

# CIC TROPHY

Service academy supremacy is at stake on the gridiron each season when Army, Navy and Air Force battle in a round-robin schedule for the Commander in Chief's Trophy.

As the Trophy enters its 34th year of competition, Army will seek to present head coach Bobby Ross the coveted hardware in his second season along the banks of the Hudson.

Army's most recent Commander in Chief's Trophy title came in 1996, when the Black Knights assured that the Trophy would return to its original home by defeating arch-rival Navy 28-24 in Veterans Stadium in Philadelphia.

To help commemorate the Trophy's 25th birthday, President Bill Clinton was on hand at "The Vet" to present the Black Knights with the glimmering silver Trophy following their come-from-behind victory. It marked the first time that a standing President attended an Army-Navy clash since Gerald Ford looked on in 1974 to see Navy defeat Army 19-0.

Army had last acquired sole possession of the Trophy in 1988. In 1993, each team split its two academy games, marking only the fourth time that all three teams shared possession of the Trophy.

Army captured the inaugural Commander in Chief's Trophy by defeating Air Force, 17-14, and Navy, 23-15, in 1972.

The Trophy has resided at West Point in 1972, 1977, 1984, 1986, 1988 and 1996.



**Army players hoist the Commander in Chief's Trophy in celebration following their victory over Navy in 1996.**

Navy, who ruled the 1970s, has acquired sole ownership of the trophy just twice since 1981.

The Trophy is named in honor of the President of the United States as commander in chief of the armed forces. The three-sided structure, which weighs

170 pounds and stands 2 1/2 feet tall, is engraved with the seal of each academy and displays a reproduction of each school's mascot. The year in which the Trophy is won is engraved on the appropriate academy's side.

The idea for the establishment of an interservice football trophy originated with the late Gen. George B. Simler, commander of the Air Training Command and a former Air Force Academy athletic director. The 1972 season was seen as an appropriate time to consider such an idea since it also marked the first season of the round-robin competition among the three teams.

Simler proposed the idea to the USAFA Association of Graduates early in 1972. The Association, in turn, proposed the project to the alumni associations at West Point and Annapolis as suitable for joint sponsorship by the three institutions. Following formal adoption of the project, designs for the Trophy were sought from manufacturers.

After Army's inaugural title in 1972, Navy captured possession of the Trophy eight of the following nine years before Air Force first staked claim to the honor in 1982. The Trophy remained in the Falcons' possession the following season when they swept the Cadets and Midshipmen.

Army recaptured the Trophy in 1984, its first outright title since 1977.



## YEAR-BY-YEAR RESULTS

<b>1972</b>	<b>Army 2-0</b>	<b>Navy 1-1</b>	<b>Air Force 0-2</b>
1973	Navy 2-0	Air Force 1-1	Army 0-2
1974	Navy 1-1	Army 1-1	Air Force 1-1
1975	Navy 2-0	Air Force 1-1	Army 0-2
1976	Navy 1-1	Army 1-1	Air Force 1-1
<b>1977</b>	<b>Army 2-0</b>	<b>Navy 1-1</b>	<b>Air Force 0-2</b>
1978	Navy 2-0	Army 1-1	Air Force 0-2
1979	Navy 2-0	Air Force 1-1	Army 0-2
1980	Navy 1-1	Army 1-1	Air Force 1-1
1981	Navy 1-0-1	Air Force 1-1	Army 0-1-1
1982	Air Force 2-0	Navy 1-1	Army 0-2
1983	Air Force 2-0	Navy 1-1	Army 0-2
<b>1984</b>	<b>Army 2-0</b>	<b>Air Force 1-1</b>	<b>Navy 0-2</b>
1985	Air Force 2-0	Navy 1-1	Army 0-2
<b>1986</b>	<b>Army 2-0</b>	<b>Air Force 1-1</b>	<b>Navy 0-2</b>
1987	Air Force 2-0	Army 1-1	Navy 0-2
<b>1988</b>	<b>Army 2-0</b>	<b>Air Force 1-1</b>	<b>Navy 0-2</b>
1989	Air Force 2-0	Navy 1-1	Army 0-2
1990	Air Force 2-0	Army 1-1	Navy 0-2
1991	Air Force 2-0	Navy 1-1	Army 0-2
1992	Air Force 2-0	Army 1-1	Navy 0-2
1993	Air Force 1-1	Army 1-1	Navy 1-1
1994	Air Force 2-0	Army 1-1	Navy 0-2
1995	Air Force 2-0	Army 1-1	Navy 0-2
<b>1996</b>	<b>Army 2-0</b>	<b>Navy 1-1</b>	<b>Air Force 0-2</b>
1997	Air Force 2-0	Navy 1-1	Army 0-2
1998	Air Force 2-0	Army 1-1	Navy 0-2
1999	Air Force 2-0	Navy 1-1	Army 0-2
2000	Air Force 2-0	Navy 1-1	Army 0-2
2001	Air Force 2-0	Army 1-1	Navy 0-2
2002	Air Force 2-0	Navy 1-1	Army 0-2
2003	Navy 2-0	Air Force 1-1	Army 0-2
2004	Navy 2-0	Air Force 1-1	Army 0-2