

West Point

FALL 2012



In This Issue:
“The Destination”

A Publication of the West Point
Association of Graduates

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The mission of *West Point* magazine is to tell the West Point story and strengthen the grip of the Long Gray Line.
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POSTMASTER

West Point is published quarterly in Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall by the West Point Association of Graduates, 698 Mills Road, West Point, NY 10996-1607.

West Point is printed by Dartmouth Printing Company.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions may be ordered for \$35 (domestic mail) online at WestPointAOG.org; by calling 800.BE.A.GRAD; or by sending a check to WPAOG, West Point magazine, 698 Mills Road, West Point, NY 10996-1607. (International shipping incurs additional fees; please inquire.)
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ON THE COVER

Now CPT Todd Stawicki '07 with Iraqi children in Sharqat, Iraq.

As you read this issue of *West Point* magazine, remember that many members of the Long Gray Line currently are deployed in combat. We honor all those who served or are serving and those who have fallen.

Dear Fellow Graduates and Friends:

First, I want to thank everyone who attended and made the recent Class of '67 Alumni Leaders Conference the best ever. During this event, held every year during Reorg Week in August, we host West Point Class and Society Leaders from around the world to trade best practices, receive updates from the Academy's Leader Team and WPAOG staff, and welcome the latest Class to the Long Gray Line. This year it was the Class of 2016 that marched back with members of their 50-Year Affiliation Class, the Class of '66. Well done!

The week after the Conference, the WPAOG Nominating Committee met and, in accordance with our Bylaws, nominated five Regular Members to become Directors on the Board as well as six to become Advisors at Large on the Advisory Council. This year's competition was exceptionally tough because of the number and quality of the entire slate of applicants—the largest since we adopted our new Bylaws in 2006. I thank everyone who stepped forward to help us lead this great organization in serving West Point and its graduates, and I again strongly encourage all graduates of every gender, race, and Class to participate in one of our governing bodies. Keep an eye out for your annual election email ballot that should be coming to you within the next several weeks—and don't forget to vote!

WPAOG also offers graduates, parents, and friends the opportunity to support West Point. Your gifts will provide direct unrestricted support that enables USMA leaders to fund a wide range of unique opportunities that further develop each member of the Corps of Cadets to better equip them as they emerge to become true Leaders of Character in a fast-changing world. Please be as generous as you can in supporting the Margin of Excellence that supports today's cadets.

As one of the very few alumni associations without member dues, and the only service academy without them, we ask graduates and friends to also think of the Long Gray Line Fund when making their philanthropic plans. Events surrounding the 50-Year Affiliation and Ring Melt programs, the Class of '67 Alumni Leaders Conference, and a host of other much needed graduate services—to include Herbert Alumni Center—would not exist without your commitment to the Long Gray Line Fund. Thank you for your consideration and please contact me if you have questions or need clarification on how funds are used.

Every season is special at West Point, and with footballs and soccer balls in the air, autumn is no exception. It's exciting to represent you at this magnificent national treasure, our alma mater. The WPAOG staff and I look forward to welcoming each Reunion Class back this fall, and to seeing many of you at football away game tailgates—and certainly in Philadelphia, when we Beat Navy!

West Point, for Thee!



Bob McClure '76
President & CEO
West Point AOG



A Letter from the Superintendent

In this issue, the West Point Association of Graduates has placed thoughtful emphasis on the “why” of the United States Military Academy.



That “why” begins and ends with our Mission, which we speak about at every briefing to every audience—a mission which addresses the requirement to build leaders of character who will serve as officers in the U.S. Army. Our Mission was eloquently addressed by General Colin Powell, former Secretary of State, who noted the following in his 1998

acceptance speech of the Sylvanus Thayer Award: “For almost 200 years West Point has provided the warrior leaders of the nation. There is no other reason for West Point to exist. You have no other purpose in being here.”

To educate, train, and inspire the Corps of Cadets so that each graduate is a commissioned leader of character committed to the values of Duty, Honor, Country and prepared for a career of professional excellence and service to the Nation as an officer in the United States Army.

Our leadership development to support USMA’s Mission was placed in sharp profile this summer with cadets participating, studying, and competing in all three domains—military training, academic advancement, and the physical programs.

Cadet military training is realistic, demanding, and relevant to the needs of our Army. Military skills are developed by cadre from active U.S. Army units and by upper-class cadets supervising and teaching. Whether on an indirect fire range, in a class on developmental counseling, or in urban operations and patrolling exercises, our cadets are learning continuously how to be leaders, how to understand the role of officers and

non-commissioned officers, and how to make values-based decisions in the face of often ambiguous and sparse information. All of this military training provides the opportunity to develop leadership skills, technical accomplishment of basic field craft, familiarization with multiple weapons systems, and hands on, experiential work with small unit doctrine, all key elements in a cadet’s future responsibility as a junior officer.

In the academic departments, staff and faculty teach critical thinking and creative problem solving methods across every department. In the exacting laboratories of chemistry or physics or in the broad ranging discussions of philosophy or macroeconomic theory, cadets learn to wrestle with multiple responses to the complex issues of our time. We may not have a strong record of predicting future conflicts or crises, but if we have the right problem-solving skills we will have best prepared our cadets for whatever challenge they are required to undertake.

In the physical fitness program, our cadets are fully invested in one of twenty-five Division 1 intercollegiate sports, in competitive sports clubs, or in company intramural contests. Every one of those programs serves as another crucible for leader development. Cadets are learning about winning, sportsmanship, values-based competition, caring for teammates, and serving selflessly so that the organization accomplishes the mission. The accomplishment of these physical goals through athletics prepares a cadet well as a leader of character for service as a lieutenant in our Army.

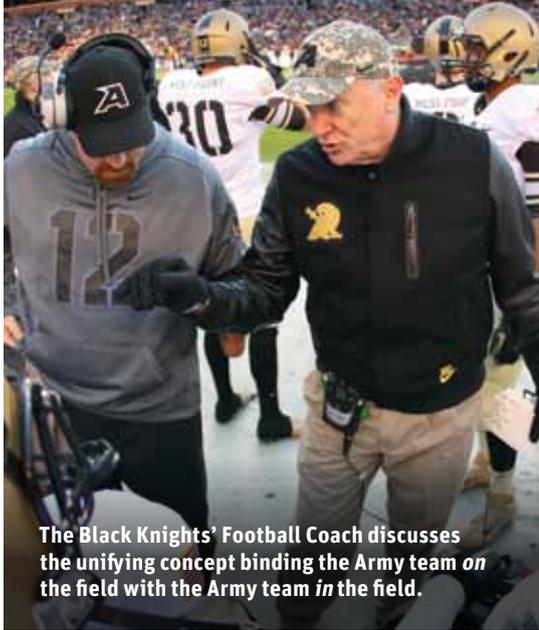
Day and night we are fully engaged in the preparation of our Corps of Cadets for the privilege and the challenge that follows graduation day—command of Soldiers, inspiration of Soldiers, and caring for Soldiers. That is the “why” of the United States Military Academy. And West Point has been doing that to a very high standard for two hundred and ten years in support of the Nation.

Army Strong!

David H. Huntoon Jr. '73
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army
58th Superintendent, U.S. Military Academy

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Detailing “The Destination”—
A Conversation with Coach Rich Ellerson



The Black Knights’ Football Coach discusses the unifying concept binding the Army team *on* the field with the Army team *in* the field.



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A boat is named in honor of Sam Brown '06, a former member of Crew who was wounded in Afghanistan.

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From Your West Point Association of Graduates

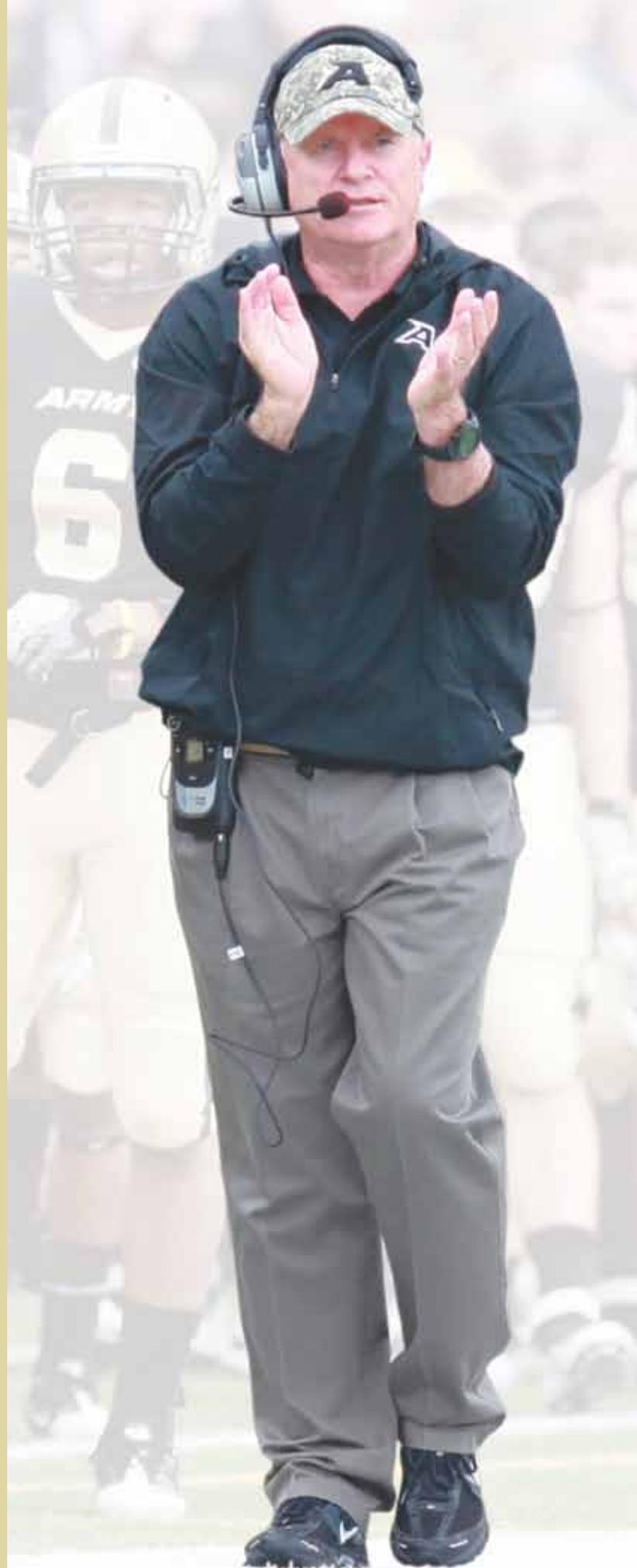
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Q&A

DETAILING “THE DESTINATION” A Conversation with Coach Rich Ellerson

By **Keith J. Hamel**, WPAOG staff

Army Football head coach Rich Ellerson has been in the business a long time. He first started coaching college football in 1977 as a graduate assistant with the University of Hawaii. He then had assistant coaching stints at Idaho, Cal State Fullerton, and Arizona before landing the head coaching job at Southern Utah in 1996. Finally, prior to West Point, he coached Cal Poly to three Great West Football Conference Titles between 2001 and 2008. But it has only been in the last three years that Coach Ellerson has been able to promise his recruits that they will be playing for a team *after* they graduate. That team, of course, is the United States Army. As he sees it, a martial game such as football should attract players who share the same values as the Army, and he believes that the game commands certain virtues that resonate at West Point. Still, before any of his players suit up on Saturday, Coach Ellerson makes sure that they understand why they are here. In other words, he makes everything in the West Point Football program conform to “The Destination.”



Q: What do you mean by the concept of "The Destination?"

A: Quite simply, it is being a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army. "The Destination" is what makes USMA unique. I mean, if it's just about wearing a uniform or just about attending a service academy, why not just go to those other places? In terms of football, "The Destination" is our team philosophy and is integral to our team identity. It's the team's unifying voice. You build your team when you start to recruit, and you should recruit in the same voice as the team culture, and the team culture should reflect that of the institution at large. Our first team virtue is brotherhood. We are going to be a bonded outfit, and one of the things that binds us together, of course, is not just the game and not just that we are dead serious about our education; it's that we share a common destination.

Q: How does the concept of "The Destination" fit into recruiting?

A: Recruits need to understand why West Point exists. They can be the right players, with the right intellect, and the right character, but if they are only interested in football, then this is not the place for them. They need to understand the institution's mission. You want to highlight this when recruiting, lest you have a superficial conversation, and we don't want to bring people here under false pretenses. So, the first thing we do is talk to them about the job, talk about the life. We show them short video clips from the U.S. Army "Destinations" series [a video project commissioned by Ellerson for recruiting purposes], which show young officers stationed in Iraq, Kuwait, and Germany talking about their duty experiences, both good and bad. We then ask the recruit, "Does that look like you in four or five years?" If yes, we bring the recruit to post to talk to the coaches; if not, we are not going to waste each other's time.

During the recruiting visit, we spend the morning covering all the history, tradition, education, facilities, and routines of cadet life that make up West Point. After that, we take the recruits to a luncheon and steer the conversation to what happens when you graduate, which is the reason why all those things we showed them in the morning exist. Then the coaches leave and turn it over to an officer panel made up of senior captains and majors who answer questions from the recruits and their families. It's only after lunch that we begin to talk football.

Q: How does "The Destination" continue once the recruits are here and football begins?

A: We never let it get far from our vision. We talk about the Kimsey Center as being a canvas on which we can reinforce the story and journey of "The Destination." In our locker room, you'll see all the Divisional insignia prominently displayed. Also, coming down the steps to the locker room, you'll see a mural that has images of cadets, football players, and soldiers. And if you go to the reception desk of the football offices, you'll see three hats: a tar bucket, a football helmet, and a Kevlar.

For every game week, we represent a different Army Division, and I assign seniors to write a letter during the summer to a Division commander requesting permission to wear that Division's shoulder sleeve insignia on game day in the fall. They also invite their commander to write a letter to the team, which will be read at the team's pre-game meal. During their given week, that group of seniors is responsible for introducing the insignia and detailing their Division's history. After practice on Tuesday of game week, we have an officer deployed with that Division come and speak to the team. So, when we are wearing their shoulder sleeve insignia on game day, it's not just a decoration; we are grounded in the Division's history and traditions, as well as the expectations that go along with them. One of the reasons I took the team to Fort Benning, GA, for the Spring Game was to expose the players to the soldiers we represent. Soldiers tend to be an abstract concept at West Point, especially to the young guys, but when we come back in the fall and discuss who we represent by wearing the different shoulder sleeve insignia they won't be so abstract for these players. They have faces now.

Q: How is reaching "The Destination" through West Point, versus ROTC or OCS, unique?

A: I would argue that the developmental experience that West Point provides is, and has been for a couple of hundred years, unique; because from soup to nuts everything is pointed in a single direction. You are surrounded by a bunch of people who are focused on a similar outcome, a similar destination, and this places you ahead of the curve. You understand the leadership role that is waiting for you upon graduation and so does everyone else who is around you, such as your instructors, your TACs, and your coaches. We are all pushing or pulling in the exact same direction. This can't be said anywhere else. And I would argue that, when it comes to percentages, West Point is going to produce young leaders of character in greater numbers. ★

“I owe it to the cadets, the Army, and the nation to do my absolute best to make sure my cadets are successful.”

—MAJ Nicole Ussery '01

Tackling the Role of the TAC

By **Keith J. Hamel**, WPAOG staff



MAJ Gene Palka '02 works with 2nd Company cows and firsties, including Cadet Devon Adams '13, in preparation of Cadet Field Training. Cadet leaders received instruction on a fire team live-fire exercise and ultimately trained yearlings to work in teams of four to properly aim and fire at enemy targets in complex building structures.

Back in the day, it was hard to find a cadet at West Point who liked his Tactical Officer (TAC). A report published in 1983 showed the results of a decade-long survey that asked each year's graduating cadets, of all the officers at the Academy, who they would most want to mirror in the profession. Overall, more than 80 percent of all cadets surveyed nearly 30 years ago would prefer to resemble anyone other than their TAC. Flash forward a few decades, and it now seems as if being a TAC at West Point is the assignment to get. Competition for the Eisenhower Leadership Development Program (ELDP), the master's program in social-organizational psychology that all officers must complete before becoming a TAC, is intense. When asked why they want to endure this challenge, nearly all of the TACs who were one-time cadets said they want to give back to West Point. For example, Major Gene Palka '02 says, "After command, I wanted to come back here, share my experiences with cadets, and develop future leaders." Major Tony Wrice '01 agrees. "I have the opportunity to shape and mold the cadets; it is my way of giving back to West Point," he says. Finally, Major Jeremy Ussery '02 wanted to come back to West Point as a TAC because it allows him "to have the biggest impact as possible on cadets."

Still, even today, one is hard pressed to find a TAC who applies for this assignment because he or she wants to be like the TAC he or she had as a cadet. In fact, most mention a nearly non-existent relationship with his or her TAC. Major David O'Leary '02 acknowledges that he didn't interact with his TAC very much: "I think I only spoke to my TAC three or four times in my years as a cadet." Major Nicole Ussery '01 also points out her associations with her TAC weren't robust. "As a kid in the middle of the road just plugging along, I didn't see my TAC that often," she says. Even when one had a reason to relate to his or her TAC often, as is the case with Wrice, it seems as if the relationship wasn't that strong. "I was company commander during my firstie year, so I had interaction with my TAC, but it was very hands off then," Wrice says. Only Palka admits to pursuing his current assignment because of his former TAC (then Captain Jeff Helms '91). "I was a football player who wanted to be an artilleryman, and my TAC inspired me to lose 70 pounds in six months after I was done playing in 2001," Palka says. "Because he looked past my lineman frame and saw something more in me, I wanted to be just like him."

TACs acknowledge much more interaction with cadets today, mostly because of the emergence of the Cadet Leader Development System, now called the West Point Leader Development System. "The power distance between cadets and TACs is a lot narrower now than when I was a cadet," Palka says, "which is true in the Army between lieutenants and field grade officers too, due to the fact that we require our lieutenants to do so much more." Wrice credits the emphasis on leader development as a major factor on his philosophy as a TAC. "I know the importance of allowing cadets to run the chain of command," he says, "because when they leave here, they have to be prepared to lead, and they can't do this if they've always been in a follower role." Perhaps this pressure to develop as leaders is the reason cadets write, "Want more interactions with TAC," on O'Leary's



MAJs Tony Wrice '01 (left) and Jeremy Ussery '02 (right) take part in a panel discussion for new Academy instructors on July 12, 2012. The TACs fielded questions regarding uniform changes, cadet schedules, cadet privileges, and more. Each session had about 35 new faculty members, many of whom were also West Point graduates.

year-end evaluations. "And I spend at least a third of my day now talking to cadets who seek me out of their own volition," O'Leary says. Sometimes these interactions are of a personal nature. Cadets who are dating or are engaged, for example, will seek out the Usserys, who are married, for advice about mixing Army and family. Some TACs also bring their spouses and kids to company events to show cadets it is possible to sustain a family in the military. Finally, each TAC has a story about helping a cadet negotiate a sensitive individual issue, such as when Wrice helped convince a cadet's parents to attend her graduation after they disowned their daughter for her decision to become an Army officer.

"I learned that I need to be closer with cadets on an individual basis because West Point is a leadership development institution responsible for bringing them into the fold of officership."

—MAJ Anthony Thompson

The TACs credit the intensive one year, 45-credit ELDP for preparing them to support the developmental model in use today. Through ELDP, TACs learn to be a combination of teacher, coach, mentor, motivator, disciplinarian, storyteller, parent, and overall integrator of leader development. "It is not a nuts and bolts manual for being a TAC," says Ussery '02, "but it is not supposed to be." He continues, "Instead, you get a year to reflect on and process your experiences as a company commander and platoon leader and analyze how this influences your leadership style going forward." Major Anthony Thompson, who did not graduate from the United States Military Academy, credits ELDP with helping him recognize the differences between the needs of cadets in his company versus the needs of the troops he commanded. "I learned that I need to be closer

with cadets on an individual basis because West Point is a leadership development institution responsible for bringing them into the fold of officership,” says Thompson. “ELDP was the most rewarding and most difficult thing I did in the Army to date.” Palka acknowledges that ELDP taught him patience. “The focus on self-awareness forced me to consider how others perceive me,” he says. According to Ussery '01, an officer could perform the TAC role without ELDP, but one wouldn't be as prepared to deal with the 18- to 22-year old population as someone with the degree. “Before ELDP, I didn't care

how my decisions affected someone else,” she says, “but now my decision-making is much more deliberate, especially with this population—they are tough!”

Despite this training, TACs still encounter a number of challenges. “You would be amazed by the unique issues with which the cadets approach you,” says O'Leary. “You want them to ask questions since this is how they develop as a leader, but this makes the TAC job harder than it was ten years ago,” says Ussery '01. “Ten years ago, if my TAC told the chain of command how things should run, the chain of command parroted it right back,” she says. “ELDP, however, stresses the teach/coach/mentor model, so if the cadet leadership fails at something, we'll talk through why this was the case.” As a non-grad, Thompson also faces the challenge of potential stigmatization by cadets. He acknowledges that cadets treated him a little differently when he first arrived, but he turned such cases into teachable moments. Thompson reminisces, “When I worked at Cadet Field Training during my first summer as a TAC, I didn't feel necessarily taken advantage of, but we were able to generate a lot of discussion when there were differences in our perspectives.” Ironically, Thompson says that cadets worry about being stereotyped when they get out in the Army by virtue of graduating from West Point. “I share my experiences with them and help them by providing an outsider's perspective,” he says. Of course, all TACs face the same mundane duties of their position. “Keeping up with all the record systems and policies (for trip section requests, pass and leave, etc.) is always a challenge,” Thompson notes. And all TACs face nightmare scenarios beyond these daily challenges. “Whatever the Academy's worst nightmare is, that is my nightmare,” says O'Leary. Palka defines this as “bodily harm to any cadet.” Ussery '02 concurs, noting that, “If a cadet gets hurt under my watch, this violates a trust we have with that cadet's parents.” He also adds that he worries about “graduating a cadet that just isn't ready.” Cadet care is at the top of Wrice's list. “My nightmare is that cadets think that I don't care about them,” says Wrice. “I want cadets to know that while I am very difficult on them at times, I'm trying to prepare them to be a lieutenant—which won't be easy on them—so I care whether they are successful or not.”

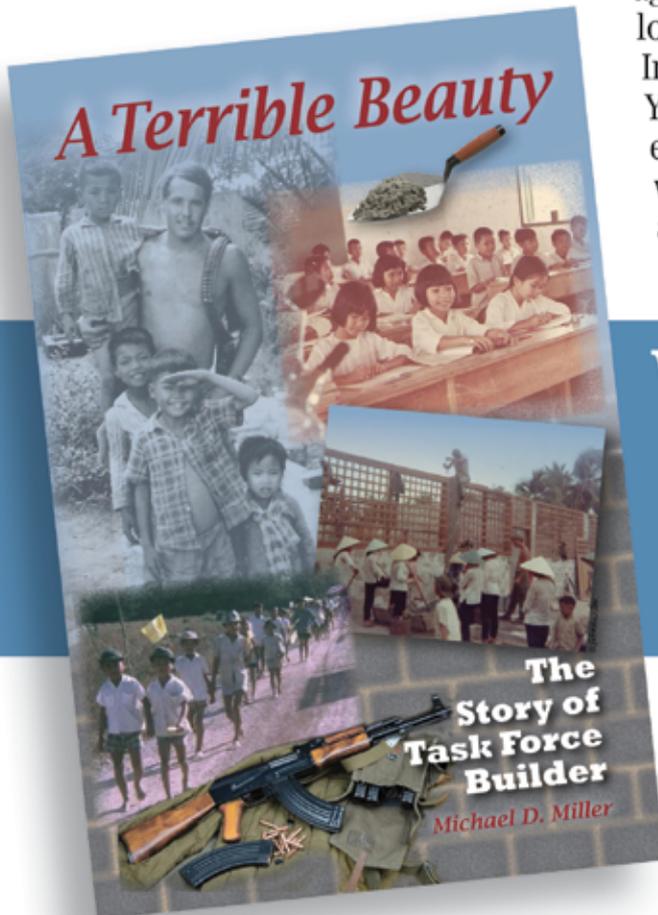
The formula for success varies depending on the philosophy of the individual TAC, but the focus is always on leadership. “I ask leading questions to ensure that they are going down the right path,” says Wrice, “and sometimes this involves asking them what they learned if their decision was weak.” “I always give them the thought process behind my decisions in order to show that there is not one way to do things,” O'Leary says, “and if you understand that what you see on the surface isn't always the bottom line, then you can make the big decisions on your own.” No matter which approach they take, all TACs recognize how vital it is to develop successful leaders of character. Ussery '01 frames the matter rhetorically: “If my kids are getting ready to assume all of the responsibility we put on our junior officers, how would I want somebody to handle my child?” Her answer as a TAC: “I owe it to the cadets, the Army, and the nation to do my absolute best to make sure my cadets are successful.” ★

MAJ Nicole Ussery '01 does early morning physical training (PT) with the Headquarters Company for the second detail of Cadet Basic Training. The July 19 session included a short run, three trips up and down a hill carrying water jugs (each iteration separated by a push-up set), 50 lunges, and 20 starbursts, which require you to start in a crouched position and then jump up with legs and arms extended (as pictured).



“The moment has come. You are in combat.”

“Suddenly the people and equipment that you rely upon do not function. It is just you, and it is up to you to accomplish the mission and save your men. You are standing alone, as if against the universe. For a moment you are the loneliest person on the planet. Then it hits you. In an instant you understand; you are not alone. You are standing there with the Long Gray Line extending out behind you. You are experiencing what those smiling gray shadows behind you already learned long ago. Yes, you are West Point and it is you. And you shall prevail.”



When Your Turn Comes, You Will Be Ready

“Vietnam was not a military failure; it was a marketing failure. We failed to show the local people we were there to help them.”

“If you are going to swim in foreign waters, make friends with the fishes in those waters.” - Sun Yat-sen

“MacArthur was right. Only in combat can man rise to his highest levels of personal magnificence. Only in combat can he transcend the normal experience of life and achieve the highest level of love and camaraderie.”

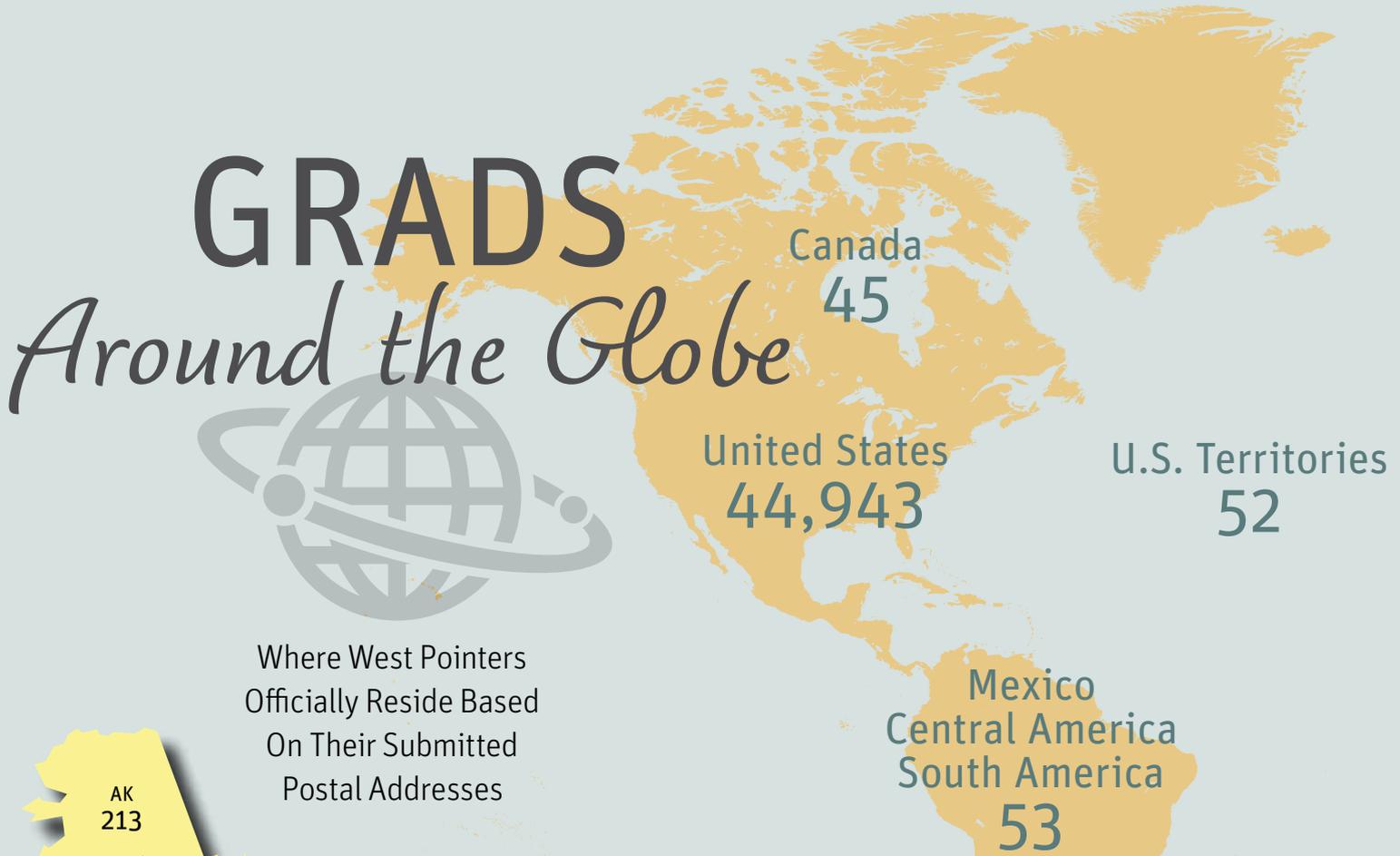
“Today our schools still stand as mute testimony to the nobility of our actions. And we are remembered.”

“We built 18 schools to show the Vietnamese that we were there as friends, and not as the foreign invader the Communist cadres claimed we were. It worked. The Viet Cong didn’t want to fight those who built schools for their children. Had this program been more widely implemented, we would have won the war. We should remember this lesson as we fight in other third-world countries.”

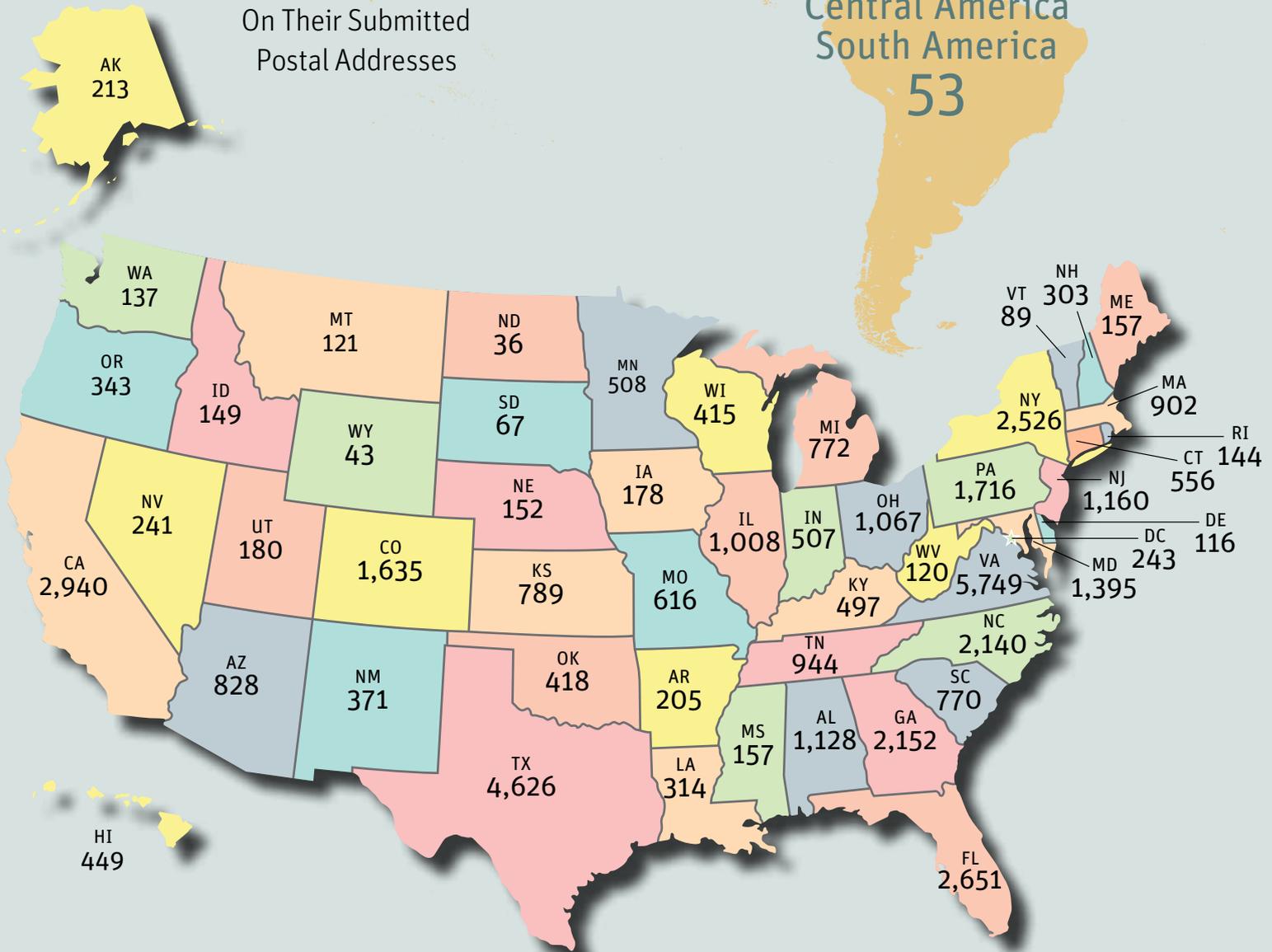
A Terrible Beauty, by Michael D. Miller, USMA '64, Harvard MBA '73 is available on Amazon.com and BarnesandNoble.com

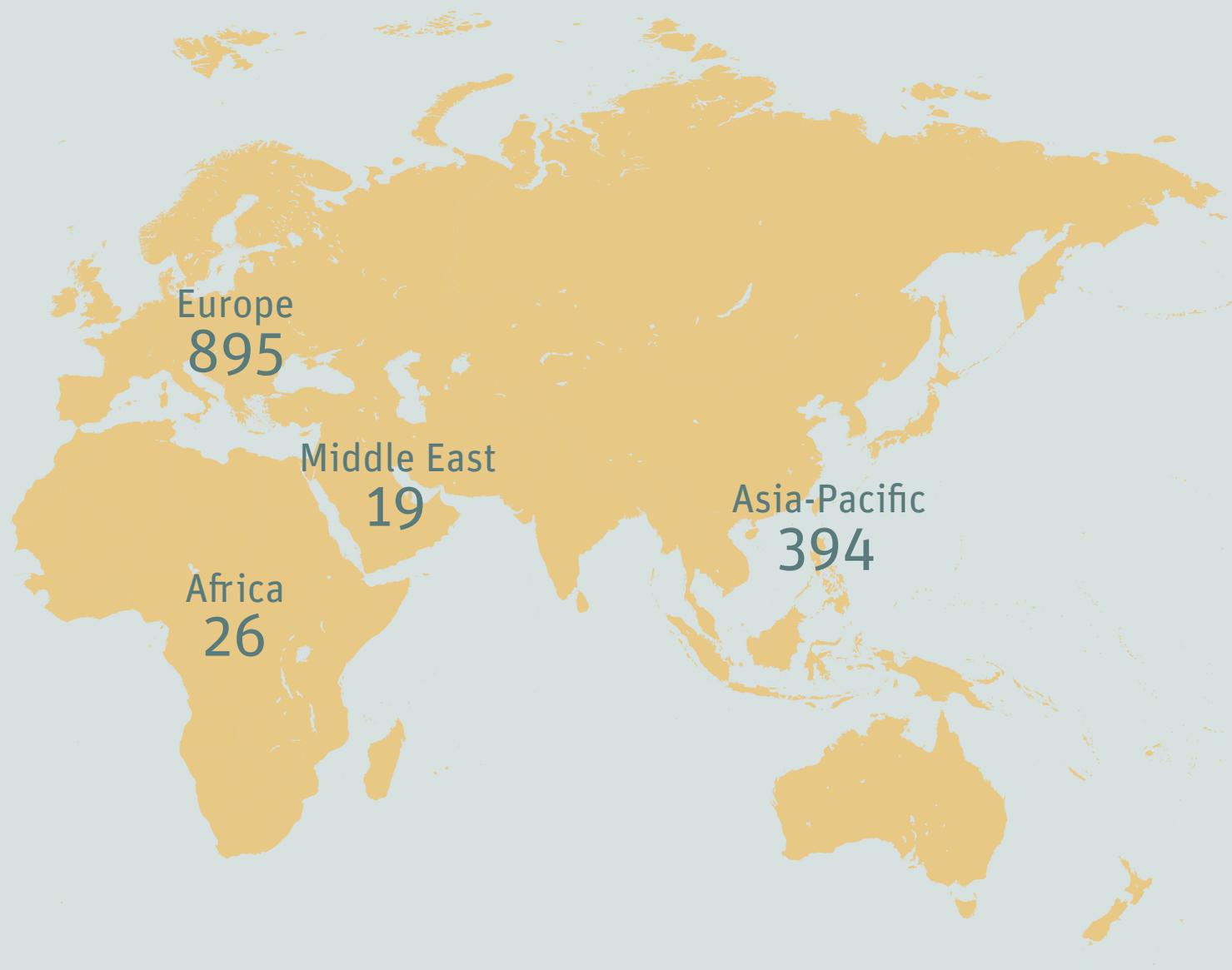
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Around the Globe



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As of August 1, 2012, there are 49,384 living West Point graduates. The West Point Association of Graduates has valid addresses for 94% of those graduates. To update your address, email it to address@wpaog.org.



ONCE A LEADER, ALWAYS A LEADER

Tracking West Point's First Captains

By **Marissa Carl**, WPAOG staff

MAJ Rick Turner '03 (left) then aide-de-camp to MG Tony Cucolo '79, Commanding General of Task Force Marne/United States Division-North, with SGM John McGlinchey in Mosul, Iraq. Cucolo wrote a letter of recommendation for Turner and served as an invaluable mentor during the selection process for the Army Congressional Fellowship Program, through which Turner is now serving as a Defense Fellow for Congressman Chris Gibson.



The United States Military Academy builds leaders, plain and simple. In the Corps of Cadets, however, there is one who rises above the rest—the First Captain. Every year Academy leadership chooses a First Captain based on the cadet's leadership abilities and successes at West Point. This cadet commands the Corps and is directly responsible for establishing Corps-wide goals, representing the Academy at official functions, and monitoring the execution of the leader development system, among other duties.

Lieutenant General (Ret) Jim Ellis '62 remembers the moment, now more than 50 years ago, when he was selected to fill this position. "I've got to get to a telephone to call my dad," he said at the time, before starting on his hefty to-do list. The Pershing Sword, awarded each year to the graduating First Captain, now sits in his home office as a reminder of the Academy and his successful military career—which included two years of service before attending the United States Military Academy Preparatory School and West Point, then tours in the Dominican Republic, Vietnam, and Pakistan.

After retiring in 1994, Ellis, who had worn a uniform for 39 years, wanted a job unrelated to the military. He was soon asked to lead Camp Boggy Creek for seriously ill children (founded by actor Paul Newman and General (Ret) H. N. Schwarzkopf '56), a position he thoroughly enjoyed for a decade before adding businessman to his résumé. "The leadership principles you learn at West Point apply to whatever job you do," he says.

In May, Ellis celebrated his 50-year reunion in conjunction with the Class of 2012 graduation, where he met Second Lieutenant Charlie Phelps '12, the most recent First Captain to enter the Army ranks. "I wonder how my career would have unfolded if, on that day, the Commandant had pulled me aside and said something different," he says, remembering all of his leadership experiences, many of which he knows were available to him because of his time as First Captain.

Here, *West Point* magazine tracked down some recent First Captains to see what they're up to and how they're using their experiences to help with today's challenges.

Major Rick Turner '03

This former First Captain, a decade removed from the current firstie class, is "having a blast" as a Defense Fellow for Congressman Chris Gibson (who taught American Politics in the Department of Social Sciences from 1995 to 1997). Turner is one of 16 active duty soldiers in the Army Congressional Fellowship Program, which sends soldiers to graduate school before assigning them to a member of Congress. "I never saw myself doing anything like this," he says. "Throughout my career I've just gone where the Army tide has taken me. It's been one heck of a ride so far, and I hope that ride continues for many years to come."

Turner will work with Gibson on national security-related policy and legislative items until December, at which point he will move to the Pentagon and work for the next two years under Chief, Legislative Liaison Major General William Rapp '84, himself a former First Captain. "The most important thing I learned in this

position is how important it is to stay humble," Turner says. "It's never about an individual or the person in charge; it's always about the organization and the cause that the organization stands for."

Through it all—including taking leadership of a platoon immediately upon its return from Iraq (without a day of combat experience himself) and serving as Major General Tony Cucolo's '79 aide for two years—Turner's leadership skills continue to evolve and positively impact the Army. "My favorite moments are whenever I get a phone call or Facebook message from a former soldier of mine thanking me and telling me that I've helped in some way," he says. There's no telling what the future holds for Turner as he continues to soak up his surroundings and learn from his experiences, though he is looking forward to this year's Army-Navy game as well as his 10-year reunion next fall. "One of these days I've got to figure out what I'm going to do when I grow up."

Grace Chung '04

Deployed to Iraq, Chung figured out what she wanted to be while she was volunteering at a hospital in Balad during her limited free time. In May 2014, exactly 10 years after she dismissed the Class of 2004, she'll add "DDS" to her signature. "I really want a dental van," she says, which she would use to travel to populations that have difficulty accessing medical care. "I don't even know if that's possible," she adds, "but I saw something like it on TV once."



Grace Chung '04 performing oral surgery during her clinic time at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry.

In the spring of 2010 Chung resigned her commission after spending her Army career in Germany as part of the Medical Service Corps, and the tour of duty in Iraq that first inspired her interest in dentistry. Chung says she never liked going to the dentist but really took to the trade while shadowing dentists as an EMT, though they were mainly working on head and neck injuries at the time. Now she's attending the University of Maryland School of Dentistry while her husband, Captain Andrew Chung '04, is stationed at Fort Meade, Maryland.

"Every day I think, 'what am I doing here?' which is similar to what I was thinking all of my plebe and yearling years at West Point," she says with a laugh. By the time she was named First Captain she had figured out confidence building was one of the Academy's greatest gifts, one that she continues to use on a daily basis. "I did my first extraction the other day and had to pretend I'd been doing it for

years," she says. "It brought me back to my time as First Captain, when I was a nervous wreck but learned quickly to present myself with confidence."

Come graduation, she was more than happy to leave the stresses of West Point behind but has since found that her current life somewhat mimics cadet life—except for laundry service and provided meals. "I really appreciate that everything was done for us at the Academy," she says. "Before Andrew and I had kids it was Ramen noodles or takeout every night. Now there's laundry to do every day and, I mean, you have to feed your kids." Like cadets, the Chung family is always on the go. After dropping off her children at preschool and kindergarten, she heads to class (two days a week) or clinic (three days a week). The demands of dental school are fairly similar to the Academy, she says. "West Point actually over-prepared me," she adds. After school she takes her girls to whatever activity they have planned for the day, typically swimming, dance, gymnastics, or soccer. "It helps to keep our house clean if we're not there" is part of her reasoning. Then the family has their own version of Taps at 8:30pm.

After she earns her degree and license to practice, and after Andrew hits his 10-year mark in the Army, they will evaluate what to do next. Chung is "keeping her options open," but is strongly considering a return to active duty.

Captain Ryan Boeka '05

"After reading a short speech on stage at Ike Hall, I paused for a moment before opening my own envelope so that I could watch my classmates open the envelopes that contained their branch insignia," Boeka says. "I will never forget the looks of excitement and joy (and for some, agony) on my classmates' faces as well as my own excitement upon discovering that my envelope held the crossed rifle insignia of the Infantry branch." That insignia was just the beginning of Boeka's path, which now has him commanding a Cavalry troop in the 82nd Airborne at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Boeka and his soldiers have been preparing for a monthlong mission readiness exercise that starts this month at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana. At the conclusion, his brigade will assume the Global Response Force Mission, serving as the Army's contingency response force. "Above all," he says, "I try to lead by example in everything that I do and never ask my soldiers to do something that I am not willing to do myself." These soldiers include Second Lieutenants Royd Lutz and John Landsberg, two members of Boeka's command from the Class of 2011 who "make me feel extremely old!"

"I've always had a strong desire to return to West Point and teach cadets."—CPT Ryan Boeka '05

Though his next deployment could hit with just 18 hours notice, it's his very first tour to Iraq that remains one of his fondest memories. "My platoon and I occupied a series of small combat outposts and lived together in very small quarters throughout the 15-month deployment, so we became an extremely tight and cohesive unit,"



CPT Ryan Boeka '05 (left) with classmate Jason Dupuis '05 at Al Asad Air Base in Iraq last year.



CPT Stephanie Hightower '06 works her way through a shift at Madigan Army Medical Center. She says her role as First Captain was about “doing right by others and making sure that everyone understood the valuable roles they played and the contributions they made in making West Point the top-tier institution that it is.”

he says. “The deployment was extraordinarily challenging and demanding, and I was continually amazed by the professionalism and sheer resiliency that my soldiers demonstrated in spite of the numerous losses and the tremendous dangers and challenges they faced on a day-to-day basis. I could not have been more proud to serve alongside them.”

His West Point professors and mentors made an equally strong impression on Boeka, so much so that he will be returning to the Academy in 2015 to teach international relations in the Department of Social Sciences. “I’ve always had a strong desire to return to West Point and teach cadets,” Boeka says. He and his wife, Pamela (Chavez) Boeka '05, who is starting her third year of law school, are equally excited to return to the place that started it all.

Captain Stephanie Hightower '06

A typical day for this former First Captain is far from the routine of cadet life. As a first-year medical resident at Madigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma, Washington, Hightower spends her days treating a wide variety of patients presenting symptoms ranging from minor upper respiratory tract infections to serious medical traumas. She’s nearly halfway through her first year, rotating throughout the medical departments. She will then be able to focus on emergency medicine for the final three years of her residency.

Hightower has known since she was five that she wanted to be a doctor but only recently decided on emergency medicine, the specialty she says best suits her personality. “In those chaotic situations I like to be the one that people look to for guidance,” she says, adding that her time as First Captain gave her some good practice. Her days as Brigade Commander (she’s only the third female in Academy history to hold the position) also taught her how to work with and lead diverse groups to accomplish a common mission. “Medicine is no different,” she says. “There are often numerous medical specialists involved in the care of a single patient, and each specialist is focused on a different aspect of that patient’s care.”

After completing her residency she hopes to travel the world some more. She’s already been to Africa three times and spent 18 months in Europe. (The summer after graduation Hightower served in a tertiary care center in Gambia then went straight to the University of Oxford to get her Master of Science in Global Health as a Fulbright scholar.) Egypt is near the top of her bucket list, but wherever the Army sends her she hopes it’s somewhere with lots of sunshine. “I want to travel the world and let medicine take me there.”

Captain Jason Crabtree '08

Crabtree’s journey has led him to the Maiwand and Zharay districts, a heavily contested region in Kandahar, Afghanistan, where he is serving as the Executive Officer for Choctaw Company, 4th Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment. He deployed from Joint Base Lewis-McChord in April, originally serving as a Rifle Platoon Leader, during which time he was twice decorated for valor.

The former First Captain has been awarded the Army Commendation Medal with valor for contributing “enormously to the survival of his unit while maneuvering more than 850 meters under machine gun fire from a simultaneous near and far ambush” by at least 20 insurgent fighters. Three days later he was positioned in a guard tower with a company sniper because he heard a suspicious noise outside of the patrol base in the defilade behind an adjoining compound’s wall. After an hour of scanning, Crabtree was preparing to come down from the tower when he saw a hand grenade hit near his fellow soldier. He yelled “grenade,” jumped from his position of safety, and landed on top of the sniper while sweeping the grenade out of the tower—the grenade exploded just seconds after leaving Crabtree’s hand. For his actions that day, he has been nominated to receive the Silver Star. Crabtree is also pending two Purple Hearts, one for each instance, because of gunshot and shrapnel wounds.

Between graduation and the aforementioned deployment, Crabtree completed the Pathfinder Course at the Sabalauski Air Assault School, where he was an honor graduate, earned his Sapper Tab, participated in the West Point Scholarship Program, earned his Master of Science by Research in Engineering Science from the University of Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar, then completed the Infantry Basic Officer Leadership Course and Ranger School. “Being true to yourself is the only real option you have because you’ll never satisfy everyone else,” he says, thinking about the lessons he’s learned along the way. “My time as First Captain and later at Oxford changed how I defined my own priorities and my criteria for success.”

he adds. "West Point taught me to solve problems, but Oxford taught me about the right kinds of questions."

Despite the heroic efforts of Crabtree and his fellow soldiers, the unit has sustained fairly heavy casualties during its deployment. Fortunately for the former First Captain, he has many familiar West Point faces around him. Colonel Brian Mennes '88, his Brigade Commander, was Crabtree's Company Honor Mentor when he was a plebe. Major Joshua Bookout '98 was a Company Tactical Officer when he was a cadet, and is now the Battalion Executive Officer. Captain Elijah Myers '05, a Company Commander in the same Task Force, was Crabtree's Cadet Company Commander as a plebe. (Myers and Crabtree competed on the Sandhurst team together for Company E-1 as cadets. When Crabtree first arrived in Afghanistan, he went on transition patrols with Myers' unit.)

Crabtree is also with First Lieutenant Tyler Gordy, the Class of 2010 First Captain. Gordy was a Platoon Leader in Afghanistan when Crabtree arrived in April. "We definitely share some common experiences and even people from our past," Crabtree says. "We've had a number of good laughs and a bit of commiseration." Crabtree is expecting to return home in early 2013.

Below: 1LT Tyler Gordy '10 (left) and CPT Jason Crabtree '08 are both assigned to 4th Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment at Joint Base Lewis-McChord. Their battalion, as part of 2nd Stryker Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, is currently deployed to Afghanistan. In early August they met in the city of Hatal, Maiwand District, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan, at an International Security Assistance Force Combat Outpost that was being handed over to Choctaw Company by Gordy, the HHC Executive Officer.

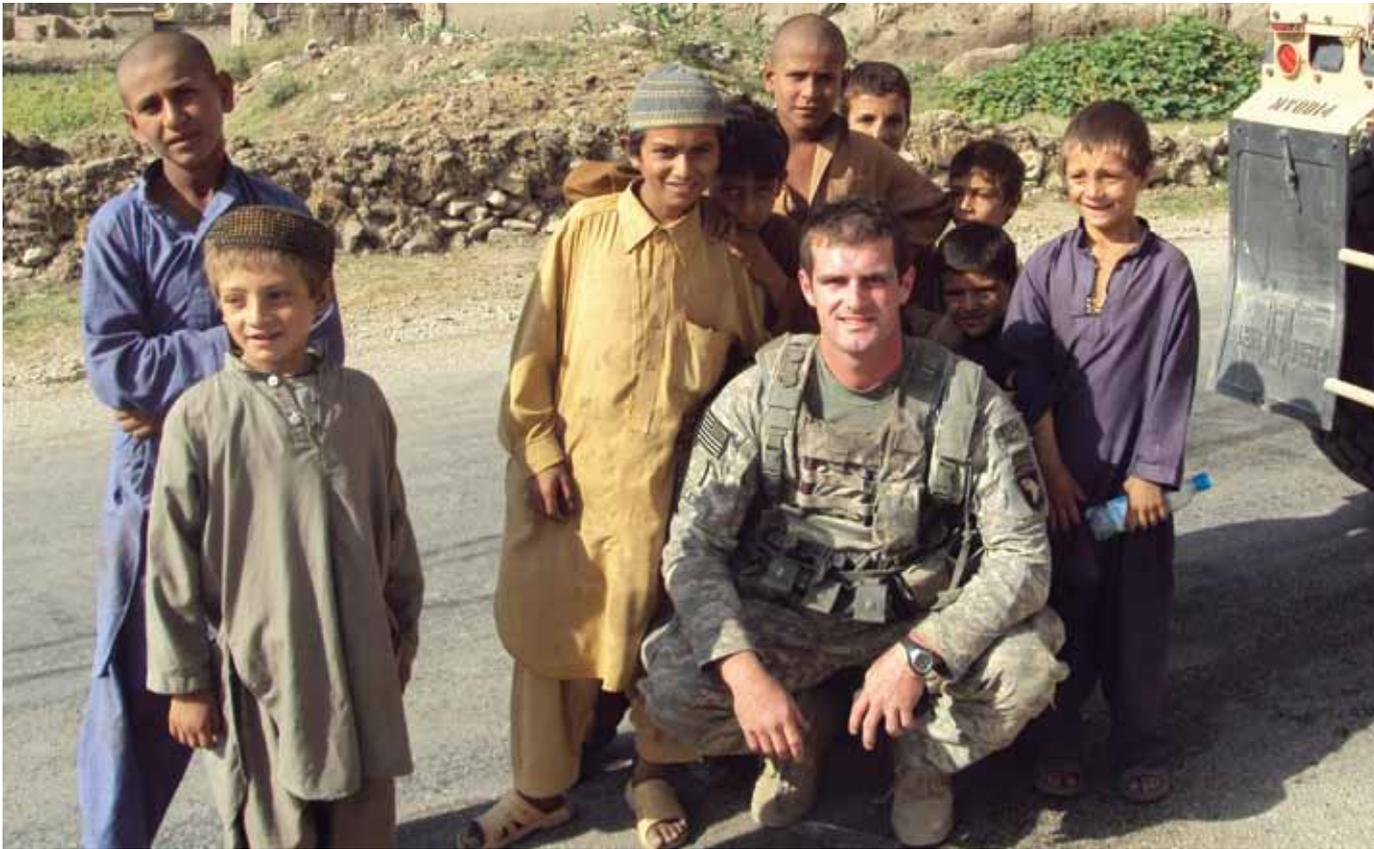
First Lieutenant Ben Amsler '09

Amsler is right on Crabtree's heels, preparing to deploy to the Kunar province in Afghanistan for nine months starting this November. This will be his second deployment since graduation, the first being a 12-month tour to the same location in 2010. "I lived the dream of every infantryman," he says. Two months in, he was given a platoon and "had a blast" delivering school supplies, working with the local government, and handling fire fights. He was so good at his job, the Taliban asked him to convert to their cause and put a bounty on his head when he refused. "I didn't really want to leave," says Amsler, whose life goal up until that point had been to lead a platoon in combat. "It's hard for people to understand," he says, "but everyone has goals, and that was mine. It took 23 years to accomplish, and recognizing that I was living my goal was amazing."

Until he goes "wheels up" again next month, Amsler is working in the S3 shop (operations center) at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, where he spends most of his day working on battalion plans. On the battlefield or in the office, Amsler's leadership style is consistent: "I like to know everyone in my organization," he says. "I try to be a down-to-earth guy who's not afraid to make decisions." These are the same objectives he aimed for as First Captain—a leadership opportunity he didn't even see coming. "You've got to be kidding me" is what ran through his mind when he got the call as he was coming back from a fishing trip one night in Pennsylvania. Amsler was about halfway through a 10-day leave and had to use many of his remaining days off to fully comprehend the news. "It was never something I had thought about," he says, but adds that the experiences he had, especially learning how to manage a variety of ongoing tasks, were valuable lessons for his Army career.

Now his mind is on his upcoming deployment, where he will be responsible for many of the same duties he's tasked with now, in addition to being a mobile battle captain (assisting the battalion commander when he travels). "This deployment will be a lot different," he says, "but I'm still really looking forward to it." After he returns, Amsler's new goal is to attend the Maneuver Captains Career Course in preparation for becoming a company commander. ★





Above: 1LT Ben Amsler '09, known by the Afghan locals as "Lt. Ben" during his 2010 deployment (pictured here), is preparing for his October wedding with Nicole Myers '09 and his second deployment to the Kunar Province in Afghanistan.



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 Here's one of my favorite photos from my time here in Korea! I volunteer to teach elementary students English in the local city of Dondacheon. This program increases the U.S. and Republic of Korea alliance by fostering a real sense of community and camaraderie.

Cheers!
 Veronica Finch '07

THIS SIDE FOR THE
 Above the
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Aloha!
 Here I am on top of Mauna Kea (the highest point in Hawaii) during sunrise. I was on a monthlong field training exercise to Pohakuloa Training Area where my unit, the 84th Engineer Battalion, was building a tactical vehicle parking lot and two classrooms. The parking lot and classrooms are now being used by 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division for their training on the Big Island.

Hang Loose!
 Mark Lennox '11

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We are on our second deployment together, currently serving in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. We enjoy spending our "downtime" constructing a CrossFit facility for soldiers to maintain their physical and comprehensive combat readiness (we are both CrossFit level 1 instructors)! See you soon!

Sincerely, Javier '07
and Renee Sanjuan '09

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West Point, NY 10996



Dear WPAOG,

We're back! Here Albert, Lauren, and Betty are training Brandon and David—new to West Point Admissions. It's great being back at our old stomping grounds, even better as officers!

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MAJ Betty Myrthil '02
CPT Albert Vallejos '07
1LT Brandon Thurman '09
1LT David White '09
CPT Lauren Gore '07

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We won!!!

Jake and I were part of the 11th Brigade Softball Championship Team this year at Fort Bliss, Texas. 2-43 HHB beat 3-43 HHB eight to seven, so now we advance to the post tournament!

Bring it on!

Tony Fusco '08 and
Jake Abramowitz '09

WPAOG
Herbert Alumni Center
698 Mills Road
West Point, NY 10996



First Stop - Fort Benning, GA

I'm learning a lot here at the Armor Basic Officer Leader Course! Shown is a group of West Pointers and a few ROTC lieutenants learning about the .50 caliber machine gun. We've been tested on all types of maintenance and assemblage for the .50 cal: this is from when we were learning about the basic functions of the weapon system.

Hope all is well,
Chase Cappo '12

Post Card

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Photos: Submitted

THE ALL

**“SOLDIERS FIRST,
ATHLETES SECOND”**



SPORTS PROGRAM

By **Keith J. Hamel**, WPAOG staff

“West Point athletes, like every soldier that takes on the challenge of All Army Sports, are there not just to compete, but to win and dominate all opponents!”

—CPT Lindsey Gerheim '07

Just a few years before Brigadier General Douglas MacArthur 1903, as the 31st Superintendent of the United States Military Academy at West Point, declared, “every cadet an athlete,” General John J. Pershing 1886 issued the first General Order relating to sports in the Army. According to the book *The Inter-Allied Games, Paris, 22nd June to 6th July, 1919*, “The purpose of this 1918 order was to direct the attention of all concerned to the importance of encouraging the development of general and competitive athletics in order to boost morale, foster and develop organization esprit de corps, and improve the physical fitness of the Army.” Today, living the motto “soldiers first—athletes second,” All Army Sports continues Pershing’s directive by supporting the physical readiness of soldiers, by nurturing the competitive spirit, and by reinforcing the ethos of Army values.

At present, the All Army Sports program (AA) consists of nearly 20 sports. The most popular sports (based upon the number of applications received) are soccer, basketball, and softball; and Army historically dominates the combative sports: boxing, wrestling, and taekwondo. All the team sports require applicants to attend a three-week trial camp (six weeks for combative sports). Interested soldiers submit an application tailored to the requirements of the particular sport, obtain approvals from their commander and garrison sports director, and then wait for an invitation to attend an All Army Trial Camp. AA invites roughly twice the number of team members needed to camp, and it uses practices, scrimmages against local teams (recreational, club, and college level), and other skill evaluators to determine the final team roster. Individual competitor sports (such as the triathlon, cross country, marathon, and the Army 10-Miler) use a review of sports resumes—which includes high school performance at the region or state level, collegiate athletic history, and letters of recommendation from coaches—to select their team members. According to Darrell Manuel, the Army Sports Director for Installation Management Command, “Soldiers selected for All Army teams must demonstrate a high level of sport competence, physical conditioning, and preparedness to compete at the collegiate level.”

Once selected to an All Army team, the soldier-athletes compete against teams from the other three services in the Armed Forces Championship. Typically a five-day competition, the Championship involves approximately six to eight matches or games (sometimes

divided into round-robin and elimination formats) to determine the championship’s overall winner. In the past decade, Army has won 113 medals (for finishing first or second) in these games (nearly a third of the medals to be won). Players from all services who excel during the competition get an invitation to join the Armed Forces Team (AF), which competes against other services teams from across the globe at the Military World Championships (over twenty exist for different sports) or in the Military World Games (held every four years). Both events are organized by the International Military Sports Council (CISM), which was founded in 1948 to promote world peace by uniting armed forces through sports. In total, AA and AF sports take only about six weeks out of the year. Manuel also points out that AA serves as a “feeder program” for the Army’s World Class Athlete Program (WCAP), which demands more time and commitment from the soldier-athletes. Soldiers who demonstrate the ability of an



MAJ Rande Farrell '02 sets to strike the ball during a match against Belgium at the 2012 Military World Championship.

elite athlete may apply to this program for a chance to compete on a U.S. national team. If selected, these soldier-athletes are assigned to the WCAP Detachment at Fort Carson, CO, and train there or at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs for national and international sport competitions. There are currently over 50 soldiers assigned to this program, including six West Point graduates, two of whom are in command positions (Captain Jonathan Harmeling '08 and Captain Phillip Simpson '05).

One soldier-athlete that has been successful in All Army and Armed Forces competition is Major Rande Farrell '02. A four-year star of West Point Women’s Soccer, Farrell played halfback on the 2004 and 2006-08 AA women’s soccer teams and then played fullback on the

Previous Page: The 2012 Army 10-Miler team. The first soldier in the “M” is 2LT Bryce Livingston '11.

2010-12 teams. She was also captain of the AF teams that played in the 2007 and 2011 CISM Military World Games (as well as co-captain of the 2012 team that recently returned from the Military World Championship in Germany). Farrell cites these international games as an excellent opportunity to engage countries with which the United States has few diplomatic relations. In 2007, for example, the AF team played North Korea’s military squad in what Farrell called, “the most challenging game of my soccer career” (their team happened to be the national team that played the U.S. Women’s National Team to a tie in the World Cup that year). “There is not much interaction between American soldiers and North Koreans,” she says, “so shaking their hands and being able to speak with them was quite interesting.” Farrell also acknowledges the 2011 Military World Games during which she and her teammates met several Iranians, befriending and

as Delaney Brown ’06 and Caroline Leigh Kosco ’06. As the officer representative for the West Point Women’s Soccer Team since 2010, Farrell also mentors an incoming player about this reality each year.

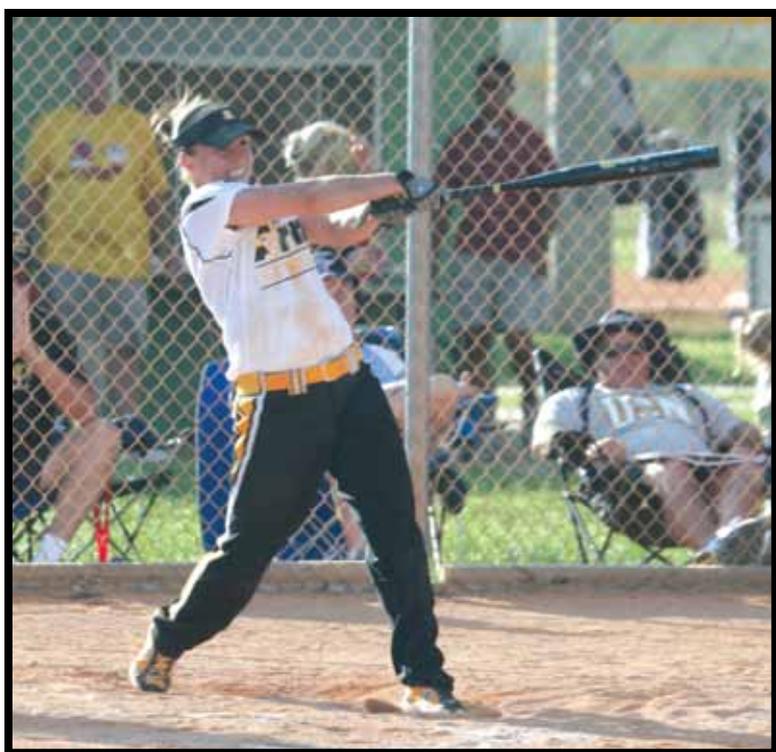
Another soldier-athlete that has found success in Army sports is Captain Lindsey Gerheim ’07, who played on both the All Army and Armed Forces women’s softball teams in 2009 and 2010. Gerheim began her softball career at age five and traversed the United States playing for both her high school (Milton High, Alpharetta, GA) and the East Cobb Bullets Gold under-18 travel softball team. Although she received scholarship offers at other schools, Gerheim chose to attend West Point because of the camaraderie and challenge the Academy offered. Gerheim dominated West Point Softball by winning numerous awards in four years: Patriot League Rookie of the Year (2004), Patriot League Scholar Athlete of the Year (2007), All Conference (2004-07), West Point Softball Team’s Outstanding Leader-Athlete Award (2004-07), and Lowe’s Senior CLASS Award for being named to the All-Senior All-American 1st Team. She also graduated West Point as the Academy’s all-time leader in homeruns (20); second in hits (195), RBIs (100), and total bases (300); and places in the Top 10 for batting average (.333), doubles (33), runs scored (109), and walks (51). After a 15-month tour in Iraq with the 561st Military Police Company, Gerheim followed the lead of her former teammate, Captain Lauren Shaw ’04, who played on the 2008 AA team and spoke highly of her experiences. After enduring the “fierce competition” of trail camp at Fort Indiantown Gap, PA, where nearly half of the players were cut to form a 15-member team, Gerheim continued the legacy of recent West Point graduates who made the AA team (Jennifer Ann

“West Point grads come prepared for the day in-day out mental and physical stress that comes from All Army competition...”

—CPT Lindsey Gerheim ’07

Johnston ’95-AA ’04, Lindsay Romack ’05-AA ’06, Leigh Harrell ’05-AA ’07, and Shaw). In 2009, the AA team won the Armed Forces Championship silver medal, in 2010 the team took home the gold, and in both years Gerheim won the All-Tournament Award as an outfielder. According to Gerheim, West Point’s focus on leadership development enables USMA grads to stand out on the AA and AF teams. “West Point grads come prepared for the day in-day out mental and physical stress that comes from All Army competition, and this includes maintaining a positive and confident emotional edge,” Gerheim says. She also points out that, “West Point athletes, like every soldier that takes on the challenge of All Army Sports, are there not just to compete, but to win and dominate all opponents!”

Success in All Army and Armed Forces sports is not limited to only the women of the Long Gray Line: First Lieutenant Marcus Nelson ’10 captained the 2011 AF men’s basketball team to a



CPT Lindsey Gerheim ’07 swings for the fences while playing Navy in the Armed Forces Championship.

exchanging pins with three women from their rifle team. “I think outside of opportunities like CISM, these interactions would be impossible,” Farrell says. Farrell credits her experiences at West Point for her success on the Armed Forces teams. “The fact that CISM plays with international rules—three subs per game—means that college soccer really hasn’t prepared AF soldier-athletes to play all 90 minutes of a game;” she says, “so personal fitness is key, which I think DPE and the experiences of USMA have ingrained in all West Point grads playing AF soccer.” This includes her own former teammates Karen Tien ’02, Laura Schroeder ’02, Christina Acojedo ’02, Emily Nay ’03, Kelly Schachtler ’03, Lauren Rowe ’03, and Michelle Veach ’04; as well as players who preceded Farrell on the West Point team, such as Gretchen and Michelle Meier (both ’95), and players who came after her, such

continued on page 24


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bronze medal at the 2011 CISM Military World Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, which featured 7,800 athletes from 111 countries competing in 20 sporting events. Nelson, the Patriot League’s 2010 Defensive Player of the Year, first learned about the AA basketball team from First Lieutenants Kenny Brewer ’09 and Cleveland Richard ’10, his former teammates on the West Point Basketball team, and he was invited to try out by AA coach Major David Smith, who coached all three players to a gold medal in the 2010 Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe basketball tournament in Belgium. Nelson then competed against 23 players from across the country and earned the starting point guard position on the AA team. “As the lead guard my job was to ensure that I first lead by example and then hold my teammates accountable,” Nelson says. Nelson credits his West Point training, which taught him that details matter and emphasized continually getting better, stronger,

and tougher, for making him a great leader on the court. “The moment you take yourself out of that mindset, you are letting your teammates down,” he says. Nelson’s attitude transferred to his teammates and eventually helped win over fans at the Games. He notes, “By the end of the tournament, it seemed that a lot of fans, who cheered against us at first, appreciated how hard we played and how well we worked together.” Given that many of the soldier-athletes from other countries play professionally for a living and even participate at the Olympic level in some cases, Nelson and his teammates are proud of their 7-1 tournament record.

“The experiences soldiers gain at an All Army or Armed Forces event...almost always result in them returning as an even stronger asset to the unit and worth the time they spend away.”

—LTC Liam Collins ’92



1LT Marcus Nelson '10 goes for the lay up against against Canada during the 2011 CISM World Games.

.....
ACRONYM GUIDE
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- AA = All Army Sports
 - AF = Armed Forces Team
 - CISM = International Military Sports Council
 - WCAP = World Class Athlete Program
 - DPE = Department of Physical Education
 - RBI = Runs Batted In
-

While the medals and accolades are impressive, the All Army Sports program consistently reminds the athletes that they are soldiers first and that they must continually develop their military occupational skills. Selected soldier-athletes have to be at an actual duty assignment in order to apply to the program and will return to their present duty station upon completion of competition. According to Darrell Manuel, “If there is a war or other contingency requiring their soldiering skills, the AA athletes will return to a unit and deploy as necessary.” More often than not, many commanders find that they get back better soldiers after their All Army and Armed Forces sports endeavors. Lieutenant Colonel Liam Collins ’92, who has multiple combat deployments across the world in command of Special Operation Forces and has himself participated in AA and AF running events for 20 years, says, “The experiences soldiers gain at an AA or AF event, whether gone for a weekend or a month, almost always result in them returning as an even stronger asset to the unit and worth the time they spend away.” For Manuel, the marriage of Army and sports could not be more natural: “Soldiers are competitive by nature and sports generate the drive to win, whether on the playing field or on the battlefield. The All Army Sports program allows these soldier-athletes to enhance their physical readiness and pursue their desire to excel; plus, it is good for morale and promotes pride within the unit and the Army.” ★

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End Goal: Exceptional Contributions

Class of 2002 Record Scholarship Winners

By **Ted Spiegel**, Guest Writer



“Beware of the boy who eats his dessert first”—a cautionary phrase offered to a young cookie snatcher. Powell Hutton ’59, recalling with a chuckle the admonishment of his grandfather General Cuthbert Stearns, Class of 1909, admits that “spending three years at Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar was certainly like eating dessert first at the beginning of an Army career.”

Six members of the Class of 1959 won Rhodes Scholarships. They qualified to “read” philosophy, politics, and economics en route to a master’s degree through a process that survives to this day. Candidates are evaluated by a board within their university (“Will you represent this institution well?”) then go before boards within their state and region. Candidates present a 1,000-word essay to convince the Rhodes committees of their merit (“What are you going to do with this scholarship?”). And along the way there are challenging personal interviews. Hutton remembers All-American football player/Supreme Court Justice Byron “Whizzer” White asking him: “What is the military ethic?”

Hutton credits his experiences at Balliol College, where 20 percent of the students were foreign, with “giving me a broader understanding of the place of the U.S. in the world and indeed the place of the military in it—both strengths and weaknesses.” One exam at the end of his three-year Oxford residency (today’s scholars stay for two years) offered a dozen questions from which the students were to pick a few to answer. The professors wanted to see the facts they knew best and how they gathered them into a coherent framework to argue one way or another. “The need to write at least two essays a week for three years led to seven years of formal designation as a speechwriter for senior defense officials,” Hutton says. There was constant pressure to elevate him to higher staffs as a junior officer. “I had to fight to stay with troops as long as I could,” he recalls. Command of an armor company in Korea, two additional company commands, two battalion commands, as well as four Bronze Stars earned in Vietnam offer witness to a diet shift from dessert to field rations.

Top-flight members of West Point’s Class of 2002 found that their scholastic capabilities, athletic prowess, leadership abilities, and interest in their fellow beings qualified them to apply to a host of scholarships that have sprung up in the wake of Rhodes’ legacy. The Rhodes Trust pioneered post-graduate studies pursuant to the terms of the will of Cecil Rhodes, whose intention was to promote international peace by endowing “all-arounders” with an Oxford education that would help them “fight the world’s fight.” The roll call of 18 scholarship and fellowship awards earned 10 years ago—the most ever in Academy history—reads: Rhodes, East-West Center, Gates Cambridge, Marshall, Mitchell, Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial, and Truman. A wide range of voyages has led to their 10th reunion.

Previous page: Class of 2014 cadets who are being considered for the “Academic Corps Squad” fill the Social Sciences Department conference room. Each year, about 100 nominees are narrowed down to 20 final candidates whose quest for graduate scholarships will be supported. The underlying concept of the program is that academic and leadership excellence enhance the Academy’s value to the Army as a commissioning source.

Major Scott Katalenich ’02 won’t have far to travel—now. A few years back he was serving as the Brigade Engineer and, later, as the Engineer Company Commander for the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division in Diyala Province, Iraq. Following that deployment he applied to teach in the Academy’s Department of Civil & Mechanical Engineering, was accepted, and set out to equip himself for his academic responsibilities by earning a Master of Science in Sustainable Design and Construction at Stanford University. This was his second master’s; the first was earned as a Gates Cambridge Scholarship winner at the University of Cambridge.

Though Katalenich is equipped with two advanced degrees, his academic arsenal is based on a simple statement: “I love to learn.” During his year at Cambridge he took just three courses. The rest of his time was spent researching renewable energy, which led to his 15,000-word thesis on potential solutions for foundation problems encountered by offshore wind turbines. “The Gates was an opportunity—the first time that I had the freedom to pursue specialization in what really interested me,” he says. “I was well-prepared here at West Point with a very broad, well-rounded education.” In contrast, Katalenich focused on 15 specific courses at Stanford, learning the latest on implementing technology meant to improve the sustainability of engineering projects.

The holistic view of the environment that he has cultured in the last decade has well-equipped him to be course director for CE350: Infrastructure Engineering. The curriculum is all-encompassing: Cadets study networks and learn how everything interconnects—subways, power grids, water systems, communication, transportation. They then look at how everything they’ve learned can be applied to military operations. Katalenich is utilizing everything he has learned in the last 10 years to counsel cadets undertaking capstone projects designed to help West Point become a net-zero energy installation by 2020.

Based on her voyage, **Major Anne McClain ’02** seems to run on a high-energy source. She says her career has been like a high-speed rollercoaster. An aerospace engineering major at West Point, she was awarded a Marshall Scholarship and used it to earn two master’s degrees in England— aerospace engineering at the University of Bath

and international security at the University of Bristol. Her athleticism on two Army Softball championship teams led to rugby at the highest level in England and a slot on a U.S. national rugby team. After flight school she qualified as an OH-58D Kiowa Warrior pilot, logged 850 combat hours in Iraq, and earned the Bronze Star and the Air Medal with valor. As the commander of C Troop, 1st Battalion, 14th Aviation Regiment she was in charge of all undergraduate and graduate flight training for the Kiowa. McClain has long had her sights set on becoming an astronaut, and it's possible that her new schooling at the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School in Patuxent River, Maryland, will qualify her for a really high-speed rollercoaster ride.

Major Kenneth Wainwright Jr. '02 finds himself a scholar once more. In July he enrolled in Hebrew University of Jerusalem's public policy program as an Army Olmsted Scholar. The Olmsted Scholar Program, established by General George Olmsted '22 in 1959 (now administered by The George and Carol Olmstead Foundation), provides "outstanding young military leaders an unsurpassed opportunity to achieve fluency in a foreign language, pursue graduate study at an overseas university, and acquire an in-depth understanding of foreign cultures, thereby further equipping them to serve in positions of great responsibility as senior leaders in the United States Armed Forces." Wainwright's studies in Jerusalem will be in Hebrew.

Wainwright is well-prepared for this current academic endeavor. During his two-year Marshall Scholarship at the University of Oxford he studied Arabic as part of his Master of Philosophy in Modern Middle Eastern Studies. In England he had numerous opportunities to read, think, write about, and discuss past conflicts and potential problems in the region. "I think my understanding of

Middle Eastern politics and history helped me make sense of the complex social and political situations I encountered in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Lebanon," he says. "On a practical level, the Oxford tutorial system of composing a 10-page paper each week on an assigned topic and then discussing it directly with the professor honed my research, writing, and briefing skills and proved useful as a commander."

These post-graduate scholarship experiences continue to bolster his Army career. "I think the immediate benefits of the Marshall Scholarship as a junior officer were seen in how I led my units and interacted with my fellow servicemen and local nationals, and in my understanding of the bigger picture of our efforts in the Middle East," he says. "I think the benefits will become more tangible the more senior I become in the Army." This is exactly the reason he was selected to be part of the Olmsted Class of 2012, which includes 20 officers who have been on duty for 10 years—six from the Army, six from the Air Force, five from the Navy, and three from the Marine Corps.

Major David Chang '02 speaks of invaluable experiences as an East-West Scholar at the University of Hawaii: "Most of my peers were from Asian countries. Learning to deal with other cultures and their way of life helped broaden my perspectives." As a second-generation Korean American who grew up in California, he was very open to learning more about life on the other side of the Pacific. For two years he was immersed in a multicultural environment and studied political science in a multicultural arena. Optimistically he undertook a thesis that posited a democratic course of action that could be pursued to open up North Korea.

After graduate school he served as the S2 (Intelligence Officer) at the battalion and brigade level during a 15-month deployment to Iraq. Upon leaving active service with the Army in 2009 his voyage continued in the National Guard, where he is now a major in the S2 section of the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. His East-West Scholarship base is continually tapped as his unit deploys on training exercises such as Operation Yama Sakura with Japan, Operation Tiger Balm with Singapore, and Operation Garuda Shield with Indonesia. In his civilian life, as CEO of Chang Holding Company, he is already rated as one of Hawaii's top wealth managers. It's easy to wonder if his meteoric rise to State Chairman of the Hawaii Republican State Committee is somehow linked to his East-West thesis.

Chang's classmate, **Major Brian Babcock-Lumish '02**, also has an interesting leadership position—Executive Secretary of the West Point Scholarship Program. A winner of both Marshall and Truman scholarships, Babcock-Lumish offers an interesting job description: "I have the privilege of preparing the next generation of cadets for nationally competitive graduate scholarships that are an important component for fostering civil-military understanding and preparing potential strategic leaders for the country," he says. Whether or not cadets win scholarships, he adds, the process of articulating a vision for their future service is an important exercise and an often-overlooked valuable skill for leaders in uniform. "It is an honor to play a role leading the program from which I so greatly benefited as a cadet," he says.



Guy Filippelli '97, a former Marshall Scholarship winner and current CEO of Berico Technologies, returned to the Academy during Graduation Week as a benefactor of West Point scholarship activity.

That program starts out with a cohort of 100 cadets entering their third year, winnows them down to 20 strong through interviews and evaluations, and then offers them a special course, XH497: Critical Thought (taught by Babcock-Lumish this year). Its purpose is “to improve students’ ability to evaluate complex issues involving ethical judgments and choice among scarce resources, reach reasoned positions on these issues, and effectively argue their positions verbally and in writing.”

Babcock-Lumish knows whereof he teaches. Using his Marshall Scholarship to undertake Russian and East European Studies at Oxford, he worked through dozens of books and presented his findings through weekly essays. “That was great preparation for my daily role as General David Petraeus’ military intelligence briefer throughout the 2007 surge in Baghdad.” His grade for that course of action was the Defense Meritorious Service Medal. A further yield was the application of what he had learned during the fulfillment of his Doctorate in War Studies from King’s College London. His Truman scholarship funded his 2009-10 residency. He was already teaching international relations at West Point when he flew to England during spring break to defend his thesis: *The Politics of Wartime Multinational Command*.

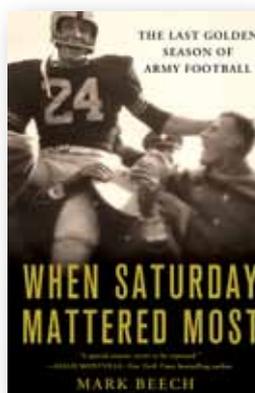
The Class of 2013 will be submitting their applications this month and should start hearing back from scholarship programs by the end of November. ★

Ted Spiegel is a long-time contributing writer for various WPAOG publications and formerly worked for West Point Admissions.

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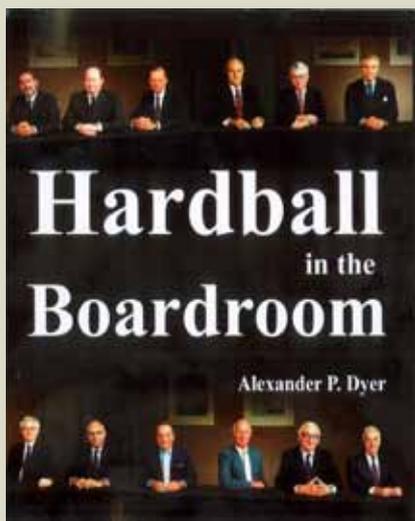
By Mark Beech
(Thomas Dunne Books, New York)



“A grand homage... [a] memorable sports chronicle of a fabled Army team at the birth of the space age and the NFL. Beech highlights a remarkable coach and his determined squad in a golden season of redemption and triumph.”

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The author, a *Sports Illustrated* writer and second-generation West Point graduate, chronicles Army’s undefeated 1958 season—the climax to the Black Knights’ last decade of gridiron supremacy. All the characters are here, Red Blaik, Douglas MacArthur, Bill Carpenter (the Lonely End) and Pete Dawkins (the Heisman Trophy winner), charging through a season touched by grace and ending in glory.



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This book, while written as a memoir, deals with issues of leadership and ethics in business at all levels from sales to the boardroom. The author, who served as a director, CEO, deputy chairman, and chairman of several major international corporations, uses real names and situations to take the reader into meeting rooms and boardrooms to experience management challenges and solutions. This book is an easy read and is as entertaining as it is instructive.

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FIRE AND WATER

By Keith J. Hamel, WPAOG staff



When Sam Brown '06 told members of Army Crew gathered for a spring boat dedication ceremony, “Enjoy your time on the water because you are going to miss it,” it was difficult to tell if he was speaking as a former Stroke of the Varsity or as a vet “who got smoked.” Yet, the blending of both experiences—one with water and the other with fire—made his seemingly impromptu speech resonate profoundly with the cadets.

In early September 2008, Brown and his platoon were on security patrol in Kandahar, Afghanistan, when they began taking direct fire. As he went to help soldiers in a disabled armament carrier, Brown was set ablaze by an improvised explosive device, ultimately causing third degree burns to 30 percent of his body and claiming his left index finger. After enduring over a dozen surgeries to treat his many wounds (as well as the painful post-surgical procedures required for severe burn care), Brown retired from the Army at the rank of captain in September 2011 and is now representing various veteran groups. He is the Director of Veteran and Family Support for the Dallas-based Allies in Service, and he volunteers for CarryTheLoad.org.

It was in this latter capacity that Brown came to West Point on May 1, 2012. He was here to lend support to Carry the Load's 27-day mission, which kicked off at the West Point Cemetery and ended 1,700 miles later in Dallas, TX, on Memorial Day. Broken into 350 five-mile segments, each marched or “rucked” by a different individual or group, the mission sought to revive the meaning of Memorial Day by honoring those who either died or were wounded while carrying the load for their fellow Americans during service. Later that day, Brown attended a ceremony at the Frank Caufield Crew & Sailing Center during which a four-man shell was dedicated in his honor. A second boat was named for First Lieutenant Laura Walker '03, who was killed on August 18, 2005, while serving in

Delak, Afghanistan. The ceremony served to remind the cadets who row these boats that they are not in this job without sacrifice.

“Sitting in a boat is a snap-shot of your future,” Brown told the future officers while standing in front of the shell bearing his name. “You won't achieve success without the others in the boat.” He went on to advise his audience about the challenges they will encounter upon graduation, but he stipulated that with every challenge comes an opportunity to grow as a leader. He also reassured them that they will get through any challenge with the support of others. Brown closed by humbly acknowledging his '06 classmates who were still serving in Afghanistan, some on their fourth tour of duty. “They are my heroes,” he said.

After the dedication, Brown went out to row with Crew members in the boat named in his honor. This was the first time Brown tried one-oar sweep rowing since his injury, but he had tried two-oar sculling during his recovery. In several respects, being in a boat on the water substituted for the virtual reality (VR) therapy Brown used to recover from his burns. “VR washes out pain with visual and audio signals,” he said. “Without VR, I would focus inside myself and that experience is similar to being on the water trying to make every stroke perfect.” As he rowed, it sure seemed that Brown was enjoying his time on the water; performing exact flawless strokes that rendered the effects of the fire that altered his life nonexistent. ★

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CADET CHAPEL

BY THE NUMBERS



23,500⁺ pipes in the pipe organ

32



engraved
SIGNATURES OF
SUPERINTENDENTS

FOUR

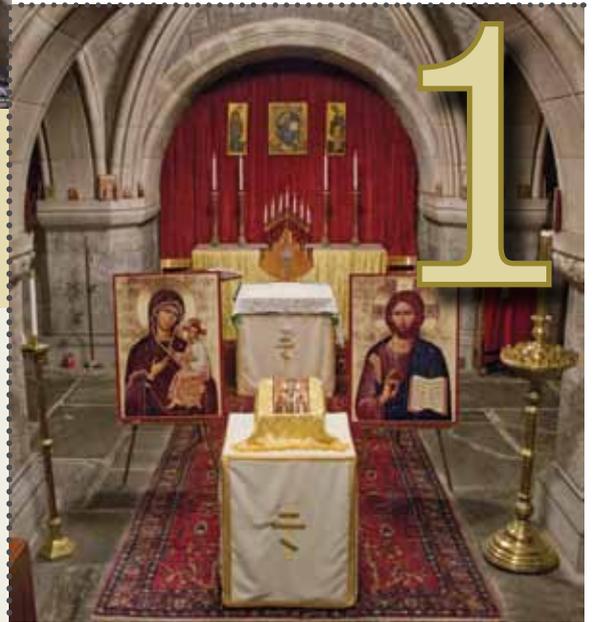
items make the Chapel a Cathedral

1. Hagioscope (leper window)
2. Built in shape of a cross
3. Side door
4. Crypt

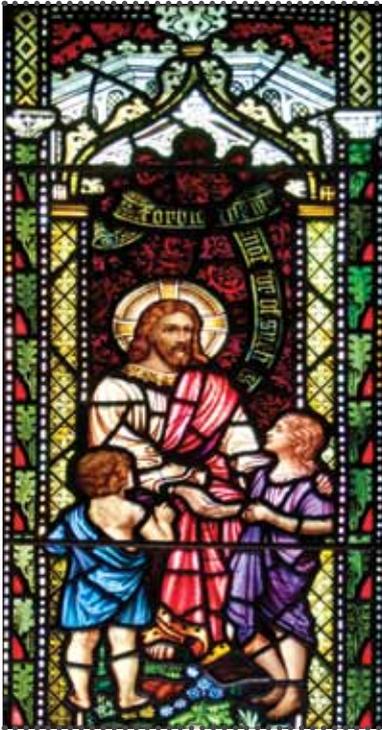


14

MONTHS
CONSTRUCTION
TIME



Orthodox chapel
(St. Martin's)
*located in lower part
of the Cadet Chapel*



175 Classes represented in stained glass windows

3,500 lbs
WEIGHT OF LARGEST BELL



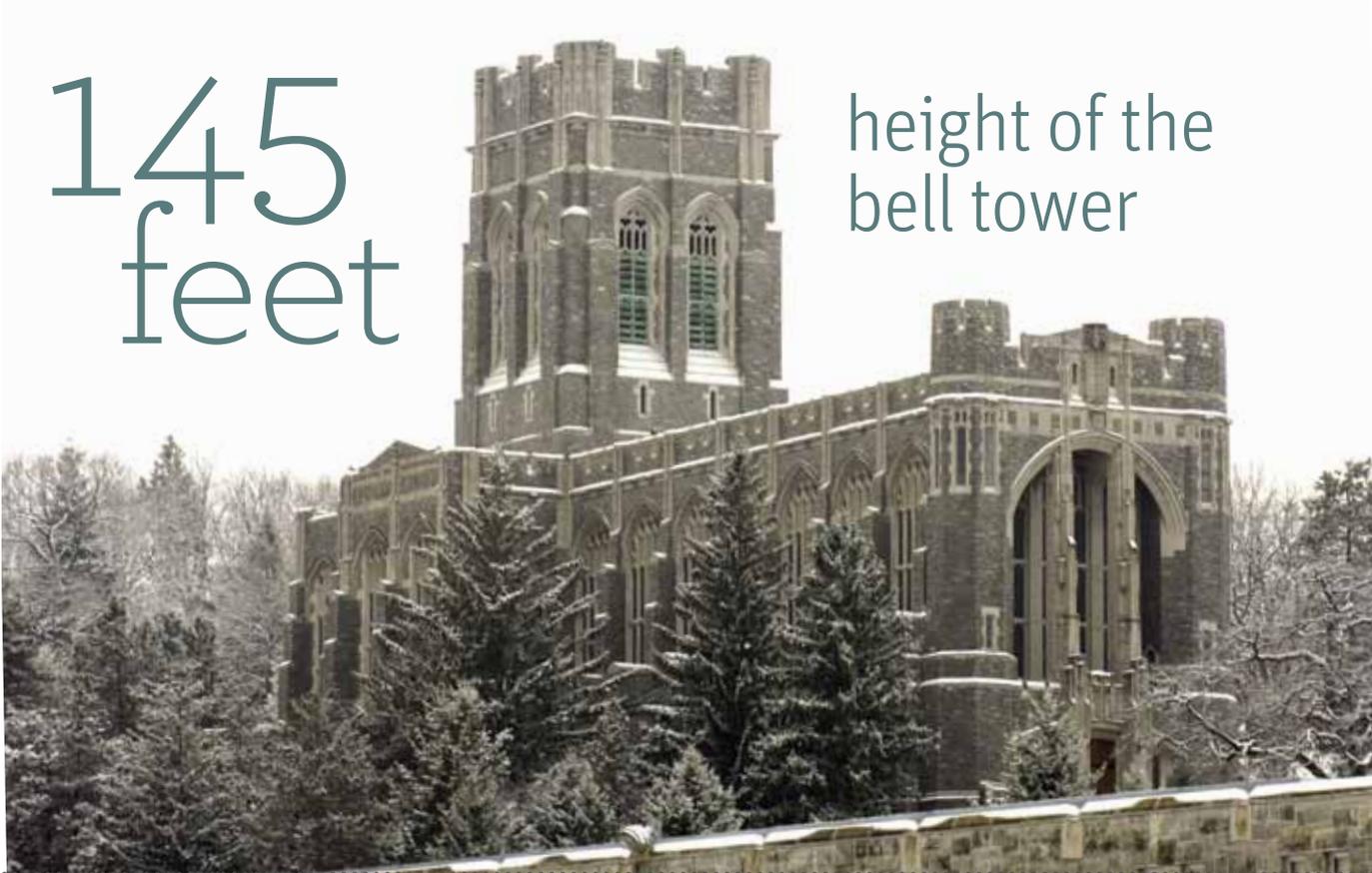
2 pews reserved
(one for Superintendent, one for POWs & MIAs)

twelve bells in the bell tower



145 feet

height of the bell tower



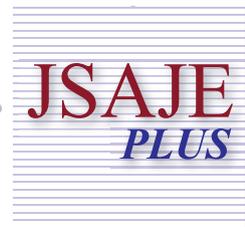


*i*SABRD



SACC

The Wide Gray Web



LinkedIn



GRAD-TO-GRAD NETWORKING

By **Keith J. Hamel**, WPAOG staff

For graduates of the United States Military Academy looking to transition from a military career to a civilian one, it is best to begin thinking of the Long Gray Line as the Wide Gray Web. While the Line lengthens in perpetuity, the Web expands in immensity.

Grad-to-grad networking has grown exponentially in recent years thanks to resources developed in conjunction with the West Point Association of Graduates (WPAOG), which has joined with the alumni associations of the four other service academies to offer a broad range of networking opportunities. For example, the associations offer four Service Academy Career Conferences (SACC) annually. Over 250 recruiters from nationally known companies attend these quarterly job fairs, many of whom are grads themselves. Additionally, the associations allow all grads free access to over 35,000 profiles in the Internet Service Academy Business Resource Directory (iSABRD) and free resume posting on Joint Service Academy Jobs Electronically (JSAJE), an online job bulletin board. Add these to well-known online tools such as LinkedIn and a grad has plenty of resources in place to start networking.



“No matter whether one’s transition is after five or 25 years of service, establishing a professional network may be the most important factor in making a successful transition,” says Maryellen Picciuto ’86, Senior Director of Alumni Support and Business Operations at WPAOG. However, building a solid

network does not happen overnight; it takes time. It might begin at West Point with classmates, teammates, and classmates. After graduation, it grows to include Army colleagues, bosses, mentors, neighbors, friends, and fellow grads. “Scoring an interview or getting a foot in the door results most often from a connection in your network,” says Picciuto, “so don’t underestimate the value of your professional network—this is the one time when it really is all about who you know.” The wisdom of Picciuto’s words is demonstrated in the case of Eric Verzola ’92.



Verzola served in Field Artillery for thirteen years and in Army Public Affairs for another seven. In his twenty years of service, he worked as a fire support officer, a platoon leader, an assistance operations officer, an AIT commander, a public affairs officer, and the Mission Command Training Program’s observer/trainer. Verzola also returned to West Point during that time to teach in the Department of Physical Education as a boxing instructor. Reflecting on his Army career, he says, “I think the bulk of my experiences provided me with the skills needed for coaching, teaching, and training, as well as the ability to understand the need for strong relationship-building and strategic communication.” Verzola sought to market these skills to potential employers via military recruiting firms, but he did not find them tailored to his situation. “I think military recruiting firms are mainly for junior

officers transitioning after two-to-five years in,” he says. Instead, Verzola recognizes the West Point Society of Greater Kansas City with helping him to find his current job. Tim Carlin ’82, the Society president, introduced Verzola to a number of contacts, including Tony Briggs ’89. Briggs put Verzola in contact with the head of the communications department at his company. Although no position was available at that time, Verzola felt that he made “a great connection” and impressed this company representative with his background and skill set in public relations. After their meeting, he remained in contact with this individual, and several months later Verzola learned about an opening through him and was encouraged to apply. He did so, and Verzola is now the senior communication analyst with this company.

“...so don’t underestimate the value of your professional network—this is the one time when it really is all about who you know.”

Maryellen Picciuto ’86

While this sounds like a smooth transition, Verzola acknowledges that there were bumps along the way and that he learned a lot about networking during the process. He attributes most of the bumps to “expectation management” on his part. He says, “The civilian job front is a challenge for the career Army officer, who receives orders after two-to-three years in a current assignment, smartly salutes, and moves on to the next assignment.” Verzola notes that networking with fellow grads helped him learn the “ins and outs” of the civilian world and offers an analogy that other grads should immediately appreciate: “Transitioning is like that first weapons range you run as a new LT. It has been done before; no need to recreate the wheel. Just find the LT who did it last.”

Through his local West Point Society, Verzola found a number of grads who gave him excellent advice and direction, including John J. Nelson ’87, who helped improve his resume. Verzola also cites the power of LinkedIn for grad-to-grad networking. “I was able to use this platform to find fellow grads from my cadet company to assist in my job search,” says Verzola. He has also linked with a grad, David Milton ’75, who is the senior vice president of his current “civilian” company. “He has given me sage advice on the corporate world that I am new to,” says Verzola. When asked, now that he has been through the process, whether he is eager to help a fellow grad looking to make the transition, Verzola immediately and unequivocally says, “Yes.”



Paul Scott Beaty '73 is a grad who has been on the other end of the networking equation. Beaty spent twenty-four years in the Army and then went to work for Shell, working there for thirteen years in a variety of human resources and learning and leadership development roles before "semi-retiring" in 2011. Beaty, a former Army Football player, received a mass email from Army Defensive End Coach John Mumford informing his network that one of his players, Gregory Washington II '05, was transitioning to the private sector.

Beaty had never met Washington ("In fact, we've still never met face to face," he says), but he followed his playing career with interest. Beaty contacted Washington and asked him to provide a resume that he could circulate among the Shell recruitment staff. According to Beaty, most of Shell's recruitment efforts are focused on new graduates, but he was able to put Washington in direct contact with the "experienced hire" recruiter. "Experienced hires" are only recruited to fill specific gaps," says Beaty, "and this one recruiter in particular understood the value of junior military officers." It took a while (six months) and a follow-up correspondence from Beaty on Washington's behalf, but after two face-to-face interviews, Washington received and accepted an offer from Shell. Even after he was hired, Beaty continued to mentor Washington in the transition process. "I provided him some advice on salary negotiation," says Beaty, "and I offered him the names and contact info of some 'trusted colleagues' at Shell who might help him adjust to a new company and the industry culture."



Beaty went the extra mile with Washington because he understands the challenges facing Army officers who are transitioning to a civilian career. "It's difficult for them to translate their experiences into tangible skills that a company is seeking," Beaty says. "Although there is respect and admiration for leadership skills, people seldom get hired to be a leader; instead, they get hired based on a skill that meets a need."



A SACC candidate networks with a participating employer.



Dave J. Ferguson '90, the Manager of Military Staffing & Recruiting for GE, supports Beaty's thinking. "At the end of the day, virtually all candidates get selected because they best fit a particular job," he says, "so understanding what qualifications, skills, abilities, and interests you bring to the table and matching them to a position is what yields success." But while Ferguson stresses proper job selection as an important factor to a successful transition, he also acknowledges the power of networking. "Networking is tremendously important," he says, "and there is anecdotal evidence that more than half of all job openings are filled via some type of networking."

Ferguson believes that the key to successful networking is moving from "level 1" networking, which yields information about a company, its culture, and its current or future openings, to "level 2" networking, which occurs when a candidate makes such a positive impression on a contact that he or she becomes the candidate's advocate in the job search. "Make no mistake, this level of commitment is difficult to achieve and will take a significant amount of interaction and work," says Ferguson, "but when candidates are able to create this connection, it yields excellent results." Just ask Verzola and Washington about the level of commitment among members of the Wide Gray Web. ★

ACRONYM GUIDE

SACC = Service Academy Career Conference

iSABRD = Internet Service Academy Business Resource Directory

JSAJE = Joint Service Academy Jobs Electronically

AIT = Advanced Individual Training

What networking advice would you offer to a fellow graduate making the transition to a civilian career? Join the discussion by visiting the official West Point Association of Graduates group on LinkedIn.

<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/eric-verzola/24/7b3/aaa>

<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/dave-ferguson/10/8b6/554>

<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/scott-beaty/8/605/57a>

<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/maryellen-picciuto/45/6ab/48a>



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*Service Academy Career Conferences are held exclusively for federal service academy graduates.

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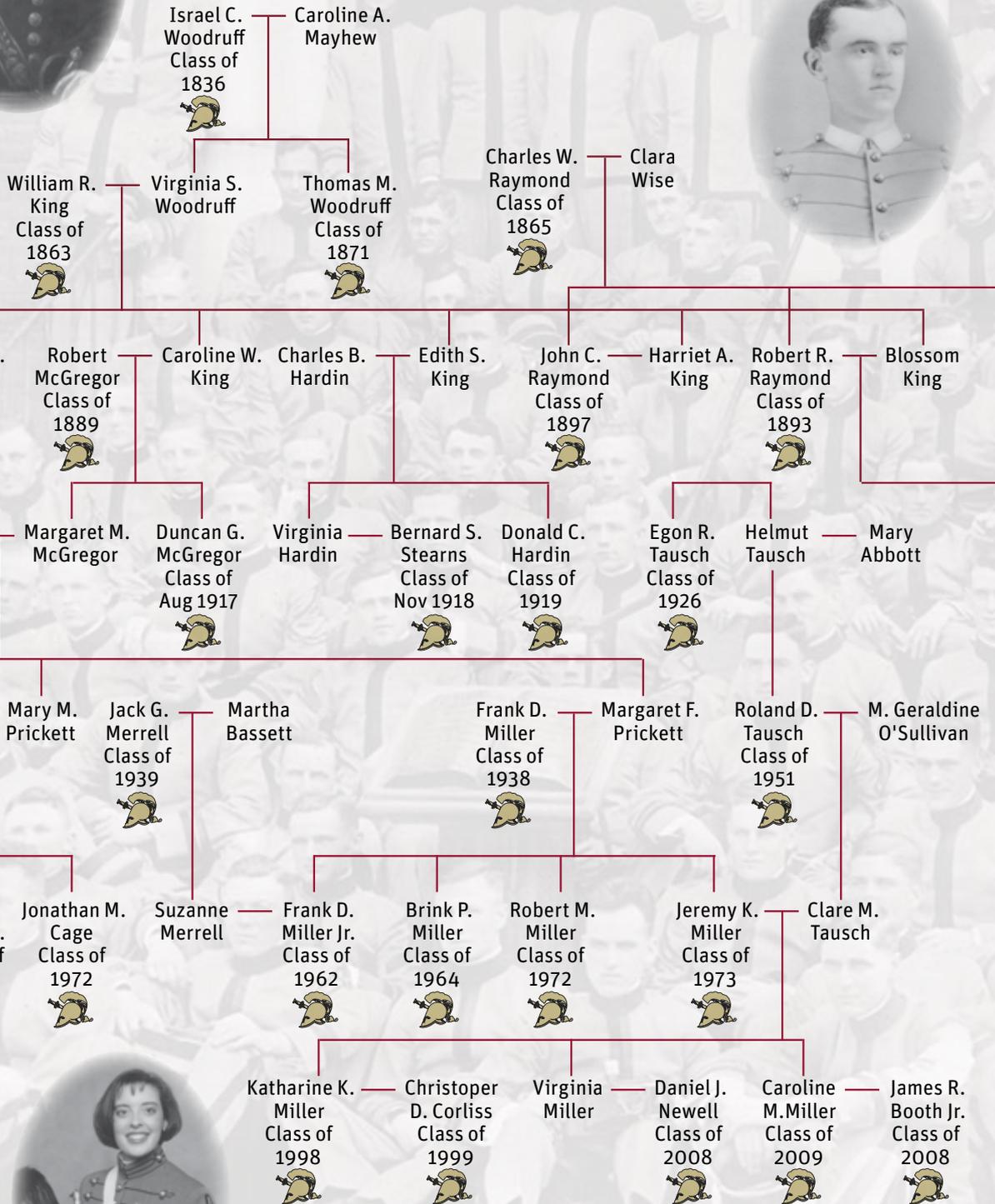
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West Point's



Legacy Families

By **Marissa Carl**, WPAOG staff

Charles Raymond made the trek up the Hudson River on July 1, 1861, officially beginning the Raymond family legacy at the United States Military Academy at West Point. His sons then took it one step further: Two married King daughters and one married a Montgomery daughter—two families that had started their legacies before Charles was even born. Together this clan has become one of the longest and largest legacy families in the Academy’s history. Seven continuous generations, stretching from the Class of 1825 to the Class of 2009, have made the same trek to West Point.

continued on page 42

William R. Montgomery
Class of 1825

Hannah B. Wood



Katherine I. Breck

Henry Montgomery



Allen D. Raymond
Ex-Cadet 1889

Anna R. Montgomery

Virginia W. Raymond

Chester W. Ott
Class of 1931

Robert R. Raymond Jr.
Class of 1919

Cris M. Burlingame
Class of 1912

Katherine Raymond

Charles W. Raymond II
Class of 1931

Allen D. Raymond Jr.
Class of 1923

Clara W. Leonard

Montgomery B. Raymond
Class of 1928

Sarah Dalton

Allen D. Raymond III
Class of 1955

Eleanor Schmidt

Charles L. Raymond
Class of 1957

Constance Brown

William M. Raymond
Class of 1960

Elizabeth Lacza

John W. Raymond
Class of 1964

John A. Raymond
Class of 1958

Barbara Ryan

John Ott

Marcia Franks

Allen D. Raymond IV
Class of 1979

Charles L. Raymond Jr.
Class of 1981

Chris H. Raymond
Ex-Cadet 1986

Craig A. Raymond
Class of 1988

William M. Raymond Jr.
Class of 1983

Edward W. Dougherty III
Class of 1986

Janet E. Raymond

Carl R. Ott
Class of 1993



Charles went on to graduate number one in his class and his descendants continue to leave their mark on the Academy. Craig Raymond '88, the most recent graduate with direct ties to Charles, was an Army lineman who helped the Black Knights beat Navy 17-3 his first year, even playing with a broken thumb throughout the second half of the game. He says the lessons he learned from the Academy translated to the football field, and continue to drive his service-oriented life—Craig spends his nights and weekends coaching the offensive line of his local high school football team.

Service to this country is the resounding family motto. William "Bill" Raymond Jr. '83, who taught in the Department of Social Sciences from 1993 to 1996, has a son in his third year of the ROTC program at Kansas State University—joining the ranks of dozens in his family who chose to serve in the military without going to West Point—and his family couldn't be more proud. "I'm honored he wants to follow in my footsteps and serve his country," Bill says.

It would take nearly an entire magazine to include everyone in this family who was commissioned outside of the United States Military Academy or enlisted (many of the indirect graduate lines—for instance, Clara Leonard's two brothers—don't even fit on the previous pages); however, that group includes many decorated soldiers, a handful of general officers, and a Medal of Honor recipient. "I'm just amazed at all of the things my ancestors have accomplished to help establish this nation," says Katharine (Miller) Corliss '98

Corliss '98, now an Executive Officer in the Air National Guard, "and I wanted to do my part as well."

Corliss remembers when the first classes of women started graduating from the Academy in the early 1980s. "I remember thinking that was just so cool and that West Point was now a possibility for me," she says. Corliss went on to become the first female graduate in her very long family lineage. Eleven years later, her sister, Caroline (Miller) Booth '09, tossed her hat on graduation day. As for the next generation, Corliss's eldest, age 11, spends her summers at West Point with her grandparents. "It's in her head," Corliss says. "If that's where her path takes her, great." The family isn't pushing, but "certainly wants to set her up for success if West Point is what she wants."

"All of my ancestors would say 'I am who I am today because of West Point,' and that's something I wanted to be able to say myself."

—Katharine (Miller) Corliss '98

Six and seven generations are where certain families break from the pack. Three- and four-generation families crowd the pages of the West Point Association of Graduates' *Register of Graduates*. Even five generations are increasingly common as the years go on. Six and seven generations, however, require a genealogical succession that



MAJ Tyler Donnell '02 is the most recent graduate in a long line of West Pointers (dating back to the Class of 1815). However, even his non-graduate relatives have strong West Point ties. His great-great-great-grandfather, William Brown Cozzens, was the first manager of the West Point Hotel and later owned Cozzens Hotel, which was located outside of what is now Thayer Gate until 1866. This illustration of a cadet hop at Cozzens Hotel, by Winslow Homer, was printed in the Sep. 3, 1859 issue of *Harper's Weekly*.



This brooch was created for Clara Raymond and includes the A-pins of her husband, four sons, and five grandchildren. Bill Raymond '83 says it was a running family joke that "Grammy" wore the West Point A-pins every day, but never any memorabilia from her descendants who graduated from the Air Force or Naval academies. "They're kind of the black sheep of the family," he jokes.

starts within the first few decades of the Academy's founding. Rene DeRussy, as the 89th graduate of West Point, is the earliest graduate to start one of these elite legacy families. After he graduated in the Class of 1812 (and then served as Superintendent from 1833 to 1838), six generations of his direct descendants—most recently James Lincoln Jr. '90—tossed their hats on graduation day.

Three years after DeRussy graduated, Tyler Donnell's lengthy lineage started. Tyler '02 is the most recent graduate to descend from the 137th graduate, Francis Berier, Class of 1815. Seven of the past eight generations of Tyler's family have included a West Point graduate, and he is the fourth to come back to teach at the Academy. Since 1821, his ancestors have taught cadets mathematics, artillery tactics, and physics—the subject Tyler started teaching this fall and the course his father, Alton Donnell Jr. '67, taught from 1977 to 1980.

Alton says his family continues to attend the Academy not because of the pressure of the legacy but because of the strong ties his family has to the area (two generations of his family married Cozzens, a prominent local family). Alton himself chose to become a cadet because he was the first of four kids and thought it would be the practical choice over Michigan State or Cornell universities. "Then R-Day hits you right in the face," he jokes. As the generations continue, the local ties grow stronger and stronger. Tyler spent a lot of time at West Point with family friends and now his children will get to spend some of their childhood years growing up at West Point. (His son is only 11 but already very interested in his family's connection to the Academy.)

Tyler's great-great-grandfather, Alexander Ross Piper, Class of 1889, also spent many of his childhood years at West Point and, like his relatives, came back later in life to serve the Academy.

From 1934 to 1936, he was President of the West Point Association of Graduates and is credited with convincing Congress to pass a law bestowing a Bachelor of Science degree on all living and future West Point graduates.

West Point is very often a family affair. The following cases are just three of thousands of interesting Academy family ties: George Hillard III restarted his family's legacy in 1964, following after his great-great-great-grandfather Charles Gratiot, Class of 1806, and great-great-great-grandfather Gabriel Rains, Class of 1827. Merlin Miller and classmate John Mainwaring each started a legacy when they tossed their hats on June 5, 1974. Miller's three daughters then graduated from the Academy around the same time as Mainwaring's three sons. Jacqueline Stilwell officially stretched her family legacy to the 100-year mark in May 2004, following her father (Class of 1960), who followed his father (Class of 1933), who followed his father (Class of 1904)—all named Joe Stilwell.

At the Class of 2012's Graduation Banquet in May, General Ray Odierno '76 commented on the 80 legacy families in attendance. The theme of Odierno's speech focused on certain generations of West Point leaders and how they have changed history; he then charged the Class of 2012 to shape the Army of the future, which is sure to be led by more and more West Point graduates who have generations of support and experience behind them. (Ninety members of the Class of 2013 have parents who graduated from the Academy.) ★

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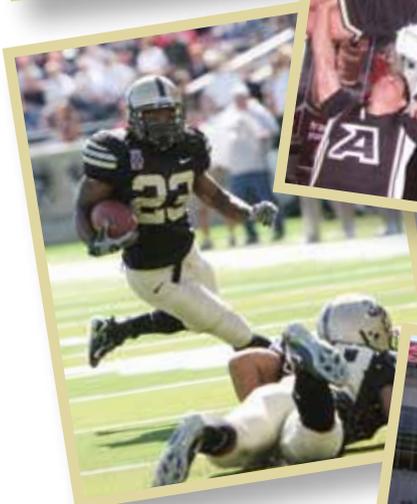
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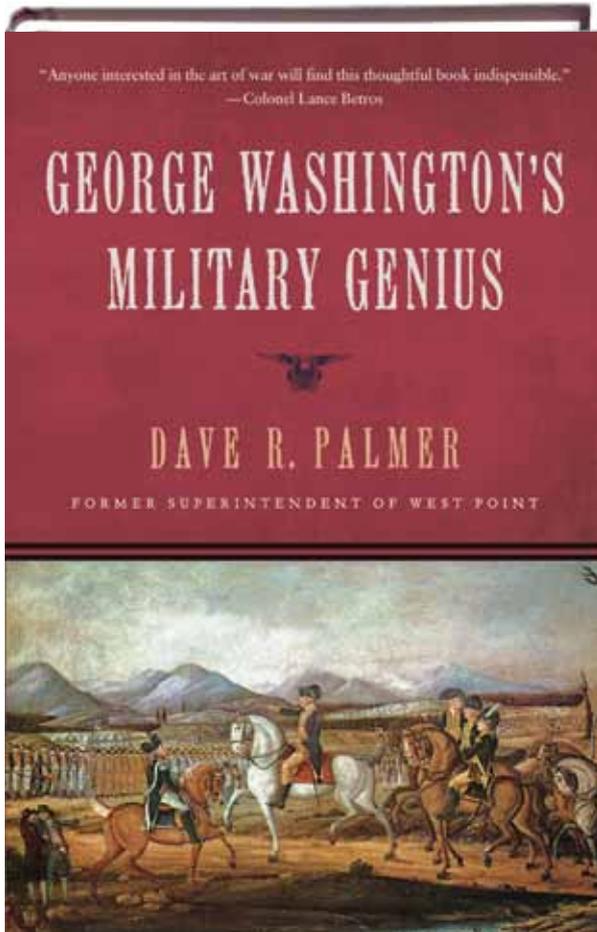
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—Bishop Shipman, 1902

1969

Ralph D. Crosby Jr. Receives Two Prestigious Awards

Ralph D. Crosby Jr. '69 received the insignia of Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor in June. The award, created by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802 to reward extraordinary accomplishments and outstanding services rendered to France, was presented on behalf of the President of the French Republic in recognition of Crosby's work towards French-American cooperation and friendship.

Also in June, Crosby received the James Forrestal Industry Leadership Medal from the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA), in recognition of his corporate leadership in the U.S. defense industry and lifelong contribution to national security.



50 Years Later: MacArthur's "Duty, Honor, Country" Speech

On May 12, 1962, General William Westmoreland '36 walked up to his secretary, Pat Reidel, and asked if she was busy that afternoon. When she said that she was free—though remembers thinking about all the laundry waiting for her at home—she had no idea she would soon be transcribing history. “It was the highlight of my career,” she tells everyone who asks about her afternoon on the Poop Deck, listening to General Douglas MacArthur 1903, talk to the Corps about Duty, Honor, Country.



It was 50 years ago, but she still remembers sitting on the Poop Deck with the generals' wives (women weren't allowed to sit on the floor of the Mess Hall at that time) and can still read from the original shorthand notes she took, which are now signed by Gregory Peck, who played MacArthur in the eponymous film.

The Sylvanus Thayer award is now bestowed on non-graduates whose outstanding character, accomplishments, and stature in the civilian community emulates the Academy's "Duty, Honor, Country" motto. On October 18, Ike Skelton, U.S. Representative from Missouri's 4th District, will receive the 54th Thayer Award during dinner with the Corps of Cadets in the Mess Hall.



General Officer Promotions

The Secretary of Defense has announced that the President has nominated:

To the rank of Lieutenant General:

Major General James O. Barclay III '78

Major General David R. Hogg '81

To the rank of Brigadier General:

Colonel Marion Garcia '87, United States Army Reserve

The following Army National Guard Officers have been confirmed by the Senate for Federal recognition in the next higher grade:

To the rank of Major General:

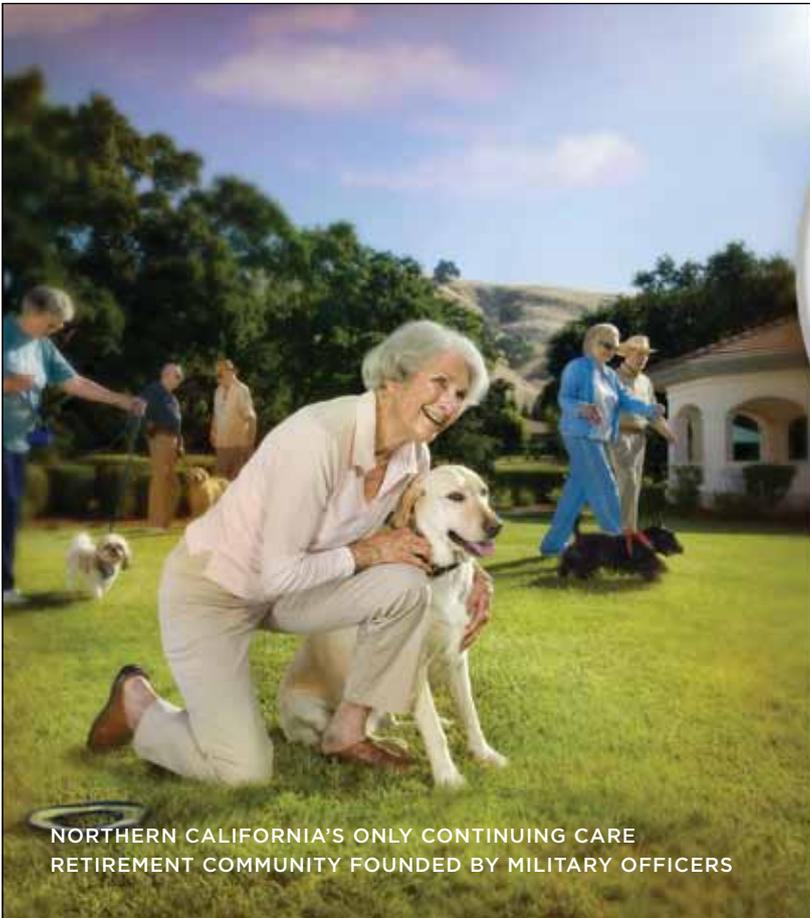
Brigadier General Reynold N. Hoover '83



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Listen to MacArthur's speech



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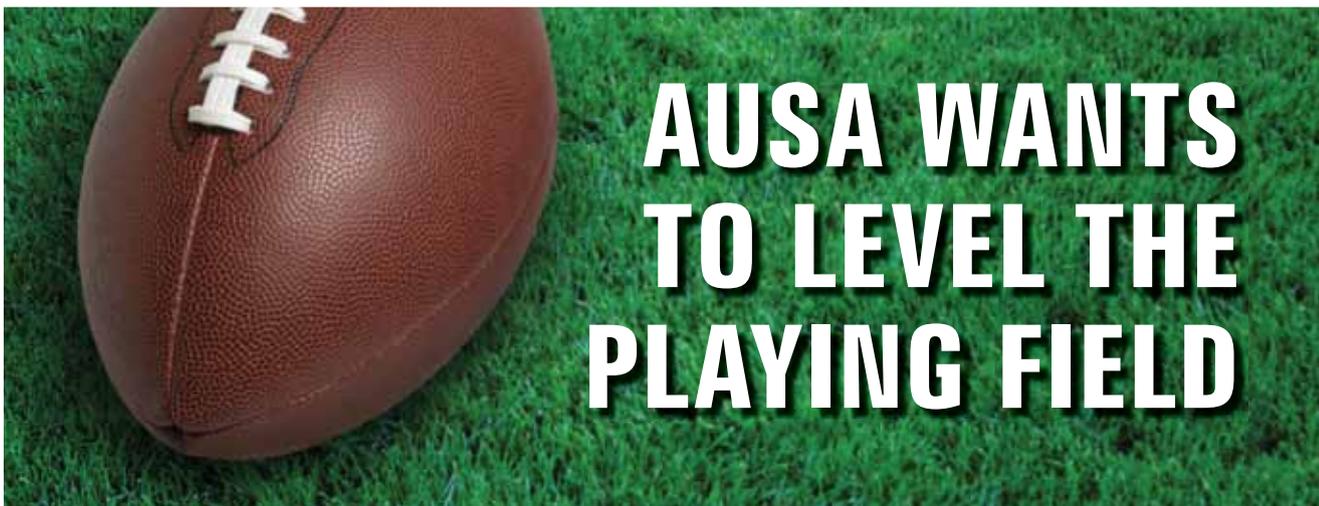
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DECEMBER 8

Beat Navy!

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December 21
DECEMBER GRADUATION

January 26

500th NIGHT

The Class of 2014 celebrates that graduation is now only 500 days away.

"Beat the Dean!"

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Upcoming events suggested by West Point staff & faculty.
Events for February-April should be sent to editor@wpaog.org by November 15, 2012.

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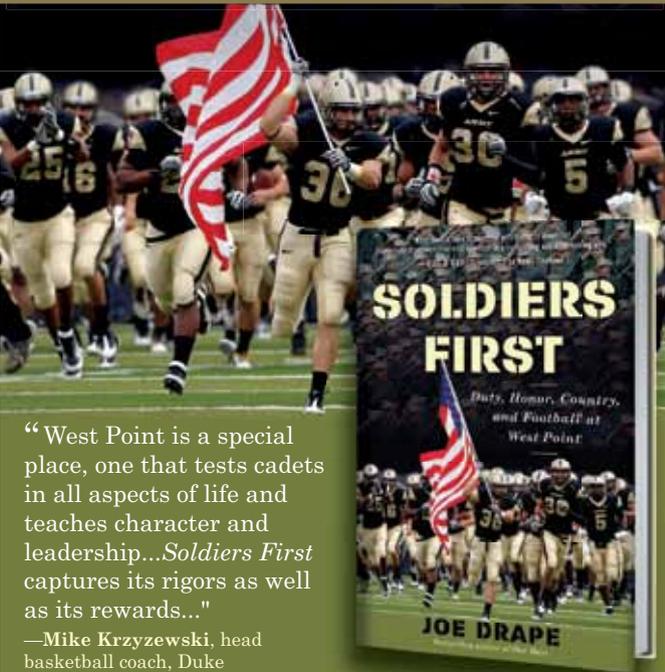


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| FEB 22–MAR 4 | Mayan Mystique |
| FEB 23–MAR 6 | Mystique of the Orient |
| MAR 22–29 | Cruise to the Lesser Antilles |
| APR 5–14 | Civil War and Southern Culture |
| MAY 6–14 | Insider's Prague |
| MAY 9–18 | Celtic Lands |
| MAY 28–JUN 10 | Jewels of Antiquity |
| JUN 4–12 | Undiscovered Apulia |
| JUN 5–13 | European Mosaic |
| JUN 13–28 | Ancient Kingdoms of China |
| JUL 4–15 | Baltic Treasures |
| AUG 1–8 | Alaska's Glaciers and Inside Passage |
| AUG 14–27 | British Isles and Norwegian Fjords |
| AUG 15–23 | Discover England's Lake District |
| SEP 8–20 | Music Cruise on the Blue Danube |
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Past in Review

Dedicated on June 12, 1900, stately Cullum Hall was once the site of formal hops for cadets, the Hundredth Night Show, and the Graduation Ball (when classes were much smaller than today). Over the years, the building has been modified to best serve the then-current needs, but its original purpose remains the same: to tell the West Point story and elevate the military profession.

The building's namesake, George W. Cullum, Class of 1833, provided \$250,000 (the equivalent of several million dollars today) in his will for the construction of a "fire proof stone Memorial Hall" to be located "upon the public grounds at West Point, NY." One of only two Neoclassical buildings standing on the level of the Plain, Cullum intended the Hall to be "a receptacle of statues, busts, mural tablets and portraits of distinguished deceased officers and graduates of the Military Academy; of paintings of battle scenes, trophies of war, and such other objects as may tend to give elevation to the military profession." He also desired that a committee of the Academic Board have the responsibility "to prevent the introduction of unworthy subjects into this Hall." An additional \$20,000 was to provide a permanent trust, the income to be used to purchase statues, busts and other items for the Hall. Cullum also gave the Academy great latitude regarding the building's use: "It is also my desire that this Hall should be adapted for use on any ceremonial occasion taking place at West Point, NY, and for the Assemblage and Dinners of the Association of Graduates of the United States Military Academy, and, if practicable, I wish that lodging accommodations should be provided in some part of it for the members of that Association while attending its annual reunions." Cullum's desires were met (with the possible exception of the "paintings of battles scenes"), and a number of small rooms were provided on the lower levels to accommodate graduates well into the middle of the 20th Century.

Currently, the ground floor of Cullum Hall has a large reception room (later named The Pershing Room), large cloak rooms, and some smaller rooms for offices. An elaborate double staircase at the south end leads to an impressive ballroom on the second floor. Up

VENERABLE CULLUM HALL: NOW AND THEN

by J. Phoenix, Esquire



high, near where the walls meet the ceiling, the great battles of the Civil War and other campaigns through 1900 are listed in large, bold letters: Vera Cruz, Buena Vista, Gettysburg, Tippecanoe, Chickamauga, Shiloh... the list goes on. Also, well known to any plebe, 340 lights line the ballroom's ceiling, answering the typical upper-class cadet's query, "How many lights?" A grand stage adorns the north end of the ballroom. Here, on March 5, 1904, firsties performed a legendary "One Hundredth Night Celebration" entitled "The Elopers." It involved two Martians named Romulus and Remus who came to earth in an airship. They are stranded at West Point when a curious Academy professor and a "clarifier of blackboards" (i.e., "janitor") inadvertently send the airship and themselves on a return flight to Mars. For decades, this stage was the site for a number of such plays, band concerts, and other amusements on the isolated post. The ballroom, named "Thayer Hall" in its early days, was also the site of many formal dances (or "hops" in cadet parlance) in an era when both cadets and their ladies wore gloves to dances and the cadets filled out "hop cards" for their ladies, saving only a few dances for themselves—but always the traditional last dance of the evening, "Army Blue." In the sixties, as the Corps nearly doubled in size, the

ballroom became too small, and informal hops moved to the gymnasium. When Eisenhower Hall opened in the spring of 1974, the occasional formal hop also moved there—as well as the informal hops.

"To the ladies who come up in June, we'll bid a fond adieu. Here's hoping they be married soon, and join the Army too."

—Army Blue

Overlooking the Hudson River on a moonlit Saturday night in spring, the Cullum Hall patio was likely the site of many marriage proposals. During the Academy Centennial in 1902, the Graduation Ball was held in Cullum Hall, as was the Alumni Meeting and Reception, and the Centennial Exercises, at which President Theodore Roosevelt was the guest of honor.

In 1950, the second Student Conference on United States Affairs (SCUSA) held their banquet in Cullum Hall. Over the years, many a June has seen a grand banquet in the Memorial Hall for the Annual Reunions of the Association of Graduates. Photographs of row upon row of long tables occupied by men in tuxedos and formal military uniforms testify to the popularity of Cullum Hall as an Association venue. For decades, until the

Past in Review, *continued from page 51*

completion of Herbert Hall in 1995, Cullum Hall was, in fact, the home of the West Point Association of Graduates. A small gift shop and several offices occupied some of the “lodging accommodations” on a lower level. When the Association departed, cadet activities and clubs took over the empty former offices. The Office of the Cadet Hostess (shown in the photo at right) graced the ground level, displaced from the mezzanine of Grant Hall, formally the official meeting place for guests visiting cadets on weekends. A small restaurant that had previously used a fraction of the existing space expanded considerably to serve cadets, visitors, and staff.

For a time in the late sixties and early seventies, Cullum Hall was reserved as a sort of Fourth Class Club for the plebes—unless needed for a formal hop or other event with priority. And following renovations on some of the building space, the Superintendent held tailgates or informal gatherings in the ballroom or in the Pershing Room on home football weekends.

For the first years of this century—until the renovated and expanded Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center reopened in 2005—Cullum Hall’s ballroom served as a gymnasium, primarily for boxing and wrestling. The Pershing Room, as well as the



main hall on the ground floor, was also pressed into duty as Projects Day in May required more and more space to display a myriad of senior capstone projects. Soon, however, the ballroom found new use as a weapons simulator range filled half the room, and laptop computers with access to military gaming software filled the remainder. Lastly, the United States Military Academy Prep School used Cullum Hall for classroom space in 2011

as it transitioned from its former location in New Jersey to a new building at West Point that was still under construction.

As of 2012, a new look is in the works for Cullum Hall’s second century of existence. After all, memorials change to reflect the needs of the living. The next issue of *West Point* magazine will provide more details of the renovations being completed this winter.★

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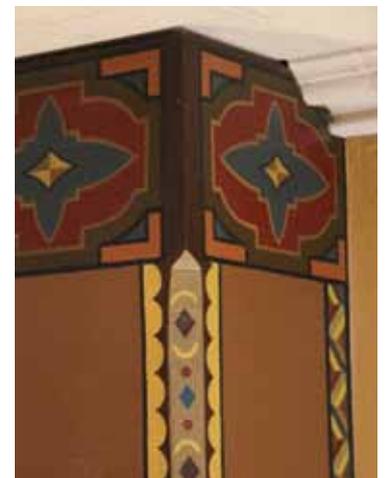
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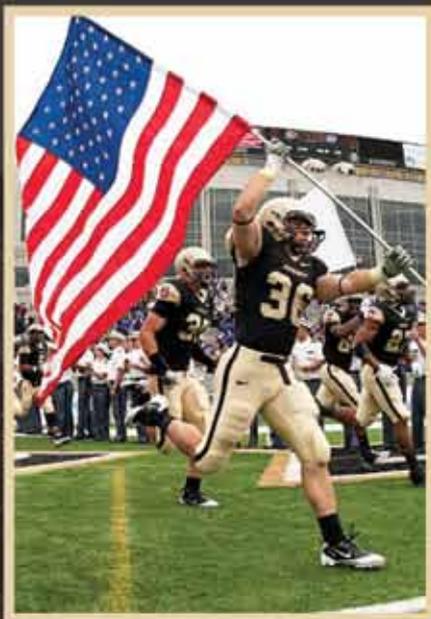
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West Point magazine Summer Issue

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