



1987—The Benders floating down the river in Big Bend National Park.

of the class, Ken claims that he is not, in fact, behind the power curve, and instead blames the delayed onset of maturity for his less-than-expeditious reproduction. “Baz was such a happy, healthy baby (so much so that we called him ‘Clam’ for the first couple of days; you know, happy as a . . .”).

Chuck Kibler is pleased to announce the long-awaited arrival of his second child, Christopher Robert Kibler, weighing 8 lbs., 3/4oz., and measuring 20” long, on 10 February. Carol had some minor surgery the next day for gallbladder and hernia complications from pregnancy, but both young Christopher and mom are now doing great. Sister Catie (5) is happy to have a “real baby doll” that “eats, poops, and everything!”

Lisa (Hudon) & Joe Wall proudly announced the birth of their first child, Nora Frances. Nora entered the world on 26 Dec 02, weighing in at 8 lbs., 3 ozs. She is a beautiful, healthy baby, already equipped with her West Point cup and rattle (a Gray hog in the making). Lisa hopes to get Nora into hiking/camping/climbing soon—motorcycles and skydiving must wait (I guess pilot training is a few years off as well). We also understand that Lisa came out on the battalion command list and needs to decide how to balance command with the life of a new mom.

Speaking of battalion command, **Dan Karbler** attended the Pre-Command Course with JT Smith, Ted and Dan’s beast company commander from that fabled summer of 1983 (20 years ago!). Dan’s change of command date is 29 May. [When we were cadets, lieutenant colonels, and battalion commanders seemed so old!]

Theresa Rinino Wetzel, in the Washington State National Guard recently joined the class ranks of lieutenant colonel. She received her promotion orders with federal recognition effective 23 Jan 03. Theresa lives and works in the Ft. Lewis/Puget Sound area. Well done, Theresa!

Thanks to all of you who are serving on active duty and in the Reserves and Guard around the globe. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Recently called to active duty are **Lisa**

Angleon, John Sanchez, and Chuck Hazzard in the Indiana National Guard.

By the time this issue hits your mailbox, ski season will be over so if you missed us this year, you’ll have to wait until 2004. **Patrick Rhyme** made the trek west from Tennessee where he practices internal medicine. He joined

us for five days of awesome skiing in late February—Pat’s first ski trip since our lieutenant days in Germany in 1991. Who says you can’t re-teach an old dog (former Marne dog-faced soldiers) new tricks? Patrick passed the **McAlear** ski school with flying colors. Hope to see more of you next year. (As an aside, we met up with 42 members of the Class of ’64 who were in town celebrating their fifth mini-reunion on the ski slopes in as many years.) We believe Patrick is compiling an AAR and travel review of the McAlear B&B. Look for his comments in the “Best of the West” sections of *Condé Nast Traveller*, *Ski Magazine*, and ’87.

Keep your eyes out for an advertisement in this ASSEMBLY for the official limited edition West Point Aloha shirt. Our thanks to **Triiip Bowen** who spearheaded this initiative to outfit all West Pointers with an aloha shirt. The shirt looks great and all proceeds go to alumni programs and services and the ’87 gift fund. The shirt is only available on-line. So check out at <www.aog.usma.edu/>.

Until next time, Our Country We Strengthen!

1988

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Greetings ’88! **Phil & Susan Rufe** still live in the Rolla, MO, area; same jobs, same house. They did, however, adopt a baby girl from Russia a few months ago. Phil reports that they started the process in February 2001 and ultimately found themselves in a Russian court-



1988—Phil & Julia on a swing in the Big MO.

room on Halloween explaining to the judge why they wanted to adopt this beautiful child named Julia. The next day, they had an adoption decree and were able to pick Julia up at the orphanage. She was born on 3 Jan 01 in T’Ver, Russia (it was called Kalinin in

the Soviet era). Phil remarked how strange it is that when we were cadets (and lieutenants) during the Cold War, we trained to defend democracy against the evil empire and now his family and heart are tied to that very same country. Phil would like to extend an invitation to any classmates stationed at or doing temporary duty at Ft. Leonard Wood. He’s in the Rolla phone book or you can get his e-mail from the ’88 webpage.



1988—CPT David Bard ’96; CPT Dean Mitchell ’97; CPT Robert Robinson II ’97; CPT Ryan Bird ’99; CPT Douglas Hess ’99; MAJ Rob Kirkland ’88; COL Michael Rounds ’81, BDE CDR; MAJ John Eisenhauer ’90; CPT Sarah Knudson ’99; CPT Matthew Lawton ’98; MAJ Ramona Plemmons; and LTC Steven Sliwa ’86, BN CDR.

Tim Engling dropped a note to update the class. Tim became a partner at Barnes & Thornburg when his patent firm merged with a large Indianapolis-based general practice firm. He will remain in Chicago primarily practicing patent law. Tim & **Clare** expect their third child to arrive in time for ’88’s 15-year graduation anniversary. Olivia (3½) and Owen (2) look forward to their new sibling. Tim sent out a challenge in his e-mail for **Greg Friedland** to tell all. Greg kindly responded. **Greg & Rhonda**, along with their daughters, Ashley, Katie, Maddie, and son **Owen** will leave Maxwell AFB and move to Fairchild AFB near Spokane, WA. Greg will be the Deputy Staff Judge Advocate supporting an Air Refueling Wing there (feel free to send your JAG/Harmon Rabb jokes). Greg also reports that **Dave Penczar** also is a JAG in the Air Force and currently a student in the Air Command

& Staff College at Maxwell. Dave is due to PCS to Turkey after the ACGSC.

Ramona (Laib) Plemmons sent a note and photo from NTC. Ramona is in the 3d Bde, 2ID (Stryker Brigade Combat Team) and participated in last year's Millennium Challenge 2002. God bless and keep writing.

1989

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Greetings to all those who Strengthen the Line from the heights of Uijongbu and the Second to None Division! I hope this finds you well and keeping the faith. I have very little to report this time and am turning in my notes a few days early (for a change) as we are headed to the field. I know most folks who are on active duty—as well as many in the Reserves—are busy in the various theatres around the globe.

I have included a photo from my & **Kyoung's** wedding. We married in a ceremony in Seoul on 20 Jul 02.

Gripes & Rumors. I heard that **Scott Peterson** missed the Engineer Brigade so much during his mid-tour leave that he had to dig a few holes in the backyard. **Brian Good** is reportedly selling newly-fashioned pairs of elephant skin boots. They are a throwback to the ones the BPs found in his recently-found footlocker in the basement of H-4. Some old stories just never die. Speaking of old, **Jim Barren's** crusty old BDUs still are hanging in the pick-up point here on Camp Casey... I guess Jim decided to travel home light or left them for the urban renewal program.

That's all for now. As always, see you in the field or at the club. Scouts out. Second to None. Please keep the updates and tall tales coming! We Strengthen the Line.



1989—Doug & Kyoung Boltuc's wedding in Seoul.

1990

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No submission this issue. Please send your letters and photos to the above address.

1991

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Hello '91! Well, all my threats finally paid off. Thanks to all who wrote. The typical letter began: "Your last 'Class Notes' made me feel guilty so..." All I can say is, "It worked!" I had a ton of mail from you these past two months, so let's jump right in...

Included is a photo of "Hairball's" (**Harris Morris**) wedding. Many classmates attended. The A-4 Apaches included **Mark West, Mike Hoos, Mike Simon, John Leffers, Mike O'Day, Scott Smith, Rick Burney, Matt Morton, Pat Mullin, Scott Mitchell, and Doug Beaton.** Other classmates in attendance were **Brian Fitzgerald, Mike Houmeil, Jeff Libby, and Holly (Fishburne) West.**

Holly tells me that the best part of Army-Navy was the tailgate "between the RVs." It was such a great party, that Holly cannot remember all who attended. She recalls that **Brian Melton** was there bragging about his new baby. Holly had Brian's brother, Lane, in class this semester, and he is just like his brother. **Mark West** is deep into Admissions work and lightweight football. Holly loves being a "P," coaching her kids, and helping out with women's soccer. Holly & Mark are falling into the hole of trying to sponsor too many cadets, but enjoy having them over and sharing their wisdom.

Paul Kern is in Los Angeles doing gang work for the FBI, and reports are that, with a full head and face of hair, the work he does may include looking like a gangster.

Stacy (Manning) Richardson & her husband moved to



1991—The Cowleys at a KC Royals game.

California and expect baby #3 in May. **Natalie (Quarantillo) Mandry** & her husband expect #3 in January. **Mark & Amy Bieger** still are at Leavenworth waiting for the next assignment. **John & Anne Leffers**, as well as newlyweds **Harris & Jeannie Morris**, are at Ft. Lewis with the new Stryker brigades. Hairball—that isn't Armor, ya know?

I heard from **Kris Towers**, who says he & **Marsha** (2% Club) are proud to announce the birth of **Kristen Ashley Towers**. She was born on 7 Dec 02. She joins **Kristopher (9)** and **Kaitlyn (4)**. Kris got out of the Army in 1998, and went to work for Engelhard Corp., manufacturing catalyst for the oil industry. They live in Bainbridge, GA, three hours west of where he grew up in Georgia. Kris is on the local YMCA board, coaches sports at the YMCA, and sits on a Youth Leadership Board that develops leadership programs for high school sophomores and juniors using the CLDS model.



1991—Jeff & Deanna Libby.



1991—Apaches at Hairball's wedding.