



Exceptional family members go to camp
Page 11

Fort Riley Post

Medics terminate Infantry's streak
Unit softball teams wrap up eighth week
Page 15



Around The Army

Korea:

The Pacific Stars and Stripes reported July 15 the U.S. military began the biggest logistical operation in South Korea in years July 7—hauling tanks, Humvees and other 2nd Infantry Division gear south to Pusan Harbor for shipment to Iraq.

Transporting the equipment from the 2nd Inf. Div. area north of the Han River signals a key next step in the combat team's planned deployment. Its 3,600 troops are to depart for Iraq later this summer.

For more about this story and other Pacific and European U.S. military news, visit www.estripes.com on the Web.

Fort Knox:

Inside the Turret reported July 15 that the post's top cop, Lt. Col. Christopher J. Kleymeyer, would hang up his military badge and holster to join law enforcement for the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Kleymeyer retires from being commander of Fort Knox's Law Enforcement Command to become director of training for the Commonwealth of Kentucky's Department of Corrections.

For more about this and other Fort Knox stories, visit www.thewesternenterprise.com on the Web.

Fort McPherson:

The Sentinel reported June 25 that Lawrence Joel Army Health Clinic would implement the new Department of Defense electronic health record system July 7.

The system, Composite Healthcare System II, produces and maintains a comprehensive, life-long, computer-based patient record for each military health system beneficiary. DoD healthcare providers at more than 75 hospitals, 461 medical clinics and 600 dental clinics worldwide will have real-time, instant access to a beneficiary's health record.

The new system will eliminate the need for paper records allowing military treatment facility medical providers worldwide access to patient records when and where they are needed.

For more about this story and other Fort McPherson news, visit www.mcpherson.army.mil on the Web.

Fort Dix:

The Post reported July 2 that Fort Dix has something new in its arsenal, but it won't be found in an ammunition stockpile or on the firing range. Instead, it resides on a desktop computer and its arena is the ongoing battle for business intelligence. Its name is Activity-Based Costing and Team Dix will be using it to support Productivity Improvement Reviews.

For more about this and more Fort Dix news, visit www.dix.army.mil on the Web.

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.



Post/Skidmore
Matt Scherzberg prepares to appear on the NBC Today Show. Show Producer Jim Lichtenstein gets him ready.

Brothers share tour National media spotlight Nebraska Soldiers

By Gary Skidmore
Command Info. Officer

It took a little more than three hours to accomplish, but the four Scherzberg brothers from Nebraska got their 15 minutes of fame. The brothers, Jeff, Brett, Matt and Justin, appeared on NBC's

"Today Show," ABC's "Good Morning America" and CBS's "Early Show" all before 8 a.m. July 7. They also appeared on CBS's Evening News.

The brothers are attached to the 915th Transportation Company, U.S. Army Reserve, which is preparing to deploy to Iraq. The unit is at Fort Riley for certification

training that prepares the truck drivers for their mission in Iraq.

For Brett, a 23-year-old specialist, and his twin brothers, 21-year-old sergeants Matt and Justin, the deployment marks their second deployment to Iraq.

When the notification came for
See Brothers, Page 3

Tops in field



1st Engineer Battalion/Jasper
Spc. Dustin Kelly of Company A, 1st Engineer Battalion, demonstrates the proper method for self-extraction from a minefield to Sgt. 1st Class Brian Cates during the battalion's Engineer of the Year Award (Super Sappers) competition on July 1. Kelly received the Super Sapper award later that night.

Combat engineers earn high awards

By Joseph D. Jasper
1st Engineer Battalion

CAMP JUNCTION CITY, Iraq - 1st Engineer Battalion recognized two of its combat engineers this month for winning the annual Engineer Soldier of the Year (Super Sappers) and the Army Combat Engineer Sergeants competition.

Sgt. Edward Hynes of Company B won the ACES award for finishing first in squad-level leadership competition.

Spc. Dustin Kelly of Company A won the Super Sappers competition for junior

enlisted Soldiers.

The Engineers conducted the event on Camp Junction City near Ar Ramadi, Iraq. The Army Engineer Association annually recognizes one engineer squad leader and one junior enlisted combat engineer deemed best by their battalion command team. Each company could nominate only one candidate per award and conducted their own selection programs to send their best soldiers to compete in the battalion competition.

Battalion Operations Sergeant Master Sgt. Lewis F. Gordon Jr., organized this year's event and closely monitored the

candidates' progress.

"We (had) four candidates for Super Sappers and three for the ACES. One of our ACES sergeants got hit with an (improvised explosive device) during a mission earlier this month and wasn't able to continue with the competition," Gordon said. The sergeant's wounds weren't life threatening, but they prevented him from competing.

The four companies nominated Soldiers based on their performance as a 21-series Military Occupational Specialty combat

See Engineers, Page 2

Change affects service lengths

Most requests for retirement to take longer

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

Sergeants first class and above wanting to retire face a longer wait for approval of their application.

"We used to be able to put orders in the Soldier's hands in about 24 hours," said Kathy Cunningham-Tucker, the post retirement services officer. Now, retirement applications for sergeants first class and above will be approved by the commander of Human Resources Command-Alexandria, according to a message sent to Fort Riley the end of June.

That will add processing time to the Soldier's request to retire, she said.

Fort Riley will continue to approve retirement applications for staff sergeants. Cunningham-Tucker said. Fort Riley also will remain the approval authority for Soldiers denied continued service under Retention Control Point policy for staff sergeants.

The change in the retirement approval policy was to take place on or about July 1, the message stated. The change allows the Army to control the exodus of its senior noncommissioned officers consistent with manning requirements, according to the message. "Under the law, enlisted Soldiers with at least 20 years of active service are eligible, but not entitled, to retire upon request. Soldiers with at least 30 years of active service are entitled to retire upon request," the message stated.

Until now, commanders with general court martial authority have routinely granted a Soldier's

See Retirements, Page 10

Memorial service honors fallen lieutenant

By April Blackmon
Staff writer

Family, friends and colleagues gathered July 12, at Morris Hill Chapel to remember 2nd Lt. Brian Drew Smith, platoon leader for Company A, 1st Battalion, 34th Armor.

The memorial service honored the Soldier killed July 2, while leading a security patrol in Habbaniyah, Iraq.

"Thank you, Lt. Brian Smith, for all you have done and the difference you will always have made," said Capt. Jeremy Jurand, the battalion's assistant S3.

"Lt. Smith was not just an outstanding leader. He was an outstanding man who loved his Soldiers," said Spc. Jonathon McLaughlin a Soldier who had worked with Smith.

"His desire to live for the safety and well being of others, his commitment to being a bearer of hope to those with little cause for hope stands as a guidepost for all of us to follow," said Lt. Col. Oscar J. Hall, IV, commander of 2nd Bn., 34th Armor.

Several Soldiers who worked with Smith recalled his professionalism and dedication to his job. They also remembered his sense of humor.

"He always handled himself very professionally but still managed to cut a wisecrack and tell jokes with the guys," McLaughlin said.

"This was kind of his way of helping us forget about the everyday stress we had out there," McLaughlin explained.

"One time, when an attack happened on a pontoon bridge on the Euphrates River in our sector, the bridge was destroyed.

"He told me I needed to go sign for some jet skis so our platoon could patrol the river and keep it safe for the Iraqi people," said Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Miskevish.

2nd Lt. Brian Smith

Commissioned in June 2003 Stationed at Fort Riley since December 2003 Deployed to Iraq in January 2004 He was the 38th Fort Riley Soldier to be killed in Iraq since Operation Iraqi Freedom began.





Post news in brief

Finance battalion staffs for field

The 4th Finance Battalion will be at minimal staff July 21-23 due to a field exercise. Anyone with finance questions or concerns should call 239-9878.

Town hall meeting set

Fort Riley civilian employees may take part in a town hall meeting July 19 or July 20 to learn about the National Security Personnel System.

Session 1 will begin at 1 p.m. in Barlow Theater, building 7866, on Custer Hill.

Session 2 will begin at 9 a.m. July 20 in Barlow Theater. Employees should attend only one session.

Knights seek new skydivers

The U.S. Army Parachute Team, "Golden Knights" are accepting applications to attend their annual Assessment and Selection Program in September. A downloadable version of the application is available at www.armygold-enknights.com.

Applications are being accepted until July 30. Packets can be sent to the U.S. Army Parachute Team, P.O. Box 70126, Fort Bragg, N.C. 28307. For more information, call 396-4800.

Correction

The July 9 Post misidentified a member of the "We the People" cast. Robyn Harmon is the 12-year-old daughter of Staff Sgt. Ray Harmon. The Post regrets the error.

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BLUE/July 2004

Engineers continued from page 1

engineer. ACES nominees must be a sergeant or staff sergeant. Super Sappers cannot exceed specialist in rank. All nominees must qualify on their personal weapon, pass the Army Physical Fitness Test and have no unfavorable administrative actions pending against them.

The battalion's three-day competition coincided with the transfer of Iraq's sovereignty and had already been postponed in early June because of operational conflicts.

Candidates began the three-day battalion event with the APFT. Gordon said, "there are only two disqualifying events if you don't pass: the APFT and marksmanship. We don't tell them if they passed or failed. They have to

continue the competition with that in the back of their mind."

Kelly admitted that the most challenging event was marksmanship. "I was not able to see my target before I left the range, so I had to go through the rest of the competition not knowing how I did."

The events for both awards are similar: marksmanship, preparing an AN/PSS-12 mine detector and detecting mines, preparing and operating the Single Channel Ground/Airborne Radio System (SINCGARS), self-extraction from a minefield and preparing a nine-line medevac request.

Each nominee must also demonstrate proficiency in assembling and disassembling the M4 carbine, the M240B machine gun, the M249 Squad Automatic

Weapon and the M2 .50 caliber machine gun.

The Soldiers faced a board of the battalion's senior noncommissioned officers who evaluated them on oral communications, military bearing and uniform appearance. Board members also tested the candidates' knowledge of current events, law of war, Uniform Code of Military Justice, rules of engagement, and military customs, courtesies and traditions.

The competition tested the engineers' ability to execute tasks beyond their MOS.

"We gave the sergeants four topics concerning the Korean War, and each of them had a month to research one of the four topics for a formal battle brief," Gordon said.

Each sergeant took one day to research the Inchon, Chosin, Chipyong-ni or Kumi-ri campaign and to prepare the brief. Candidates were evaluated based on

knowledge of the campaign, the logical progression of the brief and knowledge of significant engineer contributions to the campaign.

Junior enlisted candidates wrote a 1,000-word essay on topics selected by the battalion's senior noncommissioned officers. Kelly's topic required him to describe his personal strengths and areas of improvement as he prepared to become a noncommissioned officer.

"I wrote that my No. 1 strength was my sense of professionalism and two areas I need to improve in were my tactical proficiency and enforcing the standard."

Sergeants competing for the ACES award completed their capstone event on the third day. Gordon said, "we gave the candidates a tactical order to conduct a route reconnaissance to support a logistical convoy. At the end of the route, they identified a point

obstacle to clear in order to pass the event."

With the exception of Hynes, squad leaders brought their own squads for the event. After successfully completing the final event, Hynes said the mission was his most challenging event. "My squad is conducting missions down near Habaniyah, so my squad is collecting a collection of (ACES) squad was a collection of Soldiers from all the companies on Camp Junction City."

The battalion announced the winners of the Super Sapper and ACES competition at an awards ceremony at the end of the competition. Hynes and Kelly received Army Achievement Medals and special Certificates of Achievement from 1st Eng. Bn. The Army Engineer Association will award each winner a personalized trophy and certificate, recognition in the AEA Magazine and an annual membership in the AEA.



1st Engineer Battalion/Jasper Sgt. Matt Pindras (left) assists Sgt. Edward Hynes while he prepares demolitions to destroy an enemy minefield. Hynes conducted the mission as part of the Army Engineer Association's competition to choose this year's "Army Combat Engineer Sergeant." Hynes won the competition.

Riley Roundtable, presenting the views and opinions of Soldiers, civilian employees and family members at Fort Riley, begins Aug. 6. Got a question you would like to see asked? Call the editor at 239-8854.

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Brothers continued from page 1

her sons to activate, the boy's mother, Connie, said she knew her second-oldest son, Jeff, would join them. Connie said Jeff tried to re-enlist the last time the brothers were deployed but there wasn't enough time. Jeff had been out of the reserves for about two years.

This time though, there was just enough time to finish the process and although it was hard for her to accept, Connie said she knew it was what he wanted.

"We've always felt that he's the one that started this Army Reserves thing, and he felt that he needed to be with his brothers," she said.

"I was the first to join the military," said Jeff, who never deployed the eight years he was in the service. "I spent eight years in the Army and never deployed. My brothers have been in three years and this will be their second deployment. I started all this with the Reserves, so I need to go with them."

"I always said that whenever Jeff chose to do something, his brothers always followed," Connie said. "When he started to wrestle, they followed him. When they went camping, he was

always the leader. He's always had this drive to be involved in things, and I know he felt left out when his brothers went the first time. They have always been very devoted to each other."

"We're always together," said Brett, who noted that during the long July Fourth weekend, the brothers went camping, boating and rafting down the Platt River together.

"When you go overseas, you make a lot of friends, but we're family," Brett said. "We'll be there for each other all the time, and if something does happen we'll be together then."

The four soldiers are members of the 172nd Transportation Company based in Omaha, but as with their last tour of duty, they will be serving with a different unit. In 2003 they served with the 360th Transportation Company based out of Fort Carson, Colo.

For this deployment, they will be serving with the Iowa-based unit from Cedar Falls.

For Justin, having his brothers with him is important. "It's huge knowing your brothers are there to take care of you," he said. "It's nice knowing your brothers have your back."



Post/Skidmore

CBS Evening News Reporter Cynthia Bowers interviews the Scherberg brothers and their mother, Connie, July 7. In the background is Marty Scherberg, the brothers' father.

Cody promoted, appointed Army's vice chief of staff

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — His two combat veteran sons helped Gen. Richard A. Cody pin on his fourth star July 2, just minutes before Cody was sworn in as the Army's 31st vice chief of staff during a Pentagon ceremony.

Cody, who left his position as G3 on the Army staff to take the Army's number two uniformed leader slot, replaced Gen. George W. Casey Jr. Casey departed the Pentagon in

late June for Baghdad, where he assumed duties as commanding general of the Multinational Force Iraq a few hours before Cody's ceremony.

Cody's sons, Capt. Clint and Tyler Cody, fly Apache helicopters. They recently returned from Iraq with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

Cody graduated from the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., and is a veteran combat aviator with more than 5,000 hours in numerous military aircraft.

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Commentary

View from Iraq

Most Iraqis appreciate U.S. presence

By **Bonnie Murphy**
Army News Service

BALAD, Iraq — I'm appalled at the "news" as it's reported from Iraq.

Just as disturbing is the lack of knowledge a lot of people have about what's really going on, why we're there and what it's really like. I'd like to set the record straight.

My job as an environmentalist is primarily the protection of the environment and the disposal of Department of Defense-generated hazardous wastes. I volunteered to go to Iraq and last December I was selected to set up the first disposal operations in the forward deployed area.

I have been stationed at Balad Air Base, LSA Anaconda, since Dec. 28. On several occasions, my work has taken me to Baghdad. I extended my initial tour from 120 days to 155 days, and June 7, I went back to Baghdad for six more months.

Ninety-five percent of the Iraqi people want us there, and it's only a handful of insurgents with weapons who are attacking our bases, convoys and troops. The older generations say that although they may never see the freedoms we're trying to bring to their country, they know their children will enjoy the rights that we take for granted in this country.

I've had the opportunity to meet and speak with day laborers coming on Anaconda. They are grateful for the work and pay they receive. Men have taken my hand with tear-filled eyes and thanked me because they can now provide for their families — something they couldn't do when Saddam was in power. I've met engineers, pilots and well-educated men who, for the first time since Saddam took office, are returning from self-imposed exile to their homeland and are able to find work on our many U.S. bases.

Before I left Balad, I was able to coordinate the donation of \$3,500 of hospital disinfectant and dental amalgam to the local hospital from the DRMS inventory of excess property. Our Balad team of doctors and medics make regular scheduled visits to the surrounding communities to provide medical care and assistance to the people and teach new technologies to Iraqi medical personnel.

Sanitation taught

People are being taught field sanitation and hand-washing techniques to prevent the spread of germs. About 400,000 children have now received up-to-date immunizations, and 100 percent of the existing hospitals are now open and staffed, compared to 35

percent before the war.

On behalf of my organization, the Defense Logistics Agency and its partner, Army Materiel Command, we're sponsoring a local secondary school. We've received \$65,500 of Saddam's money to completely rebuild the school. Our school is only one of 11 schools being sponsored by different units on LSA Anaconda. School attendance is up 80 percent, and for the first time girls are allowed to attend classes.

Seabees rebuilding

Our facility engineers and Seabees are rebuilding outdated sewer lines and constructing a new water treatment plant that will serve the entire area. This is being done in every major city. More than 4.5 million people have clean drinking water for the first time.

We're updating and constructing new power plants throughout the country. Now the entire populace receives twice the electric power it did before the war. More than 400,000 people have telephone service for the first time.

The port of Uhm Qasar was renovated so grain can be off loaded from ships faster. Farmers are being educated on better methods, and new technologies are being introduced. Local contractors working on our bases are, for the first time, able to

receive lubricant oils and hydraulic and brake fluids for their equipment.

The newly formed Iraqi Civil Defense Force trains on LSA Anaconda. The teams work and learn side by side with our Soldiers, and they are proud to be learning from us and eager to help in the battle against the handful of insurgents making life miserable in Iraq.

Every day our troops are finding buried weapons and chemicals that must be disposed of.

The dangerous chemicals would pose a threat to the environment, health and safety of the Iraqi people and the world if they were to come into the wrong hands.

I've met some wonderful Soldiers serving in Iraq. As a nation, we should all be proud and supportive of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

I believe in my job and my country, and I want my grandchildren to always be able to enjoy their freedoms. That's why I'm going back.

Editor's note: Bonnie Murphy is a Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service employee who volunteered to go to Iraq in December. Murphy was honored as DLA Employee of the Second Quarter for the work she performed in Iraq. She recently decided to extend her tour in Iraq until January.

Grunt By Wayne Udden



Army One Source Q's & A's

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For help, call Army One Source at (800) 464-8107.

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1st Battalion, 34th Armor, shifts mission to Iraqi defense force

By Paula M. Fitzgerald
1st Marine Division

COMBAT OUTPOST KILLEEN, Iraq – Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 34th Armor, turned a new page in the Iraqi security force history book June 1.

Hundreds of citizens from the neighboring community of Khalidiyah gathered outside the camp's perimeter to witness the American soldiers transfer security responsibilities to the 502nd Iraqi Civil Defense Corps.

"This is a historical moment," said Maj. John A. Nagl, battalion operations officer. "It's a very visible demonstration of the coalition's faith and trust in the ICDC's capabilities."

The camp, a former Republican Guard base, lies at a pivotal position, making first-rate security a must.

It is located a few miles from the only bridge that crosses the

Euphrates River between Ramadi and Falluja. Additionally, the cemetery adjacent to the camp is a favorite location for insurgents looking to launch attacks against coalition forces.

"All of the Soldiers, Iraqi and American alike, are working for a common goal," Lt. Col. Jeff E. Swisher, battalion commander, explained. "They all want a safe, secure and sovereign Iraq."

He also said the transfer of authority is a symbol to the Iraqi people that both sides are striving to put an Iraqi face on the country's security force.

"The 502nd ICDC is now responsible for the security of the area's critical infrastructure," he added. "They must also work to rid the area of terrorists who don't want to see a sovereign Iraq."

The 502nd ICDC is comprised of five companies, which will all eventually be given separate areas to protect.

"By July 1, all the companies

will be given established strategic positions in the cities to ensure the security and protection of the people," said Nagl, who hails from Kansas City, Kan.

The 901 men of the 502nd ICDC will operate in the cities of Khalidiyah, Jazera, Habaniyah and the smaller communities in the surrounding areas, according to Lt. Col. Hamad Shaher Farhan, 502nd ICDC commander.

Before assuming authority from the Soldiers, the members of the 502nd ICDC received extensive training and operated with their American counterparts to get the hang of things.

"They spent about two months learning about dismounted and mounted patrols and weapons marksmanship," said Staff Sgt. Jody L. Bills, a truck operator with 1st Bn. "It's nothing different from what an American Soldier is taught."

Nagl said he believes the Iraqis face tough roads ahead but

shouldn't have a difficult time adjusting.

"The 502nd was established only a few months ago," he explained. "They don't have the same level of training as American infantry. They are also not very well equipped right now."

Coalition forces will continue to aid the ICDC and to ensure the equipment is sufficient for the tasks at hand.

"I meet with their leaders almost every day," Nagl said. "We talk about everything they're going to need to be effective. As long as they continue to work hard, I see a very bright future for the ICDC."

Farhan also sees success in the future. "I'm so proud and happy on this occasion," Farhan said. "The men of the 502nd are our fighting heroes. We are ready to make sure the people of Iraq are secure. We promise our loyalty to the area and will work for a democratic Iraq."



Post/Blackman

Warrant insignia change

Fort Riley Criminal Investigation Division Battalion Commander Lt. Col. James Gray pins the Military Police insignia bearing crossed pistols on the uniform collar of Chief Warrant Officer Eugene Dunn July 9. The ceremony took place on the warrant officers corps birthday. Chief Warrant Officer Lisa Medrano waits to receive her branch insignia. They were among five warrant officers pinning on the branch insignia July 9, at Fort Riley. Warrant officers Army-wide are exchanging the symbol of their corps, the Eagle Rising, for branch insignia. The conversion is a step toward the full integration of warrant officer recruiting, accession, education and management into the branch-based system of the larger officer corps.

Airman wins contest

By Judd Anstey
AAFES

EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE – Airman 1st Class Robert F. Lewis is one in 11 million. Actually, Lewis is one in 11,161,492.

Those were the odds he overcame to win one of the major prizes in Burger King's Spider-Man 2 contest. Lewis found out he had won a trip for four to Universal Studios in Orlando, Fla., while at the Army & Air Force Exchange Services' Eielson AFB, Alaska, base exchange.

Lewis, who is assigned to the 354th Maintenance Squadron at Eielson, already knows who's

going to Florida with him and his wife. "I'm taking my brother and a friend," he said.

"We are always glad to hear when our customers win one of our Name Brand Fast Food contests," said Richard Sheff, AAFES' vice president of food and theater. "We work hard to offer dining experiences that are consistent with restaurants in CONUS, right down to the contests a servicemember would find at home."

Burger King's Spider-Man 2 contest runs through Aug. 8. Game pieces are available at any of the 183 AAFES-operated Burger King restaurants in the United States, Pac Rim and Europe.

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Post news in brief

Mail classes scheduled

An Introduction to Unit Mailroom Operations class will be offered July 28, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in building 319. Pre-enrollment is required. To enroll, call 239-5411.

Prospective unit mail clerks must have at least an Interim secret clearance and have completed 20 days on-the-job training before attending class. For more information, call 239-5411.

Safety classes scheduled

July's Directorate of Environment and Safety class schedule includes: Environmental Team Training, July 19-20, beginning at 9 a.m. in room 6, building 407. Environmental Team training certifies environmental team leaders and members for handling hazardous materials and responding to waste handling spills at the unit level. Leaders and team members must attend this course within 60 days of appointment to their duties.

For more information or to enroll, call 239-0446 or 239-2334.

Environmental Team Training Refresher July 22 beginning at 9 a.m. in room 6, building 407.

Environmental Team Training Refresher is the annual refresher course to Environmental Team Training.

To enroll or for more information, call 239-0446 or 239-2334.

HAZCOM Train the Trainer Course beginning at 9 a.m. July 23 in room 6, building 407.

To enroll or for more information, call 239-0446 or 239-2334.

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Chaplain accepts stole of position



Chap. (Lt. Col.) Don German, wearing the division chaplain's stole, replaces Chap. (Lt. Col.) Timothy Willoughby as 24th Infantry Division (Mech) chaplain July 8.

German assumes duties as head chaplain for 24th Infantry Division (Mech) Soldiers

By April Blackmon Staff writer

Chap. (Lt. Col.) Don German officially assumed responsibilities as 24th Infantry Division (Mech) chaplain at an assumption of the stole ceremony July 8 at Kapaun Chapel.

He succeeds Chap. (Lt. Col.) Timothy Willoughby. The division chaplain's stole symbolizes pastoral responsibility placed upon the division chaplain to perform and provide religious support to Soldiers and their families during peacetime and war.

In receiving the stole, the incoming division chaplain assumes the charge of providing spiritual and technical leadership for all Unit Ministry Teams under his purview.

Although the exact origin of the stole is unclear, it dates back to pre-Christian time. Scholars agree that it was an article of dress in ancient Rome.

Some scholars suggest the stole was a distinguished mark used by certain Roman magistrates as a sign of their office.

Others see the ecclesiastical stole from Jewish origins, representing the prayer shawl. Still others view exchanging the stole as

similar to the passing of the mantle found in the Bible, in 2 Kings 2:1-15. That text depicts the transfer of prophetic authority between Elijah and Elisha represented by the passing of the mantle.

German received a bachelor's degree in recreation and parks administration from Clemson University in Clemson, S.C., and a master of divinity degree from Virginia Union University School of Theology in Richmond, Va.

After first serving with the South Carolina National Guard in 1980, German entered active duty in 1982 and attended the Communications and Electronic Staff Officer Course at Fort Sill, Okla.

He then moved to Fort Hood, Texas, where he was signal officer for the 62nd Engineer Battalion.

In 1985, German became a chaplain candidate while attending seminary and served with the Virginia Army National Guard as the chaplain for Virginia's Non-commissioned Officer Academy and Officer Candidate School.

German returned to active duty in 1988 and served as the 369th Signal Battalion chaplain at Fort Gordon, Ga. In 1991, he served as the 1st Battalion, 15th Field Artillery, chaplain in Korea.

After attending the Chaplain

Officer Advance Course, German served as the 42nd Engineer Battalion chaplain at Fort Polk, La.

While stationed at Fort Drum, N.Y., in 1995, he served as Division Artillery chaplain for the 10th Mountain Division.

From 1996 to 1997, German attended the Command and General Staff Course at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

From there he was assigned as a small group instructor with the Chaplain Captains Career Course and later at the Distance Learning Cell of the Training Development Division, both at the U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School at Fort Jackson, S.C.

In 2001, he became deputy division chaplain of the 1st Armored Division in Wiesbaden, Germany.

After promotion to lieutenant colonel, he was assigned as the 235th Base Support Battalion staff chaplain in Ansbach, Germany.

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Retirements continued from page 1

request to retire as long as the Soldier had completed at least 20 years service, the message stated.

Stop-Loss measures also affect Soldiers' retirement requests, she said. Stop-Loss time periods include 90 days before and 90 days after an overseas deployment.

The Fort Riley Retirement Services Office received 54 new requests for retirement from 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, NCOs after their recent return from Iraq, Cunningham-Tucker said. "That was considerably more than the usual number we process on average," she said.

Cunningham-Tucker said she expects larger numbers of retirement requests from 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, Soldiers when they return this fall.

Historically, Soldiers have waited until four to six months before to make up their mind about retiring, Cunningham-Tucker said. Since the war in Iraq, Soldiers are making their decisions as early as 12 months in advance, she said.

The increase in retirements isn't limited to senior noncommissioned officers, she said. "We used to see five to six commissioned officers and warrant officers request retirement each year," she said. The number of retirement requests has increased since 2002. "Now we get about 15 a year, and most of those are

for retirement right at 20 years. In 2002, retirements were requested after 21 to 24 years," she said.

The war in Iraq isn't the personal reason everyone wants to retire, Cunningham-Tucker said. From her conversations with Soldiers submitting retirement requests, reasons now seem to be consistent with reasons expressed before 2002.

"The Army's not the same Army I joined."

"Tired of back-to-back and very frequent deployments."

"It's time to make my family the priority now."

Army regulations allow four months processing time for a Soldier's retirement request, not counting terminal leave the Soldier may be entitled to.

Until the change in approval authority, the process at Fort Riley averaged 120 days for enlisted members and nine months for officers. Some were done in less time, but seldom less than 30 days, Cunningham-Tucker said.

Some Fort Riley Soldiers have withdrawn retirement requests, she said.

When the Army decided to let staff sergeants extend their active duty from 20 to 22 years, some staff sergeants on post pulled their requests to stay in because they like the Army life and wanted to stay in as long as they could, she said.

Mosquito numbers increase

High number of pests prompt frequent fogging applications

Precautions

When fogging takes place in housing or work areas:

People with respiratory conditions should avoid exposure to the fog for 10 to 15 minutes.

If possible, they should stay inside a building with doors and windows closed. Joggers, walkers and other traffic should avoid treatment areas for five to eight minutes.

Drivers should watch for and avoid the slow moving vehicle used to apply the fog treatment.

Residents may report large numbers of mosquitoes to the Housing Service Order Desk at 785-2599. Large numbers of mosquitoes around other facilities may be reported to the Public Works Service Order Desk at 239-0900.

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

Mosquito surveys show large numbers of the insect pest at Fort Riley this year than last year and that means the post is doing more fogging to kill the bugs, said an employee at the Directorate of Environment and Safety.

Jerold Spohn reported July 12 that at least three fogging applications have been authorized so far this season because surveys by Bill Wildman of Preventive Medicine at Irwin Army Medical Center found excessive numbers of mosquitoes in traps set up in various locations throughout the post.

Fort Riley fogs post areas with excessive numbers of mosquitoes each year, Spohn said, but this year the time needed to fog has already doubled the time needed last season.

Recent rains created areas of standing water all over the installation, and such pools are ideal for mosquito breeding, Spohn said.

Those conditions resulted in the contracted pest controller fogging some areas at least once in

June and again the first week in July. The contractor was set to fog again the second week in July, Spohn said.

"If the wet weather holds, we may have to be (fogging) daily," Spohn said.

People should be cautious but

not overly concerned about the fogging.

The contractor uses a mosquito adulticide chemical not known to be a human health hazard, according to information provided by the Directorate of Environment and Safety.

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Got an idea for a story in the Post?
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Call the editor at 239-8854.

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Fort Riley Community Life

Community news briefly

Rodeo seeks child entries

The Kaw Valley Rodeo Association will sponsor the Kaw Valley Special Rodeo for children with special needs July 23 at the Riley County Fairgrounds. The special rodeo begins at 7 p.m.

Children age 5 to 12 may enter the events and be teamed with professional rodeo partners who will assist them in the fun and noncompetitive rodeo activities.

All events are designed to be appropriate to the children's needs and accommodations are made for those with wheelchairs, crutches or braces.

No entry fee is charged but because participants are limited in number, pre-registration is required. To register, call Sandy Chandler at (785) 776-0338 before July 21.

Girl picked for pageant

Kelcey Sealey, daughter of Wayne and Lisa Sealey of Fort Riley, was selected by Youth Pride of America to represent

Kansas in the division competition for 2004 July 21-24. The competition will be held at the Oasis Inn and Conference Center, Springfield, Mo.

Delegates in the Pride of America, Inc., scholarship program will be judged on volunteer community service, scholastic achievement, leadership, extracurricular involvement, community interaction, an essay, verbal expression in presentation, poise and formal expression in evening wear, talent, modeling, physical fitness and appearance.

If selected as a national winner, Kelcey will have the opportunity to travel throughout the 50 states for speaking engagements as well as television and radio appearances in local and national areas.

Kelcey's father is a cavalry scout with 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry.

ACS celebrates 39th birthday

Fort Riley's Army Community Service staff will celebrate the organization's 39th birthday at 9 a.m., July 21 with cake and punch before and during the Community Action Council meeting. The staff invites others to join in the celebration.

ACS started when members of the Army realized that families needed assistance, especially when they were moving. The loan closet was a most important part of the beginning services offered.

Army spouses played important roles in the early development of ACS and as volunteer staffers.

ACS has changed in many ways during its 39 years, but the loan closet remains an essential service.

For more information, call Betsy Young of Community Life Programs at 239-9435.

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.

Area bands battle for title July 16

By Ricky Neely
KSU intern

This year's BOSS Battle of the Bands promises hours of entertainment certain to last into the early morning hours July 17. The battle begins at 9 p.m. July 16, at

Rally Point. The public is invited. Fort Riley's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers organization sponsors the annual band contest.

All income generated from the event is used to fund single Soldier programs on post. This is the third year BOSS has

brought bands to Fort Riley and Spc. Jason Dunlap, BOSS president, anticipates this year's war will be the best one yet.

The show just keeps getting better and better each year, Dunlap said.

"We have a very talented lineup this year and we hope our

turnout is as good as last year's or even better."

Last year's concert attracted more than 250 spectators and gave away \$1,000 in prize money.

One of the bands battling for the prize money is the Greenhorns. They are a country/bluegrass/Americana band based in

McPherson and play classic Johnny Cash songs as well as some originals. The five members are unique in that they play acoustic instruments, Dunlap said.

Social Rex is a hard rock/metal band from Topeka. Some of their

See Bands, Page 14

Exceptional fun



Staff Sgt. Sid Sizemore of Service Battery, 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery, helps camp participant Justin Arbogast with a bow and arrow at the EFMP Summer Camp July 6 at Rock Springs 4-H Center.

Family members attend day-long camp

By April Blackmon
Staff writer

Shooting arrows, padding canoes, riding horses and swimming made for an exceptional day of camp for 11 kids early this month.

The 7 to 12-year-olds participated in the Exceptional Family Member Program Summer Camp at Rock Springs 4-H Center July 6.

The camp provides an opportunity for children to have fun and learn, said Laura McCauley, EFMP program manager. "It lets kids be kids," she said.

Camp participant Semaj Johnson said he had fun, espe-

cially when he was involved in the archery portion of camp.

"I like the bows and arrows because I like to shoot and hit the targets," he said.

Other activities included canoeing, horseback riding and swimming. Some of the youths even checked out area wildlife.

"I came here to get some frogs," said camp participant Cameron Cranmer. "This is fun."

The children weren't the only ones having fun. Volunteer chaperone Staff Sgt. Sid Sizemore said he enjoyed the day.

"I think I may be having

See Camp, Page 13



Exceptional Family Member Program summer camper Janie Kachler takes a dive at the Rock Springs 4-H Center pool.

Post/Blackmon

Action line fills grocery 'sack'

Commissary customers tell their thoughts

By Carrie Williams
DeCA

FORT LEE, Va. — "Convenience shopping from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. [in the Vilseck, Germany, commissary] is wonderful. Thank you for enhancing our lives by giving us this benefit," wrote Hazel Benzing of Vilseck, Germany.

"Hats off to your Imperial Beach [Calif.] commissary staff - from entry to checkout! Friendly, helpful, considerate — and all with noticeable smiles," wrote John Ellis of San Diego.

These are a few examples of the opinions that come in to Defense Commissary Agency headquarters through Your Action Line, a customer comment program providing two-way communication between customers and agency officials.

"Customers are eager to share their shopping experiences with us," said René Vitkacs, Your Action Line program manager. "I get an average of 550 comments a month."

Customers can communicate through the program in two ways. Some people prefer to pick up a postage-paid Your Action Line card at the commissary and send in their comments by "snail" mail. Others prefer to visit DeCA's Web site and transmit their comments electronically using the "e-mail DeCA" e-mail link: www.commissaries.com/YAL/customer_comments.cfm.

Either way, expect a reply. The computer generates confirmation e-mail for comments bearing e-mail return addresses. Meanwhile behind the scenes, Vitkacs is working to ensure customers also get a human response.

The Your Action Line software generates a unique identification number for each comment. Vitkacs assigns suspense dates and forwards the comments to action officers, who prepare responses.

Friends lend healing hand Couple grateful for overwhelming support

By Kristen Hamilton
KSU intern

"It was the most horrifying phone call of my life," Patti Walker said about her recollection of the day she learned her husband had been seriously injured in Iraq.

But, she didn't have to deal with the devastating situation alone. Patti said that friends and neighbors quickly rallied around her. "I met some amazing wives. They never left my side," she said.

These friends became a critical

source of support as she made preparations to leave Fort Riley to be with her husband, Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Walker, Patti said. "Alyssa Edwards oversaw my finances and Sheila Chilcote coordinated childcare for our two children, Brittany, 11 and Kevin Jr., 2," Patti said.

Walker, a platoon sergeant for Company B, 1st Battalion, 34th Armor, explained what happened May 4, the day he was injured.

"My platoon was tasked to pull security around the Euphrates River while the Marines searched for the bodies of two Marines

drowned in the river," he said. "I was in a Humvee with four other guys when we hit a roadside bomb. I don't even remember the bomb hitting. I just have two or three 10-second memories of that time," he said.

Walker said bomb fragments penetrated his brain, severed the nerves in his nose and blinded his right eye. Doctors performed a craniotomy in a Baghdad hospital, where he remained for five days before being flown to the U.S. military hospital in Landstuhl,

See Walkers, Page 12



Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Walker and his wife, Patti, laugh while visiting with friends in the patio garden. The garden was created to welcome r Walker home after he suffered injuries in Iraq.
Post Hamilton



Community news briefly

Spouses urge membership

The Fort Riley Enlisted Spouses' Club begins its 2004-2005 season with a family fun night from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Aug. 10, at McCormick Park on post. Active duty, retiree and widowed spouses of Soldiers in grades E-1 through E-9 are welcome to join.

Pixie the Clown and her balloon art, free ice cream cones, free face painting by members of the Manhattan Arts Center and the "Moon Walk" will be a part of the day's activities.

Representatives from various organizations on post will provide information about their organizations.

For more information, call Sheri Miller at (785) 770-9219 or Julie Petrucci-Treen at (785) 717-2772 or send e-mail to frileyesc@yahoo.com.

Special Needs Rodeo planned

The Junction City Rodeo Association will host the Eighth Annual Special Needs Rodeo July 17, at the 4-H Senior Citizens Center on Spring Valley Road in Junction City. Cowboys and cowgirls will need to arrive at 5:45 p.m. Children ages 5-12 with special needs are welcome to be rodeo participants.

Children will be matched with their own cowboy or cowgirl.

For more information, call the Exceptional Family Member Program at 239-9435.

SFSC activities:

July 21 — Community Action Council Meeting, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

July 21 — PCS-Overseas Briefing, 1 to 3:30 p.m.

July 23 — Newcomer's Orientation, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

For more information, call 239-9435.

Crafts center sets classes

July 18 — Scrapbooking Get-Together, 1 to 4:30 p.m.

July 19 — Wood Safety, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

July 19 — Crochet, Knitting, Cross Stitch, 7 p.m.

July 22 — Mold Pouring Orientation, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

For more information, call 239-4642.

At the movies:

The Barlow Theater doors open at 6:30 p.m. Shows begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for Children 5 to 11 years old and free for children under age 5, except during children's matinees or expected sell-outs.

July 16 — The Chronicles of Riddick (PG-13)

July 17 — 2 p.m., Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (PG)

July 17 — The Stepford Wives (PG-13)

July 18 — Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (PG)

July 22 — The Chronicles of Riddick (PG-13)

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Walkers continued from page 11

Germany. At home, Patti made preparations to go overseas to be with her husband. She flew to Washington, D.C., to get a passport so she could fly to Germany. On the flight to Washington she sat next to a businessman asked the nature of her trip. Patti said when she explained what had happened to her husband, the man began to cry and the two of them wept together.

Patti said the man told her he would be visiting with President Bush in the next few days. He asked Patti to write a note to the president and he would deliver it. Patti wrote the note, gave the man a yellow ribbon and a 1st Bn., 34th Armor crest insignia and she thanked him.

Patti said she didn't expect the personally signed letter from President Bush replying to her note a few days later. The president wrote that he would be praying for the Walkers and that the whole nation was thankful for his service.

"I don't know how he found me because I didn't even know where I'd be staying when I wrote the note; but he got the letter to me at the Malone House, a hotel on the grounds of Walter Reed Army (Medical Center)," Patti said.

Walker's condition stabilized enough at Landstuhl to allow his transfer to Walter Reed soon after



Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Walker (left) and his wife, Patti, (also left), visit with friends Lisa Blanck (center), Jennifer Weatherholtz (right rear) and Sgt. 1st Class Shawn and Sheila Chilcote in their new garden patio.

Patti arrived in Washington, but it wasn't until nine days after the injury that Patti got to see her husband.

When that time came, all she could do was sit at his side and patiently wait for him to regain consciousness. While she waited, Patti said support continued to flow in.

"The members of the Big Red One Society were constantly with me. They never left my side," Patti said.

Walker regained consciousness three weeks after the bomb hit his vehicle. He said he suffered some initial memory loss, but Patti helped him put the pieces back together.

"Patti made my life. She helped

me so much those first weeks at Walter Reed," Walker said as Patti listened with tears in her eyes.

For Patti, her support came naturally. "He's my husband, my life," she said.

While the Walkers received help and support in Washington, their support network at Fort Riley was planning a special surprise for their return.

"Before I left everyone was asking what they could do to help. Since I knew Kevin had a penetrating brain injury, I knew he would need a quiet place to relax. So, that's what I asked for," Patti said.

When they arrived home just a few weeks ago, the Walkers found a garden in their back yard com-

plete with a canopy, lights, table and chairs, running waterfall, a bench and lots and lots of beautiful flowers and plants.

"It was amazing," the Walkers agreed.

"There is really no way to thank people or repay them, but we are so thankful," Walker said with deep emotion evident in his voice.

As Patti listed name after name of the women who helped put the garden together, it became apparent she was overwhelmed at that the amount of support.

"So many people were involved. They even got a contractor to come out and help," she said. The garden was beyond anything she could have imagined,

she said, reiterating the gratitude she has for so many people.

"I have met the most amazing wives," she said. "I couldn't have gotten through this without them."

Walker said he enjoys sitting in the garden and relaxing. "It's been great!" he said. The Walkers said they like sitting out in the garden together and talking with each other and friends.

Holly Uck, whose husband, Sgt. Brandon Uck, is a member of Walker's platoon, said, "The injury really affected my husband. I was happy to help with this project. I know they would do the same for us."

Sgt. 1st Class Shawn Chilcote, home on leave from Iraq, echoed Holly's sentiments. "Whether it's the platoon or company, we're all one big family. The day he was injured we had 54 guys waiting to hear how he was."

Walker said he can't wait to get back with the rest of his "other" family. "I will definitely stay in the Army. I wish I could be with my platoon. I'll go back to work with the battalion as soon as I'm strong enough," he said.

In the meantime, Walker said he is focusing on completing his rehabilitation in Topeka and one final surgery in August.

Patti said she's just thankful to have him home safe and sound. "I still love the Army and think it's a great career choice," she said.

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Post/Blackmon

Christopher Beck (front) and Brittany Addison ride horses as part of the EFMP Summer Camp July 6 at Rock Springs 4-H Center.

Camp continued from page 11

more fun than the kids are," admitted Sizemore, a member of Service Battery, 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery.

The annual summer camp is one of many educational and developmental activities offered by EFMP.

EFMP works with military and civilian agencies to provide coordinated and comprehensive medical, educational, housing, community support and personnel services to families with special needs members.

About 1,100 EFMP members of all ages live at Fort Riley, said Angie van Alsdorf, EFMP special needs supervisor at Irwin Army Community Hospital.

According to the Army regulation on EFMP, an exceptional family member is one with a physical, emotional, developmental or intellectual disorder that requires special treatment, therapy, education or counseling.

Special needs include attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, asthma conditions, learning dis-

abilities and mental conditions such as depression and anxiety disorders.

The program's mission is to ensure medical and educational needs are appropriate and accessible to accommodate these individuals' needs.

It is designed to provide comprehensive services and educational and social support.



Post/Blackmon

Semaj Johnson (front) and Dathan Parks paddle a canoe during the recent EFMP summer camp.

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POST SERVICE DIRECTORY





Army sponsors unique Web competition

By John Runyan and Justin Ward

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Future scientists and engineers abounded as finalists for this year's eCybermission program showcased projects they have worked on for the better part of a year in Washington, D.C.

The second annual eCybermission program, an Army-sponsored, Web-based science, math and technology competition for sixth- through ninth-grade students, is conducted to encourage American youth interest in those subjects.

Although the idea originated with the Army, eCybermission's goal of maintaining "strategic long-term global technological and economic superiority" was not directly related to the military. Despite this, many of this year's finalists examined projects of interest to the military.

The projects included examining thwarting hijackings with the help of heart rate monitors and studying the safe, environmental removal of oil from the USS Arizona, a sunken Navy battleship in Pearl Harbor, which still leaks oil.

After presenting their projects on June 28, at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in front of an audience including judges, the contestants

gathered July 1, at the J.W. Marriott in downtown Washington, D.C., for the awards ceremony. An overall winner in each grade and each member of those teams received a \$5,000 savings bond, a medal and a plaque.

In the sixth-grade division the "Terrific Tamesters" from St. Clair Shores, Mich., made up of Evan Wronikowski, Tim Jung, Paige Berick and Trisha Umphenbach took top honors. Their project featured bat houses that encourage growth in bat populations and consequently eliminate potential West Nile Virus carrying mosquitoes.

The "Blue Starz" captured the seventh-grade crown by coming up with a system to determine the number of burrows for gopher tortoises using surveying techniques and GPS to determine how they could save the declining population by introducing more gopher

Next year

Registration for next year's eCybermission competition will start Sept. 1 and go through Dec. 13. To register a team or volunteer as a judge, ambassador or cyberguide, visit www.ecybermission.com.

tortoises into a sanctuary. The group out of Coral Springs, Fla. consisted of Alyana Samai, Gaetano Bartoli, Gabriela Barrios and Farah Abifaraj.

The eighth-grade competition saw the "Cookie monsters" from Sanford, Fla., take first. Malika Jafferjee, Arianne Moffat, Ahanti Smith and Raschel Stanulis created a program to help increase reading levels with physical activ-

ity. They designed an experiment with four movement tests and found that there was a correlation between these physical exercises and improvement in reading levels among those participating.

Exploring the causes of substandard drinking water vaulted the "Dominators" from McClellanville, S.C., into first place amongst the ninth-graders. Harold Smith, André Griffin and David Gibbs found that presence of Coli form bacteria in the water hurts the quality of the water.

On top of sponsoring the event, the Army is involved in the program in several other ways. Army personnel serve as ambassadors to promote the contest locally and as cyberguides to assist competitors conduct online research into their projects.

Kelly Stratchko, program manager of eCybermission, said the cyberguides were a heavily used

resource.

In the online program, three- or four-person teams chose a "mission" in one of four areas: arts and entertainment, the environment, health and safety, and sports and recreation. Students then developed a solution, conducted experiments and submitted their findings in a detailed "Mission Folder" via the eCybermission Web site, www.ecybermission.com.

The submitted projects were grouped into four regions, including U.S. territories and Department of Defense Education Activity schools around the world.

The Army is also interested in what these kids are doing, said Dr. John A. Parmentola, director for Research and Laboratory Management at the office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology.

He called the projects outstand-

ing, saying they had exceeded his expectations.

He also identified many of the ideas that the kids came up with as issues the Army is currently addressing, such as the project regarding preventing future hijackings from the group of sixth-graders from a DoDEA school in Heidelberg, Germany.

The group calling themselves "Soon to Be Rich" devised a system that would monitor pilots' heart rates from the ground and have the potential to control the planes by remote control if there were adverse conditions detected.

Bryce Edwards, Cody Dowd, Blake Billmaier and Vernon Miles are all interested in safer travel due to their location in Germany. They said they usually travel back and forth to the states twice a year and also on vacation in Europe. They felt their idea would make that frequent travel a lot safer.

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Bands

continued from page 11

major influences are Metallica, Iron Maiden and Black Sabbath, Dunlap said. Their sound is best described as "old school metal," said Dunlap.

The Rest of Us is a five-member rock group from Manhattan. Their songs are patterned from influences such as U2, the Goo Goo Dolls and Live, Dunlap said. They were formerly known as Common Ground, which won the 2002 Battle of the Bands.

Addictive Behavior is a four-member rock band from Manhattan and are the youngest competitors this year.

"Don't let their age fool you," Dunlap said. "They are great performers and took third place in last year's competition."

13th Step has a style that ranges from blues to rock to a bit alternative, Dunlap said. Most of their originals are based on blues/rock and vary quite a bit. Their style, however, is a mix of SRV, Hendrix, Hudson Graveyard, Cream and Kenny Wayne Shepherd.

Schemata is a rock band similar to groups such as Creed, Stone Temple Pilots and Nickelback, Dunlap said. They play a variety of songs that range from soft and mellow to hard and aggressive.

The bands are judged on originality, stage presence, crowd response, musicianship and vocals, Dunlap said.

Tickets will be sold at the door for \$5.

Outside, the Busch series Marine race car will be parked for spectators to take free pictures.

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Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

Friday, July 16, 2004

America's Warfighting Center

Page 15

Sports news in brief

Lake Atwood hosts 10-miler

The Lake Atwood 10-Mile Race is billed as the oldest road race in Kansas and reportedly attracts runners from a tri-state area. The race begins at 7 a.m. July 25, at Lake Atwood near Atwood, Kan. For more information, call (785) 626-3214.

Black powder shoot planned

Tappan Hill Black Powder Cartridge Rifle Range will be the site of long range shooting as it was done on the American Frontier in buffalo hunting days. The event begins at 9 a.m. July 24 and 25, at the club's range two miles south and 1 1/4 miles west of the junction of U.S. Highways 81 and 24 near Glasco. For more information, call (785) 568-2388.

Center offers hunter course

Fort Riley's Outdoor Recreation Center will offer a hunter education course from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. July 22 and 23 and from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. July 24 at the center, building 9011 on Rifle Range Road.

The class is limited to the first 30 people who sign up. A deposit of \$10 is required to sign up. The deposit will be refunded on the first night of class. Children 11 years old and younger must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information, call 239-2249.

Park to host Carp Derby

Two-person teams will compete July 17-18 at Prairie Dog State Park near Norton, Kan., to see who can catch the most weight in carp during the two days.

Anglers can fish from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. July 17 and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 18. For more information, call (785) 877-2501.

Royals to show appreciation

The Kansas City Royals will host the third annual Military Appreciation Day Aug. 21 at Kauffman Stadium. The baseball game begins at 6:05 p.m.

Pre-game events include a ceremony honoring all military branches, static military displays, military flyovers and the posting of the colors by Fort Riley Soldiers recently redeployed from Iraq.

Discounted tickets ranging from \$6 to \$12 are available for Soldiers and family members at the Information, Ticketing and Registration office at Fort Riley. Concessions at the game will cost \$1.

For more information on the events, call Sgt. John Edwards at (816) 318-0007, ext. 2610. To buy tickets, call ITR at 239-5614 or 239-4415.

Events on post:

July 17-18 — Blue Moon Madness ASA State Qualifying Softball Tournament

July 19 — Aerobics, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

July 22 — Aerobics, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

July 22 — Intramural Swimming Meet

For more information, call 239-6398.

Prairie runs approach starting line

Staff report

The July 24 Fort Riley Prairie Run consists of three races: 10 miles, five miles and two miles race.

Each race is open to the Fort Riley military community and the general public.

The 10-mile race will be used to select runners for an active

duty Army team to represent Fort Riley at the Army 10-Miler in Washington, D.C.

For rules and qualification information, contact the Sports Office at 239-2172.

The two-mile race is not a fun run. Dogs, strollers, baby joggers, skateboards, roller skates, motorized vehicles, bicycles and headsets are not allowed on the

race course.

Runners must pay a \$10 entry fee if registering before July 16. A T-shirt will be included in the entry fee.

Runners must pay a \$12 entry fee if registering after July 19. A T-shirt is not guaranteed for late registrants.

Checks to pay for entry fees should be made out to IMWRF

(Installation Morale, Welfare and Recreation Fund).

Runners will start and finish at King Field House, building 202 on Main Post.

Runners may pick up packets and register between 6 and 6:45 a.m. July 24 for all three races.

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

An awards ceremony is planned for about 9:15 a.m. Awards will be given to the top three finishers in each gender and age category for each race. An overall first place award will be given to the top male and female finisher of each race.

For more information, call the Fort Riley Sports Office at 239-2172 or 239-2813.

Stretched out



Post/Blackmon

Kenneth Mendez of HHB, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, tries to outrun 300th Military Police Company pitcher Dennis Holliman's throw to first baseman Trayton Crow in a game July 8. The Artillerymen defeated the MPs 10-9.

Medics end Infantry's perfect season

Staff report

U.S. Army Medical Department Activity ended the perfect season of 24th Infantry Division (Mech) July 7. The Medics beat the Infantry 24-5 in the first battalion slow-pitch softball league game then slipped past the Infantry 7-5 in the next game of the double-header.

The 924th Military Police Battalion also swept its double-header against 125th Forward Support Battalion July 7. The MPs topped their opponents 12-7 in the opener and 22-2 in the second game.

The 523rd Military Police Company swept its two games in company league action the same night. The MPs defeated Service Battery, 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery, in their first game and then stomped 568th CSE 21-1 in the following game.

The 10th ASOS Airmen split their games, winning the first 13-12 against Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 4th Bn., 1st FA, and losing the next 13-2 to Company B, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor.

In other company league games July 7:

The 342nd Military Police Company defeated Company C, 1st Battalion, 13th Armor, 18-11.

The 977th Military Police Company also defeated Co. C, 1st Bn., 13th Armor, 11-8.

Company B, 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor, defeated 24th Transportation Company 12-10.

HHB, 4th Bn., 1st FA, defeated Co. B, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor, 12-4.

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, defeated

Battery A, 4th Bn., 1st FA, 23-12.

Btry. A, 4th Bn., 1st FA, defeated Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 937th Engineer Battalion, 21-2.

In July 8 games:

Mediac's company team defeated Co. B, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor, 12-8 in a 9 p.m. game.

Co. A, 1st Bn., 13th Armor, swept its two games. It defeated Co. C, 1st Bn., 13th Armor, 19-6 and followed that with a 26-4 victory against Service Btry, 4th Bn., 1st FA.

In an earlier game, Company C, 70th

See Softball, Page 16

Long live the 'queen'



Post/Blackmon

The 300th MPs reigning "strike out queen," Trayton Crow, relinquishes his title with a hit July 8.



Post/Blackmon

Jason Smith becomes the 300th MP's new "strike out queen" and will wear the pink shirt designating that honor.

On the Wildside: News About Nature

Pretty 'flitters' flutter on post

Butterflies play key role in ecosystem

By Carla Hurlbert

Fish and Wildlife Biologist

An ideal family outdoor activity is butterfly watching. Butterflies are small, they don't bite or sting and they are the kinds of wildlife people like to see around the house. Fort Riley is a good place to see the beauty of butterflies flying about pollinating the prairie.

Butterflies belong to the fourth largest order of insects, called Lepidoptera.

The scientific name comes from the Greek word "lepis," meaning "scale" and "ptera," meaning "wing." Butterflies have four wings covered with tiny, shingle-like scales and mouthparts that form a hollow, flexible tube like a drinking straw.

Butterflies use their antennae for balance in flight and olfactory (smell) sensation. The antennae allow the butterfly to continue to fly and navigate even with damaged wings. The antennae have knobs or clubs on the tip that are used for smell. Remarkably, males can detect the pheromones released by females over a mile away.

Butterflies prefer open, sunny settings and can be found in flowery fields, meadows and hillsides; along stream banks, roadsides and the edge of woods; and in clearings, glades and nature reserves of all sorts.

Especially large numbers of butterflies can be found in prairies, arctic and alpine tundra, and deserts following spring or summer rains.

The best way to see a good variety of butterflies is to visit places where human settlement has not greatly disrupted native habitats.

Butterflies locate potential mates by sight, identifying the wing colors and patterns characteristic of their species. In some types of butterflies, males and females display different patterns on their wings. In other species, the wing markings look the same to the human eye, but either the males or females have scales on their wings that reflect ultraviolet light, producing patterns that

See Butterflies, Page 18





Post/Blackmon
Outfielder Kenneth Mendez of HHB, 1st Bn., 41st Inf., fields the ball in the game against the 300th MPs July 8.



Post/Blackmon
Third baseman William Rose of HHB, 1st Bn., 41st Inf., tags 300th MP Michael Gibson during a game July 8.

Softball continued from page 15

Engineer Battalion, defeated Service Btry., 4th Bn., 1st FA, 24-0. The Engineers finished the night with another win, defeating HHC, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor, 15-12.

The 596th Signal Company won both its games. It defeated 568th CSE 15-13 then defeated Company C, 1st Bn., 13th Armor, 13-1.

HHB, 4th Bn., 1st FA, slipped by the 300th Military Police Company, 10-9 in the opening game but sailed past the 977th MP Co. 20-7 in the following game for its

two wins.

Co. B, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor, split its two games, losing 11-1 to Btry. C, 4th Bn., 1st FA, before defeating 523rd MP Co. 11-10.

In other games July 8:
The 342nd MP Co. defeated Btry. B, 4th Bn., 1st FA, 6-5. The 3rd Brigade, 75th Division (Training Support), defeated Btry. B, 4th Bn., 1st FA, 11-10. HHC, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor, defeated Btry. C, 4th Bn., 1st FA, 12-7.

Classified Runover
2 x 21.25"
Black Only

Find back issues of the Post in the online archives at www.riley.army.mil

SCREEN MACHINE
2 x 2"
Black Only
2x2 SCREEN MACHINE (TF)

ACTION TIRE
2 x 5"
Black Only
2X5 ACTION TIRE

DIRECTORATE OF ENVIRONMENT & S
2 x 10"
Black Only
2x10 Restoration/Advisory Board

2ND HAND HANNEMANN'S
2 x 3"
Black Only
2X3, USED FURNITURE SALE

RILEY CO. FAIRBOARD
2 x 6"
Black Only
2x6 RILEY COUNTY FAIR







Travel & Fun in Kansas

Page 18

America's Warfighting Center

Friday, July 16, 2005

Leisuretime ideas

Junction City:

Rodeo — Annual pro rodeo; begins at 7:30 p.m. July 16-17; 1107 S. Spring Valley Road, Geary County Fairgrounds. For more information, call (785) 762-5525.

Geary County Free Fair — Exhibits, entertainment, 4-H entries, auctions, pedal pull, tractor pull, barnyard olympics, fun run, BBQ, pie bake-off and horseshoes; 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. July 21-24; fairgrounds at 1107 S. Spring Valley Road. For more information, call (785) 238-4161.

Clay Center:

After Harvest Festival and Street Dance — Festival activities, vendors, kid's and adult games and street dance with the golden oldies band, King Midas and the Mufflers; 4 to 11 p.m. July 10; Downtown Square. For more information, call (785) 632-5674 or visit www.claycenter-ks.org on the Web.

Cuba:

Harvest Festival — Road rally, horseshoe tournament, sand volleyball, entertainment, food and street dance; 9 a.m. to midnight, July 17; City Park. For more information, call (785) 729-3631.

Blue Rapids:

Marshall County Fair — Parade, 10K run, 4-H and open classes, livestock, demolition derby, Figure-8 race, motocross, kiddies land and carnival; 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. July 16-21. Marshall County Fairgrounds, aka Riverside Park. For more information, call (785) 363-7306 or visit www.skyways.org/towns/BlueRapids on the Web.

Matfield Green:

Covered Wagon Train Adventures — Travel with prairie folks from varied walks of life in original wagons; delicious campfire meals and pioneer activities; 9:30 a.m. July 17 to 1 p.m. July 18 by reservation only. For more information, call (316) 283-2636 or visit www.kcoveredwagon.com on the Web.

Pretty Prairie:

Kansas' Largest Night Rodeo — Top professional cowboys, kids' entertainment and BBQ; 8 p.m. July 21-24; Booster Club Arena. For more information, call (620) 459-4653 or (800) 638-2702 or visit www.skyways.org/towns/PrettyPrairie on the Web.

Ottawa:

Franklin County Fair and Rodeo — Pro-rodeo, exhibits, outlaw truck and tractor pull, 4-H displays, and livestock auction; 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. July 15-18; Franklin County Fairgrounds. For more information, call (785) 242-1411.

Meriden:

Threshing Bee — Old-fashioned threshing bee, arts, crafts, quilts, vintage farm equipment, steam engines, blacksmith shop and working general store in 1870s setting; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. July 16-18; one mile east on Kansas Highway 4. For more information, (785) 863-3092 or (800) 896-3198.

Manhattan:

Riley County 4-H Fair — 4-H and open class exhibits, parade, livestock, children's tractor pull, carnival, turtle races, and rodeo; begins 6 a.m. July 22, 8 a.m. July 23-25, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. July 26; Cicco Park/Riley County Fair

Grounds. For more information, call (785) 537-6350.

Beloit:

St. John's Festival — Bingo, dance, food, children's games, rides, farmer's market, drawings, and carnival games; 5 p.m. to midnight, July 24; 701 E. Court. For more information, call (785) 738-2851.

Salina:

Smoky Hill Contra Dance — Music by Gary Hughes & Friends; caller to be announced; 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. July 24; 146 S. Santa Fe, Dance Elite Studio. For more information, call (785) 819-2902 or visit www.kansafolk.org/contra/salina.html on the Web.

Haddam:

Frontier Days — Basketball tournament, sand volleyball, parade, frontier olympics, dance, and BBQ; 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. July 24-25; downtown. For more information, call (785) 778-3401 or visit www.ci.haddam.ks.us on the Web.

Washington:

County Fair — County 4-H fair featuring exhibits, livestock shows, carnival, parade, and much more; 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. July 27-31; D Street, fairgrounds. For more information, call (785) 325-2121.

Atchison:

Amelia Earhart Festival — Annual tribute to native daughter with music, dignitaries, aerobic performances and fireworks; 7 p.m. July 23 bird program; LakeFest 2004; 8 a.m. to midnight July 24, 2K/8K Fun Run/Walk, 24th annual River Road-A-Rama Car show, Breakfast with the Books, downtown festivities, Amelia Earhart Museum open house, speakers' symposium, pre-fireworks festivities, Concert in the Sky Fireworks and street dance; July 23 at Warnock Lake; July 24 downtown and Missouri River riverfront. For more information, call (913) 367-2427 or (800) 234-1854 or visit www.atchisonkansanet.com on the Web.

Paola:

Heartland Classic Car Show — Cruise Paola's historic square and view classic cars and trucks 1975 and older; 5 to 10 p.m. July 24; Park Square. For more information, call (913) 294-5544.

County Fair Parade — Annual parade highlights Miami County life with floats and other entries depicting the theme; 6 p.m. July 28; Paola Park Square. For more information, call (913) 294-2327.

Kansas City:

Woodlands Wiener Dog Nationals — 64 vertically challenged dachshunds racing for glory to win the 2004 Wiener Dog National Championship; 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. July 25; 9700 Leavenworth Road. For more information, call (913) 299-9797 or (800) 695-7223 or visit www.woodlandskc.com on the Web.

Holton:

Banner Creek Antique Festival — Enjoy shopping for antiques, collectibles and vintage goodies at a beautiful lake setting; food, camping, boating and skiing; 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. July 26; Banner Creek Reservoir. For more information, call (785) 364-4727.

Beauty takes wing at Botanica

Gardens fill free-flight exhibit with hundreds of butterflies

By Angie Prather
Special to the Post

WICHITA — Botanica's Butterfly House opened June 1 and remains open through the end of September. Hundreds of butterflies occupy this net-covered free-flight exhibit.

Between 200 and 300 chrysalides arrive weekly for placement in the special butterfly-hatching station located inside the exhibit at Botanica, The Wichita Gardens. Visitors can watch butterflies emerge from their chrysalides and take their first tentative flight through the Butterfly House.

Sulfurs, swallowtails, monarchs, queens and zebra longwings make their home in the exhibit. Visitors are admitted free to the Butterfly House after paying for admission to the gardens.

Botanica, The Wichita Gardens, provides a unique beauty that delights a diversity of visitors, generates enthusiasm for horticulture and enlightens people through educational, artistic and cultural experiences.

Other attractions: July activities at the gardens include:

July 20 — Birding at Botanica; 9 a.m.; included with admission or membership; no registration required.

July 21 — Luncheon Lecture: Botanical Stamping Art; 12:15 to 1 p.m.; Master Gardener Leesa Walker shares creative ideas for creating cards, journals, invitations and gifts; stamping, embossing, embellishments and decorative edgings will be discussed as well as ideas for using favorite photos; included with admission or membership; no registration required.



Botanica, The Wichita Gardens

A young visitor allows a butterfly to rest on her arm while she wanders through the Butterfly House at Botanica, The Wichita Gardens.

July 25 — Iris sale; 1 to 5 p.m.; no admission charge for sale; regular admission charged for Garden entry.

July 28 — Luncheon Lecture: Community Gardens; 12:15 to 1 p.m.; Pat O'Donnell with CSI Dear Neighbor Ministries discusses trends in community gardens and provides specific information about Wichita's Hilltop Commu-

nity Garden activities; included with admission or membership; no registration required.

Upcoming concerts at the Gardens include the acoustic contemporary music of Zaegler & Young Aug. 12, Kansas City jazz by Mike Metheny and choral music by the Singing Quakers Oct. 21. Concert seating is limited. Concert tickets cost \$10 each

If you go:

Route: From Fort Riley, take Interstate 70 to Interstate 135 just west of Salina. Go south on I-135 to the 13th Street exit and go west about 2 1/2 miles, going past North High School on your right and winding around along the river. After the light at River Boulevard, turn left onto Perry and go to Murdock. Turn right on Murdock. Botanica's entrance is half a block more on your left.

Hours: Botanica is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays through Oct. 31. During summer extended hours through September, Botanica stays open until 8 p.m. on Tuesdays.

For more information: Call Angie Prather at (316) 264-0448, ext. 108, or send e-mail to aprather@botanica.org.

Butterflies

continued on page 15

enable the butterflies to distinguish one sex from the other.

Female butterflies usually lay their eggs on or near plants suitable for the young to eat. Most eggs hatch in two or three days or as long as a month or more after they are laid. Some eggs laid in the fall do not hatch until spring.

Lepidoptera are holometabolous, meaning they have three distinct morphologic stages: larva, pupa and adult. The egg hatches into a larva called a caterpillar. Caterpillars are voracious eaters and grow rapidly. Most types molt — shed their skin — four or five times as they grow.

Once the caterpillar reaches its full size, it prepares to complete its metamorphosis — the radical change in body form that turns a caterpillar into a butterfly. Metamorphosis takes place in the pupa. Most caterpillars pupate by attaching themselves to a twig or other support. The pupal stage may last anywhere from one week



DES

A flower attracts a swallowtail butterfly as it searches for nectar.

to several years, depending on the species and the weather.

When its development is complete, the adult butterfly splits the pupal shell and crawls out. It unfolds its wings and pumps blood into the veins, and then spreads its wings like a kite until

they dry and harden.

Most adult butterflies live just one or two weeks. A few types, such as anglewings and the migratory generation of monarchs, may live six months or more.

Adult butterflies feed mainly on flower nectar and other sugars, such as those contained in the sap of wounded trees, rotting fruit and fluids excreted by certain vines.

Birds, bats, lizards, spiders and various insects, including dragonflies, ambush bugs, robber flies and praying mantis are common predators.

The greatest enemies of caterpillars are parasites. Certain wasps and flies lay their eggs on caterpillars and sometimes on eggs and pupae as well. When the parasites hatch they burrow into the caterpillar and consume the caterpillar's tissues from within, eventually killing it.

Only a few lepidopterans conduct a regular, back-and-forth, birdlike migration. The most

famous butterfly migrant is the monarch. It lives throughout the continental United States and southern Canada during the summer. In the fall, adult monarchs migrate to overwintering sites in the mountains of central Mexico or the California coast.

Only a few butterflies are considered destructive. The cabbage butterfly and its larvae damage cabbage, broccoli and related crops.

The caterpillar of the giant swallowtail, known as the orange dog, feeds on citrus plants and sometimes damages commercial citrus crops.

Butterflies are crucial parts of the ecosystems in which they live. Their most important ecological role is in pollination — the transfer of pollen from one flower to another — which helps plants to reproduce.

Butterflies pollinate many wild plants as well as important crops grown by humans for food.

PIONEER MILITARY LENDING
6 x 11.5"

FULLCOLOR HALF PAGE PIONEER SE

