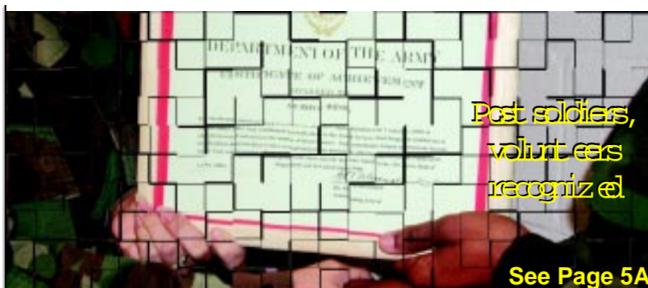




AS celebrates 38 years

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Post soldiers, volunteers recognized

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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

Change of command

The 442nd Signal Battalion changes command at 8 a.m. **Thursday** at the Barton Field Reviewing Stands.

Outgoing commander Lt. Col. Robbie Mosley will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Rosemary Carter. For information, call 791-2516.

School screenings

School screenings will be held at the Primary Care Clinic from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. **Saturday and Aug. 9.** This is a one-time screening required for all students entering Georgia public schools for the first time.

Parents should bring their ID card, medical records (if not kept at Eisenhower), shot records, eye glasses, hearing aids, medical stamp card and medical power of attorney (if applicable).

To make an appointment or for information, call the Family Practice Clinic at 787-7300. For sports physicals, contact your primary care physician.

Classes begin Wednesday in Columbia County, and Aug. 12 in Richmond County.

Women's Equality Day

The Women's Equality Day command program is 1:30 p.m. **Aug. 28** at Alexander Hall. The guest speaker will be Georgia Representative Sue Burmeister.

For information, call 791-2014.

Help wanted

The Greater Augusta Arts Council is looking for enthusiastic, energetic volunteers to help at this year's Arts in the Heart of Augusta festival. The festival is Sept. 19 - 21 at the Augusta Common & Riverwalk in Augusta.

More than 300 volunteers are needed for the festival. Changes this year include a new location and expanded Friday activities.

All volunteers will receive a volunteer T-shirt and free admission to the festival for the entire weekend. To volunteer call Mary Jones, Equal Opportunity Office, at 791-2014 or 791-6082.

TB testing

As part of an enhanced post-deployment health assessment program, all soldiers and civilians returning from a deployment are required to undergo a tuberculosis screening between three and six months after returning.

Unit commanders or representatives should contact Lt. Col. Kevin Michaels or Maj. David Marana, preventive medicine, to plan or coordinate testing. Call 787-3547 for information.

Nominees face Senate hearings

Army chief, Special Ops commander, go before Senate

Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample
American Force Press Service

WASHINGTON – Nominees to lead two important leadership positions faced tough questions Tuesday concerning present troops strength in Iraq, lengths of deployments and the stress those deployments are having on service members and their families.

Retired Army Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker and Lt. Gen. Bryan D. Brown testified during confirmation hearings with the Senate Armed Services Committee. Schoomaker is expected to become the next Army Chief of Staff, while Brown would head the U.S. Special Operations Command.

Schoomaker said he would travel to both Afghanistan and Iraq at the earliest possible date as a part of assessing the Army's size and commitments. "It's clear that my instincts tell me that there are things I need to look at," he said.

"I think that this isn't just an issue of end strength. It's an issue of fundamental organization," Schoomaker continued. "And the fact of the matter is we will be in Iraq a long time creating the environment there for it to be able to transition to the peace and the kind of stable nation that's able to operate within the kind of values we'd like to

see it operate."

"And it's going to require a presence there. And that presence, I think, as you've seen, is going to start transitioning to other (nations') friends that will help us do that," he explained.

Schoomaker also told the committee that he expected the Army to face a demanding future. "We spent most of our lives sleeping on cardboard boxes and (meals ready to eat) cases on cold, hard floors and dirt all over this world, and spent a lot more days away from our beds than we spent in our beds, and our families have grown up doing this — and I'm talking about the two of us that are sitting up here. We're just like everybody else," he explained.

"The thing that has always amazed me is the resilience of the Army family and of soldiers when they face a tough challenge," Schoomaker said.

"And I bring this up because we cannot offer everybody certainty about what the future is. It's a very ambiguous future that we look into, and we ought to be very careful about what expectations we give people," he said. "And I think that the most difficult part of this is when we give people expectations that we can't meet, it makes it much more difficult than it does telling

See Nominees, page 2A



Photo by Steve Brady

New deputy commander arrives

Brig. Gen. Gregory J. Premo, deputy commanding general, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon, addressed the crowd Monday during a welcoming ceremony at Signal Towers Courtyard. He previously served at Fort Gordon three times, most recently from 1988-'90 as deputy director of the Directorate of Combat Developments. Premo arrives at Fort Gordon after serving as the chief information officer for the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command at Fort Monroe, Va.

Reservists head to Bosnia

Denise Allen
Signal staff

About 45 Army Reservists were activated last week for duty in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

A ceremony was held July 24 at Fort Gordon's Army Reserve Center for members of the medical team with Detachment 10 of the 3297th U.S. Army Hospital.

The detachment will receive training at Fort McCoy, Wis., and Fort Polk, La., before leaving for the ongoing

mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

"This is a proud day for the 3297th," said Lt. Col. Haywood Johnson, executive officer of the 3297th. "We are sending off part of the family."

The team consists of physicians, nurses, radiologists and medical support.

"We are providing medical support to all soldiers in the theater and civilian medical support," said Col. Carol Bowdoin, chief nurse with the

3297th.

Brig. Gen. Thomas L. Bryson, deputy commander of the 81st Regional Readiness Command, offered words of encouragement for members of the 3297th.

"This country has always relied on our citizen-soldiers," he said. "From the Revolutionary War, soldiers were willing to lay down the importance of

See Reservists, Page 3A



Photo by Denise Allen

Nearly 50 members of Detachment 10, 3297th U.S. Army Hospital, were activated for duty in Bosnia and Herzegovina July 24 at the Army Reserve Center here.

Spouse group aids soldiers, community

Staff Sgt. Stacy Wamble
Signal military editor

The Army takes care of its own and an organization that helps make this true is the Fort Gordon Enlisted Wives' Club.

The club's purpose is to bring together all enlisted spouses for social and welfare activities to increase the attractiveness of life in the military community, according to Rosemary Marshall, president of the Fort Gordon club. The club also seeks to promote harmony and provide services to the community.

The Fort Gordon club supports many local organizations including Army Community Services, Fisher House, the Augusta Mini Theater, and the Fort Gordon Child Care Center, with funds and volunteer time. Additionally, the club provides a college scholarship program annually to area high school students and assists with the annual Signal Ball, according to Marshall, who has been a member of the club off and on since 1975, but an active member since the mid to late 1990s.

The club provides monthly games and birthday parties to the Blair House Nursing Home and the VA Medical Center, according to Marshall. The club also provides the facility residents with toiletries monthly and gifts every Christmas. The club provides a Thanksgiving meal at Fisher House annually and other incidentals as needed.

"It just warms you heart to be able to help someone else. It comes back to you two-fold," said Marshall.

The club provides financial and other help with proceeds it makes from its fundraising events and dues after operating fees are deducted, according to Marshall, but sometimes those aren't enough. "Sometimes we have to come out of pocket," said Marshall of the club's members. "People just don't support like they used to."

The club's fundraising activities consist of bake sales; raffles; gift-wrapping for Valentines Day, Mothers' Day, Fathers' Day and Christmas, as well as a booth at the Fort Gordon Flea Market held in May and October.

The community can give the club donations or help by "supporting our fundraising efforts," said Marshall. "Donations help a great deal. The more we make, the more we're able to give.

"The benefit we get as an organization is that we're able to help someone," said Marshall. "The reward of being able to help somebody is worth it. That's why we keep doing what we do."

Club membership is open to all Department of the Army civilians, Fort Gordon contractors, all military members and spouses. For more information, contact Marshall at 791-2675; Linda Holden, 854-9387; or Yolanda Deal, 796-3040.

93rd receives new commander

Special to the Signal
93rd Signal Brigade
Public Affairs Office

More than 500 soldiers and civilians attended the 93rd Signal Brigade's Change of Command Ceremony on Fort Gordon's Barton Field Friday.

Col. Daniel M. Gerstein officially relinquished command of the 93rd Sig. Bde. to Col. Nathaniel Smith during the ceremony.

Maj. Gen. James C. Hylton, U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology/9th Army Signal Command, commanding general, presided over the event.

During his comments, Hylton recounted Gerstein's performance as well as his family's dedication to the Army.

"During the last two years, Col. Dan Gerstein and his wife, Kathy, have served this community, our Army, and this nation in the finest traditions of American military service," said Hylton.

"I submit that the numerous contributions and success of the 93rd Signal Brigade are the legacy of this great signal leader, concerned not only with the progressive communication capabilities of our Army but also the reputation and performance of all American soldiers in his charge and the professional development of his signal team – soldiers and civilians," he said.

Gerstein recounted some of the moments he shared with the 93rd Sig. Bde. during his comments, highlighting the 63rd Signal Battalion's deployment to the U.S. Central Command.

"There is one story that particularly speaks to the attitude and the professionalism of the soldiers in this brigade," said Gerstein.

"In January, when the 63rd Signal Battalion received deployment orders, I directed that the deployment was going to be a brigade level event – Headquarters Company, 56th and 67th Signal Battalions would all be fully committed to pushing the 63rd Signal Battalion out.

"The job that the soldiers and civilians did was abso-

lutely magnificent, from the inspection of the vehicles to the convoy support along the interstate, all the way to the port of Charleston and to the port of operations (CENTCOM)," he said.

Gerstein then expressed his appreciation to the audience and the 93rd Sig. Bde. soldiers who were standing in formation on the parade field.

"Soldiers – the manner in which you executed this task speaks volumes about your character and esprit," he said. "I will never forget the way you embraced the mission."

"To the Fort Gordon and Augusta communities, it has been a pleasure to live and work here. I appreciate the support that you have given to the brigade and the friendships that we have developed," said Gerstein.

Smith, previously the Chief of Signal at the U.S. Total Army Personnel Command Center in Alexandria Va., said he was excited for the opportunity to command the 93rd.

"To be selected for brigade command is an honor and a privilege, and to be selected to command the 93rd Signal Brigade is equally an honor, and I am grateful," he said.

"There is no better unit to command and there are no better soldiers than the team of professionals that stand before you today."

Smith graduated from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff in 1980, with a bachelor's degree, and he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Signal Corps.

Smith was assigned to Bad Kreuznach and Kitzingen,



Photo by Staff Sgt. Kelly McCargo

Col. Nathaniel Smith receives the brigade guidon from Maj. Gen. James C. Hylton, U.S. Army NETCOM/9th ASC commanding general. Smith officially assumed duties as the brigade commander for the 93rd Signal Brigade, during a brigade change of command ceremony on Fort Gordon's Barton Field, July 25.

Va. Smith holds a Master of Science in Administration from Central Michigan University and a Master of Arts in Strategic Studies from the Army War College.

His military education includes the Signal Officer's Basic and Advanced Course, Airborne School, Communications-Electronics Staff Officer's Course, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, Command and General Staff College, Joint Professional Military Education Course (Phase II), and the Army War College.

His awards and decorations include the Defense

Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (three oak leaf clusters), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal (three oak leaf clusters), Army Achievement Medal (three oak leaf clusters), and the Presidential Service Identification Badge.

He is married to the former Shirlana Stockdale and has a 20-month son, Aden.

The 93rd Sig. Bde. is headquartered and located at Fort Gordon, and has the mission to deploy, install, operate, and maintain tactical theater communications packages worldwide while supporting joint and combined U.S. military operations.

The 93rd Sig. Bde. is the major element of the NETCOM/9th ASC in the southeastern United States.

Record, report lost or damaged goods promptly

Allan Downen
Staff Judge Advocate office

When changing stations, remember that you have **70 days** to inspect your property and note all loss and/or damage.

At the time of delivery of your household goods, the carrier will give you five copies of a two sided pink form – DD Form 1840/1840R. All damage or loss noticed at delivery should be identified on the front side of the form by inventory number, name of item, and type of damage or loss.

The carrier will leave you three of the five copies of the completed form, which you and the carrier must sign. (Both you and the carrier sign all five copies.)

As soon as possible, but not later than 70 days after delivery, you must examine every item in your shipment and record any additional damages or losses that were not noted or listed at delivery. On the reverse side of the form, list the inventory number, name of item, and the type/extent of damage or loss.

You must deliver the three copies of the completed form to the claims office within **70 days** of the delivery. The claims office will retain two copies. The third copy will be returned to you, stamped with the date received, for use when you submit your claim.

If, upon delivery of your household goods you do not receive any copies of DD Form 1840/1840R, record loss and damage noted during delivery on your inventory sheet. Immediately after delivery, notify your local claims office of non-receipt of the forms.

If you submit a claim against the United States for damage and loss of your household goods during shipment, and there are items on the claim which you have not previously identified on the DD Form 1840 or DD Form 1840R, or the DD Form 1840R is not received by the claims office within 70 calendar days of delivery, you will not receive payment.

The Army claims system is designed to protect you, but requires that you assist in protecting yourself. A letter to the Transportation Office or your Moving Company does not suffice, you must file your DD Form 1840/1840R with the claims office within the 70 day limit to recover damages.

If your destination is a navy or Marine Corps installation, deliver your completed forms to the transportation office for processing. If your destination is an Army or Air Force installation, deliver your completed forms to the claims office.

(Downen is chief of the claims division for the SJA.)

Nominees

From page 1A

people that we have a tough job to do, and we are going to have to hang in here together to do it."

Schoomaker said he's "very confident from my own experience and from what I know about the great people we've got in the Army, that our soldiers and their families continue to be very dedicated servants to this nation, and I think that we can work this and we can sort it, and I think we will continue to get great service from them."

Brown touched on increasing the numbers of special operations troops to meet worldwide commitments. He noted that operations in Afghanistan and Iraq called for the largest-ever deployment of special operations forces. "At one time we had over 14,000 SOF folks deployed out of a force structure of about 47,000. So SOF was integral on this battlefield."

He said the "Number one lesson learned and the most important thing about both Afghanistan and Iraq" was that it proved the saying in special operations that "humans are more important than hardware. And it proved again that the ability to attract, recruit, assess, train and retain special operating forces ... is critical to the success of SOF on this battlefield and any other one."

Brown said he thought the standing request for 5,100 more special operations forces "looks good."

"I can tell you that the performance of the special operations forces that you've seen today and that all of us are so proud of is a return on an investment of over a quarter-century of transformation of those forces," noted Schoomaker, whose last active-duty job was to head Special Operations Command.

He told the committee he would continue transformation efforts throughout the Army based on efforts by his prede-

cessors. "I think on my watch I'm going to have to stand on their shoulders as we go forward and do the kinds of things that I can bring to the table on it. So it's a long-term thing," he noted.

He observed that he thinks about transformation as "always in motion" by both current and future forces. "Where we're working the hardest is at the intersection, the overlap of those two, where we are bringing technologies and we're bringing concepts and we're bringing organizations and doctrine together to get the most out of our current force and leverage the kinds of things that we see as we go to the future and organize ourselves and think appropriately about the kinds of things that we're going to be asked to do. And so it's a daunting challenge and it's one that, you know, is not going to happen over a weekend."

Schoomaker said one of the first things discussed between him and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld was the reported tension between DoD and the former Army leadership.

"I'm convinced, through our discussions and our subsequent dealings, that we have an open and candid dialogue and that we have come to an arrangement where we can agree to disagree and at the same time understand what the chain of command is," he explained. "And I'm very comfortable that he's going to hold to his word, and I know I'll hold to mine."

Schoomaker's active duty career extended more than 31 years. Since retiring in 2000, he has been both teaching and mentoring within the Army, including being on the adjunct faculty at the School for Advanced Military Studies at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Brown is currently the deputy commander of the U.S. Special Operations Command.

Fort Gordon Fire Department gets 'maze' training unit

Joseph Hamm
Directorate of Public Safety

Have you ever been in your home on a dark moonless night, without power or any type of illumination? Have you ever tried to negotiate through your home in that type of darkness?

This is a real-life event for a firefighter who may be forced to perform a search and rescue in a fire. By the time firefighters arrive buildings often have no power and are full of blinding smoke.

To help prepare rescuers for this type of scenario, the Fort Gordon Fire and Emergency Services now has a maze training simulator.

This maze simulates a multitude of obstacles that a firefighter may encounter during a rescue attempt in any type of building structure.

"The maze trainer is awesome," said Fort Gordon firefighter Allen Catalano. "It promotes confidence in my abilities as a rescue man to negotiate the variety of obstacles that are represented in real life scenarios."

The obstacles the firefighters must negotiate involve hands and knees searches through narrow corridors, dead ends, doors leading into closets, ladders leading into second floors, rafter and roof simulations, hanging power lines that drape over roof structures, and adjustable sections that can transform the maze into a multitude of different scenarios.

These scenarios enhance the firefighters' proficiency for rescue, builds confidence in the individual's abilities, and bonds a trust in teamwork for the firefighting personnel in the department.

Along with the assistance of a hand-picked crew of able-bodied firefighters, Matt



Photos by Joseph Hamm

(Above) Capt. John Ryan, a station chief for the Fort Gordon Fire Department, practices moving through simulated downed power lines in the maze trainer. (Left) A tanker allows the department to practice for hazardous materials spills.



Williams, assistant chief of operations, directed the construction of this self-help project, which is a prime example of the continuing determination to make the Fort Gordon Fire Department excel in training and proficiency.

The maze is the beginning of a continued effort to improve the fire department's training grounds. In addition to the maze are two tractor-trailer tankers that can be used for a hazardous

materials leak simulation or other worst-case scenario training involving these type of vehicles.

Remember, "stay low" in smoky buildings, practice fire evacuation plans with two ways out, teach children not to hide under beds or in closets, the firefighters are there to help, and always call 911 for all fires and emergencies.

(Hamm is a fire inspector with the Fire and Emergency Services Division.)

ACS marks 38 years

Master Sgt. Pleasant Lindsey
Public Affairs Office

Army Community Service celebrated 38 years of service with a birthday ceremony in Darling Hall Friday.

Terence Smith, deputy commander, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Gordon, and Vanessa Stanley, ACS director, cut the ceremonial cake that was served to dozens of onlookers, many who happened upon the celebration while using Darling Hall's many services.

Located on the third floor of Darling Hall, ACS services include Army Emergency Relief, the Lending Closet, Family Advocacy Program, Exceptional Family Member Program and special programs specific to Fort Gordon. Any military service member, family members and military retirees and their family members can use many of the services.

"ACS is the post's information hub," Stanley said. "ACS should be your first stop. It will cut down on a lot of your research time."

ACS provides a number of services to help soldiers maintain their financial health. These services include Army Emergency Relief, the ACS Emergency Food Program, consumer information and personal financial management classes.

AER is a non-profit organization that provides interest-free loans or monetary grants to active duty and retired soldiers for emergencies such as vehicle repair or emergency travel, while the Emergency Food Program provides certificates to military families to cover the cost of groceries for emergencies. Financial management classes include Consumer Credit Counseling Service that helps military members create budgets to repay debts. Classes are held at ACS and can also be scheduled for units on post.

ACS also sponsors employment readiness job fairs and offers the Family Member

Employment Assistance Program. The FMEAP maintains a job bank of off-post employment, education opportunities, résumé assistance, workshops and counseling.

EFMP aids families with physical or developmental disabled members.

"EFMP is mandatory for all military members who believe they have a family member with educational or physical limits, chronic in nature," said Amos Demps, EFMP manager. "The intent is to assign sponsors to locations where services to the family member can be met." EFMP helps family members find education and care provider services, activities and support groups.

The FAP helps families maintain healthy relationships and environments in the home. The FAP can find emergency shelters for victims of domestic violence and help provide emergency re-

spite care or short-term childcare services to help relieve certain stressful situations. It also provides a victim advocate program for victims of domestic abuse. Services include community referrals, self-help workshops and emotional recovery.

The FAP offers a New Parent Support Program in partnership with the Fort Gordon Children and Youth Branch and Parent Teacher Association to offer parent education classes, playgroup sessions for three age groups and support groups for new parents.

FAP classes include: Child Safety; Stress Management; Child Abuse Prevention and Intervention; Couples Communication; Change Management; Stop Anger and Violence Escalation; Troop Education; Anger Control, and Parenting.

For information on ACS programs, call 791-3579.



Photo by Kathleen Haskell

Showing support

Showing its support for Fort Gordon, two representatives from the Widows Home of Augusta presented a \$10,000 check to Army Community Service July 7. The funds will be used to assist displaced military spouses with emergency transportation, childcare, shelter and legal fees. Pictured (left to right) are Nell Callahan and Jane Mothner, WHA board members; Vanessa Stanley, ACS director; and Brig. Gen. Eric Schoemaker, Eisenhower Army Medical Center commander.



Photo by Master Sgt. Pleasant Lindsey

Terence Smith, deputy commander, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Gordon, and Vanessa Stanley, ACS director, cut the ACS birthday cake Friday in Darling Hall.

Reservists

From Page 1A

their civilian careers to pick up arms."

After Sept. 11, the need for Army Reservists to lay down their civilian lives for their duty to their country has increased.

"Army Reservists play a significant and vital role in the defense of our country," he said.

He also thanked the families for their support and told them their soldiers were called up because they were the best.

"A coach doesn't put in the third string; he doesn't put in the second; he puts in the first team. This unit came out on the first team," said Bryson.

Sgt. Darryl Jarrett has been called up twice since the Sept. 11 attacks and said he was looking forward to getting the mission done.

"There's a certain amount of excitement," he said, adding it was mixed with sadness about leaving his family behind.

212 ways to be a Soldier

A day in the life of...

A 52D power generation technician

Staff Sgt. Kelly McCargo
93rd Signal Brigade

A constant in a technological military is the need for steady and reliable power sources.

"Depending on what type of unit you're in, you can't work unless I get my job done," said Spc. Notoane Russell, HHC, 93rd Signal Brigade.

Russell's primary responsibility, as a power generation technician, or 52D, is to ensure that soldiers have a working generator 24-hours a day, seven days a week.

"In a field artillery unit, the radar can't track rounds unless they have power," he said. "In a signal unit, switches can't communicate unless they have power."

The greatest aspect of his job is knowing that his skills are a vital part of the team and that his peers rely on him, Russell said.

"You can clearly see the results of my work, because everything generally stops when they need me," he said. "If I do my job right then everything

resumes."

Russell recounted how in his previous unit, his skills expedited the repairs on a damaged generator.

"The team was preparing to jump but fuel was leaking from a generator, and I recommended to the warrant officer in charge, that we shouldn't jump until the leak could be fixed," said Russell.

"I got the parts needed and fixed it. It felt good being a PFC and having people listen to your recommendations."

The 52Ds have a 14-week advanced individual training course at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds.

"Many of the soldiers attending my AIT went to become civilian electricians," he said.

His experience in the military has taught him a lot about small engine and electrical repair.

"Since I've been in, I can automatically know if a generator is going to break down—I can hear it in my sleep," said Russell. "One thing I can suggest is that people should rotate genera-

tors while they're in the field. You wouldn't run your car for 10 days straight and you shouldn't do it to a generator either—give your equipment a rest."

His weekly schedule is much the same at Fort Gordon.

"Since I've come to the 93rd, I would say 60 percent of my job is light-wheel mechanic now," he said.

"Once in while I'll pull in a generator for services and really get one-on-one with it so it can be the best it can possibly be—check the cables for frayed wires, continuity in the electrical wires."

Another aspect of his job he enjoys is the variety of his assignments.

"I'm not limited to just one corps group," he said. "I can go from a signal unit to an engineer unit."

So what's next for Russell?

"I'm looking into going to a Ranger battalion and then putting in a packet to become a warrant officer," he said. "I'm mostly looking for a challenge."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Kelly McCargo

Spc. Notoane Russell, HHC, 93rd Sig. Bde, power generation technician, inspects the electrical system of a 30 kilowatt Quiet Reliable power generator at the 93rd Signal Brigade motor pool.

Viewpoint

Information, Opinions, and Commentary

DoD cites 'profound gratitude' for Hope's tours

Gerry Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The King (of Comedy) is dead. Long live the King.

Such might be the public reaction to news that American comedy giant Bob Hope had died of pneumonia Sunday at his Toluca Lake, Calif., home at age 100.

Yet, perhaps no other organization mourns Hope's passing more than the Pentagon, for whom the British-born comedian undertook numerous — and often dangerous — overseas tours to entertain U.S. troops between 1943 during World War II to his last in 1990, just before Operation Desert Storm.

In a statement issued Monday, the Defense Department cited Hope's death as "the loss of a true American patriot."

The comedian, the statement continued, "Holds a special place in the national security pantheon."

Hope, according to DoD, "called the troops 'his best friends,' and he made it his mission to be with them wherever they served, regardless of distance or danger."

Hope was born Leslie Townes Hope in Eltham, England, on May 29, 1903. His family immigrated to America in 1907. He became a star on vaudeville, Broadway, radio, and in movies and television — and a hero

to U.S. servicemen and women.

The comedian became famous for flourishing a golf club during his comedy act. But Hope also became well-known as a patriot who'd over the last six decades risked his life to visit with and entertain more than 12 million U.S. servicemen and women during 700 trips stateside and

overseas in peace and war.

Give Thanks America, a national initiative co-sponsored by DoD, Hewlett-Packard and Sorenson Media, has saluted Hope, showing historical video clips from his trips on its Web site <http://www.givethanksamerica.com/>.

After the allies' victory over the

Axis powers in 1945, Hope continued entertaining service members throughout the Cold War. He made numerous visits to overseas U.S. troops during the Vietnam War.

Hope made his last troop visit at Christmas in 1990, when he cheered American service members in Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Shield, right before the launch of Desert Storm to liberate Kuwait from Iraqi military occupation.

The comedian was honored five times by the U.S. Congress. The USNS Bob Hope, a roll-on/roll-off cargo ship, was christened in May 1997. Hope also had an Air Force C-17 transport plane named after him.

In October 1997, Bob Hope was made an honorary veteran by both houses of Congress — the first time an individual has been so honored in U.S. history.

The DoD statement also cited the Pentagon's "profound gratitude" for Hope's decades of service to the country, recognizing the positive impact he made on military morale over the years. DoD also extended its "deepest sympathy" to the comedian's family and friends.

As U.S. service members around the world recall Hope's life, they're also likely to utter a sentimental phrase the comedian sang in his act: "Thanks for the memories."

Local offers Hope memories

Henry Holmes
Fort Gordon Public Affairs Office

It was almost New Year's 1965, very late at night, and along with the rest of the radio crew from the Armed Forces Station at Clark Air Base in the Philippines, I was waiting for the arrival of Bob Hope from Vietnam.

He was going to visit with U.S. military personnel being treated at the hospital on base and put on a couple of shows.

My job was to hold a unidirectional microphone to pick up his remarks after landing. The microphone was lengthy resembling a torture instrument used in old movies. I remarked that Hope might say something about the mike. He did.

He looked at me and the microphone and said "Don't point that thing at me," which, of course, resulted in laughter.

Though I never actually got to shake his hand, our paths crossed a couple times again. Once when he was in Augusta on a private visit, I did a telephone interview with him for radio. The other time was at a benefit show for his sponsor Texaco in Port Arthur, Texas.

He was the last of the great entertainers including Bing Crosby, Jack Benny and the like.

He is gone now, one of a kind, a great entertainer, but more important, a generous and gracious man.

Recruits take first step toward building new Iraq

Lt. Col. Donald Fryc
Army News Service

MOSUL, Iraq – About six weeks ago, the 101st Airborne Division formed the Joint Iraqi Security Company with a vision — to recruit, train, resource, and equip volunteers from across northern Iraq who would play an important role in the country's future.

Upon receiving the task, the 2nd Battalion, 44th Air Defense Artillery quickly planned, prepared and executed a rigorous training cycle to prepare JISC candidates for their future of securing and preserving peace in a new and free Iraq.

The recruits were primarily from northern Iraq and came from several ethnic backgrounds, including Kurdish and Arabic soldiers from Peshmerga Forces, New Iraqi Security Forces, and former Iraqi Freedom Fighters. When they volunteered to join up, none of the soldiers had any idea what the future held — only that the

concepts and ideals of the future held far better promise than those of the past.

Although roughly half of the soldiers had previous military experience, the terrain and weather conditions truly tested the depths of their character. Candidates trained six days a week in temperatures that routinely exceeded 110 degrees Fahrenheit. They spent countless hours on physical training, weapons handling, first aid, drill and ceremonies, and small unit infantry tactics.

The biggest challenge was "the language barrier," said Capt. Brian DeLeon, one of the training cadre. Throughout the training cycle he used multiple interpreters to explain over and over the tasks, conditions, and standards for each training event.

The *Strike Fear* cadre "led by example" and personally demonstrated every task the soldiers needed to acquire.

As the training progressed, they quickly learned the invaluable lesson of working together

as a team. Ultimately, all soldiers embraced the common goal to "cooperate and graduate."

On graduation day, a bold visual impression of the company's commitment to teamwork and loyalty to one another was found fluttering in the desert wind on their company guidon, which depicts two hands clasped together.

Unmistakably, the graduation ceremony marked a historic step for the JISC that is assisting coalition forces to secure and preserve the peace in northern Iraq. The overarching feeling at the ceremony was one of optimism and hope.

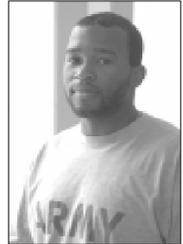
Optimism because of the remarkable progress that is being made all over northern Iraq in stabilizing the peace, and hope that the brave soldiers of the first JISC will light the path toward a brighter Iraqi future — a future of hope and promise being written every day.

(Fryc is the commander of the 2nd Battalion, 44th Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) in northern Iraq.)

Feedback

by Spc. Leslie Pearson

How does it feel to be back from the Middle East?



"It feels great to be back home safe because I can spend some time with family and friends."

Spc. Derrick Hunter
HHC, 202nd Military Intelligence Battalion



"I'm glad to be back and as crazy as it may sound, I'm excited to be going to Egypt for a training exercise soon."

Spc. Stephanie Maas
202nd MI Bn.



"It feels wonderful to be out of the desert because there are trees and greenery and people who speak English."

Sgt. Ramon Maddox
202nd MI Bn.



"Everything's a little overwhelming at first because you can suddenly have all the things you've been wanting."

Spc. Melissa Martin
513th MI Bde.



"I'm glad to be back because I get to see my daughter and spend time with my family. I'm glad to be back in a normal life again and to be around things that are familiar to me."

Pfc. Johnathan Robinson
HHC, 202nd MI Bn.



The Signal

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Distribution on post is free, and circulation is 18,500 per week.

Quarterly awardees named

The Fort Gordon quarterly installation awards ceremony was held Thursday at Conrad Hall. The following personnel were honored:



The volunteer of the month for May 2003 is **Karenann B-Amster**, a Red Cross volunteer at Eisenhower Army Medical Center.

B-Amster has volunteered on Fort Gordon for the past two and a half years; however, she has volunteered in different locations throughout the United States for more than 23 years.

She serves as a receptionist in the day surgery unit at the hospital. She registers patients, answers the telephone and maintains a log on the patients having surgery. She spends approximately 24 hours each week making the staff's job easier and assisting the patients and their families wherever needed.

When she isn't volunteering at Eisenhower, she works with various veterans' organizations throughout the Central Savannah River Area.

Her hobbies include needlework, sewing and knitting. B-Amster is married to Col. (Dr.) Steven Amster, who volunteered to return to active duty from the retired reserves.

Kathryn Robertson is the volunteer of the month for April 2003. Robertson volunteered on Fort Gordon for two years in a wide variety of capacities, including the Officers' Wives' Club, Christmas House, 15th Signal Brigade and 447th Signal Battalion spouses' coffee groups, Boy Scout Troop 99, Cub Scout Pack 99 and Pack 8, Brownie Troop 18, and Saint Mary on the Hill School.

She was also co-leader of the 447th Sig. Bn. Family Readiness Group, organizing potluck lunches, Christmas and Easter parties for family members; raising money for the group through hotdog and pizza sales and a raffle for Thanksgiving turkey dinners; and filling candy bags for Halloween and Valentines day.

She did all this while being married to Lt. Col. Christopher Robertson and raising five children – James, Michael, Sarah, Kate and John. Prior to marrying into the Army, she was a chemical engineer at the Savannah River Site, but now feels her greatest job is raising her children to be honest, hardworking and independent individuals and hopefully, volunteers.

The Robertson's recently transferred to Carlisle Barracks, Penn.



The servicemember of the quarter for the Third Quarter of Fiscal Year 2003 is **Spc. Wayne Landis**, who is assigned to Company A, 206th Military Intelligence Battalion as a signals intelligence analyst.

Landis instructs other servicemembers on nuclear, biological and chemical defense techniques and capabilities.

As floor sergeant, he ensures that Alpha Company barracks for his floor are kept up to a good standard of health and cleanliness to better accommodate soliders. He also assists the supply sergeant in the unit supply room and serves as fire evacuation coordinator. A native of Middleburg, Penn., Landis joined the Army four and a half years ago to serve his country and to see the world.

His career goals include becoming a light infantryman and a flight warrant officer.

He is competing for the intelligence security command soldier of the year board in Virginia this week and hopes to add that title to his list of accomplishments. When he isn't cramming for boards, he enjoys outdoor sports – hunting, fishing, camping and playing soccer.



Staff Sgt. Sara A. Smith is the noncommissioned officer of the quarter for the Third Quarter of Fiscal Year 2003.

Smith is a telecommunications operator-maintainer, who is currently assigned as a drill sergeant in Company B, 551st Signal Battalion. She is responsible for the health and welfare of 55 servicemembers.

Her primary duties are to assist soldiers in their efforts to complete their initial entry phase of training, while ensuring they become proficient in basic soldiering tasks and physical fitness training.

While in the Army for the last eight years, Smith has traveled far from her hometown of Troy, Penn., being stationed in Kuwait, Italy, Korea and Florida, and a member of the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club.

Her future goals are to obtain a master's degree in information management and to become a command sergeant major. When her soldiers aren't keeping her busy, she enjoys watching movies and reading a good mystery book.



The volunteer of the month for June 2003 is **Rae Lynne Guthrie**, who volunteers at numerous locations around the installation as well as off post.

She donates her time and efforts to the Officers' Wives' Club as honorary senior advisor, in addition to helping at the thrift shop and flea market. She also works with Christmas House, the Army Family Action program, Army Family Team Building program, Boy Scouts and Freedom Park Elementary. Off post, she can be found volunteering at Westminster School and with her church as a youth leader and organist.

She has volunteered for more than 20 years, spending three years at Fort Gordon. A native of southern California, Guthrie is married to Col. Michael Guthrie, and they have four children – Paige, Cameron, Benjamin and Christian.

When she isn't busy volunteering and taking care of her family, she enjoys sewing, scrapbooking and gardening.



The Instructor of the Quarter for the Third Quarter of Fiscal Year 2003 is **Staff Sgt. LaManns Fingers**, who is assigned to Headquarters and Company A, 369th Signal Battalion as an instructor/writer.

Fingers teaches computer technology to initial entry training servicemembers in the tactical communications branch of the 31U10 course.

She instructs basic electronics, information security, local area networks, Windows 2000, among other subjects.

To get away from the automation area, Fingers enjoys writing poetry and short stories, traveling and collecting lego toy sets. She has been in the Army for 10 and a half years, joining to obtain some direction and focus in her life, as well as to become a role model for her younger brothers and sisters.

While in the military, she has started a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering technology. She is married to Robbie Coleman and has one child, Terrence Allen.



The civilian of the quarter for the Third Quarter of Fiscal Year 2003 is **Judy Wyatt**, who serves as a quality assurance evaluator for the Adjutant General Division.

She ensures the terms of the contract between the government and the military personnel contractor are met.

She monitors their performance, recommends actions, and serves as liaison between them and the government.

At the suggestion of her husband, James, she accepted a job at Fort Gordon, who told her the jobs were easy and paid a lot of money. Twenty-eight years later, Wyatt says she is still looking for that easy, high-paying job.

A native of Miami, her hobbies include photographing her grandchildren (Crystal and Caleb), walking, dining out, watching movies and reading. The Wyatt's have two children – Kimberly Jones and Dawn Abercrombie. Wyatt's future plans are to retire in a couple of years, travel and spoil her grandchildren.

DoD, postal service honor Korean War Armistice, veterans

Rudi Williams
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – “The Korean War will not really end until every American is brought home or accounted for.”

So stated Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz Sunday to several thousand veterans and family members about the “forgotten war” during the Defense Department's recognition of the 50th anniversary of an armistice that brought about a cease-fire to the Korean War.

“We owe them that; we owe it to their families, and we'll keep our promise,” Wolfowitz said. “Until things change in Pyongyang (the North Korean capital), we'll have to guard against renewed aggression.

Meanwhile, we'll work with the North Koreans to bring home our missing.”

The deputy defense secretary was speaking to thousands of people gathered on the National Mall for the DoD commemoration and the U.S. Postal Service's dedication and unveiling of a special stamp honoring the memorial. Robert F. Rider, a member of the postal service's board of governors, unveiled the stamp.

Marine Corps Gen. Peter Pace, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and actor and television personality Ed McMahon also took part in honoring the veterans. McMahon is a World War II and Korean War veteran. He flew 85 combat missions in Korea and achieved the rank of

colonel.

Wolfowitz mentioned the recently concluded U.S. negotiations with the North Koreans that will result in two joint recovery operations in 2003. Another meeting to discuss 2004 recovery operations is scheduled for November.

The deputy secretary said after more than three years of war, tens of thousands of American and allied casualties and incredible acts of heroism, courage and sacrifice, the guns fell silent.

The cease-fire took effect on July 27, 1953, with the signing of an armistice by United States, North Korea and China, which ends the war but failed to bring about a permanent peace. The combatants agreed to pull back to their respective sides of the 38th parallel and establish a demilitarized zone, which still exists.

To date, the Republic of Korea (South) and Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North) have not signed a peace treaty. A total of 33,651 service members died in battle during the Korean War: 27,709 soldiers; 4,269 Marines; 1,198 airmen; and 475 U.S. sailors. Some 7,140 service members became prisoners of war. There are still more than 8,000 missing Americans.

“Last month, I visited the Demilitarized Zone, where U.S. soldiers and our allies from the Republic of Korea continue to stand watch, ensuring the peace for nearly 50 million people,” said Wolfowitz, who also visited Seoul, the capital of South Korea during the trip. “When you visit those places, you can't help but appreciate the magnitude of what we accomplished in the Korean War.

The Korean War marked the first time in history that the United Nations sent armed forces into combat to stop aggression. Armed forces and medical support units from 20 United Nations member states, along with the Republic of Ko-



The 37-cent postage stamp honoring the Korean War Veterans Memorial was made from a photograph taken by Marine Corps Reserve Lt. Col. John Alli. He took the pictures during a heavy snow as a gift for his father, a Korean War veteran, who was retiring from the State Department.

Photo courtesy U.S. Postal Service.



Louis J. D'Ambrosio, 69, a radioman with the 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry Division, during the Korean War, poses in front of the radioman statue at the Korean War Veterans Memorial Sunday.

Photo by Rudi Williams.

rea and Italy, teamed together under the United Nations banner to halt the attempted communist takeover of the Republic of Korea.

Pace noted that service members today owe a great debt of gratitude to Korean War veterans in the audience. “The lessons you learned on that battlefield were passed on to us,” Pace said. “When I fought in Hue City in Vietnam, we learned from your lessons, and those who most recently fought in places like An Nasiriyah, An Najaf, Baghdad, learned the lessons.”

Consequently, he said, “They were able to fight the way they fought thanks to the legacy that was passed on to us by the men and women who preceded us.

“But there's a much greater legacy and a much greater debt that we owe to you,” the vice chairman noted. “That is, you have given us a gift, and it's a gift that overcomes fear for us. It's not that we don't know fear in combat. If you show me someone in combat who doesn't know fear, I'll show you somebody I don't want to be anywhere near.

“But the gift you've given us

is the legacy of taking care of each other in battle,” Pace said, “and the legacy of the battles that you fought so well that are our heritage. When we get scared in combat, what gets us moving is looking to the left and right and knowing that those on the left and right depend on us – but also remembering and fearing that somehow our own personal actions would let you down, and that your magnificent performance might some way be tarnished by the way we perform. And we'll never, never let that happen.”

Rider said some Korean War veterans felt forgotten, adding that, “To the men and women who served, the Korean War could never be a forgotten war.

“This stamp will serve as a special reminder that we must not forget the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice,” Rider continued. “Nor should we forget those who returned home without fanfare.”

The commemoration period commenced June 25, 2000, marking the 50th anniversary of the invasion of South Korea, and will continue until this year's Veterans Day Nov. 11.

Free concert

The Fort Gordon Freedom Jam military appreciation concert is **Aug. 16** from 3-8:30 p.m. at Barton Field. The concert, featuring CSRA musicians, is free. Call 791-6234 for information.

Tech Show

The annual Fort Gordon Tech Show is 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **Aug. 19** at the Gordon Club. Hosted by the Directorate of Information Management, admission is free. For information, call (888) 282-2262 or go to www.atc-expo.com/shows.

Employment briefings

The Phoenix Police Department will be conducting an information briefing at 11:15 a.m. **Tuesday** at the Fort Gordon ACAP Center, Bldg. 33800 Rice Road.

Sytex Inc. defense contractors is having an employer recruiting briefing from 1-3 p.m. **Friday** at the ACAP Center.

Contact Juva Alexander at 791-7356 for more information and to register for these events.

Fitness course offered

The Health and Wellness Center offers an eight-week fitness and health education program open to Department of Army civilian employees.

The class meets Aug. 19 - Oct. 10 from 3-4 p.m.

Tuesdays and Thursdays for fitness sessions, and 3-4 p.m. Wednesdays for health education classes.

The class is limited to the first 25 people to complete and turn in paperwork. For information, contact the Health and Wellness Center at 787-6756.

Parenting workshops

Army Community Services is having Parenting Workshops from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Fridays at the Community Life Building 33512. Upcoming topics include:

Today – Stress Management

Friday – Fun Family Time Activities/Easy Crafts for Toddlers

Aug. 15 – “Couples Communication

Aug. 22 – Appropriate Discipline for Toddlers and Adolescents

For information call 791-0794/7557.

ACS classes

Army Community Services offers a workshop titled *Helping You and Your Children Cope with Divorce*, the second **Tuesday** of every month at Community Life Center, Building 33512, from 1-5 p.m.

ACS also offers classes for the blended family each **Thursday** from 2-4 p.m. at Community Life Center, Building 33512.

At the Movies

The Signal Theater is open Thursday-Sunday. 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.

Aug. 1-7
Today - Homocide (PG-13)
Saturday - Wrong Turn (R)
Saturday late show - The Hulk (PG-13)
Sunday - Justin to Kelly (PG)
Thursday - Alex and Emma (PG-13)

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

For information call 791-0794/7557.

Supply workshop

The Directorate of Public Works Supply Support Activity is holding a workshop from 8:30-11:30 a.m. **Aug. 14** in the U-DO-IT Classroom, Building 2222. All supply personnel who receive supply support from the SSA are encouraged to attend. PBO's are also encouraged to attend. For information call Mavis Cupis at 791-3720.

SIU office closed

The Southern Illinois

University offices in the Education Building will be closed from 4:30 p.m. Monday through 9 a.m. Aug. 9 for staff training. For information, call Margaret Veasley at 791-2985 or 790-9881.

Orientation course

The Fort Gordon company and detachment commanders and first sergeants orientation course is 9 a.m.-5 p.m. **Sept. 15** in Darling Hall Room 229-B. Send an e-mail to isond@gordon.army.mil to register for the class, or call Sgt. 1st Class Darron Ison at 791-9536 for details.

Air Force Ball

The 31st Intelligence Squadron (U.S. Air Force) will hold the 2003 Air Force Ball **Sept. 26** at the Sacred Heart Cultural Center in Augusta. The theme is the *Centennial of Flight*. Call 791-9662 or 791-3578 for more information or to purchase tickets.

School dress code

The Richmond County Board of Education recently announced a revised mandatory dress code for the 2003-04 school year.

Tops must be solid red, white or blue, while bottoms must be blue, black or khaki; denim is acceptable. All pants must be of a traditional style, and fit at the waist.

There is no "opt out" provision this year. Classes begin Aug. 12 in Richmond County. For information, call 737-7200.

Lake activities

Fort Gordon Recreation Area and Strom Thurmond Lake offers lodging, campsites, pavilion, picnic area, boat/RV storage, camping equipment and more.

For more information on the recreation area or reserving part of the area go to www.fortgordon.com or call 541-1057.

Business help

The Service Corps of Retired Executives provides counsel-

ing and mentoring to business people starting or expanding a business. SCORE is a non-profit, public service organization affiliated with the Small Business Administration. Call 793-9998 9 a.m.-noon Mondays through Thursdays for information.

EFMP event

The Exceptional Family Member Program meets for bowling at Gordon Lanes Bowling Center the third **Monday** of each month from 5-6:30 p.m. Come out and join the fun including door prizes and free shoe rentals. For information call 791-4872/7557.

Book signing

There will be a book signing from 6-8 p.m. **Saturday** at Borders bookstore for 1st Lt. Sean Mann, 73rd Ordnance Battalion. Mann will be autographing books from his *Streekler Boglash* science fiction comedy series of books. For information, call 737-6962.

Mosquito spraying

Pest Control will be fogging **weekdays** for mosquitoes as needed prior to 7:30 a.m. from now through October. The regular scheduled days are Tuesdays and Thursdays. Days may be added as needed for mosquito control. For more information, call 791-4206.

Coalition begins sweep through Afghan mountains

Spc. Greg Heath
Army News Service

AYUBKHEL VALLEY, Afghanistan – Paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division began searching the mountains and villages of southern Afghanistan July 23 in Operation Warrior Sweep.

They joined 3,000 soldiers from Task Force Nibio from the Italian army and six companies of the newly formed Afghan National Army.

More than 600 soldiers from three companies of the 82nd's 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, and one company from the 3rd Battalion, 504th PIR, flew by helicopters into landing zones at altitudes of over 10,000 feet in the Ayubkhel Valley in the southeast part of the country.

Their mission was to set up blocking positions to intercept any anti-coalition or anti-government forces that may have been traveling in the valley. The valley was the primary travel route used by the Taliban and al-Qaeda forces during Operation Anaconda last year.

They also searched Afghan homes and caves, but nothing was found.

For two days the paratroopers held their blocking positions but didn't encounter any enemy forces. On the third day of operation they were given a follow-on mission.

They received intelligence reports that there were al-Qaeda personnel within the valley at a nearby village and so they were sent to move in and intercept them or any military weapons and intelligence, said 2nd Lt. Che Atkinson, platoon leader, 2nd Bn., 505th PIR.

The soldiers moved six miles from their original landing zone through rugged terrain with heavy combat loads of equipment to search a nearby village Saturday.

"The terrain was treacherous," said 1st Sgt. LaMarquis Knowles, the first sergeant for Co. B, 2nd, 505th PIR.

"I know they weren't designed for these 12 wades [boot size]," Knowles said referring to difficulty of soldiers walking on the narrow dirt goat trails that wind around the mountains. Some soldiers carried loads in excess of 100 pounds, Knowles added.

The search of the village proved to be their most successful one yet. Despite their success in finding a stockpile of ammunition and explosives

in the village, no military rifles or weapon firing systems were found.

Along with finding the ammunition caches, the soldiers also took six local nationals into custody for further questioning at Bagram Air Base. The six were taken into custody because ammunition or explosives were found in their homes, or based on assessments made by the Military Interrogation Team on site.

The soldiers worked in squads and methodically searched the houses of the first major village they encountered during the operation.

A squad from Co. B, 2nd Bn, 505th PIR, quickly uncovered grenades, blocks of C-4 plastic explosives and various types of ammunition in a locked storage room of one house.

"This wasn't too different from our other missions," said Staff Sgt. Brandon Gass, a squad leader in Co. B, 2nd Bn, 505th PIR. "We've cleared vil-

lages four times since we've been in country. We've been out a couple times and haven't found anything, but finding stuff gets everyone's adrenaline going and it makes the operation a whole lot more exciting."

In another house, another squad from Co. B, 2nd Bn., 505th PIR, uncovered a Russian military two-way radio, a 50 pounds of dynamite, a rocket propelled grenade round, a box of anti-aircraft rounds, and hundreds of 7.62 mm and handgun rounds.

Other paratroopers added to the growing list of confiscated ammunitions and explosives, finding more 20 RPG's, dozens of grenades, and scores of small arms ammunition.

A platoon leader from Co. B, 2nd Bn, 505th PIR, believes enemy forces may have known ahead of time about the soldiers' coming.

"The (Taliban and al-Qaeda) personnel knew we were com-

ing so they packed up what (weapons) they could, but they left a lot of stuff behind," said platoon leader Atkinson.

Dealing with local population proved to be a difficult task for soldiers who can't easily differentiate regular citizens from enemy forces, said Spc. Edward Michel, a rifleman in Co. B, 2nd Bn, 505th PIR.

"They blend in with the local population and there's not really much we can do," said Michel. "You can't go in there and just rustle up a bunch of villagers because that's not the way we do business."

The operation is currently ongoing. No 82nd Abn. Div. soldiers have sustained major injuries during the operation.

The operation to root out elements of the Taliban and al-Qaeda is one of the largest such operations since Operation Anaconda ended in March 2002.

(Heath is a journalist with the 4th Public Affairs Detachment in Afghanistan.)



Photo by Sgt. Gregory Heath

Six Afghans are moved in to position to be loaded onto a CH-47 Chinook Helicopter. Paratroopers from Co. B, 2nd Bn, 505th PIR, took them into custody during their cordon-and-search mission in a village in the Ayubkhel Valley during Operation Warrior Sweep.

Fort Gordon Report 

COMING IN AUGUST

The newest edition of the *Fort Gordon Report* premieres **Monday** and includes the following stories:

- **Brig. Gen. Premo's welcoming ceremony**
- **93rd Signal Brigade change of command**
- **Army Community Service birthday**

The *Fort Gordon Report* and *Army Newswatch* alternate weeks on Charter Cable Channel 13 on:

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.

The next edition of the *Army Newswatch* premieres **Aug. 11**.

Catch the newest "Fort Gordon Report" on Comcast Cable Channel 66 on: Mondays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays at 9:00 p.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 8:30 a.m.

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 Support Center.

Interpreting the Lord's Prayer

**Chaplain (Col.)
Richard Goellen**
Senior Catholic Pastor

St. Benedict, founder of the Benedictine Order, was riding horseback from one monastery to the next. He passed a beggar, who snarled, "If I had a horse, I could pray, too!"

Benedict smiled and said, "Friend, if you can pray the Lord's Prayer without getting distracted, I will give you this horse."

The beggar answered, "Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name... does the saddle come with it?"

The Lord's Prayer is a gift from God, even to us who get distracted. He gave it in response to a prayer to know how to pray. Of course, his friends knew how to pray, as did all Jews, who said all kinds of prayers. But that was not enough for them; they wanted to know how to pray as the Master prayed.

So Jesus revealed his secret life, his private approach to his Father. And we are glad they asked.

The Lord's Prayer has been at the heart of Christian prayer ever since; and it serves as a pattern for all prayer. Not because it includes everything, but because it sets up the focus of prayer: first on God, then on us. We pray it at every worship service as a community prayer.

Its opening is quite specific. It is addressed to the Father, the God who formed us, that mysterious presence

who reveals himself as fatherly, hidden in heaven yet available on Earth.

Prayer is not primarily about my wants – it is about God. I pray because of my belief in God who created me, sustains me, loves me with an unyielding passion, to whom I belong. So, when I pray, I begin in an attitude of worship.

I do not come before God as an equal or as a slave. I approach as a son or daughter. This family relationship is so central to my life that each time I pray, I am asking that God's vision for our world become a reality; that God's power be in control; that God's wisdom guide events; that God's justice would eradicate injustice; that all nations so bow to God's rule that the Earth would be indistinguishable from heaven. Of course, if I ask for these things, I offer my effort to make them happen.

The Lord's Prayer is an acknowledgment of our common need. Such need is different from personal want. I want to win the lottery, I want to be rich. But what do I really need?

This prayer suggests three things; bread, forgiveness and safety. That is, nourishment for body, healing for relationships and freedom from fatal harm. We may want many other things, but these basic elements are essential for people to live human lives in a Christian community. And until the whole human family enjoys the basics, we should be cautious about pushing our private wants.

Finally, the Lord's Prayer faces us

with the idea of unity in the church. It reminds us that there is no such thing as an individual believer; that without one another we cannot survive as Christians. It also reminds us that our common faith overcomes all divisions; that we join hands with saints and sinners, architects and addicts through all of history. We are comfortable in this, knowing all of us fall short. It is merely a matter of distances from divine goodness.

The Lord's Prayer, in its plea for mutual forgiveness, consoles us with the act that the church is not a hotel for saints but a hospital for sinners. In its request for bread it is a humbling reminder that we cannot sustain our own existence even on the most basic level. In its request of safety from evil, it is wholesome warning that not one of us is totally safe – and not safe at all outside of God's sight.

We pray this Lord's Prayer together as a preparation for receiving the body and blood of the Lord together. Maybe our focus today could be less on our private relationship with God than our equally real communal relationship with God. It is part of our faith that we are responsible to God both as individuals and as members of this community, which is the Mystical Body of Christ in this corner of God's creation.

Throughout the coming week, let's be aware for what we pray: that God be praised; that we be fed, forgiven and freed; and that our Earth may become, through God's grace and our efforts, a reflection of heaven.

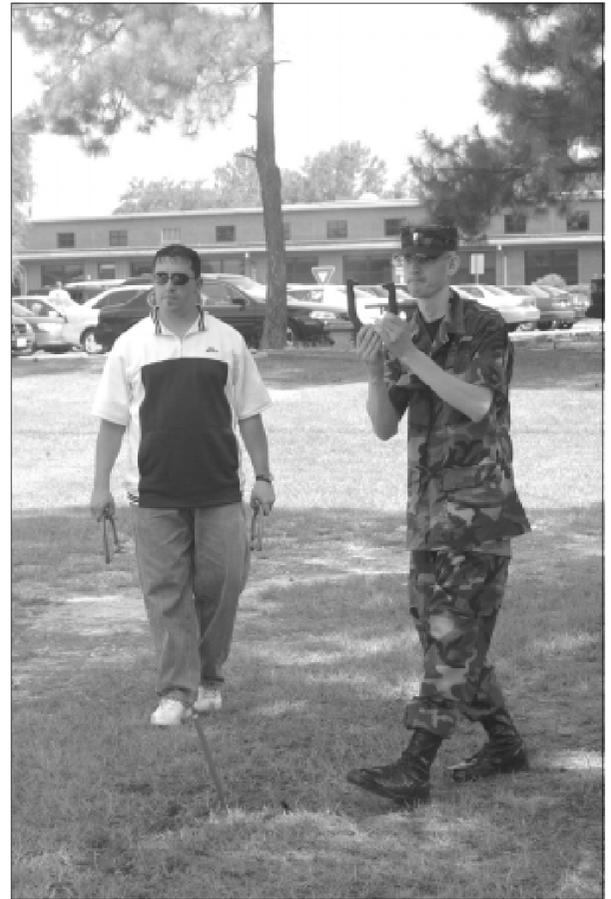


Photo by Steve Brady

228 and counting

2nd Lt. Eric Smith, Eisenhower Army Medical Center (right), and 1st Lt. Mark Rendon, EAMC, throw a match of horseshoes Tuesday at the Chaplain Corps' 228th anniversary celebration. There were games, music and a short program followed by lunch at the celebration, held behind the chaplain's office near Barton Field.

Mother's, like spouse's, worry never ends for deployed soldier

The longing for my husband to return home recently has reached a new high. It has been nine months, and, well, if I were



pregnant it would be over, and there would be a bundle of joy to celebrate.

At this point in the deployment there is not a lot of joy to share, as he is still gone, and the joy my children and I share is the joy that gets me through this muddle.

As I was looking at my children one day at the park, I was silently wondering if one day they would follow in their father's footsteps and be a soldier, and how would I feel about that. It was sparked by a conversation with my mother-in-law.

She has been as worried about my husband as I have, and in a different way,

because as she told me, "A mother never gets a chance to stop worrying about her children, it happens all through life, no matter how grown up they are."

I realized that she has carried the burden of this deployment, in a different way than I have, steeped in love. Our conversation that day brought to light something I always knew, and should have written about around Mother's Day, however it was overcome by other events.

Mothers are supposed to be special people, they are supposed to have a love for their children that no one else has, because it is between the two of them. When it works it is a beautiful thing, as

evidenced by the way my mother-in-law loves my husband.

Through this deployment I have seen mothers who send cards, boxes, organize their churches to donate things and bake cookies and ship it all overseas. Who light candles at every service, to keep a child's presence known, spirit shining.

Mothers who know that special food or drink and figure out how to get it shipped to their child through the postal service.

On the 24-hour news stations they have interviewed mothers who are waiting for their children to come home, and they too are going through the gambit of emotions that happen while a

spouse is deployed.

As a soldier it must be heartfelt, you cannot have enough people praying, wishing, counting on you to come home. It is that bond of love from parents and spouses that I hope helps our deployed soldiers get through this long separation.

The bond of love develops into a kind of strength. It is strength that a mother provides, that instills children to go on and do great things.

Two traits – strength and love – mothers have shown through this deployment.

Two traits I will take to heart, and hopefully emulate, if my turn should ever come. Two traits – strength and love – that will help me too, 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.)

Soldier exchanges bouquet for M16; goes to war

Spc. Leslie Pearson
513th Military Intelligence Brigade

Not unlike many of the female soldiers in today's Army, Spc. Amanda Hale, a counterintelligence agent in the 202nd Military Intelligence Battalion experienced a role reversal when she deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom leaving her husband behind.

The two met at Fort Gordon when her husband Peter, a Reservist from Maryland, was activated in 2001 after the September 11th attacks.

"When we met he had a broken ankle and couldn't drive so I helped him get around to work and to his doctor's appointments. We really clicked and soon fell in love; by September we were engaged," she said.

Hale's husband was eventually medically discharged from the Army because of his ankle, but as a former Reservist with the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade's 345th battalion, he understood that she would most likely be deployed as the situation in the Middle East continued to worsen.

"In November we were at home planning our wedding when I got a call letting me know I'd be deploying the next week, so we decided to cancel the whole thing. Then, after giving it some thought, I called him and said 'hey, let's just do this before I leave,' so we went to a Justice of the Peace in North Augusta with our families and said 'I Do.'"

This seems like a flip version of a scene from an old black and white film where two young lovers are caught between their passion for each other and their sense of patriotic duty. With no time to waste, they elope and enjoy a few precious nights as a married couple but alas, he must say good-bye and head off for the war.

The new bride chokes back her tears and tries to be brave for her beloved soldier. She promises to wait for him, write him everyday and to keep the home fires burning.

Not so for Peter and Amanda, in this scene, she is the heroic soldier going off to

war and it is he who must remain behind to tend the house and patiently wait for her to return.

"At first he really didn't feel good about it because I was going and he wasn't, but we were able to work out those issues. It was very hard but I knew I had to go so we just dealt with it," she said.

"When I got over there, the first two months were really hard but after that I just said to myself, 'Ok. I'm here, let's do this.' That made it a little better. You can almost forget about the things you're missing back home because you're so involved in what's happening there.



Photo by Spc. Leslie Pearson

Sports & Leisure

Sports UPDATE

Golf tournament

The Signal Officer Basic Course is hosting a four-man golf tournament from 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m. **Aug. 14** at Gordon Lakes Golf Course. Contests include closest to the pin and longest drive. Cost is \$15 per player. Call 790-3676 ext. 2314 or e-mail joseph.carman@us.army.mil for information.

Lacrosse club meets

The Aiken-Augusta Lacrosse Club practices **Aug. 10 and 24, and Sept. 7** in both Aiken and Augusta. The club is open to players of all abilities. Call 733-4271 or 854-1908 for information.

Ladies golf schedule

Thursdays are ladies golf days at Gordon Lakes Golf Course. Tee time is 8 a.m. For information, call Pauline Blandeburgo at 863-3747.

Spouse bowling night

The Gordon Lanes Bowling Center offers bowling for spouses of deployed soldiers the **third Thursday** of each month beginning at 7 p.m. The cost is \$1.25 per game with no charge for shoe rental. Call 791-3446 for information.

Riding lessons

Horse riding lessons are available at Hilltop Riding Stables for ages six and older.

Group lessons for three or more people are \$15 per person, per lesson on **Thursdays**.

Private lessons are \$25 per person, per lesson, and semi-private lessons for two people are \$20 per person, per lesson on **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday**. Call 791-4864 for details.

Ski club meets

The Augusta Ski and Outing Club, for people who enjoy camping, cycling, and other outdoor recreation, meets the first **Tuesday** of each month. Call 651-1556 for details.

Referees wanted

The Augusta Ice Hockey Association is accepting applications for ice hockey officials. Applicants must have a working knowledge of ice hockey rules and be able to skate; the association will train and certify.

For information call 556-3091 or 863-0061.

Hockey players sought

The Augusta Hockey Association is looking for ice hockey players for the upcoming fall season starting in **September**. Open hockey for all ages available now. Call 556-9957 for information.

Payday scramble

The next payday scramble at Gordon Lakes golf course is **Wednesday** with tee times available from 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Reservations may be made seven days in advance by calling 791-2433. Cost is \$22 for active duty, \$30 for guests, which includes greens fee, cart and prizes. Call 791-6854 for information.

Soldiers compete in Pan Am Games

Tim Hips

Army News Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va.—Pfc. Tina George will lead 17 soldiers to the Dominican Republic to compete in the 2003 Pan American Games today through Aug. 18.

Nine of the athletes are assigned to the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit at Fort Benning, Ga.

George, one of seven soldiers assigned to the Army World Class Athlete Program at Fort Carson, Colo., will be a pioneer in Santo Domingo, where female wrestling will be contested for the first time in Pan Am Games XIV.

"For me, it's like the first step toward the Olympics, so I'm really excited and getting really focused for the competition," said George, 24, of Cleveland, who stands five feet tall and will compete at 121 pounds. "I didn't really think of it before because girls have been going to the Pan Am Championships and the World Championships, but this is letting us know: 'Hey, it's a whole new time,' so I'm excited to go down there and get them."

1st Lt. Chad Senior seeks to atone for a disappointing sixth-place finish in the modern pentathlon of the 2000 Summer Olympics at Sydney, Australia, after leading through three of five events. Senior, of North Fort Myers, Fla., finished runner-up to fellow American Vahag Agorashvili in the 2003 U.S. National Modern Pentathlon Championships at Colorado Springs. A victory in Santo Domingo on Aug. 12 would secure his spot on Team USA for the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens, Greece.

"My chances are pretty good," said Senior, 28, a graduate of George Washington University in Washington. "Realistically, there are four people who can win, to include myself. If I have a good day and do everything right, I think I can win. This competition certainly is easier than the Olympics because it's the Americas competing. You don't have the Europeans here, so that makes a huge difference."

First Lt. Anita Allen, 25, of

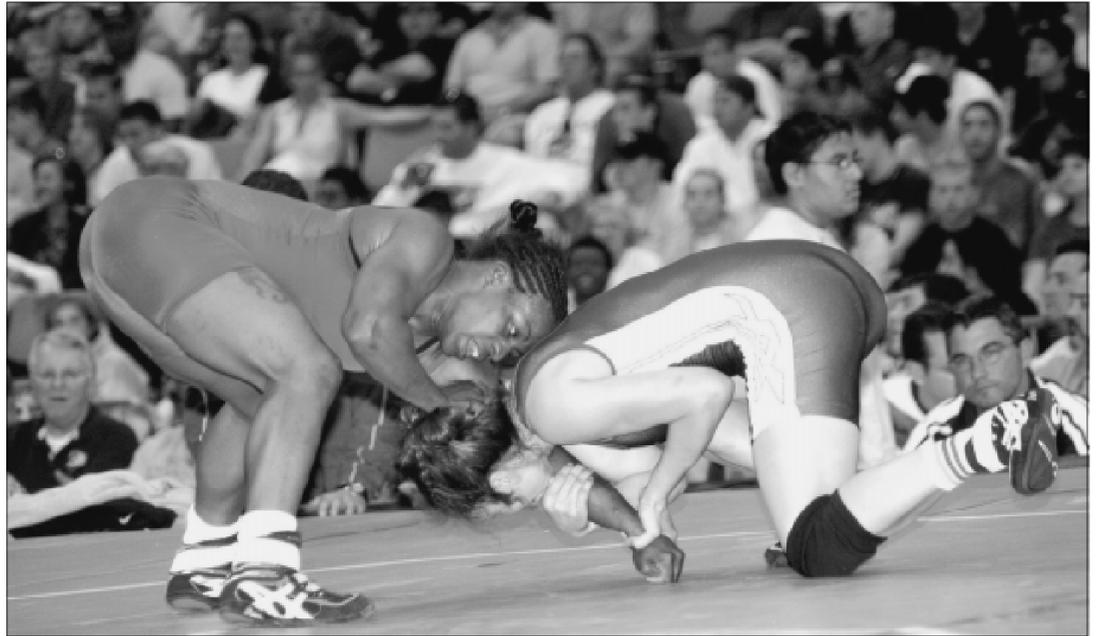


Photo by Tim Hips

Pfc. Tina George has the upper hand on Tela O'Donnell of Dave Schultz Wrestling Club until victory slips from her grasp in the final 24 seconds in the women's 55-kilogram division of the 2003 U.S. National Wrestling Championships at Las Vegas Convention Center May 10.

Star City, Ind., will compete Aug. 11 with Iagorashvili's wife, Mary Beth, as Team USA members in the women's modern pentathlon. Allen finished third in the 2003 U.S. National Modern Pentathlon Championships.

The Pan American Games will feature approximately 7,700 athletes from 42 nations competing in 288 events in 38 sports.

Spc. John Nunn, 25, of Evansville, Ind., another WCAP member, will compete in the 20-kilometer race walk, an event in which he finished third at the 2003 USA Outdoor Track and Field Championships at Palo Alto, Calif.

A two-time Southeastern Conference champion at Louisiana State University and now an infantryman in the WCAP, Pfc. Regan Nichols, 29, of Austin, Texas, will run the 400-meter hurdles.

In team handball, 2nd Lt. Sunny Chen, 23, of Virginia Beach, Va., and Maj. Shannon Cox, 35, of Assaria, Kan., will play for Team USA. Chen is a graduate of the U.S. Military

Academy stationed at Lake Placid, N.Y., and a WCAP member. Cox, also a West Point graduate, is stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and has competed in three U.S. Olympic Festivals.

"I think the team is really well-prepared, but Brazil has the team to beat," said Cox, a transportation officer who realizes Team USA must strike gold in Santo Domingo to earn a spot in the Athens Games. "It's definitely an honor to be representing the U.S. Army."

The Pan Am Games will showcase all 31 Olympic sports, plus six sports looking for a possible Olympic invitation in the future: bowling, karate, racquetball, roller sports, squash and water skiing. These games also will feature Jai Alai. Team USA will not field contingents in men's and women's soccer nor Jai Alai.

Little more than one year before opening ceremonies of the 2004 Olympic Games, the Pan American Games will serve as a major test for athletes gauging preparation for elite multi-sport competition. All told, 184

of the U.S. Pan Am athletes in 1999 made the 2000 U.S. Olympic Team.

Since placing second in the overall medal count at the inaugural Pan Am Games in 1951, the U.S. has won the coveted count for the past 12 Games. In 1999, the U.S. won 296 medals, 100 more than runner-up Canada.

WCAP head boxing coach Staff Sgt. Basheer Abdullah will be an assistant coach for the U.S. boxing team, which competes Aug. 8-16. He also served as technical coach for Team USA in the 2000 Summer Olympics at Sydney.

USA Boxing selected Abdullah as its 2002 Coach of the Year and the United States Olympic Committee named him 1999 Assistant Boxing Coach of the Year.

Super heavyweight Greco-Roman wrestler Sgt. Dremiel Byers also make the trip to Santo Domingo to serve as training partner for 2000 Olympic champion Rulon Gardner. Byers, the reigning world champion, lost to Gardner in the 2003 U.S. World Team Trials at In-

dianapolis. They'll be bracing for an expected showdown with Cuba's Miguel Lopez, who defeated Gardner earlier this year in the Titan Games.

U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit competitors include Sgt. Jason Parker (three position free rifle) of Omaha, Neb.; Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Tamas (free prone rifle) of Columbus, Ga.; Spc. Shane Barnhart (air rifle) of Ashley, Ohio; Spc. Mary Elsass (air rifle) of Poquoson Va.; Spc. Hattie Johnson (sport rifle) of Athol, Idaho; Sgt. 1st Class Daryl Szarenski (free pistol) of Saginaw, Mich.; Sgt. 1st Class Shawn Duloherly (skeet) of Lee's Summit, Mo.; Staff Sgt. William Kever (double trap) of Rutherfordton, N.C.; and Staff Sgt. Armando Ayala (10-meter 30+30 running target) of El Paso, Texas.

Army Reserve Maj. Dave Johnson will coach the U.S. rifle team, and retired USAMU Master Sgt. Erich Buljung will lead the national pistol team.

Editor's note: Hips is a member of CFSC Public Affairs office.

Brown, Savoie join Army Racing Team

Army News Service

DENVER—Three-time world champion on the National Hot Rod Association pro stock bike tour, Angelle Savoie, and teammate Antron Brown, have signed on with the U.S. Army Racing Team.

The new "recruits" began carrying the U.S. Army's name and logo on their pro stock bikes last weekend in the Mopar Mile-High Nationals at Bandimere Speedway. Savoie finished sixth and Brown ninth at Bandimere.

"U.S. Army Racing is proud to offer proven winners like Angelle and Antron an opportunity to continue their careers with our team," said Lt. Gen. Dennis D. Cavin, commanding general for the U.S. Army Accessions Command at Fort Monroe, Va. "This very competitive team will help us better demonstrate how both racing and the U.S. Army rely on speed, power, technology and teamwork to win."

The expansion into Pro Stock Bikes will help the Army to further develop its connection with high school, vocational and college students across the country, Cavin said. He said it gives the Army another platform to expand outreach efforts, generate leads for recruiters, and expand the base of those who influence decisions made by young Americans.

Savoie, who currently holds second-place in the pro stock bike standings, and Brown, who sits in fourth, joins Tony "The Sarge" Schumacher as part of the U.S. Army Racing NHRA family. Schumacher has been partnered with the Army since the 2000 U.S. Nationals.

Plans call for Savoie and Brown to join "The Sarge" as keynote speakers for the NHRA's Youth &



Courtesy photo

Antron Brown and teammate Angelle Savoie have joined the U.S. Army Racing team. Brown, the second African American to win a national NHRA event and currently ranked fourth in pro stock bike standings, and Savoie, a three times world champion and currently ranked second in the pro stock bike standings, are with the National Hot Rod Association.

Education Services program, known as YES, presented by the U.S. Army. The program helps kids better understand career planning and the breadth of opportunities at the track, as well as how math and science play a role in drag racing. Savoie and Brown are also slated to make school visits across the country with Schumacher.

"This is unbelievable," said Savoie of the new partnership with U.S. Army Racing and Schumacher. "It's really a dream come true. We just about had to call it quits, with no money left to race. Denver was going to be our stopping point. And, that would have been real heart-wrenching since Denver was where I started my career. Now, we can keep moving on. I'm so happy."

Brown became only the second

African-American to win an NHRA national event when he won the 1999 Castrol Nationals in Dallas, Texas.

"It's really great to be a part of the U.S. Army Racing and Don Schumacher Racing family," said Brown. "We finally can go out and race the right way. Everything just came together at the right time for us and I'm extremely thankful for this opportunity. We couldn't have asked for a better partner than the U.S. Army."

Racing without a sponsor for the first half of the 2003 NHRA POWERade Drag Racing Series season, Savoie and Brown will now sport the traditional black and gold colors of the U.S. Army for the remaining eight races of the pro stock bike campaign under the Don Schumacher Racing umbrella.

Savoie has posted three wins and a number one qualifying spot to date this season, while Brown has a final round appearance to his credit.

"We're pleased to have Angelle and Antron join Schumacher Racing," said team owner Don Schumacher. "Clearly, they will be a nice complement to our already successful U.S. Army Top Fuel program."

In addition to its NHRA program with Don Schumacher Racing, U.S. Army Racing also includes the No. 01 NASCAR Winston Cup Series/MB2 Motorsports team with driver Jerry Nadeau, who is presently recovering from injuries sustained in a practice crash two months ago. Mike Wallace and Boris Said are filling in for Nadeau.

(Information provided by a U.S. Army Racing news release.)

Spectrum

BOSS takes soldiers Around the World in half a day

Spc. Leslie Pearson
513th Military Intelligence Brigade

The Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program hosted Single Soldier Day July 25 with a variety of activities.

In following with this year's theme, Around the World in Half a Day, booths were set up featuring delectable foods from the Orient, the Caribbean, Mexico, Italy and France. While those attending the fest sampled the various foods of the

world, they could also participate in a reggae contest, try their hand at spades or dominoes, dance to music provided by DJ Vell, or let themselves escape to Japan during an exciting karate demonstration.

The day started out with an early morning fun run followed by a guidon competition. Later that morning, several people contended for the title of Mr. and Miss Fort Gordon in the GNC Iron Man/Woman

Competition that included a three-mile run, pull-ups, sit-ups, push-ups, and a 100-meter dash.

Even though their acronym stands for 'single soldiers' the day's events weren't limited to single soldiers; married soldiers and civilians were also invited to participate.

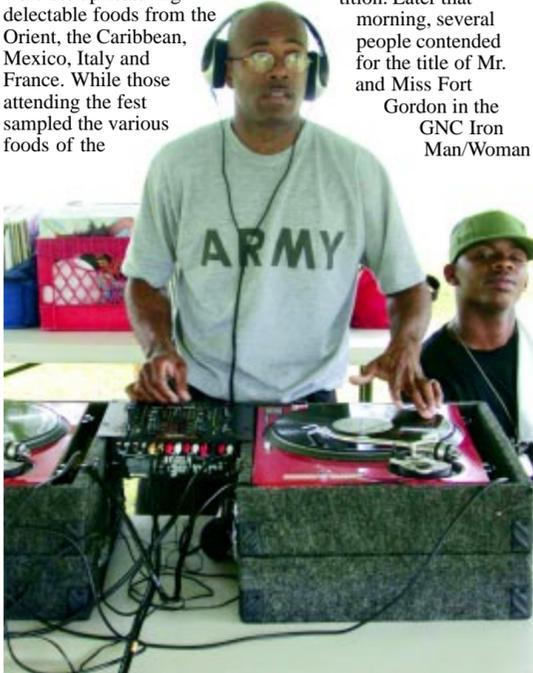
"We are a support group for single soldiers and we help them deal with things like barracks or dining facilities issues, and we organize events and parties. Our goal in organizing events like these is to get the word out about BOSS and try to create constructive activities for the soldiers to get involved in," said Sgt. Latanga Clinton, BOSS president.

Around the World in Half a Day was sponsored by MILES, Augusta Coke-Cola, Jeca, AAFES and the Fort Gordon Federal Credit Union.

For more information about BOSS, call 791-3025.



Photos by Spc. Leslie Pearson



(Above) Sgt. Mark Conrad, a 43 year-old Russian linguist with the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, 201st Battalion, gives it his all in the pull-up event during the Fort Gordon GNC Iron Man/Woman competition. The competition was part of the Better Opportunities for Single Servicemembers all day events. The competition also included a three-mile run, sit-ups, push-ups, and the 100-meter dash (left).

(Top left) DJ Vell spun tunes as part of the day's entertainment.



(Above) 1st Lt. Sean Mann, executive officer for the 73rd Ordnance Battalion and combatives instructor at Fort Gordon, demonstrates kick boxing and karate moves at the single soldier day festivities. Capt. David Shumaker, S-3 for the 73rd, and another volunteer brace for the strike.

(Left) Several soldiers enjoy a game of cards as part of the day's activities.

(Far left) Sgt. Aaron Breedy, an administrative specialist in the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, 345th Battalion performs in a reggae contest at the single soldier day festivities. Breedy, who also goes by the stage name, The Marix, will be releasing his newest album THEGEN.TOE in November.

(Above left) Foods from around the world were featured at the BOSS single soldier day fest.

