

Sportsmanship, competition to mark Jim Thorpe Sports Days athletic games



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Two Air Force F-16 fighters, from the 134th Fighter Squadron, Vermont Air National Guard, flying at 1000 feet at 300 knots, will be an awesome sight and sound at the Opening Ceremony for Jim Thorpe Sports Days, Friday, April 23. The F-16's will fly left to right (Northeast/Southwest) and fly over Indian Field on Carlisle Barracks at 1:28 p.m. The Army War College Class of 2010 has 32 proud Air Force officers—as well as the visitors from the Air University at Maxwell Air Field, Alabama.

Athletes from the Army War College will compete in soccer, golf, volleyball, basketball, softball, bowling, tennis, racquetball, running events, skeet trap, and the newest event, cycling, starting Thursday, April 22 at 4 p.m. through Saturday, April 24, as part of the annual Jim Thorpe Sports Days at Carlisle Barracks and locations throughout Carlisle.

The sports events and opening ceremony are free and open to the public. The competition schedule and locations [here](#)

Check out photos from the competition at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usawc/sets/72157623911269848/> and be sure to follow our Facebook page for news and photos from the playing fields <http://www.facebook.com/USAWC>.

The opening ceremony will be held Friday, Apr. 23, 1 p.m. on Carlisle Barracks' historic Indian Field, where Jim Thorpe once displayed the teamwork, discipline and physical fitness that inspires the name of the athletic games at Carlisle. Jim Thorpe Sports Days has been an annual event since 1974.

One hundred years ago, Thorpe was named All American. Special guests this year are his grandson, John Thorpe, and Jim Thorpe's baseball teammate's son, George Yuda. Yuda's father was Montreville Speed Yuda.

The colorful ceremony kicks off the sports competition among the students of the nation's war colleges – Army, Air, National and Industrial College of the Armed Forces. Following the parade of athletes will be the Old Guard's Caisson with its seven Percheron horses, the U.S. Military Academy mules, will be the invocation, singing of the National Anthem a cappella, U.S. Air Force fly over (two F16's), the Presidential Gun Battery will provide

honors and open the games, and finally the lighting of the official 'Olympic' style torch.

Immediately following the torch lighting, the competition begins with the always exciting men's and women's 2 mile/1 mile relay runs on the Indian Field track.

"Upon the fields of friendly strife are sown the seeds that upon other days, on other fields, will bear the fruits of victory." General Douglas MacArthur first said that, and the spirit lives in the Jim Thorpe Sports Days.

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