Melting the days away

The West Point Association of Graduates’ annual Ring Melt Ceremony was held Jan. 25. It was the first time the melt has been held at West Point. Fifty-five rings were donated and melted. The gold will be used as part of the Class of 2020’s rings, which the class will receive in August. The Class of 2020 was joined by retired Gen. David Petraeus, pictured with Class of 2020 Cadet President Joshua Phillips (bottom right photo), at the annual 500th Night Banquet Jan. 26 in the Cadet Mess Hall. See page 3 for more on the Ring Melt Ceremony and page 4 for more on 500th Night.

Photos by Michelle Eberhart (above) and Brandon O’Connor (top and bottom right)
Army Cyber Institute welcomes Reserve Soldiers

By Capt. Lisa Beum  
Army Cyber Institute

This past weekend marked a historic event for both the Army Cyber Institute at West Point and the 335th Signal Command’s Army Reserve Cyber Operations Group, as an active duty component and a reserve element joined cyber forces for the benefit of our nation.

The Army Cyber Institute conducts cutting edge cyber research to explore the challenges facing the Army within the cyber domain in the next five to 10 years. Those research initiatives include cyber resiliency for critical infrastructure, cyber autonomy, high frequency communication and more.

Realizing that both units could benefit greatly from each other, the 335th SC(T) ARCOG agreed to have 10 members of the unit serve their duty with the ACI at West Point over the next couple of years.

“We established a strong foundation during our initial battle training assembly for the ARCOG ACI Research Team,” Col. Michael D. Smith, 335th SC G39 chief missioning and stationing, said. “It is an ideal partnership sharing the civilian acquired skill set and private sector expertise with the ACI on the tough research areas targeted by ACI.”

This partnership allows the ACI research teams to leverage the U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers’ unique industry-government-private sector and academic expertise to expand the body of knowledge and support the advisement of senior military and government officials.

“The relationship we are having at ACI with reservists not only solidifies the relationship between active and reserves, but it also harnesses skill sets in reserves and even the National Guard,” Chris Hartley, deputy director at ACI, said. “This relationship gives sustainable access to skill sets and helps foster public-private partnerships because these reservists come from different sectors across the nation.”

“I’m really excited about our new reservists whose energy industry experience dovetails well with our Jack Voltaic research,” Lt. Col. Erica Mitchell, strategy and policy division chief at ACI and project lead for Jack Voltaic, said.

Jack Voltaic is a bottom-up research approach to critical infrastructure resilience, and Mitchell will be heading the research initiative for Jack Voltaic 2020, with additional help from reservists.

Capt. Vikram Mittal, currently transitioning from National Guard to the 335th SC(T)’s ARCOG, heard about the opportunity to work at ACI through a friend. Mittal is a systems engineering professor at West Point in his civilian capacity and had worked with Lt. Col. Brett Lindberg, ACI researcher, on a class about a year ago and kept in touch since then. When Lindberg mentioned the opportunity to work at ACI in a reserve capacity, Mittal jumped at the opening.

“I’m really looking forward to doing cutting edge research and providing value back to the Army,” Mittal said. “Being in the 335th SC(T)’s ARCOG and working with ACI will also improve my skills and ability to actually use these skills.”

By the end of the first drill weekend, the Reserve Soldiers were heavily engaged with their particular ACI research initiatives based on their skills sets and strengths.

“Looking at the breadth and depth of the skillsets of these Soldiers, we hit a home run,” Hartley said.

The ceremony started at Eisenhower Hall and has been held at the U.S. Military Academy since 2001, but this year marked the first time going into them. “I really wish I could have gotten to see the physical representation of what is inside the ring,” but I think today ties it all together and you get to see the physical representation of what is going into them,” Cadet Emma Powless said. “For them to give up the one thing that means so much to them, it shows how much it means to people to have their rings go into our classes’. I think, for the most part, people understand the meaning of a class ring, but I think today ties it all together and you get to see the physical representation of what is going into them.”

The ring melt has occurred every year since 2001, but this year marked the first time it has been held at the U.S. Military Academy. The ceremony started at Eisenhower Hall where either a representative from the family donating the ring or someone on the family’s behalf placed the ring into a crucible. A few ounces of legacy gold, which was extracted from last year’s melt, was also included which ties together each of the 18 melts that have occurred. The rings were then taken to be melted.

The rings were placed into the kiln one by one along with the legacy gold. It takes a temperature of nearly 2,000 degrees to melt gold, but in a moment of happenstance the kiln heated to exactly 2,020 degrees right before the crucible was removed from the heat and the liquid gold was poured into a brick.

The rings donated this year included 10 from members of the 50-year affiliated class, the U.S. Military Academy Class of 1970, and eight that belonged to generals.

“My dad passed away in 2012 and West Point meant a lot to him,” Carolyn Wilkins-Davis, who donated the ring of her dad retired Lt. Col. Lawrence B. Wilkins, USMA Class of 1970, said. “He had a lot of pride and we hope to have his ring give the pride to the Class of 2020 as well. It was very emotional. It is something I grew up with and he wore it every single day of his life. You could tell it was extremely worn down and something he loved dearly. Putting that part of him into something larger was beautiful.”

The oldest ring donated this year belonged to retired Col. Raymond P. Campbell, USMA Class of 1916, which was also worn for many years by his son R.P. Campbell Jr., USMA Class of 1941, after he lost his own ring.

The ring of the youngest donor belonged to retired Lt. Col. Richard L. French, USMA Class of 1986, who chose to donate his own ring as his son is a Class of 2020 cadet.

There were also four rings donated by living donors including William Arcuri, USMA Class of 1970, who was a prisoner of war in Vietnam after his aircraft was shot down in 1972. He spent two months as a prisoner in Hanoi before being released.

“The last time I wore it (my class ring) was when I was in Vietnam,” Arcuri said. “I took it off, I didn’t fly with any rings, and after I got shot down it was sent back to my wife with all my stuff…I showed my wife and boys the video of the ring melt and they all thought it was a great idea. Being a 50th affiliation, I saved it for the Class of 2020. It is a privilege to see that the legacy of my ring will go on.”

To date, 575 rings have been donated and melted as part of the ring melt program. During this year’s melt, a small sample of the gold was extracted and set aside to be used in next year as part of the Class of 2021’s ring melt.

“For them to give up the one thing that connects them to their class after all these years to our ring melt, it really shows you the meaning of the Long Gray Line and the dedication they have to West Point, our class and our country,” Powless said.

Ring Melt held at West Point for first time, 55 rings donated

Story and photos by Brandon O’Connor

Assistant Editor

Worn smooth, the crass mass of brass bears the scars of a long life. The crest that once adorned the side has long since disappeared as have the words etched around the stone.

Lying on a placard beside the name of its owner and his cadet photo, the class ring is a testament to the life its wearer lived. Now, it is time for the ring to begin a new journey, its worn edges melted away and the gold used to craft rings that will carry the Class of 2020 through their lives.

The West Point Association of Graduates hosted its annual Ring Melt Ceremony Jan. 25 where class rings from old grads living and deceased were donated and melted down into a gold brick that is used as part of the gold to craft the next classes rings.

Fifty-five rings were donated this year and the gold will be used to craft the rings for the Class of 2020, which they will receive Ring Weekend in August.

“This ceremony was surreal,” Class of 2020 Cadet Emma Powless said. “I really wish the whole Class of 2020 could have seen what went into it and how it was executed. I think it is important to know what goes into our rings and how much it means to people to have their rings go into our classes”. I think, for the most part, people understand the meaning of a class ring, but I think today ties it all together and you get to see the physical representation of what is going into them.”

The ring melt has occurred every year since 2001, but this year marked the first time it has been held at the U.S. Military Academy. The ceremony started at Eisenhower Hall where either a representative from the family donating the ring or someone on the family’s behalf placed the ring into a crucible. A few ounces of legacy gold, which was extracted from last year’s melt, was also included which ties together each of the 18 melts that have occurred. The rings were then taken to be melted.

The rings were placed into the kiln one by one along with the legacy gold. It takes a temperature of nearly 2,000 degrees to melt gold, but in a moment of happenstance the kiln heated to exactly 2,020 degrees right before the crucible was removed from the heat and the liquid gold was poured into a brick.

The rings donated this year included 10 from members of the 50-year affiliated class, the U.S. Military Academy Class of 1970, and eight that belonged to generals.

“My dad passed away in 2012 and West Point meant a lot to him,” Carolyn Wilkins-Davis, who donated the ring of her dad retired Lt. Col. Lawrence B. Wilkins, USMA Class of 1970, said. “He had a lot of pride and we hope to have his ring give the pride to the Class of 2020 as well. It was very emotional. It is something I grew up with and he wore it every single day of his life. You could tell it was extremely worn down and something he loved dearly. Putting that part of him into something larger was beautiful.”

The oldest ring donated this year belonged to retired Col. Raymond P. Campbell, USMA Class of 1916, which was also worn for many years by his son R.P. Campbell Jr., USMA Class of 1941, after he lost his own ring.

The ring of the youngest donor belonged to retired Lt. Col. Richard L. French, USMA Class of 1986, who chose to donate his own ring as his son is a Class of 2020 cadet.

There were also four rings donated by living donors including William Arcuri, USMA Class of 1970, who was a prisoner of war in Vietnam after his aircraft was shot down in 1972. He spent two months as a prisoner in Hanoi before being released.

“The last time I wore it (my class ring) was when I was in Vietnam,” Arcuri said. “I took it off, I didn’t fly with any rings, and after I got shot down it was sent back to my wife with all my stuff…I showed my wife and boys the video of the ring melt and they all thought it was a great idea. Being a 50th affiliation, I saved it for the Class of 2020. It is a privilege to see that the legacy of my ring will go on.”

To date, 575 rings have been donated and melted as part of the ring melt program. During this year’s melt, a small sample of the gold was extracted and set aside to it can be used in next year as part of the Class of 2021’s ring melt.

“For them to give up the one thing that connects them to their class after all these years to our ring melt, it really shows you the meaning of the Long Gray Line and the dedication they have to West Point, our class and our country,” Powless said.
Class of 2020 celebrates 500 nights until graduation

Story and photos by Brandon O'Connor
Assistant Editor

Five-hundred days. In that short period of time, the U.S. Military Academy Class of 2020 cadets will receive their second lieutenant bars and officially join the Long Gray Line of West Point graduates.

To celebrate the short time they have left at West Point, the class held the annual 500th Night Banquet and hop Jan. 26.

“Man, 500 days. Five-hundred days to leave a lasting legacy, 500 days to boost up that GPA, 500 days to better ourselves for the Soldiers we will soon lead, 500 days to cherish the moments we have as classmates,” Class of 2020 Cadet President Joshua Phillips said. “It feels so good to know we have made it this far. Looking back and remembering that morning on June 27, 2016 when we reported to the cadet red sash, there were a lot of mixed emotions, but we took on this 47-month experience with aspirations to becoming officers in the Army and to lead America’s sons and daughters.”

The class was joined in its celebration by guest speaker retired Gen. David Petraeus, USMA Class of 1974. After a long and distinguished Army career in which he served in roles including commander of the 101st Airborne Division and commander of United States Central Command, Petraeus served as the director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Petraeus pulled from his lifetime of experience throughout his remarks as he used stories and jokes to humble, encourage and applaud the class for what they have accomplished. He warned the class to stay humble despite three straight victories over Navy and to use their time at West Point to prepare themselves physically and mentally to lead the Soldiers who will be entrusted to them.

“Life is after all a very competitive endeavor, one in which you don’t get a trophy just for showing up,” Petraeus said. “Doing one’s best in each aspect of life here and after your commission, needless to say, will prove critical to your success and the elements you will lead. There are often times when one competes to be the best team player and not just individual.”

Petraeus then offered the cadets six distinct pieces of advice of how to lead, conduct themselves and become the best officers they can. First, he implored them to lead by example. As a leader, the Soldiers under you will emulate what you do, he said, which means that in every aspect of your life you must think carefully.

“You can be a force multiplier or an oxygen thief, a source of energy or an air leak. Your attitude and your example will echo and reecho. Make sure it is one of which you will always be proud,” he said.

Next, he encouraged the Class of 2020 to listen and learn and then to make decisions. As a leader, the future officers will have to listen to those around them and gather information, but in the end, they must make the decision, something they have to be ready to do.

“Recognizing when the listening is done and the time for decisions has arrived, you will have to make the call,” Petraeus said. “There

Retired Gen. David Petraeus, above, greets a Class of 2020 cadet and his date in the receiving line prior to the 500th Night Banquet in the Cadet Mess Hall Jan. 26. Petraeus was the guest speaker at this year’s banquet, which celebrates 500 nights until graduation for second class cadets. Class of 2020 Cadet President Joshua Phillips does a ceremonial toast to the U.S. Military Academy prior to his opening remarks.

will be many of these pivotal moments when all eyes turn to you for a decision after a lengthy discussion of the situation and the options at hand. Be ready for those moments and embrace them as they will truly matter and demonstrate the reasons you are the leader of the unit.”

Once the decision is made, it is important to not just tell your Soldiers what they need to do, but also why they need to do it, Petraeus said, for when they better understand the reason they are more likely to embrace the mission. He also encouraged the Class of 2020 to lead from the front of the unit in almost any task they must accomplish, no matter how hard that might be at times.

“Whether conducting physical training, cordon search or maintenance, in basically every endeavor except going through the chow

line you need to lead from the front,” Petraeus said. “That means you need to have the physical ability, the technical competence and the leadership attributes even to be out front and to inspire those who will follow. Developing those qualities is not easy. The body of knowledge is considerable as you have no doubt begun to learn here.”

In conclusion, he told them to make sure they build not only themselves but their team as soldiering, especially combat, is “full of hardship, challenge, sacrifice and sorrow. Yes, there are moments of triumph, relief and celebration, but in combat and the preparation for it there are few easy days.”

This year’s 500th Night celebration also included the annual ring melt, which took place at West Point for the first time Jan. 25. Ring donor families were then invited to attend the banquet along with the class.
Cadet Club activities

Hunting: Over Martin Luther King Jr. Day Weekend, four cadets from the Cadet Hunt Club traveled to the Lost Owl Ranch, in Menard, Texas. Every year, ranch owners, the Ciliske Family, host active duty military members for a mentorship hunting weekend. Over the weekend, cadets were able to harvest a total of seven deer, prepare the meat and then donate approximately 400 pounds of meat to feed the needy in the area. Cadets were also able to hunt fox and coyotes, which are encroaching on the ranch’s goats and deer population, as well as duck. The Lost Owl Ranch is in the Texas Deer Management Program and the cadets learned about land management techniques, ranch ecology and the effects of invasive species on plants and animals in the area.

Fencing: Army Fencing held its annual tournament on Jan. 19. Army hosted nine teams to include Navy, whom Army beat. Army women finished third overall and the men finished fifth. These standings were impressive given the majority of the teams are varsity.

Boxing: Army’s Men’s Boxing team traveled to Hartford, Connecticut for the quarterfinal bouts in the Western New England Golden Gloves. Winners advancing onto the semifinals were Cadets AJ Farrow-Maynie, Kyle Taylor, Hunter Dempster, Joshua Lewis, Elias Manning, Chris Sharfin, Rainier Porras, Von Grant, Luca Botis and John Koffman.

Japanese Forum: Seven cadets from the Japanese Forum Club visited Japanese Weekend School in New Jersey and supported Japanese Exchange Officers to brief students and parents of the school with regard to USMA and National Defense Academy of Japan and JSDF. Cadets answered several questions by participants and they talked about their lives as cadets.

The boxing team conducted Friday Night Fights on Jan. 19. The team held three bouts for the women and five bouts for the men. Winners of the night were Cadets Leija Cobb, Simon Lee, Michael Mathews, Maggie Balley, Benjamin Westerberg, Isaiah Queen, Sidney Sandburg and Shiloh Begley.
USMA Cyber team wins competition in France

By Capt. Lisa Beum
Army Cyber Institute

The West Point Cyber Policy team won its fourth Cyber 9/12 Strategy Challenge competition in France, Jan. 23.

The Cyber 9/12 Strategy Challenge is designed to offer students across a wide range of academic disciplines a better understanding of the policy challenges associated with cyber conflict.


Preparing for the competition involved not only understanding the relevant laws, strategies and institutions of France and the European Union, but also the processes and timelines involved in using them.

“What the cadets accomplished is tremendous and a testament to their hard work and the resources the academy and Army Cyber Institute have made available to them,” Maj. Patrick Bell, Army Cyber Institute research scientist and a Cyber Policy team coach, said. “To put this into perspective, our team of American undergraduate students won a competition in France, where they notionally advised the French president, while competing against teams of elite French graduate school students and were judged by an expert panel of mostly French judges.”

Although the competition centers around a cyberattack, it requires competitors to understand the full spectrum of options available to national and international leaders. The competition helps demonstrate that the best response to a cyber incident should rarely exclusively be confined to the cyber domain.

“By doing these competitions I hope to develop a true understanding of the interwoven complexities of the cyber domain,” Class of 2019 Cadet Amanda Roper said. “This understanding is important because actions taken within the cyber domain impact all other areas and thus need to be understood from a variety of perspectives with many different areas of expertise.”

Teams must understand the culture in which they are acting, including when to advice caution, aggression, unilateral versus multilateral responses, communicating to the public, allies and adversaries, as well as how they would use the elements of national power.

“I believe it is important to learn about other country’s policies as we live in a world where one country’s actions may have unintended consequences on other country,” Class of 2021 Cadet Shreyans Munot said.

Concurring with his teammates’ sentiments, Class of 2020 Cadet Woo Chul “Peter” Kim added, “My biggest takeaway was that cyber requires international cooperation. No state can or should act alone in a domain where few precedents exist which is why alliances and intergovernmental organizations are more important than ever before.”

The competition helped the cadets understand the limitations of intelligence, the importance of decision-making in an uncertain environment and the importance of candor when offering advice.

“All the skills the cadets learn while on the Cyber Policy team will be relevant throughout their military careers.”

Academic departments host open houses for Class of 2022

Story and photos by Brandon O’Connor
Assistant Editor

As their second semester at the U.S. Military Academy gets into full swing, the cadets in the Class of 2022 have a very important decision to make—their major.

The window for Plebes to select their major officially opened last week. West Point currently offers 36 majors, including data science, which is a brand-new offering.

To help the Class of 2022 cadets in their decision process, each of West Point’s academic departments hosted open houses Jan. 24 where cadets could talk to faculty and upperclassmen about the majors they are interested in.

“No matter the major you choose, it is going to help you to better understand the human dimension of war. Whether you pick something in STEM or whether you pick something in the humanities and social sciences,” Brig. Gen. Cindy Jebb, Dean of the Academic Board, said. “You need to choose something that you are passionate about and to major in something that is what you are best connected with.

“I really like science and I am taking chemistry this year and found this new passion. I think the main tipping point for me is when I talk to the faculty and which is going to push me more to be the best in that discipline,” she said. “The Chinese program director came and talked to us and he is a very enthusiastic man about the major. He also made very good points on why you should study Chinese. It kind of messed with my head, because I was thinking life science solidly and now, what about this new thing I just discovered?”

For Class of 2022 Cadet Thomas Batt, the decision was considerably easier. Within an hour of the open houses starting and the sign-up window opening, he had already made his choice to major in chemical engineering. The major will enable him to continue to expand his passion he found for chemistry in high school, while at the same time getting the chance to build things, he said.

The decision was equally easy for Class of 2022 Cadet Cameron Barlow who chose to major in nuclear engineering. The fact that it sounds cool to say you are a nuclear engineer factored into the decision, he said, but he mostly decided after talking with upperclassmen and looking at everything the major offers.

“I’ve talked to a lot of upperclassmen and future projects and places I can go with it are a big thing and future applications,” Batt said. “I always wanted to be an engineer and at first, I was looking into mechanical, but I talked to people and they said the work isn’t the perk. I talked to someone about nuclear engineering when I heard it was a major here and, so far, what I’ve heard about it is amazing.”

Class of 2020 Cadet Grant Hall talks to Class of 2022 cadets about majoring in chemistry during an open house.

“Class of 2022 Cadet Cameron Barlow who chose to major in nuclear engineering. The fact that it sounds cool to say you are a nuclear engineer factored into the decision, he said, but he mostly decided after talking with upperclassmen and looking at everything the major offers.

“I think the main tipping point for me to pick was the opportunity to work with computers,” Matthews said of why he is leaning toward nuclear engineering. “That was the main thing I was worried about not being able to do. I was interested in nuclear before this, but I was worried I wouldn’t have the opportunity to work with computers. Since they have the computational design class, I think that is what will help me ultimately decide.”

Class of 2022 cadets have until March 1 to declare their major.
Grant in Mexico: “One of the most unjust (wars) ever waged”

By Sherman Fleek
USMA Historian

One of the remarkable achievements Ulysses S. Grant is known for even today, are his extraordinary accounts of his life published 1885 after his death, The Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant, in two volumes. They are an amazing literary accomplishment but even more so, his candor, honesty and simplicity are breathtaking at times. As a young lieutenant, he formed an opinion about the Mexico-U.S. War 1846-48 that remained with him until his death and echoed down the hall as generations have come and gone.

“For myself,” Grant wrote later about the United States war against Mexico, “I was bitterly opposed to the measure, and to this day regard the war, which resulted, as one of the most unjust ever waged by a stronger against a weaker nation.”

The political, cultural and social era of the 1830s birthed a mission transcribed as Manifest Destiny, America’s expansion westward into the lands occupied by native tribes and the Republic of Mexico. This national attitude was a major cause of the war with Mexico and had tragic results for many. Grant, though against the war personally, served to the best of his ability as a matter of duty.

Lieutenant Grant stationed with the 4th U.S. Infantry at Jefferson Barracks, just south of St. Louis in 1843 after graduation, witnessed this national drama of the westward push of a new nation. As events unfolded, America political figures and many citizens envisioned a nation coast to coast, but diplomacy eventually failed and soon war was the result.

For young Ulysses, war and politics was not as important to him as gaining the hand of Julia Dent before he shipped out to Texas in May 1844. Though secretly engaged to Julia, he would not see her for nearly four years. Posted in Texas, he served for one of the great American generals of all time, a leader he would replicate as a role model, Maj. Gen. Zachary Taylor, later president of the United States. The old general seldom wore a uniform and not at all formal, and for West Point graduates accustomed to regulations, parade-ground dress standards and rigid discipline, to see Taylor wearing civilian attire with a large planation hat was indeed strange, but as for Grant, “There was no man living who I admired and respected more highly.”

By the spring of 1846, most of the federal Regular Army was in camp at Corpus Christi when orders came to march 130 miles south the Rio Grande. This meant war for the Republic of Mexico. For President James K. Polk, war was justified after all the diplomatic offers and inducements failed because American soldiers were ambushed and killed in the new state of Texas.

For Lt. Grant, this conflict provided a great deal of combat experience, because he fought in every major battle except Buena Vista in February 1847. Assigned as the regimental quartermaster officer of the 4th U.S. Infantry, Grant was responsible for the logistics and transportation needs of a regiment of nearly 1,000 men. He served through the two early battles of May 8-9, 1846, Palo Alto and Resaca del la Palma near the mouth of the Rio Grande. This was Grant’s first taste of bloody combat.

By September 1846, Taylor’s American army was encircling Monterrey, Mexico. Here, Grant exhibited an amazing feat of courage, amid this hellish urban combat among the narrow streets of Monterrey.

Locked in fierce street by street fighting, Grant was forward with several companies when ammunition was nearly gone. He mounted a horse, kicked a leg over the saddle and hung low on the horse’s neck and flank, then raced the animal to the rear. Then after gaining help and ammunition, he returned under intense fire again, being fired at street by street, and amazingly arrived to resupply his regiment unharmed.

He fought in more battles in central Mexico under another American general, Winfield Scott, “Old Fuss and Feathers,” who was all spit and polish, ostentatious in dress and manner, and exactly the opposite of Gen. Taylor. Scott and his army made an amphibious assault on the Mexican coast of some 12,000 soldiers in one day with no casualties. Grant was involved in the key victories from Vera Cruz on the coast, Puebla and Cerro Gordo on the advance to the interior, and then the battles in the Valley of Mexico. Resistance stiffened against the American forces as they approached Mexico City, the capital.

These battles, great and small, surrounding the city with water ways, causeways and canals were like spokes of wheel. During the final assault on Sept. 12, near Chapultepec Castle, Grant was up forward as quartermaster but soon assumed control a dozen soldiers of his regiment. They were engaged in deadly firefight against Mexican snipers among the arches of an aqueduct. Here, he saw at the San Cosme Gate a nearby church with a tactical advantage. He ordered his men to disassemble a field howitzer and carry it in parts to the top of the steeple, reassembled it, and then engaged the enemy, clearing the gate for an assault and entrance onto a causeway.

Grant received two brevet, honorary, promotions for gallantry from second lieutenant to captain. He would always use both Gens. Scott and Taylor as role models for leadership, though they were totally opposite in manner and style.

(Composer's note: This is the second in a series on Ulysses Grant until his statue dedication at West Point on April 25.)
**FEATURED ITEM**

Logistics Readiness Center reinstitutes the full North-South Shuttle

Based on feedback from the Corps of Cadets and the West Point community, the Logistics Readiness Center reinstituted the full North-South Post Shuttle effective Jan. 7 to include more stops along Thayer Road, Cullum Road and Washington Road, as well as reintroducing stops in Highland Falls at Spellman Hall/Visitors Center, and stops at the Child Development Center, PX and Commissary on Stony Lonesome.

The belief is this change will provide better transportation support to the Corps of Cadets and the entire West Point community.

For more details or questions about the new schedule, contact the LRC supporting TMP contractor, Akima Support Operations, at 845-938-2018.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Monthly yoga classes**

TRIBE will offer free monthly Introduction to Yoga and Mindfulness Workshops and regular classes for active duty and family members.

These are available for unit PT sessions or for other unit or team functions and can be 45, 60 or 90-minute functions. Learn the tools of physical practices of yoga and mindfulness that are aligned with the military’s culture from experienced military veterans and trained yoga instructors.

Please contact studio@onOMadalwaysatOM.com to schedule or get more information.

**EDUCATION and WORKSHOPS**

**Army Education Center**

College courses are offered through the Army Education Center at West Point, located at 683 Buckner Loop.

Undergraduate classes:
- Mount Saint Mary College—Call Cynthia Laudato at 845-569-3252 or email cynthia.laudato@msmc.edu; and
- Saint Thomas Aquinas—Call Gina Funaro at 845-398-4102 or email gfumar0@stac.edu.

Graduate studies:
- John Jay College of Criminal Justice—master’s degree in public administration—Call Jennifer Heiney at 845-446-5959 or email jheiney@jay.cuny.edu; and
- Long Island University—master’s degrees in school counseling, mental health counseling and marriage and family counseling—Call Mary Beth Leggett at 845-446-3818 or email marybeth.leggett@liu.edu.

**Employee Assistance Program**

West Point Garrison offers an Employee Assistance Program that provides free and confidential counseling for civilians, family members and retirees.

The program offers services from 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday-Friday. The EAP is located at 656 Eichelberger Road.

For details, call 845-938-1039.

**DANTES testing**

The Army Education Center at West Point offers academic testing programs through the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support such as the SAT and ACT. Pearson VUE offers licensing and certification exams.

Most tests are free of charge to Soldiers. Call the testing center at 845-938-3360 or email gwenn.wallace@usma.edu for details or an appointment.

**Army Personnel Testing programs**

The Army Education Center at West Point offers Army Personnel Testing programs such as the AFCT, DLAB, DLPT, SIFT through the DA and DLI. Tests are free of charge to Soldiers.

Call the testing center at 845-938-3360 or email gwenn.wallace@usma.edu for details or an appointment.

**Army Career Skills Program**

The Army’s Career Skills Program (CSP) prepares Soldiers for civilian employment through first-class apprenticeships, on-the-job training, job shadowing, internships and employment skills training.

Soldiers are eligible to participate in an Army CSP up to 180 days prior to separation from the Army and after completion of the mandatory five-day SFL-TAP workshop.

The use of permissive temporary duty (PTDY) to attend a CSP more than 50 miles away from the Soldier’s duty station may be granted at the commander’s discretion.

Interested transitioning service members can contact Drew Mierva at drew.mierva@usma.edu or stop by the Army Education Center from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Monday-Friday.

**OUTSIDE THE GATES**

**Town of Highlands Chamber of Commerce 2019 Banner Program**

Honor your veteran, active-duty, reservist or national guard service member in this very special way with a military tribute banner.

These beautiful, patriotic 24”x 48” banners honoring our heroes will be displayed from May through November 2019 along the main streets in the Town of Highlands.

Your family name or business name is printed on the banner as the proud sponsor of your military hero. Sponsorship orders will be taken through March 30.

For more information or to sponsor your military banner, visit highlandschamberofcommerce.com.

**AWANA Program**

Join the AWANA Program to learn more about God, memorize bible verses, game time and fun.

The program is scheduled from 4:15-5:45 p.m. Sunday evenings for Kindergarten-12th grade at the Youth Center and 3-year-olds and 4-year-olds at the Post Chapel Nursery.

The program runs from May 5. For details, contact Jane Kimbrell at jkimnacaita@gmail.com.

**Grace Baptist Church of Highland Falls services**

The West Point family is invited to attend any and all services at the Grace Baptist Church, located at 54 Old State Road, in Highland Falls. The church is close to Thayer Gate.

The church holds services on Sunday morning (Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service at 11 a.m.), Sunday evening (6 p.m.), and Wednesday evening (7 p.m.), as well as seasonal Bible studies for men, women and college-aged young people. Transportation is provided as needed.

For details on the Grace Baptist Church, visit www.gracebaptistny.org.

**Holy Innocents Thrift Shop in Highland Falls**

The Highland Falls Holy Innocents Thrift Shop at 401 Main Street, Highland Falls, is open to the public. Come find a great selection of clothes, books, sports equipment, jewelry and other household items.

The shop is open Wednesdays 3:30-5:30 p.m., Thursdays 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Additionally, the shop accepts gently used clothes, DVDs, jewelry, and small household and kitchen items.

**Celebrate Groundhog Day at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum**

Join the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum at 10 a.m. Sunday at the Outdoor Discovery Center, on Muser Drive, across from 174 Angola Road, to celebrate Groundhog Day.

Will there be an early spring? Learn about these furry prognosticators and the history behind this age-old tradition. Join the Nature Museum’s environmental educators for an informative talk about the Groundhog, then take a walk outside to look for your shadow and make a groundhog craft.

This program is recommended for adults and families with children ages 4 and older. Enjoy free same-day admission to the Wildlife Education Center with paid attendance to this program.

For more details, visit hhnm.org or call 845-534-3506, ext. 204.
FEATURED EVENT

Polar Fest
Purchase your Polar Pass today! Bring the entire family out to the Victor Constant Ski Area from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Feb. 9 for a day filled with fun activities and events during Polar Fest. Enjoy a day of skiing, snowboarding, cardboard box derby, big air contest, wacky races food and beverage with a DJ and more. To register or for more details, visit victorconstantski.com or call 845-938-8810/6497.

JUST ANNOUNCED

Child and Youth Services Spring Sport Registration
Registration for the CYS Spring Sports programs will run from Feb. 11-March 15. Games will be played from March 25 through May 30.
Programs include Recreation Soccer, Recreation Basketball, Flag Football, Running Club and Modified Track and Field.
For more details and to register, call 845-938-8896.

Bridal Menu Tasting Event at the West Point Club
Brides mark your calendar from noon-3 p.m. Feb. 17 for the West Point Club’s annual bridal menu tasting event held in the Grand Ballroom. Sample our cuisine, meet our culinary team and view our Grand Ballroom in style. Booked West Point Club brides are entitled to complimentary free admission.
There is a nominal fee for guests. For more details, call 845-938-5120.

Champagne Sunday Brunch returns March 3
Join the West Point Club for the first Champagne Sunday Brunch of 2019. Sunday Brunch is from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Pierce Dining Room and runs March 3 through Nov. 17.

FOR THE ADULTS

MWR General Skate Program
The MWR Sports office is conducting the 2018-19 Community General Skate Program at Tate Rink. It is open to all West Point personnel, DOD personnel and families. All skaters must supply their own skates. The dates for MWR Community General Skate are as follows:
- Sunday, Feb. 17 and March 3—3:30-5:15 p.m.
- For more details, call the Skate Hotline at 845-938-2991.

Valentine’s Day Sunday Brunch
Perfect for a family celebration. Come to the West Point Club for its annual Valentine’s Day Brunch from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 10. There is a nominal fee for this event.
Register online at thewestpointclub.com.

For more details, call 845-938-5120.

2019 Staff & Faculty Noontime Volleyball League
The MWR Sports Office will conduct the 2019 Staff & Faculty Noontime Volleyball League. All games will be played at Arvin Gymnasium, second floor gym. Game times will be at 12:15 and 12:40 p.m. Games will be played every Monday-Friday, from Feb. 19 through May 24. Deadline for entries is Feb. 11.
All teams must submit a list of no play dates by the deadline of Feb. 11.
There will be no postponements during the regular season since everyone qualifies for the playoffs.
For more details, contact McGuinness at 845-938-3066 or james.p.mcguinness.naf@mail.mil.

Operation Body Rock
Join MWR for Operation Body Rock at 10 a.m. every Wednesday at the MWR Fitness Center. This is a three-month small group personal training series with Shannon.
A small fee will cover the initial baseline appointment, weekly workouts and templates, videos, meal plan and grocery list ideas, recipes and more. To register, call 845-938-6490.

FCC provider positions available now
Family Child Care is certified in-home child care for children ages 4 weeks-12 years. FCC providers are authorized family members who operate as independent contractors in housing located on a military installation.
FCC offers flexible hours, a home-like environment and lower adult/child ratios. FCC allows providers to make their own schedule offering a full range of hourly, full-day and part-day care. We also offer free advertising and referrals. For details, call 845-938-8528.

Breakfast returns to the West Point Club’s Bistro 603
Stop by on your way to class or the office and check out the West Point Club’s Bistro 603. Breakfast is served from 7-10 a.m. Monday through Friday.
For a complete menu, visit thewestpointclub.com. For more details, call 845-938-5120.

FOR THE FAMILIES

Mother-Son Dance
Calling moms, grandmothers, sisters, aunts and friends to the West Point Club’s annual Mother-Son Dance.
The Mother-Son Dance will be held from 6-9 p.m. Feb. 15. Enjoy a dinner buffet with dancing and an on-site photographer for both events. Don’t forget to dress in Sunday best. There is a nominal fee for both events. For more information, call 845-938-5120.

Victor Constant Ski Area is now open
The Victor Constant Ski Area is now open. Hours of operations are 3 p.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
For real-time updates, call the ski hotline at 845-938-2475.
For more details on rentals and snow passes, visit victorconstantski.com. Also like our Facebook @VictorConstantSkiArea.

Part Day Preschool Openings
Spaces are still available in the Stony Child Development Center Tuesday and Thursday session of Part Day Preschool. Class hours are 9 a.m.-noon. The program utilizes the Creative Curriculum to facilitate the development of social, emotional, literacy, fine and gross motor skills. Fees are based upon total family income. A USDA CACFP approved snack is served each day. Questions please contact Parent and Outreach Services at 845-938-4458.

Early Childhood & School Age Hourly Care
Lee Area CYS Facility has space available for hourly care for ages 6 weeks to 5 years and kindergarten through fifth grade. Their mission is to provide a variety of experiences for children through planned developmentally appropriate activities. Reservations can be made through WebTrac.
There is a nominal fee for this service. For more information, call 845-938-8530/0941.

ACS Family Advocacy classes
Earn a certificate after completing all four classes in the Army Community Service’s Family Advocacy series. The following classes are held at ACS, Building 622:
- Parenting Class—The first four Thursdays of every month from 1-2:30 p.m.;
- Couples Communication Class—The first four Tuesdays of every month from 1-2:30 p.m.;
- Stress Management Class—The first four Mondays of every month from 1-2:30 p.m.;
- Anger Management Class—The first four Wednesdays of every month from 9:30-11:30 a.m.
To register, contact Sara Boychak at 845-938-0629 or email sara.boychak@usma.edu; or call Catherine Little at 845-938-0633. Or register online at www.westpointmwr.com.

CYS Services Needs Sports Coaches
CYS Sports is looking for coaches for our following fall programs: JBK travel soccer, youth hockey, recreational volleyball and recreational soccer. For information on dates and times, call 938-8525.

School Age Center’s After School Programs
School Age Center offers programing with several different themes and activities for grades kindergarten through fifth grade. If you are interested in a before and after school program for your school age child, please sign up today.
School Age Center also offers hourly options for children who would like to come on an hourly or daily basis.
Call the Lee Area CYS Facility Front Desk for more information at 845-938-8530.

Whee Ones Open Play Group
Whee Ones Open Play Group welcomes children (infants through 4 years old) and a parent from 9:30-11 a.m. every Monday at the Youth Center Gymnasium, Building 500, across from West Point Schools. It is a time for the children to play, learn and make new friends.
Pre-registration is not required. There’s always something fun happening at Whee Ones. For the most up-to-date details, call Family Advocacy at 845-938-0629 or go to www.facebook.com/WestPointArmyCommunityService.

Whee Read
Whee Read welcomes children (infants through 4 years old) and a parent at 9-10 a.m. on the first and third Thursday of each month at the Army Community Service (ACS) Resiliency Center, second floor of Building 626, near Buffalo Soldier Field.
Whee Read introduces children to basic literacy skills, books and reading. Pre-registration is not required.
For the most up-to-date details, call Family Advocacy at 845-938-0629 or go to www.facebook.com/WestPointArmyCommunityService.
Keller Corner

ENT Clinic moves from Allgood to Keller

The Otolaryngology (ENT—Ear, Nose & Throat) Clinic, previously located in the Brian D. Allgood Ambulatory Clinic’s ground floor, has moved to the Multi-Specialty Clinic (MSC) located on Keller Army Community Hospital’s first floor.

Beneficiaries can check-in at the MSC desk.

KACH researchers are looking for runners; must be DOD beneficiaries

Researchers at Keller Army Community Hospital are looking for West Point-area runners to participate in a study testing a wearable shoe lace pod for its ability to predict running-related injury risk.

The project is entitled: “START: Simple Technology Analyzing Running Technique in DoD Beneficiaries.”

Participants will be asked to wear a lightweight (13 grams) shoe lace pod for six weeks of physical training and running.

To be included you must:
- Be a DoD beneficiary (active duty, cadet or family member);
- Be between the ages of 18-50;
- Run at least six miles per week.

You cannot participate if you are currently on running restrictions or have a history of a pregnancy in the last six months.

You will need to come in for three sessions totaling approximately two hours of study participation.

After the study, participants are entitled to a free wearable shoe lace pod along with directions of use for how to track running form, mileage, cadence and foot strike pattern.

For more information or to be a part of the study, contact Col. Donald Goss at 845-938-5067 or 910-420-0543, or at runwestpoint@gmail.com.

EDIS to conduct free developmental screenings

Keller Army Community Hospital’s Educational & Developmental Intervention Services (EDIS), in conjunction with West Point Schools, will conduct free developmental screenings—for children from birth to 5 years old—from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday/Wednesday/Thursday.

The screenings, available for military and civilians, will be conducted at the Stony Child Development Center (1207 Patrick Trail, West Point) and are by appointment only.

To schedule an appointment, call 845-938-2698 or 938-6868.

Not all children develop the same way—some need extra help.

If you are a military or civilian family that resides at West Point and you have concerns relating to your child’s communication skills, motor skills, self-help skills, learning, vision, hearing, behavior, and/or social interactions please join EDIS for the free developmental screening.

KACH Patient Advisory Council to meet in March 2019

The next Patient Advisory Council meeting will be held from 3-4 p.m. March 7, in the Brian D. Allgood Ambulatory Clinic, Room G69 (ground floor).

As a Primary Care Medical Home (PCMH), we want input from you, our patients.

The Crimson Knight Medical Home holds Patient Advisory Council meetings on a quarterly basis.

A Patient Advisory Council is an interactive meeting of the minds and intended to play an active role in how our practice prioritizes and designs changes that will affect the patient community.

Some of the things we would like to focus on include:
- Patient experience;
- Patient safety;
- Quality improvement;
- Patient education;
- Patient/Family communication;
- Marketing;
- Professional education;
- Access to care;
- Current events at KACH.

Consider joining in and bringing your thoughts, ideas, concerns and praise to our meetings hosted by the Primary Care Clinic Chief and attended by other multidisciplinary team members.

We welcome the opportunity to listen to the thoughts and ideas from the community we serve and make Keller Army Community Hospital a better place for those who come here for care as well as for those of us who provide it.

KACH Substance Use Disorder Clinic open

The Keller Army Community Hospital’s Substance Use Disorder Clinic is open to cadets, active duty service members and beneficiaries who are interested in seeking help independently.

The clinic provides substance use disorder clinical care, including assessment, education, treatment, rehabilitation and aftercare for cadets, service members and other beneficiaries within an integrated medical and behavioral health model to enhance health and readiness.

It is preferred to have individuals seek education and treatment on their own, in hopes to prevent them from possibly experiencing an alcohol or drug-related incident.

The SUDC is located in Building 656 and you can schedule an appointment by walking in 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, or calling 845-938-7691.

Balfour Beatty Communities Foundation accepting applications for annual scholarship program

By Balfour Beatty Communities

Applications are now being accepted for the Balfour Beatty Communities Foundation scholarship program for the 2019-20 academic year. All residents living in Balfour Beatty Communities housing—including spouses and children—who are pursuing a degree are eligible to apply.

The Balfour Beatty Communities Foundation Scholarship Program recognizes those residents who are students or aspiring students excelling academically and looking to make a difference both in and out of the classroom.

Scholarship applicants must currently reside in Balfour Beatty Communities housing and plan to attend or already attend an accredited college or university in the fall of 2019, or be enrolled in a program of study designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

The Balfour Beatty Communities Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to supporting the post-secondary educational goals of residents who live in a Balfour Beatty community.

More than 300 academic scholarships have been awarded to residents, including active duty service members and their dependents, since the program was established in 2009.

Scholarship awards range from $1,000 to $2,500, with the potential for being larger for exceptional submissions. Achievements made by our applicants, both in academics and community participation, consistently inspire us every year.

We’re honored to be able to assist them in their academic endeavors through our scholarship program.

For more details regarding scholarship requirements and to complete an online application, visit the Foundation’s website, www.balfourbeattyfoundation.org. Applications must be submitted no later than March 22.

Balfour Beatty Communities Foundation

Scholarship awards range from $1,000 to $2,500, with the potential for being larger for exceptional submissions. Achievements made by our applicants, both in academics and community participation, consistently inspire us every year.

We’re honored to be able to assist them in their academic endeavors through our scholarship program.

For more details regarding scholarship requirements and to complete an online application, visit the Foundation’s website, www.balfourbeattyfoundation.org. Applications must be submitted no later than March 22.

LifeWorks

• Groundhog Predictions: Join West Point Family Homes at 9:30 a.m. Friday at B126 Washington Road for story time and craft. Your child will color an “All about Groundhog Day” poster and predict if we will have six more weeks of winter or not. To register, email jgelman@bbcgrp.com.

• Chinese New Year Pig: We will be making a craft, learn about the Chinese culture and enjoy a sampler of Chinese food. This event will be starting at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday at 126 Washington Road. To register, email jgelman@bbcgrp.com by Monday.

• Snow Sculptures: Enjoy the winter sunshine, fresh air and snowy months. We love to see pictures of any snow sculptures you create. Take pictures of snowmen, igloos, ice sculptures or anything creative made out of snow and email to jgelman@bbcgrp.com. Contest continues to the last snowfall of the season.

MOVIES at MAHAN

Theatre schedule at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752.

Friday—“Bumblebee,” PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday—“Welcome to Marwen,” PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

(For movie details and updated schedules, visit http://www.aafes.com/exchange-stores/Movie-Guide/showtimes-West-Point.htm.)
Tax Season coming Monday to West Point, what you should know before you arrive

By Capt. Hilarie Wiley
Legal Assistance Attorney
Office of the Staff Judge Advocate

West Point has seen a great deal of change in the past year. The West Point Tax Center will also include some much needed renovations. One of the biggest changes will be the location of the center.

This year, the West Point Tax Center will operate on the fourth floor of Building 606 beginning Monday. Hours of operation will be from 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Additionally, instead of scheduling appointments, all patrons (except for cadet candidates) will come in person to pick up paperwork to complete.

This paperwork will be available in Building 606 in the hallway outside of regular hours of operation for those who need this flexibility.

After filling out the forms, patrons will meet with a tax preparer, who will review the paperwork for completeness before accepting it.

Clients will leave the paperwork with the preparer and when the tax return is complete, they will be notified to return a second time to sign their tax return and receive a copy of the return for their records.

This year, eligible patrons of the tax center will be limited to include:

- Cadets, cadet candidates and gold-star families and also:
  - Active duty service members and retirees and their dependents who meet the following six qualifications:
    1. Taxable income was under $100,000;
    2. Do not itemize deductions;
    3. Did not receive income from their own business or farm;
    4. Did not receive income from more than one rental property;
    5. Did not receive self-employment income or alimony;
    6. Are not required to file Schedule D for capital gains.

If you are eligible for services at the West Point Tax Center and the center did not prepare your 2017 tax return, then please bring a copy of your 2017 tax return with you.

If you are ineligible for services at the West Point Tax Center, then please consider using one of the following alternative free services: Military OneSource MilTax (www.militaryonesource.mil/financial-legal/tax-services or 800-342-9647); IRS Free File Program (www.irs.gov/individuals/military); TaxSlayer Military (www.taxslayer.com/efile/discount-military-tax-filing); Turbo Tax Military (https://turbotax.intuit.com/personal-taxes/online/military-edition.jsp).

If you have questions, contact Capt. Hilarie Wiley at hilarie.wiley@westpoint.edu.

Clothes Dryer Safety

 Doing laundry is most likely part of your everyday routine. But did you know how important taking care of your clothes dryer is to the safety of your home? With a few simple safety tips you can help prevent a clothes dryer fire.

- Have your dryer installed and serviced by a professional.
- Do not use the dryer without a lint filter.
- Make sure you clean the lint filter before or after each load of laundry. Remove lint that has collected around the drum.
- Make sure the air exhaust vent pipe is not restricted and the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating. Once a year, or more often if you notice that it is taking longer than normal for your clothes to dry, clean lint out of the vent pipe or have a dryer lint removal service do it for you.
- Keep dryers in good working order. Gas dryers should be inspected by a qualified professional to make sure that the gas line and connection are intact and free of leaks.
- Make sure the right plug and outlet are used and that the machine is connected properly.
- Follow the manufacturer’s operating instructions and don’t overload your dryer.
- Turn the dryer off if you leave home or when you go to bed.

AND DON’T FORGET... Dryers should be properly grounded.

Check the outdoor vent flaps to make sure it is not covered by snow. Keep the area around your dryer clear of things that can burn, like boxes, cleaning supplies and clothing, etc.

Clothes that have come in contact with flammable substances, like gasoline, paint thinner, or similar solvents should be laid outside to dry, then can be washed and dried as usual.

FACT

The leading cause of home clothes dryer fires is failure to clean them.

2019 African American History Month Celebration

West Point Jazz Ensemble w/ special guest, Ralph Peterson on drums

Tuesday, 5 FEB – Masterclass and open rehearsal focusing on leadership through music
1900-2030 – Riverside Café (2nd Floor in IKE)
Open to all Cadets, Staff and Faculty

Wednesday, 6 FEB – Art Blakey Centennial Concert
1930 – Riverside Café (2nd Floor in IKE)
Open to all Cadets, Staff, Faculty and general public
(Snow date: Thursday, 7 FEB)

About Ralph Peterson:
For more than 50 years, Ralph Peterson has been one of the most distinctive and recognizable drummers in jazz, which has led to collaborations with the likes of Branford Marsalis, Roy Hargrove, Alcides Lloveras, Regina Belle, Betty Carter and The Bones – a 16-disc recording being band-issued by Art Blakey as the second drummer in the legendary band, marked Jazz Messengers Blue and Gold until Blakey’s 1990 death.

Mr. Peterson is an Adjunct Professor of Percussion at the Berklee College of Music, where he has taught for the past 18 years and runs his own music label, Grey Productions.

RSVP at westpointband.eventbrite.com
By Army Athletic Communications

The U.S. Military Academy announced Wednesday that Boo Corrigan, Army West Point’s athletics director, has accepted a new position at North Carolina State University. “This is not a surprise to us,” Lt. Gen. Darrell A. Williams, U.S. Military Academy superintendent, said. “Boo is one of the best athletic directors in the business. He is a leader of character who knows how to build teams and win honorably. He has championed Army Athletics here at West Point and without a doubt will do the same for North Carolina State.”

Corrigan has been the athletic director at West Point since March 2011. In support of building a winning culture at West Point, Corrigan has presided over one of the most successful eras in Army West Point’s recent history with the Black Knights achieving milestones and setting records.

Corrigan has guided the Black Knights to incredible achievements with victories over Navy, surpassing ambitious fundraising goals, upgrading several facilities, adding three varsity sports and creating a new brand identity, all while cadet-athletes continue to raise the bar academically.

Army operates a 28-sport intercollegiate athletic program, highlighted by its nationally recognized football team. Under the direction of head coach Jeff Monken the Black Knights finished 11-2 this season and closed the season with a win over Houston in the Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl and ranked No. 19 in the AP Poll. The Black Knights earned the Commander in Chief’s Trophy in back-to-back years for the first time in their history and have won bowl games in three-straight years for the first time in program history.

Throughout his time at West Point, Corrigan has overseen a program that owns 21 Patriot League regular season or tournament championships and sent 14 teams to the NCAA postseason. A total of 81 cadets have also earned a major award from their conference.

Corrigan, the 2017 NACDA Athletic Director of the Year, continues to advance the athletic experience for cadet-athletes, coaches, alumni, fans and administrators all while abiding by the warrior ethos.

Under Corrigan’s leadership, Army has added women’s lacrosse and men’s and women’s rugby to its offering of sports with nearly a quarter of the Corps of Cadets, around 1,000, competing in varsity sports.

Through his guidance, the Army A Club has seen a 30 percent increase in membership, to nearly 6,000 members in 2018, while increasing the total money raised annually by 200 percent from $2.5 million annually to approximately $7.5 million.

Corrigan has also led significant growth of the Athletic Department's endowments establishing 16 new funds, more than doubling the number of endowments, and growing the department's total endowed funds by more than $18 million in his tenure. In addition, Corrigan made raised more than $35 million in support of new and renovated facilities for our programs.

Corrigan has strengthened and expanded Army Athletics’ relationships in several key areas. In his tenure, Army has secured a new apparel agreement with Nike, a new pouring rights contract with Coke and has brought in the Aspire Group to enhance ticket sales and better serve Army season ticket holders. Corrigan also crafted the Team Army concept, a comprehensive plan designed to add significant value to Army’s corporate sponsorships, while maintaining the tradition of West Point Athletics.

Army also partnered with Nike to complete a successful rebranding initiative in the spring of 2015. Corrigan ushered in a new logo and word mark for Army West Point as part of the rebrand.

Cadet-athletes have continued to thrive in the classroom under Corrigan’s watch. In his seven-plus years, Army has boasted 17 Academic All-Americans, including nine first-team selections.

Since the start of the 2011-12 season, Army boasts nine Patriot League Scholar-Athletes of the Year, including four from last season and one CoSIDA First Team All-District honoree.

A national search will begin immediately in pursuit of the next West Point athletic director. An interim director will be appointed upon Corrigan’s departure.

---

Hockey starts strong, but falls to RIT 4-2

By Ally Keirn
Army Athletic Communications

The Army West Point Hockey team had a hot start at the Rochester Institute of Technology Jan. 26, but the Tigers scored three goals in the third period to take the game, 4-2, in Rochester, New York.

The Black Knights were on the board first after a power play goal from junior forward Brendan Soucie. However, RIT scored the following three to go ahead 3-1.

Army pulled its netminder with 4:43 to go and capitalized when senior forward Taylor Maruya brought the game within one at the 17:43 mark. The Tigers scored on the empty net with a minute remaining to put the game out of reach.

How it happened
- The Black Knights took their first lead of the weekend with a score seven minutes into the game.
- The Tigers tied things up 3:58 into the second stanza with an even-strength goal in the second.
- RIT netted two consecutive goals in the third period to go up 3-1.
- Army pulled its netminder with 4:43 to go.
- Maruya brought the game within one with a tip in goal at the doorstep at the 17:47 mark.
- MacAfce and Matt Berkovitz assisted on the play.

Army highlights and game notes
- Soucie scored goal number eight of the year.
- Maruya scored his second goal of the year and has 11 in his career.
- Maruya scored his second goal of the year and has 11 in his career.
- Franco was also credited with an assist tonight and is good for six this season.
- MacAfce is now on a three-game point streak with at least one assist in both games this weekend and two points vs. Air Force two Saturday’s ago.
- MacAfce leads Army with 23 points this season on four goals and a team-best 19 helpers.
Men’s Basketball secures win with second-half comeback

By Matt Tedino
Army Athletic Communications

A career game from sophomore guard Lonnie Grayson guided the Army West Point Men’s Basketball team to its fourth-straight win as the Black Knights claimed a 69-63 road victory over Lafayette Jan. 26 at the Kirby Sports Center in Easton, Pennsylvania.

Grayson provided a much-needed spark off the bench for the Black Knights (11-10, 6-2 Patriot League) against Lafayette (5-14, 2-6 Patriot League). The second-year guard dropped a career-best 19 points to go with a career-high six rebounds and three steals.

Army got another efficient scoring outing from junior Matt Wilson after the center put up 13 points on 6-of-7 shooting to pair with eight boards.

Senior forward John Emezie was electric off the bench and came up huge in the second half for the Black Knights, scoring all 11 of his points in the final frame.

Army highlights and game notes

- Army swept Lafayette in the regular season for the first time since the 2013-14 campaign.
- The Black Knights defeated the Leopards on the road for the first time since Feb. 3, 2016.
- The four-game winning streak is the longest by an Army squad since starting the 2014-15 season with five-consecutive victories.
- It is also the longest Patriot League winning streak for the Cadets since capturing five-straight during the 2013-14 season.
- Grayson extended his double-digit scoring streak to four games.
- Wilson became just the 16th cadet in program history to record 500 career rebounds.
- He passed Randy Cozzens for 15th in all-time rebounds and currently has 506.
- The junior has now scored in double-figures in three-straight outings.
- Ten different Cadets scored at least one point in the contest.
- It was the sixth game this season that Army had double-digit Cadets record at least one point.
- The Black Knights notched 17 points off 18 Lafayette turnovers.
- Army’s non-starters accounted for 59 percent of the team’s points.
- The Cadets scored 38 of their 69 points from inside the paint.
- Fifty-six of Army’s made shots were assisted on.

How it happened

- Army got off to a slow start offensively and was unable to find the bottom of the basket. On the other end, the Leopards began to heat up from downtown. After missing their first three attempts from long range, the Leopards buried each of their next five 3-pointers to go ahead 21-12 with 11:58 left in the opening half.
- The Black Knights’ defense began to clamp down and held Lafayette scoreless for a seven-minute stretch. During that time, the Cadets evened the score up at 21-21 with a 9-0 run.
- Grayson and Wilson carried the scoring load in the first half, combining for 20 points. The duo combined to make nine shots while accumulating just one miss as the Black Knights went into the half trailing, 33-29.
- Lafayette came out for the second half and continued to drain shots from long range. However, the Black Knights hung in there and battled back with an 11-2 run to pull within three, 50-47, with 11:18 on the clock. The trio of Grayson, Emezie and Josh Caldwell provided a lift off the bench and it was not much longer until the Cadets erased a 12-point second-half deficit to take a 54-52 lead.
- Army built its lead as large as eight after six unanswered points and hung on the rest of the way to secure the 69-63 road win.
Led by senior Cole Casanova, the Army West Point Gymnastics team defeated Springfield, 395.050-388.050, Jan. 26 in Springfield, Massachusetts. Casanova championed the meet with a career-high 82.350 in the all-around. The senior captain placed first in five of his six events.

Army highlights and meet notes
• Casanova garnered a career-high 82.350 in the meet.
• He championed five of his six events.
• As a team, the Black Knights posted a program record score on floor exercise today combining for a 69.650.
• Apart from the all-around, Casanova had career-highs in three events.

Competition
• The floor exercise gave Army a solid lead over the Pride.
• Casanova’s career-high 14.250 paced Army, while Mathew Davis (14.100) and Erik Del Cid (13.800) and Elliott Herman (13.800) followed in second and third.
• Mitch McHugh (13.700) and Taka Giese (13.500) also competed on floor.
• Brandon Shively was the runner up on pommel horse with a 13.100. Matthew Martin was third with marks of 13.050.
• Elijah-Ty Phelps posted a career-high 12.700 on the apparatus at the event.
• Vault saw Casanova soar above the competition with a career-high 14.500.
• Alejandro Suarez registered a 14.0000 to place third, it was a season-best.
• Casanova tied for first on parallel bars with a season-best score of 13.500.
• Kiernan Reagan notched a career-high mark of 13.100 versus Springfield.
• Casanova tied his career-high of 13.400 on high bar today as he championed the event.
• Suarez turned out a 13.050 on high bar to place second as Giese placed third with a 13.000 to tie his career-high.

Up next
• Army hosts Navy at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Lou Gross Center.

Gymnastics shines in road meet at Springfield

By Ally Keirn
Army Athletic Communications

Led by senior Cole Casanova, the Army West Point Gymnastics team defeated Springfield, 395.050-388.050, Jan. 26 in Springfield, Massachusetts. Casanova championed the meet with a career-high 82.350 in the all-around. The senior captain placed first in five of his six events.

Army highlights and meet notes
• Casanova garnered a career-high 82.350 in the meet.
• He championed five of his six events.
• As a team, the Black Knights posted a program record score on floor exercise today combining for a 69.650.
• Apart from the all-around, Casanova had career-highs in three events.

Competition
• The floor exercise gave Army a solid lead over the Pride.
• Casanova’s career-high 14.250 paced Army, while Mathew Davis (14.100) and Erik Del Cid (13.800) and Elliott Herman (13.800) followed in second and third.
• Mitch McHugh (13.700) and Taka Giese (13.500) also competed on floor.
• Brandon Shively was the runner up on pommel horse with a 13.100. Matthew Martin was third with marks of 13.050.
• Elijah-Ty Phelps posted a career-high 12.700 on the apparatus at the event.
• Vault saw Casanova soar above the competition with a career-high 14.500.
• Alejandro Suarez registered a 14.0000 to place third, it was a season-best.
• Casanova tied for first on parallel bars with a season-best score of 13.500.
• Kiernan Reagan notched a career-high mark of 13.100 versus Springfield.
• Casanova tied his career-high of 13.400 on high bar today as he championed the event.
• Suarez turned out a 13.050 on high bar to place second as Giese placed third with a 13.000 to tie his career-high.

Up next
• Army hosts Navy at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Lou Gross Center.

Gymnastics shines in road meet at Springfield

By Ally Keirn
Army Athletic Communications

Led by senior Cole Casanova, the Army West Point Gymnastics team defeated Springfield, 395.050-388.050, Jan. 26 in Springfield, Massachusetts. Casanova championed the meet with a career-high 82.350 in the all-around. The senior captain placed first in five of his six events.

Army highlights and meet notes
• Casanova garnered a career-high 82.350 in the meet.
• He championed five of his six events.
• As a team, the Black Knights posted a program record score on floor exercise today combining for a 69.650.
• Apart from the all-around, Casanova had career-highs in three events.

Competition
• The floor exercise gave Army a solid lead over the Pride.
• Casanova’s career-high 14.250 paced Army, while Mathew Davis (14.100) and Erik Del Cid (13.800) and Elliott Herman (13.800) followed in second and third.
• Mitch McHugh (13.700) and Taka Giese (13.500) also competed on floor.
• Brandon Shively was the runner up on pommel horse with a 13.100. Matthew Martin was third with marks of 13.050.
• Elijah-Ty Phelps posted a career-high 12.700 on the apparatus at the event.
• Vault saw Casanova soar above the competition with a career-high 14.500.
• Alejandro Suarez registered a 14.0000 to place third, it was a season-best.
• Casanova tied for first on parallel bars with a season-best score of 13.500.
• Kiernan Reagan notched a career-high mark of 13.100 versus Springfield.
• Casanova tied his career-high of 13.400 on high bar today as he championed the event.
• Suarez turned out a 13.050 on high bar to place second as Giese placed third with a 13.000 to tie his career-high.

Up next
• Army hosts Navy at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Lou Gross Center.