



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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By Anna Eisenberg  
Warrior Transition Command

**Army Team A “Wins as a team,” gets gold at 2014 U.S. Army Warrior Trials wheelchair basketball finals**

**West Point, New York** —Army team A defended their home turf at the U.S. Military Academy, chipping away at Air Force blue to win with a 47-37 point victory in last night’s 2014 U.S. Army Warrior Trials wheelchair basketball finals.

Fans filled the bleachers to cheer on their teams, but Thomas Webb, Deputy to the Commander at the Warrior Transition Command (WTC) and WTC Command Sgt. Maj. Matthew Brady sat courtside, cheering on the Army. Webb, a West Point alumnus, watched as team A demonstrated Army strength and resilience across the court.

Brady noted “it got pretty close in the end. This just goes to show how resilient the Air Force is. They didn’t give up.”

Army team B coach Lee Montgomery, a professional wheelchair basketball player himself, attributes team A’s success to communication between teammates. “It was a great game. The Army played team ball. They passed the ball around, spaced themselves out across the court and executed,” he said. Army team A coach Jermell Penne added, “they played as a team. They won as a team.”

As Army team A celebrated their win at West Point, they kept their ultimate goal in mind. Retired Sgt. Matthew Spang, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, who has played wheelchair basketball for nearly two years, said “It felt good to win. We accomplished what we set out to do and we won a small piece of what we’re going for. Now our goal is Warrior Games.”

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**CUTLINE:** Retired Army Staff Sgt. Alexander Shaw, Clarksville, Tenn., demonstrates his defensive skills against his Air Force competitors during the 2014 Army Warrior Trials' wheelchair basketball medal round June 18 at Gillis Field House, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y. More than 100 wounded, ill and injured service members and Veterans from across the United States congregated at West Point to train and compete in the Army Warrior Trials, June 15-19. The event is hosted by Warrior Transition Command and includes athletes from the Army, Marines and Air Force facing off in archery, basketball, cycling, track and field, swimming, shooting, sitting volleyball and wheelchair basketball. Participants in the trials include athletes with spinal cord injuries, traumatic brain injuries, visual impairment, serious illnesses and amputations. (U.S. Army photo by Gloria Montgomery)

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Warrior Transition Command (WTC) is a major subordinate command under the U.S. Army Medical Command (MEDCOM). WTC's mission is to develop, coordinate and integrate the Army's Warrior Care and Transition Program (WCTP) for wounded, ill and injured soldiers, veterans and their families. For more information on WTC, visit the new WTC website, [www.WTC.army.mil](http://www.WTC.army.mil), follow on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/armyWTC> or join Facebook at <http://facebook.com/armyWTC>.