

## June 11, 2008 - Eight Students Accepted to Military Academies

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Eight students accepted to military academies

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Graduates of Laurel Valley and Greensburg Central Catholic high schools are among the eight students nominated to United States military academies by Congressman John Murtha, D-Johnstown, who have accepted their appointments.

Laura Henderson, daughter of George and Joyce Henderson of Bolivar, will attend the Air Force Academy.

Henderson was a member of Laurel Valley's Air Force Junior ROTC, as well as the Sign Language Team, National Honor Society, Student Council and Theater Club. She also participated in volleyball, basketball and track and field.

A member of the Covenant Church in Ligonier, Henderson has served as a liturgist and camp counselor.

"My desire to serve my country and make my contribution to the fulfillment of the Air Force mission drives me to attend and graduate from the United States Air Force Academy," Henderson said in a release.

Greensburg Central graduate Nathan Wilson, son of Kirk and Jayne Wilson of Leechburg in Armstrong County, will attend the Military Academy at West Point.

Wilson

was involved in the National Honor Society, band, Student Council and Spanish Club in high school, where he also played football and baseball. He is a member of Christ the King Parish.

"Not only am I interested in the education West Point offers, but I believe it can shape me into an all-around stronger person who will be able to deal with the many challenges facing our country today and in the future," Wilson said in the release.

The other Murtha nominees who accepted appointments are:

- Ryan N. Bassi, son of Neil and Donna Bassi of Washington, a Trinity High SchoolNaval Academy; graduate who will attend the

- Michael A. Brant, son of D. Allen and Lynn Brant of Johnstown in CambriaCounty, a Westmont Hilltop graduate who will attend the Naval Academy;

- Andrew D. Wolfe, son of Thomas and Kristie Wolfe of Portage in CambriaCounty, a Bishop Carroll graduate who will attend the Naval Academy;

- Kara L. Yingling, daughter of Kenneth and Susan Yingling of Johnstown, a Bishop McCort graduate who will attend the Naval Academy;

- Ian J. Mathies, son of Dean and Mary Mathies of Finleyville in WashingtonCounty, a Ringgold graduate who will be attending the Military Academy;

- Patrick B. McQuaide, son of Rick and Jacqueline McQuaide of Johnstown, a Richland graduate who will attend the Merchant Marine Academy.