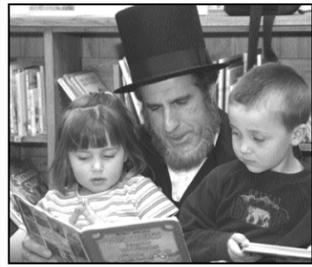


Weather Forecast		Today  High:60 Low:40
Saturday 	High:59 Low:36	Sunday  High:71 Low:44

FRIDAY

Fort Riley Post



Post/Cooke

'Abe Lincoln' came to Fort Riley. Turn to page 12.



April 19, 2002

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 45, No. 16

NTC recovery efforts continue for 1st Brigade



Post/Cooke

PFC Qiang Chen, Company C, 1st Engineer Battalion, guides the driver of a five-ton truck off of a rail car during recovery from the National Training Center deployment. Recovery can take anywhere from five days to three weeks for units to complete.

By Jeremy Heckler
19th PAD

As the units of the 1st Brigade Combat Team return from their National Training Center deployment, they begin the task of recovering vehicles, personnel and equipment.

Recovery can take anywhere from five days to three weeks for units, said 1st Lt. Thomas Swint, executive officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade Combat Team. The longer the deployment, the longer it takes to get things back in order, Swint said.

One of the first priorities for the brigade is accounting for equipment deployed to the desert.

"We conduct after operations maintenance where we re-account for all equipment and make sure that it is all inventoried and present," said Swint.

Recovery begins on the railheads and motor pools of the Devil Brigade, Swint said. "Recovery from the railhead is the interesting melding of civilian and military," said Swint. Rail companies are under contract to deliver equipment in at a certain time, but could deliver them early, creating problems for soldiers he said.

"Sometimes we get a call at 10 p.m. saying that our vehicles are ready to be picked up," said Swint.

As vehicles come off the line, soldiers pull equipment out of the vehicles and put it away for the next rotation, said Swint, and some units pack down their vehicles so their equipment will get to them faster.

In addition to vehicles, some units must wait for the return of their bags and other equipment.

"Our duffel bags have PT uniforms in them and they won't be here until Friday or Saturday, so we haven't conducted PT all week," said Swint.

Once the equipment comes off the line, the units turn their focus toward maintenance, he said.

"We perform after operations maintenance where we reorder supplies and order reports of survey on equipment and repair damaged equipment," said Swint.

In addition to maintenance, units take care of personnel matters. Upon deployment to NTC, separate rations allowance is discontinued as the brigade supplies all meals. When they return, the allowance is

See Recovery Page 2

Fire damages Outdoor Rec Center

By Christie Vanover
Staff Writer

"The building was unoccupied at the time, and there were no injuries to firefighters or other persons," he said.

Approximately 20 percent of the garage suffered fire and heat damage, and the remaining portion of the garage suffered smoke and water damage. The business side of the building received smoke damage and is closed until 1 p.m. on Friday.

The fire was terminated at 7:30 a.m., and the last fire unit returned to the station at 9:46 a.m., according to Boyd.

"At this time, the fire appears to be accidental, but it is still

under investigation," he said.

According to Jim Westerhaus, director of sports and outdoor recreation, the damage will not affect the Third Annual Outdoor Recreation Open House scheduled for tomorrow from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

"We're still going to host an open house and all the events we have scheduled," he said.

The Outdoor Recreation Center is located on Camp Forsyth west of Sports U.S.A. and offers equipment rental for camping, fishing and boating, as well as a five-stand sporting clays range and an archery range.

MPs recognized for mission, success

By Christie Vanover
Staff Writer

As Maj. Gen. Thomas Metz, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, presented the plaques and trophies, he congratulated the soldiers and the unit. "These awards are a show of individual excellence and unit excellence," he said.

Capt. Jonathan Pontius, commander, 523rd MP Co., was named Male Athlete of the Year

for the second year in a row for his athletic accomplishments. Spec. Sara Mlynek, 523rd MP Co., was named Female Athlete of the Year.

Following the award presentation on April 10, Metz addressed the real-world mission the unit is currently involved in.

The 300th MP Company deployed April 13 to assist in security within the continental

See MPs Page 2

Simulator invaluable

By Jeremy Heckler
19th PAD



A battle rages on in a remote video battlefield as a gunner and tank commander take on the enemy in their M1A1 Abrams tank. No, it is not a video game at the local arcade, but a tool that armor crews use to perfect their gunnery skills.

Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 4th Armor took on the chal-





Recovery continued from page 1

e-instituted said Swint. "We also give out awards, coins and certificates of achievements to deserving soldiers," said Swint. "While the rotation may be over, he work isn't, he added.

"At the end of the rotation a lot of people expect to relax, but you can't until everything is fully mission capable," said Swint. He said units wouldn't tend to approve leave or put soldiers on block leave until at least a month after a rotation is over.

MPs continued from page 1

United States for Operation Noble Eagle/Enduring Freedom. "I consider the MOS of an MP one of the toughest in the Army," said Metz. "Upon becoming an MP, you must hold high standards, and you have held that high standard. I applaud you for being such an excellent unit. "I know the mission you're going into. Don't be fooled that it's not hard," he said. "We have a cunning, crafty enemy who will dip to low standards of conduct. I warn you to keep your standards high. Be confident. Focus on your mission." The unit's deployment cannot be discussed in detail, but it is not related to a military strike, nor is it in anticipation of imminent terrorist actions. Col. Marc Hildenbrand, commander, 937th Engineer Group, reassured the soldiers that their families would be taken care of during their deployment and he offered other words of encouragement. "As you deploy to support Enduring Freedom, our thoughts and prayers are with you. Live on the 937th vision," he said.

Fort Riley student goes to state spelling bee

By Steven Cooke
19th PAD

Spelling Bees, one of the last great American childhood traditions. Which child doesn't dream of the chance to compete? Sure, anyone can make it to the local school spelling bee, but few make it to the county and even fewer make it the statewide competition. One Fort Riley Middle School student did just that. Alyssa Cardona, an eighth-grader at Fort Riley Middle School, competed in the 49th Annual Kansas Spelling Bee on April 6, representing Geary County. To compete in the state competition, Cardona won the Geary County spelling bee. Cardona said she didn't

remember the toughest word, at the county competition, but the easiest word was larva. Going into the state competition Cardona, daughter of Chief Warrant Officer Albert Cardona, 541st Signal Battalion, Korea, said she was indifferent about the outcome of the competition. "I want to go to Washington D.C. to see all the monuments, but then I don't want to go because I'd miss the last few days of school, and I'm moving after this year," said Cardona. Her family will be moving to Georgia after the school year ends, she said. During the state competition, Cardona had her mom and friends on hand to lend support. "I'm pretty excited," said Alyssa's mom, Mitzy Cardona.

"It's really luck. It all depends on what word she gets, in which order she get them and how well the other kids do." "I'm here for moral support," said Kat Gubser, friend. Gubser joked about her own showing in the county spelling bee. "Alyssa beat me pretty badly in the county spelling bee." Alyssa's mom compared the time of the county spelling bee to the state. "The county bee was done by lunch time," she said. "It's almost 1 p.m. and we're just officially getting started. They said it could go until 6 p.m." Alyssa said she was not nervous and described her strategy. "I repeat the word out loud then in my head. I write it down

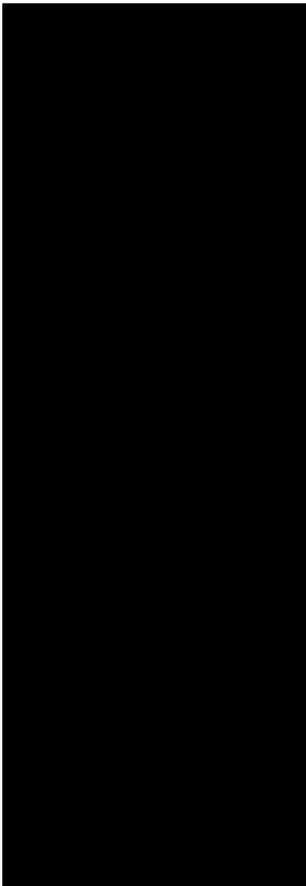
on my hand. Then I say it really slowly." In the first round, Alyssa stepped to the microphone wearing a sign with the number 31 and Geary printed on it. Alyssa took a deep breath, and spelled out, W-H-E-E-L-B-A-R-R-E-L. Unfortunately, the word was wheelbarrow. After a long pause the announcer said, "I'm sorry." And Alyssa walked off stage and took her seat in the audience. After the spelling bee, Alyssa kept a positive attitude. "It's ok. It's just a spelling bee," said Alyssa. "It was fun while it lasted." Probably not as fun as the shopping spree Alyssa said her mom was taking her on later.

NCO Ball planned May 23

The Fort Riley Noncommissioned Officers' Annual Ball is scheduled to be held May 23 at 6 p.m. at Riley's Conference Center. Event organizers are expecting approximately 350 NCOs and spouses to attend. Several activities will be featured during the ball including the guest speaker, Command Sgt. Maj. Dwight J. Brown, command sergeant major of Headquarters, U.S. Central Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. The ball is open to all Fort Riley NCOs, from corporal to command sergeant major. Tickets are expected to be available soon, and may be purchased by contacting senior NCOs in the brigades or tenants. Tickets are \$18 for sirloin and \$17 for chicken, and may be purchased now by contacting senior NCOs in the brigades or tenants. Monies and/or tickets are requested to be turned in by May 13. Anyone needing more information on the ball may contact G-3, at 239-6042.

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Publisher-Maj. Gen. Thomas F. Metz
Public Affairs Officer-Maj. Todd S. Livick
Command Information Officer-Gary Skidmore
Printer-John G. Montgomery
Fort Riley Editorial Staff:
Editor-Lori Bultman
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UCOFT continued from page 1

gunnery in simulation," said Lt. Col. Bart Howard, commander, 1st Bn., 34th Armor. He said the trainer recreates any type of situation that the crews may encounter in the field.

"You can start from an easy scenario or go to an advanced situation with your tank moving among any multitude of equipment," said Howard.

The simulator provides soldiers with a 24-hour opportunity to improve their skills.

"For me, as a battalion commander, this is the best tool the Army has to train gunnery, short of being in the tank," said Howard. "We can use it 24 hours a day and doesn't matter the weather or time of day."

The soldiers progress through our levels that increase in diffi-

culty.

"In order to be ready for live-fire, soldiers must make it to level 201," said Sgt. 1st Class Richard Kehoe, master gunner, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Bn., 34th Armor.

"In UCOFT, there are a number of exercises, in three groups and like in a video game, you progress to higher levels," said Howard. "When you get to 400, you're certified UCOFT and the rest of the time is sustainment."

One crew made it all the way to the top, level 401, certifying on the machine. Howard and his gunner, Staff Sgt. Brian Dial, became one of the few crews on Fort Riley to make it that far.

"We set it as a goal before we came in, because if this is the highest level, you gotta be able to

do it, and make a mark on the wall and say 'Beat this,'" said Howard.

"It's great because it's something not too many people can say they've done," said Dial, who serves as the tank commander for the vehicle when Howard is not present. Dial said making it to that level is difficult because each time through, the computer may change the variables of the mission.

The trainer is a two-person simulator with the tank commander and gunner sitting in a replica of the systems that are found in M1A1 Abrams tanks. A curtain separates the crew from the instructor/operator seated behind them.

The I/O monitors the process, sits behind the controls of the simulation and monitors the comput-

er during the battle, observing what the gunner and tank commanders see through two color monitors.

The I/O is also responsible for calling out suspected targets in the area and handling the driving while the vehicle is in the defensive position.

"I make sure they use proper gunnery skills as well as track where they're making their mistakes so I can see where to fix it," said Kehoe.

The UCOFT provides crews with a transition to gunnery qualification.

"With this system we can replicate tank table VIII where we can fire all of the engagements of Table VIII and rehearse all of the procedures in the simulator before we do it live," said Howard.

STOMP workshop announced

Parents who would like to learn more about special education and how to work as a team for their child's educational goals are invited to attend a workshop May 9 - 10. The workshop, STOMP, will provide military parents with individual assistance and information about parent rights and responsibilities in achieving special education services for their children.

The STOMP workshop will provide military parents, individuals with disabilities, and service providers with knowledge, skills and resources so they can access services in order to create a collaborative environment for family and professional partnerships without regard to geographic location.

The Exceptional Family Member Program and the Geary County Infant Toddler Services, Junction City, Kan., is sponsoring the STOMP workshop. The workshop will be held May 9 - 10 at the Soldier Family Support Center, building 7264, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Parents and professionals need to R.S.V.P. by April 30 by calling Geary County Infant Toddler Services at 762-7859, or the Exceptional Family Member Program at 239-9435. This training would also be beneficial to providers and non-military families of children with special needs. Free childcare will be available on both days, with advance reservation for military children.

STOMP is federally funded by the Parent Training and Information Center and was established to assist military families who have children with special education or health needs. STOMP is a project of Washington PAVE, and is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

Four soldiers killed, one injured in Afgan explosion

WASHINGTON — Four American soldiers were killed and another injured in Afghanistan on Monday when a 107 mm rocket exploded while the troops were destroying captured weapons near Kandahar, according to U.S. Central Command officials.

On Tuesday, the Department of Defense identified the four soldiers killed as Staff Sgt. Brian T. Craig, 27, Texas, 710th Explosive Ordnance Detachment, San Diego, Calif., Staff Sgt. Justin J. Galewski, 28, Kan., 710th Explosive Ordnance Detachment, San Diego, Calif., Sgt. Jamie O. Maugans, 27, Kan., 710th Explosive Ordnance Detachment, San Diego, Calif., Sgt. 1st Class Daniel A. Romero, 30, Colo., 19th Special Forces Group, Pueblo, Colo.

CENTCOM officials said the wounded soldier was evacuated to a medical facility at Kandahar.

"This tragic event highlights that even when not actively engaged against enemy forces that our service men and women remain at risk as they perform their mission around the world and particularly in Afghanistan,"

Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said in a Pentagon press briefing.

He underscored this point by describing several incidents from over the weekend in Afghanistan. The general described an apparent firefight April 13 in which a convoy of U.S. and Afghan forces was fired upon and called in a U.S. AC-130 gunship for support.

"The aircraft located and fired upon the enemy position, killing several of the enemy," he said.

Myers said U.S. Special Forces soldiers and friendly Afghan forces found several weapons storage sites while searching a suspected enemy complex. The

sites contained mines, rockets, explosives and anti-aircraft artillery pieces "that we assess were used for training," he said.

Two incidences of suspected rocket-propelled grenade fire were reported in the vicinity of Khost over the weekend.

Myers said two suspected RPGs were fired April 13 near U.S. positions at an airfield in the area, but resulted in no injuries or damage to friendly forces or equipment.

Another two suspected RPGs impacted about two kilometers from the same airfield April 14.

Myers said it was uncertain that the weapons were even targeting U.S. positions.

"While we've made good progress in restoring stability to Afghanistan, clearly getting a peaceful environment will take a good deal of time," Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said. "The country is fragmented polit-

ically. It does not have a strong tradition of democracy, as we all know, and I think any expectation that it will suddenly transform itself into a Western-style democracy ever, let alone instantaneously, is misplaced."

However, he said, "the sporadic violence of recent days is nothing compared to the brutal rule of the Taliban and the al Qaeda."

(AFPS)

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Briefs

ACAP Job Fair today

The Army Career and Alumni Program is sponsoring a Job Fair from 9 a.m.- 1 p.m., today in the ACAP Center on Main Post, Bldg. 210, Room 7, Custer Ave.

"There will be local and national employers present to talk with and interview prospective employees," said DeAnn Parsons, ACAP counselor

She also emphasized that a list of employers invited to the job fair will be posted in the ACAP Center.

To prepare for the Job Fair, the following job search tips are provided:

- *Research the companies that you would like to talk to for employment opportunities,

- *Have your resumes ready
- *Come dressed appropriately for the interview. "You only have one chance to make a first impression, make it a good one!"

Visit or call the ACAP Center at 239-2278 or 239-2068, for more information.

Semi-annual pre-retirement orientation

The semi-annual pre-retirement orientation will be held at 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., May 2.

Registration will start at 7:30 a.m. at Riley's Conference Center.

This orientation is for individuals who have submitted their request for retirement, however, any soldier contemplating retirement in the near future is welcome to attend.

The purpose of this orientation is to receive information concerning rights, benefits and responsibilities in conjunction with retirement.

Soldiers that are eligible for early retirement should also attend. Spouses of retiring personnel and prospective retirees are invited, and encouraged, to attend.

This orientation is a requirement IAW AR 600-8-7, and soldiers may attend as many times as he wish.

For further information, contact Retirement Services, room 01, Bldg. 210, or call 239-3320 or 239-3667.

Normandy Chapel Event

Hear the video presentation of Dayna Curry's 105-day imprisonment in Afganistan, Sunday, 6 p.m., at the Normandy Chapel. For more information, call 239-4818.

Commissary Month

The commissary is your military benefit. The commissary can stretch your paycheck. The commissary is not just for married people! The commissary is a place for singles to save money too! Find out more about Commissary Awareness Month by checking out DeCA's Web site www.commissaries.com in May for online shopping sprees, what's on sale, and other Commissary Awareness Month news. Find out what's happening at your local commissary through the "locations" link. A list of Scholarship winners will be posted at www.commissaries.com on or about May 10.

Officials/Scorekeepers Clinic

The Fort Riley Sports Office will hold an officials clinic for anyone interested in becoming a registered ASA softball official or scorekeeper. The clinic will be held at 1 p.m., April 27, at the softball complex, located to the east of Irwin Army Hospital. The cost of the clinic and registration is \$35. One evenings pay will almost cover these costs. In case of inclement weather, the clinic will move to inside King Field House. For more information, call Barry Sunstrom at 239-3945

Human Relations Commission fund-raiser

The Human Relations Commission is sponsoring a fund-raiser tomorrow.

There will be pancake feed at the Eagles, 7 a.m. - noon.

Funds raised will go toward the Multi-cultural Festival in September 2002.

If interested in purchasing tickets for the event, please feel free to contact:

Al Hope at 238-3103 ext.113, Desiree Andrews at coalition92@yahoo.com or 784-2182. The cost per person is \$4 for adults, \$2 for children 12 and under, and babies are free.

Thrift Shop

The Fort Riley Thrift Shop wants your yard sale leftovers!! Due to the post-wide yard sale on May 4, the Thrift Shop will not be open that day as regularly scheduled. Instead, the Thrift Shop will be open May 11, to accept consignments and donations of your leftover yard sale items. Hours that day will be 10 a.m.-1 p.m. with consignments accepted from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Thrift Shop regular hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., and the first Saturday of each month from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Consignments are taken on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and on open Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. The shop is located in bldg. 267, on Stuart Ave., near the stables. Volunteers are needed during business hours to help tag and put donations on the shelves. Childcare reimbursement is available. Please call 784-3874 for more information. The Thrift Shop e-mail address is thrift@oz-online.net, for customer questions or concerns.

OCSC May Luncheon

OCSC May Luncheon is on the May 16, at 11 a.m. The luncheon will be held at Riley's Event Center. Call with your choice of menu and childcare needs by the May 9. The program will be the induction of board members for 2002-2003. Come out and support the last luncheon for this year!

Public Works' Employee of Quarter

James Brown is Public Works' Employee of Quarter for the 1st Quarter, FY 02.

Brown is a material handler in the Operations and Maintenance Center. His selection was a direct result of his excellent performance, professionalism, and ability to complete any duties assigned. As a result of his selection, Brown received a Public

Works Certificate of Appreciation, a 16-hour civilian time-Off award and a reserved parking space at his place of duty for the quarter.

Lennie Blixt from the Operations and Maintenance Division was also recognized for his outstanding performance this quarter. He received a letter of appreciation from Public Works.

Mass Schedule Change

Effective May 4, there will no longer be 5 p.m. Mass at St. Mary's on Saturdays.

There will be three Sunday Masses offered on post: 9:15 a.m. at Morris Hill, 11:00 a.m. at St. Mary's and 6 p.m. at Kapaun Chapel. There is a 5:15 p.m. Saturday Mass available in Junction City at St. Xavier's.

Spring Heating /Air Conditioning Schedule

Weather permitting, heat turn off began April 8. The order for the turn off was administrative buildings, barracks, BEQ's and BOQ's with individual units, 8000 area, dining facilities and community buildings. Turn off should be completed by today.

Air conditioning systems will be turned on beginning May 6. The order for the turn on is barracks, BOQ's and BEQ's, 8000 area, community buildings, administrative buildings, dining facilities, and motor pools. Air conditioning turn on should be completed by May 17.

The heating and cooling systems in the chapels, medical buildings and dental buildings will be maintained as appropriate. Family housing occupants control their own heat/air conditioning systems as desired. The authorized temperature for the cooling season is 76 to 80 degrees.

Limited Hours

The 1st Personnel Services Battalion will have limited customer service, 10:30 a.m.-1:30

p.m., today, due to Red Cycle Train-up. Additionally, the 1st PSB will be closed for customer service from noon until to close of business (COB), Tuesday for a Change of Responsibility for CSM Mitchell Lewis. Regular customer service hours will resume at 9 a.m., Wednesday. For emergencies during this time please call 239-9661.

Before you tell your IG...

Before you contact your Inspector General, be sure you have a problem, not just a peeve. Also, give your chain of command a chance to solve the problem. Many problems must be addressed to the chain of command for resolution anyway. If IG assistance is needed, contact your local IG first. IGs at higher commands will normally refer the case to the local IG for action. Remember to be honest, and don't provide misleading information. IGs will discover the truth, in most cases, and there are penalties for knowingly providing false information. Keep in mind that IGs are not policy makers and can only recommend, not order a resolution. Resolution of cases can only be made on the basis of fact, supported with evidence. And, do not expect instant action on your request. Be patient, and be prepared to take "No" for an answer. Investigations take time, and IGs are actively working a number of

cases. But, in any case, if the answer is "Yes" or "No," the IG will explain why. The local IG is located on Custer Hill, Bldg. 7620, or call 239-9314. To complain without fear of reprisal is the right of any soldier, civilian or family member seeking IG help. After all, problem solving is one of the IG's primary missions.

Mortuary Affairs Reunion

The U.S. Army Mortuary Affairs Center, Fort Lee, Va., is planning a reunion of Mortuary Affairs / Memorial Activities/Graves Registration specialists Sept. 19-20 at Fort Lee. One of the purposes of the reunion is to recognize and honor all those who have served, and those who continue to serve, in this honorable profession. Interested persons should contact the Mortuary Affairs Center, Deputy Director, Doug Howard at (804) 734-3831 or email howarddd@lee.army.mil.

Prenatal classes offered at IACH

The Women Infant Care Center of Irwin Army Community Hospital (IACH) is offering a new series of prenatal classes, "The Gift of Motherhood" on tomorrow, 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., in the third floor classroom. Expectant

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More Briefs

mothers between their 12th and 16th week of pregnancy are eligible to attend. The prenatal classes are free, and each participant will receive a personal copy of the book, "The Gift of Motherhood" to take home. Expectant mothers are asked to bring their spouse, significant other or birth coach. The class is limited to 20 participants. The prenatal classes will continue to be held on the third Saturday of each month at IACH. For more information, call Capt. Diana Seuss at 239-7434. To register for "The Gift of Motherhood" prenatal classes, please call the Fort Riley TRICARE Service Center at 784-1200 or toll free is 1-888-874-9378.

New OB Class

The New OB Class is held every Tuesday from 8:30 - 11:30 a.m., in Ward 3B of Irwin Army Community Hospital (IACH). A positive pregnancy test is required before scheduling your attendance at the New OB Class. Spouses, or men and women who are the support persons for the pregnant soldier or military dependent, are welcome to attend.

Expectant mothers will be introduced to the IACH OB/GYN staff members, fill out their OB charts, review medical and genetic history with an OB/GYN staff member and will also be provided information on available resources offered on the Fort Riley post or local communities.

The New OB Class is not a labor and delivery class. To schedule your attendance of the New OB Class, call the TRICARE Service Center at 784-1200 or dial the toll-free number 1-888-874-9378.

Pregnancy Physical Training program

Pregnancy Physical Training is held every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, on the basketball court at Long Fitness Center, 8069 Normandy Dr., from 6:30 - 7:30 a.m. The program is designed to serve the special needs of the pregnant soldier by providing appropriate physical training and a health education program. Pregnancy PT supports the Fort Riley units by offering consistent health guidance for pregnant soldiers.

Every Tuesday there is an hour-long education program held in the Education Bay, fourth floor of Irwin Army Community Hospital (IACH), from 6:30 - 7:30 a.m. Short presentations by health care staff members cover a variety of topics, such as infant car seats, skincare during pregnancy and the common discomforts of pregnancy.

Spouses, or men and women who are the support persons for the pregnant soldier are welcome to attend. Participation in the Pregnancy PT program is encouraged, although participation is not mandatory.

For more information, call Sgt.

Carrie M. Jensen, 2nd Platoon, 568th Engineer Company at 239-5827 or leave a message at (785)762-7012.

TRICARE Optometry Benefit

Irwin Army Community Hospital (IACH) anticipates a provider shortage in Optometry this summer. Until the incoming Optometrist arrives at IACH, there will be fewer patient appointments. An alternative health care choice is to use the TRICARE Optometry benefit. All TRICARE Prime active duty family members, between the ages of three and 64, are eligible for a routine annual eye exam at no cost. TRICARE Prime retirees and their family members (between the ages of three and 64) are eligible for an eye exam every two years at no cost.

An Optometrist in the TRICARE network must provide the eye exam or the beneficiary assumes full financial responsibility. Active duty soldiers must receive their eye exams at IACH. Prescription eyeglasses or contact lenses are not covered by TRICARE, except under very limited circumstances.

For questions or a list of TRICARE network Optometrists, call the TRICARE Service Center at 784-1200, Option four or visit the TRICARE Service Center on the

fifth floor of the hospital.

Breast-feeding classes

The Women and Infant Care Center of Irwin Army Community Hospital offers free Breast-feeding classes on the third Tuesday of each month. A dietician will address the nutritional requirements for breastfeeding moms and a Breast-feeding Educator will talk about the advantages of breastfeeding and how to prepare for successful nursing. Breast-feeding techniques, troubleshooting advice, and where to find support will also be offered. Classes are held in the Obstetrics classroom on the third floor from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Everyone is invited and walk-ins are welcome. For more information, call Capt. Diana Seuss at 239-7434.

Youth Volunteers Needed

The Fort Riley Chapter of the American Red Cross is looking for youth volunteers ages 13 to 18, who would like to help their community and learn something in the process, while fulfilling community service requirements for school. Volunteers will have the opportunity to work at Irwin Army Community Hospital and other areas on Fort Riley. If you would like to be a member of the team, please come and sign up at the Fort Riley Red Cross office.

The office is now located in the Soldier/Family Support Center, Bldg. 7264, on Custer Hill. It is very important that you bring your parents, as they must sign for their permission for you to work in the presence of a Red Cross worker. You may not take the forms home to bring back later. The deadline is May 31. The office will be open 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. For more information, call Anita Watson at 762-4145, or Sharon Rose at the Red Cross office, 239-1887.

The Shoppe News

The Shoppe is full of spring inventory. The many crafters displaying their works in The Shoppe have been busy making new items. The Shoppe continues to carry antiques, watercolors of different scenes at Fort Riley, lots of Americana, hand made pottery, wreaths, and numerous wood crafting items. The Shoppe is located in Bldg. 259, on Stuart Ave. Hours of operation are 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday. Call 785-239-2783 for more information.

FIRE Report for April 4-10

Firefighters responded April 4 at 10:52 a.m., to a fire at quarters 6718-3. The fire was caused by an unattended, burning candle that was sitting on an entertainment

center. There were no injuries. The damages were \$1179.25.

Fire department and natural resource personnel control burned several areas during the week. Approximately 500 acres were burned April 4 in training area five. April 5, personnel control burned training area 14. Approximately 800 acres were burned. Fire department personnel control burned approximately 25 acres April 6 at MPRC.

Personnel responded to two grass fires during the week. A grass fire on April 4, burned in training area 27. Star clusters started the fire. Approximately 300-400 acres were burned. There were no injuries or property damages.

Another grass fire in training area 25 burned on April 5. The fire was started by star clusters also, and approximately 50 acres were burned. There were no injuries or property damage.

On April 8 at 8:43 a.m., the fire department responded to a Monaco fire alarm at bldg. 7812. Upon arrival, personnel found that there was a structure fire caused by a candle. The candle had caught curtains on fire. Occupants of the barracks put out the fire. One individual received a minor injury (laceration) while fleeing the fire. There were minor damages to the room and contents.

HOUSE ADS
6 x 13.5"
Black Only
AUSA-if possible

Second black beret to be issued by end of April

By Marcia Triggs
ARNEWS

WASHINGTON - Active-duty and mobilized reserve-component soldiers will soon be getting their second black berets.

By the end of April, installation-level central issue facilities, including those in Korea and Europe, will be equipped to field soldiers with their second berets, said Dave Geringer, assistant product manager for Product Manager Soldier Equipment.

"Berets will be at the installation level by April 30, but not necessarily in the hands of the soldier," Geringer said. "Each installation is responsible for (its) own beret distribution."

The fielding of initial berets was completed in Jan. 25, with distribution to sol-

diers in 88th Regional Support Command, Fort Snelling, Minn.,

The fielding of second berets to reserve-component units that are not mobilized will be complete by September 2003, Geringer said.

A date, however, when Army and Air Force Exchange Services will be stocking the berets is still unknown, he said.

"The priority is to provide a sufficient stock to all units, including Reserve and National Guard,

and establish a sustained supply," said Martin Fadden, a logistics management specialist for G-4, Department of the

Army. AAFES is being given the option to purchase berets directly from the manufacturer instead of having to request a supply from Defense Logistics Agency's

said. The details are still being worked out, he added.

Unlike the first beret-fielding schedule that lasted eight months, the majority of the second shipment of berets will be

completed in April, Faden said. Berets are in stock, he said, which is why fielding is going so well.

Last May when berets were scheduled to reach the troops in time for Army's 226th birthday, delivery was delayed when three contracts were cancelled with U.S. companies that had beret factories in Romania, South Africa and India due to quality issues and an inability to meet delivery schedules.

In addition to the contract cancellations, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric Shinseki announced that U.S. troops would not wear berets made in China or berets made with Chinese content.

An order for about 618,000 black berets had been contracted to Kangol Limited, a British firm that subcontracted to produce the berets at a Chinese factory in China.

Currently Bancroft Cap Company in Cabot, Ark., and Dorothea Knitting, Canada, are the only beret manufacturers, according to officials at DLA. Small businesses have been solicited to compete for beret contracts, and two contracts will possibly be awarded in May to domestic small business firms, officials said.

"The priority is to provide a sufficient stock to all units, including Reserve and National Guard and establish a sustained supply."

Martin Fadden

Defense Supply Center Philadelphia. That option could put berets on AAFES' shelves sooner than expected, Fadden

Earth Day activities, open house offer something for everyone

By Carin Richardson
DES

"Caring for our environment is a daily endeavor in the Army," said General Eric Shinseki, Chief of Staff, United States Army, in his 2002 Earth Day Message. "The month of April is the perfect time to rededicate the Army to environmental stewardship. While we are protecting our freedom, we are also preserving the environment - this is our theme for Army Earth Day 2002," he said.

On April 20, 1970, more than 10 million Americans celebrated the first Earth Day. Over thirty years later, 300 million people worldwide are expected to celebrate Earth Day.

Earth Day has become an international event demonstrating concern and mobilizing support for the environment.

Earth Day is the annual call for public attention toward environmental stewardship.

The Army celebrates Earth Day to place continued emphasis on caring for the 14 million acres of raining land entrusted to its care.

Some examples of Fort Riley's environmental stewardship are: protecting natural and cultural resources, ensuring compliance with environmental regulations, and recycling cardboard, paper, plastic, clear glass, and aluminum

in order to keep these recyclable materials out of the waste stream.

The Directorate of Environment and Safety as Fort Riley's lead environmental organization

holds an annual Earth Day event called OI' Bill's Earth Day Stampede for soldiers, their families, and the surrounding communities.

The Fifth Annual OI' Bill's Earth Day Stampede will be tomorrow, in conjunction with the Third Annual Outdoor Recreation Open House.

Events include a 5K, 20 pound. Rucksack

Unit Challenge Race, a 10K Race, a 2-Mile Adults and Kids Bike Rally, and a 5-Mile Volksmarch.

The Outdoor Recreation equipment and activities will be open to the public at 10 a.m.

All events will begin at the Outdoor Recreation Center, Bldg.

9011, except the Volksmarch, which will begin at Sports U.S.A., Bldg. 2600.

The 5K, 20 pound. Rucksack Unit Challenge Race is open to one five-person team from the same battalion or separate company.



The rucksack race begins at 8 a.m., entries should arrive at 7 a.m. to register and pick up your 20 pound bag of sand.

The 10K Race is open to all runners, limited to a maximum of 300 runners.

Awards will be presented to all first-, second-, and third-place male and female runners in the following age groups: 17 and under, 18-25, 26-35, 36-45, 46-55, and 56 and above.

The 10K Race will begin at 8:30 a.m., again, arrive one hour

early to register.

The 2-Mile Adults and Kids Bike Rally is open to all ages. Prizes will be presented to the top three individuals who have the best decorated bikes.

All bike decorations should support the Earth Day Theme: "Protecting Our Freedom...Preserving the Environment." This event is not considered a race, but a family event. The bike rally begins at 11 a.m.

The 5-Mile Volksmarch is open to all walkers.

During the 5-Mile Volksmarch, walkers can play the Earth Day Trivia Quiz. A brochure listing questions about Earth Day and environmental issues will be given to each participant at the start of the walk.

The answers to the quiz will be found on signs located along the route.

The brochures will be stamped when participants reach the halfway mark and then again at the end point. Participants who answer all the questions correctly and complete the 5-mile walk will receive giveaways. The 5-Mile Volksmarch will be open from noon - 3 p.m.

"I encourage you to plan and participate in Earth Day activities at your installation and carry our stewardship theme to our soldiers, civilians, veterans, their families,

and to your local community", the Outdoor Recreation Center said General Shinseki.

Open House please contact William Brooks at 239-6493 or Bill's Earth Day Stampede and Jim Westerhaus at 239-2172.

KUT N' KLOSE HAIR GALAXY
2 x 2"
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LITTLE APPLE BARBERSHOP CHORUS
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Black Only
Barbershop

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Black Only
The Recruiter Didn't Mention

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wildcat coupon

ED SCHRAM DODGE
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Black Only
used cars



Fort Riley invites public to look at historic post

The public-at-large is invited to step within the boundaries of America's Army, June 1 for Fort Riley's Open House. The free event will demonstrate what the Army and Fort Riley do for the nation, community and its citizens.

Main Attractions

"Own the Night" - Interactive Night Vision Exhibit

* Wear night vision goggles while entering a darkened world complete with obstacles, mapping challenges and observation points

Simulated Battle Engagement

* Enter the Close Combat Tactical Trainer and man an M1 Abrams and M2 Bradley weapons system

* Engage in simulated battle scenarios

Operational Forces Display

* Land Warrior, Objective Force Warrior, and Future Soldier.

* Soldiers dressed and equipped in futuristic combat gear will demonstrate systems capabilities designed for high tech battle

Weapons Firing Course

* Handle an array of military weapons

* Fire machine guns utilizing belts of blank ammunition

Laser Assault Course

* Use the Army's laser engagement system

* Test your skills in this realistic training course used to prepare infantry for battle.

Tactical vehicle, aircraft and weapons displays

* Interactive displays of military equipment

* M1A1 Abrams tank, Bradley Fighting Vehicle, Humvees, Blackhawk and CH-47 Chinook helicopters, Paladin artillery platforms and more

Air Force Flyover

* Combat aircraft flyovers throughout the day

Emergency Equipment Displays

* Police response teams

* Military working dogs

* Kansas Highway Patrol rollover

* Bomb disposal robotics

* Fire rescue

Veterans' Tent - Take a walk through history

* WWII, Korea, Vietnam and

Desert Storm displays

* Reunite with fellow veterans

* Get acquainted with America's veterans and reminisce with

Kid's activities

* Carnival rides

* Pony rides

* Mini-obstacle course

cavalry encampment

* Demonstrations of equestrian skills and saber drills

Tours of Fort Riley's Historic District

* Self-guided walking tour of historic Main Post

* U.S. Cavalry Museum

* Custer House

* Ribbon cutting of the Constabulary Museum

* Outdoor historic vehicle display

Old Thunder - vintage cannon, WWII Willy's Jeep, Armored Personnel Carrier and more.

Expo Hall featuring a look at

* Soldier training and readiness

* Support links for soldiers and their families

* Diverse quality of life programs and activities

* Community partnership agencies

Concessions

* Variety of food and beverages throughout post

* Fest Tent

* Face Painting

* Souvenirs

Recruiters

* Active, Army Reserve, National Guard and ROTC

* Interactive displays and attractions

Parking for vehicles without Department of Defense decals will be available at Marshall Army Air Field, exit 301 off I-70.

Handicap parking and assistance will be available.

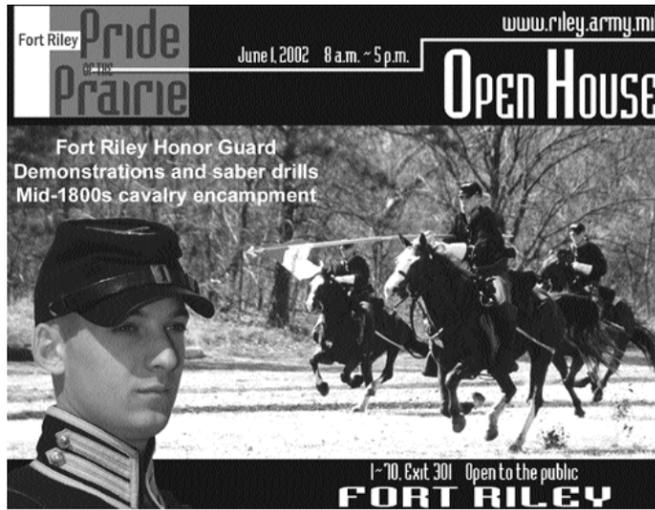
Parking for vehicles with DoD stickers will be available at Camp Forsyth near the Commissary.

Shuttle buses will continuously transport visitors to and from the parking areas and the Expo Center on the historic Main Post and to and from the Tactical Trainer Center on Custer Hill.

The majority of the attractions will be located on Main Post within walking distance of each other.

All Army installations have increased their security levels; therefore it is important to carry a photo ID at all times.

Additionally, bags may be subject to search and coolers will not be allowed.



them as they share their stories * Sign the banner that will be sent to the Pentagon

* Camouflage face painting * Petting zoo * Fort Riley Honor Guard * Living history mid-1800s

DAILY UNION
6 x 15"
Black Only
Prom Page



Inspector General teams teach, train during staff assistance visits

By Russell Fields
PAO NCOIC

It wasn't too many years ago in the Army that commanders viewed a visit from an Inspector General staff member with about the same warmth and welcome as a visit from an Internal Revenue Service auditor. But now, things have changed.

So says Dixie Hostetler, chief of the IG's Command Inspection Program.

"We have commanders who call us for help when they have a question, or new soldier assigned responsibility for one of the 70 areas inspected during the Command Inspection," she said. "We're trying to educate them on how we can help them and instill the mindset that a visit from the IG is not necessarily a bad thing."

Sgt. 1st Class Melvin Goode has been assigned as an assistant IG inspector for communications equipment maintenance for the past 4 months. His area is one of the 70 areas, that historically, has not fared well on Fort Riley. He said he has taken steps to improve compli-

ance, and he echoed Hostetler's commitment to help and serve the units however possible.

"We're here to teach and train," he said. Goode also welcomes requests for staff assistance visits, inspections apart from the formal CIP inspections, that are used to help units attain compliance with standards and maintain readiness.

Goode attributed his area's historical poor performance to several factors.

* Communications specialists in units are often overtaxed with responsibilities.

* Turnover in the units inhibits the program's continuity.

* Soldiers often must work in higher skill levels than they are trained for.

* Increased OPTEMPO for units.

Since Goode began inspecting communications, several measures have been implemented to improve compliance among Fort Riley units. He now inspects every single company during a unit's CIP now, rather than just select companies, and he has significantly increased the number of staff assistance visits.

Also, the IG office recently secured the services of Chief Warrant Officer Terry Hall from G-6 to conduct communications equipment maintenance inspections for all signal companies.

Hall emphasized the importance of communications equipment maintenance to the overall CIP.

"Communication is a vital cog to readiness," he said. "The Army teaches us that the three important things you have to accomplish to be successful in war are shoot, move and communicate."

When Goode and Hall conduct communications equipment maintenance inspections, they look at seven areas: unit level maintenance management, equipment services, maintenance support functions, SOPs, publications, supply and operator PMCS procedures.

Examples of specific performance measures within those areas are:

Is communications equipment enrolled in the ULLS (unit level

logistics system);

are operators using proper technical manuals and are required repair parts, for example handsets, on order?

The IG's standard is to inspect every brigade, battalion and separate company once a year.

"We try to conduct an initial inspection when a commander comes on board, and then we do a subsequent inspection about a year later," Goode explained. "And we'll do a re-look if the unit doesn't meet the standard."

Goode normally conducts about 20 initial and subsequent CIP inspections each year, and each inspection includes several levels of command. He also may do as many as 10 follow-up inspections and staff assistance visits each month.

If the inspected unit is fully compliant with applicable standards and regulatory guidance, it receives a green rating, Hostetler explained. If it has a system in

place, but it just needs some tweaks - it receives an amber rating. The unit may have a system in place, but it may require major fixes, such as loading all equipment in ULLS, conducting required services or conducting training, therefore, the unit would receive a red rating. If the unit has no program in place and the knowledge simply isn't there, it receives a "No Program" rating.

Hostetler said if units do not receive a green or amber rating, they normally have about eight weeks - or until they fall within their follow-up time window - to be re-inspected. She emphasized that the commanding general maintains oversight on inspected units until they are completed, and the IG Office continues to follow progress until units achieve an amber or green rating. Once they have corrected all deficiencies, the units' inspections are complete.

The litmus test for inspections might well be: Do they really con-

tribute to readiness? The inspectors are quick to affirm, "yes."

Hall noted that he had recently assisted the 331st Signal Company, 1st Brigade, prepare for and execute an inspection. He said the unit had been cited for its outstanding performance during its March rotation to NTC, and he points to its hard work during the inspection as a major reason for that success.

The three IG team members stressed that they want units and leaders to remember they are there to help, and they are very willing to provide guidance and staff assistance visits apart from the normal CIP inspections.

With a revitalized IG team focus and the outstanding support they are now getting from commanders, Hostetler feels confident they can improve the communications equipment maintenance readiness on Fort Riley - and very possibly, help to dispel the "IRS auditor" or "black hat" image of a visit from the IG.

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shrine circus

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same time next year

U.S. OPTICAL
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ROOM GROUP EXPRESS
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ad #1

LITTLE APPLE TOYOTA HONDA
4 x 11"

RED-Beat this Deal!



Fort Riley Sports

April 19, 2002

America's Warfighting Center

Page 9

SOCCKER

596th Signal short circuits MEDDAC

By Chris Selmek
19th PAD

The 596th Signal played soccer against Medical Department Activity April 12, resulting in a close game.

It appeared a close match from the beginning. The ball went back and forth for the better part of the first half. Although the ball remained on the MEDDAC's half of the field for the greater duration, it never got within shooting range of either goal.

Then, shortly before halftime, Jose Lopez of Signal broke away from the group for a clean shot at the goal, and the first point. The first half ended with a 1-0 Signal lead.

"Ninety percent of the time we're down here at their goal and I don't know why we can't get out there," said MEDDAC player Gary Moore during the team huddle.

Nevertheless, both teams were pumped and hopeful of victory as they sprinted back onto the field for the start of the second half.

For the first few minutes, the second half seemed a replay of the first, with the ball remaining in the middle of the field and both teams failing to gain a significant advantage.

It was not long however, before MEDDAC player Clayton Crooks got away with the ball and scored the second point of the match, shattering what hopes the

Signal team had for an easy victory.

At this point, the goalies got to see some action as play became more fierce. Still, no further points were scored and the game ended with a 1-1 tie.

A sudden death shootout occurs when a game ends in a tie, explained Crooks. Each team gets five kicks, and whichever ends with the most goals takes the game.

Even this was close, but, by the end of the shootout 596th Signal was the clear winner.

"We need to shoot the ball," said MEDDAC player Libby Barnebe, on how the team should improve for future matches. "We play with it too much."



Post/Selmek

Medical Department Activity soccer players move the ball around the field trying to avoid the 596th Signal team in a game played on April 12. The first half ended with a 1-0 Signal lead. Signal finished the match with the win after a sudden death kick-off.

1st Finance takes MEDDAC in volleyball two out of three

By Christopher Selmek
19th PAD

The 1st Finance Battalion played Medical Department Activity in volleyball at King Field House April 11, winning two out of three sets.

Nicole Ward of Finance speculated that her unit's soccer team would lose to MEDDAC later in the evening, and that her volleyball team would have to play an even harder game to compensate.

However, MEDDAC had high hopes for nearly the same reason. "We have the motivation," said Dennis Cortez of MEDDAC. "We've been losing all the time, so it (our strength) is mostly the motivation to win," she said.

The first set was pretty well matched on both sides, with one side barely moving ahead two points before losing the ball and having the other team catch up. However, it was MEDDAC that first pushed over the 25-point mark and won the game.

"We don't have a best player," said Stephen Aiken on how MEDDAC managed to win. "We're a team."

Santiago Llera of MEDDAC was a bit more specific. "Seriously: serves," he said to his teammate. "You got your serves down - you put it right in the hole."

"What we need to do is try to cover the positions and move around," said Paul Mailou of Finance, referred to by his teammates as simply "The Sergeant Major." "Try to be alert. Really," he said.

Finance made a few player changes between sets, and was ready to go again as soon as the buzzer sounded.

The second set began much as the first, with MEDDAC scoring two points before losing the

ball to Finance. Then, "The Sergeant Major" stepped up with the serve, and made ten points in a row without the ball even being touched by the opposing team.

"The first game was an ugly game on our side," said Edward Meiger of Finance, benched after being in the game the entire first set. "It looks like we're getting it back together now and going after the ball."

"The Sergeant Major is serving great now," he added.

Darryl Hoosier of MEDDAC appeared slightly put off by the turn-about against his team. "We've got to go for the ball," he said, "everybody's just out there looking."

The second game ended with a sizable lead by Finance and high hopes on both sides.

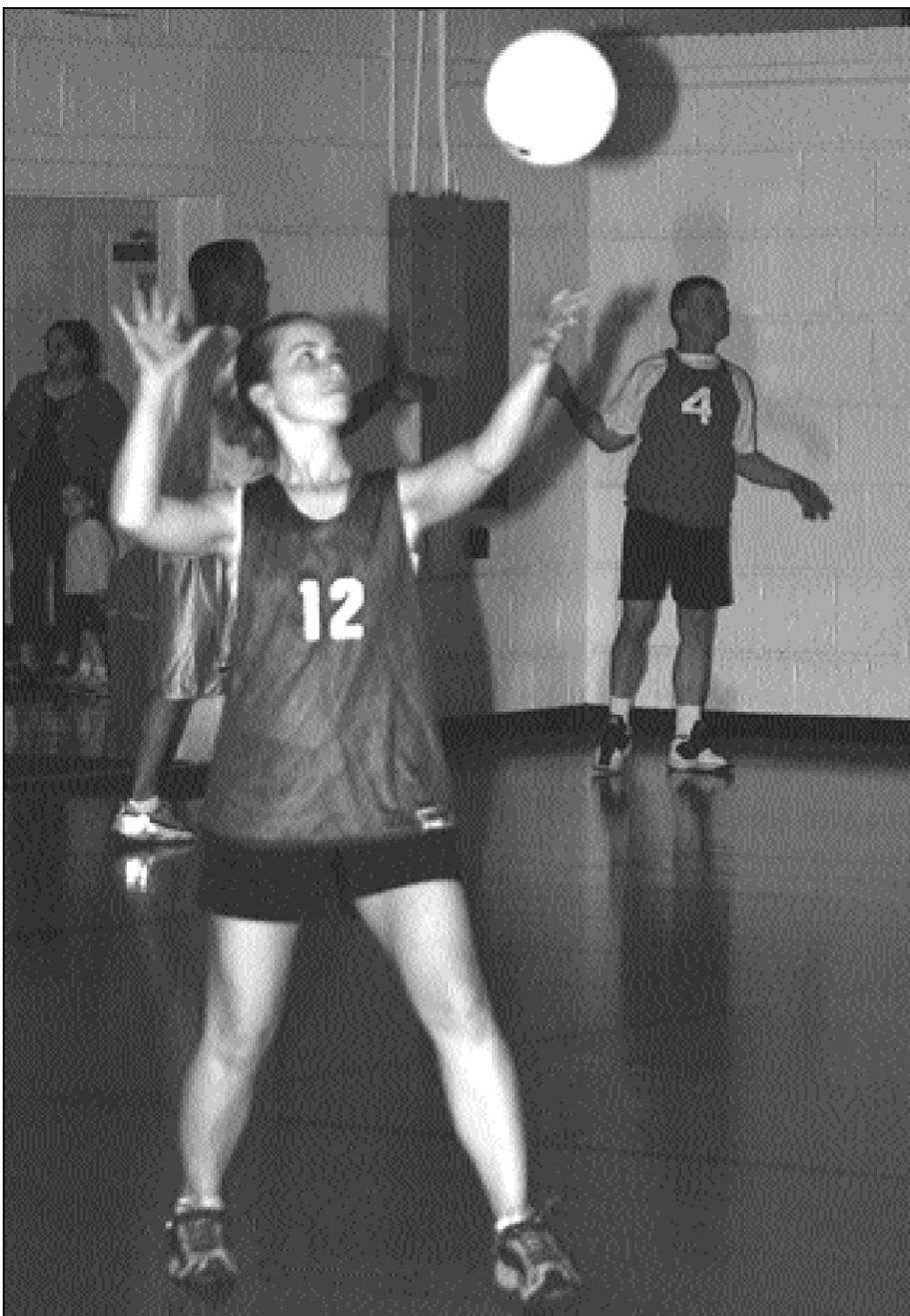
"I think we're more patient," said Deborah King of Finance, "instead of always rushing it."

The second game played out unremarkably, much as the first had, only this time it was Finance that pulled into the lead just as the game was drawing to a close. They won the third set, and the game.

The players approached the line and congratulated each other on a game well played, grasping each other's sweat slicked arms and panting thanks to their teammates in breathless voices.

"Maybe they changed the setup, protecting the weakest players with strong ones," said a reflective MEDDAC player, Carlos Llera.

This is the goal in any volleyball game, as The Sergeant Major later explained. The strongest players should be positioned in the corners to start so that they have the broadest range of control throughout the game. The weaker players are used as support for those leaders, he said. "You hope they don't make serves into your weak areas," he said, "and they do have some really good servers over there."



Post/Selmek

Dena Putnam, Medical Department Activity serves up the ball during the recent match between MEDDAC and the 1st Finance Battalion at King Field House. Finance won two of the three sets played on April 11.

Soccer teams tie in weekend action

By Chris Selmek
19th PAD

Fort Riley Youth Soccer was in action on Saturday with a matchup between the Blue Wizards, with the dark blue jerseys, and Goldrush which ended in a tie.

It appeared a tough challenge for both sides as the game began.

The teams mobbed the ball at the start of the game, creating a thick net of young legs that prevented the ball from going far from the group.

However, the action quickly

started moving when Jeffery Graham of the Goldrush broke away from the opposition and dribbled the ball through a relatively clear field to score the first goal of the game.

Graham's strategy, as he confessed after scoring the goal, was to make himself mad at the other team. "I just kicked and saw it go past the goal," he said.

"I need to work on my corner kick," he added, musing on ways he could better assist his team in the remainder of the game.

Goalies on both sides performed some impressive defense

as the ball spent perhaps more time in the goal zones than it did in the middle of the field. Because of this, there was no change in score for the rest of the half, which came to a close with a 1-0 Goldrush lead.

"We really need to work on our defense," said Wizard Cameron Keys.

But there was no need to worry. Wizard Quenton McEncher stole the ball as soon as it was dropped in the second half, scoring the first blue point

See Youth Page 10

Greater prairie chicken begin strange, remarkable ritual -- fighting for survival

By Alan Hynek
Fish/ Wildlife Administrator

Among the tall grass and burnt prairie is a remarkable ritual taking place - revealed only with a keen ear and watchful eye. It is the bustling view of courting prairie chickens, a delight to the

greater prairie chicken, (*Tympanuchus cupido*), is a species of grouse that was once common throughout the Midwest. However, the conversion of fertile tallgrass prairie to plowed fields has led to their demise over much of their former range.

comparison, the population in the entire state of Missouri is only around 1,000 birds.

The habits of prairie chickens are what really set them apart, most striking of which is their breeding ritual.

Beginning early in the spring, the male prairie chickens begin

into the air, stomp the ground and fight over the territory.

Then the real fun begins.

The males inflate orange air sacs, known as tympani, in their throats. They look something like oranges tucked beneath their chins. The sound they make is similar to blowing across the top

jump straight into the air, bump breasts and fight in bursts of feathers. They fill the dawn with cackles and hoots.

Mating occurs at the pinnacle of the booming season.

The hens lay 12 eggs on average, with an incubation time of 3 weeks. Their diet is made of

It may also lead to their ultimate demise.

Prairie chickens have persisted in Kansas largely because of the unbroken Flint Hills, including Fort Riley.

Unfortunately, they have declined, even in this region, due to changes in how native pas-



Youth continued from page 9

with a long kick. The score was tied 1-1 and the game continued much as it had the first half. When the ball was kicked, at one point, into the Wizard goal one, goalie Eric Iverson made an amazing diving save to block the point. Next, he jumped and caught the ball as it was about to score again, earning the enthusi-

astic cheers of his teammates. Play proceeded near the center of the field until a poorly targeted pass went far outside the boundary, nearly interfering with the game being played on the next field between the Orange Hurricanes and Blue Wizards in light blue jerseys. The ball was then thrown

toward the yellow goal, which was just the advantage needed for play to focus on the goal zone. Tensions rose as Goldrush desperately tried to get the ball away from their goal. Suddenly, Gavin Brown made a sideways kick past the yellow goalie to give the Wizards a 2-1 lead. "It felt good because I've never

played before," said Brown about his scoring. "I just kicked; I was trying to pass to Jamal (Brown.) When the ball was dropped again, it was immediately rushed over to the Wizards goal for another tie point. Tensions rose yet again as the ball stayed near that goal for the remainder of the game, yet for naught as the second half came to a close with a 2-2 tie. "We don't keep track of the

scores, because that would promote too much competition," said Danny Durke, Youth Center Program Director. "The teams know what the score was and that's all that really needs to know."

FILL

FILL

SET
2 x 5.5"
Black Only
new times

LAUGH ON LINE COMPUTERS
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Black Only
new ad

ADA'S HAIR BIZZ SALON
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Black Only
gabi new stylist

WALLACE THEATER CORP.
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new times

EASTSIDE MARKET-MANHATTAN
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spring

BRIGGS-WEST LOT
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jeep/nissan

SALINA POWERSPORTS
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Black Only
Capture a Katona

THE AMERICAN LEGION
1 x 2"
Black Only
Country Melody

BRIGGS-WEST LOT
1 x 5"
Black Only
terry cole MILES

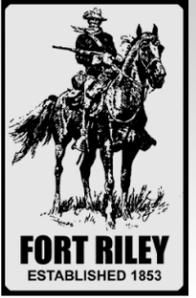
CELLULAR ONE - NEBRASKA PRESS
3 x 12"
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Post 4/5, 4/12, 4/19



Channel 2 Schedule

6:30 a.m.....In Step
 8 a.m.....In Step
 Noon.....In Step
 12:30 a.m.....CAC Mtg.(April 25)
 6 p.m.....In Step
 6:30 p.m.....CAC Mtg.(April 25)
 10 p.m.....In Step
 10:30 p.m.....CAC Mtg.(April 25)

Fort Riley Community



Post/Flegle

Above, Sgt. 1st Class Bridgettte Scott, Company A, 2nd Battalion, 291st Training Support Battery, walks with her daughter, Rajene, in the Month of the Military Child parade on April 4.

Marchers, including children, parents and caregivers welcomed the celebration with colored streamers, musical melodies and enthusiastic singing.

Britany Nixon, daughter of Maj. Gerald and Veronica Nixon, and Madeline Balistreri, daughter of Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey and Kelly Balistreri, (Right) shake tamborines and sing during their march in celebration of military children.



Post/Flegle



Military Child

April dedicated to celebrating youth

Parents spend quality time with children

By Lillian Flegle,
Contributing Writer

The Fort Riley Child Development Center's Month of the Military Child was welcomed April 4, with a parade complete with colored streamers flowing in the breeze, musical melodies from instruments made by the children attending the CDC and singing.

Parents and children alike shook tambourines, blew whistles and clanged cymbals as they marched and sang out, "Par-Tay Rocks."

The parade route traveled from the Child Development Center to the Post Exchange and back again, with spectators on the sidelines cheering for the moms, dads and kids.

According to Nikki Crisman, director of the CDC, the Association of Education of Young Children came up with the Week of the Young Child, which brings children to the forefront, letting everyone know how important their needs, development and education are.

"The military took it one step further and is dedicating the whole month of April to military children," said Crisman.

At the Fort Riley CDC there are 92 caregivers and about 300 children, ranging in age from four weeks to five years old, Crisman said. The Month of the Military Child gives these kids the opportunity to show off their parents, share activities with them and just enjoy each other's company.

According to Crisman, emphasis is put on parents coming in to share time with their kids. Parents participate by sharing their careers with the kids and reading books with them, she said.

Chrisman said she believes the children are anxious to show off their parents to other children and she loves seeing parents take an active part in their children's activities. "They (the children) have a lot of colorful things they want to show and share with their parents but the biggest thing is, they like to share their moms and dads with the other kids," she said.

so parents can spend time with their kids at the center," she said.

At the opening day festivities, Sgt. Kenneth Deweese, Company B, 1st Battalion, 34th Armor, shared an ice cream cone with his son, David, 3, who has been coming to the CDC since January 2001.

"I think children are our future and we have to invest as much time as we can into helping them develop," said Deweese. "We have to show them the right way to do things and the difference between right and wrong," he said. "I didn't want my son to look around and see other parents with their kids and wonder where his dad was."

The CDC also holds multi-cultural feasts where parents bring in foods from their culture to share with the kids, Crisman said.

Spec. Netsenet Taylor, Company B, 1st Personnel Service Battalion, was born in Ethiopia and raised in Washington D.C. She recently helped her two-year-old son, Devyn, cut and paste family photos into a collage that he proudly displayed in his classroom.

"It's nice that the Child Development Center does it (Phantom Time Activities) at 3:30 p.m., because they know we get off at 3 o'clock," Taylor said. "It's the one chance I have to let my son know how much I appreciate him. Even though you may celebrate your children every day of their lives, it's important to let them know there's one day set aside especially for them."

Brandes said she looks forward to each Thursday's activities and is especially excited about the grand finale for the Month of the Military Child.

"On April 25 there's going to be a carnival where we plant flowers, fly kites, blow bubbles and lots, lots more," Brandes said.

"Military kids have to share their parents' time with the U.S. Government, so we set this month

'Abe Lincoln' visits Fort Riley Elementary School

By Steven Cooke

19th PAD

"You can really kick, Abe Lincoln," shouted a young girl as the 6th president paid a visit to students at Fort Riley Elementary School April 11.

It was lunchtime and kindergartners and third-graders were running after purple and orange balls that the 19th century president kicked around. By the hugs he president received, the kids absolutely loved him.

"I call them huggers," said the resident. "This is a warm, fuzzy school and it shows in the kids."

Over the course of the entire school day, the president ate breakfast with the student council, held assemblies for kindergarten and grades one through five, he ate lunch with them in the library and played with them at recess.

In one of his assemblies with the afternoon kindergarten class Abe Lincoln spoke about his life growing up and how he learned it was important to tell the truth. He

encouraged the children to read, to never give up and to tell their parents and teachers they love and appreciate them.

"Never give up in pursuit of anything you want in your lives," said Lincoln. "One of you girls could be our first lady president. Learn to be dreamers...and soar high with eagles"

At one point he even had the kids raise their right hand and repeat after him, "I promise that I will always say no to alcohol, tobacco and youth violence."

But the lesson parents will probably most appreciate from Honest Abe was, "Always clean your room and make it neat."

Now, of course, this was not the real Abraham Lincoln. It was Homer "ABE" Sewell III. Sewell, a switchboard operator for the Johnson Administration White House Communications Agency, has been portraying Lincoln for the past 27 years. He travels all over the country making appearances at schools, conventions, churches and in T.V. commercials.

In nearly three decades, he has presented at more than 2,100 speaking engagements for over two million people.

Sewell explained how he got started performing as Abe Lincoln.

"Twenty-seven years ago, I started speaking to kids about what I did at the White House and I happened to grow a beard," said Sewell. "A young girl mentioned how I look like Abraham Lincoln, and I've been at it ever since."

As far as the kids are concerned, he's the real thing.

"I'm on student council and I ate breakfast with him," said Samantha Conyers, a second grader. "I think he's good. I like that he's from Kentucky and his beard is real."

"It really surprised me because I didn't know he was coming," said Danielle Dowdy, another second grader. "I like that he's honest."

"He's looks really handsome," said Mariah Schaller, the four-year-old of a parent volunteer.

When asked, "who is the guy with the beard," she answered, "He's the president of the older days."

Mariah's twin brother Mitchell said, "He's a magician." Why? "He looks like one."

Teachers and faculty members enjoyed the president's visit as well.

"It's been exciting," said Tammy Carney, secretary in the administration office. "It's very authentic. The kids seem to be getting a lot out of it."

"I learned neat little facts, like he didn't show up to his first wedding," said Carlin Kuhlman, a third-grade teacher.

Kuhlman said her class couldn't wait for him come.

"They were very excited about him coming," Kuhlman said. "They had been learning about him in class."

Kuhlman, also a student council representative, was pleased with his presentation.

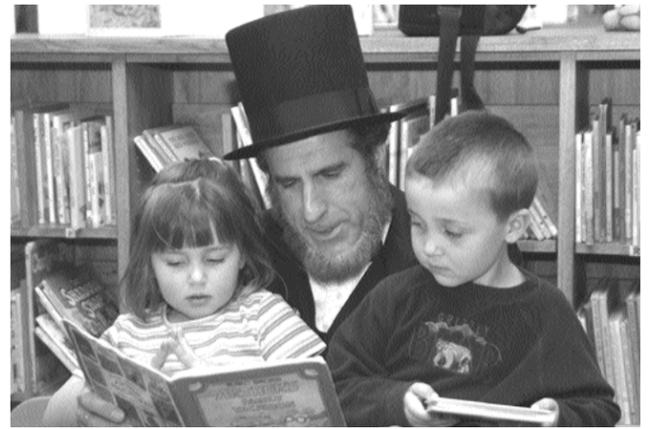
"He's really good," said Kuhlman. "He's doing a good job giving them information. It's very

age appropriate."

Sewell said he is proud of his job.

He said, "It's very rewarding

knowing that I'm making a difference in today's children and tomorrows leaders."



Post/Cooke

'Abraham Lincoln' reads to 4-year-old twins Mariah and Mitchell Schaller. Lincoln was at Fort Riley Elementary School teaching the children to "Never give up in pursuit of anything you want in your lives."

ITR

WORLDS OF FUN

A thrilling new ride that lets passengers experience tumbling and pinning sensations at the same time, resulting in a thrill ride hat's unique and exhilarating. ThunderHawk swings back and forth in a cradle-like motion until enough momentum takes riders over the top to a height if approximately six stories.

At the same time pendulum movements from short pendulum arms rock and loop for complete versions.

Thrill-seekers will find the new attraction's unusual, exhilarating ride an exciting addition to the Mamba's 75-mile-per-hour, 205-foot-drop and the Boomerang's 2-story corkscrew scream machine.

Worlds of Fun continue to offer a total family entertainment experience, from Camp Snoopy for young children and parents to

ThunderHawk and other exciting rides for teenage thrill seekers.

Worlds of Fun is now open weekends only until May 20 and will be operational every day through Aug. 25.

A "Spring Special" is available during the months of April, May and June.

Prices are nearly 50 percent off the regular admission price in celebration of World's of Fun's 30th Anniversary. Discount tickets are now available.

COUNTRY STAMPEDE

Have you ever attended a party with thousands of friends, national recording artists, and four days of non-stop music and fun?

Country Stampede is a weekend country music and camping festival June 26-30, in Manhattan.

The weekend is fun filled and action packed with great performers, fantastic food, colorful crafts,

and much, much more!

Top performers will include Lonestar, Alan Jackson, Kenny Chesney, Toby Keith and more. ITR now taking discount orders now for one-day tickets at \$32 and three-day tickets for \$62 and a \$5 handling fee per order. Gate prices will be \$40 and \$75 respectively.

DISCOUNT TICKETS

Tickets are available for Carmike Theater in Manhattan and Westside Twin in Junction City at discounts.

Buy several as they can be used within a year of purchase.

SIX FLAGS ST LOUIS

Six Flags St Louis announces the addition of Scooby-Doo! Ghostbusters-The Mystery of the Scary Swamp.

The interactive dark ride takes guests on a mystery solving, water adventure, joined by Hanna-Barbera characters, Scooby-Doo and the Mystery, Inc. gang.

A 5,000-foot wooden coaster called the "BOSS" joins the Hurricane Harbor Water Park as two of Six Flags most recent additions.

Discount tickets and weekend get-a-ways or vacation packaging available.

SILVER DOLLAR CITY

Part of our heritage is being a good neighbor. Where else to celebrate harmony among nations than at Silver Dollar City's World Fest, America's Largest International Festival.

From the excitement of the knife-throwing Russian Dance Troupe, to the upbeat Caribbean melodies of the steel drummers from Trinidad, there's Irish step dancers, Kenyan acrobats and Puerto Rican performers presenting their heritage through traditional song and dance in an inter-

national celebration of diversity.

Nearly 100 craftsmen are in the park demonstrating glass blowing, basket weaving, blacksmithing, pottery, candy making and other disciplines.

Packed with 17 rides and attractions, four major festivals, 60 unique shops and restaurants, and 50 dazzling shows a day, Silver Dollar City truly appeals to all ages.

Let ITR put together a package for a weekend get-a-way or family vacation.

Discount tickets available to numerous other attractions in Branson.

HEARTLAND PARK TOPEKA

2002 will be the 14th year for Heartland Park Topeka, and certainly will be the busiest ever! Discount race tickets available through ITR.

Heartland Park Topeka Salutes

the Armed Forces on May 17 an will offer special half price tickets for the O'Reilly Auto Parts Motor Speedway.

ITR CRUISES

Authorized patrons can start taking advantage of special military discounts and bargain cruises.

Stop by ITR for brochures and information concerning Carnival Cruise Line, Holland America and Royal Caribbean.

Make an appointment with Teresa at 239-5614/4415 and plan that dream cruise.

VACATION PLANS

More choices and greater discounts for a variety of attractions/shows for Central Florida, Tennessee, North Carolina, California, Illinois, Georgia, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Louisiana, Carolinas and Virginia areas. Destination packaging available.

DAILY UNION
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Kansas, Styx entertain on post May 27

Fort Riley is gearing up for some music!!

Fort Riley is hosting a Memorial Day concert featuring Kansas, Styx, Pat Green and comedian, A.J. Jamal on May 27.

The concert, which begins at 5 p.m., is open to the public.

A Festival Tent with concessions opens at 2 p.m. and gates to the show open at 4 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 per person or \$20 for groups of four.

Seating is festival-style, so concertgoers should bring their own chairs or blankets.

VIP tickets are also available for \$30 each. These tickets include special parking, special eating and food and beverage.

Tickets go on sale Monday and can be purchased at Dillons in

Junction City, Manhattan, Topeka and Salina; at Montgomery Communications in Junction City and through the Information, Ticketing and Registration Office on Fort Riley.

You can also purchase tickets by phone at 785-239-5614.

Parking is available at Marshall Army Air Field, which is located right off I-70 at exit 301.

For security purposes, concertgoers will need photo IDs and drivers may be asked to show proof of insurance and vehicle registration.

Coolers, food, beverages and video or audio devices cannot be brought in.

Chairs, bags, still cameras and strollers are allowed but are subject to inspection.



Courtesy photo

Fort Riley shows off at Expo 2002

Fort Riley, along with others from around the area, showcased their positives at the Flint Hills Expo 2002 April 6-7, at Bramlage and Branderberry Coliseums.

The Expo offered a chance for the spectators to check out some of the local flavor from the Manhattan, Fort Riley, Wamego and Junction City areas. The Expo was free of charge, and was accommodated by the JC, Manhattan and Wamego Chambers of Commerce.

With over 150 exhibits, the business, outdoor, safe home, and health and wellness shows featured many different options for spectators to observe.

In addition to exhibits, spectators were able to grab refreshments from the food court as they journeyed through the displays.

Fort Riley was represented by members of the Fort Riley Honor Guard, along with other organizations on post.

FILL

BRIGGS AD