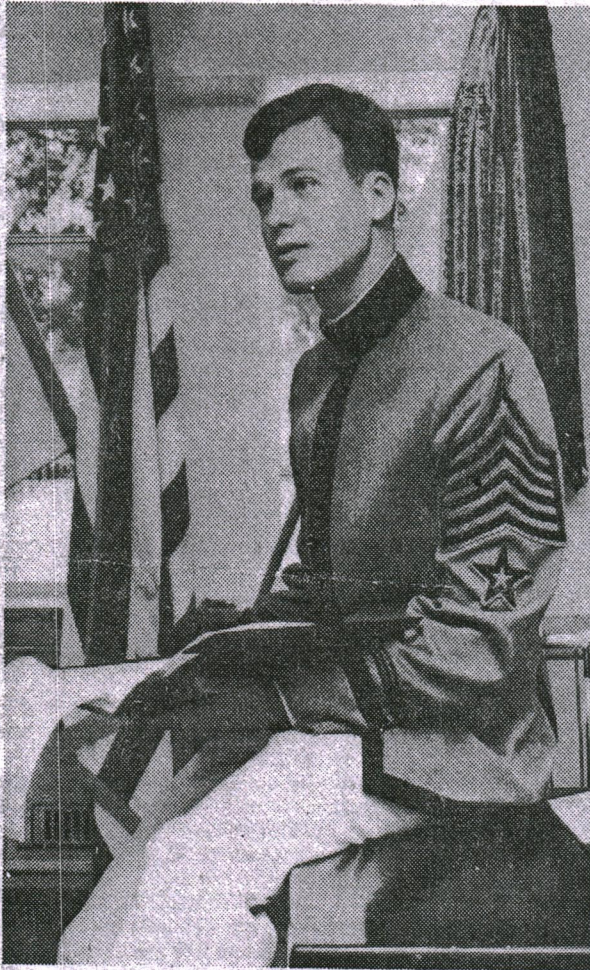


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APPOINTED: Cadet James Abcouwer of Kirkwood has been named brigade commander at West Point.

County Youth Heads Cadet Corps

West Point cadet James Abcouwer, a 1970 graduate of Kirkwood High School, has been appointed first captain and brigade commander of the Corps of Cadets at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Abcouwer, 21 years old, will assume a post once held by Douglas MacArthur and William Westmoreland. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Simon Abcouwer Jr., 553 North Van Buren Avenue, Kirkwood.

As Brigade Commander, Abcouwer will hold a position equivalent to a college student body president. With a staff of seven cadet captains and a command sergeant major, Abcouwer will direct the activities of 4000 West Point cadets by establishing policies, conducting parades and military training, determining

cadet privileges, monitoring meals and personnel accountability, and overseeing guard assignments, club activities, lectures, social and intramural programs.

Abcouwer, who represented the Academy as an honorary pallbearer at Gen. Creighton Abrams funeral, was selected for the post by the Academy's tactical officers, the commandant of cadets, and the superintendent of the Academy, Major Gen. Sidney Berry.

"I want to see West Point become more of a ladder to becoming an Army officer," said Abcouwer. "There has been too much of a gap between West Point and being an officer."

"We also want to become more professional, especially in dealing with the fourth classmen, or freshmen. We, the upperclassmen, set the example and tell them specifically what is expected of them. Then we recognize them when they excel and execute a firm but fair punishment when they don't match up. We're making the punishment more like the Army. No harassment, just extra training or denial of privileges."

Abcouwer's mother said that she learned of her son's appointment when she received a telephone call from West Point. "A general called us to locate Jim, who was home on leave," Mrs. Abcouwer recalled. "He was on a fishing trip. So the general told me about the appointment and asked me to relay the message. I said, 'If he doesn't catch any fish, this should cheer him up.'"

"We were just thrilled. We are so proud of him."

Hearing Tuesday On Steak Sign

A request for city permission for the owners of the Buck 'R' Too steak house in the Zayre Plaza shopping center to erect an illuminated 19-foot-6-inch-by-3-foot sign on the front wall of their establishment will be debated tomorrow at a hearing of the St. Louis Board of Public Service.

The hearing, which will start at 11 a.m., was requested by Hiclay Studios, Inc., which would erect the sign. The city must approve the sign under provisions of the use permit that was granted for the shopping center.

believe the sign is necessary to attract customers after dark.

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