



## White, Polchinski Sweep Top Patriot Awards

Courtesy: Army Athletic Communications  
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Release:

**WEST POINT, N.Y.** – Two of the players most responsible for Army's series win over arch-rival Navy this past weekend were honored by the Patriot League on Tuesday when Cole White was named conference "Pitcher of the Week," and J.P. Polchinski was cited as the loop's "Player of the Week."

White turned in one of the finest pitching performances in a pressure-packed situation in Army history on Sunday when he fired a complete-game, five-hit shutout during a 1-0 nine-inning defeat of the Mids, a win that clinched a fourth straight "star" for the Black Knights in the series. The junior right-hander struck out a career-high 12 and did not walk a batter.

With little room for error in a scoreless contest that went extra innings, White yielded just five baserunners the entire game. He retired 14 of the first 16 batters he faced, including eight via strikeout. He allowed only two runners into scoring position and none to advance to third base.

As the pressure mounted late in the game, White appeared to get stronger, setting down nine straight batters to end the contest. The native of Midland, Texas (Midland H.S.), retired the Mids in order in during both of the extra frames, holding Navy at bay until Army could finally push across game's only run in the bottom of the ninth inning of the crucial victory.

In addition to garnering his first Patriot League pitcher of the week citation, White was also named Army Athletic Association "Athlete of the Week" on Monday.

Polchinski, meanwhile, enjoyed the finest stretch of his Army career last week, batting .500 (10-20) with five runs scored and four runs batted in during five games. He batted a blistering .625 (10-16) with four runs scored and three runs batted in during the critical weekend series against Navy that thrust Army back into the Patriot League playoff picture.

The Jamestown, N.C. (Ragsdale H.S.), native led Army's doubleheader sweep on Sunday, going 7-for-8 (.875 batting average) with one run scored and three runs batted in. Polchinski put forth his finest single-game effort at the plate, going 4-for-4 with one double, one home run, one run scored and three runs batted in during the Black Knights' 11-3 win in the nightcap. He posted a slugging percentage of 1.375 on Sunday and registered a 1.000 slugging percentage during the weekend series.

In claiming his first career conference player of the week honor, Polchinski registered an on-base percentage of .647 during the four-game set against Navy, and a .591 mark for the week overall.

With the landmark showing, Polchinski raised his seasonal batting average by 54 percentage points last week, establishing career highs with four hits and three runs batted in during Sunday's second game.

It marks the second time Army has swept the Patriot League's top weekly awards this season. Nick Hill (pitcher) and Milan Dinga (player) were similarly honored in March. Overall, Black Knights have copped three player of the week citations and three pitcher of the week laurels, tying for the highest totals among member schools in both categories this spring..

**WPPC-NC Footnote: J.P. is the son of John and Sharon Polchinski and is a member of the Class of 2009.**



**J.P. Polchinski**



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