Cyan Magenta Yellow Black

Lest we forget

Fort Riley, Junction City, Kansas honor America's war dead

Page 13

Fort Riley

Post

Prepared for 'thunder'

Racing fans gather for reopening of local race track

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Friday, June 3, 2005 | America's Warfighting Center | Vol. 48, No. 22

Around The Army

Fort Knox:

The Turret reported May 5 that the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs had opened an office on Fort Knox. It assigned a full-time field representative to run the office.

The representative's responsibilities include assisting any veteran with VA issues and serving as an advocate for Kentucky veterans dealing with what can seem to be the complex and confusing VA process.

For more on this story and other Fort Knox news, visit www.turret.com on the Web.

Fort Polk:

The Guardian reported May 13 that the 3rd Air Support Operations Squadron had become the first Air Force unit to receive Stryker fighting vehicles.

The fleet of Strykers will help the 3rd ASOS provide tactical air control and combat weather teams to the 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team. The 172nd SBCT and 3rd ASOS are based at Fort Wainwright, Alaska. The 3rd ASOS received their Strykers during a ceremony at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk.

For more on this story and other Fort Polk news, visit www.jrtc-polk.army.mil.

Fort Hood:

The Sentinel reported May 12 that Fort Hood had received the All Army Installation 2005 Deployment Excellence Award.

The fort's selection was based on the support the installation provided to III Corps, 13th COSCOM, 1st Cavalry Division, 39th Brigade Combat Team and many other enabler units that deployed from Dec. 1, 2003, to March 31, 2004.

For more on this story and other Fort Hood news, visit www.militarynews.com/sentinel on the Web.

Fort Benning:

The Bayonet reported May 20 that a Fort Benning Soldier had drowned in the Chattahoochee River while fishing with friends.

The recent Ranger School graduate was a holdover student and was enjoying time off while awaiting orders for his assignment. He reported slipped into the river while trying to cross between two islands of rocks.

The Chattahoochee is known for its treacherous undercurrent.

For more on this story and other Fort Benning news, visit www.thebayonet.com on the Web.

Aberdeen:

The APG News reported May 19 that the proving grounds' Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security had passed a national accreditation assessment by the Commission on the Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.

A five-day inspection was made April 30 through May 4.

For more on this story and other Aberdeen Proving Grounds news, visit www.apgnews.apg.army.mil on the Web.

Army OKs new badge's design

Army News Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Army's new Combat Action Badge features a bayonet and grenade.

Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker, Army chief of staff, approved the design the end of May.

The CAB may be awarded to any Soldier performing assigned duties in an area where hostile fire pay or imminent danger pay is authorized.

The Soldier must be actively engaging or being engaged by the enemy and performing satisfactorily in accordance with the prescribed rules of engagement. Award is not limited by one's branch or military occupational specialty.

"Warfare is still a human endeavor," Schoomaker said. "Our intent is to recognize Soldiers who demonstrate and live the Warrior Ethos."

"The Global War on Terrorism and its associated operations will be the first era of conflict considered for this award," said Lt. Col. Bill Johnson, Human Resources Command chief of military awards.

"Sept. 18, 2001, is the effective date for the new award. That is when President Bush signed Senate Joint Resolution 23, authorizing the use of military force against those responsible for the recent attacks launched against the United States."

The CAB will go into immediate production and should be available late this summer or early fall through unit supply and military clothing sales stores.

Emergency call

Employees of Eagle Med, a Wichita, Kan.-based air evacuation service, help unload mock casualty May 24 during an exercise to test the ability of Fort Riley organizations to communicate with civilian air ambulance services. *Post/Blackmon*

Fort tests coordination with civilian services

By Gary Skidmore
Command Information Officer

When a Soldier is injured or wounded on the battlefield, the care he receives the first hour is critical. That "golden hour" could mean the difference between the Soldier being a casualty or becoming a fatality, said Dr. (Col.) Paul Little, Soldiers' Radio and Television medical coorespondant.

"The term "golden hour" was coined years ago to refer to that critical first hour when a victim of severe injuries or medical emergencies like a heart attack needed to get to a hospital to be "saved." But we now know that it's urgent to get these patients to definitive care even faster," said Little.

That's why, on May 24, Fort Riley tested its air evacuation procedures. This time, however, instead of deploying a Black Hawk helicopter from the 82nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance) to handle the evacuation, civilian medevac companies from Junction City and Wichita were used.

"We learned that our systems and procedures are sound," said Maj. Matthew Moore, chief of operations for the 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley. "We learned that the Soldiers communicated with Range Control, and we learned we could talk to the aircraft and guide them to where they needed to go."

Moore said the biggest thing the evaluators learned was how long it took for the civilian crews to get to the patients, something Moore noted was not significantly longer than the time the military aircraft permanently stationed on Fort Riley take to reach patients.

Moore explained that on-post military air ambulance assets were no longer going to be available for such missions and civilian medevac companies were going to be used when necessary.

The military medevac Soldiers on post are preparing for redeployment to Iraq, he said.

The exercise scenario placed three Soldiers at three different sites on Fort Riley. Each pretended to be suffering from a variety of injuries.

One Soldier had been accidentally shot in the abdomen when his weapon discharged. Another Soldier had been

See Medevac, Page 8

Services honor two Fort Riley fallen Soldiers

Eisenhauer remembered as 'go-to guy'

By Jay Baker
Public affairs intern

A gathering of Soldiers and family members mourned the loss of Pfc. Wyatt D. Eisenhauer, a scout for 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor, at Morris Hill Chapel May 25.

People listened and wiped away tears as Pfc. Jeremy Deyo, a fellow scout in the battalion's Headquarters and Headquarter Company, stood before them and paid tribute to his lost friend.

Wyatt did not need to join the Army to have a job, Deyo said, "he already had a successful business of his own."

Wyatt joined the Army to help,

Pfc. Wyatt Eisenhauer

and that is what he was doing when the High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle he was driving struck an improvised explosive device, Deyo said.

Eisenhauer enlisted in the Army less than a year ago. However, because of the life experiences he brought with him, he left an indelible mark on the Soldiers of his unit during his time, said Capt. Brett Long, rear detachment commander for 2nd Bn., 70th Armor.

"He was always sought out for advice on various topics. He always found time to help them anyway he could," Long said.

Wyatt was known to master everything he touched, said Maj. Kevin West, 3rd Brigade rear detachment commander. His intelligence quickly made him an important part of his unit, West said.

"He was the go-to guy" when something needed to be fixed, West added.

Eisenhauer was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart and the Good Conduct Medal.

Schall called natural leader

By Kevin Bromley
3rd Bde., 1st Armored Div.

TAJI, Iraq – The Thunderbolt Battalion stood in a solemn final formation to pay their last respects to Sgt. Kenneth John Schall as a tribute song composed and performed by his sister reverberated through the hall.

Sgt. Kenneth Schall

Schall was an armored crewman assigned to 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor, 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division. He was killed when his "Humvee" rolled over after being struck by a local national vehicle while conducting combat operations May 22.

"Sgt. Kenneth Schall was a patriot who paid the ultimate price to answer his country's call to duty. He was a Soldier, a credit to his unit and to the U.S. Army," said Col. David J. Bishop, 3rd Bde. commander.

Schall was highly respected by his peers and commanders, a Soldier in every sense of the word, one officer remarked.

"What can I tell you about Sgt.

See Schall, Page 2

Post news in brief

Troop clinic adds services

Behavioral health services are now available at the Consolidated Troop Medical Clinic. Any active duty Soldier can speak with a credentialed social worker in the clinic from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. No appointment is necessary; services are provided on a walk-in basis.

Soldiers can visit the clinic specifically for behavioral health services or can be seen in conjunction with a medical appointment. Issues such as sleep disturbance, family stress, grief/loss, combat stress and anger management can all be addressed.

For more information, call the CTMC at 239-4411.

Environmental classes set

The Environmental Division, Directorate of Public Works, has scheduled the following training courses during June:

Environmental Team Training: Environmental Team training certifies environmental team leaders and members in how to handle hazardous materials and waste handling and spill responses at the unit level. Leaders and team members must attend this course within 60 days of appointment to their duties.

Class begins at 9 a.m. each day, June 6-7 and June 20-21, in Room 6 of Building 407. The course lasts two days.

Environmental Team Training Refresher: This course is an annual refresher to the Environmental Team training course.

Class starts at 9 a.m. June 14 in Room 6 of Building 407. The class lasts 2 1/2 hours.

Battery Hazard Awareness Training (Code Name Lithium): Code Name Lithium course is designed for key personnel who in their course of duty receive, store, issue and then transport lithium batteries for disposal.

This course includes training on the characteristics and hazards associated with the various types of lithium batteries used on Fort Riley.

This course also includes training on health, safety and personal protective equipment when handling lithium batteries.

The one-hour class starts at 10 a.m. every Wednesday of each month in Building 1930 at Camp Funston.

For information or to enroll, call 239-0446.

Ed staff plans graduation

The combined graduation ceremony at Fort Riley will be 1 p.m. June 9 at King Field House. For more information about participation, call 239-6481.

Committee studies military pay

By Donna Miles
AFPS

WASHINGTON, D.C. – A new committee is studying the military compensation system to come up with ways to bring it more in line with what servicemembers want and operational needs demand.

The Defense Advisory Committee on Military Compensation held its first public meeting in mid-May to explain its marching orders from Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld: to take a look at the current system and recommend how to make it better.

The committee will look at the whole compensation program for men and women in uniform in both the active and reserve components, explained retired Navy Adm. Donald Pilling, committee chairman and former vice chief of naval operations.

This includes basic, special and incentive pays; benefits ranging from housing to medical care; and deferred pay that includes retirement pay and survivor benefits, he said.

The committee will attempt to strike the best balance between cash and benefits, current and deferred compensation, and the need for flexibility during peacetime as well as war, Pilling said.

It will also consider the best way to compensate members of the National Guard and Reserve, who are deploying more frequently than ever before to support military operations, he said.

The goal is to ensure that the armed forces continue to attract and retain top-quality, highly motivated men and women and to ensure they and their families receive the compensation they deserve.

Pilling said that's particularly important when they're burdened by multiple deployments and family separations.

One issue the committee will deal with is the fact that many military members are more interested in cash in hand than retirement or other benefits.

"They tend to value current compensation more than compensation that they will not receive for 10 or 20 years, or maybe not at all," he said.

Retirement benefits become more important later in a servicemembers' career, when they become critical to military retention, Pilling said.

During May 10 meetings with service leaders, committee members heard "a range of views about specific changes" in the compensation package, all to be considered during the committee's deliberations, he said.

But one particular message came through loud and clear. "All asked for an architecture that allows flexibility rather than mandatory changes in compensation," Pilling said.

Flexibility will be a key goal as the military undergoes its longest period of sustained conflict since the all-volunteer force was conceived in the early 1970s, he said.

The committee plans to present Rumsfeld an interim report of its recommendations by late September and the final report in April 2006.

The next of its public meetings is scheduled for June 7.

100th MPAD/Wester

Flower power in Iraq

A young Iraqi girl presents a single red rose to Sgt. Chris Ford of 2nd Platoon, Company A, 1st Battalion, 13th Armor, assigned to 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery, 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division. Ford was watching a neighborhood street in Taji, Iraq. Ford, a resident of Glasford, Ill., is serving his second tour of duty in Iraq.

Barracks policy changes for geographic bachelors

Army News Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Married staff sergeants who are voluntarily separated from their families will no longer be authorized space in Army barracks under a new policy that went into effect earlier this year.

Vernona Aslim, a housing management specialist with the Army Chief of Staff Installation Management, said the new policy is a continued effort to provide quality housing for single Soldiers and to create a better tool in matching up the programming and requirements for unaccompanied personnel housing.

Soldiers entitled to basic allowance for housing at the "with dependent" rate who are voluntarily separated from their family members are no longer authorized assignment to permanent party barracks in the continental United States, Hawaii and Alaska.

The policy does not apply to overseas locations.

Aslim said this change comes at a time when the Army is making numerous changes in the way it houses single Soldiers in accordance with the Holistic Barracks Strategy that was approved by the Secretary of the Army in January .

The housing change for geographic bachelors supports the strategy initiative ensuring housing entitlements for single Soldiers can be met and all permanent unaccompanied personnel housing facility categories match the identified permanent party housing requirements.

In March, the Army authorized single staff sergeants to live off post and provided the Installation Management Agency with $250 million to repair the Army's most deficient barracks under the Barracks Improvement Program, Aslim said.

Geographical bachelors in all rank categories will transition to local community housing through attrition whether caused by permanent change of station orders, renovations being made through BIP, deployment, or for the convenience of the government as determined by the local command, Aslim said.

The local on-post Housing Services Office or the Community Housing Relocation and Referral Services is ready to assist Soldiers in securing affordable and safe off-post properties whether they chose to rent or purchase homes.

For more information on the new policy, see "Hot Topics" on the ACSIM Web site: http://www.hqda.army.mil/acsimweb/homepage.shtml.

Schall continued from page 1

Kenny Schall? He was one of the finest Soldiers and men produced by the United States," said Capt. David F. Carey, the battalion's Company A commander.

Many of his peers described Schall as a natural born leader people gravitated toward.

"He was one of those noncommissioned officers that you would have sworn had been a sergeant the entire time he was in the Army," Carey said. "He possessed so much natural leadership ability that it was just a pleasure to watch him succeed."

Schall was more than just a member of his unit, he was an integral part of the Thunderbolt family, one Soldier insisted.

"I couldn't think of anyone I would rather have covering my back than Kenny, and I know his Soldiers felt the same," said Sgt. Christopher Vargas, one of Schall's closest friends.

Schall was what military leaders call a "Go-to Guy." He could be counted on by all, Vargas said.

"He is the one you count on when the bullets are flying because he is right behind you covering your flank," Vargas said. "He is the one who relieves you for guard because it's his turn to keep you safe ... ."

"I take comfort in knowing that he is doing what he feels is right," said his sister, Jessica Schall in an open letter to the Task Force.

Schall enlisted in the Army May 19, 2003, and deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom on Feb. 1, 2005.

His awards included the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

Schall is survived by his mother and father, John and Terri Schall, his brother, Mathew, and sister, Jessica.

GEARY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
3 x 5.5"
Black Only
3x5.5 Pregnant Military Dep.

USA DISCOUNTERS
3 x 10.5"
Black Only
BLUE/3x10.5/June 2005

Monthly ceremony honors 15 retirees

Post news in brief

Paras named top employee

Marilyn Paras, an art specialist at the Arts and Crafts Center, has been named the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation employee of the quarter for the second quarter of fiscal year 2005.

Marilyn Paras

She was commended for her leadership in the arts and crafts program and her excellent service to internal and external customers.

In addition to the award certificate, Paras received $250 cash.

Civilians must attend training

All civilian employees are required to receive anti-terrorism awareness training on an annual basis. Initial training must be conducted in person with a trained anti-terrorism Officer.

Refresher training can be fulfilled by attending a session with a certified AT trainer or on-line at www.at-awareness.org (log-in "aware").

Anti-terrorism training is conducted at 9 a.m. every Thursday in the Patton Hall auditorium, 200 Henry Avenue. The training is scheduled to run until 10:30 a.m. and is conducted as part of the in-processing for new and mobilizing Soldiers.

DA civilian employees need to attend this training to meet the requirements for their initial AT training. Attendees will receive a training data sheet certificate.

DA civilians must provide a copy of their training certificate to their activity training POC for input in their personnel record.

Patton Hall's auditorium seating can accommodate about 250 people, with about 30 to 50 Soldiers attending each week. Contact Capt. Rob Ruskievicz, at 239-6044 Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon to verify seating availability.

Units prepare for changes

The 101st Forward Support Battalion, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, will change commanders during a ceremony at 9 a.m. June 9 at Cavalry Parade Field.

Lt. Col. Chris McCurry will assume command from Lt. Col. Jimmie Mister Jr.

In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will move to Craig Gym.

The 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, will change commanders during a ceremony June 8 at Cavalry Parade Field.

Lt. Col. Frank Zachar will assume command from Lt. Col. Thomas S. Hollis.

The public is invited and a reception will take place in Custer House following the ceremony.

In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will move to King Field House.

14 Soldiers, one employee turn to lives as 'civilians'

By Jay Baker
Public affairs intern

Fourteen Soldiers and one civilian who all took an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States more than 20 years ago were honored in a retirement ceremony at Ware Parade Field at Fort Riley May 25.

Twelve Soldiers received a Meritorious Service Medal for their outstanding service. Two Soldiers, Col. Ernest W. Sigler Jr. of Dental Activity and Command Sgt. Major Michael E. Meyer of the 924th Military Police Battalion, received Legions of Merit for their exceptionally outstanding service.

Pearl Speer, an employee of the Directorate of Moral, Welfare and Recreation, retired after 19 years federal service. She received a Superior Civilian Award for her service.

Sigler retired after 30 years of military service. He plans to live in Lincoln, Neb.

Col. William R. Patton, also of DENTAC, retired after 20 years of military service. He plans to live in Killeen, Tex.

Meyer retired after 24 years of military service. He plans to stay in the area and work in Fort Riley law enforcement.

Sgt. 1st Class Regina Farrow, U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Detrick, Md., retired after 21 years of military service. Farrow plans to return to Maryland and attend law school.

Sgt. 1st Class Vegina L. Hicks, 24th Transportation Company, 541st Maintenance Battalion, retired after 20 years of military service. Hicks plans to live in Manhattan and attend school.

Sgt. 1st Class Sidney J. Batchelor, 977th Military Police Company, retired after 21 years of military service. Batchelor plans to retire in Hopewell, Va., and attend school.

Sgt. 1st Class Randy M. Tuggle, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 541st Maintenance Battalion, retired after 20 years of military service. Tuggle plans to live in Junction City and support his wife's career.

Sgt. 1st Class Bryan A. Johnson, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division (Mech), retired after 20 years of military service. Johnson plans to live in Chicago and work as a JROTC instructor.

Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey A. Wehr, HHC, 24th Inf. Div. (Mech), retired after 21 years of military service. Wehr plans to live in Joplin, Mo., and work as a computer technician.

Sgt. 1st Class Perry A. Kerr, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, retired after 20 years of military service. Kerr plans to live in Savannah, Ga., and seek employment.

Staff Sgt. Anthony J. Roberts, HHC, 24th Inf. Div. (Mech), retired after 20 years of military service. Roberts plans to live in Junction City and attend school.

Staff Sgt. David C. Crosset, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Engineer Battalion, retired after 20 years of military service. Crossett plans to live in Tampa, Fla., and operate his own landscaping company.

Staff Sgt. Gerald W. Knipe, Company B, 101st Forward Support Battalion, retired after 21 years of military service. Knipe will live in Junction City and seek employment.

Twins reunite to wrap up their Army careers at same time

By Jay Baker
Public affairs intern

Well-wishers might have thought they were seeing double May 25, and they were.

Twins Sgt. 1st Class Vegina L. Hicks of the 24th Transportation Company, 541st Maintenance Battalion, at Fort Riley and Sgt. 1st Class Regina L. Farrow, formerly of U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Detrick, Md., shared the formal retirement ceremony organized at Fort Riley each month.

The sisters each spent at least 20 years on active duty in the Army. Farrow left active duty two years ago without experiencing a formal retirement ceremony. The twins said they thought it was important to "leave" the Army together.

"It was a symbolic way to bring closure," Farrow said. She said the two are writing a book that describes the significant events in their careers and why it was important to share the ceremonial end to their careers.

Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, commanding general, 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) and Fort Riley congratulates Sgt. 1st Class Vegina Hicks of the 24th Trans. Co. on her retirement May 25. Hicks' twin sister, Sgt. 1st Class Regina Farrow (left) also participated in the ceremony. *Post/Baker*

The twins, like many other Soldiers, have spent a lot of time away from their families while pursuing their Army careers. They now plan to spend time getting to know their families better.

"I plan on getting to know my two sons. When I came into the Army, my goal was to make command sergeant major. I worked very hard trying to reach that goal and I sort of put my sons on the back burner," Farrow admitted.

She said everything worked out well for her boys. "Both of my sons graduated from Valley Forge Military Academy," she said.

Hicks said she faces retirement with a desire to get to know her grandchildren and growing spiritually.

Hicks has a daughter is following in her mother's early civilian career footsteps. The daughter wants to be a nurse.

"I was in nursing school before I joined the Army," Hicks said. "Now my daughter is in a nursing program. I want to do something for them and thank them for supporting me during my career," she said.

The twins grew up in a family of 12 children on a farm in North Carolina. "When I was growing up, my daddy didn't treat the girls any different than the boys. We all put on pants and worked out in the field. There was no inside work only for the girls," Farrow said.

"After high school, most of the women went to work in the sewing factory. I knew that was not for me. So when I saw the recruiting commercials and heard the song, I knew the Army was for me," she said.

Farrow joined the Army in 1982 and Hicks joined three years later. The twins were never stationed at the same installation at the same time, but their paths did cross from time to time.

"My commander let me come all the way from Germany to see my sister graduate from basic training," Farrow said.

The twins passed each other on subsequent assignments at drill sergeant school and overseas rotations to Germany.

Although Farrow ended her Army career about two years ago, she never participated in a retirement ceremony. With the help of Fort Riley ceremony coordinators the twins shared the ceremony closing another chapter in their lives.

Tyme Out Lounge
1 col X 3"

MILITARY OUTLET
3 x 3"
Black Only
3X3 Mil Out June TF 3441 ml

SPRINT- NEBRASKA PRESS
4 x 10.5"
Black Only
4x10.5 SPR-361814

2 Col X 3"
Lilacs of the Prairie

Arlington National Cemetery adds space

Cemetery official estimates plots available through 2060

By Rudi Williams
AFPS

ARLINGTON, Va. – In 1998, burial space at the country's most prestigious resting place for servicemembers and their spouses was becoming scarce, and officials worried they would run out of room at Arlington National Cemetery in about 25 years.

After years of searching for more space, Defense Department officials have garnered more than 70 acres of land to expand the sprawling 600-plus-acre hillside on the west bank of the Potomac River overlooking the nation's capital.

The fiscal 2000 National Defense Authorization Act contained a provision expanding the cemetery.

"We estimated that we would run out of grave space between the year 2025 and 2030," said Cemetery Superintendent John Metzler Jr. "So one of the things we were directed to do was to develop a new master plan and to look at not only what we needed to do internally to maintain the cemetery, but also how we could look at expanding the cemetery beyond the year of 2025."

Land search locates land nearby

Officials searched around the cemetery in all directions to see who owned the land, what it was currently being used for and the likelihood of being able to acquire the land.

"As a result of all this, we've been able to acquire three parcels of land so far, including the 44-acre Navy Annex that lies to our south," Metzler noted. "We also acquired a piece of property inside the cemetery that had belonged to the National Park Service, which was being used as a buffer zone between the Arlington House and the cemetery. There was a 24-acre tract, and we were able to acquire half of that – 12 acres."

The Arlington House mansion is where Gen. Robert E. Lee lived before the Civil War. After he joined the Confederacy, the plantation mansion was confiscated at the outbreak of the Civil War and converted to headquarters for the Union's Army of the Potomac. The grounds were used as a burial site for families that were too poor to claim their deceased loved ones from the battlefield.

Today, the mansion house is restored as a museum, and the grounds are considered a sacred shrine.

Picnic area acquired at Fort Myer

The cemetery also will use a 17-acre tract of land that's now a picnic area at adjacent Fort Myer, Metzler noted. "We're also looking at relocating our utilities inside the cemetery from underneath the grass-tufted area and placing them underneath our roads," he said.

With these initiatives in place, Metzler said, Arlington would be able to continue operations until at least 2060, and that would include development for ground and columbarium burials.

He pointed out that the cemetery averages 26 burials a day, with 6,452 burials held during fiscal 2004. More than 292,000 people are buried at Arlington.

Eligibility for burial at Arlington includes:

• Anyone who dies on active duty;

• Any retired veteran with 20 years service or greater from the regular military;

• Reservists who have one period of active duty service other than training, who are aged 60 or older, and have a total of 20 years or more; and

• Honorably discharged recipients of the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star and Purple Heart.

Other eligible servicemembers include former prisoners of war and veterans who are medically disabled with a 30 percent rating or greater before Oct. 1, 1949, as a result of their military service and were discharged for that reason.

The spouses of these servicemembers are eligible for burial alongside their husbands or wives.

Metzler said any veteran with one period of active duty service ending with an honorable discharge is entitled to have his or her cremated remains placed into the Arlington Cemetery columbarium. Ashes of their spouses can be interred in the same location.

Caissons are authorized for any officer or Medal of Honor recipient. E-9s are included in some cases, varying with each service branch, Metzler noted.

Cemetery includes historic sites

Several little-known historic sites are located at the cemetery. For example, there are two different locations for remains from the Civil War era. One has "USCT" engraved on the headstones, which stands for U.S. Colored Troops.

"We have several sections within the cemetery where the predominated burials are USCT," Metzler noted.

"Plus, we have the former residents of Freedmen's Village. These were blacks who would be called in today's terminology 'homeless.' They had no place to go. They'd come off the plantations, had no education, no money, no means to support themselves, and the government created a bureau – the Freedmen's Bureau – to address this issue."

Metzler said six villages were constructed in the Washington area. One was constructed on the grounds of Arlington Cemetery. "For some 30 years, this village existed, and over that period of time, 3,500 residents of Freedmen's Village passed away and are buried here in Arlington Cemetery in Section 27," he said.

There's a plaque in Section 8 designated in memory of American Indians. The inscription reads, "The Viet-Nam Era Vets. We are honored to remember you. The indigenous people of America. Dedicated to our Indian warriors and their brothers who have served us so well."

President John F. Kennedy's gravesite and the Tomb of the Unknowns are the most visited sites on the grounds. Metzler noted these sites draw about 4 million visitors each year.

AUSA Golf
4 x 6.5"
Black Only

SETH CHILD CINEMAS
2 x 5.5"
Black Only
2X5.5 Seth/Carmike June TF ml

THE MARTIN AGENCY
4 x 10"
Black Only
Alltel/#505201005/Post June 05

FREE TO KNOW
2 x 5"
Black Only
2X5 Free To Know 7888

Commentary

Riley Roundtable

This week's question:

What could Junction City add as an attraction to interest you in spending more of your leisure or off-duty time there?

"I don't go there much, but it needs to be more attractive for family atmosphere."

Staff Sgt. Patrick J. Fanning
Platoon sergeant
172nd Chemical Company
Home: Houston, Texas

"I'd like to see a shopping plaza or a jazz or blues lounge uptown."

Walter Hill
Safety technician
Installation Safety Office
Home: Junction City, Kan.

"I would definitely go to Junction City more if they had a water park."

Spc. Anthony Lopercio
Fuel handling specialist
1st Battalion, 34th Armor
Home: Mesa, Ariz.

"I think kids need more things to do to fill their time and keep them out of trouble."

Graciela Smith
PX oncessionaire
Home: Junction City, Kan.

"I'd like to see Junction City get a mall."

Annie Walker
Cashier
AAFES
Home: Macon, Ga.

Next week's question:

Father's Day is June 19. What is the most important thing your father taught you or your fondest memory of your father?

Opinions may be e-mailed to the editor at mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil or faxed to to the editor at 239-2592 by close of business Tuesdays to appear in the following Friday's paper.

Straight talk about oral problems

Tobacco use favors periodontal disease

By Michael G. Moyer
Periodontist

Lt. Col. Michael Moyer

Whether you smoke cigarettes, cigars or a pipe, dip or chew tobacco, you are more likely to have periodontal disease than those who do not use any form of tobacco.

Smoking may be responsible for more than half of the cases of periodontal disease among adults in the United States, according to a study published in the Journal of Periodontology.

The study found that current smokers are about four times more likely than people who have never smoked to have advanced periodontal disease.

Many chemicals found in tobacco, such as nicotine and tar, may have harmful effects on the periodontal tissues.

One study even found that current smokers had more plaque and periodontal destruction than former or never-smokers.

As a result, tobacco users may be more likely to have calculus form on their teeth, have deeper pockets between the teeth and gums and lose more of the bone and tissue that supports the teeth.

Loss of bone and tissue may potentially cause tooth loss.

Research shows that smokers lose more teeth than nonsmokers. According to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, only about 20 percent of people over age 65 who have never smoked are toothless, while a whopping 41.3 percent of daily smokers over age 65 are toothless.

If you're a smokeless tobacco user, you're not out of harm's way. In fact, you also are at a greater risk of having more severe and rapidly progressing periodontal disease, as well as receding gums.

When gums recede to the point where the tooth roots are exposed, teeth may become susceptible to root cavities or be sensitive to cold and touch – not to mention the fact that the chances of developing oral cancer increase with smokeless tobacco use.

For long-time users, the risk is much greater, making the use of snuff or chewing tobacco among young people a special concern.

Finally, for smokers, the good news is oral health will begin to improve once you quit smoking.

The JOP study showed that 11 years after quitting, former smokers' likelihood of having periodontal disease was not significantly different from those who had never smoked.

This is definitely an incentive to quit smoking, and the sooner you quit, the better off your oral health will be.

If you are a tobacco user, remember the problems that occur with tobacco use, including oral cancer, bad breath, stained teeth, tooth loss, bone loss, loss of taste and smell, less success with periodontal treatment and dental implants, mouth sores and facial wrinkling.

Be aware that periodontal disease is an infection that is not just a major cause of tooth loss, but is also linked to increased risk of heart disease, stroke, poorly controlled diabetes, respiratory disease and premature babies.

— Comments in this article are based on information provided by the American Academy of Periodontology.

Personal safety

Accidents reduce 'combat' capability

I am deeply concerned about the way we are transitioning from combat in Iraq to our mission at home station.

III Corps has experienced 19 accidents resulting in 28 fatalities in fiscal year 2005 (12 auto; three motorcycle; two personal injury; two M113 rollovers. Two all-terrain vehicle; seven aviation) – 10 of those in the past two months.

Eighteen of these Soldiers served during Operation Iraqi Freedom. We cannot continue this catastrophic loss of combat power. Leaders must continually talk to Soldiers about transitioning from the high-risk atmosphere of a combat zone to our home station environment.

Privately owned vehicles continue to be our No. 1 challenge. Typically, one or more of the four common factors: fatigue, speed, alcohol, and not wearing seat belts, is present in POV fatalities.

During our training events, we must ensure standards exist, are well known, and each Soldier adheres to those standards. Commanders and first-line leaders must stay out front to make this program effective.

I cannot overstate the importance of leaders staying in touch with their Soldiers' activities and plans. Leaders must ensure Soldiers are well prepared for the challenges of weekends, training holidays and personal leaves. Staying in touch enables leaders to identify Soldiers who are potentially at risk and then take appropriate actions to modify risky behavior.

Lt. Gen. Thomas F. Metz
Commanding General
III Corps

Lt. Gen. Thomas Metz

Child's perspective

Frequent moves affect children, too

By Terrence L. Hayes
Army News Service

"Dad, why do we move so much," my 6-year-old son asked me before arriving at Fort Gordon, Ga. "Why do I always have to leave my friends all the time?"

How do you respond to a question like that without choking up a little? At that very moment, I realized my children share the same pain I endure every time I PCS from one location to another.

In the military, we develop friendships, relationships and partnerships, only to see them fade away after a couple years or so. The same applies to our kids. Over the course of my eight years of service and four years of marriage, my children have attended three different schools, lived in four different neighborhoods and probably had more than 50 or so friends they've had to say goodbye to. And we thought we had it tough as kids.

On the flipside, many times we want to PCS and get away from our current work situation. However, sometimes we fail to consider how that will affect those closest to us. We've all wanted to move to another installation or into a new position just for change, but do our kids want to?

Back to my son's question. I answered him by telling him that he's in the Army as much as I am. I broke it down further telling him that it would only get tougher as he grew older and as my career progressed.

Eventually, after a long talk, he smiled and said, "I'll make new friends."

I guess kids can teach you a lot about life. I learned that I'm not the only one feeling the pain of moving. I also learned that, if you listen to your children, they can put things in a better perspective than many adults.

The next time your child asks you why you have to move again, tell them they're as much a part of the military as you are. It will make them feel better and feel like they're part of the team.

Grunt *By Wayne Uhden*

FORT RILEY POST

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Panelists talk about easing combat stress

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

World War II and Korean War veterans prepared him for what he would experience in battle, said retired Col. Bill Speer, a Vietnam veteran who suffered amputation of his right arm yet remained on active duty as a medical services officer to complete his Army career.

Speer attended a military high school and college before receiving a commission and beginning active duty service. In those schools, Speer said he became closely associated with the combat veterans who were his primary instructors.

Sitting with them, hearing them talk about what they had experienced and learning second-hand the lessons they learned first-hand, helped prepare him for the worst that war could offer, Speer said.

"They told me what they had done and warned me not to make the same mistakes," he said.

That could be one reason he didn't suffer any serious combat stress while recuperating from wounds sustained in Vietnam and why he couldn't empathize with other officers and Soldiers who complained about their emotional state after being in battle, Speer said.

Now, however, Speer acknowledges the debilitation that combat stress can cause today's Soldiers and would like to see Soldiers better prepared for what they will see and experience in combat.

He wants to see more effort made to prevent combat stress by having young Soldiers prepared for combat.

One way to start doing that is for veterans who have been to Iraq to be honest and open with young Soldiers, sharing their experiences, how they felt and how they are coping with the after-effects, Speer suggested.

Roland Fletcher, a Vietnam veteran living in Salinas, Calif., expressed doubt about how effective preparation for combat stress can be.

Fletcher said he personally believes that the degree of combat stress a person suffers relates to the amount of guilt they feel for what they have seen or experienced in combat.

"When I grew up, the sixth commandment was the top, but now you're told by your government it's all right (to kill). It's a hell of a leap ... to leap into that and then leap out and say to yourself you're a good person and you don't have any problems," he said.

Psychiatric counselors don't deal with the moral and ethical questions Soldiers have when they return from war, Fletcher said, saying that is one reason it is important to coax troubled veterans back to the church, back to their faith.

About the series

This is the third and final article in a series concerning the identification, causes and treatment of combat stress. The first article appeared in the May 20 Post and dealt with perceptions of three panel members about what combat stress is.

The second article appeared in the May 26 Post and presented the panel members' ideas about how combat stress can affect a person's life and factors that should be considered when dealing with someone suffering with combat stress.

The panel convened at Fort Riley April 28 and included a Vietnam veteran now working to bring Vietnam vets back to the church, a Vietnam veteran and amputee who remained on active duty and retired as a colonel and a former Red Cross military hospital director and employee at Fort Riley's Soldier and Family Support Center.

This article presents the panelists' ideas about preparing Soldiers to deal with combat stress and some conditions which help them overcome it.

Speer: Faith may play early coping role

Speer questioned the idea that previously faithful Soldiers had left their faith because of combat. In his experience, Speer said those Soldiers he'd known who were well grounded in their faith had much less trouble dealing with their combat experiences.

"People who have this devout religious background, even if not outwardly practicing it, have formed a moral compass. They know what's right. They know what's not. When those persons go to combat, they avoid those violations of ... the Geneva Convention of the soul," he said.

On the other hand, some who went to war without such morale compasses came back and began to form those morale compasses 10 to 12 years later, developed a sense of guilt and began to believe they were a bad person, a sinner," Speer went on. "What didn't bother them at age 19 now bothers them at age 35."

The bottom line, in Speer's opinion, is that a strong personal faith helps Soldiers get through the emotional trauma war causes.

That also applies for families left at home, he said. "Combat stress can occur in the family ... 6,000 miles away from ... the battle. The warrior can return and find he's got a family suffering from combat stress, and they're worse off" because the Soldier is dealing with it and his family isn't, Speer said.

His wife, Pearl Speer, who has spent the past 16 years in Junction City working with the American Red Cross, Army Community Service and the Fort Riley Soldier and Family Support Center, agrees.

One way she sees families successfully coping with having a loved one deployed to a combat area is through the faith and social interaction that continues with the family's military and church communities.

"I have seen families that were very strong, close families that were tied to the military as a way of life. The families I worry the most about are the families who don't seem to have coping skills, and they're not connected. They're not networked in the community; they aren't in a church; they don't participate with their FRG (Family Readiness Group)," she explained.

One goal of the Soldiers and Family Support Center staff is to prepare family members for Soldier deployments to combat. Spouses are told about resources they can use to help them get through the day-to-day problems that arise in family life and are encouraged to become involved with community activities, Pearl Speer said.

"The best way to feel good about yourself is to become busy. If you're busy helping someone else, people around you, that seems to come back to help you," she said.

At least one study has shown that no personal characteristics, including devout faith, will indicate whether a Soldier will suffer stress related to combat service, Bill Speer said; so, some will suffer and some will need help when they return from war.

Unit cohesiveness adds release valve

All three panel members seemed in agreement that Soldiers talking about their experiences was a good way to start their recovery.

"Units that served in the second world war came home on a ship together. They had all that time to decompress. They had all their buddies to talk to about it — their friends, their buddies, (people) who understood," Fletcher said.

In Vietnam, after the first units went, it was a war of individual replacements, Pearl Speer pointed out. "I'm a big fan of keeping that unit together, even for the short plane ride back and 10 days of immediate processing when they get back."

That lesson from past combat seems to endorse today's strategy of sending people to Iraq in unit forces, Bill Speer said in regard to preparation for combat and for dealing with the stress upon their return.

The preparation sends people to Iraq after they are thoroughly trained together, he said, and are serving in hazardous conditions with Soldiers they know and trust.

Chaplains need to take a more active role in post-combat "bull sessions," the Speers agreed.

"As a chaplain, it may be a challenge to get them to talk to you or get them to talk to somebody," Pearl Speer admitted, but leveled the challenge to Fort Riley chaplains to do just that.

Chaplains need to concentrate of encouraging talk within small groups of people, she suggested. "Chaplains need to be seen in the unit areas more often, "just leaning against a post and getting (Soldiers) to talk," she said.

"If you can get them accustomed to talking to you, the process of the chaplain showing up to talk in a bull session isn't viewed as suspicious action," Bill Speer added.

Chaplains need to be out shepherding their flock instead of in the office tied to administrative work, he said, adding that "bull sessions should start and end with a little prayer to get them back to their faith."

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K-9 duo captures command honors at competition

By Jay Baker
Public affairs intern

When drug users or traffickers hide their pills, powder and marijuana, Fort Riley police can call on the Army's top "special investigator" to sniff out the illegal substances - the top K-9 team in Forces Command.

Sgt. Jason Smith, a military policeman with the 523rd Military Police Detachment, and his military working dog, Orson, won first place in FORSCOM canine competition at Fort Bragg, N.C., April 18-22.

Several military working dogs and handlers serve at Fort Riley, but how Smith became Orson's handler is an unusual story.

"Orson is a special dog to me. Before I joined the Army, I went to the recruiting station. I met a dog handler there and talked with him. I thought that was the coolest job in the Army, being an MP and a dog handler. Turns out the dog I met then was Orson," Smith said.

Smith has worked as a dog handler for a year and a half and has handled Orson for eight months. Smith said he prepared for the FROSCOM competition with the advanced training he does with Orson every day.

At the competition, Smith and Orson searched luggage, vehicles and a large warehouse for narcotics. Normally Orson responds on narcotics with a passive response, and Smith rewards him with a treat or a game. However, the team had to wait until after the competition for their reward because they were not allowed to know if they found the narcotics or not.

"That was difficult for me. I know Orson was expecting something after he did his job. That tells him he did something good, and it makes it a game for him. If the dog doesn't get the reward, it's frustrating to him," Smith said.

The competition is a test of how the handler and dog team work, Smith said.

"I went down there with the goal of doing well, but I'm glad we won first place. Orson is a great dog. He's been a narcotics dog for nine years, his whole life, and he's the best."

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Employees of Eagle Med based in Wichita, Kan., check the condition of a mock accident victim during a mass casualty exercise at Fort Riley May 24. The post was testing its ability to call in civilian air evacuation services if they were needed in a real emergency. *Post/Blackmon*

A medevac air crew with Life Star in Junction City, Kan., load a Soldier with mock injuries into their helicopter with the aid of Soldier medics with Co. C, 101st FSB. They all were taking part in a mass casualty exercise May 24 to test coordination and communication between fort organizations and the civilian air evacuation service. *19th PAD/Tamez*

Medevac

continued from page 1

run over by a vehicle and suffered broken legs.

The third Soldier suffered neck and spinal injuries when his vehicle rolled over.

In the field, members of Company C, 101st Forward Support Battalion, tested their medical skills by being the first at each of the sites. They responded to tasks that called for them to provide immediate first aid to each of the injured Soldiers.

Once they stabilized the injured Soldiers, the medics called for air evacuation and assisted the civilian aircrews in loading the patients for transport to Irwin Army Community Hospital at Fort Riley.

"Normally we would have the standard UH60 helicopter come in configured to carry patients," said Capt. Cory Plowden, Co. C commander. "During this portion of our field training, we're using civilian aircraft for the first time to evacuate causalities."

Plowden said his medic Soldiers were experienced in evacuating patients on Army Black Hawks and Marine CH47 helicopters. Their transition to the civilian aircraft was seamless from one level of care to the next, he said.

"We conducted this exercise to make sure we could talk to the aircraft coming in," Moore said.

The exercise was designed so post officials could "make sure our procedures and systems worked and to ensure that the first time we were testing the system wasn't when we had (real) injured Soldiers laying in the field and trying to coordinate with the aircraft for the first time.

"The bottom line is the system works and we're comfortable with it," he said.

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Fort Riley
Sports & Recreation

Friday, June 3, 2005 | America's Warfighting Center | Page 9

Sports news in brief

Athletes offered weight training

Fort Riley Middle School is sponsoring weight conditioning for incoming sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders.

Workouts are scheduled from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays June 6 to July 20 at the school.

For more information, call 784-4475.

Run winners qualify for team

The Fort Riley Prairie Run consists of three different races, a 10-mile, five-mile and two-mile race. Each race is open to the Fort Riley military community and the general public.

The race is scheduled for July 23. It will start and finish at King Field House.

The five- and 10-mile races will begin at 7 a.m. and the two-mile race will begin at 7:10 a.m.

Any runner who enters before July 13 pays a registration fee of $10 and gets a T-shirt. After July 13, the registration fee is $12 and there is no guarantee late entrants will receive a T-shirt.

The 10-mile race will be used to determine the members of an active duty team to represent Fort Riley at the Army 10-Miler in Washington, D.C.

For rules and qualification information, contact the Fort Riley Sports Office at (785) 239-2172.

Advice offered prairie runners

Experienced runner Janine Taylor cautions that late spring and summer running can be very difficult because temperatures are climbing. When exercising outside, runners should be protecting themselves inside and out, she said.

First, increase the amount of water drunk in relation to the physical activity. During intense activity, a person can sweat away several pounds of fluid. That fluid must be replaced to avoid dehydration.

Second, watch sodium intake. Everyone needs sodium, but just like water, too little or too much sodium can be bad. Those who exert a lot of physical activity need more sodium to help them retain fluids. They also need electrolytes. Most sports drinks can replace sodium and electrolytes lost through sweat.

A general rule of thumb is to drink water or sports drink every 20 minutes when exercising for longer than 60 minutes. Listen to the body. Drink before getting thirsty and keep liquids on hand during training.

Third, running, walking, boating and many other activities are typically done in the sun. Be sure to cover all exposed areas with sunscreen, wear sunglasses and consider wearing a cap.

The cap can help in many ways. The band can soak up sweat (keeping it from running in the eyes), prevent the scalp from being burned and provide shade for the eyes. If it starts to rain, the cap becomes a small buffer zone protecting the face.

Coming up June 11:

- 5-mile Fitness Five Run, Salina, Kan.
- 8K Lions Club Journey, Topeka, Kan., For more information, call (785) 234-9476
- Run Row Rock & Roll, Fairberry, Kan. For more information, call (402) 729-6139.

Blown tire bursts celebration

By William Thurmond
Army News Service

LOWE'S MOTOR SPEEDWAY, N.C. – With just nine laps to go in the second-longest Coca-Cola 600 in history, Joe Nemechek seemed poised to drive the Army 01 Chevrolet into Victory Lane May 29.

He was pulling away, gaining almost half a car length over his closest competition each lap. In the team's pit box, anticipation was building as network TV crews gathered to capture images of celebration.

Suddenly, it was all over. Nemechek's right rear tire blew, sending him tail-first into the turn three safety barrier with less than 15 miles to the finish.

Nemechek's spin almost took out the eventual race winner Jimmie Johnson, as Johnson ignored his spotter's advice and drove high to avoid the Army Chevrolet.

When the chaos was over, Nemechek was on pit road with his crew, hammering on a badly damaged racecar while the rest of the field was parked on the backstretch. The incident had brought a race-stopping red flag and the race's 22nd caution period, a new NASCAR record.

When the race resumed, Johnson went on to pass new leader Bobby Labonte at the finish line and win his third-straight Coca-Cola 600 in dramatic fashion.

Also finishing in the top ten was the National Guard Ford, driven to a sixth-place finish by Greg Biffle.

Nemechek, nursing his sick Chevy in the closing laps, continued to pass cars and improve his position, eventually finishing 18th.

"I think I ran over some debris from when Mark Martin got into the wall on the backstretch," said Nemechek after the race.

"All of a sudden the car started vibrating going into turn three. The tire was flat going into the

See NASCAR, Page 10

'Trouble' play

Post/Heronemus

Military police player John Phender slides into second base as MEDDAC's shortstop Joshua McCarty takes the toss from second baseman Tammy Baldwin for the force out and begins his turn toward first base in an attempted double play that didn't materialize May 24 in the first softball game for MEDDAC and the 977th MP Co.

MEDDAC arrests MPs in season opener

Post/Heronemus

MEDDAC's second baseman Tammy Baldwin hits solidly to continue her team's two-out rally than earned 10 runs against the 977th MPs in the fourth inning. Catching is Adam (Toast) Drybread.

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

Company-level softball took a beginning strike on the opening day of season play May 24.

Training and operational commitments that have plagued the post's unit sports programs for the past couple of years continued to thwart planned play.

Of seven games scheduled, four sat in the "dugouts" because teams didn't show up.

The 1st Maintenance Company, 15th Finance and 82nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance) won games by forfeit. The 523rd Military Police Company forfeited the first game and Detachment D of the 15th Personnel Services Battalion forfeited the other two.

No winner was recorded for the game scheduled between Company A, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, and Company B, 101st Forward Support Battalion.

MEDDAC wins handily

In the first game to take any field at the sports complex on opening day, Medical Department Activity blasted a 10-run fourth inning to retire the 977th Military Police Company 20-4 on a 10-run rule.

See Softball, Page 11

Woman Soldier claims medals

Reservist top shooter in World Cup

Army News Service

FORT BENNING, Ga. – An Army Reserve Soldier and a former U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit shooter walked away with the only two U.S. medals this year at the International Shooting Sport Federation World Cup USA ending May 15.

Staff Sgt. Elizabeth "Libby" Callahan, 53, of Upper Marlboro, Md., earned a bronze medal May 13 in the Women's 10-Meter Air Pistol competition.

Eric Uptagrafft, 39, of Longmont, Colo., a former USAMU Soldier and current Navy Reserve lieutenant, earned a silver medal in the Men's 50-Meter Free Rifle Prone competition May 11.

It came down to a half-point difference between the gold and silver in the Men's 50-Meter Free Rifle Prone match.

"Libby" Callahan

Uptagrafft and France's Valerian Sauveplane equaled the current world record with their qualifying perfect scores of 600, but Sauveplane was able to squeak by with the gold for France with a 103.3 in the final. Uptagrafft hit a 102.8 in the final to mark the first U.S. medal won at this World Cup. The shooters tied the world record also held by USAMU's Sgt. 1st Class Thomas A. Tamas, a native of Columbus, Ga.

"I am a little disappointed I didn't win," said Uptagrafft, who was a 1996 Olympian in this event. "It was the first time I remember ever seeing two 600s shot in a match, but I knew I would have to stick a good final to win. I definitely had my work cut

See Shooters, Page 11

Chess team set for inter-service board battles

By Tim Hipps
Army News Service

FORT MYER, Va. – Six Soldiers earned spots on the All-Army chess team during the 2005 All-Army Chess Championships May 14-19 at the Fort Myer, Va., Community Club.

Sgt. Rudy Tia Jr. of Fort Hood, Texas, led the way by winning an unprecedented sixth All-Army crown. He defeated Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey McAleer in their final match to secure the title with 9.5 points.

McAleer, an eight-time member of the All-Army Chess Team who is stationed at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, finished runner-up to Tia for the second time in three years with eight points.

Staff Sgt. Willard Sponaugle of Fort Detrick, Md., who lost matches to Tia, McAleer and defending champion Spc. Mustapha Kahlouch, finished third with eight points.

Maj. Michael Cerezo of Camp Parks, Calif., who handed Tia his only loss of the tournament, was fourth with seven points.

Kahlouch, of Fort Stewart, Ga., was fifth with 6.5 points after battling to five draws, including one against Tia.

Sgt. Neil Naputo of Camp Eagle, Korea, finished sixth with 6.5 points, securing the final spot on the All-Army team.

Sgt. Kevin McElvany of Fort Polk, La.; Staff Sgt. David Hendershot of Rosemount Training Center, Minn.; Capt. James Kraus of Fort Bragg, N.C.; Staff Sgt. Vidal Carvejal of Fort Drum, N.Y.; and Sgt. Henry Mervin of Fort Stewart rounded out the All-Army field.

The All-Army team is scheduled to compete against Air Force, Marine Corps and Navy teams in the 2005 U.S. Inter-Service Chess Championships June 5-11 at Fort Myer. The top six finishers in that seven-round Swiss-style tournament will represent the U.S. military in the 16th NATO Chess Championships in Kolobrzeg, Poland, Aug. 21-27.

Related story:

Fort Hood Soldier reclaims crown as Army's top chess player. See story on Page 11.

NASCAR

continued from page 9

corner and the back end was bouncing. I didn't have a prayer. I saved it once, but then the tire must have gone all the way flat and the car turned around and slid backwards into the fence. There was nothing I could do but hang on."

"Nine laps to go in the race - incredible, just incredible."

Despite his obvious disappointment, Nemechek took time to thank the Soldiers his team represented.

"I definitely had a good car. I want to thank the U.S. Army for giving us the chance to represent them. We came really close to bring home a victory for them on Memorial Day weekend."

The Army Chevrolet started the race in 38th position, well back in the 43-car field.

During the weekend's practice sessions, the team had worked relentlessly to improve the car's handling.

Previous night's race helped fine-tune car

Nemechek, who also raced in the May 28 Busch night event, used that 300 miles of experience to give the crew the information they needed to fine-tune the Army car for the main event the following day.

Apparently, it did the trick.

Despite a less-than spectacular first half that saw Nemechek struggling to hold the car in the speedway's turns, his repeated trips to pit road to make incremental adjustments slowly began to pay dividends for the Army team.

"My crew kept working on the car and kept adjusting on it all night," Nemechek said. "Some things we did I liked, some I didn't. But there at the end when we got good track position and clean air on the car's nose, man that car was checked out. There wasn't no one gonna' touch us. That thing took off."

Spins, crashes littered track with debris

Nemechek noted that the evening's 16 spins and crashes produced a great deal of debris that gradually accumulated on the newly ground track surface.

"Two cautions earlier there was stuff all over the track. I could hear it coming off my tires when we were running caution laps," Nemechek said. "I was just praying that I wouldn't get a flat tire."

Nemechek's prayers went unanswered.

Echoing the Army's Warrior Ethos of "I will never quit," Nemechek talked about his team's persistence during the five-hour race.

"We were a lap down. We could have given up early. But we don't do that. We keep on fighting. You can't ever give up. You gotta' keep digging and digging. As long as you keep digging hard enough, it's gonna' come to you."

A seasoned veteran, Nemechek took his disappointment in stride and offered an optimistic prediction for the future.

"We were so close to tasting victory right there. But you never know until it's over. Everything that happens to us, we learn from it," Nemechek said. "But this team's gonna' keep looking forward towards our objective. We'll win some races before this year's over."

This weekend will find the Army Chevrolet on Dover Delaware's "Monster Mile" for the MBNA 400.

"I'm really looking forward to ... Dover," Nemechek said. "It's been a pretty good track for me; well, good and bad. Either we run well, or I crash hard. It's one or the other, but normally we run well."

ANS/Thurmond

The Army pit crew rushes to get their car back on the track at the Coca-Cola 600 May 29. Driver Joe Nemechek led the race and was pulling away from the rest of the field when he blew a tire and couldn't finish the race.

DAILY UNION
6 x 14"
Black Only
POST SERVICE DIRECTORY

Shooters continued from page 9

out for me. My position felt good, just not perfect."

Israel's Guy Starik clinched the bronze in the prone event. Starik hit a 104.9 in the final to move up from a four-way tie for fourth to third. Tamas, who will be 40 next month, finished in 32nd place with a score of 592.

Callahan, a retired Washington, D.C. police officer, was looking at eighth place going into the finals and within 10 shots she had worked her way up to third. Callahan hit a 100.2 in the finals for a total score of 481.2.

"It is great to finally have everything come together, especially in a final," Callahan said. "I have been struggling in air for a while, so this feels really good. I honestly didn't expect to move up like I did. I was just concentrating on hitting good scores and it ended up working out really well."

Viktoria Chaika of Belarus took the gold medal. Chaika led going into the final with a 390 and finished with a 491.2 total score. Jasna Sekaric of Serbia and Montenegro clinched the silver medal with a score of 484.4.

Rebecca Snyder, 28, of Colorado Springs came in 25th with a qualifying score of 375 and 14-year-old Heather Deppe of San Antonio, Texas, finished 40th with a 357.

Emil Milev of Bulgaria set a new final world record and won the gold medal in the Men's 25-Meter Rapid Fire Pistol event on the last day of the World Cup May 14.

Milev hit a 583 in the qualifying rounds and a 200.2 in the finals for a 783.2 total score and the win. Alexei Klimov of Russia finished with a 779.8 total score for the silver Medal and Penghui Zhang of China took the bronze with 778.1.

Reigning champ ties for ninth

The top finisher for the United States was Sgt. Keith A. Sanderson of the Army Marksmanship Unit. He finished in a tie for ninth with a 571. Sanderson, 30, is the reigning U.S. National Champion in this event.

In the final event of the World Cup competition, Men's 50-Meter Three-Position Free Rifle, Juha Hirvi of Finland and Mario Knoegler of Austria ended in a tie. Hirvi finished the qualifying rounds in a first place, shooting a 1,174, but almost gave it away in the end, shooting a 94.5 in the finals for a 1,268.5.

Knoegler went into the finals in third and hit a 96.5 to move up and give Hirvi a run for his money. In the end, however, Hirvi hit a 9.0 in the shoot-off for the gold, whereas Knoegler got the silver with a 7.3; Artem Khadjibekov of Russia grabbed the Bronze with a 1,267.7. Uptagrafft was the top finisher for the United States in this event; he tied for 12th place with a 1,164 total score.

China won its fourth gold medal May 12 in Men's 10-Meter Air Rifle. The 2004 Olympic Gold Medalist in this event, Qinan Zhu, worked his way up from eighth in the finals to first with a 104.6 final score. Zhu won with a 699.6 total score, Peter Sidi of Hungary finished in second with a score of 699.5 and Thomas Farnick of Austria clinched third with a 699.1.

The top finishers for the United States were Sgt. 1st Class Jason A. Parker, 30, of the Army Marksmanship Unit. Parker and Matthew Rawlings, 20, of Wharton, Texas, both hit a 591 and tied for 23rd place. Hawaiian Ryan Tanoue, 22, finished 33rd with a 589.

China grabs medals in sport pistol

In the Women's 25-Meter Sport Pistol May 11, China grabbed two more medals. Ying Chen won the gold with a final world record of 204.4 and a total score of 791.4 and her teammate Fengji got the bronze with a 789.1. Maria Grozdeva of Bulgaria squeezed in with a 790.3 for the Silver.

Callahan finished in 18th place with a score of 576 out of 600 and Snyder was 23rd with a 574. Navy Reserve Petty Officer 2nd Class Sandra Uptagrafft, 34, wife of the Prone Rifle silver medalist, was 31st with a 566.

Russia took two medals in Men's Air Pistol competition May 11. Vladimir Gontcharov won the gold with a 687.0 total score and Mikhail Nestruev grabbed a silver with a 685.2. Franck Dumoulin of France beat Francesco Bruno of Italy with a 684.3 in the shoot-off for the bronze medal.

The top U.S. finisher was Sgt. 1st Class Daryl Szarenski, 37, of the USAMU in 11th place with 580 out of 600. USAMU's Staff Sgt. John C. Ennis, 28, finished 27th with a 575 and Brian Beaman, 21, was 50th with a 563.

More than 400 world-class shooters from 51 countries competed in the ISSF World Cup USA May 6-15 at Fort Benning, Ga. The U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit hosted the World Cup and the competition was conducted by USA Shooting, the U.S. Olympic governing body for the Olympic shooting sports and the ISSF.

Every year, qualified shooters of each of the Olympic shooting disciplines participate in four World Cups. Shooters can win medals and set world records at the World Cups, and they can win quota slots for their countries to compete in the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China.

The final medal count was China, nine; Russia, six; Austria, Bulgaria, France and the United States, two each; and Belarus, Czech Republic, Finland, Hungary, Israel, Kazakhstan and Serbia and Montenegro, one each.

Opponents: He's chess king

Sergeant wears crown as Army's top game strategist

By Tim Hipps
Army News Service

FORT MYER, Va. – Sgt. Rudy Tia Jr. is the U.S. Army's undisputed king of chess. Tia won an unprecedented sixth crown in the 45th All-Army Chess Championships May 14-19 at the Fort Myer Community Center.

No other Soldier has won more than four titles in the tournament, which has been contested annually since 1960. Sgt. Michael Fletcher owned the All-Army crown from 1979 through 1982.

Tia, of Fort Hood, Texas, won the tourney in 1997 and captured four in a row from 2000 through 2003. He missed the 2004 tournament while deployed for 11 months in Iraq.

Tia needed only a draw in his final match of this tournament against 1993 All-Army champion Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey McAleer to secure the title.

Tia prevailed with a victory and won the round-robin tournament with 9.5 points. McAleer, an eight-time member of the All-Army Chess Team, finished runner-up to Tia for the second time in three years. He scored eight points in the tourney.

"He's like a notch above the rest of us," said McAleer, who is stationed at Camp Humphreys, South Korea. "He's more consistent. We know where he is and we know what he's coming with. We just can't stop him."

Tia says chess is a great stress-buster.

"Especially when you work so hard in a combat zone, when it's time to relax, I just play chess," he said. "It's fun to try to still make it to first place because somebody is chasing me."

While in Iraq, Tia said he found time to play chess almost every day.

"I didn't really improve, but we played enough to not forget about the game," said Tia, 41, a native of Manila, Philippines, who returned this year determined to regain his crown.

Tia emphasized the importance physical training plays in the mentally draining game of chess.

"When you are healthy, you can have long periods of intense concentration," he said. "So I think PT helps a lot."

"Tia is an excellent chess player and quite a competitor," said Ron Braud, tournament director of the past 20 All-Army Chess Championships. "He's very good at getting himself out of positions that should be lost."

ANSi/Hipps

Sgt. Rudy Tia Jr. of Fort Hood, Texas, concentrates on winning an unprecedented sixth All-Army Chess Championship May 18 at the Fort Myer, Va., Community Center. He is scheduled to lead six Soldiers into the 2005 U.S. Inter-Service Chess Championships June 5-11 at Fort Myer.

Softball continued from page 9

The MPs batted first but MEDDAC pitcher Gary Ream and a strong defense kept any of the green-suited team to go farther than first base.

Ream's homerun his first time at the plate in the bottom of the first inning scored a run ahead of him and boosted MEDDAC's score to three.

The Medics scored again before the MPs could shut down their bats and ending the first quarter 4-0 in favor of the Medics.

The MPs' hitting improved in the second quarter but couldn't advance runners even though MEDDAC failed in two double-play attempts.

The MPs returned to defense with nothing showing on their side of the scoreboard.

The MPs avoided an early 10-run rule death by scoring four points in the top of the third inning.

The Medics responded with 10 more runs of their own in the bottom of the inning and fielded a strong defense in the top of the fifth to end the game shy of its normal seven innings.

The only other games played May 24 ended with the 1st Maint. Co. defeating the 977th MPs 15-7 and the 523rd MPs defeating 15th Finance 18-9.

Scheduled play improved May 25 with only one team forfeiting – Det. D, 15th PSB to 977th MPs.

MEDDAC continued to dominate its opponents, handing 1st Maint. Co. an 18-6 defeat in a 6 p.m. game and the 523rd MPs a 17-0 shellacking in a 7 p.m. game on the same field.

The 523rd MPs rallied for the second game they played, defeating 82nd Med. Co. 20-7.

The 82nd Med. Co. also lost 27-10 to 15th Finance in the second game they played that evening.

The 977th MPs won their first schedule game of the night, 9-5 against 15th Finance.

Large catfish lurk in post's waters

By Gibran Suleiman
Wildlife biologist

On the Wildside: News About Nature

Of all the fish that can be caught on Fort Riley, one is sure to give anglers a fishing story to remember.

Gibran Suleiman

The flathead catfish is the largest fish that can be found on Fort Riley and may weigh up to 60 pounds or more in the Kansas River.

The scientific name of the flathead is Pylodictus olivaris, which translates to "olive colored mud fish." Some colloquial names for the flathead are yellow cat, shovelhead cat, mud cat and flatbelly.

Kansas is known for producing big flatheads, including one that earned Ken Paulie a world record.

In 1998, Paulie got the surprise of his life when he yanked a 123-pound flathead from Elk City Reservoir while fishing with a crappie jig tipped with a minnow.

Although it is unlikely any of the flatheads on Fort Riley would break Paulie's record anytime soon, the fort and surrounding area does offer some quality flathead fishing.

The Kansas River offers the greatest promise of hooking into one of the fish world's behemoths on Fort Riley. They can be found throughout the river, but logjams in the deeper holes will hold the most fish.

Flatheads do most of their feeding at night, with adult fish primarily being piscivorous, or fish eating. Some of the preferred baits used by flathead fisherman are goldfish, sunfish, bullheads and large minnows.

Many of the river fishermen in Kansas catch flatheads on either trot lines or set lines.

Trot lines and set lines can only be used legally in the Kansas, Republican and Smoky Hill Rivers and in Wildcat Creek on Fort Riley.

While this method is one of the more effective ways of filling a freezer with fish, it takes away some of the thrill of fighting a large fish with a rod and reel.

Flatheads in Wildcat Creek rarely exceed 25 pounds. Moon Lake is the only known impoundment on Fort Riley known to have flatheads living in it.

A sampling by the post's Conservation Division last year turned up three flatheads. The largest eighed about 40 pounds.

Moon Lake supports a small number of flatheads due to its population of shad. Other spots for flathead fishing include the River Pond and the Rocky Ford area below Tuttle Creek dam.

CITY OF MANHATTAN
2 x 3"
Black Only
2x3 city of man arts and park

HAMILTON ENTERPRISE
2 x 3"
Black Only
2x3 Coronado Mini Storage

HOMESTEAD HOMES OF AMERICA, IN
2 x 3.5"
Black Only
2x3.5 Homestead Homes

KANSAS PRESS
2 x 4"
Black Only
SmokyHill/5-31, 6-1 & 6-3

KANSAS PRESS
2 x 4"
Black Only
2x4 Courtyard

ANOTHER GO ROUND
2 x 4"
Black Only
2X4 Another Go Round 6/3 ml

Community news briefly

Boosters plan athletic support

The newly established Junction City High School Athletic Booster Club had its first general meeting May 18 at the Mary E. Devin Center.

The booster club is a collaborative effort of parents, coaches and administrators who work together in providing overall support, increased team spirit and Blue Jay Pride to all of the high school's athletic programs and athletes.

The next general meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. June 7 at the Devin Center. Parents and the general public are invited to attend.

Summer camp set for youth

The Exceptional Family Member Program Summer Camp will be July 6 at Rock Springs 4-H Center, 5405 W. Kansas Highway 157, south of Junction City. The all-day camp will begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at 4:30 p.m. Children must be 6 years and older and enrolled in the EFMP. Parents must provide transportation.

Scheduled events will include canoeing, swimming, horseback riding and archery. While walking to each event, campers will enjoy the beautiful Flint Hills scenery and have lots of fun.

For more information or to sign up, call the EFMP office at 239-9435.

Library program planned for kids

The Fort Riley Post Library's Youth Summer Reading Program will offer six weeks of fun reading activities. Children from 2 years old through eighth grade can sign up at the library to participate through June 4.

Sign-up is from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. June 3 and 4. Parents should accompany their children to sign up for the program.

Young readers will receive prizes and certificates as they meet reading goals while enjoying their favorite books. Readers who complete the program can compete for prizes and come to an awards party at the end of the program.

Children from 2 years old to second grade are invited to a storytime, snack and a take-home craft at 1:30 p.m. every Saturday. Attending a storytime counts towards meeting goals for the younger "readers."

The 1:30 p.m. story June 4 will be "The Library Dragon," by Carmen Beedy. The kids at Sunrise Elementary School are in for a surprise when Miss Lotta Scales, the new librarian, turns into Miss Lottie the storyteller.

Children from third grade through eighth grade are invited to a "brown bag story" at noon on Saturdays. Listeners at the "brown bag" noon storytime should bring a sack lunch to eat during the story.

The "brown bag" storytime will feature "Surviving the Applewhites" by Stephanie S. Tolan. Listeners should bring their lunch to eat during the story. Drinks will be provided.

For more information, call Victoria Martin at 239-5305.

Teen Center activities slated

June 3 – Midnight softball and BBQ

June 4 – Worlds of Fun trip

June 10 – Movies in Manhattan

June 11 – Canoe Trip

June 11 – Midnight basketball

For more information, call the Teen Center at 239-9222.

BOSS members set activities

June 9 – 3:30 p.m., meeting at Youth Services

June 16-19 – Universal Studios trip. The $250 trip price includes airfare, three nights in a hotel, airport transfers and transportation and admission to Universal Studios. The trip price is subject to change after May 23.

Youth services activities posted

June 7 – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Manhattan Cico Park trip, kindergarten

June 7 – 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Alma Creamery trip, first and second grades

June 10 – 1 to 4:30 p.m., KSU Farm/Cico Park, third through fifth grades

For more information, call 239-9173.

ASH ENTERPRISES
2 x 2"
Black Only
2X2 ASH ENTERPRISES

KANSAS PRESS
2 x 2"
Black Only
W eapons/5-31, 6-1 & 6-3

CANDLEWOOD HEALTH MART PHARMAC
2 x 2"
Black Only
2X2 Candlewd June TF 3424 ml

MANHATTAN REGIONAL AIRPORT
2 x 2"
Black Only
Man Reg Air-Let Some

MANHATTAN PERIODONTICS
2 x 2"
Black Only
2x2 man period tf 6/5 dj3708

CLARABELS PERFORMING ARTS
3 x 4"
Black Only
3X4 Clarabels 6/3 3757 ml

Room Group
3 x 8"
Black Only

VALASSIS
3 x 12"
Black Only
#577409/Unlimited Smiles

Cyan Magenta Yellow Black

Fort Riley
Community Life

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Community news briefly

Riley's to host country dance

Dancers who prefer their music on the country side will be able to boot scoot their boogie at Riley's Conference Center from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. June 10-11. Admission is $5 per person and only dancers 18 and older will be allowed in.

Light hors d'oeuvres will be served between 10 p.m. and midnight. A cash bar will be available.

For more information, call (785) 784-1000.

Teen summer programs set

The Middle School Teen Center is offering two types of programs this summer for youth completing sixth through eighth grades.

The Before Camp Care is offered from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday. The fee is based on total family income. Youth can be dropped off at School Age Services, Building 6620, after 6 a.m. and will be picked up at 9 a.m. by Teen Center staff.

The Before Camp Care program consists of 11 one-week sessions focusing on sports and fitness, life skills, health, arts and crafts, recreation, 4-H and community projects.

The MST Around the World Camp will run from 1 to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. There is no charge for this camp; however, some activities or trips may require a small fee. This camp consists of 11 one-week sessions focusing on a different country each week.

Initial registration for both camps is done at the Central Registration Office in Building 6620. For more information, call the CER office at (785) 239-4847.

'Bail money' to aid group

Kidnapping Kelly, aka Stacy Vargo, and Stapler Bob, aka Capt. John Hill, go to jail in front of the Main PX between 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. June 4. Each "criminal" will be trying to bribe passers-by for bail money, seeking release from jail after posting the $1,000 bail that will go to the Company B, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, Family Readiness Group.

Both prisoners have smuggled three prizes into their cells and will thank each contributor to their bail fund with a chance at winning one of the three prizes. One grand prize also will be given away.

Super soakers will be on hand for anyone wishing to "torture" the unfortunate inmates.

Vet reps to talk with wounded

The Wounded Soldier's Outreach and Support group will meet at 6 p.m. June 7 at Riley's Conference Center. Free dinner and childcare will be provided for any wounded Soldier and their family members. Veterans Administration representatives will speak to the group about VA benefits.

Congregation hosts seminars

The Morris Hill Gospel Congregation sponsors marriage seminars on the first and third Mondays of each month. For more information, call the chapel at 239-4814.

'Lest we forget'

City, post ceremonies honor dead

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

Weather dampened the observances but not the spirit of Junction City and Fort Riley Memorial Day celebrations May 30.

The threat of rain moved the Geary County Veteran Alliance celebration from Coronado Park to inside the Junction City Municipal Building. The community band entertained for half an hour before the ceremony started, playing several patriotic songs.

The program included Irwin Army Community Hospital's Command Sgt. Maj. Kevin Stuart as the guest speaker.

A light rain fell on the crowd gathered at the Fort Riley cemetery for the post's annual celebration, but no one left the ceremony until it had ended. U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback (R-Kan.) spoke to the crowd about the cost and gift of freedom.

In the wake of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, Congress realized it was imperative to show the nation's citizens and the world that its leaders were still working and still moving forward, Brownback said.

"We gathered on the steps of the Capitol to show the American people we would still meet ... that we were strong as a nation. And then a voice, out of somewhere in that group ... started singing 'God Bless America,'" Brownback recalled.

The Global War on Terrorism has been a costly war in terms of American lives, Brownback said. However, the mother of one Kansas National Guardsman killed in Iraq told Brownback her son had told her "he would rather die for a cause than of one."

Brownback said he spent some time in March 2005 as part of a Congressional delegation visiting Iraq. His flight from Baghdad to Kuwait City one night included five caskets carrying the bodies of American servicemen killed in the

See Ceremonies, Page 14

Post/G. Skidmore

Katlyn Butler, 5, lays a rose at the base of a wreath placed in front of the Kansas Veterans' Memorial by Gov. Kathleen Sebelius May 30. Butler is the niece of Sgt. Jacob Butler, HHC, 1st Bn., 41st Inf., killed in Iraq April 1, 2003.

Veteran Alliance

The Geary County Veteran Alliance is made up of several veterans organizations: American Legion Post 45 and Auxiliary, Buffalo Soldiers Association, Cooties Pup Tent No. 6 MOC and Auxiliary, Disabled American Veterans Pearl Harbor No. 16, Military Order of the Purple Heart Association, Retired Enlisted Association and Auxiliary, Retired Sergeants Major and Chiefs Association and Leroy Talbot Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8773 and Auxiliary.

Governor honors fort's, state's fallen 'heroes'

By Deb Skidmore
Media Relations Officer

Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius recognized servicemembers who died while serving their country at a Memorial Day Ceremony May 30 on the lawn of the state capitol.

The cloudy, cool morning found families of fallen military members united with fellow Kansans paying respect for the servicemembers' sacrifices.

"We are here to remember military members in all wars, especially those fighting the Global War on Terrorism," said George Webb, executive director of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs.

Specifically, the ceremony honored 20 Kansas and 52 Fort Riley servicemembers who were killed during Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

As part of the ceremony, Col. Bart Howard, commander, 1st Brigade, 1st

See State, Page 14

Fort Riley's dead:

Fort Riley Soldiers killed during Operation Iraqi Freedom (52 as of May 24, 2005)

3rd Brigade:

1st Battalion, 41st Infantry

Sgt. Jacob Butler, HHC, April 1, 2003
Spc. Larry Brown, Co. C, April 5, 2003
Sgt. David Heath, Co. B, 16 AUG 04
Capt. Mark Stubenhofer, HHC, Dec. 7, 2004
Cpl. William D. Richardson, Co. A, April 3, 2005

2nd Battalion, 70th Armor

Master Sgt. William Payne, HHC, May 16, 2003
Lt. Jonathan Rozier, Co. B, July 19, 2003
Pvt. Jason Ward, Co. A, Oct. 22, 2003
Spc. Yoe Aneiros, Co. C, Sept. 7, 2004

1st Battalion, 13th Armor

Spc. Simeon Hunte, Co. A, Oct. 1, 2003

70th Engineer Battalion

Pvt. Jonathan Falaniko, Co. A, Oct. 27, 2003
Spc. Matthew A. Koch, Co. C, March 9, 2005
1st Sgt. Timmy J. Millsap, Co. A, April 25, 2005
Pfc. Wyatt D. Eisenhauer, HHC, May 19, 2005
Sgt. Kenneth J. Schall, Co. A, May 22, 2005

4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery

Spc. Irving Medina, Svc. Btry, Oct. 14, 2003
Capt. James Shull, HHB, Nov. 17, 2003
Pvt. Luis Moreno, Btry. A, Jan. 29, 2004
Spc. Colby M. Farnan, Btry. B, Feb. 25, 2005
Spc. Jason L. Moskie, Btry. B, Feb. 25, 2005

USA Garrison

Pfc. David Evans, 977th MP Co., May 25, 2003

1st Brigade:

1st Battalion, 34th Armor

Pfc. Jeremiah Smith, HHC, May 26, 2003
2nd Lt. Todd Bryant, Co. C, Oct. 31, 2003
Spc. Josph Lister, Co. B, Nov. 20, 2003
Sgt. Uday Singh, Co. C, Dec. 1, 2003
Sgt. Jarrod W. Black, Co. B, Dec. 12, 2003
2nd Lt. Jeffery C. Graham, Co. C, Feb. 19, 2004
Spc. Roger G. Ling, Co. C, Feb. 19, 2004
2nd Lt. Brian D. Smith, Co. A, July 2, 2004
1st Lt. Neil A. Santoriello, Co. A, Aug. 13, 2004

Troop D, 4th Cavalry

Staff Sgt. Christopher Cutchall, Sept. 29, 2003

1st Battalion, 16th Infantry

Staff Sgt. Mark Vasquez, Co. A, Nov. 8, 2003
Sgt. 1st Class Gary Collins, Co. A, Nov. 8, 2003
Sgt. Ryan Young, Co. A, Dec. 2, 2003
Staff Sgt. Joe Larry Dunigan, Co. B, March 11, 2004
Spc. Christopher K. Hill, HHC, March 11, 2004
Sgt. Christopher Ramirez, Co. B, April 14, 2004
Capt. John E. Tipton, HHC, May 2, 2004
Sgt. Daniel M. Shepherd, Co. A, Aug. 15, 2004

1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery

Spc. Thomas Sweet, Svc. Btry, Nov. 27, 2003
Spc. David L. Rice, HHD, April 25, 2005

1st Engineer Battalion

Sgt. Dennis A. Corral, Co. C, Jan. 1, 2004
Capt. Matthew J. August, Co. B, Jan. 27, 2004
Sgt. 1st Class James T. Hoffman, Co. B, Jan. 27, 2004
Sgt. Travis A. Moothart, HHC, Jan. 27, 2004
Staff Sgt. Sean G. Landrus, Co. B, Jan. 29, 2004
1st Lt. Doyle M. Hufstedler, Co. B, March 31, 2004
Spc. Sean R. Mitchell, Co. B, March 31, 2004
Spc. Michael G. Karr Jr., Co. B, March 31, 2004
Pfc. Cleston C. Raney, Co. B, March 31, 2004
Pvt. Brandon L. Davis, Co. B, March 31, 2004

24th Transportation Company

Spc. Jeffrey S. Henthorn, Feb. 8, 2005

Marriage and Military Life

First-marriage children may create some hurdles

Dear Gene-Thomas,

I'm dating a Soldier who was married before and has two kids. My friends are telling me that marrying someone with children from a previous relationship is asking for trouble. I love him, but I don't know if I'm prepared to help raise his children. Any recommendations?

– Monique

Dear Monique,

Your friends are wise in cautioning you about the potential problems involved in marrying someone with children from one or more previous relationships. Nevertheless, there are many cases where this has not proven problematic for some couples.

It is generally more difficult to raise someone else's children than to raise one's own. While it can be difficult in some cases to raise children of a parent who remarried after a spouse's death, it is even more difficult if one's parents are divorced.

A number of factors can make this situation more or less difficult to handle. For example, how does the mother of the children relate to her former husband's new wife? Do the children look upon their father's or mother's new spouse as someone who contributed to their parents' divorce, or are they happy that their mother or father has found a new mate to share life and love?

Do the children sometimes try to play a parent against a stepparent when the stepparent may attempt to exercise a certain degree of discipline?

The younger preadolescent children are when their parent's remarry, the easier it generally is to accept a stepparent into their lives.

Teenage children are often more traumatized than young children by divorce. Hence, partners should be well informed of ways to help a child or children avoid experiencing various problems that can result when their parents divorce.

Unless a couple do not intend to have children or may be too old to have children of their own after one or both of them had children earlier, newborn children can strengthen the love of the natural parents and their presence at times can also help their stepbrother(s) and/or stepsister(s) be less critical of their own mother's or father's new spouse.

Because of the challenges that people can experience in raising a child or children from a previous relationship, it is important to thoroughly discuss this issue with your boyfriend before accepting his proposal.

About the author

Gene-Thomas Gomulka is a retired Navy chaplain and author of "The Survival Guide for Marriage in the Military," available at www.plaintec.net

Have a question? Write Gene-Thomas at letters@plaintec.net

State

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Infantry Division, presented the governor with a flag that was flown in Iraq over Camp Junction City during the 1st Brigade's deployment last year.

Howard told Sebelius that the flag represented more than a cloth. "It is about the memory of our veterans," he said.

Sebelius agreed, telling the crowd that "one single day is not enough to honor our fallen. The freedom we have is from their service."

She added that the flag presented by Howard would be displayed proudly in her office.

"Memorial Day is an event of roll call that never answers," said Jack Fowler. Fowler, chairman of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs, said for more than 200 years servicemembers have died in battles for this nation.

"Young men and women fight and die in wars not of their choosing," Fowler said. "They do their duty. They fight, and some die."

To honor those who died, Sebelius and Brig. Gen. Ed McIlhenny, assistant adjutant general (air), placed a wreath at the base of the Veterans' Memorial. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Lonnie Cox read the 72 names of the servicemembers being honored in the ceremony as family members of the fallen laid a long-stemmed red rose near the wreath.

Sebelius said, "Today we are joined by too many who know the pain of sacrifice. We are united as Kansans and Americans, and our hearts and prayers are with the Soldiers in Iraq."

Howard added that Memorial Day has taken on a different meaning for him and the Soldiers of his brigade who are training for a deployment to Iraq later this year.

"This year it is more personal," he said.

Howard noted that several of the Soldiers wounded or killed are friends or have served with him and his brigade Soldiers.

"Memorial Day always has had an important meaning," he said, "but people need to know it isn't just a holiday."

Post/Heronemus

Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy (left), commanding general, 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) and Fort Riley, and U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback (R-Kan.) set a wreath in front of the monument at the Fort Riley Post Cemetery as part of the Memorial Day ceremony May 30.

Post/Heronemus

Members of the Geary County Veteran Alliance organizations post their organizations' flags as the Junction City Community Band performs patriotic songs for the annual Memorial Day ceremony May 30 at the Municipal Building.

Post/Heronemus

Jeff Lashure of the American Legion post in Junction City, waits for the Memorial Day concert May 30.

Ceremonies

continued from page 13

war on terrorism.

"The light was eerie. It shined on those caskets the entire way. I prayed for them, thinking this is the real cost of war," Brownback said.

During that same trip, however, "we had seen the spread of freedom," the senator said. "And we know through all of it, freedom is winning."

The Memorial Day ceremony was an occasion to thank the families of fallen Soldiers who helped to secure that freedom, Brownback said. "Freedom's price is always very high. It has been throughout our history. But people continue to be willing to pay it."

Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, reminded the crowd that Fort Riley's family has lost more than 50 Soldiers to the Global War on Terrorism. All had answered their nation's call, he said.

Several of those Soldiers' families were attending the observance. Hardy promised those families, "We will never forget."

"These Soldiers and all who have gone before them, ... and those in the future we know will equally pay the price as we continue to advance freedom, have our deepest, our most sincere thanks and God's blessing," Hardy concluded.

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Leisuretime ideas

At the movies:

The Barlow Theater doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost $3.50 for adults and $1.75 for children 11 and under. Children under age 5 are free except during children's matinees or expected sell-outs.

June 3 – Amityville Horror (R)

June 4 – A Lot Like Love (PG-13)

June 5 – Amityville Horror (R)

June 9 – A Lot Like Love (PG-13)

June 10 – The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galazy (PG)

For more information, call 784-2226 or 784-2640.

Washington:

What: Swap Meet and Tractor Show. Antique tractors, antiques, collectibles, car races, toy and buckle show, parade, musical entertainment, historical demonstrations, tractor pull, games, and crafts.

When: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. June 4; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 5

Where: City Park

Phone: (785) 325-2720

Admission: Free

Wichita:

What: Discover Historic Wichita Trolley Tour. Step back in time to the days of Carrie Nation and Wyatt Earp on this narrated trip on a new 19th-century street car replica.

When: 10 a.m. Thursdays and Fridays and 10 a.m. and noon Saturdays through Sept. 5

Where: 335 W. Lewis St., Wichita Boat House

Phone: (316) 337-9088

Admission: Adult $10; Seniors and Children $8; 5 and under free

• • •

What: Mysteries of Egypt. Re-enactors dressed in period costumes. See beautiful Egyptian artifacts.

When: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, through June 30

Where: 835 E. 1st St., Museum of World Treasures

Phone: (316) 263-1311

Admission: Adult $9.90; Senior $6.90; Youth $5.90

Beaumont:

What: Water Tower Festival. Annual event featuring Veteran's breakfast parade, aircraft rides, craft show, and street dance

When: 5 to 11 p.m. June 3 and 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. June 4

Where: 11651 SE Main St., Beaumont Hotel

Phone: (620) 843-2591

Admission: Free

Augusta:

What: Grasshopper Festival. Family-friendly festival activities. Arts/crafts, pet show, Grasshopper hunt, BBQ cook-off.

When: 7 a.m. (set-up) to 10 p.m. June 4

Where: 114 E. 6th St.

Phone: (316) 775-4585

Admission: Free

El Dorado:

What: Flint Hills Overland Wagon Train Trips, Inc. Participatory Western adventure riding in covered wagons over old cattle trails in tallgrass prairie.

When: June 4-5

Where: Trips travel in Chase County

Phone: (316) 321-6300

Admission: $150 adults, $75 under age 12

Yoder:

What: Route 96 Car Show. Wide array of classic and show cars, live bands, and whole hog dinner.

When: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. June 4

Where: 3509 E. Switzer Road, Yoder Meats/Kansas Station

Phone: (620) 465-3888

Admission: Free

Fort Scott:

What: Antiques Outdoor marketplace featuring antiques, primitives, saddles and tack, and architectural salvage.

When: Third Saturday of each month through Oct. 15

Where: Corner of Wall and Scott Avenue

Phone: (620) 224-2250

Admission: Free

Wilmore:

What: Wilmore Opry. Fast-paced show in a relaxed atmosphere with lots of laughter. Variety of songs, comedy, and great talent. First Saturday each month.

When: 6 to 8: 15 p.m. through Dec. 3

Where: Railroad Avenue, Wilmore Community Center

Phone: (620) 582-2606

Admission: Free

Topeka:

What: Beyond Lewis and Clark: The Army Explores the West. This traveling exhibit, marks the 200th anniversary of the Lewis and Clark expedition and its impact on the West.

When: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday; 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, closed all state holidays, through Aug. 14

Where: 6425 SW Sixth Avenue, Kansas Museum of History

Phone: (785) 272-8681

Admission: Adult $4; senior (60 and over) $3; student (K-12, college students with ID) $2; children 5 and under admitted free when accompanied by an adult

Eureka:

What: Fall River Canoe Trips. Up to three-hour canoe trips six to eight miles down Fall River. Specializing in group trips.

When: Thursday through Tuesday through Oct. 30

Where: 416 E. River

Phone: (620) 583-6481

Admission: Varies

Hamilton:

What: 5 R Ranch Wagon/Trail Rides. Horse-drawn wagon rides and horseback rides that take you through the rolling Flint Hills of Greenwood County. Campfire lunch included.

When: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. by reservation through Dec. 1

Where: 2546 W. Road S.

Phone: (620) 678-3829

Admission: $25

Kansas City:

What: Artists Show. Strawberry Hill artists exhibit various types of artwork. Weekends only.

When: Noon to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays only through July 26

Where: 720 N. Fourth Street, Strawberry Hill Museum and Cultural Center

Phone: (913) 371-3264

Admission: $5

Manhattan:

What: Aaron Brown and Marc Berghaus: Terra Incognita. Exhibit of contemporary realism paintings by Aaron Brown and metaphysical sculpture by Marc Berghaus.

Also art quilts by Jacqueline Hughes Mooney, intaglio etchings by James Munce, pastel landscapes by Judy Love.

In addition, a ceramics installation by Anna Calluori Holcombe, figurative ceramics by Brian McCallum, and art glass by Stephen Protheroe.

When: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday through June 11

Where: 406 1/2 Poyntz Avenue, Strecker-Nelson Gallery

Phone: (785) 537-2099

Admission: Free

Strong City:

What: Prairie Bus Tours. Tour the prairie's intricate system of plants and animals on this seven-mile bus tour led by National Park Service rangers. Experience sweeping views and endless skies.

When: 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. daily through Oct. 30

Where: U.S. Highway 177, Historic Ranch Headquarters

Phone: (620) 273-8494

Admission: $5 adults, $3 children

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Travel & Fun in Kansas

Leisuretime ideas

Topeka:

What: "Affections of May." Topeka Civic Theatre performance.
When: Dinner at 6 p.m., show at 8 p.m. through June 18
Where: 3028 SW 8th Avenue, Topeka Civic Theatre & Academy
Phone: (785) 357-5211
Admission: Show $18; Dinner $16

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What: Heartland Military Days. WWII comes to life with re-enactors and authentic military hardware and vehicles. Commemoration of D-Day events with mock battles.
When: 5 to 9 p.m. June 3 (camp set-up); 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 4 (re-enactments)
Where: 6700 S. Topeka Boulevard, Kansas National Guard Museum
Phone: (785) 862-1020
Admission: Free

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What: Mulvane Mountain/Plains Art Fair. 13th annual juried art fair, featuring 90 artists from across the United States representing all mediums of fine art, continuous entertainment, supervised children's tent, food court, and Mulvane art education community outreach exhibits.
When: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. June 4 and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 5
Where:18th and Washburn, Washburn University Campus
Phone: (785) 231-1124
Admission: $4 at the gate

Manhattan:

What: Manhattan Municipal Band
When: 6:30 p.m. June 3 and 7:30 p.m. June 7, 14 and 21
Where: Larry Norvell Band Shell, City Park
Admission: Free

• • •

What: Celebrate 150! Festival. Entertainment/music in City Park will include storytellers, K-State stilt walkers, live music/bands/artists, the Fort Riley Mounted Color Guard, 1860 Campsite with reenactors, Reggie Moray-Nicodemus settlement and Buffalo Soldiers, a parade, and the Saturday night Grand Finale includes lots of fireworks.
When: June 3-5
Where: City Park
Phone: (785) 776-8829
Admission: Free

• • •

What: Celebrate 150! at the Sunset Zoo. Join Aza, the American Zoo and Aquarium spokescritter in celebrating Manhattan's 150th birthday.
When: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., June 5
Where: Sunset Zoo
Phone: (785) 587-2737
Admission: Free

Strong City:

What: Flint Hills Rodeo. 68th annual. PRCA sanctioned rodeo. The oldest rodeo in Kansas.
When: 8 p.m. June 3-4, 2 p.m. June 5
Where: Flint Hills Rodeo Grounds
Phone: (620) 273-6480
Admission: $9-$12

Marysville:

What: Car Show. Great cars, poker run, evening cruise, and dance with live band.
When: 9 a.m. to midnight June 4
Where: Downtown, Main Street
Phone: (785) 353-2221
Admission: Free

Loud, fast

Post/Heronemus

Modified race cars take the third and fourth turns on the 3/8-mile red clay oval at Whiskey Lake Raceway May 27.

'Thunder' roars at local race track

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

"Thunder and Fun" returns to Whiskey Lake Raceway this season, with a variety of auto racing classes and even some fun for the family off the track.

The 3/8-mile clay oval adjacent to Marshall Army Airfield sat unused last spring and summer but will host racing Friday nights now through Sept. 4.

Two Fridays of racing are already history for the refurbished track since owners Roger and Doug Thompson scraped away the old sandy-soiled course and replaced it with red clay and reshaped the turns, said Gerry Dedonis, who is a volunteer worker, former member of the Thompsons' racing pit crew and a spokesman for the track.

About 400 racers and fans showed up for the season opener May 20 at the International Motor Contest Association-sanctioned track.

Cars included modified bodies on stock chasses, stripped down street stock cars, inexpensive hobby stock cars and "Hornets," a class limited to four-cylinder racers.

The track also hosts "Cruisers," an event in which the car's driver controls the steering wheel and the brake and a passenger controls the accelerator.

"That takes a lot of partner coordination," Dedonis said with a smile. "We have quite a few man and woman teams, brother teams and father-son teams in that class."

The number and types of races each night depends on who shows up.

The first race May 27 was announced as a "Run What You Brung" class and included a mini-pickup, a couple of hobby stock cars and a "Hornet."

The following modified races pitted about eight cars and drivers against one another.

Dedonis said he expects racers to pull in from all over Kansas at most of the races. On May 27, early arrivals included Randy Porter, who was driving a modified car in his second appearance at Whiskey Lake Raceway.

Several drivers hailed from Salina, Kan., and several others drove in from Americus, Kan., where car sponsor Yvonne Nagy said a lot of racers live. Others drove in from Topeka, Morganville and Mayetta, all in Kansas.

The raceway's gates open at 6 p.m. with the first race scheduled to start at 7:30 p.m.

Heats in each class are limited to six to eight cars and run six laps. Featured races may have as many as 18 cars and will run 12 laps.

The raceway staff arranges races so the evening ends about 10:30 p.m., Dedonis said.

Entertainment is sometimes provided. May 27 was a '50s theme, Dedonis said. "Anyone driving in with a 1950's model car got reduced admission; but, they had to agree to participate in a dance contest in the infield during racing intermission.

Plans are being made to offer tricycle races for the youngsters. The raceway has a small paved area that would be used for that, Dedonis said.

Post/Heronemus

Race cars sit in the pit area while drivers conduct a meeting before the first race starts at about 7:30 p.m. May 27.

If you go:

Admission is $8 for adults and $3 for children up to age 12.

Exit Fort Riley at the Henry Drive access control point and turn left on the Frontage Road that runs beside Marshall Army Air Field. At the end of the air field, turn left on Racetrack Road and go a short distance to the track entrance on the right side of the road.

Post/Heronemus

Yvonne Nagy of Americus, Kan., rubs baby oil on the race car she sponsors. The oil makes it easier to remove dirt on the car after a race, she said.

Post/Heronemus

Mike McGinnis (left), Danny Holt (center) and Joe Abrams (under car) work on their racer before a race.

'Friends' sponsor flower walk

By Kay Garrett
Kansas State University

The Friends of Konza Prairie, through the Konza Environmental Education Program, sponsors the annual Wildflower Walk the second Sunday in June.

The public is invited to what has become "a traditional and beautiful evening," said Valerie Wright, naturalist at Konza Prairie Biological Station, a biological field station of Kansas State University.

This year's walk will be the Butterfly Hill Trail, an area generally not open to the public. The walk will begin at 7 p.m.

Wright, station researchers and trained tour guides will lead the 1.2-mile hike. "Last year at this time, more than 50 species of native tallgrass prairie plants were blooming along Butterfly Hill Trail," she said.

Nonmembers of the Friends of Konza Prairie will be charged $5.

Reservations are necessary. To make reservations, call (785) 587-0441 and specify the number of people in the party. Reservations will be taken until June 7.

Walking shoes and insect repellent are recommended for the evening hike.

Wildflower walkers are asked to meet no later than 7 p.m. at the Ranch House. Follow the entrance road past the Nature Trail kiosk and continue along that road around the corner and to the right.

If you go:

From eastbound Interstate 70, take Exit 307 (McDowell Creek Road) and travel about five miles north to the entrance marked with a large sign. Turn right on the gravel road.

Channel cats stocked for free day

By Shawn Stratton
Fish and wildlife biologist

In conjunction with the Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks, Fort Riley's fishing waters will be open for the "Free Fishing Days" June 4 and 5.

Two thousand pounds of channel catfish were stocked in 10 of Fort Riley's ponds and lakes May 31. The 10 installation fishing impoundments that received catfish were: Breakneck Lake, Cameron Springs, Campbell, Dale, Moon Lake, Pritchard, Roblyer, 7-Mile, Vinton and Williams pond.

For the two days, anglers will be able to fish without having to buy a license. This traditional weekend coincides with National Fishing & Boating Week, June 4-12, sponsored by the American Sportfishing Association and state conservation agencies across the country.

The weekend - and the entire week - is geared toward youth, but anyone can participate simply by going fishing or by participating in events sponsored by local and state agencies and organizations.

Fort Riley's Conservation Office actively manages 29 ponds and lakes on Fort Riley. More information on each pond and species managed at Fort Riley is available by visiting Fort Riley's Conservation Office, Building 1020 on Heubner Road, or the Outdoor Recreation Center, Building 9011 at Camp Forsyth.