend should coordinate with their activities.

Everyone must be seated by 12:40 p.m. The briefing will be broadcast live on the Command Channel and will be rebroadcast Feb. 26 at 1 p.m. and Feb. 27 at 9 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

## AFAP Steering Committee

The West Point community is invited to attend the Commander's

Army Family Action Plan Steering Committee Update Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon in the Jewish Chapel Social Hall.

Please join us to hear about and discuss the status of your community's AFAP issues.

For more information contact Army Community Service at [845] 938-4621, DSN 688-4621.

Issues being briefed can be found by clicking on the 2006 AFAP Symposium outbrief link at <http://www.usma.edu/mwr/ACTIVITY/IVC/IVC.HTM>.

## Photo exhibit opens today

Local photographer Ted Spiegel will have an exhibit of his photographs of West Point and the Hudson River Valley on display at Eisenhower Hall's Class of 1929 Gallery beginning today and running through April 7.

There will be a reception Feb.

25 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the same location.

To R.S.V.P. call 938-2782.

## Chapel Gospel Congregation

The West Point Chapel Gospel Congregation invites the West Point community to join them in a celebration of African-American History Month Feb. 25 at 12:30 p.m. at the West Point Chapel.

For more information contact Lt. Col. Archie Wilmer at 938-6726.

## New fingerprinting hours

Beginning March 1 fingerprinting will only be conducted on Wednesdays from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Provost Marshal's Office.

## Wyldlife Barn Social

The Wyldlife Barn Social, for sixth through eighth grade students, is March 3 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the West Point Elementary School.

If your last name ends in A-M bring something salty, like chips. If your last name ends in N-Z bring something sugary, like cookies.

## Free tax preparation

MilitaryOneSource offers free tax preparation and filing.

Visit [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com) to file your federal and state taxes with TaxCut Basic Online by H&R Block.

Call 800-342-9647.

You name it, they can help -- 24/7.

Provided by the Department of Defense at no cost to active duty, Guard and Reserve [regardless of activation status] and their family members.

## Red Cross needs your stories

The American Red Cross at West Point is looking for interesting true stories from anyone who has

had an uplifting experience with the American Red Cross or Armed Forces Emergency Services.

Contact Michelle Strom, the area director for the WP ARC, at [845] 938-4100.

## Red Cross classes

To register for any of the classes below, go to [www.nyredcross.org](http://www.nyredcross.org) or call 800-514-5103.

## CPR/AED

for the professional rescuer

March 4, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## First Aid for Cats and Dogs

March 10, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## Lay Responder First Aid/CPR/AED instructor course

[Prerequisites: FIT and PreCourse testing.]

Sunday and Feb. 25, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Babysitter's training

Are you 11 years old or older and want to learn basic child care?

Feb. 24, 9 to 4:30 p.m. and March 24, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

# Keller Corner

## KACH closures

All outpatient clinics, laboratory, pharmacy and radiology will be closed today and Monday. The emergency room will remain open.

## Upcoming Blood Drive

The American Red Cross in Greater New York-Putnam/West

Point is requesting volunteers from Orange and Putnam counties and the West Point community to help support the blood drive at West Point March 19-22 at Eisenhower Hall.

The times will be 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., March 19-21 and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 22. To volunteer call [845] 938-4100.

## NOW SHOWING

in the movie theater at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

Friday -- Happily N'ever After, PG, 7:30 p.m.

Friday -- Night at the Museum, PG, 9:30 p.m.

Feb. 23 -- Stomp the Yard, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 23 -- Freedom Writers, PG-13, 9:30 p.m.

Feb. 24 -- The Pursuit of Happyness, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 24 -- Alpha Dogs, R, 9:30 p.m.

The theater schedule can also be found at [www.aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com).

# Command Channel 8/23

Feb. 16 - Feb. 23

## Friday

8:30 a.m. Army Newswatch

1 p.m. Army Newswatch

6 p.m. Army Newswatch

## Monday - Thursday

8:30 a.m. Army Newswatch

1 p.m. Army Newswatch

6 p.m. Army Newswatch

## Feb. 23

12:45 p.m. Supes' Semi-Annual Brief

# MWR Blurbs

## Polar Fest registration

Registration is now underway for the 2007 Polar Fest at the West Point Ski Slope Feb. 24.

Register early and save.

Advance registration is required for competitive events.

Event activities will be open from noon until 9 p.m.

Free admission for family members of deployed Soldiers.

Call the Ski Sales Office at 938-3726 for more information or go online to [www.usma.edu/mwr](http://www.usma.edu/mwr).



## Ski lessons

Ski instructor Bob Ryan [left] teaches Sgt. 1st Class Myra Fishburn and Maj. Melissa Eslinger how to move over flat ground while on skis during free ski and snowboard lessons for Soldiers sponsored by MWR Feb. 9. Twenty-six new skiers and snowboarders from the rank of private to colonel took advantage of the offer.

SGT. MAJ. CAL CRISTIENSEN/BAND

# Army and Community Sports

## Army Women's Tennis youth takes reigns

Story and photos by  
Eric S. Bartelt  
Sports Editor

Potential is where a lack of experience and a ton of talent meet and this year's meeting place is at a tennis court where the Army Women's Tennis team practices or plays.

The team is coming off back-to-back Patriot League championships and trips to the NCAA tournament, but now it faces its sternest test as the team's young core has to take full reign on the court.

Off to a 1-5 dual meet start, the young women are gaining experience against tough competition as they head toward a match up against Air Force Saturday.

"[In 2005], we really had a good year and I thought we would have a great shot in beating some nationally ranked teams, but we lost our number one and two [players] last year for off court reasons," said Army Women's Tennis head coach Paul Peck. "So, all of a sudden, I thought we would be starting a couple of sophomores, juniors and seniors, but instead I ended up starting four freshmen.

"It was a baptism by fire by throwing them out there for the experience," Peck added, "and like this year, they started off a bit slow, but then they gained composure and momentum."

The squad isn't short on adversity this year either as their only senior, Kate Houghton, will miss the rest of the season with an ACL tear of her right knee and one

of only two juniors, Diana Alquero, is recovering from shoulder surgery in November.

"Right now, this is the smallest team I've ever had because of injuries," Peck explained. "I have eight who can start and nine when Diana comes back. The key to winning a championship in the Patriot League is the team with the healthiest players at the end of the season will come out on top.

"Having more depth allows you to rest people more often and mix up the lineup a bit more," he added. "Depth would allow me to sit people who, at this time, have minor injuries that could heal faster with rest and still allow me a strong lineup."

Peck will be getting reinforcements next fall with a great recruiting class that will include Kate's younger sister, Anne Houghton, but until then the team will lean on its current core of sophomores and freshmen.

One of the team's best players is sophomore Nikki Flach, who finished last season as the Patriot League "Rookie of the Year."

Flach, who is the niece of Olympic gold medalist and six-time Grand Slam champion Ken Flach, is Army's number one player in singles and doubles. She helped Army to its first dual win of the season against Stony Brook Sunday at the Lichtenberg Tennis Center by winning both her singles and doubles matches. She is looking forward to leading this team to future success.

"We may be in the midst of a slow start, but we know it's the

circumstance that we're in and it will take time for things to come together," Flach said. "We can't force it because we'll just drive ourselves crazy and that would ruin the team."

The team features five sophomores, two freshmen and one junior in its lineup as it stands now, and Flach is not worried about the team being able to pull through its youthful struggles.

"It's actually an encouragement knowing that we're so young and so strong," Flach stated. "With our age, it makes us so excited for the future because we'll continue to get stronger and our recruiting class for next year is great.

"With a lot of strong players coming in, we're getting that unstoppable feeling," Flach added. "It's very encouraging that we have a couple of more years of success ahead."

Another strong asset from the sophomore class is Sarah Giles-Madden, who teamed with fellow sophomore, Jessica Shurtz, to earn the MVP honors at last year's Patriot League tournament.

Giles-Madden has been fighting through a lower back injury and had to play the fall schedule recovering from a broken finger that she received participating in combatives during Cadet Field Training during the summer.

Peck likes his team's character and talent, especially Giles-Madden, who wears her emotions on her sleeve and puts much pressure on her opponents.

"She has a fiery, competitive nature and that helps her," Peck said. "She's tenacious and strong in the backcourt. She takes the ball on the rise and puts a lot of pressure



Sophomore Sarah Giles-Madden has fought through a lower back injury and a broken finger this year. She teamed with doubles mate, sophomore Jessica Shurtz, last spring to earn the Patriot League tournament MVP while leading Army to its second straight NCAA tournament berth.

on the opponents by making them move a lot."

Giles-Madden said last year the team's goal was to beat Air Force and make the NCAAs and that this year the team is looking to win a match at the NCAAs after losing to Stanford and Southern

Cal, respectively, 4-0 the last two NCAA tournaments.

"We're going to set higher goals for ourselves," Giles-Madden said, "and as we gain those goals we're building more confidence than the year before and we can keep

See YOUTH on page 11



Sophomore Nikki Flach plays number one singles and doubles for Army. She was the Patriot League "Rookie of the Year" in 2006 finishing with 30 wins on the season.

## Intramural update

### PLAYOFF RESULTS AS OF TUES.

#### NORTH DIV. QUARTERS

MATH #1 23, DPE 22, OT  
MATH #1 23, DPE 12  
[MATH #1 WINS SERIES 2-0]

SYSTEMS ENGR. 2, IETD 0  
SYSTEMS ENGR. 2, IETD 0  
[SYSTEMS WINS SERIES 2-0]

SOCIAL SCIENCE 30, BS&L 25  
SOCIAL SCIENCE 31, BS&L 23  
[SOCIAL SCIENCE WINS 2-0]

DMI 44, MEDDAC 33  
DMI 33, MEDDAC 22  
[DMI WINS 2-0]

### SOUTH DIV. SEMI-FINAL

ENGLISH 32, USMA BAND 27  
USMA BAND 38, ENGLISH 34 (OT)  
[SERIES TIED AT 1-1]

#### QUARTERS

EE&CS 32, HISTORY 19  
HISTORY 16, EE&CS 14  
[SERIES TIED AT 1-1]

USMA BAND 32, 3RD REGIMENT 17  
3RD REGIMENT 25, USMA BAND 17  
USMA BAND 27, 3RD REGIMENT 24  
[USMA BAND WINS 2-1]

ENGLISH 21, MATH 13  
ENGLISH 32, MATH 22  
[ENGLISH WINS 2-0]

## SPORTS NOTES

• **NIGHT TIME UNIT  
INTRAMURAL and STAFF  
& FACULTY NOONTIME  
VOLLEYBALL** signups are  
underway.

Both leagues are scheduled  
to start March 19 and will run  
through May.

Team entry deadlines for  
both leagues run until March 1.

All teams can signup by  
calling James McGuinness at  
938-3066 or e-mail him at [James.McGuinness@usma.edu](mailto:James.McGuinness@usma.edu).

# Marathon Team builds up for Boston Marathon trip

Story and photo by Cadet 3rd  
Class Spencer Garrison  
Marathon Team PAO

The Army Marathon Team made great strides Sunday in their annual train-up for the Boston Marathon, traveling to Southport, Conn., to compete in the Boston Build-Up Series 20k Road Race.

Facing morning temperatures below freezing and a daunting course strewn with hills, 12 cadets, an exchange midshipman and an officer braved the elements to complete the challenging 12.5-mile event.

Senior Brandon Corbin won the race with a time of 1:12:30 (averaging 5:50 per mile), beating out the nearest competitor by a full minute, while senior Erin Jensen led the Army women's squad,

finishing in 1:35:38.

The race is the first of a three-part winter/spring series intended to better prepare runners from around the region for the demands of the historic and famously grueling 26.2 mile Boston Marathon, which will be held April 16.

Cadet-in-Charge junior Vik Bakshi explained, "The painful course helps simulate some of the challenges runners will face in Boston this coming April as well as help gauge where each runner is at this point in the season."

The USMA runners are training hard to once again strongly represent the Academy and the Army this spring at the Boston Marathon, and therefore will follow through with the two remaining Boston Build-Up races, a 25k on March 4 and a 30k on March 25.



Senior Brandon Corbin

## YOUTH, cont. from page 10

going [toward winning at the NCAAs]."

Saturday's 10 a.m. match up versus Air Force, as described by Peck, will be a test of the team's ability, training and coaching to see where they stand right now and if they are going in the right direction. Army beat Air Force last season in a 4-3 thriller, which kind of caught Giles-Madden off guard.

"I can't really describe it," Giles-Madden explained. "I remember before the match everyone was making such a big deal of it and I was like, 'I know it's Air Force and whatever,' and they built it up, but once you're in the moment I was like, 'Oh, my God, I'm playing Air Force,'"

"It is definitely exciting," she added. "Especially watching [graduate Amanda Paluch] when

she decided the win for us."

Peck encourages the community to come out and watch his team play against Air Force. He wants people to see the athleticism of the women on the team and the speed of the game. He believes it's a team worth watching and it will only get stronger due to its passionate youth.

"If we're able to have a good year, I think much of the credit should be given to these kids because our other teams always had strong upper classes. For them to do well would give them a huge amount of confidence for the upcoming years," Peck said. "I think if we end up winning the championship that it will send a message to the rest of the league that, 'wow, this is a young team and they've got a great recruiting class."