

Weather Forecast		Friday		High:71 Low:48
Saturday		High:71 Low:47	Sunday	
				High:68 Low:45

FRIDAY

Fort Riley Post



In Step With Fort Riley
Fort Riley launches a television news and information program.
See Page 7

November 16, 2001

Proudly serving the Home of America's Army

Vol. 44, No. 46

Coalition forces in Kuwait tackle MEDEVAC exercise

By **Natalie Schlotman**

50th Public Affairs Det.

KABAL, Kuwait—All eyes were on Task Force 1st Battalion, 34th Armor's medical platoon Oct. 25 as they conducted a medical evacuation exercise and demonstration.

Kuwaiti soldiers in the 153rd Tank Battalion looked on as American soldiers assessed, treated and evacuated casualties during the training exercise at a Kuwaiti military camp outside the Kabal.

The purpose of the exercise was to give Kuwaitis a better understanding of how the U.S. Army handles different

medical emergencies, said task force commander Lt. Col. Bart Howard. "It's a good opportunity for the medical platoon to demonstrate what they do.

"Our soldiers take pride in sharing their jobs with others — whether they are showing civilians or soldiers from other countries," he said.

Howard said another important part of the exercise was to ensure Kuwaiti and American soldiers can work together effectively. "This coalition training allows us to interact so we better understand each other, because in any operation here we'll be coalition partners."

Soldiers treated conventional injuries

such as dehydration and broken bones and demonstrated triage, the Army's method of prioritized patient care based on the severity of their injuries.

Afterward, they placed the casualties on litters and loaded them onto a UH-60 Black Hawk for evacuation.

Kuwaitis participated in the exercise by helping splint broken bones and loading casualties onto litters. "Soldiers enjoy interaction most, as opposed to something in a classroom," Howard said.

The training gave the Kuwaitis a chance to learn ways to better their own medical force, said SSgt. David Martin, of the medical platoon. "This may be

something they can look at and get ideas from. They can use what they've learned here to set up something similar and improve the system they already have."

The training was important for American soldiers as well, Martin said. "I've never done a medical evacuation in a real emergency. The more I practice it, and the more my guys practice it, the better we'll be at doing our jobs."

Additionally, much of what the medical platoon learned from the force-on-force exercise was reinforced during the MEDEVAC training, said Spec. Edward Bell, who was an aid-man and driver in the medical platoon. "For me it was a

good learning experience."

The only obstacle that slowed training was the language barrier, Martin said.

"Some of the terms we use are foreign to American civilians, so getting our point across to a different nationality was even more challenging," he said.

However, language didn't stop Americans and Kuwaitis from walking away with a new understanding of each other and U.S. Army medical procedures.

"It's been a tremendous success," Howard said. "We've met all objectives, especially ensuring a close bond between the two units — which will last long beyond this exercise."

Metz comes back to take command of division, post

By **Jeremy Heckler**

19th PAD

Immersed in polish and tradition, the Victory Division changed hands Nov. 7 as Maj. Gen. Thomas F. Metz received the guidon and command of the 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley from Maj. Gen. Robert St. Onge Jr.

In his remarks, he indicated that the post serves as a reflection of America's stance against terror.

"The outward sign that we all see is the force protection changes throughout the Army but the Army has been making their vulnerable targets harder and harder," said Metz. "I think internally and to credit of the Army, the President has told us to be ready and we are taking the appropriate steps to be as ready to answer a call that can come any day."

Metz said readiness in the military is high and will continue during his tenure at Fort Riley. His expectation for new soldiers is that readiness will

begin the day they arrive on post.

"I'd tell a recruit new to Fort Riley that we have multiple missions and we could serve our nation's call in many different ways and what I'm looking for is a soldier who is physically fit to fight," said Metz. He said he is looking for soldiers with the basics and will then build on those fundamentals so that when they are deployed they will be ready.

Metz was born in North Carolina, where he lived until enlisting in the Army in June 1966. In August, after BCT at Fort Gordon, Ga., he entered the United States Military Academy Preparatory School. Metz received a regular Army appointment to the United States Military Academy in July 1967.

He said he was influenced to join the Army by his uncle who was a Citadel and academy graduate who went on to serve in WW II and retired a colonel.

See Metz, Page 2

Maintenance troops blaze trail with CTT

By **Kevin Doheny**

Staff Writer

Maintaining combat readiness is a soldier's main goal in the Army. At its lowest level, there are basic tasks all soldiers must be able to perform in a combat situation to maintain that readiness.

This led leaders of the 541st Maintenance Battalion to change up their routine for Common Task Training. They decided to try out a more combat intense type of training.

"It's more realistic in a field environment," said CSM Norberto Osbourne, 541st Maint. Bn. "Soldiers have to navigate from one point to another. Squad leaders, maintenance, supply, clerks, cooks, everyone gets the opportunity to move to different objectives."

Instead of doing the training in a garrison environment, they moved training to the field. The battalion trained the tasks in squad training exercise lanes.

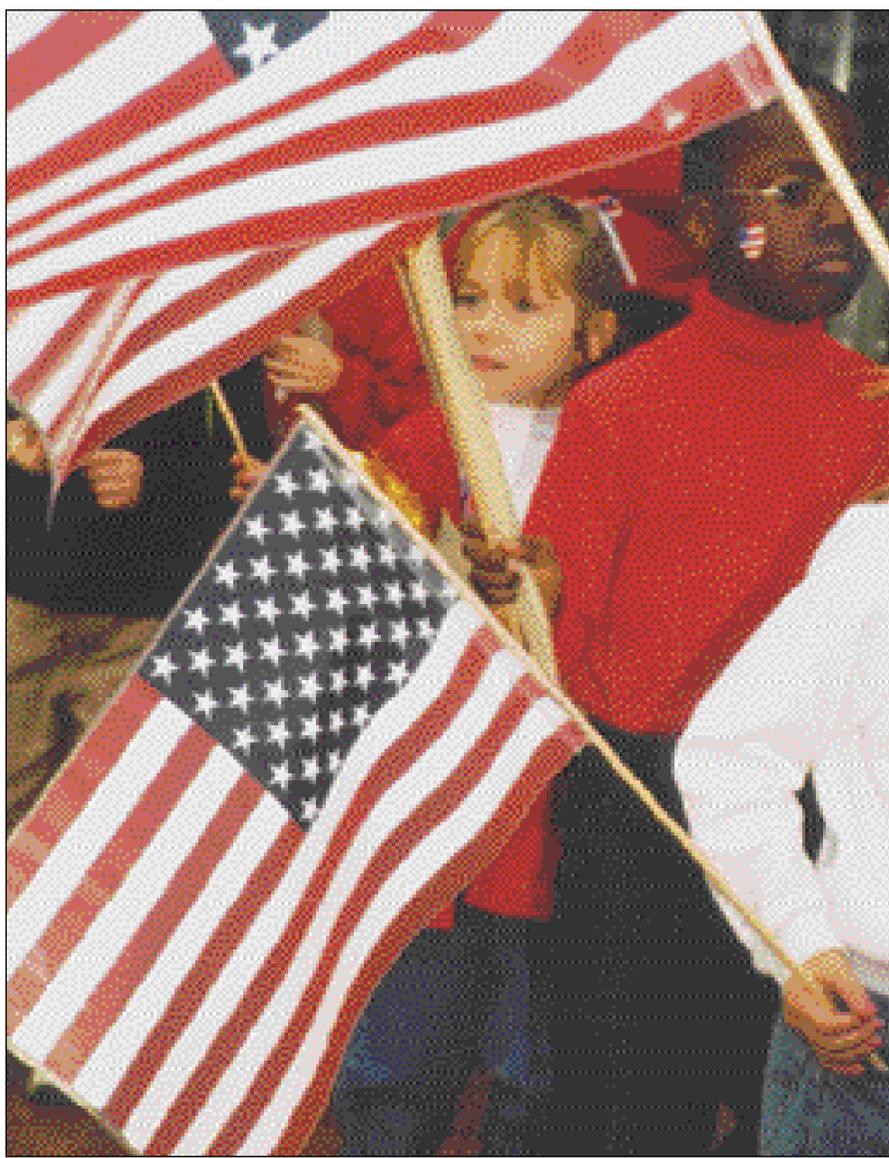
Soldiers moved from lane to lane by navigating over land to each task-based station.

See CTT Page 6



Post/Doheny

Spec. Francisco Reyes, a member of 82nd Medical Company, looks up a lane after passing through an obstacle during the 541st Maint. Bn.'s field-environment CTT training.



Post/D. Skidmore

Local children turn out in force waving American flags at the Veterans Day Celebration Honor Parade held in Manhattan. School children attended to show appreciation for vets.

Veterans remembered

By **Deb Skidmore**

Media Relations Officer

Red, white and blue lined the main street of Manhattan Monday morning as area community members turned out to remember and celebrate American veterans.

The annual Veterans Day Celebration Honor Parade rolled down Poyntz Avenue as Fort Riley soldiers, equipment and color guard proudly marched past citizens waving American flags and cheering their appreciation. Maj. Gen. Thomas F. Metz, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, served as the grand marshal for the Flint Hills Veterans Coalition event.

Hundreds of school children showed their patriotism to the veterans by carrying banners and posters, waving miniature American flags and wearing hats and clothes of red, white and blue. School bands played patriotic songs.

On the sidewalk, veterans reminisced with friends and neighbors about their time in service and

several proudly wore their old uniforms.

"Veterans come from all walks of life," said Metz to a crowd of veterans and friends at a ceremony after the parade in the Warehouse Opera House. He said that veterans have had to "hold freedom's flame high" as he related to

the theme of the day's events.

"Veterans have had to do this several times," Metz said as he traced heroic efforts from the Civil War to the new war on terrorism. "We are appreciative of their sacrifices."

See Veterans Page 6



Post/D. Skidmore

Soldiers of the 1st Engineer Battalion march in step down Poyntz Avenue in Manhattan as part of the Veterans Day celebration held Monday.

Veterans Day history noted

By **Scott Price**

Community Relations Officer

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, of the 20th Century's 18th year, the guns on the Western Front fell silent after more than four years of war.

The leaders of Germany had agreed to and signed an armistice that finally put an end to the horrors of trench warfare. The war that had bled Europe cost the United States the lives of 116,516 soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen. From that day on until well after the Second World War, Nov. 11 would be known in America as Armistice Day.

Shortly after the war ended the British Empire and the Republic of France reclaimed corpses of an unidentified soldier from the battlefields of Europe and buried them on Nov. 11, 1920, with honors in Westminster Abby and the Arc de Triomphe respectively.

Italy and other European nations soon followed suit, honoring unknown soldiers of their own. However, the United States resisted selecting an unknown soldier since government and military leaders hoped the Army Graves Registration Service would identify all of the nation's 1,237 sons that lay in graves marked "unknown soldier."

By Dec. 21, 1920, Congressman Hamilton Fish Jr., of New York, introduced a bill calling for the return to America of an unknown soldier killed in combat in France and for his burial with honors at the Memorial Amphitheater in Arlington National Cemetery.

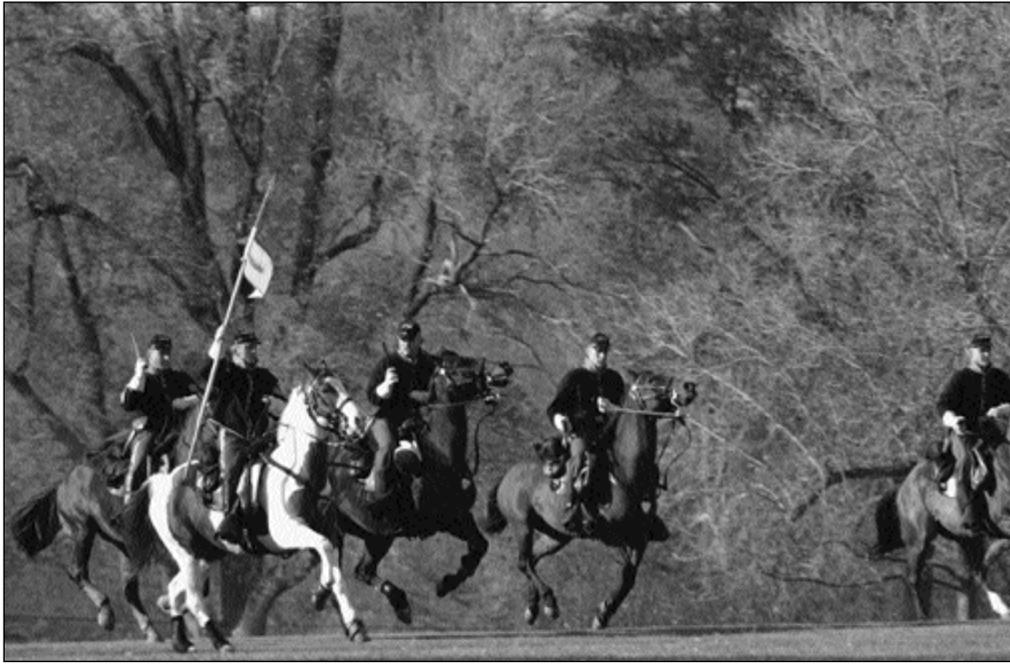
The 66th Congress approved the bill March 4, 1921, although another five years would pass before Congress appropriated the \$50,000 needed to complete the proposed tomb.

Fish hoped America's Unknown Soldier would be entombed on Memorial Day 1921, however, the graves registration service protested saying that each of the remaining unknowns were being investigated and they did not want to select a corpse that might later be identified.

Armistice Day 1921 was selected as the target date for burial of the soldier who still remained to be selected. In response to the selection of Armistice Day for the appointed time of the Unknown Soldier's burial ceremony, Congress declared that day a legal holiday to honor all those who participated in "the Great War."

On Oct. 22, 1921, the bodies of four unidentified American soldiers or Marines were disinterred from their graves in four French cemeteries and transported to Chalons-sur-Marne. The bodies were searched a final time for any trace of identification then placed in identical caskets and shipping cases. The bodies arrived at the Chalons city hall via truck at 3 p.m. the following day. Once inside the caskets were removed from and placed atop the shipping cases and covered with American

See Unknowns Page 6



Members of the Fort Riley Honor Guard perform the Cavalry Charge during the ceremony.

Post/Chadwick



Post/Heckler

The 4th Infantry Division Band traveled from Fort Hood, Texas, to play at the ceremony.



Post/Chadwick

Members of the Fort Riley Honor Guard salute the colors during the change of command.

Metz continued from page 1

"I didn't have the academic background to immediately get into West Point but there are ways enlisted soldiers can do that so I enlisted and was able to go to the Army's preparatory school," said Metz. "I did well there and won an appointment from the Regular Army to the Military Academy a year after enlisting," said Metz.

He said his dreams of becoming a football star may have been a little short sighted, however, his decision to enlist, as a private at age 17 has been instrumental in his life.

Upon graduation from West Point in June 1971, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Infantry.

Metz comes to Fort Riley from the Pentagon where he served as vice director for Force Structure, Resources and Assessment, J8, the Joint Staff.

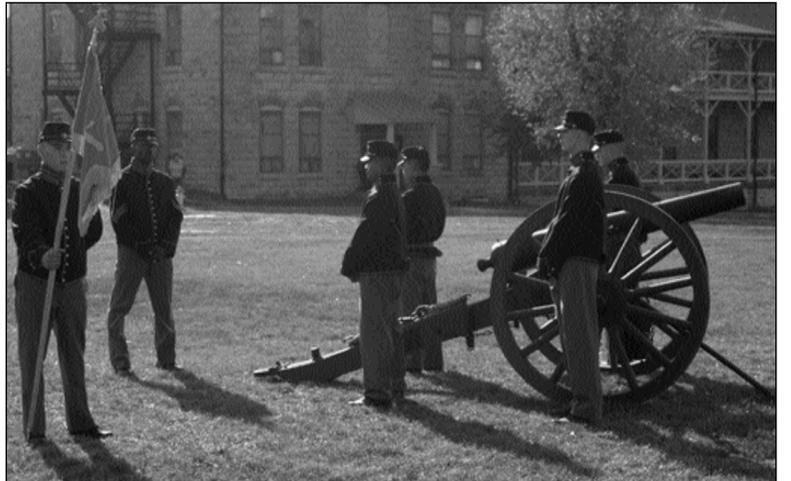
"I have been around the Army and I've been around the world and I have never

experienced a relationship like we have at Fort Riley and the surrounding community," said Metz. "It gives us a combat multiplier that few people really understand." He said it's critical for him to build on the relationship.

"The excitement is to come back and realize that we've maintained that great relationship that has been here for many, many years," said Metz.

Metz returns to Fort Riley, having served as commander of 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division here from July 1992 to 1994 and then as Division and Fort Riley Chief of Staff until June 1995.

"When our soldiers go to the National Training Center, it can be a tough training event that can wear soldiers down, but you just can't wear down Fort Riley soldiers. They fight and fight and fight and they get training out of it."



Post/Doheny

Soldiers of the 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery perform a traditional cannon half-section firing drill at the change of command ceremony.

Veterans signing up

By Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

WASHINGTON—In extraordinary numbers, veterans are inquiring how they can support America's first war of the century.

Those inquiries, however, do not yet equate to large numbers of veterans coming back to active duty.

"The week after Sept. 11, we received over 200 telephone calls, and are processing 200 applicants, but it will be another month before I will know if the calls lead to an increase in recalls," said Lt. Col. Brett Floro, chief of officer accessions at the Total U.S. Army Personnel Command.

The U.S. Army Recruiting Command, which handles prior-service enlisted soldiers and reservists, reports that it has also received an increased amount of inquiries since Sept. 11, but not a significant increase in prior-service enlistments.

A communications specialist in Colorado Springs, Colo., realized two days after the attack that he needed to step up and do the right thing for his country, he said.

"I got out of the Army as a captain after I got married because I was having to spend a lot of time in the field, but if my country needs me to, I'll sit in a field out in the middle of nowhere," said Johnpaul Arnold, a former communications officer.

During an over-the-phone interview, Arnold's voice started to crack as he talked about his father, a veteran of the Vietnam War.

"I know that this is going to be a major sacrifice, but I heard the call, and I'm responding," Arnold said.

"I admire the veterans who have fought for our country, and I just want to do my part," Arnold added. His application is being processed, but he's confident that he will be issued orders.

Before the attack on America, both PERSCOM and USAREC had programs in place to accept veterans.

Call to Active Duty was enacted in fiscal year 1997 when a shortage of aviation warrant officers was identified, Floro said. The program was extended to officers who are qualified in branches that have slots that need to be filled, he said.

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Garrison Commander speaks . . .

Remember safety during holidays

During the holidays we spend a lot of time decorating, cooking, buying gifts, and traveling. Safety in the home will help ensure a safe holiday season.

Be tree smart, each year 530 trees in the United States catch fire due to faulty electrical lights or candles and endanger lives and property.

When purchasing an artificial tree remember to look for the 'fire resistant' label.

If you purchase a live tree make sure it is fresh by checking for needle loss.

Needles should not break off or fall off when the tree is shaken. Once you get the tree home, remember to water it frequently.

Whether you buy an artificial tree or a live tree, do not place it near heating devices or fireplaces. If possible, set your tree up near a smoke detector, so you will be alerted sooner in the event of a fire.

When decorating your tree with lights use only UL-approved decorative lights in working condition discarding frayed or damaged lights. Use only non-combustible or flame resistant decorations on your tree.

When decorating the outside of the house with lights use only outdoor UL-approved electrical devices. Connect cords and wires using outdoor electrical outlets instead of running them through windows and doors.

Lights should be attached using safety hooks instead of staples or nails. Make sure to not overload electrical circuits and always use Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI). To conserve energy you may have your Christmas lights

on from 5 p.m.-10 p.m. Dec. 1 through Jan. 3 and all Christmas decorations and lights must be taken down by Jan. 15.

In the kitchen, be sure the food you cook or serve is safe for your family and guests.

Wash your hands before and after handling food, especially poultry. Raw meat, and especially raw poultry, contains bacteria that can cause severe illness if consumed.

Townhall Message:

By Col. Philip Pope
Garrison Commander

Make sure all surfaces, dishes and tools used to prepare raw meat have been thoroughly cleaned before bringing them into contact with food ready for consumption.

Cooking at proper temperatures is the best way to ensure food safety. The second best way is to keep hot foods hot (at least 140 degrees Fahrenheit) and cold foods cold (40 degrees Fahrenheit or colder).

While out shopping for gifts discourage thieves by parking in well-lit areas and staying alert to activities going on around you, put gifts in the trunk of your car or out of sight.

At home don't display gifts where they may be seen through windows and make sure that windows and doors are locked.

You would be surprised at the number of families the leave their quarters and vehicles unlocked; I see it daily on the MP report.

If leaving your home for the

holidays, ask your neighbors to watch your home, check your mail, shovel the snow from your walks and driveway, and park in your driveway.

Also the MPs have a program for checking homes while occupants are away. Occupants simple need to contact the MPs to coordinate for this service.

Finally, vehicles parked on the street might well prevent the Public Works from plowing your street after a snowstorm.

Keep your vehicles in good running condition in the winter, as colder weather can make roadside repair a difficult and dangerous task.

If you are planning to travel by car for the holidays consider a tune up, make sure your tires have good traction for ice and snow and check your windshield wipers and fluid levels.

It is also a good idea to pack a cold weather kit to include a blanket, food, water, candle, cell phone, jumper cables, and a first aid kit in case you get stranded. The auto craft shop can assist with all of the above.

The Garrison Staff is here to meet the requirements of soldiers, units and families.

Rest assured we will do all possible to insure your community is safe and provides the service you deserve.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

75th Div. keeps troops Ready

By Jeremy Heckler

19th Public Affairs Det.

As the nation's reserve and National Guard units are called onto active duty, serving as part of Homeland Defense, installations such as Fort Riley answer the call by allowing Freedom's Guardians to get into the fight as quickly as possible.

Fort Riley and the 3rd Brigade, 75th Division (Training Support) work together to ensure that the units in its area of operations are ready for any mission they are tasked to do.

"This is part of Fort Riley's mission which is to train and mobilize reserve and National Guard units for deployment," said Robert Tucker, mobilization planner, 3rd Brigade, 75th Div.

"My job is to monitor and coordinate with 5th Army on the training requirements with units in a four state area," said Capt. Calvin Robinson, mobilization officer for 3rd Brigade, 75th Div. The brigade supports five battalions that send combat support teams to observe unit training and ensure that they are training to standard.

"Our forward assister teams assist in Soldier Readiness Preparation at the home station," said Robinson. He added that the teams observe the work of reserve units and verify that the process is conducted properly.

Units come through Fort Riley as the final part of their process.

"Fort Riley executes Phase IV mobilization activities," said Tucker. Phase IV, according to Tucker is the last level of deployment before the actual deployment.

"This is part of Fort Riley's mission which is to train and mobilize Reserve and National Guard units for deployment."

—Robert Tucker
Mobilization Planner
3rd Brigade, 75th Div.

"The mobilization station serves both phase IV and V. We bring them on active duty, validate that they meet mission requirements for deployment and deploy them," said Tucker. That may require SRP and training resources as well as any other logistical support, all of which are provided by Fort Riley.

Instead of a centralized loca-

tion for SRP the units go to each area as a group to complete a section. Over the course of one weekend a unit will travel all across post. A day could involve starting at Irwin Army Community Hospital, then to dental checks and possibly a side trip to the range for last minute qualification.

"My team makes sure that they are fed, Patricia King, at post mobilization does all of the scheduling and coordinates unit's physicals and appointments," said Robinson. "She knows what it is going to take to get them out of the door and ready to go."

"It is the effort that the different agencies put forth to assist these units that makes it all possible," said Robinson.

The only obstacle between getting units to their job is identifying what support they need to be successful and providing able to provide it for them.

"Everybody wants to do their job," said Tucker. "It's just coordinating what they're needed for and getting them to it."

Tucker said that prior to Homeland Defense most units fell into a theater war plan, but units have new functions to fill that creates new problems.

The ultimate goal is to get the soldiers in and out of Fort Riley and to where they are needed most.

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Shoppe News

The Shoppe has restocked after a very successful Christmas Open House. The Shoppe has many holiday items for your home or gift giving. Lots of smalls for those holiday host and hostess gifts and your Christmas ornament exchange parties. Stop by and visit The Shoppe Tuesday-Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Shoppe is located at Bldg. 259 Stuart Ave. Phone 785-239-2783. The Shoppe will be open on Mondays during the month of December to help fulfill your holiday needs.

Thrift Shop

The Fort Riley Thrift Shop is located in Bldg. 267 on Stuart Avenue near the stables. Store hours are 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on the first Saturday of each month. The shop currently has numerous formals in stock for the upcoming holiday ball season.

Consignments are accepted from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays and open Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon. Volunteers are needed during business hours to help tag and put donations on the shelves. Child care reimbursement is available. For information, call 784-3874. The Thrift Shop now has an e-mail address, thrift@oz-online.net, for customer questions or concerns.

Skating Rink

Riley Wheels Skating Rink, located inside King Field House, Main Post, is available for rent for private functions. For details call 239-3764.

Holiday Reservations

Riley's Conference Center is taking reservations for the upcoming holiday season.

Units, groups and organizations are encouraged to plan ahead and make reservations now for catered parties, functions and events.

Riley's catering hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and appointments can be made for Saturday. Information on catering, banquet and party options is available by calling 784-5999.

Golf Course Sale

The Custer Hill Golf Course Pro Shop Holiday Sale has been set for Nov. 23 through Dec. 15. The Pro Shop will offer 20 percent discounts on its quality line of golf clubs, clothing, hats and shoes during the sale period. As a special offer, customers who spend \$750 or more in Pro Shop purchases during the sales period will receive a free \$150 annual membership to the Custer Hill Golf Course.

Permits Available

Fort Riley hunting, fishing and fuelwood permits and firearms registration can be acquired by both Department of Defense ID cardholders and non-DoD ID cardholders at the Fort Riley Outdoor Recreation Center, Bldg. 9011 Rifle Range Road.

Firearms must be registered before they are brought onto the installation.

Firearms deer carcass tags can be acquired at the Fort Riley Conservation Division Office, Bldg. 1020 Huebner Road.

Permits, tags and registrations are no longer available at Fort Riley's Range Control Annex, Bldg. 9001.

The Outdoor Recreation Center

is open Tuesday-Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (except federal holidays) and Saturday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The Conservation Division is open Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. (except federal holidays).

For more information, contact the Conservation Division office at 785-239-6211 or email afznesn@riley.army.mil

Cancer Support Group

The Fort Riley Cancer Support Group is meeting Dec. 5 at 6 p.m., at Irwin Army Community Hospital, first floor, in the patient waiting area of the Surgery Clinic.

Servicemembers, their family members and Department of Army Civilians are welcome to attend. Participation is encouraged for persons who were recently diagnosed with cancer, family and friends of persons with cancer, and cancer survivors. For information call 239-7163.

Archery Tournament

Outdoor Recreation is hosting a 3D Archery target tournament at 10 a.m. Saturday. This is a fun way to test your skills against other archers. The cost \$10 per person.

Tobacco Cessation

New classes are forming to kick that tobacco habit. Irwin Army Community Hospital offers a four-week tobacco cessation program, which meets on Wednesdays from 5-6 p.m. or Thursdays from 3:30-4:30 p.m. For those concerned about gaining weight after kicking the tobacco habit, a dietician teaches participants healthy ways to avoid weight gain. Servicemembers, their families, and DoD civilians may participate in the cessation program. For information call 239-7323.

OCS Board

The Officer Candidate School board will be held on Dec. 11-12 at 9 a.m. at 1st PSB, Bldg. 7806 in the perstempo office.

CYS Volunteers

Child and Youth Services need volunteers to be mentors, youth sports coaches, chaperones, office aides, maintenance aides and special presenters. Contact Cathy Spiegel, at 239-9850 for more information. Volunteers who work in CYS programs require background checks.

CDC Expands Care

The Child Development Center has expanded the hourly care program in both hours and capacity. Care is now available for children six weeks old to kindergarten age. Hourly care is open 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Reservations can be made up to 30 days in advance. Child and Youth Services registration is required to utilize the hourly care program. Call the Central Enrollment Registry Office at 239-4847 to register for the program.

Hourly care reservations can be made by calling the Child Development Center at 239-9935.

Recruiters Visit

The Recruit the Recruiter Team from Headquarters, U.S. Army Recruiting Command, Fort Knox, Ky. will brief on the challenges, benefits and opportunities to become recruiters. Attendance by all NCO's is highly encouraged. This briefing in no way obligates you for recruiting duty, a personal interview following the briefing will determine qualifications.

Briefings will be held at the Normandy Theater, Dec. 4-5 at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. each day. For information call 239-5953.

Self Help

Every unit is required to have an NCO and three school trained members on their Self-Help Team. The Public Works Self-Help School can help units establish a good Self-Help Program. The course is scheduled every month and the next is scheduled to start Nov. 26. Classes are also scheduled for Dec. 10-14 and Jan. 7-11. For information visit the PW web site or call 239-3757.

Office Closure

The CPAC will be closed from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. today for a CPAC Thanksgiving Luncheon and short staff meeting.

Vehicle Registration

Department of Defense vehicle registration stickers are controlled forms and must be accounted for. Vehicle stickers are issued to authorized individuals for the purpose of identifying properly registered privately owned vehicles.

Vehicle owners are responsible for the control of these stickers and must return them if the ownership of the vehicle is transferred. The sticker must be scraped off the window and returned to the Vehicle Registration Office in Bldg. 210. Stickers stolen or otherwise missing from a vehicle must be reported immediately to the Vehicle Registration Office or to the Military Police Desk at 239-MPMP (6767). Stickers are not transferable. When purchasing a new vehicle it must be registered with the Vehicle Registration Office.

Thanksgiving meal

Thanksgiving lunch will be served in the Custer Hill dining facilities Wednesday and in the Main Post dining facility Thursday. Hours for the all-you-can-eat

lunch are as follows: Bldg. 7011, Wednesday, noon-3 p.m.; Bldg. 7245, Wednesday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Bldg. 7856, Wednesday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.; Bldg. 8063, Wednesday, noon-2:30 p.m.; Bldg. 251, Thursday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

FORT RILEY POST

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Weekend Shuttle Bus Service

Sports USA, 2600 Trooper Drive, Camp Forsyth, will offer free, weekend shuttle bus service to and from the Custer Hill area beginning today, according to Jim Rose, Sports USA General Manager.

The shuttle will run hourly on Fridays and Saturdays, 6 p.m. to Midnight and Sundays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Shuttle stops and departure times include:

Fridays-Saturdays 6 p.m.-Midnight
Sundays 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Hourly Departure times

Sports USA :00 on the hour
New barracks complex :10 past the hour

Bldgs. 7003-7081

Custer Hill Lanes :15 past the hour
Normandy Theater :25 past the hour
Long Fitness Center :30 past the hour
Return Sports USA :40 past the hour

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Veterans continued from page 1

Kansas Senator Sam Brownback agreed saying, "Freedom matters greatly. It is time to give thanks to our veterans."

Brownback said that we are living in "different times" now as he referred to the recent terrorist attacks on the United States. He said that the current generation is being tested. However, he stressed that the United States is strong, and the people have united since the Sept. 11 disaster.

"Just look at the flags flying along the street now," he said. "We are a strong nation today. We are up to the challenge. We are dedicated, and we are united."

"Liberty is our central principle," Brownback said, "and our challenge is to carry on the flag of liberty."

Riley County Commission Chairman Russ Frey told the

audience that he thought Americans had found a new sense of patriotism.

"It's good to see patriotism reborn," he said. "It's fitting to thank God for those who have served and given their lives for this country."

Metz reminded everyone that as ordinary citizens we have to decide what we are willing to do to "hold freedom's flame high." He commended the citizens on board the airliner Sept. 11 who overthrew the terrorists crashing their own plane before more damage could be done to fellow Americans.

"These were ordinary citizens who made something happen," he said. "They didn't take an oath like soldiers do."

Metz said that everyone has a duty as citizens, and he encouraged everyone to keep veterans in their prayers.

CTT continued from page 1

When they arrived at a certain lane they performed a task such as First Aid or Move and Cover Under Direct Fire. Some of the lanes involved three different tasks in one.

For example, in one lane, the

soldiers had to successfully navigate to the station from the starting point. Once they successfully navigated to their first position they moved underneath concertina wire with rucksack, move to cover in 3-5 second rushes, low-

crawl to a defensive firing position, and then perform first-aid tasks.

"The main thing is getting out of the garrison environment and getting the soldier out in the woods, in the tree lines and falling in the dirt," said Sgt. Jake Stacey, 1st Maintenance Company. "When back in garrison, this type of training is usually done in the shop and on concrete."

"They get the feel of moving to an objective like a light fighter," said Osbourne. "This way is much better than sitting back in garrison and moving from one station to another."

Osbourne said his soldiers get a chance to react to an event as it is happening. "The soldiers move to an objective and they hear 'incoming,' they have to react to it. Then they are given a situation and they must react to it, which is the CTT task."

Osbourne also said senior non-commissioned officers and first-line leaders also get a chance to

perform their CTT skill level.

"The seniors get the chance here to give the squad leaders an objective, and at the same time the senior NCO is doing his skill level. He gets to do his objective, which is skill level 4. He gets a chance to do his job in a field environment, instead of walking up to station and saying 'hey grade me on this.'"

"It gives me confidence and gives me an idea on what I still need to train on," said Stacey. "It also gives me a chance to evaluate the soldiers on their strengths and weaknesses."

Osbourne said junior soldiers have an advantage because they get to see what his leaders do in this environment.

"The get a chance to build confidence with their sergeants," said Osbourne, "They get opportunities to look over maps, some of them have been to the Professional Leaders Course, so they get a chance to show what they learned there."



Post/Doherty

PFC Brian Benson, 82nd Med. Co., provides overwatch, as another soldier moves to cover.

Unknowns continued from page 1

flags. An honor guard stood watch over the four caskets throughout the night.

The following day, Sgt. Edward F. Younger, of the 50th Infantry Regiment, entered the room clutching a bouquet of white roses presented to him by a French family who had lost two sons in the war. Younger, a highly decorated war hero, walked around the caskets several times before he paused, placed the roses on the selected coffin and saluted. America had

her Unknown Soldier.

The Unknown Soldier was transported to the port city of Le Harve, France, where he was entrusted to the U.S. Navy and the crew of the Olympia. French ships fired a 17-gun salute and formed an escort of honor as the Olympia pulled away from the pier. Crossing the Atlantic took 15-days, arriving at the Washington Naval Yard Nov. 9, 1921. Members of the 3rd Cavalry escorted the flag draped cof-

fin to the Capitol while the regimental band played "Onward Christian Soldiers."

After the casket was placed inside the Capitol's rotunda and the military honor guard had taken its position, President Warren Harding entered the room and placed a bouquet of crimson roses on the casket and pinned a silver national shield to the flag. The next day, more than 90,000 Americans paid their respects to

the Unknown Soldier as he lay in state.

At 8:30 a.m. the following day, Armistice Day, the funeral procession began to make its way toward Arlington. The brightest and best of the United States of America followed the soldier's casket down Pennsylvania Avenue. Over 5,000 people crowded around the ceremonial gravesite and the ceremony began at 11:55 a.m. President Harding placed the Medal of Honor upon the casket. The

solemn ceremony concluded with a final rendering of military honors and a Christian burial service.

In 1926 Congress made Armistice Day an official holiday and in 1938, it was declared a national holiday. Then came World War II and Korea. In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower, signed an act redesignating Armistice Day to Veteran's Day, honoring all veterans of America's wars.

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Army Football

Sept. 8	Cincinnati	(L)24-21
Sept. 22*	UAB	(L) 3-55
Sept. 29*	BC	(L)10-31
Oct. 6	Houston	(W)28-14
Oct. 13	ECU	(L)49-26
Oct. 20*	TCU	(L)38-20
Oct. 27	Tulane	(W)42-35
Nov. 3*	AF	(L)34-24
Nov. 10	Buffalo	(L)26-19
Nov. 17*	Memphis	
Dec. 1	Navy	

*Away games

Fort Riley Sports

November 16, 2001

News about Fort Riley Sports, Fitness and Pastimes

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Coalition training finalized with fun

By Natalie Schlotman

50th Public Affairs Det.

KABAL, Kuwait—The desert stirred with excitement Oct. 29, as Task Force 1st Battalion, 34th Armor and Kuwaiti soldiers with 153rd Tank Battalion, shared a day of culture and athletic competition.

Camel rides, folk dancers, sports and an armored vehicle display were some of the things on hand at the Coalition Sports Day celebration in the Kabal.

The day marked the successful completion of coalition training, said 1st Sgt. Jeffrey Shafer, Headquarters Co., TF 1st Bn., 34th Armor. "We've trained with the soldiers of the 153rd for the past four weeks," he said. "Now that we understand how each unit trains and fights, we've come together to establish esprit de corps by playing sports and having an all-around good time."

For task force soldiers, the day was a good change of pace, said SSgt. Verle Wright, who participated in the sports day. "I enjoyed the day because it broke up our normal routine. It was a chance to enjoy some fun competition and hang out with our comrades."

Coalition Sports Day kicked off when task force soldiers with Companies A and C, and Company A, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry formed joint teams with their coalition partners. They competed in games including soccer, volleyball, softball, football and a tug-of-war bout.

Support soldiers who didn't partake in coalition training joined in some Kuwaiti-versus-American competition.

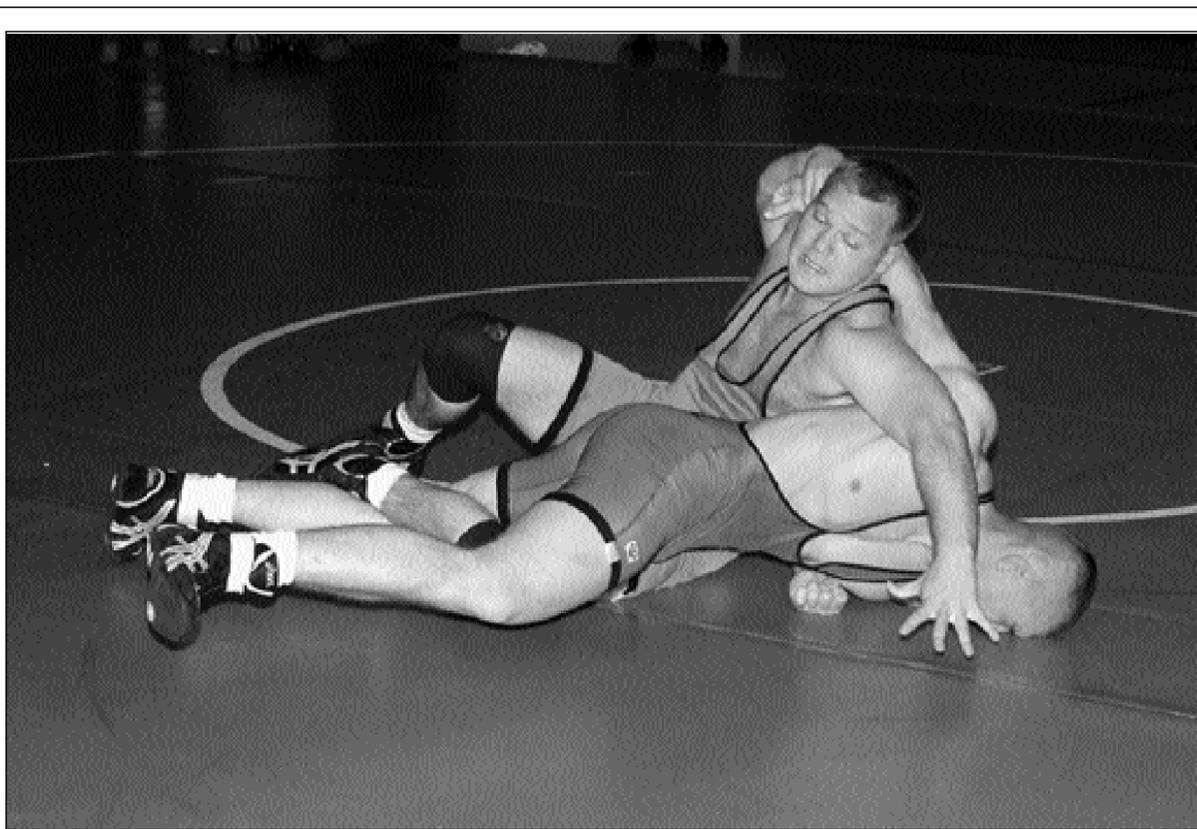
Soldiers had a good time watching the games, Wright said. "The soccer match was especially fun to watch. The Kuwaitis were great players — they ended up winning the game."

After an afternoon of sports competition, soldiers tackled their appetites with a catered meal. "The barbecue was outstanding. Everyone enjoyed the American and Arabic menu," Wright said.

In addition to catered food and sports, soldiers watched a performance by the Arabian Knight folk dancers and rode camels. "The camels were great. Even soldiers who didn't ride them had a blast."

"It was just as fun to stand back and see others ride," he said. "There was a large crowd gathered around laughing — it was very entertaining."

An armored vehicle display was also on-hand. The display gave support soldiers who didn't participate in the coalition training a chance to see the Kuwaiti vehicles, said Task Force 1-34 Armor Commander Lt. Col. Bart Howard. "This day is special because it gives all soldiers a chance to interact and learn more about each other."



Post/Doheny

Leon Nash tries to put Scott Polzin in a hold during their match at the wrestling tournament Nov. 5-6 at King Field House. Polzin would recover in the match to beat Nash, would eventually become the winner in their weight class.

Ancient sport still admired

By Kevin Doheny

Staff Writer

Wrestling.

It is one of the oldest forms of sport in the world.

For centuries, wrestlers have competed against each other in the "squared circle."

Wrestling dates back into Ancient Egypt and Greece and was an event during the ancient Olympic games.

Many famous wrestlers have competed on the mat.

Former Presidents George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt were all wrestlers. Also, actors Tom Cruise, Robin Williams, along with Gen. Norman Schwartzkopf and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld laced up the wrestling shoes and grappled on the mat.

Also, wrestling in early times, was highly valued as form of military exercise without weapons. Even today militaries all over the world use forms of wrestling as a form of combat training for their soldiers.

Fort Riley hosted soldiers competing against each other during the installation's 2001 post-wide wrestling tournament Nov. 5-6.

The wrestlers were divided into different weight classes. They were: 128, 139, 152, 167, 187, 214, 276.

"The rules were set-up like everyone was used to," said Steven DeBeau, of the 24th Infantry Division and winner of the 139-pound weight class. "For

people who haven't wrestled in a long time, this tournament gave them a chance to get some good time on the mat and have some fun."

The tournament was a round-robin style tournament. Each wrestler had a chance to wrestle each of their opponents in their weight class.

After the matches were completed, the winner was determined by who beat whom.

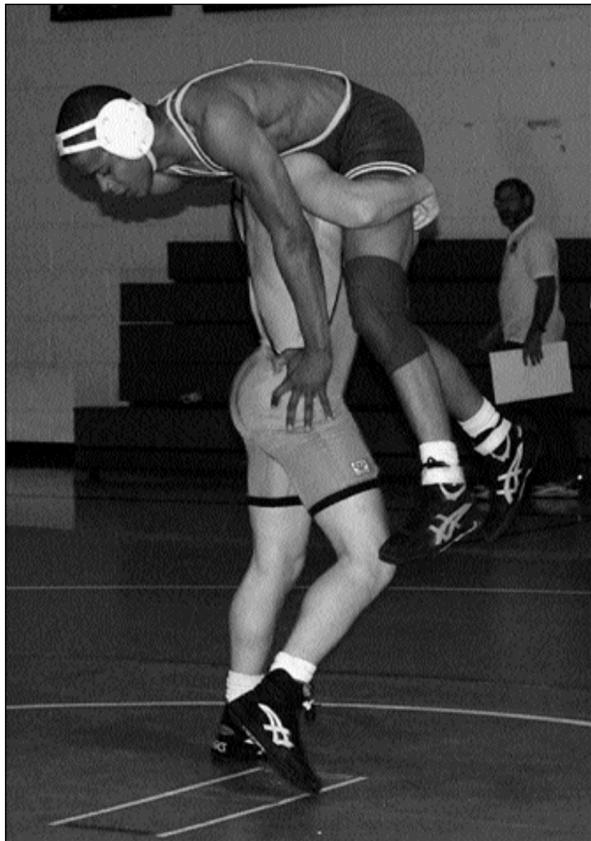
"The competition in my class was good," said DeBeau. "It was real competitive. Everyone moved around a lot and had a good time."

At the end of the competition, the wrestlers were presented with trophies for their efforts. Also, along with the individual awards, there was a team award given out as well.

The winners for the weight classes were; 128 pounds, Warnell Ludington, 541st Maintenance Battalion, 138 pounds, Steven Debeau, 152 pounds, Timothy Green, Battery C, 4th Battalion 3rd Air Defense Artillery, 167 pounds, Jason Yoder, 10th Air Support Operations Squadron, 187 pounds, Scott Polzin, 541st Maint. Bn., 214 pounds, Michael Stone, 300th Military Police Company, 276 pounds, Steven Vickers, Company B, 70th Engineer Battalion.

Capturing the team title, 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery, had 152 combined points, the MPs came in second place with 52

See Wrestling Page 8



Post/Doheny

Warnell Ludington gets a lift on his opponents shoulders before being slammed to the ground. He would be victorious in the match and would win the title in his weight class.

Troopers fall to Chapman

By Kevin Doheny

Staff Writer

A famous saying in sports is, "It's not whether you win or lose, it's how you play the game."

If this saying is true then the Troopers from Fort Riley Middle School can hold their heads up high after their basketball game against the Chapman Fighting Irish Tuesday at the FRMS gym.

The Lady Troopers played the Irish hard but fell to the more experienced Irish squad 40-17.

The A team led by Vennesa Colunga's six points, started off giving the Irish trouble, as they jumped out to a quick 4-0 lead.

The Irish took a timeout to stop the bleeding. They came out of the timeout on fire and began to take control of the game. They led the Lady Troopers 19-6 at halftime.

"They were taller than us at every position," said A Team Coach Mike Whaley.

"They kept getting three or four opportunities on every possession, on the other hand we were only getting one maybe two," he said.

The Lady Troopers tried to battle back in the third quarter, as they outscored the Irish 9-6 in the quarter.

"We pressed very well," said Whaley. "A lot of the points we got were by forcing turnovers and getting steals."

The Lady Troopers offense stalled in the fourth quarter and the Irish built a lead the Lady Troopers couldn't overcome.

Other standouts in the A Team game were; Courtney Shanklin with three points, and Kandice Hilson, Mikaila Kuckhahn, and Lauren Kelly each pitched in with two.

"The girls played hard in the second half, despite being down 19-6," Whaley said.

"The girls played with a lot of pride. We tell them to defend their home court. They played better in the second half. I'm proud of the effort," he said.

In the B Team game, the Lady Troopers battled hard but fell to the Irish 29-18.

The Lady Troopers play Nov. 27 at the middle school at 4 p.m. against Manhattan's Anthony Middle School.



US Army Photo/Amanda Glenn

Lt. Gen. Doug Brown, commander of the U.S. Army Special Operations Command, meets Redskins Defensive End Marco Coleman.

Soldiers appreciated at Redskins game

By Amanda Glenn

Army News Service

The Washington Redskins showed their appreciation for soldiers Nov. 3 during a home game in which they beat the Seattle Seahawks 27-14.

More than 30 U.S. Army Special Operations Command soldiers participated in the Redskin's Military Appreciation Day.

Lt. Gen. Doug Brown, USASOC commander, and CSM Richard Efirid of USASOC were at center field for the game-starting coin toss.

With a large smile on his face, Brown not only handed off the coin for the

toss, he shook hands with the players. Meanwhile, from the stands, soldiers from throughout USASOC cheered, clapped and enjoyed the game.

Prior to the kickoff and after the game ended, fans examined the Ranger Special Operations Vehicle, the M-H6 Little Bird and other equipment.

As part of the festivities, rangers from Company A, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Hunter Army Air Field, Ga.; soldiers from the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Abn.), Fort Campbell, Ky.; Special Forces soldiers from Company C, 1st Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group

(Airborne); and a soldier from 9th Psychological Operations Battalion, 4th Psychological Operations Group from Fort Bragg, N.C., set up equipment at the gates for Redskins fans to enjoy.

Throughout the day, said MSgt. Roberto Torres, Special Forces team sergeant, people came up to shake his hand and thank him for being in the Army. "They thanked me for serving and told me we were doing a great job. I really enjoyed this," said Torres.

Sgt. Quoc Chiem, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 528th Special Operations Support Battalion (Airborne),

said he had a great time at the game. This was the second time he attended a professional football game. "The game was pretty good, but what I really liked was how people kept coming up to me to shake my hand and thank me for serving. A retired chief warrant officer shook my hand and then bought my lunch. It was great," Chiem said.

As fans of the Redskins and the Seahawks hurried to the gate to enter the stadium, their eyes traveled to the SOF equipment and they had to stop, look and sometimes sit in the equipment. Many took their pictures with the soldiers.

Devanta Wilkerson,

who turned 9 years old that day, sat in the RSOV and Little Bird. It made his day, explained his godmother who brought him to the game.

The adults who viewed the exhibits also enjoyed talking to the soldiers. James Morris was assigned to a psychological operations unit before he retired as a sergeant major.

He said he looked forward to seeing the new equipment.

Other retirees reminisced with the USASOC soldiers about their times in the military and caught up on what equipment replaced the ones they used.



Fort Riley hosts Special Olympic Bowling Tournament



Post/Heckler

Ronald Redman and Kent Taylor, coaches of the Topeka Hawks, assist Kent Taylor during the Special Olympics Bowling Tournament at Custer Hill Lanes Nov. 9.

By Jeremy Heckler
19th Public Affairs Detachment

"Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt," are the words that every special athlete says before they compete in any event.

Athletes from all over Northeast Kansas took the oath as part of the Special Olympics Bowling Tournament held on Fort Riley Nov. 9-10.

"This is part of the Special Olympics Indoor games," said SFC Charles Ryan, 1st Replacement Company, a 10-year veteran coach. The competition also included a bowling competition in Manhattan as well as volleyball at Kansas State University.

"We brought eight kids who vary in age from 14 to 45," said David Hull, coach of the Wamego Windmills. The Windmills participate in four events all year. Over 200 soldiers volunteered for the event, including members of the Noncommissioned Officers Association, BOSS, as well as several units on post.

"I'm here with about 11 others from NCOA because NCOA believes in volunteering my

time and efforts to give back to the community," said MSgt. Pamela Carr, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division. Carr and her fellow NCOs provided awards to all of the winners.

Other volunteers served in a variety of roles, from coaches to huggers.

"The Girl Scouts helped out with passing out medals and I helped prepare 937 lunches for the event," said Patty Foote, post liaison to the Girl Scouts. The Scouts earned community service badges for their work.

"Each coach takes one athlete around to all of the events," said Ryan.

In addition to coaches, some Olympic events have huggers, people who stand at the finish line with their arms open to catch the runners as they complete the event. For the coaches, it is the little things that make it worthwhile.

"If you have an allergy to affection this is not for you," said Ryan.

"I always enjoy working with the handicapped," said Capt. Sheryl Maxwell, company commander, 1st Replacement Co. "They are more forgiving, more giving and more loving."

Maxwell, who has a brother with Down's Syndrome has worked with Special Olympics since she was 11.

"The coaches help me to have fun," said Ashley Poe of Hutchinson, Kansas. Poe earned second place in her session.

During the course of the two-day competition bowlers and their coaches bowled for the joy of competition. At the end of their match, every athlete was presented with an award.

"It is pure excitement because everyone gets an award and a medal and the athletes don't care if they get first, second or third," said Maxwell.

"I like being involved with Special Olympics because of all of the camaraderie," said Hull. "It is great to see somebody overcome their obstacles and see them grow from kids to adults." He said that one of his greatest moments as a coach came when his team won their first baseball game after losing their first game.

For the kids it is not about winning, but about the attempt.

"It made me happy to get a medal but if I didn't get second place I'd still be happy," said Poe.

Wrestling continued from page 7

points, and the 70th Eng. Bn. placed third with 47 points.

Some wrestlers, in order to be competitive, had to get into what is known as "wrestling shape."

"Wrestling shape is sort of like boxing shape," said DeBeau.

"It takes a lot of discipline and hard work to get into

wrestling shape. That is why wrestling takes great discipline. I hit the mat hard the last month," he said.

Even though these wrestlers duelled it out different than their counterparts centuries before, they can still know they are carrying on the tradition of a sport, which has outlasted the test of time.

Boxing begins Nov. 27

The 2001 Fort Riley Novice Boxing Tournament is scheduled for Nov. 27- Dec. 1 at King Field House.

It is open to active duty soldiers only.

Weight classes are; 112, 119, 125, 132, 139, 147, 156, 165, 175, 185, 195, 205, 215 and over 225 pounds.

Weigh-ins will be conducted Nov. 27 from 7-9 a.m. at King

Field House.

All Boxers are required to pass a physical within two weeks of the initial mandatory weigh-in scheduled for Nov. 27. A coaches meeting is scheduled for bracketing, at King Field House at 11 a.m. Nov. 27. For information, call the Sports Office at 239-2172/3945.

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Fort Riley Community

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Page 9

Commissaries ring up 30.4 percent saving on groceries

By Bonnie Powell

DeCA

FORT LEE, Va.—The Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) hit the 10-year mark as an agency this fall. "But we're much happier to be hitting 30," says DeCA Director Air Force Maj. Gen. Robert J. Courter Jr.

Hitting 30? "For the last two years we've made tremendous strides toward several major goals, such as cutting costs and increas-

ing service," says Courter. "But one goal has risen above all others — achieving 30 percent savings for our customers. I'm very pleased to announce that we've hit, and surpassed, the 30 percent mark for the first time in DeCA's history."

"We've really focused on our strategies and objectives, changed the way we do business, and worked even harder to achieve major savings for customers," says Bob Vitikacs, chief of DeCA's grocery buying division, the Marketing Business Unit.

Buyers at the MBU negotiate the lowest possible prices for products sold in commissaries.

"Tougher negotiations with industry have made a difference," says Vitikacs. "And we've obtained tools and technology, such as scanner data, to help us make good decisions."

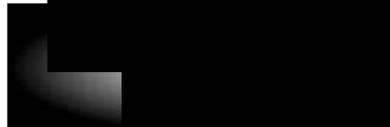
Data is obtained every time a product is passed over the scanner at the register. The data from commissaries and other retail grocers helps buyers know which products are most popular and which

offer the best savings to customers.

"More important than technology is simply listening to our customers and taking action," says Courter. "Listening to our customers directly resulted in initiatives that increased savings. The 'Best Value Item' program is a good example. Shoppers have quickly come to know that when they see the yellow signs on popular products such as baby food, detergents and paper goods, they are getting the lowest prices available anywhere. Period!"

The latest figures on percent of savings are a result of the most recent pricing survey of grocery, meat and produce items in commissaries compared to retail grocery stores, supermarkets and supercenters.

"Our exact percentage of savings is 30.4 percent, but I'm happy to say that our savings in produce and meat are well above that mark," says Courter. "Shoppers have noticed that we've made improvements in produce and that we are keeping the shelves stocked all day."



Catholic Soldier Service

Fort Riley is now hosting a new Catholic Soldier Service at 6 p.m. Sunday evenings at Kapaun Chapel Bldg. 7806. Volunteers are needed to help with the service. For information, call 239-2818/6684.

Jewish Services Start

Jewish religious services are being held at Normandy Chapel for anyone desiring to attend at 6 p.m. Friday nights beginning today.

Memorial Service

A memorial service is planned for 2 p.m. Nov. 16 at the post cemetery to honor German and Italian prisoners of war interred on Fort Riley. The ceremony is open to the public. A seven-man delegation from the Command and General Staff College, at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., will lay a wreath on the graves.

Rent-A-Teen

Have any projects around the house or in the yard that you can't seem to get to? Why not call Rent-A-Teen? Rent-A-Teen is a fundraising activity for the youth of Club Beyond. Call Don Ericson, Club Beyond director, at 238-4436 to Rent-A-Teen.

Protestant Women Meet

Protestant Women of the Chapel meet Tuesdays from 9-11 a.m. and Thursdays 7-9 p.m. at Morris Hill Chapel. Watchcare is provided. For information, call 239-3359 or 784-4926.

Bible Study

A weekly Bible Study is set for 7 p.m. every Monday at 41C Sheridan Place. For information, call 717-3072 or 784-6146.

Worship Service

A Protestant Liturgical Worship Service has resumed at St. Mary's Chapel every Sunday at 8:30 a.m. For information, call 239-5313/5711.

AFTB Classes

Are you new to the military family? Want to understand "Army Lingo?" Can you read the LES? Join us for Military Life 101 offered by the Army Family Team Building Program, Wednesday, Dec. 5, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Soldier and Family Support Center. Also offered that day is a class on how to talk to the media. Would you know what to say if a reporter asked you about upcoming deployments or the security on post? Join us at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 5 at the same location to learn the 'Do's and Don'ts' for responding to the media. Call 239-1366 or 239-9435 to register for either of these classes or email: dcaarmyfam@riley.army.mil.

Adult immunizations

Adult immunizations for military family members and retirees are available again at the Irwin Army Community Hospital's Primary Care Clinics. However, this does not include flu vaccinations. Additional information concerning flu vaccinations will be provided to eligible beneficiaries as soon the information is available.

Commissary Closure

During the Thanksgiving week, the Commissary will be open Sunday- Wednesday and closed Thursday and Nov. 23.

Theater Production

The Junction City Little Theater will host "Nuncrackers" the Nunsense Christmas Musical Nov.23-25 and Dec. 1 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Call 238-6220 for reservations.



Post/Pritchett

The first guest on Fort Riley's new network television program "In Step With Fort Riley" is Maj. Gen. Thomas F. Metz, the post's new commanding general. Gary Skidmore, command information officer for the Fort Riley Public Affairs Office talked with Metz about his reassignment to the prairie post this time in the top job. Pvt. 2 Robert Miller operated the camera during filming of the first show Wednesday.

Fort Riley gets 'In Step'

By James B. Pritchett
Editor

A new television program designed to get people "In Step With Fort Riley" begins airing on Fox 43 Sunday morning at 10 a.m.

The Fort Riley Public Affairs Office produces the weekly news and information broadcast in cooperation with Montgomery Communications Inc., based in Junction City.

"In Step With Fort Riley" is the first program of its kind, according to Gary Skidmore, command information officer at Fort Riley.

"This is something new for the Army and for the television networks," said Skidmore. "We were looking for a way to connect with members of surrounding communities and television is the perfect medium. With a half hour each week, people in Topeka, for example, can learn what soldiers do here and what we have available to the public."

"This is an excellent opportunity to provide insight and awareness to our neighboring civilian com-

munities and to tell the Army story with a Fort Riley flavor," said Maj. Todd S. Livick, Fort Riley public affairs officer.

"In Step is a vehicle Fort Riley will use to feature the installation before an audience that might otherwise have little or no contact with the post. As the Home of America's Army, our soldiers are the military's common ground with the American people—their sons and daughters, children and siblings—it is important for the public to know what our soldiers are doing," he said.

The program is produced much like Army civilian enterprise newspapers. Fort Riley staff will produce the content of the program while Montgomery Communications Inc. sells advertising to pay for the airtime.

"We are very pleased we have this opportunity to air, what we hope, will become a very popular show for active duty soldiers and the many retirees in the area," said John G. Montgomery, president of Montgomery Communications Inc.

"This is a chance to reach

as many as 160,000 households in the Topeka marketplace and for those people to see what the Army is and does today," he said.

"In addition to providing the latest news for soldiers and retirees, we are hoping to spark interest in what happens at Fort Riley with the public and encourage visitors to come and see the history of Fort Riley for themselves," said Skidmore.

Each week, the program will bring a slice-of-life view of the prairie post into thousands of homes. Most cable companies in nearby counties carry Fox 43. Viewers should check their local cable listings as the channel where Fox programs appear varies depending on the cable service and area.

Planned segments of In Step include news updates that are important to soldiers, family members and retirees in the area, facts about the post and its history, interviews with military leaders and one-on-one discussions with those who provide the many services avail-

See In Step Page 10

Chaplains offer helping hand during holidays

By Jeremy Heckler

19th Public Affairs Det.

The Army takes care of its own and Fort Riley is taking care of soldiers and families who don't have enough money to pay for a holiday meal this year.

Operation Helping Hand is a program through which soldiers can help their comrades have a special day.

"Operation Helping Hand is a holiday assistance program designed to give needy families extra help with food," said Chaplain (Maj.) James Paulson, Family Life chaplain and coordinator of the program.

"Operation Helping Hand has two aspects," said Chap. (Lt. Col.) Thomas Condry, chaplain resource manager. "Throughout the year we help in a variety of ways for soldiers families who have financial difficulties."

During Thanksgiving this year's holiday services, chapels on Fort Riley will have specific offering plates for Operation Helping Hand. Individuals may send their donations through their unit's first sergeant or command sergeant major. Those senior NCOs turn in their donations on Dec. 3. The program is dependent on the money raised by the units and the offerings.

In addition to turning in donations, they turn in a list of needy families who they feel are eligible for a donation.

"Units supply the name of soldiers perceived to be needy for the Christmas period," said Condry. He added that the program is open to all needy families regardless of rank or the number of family members.

"A check is made out to the Commissary to buy food, the amount is based on the number of family members," said Paulson. The only restrictions on what the families can buy are no cigarettes and no frozen entrees.

Neither donations nor accepting the check are mandatory.

"I see Operation Helping Hand as a way to touch soldiers and their families, but we don't force this on anybody," said Condry. Condry added that there are soldiers and their family members who don't see themselves as needy.

"Some soldiers ask why they were nominated and say they don't want the check," said Condry. "For some of them there is a little bit of pride involved, but for others it is not so hard."

"As a chaplain I see it a way of providing a good form of ministry," said Condry. "We want soldiers to know that there are folks who are concerned about them and while the events are not of their own choosing we want to help them to have a good Christmas."

"There is a lot of good that is done for both the person who gives and the person who receives," said Paulson.

Local family member wins poster contest

By Russell Fields

Public Affairs NCOIC

Krizzia Castro, 9, is a 4th grader at Jefferson Elementary School. She was 1-year-old when her father, SSgt. Venancio Castro, 172nd Chemical Company, 541st Maintenance Battalion, entered the Army. She said being a member of a military family has its good points and bad points. But, she said one thing had remained constant — pride in what her father is doing.

"I'm proud of my dad for being in the Army," she said. "He works hard for the Army and he is doing good things for his unit and his country."

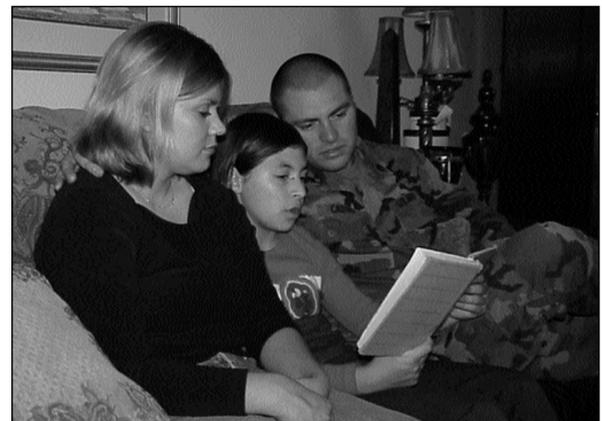
More than a year ago, Krizzia entered an Armed Services YMCA art contest. She drew a

picture of her dad, in uniform; and mom, Veronica; and sister, Chesna, 3; and herself attending a school parent teacher conference. The poster was selected best in the Army and will be displayed on a poster with other services' winners when the Army observes Military Family Week Nov. 18-25. She was awarded a \$500 savings bond for her efforts.

"We normally go to the parent teacher conferences," Castro explained. "My dad has usually just come home from work when we go, so he goes in uniform."

She said she first became interested in the poster contest when she saw a poster advertising it displayed in the post library. Her interest peaked because she has

See Contest Page 10



Post/Fields

SSgt. Venancio Castro used to take time out of his schedule to read to his daughter, Krizzia. Now she reads to him and her mother, Veronica.

Smoking costs high

By Kathleen T. Rhem
AFPS

WASHINGTON—DoD officials can't be sure exactly how much smoking costs the department each year, but they know it's a bundle.

A 1998 DoD study estimated smoking costs the department \$584 million per year in medical care and \$346 million in lost productivity, Air Force Lt. Col. Wayne Talcott said.

Talcott is a psychologist assigned to the Air Force Medical Operations Agency in San Antonio, Texas. He is also a former head of DoD's Tobacco Use Reduction Committee.

His numbers are only estimates, he said, because it's impossible to quantify what illnesses are caused by smoking and which are naturally occurring.

Lynn Pahland, director of Health Promotion and Preventive Services Policy with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, believes the estimates are conservative.

She said there needs to be a cultural shift against smoking throughout DoD. Officials shouldn't rely on the medical community to wipe out smoking single-handed.

Contest continued from page 9

always loved to draw.

"I started to like drawing in kindergarten," she said. "I liked to try to draw new stuff, especially when we were in Germany. I tried to draw a dinosaur."

As with most family members of someone in the military, Castro has lived in several areas in the eight years her father has been in the Army including Houston, Texas; Fort Stewart, Ga.; Schweinfurt, Germany; and Fort Riley.

She has also been separated from her father on a number of occasions due to his military duties.

Veronica noted that her husband had been to the National Training Center on two occasions since coming to Fort Riley.

She said the hardest time for separations, though, was when the family was in Germany.

"He was in the field a lot — and in the three years we were there, he was gone more than half the time," she said.

Krizzia said she liked some things about being a member of a military family, and disliked others.

"I like it sometimes because we

get to travel," she said. "I don't like it when my dad has to go to the field."

She said one of her happiest times of her dad being in the Army was when the family traveled from Fort Stewart to New Jersey to meet his family.

Venancio said his daughter had never seen snow before, and she loved it. He also said she loved getting all the attention from his family members.

Krizzia said one of her saddest times was when the family first moved to Germany.

**"When other people see it, I hope they will be proud to be in a military family."
—Krizzia Castro
Military Family member**

Dad had to return to Alabama for about four months to attend the Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course.

The section of the village they

were living in didn't have any children for her to play with — and that was before her little sister was born.

Krizzia's mother concurred that was a low point for the family, in part because they were unable to obtain government quarters right away and not being able to speak the native language.

One of the values Venancio has passed along to his daughter is one of community service and community involvement.

"I want her to be involved in doing things for the community and giving to the community," he said.

Krizzia is a Girl Scout and a volunteer for Special Olympics. About two years ago, she was recognized for winning another art contest in Junction City.

Krizzia said drawing the poster that will be seen by so many people for Military Family Week was hard, but it was worth it.

"It makes me feel proud and happy, and it was worth the effort I had to make," she said. "When other people see it, I hope they will be proud to be in a military family."

In Step continued from page 9

able at Fort Riley.

In Step will spotlight many activities from recreation to education and military training that takes place on Fort Riley each week. It's also a means of communicating with the public on issues that require immediate exposure to neighboring communities on a weekly basis, according to Livick.

In the first installment, viewers

can see the polish and tradition surrounding the 24th Infantry Division's change of command that took place Nov. 7. First to appear as a guest on the show is the installation's new commander, Maj. Gen. Thomas F. Metz, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley.

Other segments in the first show include ceremonies dedicating a chapel to Chap. (Capt.) Emil

J. Kapaun, who died as a prisoner of war in Korea; close-up footage of a training exercise and a word on Veterans Day.

Skidmore, who will co-host the initial programs with Army broadcasters PFC Bryan Boles and Pvt. 2 Robert Miller, will also talk about environmental conservation with Dave Jones of the Fort Riley Directorate of Environment and Safety.



Post/Skidmore

Effigy in Dough

Cpl. Carlos Quiles, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor works on his winning entry at the Culinary Arts Expo held at Fort Riley recently. Quiles' entry was a fireman emerging from the WTC rubble Sept. 11 created in dead dough.

Shuttle Bus routes combined for better service

Effective Monday, the Post Shuttle Bus will change its route. The present two routes will be combined into one route that covers Main Post and Custer Hill. The new schedule is listed below.

Regulations permit shuttle bus service for

military personnel and DOD employees between offices, work areas, troop billets, and dining facilities during designated hours. When space is available, off duty personnel, Reserve and National Guard, family members of active duty personnel, retirees and visitors

may be provided with transportation on established routes.

The Shuttle Bus runs from 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Personnel with questions concerning the Shuttle Bus can contact 239-2519/3382.

Bldg. 375 TMP	7:30 a.m.					1:30 p.m.		
Bldg. 600 Hospital (in front)	7:33 a.m.	8:33 a.m.	9:33 a.m.	10:33 a.m.	11:33 a.m.	1:33 p.m.	2:33 p.m.	3:33 p.m.
Bldg. 500 Info Booth	7:36 a.m.	8:36 a.m.	9:36 a.m.	10:36 a.m.	11:36 a.m.	1:36 p.m.	2:36 p.m.	3:36 p.m.
Bldg. 45 Carr Hall	7:38 a.m.	8:38 a.m.	9:38 a.m.	10:38 a.m.	11:38 a.m.	1:38 p.m.	2:38 p.m.	3:38 p.m.
Bldg. 202 King Field House	7:40 a.m.	8:40 a.m.	9:40 a.m.	10:40 a.m.	11:40 a.m.	1:40 p.m.	2:40 p.m.	3:40 p.m.
Bldg. 210 Replacement Center	7:41 a.m.	8:41 a.m.	9:41 a.m.	10:41 a.m.	11:41 a.m.	1:41 p.m.	2:41 p.m.	3:41 p.m.
Bldg. 2999A Colyer Manor	7:46 a.m.	8:46 a.m.	9:46 a.m.	10:46 a.m.	11:46 a.m.	1:46 p.m.	2:46 p.m.	3:46 p.m.
Bldg. 2310 Commissary	7:49 a.m.	8:49 a.m.	9:49 a.m.	10:49 a.m.	11:49 a.m.	1:49 p.m.	2:49 p.m.	3:49 p.m.
Bldg. 6916 PX	7:53 a.m.	8:53 a.m.	9:53 a.m.	10:53 a.m.	11:53 a.m.	1:53 p.m.	2:53 p.m.	3:53 p.m.
Bldg. 7000B ACS	7:58 a.m.	8:58 a.m.	9:58 a.m.	10:58 a.m.	11:58 a.m.	1:58 p.m.	2:58 p.m.	3:58 p.m.
Bldg. 7000C Bowling Alley	7:59 a.m.	8:59 a.m.	9:59 a.m.	10:59 a.m.	11:59 a.m.	1:59 p.m.	2:59 p.m.	3:59 p.m.
Bldg. 7000D Normandy Theater	8 a.m.	9 a.m.	10 a.m.	11 a.m.	Noon	2 p.m.	3 p.m.	4 p.m.
Bldg. 8069 Long Gym	8:01 a.m.	9:01 a.m.	10:01 a.m.	11:01 a.m.	12:01 p.m.	2:01 p.m.	3:01 p.m.	4:01 p.m.
Bldg. 8100 DOL Maintenance	8:03 a.m.	9:03 a.m.	10:03 a.m.	11:03 a.m.	12:03 p.m.	2:03 p.m.	3:03 p.m.	4:03 p.m.
Bldg. 7000G Apennines & Brown	8:04 a.m.	9:04 a.m.	10:04 a.m.	11:04 a.m.	12:04 p.m.	2:04 p.m.	3:04 p.m.	4:04 p.m.
Bldg. 7000G Apennines & Shanks	8:05 a.m.	9:05 a.m.	10:05 a.m.	11:05 a.m.	12:05 p.m.	2:05 p.m.	3:05 p.m.	4:05 p.m.
Bldg. 7305 Troop Schools	8:06 a.m.	9:06 a.m.	10:06 a.m.	11:06 a.m.	12:06 p.m.	2:06 p.m.	3:06 p.m.	4:06 p.m.
Bldg. 7000A Apennines & Siebert	8:07 a.m.	9:07 a.m.	10:07 a.m.	11:07 a.m.	12:07 p.m.	2:07 p.m.	3:07 p.m.	4:07 p.m.
Bldg. 5308 Post Office	8:10 a.m.	9:10 a.m.	10:10 a.m.	11:10 a.m.	12:10 p.m.	2:10 p.m.	3:10 p.m.	4:10 p.m.
Bldg. 4699B Will.Point & Roosevelt	8:12 a.m.	9:12 a.m.	10:12 a.m.	11:12 a.m.	12:12 p.m.	2:12 p.m.	3:12 p.m.	4:12 p.m.
Bldg. 600 Hospital	8:17 a.m.	9:17 a.m.	10:17 a.m.	11:17 a.m.	12:17 p.m.	2:17 p.m.	3:17 p.m.	4:17 p.m.
Bldg. 375 TMP								4:20 p.m.

Photo contest announced

The Environmental Sharp Shooters Program is designed to recognize and reward military and civilian photographers for their achievements in furthering the objectives of the Army's Environmental Program through still photography. Material entered for competition must have been produced between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31 and not have been judged previously. All entry packages must be received no later than Jan. 5. Judging will take place at the USAEC Jan. 9-10 with results posted to the USAEC website www.aec.army.mil

The following four categories are established for the Environmental Sharp Shooters Program: Readiness, Stewardship, Well-being, and Community Outreach.

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Mag 1 Combat eyewear



Information, Ticketing and Registration

Information, Ticketing & Registration is located in the Leisure Travel Center, Bldg. 6918 (across from the PX) and has current information and tickets to surrounding area attractions, dinner theater, concerts, stage productions and movie theatres. Before making vacation plans, check out the maps and travel brochures from across the U.S. ITR also assists in group travel plans.

Active/retired military, Department of Army Civilians and family members are authorized to use the ITR Office for leisure travel services. Call 239-5614/4415 for further information.

Tickets are available for purchase with cash, check, MC, VISA and AE. Prices are

subject to change.

Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. closed on Sundays and holidays.

Six Flags Over Texas—Don't miss the biggest celebration in the state, as Six Flags Over Texas celebrates 40 years of Fun, 40 years of family tradition.

We're still the Entertainment Capital of Texas, with the biggest line-up of fun ever assembled. Experience the magic that is Six Flags Over Texas.

Bicentennial Center—"Collin Raye" Christmas in the Heartland is coming to the Salina Bi-Centennial Center on Saturday, Dec. 15 at 7 p.m. Reserve tickets are now avail-

able through ITR.

70s Night Topeka Scarecrow Style—See Topeka ScareCrows vs Cedar Rapids RoughRiders in action Nov. 17 at 7:05 p.m. See hockey players wearing 1970's Psychedelic Jersey's. Best 1970's-Dressed Fan Contest, 1970's music and intermission games. 1970's Tickets Price with all tickets for \$5 plus handling fee. Tickets available through ITR.

Discount Movie Tickets—are available for Carmike Theater in Manhattan and Westside Twin in Junction City at discounts. Buy several as they can be used within a year of purchase.

Silver Dollar City—An Old Time Christmas Nov. 3-Dec. 3. From the sparkling of over 4

million twinkling lights and our signature 5-story special effects Christmas Tree, to carols in the Wilderness Church and the aroma of Christmas dinner in the air, you'll be wrapped up in the spirit of Christmas!

The sounds of the season ring with excitement as Christmas in the Ozarks returns. Don't miss the all-new Holiday Light Parade! Discount tickets for Silver Dollar City and numerous other shows in Branson available through ITR. Let ITR put together a weekend get-a-way or give a Branson weekend package to some lucky person for a holiday gift.

Kansas City Chiefs—Tickets are still available for the following games. Cost is \$55 without transportation and \$65

with transportation.

Nov. 25 vs. Seattle Seahawks
Nov. 29 vs. Philadelphia Eagles

Dec. 23 vs. San Diego Chargers

KCI Roadrunner—Kansas City's International Airport Service provides door to door service. Make your reservations at ITR and commission will be paid back to your Morale and Welfare Recreation Fund.

Vacation Planning—More choices and greater discounts for a variety of attractions/shows for Central Florida, Tenn., N. C., Branson, Mo., Las Vegas, California, Illinois, Georgia, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, Carolina, and Virginia areas.

Radio City Spectacular—featuring "The Rockettes" through Dec. 9. Direct from New York, the Radio City Christmas Spectacular starring the world-famous Rockettes, return's to Branson's Grand Palace for another magical season! Saint Nicolas, in his usual jolly manner, leads the audience through eight individually enchanted scenes.

This holiday extravaganza boasts a full cast of 53 singers and dancers, over 400 colorful costumes, a "zoo" of live animals, and eight elaborate sets!

Don't miss your opportunity to see the show the New York Times calls "A Truly Awesome Spectacle!"

Discount reservations available through ITR.

Plan for civilian transition

From ACAP

Returning to civilian life is a complex undertaking. Many steps must be taken, and many questions must be answered. ACAP Center staff, personnel office staff, relocation specialists, education counselors, and many others can help, but only you and your family can make the critical decisions that must be made. A good beginning is for each departing soldier to develop an Individual Transition Plan (ITP).

The ITP is your game plan for a successful transition back to civilian life. It is a framework you can use to fulfill realistic career goals based upon your unique skills, knowledge, experience, and abilities. It is something you create by yourself, for yourself.

The ITP identifies likely actions and activities associated with your transition.

You can determine what these might be through consultation with your ACAP Counselor and using the Preseparation Counseling Checklist, DD Form 2648. The checklist allows you to indicate the benefits and services about which you wish to receive additional counseling as you prepare your

ITP. You will then be referred to subject experts who will gladly answer any questions you may have. Work through each element on the checklist, but select for further exploration only those resources that are appropriate for you.

If you are uncertain about your future plans, now is the time to obtain all the assistance and information you need. Professional guidance and counseling are available at the ACAP Center, as are workshops, publications, information resources, and automated resources. Take advantage of each one that pertains to your unique situation.

It is your Individual Transition Plan.

Some people say that military life isn't easy. Leaving the military isn't easy either. As you separate from military service, you must make numerous decisions, follow many procedures, and fill out a variety of forms—all to help make sure your transition is a smooth one.

Your preseparation process needs to begin as soon as possible. Schedule your preseparation counseling appointment at least 180 days prior to your separation by calling the ACAP Center, 239-2278/6305.

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Medal of Honor recipient returns for visit

By Scott Price

Community Relations Officer

Medal of Honor recipient Walter D. Ehlers returned home to north central Kansas and Fort Riley recently to present an Officer Professional Development class the post's leadership. Ehlers, a native of Junction City, grew up in the local area having resided in Geary, Dickinson and Riley counties as a youth.

"I attended Junction City High School for three years but didn't have the tuition money for my senior year," Ehlers said. "So, I graduated up in Riley."

Following high school Ehlers enlisted in the Army in 1940. "I had been in the Army over a year when the Japanese bombed Pearl

Harbor," he said. "We all thought we'd head to the Pacific to fight the Japanese but, it didn't work out that way." Instead, he and his unit, headed east to fight the Axis in North Africa and Europe.

D-Day, June 6, 1944, found Ehlers serving as a staff sergeant in ranks of the 18th Infantry Regiment. Following the assault on Omaha Beach, he helped lead the American units off the beach as they headed inland. Ehlers received his Medal of Honor for actions near Goville, France on June 9-10, 1944, when he led his men against a series of heavily defended German strong points.

"I didn't know I had been submitted for the Medal of Honor," Ehlers said smiling. The first medals I knew I had received

were the Good Conduct Medal and the Medal of Honor. The officers and NCOs usually just told us when we had earned an extra stripe."

Ehlers related that one of the highlights of his life occurred on France's Omaha Beach on June 6, 1994, when he and a handful of his comrades joined now retired Gen. Gordon Sullivan, former commander of the 1st Infantry Division, for the 50th Anniversary Commemoration Ceremony of D-Day.

Ehlers said he couldn't believe

the changes he saw in Fort Riley. When he toured Camp Funston, he relaxed saying that he could recognize that area. He reminisced that back in 1935, the Kansas River spilled over its banks and submerged that entire portion of the under several feet of water.

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