



Weather Forecast		Today  High:94 Low:67
Saturday 	High:96 Low:70	Sunday  High:96 Low:65

FRIDAY

Fort Riley Post



Eisenhower honored
The Army celebrated its 227th birthday on June 14. Part of the festivities was honoring past Army Chiefs of Staff. See Page 12

Soldiers give all, 25 earn badge

By Jason Shepherd
19th PAD

It happens around mile four. That's when you start feeling the first hot spot on your left foot. Then, about mile six, it starts to turn into a small blister. It's not painful enough to make you stop, but just nags at you enough to let you know it's there.

At mile eight, you're left foot goes numb, followed by another hot spot on your right foot. You take a glance at your watch and realize that you have about an hour left.

You adjust your Kevlar helmet and 35-pound rucksack and keep running — slowly at first but enough to pick up some precious time. You know that it's going to be close but you can't stop now. You've worked too hard and come so far to quit now.

Mile 10 flies by but now, both feet are numb and you're running on sheer will power. You're close. You can hear the cheers for the other supporters in the distance.

You start to run faster and then, up ahead, you see the finish. You see the people cheering for you, calling your name. To the left, you see a huge clock, counting the time of the race — 2:57:00. You have three minutes left. You start printing.

Every part of your body hurts and is screaming for you to stop and take a break. People come from out of the crowd to run with you, faces you know and work with everyday. They call your name and yell at you, telling you

to hurry. You grit your teeth and run faster, crossing the line with a minute to spare. You just foot marched 12 miles in under three hours and have now earned the right to wear the coveted Expert Field Medical Badge.

"We all go into battle knowing that the buddy on the left and right is not going to let us down," said Brig. Gen. David F. Gross, assistant division commander (Maneuver) for 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and Fort Riley. "You've proven that you can handle situations like this. You are potential heroes."

Medics had to endure several trials and tribulation this past week while trying for the EFMB. The 12-mile foot march was the last event during the week-long EFMB competition, which was held June 10-14 at Fort Riley.

Of the 152 medics who began the quest for the EFMB, only 25 earned the badge. This 16 percent is below the 18 percent average Army wide. Medics came from Fort Riley, Fort Campbell, Ky., Fort Polk, La., and reservists from the 89th Regional Support Command in Wichita, Kan., to try to earn the EFMB.

"I learned how difficult obtaining the badge really is," said Maj. Shawn Nesson, an EFMB recipient and general surgeon with the Medical Department Activity on Fort Riley. "It's an incredible thing to go through. I learned that we have excellent noncommissioned officers in the Army who



Pfc. James Brant, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, crosses the finish line to earn the Expert Field Medical Badge June 14.

See Medics Page 3

MEDDAC command changes hands

By Emily Howe
MEDDAC PAO

The first woman in the history of Irwin Army Community Hospital stepped into the military boots of hospital commander on June 18. Col. Julie Martin assumed command of IACH from the outgoing hospital commander, Col. Arthur Wallace, at a change of command ceremony held at Cavalry Parade Field.

Martin remarked at the ceremony that it is unique for a Medical Service Corps officer to serve as a hospital commander. This was made possible at IACH because of recent changes to military personnel regulations. The changes make it possible for officers in the Medical Service Corps or the Army Nurse Corps to be considered for command positions. Before the change, only medical doctors were appointed to medical command positions, she said.

Martin believes that IACH is the perfect place to command a hospital. She said IACH is just the right size to get your arms around it.

At the ceremony, Brig. Gen. Daniel Perugini, commander of the Great Plains Regional Med-

ical Command, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, touted the IACH staff.

"Great show, great tradition and a great example," said he of the soldiers and staff at the hospital.

Perugini also said good-bye to Wallace and his wife, Jenny. He said IACH is one of the best military hospitals in the nation. The hospital was recently given a score of 94, on a 100 point scale, by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organization, he said.

As Martin takes command, Perugini said he looks forward to IACH continuing to provide quality medical care to the Fort Riley area.

Wallace, in his remarks at the ceremony, said, Fort Riley MEDDAC has challenges ahead, with Fort Riley being identified as the Army's Warfighting Center. He emphasized that the hospital staff members are the heart and soul of IACH and are the reason for its success.

Martin, in her remarks, said of the job ahead of her, "I am humbled by the awesome challenge as well as inspired by the care and compassion."



Pvt. Vincent Cicone, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Polk, La., tosses a simulated grenade during Expert Infantry Badge Test training June 17. Cicone, and the other EIB hopefuls, used this week to train on the tasks they will need to earn the badge.

Soldiers learn essential tasks, preparation continues for EIB

By Kevin Doheny
19th PAD

To say soldiers wear the Expert Infantry Badge proudly might be an understatement.

With all the preparation and grueling hours of testing these soldiers go through, they know the hard work paid off.

"When you earn that badge you feel proud to be an American and an 11 series," said Command Sgt. Maj. Joe Leggette, 1st Battalion,

their eventual testing dates, graders and senior noncommissioned officers take time and use special instruction so the soldiers know exactly what they need to do to earn this prestigious badge.

"We have done a lot to prepare us for this," said Pfc. Jacob Tuttle, Eagle Troop, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Polk, La. "Everyone is looking forward to it, and everyone expects to get through it. We also know we have to work hard to get it."

With the sounds of the .50 cal-

or a "NO-GO" at their respective stations during testing time.

"The pressure of doing the multiple of tasks is tough," said Sgt. 1st Class Michael Worthy, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Bn., 16th Inf. Div. "These tasks are graded "GO, NO-GO" and are graded to the field manual's standards."

The EIB test site is broken down into different clusters. These clusters have different areas of testing. In the clusters, there are multiple tasks the sol-

"Letters from the Front: WWII" celebrates proud past, realities of war

The two best attributes of the Army are the greatness of its past and the promise of its future. We have the privilege of celebrating our proud past and the realities of war with the production "Letters from the Front: WWII."

"Letters" is a three-act, two-hour "dramedy" that takes place in the World War II home front. The play has been performed at more than 150 military installations worldwide since 1992. In that time, it has earned over 100 medals, plaques and commendations, making it the world's most decorated play.

Inspired by a vision that Martha Roberts, the producer, had in the middle of the night on September 13, 1990, the production is set in the dramatic context of

World War II. The rich story line is centered around two characters.

Katharine Hartgrove is a nationally recognized writer of human-interest stories, often referred to as "America's Biographer Laureate." Her son is fighting with the 5th Army in Northern Italy.

Johnny Chastain is a popular radio celebrity whose career is on the skids. He's also the man Katharine loves. The two are collaborating on a new show about war letters.

Although actual war correspondence from every major American conflict going back as far as the Revolutionary War is interwoven throughout the play, it's the way Katharine and Johnny

interpret and react to these letters that make them particularly real for the audience.

Katharine sees them as an almost sacred testimony of what it means to be an American.

Around Fort Riley: By Col. Philip Pope, Garrison Commander

Johnny, who garners most of the play's laughs, doesn't have a serious bone in his body, until Katharine reveals a dark secret that makes him question what he is and what he stands for.

"Letters from the Front: WWII" is a unique blend of tears and laughter.

It is the story of the sacrifices and triumphs of everyday Americans.

Perhaps Katharine explains it

best: "This play isn't about individual wars or the politics behind them or who was right or who was wrong. It's about the fragile and precious nature of life. It's about everyday people who suddenly

come face to face with their own mortality, or the prospect of losing a loved one. It's about people reaching out to each other, maybe for the last time.

Each of these letters is affirmation on the part of the writer that at their darkest moment they were not alone."

Simply put, "Letters from the Front: WWII" is a richly staged period piece about the beginning of who we are today.

It is made even more compelling by stirring audiovisual effects, an original music score and even a dance number.

The results are poignant, funny, moving — a memorable evening of theatre.

Come out and enjoy this show and the company of your neighbors.

"Letters from the Front: WWII" will have two show times

at the Junction City High School Auditorium, June 29 at 7 p.m. and June 30 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are available free of charge from the Fort Riley ITR Office, 239-5614, the Education Support Center at 123 N. Eisenhower in Junction City, 238-6184 and the Junction City Convention and Visitors Bureau at 425 N. Washington in Junction City, 238-2885.

Infantry continued from page 1

nuclear, biological, chemical and communications and one for grenades and land mines; basically common infantry tasks."

There are more than just Fort Riley soldiers at the site. Soldiers from Fort Polk, La. and Fort Knox, Ky., with both active duty and National Guard personnel are competing for the right to wear the coveted badge.

Every soldier who makes his way through the lanes has his own perspective on what the hardest

thing about the EIB testing is.

"The grenade part of the course is tough," said Tuttle. "It seems to be more skill because it isn't something you can just study for."

"The ability to do all the tasks assigned is the toughest part of the EIB," said Worthy.

"The reward is great because the soldier doesn't have to ever go through this again," Worthy said.

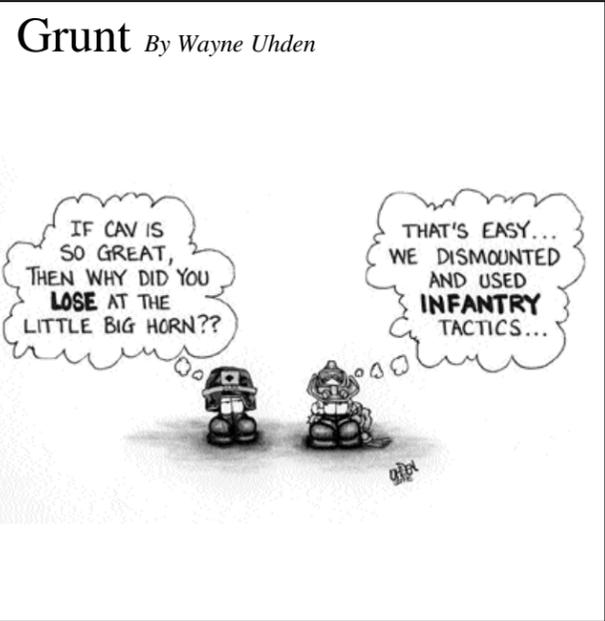
The test dates aren't until June 25-28, but these eager soldiers are

making sure they learn all they can before testing next week.

Not every soldier will walk away from the testing with the

badge.

Those that do not will hopefully gain enough knowledge to try again next year.



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Brigade dining facility dedicated, Medal of Honor recipient honored

By Lori Bultman
Editor

On the Army's birthday, June 4, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division (Mechanized) Consolidated Dining Facility, the Devil's Den, was posthumously named for Daniel Richmond Edwards. All four of Edwards' children attended the dedication ceremony and helped unveil the dedication plaque.

"Today we celebrate the Army's 227th birthday, and we honor this great soldier and American," said Col. James Milano, commander, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. "We also celebrate this soldier's extraordinary heroism."

Edwards, a private during World War I in Company C, 3rd Machine Gun Battalion, 1st Infantry Division, was a food service specialist and was the first soldier in 1st ID ever to receive the Medal of Honor.

Edwards' citation read that he reported for duty from the hospital, where he was under care for numerous and serious wounds, and although his suffering was intense, he crawled alone into an enemy trench to capture or kill enemy soldiers known to be hiding there. According to the citation, he killed four of the men and took the remaining four prisoner. While he was moving them to the rear, one of the enemy was killed by an enemy shell, which also completely shattered one of Edwards' legs, causing him to be evacuated to the hospital.

Edwards had enlisted in the Army on April 6, 1917. After his service in WWI, he left the Army with disabilities. During WWII, he waived his disabilities to join the Army again, and having earned a degree in journalism, was commissioned as a staff specialist in languages and logistics.

Maj. Edwards died on Oct. 21, 1967. Richmond Edwards, one of Edwards' sons, made remarks at the dedication on behalf of the family.

"The Army and cooking were an early part of his career, and have always been, even after he retired. He would have been thrilled with the idea that a dining hall was dedicated in his honor because he thought great food and good cooking was a great thing," the younger Edwards said, adding that, "The Devil's Den would have suited him to a tee."

Edwards' daughter, Mary Lynch, was glad she and her husband made the drive to Fort Riley to be at the dedication.

"It is a real honor and we are happy to be here," Lynch said. She is glad that people in this part of the world realize what people did for them back then.

Lynch was also impressed when she traveled to Europe couple of years ago where, she said, people still honor what the soldiers did in those days. There are monuments everywhere, she said, and people still stop you and thank you for what America did for them back then. Lynch also was able to visit the area of France where her father had served, she said.

The 1st Brigade is proud of the new dining facility, which actually opened on Sept. 7, 2001.

The Devil's Den, known as the "Crown Jewel of the Brigade," operates the only drive through window in the Army and can seat 284 soldiers. According to Master Sgt. Ken Roynon, 1st Brigade food operations sergeant, the facility and its staff serve approximately 500 soldiers per meal.

The Devil's Den is off to a good start. The facility and its staff already won the 24th Infantry Division and Fort Riley Commanding General's Award

for Best Thanksgiving Day Meal in November 2001.

There was a reason for the delay in the dedication though, Roynon said. "We wanted all of Edwards' children to be able to attend the event," he said. "It took a matter of about nine months to coordinate with the families to ensure that we could get that many members here to attend." Family members from Arkansas and Texas were able to make the trip.

After the dedication ceremony, Edwards' children and other guests were invited into the facility, where they were able to dine in the midst of the soldiers who eat there on a daily basis.



Post/Bultman

The children of Daniel Richmond Edwards help unveil the plaque dedicating the Devil's Den on June 14. Family members traveled from Arkansas and Texas for the event.

Medics continued from page 1

train us very well. The course was well organized, especially the lanes. The NCOs on the (emergency medical technician) lane and the survival lane and also the CPR were excellent. They trained us very well. They taught us the standard. They gave us an opportunity to meet the standard and it was outstanding."

Spc. Jaime Aleman, Company C, 526th Forward Support Battalion, 101st Airborne Division, finished first in the road march with a time of 2 hours, 29 minutes,

while Spc. Genevieve Powell, Company C, 526th FSB, 101st Airborne Division, finished first among the women at 2 hours, 46 minutes.

"I am totally excited," said Powell. "I don't even know how to think. I'm in extreme pain right now, but I am really proud of myself, and I am proud to represent 101st 'air assault.'"

Staff Sgt. Thomas Bigness, Company C, 101st Forward Support Battalion, finished with the highest score on the exam — a 90

percent.

There were seven different lanes that medics were tested in, along with a 100-question test culminating with the 12-mile foot march. The different lanes included evacuation and communication, litter obstacle course, emergency medical technical, CPR, survival and day and night land navigation.

The Expert Field Medical Badge was approved on June 18, 1965. This badge is used to recognize Army medical personnel for attaining a high state of technical

skill in field medical functions.

It is awarded on the basis of proven skill and performance. The EFMB has the Medical Corps insignia of branch, modified by the addition of a Greek cross suggesting the Geneva Convention between the wings and the entwined serpents, signifies the recipient's skills and expertise. It is superimposed upon a stretcher alluding to medical field service.

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section 1 TOP OF PAGE



Transformation reaching personnel world with eMILPO

By **Christie Vanover**
Staff Writer

When officials discuss Army transformation, the topics usually include the Stryker Armored Vehicle or the soldier of the future; however last week, the topic on Fort Riley was personnel transactions.

Lt. Col. C.A. McNerney, product manager officer, Army Human Resource System, briefed the 1st Personnel Services Battalion, Brigade S1s and the G1 staff about a new phase in Army transformation, eMILPO (Electronic Military Personnel Office System).

"We've got to be ready for when the Army finishes the transformation," said McNerney, a former 1st Brigade officer and K-State graduate. "The human resource piece of it has to be out there in front of it. This (eMILPO) is exactly in support of what we're trying to do to get there first, so that we can be ready when the rest of the transformations occur."

Currently personnel soldiers are using the Standard Installation and Division Personnel System (SIDPERS) to maintain soldiers' records. The Army tested SIDPERS at Fort Riley in 1973. The remaining posts followed shortly hereafter. In November of 1998, SIDPERS 3 was fielded followed by the Super Server in November of 2001.

Fort Riley averages 160,000 personnel transactions on soldiers, units, organizational data, authorization data and personal information per month, according

to Judy Shipman, chief, Personnel Automation Branch, 1st PSB.

The new eMILPO system is intended to make these thousands of transactions easier. The Army used to use 4,000 databases Army-wide. Then it went down to 43. Now it's going to one single database to eliminate record conflicts.

The top three advantages of eMILPO, according to McNerney, are the facts that it is a single database, it's entirely web based and it sets the Army up for DIMHRS (Defense Integrated Military Human Resource System), the objective force phase. "It allows us to manage our migration to DIMHRS as we go through transformation," she said.

McNerney demonstrated eMILPO during the briefing, highlighting the ease of the system. Personnel soldiers will access it through their AKO accounts, and then will be authorized to make many changes to a soldier's status, including arrivals, deployment availability, strength accounting, etc.

"This is going to be a change in culture in how the Army does business," said McNerney. "We're trying to make this as easy as possible for not just soldiers who are familiar with PSB operations, but for soldiers who may not be familiar with PSB opera-

tions."

Those being briefed were pleased to hear that personnel soldiers will no longer have to file departures. "Departures are going to be done automatically behind the scenes," she said.

The website's functionality includes a main menu, drop down menus with soldier data, simplistic selection check boxes, charts and other graphics and more. It even notifies you if you make an error, such as listing a male soldier as pregnant. Records can also be saved as an Acrobat Reader file, so they can be printed or emailed to commanders or other personnel staff.

"I tell you, for the legacy folks like myself, this is a big paradigm shift that's about to occur," said Lt. Col. Harry Williams, commander, 1st PSB. "We're going to have to come online with the new way of business that's going to make our lives easier."

"Information technology is advancing so rapidly. The Army is transforming, and the human resource systems and personnel community are going to have to transform and keep pace. I think this system is going to pay great dividends."

"The true test of this system will be with the users that we assist on installations to start using this system and allowing

them to start doing some things that they want to do at their level and can do at their level that we're now doing at our level," he added.

As the commander, Williams has seen Fort Riley at its best.

"We're number one in the Army period on the MA1 (strength deviation reports) out of all 43 installations, which we've never been," said Shipman. She attributes it to the hard work of the S1, brigade, PSB and G1 staffs.

"Right now Ms. Shipman works very, very hard to keep those stats that well," said McNerney. "There are a couple installations army wide that do that kind of work and it's a really earnest burden."

McNerney anticipates that strength accounting procedures will be easier for soldiers with eMILPO, which will make soldiers more inclined to use the system. "I think it will get better and better," she said.

"I think this is going to be a great system. I support it. I'm behind it and you will too. I'm sure," said Williams.

Briefs

Changes of Command

The 3rd Brigade Combat Team will change command Monday, at 9 a.m. on Cavalry Parade Field. Outgoing commander is Col. John B. Musser II. Incoming commander is Col. Russell D. Gold. The ceremony will be held in Long Gym in case of inclement weather.

1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, will have a change command Tuesday, 10 a.m., on Cavalry Parade Field. Outgoing commander is Col. James Milano and the incoming commander is Col. Arthur Connor. In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held in Craig Fitness Center.

Microchip ID for pets

Beginning Monday, all Fort Riley residents are required to have their pets implanted with a

microchip ID. The Fort Riley Veterinary Services will microchip all dogs, cats and equine through July 31, on a walk-in basis. The microchip costs \$17 for the first animal and \$15 for every other animal implanted the same day.

Appointments are still required if pets need vaccinations or need to be seen for other health concerns. Veterinary Services is located at Marshal Army Airfield, building 814.

For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Ball, noncommissioned officer in charge of Veterinary Services at 239-3886 or 239-2732.

Letters from the Front

"The World's Most Decorated Play" is coming to the Junction City, Fort Riley community. Letters From the Front: WWII Show will have two show times at the Junction City High School Auditorium, Saturday, June 29 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, June 30 at 2 p.m. Tickets are available free of

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More Briefs

charge from the Fort Riley ITR Office, 239-5614.

"Letters" is a three-act, two-our "dramedy" that takes place in the World War II home front. The play has been performed at more than 150 military installations worldwide since 1992

Outdoor Service

Normandy Chapel's Contemporary Protestant congregation extends an invitation to join them for their outdoor service at Moon Lake on June 30. The service begins at 11:15 a.m., with a potluck picnic afterwards.

Holiday Hours

The Fort Riley commissary will be closed on the Fourth of July. It will be open for regular hopping on July 5, 7 a.m. - 9 a.m. or early bird shopping.

Thrift Shop

The Fort Riley Thrift Shop is seeking volunteers to help with merchandising, sorting and pricing donations, pulling expired items, straightening shelves, customer service and consignments. Thrift Shop business hours are 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Tuesday - Thursday and the first Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Volunteer benefits include first choice of new merchandise, discounts on donated items and a friendly working environment. Childcare expenses are reimbursed. In addition the Thrift Shop is seeking persons interested in serving on next year's board. Positions open include chairman, vice chairman, secretary and publicist. For more information about

a specific position, please contact the Thrift Shop at 784-3874 during business hours.

The Shoppe

The Shoppe is located in building 259 on Stuart Ave., just west of the Fort Riley Honor Guard Stables. Phone 785-239-2783. Hours of operation are 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Tuesday - Saturday. Visit us for a variety of beautiful and unique ideas. The place to find a gift, add to a collection or decorate your home.

Holiday Refuse Collection

Due to the upcoming Fourth of July holiday, the refuse collection schedule will change as follows. July 1, pick-up will be at Colyer Manor, Main Post Housing and Marshall Air Field Housing. On July 2, pick-up will be at Ellis Heights, Montieth Heights, O'Donnell Heights and Peterson Heights. July 3, pick-up will be at Warner Heights and Burnside Heights. July 4, is the holiday, and July 5, will be pick-up at Meade Heights, McClellan Heights, South Peterson Heights and South Warner Heights.

Child and Youth Services

The Fort Riley Child Development Center has daycare openings for pre-school children, ages 3-5, for both full- and part-day programs. There are also full-day openings available for children 16-24 months. All children must be registered before spaces can be assigned. Phone Child and Youth

Services Central Registration at 239-4847 for further information, and an appointment to register.

Summer Discovery Day Camp has openings for children ages 5-11 years. Children must have completed Kindergarten. Hours for Day Camp are 5:45 a.m. to 6 p.m., through Aug. 16. Children need not attend camp for the full day and can register for days or weeks at a time. Field trips are scheduled throughout the summer. On field trip days, children must arrive at camp in time to leave on the bus. Phone 239-4847 to register.

Dance, Gymnastics

The School of Arts and Sports will offer dance and gymnastics classes starting in July. Martial Arts classes are ongoing and accepting new enrollments. All classes are enrolled through CYS Central Registration, 239-4847.

Summer Dance Camp, "Fun Through Movement," is now accepting enrollments for the July 22-26 session. Classes will be held from 9 - 10:30 a.m. for ages 3-5 and from 9 - 12 a.m. for children ages 6-18. Dance classes in jazz, tap, ballet, and lyrical are also being planned for the next school year.

Middle School Camp

A Middle School and Teen Summer Camp is being held for youth, 11-18. An 11-year-old must have completed 6th grade. Camp runs daily from June 3-Aug. 16. Activities and trips are planned daily. Crafts, cooking, swimming, bowling, and field

trips will be centered around a different theme each week.

Youth Sports

Soccer and volleyball camps are being offered this summer. Contact the Sports Director at Youth Services for further information at 239-9223/9224.

Baby-sitting Classes

American Red Cross baby-sitting classes will be held at Youth Services on Thursday, and then again July 18 and Aug. 15. Classes are for youth 12 years and older. There is a \$10 registration fee. Each class will be one-day only, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with a one hour lunch break. A Red Cross certificate in baby-sitting will be awarded upon course completion. There will not be any infant/toddler Cardiovascular Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) offered with these classes. A Red Cross certified instructor will be teaching the classes. Graduates will be eligible to be placed on a babysitting referral list at CYS Central Registration. Call Central Registration at 239-4847 for information and to register.

Marriage Enrichment Class

Want to make a good marriage better? Want to better understand your spouse? Want to have your spouse better understand you? Come learn how to deal with misunderstandings, and how to stop the argument cycle at the monthly Marriage Enrichment Class on Tuesday from 7 - 9 p.m. at the Soldier and Family Support Cen-

ter, room 29. Free child care is provided; please bring children's shot records. Presented by Chaplain (MAJ) Paulson, the Fort Riley Family Life Chaplain. Register by calling 239-3436.

Training Holidays

The 1st Personnel Services Battalion will be closed for their battalion training holiday on today. For emergencies during this time please call the 1st Personnel Services Battalion CQ, Charge of Quarters, at 239-9661.

Outdoor Rec

The Outdoor Recreation Center is offering equipment rental at half price Tuesday - Thursday through Sept. 3. Call 239-2363 for further information.

Sports USA

There will be a WWE King Of The Ring pay-per-view event on Sunday, at 7 p.m. Doors open 5 p.m. The Cost is \$5. For further information, call 784-5434.

BOSS Battle of the Bands

The BOSS Battle of the Bands will be at Sports USA July 26, 7 p.m. - 2 a.m. Tickets are \$5 and may be purchased at ITR or from any BOSS representative.

Fort Riley Classic

The Fort Riley Classic, ASA State Qualifying Softball Tourna-

ment, will be June 29-30. The entry fee is \$90 and teams must provide their own ASA approved softballs.

Entry deadline is June today. Call 239-2172 for further information.

Summer Reading Program

There is a summer reading program at the Fort Riley Public Library through July 19.

Party, prizes and fun will be on July 20 at 4:30 p.m. The library is open Tuesday - Saturday, 1-8 p.m. and Sunday 1-6 p.m. It is closed on Mondays

ACAP Job Fair

The Army Career and Alumni Program is sponsoring a job fair 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., today, at the ACAP Center on Main Post, building 210, room 7, Custer Ave. There will be local, national and international employers present to talk with and interview prospective employees. Visit or call the ACAP Center, 239-2278/2068 for more information

Organization Days

The Office of the Inspector General will be closed today. The office will be holding their annual organization day for employees and family members.

The physical security, civil liaison, automation, vehicle registration and the budget offices of the Provost Marshal Office will be closed for an organizational day on July 3.

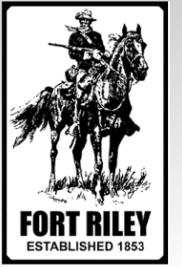
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A Salute To Those Who Give So



Fort Riley Community



In Step on Channel 2

6:30 a.m.....In Step
8 a.m.....In Step
Noon.....In Step
6 p.m.....In Step
10 p.m.....In Step

June 21, 2002

America's Warfighting Center

Page 7



Post/Hinkle

A dog at the stray facility puts up his paw to a visitor. There are several dogs of all shapes and sizes available for adoption at the facility.

Good homes needed Animals seek adoption at stray facility

By Karen E. Hinkle

K-State Intern

Pets make a happy addition to a family. The Fort Riley Stray Facility, building 226, has a variety of lovable cats and dogs available for adoption throughout the year.

The animals must remain in the shelter for three working days before they are available for adoption. This allows the staff to try and find the owner. About 50 - 54 percent of the animals brought in to the facility are returned to their owners within 72 hours. Most of these pets are returned quickly thanks to a small device called a microchip.

Microchips contain information about the pet's owner, including contact information. They are implanted under the animal's skin through a shot.

Almost all animal care facilities have scanners that allow employees to read the information on the imbedded chips.

In the event a pet becomes lost, all an animal shelter has to do is perform a painless scan of the microchip to get the contact information for the owner.

As of Monday, Fort Riley will require all pets housed on post to be microchipped.

"Microchipping your animals is the number one way to guarantee you get your pet (back)," said Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Ball, non-commissioned officer in charge of Veterinary Services.

The post stray facility has space to hold 20 animals comfortably, but they have had as many as 30 animals at one time. Unlike other animal shelters, the stray facility doesn't destroy animals unless it's absolutely necessary.

"I keep them as long as they are adoptable," Ball said.

Ball encouraged those consid-

ering adding a pet to the family to consider adopting over purchasing a pet. The Humane Society of the United States promotes adoption because it will help lessen pet overpopulation problems. Animal shelters often have older animals available, and though they may not appear as playful or charming at first, these animals are often calmer than puppies or kittens and can be better suited for families with young children.

People interested in purebred animals can also find them at the shelter. The facility gets spaniels, rottweilers and others. However, the facility also receives mixed breeds.

"Everyone needs to remember mixed breeds are just as lovable," Ball said.

The stray facility will adopt animals to loving homes within and outside the military community.

"We are a military asset, but we

do adopt to civilians and the general public," Ball said.

Additionally, Ball said that most people are very satisfied with the animals they adopt from the facility.

How can you adopt a pet from the post stray facility?

Ball said the best way is to drop by the shelter and see if you find an animal you like. If you do, they will perform routine tests to determine the animal's general health. As long as the animal is healthy, it can be adopted.

The \$62 adoption fee includes rabies and distemper vaccinations, a test for heartworms or feline leukemia, deworming, microchipping and a \$20 credit toward a spay or neuter at the post Veterinary Clinic. The adoption fee is \$42 for animals who have already been spayed or neutered.

"We try to encourage spay or neuter," Ball said.

See Pets Page 8



Post/Poppe

A furry feline gets attention from Sgt. 1st Class Clint Ball, NCOIC of Fort Riley Veterinary Services.

Ceremony honors Fort Riley scholars

By Steven Cooke

Staff Writer

Fort Riley celebrated members of the community that earned higher education degrees recently by holding a post-wide graduation ceremony at King Field House on June 13.

There were 193 graduates who participated in the ceremony, Gordon Farmer, director of education center, said.

"We have soldiers, family members, Department of Defense civilians (employees) earning associate, bachelors and master's degrees here today," he said at the ceremony.

The graduates earned their degrees from schools like K-State, Central Michigan University, Upper Iowa University, Central Texas College, Barton Community College and the University of

Maryland University College.

The graduates were very proud, and glad to be recognized.

"It's wonderful. It was awesome," said Spec. Beatriz Molina, K-State graduate who received a bachelor of science in interdisciplinary social science.

Because Molina was the only graduate of K-State present at the Fort Riley ceremony, she had to walk alone.

"I was kind of nervous, but it made it more special so I'm glad," said Molina.

Molina, who currently works in the staff judge advocates office, said she plans to stay in the military and may consider becoming a warrant officer.

"I feel good, but now I have to get a Ph.D. in education," said Setoria Morris, Central Michigan graduate with a master of science in information resource management. "Education is everything,"

she said.

For some, the graduation was not just a celebration but also a confirmation.

"She always tells me 'You can do anything you put your mind to,'" said Cassie Wandersee, 12, of her mother, Patricia Wandersee. "I'm very proud of her. I knew she could do it."

Patricia Wandersee said it took her 22 years to complete her degree.

"I started [going to school] in the military 20 years ago but then I put it off, but I've been really focusing these last two years."

Others involved thought the day went well also.

"It's family oriented. Gets the family involved and that is important to the soldier," said David Lacer, Ph.D., an education counselor.

"I think it's important to recognize the work and achievement of

the graduates," said Gerald Mulryan, also an education counselor. "It shows Fort Riley is behind its soldiers and family members being the best they can be."

The keynote speaker, Dr. Elizabeth Stevens, associate provost for IT partnerships and associate dean of continuing education at K-State, spoke to the graduates about expectations.

"Think about your expectations for the future," Stevens said. "What are you going to do with your degree?"

She gave the graduates some advice as to what to do with their education.

"Use your knowledge to make the world better everyday. Start now to give it away."

"Learn more and more to give away. Be worth more than you cost. Give yourself away to family and strangers who need help," she said.



Sutler's Store opens

By Christopher Selmek

19th PAD

A newly assigned soldier couldn't tear his eyes off of the picture of "Old Bill," the U.S. Cavalryman. It seemed absurd, he thought, that he should walk through these halls thinking only of his own family. But then, why should it seem odd?

His grandfather served at Fort Riley, his father served at Fort Riley and now it was his turn to pass through these gates. He just had to get a sense of its history.

If only he had something, some trinket of some sort with "Old Bill" on it, that he could send to his father. Certainly, he would appreciate it. A coffee mug or a paper weight, if only he could find such a thing.

He continued to move through the dimly lit corridors, when he suddenly noticed a slightly brighter light emanating from a room down the hall. His neck stretched upward to see what the attention was being given to, and a smile spread across his face when he came to understand.

The sign read "Sutler's Store: Open."

The U.S. Cavalry Museum gift shop, now the Sutler's Store, reopened May 22, after being closed for three months. It was originally closed on Feb. 21.

"The task of re-opening the store was taken by the U.S. Cavalry Association," said Butch Scherer, store manager.

Scherer said that store sales go toward museum upkeep, which is why it is important for them to attract a lot of business.

"We just opened a few days ago and we're still trying to get the word out," he said.

One way the museum plans to get the word out is by having soldiers stop by the museum while still in replacement as a planned in-processing event.

"There are a lot of people who don't know about the gift shop. There are a lot of people who don't even know about the museum," he said.

Sutler's Store offers a wide variety of merchandise with the Fort Riley logo or otherwise cavalry related. Here there are paperweights, coffee mugs and many books written about the history of the cavalry.

"Things in the store are pretty much related to the museum, or to the cavalry or to Fort Riley as a whole," said Scherer.

The name, "Sutler's Store," comes from a long time ago when the U.S. Cavalry was still busy with the relocation of Native Americans.

"I equate the Sutler's Store's with the (Post Exchange) you have today; it's not exactly, but that's what it's like," said Scherer. "The store manager was called a Sutler."



Summer camps for kids fun, educational

By Jacob Moulin
K-State Intern

School Age Services of Fort Riley is offering a recreational program for children, ages 5-11. The program is focused on fun and educational experiences.

Jeyni Williams, assistant program director believes the benefits are great for area kids. "Hopefully, we get to take them outside, but if we are inside, we have plenty of activities, like art and woodworking," Williams aid.

Seven year-old Arthur Collins has enjoyed the program so far this summer.

"I like to play outside, but when I am inside, I like to play foosball. I'm good," Collins said.

One of the main focuses of the program is the opportunity for the kids to go on field trips. Shalimar Dennison, program director, believes the field trips are an enormous benefit.

"We have gone to some great places. The kids really enjoy the trips," Dennison said.

So far this summer, the chil-

dren have traveled quite a way from home on their field trips. They have ventured to a Council Grove museum, Mulvane Art Museum and a water park in Topeka. Future trips include: the Topeka Zoo, the Kansas Cosmo-sphere in Hutchinson and the Eisenhower Museum in Abilene.

Also, each week has a different theme and the field trips are designed to coincide that theme. Themes this summer have ranged from "Native American" to "Italy."

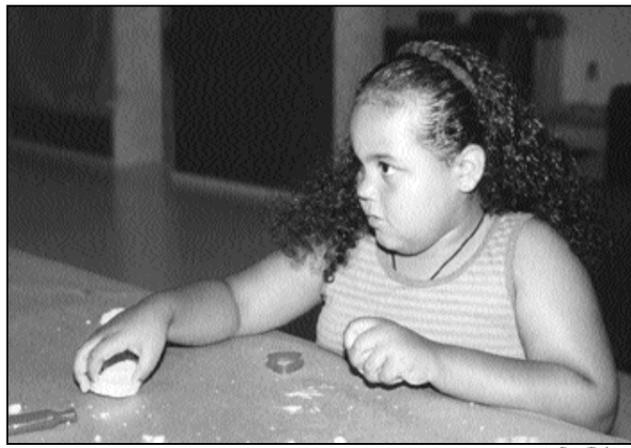
Summer enrollment at School

Age Services is lower than during the school year. There are approx- imately 97 children enrolled this summer. Usually, there are around 250 children, between kinder- garten and fifth grade.

Kayla Kramer, 7, has enjoyed the program tremendously so far.

"All of the teachers are really nice and my friends are here," she said. "I like it."

School Age Services is open all day during the week from May 31 to August 16. For more informa- tion, call 239-1752.



Post/Bultman

Kayla Kramer, 7, creates hearts in clay at the School Age Services summer camp on June 14.

Soldier plays, sings his way around Europe

By Jeremy Heckler
19th PAD

One soldier spent his Army career following the beat of his own drum and it took him to places he's never been before.

Sgt. 1st Class Rick Stanley, 41st Maintenance Battalion, spent his life around country and rock music.

"My music is more party music than country music because there's a place for crying in your beer and a place for partying," said Stanley.

His skill as a musician offered him the opportunity to serve in the J.S. Army Band in Europe for nine years.

"I've been a musician since 1974 and before the Army I've played music," said Stanley. "It's something I've done all my life."

Stanley said he didn't try to join the band when he first enlisted in the Army because he didn't know they had one, and he doesn't know how to read music.

After joining the Army, Stanley went to Germany as a construction engineer systems specialist.

While there, he got together with a group of folks and started a band. Upon returning to Germany after three years at Fort Bragg, N.C., Stanley reunited with his bandmates.

"Some of those guys started leaving and I picked up a keyboard and a drummer who were in the band (US Army Europe Band)," said Stanley. He said the unit he was in at the time was being deactivated and the Army band needed a noncommissioned officer in the training section.

"They asked if I would become the training NCO and be the front man for the country band," he said. That began a nine-year relationship with the Army band.

"As I stayed with the band, I gained more responsibilities and was eventually put in charge of the country band," he said.

Being with the band took him all across Europe, including seven trips to Bosnia.

"I got to see Bosnia from the time the bullets stopped flying to when it became relatively stable," said Stanley. The first time he traveled to Bosnia they went to

each camp in a two and a half ton truck wearing flak jackets. He said the last time he went they were able to play in civilian clothes.

"One thing I won't forget is our second Bosnia trip. We were waiting in a bus terminal for our escort, and somebody bet the bass player a buck he wouldn't go out into the square and dance, and he went out and did it," said Stanley.

In addition to the trips to Bosnia, the band also played festivals and other events in Europe. Stanley's love for music also extended to his own music.

"I've always played music privately, in a private band," said Stanley, whose band opened for the Bellamy Brothers, Chad Brock and others when he was stationed in Europe.

"We were fortunate enough to open for many of the different acts when they toured Europe," said Stanley.

"In both the civilian and Army bands I had a lot of fun being on stage," said Stanley. "Me and the bass player and the drummer would always be up there crack-

ing jokes and having a lot of fun."

After nine years in the Army band, Stanley returned to the United States as a platoon sergeant with the 568th Engineer Company. Now playing solo, Stanley still finds time to share his music with the world by playing at weddings and for senior citizens, as well as singing the National Anthem at the post boxing tournament and the Army Song at change of command ceremonies.

"Even though I'm not in the band, I'm still utilizing my talent for the Army," said Stanley.

Stanley said, as he looks back on retirement after almost 20 years of service, that if he hadn't joined the band he probably would not have had as long an Army career.

The most important thing for Stanley is that he can play his music and share it with people.

"I like to share my music with the world and have fun," said Stanley. "If one person hears my music then I've done my job."

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AUSA elects officers

The Fort Riley chapter of the Association of the United States Army, held a change of command during their general membership meeting on June 12. John Armbrust completed his year as Chapter President of ASUA and handed over the President's Pin to Gary Drake.

Other officers elected and members of the executive committee include: Mike Shilling -- 1st Vice President, David Walker -- 2nd Vice President, Brian Wells -- Vice President of Membership, Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Hearron -- Vice President of Enlisted membership, Lt. Col. Lowell Asher -- Vice President of Activities, Lt. Col. Art DeGroat -- Vice President of ROTC, Harold Wilson -- Secretary and Alan Swarts-- Treasurer.

Pets

continued from page 7

Fort Riley regulations require cats to have feline distemper and rabies vaccinations, according to Sgt. Carrie Fox. And dogs must have canine distemper and rabies vaccinations.

Housing regulations cover other animals, and permission is needed to have pets in post housing, she said.

Military personnel must also maintain proper care for the animals. The Veterinary Clinic high-

ly recommends a yearly heartworm test for dogs, Fox said.

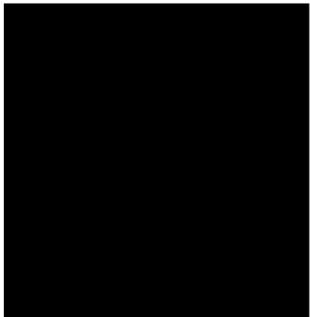
Aside from following regulations, what does Ball look for in a pet's potential family?

"I like people that come in today and look, come back and play with the animal and come back and adopt the third day, because we know they will get a good home," Ball said.

"This is the pet that's going to be part of the family."



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Switch to Sunflower

LITTLE APPLE TOYOTA HONDA
3 x 5"

RED Summer Time Sale Down

Fort Riley Sports

June 21, 2002

America's Warfighting Center

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Summer sports benefit, motivate youth

By Christopher Selmek

19th PAD

Mario was getting all the exercise, Jeff wasn't. He zipped across the screen, effortlessly at the push of the joystick, while irritatingly monotonous music played from the video game.

Suddenly, some kind of turtle-looking thing appeared from off screen, too quick for Jeff to avoid. At the same time, a bullet flew at

him from the other side of the screen, stealing his last life.

It was incredibly bad luck, but then, it had been a bad week.

"Mom," Jeff cried, "I'm bored."

Then he remembered that his mom wasn't home. She was off doing something called in processing, something that he had only a little idea what it was. He was alone with his babysitter in the house and already losing touch with the world.

Jeff wandered into the kitchen with a half developed plan to make a sandwich or drink some soda, anything to kill time. Instead, he found himself reading some of the notes his mom had left for herself on the counter.

One in particular captured his attention. Written on lined notebook paper were the words "Summer Youth Sports," and underneath it a phone number. His understanding of the words was basic, but somehow they called out to him. What did they mean?

When Jeff's mom got home from in processing, he pleaded with her to call and find out if he could play a sport. He was ready to get out and make a fresh start in his new world.

Jeff may not be an actual person, but his dilemma could be used to describe youth around Fort Riley during the summer when school doesn't keep them busy.

Youth Services is offering various sports for children ages 5 - 15 this summer, including softball, t-ball and baseball.

The current season is scheduled to run until July 16, according to Danny Durkee, youth sports director. Registration for the next season, including such sports as soccer and volleyball, will begin in August.

"It's not an ultra competitive program," said Durkee. "It's more for fun."

Durkee says that although score is kept track of for individual matches, it is not recorded for the season, and there is nowhere a person would be able to look up team standings.

In an added effort to reduce competition, there is no end of season tournament and every effort is taken to solve conflicts as they occur.

"I'm not a believer in going a whole season everyone equal and then turning around having a tournament and putting them all against each other," said Durkee.

Durkee says that if any children are more interested in the sport than the friendly program offered on-post, there are always opportunities for more competitive play outside. The 20 on-post

teams compete with almost 20 teams from surrounding areas to add some variety to the sport, and any of those teams would happily accept a child who wished for more of a challenge.

"Everybody plays, everybody learns the rules, everybody learns teamwork and everybody has fun," he said.

Yet another benefit to this local program is the opportunity for parental involvement.

"All coaches and assistant coaches are parents," Durkee said. "During some games for the younger children we have five or six parents helping out during the course of the game, be it helping coach or keeping kids paying attention to the defense."

The children have a good time playing softball as well.

"They can throw hard and bat hard and make all the basemen go over there to the grass," said Tanner Manosa of the Fort Riley Rhinos, pointing to the outfield and talking about his favorite thing about the team.

Durkee himself is responsible only for set up and maintenance of the teams and the areas they play on, although he also serves as an umpire when one is needed.

The youth sports program is run through the post teen center. For more information, please call Danny Durkee at 239-9223.

Jeff invited the softball team to his birthday party that year, held at a local fast food restaurant with a large chocolate cake that the team had chipped in to buy.

His best friend put his arm over his shoulder as he opened the last present.

A best friend he had met on the post youth softball team.

Two months ago he was the new kid on post, he didn't know anybody or do anything; he was prepared to waste away.

Now he knew nearly every boy in his neighborhood.

Now he had a hobby and a best friend.

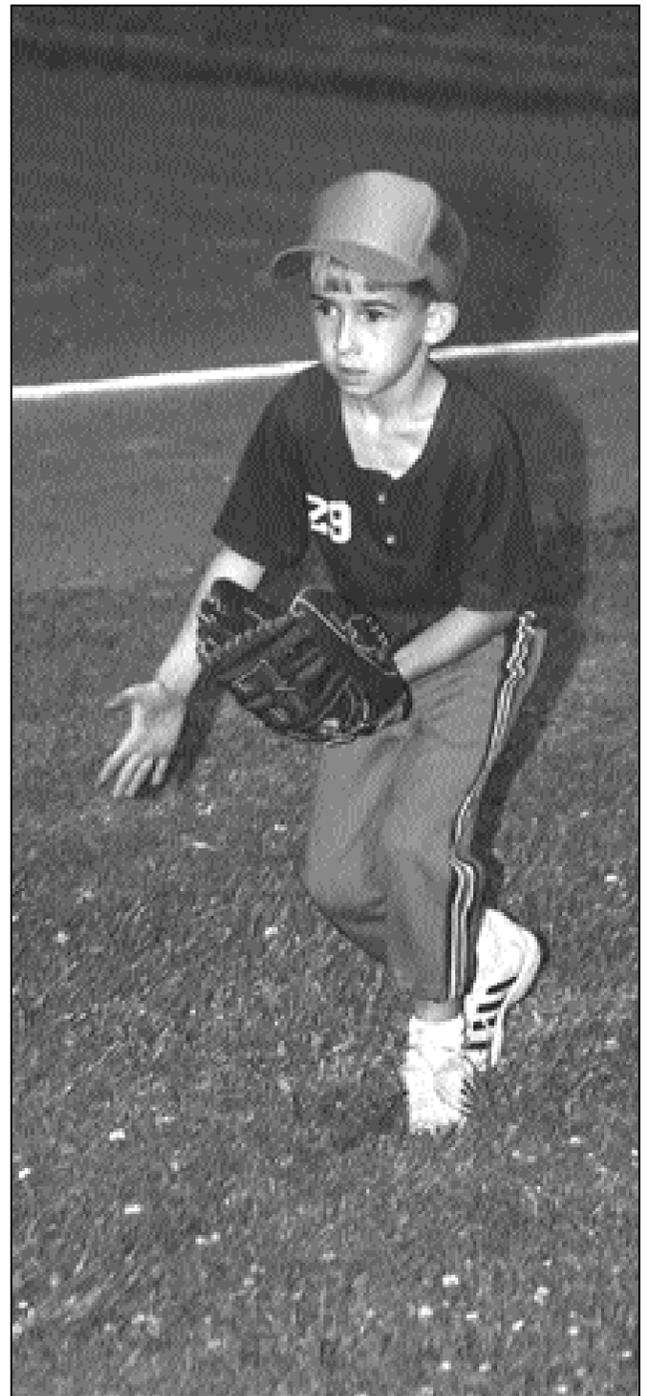
Now he had an extended family in his team.

In as many ways as that would affect his future, he would always remember it started with softball.



Post/Cooke

Katie Boland, a player from Fort Riley girl's softball team number 2, bats during her team's 9-8 win over Junction City.



Post/Selmek

Jody Lenth, Fort Riley Rhinos, gets some practice in before the game. However, rain canceled the event.

Freedom Run part of Fourth of July activities in Junction City

By Emily O'Connor

K-State Intern

"The Coors Freedom Run is a great way to show patriotism and support for our country," Command Sgt. Maj. Ken Fyffe, garrison sergeant major said. "It is also a great way to kick off the Fourth of July and the Sundown Salute."

Junction City and Geary County have a number of events scheduled for July 4 - 5 this year. One event is the 26th Annual Coors Freedom Run.

Maj. Gen. Thomas Metz, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, will kick off the 10k (6.2 mile) race at 7:30 a.m., July 4 on Wash-

ington Street, between 5th and 6th Streets.

According to Jerry Frakes, coordinator of the race, there are entrants from Kansas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Missouri and Wisconsin, so far.

"Last year, we had 208 people running the race and we are hoping for at least that many again this year," Frakes said.

The entrance fee for the Freedom Run is \$12 and includes a tank top and race number.

As in any race, there will be several prizes awarded for different race divisions.

The overall first place male and first place female will each receive \$200. A

prize of \$100 will be awarded to record-breakers in both the male and female divisions. Previous record holders are Steve Riley of Lawrence, with a time of 31:40 and Sara Wells of Salina, with a time 36:47.

A unique aspect of this race is that the proceeds from the Army division of the race will benefit the Fort Riley Armed Services YMCA in Junction City.

Several prizes will be awarded in the Army divisions for the first place overall men's and women's categories; first place platoon (must run as a platoon); first place company and the most runners from a brigade.

There will also be three monetary

prizes awarded for the best decorated storefronts along the race trail.

While the race may simply be a fun event for some, others might see it as an opportunity to prepare for upcoming races.

"The Freedom Run is a great chance to prepare for the AUSA (Association of the United States Army) 10 mile race in August," Fyffe said.

"It's the only major race between now and then."

The course goes north to 18th Street, against traffic, then left on 18th Street, against traffic to Jackson. It then proceeds through the intersection to Highway Business 57 to the turn-around spot

at the three-mile point, then returns the reverse route.

The course is already marked and mowed, Frakes said.

Anyone interested in registering for the 26th Coors Freedom Run, can go to King Field House or Leonard Gym on post or to the Coors warehouse, 2005 North Jackson, Junction City, to enter. Entries will be taken up to, but not on race day.

"The Freedom Run is a great event for families," Frakes said. "We have a one-mile fun run at 9 a.m. and a parade following that. We really have something for everyone and hope that everyone will come out and participate."

Prickly pear, pincushion cactus on Fort Riley, edible in emergency

By Alan Hynek

DES Biologist

Among the prairies of Fort Riley are two botanical dissidents. They come armed with sharp spines and an array of folklore and fascinating uses. Although these two seem out of place on the Kansas plains, they are certainly an interesting part of the tallgrass prairie community.

Two species of cactus are known to occur on Fort Riley. The prickly pear (*Opuntia macrorhiza*) is common and found throughout the entire post. The other is much less common and is fittingly known as the pincushion cactus (*Corypantha missouriensis*).

Both of these are in a family of

spines that help protect the plant from water loss by predators.

Prickly pear grows on rocky slopes and hilltops in the open plains. It can be found as a single plant or, more often, in a cluster of several plants.

There are nine species of prickly pear found in the Great Plains and it is the most widespread cactus in North America. It is characterized by having one to several thick pads armed with up to one-inch spines. The yellow flowers are produced in the spring of the year, and bear a fleshy red or purple fruit.

The prickly pear has many reported uses. Most notably is that nearly all parts are edible, including the pads, fruit, buds and flow-



Post/

The pincushion cactus (*Corypantha missouriensis*) is not a common plant on Fort Riley.

Prickly pears were quite often noted in literature as a source of emergency food and water. One particular event occurred in 1868 at the Battle of Beecher Island along the Republican River in Northeast Colorado.

General Forsythe and his troops were stranded on the sandy island for several days. Their only subsistence was prickly pears, which were found in abundance on the island.

The pincushion cactus is not very common on Fort Riley, but can be found on rocky ledges in the open prairie. The plant has one to several round stems bearing clusters of spines. The flower is a striking pale yellow to green, which develops into a fleshy fruit.

good landscape plants in the right situation. They take well to transplanting and of course require little water.

Care must be taken not to plant them where children or pets may encounter the thorns.

Also keep in mind that only pads, flowers and fruit may be harvested from either species of cactus. Per the Fort Riley Hunting and Fishing Regulation, "Flowers and foliage of plants, excluding trees and shrubs, may be taken for ornamental purposes without a permit provided that no more plant material is taken by any one individual, each day, than can fit into a standard 3-pound coffee can, 6 inch diameter opening."

Korea 50 years ago - Old Baldy, Bloody Ridge bear brunt of Red attacks

By Jim Caldwell

TRADOC News Service

WASHINGTON — In hopes of bringing the Reds back to the truce table, the U.S. launched massive air raids against previously banned targets in the north, 50 years ago this week in Korea.

June 20, 1952 — Medals of Honor are presented posthumously to eight marines. They raise the Medal of Honor in Korea to 14.

The Defense Department reports that the numbers of American casualties in Korea have reached 110,611. That includes 9,400 dead.

June 20-26 — The 179th Infantry Regiment soldiers, 45th Infantry Division, are in positions on Porkchop Hill, Outpost Eerie and Old Baldy, so-called because artillery from both sides has tripped the crest of all vegetation.

Since relieving their sister battalion, the 180th, June 16, 179th soldiers have fought off platoon-through battalion-level Chinese attacks.

The Chinese are now trying to use tunnel warfare to catch U.N. troops unawares. Soldiers of the 15th ID have blown up some tunnel entrances and opened other tunnels. The Chinese who want to surrender are taken prisoner.

Chinese prisoners taken in this area will later tell interrogators of officers who shot men who tried to dig their way out of collapsed tunnels and to surrender to the Americans.

On June 26 the 179th changes from defense to offense. Regiment Commander Lt. Col. Joseph C. Sandlin decides to take out a Chinese position about 1,000 yards away from Old Baldy's crest. The enemy is in a strong position to threaten American troops on Old Baldy and Porkchop Hill.

Early in the morning, soldiers evacuate Old Baldy while eight Air Force tactical fighters bomb, rocket and strafe the enemy. When they're finished, 179th

artillery and mortars give the communists a heavy pasting.

After the artillery lifts, a 179th reinforced company attacks from the left. A 180th company attached to the 179th and supported by a tank goes at the Chinese from the right. Despite the tank, heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire keeps the two units from advancing for about an hour. Then the Chinese suddenly withdraw. The GIs fill in the vacated positions, and come under a heavy artillery barrage.

As soon as the shelling lifts, the Reds rush back into the trenches and the Americans fight them hand-to-hand. They drive the enemy back over the hill where the positions had been dug in, but cannot pursue them. When they start over the crest, withering machine gun fire stops them.

The 179th sends another company to join the fight, and its soldiers try to flank the Chinese on the right. Again, effective fire from the enemy stops them.

Two American tanks join the fight by trying to crest the hill. One turns over and the other throws a track. But before the tanks are out of it, they hit the Chinese and cause them critical damage.

It's enough for two platoons to chase the enemy out of their positions.

When dark comes troops are trying to dig in and survive heavy shelling on Old Baldy and other posts. There is no counterattack during the night.

June 23-26 — On June 23, several Fifth Air Force F-86 squadrons fly cover for Navy planes as 35 Skyraiders and 35 Phantom jets attack the Suiho power-generating dam on the western part of the Yalu River. When Navy pilots exhaust their ordnance, 79 Air Force F-84 Thunderjets and 45 F-90 Shooting Stars hit the dam.

There are more than 200 MiG fighters on airfields in Manchuria, but the pilots stay on the ground. One does take off but flies away in the opposite direction.

B-29 Superfortresses and other combat aircraft hit two power

generating plants at the Chanjin Reservoir and two others at the Pujon Reservoir in the east above the seaport of Hungnam.

On June 24 and June 26, U.S. aircraft pound the reservoir sites again, but do not return to Suiho. On June 25th Air Force aircraft drop 250 tons of bombs on troop concentrations on enemy front lines.

Pilots said the Suiho dam was 70 to 90 percent destroyed and the Pujon plants were wiped out.

This begins a two-week black-out in North Korea.

From the beginning of the war, the Air Force wanted to hit the power plants on the Yalu, but U.S. leaders forbid it because they didn't want to bring the Chinese into the fight. Even after the Chinese entered the war, the policy stayed in effect. Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, as U.N. supreme commander, vetoed requests to add them to the target list. Reportedly he wanted to wait until the enemy dragged their feet in the truce talks and then the power stations could be hit to motivate them to

get serious about making progress at the truce table.

After Gen. Mark Clark became the U.N. supreme commander, he immediately saw the power plants as legitimate targets. So when Lt. Gen. O.P. Weyland, Far East Air Force commander, proposed to attack them, Clark agreed. The Joint Chiefs of Staff also agreed and President Harry S. Truman gave his permission.

The only restrictions were to hit the Yalu River dams on the North Korean side of the river and pilots must not stray into Manchurian air space.

The attacks create an uproar in Great Britain. Labor leaders in Parliament denounce the raids June 24 as possible sparks for World War III.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill admits that he wasn't consulted before the attacks but they presented "no change" in the British-U.S. war policy.

June 25 — Weyland says that the bombing raids are "a gentle hint of more to come if the communists want it that way."

Clark makes a speech on the second anniversary of the war's beginning. He says the United Nations is prepared for "the bitter, bloody fighting of 1950 and 1951" if the Reds want to begin another offensive.

In Moscow, the Tass news agency rages, "American air pirates have started the massive

bombing of peaceful towns which have not military objectives."

At Panmunjom, North Korean Lt. Gen. Nam Il warns the U.N. negotiators against taking a "dangerous step" to try to make the communists abandon their "reasonable and unshakeable" truce demands.

Americans on the home front aren't affected by the international furor. They think that if it will end the war center, the power-generating plants should be wiped out.

Communist guerrillas blow up a train in southwest South Korea. An American soldier is among the 46 people killed.

The communists take 80 passengers as prisoners.

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



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Trooper Week correction

There is a correction to the printed results in last week's Fort Riley Post, in reference to the winners of the Trooper Week overall standings. The winners of the week-long competition were: overall winner, 3rd Brigade Combat Team; battalion winner, 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery Division; and small unit winner, 331st Signal Company. The Post staff regrets the misprinting.

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Eisenhower honored at Abilene ceremony

By Steven Cooke
Staff Writer

The Army celebrated its 227th birthday on June 14. Part of the festivities was honoring past Chiefs of Staff that are no longer alive with wreath laying ceremonies. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower was honored at his tomb in the Place of Meditation at the Eisenhower Center in Abilene, Kansas. Eisenhower is one of only two chiefs not buried at Arlington Cemetery in Arlington, Va.

The day was beautiful. Clear blue skies, warm temperatures and a hint of a cool breeze. The ceremony was very short. At 3 p.m. a bugle played a very soulful rendition of Taps as Brig. Gen. David Gross, 24th Infantry Division assistant division commander (Maneuver) and Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Hearron, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and Fort Riley command sergeant major, wearing their dress blues, placed the wreath on Eisenhower's tomb.

"I am very humbled and honored to have this opportunity today," said Gross.

Inside the Place of Meditation were soldiers from the 266th Transportation Detachment.

"I wanted them to see this," said 1st Lt. Paul Smith, 266th Transportation Detachment Commander. "This is something every soldier at Fort Riley and the Army should see. We're showing our respect to General Eisenhower and the Army."

Outside the Place of Meditation folks gathered to pay their respects.

"I try to attend all the ceremonies," said Anson Coulson, Abilene city commissioner. "I have very high regards for Eisenhower and I'm proud to be from the same home town."

"I thought the ceremony was very nice," said Marie Johannsen of Overland Park, Kan. "I'm a history buff and always thought Eisenhower was a strong leader."

The ceremony did not attract many, but the annual wreath laying in October for Eisenhower's birthday could bring thousands explained Dan Holt, director of the Eisenhower Center.

In the Place of Meditation, Eisenhower is laid next to his wife Mamie Doud Eisenhower and between them lay their young son Doud David Eisenhower who died of scarlet fever at age four.

The Eisenhower Center also features a Presidential Research Library and the Eisenhower family home.



Post/Bender

Brig. Gen. David Gross, assistant division commander (Maneuver) and Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Hearron, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and Fort Riley command sergeant major, place a wreath on Eisenhower's tomb June 14.

Assignment preferences soon accessible online

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) -- Army officers will be able to submit their assignment preference statements via the Internet by accessing the U.S. Army Personnel Command homepage beginning July 1.

The online preference statement will enable officers, for the first time, the ability to view open valid requisitions that assignment managers are working to fill, according to officials.

"In the past our customers have only been able to see open assignments on various branch websites," said Jan Frutiger, automation branch chief for PERSCOM's Officer Personnel Management Directorate. "With the online preference statements officers will have a broader view of the positions that assignment managers are working to fill. They will be able to evaluate the special requirements for the position before making their choice."

Branch, grade and area of con-

centration are the filters for the information that is shown on the preference statement. Officers can make selections specifically by valid and open requisitions, by location or by specific duty such as joint, ROTC or recruiting. The assignment manager will then have immediate visibility to this information as he walks through the decision process for filling a requisition.

"The preference statement is what the field has asked for," said Brig. Gen. David Valcourt, OPMD director. "It's going to empower officers to better participate in the decisions that impact their career and help streamline and improve the responsiveness of the officer assignment process."

Officers will be able to select their preferences on the PERSCOM homepage by clicking on the officer preference statement dog tag when the option comes online next month.

Self-Help course offered

By Heather Pope
Radford Univ. Intern

Every unit on post is required to have a noncommissioned officer and three school trained members on their Self-Help team. These teams are an essential part of the installation's facility maintenance team.

The Public Works Self-Help school helps units establish a good Self-Help Program.

The course is scheduled every month and the next is scheduled July 15-19. The course is taught in conjunction with Barton County Community College, and provides soldier the opportunity to obtain two advanced education credits.

"These courses allow technicians to apply themselves to do difficult repairs only they can do," said Ed Kozlowski, Self-Help instructor.

There are a several areas of self help offered. "Our main course is construction. It deals with some home repairs such as sheet rock and screen," said Kozlowski.

"The purpose of the classes is to help soldiers with their ability to fix basic maintenance problems in the barracks, which in turn helps Public Works save their valuable time."

The Self-Help course also incorporates the Installation's Energy Conservation class, which is taught on Thursday afternoon at 1 p.m. the week of the Self-Help Class. This class is mandatory for Energy Awareness Officers and NCOs, and students do not have to attend the entire Self-Help course to come to the Energy Class.

Although anyone on post can take these courses, to enroll a soldier, the unit needs to submit a request for on-post school space to the Self-Help School. The school is located on Main Post in building 307, on the corner of Holbrook and Carter Ave., upper floor. The hours of operation for the school are from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday - Friday. It is closed on federal holidays and training holidays. Self-Help supplies are available at the Troop Self-Help Store, building 372. For more information visit the PW web site or call 239-3757.

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