



Students return to class

Six schools on post welcome youngsters
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Fort Riley Post

Softball crown goes to 924th MPs

Rain dampens company league play
Pages 9 and 11



Friday, August 20, 2004

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 47, No. 32

Around The Army

Germany:

The European Edition of Stars and Stripes reported Aug. 18 that President Bush's proposal to withdraw tens of thousands of troops from Europe over the next decade isn't sitting well with the German populace.

Money and good memories are two of the reasons why many Germans are a bit apprehensive about the whole issue. Wiesbaden residents often refer to Americans as "our good neighbors." Their city is the home base of the legendary 1st Armored Division, and about 12,000 Americans annually pump millions of dollars into the local economy.

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

Fort Knox:

Inside the Turret reported Aug. 18 that several insurance salesmen had been banned from the post. The agents visited several units on post and volunteered to do group briefings on veteran benefits for the unit's soldiers.

The salesmen, however, were not interested in assisting the Soldiers and providing them with solid information, a post official said. "They were there to solicit them and to obtain names and addresses for use in future solicitation," the official said.

Their misrepresentations resulted in the post banning them from doing business on the installation.

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

Fort McPherson:

The Sentinel reported July 16 that seven volunteers for the Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Operation Sew-a-Patch program were honored with plaques and a Volunteer Corps pin from the garrison commander, Col. Angela Manos.

The volunteers worked 41 hours to sew 445 National Flag patches on Soldiers' uniforms from April 6 through May 9, saving Soldiers between \$1.75 and \$2.25 per uniform.

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

Fort Monmouth:

The Message reported Aug. 20 that a Packaging Storage and Containerization Center (PSCC) engineer had earned national recognition for a shipping container that will be used worldwide.

Charlotte Lent earned second place in a national packaging design contest.

She designed, tested and guided the fabrication of the Frozen Specimen Shipping Unit (FSSU-24), which can be used with dry ice to transport any infectious matter in vials, such as blood specimens and tissue samples, and non-infectious items.

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

\$80M tagged for modular units

Impending arrival of new unit of action requires money for Soldier billets

Inside

A new unit of action based at Fort Stewart, Ga., will be housed in new modular units.

See page 7

By April Blackmon
Staff writer

Nearly 3,400 Soldiers from the 6th Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, will be stationed at Fort Riley in fiscal year 2006.

To accommodate this new unit of action brigade, \$80 million in

construction projects has been approved for Fort Riley, Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., announced July 30.

"(\$80 million) is a surprise," said Larry McGee, director of public works at Fort Riley. "We had no advance notice that the announcement was being made."

The money will be used for a combination of barracks, administrative buildings, maintenance and dining facilities and tactical vehicle parking areas is tentatively slated for the Camp Funston area.

The facilities will be temporary in nature, pending the outcome of

the Base Realignment and Closure commission's decisions in FY 2005.

"The temporary nature of that brigade to Fort Riley will result in construction of modular facilities to take care of their initial bed

See \$80M, Page 7

Loading lesson



Soldiers with 2nd Bn., 34th Armor, rehearse loading and unloading operations with a .50 caliber machine gun.

3rd Brigade integrates battalion

By James E. Lewis
3rd Inf. Div. PAO

"We're not being treated like the red-headed stepchildren; we're fully integrated into the 3rd Brigade Combat Team," said Lt. Col. Oscar J. Hall IV, battalion commander of 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, about the assimilation of his unit into 3rd BCT.

The battalion's rotation at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk,

La., marks the first time the Fort Riley-based armor unit has worked with 3rd BCT, and Hall said he couldn't be more pleased with the way things are working out.

"This is a great opportunity," he said. "As the Army transforms down this road of units of action, taking a battalion and plugging it seamlessly into a brigade or using a 'plug and play' concept, it's making the Army that much more lethal."

As pleased as Hall is with his unit's integration into 3rd BCT, he is just as

pleased with the training his Soldiers are receiving at JRTC. It's a world-class training facility, he said. The amount of resources, time, effort and synchronization that goes on here is incredible.

"When our Soldiers leave here, they will be well prepared for whatever mission the Army needs them to achieve."

Whether it be training dealing with tribal disputes, dismounted foot patrols or Soldiers getting behind a tank's main gun,

See JRTC, Page 3

Riley loses 3 more in Iraq

Staff report

The Army has reported three more Fort Riley Soldiers killed in Iraq.

1st Lt. Neil A. Santoriello, 24, of Verona, Pa., died Aug. 13 in Khadidiyah, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his mounted reconnaissance patrol.

Sgt. Daniel M. Shepherd, 23, of Elyria, Ohio, died Aug. 15, in Ar Ramadi, Iraq, when the vehicle he was traveling in hit an improvised explosive device.

Sgt. David M. Heath, 30, of La Porte, Ind., died Aug. 16 near Sadr City, Iraq, when his patrol came under small arms and rocket-propelled grenade attack.

Santoriello was a platoon leader for Fort Riley's Company

See Losses, Page 2



1st Lt. Neil Santoriello



Sgt. Daniel Shepherd



Sgt. David Heath

Infantrymen ride with Cav

Commander: Orientation needed, worthwhile

By Erik LeDrew
122nd MPAD

CAMP CUERVO, Baghdad, Iraq — The newly arrived Soldiers of Fort Riley's 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, attached to the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, recently conducted a right-seat ride with troopers of 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division.

The main contingent of 1st Bn., 41st Inf., Soldiers deployed from Fort Riley in late June. A right-seat ride gives incom-

ing units a chance to see what the current units are doing.

The right-seat ride began Aug. 2, lasted two days and covered the area around Camp Cuervo in northeastern Baghdad, where 2nd Bn., 8th Cav., operates.

During the right-seat ride, 1st Bn., 41st Inf., Soldiers filled extra seats in the Cavalry troopers' vehicles, tagged along for the ride, stood back to study how certain things are done at some points and got their feet wet about helping others.

Blue Platoon, Company B, 2nd Bn., 8th Cav., began the right-seat ride at 1 p.m., escorting elements of 2nd Platoon, Company B, 1st

Bn., 41st Inf., on a patrol through a marketplace known for its crowds of people, severe traffic problems and occasional rocket-propelled grenades.

Instead of trying to drive their Humvees through the gridlocked traffic, Blue Platoon parked their vehicles on the side of the road and gave the Infantrymen riding along a ground's-eye view of the marketplace by patrolling on foot.

After walking almost a kilometer, they called off the dismounted patrol and rushed back to their vehicles to respond to a possible vehicle-borne improvised explo-

See Ride, Page 2



Lt. Col. David Batchelor (right), commander, 1st Bn., 41st Inf., attached to 2nd BCT, 10th Mountain Div., listens as Sgt. 1st Class Joe Davis (left), Blue Pltn., Co. B, 2nd Bn., 8th Cav. Regt., 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div., talks about the different ways his unit patrols the marketplace during the second day of the Infantrymen's right-seat ride with the Cavalry.





Post news in brief

Labor Day refuse pickup:

The refuse pickup schedule will change on post Sept. 6-10 in observance of Labor Day. The schedule is:

- Sept. 6 — No pick up, federal holiday
- Sept. 7 — Colyer Manor, Main Post, Marshall Field
- Sept. 8 — Ellis Heights, O'Donnell Heights, Montieth Heights, Peterson Heights (north of Thomas Avenue), dumpsters at Buildings 27, 28, 45, 470, 540, 542 and 5309
- Sept. 9 — Warner Heights, and Burnside Heights (No change from regular schedule)
- Sept. 10 — Meade Heights, McClellan Heights, South Warner Heights, Peterson Heights (south of Thomas Avenue) (No change from regular schedule)

For more information, all Paul Cassella at Contract Inspection Branch, Directorate of Public Works, 239-6274.

CIF laundry service helps

The laundry drop off and pick up point for services provided by PENN Enterprise is located at Building 229 on Custer Avenue. Hours of operation are 7:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., Monday through Friday.

These services are offered to all military personnel for cleaning of most Central Issue Facility-issued items with a turn-around time of three days.

When a Soldier is clearing and presents their laundry receipt to CIF, the equipment will automatically be accepted.

E7 promotion board slated

The Fiscal Year 2005 Sergeant First Class Promotion Board will convene Nov. 2, according to Military Personnel Message 04-216.

Soldiers have until Oct. 15 to validate their Web Enlisted Record Brief, update their Official Military Personnel File, arrange for the post photo lab to take and submit a digital photo and have noncommissioned officer evaluation reports sent to the Enlisted Records Center.

Eligible NCOs should call 239-5218 or visit the 15th Personnel Support Battalion Customer Services Sections to schedule an appointment.

Salle named top employee

Clyde Sallee, installation biochemical testing coordinator, Army Substance Abuse Program, was named Coordinator of the Year by George



Clyde Sallee

Chagahls, director of the Army Center for Substance Abuse Programs. The honor was bestowed Aug. 2 during the 6th Annual ACSAP World-

wide Conference in Austin, Texas. Sallee competed against IBTC submissions from ASAPs worldwide.

The honor recognizes his exemplary performance, support of commanders in the administration of the Army drug testing program and oversight of the civilian drug testing program.

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.



1st BCT begins return to Riley

Staff Sgt. Timothy Tullberg kisses his wife, Donna, upon his return from Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The advanced party for the 1st Brigade Combat Team returned Wednesday.

Post/Bender

Ride continued from page 1

sive device near a Christian church and a mosque. Another VBIED had recently been detonated in the same location.

After responding to the false alarm, the two platoons ended the day's right-seat ride by conducting several snap traffic control

points — hastily formed checkpoints that last only a few minutes — at different areas in the 8th Bn.'s sector.

The following day, Blue Platoon escorted elements of 2nd Platoon and 1st Bn., 41st Inf. Commander LT. Col. David Batchelor on another right-seat

ride. The final day of the right-seat ride began at 9:30 a.m. Aug. 3 when the unit rolled out to finish the foot patrol in the marketplace that had been interrupted the day before.

The Cavalry patrol spent 45 minutes snaking through the

Union assists scholar

Staff report

The American Federation of Government Employees union at Fort Riley awarded a \$500 scholarship to Katie McCarrell Aug. 9.



Katie McCarrell

McCarrell planned to attend Cloud County Community College in Concordia beginning Aug. 17. She plans to get a bachelor of science degree and later specialize in physical therapy.

Losses continued from page 1

A, 1st Battalion, 34th Armor, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division.

He was commissioned in June 2002 and had been stationed at Fort Riley since March 2003. He deployed to Iraq in September 2003.

Shepherd was a Bradley commander with Fort Riley's Company A, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division.

He enlisted in the Army in July 2000 and had been stationed at Fort Riley since December 2000. He deployed to Iraq in September 2003.

Heath was an infantry Soldier with Company B, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division.

He enlisted in the Army in September 2001 and had been stationed at Fort Riley since March 2002. He deployed to support Operation Iraqi Freedom in June 2004. He had a previous tour in Iraq in 2003.

Memorial services for Santorriello and Shepherd are scheduled at Morris Hill Chapel at 11 a.m. Friday and 1:30 p.m. Monday, respectively.

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crowds single file, pausing once in a while to point something out to the Infantry Soldiers, before they returned to their vehicles.

The patrol returned to Camp Cuervo without further incidents.

For many of the Infantrymen, the right-seat ride provided the first opportunity to get on the

streets of Iraq since they arrived at Camp Victory North in mid-July.

Batchelor said his Soldiers experienced a rapid pre-deployment, "so for us, this right-seat ride is the most important component in preparing us to do our job, which we'll begin doing now in about a week," Batchelor said.





Post News in brief

ID card section restricts service

Due to upcoming mobilizations, the ID card section will not be accepting appointments or walk-ins on Aug. 24 and Sept. 2.

Emergencies, such as lost, stolen or expired cards, will be serviced on those days.

Point of contact for ID cards is 239-9202.

Unit conducts live-fire exercise

Nearby communities may notice increased noise activity on Fort Riley through Sept. 2.

The 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor, will take part in an on-post combined arms live-fire exercise Aug. 28-Sept. 2. The exercise will require additional artillery fire and possible support from the Air Force.

For more information, call 239-2022 during the duty day or the Fort Riley Operations Center at 239-2222 after hours.

Central Issue moves services

The Central Issue Facility has moved its OCIE issues, turn-ins and direct exchange services to Building 7920. With the new approach for issuing to Soldiers, CIF intends to reduce customer wait and service time.

Parking is provided in the rear of Building 7920. Carts are provided to Soldiers for issue and turn-ins. Carts also are available for Soldiers to carry their equipment to their vehicles.

Hours of operation are 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

For more information, call Mark Harder at 239-3554, Linwood Cromartie at 239-9181 or Buddy Christian at 239-2854.

Redeployment briefings slated

The following are the dates and times for the upcoming

redeployment briefings. Family members are being advised to contact their Family Readiness Group (FRG) leaders or their rear detachments if they have questions or to check on changes regarding their briefings and homecoming activities.

For information and assistance regarding FRG training, issues and concerns, call Sonya Brown or Pearl Speer at the Family Readiness Center, 239-9435.

All of the briefings will be held at the Soldier and Family Support Center, Building 7264. Free childcare will be provided. Sign-in is 15 minutes before the briefing. Parents must bring their child's short records.

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade Combat Team — 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Aug. 24

101st Forward Support Battalion and 331st Signal Company — 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Aug. 23

1st Engineer Battalion — 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Aug. 26 and 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Aug. 30

1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery — 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., Aug. 31; 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Sept. 1 and Sept. 2

1st Battalion, 16th Infantry — 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Aug. 26, 27 and 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Aug. 30

1st Battalion, 34th Armor — 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Sept. 8 and Sept. 9 and 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Sept. 10

Gate hours:

As of Aug. 4, access points to Fort Riley will be open according to the following schedule:

— Ogden, Trooper Drive and Henry Drive will be open 24 hours.

— Grant Avenue will be open 5 a.m. to 11 p.m., daily.

— Rifle Range Road will be open from 5 to 8 a.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m., daily.

— Estes Road will be open from 5 to 9:30 a.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

Infantry fires Bradleys

Gunnery cements crews' coherence as teams

Pfc. James Tamez
19th PAD

Soldiers in 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, conducted gunnery training at Range 18 Aug. 12.

The crews of the M2A2 Bradley Fighting Vehicles participate in this type of training to increase the abilities of the unit and to build trust within the individual crews.

"We're conducting Bradley Table VIII gunnery, which is the crew qualification," said Sgt. Scot Havir, "Bravo Section" leader in Company A's 1st Platoon. "This assesses how well the crews fire. We fire six engagements during the day and four engagements at night. You have to have seven passing grades to be a qualified crew and one of those has to be a nuclear, biological, chemical engagement."

The gunnery is part of a continuing training mission, Havir said. "Before we deployed out to the field, we were in the motor pool and we conducted ... Bradley Gunnery Assessment, which is prepping to come out here firing gunnery and making sure vehicles are working properly," Havir said. "Then we did some dry runs out here before starting to fire live ammo."

One purpose of this training is to ensure that a Bradley crew is capable of accomplishing its assigned mission.

"I'm the Bradley commander, so I have to give a fire command before the gunner fires on each target," Havir said. "You only have so long for the targets to be up and you only have so long to engage them. There's a lot of stuff going on up in that turret."

It helps the crew to practice and to be able to get to this point right here, Havir added. We just came off the range and you could tell from when we first started up until right now how everybody has improved."

Gunnery training helps to increase mission readiness and to build unity between the Soldiers in the crew, according to some company noncommissioned officers.



19th PAD/Tamez

Soldiers in 1st Bn., 41st Inf., fire a tracer round from their M242 25mm "Bushmaster" Chain Gun during Bradley Table VIII gunnery on Range 18.

"Gunnery is real good for team cohesion building," Havir said. "It builds a lot of confidence in the unit. It helps you to work with the driver and the gunner at the same time so that everybody gets on the same sheet of music. By the time we get to this table here most crews are right where they need to be."

This cohesiveness is especially important for new Soldiers joining the unit.

"We have a lot of new Soldiers," Havir said. "My gunner is a new Soldier. Once we got through all of the practice phases up to this, (it's like) he's been doing this his whole life."

"I've been in a Bradley for the past two months," said Spc. Tito Vazquez, a gunner with 1st Pltn. "Both the driver and the Bradley commander are experienced, so it's been a lot easier for me."

"This is my first time being in the commander's seat, but I've been a gunner and shot at many gunneries," Havir said. "It was easy to help him out and mentor him a bit. If he doesn't understand something, he asks and we help him out."

"We talk to each other and respond to each other, so it builds up cohesion. It gets you to react to different scenarios," Vazquez said.

JRTC

continued from page 1

Hall said it's a great challenge that the Soldiers of 2nd Bn., 34th Armor, have welcomed.

"The training has been great so far," Capt. Phillip M. LaCasse, battalion adjutant said. "We are accustomed to mounted force-on-force, so this training, which is focused on dismounted patrols, is new to us."

"We are doing section, platoon and company level training right now," he said. "It's training on tasks that we expect to see in the upcoming situational training exercises as well as what we expect to see in-country. We expect to learn a lot in this rotation and that is a very good thing."

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2,000 National Guard, Reserve Soldiers due

Trainers take mobilization in easy stride

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

Almost 2,000 National Guard and Reserve Soldiers from about 15 different units begin arriving at Fort Riley this month for mobilization in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

As a power projection platform, Fort Riley receives, trains and certifies the reserve components of the mid-western states for mobilization. The post has been doing that since 2001, said Dave Dawson, chief of mobilization and plans.

"Fort Riley has this down to a science," he said. "We have a good staff that understands the issues that arise when mobilizing units."

"We also have a good infra-

structure with the 3rd Brigade, 75th Division (Training Support). They have experience in training and they know what they need to do."

The 3rd Bde., 75th Div. (TS), plays a large roll in the mobilization training of Soldiers at Fort Riley and other power projection platforms across the United States.

"At Fort Riley, the 3rd Bde. provides collective force protection, convoy live fire and mission essential task list related training," said Maj. Steven Cruisenberry, 3rd Bde. operations officer.

"We also provide each mobilizing unit with an active duty unit mobilization assistant who is responsible for ensuring that each unit receives all of the necessary training, personnel and equipment it needs prior to deployment."

"In most cases the UMA has a long-term relationship with the unit that he supports and stays with the unit from the time it mobilizes until it deploys for war," he said.

With its many training facilities, ranges, military operations on urban terrain sites and is currently building a reserve component theater specific individual readiness training site at Camp Forsyth," he explained.

"The installation has plenty of training areas, ranges, military operations on urban terrain sites and is currently building a reserve component theater specific individual readiness training site at Camp Forsyth," he explained.

"Training is done by observer controller/trainers from 3rd Bde., 75th Div (TS). The OC/TS have a very large role in the training certification and validation process."

"The OC/TS train units on all of the theater specific collective tasks mandated by Forces Command and Fifth Army," Cruisenberry said.

"They also train the unit on (mission essential task list to ensure that the unit can conduct its in-theater mission. Along with the UMA, they coach, teach and mentor reserve component leaders and Soldiers through tough, realistic battle focused training," he said.



Post/Blackman

Armenians spend day at Fort Riley

Members of the Armenian military (left side) take a lunch break with their Fort Riley and Kansas Air National Guard escorts at the Devil's Den Aug. 4. The Armenian representatives took a tour of Fort Riley and observed gunnery exercises conducted by 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor, at the Multi-Purpose Range Complex.

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Commentary

Friday, August 20, 2004

Fort Riley Post

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Riley Roundtable

This week's question:

What kind of stories or information printed in the Post would make you want to pick up and read the paper each week?



"Accurate and up-to-date information about unit deployments and current news about Fort Riley units deployed. Information about developments and on tempo is the most important news. Everybody's interested in what 3rd Brigade is going to do. More information about current projects, such as the barracks construction and housing."

Capt. Shy Warner
Commander,
596th Signal Company
Home: Anchorage, Alaska

This Army spouse lives in Enterprise and said she gets the paper if her husband brings a copy home.

"I would want information about all garage sales."

Mariah Allen
Husband assigned to HHC,
24th Inf. Div.
Home: Denver, Colo.
(Born in Amarillo, Texas)



"Things young kids can do, especially toddlers. I have a 2-year-old son. I've heard about library hour at Manhattan library and swimming lessons offered at Kansas State University but would like to have an easy way to find out about such things."

2nd Lt. Kimberly Rosenbaum,
Nurse
USA Medical Department Activity
Home: Seminole, Fla.

This man and his wife were visiting his children stationed at Fort Riley. He didn't know the Post could be found online.

"Now that I know, I would check it regularly for anything about the post, Soldier movements. I'd like to know what's going on with my kids."

Michael Bowers
Social service office manager
Kern Regional Center
Home: Bishop, Calif.



Letter to the editor:

A "lost and found" area should be included on the Fort Riley Web site. Kids lay bikes out and about, sometimes where they could be construed as garbage to be picked up by the garbage man. Some may want a way to get these items back.

In my case, we had a cat get out and he's disappeared. We've done all the normal things to include drive-arounds on post, to no avail. We asked around and I called the only cable TV service on post and was told they offer "nothing like that."

I have a 10-year-old who is constantly looking for the cat. We want him back. I realize not everyone looks at the Fort Riley Web site, but a lost and found section could be helpful. It might be helpful to the MPs. They might want to get found items back to their rightful owners.

Carol Koonce
Fort Riley

Next week's question:

Soldiers in Iraq offer their advice to deploying Soldiers. E-mail your advice to mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil

Review safety tips with your children

School Safety

By Tasha Jones
Safety Division

This is one of the most chaotic and stressful times of the year for parents and children alike. With school just around the corner the post Safety Office can assist you in reviewing safety and school rules with your children.

It's important they understand how to safely board and exit the school bus, cross the street before and after school, walk and bike to school, and the importance of wearing a seat belt when riding in a car.

It's a fact that school buses are safer than cars. However, according to a national survey done last year, about 26 students were killed and another 9,000 were injured in incidents involving school buses. These deaths and



Tasha Jones

injuries weren't all related to crashes. Many occurred as students entered and exited the bus (slips, trips and falls).

Here are some safety tips to consider:
* Have a safe place to wait for the bus, away from traffic and the street.
* Do not approach the bus until it's completely stopped and the driver tells you to enter.
* Use the handrail to enter and exit the bus.
* Never horseplay or rough-house on the bus. Always stay in

your seat with your seat belt on.

* At time of drop off, exit the bus and take five giant steps away from the bus. Never walk alongside the bus; the driver cannot see you. If you have to cross the street, take 10 giant steps and cross in front of the bus.

When walking or biking to school:

* Obey the crossing guard and all traffic signals. Never cross against the light, even if there is no traffic.

* Walk your bike through the intersection.

* Wear reflective clothing (vests, straps), head protection and protective gear.

* Never get in a car with a stranger or friend if your parents have not directed you to do so.

It's been statistically proven that most accidents occur fewer than 15 miles from home. Seat belts are the best forms of protec-

tion occupants have in a vehicle. You are four times more likely to be seriously injured or ejected from a vehicle without the restraint of a safety belt.

Take special precaution this season. Slow down. A national survey by the National Safe Kids Campaign revealed that the majority of motor vehicles traveling in school zones exceeded the posted speed.

Be aware and safe in school zones. Children by nature are unpredictable. Expect the unexpected. An approaching car will prompt a child to run faster across the street rather than stay on the curb.

The combination of kids, buses and other cars create a hectic atmosphere. Let's stop the No. 1 killer of our children, "unintentional injury." Let's have another successful and safe school year.

New moves set stage for stronger force

Force Transformation

By R.L. Brownlee and
Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker

WASHINGTON -- The last few weeks have seen a lot of discussion -- much of it confusing or inaccurate -- about the condition and future readiness of the U.S. Army.

No one disputes that there are strains on certain segments of our armed forces. A solution some offer is to increase the permanent end strength of our Army, but simply adding to the total number of people in uniform does not really get to the heart of the problem.

Today our Army has a total force of more than 1 million Soldiers, yet the vast majority of our Army is not deployed. About 125,000 -- or less than 12 percent of the total force -- support operations in Iraq or Afghanistan.

In fact, 123,000 members of the 350,000-strong Army National Guard have not been called up.

Overall, 270,000 Soldiers are forward deployed in more than 120 countries. With a total force in excess of 1 million, this should not stretch the force; yet, it does. The strain on the force is caused by a force structure that was built for the Cold War. The solution to the problem is to create the right number of deployable Soldiers with the right skills in the right component.

This is why Army transformation is so critical. Army transfor-

mation is proceeding along three main avenues.

First, we are restructuring the force into modular formations with the right capabilities for our current and future security environment. This restructuring increases the number of active-duty combat brigades from 33 to 43 or more, using a combination of new recruits and Soldiers drawn from other parts of our Army. Our goal is an Army with more cohesive and combat-ready formations.

Second, we are stabilizing the force with initiatives that will eventually allow most Soldiers to remain based at a single installation for longer periods of time. Stabilization will yield a more predictable lifestyle for our Soldiers and their families.

Third, we are rebalancing our force between the active component of the Army, the Army National Guard and the Army Reserve. This initiative will give our Army more troops available with the skills we need to fight the Global War on Terrorism.

The Department of Defense is expanding our active Army rapidly without sacrificing standards or quality, using emergency authorities. We plan to grow the active component of the Army by 30,000 troops during the next three years.

It is important to note the difference between growing our Army -- a temporary measure granted under the Global War on Terrorism authorities and paid for with supplemental dollars -- and increasing permanent end strength.

A mandated increase in permanent end strength means that the U.S. Army would be required by law to maintain tens of thousands of additional troops on the payrolls, regardless of the need or the cost, and pay for them out of the Army's core budget. A mandated increase in permanent end strength would take away dollars needed for current and future programs and threaten our transformation.

We are already growing our

Army about as fast as we can. Our Soldiers are highly skilled and well trained, and it takes time and a significant training base to develop them. This deliberate growth will allow us to transform our Army in a way that gets at the heart of the problem, relieves the stress on the force and does not sacrifice our Army's future.

Transforming the force while fighting in Iraq, Afghanistan and other theaters in the war on terror is a tough management and leadership challenge. It is not unlike tuning an engine while the car is moving -- complex and potentially dangerous.

When large organizations face demanding new circumstances,

they must change to meet those challenges. Our circumstances today, as an Army serving our nation at war, are providing a tremendous strategic opportunity. The convergence of our current momentum, our focus and the increased resources provided by Congress, over our core budget, in this time of war provide an opportunity for change that we cannot afford to miss.

Simply stated, we have an ambitious task ahead, but with the continued support of the American people, we will get it done.

R.L. Brownlee is the acting secretary of the Army. Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker is chief of staff of the Army.

Grunt By Wayne Ulden



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Your opinion is important to the Post editor and staff. Please take a moment to tell us how well we are doing our job of keeping you informed about what is happening at Fort Riley. Fax the form to (785) 239-2592 or clip and mail this form to Editor, Public Affairs Office, Building 405, Fort Riley, KS 66442, or drop the form at building 405. You may also send your opinions to the staff by e-mail at mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil.

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Chaplain moves from mountain to prairie

Anticipated three-year tour of duty turns into career ministering to U.S. servicemembers



By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

Chap. (Lt. Col.)(P) Ken Sampson assumed responsibilities as post chaplain at Fort Riley earlier this month.

A native of Inglewood, Calif., Sampson is an ordained pastor in the Reformed Church of America. He comes to Fort Riley from Fort Drum, N.Y., where he was chaplain for the 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry). Much of his time with the 10th Mountain Div. was spent in Afghanistan.

Sampson joined the Army 21 years ago after responding to a newspaper ad in Brewton, Ala., where he was teacher at Southern Normal School.

"An ad in the newspaper said there was a desperate need for Army chaplains," Sampson said. "So it was in response to that ad that I chose to serve my country. We originally thought it would only be three years and then we would go to some regular type church work. We had such a positive experience ... that it seemed the Lord was meshing the gifts that we had with the needs of the Army."

After many years in the Army, Sampson still enjoys military service on many levels.

"It's a calling and a fulfillment in that calling," he said. "You have an energy for the work that you do. I am still physically able to do the work and with that all coming together, it's a great fulfillment."

While he has had a number of enjoyable experiences in his career, Sampson said one of the best was his time with 1st Brigade, 506th Infantry Battalion, at Camp Greaves, Korea.

"We were all geographical bachelors and in the chapels it was like we were feeding off each other's spiritual strength," he explained.

As post chaplain, Sampson will oversee the entire religious support program at Fort Riley. He also will be working with the National Guard and Reserve component chaplains as they come through Fort Riley during the mobilization process. Working with the families of Soldiers deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom will also be a big part of his job.

In addition to his duties as post

chaplain, Sampson said he plans to keep in contact with Soldiers.

"I still want to keep hands on by doing some preaching and pastoral work within headquarters," Sampson said. "I also still hope to be able to [do physical training] with Soldiers."

Besides PT, Sampson has several ways of keeping in touch with Soldiers and their families.

"In the past what I have done is on Sunday nights, write up a spiritual thought," he said. "Then I go around to the [Military Police] and Soldiers on staff duty and see what's going on while I hand out the week's spiritual thought."

"My wife and I are also going around to all the different chapels ... to kind of get to know the congregations that way. It's a good way to keep in touch with what's going on with Soldiers and their families. In the past I have also played softball."

Sampson said he is looking forward to many things during his time at Fort Riley. He said he wants to see the training that chaplains and chaplain assistants do as well as the enhanced brigades.

"I look forward to finding ways

that my wife and I can encourage and bolster these chaplains and chaplain's assistants in their work, because there is a lot of great work that is going on. Also, I have found great satisfaction in having a good plan in place and then watching that plan executed. That is also something I look forward to."

Sampson said that the welcome he and his wife, Kate, have received has been overwhelmingly positive.

"My wife and I are in this

together," he said. "It has been an honor to be welcomed here at Fort Riley. The graciousness of so many people welcoming us has been a privilege for us ..."

"The mission of Fort Riley with the active component and reserve component is to support the Global War on Terrorism. The sacrifices that these families make are far out of the ordinary compared to the general American population. It is such a great privilege to be here and serve at this post," he said.

Post/Bender
Chap. (Lt. Col.)(P) Ken Sampson, an ordained pastor in the Reformed Church of America, is now the Fort Riley Post Chaplain. He comes to Fort Riley from Fort Drum, N. Y., where he was chaplain for the 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry).

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Units of action get modular barracks

By Jim Cunningham
Army News Service

WASHINGTON -- When the 3rd Infantry Division at Fort

Stewart, Ga., began organizing a fourth brigade-sized unit of action, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers rushed to build facilities for the new unit. "We're involved in Savannah District with short-term impacts on some of the reconfiguration of the Army," said Dwight Beranek, deputy director of military programs for the Corps of Engineers, "and need to use temporary or

semi-permanent construction in a hurry to respond to the remodeling of the Army."

On May 25, the Corps awarded Clark Design/Build, LLS a \$73.6 million emergency funded contract for the design, site development and construction of a modular barracks campus.

The site will include laundry facilities, battalion headquarters, company operations, arms vaults and vehicle maintenance facilities for three battalions (852 Soldiers) at Fort Stewart.

In 142 days of near round-the-clock activity, construction workers are clearing forestland, installing underground utilities and piecing together the buildings.

The first of 142 custom modular barracks were delivered on June 30, just 20 days after the design layout and construction requirements were approved.

At peak delivery points, 12 trailer sections per day will be received and set to meet the completion schedule. "This is the most aggressive schedule I've encountered in my 24 years with Clark," said Dave Young, the on-site Construction Executive.

The buildings fit together to form three private rooms with a shared bath and a shared kitchenette, according to Judy Milton, Savannah's lead architect on the project. Similar modular build-

ings piece together to form brigade or company headquarters, maintenance and other facilities.

As Army needs change, the buildings can be modified at a much lower cost than traditional construction.

This modular project cost \$73.6 million, compared to an estimated \$140 million for traditional construction.

The project can be finished and ready to house troops in weeks instead of years, according to Tim Corley, the project manager.

Modular construction like this project at Fort Stewart may be used elsewhere in the Army to fill gaps in construction due to the rapid changes needed to fight the Global War on Terrorism, officials said.

They said the speed of construction makes the design highly responsive to the needs of the Army.

"Because now that you have

more brigades, you have more brigade headquarters," Beranek said.

"You're going to need more administrative facilities. You also have to think of the way the Army is being reorganized and put into place," he said.

Another factor is restationing troops returning from overseas, either from temporary deployments or from the drawdown of forces based in other nations.

Modularity allows the Army to become a flexible, expeditionary force. The Corps' new modular construction allows the Army to house that force.

Jim Cunningham edits Castle magazine for the Savannah District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Bernard Tate with the Corps' headquarters PAO and John Barotti of Clark Design/Build LLC contributed to this article.



ANS/Jordan

Above: An aerial view shows the modular barracks as they appeared at Fort Stewart July 14. Below: This interior view of a barracks unit shows the kitchen area which comes pre-assembled.

\$80M

continued from page 1

down at Fort Riley," McGee said. "Right now there is no permanent construction programmed with this stationing action."

McGee said Public Works does not have any specifics on the projects to date.

"We are still waiting on information on the densities of equipment and structures of the actual units within the brigade," he said.



ANS/Jordan

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Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

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Page 9

Sports news in brief

Fans invited to pep rally

Kansas State University fans are invited to help kick off the 2004 K-State football season with the annual Purple Power Play on Poyritz from 4 to 9 p.m., Sept. 2-3. A variety of live entertainment, games, activities and giveaways are scheduled to fill downtown Manhattan.

MPs sponsor fishing tournament

The 300th Military Police Company at Fort Riley will host a "Welcome Back from Iraq Fishing Tournament" from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sept. 3 at Milford Lake. Entry fee for adults over 18 years old is \$10 (\$12 for entry after Aug. 21); \$5 for children and \$20 for families of three or more people. Trophies will be awarded to anglers who catch the heaviest fish, longest fish and largest stringer of fish. Other prizes include rods and reels, lures, hats and discount certificates. Proceeds will benefit the 924th Military Police Ball. For more information, call 210-6314 or send e-mail to jammer0713@aol.com.

River trip slated on Big Blue

Fort Riley's Outdoor Recreation Center will sponsor a canoe trip on the Kansas River from where the U.S. Highway 24 bridge crosses the Big Blue River to St. George Aug. 28. The planned river trip is expected to take from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Participants will leave from and return to the Outdoor Recreation Center. The cost of \$15 per person includes canoe, paddles, life jacket and transportation to and from the river. Participants must provide their lunch and drink. For more information or to register, stop by the center at 9011 Rifle Range Road or call 239-2363.

KSU Wildcats slate fan day

Kansas State University football's 2004 Fan Appreciation Day will be Aug. 25, at KSU Stadium. Fans attending will be asked to park in the west lot of the stadium. Parking lot gates will open at 3:30 p.m. Free hot dogs will be provided to the first 1,200 fans. A limited number of 2004 K-State football posters will also be available. Access to the stadium will be from the west side only, beginning at 5 p.m., when gates will be opened for fans to enter and view practice. Fans will not be allowed to have still or video cameras during the practice session.

Olympic tally:

Spe. Hattie Johnson finished in a five-way tie for 14th among 44 shooters in the 10-meter air rifle competition Aug. 14. Army Reserve Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Callahan finished in a tie for 30th in the women's 10-meter air pistol competition Aug. 15. Army Sgt. 1st Class Daryl Szarenski finished in a four-way tie for 13th place in the men's 10-meter air pistol event Aug. 14.

Eight runners picked for team

By J.D. Hardesty
Staff writer

Eight Fort Riley Soldiers have been named to the post's team that will compete in at the Army 10-miler race in Washington, D.C. The race, run annually in the nation's capitol, is a kick-off to the events surrounding the Association of the United States Army's annual convention.

Two runners on this year's post team raced with last year's six-person team that finished in 10th place in the mixed-team category with a time of 4:21:43. Capt. Janine Taylor, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division (Mech), and Sgt. 1st Class Michael Adams, 3rd Brigade, 75th Division, give the post's 10-mile team some racing experience.

In addition to Taylor and Adams, a third Soldier, Spc. Francisco Rubalcava of Company A, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, qualified for the 2003 team. His unit deployed to Iraq before he could compete with the team in Washington. Jan Bradford, sports coordinator for the Directorate of Morale, Recreation and Welfare, said Rubalcava ran a qualifying race while serving in Iraq and has

been added to this year's team. Selected for their times in the 10-mile Prairie Run at Fort Riley July 24, Staff Sgt. Lisa Smith of 101st Forward Support Battalion; Capt. Centrell Watson of HHC, 24th Inf. Div. (Mech); 1st Lt. Rochelle Nisbett of HHC, 1st Engineer Battalion; Sgt. Jonathan Newlin of 977th Military Police Company; and Maj. Jose Aguilar of 937th Engineer Group round

out the Fort Riley team. "I don't have a good idea of how well we'll do this year," Adams said. "We are meeting to set up a training schedule for the next two months. We should be able to slice a minute or so off our times to be more competitive."

Adams will be competing in the Army 10-Miler for the fifth

See Runners, Page 10

Trophy dance



Players on the 924th MP Bn. team celebrate winning the battalion level slow-pitch softball tournament with trophy held high by Coach Kevin Camarata Aug. 14. The MPs defeated 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) in their third meeting of the tournament.

Post/Blackmon

MPs defeat Infantry for tourney title

By April Blackmon
Staff writer

The No. 1 and No. 2 seeds in the post's battalion level slow-pitch softball tournament played each other three times Aug. 14 before the 924th Military Police Battalion finally claimed the trophy and title over 24th Infantry Division (Mech).

Four battalion-level teams entered the championship tournament. The league's championship team, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, could not play because it is deployed for training at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La.

Two other teams, 70th Engineer Battalion and 125th Forward Support Battalion, also

were unable to play in the tournament.

The MPs defeated 24th Inf. Div. 20-7 in their first game. The 24th Inf. Div. rallied in the loser's bracket to defeat 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery, 17-4 and earn a trip to the semifinals.

The Infantry tasted some sweet revenge in the semifinal game, locking up the MPs 9-8 and forcing another showdown between the two powerhouses.

The MPs took a 2-1 lead in the first inning of the final game but the Infantry scored a run in the second inning and four more in the third to take a 6-2 lead about halfway through the game.

Nathon Holdbaugh hit a three-run homer in the bottom of the third to bring the MPs

within one point of the Infantry but the Infantry attacked with three runs of its own in the top of the fourth to expand their lead to 9-5.

The MPs took advantage of two Infantry errors in the bottom of the fifth and scored five runs to take the lead, 11-9. With two more MP runs in the sixth, the Infantry's two-run seventh inning wasn't enough to come back, and the MPs jailed the 24th Inf. Div. players to claim the championship 13-11.

"To me, it was the best championships we could have. It wasn't decided until the end. It's great to play a team like that," said MP Coach Kevin Camarata. "It felt good to win. Everyone was excited about it. We knew 24th ID was the team to beat."

Game results

- Game 1: 4th Bn., 1st FA, wins by forfeit against 70th Eng. Bn.
- Game 2: USA MEDDAC wins by forfeit against 125th FSB
- Game 3: 24th Inf. Div. defeats 4th Bn., 1st FA, 14-2
- Game 4: 924th MP defeats USA MEDDAC, 13-12
- Game 5: 4th Bn., 1st FA, wins by forfeit against 125th FSB
- Game 6: USA MEDDAC wins by forfeit against 70th Eng. Bn.
- Game 7: 924th MP defeats 24th Inf. Div., 20-7
- Game 8: 4th Bn., 1st FA, defeats USA MEDDAC, 22-9
- Game 9: 24th Inf. Div. defeats 4th Bn., 1st FA, 17-4
- Semifinals: 24th Inf. Div. defeats 924th MP, 9-8
- Finals: 924th MP defeats 24th Inf. Div., 13-11

Annual race adds runners

20,000 possible for 10-mile run

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army Ten-Miler increases to a field of 20,000 runners this year and nearly half that number is already registered for the Oct. 24 race.

Entries totaled 9,700 after the July 4 weekend and race officials said there is an indeterminate time left to sign up. Registration is over when the meter hits 20,000. Officials expect entries to reach that limit well before the Sept. 17 calendar deadline.

It will be the 20th year for America's largest 10-mile race. The run begins at the Pentagon, winds through Washington, D.C., and returns to the five-side headquarters of the U.S. military.

"I'm not sure how many Army Ten-Milers I've run, but it has to be close to 10 with my first race being either 1987 or 1988," said Lt. Col. Dick Kuehl. "The competition has really improved. In the '80s, my 55:12 finish time placed me in the top 35. In 1995, my 55:20 time placed me only in the top 100."

"Each year I see many of my old teammates," said Kuehl, an executive officer and military assistant in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army. In the past, he has run on teams representing Fort Harrison, Ind.; Fort Campbell, Ky.; Eighth Army in Korea; Fort Bragg, N.C.; the Military District of Washington (the race's host), and the Pentagon.

Leslie Higgins, a Floridian, registered for the upcoming race. Higgins had never heard of the Army Ten-Miler until this year, but said she already feels a connection to the race. Higgins served in the Women's Army Corps in World War II. At 79, Higgins trains 30 miles a week including three days of seven-mile workouts and a 10-mile run on the weekends.

In 1998, elite track star Alisa Harvey of Manassas, Va., ran her first Army Ten-Miler. She won the

See 10-Miler, Page 10

Elk herd thriving for hunting, just seeing



Alan Hynek

By Alan Hynek
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
DES, Conservation Division

More than 15 years have past since Elk were first reintroduced onto Fort Riley. During that time, the elk herd has evolved to become a symbol of Fort Riley, a symbol that has restored a native component to the Kansas Flint Hills. For those who have experienced the elk firsthand, it is a sight

they most likely will never forget. Elk were always a part of the Great Plains. Literary records indicate that herds numbering in the thousands could be found in Kansas through mid-1800s. It is fascinating to imagine what herds numbering thousands of elk must have looked like on the plains of Kansas.

On the Wildside: News About Nature

Elk as well as bison were critical to the survival of Native Americans and to the early settlers. They were a source of tools, food, shelter and clothing. At the turn of the century, they were completely gone.

Then, in 1981, the first free-ranging elk were reintroduced to the state at the Cimarron National Grassland in

southwest Kansas. The herd in this extreme corner of the state grew steadily through the early 1990s to about 200 animals. However, the elk began to migrate into the states of Oklahoma and Colorado. Efforts to keep the elk on the National Grassland failed and a hunting program aimed at reducing their numbers was implemented. About 50 elk remain on Cimarron Grasslands today.

See Elk, Page 10



Sports news in brief

Rally Point golf tourney set

Rally Point and Custer Hill Golf Course will be combining for a day of fun, sun and golf Aug. 28.

Golfers can register now for the Rally Point Golf Tournament that opens with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. that Saturday.

The two-person scramble costs \$40 per person to enter. Prizes will be awarded for golfers getting closest to the pin, hitting the longest drive and sinking the longest putt.

Two Mulligans can be purchased for \$5 and five Mulligans for \$10.

The awards ceremony will be held at Rally Point and will include a pizza buffet and bar drinks available.

For more information, call Rally Point at 784-5434.

NAIA endorses Wheat Bowl

The Wheat Bowl opens the Kansas football season at the Ellinwood (Kan.) Sports Complex at 6 p.m. Aug. 27 and 28.

It is the only pre-season football classic endorsed by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

For more information, call (620) 564-3359 or visit www.wheatbowl.com on the Web.

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Runners

consecutive year. He represented Fort Gordon, Ga., in 2002 and 2000 and Fort Hood, Texas, in 1999.

"Looking at the team's cumulative results from the qualifying race, we should be as competitive as last year's team," he said.

Taylor and Adams have shaved minutes off their 2003 qualifying times. Taylor finished this year's race in 1:17:02, cutting six and a half minutes off her time. Adams slipped under one hour for the 10-mile race, finishing at 59:50, two minutes better than his '03 qualifying time.

In 2003, 117 mixed teams participated in the event with runners from Fort Sam Houston, Texas, claiming victory in a time of

10-Miler

women's title that year and again in 1999 and 2003.

"For me, there are a couple of reasons why I like to run the Army race," said Harvey, one of the nation's top 800-meter runners in the 1990s.

"The main one for me is the time of the year. Summer racing is over and it's starting to cool in October. The other reason is location," she said.

Harvey has benefited greatly over the years from a huge fan base that easily recognizes her on the course, a fact not lost on her. "The turnouts are huge," she pointed out.

"You are running around scenic Washington. It's not just a race — it's an event. It is a very popular, well-organized event," she added.

"The other Army Ten-Miler

3:52:16 - more than 12 minutes ahead of the second-place finishers from Fort Polk, La. The winning time is determined by taking the fastest four times for the mixed team. Those times could be made by three men and a woman or three women and a man.

In all, an estimated 20,000 runners representing racers in individual or team categories will vie in the 10-mile race that starts and finishes at the Pentagon.

Fort Riley has sent a 10-miler team to run in the race every year since 1985.

The only exception was in 2001, when the race was cancelled because of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City.

that was memorable was last year, when I ran in such pain," she said.

"I strained my foot on the track a week before and I tried to cancel but I just couldn't. Harvey ran with the pain and held on to win the 2003 women's title in 59:29.

Harvey will be back in 2004 to defend her title, and someone else with three victories in the race is weighing an invitation to return. In the late '80s, local Washington, D.C., running star Darrell General could have won nearly any race in the region.

In 1987, General was just 21 years old and training to qualify for the U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials.

He decided to run the Army Ten-Miler and won the race in 49:44. General would go on to win again in 1988 and 1991.



A small group of elk, including a couple of young animals, watch cautiously as a photographer takes their picture at Fort Riley.
DES/Suleman

Elk

The Fort Riley herd was started in 1986 with 12 elk being released from the Maxwell Game Preserve near McPherson, Kan.

Supplemental stockings in 1987, 1988, 1990 and 1994 released a total of 47 elk from Colorado, Montana and South Dakota. Most releases occurred in the vicinity of the Madison Creek area on Fort Riley. For several years, the released animals and their offspring stayed in that area.

The Fort Riley herd grew to about 250 animals by 1998, when a herd reduction program was

administered by Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks to reduce conflicts with private landowners. The current population on Fort Riley is about 125 animals.

The elk herd offers a diversion to residents who like to hunt, take photographs or just view them in the open prairie.

Elk can be found throughout Fort Riley but are most likely found in the northern half of the installation.

To hunt elk on Fort Riley, you would first have to be real lucky.

State of Kansas elk permits are granted through a lottery drawing with plenty of competition. Even though your chance of an elk tag is extremely low, there are many other ways to enjoy the elk herd.

You do not need a permit to photograph or view the elk. However, you do need to be aware of current access restrictions on Fort Riley.

For more information, call the Conservation Office at 239-6211, or visit the Fort Riley Web page at <http://www.riley.army.mil/Recreation/Outdoor/>.

Check out the Post online at www.riley.army.mil

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Sports news in brief

ITR offers Wildcat tickets

The Information, Ticketing and Registration office at Fort Riley is selling discount tickets for Fort Riley Day at Kansas State University Sept. 11, when the Wildcats play Fresno State.

Tickets for Soldiers, their families and Department of the Army civilians cost \$19.

For more information, call Teresa Mayes at 239-5614.

Royals slate military day

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.

To buy tickets, call ITR at 239-5614 or 239-4415. Tickets for other Chiefs' games are available through ITR.

Rain dampens company league play

Staff report

Rain dampened softball play Aug. 10, resulting in six game cancellations. Of the teams that played, four went undefeated Aug. 10 and 12.

Battery C, 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery, defeated Detachment D, 15th Personnel Support Battalion, 14-13 and Btry. B, 4th Bn., 1st FA, 10-3 Aug. 10. They beat 24th Transportation Company 12-0 Aug. 12.

The 300th Military Police Company pounded 24th Trans. Co. 21-4 and defeated Btry. B, 4th Bn., 1st FA, 14-11 Aug. 12.

The 342nd Military Police Company defeated the Medical Department Activity team 10-3 Aug. 10 and won 14-0 against

24th Trans. Co. Aug. 12.

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division (Mech), defeated 24th Trans. Co. 18-6 and Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 4th Bn., 1st FA, 8-6 Aug. 10. They crushed 568th Combat Support Equipment 13-1 Aug. 12.

The 596th Signal Company team forfeited their games against the 977th Military Police Company Aug. 10 and the Medics and HHC, 24th Inf. Div., Aug. 12.

In other games Aug. 12:

The Medics defeated 568th CSE 16-12.

The 568th CSE beat 977th MPs 11-10.

The 977th MPs bounced back to defeat the 523rd MPs 7-5.



Jared Bosman, Det. D, 15th PSB, drops the ball as he tries to tag Kerney Day, Btry. C, 4th Bn., 1st FA, at third base in company level slow-pitch softball league play Aug. 10. Post/Blackmon

Army lab tackles stress fracture problems

By Curt Biberdorf Special to AFPS

NATICK, Mass. — Stress fractures caused by repetitive pounding activities of physical training take a toll on enough of the military population, specifically recruits, that a major research program called "Bone Health and Medical Military Readiness" was started in 1997 to solve the problem.

With a collection of the latest research tools acquired in the past year, the U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine's bone health and metabolic

laboratory at the U.S. Army Soldier Systems Center in Natick, Mass., is ready to examine its piece of the puzzle.

"The goal of the whole program is to ultimately eliminate stress fractures," said Maj. Rachel Evans, a research physical therapist and director of bone health research. "Stress fracture cases have been reported since the late 1800s and today are one of the most common and potentially debilitating overuse injuries seen in military recruits, particularly in women."

Stress fractures are overuse injuries that occur when muscles transfer the overload of strain to

the bone, most commonly in the lower leg, and cause a tiny crack. They're tricky to see on X-rays and they disrupt physical training, sidelining troops while costing the Defense Department as much as \$100 million annually in medical costs and lost duty time, according to Evans.

Col. Karl Friedl, USARIEM commander, led a study on bone health earlier in his career at Fort Lewis, Wash., and said the understanding of bone physiology is significantly advancing and has widespread ramifications on health.

"There has been no program in the DoD that paid attention to

bone health in the past," Friedl said. "Anything we can provide has the potential to save millions of dollars and enhance readiness through reduction in lost duty time, attrition from the military and medical cost avoidance."

Noninvasive methods of studying bone health at USARIEM started in the early 1990s with the first dual energy X-ray absorptiometry machine to measure bone density. The older DEXA machines have been superseded by the superior software and scanning times in a new Prodigy fan-beam bone densitometer, according to Robert Mello, a research physiologist and the lab director.

The Prodigy scans total body bone density in 5-inch instead of 1-inch increments, increasing precision. Improved software provides a clearer picture of total body composition and bone mineral density.

While the Prodigy gives a front-to-back, two-dimensional view, the peripheral quantitative tomography machine allows researchers to analyze 3-D cross sections of spongy and outer bone. It's designed to reconstruct a volumetric model of bone, from which bone density, and for the first time, bone geometry can be determined, Evans said.

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Fort Riley Community Life

Community news briefly

Latinos host tournament

The Geary County Latino Organization invites interested players to compete in a Kansas Championship Dominoes Tournament Sept. 4 at the Super 8 Motel, 1001 E. Sixth St. in Junction City.

Single entries for organization members will cost \$20 (a partner will be selected by draw). Teams of two players who are organization members can enter for \$40. Non-member entry fees for single players will be \$20 and non-member teams can enter for \$40.

Entry fees must be paid by check of money order and sent to Geary County Latino Organization, Inc., P.O. Box 3091, Junction City, KS 66441. Cash entry fees may be made in person at the Geary County Convention and Visitors Bureau, 425 North Washington St. in Junction City. The CVB is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Partner draws will begin at 7:30 a.m. and the tournament will begin at 9 a.m.

Marriage workshop set

The Command Chaplain's Office is sponsoring a marriage workshop, "Fighting for Your Marriage," from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 28 at Morris Hill Chapel.

It will include practical teachings that will encourage and equip marriages to deal with the many challenges facing Army couples.

Topics to be discussed will include parenting, dealing with stress and conflict management.

The workshop is free, but participants must pre-register to take advantage of the free lunch and childcare.

For more information, contact Don Ericson at 239-0979 or send e-mail to don.ericson@riley.army.mil.

Class offers parenting help

"Dads in the 21st Century," a six-session class designed to give men techniques that could help them be better dads, begins Aug. 24 at the Family Network Learning Center, Room B107, in the Junction City Municipal Building, 700 N. Jefferson St.

The class runs from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Aug. 31 and Sept. 7, 14, 21 and 28. The Aug. 24 meeting begins with a free meal at 6 p.m. Free childcare also will be provided.

To register or for more information, call the Communities in School Office at 238-6184.

Service needs musicians

The Contemporary Protestant Service on Fort Riley needs a drummer and an electric guitar player.

The service meets in Kapanan Chapel at 11 a.m. Sundays.

Rehearsals are 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Sunday mornings before service.

If interested, call Chap. (Maj.) James Paulson at 239-3359.

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.

BOSS seeks 'Gong Show' talent

Soldiers, civilian employees, family members given chance to perform

By J.D. Hardesty
Staff writer

"From Hollywood, almost live, it's 'The Gong Show!'"

While it may not be from Hollywood, Fort Riley's version of the late-'70s hit syndicated television show featuring Chuck Barris will be held live at 9 p.m. Aug. 27 at Rally Point on Trooper Drive.

Opportunities for Single Soldiers, "Gong Show" Night is open to everyone - Soldiers, Department of the Army civilians and family members. Ten competitors have already pre-registered for the event.

Pre-registration is not required. Anyone wanting to show off his or her talents may register on a first-come, first-serve basis the evening of the show.

Admission is free for contestants and the audience.

First-place prize will be a \$125 gift certificate. Second- and third-place prizes will be \$75 and \$50, respectively. Additionally, door prizes will be given away to those who attend.

"Singers, dancers, musicians, comics, jugglers - anyone with talent -- is welcome to participate," said Spc. Jason Dunlap, BOSS coordinator for the event.

"Even those who aren't so talent-

ed are invited to step up on stage."

One talent-challenged act that frequented the hit show's four-year run on TV was "The Unknown Comic," a man with a paper bag over his head who told rotten jokes and was often a guest performer. Comedian Murray Langston, who made a career of playing this character, played Mr. Unknown.

Karaoke musical support will be available for singers. Each

contestant is limited to one, three-minute act.

"We've never done this before," Dunlap said. "Unit representatives from the BOSS council selected this venue."

Participants may request their performance be taped for submission to Army entertainment for future Department of Army events.

For more information, call Dunlap at 239-8147.

Class act



Students at Fort Riley Middle School gather for the first day of school Monday morning.

Post/Bender

Students return to post schools

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

With a combination of enthusiasm and trepidation, Fort Riley students headed back to school Aug. 16.

Leaving behind summer activities such as camp and family vacations provided a few reasons some students were hesitant to return to classes and homework. For many others, the lazy days of summer were becoming boring and they looked forward to seeing old friends and making new ones.

"I was excited to start school again and a little disappointed too," said Brittany Litter, a sixth-grader at Fort Riley Middle School. "I didn't want to leave Virginia Beach, but I was happy to start middle school. It's cool to have lots of different teachers."

Heather Leturgez, an eighth-grader at the school, said she was happy to get back to school and has much to look forward to. "I was getting bored," she said. "The first day went great. I'm looking forward to going on a canoe trip at the end of the year for [physical education] class."

Cody Stockton, a seventh-grader at FRMS, spent his summer surfing, skate-

boarding and hanging out with his cousins. He said his first day back at school was a little nerve-wracking.

"I couldn't get my locker open," he explained. "It was just frustrating."

Cody's mother, Laura Kubik, said she was glad to have her son back in classes.

"I'm glad he'll be learning," she said. "He needs to take every chance to get ahead."



While Aug. 16 was the first day of school for students, the teachers have been preparing to open classroom doors for a few weeks.

Robin Sipp, sixth-grade teacher at FRMS, said that the first day went very well.

"It was great," she said. "The kids were surprisingly quiet and ready to learn. They seem anxious to get started."

Youngsters earn recognition for reading

Staff report

Several students participated in Fort Riley University's Summer Reading Program.

To complete the program, students were to read at least 40 books at an age-appropriate level

and write a book report.

Five students completed the program, and two reached the halfway mark.

Sixth-grader McKenna Kelly, who read 49 books, was named the top reader. Second-grader Jaliyah Doughty read 42 books.

Jalissa Doughty, seventh grade, read 41 books.

Holly Townsend, third grade, and Cassie Townsend, seventh grade, each read 40 books.

Sixth-grader Alexis Miskevish and seventh-grader Thomas Miskevish each read 20 books.

The readers were presented awards and recognition during a pizza and bowling party at Custer Hill Lanes. Mrs. Frank Kearney, wife of the 24th Infantry Division (Mech) assistant division commander for maneuver presented the awards.

EEO seeks volunteers

Anyone interested in planning various ethnic observances throughout the year should call the division's Equal Opportunity Office at 239-3379. Upcoming events include Hispanic Heritage Month observance Oct. 6 and the Native American Heritage Month observance Nov. 9.





NCOs join elite in Sgt. Audie Murphy Club

By J.D. Hardesty
Staff writer

Emulating the Noncommissioned Officer Creed "...we are professionals, noncommissioned officers, leaders!" five Fort Riley NCOs were inducted into the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club Aug. 12 in a ceremony at Barlow Theater.

The five new members of the club trusted with carrying on the tradition, prestige and honor of this country's most decorated Soldier are Staff Sgt. Michael Johnson, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division (Mech); Sgt. 1st Class Rita Powell and Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Clark, both with Medical Department Activity; Staff Sgt. Patrick Zastrow of HHC, 70th Engineer Battalion; and Sgt. 1st Class Todd Hokanson of 977th Military Police Company.

Being selected for the club is one of the Army's highest NCO peacetime honors. "Audie Murphy epitomized the gutsy Soldier who, since 1775, has answered the call to defend freedom," said former Congressman Olin E. Teague of his fellow Texan. "Audie Murphy has no peers as America's supreme example of a war hero by which all generations may measure themselves when confronted by perilous circumstances."

Standing only 5 feet, 5 inches tall, Murphy fought in North Africa, Sicily, Italy, France and Germany during World War II. His relatively small stature would be no reflection of his courage and leadership. He earned a bat-

Getting selected

To be selected for membership in the prestigious Sgt. Audie Murphy Club, noncommissioned officers must go through a four-phase process:

- 1) A commander's evaluation/nomination
- 2) Performance test based on their recorded accomplishments and the accomplishments of their subordinates
- 3) An initial unit selection board testing their military knowledge, leadership and bearing
- 4) A final installation selection board appearance

field commission to lieutenant and was decorated with every American medal for valor, as well as being awarded three French medals and one Belgian medal.

"I am very proud of these five NCOs," said Command Sgt. Maj. Gilbert Canuela, 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) command sergeant major and president of the Sgt. Audie Murphy selection board. "They exhibit pride for the Army and they take care of their Soldiers."

"These newly inducted members display the philosophy that every Soldier counts and that they

have taken the time to train them well," he said. "The stamp of approval for each Soldier's selection isn't their responses to board questions, it is their Soldiers saying, 'This is a good leader.'"

Selection is a sign of success for the new club inductees. "I will never forget the day I was inducted as a member of the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club," Canuela said. "They are among a select group. There are more sergeants major than there are Sgt. Audie Murphy Club members."

Each inductee received an Army Commendation Medal, a letter of appreciation from Maj. Gen. Dennis E. Hardy, commanding general of the 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) and Fort Riley, a Sgt. Audie Murphy Club silver medalion, certificate and storybook, "History of the NCO" book, a video of one of Murphy's movie, "To Hell and Back," and other gifts. Each spouse received a medalion and certificate in recognition of the sacrifices families make for exceptional leaders to excel.

Personally wishing all of the inductees continued success, Brig. Gen. Frank Kearney III, 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) assistant commander for maneuver, told the five new members that they exemplify his favorite part of the NCO Creed - "taking care of Soldiers."

Selflessly accepting his membership into the club, Zastrow said, "While I feel it is an honor to be nominated and selected, knowing who Audie Murphy was, it's humbling to know someone thinks I uphold and possess those

same characteristics." Zastrow was nominated by 1st Sgt. Eric Omdonson, also from the 70th Eng. Bn., during their unit's deployment in the summer of 2002 while supporting Operation Desert Spring in Kuwait. "I have always been concerned about Soldiers - both their professional and personal lives - often putting their needs ahead of my own," Zastrow said.

Fellow inductee Hokanson was nominated by 1st Sgt. Dawn Ripplmeyer of the 977th MP Co., while serving with the 101st Airborne Division in Iraq.

"It is a great honor to be selected to the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club," Hokanson said. "Through my years of service I have had great leaders mentoring the importance of taking care of Soldiers."

Hokanson explained that his primary leadership trait comes from being a Christian. "Being a true leader means treating Soldiers humanely so they can learn from their mistakes," he said. "I work with them on their individual weaknesses so that our whole team continues to improve and excel."



Post/Hardesty

Command Sgt. Maj. Gilbert Canuela, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) command sergeant major, congratulates Staff Sgt. Patrick Zastrow during his induction into the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club Aug. 12, at Barlow Theater. Zastrow's wife, Sandy, waits in the reception line. Four other Fort Riley non-commissioned officers, including Staff Sgt. Michael Johnson (third from right) of HHC, 24th Inf. Div. (Mech), joined Zastrow as the newest club members.

Know about an event worth news coverage? Call the editor, 239-8854.

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Community news briefly

U.S. Soldier Show coming

The 2004 U.S. Army Soldier show takes the stage at 7 p.m., Sept. 14 and at 2 and 7 p.m., Sept. 15 in McCain Auditorium on the Kansas State University campus.

Nineteen of the Army's most talented Soldiers perform in a high-energy family-friendly music and dance production guaranteed to entertain anyone in the audience.

Admission is free.
For more information, call 239-6398.

At the movies:

The Barlow Post 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.

Aug. 20 - Anchorman (PG-13)

Aug. 21 - Anchorman (PG-13)

Aug. 22 - King Arthur (PG-13)

Aug. 26 - King Arthur (PG-13)

Aug. 27 - Catwoman (PG-13)

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

Prayer group meets weekly

A prayer group meets from 5:30 to 6:10 a.m. Tuesday mornings in the basement of St. Mary's Chapel. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, call Don Ericson at 239-0979.

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Travel & Fun in Kansas

Leisuretime ideas

Lawrence:

Civil War on the Western Frontier — 9th annual living history events that focus on Lawrence and Douglas County during the early territorial days and the Civil War, through Aug. 22; sites throughout Lawrence and Douglas County.

For more information, call (785) 865-4499 or visit www.visitlawrence.com on the Web.

State Fiddling and Picking Championships — 24th annual open competition in fiddle, banjo, guitar, mandolin, dulcimer, other instruments and ensemble folk singing, concerts and children's activities available; noon to 5:30 p.m. Aug. 22; 12th and Massachusetts, South Park.

For more information, call (785) 841-7817 or visit www.visitlawrence.com on the Web.

Oskaloosa:

Battles and Trails — Civil War memorabilia, pioneer prairie schooner, sunflower sod stompers, Volksmarch 10K run; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Aug. 21; Historic Old Jefferson Town, Kansas Highway 92 and U.S. Highway 59. For more information, call (785) 863-3072 or (800) 896-3198.

Paola:

Roots Festival — Two days of music from music genre and cultures ranging from bluegrass to Chinese dance; 10 a.m. to midnight, Aug. 27 and 28; Paola Park Square.

For more information, call (913) 557-3893 or visit

www.rootsfestival.org on the Web.

Ellsworth:

El-Kan Western Riders Rodeo — Broncs, bulls, cowboys, clowns, mutton bustin', entertainment, and live dance band; evenings Aug. 20 and 21; 221 W. Douglas, El-Kan Western Riders Rodeo Arena.

For more information, call (785) 472-3847.

Ellsworth Demolition Derby — Auto demolition derby; 7 p.m. Aug. 28; 221 W. Douglas, Elkan Western Riders Rodeo Arena.

For more information, (785) 472-3847.

Salina:

Harvest Wine Festival and Blessing of the Grapes — Great Grape Stomp contest, My Big Fat Greek dinner, Blessing of the Grapes, kid's games, crafts, food and wine tasting festival; 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Aug. 21; 212 W. Golf Link Road, Smoky Hill Vineyards and Winery.

Call (785) 825-2515 or (866) 225-2515 or visit www.kansaswine.com on the web.

Yoder:

Heritage Day — Central Kansas' largest horse-drawn parade at 10:30 a.m., family friendly environment, Amish quilt raffle, arts and crafts fair, horse events and antique tractor pull; Aug. 28; downtown.

For more information, call (620) 465-3888 or visit www.yoderkansas.com on the Web.



Huge round formations of Dakota sandstone lie in a pasture-like area near Minneapolis, Kan., much like a bunch of marbles left by giants after their game. Post/Heronomus

Mother Nature shows off

Concretions lie scattered on Kansas prairie

By Mike Heronomus
Editor

At first, visitors might get the impression a group of young giants had forgotten to pick up their marbles after playing a game on the Kansas prairie near Minneapolis.

Huge round stones rest in haphazard arrangements amidst other rocks too elongated or broken to be used in a marble game.

The natural wonder known as Rock City contains at least 200 individual concretions -- formations of Dakota sandstone, the dominant bedrock in that part of Kansas and deposited millions of years ago when the area was an inland sea.

After the sea water receded, ground water containing dissolved calcium carbonate seeped through the porous sandstone, cementing the grains of sand into the spherical shapes visitors see today.

Not all the rocks form true spheres. Some shapes suggest other forms to the viewer, such as a crescent, a pair of lips, a turtle, two rocks kissing, a coffin, a doughnut and perhaps a giant's easy chair.

For children, and even some adults, Rock City offers a maze of paths between and around the rock formations ideal for games of hide and seek or tag.

The stones tempt even the acrophobic to climb easily and

safely to a high vantage point in several locations ideal for surveying the main deposits.

The park provides some amenities to handle a small picnic or perhaps a small family reunion in a roofed shelter with cement floor. Plenty of shady or sunny grassy areas offer great spots for a picnic on the ground.

Rock City provides only a few tourist amenities - restrooms, a water fountain, graveled road and curio shop, but the trip is worth making.

The rock formations are unique and wonder inspiring. Man must struggle to match nature's beauty and wonder, and Rock City gives ample proof of that.

If you go:

From Fort Riley, take Interstate 70 to U.S. Highway 81 at Salina. Take U.S. 81 north (right) to Kansas Highway 18. Take K-18 under U.S. 81 to County Road 106 (you must turn right), and then follow the signs to Rock City.

Admission: Adults \$3, children 50 cents; school and church groups free

For more information, call (785) 392-2577 or write to Rock City, Inc., P.O. Box 86, Minneapolis, KS 67467.

Seen someplace interesting in Kansas? Call the editor, 239-8854.

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