



**Tim Alger**  
**8th Season**  
**Head Wrestling Coach**  
**George Mason '92**

Tim Alger enters his seventh season at the helm of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy wrestling program. He has led a resurgence to the program during his tenure, via leading the Blue and Gray to a 52-47-1 record in dual matches.

The 2004-05 season proved to be a success for USMMA. The Mariners notched a record of 12-5 in dual matches and 3-0 ledger in the Kings Point's first-ever season of Centennial Conference competition. The Blue and Gray defeated Coast Guard (22-17) for the third time in the last four years, and did so in back-to-back fashion for the first time in school history. Additionally, 149-pound grappler Danny Song became the first wrestler in Alger's stint to qualify for the NCAA Division III Wrestling Championships. He finished in a ninth-place tie at the meet, held in Northfield, Minnesota.

Prior to his arrival at Kings Point, Alger gained three years of extensive experience with the prestigious Hawkeye Wrestling Club at the University of Iowa. He garnered invaluable tutelage from world-famous head coach Dan Gable, and assisted in all day-to-day facets of running the national power's program.

Alger also spent one year as the assistant coach at James Madison University, where he organized the Dukes' practices and daily operations. He also was the primary recruiter for JMU.

No stranger to a service academy environment, Alger wrestled and played lacrosse for the Keydets of Virginia Military Institute. Additionally, he received a Bachelor's degree in Psychology, with a cognate in Neurobiology, from George Mason University in 1992.

Alger is married to the former Marsha Clark of Iowa Falls, Iowa. The couple resides with their daughter, Mackenzie Elizabeth, in St. James, New York



**Shawn Swift**  
**2nd Season**  
**Head Wrestling Coach**  
**C.W. Post'04**

Shawn Swift enters his second season as assistant wrestling coach at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. A former national-caliber wrestler in his own right, Swift helped head coach Tim Alger and the Mariners put together one of the greatest seasons in USMMA wrestling history last season.

A volunteer coach at his alma mater, The Wheatley School, for two years prior to setting foot on the Academy, Swift is a 2004 summa cum laude graduate of C.W. Post Long Island University, where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology with a Sociology minor. Prior to attending C.W. Post, he was the top-ranked wrestler in the country in the 174-pound weight class at Nassau Community College, where Swift garnered All-America accolades.

The Wheatley School has named an award in Swift's honor, which is given out to the student-athlete that has demonstrated the most passion and dedication to his or her sports.

Shawn is one of four children of Tom and Louise Swift. His siblings are Matthew (27), twin sister Jessa (24 ) and Zachary (14).

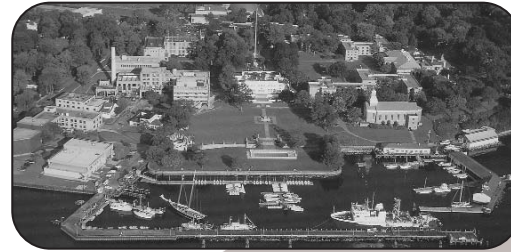
A certified Emergency Medical Technician and personal trainer, he currently resides in Kings Point, New York.

He is currently working on his Masters of Social Work at C.W. Post with a concentration in non-for-profit management.



**The 2005-06 USMMA-Kings Point Wrestling team managers Amanda McNanley and Saeah Wood.**

***THIS IS KINGS POINT***



The United States Merchant Marine Academy was dedicated on September 30, 1943, at the former Walter P. Chrysler estate in Kings Point, NY. World War II required the Academy to forgo normal operation and increase enrollment from 1,000 to 2,700 meeting the emergency personnel needs of the Merchant Marine. During World War II, 210 Midshipmen and graduates gave their lives in service to their country, and many other midshipmen and graduates survived the war at sea. Seven Midshipmen and one graduate were awarded the Distinguished Service Medal of the Merchant Marine, the nation's highest decoration for notable gallantry and devotion to duty. In the closing days of World War II, plans were formulated to establish a four-year, college-level program to meet the peacetime needs of the Merchant Marine.

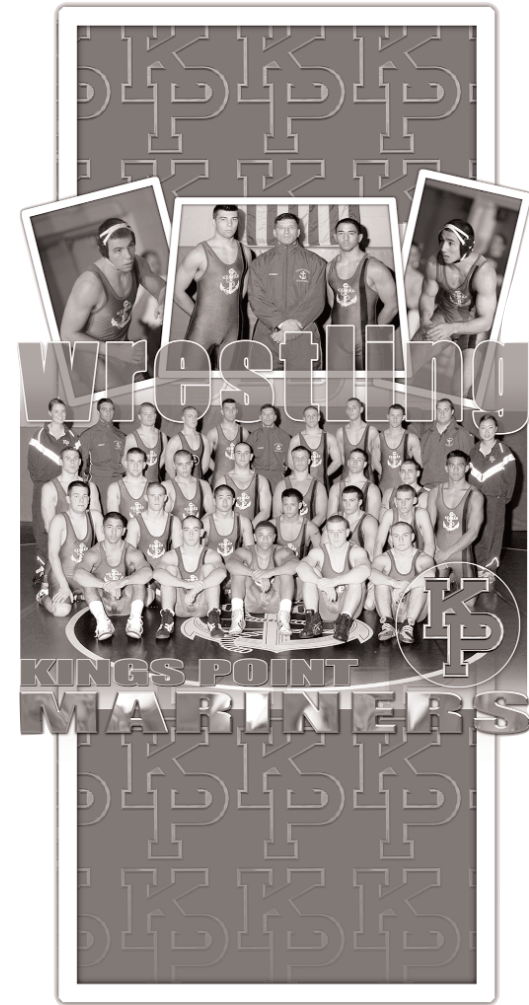
The Academy's national value was once again recognized as it accelerated graduating classes during the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, and for its involvement in such programs as training officers of the first U. S. nuclear-powered merchant ship, the *Savannah*.

Admission requirements were amended in 1974, and the Academy became the first federal service school to enroll women students. During the Persian Gulf conflict in early 1991, and for many months prior to the war, both Academy graduates and Midshipmen played key roles in the massive seelift of military supplies to the Middle East.

Kings Point, which is one of the five federal academies, has grown in stature and has become one of the world's foremost institutions in the field of maritime education. Midshipmen select their major course of study from among six major programs: Marine Transportation, Marine Operations and Technology, Marine Engineering, Marine Engineering Systems, Shipyard and Marine Engineering Management, and Logistics and Intermodal Transportation. Upon graduation, Midshipmen will receive a degree in their chosen major, a Coast Guard License to sail in the above capacities, and a commission as an Ensign in the United States Naval Reserve.

An integral part of the Academy curriculum is the training Midshipmen receive at sea. During their four years, Midshipmen spend approximately half of their sophomore and junior years aboard merchant vessels, sailing the trade routes of the world. This experience allows Midshipmen to explore the maritime field and travel the world.

Today, graduates are serving with distinction in all sectors of the maritime industry - as ship's officers, steamship company executives, admiralty lawyers, marine underwriters, naval architects, oceanographers, and career officers in the United States Navy, Coast Guard, Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps.



## 2005-06 SEASON OUTLOOK

With 20 returnees and 13 newcomers, the 2005-06 United States Merchant Marine Academy Wrestling team looks to improve on last year's record-setting season and make a run for nationals.

Last year, the Blue and Gray went 12-5 in dual meets, setting a USMMA record for most wins in a season. The team sent **Danny Song**, a 149-pounder, to the NCAA National tournament. Song, who was ranked second in the nation from Dec. 1 to mid-February, was the first wrestler since George Munich, captain of the 1957-58 Mariners, to have the characteristics of a national champion wrestler.

The 2004-2005 Mariners also had a big win against service-academy arch-rival Coast Guard in their dual-meet, 22-17, with the help of freshmen **Patrick Frain**, **Matthew Maris**, and **Song**.

This season the competition is greater, the stakes are higher, and head coach **Tim Alger** hopes that his trip to Nationals last year will become an annual visit.

"We've come a long way, but we still have a long way to go," remarked Alger.

The Mariners open their 2005-2006 season at home on Dec. 6 with dual meets against Montclair State and Yeshiva College. The big competitions to see this year will fall on Dec. 14 when the Mariners compete against each other in the Intra-squad Blue and Gray dual competition. A month later, Kings Point will compete against their nemesis, Coast Guard, in this year's Superintendents' Trophy Match at home on Jan. 10. Finally, USMMA will host the 12th Annual All-Academy Championships on Feb. 4. The tournament promotes bragging rights between the following service academies and military schools: West Point (Army), Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force, Virginia Military Institute (VMI), the Citadel and Norwich University.

The Centennial Conference will feature two of the best teams in the region this year in Ursinus and McDaniel Colleges.

Ursinus was undefeated at 17-0 last year and went into last season's qualifying meet ranked 20th in the country. The Mariners matched up with Ursinus in several matches at the qualifier, including three bouts in the semifinals.

McDaniel will pose difficult competition because of

their balance and the notable long term success of their program.

The 2005-2006 Wrestling Mariners to watch will be co-captains **Nate Van de Venter** and **Song**, as well as junior **Danridge Giltz**, sophomores **Troy McGuinness** and **Frain**, and freshmen **Seth Ching**, **Nick Shephard** and **John Brunetti**.

Song is returning for his second season with the Mariners after finishing 9th in the 149-pound weight class at the Division III NCAA Championships last March. Although Song is a sophomore at the Academy, he is in his last year of NCAA eligibility since he transferred from SUNY Brockport. According to Alger, he has the ability to be a national champion.

Van De Venter will weigh in at 174 pounds this year after spending his first three years wrestling around the 165-pound, 174-pound and 184-pound weight classes. Last year, Van De Venter was a third place finisher at the Centennial Conference Tournament.

Another notable senior is **John Victoria**, who will be assuming the empty position left by sophomore Maris in the 133-pound weight class.

Tying up the loose ends for the Mariners will be Giltz, a tough competitor who previously wrestled in the 157-pound class, is certified to wrestle in the 149-pound weight class this year. McGuinness will also be dropping a weight class, going from 174-pounds to 165-pounds. McGuinness finished with a .500 record last season. Frain will be competing in the 197-pound weight class again this year. Last year he was 12-2 overall with 10 pins by Christmas break and beat Coast Guard's 184-pound competitor, Josh Boyle, who was ranked sixth in the nation at the time.

New to the Mariners roster are freshmen Ching and key heavy-weight Brunetti. Ching is a tough competitor who is certified at the 141-pound weight class but might weigh-in at 149 depending on roster changes.

Join the Mariners for their first home tournament on Dec. 6th for back-to-back dual matches against Montclair State and Yeshiva College and on Dec. 14th for the Blue and Gray Intrasquad dual meet. All contests will take place in Liebertz Gymnasium.

## USMMA TOP RETURNÉES



**Nate Van de Venter**  
Senior  
165 LBS.  
Tannersville, PA



**Troy McGuinness**  
Sophomore  
174 LBS.  
Warrenton, VA



**Patrick Frain**  
Sophomore  
197 LBS.  
Yardley, PA

**Danny Song**  
Senior  
149 LBS.  
Holbrook, NY



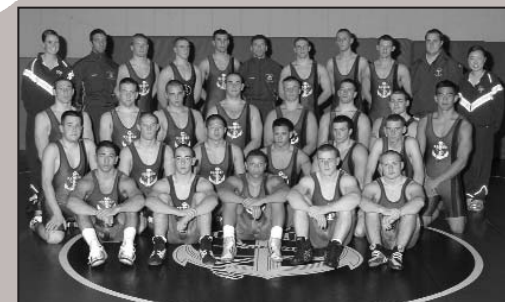
**John Victoria**  
Senior  
145 LBS.  
Chula Vista, CA



**Danridge Giltz**  
Junior  
157 LBS.  
Kent, OH



## USMMA WRESTLING ROSTER



NAME	Cl.	Wt.	Hometown/High School
Tyrone Barrion	SR	174	Spring Valley, CA/Monte Vista
James Billings	FR	184	Washington, DC/Woodrow Wilson
John Brunetti	FR	285	Locust Valley, NY/Chaminade
Seth Ching	FR	141	Mililani, HI/Pearl City
Anthony Day	FR	145	Flanders, NJ/Mount Olive
Dean Ebdon	SO	141	Shelton, CT/Shelton
Patrick Frain	SO	197	Yardley, PA/Pennsbury
Peter Fransson	FR	184	Warwick, RI/Warwick Veterans
Danridge Giltz	JR	157	Kent, OH/Western Reserve Acad.
Kyle Iannacchino	SR	165	Riverhead, NY/Riverhead
Matt Jones	JR	184	Boise, ID/Centennial
Richard Laszok	FR	165	Sierra Vista, AZ/N. Mexico Military
Alex Lochren	FR	133	Martinez, GA/Evans
Scottie Love	FR	174	Baton Rouge, LA/Catholic
Troy McGuinness	SO	174	Warrenton, VA/Fauquier
Bryan Nelson	SO	149	Mitchelville, MD/Woodberry
Ryan Ridge	FR	174	Richmond, VA/Hermitage
Eric Rohan	JR	174	Upper Marlboro, MD/Bp. McNamara
Matt Russell	SR	184	Barstow, CA/Barstow
Tim Sallee	SR	157	James Island, SC/James Island
Ben Sanders	JR	174	Normal, IL/Normal Comm. West
Steven Sharp	FR	160	Putnam Valley, NY/Putnam Valley
Nick Shephard	FR	174	Marion, IN/Mississinewa
Danny Song	SR	149	Holbrook, NY/Hauppage
Nate Van de Venter	SR	165	Tannersville, PA/Pocono Mtn.
John Victoria	SR	145	Chula Vista, CA/Bonita Vista
Dan Villanova	JR	141	Weymouth, MA/Weymouth
Timothy Walker	FR	155	Starr, SC/Druid Hills (GA)
Matt Williams	FR	155	Poway, CA/Poway