Where to Next?

The U.S. Military Academy Class of 2020 selects its Army duty stations Feb. 5 during Post Night. Cadet Michael McGerty (left), future Infantry officer, holds up his choice of Fort Bragg, N.C., in Arnold Auditorium. Cadet Ebakoliane Obiomon (top right), future Artillery officer, is excited to head to 3rd Cavalry Regiment, Fort Hood, Texas. Cadet Gavin McAuliffe (above), future Military Intelligence officer, nabbed Hawaii with his choice.

PHOTOS BY BRYAN ILYANKOFF/USMA PAO
Futures Command CG visits West Point, views research

(Above) Col. John Hartke, Department of Physics and Nuclear Engineering head, talks to Gen. John M. Murray, commanding general of Army Futures Command, about research being done in the department during a tour of West Point Feb. 3. (Right and below) Murray and Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Crosby, Army Futures Command command sergeant major, tour the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department Robotics Research Center and Cyber Research Center labs at West Point.

Photos by Brandon O'Connor/PV and John Pellino/USMA PAO
By Michelle Schneider
PV Photojournalist

Approximately 1,000 cadets from the U.S. Military Academy Class of 2020 received their post assignments Feb. 5. Post Night signifies one of the last class milestones before graduation and commissioning into the Army.

“It’s a fun night and one of the final events for cadets prior to graduation,” Accessions Division Chief Maj. Jared Sunsdahl said. “They know their branch, and they now know their post. Now, they just need to graduate and get ready to serve as lieutenants in the Army.”

One of the more interesting items about Post Night is it’s done draft style, Sunsdahl explained.

“Basically, cadets within their branch are seated in their order of merit list,” Sunsdahl said. “The number one standing cadet of each branch gets the very first pick. Once he or she picks (his or her) post, it comes off the board permanently and then you go until the very last cadet picks the last post.”

Class of 2020 Cadet Taylor Reim excitedly holds up her choice of Fort Campbell, Ky., during the Post Night ceremony Feb. 5. Reim will branch Military Intelligence. Photo by Bryan Ilyankoff/USMA PAO

Class of 2020 Cadet Taylor Reim excitedly holds up her choice of Fort Campbell, Ky., during the Post Night ceremony Feb. 5. Reim will branch Military Intelligence.

Class of 2020 Cadet Scott Flanick is one of 256 cadets who branched into infantry last semester. Flanick, who is from Montgomery, New York, said he was open to going anywhere but wouldn’t have minded going to Fort Drum to be closer to home.

Flanick may be flexible about his post but his branch choice, he said, was his calling.

“Junior year, I felt a real draw toward infantry,” Flanick said. “I went to one of my mentors about it and asked why he chose infantry. He said, ‘Because the Soldier is the weapon system. No matter what you give them, even sticks and stones, they will always close with, engage and destroy the enemy.’ That’s something that has always resonated with me.”

As it turns out, Flanick is going to Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington and is excited to reconnect with a few of his teammates and encounter new challenges.

“Going to a Stryker brigade combat team excites me because I haven’t had any experience with Strykers yet and I am excited to gain the wealth of knowledge that comes with operating in a Stryker unit,” Flanick said. “I am (also) excited to link up with old teammates because I know they will resonate the same competitive culture that I have always strived to exemplify.”

Class of 2020 Cadet Elizabeth Cross, from York, Pennsylvania, hoped to join the 2nd Brigade Combat Team in Fort Bragg, North Carolina, because of its great reputation and high up-tempo training environment.

“For me, I am all about the Army. I’m excited to get started. So, going to the post with the most training and vigor in the Army really appeals to me,” Cross said. “West Point has prepared me to be an officer, not just in a tactical sense but with a focus on leadership through character, and that’s what matters at the end of the day. Getting to lead other people is an honor.”

Cross ended up getting the unit and post of her desire as she chose 2nd BCT at Fort Bragg.

“I felt blessed and spirited,” Cross, who branched infantry, said. “For me, being given an opportunity to take what I’ve learned at West Point to a unit known for its drive—that’s motivating.”

Although not every cadet got their first, second or even third post preference, Commandant of Cadets Brig. Gen. Curtis Buzzard said it is on the individual to decide what kind of experience he or she wants when serving in the Army.

Now with Post Night in the rearview, the Class of 2020 will focus on the tasks at hand before May 23 when approximately 1,000 new second lieutenants will receive their bars and enter the Army ready to fight and win our nation’s wars.
Hamrick receives 2020 Henry O. Flipper Award

Story and photos by Brandon O’Connor
PV Assistant Editor

Sitting down to talk about the Henry O. Flipper Award she would be receiving later that evening, a verse from a recent bible study came to Class of 2020 Cadet Jaqueline Hamrick’s mind.

The verse, 1 Peter 5:9, says “Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.” Hamrick was receiving the award because of all she had overcome to be a little more than 100 days from graduation. But she wanted to make it very clear that the award was not just for her. It was for all those who helped her and supported her during her struggles and for all those who have faced challenges during their time at the U.S. Military Academy.

“The Flipper Award is a really great time for everyone to kind of stop and think,” Hamrick said. “Everyone’s going through a lot of struggles. Here, everyone’s suffering different things. I don’t think the things I’ve gone through in any way, shape or form are more important or a higher level than anyone else here. I think that should be recognized.”

The Flipper Award has been given to a West Point firstie (senior) annually since 1977 in honor of Henry O. Flipper, the academy’s first African American graduate. The award honors a graduating cadet who has persevered through unusual adversity while displaying leadership qualities during his or her time at the academy.

Hamrick’s adversity started not while at the academy, but during her sophomore year of high school. Her mom was diagnosed with grade four gliosarcoma, a rare form of brain cancer, and originally given four to six months to live.

That initial prognosis proved to be untrue as her mom lived for two and a half years following the diagnosis. Hamrick decided not to delay her West Point appointment despite her mom’s illness and arrived at the academy with her mom in terminal decline.

For Reception Day, Hamrick’s dad was unable to get time off work and her mom was in poor health, so he drove Jaqueline from the Chicago area, dropped her off at Eisenhower Hall and turned around to drive 12 hours back home.

R-Day is the first day of a new cadet’s transition from civilian life to Army life as they are taught to march, receive their first uniforms and report to the cadet in the red sash. Hamrick was ready for the military aspects of the day. Her dad, currently a sergeant first class in the Army, had stood her in the living room, yelled in her face and made her do movements.

What he couldn’t prepare her for was giving up her cellphone for the six weeks of Beast Barracks. Cadet Basic Training at West Point is tough as new cadets learn the basics of Army life. It was even tougher for Hamrick with her mom in terminal decline from brain cancer.

Without her phone for six weeks, Hamrick couldn’t call home to check in. Instead, she had to fight through Beast Barracks each day while also wondering if she would get pulled aside for a call from home to let her know her mom had passed away.

But, as would prove true each time she struggled at West Point, Hamrick’s fellow cadets were there to pick her up, support her and get her through.

“When I was feeling really lonely, when I was feeling depressed, I had a lot of thoughts of I don’t know if I can stay here, my family needs me, I need to go home and try and take care of them. It was my teammates who were there for me and who supported me,” Hamrick said.

The phone call never came during Beast Barracks, but during her first semester at West Point she made multiple emergency leave trips home to be with her mom who eventually passed that semester on Nov. 22, 2016. It was a moment her family had been preparing for since her mom’s diagnosis. Though the loss was expected, Hamrick struggled to stay focused. That focus was something she said took almost two years for her to get back.

Hamrick entered West Point with the dream of attending medical school and becoming an Army doctor. It was something she’d dreamed about since becoming obsessed with the brain as a kid. The experience with her mom further galvanized that desire after seeing the role doctors played not just in her physical, but also mental well-being. It also convinced her the correct path was to become an oncologist and help others the way doctors helped her.

With the already rigorous pressure of West Point piling atop the pain and grief of losing her mom, Hamrick’s grades began to slip putting that dream in jeopardy, but once again the community at West Point was there to support her. Her teammates on crew picked her up. Her tactical noncommissioned officer became her mentor and supported her through her grief by sharing stories of how he overcame his son’s passing.

With their support, she not only survived the academy but thrived and will be attending medical school at the Uniformed Services University of Health Science following graduation.

Class of 2020 Cadet Jaqueline Hamrick (above) is presented the annual Henry O. Flipper Memorial Award by Kenneth Dixon III, Flipper’s great-great nephew, during the annual Henry O. Flipper Award Dinner Feb. 6. Hamrick’s mother, Jennifer Hamrick (right), died from brain cancer Nov. 22, 2016. COURTESY PHOTO (RIGHT)

University of Health Science following graduation.

“Just really hope that during this time, during this month, during this dinner, people are really thinking about each other,” Hamrick said. “A lot of people don’t know the things I’ve been through and I also don’t know a lot of things that others have gone through. I think if we take the time and make a little bit of self-sacrifice for each other, it’s going to make the corps better.”

The cadet leadership also supported Hamrick’s desire to promote awareness of brain cancer and raise money for the organization Voices Against Brain Cancer through a charity event called the Brain Freeze Challenge. After her mom was first diagnosed, one of the main symptoms was a “twinging pain in her head and she would call it a brain freeze,” Hamrick said.

In 2015, her mom held the first ice cream eating contest deemed the Brain Freeze Challenge in Chicago to raise awareness. Hamrick’s mom was only able to host it once before passing, but Hamrick continued the legacy on Mother’s Day during her second year at the academy.

The challenge has raised about $4,000 in two years and will be held again this year on May 10. Hamrick has also laid the foundation so the pre-med society at West Point can continue hosting it after she graduates.

“It’s something I’m really proud of, and it’s something I’m really proud of the corps for participating in. It was really great to see how much everyone cared,” Hamrick said. “In my time here, I’ve realized how many other people are affected by cancer, other terminal illnesses and just so many other things. It’s a really great way for me and others to take a moment and think about, ‘How this is affecting not just people outside of West Point, but also people here.’”

Hamrick received the annual Flipper Award Feb. 6 during the Henry O. Flipper Dinner. The dinner featured guest speaker retired Lt. Gen. Nadja West, USMA Class of 1983. West is the highest-ranking female graduate of West Point. She retired in July after serving as the 44th surgeon general of the Army.

“If our own Buffalo Soldier (Henry Flipper) did not endure the hardships he did to become the first African American to graduate in 1877, I would never have been able to march onto the plain on R-Day or to jettison my cover into the air on graduation day,” West said. “Events like this evening’s Henry Flipper dinner, carve out time to give us context. So, embrace it and use it as a time to remind yourself of our history and to determine how you can apply it to become even better.”

The Flipper Award is given annually on the first Thursday in February in honor of Black History Month.
Cadets research bioprinting to improve Soldier care in the future

Story and photos by Brandon O’Connor
PV Assistant Editor

When Lt. Col. Jason Barnhill traveled to Africa last summer, he took with him not only the normal gear of an Army officer, but also a 3D printer.

Barnhill, who is the life science program director at the U.S. Military Academy, traveled to Africa to study how 3D printers could be used for field medical care. Barnhill’s printer was not set up to print objects made out of plastics as the printers are frequently known for. Instead, his printer makes bioprinted items that could one day be used to save Soldiers injured in combat.

The 3D bioprinting research has not reached the point where a printed organ or meniscus can be implanted into the body, but Barnhill and a team of cadets are working to advance the research in the field.

Twenty-six firsties are doing bioprinting research across seven different projects as their capstone this year. Two teams are working on biobandages for burn and field care. Two teams are working on how to bioengineer blood vessels to enable other bioprinted items that require a blood source, such as organs, to be viable. One team is working on printing a viable meniscus and the final team is working on printing a liver.

The basic process of printing biomaterial is the same as what is used to print a plastic figurine. A model of what will be printed is created on the computer, it is digitally sliced into layers and then the printer builds it layer by layer. The difference is the “ink” that is used.

Instead of heating plastic, 3D bioprinting uses a bioink that includes collagen, a major part of human tissue, and cells, typically stem cells.

“A lot of this has to do with the bioink that we want to use, exactly what material we’re using as our printer ink, if you will,” Class of 2020 Cadet Allen Gong, a life science major working on the meniscus project, said. “Once we have that 3D model where we want it, then it’s just a matter of being able to stack the ink on top of each other properly.”

Cadets are researching how to use that ink to create a meniscus to be implanted into a Soldier’s injured knee or print a liver that could be used to test medicine and maybe one day eliminate the shortage of transplantable organs.

The research at West Point is funded by the Uniformed Services University of Health Science and is focused on increasing Soldier survivability in the field and treating wounded warriors.

Right now, cadets on each of the teams are in the beginning stages of their research before starting the actual printing process. The first stage includes reading the research already available in their area of focus and learning how to use the printers. After spring break, they will have their first chance to start printing with cells.

For the biobandage, meniscus and liver teams, the goal is to print a tangible product by the end of the semester, though neither the meniscus or liver will be something that could be implanted and used.

“There are definitely some leaps before we can get to that point,” Class of 2020 Cadet Thatcher Shepard, a life science major working on the meniscus project, said of actually implanting what they print. “(We have to) make sure the body doesn’t reject the new bioprinted meniscus and also the emplacement. There can be difficulties with that. Right now, we’re trying to just make a viable meniscus. Then, we’ll look into further research to be able to work on methods of actually placing it into the body.”

The blood vessel teams are further away from printing something concrete because the field has so many unanswered questions. Their initial step will be looking at what has already been done in the field and what questions still need to be answered. They will then decide on the scope and direction of their projects. Their research will be key to allowing other areas of the field to move forward, though. Organs such as livers and pancreases have been printed, so far, they can only be produced at the micro level because they have no blood flow.

Class of 2022 Cadet Nicolas Shriver sets up a 3D bioprinter before using hydrogels to print an aortic valve.

“It’s kind of like putting the cart before the horse,” Class of 2020 Cadet Michael Deegan, a life science major working on one of the blood vessel projects, said. “You’ve printed it, great, but what’s the point of printing it if it’s not going to survive inside your body? Being able to work on that fundamental step that’s actually going to make these organs viable is what drew me and my teammates to be able to do this.”

While the blood vessel, liver and meniscus projects have the potential to impact long-term care, the work being done by the biobandage teams will potentially have direct uses in the field during combat. The goal is to be able to take cells from an injured Soldier, specifically one who suffers burns, and print a bandage with built in biomaterial on it to jumpstart the healing process.

Medics would potentially be deployed with a 3D printer in their Humvee to enable bandages to be printed on site to meet the needs of the specific Soldier and his or her exact wound. The projects are building on existing research on printing sterile bandages and then adding a bioengineering element. The bandages would be printed with specialized skin and stem cells necessary to the healing process, jumpstarting healing faster.

“We’re researching how the body actually heals from burns,” Class of 2020 Cadet Channah Mills, a life science major working on one of the biobandage projects, said. “So, are some things we can do to speed along that process? Introducing a bandage could kickstart that healing process. The faster you start healing, the less scarring and the more likely you’re going to recover.”

The meniscus team is starting with MRI images of knees and working to build a 3D model of a meniscus, which they will eventually be able to print. Unlike a liver, the meniscus doesn’t need a blood flow. It does still have a complex cellular structure, though, and a large part of the team’s research will be figuring out how and when to implant those cells into what they’re printing.

Of the 26 cadets working on bioprinting projects, 17 will be attending medical school following graduation from West Point. The research they are doing gives them hands-on experience in a cutting-edge area of the medical field. It also enabled them to play a role in improving the care for Soldiers in the future, which will be their jobs as Army doctors.

“Being on the forefront of it and just seeing the potential in bioengineering, it’s pretty astounding,” Gong said. “But it has also been sobering just to see how much more complicated it is to 3D print biomaterials than plastic.”

The bioprinting projects will be presented during the academy’s annual Projects Day April 30.

Lt. Col. Jason Barnhill, U.S. Military Academy life science program director, talks to Gen. John M. Murray, commanding general of Army Futures Command, about 3D bioprinting research being done at the academy during a tour of West Point Feb. 3.
West Point Tax Center is now open for business

By the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate

The West Point Tax Center is now open for business and accepts drop-offs from eligible patrons until the end of March.

The Tax Center will operate out of Building 606, fourth floor. The Tax Center staff encourages you to come in as soon as you have all of your tax documents, as it anticipates a large volume of tax returns in March.

For answers to some of the most commonly asked questions, see below.

**What are the hours of operation?**
- The hours of operation are 8 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

**Where is the Tax Center Located?**
- Building 606, fourth floor. Please follow signs for drop-off and pick-up.

**Who is eligible for services?**
- All cadets and cadet candidates;
- All military personnel who return from combat zones during the 2020 filing season and qualify for combat zone filing extensions;
- Gold Star families; and
- Active duty personnel, retirees and dependents who meet all of the following qualifications:
  a. 2019 combined gross income was less than or equal to $54,000;
  b. Do not itemize deductions;
  c. Did not receive income from their own business or farm;
  d. Did not receive income from more than one rental property;
  e. Did not receive self-employment income or alimony;
  f. Are not required to file Schedule D for capital gains.

**What if my adjusted gross income is less than or equal to $54,000?**
- The income limit for active duty personnel, retirees and dependents is based on total gross income rather than adjusted gross income.

Unfortunately, if you received more than $54,000 of income in 2019, the West Point Tax Center will be unable to prepare your tax return due to limited resources and IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) standards.

**Where can I have my taxes prepared for free if I am ineligible for services?**
- If you are ineligible for services at the West Point Tax Center, please consider using one of the following alternative free services:
  2. IRS Free File Program (https://www.irs.gov/filing/free-file-do-your-federal-taxes-for-free);
  3. TaxSlayer Military (https://www.taxslayer.com/products/taxslayer-military);

**Do I need to schedule an appointment?**
- Instead of scheduling appointments, all patrons will come in person to pick up paperwork to complete. This paperwork will be available in the fourth floor hallway of Building 606. After filling out the required paperwork, patrons will meet with a tax preparer who will review the paperwork before accepting it. Patrons will leave the paperwork with the preparer. When the tax return is complete, patrons will be notified to return a second time to sign their tax return and receive a copy of the return for their records.

**Do I need to bring anything with me when I drop-off my paperwork?**
- If the West Point Tax Center did not prepare your 2018 tax return, bring a copy of your 2018 tax return with you. We look forward to assisting you.
Gates, Chiarelli speak as part of Class of ‘52 Lecture Series

(Above and right photos) The Department of Social Sciences hosts the Class of ‘52 Lecture Series featuring a conversation between former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates (right in above photo), and retired Gen. Peter Chiarelli (left in above photo) on Monday at Robinson Auditorium. Gates and Chiarelli spoke to cadets, staff and faculty during the lecture.

Photos by John Pellino/USMA PAO
February 13, 2020

FEATURED ITEM

Soldier for Life Transition Services
Soldiers who are 24 months out from retiring or 18 months out from separating should think about their transition prior to the mandatory 12-month mark.

If you want to get started on your future plans, contact Soldier for Life Transition Services at 845-6782/0631/0634. The office is open 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and is located at 622 Swift Road.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Balfour Beatty Communities Foundation Scholarship Program
Applications are now being accepted for the Balfour Beatty Communities Foundation scholarship program for the 2020-21 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 2020, or be enrolled in a program of study designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

Scholarship awards range from $1,000 to $2,500, with the potential for being larger for exceptional submissions.

For more details regarding scholarship requirements and to complete an online application, visit the foundation’s website at www.bbcocommunitiesfoundation.org. Applications must be submitted no later than March 19.

TRIBE Yoga Teacher Training
Join the non-profit TRIBE for a Yoga Alliance Approved 200-hour Yoga Teacher Training through April 5.

This training is specific to meet the needs of active duty military and those who want to work with active duty military and the training will take place on West Point.

Scholarship information available on request. For more details, contact tribeyogamilitary@gmail.com.

TRIBE Weekend Training
Interested in bringing some of the physical, emotional and mental tools of yoga to the military and improving your own self-care routine?

Join TRIBE for this short, weekend training Feb. 22-23.

Scholarships are available for active duty personnel.

For more details, contact tribeyogamilitary@gmail.com.

The Bass Club at West Point
The Bass Club at West Point is accepting new members.

The Bass Club shares angling knowledge, conducts tournaments, promotes sustainable fishing and performs community service in support of West Point outdoor recreation. Membership is open to military, DOD civilians, veterans of the Armed Forces and their dependents.

For more details, contact toddness@aol.com or go to http://pbwimmer.wixsite.com/bassclubatwestpoint.

Harry Potter & the Cursed Child Parts 1 and 2 with Leisure Travel Services (MWR item/NEW)
Tickets are on sale now at Leisure Travel Services for a trip to see Harry Potter & the Cursed Child Parts 1 and 2 on March 11. The van leaves West Point at 10:30 a.m. and leaves NYC immediately after Part 2. The show is at the Lyric Theater, Center Balcony, Row B seating.

Tickets are at $150 for Bullets members and $165 for non-Bullets members. Payment will be charged on the card that was used to purchase the ticket.

For reservations and more information, call 845-938-3601.

Frozen with Leisure Travel Services (MWR item/NEW)
Tickets are on sale now at Leisure Travel Services for a trip to see Frozen on March 24.

The van leaves West Point at 4 p.m. and leaves NYC immediately after the show. There is a nominal fee for this event and includes transportation.

For reservations and more information, call 845-938-3601.

Seafest Night (MWR item/NEW)
The West Point Club’s Seafest Night is scheduled from 6-9 p.m. March 27. Enjoy a night of unlimited seafood food.

There is a nominal fee for this event. For more information and reservations, call 845-938-5120.

Easter Sunday Brunch and Egg Hunt (MWR item/NEW)
Join the West Point Club for its annual Easter Sunday Brunch and egg hunt April 12. The first seating is at 10 a.m. with an egg hunt at 11:30 a.m. The second seating is at 1 p.m. with an egg hunt at 2:30 p.m.

For a complete menu and more details, visit thewestpointclub.com. There is a nominal fee for this event.

For reservations, call 845-938-5120.

2019-20 Staff and Faculty Intramural Hockey League (MWR item)
The MWR Sports Office is conducting the 2019-20 Staff and Faculty Intramural Hockey League. All active duty personnel, DOD civilians, retired personnel and West Point community family members can sign up to play.

Hockey games will be scheduled at 6 a.m. Monday and Thursday and at noon Tuesdays. Season passes must be purchased to participate and are now available. The season is ongoing.

To sign up and/or for more details, contact jayes.p.mcginnness.naf@mail.mil or call 845-938-3066.

Framing and engraving with West Point Arts and Crafts (MWR item)
The custom framing experts at Arts and Crafts can turn any achievement into a timeless work of art.

Choose from more than 500 quality moldings, 450 acid-free mats and opt for UV-protective glass to prevent fading.

They also offer engraving for any special occasion. Give them a call for any special engraving items you may have.

Arts and Crafts’ easy and quick pricing allows you to design your budget. For more details, call 845-938-4812.

Dinner-To-Go Delivery Service for West Point Residents (MWR item)
The West Point Club’s Dinner-To-Go is available Monday through Friday. Place your order by 2 p.m. that day and specify delivery time between 5-7 p.m. or a time between 4:30–6:30 p.m. to pick up your meal at the West Point Club’s Benny Havens Lounge. Delivery service is available for West Point residents only.

Servings for four to six are available for a nominal fee.

For pricing and menu items, visit thewestpointclub.com or call 845-446-5506/5504.

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 Kathy Yusuf at 845-569-3633 or email kathy.yusuf@msmc.edu; and
• Saint Thomas Aquinas—Call Gina Erazo at 845-398-4102 or email gierazo@stac.edu.

Graduate studies:
John Jay College of Criminal Justice—master’s degree in public administration—Call Kimberly Heyman at 845-446-5959 or email kheyman@jjay.cuny.edu; and
• Long Island University—master’s degrees in school counseling, mental health counseling, 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.

Army Education Center—Testing Office
The Army Education Center at West Point offers the following Army Personnel Tests (APT)—AFCT, DLAB, DLPT and SIFT. We also offer the TABE and GT Predictor.

Testing is offered by appointment only. To make an appointment, call 845-938-3360 or email Janet Browne at janet.p.browne.ctr@mail.mil or Gwenn Wallace at gwenn.t.wallace.ctr@mail.mil.

The AEC is also an Authorized Pearson VUE Testing Site, open on a space available basis to Soldiers, civilian personnel, military contractors and family members who hold a government ID card.

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 Miera at drew.m.miera.ctr@mail.mil or stop by the Army Education Center from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Monday–Friday.

OUTSIDE THE GATES

The Wintermarket at Highland Falls
The Highland Falls Wintermarket is open from 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Saturday at 401 Main Street in the parish hall of Holy Innocents Church. Vendors will be selling cooked food, gluten free baked goods, honey, maple syrup, jams, jellies, goats milk soap, international coffee, teas, mulled apple cider and crafts of various kinds. There will also be cooking demonstrations, raffles and activities for children.

For details, contact thewintermarket@yahoo.com or visit Facebook at @thewintermarkethi.

Winter Wildlife Survival
How do deer, wood frogs or even praying mantis survive the winter? Come to the Fort Montgomery State Historic Site at 1 p.m. Monday to discover how your backyard neighbors endure the winter with no clothing, grocery stores or furnaces.

The program will involve a nature trek, searching for tracks and signs, hands-on funs and games. This free family-friendly program is suited for children 8 and up.

For details and to register, call 845-446-2134. The Fort Montgomery State Historic Site is located at 690 Route 9W, Fort Montgomery, New York.

Grace Baptist Church of Highland Falls services
West Point families are invited to attend services at the Grace Baptist Church, located at 54 Old State Road in Highland Falls. Services are held at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday and at 7 p.m. Wednesday. Sunday School for all ages starts at 9:45 a.m. It also includes a call for any special engraving items you may have.

Grace Baptist Church of Highland Falls services
West Point families are invited to attend services at the Grace Baptist Church, located at 54 Old State Road in Highland Falls. Services are held at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday and at 7 p.m. Wednesday. Sunday School for all ages starts at 9:45 a.m. It also includes a call for any special engraving items you may have.

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West Point families are invited to attend services at the Grace Baptist Church, located at 54 Old State Road in Highland Falls. Services are held at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday and at 7 p.m. Wednesday. Sunday School for all ages starts at 9:45 a.m. It also includes a call for any special engraving items you may have.
FEATURED EVENT

West Point annual Polar Fest Feb. 29
MWR’s annual Polar Fest event will be held from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Feb. 29 at the Victor Constant Ski Area. The event offers skiing, snowboarding, paintball shoot relay, eating contest and more.

Early registration pricing is available. For more details, visit victorconstantski.com or call 845-938-8810.

FOR THE ADULTS

West Point Club Wedding Tasting Event
Join the West Point Club from noon-3 p.m. March 22 for its annual Wedding Tasting event. Sample its cuisine and meet the culinary team.

West Point Club booked weddings are entitled to two complimentary tickets. There is a nominal fee for additional entries. Please RSVP by March 12. For details, call 845-446-5506.

FOR THE YOUTHS

West Point Community Noontime Ultimate Frisbee Open Play Competition
The MWR Sports Office will conduct the Noontime Ultimate Frisbee Open Play competition. It is open to all USMA personnel, DOD civilians, retirees and their dependents. The games will be played noon-1 p.m. today, Feb. 13, 20, 27 and March 5, 19 and 26 at the Foley Center, across from Michie Stadium.

For details and to sign up, contact Paul Gannon and/or James P. McGuinness at 845-938-3066, or e-mail paul.f.gannon.naf@mail.mil and/or james.p.mcguinness.naf@mail.mil.

FOR THE FAMILIES

Morgan Farm Pet Boarding specials
Morgan Farm is offering pet boarding specials for Valentine’s Day and President’s Day weekend. Get four nights of boarding for the cost of three. Drop-off your pet on Friday and pick-up Tuesday. Make your reservation today. For details, call 845-938-3926 or visit westpoint.armymwr.com.

Ski & Snowboard Lesson Registration Ongoing
Are you or your family members in need of Ski or Snowboard lessons? Victor Constant Ski Area’s registration is ongoing for the remaining registration slots available for general public members. You can enroll online at victorconstantski.com, or by calling our Victor Constant Ski office at 845-938-8810.

FOR THE YOUTHS

Children & Youth Services Middle School Teen Center Valentine’s Dance
Join CYS for its Middle School Teen Valentine’s Dance, from 5-8 p.m. Friday at the MST Center, 500 Washington Road. For more details, call 845-938-3727.

CYSitters Babysitter Certification Course
The CYSitters courses are back. A course is open to 11-year-olds from 3-6:30 p.m. Feb. 21 at our MST Center, located at 500 Washington Road. The course is free.

Another course open to 12-year-olds and up is scheduled from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 22 at the Lee CYS Facility, located at 140 Buckner Loop. The course has a nominal fee.

Registration for both courses runs through Friday. To register, call 845-938-3969.

Whee Ones Open Play Group
The Whee Ones Open Play Group dates are Feb. 24 and March 2, 16, 23 and 30 at the Youth Center Gym, Building 500. The group is designed for your little one to play, learn and make new friends. For more details, call 845-938-3655.

Child & Youth Services Intro to Swim Stroke Development Course
The CYS Sports and Instructional Programs will have swim classes through March 5 from 6:30-7 p.m. Mondays.

It is open to youth ages 7 to 18. Lessons will be held at Crandall Pool. There is a nominal fee for these classes. To register, call 845-938-0939.

CYS Spring Recreation Sports Registration and Coaches needed
Registration for the Child & Youth Services Recreational Sports Programs will run through March 13.
Register for soccer, T-ball/baseball, flag football or the run club. The spring session is from March 30 through May 28. To register your child, call 845-938-0939.
CYS Sports is looking for coaches for the Child and Youth Services Spring 2020 Youth Sports programs. Coaches are needed for soccer, T-ball/baseball, flag football and run club.
Interested candidates can contact the Youth Sports Office at 845-938-3208.

JUST ANNOUNCED

ACS Exceptional Family Member Program Unified Sports
The ACS Exceptional Family Member Program Unified Sports will take place at 2 p.m. Feb. 23 at Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center, hosted by our USMA Boxing Team. EFMP believes in the power of bringing families and the community together to foster an environment of friendship, understanding, support and compassion.

This is all made possible through a partnership with USMA cadets, Special Olympics Unified Sports and EFMP creating an environment for your child to explore outdoor sport activities in a safe and enriching way.

Times will be determined prior to events and put out through email and Facebook.
For more details, email Josephine.M.Toohey.civ@mail.mil or call 845-938-3655.

Philadelphia Flower Show with Leisure Travel Services
Join Leisure Travel Services for its annual trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show March 2. Leave West Point at 8 a.m. and return to West Point at 8 p.m.
There is a nominal fee for this event. For reservations and more details, call 845-938-3601.

Together, Listening and Connecting Mindfulness for Stress Reduction Workshop
Join the Together, Listening and Connecting Mindfulness for Stress Reduction Workshop from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. March 2 at Army Community Service Building 622.

In this workshop, participants will learn how to use mindfulness tools that reduce everyday stress and thereby increase their overall quality of life.
For details and to reserve your spot, Email Josephine. M.Toohey. civ@mail.mil or call 845-938-3655.

St. Patrick’s Day Sunday Brunch
Join the West Point Club for its annual St. Patrick’s Day Sunday Brunch from 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. March 15 in the Club’s Grand Ballroom.

For a complete menu and more details, visit thewestpointclub.com. There is a nominal fee for this event.
For reservations, call 845-938-5120.

Live music at Victor Constant Ski Area
Come out to the Constant Ski Area and enjoy live music with Steven Wells from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Friday and Feb. 28.

“Smokin’ Buddy” Steve plays classics of the Rock/Pop era. ’60s through today. Enjoy live music at VCSA this season. For more details, visit victorconstantski.com or call 845-938-8810.

Basic Pistol Course
MWR Shooting Sports will be teaching a Basic Pistol Course March 21. The classroom portion will begin at 9 a.m. at the Buffalo Soldier Pavilion located at 628 Hodges Place.

After the classroom instruction, participants will put into practice what they have learned at the Tronsrue Marksmanship Center located at 665 Tower Road (next to the Gillis Field House). There is a nominal fee for this course, which includes firearm rentals and ammunition.

This course satisfies the Orange County safety class requirement in order to apply for a pistol permit. Participants will receive a certificate. The class is limited to 25 participants.
Register by visiting the Tronsrue range or calling the range at 845-938-1700.

West Point Community Skate
The West Point Community Skate at Tate Rink is ongoing for West Point Staff and 2020 Heart & Sole Aerobic Challenge. Skaters must supply their own skates. For more details, call 845-938-3655.

Morgan Farm Pet Boarding specials
Morgan Farm is offering pet boarding specials for Valentine’s Day and President’s Day weekend. Get four nights of boarding for the cost of three. Drop-off your pet on Friday and pick-up Tuesday. Make your reservation today. For details, call 845-938-3926 or visit westpoint.armymwr.com.

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**Keller Corner**

**KACH to provide individual nutrition appointments**
The Nutrition Care Division at Keller Army Community Hospital welcomes Capt. Emily Hege, MS, RD, LDN.

Individual nutrition appointments are now available. Nutrition counseling is available for a variety of conditions including weight loss or gain, diabetes, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, failure to thrive (lack of adequate growth in children), general healthy diet education, basic sports nutrition, food allergies, chronic GI conditions (such as Crohn’s disease, IBD, celiac disease), general nutrition concerns and more.

If you would like to book an appointment with the nutritionist, contact the Keller Appointment Center at 845-938-7992 or 800-552-2907.

**Wanted: Greater West Point-area runners for a research study**
Researchers at Keller Army Community Hospital are looking for greater West Point-area runners to participate in a study testing a wearable shoelace pod for its ability to predict running-related injury risk.

The project is called, “START: Simple Technology Analyzing Running Technique in DOD Beneficiaries.” Participants will be asked to wear a lightweight (13 grams) shoelace 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 shoelace pod along with mileage, cadence and foot strike pattern.

For more details or to be a part of the study, contact Col. Michael Crowell at 845-938-3067, or email runwestpoint@gmail.com.

**KACH has flu vaccines**
Keller Army Community Hospital has its full allotment of pediatric flu vaccine (6-35 months) and adult flu vaccine (36 months -adult) and is ready to vaccinate the West Point Community and our beneficiaries.

Flu vaccines will be accepted on a walk-in basis in the Primary Cared Department, from 8-11:30 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, with the exception of the second Thursday of the month when walk-ins will only be accepted from 8-11:30 a.m.

The number of cases of influenza in New York continues to be considered prevalent, according to New York State Health Commissioner Dr. Howard Zucker.

More than 1,000 flu-related cases have led to patients being hospitalized.

Getting vaccinated remains the best way for all New Yorkers to protect against the flu.

**JOES lets KACH know how it is doing**
Did you receive a Joint Outpatient Experience Survey (JOES) in the mail after your visit to Keller Army Community Hospital? If so, let us know how we did.

JOES has replaced the Army Provider Level Satisfaction Survey.

JOES will combine and standardize long-standing methods used by the Army, Navy, Air Force and Defense Health Agency/ National Capital Region to learn about beneficiary health care experiences with the goal of making them better.

This single outpatient-visit based instrument will assist military treatment facilities with their goal of becoming a high reliability organization.

Keller requests that you don’t forget to fill out the survey if you receive it in the mail. Keller clinics can receive up to $1,000 for each “completely satisfied” survey returned.

Surveys returned with satisfactory marks help us keep our clinics up to date with the latest equipment and services available to you.

**PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT**

**Novel Coronavirus Outbreak**

**Current Situation:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Military Health System, and the U.S. Army Public Health Center are closely monitoring an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China.

**Transmission:** Human coronaviruses are most commonly spread from an infected person to others through:
- the air by coughing and sneezing.
- close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands.
- touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes before washing your hands.

**How to protect yourself and others:** There are currently no vaccines available to protect you against human coronavirus infection. To reduce your risk of infection or transmitting the virus to others:
- wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- avoid close contact with people who are sick; and stay home while you are sick.

**Symptoms:** Common human coronaviruses usually cause mild to moderate upper respiratory tract illnesses, like the common cold. Most people get infected with these viruses at some point in their lives. These illnesses usually only last for a short amount of time. Symptoms may include:

- runny nose
- cough
- fever
- headache
- sore throat
- general feeling of being unwell

Human coronaviruses can sometimes cause lower-respiratory tract illnesses, such as pneumonia. This is more common in people with cardiopulmonary disease, people with weakened immune systems, infants, and older adults.

**Testing:** If you have symptoms and have had recent travel to China or been in direct contact with a person known to be infected with the virus, seek medical care. Your health care provider will order appropriate tests, if needed, and determine if additional precautions should be taken.

**Treatment:** There are no specific treatments for illnesses caused by human coronaviruses. Most people with common human coronaviruses will recover on their own. Medications for pain and fever can help relieve symptoms. If you are mildly ill, drink plenty of fluids, stay home, and rest. If you are concerned about your symptoms, you should see your healthcare provider.

For additional information on the current outbreak, visit the CDC and APHIS websites:

**MOVIES at MAHAN**

Theatre schedule at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752.

**Friday**—“Little Women,” PG, 7:30 p.m.
**Saturday**—“Spies In Disguise,” PG, 7:30 p.m.
**Saturday**—“Like A Boss,” R, 7:30 p.m.
**Feb. 21**—“A Hidden Life,” PG-13, 7:30 p.m.
**Feb. 22**—“1917,” R, 7:30 p.m.
**Feb. 28**—“Just Mercy,” PG-13, 7:30 p.m.
**Feb. 29**—“Dolittle,” PG, 7:30 p.m.

(For movie details and updated schedules, visit http://www. aafes.com/exchange-stores/Movie-Guide/showtimes-West- Point.htm.)

**LifeWorks**

- **Valentine’s Bingo:** Play bingo to win prizes during Valentine’s Bingo at 3 p.m. Friday at B126 Washington Road. Prizes and Valentine’s treats for everyone who attend. Email jgellman@bbcgrp.com to register.

- **TRIBE event:** Join Jessica Bugbee from TRIBE (Teach Resiliency, Increase Balance & Endurance) at 10 a.m. Saturday at B126 Washington Road for a chair yoga flow to focus on re-aligning the spine and opening the heart as we flow into a long guided savasana of yoga nidra.

  Bring your favorite person, maybe your valentine, or come by yourself and join in the love of community—as we relax the body, the breath, the mind so we can let go and allow for love to heal.

  To register, email jgellman@bbcgrp.com by today.

- **National Love Your Pet Day:** National Love Your Pet Day is Feb. 20. It encourages being affectionate with your pet.

  Submit a photo of your pet dressed in his or her favorite outfit, and WPFH will share your pet photo on social media.

  The best dressed pet will win bragging rights at West Point and a prize for your furry baby. Send your pictures to jgellman@ bbcgrp.com by Tuesday for judging.
2020 Grant Application Now Open!

Visit westpointspousesclub.org/grants/ to apply
Application deadline March 6th

West Point Spouses Club is excited to partner with many worthwhile organizations in our community!

USMA 2020 Black History Month Observance

Black History Month
HONORING THE PAST. SECURING THE FUTURE!

Guest Speaker: COL Hae Gibson, Class of 97
Department of Systems Engineering
USMA Professor

College Campus Fire Safety

College students living away from home should take a few minutes to make sure they are living in a fire-safe environment. Educating students on what they can do to stay safe during the school year is important and often overlooked.

SAFETY TIPS
• Look for fully sprinklered housing when choosing a dorm or off-campus housing.
• Make sure you can hear the building alarm system when you are in your dorm room.
• If you live in a dormitory, make sure your sleeping room has a smoke alarm, or your dormitory suite has a smoke alarm in each living area as well as the sleeping room. For the best protection, all smoke alarms in the dormitory suite should be interconnected so that when one sounds, they all sound.
• If you live in an apartment or house, make sure smoke alarms are installed in each sleeping room, outside every sleeping area, and on each level of the apartment unit or house. For the best protection, all smoke alarms in the apartment unit or house should be interconnected so that when one sounds, they all sound.
• Test all smoke alarms at least monthly.
• Never remove batteries or disable the alarm.
• Learn your building’s evacuation plan and practice all drills as if they were the real thing.
• If you live off campus, have a fire escape plan with two ways out of every room.
• When the smoke alarm or fire alarm sounds, get out of the building quickly and stay out.
• Stay in the kitchen when cooking.
• Cook only when you are alert, not sleepy or drowsy from medicine or alcohol.
• Check with your local fire department for any restrictions before using a barbeque grill, fire pit, or chiminea.
• Check your school’s rules before using electrical appliances in your room.

West Point Fire Department
x2043 fireprevention@usma.edu

Fires in dormitories are more common during the evening hours, between 5–11 pm, and on weekends. Roughly six out of seven fires in dormitories are started by cooking.

Friday, 14 February, 2020
11:45-12:30pm
(Doors Open at 11:30am)
West Point Club
(Grand Ballroom)
$12.50 at the Door or can be purchased ahead of time to guarantee a meal
Women’s Tennis wins six in a row, defeats Fordham

By Frank Shala
Army Athletic Communications

Army women’s tennis won its sixth-straight match on Sunday afternoon, defeating the Fordham Rams, 4-3, at Lichtenberg Tennis Center.

In doubles action, Army won both matches with the No. 1 matchup not finishing. Sophomore Sam Dimaio and junior Ana Joyner earned a 6-0 win over Arina Taluyenko and Weronika Pociej, while sophomore Paola Bou and freshman Sophie McKensie defeated Avery Aude and Genevieve Quenville, 6-3.

Army and Fordham split the six singles matches with three apiece.

A 7-6, 6-0 victory from sophomore Stephanie Dolehide in the second position gave the Black Knights its first of three tallies in singles play.

Junior Hannah Boubel finished with a 7-5, 6-3 win in the fifth spot, while Dimaio closed out from the sixth position with a 7-5, 6-2 result.

Doubles
• Dolehide/sophomore Caroline Vincent (Army) vs. Arina Taluyenko/Weronika Pociej (Fordham), DNF.
• Dimaio/Joyner (Army) def. Nicole Li/Maia Balce (Fordham), 6-0.
• Bou/McKensie (Army) def. Avery Aude/Genevieve Quenville (Fordham), 6-3.

Singles
• Arina Taluyenko (Fordham) def. Joyner (Army), 6-1, 6-3.
• Dolehide (Army) def. Maia Balce (Fordham), 7-6, 6-0.
• Weronika Pociej (Fordham) def. Paola Bou (ARMY), 7-5, 6-3.
• Avery Aude (Fordham) def. freshman Elizabeth Gilbert (ARMY), 6-3, 6-3.
• Boubel (Army) def. Nicole Li (Fordham), 7-5, 6-3.
• Dimaio (Army) def. Genevieve Quenville (Fordham), 7-5, 6-2.
Softball earns third straight win, tops Georgia Southern

The Army West Point softball team scored two runs in the top of the seventh inning to defeat Georgia Southern 7-5 Sunday in Statesboro, Ga. This is the Black Knights’ (4-1) best start to a season since 2011. With the score tied at five in the top of the seventh, junior catcher Megan Muffett sent a sharply hit ball to Georgia Southern’s third baseman, who was unable to corral it. Sophomore third baseman Madi Gilmore (above) came around to score from second base on the error. Freshman pitcher Alicyn Grete then sent home freshman pinch runner Brooke Tuttle to give Army the two-run lead on the next at bat with a sacrifice fly to right field.

**VIEW ARMY WEST POINT SCHEDULE AT WWW.GOARMYWESTPOINT.COM/CALENDAR.ASPX.**

**Sports calendar**

**Men’s Lacrosse**
- **Saturday, Noon**—Rutgers, Michie Stadium.
- **Tuesday, 3 p.m.**—Marist, Poughkeepsie, New York.
- **Feb. 23, 1 p.m.**—Syracuse, Syracuse, New York.
- **Feb. 29, Noon**—Holy Cross, Michie Stadium.

**Women’s Basketball**
- **Wednesday, 1 p.m.**—Loyola, Christl Arena.
- **Feb. 22, 11 a.m.**—Navy, Christl Arena.

**Men’s Basketball**
- **Saturday, 1 p.m.**—Lehigh, Christl Arena.
- **Feb. 22, 1:30 p.m.**—Navy, Christl Arena.

**Hockey**
- **Feb. 21, 7:05 p.m.**—Sacred Heart, Tate Rink.
- **Feb. 22, 7:05 p.m.**—Sacred Heart, Tate Rink.

**Women’s Lacrosse**
- **Wednesday, 3 p.m.**—Iona, Michie Stadium.

**Wrestling**
- **Feb. 22, 7:30 p.m.**—Navy, Annapolis, Maryland.

**Gymnastics**
- **Feb. 29, 1 p.m.**—Air Force, Gross Center.

*View Army West Point Schedule at www.goarmywestpoint.com/calendar.aspx.*
Davis, Army gymnastics have best performance of season

By Nick Lovera
Army Athletic Communications

The Army West Point gymnastics team placed second at the All-Academy Championships with a season-best team score of 394.100 Saturday in San Antonio.

The Black Knights were competitive throughout the day, recording their best performance on vault where they came away with the victory with a season-high 71.150. Two cadets finished in the top five on the apparatus, as senior Erik Del Cid (14.600) and sophomore Mathew Davis (14.500) recorded career highs.

It was another big day for Davis, who posted his best all-around score of the year (80.600) while adding career-best scores on vault, still rings (14.150) and parallel bars (13.800).

Navy won the team event with a score of 407.700 while Air Force placed third with 387.500.

Highlights and notes
- The Black Knights team score of 394.100 was the team’s best overall performance thus far this year.
- Davis has set new career marks on every apparatus besides the floor exercise thus far this season.
- Del Cid’s 14.600 on vault tops his previous career-best of 14.400 which was set at the 2018 ECAC Championships.
- Four cadets finished in the top 10 on vault with freshmen Jacob Nauman (14.300) and Corban Barstow (14.000) rounding out the group.
- Nauman has recorded a 14-plus on vault in three of his five career-meets.
Men’s lacrosse knocks off No. 18 Massachusetts

By Ally Keirn
Army Athletic Communications

Thanks to nine unanswered first half goals, the 15th-ranked Army West Point men’s lacrosse team knocked off No. 18 Massachusetts, 17-4, for the program’s 800th victory at Michie Stadium Saturday.

The Black Knights are one of five teams in NCAA Division I history to eclipse the 800-win mark. Army is 800-394-7 through 103 seasons.

Earning his first-career start in net, sophomore goaltender Wyatt Schupler made 13 saves including 10 in the first half to boost the Black Knights to a 1-0 start on the year.

For the second year in a row, sophomore attack Brendan Nichtern registered seven points against the Minutemen in the season opener.

Sophomore attack Brendan Nichtern registered seven points, including four goals, against No. 18 Massachusetts in the season opener. The 15th-ranked Army West Point men’s lacrosse team defeated the Minutemen 17-4 Saturday at Michie Stadium. Photo by Army Athletic Communications

For the second year in a row, Nichtern found the back of the net off a pass from DeWitt.

To close out the first quarter, Nichtern posted back-to-back unassisted scores putting Army on top 5-0.

The Black Knights held the Minutemen to three shots in the first 15 minutes of action.

Junior midfielder Nickolas Edinger returned to Army’s lineup and made an immediate impact. With 9:37 on the clock, the junior setup a man-up goal for senior attack Miles Silva to give the Cadets a 6-0 lead.

The Black Knights then scored back-to-back goals in a nine second span.

Sophomore midfielder Bobby Abshire registered his first-career goal on an iso play down the left side at 4:57.

Then at 4:48, freshman faceoff specialist Stevie Grabher won the faceoff and dishes it down to senior attack Sean O’Brien who went low to high for the tally.

Nichtern rolled the crease for an unassisted goal to close out the scoring in the first half with Army ahead 9-0.

UMass scored its third goal of the game with 5:55 to go in the third quarter to bring the score to 12-3 in favor of the Cadets.

Army then went on a 5-1 run to close-out the game. DeWitt sparked the run with his second goal of the contest.

The Black Knights posted two consecutive man-up scores. The first was scored by Nichtern off a feed from O’Brien and the next was the opposite with O’Brien in the scoring column and Nichtern the feeder.

Edinger set up freshman midfielder Reese Burek’s first-career goal before freshman attack Chase Taylor notched his first to give Army a 17-4 edge closing out the scoring.

Highlights and game notes
• With the win, The Cadets took a 15-14 advantage in the series against No. 18 UMass.
• The team was one shy of tying the most goals scored against the Minutemen in a single contest (18) set back in 2018.
• It was the largest margin of victory over UMass in series history.
• Head Coach Joe Alberici is now 6-4 over the Minutemen.
• It was the sixth-straight win over the nationally recognized opponent.
• Schupler recorded 13 saves in his collegiate debut and notched a 4.56 goals against average and .765 save percentage.
• It marked the Black Knights’ first time shutting out an opponent in the first half since 2018 when Army was leading 6-0 after the first 30 minutes of action.
• The Black Knights held an opponent to four goals for the second time in two seasons as Army kept Marist at bay last year with a 10-4 victory at home.
• The Black Knights saw nine different goal scorers and over 50% of the team’s goals were assisted.
• Five players recorded multiple points in the contest.
• For the second year in a row, Nichtern registered seven points against the Minutemen in the season opener.
• He posted four goals and three assists.
• O’Brien contributed four points on three goals and an assist.
• DeWitt produced a career-high three points on two tallies and a helper.
• Abshire finished the day with two goals, while Edinger had two assists.
• The Cadets finished the game 3-for-5 on man-up opportunities while holding UMass to 0-for-5.
• Manown and Hudgins each recorded three caused turnovers.
• Grabher led the team with six ground balls.

How it happened
• The Black Knights headed into halftime with a 9-0 lead.
• Senior midfielder Connor DeWitt started the year off with an unassisted tally 1:49 into the action.
• Freshman midfielder Ryan Sposito registered his first-career goal to put the Cadets up 2-0 before sophomore attack Gunner Philipp

• By Ally Keirn
Army Athletic Communications

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