



**Name:** Dennis Mahan Michie

**Years:** April 10, 1870 to July 1, 1898 (aged 28)

**Residence:** West Point, NY

**Brief Biography:** Dennis Mahan Michie was born on April 10, 1870 in West Point, New York. Michie was a United States Army Officer and the West Point football coach. He served as the team captain and head football coach of the first Black Knight football team in 1890.

He is considered the “Father of Army Football” as he convinced a group of Navy students to “challenge” West Point officials to a rivalry football game. The Army-Navy football game has become what many deem as the greatest rivalry in college sports. On November 29, 1890 the Army Black Knights and Navy Midshipman faced off in the inaugural game at the West Point Military Academy. He also served as captain in 1891 avenging the Black Knights 1890 loss to Navy with a 32-16 victory.

Upon graduation, Michie continued to coach, leading the Black Knights to a 3-1-1 record in the fall of 1892. He earned the rank of Captain serving in the Spanish American War. Michie’s service years

spanned from 1893-1898 in Cuba until he was killed by hostiles in action on July 1, 1898. Army's home football stadium was dedicated in his honor when it opened in 1924, as Michie Stadium.

**Major Accomplishments:** Captain and Head Football coach of the first Black Knight football team, "Father of Army Football", Organized first Army-Navy rivalry game (1890)

**References:**

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**By John Brennan**