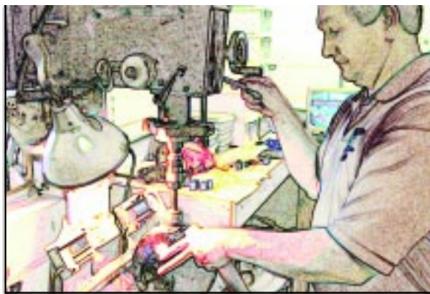




Oh brother!  
There's sand in  
my shorts!

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New  
Improved  
Bowling

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# The Signal



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Published for the Department of Defense and the Fort Gordon community

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## News UPDATE

### Women's History Month programs

**Tuesday** from 1 - 3 p.m. is a class on "Women and Social Security." Judy T. Hardy, Social Security Administration, answers issues regarding Social Security.

**Wednesday** from 9 - 11 a.m. is a class on "Breast Health Care." Stella Lerer, Doctors Hospital, explains health care for the breast.

**Thursday** from 9 - 11 a.m. is "Roll With It." The class explains techniques on how to relieve stress.

The above events will be held at the Gordon Club.

**March 31** at 2 p.m. will be the closing ceremony in Alexander Hall. Mary Wilson, of the Supremes, will be the guest speaker.

For more information call the Equal Employment Opportunity office at 791-4551.

### AFCEA scholarships

The Augusta-Fort Gordon Chapter, Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association, is taking applications for college scholarships to be awarded in May. Graduating high school seniors who have been accepted to a university and current college students can get an application on the website, [www.afcea-augusta.org](http://www.afcea-augusta.org).

Deadline is **April 1**. The application should be mailed to: AFCEA Scholarships, Augusta-Fort Gordon Chapter, P.O. Box 8054, Fort Gordon, GA 30905.

Eligible students must be full-time, majoring in computer science, electronics, engineering or a related science field. ROTC students are eligible regardless of major. The top applicant is to receive the \$2000 Mallette Scholarship. For information, call Mary Jones at 791-2014.

### March retirement review

The March retirement review will be held **Thursday** at 9:30 a.m. in Alexander Hall on Chamberlain Avenue. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Darron Isom at 791-1055.

### Yard sale

The "Great American" yard sale takes place **Saturday**, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sales will take place in the following housing areas: Gordon Terrace, Maglin Terrace, Olive Terrace and McNair Terrace.

World-wide merchandise will be available for purchase without leaving the country.

The Central Savannah River Area community is welcome and may enter through Gates 1, 2 and 5.

For more information, call Master Sgt. John Boutte at 791-9841.

## National Threat Level Raised - Statement by Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge

The Department of Homeland Security in consultation with the Homeland Security Council, has made the decision to raise the national threat level from an Elevated to High risk of terrorist attack or Level Orange.

The intelligence community believes that terrorists will attempt multiple attacks against U.S. and coalition targets worldwide in the event of a U.S. led military campaign against Saddam Hussein.

A large volume of reporting across a range of sources, some of which are highly reliable, indicates that Al-Qaida probably would attempt to launch terrorist attacks against U.S. interests claiming they were defending Muslims or the Iraqi people rather than Saddam Hussein's regime.



**TERRORISTS BEWARE!**  
*America has its eye on you...*

While the March 1 arrest of senior Al Qaida operative, Khalid Shaykh Muhammad has put the Al-Qaida senior leadership on the defensive and will be debilitating in the

long term — the intelligence community believes that KSMs capture will not necessarily affect operations that are ready or nearly ready for execution. There are many recent indications that Al-Qaida's planning includes the use of chemical, biological, and/or radiological materials.

Intelligence reporting also indicates that while Al-Qaida and those sympathetic to their cause are a principal threat, Iraqi state agents, Iraqi surrogate groups, other regional extremist organizations, and ad hoc groups or disgruntled individuals not connected to existing organizations or state agencies, may use this time period to con-

duct terrorist attacks against the U.S., or our interests abroad.

In recent months, there have been reports of suspicious activity in and around military facilities, ports, waterways, general infrastructure (bridges, dams, power generating facilities), and targets that are considered symbolic to U.S. power and influence. The discovery of ricin production in London raises the concern of the intelligence community that extremists are planning to follow through on longstanding threats of poison plots against U.S., British and Israeli interests and possibly other targets in Europe.

The Department of Homeland Security, in conjunction with numerous departments of the federal government has begun implementing increased protective measures under a comprehensive national plan to protect the Homeland: *Operation Liberty Shield*.

*Operation Liberty Shield* will increase security at our

borders, strengthen transportation sector protections, enhance security at our critical infrastructure, increase public health preparedness and make sure all federal response assets can be deployed quickly.

Tonight, I have spoken to the nation's governors and asked them to deploy the National Guard or additional police forces to improve security at critical locations throughout their states. Other state, local and private sector leaders are also being contacted to engage their support to increase the nation's security.

These heightened security measures will help deter terrorism and increase protection of America and Americans. In the meantime, as on the other occasions when the national threat level has been increased, we encourage members of the public to continue their daily work, family and leisure activities with a heightened awareness.

See Plan, Page 2

## 235th Sig Co deploys to support war on terrorism

**Maj. Tina L. Schreiner**  
93rd Signal Brigade

A touching, brief ceremony commemorated 235th Signal Company, 67th Signal Battalion, 93rd Signal Brigade's departure on March 18 in Gym 3. The departure was like a movie-surreal. But at the same time it was painfully real as family members and soldiers alike spilled tears.

235th Signal Company departed Fort Gordon on March 18 for the Central Command area of operations in support of the global war on terrorism. The signal company is a strategic, long-haul transmission company that installs theater-level, satellite communications equipment to bring video teleconferencing, voice, and data services to the combatant commander.

Motivated and committed - 235th Signal Company's soldiers were quite a sight in desert camouflage uniforms, helmets, and weapons as they marched off at the end of their departure ceremony to an adventure of a lifetime.

Over 150 attended the 235th Signal Company's departure ceremony, including Brig. Gen. Janet A. Hicks, commanding general, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon; Col. Daniel Gerstein, brigade commander, 93rd Signal Brigade, and Command Sgt. Maj. Paul Scandrick, brigade command sergeant major, 93rd Signal Brigade.

Members of 235th Signal Company's parent unit - 67th Signal Battalion, 93rd Signal Brigade also attended the departure ceremony to include Lt. Col. Kari Everett, battalion commander, Maj. Dawn Ross, battalion executive officer,



(Above) After briefly regrouping in the Gym 3 parking lot, the 235th Signal Company soldiers retrieved their personal bags and boarded the bus that was taking them to Central Command.

(Right) Family members, overcome by grief cry out as the soldiers board the bus.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Kelly McCargo



(Right) A staff sergeant's wife rushed from the crowd for one more hug before he boards the bus for the first leg of his Operation Enduring Freedom mission, March 18.



## Free Iraqi forces committed to democracy, rule of law

WASHINGTON — American service members training Free Iraqi Forces are impressed by the exiles' commitment to democracy and willingness to secure peace in their homeland.

Army Maj. Gen. David Barno, commander of Task Force Warrior at Taszar Air Base, Hungary, said the Iraqi volunteers will assist American and coalition forces in civil-military operations should military action in Iraq become necessary.

Free Iraqi Forces wear battle-dress uniforms with "FIF" patches on their shoulders. In the field, the volunteers will carry 9 mm pistols as self-defense weapons, officials said.

The Hungarian government will allow the United States to train up to 3,000 members of the Free Iraqi Forces at Taszar. Barno would not say how many Iraqis have been trained to date.

The Iraqi volunteers come from all walks of life, he said. The average age of the men is 38. They come from various backgrounds and social classes. They include 18-year-old high school graduates and 55-year-old grandfathers.

The exiles represent Shiia and Sunni Muslims and Arabs and Kurds. "But the common thread with all of them," Barno said, "is their personal commitment to transforming Iraq into a democratic country that follows the rule of law and respects human rights."

The general said that many of the volunteers endured hardships in Iraq and literally remade their lives outside their native land. Now, they are ready to remake their lives again to help Iraq.

Volunteers go through a four-week course. The two-week first phase covers self-defense, the law of armed conflict, map reading, military customs and courtesies, drill and ceremony and ethical decision-making.

"As part of their self-defense training, the volunteers learn such protective measures as basic first aid, land mine identification, training in the use of small arms for self-defense and the use of protective equipment in the event of a nuclear, biological or chemical attacks," Barno said.

In the two-week second phase of training, the volunteers work with American civil affairs specialists from U.S. Special Operations Command. Free Iraqi Forces will serve as invaluable links among the U.S. military, international agencies, nongovernmental humanitarian relief agencies and the Iraqi population, Barno said.

Once finished with the training the Iraqi exiles go to the U.S. Central Command area of operations where they marry up with their civil affairs units. The first cohort graduated in February and is already with their units. The second cohort is nearing graduation.

The American trainers, centered around the 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry Regiment, from Fort Jackson, S.C., have incorporated lessons they learned from the first cohort in the most recent training session.

"I brought a group of trainers, who were used to training U.S. 18- and 19-year-olds in basic combat training, over here to train a very different group for a very different purpose," Barno said. "Some of the same fundamentals apply, but there are some differences."

These broke down into cultural and age-related changes.

# Plan

From Page 1

## Operation Liberty Shield

*Operation Liberty Shield* is a comprehensive national plan designed to increase protections for America's citizens and infrastructure while maintaining the free flow of goods and people across our border with minimal disruption to our economy and way of life. *Operation Liberty Shield* is a multi-department, multi-agency, national team effort. It includes:

- Increased security at borders
- Stronger transportation protections
- Ongoing measures to disrupt threats against our nation
- Greater protections for critical infrastructure and key assets
- Increased public health preparedness
- Federal response resources positioned and ready

### Increased security at borders

**Maritime**  
*More patrols* - Security has been increased at major U.S. ports and waterways with more Coast Guard patrols by aircraft, ships and boats.

*More escorts of passenger ships* - The Coast Guard has increased its escorts of ferries and cruise ships.

*More sea marshals* - Every high interest vessel arriving or departing from American ports will have armed Coast Guard Sea Marshals onboard, closely watching the ship's crew and ensuring that it makes its port call safely. These merchant ships have cargoes, crewmember(s), or other characteristics that warrant closer examination.

*Selective Maritime restrictions* - The Coast Guard will enforce security zones in and around critical infrastructure sites in key ports. This information will be published and announced for those using U.S. waterways.

### Land borders

*Increasing border surveillance* - Surveillance and monitoring of the borders will be increased with more agents and patrol assets. These forces will cover areas between major ports of entry.

*Increased border screening - customs and border protection-officers* will increase screenings of vehicles and cargo crossing our land borders. Officers will conduct more interviews and detailed screenings as people transit in and out of the U.S. The actions at land borders are not expected to significantly impact the movement of people and cargo across the border.

### Asylum modifications

*Asylum detainees* - Asylum applicants from nations where al-Qaeda, al-Qaeda sympathizers, and other terrorist groups are known to have operated will be detained for the duration of their processing period. This reasonable and prudent temporary

action allows authorities to maintain contact with asylum seekers while we determine the validity of their claim. DHS and the Department of State will coordinate exceptions to this policy.

### Stronger transportation protections

#### Airports

*Increasing airport security* - The Transportation Security Agency will implement airport security measures that are proactive, sustainable, and focused, based on intelligence information. One of the most visible changes will be increasing the presence of law enforcement officers on patrol and in airport facilities.

*Checking airport IDs* - TSA has advised air carriers to review and ensure the validity of all personnel ID's for those who have access to the secure areas. In addition, TSA screeners will continue to remain at a heightened state of alert.

#### Airspace control

*Controlling vital airspace* - New temporary flight restrictions have been put into place over certain U.S. cities, including Washington, D.C., and New York City. The FAA will continue to closely monitor air traffic in these and other key areas.

#### Enhancing rail security

*Improving rail, bridge security* - State governors have been asked to provide additional police or National Guard forces at selected bridges.

**Increased railroad infrastructure security** - Railroad companies will be asked to increase security at major facilities and key rail hubs.

**AMTRAK security measures** - AMTRAK will implement security measures consistent with private rail companies.

**Increasing railroad hazardous material safety** - At the request of the Department of Transportation private railroad companies will monitor shipments of hazardous material and increase surveillance of trains carrying this material.

#### Enhancing road security

**Government and Industry Teamwork** - The Department of Transportation will work closely with hazardous material shippers and carriers and encourage them to follow transportation security checklists and recommendations. Suggested measures include employee identification checks, communications plans, and emphasis on operator awareness. U.S. and Canadian authorities will also coordinate cross-border hazardous material shipments.

#### Ongoing measures to disrupt threats against our nation

#### Monitoring terrorist suspects

*Tracking suspects* - The FBI will continue to closely monitor individuals suspected of links to terrorism.

*Identifying terrorist supporters* - The FBI is working closely with the Departments of Justice and DHS to identify those that would facilitate terrorist activity through fundraising, logistical support and recruitment.

*Foreign National Information* - In order to advise members of the Iraqi community of the FBI's responsibilities in protecting them from hate crimes, and to elicit information that may be useful to the U.S. government in the event of hostilities in Iraq, the FBI, working with the Department of State and immigration officials, has identified a number of Iraqi-born individuals in the U.S. that may be invited to participate in voluntary interviews.

#### Greater protections for critical infrastructure and key assets

#### Protecting key economic centers and ports

*Vital petro-chemical facilities* - The Coast Guard will provide maritime protection for petroleum centers located in close proximity to major coastal population centers.

#### Strengthening nuclear regulatory safeguards

*Facility security* - The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is requiring all licensed users of radioactive material to take additional security measures.

**Protecting key infrastructure** - The Federal government, state and local organizations and the private sector are increasing the security presence at chemical facilities, nuclear power sites, key electrical grids, bridges, subway systems, and other sites.

#### Cyber-security

*Monitoring and vigilance* - The Department of Homeland Security, together with other government agencies, continues to monitor the Internet for signs of a potential terrorist attack, cyber-terrorism, hacking, and state-sponsored information warfare. Industry and public Internet users are reminded of the importance of employing sound security practices and reporting unusual activity or intrusion attempts to DHS or local law enforcement.

#### Increased public health preparedness

#### Increasing disease surveillance and food security

**Alerting and Informing the Food Industry** - The Department of Agriculture is alerting producer organizations of the increased threat status and urging them to implement additional security measures such as inspecting all vehicles and escorting all visitors to their facilities.

Department of Health and

**Human Services Outreach** - HHS is alerting state and local health departments, hospitals, and medical care providers to report any unusual diseases or disease patterns. HHS has put the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corp Readiness Force of doctors, nurses, and other health care staff on alert status and alerted emergency support and management teams to possible deployment.

**Imported Food Monitoring** - HHS has taken aggressive steps to enhance the inspection of imported food and is coordinating federal, state, and local communications on imported food issues and potential food pathogens.

**USDA monitoring of food chain** - The Department of Agriculture is taking steps to assure that employees and representatives throughout the food and agriculture community are alerted and aware of the need for extra precautions during this time. USDA is encouraging state and private authorities to monitor feedlots, stockyards, import and storage areas.

#### Federal response resources positioned and ready

**National Emergency Response Teams** - DHS has pre-positioned National Emergency Response Teams with one team designated for the National Capital Region. These teams are able to provide onsite management of federal response efforts.

**Incident teams** - USDA Incident Management Teams from the U.S. Forest Service are ready to deploy to manage an incident with other DHS, federal, state, and local authorities.

**DECON teams ready** - EPA decontamination teams are on alert and ready to deploy.

In addition to the measures being taken in *Operation Liberty Shield*, members of the public are encouraged to become more informed about the emergency preparedness measures they can take to protect themselves and family members.

**School preparedness** - On March 6, the Secretary of Education, Rod Paige, and Secretary Ridge announced a new web site that provides educators and school administrators with key emergency information to include in their own preparedness plans. The web site includes information covering a variety of emergencies, including natural disasters, violent incidents, and terrorist acts. The web site is: [www.ed.gov/emergencyplan](http://www.ed.gov/emergencyplan).

**Editor's note: READY.GOV** - The **READY.GOV** website and **800-Be-Ready** line provide citizens with informative preparedness suggestions and advice for families.

## U-DO-IT Program highlights: Summer grass seed ready for issue on April 1

The Fort Gordon Base Support Contractor, Johnson Controls World Services, Inc., provides staff training and customer service for the installation U-DO-IT program. We encourage you to utilize our customer satisfaction survey on line at <http://jciweb.gordon.army.mil> or you may complete a survey form when attending training or visiting the U-DO-IT Store.

### U-DO-IT Store hours and training:

Customer service hours are 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. **Tuesday - Friday**, and 8 a.m. - noon **Saturday** in Building 41104, Brems Barracks. The store is **closed on Sunday, Monday and federal holidays**. If a holiday is celebrated on Monday, the store will be closed on Tuesday. U-DO-IT training classes are on the **first Wednesday of each month** for unit and activity

coordinators and begin at 7:30 a.m. in Building 2222. Classes for family occupants are on the **second and fourth Wednesday** of each month beginnings at 8 a.m., in Building 2222 on 11th Avenue and 13th Street. No reservations are necessary. Family housing occupants must attend the class within 60 days after initial occupancy to remain eligible to receive items from the U-DO-IT

### U-DO-IT hand tool issues:

The U-DO-IT Store has a variety of hand tools available for issue to both troop units/activities and family housing occupants. Personnel requesting issue of tools must be listed on a valid Notice of Delegation of Authority-Receipt for Supplies (DA Form 1687) and have a current Certificate of Proficiency Card (FG Form 420R). Family housing occupants are not required to have a DA Form 1687 on

file. In some instances tools are not being returned by the due date. Customers are encouraged to return or call the U-DO-IT Store if tools cannot be returned by the due date listed on their issue document.

### Heating and air conditioning filters:

All units and activities are reminded of their responsibility for changing filters other than those that are controlled by

maintenance personnel. Failure to change filters on a regular basis affects operating efficiency of units and causes expenditure of maintenance monies for repairs that could have been prevented. Filters are available at the U-DO-IT Store.

### U-DO-IT signature cards (DA Form 1687):

Effective Oct. 1, all DA Form 1687's may have an expiration date of 2 years upon approval by the Commander/Responsible Of-

ficer. Units/activities are encouraged to review their files to prevent expiration of cards on file at the U-DO-IT Store. The summer issue of grass seed and fertilizer for the family housing occupants will commence on April 1. Each set of quarters is authorized three each bags of grass seed and two each 40 lb. bags of fertilizer.

Point of contact for information pertaining to U-DO-IT services is Warren Hodge of Johnson Controls at 791-7683/3942

# The Nigerian scam letter, Advocate other email hoaxes

Office of the Staff Judge Advocate

You may have received the now infamous "Nigerian Scam Letter." The Nigerian letter scam comes in many forms – Letter from the Congo, or Liberia, or Sierra Leone, Letter from a Nepalese Royal Family or a Zimbabwe Farm, etc. – but the message is essentially the same no matter what form it arrives in.

**SOMEONE** from far away has somehow come into a very large sum of money. It's a **SECRET** sum of money and **YOU** have been handpicked from their secret sources to be just the right person to help this **SOMEONE** hide/move the money.

If you help this secret **SOMEONE** then they will help **YOU** by rewarding **YOU** with a percentage of this very large sum of money. All they need is your complete banking information and your complete silence and secrecy for 10 days.

Yeah, right. Let me get the information to you right away.

I don't need to say it, but there are no get rich quick schemes that aren't just that – schemes, scams, and various other types of swindles.

These emails aren't just limited to "get-rich-quick" scams, either. Here are some of the more popular hoaxes traveling the Internet lately:

The UN Anti-war Petition Chain Letter (asking you to join in on a petition circulated by the UN to show unified overwhelming opposition to the war in Iraq).

The Surry Serial Rapist Hunt (asking you for information to help track down a serial rapist in England).

The Budweiser Frog Screensaver (warning you there is a virus attached that will destroy your harddrive irreparably).

The Bill Gates Fortune (all about how you can get some of it).

The Applebee's Gift Certificate (telling you to forward to 9 people and receive a \$50.00 gift certificate).

The Bonsai Kitten Hoax (warning you that mad people in NY are keeping cats in bottles and feeding them chemicals to limit the kitten's growth to the shape of the bottle).

The Hotmail Hoax (telling you that Hotmail is checking the "life" of their accounts and warning you that if you don't respond, your account will be deactivated).

The JDBGMGR Virus (warning you that this file may be in your computer and will destroy your harddrive in 14 days unless deleted immediately).

What if you receive one of these emails? Check the sender's email address and delete it immediately. You may want to inform your chain, but just deleting it immediately will suffice. If

the sender has a .mil address, however, you should inform your chain and call DOIM at 791-5493. Sending scam emails or chain emails from a .mil address is violation of Department of Defense and Army rules and regulations and should not be tolerated.

To learn more about Internet hoaxes, viruses, and other urban legends, you can go to these websites:

<http://www.sophos.com/virusinfo/hoaxes/>; <http://hoaxbuster.ciac.org/hoaxbustersHome.html>; [http://www.eff.org/Net\\_culture/folklore/Hoaxes](http://www.eff.org/Net_culture/folklore/Hoaxes); <http://www.hoaxkill.com>.

**Editor's note:** Publishing or listing these websites does not constitute an endorsement of the site.

Become informed! Don't be a victim!

## Support our troops Become a blood donor

For more information on becoming a blood donor, call 787-3234.

## Tips for poison prevention

Rene Hopkins, RN

Coordinator of SAFE KIDS of East Central Georgia

More than 90 percent of all poison exposures occur in the home. It's a shocking number. But even more shocking is the 1.1 million poisonings that were reported to poison control centers in 2000 for children ages 5 and under. Common household products such as cleaning supplies, cosmetics, pesticides, even art supplies and plants can be culprits.

So how do you protect your family? In recognition of National Poison Prevention Week, March 16-22, SAFE KIDS of East Central Georgia offers the following tips on poison prevention:

**Knowledge is power.** Know which products are potentially harmful. Even something like mouthwash can be poisonous if a large amount is ingested.

**Lock 'em up.** All household products and medications should be locked away or stored out of the reach of curious young fingers.

**Don't leave potentially poisonous products unattended.** It only takes a few seconds for a poisoning to occur.

**Medicine isn't candy.** Most children's medications are flavored to make them pleasant to eat. But it's important to teach children the difference between the two. And parents need to remember to read labels and give children the correct dosages.

**Check your plants.** Know which plants are poisonous and either remove them or put them out of reach. Teach children never to put leaves, berries, seeds or nuts from any plant into their mouths.

**Know the numbers.** Post toll-free poison-prevention hotline, 800-222-1222, at every phone.

## Contest winners

(Front) Second Grader Shalisha Austin and Fifth Grader Mykayla Fernandes, both of Freedom Park Elementary School, are presented \$25 Main Post Exchange gift certificates from Willie Jordan (center), reference librarian, Woodworth Library, Fort Gordon, after being named winners of the library's Black History Month Contest. Austin wrote three short essays on Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks and Garrett Morgan (gas mask inventor), and Fernandes wrote about King, Parks and Harriett Tubman. Also pictured are Austin's parents, Company E, 369th Signal Battalion Drill Sgt. Alverto Austin and his wife Tralena (left rear) and Fernandes' mom, Katherine Fernandes.



Photo by Master Sgt. Pleasant Lindsey

## A rewarding trip Youngsters learn history: German, Civil War, on trip to Signal Museum

Spc. Ryan Matson  
Staff writer

Lt. Col. Rainer Schwiebert, the Fort Gordon German Army liaison officer, stood in front of a huge map of Europe. As he spoke, he highlighted key areas on the map with his laser-pointer.

Schwiebert looked as if he was giving a briefing on an upcoming invasion. But he wasn't. Instead he was talking to a group of approximately 30 sixth-graders from the Evans Middle School about the history of his country.

The students were silent and attentive as they sat by a large glass-encased piece of the former Berlin Wall and listened to Schwiebert's speak. The German officer's history lesson began around 10 a.m. March 6 in the Signal Museum in Conrad Hall, and focused on many things, including the Communist Russian rule of East Germany and the East German uprising brutally suppressed by the Russians on June, 1953.

"At that time, people did not know what would happen, if this would be the start of World War III," Schwiebert said.

But mostly, Schwiebert's talk focused on the freedom of the Eastern German people due to the fall of the wall Oct. 3, 1989.

"The East German forces started constructing the wall early in the morning hours of Aug. 13, 1961," he explained to the students. "When many Germans woke up the next day, there was a wall in



Photos by Spc. Ryan Matson

Lt. Col. Rainer Schwiebert, Fort Gordon German Army liaison officer, gives 30 sixth-graders from the Evans Middle School a lesson about the history of his country.

their backyard. In some cases, they had relatives on the other side of the wall who they believed they would never see again."

Schwiebert told the students the wall was too high to climb, topped with barbed wire and guarded every half-mile by Russian border police in look-out towers. He went on to say that people who touched the wall could trigger electric shocks or even automatic firing from machine guns.

Then Schwiebert progressed to the point where he explained how Oct. 3, 1989, became Germany's Re-unification Day, "which is very similar to your Independence Day." He told the students about Presi-

dent Ronald Reagan's infamous speech in which he pointed speakers from the West German border to the East and declared, "Mr. (Mikhail) Gorbachev, tear down that wall!"

And he spoke of the landmark date, Oct. 3, 1989, when the first few West Germans scaled the mighty wall, and were met by no resistance from the border police, prompting the floodgates to open, and thousands more to follow.

"Thanks to the support of the United States and Mr. Gorbachev, not a single shot was fired and the East German people gained their freedom in a peaceful revolution," he said.

As he spoke, Schwiebert pointed to the

map, and also gave an extensive slide show of the various German sights he spoke of, including Brandenburg Court, the former Prussian palace, and, of course, the Berlin Wall.

The students' endless barrage of questions, which eventually had to be cut short, following his speech, reflected their interest in Schwiebert's lesson.

"How much concrete did it take to build that wall?" "How did the wall coming down affect you personally?" "What kinds of weapons did the guards use?" "How did they tear the wall down?" These were some of many of their queries which

Schwiebert patiently answered.

Following Schwiebert's speech, the students got a second historical treat.

Mike Rogers, the director of exhibits at the Signal Museum, dressed in the full uniform of a Civil War Signal soldier, put on a demonstration of the wig-wag flags used by the Union Army in the Civil War.

He showed the youngsters how waving the flag in certain patterns could signal the various letters of the alphabet, thereby making early mass battlefield communication possible. He explained how this was a particularly dangerous job, as flagmen became an obvious target for enemy snipers. He also demonstrated how torches were used at night when the flags were unable to be seen.

"Together, the crossed

flags and the torch make up the Signal Corps patch you see many of the soldiers here on Fort Gordon wearing," he said.

Teri Seader, the class' teacher, explained how Schwiebert came to share his country's culture with the students.

She said the class had been studying European history, and one of her students, Parker Sines, who's father Philip, works in Signal Towers, was helping Parker with his homework that night. Philip realized he knew someone who could provide the student's with a first-hand account of the experience. He approached Schwiebert, who agreed to talk to the youngsters.

"It was a fantastic experience for the students," Seader said. "Learning from a text book is just not the same as hearing history from someone who's actually lived through it."



Mike Rogers, the director of exhibits at the Signal Museum, dressed as a Civil War Signal soldier, put on a demonstration of the wig-wag flags used by the Union Army. The students asked many questions on their visit to living history at the Signal Museum.

# Viewpoint

Information, Opinions, and Commentary

## “While I am waiting...”

*While I am waiting...* it seems wrong, but life keeps going on. The sun keeps coming up and going down. Life keeps happening all around me.

My husband has been gone for a couple of weeks and somehow life has gone on.

At the moment my children seem to be adjusting better than I am. I think it helps they have school, which happens the same way for five days in a pattern. They also have scouts and horseback riding.

Their schedule seems to keep them grounded. It seems from my point of view to make it easier for them.

Me, I feel my life is a bit empty. So I have to figure out what I am going to do.

Where do I start. I don't have near as much laundry, or need to organize dinner quite the same as when he was here.

I have a little more free time, I think. I make a list, and try to think of long-range things to do.

However, I end up reading a new Nora Roberts novel I got at the Thrift Shop. As I plod through it, I have to skip some pages, they just make me miss him, and it is still a little too new he is gone. The romance parts make me miss him more. Guess these kinds of books are not going to fill the time void.

My unit had a potluck, which was nice. It was warm being with other spouses who are in the same boat, going through some of the same emotions as I am.

Conversation with adults was grand. It had sort of lapsed at home. It was good to know I could talk to adults still, whew.

It was also really nice to have a choice at mealtime, since well, at home now sandwiches, soup, simple meals are ok since he has been gone.

But there was a hard part being together too. Some wives had heard from their husbands, and some had not.

My friend in the unit had heard more from her husband than I had from mine. At first that little green monster that lurks in all of us reared his ugly head, and that nasty little emotion envy lurked. I was hurt she had gotten more calls than I had. That meant, well in my personal pity party, at that dark moment, my spouse didn't care, and I was angry with him.

I hoped it didn't show while I was with everyone, and I tried hard not to let it affect my kids. That ugly little thought rolled around for a while, I managed to get the children to bed, and then I cried.

And then reality came back. Sometimes in the saddest moments, your true strength comes out.

I really know my husband loves me. And the reality is, he will call when he can, and I will hold on to that tightly. I will have to carry that thought with me through this deployment, *while I am waiting*.

**Editor's note:** “While I am waiting” is a series of comments and events from the spouse of a deployed soldier who wishes to remain anonymous.

## Disaster guides offer advice for managers and employees

By Tanya N. Ballard

To help prepare the federal workforce for emergencies, the Office of Personnel Management has released two emergency preparedness guides for federal managers and employees.

In the event of an emergency, OPM Director Kay Coles James, in consultation with the heads of the General Services Administration and the Emergency Response and Preparedness Directorate in the Homeland Security Department, will decide whether to evacuate federal buildings. But the new emergency preparedness guides are intended as tools to help managers and employees develop a strategy for emergencies.

“Recent reports of terrorist intentions to lash out at Americans have, understandably, created uncertainty with our fellow teammates,” James said in a letter accompanying the report. “We all recognize that federal office buildings are potential targets for those who would threaten our security. More than ever, employ-

ees are looking to their managers for assurance that all appropriate steps are being taken to offer the greatest security possible.”

The two guides, one for employees and one for managers, outline agencies' responsibilities in emergencies, including how to take care of disabled employees in a crisis. They also recommend that employees become familiar with their agency's safety plan and encourage employees to volunteer to help during evacuations.

“Whether it is serving as a floor manager, stairwell monitor, or keeping track of fellow employees during a crisis, volunteers are critical to protecting fellow employees,” the employee guide says. “You can take additional steps to learn CPR and first aid to assist others during emergencies. It takes courage—the people who fill these positions are heroes-in-waiting.”

Employees are also advised to prepare a personal safety kit to keep at work. Suggested safety kit items include extra medicine, bottled water, emergency contact numbers, snack food and an extra pair of

glasses.

To prepare for a biological attack, OPM recommended that employees keep shots up-to-date and practice good personal hygiene.

Managers are told to have the Federal Protective Service survey their building and make recommendations for security and safety procedures. The guide also advises managers to let employees know the steps agency officials have taken to ensure employees' safety.

“Your employees will have questions,” the guide for managers says. “Be sure you are available to fully discuss their concerns about their safety or suggestions they may have to improve security.”

Both guides offer contacts and Web sites for additional assistance and information.

**Editor's note:** Tanya N. Ballard's article as well as the manager's guide and the employees guide can be found at the following website: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0303/031403t1.htm>

## Women's History Month, 2003

### Proclamation by the President of the United States

As our Founding Fathers worked to develop the framework of our Nation, Abigail Adams wrote to her husband: “I long to hear that you have declared an independency—and by the way in the new Code of Laws which I suppose it will be necessary for you to make I desire you would Remember the Ladies, and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors.” An early advocate of women's rights, a farm and financial manager, and the mother of an American President, John Quincy Adams, Abigail Adams is one of many American women who helped establish the strength and vitality of our Nation. During Women's History Month, we recognize the generations of American women whose important contributions continue to shape our Nation and enrich our society.

Through vision, hard work, and determination, countless American women have broadened opportunities for themselves and for others at home, in the community, and in the workplace. In 1809, Mary Kies became the first woman to receive a U.S. patent. By developing a method of weaving straw with silk, she helped advance American industry and set an inspiring example for other American women. Her pioneering efforts helped define our country's entrepreneurial spirit and paved the way for future generations of women to take pride in

their talents and creativity.

Since Mary Kies' groundbreaking achievement, many American women have become successful entrepreneurs and business professionals. In 1905, Madam C.J. Walker started her own business by creating and selling hair care products for African-American women. After a decade, her company was highly successful and employed more than 3,000 people, and at the time, was the largest African-American owned business in the United States. Today, Madam Walker is remembered for her business accomplishments, efforts to create new opportunities for women, and for her contributions to her community.

Driven by the legacy of these extraordinary figures, American women from all backgrounds continue to break barriers and fulfill their personal and professional potential. At the dawn of the 21st century, women have more choices than ever before. Between 1992 and 2002, the number of female college graduates in the United States has increased from 15.9 million to 23.6 million. Women account for 47 percent of all employed persons and are entering the American workforce in record numbers. In the last 10 years, their ranks have in-

creased by 8.7 million. Furthermore, women-owned small businesses are growing twice as fast as all other U.S. firms, employing 7 million Americans and contributing to the vitality of our economy. To build on these successes, my Administration will continue our work to promote policies that advance the aspirations, hopes, and dreams of every American.

This month, as we celebrate remarkable women in our Nation's past, I encourage all citizens to recognize the countless American women whose efforts continue to enhance the economic, social, and cultural life of our great Nation.

Now, therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim March 2003 as Women's History Month. I call upon all the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies and activities and to remember throughout the year the many contributions of American women.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-eighth day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-seventh.

George W. Bush

**Editor's note:** The above proclamation was found at the following website: <http://www.defenselink.mil/specials/womenhistory03/>



## Feedback

March is Women's History Month, what woman has influenced your life?



“My mom because she raised me with discipline, goals and morals.”

Liz Knight  
Librarian technician



“My girlfriend and my mom, because they both have been supportive of my decision to join the Army and possibly deploy.”

Pvt. Harold Lucas  
Company B, 551st Signal Battalion



“My grandmother, because my mom passed when we were young and (my grandmother) raised my sister and I as her own.”

Sgt. 1st Class Michael Morris  
Regimental Noncommissioned Officer Academy



“My mother. They broke the mold after her. She's 73 years old and keeps going with tons of energy. She's like that rabbit. It's scary.”

Cynthia Jones  
Family member



“My mom, because she helped me find discipline and was supportive of my activities and dreams.”

Pvt. Sue Cruz  
Co. B 551st Sig. Bn.

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**Military Editor:** Staff Sgt. Pam Lyons  
**News Editor:** Spc. Zoe Morris  
**Staff Writer:** Spc. Ryan Matson, and Denise Allen

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## New museum highlights Guard

**Master Sgt. Bob Haskell**  
*Army News Service*

Washington — How many U.S. presidents have served in the militia or National Guard? Who is Norma Parsons Erb? What is the Dick Act?

The answers to those questions about the National Guard and a wealth of other information about this country's oldest military organization can be found in a new museum that officially opened to the public on March 17.

The National Guard Memorial Museum is located at One Massachusetts Ave., N.W., one block west of Union Station. The museum occupies 5,600 square feet of the lower level of the home of the National Guard Association of the United States. It is the first national museum dedicated to the National Guard and will be open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. "Less is more" is how the facility impressed one recent visitor, who has explored many of the museums, including those of the Smithsonian Institution in the nation's capital.

"It is extremely well done," she said.

The museum's displays and artifacts, she said, inform and enlighten visitors about the history and mission of the colonial militia and the modern Army and Air Na-

tional Guard without confusing them with too much stuff.

Many states, including Illinois, Maine and Texas, have wonderful museums dedicated to their National Guard heritage. The Memorial Museum explains the big picture.

In about an hour, visitors to the new museum in Washington, who know little or nothing about the National Guard, can discover how it has evolved as a national military force. They can gain a lot of in-depth insight if they stay longer.

They learn that 19 U.S. presidents, including George Washington and George W. Bush, have served in the militia or Guard. That Norma Parsons Erb from Maine was the first woman officer inducted in the National Guard. That the Dick Act, passed by Congress in 1903 and also called the Militia Act, was named for Ohio Congressman Charles Dick and gave the president the power to call up the Guard for longer than nine months for national emergencies, including war.

The museum has seven core exhibit areas that reflect this country's history of the citizen-soldier in the homeland defense and in conflicts and peacekeeping missions around the world. They are the Introductory Area, the Theatre, the Militia Area, the National Guard Comes of Age, World War II, the

Cold War, the Modern Era, and Today and Tomorrow.

"From Concord Bridge to [providing security] at Ronald Reagan National Airport, the Guard is rooted in homeland security while also serving abroad," said Kristin Patterson Jones, the National Guard Association's deputy director of communications.

Every state and U.S. territory is represented in the museum, and many of the artifacts on display - ranging from a Jew's-harp to jungle fatigues — are on loan from the states.

The museum cost \$1.75 million in private donations to build, and the firm Design and Production of Lorton, Va., spent 19 months designing and constructing the facility. That company has worked on such projects as the Smithsonian's "American Presidency: A Glorious Burden."

**Editor's note:** Master Sgt. Bob Haskell writes for the National Guard Bureau.

## 59th Ord Bn Drill Sergeant of the Year

*Special to The Signal*

Drill Sergeant Staff Sgt. Nathan Espey of Bravo Company, 73rd Ordnance Battalion recently won top honors at the 2003 Drill Sergeant of the Year board for the 59th Ordnance Brigade conducted at Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

While the 73rd falls under the 15th Signal Brigade here at Fort Gordon, they also fall under the 59th Ordnance Brigade at Redstone. Two of the 73rd's finest were sent to Redstone to compete.

Just getting to compete in the board was no small task.

About 50 drill sergeants fall under the 59th, stationed at Redstone, Fort Gordon, and Fort Sill.

Espey was a prior Drill Sergeant of the Quarter for the 73rd and was proud to represent Company B at Redstone's competition. He took part in a formal board, Army physical fitness test, written tests, and demonstrated several drill and ceremony modules.

Espey met the challenge at hand and was awarded the Drill Sergeant of the Year for 2003.

He received an Army Achievement Medal upon his return to Fort Gordon from Col. David Hafele, 59th Ord-

nance Brigade Commander. In addition he was awarded savings bonds, memberships in professional organizations, and several coins.

Espey's dedication to excellence has never been more apparent and his peers were not surprised when he won the award.



Courtesy photo

Drill Sergeant Staff Sgt. Nathan Espey of Bravo Company, 73rd Ordnance Battalion recently won top honors at the 2003 Drill Sergeant of the Year board for the 59th Ordnance Brigade conducted at Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

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# Spectrum

## Women's History Month

March is Women's History Month and this Spectrum takes a closer look at some women soldiers at all levels who are making an impact on Fort Gordon.

**Senior officer**  
**Brig. Gen Jan Hicks, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon commanding general**

Q: Why did you decide to join the Army?  
 A: I had just graduated from college, sort of got a "wild hair" and thought joining the Army would broaden my view of the world and be a huge challenge.  
 Q: What would you consider your biggest accomplishment in the Army so far?  
 A: My greatest accomplishment has been the privilege of being a commander, and being able to make a difference in the lives of the soldiers and civilians alongside whom I served. I've had the honor of commanding a company, battalion, brigade and now the Army Signal Center. An officer can be entrusted with no greater honor than command.  
 Q: How do you think the role of women in the Army is changing?  
 A: I entered service into the Women's Army Corps, then later was mainstreamed into my chosen branch, the Signal Corps, when WAC was deactivated...so I've seen huge changes. Simple numbers of women in uniform have increased dramatically, women serve in a broader variety of specialties and women are much more "accepted" as part of the force than in the



**Hicks**

70s when I became a soldier.  
 Q: Why should we celebrate Women's History Month?  
 I think we should occasionally pause to reflect on our history, and on the state of things in our world today, too. With regard to women and history, my mom was of voting age when women were granted the right to vote. The right to vote that every American enjoys...well, sometimes we forget that it wasn't always there, and it took enormous courage and willingness to accept risk on the part of the women in our history who secured women's right to vote. With regard to women today, many women living in other countries have not achieved this or many other rights as equal citizens in their countries. Part of what we should do during time of reflection on our own history and on how far American women have come is to reflect on how far some women, in other nations, have to go to achieve even the most basic of rights. We are the strongest, most free, most respectful, most generous, and most compassionate nation on earth. Let's never forget how lucky we all are to be Americans.

**Command sergeant major**  
**Command Sgt. Maj. Donna R. Thames, Directorate of Public Safety command sergeant major**

Q: Why did you decide to join the Army?  
 A: I joined the Army because my grandfather, father and brother were in the Army. My brother suggested that I join because he thought I would do well.  
 Q: What would you consider your biggest accomplishment in the Army so far?  
 A: I feel that my biggest accomplishment has been earning the rank of sergeant major.

Q: How do you think the role of women in the Army is changing?  
 A: The role of women in the Army has changed because we are no longer separate from our male counterparts. We are not denied jobs because we are females. We now have more opportunities than ever before. Women are physically and mentally capable of leading from the front. Our Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Janet A. Hicks and Eisenhower Army Medical Center Command Sergeant Major, Command Sgt. Maj. Dixon are excellent examples of what women can do.  
 Q: Why should we celebrate Women's History Month?  
 A: It is important to celebrate Women's History month so that the past accomplishments are not forgotten. Women are continuously contributing to this great country.



**Thames**

**Noncommissioned officer**  
**Drill Sergeant (Sgt. 1st Class) Sabrina M. Rose, Company C, 369th Signal Battalion**

Q: Why did you decide to join the Army?  
 A: I joined the Army for college, even way back then (17 and a half years ago) and to improve my life. I didn't want to become a statistic, so I joined the Army.  
 Q: What would you consider your biggest accomplishment in the Army so far?  
 A: I'll give you three so far. Being a member of the Audie Murphy Club, being a senior drill sergeant and being the acting first sergeant.  
 Q: How do you think the role of women in the Army is changing?  
 A: I've seen it change tremendously. When I first entered the military you never heard of women in roles like female fighter pilots were in during Desert Storm. I know the roles of women have diversified since my time in the military.  
 Q: Why should we celebrate Women's History Month?  
 A: I think it's important because women have contributed throughout the history of the Army. The percentage of



**Rose**

males in the Army may be higher, but our contributions should still be celebrated.

**Battalion Commander**  
**Lt. Col. Karla M. Donovan, 551st Signal Battalion commander**

Q: Why did you decide to join the Army?  
 A: I worked a lot with my grandfather who spent quite a few years in the Army prior to, and including World War I. His career as a messenger in World War I fascinated me and when it came to the time where I needed to do something for a while before going back to farming with my father, I chose the Army. I was one of the two women who were the first to graduate from West Point from the state of South Dakota.  
 Q: What would you consider your biggest accomplishment in the Army so far?  
 A: I would say balancing my family life with my Army career—seeing my five children do well, and seeing my units succeed due in some part to my contributions.  
 Q: How do you think the role of women in the Army is changing?  
 A: I'd say women are being taken more seriously now.  
 Q: Why should we celebrate Women's History Month?  
 A: I'll tell you this. I feel it's misnamed. I would not celebrate the history of women, but rather the future of women in and out of the Army. Although it's nice to stop and pause and think of what we may have overcome, we're not going to go back. I'd much rather celebrate our acceptance and hear about where we are going in many fields, but especially as soldiers.



**Donovan**



**Jackson**

**Junior officer**  
**Capt. Cutie J. Jackson, Company C, 369th Signal Battalion commander**

Q: Why did you decide to join the Army?  
 A: My sister has always been my role model. She had spoken to a recruiter and had gone through the whole enlistment process, but was underweight. But based on her lead is how it all started.  
 Q: What would you consider your biggest accomplishment in the Army so far?  
 A: Several different things. Having started as a private and gone through the ranks to staff sergeant before going to Officer Candidate School is one. I did this because I had great, dynamic leaders who saw my potential to impact other soldiers. But my biggest accomplishment to this point would be serving in this job and training soldiers to be the best they can, tactically and technically proficient.  
 Q: How do you think the role of women in the Army is changing?

A: I would say it has come a long way. Women are now leaders in the position to make changes and have a direct impact on the Army. Women over time have proven they have the ability to be put in stressful situations and be just as effective as their male counterparts, being able to make sound decisions and judgements.  
 Q: Why should we celebrate Women's History Month?  
 A: I think it's important to celebrate in order to bring consciousness and awareness to the fact women are active participants in the Army. It's important to see we are serving in a unified armed forces that is gender irrelevant.

**Junior enlisted soldier**  
**Pvt. Barbara A. Brown, Company A, 551st Signal Battalion**

Q: Why did you decide to join the Army?  
 A: For better job opportunities and experience.  
 Q: What would you consider your biggest accomplishment in the Army so far?  
 A: Since I've only been in a couple of months, the only accomplishments I've had so far have been graduating basic and AIT.  
 Q: How do you think the role of women in the Army is changing?  
 A: I haven't had too much experience, but seeing Command Sgt. Maj. Michele Jones being recognized as a speaker at the Women's History Month program obviously shows the Army recognizes their accomplishments.  
 Q: Why should we celebrate Women's History Month?  
 Because women have come a long way and are accomplishing more today than they could a long time ago and should be recognized for that.



**Brown**

# Wrong entry date may lead to less retirement

Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A soldier could be shortchanged at the time of retirement or erroneously receive a bonus if the date he signed his military contract is wrong in his records.

The Army, however, is giving soldiers a chance to make sure their date of initial entry into military service, also known as DIEMS, is accurate. A DIEMS date is when a service member enters into a contract with the military. It could be when an enlisted soldier signed the delayed entry contract or when an officer signed an ROTC scholarship contract.

Breaks in service do not change a DIEMS date, said Melissa Dean, a human resource specialist at the U.S. Total Army Personnel Command. Service in other branches also counts toward the initial entry date, she said. The goal is to record the earliest date possible, Dean added. DIEMS, however, should not be confused with the basic active service date, which is the date when a soldier enters active duty.

Both enlisted soldiers and officers can check their DIEMS at [https://www.perscom.army.mil/persns/dqm\\_home.htm](https://www.perscom.army.mil/persns/dqm_home.htm). Currently only individuals with a BASD of Jan. 1, 1979 through Dec. 31, 1982 can go to the site to see if their date is correct. Soldiers will be able to check their dates in increments based on their BASD.

Due to the large number of officer and enlisted files that require validation, the schedule for soldiers to review their DIEMS on-line is:

April 2 through June 1 for soldiers with a BASD between Jan. 1, 1983 to Dec. 31, 1986; June 2 through Aug. 1 for soldiers with a BASD between

Jan. 1, 1987 to Dec. 31, 1989. More dates will be scheduled soon, but the priority is senior personnel, who are about to retire, said Army officials.

Messages explaining what DIEMS is and how soldiers can check and change their dates if necessary will be e-mailed to soldiers' Army Knowledge Online accounts, said William Hursh, a human resource specialist with Retirement Services in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G1.

DIEMS determines what retirement plan soldiers fall under. Soldiers with a DIEMS date of Sept. 8, 1980 and earlier qualify for Final Pay, which is 50 percent of their basic pay and has the largest payout, Dean said.

"Soldiers most likely to be affected negatively if their DIEMS dates are wrong are the ones getting ready to retire now or very soon," Dean said. "If in their records we have their basic active service date instead of their initial entry date, they may fall under the High 3 Plan. However, it's the more generous Final Pay plan they really qualify for."

Congress created another retirement plan Sept. 9, 1980, which is called the High 3 Plan. It is 50 percent of the average of a soldier's highest 36 months of service. If a sergeant first class with 20 years of service retired today under the Final Pay plan, he would receive \$1,591, said Hursh. However, if he retired under the High 3 plan, he would receive \$1,432 a month, he added.

There are three retirement plans soldiers could fall under. The third plan is the Redux plan, which Congress created Aug. 1, 1986. It's 40 percent of the average of a soldier's highest three earning years, and includes decreased cost of living allowances.

In October 1999 to get more

individuals to stay in the military, Congress moved everyone with a DIEMS date of Aug. 1, 1986 and later back into the High 3 plan. However, at 15 years of active-duty service, those individuals who are eligible to serve at least five more years have the option to accept the Redux plan and receive a \$30,000 Career Status Bonus.

Last January 108 soldiers were given CSB bonuses, but because of wrong DIEMS dates they now owe the government \$30,000.

"Because their basic active service dates was written down as their DIEMS dates, they were offered the CSB under the Redux plan," Dean said. "However, they weren't eligible for that plan and now they have to pay back the full amount before taxes."

Only one soldier was able to pay the bonus back after Defense Finance and Accounting Service discovered the payments had been made mistakenly, said Susan Dyer, a human resource specialist with Retirement Services.

"The erroneous payments were the catalyst that caused us to freeze the system so that only the best dates could be entered at the highest level," Dean said, and no one at the installation could overwrite those dates."

Only personnel at the Enlisted Records and Evaluation Center will be able to change dates for enlisted soldiers and the Officer Personnel Management Division will handle officer dates.

"Soldiers can speed up the process by checking their Leave and Earning Statements under the DIEMS block, Dean said. "If the information is not correct they should start locating verification documents such as contracts or letters from the West Point Academy."

# Oh brother! There's sand in my shorts!

Chaplain (Capt.) Brian M.  
Fort Gordon chaplain presently deployed

Here I am in the middle of the Kuwaiti desert and everywhere I look there is sand. Sand to the right. Sand to the left! Well, you get the picture.

We just had a tremendous sand storm blow through the camp and sand has gotten into everything. Yep, there is even sand in my shorts! Through all of this, I have one prevailing thought: "How on earth can I get out of here!"

Deployment for war is never easy. In fact I would have to say that this is probably the hardest thing I have ever done in my entire life. Even as I write this, I wonder if I will be able to make it through. I thought I had done my best to prepare for this, but sitting in the middle of nowhere with no one around, I find I am very scared and very vulnerable. I feel like David calling out to the Lord for help! Yes, even chaplains go through times of doubt and concern, but this is not why I am writing to you today. At this time when I feel the most hopeless, I know very well where my hope will come. I do have hope in these times of severe hurting.

My wife sent me an e-mail out here in the desert. It was entitled, "10 reasons to hope when you are hurting." I have found it to be a gem of comfort to me. It's great to have a spouse who will look out for her hurting husband.

God knew exactly what he was doing when he brought her into my life. With her divine love and prayers for me and my soldiers, I am sure we will get through this. So if you're hurting and don't have any hope, read this and know that God is still Lord of all and he will help you:

1. **God is truly in control:** If God is God, then nothing happens apart from his knowledge and permission. While it is difficult to imagine why God allows some painful things to happen, his character, revealed in the Bible and through the testing of generations, leads us to the conclusion that He is willing and able to sustain you during the worst of times. ~ 2 Corinthians 1:8,9

2. **There is an eternal life to come:** Yet what we suffer now is NOTHING compared to the Glory he will give us later. Romans 8:18. He will keep you strong right up to the end, and he will keep you free from all blame on the great day when our Lord Jesus Christ returns. ~ 1 Corinthians 1:8

3. **The story isn't finished yet:** Time after time, the Bible records hopeless situations that ultimately ended in victory. Think of Job's sickness; David's adultery, and the many who were healed in mind, body, and spirit; Joseph's betrayal by his brothers. But Joseph told them, "Don't be afraid of me. Am I God, to judge and punish you? As far as I am concerned, God turned into good what you meant for evil. He brought me to the high position I have today so I could save the lives of many people." Genesis 50:19, 20

4. **God has not given up on you!** Don't give up on him: "For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope." ~ Jeremiah 29:11

5. **There is likely purpose in your pain:** Ask God to reveal his purpose in allowing this difficulty in your life. That's a legitimate question to ask.



Courtesy photo

Chaplain (Capt.) Brian M. stands in the sandstorm in Kuwait.

Often, the answer comes in the process of dealing with your circumstances. Dear brothers and sisters, whenever trouble comes your way, let it be an opportunity for joy. For when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be strong in character and ready for anything. ~ James 1:2-4

6. **You are loved!:** Even the most unlovable person in the world is actually loved so much by God, that he let his son die a terrible death to restore their relationship. God does love you! He sees your pain and weeps with you. "He has sent me to comfort the brokenhearted and to announce that captives will be released and prisoners will be freed. He has sent me to tell those who mourn that the time of the Lord's favor has come, and with it, the day of God's anger against their enemies. To all who mourn in Israel, he will give beauty for ashes, joy instead of mourning, praise instead of despair. For the Lord has planted them like strong and graceful oaks for his own glory. ~ Isaiah 61:1-3

7. **Your prayers are heard:** You parents—if your children ask you for a loaf of bread do you give them a stone instead? Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! If you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly father give good gifts to those who ask him? ~ Matthew 7:9,10

8. **You are not facing this alone:** For God has said, "I

will never fail you. I will never forsake you." That is why we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper, so I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?" ~ Hebrews 13:5,6

9. **Others have made it through—you can too:** Try to connect with others who have gone through similar situations. You will find hope, strength, and encouragement. A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken. ~ Ecclesiastes 4:12

10. **Reach out to someone else who's struggling:** Place your focus on someone else and invest your life in him or her. You may discover that your peace of mind is found in being a source of hope for another. All praise to the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ, he is the source of every mercy and the God who comforts us. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When others are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. ~ 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

It is my prayer that this will help to encourage someone else as it has me. To my family—I love you and I can't wait to redeploy back home to be with you. You are ever in my prayers.

Now, if someone can just give me an idea on how to get all this sand out of my equipment and shorts, I would be grateful. From somewhere in Kuwait with love—blessings to you all!

## Spotlight on:

Nathan L. Espey

Company B, 73rd Ordnance Battalion

### Hometown:

Cottonwood, Alabama

### What do you enjoy most about being a drill sergeant?

Being a coach, mentor and even sometimes a father figure to that soldier who might not have had everything readily available to him or her. Seeing that person transform from a civilian into a soldier. Knowing that you had a direct impact on that soldier's success and that you both contributed to this success as a team.

### How long have you been at Fort Gordon?

13 months

### What do you want to accomplish in the military?



Espey

## Easter and Passover 2003

### Christian

Post-wide Easter Sunrise Service: April 20, 6:30 a.m., Freedom Park

Catholic Activities/Masses: Good Shepherd Chapel, Building 29608, Barnes Avenue

Stations of the Cross March 26, and April 2, 9, 16, 6:30 p.m.

Penance Service, April 14, 1830

Holy Thursday, April 17, 1900

Good Friday, April 18, 1900

Easter Vigil Mass, 19 April, 1900

Easter Sunday Masses, April 20, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

(No CCD or Sacramental Preparation on April 20)

### Protestant Easter Events/ Services:

Triumphal Entry March, April 13, 9:30 a.m., IG Office (Rice Road) to Chapel

"Living Last Supper" April 16 and 17, 7 p.m., Bicentennial Chapel

Good Friday Service, April 18, noon, Bicentennial Chapel

Easter Egg Hunt, April 19, 1300, Religious Education Center, Bldg. 39713

Protestant Sunday School

Program, Royal Signal Hall, April 20, 9 a.m.

Easter Sunday Services April 20, regular times/locations, 9 and 11 a.m.

### Jewish

Jewish Passover begins April 17. Contact the local Synagogues for services times.

Conservative: Adas Yeshurun Synagogue, 935 Johns Road, Augusta, 733-9491.

Reformed: Walton Way Temple Congregation

Children of Israel, 3005 Walton Way Extension, Augusta, 738-8579.

# Community Events

## Volunteers needed

This year the garrison commander is asking for volunteers to step forward and support this event, because of the 93rd's deployment. The games will be held on lower Barton Field (vicinity of the quarter mile track) on **March 26**, beginning at 10 a.m. The rain date will be **March 27**.

For more information or to volunteer, call Master Sgt. John Boutte at 791-9841.

## Volunteers needed

Fort Gordon volunteers are needed for the Garden City Music Festival on **Saturday**, noon to 11 p.m., at Riverwalk, Augusta.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Julius Weston, Equal Opportunity Office, 791-6648.

## Yard sale

The "Great American" yard sale takes place **Saturday**, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sales will take place in the following housing areas: Gordon Terrace, Maglin Terrace, Olive Terrace

and McNair Terrace.

The Central Savannah River Area community is welcome and may enter through Gates 1, 2 and 5.

For more information, call Master Sgt. John Boutte at 791-9841.

## Warrant officer meeting

Fort Gordon will host the semi-annual Warrant Officer Leader Development Council meeting, **March 25 - 27**.

The meeting will review and address potential issues and develop courses of action from the Army's systems, policies and programs that affect warrant officer leader development.

For more information, call Chief Warrant Officer Frank Pizzi at 791-8183.

## Choir rehearsal

The date for the Celebration Mass choir rehearsal will be **March 29**, from 2 - 4 p.m. at Signal Theater.

For more information, email Conniestene Moore at [cmoore1114@msn.com](mailto:cmoore1114@msn.com).

## Career fair

SmartStart for New Vets Hosts Military/Civilian Career Fair on **April 25**.

SmartStart for New Vets is hosting a Military/Civilian Career Fair at Clayton College and State University's Center for Continuing Education in Morrow, Ga.

The Career Fair will be from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. and will have recruiters from local and national companies seeking qualified applicants.

Clayton College and State University's Center for Continuing Education is located approximately 20 miles south of Atlanta.

Visit the SmartStart website at [www.smartstartvets.org](http://www.smartstartvets.org) for more information and directions.

## Diabetes support group

Support group for living healthy will meet in Darling Hall, Room 229, **March 31** at 6 p.m.

The cost is free and open to the public. The group meets on the last Monday of every month.

For more information, call Maj.

Tonya Dickerson at 787-1126 or Vera Larry at 787-8469.

## National Library Week

Woodworth Library will sponsor several activities **April 6-12**. The theme is "@ your library".

Storytelling activities occur **April 7 - 10** at 11 a.m.

For more information contact Liz Knight at 791-7323.

## EFMP happenings

Exceptional Family Member Program Monthly Parent Information Exchange meeting will be **March 27**, from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in the ACS conference room, Room 367, Darling Hall. The topic will be "Tender HealthCare, a Center for Medically Fragile Children."

The CSRA Area Agency on Aging presents... "Find and Paying for Eldercare Options," **March 29** from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at W.T. Johnson Center, 1610 Hunter Street, Augusta.

For more information, call 706-210-2018.

## Change of command

Capt. Cutie J. Jackson will relinquish command of Charlie Company 369th Signal Battalion to Capt. Marlon McBride on April 3rd at 8 a.m. The ceremony will take place at 369th's Signal Battalion Warrior Field. Inclement weather location is Gym 4.

For more information, call 1st Lt. Patrick Hairston at 791-6242/489.

## Yard recognition

The Fort Gordon Family Housing Beautification program kicks off in April. The program intends to promote continual beautification of Fort Gordon housing areas and recognize excellence in the maintenance of individual quarters areas, and will run through September.

One Yard of the Month will be selected from Maglin, McNair and Olive Terrace. There will be two selections for Yard of the Month from Gordon Terrace (one in the 1600 and 1700 area and one in the 1800 and 1900 area).

For more information, call Sgt. Maj. Steven Goulet at 791-6483.

## The School Yard

Congratulations to Courtney Abbott, a 4th grade student in Ms. Clary's class, for placing 3rd at the CSRA Regional Science Fair, which was held at Augusta State University on Feb. 28.

Congratulations to Freedom Park Elementary School Science Fair Winners

### First Grade Winners

1st Place: Eboni Martin

2nd Place: Jasmine Richardson

### Second Grade Winners

1st Place: Precious Gary, Jacob Bakos and Timmy Newsome

2nd Place: Kenny Harris, Taylor Paige and Amaris Holloway

3rd Place: Kenyatta Agiza and Oscar Gamble

### Third Grade Winners

1st Place: Trevor Thomas, Emily Capson, Megan Paine and Che' Rose

2nd Place: Jessica Lesley, Gabrielle Murden, Diamond Burden and Jayla Scott

3rd Place: Lauren Ward and Jacob Rogers

### Fourth Grade Winners

1st Place: Courtney Abbott and Javaris Blakely

2nd Place: Max Cherisson, Diamond Hudson, Danielle Hutchinson and Christian Cordora

3rd Place: Glenn Jackson and Cherry Turner

### Fifth Grade Winners

1st Place: Shantrice Jackson and Megan Cowern

2nd Place: James Allen and Bronzell Hill

3rd Place: Jamal Ash, Krystal Wallace, Joseph Knape and Natascha Echols



The newest edition of the "Fort Gordon Report" premieres **March 24** and includes the following stories:

- Army Reserve CSM visits Fort Gordon
- Tax assistance available on post
- "Disgruntled Clown" at the Fort Gordon Dinner Theater

The "Fort Gordon Report" and "Army Newswatch" alternate weeks on *Charter Cable Channel 13*: Mondays and Thursdays at 7:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Fridays at 7 a.m., 12 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., Wednesdays at 6:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays at 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

You can catch the latest "Fort Gordon Report" on *Comcast Cable Channel 66* on: Mondays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays at 9 p.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 8:30 a.m.

The newest edition of "Army Newswatch" will premiere **March 31**.

The "Fort Gordon Report" is the Signal Center's official television news program and is produced on post by the Fort Gordon Public Affairs Office and the Training and Support Center.

Watch the "Fort Gordon Report" for the stories that matter in your community and throughout your Army!

# Sports & Leisure

## Sports

### UPDATE

#### Eisenhower to host golf tournament

The seventh annual Eisenhower Golf Tournament benefit Fisher House will take place **April 4** with a 1 p.m. shotgun start at Gordon Lakes golf course.

The cost of entering the tournament is \$50 per person, or \$200 per team, which includes a bag lunch and buffet following the tournament. The format of the tournament will be four person scrambled in men's, women's and mixed teams (select shot.)

Mulligans are available for \$5, and a Hole in One prize will be offered by Bobby Jones Ford, as well as prizes for the longest and most accurate drives.

To enter, make checks payable to Health Services Auxiliary, 3979 Hammonds Ferry, Evans, Ga., 30809 or drop off checks at the Fisher House on post.

For more information, call 854-9153 or 787-7100.

#### Masters badge lottery

A limited number of badges for this year's Masters golf tournament in Augusta will be awarded through a lottery on post. Only active duty military personnel assigned to Fort Gordon may enter the lottery.

To enter the lottery register **today** between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. in Room 260 of Darling Hall. An active duty military ID card must be presented to enter the lottery.

#### Ladies golf schedule

**Thursdays** are ladies golf days at Gordon Lakes Golf Course. Tee time is 9 a.m. For more information, call Pauline Blandeburgo at 863-3747.

#### GNC Fun Run

GNC will hold a 5K Fun Run on **March 29**, starting at Gym 1 at 8 a.m. For more information, call 791-6872 or 791-6099.

#### Youth soccer registration

Youth soccer registration is open to boys and girls, ages 5 - 15 (must be 5 prior to April 1 may not be 15 before June 1). All participants must be members of Children Youth Services, Central Registration, Building 40200, 42nd Street. Current members may register at Youth Services, Building 45410. Sports fee is \$30. Yearly CYS fee is \$15 per child, \$35 for two or more children. For more information, call 791-3551/4455.

## Gordon Lanes: New and Improved



photos by Spc. Ryan Matson

The Gordon Lanes bowling center has undergone some major changes recently, but its pro shop still does the second highest business of any shop in the Army. (Above) Gordon Lanes manager Tim Stancil drills a bowling ball on one of his two presses. (Above right) A view of the new patio area. (Bottom right) Kegler Lounge, which adjoins the bowling alley, features four pool tables.

**Spc. Ryan Matson**  
*Sports editor*

The bowling alley on post has undergone a major revitalization. Six months ago, construction began on a connecting hallway which linked the bowling alley to a building next door. The Music Center, which was in the building, is being relocated to another area on post.

With the link to the new building, Gordon Lanes customers can now walk through the hall from the bowling alley to a separate building full of new activities. The new building houses three meeting rooms, which can host a total of 150-175 guests, an improved pro shop, and a spacious outdoor patio/cook-out area.

And Tim Stancil, manager of the bowling alley, Kegler lounge next door, and the pro shop, couldn't be happier.

"I've been waiting three years for this to happen," he said. "And it's finally here."

The new building opened Feb. 21 at 12 p.m.. The first meeting room as one enters the building can accommodate approximately 100 guests and was formerly three smaller rooms before

the walls were removed, Stancil said. Down the hall is a medium-sized meeting room capable of holding about 30 to 40 people, and at the end of the hall is a smaller meeting room where about 25 guests can gather, he said.

The meeting rooms are used for birthday parties, for bowling league meetings and other organizations to meet, Stancil said. He said Army Community Service has had meetings in the rooms as well as the Air Force 31st Intelligence Squadron.

But perhaps the main attraction, Stancil said, of the new building, is what he calls "The Bowling Store Next Door," the improved pro shop.

"We are already the number two pro shop, behind Fort Meade, in the Army out of over 100 centers," Stancil said. "In the last three years, we have done over \$300,000 in business."

And Stancil doesn't plan on stopping there. He has recently acquired a second ball-drilling press and said the shop is capable of drilling six to 16-pound balls. Stancil said he and his assistant, Joseph Winter, both members of the Pro Bowler's Association,

make up one of the only full-time two-person ball drilling teams in the Army.

"Our record is 25 drilled balls in a day," Stancil said. "But in a year, we drill more than 1,000. We expect that total to go way up with the new facility."

Not long after the ribbon-cutting for the new building, Gordon Lanes underwent another new development. The sports lounge adjoining the bowling alley recently changed its name from the Sports Connection, as it has been called the previous four years, to Kegler Lounge. Besides the change in titles, Stancil said the biggest change in the building is that it is now off-limits to Phase V-plus advanced individual training students.

"We want people to know that this is now a permanent party, non-initial entry training area," Stancil said. He said an outdoor patio facility has been added to the bowling alley where Phase V-plus students of age are still permitted to drink alcohol.

Kegler Lounge features 10 25-inch televisions, plus a 10-foot square pull-down projection-style television screen to view sporting



events and other such programming. The televisions get both regular and digital cable television, Stancil said.

"We had 122 people here to watch the Tyson fight the other day," Stancil said. "Anytime there is something worth having on TV, we'll get it."

In addition to the television screens, the lounge also features four pool tables, darts, a popcorn machine, trivia and other amusement games, and even a sand outdoor volleyball court behind the building.

"Sometimes units will do their PT out there," Stancil said.

Kegler Lounge opens at 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and closes at 11 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday and 1 a.m. on the weekend.

It is not open Mondays, Stancil said. On Fridays, Stancil said the lounge offers free food, usually snack foods, but not the same items every week.

He also said the bar is the only non-smoking one in the area.

Stancil said he is excited about the changes that have taken place in the recent

months at his bowling center.

"We're getting a whole lot more support now than ever before," he said.

#### Other upcoming events at Gordon Lanes -

For the third year in a row, Stancil announced that the Pro Bowling Association will return to Gordon Lanes.

The PBA will return the weekend of July 18 to 20, bringing along with it some of the nation's top bowlers.

"The current number-one rated bowler in the world, Walter Ray Williams, is expected to return to Gordon Lanes," Stancil said.

He added that the winner of the tournament the last two years, Patrick Allen, also a top-ten ranked bowler, will be coming back to defend his crown.

Stancil said the public will be invited to bowl with these top pros during the Pro-Am Tournament held July 18.

"We had a full-house the last two years and we're hoping for the same thing this year," Stancil said.

"The closest thing to an event of this nature is the Senior PBA Tournament in Columbia, S.C."



(Right) U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Jan Hicks tees off on the first hole at the AER golf tournament. (above) Col. Allen Woodhouse, 15th Signal Brigade commander, welcomes golfers. (Below left) Woodhouse in action on the links. (Below) Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Millward, Headquarters and Company A, 73rd Ordnance Battalion, was one of the key organizers of the tournament.



(left) Diane Sarber, AER officer for Fort Gordon, receives a check from Woodhouse and the 15th Signal Brigade following the tournament. (Below) Some of the prizes donated by the nearly 30 sponsors.



## 'Fore' a good cause

### 15th Signal Brigade, 73rd Ordnance hosts first AER golf tournament

Spc. Ryan Matson  
Staff writer

About 140 golfers, 36 teams, took to the links March 14 to participate in a charity tournament to raise money for the Army Emergency Relief fund. The event was so well-supported, Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Millward, Headquarters and Company A, 73rd Ordnance Battalion, one of the tournament organizers, said it was filled past course capacity.

"The support was just enormous," Millward said. "We could have easily had 44, 45 teams in this tournament. I had to put seven or eight teams on standby. We could have put 200 people in this tournament."

The tournament, which raised \$1,312 for AER, had a shotgun start at 12:45 p.m. Twenty five sponsors, listed below, participated in the tournament, donating money to AER and about 60 prizes for a drawing, also benefiting AER, following the golf action.

"We basically just beat the streets asking for support," Millward said. AER is an organization whose proceeds benefit soldiers in need. According to Diane Sarber, the post AER officer, last year AER helped 54,000 members of the Army family with \$38 million in assistance. Here on Fort Gordon, Sarber said \$786,293.14 was given to 1,189 soldiers retirees, family members and widows.

"We need to ensure that all soldiers are aware of the Army Emergency Relief program so that in times of financial crisis, such as deployments, they will know where to turn," she said. "At the same time, we need to reiterate to all soldiers that we have a responsibility to take care of each other. AER provides a perfect opportunity for us to do that by contributing to the campaign and taking care of soldiers now and in the future."

Besides raising money for AER, Col. Allen Woodhouse, commander, 15th Signal Brigade, said the tournament had another purpose.

"It's to get people out of the office, get the spring fever started,

as well as raise money for AER," Woodhouse said.

Lt. Col. William E. Garner, commander, 73rd Ordnance Battalion, explained how the 73rd Ordnance and 15th Signal Brigade came to host the tournament.

"The brigade commander, Col. Woodhouse wanted to have a brigade tournament," Garner said. "I said, 'OK, sir,' knowing one of the battalions was going to get tagged to sponsor it and host it and put it all together. I volunteered, so we were responsible. Then Sgt. 1st Class Millward said in order to do this right, we will get a lot better sponsorship from everybody downtown if we tie it to a charity, and the timing was right, since the AER campaign just kicked off. Therefore, we thought, let's raise money for AER. I venture to say that now every March there will be a 15th Signal Brigade AER golf tournament."

Garner said they started planning the event in January.

Garner and Millward said they believe the precedent has been set to make this tournament an annual event. When asked why he felt so deeply about supporting AER, Millward said, "Who better to raise money for than AER? With all the deployments going on, and our soldiers overseas, if a family member needs some help, where do they go? They go right to AER."

#### Sponsors

First Command, Augusta Dodge, Harley of Augusta, General Dynamics, Club Car, AAFES, Applebees (Evans and Bobby Jones), Gordon Lakes, Hooters, Monterey's, Carraba's, King Buffet, TGI Fridays, Holiday Inn (Gordon Highway), Pro Golf Discount, Golf Central, A and B Beverage, Forest Hills Golf Course, Bonaventures Golf, Pepsi Bottling Company, Caraway/Cohen/Channel, DCA Marketing, Fort Gordon Dinner Theatre, Movie Gallery.



(Above left) Woodhouse sinks a putt during tournament action. (Above right) Hicks takes a cut while U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon Deputy Commander Col. Michael J. Guthrie looks on. (Below) U.S. Signal Center and Fort Gordon Command Sgt. Major, Command Sgt. Maj. Michael A. Terry hits an iron during tournament play. Overall, 36 teams of 140 golfers competed in the tournament, raising a total of \$1,312 for AER. "I venture to say that now every March there will be a 15th Signal Brigade AER golf tournament," Lt. Col. William E. Garner, commander, 73rd Ordnance Battalion, which helped organize the tournament, said.



Photos by Spc. Ryan Matson

## 518th post championship

By Staff Sgt. Kelly McCargo  
93rd Signal Brigade

With a game-winning 19-foot jump shot in the final seconds, the 518th Signal Company Men's Basketball Team was able to rally back to take the Fort Gordon Intramural Men's Basketball Championship with a 35-33 victory at Fort Gordon's Gym #4, March 6.

The 518th had to recover from a traumatizing 35-47 loss to the Navy Security Group Activity the previous day.

The 518th's championship debut began with a tragedy of missed shots, fouls and turnovers at Gym #3, March 5.

The NSGA consistently converted those turnovers into points.

A 518th player said they came into the championship overconfident and cocky.

"We came into the first game

with the wrong attitude," said Pfc. James Rahiem, 518th Sig. Co., point guard. "We played with about 70-percent when we needed 100."

Teammates were bickering amongst each other rather than communicating effectively, said Rahiem.

By halftime the NSGA had an unsteady seven-point lead, but were able to capitalize on 518th's mistakes and increase the lead to a 28-41 score with 10-minutes left in Game 1.

"We beat ourselves," said Rahiem.

"It was a combination of bad passing and missed shots," said Spc. Aljamar Ward, 518th Guard. "But we have one more game-and we're going to win."

On March 6, the first half of Game 2 seemed like a repeat of the previous day. By halftime the NSGA held a decisive 13-22 score.

However, the 518th returned with a fire lit under them and a

battle between Army and Navy ensued on the court.

The score was tied 33-33 with one minute, 40 seconds on the clock. The 518th harassed the NSGA's defense with a flurry of passes. Ward took his shot with four seconds left in the championship.

The 518th bench was cleared and friends and family stormed the court in excitement-518th were the post champions.

Col. Jeffery Foley, Fort Gordon Chief of Staff presented the NSGA a second place trophy and the 518th players first place trophy.

Col. Daniel Gerstein, 93rd Signal Brigade, brigade commander, presented each player with a Basketball Championship Medal.

"We have so much talent on this team and the chemistry is great-no one can stop us," said Rahiem.

The season began November 2002 and the team said they came along way.

(right) Spc. Quintrell Becton, 518th Signal Company, breaks past his defenders for a lay-up. The 518th Signal Company defeated NSGA in a down-to-the-wire, 35-33, to claim the post championship.

(below) Spc. Cornell Evans, Jr., 518th Signal Company, drives past his NSGA defender.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Kelly McCargo

### FORT GORDON SPORTSMAN'S CLUB 3-DARCHERY TOURNAMENT (RESULTS) March 16

- CUBS (8 and under)**  
1st place - Tiffany Connell, 115 2nd place - Josh Wyatt, 91  
3rd place - Dakota Yarbrough, 68
- CADETS (9-11)**  
1st place - Dalton Wates, 220 2nd place - Shane Wyatt, 209  
3rd place - Cody Delmore, 160
- YOUTH (12-14)**  
1st place - Shawn Harrell, 198 2nd place - Kyle Johns, 153  
3rd place - John Perez Jr., 152
- YOUNGADULT (15-17)**  
1st place - Tanner White, 131
- BAREBOW COMPOUND**  
1st place - Clay Goodwin, 107
- LADIES TRADITIONAL**  
1st place - Kim Younts, 88
- MENS TRADITIONAL**  
1st place - Bryan Harrell, 142 2nd place - John Perez, 140  
3rd place - Jimmy Kitchens, 138
- HUNTERS CLASS**  
1st place - Philip Wyatt, 165 2nd place - Richard Pharris, 161  
3rd place - John Tinsley, 160
- MENS UNLIMITED**  
1st place - Robert Mason, 188 2nd place - Bo Wates, 180  
3rd place - James Lockridge, 175
- MENS OPEN**  
1st place - Daniel Whitener, 205 2nd place - Charles Harrell, 187  
3rd place - Carl Cushman, 167

## At the Movies

The Signal Theater is open Thursday-Sunday. All shows begin at 6:30 p.m. The late show on Saturday begins at 9:30 p.m. Children 12 and over and all adults are \$3. Children 6-11 are \$1.50. Children under 5 are free. For movie listings and times, call 791-3982.

**March 21 - 23**  
Friday - Final Destination II (R)  
Saturday - Biker Boys (PG-13)  
Late show - Biker Boy (PG-13)  
Sunday - Shanghai Knights (PG-13)

*Note: Attendance at Fort Gordon's movie theater is strictly limited to authorized Post Exchange patrons.*