Gamecocks Win Big!

By CDT Matthew Rowe ’14

Top: C-3 Commander, Cadet Captain Brian Walter, smugly poses in front of C-3’s hard earned awards. Go Gamecocks!

The ball hung in that air as the Gamecocks held their collective breath from the stands. At the end of the football’s path were the two eager hands of firstie Jeff Hexom, who confidently snatched the ball out of the air and crowned the Cocks winners of $1500. Although a key contributor and driving force behind the Gamecock’s recent victory in the USAA spirit competition, Cadet Jeff Hexom was also a part of a company wide effort to earn the cash prize.

In early September, C-3 Commander Cadet Brian Walter was notified of the competition by Cadet Hexom and organized a venture to get eighty members of C-3 to register in an online competition sponsored by USAA. The rules were simple; the first company to get eighty members to sign up would get the chance to earn $1500 at the Army Northwestern game the following Saturday. At midnight, when the sign-up opened online, the Gamecocks had an accountability formation and then sprinted to their rooms to register. Despite some technical difficulties, the Gamecocks managed to win the chance to go before the Corps of Cadets in the third quarter of the game and compete in a series of football challenges. Under the leadership of Spirit Officer Jeff Hexom a team of yearlings, Tyler Kamide, Maher Al-Jahawsheh, and plebe David Evans, was assembled to represent C-3 in the competition. By winning the sign up, the company had already won $500. The next four tasks to be completed would be worth $250 each. There was a successful long snap by CDT Evans, a catch of that long snap and run through obstacles by Cadet Kamide, who then completed a fifteen yard pass to Cadet Al-Jahawsheh, and finally Cadet Al-Jahawsheh threw a twenty-five yard pass to Cadet Hexom.

When asked about the moments leading up to the challenge, Cadet Hexom replied that his team went in cold, but confident in their abilities. Hexom stated that he was definitely a little nervous with all of Michie Stadium watching, but “he couldn’t let down his Cocks.” The team certainly didn’t let down their company.

Thrilled with the profit, Cadet Walter intends to use the earnings to buy a new company fridge, and make renovations to the dayroom. The company is always on the lookout for other creative ways to make a profit, and looks forward to future successes like the one just seen in the USAA spirit competition.
Blast from the Past by Kevin Knuuti ‘87

USMA used to have its own Cadet-produced humor magazine, similar to the National Lampoon. It was called the "Pointer" and in 1986 one of the firsties in C-3 had the idea to produce and include the attached "Photo Phunnies." Jim Meskill conceived the idea for this and put it all together. I was the evil firstie, Tom Kelso was the OC, and Tom Jones was the sloppy plebe. This was pretty popular when it came out and a lot of cadets, TACs and P’s commented on it. Where are we today? Jim Meskill (C3 ‘87) is now a Special Agent with the FBI in NYC, Tom Kelso (C3 ‘87) is a member of the Senior National Intelligence Service, Tom Jones (C3 ‘90) is somewhere but the last time I saw him was when we bumped into each other at a bar outside Ft Benning when I was at the Infantry Officer Advanced Course and he was at the Mortar Platoon Officer Course (or something like that). I am now the Technical Director at the Army’s Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory in Hanover, NH and am also on faculty at USMA (in CME) for my Army Reserve assignment (no sleeping in my classes!).

PHOTO PHUNNIES by Jim Meskill

[Images of humorous cadet photos with captions like: "What’s the matter, mister? Don’t ya like it?" "Hey, mister, wanna dance in my room and listen to music? Oh... yes sir!" "Ugh... Ugh... But sir I thought." "Sloppy shirt, broken name tag, no off line, mister, you’re gross!" "Good job, Knuuti!"

[Handwritten note: "Hey, mister, wanna dance in my room and listen to music? Oh... yes sir!"
"Sloppy shirt, broken name tag, no off line, mister, you’re gross!"
"Good job, Knuuti!"
"What’s going on here?!"
"Are you going to do your homework?"
"S mieć na radar, na plasa!"
"No excuse, mister!"]
During the fall and football season, it is customary for many Old Grads to come back to West Point. Whether it’s for a class reunion or just to see a great game, it is all about the Long Gray Line and connecting with each other throughout the years. Below are a few picture and quotes from this year’s season.

"Pix of the 2nd & 4th Regiments on the parade field from Saturday, 9/10, along with one I took of the "old farts" lining up for the parade (hopefully, I look much better/younger than many of my classmates).

Joe Curry ‘71

"Thanks again for setting things up. I enjoyed my visit with CDTs Walter and Smith, and appreciated them showing me around. Forty-six years spanned across two company commanders! Please forward my email and thank them for me. Though there have been some changes, physical & otherwise since my time, my perception is that the fundamental experience is the same. West Point is strong. Go Gamecocks! Beat Navy!

Torrence Wilson ‘66

"Game On” Football Season Style! By CDT Alexis Salmon ‘14

Top Right: Joe Curry (C-3, 71) poses for a picture with other classmates at a home football game day parade.

Center Right: Left to right, in front of the dedicated "class tree" outside of the Supe’s quarters: Joe Curry, Marc Erlandson, Charlie Enwright, & Jim Ford (all of C-3, Class of 1971)

Bottom Right: Past Gamecocks tour the C-3 area during a home football game, discovering that their "old sign" is still in use!

Bottom Left: The first Gamecock commander, Torrence Wilson, with the newest commander, Brian Walter.
The West Point cycling team took top honors at the collegiate cycling track nationals, held at Marian University in Indianapolis, Indiana from the 15th to the 17th of September. The USMA team was going up against the cycling team from MIT who had won the championship for the past 3 years. Events were held at the Major Taylor velodrome on Marian’s campus, and consisted of team sprint and team pursuit. In team pursuit four riders per team start at each end of the track and the goal is to cover the most ground or catch up to the riders on the other team. In team sprint six riders compete to have the lowest team time. The cycling team won the team sprint with a time of two minutes twenty-six seconds and the competitors were Steven Rusnak, Gabriella Allong, Emily McManus, Nick Garcia, Brenden Siekman, and Patrick Bastianelli. The team pursuit group of Nick Garcia, team captain Gregory Keith, Steven Rusnak, and Brenden Siekman took second place to MIT losing by less than 1 second; however, the victory in the team sprint allowed West Point to take the overall team trophy and a national championship.

The first day of October turned out to be a great one for the football team. The game against Tulane was homecoming for the 20 seniors on the team and they made a strong statement on the field racking up 45 unanswered points after Tulane scored early in the first quarter. Also over the weekend, the classes of 2006, 2001, 1996, and 1991 had reunion activities on campus, made even more special by the impressive victory on the gridiron. The Corps came into the game with pretty good spirits due to the cancellation of the Homecoming Parade, and as an added bonus Navy lost to Air Force in a barn burner at home the same day! All in all, the Corps couldn’t have asked for a much better Homecoming. Good luck to the football team as they go on the road against Miami of Ohio, Vanderbilt, and then finish out October against Fordham at home!
With Halloween season quickly approaching, ghost stories fill the minds of people all around the world who celebrate this holiday. West Point has its own ghostly past, as many here know. But do you know what these stories entail? Do you really know how true these stories are? I’ve uncovered some ghostly stories, encounters, and hauntings to share with you in the spirit of this exciting holiday.

The most popular and well-known ghost story here at West Point is Room 4714 of the 47th Division barracks. According to several accounts, a 19th-century officer, approximately 5ft. 3in., wearing full Jackson-era regimentals, appears in this room. The apparition appears to walk through the wall and into the room. Even upperclassmen spent a night or two in the room to confirm the presence. Cadets who witnessed the apparition state that the place of the evaporation, which is usually quite warm, is icy to the touch. Some say the ghost walked through the wall and evaporated in the middle of the room. Others say he stood over the beds, sucking the heat out of the room before evaporating. Later, the ghost was identified using a print found at the point. In 1972, this room was declared off limits until Easter. Now, supposedly, this room, and another, are under padlock.

Another ghost has been said to roam West Point. The superintendent’s mansion is said to hold another ghostly figure. This figure was supposedly identified as Molly, an Irish cook, known for kneading bread in the basement. She was one of Brig. General Sylvanus Thayer’s maids in the early 1800s. In the 1920s, a priest had come to exorcise a spirit, which led two young girls, known servants, running from the house, naked and screaming. Despite this, Molly stays persistent. There’s a bed in the basement that still looks slept in, every single night.

Of course, everybody hears about the premonitions on the grassy plain, where Revolutionary War gallows used to sit. These apparitions are of no particular person and are not known to happen during certain times of the day or year. It all points towards the lines “They are here in ghostly assemblage, the men of the corps long dead. And our hearts are standing attention, while we wait for their passing tread.” The Corps has a meaning behind it, take it as you will; but remember, the song wasn’t written without a purpose... for every line has a purpose.
Game On!

This section is all about C-3. From ancient relics to current events, this page is all about us, the Game Cocks!

Ghost Busters!  By Jim Meskil ‘87

Well, this isn’t much of a ghost story, but some C-3 plebes allegedly had an encounter with a ghost in Eisenhower barracks around April 1985. One of my classmates (not from C-3) caught wind of this and immediately appointed himself a brigade ghost sighting investigator. (I think this was around the time the movie Ghostbusters was at the height of its popularity.)

So this self-appointed “ghostbuster” made up a “USMA Ghost Sighting Report” and came over to C-3 to conduct an investigation. The poor plebes didn’t know what to make of it, but they took the matter quite seriously as demonstrated by the information they provided on the forms (enclosed).

U.S.M.A. GHOST SIGHTING REPORT
Privacy Act Data

Any information given on this report will be exact or to the best of our knowledge. Any exaggeration or misrepresentation I understand to be an HONOR VIOLATION.

Signature: ________________________

Name: Christopher

Nationality: American

Birthplace: Toledo Ohio

Home address: 123 Main St. 

Date and Place of sighting: April 6, 12:30 AM

Location of sighting: Room – over bed

Duration of sighting: About 10 min.

Circumstances surrounding sighting: Studying, late at night, relaxing in bed.

Was a being sensed in the room? If yes, describe. Yes, while lying in bed, I felt a tugging on my shoulder, appearing to be under bed. I noticed a being in the room? If yes, describe. I saw a figure in the window, appearing to be young.

Was the being able to speak? If yes, note the tone and speed of speech and use the best of your memory. No spoken words – there was a hiss, deep breathing sound.

Was any temperature change noticed in the room? If yes, note degree of change. I noticed a chill while I sat. I felt it was being watched. I’m not sure if the temperature changed really.

Who you gonna call?
Plebe Trick or Treating
by CDT Solomon Wechsler ’15

Gamecocks!

This year we celebrate Halloween in style. The way this works is the week prior to Halloween, all of the upperclassmen will buy candy and or other goodies for the plebes. Then, on Halloween night, all the plebes will flood the hallways decked out in Gamecock spirited costumes to go trick or treating. It’s a time to have fun and build camaraderie in the company, so the more support, the better it will be. So let’s show the brigade that the Gamecocks are the most spirited company in the corps and make this year’s Plebe Trick or Treating a huge success!

GO GAMECOCKS!
The Funnies:
Finding the comedy in every situation... even cadet life.

What's Up West Point?:
Find out what's going on at West Point. From Ike Hall productions, to cadet activities, if you're visiting West Point or a permanent resident, this is the place to look and see what is going on at our "Stony Castle" on the hill.
What’s Up West Point? A look at what’s happening in August...

To get further information about what is happening at West Point visit:
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/WestPointUSMA and Twitter: http://twitter.com/WestPoint_USMA

Class of ‘86 Reunion
OCT 27 - 30, 2011

Come SUPPORT West Point Athletics!

Club Squad
Boxing Team  Friday Night Fights  WestP. NY  14-Oct- 7:00  N Boxing Room
Boxing Team  WP Fall Invite  WestP. NY  15-Oct- (tbd)  N. Boxing Room
Boxing Team  Friday Night Fights  WestP. NY  21-Oct- 7:00  N Boxing Room
Climbing  Climb Fest  WestP. NY  23-Oct- 9:00  Poison Ivy Wall

Army Football
OCT 8 AWAY  Miami (Oh)
OCT 22 AWAY  Vanderbilt
OCT 29 HOME  Fordham

Corps Squad
Hockey  Vs. Connecticut  WestP. NY  14-Oct- 4:00  Hockey Rink
Cross Country  Vs. Navy  WestP. NY  14-Oct- 9:00  Golf Course
Hockey  Vs. Union NY  WestP. NY  8-Oct- 4:00  Hockey Rink
Sprint Football  Vs. Post  WestP. NY  21-OCT- 7:00  West Point
Sprint Football  Vs. Penn  WestP. NY  28-OCT- 7:00  West Point

IKE HALL
OCTOBER 16, 2011 - SUNDAY - 3PM
Monty Python’s Spamalot
A new musical! All the songs from the movie. Tickets go on sale October 1st.

IKE HALL
OCTOBER 23, 2011 - SUNDAY - 3PM
Camp Buckner’s House of Horror! Friday, October 21st, 6-9pm.

IKE HALL
OCTOBER 16, 2011 - SUNDAY - 3PM
In the Heights
The Tony-winning Best Musical about home, family & finding where you belong.

IKE HALL
OCTOBER 23, 2011 - SUNDAY - 3PM
Army Football
OCT 8 AWAY  Miami (Oh)
OCT 22 AWAY  Vanderbilt
OCT 29 HOME  Fordham

Camp Buckner’s House of Horror! Friday, October 21st, 6-9pm.
As we start out a new volume, The Gamecock Gazette solicits you to share more of your stories about your cadet, military, and civilian experiences. The Gamecock Gazette connects current C-3 Cadets with the Old Graduates of C-3, keeping people informed with a few good laughs. This newsletter will also document C-3’s history in the making.

For November’s issue, in honor of Veteran’s Day, we ask graduates to send in articles about their time in the Army. From stories about firefights, to leadership suggestions, and even on just being an officer, all are welcome.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions for the newsletter, please get in touch with C-3 through any of the contacts to the left.

Thank you for all of your contributions and stories. This newsletter couldn’t have worked without your help and support. We hope you’ve enjoyed another issue of the Gamecock Gazette!

Respectfully,
CDT Alexis Salmon
Company C-3, USCC