

100th night

The tradition of 100th Night dates back as far as 1871. It started as a collection of skits presented by the first class,

In 1903, the firsties presented the very first full-length musical comedy and every show since then has been a musical comedy.

In keeping with the 100th night theme of this weekend, You might want to get a video of the 1950 movie "The West Point Story" which stars James Cagney, Virginia Mayo, Doris Day and Gordon McRae. This is the story of Broadway director, Bix Bixby who is down on his luck and is persuaded to go to West Point with a beautiful assistant (Virginia Mayo) to help the Cadets put on the 100th night show. His real motive is to recruit the cadet star of the show(Gordon McRae) to leave West Point for a production of his. Bixby finds that in the process of all this, that he must live as a Cadet. Among the songs in this movie is the "Military Polka".

You probably won't find this in your local video store unless they have a huge stock but it is available in various places that are in the business of selling videos.

=====one parent remembers=====

Of course we all knew our cadets are ever so talented but who knew, without a voice major, a dance major, a drama/theater major in the gang that they could pull off such a terrific show!

The writers of the show, particularly Max Adams, did a fabulous job of spoofing their entire cadet experience. From the lobby and ushers right to the last bow they were true to their theme of "An Experiment Gone Wrong". Director, Dawn Drango and producer Mike Gudith did a fabulous job of taking the script from the page to the stage. The music coordinator was Jess Donkers, Rachel Amilcar handled the choreography. The Jazz Knights were tireless in their support (I understand changing keys to accomodate the cast, right up to the last second, almost) as were the stage and technical crews of both cadets and capable staff. The officer in charge was CPT Smart who was supportive and ever present. There were about 2 dozen cadets in the ensemble who handled parts from large and small speaking roles to dancing, singing and making uniform changes faster than they had to in the summer of 1997! I know the entire cast and crew were exhausted by the final bow on Saturday night yet they gave the performance of their lives. The Class of 2001 enjoyed the show enormously if the standing ovation they gave was any indication.

Many cadets and support staff have worked many hours a week since the fall semester, getting the show ready for this past weekend. The weather cooperated and a wonderful weekend was enjoyed by the Class of 2001, their families and dates and the West Point community.

Congratulations and thank you so much, Class of 2001, for another memorable experience!

'Till Duty is Done!
Nancy