

and Controlled Materials Vault Custodian.

“Petty Officer Durham’s exceptional professional skill significantly enhanced the combat readiness of the Navy’s forward-deployed forces in Japan,” commended CDR Vredenburg.

## DDC’s Lesko Goes Up Against Sultan of Sports Trivia

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Command Affairs Office

Prairie View A&M holds the NCAA record for most consecutive losses. How many games did it lose in a row?



DDC’s John Lesko makes his television debut.

This is a question to which John Lesko of the DDC Commercial Activities Program Office will always remember the answer.

Lesko, a native of Mechanicsburg, PA, put on his sports trivia cap and headed for New York City where he recently appeared on ESPN’s “Stump the Schwab,” a sports trivia program where participants go up against the man known as “The Schwab,” who virtually knows everything there is to know about sports.

Lesko, one of three participants in the show, endured three rounds of sports trivia. In the first round, called “Leading Off,” Lesko and his opponents answered general multiple choice questions

including naming the top 20 career point leaders in NBA Playoffs.



ESPN’s “The Schwab.”

In round two, Lesko and an opponent from Brooklyn faced the Schwab in “Alma Matters,” where contestants name the colleges attended by current or past sports figures.

One of the questions included eight Pittsburgh Steelers. When it came to Terry Bradshaw, both Lesko and his opponent had the correct state, but the wrong college. The answer: Louisiana Tech. The Schwab was quick to correct them.

Lesko survived round two and advanced to the third and final round, “The Schwab Showdown,” where he went face to face with the Schwab. With four categories, “Hitting the Record” (trivia about college football records), “The Commish” (trivia on the topic of sports commissioners), “Nice on the Ice” (Olympic sports trivia), and “#24” (everything Jeff Gordon), Lesko and his “Schwabness” went head to head answering trivia that only the real sports buffs would know.

Lesko did very well, but the Schwab proved to be the bigger force. Winning 14-4, the Schwab sent Lesko packing his bags for Mechanicsburg. “It was a thrill to even be selected to compete on the show. Making it to the final round and beating two other

knowledgeable contestants exceeded all of my expectations. I knew I was up for a battle against the Schwab in the final round. In two seasons and over 40 episodes, only three individuals have stumped him to win,” said Lesko.

**Question:** And what did he get for his efforts?

**Answer:** Fifteen minutes of fame, a 2005 ESPN Sports Almanac, and an autographed T-shirt signed by the Schwab and host Stuart Scott.

Oh, and for you real sports buffs wondering ... 80! (Prairie View’s consecutive losses!)

## DDJC IT Specialist Publishes First Book

By Doug Imberi, DDJC Public Affairs

It has been two years in the making for Robin Johnson, an Information Technology Specialist in the Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, CA (DDJC) Information Technology (J-6) office, but her book, “Geology Trails of Northern California,” is now on sale at Barnes & Noble bookstores.

Published by Gem Guides Book Company and co-authored with geologist Dot Lofstrom, the book is a guide to over 100 trails in Central and Northern California. Featured are items of geologic interest, such as caves, earthquake fault zones, volcanoes, hot springs, unusual rock formations, fossils, mining sites, and glaciers. The hikes range in difficulty from short walks to more strenuous day-long treks, but most are easy enough for most people to accomplish in a couple of hours.

Johnson has published numerous short stories, poems, and technical articles over the years, having been interested in writing most of her life. She obtained her bachelor of arts

degree in English from Sacramento State University. She has won writing contests sponsored the Women’s Fiction Contest of Northern California and has worked as a newspaper journalist. This is the first book-length work she has published.

“The book arose out of a culmination of our shared interests and backgrounds,” explained Johnson. She and Lofstrom are avid day-hikers, so a book about geology-oriented hikes was a natural collaboration for a writer and a geologist.

“It seemed like a really good idea to me when I thought it up,” said Johnson. “I hope other people think so as well. Hiking as a hobby seems to be getting more and more popular, and this sort of trail was my favorite even before I thought of writing this book.”

Although the book does focus on understanding the geology found on the trails, it also discusses the other attractions, such as wildlife, flora, history, and whatever else you might find of interest while on the trail.

“The actual hiking was the easy part,” she said. “A huge amount of research was required to provide the details of each trail. I believe the experience is more enriching when you know the human and natural history of what you’re seeing.”

Writing this book was an in-depth education into the history of California for the authors. “I can’t think of a better way to learn about the natural history of a place than walking on it,” added Johnson.

Johnson says that the second volume, “Geology Trails of Southern California,” is in progress. She and her hiking partner are planning a trip this spring to Anza-Borrego or Joshua Tree