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# The Signal



Friday, January 30, 2004

Published for the Department of Defense and the Fort Gordon community

Vol. 24, No. 4

## News UPDATE

### Gate 1 construction

There will be construction at Gate 1 from **Feb. 9-21**. The gate will remain open, although delays are expected. Alternate routes are advised.

### Dinner and dance

Blacks in Government and the Gordon Club are holding a Black History dinner and dance celebration from 6-8:30 p.m. **Feb. 7** at the Gordon Club. Tickets are \$20 each available at the Gordon Club. For information, call 791-6780.

### Black history month

The African-American Black History Month command program is 1:30 p.m. **Feb. 10** in Alexander Hall.

This year's program features a choreopoem, *For Colored Girls who have Considered Suicide when the Rainbow is Enuf*, performed by Davidson Fine Arts Drama Department. (The program has mature content and recommended only for individuals in high school and above.) For information, call Sgt. 1st Class Garcia Patterson at 791-2014.

### Antique appraisal

The next Officer's Wives' Club dinner is **Feb. 10**. Guest speaker is Martha Lyons, a certified personal property appraiser. OWC members and their guests can bring an antique or collectible to receive an appraisal of the item. Lyons will also talk about antiques. For more information call 771-9653 or RSVP by Feb. 3 to Connie Hook at 869-8231 or Erin Nase at 771-5303.

### AFAP conference

The 2004 Fort Gordon Army Family Action Plan Conference will be held at the Reserve Center on 14401 Lane Avenue, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. **Feb. 18-19**.

Delegates are requested from each unit on the installation, consisting of a combination of officer, enlisted, DA civilian and family members; no more than 4-8 per unit (battalion or equivalent). All services should plan to be involved, not just for Army personnel.

Pre-conference training will be conducted for AFAP delegates at 10 a.m. or 1 p.m. **Feb. 10**.

Issues are needed for consideration by the workgroups during the conference. Issues being sought may be installation specific or Army in general. Issues may be submitted at [www.gordon.army.mil/acs](http://www.gordon.army.mil/acs) or in one of eight issue solicitation boxes located throughout the installation. (Issue boxes located in ACS lobby, Darling Hall lobby, Gordon Club, Family Practice Clinic, Signal Cafe, The Courtyard, Ike's Cafe and the Connelly Clinic.)

## Communications center dedicated to Signaleer

Staff Sgt. Stacy Wamble  
Signal military editor

While the specter of uncertainty looms large over the Army, a new facility is making its presence known at Fort Gordon.

Fort Gordon dedicated its new communications center Friday to Lt. Col. Reuben Abramowitz, the first director of the European Theater Signal School at Ansbach, Germany.

"All communications entering and leaving this post will go through this center, playing an invaluable role in the day-to-day operation of this installation. It is only fitting to

have such state-of-the-art ability here at the world's largest communications training center," Brig. Gen. Jan Hicks, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon commander, said at the ceremony.

"The new facility will clearly have a significant impact on our training, but also on our ability to support the military intelligence mission on post, as well as our ability to support the many services provided by the Eisenhower Army Medical Center," she said.

"The real, real value of this communications center is not its physical structure, though that's wonderful, but it's the important function it's going to

serve in the area of cutting edge information technology training for our military. That's what this is all about, and that's what the taxpayers of this country want us to do well," said Georgia Sen. Charlie Norwood. "Fort Gordon is the home of the Army Signal Corps, the Army School of Information Technology, and now this communications center will support the Army's mission, our mission, to train joint forces—Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines—on information technology.

"The intelligence mission is vital to our Army, to our military, to our young men and women overseas, and to this nation," he said. "Make no mistake about it, this center is going to play a key role in ensuring we have a successful mission."

The \$8.4 million center will house the Directorate of Information Management's telecommunications and automation support, supply support services, publications branch and DOIM administrative offices. The only DOIM asset to remain at its current location is the official postal services, which is collocated with the post office, according to Lisa McCleave, DOIM director.

"It will be more of a one-stop shop. The customer will have one place to go for all of his services," said McCleave. "(The postal services staying is) more beneficial to the customer and it's a more efficient way to do business because they have to correspond so much with the U.S. Postal Service.

DOIM provides desktop automation, e-mail, internet, telecommunications, records management, official mail and information assurance to mission command, Garrison command and all other Fort Gordon tenant units including Eisenhower Army Medical Center and the military intelligence units assigned here, according to McCleave.



Photo by Earl Tingle

### Brrrr...

The ice storm that blew through the area Monday left its imprint on Fort Gordon and the surrounding area in the form of downed trees and sporadic power outages. By 4 p.m. Monday, most of the post was without power, but by 10:30 p.m., power was restored to about 90 percent of post.

Besides consolidating most of DOIM's assets and replacing older, dilapidated buildings, there is an added benefit for DOIM.

"It'll create a more cohesive work environment. (The employees) will be able to share information without having to drive from one building to another," said McCleave.

A building occupancy date has yet to be determined for DOIM, but the target date is the end of June or early July, she said.

Located at the corner of Kilbourne Avenue and Officer's Club Road, the 35,800-square-foot building covers seven acres. Construction on the building began in July 2002 and is scheduled for completion by mid-March, according to Robert Stiles, project engineer.

The telecommunications area is approximately twice the size of the current area, which will allow for expansion with

the post and its needs, according to Stiles.

In addition to larger space for the telecommunications area, the telecommunications area will receive a new scalable telephone switch, which will be configured to support five times the current user capacity, according to McCleave. The new switch was not included as part of the new building, but when the project was approved, Fort Gordon was moved up on the switch replacement priority list.

The facility features skylights, more user-friendly paint and color schemes and ergonomic furniture, said Stiles. The facility's design and use of recyclable material has earned it the Corps of Engineers Gold Award for Spirit. This award recognizes cost-efficiency, user-friendliness and the use of recycled material in buildings.

The center is a Military Construction, Army project.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Stacy Wamble

Retired Col. Benjamin Abramowitz (left) and Brig. Gen. Janet Hicks, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon commander, unveil a plaque at the building dedication for Abramowitz Hall. The building, Fort Gordon's new communications center, is named for Lt. Col. Reuben Abramowitz, Benjamin's father and a career Signal Soldier.

## MPs leave impression on local students

Pvt. Armando Monroig  
Signal staff

Investigators from the 35th Military Police Detachment on post participated in a career fair at the Evans Middle School gymnasium, Friday from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Fort Gordon, one of the largest employers in the area, was invited to participate so students could see how the military serves the community.

Two of Fort Gordon's investigators showed students some of the tools they use for their work and talked to them about what it is like being an investigator for the Army.

One of those was Staff Sgt. Tami Washington, an investigator with the 35th Military Police Detachment, military police investigation.

"We're here to inform the kids there are different aspects to being an MP," said Washington. "Kids think MPs just ride around in patrol cars all day."

She explained to the students it is quite the contrary. She said they have very diverse jobs, such as working for a K-9 or traffic unit.

One of the things they showed students was how to lift latent fingerprints, which is part of their job at MPI, said Washington.

Washington showed the students how black powder is used to lift prints from a light or white surface, and how white powder is used to lift prints from a black or dark surface.

After having one of the students lay a finger on a demonstration sheet, Washington placed black pow-

der on the area where the student just placed a finger, then dusted excess powder off with a tool that resembles a duster. This left a finger print.

After that, she placed a small piece of transparent film over the print and peeled it back, lifting the impression.

She said lifting prints is very useful especially in cases such as breaking and entering in a home or vehicle.

Lauren Biggs, eighth-grader at Evans Middle School, said it was a very informative presentation.

"It was a good way to learn how to do that," she said about the finger printing demonstration. "This looks pretty interesting."

Also as part of the demonstration, the investigators had miniature drug testing kits to show the students, each kit tested for a different narcotic.

"A lot of people don't like the MPs," Washington said. "They think we are there to harass them or make their life difficult."

She explained MPs are there to protect.

"If I can let the kids know why we're there and other aspects of our job, then maybe they'll be more inclined to come up to us and say, 'Hey, I witnessed someone breaking into a car,' versus keeping it to themselves," she said.

The other investigator manning the MPI table at career day was Sgt. Lemuel Hashim, also an investigator with the 35th MP Detachment, investigations.



Photo by Pvt. Armando Monroig

Staff Sgt. Tami Washington and Sgt. Lemuel Hashim, investigators with the 35th Military Police Detachment, show Chase Cullinan, a student at Evans Middle School, how to dust for fingerprints. The Soldiers were participating in a career fair at the school Friday.

See MPs, page 17A

# Education options available on post

**Pvt. Armando Monroig**  
Signal staff

What are the reasons someone may have joined the Army? Was it the sign-up bonus? Maybe the opportunity to travel? Patriotism? Could it have been for college money and the opportunity to go back to school?

If it is the latter reason, Fort Gordon's Education Center, located on Barnes Avenue, has plenty to offer those interested in furthering their education and career goals.

Jim Zills, education services officer for the Education and Career Development Division, said the education center offers a full range of educational opportunities to servicemembers. "We can take a servicemember that has not completed high school, and we can go from a GED to a master's degree in six years," said Zills.

The Education Center has offices for seven colleges/universities that offer classes on post.

Those schools are: Georgia Military College, Paine College, Southern Illinois University, Central Michigan University, Troy State University, Brenau University and the recent addition of Augusta Technical College.

Georgia Military offers an associate's degree program and Paine, Southern Illinois and Brenau offer bachelor's programs.

Central Michigan offers a master's degree program and

Troy State offers a limited associate's, a bachelor's and a master's.

ATC, established in 1961, has been a part-time presence on Fort Gordon until recently, when they established a full-time office at the center.

George Lightfoot, director of community and public affairs for ATC, spoke about ATC.

"We feel Soldiers and their spouses deserve every opportunity to receive a quality education," said Lightfoot. "We are pleased to be here and look forward to continuing to do our part by serving as one of the educational options here on post."

ATC offers certification courses, technical certificates of credit, diplomas and associate degrees that can be earned through 95 different programs of study.

Available to qualified applicants through ATC is the Hope grant, said Lightfoot.

"One of the things that opens doors to Soldiers or their spouses is the Hope grant," he said. "If a Soldier or spouse is approved for the Hope grant, it pays all of their tuition, and gives them a book and supply supplement as well."

In addition to the Hope grant, the Pell (federal) grant is available to qualified applicants for associates degrees and diplomas, said Lightfoot.

"Augusta Tech is committed to doing whatever we can do to help save Fort Gordon," said Lightfoot. "We felt com-

ing out here full time was one more thing we could do to serve the Soldier, spouses, and others serving at Fort Gordon.

Another one of the schools with an office at the education center is Southern Illinois University, which has been on Fort Gordon since the early 1980s.

Kiah Washington, program advisor office assistant, said SIU offers classes on post for two Bachelor of Science degrees: a healthcare management degree and an electronic systems technologies degree with specialization in management.

"The electronics degree and healthcare degree goes with the mission of this post," said Washington. "It is beneficial to servicemembers."

She said the healthcare degree is important not only to Fort Gordon but also the Augusta community.

"Augusta is a healthcare community," Washington said, "so we get civilians as well as military from Eisenhower in our degree program."

Anyone can come to Fort Gordon and sign up for classes at SIU as long as they meet SIU prerequisites of having a two-year degree or a minimum of 26 to 30 credit hours.

Their courses are designed to supplement the civilian and military education servicemembers already have.

Classes are held Saturdays and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., normally three weekends per class.

Along with school options, the education center offers other services such as the DANTES Examination Program.

"Servicemembers can come in and take various tests, either for college credit, certifications and so forth," Zills said.

In addition, the learning center program is available.

"Within the learning center we have the basic skills education program, where if a servicemember wants to raise their GT score we can assist them in doing that," he said. "If they want to prepare for the ASVAB retest, we can assist them with that."

To assist in the process, about 60 computers with Internet access are available.

The first step for those interested in signing up for classes is to talk to one of the four counselors available at the center. While talking to a counselor, a servicemember can identify goals and educational objectives and future plans.

Once objectives have been identified, the counselor makes a recommendation on a college and sends the

servicemember to see an on-post school representative to begin the enrollment process.

If distance learning is the case, the counselor gets the servicemember on-line and connected to the learning institution they have chosen.

"It's a very simple process beginning with seeing that counselor," said Zills.

"Our counselors are pretty thorough," he said. "They will work with the servicemember, and make the calls the servicemember may need made in order to obtain additional information from other locations."

Hours of operation for the education center are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., and Wednesday 7:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. For information, call the education center at 791-2000.



Photo by Pvt. Armando Monroig

**Spc. Charles McMullen, B Company, 447th Signal Battalion, works on a correspondence course at the Education Center.**



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# On the brink

## How Georgia and Fort Gordon are protecting endangered species

(This is part three of a three-part series focusing on endangered animals in Georgia, and more specifically, on Fort Gordon, and the measures being taken to protect them.)

**Sgt. Ryan Matson**  
Signal staff

Here today, gone tomorrow.

That could be the case for hundreds of species of animals across the United States, some of which once roamed the land in abundant numbers.

In Georgia alone, there are 72 endangered or threatened animals. At least four species are known to exist on Fort Gordon, with several other species facing possible endangered or threatened status in the near future.

Recently *The Signal* sat down with Fort Gordon Directorate of Public Works and Logistics biologists Steve Camp and Ken Boyd and other wildlife experts to talk about the problem of endangered species in Georgia and on post and what is being done to ensure they can continue to live as they had for centuries before.

One of the species Boyd and Camp have spent considerable time and energy preserving on Fort Gordon is the red-cockaded woodpecker, and the efforts are paying off.

There are more than 30 red-cockaded woodpeckers on Fort Gordon, making it the largest group of endangered species on post, Boyd said.

"The birds on Fort Gordon had totally disappeared," Boyd said.

Then, sometime in 1994, Boyd said a single male red-cockaded woodpecker wandered onto one of the training areas from the Savannah River Site. Boyd was there when the bird was discovered.

"It was an exciting day," he said.

He explained why a bird would chose to move from its home.

"As they become adult, kind of like humans, they want their own space, their own home, so the males move out and set up their own territories and try and attract females," Boyd said. The bird was here for almost two years until female birds were brought in to help start the species population on post again. Since that happened, a female bird also wandered onto post naturally.

One of the duties Boyd and Camp perform to ensure the woodpeckers continue their recovery on post is providing the birds with adequate places to live. In the case of the red-cockaded woodpecker, Camp said a very specific habitat is required.

"The red-cockaded woodpecker is the only woodpecker species that lives in a live pine tree," Camp explained. "And it has to be an old-growth live pine tree, a very specific habitat. That tree has to be 80 to 100 years old before he can build a cavity in it."

The tree must be that old in order to be of sufficient size for the woodpecker to dig its cavity in, and to have the bark and other characteristics which draw in the types of insects the bird feeds on, Camp said.

Finding these older, large trees to place the cavity inserts in can be challenging, Boyd admitted.

"We just kind of have to be selective and look for them," he said. "We have to be familiar with the resource that we're working with, have good inventories of the resource we're working with so we know where a lot of these things occur."

Once they locate the appropriate trees, Camp and Boyd cut out a section and place an artificial cavity in the tree.

"Our box that we put in is a pre-fabricated box, so we just cut a whole section out of the tree and slide it in," Camp said.

These inserts mimic the actual cavities a red-cockaded woodpecker would carve into a tree naturally. Boyd said the biologists are required to dig four cavities for each bird.

"Any species which is federally listed as endangered has a requirement under the endangered species act for a recovery plan to be drawn up for that species," Boyd said. He said the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services organization, which falls under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior, is responsible for this duty. He said putting in the



The red-cockaded woodpecker is one of many endangered species found on Fort Gordon.

artificial cavities is a clever approach to helping the bird recover.

"You have to be innovative and come up with unique approaches to solve problems in nature when you're managing things like this," Boyd said.

When a new bird is born, Boyd and Camp fit each bird with its own distinctive band on the animal's leg to keep track of them. This way they know the full status of the birds, including their lineage. Although the birds move around a bit, Boyd and Camp also monitor where the birds live, which is in groups of the old pine trees located in three training areas on post, Boyd said.

"They're pretty vocal little guys, so once you learn how to recognize their call, you can locate them," he said.

The birds are social and will live in communities of up to five birds, each with their own cavity, Boyd said.



Photo by Neal Snyder

Scott Partridge, an intern with the Fort Gordon Environmental and Natural Resources Management Office, inserts shims for an artificial red-cockaded woodpecker hole into a longleaf pine. The artificial hole is just one way Fort Gordon helps manage endangered species on post.

**Benjamin E. Pierce III**  
*Attorney At Law*

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See Woodpecker, page 15A



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## Center honors career Signal officer

Abramowitz had heavy influence on early Signal Corps

**Staff Sgt. Stacy Wamble**  
Signal military editor

Darling Hall, Tingay Dental Clinic, Snyder Dental Clinic, Nelson Hall and Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical Center are all named for servicemembers who have had an impact on the military.

An addition to the list of buildings recognizing servicemembers is Abramowitz Hall, named in honor of Lt. Col. Reuben Abramowitz, a Soldier, trainer, educator, and athlete who dedicated his life to the U.S. Army Signal Corps.

"My father's story is the American story," said retired Col. Benjamin Abramowitz, son of the elder Abramowitz.

Born in Maripole, Russia, in 1901 to Russian-Jewish immigrants, Abramowitz arrived in the United States in the lower eastside of Hell's Kitchen at age 5. His father, a union organizer, was murdered a year later leaving a wife and four children. Reuben left school in the fourth grade when he "did what he had to do" to survive, said his son.

"He came home for dinner one night and there were seven people and six chairs," said Ben. "The next day he went down to Whitehorse Street and enlisted."

He joined the New York National Guard as a private in May 1916. During World War I, he served with the 37th Anti-Aircraft Battalion in France, and then with the 1st Field Signal Battalion during the occupation of Germany.

In 1922, he was chosen for the honor of being Gen. John Pershing's orderly during his tour of inspection at Camp Devens, Mass. Abramowitz was later assigned as a radio operator with the 9th Signal Service Company in Hawaii.

He was then assigned to Hawaii where his commanding officer took a special in-

terest in him and encouraged him to make the Army a career. The officer assigned a master sergeant to mentor Abramowitz and told him he would be promoted to corporal when he received his third class communicator's license, which he did.

"My father would have stayed in the Army and done nothing, maybe, unless some officer took an interest," said Ben.

Abramowitz arrived at Fort Monmouth, N.J., in October 1926, where he began a career within a career as an instructor at the U.S. Army Signal School, serving in the 15th Signal Service Regiment (the present 15th Signal Brigade) for more than 15 years. As a member of the faculty, he taught thousands of Soldiers the technical skills to be signal operators during the inter-war period. In addition, he spent the summers between 1926 and 1938 teaching signal communications to cadets at the U.S. Military Academy.

A master technical trainer and innovator, Abramowitz sought ways to improve and streamline instructional techniques. In 1930, he reduced the program of instruction time for code operators from 200 hours to 100 hours by combining the skills of typing and coding in simultaneous instruction.

"As a sergeant, he just did it. He didn't have to ask anybody," said Ben. "He did it and got the job done."

The elder Abramowitz

spent his off time breaking the Japanese code for which he received a Legion of Merit, said Ben.

By the time he was promoted to master sergeant in 1940, Abramowitz was known as the "dean" of signal training at Fort Monmouth and had perfected the instruction techniques required to expand signal corps training for radio operators needed for preparing for World War II.

In 1942, the 47-year-old NCO was commissioned as a second lieutenant, but quickly attained the rank of major by May 1943.

During this time, he served as the officer in charge of radio code and traffic training at Fort Monmouth.

In 1944, senior signal leaders in Europe called for him to participate in the European theater where he served from December 1944 to June 1945 as the officer in charge of the European Signal Center serving as an inspector of theater-wide signal activities and reporting directly to the theater signal officer.

In July 1945 Abramowitz established a European Theater Signal School at Ansbach, Germany. From the wreckage of an old Luftwaffe facility, Abramowitz established a signal school that brought acclaim, respect, and honors from senior commands for his untiring efforts for producing professional and tactically trained Soldiers. He was personally com-

**"My father's story is the American story."**



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Photo by Staff Sgt. Stacy Wamble

Retired Col. Benjamin Abramowitz, Reuben's son, presents Brig. Gen. Janet Hicks, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon commander, a book he wrote about his father's career. Titled *He's in the Signal Corps Now*, the book will be displayed in the Signal Corps' museum.

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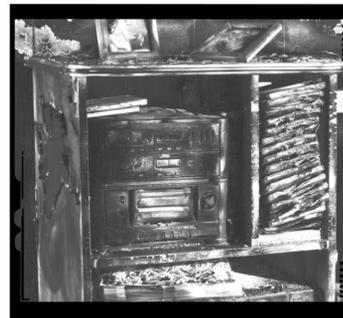
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# Viewpoint

Information, Opinions, and Commentary

## Happy anniversary Army Nurse Corps celebrates 103 years of service

Lt. Col. Ren Iungerich  
Eisenhower Army Medical Center

"This month the Army Nurse Corps celebrates another anniversary and for her age she is indeed a vibrant and continually growing organization," said Col. A.J. Frelin in 1991 at Fitzsimons Army Medical Center, Denver, Colo., as they celebrated the Corps 91st anniversary. As the corps celebrates its 103rd anniversary, I want to highlight milestones in our history as related by Frelin then.

The Corps has served the American fighting men and women through two World Wars, Korea, Viet Nam, Panama and Saudi Arabia. That gives us a wonderful heritage of which to be a part. And each of us serves personally as a part of that heritage.

On Feb. 2, 1901, the Army Nurse Corps (female)

became a Corps in the Army Medical Department, and was commissioned in 1947.

In May 1917, when more than 400 Army nurses sailed for France and through the rest of the war.

On May 6, 1942, when Corregador fell 66 nurses remained prisoners throughout the period serving, caring, and surviving the Bataan March, earning the respect of all who served with us.

On Nov. 8, 1942, when a plane carrying 13 Army nurses landed in Albania and those nurses spent more than 6 weeks behind German lines.

On April 28, 1945, six nurses died on the Hospital Ship Comfort that came under Japanese fire.

On July 5, 1950, 57 nurses arrived in Pusan, Korea to begin caring for American soldiers and from then until the final peace in July 1953, 540 Army nurses served.

In May 1962, the first contingent of 10 Army nurses

arrived in Viet Nam.

In 1983, troops deployed to Grenada and again in 1989 to Panama in support of Operation Just Cause.

Medical operations in support of Operation Desert Shield began the second week of August 1990, when the AMEDDD began deployment to Southwest Asia. More than 24,000 health care personnel were deployed to theater, the largest AMEDDD deployment since the Vietnam War. Theater-wide, there was 44 hospitals providing 13,500 beds in four countries.

In Nov 1992, the 212th MASH with 40 Army nurses deployed from Wiesbaden, Germany to Zagreb, Croatia. The mission was to provide medical support, including a 60-bed hospital and a 30-day patient holding capability, to the 22,000-member United Nations protective force.

In January 1993, the 86th Combat Support Hospital deployed from Fort Campbell,

**The nurses at Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical Center will celebrate the 103rd Army Nurse Corps Anniversary Sunday at the Gordon Club from 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

Ky., to Somalia to provide medical care to troops assisting with Operation Restore Hope. In September 1995, members of the 44th Medical Brigade, 55th Medical Group and the 28th Combat Support Hospital deployed from Fort Bragg, N.C., to Haiti.

And later, there was the Virgin Islands and Bosnia. And today, our fellow AMEDDD soldiers are in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, and many other locations.

In education, we have fielded two of the finest schools of nursing of their time, initiated programs in the specialties to rival the best academia has to offer,

educated our nurses at the graduate and doctorate level. Through the rigors of 91 Bravo, Charlie, and Delta, (and now 91W) training, we have trained and been trained as soldiers, in Basic and Advanced Officer Courses, Command and General Staff College, and the Army War College, at the Combat Casualty Care Course, in Chemical Casualty, Airborne and Air Assault, and more.

To the profession of nursing, we have given much. We accepted the professional entrance level of the Bachelors of Science in Nursing and even today, we struggle to preserve this standard. Our Standards of

Practice, Scopes of Care, and Standards of Care speak to our commitment to professional excellence, as does our willingness to ensure excellence no matter the cost.

Our leaders are national leaders and practitioners second to none. Perhaps the greatest tradition we all share is service. What other profession that no matter the specific job you do, you stand equal to the best. As the youngest practicing nurse at West Point or any post, you stand equal to the commander, the corps chief, and even the President. But, what we all do equally is to serve our Nation and its people, what a privilege.

The nurses at Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical Center will celebrate the 103rd Army Nurse Corps Anniversary Sunday from 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Gordon Club. Contact Maj. Joan O'Neal at 787-9325 for information or to purchase tickets.

## Fort Stewart increases deploying units by 66 percent

Sgt. 1st Class Marcia Triggs  
Army News Service

"It's like breaking China," said the commanding general who has proposed to make his division larger, diversify his brigades and turn all his Soldiers into riflemen.

Soldiers from the 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, Ga., seized Baghdad and helped in the stabilization of Fallujah. They know what tactics work against an unconventional enemy, and what vulnerabilities make American troops targets.

Their task now is to turn their three brigades into five rapidly deployable "brigade units of action" that are able to plug into any division and independently fight a high intensity conflict.

"The chief told me that he wants five maneuver brigades ... to respond to all the needs of combatant commanders when a crisis occurs, and he said that he wants it to happen ASAP," said Maj. Gen. William Webster, 3rd

Inf. Div. commanding general, referring to instructions given to him by the Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker.

Part of Schoomaker's instruction was to see if the reorganization could take place using existing resources within the division.

However, the proposal on the table now would cause the division to get larger by about 2,000 to 3,000 troops, said Webster. The brigade numbers would stay the same, but combat troops would decrease by about 10 to 15 percent, he added.

Each brigade unit of action will have one fewer company-size element and less artillerymen, Webster said. However, it will have more military policemen, better command and control assets to talk to each other over long distances, and more certified troops to call in close air support, he added.

The transformation of the mechanized division will require more than requesting more troops and equipment.

"They will need to get their

equipment combat ready again. Junior leaders will have to learn a number of new tasks and then retrain a lot of new Soldiers.

There will be engineers, medics, artillerymen and a host of other Soldiers who will be assigned to a brigade commander who is not accustomed to taking care of Soldiers with their job specialties."

Change has begun, and one of the first lessons learned from Iraq that is being implemented into the reorganization is making sure that every Soldier is comfortable being a Soldier first, Webster said. Soldiers must be confident and competent with their own weapons and be able to pick up their buddies' weapons, he added.

There is a program in place now where Soldiers will be shooting more ammunition and using more simulators than before, Webster said. Everyone will have the same level of confidence along with being able to live and defend themselves in the field from the front to the rear, he added.

"The enemy is learning from us," Webster said, "and they know that not all of our vehicles are armed and that not all of our Humvees are armored, and they're looking for vulnerabilities to strike with explosive devices and rocket-propelled grenades.

"So we want our Soldiers and their vehicles to exude a fearless confidence that would make the enemy think twice before attacking a convoy or command post."

While in Baghdad the division had to secure high value assets and set up numerous checkpoints to prevent terrorist attacks. Security missions alone started to absorb Soldiers and equipment all over the city. Webster's goal is to train more Soldiers to fight, so that combat Soldiers don't have to be used to secure a service support unit.

Besides changes to training tasks, other challenges at the division level will be overcoming the chaos that will occur when every unit identification code is affected. UICs are alphanumeric codes that help

supplies flow to units. It's a system that allows personnel actions to occur, training readiness to be recorded and money to be budgeted.

In order to make sure that this massive restructuring project meets the Army chief's guidelines, a division staff was created. Lt. Col Eric Wesley is the chief of Reorganization, G7.

"We have a near-term mission," Wesley said, "which is to plan and then develop a course of action to increase our deployable entities and ensure that the division doesn't have to deploy every time a brigade-size element does.

"In the meantime, we must remain combat ready. We don't have the luxury of conducting tests, standing down a unit for an extended period of time and experimenting."

Previously, whenever there was a change to be made in the Army it would be handed to TRADOC to do an analysis and within a few years come up with and execute a plan, Wesley said. Now both organizations have parallel guidance.

Reorganize, train, tweak some more and go back and train some more until it's time to deploy again, is the direction Webster has from Schoomaker. The first newly formed brigade unit of action will be trained at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin Calif., in March.

The first three brigades will be fairly easy to reorganize, but standing up the last two will take some time because more people and equipment are needed to make them whole, Webster added.

The 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Ky., commanded by Maj. Gen. David Petraeus, has the mission of reorganizing next.

(This is the second in a series of articles on Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker's focus areas. This one discussed "Modularity.")



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Room 209, 520 Chamberlain Ave., Fort Gordon, Ga. 30905-5735  
**Civilian Printer:** Citizen Newspapers  
**Publisher:** Roy F. Chalker Jr.  
**General Manager:** Bonnie K. Taylor  
**Sales Representative:** Faye Watkins and Deborah Kitchens  
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# Soldiers, civilians recognized

**Linda Means**  
Public Affairs Office

Fort Gordon Soldiers, civilians and volunteers of the quarter were recognized in a ceremony Thursday in Alexander Hall. They are:

The *Instructor of the Quarter* for the first quarter of fiscal year 2004 is Sgt. 1st Class Darrin Norris, a small group leader in the Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course of the Regimental Noncommissioned Officer Academy.

He provides servicemembers selected for promotion to sergeant first class the opportunity to acquire tactical and technical leader values, attributes, skills and actions needed to lead a platoon-sized unit. Since being stationed at Fort Gordon a year ago, he has trained and mentored approximately 50 servicemembers.

Norris feels his greatest accomplishment has been his tour of duty as a recruiter. He feels it enabled him to give young men and women the opportunity to serve their country with pride, just as he was given that same opportunity 18 years earlier.

Among his hobbies, he lists traveling, and watching football and basketball. He is quick to add that even though he is 6 feet, 2 inches tall, he is not another LeBron James and is a terrible ball player.



Eva Klapper is the *Civilian of the Quarter* for the first quarter of fiscal year 2004. She is assigned to the Ambulatory Surgery Clinic, Eisenhower Army Medical Center, as a medical clerk.

In this position, she serves as a receptionist, whose duties include completing pre-admission forms, checking in patients, maintaining the surgery schedule and answering numerous inquiries. She deals with concerned family members of patients inquiring about the status of their loved ones, striving to reassure them and provide them with detailed information and assistance.

She also completes numerous forms and reports related to patient care and treatment, as well as compiles data for a variety of end-of-month reports.

Born in Finland, Klapper came to the United States at the age of 6 when she was adopted and has worked on Fort Gordon for the past 20 years.

After work, she enjoys walking, reading inspirational books and spending time with her daughter, Jennifer.



Staff Sgt. Ebony Cousins is the *Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter* for the first quarter of fiscal year 2004. A native of Capitol Heights, Md., Cousins has been in the Army for nine years, spending part of that time in Korea, Germany and Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

She is assigned to Headquarters and A Company, 447th Signal Battalion and works at Willard Training Area, as a multichannel transmission systems operator/maintainer instructor/writer. She teaches initial entry training servicemembers the installation, operation and maintenance of communication antennas. Since arriving at Fort Gordon two years ago, she has taught more than 7,500 students.

She is married to 1st Sgt. Christopher Cousins of the 252nd Signal Company, and they have four children – Chris Jr., Keisha, Shey and Alyssa. Her hobbies include traveling, reading and doing crafts. She is currently pursuing her associate's degree with Georgia Military College in general studies.

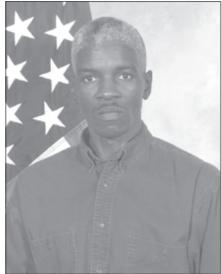
Her personal goals are to earn her master's degree in sociology and retire as a chief warrant officer five.



The *Volunteer of the Month for October 2003* is William Oliver, who has volunteered with the Faith Gospel Congregation since 1999. He currently serves as president of the Faith Gospel Service Parish Council, helping to meet the religious needs of close to 400 parishioners. He also sings in the men's gospel choir and serves in the men's ministry.

He assists in teaching at the post-wide adult Protestant Sunday School and a Wednesday evening adult Bible study. His volunteerism also impacts the greater Augusta community. He and members of the Protestant Men of the Chapel minister at the Richmond County Correctional Facility on Tobacco Road on a monthly basis. He preaches at Gracewood State School Hospital one Sunday each month, and visits residents of local area nursing homes.

When he isn't volunteering, Oliver works as a crew leader of Environmental Services at Gracewood State School Hospital. He enjoys reading inspirational books by Max Lucado and listening to a variety of music. He and his wife Marilyn have three children – William T., Tieraney and Benjamin.



The *co-Servicemember of the Quarter* for the first quarter of fiscal year 2004 is Spc. Mark Patton, who is assigned to A Company, 201st Military Intelligence Battalion as a communications locator and interceptor.

His duties include providing signals intelligence by intercepting communications and determining their origin. In 2003, he used his training while serving in Kuwait in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Patton's reasons for joining the military were three-fold: to honor his deceased father's wish of having a son in the military, to improve himself and to work in the intelligence field. He inquired with the Army and was told they were hiring, and one year later, he won this award.

Before joining the Army, he attended James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va., and completed 51 semester hours on a full athletic scholarship for swimming. There he was named freshman swimmer of the year.

His personal goals are to complete his undergraduate degree in communications, earn a master's degree in education and publish a novel he wrote entitled, "Panic Society." He stated his novel was highly influenced by "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," but quickly mentioned that it wasn't an autobiography.



Retired Sgt. Maj. Richard Downs is the *Volunteer of the Month for November 2003*. He has served as the chairman of the Enlisted Retiree Council for the past three years, volunteering a total of 160 hours in 2003. Many of those hours were spent supporting Fort Gordon's Retiree Appreciation Day.

Because of his unrelenting efforts, enthusiastic attitude and hard work, hundreds of retirees received valuable information and assistance.

Downs coordinated with individuals and businesses both on and off-post to ensure the event was a success. He also interacts with retirees in the Central Savannah River Area to obtain information about their concerns and needs, and if necessary, takes the issues through the chain of command to the Department of Army for review.

Off post, he stays busy volunteering at his church and is an avid supporter of the Thomson High School Booster Club. He retired after 30 years in the military, and he now spends five months out of the year caddy-ing at the Augusta National.



Spc. Nathaniel Pahl is the *co-Servicemember of the Quarter* for the first quarter of fiscal year 2004. He is assigned to A Company, Eisenhower Army Medical Center as a diagnostic/interventional radiological technician.

His duties include taking X-rays and performing imaging tests of all vessels of the body, except the heart.

A native of Greenville, Ohio, Pahl has been in the Army for 4 1/2 years and is working on his bachelor's degree in biology at the University of South Carolina-Aiken. He hopes to use that degree to enter medical school at Wright State University and become a radiologist or anesthesiologist.

Besides a full-time job and a full course load at school, Pahl also works in the Department of Radiology at Doctors Hospital. He lists his greatest accomplishment as his marriage to his wife Jessica, who is expecting their first child in July.

When he isn't working or studying, Pahl enjoys watching football, playing video, board or card games, and bicycling.



The *Volunteer of the Month for December 2003* is Beck Wright, who is a member of the Faith Community Gospel Chapel. She has been volunteering since 1989 and has devoted more than 1,200 hours in 2003 to improve and coordinate the congregation's programs.

Wright has served in numerous positions within the congregation, including president of the ushers' ministry. She has also been a member of the women's and deaconess ministries and is currently the vice-president of the Parish Council, fund advisor and purchase order coordinator. She serves as an usher, deaconesses and parish coordinator for 16 auxiliary ministries in the chapel congregation. She recently planned and coordinated the annual marriage and singles enrichment retreat, resulting in the renewal of approximately 100 individuals' lives. Wright also volunteers in the office at Jamestown Elementary.

She and her husband Laverne have six children – Lavinia, Sabrina, Tonya, Erica, Laverne and Eric. She hopes to one day publish poems that she has been writing since 1970 and become a famous poet.



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# Community Events

## Memorial service

The Fort Gordon Chaplain's Office, in conjunction with members of the Augusta American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Daughters of the American Revolution, host the Four Chaplains Memorial Service at 2 p.m. **Tuesday** at the Bicentennial Chapel on Brainard Avenue.

The program commemorates the heroic actions of four chaplains aboard the U.S. Army Transport *Dorchester*, which was struck by a torpedo from a German submarine and sunk in the North Atlantic in 1943.

## National prayer breakfast

Fort Gordon's National Prayer Breakfast is at 6:30 a.m. **Feb. 11** at the Gordon Club.

The guest speaker will be Col. Janet Horton, the command chaplain for the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command, Fort Belvoir, Va.

The Prayer Breakfast is open to all, but advance tickets are required. For tickets or information, call 791-4683.

## LEAD course

Nominations are being accepted for the 2004 Leadership and Development Course, being held here **Feb. 23-27**.

LEAD is a 40-hour mandatory supervisory course designed to develop and refine leadership and management skills of civilian supervisors.

Nominees should have completed (or should be enrolled in within the next six months) the Supervisory Development Course. Nominations should be e-mailed to Carla Baucom at [baucmc@gordon.army.mil](mailto:baucmc@gordon.army.mil) by Feb. 2.

Provide all of the following information for nominations: Name, grade/rank, organization, phone number, how long supervisor of civilians, number of civilians supervised; and e-mail address.

## Scholarship deadline

The MG James Ursano Scholarship Fund, administered by Army Emergency Relief, helps Army families with the costs of post secondary, undergraduate level education, vocational training, and preparation for books, supplies, and room and board. Applicants must be dependant or legally adopted children of active duty, retired, or deceased while on active duty or retired, Army Soldiers.

Applicants must also be registered in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System, unmarried for the entire academic year,

and under the age of 22 years on May 1. Applications are available online at [www.gordon.army.mil/acs](http://www.gordon.army.mil/acs) and click on the link to AER Education Program. Completed applications with all supporting documentation must be mailed to AER Headquarters and post-marked by **March 1**. For more information, contact Army Community Service at 791-2147.

## Mardi Gras trip

The Junior Sailor Association (Navy) is hosting a trip to Mardi Gras **Feb. 20-22**. The fee is \$250, which includes roundtrip transportation by chartered bus and a two night stay at a local Marriott hotel. A \$150 non-refundable deposit is due **today**. For information call Petty Officer Misty Rambo at 854-1482.

## EFMP Support group

The EFMP Support Group meets at the Religious Education Center from 10 a.m.-noon **Tuesday**. For information call 791-3579.

## BIG dinner and dance

Blacks in Government and the Gordon Club are holding a Black History dinner and dance celebration from 6-8:30 p.m. **Feb. 7** at the Gordon Club. Tickets are \$20 each available at the Gordon Club. For information, call 791-6780.

## Job fair

Augusta State University hosts an employer expo from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. **Feb. 12** at the Christenberry Fieldhouse on Wrightsboro Road.

The employer expo features more than 50 employers, ranging from local television stations and medical centers to the Georgia Department of Corrections. For a current list of employers planning to attend, go to [www.aug.edu/career\\_center](http://www.aug.edu/career_center).

For more information call the ASU Career Center at 737-1604.

## Tax preparation

The Fort Gordon Tax Center offers free income tax preparation help for Soldiers, civilians and retirees.

The center is open Mondays through Fridays 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., **Jan. 26-April 15**, and is located at the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Building 29718, Room 118.

Military members must see their unit tax advisor first; civilians and retirees must call 791-7812/7813.

## Sweetheart ball

The Fort Gordon Sergeants Major Association is holding a Sweetheart Ball at 6:30 p.m. **Feb. 14** at the Gordon Club.

Tickets are \$25 for E-7 and

above and civilians, \$20 for E-6 and below, which includes dinner; dress is semi-formal.

Tickets must be purchased by **Feb. 6** from unit or directorate command sergeants major, or call Command Sgt. Maj. Bobbie Ramtahal at 791-4140 for information.

## Black History Month luncheon

Better Opportunities for Single Servicemembers is holding a Black History Month luncheon from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. **Wednesday** at the Gordon Club.

The theme is *A Deeper Shade of History: Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Brown vs Board of Education Topeka verdict*. The guest speaker is Dr. Ralph Watkins, Augusta State University professor of sociology.

Call Sgt. Latanga Clinton at 791-6415 or Ayanna Wiggins at 791-7862.

## Super Bowl parties

The Gordon Club and the Courtyard host Super Bowl parties **Sunday**; the doors open at 4 p.m., the game starts at 6 p.m.

Cover charge is \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door, which includes food and door prizes, including a \$200 video system awarded at halftime.

For information, call 791-6780 or 791-6000.

Better Opportunities for Single Servicemembers is having a Super Bowl party at BOSS Headquarters. Cost is \$2. Call 791-6415.

## Retention team visit

The Department of the Army Mobile Retention Training Team from Fort Jackson, S.C., will conduct retention training for company and battalion level retention noncommissioned officers **Feb. 9-12**.

The training is 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. daily at the Gordon Club. Attendance is mandatory for all company and battalion reenlistment noncommissioned officers. For information, contact respective brigade, battalion, or group career counselors. The post retention office is available for units that do not have access to a career counselor at 791-7387.

## OWC scholarships

The Officers' Wives' Club awards three scholarships; for merit, continuing education and the Marni Glista scholarship.

The merit scholarship is available to graduating high school seniors; the continuing education scholarship is available to spouses of active duty, retired and deceased military personnel, and the Marni Glista scholarship is available to active duty, E-5 and below, assigned to a

military intelligence battalion. All applicants must hold a valid military identification card.

Applications for the merit scholarship are available at high school counselors; all applications are also available at the Education Center, Army Community Services, Community Life and the Thrift Shop.

Application deadline is **March 1**. For information, call 738-1196.

## Grants available

The Fort Gordon Officers' Wives' Club invites non-profit organizations to apply for a grant from its Welfare and Services Account. Applications must be received by **Feb. 17**. To request an application, contact Jean DeLucio, OWC Welfare & Services, P. O. Box 7289, Fort Gordon, Ga., 30905, or call 792-9795.

## FEW training program

Federally Employed Women is holding its Southeast Regional Training program **Feb. 18-20** at the Radisson Riverfront Hotel in Augusta.

Registration is \$125; one-day on-site training is \$65.

Topics include Violence in the Workplace, Computer Security, the ABCs of Suicide Prevention, Mentoring and Teambuilding, Re-energizing and Staying Motivated, Identity Theft, Managing Multiple Priorities, Taking Charge of Your Success, How to Avoid Abusive Tax Schemes, Your Credit, Your Career and Your Future.

Call Judy Creer at 791-5653, or e-mail [creerj@gordon.army.mil](mailto:creerj@gordon.army.mil).



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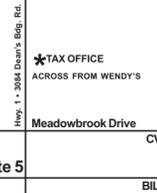
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## Fort Gordon REPORT

**C O M I N G U P**  
The newest edition of the *Fort Gordon Report* premieres Monday and includes the following stories:

- Communication Center dedication
- Martin Luther King Day luncheon
- Emergency Vehicle Operators Course

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 *Army Newswatch* premieres **Feb. 8**.

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.

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## Afghan Army training combat medics

Maj. Richard Sater  
Army News Service

**POL-E-CHARKI, Afghanistan** – The Afghan National Army has begun training its own combat medics to provide baseline care for soldiers in the field through a collaborative effort with the U.S. Army.

About 80 medics have graduated so far, and the second class is due to complete the course this month. A third group will begin training in the spring, officials said.

The focus of U.S.-sponsored ANA training is to nationalize all instruction as expeditiously as possible, and the medical team is far ahead of the power curve with its training initiative, officials said. A third U.S.-based training team may not be necessary, allowing resources to be refocused on more pressing medical issues, officials added.

Under the supervision of the ANA surgeon general, the program is transitioning into the first professional Military Occupational Skill program in the Afghan army.

U.S. Army Maj. Mike Bell, from the Army's Cen-

ter for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine heads the 10-member Army medical training team that oversees the course. Although assigned to the Office of Military Cooperation-Afghanistan in Kabul, the team lives and works at Pol-e-Charki with the Afghan army.

The camp serves as the headquarters for the ANA's Central Corps. Thousands of recruits live and train there, and a select number of them will be certified as combat medics, officials said.

The pilot class was eight weeks and took place early last year, taught by American instructors with translators. The current class, which started training in late December, breaks new ground because "we have Afghan Army doctors doing all the platform instruction for the first time," Bell said.

Afghan Army Col. Ahmadzoy Wali, chief of medical training at the Kabul Military Training Center, oversees the effort with intensive care and personal pride. "America provides the materials for training," he said through an interpreter. "With the assistance of the Americans, the course is going well."

An additional indicator of progress – and success – is the fact that the training is ethnically integrated.

"We're doing away with tribal distinctions," Bell says. "The ANA is a strong, national uniting force. Our class is a perfect example." Members of various ethnic groups work together in the classroom as they will in the field. "I've been really impressed with how eager the students are to learn. They work together. They help each other out."

Recruits learn a variety of skills, including trauma management, splints and bandaging, airway management, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, intravenous fluid administration and more. A day of lecture is followed by one or two days of hands-on skill development.

An entire week is spent on preventive medicine, concentrating on personal hygiene, field waste management, and water testing. "It's not sexy," Bell admits, "but in terms of improving the health of the troops, it's probably the most important thing we teach."

It also initiates a culture shift, Bell said, "a cadre of medics who understand that importance" in turn becomes an advocate of good hygiene at the unit level.

Wali recognizes its value as a force multiplier. "Good health is a priority in the military. Good health means good soldiers," he

said. "That's the reason why soldiers must know prevention and treatment."

Some of the course's success results from the instructors' willingness to devise unique solutions to potential problems – such as the literacy rate among the recruits. No textbooks are used. "We show them. Then they have to repeat the process," says medical instructor Staff Sgt. Carl Petersen, deployed here from Winn Army Community Hospital, Fort Stewart, Ga.

"Explanation first. Then hands-on," Wali says. "And repetition to educate."

Most recruits respond well to this approach, Bell said.

At the end of the class, examinations are show-and-tell rather than written; each recruit has to answer questions orally and then perform the required tasks flawlessly to pass each section. The real final exam is a full-scale field exercise that tests every skill and includes a litter-carry obstacle course.

With each completed class, "we'll deliver 70 to 80 medics to the ANA," Bell said. "We're also training a cadre of Afghan (military) doctors who'll be able to sustain this training in the future."

That sustainment is critical, according to Lt. Col. Greg Vrentas, from Fort Sam Houston, Texas. As Chief of Medical Plans and Operations for the ANA Plans and Design Team under OMC-A, he's the architect for the medical capability of the Afghan army.

"A soldier who knows he's going to be cared for is willing to engage an enemy," Vrentas said. Ideally, a wounded soldier will be treated on the battlefield and then evacuated to a proper facility. "We fix him and return him to duty. If we can accomplish that," he said, "we can sustain this army. That's what I see from my foxhole."

(Sater works for Air Force Combined Forces Command-Afghanistan.)



Afghan National Army Private Mirwais inserts a saline infusion IV during a training session at the Kabul military forces hospital.

Photo by Maj. Richard Sater

## Adjusting W-4 can increase monthly check

Maj. James Lewis  
93rd Signal Brigade

Could your monthly paycheck use a boost? How about taking an extra \$100 home every month...maybe even an extra \$150? Wouldn't that be good? Reporting time for the 2003 tax year is now upon us, but for this tax year, keep in mind that it is entirely possible to take home more money each month simply by adjusting your IRS Form W-4.

The Form W-4 is a worksheet that all working persons use to claim their marital status and to determine how many personal allowances they are entitled to claim. Based on entries made on the Form W-4, the employer withholds a certain amount of money from the employee's paycheck each month for taxes.

Over-withholding occurs when an employee's Form W-4 does not correctly reflect marital status or the appropriate number of personal allowances. Military members should consider reviewing their Forms W-4 for necessary corrections.

Take, for example, a single servicemember who is in-processing with a unit. Assume this servicemember has no children or other dependents, and completes a W-4 Form, claiming a "Single" status and one or no personal allowances.

What happens when this servicemember marries? Because income tax rates are more favorable for married persons, it would be to the servicemember's advantage to adjust the W-4 Form from "single" to "married," and to raise the personal allowances from one to two.

Doing this will result in less money being withheld from the servicemember's monthly paycheck. With less money being withheld, the servicemember will receive more money back each month.

To continue the scenario, consider what happens if this married Soldier (and spouse) later has two children? Once again, they should adjust the W-4 to claim the two additional allowances for the children. Failure to do this could result in a greatly reduced monthly paycheck, as the difference

between withholding as "single" with one allowance and withholding as "married" with four allowances can be as more than \$150 a month, or as much as \$2,000 a year.

All servicemembers should adjust their W-4 Forms to avoid over-withholding from their wages. But because many do not adjust their W-4 Forms, servicemembers' wages are typically over-withheld from \$1,000 to \$2,000 a year.

It may seem counter-intuitive, but the real goal of your income tax return should be to obtain as small a refund as possible. You should strive to do this while simultaneously avoiding the need to pay Uncle Sam additional money at the end of the year.

Some servicemembers may argue: "What's wrong with getting a large refund check? It is a way to save money, and so long as we don't have to pay a penalty, how could this be a bad thing?" Actually, there is a bad financial result from receiving that big refund in late winter or early spring. Unlike banks, the government does not pay interest on money that is over-withheld. Thus, servicemembers would be much better off completing their W-4 Forms in such a way that not as much money is withheld monthly, and the refund at the end of the year is less. This would give them additional money every month that could earn interest for them in their banks. Most of us would agree that it is better for our money to earn interest for us, rather than for the government.

Also consider that many servicemembers deliberately plan for a large refund that they will use to pay off loans. This seems like a pretty good idea until you consider that companies charge interest to loan money at rates as high as 28 percent a year. Servicemembers can place themselves in a better position by using extra money obtained from lower monthly withholdings to pay off loans on a monthly basis, instead of waiting until the end of the year when more interest has accumulated on the loans.

W-4 Forms are available at your personnel office, and you can either make modifications on these forms, or make the changes on-line. To make change on-line, go to <https://emss.dfas.mil/mypay.asp>, log on to "myPay," go to "federal withholding" and click "change."

Finally, it is important to again note that we are now into the 2003 tax-reporting season. During this time of heavy deployments, proper steps should be taken to ensure married spouses are able to file joint returns.

If a taxpayer's spouse is not physically present to sign the tax return, the taxpayer must have a valid Power of Attorney (form 2848) for filing joint taxes. These forms are available on-line at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) or can be picked up at the Installation Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Legal Assistance Branch.

Soldiers and family members who desire tax preparation assistance or electronic filing of their returns should see their Unit Tax Advisors.

Bring with you all income documents, including all wage and earnings statements (Form W-2) from all employers and interest statements from banks (Forms 1099) for tax year 2003.

You should also bring your social security card, a copy of last year's tax return if available, and the social security numbers for all dependents. To ensure proper account and routing information for electronically filed tax refunds, it is advisable to also bring a voided check.

If your unit does not have a UTA, or if your UTA is unable to assist you due to a complex return, the Fort Gordon Tax Center can help. The tax center is open through April 9, and the hours of operation are 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The center is located in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, at 419 B Street, Room 130. Tax center appointments must be scheduled through your UTA if you have one. If not, you can schedule an appointment by calling 791-7812.

# Reference points

Chaplain (Capt.)  
W. B. Tripp  
447th Signal Battalion

Being a chaplain carries with it the chance to gain many new, unique perspectives. Clergy typically don't get to see these, since serving in a church usually presumes that everyone in attendance essentially believes in the same thing (God).

In the Army however, just the opposite is true. Many have no belief. There are also various stages between "actively not believing" and believing that God is a capricious, ambivalent, entity uninvolved with man since His creation. Often it is very difficult to even determine the origin of this belief.

But when interacting with people, especially in contexts of counseling, it can be vitally important to determine their belief system. This is the same concept we use in land navigation. "Reference points" of our own and other known locations are used to aid in determining both our position and others as well ("intersection" and "resection") for Soldiers before GPS). So as a chaplain, I usually start conversations with a question such as, "What kind of religious faith do you hold?" The response is often compelling.

I am absolutely amazed at the number of people who, when asked that question, will look down at their feet, shift their weight, and then mumble an answer. A few have a look as if the orderly room copy machine just broke down with their resume inside of it, while others look indignant, their privacy apparently invaded. It seems almost a social expectation to be ashamed of one's faith, as if we've become conditioned to limiting our spiritual life (or at least the confession of it) to church on Sunday, and no more.

For the Christian however, this is unnecessary and unacceptable. It is unnecessary because we still enjoy the blessing of living in a country where our religious freedom is guaranteed by the highest law (under God's) in our land and there are millions of people in our armed forces ready to defend it. There is no need for reluctance. We have the right to be Christian outside of two hours on Sunday and the hour-long Wednesday night Bible study.

Indeed, this is the chaplain's first and fundamental duty to the Army, to ensure every Soldier's "right to the free exercise" of their religious faith, and this includes Christians.

We need not feel "outdated," or outside the realm of reality because the evidence for our faith as Christians is well supported. The sciences-literary, physical, biological, geological, archaeological, et al, now present evidence that is not just compelling, but overwhelming. We have solid reason for professing and living our faith, and should never look down at our feet.

Our inclination to not speak is also unacceptable by the very nature of the Christian faith. If we are to rightly and accurately bear the title Christian, then "living" our faith and preaching the Gospel are imperative and not a suggestion. Having a faith which causes one to look down at their feet is by appearances not worth having. We are called to be bold, "unashamed of the Gospel" which saves us.

Exercise your faith. Commit to developing your relationship with God, as well as the courage and confidence to live it. Know your reference point and stand upon it letting others know where you are and more importantly, to Whom you belong. You won't be let down.

## Chapel Call

### Collective Protestant Services

#### Sunday

9:00 a.m. • Liturgical Service, Bicentennial Chapel  
9:00 a.m. • Gen "X" Soldiers Service, Friendship Chapel  
10 a.m. • Eisenhower Army Medical Center Chapel  
11 a.m. • Gospel Service at Signal Theatre  
11 a.m. • Bicentennial Chapel  
11 a.m. • Friendship Chapel

#### Catholic Services

11:45 a.m. Monday thru Friday, Eisenhower Army Med Ctr. Chapel  
12:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday, Good Shepherd Chapel  
3:30 p.m. Saturday, Confessions, Good Shepherd Chapel  
5 p.m. Saturday, Vigil Mass, Good Shepherd Chapel

#### Sunday Masses

8:30 a.m., 10 a.m., Good Shepherd Chapel  
11:45 a.m. Eisenhower Army Medical Center Chapel

#### Jewish Activities

Holy Day Services, Announced  
Jewish Activities Center, Bldg. 38804  
Daily and Sabbath service available off-post for Jewish personnel  
For information call 791-3959

#### Islamic Services

Jumah Prayer Service on Fridays Oct-Apr at 1245-1:30, and Apr-Oct from 1:30-2:30.

These are held in Bldg. 38804, Academic Drive.  
For more information, call CPO (Ret.) Marshall Abuwi 772-4303

#### Denominational Services

LDS Service - Sunday 2 p.m., Barnes Avenue Chapel  
Samoan Service, Sunday 1 p.m., Bicentennial Chapel, Bldg. 28414

#### Religious Education

Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School, Religious Education Center  
Sunday, 11:00 a.m., Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) Classes, Religious Education Center (Sept. thru May).

#### Other Programs/Services

Episcopalian Soldier Representative is Kurt Miller at 791-0213  
LDS representative is Sergeant 1st Class (retired) Scott Robison, 533-0376. Apostolic Pentecostal's representatives are Chaplain Brewster, 791-4683, or Chaplain Snyder, 791-2539

#### Bible Studies

OCF Bible Study - Monday 6:30 a.m., Officer Christian Fellowship Bible Study, Friendship Chapel, 791-2056. Friday evening OCF POC is Col. Hook, 863-8231, or Capt. Craft, 364-5144.

Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Protestant Women of the Chapel, Bldg. 28414  
Bicentennial Chapel

Wednesday, 11:30 a.m., Devotional Luncheon, Bicentennial Chapel, Bldg. 28414  
Wednesday, 9:30 a.m., Protestant Women of the Chapel, Bldg. 28414

Wednesday 11:45 a.m. EAMC Bible Study, DDEAMC Din. Fac. Conf. Rm., 3rd floor  
Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Bldg. 39713, Faith Community Bible Study

Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Friendship Chapel Bible Study  
Thursday, 11:30 a.m. 63rd & 67th SIG BN Bible Study, Contact Chaplain

#### Chapel Directory

Bicentennial Chapel, 791-3959  
Good Shepherd Chapel (Catholic), 791-2945  
Faith Community Chapel Activities 791-4703 (during duty hours)  
Barnes Avenue Friendship Chapel, 791-2056  
Eisenhower Army Medical Center Chapel, 787-6667

#### Religious Education

Protestant/Catholic Program, Mr. Randall Dillard 791-4703

For additional information, call 791-4683  
the Installation Chaplain's Office, Building 29601

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 Feb. 29 ..... 2 p.m. & 4:30 p.m.

For more information, call 791-6779 or visit [www.fortgordon.com](http://www.fortgordon.com).

Tickets can be purchased at the BIG TOP entrance, Fort Gordon Federal Credit Union and Fort Gordon Dinner Theatre for \$10 for adults (ages 13 & over), \$5 for children (ages 3-12), and FREE for children under 3.

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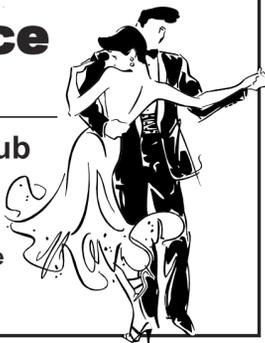
## Blacks In Government (B.I.G.) and The Gordon Club

Present the Annual...

# Black History Dinner & Dance Celebration

February 7, The Gordon Club  
 Cocktails, 6-7 p.m.  
 Dinner, 7-8:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 per person and are available at The Gordon Club. For more information, call 791-6780.



# SUPERBOWL PARTIES



February 1

Doors open at 4 p.m. Game starts at 6 p.m.

### THE GORDON CLUB

Featuring large video screens, with the best quality picture and sound, free food all night, door prizes, with raffle for video system valued over \$200 at half time. Cash bar available. Doors open at 4 p.m. \$8.00 advance tickets, and \$10.00 at the door. For more information, call 791-6780.

### THE COURTYARD

Equipped with eight satellite receivers, six 42" plasma screens, and four 52" projection screens! Free food all night and a drawing at half time for an Authentic NFL Jersey (winners choice) valued at over \$200! Cash bar available. Doors open at 4 p.m. \$8.00 advance tickets, and \$10.00 at the door. For more information, call 791-6000.



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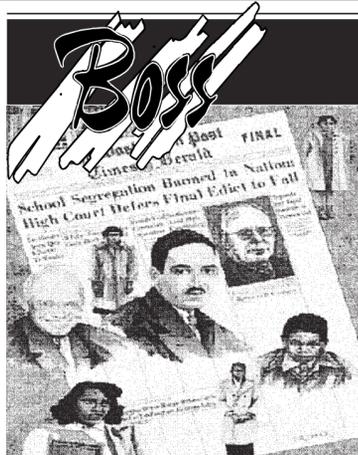


February 13, 14, 20, 21, 26, 27 & 28  
 Dinner, 7 p.m. / Show, 8 p.m.

### TICKETS:

\$32-Civilians  
 \$30-Seniors (65 & over), Retirees, DA Civilians & Active Duty E8 & Above  
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# BLACK HISTORY MONTH LUNCHEON

Brown vs. Board of Education 50th Anniversary  
 Guest Speaker: Dr. Ralph Walker

February 4 - 11:30 a.m.

The Gordon Club North Ballroom. For more information, call 791-7862.

# THE GORDON CLUB VALENTINE DINNER



Feb. 13  
 5:30-8 p.m.

Featuring a Seafood Buffet Candlelight Dinner!

Open to the Public!

Menu...Snow Crab Legs, Seafood Neuburg, Fried & Steamed Shrimp, Stuffed Crab, Fried Catfish, Baked Cod, Cut Corn, Steamed Broccoli, Whole Green Beans, Au Gratin Potatoes, Seafood Soup and Carved Prime Rib of Beef.

\$14.95 per person  
 Call The Gordon Club at 791-6780 or 791-2205 for more information.

# Sports & Leisure

## Sports UPDATE

### Soccer shootout

The 19th annual Augusta Arsenal Spring Soccer Shootout is 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Feb. 7 and 8 at Barton Field. The tournament is comprised of teams from the eastern and southeastern United States. Admission is free.

### Super Bowl parties

The Gordon Club and the Courtyard host Super Bowl parties **Sunday**; the doors open at 4 p.m., the game starts at 6 p.m.

Cover charge is \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door, which includes food and door prizes, including a \$200 video system awarded at halftime.

For information, call 791-6780 or 791-6000.

### Dinner theatre

The play "Noises Off," a British "farce about a farce," is the next performance at the Fort Gordon Dinner Theatre **Feb. 13, 14, 20, 21, 26, 27 and 28.**

Dinner will be at 7 p.m., with the show following at 8. Tickets for the show are \$32 for civilians, \$30 for seniors ages 65 and above, retirees, Department of the Army civilians, active duty E-8 and above, \$20 for active duty E-7 and below, and \$15 for the show only.

For information, call 793-8552.

### Karaoke

Every **Thursday** is karaoke night at the Courtyard Recreation and Dining Center.

Karaoke is featured from 6 to 10 p.m. Prizes are awarded for best male solo, best female solo, worst solo, best duo or group, worst duo or group and best look-a-like.

The event is open to the public. For information, call 791-6000.

### Revised schedule

A revised basketball schedule for all divisions will be available for coaches **today** in the sports office, Bldg. 29719, or in the gym where teams play their games.

### Other sports news

**Unit Level Volleyball League** - Units desiring to enter a team must submit their memorandum of intent by **Feb. 12** to the Sports Office, Bldg. 29719. Also, there will be an organizational meeting for coaches or a designated team representative in the Sports Office, **Feb. 19** at 1 p.m.

**Battalion Level Basketball** - Battalions desiring to enter a team must submit their memorandum of intent by **Feb. 23**. The meeting with the coaches or a designated representative from the battalion is **Feb. 26** in the Sports Office, Bldg. 29719. For more information about the upcoming seasons, contact Al Robinson at 791-1142 or e-mail robinsona@gordon.army.mil.

### Ladies golf

The Ladies Golf Club tees off every **Thursday** at 9:30 a.m. at Gordon Lakes Golf Course.

For more information, call Pauline Blandeburgo at 863-4737.

## Singer named athlete of month

Al Robinson  
Sports coordinator

Sgt. Crystal Singer is Fort Gordon's "Athlete of the Month" for January 2004. She is currently assigned to Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical Center and is the Noncommissioned Officer in Charge of Admissions and Dispositions. She is originally from Greenville, Ala.

Singer comes from an athletic background, participating in track and field, specializing in the shot put and the discus along with running long distance, softball and basketball. The latter is her predominant sport.

She has been playing basketball since the seventh grade. She was named Greenville High School's Most Valuable Player during her junior and senior years. As a junior and a senior she was selected to play on the Alabama All-State teams. After high school she was awarded a scholarship to attend Lurleen B. Wallace Junior College where she played small and power



Singer, #6, looks to take the rebound after an attempt by opponents.

forward. After upgrading her skills, she transferred to Alabama State. Singer joined the military in 1997, as a 91G, patient administration specialist.

She has played post-level basketball for Fort Riley, Kansas, and Camp Humphreys, Korea. This is her third year playing for DDEAMC. This season she is averaging 13 points and 10 rebounds.

"Sgt. Singer has been a great contributor toward our success this year. She is a

very hard worker and has shown dedication that we not only expect on the court but off the court as well," said head coach Staff Sgt. Aaron Payton. "She leads from the front. She has a great attitude toward the game and has a will to win that she shares with her teammates. I am proud to have her play for me and the DDEAMC team."

Singer is scheduled to graduate this fall with a bachelor's degree in Health Care Management from the University of Illinois. She plans on pursuing a master's degree in the same field.

Her favorite basketball team is the Detroit Pistons when they were winning and her favorite player is Michael Jordan. She enjoys reading T.D. Jakes' books,

fishing and spending time with her 8-year-old son, Allen Rashaan.

Coaches can nominate deserving players for "Fort Gordon Athlete of the Month" by sending nominations with bio to Fort Gordon

Sports office, ATTN: Al Robinson, or by e-mail to robinsoa@gordon.army.mil. This award is for active duty personnel only. The nominations for February 2004 must be submitted by Feb. 17. For information, call 791-1142.

## Fort Gordon Unit Level Basketball Results

(Jan. 19-23)

### Green Division

Company B, Eisenhower Army Medical Center 57, Advance Noncommissioned Officer Academy 46  
31st Intelligence Squadron (USAF) 57, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 93d Signal Brigade 50  
Headquarter and Headquarter Company, 206th Military Intelligence Battalion 44, 252nd Signal Company 35  
252nd Signal Company 50, 31st Intelligence Squadron (USAF) 49  
518th Signal Company 57, Company B, Eisenhower Army Medical Center 39  
Company B, 297th Military Intelligence Battalion 65, Advance Noncommissioned Officer Academy 51  
Company B, 297th Military Intelligence Battalion 74, 31st Intelligence Squadron (USAF) 52  
Headquarter and Headquarter Company, 206th Military Intelligence Battalion 64, Advance Noncommissioned Officer Academy 36  
Company B, Eisenhower Army Medical Center 46, 252nd Signal Company 39

### Red Division

Company A, 447th Signal Battalion 2, Company A, 73rd Ordnance Battalion 0  
Company A, 551st Signal Battalion 66, Company A, 447th Signal Battalion 48  
Headquarters and Operational Company, 201st Military Intelligence Battalion 60, U.S. Army Garrison 50

### Women's Division

Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Academy 40, Company A, 442nd Signal Battalion 15  
Company B, 297th Military Intelligence Battalion 47, Company C, 369th Signal Battalion 16  
Company E, 369th Signal Battalion 2, Company B, 551st Signal Battalion 0  
Gordon Regional Security Operation Center (Multi-Service) 23, Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Academy 18  
Eisenhower Army Medical Center 39, Company B, 297th Military Intelligence Battalion 30  
Company E, 369th Signal Battalion 2, Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Academy 0  
Eisenhower Army Medical Center 34, Company A, 442nd Signal Battalion 20

### Morning Division

Company C, 369th Signal Battalion 63, Company D, 447th Signal Battalion 26  
Company B, 447th Signal Battalion 45, Company C, 73rd Ordnance 39  
Company E, 369th Signal Battalion 62, Company B, 551st Signal Battalion 43  
Company D, 369th Signal Battalion 44, Company C, 73rd Ordnance 35  
Company C, 369th Signal Battalion 2, Company E, 369th Signal Battalion 0  
Company C, 447th Signal Battalion 45, Company D, 447th Signal Battalion 37

### Blue Division

Company C, 442nd Signal Battalion 2, Company D, 551st Signal Battalion 0  
Company B, 73rd Ordnance 2, Company E, 369th Signal Battalion 0  
Company B, 447th Signal Battalion 53, Company B, 551st Signal Battalion 36  
Company C, 73rd Ordnance Battalion 2, Company C, 447th Signal Battalion 0

## Fogle earns U.S. Olympic Boxing Trials berth

Tim Hipps  
Army News Service

Staff Sgt. Julius Fogle III became the eighth Soldier to qualify for the 2004 U.S. Olympic Boxing Team Trials with a silver-medal performance in the 2004 Everlast U.S. Boxing Championships in Colorado Springs, Colo., Jan. 13-17.

Fogle, a member of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program at Fort Carson, Colo., lost a 25-17 decision to Airman James Johnson Jr. of Converse, Texas, in the 165-pound championship bout at the U.S. Olympic Training Center.

The top two finishers in each weight class earned a berth in the U.S. Olympic Boxing Team Trials Feb. 16-21 at Tunica, Miss. Thus Fogle, who won a national championship in 2002, accomplished his primary mission, even considering bypassing the finale to begin preparations for the Olympic Trials.

"I left it up to him because this is his last ride," Army boxing coach Staff Sgt. Basheer Abdullah said of Fogle, 32, a seven-time Armed Forces champion from Houston who says this is his final year of Army boxing.

"To me, the national championships and individual titles don't mean anything right now," continued Abdullah, head coach of Team USA's boxers for the 2004 Olympic Games at Athens, Greece. "We have to stay focused and put everything into looking ahead to the trials."

Fogle led 2-0 after the first round and 9-7 after two. He trailed 18-14 entering the fourth and final round, during which he endured a standing-eight count after taking a strong left hook to the chin. Johnson tallied 11 points in the third, mostly on wide hooks to the body.

Fogle's tourney was perhaps his most impressive since he secured a national middleweight crown two years ago at Las Vegas. In the preliminaries, he stopped Dale Cuny of Rapid City, S.D., in the first round and obliterated Shad Cramer of Spokane, Wash., 29-7.

In the quarterfinals, Spc. Clarence Joseph, who qualified for the Olympic Trials last May in the Golden Gloves of America Tournament of Champions at Las Vegas, bowed out of the tournament to allow WCAP teammate Fogle to advance to the semifinals, where he posted a 24-23 decision over Joel Castillo of Bronx, N.Y.

Staff Sgt. Torrence Daniels settled for a silver medal here after dropping a 19-18 decision to New York's Roberto Benitez in the 119-pound finale.

Benitez is a three-time national champion at 112 pounds. He stepped up in weight class this year to become the fifth boxer ever to win four national championships.

Staff Sgt. DeAndrey Abron withdrew from the tourney after wining an unpopular



Photo by Tim Hipps

Staff Sgt. Julius Fogle III, a member of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program at Fort Carson, Colo., lands a left jab to the head of Airman James Johnson Jr. in the 165-pound finale of the 2004 Everlast U.S. Boxing Championships at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs.

27-26 decision over Jaidon Codrington of Queens, N.Y., in the 178-pound quarterfinals. Codrington floored Abron with a right in the second round, registered two standing-eight counts in the third, and bloodied his nose in the fourth. Yet Abron climbed out of the ring with a one-point triumph to a chorus of boos from the crowd.

Staff Sgt. Charles Leverette lost a 9-4 decision in the 201-pound semifinals to Matt Godfrey of Providence, R.I. In the quarterfinals, Leverette won an 8-4 decision over Marcus Oliveira of Lawrence, Kan. He also posted a 15-8 victory over James Downey of San Antonio.

Spc. Greg Murphy lost a 178-pound quarterfinal bout to Marcus Pernel of Portland, Ore., when the referee stopped their contest in the fourth round.

Staff Sgt. Corey Bernard was eliminated, 14-11, from the preliminaries by Dominic Chavez of Las Vegas. Spc. Mahlon Kerwick was eliminated 14-12 from the 132-pound prelims by Van Oscar Penovaroff of Waianae, Hawaii.

The most painful Army setback of the week went to Spc. Rondale Mason, who suffered a broken jaw during his 20-6 preliminary loss to Vanes Martirosyan of Glendale, Calif.

(Hipps is a senior information specialist in the Public Affairs Office of the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center in Alexandria, Va.)

## Unit Basketball Standings

Standings as of Jan. 27

Team	Won	Lost	B-551	7	8
<b>Blue Division</b>			D-447	5	8
B-73	9	0	C-447	6	10
D-551	7	3	E-369	5	9
C-447	7	4	D-369	1	8
<b>BNCO</b>	6	4			
C-551	6	5	<b>Red Division</b>		
B-447	5	6	A-442	12	2
D-447	4	5	HHC-201	12	2
C-73	5	8	NSGA	10	4
E-369	3	7	USAG	8	6
B-551	3	8	249	6	5
C-442	2	7	A-551	6	6
			HHC-67	7	13
			A-369	4	8
<b>Green Division</b>			A-447	4	8
518	13	0	338TRS	3	8
B-297	13	1	A-73	1	11
HHC-206	13	1			
ANCOA	9	5			
B-EAMC	10	6	<b>Women's Division</b>		
252	9	6	EAMC	15	0
311S	7	7	GRSOC	12	3
HHC-93	6	8	B-297	14	4
B-67	4	15	A-442	11	5
C-67	2	17	C-369	9	5
A-67	0	20	ANCOA	10	7
			E-369	8	8
			B-551	5	10
<b>Morning Division</b>			E-447	5	15
C-369	10	2	73	1	17
B-447	8	3	D-551	0	18
C-73	10	4			

# ADVERTISING SECTION

# At EASE

Events - Crossword - Kiddie Corner - Restaurant Review - Classifieds

### Citizen Classified Ads

#### About Our Classifieds

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Musical Items .....	590
Other Electronics .....	600
Pets & Animals .....	610
Sporting Goods/Firearms .....	620
Stereos/Radios .....	630
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Automobiles .....	730
Trucks, Vans, 4WDs .....	740
Motorcycles .....	750
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Boats .....	770
Misc. Transportation .....	790

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### 225 COMMUNITY EVENTS

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**AUGUSTA FLUTE ORCHESTRA** First rehearsal for the Spring Semester, Monday, February 2, 2004, 6 p.m. Augusta State University Fine Arts Building. 706-731-7971 for more information.

**CASA VOLUNTEER TRAINING** The Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program of Child Enrichment, Inc. is looking for volunteers, 21 and older, to advocate for abused and neglected children in the juvenile court system. Volunteers need no experience and will be provided with specialized training from local professionals in the social service field. Participants will learn courtroom procedure and advocacy skills necessary to become a CASA volunteer. For more information on becoming a CASA volunteer, please call 706-737-4631.

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### 290 Misc. Notices

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L	I	T	E	S	M	A	L	T	S	A	G	E

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# Woodpecker

From page 3A

The breeding pair of birds will sometimes have several worker birds, usually males, who live in the area to help feed the next generation of baby birds. They lay eggs once a year and up to four eggs at a time.

The birds may live as long as 15 years, Boyd said.

"We've got a bird on Fort Gordon that we know is at least 11 years old," he said.

Last year was a banner year for the red-cockaded woodpecker on post, as 11 baby birds were hatched here, Boyd said.

Ralph Costa is the recovery coordinator for the red-cockaded woodpecker recovery program and a winner of the 1998 Chuck Yeager Award for Natural Resource Conservation. Costa headed a group of 16 other wildlife experts, including two representing military land, in developing the recovery plan and the specific guidelines needed to save the woodpecker. He said the recovery plan to save the red-cockaded woodpecker took the team six years to develop.

The plan was approved in January 2003, Costa said, and outlines the protocol of the red-cockaded program for the next 15 to 20 years. Under the plan, Costa said the bird is rebounding slowly.

"There are close to 6,000 groups of bird families throughout the red-cockaded's range," Costa said. "There are seven groups, or 32 birds, on Fort Gordon. Three quarters of these birds are located on federal property."

According to Costa's files, there are about 200 bird families on Fort Benning and over 200 at Fort Stewart as well.

Costa said that there are around 15,000 birds in the entire species population now, up from around 4,500 family groups, or around 10,000 birds in the 1980's.

"The more interesting figure, however, is that we estimate somewhere between 900,000 groups of birds existed in pre-Columbian times before white settlers. Historically, the species thrived and we have evidence there were more than a million birds in the population."

He said saving the bird is important for land conservation purposes.

"The red-cockaded woodpecker is the only federally endangered species that requires lots of land to save, and the only animal that makes a cavity in a living pine tree," Costa explained.

"Politically speaking, a lot of long-leaf pine ecosystems are saved with the woodpecker, which is also great for military training."

Another bird species Boyd and Camp have been working to protect is the Southeastern Kestrel.

"It's rare, it's not even threatened, although it's a species of concern federally," Boyd said. "We're doing a lot of work with them and there are a lot here on Fort Gordon. In fact, since our species is so healthy here, we may relocate some from here to other places to help with the recovery there."

While to some, all this work over a bird may seem ridiculous, the efforts of military posts like Fort Gordon are starting to pay off, said Vic Van Zandt, the regional biologist with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources in Thomson, Ga. He said without these places, the bird would be extinct.

"Basically the only place red-cockaded woodpeckers exist is on military posts and federally managed land," he said.

The red-cockaded woodpecker still has a long way to go, but with continued effort, Van Zandt said it could start

to become a success story like several other species in Georgia, such as the American alligator, which was once facing extinction in the '60s and '70s, but has since rebounded to the point where it can actually be hunted again.

Another thing Boyd, Camp and Costa said is being done to protect wildlife and their habitat is prescribed burning. This is the burning of certain sections of forest land done under the control and supervision of wildlife experts. While it may seem a little backwards that burning a forest can actually make it stronger, Costa explained how this is possible.

"Ecologists have looked at a cross-section on 400-year-old pine trees and can figure out when fire went by it because of the bark," Costa explained. "Centuries ago fires would be lit by lightning and burn across tens of thousands of acres. That is why the original forests described by DeSoto were filled with pine trees. Long leaf pines can resist fire."

He added the fire refreshes the vegetation in a forest.

"Herbaceous plants need fire to reproduce - it cleans off the ground and exposes the soil and allows seeds to drop and germinate," Costa explained. "If you see a healthy pine forest with a grass understory, there are many species of animals that live in it. The whole system is driven by fire."

So what can individuals on Fort Gordon do to help protect Georgia's rare, threatened and endangered animals?

Van Zandt offered a few suggestions.

"I would say the single best thing people can do is take an active interest in this issue," he said. "They can contribute to groups like the Nature Conservancy, or organizations that preserve habitat for animals. That group actually buys tracts of land that is in short supply, or land that has the habitat features for endangered species to exist on."

"Another thing they can do is to talk with their state and federal legislators and make it known to the legislators that

they have an interest in seeing wildlife conserved."

Costa explained why he believes it is important to conserve wildlife, and more specifically, the red-cockaded woodpecker species.

"The red-cockaded woodpecker is what you call a keystone species," he said. "This means they create habitat for lots of other animals."

"It may take a woodpecker up to six years to dig its cavity in a pine tree. There are 27 other species of vertebrates that use these cavities. Many of these animals, like bluebirds, other species of small birds, and

flying squirrels, can use the normal size cavities excavated by the red-cockaded woodpecker. If red-cockaded woodpecker cavities are enlarged by the large pileated woodpecker, larger animals, like fox squirrels, screech owls and even raccoons, can then use the cavities for roosting and nesting.

"Therefore, over time, the cavities created by red-cockaded woodpeckers become habitat for a diverse community of other species," he said. "Without red-cockaded woodpecker cavities the biological diversity of the longleaf pine ecosystem is diminished."

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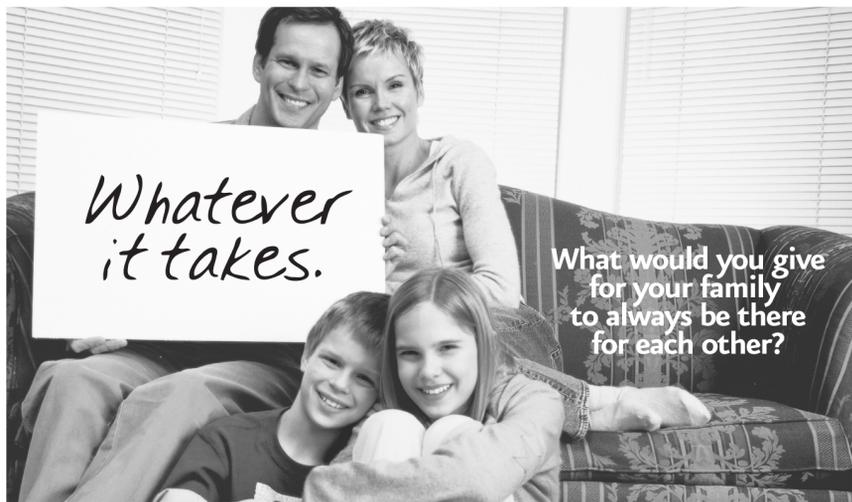
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59							60					61
62							63					64
65							66					67

**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Dressed
5. Duller by surfeit
10. Used esp. of meats
14. Taunted
15. Type of cigar
16. Hawaiian Feast
17. Essential oil obtained from flowers
18. Wrong
19. Of an ode
20. "Big Valley" matriarch
23. Integrated data processing, abbr.
24. Command right
25. Can't move
29. Iran
32. Sells
33. Storehouse, for one
36. Expel
37. Cyst
38. Misery resulting from affliction
39. For recording the speed and direction of wind
44. Emotional distress
45. In a way, hoofed it
46. Attendants
48. Substitute
49. Attack
50. Country music star
59. Continent
60. Heroine of 1942 horror film, "Cat People"

**CLUES DOWN**

1. Shellfish
2. A globular water bottle used in Asia
3. Jewish calendar month
4. Bowlers
5. Made steep
6. \_\_\_ Mater, one's school
7. Thais
8. Formerly (archaic)
9. Amounts of medicines
10. Most dense
11. German car
12. Worldly rather than spiritual
13. Fit snugly into
21. Promotional materials
22. Filippo \_\_, Saint
25. Having nine hinged bands of bony plates
26. Capital of Guam
27. Ned \_\_, composer
28. In a way, fixed firmly
29. Cornbreads
30. From farm state
31. Jack-in-the-pulpit family
34. A special loved one
35. Hankerings
40. National capital of Swaziland
41. Leaf used in India for writing paper
42. Measurements
43. End
44. Organized massacres
47. Feed
50. Semitic fertility god
51. \_\_ Spumante (Italian wine)
52. A joke that seems extremely funny
53. Sagolike starch obtained from cuckoo-pit root
54. Beyond, transcending, prefix
55. A blue dye obtained from plants
56. Ancient Greek City
57. Type of cod
58. Ore deposit

## Science Center offers mobile classroom

Denise Allen  
Signal staff

Inside the plastic case, a sheet of glass seemed to dance.

Sgt. 1st Class Dominick Merritt turned up the volume in the plastic case and the glass, with its movement controlled by the sound waves, shattered.

"Now do you know why your parents tell you to turn that music down," Merritt asked of the group of Brookwood Elementary School fourth graders. "It's not because they don't like Eminem. They don't want you to break your ear drums."

The experiment using sound waves was just one of many that Merritt used during his 50-minute demonstration in the National Science Center's Mobile Discovery Center, which visited Brookwood Elementary School and Lewiston Elementary School in Columbia County last week.

Housed in an 18-wheeler, the mobile discovery center

travels to schools across the country. Since the beginning of the school year, the center has visited 25 schools in 10 states, according to Cliff Shaffer, mobile classroom program manager with the National Science Center, which is headquartered in Augusta's Fort Discovery.

Pat Everette, a first grade teacher at Brookwood Elementary School, won the visit from the mobile classroom through a drawing at a teacher open house at Fort Discovery.

While the program wasn't designed for her first grade students, Everette said she knew that it would be a good learning opportunity for the fourth and fifth grade students at the school. She won a two-day visit and gave one of the days to the students at Lewiston Elementary School because it is the newest school in the county, she said.

Other topics Merritt expounded upon in his demonstration included friction and electricity.



Photo by Denise Allen

Sgt. 1st Class Dominick Merritt teaches students about magnetic forces during part of his presentation aboard the National Science Center's mobile classroom. The vehicle spent Jan. 22 and 23 at Columbia County elementary schools.

## MPs

From page 1A

Hashim said it was beneficial for the students to see them participating in career day because it gave students who may be interested in a career with the military or law enforcement an opportunity to gain knowledge about both.

"We have the same type of set-up they might see on TV shows like C.S.I., that kind of stuff is reality," said Hashim. "We have access to the same technology and tools."

He said this is a good opportunity for the local civilian community to look beyond the stereotypes and see there are role models in uniform with job skills.

"Military serves more than one purpose," said Hashim, referring to the misconception that Soldiers just go out and fight wars. "We are multi-faceted. We are not a one-trick pony."

More of the students who visited the military police investigation display commented on what they heard and saw.

"It was cool," said Will Reimsnider, an eighth-grader at the middle school, adding he was definitely interested in joining the Army.

Seventh-grader Chase Cullinan agreed with

Reimsnider about getting the chance to touch and lift prints.

Barbara Riffle, Evans Middle School counselor, talked about the career fair.

"We planned the career fair so students can make a connection between the subjects and the material they are learning in school, with the world of work," she said.

Riffle said servicemembers are serving in the community all the time, both on and off duty, and is glad Fort Gordon could be a part of career day at the school.

"It is very important for the kids to know about the jobs and how much Fort Gordon provides for the surrounding community," she said. "Sometimes people feel the military is isolated from the community, but they are not. They are really part of our community."

The event, the third one the school's had, was a chance for the students to see what career options are available in the community.

Twenty-five organizations were on hand to make career day at the middle school possible.

More than 800 students checked out the different displays throughout the day.

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# Spectrum



## Having fun Hoopin' it up

**Pvt. Armando Monroig**  
*Signal Staff*

The Fort Gordon Better Opportunities for Single Servicemembers program hosted the Harlem Ambassadors "Around the World" Tour, Tuesday at Gym 3.

Fort Gordon Soldiers, who made up the BOSS All-Star team, took on the Ambassadors as a Black History month kickoff.

"We expect to have a lot of fun," said Command Sgt. Maj. Clark Dimery, Garrison command sergeant major and BOSS military advisor about the upcoming game. "It should be a great time for the Soldiers."

While reluctant to make a prediction, Dimery did say "the BOSS All Stars are going to have a good showing."

The Ambassadors are a traveling show team who combine basketball skill with comedy and dance routines.

The team, which has had eight overseas tours over the last four seasons, brought energy to the crowd as soon as they stepped onto the basketball court.

From player introductions to foul shots, the Ambassador team put a little high jinx into everything they did.

The BOSS All-Stars engaged in a bit of high jinx themselves, joining in the fun from time to time.

*It's Not Your Grandfather's Basketball Show* is the Ambassadors' slogan for a show that offers a lively basketball exhibition.

The show featured high-flying slam dunks, dazzling ball handling skills and comedy routines led by Lade Majic, the star of the show as well as team coach.

The Harlem Ambassadors do not present a choreographed show, so the opponents as well as the audience don't know what to expect next.

About 250 people came to watch the show as the Ambassadors beat the BOSS All-Stars 52-26.

Cpl. Jeffery Fox, a cadet from the Youth Challenge Academy, was on hand with other members of the academy to enjoy the show.

"It was very entertaining," he said. "I enjoyed it."

Another cadet, Cpl. Vincent Gray, echoed his sentiments adding he thought the Ambassadors seemed to bond well with the kids in the audience.

"The Fort Gordon team needs a little more practice though," he said as one of the Ambassadors scored another basket against the BOSS All-Stars.

Sgt. 1st Class Alva Knight, YCA cadre member, said it was good entertainment.

"There was a lot of audience participation," he said. "It was lot of fun."

The YCA cadets attended the event as a reward for surpassing their peers and to show support for a former cadre member who was playing on the BOSS team.

Members of the Ambassador basketball team seemed to enjoy themselves.

"Look around," said Majic during an autograph session after the game. "Take a look at these young people's faces. We're putting smiles on their faces."

She said this is especially important when they go to military bases to perform.

"A lot of these young people, their parents are away, they don't get to see them," said Majic. "Some of them have lost parents. We just try to bring a little joy to them."

Considering the bad weather and the power outages that occurred on post the day of the event, Majic was very happy with the turn out.

"We perform at over 60 military installations a year," said Majic. "We are like the Bob Hope of the new millennium."



Photo by Pvt. Armando Monroig

Lade Majic and the Ambassador team sign autographs after the game. The Ambassadors perform 60 shows at military installations annually.

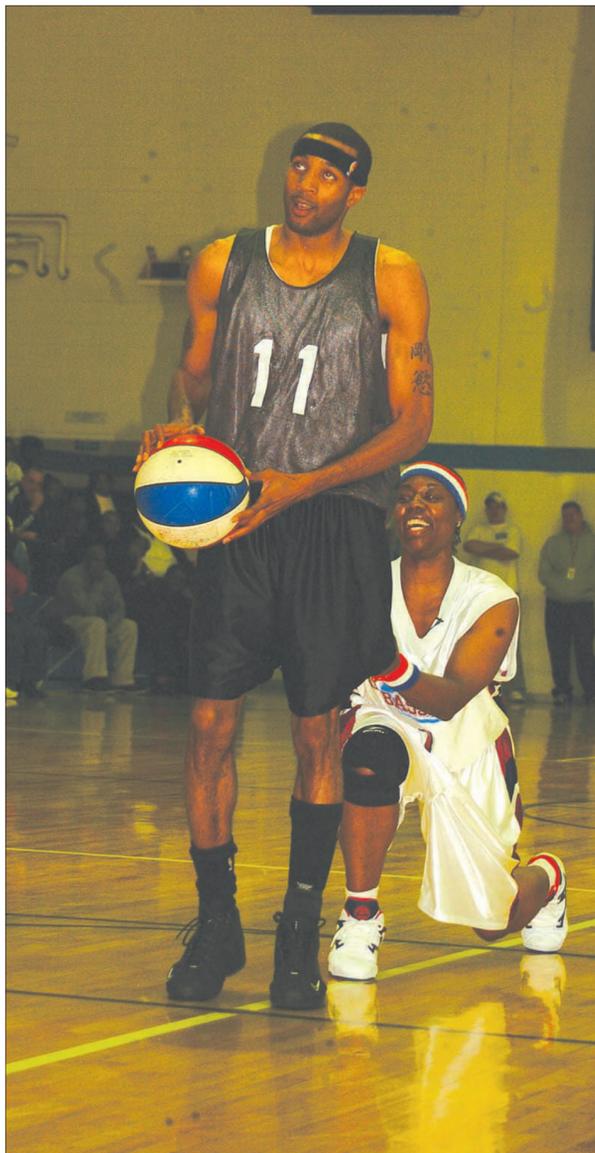


Photo by Pvt. Armando Monroig



Photo by Pvt. Armando Monroig

(Above) An Ambassador assumes an 'airborne' attitude against an All-Star. (Left) Lade Majic brings some laughter to a BOSS player at the foul line (Below) Majic leads the Ambassadors onto the court at Gym 3 Tuesday.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Stacy Wamble



Photo by Staff Sgt. Stacy Wamble

(Left) The audience devours the comedic routine of the Harlem Ambassadors. (Right) The Ambassadors put on a game of musical chairs at halftime. The winner received an autographed photo of the team.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Stacy Wamble