Services begin to reopen

SEE PAGES 2, 12

(Above) Lt. Col. Jason Cody and his wife, Jocelyn Cody, push their children, Caroline, 4, and Logan, 7, on a playground swing set Monday. Playgrounds at West Point reopened Monday morning with precautions in place to limit the spread of COVID-19. See pages 2 and 12 for a complete list of reopenings at West Point.

ALERT: West Point community be advised that General Order 1 has been rescinded.
West Point reopening FAQs

Compiled by West Point Public Affairs

What services are open at West Point?
“West Point leadership is thoroughly reviewing plans to reopen each facility on the installation that was closed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“More facilities are expected open as conditions in the region improve. The facilities that have reopened in full or in part are below. Visit www.westpoint.edu/coronavirus/reopening-FAQs for updates as more services are allowed to reopen.”

• The Commissary and Exchange remain open with health protection measures in place. Authorized retirees are still permitted access to the installation for the purpose of shopping.

• The Child Development Center is reopened on a limited basis.

• The Army and Air Force Exchange Barbershop is open to active duty servicemembers by appointment only.

• Morgan Farm is open for pet grooming, horseback riding lessons and horse boarding.

• MWR Fitness is open for active duty personnel only.

• West Point Bowling Center is open for food takeout. Bowling lanes are reopened by reservation only.

• The West Point Golf Course is open for play and food/beverages take out.

• Playgrounds at West Point are now open for children to play.

• West Point Club.

• West Point Museum.

• West Point Visitors Center.

What services remain closed?

“Many of the public facilities at West Point remain closed and are being evaluated on a case by case basis.”

These include, but are not limited to:

• West Point Visitors Center.

• West Point Museum.

• West Point Club.

• Auto Skills Center (only open for self-help).

• Tronsrue Marksmanship Center.

Who can use the Child Development Center?

“The Child Development Center is implementing strict public health protections to ensure the health and safety of the children and employees.

“The center is limiting its capacity to 20 dependents of emergency essential personnel daily and is prioritizing attendance in cooperation with West Point officials and personnel based on changing, daily mission requirements.”

Who is the Army and Air Force Exchange Service Barbershop open to? What protective measures are in place?

“The barbershop will be open by appointment only and will be limited to active duty servicemembers. According to West Point public health officials, one of the chairs has been removed from the facility to provide adequate social distancing, barbers will use a newly laundered cape for each patron, barbers will wear a mask and gloves and will disinfect their equipment and their workspace between customers.

“No customers will be allowed in the facility prior to their appointment, so there will be a maximum of two patrons in the facility at any time.”

What are the restrictions at Lake Frederick and Round Pond recreation areas?

• Lake Frederick remains open for fishing and passive recreation, but is now also open for cabin rentals. Round Pond remains open for fishing and passive recreation, but is now also open for self contained RV camping only.

• There is no tent camping or picnicking for West Point fishing permits, create an online account at https://westpoint.isportsman.net.

• The season opening for recreational swimming is postponed until further notice. This includes Long Pond Swim Area, Round Pond Swim Area and Lake Frederick Swim Area.”

Are lessons and tee times available at the West Point Golf Course?

“The West Point Golf Course has reopened for play. This includes the driving range, and only Grab-N-Go service for food and beverage. The dining room is not available.

“No lessons or clinics will commence this season. To schedule a tee time, visit https://westpoint.armymwr.com/programs/golf-course. Also, please view applicable rules and guidelines at the link before entering the golf course.

“For further questions, or to call ahead for a tee time, dial 845-938-2435.”
New West Point emergency manager starts job during pandemic

Story and photos by Brandon O'Connor
PV Assistant Editor

The emergency manager at West Point is responsible for making sure all organizations on the installation are ready to respond to an emergency. These types of emergencies include terrorist threats like an active shooter situation or a natural disaster.

When George Gilbert started his job as West Point’s new emergency manager May 23, he was immediately thrown into an emergency situation as the COVID-19 pandemic spread throughout the world. The pandemic is what they call a “black swan situation” in the emergency management world, Gilbert said, because it is a low frequency, high impact event.

Gilbert was ready to be thrown into the fire, though, as he had spent the months previous to starting at West Point working in Queens helping to set up contingency hospitals in case the pandemic overwhelmed the medical system. He also had the added experience of having spent 22 years as a Medical Service Corps officer in the Army.

“My experiences down in Queens and working with putting hospitals together and speaking with all the physicians and the infectious disease doctors, you learn a lot about COVID-19. So, I had a background in COVID-19,” Gilbert said.

Along with helping West Point respond to the pandemic, Gilbert’s role will be to focus on “comprehensive emergency management;” he said. That means working with partners on West Point such as Keller Army Community Hospital as well as federal and state agencies to make sure the installation is ready for any emergency.

“One of the things that is key in this role is developing relationships,” Gilbert said. “You would not be successful being a good emergency manager unless you’re able to build those relationships and be able to articulate the need to have these types of exercises. You’re in a resource constrained environment, but also in a very tight training schedule. You’ve got to be able to convince those leaders of the importance of these exercises and the importance of resourcing them.”

Through those partnerships, he will develop emergency action plans that will enable West Point to effectively respond to any occurrence, whether that is an active shooter on post, a snowstorm or a pandemic. Gilbert will also be involved in planning training events such as the daylong active shooter drill that took place last year that brought together internal and external agencies for a full-scale simulation.

“Probably prior to 9/11, (emergency management) was kind of an additional duty. It didn’t get the necessary attention that it deserves and needs,” Gilbert said. “You need somebody focused on not only those high impact, low frequency type events, but you also need somebody focused on the things that happen more frequently and are maybe lower impact. You need somebody focused on those activities and making sure that you have a comprehensive emergency operations plan to address all those different areas.”

Gilbert, who is a certified emergency manager, said working at West Point in this role is his “dream job” because it is a chance to give back to the Army community even though he doesn’t wear a uniform to work every day anymore.

George Gilbert started as West Point’s new emergency manager May 23. George Gilbert spent 22 years as a Medical Service Corps officer in the Army.
DCA entertains Class of 2020 with DJ battle, virtual concerts, more

By Brandon O’Connor
PV Assistant editor

After arriving back at the U.S. Military Academy in late May, the members of the Class of 2020 were divided into cohorts and placed under a 14-day controlled monitoring period before their graduation ceremony June 13.

The precautions put in place to limit any potential spread of COVID-19 upon their return restricted the amount of interaction they could have with their classmates and drastically curtailed how much freedom of movement they had.

To help the members of the class cope and stay entertained while they waited for the end of the controlled monitoring period, the academy’s Directorate of Cadet Activities’ Cultural Arts Department worked to develop activities that would keep the more than 1,100 second lieutenants entertained in their rooms.

Using the technology provided them via Microsoft Teams, DCA was able to put on a virtual DJ battle featuring three local DJs and three concerts featuring notable musicians.

DCA also hosted a movie night featuring “It’s a Wonderful Life” and a video game tournament for the members of the class.

“Realizing that the cadets were going to have to do some social distancing and probably stay in their rooms, we decided to provide entertainment for them during that time period to help promote wellness, discipline and resiliency; and give them some memorable experiences,” Aundrea Matthews, the cultural arts director for the Corps of Cadets, said. “The cadets loved it and thanked us for it and thought it was very good to have something while they were in their room. It gave them some memories.”

The first concert took place June 5 and featured New York native country artist Matt Mulhare as the opener. He was followed by rising country star Riley Green, whose latest hit was “I Wish Grandpas Never Died.” The two artists both played a few songs before Green took part in a question and answer session moderated by Class of 2020 President 2nd Lt. Joshua Phillips.

Green spoke about his career and the role discipline and hard work played in helping him get to where he is. He also added that after the conclusion of his current tour, he hopes to play at West Point in the near future.

The next concert featured Bryan Bautista, who was a semifinalist on season 10 of NBC’s The Voice. He performed for the class June 7.

The final concert of the series featured Isaac Slade, who is the co-founder and lead singer of the band The Fray. It was his first time performing for the Class of 2020, but he had previously visited the academy in 2017 when the current firsties were plebes and performed at the First Class Club.

Slade decided to take a different approach to his concert and instead of staying in one place and playing a few songs, he wandered throughout his neighborhood stopping every once in a while to play hit songs such as “You Found Me.” He also sang a duet with his wife.

As he walked, Slade talked about his life-long journey to find what it means to have a commanding presence and what he has learned from leading his band for almost two decades.

He also discussed his songwriting process and his faith journey that led to his writing of “You Found Me.”

“When the folks over there asked me to be a part of tonight, I was almost overwhelmed with the honor of hanging out with you guys,” Slade said during a question and answer session moderated by Phillips. “I have so much respect for what you’ve already done and what you’re about to do.”

The concert series was the first of its kind by a university and the hope is to continue to leverage technology platforms to develop leaders of character, Matthews said.

The full concerts and question and answer sessions that followed can be found on the Eisenhower Hall Theatre 2020 YouTube page.
2nd Aviation Detachment trains for Cadet Summer Training

Pilots and crewchiefs from the 2nd Aviation Detachment conducted fire bucket qualification and proficiency training at Stilwell Lake in early June in order to provide aerial fire fighting capability to the U.S. Military Academy during Cadet Summer Training.

Photos provided by the 2nd Aviation Detachment
Class of 1970, WPAOG send gift bags to Class of 2020 graduates

The graduating members of the U.S. Military Academy Class of 2020 received gifts from the West Point Association of Graduates and Class of 1970 June 10 prior to their graduation June 13. The gift bag included engraved 2nd Lt. bars donated by the Class of 1970, the 50-year affiliate class; silver dollar coins, coins for their first salute donated by USAA; a selfie stick and car window decal from the Class of 1996, which couldn’t host the first class social this year; a grad guide, which is an updated edition donated by the West Point Association of Graduates; a card from WPAOG that symbolizes the collective congratulations of the entire Long Gray Line; and a personalized letter from members of the Class of 1970 to each and every member of the Class of 2020.

Photos by Nile Clarke/WPAOG
Hold on to your hats ...

Hurricane season is almost here

Submitted by Tom Slater
Ready West Point Coordinator, DPTMS

Hurricane season has arrived. With the 2019 season’s Andrea, Barry and Dorian still fresh on the minds of many, the question is: What will 2020 bring? Like dark clouds on the distant horizon, forecasters at all the major weather centers—including the Old Farmer’s Almanac—are predicting an above average 2020 Atlantic hurricane season with 13-16 named storms, including five hurricanes, with three of them expected to be major: a Category 3 or higher. A typical year, based on weather records that go back to 1950, has 12 tropical storms, of which six are hurricanes. What will the “big one” be named—Arthur, Bertha, Cristobal, Dolly, Edouard or one of the other 16 storm names for 2020?

Last year, for the season that ran from June 1 to Nov. 30, it was the fourth in a consecutive series of above-average and damaging Atlantic hurricane seasons, featuring 18 named storms, including six hurricanes, of which three were major (Category 3, 4, or 5), which caused a total of over $50.2 billion in damages.

The only other period on record that produced four consecutive above-normal seasons was 1998-2001.

Also last year, five tropical cyclones formed in the Gulf of Mexico, which ties a record with 2003 and 1957 for the most storms to form in that region. Of those, three—Barry, Imelda and Nestor—made landfall in the U.S.

“The big lesson from hurricanes and other natural disasters is that we have to be thinking about the unexpected because as we so often learn, the unexpected happens. It takes only one big storm to make landfall to make it a bad season for the east coast.” George Gilbert, West Point Emergency manager, said. “Hurricane season brings for many a grim reminder of the importance of preparedness, our only defense against nature’s unpredictability.

“As we saw firsthand with Sandy, it’s important to remember that tropical storm and hurricane impacts are not limited to the coastline,” he added. “Strong winds, torrential rains, flooding and tornadoes often threaten inland areas far from where the storm first makes landfall.”

History teaches that a lack of hurricane awareness and preparation are common threads among all major hurricane disasters. By knowing what actions you should take, you can reduce the effects of a hurricane on yourself, your family and your property.

The predictions for this year, coupled with the memory of Sandy in 2012 and last year’s major storms should provide the incentive for members of the West Point community to be ready for the next big storm, and that includes preparing pets as well.

Preparedness today can make a big difference down the line, so update your family emergency plan and make sure your emergency kit is stocked. Learn more about how you can prepare for hurricane season at www.ready.gov/hurricanes.

---

New USMA CSM

Command Sgt. Maj. Michael J. Coffey from 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, Ga., has been selected as the U.S. Military Academy command sergeant major. Coffey will replace Command Sgt. Maj. Jack Love.

COURTESY PHOTO
Cadet Summer Training Task Force arrives at West Point

(Above) Soldiers from Fort Polk’s 3rd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division arrive at Stewart Air Base Sunday to begin preparations for West Point’s Cadet Summer Training. The Soldiers will serve as cadre and provide other support to the more than 3,000 West Point cadets undergoing field training throughout the summer.

(Above right and center) Sgt. Andy Medina (center) supervises the offloading of gear from an airplane to a cargo truck as Task Force Ramrod arrives at Stewart Air Base Sunday. “I’m really excited to train with the West Point cadets,” Medina said. “I love training future leaders, and as a medical professional I get to teach them something they can really use.”

(Right) Soldiers from Task Force Ramrod offload gear from an airplane to a cargo truck Sunday.

Photos by Dave Conrad/West Point Garrison PAO
Cadets expand food collection for needy families in Virginia

An update from a story that first appeared in the April 30 Pointer View, a volunteer project, which started as a makeshift food bank for La ColectiVA in March, has continued and the crew of cadets who worked the nuts and bolts of it has now amassed a larger crew to help. Army servicemembers from Walter Reed Hospital are helping as well as 10 kids from the neighborhood. They are now up to feeding 115 families. With help from his mom, Julie Felgar, Class of 2023 Cadet Jack Felgar (bottom right photo, in front), of Falls Church, Va., jumped at the chance to help his mother as she became involved with La ColectiVA. The organization helps the immigrant community in several different facets, including collecting food and donations as many immigrants lost their jobs. Class of 2023 Cadets Ruganzu Divin Mulisa from Rwanda, Cobna Mannah from The Gambia and Ahmad Alshishany from Jordan are all staying with the Felgar family during the pandemic and are helping with the cause. Also helping out is Class of 2023 Cadet Anna Spear. “I believe they are going back (to West Point) better men than they left and they sure have improved their logistics and organizational skills,” Julie Felgar said.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JULIE FELGAR
WASHINGTON—Soldiers now have an added incentive to choose the personally-procured move, or PPM option, when moving to their next duty stations this summer.

Aside from limiting exposure to COVID-19, a revision to the Defense Department’s Joint Travel Regulations has increased the monetary payment to Soldiers who choose to move their household goods.

Through Dec. 31, Soldiers using the PPM program can receive a payment equal to 100 percent of the estimated cost the government would pay to move their items. When Soldiers choose the option, they shoulder the cost and responsibility of packing and moving their belongings themselves and the payment compensates them for those expenses.

The PPM program gives Soldiers an alternative to a traditional permanent-change-of-station move, where a government-contracted moving company ships their household goods to their new duty station.

With more Soldiers expected to make PCS moves during the latter part of the peak moving season, an updated policy couldn’t have come at a more opportune time, said Larry Lock, Army compensation and entitlements chief G-1.

While much of the country remains under COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, making a PPM might be the more practical option for some Soldiers and their families, he said. Safety restrictions vary by state and commercial movers will be heavily tasked, he added.

The change could help increase the number of PCS moves in what the Army’s G-4 predicts will be a busier moving season. Moving more Soldiers to their new duty stations helps the Army maintain readiness and meet its global force requirements, said Derrick Candler, chief of Transportation Policy Division, G-4.

“Industry may face challenges to support this huge increase during the summer season,” Candler said. “This initiative can help increase the number of moves to ensure our people can get to their next duty station as quickly as possible. This will have positive effects on the entire Army and DOD. The PPM also reduces the strain on families and moving companies.”

As part of the continued efforts to improve quality of life for its military families, the Defense Travel Management Office had pursued the change to ease the burden of families who prefer the PPM over a traditional move, Lock said. He added that PPM moves typically result in a cost savings for the government and the policy update will pass those savings onto the families.

In April, the DOD signed a $7.2 billion contract with a single company, New Jersey-based American Roll-On Roll-Off Carrier Group, to move household goods for the military.

After Dec. 31, Candler said the policy will be re-evaluated in conjunction with each military branch on whether the reimbursable costs will remain at 100 percent or return to 95 percent.

The DOD has made monetary allowance payments of 95 percent for PPMs since 1998 when it bumped the sum up from 80 percent. Candler said that each service must collectively agree to make the change permanent.

“We’re hoping based on this change and the moves that take place during the summer, that we can justify continuing this,” he said. “All the services benefit from this increase.”

Lock said typically younger, single Soldiers, or young couples with no children choose the PPM option. Soldiers with more time in service and those with larger families often choose to have their household items shipped by a government contractor.

Soldiers who fall under an exception must travel with printed copies of the approved exception to policy. Soldiers exempt from travel restrictions will be required to carry a memorandum signed by their supervisor that states the reason for exemption.

Soldiers and civilians enrolled in military education programs qualify as exempt from travel restrictions and do not require an exception to policy. These programs include officer training and education programs, non-commissioned officer professional development and specialty training programs and civilian training, education and development programs.
Keller Corner: Update on Coronavirus

KACH begins ‘Return to Readiness’

By Robert K. Lanier
Public Affairs Officer, Keller Army Community Hospital

Keller Army Community Hospital is pleased to announce that it is slowly reopening in order to provide more robust “outpatient” and “specialty” services to our beneficiaries.

On a weekly basis, KACH is validating its processes to make sure it can provide the highest quality of care in a safe environment.

On June 15, KACH began seeing active duty Soldiers and cadets for non-urgent readiness care. Moving forward, each week it will reassess its ability to open for greater elective face-to-face appointments for all beneficiary categories and anticipate that it will be able to meet all its beneficiaries’ needs shortly.

During this period, KACH will continue to provide urgent care and emergent care. Additionally, it will continue to offer its beneficiaries telephonic and virtual appointments to meet routine care needs and provide concierge services such as its in-car pharmacy dispensing program.

For a one-stop shop of all updated coronavirus information, Keller Army Community Hospital notifications, how to stop the spread of COVID-19, federal/state/local guidance and the U.S. Military Academy and Army Garrison West Point webpages, visit https://kach.amedd.army.mil/West-Point-COVID-19-INFO/.

The Keller Army Community Hospital will continue to provide beneficiaries with ‘in-car’ pharmacy dispensing.

This service is available during the pharmacy hours, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

This program allows Keller to free up space in our waiting rooms. In doing so, we can maintain social distancing and reduce the possibility of in-hospital COVID-19 transmission.

Beneficiaries will need to call the pharmacy to ensure we have your medications filled prior to coming to the pharmacy.

Refill prescriptions can still be called into the refill line for pick up after two business days.

When you arrive at the pharmacy, pull in to one of the numbered pharmacy parking spaces and call the pharmacy at 845-938-2271/6199/3812 to have a hospital representative bring out your medications to you.

Additional information:

• If you have hardcopy (paper) prescriptions, let us know when you arrive and we will come collect them.
• If you are picking up controlled substances, please bring your own pen to use when signing for your medications.

We thank you and appreciate your patience as team West Point continues to provide an environment of safe and patient-centered health care.
COVID-19: MWR facility and program updates

The following services are open (updated):
- Army Community Service (ACS)—Call ACS at 845-938-4621.
- Automotive Center—It is open for “Self-Help” patrons and “Fleet Services” only. For complete details, visit https://westpoint.armymwr.com/programs/automotive-center.
- CYS Parent Central Services—The CYS Parent Central Services is open by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, call 845-938-2140. In addition, it is open 11 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Monday through Sunday for food delivery and pick up.
- Lake Frederick Recreation Area—It remains open for fishing and passive recreation, but now is also open for cabin rentals.
- West Point Bowling Center—Lanes are now open (pay per hour), but currently available by reservation only. To make reservations, call 845-938-2140. In addition, it is open 11 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Monday through Sunday for food delivery and pick up.
- Round Pond Recreation Area—Permitted fishing and passive recreation only, but now is also open for Self Contained RV Camping Only. No camping or picnicking allowed. For West Point fishing permits, create an online account at https://westpoint.armymwr.com/programs/mwr-fishing-center.
- Leisure Travel Services—It is now open by appointment only. Call 845-938-3601.
- Morgan Farm—It remains open for pet grooming and pet kenneling, but now is also open for horseback riding lessons and horse boarding. For details, call 845-938-3926.
- Camping—The CDC is open for key and essential customers only. Eligible patrons have received direct notification via their Chain of Command.
- West Point Golf Course—It is open for play, to include the driving range and “take out only” food/beverage service. No clinics, lessons or events for the season. For tee times available by reservation only. To make reservations, call 845-938-3926.
- Morgan Farm—It remains open for pet grooming and pet kenneling, but now is also open for horseback riding lessons and horse boarding. For details, call 845-938-3926.
- Stony Child Development Center—The CDC is open for key and essential customers only. Eligible patrons have received direct notification via their Chain of Command.
- West Point Fishing permits, create an online account at https://westpoint.armymwr.com/programs/mwr-fishing-center.
- Leisure Travel Services—It is now open by appointment only. Call 845-938-3601.
- Morgan Farm—It remains open for pet grooming and pet kenneling, but now is also open for horseback riding lessons and horse boarding. For details, call 845-938-3926.
- Stony Child Development Center—The CDC is open for key and essential customers only. Eligible patrons have received direct notification via their Chain of Command.
- West Point Golf Course—It is open for play, to include the driving range and “take out only” food/beverage service. No clinics, lessons or events for the season. For tee times available by reservation only. To make reservations, call 845-938-3926.
- Morgan Farm—It remains open for pet grooming and pet kenneling, but now is also open for horseback riding lessons and horse boarding. For details, call 845-938-3926.
- Stony Child Development Center—The CDC is open for key and essential customers only. Eligible patrons have received direct notification via their Chain of Command.
- West Point Fishing permits, create an online account at https://westpoint.armymwr.com/programs/mwr-fishing-center.

The following services are closed or canceled (until further notice):
- Arts & Crafts—Classes are canceled. Virtual classes are available via the Arts & Crafts Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/westpointartsandcrafts.
- BOSS.
- CYS (All programs closed except for Stony CDC and Parent Central Services, see above)—All Youth Sports and Instructional programs for the Spring season are canceled. CYS staff is currently refunding/giving household credits in accordance with IMCOM guidance. SAC Summer Camp canceled through July 3. Re-assessment decision will be July 6 for remainder of summer.
- Intramural Sports.
- Outdoor Recreation—All tent camping remains canceled until further notice. The Bull Pond lottery reservation is postponed until further notice.
- Recreational Swimming
  - Season opening postponed until further notice. This includes Long Pond Swim Area, Round Pond Swim Area, Lake Frederick Swim Area, and Crandall Pool inside Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center.
  - Tronsrue Marksmanship Center—Closed, all classes are canceled.
- West Point Club:
  - Dinner-To-Go is closed.
  - All events and personal reservations are canceled currently.

Please check the MWR facebook page for updates as things progress at https://www.facebook.com/westpointmwr.

COMMUNITY TAX CENTER closed and IRS extension
The West Point Tax Center is officially closed. However, the IRS has extended the federal income tax filing and payment deadlines. In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the IRS is automatically extending the federal income tax filing and payment deadlines until July 15. This extension applies to all taxpayers, including individuals, trusts and estates, corporations and other non-corporate tax filers as well as those who pay self-employment tax.

Taxpayers do not need to file any additional forms or call the IRS to qualify for this automatic federal tax filing and payment relief.

Please note, the extension does not apply to state income tax filings or payments. Check with your state of residence for state income tax filing and payment deadlines.


COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

West Point Commissary hours change for July 4
The West Point Commissary is open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. July 4. As a reminder, customers will not be allowed in the commissary without a face mask.

West Point-Town of the Highlands Farmers Market
The West Point-Town of the Highlands Farmers Market has returned for the 2020 season. The farmers market takes place from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Sundays on Main Street in Highland Falls, across from the West Point Visitors Center. The farmers market is scheduled to run through October.

This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the following policies must be rendered: face masks are required, follow designated paths, social distance by staying six-feet apart, no sampling or handling, no children or pets and no lingering/loitering. See below for this week’s vendors.

West Point Tax Center closed and IRS extension
The West Point Tax Center is officially closed. However, the IRS has extended the federal income tax filing and payment deadlines. In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the IRS is automatically extending the federal income tax filing and payment deadlines until July 15. This extension applies to all taxpayers, including individuals, trusts and estates, corporations and other non-corporate tax filers as well as those who pay self-employment tax.

Taxpayers do not need to file any additional forms or call the IRS to qualify for this automatic federal tax filing and payment relief.

Please note, the extension does not apply to state income tax filings or payments. Check with your state of residence for state income tax filing and payment deadlines.

Men’s Basketball to compete in Hall of Fame Invitational

The Army West Point men’s basketball team was selected as one of eight teams to compete in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame Invitational on Dec. 13, 2020 at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn, New York. The one-day quadruple-header will feature Penn State vs. Florida, Purdue vs. West Virginia, Stanford vs. Georgia Tech and Army vs. Princeton.

“It is an amazing opportunity for our men’s basketball program to be a part of an event like the Basketball Hall of Fame Invitational,” Army West Point Director of Athletics Mike Buddie said. “Playing at the Barclays Center will be a tremendous experience for our cadets and we look forward to seeing them compete.”

“It’s an honor for our program to play in the Basketball Hall of Fame Invitational at Barclays Center,” Head Men’s Basketball Coach Jimmy Allen added. “Having the opportunity to play in a venue like Barclays Center and against a quality opponent like Princeton will be great for our program.”

Army and Princeton have squared off a total of 36 times and this will be their first neutral site matchup since Mike Krzyzewski coached the Black Knights to a 53-52 victory on Dec. 29, 1979 in Honolulu, Hawaii, at the Rainbow Classic. Army is 2-1 all-time against the Tigers in neutral site contests.

The last time the two sides met on the hardwood was on Nov. 20, 2009 when the Cadets bested the Tigers, 56-52, at Jadwin Gymnasium in Princeton, New Jersey.

The December non-league contest will mark the first-ever game at the Barclays Center for Army.

“The Basketball Hall of Fame is excited to return to one of the greatest basketball cities in the world,” said John L. Doleva, President and CEO of the Basketball Hall of Fame. “Barclays Center is a beautiful world-class arena and we are proud to provide this unique experience to the eight teams participating and their fans.”

The Basketball Hall of Fame Invitational is one event in the Hall of Fame’s series of collegiate events, which continues to grow in an effort to celebrate the game outside the museum walls.

The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame is proud to continue its relationship with Learfield IMG College for sponsorship representation of its portfolio of collegiate events.

Ticket information, game times and television broadcast details and will be released at a later date. As the health and safety of the athletes, fans and staff is of the utmost importance, the Basketball Hall of Fame will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation closely in the coming months and provide updates as needed.
Madson honored as Atlantic Hockey’s student-athlete of the year

By Ally Keirn
Army Athletic Communications

Ten members of the Army West Point hockey team were named to the 2019-20 Atlantic Hockey All-Academic Team. Blaine Madson was highlighted as the Student-Athlete of the Year with a 4.0 grade-point average in both semesters.

“We are very proud of Blaine for being chosen as this year’s the Atlantic Hockey Student-Athlete of the Year,” said head coach Brian Riley. “He represented our program in such a positive way on and off the ice. It’s great to see these players recognized for their achievements in the classroom.”

Madson posted consecutive semesters with a GPA greater than 4.0, 4.02 in the first semester and 4.14 in the second semester, for a 4.08 grade point average, the highest of all players in Atlantic Hockey this season.

To qualify for the All-Academic Team, a student-athlete must post a 3.0 GPA or better in the semesters in which he was competing.

The Black Knights represented on the All-Academic Team included freshman John Keranen, sophomores Madson and Marshal Plunkett, juniors Matt Berkovitz, Mason Krueger and John Zimmerman, as well as seniors Zach Evancho, Bryan Gerstenfeld, Matt Penta and Alex Wilkinson.

Sports calendar

NO ARMY WEST POINT GAMES SCHEDULED UNTIL NEXT SEASON.
Hello Guys,

As you got ready to graduate (last) Saturday, I wanted to write and let you know how proud I am of each of you and what you mean to our basketball program and the academy. From your R-Day four years ago, until now, each of you has helped us build a winning culture and you leave our program poised to continue making history. You have set the bar higher for every class that follows you both on the court and off.

For me, it has been extra special because your arrival coincided with my first season as a head coach here at West Point. To a man, you have all impacted our program in positive ways.

We began your senior season talking about what we wanted this year to be about and you decided it was... RESPECT THE TEAM, RESPECT THE GAME, FINISH. Although those were our team core values this past season, you all have lived that throughout your time as cadets. It is not a coincidence that those were the values you ultimately came up with.

Respect the Team

In your words this meant understanding how everyone’s actions on and off the court would impact our success. You set examples of this as cadets in your companies, in the corps and on our team.

You exemplified this at different times throughout your four years. I remember getting an email from our commandant during your Beast Barracks saying that she had been marching with Keeston Smith and how impressed she was with his positive attitude. I remember Matt Wilson during his summer detail last year finding a pair of shoes for a plebe who somehow managed not to bring any. There was Tommy Funk driving back from the New Jersey shore during his leave to be with our incoming Plebes on R-Day.

You took younger teammates and counseled them when they were struggling and you gave up your free time to host recruits. You led our team to break academic records in the classroom all four years. There are so many other memories, but ultimately what I will remember the most is that you took every opportunity during your four years to make choices that make not only our team better but the larger team you were a part of better as well.

Respect the Game

You guys led our scout team, stepped into drills, rebounded for teammates, broke individual records and because of all those things our program set team milestones. You set the standard for how to prepare for success in your job. Setting the right example as a leader is what will allow you to hold your teammates accountable. You guys have proven that you respect the game and your example will be contagious moving forward just like it has been in our program.

As I listened to each of you speak at our “virtual banquet” it was so clear that you are all ready and prepared to lead the men and women of our Army. I want to finish by saying congratulations on your graduation from West Point! I have truly enjoyed being a part of your journey. You each helped me grow as a coach, leader and most of all, as a person. You have done the same with everyone in our program. I cannot wait to see what the future holds for each of you.

Respect the Game. As you already know, your experience in this area translates into respecting the process. Your attention to detail, doing the little things consistently and being ready to compete on a daily basis will lead to success in your job. Setting the right example as a leader is what will allow you to hold your teammates accountable. You guys have proven that you respect the game and your example will be contagious moving forward just like it has been in our program.

Finish. Each of you has finished every challenge put in front of you. It doesn’t always turn out exactly the way we hope. But you know that what matters is the person you become in the process. You are incredibly resilient men and that resiliency has become a staple in our program.

As a class, your leadership allowed this program to tie the program record for games won in the Patriot League season and you leave with the most wins by a class versus Navy. You also set the program record for wins against the other service academies.

Respect the team. You are going to be leaders on the greatest team in America. You have exemplified what being a selfless leader is all about and have shown that you understand what respecting the team means. You know that how you treat people and your choices on a daily basis will impact the team. You have grown into amazing teammates and leaders that men and women will follow.

I love you guys!!
Coach Allen