

West Point

FALL 2014



In This Issue:
West Point Admissions
"The Corps Starts Here!"



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The Thayer Leader Development Group at West Point

As graduates and former leaders of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, we intimately understand the need to bring more visitors to West Point. Increasing tourism to West Point is in the best interests of the U.S. Military Academy, the U.S. Army and the nation.

Reaching out to the public and gaining exposure to our Alma Mater will help increase applications from the best and the brightest, and help bring potential financial contributors to West Point to help maintain our margin of excellence in academics, physical training and the moral development of tomorrow's leaders of character.

Making a meaningful impact on guests begins with their stay at The Historic Thayer Hotel at West Point. To achieve this, the Hotel has recently undergone a multi-million dollar renovation including the addition of 23 new executive suites and is showcasing some of our most inspirational graduates through a room dedication program in which each guest room is named after a graduate. Learn more about the room dedication program at rdp.thethayerhotel.com

Yet, most important is the founding of the **Thayer Leader Development Group at West Point (TLDG)**. TLDG has hosted corporate conferences and leadership training for hundreds of companies at The Historic Thayer Hotel at West Point. Most executives attending these programs have never had any military experience or

exposure to West Point. These executives are walking away from their experience at TLDG with a new found love and respect for the Armed Forces of the United States and the great work being done here at West Point. Many senior management teams in the Fortune 500 have now visited West Point to either host their own corporate conference at The Hotel or to attend leadership training at TLDG. The average rating from C-Suite executives from these great corporations is 9.5 out of 10 in terms of content, faculty, facilities and overall atmosphere of the program.

*We encourage
all graduates to bring
your friends, family
and business teams to
West Point for either
corporate conferences
or tourism...*

We are confident that TLDG will add value to your team and will also significantly contribute to enhancing West Point's image throughout this great country. Contact Rick Minicozzi, '86, Managing General Partner, rick.minicozzi@thayerleaderdevelopment.com or Bill Murdy, '64, Chairman of the Board, wfmurdy@thayerleaderdevelopment.com to

discuss how TLDG can tailor a program that suits your organization's needs.

The seven of us encourage all graduates to bring your friends, family and business teams to West Point for either corporate conferences or tourism, to ensure that USMA's reputation continues to be lauded throughout the United States. These are the ideas and the results that we, as former leaders of West Point, envisioned when The Historic Thayer Hotel was privatized.

GO ARMY!

RESPECTFULLY,

**LTG (ret)
Dan Christman**

Former
Superintendent
of West Point



USMA '65

**LTG (ret) Buster
Hagenbeck**

Former
Superintendent of
West Point



USMA '71

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USMA '59

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USMA '67

**Mr. Jack
Hammack**

Former Chairman
of the Board,
Association of
Graduates



USMA '49

West Point

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

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LETTERS

Dear Fellow Graduates:

I want to start off by welcoming the 1,200 members of the Class of 2018, along with their immediate families, to the West Point family of graduates in the Long Gray Line. We look forward to helping you succeed in the next few years as a cadet, and throughout your lives as graduates of this national treasure we call our Alma Mater—West Point. It's great to have you join our ranks! Thanks also to the Class of '68 for all you're doing as part of WPAOG's 50-Year Affiliation Program.

Two words come quickly to mind in describing life at West Point this fall, and they are *focus* and *purpose*. I see evidence of them every day as I walk around campus, particularly in our sports teams as they prepare for upcoming contests. I certainly see this mindset on the faces of the football players and head football coach Monken, but the attitude resides throughout the Corps and across the entire Academy staff. It starts at the top with our Superintendent, Lieutenant General Robert Caslen '75. Our Athletic Director, Boo Corrigan, and his entire staff have provided focus and purpose so that our athletic teams can be successful in any venue. As an example, last year, for the first time in nearly a decade, Army won the majority of head-to-head sports contests—star matches—against Navy, and I'm convinced that the focus and purpose I see at the Academy and throughout the Corps will help Army win on the second Saturday afternoon in December in Baltimore. Count on it.

Every year the West Point Association of Graduates presents its highest honor, the Thayer Award, to a deserving American who exemplifies West Point's motto "Duty, Honor, Country," as well as the Distinguished Graduate Award (DGA) to graduates whose career has likewise been exemplary. The selection committees meet in January, but nominations are due by November 3. Any graduate may nominate a great American for the Thayer Award, but we ask that classes or societies nominate graduates for the DGA. Make it tough on the selection committees by sending us strong candidates, and please contact me if you have questions.

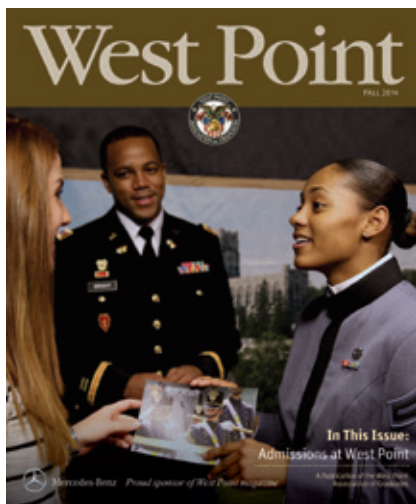
Finally, the end of 2015 will mark the close of *For Us All: The Campaign for West Point*. Over the past six years, since 2009, graduates and friends have pledged and given more than \$350 million toward Margin of Excellence needs at USMA and WPAOG. This is a record, and on behalf of the Superintendent, and particularly the cadets, I thank everyone who has stepped forward to make West Point better through this campaign. If you have not done so, I encourage EVERYONE to become a donor of record before the end of the campaign.

West Point, for Thee!



Bob McClure '76
President & CEO
West Point AOG





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NEW ONLINE

To access web pages and videos, scan the codes at right with your phone's camera using a QR code reader app.



Watch CDT Nicole Zajimovic talk about her experience meeting the 2013 Thayer Award recipient.



Watch the Class of 2018 enter West Point on R-Day!



Learn how middle school students used a West Point LEADS Workshop to enhance their STEM skills.

From Your West Point
Association of Graduates

Send your thoughts about *West Point* magazine to editor@wpaog.org or @WPAOG on Twitter. View the online version of this magazine at WestPointAOG.org/wpmag

A Letter From the Superintendent

West Point greeted the newest members of the Long Gray Line in July.



The Class of 2018 arrived on a stormy R-Day and placed themselves under the care and tutelage of the upper-class cadre. Much has changed about the Academy over the past several years, but Old Grads would still be familiar with the rituals practiced in that rite of passage.

The Class of 2018 is the most competitive and

diverse we have ever admitted. The class emerged from 15,060 applicants, of whom 4,050 were nominated and 2,440 deemed qualified. Of those, just 1,212 were offered admission. Collectively they averaged 1270 on the Scholastic Aptitude Test. Among their ranks are 82 high school valedictorians, 109 class presidents, 765 sports team captains and 1,055 varsity letter winners. The class also includes 14 international cadets and 17 combat veterans of our wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

For quite some time now, the Directorate of Admissions and the Admissions Committee have worked hard to make incoming classes more diverse while maintaining or improving overall merit in terms of academic achievement, physical aptitude and leadership potential. While we have been harvesting the fruits of those efforts over the past several years, the Class of 2018 represents a bumper crop: 94 Asian-Pacific Americans comprise 7.8 percent of the total; Hispanic Americans make up 10 percent with 122 new cadets; 14 percent (169 new cadets) are African American and 264 women comprise 21.8 percent of the class. These admissions all contribute to a record minority enrollment for West Point in terms of raw numbers and percentages. The percentages of women and African Americans represent especially significant increases.

We have been making these efforts to increase diversity for a number of reasons. One is that we believe the Corps of Cadets needs to better represent of the society from which they come. These young men and women are entering a profession that serves the American people. Over the last 40 years, the all-volunteer Army became what our Nation provided, but it was not necessarily what the Nation was. The American people are the clients of our Profession of Arms. It is therefore important that our Army represent what our Nation is, or we risk

becoming illegitimate within certain geographic and ethnic groups of our country. Therefore, it is important that the American people be appropriately represented at West Point, so long as they can meet the exacting standards of the Academy and the military profession. We also believe our graduates should better represent of the Army and the Soldiers they will lead. Ethnic minorities have long been well represented in our enlisted ranks. We are moving to ensure that they will be better represented in the officer corps as well. Finally, policy changes in the Army and the Department of Defense have opened a far broader array of opportunities to women in the force. The combat exclusion rule is being phased out—women will be eligible to serve in all combat arms by the time the Class of 2018 graduates. We wanted to anticipate that change with our admissions policies, and we were fortunate to have a record number of fully qualified women applicants for this class.

I have had the privilege to lead members of this generation in Iraq and Afghanistan—a generation that has sent one million men and women into the fight over the past 13 years. Time and again the Nation has called and they have answered, completing complex and difficult missions. They do not flinch; they do not falter. They quietly count themselves among the generations that have gone before them, standing in the gap between the evil that is out there and the values of our country. And when the first mission is done they willingly return to shoulder the burden again and again. When someone tells you that America is not what it used to be, take a look at this generation. They are the finest our Nation has to offer and they have served nobly and selflessly over the past decade and more of war. You can be unreservedly proud of your sons and daughters, grandsons and granddaughters who have given so much to their country.

Now it is time for the Class of 2018 to begin the journey that will have them leading their generation in the unforeseeable challenges and uncertain environments that lay ahead for our Nation. Rest assured, like the Long Gray Line in whose footsteps they follow, they will be ready when it is their turn to answer the call to arms.

Go Army! Beat Navy!

Robert L. Caslen Jr. '75
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army
59th Superintendent, U.S. Military Academy

Make History



Experience leadership and ethics education based on the Army's leadership framework of "Be, Know, Do" by bringing your team to the inspirational venue of The Historic Thayer Hotel at West Point

The Thayer Leader Development Group (TLDG) was founded in 2010 and is based at the Historic Thayer Hotel at West Point. Dr. Karen Kuhla, Executive Director of Education, joined TLDG from GE, where she led global leadership development programs. Dr. Kuhla has assembled a world-class faculty to teach leadership and ethics based on the Army's leadership framework of "Be, Know, Do" to help develop full-time leaders of character. Almost all faculty are West Point graduates, have deep military experience and Ph.D.s, and are well-known authors and experts in their respective disciplines.



"The training and development conducted by TLDG was truly outstanding. All of us came away energized by what we learned and ready to take on the next leadership challenge. The topics taught were impactful, and the instructors were inspiring. I highly recommend this program for anyone looking to invest in the leadership development of their team."

—Joe DePinto, CEO, 7-Eleven (USMA '86)

The combined efforts of Dr. Kuhla and her world-class team have earned TLDG the honor of being ranked as one of the top 50 large leader development consulting companies, along with such organizations as Korn/Ferry, Ken Blanchard, Deloitte/Leadership, Goldman Sachs Group, IBM, and Accenture.

TLDG has hosted over 100 corporate, non-profit, and educational organizations, by offering both customized and open-enrollment programs to over 3,500 leaders and students of leadership, at all levels. Many clients have limited military experience and most have preconceived opinions of what leadership is like in the military. Feedback from after-action reviews and assessments have shown that the training is consistently considered the best they have ever received, and they have a newly gained perspective and respect for our U.S. military and its leadership.



"I cannot tell you enough how much I support TLDG. The lessons, fully grounded in the latest leadership research and combat-tested, are lessons not only relevant but desperately needed in Corporate America! Values-based leadership...it is sorely lacking and in my opinion only one institution can credibly deliver that message."

—Stephen Cannon, CEO, Mercedes-Benz, USA (USMA '86)

All groups receive a customized experience, based on a unique 4-pronged approach to development. Programs can include any combination of the offerings. You may experience academic excellence in the classroom, around topics one would expect to hear about developing leaders of character, along with experiential learning activities such as crewing on the Hudson River, staff rides of the Battle of Stony Point, and orienteering. Clients are offered the opportunity to have retired General Officers (West Point graduates) serve as full-time mentors/facilitators through the Senior Advisor Program. Also available is a stellar cadre of Keynote Speakers who provide compelling, inspirational addresses, with messaging specific to your objectives. Programs can range from 1 day to 1 week or more, over the course of multiple months. The decision is yours.



"There is nothing more important to P&G's continued success than the development of strong leaders with character, values, and capabilities required to lead. And your team's personal commitment to tailoring this event to our unique needs is what made it work...Thank you for a truly outstanding experience."

—Robert McDonald, former Chairman & CEO, Procter & Gamble (USMA '75)

West Point, referred to as the "Key to the Continent" by General George Washington, is where you will find the Historic Thayer Hotel. The Hotel and its views of the majestic Hudson are inspirational. The Hotel has recently completed a multi-million dollar renovation including world-class conference facilities, and remains one of the most inspirational properties in the United States. In addition to tapping into this venue for a one-of-a-kind leader development experience, many companies also choose to host their corporate meetings there.

Bring your team home to West Point and share with them the lessons that have helped shape you as a leader. This will show pride in your Alma Mater and also give exposure to many individuals who might not have had the opportunity to visit West Point. The experience will continue to have positive cascading effects on us all. Please contact TLDG at your convenience, to discuss your objectives and explore how TLDG might be of value to your team. www.ThayerLeaderDevelopment.com or 845-446-4731 ext. 7970

William F. Murdy, USMA '64
Chairman of the Board,
Thayer Leader Development Group

Rick Minicozzi, USMA '86
Managing General Partner,
Thayer Leader Development Group

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The Line Forms Here: USMA Admissions

By Keith J. Hamel, WPAOG staff

Many have wondered: when does the Long Gray Line begin? Certainly, one cannot be a candidate for membership in the Long Gray Line without being admitted to the Academy, so the West Point Admissions Office and its admittance process has some say in the answer. And what a process it is! Applying to West Point is unlike applying to any other college in America (save the other service academies). Other colleges are seeking the best students possible; West Point is seeking that and so much more. Not only must candidates to West Point demonstrate a potential to be great students, but they must also prove that they have the capability to develop the character, competence and commitment qualities needed to lead honorably in the Corps of Cadets and later in the Army. Other colleges have applications requirements typically determined by a committee; West Point has admission qualifications specified by federal law. Not only must candidates have a high GPA, competitive standardized test scores and a number of academic or extracurricular activities noted in his or her file; they need to pass West Point's "can't be/must be" tests—can't be married, can't be pregnant, must be in good physical health, must be nominated in order to compete for admission, etc. Other colleges request an application essay and perhaps writing samples from its applicants; check out what West Point requires: West Point Admissions mandates that letters of recommendation come from a

candidate's English, math and science teachers (no one can submit a letter from that elective-course teacher who hands out "A"s to all students); West Point Admissions mandates that all candidates prove their strength, endurance and agility on the Candidate Fitness Assessment (no one gets in without throwing a basketball from his or her knees a certain distance); and West Point Admissions, following Department of Defense requirements for a Soldier, mandates that all candidates pass a medical examination in order to enter the Academy (no one can be color blind, use hearing aids or wear braces). Despite all these demanding entry requirements, thousands of candidates apply to become cadets. For the Class of 2018, more than 15,060 applications were started, but only 1,212 are now plebes toeing the back of the Long Gray Line.

Finding this select 8 percent takes a 100 percent effort from numerous sources. This issue of *West Point* magazine explores the many people and processes in place to bring the preeminent and the promising to the Academy. It begins with the West Point Admissions Office, examining its structure, its standards and its seasons for recruiting candidates to the Corps. It also details the Summer Leaders Experience, an Admissions program designed to introduce prospective candidates to the rigors of the academic, military, athletic and leadership life they can expect to experience as a cadet at West Point. Another article looks at the current

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Superintendent's initiative to increase the number of minority and female candidates who apply to and subsequently attend the Academy. West Point fosters minority recruiting by reaching out to promising students at the middle school level in certain cities through its LEADS program, which is also covered in this issue. Looking at the national scope of the admissions process, this issue also covers West Point's Field Force—a team of civilian volunteers, Military Academy Liaison Officers and West Point Society members who work with the Regional Commanders of the Admissions Office to identify and enroll highly qualified high school students as candidates to West Point. One way the Field Force assists candidates is by helping them navigate the niche world of nominations, needed for a complete application to West Point. Lastly, there is an article on the USMA Prep School, which provides a one-year curriculum of academic, physical and military challenges that exists to prepare near-qualified candidates for success as cadets should they reapply for admission to USMA, as well as an overview of WPAOG's West Point Preparatory School Scholarship Program, which makes it possible for interested prospects to attend a prep school in order to meet the criteria needed to apply for admission to USMA.

After reading this issue, one thing should be clear: for those seeking membership in Long Gray Line, the line forms at West Point Admissions. ★



A father and three candidates stop by the West Point Admissions Office.

West Point

MAGAZINE

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10/18/14	Kent State	Cleveland
11/15/14	Western Kentucky	Middle Tennessee



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On April 11, 2014, cherry blossoms were in bloom along with the minds of capital region middle school students who attended the Leadership Ethics and Diversity in STEM (LEADS) workshop at Howard University.

Hosted by the West Point Society of Washington, DC, the workshop aimed to motivate students in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) while teaching the habits of honorable living and ethical decision making. The workshop, administered by West Point's Mathematics and Engineering departments, had more than 40 schools with 220 teachers and student delegates in attendance.

The early spring morning began with welcoming words from USMA Superintendent Lieutenant General Robert Caslen '75. The academically-charged speech geared towards the young crowd sparked enthusiasm in Howard University's Blackburn Center, kicking off a day full of learning and team building. Cadets from USMA and the Howard ROTC unit were then introduced as delegate mentors for the students, and facilitated various breakout sessions divided amongst 6th, 7th and 8th graders. Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Johnson, Associate Professor and Director, Center for Leadership and Diversity in STEM, guided the session on how to build model trusses and bridges while cadet mentors conducted the adjacent tower building session using uncooked spaghetti and marshmallows. The "Nanoexpress," situated outside, welcomed students on board with nanotechnology demonstrations that illuminated the mind and dazzled the eye. Upstairs, 8th graders wrote ethical essays and scripted role-playing acts in preparation for the final session later in the afternoon. Under the leadership of Dr. Kendall Jackson, Assistant Professor of Math at USMA, 6th and 7th graders built fully operational robotic vehicles which left students amazed by their results. "They were given a set of directions and a hundred or so small pieces and ended up with a completely assembled, programmable robot that they built independently.

This is quite an accomplishment for a child who has the perception that such things are only built by adult engineers," says Jackson. As the older children focused on ethics and the younger on technology, the theme was constant: inspire and motivate young people to develop talents at an



West Point LEADS The Way

By **Anthony DiNoto**, WPAOG staff



Students build model bridges and robots using STEM skills taught by USMA staff and cadets.

early age to meet the future challenges in STEM fields. Not only was there a constant theme throughout the day, but student movement to each station flowed like the Potomac through the nation's capital, as leadership, ethics, and diversity formed tributaries to STEM education.

The LEADS program targets underrepresented population groups in regions across the nation, offering additional encouragement to motivate students to take an interest in areas that show rapidly declining expertise in the United States. "If you look at our top fields—medical, technological, engineering—they're no longer dominated by Americans, and we need to rebuild that in the U.S." says Major Betty Myrthil '02, Admissions Diversity Officer. "Additionally, we found through extensive research that in order to increase diversity in STEM fields, we need to reach out to middle school students and build a pipeline that extends into their high school years." That pipeline is built on a foundation of a West Point brand, with the LEADS program at the forefront. Although the program is structured and operated by West Point academic departments, organizations and societies, the goal is not to recruit for West Point; its purpose is to build relationships with middle school students and guide them down a path to college at an early age while staying motivated academically. Through outreach, inclusion and exposure, the program offers students access to community leaders, industry and government professionals, current and future military service leaders, and educational options that were not previously afforded to them. To some, this invaluable exposure is viewed as the most beneficial aspect of the LEADS program.

The day's events culminated with an awards ceremony, but not before students acted out ethical conflicts as a measure of the shift in thought process. Students took to the stage and presented their dilemmas, sometimes humorous, with outcomes that depicted their

understanding of ethical decision making. "As we enrich the nation's citizens with STEM education, it is essential that we prepare them to make ethical decisions in their dealings with STEM-related choices," says Pat Locke '80, whose title in regards to the LEADS program can be anything from Coordinator to Overseer to Orchestrator. She travels the country extensively, meeting with West Point Societies and local organizations to raise awareness of LEADS in cities that could benefit tremendously from the workshops. According to Locke, the higher the STEM competence level, the more critical it is for the citizen to have acquired the habits of ethical decision making, and reaching students in their middle school years is the first step in the process. "Having to learn ethical decision making along with getting to know your fellow teammates is very important to STEM workshops," she says. At Howard, students overcame these challenges by bonding with one another and working as a team to complete the tasks delegated by their cadet mentors—the men and women who continue to inspire, lead and impact the young children involved in the program across the United States.

Locke ensures continual support of the LEADS program through partnerships with local West Point Societies and community organizations that already have programs designed to increase STEM or leadership development. The National Society of Black Engineers implements programs that help students develop their engineering skills from the 6th grade through 12th, while Rotary International has Interact Clubs, which place emphasis on leadership development across a wide range of efforts.

Howard University, founded by Oliver O. Howard, USMA Class of 1854, is just one of the many locations around the nation that hosts West Point LEADS workshops. This October, the West Point Society of Michigan will welcome the program in Detroit and is anticipating a turnout that builds on Howard's spring event. ★

"This is quite an accomplishment for a child who has the perception that such things are only built by adult engineers."

— Dr. Kendall Jackson,
Assistant Professor of Math at USMA



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While the United States Military Academy has been around for more than 200 years, the West Point Admissions office is relatively young, having only been stood up in 1958. In its 50-plus years, West Point Admissions has standardized a sophisticated system for informing, inspiring and selecting qualified applicants to attend USMA. During this time, the Admissions office has celebrated major achievements (such as reversing the recruiting crisis of the 1940s and 1950s and founding the Military Academy Liaison Officer [MALO] program in the 1970s) and endured historical challenges (such as the introduction of women to the Corps in 1976 and reduction in the authorized strength of the Corps starting in 1995). Coming out of these developments, which include surviving the stresses of sequestration last year, the Admissions office has settled into a relatively stable organizational structure, established rigorous standards for admission and streamlined the Academy's application process into an 18-month admissions season for each incoming class.

Currently West Point Admissions has 44 positions in its organization. At the top is the Director of Admissions, currently

Colonel Deborah McDonald '85, then roughly half of the positions fall under "support" and the other half under "enrollment and recruitment." Nearly two-thirds of the positions are civilian, while the rest are staffed by officers. Regional commanders, once known as admissions counselors, comprise the majority of officer positions. Manned by majors, these commanders are responsible for coordinating all admissions matters related to five geographic areas: Northeast, Southeast, Great Lakes, Southwest and Far West. There is also a Soldier commander who handles admissions inquiries from current active duty, reservist and National Guard Soldiers. Each regional commander works with a diversity outreach officer, a candidate technician and an administration clerk within the Admissions office and with Field Force volunteers, MALOs and West Point Society members at the local level. On the support side of Admissions, there are computer specialists, a budget analyst, a public affairs professional, a parents club liaison and a number of technicians performing various tasks, including coordinating with congressional staffers to ensure that the nominations process, which is vital to Admissions, is running smoothly. Lieutenant Colonel Tim Viles '95, Associate Director of Enrollment and

THE MISSION OF ADMISSIONS: Structure, Standards and Season

By Keith J. Hamel, WPAOG staff

A high school student examines literature from West Point Admissions.



Recruiting, says, “West Point Admissions receives upwards of 15,000 applications a year, and it is up to the entire team to make certain that Admissions reaches out to every application it receives.”

How does West Point Admissions whittle so many applications down to the 1,200 or so cadets who enter the Academy each year? The answer is by applying rigid admission standards, and when it comes to standards for West Point, multiple factors are in play. First, there are the federal laws, listed in U.S. Code Title 10, and Army regulations related to standards: namely, AR 40-501 (medical standards), AR 210-26 (standards pertaining to the Military Academy) and even AR 670-1 (uniform and insignia standards—specifically with regard to tattoos). Next there are the ancillary West Point agencies affecting the standards for each incoming class. The Board of Visitors, for example, provides advice to the Superintendent regarding the makeup of future classes, while the Academic Board examines the Army’s needs 10 years into the future and provides specific guidance to the Admissions Committee pertaining to the composition requirements of each incoming class. A third factor is the nominations process (see page 25), which has a separate set of standards to follow regarding candidates. Without a nomination, West Point legally cannot consider an applicant as a candidate. According to Viles, the nominations process and the Department of Defense Medical Review Board (following AR 40-501) remove large numbers of applicants from the candidate pool. The last, and perhaps most important standards factor, is the “whole-candidate” system. Coinciding with the year during which the West Point Admissions office came into being (1958), Major General Garrison Davidson ’27, Superintendent at the time, introduced a standardized system for evaluating candidates that is still in place today. Known as the “whole-candidate” system, this selection procedure identifies the standards against which all applicants are judged for admission. There are three parts to determining each applicant’s “whole-candidate” score: academics, leadership and fitness. Academic ability, which factors a candidate’s high school experience (rank, GPA, courses taken, etc.) and standardized test scores (SAT and/or ACT), counts for 60 percent toward the overall score. Leadership potential, which considers a candidate’s extracurricular activities, his or her leadership experiences (especially of a varsity athletic team) and appraisals from his or her teachers, is weighed at 30 percent. Lastly, 10 percent is determined by the score that an applicant receives on the Candidate Fitness Assessment (CFA), a six-event, timed test that gauges a candidate’s strength, endurance, agility and motivation. According to Viles, “Factoring all the standards in order to determine whether or not candidates are fully qualified—Do they have a nomination? Do they meet the academic requirements? Do they meet the physical requirements? Do they meet the medical requirement?—is the number one part of the Admissions decision process.”

With all that it encompasses, one can assume that this decision process takes time, as does the application process for a candidate. Both take roughly 18 months to complete, although future applicants are encouraged to start thinking about their college choices before their junior year of high school. The steps of the



Candidates take the Cadet Fitness Assessment, worth 10 percent of their “whole-candidate” score, during a recent Summer Leaders Experience.

“Factoring all the standards in order to determine whether or not candidates are fully qualified—Do they have a nomination? Do they meet the academic requirements? Do they meet the physical requirements? Do they meet the medical requirement?—is the number one part of the Admissions decision process.”

— LTC Tim Viles ’95, Associate Director of Enrollment and Recruiting



CDT Walter Griffin II '15 answers questions from candidates at a local college fair.

admissions process officially begin when an applicant opens a West Point Candidate File and completes a Candidate Questionnaire, typically during the January-February timeframe of one's junior year in high school. Once their file is opened, applicants are encouraged to apply for the Summer Leaders Experience (see pages 20-21). The next step is taking the SAT or ACT standardized test. A strong score on either of these tests is critical for receiving favorable consideration in the nominations process, which runs parallel to the admissions process and normally closes in October. If West Point Admissions determines that a candidate's file is competitive, the office sends that candidate the Second Step Kit during the summer between his or her junior and senior year of high school. This kit provides instructions for submitting one's CFA score and teacher contact information for letters of recommendation. Viles notes that West Point Admissions also informs non-competitive candidates at this time of areas on which

they should focus to improve their application. In the fall of their senior year of high school, candidates undergo their medical exam and their admissions interview (typically conducted by a member of the Field Force). During the winter months, which Viles says is Admissions' busy period, the completed applications are in and the process is beginning again with a new crop of high school juniors opening files. Offers to attend West Point usually go out to outstanding, qualified, nominated candidates between February and April during their senior year, and the process officially closes as they become new cadets on R-Day.

With its structure, standards and cyclical application season in place, West Point Admissions should be finding, qualifying and admitting fine candidates to the Academy for decades to come. After all, as its motto states: "West Point Admissions—The Corps Starts Here." ★

"West Point Admissions—The Corps Starts Here."

—West Point Admissions motto

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The Limits of Fandom: Recruiting and NCAA Compliance



By Keith J. Hamel, WPAOG staff

Recently, five high school athletes were thinking about playing football for the United States Military Academy. They even posted their potential ambitions on Twitter. A USMA graduate who read about the athletic potential of these athletes in his local newspaper saw their posts and responded to each prospect, raving about the Academy and the Army and encouraging each one of them to start an application. Nice gesture, right? Not as far as the NCAA, the governing body of all Division-I sports at USMA, is concerned.

“If someone contacts a prospect and there is an athletic component to that contact, then it falls under the rules of recruiting,” says Ron Salvatore, Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance and Academics with the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics (ODIA). According to rule 13.1.2.1 of the 2013-14 NCAA Division-I Manual, “All recruiting contacts with a prospective student-athlete shall be made only by authorized institution staff members.” When Salvatore learned what the graduate was doing, he asked him to stop. This graduate, obviously a fan of Army athletics, did not think he

personnel must provide the same counsel and support to a prospective athlete as any other candidate. “This is the key to staying out of trouble and keeping ODIA compliant,” he says.

These Admissions personnel must also negotiate a compliance “gray area” unique to service academy schools. USMA’s admissions requirements include a physical component that measures a candidate’s athletic ability—think “Every cadet an athlete.” This means that Admissions personnel must always consider, “Might this candidate be a good athlete?” However, they cross the line if they start to ponder, “Might this candidate be a good baseball player?” In other words, in contacting prospective athletes for Army sports, they can ask general questions such as, “In what sport did you earn a varsity letter?” but they must avoid specific questions such as, “How fast can you run a 40-yard dash?” Again, the guideline ODIA gives to Field Force and MALO personnel is that if a topic or question is applicable to any candidate, then it is ok to pursue it with a recruit as far as NCAA compliance is concerned.

To educate Army boosters (i.e., basically any fan of Army sports) in compliance matters, Salvatore puts out a quarterly newsletter, “The Black Knight Bulletin.” In addition to the rules and regulations concerning contact with a prospect, the newsletter covers other compliance topics such as pre-existing relationships and initial eligibility. It also features a section describing compliance infractions at other schools. Salvatore also routinely takes calls from inquiring graduates and members of parents clubs who have questions about contacting a recruit. “My common response to most calls is to let ODIA and Army coaches make the contact,” says Salvatore.

But some Army fans are extremely passionate and want to help in any way they can to bring quality athletes to Army teams. For these fans, McIntyre offers the following guideline: “Boosters are not allowed to seek out any potential student athletes, but they can pass along any information they received from a candidate to Army coaches, if the candidate contacted the booster; they may also forward to ODIA information learned about a candidate from the local media.” After this, McIntyre says, “Trust the Army coaches.” Army coaches follow strict criteria to ensure that they are bringing in the best recruits as cadets. For each recruit, an Army coach must answer “yes” to three questions: 1) Can this prospect make the team better? 2) Can this prospect become a good cadet? 3) Can this prospect develop into a successful Army officer who might have to lead troops into combat? Only with three affirmative responses will that prospect have the right to don black and gold and play as a student-athlete on an Army sports team. ★

“If someone contacts a prospect and there is an athletic component to that contact, then it falls under the rules of recruiting.”

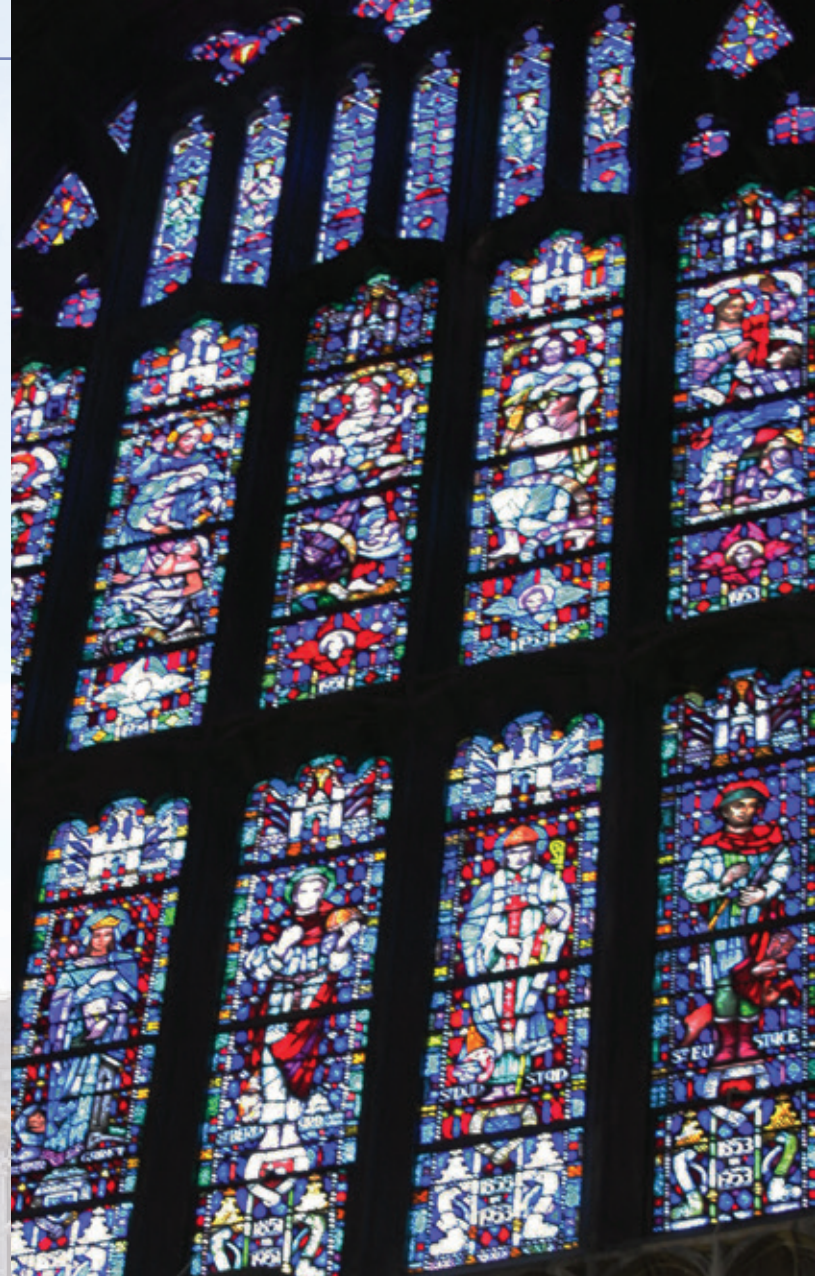
— Ron Salvatore, Assistant Athletic Director, Compliance and Academics, Department of Intercollegiate Athletics

was doing anything wrong and refused ODIA’s request. ODIA, knowing the NCAA’s “Scope of Responsibility” clause (making it responsible for this graduate’s actions), then had to declare the five athletes ineligible for recruiting purposes, lest Army would be guilty of an infraction. It has since started the tedious paperwork to reinstate the prospects, who originally wanted to come to and play for West Point, but the damage has been done. A fan who thought he was helping his team was in fact hurting it by not following NCAA compliance in matters of recruiting.

The bottom line is that only coaches can contact athletes. These coaches must be declared as such to the NCAA and must pass an annual recruiting exam before they can contact athletes about coming to play for Army. There is one exception. Admissions personnel, namely Field Force members and Military Academy Liaison Officers who have been trained by ODIA, can make contact as well, but their contact cannot be athletic in nature. Gene McIntyre, Assistant Athletic Director for Recruiting and Admissions Support, says that Admissions

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CADET PROFILE: Nicole Zajimovic

By Anthony DiNoto, WPAOG staff

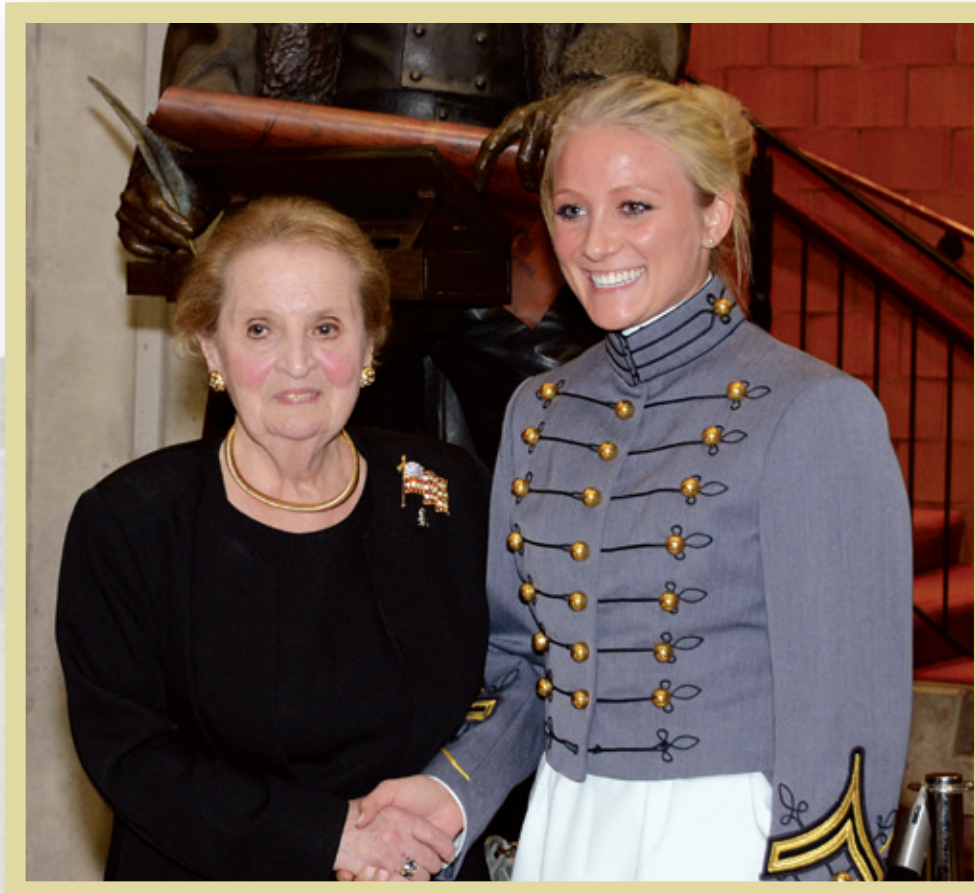
Last year, Cadet Nicole Zajimovic '16 had the honor and privilege of meeting the 2013 Thayer Award Recipient, Dr. Madeleine Albright. The daughter of two Yugoslav War refugees, Zajimovic couldn't have been more thrilled to meet such a personally influential dignitary.

As conflicts escalated in the Balkans throughout the 1990s, Zajimovic's parents sought refuge in Germany. At the conclusion of the war, refugees were forced to move back to their respective war-ravaged region, although Zajimovic's parents looked to the United States for new opportunities. Foreign policy under Dr. Albright and the Clinton Administration allowed the Zajimovics to emigrate from Yugoslavia in 1998, and at age ten Nicole Zajimovic became an American citizen. "America welcomed my family with open arms and allowed me to pursue my dreams," says Zajimovic. "The possibilities were, and continue to be, endless." Throughout her high school years, Zajimovic's gratitude gave rise to a strong desire to serve her new country. She made the decision to attend the United States Military Academy as a fulfillment of her American dream. "To serve the nation that has never stopped serving me is the most satisfying repayment, and I feel it is still not payment enough," she says.

In the fall of 2013, Zajimovic had the rare opportunity to meet Dr. Madeleine Albright after the Thayer Award dinner reception. At

the conclusion of the dinner, Dr. Albright was being escorted from the Mess Hall to Jefferson Library when Zajimovic's sponsor asked if she would like to meet the Secretary. After a mad dash across the apron, Zajimovic appeared before Dr. Albright in utter astonishment. "I was slightly out of breath when I met her, but that can be attributed to my nervousness rather than the race to the library!"

The exclusive meeting procured by Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Ruth, her sponsor and then-Commandant of the USMA Preparatory School, was brief, but Zajimovic had just enough time to thank the 64th Secretary of State for considerably influencing American policy in Bosnia; actions that directly affected her family during those turbulent years. "Her passion and perseverance are unparalleled and for her work, I could never be more thankful," says Zajimovic. "I must say that I am grateful as well. Grateful for this nation, for the Academy, and the opportunity to meet the Honorable Madeleine Albright—along with an infinite amount of other blessings bestowed upon me."



Nicole Zajimovic '16 meets Dr. Madeleine Albright, 2013 Thayer Award Recipient.



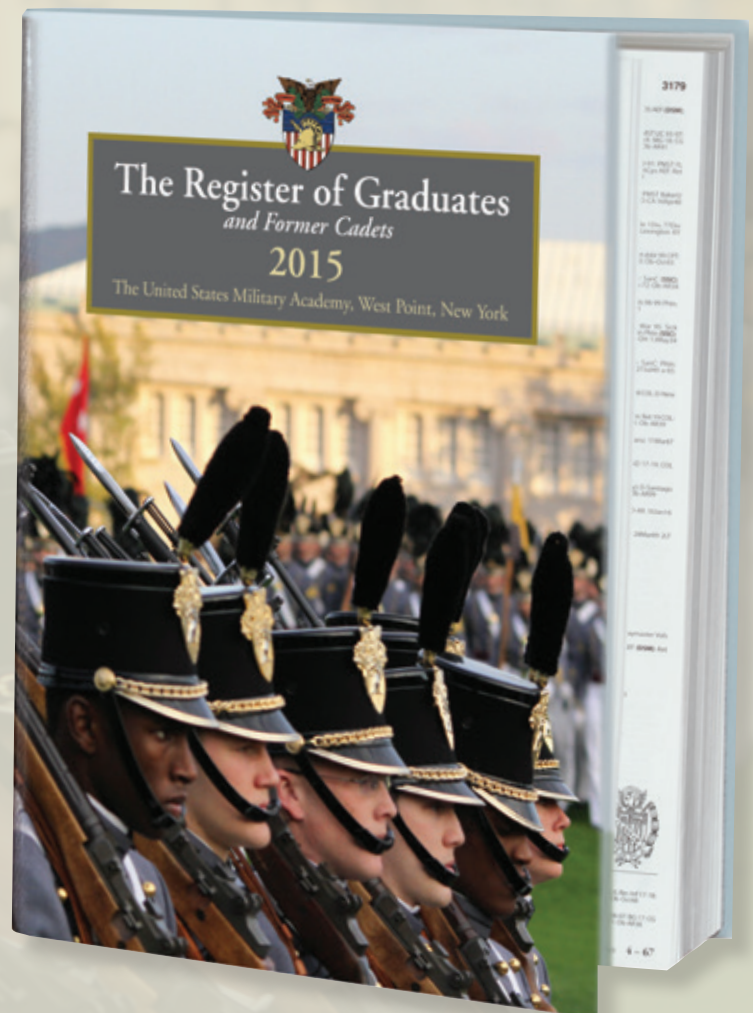
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Orders will be taken beginning in January, 2015.



The Six-Day West Point Experience

By Keith J. Hamel, WPAOG staff



Left: SLE candidates watch a squad member perform on one of the stations at the Leaders Reaction Course. **Above, top:** Candidates interact with Soldiers of 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment out of Fort Stewart, GA, who performed a “react to contact” battle drill during SLE’s Military Day. **Above:** MAJ Alex Katauskas, Instructor in the Department of Physics & Nuclear Engineering, presents a lesson on magnetism during one of SLE’s academic workshop periods. **Below:** Candidates learn combative techniques during SLE’s Military Day.

The road to West Point is a long one.

Before a candidate travels down this road, West Point Admissions wants to ensure that he or she knows what awaits at the end—47 months of cadet life and then a five-year commitment on active duty as a commissioned officer in the Army. That’s why, early in the application process, the Directorate of Admissions offers the Summer Leaders Experience (SLE), a six-day immersion program that introduces candidates to the academic, military, physical fitness and leadership life at the Academy. “Most applicants don’t really understand the leadership experience that West Point provides,” says Lieutenant Colonel Tom Hansbarger ’92, Associate Director of Admissions for Support, “and SLE gives them a glimpse of what it is like to be a cadet so they can make an informed decision about continuing their future and, perhaps, accepting an offer to attend West Point.”

Like admittance to West Point itself, gaining entry to SLE is competitive. The Admissions Office received more than 6,000 applicants this spring for 1,000 slots. The typical SLE candidate has an SAT score above 1200 (or ACT score above 27), is in the top 20 percent of his or her high school class and serves as a leader in an extracurricular club or a team captain on a varsity-level team.

During SLE, candidates experience a modified R-Day, they participate in

various academic and leadership workshops, they play intramural sports, they complete a warfighter simulation, they endure a five-station military day (complete with MRE!) and receive several



information briefings concerning life at West Point (from the Dean, the Commandant, the Director of Admissions, etc.). Most important, candidates are given time each day to interact with their squad leaders in order to ask questions and to get feedback on their strengths and weaknesses. “Exposure to West Point is best in the relationships candidates develop with their cadre,” says Hansbarger. “We could have the greatest training events and workshops during SLE, but the most significant impact on candidates is their interaction with their cadet leaders.”

“We want to get the candidates comfortable enough to ask their squad leaders anything so that they can get a full, 360-degree view of West Point and make an educated decision about coming here,” says Cadet Captain Ashton Wolf ’15, SLE’s company commander. To facilitate this, Wolf gave her leadership team a mandate to “be demanding, not demeaning,” which has fostered the relationships squad leaders have with the candidates. She says it’s fun to watch the candidates embrace cadet life, especially in their “loud and proud” motivational retorts (e.g., squad leader orders, “Drink water;” squad screams, “Beat the heat!”). One of Wolf’s favorite activities during SLE is getting to know the candidates at her lunch table and asking them questions about themselves. One question she asks each candidate is, “Who is the most influential person you’ve met at SLE?” “The answer is ‘squad leader’ every time,” Wolf says.

Clayton Carter of Indiana says he appreciates that his SLE squad leader didn’t give him “straight out of the book responses” and

hopes to take the “too easy” attitude he learned back home. Michael Martinez of Florida says he also learned a lesson from his squad leader. “He taught me to keep everything in perspective and always to think about the end goal,” Martinez says.

“If candidates internalize the lessons they have learned from their squad leaders, they will be that much better at being a leader should they be accepted to West Point next year or not,” says Wolf, noting that approximately 40 percent of SLE candidates return as cadets. She adds that candidates are making connections with one another during SLE that will strengthen as they continue the application process and if they receive admission to the Academy. Peter Fields from Kentucky concurs: “It’s amazing how close you can get to your fellow candidates in only six days; I can just imagine the intensity of friendships after 47 months.” ★

“We want to get the candidates comfortable enough to ask their squad leaders anything so that they can get a full, 360-degree view of West Point and make an educated decision about coming here.”

—CDT CPT Ashton Wolf ’15, SLE’s company commander



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Candidates to Cadre: Preparatory Schools

By Anthony DiNoto, WPAOG staff



Every year, many young students seeking admission to West Point attend military colleges or preparatory schools to benefit from an additional year of academics. These institutions can be an alternative to the United States Military Academy Preparatory School (USMAPS) for students who do not need the specialized preparation provided there, and who could benefit from a broader-based curriculum. Highly motivated young people wishing to take such a path can apply for the West Point Preparatory Scholarship Program (WPPSP). Offered through WPAOG for a year of post-secondary school education, the partial scholarship is divided into two categories: scholar/leaders and recruited athletes. The West Point Director of Admissions recommends all WPPSP candidates and informs applicants that scholar/leaders must choose one of four military junior colleges, and recruited athletes must attend a private preparatory school. The major advantage of the private preparatory school is the small class size and intense and concentrated instruction. The level of academics is significantly higher than at a public high school, and is an excellent transition before coming to West Point.

Hargrave Military Academy

In Chatham, Virginia, Hargrave Military Academy serves 7th through 12th grade, with one postgraduate year. More than 100 faculty and staff support Hargrave's goal of ensuring first year academy success by focusing on core subjects and bolstering a

competent background in critical subjects.

Cadets pursuing service academy (SA) nominations are well supported at

Hargrave by faculty and staff who are made aware of these aspirations and challenge students daily to ensure subject mastery prior to their admittance to West Point. This effort goes beyond the pursuit of superior grades. Leadership roles are also provided to cadets pursuing SA nominations to help build a foundation of practical experience and reinforce character development. In order to reduce their graduate's first-year stress at the United States Military Academy (USMA), Hargrave staff and faculty constantly reinforce the concept of standards and accountability as they move toward SA appointment. "We strive to bring out the best in each individual by maintaining strict adherence to academics, leadership, athletics and spiritual development to guide a young man to being a well-rounded, adaptable and morally grounded individual," says Bill Wiebking, Director of Communications at Hargrave. Since 2009, seven Hargrave graduates have attended West Point as either a WPPSP participant or as a graduate enrollee in USMA's annual appointment process.

Main Photo: Students walking through Avon Old Farm's 1,000-acre campus. **Top Inset:** Cadet Alexandra Baker '16 at Trophy Point with Greystone President and CEO CDR Dave Bailey, USN (Retired) USNA '81, (left) and COL Bill Crum, USAF (Retired) USMA '56, Greystone Board Chairman (right). **Bottom Inset:** Hargrave AP Chemistry cadets conduct an experiment during lab.

Greystone Preparatory School

Greystone Prep is the only school in America that is affiliated with a four year college—Schreiner University located in Kerrville, Texas. As a result, the school focuses heavily on academics through the highly intense curriculum. To prepare students for SA appointments, the curriculum is designed to be far more challenging than traditional freshman year studies.” However, the Greystone experience is not primarily focused on university-level academics. The school incorporates programs to prepare candidates to compete for their congressional nominations, SA appointments and most importantly, their overall academy experience, mirroring their motto of “Academy preparation, University education.” Students who do not receive an academy appointment will still leave Greystone having completed their freshman year of college with 38 fully-transferable credits. To develop a strong bond as a team, Greystone students live together in dormitories on the Schreiner campus.

With a 13 to 1 student-teacher ratio, students receive the attention from the faculty and staff necessary to excel as scholars. Individualized attention, university-level academics and elevated performance expectations benefits the students seeking a SA appointment. Students who go on to attend West Point will more than likely reach graduation, as Greystone claims a 100 percent graduation rate from USMA. Alexandra Baker '16 is Greystone's newest addition to West Point.



Hargrave cadets advance to the parade field for homecoming 2014.



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Avon Old Farms

Avon Old Farms, nestled in the sleepy New England town of Avon, Connecticut, has been working with the WPPSP for many years. As a small school, the college counseling staff works closely with each student going through the application process to help them understand the requirements for each of the universities or academies they are applying to. All students who enter Avon through the WPPSP receive extensive support from the college counseling team, who work directly with USMA's liaison officer to ensure that students are taking the required courses and meeting all of the Academy's expectations. From the congressional nomination to the physical fitness component, Avon Old Farms ensures that boys receive needed support in both academics and athletics. Since 2007, seven students went on to attend West Point.

As a traditional boy's boarding school with a rigorous academic program anchored in liberal arts, Avon Old Farms cultivates young men of integrity who honor wisdom, justice, inclusion, service, and the pursuit of truth. "This mission drives our daily instruction and is supported by a talented and dedicated faculty who are committed to helping each boy reach his full potential as a scholar, leader, athlete, artist, and man," says Brendon Welker, Dean for Enrollment and Institutional Advancement.

Right inset: Blair students enjoy a live outdoor student performance.
Below: High-caliber music and athletic programs are part of the Avon Old Farm experience.

Blair Academy

To get young students curious about a career in the military, Teddy Wenner '00, Associate Dean of Admissions at Blair Academy, inspires by example. Wenner spent his four high school years preparing at Blair before his appointment to USMA, and he continues to educate future leaders on the residual benefits of a prep school education. "At Blair, I connected with the faculty, adapted to the responsibility of dorm life, and was guided by the same moral ethos that was waiting for me at West Point," says Wenner. "I owe much of my success as an officer to the core values that formed at Blair Academy, and I strive to instill that in all our students." The distinguishable factors that set Blair apart are the relationships that students form with faculty members. From hikes along the Appalachian Trail to evening dinner gatherings, faculty and students connect to make the Blair experience personally enriching. By eliminating intimidation and increasing preparedness, Blair students like Jack Wedholm, in the newly-admitted USMA Class of 2018, are able to develop skills early on to ensure SA success. Blair Academy is located in Blairstown, New Jersey and offers the WPPSP program to all young men and women seeking to serve. ★





No Application Without Representation: Congressional Nominations

By Anthony DiNoto, WPAOG staff

Along with the medical, physical and academic requirements for admission to West Point, a candidate mustn't forget the proverbial congressional nomination. This essential step in the process requires candidates to submit an application along with an initial contact letter to their respective representative, highlighting academic achievement, athletic accomplishments and leadership performance. Major Betty P. Myrthil '02, Admissions Diversity Officer, suggests that Academy applicants submit both the West Point application and the congressional nomination application concurrently in January of their junior year of high school. Myrthil also advises that candidates submit applications to all four representatives who are authorized to give nominations: one from the House, two from the Senate and one from the Vice President. "The more congressmen you contact, the greater your chances to be nominated," says Myrthil.

All U.S. representatives and senators are allotted five constituents to attend the Academy at any one time. As a member of Congress, the Vice President is also allowed five nominees to attend the Academy at any given time. All representatives can nominate up to ten students, however, only one will be accepted per year. The remaining nine who aren't admitted into the Academy become "alternates."

However, securing a nomination does not guarantee admission. All requirements must be met, and if an applicant falls short due to medical or physical reasons, the Representative may choose his or

her alternate nominee. If an applicant is denied a nomination, he or she is placed on a national waiting list and may yet be offered admission. While certain congressmen accept applications for nomination to all four service academies, common practice within larger congressional districts is to require all applicants to choose the specific service academy he or she wishes to attend. Not surprisingly, the most competitive regions in the United States are the districts surrounding Washington, DC, where a large number of military and government-employed families reside.

With thousands of applicants competing for a nomination every year, West Point Admissions Officers work with congressional representatives to identify potential nominees while placing an emphasis on diversity. "At West Point, we understand that a diverse cadre will achieve higher results, and our Admissions officers are continuously working with congressional caucuses on this and advising members of Congress on the process and requirements for admission," says Myrthil. An acute approach to nominating top-level students led one congressman to discover Julian Mok—an all-star tennis player and honor student from Sayre School in Lexington, Kentucky. Mok was nominated by Kentucky Congressman Andy Barr and accepted into West Point's Class of 2018. "This accomplishment is a true testament to Julian's strong athletic ability, academic success and most importantly, her character. I am proud of her decision to serve her country and wish her the best of luck at West Point," said Barr. ★

Above: Georgia Senators with their 2014 nominees.

23





“Transformation without work and pain,
without suffering, without a sense of loss
is just an illusion of true change.”

—Wm. Paul Young, *Cross Roads*

Lieutenant General Robert Caslen '75 has made diversity and inclusion one of the top priorities of his Superintendency.

He views this priority along three lines: accession, retention, and staff and faculty. The West Point Admissions office is responsible for the accession portion and has developed a sophisticated strategy to nurture its relationship with African American and women candidates through their high-school years in an effort to get them to open and eventually complete applications to West Point.

According to Caslen, it is important for West Point to increase its African American enrollment because the Academy has a duty to represent the diversity of the United States. "We have to be able to identify with the American people and be more like the makeup of the Nation," says Caslen. The Army Chief of Staff also wants West Point to be more like the makeup of the Army. Right now, African Americans make up 22.5 percent of the enlisted force and 13.2 percent of the officer corps; however, they comprised only 5.9 percent of the Class of 2013.

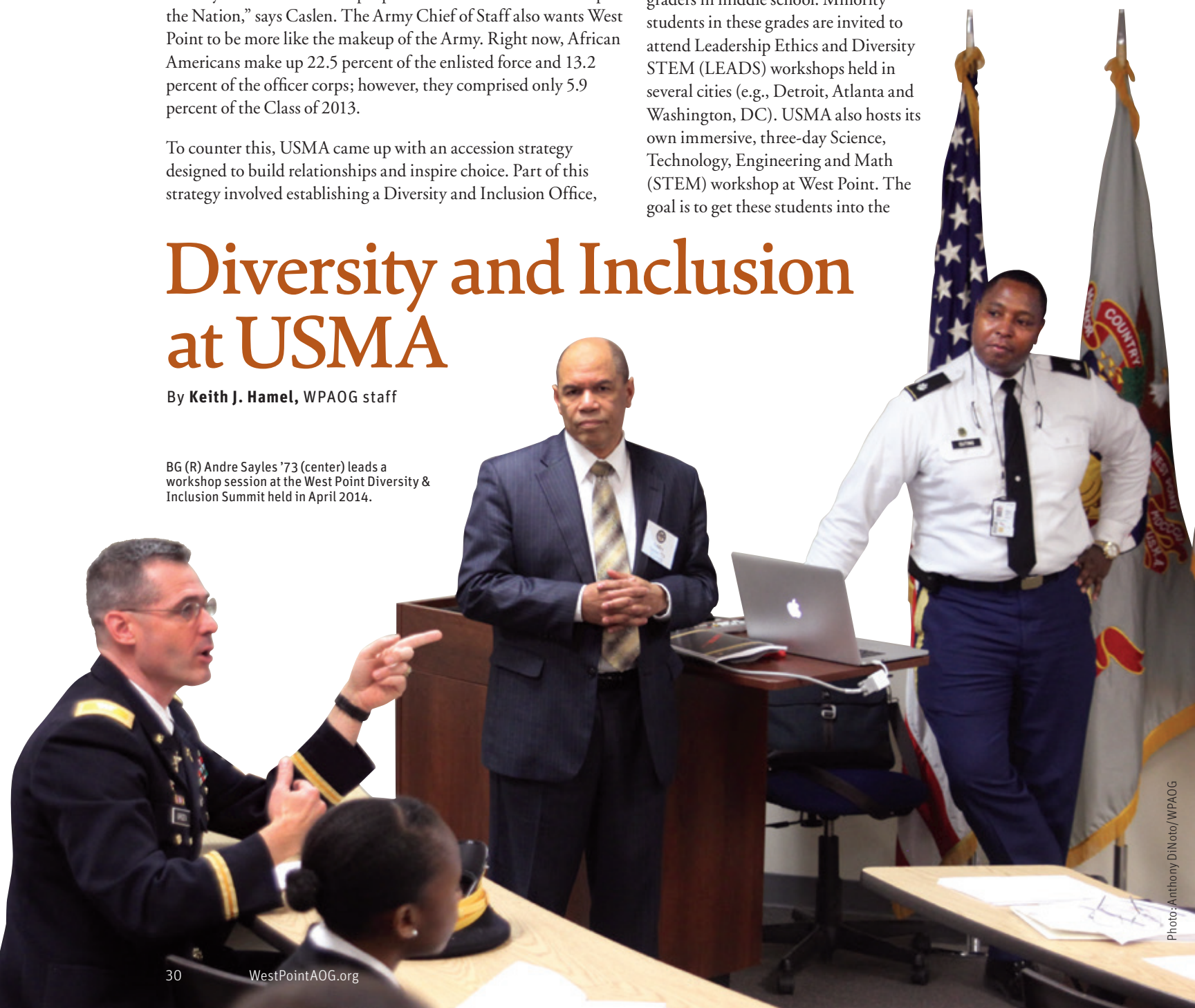
To counter this, USMA came up with an accession strategy designed to build relationships and inspire choice. Part of this strategy involved establishing a Diversity and Inclusion Office,

headed by a Chief Diversity Officer (CDO). Reporting directly to the Superintendent, the CDO's mission is to hold Academy Directorates accountable to working toward common diversity and inclusion goals, ensuring that efforts and resources are prioritized and synergized to produce maximum positive outcomes. Partnering with 501(c)(3) corporations such as The Charles Hayden Foundation and Schools That Can, USMA's Diversity and Inclusion Office has rolled out what Lieutenant Colonel Don Outing (Retired), USMA's Chief Diversity Officer, calls, "a cradle to career program." The "cradle" in this case is 6th through 8th graders in middle school. Minority students in these grades are invited to attend Leadership Ethics and Diversity STEM (LEADS) workshops held in several cities (e.g., Detroit, Atlanta and Washington, DC). USMA also hosts its own immersive, three-day Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) workshop at West Point. The goal is to get these students into the

Diversity and Inclusion at USMA

By Keith J. Hamel, WPAOG staff

BG (R) Andre Sayles '73 (center) leads a workshop session at the West Point Diversity & Inclusion Summit held in April 2014.



Admissions pipeline. Once in the pipeline, members of the Admissions team continue to reach out to these students and encourage them to prepare files for candidacy. “Whether they choose to come to West Point, or whether they end up following STEM and serving in another way, this strategy is a win-win for service to the Nation,” says Outing.

Evidence shows that this strategy is paying off. Colonel Deborah McDonald ’85, Director of Admissions, attributes an increase in African American accession for the Class of 2018 to the pinpointed effort by the Admissions Diversity Team and six years of early intervention outreach. The Class of 2017 came in at 9.5 percent African American, and that of 2018 reached nearly 14 percent. And Admissions hopes to keep increasing the number. Even though the Army makes directives to USMA regarding admissions, such as “increase the diversity of the Corps of Cadets,” it does not assign a quota number. The Academic Board is the body that makes this determination, and it meets every two years to evaluate the goals for each incoming class. Going forward, Admissions expects its candidate pipeline to result in 2,500 open files by African Americans. “African Americans have been the toughest of all ethnic groups to get to open files, to complete files once they are open, and to accept admission once offered,” says McDonald, although she says there is no reason their numbers can’t be higher.

The numbers are going up for women candidates as well. In the past, both the Naval Academy and the Air Force Academy have

hovered around 20 percent women in a given class year, while the Military Academy has lagged behind (13.4 percent women in 2013). Now, with the removal of the Army’s combat exclusion policy, USMA’s Class of 2018 will be on par with the sister services in its accession of women cadets. USMA’s Marketing Office has tailored a particular message to women, citing the Academy’s academic rankings, its accessible faculty, its specialized internships and its impressive track record of women graduates obtaining advanced degrees as Army officers. Sue Hennen of USMA’s Marketing Office says the theme of this message to female candidates is that women can pursue academic achievement and a broad range of opportunities both as cadets and as officers in the U.S. Army. With its jump in numbers for the Class of 2018 (22 percent), the percentage of women in the Corps of Cadets nearly equals that of the Officer Corps, and both are larger percentages than the number of women enlisted in the U.S. Army.

And what is the ultimate outcome of West Point’s strategy for a racial-, ethnic- and gender-diverse student population? According to Caslen, it is all about building a better and stronger Army. “We want to reach that sociological tipping point at the Academy when minorities no longer see themselves as minorities,” he says. “Instead, we will all see each other as members of the same team.” ★

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Serving Those Who Wish to Serve: USMA Field Force

By Keith J. Hamel, WPAOG staff

Candidates Mason Hamilton, Naveed Johnson and Tyler Willis pose with Tom Morgan '58 after completing their CFA at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA.

Readers have likely heard this story before: a candidate applying to the United States Air Force Academy goes for a campus visit and sees planes positioned as monuments; a candidate applying to the United States Military Academy goes for a campus visit and sees statues of great leaders. It is not codified, but there is a widely held belief that those who want to see the world or to work with technology go to either the Naval or Air Force academies, while those who want to lead Soldiers go to USMA. With the Academy and the Army's emphasis on individuals, it is no wonder that the Admissions Office places so much stock in the West Point Field Force—volunteers, Army Reserve officers and West Point Society members who graciously give of their time to meet candidates, answer any questions they have about USMA or Army life after graduation and offer them assistance throughout the application process. “The Long Gray Line starts with the Field

Force,” says Major John Turner '02, West Point Admissions Southeast Regional Commander. “When you think about the post-graduation commitment required, it is so important to get two feet out in front of candidates to give them personal attention and build their trust.”



According to Turner, the Field Force Program, which goes back decades, can be divided into two categories: Military Academy Liaison Officers and non-military volunteers (typically graduates who are retired or former military). Both of these categories work closely with five Regional Commanders from West Point Admissions, who strategically plan with the Field Force on how to best identify, recruit and assist highly qualified high school students for admission to USMA. In Army-speak, the Regional

“The Long Gray Line starts with the Field Force.”

— MAJ John Turner '02, West Point Admissions Southeast Regional Commander

Commanders are headquarters while the Field Force members are the ground units, serving as force multipliers and broadening the reach of West Point Admissions. The Field Force remains critically important to headquarters by providing local eyes on as many candidates as possible, spreading the message of West Point's mission and seeking out the most qualified individuals in their districts to become the next generation's legacy of leadership.

"Given that we track candidates from the time they open a file until they arrive at the Academy on R-Day, being a Field Force member is like having a second job," says Lieutenant Colonel Tom Lynch '82, the West Point Society of Michigan's Field Force Leader. This society is one of the most energetic when it comes to Field Force activity: 12 WPS-MI members serve as Admissions volunteers and more than 20 work on congressional nominations boards. Their efforts have not gone unnoticed. West Point Admissions has recognized WPS-MI member Ray Williams as Field Force Member of the Quarter in 2014, and Lynch has received recognition as state coordinator in the past. Like other societies with an active Field Force, WPS-MI's Field Force works dozens of college fairs per year, maintains relationships with local high school guidance counselors, conducts candidate interviews and administers the Candidate Fitness Assessment (CFA). According to Lynch, what sets WPS-MI apart is the work the society does with JROTC in Detroit and its minority recruitment efforts: Michigan had a

large number of women and African American open files with West Point Admissions last year, which Lynch credits to WPS-MI forming a diversity position on its board of officers. Annually, Michigan receives 36-45 offers for admission, to which Lynch says, "For a state this size, the number of offers it gets demonstrates the labor of love given by all those involved with volunteering for West Point Admissions."



This labor of love is really spread across all West Point Societies and the national Field Force. The West Point Society of Orange County California, for example, has put its desire to help West Point Admissions into its mission statement: "...to support efforts to attract motivated and successful young men and women to apply for admission to West Point." Paul Dixon '70, Admissions Liaison for WPS-OC, who is in his seventh year with the Field Force, says that the society has about 25 Field Force volunteers and has conducted two Academy Information Meetings, one Academy Day per Congressional District and roughly fourteen college fairs in the past year. Dixon says that WPS-OC's Field Force also conducted approximately 50-55 formal interviews last year. On a personal level, Dixon typically meets with 40-45 candidates over the course of an admissions cycle and fields two-to-three questions a day from candidates, many of whom, he says, seem to contact him earlier and earlier in the process. "Of the 22 WPS-OC

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Left: Class of 2014 candidates from the Tampa, FL area pose for a picture. **Right:** Rich Huh '94, Executive Director of the West Point Society of DC and the National Capital Region, presents a USMA offer of admissions to Bishop Ireton High School graduate Madeleine Fortier, now a member of the Class of 2018.

candidates who received an offer of admission for the Class of 2018, I met with 10 of them when they were freshmen or sophomores in high school,” Dixon says. For all of his efforts, West Point Admissions named Dixon the Congressional District Coordinator of the quarter earlier this year.

Other Field Force members might not get the accolades, but their love for helping West Point Admissions is just as strong. Colonel William Malouche '51 (Retired), who currently coordinates the activities of and provides guidance to 28 Field Force volunteers in South Carolina, has been part of the Field Force for decades. “Helping candidates through the admissions process to achieve their dream of being a West Point cadet is very rewarding,” Malouche says. “I am happy to be doing my part in ensuring that the Academy continues to get its fair share of America’s best and brightest to be trained and educated as future Army leaders.”

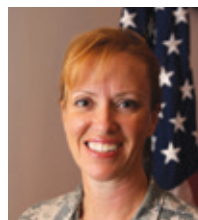


Lieutenant Colonel Pete Selleck '77 (Retired), a 21-year Field Force veteran, agrees with Malouche. “I get to meet incredible young people who are exploring the path of service to our Nation,” Selleck says, “and knowing that I’m playing this small but important role gives me immense satisfaction.”

It is this love and dedication of serving as the boots on the ground for West Point Admissions that makes the Field Force so significant to candidates. “My son would have never made it through the process without the personal attention given to him by Field Force volunteer James ‘Chip’ Hubbard [father to Matthew '07 and James N. Hubbard '12],” says Janice Van Dyke Walden, whose son Sean entered with the Class of 2018.



Military Academy Liaison Officers (MALOs) are another side of the Field Force. The MALO program fell on hard times in the last decade, but West Point Admissions brought in Captain Charles H. Cook ex-'80 in 2014 to turn it around. “When I took over in March, there were nine MALOs serving Admissions—this from a high of 400 to 500 in the 1980s,” says Cook, “but we have been able to reignite interest in the program and now have applications from 127 Active Duty and Reserve Officers seeking to become MALOs.” According to Cook, MALOs are the go-to for the military side of the West Point experience, informing candidates about what they can expect in the Army after graduation. “Given that they are primarily captains and majors, MALOs are the best representatives to give the near-term experience to candidates,” says Cook. Officers seeking to become MALOs go through intense training with West Point Admissions learning about the academic process, the nominations process, how to conduct candidate interviews and how to “read” a candidate’s online file (no more paper applications). “One really needs to go through a complete admissions cycle to become comfortable as a MALO,” Cook says.



Major Shannon Horne '95 is a MALO who has experienced several admission cycles in her 16 years with the program. “Having done this for so long, I definitely feel comfortable advising candidates,” Horne says, acknowledging that she has seen a lot of changes in the admissions process during this time. According to Horne, the awareness part has gotten easier due to the Internet and she now focuses more energy on the candidates who are actively applying.

She also says that getting into West Point has become more and more competitive, so that she now finds herself discussing “Plan B” (ROTC, other colleges and other options to serve) more often with candidates. Outlining her philosophy as a MALO, Horne says, “If someone really wants to go to West Point, let me help him or her set goals to make him or her a competitive candidate—in the worst case, that individual may not get an offer of admission, but the standards are high enough that he or she will be competitive for other colleges.” Regarding goals, one of the first things Horne discusses is the CFA and the need to develop a training plan for it. “It’s something that applicants can control late in the application process that could make or break their chances,” she says. Horne, who estimates that she has helped 50 candidates get in to West Point, says that she really enjoys working with young people who are passionate about serving their country. “I also love the fact that the MALO program allows me, a stay-at-home mom, the opportunity to serve my country with flexible hours,” she says. “I’m nearing the 20-year mark but I am enjoying my job as a MALO too much to retire.”

West Point Admissions is always seeking new MALOs and Field Force volunteers to continue the efforts of spreading the message of West Point’s mission, to work with schools, parents and candidates, and to seek out the most qualified individuals to become the next generation’s legacy of leadership. For more information visit www.usma.edu/admissions/SitePages/Field_Force.aspx or your local West Point Society. ★



Candidates for the Class of 2019 perform the sit-ups portion of the CFA at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA.

“I am happy to be doing my part in ensuring that the Academy continues to get its fair share of America’s best and brightest to be trained and educated as future Army leaders.”

— COL William Malouche '51 (Retired)

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(Part 2)



Preliminary design for new Army Lacrosse facility.
Inset: The Army Lacrosse Team takes the field at Michie Stadium.

By **Christine Shields**, WPAOG staff

Cadet-athletes instill a sense of Army pride among the entire West Point community and often form deep allegiances to one another and to the Academy. It's no surprise then that many graduates and fans have given back to so many of West Point's athletic teams and clubs.

Collectively, these individuals have strengthened the entire athletic experience, providing cadet-athletes with top-tier coaches and staff as well as with state-of-the-art equipment and facilities. In fact, through the West Point Association of Graduates' (WPAOG) Bicentennial Campaign (1997-2002) and its current *For Us All* Campaign (2009-2015), WPAOG has built and gifted athletic facilities that surpass those of other colleges and universities and enhance the Army Athletic experience for cadets, coaches and spectators. As noted in the fall 2013 issue of *West Point*, Princeton Review ranked the United States Military Academy first in the Nation in the "Best Athletic Facilities" category.

This ranking is surely one of the factors in attracting top scholar-athletes to apply for admission to West Point. That article ("Thanks to Donors: We're #1") profiled gifts to Army Athletics in and around the Athletics Complex. This issue continues telling the story by detailing new and renovated facilities near North Athletic Field along the Hudson River, at the level of the Plain and even outside the gates of West Point.

Continuing the tour started last year, the first stop is the Anderson Rugby Complex, which opened in 2007 and is named for Lee Anderson '61 and his wife Penny. Located along the banks of the Hudson River in the area of Target Hill Field, this two-story facility includes coaches' offices, locker rooms, a strength-training room, storage for equipment, a conference room and a multi-purpose room that fits more than 100 occupants. "Nothing else in the country comes close to this complex," says head coach Michael Mahan '70, who also coached the men's team when rugby was a competitive club sport before it and the women's team became Army's newest varsity sports on August 1, 2014. The facility is a far cry from what rugby coaches and players used to have: "The coaches didn't have any formal offices, and cadets would change in the woods and play on the grass near the commissary—the only level ground on post back then," says Mahan. Now, the rugby program boasts two pitches, or playing fields, outside of the 550-seat (more with portable stands) Anderson Rugby Complex—one grass and one turf. The grass pitch, known as Warrior Field, was provided through a gift from Jon Prusmack and is used primarily for competition; while the turf field can also be used for competition, it provides



cadet-athletes more training opportunities during the winter months, as it is easier to maintain in the snow.

The Tronsrue Marksmanship Center, next door to Gillis Field House, is another example of the impact of private philanthropy. Named for the late George Marion Tronsrue '52, a former member of the Army Rifle team, this center replaced West Point's original indoor range, which was destroyed by a fire in 1996. Opened in 2001, the refurbished and significantly upgraded center features three ranges—rifle, pistol and air gun—making it the largest collegiate shooting facility in the country. The rifle and air gun ranges each include 20 firing points and state-of-the-art electronic targets, and the pistol range includes 22 firing points and mechanical targets. The Tronsrue Marksmanship Center is home to the Army Rifle Team, the Pistol Team and the Combat Weapons Team. Additionally, this facility is used by cadets seeking the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge, by staff and faculty needing certain qualifications before deploying overseas and by the FBI, whose agents use the indoor range during the winter months. “We would be hard pressed to compete at the level we do without private funding,” says Army Pistol head coach Duston Saunders '72. Since 2006, the Pistol Team has won five National Intercollegiate Pistol Championships, most recently in 2013, and the Rifle Team has won the NCAA Rifle Championship.

Located adjacent to the West Point Golf Course, the Groves Golf Training Facility is another example of an athletic facility established in honor of a former Army athlete—Richard N. Groves '58, a three-year letter winner on the golf team. This training facility and its state-of-the-art Full Swing Golf simulator (also provided through a private gift) allows for year-round training opportunities for cadet-athletes, critical for a golf team in the

Northeast. Read more about the Groves Golf Training Facility in “Fore! the Corps (and Grads): Golf at West Point” on page 43.

Slightly further away from post is the Scancarello Skeet and Trap Facility, named in honor of longtime volunteer coach Dr. Joseph Scancarello. This facility, which is located at Range 10 (across from Round Pond), has provided the Skeet and Trap Team with year-round training capabilities and significantly upgraded accommodations. It includes a state-of-the-art arms storage and cleaning room for shotguns, a full kitchen and common area, an upstairs loft and basement. “To have this facility right in our backyard is something really unique to collegiate shotgun programs, and it's probably one of the nicest in the country,” says Dr. Robert Person, the Skeet and Trap Team's Officer-in-Charge and an Assistant Professor of International Relations. In comparison, Dr. Person notes that Yale University's Skeet and Trap Team, a primary rival of West Point's, has its own facility—but about an hour away from campus. “The proximity of the Scancarello Skeet and Trap Facility to post is of great value to the team,” says Person, “and



Cadets train in one of two indoor practice tanks in the Caufield Crew and Sailing Facility.

ensures cadet-athletes the opportunity to train year-round despite winter weather.”

Back on post, the tour continues near south dock with the Caufield Crew and Sailing Facility, named for Frank Caufield '34. Among other features, this facility includes two indoor practice tanks as well as a strength training room equipped with nearly 40 ergometer machines. According to former crew teammate and the current Officer-in-Charge Guy Burrow '92, this facility has completely changed the dynamics of West Point's crew program. “There are two critical parts of crew,” explains Burrow. “The first is the physical conditioning, which cadets can get through ergometers and other strength training equipment; the second is the technical piece of

Army Athletic Facilities at a Glance



Anderson Rugby Complex

- Opened in 2007
- Approximately 14,000 square feet



Tronsrue Marksmanship Center

- 36,000 usable square feet
- Includes a total of 62 firing points



Groves Golf Training Facility

- Opened in 2006
- 5,000 square feet



Left: Warrior Field at the Anderson Rugby Complex. **Right:** Men's and women's soccer teams now compete and practice directly across from the Army Soccer Building.

learning how to row, and this can only be done on the water or in the practice tanks." Of course, rowing on the Hudson is limited during the winter, which is why the Caufield Facility is so critical. "Cadets get at least double the amount of training time related to rowing technique that I had when I was a cadet," says Burrow. But the Caufield Facility offers more than just additional training time—it has become a source of great pride for the crew team. "It is one of the best collegiate rowing facilities," says Burrow, "and it gives us the resources to compete with some of the best teams in the Northeast and throughout the county."

North of the Caufield Facility is Army Baseball's Johnson Stadium at Doubleday Field, named in honor of Mr. Rupert H. Johnson '21. Though Doubleday Field has existed for more than 100 years, it received significant renovations in the late 1990s as a result of private gift funds. The upgraded stadium incorporates modern finishes and accommodations in keeping with West Point's stone architecture and includes locker rooms for home and visiting teams, a video analysis room, fully equipped training rooms, a kitchen and seating for nearly 1,000 fans. "This stadium rivals those of other institutions and is one of the best on the East Coast," says Army Baseball head coach Matt Reid. It was further updated

in 2013 with the addition of the Atkinson Baseball Press Box, constructed by WPAOG with a gift from Eugene Atkinson '66, a former Army Baseball team captain. This two-story press box (the first ever for the stadium) can accommodate up to 12 members of the media and includes the score board operation. Though still new, the press box has already become an integral part of the stadium, and the YES Network broadcasted from there for the March 30, 2013 Army vs. Yankees game. "The Atkinson Baseball Press Box really completes the stadium," says Reid, "and we hope it will continue to increase the program's media exposure."

Across from Doubleday Field are Malek Tennis Courts, named for Fred and Marlene Malek '59. Part of one of the most successful men's and women's athletic programs at West Point, these nine tennis courts, with their spectator seating and a pedestrian plaza, are recognized as some of the best outdoor tennis facilities in the Northeast. And this year, the West Point Association of Graduates is pleased to announce yet another athletic facility supported by the Maleks—the soccer stadium at Clinton Field. Situated alongside the Malek Tennis Courts, this stadium will greatly improve the current men's and women's soccer facility by adding additional seating, a new press box and updated scoreboard.



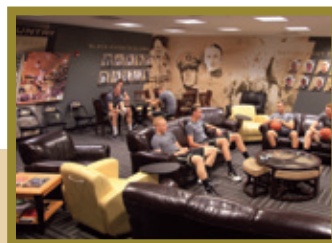
Malek Tennis Courts

- Nine courts
- Recently resurfaced in 2011



Army Soccer Building

- Renovations completed in 2013
- Approximately 3,000 square feet



Basketball Team Rooms

- Located in Randall Hall
- Men's rooms completed in 2012; women's rooms completed in 2014



Tennis Team Rooms

- Located in Lichtenberg Tennis Center
- Completed in 2013



The Atkinson Press Box at Johnson Stadium.

In addition to its stadium upgrade, the soccer program also benefits from the new Army Soccer Building, which was renovated from a room formerly dedicated to testing turbines. Used by both the men's and women's teams, the Army Soccer Building has coaches offices (with one named in memory of former Army Soccer coach Joe Palone), study space for cadet-athletes and a team meeting room—all underwritten by private donations. Located directly across the street from the soccer stadium at Clinton Field, this all-inclusive facility allows for more direct and immediate contact between cadet-athletes and coaches. "This facility has had a very positive impact on the welfare of our cadet-athletes, giving us greater visibility in the Patriot League and at the Division-I level" says Men's Soccer head coach Russell Payne. "Coaches are more connected to our players, we are closer to the field, and we are better able to compete at the championship level with our rivals."

The Army Soccer Building, the new soccer stadium, and renovated team rooms for basketball and tennis are all the result of WPAOG's current \$350-million comprehensive fundraising

campaign, *For Us All: The Campaign for West Point*, which ends December 31, 2015. Another facility resulting from this campaign is a new Lacrosse Center, to be built on the northeast corner of Michie Stadium. Designs for this two-story facility, which have been recently updated to accommodate the addition of the women's lacrosse program, include team meeting rooms and locker rooms for both men and women as well as a training room, film breakdown facilities, and an equipment room. As is true for all athletic facilities, the new lacrosse facility will aid in the program's future growth by attracting top lacrosse players to West Point.

The lacrosse facility won't be the only new athletic space near Michie Stadium; a new construction project will turn a currently unusable space of grass and rock into a turf field. This field will honor the late Carl Goldstein, a loyal Army Athletics fan and supporter, and will provide even more outdoor practice turf for Corps Squad programs. This project, forthcoming, comes at a particularly critical time for Army Athletics as it adds a women's lacrosse program to its 29 other programs.

"Our first priority at all times are the cadets as they compete and represent Army West Point on a national level," says Director of Athletics Boo Corrigan. "Establishing modern, fully equipped facilities will help them continue to improve and enhance the exceptional Division I experience we want to provide. Additionally, as we go out looking for the next leaders, these recruits are looking for a commitment in all three pillars that make us great. Facilities do matter, and will be the difference on us getting to the next level."

West Point's award-winning athletic programs deserve the facilities and resources to match their reputation. Each of the new and renovated facilities supported by private donations is not only a signal to cadet-athletes that West Point is committed to its athletics program, but a testament to the strength of Army Athletics and all those who take pride in saying, "We're #1!" ★



FOR US ALL
the Campaign for West Point



Scancarello Skeet and Trap Facility

- Stores 50 shotguns
- Holds approximately 15 competitions every year



Caufield Crew and Sailing Facility

- Opened in 2002
- Boat bays store 24 racing shells



Johnson Stadium at Doubleday Field/ Atkinson Press Box

- Stadium dimensions read 327 feet down the lines, 370 feet to the left-center field power alley, 375 feet to the gap in right-center and 400 feet to straightaway center field
- 12-ton press box

MAILBOX



If you would like to submit a comment or question, send it to Editor@wpaog.org.
You are always welcome to chat with us on one of our social media channels!

FROM: Mike Hogan '82

Congratulations to Christine Shields on her excellent article in the 2014 summer issue, "The West Point Open: Connecting Generations of West Point Gymnasts." It brought back many not-so-fond memories from my cadet days when I struggled to continually score "high zeroes" in every event during my plebe gymnastic classes. I was pleased to read about all of the former Army gymnasts who are giving back to support the program and make it that much better. Furthermore, I was thrilled about the support provided by many alumni to the team's endowment and the continuing leadership to this effort brought by Major General (Retired) Neal Creighton '53. It was an honor to work with him during my days at the Association of Graduates.

While a great article, I was disappointed to not see any mention of the Lou Gross Gymnastics Center, made possible by Herbert Lichtenberg '55 and Louis Gross '54, or anything about the impact that this remarkable facility has had on the overall Army Gymnastics program over the past two decades. Herb's and Lou's commitment of their time, talent and treasure to West Point is an inspirational story in itself. While the cake (this article) was quite delicious, I felt that you left off the icing (Herb's and Lou's contribution to Army Gymnastics and to West Point).

RESPONSE:

We are delighted to hear that you enjoyed Christine's article. As you point out, it is exciting to see so many former Army gymnasts, led by General Creighton, giving back to the program. This "network of excellence," as Army Gymnastics head coach Doug Van Everen calls these graduates, has indeed made a significant impact. And so has the Gross Center. Less than a year ago, when West Point magazine highlighted the donated buildings at West Point that made USMA tops in Princeton Review's "Best Athletic Facilities" category (see "Thanks to Donors: We're #1!" in the 2013 fall issue), Van Everen said of the 12-year old Gross Center, "When recruits come in, their jaws drop because this facility is so much better than most gyms." Thank you for reminding us about this, Mike. Read more about the gifted athletic facilities that WPAOG has built and donated to West Point on page 35 of this issue.

FROM: Robert Heaton '70

I read the summer 2014 issue of *West Point* magazine with interest and a bit of a chuckle. In 1965, I started pursuing a degree in mechanical engineering at the University of Wyoming. I joined the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) student section, getting their magazine while I attended UW. In 1966, I received an appointment to USMA. After Beast, during the fall of 1966, I had enough time to send in a change of address to the ASME magazine. I received a letter back indicating that I was "no longer in an approved engineering curriculum" and no longer eligible for ASME's student rates. I can't remember if I read that letter at the dinner table in an effort to get a fall-out to eat at least one meal in a civilized manner (we still had the old 4th class system in 1966, and it was alive and well). I am sure that the upperclassmen would have determined that it was "fall-out worthy" to find out that the first engineering school in the United States was not approved as an engineering school. I did go on to get that degree in engineering right out of West Point (MSME, Purdue 1972). So take that ASME: Purdue accepted the undergrad courses for my master's!

RESPONSE:

While working on this issue, we heard several stories such as yours, Robert. We are sure that Sylvanus Thayer 1808, Claudius Crozet, Dennis H. Mahan 1824 and others who initiated the impact that engineers who graduated from the United States Military Academy had on this Nation and on engineering programs at other institutions of higher learning would be appalled if they knew that USMA did not have "an approved engineering curriculum" from ASME. You should know, however, that six of the eight programs detailed in the 2014 summer issue are approved by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, including the Mechanical Engineering Program (and Chemical Engineering is in the process of becoming accredited)!

FROM: Damian Shepard, USMA Marketing

I'm writing to share just how thrilled I am with *West Point* magazine, Summer 2014. The cover story was an easy read that really balanced being "informative" with "telling the story," but mostly... I absolutely loved the creativity and detail that went into the layout and design of the timeline for that story.

RESPONSE:

Thanks for your comments! Our goal is to tell the West Point story, so if we've made USMA's marketing office happy, we know we're on target!

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The decision to serve does not come easy, so we asked our Facebook and LinkedIn followers, “Who was the single most influential person in your decision to attend West Point?” From colleagues and counselors, to dads and old grads, inspiration came from many different places.



Alisha Houston Angie Shinn, Outreach recruiter



Collin Smith My Dad. Told me to sacrifice early for success long term. I’m now enjoying the 7th year of my military career serving as a Judge Advocate. And, as always, BEAT NAVY!



Erik Borggren Ironically, a Navy grad. My good friend **Seth Schuknecht**, USNA ‘99, who challenged me to consider the service academies and service to country. So thankful I ended up at West Point, but so thankful for Seth as well!



John Michael Williams II COL Irv Smith and COL Rob Johnson in admissions. To say they inspired me is understating it, as well!



Diane Kay Glikas Westover
Norman Schwarzkopf



Shane Zehnder
Estimator at HD Supply

Shane

I was groomed by my father from birth to go. My father turned down an appointment and regretted it for the rest of his life so he wasn’t about to have a son make the same mistake. In fact, my father loves telling the story, when I was about to start kindergarten a friend of my mother said, “Oh how nice, Shane, you’re about to start school! Where will you be going?” “West Point,” I responded. So to answer the question, my father was my influence, motivation and number one cheerleader. Thank you, Dad.



Mohamed Norhakim
GEN Dwight D. Eisenhower



Renee Thomas CSM “Jack” Frost



Mark Nelson
Director, Division of Parking and Transportation at City of Portsmouth, NH

Mark

My father, Class of ‘52, whose collection of Howitzers were a constant source of inspiration for me. He never encouraged me, nor really helped me, in my quest to go. He wanted it to be my decision and effort. When I asked him how to apply, he said, “Write your congressman.” When I asked him who that was, he said, “Find out.” A week before Beast started, I asked for any words of wisdom or advice, since we hadn’t talked much about what I was about to undergo. He said, “I’ll tell you what my older brother (Class of ‘48) told me when I asked the same thing: ‘You won’t like it.’” He was right about that!



Leon Patterson
Sheetfed Press Repair

Leon

We had a neighbor who moved in when I was 14. His son was Roy Degenhardt ‘62. Until then, I didn’t know the place still existed. I knew people like Lee, MacArthur and Eisenhower went there, but I knew nothing about the place. I thought the Army-Navy game was between active Army and Navy troops, although I had never watched it, or I’d have seen the cadets. Like Jim, I wouldn’t have thought I had a chance at getting in until I saw a catalog in the guidance office at school when I was 16 and read the general requirements.



Joseph “Jody” Wilkerson
Defense & Aerospace Professional

Joseph “Jody”

I had dual influences: The West Point Story (the classic black & white series in the 60s) and COL (R) Davey L. Stanley, my senior Army instructor, JROTC program, at West Brunswick High School.



Scott McAllister
My platoon leader in the 82nd Airborne, LT Stumpf



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“Fore!” the Corps (and Grads):



at West Point

By Ted Spiegel, Guest Writer

At West Point, golf can be pursued on many levels. Top-flight high school players, recruited for Army's Golf Team, can contend for Patriot League and NCAA honors. Faculty, staff and returning grads can enjoy the highly regarded 18-hole golf course, supported by the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Program. And cadets who have never played before can elect the introductory golf course offered under The Department of Physical Education's (DPE) Lifetime Sports Program, which is designed to inspire physical activity in a graduate's days beyond West Point.

Interestingly, this last alternative is how Major General Maxwell Taylor '22 sold the idea of a West Point golf course to the Army Chief of Staff (then General Dwight D. Eisenhower '15) in a 1946 letter: "I propose to authorize the construction of an 18-hole golf course on the reservation at West Point. The purpose of this facility will be primarily to afford physical training and recreation to cadets in a sport which may be pursued throughout their

careers." The day after receiving that letter, Eisenhower stamped it: "Approved by The Secretary of War." In truth, the Army had been using German POWs during the fall and winter to clear the site; Taylor was now seeking authorization to pursue a contract for the course's completion on behalf of the Army Athletic Association. One anecdote from Bill Quinn '51 proposes that plebes replaced Germans as the free labor pool. "During Beast

Barracks in 1947, my tactical officer, a golf enthusiast, would load us in trucks after dinner and take us to that long stretch leading down to Washington Gate,” Quinn said. “My classmates and I were clearing rocks off the future fairways that we find ourselves playing every time we come home for a round of golf.”

Quinn was one of sixty or so grads who returned to West Point in June 2014 for the 21st Annual Alumni Golf Outing, confirming Taylor’s view that golf is a sport worthy of graduate pursuit throughout their careers. Of course, with \$2,000 of prize money in play, 36 holes of golf, lunch at the West Point Golf Course Club House and more, there were many reasons for grads to come back to the 6,007-yard, par-70 course that a recent issue of *LINKS Magazine* ranked in the top 10 of the 150 U.S. military courses worldwide, noting, “As you would expect from the world’s best military school, it’s always in tiptop shape.”

Graduates’ comments from the June outing suggest just how powerful the combination of sport and socializing, which golf allows so well, can be. One 60-year old grad peppered his golfing pride with optimism: “I’m a double-bogey golfer, but the nice thing is I’m getting better.” “Shooting 79 for a 72-year old is not too bad,” said another. A third grad struck a note of realism: “We’re all over the place—like lumberjacks—in the woods half the time, having to cut our way out.” And graduates and golf needn’t be limited to the annual outing or even to West Point’s 66-year old course. Every pentennial reunion has a golfing event on its schedule. More than 20 graduates showed up for the Class of 1964’s golf match this May, and they proudly spoke of their

class’ Spring Fling and Fall Brawl, which annually brings them together at golf courses in Virginia and in the Carolinas. West Point golf is even international. One grad who came to play in the alumni outing recalled playing in 1965 on a nine-hole course which encircled his camp in Korea: “The course was laid out counter-clockwise, and I kept slicing to the right. Lost most of my balls over the concertina wire. Finished up, threw my clubs in the dumpster and didn’t play again for 17 years.”

Sixty-five years separate Quinn, the oldest grad at June’s alumni outing, and T.J. Anthony Binkowski ’16, a cadet who took DPE’s “Basic Golf” course last spring, but Binkowski’s comments after taking the course sound very much like a combination of déjà vu and preview. “At the conclusion of the class I decided that I will, without a doubt, make golf a lifetime sport,” Binkowski said. “It is one of the few sports that is challenging but at the same time somewhat relaxing, and the instruction has led to me taking my newfound skills onto the golf course.”

Instruction in “Basic Golf,” according to Ray Bosse, one of DPE’s instructors, boils down to three elements: “proper swing, timing and good grip.” “If cadets see improvement every time they get a club in their hands, and that results in enjoyment, they will be encouraged to play more golf when they have more leisure time and play it for the rest of their lives,” said Bosse. “We give them the tools to go out and enjoy golf and not be frustrated like the majority of duffers who take up the game.” Each year 120 cadets pick up six clubs—a five wood, a five iron, a seven iron, a nine iron, a pitching wedge and a putter—and put those clubs through

The class of 1964 meets the challenges of the West Point Golf Course during their 50th Reunion.



Photo: Ted Spiegel

their paces. Over the span of 19 lessons, the cadets drive balls with the wood and their long irons at the West Point Golf course, perfect their short game with irons on Daly Field, and putt on the practice green adjacent to Sedgwick's Statue.

"After multiple lessons with the short game (seven and nine iron lessons), I felt confident that I could play well enough not to embarrass myself on the course," Binkowski said. "My first round of golf was a great success in my eyes; not only did I not lose too many balls, but I was able to enjoy the shots that I played well."

Colonel Gregory Daniels, the Master of the Sword, who is responsible for ensuring that DPE's physical education program is arguably the most robust in the nation and making officers commissioned through West Point physically fit through DPE's core courses—namely, boxing, combatives and survival swimming—said, "Our soldiers expect us to be at the top of our game physically, but we also have the responsibility to offer a selection of sports for which cadets can develop a passion that will last into their old age as an outlet from the stressors of a very demanding profession."

"My father and I have gone golfing several times," said Binkowski. "It's led to an enjoyable competition between us and a strengthening of our bond, and the idea that golf strengthened this bond, which was already close, speaks volumes of the game's social value." Yet, Binkowski received more than just relaxation and social values from his "Basic Golf" instruction. "My greater

understanding of the rules also allowed me to make better judgment calls in tough situations, such as playing from the rough and knowing when to avoid risky maneuvers," Binkowski said. In addition to tactics, he learned technical skills. "The biggest surprise in golf was without a doubt the complexity and intricacy of the swing," he said. "Being a lifelong baseball player I figured I could master the swing overnight—at most in a couple

"We have a young team and they are ready to grow as players and developing officers; the future is bright for West Point golf!"

— Army Golf head coach Brian Watts

of lessons—but unlike baseball where there is more reliance on hand-eye coordination than on a technically sound swing, there is no moving ball." Echoing the lessons he learned from Bosse, Binkowski offered the following secret to the game: "Successful strokes in golf lie within one's ability to master the fundamentals and have a smooth, sound swing." With each swing a challenge in its own right, Binkowski said that he really enjoys this technical aspect of the game, but he also admits that the inability to repeat a smooth swing every time he strikes the ball is his largest frustration by far.

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MENS SANA IN CORPORE SANIO



The putting green at Trophy Point has been a “Basic Golf” classroom for decades.



CDT Peter Kim '17 took home two trophies at the 2014 Patriot League Championship.

Perfecting one's golf swing is also a principle that Army Golf head coach Brian Watts preaches to his players. “A free swing with no hesitation is essential,” Watts said. “If you think about all of the muscular control necessary, you are not able to swing freely.” Watts coaches his players to work on their techniques on the driving range and putting green so that they come to the match fully committed to their shots, having a fully intended swing. “In the golf course, you should only be thinking about how to get the ball into the hole in the fewest number of strokes,” Watts said.

This technique has been paying dividends for Army Golf. The team finished second out of seven teams at the Patriot League Golf Championship last April, which was played on the West Point Golf Course, and plebe Peter Kim '17 won individual play at the tournament, earning both the Most Outstanding Golfer and Most Outstanding Rookie Awards. Kim's score of 209 for 54 holes made him the only player to finish the tournament at one under par and put him in a tie for having the second-best total in Patriot League history. Such success is nothing new for Army Golf. The team has won 10 Patriot League Championships since

1991 (including both the fall and spring Championships in 1994), and its .695 winning percentage since it became a varsity sport at West Point in 1921 is one of the best records for all Army teams.

The physical demands of cadet life might be one reason for the team's success. NCAA teams do not use caddies or carts, and players tote their 25-pound bags up and down hills, traversing courses which measure, on average, five miles; Army players are used to such physical demands. Superb training facilities might be another reason. In the wintry and wet months, the golf team continues practice within its 5,000-square-foot indoor training facility, opened in 2006 and named for Richard N. Groves '58, who lettered in golf for three consecutive years. Watts and his assistant coach, Rich Brazeau, put players through their paces using a sophisticated Full Swing Golf simulator. The computer-driven training aid projects progressive golf course views from courses throughout the world onto its screen. As cadets swing at balls with regular clubs, sensors track and evaluate each shot. The device also projects long and short game challenges, giving each player individualized computer and human mentoring. A final reason might be the players themselves, many of whom started playing golf before entering the first grade. In their years before playing NCAA-level golf, many learned relevant lessons that presently support their play on the Army team. "You need to be patient, calm under pressure," said one. "Good golf is self-discipline; it is all up to you," said another. A third team member said that golf never stops imparting its wisdom to those who listen: "A lot of life lessons are learned in one round and throughout a season." After listening to his players expound on their golf philosophies, head coach Watts reflected as well: "We have a young team and they are ready to grow as players and developing officers; the future is bright for West Point golf!" ★

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



On blustery days, Army Golf head coach Brian Watts has his players utilize the Full Swing Golf simulator, housed inside the Groves Golf Training Facility.



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Gripping Hands

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1961

Rosenkrantz inducted into Hall of Fame



MG(R) Robert B. Rosenkrantz '61 was inducted into the U.S. Army Force Management Hall of Fame May 29 at the Pentagon. Rosenkrantz retired in 1995 following a distinguished 34-year career and is the 14th inductee to receive the honor, which recognizes military and civilian personnel who made significant and lasting contributions in doctrine, manning, and equipping during their careers.

1989

Morales completes White House Tour



COL Rich Morales '89 recently completed his tour as the Executive Director of the Joining Forces program at the White House. Rich is currently commanding the ROTC Brigade at Fort Sam Houston, and then will come to West Point as a Professor,

USMA and Deputy Head of Systems Engineering. First Lady Michelle Obama praised Morales' work saying he “provided such wonderful spirit and leadership” to the initiative.

★ General Officer Promotions ★

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

To the rank of General: Lieutenant General Joseph Votel '80

Be Thou at Peace

Deaths reported from June 1–August 31, 2014.

COL Jay P. Dawley, USA, (R)	1939	Col James B. Townsend Jr., USAF, (R)	1945	Mr. Guerdon S. Sines	1951	Mr. John E. Skillman III	1961
LTC Thomas F. Gordon, USA, (R)	1940	Lt Col Robert G. Valpey, USAF, (R)	1945	COL Samuel J. Hubbard, USA, (R)	1952	Mr. Curtis A. Davis	1964
Col Gerard A. La Rocca, USAF, (R)	1941	COL James T. Dixon, USA, (R)	1946	COL Michael P. Juvenal, USA, (R)	1952	Mr. Thomas F. Borkowski	1965
COL George B. Moore, USA, (R)	1941	Maj Gen Harrison Lobdell Jr., USAF, (R)	1946	LTC Neal A. Lespasio, USA, (R)	1952	Mr. Joseph D. Cavolick	1966
COL John Baker, USA, (R)	1942	Mr. David A. Newman	1946	Mr. Ralph E. Hickey	1953	COL Henry R. Farrell, USA, (R)	1966
MG Willis D. Crittenberger Jr., USA, (R)	1942	COL Francis M. Palmatier, USA, (R)	1946	COL James E. Linka, USA, (R)	1953	CPT David I. Haines, USA, (R)	1966
COL George E. Newman, USA, (R)	1943	1LT Albert L. Ramsey Jr., USA, (R)	1946	Col Wallace K. Haff, USAF, (R)	1954	LTC Robert M. Meccia, USA, (R)	1966
LTC Russell F. Scott Jr., USA, (R)	1943	Col Earl R. Van Sickle, USAF, (R)	1946	LTC George A. Lacour, USA, (R)	1954	LTC Charles M. Stancil, USA, (R)	1967
LTC James B. Campbell, USA, (R)	1944	COL George A. Lynn, USA, (R)	1947	Mr. Robert M. Mischak	1954	Mr. Edward B. Cutting Jr.	1968
Lt Col William T. Courtney, USAF, (R)	1944	Col Arthur W. Banister, USAF, (R)	1949	Mr. Floyd E. Siefferman Jr.	1954	Mr. Richard F. Des Jardien	1968
COL Chalmer L. Deeter Jr., USA, (R)	1944	Mr. Carl R. Crites	1949	Lt Col Walter C. Sager, USAF, (R)	1956	LTC Howard L. Hellerstedt, USA, (R)	1969
Lt Col James A. Downs Jr., USAF, (R)	1944	LTC David G. Freeman, USA, (R)	1949	The Reverend Donald B. Baughman	1957	Mr. Johnnie L. Welsh	1969
Mr. H. Minton Francis	1944	COL Richard E. Gillespie, USA, (R)	1949	LTC James J. Jameson Jr., USA, (R)	1957	Mr. Michael P. Murphy	1970
COL Maxwell C. Murphy Jr., USA, (R)	1944	Mr. Albert H. Goering	1949	Col Timothy G. Lawton, USAF, (R)	1957	COL John A. Spears Jr., USA, (R)	1971
CPT Leonard J. Gilbert PhD, USA, (R)	1945	Mr. Charles G. Roebuck	1949	Mr. Donald R. Schafer	1957	Mr. George W. Everett Jr.	1973
Mr. David Higgins IV	1945	MG Lee E. Surut, USA, (R)	1949	COL Alexander A. Vardamis, USA, (R)	1957	MAJ John Stewart, USA, (R)	1979
Mr. James L. Malony	1945	Dr. Ira R. Ehrlich	1950	MAJ James C. Corr, USA, (R)	1959	Mr. Allen H. Stults	1979
Mr. Palmer S. McGee	1945	MG James L. Kelly, USA, (R)	1950	Mr. Marion F. Graven III	1959	Mr. Mark G. Paslawsky	1981
Mr. Frederick W. Robinson	1945	BG Maurice D. Roush, USA, (R)	1950	COL Robert A. Schow Jr., USA, (R)	1959	Mr. Charles R. Beard	1982
Mr. R. R. Siegel	1945	COL Charles R. Smith Jr., USA, (R)	1950	LTC William L. Ritchie II, USA, (R)	1960	LTC Mark R. Bliese, USA	1987
Lt Col Vernon M. Smith, USAF, (R)	1945	Dr. John D. Daigh	1951	Mr. Barton P. Chambers	1961	Mr. Sean Gano	1988
LTC Harry T. Stewart, USA, (R)	1945	Lt Col Robert Lerner, USAF, (R)	1951	LTC Sergei V. Olive, USA, (R)	1961	CPT Jason B. Jones, USA	2007

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- Academy Scholars Program
- Arvin Annex
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- Diversity Initiatives
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791



744



USMAPS
Alumni

13

CADET CLUBS



The Fallen Graduates Memorial Scholarship Endowment



J. Wyatt Allgood, son of COL Brian Allgood '82, is now attending Trinity University in San Antonio, TX with funds received from WPAOG's FGMS.

West Point graduates support their alma mater in many ways. But West Point grads do more than just support their institution; they support their own.

Since 2011, the West Point Association of Graduates has been raising funds for the Fallen Graduates Memorial Scholarship Endowment (FGMS) to benefit the children of graduates who are killed in combat. Administered by WPAOG's Alumni Support Committee, FGMS provides meaningful financial assistance to help defray the cost of college for eligible children, who can reapply for the scholarship each year they are in school, up to four years.

"I support this endowment because of its potential effect on members of the Long Gray Line," says Craig Carson '68, who first brought the idea of a memorial scholarship to his class after reflecting with his wife Susan on the broad family implications of a graduate's battlefield death. The Class of 1968, no strangers to such consequences of war after losing several classmates in Vietnam, embraced the endowment as a way to fulfill the compelling urge to do something after a loss. "It's a genuine need," says Carson. "I've seen families go from prosperous to poverty

and from inclusion to isolation after these tragedies, and our bond in the Long Gray Line should mean that we look out for each other."

Recognizing the merits of this initiative, WPAOG included FGMS as a Long Gray Line need in *For Us All: The Campaign for West Point*. The Classes of 1965, 1968, 1984 and 1995 have already pledged to support this campaign need through their Class Reunion gift campaigns, but more help is needed. Thanks to generous graduates and friends, the endowment has now reached \$1 million.

This fall, FGMS awarded funds to its first recipient, J. Wyatt Allgood, the son of Colonel Brian Allgood and Colonel Jane Allgood (Retired), both from the Class of 1982. Wyatt's father, an orthopedic surgeon and former commander of the Keller Army Community Hospital at West Point, was killed in 2007 while serving as the Multi-National Force Iraq Command Surgeon when his helicopter was shot down by an SA-7 missile near Al Taji, Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Wyatt is now a member of the Class of 2018 at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas. While his stellar high school record (Eagle Scout, President's Volunteer Service Award, Model United Nations participant, Boys & Girls Club summer camp counselor and other distinctions) has merited him Trinity's Trustees' Scholarship, WPAOG's FGMS has authorized up to \$10,000 in order to help him pay the balance of his tuition and the other expenses that come with a post-secondary education.

"Every graduate has faced, could have faced or will face the risk of becoming a casualty," says Dutch Hostler '68, Class President. "For those graduates serving in harm's way—now or in the future—should the worst happen, it might give you peace of mind to know that through WPAOG, the permanent face of the Long Gray Line, assistance could be made available for your son's or daughter's education."

"Generation through generation, West Point graduates have struggled side by side with one another through numerous hardships," says Carson. "By supporting FGMS, we can take care of each other for generations to come, too."

For more information about FGMS, go to WestPointForUsAll.org/fallen-graduates-endowment.html. ★

"It's a genuine need"

— Craig Carson '68

The definitive history of the Civil War, as taught to the cadets of the U.S. Military Academy

The United States Military Academy at West Point has commissioned military history texts for its cadets since 1836, and for the first time in more than twenty years, West Point has authorized a new military history series that will bear its name. The flagship volume of that series, *The West Point History of the Civil War*, will be available to everyone October 21.

Through a partnership of the West Point Department of History, Simon & Schuster, and Rowan Technology Solutions, *The West Point History of the Civil War* will be available both as a beautiful hardback collector's edition and as an enhanced e-book like the one used by cadets in class. Both the print and enhanced editions include exclusive images, dozens of maps, and the expert analysis of preeminent historians commissioned by West Point.

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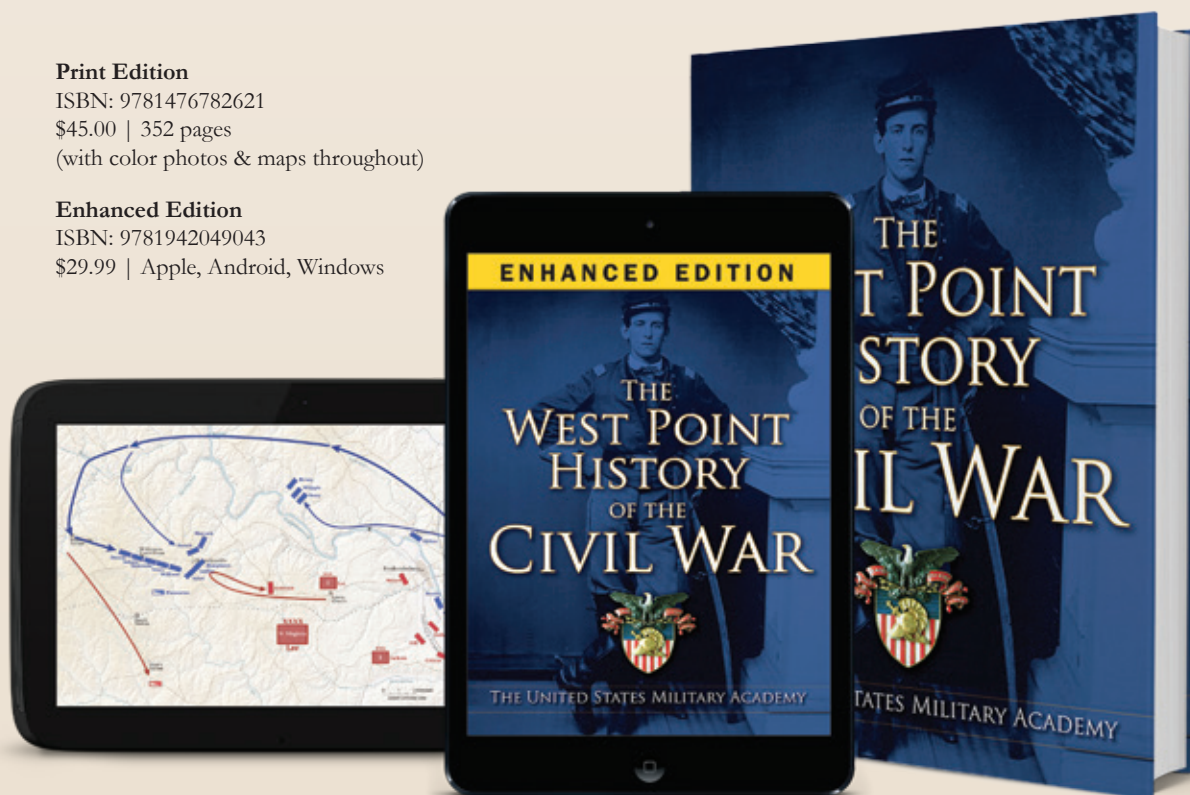
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START^{the}DAYS!

NOVEMBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
<p>Football Games</p> <p>1 BEAT AIR FORCE!</p> <p>8 BEAT CONNECTICUT! (Yankee Stadium)</p> <p>15 BEAT WESTERN KENTUCKY!</p> <p>22 BEAT FORDHAM!</p>	<p>25</p> <p>WPAOG Annual Meeting (Herbert Alumni Center)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>December Graduation</p>
	DECEMBER	JANUARY
<p>20</p> <p>Branch Night for Class of 2015</p>	<p>BEAT NAVY!</p> <p>13</p> <p>Tailgate and Football Game Baltimore, MD</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Second Semester Begins</p>
<p>20-21</p> <p>Service Academy Career Conference, San Antonio, TX</p>	<p>16-20</p> <p>Term-End Exams</p>	<p>31</p> <p>500th Night for the Class of 2016</p>

Upcoming events suggested by West Point staff & faculty.

Events for Feb 2015—Apr 2015 should be sent to editor@wpaog.org by Nov 15, 2014.

For the entire calendar, go to

WestPointAOG.org/calendar

West Point's Eisenhower Hall Theatre



An Evening With
AMY GRANT

Saturday
September 13th
8 p.m.



JAY LENO

Friday,
September 19th
8 p.m.



JO DEE MESSINA

Friday,
September 26th
8 p.m.



MIKE SUPER
Magic & Illusion

Sunday,
October 5th
3 p.m.



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Past in Review

The Way It Was: USMA Admission Requirements and Entrance Exams in the Mid-1800s

The concept of general entrance requirements and examinations did not come about until the 1850s, almost a century after USMA was founded. At that time, education varied widely throughout the United States, with public and tax-supported schools only existing in the Northeast. Schools elsewhere in the country typically offered little more than an elementary education and were attended when our largely agrarian population had crops growing in the ground, not during planting or harvest seasons. Wealthy families resorted to sending their children to academies either in the United States or in Europe. As a result, there was a great disparity in the educational qualifications of those seeking entrance to West Point.

Along with their conditional appointments, each candidate received a catalog listing the qualifications for admission to the Military Academy: "Candidates must be actual residents of the Congressional district, territory or District of Columbia for which the appointment was made. They must be over 16 years and under 21 years of age at the date of admission. They must be five feet in height, and free from deformity, disease, or infirmity which would render them unfit for military service, as well as from any disorder of an infectious or immoral

character. They must be able to read well and spell correctly, to write a fair and legible hand, and perform with facility and accuracy the various operations of the four ground rules of arithmetic, of reduction, of simple and compound proportions, and of vulgar and decimal fractions."

In May each year, orders were issued by the Academic Board identifying Third and First Classmen to be tutors for the new candidates. The assigned cadets tutored the new candidates in arithmetic, writing and spelling and also marched them to the hospital for medical examinations where doctors inspected them rigorously, much the same as horses were examined at the time. The candidate's teeth and posture were checked for deformities and any sign of infectious disease or chronic illness was cause for rejection. Height and age were recorded. An eye test consisted of a coin being placed on the wall some 14 feet away, and each candidate was required to validate whether the coin was heads or tails.

In June, the Academic Board (made up of the Superintendent, the Commandant, and the professors heading each department) met to examine each new candidate. Each candidate was examined in mathematics and given several problems to work at a blackboard. Next, each candidate was required to read a designated paragraph from a book, and his pronunciation was scrutinized. All candidates also were required to answer math and English questions. Finally, each was taken into a side room and required to write a short paragraph to check his spelling and writing skills.

Once the candidates were examined, they were organized by height and assigned to one of four cadet companies until exam results were announced. A list of rejected candidates was posted within one week, and these left immediately. The second and last examination was held near the end of August: these late-arriving candidates missed the entire summer of training in The School of the Soldier, so Third Classmen were detailed to train these cadets known as "Seps" during the academic year.



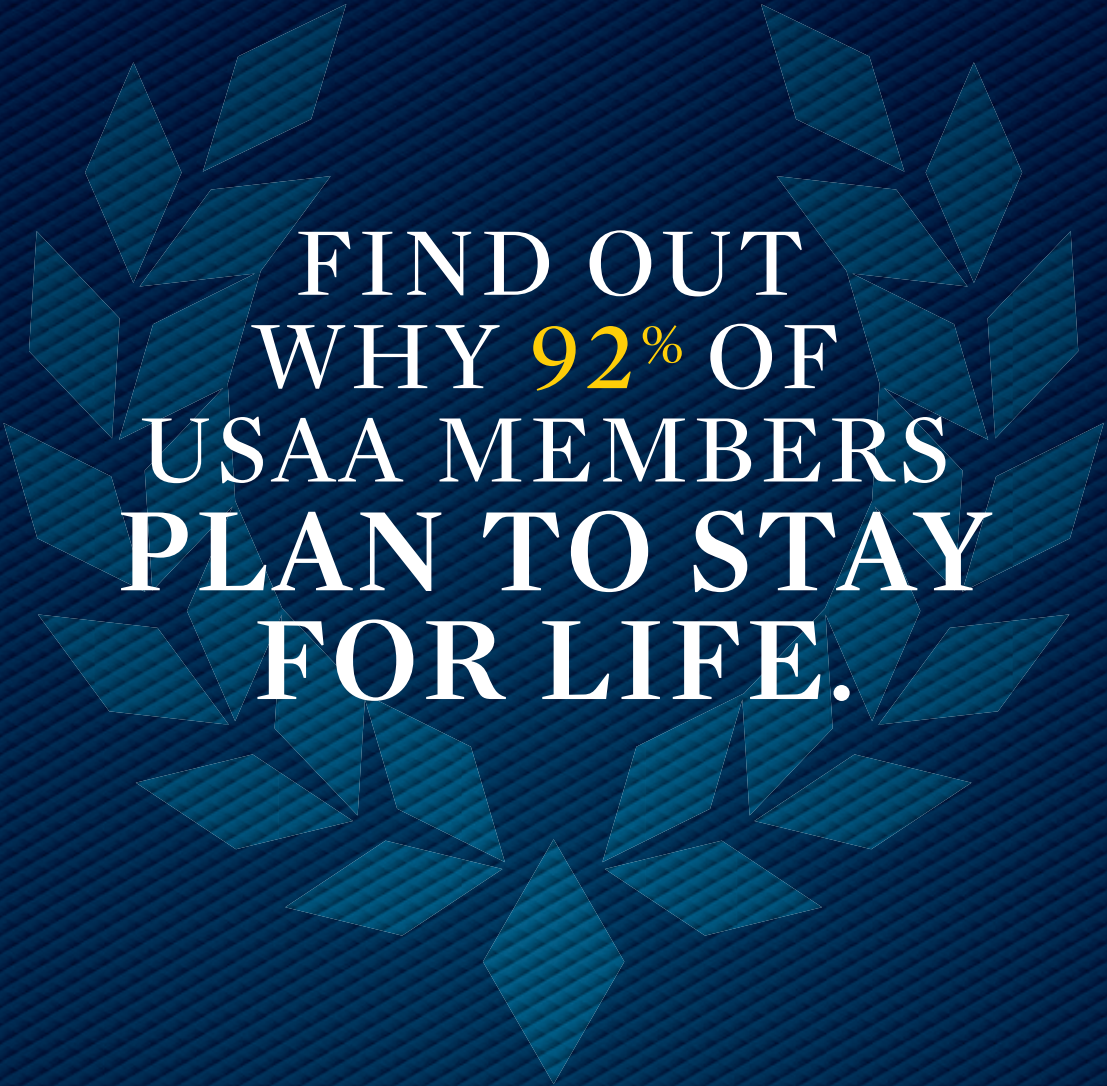
The size of the entering class each year was not finalized until September 1st, when "Seps" and turn-backs from previous classes were included. However, passing the entrance examinations did not automatically turn the candidates into cadets: that formal step occurred after their examinations in January the following year, when cadet warrants were issued and an oath of allegiance signed.

Entrance examinations were not increased in detail and scope until 1866, when English grammar, U.S. history and geography were added. In 1870, oral examinations were eliminated and all subsequent exams were in writing. In 1901, Congress directed the Secretary of War to specify the subjects on which entering candidates were to be examined, resulting in further expansion of subject matter.

The form and substance of the entrance examinations have changed greatly over the years, as have the qualifications of the applicants. What has not changed is USMA's desire for exceptional candidates who are of outstanding character that will make highly effective officers in the U.S. Army.

Information in this article was taken from "Gray Matter" by J. Phoenix, Esq., published in ASSEMBLY magazine July 2008.





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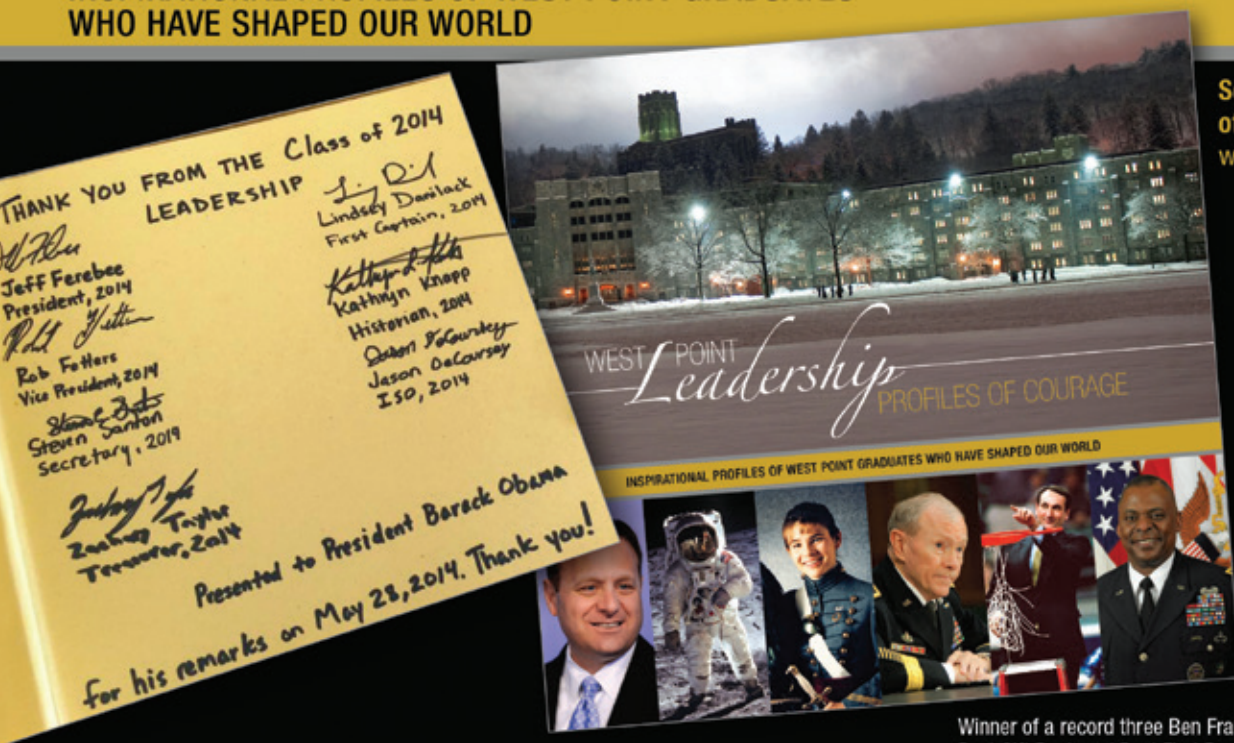
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