

Fort Riley Community

November 7, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

Page 9

Local veterans remembered

Veterans Day Nov. 11

Buffalo Soldier talks to Open House visitors

By Kevin Doheny
19th PAD

It was a sunny, clear September day in Northwest Kansas as people gathered at the Veterans' Tent to hear stories of past wars during Fort Riley's Open House celebration. With all the attractions gathered on historic Main Post, there was one attraction which gave people an idea of what Fort Riley and its Soldiers have been through over the years.

With every major conflict after World War I being represented at this attraction, visitors had the chance to mingle and talk about what each individual went through.

One individual who has seen Fort Riley and its development into today's Warfighting Center, James Meigs, a veteran of WWII, the Korean War and a former Buffalo Soldier, greeted visitors as they entered the tent.

Meigs, who needs the assistance of a walker these days, stood tall at times and greeted every visitor with a gigantic smile and shared his past experiences with them.

A proud former Buffalo Soldier, Meigs was stationed at Fort Riley for most of his career. He spoke of how black Soldiers were given the opportunity to volunteer

and fight alongside white Soldiers in December 1945.

"I was in Paris when, in December of that year, black Soldiers were able to volunteer to fight in the infantry," said Meigs. "Regardless of color, we all fought alongside each other."

Meigs also spoke of the traditions of the Buffalo Soldiers. He explained their roles in the Army and why the unique name was given to them.

"The name Buffalo Soldier was given to black Soldiers by the Cheyenne Indians because of the color of their skin and the texture of their hair. They said it reminded them of the buffalo," Meigs said.

Buffalo Soldiers had many missions while serving at Fort Riley. Meigs said his most memorable moments serving on the post were working in at the post headquarters.

"I came back to Fort Riley in 1952, and while serving here ... I enjoyed working in administrative type work," he said. "I remember a lot of things, some good and some not so good, but that was my favorite."

At the Open House Meigs spoke to every visitor he could. Whether it was conversations of Buffalo Soldiers or experiences from combat, Meigs stayed until the Open House was finished.

Schoenbeck injured during fierce battle

By Sam Robinson
Staff Writer

Ed Schoenbeck was born Jan. 9, 1918 in Chicago, Ill. He is the youngest of eight children. His father was a Lutheran minister in Willow Springs, Ill. His mother passed away when he was six and his sisters raised him. When he turned 18 he joined the Army.

"Dad said we didn't have any money," said Schoenbeck. "So I'd better join the Army if I wanted to eat."

His first assignment was at Fort Sheridan with Troop A, 14th Cavalry.

"I was a typical greenhorn recruit," said Schoenbeck. "I had never been around horses. I didn't know anything, but the horses made me learn."

According to Schoenbeck, during a typical day, the cavalrymen would conduct mounted and dismounted drills and care for the animals and equipment. In Sept. 1939, he was sent to the cavalry school at Fort Riley. He completed the Advanced Horsemanship class in June 1940.

"It was very enjoyable. I had five horses assigned to me," said Schoenbeck. "Remount number one and number two, a cross country horse, a polo pony horse and a jumping horse."

Following another short stay at Fort Sheridan, Schoenbeck returned to the home of the Cavalry, Fort Riley. During this time he met Louise, his future wife.

"I was working at the Woolworth's in Junction City," said Louise. "Ed says he found his million dollar lady in the nickel and dime store."

By 1941 Ed was a first sergeant. He and Louise had been dating and were engaged to be married Dec. 31, 1941. The couple had been to a dance in Junction City on Dec. 11, and when they returned to Fort Riley they found that the cavalry had begun to load equipment onto a train.

"Ed said, 'Well, I guess we'd better get married tonight,'" said Louise. At the time,

Ed believed the unit was headed to Germany to fight in World War II.

"So, I called the parsonage and they said come on in," said Louise. "We went to Junction City and got married. When we took Ed back, my bridesmaid and I sat in the car and watched Ed and the rest of the troops load onto the train and leave. I

See Schoenbeck Page 10



Ed Schoenbeck shares pictures and stories from his days in the cavalry with his wife, Louise, and Col. Richard McPhee, chief of staff, 24th Infantry Division and Fort Riley.

Former Soldier glad to be alive after receiving wounds at Omaha Beach

By Michael Watson
Staff writer

By midnight on D-Day, the machine guns were silent.

Omaha Beach was covered with dead infantrymen and the surf washed bloody water onto the shore. Harold Baumgarten was wounded three times on the first day of the invasion and he said he felt lucky to be alive. He was one of only two Soldiers from his boat to survive the landing.

After only 32 hours of fighting, he was wounded five times, and he said it was a miracle that he lived to tell about his experiences with the 116th Infantry Regiment, 29th Infantry Division.

"I never expected to make it back

alive, especially after being wounded five times," he said. "Each time I heard the explosion or felt a bullet or shrapnel hit me, I told myself that it was the end."

"I even wrote a letter to my sister back home to tell her to get the mail before my parents. I wanted her to be the one to break the news to my parents, in case a telegram arrived saying that I was no longer alive."

"I was working at the beach God was looking over him on the beach."

Looking at the combat veteran, one might never suspect at first glance that his rosy cheeks are plastic. However, after being grazed by bullets and being struck by shrapnel from mortar fire, he said much work had to be done.

"The first wound took away my upper jaw. The second wound was from mortar fire that took off the left side of my face. The third wound was from stepping on a mine. The upper part of my face is plastic. So, as you can see, I've had very good plastic surgery - 21 surgeries."

Those three wounds came on the very first day of battle, and he was wounded two more times by the end of the second day. One bullet took away part of his upper face, and a sniper opened fire while he was on a stretcher on the beach for his fifth wound.

Today, Baumgarten is alive and well and is able to tell others his stories about landing on Omaha Beach. He has written two books about the landing and has spo-

ken at many events, like the dedication of the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics at the University of Kansas at the end of July. He was one of many combat veterans who spoke at a memory tent so that others could hear the first-hand accounts of historic events in military history.

The first thing he recalled about the landing was seeing the 450 Germans on the fortified bluff lowering approximately 150 feet over the beach. Many men did not even make it off the boats, he said.

"The man in front of me was gunned down by one of the machine guns," Baumgarten said. "When I got out of the boat I was neck deep in bloody water. I stood 5' 10" and many of the Soldiers were shorter than me."

"You see your buddies dying, but you are a Soldier and you have a job to do," he said. "I saw my best buddy laying face down at the foot of the bluff - you get so raving mad when you see your friends wounded and killed, but you have to push on."

Baumgarten said after that he has tried to lead the best life he could. When he returned home he earned an undergraduate degree from New York University and then graduated from medical school at the University of Miami.

He retired from medicine, after 40 years, in 1998 and now lives in Jacksonville Beach, Fla., with his wife Rita. They have three children and eight grandchildren.

Code talkers essential to missions in WWII

By Michael Watson
Staff writer

It was a mission labeled "Top Secret" for many years following World War II.

During the war, important messages about the location of enemy aircraft or the location of opposing forces could not be sent through normal code — it could be broken too easily.

Instead, the U.S. military relied on soldiers like Charles Chibbity, who adapted their native language into a code that was never broken.

Today, the aging Indian is the last surviving member of the Comanche code talkers.

At a recent event to dedicate the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics at the University of Kansas, the code talker dressed in a brightly colored Indian headdress sat proudly in the memory tent telling his stories about landing on the shores of Normandy, just after D-Day, with the 22nd Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division.

"On the battlefield, it was

much faster to talk code than to use coded messages," he said.

"We worked on the front lines with the battalions and companies, I don't know why we volunteered for it, but we did. It was quicker to use our radios to send messages a g e s s because M o r s e code could be decoded too easily."

In the 1920s, the government used a code in the military to speak their native languages. He said he was never bitter, even when

his teachers would get angry when he would speak Comanche in school.

"When we got caught talking Comanche, we were punished," he said.

In his native tongue, Chibbity uttered some of the code that was used on the field of battle to the interested people who braved the heat to listen to the panel discussions in the memory tent.

"It sounds like gibberish for those who do not speak Comanche," he said, "but that is not what made the code unbreakable. The part that made the code the most difficult was the ambiguity of the coded messages."

For instance, a catfish full of eggs was translated into a bomber aircraft and a machine gun was described as a sewing machine.

"There were only two soldiers recruiting volunteers who spoke fluent Comanche and Navajo in

1941. The language itself wasn't the code, however, the code was based on their languages. Chibbity said 20 Comanches signed up to be code talkers, but only 17 went to training at Fort Benning, Ga., and only 14 stormed the beaches of Normandy. Nobody was injured on D-Day, but two were seriously wounded - one was his cousin.

"I was injured on D-Day, but two were seriously wounded - one was his cousin."

In his native tongue, Chibbity uttered some of the code that was used on the field of battle to the interested people who braved the heat to listen to the panel discussions in the memory tent.

"It sounds like gibberish for those who do not speak Comanche," he said, "but that is not what made the code unbreakable. The part that made the code the most difficult was the ambiguity of the coded messages."

For instance, a catfish full of eggs was translated into a bomber aircraft and a machine gun was described as a sewing machine.

"There were only two soldiers recruiting volunteers who spoke fluent Comanche and Navajo in

See Code Talkers Page 10

Brothers stayed together

By Kevin Doheny
19th PAD

The Korean War was fought in a land over 6,800 miles away from the United States, and for most troops, their friends and families were that far away.

That was not the case for two Korean War veterans. It was 1951 and, for both Kermit and Kenneth Adams, a new land and a new experience were in their near future.

The Adams brothers were drafted in 1951, and after completing their respective schools, they ended up in the same company.

They both served 21 months in the Army, with 10 of those in Korea.

Kermit was a wire sergeant and Kenneth was a radio sergeant. Other than their jobs, they pretty much had similar military careers.

"We were drafted together, and we came home together," said Kenneth, who completed his basic training at Fort Riley with his twin brother. "We always had to bug the chaplain to make sure we would stay together. When it was time to leave anywhere, we always had to consult him so we wouldn't be split apart."

"I think they tried to split us up about four or five times," said Kermit. "We finally were split up when we both were stationed at Fort Carson, Colo. He ended up in one company, and I was across the street in another."

To make sure they remained together, the brothers made sure they took leaves and passes at the same time.

When at war, most Soldiers looked out for one another. Kermit and Kenneth did this as well.

"There was no question about it — we took care of each other," said Kenneth. "Kermit probably had it a little rougher than I did, but I wouldn't trade it for the world."

Kermit explained on how harsh the climate was for he and his brother while they served in Korea.

"The hills are what stick out in my mind," said Kermit. "The land was bare, and it was cold."

Kermit and Kenneth are two brothers who served their country and stayed together doing it. Even though the hills of Korea were miles and miles away from their homes, the brothers were able to watch over one another to make sure the other came back home, alive and well.

Army Chief of Staff's spouse learns about Fort Riley support system

By Steven Cooke
19th PAD

When the Chief of Staff of the Army, Gen. Peter Schoomaker, visited Fort Riley last week he wasn't alone. He was accompanied by his wife, Cindy, who visited the Soldier and Family Support Center.

During her visit to Fort Riley, Schoomaker was escorted by Diane Hardy, wife of Brig. Gen. Dennis Hardy, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division and Fort Riley.

At the SFSC, Schoomaker and Hardy were given a tour by Pearl Speer, director, Army Community Service, and Bill Powers, chief, SFSC.

After the tour, Speer and Powers led a briefing with Fort Riley senior command spouses, Schoomaker and Hardy.

"I talked with the Chief of Staff of the Army's office ahead of time," said Speer. "They told me what we needed to do was a fairly informational briefing so she can be brought up to speed on what was happening on installations

like [Fort Riley] with their family programs."

Family programs brought up at the briefing included financial services, Army Community Service, deployment readiness, employment services, substance abuse programs and family advocacy programs.

Speer said the visit went well.

"The visit was very pleasant," said Speer. "It was productive in that we were able to give her information to give her an idea of how the Fort Riley support system works."

Speer's said she hoped Schoomaker would take the information and the images she saw at Fort Riley with her as she visits other installations and gains a more clear picture of the modern Army.

"The impression we tried to give her is that, out here in the middle of the country and Fort Riley, we are very family friendly," said Speer. "We're doing things that will help families deal with the Army of this century—the challenges they have to deal with, what the Army is and will

become in the 21st century."

One of the things Speer's said she hopes Schoomaker left knowing is the improved communication between Soldier's families and the rear detachments.

Speer said she hopes Schoomaker remembers the Fort Riley Family Readiness Center and the way they have integrated the rear detachments elements in with other family services at the SFSC. "So she sees it as an option for other installations to take care of families," Speer added.

Speer said Schoomaker's stop

at Fort Riley is the beginning of a fact-finding journey.

"Her focus is families," said Speer. "Everyone wants her to see what we've been doing to support families. It's important for her to see what we're doing now, so she can be updated."

Powers said that the knowledge Schoomaker attains along the way may influence policy making. "She can assist with issues in terms of family readiness by making issues more visible to senior Army leadership, which will be very helpful to the Army family," he said.

Code Talkers continued from page 9

who knew what the code meant," he said, "so there was no way that the enemy could decode the radio transmissions. The Comanche soldier on the front line sending the message and the Comanche soldier at the headquarters decoding the

message were the only ones that could understand the code. That is why it was so successful."

After the war ended, the code was no longer a secret.

Today, Chibitty visits schools to tell

children about what the code talkers did and how they did it.

He said he wants to preserve the history of the Comanche code talkers. Now, he is the only one of the soldiers who can tell the story firsthand.

While he said he is proud of what he did during the war, he hopes that future generations will not have to go through the same conflicts. Meanwhile, he sadly acknowledged the current war against terrorism. He said he hopes that the war

ends swiftly and that everyone begins working toward peace.

"War is bad," he said. "I hope we never have to send our kids or our grandkids to another war."

Schoenbeck continued from page 9

thought he was going to Germany and didn't know if I'd ever see him again."

Instead, the unit went to Tucson, Ariz. to provide perimeter patrol duty for Davis-Monthan Air Base. When Louise received the news, she gave her boss two weeks notice and then moved to be with Ed.

Ed returned to Fort Riley in July 1942 to attend the Cavalry Officers Candidate School, (10th Class, Cav. OCS), which he completed in Oct. 1942. He was then assigned to Camp Locket as part of the Buffalo Soldiers. Again, Louise moved to be with him.

"Her very first day in California, there was an earthquake," said Schoenbeck. "The horses would rear-up, they could sense what was coming before it hit."

Ed was a 1st lieutenant with the Buffalo Soldiers. The unit was sent to Oran, Algiers. While in Algiers, the 14th and 10th Cavalry

were deactivated and he was reassigned to an armored regiment.

As part of an officer replacement depot, he was with troops that went ashore in south France in August 1944. According to Ed, German shells were hitting the water all around the boats. "The Germans were a tremendous fighting force," he said.

On Sept. 24, 1944, as part of the 41st Infantry Regiment, Ed was wounded during battle. According to a letter from Maj. Gen. Dahlquist, the battle was "seven hours of severe hardship over very rough terrain. It was successful, the mission was completed."

"The commander had called several lieutenants to a tent to tell us a captain had been killed by small arms fire and they needed a volunteer to replace him," said Schoenbeck.

"No one volunteered at first, but eventually I said I'd go in and take it," he said. "Why I said that,

I'll never know. Taking 150 men into battle is no picnic."

"It was a dark, dreary, cold foggy morning. I was walking with the radio operator to a new position. All of the sudden, white phosphorus shells started dropping all around," said Schoenbeck. "Everything came in at once. I tried to crawl into my helmet, but that didn't work!"

"Soldiers had carried me to a local house," said Schoenbeck. "There was a little chubby French woman there — she was boiling water to help care for the wounded."

Ed was put in a full body cast and flown back to Temple, Texas. He had lost the front portion of his right foot and his right kneecap. He had other injuries on his left side as well. According to Ed, he remembers the sequence of flights coming home perfectly.

"The nurses would give me a clothes hanger to scratch when I needed to," he said.

At the time, Louise was with Ed's family in Chicago. His sister had received the letter from the Army informing the family that Ed had been injured.

"My first thought, after finding out he was going to be alright, was 'good, he's coming home,'" said Louise. "Then, I worried about the extent of his injuries and his life after recovery."

Louise, along with the couple's son, James, moved to Texas to be with Ed. "Ed and James learned to walk at the same time," said Louise. "I have lots of picture of them practicing taking steps together."

After recovery Ed returned to Fort Riley as a captain, to head the Animal Pool Detachment. He took a medical retirement from the Army on Dec. 17, 1946.

"I've been a Soldier, a patient, a private and a captain," said Schoenbeck.

Ed has been awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Army

Commendation Medal and Combat Infantry Badge, day & night.

He and Louise currently live in Junction City. Since his time with the Army, he has worked as a circulation manager, proofreader and bookkeeper. He owned a Real Estate agency for 25 years, before retiring.

Ed has several scrapbooks containing almost all of his paperwork and the certificates he received during his time in the Army. "I never had the time or the notion to throw anything away," he said.

The Schoenbecks attended this year's Apple Day/Open House, which included the dedication of the equestrian statue "Duty."

Ed wore his cavalry uniform that was remarkably similar to the uniform on the Soldier in the statue. "He didn't know if he should wear his uniform or not," said Louise. "I told him, yes, you should, you have earned it."

Barlow Theater

Tonight:
7 p.m.
Underworld (R)

Saturday:
7 p.m.
The Rundown (PG-13)

Sunday:
7 p.m.
The Fighting Temptations (PG-13)

Ticket prices:
Adults - \$3
Children - \$1.50



Fort Riley Sports

November 7, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

Page 11

Infantry wins post championship

By Christopher Selmek
19th PAD

The Company B, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry "Head Busters" won a narrow victory over the 3662nd General Support Maintenance Company "Satans" after going into double overtime during the post flag football championship Oct. 30, at Sturgis Field.

This was the last game of the Fort Riley football season. Each team having clawed its way through the regular season to earn the right to be there, the winner will be going on to play Kansas State's flag football team in a regional championship to be held at a later date.

"I'd say we had a pretty good season," said Christopher Dix, 3662nd receiver. "We had a learning experience when we first joined the league, because we're a National Guard unit from North Dakota. No one expected us to get this far."

"We learned this style of play from the other teams we watched, and we developed the strategies we already had," continued Dix. The Head Busters were likewise satisfied with their season and were confident they would win.

"We only had one loss, that's

how we got this far," Head Buster Darren Menzie said. "We have great speed, a lot of people have a background in football, we have a good starting lineup, but the important thing is, we're just too fast."

"We hope we have a good game," he said before the match-up. "No hard feelings to them, but they will loose."

The Satans won the coin toss, but were unable to move the ball more than ten feet from the 40-yard line. The opposing defense tightened on their players and caused several fumbles and near interceptions.

According to Dix, the Satans had no worries and felt fully capable of dealing with the Head Busters onslaught. "Defense is going to be key — we're going to have to be big on that," he said. "Turnovers are going to be important, we have to stop them on defense."

The Head Busters, gaining the ball, slowly inched to the goal and p l a n e d themselves on the two-yard line. They scored a touchdown and made the conversion, ending the quarter at 8-0.

The second quarter was a battle of defenses, with neither team able to move the ball. No more points were scored for either team

interceptions. According to Dix, the Satans had no worries and felt fully capable of dealing with the Head Busters onslaught. "Defense is going to be key — we're going to have to be big on that," he said. "Turnovers are going to be important, we have to stop them on defense."

See Championship Page 12



19th PAD/Selmek
Leon Freeman, Head Busters, makes a run with the ball during the post championship game.



19th PAD/Selmek
Gasper Gulotta Jr., 12, sizes up his target down range before firing during this year's Fort Riley Turkey Shoot.

Turkeys took cover during annual shoot

By William Biles
Staff Writer

The Directorate of Community Activities held the 5th Annual Fort Riley Turkey Shoot at the Outdoor Recreation Center Saturday. Approximately 200 participants braved the chilly day in an attempt to win a turkey through the event's friendly competition.

The event was for the post's civilian population as well as its military one. "The turkey shoot is to let both the military community and local community come out to Outdoor Recreation and have a fun time and a chance to win a turkey or shotgun," said Billy Mack, supervisor sports specialist, Outdoor Rec. "It also allows individuals a chance to see what Outdoor Rec has to offer."

The contest was divided into different age groups, and one out of every five contestants walked away with the poultry prize. The day's top shooter received a 12 or 20-gauge shotgun, depending on the marksman's age.

The event was more than a competition, it was a chance for the

kids to learn and develop a respect for the firearms they were using. "I hope my sons learn to respect the weapon by coming here and that they learn how to use it and just be a good sportsman out there when they go to hunt," said Mark Unruh, participant.

While learning, the kids, as well as the adults, found the event to be a fun one.

"We just finished the turkey shoot and it was pretty fun. We did this last year and it was great then, too," said Unruh. "They (sons) have grown a little bit from last year, so they were able to hold the weapon by themselves instead of me holding it for them. They did better this year than they did last year. Only one of them hit the target last year, and this year both of them hit it. I don't think they were close enough to win a turkey though. Next year they should be in the running for one," he stated proudly.

The event had a skeet range competition that pitted military personnel against civilians. The competition lasted the all day and the winners of the first place trophy will keep it until the next Outdoor Recreation event, said Mack.

See Turkey Shoot Page 13

Playoffs pit Garrison Support against Personnel Support

By William Biles
Staff Writer

The 2003 Fort Riley Flag Football playoffs started Oct. 27, with the 6025th Garrison Support Unit squaring off against the Delta Dragons from Detachment D, 15th Personnel Support Battalion.

The Dragons advanced to the next round of the playoffs by defeating the GSU team, 25 - 12, at Sturgis Stadium.

The GSU team struck first with a string of rushes down the field and into the end zone, to give them their only lead of the game. After a failed extra point attempt, the scoreboard read 6 - 0 in GSU's favor.

On the Delta Dragons ensuing possession, they went straight to the pass rush, utilizing the two forward pass rule on their first play, giving them an easy first down. On the second play, Tim Gutierrez, quarterback, threw a strike to Hosca McGowan, which tied the score, six all,

The Dragons also failed to convert on the extra point.

With the GSU team wanting to take the lead back, they tried executing their own pass rush, but were shut down as the Dragons' Robert Burns stepped up on the GSU's would-be receiver and snagged an interception that he was able to run back for a touchdown. With another failed extra point attempt by the Dragons, the scoreboard read 12 - 6 at the end of the first quarter.

The Dragons stepped up their play against the GSU team because they wanted to get retribution for the loss the GSU team handed them during the season.

"As far as the 6025th goes, we have no love for them," said Luis Figueroa, Det. D, 15th PSB. "We beat them two scrimmages straight, and then we lose in the regular season to them - I have pain and anger for these boys."

"Our strategy for tonight was to win. We came here to beat them, so we stuck to our defensive strategy that we've used all season."

—Luis Figueroa
Detachment D, 15th PSB

The next GSU possession ended with them failing to convert on a fourth and long situation. With that turnover, the Dragons assistant quarterback, McGowan, ran for daylight on their possession, and was able to scamper just short of the goal line. After a failed pass to the end zone, team GSU received a penalty for encroachment, which brought the ball half the distance to the goal. On the next play, Gutierrez pitched the ball

left to McGowan, who then passed the ball to an open receiver in the end zone for another six points. The Dragons were able to tack on the extra point, bringing the score to a 19 - 6 Dragons' lead.

With GSU's next possession, they seemed to buckle down by displaying good passing downfield and coming as close to the goal line than they had been since their opening drive. Two downs and five yards later, the Dragons put a kink in the GSU rhythm by calling a time out. After the timeout, GSU came out fired up and threw a strike to the end zone. But, all that fire burned them as they were called for an illegal block and the ball was returned 10 yards farther out than where they started. With the loss of yardage and a down, the GSU team faced a long fourth and 15, which they failed to convert, and the first half came to a close.

The second half saw the GSU team come out recharged and shutting down the Dragons first offensive drive. With their possession, GSU made some posi-

tive yardage on a pass play where the receiver almost broke through the defense unscathed, but had his flags stripped at the last second. The following play saw the GSU at third down and one yard to go when they were called for off-sides and replayed the down at third and five. Unfortunately for team GSU, they turned the ball over on downs.

The Dragons opened up their drive with another lateral to McGowan, who then attempted to throw the ball, but the GSU team realized they had seen the play before and were able to strip the flags from McGowan before he was able to throw the ball. The Dragons were facing a third down and very long 25 yards and could only muster five yards on the third down. Feeling confident with their lead, they went for it on fourth down and 20 yards to go. However, Gutierrez was unable to connect with his intended receiver as the ball fell short.

Still, the GSU team could not capital-
See Playoff Page 12

Rainbow trout fishing not just for Rocky Mountains, Northwest streams

By Alan Hynek
DES Biologist

Rainbow trout in Kansas? It's true. The popular fish that conjures up visions of casting artificial flies into a cold mountain stream can also be found on Fort Riley. Although the post doesn't have mountain streams, it does have cold, and trout. And with a little imagination, Cameron Springs can be a high mountain lake in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado. OK, that might be a little bit of a stretch.

Cameron Springs was one of the first places in the state of Kansas to provide trout fishing. Over the years, it has provided

enjoyment to many, including military and civilians.

Within the next couple of weeks, the Fort Riley trout season will officially commence with the first stocking of approximately 1,000 rainbow trout. The fish average 11 inches in length and around a half pound. A total of five stockings are planned from November to May.

Rainbow trout are not native to Kansas. They were originally found in the lakes and streams draining the Pacific slope, from Alaska to northern Baja, Mexico, as well as the Pacific coastal streams of Asia. The first stocking of rainbows in the eastern states occurred in 1880, when the U.S. Fish Commission delivered rain-

bows originating near McCloud River, Calif. The species can now be found throughout the United States and many countries around

On the Wildside: News About Nature

the world. They are best adapted to cool waters that contain higher concentrations of oxygen. During the months of October to May, Cameron Springs meets those requirements.

Fort Riley receives trout from the Neosho National Fish Hatchery in Neosho, Mo. The hatchery was established in 1888 as the first federal hatchery west of the Mississippi. The hatchery is operated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Service, and its primary mission is to provide fish for Lake Tanycomo and surrounding impoundments. Another part of their mis-

sion is to provide hatchery fish for reimbursement to other federal agencies, which is how Fort Riley gets fish.

The hatchery supports a number of threatened and endangered species and non-game elements throughout the region, including protection of the blind Ozark cavefish.

Fishing at Cameron Springs requires a Fort Riley Hunting and Fishing Permit. The permit can be

purchased at the Outdoor Recreation Center, building 9011. Outdoor Recreation's hours of operation are Monday, Thursday, Friday, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

They are closed Tuesday and Wednesday. The number of fish stocked is dependent upon the average number of trout permits sold in previous years.

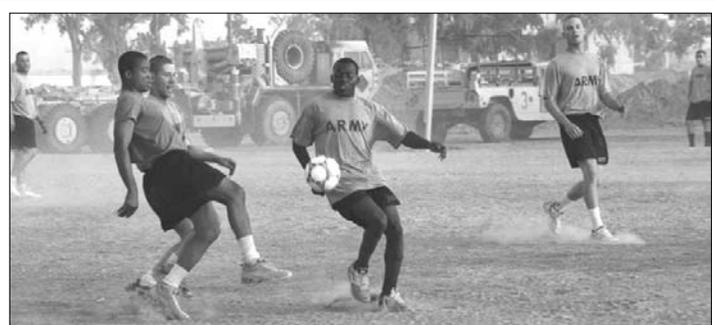
The state of Kansas has recently started a trout fishing program, stocking 23 impoundments throughout the state. The Mined Land Wildlife Area and Tuttle Creek Seep Stream are capable of supporting trout year around. A Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Trout Stamp is required to fish in waters stocked by

KDWP. The \$10.50 stamp is not required on Fort Riley.

A Youth Fishing Derby is again planned for this spring at Cameron Springs. The event is an opportunity to introduce kids (and adults) on Fort Riley to a unique opportunity to fish for trout.

Check at the Outdoor Recreation Center or Conservation Division in early 2004 for more details. In the meantime, get out your imagination and hit the Fort Riley version of a Rocky Mountain trout stream.

For more information, visit the Conservation Division, building 1020, or call 239-6211. You may also visit <http://www.riley.army.mil/Recreation/Outdoor/Fishing/> on the Internet.



1st BCT/Bender

Soldiers from 1st Brigade Combat Team play soccer after duty hours for relaxation. Sports like soccer and touch football are popular ways for Soldiers to relax and get some extra PT in Iraq.

Playoff continued from page 12

ize on the great field position as they went four and out. The Dragons next possession was just as unproductive, and were forced to punt on fourth down. With the end of a scoreless third quarter, the points stood at Dragons 19, GSU 6. The fourth quarter saw the GSU team, once again trying des-

perately to get more points on the board, threw an interception that was picked by the cat-like reflexes of McGowan. McGowan surveyed the field and threw a strike to Brian Mason, who took the ball in for the last Dragons' score. The scorecard read 25 - 6 in favor of the Dragons. The last score of the game came late in the fourth when the

GSU team, with their never give up attitude, scrambled down to the Dragons' two-yard line. The Dragons gave them a goal line stance that almost paid off, but were penalized with a Defense Pass Interference call, giving GSU first and goal. Team GSU cut the Dragons lead to 25 - 12 as the quarterback ran the ball in untouched. They failed to convert

on their extra point. "Our strategy for tonight was to win. We came here to beat them, so we stuck to our defensive strategy that we've used all season," said Figueroa. "We played really well as a team tonight. Right down to the last play, we played with all of our heart, and hopefully tomorrow we can come out here and get another win."

Championship continued from page 12

before halftime. "Defense was a key in this half, and running the option on them, that allowed the pass," said Brian Robinson, Head Busters. "For the second part of the game, we want to spread out their defense and try to hit the pockets they leave open." Despite the Head Busters lead, the Satans were still sure of their eventual victory. "We need to be able to get in closer to grab their flags. They've been moving too fast," said Jeremy Slama, Satans. "We're going to get a few passes together, sprint up and down the field, get more runs and some downs." True to their word, the second half began with the Satan Quarterback running the ball, first to the 40-yard line, then repeating the play again to bring the ball down to the 20. This set up the quarterback for a shot into the end zone, bringing the score to 8-6. The Head Busters were able to pull forward once again after an amazing 50-yard play requiring four separate passes from player to player. The last pass zipped into the end zone, where Leon Freeman managed to dive after the ball and snatch it out of the air just before it hit the ground. The score sat at 14-6 for the Head Busters as the game entered

its final quarter, prompting the quarterback to speak with a sense of security about the end of the game. "I knew we were going to win," said Joseph Nansen, Head Buster quarterback. "I have confidence in my team — we can make things happen." Tension increased visibly among the spectators as the Satans brought the ball to the 10-yard line in the ninth play of a 12-play quarter. Should the Satans gain a touchdown and make the game a touchdown and make the conversion in the next three plays, the game would end in a tie. "The way we play it in this league, if we have to go into overtime, each team gets four plays from the 20 yard line to try to

score as many downs as possible" said Barry Sunstrom, sports director. "If the other team intercepts the ball, they automatically win." No one on the Satan side of the field could contain their excitement as the quarterback quickly tossed the ball into the air and into the waiting hands of lineman Matthew Graves, who dove across the line just inside the end zone. The game ended 14-14, sending it into an overtime in which each team scored. In the second overtime, the Satans failed to make a down while the Head Busters scored one, making them the winners. "It was a heck of a game," Graves admitted. "If I had been a

little better on defense, the quarterback might have had more time to throw. I think we gave it our best shot, though." "The first time we played this team, we were blowing them away in the first half, then they came back and almost won," said Otis Brunswick, Head Buster coach, explaining that the closeness of the game was not altogether unexpected. "They did the same thing this time, and we did get a little nervous, but we came together as a team, and that's how we won."

Vet Services opens new doors

By Steven Cooke
19th PAD

The Fort Riley Veterinary Treatment Facility recently re-opened with a Grand Re-opening ceremony Oct. 24. On hand to do the ribbon cutting, biting rather, was military work dog Remo. Remo, supervised by Staff Sgt. Bradley Guerrieri,



523rd Military Police Detachment, bit into a bone shaped dog biscuit tied to a ribbon. In attendance at the ceremony were Diane Hardy, wife of Dennis Hardy, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, Col. John Simpson, garrison commander, Fort Riley, Command Sgt. Maj. James Noble, garrison command sergeant major, Fort Riley, and Command Sgt. Maj. Kevin Stuart, command sergeant major, Fort Riley Medical Department Activity.

The FRVTF is located on Custer Ave., building 226, 239-3886. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Saturday, 7:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Staff Sgt. Bradley Guerrieri, on Custer Ave., building 226, 239-3886. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Saturday, 7:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Staff Sgt. Bradley Guerrieri, on Custer Ave., building 226, 239-3886. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Saturday, 7:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Staff Sgt. Bradley Guerrieri, on Custer Ave., building 226, 239-3886. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Saturday, 7:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Staff Sgt. Bradley Guerrieri, on Custer Ave., building 226, 239-3886. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Saturday, 7:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Staff Sgt. Bradley Guerrieri, on Custer Ave., building 226, 239-3886. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Saturday, 7:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Staff Sgt. Bradley Guerrieri, on Custer Ave., building 226, 239-3886. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Saturday, 7:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Staff Sgt. Bradley Guerrieri, on Custer Ave., building 226, 239-3886. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Saturday, 7:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

ITR

MWR Bus

The Morale, Welfare and Recreation bus is available for rent for Command and unit functions, Hail and Farewell's, Family Readiness Groups, retirees groups, church groups and Fort Riley private organizations. Call ITR for further information.

Armed Forces Vacation Club

AFVC is a space available program that offers condominium vacations at resorts around the world for only \$249 per unit per week. If you enjoy off-season activities in popular locations without the hassle of high-season

prices and crowds, the AFVC offers an incredible vacation value. Call or stop by for further information.

Santa Suit Rental

Stop by and rent a special ensemble for that special person for your unit, FRG or organizational holiday party. New this year are elf suits for Santa's special helpers. There is limited availability.

McCain Auditorium

There are military discounts available for upcoming performances at McCain Auditorium, Kansas State University, Manhattan. There is a limit of two dis-

count tickets per ID. Scheduled performances include: Dec. 5 and 6 - Cats, Feb. 6 - Giselle (Moscow Festival Ballet), Feb. 14 - The Adventures of Tom Sawyer and Feb. 26 - Moscow State Radio Symphony. Stop by ITR for a brochure and further information.

Kansas City Chiefs

Experience the excitement of NFL football with the Kansas City Chiefs. Limited tickets are available through ITR. Tickets are \$60 without transportation and \$80 with transportation. Grab some friends and tailgate at Arrowhead stadium. Support your favorite team. Games remaining include: Sunday - Cleveland Browns, Nov.

23 - Oakland Raiders, Dec. 14 - Detroit Lions and Dec. 28 - Chicago Bears.

Military Salutes

Many theme parks, regional attractions and vacation destinations will salute the military with free admissions and deep discounts through late fall and early winter. Stop by ITR for additional information and low rates for hotels near those attractions.

KCI Roadrunner

The KCI Roadrunner provides door-to-door service from home to airport. Let ITR make your reservations. Commissions are paid back to Fort Riley's Morale,

Welfare and Recreation programs.

Discount Movie Tickets

Discount movie tickets are available at ITR. Passes may be used at Seth Childs in Manhattan for \$5.50. They are a great gift idea for birthdays or special occasions.

The Information, Ticketing and Registration office is located in building 6918 (across from the PX).

The hours of operation are Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturdays 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. and the office is closed federal holidays. For further information call ITR, 239-5614 or 239-4415.

Frequent-flyer miles can be donated to troops

Staff Reports

There is a new frequent-flyer miles donation program for people wanting to help troops going on R&R leave. The military currently pays for troops to fly from Kuwait City to Frankfurt, Germany or Baltimore/Washington airports. As of Nov. 1, the free flights also began to go to Atlanta and Dallas/Fort Worth. Servicemembers must pay for flights to

destinations beyond those four points.

In order to help some servicemembers cover the cost of these flights, Rep. C. A. Dutch Ruppersberger started the Hero Miles program. Through this program, people can donate their frequent flyers miles to Alaska Airlines/Horizon Air, Delta Airlines and Southwest Airlines to provide free tickets to servicemembers. There is a minimum

donation of 500 miles on Alaska Airlines/Horizon Air, 5000 on Delta Airlines and Southwest will let you donate a ticket.

Ruppersberger is currently working to add more airlines to the program.

Only troops flying to Baltimore/Washington, Atlanta or Dallas/Fort Worth are eligible for the free tickets. Currently, the CFLCC has 20 free tickets per month to distribute. A random

drawing is done to determine which travel days will receive the tickets. Passenger lists are pulled for those dates and Soldiers are randomly selected for free travel.

Complete donation information is available at www.heromiles.org

Turkey continued from page 11

There were various other happenings at this year's Turkey Shoot. There was an inflatable pirate ship that the younger spectators were able to romp around in. The Boy Scouts of America were on site selling snacks to those who worked up an appetite.

Another range for those in attendance was the archery range. The range had various 3-D targets set up for those interested in seeing how well their aim was.

Soldiers from 3rd Brigade, 75th Division were on hand to help run the ranges, provide assistance for those in need and to make sure safety was kept as the first priority.

Inside the Outdoor Recreation Center there was a Laser Shot Simulator set up. The simulator gave everyone an opportunity to practice their aim before and after the competitions.

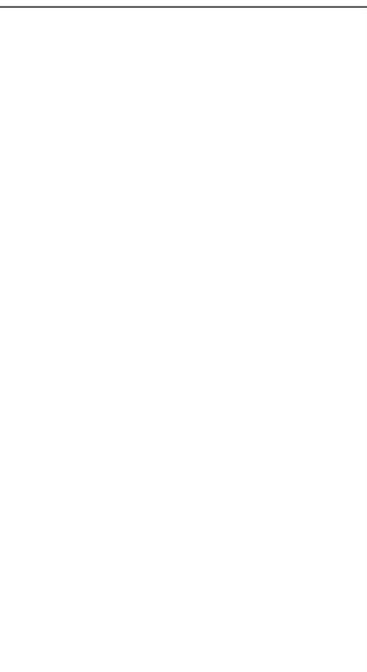
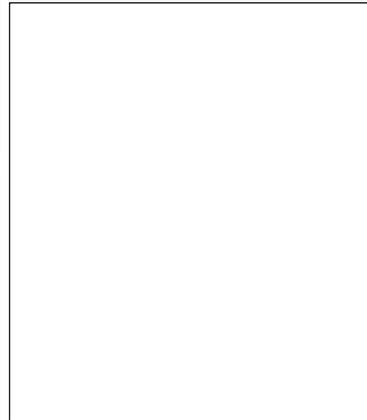
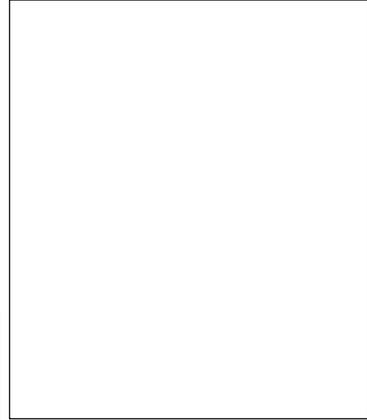
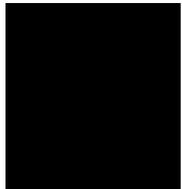
There was a class set up for those who had never fired a weapon prior to the shoot.

At 10 a.m. there was a demonstration for anybody who had never fired a weapon before.

said Mack. "We'll teach them how to shoot the weapon and how to use it safely. Afterward, they will have the chance to put what they learned to the test by shooting at five clay pigeons on the skeet range," he said. "What I hope the kids get out of this is a lot of fun; learn about the safety of weapons and how to fire them correctly."



Fathers, Mark Unruh, left, and Robert Durham, help their sons, Josh, 10, and Triston, 5, take aim at their targets down range during the annual Fort Riley Turkey Shoot.



Letters to the Front

"I would like to let you brave men and women deployed to Iraq, especially the 1st Bn., 16th Inf., know I am very proud of you. I was in your outfit back in the 1950s. You are good people, and I pray for your safe trip back to Fort Riley. May your guardian angel ride on your shoulder." *Sincerely, Weldon Folwell, retired Soldier, Junction City*

"To Sgt. Zach Beaubier, 4th Cavalry: Hi, sweetheart! I love you and miss you so much. I pray you are safe and everything is going okay. Thank you for all the letters you have sent and, yes, they make me smile for hours. I hope you are getting our mail. Your mom and I are writing back and forth to keep in touch on phone calls and care packages.

The weather is starting to cool down, which means Christmas is coming. Guess the only good thing about that is it ends the year and marks it closer to you coming home.

I send you all my love and strength. Be careful, my love! Tell all the guys 'hi' and how proud I am of you all." *Samantha Bush, Edgar, Neb.*

"Dear Soldiers, I have never been so proud of my U. S. military and my president, George W. Bush, in my entire life! And the millions of Iraqis are very proud of you, too, and glad you liberated them from a horrible leader. Thank you all." *Jesus Malverdes, U.S. Army, 1967-1971, San Diego, Calif.*

"I am writing this in hopes that it finds its way to my husband, Spc. Dylan Webb. I just want him to know that I am missing him so very much and that our children are doing so well. Corner is

crawling! Your little girl is my rock. She misses you, she tells me. She is so smart. We haven't received any letters from you yet, and that makes me worry. Everyone else has received at least one. It makes it hard. You are my brave hero, and I love you always and forever, into eternity." *Brandy Webb, military spouse, Council Grove*

"To Sgt. Tim Peterson, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor: We are so proud of you and the services you are doing for the country and its people. We love and miss you beyond all words. Don't worry, everything is being taken care of at home, and we are waiting for your return to Fort Riley. Be careful and take care of yourself. I love you, my husband, my hero and my Soldier. We love you always." *Sue Peterson, Tim, JR and Coby, military family, Fort Riley*

"BP, we all miss you so much. Though not close in distance, you are always near in heart. Until we are reunited, look to the north star." *Melanie Klem, military spouse, Fort Riley*

"Even after our 20 years in the Air Force, we cannot begin to imagine what our troops are going through in these current times. We never had the opportunity to be stationed or deployed in a combat zone. We only know what we read in various commercial and military newspapers, interaction with other military members and from our son, who is stationed at Fort Riley and currently deployed to Iraq. We are proud of our troops around the world and doubly proud of our son, Michael, and his wife and kids. Serve well, and may God bless you all and your families! Go Army!" *Richard*

Ruff, Master Sgt., USAF (Retired) and Gwenda Ruff, Master Sgt., USAF (Retired)

"I just wanted to tell all of you thank you for protecting us. You risk your life every day for us, and I am not really sure that you hear thank you enough. Steven Gadbois, my brother-in-law, we love you very much. I hope you all return home safely and as soon as possible. Thanks for your time." *Danielle Cates, student, Sugar Creek, Mo.*

"To the members of the 101st FSB: We miss you and pray for your safe return. To Spc. Stephen Pierson, we love you very much and miss you the same. The 101st FSB, you are our heroes." *The family members of Spc. Pierson - Sonya, Michael, Chelsea and Austin, Alabama*

"Kenny, I just wanted to let you know Darlene and the baby are doing well. She said Brody had put on weight at his last check up. She is home with her family for a brief visit, introducing Brody to all. She's doing okay, but she misses you. Hang tough! We help take care of your family. Get home safely and soon." *Shelley Anderson-Buckley, Junction City*

"To Pfc. Gordon Hill: Hi, Gordy. It has been chilly and windy here. The leaves are almost gone, and now the rain is starting! We just can't wait for the snow. I replaced you and Josh with a gas operated machine. Your mother is fine and visits Grandma and Grandpa regularly. Bob says 'hi,' and to remember Grimace. Do you need anything? Everyone is doing okay and wishes you the best. We all thank you for your

courage and selflessness to this country. Mom, Bob and I love you and are thinking of you." *Love and Pride, Dad*

"Dear Soldiers, I hope that you all have trust in each other. I pray for you all every night. I miss my husband dearly, but I am comforted knowing you all have each other's backs." *Leticia Baker, military spouse, Fort Riley*

"To Sgt. 1st Class McMurry, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor: Hello, Sgt. Mac. I'm not sure if you remember me, but I was one of your Soldiers last year. I've been promoted to Sergeant. I just wanted to let you know that you made the news not too long ago about you and your twin brother. It was on the local news here in Georgia. I couldn't believe it when I saw it. I hope you stay safe over there, and tell everyone I said hello. Let everyone know that the people in the states are very proud of the job you guys are doing over there. My e-mail address is toddfutter@msn.com.

Please, if you get the chance, let me know how things are going. There is a good possibility that my National Guard unit may be going over there to join in. You take care and hope to hear from you." *Sgt. Todd Futter*

"To Rookie: All of my heart and all of my love go out to you! Come back soon!" *Always, Katie Malone, Baltimore, Md.*

"To the Soldiers of 1st Bn., 34th Armor: My thoughts and prayers are with you all as you embark on this ever so important mission. To my friends and peers, I wish I were with you. To my Soldiers, may the training you

received be sufficient. To the leaders, lead from the front. Thank you for all you are and what you are doing. You'll always have my 100 percent support. Always remember, you are America's finest! Centurions!" *Sgt. First Class David P. Baase, Assistant Professor of Military Studies, UVM ROTC, Burlington, Vt.*

"Hello all. I'm just writing a quick letter to tell you that I am proud of what you guys and girls are doing. My sister, Pvt. Leah Keenan, is part of the 125th Forward Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, and she leaves soon for your location in Iraq.

I have to tell you, I'm pretty worried. I am trying to keep my spirits up for her by telling her it's going to be okay. Can you guys tell me what it's like over there? How hard is it? Will I make myself worry like crazy or should I just try and relax and know that everything happens for a reason? I'm very proud of her for what she is doing.

You guys and girls all rock! I think of you all everyday and hope that longevity and peace is on your side. I look forward to hearing about your situation. Take care." *Jessica Keenan, Kimber-ton, Pa.*

"To Sgt. Mark A. Leathers, Cathy, Cody and Jessica: Mark, I just wanted you to know that we are very proud of you and support you 100 percent. You are constantly in our thoughts and prayers. Matt and Jeff wanted me to tell you 'hi.' Brandon said you need to come home safely so he can come to Kansas and go deer hunting, or you need to go to Illinois. He has yet to get one, by the way!

Cathy, Cody and Jessica, I just wanted to tell you all that I love and miss you guys. I hope that we will be able to meet in Illinois for the holidays. Cody, you haven't lost any money yet. Jessica, well what can I say? I love the glasses, girl!

Cathy, let me know if I can help out in any way. I sent a care package to Mark, and I hope he gets it soon!

Mark, please be careful, and if all else fails, play a Forest Gump and run! Just kidding. Take care of yourself and we all hope to see you soon. Be safe and may God be with each and every one of you." *Love, Cheri, Kingston Springs, Tenn.*

"Happy birthday, Jesse Farris! We miss and love you. We're sending stuff soon." *Ticky Shannon, military sister-in-law, Richmond, Ky.*

"To Nick Klem, I am thinking of you and thanking all of you for our freedom. You are in our thoughts and prayers every day." *Lynda, military cousin, Ohio*

"Nick, we are all thinking of you and pray for a speedy and safe return to your family. Lots of love is being sent your way." *Love, Mike, Lori and Caleb Klem, Ohio*

If you would like to send messages of support to our troops deployed in Operation Iraqi Freedom, e-mail your message to afznpomr@riley.army.mil. Soldiers, include your name, rank, unit and hometown. Military spouses and civilians, include your name, job and hometown.

