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Weather Forecast	Today  High:53 Low:25
Saturday  High:59 Low:38	Sunday  High:59 Low:21

Fort Riley Post



"In Step" changes times

In Step with Fort Riley is moving to a new time slot. Beginning Sunday, the program will air at 5:30 a.m., on WIBW, Channel 13.

FRIDAY

January 31, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 46, No. 5

Families prepare for soldier deployments

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

When soldiers are deployed to an unspecified location, for an unspecified length of time, their spouses have specific concerns and needs. The Family Member Deployment Preparation Briefing is held to address those issues.

This is the first time that Monique Barnes' husband will be deployed for something other than training.

"I didn't really take it seriously when he told me. Now, it is starting to seem real to me," said Barnes.

For Julie Swenson, this is also the first time she has not known where her husband is going. "He has been to [the National Training Center] and to [the Joint Readiness Training Center] and things like that," said Swenson. "But I always knew where he was."

Not knowing where their spouse is going or when they will return is a special concern for those waiting at home.

"Fear of the unknown is a special concern right now," said Lynn Schwartz, whose husband is also deploying. "The Family Readiness Group is there to help establish friendships and boost morale for the spouses."

"I know it's his job (to support the war on terrorism) and it's a training mission," said Swen-

son. "I worry about what he'll be like when he comes home."

"I am proud of his support of the war on terrorism, but I wish he could do it at home," said Eloise Goodman of her husband, "but I know he'll be okay. He'll be in

good hands," she added.

There are many challenges the spouses will face while their soldier is deployed; being a single parent is one of them.

The Family Readiness Group is there to help with the challenges.

"We have an all spouses group, which includes the spouses of officers and enlisted. We try to meet monthly, during the day, so we can get together and find out

See Families Page 2



Capt. Shawn Nelson and his wife, Dyan, visit with post personnel during a Family Member Deployment Preparation Briefing.

Metz commands Fort Riley, Fort Hood

Staff Reports

Fort Riley's Commanding General, Maj. Gen. Thomas F. Metz, has returned from his temporary assignment with Central Command.

Metz was serving as the Chief of Staff for U.S. Central Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., for the last three months. He resumed command at Riley on Jan. 22.

During Metz's duty with CENTCOM, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld announced that the President of the United States nominated Metz for appointment to the rank of Lieutenant General and subsequent assignment as Commanding General, III Corps and Fort Hood, Fort Hood, Texas.

Metz's new appointment requires confirmation by the United States Senate. Pending confirmation, Metz has assumed the role of acting Commanding General of III Corps and Fort Hood in addition to his role as the Commanding General at Fort Riley.

Metz has served at Fort Riley since November 2001. The North Carolina native was commissioned a second lieutenant and awarded a Bachelor of Science from the United States Military Academy in 1971. He also holds a Masters of Science in Mechanical Engineering from North Carolina State University. His military education includes the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, United States Army Command and General Staff College and United States Army War College.

His commands range from platoon to division level, and he has held numerous staff positions, including Aide-de-Camp to the Commanding General, U.S. Army Readiness Region VI, Fort Knox, Ky., and Chief of Staff for the 1st Infantry Division (Mech), Fort Riley. Metz has also served in two joint assignments in Washington, D.C.

Metz's awards and decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Good Conduct Medal, the Expert Infantry Badge, Senior Parachutist Badge, Ranger Tab and Belgium Brevet "A" Commando.

Personnel Claims act requires soldiers to protect valuables while deployed

By Camille Malone
Chief, Claims Division, SJA

There is nothing like returning home after being deployed. It's time to take some leave, spend time with the family or just relax for a while. No one wants to come home to find out that their television was stolen or their vehicle vandalized.

While some thefts and vandalism are unavoidable, there are some simple things soldiers can do before deploying to help protect themselves while they are gone. When soldiers have done their part, the Army will do its part through the Personnel Claims Act.

A deploying soldier can prevent some thefts by locking doors and windows to their rooms and forcing thieves to force an entry. Soldiers must also use the double lock rule when deploying, which means that their belongings must be locked down twice—once inside a wall locker and then again inside a locked room.

In addition, if a soldier has an anti-theft device, such as a removable face plate on a CD player in their vehicle, then the soldier must use the anti-

theft device.

If a soldier's unit is providing a secure lot to store POVs, then the soldier should use it. Soldier should remove all personal items from the vehicle before storing it. Additionally, if a soldier has modified the vehicle's radio system with amplifiers and speakers, and these items are to remain in the vehicle while in storage, those items must be bolted to the vehicle. If those items are not bolted to the vehicle, they should be removed before the vehicle is stored. Also, in order to collect on a POV claim, the POV must be "legally" on post, meaning the POV must be properly registered in a state, be insured and have post decal stickers that are all up to date.

Should a soldier fall victim to theft or vandalism, that soldier's biggest ally when filing a claim for stolen or vandalized items is documentation. Soldiers must prove that they owned the item that was stolen or damaged. They must also prove the value of the item. Soldiers can do this by making sure that they completely and accurately fill out POV inspection sheets and high dollar value item sheets provided by their units. Soldiers can also

See Claims Act Page 3

Stop movement put into effect for limited number of Army units

By Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

A limited number of active-duty soldiers will not be changing duty stations to maintain unit readiness in case called upon to support a possible conflict.

The Army released a "stop movement" order, which suspends permanent-change-of-station orders for soldiers in designated units, officials said. This movement does not apply to the entire Army, officials added.

Because of operational security, the specific units to fall under stop movement have not been released, officials said. However, units already supporting operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle will not be affected, officials said.

"Unit rotations and last-minute personnel changes can affect unit readiness," an Army personnel official said. "We want the best

Army possible for any challenges that may lie ahead. Stop movement increases combat effectiveness and maintains personnel operating strengths by stabilizing units."

Stop movement is not the same as stop loss, officials said. Stop loss suspends voluntary separation from the military, and is usually issued for specific jobs or skills. Soldiers who are retiring or just leaving the service will not be prohibited under stop movement.

Officers with orders to PCS or go on temporary duty between March 1 and May 31 will be postponed for 90 days, states

MILPER message 03-074 released Jan. 22. Officers moving to fill central selection list commands will move as scheduled, but those on orders for pre-combat courses may defer their attendance. However, officers who defer attendance will be required to attend a subsequent course while in command if necessary, the message states.

Enlisted soldiers with assignment orders for Feb. 28 and earlier will proceed to the school or new duty station. Report dates for schooling or PCS moves on March 1 or later will be revoked for soldiers in affected units, the message states. Soldiers affected by stop movement, who are currently IDY and are scheduled to return may have to return early. Commanders should use discretion when soldiers are scheduled for medical reclassification training or for mandatory reclassification training, the message states.

Units affected by stop movement will be managed at appropriate levels and will continue to receive soldiers from initial entry training, the Officer Basic Course, Officer Candidate and Warrant Officer Candidate schools, officials said.

All exceptions to policy will be submitted to the Personnel Command for approval, officials said.

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Devil Brigade prepares for Foal Eagle: Exercise to test preparedness

By William Biles
Staff Writer

The 1st Brigade Combat Team continues to be a very busy organization. They will be partaking in a training exercise, named Foal Eagle, which will bring the Devil Brigade to the Republic of Korea.

Task Force Dreadnaught, and approximately 800-soldier task force, primarily from 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, is scheduled to leave at the end of February and will return about mid-April.

The soldiers of 1st BCT will be performing tasks during the deployment to enhance their wartime mission. That mission is to deploy and conduct combat operations in support of the 2nd Infantry Division based in the Republic of Korea and also for other worldwide contingencies, said Capt. Mike Taylor, assistant S3 plans.

"Our upcoming exercise, Foal Eagle, is an opportunity to execute our brigade's mission in a training environment," Taylor said. "It is a rare chance for the Devil Brigade to execute our

wartime mission and to train our soldiers in Korea."

The 1st BCT's portion of the operation is to conduct a strategic deployment with the task force, test the pre-positioned equipment set in the Republic of Korea and conduct training with the forces in Korea, he said.

The task force will gain several benefits as a result of the deployment.

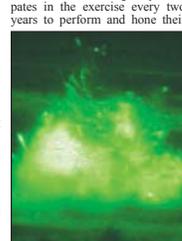
"The benefits of the deployment will be that the brigade will be able to validate its internal procedures and those of the equipment storage site in Korea. It will also allow us to train closely with the 2nd Inf. Div., while continuing to build a solid working relationship with forces on the Korean peninsula and our South Korean allies," said Taylor.

Another benefit for the soldiers of the 1st BCT is the chance to visit the Far East and learn about its people and their culture, he added.

For the past two months, the brigade has been conducting pre-deployment training in preparation for the deployment.

"Our training includes individual and crew level training, a series of briefings about the deployment and soldiers have also received training on how to drive while in Korea," Taylor said.

Foal Eagle is an annual training event for the forces stationed in Korea. The Devil Brigade participates in the exercise every two years to perform and hone their



Post Still Night Vision Video/Units

An M1A1 Abrams tank from 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, engages targets down range during the battalion's gunnery qualification.

wartime mission. "A little over two years ago, we conducted this deployment to the Republic of Korea, executing this same mission, only on a smaller scale," said Taylor.

This larger deployment has been worked on and planned for quite awhile.

"This deployment is the culmination of four years of planning,

coordination and training between the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, the 2nd Infantry Division and the Republic of Korea," he said. "Over the past four years, this brigade has completed multiple small scale deployments of the Brigade Staff, and select units from each Battalion, to the Korean peninsula to prepare for this larger deployment."

Due to the extent of the exercise, it will help bolster the relationship between the 1st BCT, the United States Forces Korea and the South Korean allies, he said.

The joint theater level force on force and simulation exercise, run by the USFK, will help train the US and allied forces for executing contingency missions to secure the Republic of Korea from aggression, Taylor said. It will also validate the Korean reception, staging and onward moving process, test the unit's Standard Operating Procedures and will ensure the task force sized draw of equipment is at a high state of readiness, Taylor said.

"Our goal is the completion of

a safe and effective Foal Eagle exercise that validates the unit's Standard Operating Procedures and the readiness of the equipment set in the pre-positioned fleet," he said.

In short, the soldiers will deploy by air, move to the storage site and draw approximately 100 pieces of equipment, Taylor said. The equipment will consist of M1A1 tanks, M2A2 Bradley Fighting Vehicles, M109A6 Paladin self-propelled howitzers and additional support vehicles, he said.

"After the task force draws their equipment, they will then transport it by train to a camp in South Korea. Once there, they will begin their live fire training with the 2nd Inf. Div., conduct after operations maintenance, return the equipment to the storage site for its turn-in and then redeploy to Fort Riley. All in about six weeks," said Taylor.

"The operation is another opportunity for the brigade to conduct training and prepare our soldiers to execute any mission given to them."

Fort Riley marks 150 years since its beginning as Camp Center

By Emily O'Connor
Staff Writer

This month, 150 years ago, the concept that was to become Fort Riley, began to take shape.

In the fall of 1852, Secretary of War Charles Conrad authorized a survey of land to be conducted in the vicinity of the junction of the

Smoky Hill and Republican Rivers.

"The survey party came out from Fort Leavenworth to what is now Fort Riley and picked this location because of the rivers," said Terry Van Meter, chief, Collection Branch, Museum Division, Center for Military History. "They thought that the rivers would be navigable, so they could

send troops and supplies in various directions by water."

The survey party, which consisted of Capt. Robert Chilton, Capt. Edmund A. Ogden and Capt. Langdon C. Easton, submitted a report to Conrad recommending an Army camp be placed at the junction of the rivers.

Conrad accepted the recommendation and allotted \$65,000 on Jan. 7, 1853, for building construction at Camp Center. The post was named as such because of its location, near the center of the United States.

In order to establish an Army installation, there had to be a perceived need for one in the area, according to Van Meter. Examples of a perceived need might include the necessity to protect a trade route, the need to protect settlers living in the area or, in general, to support westward expansion.

At this time in Kansas, there were about half a dozen forts in the state, including Fort Leavenworth, Fort Atkinson and Fort Scott — all established at strategic locations throughout the state. They were there to protect and re-supply the pioneers crossing the plains via the Oregon-California and Santa Fe trails.

However, to defend and re-supply the remote forts, such as Fort Atkinson in western Kansas, was a task in itself. This pointed out the need for a more centrally

located post, according to Bill McKale, museum director, Fort Riley.

"Camp Center's location enabled troops to be more forward deployed," Van Meter said. "In modern day terms, we would call Camp Center a 'power projection platform.'"

This location for the camp was also ideal because it could be easily defended, and because forage was readily available for the livestock. In its early years, Camp Center worked primarily in guarding the Santa Fe and Oregon-California trails, ensuring that pioneers heading west were safe from harassment by the Cheyenne, Arapaho, Sioux, Kiowa and Comanche Indians. Most frontier forts had similar missions at the time, but also served as a police force of sorts. In addition, they worked to ensure that the white settlers who were passing through did not harass the Native American tribes.

Camp Center only kept its name for a short while, according to Karen Kryschal, a member of the Fort Riley's Historical and Archaeological Society. It was declared a permanent Army installation by General Order No. 17 on June 27, 1853, and renamed in honor of Maj. Gen. Bennet C. Riley, who had passed away in

early June 1853, was a career Army officer. Riley is known for leading the first military escort down the Santa Fe Trail and for his gallantry and meritorious service at the Battle of Cerro Gordo with the 2nd U.S. Infantry. Later, Riley received the brevet rank of major general for his meritorious conduct in August 1847 at the Battle of Contreras.

Over the years, there have been many more developments that have led to Fort Riley's current day status as one of the U.S. Army's power projection platforms.

Editor's Note: Look for more stories about Fort Riley's development in future issues of the Fort Riley Post.



Fort Riley Museum Photo

On Jan. 7, 1853, \$65,000 was allotted for building construction at Camp Center. The post was named as such because of its location, near the center of the United States.

Families

continued from page 1

what is happening on post," said Schwartz. "We are also planning to have monthly meetings so the spouses can ask questions of the rear detachment and to keep the families informed," she added.

Some of the spouses realized that the deployments were coming.

"I have been kind of prepared for it. I had a feeling it was coming," said Swenson.

For others, it was more difficult news.

"I am feeling a little angry and frustrated not knowing how long my husband will be gone," said Goodman.

The deployment preparation briefing gave the spouses much needed information, support and encouragement.

"The most important thing I learned here tonight is to lean on the other wives for support because they know what I'm going through; my mother doesn't really," said Barnes.

"The most important thing I got from this briefing was the phone numbers and addresses to call if we need anything," said Swenson.

"Learning about all the support that is available for our use was the most important thing about the briefing," said Goodman.

"I think the commander put it in a nutshell when he talked about planning to have a different life for a while," said Schwartz. "Everyone's life has changed. We are all going through the same thing."

Most of the soldiers' family members will stay here at Fort Riley to stay in touch with their support group.

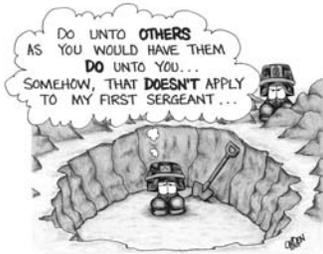
"I have friends in other units from our neighborhood, but I plan to get to know some of the wives in this unit," said Barnes.

"I have a group of friends in the neighborhood and in the unit," said Swenson. Swenson is also on the volunteer phone list to keep other spouses informed when news comes in.

"Now is the time to hook up and work together to find ways to meet the challenges," said Schwartz. "Make friends and start forging connections with people. These are lifetime friendships."

Grunt

By Wayne Ulden



ART-APC
5 x 14"
Black Only
Whatever Service (5d4)/1-31

Fort Riley ranked first in FORSCOM on quarterly safety statistics report

By William Biles
Staff Writer

The Military Accident Review and Analysis statistics are in for fourth quarter fiscal year 2002 and Fort Riley is ranked number one in safety for all US Army Forces Command.

The statistics cover a wide variety of accident and safety issues, including three categories for accidents involving military vehicles. These categories are Army Combat Vehicle, Army Motor Vehicle and Military Injury accidents.

The numbers from the 2002 fourth quarter analysis have fallen in two of those three categories, as seen in comparison to the analysis of the 2001 fourth quarter report, according to Joe Zelko, safety and occupational health specialist, Safety Division.

The largest decline was in the Army Motor Vehicle category, which went from 23 accidents in 2001 to four accidents reported in 2002, with a decline of 19 accidents.

Also down were Army Combat Vehicle accidents, which fell from 17 in 2001 to 11 for 2002, with a decline of six accidents. The Military Injury category rose by eight injured personnel, to 34 in 2002 from 26 in 2001, Zelko said.

"For the Military Injury category, an emphasis should be placed on organizational activities where sports are a primary activity and risk management training for the identification of hazards and risks that cause military injury accidents," he said.

"Command emphasis from the unit commanders and good safety programs within the units, along with a proactive stance by the post

command, has helped lower the total number of accidents on Fort Riley," Zelko said.

To help lower the number of accidents even more, the emphasis on safety for Army Combat Vehicles should be placed on the unit's Driver's Training Program, vehicle operations and supervision, he said.

During the drivers' training, some preventative measures that should be taken are practicing vehicle rollover drills, identifying terrain hazards, night vision techniques, wearing seatbelts and night ground guiding, said Zelko.

Commanders should ensure the information within the accident review and analysis, along with any unique unit accident prevention measures, are used during the First Quarter Safety Day training and organizational Safety Council meetings, Zelko said.

Army targets new recruiting venues

By Joe Burlas
Army News Service

As the U.S. Army Accessions Command continues its quest to bring in enough recruits to keep the Army manned, it is getting smarter in where it spends its advertising dollars, according to Lt. Gen. Dennis D. Cavin, Accessions Command commanding general.

Targeted recruiting efforts directed to 17- to 24-year-olds in the past two years include: sponsoring the U.S. Army All-American Bowl for top high school football players with cosponsor SportsLink; sponsoring Top Fuel Dragster racer Tony Schumacher and NASCAR racer Jerry Nadeau; and placing advertising spots during "The Simpsons" and "Friends" television shows and during broadcast arena football games.

"You have to remember that we

bring 110,000 new people every year into the active Army and the Reserve, including officer accessions," Cavin said. "There is no other organization in corporate America that has to recruit at that level every year. We have to continually check how our message is reaching young Americans to see how well it influences them to join."

That recruiting message, "An Army of One," is about showing that soldiers are more than just muddy boots and rifles, Cavin said, it is about taking individual talents and developing and using them in a solid team. All recruiting messages are accompanied by a "GoArmy.com" tagline that allow those who go to the Website to get more detailed information on the 200+ different types of Army jobs — everything from an infantryman to an administrative law clerk.

Currently, out of 200 phone

calls to prospective recruits, 50 agree to appointments with recruiters, 20 show up for the appointment and 8 enlist, Cavin said. "We have to get smarter than that by targeting our time and money where it is more productive," he said.

According to Cavin's director of Strategic Outreach, Col. Thomas Nickerson, the current 17- to 24-year-old group, known as the Millennium Generation, is a dynamic group with changing interests. Research into what those changing interests are showed that arena football is currently a popular event for the Millennium Generation, Nickerson said. Thus the Army now buys television commercial time for its recruiting ads during arena football games, he said.

Ads alone will not bring members of the target group knocking on recruiters' door, Nickerson said.

President addresses nation

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

"Trusting in the sanity and restraint of Saddam Hussein is not a strategy, and it is not an option," President George W. Bush told Congress and the nation Jan. 28 during his State of the Union speech.

The president answered questions about why Iraq is a crisis now. He said the Iraqi dictator has weapons of mass destruction and will share them with terror groups.

"Before Sept. 11, many in the world believed that Saddam Hussein could be contained," he said. "But chemical agents, lethal viruses and shadowy networks are not easily contained."

The president asked Americans to imagine the suicide terrorists who attacked the United States if they had been armed by Iraq. He said terrorists armed with weapons of mass destruction could "bring a day of horror like one we have never known."

The president said the United States will ask the U.N. Security Council to convene on Feb. 5 to consider Iraq's continuing defiance. He said Secretary of State Colin Powell would present information and intelligence about Iraq's illegal weapons of mass destruction programs, its attempts to hide those weapons from inspectors and its links to terrorist groups. Bush stated that the United States will consult with allies and the United Nations, but he said if Saddam Hussein does not disarm, "for the safety of our people and the safety of the world, we will lead a coalition to disarm him."

Bush also spoke directly to the members of the armed forces. "Some crucial hours may lay ahead," he said. "In those hours, the success of our cause will depend on you. Your training has

prepared you, your honor will guide you, you believe in America, and America believes in you."

Bush also attempted to reassure the Iraqi people that the United States separates the regime from the population. "I have a message for the brave and oppressed people of Iraq: The enemy is not surrounding your country; the enemy is ruling your country," he said. "And the day he and his regime are removed from power will be the day of your liberation."

As is fitting in a State of the Union address, Bush spoke about many other programs and proposals. He also reported on the global war on terrorism. "There are days that our fellow citizens do not hear news of the war on terror," he said. "There is never a day that I do not learn of another threat or receive reports of operations in progress or give an order in this global war against a scattered network of killers. The war goes on, and we are winning."

Bush cited a number of terrorist plots that have been foiled and terror groups left leaderless. He said more than 3,000 terrorists have been arrested around the world, and many others have been killed.

Within the United States, homeland security has been strengthened and Bush thanked the Congress for its support of fielding a limited ballistic missile defense beginning this year. The president also said he is asking for \$6 billion to fund Project BioShield. If approved, the project would be a major research and production effort to guard Americans against bioterrorism. The money would go to make effective vaccines and treatments available quickly against such agents as anthrax, botulinum toxin, ebola and plague.

"We must assume our enemies will use these diseases as weapons, and we must act before the dangers are upon us," he said.

Claims Act continued from page 1

take pictures of the property and keep receipts and owners' manuals.

Soldiers should also be aware that the government does not pay replacement value on personal items. The government may want to consider private insurance.

Once soldiers realize that they have been a victim of theft or vandalism, they must report it to the MPs immediately and to the Claims Office as soon as possible. The Claims Office is located at building 200, Patton Hall, and can be reached at 239-2633 or 239-3830.

DAILY UNION
6 x 11"
Black Only
POST SERVICE DIRECTORY



Briefs

Armed Services YMCA

The Junction City/Fort Riley Armed Services YMCA is holding their annual fundraiser, "Ireland In Song," with Irish balladeer Tony Kelliher in concert. He is billed as "Ireland's Ambassador of Entertainment." The event will be March 14, 6 p.m., at the Municipal Building, 700 N. Jefferson, Junction City. Tickets are \$15 per person and a traditional Irish dinner and beverages will be included.

Purchase tickets from the ASYMCA, 111 East 16th Street, Junction City or at Fort Riley National Bank. For more information, call ASYMCA, 238-2972.

EFMP Support Group

The Exceptional Family Member Program Support Group will meet the first Monday evening of every month from 7 - 8:30 p.m. at the Soldier Family Support Center, building 7264. Next meeting will be this Monday. Dawn Beshers is the lead facilitator, along with Laurie McCauley. This is a great time to discuss concerns, receive and provide guidance, along with learning that you are not alone when loving and learning to deal with family members who has special needs. You can reach Dawn at 238-1907 or Laurie McCauley, Exceptional Family Member Program Manager, at 239-9435.

Families Together Statewide Conference

Families Together, Inc. will be having their statewide conference on Feb. 8 "Together We Can Learn," is being held at the Jack Reardon Convention Center, 520 Minnesota Ave., Kansas City, Kan., 66101. Keynote speaker will be Jeff Lewine, Assoc. Professor of Neurology at the University of Kansas Medical Center, "Teaching the Brain to Learn Old and New Tricks," followed with several breakout sessions addressing several aspects of special

needs. Registration deadline is today. Contact Families Together, Inc at 1-877-499-5369/ 1-800-264-6343, for more detail information. The Exceptional Family Member Program office can make you a copy of the registration form by calling 239-9435 or stopping by the Soldier Family Support Center, building 7264.

Taste of Leavenworth

Enjoy an evening filled with food, drinks, music and dancing at the Inaugural "Taste of Leavenworth," Feb. 28, 6 p.m. - midnight, at the Riverfront Community Center, 123 S. Esplanade, Leavenworth. The evening features a sampling of Leavenworth's finest foods and beverages, a silent auction, music and dancing and door prizes.

Hosted by the First City Museum Advocate Committee, the event will benefit the Leavenworth Historical Museum Association. All proceeds will be used to enhance projects, with special emphasis on the C. W. Parker Carousel building, which will shortly be under construction, and further restoration of the Harvey House. Tickets to the event are \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door. For more information and ticket purchase, contact Melanie Meier at 784-7839.

Prayer Breakfast

Fort Riley will be having a National Prayer Breakfast at the King Field House Feb. 27, from 6:30 a.m. to 8 a.m. The breakfast will have Chap. (Brig. Gen.) David H. Hicks, Deputy Chief of Chaplains, as a guest speaker. Bus transportation will be provided to and from Riley's Conference Center to King Field House the day of the event from 5:30 to 9 a.m.

The buffet will include Healthy Heart and traditional breakfast items. Tickets are available through command sergeants major. The suggested donation is \$6. For more information call 239-2359.

Black History Month Celebration

Fort Riley will be celebrating African-American and Black History Month in February. As part of the month-long celebration, the Equal Opportunity Office will sponsor a free program at Normandy Theater on Feb. 12, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. The theme of the program is "The Souls of Black Folk (100th Anniversary)." All are invited to attend.

For more information about the event, contact the EO office at 239-2928 or 239-2277.

Tax Center

The Fort Riley Tax center will open its doors Monday with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 7:45 a.m. The center is located at the Army Community Service and Family and Soldier Support Center on Custer Hill, building 7264. The center will be open Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Appointments can be made by calling 230-1040. Those filing a 1040EZ form will be taken on a walk in basis; all others are asked to set up an appointment.

Thrift Shop

If your organization is planning to solicit funding from the Fort Riley Thrift Shop for your 2003 community projects, please be aware that the deadline for submitting your request is Feb. 13. For questions regarding the application procedure or to secure the proper request forms, please visit the Thrift Shop in building 267 on Stuart Ave, or call Scott Martis, 784-2351.

Clear out your clutter for the New Year! The Thrift Shop will come to your house and pick up any donations (in good condition). The Thrift Shop is located in building 267, Stuart Ave., 784-3874. Hours of operation are 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the first Saturday of each

month. The Thrift Shop closes when schools close for inclement weather.

They will stop taking winter clothes on Feb. 25 and will begin taking spring clothes on March 4.

Women's History Month

Fort Riley will be celebrating Women's History Month throughout the month of March. The theme for this year's celebration is, "Women Pioneering the Future." The Equal Opportunity Office

will sponsor a free program at Normandy Theater on March 19, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., to celebrate the occasion. All are invited to attend the program. For questions regarding the celebration or for materials to help you observe Women's History Month, call the Equal Opportunity Office at 239-2277 or 239-2928.

Mail training

Official Mail Training will be conducted Feb. 7, at building 319, CPAC. An "Introduction to Unit

Mailroom Operations" class will be offered Feb. 5 and 12, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., at building 319, CPAC. Pre-enrollment is required. Call 239-5411 to enroll.

ACAP Job Fair

The Army Career and Alumni Program is sponsoring a Job Fair today, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., in the ACAP Center in building 210, room 7, Custer Avenue on Main Post. There will be local, national and international employers present to talk with and interview

Normandy Theater

Tonight:
7 p.m.
Empire (R)

Saturday:
7 p.m.
Star Trek: Nemesis (PG-13)

Sunday:
7 p.m.
Drumline (PG-13)

Feb. 6:
7 p.m.
Star Trek: Nemesis (PG-13)

Feb. 7:
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More Briefs

prospective employees. A list of employers invited to this Job Fair will be posted in the ACAP Center. Watch for updated list. To prepare for the Job Fair you should, research the companies that you would like to talk to, have your resumes ready (if you have not finished your resume, come anyway, you can always send your resume later), come dressed appropriately for the interview and look be sharp. Visit or call the ACAP Center, 239-2278/2248, for more information.

The Shoppe

The Shoppe is located in building 259, Stuart Ave., 239-2783. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Tuesday - Saturday.

Retirement Ceremony

A Post Retirement Ceremony was held Wednesday at Normandy Theater. The following soldiers were recognized: Master Sgt. Russell D. Fields; Sgt. 1st Class Roger L. Boker; Sgt. 1st Class Ronald D. Hammond; Sgt. 1st Class David L. Connor and Staff Sgt. Victor L. Riddick.

In addition, the following civilians were recognized: Carole E. Blixt, Directorate of Contracting and Gene Gurik, Equal Employment Opportunity.

The Directorate of Contracting is hosting a retirement open house for retiring Director, Carole E. Blixt, to be held today, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. at the Directorate of Contracting, building 802, Marshall Drive. Friends and acquaintances are cordially invited to attend.

Employee of the Quarter

The DCA Employee of the 1st Quarter, FY03, is Rebecca Stehman. Rebecca has worked for the Directorate of Community Activities since August 2002 as a clerk in Business Operations. Through her personal initiative, and under conditions of severe staffing shortages due to the closing of Riley's Conference Center for renovation, she has tackled

numerous tasks. In so doing, she has taken on responsibilities for booking and billing functions and maintaining financial accounting for the facility. Congratulations on a job well done.

Hunter Education

The Fort Riley Outdoor Recreation Center will be hosting two Kansas Hunter Education Classes.

The session dates of the first class will be the Feb. 26 and 27, and March 1. Session start times for Feb. 26 and 27 will be 5:30 p.m. and the start time on March 1 will be 9 a.m. The sessions will last approximately four hours. The maximum class size will be 40 students.

Students who wish to attend this three session class can either sign up beginning Feb. 3 at the Outdoor Recreation Center, building 9011, or call 239-2363. The second class will be a special one day class beginning at 9 a.m. on March 22.

Class will last approximately seven and a half hours. The maximum class size will be 30 students. Students who wish to attend this course will need to come into the Outdoor Recreation Center beginning Feb. 7 to pick up their student study guide on or before March 1.

There will be a \$10 deposit for the student study guide. The fee will be refunded to those students who attend the March 22 class. This one-day class requires the

student to study all of the student study guide prior to the start of class. Two multiple-choice tests will be given, one at the beginning of class and one at the end.

If you have further questions, stop by the Outdoor Recreation Center or call 239-2363.

AAFES/DECA Council Meeting

Make your voice heard at the next AAFES/DECA council meeting March 26, 9:30 a.m., at the Sports Page on Custer Hill. The community at large is encouraged to attend and provide feedback about what they want to see at their local PX and Commissary. Also, they will get advance notice of upcoming special buys.

Bible Study

Join the Faithful Men's Bible Study as they discuss "Spiritual Leadership Principles" on Thursdays, 5:30 - 6:30 a.m., at Kapaun Chapel. For more information contact Don Ericson, director of religious education, 239-9313.

Advanced AFTB Training

Advanced AFTB class will be held Feb. 5, and will include Military Grade and Command Structure and Understanding the Organization of the Total Army.

Information on other AFTB classes can be found at the Family Readiness Center, building 7264. Classes will be held at the FRC from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Call 239-9435 for more information or to reserve a spot in any and all classes. Reservations are not necessary, but are preferred.

AFTB Classes

Do you know where to go for benefits? Do you know your options after retirement? Do you know the LES has changed?

Do you know answers for new dependents who have questions?

Do you know what the Army expects of you? Army Family Team Building can show you all the benefits and tools available to you as a military family member. Whether you've been with the Army for six months or six years, AFTB can help.

WHO: Soldiers, Spouses, Family members and Civilians WHAT: Free AFTB Level One Classes WHEN: Two Fridays per month from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Class dates Feb. 7 and 21 and March 7 and 21 at the Armed Services YMCA, 111 East 16th St., Junction City.

Register or just find out more information by calling the AFTB office at 239-9435. Parents needing FREE childcare will be taken on a first to register, first served basis, so you must pre-register for

FREE childcare by calling 239-1831 no later than one week prior to the class.

Cheerleading Squad

Willie the Wildcat and the Kansas State Cheer Squad would like to invite you to attend Wildcat Cheer Day 03. Students ages 3-14 will be broken up into groups to work on age appropriate cheerleading skills including: Motion, Technique and Dance. Safety and basic stunt techniques, with KSU cheer staff and coaches supervision, crowd leading, jump technique and development will

also be taught. Kids attending will receive: an official "Wildcat Cheer Clinic" T-shirt signed by Willie the Wildcat and a KSU Cheer screen-printed Team Dynamics Powercat "tattoo". The cost of the Cheer Day is \$25. The deadline for registration is Monday. Call 785-532-7983 for more information.

FORT RILEY POST

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Korea 50 years ago - Operation Smack attacks T-bone Hill Complex

By Jim Caldwell
Army News Service

Operation Smack, a combined arms experiment falls short of capturing T-bone Hill Complex in Korea 50 years ago this week and sparks a congressional inquiry at home.

Jan. 23-29, 1953 — Acting Secretary of the Army Earl D. Johnson announces in Washington that Lt. Gen. Maxwell Taylor, Army deputy chief of staff for operations, will succeed Gen. James A. Van Fleet, who is retiring from active duty March 31, as commander of the Eighth Army in Korea.

Taylor was an airborne commander during World War II, participating in jumps during the invasions of North Africa, Sicily and Italy. Then he commanded the 101st Airborne Division parachute assault in Normandy, France, on D-Day, June 6, 1944. He was on leave in the United States when Germans surrounded the 101st at Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge.

Van Fleet, who will be 61 years old March 19, had been extended on active duty beyond the national elections to allow the Eisenhower Administration to decide on his future.

The news media speculated that the Truman Administration was reluctant to replace Van Fleet because it would look like retaliation due to a letter Van Fleet wrote to candidate Dwight D. Eisenhower, a classmate in the West Point Class of 1915. Mrs. Mamie Eisenhower made the letter public. In it Van Fleet complained about the lack of U.S. government support for expanding the South Korean armed forces.

Taylor meets with Eisenhower Jan. 24 before leaving for Tokyo. He arrives there on Jan. 29 and begins preparing to assume command of Eighth Army.

Jan. 23 — James Hagerty, White House press secretary, says that Eisenhower thinks Van Fleet is "probably the best qualified combat officer in the armed forces," and regrets that "passage of time and time alone" forces him to retire.

Two days later Van Fleet expresses regret at having to leave Korea without winning a decisive

victory and "would like to be in command of such an offensive."

He thinks in a year South Koreans would be capable of replacing allies along the front, and the ROK government just needs financial and materiel support.

The Eighth Army is "in better shape now than it has been at any time since I took command."

Van Fleet says he plans to retire to his home in Florida.

Jan. 24 — Two platoons from the Ethiopian Battalion attached to the 7th Infantry Division seize a hill south of Old Baldy in a 45-minute battle. They withstand a Chinese counterattack.

Jan. 25 — Both sides are reinforced. The Ethiopians bring up two more platoons to the frontlines. They fight back the Red attack until they're ordered to withdraw.

D-Day for Operation Smack takes place. It is an air-tank-artillery-infantry experiment. But the 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th ID, has a mission to capture prisoners on Spud Hill, a high point of the T-Bone Hill complex.

Lt. Gen. Glenn O. Barcus, Fifth

Corps commander, and their staffs are in position to watch the action.

Several reporters are also drawn to the scene.

All receive a pamphlet prepared by the 7th ID with a color cover describing the experiment, giving a timetable of events and explaining a scenario.

During the morning, 40 F-84 Thunderjets hit the complex with bombs and napalm, with varying degrees of accuracy.

After the Air Force jets, eight Marine F4U Corsairs arrive to drop smoke to screen the tanks. They miss their target.

Then artillery, anti-aircraft guns, tanks and automatic weapons from the main line of resistance pound Spud Hill.

A platoon from E Company, 2nd Battalion, is 15 minutes late leaving the MLR in trucks to the foot of the hill. Half of the platoon takes a northern approach up the hill and the other half comes up the southern finger. When they rejoin near the crest of Spud, withering machine gun fire drives them into the hollow between the fingers.

ties. Then the 1st Platoon and later the 3rd Platoon are ordered in as reinforcements. Both end up in the same perilous situation.

The platoons are ordered to withdraw. They suffered 90 casualties.

The Air Force dropped 112 tons of bombs on Jan. 25. Tanks fired 2,000 90-mm. rounds and 75,000 smaller caliber rounds. Artillery fired 12,000 105-mm. and 155-mm. shells, and 100,000 rounds of smaller calibers. Heavy mortar crews dropped in 4,500 rounds. The infantry used 50,000 machine gun shells and 650 grenades.

The highest estimate of enemy casualties is 65.

Jan. 27 — Maj. Gen. George W. Smythe, 3rd ID commander, says the convicted men were combat-tested before the incidents and had served well before and after. He says the 65th IR has a record of distinction in nine major Korean campaigns and its soldiers have earned 1,007 individual decorations.

Jan. 28 — The Defense Department reports that the total American casualties in Korea as of Jan. 23 were 129,153, which includes 22,769 dead.

Jan. 29 — Operation Smack becomes controversial at home. A

reporter new to Korea writes that it was a show staged for the brass,

with a color pamphlet and a "scenario" for them to follow. Representative Clare E. Hoffman, R-

Mich., introduces a "resolution of inquiry" to the House.

Fort Riley continues to be a Korean War Commemorative Community through 2003.



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Air Force commander, Maj. Gen. Wayne Smith, 7th ID commander, and Lt. Gen. Paul W. Kendall, I

Then the Chinese begin lobbing grenades into the hollow. The platoon begins taking casual-

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Fort Riley Community



January 31, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

Page 7

Leaving children unattended in vehicles can be dangerous

By Nicole Matlack
PMO

Would you leave \$1 million in your car? Would you let your child play with a loaded gun? Of course not. But, did you know that automobiles can be just as risky and lethal?

It is important to increase your awareness and take ownership for the safety of your child. You can place your child in this danger anytime, anywhere, by just thinking that "you will only be a minute."

On Jan. 7, 2001, in Kansas City, a young mother left her 4-month-old

daughter in an idling car while she quickly ran into the house. When she turned around, her '85 Plymouth Reliant was gone, baby and all. How long was the mother away? "Just a minute." The life of this family is forever changed because of one decision.

According to Kansas law, it is unlawful for any person to leave a child under the age of 10 unattended in a motor vehicle. For purposes of this article, "unattended" shall mean that the person is outside the motor vehicle and is unable to continuously observe the child. If this type of violation is found on Fort Riley, the Military Police will cite the supervi-

sing adult with child endangerment. As tempting as it may be to run a quick errand, leaving children unattended inside a vehicle, "even for a minute," can be dangerous.

When left unattended, children may be able to start the vehicle or put the vehicle in neutral. In addition, heat build-up or dangerously cold temperatures inside a vehicle, can quickly become fatal to children.

Convenient, yes; but our children should not be sacrificed for "our convenience." Is your child's safety and well-being worth saving a minute or two? To save children from these pre-

ventable deaths and injuries, it takes both education and parental/caregiver diligence.

Never leave children alone or unsupervised - not "even for a minute."

Never leave car keys where children can find them.

Always lock cars so children cannot get into a car unsupervised. Unlocked cars pose serious risks to children who are naturally curious and often lack fear. Keep the doors and trunk of cars locked when parked in the garage, driveway or near home. Parked cars can be deathtraps for kids.

Crawl around in your family vehicle

and look at everything from a child's perspective. Where are there potential problems? Do the automatic power window controls "pull" to go up rather than being "pushed"? Does your vehicle have transmission or brake interlocks?

Teach children about the dangers of a car. A car is not a toy. In fact, it can be as dangerous as a loaded weapon.

Arm children with facts. They must understand that a vehicle is used for transporting people from place to place; it is not a playground nor is it a place to leave young children unsupervised while you run into the store "even for a minute."



The display shown showcases a hunting jacket worn by Gen. George Patton, along with other memorabilia owned by soldiers who attended the Cavalry School at Fort Riley.

U.S. Cavalry Museum has new exhibit

By William Biles
Staff Writer

Fort Riley's U.S. Cavalry Museum's newest exhibit depicts the era when the U.S. Cavalry School trained Army horsemen, from 1919 through 1946.

According to the Fort Riley Guide and Directory, Army horsemen, with the training they received at the Cavalry School, were among the finest mounted soldiers in the world. Thus, the school's reputation was ranked with the French and Italian Cavalry Schools.

Other, non-military, aspects of the school, according to the guide, included horse shows, hunts and polo matches.

The new exhibit at the museum depicts memorabilia from the time period and showcases artifacts that were from the actual school, said Don Rush, exhibits technician.

One case in the exhibit shows the styles of uniforms and clothing the soldiers of that bygone era had worn. One jacket, in particular, is Gen. George Patton's hunting jacket, which he wore during foxhunts.

More sights to see within the exhibit are the different types of horseshoes that were used for the cavalry's mounts, as well as a variety of vintage photographs showing the soldiers training and what they did for rest and relaxation.

The room, the exhibit is in a transitional room used for different exhibits that are changed out on a rotational schedule.

The reason for rotating the exhibits is that the museum has an abundance of artifacts housed in another building, said Rush.

When the time comes to replace one exhibit with another, the museum staff chooses, from the museum's artifacts, those items that best represent the history or era they want to display,

he said.

There are also plans in the works for artifacts to be loaned to the museum from the Smithsonian Institute that relate to George A. Custer and Leonard Wood. This will be in conjunction with the celebration of Fort Riley's 150th Anniversary.

The museum is open to the public, and tours will be given to groups who are interested in

learning about the vast history Fort Riley has to offer.

The museum also has a bookstore that features an excellent selection of Cavalry and military histories, plus a limited edition of fine art prints.

For more information about the Fort Riley U.S. Cavalry Museum, call William McKale, museum director, 239 - 2737.



A display shows photographs of soldiers participating in competitions for different categories of horsemanship. Officers and enlisted men competed in the events aimed at improving their skills.

Children should be involved in deployment talks

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

The soldier trains for the time he is called to his duty and is prepared to go. The gear is packed, the protective mask is clean and ready, the checkbook is balanced and emergency numbers are posted on the refrigerator.

Along with weekly sergeant's time training and spending time in the field on training tasks, being prepared to be deployed includes preparing the family.

How do you prepare the kids for a time of separation? Children have resources at their schools.

"We have had this opportunity more than once — in the '90s," said Pat Anderson, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, USD 475. "We have been through some of this together before and we have an understanding of the things that help to take place."

"We work with post officials to help provide needed support," said Lucille Coverdale, guidance counselor at Fort Riley Middle School.

Coverdale said that while deployments are a way of life for students with military parents, schools are able to recognize differences in a child that may indicate he or she is having trouble coping.

"We notice if a student is having behavioral problems or their grades are sliding. We contact the parents and sit down to come up with a plan to help the child," she said. "And, a child is always welcome to make an appointment to talk to a counselor if he or she

feels they need someone to talk to," she added.

Prior to deployment, parents should visit their child's school and make sure all emergency information is updated, said Coverdale.

To help reduce the stress and uncertainty that may accompany the deployment of a parent, Coverdale recommends the parents discuss their children in conversations about the separation.

"Give them the information as it's needed. Explain why the parent is leaving and, if you know, approximately how long they are going to be gone. Let the child talk about their feelings and fears as well," she said.

Coverdale also recommends that you provide a photo of the deployed parent for the child to keep in their locker or notebook.

A daily schedule is also important when a parent is away.

It is important to keep routines and minimize changes as much as possible, said Anderson. "We try to make it business as usual as much as possible. Young people need structure and stability, and we have to try to maintain balance and understand the way kids think and feel," she said.

In preparation for any deployment, parents can pick up informative booklets to read at Army Community Services. These booklets can help prepare children, said Kay Foreman, school liaison officer.

According to a tip sheet provided by ACS, there are several things parents can do before and during the deployment of a parent.

For the departing soldier,

before leaving, explain where you are going in simple terms and show your child on a map or globe the general area you will be in.

Talk to your child about the importance of your job in the Army. Let them know that you are proud of what you do.

You can also have the family attend ceremonies and farewell gatherings. This helps children say goodbye.

Come up with contingency plans for any emergency situation, and use the Family Readiness Center.

While the parent is gone, he or

she should write frequently to let the family know you care for them.

The ACS also has tips for the parent who will be staying. Encourage your child to write to the deployed parent weekly and include schoolwork, drawings and pictures. If your child is too young to write, ask them what they want to say and write it for them.

If you have more than one child, spend some time with each individually.

But, remember to make time for yourself. Kids do well if you do well. Ask for help if you need it.

Tips for deployed parents

1. Answer your child's questions. Ask them what they think before you answer. They may understand more than you thought.
2. Buy birthday or other significant gifts prior to your departure. Arrange for them to be given to your child at the appropriate time.
3. Minimize change as much as possible.
4. Record bedtime stories prior to your departure.
5. Be positive. Help your child anticipate your return.

Tips for non-deployed parents

1. Prominently display a photograph or other "presence" of the deployed parent.
2. Have each child keep a daily journal of activities to share with the deployed parent at a later date.
3. Include the children in the family decision-making process. Let them help decide what chores need to be performed.
4. Make as few changes as possible in the daily routine.
5. Hug your children. Tell them you love them.

Soldiers can re-enlist, attend college as well

By William Biles
Staff Writer

Should I re-enlist or should I get out of the service?

That is a question soldiers will ask themselves sooner or later.

"What are my options?" a soldier might ask himself or herself.

The choice of re-enlistment has many options for today's soldier, one of which is the re-enlistment college incentive.

"It's an incentive program tied to a current station stabilization re-enlistment option that allows soldiers to go to college during duty hours," said Sgt. Maj. Thomas Kelly, command career counselor, 24th Infantry Division.

"It is an incentive we use to entice people not only to stay in the Army, but to stay in the Army at Fort Riley. Soldiers don't want to stagnate, they want to continue to learn and grow," he said.

There are several things a soldier will need to do prior to re-enlisting for the college incentive.

"They (soldiers) have to have a general technical score (on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) of at least 100 points in order to receive tuition assistance, said Kelly. The highest that can be scored for general technical is 130.

Soldiers will also need to see an education counselor at Fort Riley University to find out what college classes are available for them, he said.

The soldiers will also want to find out what their schedule would be so they will know what time of the day their classes will be held, said Kelly.

"After the soldier finds out what the class schedule is, he will need to go over it with his commander. Once the soldier and the commander agree on the times that the soldier will be and will not be at work, a DA 4187 request form will be filled out," he said.

All of the legwork should be completed prior to the re-enlistment of the soldier.

"A real important detail is to have every thing worked out before the soldier re-enlists so it will ensure a good solid agreement between the soldier and the unit," Kelly stated.

Soldiers need to realize that the college incentive is not a way for them to get out of work while they are attending college, he said.

See College Page 8



Postfiles

Sgt. Daniel Fry, Company B, 101st Forward Support Battalion, studies an Algebra problem during his Basic Algebra class. Fry re-enlisted with the college option incentive.

College continued from page 7

"The key note is that the soldier is required to be at the unit during the duty day and be aware it is not a six month vacation," Kelly said. "The purpose of the college incentive is to allow the soldier, who ordinarily couldn't go to college, to be able to go to college."

Re-enlisting with the college incentive is a win-win situation. Both the unit and the soldier will benefit from the classes the soldier attends, Kelly said.

"It's mainly geared to benefit the soldier by making him or her more competitive if they decide to exit the Army when their tour of duty is over," he said. "It also ben-

efits the unit by making the soldier a greater asset to the unit and the Army. Today's Army needs better educated soldiers that can work in our high tech environment."

Having a college education can also help you progress in your military career.

"Taking these classes, through the college incentive, will help me max out my promotion points for civilian education," said Sgt. Daniel Fry, Company B, 101st Forward Support Battalion. "It has given me the opportunity to take more classes throughout the day, rather than having to go to just one class after work for three

or four nights of the week."

Sgt. Aimee Lewis, 1st Engineer Battalion, Unit Supply Specialist, also believes that an education will help her military career. "I feel that everyone in the military should work toward an associate's degree or higher. This way every soldier has something to fall back on, not to mention it looks excellent in your records."

For soldiers to find out if they qualify for the college incentive, they need visit their Re-enlistment Noncommissioned Officer. If they do meet the standards, the NCO will give them further direction as to what needs to be done next.

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Fort Riley Sports

January 31, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

Page 9

HHC, 1st Brigade wins over 3rd ADA

By William Biles
Staff Writer

The Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade, is now 5-5 after beating Battery C, 4th Battalion, 3rd Air Defense Artillery by a score of 70 - 55 in a company level intramural basketball game at King Field House Tuesday.

During the first five minutes of play, the game was very competitive, with both teams showing a well-balanced attack.

But, as the clock kept ticking, HHC, 1st Bde., kept adding points and pulling away from Btry. C, 4th Bn., 3rd ADA.

The keys to HHC's success were strong drives to the net when they were in the paint and being able to pass the ball to the open player in the three point range when they couldn't finish the drive.

A downfall for Btry. C, 4th Bn., 3rd ADA, was that they weren't covering HHC's guard Pasquel Fennema. Fennema was frequently left open, and she nailed most of her three point field goal attempts.

"In every competition we played so far that had a girl on their team, that team was good and the girl was a good shooter," said Tarrah Bailey, forward, Btry. C, 4th Bn., 3rd ADA. "I think we need a girl on our team."

A common thread between the teams was that both of them do not practice as much as they would like to.

"We don't get much of a chance to practice," said Brian Fennema, forward, HHC, 1st Bde. "We don't have a consistent team, so it is hard to get us together for practice."

Bailey agreed, "We don't practice that much. We have a lot of new guys that arrived at the battery, so it's been busy getting them settled in."

Although everyone likes to win, it's more important to just have fun with the game.

"Winning is fun, but at this level, intramural games are all about people coming here to have fun and not about how many points they can score," said Fennema. "It's not like we are getting paid money to play, but it is fun to win."



Tommie Brooks, Headquarters and Headquarters, 1st Brigade, drives the ball past two defenders to score two points during a game at the King Field House.



Tommie Brooks, Headquarters and Headquarters, 1st Brigade, drives the ball past two defenders to score two points during a game at the King Field House.

New programs promote fitness

By Jamie Bender
Staff Writer

Three new fitness activities designed to promote a fit and healthy lifestyle began this month on Fort Riley.

The Fun Run Club, Sprint Triathlon and Walk/Run/Bike Across Kansas began on Jan. 6.

Fun Run Club

The Fun Run Club is a monthly run between two and three miles long. "The runs for January, February, July and August are indoor runs of two to two and a half miles," said Kim Miller, fitness coordinator for Fort Riley.

The indoor runs can be done on a treadmill at any of the five fitness centers on post, said Miller. "When you come in to do the run, you must register at the front desk. When you have completed your run, a staff member must initial the sheet," she said.

"March 14 will be our first outdoor run at Riley's Conference Center at 3 p.m. We will then have a schedule of the monthly runs," said Miller. "The schedule will be posted at the fitness centers, or you can call King Field House to find out the time and place," she added.

Once a participant completes three, six and 10 runs, they will receive an incentive reward, said Miller. "After three completed runs, the reward is a Fort Riley fitness gym towel. The reward after six will be a Fort Riley fitness T-shirt. For the 10th run, the reward hasn't been decided on yet," she said.

Running has many physical rewards as well. "Running increases your endurance and cardio-respiratory health. It can help

you lose weight and relieve stress," said Miller.

There are alternative goals for the Fun Run Club.

Miller said the goal for the Fun Run Club is to encourage support among the patrons. "I want to encourage more people to get together to run more often. I want them to know that there are people out there with the same fitness levels and same fitness goals," she said.

Sprint Triathlon

The Sprint Triathlon is a series of three events that include a 12-mile bike ride, a 3.1-mile run and a half-mile swim. "The events don't have to be completed back to back in one day, but each event must be completed during one work out," said Miller. "For example, the 12-mile bike ride must be done at one time, but then you can wait to do the run and swim on another day," she explained.

The half-mile swim can be done at Eyster Pool.

"For those people who know how to swim, but haven't done it in a long time, or who haven't swam laps before, there will be a class on swimming laps at the pool," Miller said. The class is scheduled for Jan. 28 and Feb. 10, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

As with the Fun Run Club, registration forms can be filled out at any of the fitness centers, and at Eyster Pool for the triathlon.

Once the events are completed and verified by a staff member, participants will be eligible to receive a Fort Riley fitness T-shirt

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ITR, BOSS team up for great skiing, good deals, winter fun

By Mike Watson
Staff Writer

Recent snowfall has some people thinking about hitting the ski slopes.

Spec. Jason Dunlap said the recent blanket of snow already has him thinking about the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers Feb. 10 trip to the Snow Creek ski area in Weston, Mo., for Military Appreciation Day.

Dunlap said everyone always has a great time skiing there, even though it is only a big hill.

"It's not Aspen. It's not Vail. But, it's better than trying to ski on a rock around here, and everyone always has a great time. Last year, one guy came up and thanked me. He said it was the best time he'd had since he came to Fort Riley," Dunlap said.

The funny thing is, new skiers who have never been skiing end up loving it, and then they start planning trips to Colorado, he said. There are great ski trips available through Fort Riley's Information, Ticketing and Registration.

Snow Creek, Mo.
Military Appreciation Special Snow Creek is perfect for beginners, but it is also great for skiers who want a destination closer than Colorado, Dunlap said.

What is even better, he said, is Military Appreciation Day means free equipment rental and free lift tickets for the beginner ski area for military ID cardholders. Guests receive the same package for \$10.

For skiers wanting access to more advanced areas of the resort, the cost is \$30 for military ID cardholders.

"There's no sense in paying a lot of money to go to Colorado if you are not an experienced skier," Dunlap said. "Snow Creek offers the same opportunities as Colorado resorts for beginning skiers without spending the money or

driving eight to 10 hours.

"But there are also more challenging runs, so there are opportunities for skiers at all levels to enjoy themselves - not just beginning skiers."

Dunlap is organizing the trip for BOSS, but he said the skiers do not have to be single in order to go. Preference is given to singles, but couples are also accommodated as space allows.

Dunlap said those interested should sign up at ITR, 239-5614, by Jan. 31 to reserve a spot on the bus for the daylong adventure.

However, even if buses are not available, people can still drive the two and a half to three hour trip to Snow Creek.

Teresa Mayes, ITR Manager, said, this is an inexpensive way to get into skiing and have fun at a close ski destination.

As of Jan. 23, there were 36 people signed up for the BOSS Snow Creek trip.

Mayes said soldiers at all ski levels should take advantage of

the Military Appreciation Day discount.

Colorado
Chills, spills and thrills

For the Colorado experience ITR offers ski packages that could save military cardholders about 30 percent off the total cost of a regularly priced trip.

For example, Mayes said, ITR offers a trip to Winter Park for \$248 per person, which includes lift tickets for three days of skiing, two nights hotel lodging and transportation. Equipment rental is estimated at \$8 to \$20 per person.

The transportation is a sleeper bus, so the riders sleep on their night ride out to the mountains and then they are ready to ski early the next day. That saves money on lodging because people pay for two nights instead of three.

With ample planning, Mayes said ITR could possibly find even more discounts for soldiers.

"We know it's hard, but if sol-

diers can plan a trip and give the ITR at least two weeks notice on a trip, we can probably get them a little better savings," she said. "Spring break is filling up quickly, but there are still trips out there. So people need to start asking about those trips now."

She said ITR can find discounted prices for every Colorado ski resort, and even resorts in other states, however, the only discounts available for lessons in Colorado are for the Winter Park Resort - a very nice ski area, she said.

For trips after spring break, there is a chance to earn even more savings.

"After March is when resorts start their low season, but there can still be wonderful ski conditions," Mayes said. "If you contact ITR, we can research trips and possibly get free nights - where you can buy two nights and get one free - that's a potential deal."

ITR does trip research to a variety of vacation destinations. ITR's services are available, free of charge, to active duty soldiers, National Guard, reservists, retired military, Department of Defense civilians and family members.

For trip-takers who do not want to ski, Mayes said Colorado has many shopping outlets. Many resorts also offer activities like ice-skating and sleigh rides.

To get to these destinations, most hotels and resorts offer free shuttles or public transportation pickups.

For information on ski trips and other vacation destinations, ITR has brochures and videos available. Call 239-5614 or 239-4415, Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

"Because of increased training on base, there have been a lot less sales for lift tickets on base," she said. "But, there are definitely packages available, and soldiers should know we are here to get them great deals."

Bison have had long history, many hardships on American plains

By Alan Hynek
DES Biologist

The sight of the American bison must have been tremendous. Vast herds covered the plains, grazing the tall grasses that are now fodder for our domestic cattle. In a very short time, the bison went from herds numbering in the thousands, to near extinction and back.

In the early 1800s, bison were the king of the plains. They migrated over large tracts of land in search of newly grown grass. Their intensive grazing would completely annihilate an area. The prairie grasses and forbs that evolved from the repeated disturbance gave rise to the resilient plant community that allows the military to intensively use the prairie of Fort Riley.

The bison soon fell to the long-range rifles made famous in the late 19th century. "Skinners" all across the plains harvested the bison without limit. The hides were shipped away and the bones ground for bone meal.

With fewer and fewer bison to be found, the Native Americans lost their source for food, shelter and clothing.

For a period of time, the only remaining bison were found on farms and in zoos.

In the late 1800s, a few hundred head of bison were found wild, roaming Yellowstone Park.

Although the bison would never freely roam the plains again, the species was saved from extinction through careful breeding programs of the few remaining individuals.

Fort Riley was part of the later recovery of the species, housing them from the early 1950s until the late 1990s.

On the Wildside: News About Nature



Fort Riley was part of the later recovery of the bison, housing them from the early 1950s until the late 1990s. recovery of the species, housing the late 1990s. The bison herd was bison from the early 1950s until a popular visitors attraction for

many years on post. At first, they were held in the corral by the Post Cemetery.

When they outgrew that, most were placed in a pasture south of Williston Point Road.

When the herd grew to 58, a decision was made to transfer much of the herd to Kansas State University to be placed on Konza Prairie.

The bison herd was maintained on Fort Riley until recently, when the remainder of the herd was transferred to Konza Prairie.

Today, the Konza Prairie has more than 100 head of bison, many of which are descendants of the Fort Riley herd. The bison on Konza Prairie are used to study large herbivore impacts to the tall-grass prairie.

Today, there are an estimated 1 million bison in North America.

Many of these reside on livestock farms around the world. Some bison can still be found in a natural environment in national parks such as Yellowstone in Wyoming and Windcave in South Dakota.

Closer to home, the Konza Prairie allows visitors to view the bison as native grazers of the Kansas Flint Hills.

Although Fort Riley no longer has a bison herd, a short trip south of Manhattan to the Konza Prairie is well worth the short trip.

There, it is easy to conjure up a scene of what life was like 150 years ago, when Fort Riley was just getting established and vast bison herds roamed the Kansas prairie.

For more information on bison or other natural resources topics, call 239-6211 or visit the DES website at www.riley.army.mil



The Information Ticketing & Registration Office is located in building 6918, across from the PX. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. ITR is closed on weekends and holidays. For further information, call 239-5614 or 239-4415.

Also, check out the Department of Army Leisure Travel website at www.offdutytravel.com for more great deals on travel.

ITR services and discount attractions tickets are available to active duty military, retirees, National Guard, reservists, Department of Army civilians and family members.

Spring Break

It's not too early to start those Spring Break plans. Here are some destination packages that are available at military discounts.

Branson, Mo.

As one of the top vacation destinations in the country, and approximately a six hour drive from Fort Riley, Branson offers a wealth of diverse entertainment. Whether your idea of entertain-

ment is being dazzled, spending a day with your family at one of the attractions or finding a great deal at one of the area retailers, Branson is second to none in its scope of exciting activities. Let ITR put together a spring break package.

Destination California

Want to turn your visit to Southern California into the most fun-filled vacation ever? At Universal Studios Hollywood, enjoy all the thrills, magic, stunts and special effects when you take part in your favorite blockbuster movies. It's all the glitz, glamour, action and entertainment of Hollywood, only at the World's largest movie studio and theme park. You can also experience Disney at it's most magical at Disneyland Resort. Meet memorable Disney characters, discover exclusive attractions and enjoy spectacular entertainment. Eight lands of fantasy and magic bring smiles to kids of all ages!

Florida Bound

Prepare to be awed...inspired...thrilled and enchanted

at Walt Disney World! This is, without a doubt, the most magical and incredible time in your life, visiting the world's vacation kingdom. In addition, Universal Orlando is two amazing parks-one a working movie studio where the movies come alive and an unforgettable journey through unique islands. Each park is filled with once in a lifetime adventures-plus non-stop nightlife that are all within easy walking distance of each other. It's an unbelievable universe of family fun and excitement in one incredible location.

Colorado Ski Packages

They've started out the New Year on the right foot with new snow at Vail, Beaver Creek, Breckenridge, Keystone and Winter Park! Now that the hustle and bustle of the holidays is over, it's time to plan a relaxing getaway to the mountains. Whether it's a day at the spa or a day on the slopes, you can be sure to find something at a Colorado resort to help your body unwind. Military discounts available for Colorado lift tickets. Let ITR put together a ski package for you.

Local Spring Break?

Kansas Cosmosphere & Space Center is located in Hutchinson, and is quickly becoming the most comprehensive space museum in the world. It is not what you'd expect to find on the open prairies of Kansas, and that's the point exactly. From the jaw-dropping Hall of Space Museum and incredible IMAX Dome Theatre to the million-dollar multimedia Planetarium, the Cosmosphere is an all-day, all ages adventure. Hold on tight. You're go for lift-off!

Science City at the Union Station in Kansas City is another option. Imagine a city like no other in the world. A thriving metropolis that combines adventure, entertainment, discovery and excitement. With four different parts of town containing over 50 interactive environments, you'll find there's something for everyone. Discounts tickets are available through ITR.

Learn to Ski Tour

If you ever wanted to try the

sport of skiing or wanted a friend to learn...now is the time! On Feb. 10, ski in historical Weston, Mo., located 15 minutes from KCI airport. Snow Creek has 100 percent snowmaking capabilities. The cost is \$10 and includes a special rope tow ticket (valid for beginners area only), compete set of rental equipment, beginner lessons and transportation. Skiers wishing to use the chairlift can purchase a discount lift ticket through ITR. Snowboarding is also available. There is limited space, so make reservations early. The Tour is free to BOSS (Single Soldiers).

Fitness continued from page 1

as an incentive reward, said Miller. "The program runs until March 31 and we will probably give out the incentive rewards when the program is completed," said Miller.

Walk/Run/Bike Across Kansas

The Walk/Run/Bike Across Kansas has a 400-mile goal. "It's about the distance from Rulinton to Kansas City," said Miller.

"The miles are all indoor miles done on any equipment that gives a mileage display. That include the bikes, the treadmills and the cross trainers," said Miller.

The miles for the Walk/Run/Bike Across Kansas must be signed following each work out, said Miller. "There is a flow sheet with the registration form that helps track your miles. When you reach the 400-mile mark, you will receive an incentive reward," she said.

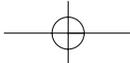
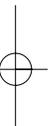
"For active duty soldiers, Physical Training miles cannot be credited toward any of the programs," said Miller. "These are self directed programs," she said. "Our goal is to motivate and encourage our patrons to engage in a healthy lifestyle beyond their obligations."

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