

# Firsts & Lasts at USMA

## Class of 1802:

◇ First Jewish graduate was Simon Levy.

## Class of 1806:

◇ First Native American graduate was long considered to be Moniac, Class of 1822, #324, but Louis Loramier, Class of 1806, #25 and William Wells, Class of 1814, #111 also claim Native American ancestry.

## Class of 1811:

◇ First combat casualty was George Ronan, killed on 15 Aug 1812 at Ft. Chicago, IL, #69.

## Class of 1820:

◇ First International Cadets. Luis Blanco of Chile was 12 years old and Mateo Blanco of Chile was 14 years old at the time of their admission in 1816; ex-members of the Class of 1820.

## Class of 1821:

◇ First four-year class.

## Class of 1822:

◇ David Moniac, a Creek Indian, was the first graduate from Alabama: officially considered first Native American graduate.

## Class of 1835:

◇ First class to adopt a class ring.

## Class of 1874:

◇ First African-American cadet—James Webster Smith—entered the Academy on 30 May 1870, ex-member of the Class of 1874, commissioned posthumously on 22 Sep 1997.

## Class of 1877:

◇ First African-American graduate: Henry Ossian Flipper, #2690.



Henry Ossian Flipper, Class of 1877.

## Class of 1884:

◇ First class to publish a *Howitzer*, but not as a yearbook.

## Class of 1889:

◇ First International Graduate: Antonio Barrios, Guatemala, #3329.

## Class of 1891:

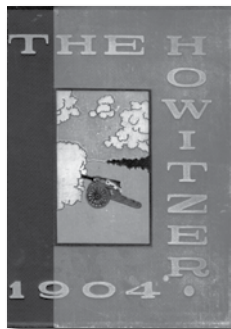
◇ First class to see an Army–Navy football game (played 29 Nov 1890).

## Class of 1896:

◇ First class to have the *Howitzer* as a yearbook but an unofficial publication.

## Class of 1904:

◇ First class to publish the *Howitzer* as a yearbook and an official publication.



The 1904 *Howitzer*.

## Class of 1910:

◇ First undefeated Lacrosse team.

## Class of 1911:

◇ First class to be issued Bugle Notes (first published in 1907).

## Class of 1915:

◇ First class with two five-star Generals: Eisenhower and Bradley.

## Class of August 1917:

◇ Only first captain, John T. Knight, Jr., #5770, to be succeeded by a brother.

## Class of June 1918:

◇ Only first captain, O'Ferrall Knight, #5950, to be preceded by a brother.

## Class of June 1919:

◇ Last class to graduate early for WWI (1 Nov 1918). Recalled to USMA for additional academics and graduated again on 11 June 1919.

## Class of 1934:

◇ First class to receive bachelor of science degrees. Other living graduates awarded degrees retroactively.

## Class of 1935:

◇ First class to have Jewish religious services (optional on Saturday afternoons in addition to compulsory attendance at Protestant or Catholic services on Sunday).

## Class of 1936:

◇ First and only class to hold a Badger Fight with the Supe's dog for the Corps of Cadets.

◇ First class to have three Superintendents. (Two at USMA: William C. Westmoreland #10571, and James B. Lampert #10496, and a third at Air Force Academy: Albert P. Clark #10566.

◇ First class to have three Chiefs of Staff, Army: William Westmoreland, Bruce Palmer, Jr. and Creighton Adams.

◇ First and only class to have seven four-star generals. Army: William C. Westmoreland #10571, Creighton W., Adams, Jr. #10644, Bruce Palmer, Jr. #10466, John H. Michaelis #10676; Air Force: Howell M. Estes, Jr. #10531, Joseph J. Nazzaro #10712 and Benjamin O. Davis #10494.

## Class of 1940:

◇ First Asian-American graduate: Wing Fook Jung, #12051.

## Class of 1942:

◇ First class to have four years of mandatory Jewish chapel services.

## Class of January 1943:

◇ First class to graduate early for WWII.

## Class of 1944:

◇ Last class to have summer camp at Camp Clinton (near Cullum Hall).

◇ First class to have summer field training at Camp Popolopen (now Camp Buckner).

◇ Last class to be issued Plebeskins (trousers) with buttons instead of a zipper. Zippers were adopted for trousers and blouses by the summer of 1942.

◇ Last class to be issued Springfield rifles, caliber .30; the Garand rifle, Model M-1, was issued to all cadets in 1942–43.



Upperclassmen departing on Christmas Leave (from the 1945 *Howitzer*).

## Class of 1945:

◇ Last class to be issued Stetson campaign hats as plebes.

◇ Last class to graduate early for WWII.

◇ First and only class to travel to an Army–Navy game (1944–Baltimore) by sea.

## Class of 1947:

◇ Last three-year class of WWII era. Class graduated 310.

## Class of 1948:

◇ First class to see the completed ski slope (in 1945).

◇ First four-year class after WWII.

◇ Last class to have riding as a mandatory class.



Troopers, ho! (from the 1947 *Howitzer*).

## Class of 1949:

◇ Last class to have riding as an elective class.

◇ First class to give 2LT bars to the 50-year affiliation class.

## Class of 1950:

◇ Last class to receive training with horses.

◇ First astronaut, Frank Borman, #17354.

## Class of 1951:

◇ First African-American, Four-Star General, Roscoe Robinson, Jr., #18309.



1951: First African-American, Four-Star General: Roscoe Robinson, Jr.

## Class of 1952:

- ◊ Sesquicentennial Class.

## Class of 1957:

- ◊ First class to have a West Point Parents Association; (first meeting in 1954).

## Class of 1958:

- ◊ Last class to have 25% go to USAF.
- ◊ First NCAA champion team (Lacrosse).
- ◊ First athletic contest between USMA and USAFA (track).
- ◊ First class to participate in opening ceremonies for the USAFA in July 1959.
- ◊ First class to be offered three electives in Social Sciences during their second class year.

## Class of 1960:

- ◊ Last class to be assigned to companies based strictly on height.

## Class of 1961:

- ◊ First class to be offered a full slate of academic electives other than a choice of foreign language.
- ◊ Last class to be issued brown combat boots.

## Class of 1963:

- ◊ Class that fielded the Rabble Rousers.
- ◊ First Class to qualify with the M-14 rifle (first unit in the Army to do so).
- ◊ First Class to take RECONDO training at Camp Buckner.

## Class of 1965:

- ◊ First class to hold a 500th Nite celebration.

## Class of 1966:

- ◊ Last class to have two regiments.

## Class of 1967:

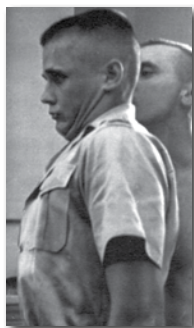
- ◊ Last class to spend Plebe Christmas at West Point.

## Class of 1968:

- ◊ First class granted Christmas leave as plebes.
- ◊ Last class to know West Point as it was before the major construction that began in 1965.
- ◊ Last class to be instructed in Cadet Drill (FM 22-5A).

## Class of 1972:

- ◊ Last class to participate in "June Encampment" at the start of Cow year.
- ◊ Last class to brace the entire year.
- ◊ Last class to have four full years of mandatory chapel attendance.
- ◊ Last class to have lived, marched, and participated in band box reviews in old Central Area.



Bracing (from the 1967 *Howitzer*).

## Class of 1973:

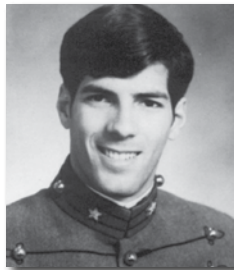
- ◊ Last class to "brace" throughout beast.
- ◊ Last class to see The Silence as an officially sanctioned punishment by the Honor Committee.
- ◊ First class to attend Airborne School en masse.

## Class of 1974:

- ◊ Last class to travel on "First Class Trip."
- ◊ First class to use cadet zip code, 10997.
- ◊ First class to attend Flight School at USPHS at Ft. Wolters, TX, and receive FAA ratings as helicopter pilots as cows.

## Class of 1976:

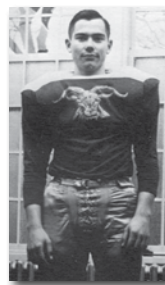
- ◊ Last class to have three details/terms during academic year.
- ◊ Last class to have mandatory chapel attendance on Sundays.
- ◊ First Hispanic first captain: Richard Morales, Jr., #33714.
- ◊ Last class to see an all-male Corps of Cadets at graduation—119 women entered on 7 Jul 1976.
- ◊ Last class to have Permanent Cadet Captains. After successfully serving a detail as a Cadet Captain, some First Classmen were granted the status of Permanent Captain, lived in a separate area, and enjoyed special privileges.
- ◊ Last class to be issued the Army green uniform for summer Cadet Troop Leader Training.
- ◊ Last class to be issued gray blankets with "USMA" on them.
- ◊ Last class to graduate with Viet Nam-era G.I. Bill Benefits.



Class of '76: First Hispanic First Captain: Richard Morales, Jr.

## Class of 1977:

- ◊ Last class to have an official class "Goat" (last person in the published ranking of the class upon graduation).
- ◊ Last class to receive 60 days of leave following graduation (following classes received 30 days).
- ◊ Last class to graduate by General Order of Merit. Hereafter, the honor graduates receive their diplomas first, followed by the remainder of the class in alphabetical order.
- ◊ Last class to see football games on grass in Michie Stadium.



"I are the goat." From the 1967 *Howitzer*.

## Class of 1978:

- ◊ First class to graduate over 1000 people.
- ◊ First class to graduate on astroturf at Michie Stadium.
- ◊ Last class to buy two full dress coats.
- ◊ Last class to be awarded the National Defense Service Ribbon.
- ◊ Last class to fire M-14s during field training.

- ◊ Last class to water ski at Camp Buckner (subsequently banned due to pollution issues).
- ◊ First class to use Eisenhower Hall (as Fourth Classmen).
- ◊ First class permitted non-combat arms branch selections.
- ◊ First class allowed to own automobiles during the summer before their First Class year.
- ◊ Last class to be issued slide rules.

## Class of 1979:

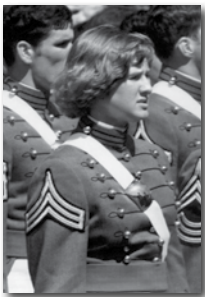
- ◊ First class to be assigned as Fourth Class Systems Officers.
- ◊ First class to be assigned as Security Officers.
- ◊ Last all-male class.
- ◊ Last class to "sit up" in the Mess Hall past Christmas.
- ◊ Last class to have daily grade input to the computer.
- ◊ Last class to use cadet credit cards (an administrative card used to charge laundry, shoe repairs, etc.).
- ◊ Last class to wear cargo packs with the LBE.
- ◊ Last class to have prep-schoolers from Ft. Belvoir.
- ◊ Last class with "runt" and "flanker" platoons during Beast Barracks (later classes had platoons of mixed height).
- ◊ Last class to have Airborne training at Camp Buckner and make static line jumps (no wings or official Army recognition granted).
- ◊ Last class with company tabs on Gray Jackets.
- ◊ Last class with June Week.
- ◊ Last class with June graduation until the Class of 1991.
- ◊ First class to wear a garrison cap with the class uniform.
- ◊ First class to wear a sweater with the class uniform.
- ◊ First class issued calculators (in lieu of slide rules).
- ◊ First class allowed to watch the Corps as Fourth Classmen. Previous policy was for Fourth Classmen to turn away whenever a Corps formation went by.
- ◊ First class allowed to wear civilian glasses as Fourth Classmen.
- ◊ First class to serve as platoon leaders at Camp Buckner as Second Classmen (previously all First Classmen).

## Class of 1980:

- ◊ Last class to have restricted haircut days.
- ◊ Last class to use the 3.0 grading system (changed to 4.0 system).
- ◊ Last class to receive instruction from the Office of Physical Education (name changed to Department of Physical Education).
- ◊ First class to have tactical NCOs at Camp Buckner.
- ◊ First class to be issued the Army ALICE pack.
- ◊ First African-American first captain: Vincent K. Brooks, #37247.
- ◊ Last class required to take four semesters of a foreign language.
- ◊ Last class to wear combat boots for PT all four years (changed to running shoes).
- ◊ Last class to rate peers under the Leadership Evaluation System.



First African-American First Captain: Vincent K. Brooks '80.



The first graduating class with female members (from the 1980 *Howitzer*).

- ◇ First class to serve as assistant squad leaders during the school year (as Third Classmen). Previously the positions were held by Second Classmen.

- ◇ First class to be issued the Army Black Overcoat.

- ◇ First class with graduation week.

- ◇ First graduating class with female members.

### Class of 1981:

- ◇ First female officer to achieve general officer rank: BG Rebecca S. Halstead #38426.

- ◇ Last class to carry sheets/linen for weekly exchanges (linen now goes out as laundry).

- ◇ First class allowed weekend leave as Fourth Classmen.

- ◇ First class issued running shoes.

- ◇ First class to use Keller Army Community Hospital.

- ◇ First class to have a female, COL Heidi V. Brown, #38174, command a Patriot air defense battalion and an air defense brigade.

### Class of 1982:

- ◇ Last class to have mandatory breakfast during class mornings.

- ◇ First class to have female tactical officers.

- ◇ First class offered electives as Fourth Classmen.

- ◇ Last class to take the old "Run-Dodge-Jump" PT test.

- ◇ First class to elect a woman class president, Ellen Houlihan (Groschelle), #39332.

### Class of 1983:

- ◇ Last class to allow graduation with less than a 2.0 GPA.

- ◇ First class to wear white over gray instead of tans for CTLT.

- ◇ Last class to deliver mail as a fourth class duty (Corps transitioned to individual mailboxes).

- ◇ Last class to be issued "hard" shoulder boards.

- ◇ Last class to not automatically "fall-out" during meals after Christmas. It was optional based upon a leadership decision—for subsequent classes it was automatic.

- ◇ Last class to be issued the blue cardigan sweater for class uniform.

- ◇ Last class to wear combat boots for annual 2-mile run.

- ◇ First class to be given a weekend of leave before Christmas as Fourth Classmen.

### Class of 1984:

- ◇ First female Native American graduate: Brigitte T. Kwin #41718.

- ◇ First female international graduate: Jacqueline S. Foglia #41107, Honduras.

- ◇ First class to be issued BDUs.

### Class of 1985:

- ◇ Last class to have "call to quarters" at 2030 hours (as fourth class cadets).

- ◇ First class allowed to select a major within a course of study.

- ◇ First class to have mandatory drug testing.

- ◇ First class to graduate more than 1,000—(1,063).

- ◇ First class to have more than 1,567 entering new cadets.

- ◇ Last class to be issued "fatigues."

### Class of 1986:

- ◇ First class to have an Affirmation Ceremont at the beginning of second class year academics.

### Class of 1990:

- ◇ First class to be issued personal computers.

- ◇ Last class to do role reversal with the First Class for 100th Nite Weekend.

- ◇ First class to have a female first captain: Kristin M. Baker, #47014.

### Class of 1993:

- ◇ Last class to be recognized (able to address upperclassmen by their first name and be addressed by first name) after Graduation Parade.



1990: First class to have a female First Captain: Kristin M. Baker.

### Class of 1994:

- ◇ First class to receive "early recognition" before graduation.

### Class of 1998:

- ◇ Last class to see I companies in the Corps.

- ◇ First Iraqi-born graduate: Fred F. Odisho #57535.

## 2000

CDT TRESA VAN HEUSEN  
PO Box 4016  
West Point, New York 10997  
914 515-5255  
x02230@usma.edu  
TresaVH@hotmail.com

### Class of 2000:

- ◇ First class to have a "Class Notes" column published in *ASSEMBLY* magazine before graduation (May 2000 issue).

- ◇ First class to receive

MREs (Meals Ready-To-Eat).

### Class of 2002:

- ◇ First class to get personal telephones and television cards (for use via computer systems).

- ◇ First class to have Plebe-Parent Weekend in the fall.

- ◇ First class to go on Spring Break as plebes.

- ◇ First class to have gold from the Class Ring Memorial Program included in their class rings.

### Class of 2003:

- ◇ Last class to have Recognition.

### Class of 2004:

- ◇ First class to receive a Class Flag from the WPAOG.



The last class to have Recognition, Class of 2003. 16 Mar 2000.

- ◇ First class to receive a promotion to Cadet PFC instead of Recognition.

### Class of 2005:

- ◇ First class to have advanced land navigation at Camp Buckner.

- ◇ Last class to be issued desktop computers.

- ◇ First class to run the indoor obstacle course all four years.

- ◇ First class to receive palm pilots.

- ◇ First class in which a male cadet's parents are both graduates: Michael Linnington, Jr. (parents: Michael Linnington '80 and Brenda Zachary '81), and Robert Fix, Jr. (parents: Robert Fix '81 and Debra Lopez '81).

### Class of 2006:

- ◇ First class in which a female cadet's parents are both graduates: Megan Kulungowski (parents: Mark Kulungowski '80 and Margaret Knox '81).

- ◇ First class to be issued a laptop computer.

- ◇ First class to wear ACUs.

- ◇ First class to go to Basic Officer Leader Course (BOLC).

- ◇ First class to enter during time of war since Vietnam era.

- ◇ Last class to get promoted before Spring Break.