

Watch Fort Riley's TV News Show
"In Step With Fort Riley"

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6 p.m., 10 p.m. on Ch. 2

Fort Riley Community



August 16, 2002

America's Warfighting Center

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Photo: Boulder

Second from right, Fort Riley's Sgt. Albert Latuch, a network switching system installer/maintainer with the 596th Signal Company, sings about freedom with the Army Soldier Show. Latuch is one of two Fort Riley soldiers who are involved with this year's show.

Soldier Show wows spectators

By **Jamie Bender**
Staff writer

The Army Soldier Show played to a full house at McCain Auditorium at Kansas State University Saturday.

The 90-minute show featured the musical talents of 18 soldiers who performed music styles from country and western to R&B, with even a dab of rap thrown in the mix.

Many audience members were seeing the show for the first time.

"I am blown away. They all sound like professional singers," said Cynthia Dobbs, a student at K-State. "I definitely will go next year," she said.

"My parents made me come, but I'm glad they did now," said Lakisha Brown. "Every time [Sgt. Timora Green] sang, I was dancing in my seat."

Jeremiah Christianson said he enjoyed the show more than he expected to. "I thought it would be a bunch of patriotic songs and stuff, but it was great," he said.

Several people had been to the show in previous years and different places.

"I saw the show for the first time in Fort Leonard Wood a few years ago," said Chris Lund. "This was my first opportunity to see it again, and it is just as good or better than I remember it," he said.

"We saw it in Germany when we were over there," said Dorothy

Meyers. "I go every time I am able to. It is definitely worth making a point to see it," she said.

Two soldiers from Fort Riley are involved in this year's show. Sgt. Tobin Atkinson, Company C, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, is the show's stage manager and Sgt. Albert Latuch, 596th Signal Company, performed.

Latuch's wife, Wendy, said she thought they all did a great job. "I thought the show was outstanding," she said. "The kids were excited to see their dad up on stage. They said they didn't know he could do that."

Wendy said she is happy that her husband is getting the opportunity to fulfill a dream. "He loves to sing," she said. "I think it is great that they get to perform for the soldiers who are away from home."

At the end of the 7:30 p.m. show, Maj. Gen. Thomas Metz, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division and Fort Riley, thanked the soldiers and congratulated them on their performance. "I am so very proud of these soldiers," he said. "They are heroes of mine."

After leaving Kansas, the Soldier Show had performances in Colorado on Aug. 12 and 13. From Colorado, the show moved to Utah where the soldiers are performing at Dugway Proving Ground today. By the end of August, the soldiers will have performed in four more states and by the end of their time with the Army Entertainment Detachment, these soldiers will have performed in 20 states, Europe, the Pacific and the Middle East.

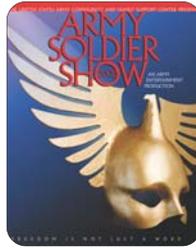


Photo: Boulder

Sgt. Timora Green, a linguist with Company B, 110th MI Battalion, Fort Drum, N.Y., sings an R&B number in the Army Soldier Show.



Photo: Boulder

Performers, 1st Lt. Jennifer Sherwood, Sgt. Timora Green, and Sgt. Kathy Heidecker sing and dance to a jazzy song in the Army Soldier Show. The show featured several duets and group numbers in different musical styles from country to R&B.

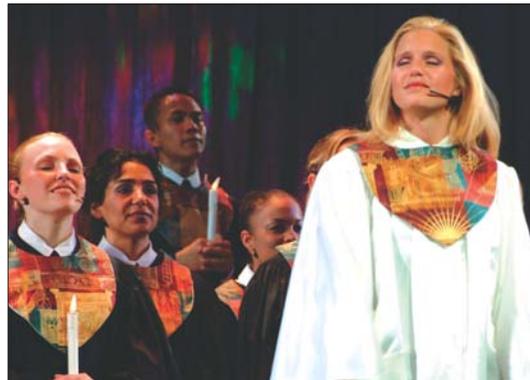


Photo: Boulder

Sgt. Sharon Tongol, a paralegal with the 194th Maintenance Battalion, Camp Humphreys, Korea, sings a gospel song in the Army Soldier Show. Tongol started singing at age 8, and said being a Soldier Show performer has fulfilled a dream.



Food safety important part of summer picnics, outings

By Emily O'Connor
K-State Intern

Taking the family down to the park for a nice family cookout on a sunny summer afternoon might be a great way to spend the weekend. Don't let a foodborne illness ruin your family's fun.

Food safety is important throughout the year, but becomes an even more important issue in the summertime when barbecues, picnics and outdoor entertaining increase in popularity.

According to the Food Safety and Inspection Service, foodborne illness is more prevalent in the summer months for two reasons. The first comes from causes related to the environment, such as the increase in temperature, which causes microorganisms to grow more rapidly and to thrive, especially in warm humid climates. The second cause for an increased number of foodborne illnesses reported during the summer months is simple human error. Many people don't take the time

to think about what they are doing when preparing food, or simply forget that they have left food items out, increasing the possibility of a foodborne illness. Taking a few simple steps in the food preparation process can help to ensure that your summer entertaining won't end on a sour note.

"Two of the biggest concerns in food safety are temperature controls and sanitation," said SSgt. Teresa Gonzales, noncommissioned officer in charge of food inspection on post.

"One of the first things people need to consider is keeping their hands, working area and utensils clean while working with food of any type. Also, maintaining the food temperatures either below 40 degrees or above 140 degrees Fahrenheit is one of

the most important controls, especially when dealing with meat items and prepared food items, especially those containing eggs."

When considering temperature controls, consumers should keep in mind that getting their perishable food products home from the supermarket and refrigerating or freezing them promptly is of utmost importance. These products should be kept cold until used. If you are going on a picnic or having a barbecue, take multiple coolers for your food: one for the raw meats, another for cold products such as canned sodas and salads, and another cooler to store any leftover cooked products.

"Even when in coolers, raw meats need to be kept separate from one another," Gonzales said.

"Cross-contamination occurs very easily."

Gonzales also pointed out that when preparing food, many people don't think twice about cutting up their pork for cooking, then moving on to preparing their salad with the same utensil. If the meat is infected with such a type of contaminant, that contaminant will be easily spread to the other food, making it dangerous, too.

"Salads, like potato salad and anything containing mayonnaise, are potential hazards," Gonzales said. "Just make sure you keep these items refrigerated and covered."

Outdoor entertaining commonly attracts unwelcome guests: insects. These creatures are known for swarming around trash and waste, potential sources of contaminants, then showing up at your barbecue to feed on your food.

"I'd recommend plastic wrap or cake covers to cover foods when they are not being served to keep insects from getting to the

food," Gonzales said.

"Overall, people that prepare food need to pay attention to what they are doing and make sure that they clean their hands, work area and utensils; refrigerate perishable products; keep different kinds of food separated and to cook their foods to the proper temperatures," Gonzales said.

For more information on food safety or for answers to any questions you might have, contact the Food Safety and Inspection Service at 1-800-535-4555, call the food inspectors on post at the commissary office, 239-2645 or the veterinary office at 239-2732.



Food safety tips

The Food Safety and Inspection Service recommends that when cooking meats, doneness cannot be determined by color. Using a thermometer will ensure that meats are properly cooked.

Hamburger and ground meats, such as veal, lamb and pork, should be cooked to an internal temperature of 160 degrees Fahrenheit, and ground poultry should be cooked to 165 degrees.

Steaks and roasts that have been tenderized, boned, rolled, etc. must be cooked to an internal temperature of 160 degrees for medium and 170 degrees for well-done. Whole steaks and roasts may be cooked to 145 degrees Fahrenheit for medium rare.

Whole poultry should be cooked to 180 degrees in the thigh, while breast meat must reach 170 degrees.

Habitat for Humanity helps low income families

By Emily O'Connor
K-State Intern

The Manhattan Habitat for Humanity chapter needs your help to build its twelfth house in the Manhattan area.

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit Christian housing organization, which is dedicated to building decent, affordable and safe housing for those in the community who would otherwise not be able to afford it, according to Elise Lambert, executive director of Manhattan Habitat for Humanity.

"Habitat is a very important part of the community," Lambert said. "Currently, Manhattan Habitat for Humanity is Manhattan's only low-income housing builder."

Habitat homes are built entirely by volunteers. Each home takes approximately six to 10 months to complete. The Manhattan affil-

iate, when in the process of building a home, works on Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

According to Lambert, Habitat homes are sold to low-income families. They are not given away, as many people may think. Families who are chosen to participate in the Habitat program are selected based on their need, willingness to partner with Habitat and ability to repay a no-interest mortgage. The homes are made affordable for low-income families as a result of volunteer labor, committed staff and board members and tax-deductible donations of money and new materials, Lambert said.

"With all of the donated time and materials, a house that would normally cost \$69,000 to build in this area can be built for approximately \$42,500," Lambert said.

"The homebuyers' monthly mortgage payments go into a revolving fund that is used to build more homes in the future."

While many of Habitat's volunteers help in the actual construction of the homes, volunteers are needed in several other areas as well. Some of the volunteer opportunities include serving on Habitat committees, providing lunches for the construction workers and helping out in the office.

If you or someone you know would like to become involved in the Manhattan Habitat for Humanity chapter, please contact

Lambert and 785-537-7545 or via e-mail at habitat@networksplus.net. You may also visit Habitat Manhattan's web site at www.mhfh.org.

Volunteers must be at least 16 years of age.

"This is an opportunity for people to put their love into action and to help out someone else in their community," Lambert said.

"Habitat gives the homeowners a sense of pride in owning their own home."

Habitat Facts

As of today, Habitat for Humanity International has built more than 125,000 homes, sheltering more than 625,000 people in more than 3,000 communities, including Manhattan and Ogden.

There are currently 1,641 Habitat affiliates nationwide and in 83 countries; more than 20 of these are in Kansas.

The average Habitat house selling price in the United States is \$48,537. Manhattan Habitat for Humanity sells its homes for \$42,500.



Preparing for the new school year, Sharon Campbell shops for school clothes at the Post Exchange with her daughters Ebony, 5, (not pictured) and Essence, 2. Fort Riley schools start classes on Monday.

Museum interns create educational materials

By Emily O'Connor
K-State Intern

Fort Riley's historical significance to the Manhattan-Ogden Junction City area is quite evident to some, but surprisingly, many soldiers, dependent children and community members in the area have a very limited knowledge of Fort Riley's past.

Two Fort Riley Middle School teachers spent this past week working tirelessly to change this. Jason Lubbers and Brian Stoddard, both Fort Riley Middle School eighth grade American and Kansas History teachers, had the opportunity to complete a 40 hour internship with the museums on post. The sole purpose of their internship was to create an educational booklet for Geary County eighth grade history students.

"We've been sponsored by the Geary County School District to

work with the Cavalry Museum and other museums on post to produce a curriculum guide/handbook that talks about Fort Riley's history," Stoddard said. "The handbook should help the students to make more connections with the real world and bring them back to the classroom."

The two men spent the majority of their week in the museum library on post, or in the museums themselves, searching for interesting bits of information and illustrations pertaining to Fort Riley to include in the booklet. Stoddard said that some of the themes that the book will cover will include: the reasons behind the chosen location of the fort, the installation's original purpose and the purpose it has today and a general overview of the significant events and persons associated with the fort.

Creating the handbook is really

the second step the two men have taken in an attempt to heighten the historical awareness of children on post and those attending school in the Geary County School District.

"Last year we created a walking tour of historic main post, including a stop at the Custer House with a presentation by Bill McKale, a tour of some of the historical original post buildings and then a stop at the Cavalry Museum to tour the exhibits and complete a trivia assignment," Stoddard said. "This handbook is really just a continuation of that project in an attempt to be more specific in what we are teaching the kids."

Lubbers said that he plans to take the project one step further in his classroom.

"We've downloaded and scanned hundreds of pictures related to Fort Riley. There is no

way that we can include all of the material that we've found and deemed good for the handbook," Lubbers said. "I'll do a presentation in my class to correspond with the book. This is a start for me, and I plan to keep adding to it."

"I'm glad that this project was approved," said Bill McKale, director of Fort Riley museums. "It is going to benefit not only the Geary County School District, but also the Fort Riley community. It is a natural tie-in with the fort's sesquicentennial commemoration in the coming year."

The handbook the interns have created will be first used in their classrooms in the middle of September.

"This has been an educational process for us, as much as it will be for the kids," Lubbers said. "It has been a very interesting project."

Late Ad

National Night Out heightens awareness

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

The Military Police sent out two additional foot patrols for National Night Out Aug. 8.

The National Association of Town Watch designates NNO annually on the first Tuesday in August to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, as well as to strengthen police-community relationships.

For Fort Riley MP's it is a way to interact with the communities they serve on a daily basis, said Staff Sgt. William McGehee, team leader with the Provost Mar-

shal's Office. "We are able to show a more personal side to the communities."

"We want to be able to interact with kids so they don't feel they need to avoid MP's," McGehee added.

"We want to take this opportunity to give a better image of MP's. We want them to know that we are not just someone to go to when there is trouble, but they can talk to us any time."

"We usually do about an hour of foot patrol every evening," McGehee said. "We normally hand out baseball cards to kids we meet in the neighborhoods."

During the National Night Out patrols, the MP's handed out pencils, key chains and small flashlights with the Drug Abuse Resistance Education, or D.A.R.E., program logo on them.

McGehee said the Fort Riley community is very supportive of the MP's. "We have a very positive relationship with the communities," he said.

Along with patrolling Fort Riley's housing communities, the MP's respond to various calls from residents every day. "We get calls for everything from property damage to lost pets," said McGehee.

Reward

The Criminal Investigation Division is offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for the following crime:

On June 13, person(s) unknown started a tractor and backed it into another tractor which ultimately ignited a fire on Fort Riley. The fire destroyed both tractors and spread to an adjacent building.

If you have information concerning this investigation, please contact the Fort Riley Criminal Investigation Division at Fort Riley at 239-3931 or call the Military Police at 239-6767. Your identity can remain confidential.

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Fort Riley Sports

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Tee It Up wins state slow pitch tournament

By Christopher Selnek
19th PAD

Twenty-three teams played in the Men's Class D State Slow

Pitch Softball Tournament Championship at the Fort Riley softball complex Sunday, and 10th Street won the championship game, beating Tee It Up, 19-6.

This was the last game of the tournament, concluding the 2002 State Slow Pitch Softball season. Class D is a slightly more intense league than class E, which holds a more recreational attitude toward the game, and which also held their tournament Sunday afternoon, according to Barry Sunstrom, Fort Riley athletic director.

Although only four of the 23 teams were from Fort Riley, the decision to hold this tournament on the fort was made for more than the convenience of the soldiers. "Jim Westerhaus, a sports director for Fort Riley, attends the ASA meetings and made a bid for the tournament to be played at our softball field," Sunstrom said. "That's good for Fort Riley and it lets people come to see the fort. It's good for the economy of the Fort Riley - Junction City area because most people who come for the tournament stay somewhere in town overnight."

Prior to Sunday's championship game, neither team had won the other play, and they were not certain what to expect.

"Apparently they're pretty good," said Randy Zwygart, Tee It Up manager, before the game. "We just can't get happy, because then we'll lose focus."

"They'll put up a fight," said Todd Wondra, 10th Street right fielder, of the pending match, "but we'll win. We're not nervous at all. We have the motivation behind this team to conquer all."

In first inning, Tee It Up did score five runs on singles Kyle Meyer, 10th Street shortstop, scored three runs with a double, but was thrown out trying to make it to third.

which was caught by the Tee It Up pitcher, Rodney Watson, was the lead, where they would remain for the duration of the game.

"I think it's going to be a good game," said John Wunder, Tee It Up extra hitter, after the first inning. "We've been working hard all morning to work through the losers brackets. We just hope we have enough gas left in the tank to win this game."

The opposing team, though they had already broken into the lead, was adamant that the best was yet to come.

"We're going to win," said Shawn Ybarra, 10th Street extra hitter. "We haven't even hit well yet, and once we start doing that there'll be no stopping us."

Tee It Up managed only one run in the second inning, and 10th Street squeezed in a few more, bringing the score to 10-6.

Every Tee It Up runner who attempted to score in the third inning was stopped by Brian Schriener, the 10th Street first baseman. The 10th Street team made four runs in this inning, bringing the score to 14-6.

Tee It Up once again made no score in the fourth, but 10th Street, in their greatest point gain yet, brought their score to 19, rendering them virtually impossible to defeat.

No change was made to the scoreboard in the fifth and final inning.

"I thought we played very well," said Kevin Linder, 10th Street left fielder. "We started playing together there at the end, and that's what really helped us to win. We played great."



Rodney Watson, pitcher for the 10th Street team, pitches during Sunday's championship game against Tee It Up.

Softball Standings as of Aug. 9

Northern League	Wins	Losses
HHC, 1-34 AR	3	5
B 1-34 AR	0	7
C 1-34 AR	2	6
HHC, 2-34 AR	8	5
A 2-34 AR	5	3
B 2-34 AR	4	4
C 2-34 AR	5	3
HHC, 1-5 FA	1	3
A 1-5 FA	3	2
B 1-5 FA	4	2
D 1-5 FA	4	2
SVC 1-5 FA	2	4

Southern League

HHC, 1-16	1	9
B 2-70 AR	0	9
C 1-16	0	9
HHC, 1st EN	3	6
A 1st EN	5	5
B 1st EN	3	7
C 1st EN	5	4
B 101st FSB	2	8
331 Signal	10	0
C 4-3 ADA	8	2
HHC, 1st BDE	8	2

Eastern League

HHC, 1-13 AR	7	2
B 1-13 AR	3	7
HHC, 2-70 AR	8	2
A 2-70 AR	3	7
HHC, 4-1 FA	7	5
B 4-1 FA	4	6
C 4-1 FA	5	5
HHC, 70 EN	1	9
A 70 EN	3	7
C 70 EN	8	3
HHC 3rd BDE	4	6
596 Signal	10	1
H TRP 1 CAV	0	7

Western League

1st Maintenance	3	5
568 CSE	8	0
172nd Chemical	1	7
HHC, 937 EN	6	4
82nd Medical	6	2
1st Finance	1	7
523rd MP	8	1
977 MP	5	5
1st PSB	0	10
HHC, 24 ID	6	2
MEDDAC	6	4
10th ASOS	2	7

Battalion League

HHC, 24 ID	11	5
1-34 AR	7	9
541st	7	9
1-5 FA	9	1
4-1 FA	5	7
MEDDAC	4	10
2-34 AR	12	2
1-16 INF	4	14
101st FSB	0	18
924MP	14	4

Women's League

HHC, 24 ID	0	9
101st FSB	4	5
Acacia #91 Champs	12	0
Envision Base	4	6
Ada's Hair Biz	6	6

School sports starting

Fort Riley Middle School football sign up will begin Monday, with volleyball sign up on Wednesday. Interested students should sign up at the athletics office. All students should make sure they have a recent physical on file, said Janet Hoskins, athletics director at the Middle School. There will be a parent/athlete sports meeting on Monday in the cafeteria from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The meeting will focus on middle school football volleyball as well as 6th grade tennis and 6th grade golf, Hoskins said. This year is the first there will be 6th grade golf. All J.C. High School fall sports will begin Monday, also. Fall sports include volleyball, football, cross-country, boy's soccer and girl's tennis. Volleyball tryouts will be Monday and Tuesday. There will be a football parent meeting today at 6 p.m. in Shenk Gym, and the cross-country parents meeting will be at 7 p.m. in the stadium.

Bowling facility offers excitement for all

By Heather Pope
Radford Univ. Intern

Come one, come all to the Custer Hill Lanes bowling facility! Anyone can play," said Bowling Center Manager Dennis O'Connell. Most bowling centers have 16 to 24 lanes, but with a 40-lane house, there is plenty of room for everyone, he said.

Sgt. 1st Class William Porch of G-4 maintenance said he plays at Custer Hill because, "lanes are in better condition than what's offered in Junction City and Manhattan." The prices are more reasonable and they offer different activities, like extreme bowling, with better prizes than anywhere else he has seen, and Thursdays are only a dollar (before 6 p.m.), he said.

"We usually come every Thursday with a small group to bowl during lunch," said Sgt. 1st Class Bobby Vann. He just started bowling because of the guys he works with, he said. It's a real bonding exercise for the mid and upper level NCO's in his office, said Vann.

Sgt. 1st Class Don Sweeting, another bowler in the group said he comes to Custer Hill Lanes because of "the atmosphere and people, like Vila Hall (Chief Mechanic of Custer Hill Lanes), who are willing to give advice." The prices every day, not just Thursdays, are great and they have a good snack bar here to get a little something to eat while

you bowl, he said.

"Beside the obvious, we have a snack bar and lounge," said O'Connell. "We also offer extreme bowling and our Thursday special (including Red Pin Bowling in the evening)," he said. The extreme bowling includes black lights, a live DJ with karaoke and prizes, explained O'Connell. They even cater parties and unit functions upon request, with price depending on the size of the group, he said.

"Winter League sign ups begin Aug. 1," said O'Connell. Wednesday and Friday nights are mixed doubles, he said.

For more information on Custer Hill Lanes, call 239-4366.

Hours of Operation

Monday-Wednesday	5 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Thursday	12 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Friday	5 p.m. - 1 a.m.
Saturday	12 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Rates

\$2.20	per game for adults
\$1.50	per child under the age of 16
\$1	shoe rental

Deer management in Kansas has important issues to be resolved

By Alan Hynek
DES Biologist

Deer management in Kansas is at a crossroads. For many years, the herd was allowed grow with little restriction. Now we are at a point where public tolerance for vehicle accidents and crop damage has intersected with the overall population level. To determine our future path, the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks has convened a Deer Management Working Group. This new initiative will look in-depth at the issues facing the state in regards to whitetail and mule deer management. There are many issues at stake and even more opinions to consider. All of these must be boiled down to what is most important with solutions that are

agreeable to the most people.

Beginning in the late 1800's, the early settlers harvested deer without limit. By 1933, the white-tailed was thought to be nearly extirpated in Kansas. Protective laws enacted in 1945 allowed white-tailed deer to recoupy much of their range. The herd was allowed to grow under a protected status until 1965, when the first modern deer season was instituted. A total of 4,575 tags were issued that first year. (Comparatively in 2002, the state issued 167,795 tags).

The total amount of tags issued each year steadily increased until 1997 when several changes were implemented to stabilize the deer herd. The two most notable changes were the discontinuance of Buck Only Tags and marked increase in Game Tags and Antler-

less Only Tags. Other important milestones over the last 37 years include the issuance Hunt Your Own Land permits in 1987 and the first Non-Resident permits in 1994.

That brings us to the present,

On the Wildside: News About Nature

where one of the most contentious issues seems to be the Transferable Permits. These are permits that landowners of 80 acres or more can apply for. These can be transferred to residents or non-residents by that landowner for an unlimited fee. Some of these transferable permits have gone for as much as \$3000. This has caused deep concern by many Kansas residents that their hunt-

ing opportunities are being sold to the highest bidder, mostly to non-residents. Another issue that is being voiced is the leasing of private land. Many residents feel that their hunting opportunities are being limited by leasing of hunt-

ing rights to, in some cases, very high dollar amounts. Although the percentage of private land leased for hunting purposes is quite low, it has nonetheless increased dramatically over the last few years.

One question that gets asked the most is what is the total number of deer in the state of Kansas. It would be impossible to determine an exact number with any

degree of accuracy, but the range is likely between 400,000 and 500,000 deer. A better indication of deer numbers is the number of deer-vehicle collisions. While it is not an absolute number, the index it provides is the most consistent population indicator of the deer herd. In 1980, the total deer related accidents were 1395. That number grew gradually until 1995 when the speed limit was changed. Between 1995 and 1996, the number of accidents jumped 21 percent. However, since 1996, the percent change each year has remained fairly low. The total accidents over the last five years have been around 10,000 per year. This would indicate a fairly stable overall population.

That brings us to where we are now, with some very important

decisions to be made. Some of these changes will be through the legislature while some will be by statute. That is where the Deer Management Working Group comes in. The purpose of the group is to identify goals and objectives for deer management in Kansas and come up with equitable solutions that are acceptable to all stakeholders. The Deer Management Working Group is made up of 20 individuals from all across the state, including a representative from the DES, Conservation Division. If you have comments or suggestions, you are encouraged to respond in writing at the KDWP website at <http://www.kdwp.state.ks.us/hunting/deercomments.html> or stop by the Conservation Division, building 1020.





Commentary

Fantasy football can help fans feel more involved in games

By Kevin Doheny

19th PAD

For those of us who traded in our game jerseys for battle dress uniforms long ago, playing tackle football for the Dallas Cowboys or the Oakland Raiders is just an afterthought.

Now, since we can't strap on the pads, we sit and watch our heroes every Sunday, whatever the team may be.

For some of us, this just isn't enough to get our fix of the game of football. So, for us so-called football junkies, there is a medicine.

It's fantasy football. Even the most ungifted athlete in the world can win the championship.

Fantasy football gives a new meaning to the phrase "Armchair quarterback."

For those who might not know what fantasy football is, it's a strategy sports game where points are awarded by the selected player's stats during a given game.

For example, if Marshall Faulk runs for 113 yards and scores two touchdowns, then he would have scored a certain amount of points based on a scoring scale for the fantasy football owner.

The owner puts together a team by using a draft, just as the pros would draft players.

This game puts the owner into the action, and lets him make decisions as a head coach would by utilizing rankings

and talent level of players and teams in the National Football League.

Another example would be, if Kurt Warner is playing the Tampa Bay defense, then he might not want to start him that week based on how tough the Buccaneer's defense is. He might want to make sure he has another quarterback who is playing an easier defense, to make sure he has a greater chance to score more points for his quarterback slot on his team.

I know for me, fantasy football has made professional football more interesting. I normally wouldn't care about the Cincinnati Bengals at the Seattle Seahawks, but since I might have Corey Dillon or Shaun Alexander on my team,

then I will pay extra attention to see how many points I will get for those players during that week.

Another reason this game has football fans flocking to their favorite websites for football information is the fact they can compete in leagues and against other owners. Also, fantasy football is great break time conversation. Many offices have football leagues and the topic at the water cooler has gone to the latest injury, instead of the "How's the wife and kids."

With fantasy football about to swing into action with the NFL season on the horizon, it might be a little tough to get into leagues now, but there are hundreds of websites, which offer fantasy football and accommodate even the most hard-

core fanatic.

So if you're the type of person who runs with this crowd, make your moves and draft well.

May your players stay healthy, and most of all, may the football gods watch over your brittle running backs as they run into the hardest hitting linebackers the NFL has to offer. Oh yeah, watch out for those players coming off of season-ending knee injuries. Those types of injuries take at least two years to heal properly, just a little hint to you rookies.

Have fun, but don't ignore your family staying up all hours of the night trying to find your edge to crush your league. My advice: Enjoy, but don't become a junkie.

Lanes to Links will be challenging

Custer Hill Golf Course and Custer Hill Bowling Lanes will host "Lanes to Links" Monday and Tuesday.

Cost is \$35 per person or \$140 per team.

Teams are comprised of four players and may include men or women, active duty or civilian. The teams will compete in an 18-hole golf scramble and will bowl five games. The team with the highest score wins the prize for Best Overall

Team. There are four additional prize categories including Best Golf Team and Best Bowling Team, as well as Worst Golf Team and Worst Bowling Team.

Lanes to Links focuses on fun and excitement and puts emphasis on team effort rather than strictly individual accomplishments.

For further information, call 239-6000.

Absentee voting kicks into gear

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press

If you think your vote doesn't count, just ask George W. Bush and Al Gore.

With the 2002 general election fast approaching Nov. 5, Federal Voting Assistance Program officials are sponsoring Armed Forces Voters Week, Sept. 1-7. The week is designed for military installations worldwide to highlight voting issues.

"The objective is to create awareness of the electoral process and to motivate military members to participate in the upcoming general election," said Polli Brunelli, federal voting program director. "We want to encourage our military members, their dependents, our federal employees overseas and our overseas citizens to be aware of the elections and to exercise their right to vote."

She noted that the 2002 elec-

tions cover a third of the U.S. Senate, the entire U.S. House of Representatives, 37 governors and hundreds of local races.

"These are lawmakers who will effect policies that govern our way of life," she said.

The states govern the voting rules for their residents. The FVAP works with state officials to ease absentee ballot processes.

For example, Brunelli said, the program asked the states to allow servicemembers deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom to receive voting materials by facsimile machines and to fax in completed ballots.

The agency urges military personnel to contact installation voting assistance officers to learn about what they must do to vote in 2002. All units with more than 25 people also have voting assistance officers. Fort Riley's voting assistance officer is Lt. Brad Hunstabile, and he can be reached at 239-6694.

U.S. citizens residing overseas

can visit embassies and consulates and get the same information.

The program launched an education process to teach voting assistance officers what they need to know to help servicemembers. Worldwide, the office sponsored more than 100 workshops, Brunelli said.

She said her office has met with state leaders to ensure that all absentee ballots are in on time, properly filled out and counted.

"We're working on postal issues as well," Brunelli said. Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz signed a memo to the military postal service to ensure that all voting materials are post-marked and cancelled for all deployed vessels and personnel.

Further, military postal service employees will look for voting materials to ensure they are moved expeditiously.

For more information on Armed Forces Voting Week or absentee voting, go to www.fvap.gov on the Internet.



Maria T. Figueroa gets her ears checked by Capt. Mary Leiterman at Irwin Army Community Hospital as part of her school sports physical. Figueroa plans to play soccer and tennis at Junction City High School.

GRECO - ARMED FORCES COMM

3 x 10"

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Staying Behind

Blood drive helps local supplies

The 937th Engineer Group will sponsor a Red Cross Blood Drive Sept. 17 - 19 at Long Fitness Center, building 8069, Normandy Drive on Custer Hill. Hours each day will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Blood donors must be 17 years old, weight 110 pounds and be in general good health. Most medications do not cause a donor to be unable to give blood.

Due to current restrictions related to variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease or more commonly known as Mad Cow disease, people cannot donate blood if he or she has, since Jan. 1, 1980 spent (lived or visited) a cumulative time of six months or more in any combination of countries from the United Kingdom, Eastern Europe, Western Europe, Oman and/or Turkey. Further, a person is deferred if since January 1, 1980 spent (lived or visited) a cumulative time of three months or more in the United Kingdom or had a blood transfusion in the United Kingdom.

Blood donated through the Fort Riley Blood Drive helps the Central Plains Red Cross Blood Region supply the blood needed by the Irwin Army Community

Hospital as well as the hospitals in Manhattan and Junction City. They also cover Fort Riley blood requirements for the national military blood reserve.

If you have questions about your eligibility to donate blood, you can call the Central Plains Red Cross Blood Region in Wichita at 1-888-719-8929.

Supervisors are reminded that employees may be granted excused absence to donate blood. Employees released from duty may be authorized, not to exceed, a total of four hours excused absence on the day blood is donated. The actual time authorized is dependent upon the amount of time needed to travel to and from the blood donation center, donate

the blood and recuperation following the donation. The employee shall be required to furnish documentation supporting the absence.

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ITR

ITR hours of operation are Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturdays 8 a.m. - noon, thru August. ITR is closed on Sundays and holidays. For further information, stop by ITR, building 6019, across from PX, or call 239-5614/4415.

Renaissance Festival

Visit the 16th century village of Canterbury at the Renaissance Festival in Kansas City, Aug. 31 - Oct. 14, on weekends only except for Labor Day and Columbus Day.

The Fest is situated on nearly 16 acres of shaded lanes. Browse and shop from over 160 artisans and their handcrafted wares. Entertainment awaits with over 13 stages, as well as live interaction with the colorful characters roaming the lanes of the village!

This year brings the return of Robin Hood and his merryment! Be a spectator at the Ultimate Gladiator Games! Witness live jousting in the dynamic live jousting arena.

Discount tickets are available through ITR, adults, \$12; children age 5-12, \$5.50.

Kansas City Chiefs

There is a special ticket promotion for the first two games of the season. See Houston on tomorrow and St. Louis on Aug. 30 in action at Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City.

Tickets are \$55/single (regularly priced \$65) without transportation and \$65/single with transportation (regularly priced \$80), or purchase two and get the third ticket FREE. Tickets are still available for other games. Stop by ITR for schedule.

Leisure Travel

Booking travel via the Internet is becoming the fastest growing way for consumers to travel. The key to finding fares is to check around. There are a whole host of resources to assist in finding the lowest fare such as toll free numbers, airline websites and Internet fare finder sites.

A computer Kiosk is available at ITR for customer use in booking airline tickets through the Internet, or stop by or call ITR for assistance in booking your commercial travel.

McCain Auditorium

Tickets are available for all performances at Kansas State University's McCain Auditorium through ITR. Stop by and pick up a complete performance schedule.

Upcoming Events

- Sept. 27 Modern Mandolin Quartet
- Oct. 5 Venice Baroque Orchestra
- Oct. 13 La Boheme
- Oct. 18 Kansas City Ballet
- Oct. 23 South Pacific

Discount Movie Tickets

Passes may be used at Carmike Cinemas in Manhattan and Westside Twin in Junction City. Cost is \$5 for J.C. and \$5.50 for Manhattan. This is great savings for evening shows; a savings of up to \$2 per ticket.

Branson, Mo.

As one of the top vacation destinations in the country, Branson offers a wealth of diverse entertainment. Whether your idea of entertainment is being dazzled, dropping a fishing line in a secluded cove, spending a day

with your family at one of the attractions, teeing off at a championship golf course or finding a great deal at one of the area retailers, Branson is second to none in its scope of exciting activities. Let ITR put together a military discounted weekend package.

Kansas Cosmosphere & Space Center

Located in Hutchinson, the Kansas Cosmosphere & Space Center is quickly becoming the most comprehensive space museum in the world. It is not what you'd expect to find on the open prairies of Kansas. And, that's the point exactly.

From the jaw-dropping Hall of Space Museum and incredible IMAX Dome Theater to the million-dollar multimedia Planetarium, the Cosmosphere is an all-day, all-ages adventure. Hold on tight. You're go for lift-off!

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$11 for children ages 4-12.

Worlds of Fun

Worlds of Fun Recognizes Service to Community - In appreciation for valuable service to our community and country, Worlds of Fun will celebrate Public Safety Days, Aug. 18 - 25.

During this time, fire and police department personnel, paramedics and military personnel, active duty, National Guard and reserves, will be admitted to the park for free.

Men and women of these public service branches simply need to present their IDs at guest relations, located at the Main Entrance, to be admitted to Worlds of Fun free.

Discount tickets for members of their families may be purchased through ITR.

chased through ITR.

New at Worlds of Fun this year is Thunderhawk, an exhilarating thrill ride that offers riders the unique opportunity to bend the Laws of Physics.

Guests with young children will be sure to visit Camp Snoopy, a one-acre family playland and the only place in the Midwest to meet the Peanuts characters each and every day, all season long.

Oceans of Fun

Who needs a trip to the coast when Kansas City has Oceans of Fun? With over 6.0 acres of wet and wild adventure, there is no need to travel anywhere else. Pack your shades and sunscreen and head out to enjoy a million gallons of refreshment in the Surf City Wave Pool.

Take a relaxing float along the Caribbean Cooler or Challenge the storm of Hurricane Falls family raft ride. Kids will have a blast in Crocodile Isle, complete with mini water slides, spray cannons and Captain Kidd's pirate ship. Grown-ups can get away at Castaway Cove, a pool just for adults with a swim-up cabana serving tropical refreshments.

Discounts tickets now available.

Cruise reservations

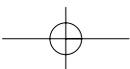
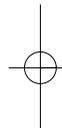
Military specials are still available for numerous sailing dates. Authorized patrons can start taking advantage of special military discounts on bargain cruises. Stop by ITR for brochures and information concerning Carnival Cruise Line, Holland America, Royal Caribbean and Disney Cruises. Make an appointment with Teresa by calling 239-5614/4415.

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Korea 50 years ago - Typhoon brings ground fighting to halt

By Jim Caldwell
Army News Service

Ground fighting was virtually brought to a halt Aug. 18-19 as a typhoon swept across South Korea 50 years ago this week.

Aug. 15-21, 1952 — There is again no progress in truce talks at Panmunjon. Both sides return to the conference table Aug. 19 and another seven-day recess is declared by the U.N.

The North Korean truce delegation informs its U.N. counterparts Aug. 15 that new POW camps are now located at Yul, Jaedong and Anju, all within 40 miles of Pyongyang.

On Aug. 15, Pyongyang broadcasts a speech made the day before by Premier Kim Il Sung. The dictator said he was willing to call the war a draw and accept an armistice where "Americans are not the winners and the Koreans the losers." He also said that it wouldn't be "dishonorable" for North Korea to agree to a truce

"after fighting against 19 powers for three years."

A State Department spokesman urges Kim to "speak up" through the armistice talks if he had new "specific proposals" for a truce.

The Chinese People's Daily on Aug. 16 urges North Koreans to continue to fight with China's help to "smash the schemes of the American aggressors."

On Aug. 20, a letter from President Harry S. Truman to Capt. Charles G. Ewing, an intelligence officer in Korea is made public. Truman wrote that communist POWs who would "rather die than live under communism again" will not be forced to "return to their enslaved homeland" to suffer "almost certain death."

Ground fighting is brought to a halt by a typhoon that sweeps across south and south-central Korea Aug. 18-19. On Aug. 18, 30 soldiers of the 45th Infantry Division are drowned in floods caused by the storm.

However, U.N. aircraft continued to pound enemy military tar-

gets. An undisclosed number of B-29s hit a munitions plant three miles south of Manchuria. B-29s return to bomb supply and troop areas in Pyongyang on the night of Aug. 21 while other aircraft bomb a cement plant at Osu, 35 miles above the 38th Parallel.

Secretary of Defense Robert A. Lovett says Aug. 18 that communist charges that indiscriminate bombing in North Korea is killing civilians is "tire-some propaganda."

He said there has been a great effort "at some risk to ourselves," to tell North Korean citizens by leaflets and radio which military targets in their cities will be bombed.

In Seoul on Aug. 21, Gen. James A. Van Fleet, Eighth Army commander, vows that "never again" will the city be occupied by enemy forces. He was speak-

ing at a ceremony to begin rebuilding the shattered city.

A new 3,600-man Turkish brigade lands in Pusan Aug. 21. It will replace Turkey's tough North Star Brigade on the front lines.

Aug. 15 — Syngman Rhee is inaugurated for a second term as South Korea's president.

Still unofficial, vote returns show that Rhee defeated three rivals by 4-1.

Truman sends good wishes to Rhee and the South Korean people on the fourth anniversary of establishing the Republic of South Korea.

Aug. 17-18 — Premier-Foreign Minister Chou En-Lai leads a Chinese delegation to Moscow Aug. 17 for the first public meeting in 20 years between the two countries.

Talks begin Aug. 18. Among the discussion topics are the Korean War drain on the Chinese econ-

omy and Russo-China relations in particular, among them the 1950 Treaty of Alliance and Friendship.

The gathering is just a meeting of two communist nations and nothing spectacular will come of it, a State Department spokesman says Aug. 18.

Aug. 18 — The FBI reports that it has arrested 5,000 draft dodgers a year since the Selective Service Law was enacted four years ago. But only 590 have received jail sentences, averaging a little more than two years.

Aug. 19 — The president reveals that his 1953 budget, which began July 1, will result in a \$10.3 billion deficit rather than the \$14.4 billion he predicted in his January budget message to Congress.

He says that despite a \$2.3 billion drop in revenues, there will be \$6.4 billion in other planned expenditures.

In the \$3 \$79 billion budget, 74 percent — \$58.2 billion — is for the military, foreign aid and other security programs. There is \$10.9

billion — 14 percent — earmarked for veterans. All other government programs will receive \$9.9 billion — 12 percent.

A federal court in San Francisco rules that Sang Ryup Park, South Korean journalist who is a critic of Syngman Rhee, and who has been held for 10 months on deportation orders, will not be sent back to South Korea because he faces "probable physical persecution" and execution.

Aug. 20 — A Department of Defense spokesman reports that American units have suffered 115,373 casualties in Korea, among them 20,286 dead.

* Truman presents the Medal of Honor to Marine Maj. William E. Barber of West Liberal, Ky. Barber, despite a leg wound, guarded a mountain pass through which marines escaped during the Chosin Reservoir retreat in November-December 1950.

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



Author seeking letters, e-mail from servicemembers in Afghanistan

Army News Service

One author is striving to preserve letters from every war in the nation's history, and he just told the Fort Hood community he is seeking help to preserve correspondence from Afghanistan.

Andrew Carroll, editor of "War Letters," visited Fort Hood recently for a free book signing, and hundreds of military personnel, veterans and civilians flocked to express gratitude to Carroll for telling their stories and paying tribute to those who served.

In 1998, Carroll founded the Legacy Project, a national, all-volunteer organization dedicated to encouraging Americans to seek out and preserve wartime correspondence, and since then he's read about 60,000 to 70,000 letters.

"When you read a series of letters by a 19-year-old kid, who's writing to his mom, telling her not to worry while he's in the thick of battle, and you see what a whim-

sical, funny character he is because you're reading his intimate letters - he really comes to life. Then you see the telegram from the War Department saying private so-and-so was killed. It's devastating."

Carroll ardently urged soldiers to seek out letters, whether they're found in basements, attics, scrapbooks or old trunks, and to send them to him at the Legacy Project.

"We will never publish anything without permission," explained Carroll. "The contributors can edit anything. They can take their names out. They can take out locations, and they have full control over the material."

Carroll is seeking any e-mails or photocopies of printed letters sent from service members or from family members regarding Afghanistan or the war on terrorism.

"We are urgently, very intensely looking for these e-mails. So, anyone who knows of these, if

they've written them or received them, if they have buddies who may have written some, we'd love to see them."

All of the proceeds from War Letters sales are donated to non-profit organizations and veterans groups, said Carroll.

Carroll, a 32-year-old native of Washington, D.C., was first inspired by a documentary called "The Civil War," produced by Ken Burns. He decided to compile the book "Letters of a Nation." After talking to veterans and hearing their remarkable stories, Carroll compiled and edited another book, "War Letters, Extraordinary Correspondence from American Wars," which featured 200 previously unpublished letters from the Civil War, World War I, World War II, Korea, the Cold War, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf, Somalia, and Bosnia.

"The idea of the book was born out of somewhat of a tragedy," said Carroll. "My family had an electrical fire in our house right

before Christmas in 1989. An outlet exploded and sparks went everywhere. Everything got wiped out - just burned to the ground."

Carroll was in college at the time and went home to visit his family for Christmas only to discover that every material possession his family owned was destroyed.

"Nobody was hurt, which was the most important thing," recalled Carroll. "What bothered me most was that all of my letters were gone because they were irreplaceable."

What started out as a mere effort to preserve wartime documents, ended up as a huge project aimed at paying tribute to veterans and military personnel, and to broaden the world's understanding of every aspect of military life.

"I want to give people a glimpse of military life and what war is like, through those who

were there; not interpretations, not filtered, this is what they wrote - uncensored," said Carroll.

He added, "It really humanizes the people who go off to war. I wanted this book to bring these people to life and to remind people who read this book that it's not statistics who go off and fight."

Michelle Rodriguez, a vendor at the Clear Creek Post Exchange, said after reading War Letters, she believes it offers people insight into how soldiers really felt during wartime.

"I think it would be a good book to have in a history class because it would help the students better understand what the soldiers went through," said Rodriguez. "It's not Hollywood's portrayal. It's their actual feelings, thoughts and emotions. You don't always stop to think about how they deal with every day things, but when they put it down and send it to their loved ones, it becomes real."

The book offers unparalleled insight into the muddled lives of ordinary service members coping with wartime calamity. It's a tribute to the soldiers, marines, airmen, sailors and family members afflicted by combat's wrath, according to the War Letters Web site.

"The book has made me put things in context," said Carroll. "It gave me a greater appreciation of what people have gone through for this country."

He added, "If you're going off to a hostile area, it doesn't really matter what the historical importance is, you're still dealing with the fact that you might not come home alive."

If you have letters or e-mails from Afghanistan that you would like to contribute, send printed e-mails or photocopies of letters to Carroll at The Legacy Project, P.O. Box 53250, Washington, DC 20009.

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