

BSAP students respond to local emergency

Staff Sgt. Corey Baltos

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Stephen Hall and Sean Counihan, both Army majors, listen to a lecture in their Basic Strategic Art Program. *Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Baltos.*

On Jan. 12, Maj. Stephen Hall and Maj. Sean Counihan, both students at the Army War College's Basic Strategic Art Program, were sitting in their car at the intersection of Hanover and Pomfret Streets when they saw a woman get stuck by a car as she crossed the intersection.

The woman was crossing the street when a car, making a left hand turn, hit her.

"Before she landed, we were getting out of the car to provide assistance," said Hall. Hall and Counihan were returning from lunch when they witnessed the accident.

"It didn't even cross our mind not to help the woman," said Counihan. "We were already in motion when she was in the air."

"This type of selfless service deserves some form of formal recognition," said Col. Bobby Towery, USAWC Deputy Commandant, as he presented Hall and Counihan with Army Commendation Medals on March 1.

"She was still conscious, but complained of pain in her wrist and hip," said Hall. "So we called the ambulance."

"Volunteer paramedics came out of buildings to offer assistance, some of them already wearing latex gloves," said Counihan.

Fortunately the woman was not badly hurt, and the officers stayed with her until the ambulance and police came.

According to the police she was taken to Carlisle Regional Medical Center to be treated for her injuries.



Col. Bobby Towery, USAWC Deputy Commandant, shakes hands with Maj. Sean Counihan after presenting him with an Army Commendation Medal for assisting a Carlisle woman who was hit by a car as she crossed the street. Maj. Stephen Hall was also presented with an Army Commendation Medal for helping the pedestrian. Both men are currently attending the Basic Strategic Arts Program at the Army War College.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Baltos.

After assisting the injured woman and giving their statements to the police, they then helped calm down the visibly shaken driver. “The driver was a mother with two newborn twins and another child in her car, she had tried to stop in time, but couldn’t,” said Hall.

Later that night, the woman’s daughter called Maj. Hall to express her family’s thanks for his and Counihan’s assistance with her mother.

“She said her mother was treated at the hospital and then released,” said Hall. “She also said she would be OK.”

“They are great officers and typical of the students who attend the Basic Strategic Art Program--concerned and committed. Their actions do not surprise me at all,” said Dr. Michael Matheny, BSAP program director.

"This type of action helps maintain the connection between the military and the civilians we serve," said Col. John Laganeli, USAWC Chief of Staff.

"I applaud their selfless service," said Dr. William Johnsen, USAWC Dean of Academics.

