



D-Day vet recalls fear, funny moments

Ogden resident tells of his personal experience in largest invasion every launched. Page 6

Fort Riley Post



Softball teams continue games

One Goliath remains in company-level play. Page 11

Friday, June 4, 2004

America's Warfighting Center

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Around The Army

Army-wide:

European Stars and Stripes reported June 3 that the Army had put all units tapped for Iraq and Afghanistan deployments on stop-loss, stop-move restrictions that prevent soldiers from switching assignments or voluntarily leaving the service.

The stop loss/stop move will take effect as soon as a unit is activated for deployment to a future Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom mission. It won't end until three months after the unit returns to its home station, Maj. Gen. Franklin L. "Buster" Hagenbeck, the Army's chief for personnel matters, told reporters at a roundtable Tuesday.

For more on this story and other U.S. military news in Europe and the Pacific, visit www.estripes.com on the Internet.

Darmstadt:

The Herald-Post reported June 3 that construction will affect the community through out the summer. Construction at the Cambrai-Fritsch Kaserne gate will widen the road and alleviate congestion in the entrance area. Construction should be completed by early July.

Construction will begin in June for a fiber-optic and copper system cable upgrade, which will affect Nathan Hale Depot, Cambrai-Fritsch Kaserne and the Dagger Complex. Several large holes big enough to conceal a car will be dug at each location.

For more about this story and other news in the Darmstadt-Babenhausen area, visit www.26thasg.heidelberg.army.mil/newspaperweb/ on the Internet.

Fort Stewart:

The Frontline reported June 3 that the Army's Product Manager, Defense Wide Transition System, conducted training and fielded a new satellite communications systems May 5. According to participants of the 3rd Infantry Division, it was more than just part of the Army's G-4 initiatives to "Connect the Logistics."

"In Iraq, it becomes a force protection issue," said Maj. Angel Nieves, the combat service support automation management officer of the 3rd Inf. Div. "We can take Soldiers off the road and minimize the time they're in harm's way. Literally, it's a lifesaver."

For more on this story and other news at Fort Stewart, Ga., visit www.zwire.com on the Internet.

Fort Knox:

Inside the Turret reported June 3 the local American Red Cross had raised \$5,327.09 May 15 during its annual Bagging for Buck fund-raiser. For more about this story and other Fort Knox, Ky., news, visit www.thenewscenter-prise.com/turret/ on the Web.

Stay In Step with Fort Riley

Show moves to 6:30 a.m. on Channel 13 WIBW June 5 due to programming conflicts.

Policy reflects task force findings

Army wants all sex assaults reported to Criminal Investigation Command

By Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

WASHINGTON- The Army is devising a policy that will emphasize that all offenses of sexual assault must be reported to the Criminal Investigation Command,

officials have announced.

A task force spent 90 days conducting a detailed review of the Army's current policies and programs on sexual assault. One of the findings was that while all commanders had taken action against assailants accused of sexual assault, not all were going

though the proper investigation channels, said Darlene Sullivan, a task force member.

The task force was assembled from various Army organizations and began looking into how the Army addresses matters of sexual assault in February.

Acting Secretary of the Army

Les Brownlee authorized the task force.

The task force recommendations were approved by Brownlee and were briefed to the House Armed Services Committee June 3 by Reginald J. Brown, assistant secretary of the Army for manpower and reserve affairs.

The task force noted nine shortfalls in its 80-page report. One major finding pointed out there was no standard way of handling sexual assault cases, making it hard to collect data and keep track of what services had been

See Policy, Page 3

Target: Stress



19th PAD/Wood

Spc. Warren Munkres, a mental health specialist with the 1835th Medical Detachment (Combat Stress Control), fires at a simulated attacker from the back of a five-ton truck traveling at 30 miles-per-hour. The convoy live fire was the capstone of the units train up in preparation for deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Stress treaters experience own stress

By Ryan Wood
19th PAD

Members of the 1835th and 1908th Medical Detachments (Combat Stress Control) capped nine days of intensive training and months of preparation with a convoy live-fire exercise at Fort Riley May 25.

The units are preparing for deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Both units specialize in treating combat stress on the front lines.

For the May 25 training, Soldiers conducted mounted and dismounted live-fire exercises from the back of five-ton trucks moving at 30 mph through five ambush points.

The 75th Division (Training Support) on post sponsors the reservists as they go through their preparatory training and evaluation.

"This training saves lives down-range," said Maj. Steven Updike, 3rd Brigade, 75th Div. (TS), officer in charge at the Combat Live Fire Range. "If you throw

someone in the back of a vehicle and they never shoot out of it, and then you put them over in Iraq where they will have to deal with it, people can get killed. Any training you can give them is going to save lives over there."

The preparation has taken on a new importance to many of the Soldiers as they connect the training with the situations they will face in Iraq. Maj. Frederick Frank, commander of the 1908th Med.

See Convoy, Page 3

Director unveils 'BOLO' effort

FBI seeks help finding terrorists

By Christie Vanover
Community Rel. Officer

The FBI has asked for the support of the American people in fighting and winning the global war on terrorism.

Many Fort Riley Soldiers are doing their part in Iraq, and now other Soldiers, families and civilians in the states can assist, as well.

The FBI director has asked Americans to be on the look out for individuals who could pose a threat to the United States.

Director Robert S. Mueller held a press conference on May 26 reminding Americans of seven individuals who the FBI believes pose a real and present danger to U.S. interests around the world.

He noted that the threat is especially greater this summer and fall because of many public events.

"This summer and fall our nation will celebrate a number of events that serve as powerful symbols of our free and democratic society," Mueller said.

"Unfortunately, the same events that fill most of us with hope and pride are seen by terrorists as prime vehicles for attack," he said.

Fort Riley's Force Protection Office will kick off an awareness campaign within the next few weeks to specify how citizens of Fort Riley can help locally.

"Our vigilance catch phrase is

See BOLO, Page 2

Soldiers learn to explode

Training acquaints some with 'shock' entry

By Kevin Doheny
19th PAD

The mission from higher command: Search a house and find intelligence for future operations. It's a dangerous mission, not a time to take unnecessary chances.

Before the mission begins, infantrymen and cavalry scouts huddle inside their tactical operations center and try to figure out the best way to enter and clear the house and, once inside, how to gather the intelligence.

While mulling the best possible plan, they come across a very small but dangerous detail.

The house they will enter could

be booby-trapped with explosives.

While studying how to overcome the explosive obstacle and ensure they use the safest possible entry, some may recall a bit of the training they received at Fort Riley before deploying.

The May 25 training on Range 52 showed a handful of 1st Brigade Combat Team Soldiers how to make improvised explosives to blow up doors so that improvised explosive devices that might be set up as booby traps would be destroyed before they could harm Soldiers entering the house.

"The purpose of this training was to train cavalry scouts, mortar

infantrymen and sappers to use an array of high explosive devices to create a breach in military operations in urbanized terrain conditions," said Sgt. 1st Class Tad Steckler of the 1st Engineer Battalion.

The Soldiers being trained may be asked to conduct such tasks while serving in Iraq, according to Steckler, who was the officer in charge of the range. Understanding the explosives could increase mission success and create confidence in handling and ultimately using these explosive devices, he said.

Before the 1st BCT Soldiers

See Explosives, Page 4



A 1st Brigade Soldier connects detonation chord to an explosive mounted on a door to show how to breach a door so other Soldiers have a clear pathway when clearing houses. This could be a valuable asset for Soldiers deploying to Iraq because they may be faced with such an obstacle, said the noncommissioned officers conducting the training. 19th PAD/Doheny



Post news in brief

Post to honor Army's birthday

Fort Riley will celebrate the Army's 229th birthday during a ceremony at 9 a.m. June 14 on Ware Parade Field.

Abandoned vehicle sale set

Abandoned vehicles found on Fort Riley go on the auction block from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. June 12 at building 1671 in the Camp Funston area.

The auction is open to everyone. The public can view the vehicles from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 7-11.

Payment for purchased vehicles must be made with cash, certified checks or money orders. No personal checks or credit cards will be accepted.

For more information, call 239-6398. To find out what vehicles will be auctioned, go to www.riley.army.mil on the Web and look under events for June 12.

DES to close for day's event

The Directorate of Environment and Safety will observe its organization day June 11. The directorate will be closed from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. that day.

Unit mailroom classes offered

Unit Mailroom Training will be conducted for newly assigned unit postal officers and unit mail clerks from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. June 16 and 23 in building 319.

Chief of staff to depart

Col. Richard McPhee, chief of staff, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, will be recognized for his service to Fort Riley June 9 at 9 a.m. in a departure ceremony on Ware Parade Field.

McPhee assumed his position as the chief of staff in July 2003. He is relocating to Fort Jackson, S.C., to serve as the special assistant to the commanding general, 24th Inf. Div. His replacement has not been announced.

In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held at hangar 817. The ceremony is open to the public.

Unit to transfer responsibility

The 6025th Garrison Support Unit assigned to Fort Riley will be transferring authority to the 648th Area Support Group June 8 at 9 a.m. on Ware Parade Field.

Soldiers from the 6025th came to Fort Riley in January 2003 under the command of Col. Robert Lowery to provide garrison support for Reserve and National Guard Soldiers mobilizing through Fort Riley.

The 648th is based in St. Louis, Mo. The unit will take over the function of coordinating mobilization and deployment of reserve component Soldiers under the command of Col. Kimberly Weaver.

Public Works to close one day

Public Works will hold its annual Organization Day with a picnic and award ceremony for employees and their families on June 25. Minimal staffing will be maintained from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. so that critical functions remain operational.

Stay In Step with Fort Riley

See what's happening on Fort Riley cable Channel 2 every day at 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Guidon passes to Alexander

82nd Medical Company changes top leadership

By Aaron J. Orr

82nd Med. Co. (AA)

Maj. James Schwartz passed the 82nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance) guidon and reins of command to Maj. Cara Alexander May 10 during a ceremony at U.S.A. Anaconda in Balad, Iraq.

All the unit's Soldiers not deployed in forward locations or other military camps attended the late-morning ceremony.

"[The change of command] went pretty smoothly," the new commander said. "I think having me come into the unit early helped. I had the opportunity to meet most of the Soldiers and get to know each of them a little."

Alexander welcomed the opportunity to command. "Commanding a wartime unit is a huge responsibility," she said.

Alexander has split her 19-year Army career with enlisted and officer service as well as Army Reserve and active duty service.

She left the enlisted ranks as a noncommissioned officer after six years service to attend Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Ga. She received her commission in 1990 as a second lieutenant in the Medical Service Corps. She went to flight school shortly thereafter.

Alexander is no stranger to the

Army medevac system. Previous assignments placed her in two other air ambulance companies, once as the executive officer and once as a platoon leader. She also served in an evacuation battalion and as the operations officer for an aviation brigade.

Most recently she worked at the Human Resources Command in Alexandria, Va., as a career manager for the Medical Service Corps. In that capacity, she had the opportunity to share e-mail and talk on the phone with every officer in her new command.

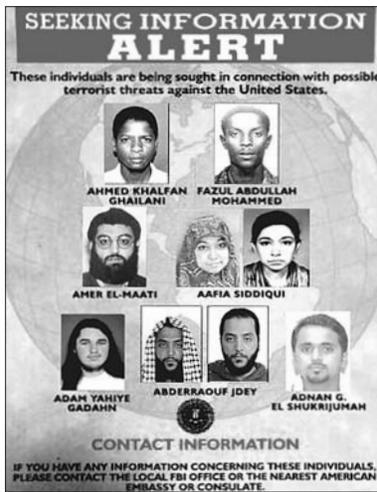
"It was nice that I knew their names, where they came from and a little bit about them," Alexander said.

"I think she's going to do fantastic," Schwartz said. "She's inheriting an awesome organization, a battle-tested organization. She'll be a great asset to the 82nd Med."

After spending two years as the 82nd Med. Co.'s commander, Schwartz moves to an Army internship with the American Red Cross in Washington, D.C. He will work in the Emergency Preparation Division.

Alexander is married and has two children. Her husband, Mark, and their two sons, 9-year-old Justin and 6-year-old Christian, left Virginia late last month to take up residence at Fort Riley.

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This poster shows individuals the FBI considers a terrorist threat to Americans and the United States.

BOLO

continued from page 1

SCAN-FOCUS-REACT," said Larry Duch, Fort Riley force protection officer. "It reminds persons to 'Scan' their area for anything that looks suspicious or out of the ordinary. 'Focus' on the suspicious or out of the ordinary and 'React' by reporting what they observe to the military police at 239-6767."

This awareness campaign mirrors the FBI's guidance. Mueller is asking Americans to cooperate when called upon to help gather information and intelligence; to be aware of their surroundings and report anything suspicious; and to "BOLO" — Be On the Look Out — for potential terrorists listed at www.fbi.gov.

In addition to the FBI's BOLO program, Duch recommends Fort Riley residents keep their guard up. Nearly 4,000 Fort Riley Soldiers are deployed and more are deploying within the next 30 days. Information about Soldiers' deployment dates and unit strength should be kept within military circles, he said.

"This type of information falls in the category of Operational Security or OPSEC," Duch said.

"Generally, the information families get about deployments is not classified, but taken together, could be used to the detriment of an operation. They need to be very careful with whom they

share that information," he said.

Duch added that he discourages open conversations at off-post establishments and items openly disclosing that a Soldier is deployed and away from home.

Such items include stickers that read, "Half of my heart is in Iraq" or yellow ribbon window decals printed with deployed Soldiers' names.

"There are criminal elements in our communities that are looking for information about families where the husband is gone," Duch said.

Pearl Speer, the Army Community Service family programs manager, echoes his concerns and cautions families who tie the yellow ribbons around their yards, especially those living off post.

"Don't just put them on your house," she said. "The them around the whole block. That way you don't point yourself out to someone as a target."

At the upcoming family deployment briefings for Task Force 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, families will receive new information on how to protect their families and their deploying Soldiers.

Family Readiness Groups that haven't received the new information are encouraged to schedule an operational security briefing by calling 239-0937.

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Policy

continued from page 1

rendered to victims. The task force made 24 recommendations to improve the system. One was to develop a sexual assault policy for inclusion in Army Regulation 600-20, Army Command Policy.

The chief of personnel, Army G-1, is responsible for the overall sexual assault policy.

The policy will define sexual assault as alleged offenses of rape, forcible sodomy, assault with intent to commit rape or sodomy, indecent assault or an attempt to commit any of these offenses, Sullivan said.

The definition is the same one used by the Department of Defense in its recent report "Care for Victims of Sexual Assault."

The roles and responsibilities of commanders from major command to the unit level will be addressed in the new policy and become a part of AR 600-20, said Lt. Col. John McPhaul of Army G-1.

"Commanders must create a command climate where victims feel comfortable reporting acts of sexual assault," Sullivan said. "Rape is one of the most unreported crimes nationwide."

"As a first sergeant, if you don't know your Soldier was attacked or raped, how can you protect that Soldier? What if you put that Soldier on guard duty with his or her attacker?"

It's imperative that leaders know that prevention, training and assistance are a commander's responsibility."

Company commanders will no longer have the authority to sign the disciplinary paperwork for Soldiers who are accused of a sexual offense when the cases don't go to court. The battalion commander's signature will be required, Sullivan said.

Department of the Army Form 4833, Commander's Report of Disciplinary or Administrative Action, is a permanent record that states what a Soldier was accused of and what action was taken against him.

Sullivan said the task force found that about 20 percent of the commanders had not filled out the form because of operational tempo.

Another recommendation of the task force is to alter the form, so that instead of stating that administrative action was taken against a Soldier, his or her specific punishments will be listed on the form.

Commanders alone cannot round out a successful program to prevent sexual assault, according to the task force. Commanders alone cannot be the judge, juror and prosecutor.

In AR 600-20 one of the responsibilities commanders will have is to assign a unit victim advocate to support victims of sexual assault.

It is important to keep the victim and the chain of command informed of all case actions as they occur with the case. The unit victim advocate will work to provide emotional support to victims while assisting them in the step-by-step processes involved, McPhaul said.

Other agencies whose roles will be outlined in the chapter will include CID, the Provost Marshal, the Surgeon General, Staff Judge Advocate and Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management (Community and Family Support Center), McPhaul said.

"The Army agencies already have some procedures in place and know what to do, and are doing it, if an act of sexual assault occurs," McPhaul said, "but we must develop a comprehensive policy of dealing with sexual assault from awareness/prevention, to victim support and data collection."

"We are developing a mechanism that gets all the agencies in concert with each other by establishing a policy that deals with sexual assault not only in garrison but in a deployed setting as well," McPhaul said.

Training requirements will also be addressed in the regulation, McPhaul said. Within the next 60 to 90 days, new chapters will be added to the regulation and staffed with the field, he added.

Training and Doctrine Command is currently devising lesson plans on the prevention of sexual assault to be included in all professional development schools, refresher courses at the unit level and additional training for law enforcement, medical and legal personnel, Sullivan said.



Soldiers in units that treat combat stress undergo a lot of training stress themselves during a live-fire convoy exercise that required them to engage targets while in a truck and dismount from a truck.

Convoy

Det. saw two major lessons coming out of the training -- the reality of the situation in which they will soon find themselves and the knowledge of how much work there is left to do to become prepared for a combat zone.

"The most challenging thing they are facing is probably dismounting into an area that they don't know anything about, getting on line and acting like infantry when they are combat service support units," Urdike said.

"They have doctors and such that aren't used to those infantry tactics. Most of these units haven't fired their weapons in a long time," he said.

The training is designed to offer familiarization with tactics that the Soldiers will need, along with the training necessary to promote safety and lessen the chance of accidents, Urdike said.

Helping Soldiers with combat stress requires the two medical detachments to be placed in situations that most CSS units don't usually face. That fact makes the training they are receiving even more important, Frank said.

"The treatment of combat stress brings us far out as forward observation bases," he said. "The doctrine is to treat stressed soldiers on the front line

and to keep them there. To accomplish this mission, we must constantly be on convoys traveling around the country, and we will have to defend ourselves.

"Our line of work takes us out into the area of danger. We do not sit behind the line at the hospitals. We are out at the front," Frank said.

The units have faced many challenges as they prepared for the latest round of OIF. Although some of the Soldiers in the units have been in combat, many are new and look to use the practical, battle tested focus of their jobs for the first time.

Even so, the leadership of both units praised the Soldiers and the training they have received.

"We are ready for the mission," Frank said.

"We are coming together from about 10 different states. We were cross-leveled at the last minute, but we are still ready to do it. I would also like to give kudos to the training; 75th has done a great job with the training," he said.

"The last four or five days we have been really sleep-deprived and half of us are new to the unit," said Maj. Graham Hoffman, intelligence officer, 1835th Med. Det.

"But that doesn't really matter because we are driving on and doing very well," he said.

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Civilian workers shrug off danger, hardships

Iraq buildup moves forward despite threats

By Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

WASHINGTON -- The kidnapping and murdering of civilian contractors in Iraq has not deterred thousands of workers from providing aid to American troops and assisting with the build-up of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Restoring fuel, water and power lines; providing humanitarian aid; and maintaining military vehicles are some of the jobs civilians perform in Iraq. For most of the workers, their actions will go unknown.

"I have been part of several large incidents within Iraq where many people have lost their lives or been brutally hurt due to coward acts of terrorism," said William Hodge, a firefighter with Kellogg, Brown and Root.

Hodge, of Sumter, S.C., is part of an education program that is training 125 people on the local fire department and bringing the country up to 21st century fire-fighting.

Kellogg, Brown and Root, a subsidiary of Halliburton, has more than 24,000 employees and subcontractors in Iraq and Kuwait. The company has lost 34 personnel, including the recently confirmed death of Tony Johnson, 47, of Riverside, Calif., who was involved in a convoy ambush April 9.

Part of that same convoy was Thomas Hamill, a truck driver with Halliburton, who escaped from his Iraqi captives May 2. Hamill, from Macon, Miss., suffered a gunshot wound and will soon be reunited with his wife, Kellie, at the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany.

A firefighter with KBR said that he will remain in the dangerous environment in order to support the overall cause -- freedom.

"Without contractors, the military would have to fill positions that may be of less importance in nature, rather than being on the battlefield enhancing our military force," said Evan Bolles, a firefighter in Baghdad "I know that by volunteering it gives relief to

our Soldiers who have been in the area for a long time."

The U.S. military has always used contractors in times of war. However, until the charred bodies of civilians hanging from a bridge in Iraq were aired on the news, most Americans didn't realize how close contractors work with Soldiers in combat zones.

"Our employees followed Soldiers into Iraq within 72 hours after they crossed the border and began providing logistical support," said Patrice Mingo, a Halliburton public affairs specialist.

Contractors augment the military by providing non-combat services. KBR recruits personnel to fill more than 100 job descriptions, including food service, laundry, water purification and fuel distribution, Mingo said.

MPRI, a smaller company headquartered in Alexandria, Va., has about 500 contractors in Iraq and Afghanistan providing convoy security, instruction to ministries of defense and training to the new Iraqi army.

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Post salutes 54 re-enlistees

By April Blackmon
Staff writer

So far, Fort Riley is doing its part in getting Soldiers to re-enlist. The post is projected to meet its re-enlistment goals by the end of this quarter and is on target for the year, said Post Retention Sgt. Maj. Thomas Kelly.

The post's retention success is due to the support of the command group, Kelly said. "The key for us has been the chain of command's involvement. They have been very supportive."

To show their support and appreciation for Soldiers who re-enlisted recently, members of the command group held a luncheon May 25 in the 937th Engineer Battalion dining facility and presented coins to the 54 Soldiers attending.

With about one-third of the military deployed in some 120 countries, retaining Soldiers becomes a crucial part of maintaining a well-trained and successful Army, said Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, commanding general of the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and Fort Riley.

The luncheon was a way "to show our appreciation to the Soldiers for serving their country and staying in the Army. This was really something the CG wanted to do," Kelly said.

"We do appreciate who you are. We do appreciate the importance of what you're about to do," Hardy told the Soldiers.

Re-enlisting well-trained and experienced Soldiers keeps the

volunteer Army alive and strong to defend the country, Hardy said. "The importance of your re-enlisting and signing on ... is that you're keeping the volunteer Army alive."

Col. William Perkins, 937th Engineer Group commander, echoed the general's sentiments. "The volunteer Army is a very strong force. The Soldiers are re-enlisting to serve what our country stands for ... All of the soldiers have a strong sense of duty."

Fort Riley Soldiers enlist for a variety of options, Kelly said.

"Many Soldiers are from this area and re-enlist to stay here," he said.

Many Soldiers interested in furthering their education re-enlist to stay at Fort Riley because of the educational opportunities on post and at Kansas State University, Kelly added.

Soldiers interested in moving to particular parts of the United States or to Europe enlisted for a choice of duty station.

Sgt. Clifton Stamps of 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, re-enlisted in February for Alaska. A native of Mississippi, Stamps said he chose Alaska at his wife's suggestion. "It's not my choice. It's my wife's choice. It's the only place she hasn't been," he said.

Stamps admitted at first he wasn't too thrilled about moving to a place that gets so cold but is warming up to the idea of the upcoming assignment. "Now I'm excited about going there," he said.



Four 1st Brigade Soldiers make what is known as a "grapeshot" explosive at Range 52 May 25. The Soldiers were shown how to make this improvised explosive with nothing more than a coffee can, C-4 explosive and rocks. This explosive acts with a shotgun-like explosion. The rocks scatter like buckshot in a shot gun shell.

19th PAD/Doheny



19th PAD/Doheny

Staff Sgt. James Naylor of 1st Engineer Battalion uses a hammer to push cut up C-4 slices to the bottom of a coffee can.



19th PAD/Doheny

Three Soldiers connect detonation cord to satchel charges which would eventually blow up near the block wall May 25 at Range 52. The detonation cord was connected to all the demonstrations for training purposes only to ensure safety when at the range.

Army stays on track to meet re-up goals

By Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — One of the Army's most deployed divisions is on schedule to meet its retention goals for fiscal year 2004, and the rest of the Army appears to be on track as well.

Media coverage — not always favorable of the war — has apparently not deterred America's youth from enlisting in the armed forces. Recruiting numbers so far have surpassed expected quotas.

Late in May, 15 Soldiers re-enlisted at Fort Drum, N.Y., boosting the numbers for the 10th Mountain Division this fiscal year to about 200.

"Retention is a priority because if you don't keep skilled Soldiers in boots, you can't go to war and fight as effectively," said Sgt. 1st Class Randall Goodine, a Fort Drum career counselor.

The Army and Army Reserve retention goal for fiscal year 2004 is 28,201.

The Army remains guardedly optimistic that it will achieve all retention goals for this fiscal year, said officials from the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, G1. The fiscal year ends Sept. 30, 2004.

The active Army has achieved 98 percent of its year-to-date mission, and the Army Reserve has achieved 96 percent of its YTD mission.

The National Guard has

retained almost 130 percent of its YTD mission.

A percentage of the Army Guard retention numbers include involuntary extensions due to Stop Loss actions, National Guard officials said.

The announcement of the FY04 Present Duty Assignment Targeted Selective Re-enlistment Bonus for personnel assigned to units in Afghanistan, Iraq and Kuwait helped improve retention results, G1 officials said.

Soldiers re-enlisting in those areas received a bonus of \$5,000 with updates to the regular Selective Reenlistment Bonus program.

All Army components are working to preserve power and improve readiness by developing and implementing new initiatives to enhance retention efforts, officials said.

Legislative revisions are being monitored to provide greater flexibility in the types and amounts of incentives that can be given to Soldiers deploying to or returning from deployments supporting the global war on terrorism, officials added.

While career counselors and G1 officials work at retaining qualified troops, recruiters continue to scout out potential recruits to don fatigues.

The Army has enlisted 41,467 individuals so far this fiscal year — 115 more than expected. The Army Reserve has exceeded its YTD mission by 51 — recruiting 9,449 so far this fiscal year.

Explosives continued from page 1

even stepped onto the range, they were given in-depth classes on each explosive device they would be handling.

The classes help give the Soldiers confidence in knowing how to use the explosives and make the Soldiers aware of their surroundings, Steckler said.

"All soldiers received a period of instruction on basic demotions, IEDs and a class on expedient demolitions," he said.

Explosive devices created by the Soldiers included "grapeshot" and a satchel charge. They also learned how to enter a doorway using a detonation chord.

Grapeshot is used like an oversized shotgun shell. It is made with such simple items as a coffee can, chopped up bricks of C-4 explosive and rocks.

The grapeshot is effective because when the explosive device is detonated, the rocks act like the buckshot in a shotgun shell, spraying the rocks at the target with high velocity.

The satchel charge was made up of bricks of C-4 explosive and detonation chord taped together. This explosive is taught to be used

mainly as a makeshift anti-air weapon, but it also can be used to destroy other objects.

One of the main tasks the Soldiers were taught was how to clear doorways while engaged in urban terrain operations.

The Soldiers were shown how to construct different types of doorway clearing explosives and how they are put on the doors.

"An explosion is faster and more shocking to the enemy," Steckler said.

"Without it, often the Soldier has to hit the door more than once, so the enemy is on the other side

of the door just waiting on him. Also it minimizes the Soldier's time on target, i.e., behind the door and in the line of fire," he said.

The noncommissioned officers at the range told the Soldiers that with more and more Soldiers being asked to do different things

in Iraq, it is almost certain that the training they received at Fort Riley will help them accomplish missions.

They also told each Soldier that even though this is something they might have never done before, they should be prepared to perform these tasks.

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'KatMannDo' challenges gate security

By Debra Bingham
Army News Service

FORT A.P. HILL, Va. — A car joined a line moving toward Fort A.P. Hill's main gate. The driver nervously tapped his fingers on the steering wheel as he waited. The car trunk was full of explosives and his job was to get them on the installation undetected.

The situation was an exercise for the Virginia base players, but next time it could be real.

The exercise, called KatMannDo, challenged participants at the end of April by presenting realistic threats through the use of role players, simulations and specialized technology. Civilian law enforcement, fire and emergency service organizations and military personnel participated.

The exercise also gave local civilian agencies an opportunity to share institutional knowledge and test their communications interoperability and situational awareness.

KatMannDo was a three-part exercise comprised of a field training exercise, a command post exercise and a tabletop exercise. During the training, evaluators observed personnel and later presented findings at an after-action review. The post can use the information to assess its procedures

and operations.

During the FTX, law enforcement, fire and rescue personnel responded to a variety of threat scenarios. Personnel manning an emergency operation center tested their incident response and communications procedures.

The CPX phase examined the post's ability to process and disseminate intelligence information and evaluated how it assessed force protection conditions.

The ITX phase included a review of the installation crisis management team and its procedures.

Participants didn't know the nature of the events or when they would happen, giving the exercise a sense of realism, according to John Polis, Fort A.P. Hill's police chief.

"They knew there was an exercise coming up because they had a safety briefing, but they didn't know what the scenario was. They were told to do what you would normally do with your training," Polis said.

Polis said the post constantly receives upgrades in equipment and technology for force protection.

His officers also undergo specialized training in detecting car bombs and handling terrorist threats.

During the FPX, alert police



Photo by Debra R. Bingham

Fire consumes a car detonated during a mock terrorist attack during a force protection exercise on Fort A.P. Hill, Va., at the end of April.

officers discovered a bomb in the trunk of a terrorist's car and called in the explosive disposal team who diffused it, Polis said.

Officers were not so lucky when a female suicide bomber approached the gate on foot. She killed herself and a police officer when she detonated the explosives strapped to her body as part of the exercise's simulated play.

At a separate car crash site, police quickly established a secure perimeter and began searching for an escaped terrorist. Meanwhile firefighters and emergency response teams arrived on

the scene. The fire chief, serving as the incident commander, assessed the scene and set objectives and priorities for the team.

An arch of water cascaded through the air onto the fallen victim in an effort to wash off chemical or biological contaminants that could be spread on contact. Despite efforts to revive him, the terrorist died of his injuries.

Wearing protective suits, firefighters used sensitive monitoring equipment to determine the presence of contaminants at the site, according to Daniel Glembot, post fire chief.

from (the Military District Washington) who were instrumental in catching the infiltrator out by Camp Connors. He was highly trained in evasive tactics and (the exercise planners) thought there was no way we would catch him, but we did it with the dogs," Polis said.

The Bowling Green Volunteer Fire Department and Port Royal Volunteer Rescue Squad also took part in the exercise, medically monitoring firefighters and establishing a decontamination line, according to Glembot.

The exercise also gave participants an opportunity to test new communications technology that provided critical, real-time information.

"A new computer system was installed into our fire vehicles for this exercise. These computer terminals allowed us wireless access to our EOC, police vehicles — including Virginia State Police — and Internet access for information and mapping," Glembot said.

Polis and Glembot said KatMannDo provided realistic training and gave many participants a renewed sense of purpose.

Debra R. Bingham is assigned to the Fort A.P. Hill Public Affairs Office.

Center helps 3,800 filers

By Henry DeWoskin
Installation Tax Attorney

During income tax season, the Fort Riley Tax Center proved to be an excellent benefit for everyone in the Fort Riley community, based on statistics available.

The 2004 Fort Riley Tax Center opened on Jan. 21 and closed on April 23. During that time, the Tax Center's staff prepared and electronically filed 2003 federal and state tax returns for free.

During the 2003 tax season, the Tax Center served more than 3,800 soldiers, retirees and their family members. This free tax preparation service saved the Fort Riley community more than \$676,000 in the value of tax preparation services.

In addition, the Tax Center helped community members quickly receive more than \$6.7 million in tax refunds.

Many dedicated people contributed to the success of the 2004 Fort Riley Tax Center. They included: 2nd Lt. Angela Quinn, Tax Center officer in charge; Staff Sgt. Kenneth Holmes Jr., Tax Center noncommissioned officer in charge; Duane Bauer; Natasha Brewer; Joy Butler; Tashelia Duhaney; Kristine Faires; Joyce Gallaway; Melissa Garrido; Audrey Hilton; Lisa Lewis; Jeanne Neal; Tara Ortiz; Blake Pope; Cindy Seto; Amanda Stamper; Gayle Beatty, volunteer; Master Sgt. Mary L. Stockard, unit tax advisor for the 6025th Garrison Support Unit; and Sgt. 1st Class Eric M. Ashford, unit tax advisor, for the 75th Division (Training Support).

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Commentary

Matter of security

Beware of downloading shared files

By Eric Hortin
Army News Service

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz. -- People spend hours in front of their computer screen, downloading music or new movies from the Internet and not paying a cent. The Army considers such action on government computers to be a security threat.

One program used to download files is Peer-to-Peer (P2P) architecture. It is a type of network in which each workstation has the capability to function as a client and a server. It allows any computer running specific applications to share files and access devices with any other computer running on the same network without the need for a separate server. Most P2P applications allow the user to configure the sharing of specific directories, drives or devices.

In a white paper written by the Army's Computer Network Operations Intelligence section, unauthorized P2P applications on government systems, "represent a threat to network security."

"The idea of someone else getting unfettered access to anything of yours without your explicit consent should scare anybody -- and that's exactly what P2P authorizes," said Zina Justiniano, an intelligence analyst with the U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command's (NETCOM) Intelligence Division.

"P2P is freeware. Freeware, shareware -- most of the stuff that you pay nothing for -- has a high price. The fact that it's free says that anybody and their cousin can get it. That means that anybody and their cousin can get to your machine."

P2P applications are configured to use specific ports to communicate within the file-sharing network, sometimes sidestepping firewalls. This circumvention creates a compromise and potential vulnerabilities in the network that, in a worst-case scenario, can lead to network intrusions, data compromise, or the introduction of illegal material and pornography.

Several known Trojan horses, worms and viruses use commercial P2P networks to spread and create more opportunities for

hackers to attack systems. Trojan horse applications record information and transmit it to an outside source. They can also install "backdoors" on operating systems and transmit credit card numbers and passwords, making these malicious programs a favorite of hackers.

Some of the malicious codes allow hackers to snoop for passwords, disable antivirus and firewall software, and link the infected system to P2P networks to send large amounts of information (spam) using vulnerabilities in Windows operating systems.

Trojan horses are not the cause of all security issues. Oftentimes, "spyware" applications are installed with the user's consent. It's buried in the really long agreement that nobody reads but that a user must click, "I Accept," in order to begin the installation. This is especially true with freeware applications downloaded from the Internet.

According to published reports, a couple of years ago some P2P applications came packaged with a spyware application that acted as a Trojan horse.

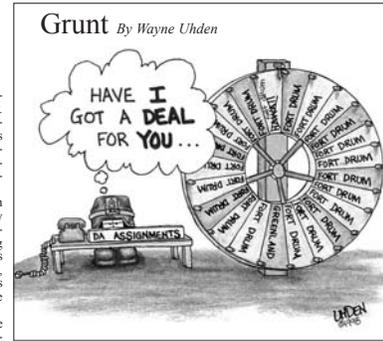
This specific program sent information to an online lottery server.

These are just a couple of reasons the Army doesn't want its people loading P2P on their systems and enacted regulations prohibiting loading those applications.

The Army's regulation on Information Assurance, Army Regulation 25-2, specifically prohibits certain activities. Sharing files by means of P2P applications is one restriction. Some users, however, have P2P applications on their Army systems and use them despite the prohibition.

Over a two-month period at the end of last year, government organizations identified more than 420 suspected P2P sessions on Army systems in more than 30 locations around the globe.

It seems some don't understand or haven't read the standard DoD warning: "Use of this DoD computer system, authorized or unauthorized, constitutes consent to monitoring." For those who think, "How are they going to know it's me?" don't be surprised when network access is cut off and the brigade commander is calling.



Army One Source Q's & A's

Q: What exactly is Army One Source?

A: AOS is a 24-hour, seven-days-a-week toll-free information and referral telephone service available to active duty, National Guard and Reserve soldiers, deployed civilians and their families worldwide. AOS provides information ranging from every day concerns to deployment and reintegration issues. Additionally, if there is a need for face-to-face counseling, AOS will provide referrals to professional civilian counselors for assistance.

Q: How do I access AOS?

A: Simply call the following telephone numbers: (800) 464-8107 in the continental United States or the country access code followed by (800) 464-81077 if outside the continental United States.

Q: Will this cost anything if I use it?

A: No, the services are pre-paid by the Army. There is no cost to callers, going online, ordering educational materials, or the six counseling sessions.

Q: As a spouse, will my sponsor's commander be told about calls I make? Will my sponsor be told about calls I make if I, as a family member, use this service?

A: AOS counselors will explain to each caller before services are initiated that AOS is private within certain limits. Confidentiality does not extend to issues of harm to oneself or others, child abuse, elder abuse or domestic violence. Issues outside those mentioned above are considered confidential and will not be released without signed authorization from the servicemember or user of the service. Sponsors are not advised when their family member calls or conducts an online visit or face-to-face session.

Q: How is a suicide caller helped?

A: Trained, master's level counselors with the support of their team leaders and clinical supervisors follow a protocol with callers expressing suicidal ideation. A counselor will try to keep the caller on the line until the appropriate local in-person response can arrive. If the caller is in imminent danger to himself, herself or others, the counselor will contact the appropriate local resource, such as the military police, chaplains, command or city police, depending on the caller's location.

Command message

Soldier key factor in Army successes

On 14th day of June in 1775, the Continental Congress established our Army. In the 229 years since that day, our Army has proven itself on countless battlefields as liberty's best friend and oppression's worst foe.

Since its birth — over a year before the Declaration of Independence — the U.S. Army has played a vital role in the growth and development of the American nation. From winning our new nation's independence in a tough eight-year fight to preserving the Union through the tortuous struggle of the Civil War, through the global conflicts of the 20th century, our citizens can draw great satisfaction from knowing that whenever the nation was in need, our Army answered the call.

Sixty years ago, in the Army's birth month of June 1944, our brave Soldiers stormed ashore at Normandy to begin the final thrust to liberate Western Europe.

While that beachhead was expanding, our Soldiers liberated Rome, made gains against Japanese invaders in New Guinea, struggled against terrain, weather and a tough enemy in Burma and reinforced the U.S. Marine Corps on Saipan.

We celebrate our veterans of 1944 on this 229th Army birthday as we also celebrate the service of our younger U.S. veterans who fought in Korea, Vietnam, Panama, Iraq, Afghanistan and other conflicts.

Today's Army is the greatest land fighting force in the history of the world. This spring we completed the largest troop movement since World War II while continu-

ing our engagement in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Our Army is serving in more than 120 countries, conducting missions across the spectrum of conflict from humanitarian assistance to combat operations. While at war, we are continuing to change our Army to meet the needs of the current and future strategic environment.

Our Army is strong, and this strength comes from our greatest asset: the American Soldier, whose courage, compassion and determination have for generations been the bedrock upon

which our victories have depended. In all that the Army has accomplished, and all that it will be called upon to do, the American Soldier remains the single most important factor in our success.

We are proud of you, our Army family — Soldiers, civilians, retirees, veterans and your families — and you are always foremost in our prayers and in our actions. Thank you for your service, for your sacrifices and for your steadfast devotion to duty. Your courage, dedication and selfless service to the nation are the hallmarks of the U.S. Army.

God bless each and every one of you and your families, and God bless America.

Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker
Army Chief of Staff
Les Brownlee
Acting Secretary of the Army



Gen. Peter Schoomaker



Acting Sec. Les Brownlee

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Local vet recalls fear, humor of D-Day

Normandy invasion troops were penned up several days



105th MPAD/Dey-Bolejack
Ogden resident Kenneth Romanski shows some of the pieces of money he collected while fighting with U.S. forces in Europe during World War II.

By Valerie Dey-Bolejack
105th MPAD

Sixty years ago, a 26-year-old Kansas resident landed on the beach in Normandy as part of the largest air, land and sea operation ever. Kenneth Romanski, who now lives in Ogden, was among the more than 150,000 servicemen, 5,000 ships and 11,000 aircraft supporting Operation Overlord - the D-Day landing.

The United States drafted Romanski into the Army in 1944. He was assigned to Capt. Kimball Richmond's Company I and was supposed to be in the first group to hit Omaha Beach.

"About a week before D-Day, we were put in a pen, a fenced-in area, approximately 20 to 25 acres. In this pen was a fence about eight feet tall and a walking area on the other side of it and a fence about six-foot tall.

"On opposite corners was an observation post with English guys with machine guns, and they were told to shoot anybody in that walking area that wasn't supposed to be there.

"There were tents and one Quonset hut. The hut was the kitchen and equipment," Romanski said.

The men were put in the confinement area to ensure operational security.

There was little training for the men who were to be the first assault team on the beach.

"We didn't do any exercises for the landing," Romanski said. "All

we did was talk to each other and look at pictures of the beach. We had roll call in the morning and roll call at night to make sure no one was missing.

"We were assault teams. On these pictures it showed the tide and the concertina wire and the pillbox way up at the top.

"I was to be the first one out of the boat and put my bandolier torpedo under the concertina wire and blow it out. And then we were supposed to jump through and go up to the pillbox and blow it out. Of course, it didn't turn out that way.

"Our only exercises was we got on a British ship three or four days before, got in the LCIs, went to the beach, didn't do no shooting or anything, just went to the beach, got in trucks and went back to our pen," he said.

The men were put on boats the night before the invasion.

"We were woke up at about 2 o'clock and told to eat breakfast and be ready to go," Romanski said. "Our breakfast was a corn beef sandwich and a cup of hot tea.

"Then we were told to wait until they hollered at us. They finally told us to go up on deck; we were leaving. It was still dark. You could just see the flares," Romanski recalled.

Once the LCIs hit the beach in France, "We ran into trouble," Romanski said. "The tide had just covered the mines. Going in, the boat on our left hit a mine and blew up. No sooner had that hap-

'War story'

While they were waiting for the call to get into the boats, Ogden resident and D-Day veteran Kenneth Romanski recalled that the men played cards and dice. When the call finally came to move out, Romanski said, "An officer told us to get ready; This one guy, he didn't have his helmet on. The officer told him 'get your damn helmet on.' It was about half full of coins he had won. He didn't know what to do with it so he dumped them all over the deck. Those coins were all left."

pened and the one on our right hit a mine and blew up. Our platoon leader hollered to the English guy 'Back it up, back it up.'

"We were out quite a bit when he told this English guy to drop the ramp. He dropped the ramp and I jumped out. There was a guy behind me; he was a private too. He jumped out and then Lt. Godwin jumped out."

Romanski went under in about eight feet of water and couldn't swim. He had to drop his torpedo and weapon and inflate his Mae West life preserver to get to the surface.

"I started paddling for the shore, and the bullets were going around my head. I looked over to see Lt. Godwin about 20 foot from me, and the bullets were going around his head. So I just paddled real, real soft until I got into the beach and then I just ran. One of the bullets hit me in the shoulder. I didn't know because there was no pain. I didn't know I was hit until three days later."

After he hit the beach, Romanski found a rifle with a grenade launcher someone had dropped. He started shooting grenades up the bluff. The boat had begun taking water as it continued to back up and Romanski later heard it had sunk. He never saw any of the other men aboard again.

"There was no wire and there was that bluff. We were in the wrong place. We didn't know what to do. Me and this private stuck together, but we couldn't find anybody we knew."

It was later that evening they found their platoon leader, Romanski said. "He told us to stay in this one place and he'd go back and try and find the other. He was gone four, five hours and came back with the men he found."

Capt. Richmond, the company commander, was lost, too. Richmond had safely landed and found he was the senior officer in his location. The battalion leadership had landed to the west, down the beach. Company I had landed at "Fox Green" instead of Omaha Beach.

No one had been scheduled to land at "Fox Green."

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Soldiers, civilians retire

By April Blackmon
Staff writer

Ending nearly 300 years of combined service, 11 Soldiers and two civilian employees planning to retire from military and government service were honored May 26 for their long and outstanding service.

Each Soldier received the Meritorious Service Medal in recognition of outstanding military service and all retirees received an American flag during the ceremony at Ware Parade Field in front of the post headquarters building.

Retirees' spouses received certificates of appreciation recognizing and thanking them for the contributions and support they gave to their sponsors' careers.

"These retirees we honor today have paid their dues ... they have more than lived their lives in a way that we will not forget them," said Col. John Simpson, U.S. Army Garrison commander.

Of the 13 people retiring, six plan to stay in the area.

Sgt. 1st Class Allen Lewis of the U.S. Army Medical Department Activity retires after 24 years of service. He will live in Manhattan, where he plans to return to school and to work.

Sgt. 1st Class Ronald Claberry of the 568th Combat Support Equipment Company, 541st Maintenance Battalion, served 20 years. He will retire in Junction City, where he plans to pursue a degree in hazardous materials management.

Sgt. 1st Class William Knicklebine of 3rd Battalion, 314th Field Artillery Regiment, retires after 21 years service. He will retire in Ogden and plans to pursue a degree in nursing.

Staff Sgt. Darren Dinger of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 13th Armor, served 20 years. He will retire in Manhattan and work to complete a bachelor's degree in wildlife management. He plans to become a conservation officer.

Carol Bondurant with the Directorate of Community Activities retires after 36 years of civil service. She plans to remain in the area.

Donald Reeves with the Plans, Analysis and Integration Office, retires after 35 years. He also will remain in Junction City and is looking forward to doing more mountain climbing and pursuing other outdoor interests.

Master Sgt. Mitchell Claunch of MEDDAC, retires after 20 years of service. He plans to seek employment with the government at Offut Air Force Base in Nebraska.

Master Sgt. Timothy Schaefer of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 541st Maint. Bn. retires after 20 years of service. He will move to Cullman, Ala., where he plans to work in the telecommunications field.

Sgt. 1st Class Richard Glover Jr. of Battery C, 1st Battalion, 4th Air Defense Artillery, served 21 years. He will return to Colorado Springs, Colo., and plans to pursue a management position in human resources.

Sgt. 1st Class Kathleen Hargraves of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized), served 21 years. She will retire in Manitowic, Wis., and plans to travel, garden and complete her bachelor's degree in social science.

Staff Sgt. Guy Liberty of the 24th Transportation Company, 541st Maint. Bn., served 20 years and will retire in Topeka. He plans to complete his bachelor's degree in political science and pursue a law degree.

Staff Sgt. John English Jr., also of the 24th Trans. Co., retires after 20 years service. He will retire in Possum Trot, Ky., and plans to pursue a teaching degree.

Staff Sgt. Timothy Dorsey of HHD, 541st Maint. Bn., served 20 years. He will retire in Murrayville, Ga., and plans to spend time with family and seek employment in the chemical field.

'Bulldogs' honor Soldiers with medals

By April Blackmon
Staff writer

The Bulldogs — 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division — honored several Soldiers, Family Readiness Group members and area businesses May 26 for service and support during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Top awards included five Bronze Stars with "V" devices, 13 Bronze Stars for meritorious service, 12 Purple Hearts and nine Army Commendation Medals with "V" devices. The "V" device signifies an award for valor.

Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, commanding general of the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and Fort Riley, Col. Russ Gold, 3rd BCT commander, and 3rd BCT Command Sgt. Maj. Nathaniel Hopkins presented the awards.

Hardy characterized the event as "a great day to recognize some of the very important contributions and efforts by this great Bulldog team."

Recipients represented just a handful of the total number of 3rd BCT Soldiers who earned medals for their service in Iraq.

In all, 10 Soldiers earned Silver

Bronze Star Medal with "V" device
Awarded to Soldiers for heroic or meritorious achievement of service, not involving aerial flight in connection with operations against an opposing armed force.

1st Sgt. **Rodger Yuraska**
Sgt. 1st Class **Larry Scott**
Staff Sgt. **Joseph Dirks**
Staff Sgt. **Eric Raney**
Staff Sgt. **Eric Williams**



Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service

Capt. **Jay Blakley**
Capt. **Theodore Leonard**
Capt. **Bradley Laauwe**
Capt. **Robert Ramsey**
1st Lt. **Jason Sabovich**
Sgt. 1st Class **Gary Harris**
Sgt. 1st Class **Almondo Markham**
Sgt. 1st Class **Michael Summers**
Sgt. 1st Class **David Tolbert**
Staff Sgt. **Sidney Sizemore**
Staff Sgt. **David Wells**
Staff Sgt. **Patrick Zastrow**
Sgt. **Michael Webb**



Purple Heart Medal
Awarded to Soldiers wounded by an instrument of war and posthumously next of kin in the name of those killed in action or who die of wounds received in action.

1st Lt. **Jason Belknap**
1st Lt. **Anton Kemps**
Sgt. 1st Class **Patrick Brown**
Staff Sgt. **Reed Delp**
Staff Sgt. **Christopher Kohansky**
Staff Sgt. **Amar Shine**
Staff Sgt. **Bradley Wyatt**
Sgt. **David Guy**
Spc. **Tony Belt**
Spc. **Raven Cornett**
Pfc. **Methane Langsty**
Pfc. **Isaiah Pasterski**



Army Commendation Medal with "V" device
Awarded to Soldiers for an act of valor which has been of mutual benefit to a friendly nation and the United States.

2nd Lt. **Eric Huss**
2nd Lt. **Kelly Silvers**
Staff Sgt. **Jeremy Strasser**
Sgt. **Eric Heisel**
Sgt. **Keane Moore**
Sgt. **Shirley Roger**
Spc. **Cody Powers**
Spc. **Ronada Ford**



Stars, 64 Soldiers received Bronze Stars with "V" device, 266 more received Bronze Stars for meritorious service, 70 Soldiers received Army Commendation Medals with "V" device and 190 pinned on Purple Hearts.

Sgt. 1st Class David Tolbert received the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service. He attributed

his honor to his Soldiers. "Without them and their support I wouldn't be able to get this award. It was a team effort," he said.

Team efforts in the Family Readiness Groups were recognized as well. Many leaders received plaques, medallions and certificates for their contributions and support for Soldiers and their

families.

"We thank our family members. I can't put a measure of thanks on their efforts. There's no way I can," Gold said.

"It was pretty good that they honored Soldiers and family members who worked hard while we were gone," Tolbert said.

Hardy used the occasion to

officially welcome back the 3rd BCT from Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Some of you have been home awhile but truly today marks, I think, the final return of this great brigade combat team," Hardy said. "I am very honored to stand in front of you today and say, 'mission accomplished.'"

Colonel appointed to major general

Army News Service

Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld announced May 21 that the president has nominated Col. Gale S. Pollock for appointment to the grade of major general and assignment as chief, Army Nurse Corps, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C.

Pollock serves as special assistant to the commanding general, U.S. Army Medical Command /The Surgeon General, U.S. Army, Falls Church, Va.

Besides her duties as chief of the Army Nurse Corps, Pollock is waiting on an assignment as commanding general, Pacific Regional Medical Command/Tripler

Army Medical Center, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Provisions of Title 10, U.S.C., section 3069(b), states an officer holding a grade lower than major general who is selected to serve as the chief of the Army Nurse Corps will be appointed to the regular grade of major general.

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Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

Friday, June 4, 2004

America's Warfighting Center

Page 11

Sports news in brief

Main Post pool to open

Barring unexpected complications, the Main Post swimming pool behind Riley's Convention Center will open to post residents June 4.

Army seeks softball players

Soldiers interested in trying out for the all-Army softball team must apply by June 30.

For information on how to apply, stop by the Fort Riley Sports Office in King Field House or call 29-3945.

Center plans canoe trip

Registration is under way at the Outdoor Recreation Center for a June 19 canoe trip on the Big Blue River.

Canoeers will float the river from Rocky Ford to the U.S. Highway 24 bridge. The trip is expected to last from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Cost is \$15, which includes transportation to and from the area, canoe, paddles and life jacket.

For more information, call Outdoor Rec at 239-2363 or stop by building 9011 on Rifle Range Road.

Outdoor Rec changes hours

Effective now through Sept. 11, the Outdoor Recreation Center will be open as follows:

Saturday and Sunday: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Monday, Thursday and Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tuesday and Wednesday: Closed

Also closed July 5-6 and Sept. 4 for federal holidays.

Body building competition set

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers and two local businesses will sponsor the Mr. & Mrs. Fort Riley Body Building Competition at 7 p.m. June 12 at Barlow Theater. Spectators will be charged \$5 admission.

Contestants must pay a \$20 entry fee and can sign up at ITR across from the Main Post Exchange.

Mark Monaco will be available to give a clinic for new competitors. He will teach each competitor the mandatory poses. Pre-judging begins at 7:30 a.m. and is free.

Women's competition will be divided into weight classes as follows: Lightweight 114 pounds and below, mid-weight 115-124, heavy-weight 125 and above. Masters competition will be for body builders 35 and older. Men's competition will be divided as follows: Bantamweight 150 pounds and below, lightweight 151-174, middleweight 175-186, light heavyweight 187-198, and heavyweight 199 and above. Masters competition will be for men 35 and older.

For more information, call Monaco at 554-9701 or the BOSS president at 239-8147.

Wood pins down Olympic berth

By Tim Hips
Army News Service

INDIANAPOLIS — "Go Army," Oscar Wood exclaimed after earning the only Olympic wrestling berth for an "Army of One" in the tournament billed "One Dream. One Weekend. One Shot" at the RCA Dome May 23.

Fifteen Soldiers competed in the Olympic Trials that consisted of a two-day mini-tournament. The winners in each weight class then wrestled a best-of-three series against the national champions for 18 spots on Team USA - seven each in men's freestyle and Greco-Roman, four in women's freestyle.

In the 66-kilogram/145.5-pound Greco-Roman division,

Wood opened like gangbusters, pinning 2000 Olympian and five-time national champion Kevin Bracken of New York Athletic Club in 1 minute, 47 seconds, of the first match of their championship series.

"Lots of times you don't catch people - especially someone like Kevin," said Wood, a graduate of Oregon State University. "But he

got caught, and there was no way out of it. I wouldn't have bet on pinning him, but once I had the move - it was tight."

In his second match, top-seeded Wood prevailed 3-0 to secure a trip to Athens, Greece.

"I had this adrenaline rush that was like nothing I ever felt before when I got on the mat," he said. "I've always dreamed about being

an Olympian. But to be an Olympian and a Soldier, that makes it all that much better - especially right now."

Bracken's final victory was a 6-0 decision over Glenn Garrison, who finished second in the mini-tournament.

After losing his first match in

See Wrestlers, Page 12

Double play

Softball leagues continue; 1 Goliath remains

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

Slow-pitch softball teams representing 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, and 70th Engineer Battalion, split their games in battalion league play May 24. The Infantry ran over the Engineers 11-4 in the night's opener then succumbed to the Engineers 7-3 in the 7 p.m. game.

The Infantry's record improved to two wins and four losses. The Engineers finished the evening with a 1-3 record.

U.S. Army Medical Activity and the 924th Military Police Battalion also split their battalion league games that evening. MEDDAC won the first game 13-12 and the MPs responded with a 21-8 win in the second game.

MEDDAC remained even after the evening's games with a 2-2 record.

The 924th had not played at battalion level until May 24. The top team in the league, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, didn't play May 24 and kept its 4-0 record intact.

See Softball, Page 13



Roberto Aramburu of 568th CSE ducks a ball thrown by HHC, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor, second baseman Ronald Lawson during a company slow-pitch softball game May 26. Randy Fallon backs up the second baseman in the double play attempt.

Post/Heronemus

College to host national qualifier

Colbert Hills picked as site for First Tee tournament

By Keener A. Tippin II
Kansas State University

MANHATTAN — It's what pro golfer Jim Colbert dreamed about for his picturesque diamond on the range — a competitive golf facility with a mix of education and research.

Since opening in 2000, Colbert Hills Golf Course has been just that. Now Kansas State University personnel are striving to enhance the course's eminence as a championship-caliber facility.

Last spring, the course was the host site for the NCAA Men's Central Regional. This summer another chapter will be added to the course's reputation when Colbert Hills hosts the National Chapter Qualifying Tournament July 25-26 for The First Tee Open at Pebble Beach.

"The First Tee Open at Pebble Beach, slated Sept. 3-5, is an official Champions Tour event and an entirely new endeavor for The First Tee," said Bob Krause, K-State vice president for institutional advancement.

"The tournament will bring a new focus to the playing abilities of The First Tee participants, giving the program's accomplished players the opportunity to showcase their skills at a national level."

See Golf, Page 12

Flag patch from Iraq races with Nemechek

By Lorie Jewell
Army News Service

CONCORD, N.C. — Flying around a racetrack at speeds pushing 200 miles per hour May 30, NASCAR driver Joe Nemechek paid special tribute to fallen Soldiers and those still serving.

On the dash of Nemechek's

Army-sponsored 01 Chevrolet was an American flag patch, placed there by Sgt. 1st Class Mark Mounce of the U.S. Army's Accessions Command minutes before the start of NASCAR's Coca-Cola 600 race at the Lowe's Motor Speedway. Nemechek finished the race in 14th place. Jimmy Johnson took first.

Nemechek said it was "cool" to

drive with the patch, especially for the Memorial Day race. Riding shotgun was a GI. Joe doll dressed in a desert camouflage uniform, strapped into the passenger seat.

"Anytime we can do something to honor Soldiers, I definitely want to be a part of it," Nemechek said.

In a pre-race ceremony on the

main stage of the track, Special Forces Soldier Capt. Doug Legan handed Mounce the patch he wore on his desert camouflage uniform while serving in Iraq. Mounce quick-marched across the infield to the 01 racecar. After saluting Accessions Commander Lt. Gen. Dennis Cavin, who stood at attention at the rear of the car, Mounce reached in through the passenger

window and fastened the Velcro-backed patch to the dash.

"It's just fitting that Joe carry this around the track for Memorial Day," Cavin said.

The hood of the black-and-gold Army racecar now features the Time Magazine cover naming the American Soldier as its Person of

See NASCAR, Page 12

Purple poppy-mallow blooms on post



By Carla Hurlbert
Conservation Division

The perennial purple poppy-mallow (*Callirhoe involucrata*) belongs to the family Malvaceae. "Callirhoe" comes from the Greek kallirhoos, meaning "beautiful flowering," and "involucrate," referring to the whorl of bracts below the flower.

It is also called purple mallow, low poppy-mallow or winecup. It

On the Wildside:

News About Nature

grows throughout Kansas and is common on Fort Riley.

The purple poppy-mallow is native to Kansas and grows in the central and southern Great Plains. The attractive, spreading plant blooms from April through August.

The purple poppy-mallow's stems sprawl along the ground, arching upward to two feet with support.

Rounded, hairy leaves are deeply lobed and cleft. The chalice-shaped, 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 inches wide flowers have a white spot at the base of their five purplish-red petals.

Flowers grow alone or in small groups on stalks up to four inches long.

Flowers close in the evening. See Poppy, Page 13



DES/Haddock

The purple poppy-mallow is a common sight on Fort Riley land.





With Lt. Gen. Dennis Cavin (second from left), commander of the U.S. Army Accessions Command, standing by, Sg. 1st Class Mark Mounce (left) of the Accessions Command prepare to place an American flag patch on the dash of the Army-sponsored 01 Chevrolet driven by Joe Nemecek in the NASCAR Coca-Cola 600 race on Memorial Day.

NASCAR

continued from page 11

the Year. Just before the race started, Cavin playfully polished the hood with a napkin for Nemecek's mother, Martha, who captured the moment with her camera.

NASCAR and Coca-Cola celebrated the race's tie to Memorial Day by featuring the military, and the Army especially, in activities leading up to the moment the drivers peeled out of the pit area to start the 600-mile race.

The 82nd Airborne Chorus sang, the Golden Knights Skydive Team jumped into the infield and Soldiers with the 3rd Special Forces Group from Fort Bragg, N.C., fast-roped to the track from Black Hawk helicopters and set up a perimeter for the arrival of a Black Hawk that delivered country singer John Michael Montgomery to the infield.

Montgomery, dressed in a desert camouflage uniform, performed his hit song "Letters From Home" with Soldiers flanked behind him.

A crew from the 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, Stryker Brigade Combat Team made a lap around the track in the infantry carrier.

A 4th Infantry Division color guard presented the colors just before Chief Warrant Officer Charlie King of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment sang "Amazing Grace."

A 3rd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, rifle team gave a seven-gun volley as Staff Sgt. Shelby Barber of the 82nd Airborne Division Band played "Taps." Five Black Hawks flew over the track in a missing man formation, followed by a B2 Stealth bomber as finalists from the "American Idol" television talent show sang the National Anthem and Special Forces Soldiers raised the American flag in Victory Lane.

Maj. Gen. Charles Swannack Jr., former commander of the 82nd Airborne

Division, greeted the crowd of 100,000-plus as grand marshal of the race, drawing thunderous applause as he thanked them for their patriotism and paid tribute to those "who have made the ultimate sacrifice for you and I" to enjoy the freedoms of a democratic society.

Swannack deferred the honor of starting the race to a group of Soldiers from the 1st Armored

Cavalry Division currently serving in Iraq. A video of the Soldiers issuing the traditional command, "Gentlemen, start your engines," was broadcast on giant screens around the track.

Soldiers involved in race activities were impressed and grateful with the lengths organizers went to in recognizing Memorial Day and the military.

"It's pretty surreal," said Staff Sgt. David Hughes, a member of the Stryker crew. "We've gotten a lot of 'thank you's' from everyone. It's nice to know people believe in what we're doing."

Staff Sgt. Matthew Brandt, of the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment rifle team, first experienced the patriotic embrace of a NASCAR crowd last year after returning from Afghanistan. The patriotism hasn't diminished one bit, Brandt said.

"For Soldiers who love NASCAR, this is an awesome experience," said Brandt, pausing as he toured the garage area before the race. "You just can't beat it. Everyone keeps saying they appreciate what we do, but we want them to know that we appreciate everything they do for us."

Wrestlers

continued from page 11

the championship series, Keith Sieracki won the 74-kilogram/163-pound Greco-Roman crown with two 3-2 overtime victories over top-seeded Darryl Christian of New York Athletic Club. The United States, however, failed to qualify for the Olympics in that weight class, leaving Sieracki hoping for a wild-card berth into the Games.

"I'm probably not going to get a chance to wrestle in the Olympics this year, so to me it's like I won two Olympic Trials and no Olympic team," said Sieracki, who won his weight class in the 2000 U.S. Olympic Trials at Dallas only to lose his spot on Team USA to Matt Lindland's arbitration team. "All I want to say is 'go black and gold; go Army.'"

Without his weight class qualified for the Olympics, Sieracki moved up in weight class for the national championships but didn't want to wrestle his younger brother, Aaron Sieracki, who finished second at 84 kilograms/185 pounds in the mini-tournament.

Dremiel Byers lost his Olympic bid in a pair of 2-1 overtime losses to 2000 Olympic gold medalist Rulon Gardner of Sunnikit Kids Wrestling Club in the 120-kilogram/264.5-pound Greco-Roman division's battle of world champions.

"When we locked up in those clinches, I was out of position

both times," Byers said of the first match. "In the last clinch, I felt like I had him just for a second but I realized I better let it go after I lost position."

Gardner and Byers will continue to train together at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Two-time world silver medalist Tina George, the No. 1 seed in the women's 55-kilogram/121-pound freestyle division, was pinned twice by Tela O'Donnell of Dave Schultz Wrestling Club.

In the first match, O'Donnell was leading 4-3 when she pinned George with a headlock at the 5:57 mark. George was leading 6-2 when O'Donnell pinned her with a power half nelson move 4:12 into the second match.

Byers and George will be alternates for Team USA in the Olympics.

Paul Devlin lost a 5-0 decision to Gardner in the super heavy-weight Greco-Roman finale of the mini-tournament, during which several WCAP wrestlers retired from the world's oldest sport.

Teary-eyed Dominic Black started the emotional outpouring when he walked across the mat to receive a forfeit for fifth place in the 96-kilogram/211.5-pound Greco-Roman division.

Black said he did not leave his shoes on the mat - a wrestler's way of saying they are retiring - in

respect to former world champion Melvin Douglas, who already had planted his boots to a thunderous round of applause after finishing sixth in their weight class.

Kenny Owens, who finished fourth in Greco-Roman at 84 kilos/185 pounds, left his shoes on the mat shortly after Black left the arena to a standing ovation from the crowd of 8,639. Owens lost his final match 3-1 to Quincey Clark of Minnesota Storm Wrestling Club.

Glenn Nieradka also left his shoes on the mat, stirring the crowd to another rousing ovation, after dropping a 3-0 decision to Joe Warren of New York Athletic Club in the 60-kilogram/132-pound Greco-Roman finals of the mini-tournament.

Iris Smith finished third in the women's 72-kilogram/158.5-pound freestyle division with a 7-0 victory over Satrimma Vernon of Gator Wrestling Club.

Jason Loukides, who defeated R.C. Johnson of New York Athletic Club 4-2 in his final match, finished fifth in the 96-kilogram/211.5-pound Greco-Roman division.

Three other Soldiers placed eighth in their weight classes: Jason Kutz at 60 kilograms/132 pounds; Anthony Gibbons at 55 kilograms/121 pounds; and James Johnson at 66 kilograms/145.5 pounds.

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Golf

continued from page 11

The First Tee participants have two ways to gain entry into The First Tee Open at Pebble Beach.

They can enter through The First Tee Network qualifier, which is open only to participants of The First Tee who are par-certified and were enrolled in The First Tee Chapter program in 2003.

They also can enter through regional open qualifiers, which are open to all junior golfers who meet the age and handicap requirements established.

Regional open qualifiers will be conducted in Atlanta, Austin, Chicago, Philadelphia and Sacramento.

"The First Tee is very excited about this opportunity to introduce our participants to competition and the thrill of tournament play," said Laura Orlen, tournament director. "We are excited to come to Colbert Hills and know that it will serve as a terrific venue for the National Chapter Qualifier," she said.

National First Tee chapters will host 18-hole chapter qualifiers to determine the best junior male and female golfers in The First Tee Network.

The four local chapters of The First Tee in Kansas — Cimarron, Greater Kansas City, Manhattan, and Salina — will have a state qualifier in June at a date and site to be determined.

Juniors who are successful in their local qualifiers will advance to the National Chapter Qualifier at Colbert Hills.

The National Chapter Qualifier will be a 36-hole stroke play competition comprised of a maximum field of 100 golfers — 80 males and 20 females — from which about the top 16 males and top four females will earn spots to play in The First Tee Open at Pebble Beach.

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Post/Heronemus
Umpire John Tatum calls a strike May 26 in the 568th CSE and HHC, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor game.



Post/Heronemus
HHC, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor, first baseman James Dyer snags the throw in time to force out 568th CSE's Matthew Sweeney in the sixth inning May 26. Armor pitcher/coach John Solis and teammate Joshua Heck (right) and CSE third base coach Jean-Paul Pelletier watch the play.



Post/Heronemus
MEDDAC catcher Alexis Hobie and plate umpire Ray Robinson watch a pop fly ball hit by HHC, 24th Inf. Div., player William Jones. Hobie caught the ball against the backstop for the out during a company league game May 26.

Softball

continued from page 11

Company league

Company C, 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor, played a four-game slate for the third straight day of company league action May 24. It won one of its four games May 19 and two of its four games May 20.

On May 24, the Co. C squad won its final game of the night, 10-9, against Company A, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor.

It lost the previous three games 19-9 against 3rd Brigade, 75th Division (Training Support); 9-3 against Company B, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor; and 20-5 against Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor.

On May 26, Co. C faced another four-game slate but got a breather in the second game when Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 937th Engineer Battalion, forfeited. Co. C lost the first game of the evening 18-13 against Co. B, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor.

It won the last two games, 7-1 against 24th Transportation Company and 13-4 against 172nd Chemical Company.

The 596th Signal Company debuted in the league with two wins May 24. They beat Co. B, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor, 8-7, and followed that with a 24-3 win against Detachment D, 15th Personnel Services Battalion, in the

next game. However, the Signalmen lost both their games May 26 — 21-13 against HHC, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor, and 16-11 against the 523rd Military Police Company.

As of May 26, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) remained undefeated.

It followed its first two wins May 19 with an 18-9 win against Co. B, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor, May 24 and a two more wins May 26.

The first of those, 9-6 against HHC, MEDDAC, came with the slimmest margin of victory the Infantrymen had experienced to date.

Other wins had seen point

spreads of 16, 11 and nine points. The Infantrymen bombed 10th ASOS 21-4 in their final game May 26.

Other games

In other company games played May 24:

HHC, 1st Bn., 41st Inf., defeated 10th ASOS 7-0 and lost to HHC, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor, 12-11.

HHC, 24th Inf. Div., defeated Co. B, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor, 18-9.

Company A, 1st Battalion, 13th Armor, defeated Co. B, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor, 8-5.

Det. D, 15th PSB, lost to 568th Combat Support Equipment 17-5.

In other company games played May 26:

The 342nd Military Police Company defeated 977th Military Police Company 20-0.

The 3rd Bde., 75th Div., defeated 34nd MPs 6-4.

Co. A, 1st Bn., 13th Armor, won twice: 16-4 against 523rd MPs and 14-2 against 24th Trans. Co.

HHC, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor, defeated 568th CSE 9-3.

MEDDAC defeated HHC, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor, 11-6.

The 300th Military Police Company defeated 10th ASOS 16-3 then lost their next game 17-10 against HHC, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor.

Poppy

continued from page 11

open in the morning and remain closed after pollination.

The flowers give rise to a fruit consisting of rings of 15 to 25 beaked kidney-shaped segments. Each segment contains a single seed.

The purple poppy-mallow prefers the full sun and dry conditions, although a little shade and moister conditions are tolerated.

In Kansas, this plant is often found in pastures or prairies, along roadsides and in open disturbed areas where there are dry, rocky or sandy soils.

Purple poppy-mallow has a deep taproot and is resistant to drought. The winecup flowers are susceptible to rust during wet seasons in the Great Plains.

The foliage of the purple poppy-mallow is readily consumed by mammalian herbivores, including groundhogs, deer, rabbits and livestock.

The taproot is edible and can be used as emergency food by humans, which means that it is probably edible to gophers and other small rodents as well.

The roots can be cooked and the leaves can be used to thicken soups.

The Osage Indians dug the roots and stored them for use in the winter. It is said that the root tastes similar to a sweet potato.

The Lakota and Dakota Indians burned the dried roots and inhaled the smoke as a treatment for colds. The roots were also boiled and used for a tea to treat intestinal pains.

The purple poppy-mallow is similar to the pale or pink poppy-mallow (*Callirhoe alcaeoides*), which has pink to rose or white flowers.

Also, it has no involucre and grows in a more upright posture.

DAILY UNION
6 x 12"
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POST SERVICE DIRECTORY





105th MPAD/Dey-Bolejck

These antlers and skull aren't for rent, but Outdoor Recreation Center employee Randy Case said he could sell them if someone wants them.



105th MPAD/Dey-Bolejck

Outdoor Recreation Center employee Randy Case discusses a boat rental agreement with Staff Sgt. Karl Johnson. The center offers several types of watercraft for rent.

Center equips hardy, novice adventurers

Staff planning canoe trip, more

By John S. Wollaston
Staff writer

With summer's heat beginning to bear down on Kansas, the staff at Fort Riley's Outdoor Recreation Center is ready with a host of fun summertime activities and equipment for Soldiers and their family members.

Outdoor Rec. offers a wide variety of equipment to help people enjoy their summer days outside. Offering everything from camping trailers to fishing poles, Outdoor Rec Manager Carol Alexander said she wants her facility to be the first place Soldiers think of when it comes to outdoor recreation.

"We hope our prices are not only competitive but cheaper than those of our competitors," Alexander said. "We rent equipment on a 24-hour basis whereas other places rent on an hourly basis for four or eight hours."

Alexander and her staff are trying to organize a canoe trip down the Big Blue River. A fishing contest awarding prizes to anglers who catch tagged fish in Fort Riley ponds is under way.

Fifteen fish were stocked at each pond on post. They were tagged with a red, white or blue tag. Fishermen who catch one of the tagged fish can take it to the Rec Center to claim their prize.

One fish in each pond is tagged with a gold tag representing a grand prizewinner.

Prizes range from fishing poles to an inflatable raft. The entry fee for the contest is \$5 and anyone wanting to compete can pick up an on-post fishing license at Outdoor Rec. The contest runs from now until Oct. 31.

Outdoor Rec offers an archery range and skeet shooting as well as equipment rental. Starting this summer, the Rec Center will offer a 13-passenger Sun Tracker pontoon barge for rent by individuals or groups.

"It's good for a family get together or a small company party," Alexander said. "And it can work for fishing, too."

Any Department of Defense cardholder can rent the boat by the day or by the weekend. A standard Kansas boating safety course is all that's required before putting the boat in the water.

One change on the horizon for Outdoor Rec is its hours of operation.

Starting May 30, Outdoor Rec. will be open Monday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Alexander says the change was made to accommodate customers who "want to do more on the weekends and in the outdoors."

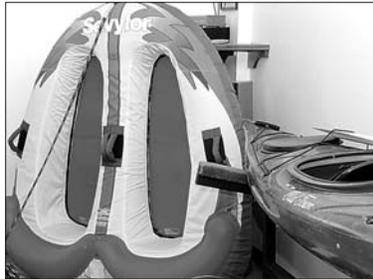


105th MPAD/Dey-Bolejck

Sgt. 1st Class Dale Buhrmann sits behind the steering wheel of the new pontoon boat available for rent.

Airconditioned pop-up travel trailers like this one and more primitive camping gear can be rented at the post's Outdoor Recreation Center.

105th MPAD/Dey-Bolejck



105th MPAD/Dey-Bolejck

Flotation equipment that can be ridden while being towed behind a boat and a kayak are among outdoor recreation equipment available for rent.

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Fort Riley Community Life

Community news briefly

Stampede offers deals on tickets

Country Stampede is offering complimentary tickets for the Kick-Off party June 24. Tickets will be available only at the gate for valid military ID card holders.

Gates open at 4 p.m. for the Kick-Off party that features a karaoke contests and performances by Shevy Smith, Rushlow and Mark Willis.

Special military salute tickets for June 27 are also available to valid military and Department of Defense civilian ID card holders for \$10.50 (\$50 value).

The main stage lineup for that day's performance include Blue Country at 12:30 p.m., Craig Morgan at 2 p.m., Terri Clark at 4 p.m., Jack Daniels at 6 p.m. and the Steve Miller Band at 8 p.m.

Tickets are now available through ITR in building 6918 (across the parking lot from the main post exchange). For more information, call 239-5614 or 239-4415.

Youth Services sets orientation

Child & Youth Services will conduct a Family Child Care Provider Orientation from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. June 10.

For more information, call 239-9224.

Class teaches good parenting

Fort Riley parents have been invited to enroll in a six-session course that teaches how to become a "Love and Logic Parent."

Registration for the free course ends June 7.

The course, sponsored by USD 475 will be taught on Mondays and Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. June 7-24 at the First Presbyterian Church, 113 W. Fifth St., Junction City.

Free childcare and transportation will be provided.

For more information, call Kathy Williams in the school district's community connections office, 238-6184, extension 2210 or send her e-mail at Kathywilliams@usd475.org.

SFSC activities:

- June 4 - Army Family Team Building Level 1**, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Soldier & Family Member Deployment Preparation Briefings, 1:30 to 3 p.m.
- June 5 - Take A Break**, free child care in June, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- June 9 - PCS-Germany**, 1:30 to 4 p.m.
- June 11 - Newcomer's Orientation**, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Crafts classes:

- June 6 - Scrapbooking Get-Together**, 1 to 4:30 p.m.
- June 7 - Quilting Workshop-Log Cabin**, 9:30 a.m.; Wood Safety, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.; Crochet, Knitting, Cross Stitch, 7 p.m.
- June 7, 14, 21, 28 - Pottery**, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.
- June 9 - Ceramic Painting-Uncle Sam**, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- June 9, 10, 16, 23, 24 - Stained Glass**, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Stay In Step with Fort Riley

See what's happening on Fort Riley cable Channel 2 every day at 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

You've earned it

Savings You've Earned

The following signs are posted throughout the Commissary to highlight savings.



Red border and letters point to what's on sale today



Black border and letters: Savings as compared to area stores



Blue border and letters point out better than average savings



Carmen Viera takes advantage of the Commissary's "Every Day Savings."

Post/April Blackmon

New signs point shoppers to best buys in store

By April Blackmon
Staff writer

New signs point shoppers to bargains at the Fort Riley commissary.

The Defense Commissary Agency launched its "Savings You've Earned" campaign system-wide May 27. Its debut marks the first major new program in more than three years.

The program uses posters, buttons and signs designed to help customers better understand the savings benefits realized when shopping at the commissary.

"We want to help customers identify what's on

sale," said Mark Derby, Fort Riley store director. "It's for military members, retirees and now Guard and Reserves. They've earned this."

Customers will notice three types of signs designating savings throughout the store. As shoppers enter the commissary, they will begin seeing white "value savings" signs. These signs compare prices of certain commissary items to prices of the same items charged at the local grocery stores, Derby said.

Those stores are in business for profit, Derby reminded. "We're not. We sell everything at or below cost so you get the savings. Our specials knock their socks off."

Red "extra savings" signs on shelves throughout the

store highlight items on sale for a limited time. Blue "every day savings" signs point out products that are "cheaper than they would normally be," Derby said.

"We can give you savings after savings, and we love doing it. Those savings average around 30 percent or more. In fact, some of the savings are up to 40 percent," he said.

For more information on sales and specials, customers can sign up at www.commissaries.com to receive Commissary Connections, a new e-newsletter. DeCA deliver the newsletter via e-mail and provides links to manufacturer and vendor sites that contain additional savings, promotions, contests, events and more.

Students prepare for graduation

More than 200 complete course work for college degrees

By Kay Gatz
Education Center

Caps and gowns have been ordered, announcements have been mailed and graduation programs are being printed. Anticipation is building as the post's education center and soon-to-be graduates make final preparation for the Fort Riley Graduation Ceremony scheduled from 1 p.m. June 10 in King Field House.

More than 200 Soldiers, family members, retirees and Department of the Army civilians found

the time during this busy year to complete the coursework required to earn their degrees. More than 120 of those students plan to take part in the ceremony.

For the first time in the history of the Fort Riley graduations, an honorary degree will be presented.

Barton County Community College will present the honorary degree posthumously Spc. Uday Singh. Singh, an Indian immigrant serving in the Army at Fort Riley, was killed in action in December 2003 while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom. The

college's board of trustees voted May 18 to honor Singh with the first honorary degree.

Singh served with Company C, 1st Battalion, 34th Armored Regiment, 1st Infantry Division. He had been a Barton student from the summer of 2001 to the spring of 2003, completing 39 credit hours and maintaining a 3.77 grade point average throughout his course work.

Unit deployment interrupted Singh's education in February 2003. The 21-year-old U.S. Soldier was killed Dec. 1 when his patrol was ambushed in an enemy

firefight near Habbaniyah Air Base 65 miles west of Baghdad.

Singh came to the United States from India at the age of 18 and later joined the U.S. Army at the time of his death, he was an Indian national and a U.S. Green Card holder on the threshold of becoming a U.S. citizen.

Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and Fort Riley commanding general, will address the audience; and Walter R. Schneider, associate director of the MSA program at Central Michigan University will deliver the keynote address.

Two post youths receive \$1,500

Special to the Post

FORT LEE, Va. — Two Fort Riley seniors at Junction City High School received \$1,500 scholarships to help them pay for college tuition this fall, announced Mark Derby, store director at the post commissary.

Winners were Demetrius Williams and Sharon Ramos. They were among 500 students worldwide who received the scholarships through the Defense Commissary Agency's Scholarships for Military Children Program.

A record-breaking 7,000 students applied to the program for 2004. Only the winners are officially notified of their status (by letter) to ensure all possible funds go toward scholarships.

The grade point average of the scholarship recipients was 3.8 - 3.9, and nearly all are members of the National Honor Society, an organization that recognizes students who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership, character and a willingness to serve others, according to Edna Hoegewind, DeCA's program liaison.

The Scholarships for Military Children program is funded by the manufacturers and suppliers that support commissaries worldwide and is administered by Fisher House Foundation.

Veterans, father honored

Chris Hicks, a freshman at Junction City High School, lays flowers at his father's grave after the Fort Riley Memorial Day services at the Post Cemetery. "These Soldiers . . . have demonstrated the price of freedom, the prize of freedom and its cost," said Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, commander, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and Fort Riley.



Post/Blackmon



VIPs cut ribbon to open troop clinic



Post/Heronemus

Col. Julie Martin, commander, U.S. Army Medical Department Activity, cuts a ribbon to ceremoniously open the new Consolidated Troop Medical Clinic May 24. She is assisted by (left to right) Brig. Gen. William Fox Jr., commanding general, Great Plains Medical Command, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) Command Sgt. Maj. Gilbert Canuela and Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, commanding general of the 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) and Fort Riley.

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

Several dignitaries helped cut a ribbon May 24, symbolically opening Fort Riley's new Consolidated Troop Medical Clinic on Custer Hill.

The state of the art medical building has been in the works for several years, said Col. Julie Martin, commander of U.S. Army Medical Activity and Irwin Army Community Hospital. Actual construction began in August 2002. As construction wrapped up this year and treatment of Soldiers began in May, the clinic and hospital earned accreditation by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.

"This clinic is really a testament ... to the effort to take care of Soldiers," said Brig. Gen. William Fox Jr., commanding general of the Great Plains Regional Medical

Command and guest speaker for the ceremony.

"This facility was built to ensure we have Soldiers ready and fit to go to the battlefield," he said. "We have today an expeditionary army that's campaigning ... we have to prepare ourselves with facilities like this that have the capability, the medical professionals with the skills and assets to ensure the Soldier is getting that optimum medical care right here on Custer Hill where they are located and live."

The \$5.8 million clinic is the newest medical facility in Kansas. It provides primary healthcare for 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) Soldiers and separate units located on Custer Hill.

Army Reserve and National Guard Soldiers deploying to or returning from mobilization stations also receive care at the clinic.

The new clinic offers more

than physical examinations, eye care, hearing care, immunizations and day-to-day Soldier care, Fox said. The clinic boasts state of the art information technology that virtually connects the clinic to IACH and will allow the Army medical system to medically record and document over time all a Soldier's medical requirements and to keep that record updated, he said.

Army medicine is moving toward the electronic integration of all medical care of Soldiers anywhere in the world through its advancing information technology, Fox said.

"If I give a Soldier in Iraq an immunization, that becomes a part of his record," so all medical professionals who treat that Soldier will know his or her complete medical history, he said.

"This clinic is going to be a great asset to this community," Fox said.

Upper Iowa professor earns award

Special to the Post

Marche Devon Fleming-Randle, adjunct professor with Upper Iowa University at Fort Riley, received the university's Excellence in Teaching Award for 2003-2004.

Fleming-Randle was chosen by the students of Upper Iowa University as one of their most influential educators. The award is presented yearly to the professor and instructor who encourages his or her students to strive for excellence.

Fleming-Randle currently serves as the university's senior project coordinator, graduation chairperson, internship supervisor, search committee member and adjunct professor at Fort Riley.

Quilts comfort children of deployed parents

By Rudi Williams
AFPS

WASHINGTON -- Ann Flaherty's 18-month-old grandson was suffering from the emotional stress of his father not coming home from work as he usually did. He carried pictures of his dad around and began having temper tantrums and difficulty sleeping.

Flaherty came to the rescue with something that helps her grandson cope with his father's absence. Her remedy may eventually help hundreds of children of servicemen and women deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan and other parts of the globe.

A quilt artist, Flaherty made what she calls a "daddy quilt" for her grandson, Christian Roman. It was the beginning of what has become a big program. In the case of a deployed mother, it's a

"mommy quilt." Pillows also are made for the children of deployed servicemembers.

The idea evolved while watching her grandson's reaction to the absence of his father. Christian's father, Army Chief Warrant Officer Michael Roman, an Apache helicopter pilot, was deployed to Iraq at the onset of the war, said Flaherty, whose daughter, son and son-in-law (Roman) all deployed to Iraq. Roman is married to Flaherty's daughter, Elisa.

"Christian started hoarding photographs," she said. "He would go into the living room and take all the framed photographs to his room and hide them. He was having temper tantrums and difficulty sleeping -- reacting to his dad being gone."

Flaherty said she realized that she uses photography on many of her quilts. "So I took his favorite

pictures and some others, scanned them, printed them on fabric and incorporated them into a quilt for him."

To her amazement, her grandson calmed down. "He slept better. He went to bed with his daddy blanket and dragged it everywhere he went. And it works!" said the pleased grandmother.

"My daughter told another family whose dad was deployed with Mike (Roman), and the mom was in Afghanistan," Flaherty said. "That little boy was having a really hard time. He was in the same daycare with Christian, so I made a quilt for him, and it worked for him, too."

Flaherty said children can't cuddle up to a photograph, but a quilt is a daily soft, tangible and comforting reminder of the parent.

As word got around, Flaherty

made daddy and mommy quilts for "another child and another child, and I realized that this was going to be too much for me to do by myself."

She asked Lynne Grates, executive director of the Fort Bragg/Pope Air Force Base, N.C., Armed Services YMCA and Clitha Mason, the arts and humanities director, for help. "They loved the idea. So we formed 'Operation Kid Comfort,' Flaherty said. "So it was born out of necessity."

Operation Kid Comfort was so successful that it earned the Fort Bragg/Pope Air Force Base Armed Services YMCA branch the 2004 Raytheon Program Achievement Award in the Best New Program category. The award was recently presented during the ASYMC's 17th annual Recognition Luncheon.



Lynne Grates (left), executive director of the Fort Bragg/Pope Air Force Base, N.C., Armed Services YMCA, and volunteer Ann Flaherty, who initiated the Operation Kid Comfort program, pose with a sample of the "daddy and mommy quilts."

AFPS/Williams

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Travel & Fun in Kansas

Leisuretime ideas

Junction City: Overland Park:

Chautauqua — Experience the personalities and everyday life that was "Bleeding Kansas" at the time of the nation's fight about slavery; June 4-8 at Heritage Park and the Geary County Historical Museum in Junction City and at the First Territorial Capital and Cavalry Parade Field at Fort Riley; activities all day long each day, including life crafts and skills demonstrations of the era, reenactors portraying famous and common persons of the era, music and food.

Jazz in the Woods at Corporate Woods — Kansas City's largest jazz family event featuring local and regional talent; June 11-13, 9225 Indian Creek Parkway. For more information, call (913) 661-5475 or visit www.jazzinthewoods.com on the Internet.

Mayetta:

Prairie Band Potawatomi Pow Wow — Grand entry, ceremonial dancing and Native American craft; 7 to 11 p.m. June 11, noon to midnight June 12 and noon to 6 p.m. June 13; 158th Road and M Road, Prairie Peoples Park. For more information, call (785) 966-2580 or (877) 715-6789.

Manhattan:

Flint Hills Barn Dance — Barn dance, with contras, traditional squares, waltzes, and more; music by Lilting Ban-shue; caller Jim Williams; all dances taught, no partner or experience necessary; wear comfortable, casual clothing and soft-soled shoes; bring water to drink; lessons at 7 p.m., dance 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. June 12, 901 Yuma St., Douglas Community Center Annex. For more information, call (785) 539-6306 or visit www.kansasfolk.org/contramanhat.html on the Internet.

Arts in the Park — Summer concert series featuring national, regional, and local musical groups/performers; 8 to 10 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays only. June 4-Aug. 14; City Park. For more information, (785) 587-2757 or visit www.ci.manhattan.ks.us on the Internet.

Holton:

Prairie Lake Pickin' Party — 11th annual bluegrass music festival and band scramble; 4:45 to 10 p.m. June 10-11, 1 to 10 p.m. June 12; Prairie Park. For more information, call (785) 364-2749.

Tonganoxie:

Tonganoxie Days — 10K run, car show, art/craft booths, patriotic events, USAF flyover, BBQ contest, quilt show, food, music and entertainment; noon to dark June 11 and 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 12, downtown, VFW Park and Fairgrounds, Historical Society. For more information, call (800) 854-9791 or visit www.Tonganoxie-Days.com on the Internet.

Cottonwood Falls:

Prairie Drifter Sunset Tour — Open air two-hour ride in 1958 grain truck through 20 miles of scenic Flint Hills back roads. Friday and Saturday nights only, through Oct. 31. For more information, call (620) 273-6763 or visit www.grandcentralhotel.com on the Internet.

Kansas City:

Scottish Highland Games — 27th annual world-class bag-piping competitions and performances, Highland dance championships and plenty of action in heavy Scottish athletics, including the ever-popular caber toss; continuous live Celtic music and dance, authentic Scottish and regional foods, import and specialty vendors, Scottish clans and genealogy information; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., rain or shine, June 12; 1405 N. 98th St., Wyandotte County Fairgrounds. For more information, call (913) 321-5800 or visit www.kcscottishgames.org on the Internet.

Salina:

Smoky Hill River Festival — A festival of the arts in Oakdale Park with world-class continuous entertainment, 150 juried exhibiting artists, incredible food; 6 to 10 p.m. June 10, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. June 11-12 and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. June 13; Oakdale Park. For more information, call (785) 309-5770 or visit www.riverfestival.com on the Internet.

Hutchinson:

Salt Fest — Full day of family activities, entertainment, and tractor pull; 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. June 11-12; City Park. For more information, call (620) 663-7104.

Matfield Green:

Covered Wagon Train Adventures — Travel with prairie folks from varied walks of life in original wagons; delicious campfire meals and pioneer activities; weekends by reservation only; 9:30 a.m. Saturday to 1 p.m. Sunday, June 5-27; 8 miles SE of town. For more information, call (316) 283-2636 or visit www.kscov-eredwagon.com on the Internet.

Stay at home fun

Post parks offer variety of activities for families, gatherings

By Kristen Hamilton
KSU Intern

With school closed and the lazy days of summer quickly approaching, three parks on Fort Riley offer ways to enjoy some time with the family.

Wyman and McCormick parks and Moon Lake provide families and other groups with facilities for barbecue cook-outs, picnics, activities for children and the chance to enjoy the great outdoors.

Wyman Park is located south of Irwin Army Community Hospital and provides charcoal grills, playground equipment, picnic tables and a pavilion for additional seating. Wyman can accommodate 100 to 200 people, according to Randy Case at the Outdoor Recreation Center.

If a larger area is needed for a big get-together, McCormick Park offers the same facilities but can accommodate more than 200 people. It has two pavilions. McCormick Park is located west of Main Post on McCormick Road.

Just north and up the hill from McCormick Park is Moon Lake. It is accessible by using Pistol Range Road.

Moon Lake Park is the largest of the three parks. It offers three pavilions, picnic tables, charcoal grills and playground equipment.

Case said canoe races are a favorite activity of groups that use Moon Lake Park. Although people are not allowed to swim in the lake, it is a great spot to let the family dog cool off. Groups such as the Labrador Retriever Club have used Moon Lake for various activities, Case said.

Many Family Readiness Groups have also used the parks for their monthly meetings. Tammy Huegen is the FRG leader for Battery A, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery. She said she likes to hold the group's meetings at one of the parks because they enable FRGs to meet in a relaxed setting with plenty of space to accommodate everyone and activities to entertain the children.

In addition to picnics and playgrounds, the parks are large enough to accommodate just about any activity that a group might want to include in their event, Case said. Volleyball, badminton, croquet or Frisbee can be enjoyed at all the parks.

Groups interested in using the pavilion and grill facilities at the parks must contact the Outdoor Recreation Center at 239-2363 or 239-6368. A \$15 reservation fee applies. Groups will be limited to an eight-hour period of time at the facilities.

The Outdoor Recreation Center also offers a variety of other park and picnic equipment for rent. For more information, contact Case at the Outdoor Recreation Center.



Post/Blackmon

Spc. Wayne Sealey of 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, pushes his daughter, Kelcey, on a swing at McCormick Park.



Post/Blackmon

A tunnel at McCormick Park wraps Kelcey Sealey, 5, and her brother, Jacob, 2, in an orange reflection while they enjoy the playground equipment at McCormick Park.

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