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TO: CADET PARENTS

SUBJECT: THE "CADETS OF WEST POINT" WEB SITE


The Cadets of West Point web site (www.westpointcadets.org) is designed to help promising young Americans discover a unique national resource - today's West Point Cadets. These outstanding young men and women are being groomed to become tomorrow's "leaders of character" for the United States Army. Each is a role model for future potential West Point applicants, having been thoroughly and objectively evaluated – and nominated - before being offered an appointment. They are truly America's best and brightest.

The web site is used by high school students, serving soldiers, West Point's Admissions Field Force, Congressional Staffers, Guidance Counselors, Army Recruiters, members of the Long Gray Line, West Point Societies and Classes, Veterans, Cadet Parents and the Cadet Public Relations Council. A PowerPoint slide show is available for display at local high schools, Founders Day Dinners and West Point Parents Club events.

The site includes cadets from all over the nation and the world. Many have provided detailed information about their:

- High Schools
- High school activities and achievements
- Academic Majors
- Military Awards
- Cadet Achievements and Awards
- Extra-curricular activities
- Varsity Sports
- Branch preferences
- Prep School attendance
- Prior Service
- General Comments
- Facebook & Twitter links
- Photos
- Email addresses

Content is organized geographically. A "Cadet Map" provides links to cadets from each of the 50 states, US cadets whose hometowns are overseas and International

(foreign) cadets. Each state list is sorted by last name and lists only those cadets from that state who have agreed to participate. The list can be resorted alphabetically by hometown or by class by clicking on the column header, “Hometown” or “Class.” If an “Athena’s helmet” () is displayed beside the cadet’s class, then by clicking on the helmet you’ll be directed to that cadet’s individual web page.

Since many Americans are not familiar with West Point class crests and military and cadet awards, each of those images is linked to a description of that crest or award. Following Branching (in November) First Classmen who tell me their branch assignments will have their assigned branch insignia displayed with a link to a page describing that branch.

The “Frequently Asked Questions” section includes answers provided by current cadets. Here readers can learn a lot about the background, experience, and hopes and dreams of these special young men and women.

Since this effort started 10 years ago there have been more than 160,000 visits from people all over the world. How many of those actually started dialogues with cadets is unknown, but many cadets tell me they’ve been contacted with questions about their West Point experience.

What can you, as a cadet parent, do to help?

1. Encourage your cadet to fill out and submit the form at www.westpointcadets.org/cadetinput.mhtml.
2. If your cadet has granted permission to post a photo but hasn’t sent one for posting, please send me your cadet’s photo – preferably in cadet uniform.
3. Encourage your cadet to periodically revisit and update his/her individual web page.
4. Share this message with other members of your local West Point Parents Club.
5. Encourage your local high school guidance counselors, faculty and congressional representative to refer promising young men and women to this site.

6. Since this site is hosted by West-Point.Org which conducts modest semi-annual fund raisers to support the cost of hosting this site as well as a variety of other West Point related sites and services, please consider supporting such fund raisers.

Thank you for your own personal commitment to our nation, its security and its future. Thank you also for raising, inspiring and supporting a very special son or daughter.

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