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### Our say: This game's about pride, not records

By THE CAPITAL EDITORIAL BOARD

ARMY MAY have fallen short in its novel attempt to get the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy by outright theft. The 170-pound award was recovered Wednesday in a Bancroft Hall storage room. But the U.S. Military Academy's Black Knights will have their chance tomorrow afternoon to get the trophy the legitimate way - by beating the U.S. Naval Academy's Midshipmen on a football field in Philadelphia.



By Eric Smith -- The Capital

If keeping possession of the coveted trophy isn't enough motivation for the Midshipmen, try this: Whoever triumphs tomorrow will not only take the lead in the 106-game series - now tied 49-49-7 - but will be the first to reach 50 wins. That will go a long way in the perpetual struggle for bragging rights between Navy and Army.

Navy may be going into this game as a 6-point favorite, but, on paper, this one looks to be closer than last-year's lopsided Navy win. Last year, Navy was 8-2 going into the game; Army was 2-8. This year, the Midshipmen (6-4) haven't quite been able to match last year's brilliant season, while the Army (4-6) has been pulling itself out of the cellar.

But such considerations matter little tomorrow. The game, as always, will go to the team that wants it the most, and the pride and tradition involved would make this a huge matchup even if both teams were winless.

It's a game fought for the honor of two great institutions - not to impress NFL scouts. And whatever the score, it will be won by a group of young men who would make any American proud.



But when it comes to this game, we exercise our prerogative as a hometown newspaper to be utterly and shamelessly biased. Go Navy! Beat Army!

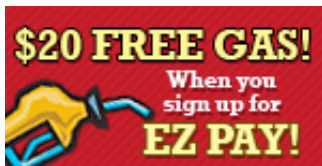


Drunken driving still a state problem

ANYONE WHO thinks Maryland has done all it can to combat drunken driving should consider a recent report by the National Safety Council and a physician-led nonprofit advocacy group, End Needless Death on Our Highways.



The report sticks Maryland in a "Fatal Fifteen" of states with the worst problems with drunken driving. Nearly 45 percent of Maryland's traffic fatalities involve alcohol consumption. The national average: 39 percent.



There will be more efforts in the next General Assembly session to pass bills automatically suspending the licenses of drunken drivers under age 21 and allowing installation of more ignition interlock devices in the cars of those convicted of this crime. We hope the report helps light a fire under some legislators.

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